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Hollins Columns



January 22, 1996

Volume 68, Issue 6

Memories of the Storm of the Century

by Liz Pauls

Students tried to conjure up a variety of activities to do during the seemingly endless time on their hands thanks to the "Blizzard of '96" and the two feet of snow it dumped. Most students were reduced to an unimaginative routine of eating, sleeping, and watching movies (most more than once).

"I just looked forward to going to the cafeteria and to the next time *Little Women* was going to be on HBO. We had already watched all our videos at least twice," said Jenny Mullet '99. "It was pretty bad."

Anna Lee Stanfield '99 agreed. She stated, "I passed three levels of Sonic, watched every movie available, and have gotten amazingly good at Tetris. What is left?"

Some students used the time to try out a new hobby or to pick up an old one.

"I discovered rollerblades and went roller blading up and down the halls of Tinker," said Barbara Sinith '99.

Bizz Glover '99 finished the 600 page novel she was trying to read. She said, "I read *The Shell Seekers* by Rosamunde Pilcher. It wasn't as good as everybody said it was."

Students overcome with cabin fever ventured out of their rooms, or as many put it, "places of captivity," and headed for the outdoors. Cross-country skiing became a popular activity. "I went skiing on the Parkway and helped people get unstuck," noted Carrie Ward '99.

Just playing in the snow gave students something to do. Rachel Kitchens '99 said, "My friends and I got really antsy and we had watched

way too many movies, so we did the Sound of Music thing and went singing and rolling down the hills of snow."

For April Sandolph '99, playing in the snow also provided some enjoyment. The fun became somewhat ill-fated though. "My roommate and I had fun building a giant snow cave,

someone's own private dance party, dancing became a favorite energy release. Johanna Bonskowski '99 said, "Some friends and I were really bored and couldn't get into the dance studio, so we held a dance party in the Botetourt study room."

Holly Leech '99 and her friends were also bit by the dance fever bug. Leech said, "We just put the Rock and Jock Jams CD in and went buck-wild in our room for an hour or so."

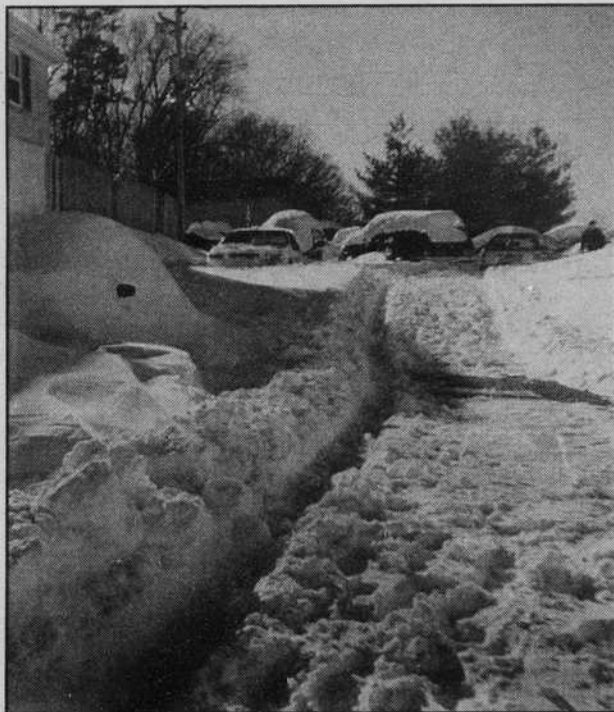
While many tried to find ways of entertaining themselves at Hollins, others found themselves trapped somewhere off campus with even less to do.

Moriah White '99 stated, "My friends and I went to D.C. on Friday expecting to stay for two nights. We ended up being there for a week, living off of tuna fish and beans."

Laura Harbour '99 found it refreshing to be stranded in Richmond instead of being at Hollins.

"I was able to get out more. My friend Kate and I would take long walks at 2:00 in the morning around the University of Richmond campus," she stated. "It was a great change of scenery."

No matter what students did to occupy their time, most are just trying to forget the storm, but a peer is one step ahead of them. Emily Schwarp '99 concluded, "All I remember is taking Day-Quill and Ny-Quill. The storm is all a blur to me!"



Buried cars at the apartments

but we were told it was going to be bulldozed the next day."

Cristen James '99 and her friends decided to brave the roads and the weather; they drove to the Waffle House. "We drove, or rather, pushed our car there at two in the morning," James said. "We were the only ones there except for the waitress, who I think was just as bored as we were."

