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### Hollins Columns (2003 May 5)

Hollins College

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## NEWS



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# Center for rape victims to open

BY JANET LUBAS

A victim assistance, education, information and referral clinic targeted at providing services for survivors of rape and sexual assault is in the works.

An effort led by Georgi Fisher '04, the proposed body would be known as The Center at Hollins. According to Fisher, The Center would promote and provide community education and awareness on the issues surrounding sexual assault.

All contacts made to The Center would remain confidential and no one making a contact would be under any obligation to file a police report. However, if a student did decide to pursue a sexual assault or rape through legal means, The Center could work with students throughout this process.

Other services that The Center would provide are hall education, faculty training, RA training, sexual assault survivors therapy group, and victim advocacy. Already, The Center at Hollins appears to have a strong base of support. Kristy Servant and Karen Beckum from The SARA Program have helped to create a program that is appropriate for Hollins. LeeRay Costa, Andrew Matzner, Darla Schumm, and Kim Rhodes will be the Faculty/Staff Advisors for The Center.

A group of volunteers is lined up to work for The Center. They are Samantha Anderson, Tracey Huffman, Bethany Ewing, Anna Christenbury, Carrie Hart, Erika Langsjoen, Katie McDonald, Lisa Bower, and Maggie Henderson. These volunteers will be the backbone of the organization, maintaining everyday operations.

The Center at Hollins would be open during normal campus hours and on weekends. Calls to The Center while it is closed would be forwarded to The Sexual Assault Response and Awareness (SARA) Program of Roanoke. The SARA Program is the rape treat-

ment and prevention program for the Roanoke Valley. According to Siclinda Canty-Elliott, there is a possibility of The Center being given office space in Randolph, although many potential volunteers for The Center feel that space might not be an appropriate location.

Currently, The Center has been funded by The Hobby Trust Grant. Also, Wayne Markert approved over \$5,000 to be allocated to The Center so that they may bring an educator and trainer to campus in the fall.

While things seem to be moving along unopposed, Ms. Fisher does note that she has been working on this project for about two years, without a great deal of success.

Recently, there has been some concern among the Hollins student body as evidenced by the fliers that were posted in the dorms on campus, along with the banner that is hung from the East Building.

The fliers state: "Hey Hollins: Where are the stats on rape victims and forcible sex offenses? Not posted on campus, incomplete online and absent from the Security Office Log. According to the Open Crime Log, the two forcible sexual offenses that were reported to the Department of Education in 2001 never happened and how many have happened since."

Fisher responded to the posters, "I was so excited to see that someone else was getting angry about the apathy on our campus. When I met the people who were responsible for the posters (who would like to remain anonymous), I thanked them and let them know how much their support to establish services meant to me."

There has been a great deal of contention over the serious claim made by the fliers. Director of Campus Safety, David Carlson was quoted, "At no time has this department ever tried to conceal a

sexual assault or to hide one from community members. I further offer that at no time would I as Director of Campus Safety ever attempt to deceive the Hollins community when it comes to crime statistics."

The statistics on forcible sex offenses and non-forcible sex offenses are available on the Hollins

University website at <http://www.hollins.edu/campuslife/safety/index.htm>. They are also available at the US Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education website. The statistics show only three forcible sex offenses in 1999, two in 2000 and two in 2001. No non-

SEE CENTER PAGE 2

## Arts



AMY TORBERT

## Fest



AMY TORBERT

Front quad was home to tons of art activities as several students gathered to sell their wares.

## 2003

# Center

FROM PAGE 1

forcible sex offenses were reported in the past three years.

The purpose of reporting such statistics is to accurately represent the safety on campus. With the alarming rate of unreported sexual crimes, however, the statistics prove to be misleading. Fisher said, "If 1 in 4 women are assaulted in their lifetime, with the highest number of assaults happening during our freshman year of college and senior year of high school, that means that an estimated 225 Hollins underclasswomen will be raped in their lifetime."

The statistic of 7 sexual assaults in the past three years does not reflect this in any way. Amanda Shideler '06 said "it is important to report cases of sexual assault even if the individual does not want to pursue legal action. Only if officials recognize how serious of a problem it is, will they then work to prevent it."

One of the two women to report a sexual assault, who wishes to remain anonymous, felt that "if there had been more awareness on campus, [her] case might have been taken more seriously." She went on to voice concern that there seems to be an emphasis on helping victims emotionally overcome assaults, but not enough emphasis on prevention.

According to the Student Right to Know Act, statistics concerning the occurrence of sex offenses, forcible or

nonforcible, "shall be produced and be made readily available upon request, through appropriate publications, mailings, and electronic media."

Furthermore, Hollins University is

ultly, and staff, and to the local media."

Debate has arisen as to whether Hollins University is in compliance with legal codes in informing and warning students of sexual offenses. "Yes, our campus rape sta-

warnings regarding crimes that pose an ongoing threat to students and employees' via crime watch bulletins, fax systems, mail systems or printed publication and flyers distributed to the campus community."

"I know of 8 campus rapes that Hollins has reported to the Department of Education in the 7 years I've been at Hollins," Thomas said. "Not once has the university provided timely warnings (much less untimely ones) that sexual terrorists remain on the prowl at Hollins."

In response to Hollins University's absence of sexual assault warnings, President Bell noted that, in most cases, there is a time delay between when the incident occurred and when the student decides to report. The question arises of whether or not Hollins University is required to issue warnings concerning cases that were not reported in a timely manner.

There is a current debate over what further measures universities must take to be in compliance with the law. Dr. Susan Thomas writes, "The Student Right to Know Act requires pro-active campus policies to help women avoid and/or deal with rape if it happens in the most humanely way possible. Posting data on the website is only the first step Hollins must take to comply with women's rights."

According to Siclinda Canty-Elliott, one of the issues the university is considering is how to inform students on where to find the statistics concerning sexual offenses and what to do if they themselves are assaulted.

## Who to contact for help

These people are available to help if you are sexually assaulted:

Health & Counseling Center x6444

Area Coordinators

Tammy Futrell x6085

Kimberly Fulcher x6688

Katie Zimmerman x6265

Director of Residence Life MJ Konopke x6281

Dean of Students Siclinda Canty-Elliott x6588

Associate Dean of Students Lynda Calkins x6435

Andrew Matzner x6025

LeeRay Costa x6025

Kim Rhodes x6649

Darla Schumm x6617

Chaplain Jan Fuller Carruthers x6665

SARA Office (Monday-Friday 8:30-5) 345-7273

required to provide "timely warnings" to students of potentially dangerous situations. According to the Hollins University Campus Safety website, "The Department of Safety will contact the Public Relations Office to prepare a release and the information will be disseminated to students, fac-

statistics are posted on the Hollins web site. However, the University remains in non-compliance with the Student Right To Know and Campus Security Act," Dr. Susan Thomas, associate professor of women's studies and political science, said. "This act requires that universities 'provide timely

## New communication plan

### COURTESY OF SICLINDA CANTY-ELLIOTT

The president, her cabinet and SGA have expressed the need to enhance communications on campus. An especially important aspect of campus communication is between the administration and the student body. To begin to address these concerns, the president's cabinet has discussed and approved the following communication plan.

The Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students will serve as the voice of the cabinet by disseminating information to, and receiving questions and concerns from, the SGA leadership at the roundtable meetings held every Sunday evening. To facilitate communications in this way, we will need to implement the following practices:

- At the end of each cabinet meeting, the cabinet will discuss

information the VPSA needs to share with members of SGA and others as appropriate. As per the cabinet's request, the VPSA will relate information — confidential and otherwise — at the weekly SGA Roundtable meetings.

- The confidential information given to members of the Roundtable must be kept confidential until Cabinet and SGA can devise a communication plan to campus constituencies. The Roundtable will discuss the items, point out concerns, offer recommendations, and assist the VPSA and the administration with a communication plan.

- The members of SGA will advise the VPSA if more information is needed on a particular topic. This request will be presented to the president's cabinet and a plan to address the topic will be developed/implemented. In addition, if cabinet members are interested in addressing the Roundtable or Sen-

ate, their requests will be communicated through the VPSA.

- The VPSA will relay all information of concerns to the cabinet via email, meetings, or phone calls.

This more clearly defined approach should enhance communication between the administration and the student body, especially SGA and the SGA leadership.

It will be important as this plan is implemented for the student leadership to define ways to help engage the broader student community. We want to make sure that good, accurate information is disseminated to all students as appropriate.

As a final note, the VPSA will work with the SGA leadership group to assess the effectiveness of this communication plan and will recommend changes or modifications to both the cabinet and the SGA as needed.

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# U.S.A. not immune to misconceptions

BY LUCY ERHARDT

Have you ever wondered, amidst all the talk this year of misconceptions about other countries, what some misconceptions are of the United States? Wonder no more, my dears, but stay calm. What will follow may shock you.

In Australia, where I'm from, the general misconception is that Americans are pretty stupid, and exceptionally loud and vulgar, while at the same time ridiculously conservative. When Australia started to come into the picture for large businesses and Americans started to go there on business trips, we got a pretty clear image of Americans as just that.

Time and time again, we've heard stories about American businessmen getting into taxis outside Sydney's International Airport and asking to be taken to Perth. I don't know how much you know about Australia's geography -- hopefully more than the businessmen -- but that's like getting in a cab in Los Angeles and saying "New York, please."

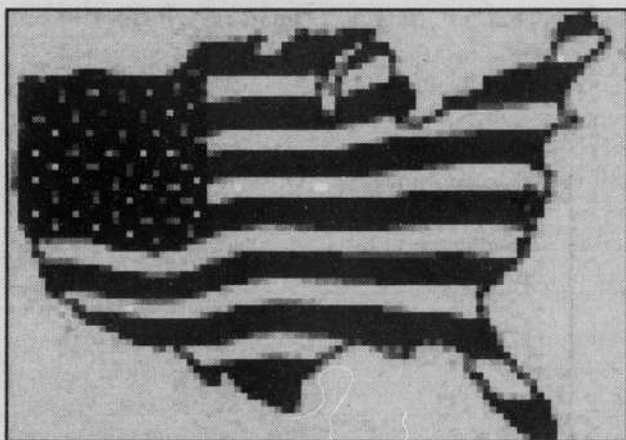
Once in a while there were stories in the newspaper about cabbies agreeing to take these morons to Perth and getting thousands of dollars worth of cab fare. Pretty nice for a few days' work.

Another misconception is that anywhere you go in the world, you'll always be able to spot an American tourist. They're the ones wearing shorts and sneakers with socks pulled up to their knees and cameras slung round their necks. Or they're the ones wearing berets in France and Lederhosen in Germany.

The most telltale sign of American tourists, though, is the noise they make. Whether you're in a chic café or a cathedral, the Americans are the ones speaking the loudest and the slowest to confused and offended waiters. Some people think they do this because they believe that will make the non-English speakers understand them, while others think it's just plain rudeness. In some cases, both are

true, but in most cases, Americans are respectful and sophisticated enough to whisper in cathedrals and at least try to speak the local language.

I think the main reason people tend to think that Americans are ignorant and vulgar is that the education sys-



tem in the States isn't up to par. Having been through most of the Australian school system before moving to the States, I can attest to the fact that Australians are under the assumption that American schools are a joke.

When I left for the States, my friends told me not to become a "stupid American." Now I can say with conviction that from some angles, American public schools are a joke. Many programs are designed to let even the laziest, least gifted students pass to get them off the streets until they're old enough to go out and flip burgers for the rest of their lives.

If you're looking for a real education in American public schools, though, all you have to do is take the ad-

vanced courses. I was challenged in French, German, and English classes in my high school in Missouri more than I was in tenth grade in Sydney. But the classes such as Senior Seminar, which Missourians have to pass in order to graduate are, indeed, a joke.

In some ways, American schools have lower standards than those in Australia, but in others, the standards are reversed. The level of advanced classes in the last two years of school in Sydney is a great deal higher than that in the States, but American schools really work on personal development rather than just academic.

