

The Lion's Eye



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War of conscience

Poll: Most here are reluctant

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Most of the Penn State Delco community is either against what seems to be a certain war with Iraq, or undecided about the issue, according to a poll conducted by *The Lion's Eye* on campus last week.

The unscientific poll, which asked the opinions of 100 students and faculty members, gave respondents a choice of being "For," "Against," or "Undecided" about about war in the Persian Gulf.

While there was no definitive majority among the students and teachers, the most votes, 40, went toward opposition of the war in Iraq.

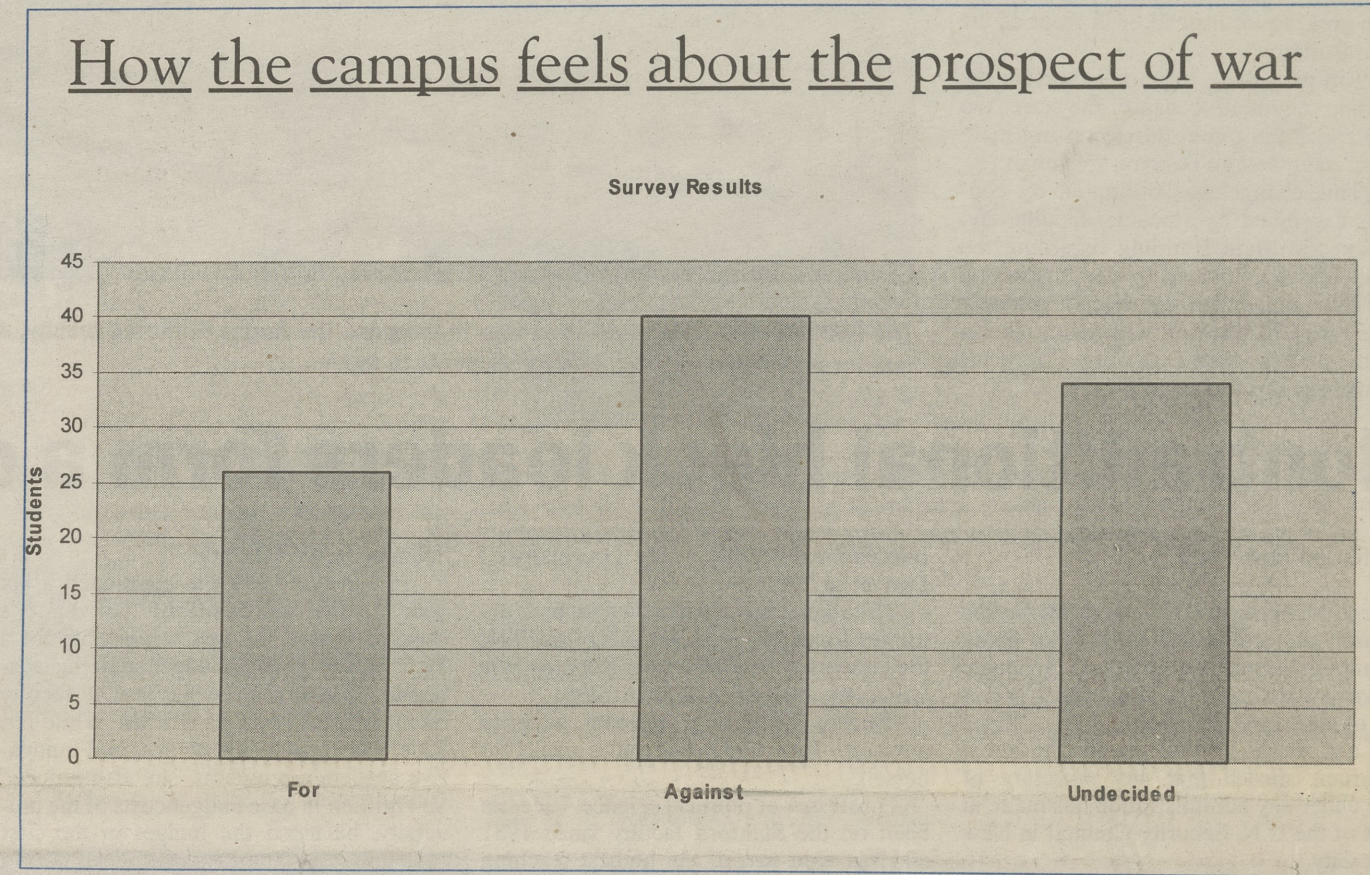
Thirty-four respondents said they were undecided about the issue, and 26 supported military action.

