

# Corporations held accountable for impact on environment

By Colleen Rodite  
Staff Writer

A family of five arrive at a beautiful lake to ski and relax in the sun.

Little Joey jumps into the water to show his parents his newly mastered triple-decker belly flop. As his body slowly emerges from the depths of the water, Joey notices globs of green and orange muck all over his previously white T-shirt.

Corporate accountability is becoming a hot issue between environmentalists and businesses. Many corporations are causing damage to the environment by emitting toxic waste and pollution into the environment. Some companies are not taking steps to clean up the mess that they have created in the communities.

British Petroleum (BP) is just one of the many corporations that are being implemented as one of these toxic offenders.

Founded in 1909 by William Knox D'Arcy, BP was originally called the Anglo-Persian Oil Company due to the discovery of oil in Persia. Sixty years later, BP discovered oil in Alaska, and



BP America was formed.

Today, London-based BP is the second largest company in Europe and the third largest oil corporation in the Western world. BP America is only 40 percent of BP; other holdings include BP Exploration, BP Chemicals, BP Oil, BP Nutrition (Purina) and operations in 70 foreign countries.

Within BP America, BP owns many subsidiaries, including BP Minerals America, QIT-Feret Tinatane, Inc., BP Coal America, Inc., Old Ben Coal Co., Chase Brass and Copper Co., Inc. and Kaldair, Inc.

According to Earth Island Institute, BP "ranks as one of the world's third biggest polluters." In a study done by Ohio Citizen Action, the BP chemical plant and oil refinery in Lima, Ohio, produced 68 million pounds of toxic pollution in 1987.

This total includes 8.2 million pounds released into the air, 58.2 million pounds injected underground, 380,187 pounds dumped into the Ottawa River and 1 million pounds dumped on land.

Citizen Action said many of these chemicals were "potent carcinogens, including benzene, chromium and acrylonitrile. Also, formaldehyde, ethylbenzene, methyl ethyl ketone and carbon tetrachloride are being released, which can cause genetic damage, fetal damage or birth defects at unsafe levels of exposure."

The Threshold, Student Environmental Action Coalition's network newsletter, states that according to the Ohio Department of Health, Lima resi-

dents are experiencing abnormally high death rates from lung, rectal and cervical cancer and also from emphysema, chronic bronchitis and bronchial asthma.

Matthew Bennett and Matthew Baron, coordinators of SEAC's campaign against BP, said in The Threshold article that BP's complex in Lima was the single largest producer of toxic waste in the entire northeastern half of the United States.

Bennett and Baron said, "The company's attitude toward citizen concern is questionable, as evidenced by its refusal to publicly commit to any serious waste prevention and reduction plans."

Many companies, such as Dow, Monsanto and B.F. Goodrich, have clean-up programs that also help to save money. Monsanto, for example, has promised to reduce toxic air pollution by 90 percent by 1992.

Bennett said BP was not doing enough to rectify environmental damage. "BP

is not being held accountable for their actions. BP is very non-committed about corporate accountability because no major changes have been made to clean things up."

Baron also said, "BP has a lot of support in the community, and this is why they are reluctant to clean up their damage."

But James Ross, the president and CEO of BP America, said in a letter written in response to SEAC, "BP is already participating with community groups and appropriate government agencies to address most of these concerns."

Ross said BP had a deep concern for the health and safety of its employees and was improving waste minimization. He also said SEAC reported misleading information in its Dec. 18, 1990 press release.

In response to the Lima situation, Ross said BP used monitoring and control methods to protect air quality and

monitor the discharge that flowed into the Ottawa River. He said BP also complied with EPA regulations and had shown "no exceedances of National Ambient Air Quality Standards of these pollutants in Lima for several years."

Higgin Thomson, member of the Regional EPA legal department in Atlanta, said he had not heard about the controversy between SEAC and BP America. "In many cases, corporate accountability problems are a result of a difference of opinion on how clean is clean," Thomson said.

