

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Earth Day everyday



As most of you already know Earth Day is April 22.

The media hype surrounding it equals that of our very own basketball team or the opening of "Batman."

Television specials galore will be shown, will plenty of glitzy celebrities pushing their favorite causes.

However, Earth Day will be over in a day, but our environmental crises continues.

Every minute acres and acres of beautiful tropical rainforest is lost to the chainsaws and bulldozers of greedy loggers, ranchers, developers and multinational corporations.

The most diverse gathering of plant and animal species anywhere in the world are found in these forests, and if measures aren't taken to preserve them, they will be gone in 15 years, forever.

Rain forests aren't the only kind that's endangered. The great forests of Europe have been severely damaged by acid rain and pollution, and our nation's are under siege as well.

Our garbage landfills are full. Pollution from smokestacks and automobile emissions add to the global warming prob-

lem. Water supplies and streams are ruined by harmful toxins.

It seems hopeless, but it's really not, if nations cooperate, and citizens of the world learn to celebrate Earth Day every single day out of the year.

Former Senator Gaylord Nelson started Earth Day as an answer to increasing pollution in the US. Unfortunately, environmentalism died in the late 70s, and by the time Ronald Reagan came to office, the general consensus was that saving the planet was a belief held by left-wing nuts and silly elitists.

Times have changed, and many Americans believe it's time to get involved. Even President Bush stumps for the environment (although his wimping out on the Clean Air Bill shows he's got a long, long way to go).

Still, some pundits dismiss environmentalism. Columnist Pat Buchanan has criticized environmentalists in the past (too bad he doesn't realize animals and plants have just as much of a right to life as the unborn do). The Wall Street Journal continues to be a mouthpiece for corporate polluters.

More than a few congressional representatives, worried

more about keeping their careers alive than protecting endangered species, force porkbarrel projects—that harm their state wildlife—through the legislature

You may ask, "What can I do?" The answer is "plenty." Becoming concerned and active isn't as hard as you think.

If you read newspapers, and drink sodapop from aluminum cans, recycle them. Don't patronize fast food eateries that buy their beef from Central or South America (rain forest is destroyed in order to provide grazing land, so our appetite for a cheap hamburger can be satisfied) Don't drive your car to corner store when you can walk.

Write letters to those companies and representatives who are doing right and to those are doing wrong.

There are now many environmental how-to books on the shelves. Our own campus radio station, KUNV, broadcast various programs on the global situation.

Earth Day will come and go, but caring about our world isn't a fad.

STAFF BOX THE YELLIN' REBEL

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LETTERS POLICY

All letters must be limited to 400 words—anything more will be considered an opinion piece. The Yellin' Rebel reserves the right to reject submissions and to edit for libel, grammar, spelling errors, length and writing style.

Letters must be typed and include the name of the writer (unless anonymity is requested for a valid reason), as well as the writer's telephone number, major and year in school.

All submissions must be sent to: The Yellin' Rebel, (care of Letters to the Editor), MSU 302, 4505 S. Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89154.



BY COURT ORDER, MY FATHER WAS EXEMPTED FROM PARENTHOOD, EXCEPT FROM 1 TO 7 PM ON ALTERNATIVE SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS.

IN COLLEGE, MY PROFESSORS DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO TEACH MY CLASSES.

HI, MY PROF. NERHER'S TA'S SUBSTITUTE'S GIRLFRIENDS' ROOMMATE, AND TODAY WE'LL BE DISCUSSING MARXISM IN A POST-INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY...

MY BOSS AT WORK WAS SO UNOBTUSIVE THAT NO ONE EVEN NOTICED WHEN HE DIED.

MY LANDLORD NEVER VISITED MY BUILDING ONCE—NOT EVEN BEFORE BUYING IT.

OF COURSE, GEORGE BUSH HAS PROVEN THAT THE COUNTRY CAN FUNCTION WITHOUT AN EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

ABSENTEEISM—LEADERSHIP FOR THE 90'S.

