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## The Grizzly, January 22, 1991

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# Ursinus College The Grizzly

The Gulf War  
Special Edition

Volume 22 Issue 11

The Gulf War is a dramatic event in world politics. *The Grizzly* presents this Special Edition to focus on the impact of this crisis on the Ursinus community.

January 22, 1991

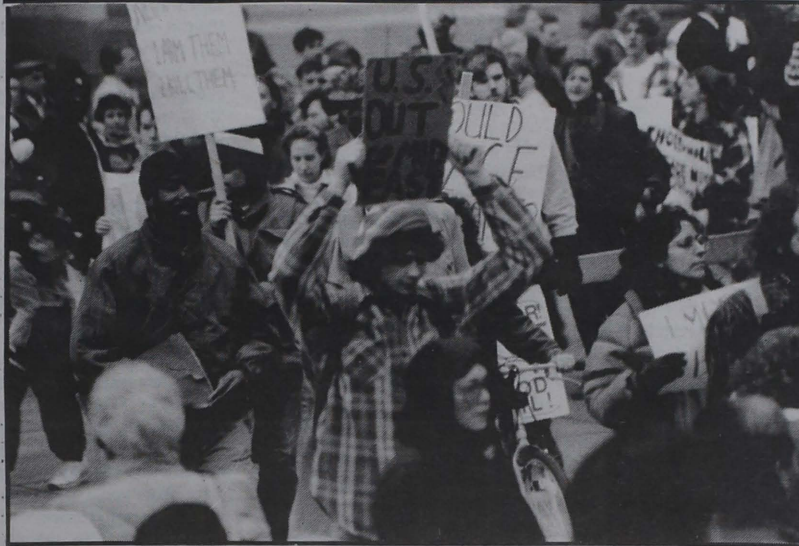
## Student Activism Rises Across the Country

BY MARK WILHELMS

*Of the Grizzly*

Because of activism during the Vietnam War, student demonstrations have become common occurrences on college campuses. Whether it be a demonstration against the college administration because of its investments in nasty corporations, a faculty-administration conflict (Temple), or an anti-war demonstration, students have used their voices in protest as another part of their free thinking, liberal education.

With the current threatening crisis in the Middle East, protests across the nation have begun to erupt. Once again, students are leading this new demonstration wave. On the first night of military action, various colleges across the nation, from the University of California in Los Angeles on the west coast, to the University of Pennsylvania in the east, and many schools in between, participated in some sort of anti-war activity. In



Senior Ron Constable protests in Philadelphia

Toni Castells-Talens, Asst. Photography Editor

Philadelphia, students from the University of Pennsylvania marched some 25 blocks down

Market Street and met up with 400 other demonstrators including 10 Ursinus students.

As this second week of war begins, student activism will reach Ursinus. A vigil is planned for

Wednesday, January 23 at 8 p.m. The vigil will be in the new plaza behind the Berman Art Museum. The Philadelphia-based organization "Act for Peace in the Middle East" has designated the 23rd a day of action, and colleges around the Delaware Valley are getting involved in different ways.

A vigil will allow the campus to unite for a peaceful solution, and will be a break from the political discussions that have filled the past week. The vigil is open to the whole college community and gives a chance for the campus to come together and support each other as fellow students and faculty.

Also, on Saturday, January 26, a peace march is being held in Washington, D.C. Ursinus is sponsoring a bus trip to participate in the huge event. Tickets are \$10, and are currently being sold in the lobby during lunch and dinner. The bus will leave at 8 a.m. and will return approximately at 8 p.m.

## Caught in the Crossfire: Iraqi Speaks On the War

BY SARA JACOBSON

*Asst. Arts and Entertainment Editor*

An Iraqi born American citizen, Mohammed Latif, spoke Monday, January 21, in the Wismer parents lounge on what he referred to as a "human, personal tragedy" in the Middle East. Latif is a physicist in radiation health at Temple University. He lived in Iraq for twenty years.

Born in Basra, a major southern city close to Kuwait, Latif spoke of both his family left in the area and his hopes for peace. He is in a unique situation with family in Iraq both Baghdad and Basra in the Iraqi army fighting US troops, family in Kuwait, and friends fighting on the American side against Hussein's forces. He is no longer even able to watch the news coverage of the conflict, Latif says, because "these are my nieces and nephews, my family, my friends." Latif has not been able to contact his relatives in the Middle East since August 2, 1990.

