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### Hollins Columns (2004 Sept 21)

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Women Who are Going Places Start by Reading the Hollins Columns

# Hollins Columns

## SGA Treasurer Announces Resignation

by Julia Knox and Laura Smith

Zirwat Chowdhury '05 is expected to formally announce her resignation as SGA Treasurer to Senate on Tuesday night, Sept. 21. The SGA Cabinet was informed of her resignation on Sunday, Sept. 19, during a meeting on Constitutional policies.

Chowdhury was treasurer during the fall semester of 2003 before going abroad in Spring 2004. Chowdhury found that upon her return, there were organizational problems carrying over from the previous term.

She noticed that clubs were not familiar with the secretarial process, communication was not established between coordinators and the administration, and the work load was piling up from last year's unfinished business and this year's new requests.

Working over the summer with old-accounts, un-

paid bills, and many confused clubs was frustrating.

"That was hard to handle

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Zirwat Chowdhury resigned as Treasurer of SGA.

she said.

Part

of Chowdhury's job is to manage SGA funds, issue monetary budgets to clubs,

and keep track of how they spend their money. "It's hard to do that when I don't know what they were given the funds for. A lot of the clubs have new leadership so they don't know how they are supposed to be using their allotted funds," she said.

The lack of communication between clubs and administration was a main factor in her decision to resign. Chowdhury said, "Every year you think there is going to be clear communication but it doesn't work out. There is always the same problem - it's hard to continue the year smoothly if it didn't start out running smoothly."

Chowdhury felt that her academic workload, including her thesis and senior seminar, combined with her treasury duties was too time consuming. Her primary concern was keeping

on top off her school work.

Chowdhury said, "I'm just basically overwhelmed with work this semester and being treasurer is a big time commitment. I don't think I can handle that and academic work this semester."

However, an anonymous member of roundtable, suspects there is more to this story than academics and last year's lack of organization.

"She was a core member of Roundtable but had come late to training [due to being in Bangladesh]," she said. "As Roundtable progressed, she felt that certain members of Roundtable were not responsive to her and her opinions. She felt very distant from the others." Chowdhury traveled to Bangladesh, her home country,

*continued on page*

## Healthcare Provider Changes on Campus

By Jen Spelkoman

The termination of a medical physician on campus will be a result of a two-part contract negotiation, to take full effect Nov. 1. The campus MD, currently working 12.5 hours a week, will be replaced with a nurse practitioner who will work at the campus health center 30 hours per week.

Reacting to student demands for increase in hours at the Hollins Health Services, administrators have aligned health services with Carilion, the largest health care provider in the Roanoke area. Subsequent to medical changes, alterations have been made in the counseling department of health services in accordance with the termination in contract with Hollins' former health

care provider, Physicians Care Virginia (PCV). As of Aug. 30, augmentation in hours has been employed for counseling from 15 to 35 hours per week. In accordance with the new contract, full-time students are now given six free counseling sessions, opposed to the three free sessions formerly available.

Alison Ridley, acting dean of students and dean of academic services, along with Kerry Edmonds, executive director of university administration, continue to work with Carilion on negotiations in terms of medicine pricing, dispensing medicine to students in a timely fashion, and pharmaceutical policies. The contract will be finalized by Nov. 1.

According to the American Academy of

Nurse Practitioners (AANP), a nurse practitioner is a registered nurse required to have a master's degree and may have advanced education in a specialized area. The Hollins University nurse practitioner, who will be assigned by Carilion, has taken national certification examinations to maintain medication prescribing privileges. The health care professional will be a part of the family practice group at the Carilion North Roanoke Clinic where he or she will have access to doctors and facilities. In collaboration with physicians, nurse practitioners are able to examine, diagnose, and treat patients. Nurse practitioners can also prescribe medications and change dosages or medications.

*continued on page 3*



Julia Knox '07 poses with Ethan Zohn from Survivor: Africa and Survivor: All-Stars. Zahn was on campus to give an inspiration talk as part of Camp Hollins Orientation '04.



## Computer Registration and Printing Causes Student Concern

by Courtney Cutright

Hollins students were welcomed this fall with two new changes put into place by Computer Services.

The first, known as the "pay for print" system, was implemented as an effort to reduce both printing costs and wasted paper.

According to Greg Henderson, the director of Computing and Information Support Services at Hollins, the system was necessary because printing privileges were being abused. Henderson described a pile of wasted papers measuring two and a half feet by six feet, or the equivalent of about six cases of paper, that was collected from various computer lab areas on campus.

"That picture is worth a thousand words," said Henderson. "After seeing that, I knew that something had to be done."

Henderson then took the issue to the board of trustees, who voted and approved the "pay for print" system.

Under the system Hollins chose, students are allowed 500 sheets of paper per year. After those are used, students may put money onto their accounts at one of the Help Desks at the rate of ten cents per page.

Henderson researched systems that other universities were using and found that most institutions did not give students a credit balance. Instead, most charged students between eight and 15 cents per page.

However, nearby Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg gives non-seniors 350 pages per semester, according to the college's website. Seniors at RMWC are allowed 500 pages per semester.

Virginia Tech and Sweet Briar College, do not have similar systems. However, Sweet Briar is thinking about putting one into place.

Hollins senior Leanne Pfister is in favor of conserving natural resources, but she does not feel that 500 pages a year are sufficient. "When you get to be a senior,

500 pages is not enough," said Pfister. "I think there should have been a survey to see how much paper each

department uses."

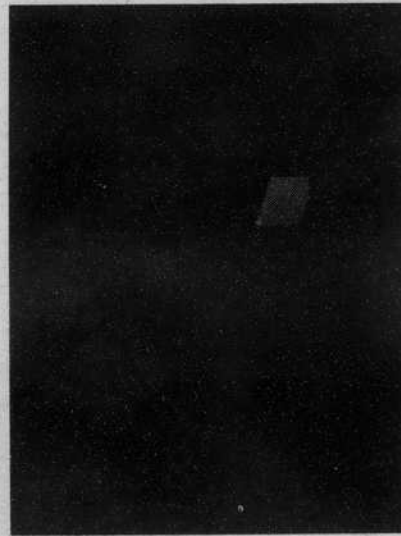
Henderson said that adjustments are being made for some departments that may require more paper than others.

