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Hollins Columns

November 15, 2004

Hollins University

Volume 77, Issue 4

Horizon program celebrates 30th anniversary

BY JEN SPELKOMAN

Everyone has a story, but an overwhelming theme of triumph is found in the populace of Hollins Horizon program which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.

Evolving throughout its history to fit the needs to educating women, since its conception the Horizon program has offered woman a supportive place to pursue their education.

The following stories would not be viable without the Horizon program;

Evelyn Bradshaw came to Hollins in 1980 as a secretary.

"When I went to lunch [Hollins women] were talking about interesting subjects and it was a whole new language for me," said Bradshaw, who still keeps the notebook of the new vocabulary she learned during those lunches, looking up the definitions in her spare time.

Bradshaw enrolled in the Horizon program to become a better educated person and is now director of the Horizon program.

ated in 1988 simultaneously with her daughter, a traditional Hollins student.

Originally from southern California, Sandy Day '06, had been married three years when a man called her at her job and told her that her husband was having an affair with his wife. After her divorce, Sandy found out about the Horizon program on the Internet. Never living alone before in her life, she left her friends and family behind and moved to the Roanoke area by herself, where she knew no one and had never visited before. Last year Day relayed her story on the Oprah Show. Now she is planning to go abroad to Ireland and is currently looking into graduate school programs in creative writing.

In the 1970s, when Deborah Camden was 18 years old, she felt that attending Hollins was a goal out of reach. Through the Horizon program,

in 1997 with four kids Deborah enrolled full time and completing her B.A. in four years. Now an employee of the institution she once felt she would never be accepted to, Deborah celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Horizon program with other alumnae and current students

Before 1974, Hollins had a small enrollment in its adult continuing education program. Comprised of local residents between the ages of 35 and 40, typically these women were non-working mothers, who were non-degree seeking students and interested in taking courses part-time. They were women who could afford to go back to school as no grant or aid was allocated in this program.

The woman's movement increased in interest in further education among and for women beyond the traditional college age. Elizabeth Minnich, the first director of the continuing education program began recruiting more non-traditional students and created a program designed for women dedicated to furthering their education after a lapse in time.

"I now propose that we make some special provisions for [non-traditional and returning] students, seek new ones, and proceed toward implementation of a full program geared to the special needs of re-entry students," Minnich wrote in documents to the Hollins Legislature

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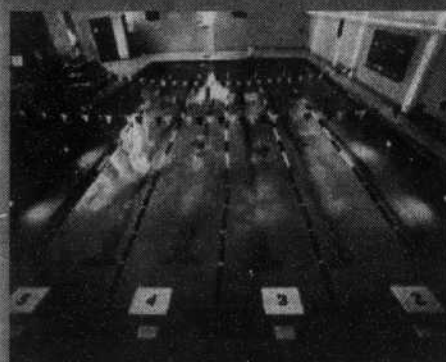
Horizon



HOP brings adventure to campus
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Reverend Hale '75 returns to Roanoke
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Swim team hopeful for a great season
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Horizon student Janet Slaughter '06 smiles with her ring sister, Horizon student Catherine Price '05

Hollins Christian Fellowship looks for new pastor

BY CARRIE SPRUILL

Last September, Hollins Christian Fellowship found itself in a quandary when its campus minister, Natalie Kline, -resigned to take a position preaching at Vinton Baptist Church. Since that time, the group has worked to develop a creative solution to this problem until a new minister is found.

Knowing that Kline would be leaving in the fall, HCF set up an alternative form of leadership to compensate for her absence in the summer of 2003. For over a year, the organization has worked under the direction of a leadership team. Comprised of about four to six student members, its responsibilities consist of planning and leading all club meetings and activities.

Even with preparations in place, the group initially struggled to adapt to the unique challenges of student leadership. Since a majority of last year's team was made up of seniors, these young women had to learn how to balance their club responsibilities

along with schoolwork and senior theses. Regan Postma '04, who acted as a consultant for the leadership team, counseled the students about how to do this.

"I invested in the group by sharing [advice] at a meeting about balance and being centered, which I learned at a pottery class during a semester away from school," Postma said. Also, she spent time talking with the team, offering prayers, advice, and emotional support. "Although not technically involved in HCF leadership team, I felt myself a constant and committed part of the group."

This year, the team consists of four members: co-chairs Amanda Range '05, and Sarah Parkington '06, Christina Rock '06, and Kristin Bradford '07.

Chaplain Jan Fuller-Carruthers said, "HCF has always been student-led and has always had an active and vibrant leadership team. This year is not different in that regard, although the leadership team is more streamlined and smaller."

