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Andrew Snow/photo editor

Campaign teams for Student Association and Program Board candidates hang posters in front of J Street Friday despite thunderstorms that left soaked posters on the ground hours later.

Candidates vie for publicity

by Matt Windman
Hatchet Staff Writer

More than 100 student leadership candidates and campaign volunteers hung posters outside four campus buildings in pouring rain Friday afternoon, kicking off the publicity blitz before this week's election.

Unlike past years, when campaigners staked out locations for hours prior to hanging time, students were not allowed to go near the locations until one hour before the official poster hanging period began. Student Association, Program Board and Marvin Center Governing Board candidates posted outside the Marvin

Center, Fungler Hall, the Academic Center and Monroe Hall.

"Last year, no loitering rule existed, leaving many volunteers sleeping outside the night before," said sophomore Mark Dexter, a Joint Election Committee member. "Some students were loitering around before five and did not move. As a result, charges have been brought up on certain candidates."

Several candidates from the eight-person SA presidential and six-person executive vice presidential fields arrived with dozens of volunteers, packing the Marvin Center H Street terrace.

Complaints regarding loitering and premature distribution of

campaign materials were filed against three presidential candidates, Kris Hart, Jon McDaniel and Steve Sobel, but the JEC has yet to rule on the counts against Sobel and Hart. Two of McDaniel's counts have been dismissed, with three complaints pending.

If candidates garner eight violations they are kicked out of the race.

Elections are set for Wednesday and Thursday and a probable runoff is scheduled for March 6 and 7. A presidential and vice presidential candidate need to garner 40 percent of the vote to

See SA, p. 17

SA exec joins trimester team

Robinson appointed as second student on calendar committee

by Thane Tuttle
Hatchet Reporter

University President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg appointed Student Association President Phil Robinson to a committee investigating alternative academic calendars, including a trimester system, last week. The move comes in response to the SA's petition for more student representation on the advisory committee, which previously included only one student.

The exploratory committee, called the "Alternative Academic Calendar Committee," will evalu-

ate the impact of Trachtenberg's proposed trimester system on GW students, faculty and staff.

Robinson was appointed "ex officio," meaning he can sit in on meetings and express his concerns but cannot vote in the final determination process. Senior Amanda Mintzer has been sitting on the committee, comprised of faculty, staff and administrators, since it was initiated earlier this month.

"I appreciate President Trachtenberg making me a member of the committee," Robinson said. "(Mintzer) is doing an excellent job, and I hope to be able to

give the committee a lot of input myself."

Robinson said he approached Trachtenberg about the lack of student influence on the trimester committee after students expressed their concerns about the system to the SA.

"I don't think a lot of students know what to think (about trimesters)," Robinson said. "Many are a little hesitant. But right now I just want to learn as much as possible (about the proposals)."

Trachtenberg said that while Robinson is entering the process late, he can still have an influence on the findings of the committee.

"He's joining too late (to know everything that is going on),"

See TRIMESTER, p. 7



Phil Robinson

Officials expect tuition increase

University to unveil 2003-2004 budget to students Thursday

by Michael Barnett
Hatchet Staff Writer

University President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg will announce next year's proposed tuition increase and budget at a student leaders meeting Thursday before presenting it to the Board of Trustees Friday.

The Board of Trustees, a GW governing body comprised of 37 members who approve University policy, must approve the proposal.

Trachtenberg said students should expect an increase, which will be as "normative as possible" with "no grand surprises," but declined to release specific details before the meeting.

"(Is there) going to be a raise? Do lions eat meat?" he said.

Last year the University saw a 4.9 percent increase, raising tuition and fees to \$27,820. If GW sees the same raise as last year, tuition and fees will total \$29,183.

The average tuition for a four-year private university is \$18,273, according to the College Board. GW's total package, including room and board, with a 4.9 increase would be \$38,293 for next year.

Multicultural organization and Student Association leaders, Hatchet editors and other campus leaders are invited to the meeting to get an update on University initiatives for 2003-2004. Several administrators, including Trachtenberg and Robert Chernak, senior vice president for student and academic support services, are also set to attend.

The Board of Trustees meeting is set for 2 p.m. Friday in the

See TUITION, p. 7

Housing dates still uncertain

by Michael Barnett
Hatchet Staff Writer

University administrators are no longer resolute about when students will choose housing for next year because of the recent federal appeals court decision reaffirming city zoning requirements on GW.

Officials said Friday they have yet to confirm dates when students can fill out their Intent-to-Return forms and participate in the housing lottery.

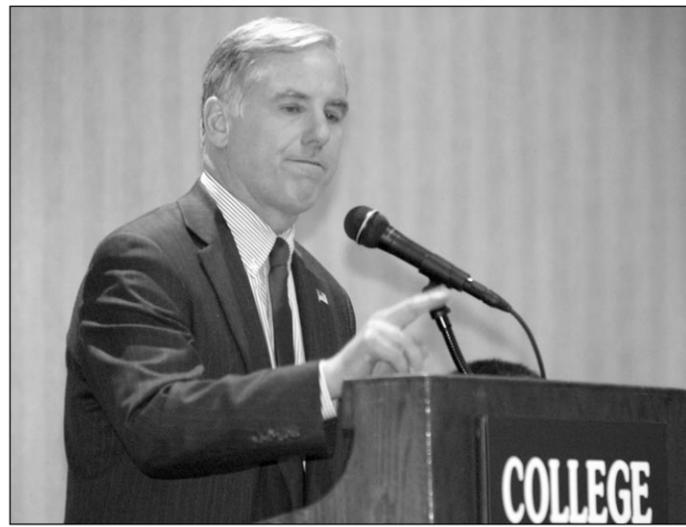
Director of Housing Services Andrew Sonn said that in light of the recent U.S. Court of Appeals order regarding GW's undergrad-

uate housing requirements, officials are still discussing the ITR release dates. He said in a Jan. 23 Hatchet article that the University had pushed back the lottery to March 30 and April 6.

Students receive housing lottery numbers after completing ITR forms online, which informs the University how many students will be living on campus for the upcoming year. Student filled out ITRs in early February last year and chose housing the last week of February.

"Since the court order touches on many elements of campus

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Jeff Baum/Hatchet photographer

DEAN'S LIST
Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean speaks at the national College Democrats convention at the Capitol Hyatt Regency Friday. See story at www.GWHATCHET.COM.

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