Ecotones: The Heartbeat of Huxley, 2002, Fall, Issue 09

Laurel Eddy
Western Washington University

Huxley College of the Environment, Western Washington University

Follow this and additional works at: https://cedar.wwu.edu/huxleynewsletters

Part of the Environmental Sciences Commons, Environmental Studies Commons, and the Higher Education Commons

Recommended Citation

This Issue is brought to you for free and open access by the Huxley College of the Environment at Western CEDAR. It has been accepted for inclusion in Huxley College Newsletters - Historical Collection by an authorized administrator of Western CEDAR. For more information, please contact westerncedar@wwu.edu.
Coffee Vendors at Fair Trade Fair Offer Free Samples and Information

By Erik McKenna

Pura Vida Coffee was among three vendors who participated in the Fair Trade Coffee Fair in Red Square last Wednesday, offering free samples and information to students, staff and faculty.

The fair, hosted by the Western Fair Trade Coffee Club, was intended to educate students on fair-trade coffees.

Pura Vida says they have been purchasing fair trade beans for over four years. The Seattle-based company has established programs in coffee-growing countries to assist the farmers and provide for children in the countries.

"We take the profits and put them back into the coffee-growing countries," Pura Vida employee Geoff Harper said.

The Pura Vida coffee company was co-

Dean of Huxley Attends Conference in Netherlands

By Laurel Eddy

Huxley Dean Bradley Smith and Robert "Tide" Tibbs attended a conference in the Netherlands in November to discuss exchanging students and faculty and managing what Tibbs calls the "Green Heartland."

He said the heartland, or floodplain area, is crowded by the spreading metropolises of Seattle and Vancouver, and may be swallowed up if careful planning is not done.

"This area is highly desirable, but it's under great pressure," Tibbs said. "Deltas are mostly where people go to live."

He said deltas have hospitable temperatures and good soil.

The Dutch city of Arnhem is much like Bellingham will become as it grows, and also has a sister city much like Mount Vernon, Tibbs said. He said we can learn what problems we will face by studying that city.

Arnhem also contains the Wageningen University and Research Centre, which Huxley is planning exchanges with, Smith said. He said there may be an exchange next fall.

"They like the idea of American enterprise and free thinking," Tibbs said.

The two Netherlands cities have competed, but are now working together against pressure from Germany and the Hague, Tibbs said. He said this is like pressure Bellingham and Mt.
Continued from page 1 -

Huxley Dean

Vernon receive, and those two cities also need to plan green areas together. The Chuckanut highlands are on the edges of Whatcom and Skagit Counties, and so are hard to care for.

"No one has paid much attention to it," Tibbs said. "But it's beautiful."

The heartland is about the same size as the Netherlands, which also have influence from an ocean and many dairy farms and are extremely crowded.

"The Dutch are very skilled at managing their land because they don't have very much of it," Tibbs said. "Holland is one of the densely populated countries in the world."

The U.S. in general has very low population density, Tibbs said, but this area is becoming more crowded. He said it is necessary to plan where forests, parklands and farms will be, or growing cities will swallow them all.

"People who are living in cities want green space around them," he said.

Smith said the Netherlands plans for recreational areas.

"It is the most planned country in the world," he said. "You can get in a train and go 10 minutes outside Amsterdam and be in a green area."

Smith said Huxley students can learn a lot from Dutch successes and failures.

"Huxley students are going to be working in the international world more and more," Smith said. "The environment is not confined...part of an education as feasibly as possible should be international."

Wageningen has a worldwide reputation in sustainability and land use, Smith said. He said they teach in English and have the best cheese shop in the region nearby.

"In order to preserve a healthy environment, we need to preserve a healthy economy as well and a healthy society," Tibbs said.

"If you're poor and no one's got any jobs, no one's going to care about the environment."

Tibbs said Dutch who came to Western last summer for a conference said it was a beautiful area.

"But (we have) got to start looking after it properly," he said.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

“How do you feel about the Bush administration’s plan to drill for oil in the Alaska Wilderness reserve?”

“I don’t support it because he has concentrated on tapping finite resources to support his buddies. He should be concentrating on human rights and real liberty.”
- Sky Wilson

“People who are living in cities want green space around them," he said.