In spite of the changes in leadership, the team remains ambitious, continuing to hold events each month. In the fall of 2003, HCF endeavored to organize two or three other activities per month. Some of these ventures included Bible studies and service projects. One project that the group attempted to do for a time was called Random Acts of Jesus. The members went out into the Roanoke community and did spontaneous good deeds, such as washing the windows of cars in parking lots. Afterwards, they attached flyers about HCF to the cars' windshields. However, many of the club's plans, including the random acts, did not always come to fruition. Without Kline's leadership, the students found it more difficult to organize and execute the club's programs.

"Without Natalie, there was one less person committed to making these things happen," Range said.

Learning from its experiences, since last semester the team has scheduled only one event for

each month. For instance, the group recently went on a weekend nature hike.

HCF has not operated without help. The chaplain has been one source of spiritual and logistic support for the club.

"I have been meeting with the HCF leadership team and helping them map their way since last fall, a year ago," said Fuller-Carruthers. She also provides a link between Hollins students and churches in the Roanoke community.

With the help of Fuller-Carruthers, the team has recently implemented a plan called a Month of Mondays. Each month, a minister from the local community attends HCF's weekly Monday night meetings and helps the members devise and plan events. In addition, the guest speaks about his or her denomination and leads the group in study and worship. Help from outside sources such as these are greatly appreciated by the club.

"Because of Jan's amazing help and the great ministers that so willingly give their

time on Monday evenings, the added responsibilities for the leadership team have been much easier to handle," Parkington said.

Even though no applicant has been accepted for the position, the women of HCF remain optimistic about their situation. They feel that have grown in their Christian faith and interpersonal relationships in the year since their former campus minister resigned.

"I think that it was a positive move for the group. I noticed that more honest and deeper questions were asked," Postma said. "The sense of community seemed stronger."

Also, members believe that having a student run organization has helped them to hone their leadership skills and connect with other Christians from the local community.

Parkington said Kline's resignation "opened up the opportunity for the leadership team to have more leadership and also for HCF to experience the blessings of other area ministers."

Communication Studies & HUTV Present:

"Women Talking Work"

Tuesday, November 30 in the GDR,

7:30 p.m.

Panelists include:

Mary Casey of AAMCO Transmissions

Carole Hughes of La De Da

Cynthia St. Pierre of St. Pierre Salon &

Day Spa

Lisa Tilley of McLeod & Company

Linda Weber of Roanoke County Schools

Got something to say? To contribute a letter to the editor, e-mail us at hollinscolumns@hotmail.com

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Horizon

in the spring of 1974.

What is now known as the Horizon program began in the fall of '74 with 13 students. At that time it was strictly for woman over the age of 27, who had been out of school for at least four years and who had completed high school or their GED. Incentives such as a 40-to-45 percent automatic discount on tuition, special classes for Horizon students, and a structured support system of woman in similar circumstances enticed applicants in the early days.

"There was an open atmosphere — welcoming," said Adrienne Gentry Bullington '82, "I never felt like anyone was thinking 'What's this old lady doing here?' I always felt affirmed and accepted."

[The Horizon program] was the most wonderful experience of my life and I wish I could do it all again and have that joy of discovery again."

In the 30 years since its conception, the Horizon program has grown, graduating 20 to 35 students each year. In recent years, the age requirement level has dropped to 22, and currently has students in their 70s enrolled in the program. The Horizon student still has the benefit of not having to take standardized tests or having to attend a junior or community college before enrolling, which is a requirement for many continuing education programs.

Today, the Horizon student is more integrated with traditional Hollins students. Students are mainstreamed in regular classes, offered work study positions and campus housing, with many partaking in abroad programs, clubs and Hollins traditions like first

step and ring night. There is no longer an automatic discount, but students are eligible for scholarships and loans.

"There was a time when [Horizon students] could not go full time. They could only go part time and what that

as a conventional student at any age attracts women from around the country and around the world. Like Sandy Day, Cecile Zimmerman '07, uprooted herself from California last year to enroll in the horizon program.

Zimmerman.

"It's a whole new world for the horizon students," Bradshaw continued. "A majority of our students are full time. Many of them are single mothers. Many are married with children. Some have given

up there full time jobs to come back to school, so it's a very diverse group. They are much more diverse today than they used to be, which is probably true of Hollins in general."

Bradshaw had worked in the Horizon program for 12 years before working in the career center for 12 years, and recently took back the position in the Horizon program.

"I give Hollins credit for the person I am today. They have made me a better person, a more humble person and a better educated woman. I have an awareness of the world and the problems of the world that I didn't have before," said Bradshaw.