"We are taking steps to be the paper-less society we are supposed to become

because of technology," said Henderson. "We're trying to do what's best for the university and the environment. Money that is being spent on paper and toner could be used for real technology."

The second change Computer Services put into action is computer registration. Students

who bring their own computers to hook up to the university's network must meet certain requirements.



The most important of those requirements is a full-service anti-virus program that is able to receive updates. Computer services' help desks have been swamped with trouble tickets since students arrived at Hollins prior to the beginning of classes on Sept. 1. The reason for that, according to Henderson, is that only

about 40 percent of the students met the university's prerequisite of a full-service anti-virus program. Among the remaining 60 percent, viruses are running rampant.

"There are 733 registered computers on campus," said Henderson. "I currently have 181 trouble tickets. All of which could be prevented by doing two things—running anti-virus software and downloading the Windows updates that are available on-line."

Max Robertson, owner of Computer Pros in Roanoke, agrees that those two precautionary steps need to be taken to prevent the spread of viruses. He attributes more than half of his business to virus related problems.

"In order to fix them, we have to manually remove the files that contain viruses," said Robertson. "Some of those files are hidden so that programs like Norton [Anti-virus] can't fix them automatically."

## Student Organizes Vigil to honor 1,000 Fallen Soldiers

BY ELIZABETH BARTENSTEIN

Just two days before the three year anniversary of the events of Sept. 11, Hollins University students gathered on Front Quad to acknowledge more than 1,000 U.S. soldiers and countless Iraqi citizens who have been killed in the war with Iraq.

A widespread email from Becky Klabunde, '07, read: "Hello fellow Hollins women, 1,000 American soldiers have now been killed in Iraq. Will you join us in an emergency candlelight vigil, on Thursday evening, September 9th, to honor them and reflect on the loss of their lives? Our vigil will be brief, simple and dignified. We'll gather at 8 p.m. and, together, acknowledge the sacrifice made by these 1,000 brave American men and women..."

Klabunde is part of an e-

mail group with [moveon.org](http://moveon.org), which she describes to be "a pretty liberal political action group." She added, "But this was a non-partisan event. They were having them all over the country. No one was organizing one for Hollins, so I did."

When asked for more specifics on what the website provided, Klabunde said, "They didn't give much of a plan, they wanted it to be based around meditation and silence, and wanted it to be non-partisan, but other than that it was pretty open-ended."

And meditation and silence did indeed predominate the 20-minute gathering in the cool, early evening of September 9. Even after the 8 p.m. starting time, students trickled in, each

receiving a candle. Once most of the crowd of 70 people arrived, Klabunde and roommate, Rose Bottle, '07, lit their candles and passed around the flame. In less than a minute, all were ignited. A glow suddenly

"We stand here tonight in solidarity with the Win Without War coalition, with people all over the country to recognize and honor those who have died as a result of the U.S. war in Iraq"

took over the circle and the ceremony began.

Klabunde proceeded with her assigned script, saying, "We stand here tonight in solidarity with the Win Without War coalition, with people all over the country to recognize and honor those who have died as a result of the U.S. war in Iraq—more than 1,000 U.S. soldiers have been killed.

More than 7,000 U.S. soldiers have been wounded. More than 10,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed.

We stand here in support of the families of these victims of the violence and terror of war, and in support for the soldiers still at risk in Iraq and for the Iraqi citizens whose streets are not safe and whose lives are in danger. We stand in silence with the meditation that peace will prevail."

There was silence. Then she read off a list of the Virginia soldiers who have died in Iraq. 25 were named, from all over the state. The list included Leslie D. Jackson, a woman just 18 years old.

The thought that someone female and younger than the average Hollins student was killed seemed to permeate into the listeners' minds. Some seemed more moved than others, but all were respectful and silent until Klabunde asked for the sharing of any

additional names of loved ones and friends who had died. A few participants added names aloud.

Silence was kept for a long five minutes or so, and then Klabunde thanked everyone for their support and presence, saying that one could leave when she felt comfortable and ready. Gradually the students blew their candles out, placed them in the pile and quietly filed out. Klabunde was impressed by the turnout. "I was blown away," she said.

"It was overwhelming to see that many people turn out for an event that was organized less than 24 hours before it happened."

Elizabeth Pless, '07, said, "It was such a moving feeling to be gathered around in the center of Front Quad at night with candles, hearing the names of those who passed away."



FROM PAGE 1

## Health Serv

For more heavily regulated medications, such as Oxycontin,

students will have to be referred to outside specialists.

Health Services counselors have already been replaced by primary counselor Jennifer Slusher, and recently hired associate director of the Batten Leadership Institute, Abrina Sherman-Crook, who will dedicate 10 hours a week to counseling services, specializing in eating disorders.

"We felt very strongly that students should have the same counselors as soon as they came back. We weren't so concerned with the doctor or nurse practitioner coming in mid-semester, because those kinds of visits are supposed to be — when you have a cold, you go see the doctor," explained Dean Ridley.

Some students, such as Zirwat Chowdhury, '05, recognize this transition from discussions brought up on campus and in Senate meetings, where health service hours were debated. "It still may not be as students would ideally want," she said, acknowledging the loss of an MD and familiar faces from Health Services. "But Carilion has a broader range of medical services."

Advantages of having Carilion as the campus health care provider include Hollins being electronically linked with the organization's medical facilities, so student records can be pulled up at any of its 10 hospitals in western Virginia. Carilion currently works with several other colleges and universities, whereas Hollins was the only collegiate client that PCV serviced.

For the past eight years Hollins has been affiliated with PCV and the university has had a medical doctor on campus

since the early 1980's. By ending the health care contract with PCV, along comes the termination of PCV employees including Dr. Faith Pasley, and registered nurse Melinda Foster on Nov. 1. Rita Foster, current director of Health and Counseling Services will stay on in her position at Hollins.

"For me and my current staff this is a very difficult transition," said Rita Foster. "We have developed a team approach to student health and we will miss that interaction." Students such as Chowdhury and Kiki Toner, '06, feel sentiment for the loss of the current Hollins Health



Services staff. Toner expressed concern about students needs being met.

