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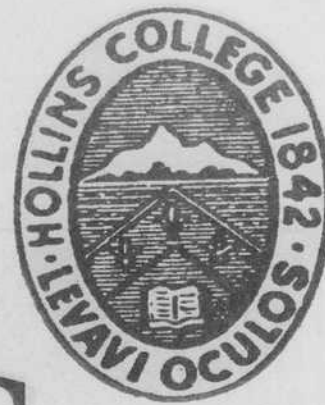
Hollins Columns (1995 Apr 25)

Hollins College

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Hollins Columns



April 25, 1995

Volume 67, Issue 11

Expand your vision, explore the tradition

by Pauline Newton

Hollins has always boasted a good number of clubs; however, at the turn of the century, sororities and other clubs attracted different groups. The Cotillion Club resembled ADA, and sponsored the event that we now call Fall Weekend. An article in the Oct. 9, 1958, *Hollins Columns* stated, "The Cotillion Club will furnish girls with blind dates. Any girl wanting a blind date must apply..." The price, according to an ad in the issue, was \$10 for the whole weekend, as opposed to \$72 for this year's package.

The Nov. 20 issue of the same year explained that the Club would sponsor an "Open House in the dorms 3:30-5 p.m. Student hostesses will be around to escort boys whose dates cannot be found. Close your door and put up a sign if you don't want to be disturbed at this time.....Sign in time is at 2 a.m." Another article, published not long after this event, announced a proposal by several students to change the curfew time to 3 a.m. The Cotillion Club, as well as Freya, also helped organize May Day, and the Senior Class Day. The members spent hours weaving the daisy chain, and after the seniors were honored, one of the sister classes "draped [the daisy chain] over the lawn in the outline of the class numerals," as explained in *The History of Hollins College*.

In addition, May Day always occurred during the same weekend as Parents' Day. Parents and students watched the skits and drank tea on the lawn; the new editions of the *Spinster* were also distributed. In 1970, Parents' Weekend replaced May Day. Other clubs did not promote social

events, but allowed members to gather for a good time. The members of the Texas Club, as advertised in the 1898 *Spinster*, drank mint juleps, their exclusive drink. Their motto

up on the Main steps. From there, we were made to parade through the small archway down to the back campus in pouring rain to the gym, where we thought 'all hell' would break loose..."

During the 1970s and '80s, many short lived traditions arose, and students included the faculty in these activities. For example, in 1985, the Four Class Party featured bands, hayrides and a huge bonfire. People danced around the fire and drank beer. In the '70s, a Happy Hour was held on Fridays, and faculty members mingled with Hollins women and fraternity boys. The 1976 *Spinster* showed a picture of Dr. Gray drinking "nickel beer" and congregating with her pupils. In the First Annual Grapheon Pie



In 1976 President Brewster celebrated Mattie Cocke's 119th birthday. Photo from the *Spinster*.

was, "Don't get haughty about being a Hollins-Texas girl." Each club also had a cheer.

The Black Cat Society's cheer was as follows: "Black Cat! Scat! Scat! Meow!" Imagine Hollins girls shouting their cheers in Botetourt, the dining hall during those days.

Although sororities and most of the social clubs dissolved after the world wars, students tried to introduce exciting events as a community. Juniors, just imagine another Ring Night ordeal — but this time, the sophomores are directing the activities during "Hell Day." Although this activity no longer takes place, it was popular back in the sixties. The sophomores roused the juniors during the wee hours of the morning.

The writer of the May 17, 1962, article (in the *Columns*) feared that she and her companions "would have to make our sophomore's bed and clean her room." She added, "The hour of doom, we thought, was going to be at 4 a.m. when we lined

Throw, sponsored in 1980, eight professors, including Richard Dillard and Bill Wrobel were pied. The circus also came to Hollins that year. The group performed acrobatics, magic tricks and gags on the back quad. They even brought in a miniature horse!

Although Hollins has not celebrated Miss Matty Cocke's Birthday fully in the last two years, this tradition continued long after Miss Matty ended her 32-year term as president in 1933. When she held office, students serenaded her and gave her goodies. After her death, the dining hall served cake and ice cream in her honor. In 1976, President Brewster popped out of the cardboard cake that students wheeled into the dining hall.

Faculty and Staff Members! Do you have any old traditions that you would like to share with us? Submit a note in the *Columns* box in the post office. We would love to hear about any past fun activities!

INSIDE COLUMNS

- Spotlight on Becca Bell, Senior graduation speaker— **Page 4**
- Interview with Opal Moore, visiting duPont Scholar — **Page 6-7**
- 6 riders qualify for Nationals — **Page 11**

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Keep the Columns independent

by Marisa Parmelee

Central to journalism and freedom of the press is the idea that newspapers exist on their own so as to present a clear, unbiased report to the public. Newspapers need to be free to investigate and examine story ideas. That's all part of the checks and balances system vital to American government.

Newspapers are separate from government; that is, newspapers are not part of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches even though they play an important role in all three. If newspapers only reported what the government wanted them to, then our political system would be in danger because of one-sided information. Government does not make room for reporters to have a voice in their meetings; that would be a conflict of interest. In comparison, SGA members at Hollins want the newspaper to have a voice in student government through the Publications Board. I see a conflict of interest.

The latest topic in Senate is whether or not to abolish the Publications Board. I addressed the Senate on April 11 and proposed the elimination of this position because I have not found that it is necessary to the *Hollins Columns*, and input from the other publications led me to believe that this position is useless. The *Columns* is an independent group that is held accountable to the entire Hollins community with our Letters to the Editors page, and more specifically, we are responsible to SGA members and the student body in Senate where student business is handled.

What is the Publications Board and what does it do? As it exists now, it does nothing. In theory, it is supposed to represent the *Hollins Columns*, *Spinster*, *Cargoes*, and *The Album* and let their voices be heard in SGA. Sounds good, right? The *Columns* does not need a voice in SGA as it would compromise our journalistic integrity. We would be supporting an agenda, and newspapers are not supposed to promote agendas. Also, the Pub Board is supposed to meet with the editors, past and present, of these publications to bounce ideas off each other. Sounds good, right? Well the only thing these publications have in common is the fact that they are

publications. It would be ludicrous for the *Columns* editor to tell the *Spinster* editor what to put in the yearbook. That just does not happen. What's more, individual deadlines render meetings almost impossible. The supposed idealistic rewards of a Pub Board are just that—idealistic.

Once I presented the idea to terminate the board, the Senators thought that a committee of the current editors and SGA President Jenn Sgro ought to examine the board's effectiveness and see if revamping it would be feasible. After the meeting Sgro took the information back to Senate and presented her findings. Much discussion ensued and the Senators voted to form yet another committee to redesign the Pub Board. Ah, bureaucracy at its best.

After much discussion and deliberation, I remain steadfast in the belief that the Pub Board is ineffective for the *Columns*. However, I concede that the board could potentially benefit the other publications. Why not the *Columns*? Am I being elitist? Is the campus newspaper evading responsibility and accountability? Absolutely not! On the contrary, as a newspaper, we must be free of any bias. We are responsible and accountable, and it is imperative that the paper remain free from bias and agendas. Again, that is simple journalistic integrity. I do not think that we should be represented in SGA meetings. If we need to speak to the community,

we can do it at Senate and through our own publication. If we need information, we will get it at Senate. Part of journalism is seeking out and investigating different stories.

