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HOLLINS COLUMNS



APRIL 19, 2004

HOLLINS UNIVERSITY, ROANOKE, VA

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NEWS



FILMANDVISUALCULTURE.UCR.EDU

**Film festival
honors
student's
memory**

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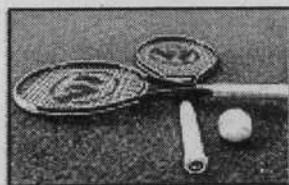
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**Movie theaters
take the heat**

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WWW.SPORTING-GOODS-INDUSTRY.COM

**Tennis courts
still under
construction.**

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Lost yearbooks arrive on campus

BY ANGIE JEFFERYS

On Thursday April 15, one of the most anticipated deliveries of the year arrived at Hollins: the 2003 issue of *Spinster*.

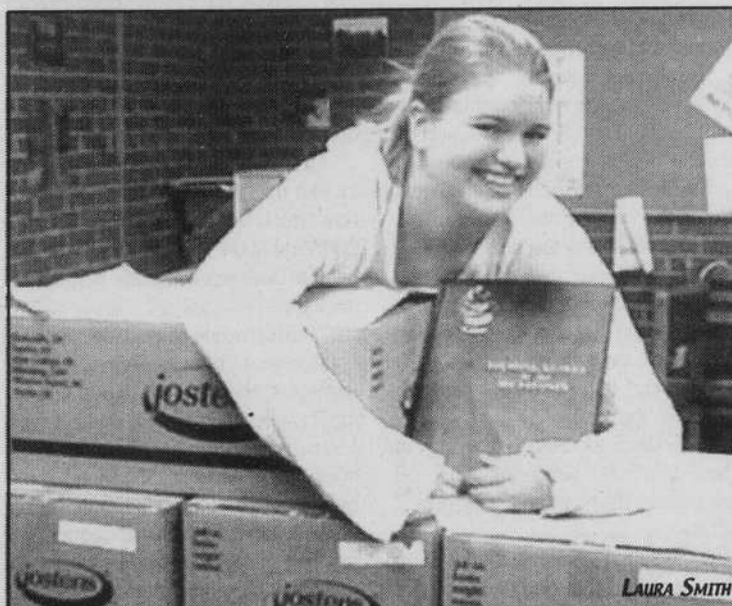
A yearbook that was supposed to be distributed between late September and early October, is finally complete after months of technical complications and miscommunications between *Spinster* editor Amanda Aasheim '04 and the Jostens plant in Winston-Salem, NC.

The books will be distributed to current students in Moody beginning today. Additionally, Jostens is mailing the books directly from the plant to 2003 graduates' homes.

Aasheim, who has spent three years as editor, said she now has pieced together last year's yearbook 3 times. She thanks Beth Burgin '04, SGA president, Alison Ridley, acting dean of students, and Joe Rosenberg, director of student activities and organizations, for helping her sort through the problems and getting the yearbook delivered as quickly as possible.

Amy Torbert '05 and Lonie Grace McCann '06 also played major roles in reconstructing the 2003 *Spinster* last semester.

While many students and alumni have been frustrated with the time it has taken to receive a yearbook that was due out six months ago, these complications have also prompted positive discussion between Aasheim,



Amanda Aasheim '04 hugs the newly-arrived shipment of 2003 yearbooks. The much-anticipated books will be distributed starting today.

Ridley, and Rosenberg.

Ridley identifies the major problems for the *Spinster* this year as a limited staff, not having an in-house advisor, and communication issues with Jostens. Currently, Ridley and Rosenberg are working with Aasheim to prevent these from reoccurring in the future.

One of the biggest changes will be Rosenberg stepping in as an on-campus advisor who is available to give

immediate attention to problems as they arise.

Many past and present students, though, have questioned Aasheim regarding the whereabouts of the 2003 *Spinster*, and whether or not it actually existed. The topic has also often come up in Senate, as students have questioned her abilities as editor.

"I was coming home crying, but then I realized I was doing the best job I can do while taking 22 credits as a student, and not getting any aca-

ademic credit for this," Aasheim said. "I know what I did, I know that I sent the pages off, and I did the best job I could."

Jacqueline Whitt '03 explained that collectively, last year's senior class has been questioning the whereabouts of their senior yearbook.

"I understand the hassles of putting a yearbook together and dealing with publishing company mistakes, but as a student, I want my yearbook. We all just want to make sure we have the yearbook from our senior year at Hollins," she said, prefacing the comment by mentioning she was editor of her high school yearbook for two years. "Yearbooks are important. They're what we'll show our children and pull out at reunions."

Tara Smith '04, SGA secretary, echoed some of Whitt's concerns when explaining why SGA believed Aasheim might have received extra criticism than some other organization leaders on campus.

"We need to remember that it's not just a yearbook, it's a club putting together a yearbook," said Smith. "Perhaps since the yearbook is something very permanent, it makes it a club that's held very responsible for what it does on campus."

At the same time, Smith also admits that a student body will always complain about something, and if it weren't the yearbook, it would be

SEE YEARBOOK PAGE 2

Campus TV station a likely possibility

BY JULIA KNOX

Hollins has been trying to get a campus-wide TV station since 1988, and it looks like it's finally going to happen this year. Taylor Cook '04 said, "The idea has always been in the back of people's minds. We know it's possible. I know it's definitely been on the back of Ashley [Reynolds] and Beth's [Burgin] minds."

Reynolds and Burgin declined to comment for this article.

There are many things necessary for such an event to occur. According to Media Services Director Michael Mansfield, "We need to buy a notch filter from Cox Communications, which I've already spoken to them about. The notch filter would block the

campus from receiving channel 3. The signal that we send out through our modulator would appear on channel 3 instead. We have a workable modulator, but we need to test it to make sure it still works with the system."

In the early 1990's, Hollins actually had a cable channel that ran an international news channel and foreign language tapes such as *Destinos* through a satellite feed. However, we lacked the technologically advanced equipment necessary for students to produce their own TV shows. This equipment is now available to students with the completion of the Wyndham Robertson Library and the addition of the television and editing studios.

However, according to Communication Studies professor Chris Rich-

ter, "When we switched to the new library, we switched to a digital-interface programming and lost the channel we had available."

Once the notch filter is purchased and it is assured that the modulator is able to broadcast our signal, the TV station will be technologically possible. It is then up to Hollins students to develop programming and keep the station running.

