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## News



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# Changing race relations at Hollins

by Angie Jeffreys

Thirty-five years ago, no black students attended Hollins University; the only black people seen worked in the kitchen, cleaned the buildings and worked on maintenance. In 1970, Cecelia Long graduated as the university's first black student.

Years of progress have begun to break down the university's Southern all-white stigma. Yet only a year ago, students found the phrase, "N\*\*\*\*\* ain't shit" scrawled on a classroom chalkboard.

Today, walking into Hollins' Moody Dining Hall, one immediately sees seemingly hundreds of small

cliques stationed at their usual tables, all unique in their own right. The black community at Hollins is one of these groups. And while this is just another group of friends, the fact that the majority of the black students choose to identify themselves as a tight group of friends has caused many other students to question this segregation and whether or not it is self-imposed.

Keturah Hammond '02 is one of many students disheartened at this typical cafeteria scene in particular.

"I think the biggest problem Hollins has is its incredibly small population of black students. If you look out into

the community, the ratio of white to black citizens of Roanoke is much more level," said Hammond.

Another senior at Hollins, Barbara Walden '02, an active member of the black community, believes that the state of Hollins' racial harmony has drastically improved since her first year, even though many issues are still prevalent. During Walden's first year at Hollins she did witness racism towards her class president, who also happened to be black.

"She received a lot of

criticism and racially biased comments. . . ." This president, Opa Owiye, transferred after her sophomore year.

"I have not witnessed any discrimination personally, but I have heard stories about my friends experiencing racially induced criticisms, discriminations and problems. I must say, though, that the feeling around these issues has definitely lessened," claimed Walden. "Hollins is a much better place racially than

SEE RACE  
PAGE 4

## Admissions creates fresh approach

by Nicole Bower

October 28-29, Hollins held an open house for prospective high school seniors who had been invited on campus to tour Hollins, meet students and learn about the academic programs and financial aid options that Hollins offers.

The 49 prospectives that were registered to come was a substantial improvement over the 16 prospectives that came to Hollins in October 2000, and these prospectives came from all over the United States; from as far west as Washington state to as far

south as Texas.

Acting dean of admissions Celia McCormick and Bizz Glover, assistant director of admissions, pulled out the red carpet for the 49 prospectives who visited during open house, beginning with a chapel service to welcome them. That was closely followed by registration in the Green Drawing Room and tours were conducted from there around campus. President Rugaber then welcomed the families in Talmadge Hall, and many went to the matinee perform-

SEE ADMISSIONS  
PAGE 3



Photo by Heather Moore

The first floor of the winning Sandusky Service House, decorated for the campus-wide Halloween contest.

by Cecily Farrar

### Portraits in gallery

Artist Carolyn

DeMeritt's work will be on display from Nov. 6 - Dec. 10 in the Hollins Art Gallery. DeMeritt's portraits focus on people who may be under-represented or experiencing changes. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday - Friday and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday - Sunday.

DeMerritt will present a lecture at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 13 in the Green Drawing Room. A reception will follow in the Hollins Art Gallery.

### Take Back the Night

Take Back the Night, an event held to allow participants to speak out against violence towards women as well as their personal experiences with the issue, will be held at 8:30 p.m. on

Thursday, Nov. 8 on the steps of the Coker Building. In case of rain, the event will be in the Rat.

### Junkyard GoGo Band

The Junkyard GoGo Band will perform from 10 p.m.-2 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 9 in the dining hall in Moody Center. Admission is \$10 with a college I.D. and \$15 without an I.D.

### Doug Clark & the Hot Nuts

Hollins will welcome Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts from 9 -11 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 11 in the Rat. Dinner will be held in the Rat earlier

## News Briefs



in the evening featuring a "Cheeseburgers in Paradise" theme. Various types of burgers, including veggie burgers, and virgin margaritas, will be available.

### Classics Symposium

This year's classics symposium will be held on Thursday, Nov. 15, with the first lecture from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in Talmadge and the second lecture from 7:45-8:45 p.m. in Babcock.

### Ring Night is soon near...

Fall Ring Night festivities will be held Thursday - Saturday, Nov. 8-10.

## Hollins Columns

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

# Carbon Leaf, Janitors entertain at Fall Formal

by Lauren Taylor

Fall Formal weekend at Hollins brought two rocking bands and a break from the stress of classes. Carbon Leaf entertained the campus on Fri., Nov. 2 and The Janitors entertained Fall Formal attendees on Sat., Nov. 3 at the Patrick Henry Hotel in downtown Roanoke.

Fall Formal, organized by the Formal Events Committee, is one of the biggest events on campus during the fall. Pre-event ticket sales were good, according to Tracee Grossman, director of student activities. Over 150 tickets had been sold before the event out of the possible 200 maximum allowed. Tickets were also sold at the door to accommodate those who had not purchased tickets in

advance.

The weekend was kicked off with a performance by

with songs from their newest CD, "Echo Echo," which includes such songs as

cess with the Coca-Cola New Music Award competition. The band has made the top

Committee, run by Carrington Kilduff '03.

Students danced to the sound of The Janitors. The band played a selection of crowd-pleasing music, including such Hollins favorites as "Sweet Home Alabama" and "Georgia on My Mind." The Janitors had the crowd dancing the night away.



Photo by Lacy Wood

Carbon Leaf plays songs from their new CD, "Echo Echo," in the Rat on Friday to kick-off Fall Formal weekend.

Carbon Leaf, a Richmond-based band who plays frequently at Hollins. The band entertained the small crowd

crowd-favorites "Mary Mac" and "The Boxer."

Carbon Leaf came to Hollins fresh from their suc-

cess with the Coca-Cola New Music Award competition. The band has made the top three of the competition. The top three bands will compete in January in Los Angeles, with the winning band performing live at the American Music Awards.

The band had the crowd dancing and singing along with their songs, pumping them up for the following night's festivities.

For Saturday night's dance, free van shuttles transported students to the Patrick Henry Hotel for Fall Formal. The theme this year was "Vogue," chosen by the Formal Events

**Carbon Leaf  
will perform in  
Blacksburg on  
Fri., Nov. 9  
at Baylee's  
from 11:30 -  
1:30 p.m.**

## Admissions

FROM PAGE 1

ance of "Macbeth."

Following the play, two panels were held for both the prospectives and parents where each could voice any concerns they had about housing, academics, internships, Hollins abroad programs and other interests.

The academic panel was constructed of faculty from all four academic divisions: natural sciences, social sciences, fine arts and humanities. The student panel was composed of current Hollins students from different classes, all walks of life, as well as from all around the globe, and they answered any questions the prospectives had about issues like dorm life, campus activities and transportation.

Afterwards, the prospectives met up with their host-

esses and then went to enjoy a harvest dinner in the Rat due to the cold. The events after that ranged from climbing the climbing wall, to pumpkin carving and ice cream in the Rat, to watching "Sleepy Hollow" in Babcock auditorium.

Monday started with an open swim, and then breakfast in Moody. Tours of the campus and the riding center were also offered. Classes were available for the prospectives to visit, including courses in such areas as art, creative writing and political science. Meanwhile, the parents attended meetings on financial aid and student services. To end the visits, both parents and prospectives were able to attend an academic panel to discuss classes, credits and degrees offered, and then lunch in Moody.

The reasons that the prospectives have for looking at Hollins differ greatly. Many are interested in Hollins for its creative writing, its riding program and the various academic subject areas.

Amber Holms of Pennsylvania said, "The reason I came to Hollins is because of my wish to major in French and International Studies, and Hollins has everything I'm looking for."

Rebecca Miller of Georgia said, "I want to go to Hollins because I hear it has a wonderful creative writing program, and I just want to learn to become a better writer."

The admissions office had no trouble in recruiting volunteers to hostess; the office was overflowing with students volunteering to host

a prospective, give campus tours and to help run registration. The admissions interns sat at a table in Moody at lunch to recruit more volunteers. "The office of admissions very much appreciated

the help that the current student body gave us in preparing and carrying out this open house," McCormick said. "To all those students, admissions would like to say "Thank You!"



Photo by Nicole Bower

Laura Speakman '04 takes a prospective member of the class of 2006 and her family on a campus tour during admissions' fall open house for high school students.

## Race

### FROM PAGE 1

when I first got here. There is still a long way to go, but I think that as the years go on, attitudes and people become more educated."

Walden views her close-knit group of friends as a support network rather than simply the group of black students on campus. She attributes the strength of her group of friends to the Black Student Alliance [BSA], a prominent group on campus.

"I am a member of the BSA, and being in the BSA gives me a wonderful opportunity to learn and grow 'amongst my people.' We are a support group and an outlet to each other as well as the rest of the campus," said Walden.

The BSA has been an integral part of the Hollins campus since the 1970s when it was a much more aggressive force, according to

Richard Dillard, an English professor at Hollins since the early '60s. Dillard also claims that the question of where the black students sit at lunch has been asked since the first black students began to attend. He commented on the fact that back then, the BSA served as a method of separating the black members from the Hollins community as opposed to the educational outlet that it is now.

Walden agrees that the Hollins community's reception of the BSA has changed in the present. "The community loves the BSA. We do community service, throw parties and try to educate the campus on black issues. I believe that that as a collective group, we are very positive," she said.

