

WARS
Gulf War -
Demonstrations

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Differences of opinion

Patriotism, protests mark deadline day

By DENISE FRANKLIN
Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — From a die-in to hanging an American flag in support of soldiers in the Persian Gulf, Santa Cruzans let their views on the crisis be known Tuesday.

Starting early in the morning, students covered with fake blood held a "die-in" at the entrance to UC Santa Cruz. Younger students walked out of classes at Mission Hill Junior High, Branciforte Junior High and San Lorenzo Valley High schools. About 500 attended a noontime teach-in at the university. And about 50 people blocked the Highway 1 and Mission Street intersection with an anti-war banner for a couple of minutes in the mid-afternoon.

Students in Tom McMillan's sixth grade class at Branciforte Junior High hung yellow ribbons on a tree, one for each of the Marines they have been writing to.

There also were a few voices in support of using force to drive Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait.

Steve Irving hung an American flag outside his 41st Avenue restaurant, Pleasure Pizza, in support of servicemen. Dan Garbez, owner of J.B.'s Restaurant in Felton and a supporter of the Bush administration's policies, spoke out against high school students demonstrating during the school day.

Irving said he decided to hang the flag after talking to a serviceman's mother who told him her son felt that nobody in the United States supported the troops.

"I told her to tell her son that I was hanging an American flag out in front of my business in support of him and the soldiers in the gulf," Irving said. "I believe that what they are doing there is correct."

Irving, a Vietnam War veteran, was given the flag off the USS Enterprise by his father-in-law. He said that if President Bush had been in charge during the Vietnam War, it would have lasted a few months, rather than



Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel photos

Pleasure Pizza owner Steve Irving raises flag Tuesday to show support for troops in the Middle East.

■ **UCSC ask professors to 'show flexibility' in case campus shuts down. — Page A2**

years.

"True, we need peace, but the way to bring peace at times is through war," he added.

Those protesting at UCSC this morning would disagree.

About 15 bloodied members of the small student discussion group, Emanon, made an eerie sight in the thick morning fog. Several played dead, lying with about 10 dummies on the damp lawn. Others, covered with a red dye, passed out leaflets to passing motorists.

Their purpose was to encourage people to act out against war and to get people to attend the teach-in.

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UCSC students Adrienne Sewell and Scott Johnson join 'die-in.'

Protests grow

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Occasionally, two bloodied "survivors" would carry a "corpse" or help one of the "wounded" across the High Street and Coolidge Drive intersection.

"This may be called sensational, but that is not what we are trying to do," said Martin Henderson, a 19-year-old student of politics. "We are trying to facilitate discussion about war. It is not just about oil. It is not just about one thing. There are many more forces making this happen."

Henderson said the students chose this form of protest because sit-ins have become so commonplace that people don't notice them anymore.

The die-in got plenty of notice, mostly positive, with drivers stopping to get fliers, honking their horns and giving the thumbs-up sign of support.

By 11:30 a.m., the protesters joined approximately 500 at the entrance to McHenry Library for a teach-in. Professors who are against war in the Middle East spoke, as well as an Arab-American student.

Organizer Patrick Barnhart of Students for Social Responsibility said the crowd was the largest he'd seen in his seven years at the university. He said his group was unable to find anyone on campus to speak in support of the president's Persian Gulf policy.

Writing instructor Tim Fitzmaurice encouraged the students to be vigilant of lies that they will read in the media, to watch out for negative portrayals of Arabs, to hold liberal politicians accountable and to get involved in draft counseling.

A short history of the Middle East was given by Rich Randolph, professor of anthropology. He told students what is needed is a political situation brought about by the international community. Arab countries, he said, should solve the problem of Saddam Hussein, not the United States.

Professor John Brown Childs, a professor of anthropology and an African-American, spoke on the racist nature of a war in the Persian Gulf against "people of color" and on the class-nature of the conflict, with a large portion of the U.S. troops being low-income and minority.

He noted that Tuesday was Martin Luther King's birthday. "If Martin Luther King were alive today, I can hear

him say: 'No blood for oil. No blood for racist aggression. Bring the troops home. Peace now,'" Brown Childs concluded to enthusiastic applause.

He was followed by Tariq Ahmed Elseewi, a student of Egyptian ancestry, who spoke of negative Arab stereotypes and the threat against Arab-Americans if war breaks out.

The FBI is harassing Arab-American leaders, trying to keep them from talking publicly, Elseewi said. "To the FBI from this Arab-American: 'Go straight to hell!'" he said.

In Felton, about 200 of the 950 students at San Lorenzo Valley High School walked out of classes for a two-hour rally. Principal David Weiss directed teachers to take no action to stop the demonstration. "To act as if the world events don't affect us is to deny the very essence of our duty," he told teachers in a memo.

The school administration's attitude angered restaurant owner Garbez, who said he employs many students. "If they want to protest, they have three to four hours of daylight after school. It bothers me that the administration is using school time to further their political goals," Garbez said.

In Santa Cruz, a group of young people, many who were from local high schools, blocked the northbound lanes at Highway 1 and Mission Street for a few minutes until police arrived.

One protester was forcibly handcuffed and arrested after he refused to leave the road, according to Sgt. Bill Aluffi. The demonstrators' banner was confiscated because they were using it to block the road, Aluffi added.

The demonstrators complained that the police used brutality to break up the protest, saying police pushed the arrested man across the guardrail by his neck and ran into one demonstrator with the patrol car.

"The police came up to us and told us they were going to use force. 'Beat our asses' was the words they used," said protester Windy Butterick.

Aluffi denied using unnecessary force. He said he held the arrested man by the shoulder and arm and laid him across a fence to handcuff him because he refused to put his hands behind his back.

He said he knew of no protester being hit by a car.



Caroline Barnes and Rebecca Webster march at UCSC's entrance Tuesday.

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