The Drylands special double issue originates from the Great Plains Geomorphology and Environmental Change session, convened at the May 2002 annual meeting of the Geological Association of Canada/Mineralogical Association of Canada in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Fourteen papers addressing topics focused around hydrological and flood reconstructions, Holocene dune activity, drought and aridity, and human-environment interaction in the Canadian Prairies are included in the volume. Five papers are authored or co-authored by UWEC faculty or faculty-mentored graduate students. Many of the articles are authored by participants in SCAPE (the Study of Cultural Adaptations within the Prairie Ecozone), which funded research conducted by 18 UWEC undergraduate geography and geology students and 3 UWEC faculty (Garry Running, Karen Havholm, and Harry Jol).