Before the United States began bombing his homeland, Latif actively spoke out against the war. Now he is speaking from the

standpoint of a man caught in the emotional crossfire. He is definitely in favor of United States stopping the bombing to try to negotiate peacefully again. No fan of president Bush, Latif blamed the United States for creating the Iraqi conflict to use Iraq as a "guinea pig... to be tested by the war industry."

Giving background from the Arab perspective, he explained the strong sense of nationalism in Iraq which is instilled in the Iraqi people from grade school on up. Latif feels that due to this devout nationalism the Iraqi people will not abandon Saddam Hussein even if they do not agree with his actions, nor will Hussein pull out of Kuwait. He also condemned the US for not allowing more time for the Arabs to come up with a solution among themselves, claiming that the Arab coalition was on the verge of solving the crisis themselves. Latif does, however, believe that the United States will win the war because the United States forces and technology are so superior than that of the Iraqis.

Latif, who himself left Iraq

thirty years ago for "political reasons," believes that the Iraqi people probably do not want war, but do not have the political freedoms to protest it. He calls it both a "racist war" and a "third world war," and feels the United States is there to stop Iraq from developing militarily and to stop growing Japanese economic influence in the Middle East.

During a question and answer period Latif discussed why Iraq invaded Kuwait and the pyramidal, secure power base of Saddam Hussein. Due to the strong sense of nationalism, he claimed that Hussein will have the support of the Iraqi people, but admitted that it is within the realm of possibilities for Hussein to, as threatened, set off the mines now attached to the oil fields. Still hoping for a quick end and a peaceful solution, Latif claimed that, "it is a war between Saddam Hussein and George Bush, and caught in the middle are 18 million Iraqi people."

## What to look for in the Gulf War

### Analysis

Dr. Nicholas O. Berry

*Professor of Politics*

How long will the war last? Who will win? What will be the costs—political moral and economic?

The answers to these questions depend upon a myriad of factors. Here are some things to look for.

If Saddam Hussein can get Israel and Jordan into the war, then he can redefine the war, perhaps induce Syria to switch sides, and expand the scope of the conflict. This will prolong the war and make it more difficult for the U.S.-led forces to destroy the Iraqi regime. If Iraq fights alone, which is what the U.S. is aiming for, then Iraq is doomed. If Iraqi forces surrender easily, then the Iraqi regime is in really big trouble. If not, then the costs to the U.S. will be substantial. If the Iraqi forces husband themselves and engage in

strategic withdrawals, then the war will be prolonged. The Iraqis will be fighting a war of attrition, seeking to disaffect the American public and Congress with a long war. If the Arab masses rise up, then constraints will be placed upon U.S. firepower. If not, more force—even if it produces civilian casualties—can be used. If biological or chemical weapons are employed by the Iraqis, then watch for an escalation in U.S. strategy and a shift in goals towards total conquest. Finally, watch the congressional reaction to the course of the war. Division there will arise from a long, costly war and will thus make it longer and costlier because it will encourage Iraq.

*Nicholas O. Berry is chair of the Ursinus Politics Department and is a specialist in international politics.*



# Taking War to Heart

BY KATHLEEN BOWERS

Sports Photography Editor

Many individuals in the Ursinus community have become actively involved in Gulf War issues here at home. Senior Politics major Emma Forrest, junior Politics major Mark Wilhelms and Vietnam veteran and Ursinus baseball coach Brian Thomas are among those who have spoken out.

Forrest spoke during the Peace Service held in Bomberger auditorium on Tuesday, January 15, the eve of the U.S. attack. Her talk emphasized the inevitable loss of individual soldiers' lives in a war. She read a poem by WW I soldier Wilfred Owen, "Dulce et Decorum Est." The poem's speaker is pro-war and pro-country until he watches someone die in a gas attack. He then realizes that the political reasons for the war are not really important. Forrest noted that the same will happen to American soldiers in the Middle East, and expressed her wish that the U.S. would hold off until a peaceful solution could be found.

Forrest was surprised and pleased with the number of people who attended the service. She noted that many people were able to express their concern for family and friends stationed in the Middle East, even if they felt helpless to make a difference in the outcome. Forrest is a member of Alpha Sigma Nu, which is

planning a letter writing campaign to military relatives of U.C. alumni. She believes that we can support the soldiers even if we do not support the reasons they are there.

