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# Lifestyles

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THE REBEL YELL

7

## Recycling may take extra effort

by Kimberley McGee

It is estimated that an average student generates 640 pounds of waste a year while only 5 percent of that is recycled. That includes all the term and research papers, aluminum cans and glass bottles from all the soda and beer imbibed during the school year, half-read newspapers and other waste that could be reused instead of sitting in a landfill. However, our campus does not recycle

these large amounts of waste, so what do you do?

We are limited to two or three choices. One solution is, you could go to one of many off-campus recycling centers and use the money you collect for a party; two, be a lazy bum and not recycle; and three, if you're really committed to recycling you can work with other students to start a campus-wide recycling program.

According to a UCLA study, the main reason there is little

or no recycling on campus is due to a lack of administrative support. It is up to the students to get something done about it. For example, at Rutgers University in New Jersey, students joined together and recycled more than 32 percent of their waste and netted over \$26,000. This came to \$130,000 in landfill costs if the waste would not have been recycled. At the University of Colorado at Boulder, a small fee is collected from students each semester for re-

cycling costs. A recycling program sells its recyclables and a contribution is made by the university based on its disposal costs savings.

To start a recycling program in your dorm or apartment complex you should check out the local and state ordinances to find support and use them to start your own program. Also look at the community programs for recycling and find out if you can join. Look under "Waste Paper" or "Recy-

cling" in the yellow pages to find what local centers take glass, aluminum and paper and how much they pay. Research the economic benefits of recycling for the dorm or apartment complex. Compare the cost of recycling to that of regular waste disposal and find an advisor to back you up.

It takes a primary initiative to begin to make a difference, and that starts with one individual who is willing to make a difference.

## Student takes initiative for a better environment

by Kimberley McGee

Tara Pike, a junior environmental science major, began her own student organization as a result of her impatience about "wanting to do something that would make a difference."

Pike began Students Conscious Of Protecting the Environment (SCOPE) during Spring 1991 because she felt there was a need for an environmental organization on campus. She said she thought the campus "needed to deal with recycling," and other important environmentally sound programs by an organization dedicated to "educating our campus on the environment which is an important issue that affects every sector of everyone's life."

SCOPE evolved from Tara Pike and Brent Legault support SCOPE on Earth Day 1991.

Pike's determination and zest to "do something." She was tired of talking about the environment and "wasn't really satisfied with what other organizations were doing. She wanted an organization that would be actively involved with helping the community by recycling, educating and donating its time and efforts willingly.

SCOPE was involved with Earth Day 1991, selling T-shirts, pins and reusable canvas bags to raise money for the organization. SCOPE also held a play for the Rompin' Rebels to educate the preschoolers on how to clean up the environment at home and school. SCOPE plans to have a concert this spring to raise money to further their progress in educating the community regarding preventative "medicine" for the environment.

Pike began her struggle to start her own organization by finding a faculty advisor that was as much involved and passionate about the environment as she. James Deacon, professor of biological science, signed a letter that declared he was SCOPE's advisor. Pike took that letter, along with a constitution of the organization's goals



photo by Kimberley McGee

everyone together at once, so we need people to join. With the minimum amount of people we have, we just don't have enough to get what we want done accomplished," Pike said. "We want to make our own T-shirts and banners and we need a logo to be designed."

SCOPE needs artists to design T-shirts, the potential magazine, banners, the logo, mugs and other paraphernalia. They need architect majors to help design desert landscapes for UNLV, writers and English majors to help on the constitution and fact sheet and film studies majors to help in the video planned for the membership drive.

"Our ultimate plan is to start SCOPE on other campuses and we will need help in planning and implementing that. Basically we have a place for everyone and their talents," Pike said.

Pike looks to the future with an optimistic smile. "I want to graduate with a bachelor of science degree in environmental science with an emphasis on biology. After graduation I plan to join the Peace Corps."

Pike now works for a non-profit organization, Citizen Alert, and would like to continue working for her masters degree in San Francisco.

"It just makes you feel good to know you've done something or have educated someone on how to live in a better world," Pike said.

## White lies are part of the joy of giving

by Kimberley McGee

During the holiday season people are more willing to give, to smile, to forgive and to lie.

When the festive spirit descends upon our cities, and the store windows are full of decorations and sales, we become a kinder, gentler people. With this holiday spirit arrives a feeling of good will along with visiting relatives and friends. Those 10 pounds lost over summer grow back like the return lines at stores, longer than the Great Wall of China. The people exchanging these gifts all give reasons such as, "I absolutely loved it, but it just doesn't fit right" or "it's not my color" or better yet, "I was just given one of these, too bad." Little white lies abound due to the nicety we feel we owe to the giver. Is that so bad?

According to Michael Lewis, a researcher and professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, New Jersey, these lies are socially acceptable. Lewis said we are "taught early not to hurt others' feelings."

Experts who have studied American's lying habits have found we lie and are lied to more than we think. A recent survey shows 91 percent lie routinely and of those, 81 percent lie about feelings. Women

lie more often than men to avoid hurting the feelings of others while a man is more likely to lie to protect his self esteem.

A large part of lying is self-deception. When we ask if we look fat after eating all that holiday food we do not want to hear an affirmative answer.

"We want to preserve our individual myths about ourselves," said Psychiatrist Charles Ford. Therefore we give cues to those around us whose opinions we want to hear. "We want to believe what we want to believe."

Those that are lied to do not even have to be lied to that well. Self-deception plays a vital role. It protects our egos from pain and embarrassment. We expect to hear the usual thanks and praise for the gifts we give rather than what might actually be going through the receiver's mind such as, "It's horrendous, may I have the receipt to return the gift."

That response would be deemed rude and socially unacceptable, not to mention painful to the person who put time and thought into the gift.

So when you receive that two-times too big hand-knitted sweater and wear it Christmas day to honor the person who spent hours knitting it, and the next day hide it in the deepest corner of the closet, you are only doing the polite thing.

## Some lying statistics

	Harmless	Serious
Insincere compliments	68%	32%
Lying to protect feelings	70%	30%
Violating trust	0%	100%
Exaggerating story	53%	47%

**S.C.O.P.E** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership form Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/ideas \_\_\_\_\_