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March 25, 2002

Hollins University, Roanoke, VA

Volume 74, Issue 9

Features



Read about GSF speaker Sarah Weddington on page 4.

Sports



Read about the young golf team's success on page 12.

Student recruitment all business

by Annmarie Curtis

You may have seen Celia McCormick on campus before, but this is the first time you've seen her like this. In June of 2000, McCormick came to Hollins as the director of the Horizon program, but when Terri Reddings, the dean of admissions, left in June of 2001, she was asked to take over on an interim basis.

This switch coincided with the hiring of Jules Sowder, the vice president of marketing and enrollment management. Together, they

have put together strategies for increasing enrollment that have already raised applications to Hollins over 20 percent in the last year.

"Celia and I approached our recruiting challenge the same way we would approach launching a product and running a business," said Sowder, who has 20 years of experience in marketing.

The bulk of these new strategies is on-campus programs and personal contact. "We are looking to attract women who are likely to enroll," said McCormick. One example of the way the

admissions office is going about this is assuming responsibility for the summer programs at Hollins in order to get in touch with high school students about their college careers.

Other programs, such as open houses, rely on strong support from all across campus -- students, faculty, alumnae and the recruitment staff. "Our own students do wonders to address some of the myths about women's institutions," said McCormick. "We also share some impressive statistics with prospective students about the result of

attending a women's university. And we talk about the success of our alumnae, which makes a pretty convincing case for Hollins. These days we're shouting the fact that we're a women's college from the rooftops!"

Sowder said that 90 percent of the 2001 incoming class hadn't been planning to attend a women's college.

Another change in recruitment policies is its change in focus. It has been said in the past that the opti-

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Merits of 3-credit system debated

by Nicole Bower

The Academic Policy Board has been discussing whether or not to implement an old idea: changing Hollins' course catalog from four-credit courses to three-credit courses.

This idea was first suggested back in the fall of 1998 by chemistry professor Sandra Boatman and history professor Ruth Doan when they were part of the Academic Progress of Self Study for the 20/20 Plan Committee that former president Janet Rasmussen had started. But their three-credits per course idea never made it into the final report.

"At the time Dr. Doan and I proposed it, most of the

faculty had noticed that most other colleges and universities had three-credit course systems," Boatman explained, "and sometimes our four-credit course system would cause problems in relating to other institutions, whether it was with students transferring to Hollins or for other accreditation reasons."

"Another reason that needed to be taken under consideration was that, under the four-credit system, our students take fewer courses than students at other schools," said Boatman. "From an academic point of view, it would be better for the students to have more courses by the time

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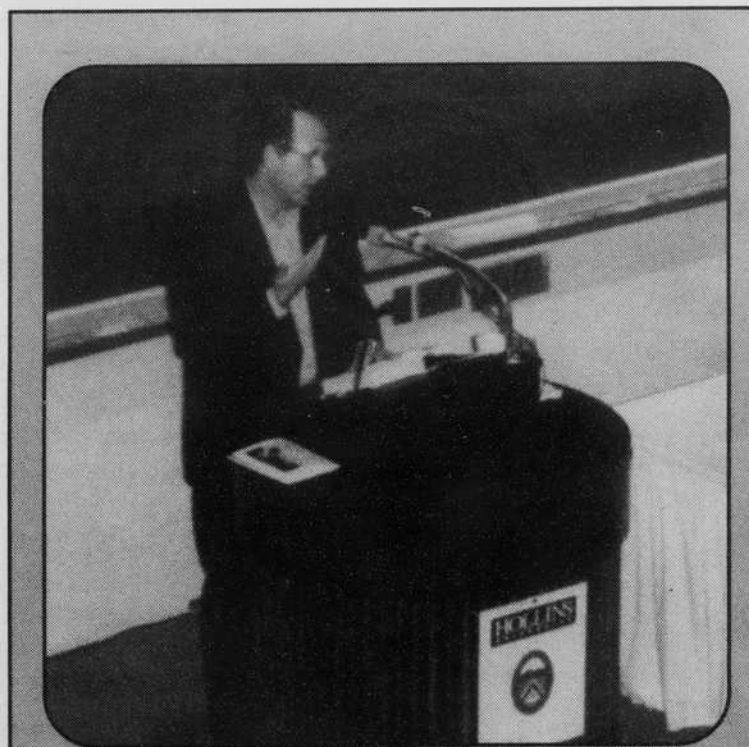


Photo by Stephanie House

Literary Lessons

Writer-in-Residence Wayne Johnston was a participant in the Hollins Literary Festival March 9. He read selections from his work, including "The Colony of Unrequited Dreams."

by Cecily Farrar

Art Exhibit

The work of artist Anna Hepler will be on display in the Hollins Art Gallery from March 25 through April 28. Gallery hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. She will discuss her work in a lecture at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2 in the GDR.

Hankla Lecture

English Professor Cathryn Hankla will give her Cabell lecture, "Reading Recent Poetry and Fiction," at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26 in the GDR.

Hate Crimes

A panel of community experts will speak about hate crimes at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27 in the new PDR in Moody.

News Briefs



Women in Gothic Sculpture

Learn about "Women, the World and Power: The Wise and Foolish Virgins in Gothic Sculpture" in an art history lecture by Susan Leibacher Ward, professor of art history at the Rhode Island

School of Design, at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27 in Talmadge Recital Hall.

Antonia's Line

The second film in the WomanImage women in film series, "Antonia's Line," will be shown at 7 p.m. on

Thursday, March 28 in Babcock Auditorium.

One Noble Journey

"One Noble Journey," a play that recounts the true stories of three slaves in the antebellum South, will be

performed at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 1 in Talmadge Recital Hall.

Spike Lee

GSF presents "An Evening With Spike Lee" at 8 p.m. on Monday, April 8 in the Hollins Theatre. Tickets are free for the Hollins community. Raffle tickets for Hollins community members to attend a dinner with Lee will be sold for \$5 each beginning on Wednesday, March 27. Limited tickets to the speech are available for the public at a cost of \$15 each. To reserve, please call Weaver at 362-6393.

