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## Gulf War will have long lasting effect

BY DENINE KONWINSKI COPY-EDITOR

For some, it may as well be ancient history. Pack up the books and tie them up with a yellow bow. For others, the fighting is

For others, the lighting is over, but the war never ends. It's a constant in life. This month marks three years since a friend returned from serving six months in the Barsian Gulf Through the tales Persian Gulf. Through the tales he tells and the pictures we, as a nation, have seen, a lot has been learned. Unfortunately, there is a lot more information out there, and it seems only time will reveal the secrets.

The nightmares and the vivid memo of ries fighting are bad enough. but as time goeson Gul a

vets are finding their health is deteriorating. Many have respi-ratory problems, sinus trouble, a recurring rash and suffer from chronic soreness and fatigue, among other symptoms.

Many vets have come home, and since produced chil-dren that are 'less than perfect' vets have come something that could happen anyone, but the similarities are there.

It's one of the greatest trag-edies of war. Just like the Viet Nam vets exposed to Agent Or-Nam vets exposed to Agent Or-ange, we'll spend the next decades wondering what we're dealing with, and innumerable people will be affected. people will be affected. All of the veterans were too

young, unselfishly risking their lives for the rights of others, but especially unfortunate are those who will want to someday start a family.

They will wonder if the chance will be worth the pain and emotional scars it could leave, if their child is one of the many already burdened with one ose tragedies of war. The wife of one ma

served with the Army's 16th Engineer Battalion had a son, born almost nine months to the day that he returned home from the Gulf. The boy was born without arms - his hands are attached to his shoulders and his legs are

body. They're not really sure support for our troops; that's what it is. what it's all about. My friend has said there

are things the government should have told the American people. Things about immunizations (many were not approved by the FDA) and the use of chemical warfare, among others. I don't doubt it for a minute.

The image in the cryst tal The image in the crystal ball isn't pretty. But then again, nothing about war is. According to the environmental activist group Greenpeace, over 150,000 Iraqis died, and five million were left homeless as a result of the the state attack Knuwit suff. 43 day allied attack. Kuwait suffered

anv-

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Although long overdue, the feeling of patriotism took many back to Viet Nam. But no mat-

ter how late, it happened. Those vets got some long overdue recognition - and it was positive Another aspect recognized was the attitude of the American citizens left at home. While the service people were away, the service people civilians pulled together and worked hard to support each other and also our troops by sending letters and care pack

ages. "When you get back here and see all that we have, you're so much aware of how good it is here," said then Master Sgt. where Larry Sisco, when speaking to students at Sanborn Elementary from

School there years ago. Our veterans are fortunate to have such a comfortable place 5.000 casuto come home to. It's a place where for most, sandstorms are infrequent, and they don't have to brew coffee through a sock. It's a sharp contrast to the Iraqi soldiers who lined up wavallied troops

were ing anything white, begging to be 'captured' so they might re-266 ceive food and water

They only asked for the basics, something we all hope to live above and beyond. For most of us, health falls into that category. Yet for some, that seems like asking for something just short of a miracle.

So as the world goes around and years go by, we watch and wonder, if, as a military power, we'll ever have to go back. Sometimes it doesn't really matter. The damage is done, whether it was in a World War, Korea, Viet Nam, Persian Corte or Powerie Gulf or Bosnia.

The only thing we wish is that the lives weren't lost and the veterans could live as they did before.

Senate provides awards banquet Have they done an injustice or a good deed?

Opinion

## BY SHAWN DEMPSEY

s the 1993-94 school year came to a close, Student L Senate prepared for one of its last activities – the Awards Banquet. I heard a few grumblings about it before it had even hapnened

The Awards Banquet, April , was a dinner sponsored by SS for campus groups, clubs, and activities to present their commenda-

tions to whomever needs to be commended. Academic dewere also in-vited partments vited present any wis they may choose to maj give. Traditionially, the Awards Ban-quet is an athletic ban-quet. Interan quet. Inter-and intra-muhave rals usually dominated the scene

This year though, SS has worked to change this. They en-couraged all of the academic areas to participate. They con-ducted a teacher of the year

areas to participate. They con-ducted a teacher of the year contest. They intended to invite all of the clubs to attend. Great ideas, right? They were great ideas and SS worked hard on them without much help

from anyone. To encourage academic recognition, they sent letters, at-tended meetings, and talked to instructors. The end result is that one department – the Humani-ties Department – will present two awards and the Math/Sciences Department will present two additional awards. No one

else responded. It is rather ironic that in a school where the predomninate talk of instructors is, "What's the matter with these students?," teachers bothered to refew spond. Perhaps instructors feel that grades are recognition enough. Perhaps they were too busy to discuss the idea. Howr some response, even ative, would have been helpeven

teachers here deserved some acknowledgement. Instructors here work hard, they encourage and support their students, and

In addition, SS thought the

they are instrumental in their stu-dents' successes A special dents' successes. A special teacher of the year award seemed appropriate, so SS sponsored one.

The problem is they didn't The problem is they didn't research or plan the contest very well. They didn't know it had been done in the past and had not worked out. They didn't establish a solid criteria to judge the essays. But they held the con test test anyway because seven students took the time to write how instructors have af fected them.

> As judge the contest, I read all of the essays. I was moved at how much r e s p e c t these stu-dents held for their instructors, I was also moved the care and concern these instructors h h a v e shown

their students

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In a school where apathy rules, it was pleasing to see some interest and appreciation. Stu dents may actually care about something, and shockingly, it may be teachers.

And then, there is the club thing. Apparently, no clubs were invited. It was not intentional, just a mistake. SS shouldn't worry about it because only three worry about it because only three clubs have cared enough to rep-resent themselve this year. Each club has a vote on SS; Phi Theta Kappa, Society of

Creative Anachronism, and The Polemic are the only groups who have ever bothered to exercise this right. The clubs weren't invited

- but did they really want to come? If they did, they should have made sure by attending a meeting at least once in awhile. If they want to be represented a the Awards Banquet, they should be represented on SS. All in all, the Awards Ban-

quet is representative of SS's whole year - not perfect but well intentioned. So do we condemn them? No. They're students, they're learning, and they're the only ones willing to do the job.

how about thanking So them, offering some ideas and contributions, and planning for a great 1994-95 school year.



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> arched back toward his body. There are numerous ac-counts of wives of vets having

> miscarriages, and there is a re-port of one couple producing a perfect baby girl - except for the red splotches that cover her face. Another example is 3

> young man diagnosed with cancer not long after he returned from his six month tour in the Gulf. The cancer, which showed up very suddenly, is raging throughout his entire body. Doc-tors have placed a time limit on his 20 some - odd - year life, and have changed their original prognosis. It's not cancer that's soning this young

were Americans, Of those, were killed in action. Accidents claimed the other lives.

"I don't ever want to kill again," stated one 28-year-old Navy Flier who was taken pris-Navy Flier who was taken pris-oner by the Iraqis. "People think, "Hey, we went in there and just kicked ass," but they didn't see the Iraqi mothers being killed." Unfortunately, the general feeling of the American people was in many cases, just that. It's too hed they don't thick of the

too bad they don't think of the real effe

The allied forces did a super job, and according to one report, support was the highest of any war. It seemed that even those who opposed war showed