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CLLC ousts honors floor

by Amanda Mantone
News Assistant

The only sophomores living in New Hall next year are those with disabilities or who bought their way in, Housing Services said. GW told 40 Honors Program students Tuesday night they may not live in New Hall rooms.

Officials disagree why the students, all sophomores, are being moved across campus to the Dakota.

Housing Services Director Andrew Sonn said the Honors Program failed to provide his department with the class standing of students who applied for the New Hall Honors living and learning community.

But Honors Program Director Peter Rollberg said, "The Honors Program did everything we were supposed to in this housing lottery. It is certainly not the Honors Program that is to blame for this sudden crisis."

"Whoever is responsible for this has hurt a lot of students very deeply," Rollberg added.

All 50 students who signed up for the living program received notification in January from CLLC and the Honors Program that they would have New Hall rooms if they signed up by February. They were notified in a Feb. 8 e-mail that they were approved, and the list of students went to Housing Services.

Sonn said the move resulted from "miscommunication" between Housing Services and the Honors Program. He said sophomores are prohibited from living in New Hall under CLLC policy. He declined to comment on the exemption available to sophomores who purchase lottery numbers to select New Hall rooms at Martha's Marathon.

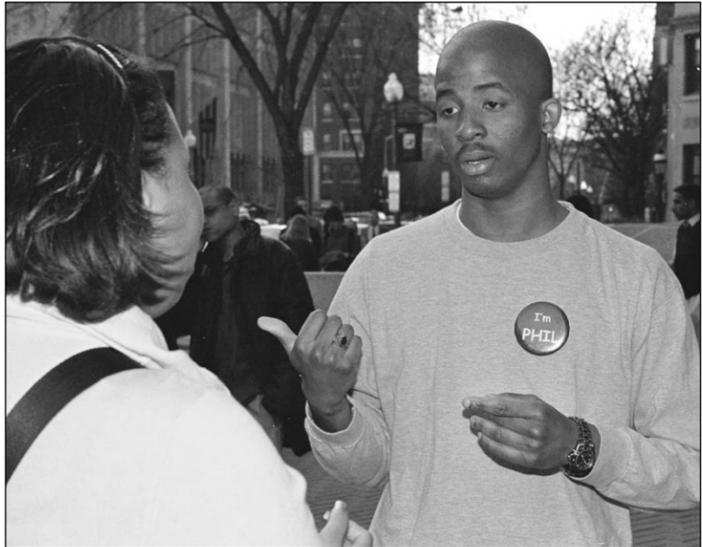
Both Housing Services and

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photos by Joe Gidjunis/Hatchet staff photographer

Top: Staff and supporters surround SA presidential candidate Josh Singer.



Bottom: Phillip Robinson, SA presidential candidate, chats with student Ariel Pennick outside the Marvin Center Tuesday afternoon.

Vote runs smoothly Pollsters report minor computer glitches

by Russ Rizzo and Joe Gidjunis
Hatchet Staff Writers

The votes are half in.

Day one of GW's first-ever online Student Association election went smoothly despite a few snags, pollsters reported Wednesday. At least three voting stations went down for a total of three hours, and the GW Law School ran out of paper ballots twice throughout the day.

Joint Elections Committee officials, who monitor the elections, said they have not tabulated who is ahead in the races. Winners will be announced at about midnight Thursday at J Street.

With 1,176 students voting in the SA race so far, the only standout has been the Law School vote. JEC members said 183 students filled out ballots at the Law

School polling station - more than three times last year's total turnout of 50. The Student Bar Association endorsed SA presidential candidate Phil Robinson.

Robinson will answer for more campaign violations Friday for a student group press release the GWBlitz posted on its Web site.

The Out Crowd, a newly formed gay pride group, sent a release that supported Robinson and criticized presidential candidate Josh Singer in a way he claimed was "unfair," which the GWBlitz posted Sunday. An unknown person then e-mailed the article to selected student groups, for which Singer's campaign manager filed complaints.

The incidents could lead to more violations for Robinson, who said he had no

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CNN moves to campus

by Drew Wiseman
Senior Staff Writer

CNN's "Crossfire" will call GW home beginning April 1, when the political talk show will begin broadcasting daily from the Media and Public Affairs building, GW announced Wednesday.

Vice President for Communications Mike Freedman said University and CNN officials signed a contract Tuesday night that is renewable for up to six years. The deal will give CNN use of the MPA Jack Morton Auditorium for about four hours Monday through Friday throughout the year.

Besides having a new home, the show has a new look and length. CNN announced Wednesday that the network will add an extra half hour to "Crossfire" and replace six-year host Bill Press with democratic political strategists James Carville and Paul Begala.

The show will now be an hour long, beginning at 7 p.m. instead of 7:30, and Press will work for CNN as a contributor, according to CNN.

Freedman said the move took more than a "single phone call" and is "the result of years of nurturing a very good relationship between the two entities."

Freedman said last Friday the two sides were "talking" about moving "Crossfire" to campus, but that he had no idea when, or if, an agreement would be reached. By Wednesday GW had posted a news alert on its Web site that the deal was signed.

"Crossfire" has been broadcast from GW's campus on six different occasions since 1993, bringing guests such as Rep. Dick Gephardt (D-Mo.) and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.).

Freedman said two weeks of "Crossfire" broadcasts from campus following Sept. 11 were an "audition" for the University, and the shows went very well.

"It was quite an extraordinary couple of weeks, and it proved somewhat therapeutic for our campus," he said. "No other university had that opportunity or seized the moment to thrust itself into a global spotlight."

Besides "Crossfire," GW has other connections with CNN, including talk show host Larry King, who donated \$1 million to the School of Media and Public Affairs, and former "Late Edition" panelist Steve

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Grant Wernick/senior photo editor

CNN's Tucker Carlson greets students during a 'Crossfire' intermission while the show was filmed in GW's MPA auditorium following Sept. 11.

Emergency systems fail in New Hall outage

by Trevor Martin
News Assistant

An hour-long power outage in New Hall Tuesday night trapped one student in an elevator and left other residents in the dark and dependent on laptop computers for work. University Police responded to the scene to escort students after emergency lights and call boxes failed to work.

A student was trapped for about 20 minutes in an elevator between the third and fourth floors with no way to call for help, because the emergency call box did not work, GW officials said.

D.C. Fire Department spokesman Alan lack of preparedness in the residence hall.

Etter said there usually is some way for a person trapped in an elevator to contact the authorities.

"It is interesting they did not call the fire department," Etter said.

Student Association President Roger Kapoor, who was at New Hall during the power outage, said he was dissatisfied with the faulty emergency lighting and what he called a

Lights out in New Hall

7 p.m. - Electric workers deactivate feeder for repair

10 p.m. - Second electric feeder malfunctions

10:50 p.m. - Power restored

Peller said residence halls have emergency

lights that are supposed to illuminate when a blackout occurs.

"We try to make it so there is at least enough lighting so you can see your way down the hallway," he said. "We are aware the building was completely black. That was not good."

Students gathered candles and flashlights to light rooms and navigate the H Street residence hall without exit lights.

Dobkin said the blackout was caused when two power feeders that supply the area with electricity went down.

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