Spike Lee

Discussion

Preceding the lecture, a roundtable discussion about representations of race and gender in Lee's films will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3 in the Hollins Room of the Wyndham Robertson Library.

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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.

3-credit

FROM PAGE 1
that they graduated."

The three-credit course idea arose from the fact that teachers and students under the four-credit system would spend as much time together as they would under the three-credit system, and she felt that it was more appropriate to award credits based on how much class time per week a course would have.

Tom Mesner, dean of academic affairs, learned about the three-credit idea a little later. He said that he supported it because it would make Hollins' credit system compatible with the credit system of other institutions

"A significant number of transfer students have had difficulty transferring credits to Hollins from their former college or university," he said. "Coming from three-credit colleges (which is

what's most common among high education institutions in America) to Hollins, credits transfer at face value (a three-credit course at another school will not transfer to a four-credit course at Hollins), so students who come to Hollins for their third year of college from a three-credit institution often have to enter as second semester sophomores and have to play catch up with summer school or an overload of classes."

Another problem he mentioned is with students who go abroad on a non-Hollins program and run the risk of coming back their senior year behind credit-wise because they have only transferred twelve credits as opposed to 16. Mesner expressed concern that because of this credit disparity, this may discourage some students to not go abroad on non-Hollins programs.

Admissions

FROM PAGE 1

num entering class is 250 traditional-aged students. However, admissions and recruiting are now setting goals within each market segment -- traditional-aged undergraduates, adult Horizon students and transfer students -- and reaching these goals will help to reach an

overall enrollment figure.

McCormick attributes the apparent success of these new strategies to the dedication and hard work of the admissions staff, who is passionate about Hollins and want to see it succeed. She said that the most exciting part of her job is to see students and staff excited about learning.

If Hollins does choose to go to a three-credit system, it would have to lower its credit requirements from 144 credits (128 credits plus credit for four short-terms) to 120 credits (108 credits plus four short-terms). On this system, students may be required to take ten classes a year instead of nine (eight semester classes and short-term each year). Mesner pointed out though, that most three-credit schools give credit for physical education courses where Hollins doesn't, so that would play into the total amount of courses each year.

Jacqueline Witt '03, SGA's Academic Policy chair, heard this idea present-

ed to the Academic Policy committee, composed of both faculty, administration and students, and took a different spin on it. "The three-credit idea has been something that has been discussed on and off again for the three years I've been at Hollins. It has come up every year for the past two years that I've been on the Academic Affairs Counsel, so it is sort of ongoing."

Witt said the three-credit idea is closely tied with the idea of introducing a bachelor of science degree at Hollins. If they offer a BS in scientific areas, because of the courses that will be required for the BS, as well as the new Education through Skills and

Perspectives courses, it could require students to take up to 49 credits.

"Putting those two numbers together, a student pursuing a bachelor's of science degree will only have six free electives," said Witt. "We think that is a pretty poor representation of a liberal arts education, and that is not what Hollins is about."

"With a three-credit system, it will be possible for a student to finish a BS degree while still having the opportunity to go abroad, pursue a second major or do many other things that Hollins encourages students to do," said Witt.

Campus Scenes

Virginia Tech

Friday, March 29 8 p.m.
Squires Colonial Hall Free
Feminist singer-songwriter Arjuna Greist will perform. Call (540) 231-7806 for more information.

Saturday, April 6
Downtown Blacksburg Free
The International Street Fair features vibrant music, food, fashions, etc. Sponsored by the Council of International Student Organizations. Call (540) 231-6035 for more information.

Saturday, April 6 6 p.m. - 11 p.m. Drill Field Free
Soundfest 2002, part of the Big Event, presents the bands Flogging Molly, Strive, Infectious Organisms and Fireworks. Call (540) 231-7117 for more information.

Tuesday, April 9 -

Friday, April 12 12 p.m. - 10 p.m. Squires Perspective Gallery Free

"Art that Soars," kitetails created by Paris-based artist Jacqueline Matisse-Monnier, are exhibited. Call (540) 231-5200 for more information.

Roanoke College

Wednesday, April 3 7:30 p.m. Wortmann Ballroom

Tim Gautreaux will read from his work. Gautreaux's latest collection of short stories, "Welding with Children," was chosen by the New York Times Book Review as a notable book of the year.

UVA

Thru Sunday, March 31 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. UVA Art Museum Free

The William Blake Print

Exhibition features Blake's powerful black-and-white etchings and engravings. Call (434) 924-359 for more information.

Thursday, April 4 7 p.m. Alderman Library, McGregor Room Free

Marilou Awiakta will give a talk entitled, "Womanspirit and Survival: Re-Weaving the Webs." Awiakta is and the 2000 recipient of the Appalachian Heritage Writer's Award. Call (434) 982-2259 for more information.

Friday, April 5 7 p.m. - midnight Fan Mountain Observatory Free

The University's larger observatory on Fan Mountain is open twice yearly for public viewing. Visitors will be able to view the skies through the large 30- and 40-inch telescopes. Call (434) 924-7494 for more information.

The Hollins University General Speakers Fund
would like to extend its appreciation to

The Wyndham Hotel

for providing influential filmmaker Spike Lee with a place to stay. Spike Lee will speak at Hollins on Monday, April 8th.

Call The Wyndham Hotel chain at (540) 563-9300 for reservations

New owner takes over Wildflour reins

by Lindsay Durango

Wildflour Restaurant and Bakery became a staple for the Hollins community four years ago, the last opened in a chain of restaurant. The menu: vegetarian-friendly. The access: easy - it's a hop, skip and a jump for anyone with or without a car.

Just over two months ago, the Hollins Wildflour went under new management. Mark Henderson, a Virginia Tech grad and restaurant veteran, left his managerial post at the Texas Steak House to pursue the "different pres-

ures" of ownership duties.

Henderson actually started his career as an elementary school teacher. He took on part time work in restaurants simply to bring in extra money. But when the administrative pressures of teaching became too much for Henderson, he turned to his part time job for full time income.

Henderson's most recent position was his nine-year stint as manager of Texas Steak House. With 70 employees, Henderson saw business at the steak house increase for eight straight

years. He wants to see the same thing happen at Wildflour.