“I disagree with it. I don’t know a lot about Enron and what’s going on but I don’t think we should drill in an animal refuge.”
- David Milners

“Well, I don’t agree with it at all. We need to concentrate on renewable resources as opposed to finite resources like oil.”
- Ondrea Watson

“I don’t agree with it completely. I think that they should focus on alternate resources and not listen so much to outside influence.”
- Nick Beymer

“I think that it’s a bad idea, and my vote is for the Inuit lifestyle.”
- Rob Robson

“I don’t support it because he has concentrated on tapping finite resources to support his buddies. He should be concentrating on human rights and real liberty.”
- Sky Wilson

“People who are living in cities want green space around them," he said.

“I disagree with it. I don’t know a lot about Enron and what’s going on but I don’t think we should drill in an animal refuge.”
- David Milners

“Well, I don’t agree with it at all. We need to concentrate on renewable resources as opposed to finite resources like oil.”
- Ondrea Watson

“I don’t agree with it completely. I think that they should focus on alternate resources and not listen so much to outside influence.”
- Nick Beymer

“I think that it’s a bad idea, and my vote is for the Inuit lifestyle.”
- Rob Robson

“No one has paid much attention to it," Tibbs said. "But it's beautiful."

“The Dutch are very skilled at managing their land because they don’t have very much of it," Tibbs said. "Holland is one of the densely populated countries in the world."

The heartland is about the same size as the Netherlands, which also have influence from an ocean and many dairy farms and are extremely crowded.

"The Dutch are very skilled at managing their land because they don’t have very much of it," Tibbs said. "Holland is one of the densely populated countries in the world."

The U.S. in general has very low population density, Tibbs said, but this area is becoming more crowded. He said it is necessary to plan where forests, parklands and farms will be, or growing cities will swallow them all.

“We need to preserve a healthy economy as well and a healthy society," Tibbs said.

“If you're poor and no one's got any jobs, no one's going to care about the environment."

Tibbs said Dutch who came to Western last summer for a conference said it was a beautiful area.

“But (we have) got to start looking after it properly," he said.

“I don’t support it because he has concentrated on tapping finite resources to support his buddies. He should be concentrating on human rights and real liberty.”
- Sky Wilson

“People who are living in cities want green space around them," he said.

“I disagree with it. I don’t know a lot about Enron and what’s going on but I don’t think we should drill in an animal refuge.”
- David Milners

“Well, I don’t agree with it at all. We need to concentrate on renewable resources as opposed to finite resources like oil.”
- Ondrea Watson

“I don’t agree with it completely. I think that they should focus on alternate resources and not listen so much to outside influence.”
- Nick Beymer

“I think that it’s a bad idea, and my vote is for the Inuit lifestyle.”
- Rob Robson

“I don’t support it because he has concentrated on tapping finite resources to support his buddies. He should be concentrating on human rights and real liberty.”
- Sky Wilson

“People who are living in cities want green space around them," he said.

“I disagree with it. I don’t know a lot about Enron and what’s going on but I don’t think we should drill in an animal refuge.”
- David Milners

“Well, I don’t agree with it at all. We need to concentrate on renewable resources as opposed to finite resources like oil.”
- Ondrea Watson

“I don’t agree with it completely. I think that they should focus on alternate resources and not listen so much to outside influence.”
- Nick Beymer

“I think that it’s a bad idea, and my vote is for the Inuit lifestyle.”
- Rob Robson

“No one has paid much attention to it," Tibbs said. "But it's beautiful."

“The Dutch are very skilled at managing their land because they don’t have very much of it," Tibbs said. "Holland is one of the densely populated countries in the world."

The heartland is about the same size as the Netherlands, which also have influence from an ocean and many dairy farms and are extremely crowded.

"The Dutch are very skilled at managing their land because they don’t have very much of it," Tibbs said. "Holland is one of the densely populated countries in the world."

The U.S. in general has very low population density, Tibbs said, but this area is becoming more crowded. He said it is necessary to plan where forests, parklands and farms will be, or growing cities will swallow them all.

