

**Eight Finalist Teams Announced in 2007 Economic Fuel
Business Competition
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Economic Fuel, the Humboldt County Student Business Challenge, has announced eight teams have been selected as finalists for the 2007 competition. Teams will vie for a total of \$117,000 in prizes next week, during individual presentations on Monday and Tuesday, May 1, at Humboldt State University's Kate Buchanan Room. Presentations will take place from 6 to 8:30 p.m. before a panel of six local business experts. The following teams have been selected as finalists based on business plans submitted last month.

AlgaRhythms: AlgaRhythms manufactures an all-natural, low-cost, slow-release fertilizer/soil amendment called CHLOGRO, derived from Chlorella algae. CHLOGRO effectively substitutes for synthetic fertilizers, matching on performance while also serving as a soil amendment. AlgaRhythms specializes in fertilizers for the turfgrass industry.

Agogo: Agogo is a small, mobile, vegetarian sushi eatery located in both north and south Arcata. Agogo's mission is to provide a healthy, convenient, affordable and fast food alternative for the local community, while having as little impact on our environment as possible.

California Native American Petroleum: California Native American Petroleum is the next wave of tribal economic development. Delivering gasoline and eco-fuel products to tribal gas stations at almost 50 cents a gallon cheaper than competitors, California Native American Petroleum also delivers service, opportunity and jobs to tribal communities.

Innovative Medical Workshops: Innovative Medical Workshops is dedicated to educating rural health care providers in their local communities. By providing rural communities with easy access to vital medical training and expertise, this business will empower them to increase revenue, compliance and the quality of health care in rural communities throughout the United States.

North Coast Solar: North Coast Solar is a contracting firm specializing in small business and residential solar systems. The company specializes in the design, installation and repair of solar systems.

Services include grid tie systems and other related solar electrical work. North Coast Solar's mission is to help create an energy-independent economy for businesses in Humboldt County and California.

Redwood Outfitters: Redwood Outfitters will provide guided horseback rides into the Redwood National Park's old-growth redwood forests. Rides will depart from the Orick Rodeo Grounds and range from two to six hours. Rides will be an adventure of a lifetime while seeing the majestic redwood forest.

TrenchScan: TrenchScan is a photographic service provider that specializes in photo-documenting the soils exposed in earthquake fault trenches. By applying innovative methods and custom software, TrenchScan has solved many problems that limit the use of photo-documentation, making trench photography accessible and affordable for almost any fault study.

Wild Chick Farm: Fields of green grass and happy, free roaming chickens being fed unlimited greens and organic feed is what Wild Chick Farm is all about. The business specializes in the humane rearing and processing of chickens, which results in dark orange yolks and rich, flavorful meat. Wild Chick Farm sells fresh eggs every Saturday at the Arcata Farmers Market and poached eggs daily at Cafe Brio in Arcata.

Sponsored by The Eureka Reporter LLC, the Economic Fuel competition is designed to create unprecedented entrepreneurial opportunities for local college students, recent college graduates and community residents with the disbursement of more than \$100,000 in seed money for new Humboldt County businesses.

The mission of the competition is to nurture local economic development by inspiring and supporting the entrepreneurial pursuits of Humboldt County's young adults.