Let's keep in mind simple concepts and principles that are threatened when under the influence of SGA. What happens to freedom of the press when we are pushing issues that we may or may not support? The result is unfair, compromised journalism. Some may argue that this is not really a serious threat; it is when we are being influenced. We CANNOT have a vote. We CANNOT be represented by an elected SGA officer. We CANNOT push agendas. The newspaper exists to present all information in a fair, unbiased manner.

Let me reiterate, we welcome criticism from everyone. We are not excluding ourselves from being watched and scrutinized. We are constantly watched and critiqued. Read the Letters to the Editors. I am ecstatic when a letter comes in that questions some of the things we do. That's the only way to improve and learn. We are doing our jobs, and I am confident that we are doing them well. If someone feels that we are not, I would hope that he/she could let us know. That is what we are here for. I hope that we are not forced to compromise our integrity and responsibility to the Hollins Community by being subject to an elected SGA officer.

SAFE promotes abuse awareness

To the Editors:

SAFE (Safer Alternatives for Everyone) is an organization composed of students, faculty, and staff interested in promoting and increasing awareness of sexual assault and ways to prevent it. SAFE has published a sexual assault booklet which includes all aspects of sexual assault. SAFE members also staff a 24 hour sexual assault line for all members of the Hollins community.

The purpose of this hotline is to counsel survivors of sexual assault and concerned friends as well as to put them in touch with the appropriate services available on the Hollins campus and in the Roanoke Valley. The hotline has been active since 1994. Anyone who calls the hotline is assured complete confidentiality from

trained peer counselors. To get in touch with the hotline counselor on duty, call 224-7636 and wait for the tone. You then enter the number from which you are calling and hang up. The SAFE counselor will return your call promptly. Remember all calls are confidential and names do not need to be given.

SAFE is currently looking for new members who are willing to promote awareness of sexual assault and train to be counselors for the hotline. An open house will be held on April 26 at 6:00 p.m. in the Turner Lounge for those interested in learning more about SAFE and/or joining the organization. All are welcome to join us for casual conversation and refreshments.

Michelle Buehl '97 and Clare Flynn '96

Alum warns of elephant on our front quad

To the Editors:

I visited the campus recently for the Women's Environmental Leadership Conference, an exceptional event that enhances Hollins' reputation in women's leadership training. While on campus, I saw recent copies of the *Hollins Columns* and read about the controversy concerning the unsigned letter from a former faculty member. As a student and alumna, I am amazed that anyone on campus could profess complete ignorance of the allegations detailed in the original letter.

Frankly, I am appalled at the aggressive attacks by senior faculty and administrators upon the original letter and the student editors who chose to print it. The *Columns* is a student newspaper, written by students for students. The editors have no obligation to please either the administration or the faculty. As Marisa Parmelee detailed in the March 27th issue, the *Columns'* editorial policy states that they publish all letters received. Quite simply, an editorial policy is a policy decided by the Editors. The *Hollins Columns'* Editors are free to print any letter which meets their policy.

I commend the editors for having the courage to print the original letter. We should take pride in their willingness to stand up for what they believe. Isn't this exactly the attitude we seek to foster in Hollins graduates, a willingness to be bold and brave, and to be risk-takers when their convictions demand it? It certainly fulfills the ideal of women's leadership which Hollins has always striven to teach.

As Shakespeare so eloquently said, "The lady [and gentlemen] doth protest too much, me thinks" (Hamlet, III, ii, 230). It is no secret that since Roger Bowen assumed his current position, faculty and staff have steadily vanished without explanation. As the roll of the "disappeared" has grown, a significant number of fine faculty and staff have left voluntarily to escape an environment that has degenerated into a culture of fear, where people are reluctant to speak freely for fear of being the next victim to be axed.

While a few of the dismissals were undoubtedly justified because of abuses such as sexual harassment, many were not.

Professor Bill White references the AAUP guidelines which Hollins endorses as protecting the faculty's intellectual freedom. These may offer security to tenured faculty, but in reality they offer little protection to non-tenured faculty and absolutely none to administrators. As testament to the significant difference between being tenured and non-tenured, we need look no further than the very debate that has taken place in the *Columns'* Letters to the Editors. The only faculty members who have written letters have been those with tenure.

This year's Seniors remember Hollins as it used to be: a community of caring individuals. They have the right to mourn the loss of that nurturing environment. Students are ultimately the greatest casualties of the oppressive campus climate. It is the students' prerogative to ask for and get an honest answer. Hollins students know something is very wrong. The high attrition rate for this year's Freshman class (24% and rising as of March 1st) attests to that awareness. Alumnae from New York to Texas are troubled by what they hear through the grapevine.

The administration can bide its time in the belief that as the semester ends, so will the controversy. But a disenfranchised Senior does not graduate to become a loyal alumna. Hollins relies upon its graduates for support, recruiting, and most importantly, its reputation. Today's students are tomorrow's alumnae. The Sojourner Truth Society was the creation of students who care what happens to their college. We should be thankful that they still care enough to speak up. The ones we should really worry about are the ones who no longer care, the ones who will walk away after (or before) graduation and never look back. The College community has a lot in common with the classic dysfunctional family. There's an elephant in the living room, but nobody wants to talk about it. Let's begin with the long list of faculty and staff whose dismissals remain unexplained. The individuals involved have been unfairly treated, denied due process, and suffered a deep injustice with no opportunity for recourse. Next, we can inquire about legal actions that have been settled out of court, and there have been many more than in the one that made it into the Roanoke Times.

President O'Brien's carefully worded response in the *Columns* deserves a closer look:

"there are no lawsuits pending against the College from any current or former faculty member." She does not say that there have been no legal actions against the College, merely that "no lawsuits are pending." It is true that a lawsuit becomes a matter of public record, but only if/when the parties involved cannot settle matters out of court. In many cases, both parties benefit by avoiding adverse publicity. Nevertheless, such actions, whether a matter of public record or not, cost the College money in legal fees.

The College lawyers are undoubtedly expert at the nuances of settling legal actions before they technically become lawsuits. We have seen no honest accounting of the cost of legal actions against the College. Alumnae and students, in particular, are entitled to ask where their money is going. We deserve to know the full extent of legal expenses related to the settlement of claims against the College, particularly those which allege illegal employment practices.

It's time for the administration to come clean with the College community. Mistakes have been made. Responsibility needs to be taken, and humility expressed. Do the right thing. The elephant on front quad will not go away until truth and open communication return to campus discourse. There are better ways to do things than what we have seen in the last three years; find them.

My message to Maggie O'Brien: it's not too late. When you first arrived with your open invitation for campus members to schedule meetings with you, you were a fresh breeze on stale air. But that first year of hope has stretched into three years of deepening despair. Your advisors have often been neither well nor wisely chosen. You took a positive first step with your admission to the student Senate that mistakes have been made, but now it's time to take the next step. Make amends to those who have been harmed. Do not allow your own fortune to rise and fall on the issue of Roger Bowen's veracity.

To Roger Bowen: a reminder: "whatsoever a man soweth, that he shall also reap" (Galatians, 6:7). On your own day of reckoning, may you be granted the same full measure of mercy that you gave.

To the rest of the campus community: I beseech you to call for honest discussion of the issues raised by the original letter to the editor. Demand a forum in which everyone can speak without fear of retribution. As Professor

White said of the allegations against Roger Bowen: "the alleged abuses of power of his office are serious if true." Although the letter does not offer substantiation, enough anecdotal evidence exists to warrant an investigation. Let's name the elephant and get started cleaning up its mess. Only then will the College's anguished soul begin to heal.

Cynthia Obrist
Certificate of Advanced Studies
(C.A.S.), 1993

ADA again?