Thomas also spoke at the Peace Service. He gave reflections on what it is like to be a soldier in a war zone. He shared the feelings of apprehension, fear, courage, and camaraderie that soldiers experience. When soldiers are together, bravado comes out and they feel immortal. Things change quickly, however, when a friend goes down beside you. When each person is alone, they reflect on their life so far, or imagine encountering the enemy and coming out alive.

Thomas described a soldier's resources for strength. Beyond training and good food, mail call was the most important source of support. A soldier might read a letter a hundred times over two days. Prayer is also crucial for most soldiers, Thomas said, quoting that "there's no atheist in a foxhole."

Support from home is crucial to soldiers abroad. Thomas recalled the pain that violent protests and name-calling caused him. He encouraged people to express their opinions and concerns without criticizing the soldiers themselves. Their hardship is increased when

they believe that citizens at home "don't care about us."

Thomas emphasized that no soldier wants to kill another human, and recalled that he and his entire platoon froze the first time they encountered the enemy in Vietnam. But "then it becomes your life or theirs," and survival dictates action. The soldiers in the Gulf would just as soon come home without ever shooting, Thomas said.

Finally, Thomas encouraged people to "have a strong stomach and a strong mind" when soldiers come home. Unless they are allowed to talk about their extremely disturbing experiences, they will go into a shell. Friends and family must be willing to listen for the mental and physical wounds to heal.

Wilhelms got involved in protesting the war through a coalition of Vietnam veterans in Philadelphia called Act for Peace in the Middle East. He started attending their meetings in December, and joined their protest march on Market Street on the night of the U.S. attack. They will continue protesting every Thursday and Saturday until the war is over.

When Wilhelms arrived at City Hall on January 16, there were about 150 protesters there. They were soon joined by another 300 from the University of Pennsylvania, and the group blocked off all three lanes of Market Street. The purpose, Wilhelms says, is to be noticed and to make their objections known.

As of Sunday, over 18,000 protesters had been arrested across the U.S. In order to take that risk, a protester must have a strong belief, and must get rid of any fears and doubts about the issue. Wilhelms states plainly, "I'm against the war." The U.S. has too many problems at home to be spending so much time and energy abroad. Even a quick success in the Gulf would damage domestic affairs, he says. It would encourage a greater defense budget when we need better education in a world where knowledge is power, he adds.

Wilhelms admits that protesters are often accused of being unpatriotic and not supporting our troops. But he believes that the troops are the victims of the war, and "by wanting them home alive, you're being very supportive." He also believes that the only way to bring positive improvement and change to the country is to be critical.

Now that the war has started, Wilhelms says, he cannot simply advocate a pullout. People have already died, and they should not die in vain. He agrees that we will probably win the war, but questions "at what cost?"

# Limerick Prepared

BY KRISHNI PATRICK

Editor-in-Chief

When we think of Limerick Power Plant we might picture the tall smokestack releasing clouds of steam off route 422. Or, we might hear the siren piercing its way off the top of Pfahler. We might even joke about telling our glow-in-the-dark children how we went to college next to a nuclear power plant. But now, in the wake of the Gulf War, Limerick Power Plant has become a potential terrorist target.

"Nuclear power plants are built to withstand an earthquake," proclaimed Bill Jones, Manager of Media Relations for the Philadelphia Electric Company. "Short of a SCUD missile, there is no way terrorists could get in."

So, how safe is the plant located only a few miles away from our campus? "Totally," comments Jones emphasizing even before this threat the Limerick plant already has extensive security measures in place that would prove quite a deterrence to terrorists.

The entrance to the plant is regulated by metal turnstiles equipped with explosive and metal detection devices. The front door to the reactor is regulated by a series of computer controlled doors only accessible by specific personnel. Finally, the reactor itself is encased behind six feet thick steel and concrete walls.

In addition to these physical safeguards, the plant conducts mock exercises on a yearly basis to prepare for an attack. The plant personnel have to deal with a variety of scenarios from blatant raids on the outside to hostages held captive within the plant. Though the last exercise was held in May, in recent months the plant's personnel have been reviewing contingency plans and are exercising special care with all its procedures including the systems of communications for local, state, and federal police. Though there has been no new staff added, Jones describes the plant "in a heightened state of readiness."

The increased security in plants all across the nation is the result of an advisory sent by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in response to these threats. Nuclear power plants remain good tactical targets since they are the major suppliers of electricity for many urban areas. The Limerick power plant supplies a major portion of the power of nearby Philadelphia.

