

Hollins University

Hollins Digital Commons

Hollins Student Newspapers

Hollins Student Newspapers

11-17-2003

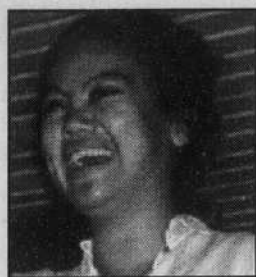
Hollins Columns (2003 Nov 17)

Hollins College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.hollins.edu/newspapers>

 Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), [Journalism Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), [United States History Commons](#), and the [Women's History Commons](#)

NEWS



Ring night rumors spark controversy

Page 2

ARTS



Fall dance Gathering a success

Page 8

SPORTS



First year student shows finesse on the running track.

Page 12

Priority rises for disabilities

BY REBECCA STAED

By her sophomore year of high school, Hope Mitchell '06 had already picked out her college.

She was active in school and was a member of her high school dance team. But, while dancing in a Christmas parade, she landed badly on her left ankle. Determined to finish the parade, she continued to walk on the injury.

Two weeks later, Mitchell's ankle had turned blue and swollen to the size of a softball. After consulting with several podiatrists and pain doctors, tests showed Mitchell had Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome, a disorder of the sympathetic nervous system. The sympathetic nervous system is the network of nerves next to the spinal cord that controls specific bodily functions.

Mitchell's problems did not stop there. The RSDS spread into her right leg during her junior year, which caused Mitchell to be unable to walk and confined her to a wheelchair.

When she visited Hollins, her college of choice, in 2002, Mitchell was faced with a dilemma. Most of the Hollins campus was not handicap accessible. But that did not discourage her.

"There was no doubt in my mind that I was coming to Hollins," Mitchell said. "I wanted to know what my limits were. Hollins was helpful, and it was an opportunity for [the school] to know what buildings might need adjusting."

Since Mitchell's arrival on campus, however, progress on handicap access is still slow, Mitchell and others, like Lauren Smith, '05, said.

Smith, chairwoman of ENABLE, said Hollins needs to "renovate, renovate, renovate."

ENABLE is a club devoted to raising awareness about and supporting students with disabilities, according to the club's statement of purpose. It serves as a li-

aison between students and the Dean of Academic Affairs to ensure that every student receives the accommodations they need.

"It's disgusting that there isn't even handicap access to health services," Smith said.

institutions that receive grants from the federal government. Discrimination includes access to educational programs and facilities, according to Section 504.

Buildings built before 1977, when Section 504 was issued, are

Alvarez said the issue is very important.

"Hollins is a historical campus with very old buildings, built when access was not thought of. Because we are historical, a lot of circumstances are grandfathered, but that's not an excuse for not making changes," said Alvarez.

"It's not a question of access being a low priority," he continued. "It's what the best strategy is. We try to look at the entire campus strategically."

In fact, handicap access is a top priority on Hollins' master planners', Sasaki Associates, Inc., agenda. Sasaki Associates is a design firm for higher education institutions. In addition to Sasaki, Peter Ozins, an architect contracted by Hollins who has extensively studied handicap access, and a separate firm, John Milner Associates, Inc., that provides architectural, historic preservation, are working to renovate the campus.

The master plan is scheduled to be finished this February, and it will include a recommendation of renovation priorities.

"But that does not mean the money will be available [by February]," said Alvarez.

"We will not start renovations until we have the funds."

Construction on Presser Hall will begin this summer, and an elevator will be installed. Top priority went to Presser because a donor provided money. Alvarez said because money is limited, that it is important for Hollins to prioritize how and when buildings will be made accessible.

"We want to incorporate those facilities that will have the most use," he said. "Every time we renovate a building we are required to include handicap access. If we went around doing makeshift access we would spend hundreds of millions of dollars, instead of if we included it in our renovations."



EMILY EIGEL

Access to Health Services, located down a flight of stairs on the first floor of Turner Entrance C, is nearly impossible for people with physical disabilities.

"Classes and rooms can be moved, but you can't get to the administrative offices."

Fortunately, there are laws that require Hollins to provide handicap access.

Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination against people with physical disabilities in

exempt from the law and do not have to be made fully accessible. Instead, the program or activity can be relocated to a handicap accessible building.

Most buildings on the Hollins campus are exempt and meet all federal regulations, said Richard Alvarez, vice president for Facilities and Technology. Even so,

Fall Ring Night rumors spark controversy

BY LAUREN CLEMENCE
AND JEN SPELKOMAN

Reports, accusations and rumors of alleged hazing and illegal activities during Hollins' annual Ring Night tradition fueled school administrators and student committees to look at the student organized event more closely.

In its present state, the three-day event of Ring Night consists of juniors earning their class rings through fulfilling senior demands, juniors dressing up in costumes and performing skits, and sophomore and first year helpers driving the juniors around to complete Ring Night related tasks.

The prevention of hazing is very important to the Hollins administration. Precautions such as meetings prior to Ring Night, and the distribution of Ring Night contracts are taken to ensure the safety of Hollins students.

In the contracts, the school's policies against activities such as hazing, drinking, and drug use are outlined along with the repercussions for violating these guidelines.

Consequences for breaking these rules include removal from Ring Night activities. Depending

on the severity of the situation, some students may have to report to student conduct council.

"Past Ring Nights have included many incidents of hazing," said Senior Class President, Jessica King '04. "That's why a couple of years ago, the clauses about hazing were added to the Ring Night contract. There are many ways to participate that do not involve hazing, that don't put anyone at risk of getting hurt or in trouble and that make the tradition fun for everyone involved."

Rumors of illegal activities prompted Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs, Siclinda Canty-Elliott to call three mandatory meetings one week after the Oct. 26 event. One meeting was held for each class that participated in Ring Night.

"We felt that it was very important to communicate with students what some of those rumors were, what we have heard and what we are doing to preserve the



LIZZY BENCHOFF

Sarah Gerber '05, Katie Parnell '05, Jessica Culber '05, Kristen Polich '05 and Taylor Slaughter '05 perform as the Spice Girls for their Friday lunch skit.

Ring Night tradition," said Canty-Elliott. "I think it was important to have those meetings because I understand that the rumor mill spreads fast around Hollins. I wanted to get the correct information out, and I wanted to figure out if any students knew anything about the incidents."

The goal of the meetings was to bring information back to the Ring Night committee so that they would be able to re-examine the tradition and improve it for the future.

While many students participated in the discussions generated by Canty-Elliott, some expressed that the structure of the meetings was an inappropriate way to approach the situation.

"I really felt like she was treating us like children, like she wanted us to rat on our friends," says Sarah Poulton '06. "It kind of felt like we had done something wrong when we most definitely had not."

The invitation to each meeting came in the form of an e-mail sent to each Ring Night participant from Canty-Elliott and the class presidents.

Students who chose not to attend the meetings, who did not have class, were asked to attend alternate meetings or set up individual appointments with Dean Canty-Elliott. Students who did not

comply had holds placed on their accounts by Canty-Elliott, disabling them to register for January term and spring 2004 classes, until they scheduled a meeting with her.

Upon discovery of these holds, SGA president, Beth Burgin contacted Provost Wayne Markert. He, in turn, approached Canty-Elliott, who confirmed that she would remove the holds the next

student opinions and experiences."

The committee plans to examine Ring Night activities at Sweet Briar College, Mary Baldwin College and Randolph-Macon Women's College to see how other regional colleges conduct their Ring Night related traditions.

SEE RING NIGHT PAGE 3



EMILY EIGEL

Rosalina Leoncio '04 (foreground) and Emily Feilder '05 perform as pop kings of the 80's Prince and George Michael for their Friday night skit.

HOLLINS COLUMNS

Editor-in-Chief	Angie Jeffreys
News Editor	Lisa Bower
Features Editor	Jeilenn Gerlach
Copy Editors	Lauren Clemence Amy Torbert
Photo Editor	Emily Eigel
Layout Editor	Lucy Erhardt
Columnist	Car Vasko
Advertising	Kasey Freedman
Business	Marly Wilson
Circulation	Laura Carruba

Layout Staff: Laura Carruba, Tiffany Edwards, Becky Klabunde, Sian Thomas

Staff editorials and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of Hollins University or the Hollins Columns.

We welcome letters from all members of the community. Please include your signature. Unsigned letters will not be published. Because of the volume we receive, we regret we can only publish a portion of them. Letters should be left in the Hollins Columns box in the post office or e-mailed to hollinscolumns@hotmail.com.

Master Planners propose campus revisions

BY JULIA KNOX

As many of are aware by now, Hollins has brought in a Master Planners group to plan necessary renovations to the campus.

The planners, known as the Sasaki Associates, have spent countless hours reviewing the campus layout and meeting with faculty and students to determine possible changes to the campus layout.