To the Editors:

I just wanted to address this whole ADA controversy that has been hovering over the Hollins campus in recent years. I personally am tired of hearing about it.

I believe that there are two reasons why ADA is so controversial. One, for those who are not in ADA, it appears to divide the Hollins community. Two, most people who are not selected to be in ADA are hurt and believe that no one appreciates their efforts. In this respect, it does divide the community because these people resent those people who were selected. However, in the whole scheme of things this is petty and ridiculous and I would hope Hollins students could rise above such trite feelings and be glad for those selected.

But, in all fairness, ADA members, if they don't already, need to understand their classmates feelings. ADA can, at times, appear self-congratulatory and pompous (i.e. Tinker Day, Spring Fling, Purple Tuesdays). It is very intimidating to see a large group of one's peers, friends, and school leaders running around in purple. I believe ADA exists to boost the spirit of Hollins but ADA should also understand that its actions could cause the reverse effect.

I'm not sure why the *Columns* has picked this time to single out ADA and make it yet again the center of controversy, and I don't believe that this criticism is productive to the spirit of Hollins either. There are many organizations that one can be selected to and rewarded by a membership. It is unfortunate that ADA is the most visible.

Marjie Wasson '95

Editor's note:

The Hollins Columns has not "singled out" ADA to make it the "center of controversy." In the last issue of the Columns, there was a note at the end of the ADA article stating that it was one of a series looking at the traditions of Hollins.

Senior Becca Bell elected to speak at graduation

by Heather Lucas

Becca Bell, this year's student graduation speaker, lives by the motto "do the thing you think you cannot do," taken from Eleanor Roosevelt. Bell loves storytelling and people in general. In her speech she plans to touch on the importance of having a sense of community. Bell felt this sense of community when she first visited Hollins and that feeling has stayed with her.

Originally Bell never knew she wanted to go to college "down South," and Hollins never entered her mind. However, after her freshman year of high school, Bell went to summer camp in the Appalachian Mountains. She was moved by the beauty of the mountains and feeling of warmth in the South. Before long it was time to start looking into colleges. At the first college fair Bell attended, a



Becca Bell. Photo by Erin Elliott.

family friend pointed out the Hollins table. Bell decided to visit Hollins but wasn't fully convinced of the whole idea.

"I was put on the plane kicking and screaming 'I don't want to go to a women's college,'" she said. However, once she stepped on campus Bell realized Hollins was a place where she

could do anything. She applied for early decision.

Bell looked at what Hollins has going for it and decided to create a niche for herself. She found this niche her freshman year with the General Speakers Fund. Bell related the General Speakers Fund to the idea of storytelling and saw her involvement as an opportunity to widen the Hollins community-to extend out into the "real world." Yet in some ways Bell believes "the Hollins community is so beyond the 'real world.'" She said that at the same time we seem so detached we are also "so right-on."

Bell finds that the "conversation is so pure here." She sees things "in a very positive light" and attributes this partially to living in such an "idyllic place." For this reason, Bell is able to find "the courage to face things here."

Bell feels empowered by bringing people here and engaging them in discussion. Because of General Speakers Fund a great deal of discussion takes place which stimulates growth in the Hollins community. And does Bell have a favorite speaker? "I like what Rebecca Walker accomplished. It's exactly what I wanted every lecture to accomplish." Bell believes that Walker's lecture "opened up a dialogue between all students." Students started talking about diversity which Bell thought was exciting to witness. Overall, she believes "each speaker has brought something unique to the campus." General Speakers Fund was not Bell's only endeavor.

During her sophomore year she became involved in giving campus tours. Bell loves this activity because she is able to "promote the potential of this place and what you can make of it."

She also said that being chair of both Tour Guides and General Speakers Fund her senior year represents "a closure to my dedication here." Right now, Bell sees this as a "time of transition and passing over of things."

An image she likes to keep in mind is that underclassmen are "standing on our shoulders and we are helping them up to that place." Bell is still struggling with the idea of being a senior. Often she finds

herself "lost, clinging to the details" of daily responsibilities. But when things get hectic Bell relies on the great support system here. She said, "I see others just as committed and become charged up by what everyone around me is doing. Then I can't imagine not being involved."

Bell recommends that seniors take a moment to reflect on their four years here. "Only now am I discovering new ways to appreciate Hollins. And don't forget to look around you and see who else is sharing the community."

Bell has not only made her mark here at Hollins but also abroad. She is an Interdisciplinary major in Russian mass media with a focus on the impact of Western images on Russian culture. Bell went to Russia the fall of her junior year. But this wasn't her first trip. In high school, Bell served as a student ambassador in Russia and says she was affected by the Russian youth.

Bell says that "being chosen by my classmates is the biggest honor I have ever had at Hollins." Senior Jenn Sgro, President of SGA, who voted for Bell, said, "I think she will do a great job addressing what the students want to hear and provide us with an optimistic outlook for the future-what we have to look ahead, too."

Bell wants to find things to tie all of the class together. Senior Cathy Reniere believes it's a hard thing to give a speech in front of classmates but said, "I am sure she will do fine. The senior class is very dedicated and we definitely have made our mark," Bell said.

She wants the speech to be "a celebration of the accomplishments our class has made."

Bell knew that Hollins was a place where she could stay focused, not get side-tracked, and continue to grow. And Bell did just that — she experienced a great deal of personal growth. She says she was nurtured at Hollins and believes that "the biggest gift is to grow as a person for who you are."

"It's a very spiritual experience allowing yourself to let things just be," Bell said.

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Students pet llamas. Photo by Erin Elliott.

Women's Environmental Leadership Conference

by Laura Ridlon

The second annual Women's Environmental Leadership Conference was held at Hollins April 7-8. Friday consisted of outdoor adventures from the ropes course to a llama trek up Tinker Mountain with llama breeder Judy Fee. About thirty people from Hollins and the community came out to lead the llamas up the mountain.

The day concluded with a panel discussion including Terri Lynn Cornwell, Assistant Professor of Communications; Kathryn Haynie, President and CEO of Planned Parenthood of the Blue Ridge, Roanoke; Ann Davey Masters, Executive Director of Clean Valley Council of Roanoke; and Terri Cofer, Coordinator for the Virginia Conservation Network.

A variety of topics were covered throughout the discussion. Cornwell talked about the quality of life based on her experiences living in Washington, D.C., Cleveland, and now Roanoke. Masters spoke on environmental issues facing Roanoke County. "I can't affect the world, but I can affect the Roanoke Valley," Masters said.

Cofer concentrated on statewide issues, including the Contract for America and how it is affecting the lives of Virginians.

Haynie spoke about population, which, according to her, is the biggest issue facing the environment today. "The United States has the highest unwanted pregnancy rate and also the highest abortion rate in all western developed nations," she said. "It's going to take a lot more than

just sitting in a conference. We have to model what we want people to do and become active on a daily basis."

Saturday's events started off with workshops covering a variety of topics. The subjects ranged from "Self-Esteem," with speaker Margot Robinson, author of *Eggs and Eggshells: Managing Success in Today's Workplace* to "Women in the Native American Tradition," with speaker Janet Stone, a member of the Virginia Native American Cultural Center. Other workshops were "B.E.S.T.," with speaker Barbara Mintzer-McMahon, founder and director of the Center for Transitional Management, and "Amazonia, a Spiritual Adventure," with speaker Lacey Gude, who spent two years in Brazil.

An ecofashion show sponsored by Deja Shoes, Inc., also took place on Saturday. "More people sort their trash than vote, but it's still not enough. The key is making recycled products marketable," said Sherri Jacobson, Midwest Account Executive for Deja Shoes, Inc.

