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Huxley Hotline, 2000, November 17

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Environmental organization of the week:

1000 Friends of the Earth

By Tracey Derkowski

Does a drive through the country, a picnic in a meadow, or a walk along the shores of a lake seem like a distant memory? Now a drive to the country seems to take hours, the closest thing to a meadow around here is that vacant lot on the corner, and a walk on a lake shore consists of that 20 feet that isn't privately owned.

The spread of urban sprawl seems to be overtaking the environment. There are very few places along the I-5 corridor that are not flanked by development. With the ever-imposing threat of urban sprawl lying heavily on my mind I have decided to dedicate this week's spot to 1000 Friends of the Earth.

1000 Friends of the Earth is an organization based in Seattle that is dedicated to urban sprawl. Their goal is to "maintain viable urban, suburban, and rural communities in Washington State through promotion of and support for responsible growth management."

On the 1000 Friends of the Earth Web site you will find a page of publications. This page includes articles such as "Washington's Most Endangered Places." This is a review of the treasured places in Washington that are threatened by sprawl, development, unmanaged growth (including Lake Whatcom) and what you can do about it. You will also find articles on how Washington is fulfilling the 13 goals of the Growth Management Act. This is a sprawl report card that rates 33 cities in the central Puget Sound on how they are curbing urban sprawl and promoting livable communities.

On the Web site there is (Continued on page 3)
Faculty Profile: Brian Bingham

By Nikole Coleman

Have you ever wondered how many starfish larvae actually make it from baby starfish to adults? Brian Bingham could tell you with a simple drawing. The answer is about two percent of all larvae survive the cycle into adulthood. An amazing fact when you consider that one adult starfish can produce about 200,000 larvae.

Professor Bingham, whose students call him Brian, has been a Huxley faculty member since 1990 when he began teaching at the Shannon Point Marine Center in Anacortes. At the Marine Center, Bingham runs a minority student program to introduce marine biology as a career option. The program is a national model. Also, numerous Western classes meet at the Marine Center to participate in hands on research. One class works with invertebrates; training students to identify and appreciate the environment they live in. In 1995, Bingham began teaching on Westerns campus, including marine science courses and a graduate course in experimental design, a course set up to help students with thesis research.

Bingham's love for the environment and marine life began in Idaho. As a child his family would take trips to the beach, which was so exciting for a child that lived inland. He especially loved watching the sea urchins. Then while earning his Bachelors of Science in Zoology from Brigham Young University, Bingham took a basic biology track. He soon fell in love with ecology.

After earning his B.S., Bingham remained at BYU to earn his Masters degree in Zoology. At this time Bingham was first introduced to the Puget Sound as an adult. He, and another graduate student could not conduct the research they needed in Utah. So, they spent some time in Friday Harbor facilitating their research.

From Utah, Bingham went in to receive his Ph.D. from Florida State University in Biology. In Florida, Bingham also participated in research of the Mangrove swamps, which remains an interest today.

Finally, in 1990, Brian Bingham settled in the Pacific Northwest. He and his family now reside in Anacortes, near the Shannon Point Marine Center where he spends most of his time teaching. He chose the Puget Sound as his permanent residence because the marine habitats are very diverse communities, a simpler climate, and the wonderful community for his children to grow up in.

Bingham's research revolves around marine ecology. Current research projects emphasize effects of environmental disturbances, such as UV light on reproduction of marine species, like echinoderms. The focus is on the whole life cycle, because to understand the adults one must understand the larvae.

Brian Bingham sees the biggest environmental problem today stemming from a lack (Continued on page 3)

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Play (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

grew our dialogue in America"

-From a press conference Wednesday

Play (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

placed her thoughts on paper.

Walker said her desire in crafting both plays was to teach about forest ecology, in a way that was "entertaining and accessible to a non-scientific audience," the first performance, titled "Nobody's Ever Alone in the Forest," takes place in a low- land forest.

Walker wrote the play for Earth Day in 1990. The play demonstrates the life-cycle of that particular forest. It also teaches the importance of est. This play is set in a high each creature in nature - even the truffles that grow on the low- land forest floor.

In 1993, while working at Heather Meadows, Walker wrote "Soft Steps at Timberline" which was the second play that was performed. She wanted to emphasize the need for humans to have a minimum impact in the for-
Bingham (cont.)
(Continued from page 2)
of good environmental educa-
tion, or in some cases a lack
of environmental education
altogether. He feels children
in the elementary system are
not experiencing science in a
positive manner, and that
many educators are not very
good at teaching children
about science or the environ-
ment. However, Bingham
does believe that we are
headed in the right direction.
More and more qualified en-
vironmental educators are en-
tering the work force.
In whatever free time Bing-
ham has, he likes to spend it
with his family. They do a lot
of camping and participate
with scouting groups. Also,
Bingham enjoys reading and
is currently trying to teach
himself Spanish. He spends
traveling with students from
the minority program and by
doing national surveys of in-
vasive species.
Bingham is known for using
visuals in his classrooms, in-
cluding drawings. I now un-
derstand a little more about
starfish from a professor that
studies them because of a
simple drawing and a simple
interview.***