Whether it was the "Pajamy Jam" put on by the admissions office or

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A Snow Day at Hollins

by Lillian H. Potter

Nine o' clock a.m. I hit the snooze bar only to hear Michael Jackson crooning "You Are Not Alone." I don't think this will be a good day. I've got Lisa Marie's face in my mind now. I eat a power bar and check my e-mail. My childhood best friend, studying abroad at Oxford this year, greets me with this message: "Heard you are having snow. How delightful. Doesn't it remind you of snow days in junior high when we would spend the day cruising the subway and going to movies? Building snowmen? I feel so inspired I am going to write a poem about snow days."

Delightful? Yeah, right, I forgot. As I stare out at the rapidly growing layers of snow that threaten to envelop Front Quad, I type back the following: "This is not fun. I have been in the same room for five days now."

Eleven o'clock a.m. My roommate calls from Texas. She says, "I can't believe I missed the snow! I wish I were there to play in it. It's 60 degrees here." How tragic, I think to myself, I mean, really, how damned sad.

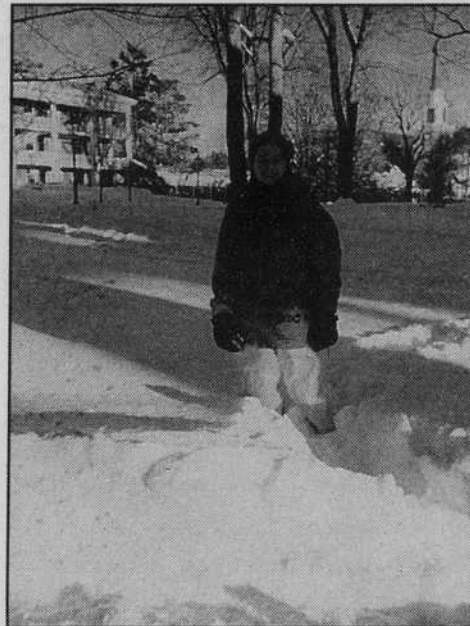
Eleven-fifteen a.m. I decide to start my day and work on my thesis. Sitting at my computer, I struggle with an overwhelming craving for fried chicken. I run through my narrow options: a) walk to Kentucky Fried Chicken; b) take a cab to K.F.C.; c) persuade someone with four-wheel drive to take me to Kentucky Fried; or d) break out the Wheat Thins. I choose the latter.

Eleven-thirty a.m. A friend comes over and it takes her twenty minutes to get from Main to East. She removes her boots and complains about the snow. I kvetch about the snow. Twenty inches so far. We eat some old salami and more Wheat Thins. I whine about my thesis. She whines about her thesis. We finish the Wheat Thins.

Noon. I have to get off campus, so I trek to Kroger in my friend's yellow rain pants. Cars and trucks are stranded alongside the road and stuck in drifts. Wheels are spinning and I have windburn. Why did I did I feel this atavistic pull towards Kroger anyway? I mean, would we all starve if I

didn't go on this hunting and gathering mission?

Inside Kroger, things are trippy. Everyone talks like they are on *Northern Exposure*. People sit around sipping coffee, playing checkers, and discussing football. A rush on toilet paper, baby formula, milk, and bread has left only capers, soup, and SnackWells. I pick up some cookies and head back towards Hollins, snapping photos for my roommate with a



Potter

disposable camera.

One-thirty p.m. I get another message from my friend at Oxford: "My poem was a sensation. My tutor was enthralled with the whole 'snow day' concept. He believes it may provide a new, potent metaphor for American freedom. Thanks for being my muse." I reply: "I'm no muse. Stop glorifying snow."

By now it is three o'clock p.m. Time to go to the gym. I strap on a headband, hat, earmuffs, scarf, gloves, sweat pants, two pairs of socks, boots, and a coat. I beg security to unlock the weight room. Eyeing my overreactive outfit, they let me in after pointedly noting that I am the only person on campus who wants to exercise during the Blizzard of the Century. Once in the gym, I slip out of my Nanook of the North haute couture and strip down to a t-shirt and shorts. As I run on the treadmill, I attempt to rid myself of the pervasive image of being on a huge red plastic circle amid wood chips. To make matters worse,

"You Are Not Alone" wafts over the Nautilus equipment.