According to University President Nora Kizer Bell, "The goal of the Master Planners is to look at our current status and current use of the facilities, and suggest if we are using them in the right way. For example, they will indicate if we have our academic programs in the right places, and suggest improvements that we can make with our

budget".

At a meeting with students on Tuesday, November 4, Sasaki announced some of their ideas they had come up with during preliminary brainstorming. Many of these ideas involved residential life.

For example, after noting safety issues, it was suggested that Hollins rent out the apartments to Roanoke residents, and build new dorms by Tinker. These dorms could be either suite or apartment style.

New dorms would solve a number of problems with the apartments. It would no longer be necessary to go under the bridge, or risk getting hit by a car on Route 11. Jaki Anna '05, said during the meeting, "The safety of the apartments is a big issue. There's no way to close them off, and anybody can come

in during parties".

Sasaki also proposed a revival of the front quad. During the early 1900's, campus life revolved around the quad. But as enrollment expanded, so did the campus.

The Master Planners brought up the idea of moving the Student Services department and other offices all to buildings on the quad.

For example, they suggested that the first floor of West become completely non-residential; instead it would be what they called an "Academic Resource Center." The bottom floor of East would undergo these same changes.

Some students attending the meeting noted that this might not be a good idea, as they would feel weird going down-

stairs in their pajamas if all the deans were there.

Two of Sasaki's more popular ideas involved moving the Rat to the bottom floor of Turner and changing the path of the Loop. Making the part of the Loop by Tinker extend more towards the lake instead of doubling as the path to Siberia would increase safety for students.

Brittany Addison-Prescott '07 commented, "I think that would be really cool to do, because then we wouldn't have to worry about getting hit by other cars when we're walking out to Siberia".

Bell's favorite idea involved the complete revamping of Turner. After a complete renovation, the Rat would be moved to Turner, and a porch would be

added to the building. On the lawn between Turner and the new Fine Arts building would be a natural amphitheatre, where outdoor concerts and other events could be held.

Bell was quick to warn that such major changes wouldn't happen for a number of years. She also noted that such renovations should be of no extra cost for the student.

Sasaki was making suggestions based on our current and future budgets. The actual Master Planners themselves were paid for by the Board of Trustees.

So far, the Master Planners have only tossed out these preliminary ideas. They will be back with even more new ideas at a December meeting. All students are encouraged to attend and provide feedback.

FROM PAGE 2

Ring Night

This plan is not met with approval by all students though. "I would like to think Ring Night is unique," says fall 2003 participant, Zirwat Chowdhury '05. "I see the value of Ring Night as a Hollins tradition, and I don't think that we should conform to other schools' rituals."

Nov. 17 marks the distribution date for surveys to be e-mailed to students regarding the ring night festivities. Students will have two weeks to articulate their feelings regarding the tradition, before returning their surveys to the committee by Dec. 5.

According to Dean Canty-Elliot, the committee will present their findings and suggestions to SGA Senate on Dec. 9.

"I think it's good that the administration is recognizing the importance of traditions to Hollins students," says King. "It seems to me that the administration is opening the lines of communication with representatives from all classes to look at what is important to us and find ways to ensure that traditions remain alive and well while ensuring student safety and well being.

She continues. "The idea to take a look at Ring Night and how it works was not the administration's call alone; the entire Ring Night committee agreed that we need to make sure the tradition is serving its purpose to students."

Canty-Elliot, as well as student leaders involved in the Ring Night re-evaluation process, hopes to preserve Ring Night as a tradition in one form or another.

"If we could let the first year and sophomore students understand that they can have a positive experience without doing outrageous things that are going to somehow get out of hand, then I think that the committee's work will have been done as far as educating the students," says Canty-Elliot.

First year and sophomore students have differing opinions regarding the tradition and its presence and effects on campus.

"I won't miss my opportunity to participate in Ring Night when I am a junior," said Candice Dalton '07. "I can't wait to experience this tradition."

Anna Coppelstone '06 opposed this view. "I don't object to class bonding, but when things get wasteful and dangerous, I would choose not to participate," she says.

The contemplation of the future of Hollins traditions is an evolving hot topic on campus. Expressions of concern for the preservation of Hollins traditions come from all sectors of the Hollins community — from students to the administration and alumae.

"I hope that the tradition of Ring Night continues to be a three day event that the school supports and that students like taking a part in," says Jenny Flora '04. "The tradition of Ring Night may have evolved from what it was when the school was founded, but so have the girls who attend [Hollins] and the attitudes that are represented here. Ring Night should be about bonding between Hollins women, not the breaking of preexisting bonds."

In a recent written survey, here is what our customers said when asked the following question:

"What word or phrase best describes Diamond Salons?"

- ◆ Wonderful ◆ Magical ◆ Relaxing ◆ Passionate ◆
- ◆ Awesome ◆ Complete ◆ Fantastic ◆ Professional ◆
- ◆ Wonderful ◆ Exceptional ◆ Fun ◆ WOW ◆ Friendly ◆
- ◆ Un service exceptional et une qualité toujours consistante ◆
- ◆ A relaxing & quality salon that fits my college budget ◆
- ◆ Perfect ◆ Progressive ◆ Teamwork ◆ Fab-u-lous ◆
- ◆ Terrific ◆ Unique ◆ Very luxurious ◆ Invigorating ◆
- ◆ Japanese chic ◆ Elegant solutions to hair problems ◆
- ◆ The best of the best ◆ C'est genial ◆
- ◆ A girl's (and guy's) best friend ◆



Find out for yourself why Diamond Salons is quickly becoming the most referred to hair salon in the Roanoke Valley!

DIAMOND SALONS

5220 Williamson Road
362-8282
www.DiamondSalons.com

FROM PAGE 1

Handicap

Hollins is looking for ways to fund the renovations. Alvarez said that there is money available to historical buildings like the ones on campus, and the master planners are helping Hollins try to locate those grants.

Hollins, however, is willing to accommodate those with special needs when necessary.

Last year, a temporary ramp was installed in the front entrance to Tinker Hall so that Mitchell could get in and out on her scooter. She was also provided with a medical single because her scooter did not fit into standard Tinker singles.

The ramp in front of Tinker was made permanent over the summer, and an emergency door was put in so that students in wheelchairs or on crutches could enter the residence hall trouble-free. The door opens automatically with the push of a button, replacing the cumbersome task of unlocking two heavy, metal doors.

Upon request, special fire alarms were placed in two hearing impaired students' rooms in the past year, and the library's handicapped access stays open until 11 p.m. this year, instead of 5 p.m.

"I think Hollins is doing a better job this year than last year because they are more aware [of handicap issues]," Mitchell said. "It is good that Hollins is bringing in an outside company to help [with the planning]. They are taking bigger steps to make it easier."

In particular, Mitchell said M.J. Konopke, Director of Residence Life, has been extremely helpful.

"Any problems I had, I went to her," said Mitchell.

As Director of Residence Life, Konopke is a liaison for students in the residence halls with special needs and the physical plant.

"I know that all of our buildings are not ADA compliant," Konopke said. "[But] the physical plant works well, and they have tried to make accommodations as permanent as possible. Some buildings won't allow accommodations to be made."

For instance, one student requested that a ramp be installed into East building for her parent, who is confined to a wheelchair, so that she could get in and out while visiting, Konopke said. However, the ramp stuck out too far from the entryway, which violates ADA regulations, and could not be installed.

"I would like to see us make a better effort to be prepared [for disabilities] instead of working through it with students as they get here," Konopke said.

Students aren't the only ones with special needs.

Darla Schumm, professor of Religious Studies, is visually impaired and can usually be seen with Papaya, her seeing eye dog.

Besides Papaya, Schumm needs adaptive equipment, such as a speech synthesis program, a screen reader, and a scanner designed particularly for blind and low vision users. Speech synthesis programs process texts to create clear speech output with human-like intonation, much like a screen reader that gives audio feedback of the computer screen's content. The scanner scans hard copy materials and reads them back to the user.

Hollins provided Schumm with this special equipment as well as a student assistant who helps with tasks like reading her mail for her.

Schumm said she has had her share of difficulties and has always had to take the initiative to get her needs met.

"I feel like much of my existence is educating people," she said. "You have to see to it that things happen. I think everyone agrees Hollins is not accessible to those who cannot walk. It's not an easy campus for any student with a physical disability. It's not anybody's fault."

Celia McCormick, dean of Admissions, said that when a student with a physical handicap is looking at where they are going to study, access and facilities are important factors that they have to explore.

McCormick and Hollins admissions counselors are in charge of recruiting girls of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, disabilities, and backgrounds to Hollins.

"Once we learn of a disability it is our job to help that student and connect them to the right people on campus," McCormick said. "Because this is a residential area, not just educational, we have to make more of an effort to include those with handicaps."