"I do know that the BSA was really active in the early '80s and late '70s, and that at

times the black students as a whole were not received well on campus," said Walden of her knowledge of the history of the organization. "I've been told that their pictures were lightened in the yearbooks so that they would look 'less black.'"

Dillard, on the other hand, recalls having very positive experiences with the first black students in the creative writing department. He points out that it was several years before Hollins was able to recruit any black writers, though.

Blondelle P. Barnes, class of 1976, was Dillard's first black student, and she was from the Virgin Islands. He remembers fondly the first meeting they had in his office. She had come in to complain about all of the students who smoked cigarettes in class because she was allergic.

During their talk, they discovered their mutual love for Jamaican dialect poetry, and since one of her other professors would not let her submit it in his class, Dillard arranged an independent study with her so that she could write it.

"Sometimes I wonder if another reason we hit it off so well is because she was from the Virgin Islands, and didn't have the American tensions," he added.

Dillard admits that it is hard to trace the history of racial relations through an administrative point of view, though. "There's been sort of a radical turn over here. There's no one in the whole administration that has a history that goes back more than a few years," he said.

Even today, the black community still wrestles with the issue of finding its place on campus, and Walden notes that their efforts are not met without skepticism for different things, including their closeness with the black cafeteria staff.

Students such as Hammond, however, would not call issues such as this criticism. A lot of the questions that many of the white students have all relate to the simple fact that they want the

black student body to be a part of the rest of the campus.

Hammond pointed out that the majority of the cafeteria staff is black, and it makes her feel uncomfortable. "When I first came here, I thought it was a bit strange to have all these white students being served by a mostly black cafeteria staff. Maybe because I'm from the North, I have an idealistic view of race relations," she said.

Walden claims that one of the problems is the admissions office's efforts to recruit black students. "I have not come across any materials that would encourage black students to come to Hollins. We have multicultural tip sheets, but nothing really about financial aid and cultural activities that occur here," she said.

Dillard's philosophy on the possibilities of racial harmony on campus are rather optimistic, though.

"I think here at Hollins when people are engaged in something that they are mutually interested in, that in a way that some way or another transcends or ignores racial differences, that they get along really fine, and that our hope for the future is that it gradually gets wider and wider and wider," he said.

## Malcolm discusses women making history

by Cecily Farrar

Ellen Malcolm '69, founder and president of EMILY's List, will lecture on "Women Making History" as the second speaker of the General Speakers Fund series at 4:30 p.m. in Talmadge on Wednesday, Nov. 14.

A reception will follow her lecture in the Green Drawing Room, where Malcolm will be available to talk with audience members. Admission is free to the Hollins community and \$5 for members of the public. Tickets will be available at the door.



Photo courtesy of Public Relations

Ellen Malcolm, founder of EMILY's List.

EMILY's List, an acronym for "Early Money Is Like Yeast" (it makes the dough rise), is the nation's foremost financial and political resource for pro-choice Democratic women candidates and has become the nation's largest political action committee. Malcolm has been featured on "60 Minutes," "People" and "Fortune" magazines and in the "New York Times." She was voted "Most Valuable Player" by the American Association of Political Consultants and one of 25 heroines in "Working Woman" magazine.

**Ellen Malcolm  
will visit Hollins  
Wed., Nov. 14  
at 4:30 p.m. in Talmadge.  
A reception will follow in  
the Green Drawing Room.**

## Fall dance mix innovative, with unexpected surprises

by Lauren Taylor

Improvisation. Water. Inner tubes. Balloons. It must be time once again for the Hollins Fall Dance Mix.

The Hollins Repertory Dance Company held their annual fall dance performance Nov. 1-3, with different performances and guest artists each night.

Guest artists included Ayo Janeen Jackson, Melissa Chris, Molly Cathline Headley, Drea Brown '02, Shani Nwando Ikenoha Collins, Jesse Zaritt, Sara Procopio, Karinne Keithley, Robin Harris, Ariane Malia Reinhard, Martha Clarke, Mark Haim, Alexander Gish, Ashley Holladay, Seth Williams.

The Fall Dance Mix started off opening night in an unusual and unexpected man-

ner. Due to a campus-wide power outage just prior to the start of the performances, the dancers had to improvise a solution. Flashlights were brought in, while the dancers improvised until power was restored.

The Thursday performance included "Resort (or How I Should Love to Marry)," which was performed all three nights. The piece was choreographed by Robin Harris and was performed by Meredith Glisson '05, Ann Liv Young '04, Jaime Potter '04, Amy Frost '04, Jillian Pena '03, Ellen Philpott '05, Gina T'ai '02, Angie Fowler '04 and Jennifer McGinn '05.

The dancers wore cream dresses with black tire inner tubes strapped to the bottom with colored ribbons. The dancers used props in the

piece including a wooden bench and brightly colored shoes that matched their ribbons. The rubber inner tubes brought an added dimension to the performance, making the dancers able to bounce on the floor in some instances.

The second night of the Fall Dance Mix brought even more talented dance performances. Thirteen different dances involving 22 difference dancers were performed on Friday night, including a repeat performance of Melissa Chris's "Jade Rabbit" from Thursday's show.

The piece "Hot Dog King," created by Katy Pyle '03, combined music, film, dance and hot dogs to create a five-part dance. Young started off the piece as Jack the Hot Dog Man, roasting hot dogs over a constantly flaming grill in a multimedia film segment. The piece then moved on to a topless Young dancing as she was being wrapped in four pieces of saran wrap stretched across the stage.

The third part of "Hot Dog King" featured Fowler and Nancy Forshaw-Clapp '03 dressed in flirtatiously short skirts fighting for the attention of a mustached Pena. The third section rolled into the fourth part, "Gender Roll/eing," featuring Pena, Fowler, Forshaw-Clapp, Potter, McGinn and Susan Honer '04 rolling across the stage and over each other. The piece finished with Young standing in a wooden box biting and spitting hot dogs in the dark, illuminated only by a strobe light intermittently.

The final performance of the Fall Dance Mix was "Lemonwemon," featuring Pyle, Malaika Sarco '02,

Erika Hand '03 and Forshaw-Clapp. The performance was choreographed by Young, who sat in the audience shouting instructions to the performers through a bullhorn.

The dancers, costumed in dresses and thick-rimmed glasses, used pitchers of water, food coloring and a fountain at the back of the stage to create an entirely wet performance. The piece, set to the music of "90's Club Mix #2, #3, #4," featured an ecstasy scene with Sarco, as well as partial nudity.

Saturday night's performance of the piece was enhanced with the addition of extra performers Zaritt and Haim, wearing a red wig,

who stood at the back of the stage in dresses, drinking water out of cups filled from the fountain at the back. Procopio also joined the performance, sliding across the blue protective grass on the stage at the end of the piece.

The Hollins Repertory Dance Company also sold items at the door to raise money for the company. T-shirts, stickers and CD's were for sale and can still be purchased by contacting the dance department.

All of the months of choreography, practice and dedication culminated in an enlightening Fall Dance Mix. Once again, the dance department demonstrated that it's a powerful force on campus.



Photo by Christy Pessagno

Erika Hand '03, Malaika Sarco '02, Katy Pyle '03 and Nancy Forshaw-Clapp '03 perform "Lemonwemon," choreographed by Ann Liv Young '04.



cds! prints! stickers! & even more  
handmade loveliness!

ask your favorite dancer about purchasing  
some of these unique items and you too can  
help support the dance department!

## Costa brings unique background to Hollins

by Cecily Farrar

LeeRay Costa's work has taken her from Thailand to Australia and most recently to Hollins, where she is the new assistant professor of anthropology and women's studies.

She learned of the available position at Hollins through a professional anthropology association to which she belongs and received encouragement to apply from Bill Nye, chair of the sociology department, and Drue Barker, director of women's studies.

Costa said she finds members of the Hollins community to be "supportive and very welcoming." She said she enjoys the students in her classes and that "I really love teaching all women. My classes are going very well."

This semester, she is teaching introduction to anthropology, introduction to

women's studies and survey of feminist thought. She will teach introduction to women's studies again next semester, as well as two new classes she has developed -- anthropology of gender and sexuality, and a methods class in anthropology exploring life histories and self-narratives.

Costa said she is especially looking forward to her life histories class, which is based on one of her comprehensive exams in graduate school. "The students will decide as a group on a particular population to interview. It should be eye-opening for a lot of people," she said.

Her goals for her time at Hollins include working to develop an anthropology minor that she hopes will be available beginning next semester or next year. She would like to see an anthropology major offered in the future, as well as more politi-

cal activism among students. Next year, she is planning to teach a class on women and social movements, for which she plans to develop an experiential component, such as volunteer work at various social movement organizations.

Costa grew up in California and has also lived in New York and Hawaii in addition to the countries where she has worked and completed research. Last year she worked with American students studying abroad in Thailand on an experiential learning program, where she taught about development and globalization.

She has also worked as a teaching assistant at University of California, San Diego and New York University and was a guest lecturer in Hawaii. More recently, Costa completed her doctoral fellowship in

Southeast Asian Studies at The Australian National University in Canberra.