Four-thirty p.m. After a shower, I call friends who live over in the apartments. We haven't seen each other in four days. My friend is still sitting on her sofa, drinking beer and watching her friends do the Cindy Crawford video. Good to know I am not the only gerbil on campus. I ask her if she is coming over for dinner. "It's too far to walk," she complains. I guess this means I have to confront my fate: sitting with my on-campus friends. Normally, this is an eclectic and entertaining group of people. But I find myself dreading yet another meal with them as I make the thirty-minute schlep over to Moody. We have been doing nothing but play pool and watch TV together for six days.

Dinner. We complain about the snow, eat donuts and pizza valiantly served by a snow-pants clad Maggie and an unshaven Bill Wrobel, tell the same jokes, talk about the weather, argue about what to do tonight. Which movie will we watch for the fourth time? *An Affair to Remember* or *Showgirls*? How much do we owe Blockbuster in late fines anyway? Will I be forced into physical violence if another person talks about snowstorms of their childhood?

Figuring I am better off alone, I go home. Taking the mature route, I call my mother to complain. She tells me to go read a book or go back to the gym or, in any case, to stop whining. I fall asleep reading the *Guinness Book of World Records* (entry: Person Who Survived Longest Without Fried Chicken and Also Did Not Kill Her Friends in the Middle of a Blizzard.)

But the next day is sunny and the snow has stopped. As I dig out my car with an ice pick and sledgehammer, I notice, for the first time, how beautiful the snow is — how the ice coats each twig and branch and how high walls of drifting snow transform an ordinary landscape into a desert of sheer whiteness. At lunch, we look at the mountains, the sun, and the clouds and feel better: the storm is over and the snow is beautiful. Humming "You Are Not Alone," I sink my teeth into a batter-dipped drumstick, and e-mail my friend, "The snow is okay."

Evolution of Sweet Briar University

by Andre Spies

Every time they hang up the flags on the lampposts around campus, I wonder how we got our new motto: "Vision — Tradition—Planned Giving." Whatever happened to "Levavi Oculus?" It's not a timely question right now; with the flags down, I'm only reminded of it because it turns out that one of our administrators actually has "vision." They're still working on "tradition."

I discovered this in a conversation with Laura Bingham at the Christmas party, just before the dancing bug bit me. The usual crowd was there, including, among those who just got tenure, Dan Derringer. Some people might think Bingham is awfully young to be a vice-president, but she has an idea about the future of Hollins that is so daring and creative that it deserves to be shared with all of you.

She suggests that Hollins merge with Sweet Briar and Randolph-Macon Women's College to form a larger, more viable

entity. We would lose a little of the intimacy of the current Hollins, but I think we could preserve the essential character of the place, while taking advantage of the obvious economies of scale. Imagine a speakers' budget three times as large; a library almost three times as large, gradually eliminating the current wasteful duplication of effort; a basketball team three times as large (I mean deep). The faculty could offer more specialized courses to students. The student-faculty ratio would not have to change, but large numbers of administrators would become redundant.

The new institution would be located here on the Hollins campus, because Roanoke is obviously a much better place to be than Lynchburg, and we have plenty of room for expansion. Bingham proposes that we sell off the physical assets of R-MWC and Sweet Briar and use the funds to build the new facilities that we would need. R-MWC is prime residential real estate, waiting to be snapped up by developers,

but I have a better idea for Sweet Briar: it would make an ideal retirement resort, with progressive care facilities and an intellectual, feminist ambiance. Alumnae of the three colleges would have priority, and it could be part of the faculty and staff retirement package. We would want to start up a College of Physical Therapy and Geriatric Studies and become a university.

How can we get Sweet Briar and R-MWC to go along with this brilliant plan? One thing that might help (swallow hard here folks, everyone has to make sacrifices for this to work) would be to call the place Sweet Briar University. Linda Lorimer could become the first president if she could deliver her board of trustees. Are you out there somewhere listening, Linda?

I'm so excited about this idea that I've changed my mind about our presidential search process. Now I think we should go for an interim president for a year to give this plan a chance to get off the ground.

More memories of Anne Harper

Dear Editor,

As an alum of Hollins and as a daughter of a staff member, I try to keep close tabs on all the Hollins news. After Thanksgiving, I was saddened to learn of the death of Anne Harper '97, but her death didn't really touch me until I picked up a stray copy of your December 11 issue I found in the Rat during my holiday break. After reading your memorial articles and seeing her picture, I realized that I knew Anne.

She was a freshman when I was a senior at Hollins, and even though I was so wrapped up in my own studies, I remember Anne especially from a history class we took together. I have two wonderful memories of Anne. The first time I really took the time to notice her occurred after Professor Rampton showed us a clip from *Monty Python's Holy Grail* to illustrate conditions in England during the plague. After class, Rampton invited any of us who wanted to continue watching the film to stay. Anne and I were the only students left in the room, howling at the dancing Knights of the Round Table.