McCormick said that from an Admissions point of view, physical disabilities do not factor into whether or not a student will be admitted.

"When we are recruiting students we want to recruit those that are available, and we want to be sure that what we have is what people need," she said. "And if not, it can be addressed."

Schumm said that part of the reason Hollins does not have as many students with disabilities may be because larger schools have more resources for them.

"Students don't want to end up at a university where they have to negotiate everything they do," she said. "It's harder when a [disabilities] system isn't in place."

Smith knows this all too well since Student Government Association did not

provide ENABLE with a budget for the 2003-04 school year. As a result, students with disabilities are lacking an important channel through which they may voice their concerns.

Despite the obstacles, Mitchell said that she does not regret her decision to come to Hollins. Last spring, she had spinal cord surgery and is now able to walk, but says accessibility is still an important issue to her and a lot of changes still need to be made.

"I definitely think that good, sound first floor entries need to be made," she said.

Last year, Mitchell had a lot of classes in Presser, she said. Lack of first floor wheelchair entrances made it inconvenient because she had to use the second floor entrance.

Winter also became an inconvenience for her last year.

"When it snowed, they wouldn't plow enough for my scooter to get through," she said.

In an email, Mitchell said, "I talked to maintenance and grounds about the problem. They were very nice and apologized for the incident. I was told to call Campus

Safety if I couldn't get my scooter out and they would come and pick me up."

Some days, however, Campus Safety would not pick her up if she called, or they refused to, said Mitchell. She had to contact Konopke, who talked to Campus Safety and fixed the problem before the end of the snow season.


"I am pleased to see the students have as much interest as they have," Alvarez said. "Students are truly concerned about this. Handicap access is high on our priority list, and everyone is keenly aware of the issue."

Though the changes are slow, Schumm advised, "I know it's frustrating. There's no way around it, but you can't give up. Change isn't going to happen unless people with disabilities insist that it happens, demanding what is ours. These are things most people take for granted."


"We often talk about disabilities in one category, but handicapped involves a range of disabilities," Schumm said. "I hope we become more accessible. Diversity is something the campus is working towards right now. The more diverse our campus is on all levels, the better."

Shoes 101:


tricked out casuals
for the late nights
at the library.



serious boots
for slogging to that
early morning class
in the rain.



the tall and short of it
for the fall evenings
of rush parties.



how will you spend it?

\$5


\$10

COLLEGE CASH

Present this coupon to your nearest RACK ROOM SHOES along with your college ID to receive

SAVE \$5 off your total Rack Room purchase of \$25 OR MORE
SAVE \$10 off your total Rack Room purchase of \$50 OR MORE
NO EXCLUSIONS

One coupon per purchase, only original coupon is valid, no duplications. Not redeemable for cash. Must present college I.D. along with coupon at time of purchase. Expires 11/30/03.



For the love of shoes.

check out additional styles and store locations at
rackroomshoes.com

Susan Thomas to adopt Kazahkstanian child

BY LISA BOWER

As members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender/transsexual community create families, many consider adding children to their lives. One option for same-sex couples is adoption; although laws have been created to dissuade this decision, many are finding ways around such restrictions. Susan Thomas, associate professor of Women Studies and Political Science, has made the decision to adopt a child with her partner Lori Rehfeldt.

The decision to adopt a child was part of a larger philosophical struggle for Thomas who had struggled with citizen's obligations to the world's people in poverty.

"Last year I came across New York University philosopher Peter Unger's book, 'Living High and Letting Die,' which probes our intuitions about whether it is wrong to live well without giving substantial amounts of money to help people who are hungry, malnourished or dying from easily treatable illnesses," said Thomas. "I read Princeton ethicist Peter Singer, a utilitarian philosopher who judges whether acts are right or wrong by their consequences. In his view, each one of us with wealth surplus to her or his essential needs should be giving most of it to help people suffering from poverty."

In 2001, Thomas decided to travel to China, a nation with poor and hungry people to get an idea of where to begin.

"I immediately noticed that all the children in the streets were boys," said Thomas. "I don't recall ever seeing an infant girl anywhere in the ten

major cities I visited. I learned that because of the nation's one child policy, families wanted boys. Girls not aborted were often dumped in orphanages. At that moment I knew that I had to come back and adopt an Asian girl."

After Thomas' visit, China changed its adoption policy. It now no longer accepts applications from unmarried women who refuse to sign an affidavit swearing they are heterosexual. Thomas said she would not sign anything that would "compromise her belief in equality and dignity for all people regardless of sexual identity." She therefore searched for other ways to adopt an Asian heritage female.

Thomas turned to Kazakhstan, a country in Central Asia, northwest of China, which doesn't require people to prove their heterosexuality on paper.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Administration for Children and Families says on their website that "the most common way in which same-sex couples adopt is that one partner has legal custody of a child [either by birth or adoption] as a single parent. Then the second partner, after the adoption has been finalized, petitions the court to allow the second partner to do a second parent adoption of the other partner's child using the streamlined stepparent adoption process. Second parent adoption allows a homosexual couple to adopt a child so that both partners have equal parental rights."

Though Kazakhstan allows unmarried women to adopt its nation's orphans, like the state of Virginia, the government will not allow same sex

couples to adopt.

Most states currently allow an individual gay or lesbian adult to adopt a minor child, but no states currently sanction adoption by same sex couples. The main problem for unmarried same-sex couples is the prohibition in 49 of the 50 states against their legal marriage. Hawaii doesn't prohibit same-sex marriage but it has not legalized it either. Florida and New Hampshire forbid adoption by homosexuals in their statutes, and the state of Connecticut's statutes specify that the sexual orientation of the adoptive parents may be considered but no specific orientation will be required for a child's placement.

Several court decisions have looked at the issue of same sex adoption. A recent court decision in New Jersey overturned a lower court ruling barring joint adoption by a gay couple.

Vermont has allowed two lesbians with a favorable evaluation by a child-placing agency, to adopt. In that case, one woman adopted as a single parent, and a year later the second partner petitioned the court successfully to also adopt. Thus the first partner did an individual stranger adoption and the second did a second parent adoption.

"For these reasons, I will be the legal parent while my partner Lori will be the legal guardian," said Thomas. "Nonetheless, Cais will be our daughter; we plan to work toward changing the state's condescending attitudes toward and discriminatory treatment of alternative family structures."

Her partner, Rehfeldt, agreed, writing in an e-mailed statement, "This is one of the most exciting times of

my life. My partner and I have happily chosen to add to our family through adoption. Unfortunately, in this so-called land of the free, we, as a same sex couple, are not free to jointly adopt our daughter."

The process to adopt can be a long one.

"It took nearly 6 months just to complete the necessary paperwork: verification and authentication by the Secretary of the Commonwealth of my income, savings, employment, insurance, driving record, notarized and apostilled birth certificates, criminal background check every 3 months, complete physical exam every 3 months, homestudy completed by Virginia adoption agency, FBI clearance, Department of Homeland Security approval, Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services approval, fingerprinting in Alexandria, notarized and apostilled power of attorney, visas for the three of us, approval from the Kazakhstan Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Education, and so on," said Thomas.

Though Thomas and her partner specified what sex, age and medical problems they would accept, the adoption agency chose their daughter for them.

"Once we receive the medical evaluation, we can accept or reject the child," said Thomas. "If we reject the referral, we will then wait for another one. We both immediately took to this sixteen month old girl and hope that she's healthy enough for us to handle."

Maternity leave for parents is not law in the United States, as it is in many other nations such as Switzerland. Hollins gave Thomas six weeks

leave to travel to Kazakhstan. She will take her leave the spring semester and will resume teaching in the fall.

"Kazakhstan requires adoptive parents to spend two weeks in the orphanage with their child, called the bonding period, before they can proceed to court," said Thomas. "This takes another week. The last two weeks are spent finalizing paperwork. Luckily, we will have our own driver, translator and cook for the five weeks we are there. This is included in the adoption fee."

The issue remains that many people do not have the money to adopt, and many do not receive maternity leave, let alone have the resources to adopt from a foreign country.

Mirah Riben has written that adoption "is classist; is easier for richer, more powerful, and better educated (higher class) people."

Thomas and Rehfeldt remain excited for the future.

"I do trust Susan, and look forward to loving, giving, nurturing and sharing with her our new daughter and family experience," said Rehfeldt in her email.

"My partner Lori and I have been in this process together," said Thomas. "We've made each decision, from which international adoption agency to use to what name to give our daughter, jointly. I am thankful that Lori is easy going and agreeable because this is a stressful process."

Information for this article was gathered at: naic.acf.hhs.gov/pubs/l_same.cfm and members.tripod.com/ABORN.Webring/Aborn/Congress/Discrimination.html.