When Henderson was first considering buying the restaurant, he often heard that "the lady loves it and the man hates it," he said. The menu consists mostly of light fare, popular with light eaters. In order to better serve his heartier customers, Henderson has added daily specials to the menu. A new favorite among patrons is the Cajun meat loaf lunch special that comes with mashed potatoes and green beans.

Henderson is also experi-

menting with existing entrees, but contrary to popular rumor, he has not changed the menu. Customers can still order the wraps and salads they've been used to getting at Wildflour. What has caused some confusion, perhaps, is the new look of the menu.

"Nobody could read it. I couldn't read it," Henderson said of the previous menu layout. His wife designed the new look for the menu, with a bigger font and more distinguishable color scheme.

In order to build clientele and become more a part of the community, Henderson wants to get to know his customers and their dining needs. He has installed a new computer system in the restaurant that will keep track of what customers eat and what they seem to pass over on the menu.

But Henderson also wants to hear from his customers personally. He is open to suggestions from any and all: how to better cater to meat-eaters, how to make vegetarian meals more appetizing.

Along this vein, Henderson personally oversees customers satisfaction. "I

try to talk to every table in the restaurant and ask 'How is everything?'" he said. "And I want to know. I don't want to hear, 'Oh, its good.' "

Mardi Krantz '02 can attest to that. She has been going to Wildflour since she was a freshman. She recently dined their with a large group of friends. The one thing that stuck out to her? "The manager was walking around, talking to all the customers," she said.

It is perhaps this personal treatment that has earned him a mini-following. He has several customers that knew him from his work at Texas Steak House who now dine consistently at Wildflour because of their experience with him.

Some things about Wildflour have not changed, though. All members of the previous staff still work there, with a couple of new additions. The Hollins Wildflour still orders each day bread and desserts from their downtown bakery. And Henderson still scrubs the floors.

"I've been scrubbing other people's floors for 20 years. These are my floors," he said.

Sarah Weddington shares life lessons with Hollins campus

by Jennifer Martin

On March 7, renowned attorney Sarah Weddington spoke to the Hollins campus about her experiences as a woman in the male-dominated legal world and in particular about her work as the attorney behind the landmark Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court case which made abortion legal in the United States.

While she spoke in vivid detail about her experience on the Roe vs. Wade case, her primary message to the audience was that "life is a series of course corrections" as individuals learn and adapt to their interests and opportunities. Emphasis was placed on the role of women in leadership positions. Weddington feels that this generation of women has more doors to leadership roles open to them. The important thing to her is that women must practice

leadership to be effective leaders, learning from others as they go and developing their own style of leadership.

Weddington's style was to speak to the audience on their level and to use humor when speaking of serious issues. More information about Sarah Weddington and her work can be found on her web site at www.theweddingtoncenter.com.



Photo by Stephanie House

Sarah Weddington engaged the audience during her speech on women's leadership, based on her own life experiences.

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You know you want it!

'We Were Soldiers' opens eyes to horrors of war

Runtime: 137 min.

Rating: R

Director: Randall Wallace

Starring: Sam Elliott, Mel Gibson, Chris Klein, Greg Kinnear, Barry Pepper, Keri Russell and Madeleine Stowe

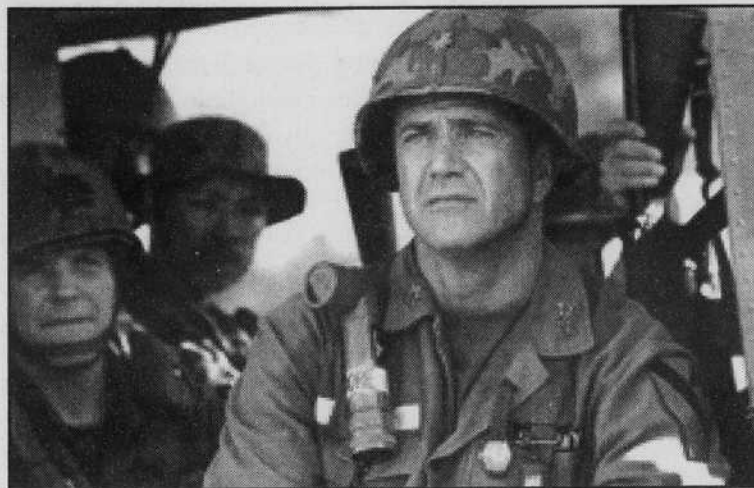


Photo courtesy of www.imdb.com

Mel Gibson stars as Col. Hal Moore in the eye-opening film "We Were Soldiers."

by Kasey Freedman

"We Were Soldiers" remembers Sunday, Nov. 14, 1965, when Col. Hal Moore led 400 soldiers of the 7th Cavalry into battle in the La Drang Valley, otherwise known as the Valley of Death.

This was the first battle of the Vietnam War for Americans. Two thousand North Vietnamese enemy soldiers soon surrounded the cavalry. After days of fighting, all of

the cavalry, both dead and alive, left the valley victorious.

"We Were Soldiers" more importantly tells the story of the soldiers who

fought in the battle. It isn't another war movie, or even another Vietnam movie; it is a tribute to all the men who have ever fought for the United States of America.

In the movie, Col. Moore (Mel Gibson) leaves his wife, Julie (Madeleine Stowe), and five children, to guide his soldiers into battle. All of the soldiers fear that they will not return to their wives. Col. Moore promises his men that he will not leave anyone behind, dead or alive, and he manages to keep his promise.

Another focus of the movie is that while the men are fighting the horrific battle on foreign land and against a foreign enemy, their wives wait at home fighting their own fear.

The audience sees the battle from the eyes of everyone involved. It is a battle for American soldiers, North Vietnamese soldiers, reporters, wives and children. This battle affected everyone, and director Randall Wallace doesn't let you forget it.

The strongest aspect of this movie is that the characters are so real. It was easy to forget about the stars and concentrate instead on the characters themselves. The director made you feel as though you were at the battle where the shots were being fired and at the homes where the

tears fell.

