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Hollins Columns



Volume 69, Issue 5

November 18, 1996

Dr. Janet Rasmussen officially inaugurated as Hollins' ninth president

by Elizabeth Wyatt

On Friday. November 8, at 4:30 P.M. Dr Janet Rasmussen was inducted as the ninth president of Hollins College. Delegates, past presidents, alumnae, faculty and students congregated the DuPont in Chapel for the celebration.

For two days, the campus played host to an array of speakers, performers and artists as they enter-

the guests. The committees, as well as everyone who was involved in making the inauguration possible, finally saw the results of their hard work take form.

The events that kicked off on Thursday, and came to a close Friday evening, began with a reading by author Karen Osborn '79, author of Patchwork and Between Earth and Sky. Drawings by artist Jan Knipe were on display in the Art tained and educated Annex, and the

Hollins Repertory a variety of food and Company Dance highlighted work by students, faculty and other guest artists with a performance entitled Fall Dance Gathering in the Theatre.

The excitement of the events were revealed as Hollins continued to extend the warm welcome to its guests with a campus wide luncheon held on Friday in the cafeteria. Hosted by SGA, the luncheon offered

music.

Megan McCarthy '97, president of SGA, commented, "We wanted to make it [the luncheon] special for guests as well as students because this is a very special event and an exciting time."

Many students were highly involved in the preparation of the reception following the ceremony. Angela Broadus '97 was one of the student volunteers who SEE INAUGURATION guests and students worked closely with

the decorators and other student volunteers as they turned Tayloe Gym into a reception dining area.

Vern Votypka '99 attended the reception and was amazed with the decorations and the entire atmosphere. "I was amazed - it was so beautiful. The decorations were really nice.... there was music, Scandinavian food they even

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Jutsourcing may continue at Hollins

by Rachel Wilkins

Hollins is growing, and the demand for renovations and new facilities is now at the foreground of the planning agenda. With all the new renovations, the burdens from this additional workload are affecting everyone, especially those on the Planning and **Business** committees.

The planning goal is to have the new library up and running by 1999. Along with the new library, which is due to break ground next fall, students came back in this year, having to step over

left over projects from the summer construction. Because of all these new changes, concern among students prompted this article to discuss how finances and services are being managed in the They are one of the largest process.

A campus wide memo was issued on November 7 from the Business office to introduce a new managing organization being considered to assist with the new changes. Maintenance, Buildings and Grounds would all become managed by the ServiceMaster group. ServiceMaster is a national commercial management organization thatconcentrates on providing cost effective services while equipping, training and professionalizing people on the custodial and building maintenance staff. managing groups in the country and serve in over 300 colleges and school districts.

The contract with ServiceMaster would be for 5 years, where the company reports directly to Hollins through David Gibbs in Physical Planning, allowing Hollins the ultimate authority to terminate the contract if performance is unsatisfactory.

With all the new projects in the works, the current departments, which were cut back a few years ago to cut costs, are now understaffed to handle the additional workload. So, the most important agreement with ServiceMaster, mentioned in the memo, is that no jobs will be lost and there is the possibility of adding a few new positions to the staff.

ServiceMaster would not be the only commercial contract on campus, lawn

> SEE OUTSOURCING PAGE 6

Letter from the Editor

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Title of personal column sparks controversy

I have heard that several stu-dents are offended at Beth Jones' column, titled "On the Rag." In this case, they are not offended by the content but by the title. Because the content is addressed by two letters to the editor (Tandy Cooke's in issue 3 and Jess Groulx and Lousine Shamamian's in issue 5), I would like to address the title now.

The title can mean two things. A rag is another term for a newspaper. So, on the rag can literally mean on the newspaper. It can also refer to menstruation.

Speaking for the Hollins Columns, our journalistic values are separate from the values of Beth Jones. In other words, Jones is not presenting news but her own opinion, which we do not endorse along with any other

opinions that appear in the paper. Our job is to print them.

I, in my editorials, do not speak for the Columns either. Some people feel that Jones' column title is not appropriate. What I found most interesting about the criticism I heard was that the person complaining did not read the first issue of the paper, where Jones explains her title. Groulx and Shamamian recapitulate it in their letter, so refer there if you have not read it.

It seems to me that the argument about Jones' title is about embarrassment: what will people think who do not know how Jones uses her title, and is it appropriate in the newspaper for anyone to see (such as alumnae and prospective students).



Amy M. Miller

Editor-in-Chief

prove of Beth Jones' title to write a letter to the editor stating their reasons. Just as Jones is able to express her beliefs, so should you.

I invite all those who disap-

Student asks college to reconsider party policy

Dear editor,

The inconsistency and disconcerting implications of Hollins' preoccupation with party contracts and alcohol liability materialized during the past Ring Night parties.

As ambitious women straddling adolescence and adulthood, we are tired of packing on the make-up, packing up the van and packing in the beers for release and interaction with men. As members of an escapist culture, alcohol is a most acceptable tool for celebrating—whether is be a birthday, the completion of a dissertation or the sisterhood which **Ring Night excites.**

Unfortunately, we cannot, without harassment, recreate with our Hollins "sisters" within the safe boundaries of apartments and dorm rooms on our own campus. We are inadvertently pushed elsewhere, to college campuses where we do not have safe beds, accessible security or each other to watch. over.

Because of the persnickety Big Brother mentality of the apartment's REC, security and administration, we could not celebrate our sisterhood during Ring Night within the restrictive boundaries

of our own apartments. The harassment which accompanies what has become nothing more than Hollins ass-protection, has intimidated and alarmed male friends, stunting attendance at those legitimate activities ('Til Tuesday, Oktoberfest, etc.) which offer our only on-campus refuge for social activity.

The primary implication of closing down apartment gatherings and scaring off men is "with you out of sight, Hollins is out of trouble." This over attention to Hollins' image and liquor license pushes women into their cars and into less safe recreational situations

Hollins may want to deter alcohol liability, but our safety is being sacrificed. The following statistics were gathered from a survey study of 100 Hollins women, who have fled this "over protective mother" for Hampden-Sydney: 100% use alcohol or drugs while out; 62% have been in stressful, uncomfortable or threatening situ-ations; 71% "hooked up" with a man simply because they needed a place to stay; 48% regretted it the next day; 76% felt that they had inconvenienced the men they stayed with.

If party contracts and other social regulations are measures implemented out of concern for student safety, they are defeating themselves as meddlesome contradictions to the goal. Regardless of its reputed serenity of landscape, architecture and lifestyle, Hollins remains an American college campus with all of the associated presuppositions.

As higher level students, we embark on a journey of experimentation, risk and redefinition, and one nearly inevitable component of this process is participation in various levels of alcohol consumption. We are not amoral lushes because we partake of the "sacred substance." We are fairly moderate college-aged women who would like to recreate and celebrate in our own home.

Regardless of the party contract and alcohol violations, we are so much safer on our own campus than we are forty minutes or two and a half hours away. Perhaps Hollins should reexamine what is safest and most desirable for its students.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Thornton '98



Letters to the Editor

Political Perspectives

From the Left

by Peter S. Fosl

To begin with, let's get something straight: abortion is killing. It is killing a gestating human being which, in most cases, if left undisturbed, will grow into a walking, talking citizen. Since many women do and will make use of legally available abortion, being "pro-choice" means endorsing legally sanctioned killing. I'd like to explain why so many of us on the left regard such killing as justifiable. Here are a few of the reasons:

1. Liberty. If humans were egg layers like sea turtles and could deposit their offspring in earthen nests, leaving them to fend for themselves, abortion would not be an issue. Unfortunately, our bodies and our societies are such that reproduction and child care lay enormous physical and psychological burdens on women, disproportionately on women.

Because of these burdens, people are wrong when they talk about women having abortions for the sake of the "convenience." It is a matter of convenience whether to walk or drive to work. It is not a matter of convenience to bear or raise a child. In order, then, to remain free and equal citizens, women must retain the right to kill gestating humans inside them. Opposing abortion, on the other hand, means supporting forced, involuntary motherhood and the subordination of women.

