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Editor's Corner - Last Thoughts

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Without the “other two-thirds” of the reclamation cycle, our efforts to help clean up our environment are largely wasted. Recycling is the job of the public, but it is difficult to make the manufacturing communities change their ways. We can write letters and make calls urging companies to reduce and reuse until we are blue in the face, but the best way to let them know what we want is to use our purchasing dollars as votes for the environment. Support companies that demonstrate sound environmental practices. Purchase items with little amounts of packaging. Look for labels indicating the use of recycled or “reclaimed” materials. Use concentrated products (such as laundry detergent or fabric softener) that will help reduce the amount of packaging that is thrown away. If we choose to spend our money on products made by companies that use sound environmental policies in their manufacturing procedures, we are, in effect, casting a powerful ballot for the environment.

Last Thoughts

It hardly seems possible that I have been the editorial assistant for the *Iowa Science Teachers Journal* for six years now. What seems even more impossible is the fact that I am leaving the *Journal*.

In the time that I have worked for *ISTJ*, I have learned quite a lot about science education in general. Being a student of English and music, my friends often kidded me about the area in which I worked, but the combination seemed to work alright for me.

As my last “official” act for the *Journal*, I would like to take this opportunity to officially introduce my replacement. Jonna Higgins is a junior in English at the University of Northern Iowa. Some of you may recognize her name as she began working with us on the last issue of the *Journal*. I am glad that I have had the chance to work with Jonna and I think that she will be a fantastic editorial assistant.

Thanks to everyone who made my job easier as time went by, especially the authors and our referees and assistant editors, and a special thanks to our copy editor, Marge Vargas, and our editor, Carl Bollwinkel, for all that they have taught me over the years. I will miss you all!

--S.A.A.