Elizabeth Bartenstein '07 said, "I think it'd be really cool to have the opportunity to work on a real TV station. I don't know if I'd be so into being on-camera, but it'd be awesome to work on a crew, like master control or help write scripts."

Richter said, "I would like to see a Communications or Hollins TV club

formed to work with the station. I'd be the advisor for at least the first year to make sure the members knew how to use the equipment and make some ground rules. It would be the student's responsibility to develop any programs they wanted broadcasted."

He continued, "There would also be some academic aspects to the station. We would start to run the *Destinos* tapes again, and any other foreign language or academic tapes needed, so students could watch them without having to leave their rooms."

"I'd probably watch the station. It depends on what's on it, but if the programs are good, I'll watch it," said Erica Wisner '06

Along with student developed pro-
SEE TV PAGE 3

FROM PAGE 1

Yearbook

something else. She also believes that the extra time spent on the Spinster will make it a high quality book, though.

"I really hope that because it has gone through so many revisions, it will be an amazing book," said Smith. "And because there's been a lot of hype about it, it should be really great and fly right off that table."

Aasheim said she initially had to recreate the Spinster because many original photographs and disk files were lost between her house and Jostens' plant in Winston-Salem.

"Between point A and point B, it disappeared," said Aasheim, who said she sent the final copy by mail. "To this day, we don't know what happened."

It was not until October that Aasheim and the current yearbook advisor, Phyllis Zorn, learned that Jostens never received the eighty pages Aasheim said she sent just a few weeks after graduation last May. The plant claimed to have only received the first forty pages Aasheim sent before the end of spring semester. Zorn was not available to comment for this article.

In addition to rewriting and copy-editing text, Aasheim also sorted through the entire photograph collection to find ones similar to the originals lost with the original yearbook.

With the help of Amy Torbert '05 and Lorrie McCann '06, Aasheim

completed a second version of the book at the end of this past January, when the second major problem arose.

Windows '95, the Operating System on the Spinster's 9-year-old computer, finally died when Aasheim was in the process of backing up the second final version. While Computer Services was able to salvage portions, most of the work was lost, so Aasheim began again from scratch on the one hundred and twenty page document.

She also noted that the Spinster has no CD burner, scanner or digital camera that would simplify production by creating digital copies of important photographs. Aasheim hopes next year's staff will be able to acquire a new computer and the necessary accessories.

Ridley got involved in early February, after she had contacted Aasheim to ask some questions about how the club worked and how new students could join the staff.

"This discussion led to figuring out where the 2003 yearbook was and making sure the plant got everything," said Ridley.

Ridley also said that it was Zorn who identified that one of the major reasons the book's production had been delayed was because they did not have an on-campus advisor who was available every day.

Because she was only available one day a week, there was no one who could constantly supervise and help find solutions to problems immediately after they arose.

Rosenberg entered the picture after Zorn officially announced that she would retire at the end of this year. Rosenberg seemed an obvious choice for her successor, because he had worked as the yearbook advisor at his previous job at Albright College in Reading, PA.

In addition to his general knowledge of how a yearbook is produced, Rosenberg said he had faced and solved a similar and far more serious dilemma at Albright. When he started advising their yearbook, it was backed up two years.

"In his first training meeting, Joe kicked into full gear," said Ridley of how much Rosenberg did for both the 2003 and 2004 Spinsters, even though his role does not officially begin until next year.

"He is the one responsible for getting the books here on Thursday," said Ridley, explaining that Rosenberg almost immediately made contact with Jostens to figure out where the yearbooks were. He also downloaded the Spinster's publishing software on his office computer to help the current staff put pages together and answer any questions they had about production.

Rosenberg said he is committed to resolving the Spinster's current problems, as well as developing plans to improve efficiency and the quality of the product Hollins receives.

"I've grown very fond of Hollins University and the people here," said Rosenberg, explaining his position after the brief time he has spent here. "I

don't like to see anyone I care for get mistreated, and I want them to get the best that they can and let everyone know that we are first and finest in women's higher education."

Torbert, who is currently studying abroad in Paris, will follow Aasheim as yearbook editor of the 2005 Spinster. She prefers to focus on the future, rather than dwelling on past mistakes and misunderstandings with the yearbook.

"For next year, I'm still really excited about taking over the book," said Torbert in an e-mail interview, although she admitted she was nervous about how the student body will feel about the yearbook next year. "I feel as if I've gotten a lot of interesting ideas about how to improve the organization, and I'm really excited about working with an on-campus advisor! It will be such a relief!"

Torbert also elaborated plans to improve the training process for both editors and new staff in order to recruit new members, whether or not they have previous yearbook experience. She also wants to enforce deadlines and work on aggressive recruitment from the photography classes, who could serve as a more permanent photo staff.

Torbert did, however, agree with Ridley and Rosenberg in saying that the lack of staff and additionally an organized training process, contributed to the Spinster's problems.

"I feel the problems from last year's yearbook stemmed from our horrible lack of staff," she said. "Technically there were more people signed up to take the class for credit, but many

of them didn't have previous yearbook experience, so given the lack of a training process at the beginning of the year, it was difficult for them to get involved."

Currently, Rosenberg, Aasheim and Zorn are working to ensure that the 2004 year book comes out early next fall despite the fact that its production was delayed by the 2003 book. Rosenberg has developed a timeline that Aasheim and Zorn have agreed to follow that has the final copy sent to Jostens by the end of May, so that next year's staff can begin immediately working on the 2005 book.

Rosenberg and Ridley also credit Margaret Hopkins '04 who volunteered to compile the entire Sports section of the 2004 book, Laura Speakman '04, who is in charge of senior ads, and Rita Escalero '06, a new transfer student who has taken charge of the clubs section. Ridley also said she knew there were some students she was forgetting.

Everyone involved agrees that they would like to focus on the future and the progress the Spinster has made, rather than the problems the staff faced this year and where blame should be placed.

"As of right now, I don't think it's anyone's responsibility," said Aasheim when asked if she believed where any blame should be placed. "And actually, I think that there was so much pressure put on me that I felt like I had to take responsibility, when really there was no one person or thing that should be blamed. Although I should have realized the problem sooner and not tried to fix it [by] myself."

Crossley shares perspective

BY LAURA SPEAKMAN

An Emmy winner and Oscar nominee visited Hollins University last week. She was not an actress or director for a film in Hollywood. Callie Crossley, Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow, was nominated for the production of the civil rights PBS documentary, "Eyes on the Prize." Crossley, a Wellesley College graduate now Boston, resident, came to Hollins to speak about her work and her career path.