I know some of you will say that women always have the freedom to choose not to get pregnant in the first place. Erotic desire is, however, so powerful in humans as to make it impossible to eliminate unwanted pregnancies through simple exhortation. Moreover, sexual coercion is too pervasive in our society to expect that pregnancies will be voluntary. I would also argue that sex is so magnificent a vehicle of intimacy and recreation in human life that it is better to abort unwanted gestants in the early stages of development than to forgo (protected) sex

2. The role of the state. Does a gestant feel or think or possess other attributes (such as a soul) which override the rights of the



Peter S. Fosl

woman in whom it resides? Just as red shades off into oranges, the non-sentient shades into the sentient. It is therefore impossible to determine exactly when a gestant becomes a "person." Our community is united in protecting humans after their birth, but no shared values are to be found regarding the pre-born. Empirical science is unable to determine any but the most rudimentary sensory abilities in fetuses, abilities no greater than those of simple animals we kill without a second thought.

To whom, then, shall we grant the authority to decide when a gestating human becomes a being possessing the right to life? Who shall decide whether a woman facing medical complications should sacrifice her life for the creature living inside her? Who shall decide whether a woman should bring into the world a child suffering from a painful or lethal deformity? Who should decide when a woman is emotionally and physically ready to bear a child and give birth? Should it be the Congress? The Pope? State legislatures? The Constitution? -Or the good women of this country? We on the left say, in the absence of any scientific, philosophical or community agreement to the contrary, trust the women to decide for themselves.

If conservatives wish, as I do, to reduce the number of abortions, they should stop supporting the patriarchy and stop cutting social services so that more women can have a meaningful choice.

Peter S. Fosl is an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Hollins.

From the right

by Ed Lynch

I would like you to ask yourself three questions. Are there people in the world who are bigger than you? Are there people who are stronger than you? Are there people more important than you?

If you answered "no" to the last question, then you have made my case for me. You have rejected the central argument of abortion: that some persons can be destroyed for no reason except that someone else, who is more powerful, wishes them destroyed.

In most of the United States, however, this is the law. Abortion is legal, at any time, for any reason, including that a parent does not like the color of the child's eyes.

"Pro-choice" activists like to gloss over this reality, and talk only of the hard cases, such as rape, incest, or a threat to the life of the mother. If abortion were limited to these causes, more than 95% of the 1.5 million children killed every year in this country would get a chance at life.

Also, the word "choice" is a powerful one, which is why my opponents on this issue prefer "pro-choice" to "pro-abortion." Such disingenuous terminology seeks to mask the fact that all of our choices are limited by the rights of others. We do not defend rapists, thieves or liars by intoning their infinite right to choose such acts.

And so, the pro-choice forces contend that the person to be aborted is not really a person. It is a fetus, or a "blob of tissue." Certainly, it has no rights. This is equally disingenuous. Abortionists will not perform the operation until the eighth week of pregnancy. By that time, the baby's heart is beating, the brain is working, the eyes are forming and the fully-formed hands are grasping.

Biologically, the only differences between an eight week old "fetus" and an eight week old baby is that the baby is larger and



Ed Lynch

breathes air. Both are helpless. Both need care to survive. Both are vulnerable to people who are more powerful. If you can deny life to the one, why not to the other?

If the government can declare that there are no rights before birth, what is to keep that government from saying that there are no rights for anyone who is helpless? If we can eliminate the very young whose existence is inconvenient, why not the very old? Why not the very handicapped?

This is the logical end of the "pro-choice" philosophy. Is it any wonder that since our government has embraced it, child abuse, spousal abuse, abandonment, domestic violence and psychological maladjustment have all become more prevalent?

Finally, it is important to remember that abortion is an industry and a multi-million dollar business. (How many people would continue to be pro-choice if the abortion industry were subjected to same scrutiny as, say, the tobacco industry?)

If, heaven forbid, any of you find yourselves in a crisis pregnancy situation, please do not depend solely on the advice of abortion vendors. Talk to those who will not make a profit from your decision. Unlike the baby, you are not helpless. You are not alone. You have a choice.

Ed Lynch is an Associate Professor of Political Science at Hollins College. Hollins Columns, November 18, 1996

Letters to the Editor

Questions arise over crossword answers

Dear editor,

Proudly I have resisted of late the temptations to express myself in print. The great issues of the today have not provoked me nor have the diatribes "from the left" and "from the right" provocateurs. But you have now placed me in an impossible position. I must speak out. I refer to the practice of putting the answers in the same issue of the paper that the crossword puzzle appears.

Crossword puzzle addicts, those who turn to Will Shortz's creation even before they check the Braves' score or Garfield's latest exploit, are appalled by this practice. Yes, we should be able to rely upon personal integrity and restraint....but these are not always sufficient. Personal integrity should be reinforced by cultural and social practice. We have a marvelous Independent Exam System but no one would advocate placing answers on the back of the quiz sheets with an admonition "now don't peek."

Please consider your practice.

Sincerely, Jake Wheeler College Professor

ASAP wants to help

Dear editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to applaud our students for their participation in the Take Back the Night rally on Thursday, October 24. We gathered together from the Hollins and Roanoke communities to protest violence against women and to promote awareness about the issues.

The evening was organized by the Women's Collective in a thoughtful manner, which invited students to step forward in a supportive environment to share their stories of abuse.

For many of our students this marked the first time they ver-

balized their experience. I was awestruck by the number of students who bravely stepped forward throughout the evening. We stood at the base of the steps of the administration building in support of our community to hear the testimonies until 11 p.m.

These shared experiences, along with those revealed during the date rape awareness week, are evidence of the problem not only on the national level but in our Hollins community. On behalf of ASAP (Awareness of Sexual Assault Prevention), we want to welcome you to participate in this group which serves as a support to survivors as well as to promote education and awareness about the issues. Our meetings are held each Monday night at 6:15 p.m. in the Turner Lounge. All are welcome.

As director of the Women's Center, I would also welcome any suggestions from students on classes you would like to see offered through our program and encourage you to stop by Rose Hill to see what we currently offer.

Sincerely, Jeri Suarez Asst. Dean of International and Special Programs

Correction

The Oktoberfest article in the November 2 issue incorrectly stated that the Rat was not open for Oktoberfest. It was kept open until 11 p.m. but closed due to lack of sales. The *Hollins Columns* regrets this error.

Students' rebuttal to 'On the Rag'

Dear editor,

We would like to respond to the letter written by Tandy Cooke '97 in which she criticizes Elizabeth Jones' column, "Ross Perot, Victim of Premenstrual Syndrome?" Ms. Cooke clearly misses the entire point of Jones' article when she accuses Jones of taking "shots at ... Ross Perot" and making "juvenile charges." The premise of the article is to reclaim the language currently used to undermine women and their right to express anger.

It is in this spirit that the author refers to Ross Perot as a man "on the rag." By her own statement, Jones would have "these words mean someone who questions authority, fights the man, someone who is right on." How could such a description be construed as anything less than complimentary?

Furthermore, dismissing another woman's experiences with sexual harassment as "pointless rambling," as Cooke does, is a sexist and ignorant attack on every woman who has ever suffered such abuse—and who among us hasn't?