Bradshaw's primary job is making sure things run smoothly for Horizon students. In addition to providing academic counseling services for Horizon students,

she originated the Horizon newsletter in 1985 which interconnects Horizon students. Socials, picnics, a mentoring program and workshops for Horizon students are held to ease the adjustment of returning to school.

"Having had multiple opportunities to meet and get to know other Horizons students before class began, it felt like there was always some safety and familiarity available, and I think that is what separates Horizons from other adult program," said first year Mara Robbins, "There is a sincere effort to create camaraderie, to give us each other to turn to and lean on and for me at least, that has given me confidence I might not have had otherwise."

Brooke Dickson '95 said the Horizon program has "a more personal approach and a genuine interest and commitment to your success. . . Returning to school and finishing my education is one of my greatest personal accomplishments. Hollins helped me achieve that. At Hollins I learned to trust my own voice,"

The adult Horizon program at Hollins has adapted to the demands of society and the desires of its students to provide continuing education for women. Today the Horizon program offers woman a full college experience regardless of age.

"The program is more inclusive now. What applies to traditional students applies to adult students," said Deborah Camden. "[The Horizon program] changed my life, gave me confidence that I didn't have before. [It] has opened up a new world for me and I would highly recommend it, which I have, to other women who don't believe that they can do this."



Horizon student Janet Slaughter participates in Ring Night

meant was that students could not qualify for the TAG grant and other scholarships as well as awards and honors," said Evelyn Bradshaw.

These steps of integrating Horizon students with traditional students are a large appeal for many. Being treated

"I wanted to be in a school where I would not be the older person in class. For me this is my opportunity to have my college experience without having to do an 'adult program' where I would be with only other working adults trying to earn their degree," said

Hollins Outdoor Program looks for new adventures

BY CRYSTAL CLUSIAU

HOP, the Hollins Outdoor Program, is an association which provides students with the opportunity to gain leadership and outdoor education through classes, trips, and individual journeys into the "outdoor world." Past and future trips include hiking and bouldering at MacAffe's Knob, day hikes to places like Devil's Marble Yard, caving at James Cave, rafting in the New River Gorge, and climbing at Bozoo or the Gorge. Students who can't make it on a HOP trip, can rent equipment from HOP for their individual adventures. There are

also ways to participate in HOP on campus, such as climbing at the Charlotte Fox Indoor Climbing Wall and living on the HOP hall, an area in West reserved for people interested in advancing HOP and their outdoor leadership skills.

Over Hollins' fall break a group from HOP went on a staff-training program. Jon Guy Owens, director of the outdoor program, took the group of seven Hollins girls and two auxiliary staff to Virginia Beach for a weekend of fun and train-



Sara Martin '05, HOP president, makes her way up the climbing wall

ing. Besides all of the fun-filled memories, the group also gained experience in leadership through surfing lessons, sea kayaking lessons, and other activities.

Craig Grandfield, a student at Radford, helped HOP get in touch with Ocean Rentals, the company who the girls, and Jon Guy, surfed and kayaked with. All of the activities the students participated in were based on outdoor leadership skills for HOP participants. Students were probably excited to find out that surfing was

included in the training week-

end partly to find out if HOP would be likely to include it in future trips, and it definitely will be a new opportunity for the Hollins community.

If any person is interested in the HOP program, attending a trip, or even just improving their outdoor leadership knowledge and skills, come see Jon Guy or a staff member. HOP provides unbelievable chances to do things a person might never do otherwise, and so many people fall in love with the outdoors and stick with it forever. Join the HOP community and enjoy memories such as "Kick it to the Munter with the carabiner love," "Sun Drop Spam," and the hydration game.

Students participate in Appalachia service project

BY MARIA MONTES

The Appalachia service project took place over fall break in War, W. Va., (population of about 4,000), ranked sixth in poverty in the U.S. and poverty among children ranges between 17 to 52 percent.

A group of students went on the trip along with Jeri Suarez, the associate dean of intercultural and service learning programs. Jeri Suarez first visited Appalachia with a group in 1991 when she led a service trip to Nora, in Dickenson County and since then

she had wanted to return to the region with a team. In late August, she met Franki Patton Rutherford, executive director of Big Creek People in Action, a non-profit organization that addresses family, community and economic concerns in the Big Creek District in southern West Virginia.

The Hollins group collected oral history by talking to the citizens of War and neighboring communities. They learned about traditions, coal mining and current events. Hollins students learned how to flat foot, a type of dance, to blue grass music as part of learning about the culture.

