

## Career Tracks

# Earth-safe jobs can be dug up

Yes folks, the "me" decade is over and the tree decade has begun.

Environmentally conscious students on college campuses everywhere are beginning to consider many factors other than the potential size of the paycheck when they think about their future careers.

For the first time, students at the University may be asked to sign a volunteer graduation pledge stating they will consider the social and environmental impact of any job opportunity or career they enter into.

Associate professor John Baldwin said land-use planning and environmental management jobs, "are going to come back like gangbusters in the nineties."

Baldwin said jobs in the fields of architecture, landscape architecture, physics, geography and renewable-re-

source biology will be on the upswing. Because of the growing amount of political battles over environmental issues, political science majors will play a part in the environmentally conscious job market of the nineties, he said.

The field of energy, from alternative sources to conservation, will be on the rise as well, Baldwin added.

A diverse education in a number of different disciplines will be helpful to job seekers in the changing business world of the nineties.

"A person with a basic knowledge of chemistry, physics, biology, business and a knowledge of environmental impact could go to just about any major consulting firm and get a job," Baldwin said.

Employees can also accept the traditional positions in industry and management and then work within the system

to provoke change, Baldwin said.

Matt Nicodemus, a Humboldt State student who organized that school's graduation pledge, agreed that employees can work within the establishment to influence changes.

Nicodemus said a person would first need to find out what a potential employer's track record with dealing with employees was.

"How responsive have they been when problems are pointed out, and how do they treat employees who bring things to light?" he asked.

Before investigating potential employees, a person needs to develop "an internal yardstick," Nicodemus said. "Figure out which environmental issues are important to you," and how much influence they will have on your career choices.

—Pat Malach

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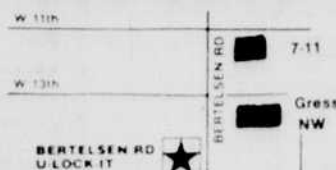
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