"I like Dr. Pasley and will be sad to see her go," Toner said sincerely. "But you go into [Health Services] with a broken leg, and she wants to give you a pap smear," she joked.

"The Hollins community will be losing a physician that has given many hours of care, and I can truly say that Hollins students have been Dr. Pasley's primary medical focus these past eight years," Foster earnestly commented.

Pasley could not be reached for an interview.

With Carilion, Ridley plans to match or improve current services available to students on most, if not all, accounts. Still, students such as Toner are concerned about not receiving medication on time with a new health care provider and a nurse practitioner.

Statistics from Health and Counseling Services at Hollins showed more student demand to see a MD for functions a nurse practitioner can perform. Although this year's budget for Health and Counseling Services is a slight increase from the 2003-04 academic year, selecting a second RN and keeping an MD on campus would only allow Health Services to increase doctor's hours from 12.5 to 15 hours a week. The significant raise in hours with the nurse practitioner became the apparent alternative to Ridley and Edmonds. During the summer, Ridley and Edmonds tried to convince PCV to allocate more hours for students. They sought the example of the Radford University Health Center.

"It was very helpful for us to understand how a university health center should work," explained Ridley, who was aided by Carilion and the director of Radford's Health Center, which enforced the values of a nurse practitioner

in terms of availability. "Nurse practitioners are kind of a trend because you can get more of the doctor-type hours for the campus, opposed to having a doctor, which can be a little more expensive than a nurse practitioner," revealed Edmonds.

Nearby colleges such as Sweet Briar, Hampden-Sydney, and Randolph Macon Woman's opt for a nurse practitioner instead of a doctor.

Changes in counseling services have begun to take effect. Increased medical hours in Health Services include the permanence of a face to counseling services and the doubling of free counseling sessions offered to students.

"Six sessions are significantly better than having three from a counseling standpoint," issued Katherine Walker, licensed counselor and

director of the Batten Leadership program, a three-year non-curricular Hollins program to aid students in developing leadership skills.

Slusher's capabilities in counseling extend to areas such as crisis intervention, depression, anxiety, self-esteem issues, coping skills, and substance abuse services. She is currently in the doctoral program at Virginia Tech.

"One of the first things Jennifer said to us in her interview was about programming in the residents halls," issued Ridley. "We think education in itself is preventative. She has excellent credentials and her ability to work 25 hours a week will make her a known entity on campus." Abrina Sherman-Crook's 10 hours a week will boost the counseling hours to 35 hours per week.

"I think being on campus and getting to know students will help to de-stigmatize counseling," issued Slusher. "Counseling is almost like a taboo, when in actuality it is a very normal part of life and a very normal process."

Foster will be the only member of Health Services prior to the change to stay, remaining as director of Health and Counseling Services. The contract with Carilion permitted Hollins to retain one full-time RN and to hire a nurse practitioner for 30 hours. Foster has worked on the Hollins campus since 1983 when Hollins utilized a 24 hour-a-day, seven day-a-week infirmary. "I will do my best to make this change as smooth as possible and will keep the students as my main priority," said Foster. "From all of us, we hope each student will continue to receive the quality of care they need and deserve."

### PVC

One doctor - 12.5 hours per week.

Two RN - 40 hours per week.

One Counselor - 15 hours per week.

### Carilion

Nurse Practitioner - 30 hours per week.

One RN - 40 hours per week

FROM PAGE 1

## Zirwat

at the end of the summer and was only present for the last two days of SGA training. She felt that "training was an integral part of the process because everyone got to know one another. It made me feel a little distant, and maybe I would have continued if I hadn't felt that way, but I don't know. And like I said, it's mostly academic."

"There was some tension between others in the administration and Zirwat, as well as some miscommunication, but I can't give any specific details. All I can say is that Zirwat will have her letter of resignation ready by 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21," said the anonymous source.

Lisa Bower '05, SGA Vice-President and fellow Roundtable member, said, "I was unaware there was a problem, either academically or personally. I'm completely shocked. I also feel that if someone feels they can't do the best job they are able to do, they should step down. I am sure Zirwat has thought this through, and is doing the best thing for herself and SGA."

Bethany Ewing '05, SGA President, refused to comment for this story, claiming Lisa Bower's comments would speak for SGA as a whole.

Chowdhury felt that SGA members were "mostly" supportive of her decision. She said, "It all happened so suddenly so I don't really know fully how they feel, or how word is being disseminated. But I think SGA officers have been supportive and respectful of my decision."

As of press time, Chowdhury had not been replaced. Bower said instead of an emergency appointment, the position would be open to the campus community with a preference given to math majors.

When asked how she would be involved in the transition process, Chowdhury said, "I'm not likely to be very involved with SGA this year, but I'll be more than happy to show them [the new treasurer] the ropes. I don't expect them to figure it out on their own."

"But as far as the position is concerned, I'm not involved."



## Hollins Express offers Cheap Alternative Route to Virginia Tech

BY REBECCA STAED

Will-call tickets for Hokies football game: \$35 each. 12-pack of Bud Light: \$8.67. Bus ride from Roanoke to Virginia Tech: \$1 both ways.

Tailgating to Tech, at Tech and on the way back from Tech: Priceless

Let's face it. The rudiments of game-day economics can really put a damper on the remainder of the weekend. And for many Hollins students, lack of transportation is also a bummer.

Last year's launch of the Hollins Express, a local transit system run by Valley Metro, created convenience for Hollins students without cars or interested in saving on gas money. Hollins has teamed up again with Valley Metro and its SmartWay Bus, Roanoke's new public transportation system, to help Hollins students get around Roanoke and as far as Christiansburg on any day of the week, inexpensively.

"It's a whole new effort to make sure there's more to do for our women," said Joe Rosenberg, Hollins' Director of Student Activities. "Students only have to pay \$3 a ride, which is pretty cheap when you think about where you are going."

Rosenberg is working on scheduling collaborative events between Hollins and Roanoke College using SmartWay.

