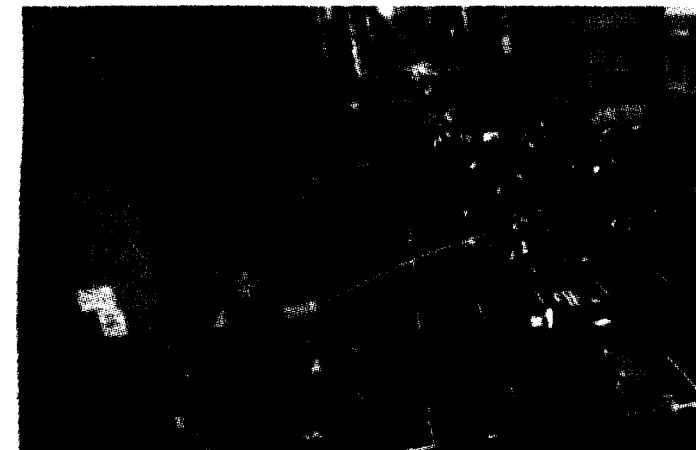


STUDENTS' HOPE FOR PEACE INSTEAD OF WAR WITH IRAQ



ABOVE: Demonstrators filled the streets of New York City on Saturday, February 16 to protest the possible war with Iraq. Protesters staged rallies in almost every major city across the United States as well as some overseas.



LEFT: An overhead view of the marching protestors in New York City.

BOTTOM LEFT: One protestor harbors a strong message aimed at President Bush.

BOTTOM RIGHT: A protestor points out that the deaths of young civilians will occur if war is waged.

All pictures taken by Missy Hoffman

BY BRIANA HARNER

Capital Times Staff Reporter

The students here at Capitol Campus had a lot of differing opinions about the possibilities of war with Iraq, but there seemed to be a common theme. The majority of the students interviewed said that they felt war was not necessary and that the whole thing has them a little scared.

Wanda Winklerman openly stated that she has no idea what's going on with the U.S. and Iraq. When asked if she thought other students knew what was going on or if they were ignorant as well, she said, "I think students are extraordinarily ignorant and self-centered. That's why they look so good." So does Miss Winklerman live in fear? She says, "No way Jose! I'm an American. I was raised to enjoy my freedom. Happy trails to you Al Qaida!"

At the other end of the spectrum, Jamie Shaffer, a 28-year-old communications major, felt she and her peers have a pretty good grasp on what was going on. When Shaffer was asked if she's making any efforts to prepare for another attack since the recent security level changed from yellow to orange, one step from the highest threat level, she said, "I think I've been preparing myself for another attack since 9/11, but can you really prepare yourself for something as devastating as another terrorist attack?"

Jason Jones, an American studies major, seemed to have a good grasp of what's going on. He was one of the few students in agreement with President Bush, saying that war is necessary. "Iraq has been in direct violation of U.N. Resolution 1441 (and others) since the end of the Gulf War," Jones said, "and with no action being taken by the U.N." Jones' idea of preparing for another attack is to prepare mentally, but not to modify his behavior.

An anonymous student here at Penn State had this to say about President Bush, "Presidents should act in the interest of peace, not war." He perceived that a war with Iraq is inevitable as long as Bush remains in power.

Of all the students interviewed well more than half wanted things in the Mid-East to be resolved without war.