Deja Shoes are not yet completely made from recycled materials, but that is the company's goal, according to Jacobson. The shoes are made from such items as soda bottles, coffee filters, and rubber tires. Deja shoes are also unique because the company will recycle customers' shoes when they wear out. Deja shoes can be found in Blue Ridge Outfitters in the Tanglewood Mall and La De Da in downtown Roanoke.

Attendees from the college and the community praised the conference's message, which Masters summed up in her speech: "Think, make a difference, live a life, use your voice, and question."

B-GLAD week: a celebration for diversity on campus

by Sara T. Tweedy

During the week of April 2-6, Harmony, the bisexual and lesbian education group on campus, sponsored events for Bi-sexual-Gay, Lesbian Awareness Days. "Celebrate Diversity" buttons were handed out and table tents were set up in the dining hall promoting the events. Clare Flynn, spokesperson for Harmony, was able to help arrange B-GLAD with a grant from the DuPont Diversity funds.

To kick off the week, Judy Goodwin, a minister of the Metropolitan Community Church, spoke at Chapel. During her sermon, she said that she felt like "Daniel in the lion's den," implying that society was not open to lesbian ministers. But events such as B-GLAD "have a positive impact." Goodwin also said, "It makes others aware that people are different."

On Monday, a lunch discussion was held so Goodwin could answer questions from the students or faculty. She explained her journey into the ministry and the difficulties of being a lesbian mother. Also on Monday, students from Sweet Briar, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, and Hollins formed a panel and spoke to the Hollins Community about their individual experiences regarding coming out and being openly homosexual or bisexual. Tuesday, Monika Treut showed her film "Virgin Machine" to a group of students. After the showing, she answered questions which included comparing the homosexual communities in Germany and the United States.

On Wednesday, coffee and tea from Mill Mountain were served at the poetry reading of published gay and lesbian authors. Some Hollins students also shared some of their own work. Channel 10 News came to the poetry reading and interviewed open lesbian couples for a segment to



Design by Tricia Shalibo.

be aired in late May about homosexuality.

Dara Mansur was one of the people interviewed by Channel 10. "I came out on Channel 10 because I want people to know that lesbians are regular people. We aren't child molesters or perverts," Mansur continued. "There shouldn't be a stigma attached to sexual orientation."

P-FLAG, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, wrapped up the events on Thursday. Three parents shared their personal experiences of having gay sons and lesbian daughters.

"Overall diversity at Hollins is lacking in some areas," Flynn said. "Buildings on campus are not handicap accessible and that's part of diversity. I hope that B-GLAD presented the diversity regarding the homosexual community on campus. That was our main focus." She also mentioned that Hollins has a low retention rate of African-American students. "I think Hollins is on its way to creating diversity, but we're definitely not there yet," Flynn said. "If we were there then we wouldn't have to have diversity celebrations such as B-GLAD."

B-GLAD hopes to promote toleration and understanding of the homosexual community. "It's a real educational process," said Goodwin. "People just can't turn and look the other way. We are not going to go away."

Lillian Potter and Opal Moore shoot the breeze from art to politics and we get to eavesdrop, shhhhh!

by Lillian H. Potter

Opal Moore, who holds advanced degrees not only in writing and literature, but also in drawing, printmaking, and painting, is visiting Hollins as a duPont Scholar for the spring semester. She has taught American and African-American literature, poetry, and fiction writing, and English composition at Radford University since 1988. Moore spent the 1993-94 school year as a Fulbright Professor in African-American literature and creative writing at a university in Germany. Her poetry and fiction have been published in such journals as *Callaloo*, *Short Story*, *Poet Lore*, *Obsidian II*, and *Black Literature Forum*. She has a short story forthcoming in the *African American Review*, and has been included in anthologies of black women writers. Moore's scholarship also extends to critiques of children's literature, primarily books that deal with images of Hispanics and African-Americans, and essays on writers such as Paule Marshall, Maya Angelou, Alice Walker, Toni Morrison, and Pinkie Gordon Lane.

We are sitting in her office, nestled in the basement of Duchouquet, and the morning light filters through the windows into her neat, square office. Moore sits in a chair and the blooms of dogwoods and cherry trees are visible from the windows. She speaks in a quiet, articulate voice and her manner is unassuming and dignified. The following is from our interview on April 14.

What does it mean to you, in our society, to be an artist? What is your role as an artist?

I think the role of the artist is to do what most people do, and just to do what you feel you have been called for. Some people, as artists, feel that they want to teach other people. I don't know that I'm always so sure that I am playing a role. When I'm teaching, I feel that it is my role to allow students to find out things about themselves, sometimes things that they don't want to know. I feel it is my role to introduce them to ideas that they

might want to think about, or that they might not come across ordinarily. I think it is my role to encourage them to think more boldly ... I do think that the material that I teach introduces many of my students to ways of thinking that they might not have been encouraged to find before.

Have you found that at Hollins?

Yes. I did a segment in Sheila [Carter-Tod]'s class on poetry. We were looking at black women poets. If you look at black women poets, you're going to find that they have something to say that is different from what other people are saying. But, yes, I've found that ... I think that black people are so immersed in our history and in our politics in this country. We are so inundated with preconceived notions and ideas. Some of them are our own, but many of them come from the outside. I think that students come to poetry with those ideas. So most of the time I feel as though I have to shake them loose from those ideas and let the poetry stand on its own ... I find that I am all the time trying to rescue their work from political ideologies and from certain assumptions that there is only one purpose for black poetry and that is to argue for the upliftment of black people or to justify something that we've done. Sometimes there are poems that do that, but there are poems that reach way out beyond those kinds of agendas. And I think that most often, there is a reluctance or inability to see those other aspects of the poetry...

And I think, also, sometimes the poems that you're given, like in your high school textbook, are going to be those poems that fit that mold...

Yes, that is true. I did ask my students whether they had an idea why one of Gwendolyn Brooks' poems is almost always anthologized. It's the little poem, "We Real Cool," and it's almost everywhere...

Yes, yes, that was in my high school textbook...

It's anthologized everywhere, almost to the exclusion of a lot of her other work... We [need] to begin to ask students to just ask questions like that, "why do you think you see this poem all the time and don't see these other

poems?"

What writers and poets are central to who you are, influence your work and stay with you the most?

My earliest influences would have been the first two poets who were ever anthologized in mostly white anthologies, and that would be Langston Hughes and Gwendolyn Brooks. [This was] largely because they were the only two black artists that I knew existed. Coming up in the 1950s, the emphasis on poetry was very different. I had no idea of any other poets like those two. The reason I would say Langston Hughes is because he was radically different from any other poet that I would see or whose work would be taught [in my high school]. His voice sounded like something familiar, it sounded like the music that I wasn't permitted to listen to in my house, because my family was Pentecostal. His poems made me know something about jazz, even before I really knew what jazz music was. And also, just the way that the voices he put down on the page seemed like neighborhood voices. They were very familiar. I think that influenced me because it made me interested in voices.

When someone is reading your work, what do you want them to take away from your work?

I guess I want them to see how complex some of the most simple moments of our lives are. My work has slowly developed because I have been interested in intricacy, in the intricacies of moments, not large, necessarily panoramic, epic stories. But I think I have come of age in a period of literature where women have had greater say in how writing will take place. Collectively, women have been more willing to acknowledge the importance of the so-called minor moment. And so I have really come up in that kind of thinking. It persists in my work.

We were talking earlier about people who have had an influence on you. Did your parents have a lot of influence on you as a child?