The latest news was that the local high school would be shut down due to consolidation, causing the local students to travel to other schools which would be an hour away, one way. The Hollins participants talked to a local high school group about college life and had the opportunity to attend the historic last football game at the local high school.

The group interviewed local residents and learned about them, they didn't just rely on facts; they were able to create their own opinions about the place. A retired miner gave the group a tour of a mine that was once operating.

Shivaughn Ferguson '08 said, "It gave me a new perspective of life, seeing people struggle with their every day life situations but still willing to help out their neighbor."

The trip lasted several days in which the Hollins participants had the opportunity to learn about the culture, traditions and history of the Appalachia region. Suarez said, "Our final night was spent at a local diner that hosted a bluegrass festival with a regional band where students learned to flat foot and celebrate the beautiful songs of mountain life."

Suarez plans to continue to

offer this experience during the fall break each year.

"We had a wonderful beginning and now I hope to spend some time developing the project on the model used for the Jamaica program. The planning process will begin in the spring which will allow students the opportunity to attend seminars and raise funds to help pay for their trip" Suarez said.

She also said that if anyone was interested in finding out more about these kinds of trips to contact her at jsuarez@hollins.edu.

The Hollins Columns apologizes for any unintentional similarities between "Year of the Informed Voter" article and the library exhibit by Ashley Sharpe.

M.F.A. students published in literary magazines

BY CARRIE SPRUILL

Recently, four Hollins M.F.A. students were published in assorted prestigious literary magazines and journals. These students join a long list of published authors who have attended Hollins University. The honorees include Jessica Rapisarda, Cortney Bledsoe, Jillian Meyer, and Scott Sanders.

None of the writers is a stranger to the publication process. For instance, Meyer's poems were published in the Blue Collar Review and Poesia, small journal from Fayetteville, AR. Works by Bledsoe, her fiancée, have

appeared in over 65 journals, including the well-known magazines Amherst Review and Dartmouth College's Lifelines. While Sanders has no previous work published, several of his pieces are currently undergoing the submission process. Though Rapisarda has been published in her college literary magazine and in her native Baltimore's newspaper, she says, "I really consider my recent publication my first true publication." One reason for this is that she has no personal ties to the journal that accepted her latest publication.

Rapisarda's poem, "In Another Language", was

accepted by the Potomac Review, a journal affiliated with Montgomery College in Maryland, and will be published in its November issue. The inspiration for it originated from an unusual source, a recent doctor's visit. "I was in a great deal of pain at the time," she elaborates, "and the sensation of his hand on my back as he checked my heartbeat was such an unexpected comfort." When she wrote the piece, she adds, "I was interested in the language of the human body, how communication can transcend and precede actual words."

Describing her writing process, Rapisarda said, "I often begin with an image or a phrase and then elaborate on that image or phrase." In doing this, she adds that she must work to avoid overly polished conclusions. "The trick for me is not to go too far," she explains. "I often want to tie the poem off with a nice neat bow, write a this-is-the-end-of-the-poem sentence." She adds, "For the reader, it is always more satisfying if something is perhaps implied, but left unsaid. Let the reader become a participant in the poem. Let the reader determine the ending."

Bledsoe has published several pieces in the past few months. Among the most current are "We forgave" and "Adolescence", two poems which were accepted by the journal Margie in Chesterfield, MO. The former addresses the drama of adolescence, while the latter is an ode to good intentions. An additional piece, a ten minute play called "Tim" was included the Arkansas Literary Forum, an online journal. He also read the play in Studio 404 at the University of Arkansas. Its theme relates to the sacrifices one must make in relationships. Says Bledsoe, "Most of my work is about relationships, or revolution. Or both."

Meyer's poem, "Drought", was published in this past summer's edition of the illustrious journal Phoebe, which is based at George Mason University. She describes the piece as a modified ghazal, which is an ancient Persian form that serves as an expression of love.

Meyer recounts with amusement an anecdote regarding the publication of the work. "[Although the poem] was actually called 'Drought', it's printed as 'Draught', which I think is really funny." The piece is, according to the poet, "an exploration of that dichotomy between distance and connection".

Sanders submitted two stories published in Hardboiled, a Brooklyn-based journal featuring mystery stories, and the Dead Mule, a magazine devoted to Southern

literature. The first, "The Partner", is based on an actual incident from a newspaper article that he read as a child.

"Two boys had vandalized a man's watch repair shop," he begins, relating the story. "The man was confined to a wheelchair. The boys spray painted, 'You can hide, but you can't run' on one of the walls." He adds, "I found that to be so amazingly cruel, and it stuck with me. So twenty years later I wrote a story, based on that message."

