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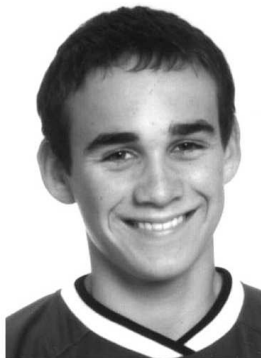


Hanna from Norway, 16 yrs.

Likes skiing, swimming, dancing and art. Hanna hopes to join a drama club while in the USA.

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Klaus from Germany, 17 yrs.

Loves camping and playing soccer. Klaus' dream has been to spend a school year in the USA.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ble. We will continue to safely ride our bikes on our errands, and we will keep on laughing at the motorists who shout at us; they look and sound so stupid. And constipated. Maybe they just need some exercise; try riding a bike.

Jill Giddens
Eugene

ALIEN INVADERS

In the Aug. 10 News Shorts, a correspondent complains that the UO is trapping and killing nutria, and that this is "inhumane."

In fact, nutria are a non-native species — originally imported from South America in the 1930s for fur farming — which are devastating our region's waterways, eroding streams, pushing native muskrats from their habitat and spreading non-native plant seeds.

If anything, people who care about the environment and animal welfare should support the removal of nutria from local waterways. What's truly "inhumane" is letting an imported species destroy a natural habitat that has historically supported dozens of species.

Sara E. P. Gillies
Eugene

NEGOTIATION NEEDED

Like most Americans, I am watching the escalation of violence in Israel, Gaza, and Lebanon with empathy and concern for the ordinary Israelis, Palestinians and Lebanese civilians being harmed. Responsibility for their suffering rests with the current administration, whose actions and inactions have combined to give us the current unfolding perfect storm.

The American friendship with Israel should have resulted in a strengthening of Israel's inclination for peace, compromise and respect for human rights. Instead, we have supported and funded a failed political and military strategy. Together, our two nations have sowed misery throughout the region over the years, and we are now reaping the whirlwind. It is no defense of Palestinian and Lebanese terrorists to point out they both thrive in the absence of real prospects for peace. Our country's influence should be used to moderate Israel's reaction. The best course of action would include negotiation and mutual exchanges of prisoners.

April and David Dumas
Florence

DUMB PRIMATES

This letter is about smart primates as detailed by Mary O'Brien's Natural Resistance column (8/3) and dumb primates as detailed by Karen Stingle's same-page letter. O'Brien's smart primates are smart enough to collaborate on solutions, and Stingle's primates are dumb humans like the Bushies and Israelis who are engaged in perpetual mass murder using bombs and guns.

Instead of working internationally to have those guilty of a minor incursion into Israel (Hezbollah) brought to justice and fairly tried, the Bushies/Israelis chose to address their problem with mass bombing/mass murder of mostly civilian Lebanese. That these episodes of mass murder will result in a solution based on decency is a leap of faith into impossible realms.

The Bushie path of perpetual war, unlikely conquest and excessive arms ship-

bambini

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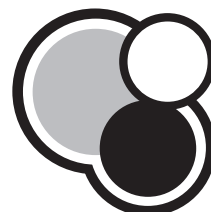
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