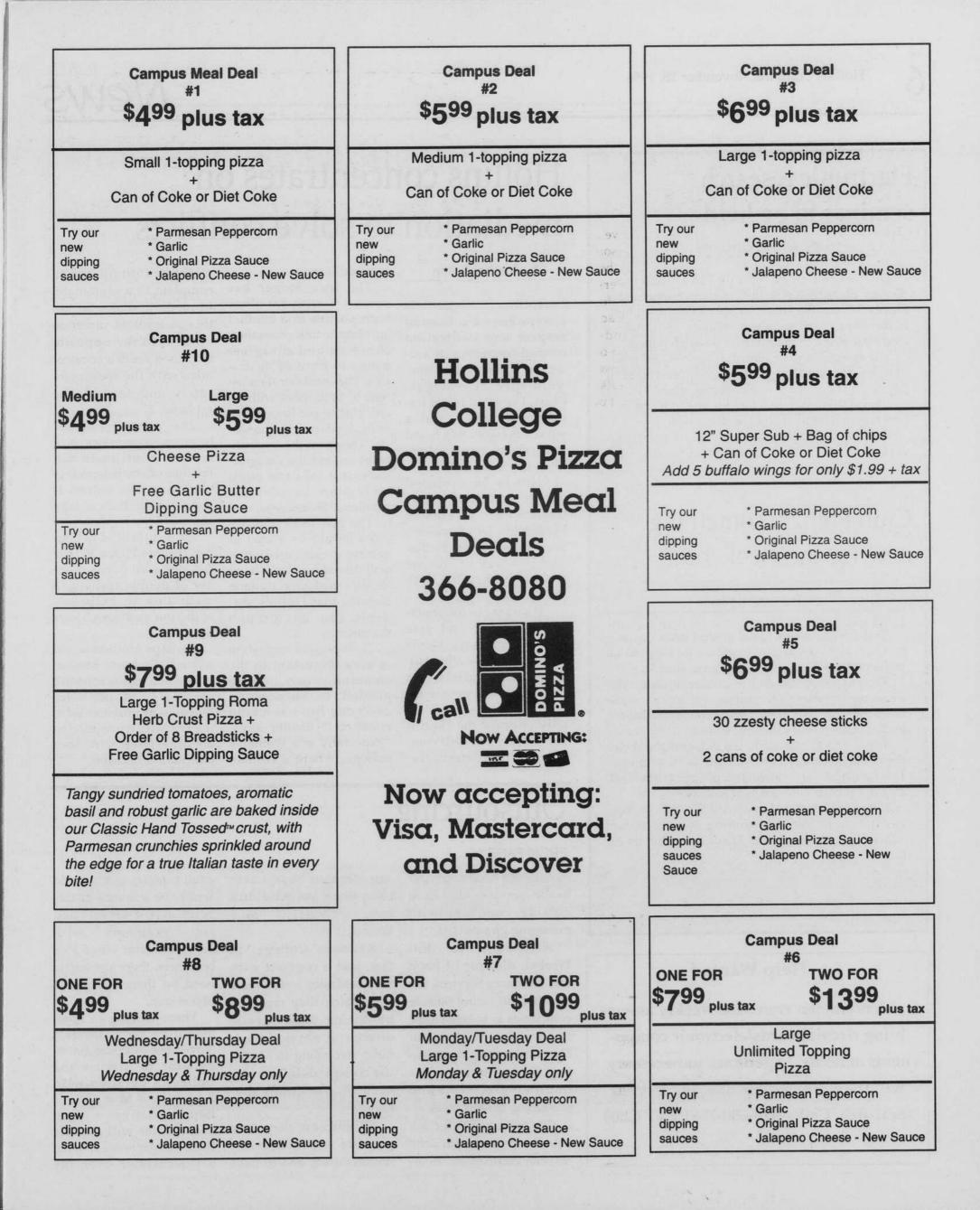
Honestly, Cooke shouldn't feel so threatened by the mention of tampons and menstrual cycles. We've lived too long in a culture where the cycles of our bodies have hidden under euphemisms such as "the curse." We applaud Elizabeth for her bravery and feminist insight.

It's a shame that a woman who writes openly about women's bodies and cycles should come under such petty attack at a women's college. We stand by you, Elizabeth, Jess with her Super Tampax Tampons and Lousine with her Slender Tampax Tampons ... both unscented!

Sincerely, Jess Groulx '99 and Lousine Shamamian '98

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 or you can e-mail us at Thecolumns@diana.hollins.edu.



News

Electronic research seminar to be held

by Allison Connolly

On November 21, at 6:00 PM in Babcock, Melody Blankenship from Computer Services and Elizabeth Doolittle from the reference department of the library will do a presentation about using electronic research methods for research papers.

The seminar will be aimed at seniors and graduate students writing theses or large research papers, but anyone is welcome to attend. Using the World Wide Web as a tool for research and various research methods will be discussed.

For more information, call Melody Blankenship at x6541.

Club Frenzy: something new for the weekend

By Kate Lowe

Club Frenzy is one of the newest clubs on campus and with over eighty members that signed up at the first meeting, it is off to a great start!

The purpose of the club is to raise funds for different organizations on campus. The money made from the past two events went towards funding for the Habitat for Humanity House.

The events take place in the Rat, cost about two dollars and usually occur on weekend evenings. The "parties" have attracted people from VMI, Virginia Tech and the town of Roanoke.

If you are interested in joining the club, or have any questions about upcoming events, contact either of the co-presidents Hoon Beng Peh or An Do.

Help Wanted

Men/Women earn \$480 weekly assembling circuit boards/electronic components at home. Experience unnecessary, will train. Immediate opening in your local area. Call 1-520-680-7981 EXT C200

Hollins concentrates on mediation to solve conflicts

by Rachel Brittin

Hollins College has always been a college of respect and dedication towards bettering its students. This year a new word appears among its lingo. The word is not tradition or honor but a word not commonly heard in everyday conversation. The word is mediation.

"Not to be confused with meditation," says Gayle Stoner, Director of Leadership Development. She explained that mediation is a way of solving conflict by hearing both sides of the story.

"It's a way to communicate in a fair and safe way," Stoner says. Gayle Stoner and some other students with training in mediation have come up with an idea that will not only improve the Hollins community but will compliment its communications skills too.

The idea Stoner has come up with involves both parties in a conflict agreeing to talk about their concerns and disagreements in front of mediators. The mediator then listens to both sides without any bias or pre-knowledge of the conflict beforehand.

"This way the environment around the disagreement is a safe and equitable place to solve the problem," Stoner says.

The new team of mediators would be a way of getting greater mediation skills. Stoner is also talking about a mediation training process that Hollins students can go through themselves.

"I think that mediation is very important to the communication skills needed to succeed in everyday life not just in conflicts," Stoner says. "Especially at a woman's college, where a woman might be intimidated to complain to a roommate. In mediation she can do this in front of someone other than the opposite angle and reach a compromise with the roommate safely and fairly," she explains.

The "power imbalance" between roommates, professors, boyfriends and families can be balanced in mediation. The process is more simple than it may seem.

"If a student is to contact Heather Pierce '97, she can give a list of any number of people trained in mediation to help you with your problems," says Stoner.

Perhaps Hollins could use a little more mediation. Then again couldn't we all? As Stoner said, "Mediation problem solving is a win, win option to an otherwise win, lose judicial-like decision."

Outsourcing

FROM PAGE 1

cutting, the bookstore, and health services also have outside contracts with managing groups.

According to Bill Wrobel, director of Food and Auxiliary Services, the idea behind hiring outside companies is to relieve the burden on the Physical Planning organization during renovations, while improving services and sustaining current costs.

"Its not unusual for colleges to contract with commercial companies...managing groups have access to options we wouldn't have privately," says Wrobel.

Roanoke College, in fact, had a contract with ServiceMaster a few years ago which they replaced by hiring Rick Myers, director of physical planning. According to Myers, the college didn't have a need for the group anymore.

"Right now they only provide a manager for housekeeping and to have

a full contract again would simply be a luxury at this point. But, I haven't had any problems with ServiceMaster since I've been here, there just isn't a need for them anymore," Myers said.

There will be an open meeting on Monday, November 18 at 4:30 pm in Ballator to discuss the College's decision with S e r v i c e M a s t e r . Representatives from Sweet Briar will discuss their experiences with ServiceMaster over the

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Time-Zone cheating on GRE

by Maggie McWilliams

Cheating on tests has always been a problem. Cheating on standardized tests such as the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) or the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), whose results could very well determine a person's future, is an extremely serious matter that has not been taken seriously.

A few years ago, an article appeared in Rolling Stone Magazine documenting the operation of a SAT cheating ring in California. The principal players in the operation was Paul Kre, a tutor for the Princeton Review, and Steven Su, a high-school junior. Kre would take the test in the Eastern timezone and then call the answers in to California.

This form of cheating, known as time-zone cheating, exists because all tests are given at nine o'clock and because all tests are identical. The Educational Testing Service (ETS), who administers the tests, first became suspicious in November 1989 after reading a proctor's report on Kre's suspicious behavior. It wasn't until the spring of

was finally uncovered. At the time of the Rolling Stone article neither Kre nor Su had been indicted, and most of the students who had cheated their way into college were still there. The article also stated that the ETS had no plans for preventing future timezone cheating.

In October of 1996, a California man was arrested for helping students cheat on the GRE. His method of cheating also centered around the timezone. The test takers paid \$6000 and flew to California to take the exam. Expert test-takers took the test in New York and phoned the answers in to California.