Voice organizes campus-wide recycling program

BY KIRSTEN BREWER

On-campus recycling this year has come under the jurisdiction of Voice, an activism organization at Hollins. The chairs of the new recycling committee are Sarah Wylder '07, and Sonya Coleman '06.

According to Wylder, recycling committee co-chair, students can recycle paper, thin cardboard, aluminum, two different types of plastics, and glass.

The committee has worked to distribute recycling receptacles throughout the residence halls in hopes that convenience will inspire recycling on campus: there are nine in Tinker, one in each part of East, and two in the laundry room at the apartments, as well as in West and

Starkie.

Recycling is emptied by the Voice committee and transported to recycling facilities every two weeks by Annetay Henderson '05.

The recycling program, reactivated from several years ago in 2001 by Laura English '02, has been expanded a great deal over the past few years.

When Stephanie Stender '04 came to Hollins, there was no student-organized recycling on campus.

"It shocked me when I came to Hollins that there was no recycling since it is such a big deal in Connecticut," she states. "I'm really happy that they are doing it now."

Wylder, who was in charge of her previous school's recycling pro-

gram, is disenchanted with Hollins' attitude toward recycling, however. "The school is not officially in charge of recycling; they pick up the paper and it is the responsibility of the student body to take care of everything else. You would think that Hollins would want to get more involved in environmental issues, to set a good example for the community."

Wylder expresses an interest in rousing more concern for ecological issues on campus, perhaps even celebrating Earth Day at Hollins.

"I think it would be great to get concerned students and faculty involved, particularly the professors who teach ecology," she said. "It would encourage more environmental awareness on campus."

In West, the recycling committee has run into some difficulties. Two recycling bins were removed from the first floor trash room. The Building department posted a sign, asking that glass or plastic cans and bottles be placed in the trash. The recycling committee visited the physical plant and inquired about suitable locations for the bins, but they have yet to receive a reply.

According to Maggie Hunt '04, a resident of West, "When the bins were in the trash room, there were too many bottles, cans, and pizza boxes to fit, so they were lying on the floor around the bins. It was a mess. I can see how it would've been a hazard."

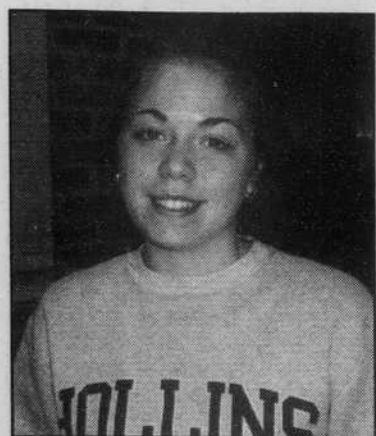
When interviewed about the recycling program and environmen-

tal issues on campus, Hadley Meares '04 noted other wasteful practices, such as the use of styrofoam in the dining hall.

"I am appalled when the dining hall gives us grief about wasted food," said Meares. "Every day they put out plastic spoons and forks and use styrofoam containers and cups; sometimes they even give out styrofoam plates. It seems nonsensical to complain about wasted food when the school itself is being so wasteful. We aren't even allowed to bring our own containers in to use instead of the styrofoam alternatives."

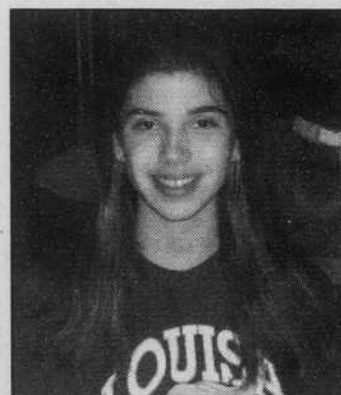
The recycling program on campus has grown extensively in the past few years, but it seems that the university itself remains uninvolved.

sound off: What is your take on partial-birth abortion?



"I think Bush is an ass. He's not making any exceptions whatsoever, and there are going to be extreme cases where the mother absolutely needs it."

- Megan Culp '07



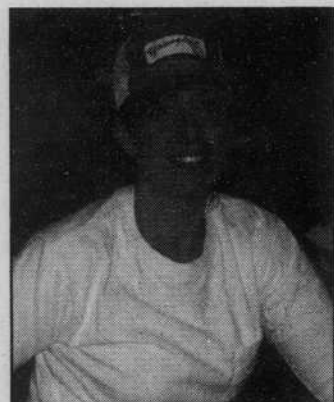
"I don't believe in it, but I think under certain circumstances, like rape or if a life is in danger, then it's OK."

- Sunshine Manderbach '07



"I'm pro-life."

- Margaret Hopkins '07



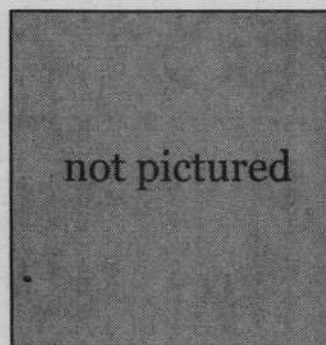
"If the mother's life is in danger and the baby might die as well, then she and her family should have a choice to save the mother's life."

- Keeli Scott '04



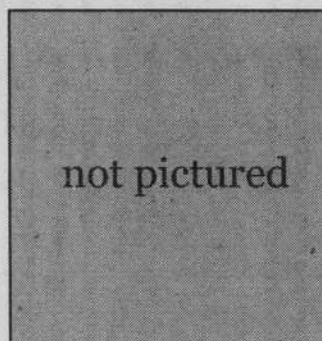
"I think personally that partial-birth abortion is wrong but women should have the right to make choices about what they want to do to their bodies."

- Cara Hulbert '07



"Partial birth abortion is wrong, but the bill should have a clause in it about the mother's health."

- Sadie Tillery '05



"In general I'm pro-choice, but I think it should be done before the child is formed, and in this particular case, a clause should be formed."

- Nicole Johnston '05

ALL PHOTOS WERE TAKEN BY JULIA KNOX

NOVEMBER

November 1-7 : World Communication Week - hollinscolumns@hotmail.com is always willing to listen
November 8-14: Pursuit of Happiness Week - go out and find what makes you happy!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
campus events: 10:30am - Friends mtg @ Gordh room 6pm - Mujeres Unidas mtg @ RAT 7:30pm - Chapel 8:30 pm - SRLA mtg @ Gordh room sports events: 2pm - SW @ R-M (away) 3pm - BB scrimmage against FC (home) famous birthdays: Oskana Baiul Shigeru Miyamoto Burgess Meredith	campus events: 11:30am - Health Services administers HIV testing @ Mary Rowland Lounge 6:30pm HCF mtg @ Gordh room 9:30pm - SSL mtg @ Ballator national holidays: Coping With Uncertainty Day Homemade Bread Day famous birthdays: RuPaul	campus events: 11am - Int Club card sale @ Moody 11:30am - Great American Smokeout table @ Moody 4:15 - Spanish Club mtg @ MidEast social room 5pm - card sale 7:30pm - Cabell lecture: Jeanne Larsen @ GDR 7:30pm - Bible Study @ Presser 211 sports events: 7pm - SW away @ W&L	campus events: 11am - Int Club card sale @ Moody 12:30 - Spanish table @ new dining room 5pm - Int Club card sale @ Moody 9pm - 10 Lies the Church Tells Women @ Gordh room national holidays: "Have a Bad Day" Day famous birthdays: Jodie Foster Larry King Indira Gandhi	campus events: 4:30pm - student recital @ Talmadge 5pm - OUTloud mtg @ Goodwin PDR 6pm - Harvest Celebration @ GDR 7pm - open climbing wall @ athletic complex 7:30 - BSA mtg @ RAT 8pm - Leslie Feinberg lecture @ Talmadge national holidays: the Great American Smokeout	campus events: 7:30 - WA^2 mtg @ 1st floor Tinker social room sports events: BB @ Tip-off national holidays: World Hello Day famous birthdays: Ken Griffey Jr. Bjork Goldie Hawn Voltaire	sports events: CC @ nationals BB @ Tip-off famous birthdays: Jamie Lee Curtis Bille Jean King Rodney Dangerfield Charles de Gaulle
23rd-30th THANKSGIVING BREAK--NO SCHOOL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!						
famous birthdays: Harpo Marx Billy the Kid Boris Karloff Franklin Pierce	famous birthdays: Scott Joplin Dale Carnegie Katherine Heigl William F. Buckley, Jr.	national holidays: International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women famous birthdays: Christina Applegate John F. Kennedy, Jr. Ricardo Montalban Joe DiMaggio	national holidays: What Do You Love About America? Day famous birthdays: Lil Fizz Tina Turner Charles Schultz Eugene Ionesco	national holidays: THANKSGIVING famous birthdays: Bruce Lee Jimi Hendrix Caroline Kennedy Jaleel White	national holidays: Buy Nothing Day Sinkie Day (the day to eat turkey leftovers over the sink) famous birthdays: Anna Nicole Smith Jon Stewart Judd Nelson Alexander Godunov	national holidays: Electronic Greeting Day "You're Welcome" Giving Day famous birthdays: Louisa May Alcott CS Lewis Madeline L'Engle Howie Mandel