He said bigger companies were working on pollution prevention. "Many industries are awakening to the fact that waste is causing serious environmental damage. The trend is not to produce waste and to cut down waste emission. Things are getting better."

"I'm not saying that all corporations are adhering to the EPA regulation. The number of fines is up and we still have to enforce the law."

## Campus Calendar

**FRIDAY**  
9 a.m. "American History Survey Courses" will be the topic by Mary Beth Norton in Wilson Library Assembly Room. Session in History Conference.  
10:45 a.m. "Western Civilization Survey Courses" will be the topic by Lynn Hunt in Wilson Library Assembly Room. Part of History Conference.  
Noon: The Lesbian Lunch is today and every Friday in the Union. See schedule for room number.  
1 p.m. **JOB HUNT 105-OFF CAMPUS JOB SEARCH** for Seniors/Graduate Students will be held in 209 Hanes. Learn strategies for a job search off campus. No reservations required for workshop.  
JOB HUNT 105: Off-Campus Job Search and In-

terviewing Workshop will be held in 209 Hanes.  
"Introduction to Longitudinal Analysis I" will be discussed by George McCarthy. IRSS in today's faculty seminar until 3 p.m. in O2 Manning.

2 p.m. "Historical Films and Historical Understanding" presented by Robert Rosenstone in Hanes Art Center Auditorium. Part of History Conference.  
Come one, come all to The Black Greek Council's Carnival today until 6 p.m. on E-haus field! Lots of games, food, vendors and FUN!

3 p.m. Interested in studying in Mexico or Argentina? Meet resident directors of both programs until 4 p.m. Study Abroad Office, 12 Caldwell Hall.  
3:45 p.m. "Great Books and Study of History" will be discussed by Dominick LaCapra in Hanes Art Center Auditorium. Part of History Conference.

4 p.m. The Research Institute for the Comparative Study of Africa an Afro-America in conjunction with The Curriculum in African and Afro-American Studies presents Professor Barbara Christian of the University of California, Berkeley. She will discuss "Sisters: Reflections on Women Writing About Women Across the Americas" in 101 Greenlaw.

5 p.m. Tertulia es una oportunidad para charlar y divertir con otros que hablan español. Ven a He's Not Here a los cinco cada viernes. Bienvenidos a todos!

8 p.m. "History in American Culture" will be the topic by Ariel Dorfman in the Hanes Art Center Auditorium. This is part of today's History Conference.  
"Ceremony: A Spiritual Journey" will be presented in Bingham Hall. Tickets are \$4/public and \$2/ students.

**SUNDAY**  
10 a.m. "Historical Knowledge in Modern Education and Society" by Edwin Yoder in Hanes Art Center Auditorium as part of the History Conference.  
The Delta Psi fraternity presents "Sunday at St. Anthony Hall." Scheduled events:

11 a.m. "Poetry, Prose and Pancakes," poetry reading with guest author Daphne Athas.  
3 p.m. "Another Roadside Attraction" (local band)

7 p.m. "Musical Theatre Review," showtunes by fellow students  
Donations accepted with proceeds going to Reading Is Fundamental. Call 932-9923 or 968-8801 for more information. Located at 207 Pittsboro Street.

**ATTENTION SENIORS!!!!!!**  
The First Annual Senior Class Bedrace to benefit the IFC Shelter is Saturday. You can register today in the Pit or the Office and tomorrow before the event. Y'all come!

**ITEMS OF INTEREST**  
Lesbian/Gay Awareness Week: Monday is Jeans Day. Wear jeans to show your support for gay and lesbian rights. Check Calendar for scheduled events.  
UNC Transportation and Parking Services is holding pre-registration for parking permits during the entire month of April. Office hours are 7:30-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Valid car registration required. Security Services Building is located on Manning Drive.

The Asian Students Association will be having a CD sale to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. CD's, tapes, posters and albums will be sold for under \$3 on April 15-17 in Union 205 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday and 10 a.m. 4:30 p.m. Wednesday.