The second memory I have of Anne is also in conjunction with that class. Professor Rampton invited the class to her home for breakfast, and Anne and I were the only students who showed up. I remember being extremely impressed by Anne's presence of mind and organizational skills, especially for a freshman fast approaching her first attempt at college finals.

Thank you, *Hollins Columns* staff, for helping me to remember this special student. Your thoughtfulness and sensitivity reached beyond the front quad and even across state lines to reach me.

Sincerely,
Bethany L. Blankenship '94

Letter from the Editor

Dear Reader,

This short term issue of the *Hollins Columns* offers students a chance to be more experimental, and, quite frankly, less adherent to the rules of journalism. This issue also allows new people to participate. I want to extend an invitation to anyone interested in the newspaper to get involved, whether it is by joining the staff for the spring semester, writing a letter to the editor, contributing an article, or selling an advertisement.

In this issue, students explore how their friends entertained themselves while trapped on campus during the "Blizzard of '96," share their experiences at a restaurant or a movie, give an update on the basketball team, and report other fun and newsworthy items, including a calendar of events.

Enjoy,
Amy M. Miller
Editor-in-chief

We welcome letters from all members of the Hollins College community on campus issues. Please include your signature, address, and for verification only, a phone number where you can be reached. Unsigned letters will not be published.

All letters are edited. Because of the volume we receive, we regret we can only publish a portion of them. Letters should be left in the *Hollins Columns* box in the campus post office.

Writing Center J-Term Hours

| | |
|------------|-------------------|
| Mondays | 4 p.m.-9 p.m. |
| Tuesdays | 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.; |
| | 7 p.m.-9 p.m. |
| Wednesdays | 4 p.m.-9 p.m. |
| Thursdays | 4 p.m.-9 p.m. |

Please stop in with any questions about writing or documentation. We are located on the first floor of Middle East, and can be reached at x6387. Students can make appointments for other times.

The J-Term staff: Laura Boutwell, Carol Branigan, Pauline Newton, Lillian Potter, Jessica Printz, Anne Allen Westbrook.

Gloria Naylor to speak at Hollins in February

Courtesy of College Relations

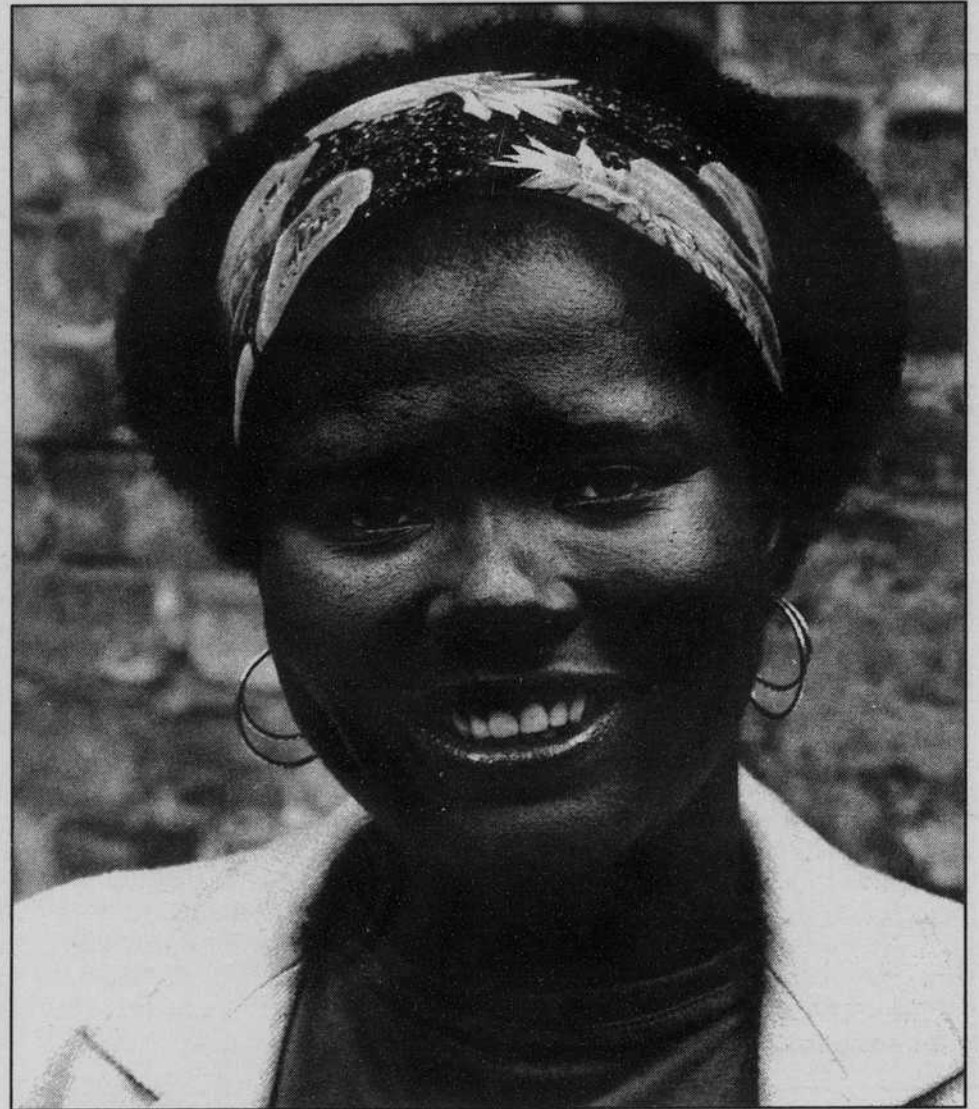
On Wed. Feb. 7, best-selling author, screenwriter, and spokesperson for black women, Gloria Naylor will present a lecture entitled "The Importance of Black Women in Afro-American History." Her lecture, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Hollins Theatre with a reception and book signing to follow. The event is co-sponsored by the Jessie Ball duPont Fund and the General Speakers Fund.