I have always been very close to my families and I still am. But I just recently decided to go back and write about some of

those things. I find my mother's life and struggle very interesting. I don't necessarily think that the things that have taught us the most are the things we celebrate. And I think that some of the things that teach us the most we see as the victimization of our people ... It seems to me that if feminist consciousness now would be applied to the women who raised me, those women would not be



Opal Moore, the visiting duPont Scholar, poses. Photo by Katie McLennand.

seen as heroic women. And they don't see themselves as heroic women, either ... I also didn't grow up with people who talked about race a lot. I know that my mother had trouble at her job, but [it] was never put in racial terms. So the '60s was a real breakout for me because those were conversations that were never spoken in my house or in my church, which were the two main territories of my childhood ... In some ways, by not telling me things, they didn't trap me in a lot of preconceived ideas. **There's been a debate, within the last 10-15 years or so, about the role of poetry in society. Is poetry something that is always going to be understood and appreciated pretty much only by the elite and the well-educated, the intellectuals? Or is poetry for the masses?**

I think poetry is clearly for the masses. I think it has always been for the masses. At certain periods in history, you have the elite trying to control it. And then you have this uprising of the people and they take it back, and then you have the academics who start writing their critiques and disparaging this kind of poetry and that kind of poetry. I think that black poets have always been writing in the middle of that fight,

right in the middle of that controversy. I think that consciously black poets have been in that territory because they've always had this sort of outsider position and the question is whether your poetry as a black poet will become part of the poetry that is acknowledged and part of the poetry that is the monumental national poetry. The idea of poetics, of beautiful language—I would say that has

complicated. Technology has become more adroit at promoting those stereotypes, those ideas. We are as bombarded with negative images of different races today as we ever were. We are less able to give people the benefit of the doubt. We leap to our conclusions more quickly. We think we can already anticipate what the other person will think or do or say. I think the thing that is keeping us from making it is that our political figures have gotten into the business of promoting bias. We are regressing and it seems to me that now we have policy makers who are very shortsighted, who don't seem to have a real idea about what kinds of conversations would be useful in America at this point. We are being encouraged, as American people, to go back to our corners, and come out fighting...

And I think that the "angry white men" thing is a shibboleth...
(Laughing) It's a hype. **Because the white men I know are not angry...**

I know! I keep asking "where are these angry white men?" All the white men I talk to, they say, "It's all right, I'm cool with it," you know? I think there are forces who want white men to get angry, to take back the, the...night! (laugh) I hope they fail, but I think that young people are very impressionable. I think that older men are more immune to that kind of hype. But I think that young men are very susceptible, because they may not yet be employed, they may not yet have the things that they expect to get, and that makes them very anxious. It's the same kind of call that went out during Reconstruction—

"white men, get angry, the world has been taken from you." ... And just a few weeks ago, Toni Morrison made some comments at Howard University, and she talked about the "creep of fascism." She mentioned Nazism, and the conservative media jumped all over her because black people, I suppose, are not supposed to talk about that. But fascism creeps up on us, and we find excuses for allowing certain things to happen and when we look back at how the Final Decision for the Jews was developed, it reminds us that did

not just happen overnight. There was a series of compromises that people accepted. There was a lot of sticking of heads in the sand that made that possible. She [Morrison] simply wanted to remind Americans that if they think we are a special race or breed of people who are somehow automatically or magically immune to fascist movement, that we should wake up and realize that we are not special, we are not different, and we are not the chosen people... **No more than the Germans were...**

Yes, no more than the Germans were. When I was living in Germany, it amazed me how arrogant Americans tended to be when they would visit Germany. They just seemed to have such a high-handed way of looking at German culture. And I found myself, ironically, less willing to do that because I don't see that the tragedy that occurred in Germany is any different from the tragedies that can occur anywhere when we are not vigilant, when we are not self-reflective, and when we are not careful not to profit by the misery of others. I think that people are afraid of the tag "fascist." We don't like that tag to be associated with American culture and American life. I think we have to be realistic; we need to be concerned about the level of discourse that is coming to us from our politicians. We also have to be concerned with the effect that it has on young people, who are now formulating their ideas about what American culture should be. The indoctrination of young people with an older generation siphoning or feeding these ideas to young, upcoming students...

And then you have the Red Guards...

Yes. **Maybe we will have another uprising, another '60s type mass revolution...**

I think though that the difference is that in the '60s, there were young white idealists who were willing to cross over and align themselves with a program or an agenda based on what they thought was the right thing. Now young people are being encouraged to cross back over, not on the basis of what they think is right,

but on the basis of what they think is most individually profitable for them. And it's a very compelling argument.

Well, I don't have any more questions. Is there anything you would like to add?

With regard to the conversation on diversity that is being carried on here, I think that everyone, everywhere will now have to decide what their personal commitment to diversity will be. There seems to be no real structural emphasis on diversity. I think that self-interest will gain a lot of momentum. I think that people will just have to ask themselves personally what they feel about diverse populations and what they feel about diversity, not just in terms of white people doing something for black people or Hispanic people or women, but rather, what their idea is about a livable community. That is what diversity is really about. It's not as though America can choose to be monocultural—it's only a question of how you want to deal with the diversity that is already here. Governor Allen of Virginia has decided that prisons are the answer. As one politician put it the other day, Senator [Dick] Gephardt I think it was, he said we can't afford to build all the prisons we're going to need to house all the people that we plan to neglect. And who will, undoubtedly, fall into the despair of life that is at the bottom of the deterioration of our human personality. And as far as Hollins is concerned, Hollins is like this little oasis. Maybe Hollins and other small colleges feel that they don't have to worry so much, but Hollins does not exist in a vacuum. No university does. And no vacuum can be created for it, for any separate space. We don't have that anymore, I mean, that is gone. So I would hope that people would in fact take the point of view that diversity is not charity for races, but rather, that diversity is simply a personal question that asks, "How do you want to live with everybody else?" and I would say that if people are taking the idea seriously, that that is the only way that we will make progress. And there's a role for poetry in there somewhere!

Ivy's 'Realistic' 42 minutes of laid-back fun

by Kat Horton

If someone asked me to describe the singing style of Ivy's lead singer, I would say it is a mix of Natalie Merchant of Ten Thousand Maniacs and Bjork. I would also say the same thing about the band's musical style.

Ivy's major-label debut *Realistic*, is a true college music experience. The band's lyrics possess an amazing mix of pop love ballads and self-revelations and at the same time provide enough diversity through the album to keep you listening.

Realistic is certainly an album you can turn on and listen to all the way through, without fast forwarding or skipping songs altogether.

What is so intriguing about

Realistic is the amazing number of similarities with the musical style of the '80s. In all honesty, this album is more likely to provide a little bit of nostalgia rather than a new musical journey.

The first track, "Get Enough," is an upbeat love ballad about discovering love for the first time. Although the song is short, it provides plenty of energy.

This is one of the many '80s pop qualities *Realistic* possesses. The songs on the album tend to be fairly short; most of them are under four minutes. However, the pure energy and catchiness of the songs provide quality where quantity is short.

The subject matter of the songs tend to be reminiscent of many '80s love ballads: upbeat, yet somehow depressing. In fact, *Realistic* has a tendency to be a

singing relationship. Not only do we hear the wonders of discovering love, we get to hear the hardships of a break up as well ("Get Enough"). We are also enlightened about all the stuff in between.

This album also has a slight case of what some music listeners call the "George Harrison Syndrome." Ivy does not stick to the traditional "verse chorus verse" style of song writing. Instead, it uses a "chorus chorus verse chorus chorus" approach.