Crossley completed "Eyes on the

Prize" 10 years into her career. She claims it is her legacy.

"I realized this was a legacy afterwards. Had it not been my legacy it still would have been a wonderful experience I would have held on to," said Crossley to students in Jane Turnas-Sema's Communication and Culture class last Monday. This was the first documentary she produced.

"I wanted to do something that made me feel like I am doing something meaningful at the end of the day," said Crossley.

The documentary can be found in libraries, is quoted by scholars, and is used in five different courses in different subjects at Harvard University. As an accomplished journalist early on in her career, Crossley struggled to find what she should do next that could be equally fulfilling.

She currently completed the documentary series "This Far by Faith: African-American Spiritual Journeys." This series looked at how African-American use faith in shaping their

lives.

Last Monday through Thursday, Crossley attended eight other classes in sociology, English, history, political science, women studies, communication studies, and film.

Professors at Hollins had Crossley watching films and reading material to prepare to discuss what is going on in classes.

"I haven't had homework when visiting other schools," said Crossley.

Klaus Phillips, professor of film, requested she watch "A Question of Silence" to prepare for his class. Crossley said one of her most challenging questions of her trip was when Communication Studies professor Chris Richter asked her concept of how public relations can be used in a good way.

"I was sweating during that question," said Crossley. Richter believed that her answer and discussion added to his course. She explained how she thought that public relations can be used for good, instead of using it for

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LAURA SPEAKMAN

Callie Crossley spoke on campus Thursday night.

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FROM PAGE 1

TV

grams, students in Richter's Video Studio Processes class would have the opportunity to broadcast their final project over the station.

Cook, who has sat in on the Roundtable discussions regarding the possibility of the TV station and is Chair of Academic Policy, thought a club was a good idea, but there should be more than an extra-curricular aspect to it.

She said, "Extra-curricular interest should play a part, but students involved should be motivated because of interest in the subject and an academic drive to succeed."

She continued, "The club would need strong academic leadership. I definitely think that students should get academic credit for participating, because in the past, receiving academic credit has stepped up the

student's quality of work. For example, when Model UN was made a class, the level of work and commitment increased significantly. In order for the TV station to be a credible organization, it needs to have academic credit."

Another possibility for programs is the addition of MTV U, programming offered by MTV to college stations. Such programming includes music videos and old episodes of popular series, such as Road Rules.

Cook said, however, "I definitely don't think there should be any SGA money going to purchase MTV programs. It should be 100% student work or programs that could be used to benefit other classes."

Cook also expressed doubt that a Hollins TV Club should be fully funded by SGA.

She commented, "I'm not sure the club should be an SGA organization. Our budget is already stressed and I think the communications department should step up and fund some of it -

maybe work out some sort of joint funding effort."

She continued, "They shouldn't just get money from SGA without having to produce a quality line-up. I think if the department was monetarily invested, you'd get a lot more dedication from everyone involved."

In response, Tumas-Sema said, "I think the University has already funded a lot of the program. We already have most of the equipment. It should be treated just like any other club."

When asked how much money it would take to fund such a station, Mansfield responded, "It really depends on where the students want to go with it. We already have the basic infrastructure. For very little money we could just get even more professional equipment, live feeds, or sets for live shows. If there's a lot of student interest and they want to expand their programs, we would have to buy more field equipment, or a more advanced

messaging system."

He continued, "There's also the cost of tapes needed to produce a show. In a high end system such as ours, a single tape can run \$40-\$50. But it really depends on what the students want to do."

Everyone involved with the process of beginning the station sees it as a wonderful opportunity for both the communications department and those students interested in a career in broadcasting or TV production. Cook said, "I think it would be really good for the communications department. The [Sowell Journalism] symposium brought them a lot of attention, and I think having the opportunity for their students to participate in such an activity would do it even more good."

Professor Richter agreed, saying, "The station would be an opportunity for people wanting to be in the media industry to get some hands on experience. It's an opportunity to get your work out there and have others see it."

Mansfield added, "It would provide another avenue of self-expression and communication that's not available yet on campus. It gives another voice to the community."

He continued, "It's an important opportunity to develop and create programming in a more complex form in a world that's getting more and more multi-media oriented. This would give students substantial viable experience that they can take out into the real world. It has the potential to be a very vital part of campus and generate a lot of interest. I really think it could do a lot to advance the quality of life."

He continued, "I've always been impressed by the way Hollins students always take something to the next level. They want this station, and I'm really looking forward to seeing what develops."

Mansfield cautioned that it will take time for the station to fully develop, but concluded, "We're going to get this station up."

Film festival screens student, professional work

BY JEILENN GERLACH

Two years ago, Nicole Kohn '02 passed away due to a bacterial infection of the heart, resulting from complications during surgery to remove an ovarian cyst. Kohn had a dream of putting on a student film festival, which was cut short by her unexpected death.

Stephanie Stender '04 recalls meeting Kohn in a J-Term film production class.

"She was kind of a mentor to all of us. She just had such a sense of humor. You can't really describe her. She was such a wonderful person."

As a tribute to her, Kohn's friends decided to follow through on her film festival plans.

The 2nd Annual Nicole Kohn Film Festival was held this past weekend, April 16-17.

The festival was hosted by Door-stop Productions, a student film group interested in showing a variety of genres within film.

The film festival began as a fundraiser to name a room after Kohn in the new Richard

Weatherhill Visual Arts center and also to create "an outlet for students to show their films without having to be judged on content in order to get into the film festival," Stender said.

This year's festival opened with a screening of student works. This year's festival was judged by a panel including Klaus Phillips; Richard

Dillard; and Sam Kirsch '03, a film studies student.

Annie Sprinkle, feminist pleasure activist and multi-media artist presented her work, was also on the panel, as was Dan Poliner. Poliner premiered his film, "Right Foot, Left Foot" at Hollins, which is expected to go to Sundance Film Festival.

Saturday, Poliner hosted a question and answer session after his screening in which he spoke about various aspects of film-making. He recounted

Danielle Burnette '07 admired the hard work of the film-makers. "I think it's really awesome to see films made by all the students. I think it makes the whole process of film-making seem more tangible."

Following the screening, Sprinkle gave a lecture performance in Babcock Auditorium to a packed audience. Sprinkle, a self-described "prostitute/porn star turned Ph.D. sexologist, educator, multimedia artist and Utopian entrepreneur," showed the

of the film festival and lecturing at Hollins: "I'm really happy to see in the films there were kind of erotic moments and people trying to do things about relationships and sexuality. And that's terrific. And your teachers, or several of them, have talked about my work in their classes. Obviously, Hollins is open-minded because you can't do this everywhere."