Will the ETS take measures to prevent time-zone cheating now with a second major operation uncovered? In a recent phone interview, Seppy Kaplan Basili of Educational Centers presented three preventative measures that could limit time-zone cheating. One way would be to give the tests at the same time. A nine o'clock test in Virginia would mean a twelve o'clock test in California.

1991 that the operation Of course some people would argue that this method is not fair because people test better at different times. A second method would be to have different copies of the tests with the answers jumbled up. Or there could just simply be more tests. The ETS is expert at creating tests to a national level so this option would more than likely not pose a serious problem.

> Basili said that his, as well as Kaplan's, main concern was for easy, obvious forms of cheating to be eliminated. The fact that the ETS did not take preventative measures immediately after the first incident, allowing for the second one to occur, is what he found to be so shocking.

> When Basili was asked why the ETS have not taken preventive measures he pointed out that because there are millions of tests administered every year by the ETS, they allow for an acceptable risk fac-

To this Basili added, "The ETS should never allow for cheating. Even one cheater is unacceptable."

Anne Harper remembered

by Caroline Hall Bruner

It was very early Thanksgiving morning in Burke, Virginia when Anne Harper '97 was brutally murdered in her own home. The death shocked the entire Hollins community.

It is almost a year since the tragedy and still questions are left unanswered. Questions of who could commit such a heinous crime, what has been done to solve the crime thus far and how is she being remembered by the Hollins Community?

Today the case remains unsolved. However, according to Officer Loftin with the Fairfax County Police Public Affairs the investigation is still very active. Currently, no arrests have been made, but he stressed that they have several good leads.

With the help of Rev. Jan Fuller-Carruthers, Harper's close friends planted a tree in Beale garden to her memory.

Erica Pandapas '97 feels that "the tree is really a point of focus. It is a place where we can go and remember her."

Amanda Sleeper '97 is helping to plan a small ceremony after Thanksgiving to dedicate the tree with a plaque.

"She [Anne] was a great friend and a great listener. She lead a joyful life with many dreams and aspirations," remembers Sleeper.

Pandapas said her friend should be remembered for "her vivaciousness, her activism and her great love for Hollins."

It is for these reasons many of her friends feel that Hollins shouldn't forget her or what happened to her.

As Pandapas says, "The important thing is to keep talking about it. It is a part of ourselves and our every day life, and you can't remove yourself from it."

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News

Computer help desk getting off the ground

by Allison Connolly

Everyone who uses computers at Hollins is aware there have been changes with Computer Services this year. The new Help Desk is a one-stop computer help center staffed with students. After a hectic couple months, it is getting off the ground.

Melody Blankenship, a specialist in Computer Services, explains the purpose of a help desk. "Help Desks are standard in larger educational institutions, and our computer department has grown in the amount of services we need to offer without gaining personnel. We're using our resources more wisely."

Some students' work study jobs are with Computer Services. Erin Mee '98, who works at the Help Desk, explains that there are usually three students working at the Help Desk

"Freshmen are lab assistants, so they need to walk around the labs checking on people and cleaning the labs. There is also a student help desk assistant to answer incoming calls, and the student coordinator is at the Help Desk to oversee operations and help if the assistant gets busy.

Blankenship explains that Computer Services would like to have students stationed in the labs, like in the past, but there are not enough student workers to do this.

"We are looking for more freshmen and sophomores to go through the long-term training needed to work in the Computer Services."

Because the Help Desk is in a transitional stage, students' questions cannot usually be answered immediately.

Amanda Warner '00 says, "When I call the Help Desk the person I talk to is always very nice, but she

has to refer my questions to other people, who call me back a couple of days later."

Blankenship says that until the database is built up and appropriate software is purchased, there will be delays in answering student questions.

Sarah Lathom '00 quit her job as a lab assistant because she felt like she wasn't accomplishing anything while she worked.

There wasn't a lot to do," says Lathom, "We were supposed to check the labs and read manuals. The job seemed rather pointless. Occasionally I'd help someone, maybe once or twice a week."

Lathom continues, "I didn't like the way the Help Desk was run. I think the Help Desk is a great idea, but it's hard for one person with one computer and one phone line to answer all the calls that come in."

When someone calls the

a "trouble ticket" is made with information about the student or professor who called. If the student worker cannot help with the problem, it is referred to someone in Computer Services who knows how to fix the problem.

Cyndy Manz '99 worked for Computer Services before she came upon another work study opportunity. She says problems arose last year when students who worked in the labs would avoid doing their work. Some people did not post their "On Duty" signs so that other students wouldn't know they were working and available to help.

Lathom believes that people are hesitant to tell boss, Melody their Blankenship, what is really wrong with the Help Desk and what would make it better. Blankenship contends that there are many opportunities for student

Help Desk with a problem, workers to communicate with her, including their weekly mandatory meetings. "I can always be reached when there is a problem. I have a beeper, email and voice mail, but we usually communicate by e-mail."

Melody Blankenship wants the Hollins community to know that the students who work for Computer Services are an asset to Hollins.

"They are professionals, behave professionally and perform a valuable service for Hollins."

In addition to a new Help Desk, Computer Services has installed either Windows '95 or Windows 3.11 on every PC or Mac owned by the school. Within the next year, most of the computers on the network will be get e-mail through Eudora instead of the older mail system now used.

Peterson's guide's on-line university

by Cristen James

The majority of people have, at one time, used a Peterson's guide to gather information. Now, along with the Electronic University Network, Peterson's has created the World Learning Network, the first global virtual education community.

This on-line university will offer short-term courses and credit-bearing courses of study for millions of individuals who need or prefer a course of study at a distance. It will serve people in the U.S. and abroad who are not now served by traditional on-campus education.

The World Learning Network will provide each member a college, a training organization, profes-

sional associate or public school system with its own on-line campus. Each campus will have the basic buildings of a learning center: academic buildings, a library, an administrative center, an admissions office, a counseling center, a student union, a continuing education center, lecture halls and a college store.

The classroom building will have virtual space for tutorials and seminars; the library will have basic collections in place and facilities for student research and independent study; the student union will have chat rooms and game facilities; the lecture hall will feature forums, discussions, conferences and workshops; and the bookstore will have a full array

of learning materials for sale.

Peter W. Hegener, President of Peterson's says, "We can provide institutions a rich environment for teaching and learning at a fraction of what it would cost the institution to build its own staff, on-line campus and set of services."

Steve Eskow, Dr. President of the Electronic University states, "Most important, perhaps, is that the on-line campus will let each instructor be true to his or her own teaching style and preferred media... No teacher or trainer will have to change an approach because the medium says so."

Molly Wainwright '99, an English major currently earning teacher certification, thinks, "This is a good idea for older men and women who can't or don't feel comfortable going back to school, but people in there late teens and early twenties need to be in a college atmosphere."

Shelby Richardson '99, also earning teacher certification, adds, "A big drawback to this idea is the loss of interaction between students and professors. It doesn't seem to be a personal one-on-one relationship like you would get in a classroom."

new The World Learning Network will be available on the World Wide Web at http://www.worldlearning.com on January 1, 1997.

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News Inauguration

FROM PAGE 1

had ice sculptures,- everyone seemed to be having a great time.'

Besides the inauguration itself, one of the big events was the symposium which featured the Hollins Chamber Players performing works by composer Libby Larsen. In addition to featuring a musical production, the symposium opened the floor to guest speakers as they reflected on different aspects of women's issues.

Addressing the theme of the program, "Women's Strategies for Success," Dr. Rasmussen opened with an introduction to the general issues women are faced with today. The guests speakers, including Libby Larsen, proceeded to discuss women and their roles in politics, women in the arts and women's colleges.

The inauguration began with a formal procession of delegates, trustees, past presidents and faculty. President Rasmussen was introduced with greetings from three leaders of higheducation. Paula er Brownlee, Hollins seventh president and currently the President of Association of American Colleges and Universities, introduced the evening by placing emphasis on the

importance of liberal learning. Gordon K. Davies, director of the State Council of Higher Education, spoke as well as David M Gring, President of Roanoke College. Gring gave a warm welcome to Dr. Rasmussen as a fellow President of the Roanoke Valley.