In my school in Sydney, a private, girls-only school, we didn't have student-run literary magazines or school papers or non-sports-related clubs. We had classes, homework, and inter-school athletic competitions. In my school in Missouri, a public, co-ed school, I was involved in the literary magazine, NHS, Quill and Scroll, and the Modern Language Club.

While Australian schools focus on the academics and leave it up to you to decide how to develop your personality, American schools focus on the personal development and leave it up to you to decide how much you want to challenge yourself academically. Both systems have their strengths.

As with misconceptions about any country, it's a shame that the Americans that stand out are the loud, obnoxious, ignorant ones. Shows like "Jerry Springer" are the ones that broadcast the American image to the rest of the world, just as shows like "Crocodile Hunter" are the ones that broadcast the Australian image all over the globe.

The images portrayed represent the vast minority of people from both countries, and the same could be said for virtually any country in the world. All I'm asking is that you remember what I've said and think twice before applying regional stereotypes to people from other countries.

## Batten Leadership Institute completes first year

BY JENNIFER MARTIN

As the academic year comes to a close, 15 students are also finishing the inaugural year of the Batten Leadership Institute.

The program began in September 2002 under the guidance of BLI director Katherine Walker and several graduate students from Virginia Tech.

In the cyclical, three-year program, participants focus on building their "core leadership skills" in a number of ways. Their first semester, students attended seminars focusing on searching out challenges, experimenting, envisioning the future, enlisting others, fostering collaboration, strengthening people, setting an example, achievement, recognition, and celebration of accomplishments.

Participants practiced these skills in leadership labs with graduate students providing feedback on their performances, as well as providing their own feedback.

Amy Torbert '05 feels the seminars have been beneficial in showing her how she "communicates best, my strengths and

weaknesses," which are then able to be improved upon.

In their second semester, students begin to put leadership into action. They present ideas to their peers, who decide if these ideas are worth pursuing. These activities may be original, or may be something that is a part of a leadership role the participant already has on campus.

This spring, Samantha Anderson '05 has been working as recruitment chair for Relay for Life. She chose this leadership role because she's "always enjoyed being involved in campus events." In working with Relay, Anderson feels she's "gotten back into the Roanoke community" in addition to simply improving her leadership skills.

The second year, students will be meeting with regional leaders to talk, discuss and mentor. According to Walker, each student will have a leader mentor from the community, who will be able to assist and encourage them.

In the final year of the BLI, participants will serve as mentors to sophomores

and govern the program through its advisory board. Upon graduation, participants will receive a certificate in leadership studies.

The idea for the program, which builds off the skills taught in the existing Emerging Leaders program for first-year students, was developed by interim president Walter Rugaber. Walker credits President Bell, however, with being "instrumental" in making the program a reality at Hollins.

Rugaber's idea was the creation of a leadership component to the Batten scholars which would also be open to other members of the campus community.

Currently, Batten scholars from the classes of '05 and '06 have the choice of enrolling in the BLI, while scholars from the class of '07 will be automatically enrolled. Other students, such as those who transfer or who complete the Emerging Leaders program, are also able to apply.

This spring, Walker says that the BLI has had "overwhelmingly positive" student feedback on both the program and its work-

shops. Both Torbert and Anderson praise the Batten Leadership Institute as they finish their first year.

Anderson has "really enjoyed it," and feels the program "has a lot to offer." This year, the program exposed her "to different groups of people on campus" and "improved [her] leadership skills."

At first, Torbert was "very, very hesitant" to join the program because of the time commitment, but has been "amazed at how much I've learned."

As a result of the BLI, she feels she's become a "better group member" and grown as a leader and a person.

This falls in line with Walker's philosophy for the program. She believes that "you can't separate leadership development from personal growth," and that the program should be aimed at the "whole student."

Walker hopes the BLI will "continue and expand" in the future, as the program's "reputation builds" on campus. The events, such as lectures and speakers coordinated through Student Activities, have been open to faculty and staff as well as students.

# Interview with an officer: Is Hollins safe?

BY TRACY WOODHAM

In an effort to get a feel for the safety level of Hollins, I had the pleasure of interviewing Earl Bethel, a security guard at Hollins for approximately a year and a half. My goal was to interview someone who has the job of enforcing safety and security policies, in order to get his perspective. These are his responses:

Question: What are the biggest challenges concerning campus safety that you face as a security officer here at Hollins?

Answer: I think the most dangerous situation we could have would involve outside people -- people not connected with the university. Students are going to be students. These are their college years. We try to keep that in mind.

Q: What resources does a Hollins student have to obtain information about her safety?

A: There is the Open Crime Log [to the understanding of this reporter, a record of

crime statistics and facts that is open to the campus community], the website, and us -- the security staff.

Q: Have you seen the signs posted around campus complaining that rape and forcible sex crime have not been appropriately recorded and reported? What comment can you offer?

A: No, no idea and no comment. It hasn't really been an issue I've faced since working here. My experience in this area has mostly been having to ask men to leave or separating student couples.

Q: Do students utilize the Open Crime Log -- that you are aware of?

A: I've only seen one. She came in last week and had a lot of questions; not many before that.

Q: What kind of questions?

A: These kinds of questions.

Q: Is Hollins safe?

A: Yes.

Q: What suggestions do you have to offer students, in general, about maintaining a safe campus?

A: Ask guests to register vehicles, although it's not a real big issue. The students are pretty cooperative. Keeping the doors locked can sometimes be a problem, but it's often in the summertime and the students are living in dorms without A/C. Residence Staff should continue to work closely with security and keep lines of communication open, but for the most part that's already pretty good.

Q: What recourse does a student have if she is being stalked or harassed?

A: There is a warrant we can issue for threats by phone and also a trespassing warrant. We work closely with the Roanoke Police and rescue authorities -- their response time is good. If a student has Caller ID, the call could be blocked. We can't trace numbers but a student could have her number

changed.

Q: Would you feel safe sending your daughter here?

A: Sure.

Q: Are there, in your mind, any outstanding complaints from students or faculty?

A: Mostly parking complaints. That's where most complaints come from -- faculty wanting something done about it.

Q: Are Hollins' policies conducive to your doing your job effectively, in your opinion?

A: Yes. If you go by the student handbook, most everything is in black and white. Just use those guidelines.

Q: What about the new system regarding the use of radar for speeding tickets?

A: We are enforcing it on an as-needed basis.

Q: What are your thoughts on having to break up parties on campus?

A: If we're there, we are usually there to answer a complaint of some kind, like noise.

## Visual Arts Center: a work in progress



EMILY EIGEL

Current progress on the new Visual Arts Center



WWW.HOLLINS.EDU

Computer-generated image of the building, projected to be completed in 2004

## Tier one forum meets criticism

BY LISA BOWER

Nora Kizer Bell, Wayne Markert and the rest of the Hollins University Cabinet met with the campus community on 4:30p.m., April 28, 2003 in Camp Younts to talk about Tier 1.

The forum was one part of the new SGA-Administration communication plan and one half response to the petition students had presented before spring break. Its purpose was to discuss the initiatives of the Tier 1 goal and to answer any questions relating to the goal.

Nicole Oxendine '03, SGA vice-president, said she thought the forum would have been more effective if it had been held at the start of the year. She continued by saying, "I think it was just done for the sake of doing it. But, I think it was a good idea and I think we're privileged to have that."

Beth Burgin '04, next year's SGA president agrees, saying, "I think it was overdue in its timing. It is important for students to be educated on an issue and I think the forum provided a lot of useful information. It would have been helpful if that information was clarified a few months ago."

The room was attended mostly by first year and second year students. Nora Kizer Bell presented a PowerPoint presentation, the Cabinet sitting behind her, as she listed the goals of Tier 1. Afterward, she opened the room for

questions.

The questions posed ranged from curious to enraged, some wanting clarification on why Hollins University was announcing such a goal, others openly criticizing it. Financial aid and fears over the future affordability of Hollins were the major points of discussion.

Reactions to the forum have been mixed.

"I still would consider "Tier one" a buzz word on campus, and I think that the forum made strides toward clarifying some of the misunderstandings on both sides of the issue," said Burgin.

"I was actually, overall, very pleased with the forum. I felt that it went very well. There wasn't any President bashing or anyone trying to make things difficult," said Christina Rock '06.

April Woods '06 disagrees, "I think there were a lot of negative feelings towards Ms. Bell at the forum due to other conflicts with her that didn't have much to do with Tier 1."

Some criticism has been directed at the need of stating our goals under the umbrella of a Tier 1 label.

"Tier 1 was presented as just a superficial title that we'd achieve if we bettered the school," said Woods. "What concerned me about presenting Tier 1, was her point in attaining it was not to achieve a growth within the school, because if her point was to

better the school, why would we have a forum to discuss that, everyone wants that."

She continued, "I was wondering why she'd call it a superficial title and then put so much effort into attaining it. I think a lot of negativity was because of the reasons why she wanted Tier 1, it was phrased badly."

Rock remains positive, "A very good part of the forum was the fact that students were able to talk to administration, the administration to students and students were able to talk with each other. I was impressed with the administration. They were very willing and made a really good effort to answer everyone's questions. I was impressed with some of the insights people had."

Time will tell how Tier 1 affects Hollins and whether the new SGA-Administration communication plan pans out positively.

Burgin aims her thoughts toward the future, saying, "I'd like to see more forums go on the university calendar this summer for next year. That way, we can ensure that scheduling can be arranged ahead of time, and make sure that students are aware that if they want to voice an opinion outside of Senate, that this is a good medium to use."

She continued, "As a student, I appreciated the forum. I hope that a candid dialogue can be established for next year. And I

# M.A.L.S. Program fosters educational freedom

BY MARLY WILSON

When Margaret Courtney began the Master of Arts and Liberal Studies (M.A.L.S.) at Hollins, she had no idea where she would end up. She knew she wanted to study classics, but she never could have imagined that her culminating thesis would take her as far as doing an online interview with musicians featured on the soundtrack of *Gladiator*.

The M.A.L.S. program was created in 1969 with the intent of giving a broad education to lifelong learners who were interested in making connections between many different types of knowledge. Today, there are approximately two hundred and fifty students in the co-ed program, who range in age from twenty-two to sixty.

Students in the M.A.L.S. program can concentrate their studies in one of three areas: the humanities, the social sciences, the arts (new in '03-'04), or follow an interdisciplinary program, no matter what Bachelor's degree they may have completed. The program

used to offer a concentration in computer studies as well, but that is being phased out after this year.

Many people choose to study a subject very different than their original major. It's particularly attractive to local women who may have passions they never pursued at the undergraduate level.

Courtney falls into this category. She needed a Master's degree to continue teaching in the Roanoke school system, but she didn't want to continue studying in her original field, music education. She had always had a strong interest in ancient history, so she emailed Tina Salowey to learn more about the M.A.L.S. program. She was impressed with the flexibility of the program and the university's short distance from her home.

Courtney saw the movie *Gladiator* while she was studying the musical history of the Romans. She recognized some of the music because she had just bought a CD by Synaulia, a Roman group that uses recreated ancient instruments to perform. She got in touch with the company who produces the

records in America, and soon afterward the online interview was arranged.

Courtney's story may be somewhat exceptional, but her experience is less than surprising. The freedom admitted by the M.A.L.S. program of study gives students the ability to do almost anything.

Students take ten courses over a period of time that ranges anywhere from one to eight years. Two courses are core requirements, one in the humanities and the other in the social sciences. "The required courses take a great deal of work," says professor and M.A.L.S. advisor Pauline Kaldas.

The other seven courses are generally in the student's area of concentration. Kaldas admits that sometimes these courses may be especially difficult. "Students are taking graduate level courses in subjects that they may not have studied at the undergraduate level," she says.

The capstone of the program is the essay. The essay for the M.A.L.S. program is much less structured than an essay at the un-

dergraduate level. The essay must be thirty-five to fifty pages, or the equivalent. The "or the equivalent" is what makes it so flexible. It can be anything from a research essay, like Courtney's, to something more creative, like a choreographed dance performance, to something even more tangible, like a computer learning program for a nursing home. For the more tangible essays, the most important portion of the essay is the introduction or an artist's statement of intent.