The predictability of terrorist attacks remains somewhat possible to Jones since plants daily receive FBI relays about what plants might be targeted. Finally, among the many major power plants located in this country the actual likelihood of an attack on the local Limerick plant is slim.

## Time Line of Events in the Gulf

compiled by Mark Hallinger, Opinions Editor

- Aug 2 Iraq invades Kuwait. U.N. Security Council votes unanimously to demand a withdraw.
- Aug 6 Security Council votes unanimously, with one abstention, for economic sanctions on Iraq.
- Aug 7 President Bush orders U.S. forces into Saudi Arabia.
- Aug 10 Twelve Arab leaders send forces to defend Saudi Arabia.
- Aug 12 Saddam Hussein links Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait with Israel's withdrawal of the occupied territories.
- Aug 16 Iraq begins rounding up Americans and Britons in Kuwait; men will later be used as "human shields" at Iraqi military installations.
- Aug 25 U.N. Security Council authorizes force as a means of enforcing sanctions.
- Aug 28 Iraq declares Kuwait the "19th province"; women and children hostages are freed.
- Oct 3 Amnesty International says Iraqi troops in Kuwait are torturing and executing Kuwaiti citizens.
- Oct 17 US and Kuwaiti officials reject Iraqi offer to pull out of "most of" Kuwait.
- Nov 8 Bush orders a massive increase in U.S. forces, from 200,000 troops to over 400,000.
- Nov 29 By a 12-2 vote, the U.N. Security Council authorizes the use of force against Iraq if Iraq has not withdrawn from Kuwait by January 15th.
- Dec 6 Hussein orders all foreign hostages released.
- Dec 19 U.N. General Assembly condemns Iraq for human rights violations.
- Jan 9 The Baker-Aziz talks fail to yield results.
- Jan 12 U.S. Congress authorizes the use of force in the Gulf.
- Jan 13 U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar fails to persuade Hussein to leave Kuwait.
- Jan 15 The U.N. deadline expires.
- Jan 16 The U.S. launches an air attack on Kuwait.

## Grizzly Gulf War Poll Results

Poll taken by Mark Hallinger, Opinions Editor

|  | Faculty | Students |
|--|---------|----------|
| Do you support the use of force against Iraq?    |         |          |
| Yes  | 88%     | 73%      |
| No   | 6%      | 22%      |
| Undecided  | 6%      | 5%       |
| How long do you think the conflict will last?    |         |          |
| < 1 mos  | 0%      | 5%       |
| 1-3 mos  | 25%     | 36%      |
| 4-6 mos  | 13%     | 29%      |
| 6mos-1yr   | 44%     | 26%      |
| > 1yr  | 18%     | 4%       |
| What do you think our goal(s) should be?         |         |          |
| Liberate Kuwait                                  | 75%     | 36%      |
| Depose Hussein                                   | 38%     | 30%      |
| Iraqi forces                                     | 6%      | 0%       |
| All  | 19%     | 43%      |
| Other  | 6%      | 9%       |
| How have you kept abreast of the Gulf Situation? |         |          |
| ABC  | 44%     | 66%      |
| CBS  | 25%     | 24%      |
| NBC  | 31%     | 26%      |
| CNN  | 56%     | 32%      |
| Papers   | 37%     | 34%      |
| Radio  | 56%     | 26%      |

16 Faculty polled, 76 Students



# Opinions

## Saddam Hussein Must Be Stopped

We realize that the conflict in the Persian Gulf may be quickly becoming a tired subject, but many opinions must still be expressed on both sides of the issue. We are surely condemning ourselves to endless seething rebuttals, but here goes anyway.

We feel that the anti-violence organizations springing up on campuses across the country are way out of line. They may be growing out of the misguided 60's mentality so in vogue today, but someone should realize that these doctrines are hardly practical when foreign policy comes into play. Rather than running around writing 'no war for oil' and urging President Bush to back down cowardly, we suggest that the pacifists instead consider what repercussions might have arisen from such an attitude in the days before World War II. Our success

in that conflict was a direct result of the strong conviction of the American soldiers that their cause was just—that any lives sacrificed on the fields of Belgium and France were not surrendered in vain. With a firmly based home front, our war efforts were successful and the United States scored a major victory for our way of life.

