Rider community members voice opinions on war in Iraq

Compiled by Michael D. Lovullo, Jennifer Kuhn, Vincent Civitillo, Lacey Korevec and Dana Lynn Flatekval

Aaron Johnson, junior

“I think there’s way too much subtext to back or not back [the war]. It’s about oil and politics and people suffering. I’m praying for those of Iraq, what can they do?”

Alejandra Mondrajo, freshman

“I feel that the war could have been prevented. Not all of the options were explored to the fullest and I think democracy was ignored.”

Allison Spehar, freshman

“Since we’re already at war, I think we should support America and our troops because they are fighting for us.”

Sonya Sawoff, senior

“I want the war to stop right now. Bush is only supporting it for economic reasons and the media is calling it ‘Iraqi Freedom.’ I’m very much against it.”

Angela DeCicco, junior

“I have mixed feelings about the war because I feel Hussein is evil, but I don’t think we should be killing innocent people. Peace is always an option.”

Ayo Oweduni, freshman

“I don’t see why violence is used to solve problems, but still, bomb Iraq just because Hussein is ugly.”

Lynnie Johnson, freshman

“I think war itself is unnecessary and that people shouldn’t have to resort to violence.”

Nicole Lantino, sophomore

“I’m upset that everyone keeps saying 9/11 changed everything. Just because we were the victims doesn’t mean we should throw out the moral rulebook that we hold others accountable to.”

Estefania Juncal, freshman

“I think there is no real reason we are at war. Bush is just being stupid again. I think it could be avoided. I want the troops to come home safe.”

Frank Yuchymiw, junior

“I feel the war is unnecessary. People should be able to talk out their problems without it escalating to war. This problem could have been solved decades ago.”

Greg Kerian, sophomore

“I’m not in support of the war, but I’m confident in our forces. I think all the other countries who don’t support us, especially France, should suffer for not helping us.”

Idella Brown, Daly’s attendant

“I feel that what Bush is doing is wrong. He’s done enough already. Why is he still over there messing with those people and messing things up for us?”

Nicole Lantino, sophomore

“I’m anti-war because in my mind Bush is equal to Hussein. I’d rather North Korea and Iraq be at war. War is always an example of failed democracy.”

John Ratcliffe-Lee, junior

“I feel the war isn’t a good idea. I think people are losing sight of the fact that people are dying. They’re just focused on getting the bad guys.”

Leah Craig, sophomore

“My friend is in the Marines so I understand how hard it is for them and I give them all the support in the world. They tried killing us so I hope we kill them all.”

Joe Hallowell, sophomore

“I think the war is good and I want to give them the thumbs up.”

Olushola Ijalana, senior

“I have faith in our government and I feel that we should stand behind our president and trust his decision.”

Ayo Oweduni, freshman

“I don’t see why violence is used to solve problems, but still, bomb Iraq just because Hussein is ugly.”

Rob Giorgio, sophomore

“I think it is going well. With all the criticisms, it would have eventually come down to war anyway.”