Financial aid is offered to M.A.L.S. students through a special grant that takes financial need and undergraduate GPA into account. For those from Virginia, the TAG grants are also offered.

Possibly the only major criticism that the M.A.L.S. program receives from students is that some classes are not offered consistently. This is especially a concern of the students currently concentrating in computer studies. Since this concentration is being phased out, it may even be harder for those students to get the classes they want without doing multiple indepen-

dent studies.

Despite any complaints students may have, there is no denying that the program is a wonderful opportunity for those wishing to further their education.

Students completing the M.A.L.S. program go on to do varied things after they graduate. Many students do the program so that they may teach at the community college level. Other students use the program as a stepping stone to go onto law school or medical school.

The M.A.L.S. program fosters a love of learning that cannot be entirely explained. What each student takes away from the program is different, and since each gets to design his or her own path, the resulting experience is different for every individual.

"It doesn't matter so much how I'm going to use this knowledge because knowledge is never wasted," Courtney says of the most important thing she learned from her experience with the program. "You don't have to follow your one career. Life is much broader than that."

## Retired Astronaut speaks at annual Science Seminar

BY TRACY WOODHAM

This year's Science Seminar on April 21-22 started off with a bang with the keynote speaker, retired U.S. Air Force Col. Frank Borman, grandfather of Sloan Borman '04.

Among Borman's many outstanding accomplishments is leading the first team of American astronauts to circle the moon. He is internationally known as commander of the Apollo 8 mission in 1968.

Borman has earned numerous prestigious assignments, awards, decorations and honors and has now been inducted to both the International Aerospace Hall of Fame as well as the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame.

Borman was introduced by President Bell, who unfortunately could not stay for the discussion due to a prior engagement.

Amelia Johnston '03 said, "It was great. He was really funny."

Kari Brown '03 said of Borman's appearance, "It was amazing! If you ever get the opportunity to hear Col. Borman speak, you should."

Brown went on to say, "He was an amazing speaker -- the first manned shuttle to orbit the moon in the late '60s, and he talked about it in a personal way."

Brown related that she was especially interested to what Col. Borman listed as the four attributes of great leaders: "integrity, being bright -- usually not brilliant, but always bright -- sense of mission and morality."

Brown was also impressed by

Brown's only concerns were that she wished the keynote speaker had been as well attended by Hollins community as it was by the outside public.

Furthermore, the student presentations were not as well attended by the Hollins campus as was the keynote speaker.

"It was probably that it was scheduled during a time when a lot of people have classes," she said. "It's probably this way for all the departments."

Many students presented their research at the seminar, which was headed up by Nancy Healy of the Computer Science Department. Among them were Brown, Jane Donohue '03, Venita Gresham '03, and Amelia Johnston '03.

Brown's research dealt with organic synthesis. Donohue and Johnston's research was concerned with in-

organic Rhenium complexes.

Gresham's work explored organic synthesis as well as the possibility of transitional metal complexes.

For many of the science majors, pre-

senting at this seminar is a requirement.

"This can be frustrating," remarked Brown, "because you have to tailor the speeches for a lay audience."

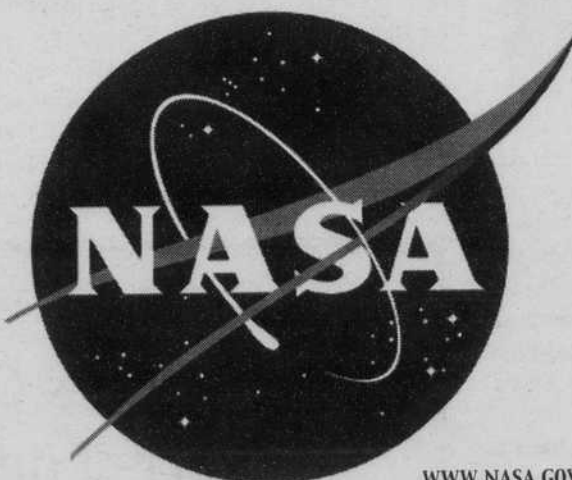
Brown said, however, that "the Hollins Science Department has really prepared us for this."

She stated that it is very important to learn how to do this sort of oral presentation, since most science majors will continue to make them in their chosen careers.

Brown, Gresham and Donohue have been through this sort of thing before together. They all attended the Regional American Chemistry Society, as well as participating in the Sigma Xi international honor society for scientific research. In the latter of the two, these students competed with both undergraduate and graduate presentations.

Overall, the Science Seminar was a success. Most of the students who presented had been working on their research for years. Finally they had a venue to show off all they've accomplished.

"It was very interesting to see the other departments' presentations," Johnston said. "I really enjoyed seeing what all the other seniors have been working to achieve."



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Borman's honesty; he related his orders not to cover anything up while on the Apollo 204 Fire Investigation Board and the sentiment that "since Watergate, there hasn't been that kind of honesty in government."

## Sandusky house brings Relay for Life to campus

BY KELLY MCCARTY

Relay For Life, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, will be taking place on May 10 and 11, from 6 p.m to 6 a.m.

The Sandusky Service House is planning the relay and related events as a house project. Casey Hollins '03, Laurie Grove '04 and Jessica King '04 are serving as co-chairs of Relay for Life. Each year Sandusky plans four community service projects that are open to the entire campus community.

"We chose Relay for Life because we wanted an event that would allow people to become more involved and to see directly how their efforts make a difference," Hollins said.

Anyone can participate in

Relay for Life by joining a university team. The relay will take place on the loop. Each member is asked to raise at least \$100, which can be donated by family, friends, co-workers or businesses, Hollins said.

In addition to the relay itself, there will be contests and entertainment, including a Battle of the Bands and DJs, taking place throughout the night. There will be a Luminaria Ceremony, during which votive candles will be lit in remembrance of a cancer victim or in honor of a cancer survivor. A Survivor banquet for cancer survivors and their caregivers will be held on Saturday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Botetourt Reading Room. Danielle Thompson '05 is in charge of planning the banquet.

"We are looking to entertain Hollins with acoustic performances, contests, games, food, speakers and more," Casey Hollins said.

Relay for Life is the signature fund-raiser for the American Cancer Society. It began in May 1985 when Dr. Gordy Klatt took the first step of his 12-hour marathon around a Tacoma, Wash., track and raised \$27,000 for the American Cancer Society. Today, Relay for Life events take place in over 3,000 communities in the United States and throughout the world. The goal of all Relays is to raise money to support cancer research while bringing communities together, Hollins said.

"Volunteers are still needed to help with setup, cleanup, and to

help throughout the night with different activities. The Survivorship Committee needs volunteers to help with the banquet," Hollins said. "Cancer Control needs volunteers to help throughout the night with different games and at the Cancer Smart Shop, an educational booth we will have set up at the event."

The candy sale that took place in Moody was done by an individual team to raise money, which will go to the American Cancer Society.

"I had a friend in high school who died of brain cancer, and I think the American Cancer Society is a wonderful organization. It's my way of contributing to a greater cause. Relay is also a lot of fun," said Rebecca Stuart '06, who was

helping with the candy sale.

Teams should sign up as soon as possible so they can receive all the information they need to help them prepare for the night of the event, but teams will be allowed to sign up at the event if they choose, Hollins said. Each team member needs to raise at least \$100 by May 10.

"If people are interested in participating but don't have a team, we can help them find a team they would like to join. Right now, most of our teams are between eight and 10 people, and they can always have more," Hollins said.

Students who are interested in volunteering or joining a team should contact Casey Hollins at x6827, Jessica King at x6826, or Laurie Grove at x8266.

## Getting to know you: Vince Rewekant reveals all

BY JEILENN GERLACH

Vince Rewekant, a custodian at Hollins, sat on the Hollins theater steps with his sunglasses on, smoking a cigarette in the spring sunshine and talking about life.

"It was the thing to do," he told me about his habit. "Keep in mind this was the early '50s, so everyone was smoking in real life and on screen. One day, I was smoking at the movies, but I didn't expect my mom to come out, and boy she gave it to me! She asked if that was what I wanted to do. Back then, cigarettes were 18 cents a pack, and she bought me the first one. She gave me 20 cents and said, 'If you can't afford them, then don't smoke.'"

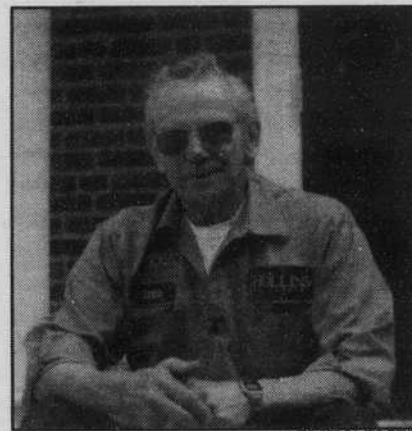
Rewekant doesn't have much family in Roanoke, but he has a happy life. "I have a daughter in New York, but we don't talk much," he said. "Most of my brothers and sisters are up there too, in the city, in Schnectaly, and on the Island. I have been living with a lady for about 20 years here. She's got these two grandchildren. I've become their adopted grandparent."

Rewekant, who is originally from Brooklyn, N.Y., came from a family with six siblings. Being the second youngest meant that he was born at the dawn of World War II and had no experience of the Great Depression like the older members of his family.

"We were poor," Rewekant said, "but we never knew it. We always had food to eat and something to put on our backs. Looking back on it, we didn't have much."

Rewekant and his brothers also served in the military. One older brother was shot

down in World War II and another was wounded in action in the Korean War. His younger brother served in Vietnam. Rewekant himself served in the period between the Korean War and Vietnam, and he was stationed in various bases in the U.S.



EMILY EIGEL

Vince Rewekant smiles for a photo.

before being transferred to Japan and Korea.

"I liked Japan a lot better because Korea was not built up," he said. "There was only one main road in Korea and it was unpaved. We had to deliver food to outposts there. A lot was going on in Thailand at the time, so we carried our weapons everywhere, but we were never sent."

In his spare time, Rewekant likes to work with wood. He has even built his own wardrobe and fixed his back steps.

"I just enjoy fixing things," he explained. "I like to tinker with stuff. I always fix my own things, like my vacuum cleaner. Anything that's lying around."

Rewekant first came to Roanoke on a

two-week vacation, but his second trip down he helped someone moving in town. He was so charmed that he stayed. He had worked for a moving company and a manufacturer shipping/receiving supervisor, but was unemployed. During that time he started his own contract painting company until he found a job at Hollins.

Rewekant has been with Hollins for 35 years. He has seen four presidents inaugurated as well as the daily changes that life brings. He said, "I've seen students mature and grow. Some shy students might come here and leave as the life of the party. I've seen some awful times when students couldn't afford to come here anymore. I would love to help them out, but I'm not rich. If I were, we could all just go to school for free."

What Rewekant loves most about Hollins is the students. "The students are why I come to work," said Rewekant. "Y'all make me feel good about myself, and I try to reciprocate. I like to smile and wave a

lot. I'll bet some freshmen think I'm weird, but they get used to me."

"I tell everyone that I love this place," he beamed. "My co-workers think I'm crazy, but I love the students and there's nothing I wouldn't do for them. There's nothing I wouldn't do for anybody. It never mattered to me what color anyone was, if they were pretty, fat, thin, or ugly. Everyone's the same. We're all human beings and if I can help someone, I will."

Some people are suspicious of Rewekant's helpful, happy-go-lucky attitude. He explained, "Some people see I'm easygoing and say that I'm biding my time. But I've been this way for so long, I just let them think what they want. Sure, I'll admit I'm getting slower. They never call me 'Speed-o' anymore, but I still think I can contribute."

Rewekant said simply, "There are enough sad things and hate in the world, so you don't need me, let me be on my merry way!"

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# Administration continues search for new dean

BY REBECCA STAED

The search process for Dean Mesner's replacement has long been underway, and the entire Hollins community is in anticipation of the choice for the new dean.

The search committee is made up of students and faculty. They gathered together on Tuesday, April 15 to review the previous months' campus visits of four very distinguished candidates for the position of Dean of Academic Services.