"It's just a matter of figuring out which events we want to do," Rosenberg

said. "One idea I had was 'Go to Roanoke with Joe.' We would go over there whenever Roanoke College was having a program. It might be a concert because they bring in a lot bigger bands. I'm open to anything. It will be an excellent way to connect the whole college culture in the Roanoke area."

And beyond. In an hour and 20 minutes, students are able to get from downtown Roanoke to Virginia Tech's Squires Student Center via SmartWay. And on game days, the cost drops to \$1 each way.

"We say bring your coolers, wear your colors," said Donna Chamberlain, SmartWay Bus' Community Transportation Coordinator.

But John Bohland, Lecturer in Geography and International Studies at Hollins, knows football games are not the only grounds for taking SmartWay to Tech. Bohland takes the hour and 20 minute commute from Hollins, not only to teach classes, but also to take classes there as well, where he is pursuing his doctorate in International Affairs.

"The past two years I commuted [to Tech] via car and put about 20,000 miles on my car," said Bohland. "That's a lot of wear and tear. And it took two hours out of my day. I like not having to drive on 81 because it's a very busy road, and now I can work and prepare for my classes."

Bohland incorporates a lot of discussions about public transportation in his Urban Studies class, which has made him a big supporter of SmartWay's success.

"I'm kind of curious about how it's doing," he said. "A lot of people still don't seem to know about it. I meet people all the time who I feel I am sort of this ground level salesman for. I'm definitely worried

about it going under."

"There's a culture of mass transit. I see some of the same people riding the bus. There is this core group of 7 or 8 people. You have to break people's car culture to get it going."

Though word about SmartWay has yet to spread through Hollins as much as proponents had hoped, several students like Erin Johnson, '08, have made plans to take a ride already.

"I am riding it to go to Tech next weekend to visit some friends," said Johnson. "SmartWay is a lot cheaper than gas and most public transportation. I like that it is \$6 round trip, and you are guaranteed a ride home."

"It's good that Hollins is acknowledging that girls go off campus to Virginia Tech and Roanoke College and are making sure that girls without cars can get there," she said.

However, the Hollins Express will remain the staple mode of transportation for a few traditional Hollins students like Tiffany Tseng, '05.

"I don't have the need to go anywhere besides Roanoke," Tseng said.

Tseng prefers Hollins Express to go shopping and to the movies, and said she likes that it is convenient and free.

"I think if people use it enough, SmartWay will be worthwhile for the school because not everybody has cars on this campus," she said. "Entertainment has been better than my freshman year here. Hollins has a lot more activities and offers more opportunities to get off campus."

SmartWay's system means longer travel times, less connection points and other difficulties, which could discourage students from using it as much as anticipated.

But, according to Bohland, kinks are to be expected with any mass transit system.

"You are ultimately a slave to their schedule, so that you have a decrease

in flexibility," Bohland said. "That's made me have to adjust my schedule, and it's limited my time at the office at Tech. There are pros and cons to it. You lose flexibility, but you gain the ease of less stress and of having to drive around 81."

Unlike the Hollins Express, SmartWay does not travel to Hollins to pick up students. Instead, students must take the Hollins Express to Center in the Square and walk over to Campbell Court, SmartWay's main bus stop. Or they can transfer from the Hollins Express to a SmartWay bus at Roanoke Regional Airport.

SmartWay stops at seven locations throughout the day, including Roanoke's Higher Education Center/Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke Regional Airport, and Christiansburg K-Mart, Virginia Tech's Squire Student Center.

"I wish SmartWay stopped at Hollins," Bohland said. "I think one of the drawbacks of the system is it's a small loop, and there are some areas that aren't being drawn into it. I'm hoping in the future they do extend it out a little more."

Expanding is a long-term goal of SmartWay as well but does not look possible in the near future, said Chamberlain.

"It takes a while to coordinate this since we are controlled by the government," she said. "They tell us where our stops are."

So far, success has been strong in the Roanoke area since its inaugural run in July. The number of SmartWay passengers has increased from 775 in the first four days to 5,000 daily, according to

Chamberlain.

SmartWay began when Valley Metro discovered through a recent study that a large percentage of people in Roanoke demonstrated a need for public transportation. A two-year trial grant for SmartWay was given to Valley Metro from the Federal Government.

"It's been an exciting new thing," she said. "We are demonstrating a need in the Roanoke area."

SmartWay buses are equipped with power portals for laptops and phones, reclining seats, drink holders, lots of storage, and other convenient features.

"It's more like a tour bus or an airline cabin than a Greyhound or Valley Metro," Chamberlain said.

"Our system is pretty simple," said Chamberlain. "We are always going to be customer-focused. We want people to want to use the bus. We want them to want to take our service. We want to make it as easy as possible and as convenient as possible."

For more information on the SmartWay Commuter Bus, visit [www.smartway.com](http://www.smartway.com). Or Call 982-6622, the SmartWay line, a 24-hour automated service that provides schedule information, traffic updates, and operators to answer questions.

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## New President Gray Prepares for her Arrival on Campus

BY REBECCA STAED

Clanging pots and pans, Krispy Kreme, gaudy costumes, absurd skits and one class-free day - all because Tinker Mountain demands it.

With all the right components, Tinker Day at Hollins is usually the most eminent day of the fall semester. But this year, the excitement of the tradition will be stunted by an important missing piece - Hollins' new president, Nancy Gray.

"I am very sad that I'm not going to be able to be there for Tinker Day," said Gray. "I can't wait to do it. It sounds like so much fun."

Instead, Gray will finish her role as president of Converse College, where she just finished a fundraising campaign to raise \$82 million. She is not scheduled to arrive at Hollins until January.

Her esteemed background and long list of experience in areas Hollins needs repair, were not the only

qualities that caught the attention of the presidential selection committee.

Gray offers hope for a steady future at Hollins, which has gone through five presidents in the past five years, leaving the community with a sense of instability and unease, an aspect Gray hopes to change.

"I need to give people a sense that I am a caring, sensitive person with hopes of building and empowering the Hollins community," Gray said. "I hope those personal qualities will help put some Band-Aids on the wear and tear of Hollins. If people feel that kind of commitment from me maybe they can relax a little bit and the future can be bright."

