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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2002

Drug arrests increase

■ SJS reports student drug-related evictions triple since last year

by Michael Barnett
Hatchet Reporter

Three times as many students have been evicted this year from University housing for drug possession compared to about this time last year.

Twelve individuals have lost housing for drug violations as of last week, while four students were evicted by the first week of October last year, Student Judicial Services Director Rebecca Sawyer said.

University Police officials are unsure as to what has caused the increase in drug violations, noting there has been no drug crack-down recently.

"There hasn't been an increase in the number of patrols in residence halls," UPD Chief Dolores Stafford said.

She said officers patrol residence halls "regularly," meaning three times every eight hours.

Stafford also said the increase in arrests might not be related to increased drug use on campus.

"I don't know if more students are smoking marijuana or if a small number of students are just smoking it more often, but based on the number of incidents we have been involved in this semester, it appears that students are smoking marijuana more frequently in University buildings," she said.

See DRUGS, p. 8



Jeff Baum/Hatchet photographer

Sophomores Mariah Amit and Shawn Sukumar peruse the selection of jewelry and crafts at the Farmer's Market in Kogan Plaza Wednesday.

Getting fresh

Hundreds of students, faculty and Foggy Bottom residents descended upon Kogan Plaza to enjoy an array of vegetables, fruits and hand made goods at the Farmer's Market Wednesday. Organizer Josh Singer called the turnout "unbelievable," hailing the event as a "great success."

Singer added that most of the vendors did well at the market, peddling their goods to eager customers. University officials, including GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg and Vice President for Government Relations Richard

Sawaya, passed through the plaza.

Vice President for Student and Academic Support Services Robert Chernak was spotted buying a raisin loaf, Singer said.

Most of the vendors will be asked to come back for the next Farmer's Market, which Singer hopes can take place in mid-November.

"This was an event that brought the community together," Singer said. "It was great to see students and Foggy Bottom residents coming together."

—Michael Barnett

GW cuts study abroad options

■ University to accept only affiliated program credits

by Julie Gordon and Brian Weiss
Hatchet Reporters

Study abroad officials said this week that GW will stop accepting academic credit from programs unaffiliated with the University next fall.

Encouraging students to use GW-affiliated study abroad programs will ensure "academic quality" for students, Study Abroad Director Lynn Leonard said. She added that the office plans to add

options to current affiliated programs to compensate for the loss of the non-affiliated programs.

Leonard said students will still be able to petition individually to have specific programs accepted for credit, but noted that there will be strict academic regulations.

Students are currently eligible to receive credit when they study abroad with one of about 60 GW-affiliated programs and more than 5,000 organizations that have no ties to the University.

Leonard said improving the academic quality of study abroad programs fueled the office's decision to change its system.

See ABROAD, p. 17

Freshman hit by MPD cruiser

by Mosheh Oinounou
News Managing Editor

A Metropolitan Police cruiser struck a female freshman while she was crossing 23rd Street near Hillel Tuesday night at about 10:25 p.m. The Hall on Virginia Avenue resident, who was taken to GW Hospital by ambulance, received a few stitches above her left eye and a cut on her leg but was still awaiting additional X-rays Wednesday night, friends said.

Police said the pedestrian, who was unavailable for comment from the night of the accident to press time, was crossing the street outside of the crosswalk and against the light when the MPD

cruiser hit her in the southbound lane of 23rd Street about 10 feet from the curb.

The passenger's side mirror was hanging from the MPD car and one of the student's sandals was still under the vehicle when it stopped two feet past the crosswalk.

MPD officials determined that the car had been traveling slower than the speed limit because they did not see "skid marks."

"We are doing an investigation ... all that counts is that she was conscious and breathing when we got here," MPD Sgt. David Parrish said at the scene.

See ACCIDENT, p. 18

TGI Friday's accepts Debit Dollars

■ GW and local restaurant to resolve outstanding debts

by Sarah Levin
Hatchet Reporter

T.G.I Friday's resumed accepting Debit Dollars on Tuesday and is negotiating with the University over \$7,000 in lost revenue.

Friday's stopped accepting Debit Dollars at the end of last

semester when the restaurant's Debit Dollars machine broke, but now General Manager John Faison said the machine is working and the University has pledged to assist Friday's in recovering some \$7,000 in estimated losses from the summer.

"Right now, I'm confident (University officials) will do what they need to do," Faison said.

Faison said he met with University officials soon after a Hatchet article revealed the Debit

Dollar discrepancy.

"By the time we got the machinery working, a lot of people had nothing in their accounts or the accounts no longer existed," Faison said. University policy is to not accept Debit Dollar transactions without signed receipts or electronic transactions.

Ayodele McClenney, senior project manager for Auxiliary

See FRIDAYS, p. 17

Police warn children, students

The District remains on high alert following a warning by the sniper that area children "are not safe anywhere, at any time." Precautions taken by public schools include holding recess inside and canceling afterschool activities.

"We are monitoring the situation and working with local authorities," University spokesman Bob

Ludwig said. "We are updating students with information as quickly as possible."

Ludwig said students should continue to be vigilant, watching for suspicious activity and staying informed by watching the news.

Police continue to search for the Beltway Sniper who has shot 13 and killed 10 people in three weeks of random attacks in Maryland, Virginia and the District. More than 1,000 federal authorities have joined local police in the investigation,

according to NBC 4.

GW remains in a heightened state of alert, according to University Police Director Dolores Stafford.

"We are patrolling the campus as frequently as possible, looking out for any suspicious persons," Stafford said. "Obviously this is a difficult case; that's why local law enforcement is having a difficult time."

—Michael Barnett and Alex Kingsbury



Jeff Baum/Hatchet photographer

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Afghanistan Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah talks to a packed MPA audience Monday. See story, p. 6.

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