

We Are Still at War/Conflict continued

Not only are there hardships placed upon our service personnel and their families but on the Iraqi and other women as well. The struggle to survive is a daily occurrence. The women of Iraq and those of the surrounding countries are forced to quit their jobs and stay off the streets from potential dangers. This leaves them to stay at home and take care of their families on a daily basis.

Environmental concerns include the destruction of the marshes as a result of combat. Ecologically the marshes are ruined. This applies to previous wars as well, most recently as in the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

As Operation Iraqi Freedom marches on, continuous concerns surround the world. The death toll rises and women struggle to survive. The environment also takes a beating and could be ruined for ages to come. The longer these conflicts last, the longer we face these challenges. Will it ever end? It does not seem to be ending any time soon.

My advice is to continue watching the news and to discuss these events with others. It may be sad to some, but at least you can say you know what is going on with our brothers and sisters overseas.

Editorials

"The Opinions on President Bush's State of the Union Address"

By: Audrey Melissa Williams, staff writer

The conversations surrounding President Bush's January 20th State of the Union Address encouraged Americans from all walks of life to share their views with one another and to challenge what they believe in. Three students in Ms. Burrows English Class, Matt Hutchins, Kody Kinsley, and Sara Rueben, each offered to share their opinions of Bush's attempt to affect the American people with Brevard College's student body through a collection. The students' only request was that I would not take their words out of context.

America, once again, has risen to the call of policing and monitoring the duties of the Iraqi people. According to Matt Hutchins, "Our interactions with the Iraqi government have taken \$80 billion from our U.S. economy". The "War on Terror" money had been placed towards social security and had been promised to education.

Though each student held up his or her personal views, the three students agreed that Bush's main purpose for addressing the media was to boost his own self esteem and popularity vote. President Bush accomplished this by speaking about his great achievements while he has been in office. Bush even embellished at times.

One issue that seemed to concern these three students was the "no child left behind" policy and how that policy related to the recent cut in taxes. President Bush had promised that he was going to add money to schools to make sure that "no child would be left behind". However, America's president also spoke of cutting back taxes, financial aid, and health care substantially. Sara Reuben states, "I do not understand where he is getting the money for education if he is cutting taxes". In an opposing view point, Kody Kinsley says, "Some of the theoretical ideas I'm excited about was Bush's propositions to reduce flagrant medical law suits and maintain strong tax deductions".

Matt Hutchins believes that with the financial hit there was "not enough money to support education". President Bush states that the "'regimes are plotting against us,' and the way to counteract is by supporting the USA Patriot Act" by " 'Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001". Bush also states that "America does not need a permission slip to fight the war on terror". Hutchins states that America's interaction in other countries is just to bring them "democracy and freedom".

I have learned many things through informative news conferences. The American people have the right to question their president's motives and question all presidential candidates. Each person makes his own political choice based upon morals and propaganda.