Dr. Rasmussen was officially inducted by Jane Basset Spilman '53, chair of the Board of Trustees. After her induction, President Rasmussen received a warm Hollins welcome with a standing ovation.

In her inaugural President address, Rasmussen reflected on her background in Paxton, Illinois and the effects of growing up in a Scandinavian college town. She traced the roots of her family line to a man named John Witherspoon, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. She reflected on his motto "Govern always, but beware of governing too much." She then continued by telling the audience that she hoped she could have "the grace and the wisdom" to live by his motto.

President Rasmussen then gave recognition to the past presidents, thanking them for their achievements. She extended this gratitude by presenting

two gifts totaling \$750,000 to her immediate predecessors. An anonymous gift of \$500,000 will establish the Paula Brownlee Professorship in Science. The other anonymous gift of \$250,000 was presented as funding to underwrite the state of the art equipment in the Jane Margaret O' Brien Multi-Media classroom located in Pleasants Hall.

Rasmussen's address began with the themes of metaphors. She opened by describing the physical beauty of Hollins, by calling the campus as the landscape of creativity, possessing physical beauty as well as inward beauty. She focused on this landscape in terms of space and spirit. The space would be where students could explore their creativity, the place where they would be shaped as individuals. She quoted writer Annie Dillard "Rocks shape life like hands around swelling dough."

To parallel this to Hollins, she remarked, "The campus architecture creates intimate community and lends dignity and warmth to our everyday." She emphasized that this space, this environment would lead to "a world of possibility for women." She continued by

addressing the importance of the second main element here at Hollins- the creative spirit that flourishes on campus. Rasmussen talked of time old traditions, like Tinker Day, the painting of the rock, Ring Night and emphasized their significance to the overall spirit felt at Hollins. She spoke of how this spirit is what brings on elements that are essential at an institution.

She concluded by remarking that it is the landscape of creativity that nourishes an active life, leading people to great achievements and realizing the importance of the connections found between the space and the spirit of a community.

The ceremony was concluded with responses from the community, beginning with Megan McCarthy '97, SGA president. Megan welcomed the new president with words of hope and excitement. She spoke, "We the students give meaning and purpose to Hollins, and we eagerly grasp your hand as we walk forward into a golden phase of the college's history.'

At the conclusion of the two days of events, the community received positive responses from the students, faculty, and dele-

gates who attended many of the events.

Linda Steele, head of college relations, commented, "I think everything went really well. The bad weather didn't really have too much effect on turnout either. What pleased me the most, though, was the tremendous student turnout."

There were many student volunteers who worked around the clock to make this time possible for the Hollins community.

Angela Broadus '97, who was intensely involved with helping in the preparation of the events, expressed her gratitude. "I would just like to thank all of the students who came out and gave their time to help make this a possibility."

Vern Votypka '99, president of the sophomore class, felt that it really helped bring the community together for something that was exciting.

"It was a time where we could all come together for something that really meant a lot for everyone," she said.

As Hollins ninth president and fifth woman to hold the position, Dr. Jane Rasmussen continues the legacy that Matty Cocke began in 1901.

New sexual assault awareness group starts on campus

by Pam Kalousdian

Ever wonder what would happen in the event of a sexual assault or rape here at Hollins? Well, due tremendous the to response to the "Take Back the Night" rally, the question has been on the minds of many.

Hollins has several options for these matters. First and foremost, the victim is in complete charge of the situation.

Dean McFarland says, "Hollins has no definitive sexual assault plan. It really depends on what the student wants."

Usually the first person alerted-to a situation is the student's RA. Then, with the student's permission, further action can be taken. Aside from anything done immediately, like medical

attention or legal action, Turner Lounge. there are a lot of things that Hollins offers for long term recovery.

There is professional counseling available through health services. If someone is uncomfortable with one-on-one help there is ASAP (Awareness of Sexual Assault Prevention). The group is now sponsoring a group meeting every Monday at 6:15 p.m. in

The purpose of the meetings is to "bring people together who want and need to discuss issues such as sexual assault. It is our experience that many benefit from a group atmosphere in dealing with these issues," says Jeri Suarez, advisor for ASAP and director of the Women's Center.

Aside from these two

counseling options on campus, there is also the Roanoke-based SARA (Sexual Assault Response & Awareness) program. SARA has a 24-hour confidential hotline. The number for the hotline is 981-9352

If you or anyone you know is a victim of sexual assault, please seek help with any of these groups, they are here to help.

features

Luscious Jackson: an eclectic mix of fun

by Jennifer Dickinson

10

On November 9th I had the opportunity to see my favorite band, Luscious Jackson, at the 9:30 Club in Washington, D.C. for the second time in my life. The first time was during my senior year of high school when my two friends and I were called on stage by the band to dance with them at a small club in Gainesville, Florida.

Needless to say, that experience was one of the highlights of my existence. I have been a fan of Luscious Jackson since their first album, In Search of Manny, was released in 1992 and I was even more impressed with their 1994 release, Natural Ingredients.

Their recent work, Fever in Fever Out, is equally incredible and contains

more mellow songs than their previous albums. Some of my favorites include "Naked Eye," in which lead singer, Jill Cuniff, proclaims, nothing is "Wearing divine, naked is a state of mind" or the slower, "Mood Swing," which dis-cusses our inability too resist the the ups and downs of our mood shifts.

The band is comprised of Jill Cuniff, lead singer and guitarist, Gabrielle Glaser, singer and bassist, Kate Schellenback on drums and an original member of the Beastie Boys, and the ever-elegant Vivian keyboardist, Trimble. Their music has been described as an eclectic mix of hip hop, rock, jazz and funk.

As Jill Cuniff says, "A

thing you can put your finger on. It's just an accumulation of experiences...It's supposed to evoke a mood."

Because all of the members grew up in New York City, many of their songs reflect and discuss urban life. The chorus to "City Song" from Natural Ingredients, "When I'm about to go crazy cause I'm still living here, I just get my friends together and we dance, dance, dance," depicts their feelings about life in New York City, and I think many other women can relate to this type of escape.

As soon as the band walked on stage, the crowd was in an instant frenzy of screaming and excitement. They opened with "Pele Merengue" from Natural lot of our music isn't some- Ingredients, and I thought

because of the raw energy of the song. Luscious Jackson continued with selections from all three of their albums which is different from other bands, who so often only play songs from their recent work.

At one point, Jill Cuniff asked the audience to scream at different points in "Bam Bam" (from In Search of Manny). I must admit I never knew I could scream so loud or so much.

Despite my love for the band, I could not help but be disturbed by the actions of many of the men in the audience. I found it ironic that I was at a concert in which some of the lyrics of the songs include, "Make a girl pick up a gun so she can show 'em how it's done" ("Daughters of the Kaos" from In Search of Manny) or "It takes a strong man to stand by a strong woman, yes it does" ("Strong Man" from Here I com Natural Ingredients) while me now ... "

this to be a perfect choice my friends and I were continually groped and harassed by various male members of the audience.

This behavior, however, did not prevent us from dancing, yelling and screaming out the lyrics to our favorite songs. Rather, it reminded us that we are, in fact, strong women, and we will not be denied our enjoyment for the entertainment of males. Besides, dancing only allowed me the freedom to elbow these guys in the ribs - in a very subtle way, of course.

Liberating. Empowering. Fun. These are words I think of when remembering the concert. Luscious Jackson is a truly inspiring band with powerful messages for women. As I left the show, I found myself singing some of the lyrics from one of their more popular songs, "Here," (from the Clueless soundtrack) "Here I come you can't stop me now, Here I come you can't stop

Fourth Annual Fall Dance gathering a success

by Heather Pierce

Amid everything that was happening the weekend of November 8-9, the Hollins Repertory Dance Company and guest artists were performing to the likes of Ella Fitzgerald, Joan Jett and the Velvet Underground. Students, Donna Faye Burchfield, visiting teachers and artists definitely kept their audience eagerly awaiting each piece.

L

Jack Arnold's "And Ye Shall Find Rest" was the opening piece. Arnold is a choreographer, dancer and teacher with a B.F.A. from the North Carolina School for the Arts and his M.F.A. from UNC Greensboro. His history with Hollins is rich, having taken his first dance classes and performed in his first dance concerts here, while a student at Washington & Lee. He choreographed an

award winning piece, "Her Pearly White Hand," for the Hollins Repertory Dance Company last year.