While unscientific, the results indicate a reluctance on part of a majority of the campus community to commit to war.

"I consider it wrong to throw lives at a problem," said junior David Bell. "You shouldn't throw war at a nation. An eye for an eye just leaves the world blind."

That general feeling was shared by many who responded.

Another common thread among many respondents was that they don't feel that they are well enough informed about the situation in the Middle East to



make a decision as to whether war is necessary. About a third of the respondents said that they aren't leaning one way or the other because they need more information.

"I don't know enough of the story. It doesn't seem like we are getting all the information," said senior Mike Tenaglio.

Yet even when the campus airs television news channels such as CNN, *The Lion's Eye* found, many students ignore the broadcasts. Most times the volume is muted on the TV or the set is turned off altogether. That was the case in the downstairs lounge in the Vairo Library Wednesday during Colin Powell's speech to the U.N.

Another reason why respondents said they are against war in the Middle

East is that they don't like the idea of this generation being the one out fighting the battles. Neighbors, friends, and families of students are in the military, and a war would leave students at home worrying about their loved fighting.

"[I am against a war] because my boy-friend is in the Air Force," junior Joanna Borrell said, "but [I am for it] because it might help."

Such sentiments illustrate the tug-of-war some students have about the war as a whole.

Poll results indicate that many respondents see the need to stop Sadaam Hussein, but are afraid to lose loved ones over it.

Students and teachers supportive of President George W. Bush's actions

seemed reluctantly supportive.

Dr. Paul Orlov said. "To protect ourselves from further attacks, I think the time is nearing when we will need to take a stand against Sadaam."

Now, as we have entered "Code Orange" in the color-coded threat system created by Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge, the world seems to be preparing itself for war. Military personnel who are already overseas are not sure when they will be getting back. More troops are preparing to deploy as we speak, and Bush shows no signs of relenting on his threats of full-out war against Iraq.

There is only the hope that as junior Allyson Gant said, "If there is going to be a war, let it be a swift one."

Powell, Rice form prominent duo in Black History Month

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In a time when our country is divided between going to war with Iraq or how our government should handle the North Korea situation, we all must have faith in our government that it will do what's best.

In a time when we as a nation should unite together as our loved ones are defending our freedom, there are two Americans that set an example for their race and our country. He's an African-American pathbreaker widely regarded for accomplishments that have nothing to do with race. She is intelligent, passionate, determined and shows sheer brilliance and may make a fine president someday.

Indeed, Colin Powell, the United States secretary of state, and Condoleezza Rice, national security advisor, set ideal examples to follow as Penn State Delco observes Black History Month throughout February.

Colin-Luther Powell was born in 1937



Colin Powell

in the Bronx, N.Y. He was raised by his parents who immigrated to the United States from Jamaica. Powell was educated in the New York City public schools, and graduated from the City College of

New York (CCNY), where he earned his bachelor's degree in geology. He also participated in ROTC at CCNY and received a commission as an Army second lieutenant when he graduated from CCNY in 1958.

Powell was a professional soldier for 35 years, during that time he rose to the rank of 4-star general. Under President George H.W. Bush's administration from 1987-1989 he was named assistant to the president for National Security Affairs, commonly referred to as National Security Advisor.

From October of 1989 to September of 1993 he was the 12th Chairman of the Joints Chief of Staff, the highest military position in the Department of Defense. Powell was the first African-American to hold the position.

During that time he oversaw many crises including Operation Desert Storm in the 1991 Persian Gulf War. He retired in 1995 and wrote his best-selling autobiography, "My American Journey."

Powell was nominated by President

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