Women's studies has also been an area of interest for Costa since her college years, when she took sociology classes that were cross-listed with the women's studies department. In graduate school, "I knew that I wanted to do something with women as part of my anthropology studies," she said.

After her undergraduate work, she taught English in Thailand and returned to complete her dissertation research from 1997 to 1999. During that time she also worked for a women's NGO, the Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development. She completed follow-up research and her teaching fellowship in Thailand in the fall of 2000.

Costa said she is interested in learning more about the

campus community. "I want to get to know more people and learn about what they are doing," she said.

Commenting that she has been pleased with the Hollins campus and the Roanoke area, Costa said, "I love the beautiful surroundings and seeing it become fall here. I'm in awe of the color. The mountains and sunsets are beautiful." She cited recent visits to the Blue Ridge Parkway and Smith Mountain Lake as particularly enjoyable.

Costa shared ideas about future personal projects that she would like to complete. "My intention is to do work with women's organizations in the future, with a focus on Thailand," she said. And she noted, "I want to be much more politically involved in the United States. I hope some Hollins students will join me."

## 'Monsters' incorporate life lessons into comic bundle

**Directors:** Lee Unkrich  
Pete Docter  
David Silverman

**Rating:** G

**Cast:** John Goodman, Billy Crystal, Mary Gibbs, Steve Buscemi, James Coburn, Jennifer Tilly, and others

**Runtime:** 88 minutes

**Plot Outline:** A large, spotted and horned Sulley and his best friend, a green feisty one-eyed monster capture children's screams in order to provide the energy on which monsters live.

by Lindsay Durango

From the makers of stories from told from the points of view of toys and ants comes "Monsters, Inc.," a story told from the monsters' point of view. And these aren't just any monsters. Their lives are fueled by the screams of little children, literally.

Disney and Pixar Animations have managed to rework long-held beliefs about closet-dwelling monsters and their scare tactics. In this film, monsters don't scare

SEE MONSTERS  
PAGE 7



Photo courtesy of  
[www.disney.com/monstersinc](http://www.disney.com/monstersinc)  
Mike and Sulley scare because they care.

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## Monsters

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people because they enjoy watching children suffer, but because they are forced to retrieve the screams that fuel their telephones, cars, you name it. In fact, these monsters fear children as much as they would an incurable disease.

So when a little girl, a toddler called Boo, stumbles into the monsters' world, a wonderful array of life lessons and comic moments spill onto the screen.

The poor creeps stuck with hiding Boo away from the fear-laden monster world are Sully and Michael, voiced by John Goodman and Billy Crystal respectively.

Sully is a giant of a monster covered in green and purple fur who somehow grows attached to the little girl despite his initial fears and keeps her best interests at heart. Actually, it's not so surprising - she's one of the most adorable animated creatures since Bambi.

Michael is a rotund, little monster with one huge eyeball stuck in the middle of his forehead. He's the voice of "reason," trying to convince Sully to just get rid of Boo and make all their problems

g o



Photo courtesy of [www.disney.com/monstersinc](http://www.disney.com/monstersinc).

Sully discovers that a little girl has entered into the monster's realm. Children are believed to be deadly to the monsters.

away.

There is of course the evil-doer of the story. That would be Randall, voiced by Steve Buscemi. Randall has, to the misfortune of everyone around him, the keen ability to perfectly blend into his surroundings at will, which makes a fight scene between he and Sully quite anticipatory. And amusing to boot.

Throughout the film, one can be sure that little kids in the audience are learning the important things in life: that friendships can flourish despite prejudices of those around them; that trust is all important, and when broken,

can be damning; and that true friendships can inspire a loyalty beyond all else.

On the same note, the film illuminates that, in addition to a little luck, ingenuity can go a long way when it comes to solving problems.

And between learning life lessons, everyone in the audience can appreciate the animation. Pixar does not disappoint. Especially impressive are the inanimate objects (gloves, books, beds) and Sully's fur, which on a few occasions could all easily be mistaken as real.

"Monsters, Inc." is a must see, whether you go alone, with a younger relative or with a group of friends to have a laugh together. Be warned that you will be amongst a sea of small children for whom audience participation is second nature.

Don't let that stop you from going to see it, however. The high-pitched laughs and squeals will only add to the nostalgia of seeing a Disney film in the theater. And with the last, wonderfully endearing scene of the film, the whole of the experience will have been worth it.



Photo courtesy of [www.disney.com/monstersinc](http://www.disney.com/monstersinc)

Billy Crystal and John Goodman are the voices for Mike and Sully, two monsters from the "Monsters, Inc." team.

### Movie Times:

Good through 11/08/2001

Valley View Grande- 1:00, 2:00, 2:45, 3:30, 4:30, 5:15, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 8:45, 9:30, 10:15

Carmike 10- 12:15, 12:45, 2:30, 3:00, 4:45, 5:15, 7:00, 7:30, 9:10, 9:45

Carmike Salem Valley 8- 7:00, 9:15

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## Community School Halloween party treat for kids

by Lindsay Durango

On Monday, Oct. 29, two days before proper trick-or-treating and masquerading took place, a herd of miniature aliens, samurai warriors, witches and disco kitties gathered in the Forest of Arden on Hollins campus, playing games, eating candy and having an all-around good time.

The troop of monsters was comprised of Community School children dressed up for the annual Halloween party that Hollins University hosts. The children, ages 4 to 10, got a fun field trip out of the event, and Hollins volunteers had the opportunity to interact with a group of rowdy, wonderful kids.

At the Halloween party,

two or three volunteers from different Hollins clubs set up tables with various activities: Popcorn-filled pumpkin bags, foam glasses, newspaper hats, hopscotch, dartboards and bubble-blowing were only a few of the stations set up this year.

Preparation for the party started over a month ago, with Club Coordinator Barbara Walden '02 looking through party catalogs for games and activities, setting up a date and time for the children to come to campus and recruiting clubs to participate in the event.

Walden acquired the responsibility of putting the whole thing together only this year. In past years, the events and activity coordinators had been in charge of the project.

"It really makes sense

[for club coordinator to be in charge]," said Walden. As club coordinator, she is



Photo by Julia Carter

Ann Liv Young '04 helps community school children make masks for Halloween.

responsible as acting as liaison between clubs and SGA, clubs and students and from one club to another.

With all of the effort Walden put into the event, only seven clubs volunteered. There are about 30 clubs on campus. Those who signed up were Model UN, the Black Student Alliance, the Hollins Columns, the Hollins Repertory Dance Company, the Art Association, Chapel Choir and the International Club.

When it came time to actually set up for the kids, Walden and friend Michelle Tweedy '02 were left to take on the task themselves, and the party was a little late in starting.

"I was blowing up balloons while the kids were arriving," remarked Walden.

With the low number of club members present to help as the kids played games, volunteers were having to move

from station to station. Walden herself, dressed as a yellow M&M, was running around nonstop, keeping everything and everyone straight.

Toward the end of the afternoon, Walden was able to sit down and take a break from her managerial duties. "I was actually able to breathe and interact with the kids," she said. "I really enjoy doing something for the kids."

And the kids loved it. Completely oblivious to the late start and all the trouble Walden and other volunteers had to go through to get it off the ground, the miniature aliens, samurai, witches and disco kitties made popcorn balls, decorated newspaper hats and blew bubbles into the afternoon.

## Gubernatorial race to find the right 'Mark'

by Misty Overstreet

During the next week, Virginians will go to the polls to choose a new governor. But unlike past gubernatorial elections in the state, the 2001 elections face new and far more challenging problems than ever before.

The new governor will be faced with decisions concerning crowded schools, debilitating traffic in northern and eastern regions of the state, under-funded public school systems and universities, as well as complex problems in the state's overwhelming health care systems.

During the past month, Virginia, as well as the Hollins community, have become increasingly aware of the impending race because of the ever popularized,

bureaucracy-driven, humor-imposed television and radio commercials that depict both candidates: Republican Mark Earley and Democrat Mark Warner.

The candidates are depicted as everything from "fair and firm, fiscal to fearful, to damaging as demonstrative." Each candidate has promised not to raise taxes and to restore the damaged economy of the state. Both candidates have proclaimed themselves to be "promising individuals who strive to make Virginia the best that it can be." But who are these two candidates?

In the case of the Republican nominee, Mark Earley, he is a former state attorney general, who states that he is "embarking on a journey to make the Virginia of the future full of equality

and liberty for all of its citizens."

Earley promises to address the following issues if he is elected governor: protect the environment, create new jobs in central Virginia, stimulate the state economy, protect family securities, protect Virginia children from drugs and to introduce new bills on education and transportation for the state.

His competition, Democrat Mark Warner, said that his plans for the state's future include: growing Virginia's economy, increasing tourism to the state, increased funding for agriculture, conserving natural resources, fixing transportation problems, keeping communities safe, restoring state-appointed leadership, standing up for fiscal conservatism, protecting Virginia

values, revitalizing Virginia's cities, as well as creating opportunities for Virginian's with Disabilities.

Both candidates have promised great improvements for the state, but recent polls show that Warner leads in ranking by 10 percentage points.

How will this election affect Hollins University? The new governor will be responsible for pushing the implementation of campus policies in which students facing alcohol infractions can be faced with parental notification instead of simply being dealt with by college officials. Such policies have already been implemented by Radford University, James Madison University and Old Dominion University.

