DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ZONING COMMISSION
TESTIMONY OF NICHOLAS PHILLIP CARVER,
WASHINGTON CANOE CLUB
5 JUNE 2003

Thank you all. My name is Nicholas Carver, and I am a junior athlete at the Washington Canoe Club. Ever since the introduction of canoe/kayak as a demonstration sport to the Olympic Games in 1924, athletes from the WCC have competed [redacted] in almost every Olympiad. Today, the Washington Canoe Club has its eyes on the Beijing 2008 Summer Olympic Games, as it is nurturing its athletes through an extensive coaching program comprised of one 25-time national medalist, and two Olympians. I, along with many [redacted] other athletes benefit from their coaching. This year, the Washington Canoe Club will compete in the Southern Invitational Regatta in Georgia, the National Championships California, and finally, the American national team trials New York, where eight WCC athletes will compete for spots on the national team which will compete at the Junior World Championships in Komatsu, Japan.

As you can see, the Washington Canoe Club is full of activity, and one of those most important activities is racing. Every year, the WCC has numerous regattas on the Potomac River, and this year, the WCC will bid to host the 2004 American Sprint Canoe/Kayak National Championships right here in Washington, DC on the Potomac. However, the new 70-foot docks of the Georgetown University boathouse will completely obstruct the entire racecourse that the WCC uses. Also, the bustling activity from the GU boathouse will hamper training operations and other recreational activities for paddlers of many different clubs along the Potomac. The activity emanating from the GU docks will obstruct boat traffic as canoes and kayaks, both athletic and recreational alike, will be forced to paddle through the cross traffic of crew boats. The turbulent pandemonium of wake from these boats is dangerous to recreational paddlers, as well as being detrimental to the training of WCC athletes who have their eyes set on the Nationals, the World Championships, the Olympics, and beyond.

I am one of the eight WCC athletes that is vying for a spot on the national team next month, and many of my teammates and I share a common dream, to compete in the Olympic Games. The GU boathouse is a threat to our dreams, I ask the D.C. Zoning Commission to protect the Olympic movement right here in Washington, by halting the Georgetown project. Finally, the boathouse will be an impediment to all paddlers who use the Potomac for both recreational and sport.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-30
Exhibit 306
ZONING COMMISSION
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CASE NO.02-30
EXHIBIT NO.306