Naylor is the author of four novels published in 12 languages: *The Women of Brewster Place*, *Linden Hills*, *Mama Day*, and *Bailey's Cafe*. *The Women of Brewster Place* won the American Book Award in 1983 and was later made into an ABC miniseries nominated for two Emmys starring Oprah Winfrey. Robert Redford's Sundance Institute honored Naylor as a Sundance Fellow during its workshop which adapted *Mama Day* to the screen as a feature length film. *Bailey's Cafe* was adapted for the theatre and received praise at the Lincoln Center and its world premier at the Hartford Stage

Company.

A native of New York, Naylor earned a bachelor of arts degree in English from Brooklyn College and a master's degree in Afro-American studies from Yale University. She has been a scholar-in-residence at the University of Pennsylvania; a Senior Fellow of the Society for the Humanities at Cornell University; and a visiting professor at the University of Kent in Canterbury, England. Naylor has received numerous awards including the Guggenheim and National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships and the New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship. Naylor is also president of One Way Productions, an independent entertainment production company she began in 1990.

The Boston Globe commented "Naylor... has unswerving moral fervor and intelligence, plus an arresting sense of humor that she wields like a velvet cape over the pain of racism." Naylor is currently researching her next novel and speaking to audiences around the world.



Gloria Naylor

The Best Of 1995

Best Actor in a movie _____

Best Actor in a T.V. Series _____

Best Actress in a movie _____

Best Actress in a T.V. Series _____

Best Album _____

Best Book _____

Best Song _____

Best Video _____

Best Female Performer _____

Best Male Performer _____

Best Magazine _____

Best Talk / Late Night Show _____

Best Drama Series _____

Best Sitcom _____

Best Stand-up Comedian _____

Best Movie _____

Best Movie Soundtrack _____

Best Director _____

Please return the following survey by January 31st. Staff members will place a box in Moody and the post office. Surveys can also be mailed to P.O. Box 10154 or placed in the *Hollins Columns* inter-campus box located next to switchboard. Remember that these surveys can only reflect your views if you vote. Only one survey per person. Results will be printed in February.

28 Students Named to Who's Who

Courtesy of College Relations

Congratulations to Carol Branigan, Heather Pierce, Tiffany M. Marshall, Natalie LaPrade, Kate Hanger, Erin Dowd, Meredith Pierce, Pauline Newton, Lillian Potter, Meredith P. Hill, Susan Willis, Sherry Poff, Maggie Collins, Tonia Socha, Teah Martin, Elizabeth Palmer, Megan McCarthy, Katherine Echternacht, Dawn Geron, Rebecca Jackson, Heather Lucas, Jennifer Kischner, Shermanne McInnis, Kristen Tracey, Kristen Stoneburner, Elva

Williams, Deborah Hardiman, and Krista Thomas. These students have been named to the 1996 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

These students are part of an elite group of leaders selected from more than 1,400 institutions of higher learning in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Students are chosen for their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities, and potential for continued success.

