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## STD rates rise

by Michael Barnett  
Hatchet Reporter

Student Health Services officials said they are concerned about an increase in reported cases of sexually transmitted diseases among undergraduate students. Cases of STDs reported to Student Health Services are up from single digit totals in the mid-90s to 10 in 2001.

While Student Health Director Isabel Goldenberg said the office has seen nine cases since January, she expects the number of reported STDs to eclipse last year's mark.

Student Health saw as many as 75 cases in 1987 before educational safe sex campaigns began in response to AIDS and other STDs.

As students became more educated about the dangers of unprotected sex, Goldenberg said, the numbers hit a negligible level by the mid-90s.

Reported cases of chlamydia, herpes, gonorrhea and syphilis are again on the rise, but Goldenberg said Student Health's numbers are not comprehensive because some students are never

See STDs, p. 12



ONE STEP AT A TIME  
Freshman Steve Khadam-Hir joined hundreds of other GW students at AIDS Walk Washington Saturday. See story, p. 2.

Paul Goodman/Hatchet photographer

## Student-athlete grad rate drops

by Brian Costa  
Assistant Sports Editor

Despite having the best academic reputation in the Atlantic 10, GW is among the worst schools in the conference at retaining and graduating student athletes.

U.S. News & World Report ranks GW higher than any other A-10 school in academics, but about 40 percent of freshman student athletes do not play all four years and graduate from GW, according to a recent NCAA report.

The University's 59 percent student-athlete graduation rate is 15 points lower than the percentage of all GW students that start and finish here, down 14 percent from the previous year.

The NCAA calculated the graduation rates by measuring the percentage of student athletes that entered college in 1995-96 and graduated from the same school by August 2001.

Athletes that transfer or leave their teams for other reasons are

counted as non-graduates, a fact that has drawn criticism from athletic officials. On average, 96 percent of GW students that stayed on their teams graduated within six years, which ranks GW among the nation's best schools in this category.

GW's student-athlete graduation rate also fell one point below the NCAA Division I average, which reached 60 percent for the first time since the NCAA began tracking graduation rates 18 years ago.

"We have to be held accountable, there's no denying that," GW Athletic Director Jack Kvancz said. "But when you talk about kids who leave in good academic standing, whether they transfer or go to the pros, those kids are counted as non-graduates, and that's misleading."

Kvancz said the 96 percent figure, the number of GW athletes that graduate, is the only accurate indication of academic success.

See GRAD, p. 16

### BY THE NUMBERS Graduation Rates

59% GW student athletes  
74% All GW students  
96% GW athletes that stay and play

## Aramark receives mixed reviews

by Dustin Harrison-Atlas  
Hatchet Reporter

Despite student complaints and recent union battles between Aramark and its employees, GW officials said Aramark's service and food quality is "the best there is."

The University's contract with food service provider Aramark ends in June 2004, said Managing Director of Business Services Michael Peller. He said that although he could not comment on Aramark's future past 2004, the University has been happy with

the company's performance.

Aramark has been at GW for more than six years, according to past Hatchet articles.

Dining facilities have seen a 12 to 14 percent increase in service this year, with about 96,000 to 97,000 individuals using the facilities each week, Peller said.

He said Aramark doubled the number of managers to accommodate more students this year.

Aramark studies daily "market data" that reports the number of diners at each station and the most popular venues and times,

said Aramark's Resident District Manager Terry Merriett.

The market data helps Aramark decide where to place employees, he said.

But some students said service remains slow and options are limited.

"It took me a ridiculously long time to get my order at Einstein Bagels, and there wasn't even a long line," senior Sean Altnu said. "It took over 15 minutes, and when they got my order wrong, they wouldn't redo it."

"The University has added new

options for vegetarians, which is a start, but there are not nearly enough options for vegans on campus," said senior Josh Balk, a vegan.

Some other students said they enjoy eating at J Street, though some venues lack healthy choices.

"There's a lot of variety and we have different choices, but none of them really provide a nutritious meal," freshman David Rottblatt said.

Officials said they have addressed concerns from students

See ARAMARK, p. 13

## University nears fundraising goal

by Kate Stepan  
Editor in Chief

GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg will look around the country in the next three months for about \$5 million to complete a five-year fundraising campaign.

The Centuries Campaign, an effort to raise \$500 million by 2003, has taken him to places like Morocco and Turkey and has landed the University multiple partnerships and donations.

"We'll make it if I have to give the damn money myself," Trachtenberg said. While feeling

pressure from the Board of Trustees to finish the campaign, he said the University should meet its goal if the current fundraising rate keeps up.

The Centuries Campaign benefits some current programs while about half the money goes to GW's endowment.

GW started the Centuries Campaign in 1996 with a goal to raise \$300 million by 2000. With about \$230 million by October 1998, the Board of Trustees voted to set its sights higher during an economic time in which

See FUNDRAISING, p. 11

### University warns students about area shootings

University Police advised students to "be alert and report any suspicious activity" after a shooting spree in Maryland, Virginia and D.C. that left six dead and one wounded late last week.

UPD placed notices in residence halls Thursday informing students about the case, in which five people were shot to death at random in Montgomery County, Md. during a 16-hour span Wednesday and Thursday. A sixth victim was killed Thursday in the District.

Police are seeking two men in a white "box-like corporate delivery truck" with black lettering on the side of the vehicle and damage to the rear.

The UPD alert said there are "no indications the vehicle is on or near GW campuses."

The gunman randomly shot victims from more than 100 yards away with a high-powered rifle. Police are investigating a series of suspicious shootings as far away as Fredericksburg, Va. that may be connected with the Montgomery County killings.

—Alex Kingsbury



Ellen Rockower/Hatchet photographer

GETTING DOWN  
Traditional dances highlighted Chinese National Day celebrations Saturday. See story, p. 11.

### INSIDE

2 NEWS  
To meter or not to meter? City weighs taxi issue

5 OPINIONS  
Trade policy affects domestic employment



10 FEATURES  
One writer meets the Food Lion challenge

16 SPORTS  
Women win, men lose in weekend soccer action