POPULAR ABBREVIATIONS

RD = riding	R-M = Randolph-Macon
SC = soccer	Women's College
SW = swimming	FC = Ferrum College
FH = field hockey	RC = Roanoke College
CC = cross-country	LC = Lynchburg College
E&H = Emory and Henry	BC = Bridgewater College
MBC = Mary Baldwin College	

NOVEMBER IS... Month

...American Diabetes Month	...National Georgia Pecan Month
...Avation History Month	...National Healthy Skin Month
...Epilepsy Awareness Month	...National Impotency Month
...Lung Cancer Awareness Month	...National Life Writing Month
...National Adoption Month	...National Peanut Butter Lovers
...National AIDS Awareness	...Vegan Month

Fall Dance Gathering well attended

BY JELENN GERLACH

This year's Eleventh Annual Hollins Fall Dance Gathering (Nov. 14-15) showcased works from visiting artists and Hollins students in the Shaftman Performance Hall in the Jefferson Center. More than 700 people attended the performances over the course of two nights.

In Friday night's show, guest artist Nicholas Leichter returned with his company, nicholasleichterdance, to present a trio of dances entitled Tribute (2000), Never End (Preview) and Free the Angels (2001).

Accented by colorful costumes and lighting design, the dancers performed dynamic lifting and leaping maneuvers, in addition to solos and duets. The troupe of six put on an engaging and energetic performance accompanied by musical artists such as Aaliyah and Stevie Wonder.

Saturday night's performance featured conceptual dances by both students and visiting artists. Various performers wore life jackets, swimsuits, overalls, and cowboy hats while dancing to different accompaniments, including singing, silence, Schubert, and the Beatles. In one piece entitled, "I Call it Bird Dog" by Daniel Clifton, a rustic character com-

ments on how hard it is to get a gobbler turkey to leave a pack of hens alone.

ond year in the Jefferson Center. Hollins moved the show downtown last year when the Jefferson Center extended an invitation to bring events there.

Donna Faye Burchfield, Artistic Director of Hollins Repertory Dance Company emphasizes that the relocation of the Fall Dance Gathering is a great opportunity for both the performers and their audiences. Burchfield points out that HRDC can reach a broader audience of loyal Hollins supporters and branch out into the local community, which is very supportive of the performers.

"[The performers] love it because the audiences are so receptive. Nicholas

people appreciate what you're doing," said Burchfield.

The format of Fall Dance Gathering has evolved since its inception eleven years ago. Initially, only one or two student pieces were shown during a series of guest artists' works. This year, five student works were shown.

Student choreographers Ashley Anderson '06, Angie Fowler '04, Susan Honer '04, Jennifer Schworm '04 showed their work on Saturday.

To prepare for the Fall Dance gathering, students often bring work they have formed over the summer. Some pieces, such as "Re-location" performed by Lara Allen and Ellen Philpott '05 have been as much as a year in the making. Choreographers attend workshop every Friday, asking one another questions to clarify the artists' intentions.

"It is one of the most positive ways to provoke new questions and generate work," said Tasha Tillman '04. "The pieces that were ready were easy to choose."

An entire evening was dedicated to Leichter's company this year because their performance of "Bliss" in fall 2002 was so well received.

Although Leichter was here

only for rehearsal week, in the past, Leichter and members of his company have instructed classes in Movement Studio II and III. This will be Leichter's eighth consecutive year teaching at Hollins. He will return from New York in February.

"My favorite thing is that his class is more oriented towards sort of expression and release through movement rather than technical analysis of every specific move," said Fowler. "It still requires a technical base, but in other classes I am trying to make sure I am doing everything the way I think it should be instead of just forgetting all that and allowing myself to just move."

Proceeds from the Fall Dance Gathering will help students attend an international dance festival in Cannes, France over Thanksgiving break. Students attending the Cannes dance festival will be exposed to lectures, concerts, press conferences.

Burchfield will sit on a panel during a symposium about the idea of the body and gender expressed in dance. Hollins alumna Katy Pyle '02 who attended the Cannes dance festival four years ago will be returning as a performer in a world-renowned company called John Jasperse.



EMILY EIGEL

Guest artists Paul Matteson and Jennifer Nugent practice for their Saturday night appearance in the Fall Dance Gathering.

The Fall Dance Gathering, formerly hosted in the Hollins Theater, has been on stage for the second year in the Jefferson Center. Hollins moved the show downtown last year when the Jefferson Center extended an invitation to bring events there.

Julianna Baggott to read work on campus

BY LISA BOWER

Forget the poetry vs. prose argument; some writers choose to do both. Novelist and poet, Julianna Baggott, will read on Thursday, December 4, at 8:15pm in the Green Drawing Room.

Baggott, who received her MFA from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1991, is the recipient of numerous fellowships from such sources as the Delaware Division of Arts, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Ragdale Foundation, and Bread Loaf Writers' Conference.

She has placed poems and short stories in dozens of literary journals including Poetry, The Southern Review, Chelsea, Cream City Review, Quarterly West, as well as the "Best American Poetry 2000" anthology. Baggott has also



MOSTLYFICTION.COM

Julianna Baggott, novelist and poet, will read at 8:15p.m. on Dec. 4 in the Green Drawing Room

read her work on Boston's WBUR/NPR's "Here and Now" and NPR's "Talk of the Nation."

Her novel, "Girl Talk," was published in 2001 and has also been published by six publishing houses overseas. The book has been widely reviewed by such places as Poets and Writers, Glamour magazine and The New York Times.

"The title misleadingly suggests that this novel will have a good-natured, gossipy tone, but Baggott's brand of witty, psychological observation is dark and corrosive," said The New York Times Book Review.

Hollins alum, Jill

McCorkle MA '81 and author of such short story collections as Carolina Moon and Crash Diet and Final Vinyl Days, has weighed in on Girl Talk as well.

"Girl Talk is a wonderful story," said McCorkle. "I was hooked with the very first sentence. The subtle twists and turns in this piece are remarkable and the characters vivid and memorable. This is the work of a very talented writer. It was a pleasure to read."

Baggott's collection of poems, "This Country of Mothers" was published in 2001 and her second novel, "The Miss America Family," followed in 2002.

Richard Russo, author of the Pulitzer Prize in Fiction for his book "Empire Falls," has reviewed "The Miss America Family" saying, "Baggott enjoys living on the knife edge between hilarity and

heartbreak, and that makes her a writer after my own heart."

Baggott's third novel, "The Madam," which is about the life of her grandmother who was raised in a house of prostitution, is due sometime in 2003.

"Few writers of the twenty-first century can rival the verve, the energy and the sheer delight in language of Julianna Baggott. Profoundly different from anything she has done before, The Madam is an extraordinary novel which will open a whole new phase of what already looks like a brilliant career," has said Madison Smartt Bell, MA '81 and author of such novels as "Anything Goes" and "Straight Cut."

Baggott currently lives in Delaware with her husband, poet David G.W. Scott and their three young children.

I'm most thankful for competent help

I recently lost a close friend. She died a couple weekends ago, very unexpectedly. Naturally, I was really upset. She'd been a loyal friend to me for over two and a half years—we spent hours together, sometimes even stayed up all night enjoying each other's company. Losing her left me depressed, terrified, and angry at life.

That was when I realized I was way too dependent on my computer.

Anyone who's ever had a computer crash on them knows what I mean. It's crippling — your access to the most basic things in life (schoolwork, the internet, helpful e-mails about herbal penis enlargement) is suddenly denied, and if you're as technologically inept as I am, solving the problem is about as easy as resurrecting Elvis with a few candles and a Parker Brothers ouija board.

Of course, there are places you can go for help. The liquor store is the most obvious, but our community offers a wealth of other, less frequented resources. When my computer crashed, I racked my brain for places to go. "My God," I thought to myself, "if only there was a place that would help you with your computer. Like a help desk. A computer help desk. God, that would be perfect."

Luckily, it turns out there is a computer help desk — right here

on campus! Who knew? It's open until ten in the evening and is staffed with very helpful personnel, highly trained in talking on instant messenger and playing CDs. When my computer crashed that was the first



place I went.

I couldn't feel more positive about this experience. Two girls were there when I arrived, armed and ready to aid me with all my computer needs. One of them helpfully ignored me and continued instant messaging a friend. The other informed me that she could take my computer, fill out a ticket reporting the problem, and "someone would get back to me." What a relief! Just knowing that "someone would get back to me" was an enormous comfort.

