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Arrests mark protests

■ GW students among 654 arrested at weekend demonstrations

by Alex Kingsbury
Metro Editor

Metropolitan Police arrested at least 654 people, including at least 10 GW students, during a weekend which saw heavy police presence and fewer demonstrators than expected for the International Monetary Fund and World Bank meetings. Protesters, who planned to shut down the city, supported issues like debt relief for Third World countries, global justice and fair trade.

Students from GW and across the nation were among the throngs of screaming demonstrators that rallied and marched through the capital, decrying the international lending policies of the IMF and World Bank. Police reported that only one protester was slightly injured.

"I think that what we are doing here is important," said Derrik Hanson, a Miami native who came to Washington to try to shut down the IMF meetings. "We may not have prevented these meetings from happening, but at least people are hearing our message and paying attention. There could have been more people out here, but I am happy to see so many."

Protesters and police clashed after demonstrators smashed the window of a Farragut Square

See PROTESTS, p. 10

photos by Andrew Snow/photo editor
An anarchist tosses a Washington Blade newspaper stand into the middle of 12th and F streets Friday morning. While turnout was less than expected, MPD was out in full force during the weekend.

On the street: a protester's story

by Elizabeth Brown
Executive Editor

Fordham University junior Sarah Jensen has permanent marker all over her left arm. Written in thick black ink is a ten-digit number. It takes up almost her entire forearm.

"This is the legal number," she says at about 9 a.m., heading toward Freedom Plaza. "If we get arrested, we call this number. Because when you are arrested they take everything off and they can't take it off you if it is written on your arm."

Two of Jensen's friends have already been arrested,

at the Citibank building on MacArthur Boulevard earlier in the day. After someone threw a brick through a window, police started arresting demonstrators.

Jensen says she barely escaped. She saw someone with a press pass, grabbed on and squeezed out.

Jensen and five other Fordham students drove to D.C. from New

"If we don't go and protest, then the terrorists have already won."

—Sarah Jensen
Fordham junior

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Police arrest demonstrators on 12th Street Friday for protesting without a permit.

SSN use puts students at risk

by Joseph Gidjunis
Senior Staff Writer

Universities that use Social Security numbers as identification could be baiting thieves to steal students' identities, security experts say.

Identity theft, a crime in which an imposter obtains information such as a Social Security number to

obtain credit or services in the name of the victim, is becoming an "epidemic" said Linda Foley, executive director and founder of the identity theft resource center in San Diego.

"Students are so busy with books and laptops that they forget to keep their eye on anything

See SECURITY, p. 11

Steps to protect your SSN

- Only use it on required documents such as tax forms, employment records and most banking transactions.
- If the SSN is requested by a government agency, look for the Privacy Act notice.
- Do not print your SSN on checks. It is too easily available to people who may want to gain access to your financial accounts.
- If your driver's license number is your SSN such as in D.C., ask to use an alternate number.
- Be persistent and assertive about its protection.
- Do not carry your SSN in your wallet.
- Remove other cards that contain your SSN.
- Do not give out your SSN unless you are convinced it is required or is to your benefit. Make people show you why it is needed.

Source: Privacyrights.org

'Crossfire' hits half-year mark

■ CNN show continues to garner student interest, high ratings

by Mosheh Oinounou
News Managing Editor

They are still doing it every night. Both partners are still interested and the kids are happy. The unprecedented marriage between CNN and GW is thriving. CNN's "Crossfire" hosts have said "The George Washington University" more than 350 times to an international audience and more than 21,000 individuals have watched a live taping in the Jack Morton Auditorium since the show made the university its permanent home April 1.

Almost six months since "Crossfire" arrived on campus, CNN producers "couldn't be happier," university officials are boasting. GW students are still interning and filling the seats for the nightly, rowdy exhibition of political punditry.



Joe Gidjunis/Hatchet staff photographer
CNN's 'Crossfire' has entertained more than 21,000 audience members since April. Producers hope to install in-studio voting devices.

High-fives all around
"There isn't another university that can come close to what we're doing here," said Mike

Freedman, vice president for communications. Freedman added

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