## More Love, Less Attitude



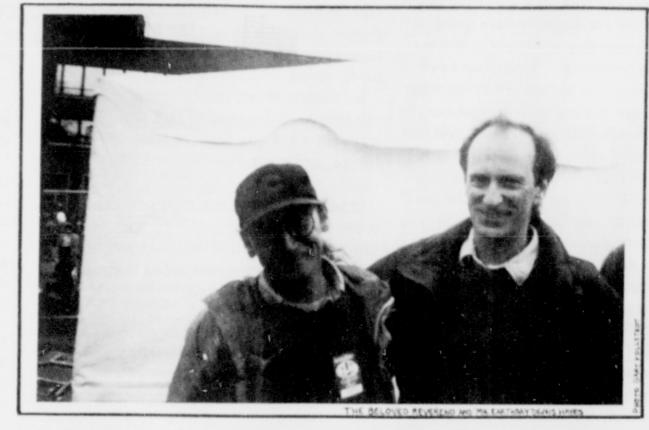
A recent Thursday started with coffee and conversation on the porch. Osburn's porch can be like a piano, all the seats in a line, and sometimes downright musical, but this particular morning the talk was of the scheduled "harvesting" on Cavenham property up behind some of our friends' homes. Dismay was expressed at the certain danger to peoples' water sources. Someone observed that Tillamook Head is honeycombed with new logging roads.

This particular Thursday we left town at noon to witness an expression of concern about our behavior in the forests, one day before Bill Clinton and Al Gore were to hear from three panels of invited citizens. It rained on some 75,000 plus who did not come to party. They stood shoulder to shoulder in the downpour, and the only rudeness we saw came from the national press.

Singer Carole King, who has lived in Idaho for 16 years and actively supports the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act, gave the first press conference and proved an informed, articulate spokesperson. She and others who followed throughout the afternoon voiced disappointment that Clinton had taken no action on subsidised timber sales and grazing and mining fees. Rick Bailey, from Joseph, and Mary O'Brien represented those concerned with the preservation of Hell's Canyon and the interests of environmentally minded citizens from east of the Cascades. Their hope is that federal policy changes will be designed to protect more of the land than was considered at the Forest Summit.

Margie Mckee of the Pitt River Tribe made it clear that Native Americans' interests had been largely ignored, and that they had been invited to this gathering almost as an afterthought. During their time before the press, she and others spoke to the heart of the issues before the Clinton Administration.

Ms. Mckee explained that to their people, life was not easy and they had to respect the earth so the people could survive. Emma Mitchell, also from California, said it was a matter of life or money. Winona LaDuke, an internationally respected speaker from the Ojibway of northern between peoples, lands and ecosystems. She focussed on our country's remarkable level of consumption. Calvin Hecocta spoke



passionately of our need to become a nation of caring people, to care about those not yet born, to speak for those beings who cannot, and to defend the land

The following day we watched the Forest Summit on television. One of the impassioned defenders of the timber-supported communities said, in effect, "Sure, science has to be part of the solution, but only part."

I'm afraid the idea that science is an option is foreign to me. Science is the endless search for knowledge about everything. It's the truth. You can't sign up for part of it.

We know the importance of rain forest (here read: old growth, ancient forest, etc.) in local, regional, and global terms. We're talking about our planetary lungs, and in our part of the world these remaining areas give birth to half a thousand species. Decimate used to mean losing one out of ten. In terms of our oldest, most complex forests, one tenth is all that remains. We've irreparably altered much of what we inherited because we didn't know any better. Now we do, and we can't hide from the truth behind the comfort of what used to be.

We've used it up, as has been our way, and we can't just move on this time. There's no place to move on to. We used up Michigan and Wisconsin and Minnesota and we've been doing it here for a hundred and fifty years, and guess what?

We have to rapidly alter forest-related activities: harvesting, reforestation, milling, manufacturing, engineering, recreation-the whole ball of wax. Beyond that, we must pay mind to the mad level of cconsumption in our culture to which Ms. LaDuke refers. You might wonder how few people actually discover a need for something, then think about Minnesota, described the relationships exactly what it is they want and make (or buy) the darn thing. A lot of folks get inundated with advertising and begin to unconsciously assume that the jingles and bells and whistles (and

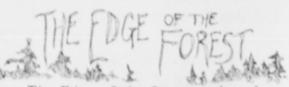
the products they describe) are important. Taint neccessarily so, as the song says.

We are tiny, frail critters busily destroying the place they live. Making the requisite changes in our voracious appetites is going to mean changing the way we live, see and think and hear and die. Interesting times, as the Chinese say, and the Year of the Rooster is as good a year as any, and better than most.



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15 Sat		46	6.2	9:23	7.7	16 Sun		3:57	1.5	3:44	1.9
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28 Fri		54	7.2	7:15	7.9	30 Sun		2:40	1.2	2:32	1.3
29 Sat		14	6.8	8:07	8.3	31 Mon		3.46	0.4	3:30	1.7
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## BASEBALL The scrappy Cubs look so good this year, we dare to predict a pennant will fly at Wrigley this fall, but not before the beer cups fly in the bleachers this summer!



The Edge of the forest, when I was a child, was the edge of danger. Lions and tigers and bears lived in the woods, and ate little children, and the only one around to save them was the woodsman with his ax.

Now, as I attempt to pass for an adult, I find myself rooting for the lions, tigers and bears, and hoping that the little children will save me from the woodsman and his ax.

Last month's Forrest Summit was the first actual "event" that the Upper Left Edge sent reporters to cover. Of course, we couldn't get clearance to talk to President Billy. but apparently Freedom of the Press still works on a small scale. and we did get press passes to Woodstock II (The Woods, an MTV

Among the folks in the Media area was Denis Hayes, who invented Earth Day and whom we had met working on Earth Day 20; now he directs a foundation that is chanelling 75 million into improving the environment of the planet. A real nice guy! Mr. Hayes tells us there is a movement afoot to put the solar panels back up on the White House! An idea we endorse! Carol King spoke to the media types about her work in Idaho; and Earth First! decided to hold their outlaw news conference while Neil Young was singing. Timing. The media was busy being self-important, and messy, we were busy being amused as we watched several "A" type individuals in \$600 suits and \$900 raincoats humming along to songs that once had meant something to them, though it appeared doubtful that they could remember what. But ... As others have said, it was more than just a free concert, it was a sharing of a experience, and the re-enforcing of a commitment. All the usual suspects were there. but the unusual thing was there were closer to 90,000 than the 50 or so reported in most of the media, and there was no violence, and Front street was closed, and it rained, and rained, and people kept coming, and no one left, and when the folks in back couldn't see they chanted "Umbrellas Down, Umbrellas Down!" and the folks in front put their umbrellas down, and the folks in the back chanted "Thank You! Thank You!" And it made this old unrepentant hippy's eyes mist over more than once. hoping that maybe that spirit which once stopped a war could save a planet this time.

Peace, and as my old friend Lonesome Wayne used to say. "Save the Trees, Save the Grass, or the Good Lord's gonna kick your

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