Hollins basketball team reaches turning point

by Sara T. Tweedy

With a 1-10 record thus far, the basketball team is struggling this year. Despite the obstacles, this young team is optimistic about its future. Under the direction of first-year coach Karen Harvey, the team is revamping its offensive and defensive line-up and strategies.

With less than ten players in the last two seasons, the team has grown used to playing a match-up zone. Under Harvey, the team has incorporated a tough man-to-man trap into their defensive strategy despite having only a handful of players.

"It's tough playing with seven people," Harvey stated. "But we have a team that doesn't quit."

Kelly Robinson '96 asserted, "The new defenses are smart. We need to take a chance and be aggressive." The team has met Harvey's defensive expectations in the games against Savannah College of Art and Design and Roanoke College; however they fell short of victory in both.

"The team is finally to the point where we can play man to man,

which is essential in order to compete in the ODAC," Harvey stated. "I honestly think the Savannah game could be the turning point of our season. That was the best game we played defensively."

With only three upperclasswomen on the team, the players cannot rely on an experienced starting five to pull victories out of the hat. Instead, the players rely on a strict concept of team and the guidance of Robinson. Robinson is a leader by example on the defensive end and at the point guard position. Amy Worley '98 has stepped up her offensive game in the post to lead the team in scoring. Her grace at the post position has landed her a double-digit scoring average and a reputation as a key player.

The team will continue to play through the month of February in some tough match-ups. The team is a must-see for sports fans who want to watch scrappy, developing players. As Coach Harvey stated, "Sometimes the team that has the most talent doesn't always win. Sometimes it's the team with the most heart."

Calendar of Events

Jan 2-Feb 11. Student art exhibit from fall term classes. Art Gallery. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Jan 24. John Lukacs, professor emeritus of history at Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia, will present a lecture entitled "The History of the Idea of Europe." Babcock Auditorium. 7 p.m.

Jan 25. John Cunningham, professor of English at Hollins, will present a lecture entitled "How Should One Understand the Ending of the Canterbury Tales?" Green Drawing Room. 7:30 p.m.

Jan 29. Pianist Nanette Solomon, professor of music at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, will perform works by nineteenth and twentieth century women composers. Talmadge Recital Hall in Bradley. 8:15 p.m.

Feb 7. In honor of Black History Month, author Gloria Naylor will present a lecture entitled "An Evening of Dialogue with Gloria Naylor: the Importance of Black Women in Afro-American History." Naylor has written four books: *The Women of Brewster Place*, *Mama*, *Linden Hill's*, and *Bailey's Cafe*. Hollins Theatre. 7:30 p.m.

Feb 8. *Eaten Alive*, a theatre production written and performed by Broadway actress Mimi Wyche, explores the emotional impact of eating disorders. Wyche is a recovering anorexic/bulimic. Hollins Theatre. 7 p.m.

Feb 15. Founder's Day celebrates the birthday of Charles Lewis Cocke, founder of Hollins College. Seniors proceed to the Cocke family cemetery to place a wreath on Cocke's grave. 12 p.m.

Feb 15. This year's Founder's Day symposium features women in the visual arts. Activities include lectures, the Convocation, a reception, a candlelight dinner, and a presentation celebrating women in the visual arts. A special art exhibit with the work of more than 20 artists will be featured in the Art Gallery until Mar 17.

What Will Hollins Look Like in the Year 2000?

Come find out at the
Master Planning Town Meeting
Jan. 23, 1:30 p.m. Babcock Auditorium.

Architect Joel Spaeth and the Hillier group will speak about prospective plans.

Mardi Gras Costume Party

January 25

9-11 p.m.

In the Rat

FREE FOR ALL

SUPER BOWL

Steelers v. Cowboys

6 p.m.

January 28

in the Banta Room

Review of student art exhibit in Art Annex

by Sallie Cosby

The student art exhibition in the Art Gallery, which "consists of works from fall-term studio art classes in design, drawing, etching, painting, and photography," was billed to open Jan. 4, but, by Jan. 13, the exhibit consisted only of works from Bob Sulkin's 203 photography class. On Jan. 16, the exhibit was complete.

