

Board Awaits Proposal On Pending GSU Appeal

By SAM BARNES

Final recommendations on the pending Gay Student Union appeal may be made to the University's Board of Visitors late this week, according to D. Alan Williams, vice president for student affairs.

The Student Affairs and Athletics Committee of the Board of Visitors will meet tomorrow to formulate appropriate recommendations for the Board.

The committee will then present its proposals at meetings to the entire Board tomorrow or Friday for approval.

Mr. Williams warned, however, that the committee and the Board may reserve the right to delay a final decision to allow further study of the case.

Sec. Raymond C. Bice, Jr. was optimistic. "I can't predict the future," Mr. Bice said, "but I think they are meeting to resolve the matter."

* Committee Conducts Hearing

The committee reportedly conducted a full hearing on Jan. 17 with representatives of the GSU, the appellants and University administrators present to answer questions of the Board. The committee then delayed its final recommendations to allow more time for review of the case, according to Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams said the delay is a normal procedure in such a hearing, and is no indication of disagreement among the committee members over a recommendation. The opponents of GSU funding from Student Activities funds previously carried their appeal to the Student Activities Committee, which upheld the

Student Council Organization and Publication Committee's original allocation of \$45.

The appellants, led by fourth-year man Bill Hurd have objected to the funding because it is "providing support to only one side of the issue" and making the University a "patron of propaganda."

Mr. Hurd maintains that the GSU is a social and political organization, and is thus ineligible for funding according to Board of Visitors regulations.

University Wrong

He also said that the University is not right in forcing students to finance political groups contrary to their personal convictions.

Mr. Hurd further maintained that the University, by financing the GSU, is becoming a "tool of social change" against the wishes of the people of Virginia.

Should the Board of Visitors uphold the Student Council allocation, Mr. Hurd said he will appeal the decision to the court. The Board is the last official administrative channel of appeal in the case.

"I really have a lot of confidence in the Board of Visitors' judgement, however, and I think they'll make the right decision," Mr. Hurd said.