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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

of the U.S. (i.e. to the Colorado River).

It may be necessary to pump the water over some higher obstacles, but the distance to pump would be reduced because of the height of the dam. And it may be possible to generate enough hydro-electric power from these dams to operate the pumps.

*Frank Skipton
Springfield*

self-indulgent otherwise to know the Bush administration has blood on its hands.

*Greg Hume
Creswell*

EYEING CANADA

An open letter to the president: Mr. Bush, when you went to Canada there were millions of protestors against American policy. I bet that made you mad and embarrassed that not everyone loved you. You should attack Canada for its natural resources, its differences, and its bad attitude.

One reason to invade Canada is for its forests, minerals, metals, land mass and energy. An example of natural resources Americans can consume daily is fresh water from the Canadian Rockies. We could also invade for oil, which would lower the price for gas and boost your ratings. It would be a lot easier than going halfway around the world for oil. If states like California ever run low on energy, we could take it from the Canadians!

The Canadian government is different from ours, Mr. Bush. They have a Parliament, which is so old school, while we have a Congress. Those Canadians are always trying to borrow our sports. Also, many Canadians speak French, which I am sure confuses you, Mr. Bush. Why don't they all just speak English like you do?

Another reason to invade Canada is their attitude toward American people. Even though they look like us, they may not think like us. They even talk funny. If they don't like us, we shouldn't like them. This could also be a reason to produce weapons of mass destruction. I suggest we send the U.N. to look for WMD. If we don't find them, then they are probably hiding them.

Mr. Bush, please attack Canada. They don't like us and we don't like them.

*Damon Gnojek
Eugene*

LOST TREASURE

I recently read about a woman helicopter pilot whose Blackhawk was downed in Iraq by a rocket propelled grenade. She lost one leg and part of the other. I guess her bikini days are pretty much behind her.

An estimated one in five soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan will have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. It is incurable. I know firsthand.

At this writing, 1,487 American military personnel have been killed in Iraq. Another 120 have died in Afghanistan. More than 11,000 have been wounded. They've lost limbs, eyesight, hearing, organs, teeth and some have been so facially disfigured they will not leave the house. Some are on ventilators until infections and atrophy kill them. Paraplegic. Nice.

This most unnecessary war has been draining our treasury and the treasure of so many young lives lost.

If you see a burgundy-colored Tempo that displays the KIA and monetary cost, that would be me. I want everyone behind me who'd rather play video games or be

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IN HONOR OF HATOON

Her dignity and those hurt by her death would like to represent those suffering from either a lack of social skills or what is commonly known as "mental illness." Although labels such as these can be damaging because of the myths already surrounding them, they are even more damaging to the mental health of those diagnosed with them. Phrases such as "one who hears voices and sees visions" have been widely abused, seemingly by those who created them.

The point is, can we as a community be a little more sensitive in what we say about others in our "small talk" conversations? Does anyone care about the feelings of those lonely listeners bored enough to listen to them? Those who have no steady clique or sorority to fall back on? It is sad that we sometimes forget so quickly what we have said so superficially and thoughtlessly that these lonely listeners such as Hatoon will never forget. The unfortunate tragedy is in the tendency of those talkers to say, "I don't know what you are talking about." While this may be the truth, could we as human beings pay more heed to the content of what we are saying in our everyday conversations?

*Lara Daskivich
Eugene*