Don't get me wrong, there are lyrics hidden in between the choruses, but do not expect a hidden message. If you prefer the type of music in which you have to dissect and analyze to fully understand, then this album will not give you a thrill.

For the most part, *Realistic* is made up of upbeat pop songs.

However, the album has its fair share of slow-paced, relaxed tunes.

Most of Ivy's songs are guitar driven, and rather than using electric guitar, Ivy's music has an acoustic guitar base. This gives the album a laid-back and beautiful sound. The captivating vocals of Durand highlight the album.

Realistic certainly has its pros and cons. It is certainly a great choice if you are looking for something to get you going or keep you in good spirits. On the other hand, the songs are not deep and the subject matter is not thought-provoking.

So if you are looking for something to stimulate conversation, look elsewhere. However, if you want an album that will provide you with 42 minutes of fun, Ivy's *Realistic* will certainly do the trick.

April A&E Events

- 27 **English Reading.** R. H. W. Dillard, English professor and chair of the Hollins graduate program in creative writing, will read poems and stories from his two new books, *Just Here, Just Now* (poems) and *Omniphobia* (stories). Green Drawing Room in Main Building. 8:15 p.m.
- 27 **Student Piano Recital.** Talmadge Recital Hall. 8:15 p.m.
- 27 **Theatre Works and Festival.** Hollins Theatre. 8 p.m.
- 29 **Roanoke Wine Festival.** Tickets are \$8 for wine-tasters in advance (\$12 at the door), \$5 for non-tasters. Back quadrangle. 11 a.m.- 6 p.m. For tickets or more information, call the Jaycees at 345-1316.

May A&E Events

- 3 **Chapel Choir Quadrangle Concert.** Short, informal concert featuring spring music. Steps of Main Building. 7-7:30 p.m.
- 6 **Prepatory Division Recital.** Spring concert by piano students in the Prepatory Division. Talmadge Recital Hall in Bradley. Section 1 begins at 2 p.m. Section 2 begins at 3 p.m.
- 9 **Video Extravaganza.** A screening of student videos and films from spring production classes. Babcock Auditorium in Dana Science Building. 7:15 p.m.
- 9,21 **Art Exhibit.** A showing of senior projects by studio art majors. Art Gallery. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 1-4 p.m.

Singing songs of May

by Pauline Newton

On Wednesday, May 3, the Chapel Choir "will welcome in spring with songs of May on the steps of Main" according to Maggie Collins. The group will sing the "Drinking Song in May," "All Creatures Now Are Merry Minded," and "Come Shepherds Swain."

Senior Khrysti Coffman remarked that she is looking forward to the Spring Concert, because "it's a light-hearted celebration ... [and] a lot of fun." She added that the group sang "The Drinking Song" her freshman year and is looking forward to singing it one last time.

On Easter Sunday, the members sang a work of Gregorian chant, the "Victimae Pascali Laudes," which is a sequence of the Mass. They started the service on the steps of the altar,

and as Mr. Leland played the opening hymn, proceeded around the chapel and walked up the stairs. The group wanted to introduce livelier tunes and participate more in the service. Lalla Sydnor sang during the Good Friday service.

For Honors Convocation, the choir plans to "overwhelm the guests...with a lively piece by Brahms" according to Collins. The group wanted to sing something less traditional than Hollins songs and to try new, exciting pieces.

Mr. Leland and his students worked hard to incorporate a variety of tunes into their performances. They even practiced during the weekend to perfect the flow of their singing. As Collins concluded, "This piece will leave the audience in awe." Come listen to the choir as it welcomes and honors outstanding students at Convocation.



Moveri at the dance festival. Photo courtesy of Elvira Sanchez '95.

Moveri attends dance festival

by Greer Haggerty

Moveri has done it again! After traveling by van to Connecticut on April 4 to spend three days at the New England meeting of the American College Dance Festival Association, the Hollins dance company was selected to perform at the gala that showcased the superior pieces from the week.

The National Festival that Moveri attended last year at the Kennedy Center is held only once every two years, so their achievements at Connecticut College mark the high-point of a productive year.

Students were free to choose from over twenty classes a day at the festival. Donna Faye Burchfield, as a visiting faculty member to ACDFA, taught classes in composition and technique to students from thirty-four representative colleges and universities.

Additionally, participants in the festival benefited from attending the three concerts that exposed dancers to the achievements of other dance departments.

For two years running Hollins has participated out of its region to take advantage of adjudicators and faculty that better suit the needs and interests of Moveri.

Freshman Claire Benton, who spent Short Term in New York with the Dance Department, compared the festival to her classes at Alvin Ailey.

"The classes at Ailey were very professional, but competitive," she said. "I appreciated the

more relaxed, collaborative atmosphere at ACDFA."

The company carried the excitement of the gala straight into their spring concert, held April 12-14 at the Hollins Theatre.

The performances featured student choreography as well as the piece that brought Hollins acclaim at ACDFA. *Her Pearly White Hand* was a piece set on Moveri by guest artist Jack Arnold last fall.

Arnold, a former member of the New York dance company Pilobolus, took his first dance class at Hollins while a student at Washington and Lee University.

His connection to Hollins extends beyond his personal experience, as many women in his family are alumnae. The piece is as much about Hollins women as it is about women in general.

The student works did not pale in comparison to this professionally choreographed piece. For a group of dancers younger than past groups, the performances were marked by a continuity and strength not seen in a student showing for some time. It will be exciting to see the work produced by these dancers in the years to come.

For now, the Hollins community can gather one last time, on April 29, to see the dance department in action when Amy Lindamood will present her senior concert with a guest performance by George Staib of Temple University.

SHARE's Easter egg hunt

by Lillian H. Potter

The peace and tranquillity of Friday afternoon on Front Quad was disturbed April 14th as 14 four-year-olds from the Northwest Child Development Center (NCDC) scoured the quad in search of Easter eggs. The eggs were hidden for the children by the SHARE staff and other volunteers. Among the eggs hidden was one "golden" egg, carefully placed by SHARE president Kara Smith '95.

After a long search, 4-year-old Neshawn of Roanoke found the magical egg. Said Neshawn, "I picked it up and put it in the bag...I felt very happy." When asked about his hunting technique, Neshawn said he felt drawn to the egg and that, "I just knew it was that tree."

Other students had egg-searching techniques. Monique, 4, said she "looked everywhere and got 100 eggs." Deelishsa, also 4, said, "I looked under the trees and found me a whole lot." Karrington, 4, looked on the ground, while Anthony, 4, "found some eggs in the trees."

Adults also had fun at the hunt. Assistant van driver for NCDC, Eloise Gravely said, "I had an enjoyable time. It's nice to be around the kids." Sadye White, a teacher for the class of 4-year-olds at the center said, "they all had a wonderful time."

The motto of the class is "the

loving class," and many children exhibited that love by tackling and wrestling Hollins students. Laurie Webb '95 was one of the victims, as was Celeste Caldwell '95. Caldwell said of the experience, "It was the most fun I'm going to have for the rest of the year. Because of this experience—this interaction and how fun it was—I'm definitely going to volunteer there [NCDC] now." April Cheek, SHARE advisor and Hollins alumna, said that "it's always good to bring an agency to campus, because it exposes people who don't volunteer to what we do and it may encourage them to volunteer."