The winners were announced after dessert and coffee in the Dana Lobby.

First year student Josie Garza was impressed by the student works and the spirit of the festival. "It's good to see that her memory lives on in this Hollins tradition. I hope it becomes a Hollins tradition to have this festival and to have students participate in it."

Honorable Mention:

Lorrie McCann '06, "Self Portrait"
Kristen DeBruycker '07, "Mr. Matchbox"
Kassy Kimball '04, "Time after Time"

Best Cinematography:

Mariana Denke '06, "Stones Break Bones"

Best Comedy:

Stephanie Stender '04, "The Toilet Bowl"

Best In Show:

Stephanie Stender '04, "In the Arms of Sleep"
and April May Woods '06, "Go"

his experience financing and shooting the fifteen-minute short that took fifteen days, spread out over three months.

"I wrote fund-raising letters to basically everyone I knew," he said, "and that covered the August shoot [which was five days]." In addition to receiving free film from Kodak, many of the people he worked with were his friends and unpaid actors.

history and evolution of her work in film and other media.

Phillips said of Sprinkle before the show, "She is an intriguing individual, who I think has a lot to share particularly with Hollins women who may have all kinds of preconceived notions or even prejudices, which I suspect Annie will correct somewhat."

Annie Sprinkle gave her opinion

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Physics professor experiments with U.V. technology

BY JEILENN GERLACH

Joseph Ametepe, Assistant Professor of Physics, is developing a UV light source that will be presented at the Hollins Annual Science Seminar Apr. 29-30 in Ballator Gallery.

The energy of the light source is so strong it has the potential to damage human skin.

However, if it is harnessed properly, it is one of the safest and cheapest ways to make portable drinking water.

This technology began in the textile industry as a way to make synthetic fabrics like polyester and to make synthetics feels more like cotton. There are a variety of other uses, including pollution control, making computer chips, pasteurizing food, and sterilizing medical equipment.

Ametepe is improving on existing UV technology, and he explained how the light source operates. In essence, it is a complex lamp made of a chamber full of gas connected to a magnetron, the same part of a microwave oven that heats up food. The magnetron creates enough energy to excite the gas molecules until they create ultraviolet light, which is strong enough to kill germs.

Dr. Rebecca Beach, Associate Prof of Biology, has been assisting with this project by growing microbes and bacteria cultures. She has enjoyed working with him.

"He's absolutely delightful and he's incredibly smart, incredibly intelligent, and a lot of what he does is over my head. This will be really valuable in terms of the multitude of different uses for it, such as purifying water."

Soon, Ametepe will be setting up the lamps at Hollins in the basement of Dana. Ametepe is currently traveling about once a month to the College of William and Mary, where he earned one of his masters degrees and his PhD, to continue his research and experiments.

Dr. Dennis Manos, CSX Endowed Chair of Physics and Applied Science at William and Mary, has known Ametepe for about ten years now, and had been a mentor to him as a graduate student. Manos and Ametepe are now co-mentoring graduate student Sheng Peng, who is advancing the mathematical theories that Ametepe left behind. Manos spoke about their work together.

"It's fair to say he's one of the foremost experts in the world on the sub-

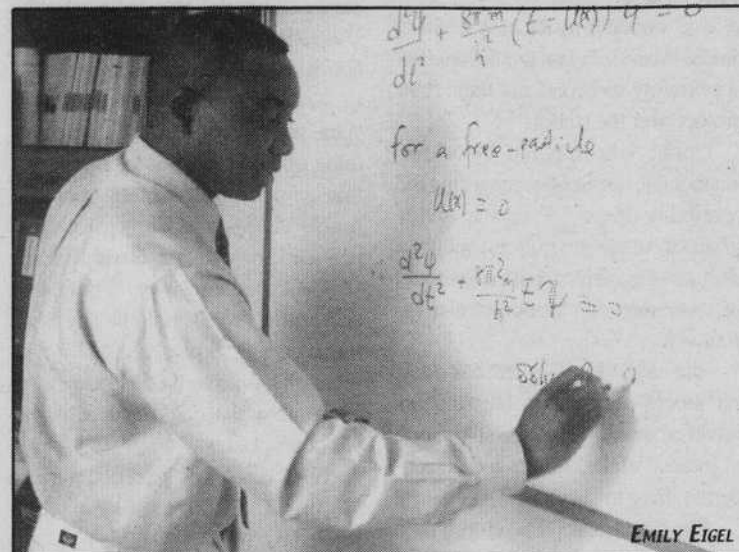
ject and it's a great benefit for us that he is working with a graduate student here."

Manos continued, "He's able to tolerate the frustrations and the failures to find the solutions that make the experiments successful."

In addition to mentoring at William and Mary, Ametepe is supervising the thesis of Jessica Hernandez-Guzman '04, who is writing about treating water using light. She is the only physics major at Hollins.

"Actually because of him, I got interested in biology and biophysics, and I'm going to grad school [at Emory University, Atlanta] to study biophysics," Hernandez-Guzman said.

This innovation has garnered a lot of attention from companies. Old technology uses a mercury gas that erodes the chamber over time. Changing the gas mixture, Ametepe has created an innovation that prevents this erosion, so it makes purifying water efficient and cheap. It has a practically unlimited energy output and it is environmentally friendly. Most importantly, the treatment doesn't change the taste, smell, or other natural properties of water. And the UV lamp itself is easy to maintain.



Joseph Ametepe, assistant professor of physics, explains a formula.

Ametepe and his alma mater, William and Mary, currently hold the patent for the means of excitation and the patent for the new gas mixture is still pending. Ametepe would like for the new technology to bring more students to Hollins.

"For one thing, it's going to help our

science programs here. The main thing we should mention here, if we look at it carefully, is it will be multi-disciplinary in nature. We can do work with biology, chemistry, and computer science. So it can attract more students who are interested in doing research," he said.

FROM PAGE 2

Crossley

negative publicity.

"Her examples helped us understand concretely issues that we had discussed only in the abstract, and her insights advanced our understanding of the issues," said Richter. And her experience was equally as positive about all of the classes she attended.

"I have taken something away from every single class," said Crossley.

Students have also taken something away from Crossley when listening to her. Crossley, who ate with students, faculty, and staff, had an interesting dinner experience Tuesday night with students talking about their career paths.