Earley, who has created a task force dealing solely with

resident college student drinking, has shown interest to bring these policies to universities and colleges statewide. In contrast, Warner is not in favor of this policy and believes that the decision regarding college student drinking on campus should be left in the hands of school administrators.

Regardless of how one feels about either candidate, the state's gubernatorial race will prove to be a tight race to the finish for both candidates. All Hollins students should research this election further, as well as vote in the upcoming election if eligible to vote in Virginia. But in the end, no matter how this race will end, you can just call the winner "Mark."

## 'Macbeth' receives mixed student reactions

by Jeilenn Gerlach

A production of Shakespeare's "Macbeth" was put into action by Hollins Theatre over Family Weekend, Oct. 25-28.

"Macbeth" is a timeless play containing dark themes of deceit, ambition and murder. Macbeth hears a prophecy from three sisters that inspires his ambition for the throne of Scotland. Hearing news of Macbeth's recognition, Lady Macbeth concocts a scheme to usurp the throne. As the play goes on, the audience is eventually witness to the Macbeth's horrifying descent into madness and his ultimate demise.

Director David Dvorscak conceived of a modern reading and performance of Macbeth. Leaving the script in early modern English helped to emphasize that just because times have changed, human vices have not. This particular showing of "Macbeth" featured an all-female cast, starring

Alexandra Howes '02 as Macbeth.

"Our intentions in modernizing 'Macbeth' pertained to our day and age in the allure and desire of power," explained Howes. "We did not have to change a word of the script to show that things have not changed. Also, the play was not about Macbeth as much as it was about his rise and fall and the effects of his actions on other people around him. So that was our focus, with modern dress, guns and other modern symbols."

The characters' modern costumes, consisting of suits, ties and dresses helped to bring the play up to date. The use of sound bytes to segue into various scenes and acts served both to summarize and to modernize the play. "I was very impressed with the use of real firearms. It was a very mature production," said Jessica McEwan '04.

"It was a hard show, but it was worth it. The cast was wonderful," said Colleen Hagerty '02, who designed

and ran sound for the production.

One student, who wished not to identify herself, commented that "The direction drew from more commercial performances and took away from the ingenuity of the actors."

"Alexandra did pretty well," said Shaune Lee '05. "It's hard to describe. She really got into what she was doing and you knew she was being Macbeth."

"It was good, but one person played so many characters that I thought it was confusing," said Sally Beazlie '04. "But Tara Smith played the best drunk."

Another student concurred. "It was difficult to understand. We left at intermission. The costumes made it that much more complicated."

"I felt that it was not well-articulated. The actors were very muffled and they seemed to rush through things that should not have been rushed," said an anonymous audience member. "There is a

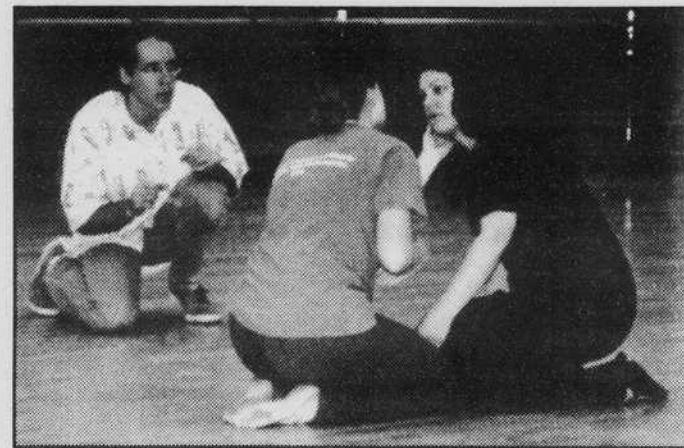


Photo by Jessica Differ

Director David Dvorscak coaches Kelsey Plageonhof '04 and Alexandra Howes '02 through a difficult scene between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth.

certain rhythm to Shakespeare and they just didn't capture. I really liked Lady Macbeth [played by Kelsey Plagenhoef '04], and the set was really cool."

Set design was simple, with only a few mirrored columns at the back of the stage. These mirrors represented the characters' blindness to their actions and the consequences, according to Howes.

"I felt some of the mean-

ing and clarity of the dialogue was lost," said Caroline Haavik '04. "However, I was interested in the interpretation of the setting, particularly the scene where Macbeth goes mad."

The clever staging of the banquet scene, by using red satin to double as a tablecloth and as Macbeth's hallucinations of blood, was one of the highlights of the performance.

## Grapheon, anon join to bring tragedy reactions out

by Bonnie Ellman

On Tuesday, Oct. 30, Grapheon and the anon collaborated to present "In Light of Recent Events," a collection of artistic reactions to the tragedy that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001. The presentation was held in the Green Drawing Room at 4:30 p.m., and cookies and coffee were served to spectators.

The English department had asked anon and Grapheon to work together so that works of art that could not be expressed in the recently distributed magazine, "In Light



Photo by Mary Goad

Anonymity was retained in order to stress the importance of community during "In Light of Recent Events."

of Recent Events," could have a forum.

Since the anon was involved in the event, anonymity was retained to show the importance of the entire community, not just a single voice. The hour-long presentation included poetry readings from Hollins students such as Beth Bergin '04 and Virginia Callagary '03.

Poetry, however, was not the only artistic expression presented. And interpretive dance was performed behind a

curtain that was set up so that the performers could remain anonymous. Heather Brown '02 played guitar and sang a song that she wrote herself. Another singer/songwriter played her guitar behind the curtain and a movie that portrayed Roanoke's transforming landscape and plummeting gas prices was presented.

All the artists, both anonymous and identified, performed works that displayed how deeply the United States and entire world was affected by the terrorist attacks. "In Light of Recent Events" was a both insightful

### In Light of Recent Events



September 11, 2001

and poignant portrayal by young artists striving to make a difference through creative endeavors.

# Hey you!

Send questions to [hollinscolumns@hotmail.com](mailto:hollinscolumns@hotmail.com)

by Anonymous

## A Real Not-Nice-Person

Hey You!

My life used to be great, but now it sucks. I live in an awesome dorm where everyone is really nice. We all get along well together and party all night long. Recently, though, a new girl moved onto my hall and she's a real not-nice-person of the worst type, if you know what I mean. She's a total party-poopier, and it's putting a real damper on things. Even when we try to include her in activities, she never participates. Frequently, she doesn't even acknowledge us when we pass her on campus or inside the dorm. It's like we don't exist, no matter how much we try smiling at her and being friendly. What do you think I can do to either turn her frown upside down or else get rid of her entirely? The happiness of my entire dorm is at stake!

---Wants to Smile

Dear Wants-

How can you be such a selfish person? You actually want to enjoy your college life and not have rude people around? Ha! Sorry, I just couldn't resist that. I hate it, too, when people act like total buttheads. From what you've said, it doesn't sound like this girl has any reason to be so foul towards all of you. I suggest you fight fire with fire. Late one night, try making a wall of cans outside of her door. Repeat every night for at least three weeks straight. If she doesn't start acting better, at least you'll have gotten some revenge, and that's

always sweet. If you want, you can vary the routine a bit. You can penny jamb her door or buy a huge Halloween spider web from Walmart (they're on sale now) and trap her inside her room. If she can't get out, then she can't complain and act rudely! Be creative and good luck!

## Exotic dancing dreams

Hey You!

I know that registration for J-Term is just around the corner, so I'm starting to panic. I'm a sophomore and this is my first year to do an internship. I've been to the CDC and to the CDC internship orientation, but the problem is that there's only one field that really interests me and I'm worried that it's inappropriate for a woman of Hollins. You see, it has always been a dream of mine to work as an exotic dancer. I've taken dance lessons all my life and I truly believe this is my calling. I'm proud of my body, I'm a good dancer, and it's in my personality to be concerned with making others happy. These are the reasons I think I'd do a great job working at a club over January. How can I admit to my J-Term sponsor what I want my true career path to be? Maybe I should mention that my sponsor is a women's studies professor.

