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## Huxley Hotline, 2000, November 17

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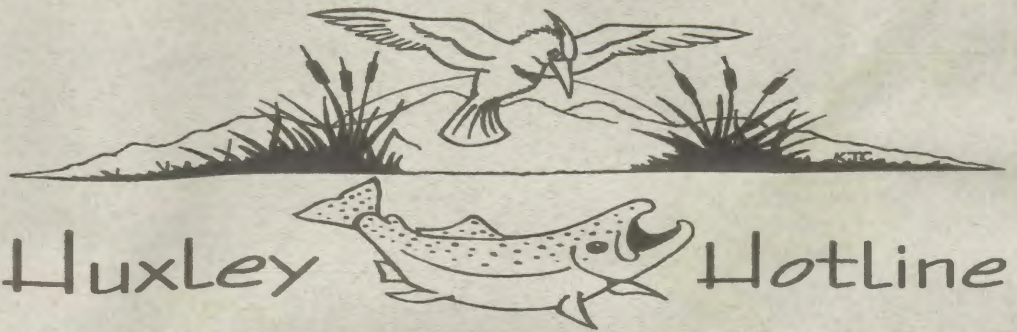
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Friday

November 17, 2000



# Huxley Hotline

*Huxley College of Environmental Studies*

## Hotline web picks this week

- 1000 Friends of the Earth

[www.1000friends.org](http://www.1000friends.org)

- Endangered Amphibians

[www.amphibiaweb.org](http://www.amphibiaweb.org)

- Every Other Weekly Online

[www.eowekly.com](http://www.eowekly.com)

- Discover Magazine Online

[www.discover.com](http://www.discover.com)

- REI Online

[www.REI.com](http://www.REI.com)

Be sure to check the Hotline Online, [www.wvu.edu/~hotline](http://www.wvu.edu/~hotline)

## 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

## Environmental students interpret nature's voice

*By W. Kevin Murray*

Life in an alpine meadow, compared to lower elevations, grows entirely different. In fact, I know of one such meadow where the flora and fauna actually hold conversations with humans.

You probably think I am referring to some scientific information human researchers obtain from studying plants and animals. That is not what I am suggesting. I actually mean verbal exchanges between a group of non-humans and humans.

The meadow's conversationalists included a large, animated, leather boot and its terrorizing canine. Environmental educators taking



*Photo by: W. Kevin Murray*

The boot, symbolizing human impact on the forest, is escorted by one of the many inhabitants of the forest.

Wendy Walker's environmental interpretation class this quarter recently performed in Fairhaven College's auditorium.

The class performed two plays with important environmental messages that any

viewer could understand. Both plays, created from Walker's experiences with people and unleashed dogs in wild areas during the late 1980s, gained momentum during the 1990s when she

*(Continued on page 2)*

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, subur-

ban, 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)



Bingham collects marine invertebrates on Burrows Bay with students from his Environmental Studies 204 class.

Gore says...

*"I propose that Governor Bush and I meet personally, one-on-one, as soon as possible, before the vote count is finished, not to negotiate, but to improve the tone of 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 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-



Photo by: W. Kevin Smith

Kids get a lesson in walking softly.

(Continued on page 3)



## Bingham (cont.)

(Continued from page 2)  
of good environmental education, 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 environment. However, Bingham does believe that we are headed in the right direction. More and more qualified environmental educators are en-

tering the work force. In whatever free time Bingham 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 invasive species. Bingham is known for using visuals in his classrooms, including drawings. I now understand a little more about starfish from a professor that

studies them because of a simple drawing and a simple interview.\*\*\*

## 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 auditorium, the future environmental educators donned the likenesses of such forest creatures 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 Marmot and the meadow's wild flowers - Lupine, Tiger Lily and Heather.

Walker said she did not

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."*

-From a later press conference  
Wednesday.

## 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 towards. There is also information on the consequences of

urban sprawl and water pollution. Here you will find links on how water quality is influenced 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](http://www.1000friends.org), call them at (206) 343-0681, or visit them at 766 Thomas St. Seattle, WA 98109.\*\*\*

### Directions:

- In a medium skillet over low heat brown ramen noodles, almonds, and sesame seeds with melted butter or margarine. 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 vinegar to boil for 1 minute. Cool. Add soy sauce.
- To the large bowl add the noodle and soy sauce mixture. Toss to coat. Serve.

## Veggie Files

By Charlotte Larson

### Ingredients:

- 2 (3 ounce) packages of ramen noodles, crushed
- 1 cup blanched slivered almonds
- 2 teaspoons sesame seeds
- ½ cup butter, melted
- 1 pound Napa cabbage, shredded
- 1 bunch green onions, chopped
- ¾ cup vegetable oil
- ¼ cup distilled white vinegar
- ½ cup white sugar
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce



Check out 1000 Friends of Washington online at [www.1000friends.org](http://www.1000friends.org).

### Nutrition:

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

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 nature and where they step. She said that people don't intentionally 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 produce 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.\*\*\*



# Hotline Heads Up!

Pay attention!

This is important!

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.wvu.edu/~hotline](http://www.wvu.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 Trilliam 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](http://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, Fel-

lowship Hall of the United Church of Ferndale. Call 384-1506 or 384-3302 for details.

### Friday, November 24

No School.

Want to see your event in the Huxley Hotline "What's Up?"

Contact us via e-mail at [HuxleyHotline@hotmail.com](mailto:HuxleyHotline@hotmail.com)