This movie is different from other war movies. There are no questions left unanswered; I didn't want to close my eyes and miss a single minute. It is gory and bloody but because I cared about the characters so much I wanted to see the tears in their eyes.

The movie doesn't move too fast or too slow. The director didn't give too much or too little of any scene. I was left speechless and in total awe as I watched the battle scenes and the wives back at home.

The movie is filled with powerful one-liners. In one scene, Lt. Jack Geoghega (Chris Kline) tells Col. Moore, "God has a plan for me, I hope it's to help protect orphans, not make any."

This movie doesn't try to explain Vietnam, it only tries to explain what the people were like who went through it: what they saw, felt and did. I walked away knowing a little more about Vietnam and knowing a lot more about what the soldiers and their wives went through.

Showtimes

**Good through
Thursday, March 28**

Carmike 10
(540) 725-9800
(1:00), (4:00), 7, 9:45

Salem Valley 8
(540) 389-0444
7:00

Valley View Grande
(540) 362-8219
(12:30), (3:35), 6:45,
9:45

**The Hollins University General Speakers Fund
would like to extend its appreciation to**

THE WILDFLOUR

&

New owner/manager Mark Henderson

**for sponsoring a dinner in honor of Roe v Wade attorney
Sarah Weddington**

The Wildflower is now under new management.

For hours, reservations and new dinner options, call 362-1812

'Wide Blue Yonder' solid, enjoyable read

by Kelly McCarty

"Wide Blue Yonder," written by Jean Thompson, weaves skillfully between the lives of four very different people. Josie is a bored teenager working at a Taco Bell in Springfield, Ill. Harvey, her great uncle, does nothing but watch the Weather Channel and refers to himself as Local Forecast. Elaine, Josie's mother, is trying to help Harvey but is secretly struggling with her own loneliness. Mixed in with them is Rolando, a human force of nature destined to wreak havoc in their lives.

Josie was the most intriguing character in the book. The story is most at home when it is in her voice. She is an angst ridden girl who thinks that she is incapable of being happy in any of the obvious ways. Josie behaves like a spoiled brat to her mother but there is something painfully human about her insecurities and isolation. She falls in love with a cop named Mitch and starts stalking him. Mitch starts a relationship with her even though she is underage. Predictably, Josie does not get what she bargained for in him. Josie's story was my favorite part of the book and I found myself skipping ahead to see what happened to her.

The sections in Harvey's point of view are more difficult to read because he has mental problems and may be senile. He is going blind from cataracts and Elaine wants desperately to help him, even though he is her ex-husband's uncle. He is an interesting character because he lives quite contentedly in his world consisting of weather fore-



Photo courtesy of Simon & Schuster publishers

casts and his surly cat. When Elaine hires a maid named Rosa, a very sweet romance develops between harvey and Rosa in spite of the fact that Rosa speaks no English.

Elaine was also a well-rendered character. She tries too hard to help other people but she is even more isolated than Josie. Elaine is divorced and does not know how to deal with Josie now that she is growing up. Josie thinks of Elaine as a joke but she is really living a life of desperation.

The weakness of the book is the sections about Rolando, a mad man who is on course to change the other character's lives. It is obvious that the author is less

comfortable writing in the voice of a man who is insane and who eventually begins killing people. Rolando is the symbolic storm heading for the other characters but I thought that this was too obvious and slightly cheesy. Rolando seems more like a plot device to bring the problems in the novel to a head than an actual character.

I thought that there could have been a better way to

resolve the problems than the melodrama that ensues when Rolando finally shows up. Josie, Elaine and Harvey deserve a full examination of their respective problems. Instead, the book becomes more like a movie in the end and uses a dramatic event to tie everything up in a neat little bow. I thought that this was a misstep because the characters' problems were mostly internal and the ending unrealistically forces them into becoming new people.

The writing in the book is commendable. Thompson uses imagery and metaphor but the story is still accessible. The strongest part of the novel is the fact that Thompson does not allow the story to become maudlin.

This book could have easily turned into a story of triumph that would wind up in Oprah's Book Club. Fortunately, Thompson lets her characters remain flawed and human.

"Wide Blue Yonder" is solidly written, enjoyable read. I give it my highest compliment because I bought the book in hardback and I do not regret spending the extra money.

Jean Thompson is also the author of "Who Do You Love: Stories," a 1999 National Book Award Finalist for fiction.

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Horoscopes

by Kelly McCarty



Aries

(March 20th-April 18th): On the 28th, you will binge on Jolt cola and Pixie sticks in order to stay up all night to finish a paper. Campus safety will find you naked on the pool table in the RAT the next morning. You will have no recollection of the last twelve hours. To make matters worse, your professor will not believe that your grandmother died again and he will dock your grade. But look on the bright side, the security guards will speak your name for years to come.



Taurus

(April 19th-May 19th): You're feeling down because all of your friends have dates to Cotillion and you don't. Don't worry, though. All you need to do is go to Wal-Mart. If you can't find a date there in three hours, consult a plastic surgeon. Of course, your date may have more tattoos than teeth, but it's time for you to face facts. You go to a women's college and Josh Harnett isn't going to show up on your doorstep, no matter how good you've been.



Gemini

(May 20th-June 20th): You have the sneaking suspicion that your roommate is trying to kill you. You're right. Though Britney Spears is a wonderful pop icon, there is a limit to the number of times a person can listen to her collected works in a day. Try to

expand your pop music horizons. Throw in some Backstreet Boys, maybe a little Jessica Simpson. Then your roommate will stop leaving dead squirrels in your bed.



Cancer

(June 21st-July 21st): You are starting to panic because you have not been to class in three weeks. Seek the wisdom of Dean Mesner; he will tell you if you should bother going back to class or start packing your stuff. You also need to stop watching reruns of "The Golden Girls" all day; they are more addictive than crack. On the 5th, you will be tempted to go to class wearing a tutu and a bikini top. It would be easier to just do your laundry.



Leo

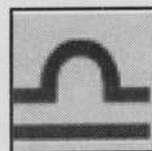
(July 22nd-August 21st): You are feeling frustrated because spring break has come and gone and you did not star in any "Girls Gone Wild" videos. Cheer up, there are plenty of opportunities for you to put the ho back in Hollins in the Roanoke community and right here on campus. If that doesn't work, then you will land that internship with Howard Stern this summer.