--Loves Music, Loves To Dance

Dear Dance-

It sounds like you've really thought about all of

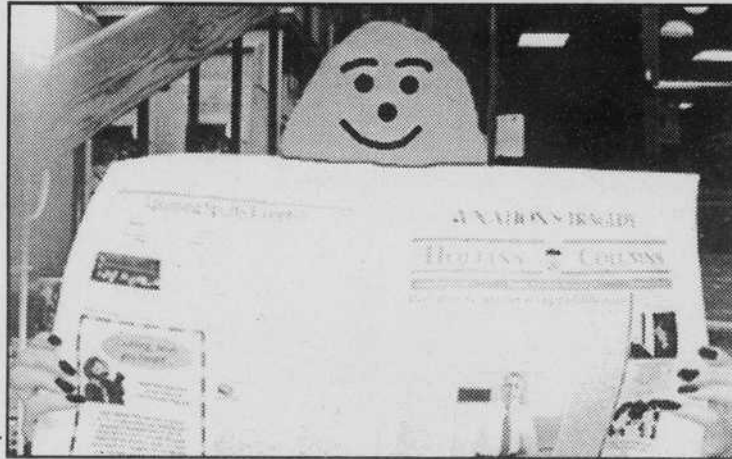


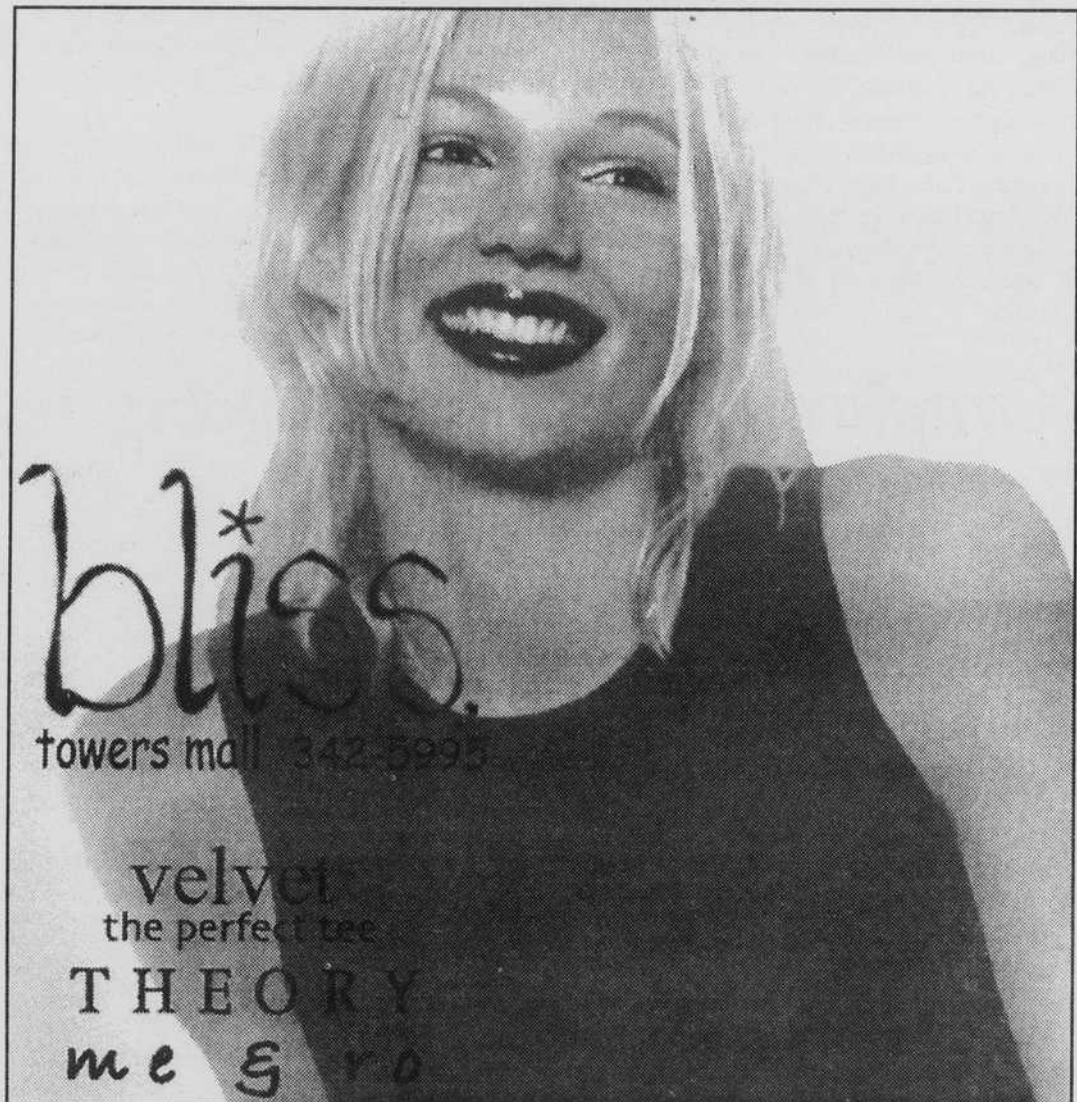
Photo by Nicole Bower

your options carefully. I certainly can't think of a better way to show off a great body! If I had the abs for it, I'd like to be an exotic dancer, too.

J-Term is a time to

explore all options, so this is the best chance you're going to have to see if you like being an dancer or not. Don't let your dream slip by you. I would call around and try and

set up an internship. When you've found a place, break the news to your professor gently. If she's a true women's studies professor, she'll want to study why it is that you'd be so interested in becoming an exotic dancer. Thus, she'll be happy that you're giving her a research opportunity that she may have not had otherwise. I bet she'll be interviewing you for her next scholarly article in no time! Follow your dream and good luck!



## Don't Quote Me

"I can trust my friends... These people force me to examine myself, encourage me to grow." -Cher

I've been thinking a lot about the time I've spent here at Hollins. I tend to do that a lot, being a senior and all. I am constantly reminding myself that this is the last Oct. 31 or Nov. 4 or whatever date it happens to be that I will ever spend at Hollins. Pathetic, I know, but true nonetheless.

So, over Parent's Weekend, my mom and I were riding in the car. And somehow the topic drifted to reminiscing about my freshman year here. And I commented that I know that Hollins was the perfect place for me to come and how I can't imagine what my life would be like without Hollins, my professors, my friends and everything else that makes Hollins special to me. Of course, my mom rationally pointed out that I

would've made great friends wherever I went and that I would've found a niche for myself there as well. But heck with rationality. I know that there is something different, special if you will, about Hollins.

This line of thinking strangely enough continued the following day when I hosted a prospective high school senior for the admissions open house. I told this potential Hollins student, class of 2006, the same thing I told my mom, that Hollins was the only right choice for me and that I don't regret it at all. She was amazed at the conviction with which I said that.

Now, how do these two little stories relate to this week's quote? Funny you should ask. After thinking about what essentially Hollins means to me, I've realized that the best part of Hollins, in my opinion, is the wonderful bond of sisterhood that is formed during the four



Lauren Taylor

years we spend here.

The lifelong friendships that I've made here are what make Hollins Hollins for me. The late-night IHOP runs, crying over a chick flick, singing way off-key to "Bohemian Rhapsody" in the car, decorating with my dormmates for Halloween. Those are the memories that will stick with me, long after I've forgotten the quadratic equation or that Constantine was converted to Christianity in 313 A.D.

The sisterhood of Hollins is not just a central component to my life here. It is also a central part of many activities where the campus community comes together. Opening convocation starts off the year, as seniors gather together to celebrate the start of their final year. Tinker Day draws the classes into a sisterhood, as they create class skits and sing to their fellow sister classes. J-term solidifies friendships among the freshman class.

Included in the bond of sisterhood at Hollins is the upcoming Ring Night festivities. The whole point of Ring Night is for seniors to bond with their junior ring sisters and sophomore helpers. The bonds of friendship formed during Ring Night are some of the most special formed at Hollins.

Juniors bond not only with their senior sisters, but also their fellow junior group members and their sophomore helpers. There is full

integration of three classes at Hollins. The freshman class, though not directly involved in activities, becomes involved as they witness sleep-deprived juniors scramble to complete their tasks.

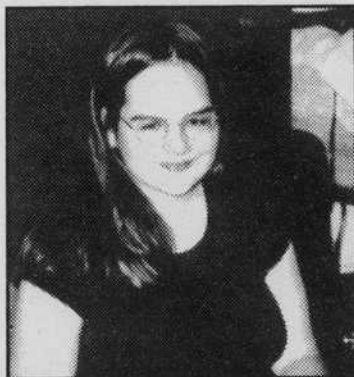
But recently, the sisterhood of Ring Night has been lost in all of the arguing and confusion over Ring Night. What is important should not be if you can or can't dump a box of grits on your junior sister. Instead, the importance lies in forming a bond that will last long after both graduate from Hollins.

As Ring Night starts on Thursday, remember where the true meaning of Ring Night lies. Trust the friends that you've made at Hollins through all of the Ring Night activities. They truly are the people who will force you to reach down into yourself to be all that you can be and will push you farther than you ever imagined. All in love of course.

## A redneck tour of Roanoke

I have noticed that Hollins has a tendency to promote the la-de-da aspects of Roanoke, such as the downtown shops and Valley View mall. If this is all that you have seen of Roanoke, then you have never seen the real, redneck Roanoke.

As a native of Roanoke with redneck acquaintances who have eaten squirrels and put monster truck tires on their vehicles and family members who appreciate the finer things in life like bow hunting and wood stoves, I am more than qualified to be your tour guide.



Kelly McCarty

The first step on our tour is Rugged Wearhouse, a discount clothing store. Do you have an occasion for which you will need to look like a prostitute (i.e.. costume party,

Tinker Day, Hampden Sydney)? From tube tops to animal print miniskirts, sparkly leather pants to Playboy shirts, Rugged Wearhouse has all your skankwear needs covered. If you don't have a shirt that says Porn Star for every day of the week, you can get them here.

Rugged Wearhouse yields the occasional diamond in the rough quality item of clothing but check it thoroughly for holes and stains. My mother, a mighty bargain hunter, seriously needs a twelve-step program

for her addiction to Rugged Wearhouse.