One of the more popular pieces was one choreographed and performed by Karinne Keithley, the Visiting Artist in Dance here from Hampshire College. She has also choreographed for Hollins in the past. Her solo piece entitled "Air Mail Special" was to Ella Fitzgerald's song of the same title and was incredibly fast-paced, entertaining and had everyone including the artist quite out of breath. Two of the other pieces, "Since Upon Her Walk" and "Carrying Time," were also choreographed by Keithley.

Donna Faye Burchfield, Associate Professor of Dance and a favorite among many in the dance department, was also seen on stage. She choreographed and performed in "Queen of Hearts." Always one to have something up her sleeve, her daughter, Callie Traver, was also part of the piece, arriving on stage just in time to finish. Other performers in the piece were Claire Benton '98, Marlo Harris '98 and Jen Lambie.

The last piece was choreographed by Jack Arnold and showcased such dancers as Claire Benton '98, Kim Gaidsick '97, Jennifer Lyle '97, Melissa Chris '97, Marlo Harris '98 and Wendi Peacock.

Heidi Wiherle '97 put it best in saying, "What a fitting way to end the show, with a piece "Clothing the Spirit," performed by students, yet created by a guest artist."

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Jeatures

Free pizza versus jumbo margarita's: which do you prefer?

by Pam Kalousdian

Last week as I pondered over what restaurant to spotlight for my article, I stumbled onto what I thought was the perfect place. Apparently, I was wrong. The place, which will remain nameless, had two incidents of food poisoning last week.

Obviously, I am not the best judge of what the perfect restaurant is. But, come to think about it, are there any perfect places to eat? I was ready to throw in the towel and say "no there are not," when I Williamson Road and have

senior's opinions on the perfect place to eat in Roanoke.

Most people seem to like a place based on price or the atmosphere it provides. The most popular eatery is Carlos'.

Karey Murphy-Molloy '97 likes it "because it has great seafood with an ethnic twist, plus good ambiance."

If ambiance is a priority another popular choice is Lew's.

Many of us have passed by it a hundred times on

became bombarded with never been in, but according to Ami Ringold '97, "I find it to be a relaxing and casual environment, and it is closer than the Harvest House.

> Chez Harvest is the little place down the road where everyone knows your name. In addition to being a drinking establishment for the Hollins community, the Harvest House also offers perks.

"I like Chez Harvest on Thursday nights because of the free pizza," says Rebecca Jackson '97.

If I am going to mention favorite watering holes, I

would be remiss if I failed to remark on El Rodeo's popularity.

"You can't graduate from Hollins without enjoying at least one jumbo margarita from El Rodeo," states Austin Brown '97.

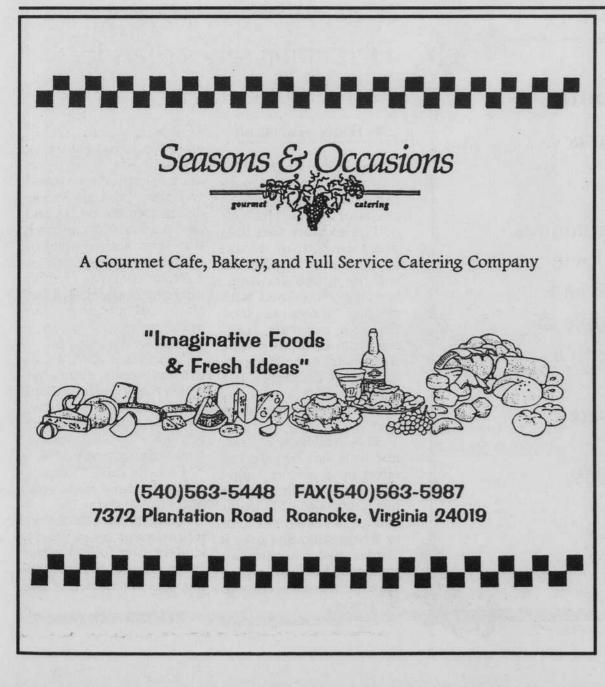
Of course there are a few other favorites from the angry mob of seniors who love the options for sustenance in the Roanoke area.

Carolyn Lindsey '97 loves the Country Kitchen "because I can get Thanksgiving dinner there everyday."

My favorite of all the

answers that I received is from Kendall Ostrom '97. "I like McDonald's the best, because you can super size it!"

This is just a sampling of the types of places people like to eat. There are, of course, many more choices that are more upscale or have other strengths to offer their customers. No matter what your tastes may be, there is definitely a place out there waiting for you to claim as a favorite.



Fall Weekend draws larger crowd than Oktoberfest

by Cristen James

Fall Weekend was the weekend of November 8-9. The mixer on Friday night featured the band "Funky Soul Symbols." Saturday's formal was titled "Under the Stars" and featured the band "The Staircase." The price this year was \$65 for the package, which included two tickets for Friday and Saturday plus two tshirts or \$10 for Friday and \$12 for Saturday.

Mandy Shafer-Johnson '00 was, "very pleased with the turn-out Saturday night. Everyone seemed to be having a good time. The band rocked!

Karla Olsen '99 attended the Friday night mixer and stated, "The Funky Soul Symbols were a really good band. I am disappointed that more people didn't show up.'

Katherine Eckternacht '97, Treasurer of Campus Activities, stated, "Friday

night we were disappointed in the turnout, however, Saturday we were surprised at the number of people that attended. We were prepared for the crowd that was at Oktoberfest, but we were pleasantly surprised. Saturday, everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. The band was great, and they really interacted with the audience.

Fall Weekend did draw a larger crowd than Oktoberfest this year. With the event scheduled for the same weekend as the inauguration, the crowd expectancy for the events was hard to predict.

Olsen suggests, "Maybe if we got a sort of preview of the bands, heard them during lunch or something, people would be more willing to come. If people heard how good the bands were maybe they would be willing to pay for them."

Jeatures

The quest to become a kid again

by Kat Horton

12

Regress for a minute and think back to when you were 11 years old. I don't remember much, except for those charm necklaces everyone had and watching Miami Vice every Friday night. The Breakfast Club was my favorite movie, although I didn't really understand it, and I was still listening to Duran Duran. I also remember hearing my mother's friends say how far ahead of them our generation was and how quickly we were learning. It is amazing to think how progress spreads to kids.

Reality hit me about three weeks ago, during a phone conversation with my six-year-old niece, Sara. I realized how ahead she is compared to where I was when I was six. Sara loves to play on the computer in the kids section of America On-line.

When asked what her favorite band is, she said, "Well, it's a toss-up between Smashing Pumpkins and Melissa Etheridge."

When I asked what do you want to be when you grow-up, she replied, "Famous. I want to play guitar and sing in front of million of people, just like Melissa."

On a quest, I ventured down to the community school, to see if this phenomena went farther than my own family. What I learned from these kids was both astonishing and frightening.

Music is not only popular among kids but a permanent part of their culture. Favorites include Alanis Morrisette, The Cranberries, Offspring, The Beatles and the Grateful Dead. In the course of a conversation, they discussed theories that Kurt Cobain could not have shot himself, using physics to logically prove their case.

Most of the kids I talked with said that the environment was their main concern. In fact, many aspire to be environmentalists and naturalists. Others want to be famous for doing something good, while others stuck to typical doctor and teacher responses.

What is interesting is the way they describe their future.

"In ten years, you're going to have to wear a mask when you walk out-

was when I was six. Sara ture. Favorites include side," said Amelia Robson, of

Kristen Bringwatt, 11, added, "There's too much pollution. There's too much litter. It's hard to walk outside sometimes and look around."

Other topics quickly came up, with all of the kids voicing their opinions.

"We need better education, better schools," said Meghan Williamson, 12.

"People don't try to improve on education. They just give up," said Paige Johnson, 11, who wants to be an author.

On the topic of politics, Williamson said, "They are all lying cheating old guys. Once someone is elected into office, people are more concerned about creating a new scandal rather than actually doing something." Crime was also a topic

of concern.

"Crime is too high," said Robson. "Not everyone should be able to get a gun. Laws should be created to prevent criminals and others from getting guns."