Out of all of the studio work produced by the seven classes represented, only a few were chosen for display. Presumably, their pieces were chosen for superior quality, yet the artists remain unnamed. The only indications of any ownership are little cards giving the class and instructor's name. To an outsider, each grouping could be the work of one artist, possibly the one name on the card. Most students know, however, that Bill White, Nancy Dahlstrom, Mimi Harris, and Bob Sulkin are not students. Pieces which have names scribbled at the bottoms aid students in identifying the artist.

Without names or titles, reviewing is difficult. Description, it is hoped, will suffice. At least the artists will recognize their works as translated to prose.

From Sulkin's Art 203 Photography class, two pieces stood out. The photograph of an apple in a metal bowl shows strong use of shape repetition juxtaposed with pattern differentiation. Another photograph, one of a woman with her horse, also made use of shape repeti-

tion, giving the figure of the woman a similar grace as that of the horse. The lightness of the woman's hair produces a startling contrast to the darkness of the horse's head, while the comparatively mediocre shades of the background push these contrasting figures to the foreground.

A self-portrait done by Elske Parker '98, is remarkable in that it clearly represents the subject's face. The placement of the face to the far right, the movement of her hair, and the darkness on the left all give the self-portrait a transitory sense. Parker's work come out of Harris' Art 110 2-D design class.

The two brightly-colored pointillist paintings from White's Art 100 drawing class were perhaps inspired by the Andrew Forge exhibit at Hollins. Forge's work, exhibited from Oct. 17-Nov. 12, 1995, is more representational (if abstractly), but the two paintings done by White's student(s) show good color movement and grouping, exemplifying a knowledge of the execution of pointillist painting.

Also from White's drawing class was a watercolor of three girls in a kitchen. The loose technique was tightened by thin black lines of definition, while the three figures form a clockwork cycle of rest to activity.

"Apple Orchard," and "They" by N. Smith were created in Dahlstrom's Art 225 etching class. They show a good grasp of technique and minute attention to detail, as does Yukiko

Hoya's '96 fanciful grouping of identical heads of Charlie Chaplin. Though both artists use different types of composition, the use of balance is sound in each one's works.

Dahlstrom's drawing class produced mixed effects. The charcoal drawings of Charlie Chaplin with a boy and a policeman and a pen and ink drawing of three 1/2 pairs of shoes catch the viewer's eye. The Chaplin drawing shows strict representation, with value change gradual and effective. The shoes were represented more minimally, creating an effect as one student said, "like a painting from a 1970s living room."

One piece from White's Art 230 painting class, of hanging greenery held by a large bow, resembled in composition William Harnett's dead dangling rabbits in "After the Hunt." The artist of this black and white painting, however, was not as concerned with strict representation, which produced an entirely different effect. There is a paper 3-D cutout of the same subject from White's drawing class; presumably it was only the prop which shared identity.

In all, the student exhibit was unsurprising. A few noteworthy pieces reflected a good grasp of technique and form. The show will be on exhibit until Feb. 11, so stop by the Art Gallery and pick out your own favorites.

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Buck Mountain Grille: A palatable choice

by Heidi Wiharle

In reviewing a restaurant, one should be critical and cite the good, the bad, and the inedible, but I have nothing but good to tell about the Buck Mountain Grille. Buck Mountain is located on the left side of 220 south, past Tanglewood Mall and Wal-Mart, on 5006 Franklin Rd., and is twenty minutes from Hollins, a short trip for the great food and service.

When students enter with a date or a group of girlfriends, they are not seated separately from the other diners for fear of being a disruption. A waitress or waiter quickly arrives for drink orders. The menu states, "Our beverages range from milk to Manhattans and change frequently. Please inquire." I prefer the spearmint iced tea myself. The service is fast and the staff is not lax, because of the stereotyped bad tip from a "poor" college student. I appreciate this kind of service and not every restaurant is as dedicated to their younger customers.

Students can afford to eat at Buck Mountain and go home full and satisfied. The menu offers breakfast brunch items on Saturday. Items include the Roanoke toast (French toast with mashed bananas and plain yogurt) served with a side dish of fruit

salad with a "honey-cream cheese-yogurt dressing" for \$4.95 and the smoked salmon cream cheese spread and a bagel, also served with a fruit salad for the same price. I enjoyed eating the pumpkin pancakes offered on the special menu.

If students crave the lunch brunch, they can choose from five different salads ranging from \$3.95 to \$7.95. Students can also order a "Quarry Club" sandwich or a "Buck Burger," which is "char-broiled to your taste" for \$4.95. Dinner is a little more expensive. Prices range from about eight to thirteen dollars, but the shrimp and angel hair pasta or a salmon steak with maple glaze is worth the cost. Dinner also comes with a side salad and warm bread or rolls.