Virgo

(Aug. 22nd-Sept. 21st): We all know that you are worried about life after Hollins, but the staff of the Career Development Center can only tolerate so much of your hysterical weeping. Try to spread your panic attacks around to professors, the cafeteria staff and strangers in the grocery store.

Don't forget to torture friends and family with your neuroses. Avoid bearded professors on the 1st.



Libra

(Sept. 22nd-Oct. 22nd): In order for you to be a more considerate roommate, you need to limit "naked time" to one hour a day. At the very least, you need to stop sitting in her chair. Also, God never intended for fried cheese to be a food group, even though the cafeteria serves it all the time. Expand your dietary horizons and remember that salad is not the work of the devil.



Scorpio

(Oct. 23rd-Nov. 21st): Your idea of having a good time at a party is the Virginia state police's idea of a felony. Seriously, knock it off or you are going to get arrested. That's not good, unless it is your life goal to appear on "Cops." You need a new hobby like knitting or analyzing the cultural impact of "The Price is Right."



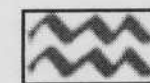
Sagittarius

(Nov. 22nd-Dec. 20th): You are paranoid that the squirrels are out to get you. Well, I talked to the squirrels and they don't want to kill you but trust me, if they succeed in their evil mission, you will wish they did. For the rest of your time at Hollins, you will need to dress in camouflage and have at least two burly bodyguards. Stay away from ADA; they made an unholy alliance with the squirrels.



Capricorn

(Dec. 21st-Jan. 19th): I know what you did last summer and I would appreciate it if you wash your hands before you touch any of my stuff. That said, don't let the close-minded attitude of the film department stop you from organizing the first annual Adam Sandler film festival. But you seriously need to ask yourself if you are doing a disservice to the work of Martin Lawrence.



Aquarius

(Jan. 20th-Feb. 18th): You need to stop stalking Chef Matt. I know that you think you bonded over the chicken pot pies but it just isn't meant to be. You are a better zodiac match with the Chicken Man but it's more important for you to focus on yourself right now. If you work hard and put your mind to it, you really can build the world's biggest ball of rubber bands.



Pisces

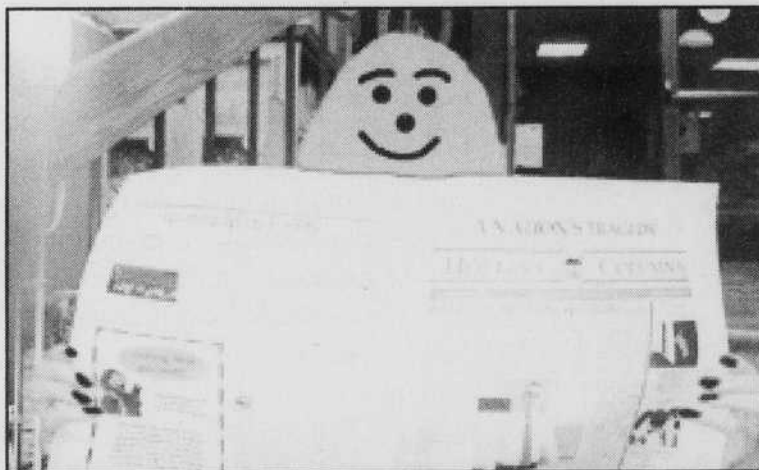
(Feb. 19th-March 19th): If you don't want to wind up working at Burger King for the rest of your life, you might want to start studying. No matter how wrong you think your professor is, mooning is never a socially acceptable course of action. Every time you want to moon a professor, picture yourself asking, "Do you want fries with that?" and the urge should pass.

Famous Aries

Bette Davis
Robert Frost
Vincent Van Gogh
Merle Haggard
Billie Holiday

Hey You!

Send questions to
hollinscolumns@hotmail.com



Hey You!

I was doing my laundry in the building behind West recently when I saw some students climb into the dryers. I don't know why they were in there, but they seemed to be having a lot of fun. They seemed sober, which made it even stranger. What do you think? Should I be worried?

--Wants To Try It But Shy

Dear Wants To-

I'd say to go for it! Don't be shy about anything. If you want to get into the dryer one day when you have nothing else to do, then by all means step right in. You know the expression "don't knock it if you haven't tried it?" Recite that like a mantra and hop right into a dryer.

I feel as though I would be negligent in my job if I didn't remind you NOT to close the door and NOT to turn the machine on. It's only safe if you leave the door wide open at all times. It actually sounds like a lot of fun...I may have to try it myself!

Hey You!

Who the hell are you that you think you can dis-

pense advice to the Hollins campus? Why are you any smarter and any more able to advise everyone than the rest of us are? Your job is easy. I could do it with one hand tied behind my back and one eye closed and standing on one foot and hopping.

--Not A Fan But Just As Good

Dear Fan-

It's always wonderful to receive feedback from my loyal readers. Thank you for taking the time to write me and let me know how you're feeling. I'm always available to listen to anyone and everyone on campus. As you've discovered, sending me letters care of the Hollins Columns will garner a response.

I

can't tell you why I'm more qualified to write this advice column than you since I have no clue who you are (much the way you have no clue about me). I'd say a good reason I got the job, though, is because I wanted to do it and no one else did. Applications for the Columns staff will be available shortly and you may apply to give advice next year after I graduate. There-now you have a hint as to who I am. Let me tell you, though, it's a big responsibility to keep this campus running smoothly! Without me, students would be late to class, wouldn't know what to do with bent forks, and wouldn't know how to react to their roommate's thong underwear. It's a big job, but someone's got to do it!