Chair of the committee is Dr. Trish Hammer. Other members from the faculty include Ruth Doan, Michael Sitton, Annette Sampon-Nicolas, Siclinda Canty-Elliott and Leslie Willett. Student members are Emily Abeles, '05, and Nicole Brewer, '04.

The job of the search committee was to organize the visits of the candidates, encourage the Hollins community to meet each candidate and gather feedback that would help guide the selection process. Receptions, breakfasts and lunches were open to the entire Hollins community while each candidate was on campus.

Students were invited to attend the functions to meet and greet the candidates. Those that attended were able to ask questions and hear the candidate's personal philosophies about how they would best contribute to the Hollins community.

There was an average of eight to fifteen students that attended each reception and three to fifteen that attended the lunches and breakfasts. "I feel that even though that

doesn't sound like a lot the feedback from those that came was very valuable and representative of a large majority of students," said Abeles. Each function also included a combination of faculty and staff members.

There were four Dean of Academic Services candidates who visited Hollins



over the past several months: Wendy Perry, Kristen M. Figg, Angela Boyce-Mathis and Alison Ridley.

Perry currently works within the advising system at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she received her PhD.

Figg visited the Hollins campus at the end of March. She is currently an English professor at Kent State University in Salem, Virginia.

Boyce-Mathis has a PhD in political science and works within the advising system at Davenport University.

Finally, Ridley was the most recent

candidate to visit Hollins. Ridley, formerly a Spanish professor at Hollins, is currently at Georgia Southern University.

After receiving the applications for the position, the search committee established a list of criteria that would assist in choosing the best candidate for the job. Among the criteria, the candidates must exhibit a proficiency in academic advising, working with students that have disabilities, assisting with the academic orientation process, dealing with students and their parents, and working in student affairs. The candidates must also have a PhD in their field of interest and be able to teach one course a semester in that particular field.

Abeles said, "I have confidence that all of the candidates will be able to work well with the students. The committee has placed a lot of value on their personalities because this position is very student based. All of the candidates were very excited about the possibility of coming to Hollins."

The current Dean of Academic Services, Tom Mesner, also had the chance to meet with all of the candidates. The committee tried hard to get participation from every possible channel that they could. "Everyone has had an equal opportunity to meet each candidate and contribute their input," Hammer said.

Vice President of Academic Affairs and English professor Wayne Markert holds the final decision in which candidate will ultimately receive the position. As of yes-

terday, Abeles said, "I am not sure how much I am allowed to say, but [the committee] made a recommendation to [Markert] about two weeks ago as to who we believe would be the best person for the job."

The search committee had hoped to make an offer to one of the candidates by the end of April. However, the new dean has not yet been chosen. But, they should take over the position by July 1st. Dean Mesner will officially become Hollins' new Registrar in July.

Some students are expressing trepidation about a change in deans. A lot of students are very fond of Dean Mesner.

Blake Butler, '06, has met with Dean Mesner upon several occasions. "I am not sure what to expect. I know that I am going to have to readjust to a new dean. Everything that Dean Mesner knows and understands about me I will have to explain again to someone new."

Junior Lori Douglas said, "I am a little nervous. I've never needed Dean Mesner for anything, but I have heard that he is very helpful and very much on the student's side."

There may be a period of adjustment with the change for students and faculty. "In any change there is always mixed feelings. But, at the same time, there is a lot of excitement about what a new person can bring to the position. Any of the candidates would be wonderful attributes to Hollins," stated Abeles.

## May 2003

Get Caught Reading Month - National Allergy/Asthma Awareness Month - National Older American Month - National Strawberry Month

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1	2	8:15pm Spring Dance Concert (Theatre)	4
8:15pm Cinco De Mayo Senior Recital (Talmadge)	5:30 pm Atheletic Banquet (Moody)	7 Honor Court Amnesty Day	5:30 pm First Year Celebration (Moody) 8:15 pm English Reading (GDR)	Habitat Carnival Mayfest 6 pm Student Screenings	10 International Migratory Bird Day	11 Mother's Day 6 pm Student Film Screening
12 Last Day of Classes!	13 Reading day	14 Exams 8 pm Pancake Study Break	15 Exams	16 Exams	17 Exams	18 Exams 19 SUMMER!

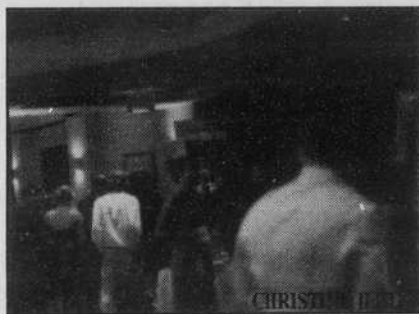


# Spring Cotillion attendees paint town red

BY LAUREN CLEMENCE

Hollins' annual Spring Weekend was a big success. Just ask any one of the more than 231 Hollins students that attended either the Night Before Cotillion or Spring Cotillion events.

Unlike years past, Spring Weekend



People gather at the entrance to the ballroom.

'03 was organized entirely by first-year students, Andie James '06 and Sarah Poulton '06.

"I was very happy with attendance. I was happy to see people having a good time," James said. "Being a freshman, I was

a little unsure about what people wanted, but Tracy Grossman has been very helpful and a good support system. It's been hard, but I'm glad it went so well."

The Night Before Cotillion theme this year was "Cruise Night" and consisted of casino games, music by DJ Quest, a comic portrait artist and a very popular chocolate buffet. It was so popular, in fact, that by 10:00 p.m. all that remained of the buffet was a bubbling chocolate fountain and a single piece of honeydew melon. Students gambled the night away with "money" chips and tokens provided by Hollins Activities Board (HAB), which could be redeemed at the end of the evening for prizes.

On Saturday night students, dressed in their finest, arrived at the Hotel Roanoke for Cotillion. The theme was "Paint The Town Red." From 8-9 p.m., the ballroom

consisted of only seniors and their dates during senior cocktail hour. "The senior cocktail hour went very well," James said. "I received some really good feedback on the night."

After 9, the rest of the students began to arrive in the vans provided by Hollins, as well as their own cars. "The only thing that was really weird was that the vans dropped us off on the wrong side of the building and we wound up walking into this high school prom in another ballroom," said Kate-Sears Seay '06. "Eventually we

just wandered around and found the right room, but it was pretty funny."

Once everyone found the ballroom, students kicked off their shoes and danced until 2 a.m. to the musical stylings of the band "10 Cent," of King's Entertainment. "The band did a lot of covers of a wide ar-

ray of music from the '80s and '90s," said James. "They even did some rap songs like 'It Wasn't Me' by Shaggy!"

At the end of the night, students and dates piled back into the vans or their cars. Some headed back to Hollins for parties, some went to IHOP or Waffle House for a late-night snack, and some just went home



Band 10 Cent rocks the house.



Guests dance the night away.

to bed. "I was glad to see so many people there having fun because we put so much work into it," Poulton said.

Both James and Poulton, as the sole members of HAB, would like to encourage anyone interested in planning next year's Cotillion or other events planned for next year to contact Andie James at x6991.

## New SGA President speaks up

The reason I sought the position of Student Government Association president was because I felt, and still feel, that next year will be another transitional year for Hollins. Transitional as we adjust to the second year of Dr. Nora Bell's presidency (for many students, this will be the first time we will experience a university president for more than a year), and especially transitional as we reach toward the ranking of "first tier."

Being a student in this transitional period provides us with the opportunity to make change -- change that will influence both ourselves and classes to follow -- in order to ensure that Hollins is a better place.

I think it's important for any student leader or university official to truly listen. Listening doesn't just entail nodding one's head while someone else is talking or even writing a few statements down.

True listening is about digesting what someone expresses and then, in the case of student government, making an attempt at change. The ability to listen is pivotal for SGA leaders, and especially for the SGA president.

The president must repeat those concerns to the appropriate university officials, even if she herself does not agree with the opinion stated by other students. All student opinions must be voiced.

Even before next year begins, I can think of concerns that I have for next year. I also have a lot of questions. I have questions about student apathy. In what ways can SGA change apathy on campus?

There is great concern over what will happen as Hollins grows and reaches toward being ranked "first tier." Will the university flourish? Will it change? Does it need to change?

Our Hollins experience is not just classes and study. The quality education Hollins provides is a major part of our Hollins experience, but university traditions and life on campus are also important. As Hollins' educational standards change, how will they influence life on campus?

I do not claim to have the answers to these questions. I may never have the answers and there may be more important questions for next year.

The only promise I will make is that I am willing to listen to your questions, and by that I mean the community at large. And I will not only listen; I'll also attempt to represent those concerns, and you, as best I can. I invite you to email me at fburgin@hollins.edu now and over the summer with your ideas for next year.

Sincerely,

Beth Burgin '04

## Faculty's top ten ways you know you're having a really long semester

BY ED LYNCH

10. You measure time not to the last day of classes, but to the History Department party.
9. You're ten minutes into your lecture before you realize you brought the wrong notes with you.
8. You look forward to checking your e-mail about as much as you look forward to a root canal.
7. When you pick up your phone, and there are no voice mail messages, you kiss the receiver.
6. Your favorite mystery story is your course syllabus.
5. You begin to forget where you parked your car in the morning. Even when you walk to work.
4. You notice, seemingly for the first time, that all your students are women.
3. Getting your book order forms from the Bookshop for the next semester throws you into a day-long snit.
2. You begin to think about your colleagues in the Back Quad dunking booth.
1. A student asks, "How are you doing this morning?" and you can't think of a response.

## All right, who rigged American Idol 2?

Dear Miss Guidance,

I think American Idol 2 is rigged. Last week made me so mad I could have screamed! Okay, I think I did, but that's beyond the point. I want to know who in America is voting for Carmen? She should have been gone like three weeks ago, and instead they kick off Kimberly Caldwell? Kimberly Caldwell was hardcore, she could kick it, and Carmen can't even carry a beat. I bet if they got in a fight Kimberly would flatten Carmen. Anyway, we all know that Ruben is going to win and that Clay will come in second. What's the point of watching and voting if everyone already knows what happens? Kimberly Caldwell may wear too much make up and look like every other blonde girl, but man she could take Carmen out in the first round.

Dear Caldwell, Hmm.. who in America is voting for Carmen. That's a good question. I did hear a rumor that she has a very large family though so maybe it's all them, or maybe the problem is that nobody voted for Kimberly Caldwell last week but you? Yeah, so we know Ruben or Clay will win, but that's not because it's a rigged competition, it's because they're the only two that actually have some talent this time around. These next few weeks will just be weeding out everyone else, and rest assured I'm sure Carmen

will be gone very very soon. As far as the fight goes, why don't you write to Fox and suggest they pick up their ratings by having jilted American Idol rejects box it out in the ring. I'd rather see Kimberly Caldwell go up against that Julia DeMatto chick myself, it would be much more of a fair fight. Miss Guidance, about how much cuter it will be when Ruben or Clay are doing duets with Kelly Clarkson than it would be Kelly and Kimberly.

The people that write you are stupid. No offense to you or Miss Guidance mean these people whine and whine about the dumbest things. They need to grow up and face graduation, or deal with their stupid roommate. It's really annoying to read about these insecure girls and their problems. This is an all woman's university, we should be strong, independent and smart enough to work out our own problems.

Dear Independent, So, do you predict lottery numbers or do anything useful?

You're right, the people who write me are stupid, especially this last letter I got from someone who calls themselves Indep... well, nevermind. Anyway, Do I do anything useful? Of course, I'm also a certified psychic and I am looking at my tarot cards and trying to get something useful for you but all I seem to be drawing is the "death" card, sorry. As far as the lottery numbers go, try scratch off's. I bet they're more, well, appropriate for you.

## Wilco members march to beat of own drum

-Miss Guidance

BY LISA BOWER

Wilco's most recent album, "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot", is quirky and eclectic while forming its own unique identity. The band mixes cowbells, alarm clocks, whistles, acoustic and electric guitars, strings, bicycle bells and various other instruments to construct a sound that's reminiscent of The Beatles, Radiohead and The Grateful Dead all boiled down into a tantalizing casserole of sound.