Vegetarians may have already heard of Buck Mountain because of its reputation as the best vegetarian restaurant in Roanoke. The red beans and rice plate or the hummus sandwich tastes good; meat eaters who are looking for something different love to try this dish.

I hope that I have made you hungry and exposed a Roanoke dining secret to you. So the next time you crave good food and want a sit-down meal, try Buck Mountain Grille.

Student-directed play is a 'light drama'

by Teresa Talbott

On Feb. 9 and 10 at 8 p.m. in the Little Theater, students will perform a Joyce Carol Oates play entitled *The Eclipse* under the direction of Teresa Talbott '96. The one-act play is taken from a set of two plays entitled *In Darkest America*, and is Talbott's senior project.

The Eclipse is about a mother-daughter relationship. The mother, Muriel Washburn, faces a mental elcipse, or bout of insanity. Though heavy in subject material, the play is light and witty. Muriel is a brilliant 70-year-old woman who suffers from wild mood swings.

The play consists of four roles: Muriel, played by Lucia Del Vecchio '98; Jen Camden '99 per-

forms as Stephanie, Muriel's daughter; and Jessica Shearer '99 as Aileen Stanley, a social worker. The fourth role, Señor Ríos, has not been cast.

When asked her impression of the play, Camden stated, "The most striking thing about the play is that it deals with a subject that you often see or read about in a tabloid or textbook style, but the playwright manages to combine them by showing the horror of Muriel's illness while keeping it light for the audience."

Del Vecchio warns, "People shouldn't approach it as a heart-wrenching drama, but as a light drama with an espresso center. It is not a feel-bad-for-us play, but a subtly effective comedy."

Presidential search

In early February, constituencies of the college will be invited to attend a meeting or send a statement in writing expressing the characteristics essential for the ninth president of Hollins. If

you have ideas for the meeting or suggestions for presidential candidates, please forward them to the Presidential Search Committee, c/o Linda Steele, P.O. Box 9657, Roanoke, VA.

Waiting to Exhale leaves viewers breathless

by Tiffany M. Marshall

Set in the dry summer-toasted desert of Phoenix, Arizona, *Waiting to Exhale*, an adaptation of Terry McMillan's widely acclaimed novel, immediately introduces the viewer to four attractive articulate women: Savannah Jackson, Bernandine Harris, Robin Stokes, and Gloria Matthews.

With its intermingling scenes, *Waiting to Exhale* allows the viewer to become personally familiar and involved with every facet of these women: their jobs, families, and, most predominately, their relationships. With the help of writer McMillan, director Forest Whitaker successfully transfers this novel to the big screen by following the movie's predecessor almost precisely.

The opening scene of the movie presents Savannah, played by Whitney Houston, as she prepares to meet a blind date at a New Year's

Eve Party. With each stroke of makeup and word of inhibition, her character unfolds. In less than five minutes, the viewer learns that she has had three serious relationships, and the most serious one is with a married man.

As the movie progresses, familiarity with the hardships and hilarious situations that shape each characters' existence becomes tangible. The strength of each of these women is unveiled as they try to justify their lives with the men whom they are involved.

As each woman grapples with family troubles, men, disappointments, and the quandaries of feeling old in still-youthful bodies, the viewer watches the bonds between them grow deeper, their laughter fuller, and their observations about love more sage and lambent.

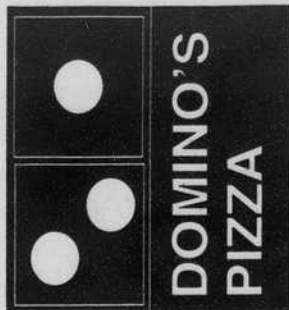
The fascination of *Waiting to Exhale* lies in its ability to draw the audience into the life of each of its very complex characters. Its appeal

is wide-reaching as it inevitably becomes applicable to women of all ages, races, and ethnicities.

The character of Bernandine, played by the powerful Angela Bassett, embodies a strong role in the movie. Faced with the divorce from her husband due to infidelity, the audience sees Bassett's character transcend from utter depression to a reincarnation of the strength and confidence that many women strive to attain.

Loretta Devine and Lela Rochon, who star as Gloria and Robin respectively, add their talents to sum up a movie that, despite stirring controversy over its treatment of men, suits the viewer as it tells the story of being a woman.

Waiting to Exhale is very satisfying and completely indulging. Whitaker and McMillan take the audience inside the blues and not only show them how to feel good but also how to breathe life.



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