Since Gray was named Hollins' new president, she has made sure to stay in touch with several key people, such as SGA President Bethany Ewing '05 who help inform her of the goings on at the university.

Gray's resolution to stay involved with the Hollins community, despite being

away, has been aided by Wayne Markert, Hollins' acting president, who speaks with her at least once a week.

"It is rare for a university president to take office midyear because the fiscal year begins in July," Markert said. "We wanted to stay in contact as much as she can handle so that everyone is informed about everything that is going on [at Hollins]."

"With a new president, there are so many other commitments she is going to need to fulfill, and she doesn't want it to appear that she is neglecting students," Ewing said. "So I think her being able to spend time with the freshmen in January and also fulfill her other ample obligations is a perfect match."

Ewing has been in communication with Brook Dickson, executive assistant to the president, to arrange activities that will help introduce Gray to the campus in order for her to have the chance to meet students during the year, such as class receptions at

the president's house on different nights of the week.

Meanwhile, Gray is soaking up her last few months at Converse. "It is very hard to leave," Gray said. "I've had a wonderful 5 1/2 years at Converse. It was here that I learned how transformative women's education is. I developed my own commitment to women's education here."

But her ties with Converse haven't suppressed her excitement in making the move to Hollins and the Roanoke area.

"I had the feeling that I belonged at Hollins and that it was exactly what I was meant to do," said Gray. "I felt very comfortable with the members of the search committee, and we were very much on the same page. I felt if these people are representative of Hollins and I feel as relaxed with them as I did, it had to be a good match."

Regardless of her busy schedule, Gray hopes to fit in some hiking and camping trips - not to mention,

Tinker Day 2005 - with her family during her free time.

"I'm going to have to get in training for the Tinker Day hike," Gray said. "When the boys were little we started camping, hiking and kayaking. I'm not the most athletic person, so it's a surprise how much I enjoy outdoor activities and hiking. I'm not near as good as any of my family, but we're excited about all the outdoor opportunities in Roanoke."

"I knew right away that she was going to be great for us, said Carly Stoecker, '06, who met Gray at a meet and greet this summer. "She was strong and determined. I liked her overall exuberance. I don't think anyone else could have filled her shoes."

"Since 1842 Hollins has gone through countless times of instability and has continued to flourish through it all. I have no doubt that Gray will help us continue to do so," Ewing agreed.

## New Visual Arts Center and Museum Open to Viewers

by Indira Grossaa

It is hardly possible to visit the Hollins University campus this year without noticing the Richard Wetherill Visual Arts Center, an expansive new building that offers a wealth of high-standard facilities for students that the old art annex building did not offer. One of these, the Eleanor D. Wilson Museum, is a transformation from the old art gallery to a high-security museum where Hollins will display the work of visiting artists as well as other pieces, such as works from Hollins' permanent collection and pieces that Hollins will acquire for the museum's collection.

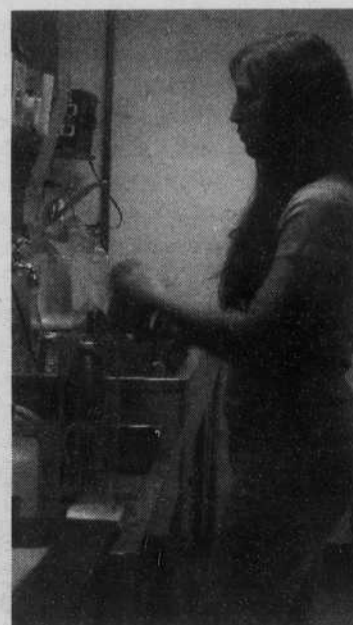
The museum was built in response to the wish of donor Eleanor D. "Siddy" Wilson '30 for Hollins to have a high-quality museum space where art could flourish within the Roanoke community and Virginia. Wilson's generous donation

of \$9.9 million provided Hollins with the means to fulfill her vision. As a result of careful planning by the art department, the facility is listed as a museum partner with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond.

"Among other things, the partnership means that we now have a high security designation, which will allow us to bring in museum shows that would have been impossible before," said Janet Carty, the exhibition and events coordinator for the new museum.

Ever since Hollins opened Roanoke's first art gallery in 1948, students have had regular access to well-known and respected artists; in fact, the list of shows held in the art annex gallery may be surprising to those who feel a small university is less capable of attracting big names; names such as Jack Beal, Sondra Freckelton, James McGarrell, and Janet

Fish. Despite this enormous success, the old art gallery had several limitations.



"The gallery was quite small, and pretty inaccessible to large works," said Carty. "Also, being in the basement, and on the edge of the creek, we lived in constant fear of

flooding, and then had to live with the after-effects of the damp, such as mold, whenever it did flood."

There are three interconnected galleries in the new museum instead of just one, allowing much more flexibility in the size of the shows as well as the number of exhibits occurring simultaneously. Also, there is now a climate-controlled storage area for artwork, which allows the museum to preserve and build upon Hollins' valuable permanent collection.

Hollins has selected Wyona Lynch-McWhite as the new museum director.

During the interview process, Lynch-McWhite visited the campus; this played a major role in her decision to accept

the job. "After touring the Visual Arts Center, I could tell it was done on the highest standards and that it had great potential," said Lynch-McWhite.

Her goals for the museum are more abstract than concrete. "I want the future to take us, to be open to new shows, and have a certain fluidity in what we bring in. As far as my vision for the museum, I see the collection growing and the museum gaining regional and national attention, eventually becoming a cultural center for Virginia, building on the previously established foundation of the old gallery."

The Eleanor D. Wilson Museum is currently open Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., and will be open Saturdays from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. beginning Oct. 16.



## Fantasy Creative Workshop Once Again Directed by Students

Dear Editors:

by Melissa Eastlake

The student-run Fantasy Creative Writing Workshop (FCWW), whose members have earned Independent Study credit for the past three years, has only unofficial status this term.

"I still think the dissolution of FCWW came out of nowhere," said Laura Carruba '05, who was to direct the workshop this year, in a statement. "I wish I knew all the factors that led to the shutdown, but I'm still unraveling that thread."

Professor Jeanne Larsen explained in a statement that the workshop's demotion from credit-earning status was not as diabolical as "the rumor mill" has made it out to be.