"Knowing what you don't want is just as good as knowing what you do want. So, do lots of stuff along the way," said Crossley. Students were really taking to heart what Crossley had to say. She has worked in journalism since she was a young girl.

"I started a community newspaper when I was eight," said Crossley. That was just the beginning. She started off as a local affiliate reporter after college. Crossley then became a producer for PBS and then moved over to ABC's 20/20.

She has also been a commentator for the Boston show "Beat the Press," NPR, New England Cable News network, and CNN. Throughout her career she has one various journalist awards, including an Edward R. Murrow award. Crossley has had a lot of rewarding experiences

throughout the years for students to really take her seriously.

"I think her best piece of advice is to be creative in what path you take, figure out what don't want to do, and don't be afraid," said dinner guest Katherine McDonough '06.

Throughout the week, Crossley also talked about her current documentary "This Far By Faith: African-American Spiritual Journeys." She spoke on this project at the first Bi-Annual Community Connections Speaker Series at a Tuesday morning breakfast in Moody. She also spoke to the campus on Thursday night about the series in progress in Babcock. She opened the presentation with a joke about an atheist praying to God for help when a bear is about to eat him.

Apparently a Hollins student told Crossley that the problem with so many of our speakers is that they are boring. Her humor was received with laughter and applause.

"Callie Crossley is so great because we can all feel like we can relate to her in one way or another. She is so open and willing to talk with us and she's just honestly funny," said Jennifer Flora '04, a member of one of the classes Crossley visited.

Hollins University chose Crossley to visit the campus from a list of different speakers from the Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow.

"Because Callie not only believes in what she has been called or led to do, she has a passion about her work and giving back to students. She is a remarkable woman who has accomplished a lot in such a small period in her life," said Siclinda Canty-Elliott.

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"The asked us and we felt very honored to be part of the show" -LeeRay "Don Juana" Costa and Lorie "Jason Giamby" Joseph

"I love performing and this will be my 5th show since coming to HU and it just gets more exciting each time. *Transync rocks my world."- Caitlin "Rhett Oracle" Ostrowski

"I think it gives the audience more diverse perspective--People are people, not a label. Fun, healthy-- Fun to be in front of people, acting."-Melissa "Usher" James



LeeRay Costa, professor of Anthropology, and husband Andy Matzner perform as Sonny and Cher



"I wanted to feel the privilege of being an angry rich white man...Isn't Eminem from West Virginia?"- Tosha "Feminem" Tillman

"I think Usher is really sexy and I would dance on him/her anyday-- umhum umhum"--Jenn "Beaver" Richardson

Your guide to area movie theaters

Let me start this review off by making a gross generalization: All Roanoke theaters are not created equal. Sure, they all play movies, most sell candy and sodas, but what do you really want when it comes to a theater experience? Here's the breakdown.

Cinema Cafe

If you're looking to catch dinner and a movie all in one place, then the Cinema Cafe is for you. Well, maybe. When I was there, it was apparently chain smokers' special. Don't get me wrong, sometimes a little cigarette smoke can do wonders for atmosphere. But when I want to watch a movie, I'd rather not find my focus shifting from the screen to the man lighting up his fifth cigarette of the evening. Yes, I counted. It was hard not to. Sometimes I found my head whipping around trying to find where the smoke was coming from, fearing that it might have originated in the non-smoking section. (Yes, they have one, but it serves relatively no purpose).

The theater is tiered, offering plenty of clear views to the screen. There are a few round tables on each level, and at each drop-off, there is bar-like seating (minus the stools). As far as the food is concerned, it was mediocre but well-priced. Most of the options revolve around deli sandwiches and burgers, hot dogs, and fries. There weren't very many vegetarian options, unless you just want chips and salsa.

The waiting staff was amiable and quick, though they didn't have many people to serve. The sound produced by the speakers was sometimes hollow, and soundtrack was often too quiet. At the beginning of the movie, the picture was slightly out of focus, but this problem was corrected about five minutes into the film. All in all, if you leave out the smoking bit, the Cinema Cafe was a pretty good experience. If you work it right, you can get dinner and a movie for \$10 or less. But I warn all non-smokers like me. If you want dinner and a movie, it might be better to forgo the Cinema Cafe and head a few feet over to Blockbuster. You could stop at Subway on the way back, and you wouldn't even have to cook!



Carmike 8, Salem

The Salem Carmike theater looks like a place you might want to avoid. It really isn't. Granted, the bathroom could use a renovation, and the theaters do not boast stadium seating, but if you go to a discounted show, you pay only \$4 for your ticket, which is a relative movie bargain. In place of stadium seating, the screen is concave, like a reverse proscenium, and the aisles curve to allow for the best possible viewing of the film.

Before the film, there was a noticeable lack of background

music, and those ads that usually grace the screen of bigger theaters like Valley View were also absent. This was pleasant because I didn't find myself verbally reciting the answers to those "pop quiz" movie questions that normally flash in between advertisements. Overall, the Carmike movie theater in Salem was a pretty decent experience if you don't mind driving a little further to get there.



Carmike 16 Roanoke

This theater is located right behind Barnes & Noble in the Tanglewood Mall area. This is a nice location because if you have a hankering for Starbucks, you're within walking distance of a tall latte. The most important piece of information I can provide about the Carmike 16 is the following three words: No student discount. That may not be the most important facet of movie-

ies on weekends, like Citizen Kane, Breakfast at Tiffany's, and even The Neverending Story. They also have good background music playing before the shows, possibly hand-selected by the people that work there. One time, I remember hearing the tail end of Coldplay's album Parachutes.

I would not recommend showing up late, especially if the movie is dark in the first few scenes. Many newer theaters have floor lighting, but the Grandin doesn't. It's really hard to see, and you worry about tripping over a row of seats somehow. The Grandin has a great atmosphere, great surroundings, and a great selection of films. After seeing a movie that's bound to be nominated for an Oscar, you can either grab a bite to eat at Grace's Pizza, or head over one block to get a cup of coffee at the Daily Grind. It is definitely my first choice theater when going to see a film.



Valley View Grande

Valley View Grande is where over half the population of Roanoke hangs out on a Friday night. Don't believe me? Try catching a show around 7pm and you'll be unpleasantly surprised. The line of cars trying to turn into the theater stretches almost as far back as Wal-mart. If you do see a movie at that time on the weekend, you might be better off just parking in the Target parking lot and walking a few feet.