Things had definitely changed, but for the better it seems. These kids are aware, and they are concerned about what the future holds. They want to take an active part of the world around them. They are frightened by what is being passed down to them: environmental destruction, decaying political systems and poor education. But this group of kids are about change and overcoming adversity. It look as if the future is in

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Fall exhibit series concludes with Hollins' own

by Rebecca Jackson

The Hollins fall exhibition series concludes with Jan Knipe, an associate professor of art at Hollins.

The exhibit includes plein air (out of doors) landscapes of Virginia and still life studio drawings. Knipe is concerned with creating "a sense of place' through accurate transcription of atmospheric light and specific geographical character of a location." All works use conte crayon, charcoal, or pastels.

This exhibition is pleasant and has a calming effect on a person. Knipe uses warm earth tones in her landscapes. The color change is subtle, not loud or disturbing. She uses a limited pallet to give her forms definition, using tonality instead of lines in her pieces.

The Fallen Vase Series is

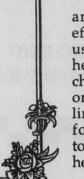
evidence of her use of warm and cool colors. In this still-life, there is an occasional splash of red and blue. The light shines down from the center, and the splashes of color catch the light. Knipe's use of white in this piece creates a strong contrast. The fluidity and confidence of her strokes demonstrates her agile movements. In a word, they are beautiful.

Edy Pickens '97, a studio art major, says that Knipe really thought about her colors and in reviewing this exhibit, Pickens has come to conclusions in her own work with color.

Pickens said, "Knipe's choice to leave areas void of color is amazing."

Claire Benton '98, an art department work study student, also feels that the color scheme is comforting. The confidence of the

SEE EXHIBIT, PAGE 13



Hanks' That Thing You Do is a wonder

by: Maggie McWilliams

The new film That Thing You Do could not have been written by anyone but Tom Hanks. The quick dialogue, sharp humor and moments of pure sentimentality found in this film are all qualities that Hanks usually brings to the characters he portrays.

The film is set in Erie, Pennsylvania in 1964, the year of The Beatles. The focus of the film is a local garage band, The Oneders (pronounced 1-ders). show, Guy speeds up one Newcomer to the screen, of their ballads, much to Tom Everet Scott plays Guy Patterson who is

beatnik." He joins the band after the original drummer breaks his arm in a freak accident.

The band consists of Jimmy (Jonathan Schaech), the slightly vain songwriter and lead singer, Lenny (Steve Zahn) the quick-witted guitarist who is continually looking for love, and the bass player (Ethan Embry formerly known as Ethan Randall), who seems to be nameless. Liv Tyler also stars as Faye, the girlfriend of Jimmy.

During a college talent the annoyance of Jimmy and to the excitement of described as "Erie's lone everybody else, and a hit

song is born. In a matter of love to their appearance in weeks they are signed to Play-Tone Records, join the Play-Tone Galaxy of Stars Tour and their song quickly shoots to the top.

The beauty of the film is the pure, innocent excitement that this film incorporates. One of the best scenes is when their song is played on the radio for the first time. The overwhelming sense of joy that the characters feel at this moment is expressed so well that every audience member can join in the excitement.

Every experience that the band encounters on the tour is new, from the bass player's first brush with a beach movie. Hanks is able to present each of these experiences with a real sense of new excitement, and every one of their performances as a band is as exciting as the first.

The band's ride to the top soon turns bumpy. Even though the ride is over, the experience will always stay deep in their hearts, just as the impact of the movie will remain long after it has been watched.

Hanks also puts in a performance as Mr. White, the band's manager. He is able to present Mr. White as a shrewd character but at the same time give him a

sense of understanding. Tom Hanks was reluctant to cast Tom Everett Scott in the film because of Scott's obvious resemblance to Hanks.

Tom Everett Scott is Tom Hanks in this film. His every facial expression and vocal emphasis are clearly influenced by Hanks. Near the end of the film, Faye remarks that none of this would have happened if Guy had not joined the band. Just as Guy was the driving force in the band, Tom Everett Scott is clearly the driving force in the film.

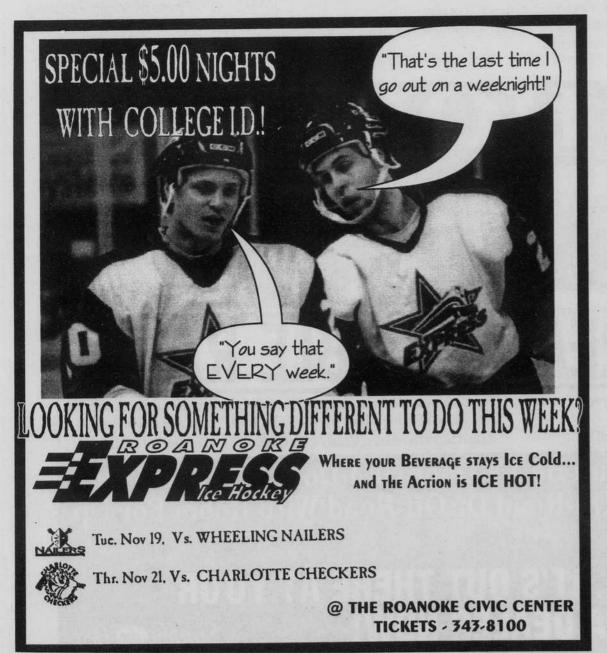


Exhibit FROM PAGE 12

pieces impresses Benton, especially the use of a pole in the center of some of the compositions. The pole gives those pieces depth and credibility. Both Pickens and Benton enjoyed the exhibit.

Knipe completed these while on sabbatical and she personally chose which works would be in the exhibit. Knipe, along with Mimi Harris, Arts Exhibitions and Events Coordinator, decided on the layout of the exhibit. Knipe has also had solo

the exhibitions at Contemporary Realist Gallery in San Francisco, as well as Roanoke College and the Marsh Gallery in Richmond, Virginia. Her group exhibitions include First Street Gallery, New York; 15th Annual Women in the Visual Arts, New Haven, Connecticut; and the Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, Virginia.

This exhibit will remain on display until December 21.

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Sports

Fencing team shows off their survival skills

by Rachel Wilkins

With two open invitationals under their belts, the fencing team has set out early to prove themselves "on garde" this year in Division III. They started training a month early to get the jump on their competition and to prepare themselves for the big up-coming invitationals.

They are lined up against Division I teams, like Penn state, Temple and UNC schools. According to Jess Groulx '99, who has been with the team for two years, these invitationals give the team the increased skills they need to be ranked #1 in the division.

"We 're Division III but we fence Division I... we hold our own." Groulx's team was undefeated last season.

Fencing has definitely come along way since the days when it was used in combat as a means of survival. The team travels divided into two styles of fencing, where the individuals either play the Foil or Epee form. In each bout of competition, the players have to hit the other opponent with five touches of their weapon. Foils target area is the torso, where the strategy is to first remove the treat of attack from yourself before you attack the opponent.

Epee uses the entire body, where no rules of right of way apply, and the fastest opponent draws to get the score. The team now fences with electronical equipment that reacts when touched by a weapon, kind of a medieval laser tag.

The team, coached by Professor Lanetta Ware, has been practicing 5- 6 days a week in preparation for this season and plans to be on the road traveling to these invitationals. They've been training with favored coach, Alex Ryjik, who was Russia's military champion in fencing and currently runs a fencing clinic in North Carolina, since Coach Ware will be retiring and it's her last season with fencing.

Hollins will host its own Invitational over short term on January 25. They will compete against JMU, Sweet Briar, Virginia Tech and Stevens College. This will be the only home meet, and the team is counting on first year players to compete successfully while upper- classmen are away on short term.

