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Alex Kingsbury/Hatchet photographer

Sophomore Brian Becker belts out a song during Emocapella's holiday concert in December in the Marvin Center Grand Ballroom. The 13-member troupe is the nation's only emo a cappella group.

A cappella group rocks campus

■ Doo-wop and punk influence sound of Emocapella
by Matt Windman
Hatchet Staff Writer

With their staple style of hooded sweatshirts and sneakers, the members of GW's newest a cappella group, Emocapella, do not take themselves too seriously. But these days, to their surprise, everyone around them seems to.

Emocapella has gained national status for their innovative vocals, becoming the first college a cappella group to sing solely "emo" music. The group was featured in the Dec. 13 issue of Entertainment Weekly and is set to appear in three other national publications in coming months.

"We're definitely more funny," said junior member Dave Shapanka. "We go for entertaining people."

The group is scheduled to appear in Blender magazine in March, Spin magazine in April and Rolling Stone in the next few weeks.

"We're all very excited. We never expected to get this far," junior Ted Blumenthal said. "It was amazing - we were just a group of kids having a good time and all of sudden they wanted to advertise our innovative idea."

Emo music, an off-shoot of punk rock, can be described as a fusion of doo-wop and punk. Mix emo music and style with complex harmonies and vocal percussion, and the result is Emocapella.

"Emo refers to emotional punk rock," said freshman singer Marc Berenson. "It's that sort of 'my girlfriend has broken up with me' music. We also think of it as guerilla a cappella."

The group cites musical influences from such bands as Jimmy Eat World, Flogging Molly and Saves the Day, as well hip-hop

artists such as Biz Markie and Dr. Dre, Blumenthal said.

"Most of the group didn't even know about this type of music until they actually joined the group," Blumenthal said.

The only all-male a cappella group on campus, Emocapella is made up of 13 undergraduates who meet twice a week to practice.

"While the other a cappella groups on campus do more traditional songs, we focus more on punk music," said sophomore member Brian Becker.

The group chooses songs by emo artists and writes arrangements to accommodate the members' vocal abilities.

"In addition (to) other things, we make guitar sounds with our voice," Blumenthal said.

Juniors Eric Denman and Dan Reisser created Emocapella in fall 2001, when the group was able to perform only two songs.

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GW, neighbors hit ESIA snag

by Emily Green
Hatchet Reporter

As crews put the finishing touches on the new Elliott School, some Foggy Bottom residents testified GW should not be allowed to occupy the building at a Zoning Commission hearing Tuesday.

The main dispute revolves around a homeless feeding program GW offered the community as part of an amenities package the University was required to compile last year.

The West End Citizens Association, an area advocacy group, said GW failed to pay the \$100,000 required by the Board of Zoning Adjustment as a condition for occupancy of the 1957 E St. facility. Under the zoning order, GW is required to pay a total of \$500,000 to a joint GW-West End Foundation in \$100,000 yearly installments.

General Counsel Charles Barber, representing GW, said the foundation was supposed to

"establish its own feeding program or identify an alternative source," but has failed to do so.

"When we saw the (Aug. 6 due) date approaching ... we asked the foundation to identify an alternate source, but they refused," Barber said. "We had no options. We gave the money to Riggs Bank, where it is currently earning interest."

He said he wrote the foundation a letter in August, requesting the name of a program, but did not receive a response.

The money is currently being held under GW's control.

WECA members said GW's monetary commitment was due in August and they want GW to be fined for lack of fulfillment of the order because the feeding program is important to the Foggy Bottom community.

"(The \$100,000) is important money to do good for other people," WECA board member Sarah

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GW touts new lab printing fees

by Julie Gordon
University Editor

University officials call the semester-old printing fee in most campus computer labs "a success" so far in combating wasted paper and toner. The Center for Academic Technologies saw almost 200,000 fewer pages printed compared to last fall, and Gelman Library has also significantly cut down its pages printed.

Officials said the University currently plans to keep the printing fee in place for at least the next two years, and it will most likely continue a pay-for-print model in the future.

"It's a big change. There are no

huge stacks of wasted paper," said William Mayer, assistant University librarian for information technology.

During the week of Sept. 3, before the Gelman Library started charging 7 cents per page, users printed about 30,000 sheets of

CATS lab printing	
Fall 2002	838,425
Spring 2002	1,330,833
Fall 2001	1,028,742

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Protesters to hit D.C.

■ "Pre-emptive protest" planned for Saturday
by Alex Kingsbury
Metro Editor

Tens of thousands of demonstrators from across the country are expected in the District this weekend protesting a possible war with Iraq.

Organizers said the "National March on Washington," scheduled for Saturday, will join the anti-war movement with the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. King's birthday is Jan. 15, celebrated as a federal holiday this year on Monday, Jan. 20.

"Martin Luther King took a strong stance against the war in Vietnam and fought for the same principles of health care and education that we stand for," said Eleiza Braun, a campus organizer for the demonstrations.

Braun said the protest will focus on the government's decision to place military budget allocations ahead of health care and social service needs.

The demonstration is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. at the west side of the Capitol Building on the Mall at Constitution and Third streets. Following the rally, protesters said they plan to march to the Washington Naval Yard in Southeast, where they will call for the elimination of all U.S. weapons of mass destruction.

"We are going to be marching through the neighborhoods (in Southeast) of those most effected by the war," said Braun. She said working class neighborhoods will be hardest hit if social services are limited by a war.

University security officials said no additional security measures are being taken because the demonstrations are

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Courtesy "Washington's Expansion Senators (1961-1971)"

PLAY BALL!
The Washington Senators take the field in 1971. After a three-decade hiatus, Major League Baseball may soon return to the capital. See story, p. 17.

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