Unfortunately, I came to the computer help desk under somewhat

extenuating circumstances, in that I needed help with the computer in order to get work done. I understand that they're really not prepared for students finding themselves in such bizarre scenarios, so I hold no bitterness toward them. Really.

Don't lose hope yet, though, my technologically crippled friends. You can always head for a computer lab in times of need. That's where I went next—the warm, comforting atmosphere of Pleasants.

Pleasants is a great place to turn because it's full of students just like you — overworked, overpaying, ready to kill themselves at the slightest provocation. There's even a convenient balcony with a hard cement patio twelve feet below, so you don't have to go far to end it all.

The computers in Pleasants are programmed to suit your needs. They sense that you may be intimidated by the cruel, unforgiving speed of modern technology, so they take an hour to open programs such as Microsoft Word, giving you plenty of time to adjust to the idea that, yes, any time now Microsoft Word will be opening, just like you asked. Your technology fees are at work.

Unfortunately, as I discovered, computer labs can treat the symptoms of your loss, but they're not a cure. I returned home from Pleasants at 4 a.m. to find my moni-

tor still black, my computer still quiet and unresponsive, and was immediately thrown back into the depths of despair.

The next day, I fell back on a time-honored source of comfort in adversity: my family. I consulted my father and my 18-year old brother; they offered a wealth of helpful advice. "Why don't you hit control-alt-delete," my brother suggested.

"Have you tried turning the computer off, then turning it back on?" my dad asked. "Why don't you restart it in safe mode," my brother told me. "How do I do that?" I asked. "I don't know," he said. "I just hear people saying that a lot."

There was only one thing left to do: get drunk. Now here was an activity I could throw myself into with a passion, and I derived a ridiculous amount of happiness from the fact that it was something I actually knew how to do. This was how I accidentally discovered the most helpful, untapped resource of all: my friends' boyfriends.

Now, I'm a feminist. I don't need any damn men to hang my pictures for me or program the VCR. At the same time, as a woman, I have a lot of important issues distracting me from learning about computers. I'm a member of an oppressed group, which naturally takes up a lot of my time. I've also mastered the art of getting through

my period without any embarrassment; I'd like to see your average oil-changing heavy-object-lifting male deal with that.

Because guys don't have to grapple with issues like the heterosexist patriarchal values that dominate our society, they have a lot of free time on their hands, and this free time is often devoted to figuring out how things work. Guys will say things to you like "I just have to go into BIOS in order to reconfigure your scan drives," and they will know exactly what they're talking about. Whereas I'm not really sure if that sentence even makes sense.

This, in the end, was how my computer was resurrected. As far as I am concerned, the kind gentleman who took four hours out of his Saturday to "reformat" (letters to the editor explaining the meaning of this word are welcome) my computer is the Mother Teresa of Hollins University.

Now I can communicate with friends and professors with the mere click of a button, complete all my schoolwork, find out what's on TV, even check the temperature outside. My computer lives again, humming comfortingly as I write, ready to commiserate with all my woes and help with all my needs. And not a moment too soon. I was getting really sick of having to leave my room all the time.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)

Thanksgiving is around the corner. Remember the people you are thankful for: the Moody staff, campus safety, professors, family and friends. The astrological map tells me what you're really thankful for, but keep it to yourself so no one will think you are an ungrateful, spoiled brat.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

Start making plans to vacate campus. Unfortunately there will be some of you who will have no place to go. If this is the case, look through your telephone directory, close your eyes, and pick a name. I am sure the person you randomly choose will be grateful enough to take you home with them for Thanksgiving. If not, tell them that they are not thankful people, and their Thanksgiving dinner will be ruined by sweet potatoes flying through the air and bad cranberry sauce.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

Stay away from the party scene. You can't handle it. If you go to another party, you are likely to get puke all over your good friend, and it is probable that he or she won't be a happy camper. Relax and find pleasure in being sober for once. When are you going to learn to avoid Washington and Lee?

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)

You will want a new look. Make a fashion statement by placing your favorite stickers all over your body, preferably glow-in-the-dark. It will make a great flashlight for walking on campus at night, and possibly scare off any kidnappers nearby. Your glowing radiance will scare them senseless.

Horoscopes

BY DAYTONA WYLD

Pisces (February 19 - March 20)

Relax as the cool air sets in. You may find it important to meditate and become one with the coldness of November. It will be productive if you start a meditating club for the long and hard winter ahead. Walking in the cold from class to class can be prevented if you purchase a "How to Meditate" manual in the bookstore at Hollins. This book will show you how to fly to the destination you so desire. Don't take your new meditating power lightly; if you do, you could be in danger.

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

Participate in as many on-campus activities as possible. Someone will be watching you and you will be rewarded for your involvement. Don't put yourself above others because of your uncontrollable giving this month. I'll leave you with an ancient proverb: Charity done in vain will only cause you pain.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

You will have many different desires that you want to fulfill. Venus is moving into Pluto, which is a rare happening. This means that you should do whatever you want. For get about your assignments and go to that N.E.F.A. party. Live in the moment and party, baby, party.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

Prepare yourself for the harsh weather change that is

coming soon to a campus near you. Dig out those high-fashionable earmuffs, even if it kills you. Your mom's aerobic socks from the 80's will insulate your feet and ankles as well. It is also suggested that you wear a head band and turn your earmuffs into headphones.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22)

Hopefully, for Thanksgiving you'll have a nice place to go home to and lots of turkey to eat. Why turkey? I like ham, myself. And what about vegetarians, what do they eat on Thanksgiving? Think about it.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)

By now the days are getting tough and you can't wait until the end of the semester. Watching *Destinos* is getting to be obnoxious. What's with Raquel, anyway? For those of you who aren't familiar with the program, consider yourself lucky. For *Destinos* and non-*Destinos* watchers, rent a "good movie and snuggle up with a soft teddy bear.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

You are excited about your classes for the spring semester. Taking 40 credit hours hasn't bothered you at all. You'll have so much time to study and be with friends. Oh the joys of writing 100 papers in one week. It's an exciting time for you here at Hollins.

Libra (September 23 - October 22)

Happiness will be your guide this month. Thanksgiving is near, and before you know it, Christmas break will be, too. It really is true that women who start at Hollins are going places. Mostly to their dorms, Dana, the library or the Park to dance.

Apart from turkey and stuffing, thanks for...

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, I decided to focus on a few things that I, myself, am thankful for. As my stress level has increased this semester with newspaper, writing a thesis and the prospect of graduating, I have recently tried to take time to evaluate what's most important in my life.

We'll start with my car. I have never owned one, and I finally bought one this semester. Although I have gotten along fine without one for three years, I am very thankful for my little Honda at this point in my life.

Now I can acquire important necessities at any hour of the night, such as Red Bull or Marlboro Lights, without inconveniencing my roommates or friends. And I don't have to walk home to the apartments late at night.

I am also thankful for

websites containing information crucial for the completion of my work. I do not know how I would get through those long nights in



ANGIE JEFFREYS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Pleasants and Dana without www.homestarrunner.com. I am particularly thankful for "Strong Bad Email" under the "Features" button on the remote control. These can provide hours of memorable and insightful quotes as

Strong Bad religiously replies to the site's fan mail.

Other people may have already discovered this website, but I feel that it was worth waiting for, as my internet exploring is generally limited to checking my e-mail.

I think that day planners are something worth mentioning, too, considering this week's topic. Along with that, we can add multi-colored highlighters to the list. Without these two things, my life might actually fall to shambles.

As the numbers of deadlines and meetings steadily increase, my day planner is logically laid out and equipped to accommodate my scheduling needs. With multi-colored highlighters, I can even feed my obsessive compulsive behavior by color coding each individual subject and task so I know what is due when at a mere glance.

My layout editor, Lucy, is also something I'm thankful for. If it weren't for her, production weekends and late nights in the basement of a creepy building might actually be scary.

If the creepiness of Moody didn't do it, then surely stressing over missed deadlines and only having three articles on a Friday night would push me over the edge.

But she's always there to tell me to shut up and stop freaking out, in the most polite manner possible. And, if it weren't for her, this lovely newspaper might not appear before your very eyes, so you should thank her, too.

I have to say I am additionally thankful for Williamson Rd. Especially two weekends ago when my roommate, Cat, and I pulled up behind a Camaro and a Trans Am at a stoplight, revving

their engines. We then had the pleasure of following behind them as they engaged in a high-speed 35-mph drag race. It was neck-to-neck as they pumped the breaks every few seconds.

We wanted to follow them when they quickly spun around to go the other direction, but then we decided we might get killed, so we didn't.