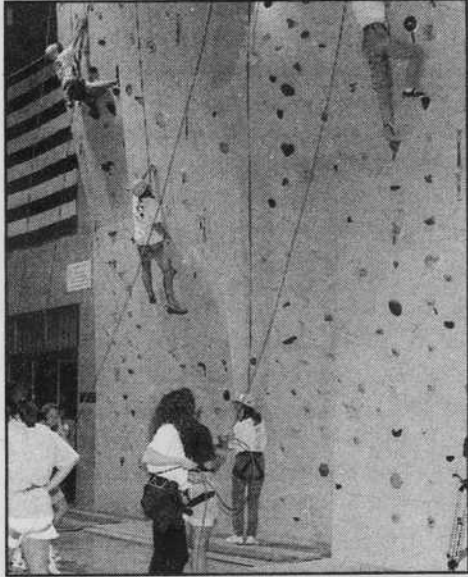
Smith believes that "lots of people don't want to take the time to volunteer—they think it takes hours and hours per week, but it doesn't. I think this event has helped Hollins students see what they can do to help." Smith added that "a lot of Hollins students don't usually see kids from Headstart and child development centers around them. This draws attention to important issues that underlie these children's lives."

The Northwest Child Development Center, on Orange Avenue in Roanoke, provides child care for 104 underprivileged children ages 2-5 at low or no cost to their parents. "The Center always needs volunteers," said Elizabeth Saab '97 who is Hollins' liaison to the center.



RLA volunteers for Habitat for Humanity. Photo by Elizabeth Joyce.

Climbing to new heights



Opening of the new climbing wall.
Photo by Katie McLennand.

by Shaye Strager

The Hollins Outdoor Program's ability to reach new heights is at its peak—literally. On April 6 Hollins' new rock climbing wall opened to the campus, the Roanoke community, and specialty groups and organizations. Members of HOP, the Athletic Association, SGA, and the administration were present to see how their donations went into effect.

Many outside organizations also gave funds to the wall. Grants, local foundations, and community groups all added their donations to complete the 30 ft. structure. Mt. Levoc, named by Hollins alum Cheri Miller '94, is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday to all students and those interested in Roanoke.

Jenn Sgro, SGA President, gave the dedication. The HOP team, lead by Tom Layer, was accompanied by Leadership Coordinator Gayle Stoner. Together this trio announced climbing wall trivia facts, gave away door prizes, and helped to get climbers up on the wall.

Some of the benefits of starting on a climbing wall all relate to preparing the climber for larger feats. One of the first groups to use the wall was a 15 member team trying to train for a 600 ft. climb on Stone Mountain in North Carolina. They spent one day on the Hollins wall and then left to tackle the real thing.

Most people may not realize that many of the wall's benefits deal with strengthening skills. They can be related to everyday living, and begin with focusing. Climbing takes careful footing and the ability to focus. It is an excellent workout that gives dedicated climbers a goal to work toward. And it also gives a sense of camaraderie between the climber and the belayer. The belayer is the steady source holding the safety rope on the ground. A strong sense of trust is obtained with every climb.

According to Tom Layer, the only thing students need to climb is the enthusiasm to try something new. "You don't need any previous training," said Layer. "We have all of the proper equipment such as harnesses, shoes, and chalk bags. Climbers are welcome to bring their own but all they really need is a good attitude to climb."



Erin Saluta '95 bats during practice. Photo by Katie McLennand.

Softball team aims for success with hard work

by Heather Lucas

Softball team members certainly are anxious to get a piece of the action. Dedicated players left Hollins on a Saturday at the ungodly hour of seven in the morning. And why? To play in a tournament held at Mary Baldwin College. But the day of the tournament, April 8, was a perfect day to play softball. In the tournament Hollins played against Sweet Briar and Southern Virginia College for Women.

The team lost both games by only one point, and co-coach Roger Bowen said, "We had a lot to be proud of. Each individual played well." Sophomore Adrienne Mullikin, a returning player, hit a home run in the game against Southern Virginia College for Women. Chief Wills said she "hit well throughout the whole tournament." Both Chief Wills and Bowen agreed that Adrienne was an outstanding player that day. Mullikin said that despite the loss, "I had lots of fun." And other teammates enjoyed the day as well.

Shermanne McInnis, also a sophomore, said, "I am doing a lot better than I thought I would. Teammates are really encouraging." She is a newcomer to the sport this year and hadn't played since t-ball. McInnis, after being called "Charmin" one too many times, has recently been nicknamed "Squeeze" by a fellow teammate. (You can use your

wits to figure out how this relates.) During the tournament, Hollins had to wait quite some time before playing Southern Virginia College for Women.

This provided some teammates with the opportunity to snooze while others killed the time playing cards. They drank soda and munched on the popcorn which Bowen provided. Soon after, Chief Wills brought players cranberry muffins from a local bakery. On the way home from Mary Baldwin, Chief Wills topped the day off by continuing the tradition of treating everyone to ice-cream.

Chief Wills said the following about the tournament: "Overall it was a good effort. The team played competitively and I feel better about all of you this year, even though there are many returning teammates."

The softball team got a chance to play against Southern Virginia College for Women again on Monday April 10th. They won the first game and sophomore Jessica Clark was the highest percentage hitter all day. She went three for three in the game and got on base every time she batted. Sarah Kirby, a senior, also played a good game and got a home run.

Freshman Noni Mayfield also played well. She walked once and had two hits. The softball team has two home games scheduled for April 19 and 20. Their last game is away against Washington & Lee. But that is not the last you will see of the softball team. A student-faculty game is being planned.

LOSE WEIGHT

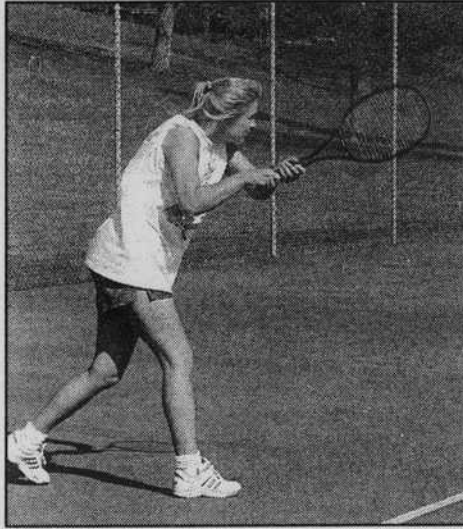
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Tennis Team prepares for ODAC Tournament



Perrin Clark during practice. Photo by Christie Nielsen.

by Sara T. Tweedy

The tennis team is playing hard as they approach the ODAC Tournament. Their record of 5 - 3 is great, considering Ashley Ronald, the number one seed, has been out due to a foot injury. Coach Harris is far from disappointed with her team. "Everyone is playing out of position with

Ashley gone," stated Harris.

Yet even without Ronald, Hollins has been playing with much intensity and effort. This positive attitude aided their defeat over Sweet Briar. "Anytime you can beat Sweet Briar, you can call that a great win," Harris boasted.

Susie Bowman, '98, and Camm Knight, '95, are playing the number one spot in doubles, since Ronald has been out. Bowman enjoys the challenge, but gives due credit to her partner, Knight. "I'm lucky to have Camm as a doubles partner," Bowman stated. "If it appears I'm out of my league, she gives me confidence."

Although Ronald is suffering from a foot injury and cannot play or practice, she is definitely not far from sight. "She is out here for every practice and every match," Harris stated. "She's certainly setting a good example for the other players."

The tennis team has to play well for the next few matches to get a good seed for the ODAC Tournament. All the matches left are in their conference.

Lacrosse sticks together



Megan Lally '98 beats R-MWC to the ball. Photo by Christie Nielsen.

As the lacrosse season comes to an end, the team will take away more from the season than a win-loss record.

Although their current record may not be what they had hoped for at the onset of the season, this year's team is young, and they have faced some challenging opponents early in the season.