Wilco was birthed from the destruction of another band. When alt-country band Uncle Tupelo broke up in 1994, its two primary singer/songwriters went their separate ways. Jay Farrar formed Son Volt, while Jeff Tweedy took the rest of Uncle Tupelo with him and created Wilco. Tweedy, along with Tupelo holdovers Ken Coomer on drums and John Stirratt on bass, as well as guitarist Jay Bennett, make up the force of Wilco.

"Yankee Hotel Foxtrot" is the fourth album spawned by Wilco, the others being 1995's "A.M.", 1996's "Being There" and 1999's "Summer Teeth".

Most bands don't have the nerve to refuse the requests of their label. Wilco isn't most bands. Back in 2001, after the band had finished the Yankee Hotel Foxtrot, they delivered it to their label, Reprise Records. The label demanded extensive changes, sighting the album as a career ender. Wilco refused, bought back the rights to the recorded music, eventually posting the music on their website while shopping it around to other labels. Eventually the album found a home at Nonesuch Records, which is interestingly enough, owned by the same company as Reprise, AOL Time Warner. The album finally saw the light of day in April of 2002.

"Yankee Hotel Foxtrot" is punctuated by an intense sonic bleed of sound. It seems fitting that the album's title comes from the phonetic alphabet used in military com-

munication and shortwave transmission. The album's military connection doesn't end there; many of "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot's" tracks have an eerie connection with 9/11, though the album was recorded prior to the collapse of the Twin Towers. In the song, Jesus etc., the lyrics "Tall buildings shake, voices escape singing sad, sad songs to two chords/Strung down your cheeks, bitter melodies turning your orbit around," evoke such a feel of the tragedy that it's hard to believe that Jeff Tweedy isn't a psychic.

In "Ashes of American Flags" Wilco takes an interesting approach to patriotism. Instead of rejecting it or embracing it, they are nostalgic for another form of 'honest' patriotism, saying, "I would like to salute/the ashes of American flags/And all the fallen leaves/filling up shopping bags." They are both critical and nostalgic for their country.

The album starts from an uncertain and tentative entity and transforms itself into a confident persona. "I Am Trying to Break Your Heart", is an imagination of what it would be like for the singer to be a blind drunk. Tweedy takes on a new title besides singer/songwriter, he becomes an actor. As he sings, his voice is both lulling and slurring at the same time, as if he's been chugging Jack Daniels on the side. Lyrics such as "I am an American aquarium drinker/I assassin down the avenue/I'm hiding out in the big city blinking/What was I thinking when I let go of you?" evoke loss and uncertainty. The lyrics to the album are creative, matter-of-fact and simple.

By the end of the album Tweedy's voice is strong amongst a pile of strings, keyboards and cymbals gyrating. He has morphed into a resolute and confident character, at least in some respects. He at least is pledging to us the promise of confidence, saying, "I've got reservations/About so many things/But not about you."

But it's the music that gets you, the layered sound

bites of drums washing over whistles and bicycle bells clunking incessantly in the song "I Am Trying to Break Your Heart" that make you wonder why it sounds so perfect and also why it hasn't been effectively done before.

The album is eclectic in the number of sounds it plays with. "Jesus etc." has the soothing sigh of violins stomping and swirling about while "Kamera" is bathed in electric guitar.

The album mixes genres. Though previously labeled alternative country by critics based on their previous albums, "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot" rests in no particular genre. "I Am Trying to Break Your Heart" and "War on War" shows similarities to The Grateful Dead in how the instruments play off of each other, as if they are a new rock-synth hybrid of a jam band. The entire album's layering of sounds calls to my mind the efforts of The Beatles' "White Album". "Kamera" evokes an experimental vibe reminiscent of Radiohead's "Kid A".

"Yankee Hotel Foxtrot" has quite a few numbers that are just pure fun. "Heavy Metal Drummer" is pure pop, though quirky in its delivery. The song is a look at love and rock & roll during a summer. "I miss the innocence I've known/Playing Kiss covers/Beautiful and stoned." Tweedy's voice seems nostalgic in the only way one can be when recounting a summer of love and innocence.

What's interesting about the song is that amidst the playful synth and up-beat guitar is an undercurrent of cynicism alluding to the music as somehow poisoned, perhaps an unintentional comment on how the album was almost discarded.

Wilco has much to celebrate, for their risks have paid off. Not only was the album finally released to the public in 2002, it managed to become a critic's darling, ending up on such top ten lists of the year as Rolling Stone. I can only hope that the best is yet to come.

## 'Identity' solid film, but falls short of great

BY SAMANTHA GELLAR

This week's new release "Identity" emerges with one of the best casts to hit the screen in the past few months. "Identity" boasts star talent from both up-and-coming and industry-known actors.

Ray Liotta ("Goodfellas") and John Cusack ("High Fidelity") work together in this film to produce some stunning performances. Their quality interplay is almost unstaged, however, by younger, yet just as talented, actresses Clea Duvall ("But I'm A Cheerleader!") and Amanada Peet ("The Whole Nine Yards"). These girls put on quite a show, giving stunning performances.

Still, the best acting award for this flick goes hands down to Cusack, who created on film one of the fullest characters I have ever seen. He finds nuances within his

character that one rarely sees on screen. He has the ability to convey an entire situation with just one look, rather than a litany of dialogue. Cusack does this with grace and style and avoids stock responses and reactions that we see so commonly from most Hollywood stars.

The film starts with an amazing edit job by director James Mangold ("Cop Land," "Girl, Interrupted"). He manages to come up with a fresh new style that is technically amazing. The edits are jarring and purposeful, yet flow together with a nice pace that is unique to top-notch work. Mangold has definitely learned his art, but this technical knowledge is somewhat damaging to the piece.

"Identity" suffers from what one might term 'overworking.' Everything is so

plotted, so painstakingly put together that it loses much of the art in film. Often the film gives way to predictability. Its plot, though made to have twists and turns, still knows where it is going, and it doesn't take a brilliant audience member to spot the areas that lean into cliché and obvious.

Another flaw of the film is that it is largely overwritten. The basic plot of 10 strangers stuck at a hotel, being killed off one by one, is replaced by a frame plot almost an hour into the 90 minute movie. The frame plot is once again well done, but it goes too far. Where director Mangold had a good thing going, he blew his wad by adding just a little too much.

Overall, "Identity" is a very solid film. Unfortunately, it just runs a little shy of being great because the soul of the film was

traded for a technically superior yet artistically lacking finished product.

3 1/2 Stars



## Must see DVDs: Go experiment

BY SAMANTHA GELLAR

Rarely in America do we look beyond the work of our countrymen for entertainment. Most people's experience with foreign films rarely extends beyond "Amelie," "Run, Lola, Run" and the Romanian porn they picked up off of E-bay. Here are a few killer films to check out that will definitely expand your film knowledge.

### "Der Blaue Engel"

1930

This German film packs a major punch, using the acting talents of famed German actor Emil Jannings and world famous actress Marlene Dietrich. Following in the tradition of German cinema, director Josef von Sternberg brings to the screen the despair and downfall of man with a cinematic flair that goes unmatched by any American movies of the time. Sternberg has a true director's eye for setting up a scene, managing to make each moment perfectly framed and almost theatrically choreographed.

Considered one of Dietrich's better films, "Der Blaue Engel" stars her as Lola Lola, a dancer in an off-color vaudeville show who catches the eye of Jannings, a professor at a school. Jannings is brought into the underworld of the often lewd and unruly nightclub business.

Not a lighthearted movie, "Der Blaue Engel" still manages to be an exceptional watch. The characters are full, the plot well-built and the on-screen image is beautiful. This movie is truly worth 99 minutes of your time.

### "301/302"

1995

One of the earlier films to take on the 'food film' genre, "301/302" stands out amongst such greats as "Like Water For Chocolate" and "Eat Drink Man Woman." It is a sharp focus on the relationship between two neighbors, one a cook and the other an anorexic diet pill-popper. The former attempts to consistently feed the latter, who refuses anything that must be chewed.

An intense character study, this movie delves into the minds and pasts of these two women with such con-

centration that the viewer feels almost involved. Not a second of film is wasted; everything said and done on-screen is impressive. This movie is not for the weak of stomach, due to its rather graphic portrayal of the violence of cooking. It is a nice companion, however, to anyone who enjoys a movie that refuses to set boundaries.

### "Trois Couleurs: Bleu"

1993

The first in director Krzysztof Kieslowski's famed 'colors' trilogy based on the Blue, White and Red of the French flag, "Bleu" is one of the better films to come out of France. Breathtaking cinematography and an expert use of camera only heighten the pleasure one gets from actress Juliette Binoche's ("Chocolat," "The English Patient") outstanding performance.

It is the story of a woman who has lost her child and husband in a car wreck. Her husband, a famous composer, is rumored to have gotten much of his music from her. The film takes an intense look at grief and the effects it has on the survivors. Very personal and thoughtful, "Bleu" is both introspective and interesting. Perhaps one of the most stunning scenes is the point where Binoche finds release by dragging her hand along a brick wall, her face never shifting under the pain, her poise and visage immaculate and perfect. The audience at this point actually feels a connection with her character, a deep link that is not often present in American films.

Though the whole trilogy is worth a viewing, this specific film is a perfect example of what many American viewers miss out on when they stick to their version of the Red, White and Blue.

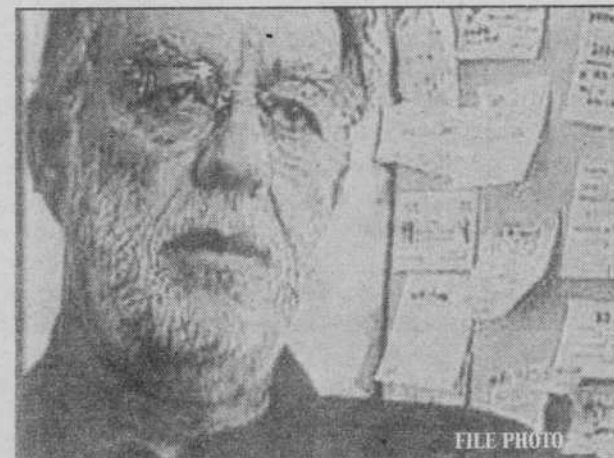
## Reggio to speak

BY JAKE MAHAFFY

Godfrey Reggio, a world-renowned, award-winning filmmaker, social activist and brilliant speaker will be on campus May 5 and 6 to talk with students and faculty on topics from film and art to society and the global environment. He will present his films to the general public at the Grandin Theatre at 7 p.m.

Reggio spent 14 years in silence and prayer and at 28 developed an idea for a groundbreaking new film style, grandly realized in his seven-year film project, "Koyaanisqatsi." This film, released by Francis Coppola in 1983, has had a dramatic influence on film and cinematography.

His visit is sponsored by the Electric Light House Film Society, Theater/Film Department and the Sowell Speakers Series on the Global Environment. For info on specific events contact Annette Sampon-Nicolas or Jake Mahaffy.



Godfrey Reggio, a filmmaker will present his films at the Grandin on May 5 and 6.

On May 9 at 7 p.m. in Babcock, the Second Annual Student Film Screenings will display the best student work in film and video from the academic year. Students are encouraged to come support their friends and their work, have a laugh, take a load off, become inspired. Work from Film I, Video I, Film II, Moviemaking, Senior Theses and Independent Studies will be included. The event is open to the campus and general public.

## SGA Vice President speaks her mind, honestly

Honestly.

I am Nicole Oxendine, SGA Vice President, and I just want to talk, honestly.

Good luck to the SGA of next year; I only hope that you can do a bang-up job like we did this year, but I know that our footsteps are impossible to follow so I'm not expecting much.

