



# The GW Hatchet

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Andrew Snow/Hatchet staff photographer

**SHOWING THEIR STEPS**  
Alumni from the Nu Beta Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity dance Friday at the fifth annual step show in Lisner Auditorium. See story, p. 7.

## Man stabbed by co-worker near MC

by Russ Rizzo  
Editor in Chief

Police arrested a temporary GW employee Thursday for allegedly stabbing another man after they worked on renovations to the GW Bookstore. Hospital officials declined to comment on the condition of the victim, who suffered multiple stab wounds, until he signs a release form.

According to police and University reports, the two construction workers started an argument over a coat at about 5:30 a.m. outside the Marvin Center at 21st and H streets. Clifford Williams stabbed his co-worker, who made it to the basement of the Marvin Center and sought help from a University Police officer. Police would not release the name of the victim because he is considered a key witness to the investigation.

Metropolitan Police arrested Williams at about 3 p.m. after he fled the scene in a van. He was arrested at the 6th District MPD station at 100 42nd St. N.E., said Sgt. Michael Farish, who headed the daylong search.

"He fled the scene but went to a police station for another reason," Farish said. "We're not exactly sure what he was trying to do."

Williams has a prior arrest record "with various, mostly non-violent crimes in his past," Farish said.

The two men were Labor Ready employees hired to hang fixtures throughout the night in the bookstore. Labor Ready is a temporary job placement company for "low skill/no skill laborers," company spokeswoman Stacy Burke said.

See MPD, p. 15

## SA kicks off campaigns

Robinson receives poster violations

by Joe Gidjunis  
Hatchet Staff Writer

Student campaigns officially started Friday in a less feverish fashion than past years. Following tradition, some candidates camped out overnight to stake out prime poster locations, but gone was the tense battling for positions.

The campus walls are now lined with red, blue and neon posters touting Student Association, Program Board and Marvin Center Governing Board candidates, but signs do not cover every inch like memorable elections between 2000 candidates Jeff Marootian and David Burt. Beyond that, spending limits have diminished considerably since Phil Meisner handed out Coke cans to win the presidency in 1999.

SA candidates and campaigners under the "Working for Us" slate, including presidential candidate Josh Singer and executive vice president



Joe Gidjunis/Hatchet staff photographer  
Freshman Jeremy Siegel climbs the railings of the Marvin Center as he hangs posters Friday for "Working for Us" slate.

## Lottery glitches taint online housing debut

by Rati Bishnoi and Russ Rizzo  
Hatchet Staff Writers

GW's first-ever online housing selection was hampered by computer problems Sunday. Rising juniors and seniors selecting after 11 a.m. were unable to track which rooms were taken because Housing Services chose to remove the "availability screen," and some rooms were assigned to too many people.

The availability screen, which showed selection developments in real time, was taken down because housing officials were unsure whether or not the information was reliable.

"Providing accurate information is above all what we wanted to do," Housing Services Director Andrew Sonn said.

Students who bookmarked the page on their internet browser were able to get

updates on the selection all day and reported that the screen was accurate later in the day.

Sonn declined to offer any details about glitches but said his office would meet early Monday morning with the Residence Hall Association to discuss two main problems: the availability screen and a "small number" of students who were accidentally assigned to rooms already handed out.

Sonn refused to clarify what "a small number" means.

Sonn said he did not know how many rooms were assigned Sunday but said there was no waiting list as late as 11 p.m. The GWeb availability screen indicates that rooms in all but three upperclassman buildings were filled Sunday.

RHA members said they received more than 100 phone calls from complaining

See E-SELECTION, p. 15

See CANDIDATES, p. 9

## Ball attracts mayors of past and present

by Trevor Martin and Mosheh Oinounou  
Hatchet Staff Writers

Past and present D.C. mayors came together for what University President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg called a "historic" moment Saturday. The first-ever GW Foggy Bottom ball at the Swissotel ballroom showed GW in its element.

"Some people call GW a party school," Trachtenberg said. "That may be true, but we party in black tie."

The event, which celebrated GW's 90 years in Foggy Bottom, drew 800 students and community members to mingle over elegant buffets and ice sculptures.

King James and the Serfs of Swing and a handful of student

singing groups entertained at the ball.

The highlight of the evening was a ceremony introducing four D.C. mayors. Walter Washington, Marion Barry, Shannon Pratt and current mayor Anthony Williams came together for what Trachtenberg said was the first time all four D.C. mayors were in the same room for a joyous occasion.

Williams addressed the crowd, announcing that Feb. 23 will now be known as "GW Day" - a District-wide day of acknowledgement of the University's history in the area.

Williams said GW is a good neighbor and is "very important" to the community.

See D.C., p. 14



Grant Wernick/senior photo editor  
D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams declares Feb. 23 "GW Day" in front of more than 800 attendees and three former mayors at the Foggy Bottom Ball. President Trachtenberg (r.) called the ball "historic."

### GW postpones gwu.edu

The University delayed the release of the new GW home page, which was scheduled to go live Friday.

University Chief Information Officer David Swartz said in an e-mail that GW made the decision "to ensure that the page will meet the high standards of the GW community." He wrote that he expects the page to go up in the near future. Information System Services officials failed to return repeated phone calls for comment Friday.

The updated Web site will enable students to have quicker access to the GWeb portal and feature a slide show of panoramic pictures of D.C. and GW, technology officials said.

-Mosheh Oinounou

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