Our next stop is the Roanoke Civic Center. Sure, it's the home to ballets and symphonies but it is much more likely to host country music concerts, professional wrestling matches and gun shows. I know that Hollins is not a gun show kind of place but really, can you think of a better place to meet men? If you don't want to meet men, you could at least get all your Christmas shopping done in one place because nothing says Merry Christmas like a semi-automatic weapon.

The next stop on our tour is Blueberry Hill because no redneck tour would be complete without a good dive bar. I have never actually been, but I have been assured that it is indeed a great redneck hangout. My father offered the following dive bar advice to my brother: "If you're ever in a dive bar, order a beer in a bottle, not a glass because the glasses probably aren't clean." When asked why he didn't have any dive bar advice for me, he replied, "Because I hope you won't go

SEE TOUR  
PAGE 13

## Tying it Together

Years ago, my mom framed the front cover of a greeting card, which still remains on display in our house today. On the card, an entire town full of people and houses are a static purple hue.

However, one home proudly flaunts newly painted beautiful pink and white stripes on its rooftop, while two purple police officers haul the perpetrator off to jail. When I was younger, I had to continuously ask my mom the card's meaning, since I always forgot. As I've grown older, though, the meaning remains etched in my mind, in my heart: It's hard to be different.

I run into the different "problem" frequently on the Hollins campus. My English major is comprised of a concentration in creative writing. I've been taking creative writ-

ing classes since my freshman year when I talked Pinckney Benedict, who was our new screenwriting professor at the time, into allowing me into his class though it was only supposed to be for upperclassmen and graduate students. I promised that, if I were allowed into the course,



Lisa Maniker

I might not be the best writer, but I'd certainly be the most enthusiastic. By nature, I am an enthusiastic person, but some days I'd walk into class and wish I could spontaneously combust simply to get out of there.

On our first day of class, Pinckney asked that we go around the table and name the movie we'd each seen last. Everyone else named intellectual independent films; I'd

seen Disney's remake of "The Parent Trap." The first day of class during my very first semester at Hollins foretold the rest of the semester, and indeed the years to come.

In my creative writing classes, I have frequently interpreted screenplays, stories, poems differently from my classmates. At best, I've been in classes where my dissimilar opinions are addressed with brief consideration. A good deal of the time, however, that's unfortunately not the case. I've fallen prey to open laughter and ridicule because what I had to say wasn't the same as what everyone else was thinking.

I've suffered before in classes when I knew speaking up would subject me to scorn. It was all I could do to encourage myself and bolster my own confidence in order to voice my thoughts when I knew I'd be in the minority. What I've discovered, however, is that sometimes, but not always, others in the class interpret something the way I have, but they are too shy to speak up until someone else does so first.

As anyone who knows me will attest, I am not the type who normally hesitates to both loudly and also passionately express my opinion. When this happens, I simply reassure myself that my opinion is as valid as anyone else's. I remind myself that it's hard to be different.

Because I do enjoy voicing my thoughts and because I love Hollins, I like sitting on student panels. As a matter of fact, this year I was the career development center's entire internship panel. In the past, I've been part of student panels for prospective weekends as well. One such weekend when I was serving on a panel to talk about my experiences at Hollins, I remember responding particularly enthusiastically to a question from someone in the audience. A member of the Hollins staff interrupted, urging the audience to laugh at my gusto. I can only assume that our Hollins staff member had been worried about having someone so different on the panel.

To this day, I wish that I'd calmed her anxieties by

pointing out the benefits of having such a passionate student up there. Afterwards, I had countless parents and prospective students approach me to ask me further questions and to thank me for my time. Our staff member assumed that different was bad.

I'm a senior now and I'm no longer the baby in any of my classes, but I still run into times when I feel like my differing opinion is not respected. I can only assume that there are others at Hollins who also hesitate to speak up or to act when they feel they will be perceived negatively for being different. I urge those people to summon their courage to express themselves by being out of the ordinary. Whenever I find myself in a situation where it's difficult to voice my opinion, I remind myself that it's hard to be different. I don't want to live in a static purple house, though. I want to paint my own pink and white striped rooftop.

## Recognizing Hollins' Unsung

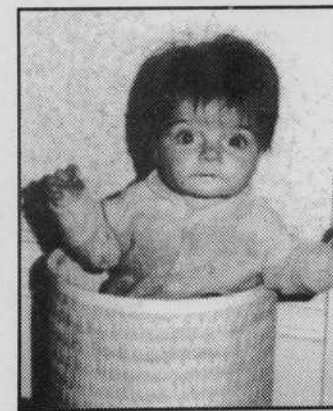
Up until yesterday morning I was unsure what I would write about. As usual, there is plenty to complain about: ring night changes, apathy on campus, power outages that eat theses, not to mention all the issues on the national scale. I'm sick of griping, though. All the negativity generated has to go somewhere and I know I'm at full capacity. Instead, I want to mention some individuals here at Hollins who deserve recognition.

Tracee Grossman—Has

anyone else noticed how much more fun-packed our schedules have been? Lately the issue isn't "there's nothing to do on campus," but "there's too much to choose from!" It's a nice "problem" to have. Although Tracee certainly isn't the only one who deserves credit for more frequent/fun campus events, she deserves special appreciation for all the amazing work she does for us. Also, she's very approachable and is genuinely interested in listening to stu-

dents' suggestions. Most importantly, she enjoys her job and takes pride in her work. Thank you Tracee for all you do!

Admissions Interns—Mardi Krantz, Caroline Hamric and Beth Bergin. These girls work hard...very hard. The October Senior Days were a great success in comparison to last year. The harvest dinner where we all enjoyed delights such as caramel apples and s'mores was mostly planned by Admissions. I think it may



Laura English

have been one of the most fun Hollins' sponsored events I've ever attended

at Hollins (besides Tinker Day and Ring night, of course). It was a great way to introduce the prospectives to Hollins. Hollins' enrollment problems are directly tied to the effort expended by Admissions—thanks to the Admissions staff and interns we can have high hopes for next year's freshman class.

President Rugaber—In a meeting last Thursday

SEE UNSUNG  
PAGE 13

## Lights! Camera! Ring Night!

by Sharon Bonham

I admit that I have high expectations for entertainment, but I am not exaggerating when I say that "Ring Night" is the most painful movie since "Coyote Ugly."

For starters, the plot is crap. What happens is this: A group of college women, frustrated over a conflict regarding a school tradition called "Ring Night," gripe about how unfair life is and how deeply scarred they will be if things don't go their way. They try to reschedule Ring Night so that all parties involved will be satisfied. That doesn't work, so they try to reschedule it again. And again.

In the end, Ring Night is rescheduled, nothing is solved, and a lot of time and patience has been wasted. It's like watching the film version of the Starr Report.

See, the whole purpose of moving Ring Night to begin with is to allow Group

A to participate. Well, fine, but once Ring Night is situated so that Group A is good to go, Group B becomes unable to participate. Sooooo, it's moved again so that Groups A and B can participate, but Group C can't participate, and so on.

By the end of the movie, Groups A through GG are able to participate, but a large number of other people are left behind, and yet Group A doesn't seem to mind.

This leads me to problem #2 with the movie: the characters. I desperately want to like the characters, to root for someone, but as time passes, my task becomes increasingly daunting. I can understand the various characters' complaints, but in the end, Group A seems extremely hypocritical.

Early in the movie, as a group of students discuss the Ring Night dilemma, one Group A member boldly asserts that no matter what the Ring Night date, "some-

body's gonna get screwed over in the end." OK, fine, but why should someone else be "screwed" just so that Group A needn't be "screwed"?



Group A had said they would be fighting just as hard for a change in the Ring Night date if another group was conflicted, but this is total B.S.

Many campus events had been planned with the belief that Ring Night would be taking place during the original date (oh, such folly!), and

when the date was changed, these events, and all those involved, become, well, screwed.

For example, an entire subgroup of Ring Night participants has to dissipate when the final change takes place, because they have prior commitments in various school departments. Not unlike Group A in the beginning of all this.

A potential solution to the Ring Night problem, which is blatantly misused by the characters, is the possibility that Group A participate in Ring Night at a later date. But no, Group A says that wouldn't be "tradition." Well, from what I gather, it also isn't "tradition" to move Ring Night to the middle of November. And anyway, what the hell does Group A think everyone else is going to do when they can't participate? Criminy!

"Ring Night" festers with poor character development; there is no redemption for the selfishly stupid.

There are other issues surrounding Ring Night, such as questions about hazing and "dumping," but frankly they are petty concerns. The movie should drop these issues altogether and focus on the real problem: the inability for the characters to reach an honorable agreement regarding a potentially lovely school tradition, which has become ugly and tiresome through senseless and self-absorbed bickering.

Wait... my roommate just informed me that "Ring Night" isn't a movie. It's a Hollins event. Damn. I prefer it as a movie. At least that way, I could burn the print and have its faux-Tennessee Williams melodrama out of my life.

Popcorn, anyone?

## Tour

FROM PAGE 11

to any dive bars." So far, so good on that.

Another important redneck landmark is mini-Graceland. The only thing tackier than Graceland is building a miniature replica of Graceland in your front yard.

People at Hollins constantly complain that there is nothing to do in Roanoke but I bet they have never experienced all the redneck entertainment that Roanoke has to offer. Bowling is an excellent redneck sport because you don't have to be physically fit or even sober to be a good bowler. I do recommend using caution at the bowling alley because the last time I went bowling, I was scolded

for wandering into the league area.