My fondest memory of Valley View Grande was created on one of these busy nights. The theater was so packed when I arrived that my friends and I had to sit only a few feet in front of the screen. Before the film began, one staff member came in and reminded everyone to turn off their cell phones and to remove their feet from the seats in front of them.

When I turned around in my seat to look at the rest of the audience, I was surprised to find half of the Hollins campus sitting there waiting for the movie to begin. With half of Hollins in the audience, I was bound to have a good movie-viewing experience, right? Alas, what I didn't realize

was that the other half of the audience was filled with a group of immature youths. One of these youths apparently thought it would be to the benefit of all if he played with a laser pointer throughout the film, frequently pointing it at the main character's eye, chest and crotch area.

Don't get me wrong, Valley View isn't all bad. They have the widest selection of films in town, comfortable stadium seating, a good location close to Hollins, and they have never once asked me for a student ID. Unfortunately, even with a student ID, the cost of tickets has gone up in the past two years significantly. I remember last year being able to buy student tickets for \$5.50. Now that price is up to \$6.25. The moral of the story is, seeing a movie at Valley View is much more pleasant on a weeknight, unless you find braving annoying audience members exciting. If you enjoy that sort of thing, Valley View on Friday or Saturday night is the place to be.



Cinema Cafe

**5002 Airport Rd
527-2233**

Regular ticket: \$4.00
Student ticket: n/a
Matinee ticket: \$3.00
Candy: n/a
Soda: \$2.00 (free refills)
Popcorn: n/a
Bottled Beverages: n/a
Stadium Seating?: N
Overall Rating: 3 stars

Carmike 8 Salem

**1700 Apperson Drive, Salem
389-0444**

Regular ticket: \$5.00
Student ticket: n/a
Matinee ticket: \$4.00
Candy: \$2.50-\$2.80
Soda: \$3.15-\$3.80
Popcorn: \$3.60-\$5.40
Bottled Beverages: \$2.95
Stadium Seating?: N
Overall Rating: 4 stars

Grandin Theatre

**1310 Grandin Rd
345-6177**

Regular ticket: \$7.25
Student ticket: \$6.00
Matinee ticket: \$4.75
Candy: \$1.25-\$2.25
Soda: \$1.75-\$3.00
Popcorn: \$2.50-\$4.00
Bottled Beverages: \$2.25
Stadium Seating?: N
Overall Rating: 5 stars

Valley View Grande

**4730 Valley View Blvd NW
362-5200**

Regular ticket: \$7.75
Student ticket: \$6.25
Matinee ticket: \$5.75
Candy: \$1.75-\$3.25
Soda: \$3.50-\$4.00
Popcorn: \$3.75-\$5.75
Bottled Beverages: \$3.25
Stadium Seating?: Y
Overall Rating: 3 1/2 stars



viewing, but for a student it might be. If you are broke, do not go to this theater unless you hit a matinee show. It's not worth it. They even charge you \$1.50 extra if you do not pay in cash. The Carmike 16 tends to show the exact same films as the Carmike in Salem, plus a few more. On the upside, there weren't many people in the theater, and it did have stadium seating (i.e. there were plenty of places to put your feet up. Not that I recommend that sort of thing.)



Grandin Theatre

I will admit, I have a very strong bias in favor of the Grandin. The main theater, instead of stadium seating, has gargoyles. The small theaters upstairs resemble screening rooms that you would find in celebrities' homes on MTV's Cribs. The Grandin tends to show movies that the other theaters would overlook, which is a good thing. The Grandin also has special screenings of older mov-

What plans for after graduation?

Lately I've had quite a few requests from my fellow seniors to write something about after graduation. The problem is, I don't know what to write. All our underclassman buddies keep asking us, "What are you doing after graduation?" and we can't come up with a satisfactory answer.

So I took a general survey of my friends and acquaintances and as it turns out, not one of us has any idea what we're doing. Our lives are basically over.

It's not that we don't have a ton of options. With the economy doing so well and everything, we have plenty of options. We can:

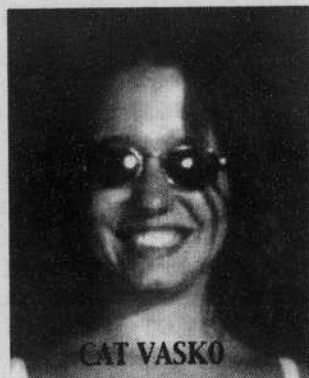
1. Go to grad school and delay adulthood another few years while slowly working ourselves deeper and deeper into debt, or

2. Get entry-level jobs where we'll be paid minimum wage to bring other people their coffee.

So yeah, the choices are virtually endless.

Maybe the problem is just our attitude. The generation before ours was Generation X, those lucky bastards who got to wile away their college careers listening to Nirvana and smoking pot and wearing flannel shirts, only to leap right into incredibly successful and lucrative careers. Remember when we thought that would be us?

My roommate's older brother, a quintessential Gen-X-er, graduated from college and almost immediately found a job



where hapless business executives would call him for tech support, and he'd show up and get paid a hundred bucks to plug their computers in for them. That's basically how I saw my future after college: getting paid a ton of money to do nothing.

Unfortunately the golden age of Clintonomics is long gone. We're going to have to try a little harder than our predecessors, or else accept that we're destined to live in cardboard boxes on the street wearing hats made from aluminum foil we found in a dumpster.

I recently checked out jobs in Indianapolis, my hometown, online. The newspaper's online classifieds have an "entry level"

section for people just like me; I clicked on it eagerly, expecting to read things like, "Entry-level job for bright young college grad. Benefits guaranteed. Must be willing to bark into small cell-phone, wear tailored suits, and decorate corner office with clever non-representational art. Serious upward mobility potential."

People who don't wish to earn a ridiculous amount of money and drive a snazzy sports car and eat out at trendy restaurants on the office budget need not apply."

But before y'all rush online to check out the possibilities yourself, I should warn you that the ads for entry-level all read something more like this:

"R U a RECENT GRAD wanting to MEET FUN NEW PEOPLE and MAKE GOOD MONEY while selling QUALITY STEAK KNIVES? Then THIS is the JOB 4 U!!!"

Or: "Need a job? Serious opportunity for hard workers who believe in the American dream and low-priced pornography. No experience necessary. All requisite plastic surgery will be paid for in full. Call Crystal at 1-800-HOT-TITS, or 'cum' on by our office!"

My current plan for after-graduation is to squat in my

apartment here at Hollins until they kick me out.