1000 Friends (cont.)
(Continued from page 1)
also a page on state policy.
Here you can find out which
bills 1000 Friends of the Earth
promoted and which bills they
fought. There is a page giving a
summary description of the
Growth Management Act and
the goals it was intended to
wards. There is also information
on the consequences of
urban sprawl and water pollu-
tion. Here you will find links
on how water quality is influ-
enced by sprawl, watershed
planning, things you can do,
and other water quality links.
For more information on,
how to join or employment
opportunities with 1000
Friends of the Earth you can
go to their web-site at
www.1000friends.org, call
them at (206) 343-0681, or
visit them at 766 Thomas St.
Seattle, WA 98109.***

Veggie Files
By Charlotte Larson
Ingredients:
· 2 (3 ounce) packages of
ramen noodles, crushed
· 1 cup blanched slivered al-
monds
· 2 teaspoons sesame seeds
· ½ cup butter, melted
· 1 pound Napa cabbage,
shredded
· 1 bunch green onions,
chopped
· ¼ cup vegetable oil
· ¼ cup distilled white vinegar
· ¼ cup white sugar
· 2 tablespoons soy sauce

Directions:
· In a medium skillet over low
heat brown ramen noodles,
almonds, and sesame seeds
with melted butter or marga-
rine. Once browned, take off
margarine and remove from
heat and cool.
· In a large bowl add shredded
cabbage and chopped green
onions.
· In a small sauce pan bring
vegetable oil, sugar, and vine-
gar to boil for 1 minute. Cool.
Add soy sauce.
· To the large bowl add the
noodle and soy sauce mixture.
Toss to coat. Serve.

Nutrition:
383 Calories
5 g Protein
33 g Total Fat
341 mg Sodium
25 mg Cholesterol
19 g Carbohydrates
0 g Fiber

Bush retorts...
"The outcome of this
election will not be
the result of deals or
efforts to mold
public opinion, the
outcome of this
election will be
determined by the
votes and by the
law."

Play (cont.)
(Continued from page 2)
alpine meadow, and was also
written for the U.S. Forest
Service to use as educational
material.
At Fairhaven’s audi-
torium, the future environ-
mental educators donned the
 likenesses of such forest crea-
tures as a marmot, a mountain
 goat and an owl.
The alpine
meadow took on a life of its
own with characters such as
Douglas fir, Hemlock and
even a mighty volcano.
A giant boot represented
human impact in nature. The
boot’s dog terrorized the Mar-
mot and the meadow’s wild
flowers - Lupine, Tiger Lily
and Heather.
Walker said she did not
write the boot into the skit to
blame. She felt it was a non-
threatening way to point out
how people should be more
aware of what they do in na-
ture and where they step. She
said that people don’t inten-
tionally do damage in nature;
they just don’t think.
The audience included
peers from an environmental
education class, other students
and a dozen youngsters with
chaperones and experienced
the play’s ecological message.
A few of the kids even
joined the forest creatures on
stage when the case sang at
the end.
Walker hopes that the
environmental students who
take the interpretation class
will “feel empowered to pro-
duce this play with their own
students and even more come
up with their own creative
products for environmental
education.”
The environmental
interpretation class is currently
taught during fall quarter and
registration is open to any
Huxley student.***
Currently, the Huxley Hotline can be found both in print and online. Starting January 9th, 2000, the Hotline will ONLY be online. The Huxley Hotline feels it has been living a hypocritical existence in printing a paper issue each week.

We can be found online at www.wwu.edu/~hotline and there are also links off of the Huxley Homepage.

Please support the Hotline as it attempts to live more responsibly.

What’s Up?

Friday, November 17
Geography Awareness Week November 13-17 lots of speakers. For more info contact the WWU Geography Dept.

Saturday, November 18
LEAD Work party at Whatcom Creek. For more info stop by the LEAD office, AH 209 or call 650-4776

"Techniques in Automobile Rendering", Paul Gibbons demonstrates conceptual vehicle design. Give him ideas, he’ll include them in his final design. 3 pm, ARCO Exhibits Building.

Delta Rock Hounds display and discuss rocks, fossils, and carvings. 2 pm, Community Center on Gulf Road, Point Roberts. Call 945-0890 for details.

Sunday, November 19
“Beyond the Walls: an afternoon of giving thanks.” Native American artists and performers from Bellingham at an afternoon of music, art and stories. 3 pm at Stuarts Coffee House, 1302 Bay St. Call 752-2024 for details.

Scott Ayers, after his travels to Chile last spring, discusses controversial logging operations by Whatcom County’s Trillium Corporation at Everson McBeath Community Library. Call 966-2312 for more info.

Adventure Run 2000 orienteering/trail run, 10 am Kenmore’s Saint Edward State Park. For entry information check out www.pnwo.org/ar.html

Wednesday, November 22
School out at 12:00 for Thanksgiving break!

Thursday, November 23
No School. Happy Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving dinner for people living alone or those who do not have facilities to prepare such a meal. 1 pm, Fellowship Hall of the United Church of Ferndale. Call 384-1506 or 384-3302 for details.

Friday, November 24
No School.