

*Kendal Dunbar*

## **Free Trade**

**The free trade agreements are not fair trade agreements. The large corporations only want to reduce cost and increase profits. If they can go to Central America and exploit the people and their land, to accomplish this, they will.**

**The paper companies in the U. S. are investing in the countries where they can get huge tax breaks, little or no environmental laws, labor laws, or forestry regulations ect.**

**It will be a sad day when paper companies like International Paper, who is the largest pulp and paper employer, in the State of Maine, pack up their equipment and go to these other countries. I. P. employs more than 2500 skilled employees and has a payroll of almost 200 million In Maine.**

**I. P. already has operations in more than 40 countries and sells its products in more than 120 nations. Global operations are located in th U. S. , Europe, Latin America, Canada and Asia.**

**I.P. had sales in 2003 of 2.5 billion and is ranked No. 71 among Fortune 500 Companies.**

**Do we really want these corporations to take their jobs to other countries, so they can reduce their costs and increase their profits, at our expense?**

*We the undersigned* oppose **The Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA)** because it's bad for workers, jobs and our democracy. CAFTA expands NAFTA, continuing a model of global trade that grants far more rights to commercial interests and corporate profit-making than to workers or communities.

We call on the Citizen Trade Policy Commission to recommend that Maine's Congressional Delegation oppose ratification of CAFTA.