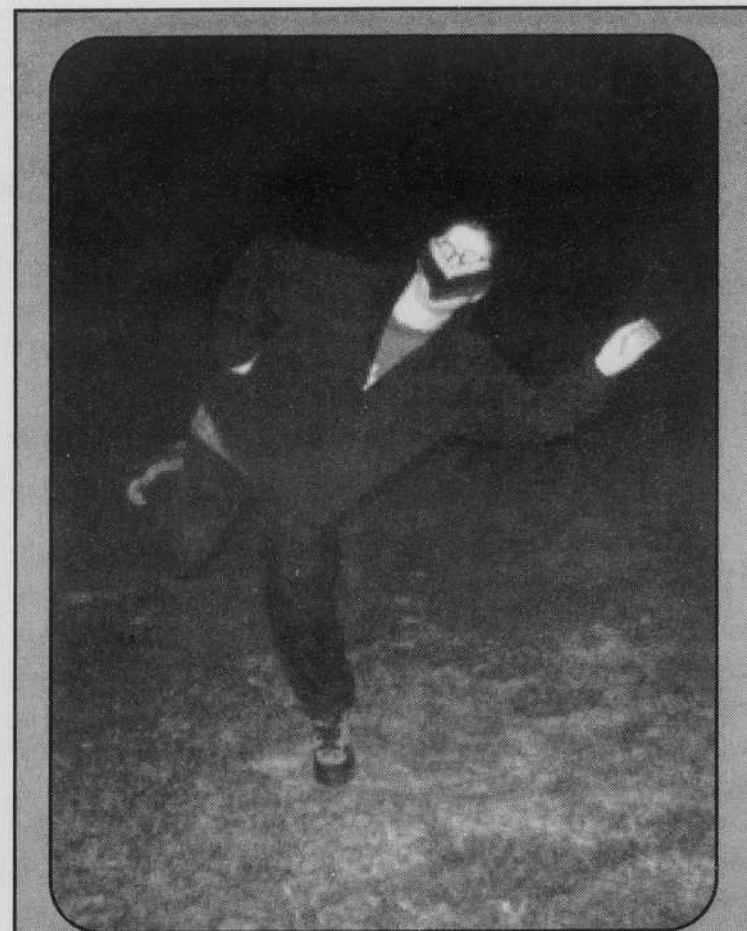


Photo by Lauren Taylor

Francis Wood '03 performs "I'm a Little Tea Pot" for her senior sisters during the Spring Ring Night.

The Hollins University General Speakers Fund
would like to extend its appreciation to

MARTIN TRAVEL

for providing influential filmmaker Spike Lee's airfare. Spike Lee will speak at Hollins on Monday, April 8th.

Call Martin Travel at (540) 343-5400 for reservations

Don't Quote Me

Here it is already, the end of March, with spring break trips to Jamaica and other exotic locales a thing of the past. Midterms are done with and the end is in sight.

Except for Hollins' ongoing presidential search. There seems to be no end at the light of the tunnel in the search for the next president of Hollins University.

The search, shrouded in secrecy from the very beginning, is still a secret hidden by those on the presidential search committee. The candidates have still not been made public. It seems that the campus community, students, faculty and staff included, will not have any voice whatsoever in the critical selection of the university's next leader.

Why is the campus being kept in the dark during this process? One would think that the selection of a university's president would be something that the entire community would want to participate in, to have their voices heard.

Many area schools are currently undergoing the

same rigorous search process as Hollins. But recently, Ferrum College took the next step in their presidential search, announcing their new president, chosen from a field of 80 candidates. Does anyone even know how many candidates the search committee began with? Or how many they've narrowed the list down to?

As a student on this campus, it concerns me that student voices have not been heard. The presidential selection is of vital importance to all students, whether graduating in May or sticking around for another three years. The new president will select the course that Hollins will pursue over the course of the next five years, which will have an even longer-lasting impact than that.

I have a lot of unanswered questions about this presidential search. For one, where are we in the process? Has it been narrowed down to 10 candidates? Three? One?



Lauren Taylor

How close are we to having a new president? The end of the year is coming fast, followed closely by the summer, the perfect time for a new president to become accustomed to the campus and settle in for the new year.

Secondly, who are these candidates that are being considered? Is the search committee considering female or male candidates? Where are they from?

Most important in my

mind is what experience do they have that relates to running a women's university? Will they be up to the challenge that Hollins presents them? Hollins is not your average school in my mind. We are a community of thriving, inquisitive and ambitious women. Will the new president be able to harness all of the energy that the campus is capable of and take it to another level?

There are many qualities that I wish our new president would have when the final selection is made. To me, it is important that the chosen candidate is the person best-suited to run Hollins. Though I would prefer the next president of this women's university to be a woman, I am open to whoever will be the best fit with Hollins, no matter their gender. The university is in a time of transition and the new leader needs to be able to take Hollins where it needs to go.

The new president needs to have a vision for the university, a plan about where the future lies. Like many stu-

dents, I believe that the future lies in Hollins remaining women-only. But I do think that the future president cannot be blinded by restrictions. They need to be able to chart the course as they see fit, to a degree of course.

I hope the next president will be able to expand upon some of Hollins' silent strengths. We all know that the riding, dance and creative writing programs are solid draws for students. But what about other facets of Hollins that aren't so promoted? What about departments like psychology, who is underfunded yet has classes that overflow their limits. What can be done to promote them like they should be?

Hollins, like all universities, has its share of problems. I can only hope that the presidential candidates are up to the task of leading the university. And that the presidential search committee is getting close to choosing this new president.

Virginia Press Association Contest Winners

Nicole Bower '02

3rd place for News Writing "Rugaber Ready to Accept Challenges"

Kelly McCarty '03

2nd place for Critical Writing "Book Reviews"

Honorable Mention for Feature Story Writing "A Redneck Tour of Roanoke"

The *Hollins Columns* congratulates the winners!

Tying It Together

Tolerance is a buzzword nowadays. We must be tolerant of our friends' sexualities, of different ethnicities, of dissimilar personalities. I've found there's another type of tolerance we sometimes forget to express, and that's tolerance of differing academic opinions. As a wise professor once said to me, smart people can disagree.

I have another buzzword to share and that's passion. Passion extends to personal beliefs and ideals, schoolwork and discussions. I truly believe that passion (and a lot of hard work) will make anything in life possible.

Within our exuberant passion for certain issues, it's sometimes easy to lose track of the ever-so-important tolerance that keeps society running smoothly. For every action, there's an alternate. For every issue, there are two sides.