Saddam Hussein has presented himself as a dictator worthy of not only fear, but also unwavering military resistance. His intelligence people watch our T.V. broadcasts, read our newspapers, and stand witness to our protests. By being proponents of non-violence, the anti-war demonstrators are essentially condoning the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The Justinian code tells us that 'an eye for an eye' is by all means an acceptable reaction to violence. The Iraqis

will not be content with the occupation of Kuwait. Their intentions are clearly to dominate the entire Middle East, and place an oil stranglehold on the western world. Our ever-mounting force in the Saudi desert is a United Nations-backed fist in the face of Saddam Hussein.

We have bad news for the pacifists of this nation—it's not about oil anymore. Our troops are in position to quell any delusions of domination that Iraq may be entertaining. You think finals are scary, what about Saddam Hussein with nuclear weapons? His willingness to use chemical warfare

on his own people should motivate even the most radical left-winger to see that he must not only be stopped, but driven back to within his own borders before he develops this technology.

Granted, war with Iraq would be a grave undertaking and would claim many lives, but we, as American citizens, enjoy titanic freedoms. The only thing the government asks for in return (other than taxes, of course), is a willingness to fight for the welfare of that nation. It is so very true that the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few. If it must come to war, so be it. We

should not, however, send troops to defend an ungrateful public. The granola-crunching, war-protesting activists of America, should think about the debt they have accrued during their lives in this country, and whether or not it is fair for the government to ask for some sacrifices in return. War is never pleasant, but sometimes it is necessary.

Joe MacDonald    Matt Cordes  
Craig Faucher    Jeff Weiss  
Justin Dominic    Marc Peterman

Editors Note: This opinion was received in December 1990.

Gulf Dialog Wednesday 12:30

## The Grizzly

Special Thanks to Dr. Nicholas O. Berry, Jennifer Blay, Kathleen Bowers, Toni Castell-Talens, Dr. Hugh R. Clark, Erika Compton, Matt Cordes, Justin Dominic, Gar Donecker, Craig Faucher, Linda Fisher, Scott Gallger, Eleanor Hajian, Mark Hallinger, Sara Jacobson, Joe MacDonald, Marc Peterman, Christin Outwin, Danielle Owens, Gabi Scheel, Satsuki Scoville, Pete Senescu, Jeff Weiss, Mark Wilhelms

## EDITORIAL

Most Ursinus students have never lived through a war. We were born as the Vietnam conflict was winding down and have been fortunate to live in an era of relative peace. U.S. troops did fight and die in Panama and Grenada. Hundreds were also killed by terrorist activities in Lebanon. Our generation, however, has never experienced the national trauma brought about by a conflict such as we are now entering.

Positions on U.S. action in the Gulf vary. Some favor an outright isolationist perspective. Others feel we should rely on sanctions and continued diplomatic efforts. Finally, there are those who feel the "war option" is our only option at this point.

"No more Vietnams" is the rallying cry of one position. "No more Munichs" is the equally simplistic reply of the political right. The conflict is, of course, much more than a re-tread of history, but one lesson must be remembered from the Vietnam experience: returning troops must be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of one's feelings

on the overall action. Combat troops and support troops are merely doing their job, a job with painful separation from family and friends and the possibility of making the ultimate sacrifice. Making war itself must never be considered a noble activity; the actions and sacrifices of our men and women in the military, however, should be viewed this way.

Brian Thomas, Ursinus basketball coach and a Vietnam vet, spoke at the "Service for Peace" last week. Although I could not attend this service, I understand Mr. Thomas described a personal encounter with an anti-war individual who considered returning veterans as somehow morally lacking. The general public's reaction to returning troops, although not as abusive, was one of disinterest.

I implore all members of the Ursinus community to support our troops, even if you do not agree with overall U.S. policy. Regarding the treatment of our returning troops, we all have a moral obligation to avoid the post-Vietnam war syndrome.

-MRH

## Ruminations of a Confused Mind

HUGH R. CLARK

Associate Professor of History

Earlier this century, on the eve of the war against the Nazis, the Dutch historian J. Huizinga wrote an essay in which he warned of the heuristic dangers of "historical anthropomorphism." By this he meant the intellectually easy but sloppy habit of investing nonhuman things with human qualities: "Society demands," or "Congress thinks." It is sloppy, he argued, because it allows us to avoid examining what our concern really is, to generalize without really focussing our inquiry, to blame without pointing a specific finger. This comes to my mind in the current movement because I think Huizinga's concerns are relevant to us now.