ARAMARK will be taking over this university in no time, especially since student input is not all that important on such major decisions like FOOD. This company proceeds to deny me the right to charge my meal home to my parents in the Rat AND they take away the chicken quesadillas. I was offended and took it really personal. Then they did not give Ms. Barbara a promotion and gave it to Chanda Hill who insisted on sending me three e-mails a day to tell me what I was NOT going to eat in the Rat. Now they are firing student workers without proper notice or adequate reasons but that's a whole other issue.

ADA's on the campus ADA's on the scene... hmmm, what campus again? What scene? Oh, you must mean the Tuesday 12:30ish scene. Do these ladies really have "SPIRIT" or are they just as apathetic as everyone else? Can somebody show me some spirit and come to the events? I mean, what do we need, a naked foam party? (This will be happening in the fall.)

I love how the International students are getting kicked out of their dorm. Administration told no one, not even SGA. And when SGA informed the Administration of their mistake, Wayne Markert acted like the decision was not final, then brought it to Senate ("for student input"). They took "note" of every good point that students brought up but they still kicked the students out of their dorms! I guess it put their conscience at ease. "Please, Whateva!"

So students get mad and they start a protest. And I sit there and watch as the SGA President discourages an entire group of students, who may just be arising from their apathetic spirit to take action, from

standing up for themselves, all under the guise of not looking stupid. Hello! Who looks more stupid? SGA, because they obviously screwed us over too! Why do we continue to allow these things to happen when we as students possess the power of change?

Next. Inauguration, Founder's Day, whatever. I don't know what to think. "Ooooooooooh, WOW, it's so beautiful." Does anyone know how much it cost? No. Because there was no budget... Of course there were things donated... (according to Doug Waters) i.e. the ice sculptures. If there was anything else let me know so at least MY conscience will be put at ease. If this school didn't cry broke all the time then maybe such a grand spectacle wouldn't be so surprising. I felt so uncomfortable as a black girl -- hmmm, 30 years ago I would not have been allowed in a place like that unless I was serving the food. That's how I felt and I know I am not the only one.

Did anyone notice that they only served us heavy hors d'oeuvres as the President shipped her closest and richest buddies to have a full-course meal somewhere off campus? Did the school pay for that? I hope not because I wasn't invited. Oh, but this must be all in the name of fundraising ... shouldn't you get to know your school before you go off and do things for it? Does she know the cafeteria staff? Does she know how much her recommendation of ARAMARK affected dining services?

Speaking of the President. Why has it taken her this long (a full year) to attend the open student forum i.e. SENATE? I met with her and asked her to come; I explained to her what it was and the importance of it. This was all first semester. Now, second semester, I knew that this big inauguration was coming up, so I prepared her a nice letter on SGA letterhead (once again informing her about Senate and inviting her to come). I sent this letter after inauguration and waited on a reply that I never got. Of course I included the proper contact infor-

mation. During a University Officers meeting I stress to her how important it is to students for her to at least show up. I got a reply (not through the contact information that I gave) and the President offers to SIT in on Senate (the last two). Of course I am personally offended by this lack of concern. And maybe you should be too. Your President should have been at the first Senate and it has taken her an entire year to attend a Senate.

Here are a few of Hollins' Favorite words:

Apathy—you figure it out.

The Administration—the mysterious decision makers.

Tier 1—"We're in it to win it." It sure does sound nice.

Diversity—Of all kinds...really! Black people and women!

Speaking of diversity. I need for the campus to not only recognize the Black Student Alliance but support it by attending events. Otherwise the black people are about to take over and you won't see it coming -- so I need for the rest of the white people here to step up. The BSA is getting everything done ... take note.

Let me talk about Tier 1 for a minute. Who does not want a Tier 1 school? I mean come on ... All the administration gets a nice raise if they shut up and go along with the President. If they don't, well ... where's Cynthia Woolbright again? Anyway. It sounds really good but we need to evaluate a lot of things such as student satisfaction. We were ranked NUMBER 1 in quality of life before President Bell came, so maybe she should find out why by talking with the STUDENTS who made the ranking possible. I agree with all of the great things that Tier 1 will bring, but can we turn it around and have all of these great things bring us to Tier 1 status? Is it possible to focus on those things first and not TIER ONE? I think the approach here is all wrong. You think about it.

Now of course I have only given a

one-sided view of things, but I have that right. Someone wish me luck because I get the feeling I have to do this for the rest of my life.

Welcome to the real world, Nicole Oxendine. Hollins has prepared me well and I think I am ready to deal with many obstacles. I am not mad -- just a better person and I thank everyone here for that.

"...life is harsh, hug me don't reject me..." -Nas

Honestly,

-Nicole Oxendine

Shout outs:

To My Ace Boon Coons Natarsha Sanders, Dara Morton, and Assal Assadi!!!

To my Jamaican buddies Sara Lambert, Emily Martin, and Casey Hollins!!

To the Senate Cabinet: Frances Carter for rockin' tha gavel, Emily Abeles for being so dependable yet 'bout it in her views, to Peyton Williamson for being my homie and the girl who can break it down on the dance floor.

To Eboni Wright (my sister) for taking over and rockin' the BSA with style and grace with none other than Shamecca Bryant the radical feminist who ALWAYS speaks her mind.

To Tyre Patterson and Gelynn Thompson because you gals rock! Dude!

To all the white girls who get down to Ignition!!

To HAB, The Best Board, watch out for it because we just got mo' money!

To Kim Dokes, Frazier Sizemore, Palmer Booth, Carrington Kilduff, Lexa Hough for being such great and committed dancers.

To Kristina Partlow and Gwen Fernandez for a great time in Atlanta!!!

To all those really cool first-year students that I didn't get the chance to get to know better.

I love Hollins!

## Members explain some mysteries about Freya

What is Freya? Who is Freya? After one hundred years, that question still seems to be on people's minds.

The current members of Freya consider the organization's purpose to be nearly indescribable. Freya is perhaps best expressed by its resemblance to the following actions:

Freya is like the cafeteria worker who consoled you when you dropped your whole tray in the middle of the lunch rush.

It's like the library assistant who helped you find the book you swore didn't exist.

Freya is like the girl on your hall who lent you her dictionary because you didn't know how to spell electroencephalogram.

Freya is like the team member who encouraged you even after you missed the ball for the fifth time.

Freya is like the professor who let you rework an assignment because you totally missed the point of the last one.

Freya is like the friend who has always been there for you, and always will be.

Above all, Freya is best described by the action of its walks. By wearing robes and carrying candles, Freya seeks to draw attention to the needs and thoughts of the Hollins community.

The names of those in Freya are not known for a simple reason. Freya does not seek to be recognized for what it does or who its members are.

Nearly forty years ago, the then members of Freya wrote to the Columns in order to better explain their purpose to the community.

We, the current members of Freya, believe the same statement to be true for us. Indeed, "Freya wishes no thanks."

We agree, "Freya's reward is a better Hollins, for Freya is Hollins."

Yet Freya recognizes that "in the discrepancy that falls between what one could be and what one is, there lies the great challenge..."

-Members of Freya

# Saying goodbye doesn't get easier with practice

It's that time of year again. And I know it's infinitely harder for all you seniors, believe me. But just remember it's hard for us, too.

Every May, I've said goodbye to seniors and transferring friends who've had such an impact on the person I am and the person I strive to be. Each time I do it, I think there'll be no one left on campus come August. And of course, around September (or in the case of this year it was February) I realize I've been proven wrong once again.

My freshman year, I said goodbye to probably half my Utopian, happy hall on Tinker 1A, including my roommate, because a lot of the first friends I made here transferred. I also said goodbye to my editor-in-chief that year, who provided me with a lot of the confidence I have in my ability to do a good job with this paper.

After losing so many friends after just one year here, I didn't want to come back. If this is all college is, I would rather be home schooled, or at least lock myself in my dorm room to avoid the risk of making temporary friends.

I still feel like it's a cruel joke to throw a bunch of girls together, to develop closer friendships than I ever had in high school, only to have to say goodbye without looking back over and over again.

Maybe it's that I thought I was through starting over once I finally got here.

I obviously did come back sophomore year, and I threw myself into more extra-curricular activities like NEFA and the Writing Center.

I lived and worked

with a group of seniors who graduated last year, and these girls provided me with unconditional friendship and support no matter what had happened.

There were NEFA parties with Pabst Blue Ribbon, late nights spent with tarot cards and lit papers, and the never-ending chain of Marlboro Lights smoked on the second-floor porch. And I had friends who I never had to explain myself to, because they'd already been through a lot of the same

stuff.

I cried through half of graduation day in my room last year, even though I was ecstatic that these girls were finally following through with after-graduation plans. I was sad to lose some of my best friends, and I was sad to lose some of the people I'd maybe encountered once over my two years that just seemed to embody everything Hollins should be.

The only consolation I had last May was that I got to leave, too. I was going abroad, so it was okay, because I wouldn't come back to an empty campus. I got to move to another country for four months, and I was so busy taking that in that I didn't miss hardly anyone the way I thought I would.

Of course even there, I made close friends who got me through tough times and experienced the same inexplicable things I did. And of course, I said goodbye to these people, too. But I felt like I knew I'd have to do this from the day I got off the plane, so it wasn't as difficult.

I got back to Hollins at the beginning of February, and I found it was possibly harder to have postponed returning. I felt like I didn't know anyone here (minus maybe four close friends I have in my own class), and living in a secluded Tinker single I didn't think I ever would. I didn't see the point in trying with only three and a half

months left in the school year.

But I want to let all of you know, this year hasn't proven any different from the other two. I got back to the Writing Center and saw people I hadn't seen in about eight months, and I met the new staff, as well.

I think it was this point in time when I realized I'd be okay. I'd like to thank all my fellow co-workers, but this is especially directed at Whitney, Jacqueline, and Kris—you guys are so much fun, and I'm so lucky to know you!

There are also seniors who I just met this year through encountering SGA stuff or newspaper, spending many nights in the Pleasants computer lab, or simply in classes I've taken this semester. And while I don't have three years' worth of memories saved up, I don't think it's possible to forget you either.

The class of 2003, as far as I can tell, is composed of a lot of strong personalities. You guys are some of the most compassionate girls I've met, and some of the strongest leaders I've encountered through my experience at Hollins. And I'm pretty sure I'm not the only one who thinks this, either.

Once again, I've said goodbye, and while I'm not happy about it, I am happy I got to spend some time with you—be it a couple of years or a couple of months. I'd rather have to say goodbye hundreds of times than have a bunch of regrets.

## THE UNEDITED EDITOR

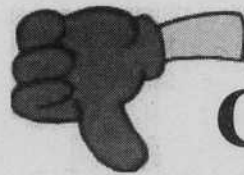
ANGIE JEFFREYS  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

**JEERS** to time at Hollins rapidly drawing to a close.

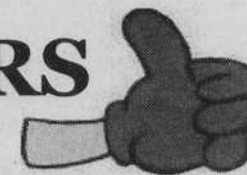
**CHEERS** to four fantastic years at Hollins! Great friends, good internships, a semester abroad, and a wonderful education along the way. What more could anyone want?

**JEERS** to not having a job lined up with graduation looming.

**CHEERS** to Casino Night.



## CHEERS & JEERS



**CHEERS** to all the graduating seniors!

**JEERS** to CD-Rs being eaten by grumpy CD burners. Particularly when the burner doesn't say there's been a problem in the burning.

**CHEERS** to the great events, from bands to mechanical bulls, lined up for Mayfest.

**JEERS** to people carrying on conversations in the computer labs while everyone else is trying to work.

BY JENNIFER MARTIN

Got something to say?

The Hollins Columns is a bi-monthly newspaper that welcomes and encourages readers to speak out. To contribute letters to the editor, e-mail us at [hollinscolumns@hotmail.com](mailto:hollinscolumns@hotmail.com) or contact Angie Jeffreys at x6400.

# I have to face the future eventually, but first...

Lately, everything reminds me that in less than a month Kelly won't be going Hollins anymore. Housing sign-ups, registration, and plans for next year are all taking place, but none of it concerns me. Somehow it doesn't feel quite real, and I don't think that it will until I am actually gone.

