

# Accessorize with condom jewelry

by Tony Stefanelli

The Condom Wise Company has recently conceived a new use for condoms. The production of condom earrings, condom bolo ties and condom decorations for the Christmas tree are a few of the items the company makes.

All of the condoms in the earrings and bolo ties remain in sealed packages, containing colorful designs or drawings on the front. The condoms inside the package are usable, but the price of \$10 to \$20 would make using it for sex costly.

The line of 12 greeting cards comes equipped with a latex, lubricated condom stapled to the inside of the cover, ready for use.

"If you're going to cruise..." reads one, "use cruise control."

Each card contains a different message promoting safe sex.

Jan McAdams, the developer of the Condom Wise Company, said that she had an unstable beginning with her product in California. A group of 12 churches banded

together, calling themselves "Citizens for Morality," and protested the sale of these condom decorated items. The protests worked in McAdams' favor however, because the publicity her product received launched it into popularity.

McAdams' company is the only one of its kind created and directed by AIDS Educators—those concerned with not only educating the public about the AIDS virus but also assisting in the prevention of contracting the virus.

"I don't care who you sleep with, I just want to keep you out of the path of virus and give you the tools to do it," McAdams said when interviewed by the Chico State University newspaper in California.

McAdams visited UNLV's campus to sell her product during National Condom Week and said that sales were doing "extremely well." She added that although her products sell well with men and women, they are more popular with the female students.

She said some of her best cus-



by Jason Birmingham

tomers were grandmothers of students and because of the generation gap between themselves and their grandchildren, she finds the

communication about the subject of safe sex was better.

The stylish bolo ties and earrings made by The Condom Wise

Company are secondary to the message of AIDS prevention they want to make known in society today.

## War protests are a great way to relieve stress

(CPS)—Students may be joining anti-war demonstrations if only to relieve the stress they feel over the Persian Gulf War, says Kathleen Kashima, director of counseling services at California State University-Hayward.

"Stress is a normal reaction," Kashima said. "People are anxious because they feel that world events are out of their control."

Her theory isn't getting much acceptance.

"It doesn't seem like a very significant reason to protest," said Dr. Vernon Williams, head of counseling at the University of

Nebraska-Lincoln. His office hasn't seen any increase in students visits, either. "Support groups for students and staff have been formed, but there's been no move to seek counseling."

"Relieving stress is something that comes out of it," admitted University of Oregon student John McMillan, "but that's not the goal."

"We're not going to protests thinking we're going to stop the war tomorrow," McMillan admitted, "but we're making people think and giving people a chance to express their feelings."

## Foam cups may be better for the environment than paper

(CPS) Foam cups, often portrayed as an ecological villain, actually may be more environmentally friendly than paper cups, a Canadian researcher reported Jan. 31.

University of Victoria researcher Martin Hocking, in a study that received no funding from either the paper or polystyrene foam industries, found that the environmental impact of foam cups appears to be less than that of paper cups.

Central College in Iowa, Brown University and California State University in Sacramento, among many others, have stopped using foam cups in recent years because of environmental fears.

"The problem is there's no means to recycle Styrofoam," said Jason Roder, head of food services at Central College. "There's nobody out there collecting it."

Hocking contends making paper cups is as environmentally difficult as making foam cups.

"The main factor that is clearly in favor of the polyfoam cup is that the paper cup consumes not only wood resources, but also petroleum resources to the same extent as polystyrene foam," he maintained. "That factor alone is sufficient to have me personally choose a polyfoam cup."

Petroleum, usually fuel oil or natural gas, is first used during the papermaking process, and then is used again if paper cups have a plastic or wax coating, Hocking explained.

Foam cup production also requires only about one-sixth as much of other types of chemicals—like chlorine and sulfur—as paper cups, according to Hocking's study, published in the journal *Science*. Hocking also found that bleached paper cups pollute the air more than foam cups do.

Foam cups fell into environ-

mental disrepute about 15 years ago, after scientists linked the chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, used in their production to depletion of the protective ozone layer in Earth's upper atmosphere.

CFCs are no longer used to make foam cups. Pentane is now used in their place.

As for the threat of global warming, Hocking said pentane's impact as a so-called greenhouse gas is probably less than the methane and carbon dioxide gases produced by paper cups decomposing in landfills.

Technology exists to recycle foam cups into other materials, said Hocking, but a better system of collecting such material "is required to make this option a more significant reality."

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Many paper cups, especially the more sturdy varieties, cannot be recycled.

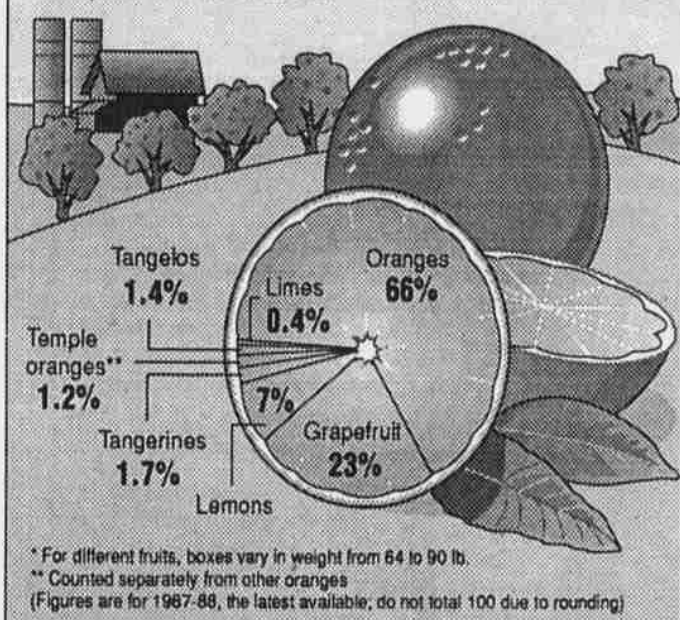
Foam cups decompose very little when buried in landfills, Hocking said.

However, he noted that there is increasing evidence that paper also does not degrade well in landfills, especially in dry regions.

### Facts du jour

#### The national citrus cup

The United States grows about 300 million boxes\* of citrus fruit each year. What that includes:



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