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Ecotones: The Heartbeat of Huxley, 2001, Fall, Issue 09

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Fall Issue 9

November 25, 2001

**Ecotones
Staff**

Editor in Chief
Kate Koch

Layout Editor
Laura Thoren

Web Editor
Tennyson
Ketchum

Reporters
Jessi Loerch
Carla Mingione

Photographer
Lee Laney

Advisor
Scott Brennan

**Quote
of the
Week**

You may
not be
smart but
at least
you're
Populus...

-JMR

National award-winning Planet magazine sets the pace, again

By Carla Mingione

Just three weeks ago, at the 80th annual National College Media Convention, The Planet was honored as one of the top eight college magazines in the country. The publication received the Associated College Press 2000 National Magazine Pacemaker Award, which recognizes overall achievement and excellence in a college magazine.

To managing editor, Grant Brissey, the award is meaningful.

"We put in a lot of hours here, really late nights often," he said. "So when we win an award like this, it shows that all our hard work is going into something."

Levi Pulkkinen, Editor-in-Chief, said that as the Planet wins awards, more students want to write for it.

"The Planet has grown a lot since June 2000 when we did the pipeline issue," he said.

Now the magazine has 14 reporters, the most that have ever been on staff.

Pulkkinen said the reporters are not all journalists, necessarily. They are students from a variety of departments at Western, including students from Fairhaven, Huxley, Business and other areas.

"All those people from different disciplines give a lot of depth to our staff," Pulkkinen said.

Faculty advisor for The Planet, Scott Brennan noted the same attribute that makes the magazine distinct.

"They are a very diverse group of people," he said. "And they all come together to produce a magazine that really reflects that diversity."

As the publication is winning praise at the national level, The Planet staff continues to work relentlessly on the Fall 2001 issue.

Brissey said that the multimedia additions are the most significant new addition. The Planet has

recently started working with the campus radio and broadcast.

"We're looking to become more of a source to look to on current environmental issues rather than coming out once a quarter like we have in the past," he said.

Kate Granat, Web editor, has been working on the online edition.

"I'm totally re-designing it," she said. "Giving it a new look."

These additional improvements don't slow the staff from writing stories. After all deadlines and hard work this quarter, the fall issue is ready for print.

"It was an awful lot of work to get through and I think we turned out a very high quality issue," Pulkkinen said.

The theme for the Fall 2001 issue is energy. The magazine is devoted to the discussion of energy concerns, the events of the "energy crisis" and the use of energy. Look for it December 7th.

Huxley student Campbell to intern with CNN

By Jessi Loerch

Tiffany Campbell, a senior double majoring in environmental journalism and English, is the newest intern at CNN in Atlanta, Ga.

Campbell will begin the semester-long internship in early January.

"I can't think of a more interesting or better respected broadcast station to work for," Campbell said.

Campbell expects to be involved in all aspects of news story development at the station. She will cover environmental issues when they develop, and will be assigned to the war desk, where most of the country's focus is right now.

"In uncertain times, journalism is even more essential and this will be an opportunity to learn breaking-news reporting under pressure, and the opportunity to report on real news and issues," she said.

For the internship, she will go on assignment with anchors or correspondents, helping with filming, editing and shot selection, in addition to many more projects, she said.

Campbell said she looks forward to learning about the technical aspects of broadcast journalism.

Most of her experience is in print journalism. She began work-

ing on The Planet during the winter of 1999 as a writer and then an associate editor. She was editor-in-chief during 2000-01 academic year.

Her interest in environmental journalism was partially triggered by Huxley's introductory environmental studies course.

"The class really pushed a lot of buttons for me," she said.

Campbell flipped through the bulletin and came across Huxley's environmental journalism program.

"The program was just a perfect thing," she said.

While some people worry that environmental journalists might be biased, Campbell believes the more educated a reporter is, the better they can cover issues.

"Essentially, I think that my education in environmental studies is a real asset," she said.

"There is still a perception that such an education would make a reporter biased, but I look at it as being equipped to understand complex issues."

While Campbell's main focus has been on writing during her time at Western, she became interested in broadcast by reading the news for KUGS 89.3.

"Print is my first love -- but I really enjoyed radio," Campbell said.

The idea to move on to television came to her during a Society

of Environmental Journalists conference. At the conference she met Natalie Pawelski, CNN's environment correspondent. Pawelski suggested Campbell apply for an internship at CNN.

Campbell said that since most of her experience is in print, she is looking forward to learning about the process for television news and learning how a story gets from the correspondent in the field to where it is packaged and put on air. She also explained she will learn how to decide on pictures and how stories are written differently for television.

Learning how to cover breaking news will also be a new challenge for Campbell, since most of her work was in magazine writing.

"I think this is a really great opportunity to learn how breaking news is covered, and how to cover it well," Campbell said.

"I'm excited," she said. "It's going to be a really new experience."

Campbell said she's been receiving lots of congratulations from friends, family and Huxley students.

"I really had such a good experience here. Everyone seems really happy for me," she said. "I couldn't have gotten this without the support of Huxley and the journalism department's professors and staff. I can't thank them enough."

Ecotones....

is looking for students to join our staff
Contact us if you are interested in submitting
your writing or story ideas.

Contact: Ecotones@cc.wwu.edu

'Trees' teach lessons in environmental education

By Carla Mingione

When the 450 students in Environmental Studies 101 came to class on Monday, Nov. 5, they were asked to sing and think like children while watching a play by students in the Environmental Education Program.