“We need to preserve a healthy economy as well and a healthy society," Tibbs said.

“If you're poor and no one's got any jobs, no one's going to care about the environment."

Tibbs said Dutch who came to Western last summer for a conference said it was a beautiful area.

“But (we have) got to start looking after it properly," he said.
Sean Cosgrove, Sierra Club’s National Forest Policy Specialist And Former Huxley Student, Visits Huxley

By Anne Chapin

Sean Cosgrove, a Huxley grad, returned to campus on Nov. 21-22 to share his experience and knowledge in national forest policy with Western students. He now lives in Washington, D. C. and works for the Sierra Club.

“It’s always good to come back to Bellingham, which I think is by far one of the best places to live,” Cosgrove said.

While he attended Western, Cosgrove wrote for the Huxley Hotline (now Ecotones) and the Planet Magazine. On his return to campus Cosgrove lectured in John Miles’ History of Conservation class, for the Planet Magazine, and in ESCI 101.

“I feel it [Huxley] should be a training ground for future environmental leaders,” Cosgrove said. “Faculty and students have a lot of resources. This is no time to stand on the sidelines and be an observer.”

Cosgrove’s official title with the Sierra Club is ‘National Forest Policy Specialist.’ He represents the interests of Sierra Club members to Congress.

“They [the Bush administration] basically want to eliminate most basic forest laws and rewrite them,” Cosgrove said.

the media, and the National Forest Service, which oversees the national forest system.

“The thing that’s exciting about my job is dealing with Sierra Club members who are passionate about this issue,” Cosgrove said.

The Sierra Club has between 730,000 and 740,000 members in any given year who support its work for local and national environmental protections.

“(Part of my job is) getting our story out about why our national forests should be protected,” Cosgrove said.

The Sierra Club was successful in achieving forest protections with Clinton’s administration, he said. In Clinton’s last weeks of office, 58.5 million acres of national forest was put aside to be protected by the Roadless Area Conservation Rule. However, Bush began to undo most of that work in his first few days of office, Cosgrove said.

“So many of the most challenging [work] is having the persistence to get up and take on the bad guy each day,” Cosgrove said. “Sometimes it feels like you’re banging your head against a wall.”

The second half of the president’s

Continued from page 1 -

Fair Trade

founded by Chris Bramley and John Sage. The two came up with the idea to return money to coffee-growing countries and to provide assistance to local children.

“Our goal is to feed, clothe, and educate children in need,” Pura Vida Sales Manager Katie Johnson said.

According to Pura Vida’s Web site, the company has established children’s clubs in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Brazil. The returned profits also pay for computer labs, soccer teams, and feeding children in Latin America.

“We feed over 1,000 kids a week,” Harper said.

Feeding children is one of the main focuses of the money being returned to the countries. Pura Vida is also hoping to expand their grower’s co-op to Africa and increase their sales in other countries. Pura Vida is available on the campus of two Northwest colleges and on their Web site.

“We have contracts to provide coffee for Evergreen State College and Portland State University,” Harper said.

Pura Vida is trying to educate people in the United States about the conditions in coffee-growing countries.

They also have programs which allow college students to travel to Costa Rica to see a coffee plantation and have the opportunity to work with the children.

“Co-Operative Coffees is the coffee co-op we buy our coffee from,” Harper said.

Pura Vida started their own co-op of growers when they began business.

Pura Vida was one of three vendors who distributed free coffee samples during the Fair Trade Coffee Fair last week in Red Square.

Donations can be made to a general fund or for a specific purpose. Donations are handled through their Web site. For more information about Pura Vida coffee you can contact them at 877-469-1431 or look at their Web site: www.puravidacoffee.com.
The Many Faces of Huxley

By Brwyn Harris
Photos by Tyler Faulstich

Chris Dunford is an undeclared freshman. "Environmental studies is my passion!" said Dunford, a Spokane native. Dunford said he played football and basketball in High School, but hasn't gotten around to sports yet in college. He said that he likes to write poetry and listen to music when he is not studying.

Dunford said that he came to Western because it was "in state, so I could save some money. Plus, I like Bellingham."