And last, but certainly not least. I am most thankful for my three lovely roommates. Even though I am hardly at our wonderful, happy apartment, and neither is one of my other roommates, it's nice to know the other two are there, in case I do go home at a decent hour. And there are the honorary roommates that I must not forget, either. If it weren't for them, I would probably drop out of school, altogether.

Happy Thanksgiving!!!

Campus safety should live up to its name

BY LAURA CARRUBA

How many letters and opinion pieces must Hollins students write in order for the administration to figure out that we're not happy with Campus Safety? As with several other problems on campus, the administration doesn't give a rat's patoot until It Happens To Them. Unfortunately, administration will never know our Campus Safety woes, thanks to the fact that administration parking can do no wrong. Hopefully, the addition of my tale of woe will fall on a sympathetic ear, and help grind the gears in the rusty administration machine to work out solutions.

On the morning of Oct. 13, I headed off campus to spend the last of my laundry money on \$6 worth of copies. Before I left campus, I managed to blow my right front tire. A patrolling Campus Safety vehicle stopped to "help me out." Their help amounted to a phone number for the Hollins Texaco, as Campus Security Safety could not help me change my tire.

I hate to say it, but if I was spending the last of my cash on copies, I just couldn't afford the \$35/half-hour charge for the Hollins Texaco to tow my car. With the help of a hallmate (thanks Fuuma!), I manage to change the tire. Money for new tire aside, I would have appreciated more help than just a phone number, considering their title is Campus Safety.

My tale does not end there. On the morning of Nov. 7, my hallmates and I loaded a weekend's worth of convention gear into our cars, preparing to drive to Virginia Beach to attend Nekocon 6. We parked in Moody for breakfast. Two cars out of the four in the caravan managed to find 15-minute parking spaces, but one car was forced to park in regular Moody park-

ing and the last car, my car, parked in front of the 15-minute parking spaces near the curb. We intended to be there for no longer than 15 minutes, as we desired breakfast before our five-hour drive. I suddenly remembered that my sunglasses were on my bed back in TInker, so I raced back to get them.

That decision cost us \$40. In the five-minute interval it took me to retrieve my glasses, Campus Safety placed one of their little collection envelopes under my windshield wiper. Not twenty feet away sat my friends, and during the time it took the officer to write the ticket and place it so carefully where I wouldn't miss it, my friends tried to tell the officer our situation and that I would be back to explain myself. Their cries fell on deaf ears. My car was ticketed, as was the car parked in the regular Moody parking spot.

Had this been my hometown, or even my high school, I would have been able to explain my position right then and there. I would have still been ticketed, true, but at least where I come from, people can find out not only why the rule should not have been broken, and ways to change the status quo.

As a result, I do not have a single souvenir from my convention trip--I just couldn't afford to spend any money after the blown tire and on the offchance I couldn't appeal the ticket.

And at this time, I am still looking for a way to appeal the ticket, as clear documentation for Campus Tax Collectors Safety appeals is conveniently unavailable.

As I said before, I'm not alone in my woes. It's been said that if you have a car on campus, you more than likely have a story involving Campus Safety. Rather than incessantly

whine about injustice, I suggest the student body band together to solve these problems. But how to we go about doing it?

Do we hold a lackluster protest demonstration against Campus Security, afraid to use the microphone fearing someone will overhear our personal dissent, then forget to clean up after ourselves the next day?

No.

Do we post illegal fliers in every bathroom and laundry room on campus containing Campus Safety quotes taken out of context?

No.

Do we wait until events build to a big seething frustration so heinous that a campuswide meeting is held, and students break into frustrated tears and heart-wrenching cries, and wait five months for administration to build a taskforce to discover and quantify the problem, and pack said taskforce with numerous high-profile faculty and SGA members?

No.

I would like to offer some practical solutions instead. Perhaps administration will take these complaints more seriously if they have some sort of gameplan to follow.

1: Fix Campus Safety's mission statement or whatever guidelines they have. Clearly delineate what that highly esteemed group of individuals

can and cannot do, and make sure everyone on campus knows it.

2: Post clear and easy-to-access appeal information, when the appeal board meets with students, etc.

3: Hold a forum with students, administration, and Campus Security Safety to answer questions and discuss problems.

4: Include special-situation clauses in the Campus Security Safety guide involving such things as temporary and emergency parking.

5: Realizing that when enough people know that a problem exists on campus, those people know and trust that administration not only knows about the problem but can actually take care of it.

(PS: When I blew my tire, Hollins Maintenance stopped not once but TWICE to make sure that I was okay, my car was okay, and if I needed any assistance. Campus Safety didn't even ask if I was okay. I have never had a problem with Hollins Maintenance; they are kind, generous, efficient, and courteous people. If I had the money, I would bake them all cookies.)

Join America's #1 Student Tour Operator
CANCUN, ACAPULCO, JAMAICA, BAHAMAS, FLORIDA
 Sell Trips, Earn Cash, Go Free!
 Now Hiring On-campus Reps
 Call for group discounts

1-800-648-4849 / www.ststravel.com

Dear editor: Discrimination illegal, not sin

"When homosexual conduct is made criminal by the law of the state, that declaration in and of itself is an invitation to subject homosexual persons to discrimination both in the public and in the private sphere." - Justice Anthony Kennedy, writing for the majority, *Lawrence v. Texas* (June 2003)

It's been a rough few years for those opposed to lesbian and gay civil rights. First came *Romer v. Evans* (1996) where for the first time the U.S. Supreme Court offered constitutional protection for lesbians and gays. The majority held that the law may not draw moral distinctions based on the sexual practices of consenting adults. The underlying judgment in *Romer* is that it is no longer legitimate to discriminate against gay men or lesbians as a class simply because the state may want to discourage "homosexuality" or homosexual behavior. Worse for anti-gay and lesbian activists, the U.S. Supreme Court in June issued its decision in the closely watched challenge to Texas' same-sex sodomy law. In an opinion of such breathtaking scope that it stunned even the most optimistic gay and lesbian rights advocates, the Court in *Lawrence v. Texas* (2003) legalized same-sex

sexual relations and called into question laws against same-sex marriage, making them more vulnerable to a legal challenge. Finally in what must seem to anti-gay and lesbian activists as the end of the civilized world, the nation's largest mainline Protestant church, the Episcopalians, recently ordained its first out gay male bishop.

With such advancements in the legal and social spheres, it is no wonder that anti-gay anti-lesbian activists such as our own Richard Carr (in *Roanoke Times* editorial of 11/8/03) cling to discredited religious dogma about "sinners" and "sinning" to justify their opposition to the inclusion of gay and lesbian people as full members of society. But in our view religious dogma is never an appropriate basis for granting or denying the rights and privileges of citizenship in a non-sectarian constitutional democracy such as ours. While such judgment might be appropriate in a theocracy, for example, modern day Iran, U.S. citizens live in a society where the U.S. Constitution, not the Bible, determines rights, duties and liberties. Religious institutions and/or individuals opposed to civil rights advances for lesbians and gay men have every right to decide what, for example,

same-sex marriage means for Catholicism, but not to dictate which Americans can get a marriage license from the government. That is a matter for the courts to determine as they interpret the meaning of our rights and privileges under the terms of the U.S. Constitution.

The real matter, in our view, is discrimination. Sex discrimination is not legal in the United States, which is what same-sex discrimination often comes down to. Although this may be a novel argument to those not versed in contemporary or feminist legal arguments, it has been over two decades since scholars first argued that there is an intrinsic connection between sexism and heterosexism. This is not an esoteric argument. It should be clear from ordinary experience that the stigmatization of gay men and lesbians has something to do with their supposed deviance from traditional sex roles.

In our culture, men must be masculine and women must be feminine, that is, to avoid gender-confusion. Lesbians and gay men are threatening to religious zealots and their supporters because they call into question the idea of males as dominant and females as submissive and inferior to

men. Men who, as members of the superior caste, allow their bodies to be penetrated and thereby polluted and degraded assume the status of the subordinate caste: they become womanlike. Men cannot simultaneously be used "as women" and stay powerful because they are men. Lesbianism, on the other hand, is a form of insubordination: it denies that female sexuality exists, or should exist, only for the sake of male gratification.

In short, stigmatization of lesbians and gay men functions as part of a larger system of social control based on gender. However, discrimination against lesbians and gay men rests upon an increasingly suspicious normative stereotype: the bald conviction that certain behavior—for example, sex with women—is appropriate for members of one sex, but not for members of the other sex. Catherine MacKinnon, one of the nation's most respected legal scholars, asserts that gay men and lesbian women are arguably situated similarly to their heterosexual counterparts in every respect but their sex or the sex of their sexual partners. If they had sex with, or identified sexually as available for sex with, the same partners but were themselves of the

other sex biologically, they would not be discriminated against. If say Richard and Mike are treated one way if Richard is Rachael and another if Mike is Maryanne, sex discrimination pure and simple has occurred. Such law flatly violate the constitutional prohibition on sex discrimination as is has been interpreted by the Supreme Court.