I co-chair a committee on campus and recently I learned this lesson first hand.

During a recent campus event that we sponsored, a professor became upset with us for not allowing a controversial group to set up a table at the subsequent reception. My co-chair and I thought about and discussed allowing the group to come before respectfully telling them we did not feel that our event was the right time or place. We wanted the focus to be on our event more than on anything else. The professor decided to withdraw her support when we would not succumb to her request and allow the controversial group.

The professor with whom we were dealing has a

great deal of passion for the causes which she supports. I



Lisa Maniker

believe it's people like her who change the world and who make things happen; in the passion department, she and I are on the same side of the table. Like this professor, when there is something I am passionate about, I do volunteer work for the cause, I tell

people what's on my mind, I write about how I feel.

Passion is how I've managed to succeed in prestigious internships and it's why I do a lot of work for Big Brothers/Big Sisters. It's even why I write my column for the paper, a passion for writing.

But, every action evokes a reaction. Looking into the future to foresee reactions and to plan for them is when tolerance becomes ever so important. Academic tolerance, to me, is accepting other people's opinion in class when they don't quite fit the common mold. Societal tolerance is making sure not to turn an otherwise wonderful event into one that could potentially alienate an entire community.

When my co-chair and I decided not to have the controversial group on campus,

we made our decision based on knowing our main event, for which we paid thousands of dollars, was and should be the focus of the evening. Welcoming the group could have potentially evoked a wave of anger from both members of the Hollins community and also the Roanoke community. I am not arguing against standing up for personal beliefs, but I am contending that there is a time and place for everything and our event was neither.

Smart people can disagree. This was an issue of smart people disagreeing. This was an issue where some tolerance-not tolerance of sexuality, ethnicity, or personality, but of each other, would have gone a long way.

We were on the same side of the table, but apparently we were sitting in different chairs.

Don't Hate . . . Participate

by Barbara Walden

I must say that I am upset. I am upset because there are 24 active clubs and organizations on this campus with an average member number of 15. There are approximately 800 undergraduate students enrolled in this school. I ask therefore why, there is so little campus participation. On February 7, 2002 there was a Spring Activities Fair. Only five clubs were present, and only a handful of students ventured into the PDR to see what was going on. The fall Fair was much more successful. Several clubs had booths and many people signed up to

be apart of certain clubs. However, interest has obviously dwindled, as it is clear that not all who signed up are active members in the club. Few people also attend the parties, bands, plays, and other cultural events on campus. Only a handful of people can be seen at events such as student recitals, Oktoberfest, and other large events. Even though Student Activities provides a variety of events throughout the month some of those events are scantily attended as well.

I am constantly hearing that there is nothing to do on this campus. To those who complain I ask, what have you done about it? What student run organization are you

apart of? What sporting event, band, or theater production have you been to lately? I understand that people are busy with work and school. I further understand that the draw of males, fraternities, homes, and parties, take many of you off campus for the weekend and the lack of a Hollins college town does not help keep you here. However, attendance is too low for these excuses to be pertinent all of the time. The variety of resources is here. The events chairs on the Student Government Association including myself as Club Coordinator are doing the best they can to provide entertainment and outlets on this campus and in

the community. Student Activities and Affairs have tried to get more active participation on campus. But you, the student body must do your part as well. Get involved. Bring your creativity, leadership, and skills, with you to the table and help plan some events. You are a Hollins woman. When you were admitted to this school, someone saw something within you that they knew would be a credit to Hollins.

Support our athletics by attending some sporting events. Attend forums, movie showings, theater productions, Harvest House nights and Senate. One of the best things you can do is to run for office. Student

Government elections will be held on March 26 and statements for those positions are due on March 15. Class elections will be held later in the spring. There is a Hollins recruiting term that I heard when I was a prospective student four years ago that said, "You belong to Hollins, and Hollins belongs to you." I see now that this statement has never been truer. I understand that some of the activities I mentioned in this article may not be for everyone and that more random events may not keep people here on the weekend. However, I urge you to make the best with what we have. With all of the resources available, don't hate-participate.

Letters to the Editor

**Message from FREYA
March 11, 2002**

**Written for the Hollins
Columns**

It's hard to believe, as we look out the window and put away our jackets, that spring is here. It feels like just yesterday we were coming to campus to start a new year at Hollins. The springtime brings new beginnings, a fresh start, and invites us to grow. Spring is a time to reflect on the year past and the year ahead. This March is unique because it marks the six-month anniversary of an event that has affected us all - September 11th. This is a good time to look back and appreciate how we as women, as students, and as a community have supported each other through such a difficult time. We, the members of FREYA, would like to take this opportunity to thank the university, the professors, and all the students for their part in carrying one another through such a time of grief. Hollins has always prided herself on her close-knit community and there was never a better illustration of how we came together then on that September morning. We gathered in the chapel to try to understand what was happening, others stayed close to their phones, but there was always someone available if you needed a shoulder to cry on or a listening ear. Resident Life staff and administrators walked through the dorms and buildings making sure everyone was fine and they offered their condolences willingly. Imagine what it would have been like for students at a large public university or someone who was

traveling abroad who might not have had that support. Let us not take this care for granted and appreciate what we have here at Hollins. Let us also carry this sense of community with us throughout our days here and through our futures. Take the time to extend your hand out to someone who may still be grieving and continues to grieve. As for yourself: reflect, reflect on the last semester and of all your years past and don't yet shed your winter clothes until you take those experiences with you as you enter a new beginning of spring.

**Letter to Editor
The Black Student
Alliance - Now and Forever
United**

Although our presence is strong, few really know who the Black Student Alliance is and what we do. I would therefore like to introduce you to the Hollins University Black Student Alliance.

