Young writers offer visions of Earth: 2010

First place (16-18)

Lauren sitted through the closet while her kids finished packing lunch.
"Now where's that 110 SP suntan lotion?"
Hidden behind the 20 oz. tube of Retin-A skin cream and the carton of Yeleno gleclosps she found the follon. She took it into the kitchen where at each other.
"Tina and Jimmi Just stop that okay?
Don't you want to go to the zoo today?"
It was the first time Lauren habeen to the zoo in 20 years. She could

Don't you want to go to the zoo to-day?"

It was the first time Lauren babeen to the zoo in 20 years. She could hardly wait to take the kids there for the first time; the zoo was her favorite place as a child and she felt guilty that she had never taken her children there. Finally, they would experience a part of the world they had the country of th

go first.
"What's better, Mommy, the Insect Farm or the Dog Village?"
"Why the two worst choices, Jim-

"Why the two more."
"Because that's all that's here."
"Because that's all that's here."
Lauren pushed Jimmi out of the way to look for herself. This didn't make sense. What had happened to all the giraffes, lions, and elephants?



ural habitats? There must be some mistake. Lauren stood quietly for a second, thinking, and then halled an elderly zookeeper. "Excuse me, sir. Where's the ele-

ants?" "What? Elephants? Where the hell

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Second place (16-18)

Today's annual festivities have

Today's annual festivities have been dampered by the new law, stating that there are to be no more fireworks, ever, This law is the last in a long string of social, industrial, and political reforms.

Although slower than the gas car, today's electric models produce no reduce the control of the state of

Governments of the U.S. and most Governments of the U.S. and most other advanced societies have rewarded homeowners for each tree planted on their land. Incentives range from tax write offs in the U.S., to eash rewards in Japan. The newly educated governments of South America have outlawed the once popular, slash/burn method of cleaning rain forests you may note that the forests are now being nuclearly the control of the control of the control of the control of the U.S. and the control of the U.S. and the U.S. and

be to rests are now being included back into health. Recycling, now mandatory, has been transformed into a multi-billion dollar industry, as a result the prices of many packaged goods have decreased. Twenty years ago littering was considered no big deal. It is now punishable by 300 hours community service. Even the accrage of animal reserves has quadrupled in the last 20 years, and animals once rare, are now quite common, like the



Rocky Johnson

Bald Eagle for instance.
The ozone layer has stabilized, due in part to the public boycotting of aerosol cans; the green house effect has also stabilized. Acid rain, once a

Second place (16-18)

What's the solution to the Earth's pollution? The Earth 20 years from now? I shudder at the thought of it. I am not talking about the ozone, the greenhouse effect or biodegradable diapers. I'm talking about the pollution in peoples' minds, hearts and souls.

sion in peopies' minds, hearts and souls.

Why does a 12-year-old think he can solve his arguments by shooting a playmate? Why does a 15-year-old think he will be accepted by his peers for snorting cocaine? Why does a 13-year-old think she will be loved by having sex?

The blood form all these senseless killings flow through the soil of every city throughout the world. The stench from cocaine powder assaults the nostrils of every person who walks the earth. The murder of innocent bables through abortion affects the entire world.

It's the "I don't sive a tame" "the

want ballest through abortion affects the other work.

Let she "I don't give a darm" attitude that is polluting the carth. People arent willing to forgive and forget anymore. Gond, drugs, and abortions are too easily obtained.

But, I'm just a kid. What do I know, right? I say wrong! I've seen and heard things that children shouldn't see or hear. I care enough about the Earth to tell my friends I love them and forgive them when they've hurt me. I care enough about the temperature of the property of the tomorrows of this Earth to say



Carrie Keesee

no to drugs. I care enough about fu-ture generations to abstain from sex until marriage. I care enough about mankind who inhabits the carth to say: "Love one another. Be kind to one another." I believe it's the only hope for the Earth 20 years from now.

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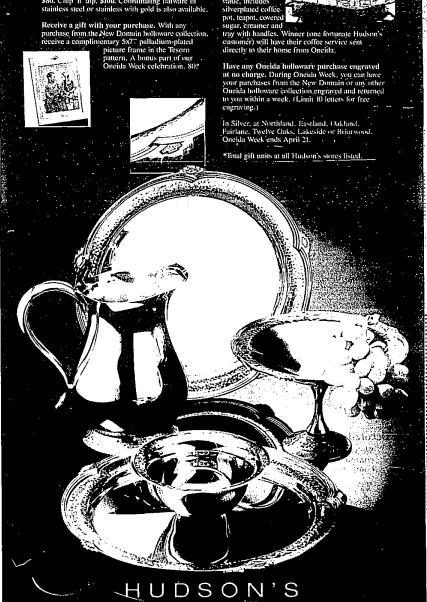


Third place (16-18)

Close your smoke-filled, weary from pollutants eyes, and imagine with me for a romenat. Imagine this world we live in 20 years into the future.

What can you see? Even though you have your eyes closed and your imagination is working, does it seem preposterous to see anything other than this environmental flasco we've created?





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