You don't have to wait until you are a senior citizen to know the joy of Bingo. There are several bingo parlors in the Roanoke area but if you are allergic to cigarette smoke, do not enter the bingo parlor without a gas mask.

The most redneck form of entertainment that I have ever heard of is what I like to call amateur professional wrestling. This occurs when people who aspire to someday be like the pro wrestlers on TV put on wrestling exhibitions in local recreational centers and high schools. The image of grown men in spandex hitting each other with folding chairs may scar you for life but surely this is a cultural experience that you

can't afford to miss.

Now that we have covered entertainment and booze, we progress on to food and for this, I recommend Cracker Barrel restaurant. It is actually more southern than redneck (which aren't necessarily the same thing) but it has good biscuits and sweet tea. If you are from the land of unsweetened tea, you can't leave Roanoke without having a decent glass of sweet tea, not watery fast food tea or lemony tea in a can.

We now return to Hollins, the least redneck place in all of Roanoke. However, if you spend enough time in these places, you will be drinking Pabst Blue Ribbon and eating Moon Pies in no time.

## Unsung

FROM PAGE 12

with the search firm Hollins is using for its new president, I heard many students relate how much they appreciated President Rugaber. Simply put, he rocks as our interim president. He's funny; he obviously likes college students and is interested in finding solutions to issues such as HRDC funding and the lack of recycling on the Hollins campus. We will soon have a recycling program on campus mostly thanks to President Rugaber and his connections to the

Roanoke community. Most importantly, his open-door policy for students is changing the way we relate to the administration. I actually hadn't ever seen the inside of Coker until last Thursday; and yes, the rumors are true—he really does answer his own phone!

I know I've left out countless persons here at Hollins who deserve celebrating. I suggest that each of us try in the coming weeks of impending stress and heavy workloads to pay attention to the people who make our lives pleasant and more manageable.

## Letters to the Editor

### SGA Letter

Dear Editor,

When we embarked upon this journey that is Ring Night, little did we know what was in store for us. We had no idea how hard this endeavor would be. As the junior and senior class presidents, we figured the big arguments would be over who gets this person over that as a ring sister, and fights over Ring Night themes.

The first issue to arise was trouble with dates-the initial schedule prevented athletes from participating, and our date change to accommodate them isolated the dancers. Soon after that, the question of whether or not certain Ring Night activities fall under the area of hazing was presented to administrators and to us. We think it is very important for the Hollins community to know that the questioning of activities like dumpings and off-campus scavenger hunts in costume was brought up by students, and has not been an administrative attempt to change and control a Hollins tradition.

What has made our lives easier is the support group we have found during this whole process. We both have immense respect for the members of the Ring Night committee as individuals and as a whole. They have been so willing to speak their mind, and be honest and passionate about their personal opinions, but not so much that they are closed to hearing the other side of the issue or to any sort of compromise. We have also been impressed with the unity and group feeling-there has been wonderful defense of one another, and also rumor squashing outside of the meetings. Also, amaz-

ingly enough, these students have come to the rescue of the reputations of administrators-who have given so much time, energy and guidance to us.

We are both grateful for students who have approached us democratically and rationally, and made suggestions for how to make changes to Ring Night that will appeal to the majority of the participants. Thank you for your passion on this subject, and thank you for listening to our side, as well.

### Opinion of Natarsha Sanders

I am concerned. I am concerned about the lack of togetherness of the students of the community of Hollins. On a daily basis, individuals are discriminated against because of differences beyond any human beings' control.

From the time I knew that my name was Natarsha Sanders, I was told that the majority will rule. As I got older and grew a little wiser, I knew that that saying something was nothing more than another tool to keep me inferior. Anyone who holds the belief that nothing they say will make a difference is being oppressed.

As women, we are all a minority in this world and oppression is nothing new to us. So, why then, do we oppress one another? Too many times at Hollins have I seen the tongues ripped out of the mouths of women who seek only to be heard. And what replaces the need they had to once be heard is a fearful, loud silence that slices a division onto this campus that Martha Stewart could not sew

back together.

Out of all places in the world where women should not be silenced, that is exactly what is happening. Women here, at Hollins, should not feel like they have to shut up, especially when they offer a voice of reason, even if it is a whisper. Some of us get so caught up in what we want as individuals that we overlook what is important, what is necessary and what is sufficient. It is important that people LISTEN to what their peers have to say. It necessary that we understand one another. It is sufficient that we preserve Ring Night. However, it is both necessary and sufficient that we compromise.

I have been strategically placed here, at Hollins, in this position, for a reason. I am here to serve the members of the class of 2003 from the utmost to the gutmost and that is what I am doing. I absolutely refuse to overlook any individual who is concerned for any reason about Ring Night. Ring Night is/has been in jeopardy, not because of administration or faculty or staff, but because student interest is declining more and more every year. Some of you could not care any less about the fact that less than half of the class of 2003 signed up for, or even showed interest in, Ring Night. However, I do and it is my responsibility to figure out why there is a lack of participation for whatever reason. And if it is not too big of a request, I beseech you to step outside of selfishness for a moment and think of someone else.

There are people who don't desire to be dumped and people who don't desire to dump. And people should not be made to feel they're inferior by being hazed, ridiculed

and down-trodden by the very people who claim to be their sisters. We are always so quick to say that administration betrayed us and made us feel like we didn't have a voice in the matter. And were even more quick to blame someone other than ourselves whenever things go wrong. If you are refusing to listen to someone because they feel the same way you do, you are taking their voice away and that would be considered oppression. Hear me when I say, neither the faculty nor the administration has silenced you, they don't have to silence you. You have managed to succeed in silencing one another.

So the next time you feel the need to find a scapegoat, escape into your own room and look into your mirror, examine your own reflection and see that the finger that is pointing leads directly back to you.

### Opinion of Nancy Peterson

When the idea of changing any part of Ring Night besides the dates came up in a Ring Night committee meeting, I was mad. I wanted to keep all parts of Ring Night exactly as I experienced it last spring. To me, dumpings aren't that big of a deal. It's not really humiliating, and it is a total group bonding experience, between the participants in your group, as you are Saran-wrapped together, and also with the sophomore literally holding your hand and leading you back to the showers. And the scavenger hunts were a blast! My group encountered people during our scavenger hunts who

knew exactly what we were doing, and we were traipsing around Roanoke and a little farther off campus. Everything I did as a participant in Ring Night was just silly, harmless fun and I would do it again in a heartbeat.

I do have my own opinion about Ring Night-all activities are totally voluntary and if any part of Ring Night makes you uncomfortable, just don't do it. Also, you don't have to participate in Ring Night to get your class ring, and you for sure don't have to get a ring to be a part of Ring Night. I was in a group with four other juniors, and not one of us got a Hollins class ring.

Maybe we're weird; we just wanted to be a part of three days and nights of no sleep, constant togetherness; making picture frames for our secret sisters; meeting requests of our seniors-poems, a salad from Wildflower, a mix tape-nothing extravagant or dangerous; performing silly skits and dances; and excitement over our final skit; and finally, a big basket full of presents at the end of it all. Also, we wanted to have pictures to frame and show off to all back home- look at me, Mom! I'm blindfolded and covered with kitty litter, ketchup, vinegar, chocolate syrup and more, but I'm having a blast and can't wait to be a senior when I'm on the other side of this!

The idea of Ring Night as a rite of passage is what has seniors so upset about changes, in my opinion. I'm with them on this one. We were told at the beginning of

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the year that we could only have three Tinker Day scares, and further, that we had to do them before midnight. Our freshman year, we had them every other night it seemed, and at three, four, five in the morning-to make us really believe it was Tinker Day.

So we all thought, fine, change that, at least Ring Night is coming up. Nope, can't do that the way it's been since we've been here. The seniors this year are disappointed that we won't get to load up on food items to lovingly dump on our juniors. I think we're also disappointed that we still have not really had the chance to prove that we are indeed a responsible group of women-the party contract fiasco in the beginning of the year is another example of that. Those who have participated in the dumping can tell you that no matter how energetic everything gets that first night, either a sophomore or senior will come over to you and ask you if you are okay, and if you need anything. Yeah, people get wound up, but not so much that they totally forget about the safety and well-being of their ring sister. And that's what makes Ring Night so incredible-the sisterhood that permeates the atmosphere while it's going on.

As much as I enjoyed Ring Night, I do know that some participants did not. And that some students dread Ring Night, and feel like they have to do it or risk isolation from their peers. Even further, I know that the prospect of Ring Night scares many students to some degree.

I hate to admit this too, but I know that Ring Night should probably be

looked at in terms of hazing. Hazing is this huge entity that looms over colleges and universities, and really can't be ignored. We're really lucky here at Hollins that no serious accidents or incidents have occurred during Ring Night activities. Some activities really are on a fine line and fit hazing criteria pretty well. The argument has been made several times that what happens in Ring Night has been a tradition for years and years. Well, we're not the same society we were years and years ago. Too many institutions of higher education have had to release to the media facts about a student's death due to harmless pranks, drinking bouts, late night road trips to meet demands of "superiors," etc. Many times this is related to a pledging a fraternity or sorority. Hollins is not a sorority, but we're still liable to all the same laws. This is the twenty-first century, and we've got to accept that.

