

St. Mary's College

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Everyday is Earth Day... Will we act in time?

Earth Day 1970 was largely an American event. We were worried about our air and water pollution. We wondered whether the bald eagle, the peregrine falcon and the osprey would survive DDT poisoning. We blanched as Lake Erie died and the Cuyahoga River caught fire in Cleveland.

Since then, things have changed. Air and water quality have improved in some areas. Some species seemingly destined for extinction have made comebacks. The environmental movement is now worldwide. And, yet, the planet is far more degraded.

In 1970, the effect of chlorofluorocarbons on the ozone layer that shields us from harmful ultraviolet radiation had not yet been discovered. Today, ozone depletion is carefully

monitored. Twenty years ago, it was known that acid rain could render lakes lifeless, but it was not until 1983 that a team of German foresters reported widespread evidence of tree damage.

In 1970, the greenhouse effect was discussed only in scientific circles. Now, a hotter future is the subject of cover stories in the news weeklies. Most climatologists believe that summers during the 1990s will be even hotter than those of the '80s.

In sum, the health of the earth has deteriorated to the point that its capacity to support an ever-growing human population is in question. In two decades' time, our numbers increased by 1.6 billion, while the world's farmers lost 480 billion tons of topsoil — roughly equivalent to the amount

covering U.S. cropland.

Since 1970, the earth's forests have shrunk by 500 million acres, an area nearly as large as the United State east of the Mississippi River. Meanwhile, deserts expanded by 300 million acres. Thousands of the planet and animal species with which we shared the planet in 1970 no longer exist.

If we cannot move quickly to reverse the environmental degradation of the planet, then economic decline will eventually result. At some point, the two will begin to feed on each other, as they already do in much of Africa.

It's time to adopt the tough energy, population and other policies needed to save the planet.

Student Spotlight on: Naomi Urano

By Sissy Overbeck

Naomi Urano is a foreign exchange student from Shizouka, Japan. She is 20 years old and has three sisters and one brother. All of her family resides in Japan. Naomi enjoys playing basketball, listening to music and learning to speak English.

Her first big tour of America came this summer. She enjoyed the attractions of Washington, D.C., Busch Gardens, and Williamsburg, VA. Also this summer Naomi spent six weeks at Mary Baldwin College in Virginia. She took a college lecture English course as well as political science, American history, and sociology.

When asked how she felt about Saint Mary's, she acted very pleased. She likes going to a small school for women. After Saint Mary's, she would like to go to a four-year university and study business.

Along with her courses she is taking at Saint Mary's, she is also taking a course at N.C. State where she has met other students who are from Spain, Turkey, Korea and China, all of whom are very excited about learning the English language.

Smell A Little... Daily

The air you breathe is a mixture of about 78 percent nitrogen and 21 percent oxygen. The other 1 percent contains argon, carbon dioxide, neon, helium, ozone, xenon, hydrogen, methane, krypton, and water vapor.

Anything added is called pollution. Subtract the addition and you can have clean air.

SMC Professor Honored Dr. Janice Swab Receives Fulbright

Last year, Dr. Swab applied for a Fulbright scholarship and was accepted. The Fulbright program is administered by the Council for the International Exchange or Scholars. Fulbright Scholars teach and/or carry out research in many countries around the world. The aim of this program is to foster international understanding by having citizens from other countries work in the U.S. Obviously this is a very competitive program, since only 37 biologists were chosen during the last academic year.

Dr. Swab and her husband, Ed, will be teaching at the University

of Juba in Khartoom, Sudan. Sudan is nearly one-third the size of the U.S., the largest country in Africa, with a population of 22 million. Dr. Swab will teach botany and science methods to prospective teachers, as well as helping to plan an Environmental Science curriculum. Dr. Swab has no idea what kind of teaching methods they are used to, although at least the courses are taught in English. Dr. Swab and her husband intend to stay for the full academic year and will travel to other African countries when school is over.

Despite having to live in a

Third World country, waiting in long lines for food and other necessities, not to mention a language barrier, she is so excited to have the opportunity to teach in Africa. Dr. Swab is such an accomplished person and teacher, the students are bound to learn a great deal.

—Alison Nanninga

• I always know when I'm talking to people of superior intelligence. They think exactly as I do!

• Success is a do-it-myself project. So is failure.

Don't Mess with Mother Nature

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"A Christmas Carol" Ticket Sales Begin Oct. 8th

Tickets for Theatre In The Park's annual production of Ira David Wood's adaptation of "A Christmas Carol" will go on sale:

OCTOBER 8: For 1991 season members ONLY. Tickets must be purchased at TIP. Box office hours are 10 am-6 pm, Mon.-Fri. NO PHONE ORDERS!

OCTOBER 22: For general public. Tickets must be purchased through TELETRON by calling 1-800-543-3041, or by purchasing them in person at your nearest TICKETRON outlet—cash only. (Visa/MC accepted. Service charges.)

PERFORMANCES: Dec. 4-11, 1990: 7:30 pm
Dec. 8, 9, 1990: 2:30 pm
Dec. 6, 10, 11 SOLD OUT.

PRICES: \$20, \$18, \$15 Visa/MC accepted.

**All performances in Raleigh's Memorial Auditorium.

VINTAGE CLOTHING SALE

at the
Junior League of Raleigh's
BARGAIN BOX

October 22nd, 10:00-3:00
2104 1/2 Smallwood Drive

(across from Thalhimers in Cameron Village)