The UNC Water Polo Club is hosting an eight team invitational. Competition will run from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday with a championship game approximately 4:30 Sunday. Call Tim at 967-7436 for more information.  
The last UNC Swim Test of the semester will be

given on Friday, April 19 from 9 a.m.-12 noon and 1-4 p.m.

United Parcel Service (UPS) is interviewing on-campus for a Summer 1991 marketing/sales internship on April 17. Sign-up at UCPPS between April 10-16.  
"Ceremony: A Spiritual Journey" will be presented in Bingham Hall at 4 and 8 p.m. April 13-14. Co-sponsored by the Carolina Union Performing Arts Committee and the Department of Speech Communication. Tickets are available from the Carolina Union Box Office. (\$4/public and \$2/students)

Exhibit of photographs of the Church of Hagia Sophia (Istanbul, Turkey) in the Glass Gallery of Hanes Art Center through April 19. Reception will be held April 15, 5-6 p.m.

Looking for experience in personnel, counseling or human services? UCPPS invites you to a CAREER PEERS interest meeting on Wednesday, April 17 at 4 p.m. in 307 Hanes Hall.

Fall 1991 Emerging Leaders Program Informational Sessions, April 15, 5:30 p.m. or April 16, 6 p.m. 101 Greenlaw. Open to all rising sophomores. Call Leadership Development, 966-4041, for more info.

Congressman David Price will be available to discuss current issues facing Congress and the future course of our country. Monday, April 15 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Lutheran Campus Ministry Center. All are welcome. Phone 942-2677 for more info.

Applications for Campus Y Co-Chairs are available in the Campus Y, Union, and Chase Hall. The deadline for applications is TODAY. Interviews will be scheduled soon. Everyone is encouraged to apply.  
Tar Heel Recycling Program, TARP, announces permanent drop-off sites at Hinton-James, Ehringhaus, and Graham dorms and between FLOB and Lineberger building. The mobile drop-off site for today is between Connor and Alexander dorms for newspaper, glass and aluminum cans.

**HE'S NOT HERE**  
  
on the Village Green.  
presents  
**The Jamie Block Band**  
Friday, April 12  
**Eclipse**  
Saturday, April 13  
Starting Sunday, April 14 —  
**Karaoke Sing-Along Night**  
1000 Songs to Choose From • Lyrics Displayed on Video Screen • All You Do Is Sing • FREE BAND PASSES OR FREE T-SHIRT TO BEST SINGER.  
Come Join the Fun!  
And don't forget our Tuesday Specials!  
\$1.75 Blue Cups      942-7939      \$3.50 Pitchers

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**Mark your calendar now!**  
  
**Daily Tar Heel Night At The Durham Bulls II**  
More details coming soon.

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The Carolina Union Theatre Arts Committee & STV present  
**SELECTED HILARITY**  
starring  
Andy Bagwell Scott Brown David Drake  
Larry Weaver Bryan Tucker  
And don't miss the comedy skit contest...  
The KIDS in the HALL, HBO's outrageous five-man comedy troupe, challenges college students to CREATE YOUR OWN SERIOUSLY DANGEROUS COMEDY  
for **HBO** SIMPLY THE BEST  
**the KIDS in the HALL SERIOUSLY DANGEROUS COMEDY!**  
**COLLEGE CHALLENGE**  
Win an all-expense paid 4-day trip for five to the "The Kids" home town, Toronto, Canada. Grand Prize trip includes round trip airfare, luxury hotel accommodations, limousine service, VIP treatment and dinner at three major comedy clubs, and \$1,000 spending money!  
**HERE'S HOW TO ENTER**  
INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION AT THE UNION DESK  
Compose an original skit with up to 4 friends. Draw from the wacky, spontaneous style of the Kids in the Hall material. Watch the KIDS in the HALL Friday at Midnight for inspiration! Pick up Official Rules Sheet at registration.  
**Thurs., April 18 8:00 PM Union Caberet**  
BE SURE TO WATCH NEW EPISODES OF "THE KIDS IN THE HALL" FRIDAYS AT MIDNIGHT EST ON HBO