We have gone to war with Iraq, a glorious war, so far (as of Monday), in which few of "our side" have suffered, a so-called "Nintendo" war in which high-tech things zip through the air,

**"It seems, somehow,  
just like 1965."**

reporters see cruise missiles float past their windows, and on our TV's we see no blood and guts. We have unleashed an unprecedented barrage: over 7,000 sorties, the news reports say, with only twelve of our own planes shot down (and even they aren't all American—why one is even Kuwaiti). We have watched "smart bombs" make pinpoint hits on enemy installations, we have cheered as Patriot missiles, live on CNN, have plucked SCUD's (listen to that ring: "patriot" vs. "SCUD." Who can be deceived which is good and which is evil?) right out of the sky, and we have cringed with horror and anger at unprovoked assaults on Israel.

So far the war is immensely popular, voices of dissent are largely quieted except for the "fringe few" whom it is easy to label as irrelevant (and "unpatriotic"? are they "scuds"?). Why is this so? Do we not care that there is death and horror being

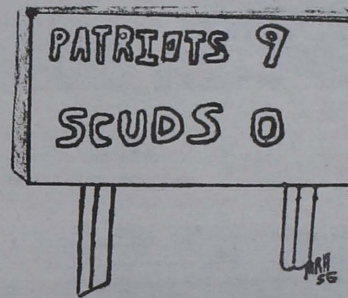
dispensed even as we cheer those massive assaults on Baghdad and elsewhere? Unfortunately, I think we do not. Why? Because we extrapolate the evil we have invested in Saddam Hussein to the whole Iraqi nation, all its people. "Iraq," an inanimate idea, has become the generalized focus of the anger we feel at one man. And Iraqis, therefore, are "evil."

Of course, war has always been this way. This war is unique, as every event must be, but we all look to our personal and vicarious experience to find parallels. My parallel, which I find not because it is "right" but because it is "mine," the one I have shared, is Vietnam, the first "television war," and the first war, some say, to be directly influenced by the effect of television at home. We all know of the massive protests that war engendered; I, and not a few of my colleagues, took part in many of them. But how many of us remember the war's early months and years? How many of us remember the euphoria that attended the first bombings of the North following the now highly suspect North Vietnamese assaults on the American destroyers *Maddox* and *Turner Joy*? American boys doing what they were trained to do, flying the most advanced aircraft ever to fly, dropping the most sophisticated arsenal ever dropped, impersonally delivering massive amounts of explosive on such inanimate targets as bridges, rail depots, port facilities and the like. We could feel good because, we were assured, our bombs hit with pinpoint

accuracy, leaving massive damage in their wake. And as for the few noncombatants who might have been hurt, well, we needn't feel badly because they were North Vietnamese, "commies," the "bad guys." They weren't people; they were submerged within this anthropomorphic entity with which we were at war: "the enemy."

The problem then was that it didn't stay that way. In time we gradually came to understand that it wasn't quite so impersonal and inanimate; war never is. There were real people, fighting for a real cause, on the receiving end of that impersonal assault and the hundreds and thousands of assaults which followed. Erroneously, perhaps, many came to believe they understood who those people were, and why they fought. Our own aims, on the other hand, were vague; our allies suspect. We were out front fighting for something that was increasingly hard to believe in, when those whom we were fighting for didn't seem to care. And it all went sour, a sourness that our own society has never been able to purge entirely.

How does this relate to the immediate moment? Maybe it doesn't; after all, I titled this "Ruminations of a Confused Mind." I don't know how I actually feel about this current war. I don't like Saddam Hussein; I believe the world would be better without him. But I don't know why it is our war. And, frankly, I don't think many other people do either. That worries me. It seems, somehow, just like 1965.