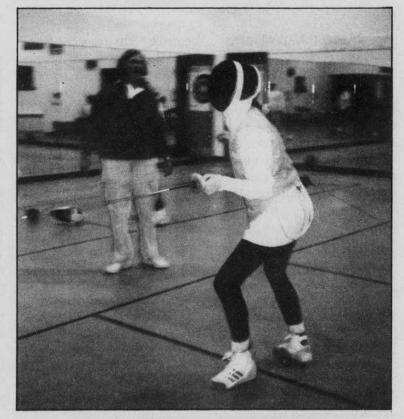
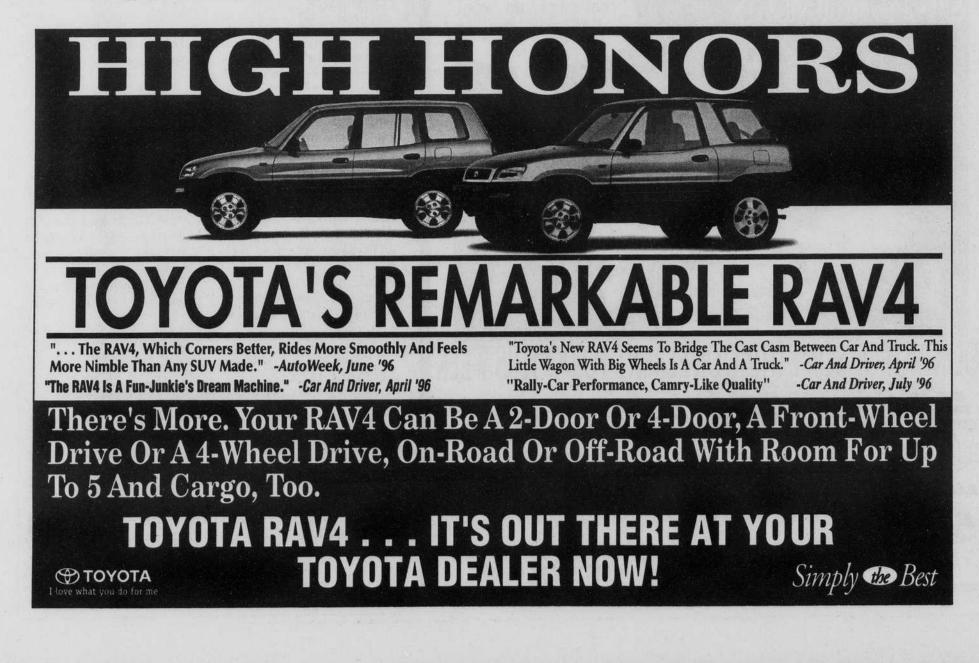


Photo by Virginia Bunting Coach Ware looks on as Hollins fencer practices for an upcoming tournament.



SGA

Student Conduct Council:

*Hearings for the month of October Charge: social violation Sanction: SHARE one-shot project with written summary of experience by Dec. 1. 1996 **Charge: Alcohol Violation** Sanction: \$20 fine, create a flier stating Virginia state law and Hollins policies regarding rules and regulations of alcohol. Charge: social violation, alcohol violation Sanction: Fall Weekend clean-up, \$20 fine, part II of the alcohol program Charge: judicial violation Sanction: SHARE one-shot project with a written summary of the event due by Dec. 1, 1996 Charge: social violation Sanction: SHARE one-shot project with a written summary of the event due by Dec. 1, 1996 Charge: alcohol violation Sanction: \$25 fine, banding at school functions for one month. Charge: visitation and security violation Sanction: \$95 fine, volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, apology letter to residents of her hall. *Adopt-A-Highway cleanup sponsored by SGA on Sunday, November 17 2:00 meeting on steps of Moody until 4:00

*Thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket or a rubber duck (from Campus Activities and RLA).

Opinions

The Roanoke Valley: you couldn't beat it with a stick

The other day as I stood in line at the Cafe Moody for a bowl o' frozen yogurt—it was chocolate flavored, not Rockin Raspberry hence the line— I overheard a fellow student refer to Roanoke, Virginia as a "hick town." To a Roanoke native, like myself, that was such the offensive statement. The other thing is it just ain't factual (y'all).

Over the last few years Roanoke has blossomed into quite the metropolis. We even have criminals and stuff; check out any copy of *The Roanoke Times*. In the November 8th edition alone, there are enough sensational stories to make *Hard Copy* permanently relocate their headquarters to the star city.

One story printed on the 8th tells of a man, Dennis L. Sikora, who "has a shoe fetish. . . to the point that he will go up to perfect strangers and tell them that their shoes aren't high enough, and they need to wear 4-or 5-inch heels."

To Roanoke J.C. Penny store employees, this man was known as "the shoe man" both for the number of women's shoes he purchased and for the remarks he made to women he did not know about their footwear.

Sikora took particular interest in one twenty-one year old clerk of the store. Over a period of four months in 1995, Sikora did everything from asking to touch this woman's shoes to rubbing his genitals against her on the elevator. Sikora was convicted of stalking and fined \$1,000.

In a non-related story covered in the same issue, a young man (police have not yet released his name) was charged with attempted capital murder. The *Roanoke Times* reports that the lad was drunk, had been sniffing paint thinner

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ON THE RAG ELIZABETH J. JONES

and had injected himself with TURPENTINE!

After police received an emergency call from his residence, they drove to the location. When they arrived, the man decided to shoot at them with an arrow. He missed.

In addition to this yogurt line attack on my hometown, I've recently been bombarded with friends who whine, "There's nothing to do in Roanoke." This phrase was also my mantra in high school, however, back then it was justified, as back then Roanoke didn't even have a Gap.

A few years ago Sassy magazine selected Roanoke as one of "The Tackiest Cities in America." Now, with a reputation like that, how could anyone be bored? We have the largest illuminated star in the world, the beautiful Blue Ridge Parkway, two pretty big shopping malls and the bustling Downtown area.

If that's not enough, there are at least thirty things to do just at the Grandin Road section of Roanoke. Go to the Grandin Theatre, ditch the art movie and go directly to the bathroom. Trust me, it'll make you feel pretty.

Then hit the Community Inn. It's one of the few places in Roanoke Mill Mountain Coffee and Tea, Awakenings actually has a place to sit down. An added bonus is that with your lunch

purchase you get a free ten minute massage.

If the Grandin area is too far to drive, try photographing patrons entering the new Hooters or the seedier Girls Girls Girls of Virginia Inc. If they ask what you're doing, explain that you are creating a photo collage concerning male sexuality for a nearby gallery and congratulate them for being be included.

Request a close-up shot of their face. Tell them it could be the centerpiece of the collage. Then watch as they jump in their cars and drive away for fear that their wives or lovers may find out (keep in mind not all suggestions are legal, but they are all great fun.)

Or just organize a protest in front of these establishments. Or just open up your own restaurant which offers men wearing tiny speedos and has a mean selection of fish and chips.

Get your kicks at Super Walmart. Check out the crafts section where they sell bags of Barbie heads (just the heads)! These are fun to make into hair ornaments for Christmas or just



pass them out to strangers on the market; it's a great way to make new friends.

However, I understand that big cities can be frightening. Hey, you might get shot with an arrow or something. Take advantage of the diversions happening in your back yard. Hollins College is the cultural center of Roanoke, if not the world. If the big deal speakers, the beautiful scenery, the opportunities to chat with friends or the eight page papers don't keep you busy, I have a few suggestions to help you get some jollies.

1. Entertain the Interlibrary Loan coordinator. Order as many articles and books on the deviant mating habits of salamanders as you can find.

2. Write your paper for Contemporary American Poetry on "Willlie Nelson's use of the metaphor."

3. Borrow a tray from the cafeteria. Then go sit on the sledding hill behind faculty row. When a professor asks what you're doing tell him or her that you're "waiting for the blizzard." Sit some more. 4. Breathe.

5. Create a column titled "On the Rag" with the hopes of transforming a misogynistic phrase into something positive; a phrase which means "Right On!" Next, pay your friends to write letters to the editor of the paper after the campus rags (sorry, it couldn 't be helped) on the title of that column. Then wish that people would move on and start complaining about the actual content of your column.

6. If you have male graduate students in your class, casually mention: "Boy, I'm so glad we get those four excused absences each semester for menstrual cramps!"

7. Watch the 70's cult classic *Harold and Maude* in the Banta Room Not only will you be one of a few who has been exposed to the odd yet beautiful relationship between a twentysomething man and his eighty year old lover, you'll also have Cat Stevens' lyrics running through your head for just days.

8. Ask Chef Matt why the dining hall serves scrapple.

9. Ask your favorite security guard, "Hey, were"t you that guy on C*H*I*P*S?"

Okay, so Roanoke is kind of a hick town where there really is little to do. But hey, there's always the opportunity to meet a local hick who will think you're the most sophisticated mama he's seen in years. Just make sure to wear your highest heels as men seem to like that here.