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Andrew Snow/photo editor

Demonstrators splash and dance in the Freedom Plaza fountain at the anti-war protests Saturday.

Protests attract thousands

by Alex Kingsbury and Liz Roth
Hatchet Reporters

War demonstrators flocked to the streets of the city this weekend to peacefully demonstrate for and against U.S. intervention in Iraq.

The demonstrations coincided with the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, meetings that traditionally draw anti-globalization protesters. But the majority of the marches, speeches and activism Saturday and Sunday addressed the war.

The "Rally for the Troops, Rally

for America," hosted by radio talk show host G. Gordon Liddy, was staged on the steps of the Capitol, drawing Bush supporters in a sea of American flags and patriotic speakers.

In Freedom Plaza at 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, anti-war demonstrators met, heard speakers, danced in fountains and beat drums.

Perhaps as many as 5,000 rallied against the war, marching along a police-lined parade route winding through the city north of the White House. The Washington Post reported police arrested three demonstrators along the parade

route Saturday, two for assault on an officer and one for failure to obey officers' orders. No arrests had been reported Sunday by press time.

"We have permitted a war of aggression," said former attorney general Ramsey Clark, addressing the anti-war crowd. "Travel the world and see what people think of the United States."

Demonstrators marched, carrying signs and puppets through the streets, chanting the familiar refrain of anti-war marches, "Whose streets? Our streets."

The rhetoric of the anti-war

See PROTEST, p. 6

D.C. rep struggles for votes

by Michael Barnett
Senior Staff Writer

For millions of Americans, the Capitol building is a beacon of freedom, the epitome of liberty and equality. Yet, for District residents, this domed edifice represents the unattainable – and just another building they pass on their way to work.

D.C. residents, burdened with the same responsibilities as every American citizen, are unique in that they do not have voting representation in a building many can see from their homes.

Congressional Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.), the District's representative, has fought to change the status quo for her constituents. This year she

introduced a bill granting District residents full voting representation in Congress with the creation of two seats in the Senate and one in the House. The measure is unlikely to pass.



The complete lack of representation in the Senate also limits D.C. citizens' influence in Congress. District residents are also the only Americans subject to federal taxation who are not represented in Congress.

Like a decimated army struggling to battle after a series of defeats, voting rights advocates are having a difficult time galvanizing resident support.

"I think D.C. residents live with the outrages of voting representation daily," said Ilir Zherka, executive director of D.C. Vote, an organization aggressively campaigning for the passage of Norton's bill. "I think most D.C. residents are just tired. They're tired of thinking about and dealing with these issues."

Loree Murray, 82, a resident of northeast D.C., has been fighting in vain for voting rights since she graduated from high school in 1939.

See VOTING, p. 13

GW considers summer term

Task force investigates mandatory summer, four-class calendars

by Rachel Gould and Mosheh Oinounou
News Editors

Students will be required to attend a summer session between their sophomore and junior years if the administration approves a suggestion from a University task force studying different academic calendars.

The task force, the Alternative Academic Calendar Committee, is also researching a switch to a four-by-four system in which students would take four classes at four credits each instead of the current five-class, three-credit system. The committee is expected to present its findings to the Board of Trustees, which must approve any

significant policy changes, next month.

In the latest developments in a discussion that began when GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg called for a committee to look into the viability of a trimester system, committee chair Charles Karelis announced Friday the group will no longer consider an optional summer session.

Committee members also said they were heavily leaning toward switching credit hours to a four-by-four system to help alleviate an on-campus classroom shortage (see "University faces classroom crunch," below).

Senior Amanda Mintzer, one of two student committee members, noted the four-by-four system will reduce the amount of classroom space needed by 20 percent. She added the committee

See SUMMER, p. 12

University faces classroom crunch

by Rachel Gould
Student Life Editor

The University is experiencing an acute classroom shortage, according to a report released to faculty leaders Friday. An exploding undergraduate population, coupled with city regulations limiting non-residential building, is leading administrators to consider scheduling classes during non-traditional times and other changes.

Despite a "building boom," the number of classrooms available in the next few years will decline by 21 percent because of planned renovations and construction, according to the report,

presented to the Faculty Senate.

The proposed academic budget for next year details the number of classrooms available as a growing concern, noting undergraduate enrollment has grown 46 percent in the past five years, with the number of course sections rising by only 24 percent.

While GW facilities have met this need in the past, planned construction next spring will eliminate classrooms in Fungler and Monroe halls and the Hall of Government, creating a scheduling crunch.

The classroom shortage and

See CLASSROOMS, p. 7



Jeff Baum/Hatchet staff photographer

HOP TO IT
Members of the Washington, D.C. Turkish Fold Troupe perform in the Marvin Center Friday as part of the 71st annual Embassy Dinner. See story, p. 2.

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