

## Letters to the Editor

March 15, 2003

### **Against the war**

To the editor:

President Bush's news conference of March 6 was very disturbing. He belittled the United Nations and the inspections process and seemed almost anxious to put the U.N.'s Security Council in a position to disagree with the U.S. so he that can show that we can go to war alone. The U.N. is not perfect but it is the only system we have for working together globally to solve problems and it could well fall victim to Bush's carelessness. He insisted on making the connection between the 9-11 terrorists and Saddam Hussein. But despite tremendous efforts to make that connection there is no evidence whatsoever that Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein, both of whom hate each other, acted in concert. He is insisting that we are in imminent danger of Hussein's weapons of mass destruction — a claim that is also without substantiation especially since there is evidence that containment is working. On the other hand, North Korea flaunts its plans to build nuclear weapons and Bush characterized this a "regional issue."

Bush made many references to his religious beliefs from which he apparently derives his confidence while leaders of nearly every major religion in this country and throughout the world express their opposition to war in Iraq. This is not the time for faith-based action; rather, clear and rational thinking is needed and a concern for the lives of our brave troops and innocent civilians in Iraq, half of whom are children under the age of 15.

**Alex R. Dzierba**

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### **Wrong about law**

To the editor:

On Feb. 25, ("Court upholds Indiana abortion law") Mike Fichter, executive director of Indiana Right to Life, claimed women are not getting "full-factual information" about abortion and that this law would require providers "for the first time" to give women that information. I'm a sexuality educator and trainer for Planned Parenthood and I encourage you to be better informed before addressing the media.

Women who seek abortions are given "full-factual information" and abortion providers are required to give these facts. This law addresses whether a woman, to comply with Indiana's 18-hour waiting period, could get facts via phone or if she has to make two trips to the clinic to get information in person.

In Bloomington, women who decide to have an abortion, one of the safest medical procedures, hear a state mandated script, read forms, watch a video and talk to a person here at the clinic to make sure they understand