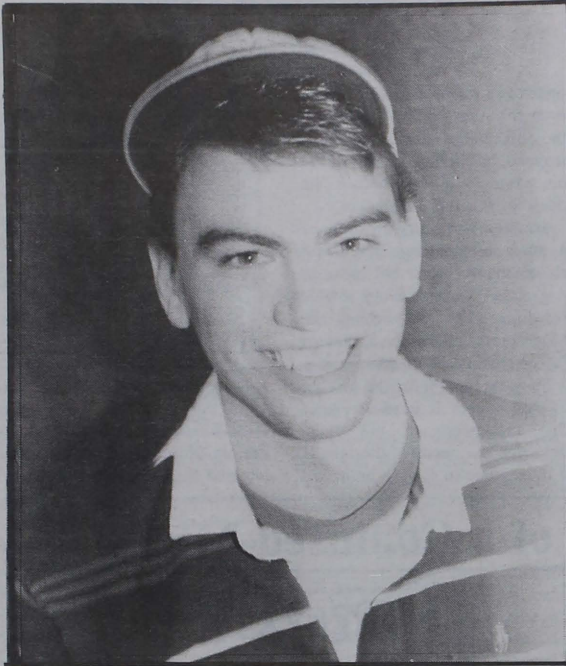


THE BIG GAME

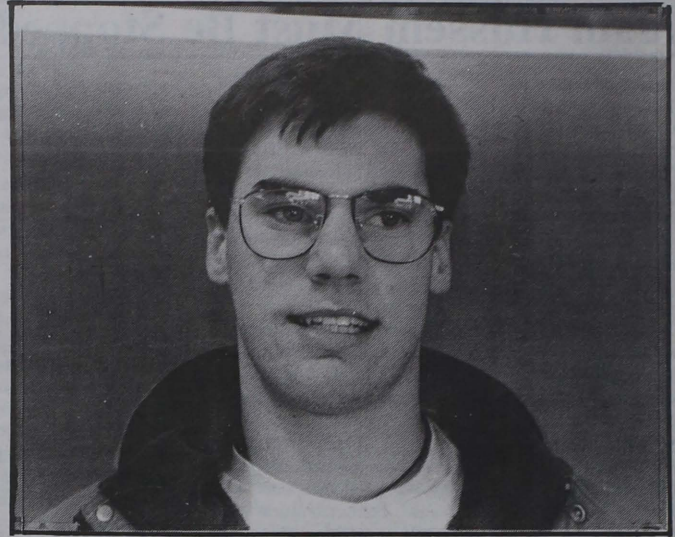


# How Has the War Affected You?

By Eleanore Hajian, Associate Editor  
Photography by Satsuki Scoville



**Josh Camp - Economics '93**  
"I have become much more aware of foreign policy and what has been going on in the world since the Gulf Crisis began. A couple of people from my home town are there. I am supportive of our efforts and I hope that it is a short war and that the loss of life is minimal."



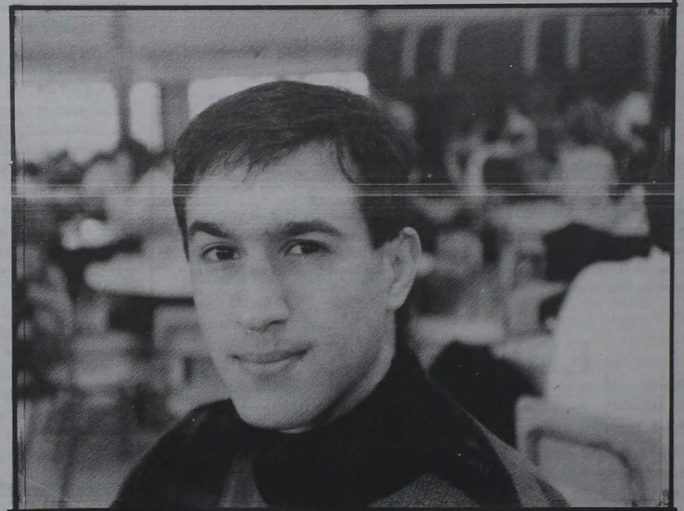
**Keith Mandia - Politics '93**  
"The war has not affected me directly. I hope that a peacefull resolution to the problem is found. I hate seeing Americans die but I am supportive of the President's decision."



**Alyson Smokowcz - Psychology '91**  
"I have friends over there and it makes it hard to concentrate on my every day life. I want peace as soon as possible."

**Maria Costa - Psychology and English '92**  
"I don't know anyone who is there except for a pen-pal I met through a hall program but I feel that knowing him has given me a more realistic view of the situation. I am now much more inclined to pay close attention to world politics than before the Gulf Crisis began and it is very important to me to know what is going on in the world."

**Angie Mason - Politics '91**  
"I felt rather negative at first, but now that we are involved I feel that we should support the decisions of our country. My brother is in the Marine Corp and I do not know when and if he will be called to go. This is a constant worry to me."



**Kevin Athearn - International Relations '91**  
"It has made me somewhat angry. I don't think that any of the grievances that the international community has with Iraq are worth the loss of lives on both sides. I feel that there were other possibilities which would have been acceptable to the international community."

