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Protesters march on D.C.

■ Demonstrators oppose military action against Iraq
by Zach Ahmad
Hatchet Reporter

Tens of thousands of protesters, including more than 100 GW undergraduates, law students and professors, peacefully gathered on a soggy, muddy National Mall Saturday to voice their opposition to a possible U.S. war with Iraq.

The demonstration, organized chiefly by International Act Now to Stop War and Racism, a coalition of anti-war groups, drew nearly 100,000 people from all over the country, according to organizers' estimates. The D.C. rally and subsequent march around the White House coincided with smaller marches in San Francisco and several foreign capitals.

GW student groups, including Students Against War in Iraq and the Muslim Student Association, endorsed the protest. Members said they disapproved of how the White House is handling the Iraq situation, noting the administration is "rushing to war."

"I'm opposing the doctrine of a preemptive strike and Bush's foreign policy in the Middle East," said sophomore Micha Sogut, a Students Against War in Iraq member. "This is a new form of imperialism."

Some students expressed dismay that their views have not been given proportional coverage and saw protesting en masse as a way of making their opinions heard.

"The majority of Americans aren't for this war, but might not be very vocal," MSA President Amna Arshad said. "These kinds of events provide a voice for people."

Activists of all ages showed up for the rally, some of whom protested the war in Vietnam 30 years ago. Attendees included peace advocates, labor unions, socialist groups, Palestinian rights supporters, veterans and a number of religious organizations.

Some held signs reading

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photos by Andrew Snow/photo editor
Above: Sherry Wolf, from Chicago Ill., yells slogans trying to prevent the war on Iraq with the International Socialist Organization, which brought 700 people to the anti-war rally. Right: Chenaya Micbourne, 10, from Berkeley Springs, W.V., takes a break from the anti-war rally to reflect by the Vietnam Memorial.



Alcohol-related hospital visits up

by Rachel Gould
Senior Staff Writer

Alcohol-related student hospitalizations have almost doubled from this time last year, with at least 28 so far this fall, University officials report. Up from 16 last year, the incidents are divided evenly between freshmen and upperclassmen, with a majority of female students reported.

GW officials attribute a rise in student hospitalizations for alcohol-related incidents to an expanded effort to increase alcohol awareness on campus and the necessity to report potentially dangerous situations.

"This year we have noticed that students are calling in for their friends (to be taken to the hospital)," said Brian Hamluk,

director of the Center for Alcohol and other Drug Education. "When students are recognizing when their friends have had too much to drink, that's a good thing."

Students needing medical attention for alcohol consumption are automatically taken to the GW Hospital.

Hospitalizations for alcohol (as of Oct. 24)	
2002	28
2001	16

source: CADE

Hamluk has been working on an alcohol awareness campaign since he came to the University two and a half years ago. He said more students have reported friends' severe intoxication to their community facilitators and Emerg this year.

Students taken to the hospital must be "visibly intoxicated," Hamluk said. Extent of intoxication is determined by the person who initially reports the incident

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Senators discuss impeachment

■ Robinson "perplexed" at allegations of financial misconduct
by Mosheh Oinounou
News Managing Editor

Student Association senators are investigating alleged finance violations by SA President Phil Robinson that could be grounds for impeachment. Robinson said he is "perplexed" by the Senate's actions concerning a \$200 expenditure, for which a form lacked proper signatures.

The Expenditure Authorization Form was for a May dinner at the University Club with Presidential Administrative Fellows, Robinson said. While EAFs usually require a signature by the SA vice president for financial affairs, the specific form lacked the date and then-VPFA Julia Leikin's signature.

Senate Finance Committee Chair Dan Moss (U-SBPM) said his

committee is still investigating the form they found last week. He said the missing signature could be a violation of a Senate bylaw that states that any expenditure not approved by the VPFA is an "offense against the student body."

According to the senate constitution, violations of financial affairs bylaws can be grounds for impeachment.

Moss called the allegations "serious" but said any decision to begin impeachment proceedings has to be by unanimous committee consent.

Sen. J.P. Blackford (G-SEAS) also said the form "violated bylaws." However, Robinson said the VPFA is responsible for signing the form and disagreed that he violated any bylaws.

"I can't be responsible for someone who didn't do their job," Robinson said, noting that EAFs commonly lack signatures.

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Greeks compete for title

■ Phi Sigma Sigma, Sigma Phi Epsilon take top honors
by Jessica Nevin
Hatchet Reporter

More than 500 members of the Greek-letter community competed in Greek Week festivities last week, pitting the 11 recognized fraternities and eight sororities against each other in athletic and dramatic competitions.

Phi Sigma Sigma and Sigma Phi Epsilon won the category of overall best sorority and fraternity, respectively. Kappa Sigma member senior Jon Roberts won the title Greek God, while Sigma Delta Tau member junior Erica Sztabnik was crowned Greek Goddess.

"All of our sisters are excited to win for the fifth year in a row. It's a real privilege to have the opportunity to participate with the entire Greek community and to be the winners," Phi Sigma Sigma President Fiona Conroy

said. Members packed the J Street dining area last Wednesday for a date auction and the Greek God/Goddess competition. Music, laughter and vocal support for members of the Greek-letter organizations created the atmosphere of the event.

Men and women auctioned themselves off to the highest bidder to raise money for charities. Bids ranged from \$55 to \$225,

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Andrew Snow/photo editor

STILL POPULAR
GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg welcomes former Vice President Al Gore to the stage in Ross Hall Thursday. See story, p. 2.

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