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WAR AND PEACE

Campus debates conflict

By Aaron Mackey
STAFF WRITER

Gripping a sign that reads "No blood for oil," a UA student marches down East Speedway Boulevard amidst crowds of activists.

Chanting anti-war slogans, the student urges cars driving by to participate and honk their horn.

But rather than honking his horn, another student shakes his head in disagreement and drives away from the protest.

War protests are back as the debate over whether to go to war with Iraq intensifies on campus.

As more and more debates, lectures and rallies hit campus, students both for and against war agree that the ability to hear both sides of the situation is crucial.

"I think it's one of the most important rights that we have because that's what determines a free society," said Carrie Brown, president of the Alliance for Peace and Justice in the Middle East, a club on campus that advocates peaceful alternatives and solutions to war in the Middle East.

Even though Scott Weller, president of UA College Republicans, will not march down a street with APJME or hold an anti-

war sign, he said he does not war-monger either.

Weller said that even though he disagrees with those who protest the war, he recognizes their rights to do so.

"I support their right to exercise their First Amendment rights," said Weller, a political science senior.

It is these basic rights that allowed for a student debate to take place last week. While the debate was heated, both sides saw the importance of the opportunity to have such an exchange.

"This is a great way for people to become more informed," Weller said as he addressed the audience during the debate.

The success of the debate excited Brown, a Near Eastern studies graduate student, who was happy that the APJME-sponsored event sparked so much discussion among the students present.

"Creating discussion — that is what universities are about. It's about students coming together and debating ideas," Brown said.

Throughout the evening, the debaters remained civil toward each other, complimenting and speaking highly of their fellow panelists. It was not until nearly the

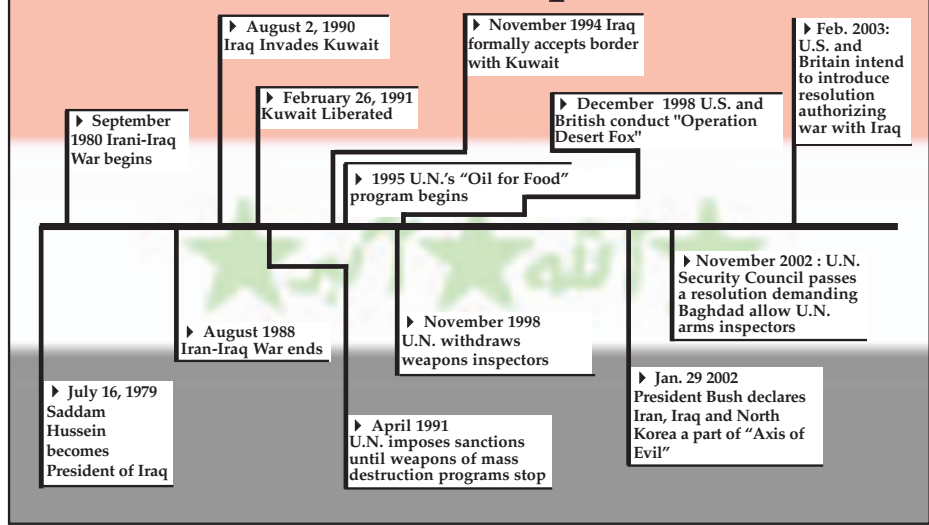
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SUSIE LEMONT/Arizona Daily Wildcat

An anti-war rally on campus Jan. 18, 2003 drew community protesters to the UA Mall and Old Main. As war with Iraq looms, UA has seen more political activism.

Timeline of Iraqi Conflict



UA files legal brief on behalf of University of Michigan

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

At the request of the University of Michigan, UA has joined other universities in filing a brief with the U.S. Supreme Court that supports the University of Michigan's affirmative action admissions policies.

The brief that the UA signed with Wayne State University, Temple University and the University of Pittsburgh questioned whether universities that grant acceptance to graduates in the top percentage of

their class assures diversity.

More than 300 organizations have submitted over 60 briefs to the Supreme Court, said Julie Peterson, spokeswoman for the University of Michigan.

"The most important thing that this represents for the court itself is that there are a number of fresh legal opinions in support of our admissions standards," Peterson said.

The ability to continue enrolling a diverse group of students is the core

principle that everyone is arguing for, Peterson said.

Fifteen briefs have been filed by opponents of the university's policies.

President George W. Bush and other opponents of Michigan's admission policies have praised Texas, Florida and California, which admit the top tier of graduates, as race-neutral alternatives to

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Lobbyists urge students to voice opposition to cuts

By Jeff Sklar
SENIOR WRITER

Nick Green is fed up. He's watched the Arizona Legislature cut tens of millions of dollars from the UA's budget in less than two years. And now, with key legislators calling for

state universities to cut a combined \$37 million more while significantly raising tuition, he's asking them to stop.

"Show me the money," he's saying. "And don't take it back."

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