The other thing we must do is put what we've learned here at Hollins to use-work together, support one another, provide open discussion opportunities and please, just listen to and respect each other and work towards an even better solution to the issue.

### Student Ring Night Reaction

Dear Editor,

With the controversy surrounding Ring Night, it seems hard to find a middle ground between the "two sides."

But what about the people who respect tradition and still think it gets a little out of hand? Or the people who don't like the waste of food and money that the event has become, even though the

heart of it is a lot of fun?

Well, I for one am excited about the prospect of being a Ring Sister to my Junior friends that are of the middle camp. Because there are a lot of simple compromises and alternatives that can be used to make things a lot more fun for a lot more people.

The first thing is the money issue. Last year, my roommate spent very little money on homemade gifts for her ring sister. Journals that were composition notebooks covered with glitter or paint, cheap plastic picture frames with simple decorations.

Then her ring sister put those things in her basket as gifts for her. So instead of spending a hundred dollars on her ring sister, my roommate spent a little money on things that in the end made her happy.

Another idea is for groups to get together and do things "in bulk." Instead of each girl buying paint for a picture frame, and paint pens for glasses, you could all chip in and use one set. Ring sisters: this goes for you too. Some of you can make sure you request similar items so that your sisters can team up together on the gifts. You can also buy things together for your gift baskets on the last night.

Low cost gift and craft ideas are everywhere, take a little time and effort to seek them out. Picture frames can be made out of cardboard and cloth scraps. I'm sure Student Activities knows a lot of good low-cost things from Back Quad Friday events.

Then there comes the time commitment, the sleep deprivation, and the class issue. Here's an idea. Challenge your Junior Ring

Sister to get eight hours of sleep at night. That's actually a really difficult request, how many college students do that?

Challenge them to attend EVERY class on those days. They'll have to find time other than class and sleep time to get their gifts and skits done. And lighten up on their load if you don't think they can get it done! Remember when you were a Junior, and what your work load was like. Make allowances for them to actually sleep and go to class. Professors on this campus are rarely happy to excuse an absence for Ring Night, and you don't need to force your sister to get in trouble.

The scavenger hunts are fantastic, and usually what participants have the most fun with. But don't require something of them that they can't complete! Think about who in the group has a car, how long it takes to drive places, especially if they don't know how to get there. And remember to check and make sure that there are people at Roanoke College before you send them there for pictures!

Now, for the last thing I'm going to touch on, and the most controversial. The dumping is a long standing tradition at Ring Night, at least that's what we've always been told. Well, that's not entirely true. Dumping used to consist of a different ritual. Juniors were sat down at a table and given disgusting concoctions (ice cream and beef jerky sandwiches, spaghetti with chocolate sauce perhaps) and told that if they don't eat it, it would be dumped on their heads.

So, if you're keeping with tradition, then that is a valid alternative. Another idea is to make sure that the food that

you dump on your sisters is nothing that is being wasteful. Chocolate syrup isn't so bad, but why waste good chili, tuna, or other perfectly edible food?

Another idea, instead of dumping, why not have your sisters buy food for the Roanoke Rescue Mission and have them deliver the food themselves, in person, to the shelter. Also, because of the recent tragedies, I'm sure the Salvation Army or Red Cross would happily give you a list of food items they could send to New York to help people who are still recovering.

Speaking of, challenge your sisters to do a little good. Have them make an appointment to give blood if they're eligible, to serve food at the Rescue Mission instead of just delivering it. Ring Night does not have to be its reputation, Ring Night is what you make of it. Each individual Ring Sister has the power to make the weekend a lot of fun, gratifying experiences for her sister, and she doesn't have to follow the crowd.

Oh, and one last thing...don't take out your Ring Night on your sister. If your Senior Sister shoved tuna down your pants after you told her not to, don't do it to your new sister because it was done to you. You aren't getting back at your Sister for something that made you mad, you're just making somebody else unhappy.

Ring Night can easily be a fun tradition with no one whispering words of hazing behind the backs of the participants. People volunteer to be a part of this because they like it, and it can be easily changed to be something that no one can complain about.

Mary Goad  
Class of 2002



## Volleyball team works together to end season

by Kasey Freedman

"Kill! 1, 2, 3 Kill!" shouted the volleyball team as they played in a series of games during the Women's Collegiate Tournament on Oct. 27 and 28. The team worked hard over the weekend to take home best all tournament team. After winning in games against Agnes Scott, Peace, Salem and Meredith, Hollins took home a second place in the championship game against Sweet Briar.

"The team came together and played very well," said Coach Kimberly Martinez.

The team is composed of Jenny Scott '02, Brea Strager '02, Danika Waters '03, Emily Schiller '03, Mary Alston Geddie '04, Becca Jacobs '04, Kim Milton '04, April Wells '05, Jamie Rostan '05 and Shannon Curley '05. Coming together is something the volleyball team always aces in. "Our biggest strength is that we're all friends on and off the court," said Geddie.

The team's unity has helped lead them to victory in ten of their 29 matches. "We

have the ability to come together really well, and that helps us win," commented Geddie.

A sense of togetherness plus hard work has helped the team evolve and grow.

"Hollins volleyball players have worked extremely hard this season to meet the demands of our disciplined program. We are still working towards a strong cohesive unit by that will come," said Martinez.

While reflecting on the past season, Geddie said, "We've learned to listen and trust each other so much more and that is so important."

The team has also improved in the eyes of the coach. "Our hitting percentage has improved tremendously," said Martinez. "We've learned to hustle and work together as a team."

Martinez even admits to how she has grown as a coach: "I have adjusted some of my expectations to fit the goals and abilities of the team. There is always something new to learn or try."

This season marks the end of a Hollins volleyball career for seniors Strager and

Scott.

"We will miss our two seniors Brea and Jenny," said Martinez. "Brea has an awesome ability to pass the ball to target and has open-mindedly learned additional hit-

two valuable players, but they are also keeping many others. The team is also keeping its coach, Kimberly Martinez, who has coached the team for two seasons now. When

asked if she would be coaching next year, she said, 'Definitely.'

"Coach knows what she's doing. She loves volleyball and she shows it constantly. I know that she cares about us and how we feel, and our ideas are always listened to," said Geddie.

Volleyball is definitely something Martinez knows about and takes seriously on and off the court.

"I want my players to stay committed to whatever they have chosen to do," said

Martinez. Commitment to the volleyball team means off-season training, treating their bodies well and never letting their teammates or coach down. Of course, the volleyball players also have a commitment to their academics and I expect them to succeed at Hollins."

In addition to thinking about all of her coach's advice, Geddie said that on the court, 'I think about having fun because if I think too much I usually mess up. I plan out where I want to put the ball. I also tell myself that I have to help us win.'

The 2001 volleyball season ended for Hollins on Tuesday night, Oct. 30. The team lost against Eastern Mennonite University, 3 to 0. This loss will prevent Hollins from entering the ODAC tournament this year.

**"Hollins volleyball players have worked extremely hard this season to meet the demands of our disciplined program."**

- Coach Kimberly Martinez

ting options. Her skill and court leadership will be hard to replace. Jenny developed a strong cross-court shot this year and played smart. She always looked for holes in the opposition. We will miss her game knowledge and versatility."

Fellow team members will also miss the two seniors. Geddie said, "We don't just lose seniors, we also lose a lot of heart."

The team may be losing

### Upcoming Sports Schedule

#### Basketball

Nov. 16-17: 6 p.m.  
Peace Tip-off  
Tournament  
AWAY

#### Riding

Nov. 9-11: TBA  
SWVH/JA Annual  
Show  
AWAY

#### Swimming

Nov. 10: 1 p.m.  
Salem  
Nov. 13: 6:30 p.m.  
Washington & Lee  
Nov. 15: 6:30 p.m.  
Mary Baldwin

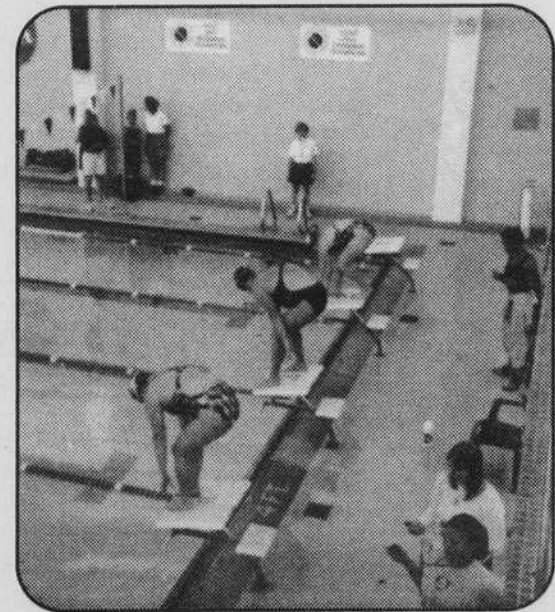


Photo by Lauren Taylor

Hollins swimmer Sarah McClurg '04 takes her mark in lane 2 for the 200m butterfly at the first swim meet of the year against College of Notre Dame.