Larsen advised the workshop during its first year, 01-02. She met along with the students in the weekly workshop.

"Interesting, and fun, it was," Larsen said, "But this extra class ran on top of my normal teaching load...It took a great deal of time

for me to read the work and prepare comments. They worked hard too. But by the end of the year, I realized I simply couldn't do it again and still be fair to my other students."

For the next two years, student leaders directed the workshop, meeting separately with their faculty advisors.

Larsen said, "To me, and to a lot of other faculty in the department, it seems wrong to charge students tuition money for a situation where they are not receiving the guidance of a more experienced writer. In the end, we agreed that we shouldn't have independent-study workshops where the students did the work on their own."

So, because the time commitment of a full extra workshop is too much for the faculty, the members of FCWW or any similar workshop that might develop will not earn credits, or, conversely, be charged tuition.

"This is a very different

thing from saying that students shouldn't get together and offer each other feedback on their writing," Larsen said, "I'm all for that, and have made a point of letting one of this year's group of students know that they have support—I just don't think they should pay for the privilege of sitting down and talking to each other in a serious way."

Carruba, with Hollins' sci-fi club, Foundation 42, has organized an informal version of FCWW.

"[FCWW] will continue as long as there are women willing to buck the system to share the works they love to create," she said.

Larsen said that Fantasy and Sci-Fi works are welcome in standard Hollins workshops: "I think it's best for student writers to work with people trying lots of different kinds of writing, rather than separating themselves into subgroups."

Carruba, however, said, "For students (and professors) who haven't grown up reading 1950's

science fiction, technopunk, cyberhorror, and genre fantasy, modern works of fantasy and science fiction will no doubt be confusing. But my classmates, well-read in numerous genres, were able to point out cliches and gave better recommendations on how to further edit my work."

"I bear neither Jeanne [Larsen] nor Wayne [Markert, who also advised FCWW] any ill will," Carruba continued, "Both are enthusiastic about fantasy and sci-fi writing at Hollins. Yet they must eventually answer to the corporate monkey masters."

Larsen insisted that no bias exists against fantasy and sci-fi writing. She pointed out courses and theses in these fictions and said, "A number of writers on the faculty do work in this field—read our books if you think we are prejudiced against fantasy literature."

To the Campus Community:

It is highly frustrating when fliers for out publication are torn down because individuals find them obscene. We strive to work within all SGA-related policy and have, for the past four years always abided by them. We register our fliers, we turn our ledger in on time, we hold fundraisers and try and do community service (We've contributed to the SVEA book drive in the past).

Our publication has little money to waste on copying. If an individual has a problem with our flier they should contact Corinne Everett (publicity and promotions chair) and/or email The ALBUM at album@hollins.edu or contact one of the editors (Michie Blevins at michiepi@yahoo.com, Lisa Bower at lbower@hollins.edu, or Leslie Jarzabski at ljarzabski@hollins.edu).

It is impossible to promote the feeling of a community if people are unwilling to follow protocol or willing to speak up. Taking down fliers only moves us to print more and react in a defensive manner, changing nothing. And, quite frankly, it hurts our feelings that people do not approach us as to our methodology.

The ALBUM has a history of being punny, playful and collaborative of art forms (we include work from staff, faculty, and grad students as well as try and pair different genres next to each other during the lay out process). We attempt to begin dialogue and we strive for an intelligent form of humor. It's not like we used a picture of a penis along with our slogan of "Prove the Size of Your Cocke," we merely used an image of one of the main buildings on campus. It is funny, and will continue to be funny, that the name of such a building is what it is, especially considering this is an all-women's institution.

Thank you.

Lisa Bower, Album chair

## Campus no Longer #1 for Quality, Riding Program Tops Charts

by Stephanie Lohmann

Kaplan, College Guide, Princeton Review, Fiske... once simple college ranking systems, now household names for high school students across the country.

For colleges, these surveys can make or break their good social standing with a mere declaration of a title like "School Runs Like Butter" or "Reefer Madness". The Princeton Review's annually anticipated Best 345 Colleges is a survey that ranks schools entirely and solely through student responses; PR people and administrators need not apply for comment.

The Princeton Review ranked Hollins as #1 Best Quality of Life for two years in a row, until the school suddenly disappeared from even the Top 20 list. What happened? Was it the food? Was it the administration? Many people believe that

the food had a lot to do with it, though they don't necessarily understand how that one aspect really could've had such a great affect on the school's standings. "Last year the food was awful," said Kristin Polich '05. "There were just a lot of carbs, and no real alternative options for healthy eating. This year we have more varieties of food; last year we just had bread."

This year's winner of Best Quality of Life is Davidson College, a small, private college in Davidson, North Carolina. "The students here have very good relationships with the professors," says Davidson College junior Erik Swanson. "We also placed in the Happy Students category, and I think that it's because students really work for what they want here and are generally successful."

In any case, to increase the quality of life at Hollins University, the President's

Task Force on Building an Inclusive Community has been recently implemented. This new program is going to find ways for the university to increase diversity on campus and be responsive to a larger student population.

Yet Hollins can still be proud of it's rankings. It has secured a title from the Newsweek Kaplan College Guides 25 Hottest Schools: The Hottest Riding School.

Based on an informal and unofficial collection of data given by professors, students, admissions officers and high school guidance counselors, Kaplan finds out what is "hot" in American universities now, and hopes to shine some light on an aspect of a university that may have been overlooked in the otherwise complicated and confusing process of school-hunting.

"What needs to be understood is that this is not a ranking," said Victoria

Grantham, a Kaplan insider. "We are trying to find out what's hot now, and get that out there so that prospective students can see that a school they may have overlooked may have something that they really want to do."

Surveys like this are really important to small schools like Hollins. With the help of Kaplan, people can see that not only does the university have a strong single-sex liberal arts program, but it also caters to a sport that many schools don't tend to advertise.

"The great thing about the riding program here is that anyone who rides is a part of the riding team," says rider Mandy Lynch. "You may not show all of the time, but it's less daunting than having to try out and be told you aren't good enough and never get to have a chance at getting any better."



