

trimmings

DR. ROSS MCKINNEY of the University of Kansas says that "Currently, we are involved in one of the largest con games ever played, the environmental con game. It is an easy game to play. It requires no skill and works best in highly educated, technologically oriented, socially conscious societies. There is no easier sucker than someone who has been exposed to a smattering of knowledge, who has tasted the fruits of technology, and who feels slightly guilty for having it so much better than his fellow man."

VINCENT BOMMARITO, owner of Tony's restaurant and chairman of the Downtown St. Louis, Inc. beautification committee is unhappy. He wants the city to enforce the St. Louis weed control ordinance. He says that a tough enforcement of the law would alleviate the problems of a bumper crop of weeds expected this summer as a result of a wet spring. But the city says no dice. Not until they get the new heavy-duty trucks needed for the program. Bommarito disagrees. He claims that 90 percent of the weeds are on private property. He thinks that the sanitation officers should get out and cite violators of the ordinance. "Let's not take a defeatist attitude," he said.

THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYERS ASSOCIATION has asked the Federal Consumer Product Safety Commission to halt further installation of artificial turf on professional, college and high school football fields. It wants the commission to study the turf in relation to injuries. Executive director, Edward Garvey says that the association has asked the commission to prohibit new installations until such time as safety rules are established.

5000 SORTIES of winged warriors are the latest in the battle to combat Dutch Elm Disease in Denver and Fort Collins, Colo. The weapons are wasps, smaller than mosquitoes and harmless to man. They zero in on the elm bark beetle and lay eggs on the beetle larvae. When hatched, the wasp offspring consume the worm stage of the beetles. Technical name for the wasps is *Dendrosoter protuberans*. Wayland Lilly, senior entomologist for the project says that the wasps will do the job.

One big problem, however. Will the wasps survive the cold, Colorado winter?

JOSEPH P. MCKENNA, economist, says that rapid transit is not the answer to traffic congestion in most U. S. cities. Only New York City, with 25,000 people per square mile, meets the preconditions necessary to justify subways. The authority on urban transit says the conditions are high density work areas, high density residence and clearly defined corridors between the two. At the rate with which cities are expanding it won't be long before these conditions will apply to every city

over a million population.

YOU CAN PLEASE some of the people some of the time, but not all of the people all of the time. Witness the case of dandelions in England. Not that there are too many, but too few. Seems like the botanists have so diligently applied selective weed killers that dandelions are now something of a rarity. Local conservation groups have joined together in a "save the dandelion" campaign. Perhaps the conservationists can re-introduce the dandelion as an organic specimen from which to make a salad or a refreshing bottle of dandelion wine.

