

Desert Shield

Thomas Paine once wrote, "These are the times that try men's souls." That quotation, written during the American Revolution, applies to America now as much as when it was first written. With America facing its largest conflict in years, life has become different for many citizens. Daily newspapers and magazines now devote a large portion of their reports to the day's events in the Persian Gulf. Television news informs the public of events as they happen.

Patriotism seems to be at a peak as American flags fly in front of homes and business establishments. Yellow ribbons are tied to car antennas and pinned to garments as symbols for the safe return of U.S. soldiers.

It all started in August 1990 when Iraqi forces, under the command of Saddam Hussein, invaded and captured the small country of Kuwait. In November the United Nations Security Council voted to give Iraq until January 15 to withdraw from Kuwait. Meanwhile, an eventual total of 430,000 American troops were being de-

ployed to various locations in the Middle East to push Iraq out of Kuwait. January 15 came and passed with no withdrawal, and on January 16, 1991, at 4:50 p.m. EST, the United States and the Allied Forces, composed of Britain and other countries joining the cause, began the attack against Iraq.

While some peace and anti-war activists voiced their views on the conflict, the overwhelming majority of the nation was behind the soldiers and President Bush's policies. WHS students were also making their opinions known.

"I don't like the fact that American and Allied soldiers are put at risk, but something had to be done about Hussein's aggressive acts," junior Shawn Dixon said.

"I just hope that the war is over quickly and our soldiers return safely," senior Scott Walls agreed.

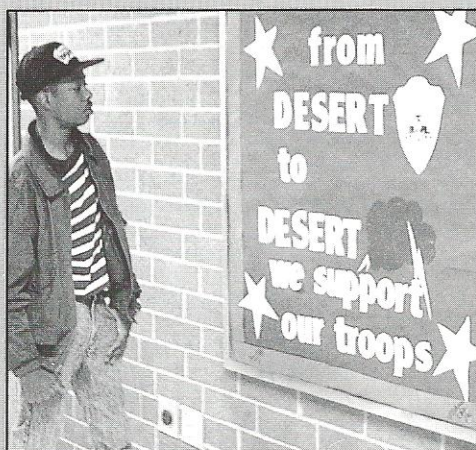
"I support the soldiers and hope that this war can give us the results we want," junior Bubba Thomas said.

— Heath Duncan



WHS Singers listen to a former WHS graduate discussing the Navy's position in Operation Desert Shield. The Singers performed at a pep rally held to honor the troops in Saudi Arabia.

Elton Brown looks on at one of the many bulletin boards supporting our men over seas.



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