# Ignorance is Not Always Bliss

by Laura Smith

My summers at the Jersey shore were spent wearing my uncomfortable – but stylish – clear jelly shoes and my pink and red halter bathing suit that was horrifically similar to that of the Queen of Hearts outfit in Alice in Wonderland, while strutting down the concrete sidewalks in lieu of the beach.

Wildwood Crest is not the best hot spot. And the summers I spent there left much to be desired as I turned my back on theatre camp, friends from school, and books for two weeks; replacing it all with episodes of family detachment and sunburns.

I learned three things during those summers: the importance of sun block, how to sell miscellaneous items at yard sales, and the brilliance of Schoolhouse Rock.

While I devoured the educational songs in such a fashion that had me belting out “interjections show excitement and emotion, are usually set apart from a sentence by an exclamation point or

by comma when the feelings not as strong,” to anyone who would listen, the one thing that benefited me in the long run was the series catch phrase: Knowledge is Power!

In the college world academics, social spheres, and work, take precedence over everything else. College becomes a bubble that shields its students from anything that is not within a certain mile radius, or perhaps in Hollins case, more than a two and a half hour drive away.

Due to this open negligence towards both national and world issues, students are often accused of being apathetic. We become indifferent to national and world issues, yet if we actually considered how affected we are by these issues, perhaps our perceptions of the political and social spheres we are a part of would change.

Sure there are those students who “fight for their rights” by participating in rallies, student debates, and writing letters to organizations, basing their stances

on their own ideologies, research, and personal backgrounds. They watch CNN, read The New York Times, and check-up on a candidate’s proposed solutions to issues on the worldwide web.



But the fact remains that the majority is just not as interested, or as culturally aware of worldly issues.

Does that make all of these said students ignorant? Not necessarily. There are others (myself included) who make an effort to read a few newspaper articles a week, watch the news whenever possible, and read about presidential debates. They form their own opinion not based on a vast amount of research, but rather on the research they

have chosen to read – stories that often conform to their personal ideologies on specified topics.

Then there are those whose anthem rings more soundly in the voices of the Beastie Boys – the “fight for [their] right to party.” Those apathetic ones who prefer to remain in the reality Hollins affords for them, rather than acknowledge there is a world outside the campus compounds, outside the world of parties and academics.

And in the “outside” world of political, environmental, and national issues, debates, policies, and rallies, is time really the enemy that rushes by, leaving college students unable to catch up on current events?

As students we can safely say that in any given day or even on a weekend, we barely have time to do our homework, hang out with friends, involve ourselves in extracurricular activities, and eat – how can we possibly find extra time to follow up on the happenings of the world?

Sure it’s important to know

about legal issues – they affect everyone, but can we really blame those whose schedules are so demanding they leave little room for learning about anything else?

Yes, we can. If time can be allotted for drunken revelries, dance clubs, and movie nights, time can be made for the daily news, or the perusal of a few newspaper articles.

Someone once said to me, “ignorance is not a plea.” So the next time you open your mouth to defend a side of an issue you know nothing about, or stare blankly at your friend when she casually mentions the situation with Chechnya, I suggest you make yourself a little more aware about the dealings of the outside world.

Remember: Knowledge is power.

## I Get By With a Little Help From my Friends

By Julia Knx

*“So long sweet summer... I stumbled into you and gratefully basked in your rays... So long sweet slumber... I fell into you, now you’re gracefully falling away.”*

That Dashboard Confessional lyric decorated many AIM profiles as August came to an end and classes began. All around me, people seemed to speak of the “best summer ever!” they spent reuniting with their friends from high school.

I’m not saying I had a bad summer, or even that I have no friends left from my high school days, but I was way more anxious to get back to Hollins than I was to hang out with people from high school, many of whom I hadn’t seen in months.

Maybe it was the fact that my jobs required me to get up at 6 a.m. every day, a time that does not mesh well

with the constant partying my friends wanted me to do, but my nights often followed this scenario:

Ring, ring!

Julia (looking at phone): “Oh, so-and-so is calling!” (presses “silent” button on phone and goes back to what she was doing)

Ring, ring!

Julia: “Oh, so-and-so left a voicemail” (listens to voicemail) “Oh, so-and-so is having a party? That’s nice” (drops phone and goes to ask her Mom if she wants to hang out and watch Sex and the City.)

If there’s anything this summer taught me, besides the fact that I never want to spend my life working 8-to-5 in a cubicle (another column in itself), it’s that college changes you – for the better.

I had great friends in high school. I never really belonged to a clique, preferring instead to have friends from every different group in addition to two

or three close friends from whom I was inseparable. Wedidwhatevergraduating senior does June to August: “OMG, we’re DEFINITELY going to keep in touch and talk and road trip to see



each other ALL the time!”

I was incredibly offended when my boyfriend at the time, a year older and supposedly wiser, told me that once I got to Hollins my high school friends wouldn’t seem so important after I found my *real* friends at college. I couldn’t believe that he would say something like that, and indignantly

informed him that maybe *he* couldn’t keep his friends but I fully intended to visit mine at Tech and UVA every weekend.

As much as I hate to admit it, the ex was right. As the year went on, I made fewer trips to my friends’ schools and began to be fully content with limiting our contact to checking away messages and the occasional conversation.

This is not to say that I never hang out with any of my old friends. There are still a few that I’ll actually make an effort to see and talk to, but that number is much smaller than it was last September.

Ever see that episode of *Friends* when Monica goes on a date with her high school hunk Chip Matthews? Chip is 27 going on 17 and still lives the high school life. Monica is not impressed.