Religious arguments about the (im)morality of gays and lesbians or whether we are, in Richard Carr's vision, "sinners" or "not sinners," divert attention from the real issue: constitutionally prohibited sex discrimination. Moreover, the case of lesbian and gay rights is a powerful one that goes well beyond the interests of lesbians and gay men themselves. The effort to end discrimination against lesbians and gay men should be understood as a necessary part of the larger efforts to end the inequality of the sexes. Perhaps that is the real reason Richard Carr and his supporters oppose our efforts to dismantle the hierarchy of males over females.

Susan Thomas, Associate Professor of Political Science and Women's Studies

Jessica McEwan, '04, English major

Time for thanks and giving

To whom it may concern:

Each year, one week before Thanksgiving, the National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness co-sponsor National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. I am working with Trust House, an organization that originated at Hollins University, to organize a drive here at Hollins to collect various items to be distributed to the non-profit organizations that benefit the homeless in Roanoke, particularly Trust. I have written to all departments at Hollins University requesting donations, and I will be going door-to-door collecting items or monetary donations from students.

I am enclosing a list of items that would be greatly ap-

Trust House Wish List

Household needs:

Pillows
Towels/washcloths
Blankets
Toilet tissue
Paper towels
60 watt light bulbs
Liquid dish detergent
Pine Sol or Lysol liquid cleaner
Lysol or Clorox disinfecting spray
Window cleaner
Liquid hand soap
Brooms/dust pans
Baking soda - small boxes
Murphy's soap
Room deodorizers - please, no plug-ins
33-gallon trash bags

Personal Needs:

Deodorant - trial size
Toothbrushes/
toothpaste
Disposable razors
Pocket combs
Hair brushes

Food Items:

Juice boxes
Small packs of crackers
Individual cereal boxes
Fruit cups - 6 packs

Office items:

Copy paper
Letter-size manila folders - 3

preciated by Trust and the homeless persons whom Trust assists. The Wish List is only a guide; any donation will be extremely helpful!

If you wish to donate, please contact me at 362-6755. All donations must be made no later than the morning of Nov. 20, 2003. Everything will be appreciated, and it only takes a few minutes to grab a can off your pantry shelf on your way to work, dig out an extra toothbrush, or to lay out a ream of copy paper for me to pick up. So please give me a call!

On behalf of Trust House, I greatly appreciate your consideration and help. The homeless citizens of Roanoke will be very thankful, too.

Sincerely,
Jessica L. Knudson '04

Campus safety causes student trouble

Dear Editor,

On the afternoon of November 7, 2003, I walked into campus safety and requested that one of the gates be put down so that I could drive to East and load stuff into my car. I needed to move a computer, several boxes and a bunch of posters. However, my request was denied...stating that the gate was not allowed to be put down for anyone. I was told to contact student services to request a cart so that I could get all my stuff from my room to my car. Nowhow many steps does one student have to go through to get her stuff into her car. How many people must she make aware of her dilemma. Well apparently, at least two...just so I can get my stuff out. Next time I'm putting stuff in my car, I think campus safety should help me move, and see just how much trouble they caused me.

Michie Blevins

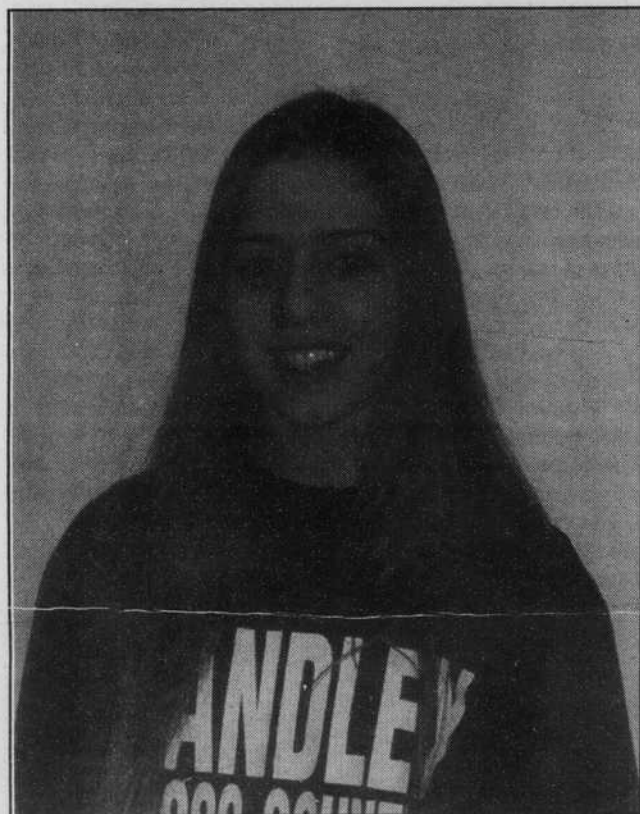
Got something to say?

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

Lockhart runs circles around competition

BY LAURA SMITH

Hailing from Winchester, Virginia, Jaime Lockhart '07 began running for cross country in seventh grade. After a year's hiatus at a private school that did not offer cross country, Lockhart began to run in what she calls "a cycle" upon reaching high school: running in cross country during the



LUCY ERHARDT

"I don't consider myself a great runner. I consider myself a decent runner who is doing okay right now."

- Jamie Lockhart '07

fall, indoor track during the winter, outdoor track during the spring, and then in the summer, preparation for the next school year.

Lockhart's dedication has really paid off. "This past season I was Old Dominion Athletic Conference runner of the week three times," she explained.

"She's a really determined runner and she's a fun person to be around," said Raennah Mitchell '07.

Lockhart's various awards are proof enough. "I've gotten an award in every race I've been in, except for the ones I've passed out in," she said. In one of those races, she was in first place before she passed out, and she was still able to get up and finish thirteenth.

Lockhart prepares for a race the same way every time. "[While] in high school I used to listen to music; I had certain songs that would pump me up," she said. "But this year I [made] sure I ate right, I would do every single stretch each time . . . my hair [had] to be the same way each time.

"I always had a blueberry bagel, apple, and water right before my race. I couldn't change it around or else I would pass out. It wasn't because of the food but I thought it was - it was all in my head."

Lockhart is emphatic about the importance of team unity, and would like to see even more emphasis placed on it during training. "We don't get to run together all the time because we are all on different levels, which bothers me because I like running with the team, I like the unity," she related.

She continued, "When we travel together to the meets, when we walk the course together, and we have team dinners, it's sort of like our down time when we can just make jokes and have fun. We all just have so much fun . . . we'll make fun of the course, how things are marked, how big a hill is, even though we are all there to run

. . . its like a family, with all your inside jokes."

Mitchell agreed, "When we all get together, we're just laughing the whole time."

Feeling that this season was sort of "like a test drive," Lockhart did not come to Hollins to run. "I've had so many injuries with running I wasn't looking for a school to run," she stated, "I didn't come here for running, but they just happened to have a team, so I joined."

Although unsure of her major, Lockhart plans to pursue other sports and join the French club. "Right now I am trying to adjust to

running and keeping up with all my work," she explained.

She related that Hollins made her feel right at home. "I really like it here, with admissions, I got personal letters . . . they made me feel really welcome before I was even here," she said.

Lockhart also has a contagious personality. "Jaime is very outgoing; she's good about listening to people's problems," said Claire Cruce '07. Cruce's roommate Elizabeth Denton '07 agreed: "She's really social," she said.

"Jaime is a pretty amazing person," says Amy Torbert, her Student Success Leader. "To be this successful at such a high level of competition while maintaining one's academics and friends is tough for anyone to do. To complete all of these activities this successfully as a first-year, though, is something else!"

Lockhart doesn't see herself as a really good runner. "I don't consider myself

a great runner. I consider myself a decent runner who is doing okay right now," she related.

Lockhart's brother has been her inspiration. "My brother goes to the University of Wisconsin and he has a full scholarship for running. He is what I would consider an amazing runner," Lockhart said. "I think maybe I started because I saw him run." Even with this example for her to follow, Lockhart has definitely carved out her own path here at Hollins for herself, by helping to lead and inspire the fledgling cross-country team through her hard work and success.

Lockhart doesn't know what she wants to major in but she knows that she is going to continue to run. "Running is part of who I am . . . I am always going to run. I hope to run in a marathon in my mid to early twenties. I don't know if I am always going to be competitive but I want to be running when I'm 80, 90," she explained.

Soap Be It

A few simple clicks, a few simple pleasures.

www.soapbeit.com

questions? Contact Austin Bouffard x6744