The Black Student Alliance was created in the late '70s and has been a force to be reckoned with since. We are a group predominantly made up of African American students who strive to educate the campus on the Black culture. Some of our past and present activities include DJ parties, improvement and bonding retreats, movie showings, Martin Luther King Memorial services and Melt-the-Mics. We perform community service throughout the year, by volunteering at the Henry Street Heritage Festival annually, volunteering for Habitat for Humanity and other community events,

and sponsoring Christmas Tree Angels. In early April we will be joining SHARE for the NEEOs' Clean Valley Day service project, a project we have been looking forward to since January. During the month of February our goals of educating the campus about Black American history were achieved through movie showings and table tent facts; we also promoted Black History in our community. The BSA is currently trying to reconnect the African American alum to the Hollins community and in April will be sponsoring the second annual African American Recognition Ceremony, honoring the achievements of African American Hollins Alumni, Faculty and Staff.

As BSA members, we share a bond like no other. We support each other, rely on

each other, celebrate our triumphs, and hold one another's hand in tribulation. The Black Student Alliance gives us an opportunity to share camaraderie with our sisters. When in a meeting, we are able to immerse ourselves in the beauty and intelligence of each other. The Black Student Alliance is a powerful force on campus. We have been through difficult times, but have always prevailed united.

Our mission statement found in the BSA constitution states "The Alliance is an organization that helps to advance diversity, creativity, self-expression, unity, independence, and self confidence." I'd like to think that I have helped maintain this goal for my sisters as well as for myself. As a graduating senior, I will miss my sisters, yet I know that they will be able to continue forward.

Myself and the other graduates will be more than willing to do what we can to help this achievement. The Black Student Alliance's journey will never stop. We have worked too hard for the bonds to be broken down with apathy, hate, and deceit. Looking back over the last 3 1/2 years, I can personally say that we have worked too hard to make BSA what it is today. I invite you to attend an event sponsored by the BSA. Our meetings are open to the Hollins community. You may be surprised to know that our membership is culturally diverse. Anyone who would like to share and learn about our culture is welcome. The voice that started with our Hollins foremothers will continue to be raised. It will not be stifled. Our voice will grow louder and be loud now and forever united.

**How many Hollins Columns
staff members does it take
to screw in a lightbulb?**

12

**Fill out an application
to be part of the screwin'.**

**Applications available in Moody
and Post Office beginning April 1.**

Young golf team surges forward

by Lisa Bower

All year the golf team has readied itself, trained and focused, in the hopes that the sport will remain at Hollins. Their first competition will be April 17 at the Winter Green against Sweet Briar.

The team's coach, Lanetta Ware, is optimistic: "I'm looking forward to it. The girls are playing well."

Ware wasn't sure that there would be a team this year after last year's fiscal education review board decided to drop golf. "The only thing I could do was to keep pushing. I've gathered data and kept making calls trying to recruit girls here to play. There was no guarantee that they'd play once they got here," Ware said.

A big reason for the team's improvement was the charity of local organizations.

The team has practiced at the Roanoke Country Club and Green Briar. Both places waived their green fees.

The director of Green Briar was especially helpful to the team. Ware said, "Mr. Robert Harris, the director of Green Briar, was so helpful. He videotaped the girls. They have the kind of technology where they can trace the path of a club and



Photo courtesy of Melissa Lurkin

The golf team, coached by Lanetta Ware, will no longer be a varsity sport after this spring season, though the team is still playing hard. Their first competition is April 17 at the Winter Green against Sweet Briar.

show angles. He even added a voiceover."

"One day, a group of the men came over and practiced

with the girls for two hours. That kind of treatment normally costs around \$2,500 and we got it for free," said

Ware.

The Hollins golf team hopes to host an invitational April 17. "I've sent out the letters but it's hard. They made the schedules for invitational and tournaments last year and back then I didn't know if there would be a golf team," said Ware.

The team has a new member in freshman Lacey Dunham, who's never played golf before. Dunham says, "I just joined this semester. It's a valuable sport because it's so different than other sports. It's more individual."

"Any Hollins student should be able to take any class she wants. Just because she can't play golf doesn't mean she can't join the team. Golf is different from other sports because it's a thinking game. It's a lifetime sport that women should be learning," said Ware.

Hollins riding center hosts in-house show

by Lindsay Durango

Riding director and coach Nancy Peterson welcomes the Hollins community to watch its riders participate in the university's in-house show March 30. There will be no other schools competing, no outside riders - simply Hollins students strapping on helmets and boots in a fun competition against one another.

"It's a little bit of a practice for open horse shows," said Peterson. "It'll also give a shot in the arm to the showing program."

Rider Devon Braswell '03 is looking forward to the

event: "The in-house shows are great because you get to chose a horse you like to ride and you get to show with your classmates and friends, which is really fun."

But the fun nature of the show will not make it any easier for the judges who are coming in to rank riders. Peterson explained judges, who expect Hollins' in-house shows to be an easy job, are often surprised by how difficult it is to decide between all the program's good riders and horses.

Hollins riders' competitive spirit and advanced skills are evident in past wins. In December, the Hollins riding team tied with Randolph

Macon for top honors in the ODACs. It was their 14th ODAC win in a row. Additionally, head coach Sandy Gerald was awarded coach of the year honors at the ODACs.

Peterson attributes much of the team's success to the intelligence of its members. "We don't just recruit good riders, but scholars as well. Smart riders make the best ones," she said.

Although shows focus on individual performance, Hollins riders share a camaraderie and sportsmanship that undercuts the fierce competitiveness expected in such a solo sport.

"Hollins is a friendly

campus based on an honors system. That comes over to athletics; it comes over to riding," said Peterson. "Other coaches compliment me on how pleasant Hollins riders are. I don't take credit for it - it's peer pressure."

Peterson said advanced riders often help beginners, talking them through their nervousness, helping prepare just before a show. And beginners often cheer on their advanced counterparts.

Braswell agrees: "Everyone is really supportive and helps all the riders throughout the show . . . It makes the show so much more fun to have your teammates there to cheer everyone

on and help them ride to their best ability."

After the in-house show, Hollins riders will be going on to other events. April 6, riders will participate in an annual open horse show in which they will be competing against other schools, professionals and outside riders. Also, the Hollins riding team has advanced from the regional to the zone competition, which will be held April 12. The Hollins Riding Center will host both events.

All events are free of charge for spectators. Riders and coaches alike welcome Hollins students to join them in cheering on their peers.