During the weekend of April 8 and 9 the lacrosse team competed in the Chesapeake Invitational Tournament. Hollins won its first game against Trinity 14-9 but lost the last two games

against Notre Dame and Sweet Briar. This was the team's second loss to Sweet Briar, but this time Coach DeGrenier said the team played much better.

DeGrenier also said that the tournament was a turning point for the team, "the players, especially the younger ones just really seemed to click and play better than ever." This weekend was as much a bonding experience off the field as it was on the field as the girls stayed together in a hotel and did things as a team such as go out to dinner and to the movies. All in all the weekend was a very posi-

tive experience, one that has pulled the team closer together.

Freshman Megan Lally and sophomore Erin McKinney were picked for the All Tournament Team chosen by the coaches involved in the tournament.

DeGrenier feels that what is important now is keeping the confidence of the players up. This

Riders qualify for Nationals

by Shaye Strager

For the third year in a row, the Hollins College riding team will compete for the Miller's Cup, the national championship competition, at the 22nd annual Intercollegiate National Horse Show at Colorado State University, May 5.

Two years ago Hollins captured the Miller's Cup, and Parris Cozart '93 received the Cacchione Cup, the nation's most prestigious individual honor awarded to an intercollegiate rider. This year Maria Bishop '96 will compete for that same honor. Coaches Peterson, Courter, and Cozart will

week has been tough due to sickness and injuries. The team has had a good season all in all. They have learned a lot about the sport and about working together as a team. All that is left now is to "get it together and finish up strong," says DeGrenier.

accompany the team. Congratulations to those who will compete in nationals for the following.

Maria Bishop '96: Open Equitation over Fence, Open Equitation on the Flat, and Caccione Cup Competition

Jenny Kischner '97: Intermediate Equitation over Fences and Intermediate Equitation on the Flat

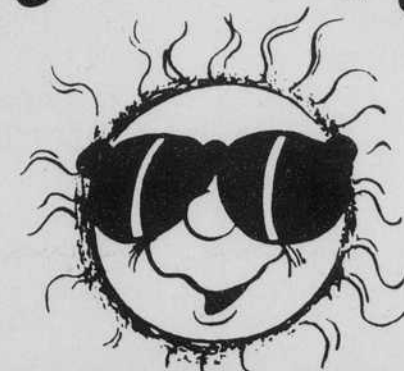
Tracy Prillaman '97: Novice Equitation over Fences

Meg Lyons '98: Novice Equitation on the Flat

Megan Robertson '98: Walk, Trot, and Canter

Merrie Walker '97: Walk and Trot

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'If only': something we should try to say less of

I've been a bundle of hostility this week. Every move I make, every word uttered, I find myself offending someone left and right and even myself on occasion. I snort at every kind word overheard, I make crass statements about people's grandmothers, small children, animals, and any taboo subject in the *Do Not Offend* handbook. Something is going on and yet I feel that I'm not alone.

It doesn't help that I have a new personality every minute. It doesn't help that I want to live in a new city each week, that I wished I had changed my major, that I wish I had gotten my portfolio together sooner, that AT&T is about to bust down my door for an unpaid hundred dollar phone bill, that I don't have a job for the summer, or that I haven't been on a date in an embarrassing amount of months. I've even gone as far as to push all bright colored clothes to the back of my closet because, "they are no good *anyway* for this crap weather we're having" as I explained to my weary roommate. "O-kay....," she said and sneaked quietly out of my room. I know, dammit. I'm feeling sorry for myself and it feels GREAT.

Well, not really. So I went desperately to the Career Resource Center to find myself again. The Career Resource Center, where hundreds of my peers flock mid-Senior year depending on four women to change each of our lives. (What do you mean you can't fit me in next week?)



Kristen Duncan Williams

We've come in droves. We've purchased more envelopes and resume paper than most corporations. We have bought every double density disc in sight, faxed and phoned. We've contacted every person on record who's even heard of Hollins and asked about everything from housing to relationships. Let's face it, we are women seeking major direction.

One of the first signs of recovery is laughter, I've decided. The best week I had this month was when a couple of friends and I started comparing horror stories of applying for jobs way out of our league. I realized that I was not alone. Each of us topped the next story, confessing to calling places and applying for everything from vice president of a well-

known film agency, head manager of a predominant clothing store, to editor-in-chief of a popular magazine...the list was painful and amusing. We could only laugh at our major rejections and unrealistic goals we had set for ourselves. One of the worst cases of unrealistic horror found was written in a friend's date book, "Find Job by Wednesday."

I don't mean all of this in any pathetic way. If anything, it is a compliment to all my fellow classmates. These jobs we talk about will be the jobs we can have in the future—no questions asked. I am surrounded by so many intelligent, strong, ambitious young women who want to do and try everything they can get their hands on. Hollins women write, dance, win sporting championships, go caving, philosophize, are scientists, world travelers, computer experts, mathematicians, and sociologists. Our only problem is that we want to do it all at once. I would have to say quite honestly, I fall into this feeling often too.

But right now, I don't know about anyone else, but I'm ready for a little break. I'm ready for summer sun, to read all the books I haven't read, hang out with my sister, eat at my favorite Greek restaurant, and have my mom do my laundry. I decided this past weekend, I will try not to live my life in "If Only's." If Only I was this, if only I had done that. I think it's something we should all try to do a little less of.

A Letter to Virginia Katz On Her 21st Birthday

April 17, 1995

Dear Virginia,

Happy 21st! Congratulations! You made it, and I'm proud of you.

Of course it seems a short 21 years since I stood outside the Fairfax Hospital nursery looking at your pink, wrinkled face and humming "Julie Through the Glass." Okay, so it's schmaltzy. I'm your father; I'm allowed.

Throughout the pushes and pulls of growing up together (yes, I'm still working on it, too) having you around has always been a great pleasure—not an easy pleasure, but delightful just the same.

Even before you could talk, you made a lot of noise, especially when Mom would go out Wednesday nights to play cards with her girl friends. At bedtime you would cry. You showed persistence even as an infant. I'd walk you around the apartment to no avail. Then I'd wrap you up and we would sit out on the steps and watch the lights of the high-rise apartments across Four Mile Run. I'd talk and sing. Then we'd walk around the corner to Columbia Pike and watch the car lights. After a while, you'd fall asleep enough for me to get you back to your crib without too much fuss. Your forced me to do all this that I didn't want to do, and I enjoyed it immensely.

You have an ample share of enthusiasm, and I'm glad. One year on the Sunday after Christmas, I think you were 3, Rev. Glassco began the children's sermon by asking if anyone wanted to mention a present he or she had received. You jumped up with your hand in the air and said, "I got a big wheel, I got a big wheel!"

Your enthusiasm also meant you wanted to try lots of things. In high school, you tried some things Mom and I didn't approve of. Normally you were thoughtful enough not to let us know, but we sometimes found out anyway. Somehow you survived, and here you are.

The things I have wished most for you seem to have come true. You seem well on your way to loving the world, knowing it well and playing a part. It starts with loving yourself, and I hope I have helped you learn that.

Even though we have made some mistakes the last 21 years, I wouldn't turn the lot in for a second chance. I like what we got, and I'm still, as the song says, "looking forward to doing things with you for many, many years to come."

I love you,
Dad

The Columns seeks creative staff members

The following positions need to be filled for the next school year: copy editor and photo editor. If interested, call us at x6400 or come to our Wednesday meetings at 6 p.m. at our office in Starkie's basement.

We also need writers, photographers, and layout designers. If interested, register for the fall class and come talk one of our meetings. Come see how cool we are!