"Take off your cool hats, don't be 22 today, you've got to be 10," said Wendy Walker, undergraduate advisor and environmental education faculty member.

She asked the students to sing the chorus with her:

"We are one in the forest, We are one underground. We are one in the forest, Cycling around And it's all in a balance, like the earth is round"

The play, *Nobody's Ever Alone in the Forest* is one of three written by Walker to present ecological concepts to a variety of people in a way that is both entertaining and accurate.

A young hemlock tree and an older, wiser Douglas Fir, were the main characters

Arms covered by socks depicted truffles on the forest floor. The young hemlock was alarmed when she saw a vole eating the truffles that were so vital to her life. The Douglas fir patiently explained that by eating truffles the vole was spreading the spores, helping more to grow.

Then Douglas fir said he would soon die. The hemlock was worried, but he showed that she was only looking at one side of decay and there was more.

"Horray for decay," he sang. "Rot is okay!"

He explained that his death

would give nutrients back to the soil and be a part of new growth and life.

When a volcanic eruption blasted through the scene with silly string of hot lava and ash, the hemlock cried out for it to stop. The volcano explained to the young tree that he was actually beneficial.

"This is a very rare, treat," he said. "Now apologize, or you won't get anymore."

The volcano said he was a shower of nutrients needed to keep the soil rich. By teaching the young hemlock, the play serves to tell the audience about how parts of the forest work together. "There are no good guys or bad guys, we're all in this together," the Douglas fir said.

The goal of the Environmental Education Program is to educate people and make a difference in the way people live with the environment around them.

"(It is) intended to change people's ideas, attitudes and behaviors to help create an ecologically literate earth citizenry..." Walker said.

Students in the program hope to make this type of difference.

"I see it as the very basis of changing everything in the environmental science field," Gwen said.

Students in the Environmental Education Program presented the play to let other students know about the Environmental Education major. The program is very applied and interdisciplinary.

The major is 90 credits, though next year it will be 85. The minor is 26 credits.

"You have to want to do this," Walker said.

KATE & NIKOLE'S TOP TEN WETLAND PLANTS

10. *Sium suave*
9. *Ranunculus repens*
8. *Lysichiton americanum*
7. *Lemna minor*
6. *Ilex aquifolium* ("It's like Christmas!")
5. *Alnus rubra*
4. *Typha latifolia*
3. *Brasenia schreberi*
2. *Solanum dulcamara*
1. *Potentilla palustris*

Special thanks to Dr. J.M. Rybczyk



Photo Courtesy of Wisconsin State
Herbarium Web site
Solanum dulcamara.

WHAT'S UP?

November 26

"Injury Prevention & Body Mechanics for Runners"

7:30pm, Fairhaven Runners (1209 11th St.)

Get information on how the everyday use (and misuse) of your body at work, home, and in your car affect your health . . . for free! Call 676-4955 for details.

(400 36th St.)

Incorporating perspectives from both Eastern and Western medicines, this clinic will include information about acupuncture, herbalism, feet and their relation to overall well-being, and alternatives for health, pain relief, and injury prevention. Call 647-8955 for information.

November 27

Bike clinic

Students, staff, & alumni - \$15; Non-students - \$25.

Only two more chances this quarter to learn the inner workings of your bike from the Outdoor Center's experience bike mechanics. You'll acquire the skills you need to effectively maintain your bike with your own two hands. Call 650-3112, with questions.

REI clinic series:
"Winter Training & Injury Prevention"
6pm, Bellingham REI

November 28

Surf movie Wednesday

8pm, VU 552, \$2 for all.

Come help the Bellingham chapter of the Surfrider Foundation raise money just by checking out some awesome surf footage presented by Billygoat Productions. The foundation has chapters across the nation campaigning to clean up and preserve the nation's beaches and coastlines.

November 29

"Practical Herbalism - A User's Guide to Northwest Native Plants"

7-8pm, Community Food Co-op's Connections Bldg. (1220 N. Forest)

The talk will feature an introduction to the traditionally used plants of the area with Suzanne Nagler and Erin Groh. It's a free event, but you'll have to register by calling 734-8158.

December 1

Indoor rock climbing

Vertical Reality in B.C.;
\$8 for all.

Don't let the cold and rain stop you from keeping your climbing muscles in shape. Come climbing with the Outdoor Center while staying warm and dry. They'll provide a ride and gear if you don't have your own. Call 650-3112 for more information.

December 2

Fragrance Lake day hike
\$2 for all.

Get away from the books for a day to come explore the beauty of the Chuckanut Mountains on a relaxing day hike. Call

the OC at 650-3112 for more information.

Coming up...

New Huxley gear

Available December 5th!

Huxley's sweatshirts and long-sleeve t-shirts will be back just in time for Christmas. There will be new colors for the t-shirts and brand-new zippered hooded sweatshirts. You'll be able to pick them up between 9 and 12 Mon.-Fri. or 3-5 Tues. & Thurs.

Huxley's annual Internship/Career Fair Thursday, February 14th.

The event will run on the same day as the Western's internship fair sponsored by the Career Services Ctr. The WWU event is in the morning, and Huxley's will be held in the afternoon, so you'll be able to attend both.

ECOTONES

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MISSION STATEMENT

ECOTONES is a student publication devoted to providing a voice for the Huxley community as well as reporting on current events and environmental issues affecting us all.