One sentiment I hear repeated quite frequently is, "Someone should've warned us." In the future I think Hollins should implement a program in which student volunteers will go door-to-door talking to second semester juniors. "Listen up," they should say sternly. "In a year you will be ready to kill yourself over your lack of job prospects."

Better call Dad now and make sure he's got a spot ready for you in his company. Oh! Your dad doesn't own a company? Well, damn," they'll say, furrowing their brows. "That's too bad! Hope welfare treats you okay. Sorry to bother you."

A really fun activity when you're about to go looking for a job is making your resume. You'd be amazed at how little you have to put on there. "Let's see... I was a lifeguard for four years... that's no good. I babysit sometimes in the evenings. But that won't help. Um, I guess I could write down 'sales representative.' I did spend a summer at Burger King, after all."

You start to wonder, "How come I'm so devoid of good resume material? I've been working my ass off for four years! What have I been doing

all this time?"

The answer is, you've been in your room writing papers. All that time spent critically deconstructing Macbeth's relationship with his mother, and what do you have to show for it? You can't do anything except double-space! Why haven't our professors been giving us assignments like "figure the quarterly income taxes for a local business" or "dismantle and then rebuild the transmission for an '89 Civic?"

I'll tell you why. Because they don't know how to do that stuff either. That's why they're professors. Everyone we've been learning from for the past four years was in our place once, broke and jobless and not qualified for anything. So they got jobs doing the only thing they knew how to do: teaching other people how to write papers.

So, for all you kind and considerate underclassmen out there who keep wondering what we're all doing after graduation, I will answer on behalf of everyone I know:

We are all screwed. End of story.

But if anyone's dad owns a business and needs a recent grad to perform vital tasks, bark into cell-phones, and decorate corner offices with non-representational art, you can totally give him my number.

Horoscopes

is not lost.

Leo July 23 - August 22: Shake it kitty! Yeah go on, you know you wanna dance, and after all your hard work, you can afford to take it to the morning light on the dance floor every once in a while. Forget the royal dignity, get down and dirty!

Virgo August 23 - September 22: It certainly seems like you are always in the gym working out? Well that's ok as long as you are honestly happy with your body the way it is. Too much of anything isn't good including treadmilling. Virgo, is your life a positive one? Do you spend practical amounts of time having fun, working, exercising, socializing, and relaxing? Learn some balance from Libra.

Libra September 23 - October 22: Lots of new opportunities to shine will open up soon. Don't miss the chance to show your intelligence and good sense. Don't cover up your confidence.

Scorpio October 23 - November 21: Don't get angry so easily! So maybe your roommate just ran over your pet (umm) goldfish and flirted with your honeybun. Also she managed to fry your locks with the raisiny plum colored hair dye kit that was supposed to be fool-proof. Then she forgot to return a book to the library for you when she promised she would. Choose your battles, and listen to her side. Maybe she was having a terrible day. You

have a scathing temper Scorpio. And even though anger is ok sometimes just remember to keep it in check.

Sagittarius November 22 - December 21: Sing along (with the motions and absolutely NO laughing): I feel pretty, oh so pretty, so pretty and witty and gay! And I pity... Have you been to Anger Management lately? Don't only be yourself, Sag, but be completely content to be yourself and just forget about trying to be like anyone else. You are awesome the way you are.

Capricorn December 22 - January 19: Worried about how the gang will accept your new love muffin? Relax Cap, either they'll like him/her or not. You can't do anything by worrying about it. Besides, you're the neatest and pretty peachy keen too! Gee, everybody else wishes they had all their multi colored spandex jogging shorts as nicely catalogued, folded and shrink wrapped as well organized as you do. How do you do it?

Aquarius January 20 - February 18: Chill out Aquarius. Summer is so close, and you are ready for the beaches, pools, and waterparks, since you are a water sign. It won't be long and you'll be sporting a hot little polka dot or striped number and sipping a Mexican limonada next to the pool or beach.

Pisces February 19 - March 20: Can you smell it too? That salty, warm, suburban, juicy, vegetabular fragrance wafting on the breeze (ignore the nicotine particles)? Fresh cut grass. Also: A job opportunity may be on the horizon, be ready to compete for it because you've got a fighting chance at landing decent employment for once!

Aries March 21 - April 19: Have you been feeling alone lately? Maybe because you need more music in your life! Break out the discman and old middle-school cds, or go retro and dig up your walkman and mix tapes, anything to get you movin' to the beat and in a good mood again!

Taurus April 20 - May 20: Getting spring fever? The stars say, have fun, go have a fling, you deserve some fun. New love opportunities will begin to appear in the near future. Have you had dreams about freshly sharpened pencils or huge, heavy stacks of theses? You would think that since it is nearing the end of the school year you would dream of sunscreen, food, the real old-fashioned pre-college stuff, and dysfunctional road trips, but unfortunately this is a result of your planning ahead or lack of it. The depressing truth: Summer will be over before you can say "Jack Daniels and family reunions".

Gemini May 21 - June 21: Lovable weirdo, why do you always eat those gross concoctions and weird combinations in Moody and wonder why you always feel so awful after meals? Another tip: practical jokes don't work if you aren't careful who you play them on.

Cancer June 22 - July 22: Feeling hopeless, Cancer? Don't worry—hope is all around you. Remember the story of Pandora and the box she was not to open? She opened it and all the bad things escaped, making the world have problems, trouble, sickness, hate, but she slammed the lid down, and what was left inside? One little drop of hope. That's why we don't give up. Hope

Lesson on holidays: Aussies have it right

The other day, I was trying to figure out why I feel so run down every spring, and it dawned on me: Americans do holidays all wrong.

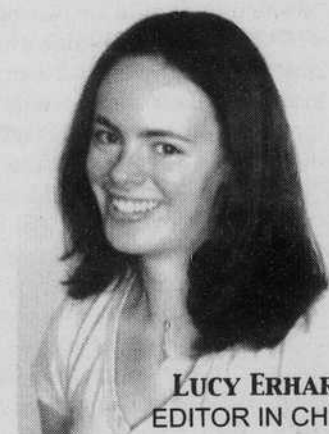
Not only do they use up all their vacation time in the three hottest, most miserable months of the year, they ignore the fun opportunities for days off work and school between the one-week breaks in the middle of the term. Especially these private institutions.

If I hadn't seen all those baskets in Kroger, I would never have known it was Easter last Sunday. There was no break from classes, no break from work. We didn't even get Easter Monday off to recover from the chocolate binges of Easter Sunday.