The future is a scary thing for me. I am certain about some of my life goals: learn to whistle, become a published author, stop J-Lo from taking over the world, cause the FBI to start keeping a file on me. As for everything else, I am going to rely on my trusted Magic 8-ball. Is lottery winner a career goal?

Writing this column has been a highlight in a year that has had more than its fair share of low points. I started to feel that everyone I know will have a Ph.D. while I work as a Wal-Mart greeter, but every time someone told me that they love this column, it cheered me up.

I am not good with good-byes and I'm not sure that I will ever really be ready to say good-bye to Hollins, so I am ending my

tenure as columnist by reviewing some of the highlights of my time at Hollins.

1. The A-team obsession. The adjustment to the lack of men and social activities at Hollins is the most difficult during freshman year. My friends and I dealt with it by watching reruns of the A-team every night.

## KELLY GOES TO HOLLINS

KELLY McCARTY

The most amusing thing about the A-team is that though they fire rounds and rounds of ammunition every episode, no one is ever shot. When we gave each other A-team characters, I was assigned Mr. T. I'm not sure exactly why. I don't have a penchant for gold jewelry and I am not afraid of flying, but I am quite bad.

2. Secret societies. My friend Sharon and I like to invent secret societies. Freshman year, we noticed an insidious trend of boy band worship. We decided that we needed to become the groupies of a celebrity who would have no other groupies.

Thus, the Secret Society of Bob Dole's Bitches was born. We were supposed to have sleepovers where we would wear neckties and give political speeches, but it never happened.

Our second secret society was the Hollins Underwear Gnomes. Our goal was to get men to send us their underwear. We did not receive a single pair of underwear, because we failed to account for the fact that we didn't know many men whose underwear we would want, and then Sharon's roommate forbade us from storing the underwear in their room. I hope that Sharon continues to carry the torch of our societies and perhaps even inducts new members.

3. House-sitting. My friend Trixie always managed to get the best house-sitting jobs. As a result, we once saw the vice president of

academic affair's son in his boxer shorts. He was not embarrassed, because when we came back 40 minutes later after walking the dog, he still hadn't put any pants on. It was one of those Hollins moments when I thought, "This never would have happened at a big school."

4. Drunken trip to the Dana basement. I had never been to the Dana basement until Hundredth Night. I was sober, but the people I was with were decidedly not. Somehow, it seemed very logical to visit the basement.

"This is how bad horror movies start. Drunk college students going somewhere they shouldn't," remarked Mandy.

It really is as creepy as everyone says, especially the computer graveyard. We managed to survive, and not to do any damage other than knocking a poster over.

5. Pinckney's creative writing class. When I was a kid, Wednesday was my favorite day because it was library day. PB's creative writing class has made Wednesday a day to look forward to again.

When I look back at the melodramatic messes that are the stories I wrote when I was a freshman, I can see how the class has made me a much better writer. I'm going to miss everyone and all the help they've given me with my writing. How could a class that took a field trip to shoot guns not be a highlight of my educational career?

6. Thesis: For a long time, I hated you and I know you hated me. It felt like even if I died, I still would be working on you for eternity in the innermost circles of hell.

But when certain evil people made fun of you for being too easy, I was quick to leap to your defense and threaten them with a sharp object.

We will never be friends, but someday we are going to go our separate ways, and I have made my peace with you.

Well, this is the last "Kelly Goes to Hollins" column ever. I'm sure that my readers will be left in the competent hands of whoever will be the columnist next year, but I would still like it if you miss me sometimes. Peace out Hollins.

## Campus safety should let students be students

Just hours after signing up for my new apartment for this fall, after weeks of stress, hurting friends' feelings, and worrying there would not be enough housing, I wonder, "What's the point?" The apartments here at Hollins represent independence and freedom.

If students who live in the apartments are being disturbed by loud neighbors, I suggest they move on campus. The apartments are the most sought after living arrangements and throughout freshman and sophomore year I have looked forward to living there.

While the discussions of who will bring what and how we will decorate are endless, there is one statement that is made over and over: "We are going to party."

Parties are a natural and healthy way to hang out with friends and take a break from the stresses of schoolwork and personal drama.

Hollins is a very small campus that does not revolve around parties, excessive drinking, or drug use. Girls are not being taken away in ambulances every weekend, there are no violent outbursts brought on by substance abuse; I think every student would agree that all in all, this is a mellow campus.

Then why does Campus Security act like World War III has broken out on Williamson Road every time more than four people are in one apartment?

I have no problem with the Jeep cruising by to make sure things are all right around campus. I do have a problem when three Hollins Officers enter an apartment without the resident's permission and force all of their guests to leave immediately and patrol the second and third rows of apartments for the rest of the evening.

NEWSFLASH: This is a college, people have parties, and yes, people drink beer at those parties.

Hollins students are adults. They are not likely to binge on drugs or alcohol or get out of control at a party.

One thing I have learned at Hollins is to trust my peers. I know that if I have had too much to drink my friends and other students will help me out. On many occasions I have seen students take responsibility for themselves or others if they have had too much to drink.

Whether it's offering a couch to sleep on for the night or holding someone's hair back while they are bent over the toilet, I consider Hollins a sisterhood that we have made a major investment in, and this is one

way it pays to have someone who cares about you around.

While I place a high value on single-sex education, I place an equal importance on interaction with males. It's no wonder I have put literally thousands of miles on my car this year. NO ONE WANTS TO COME HERE.

Hollins has developed a reputation for parties that get broken up early and turn into migrations from one apartment to another. I hate that every week my friends and I find ourselves wondering where we will go this weekend and who will have to drive.

If Hollins is set on breaking up parties at the apartments, they need to make weekend entertainment provided by the school a bigger priority. I am involved in SGA and I know how hard it is to get the people and funds required to put on an event. The school needs to step up to the plate.

I hear stories about overdoses, alcohol poisonings, drunk driving, and unbelievable parties from friends at a number of other colleges.

I am grateful that Hollins does not encounter such problems, and I am appalled with myself when I wonder if a few tragedies might be worth it.

There is no way I am suggesting that

Hollins should encourage underage or excessive drinking; I also don't want the well-being of all Hollins students compromised for a small group of partiers. I am here for an excellent education and a good time. Don't you think it's time Campus Safety took a chill pill?

-Lindsey Bieging '05

## LGBT issues ignored

I think Freya is a wonderful organization that recognizes, through their candlelight walks, important issues. However, I am perturbed that Freya did not walk in recognition of the Day of Silence. Is Freya anti-LGBT? Or did they just "overlook" the lesbians and bisexuals on this campus and thus, minimize our presence and importance as a viable part of the campus community? Either answer I find appalling.

-Lacey Dunham, '05

## Tier one forum more like dicatatorship

I went to the President's forum on Hollins' status as a "tiered" institution with a prepared statement I wished to share with the administration. I did not attend the forum with an "open mind," so to speak, because President Bell never sought student input about her decision to pursue tier one status. Indeed, President Bell stepped onto the Hollins campus with this specific goal in mind, and never once stopped to gauge the student body's attitudes on the matter.

At the "forum," (I hesitate to use the word forum. The term is misleading because it implies some sort of give-and-take between parties, when, in actuality, the administration was quite obviously unwilling to forego any of their outlined priorities for the institution, in spite of the concerns students expressed.) I opined my discontent with the entire notion of hierarchically ranking educational institutions and offered statements by other collegiate leaders deploring the system President Bell is feverishly playing into.

Yet, I left the forum with an entirely new set of concerns that I felt were never expressed at the event. The president presented the

top four criteria U.S. News & World Reports utilizes for determining the rankings. President Bell then went on to detail exactly how Hollins plans to improve in these areas, in the hope that one day we, too, will be ranked among the Smiths and Swarthmores of academe.

The crux of the problem with President Bell's scheme is that she is allowing Hollins' priorities to be dictated by a magazine. Throughout the forum, students - one after another - brought up concerns with their Hollins experience: handicap accessibility, student aid, diversity (including, as one student put it, "individual" diversity, and sexual diversity), etc. My fear is that these very valid concerns will never receive President Bell's entire commitment because these issues are not factored into the magazine's ranking formula. Thus, President Bell has eliminated the possibility for students, faculty, or even administrators, to thoughtfully and collaboratively determine Hollins' goals and priorities.

What if the institutions ranked higher than Hollins did not have higher faculty salaries?

Would we still be pursuing this admirable, and long overdue, commitment to professors? And, just to illustrate the ludicrousness of President Bell's actions, what if part of the rankings' formula was devoted to the "percentage of administrators donating half of their salaries to student scholarships?" Would Hollins administrators dutifully follow suit?

As an institution of higher education, we have resigned ourselves to the status of a mere toaster oven awaiting a ranking in Consumer Reports. I ask, where is President Bell's integrity as a leader of an institution of higher education? She has, after all, resigned herself to the will of the editors at U.S. News & World Reports. Is it too far out of the realm of Hollins' thinking to become a Reed or Bard College and simply refuse to participate in the rankings? I hope that one day President Bell stops allowing Hollins' priorities to be determined by a magazine and starts collaboratively planning Hollins' future with the entire campus community.

-Emily Abeles '05

## Senior notices changes over time

It's been a long four years. Hollins has changed in many ways since the Class of 2003 walked on campus for the first time. The dining hall has gotten a major facelift (and yes, the food is better), we have had three presidents during our tenure here, Tinker and Randolph have been "integrated," there's a new General Education system (goodbye distribution requirements), we've added new majors and programs (hello business and MFA), transfer credits can now fill Gen.Ed. requirements, Ring Night dumpings are theoretically no more, faculty have retired, we've heard about "Tier I," HAB was created, Quorum for elections changed, and the Visual Arts Center resembles a building instead of blueprints.

Have all of these changes been good? Have all of them been bad? Certainly not, time will tell. But when it comes to change, there are two things I am sure of: Change happens, and change is neither inherently good nor bad. So what do we do, as students, when we are faced with or want to initiate change? We get involved. We are taught here to be thoughtful, informed, analytical, intelligent women. I have no doubt that we are. We have the skills and the opportunities to effect positive change at this University.

Yet, at times, I am struck by the weight of what we do not do. We leave committee positions unfilled, we allow clubs to die due to a lack of leadership, we talk instead of listen, we don't attend meetings or interview candidates for positions, we fail to meet quorum at senate. Every one of these is a lost opportunity to make the collective student voice heard. Students are and can be involved at many levels of decision making at Hollins. Students work tirelessly behind the scenes in an effort to make Hollins even better. For three years, I have served on the Academic Policy Committee and the Academic Affairs Council. I've seen the process at work. I've seen and been involved with making changes at Hollins, and I have witnessed others doing the same. The opportunities for student in-

volvement on campus seem limitless. Take the time to fill out the applications, to talk to administrators, to talk to trustees and alumnae and other students, to learn about campus issues and decisions. Our degrees are only as good as Hollins is ten years or twenty years from now. What we do now does have an impact on our future.

The other half of this letter is directed to the entire campus. In all of your thinking, and acting, and talking, do not forget to listen. We are fond of calling Hollins a community, and it certainly has that potential. But when we divide ourselves into competing factions of students, faculty, and administrators, we divide rather than unite. Does this mean we always have to agree? Certainly not. Does it mean our goals will always be compatible or that we will always be happy with decisions? No. But the fact that Hollins is a "community" should mean that we can engage in meaningful, thoughtful conversation about Hollins. Communicating effectively will require serious cooperation and a renewed commitment to be honest to each other. The entire campus must make an effort to work together. Categorically writing off change at Hollins simply because it is initiated by the administration or discounting students' opinions simply because we are students damages the community we work to create.

Change is radical. It requires risks and the possibility of failure, but it also carries the possibility for great success, for positive growth. Change is also impermanent. In 1932, faced with the Great Depression, Franklin Roosevelt gave the nation sound advice: "It is common sense to take a method and try it, and if it fails, admit it frankly, and try another. But above all, try something." Consider this a call to action. As the Class of 2003 prepares to face the "real world," we are leaving Hollins in your hands. Do not be afraid to try new things, to take risks, to listen to each other. The future of Hollins depends on it.