Dunford said he is interested in joining the Huxley department. "The main thing I want to do is inform people of the environmental situation," Dunford said.

Ariel Elane is a senior in Huxley College. Elane said she came to Western because "It's the best school I could find for Environmental Major." She is majoring in Environmental Science and hopes to find a job in the toxicology research department after graduation.

In her spare time, Elane enjoys snowboarding, biking, and reading.

Mary Stevens is a junior in the Huxley College. She is now wrapping up her first quarter at Western.

"I like art, I love painting. It's my biggest interest," Stevens said.

Mary Stevens, Huxley junior.

Mary Nowicki is in the Graduate program at Huxley. She is Mastering in Education in Natural Science/Science Education. "There's not many schools out there offering Environmental Education and geographically I wanted to do New England or the West Coast," said Nowicki.

Nowicki is in the first year of a Resident option and said there were "lots of bugs to be worked out."

Nowicki earned her Bachelors degree in Pennsylvania for Environmental Education with a minor in Elementary Education.

"My life is school," Nowicki said. But when life isn't just school she enjoys "outdoorsy stuff."

Eric Larsen, Huxley junior.

Eric Larsen is a junior at Huxley. Larsen spent two years at Whatcom for prerequisites before coming to Western.

"I was working in PT (Port Townsend) and living on the peninsula when I heard the Dean of Huxley give a talk on the radio about toxicology and I thought, WWU...that's where I'm going!" Larsen said. "I chose to take the long, slow, hard route because I needed to have the science background."

Now he is a Environmental Toxicology major. Larsen said he was inspired by the political situation when the U.S. led NATO forces bombing Yugoslavia. He was worried about the environmental effects the bombing would have.

Larsen is hoping to get a job in pollution control and bio remediation after he graduates. Meanwhile he lives by the Nooksack river with his dog Mun-Lan and they enjoy watching the river change the earth.

Mary Nowicki is in the Graduate program at Huxley. She is Mastering in Education in Natural Science/Science Education.
Huxley Graduate Wants to Give Back

By Tyler Faulstich

Because of Huxley graduate David Silverman’s positive experience at Huxley, he is now offering a scholarship to interested Huxley students. The scholarship will offer students a chance to, “study in threatened ecosystems of global significance.”

“Huxley is a brilliant education institution,” 1983 graduate Silverman said. “The teachers and faculty offered me so much; it is impossible to fully repay them.”

The scholarship will cover the $2,250 cost of the winter, 2003 Inter­session Course offered by the Environmental Learning Institute (ELI) in Arizona.

Students will study the geology, biology, and environmental studies of the Baja region in Mexico.

According to the ELI website, the course will consist of a geologic, biological and cultural survey of the Baja Peninsula with lectures and activities regarding the natural and cultural assets of the region.

Peninsula with lectures and activities regarding the natural and cultural assets of the region.

The scholarships are merit-based. Important criteria will include academic scholarship, background preparation, and student’s degree career plan.

The Mexican states of Baja California and Baja California Sur are the areas of study.

“It is incredibly beautiful with high mountains, tablelands, mesas, arroyos, plains and a remarkable coastline with rich marine ecosystems,” Silverman said. “The area has incredible biological diversity.”

Silverman says the field studies are community-based. Throughout the trip students work with “host-country communities, scholars and local institutions to conduct community-based environmental research,” he said.

Silverman says that it is his goal to get everyone in the communities involved to come up with a resource management plan.

Silverman hopes the communities of Baja, with the help of students, will become empowered to make their own decisions concerning their environment and use of resources.

According to ELI’s website one of the objectives for the trip is to co-design research project with geological and biological components serving the interests of the local community.

Silverman is the Executive Director of the Environmental Learning Institute, an organization he started in Arizona about five years ago.

The Institute is a not-for-profit organization specializing in field studies for undergraduates and graduates. Courses include Field Geology, Field Biology, Environmental Science, Ethics and Public Policy.

Silverman is planning on offering an annual scholarship for Huxley students through the Environmental Learning Institute.
What's Happening Around Bellingham and WWU

December 5, 7-9 p.m.
Jim Whittaker, Legendary Mountaineer Lectures
Jim Whittaker will lecture about being the first American to reach the summit of Mt. Everest and other topics in Amtzen Hall 100. Tickets are $5 and are available at the PAC Box Office. For more information, call 650-6146.

