

What Price Beauty?

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mascara, in an already saturated cosmetic market. The difference between cancer research and hair spray is the real issue.

The two main types of tests under fire are the Draize test and the LD50 (Lethal Dose 50%).

In the Draize test, the product is injected directly into one eye of a series of rabbits. The rabbits are restrained to prevent them from rubbing their eyes, which are observed and compared for redness, swelling, corrosion, ulceration and hemorrhaging.

The LD50 test involves forcing a large number (usually 100 or more) of animals to breathe or ingest toxic amounts of the substance being tested. Different groups of animals are given different doses until 50% of the group dies. This number is called the acute toxicity, a measure of how much of a substance you would have to ingest before it kills you.

In both tests, as in almost all laboratory animal testing, all of the animals are killed after the test is completed.

Alternative testing techniques are being developed that can greatly reduce, if not eliminate, the use of animals in cosmetic testing. Some of these alternatives include the use of computer data banks to compile all past test results and eliminate duplicate testing,

in vitro testing (tests that use cell cultures, chicken eggs, synthetic proteins, microorganisms, and eyes from human and animal cadavers), and modified animal tests with greatly reduced numbers. One particular test, the Eytex, is a physiochemical test that uses a synthetic protein matrix that reacts to irritants much the same way as a human eye would.

There is much debate as to whether these tests are developed enough to phase out animal research completely. Some people who oppose the alternatives to animal testing feel that the alternative tests are too simplistic and don't provide information about potential recovery.

It is interesting to note that neither the Food and Drug Administration nor the Consumer Product Safety Commission requires animal testing before a product goes on the market. Both agencies use animal toxicity data banks to determine safety standards. The reason most companies still use such extensive animal testing is apprehension that the alternative testing techniques will not stand up in court in the event of a consumer lawsuit.

The real question is not how much you are willing to pay for your cosmetics, but how much you are willing to ignore.

Fall Dance Gathering

Meredith College will hold the sixth annual Fall Dance Gathering for North Carolina dancers, educators, students, and choreographers on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 17 and 18, at Weatherspoon Gymnasium. Guest artist and master teacher for the event will be Tim Conboy, a soloist with Dan Wagoner and Dancers. An accomplished dancer, Mr. Conboy also has performed with the Lucinda Childs Dance Company, and appeared in the Philip Glass/Robert Wilson production of Einstein on the Beach and the PBS Gret Performance Series "The Making of Einstein". Other guest faculty members will include Maryska Bigos, body therapy; Jan Van Dyke, modern dance; and John Gamble, contact improvisation.

A highlight of the weekend will be the performance "Dance Works '90" on Saturday, Nov. 17 at 8:00 at Jones Auditorium. Tickets are \$6 and \$4 for students. Contact the Dance Department at 829-8388.

Dinner for \$1!?

Junior Class sells raffle tickets this week

This week the Junior class is selling raffle tickets good for free dinners and lunches at area restaurants, perfect timing for the Winter Semi-Formal on Saturday.

The tickets can be purchased in Belk Dining Hall or from any junior class member and cost \$1 each. Drawing will be held at the end of the week and winners will be notified on Thursday evening or Friday. You do not need to be present to win.

Restaurants participating are: Crossroads (lunch for two), Kanki (\$25 certificate for dinner), Irregardless (brunch for 2), TGIFriday's (2 dinners for 2 people worth \$20 each), and Applebees (2 dinners for 2).

Winners may use their free meals on any day.

Cut-off time for raffle ticket purchase is Thursday during the dinner hour.

Anti-Animal Testing Shopping List

If you'd like to support the companies that reject animal testing and stay away from the ones who kill and maim innocent animals, check out this listing provided by "Shopping for a Better World." Products rated "A" are made by companies that do not test their products on animals and are highly recommended. If the stores you patronize do not stock these products, ask the manager if she will consider carrying them and let her know why she should.

Products rated "C" are made by companies who have reduced product testing on animals by at least 40% (although they may be using outside testing labs) and/or have contributed at least \$250,000 to alternative research through in-house or independent labs (to large companies with multi-million dollar R&D budgets, this may represent a drop in the bucket). Products rated "X" are force fed to lab mice until they die, sprayed into the lungs of lab rats until they suffocate, and/or squeezed into the eyes of restrained rabbits until the eyes become ulcerated and infected.

Deodorants and Fragrances

"A" rated products: Avon, Hi & Dri, Mitchum, Orjene Natural Cosmetics.

"C" rated products: Ban, Mum, Secret, Shower to Shower, Sure, Ultra Ban.

"X" rated products: Arrid, Dry Idea, FDS, Faberge, Gillette, Lady's Choice, Right Guard, Soft n Dri.

First Aid

"A" rated products: none listed

"C" rated products: Band Aid, Campho Phenique, Curad, Johnson & Johnson, Solarcaine.

"X" rated products: Bactine, Cortaid.

Hair Care

"A" rated products: Aubrey Organics, Biotene H24, Clean & Clear, Country Roads, Elastin, Jojoba Farms, Mountain Ocean, Revlon.

"C" rated products: Affinity, Body on Tap, Clairol, Final Net, Head &

Shoulders, Herbal Essence, Instant Beauty, Ivory, Lilt, Nice n Easy, Pantene, Pert, Prell, Rave, Ultress.

"X" rated products: Adorn, Afro Sheen, Agree, Alberto VO5, Aqua Body, Breck, Classy Curl, Hälsa, Mink, Selson Blue, Toni, Ultra Sheen, White Rain.

Laundry Supplies

"A" rated products: Borateem, Niagra, Purex.

"C" rated products: Ajax, All, Arm & Hammer, Bold, Bounce, Cheer, Clorox, Dash, Downy, Dreft, Era, Fab, Final Touch, Ivory Snow, Joy, Snuggle, Spray n Wash, Surf, Tide, Woolite, Wisk.

"X" rated products: Cling Free, Delicare, Shout, Static Guard.

Oral Hygiene

"A" rated products: Aubrey Organics, Avon.

"C" rated products: Act, Aim, Cepacol, Close Up, Colgate, Crest, Gleem, Peak, Reach, Signal, Ultra Brite.

"X" rated products: Aqua Fresh, Listerine, Listermint, Pearl Drops.

Proprietary Remedies

"A" rated products: American Health, Nature's Way, Origin, Twin Labs, Universal Labs, Vital Life.

"C" rated products: Advil, Afrin, Anacin, Anbesol, Ben Gay, Buffenn, Cepacol, Comtrex, Dristan, Drixoral, Fibre Trim, Pepto-Bismol, Sine-Aid, Sleep-Eze, Trendar, Tylenol, Unisom, Vanquish, Vicks Vaporub, Visine.

"X" rated products: Alka Seltzer, Anusol, Ascriptin, Benadryl, Benylin, Caladryl, Centrum, Clear Eyes, Hall's, Maalox, Mortin, Murine, N'ICE, One-A-Day, Roloids, Sinutab, Sominex, Stress Guard, Sucrets, Theragran-M, Tronalane, Tucks, Unicap, Vivarin.

Soaps

"A" rated products:

Aroma Vera, Aubrey Organics, Avon, Boraxo, Clear Complexion, Dial, Milk Creek, Pure and Natural, Tone.

"C" rated products: Camay, Caress, Cashmere Bouquet, Coast, Dove, Dreft, Irish Spring, Ivory, Johnson & Johnson, Lux, Safeguard, Zest.

"X" rated product: Calgon.

Mary Beth Owen, Patricia Underwood, Kathleen Thomas and Julia Haskett contributed to this article

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