-Jacqueline E. Whitt '03

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# Seniors leave last wills and testaments

## Jacqueline Kennedy

To Beth Burgin and Jaki Anna, you will be great. You are just and fair and have the good of the community in mind and you will be fantastic. I'm so glad for both of you and look forward to hearing and seeing great things from you in the future—both in and out of Hollins. You're both such wonderful people and have such talents you will always be great leaders.

To Amanda Furgiuele—you're nuts. I've had great fun getting to know you this year and hope we will always keep in touch...you will always be welcomed in my home. Also, come visit me in Santa Fe, we'll have a BLAST! You have my e-mail address and I demand to know all your funny stories in the future. There are others of you who have made me a better person, but to most in the Hollins community, thanks for making my experience exceptional.

To Kate-Sears Seay I leave the obligation to pay it forward; endless road trips and succulent men at your beck and call pinning for their chance; A day minus any frizzies, whatsoever; a handle of Malibu; and soft serve ice cream every day, guaranteed. I also bequeath to you the honor and privilege of Miss Matty Cocke as your companion and roommate; the will to speak up every time when you don't agree; an active and mind-shifting experience with a leadership position in SGA; a day when you are not so hard on yourself; singing the "Green and the Gold" and swapping stories with women from the class of 1956; staking your independence and priority as a means of healing the trauma of your birth story; An experience abroad that brings you back as an empowered individual; and a legacy of sharp wit, fun, and unrestrained individuality, sometimes bordering controlled insanity—You have over 160 years worth of stories to one up...make them last.

To Natalie Kline I leave (unfortunately) taking more with me than I could ever return. You are my role model—a window of God's grace and peace, and your presence often has been a weekly exhale for me. I can only leave you with my prayers, e-mail address, and an incoming freshman to take my place.

To Savannah 'Holly' Wilberger- I leave a complete Hollins Experience; a semester in which you have time to slow down

and enjoy the view; a disgustingly wealthy and distant uncle who has a penchant for financing distant niece's education on his deathbed; amazing miracles if that doesn't come through; success in those difficult but worthwhile long distant relationships; and an obligation to make Hollins yours—be ready at reunion with stories! That's the best part.

To the next occupant/s of Far East 220- I leave a set of earplugs and a sleeping mask, slightly used.

To Every member of the faculty who gave me extra patience and time—I leave 10 incoming students in my place that will be complete angels. Every one of you helped restore my faith in myself and allowed me the time to overcome and climb out of the fog that nearly swallowed me whole. I wouldn't still be here today without you.

To Lauren Smith—I leave a dream of a Hollins that strives for universal design and the highest level of inclusion. I leave a day when a student can stand up and disclose a disability without fear and be welcomed, openly and appropriately, by a community that has the desire to provide the highest level of accessibility and support, and the resources to back it up. And I confidently leave ENABLE in your hands to get them there.

To Chris Richter—I leave the 10 dollars I still owe as payback for the only field trip I ever took at Hollins, and one of the best days of my Hollins experience. I leave Hollins with a passion for a subject that I never could have predicted that I would dive into headfirst, much of which was discovered and cultured in your classes. I leave 4 extended stays in your courses and their completion as proof that I am not planning on living here much longer. I promise!

To the legacy of the class of 2002—I finally leave to join you. Sooner than later. And this one deserves a dance to "Scream" in celebration.

To the rest of Hollins that's left behind—I leave the last remaining memories of the senior class Apartment Parties, VMI as all male, Hollins College, Fishburn Library couches, the old Moody, Dumping, Friday ice cream, and breakfast burritos on Thursday mornings. Good luck making your own memories.

## Jacqueline Whitt

I, Jacqueline Whitt, leave AcPol and all of its meetings to Taylor and Emily, MUN to Taylor, Janet, and Ashley, fond thoughts of UNC and my robe to Hadley, fun times at the WC to Angie and Janet, dumb papers

to edit and the Pleasants computer lab to Elaine, and the history department parties and defenestration to Ana. And, in my mind, I'm gone to Carolina.

Finally!!!

## Casey Hollins

To Loey Crooks and Rachel Chandler I leave nothing but goods times and success with S.H.A.R.E., I have faith that together you can do wonderful things! With me I take the stress and burdens that come with it so hopefully you won't have to bear them.

To everyone living in Sandusky next year, I leave the wonderful memories and opportunities that come with living in such a unique house. I know you all can pull it together and I have faith that you will continue to do great things in Roanoke and at Hollins.

To Laurie Grove and Jessica King, in your hands I leave Relay for Life and I know that it will be just as good and even better next year with the two of you in charge. I also leave the responsibility for you to keep me updated on all the things you know mattered to me :) I love you both and hope we stay in touch through the years.

And to everyone at Hollins, I leave all of the special memories I have that made me grow to love Hollins as my second home and many new memories that you will make on your own. Goodbye Hollins.

## Regan Myles

I, Reagan N. Myles, residing in the one and only neon Star City of Roanoke, being of sound mind and wondrous body, and under no undue influence do hereby declare this social instrument to be my last will and testament.

To Emily Bowers, I leave Catakiss. You know what you must do...boot-kick his b\*#@#\*-a!\*out the door.

To Nicole Bentley, I leave money... 'cause she ALWAYS be needin' it.

To Hannah Phillips, I leave all my patchwork and seed-bead stitches.

To Blair Pendleton, I leave a watch... 'cause she ALWAYS be needin' one.

To Emily Simmons, I leave A rich, sexy man...who happens to own a classy bar and a tabloid news company.

To Sherrie Slocomb, I leave my worn Shakespeare Anthology and a Philly.

To Becca Heron, I leave jam-masta's memory.

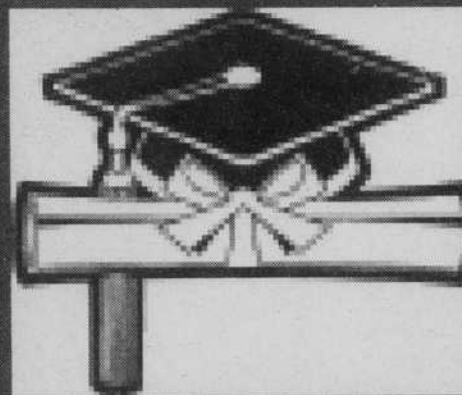
To EVERYONE at Hollins University, I leave love and gratitude for wonderful times and amazing stories.

## Kari Brown

I, Kari Brown, having received the gift of zero time and the will to be involved in everything from Laura English, pass the

same gifts on to Ashley Reynolds. I also give the hell of p chem to Jessica Hernandez and Alia Clark.

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2003!



# BEST OF LUCK! -THE COLUMNS STAFF-



## Love of lacrosse gives players positive attitudes

BY JENNIFER SPELKOMAN

The 2003 lacrosse team is "the essence of Hollins spirit," according to coach Rachel Cress '99. The team did not make the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) finals this year, with a final record of 2:8, but according to Cress, "that did not reflect the team's spirit or playing skills."

Cress was surprised by the final outcome, but acknowledged that "the last two or three games just fell apart."

A defeat with the April 21 game against Sweet Briar was crucial to the Hollins team, making the team ineligible for the ODAC divisional conference.

In a game against Guilford College on April 16, the players were down six points at the second half, and were able to get ahead by two points.

Although the match was a loss for the Hollins team, coach Cress thought the players "worked amazingly with one another" and "reached their peak for togetherness."

Cress had high hopes for the team that "started out promising, with eight strong senior players." Seniors Hannah Huber, Annie Fulk and Francis Wood were elected captains.

The team members vote for the captains of the team to promote unity in leadership. "Team-wise, the players had outstand-

ing drive and a positive approach throughout the season," expressed coach Cress.

Francis Wood '03 felt "it was a huge honor to be named a captain." With this responsibility she was able to push herself



The lacrosse team shows the opposing school what they're all about

as an athlete and as a leader, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

"As a leader I learned to be careful with my actions because I had developed into a role model," she said.

Wood has leaned a lot from this experience and also learned a lot from Cress.

"In being a leader of the team, I was able to teach discipline as well as understanding," she explained. "Coach Cress is a great leader. She has a lot of energy, and really tried to encourage love of athleticism to the players."

Both Wood and Cress agree that all of the other players really worked well together this year.

"Francis always wants to improve and is an incredibly dedicated player," stated Coach Cress. "Since last year she has gotten faster, more skilled, and is an incredible inspiration for the other players."

Francis Wood, a senior psychology major who has played lacrosse for three years, starting her freshman year at Hollins.

"The seniors especially put their heart into the game," remarked Wood, who also noted that the three captains balanced each other very well, and all three had remarkable chemistry.

Wood named each team member and pointed out positive features in their playing skills, as well as their attitude and devotion to the team. "All strived to be leaders and are astonishingly skilled players," she said.

"Annie is the spirit of the team," exclaimed Wood. Annie Fulk '03, co-captain, is ranked ninth in the nation, Division III NCAA, for ground balls, which is an essential skill in the game.

Hannah Huber '03, co-captain, is a veteran in the game who has played for over 10 years and averaged three goals per game this season.

Wood is impressed with Huber's skills, pronouncing that "Hannah is an extremely disciplined player."

"Hannah's appreciation and knowledge of the game is as impressive as her drive and devotion to the team," exclaimed Cress.

"Lacrosse is a challenging team sport that is also fun," Wood commented. She also said, "The team players and the chemistry between them is really what makes the Hollins Lacrosse team stand out."

Next year, the team looks forward to four rising sophomores, rising juniors and incoming students.

"I hope they continue to love the game and play all four years," said Wood.

Coach Cress, who was awarded 'athlete of the year' at Hollins in 1999, is looking forward to the athletic banquet.

"It is a great time to give the team recognition, which the athletes truly deserves," she said.

## Tennis team brings home 2nd place from ODAC

BY TARA FEHR

The last week in April was also the last week of Hollins tennis season. The ODAC tournament was held on April 25-27 where Hollins came in second, only losing to Washington and Lee University.

Last season Hollins beat Washington and Lee winning all nine matches they needed to capture the ODAC championship.

Although this season began with a rocky start, the girls were able to get together and pull out their expected second place finish.

Hollins started the 2003 season by losing their first match, which happened to be against Washington and Lee.

Kendra Penry '04 said that the team was down on themselves going into that match because they hadn't had quality practice time and it was against the toughest team in their conference.

"We had only practiced outside three times in the first five

weeks of the season," Penry said.

Later during the season they lost their number one player, Courtney Erwin, due to injury.

"It was a big blow," Penry

agreed. She said that they had a solid lineup, which left the team with many options because they were flexible.

"If someone got injured, or

the bench without missing much of a step," Hopkins said.

Whether the team faced injuries or poor weather conditions Hollins always responded to the conditions.

"I was always confident that they would pull it out," Hopkins said.

And they did pull it out. Hollins finished the season with 13 wins and two losses. Penry said that their losses came against Washington and Lee and Mary Washington, the two toughest teams.

Even the two matches they lost were close. Penry said that this was the hardest Hollins played both teams.

As for next year, both rising seniors have a lot of expectations. Hollins didn't have any seniors this year and added a lot of talented freshman.

"This is the strongest team

that we have had in a long time," Penry said.

This year's freshman class mirrors Penry and Hopkins' class in their freshman year.

"Hollins wasn't as good as they are now when we first came here," Hopkins said. "We set a winning tradition, and although I will be sad to leave next year, I hope we leave this winning tradition."

Penry, Hopkins and the rest of the tennis team have high expectations for next year. Not only will everybody be returning but also they are finally getting the well-needed tennis courts.

"We've finally made an agreement with the alumna board," said Hopkins. "Now we can finally face the right way."

Despite the fact that Hollins will graduate a lot of seniors next year, the team is hoping that their improved facilities and growing reputation will continue to attract the talent that they have found in the past few years.



Casey Schnare '04 and Jennifer Adkins '05 practice before the ODAC tournament which the tennis team did an outstanding job at this year. They won 2nd place.

said. "But we were still strong."

Margaret Hopkins '04

if a player needed a day off for class, we could put someone in off

EMILY EIGEL