Ah yes, the four-day weekend of Easter. How I miss it. In Australia, we get Good Friday and Easter Monday off to spend time with family. It didn't matter if you didn't celebrate Easter - everyone

jumped on the chance to skip town, ignore their bosses, and catch up on some much-needed sleep.

Easter always fell in the middle



LUCY ERHARDT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

of my first semester break in school, too. And it wasn't like the skimpy break they get here - it was a whole two weeks, devoid of homework, to relax and have fun.

That's what should happen

here.

Three months is far too long a break in summer. By the end of it, I've always found myself yearning for grades and new theories to envelop my mind and drive me insane for another few months. That feeling doesn't last too long once I'm actually back in school, which is another reason for a shorter summer break. Three days for fall break just isn't enough! Bring on the two weeks, baby!

Here's the way you should do it, American school board people: Give students two months off in summer. Eight weeks is plenty to get that tan and mooch off your parents. Then spread the rest of the holidays over the rest of the year. Two weeks for fall, three or four weeks over Thanksgiving and Christmas, and two weeks for spring.

And don't forget all those great opportunities to ditch school (and

work, for that matter). If the banks close, so should every other business and school. If Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday is good enough for them, it should be good enough for you.

In Australia, not only does everyone get Christmas Day off work, they get Boxing Day, the day after, off. And those must-celebrates like the Queen's Birthday gives everyone time to go to the beach and drink beer, too. Anything that can be celebrated in Australia is. Americans are always marveling at how laid-back and friendly most Australians are. Think about that.

This goes for you too, private college people. Don't think that just because we spend extra money to be at a private school we don't need those extra days off. In fact, with the intensity and quality of our education, we may even need more. Bring on a Tinker Day

per month!

I've heard some public schools call the system the Australians use the "year round" schedule. That is a little ridiculous. To me, year-round would mean no breaks. You'd go to school a few days a week and have a four-day weekend every weekend.

The only difference between the American system and the Australian system (besides the fact that we do the seasons the correct way) is that the breaks are more rationally distributed to allow for the mental health of all involved.

You know I'm right. You can feel the Spring Stretch too, wishing you'd had just one more week of spring break to actually feel rested rather than arriving home, recovering from the trip, then going straight back to school. You'd even be willing to forego some of your summer break for that kind of luxury. Wouldn't you?

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 Lucy Erhardt at 819-5929.

New tennis courts slow in development

BY LAURA SPEAKMAN

The tennis team and classes are going off campus to practice as well as compete.

"It's really frustrating more so than anything because we have to go off campus to Roanoke Country Club for practices and we can't play at home for our home matches," said Katherine Howard, '04.

So what is going on? The tennis courts are finally getting a face-lift.

There will be a total of ten new out-door courts that will have cushion-top surface as used on the U.S. Open courts, fences, windcreens, specialized outdoor lighting, and a hitting wall. The courts will also have spectator seating, something completely new to the courts. This has been a long time coming to some since there were cracks in the old courts.

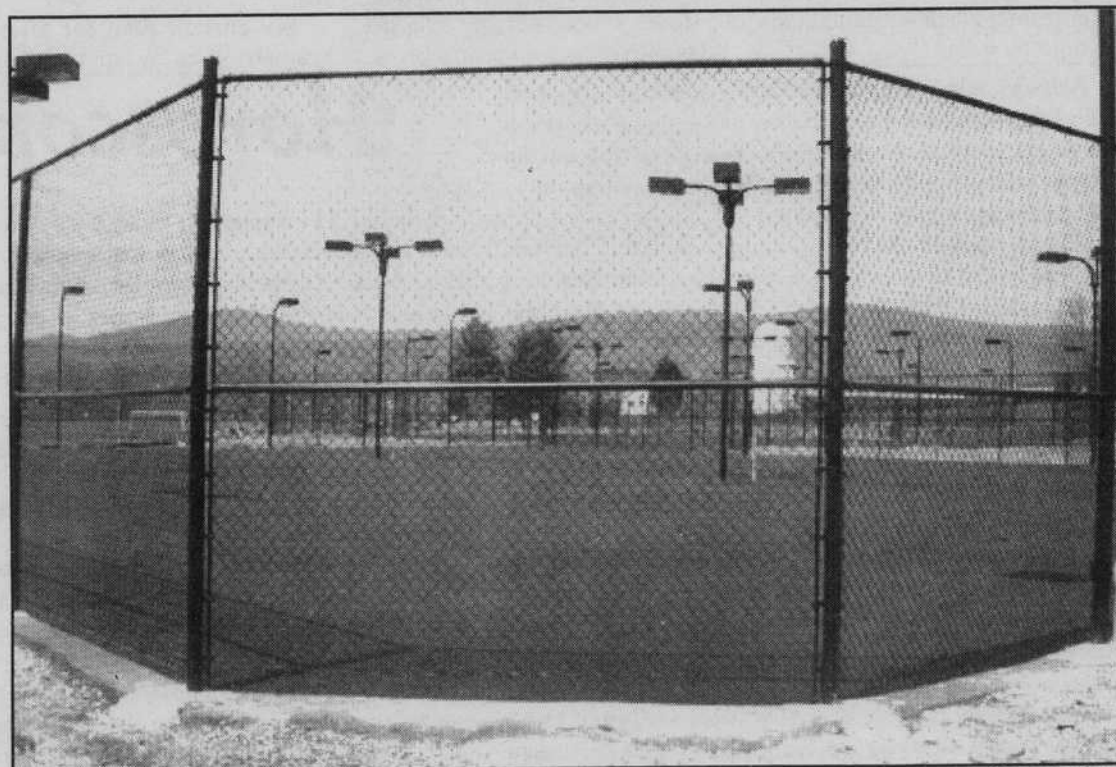
"We have been in need of

courts for several years, said athletic director Lynda Calkins. "There replacement had long been one of the department's priorities. The need was demonstrated to the Hollins Community and approved by the President's Cabinet. The funds were then raised."

She continued, "The courts are being built by the generous contributions of alumnae and friends of Hollins." It has taken half a million dollars to improve the tennis courts

The courts are expected to be completed this spring if the weather permits. This is something that many seniors have looked forward to but will now not be able to enjoy.

"The courts are going to be so nice and we've all really looked forward to them and now me and the other seniors will never get to play on them," said Bess Kelly, '04.



CHRISTINE JEHU

Hollins' new tennis courts continue to take shape along the loop between Tinker and Siberia.