December 6
Last Day to Apply for a Bachelor’s Degree for Spring 2003
For more information, visit: http://www.wwu.edu/depts/registrar/creditevaluation/

Snow Shoe Mount Baker: Dec. 7
Pre Trip: December 7.
Cost is $30 for students/ $40 non-students. Pre-register at the Outdoor Center. For more information, call 650-3112.

December 7 Noon to 10 p.m.
Northwest Ecosystems Alliance Presents Sierra Club led Blanchard to Baker Benefit Hike with homemade soup and music by Dana Lyons
Six-hour hike and homemade soup by Blanchard community members, slide-show and updates on conservation efforts from activists including Ken Wilcox, Lisa McShane, and Helene Irving. Local singer Dana Lyons will perform. Tickets are $10, with all proceeds after expenses being split between the two campaigns for Blanchard Mountain and Mt. Baker. For more information, call 647-2807 or rawal@serv.net no later than Friday, December 6. To attend the dinner and show, purchase a ticket at the Community Food Coop in Bellingham, Scott’s Books in Mt. Vernon, or contact NWEA directly. Call 360-671-9950, extension 10 for tickets or 26 for more information.

December 13
Geminid meteor shower maximum
For more information, visit http://www.whatcomastronomy.org.

December 14, 7:30 p.m.
Star Gazing Party at Van Zandt Dike
For directions visit http://www.whatcomastronomy.org/calendar.html.

December 14- January 6
2002 Winter Break
No Classes!
For more information, call 650-3430.

Whistler Ski Trip: December 14-17
Pre Trip: Dec. 10
Play in the snow and then take a dip in the hot tub or steam in the sauna. Lift tickets not included (about $30-$45.) Gear not included. Pre-register at the Outdoor Center. For more information, call 650-3112. Cost is $130 for students/ $175 non-students.

December 28 , 7:30 p.m.
Star Gazing Party at Van Zandt Dike
Cost is $30 for students/ $40 non-students. Pre-register at the Outdoor Center. For more information, call 650-3112.

New Year’s Eve,
Dec. 31, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Northwest Ecosystem Alliance Celebrates New Year’s Eve 2002 with The Barbed Wire Cutters
Tickets are $10 at the door for members of NWEA, $15 for non-members. Price of ticket for non-members includes a one-year membership. All proceeds after expenses go to support NWEA’s programs.. For more information, call 671-9950 ext 10. Or to volunteer and get in free, call 671-9950 ext 18.

January 11, 6:30 p.m.
Whatcom Astronomy Organization’s Annual “Trash the President’s House” Potluck and Raffle.
6 foot long submarine sandwich and a fundraising raffle of odd astronomy items. Bring raffle item and food item for potluck. For location and directions, e-mail WACO at inquiry@whatcomastronomy.org.

January 23, 4 p.m.
Lecture: ‘Why Aren’t Canadians as Productive as Americans?’
Lecture by Andrew Sharpe, executive director of The Centre for the Study of Living Standards in Ottawa in the Parks Hall 4th Floor Lounge. For more information, call 650-7708.

Western Gallery presents ‘H2O’ through Dec. 6
An interdisciplinary exhibit focusing on water and the human body. For hours or more information, call 650-3900.

Ongoing
Lake Whatcom/Lake Padden need your pledge
The Mt. Baker Group of the Sierra Club seeks help with the “Salmon-Friendly Lawn” campaign. To participate, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Sierra Club – Mt. Baker Group, P.O. Box 1722, Bellingham, WA 98227

Scholarship deadlines for the 2002-2003 year are April 1, 2002. Contact Mary Moores at (360) 650-3748

Ecotones Mission Statement:
Ecotones is a student publication devoted to providing a voice for the Huxley community and reporting on current events and issues affecting everyone. We appreciate comments and criticisms about any aspect of Ecotones. Visit us on the web at www.ac.wwu.edu/~ecotones/
Email us with comments at ecotones@cc.wwu.edu!