

EDITORIALS

Gulf War generates mixed emotions

A week ago Wednesday, my roommate and I walked into our house after a hard-fought raquetball match only to be greeted by the words "we are at war".

We watched CNN feverishly cover the outbreak of the war into the wee hours of the morning. We sat bewildered wondering many things like how the situation had gotten this far out of hand, how long would it last, and how would it effect us. A week and a half later I continue to wonder.

My roommate has seven friends currently serving in the Persian Gulf. I fortunately know nobody personally, but as a bloody ground war creeps closer to becoming reality, I remain concerned for the lives of my fellow Americans most of whom are around my age.

As I continue to sort this situation through my cluttered mind, I listen to everyone's opinion. My father and grandfather must be on the same wavelength with President Bush when they call Saddam Hussein a "nut" and talk about the large international coalition that will drive him from Kuwait. The thought of such a man with chemical weapons and nuclear potential performing acts of aggression in a seemingly always volatile area of the world made the world take notice.

Another thing that must be considered is the Vietnam factor. Will this be another Vietnam? As the dead bodies start to return home, will more "no blood for oils" begin to appear. In numerous polls I've seen, most of the country supports the actions of our government and its allies, but how long will the support last?

The government has obviously learned its lesson from Vietnam. So far the government has kept a leash on the media in not allowing them to go around and film whatever they like as they did in Vietnam. The government feeds the media some information then places everything else under operational security.

The big question, however, has to be one of longevity. How long will it last? And if it does drag on, will the draft be reinstated? Yes, that word that strikes fear into the heart of every college student. The only draft I want comes out of a tap.

But seriously, these next few months will hopefully bring positive answers to all of these questions as we make our way into the history books with each passing day.

Each generation has had its own war. My grandfather experienced World War II and Korea. My father served in Vietnam. Will I serve in Iraq?

We were supposed to be the first generation to avoid war. Maybe our children will have better luck.

Jon M. Fleck

Editor-in-chief

CAPITAL TIMES STAFF MEETING: Please plan to attend the staff meeting on Tuesday January 29 at 12:30 in the office. Attendance would be greatly appreciated. If you cannot attend, please contact Jon or T.J.!

Funding

Leventhal explained that Penn State ranks last among state universities in funding from the state legislature, so the cuts put a dent in an already underfunded program which has experienced an 84 percent increase in appropriations since 1977, while other public multi-campus universities within the state received an increase of 119 percent.

Leventhal remarked, that "we educate 50 percent more students and receive 25 per cent less." Penn State University gets \$2500 for each full time student, while 14 other state universities get \$3500 and Temple University gets \$4500. She was also curious as to why the private colleges and universities were not asked to return funds.

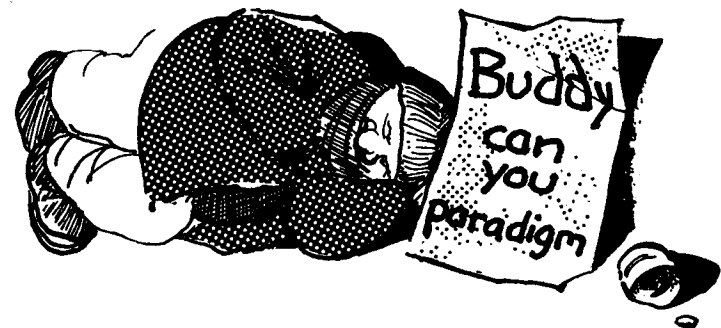
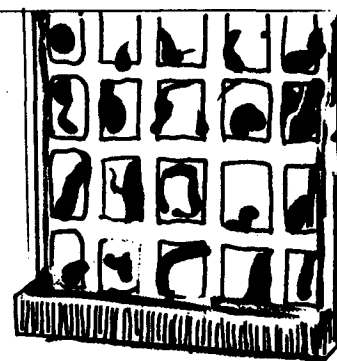
To assure that each unit within the university pays back it's portion of the debt, Penn State has imposed a departmental freeze on hiring new instructors and purchases. Leventhal said that each budget administrator within the university had been given a target figure of funds within each department before the freeze is lifted.

Leventhal requests that students, parents, and constituents remind the governor of the importance of education to the Commonwealth and adds that her administration will do everything possible to protect the academic programs and preserve the academic integrity of Penn State.

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