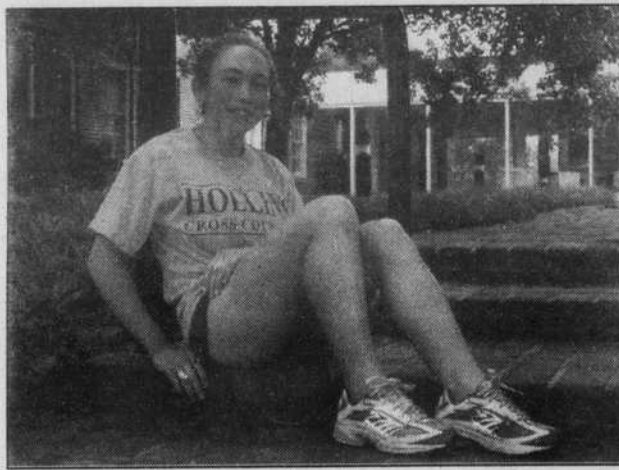
Every time I get together with a big group of my high school friends, I feel like

I’m Monica. We spend a miniscule amount of time updating each other on our classes and various social activities, and then spend the next three hours reminiscing about the time Todd got caught playing Text Twist on his iBook during AP Psych. This is fun, for a few minutes. But pretty soon I can’t help but feel like I’ve regressed right back to Mr. Davis’ physics class.

The class of 2008 is probably reading this and having the same reaction I had to my ex-boyfriend. But I promise, it’s true. And it’s not as horrible as it sounds.

You’ll learn which friends from high school are worth keeping in touch with. And the great friends you find at Hollins will more than make up for those who aren’t.





Athlete of the Week Pamela Cruz '08 poses outside of Tayloe Gym. Cruz placed seventh in a recent meet.

## X-C Captain named Athlete of the Week

by Tara Jones  
The Hollins varsity cross-country team voted for Pam Cruz to be the Athlete of the Week.

Pam is the captain of Hollins' two-year-old team. She is also a freshman at HU, double-majoring in biology and studio art in order to be a doctor like her grandparents. She hopes to study the field of reconstructive surgery to become a cosmetic surgeon after she graduates in 2008.

Pam placed seventh in the last meet, helping the team achieve an overall 5<sup>th</sup> place. "Our goal was 5<sup>th</sup> or better. We met our goal," said Pam.

Pam began running at the age of 14, encouraged by her PE teacher at junior high school in Virginia Beach. She was disappointed when she learned that Hollins does not have a track team, which is her preference.

Pam expressed fear that Hollins may no longer have a cross-country team either. "The school is considering

shutting down cross-country. On the Internet, there is an asterisk next to cross-country, saying CC may not be a sport next season. As a woman, I think this is hypocritical."

Consequently, Pam feels strongly about recruiting support for the team. When asked what she would say to encourage Hollins students to participate, she answered, "It's working out. It's fun. Everyone is nice. The coach is great. Plus, it's a PE credit for a varsity sport!"

The team practices six days a week, alternatively running fast-paced two-milers and endurance-challenging six-milers.

"My teammates voted for me...well, because I really have a passion for running. A bigger team is better, more intimidating."

"Our coach drives 75 miles to campus every day," said Pam. "Our ultimate goal is to continue cross country as a varsity sport at HU."

# Miller's Moves

by Amanda Miller

Ever wonder why you feel tired and lifeless? Maybe it's because you're hung-over or worn out from reading countless pages for all of your classes, but most of the time I guarantee it's from not working out.

Here at Hollins we get a great education, and have a lot of fun while we are at it. First-step parties, fall parties, Hampden-Sydney College Parties, NEFA, apartment parties, and late night studying/snacking can be extremely rough on our bodies. But working out at least three times a week for 20 to 30 minutes a day can not only give you energy and relieve stress from your body, it can also help you get in shape and feel more confident about yourself inside and out.

Having fun while working out is key. So grab a girlfriend, put on some music and get your bodies moving! This month concentrate on your lower body.

The workout that will keep your butt looking nice in those cute fall pants is something I like to call the "Triple T", or the Tinker Tush Toner. No, you aren't walking up Tinker Mountain yet. The loop around Hollins is 1.7

miles. Start out on a brisk walk, and do a different exercise every five minutes.

The exercises included in this month's workout are lunges, squats, and calf raises. This workout is good because you are doing cardio while making your muscles more defined and toned. If you are capable of running, then do so. It is better to start out where you are comfortable and work your way up.

After you have stretched, start walking or easy running as a warm up. After five minutes have passed, stop and do 10 to 12 lunges -- Start off standing with feet together. Slowly "step forward" making sure your knees are at a 90 degree angle. Keeping the weight in your heels, slowly push back up to the starting position. Remember to keep your torso straight and don't let your knees extend over your toes (<http://exercise.about.com>) -- and then start running or speed walking.

Once you get to ten minutes, do 10 to 12 squats. Stand with feet shoulder-width apart. Slowly lower your body as though you are "sitting in a chair" until your thighs are parallel with the ground. Keeping

the weight in your heels, slowly push yourself back up to starting position (<http://exercise.about.com>).

Walking with five-pound dumbbells can increase the intensity of your workout. Also, remember to really pump your arms and work the hills on the loop. For example, one day walk up "President's Hill", and increase your pace so you will feel the burn more. After you get up to 15 minutes, do 30 to 40 calf raises. Stand with feet shoulder-width apart on flat surface. For a more intense workout, start out by standing with toes on a curb or a step. Slowly stand on tiptoes and come back to starting position.

If you are doing a 20-minute workout do a five-minute cool down and stretch. If you are doing a 30-minute workout, repeat one of the exercises you liked the best and cool down. Feel free to exceed 30 minutes if you have time. Try to stretch for at least 10 minutes after each workout.

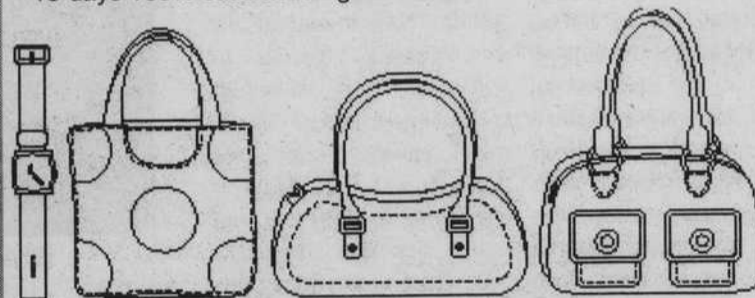
After doing the Tinker Tush Toner, you will feel confident and have more energy. Just remember to have fun! Happy toning!

Cheers to autumn weather  
Jeers to the Red Sox losing  
Cheers to apartment parties  
Cheers to the new VAC  
Jeers to onion rings in  
Moody everyday

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