



# The GW Hatchet

AN INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER • WWW.GWHATCHET.COM

VOL. 99 No. 62

SERVING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY SINCE 1904

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2003



Jeff Baum/Hatchet staff photographer

**LET THE SUN SHINE**  
MBA student Christina Bartlett (front) and freshman Scott Figler enjoy the spring weather Wednesday on the Quad, studying and playing Frisbee as temperatures reached the mid-60's.

## Upperclassmen wait for housing

■ Housing officials find beds for rising sophomores on waiting list

by **Thane Tuttle**  
Hatchet Staff Writer

Approximately 190 rising juniors and seniors are still without housing after this year's lottery, housing officials said Wednesday. But all rising sophomores, including more than 170 who were on the waiting list after the weekend's lottery, have campus housing for next year.

Andrew Sonn, director of Housing Services, said his office is working to find beds for students currently on the waiting list. Housing officials placed rising sophomores waiting for campus housing in Madison and Mitchell halls.

"We've been down in the trenches, working this out," Sonn said. "We managed to get about 50 beds from pull-ins in mixed class halls who didn't accept their assignments. The rest will come from beds being held for transfer students."

Sonn refused to disclose the number of transfer student beds withheld from the housing lottery or how many of the beds will be assigned to non-transfer students.

"We have enough beds to accommodate both current and transfer students, as well as the (expected incoming) freshman class (of 2,400 students)," Sonn said. He said additional beds will be made available in the summer, when students move off campus or leave the University.

While Sonn was hesitant to predict how many people the summer turnover might involve, sources close to housing predicted it would yield between 150 and 200 beds.

Sonn emphasized that students remaining on the waiting list can still apply for rooms in The Gallery in Rosslyn, Va., and Columbia Plaza. While students who choose Columbia Plaza are not allowed to re-enter the guaranteed housing selection process, students living in The Gallery will remain eligible.

A two-person apartment in

See HOUSING, p. 20

## Panel postpones academic report

by **Andrea Nurko**  
Hatchet Staff Writer

A GW task force exploring a mandatory summer session and an alternative course structure will postpone its Thursday deadline to allow for further investigation. The task force will reconvene during the third week of May to establish a new deadline, said Phil Robinson, outgoing Student Association president and a member of the subcommittee on student issues.

"There's still too much information that we're compiling," Robinson said. "The committee wants to be sure we have accurate data."

Robinson said the committee

did not expect to push back its deadline but needed more time for research.

Committee chairman Charles Karelis told The Hatchet last week that a report, outlining the pros and cons of the possibilities of a summer session and a new type of credit system, would be submitted to the administration May 1.

A summer session would mandate all students take a full course load in between their sophomore and junior years and then take one of the last four semesters off.

The new credit system emphasizes a switch to a four-course-per semester system, in which each

See TRIMESTER, p. 19

## Admissions numbers near 2,400-student goal

Admissions officials said the University received slightly more than 1,900 deposits for accepted freshmen as of Wednesday. Applications must be postmarked by May 1.

The University expects to enroll 2,400 first-year students, the second-largest freshman class in GW's history.

"Since the deposits only need to be postmarked by May 1, we will not have a more complete deposit count until late next week or early the following week," said Kathryn Napper, director of Admissions. "At this point, we do expect to enroll a freshman class of 2,400."

Although the University acquired City Hall and a portion of the Pennsylvania House when GW accepted its largest class two years ago — at more than 2,500 students — administrators said they planned their yield rate to get a class of no more than 2,400 freshmen.

Andrew Sonn, director of Housing Services, said there is "ample" housing for the incoming class, noting that 480 first-year students will be housed on the Mount Vernon Campus, with the rest on Foggy Bottom.

"We're ready for the freshman class. We're well prepared for (the 2,400 projected)," Sonn said.

—Julie Gordon and Thane Tuttle

## Shooting blinds UMD female

■ GW student Kim "struggled" with breakup, victim's friend says

by **Michael Barnett**  
Hatchet Staff Writer

When University of Maryland sophomore Elizabeth Meejung Lee arrived at Washington Hospital Center Friday afternoon, doctors had little hope that she would survive through the night. Her former boyfriend, GW junior Ki-Seong Kim, shot her in the head before killing himself in a College Park parking garage.

Lee, 20, has completely lost her vision, and for most of the weekend relied on a breathing tube, but she regained consciousness over the weekend and is expected to recover, her family said Tuesday. Lee's condition was upgraded from "critical" to "good" Wednesday afternoon and she has begun to talk with her family and friends, said Elizabeth's aunt, Carolyn Lee.

"After doctors removed the breathing tube, she started to talk," said Carolyn Lee, one of many family members present at the hospital Tuesday night. "She's not quite sure where she is or why she's here, but it's a good sign that she's putting words together to make sentences."

"She may not be quite oriented yet, so we'll just have to see," she added.

"She's strong, that's why she's fighting so hard," said Jennifer Lee, also Elizabeth's aunt.

Friends and family described Lee as a quiet and gentle woman with an interest in art and classical music. She considered changing her

major from business to art history at one point, her friends said.

Carolyn Lee said Elizabeth taught a Sunday school class for kindergarten students at her church, the First Korean Presbyterian Church of Washington in Rockville, Md.

Karen Kyungmi Min, a Maryland sophomore and friend of Lee's since middle school, said Elizabeth met Kim, 21, while doing community service at

church.

"I would always see them a lot together, and they were very happy," Min said. "They were always laughing nonstop and were always excited to see each other."

Min said Kim and Lee had a three-year relationship that ended in late March when Lee told Kim she didn't want to see him anymore.

"At that point, she was really mad and very angered and didn't want to speak with him," Min said. "She was upset about it, but she tried not to express it in front of me."

In the days following the breakup, said Kim would follow Elizabeth between classes and would constantly call her cell

phone. Min said Kim had a copy of his ex-girlfriend's class schedule and would appear unannounced as she walked to and from classes.

Min also said Lee asked her to accompany her to her car out of fear that Kim would be waiting for her in the parking lot.

But after several weeks, Kim ceased this behavior, leading Min to believe he had gotten over the breakup.

"In the beginning, he struggled with the breakup," Min said. "But after a couple of weeks, (Elizabeth) didn't mention anything, so I just assumed that everything was OK. She was worried, but only in the beginning."

Elizabeth's family members would not comment on the relationship but said members of Kim's family had visited her in the hospital. They also said that several of her family members attended Kim's funeral Monday.

Kim's friends said he seldom talked about his relationship with Lee and didn't exhibit any signs of emotional anguish in the weeks before the shooting.

"He's the last person I would've ever expected ... I would characterize him more as a peacemaker," sophomore Peter Hersey said.

"He mentioned his girlfriend ... we always thought it was in the past," freshman Samuel Kim said. "He was good about (the breakup), but we had no clue."

Min said although Kim was angry over the breakup, there was never any indication that he would turn violent.

"That was a big shock ... I never knew he would do anything that

See VICTIM, p. 17



Elizabeth Meejung Lee



Ki-Seong Kim

### INSIDE

**2** NEWS  
4-RIDE to expand resources, services

**5** OPINIONS  
ISS official defends GW technology record



**12** G.WEEKEND  
Inside the mind of John Malkovich

**21** SPORTS  
Baseball team celebrates 11-game winning streak