His other story, "The Chicken Shack", is an excerpt from a forthcoming novel. "The novel is about three teenaged boys in Alabama who tend to get into a lot of mischief, and ultimately, as the pranks get more intense, the plot gets darker," says Sanders. "A death takes place that is covered up by the boys, and eventually an innocent man is apprehended for it. The stakes are raised even higher at that point, as they struggle with what to do."

Regarding the publication process, the students believe that aspiring young writers should not be afraid of potential rejections. Rapisarda says simply, "Just submit. Rejections are an inevitable part of the publication process." Sanders, Meyer, and Bledsoe agree that to maximize the potential for acceptance, a writer should submit a piece to multiple journals. Says Meyer, "Eventually you'll find the right match between the work you've sent to a particular journal, and what they're looking for for their specific issue."

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Down but not out: Clinton/Obama in 2008

BY JULIA KNOX

Let's observe a moment of silence for the Kerry campaign, please.

Now that the election is over, I'd like to take a minute to address two important issues that have been on my mind since Kerry conceded. I don't want to use these next 600 words to bash Bush, but instead to try to move on.

First of all, Democrats, we will get over this defeat. It may take a few weeks, or even a few months, but eventually we need to pick ourselves up and focus on 2008.

We will not move to Canada. The thought is tempting, yes, and we might even go abroad for a year instead of a semester. But packing up and driving to the nearest border

will only make the Republicans gloat more than they already are. Besides, if we're all in Canada, who will be here to elect Clinton/Obama in 2008?

I cried when Kerry conceded. Not necessarily because of the thought of Bush in office for the next four years, but because I felt so disenfranchised. I voted, and that didn't change anything. 1,150,000 women marched for their lives in Washington, but our reproductive rights are still being challenged. Millions of people, not only in America, but around the world, have protested the war in Iraq, and the number of deployed troops increases every day.

After all this, nothing changed. To me, it felt like everybody's efforts over the

past 12 months had been for nothing. It was enough to make me want to become apathetic again.

But after several conversations with my mother and Prof. Tumas-Serna, I realized that becoming apathetic would be the worst possible thing to do. The whole "social activism" movement of the past year shouldn't only arise before a presidential election. We can't lay silent, defeated for the next three years. Instead, after taking a few days to mourn, we need to pick back up and get involved again. Keep writing your senators, keep attending protests, keep volunteering. Virginians, start by working to get Tim Kaine elected governor next November.

My second issue has to do

with Republican reactions to the election. Since the election, I've been told by more conservatives than I can count to "get over it." This upsets me almost as much as Bush in office again. I'm not one to tell you what to say, but since I'm not telling you to stop gloating, it's irritating when you tell me to stop complaining.

You may have seen the signs around campus declaring Bush was a terrorist. You might have also noticed that a few conservatives took great offense to these signs and tore them down immediately (as I personally witnessed more than once). One of the beauties of America, as messed up as it is, is that we have the right to say whatever we

want. Every time I pass a certain professor's house, I want to tear down the stringing "Victory" sign hanging in the yard, but I restrain myself from doing so. Why? Because I respect his right to put up whatever he wants, as irritating to me as it is.

I'm still scared for America's future. Not because Bush is in office, but because of how divided we are. There's no middle ground anymore, and no president, Democrat or Republican, can successfully run a divided country.

Democrats, I'm not asking us to fume silently and get behind Bush. But I think it's necessary that while we keep making our voices heard and keep trying for change, we get behind America.

Dear Editors: This is an angry letter

Dear Editors,

This is an angry letter. This is an angry letter because I have to pay a \$50 ticket for a rolling stop where turtles could have been passing me. This is an angry letter because the campus safety officer who gave me the ticket was the only campus safety officer on duty at the time. Meaning, if there was a major problem and someone needed actual help or safety, the officer was over sitting in his car by the art annex twiddling his thumbs and preying on students to give tickets to. This is an angry letter because I appealed this ticket, acknowledging my mistake and only asking for a lesser fine. I was then denied this appeal on miscommunication about jurisdiction, and

told by an appeal board member that if I had lied and said I stopped, the charge would have been most likely lifted. And finally this is an angry letter because when told that the verdict on denying the appeal would stand, I had to demand a reason. My enlightening answer: I was basically being made an example of because of a reckless driving incident that happened last month. I have a better idea, why don't you tar and feather me in front quad with stop signs and hub caps while the appeal board and campus safety do a little dance. That'll teach 'em. Or at least it will attract the attention of the campus and get the message out, because giving me personally a \$50 fine that I can't pay, sure will teach them in mass droves.

I have a feeling that I am not alone in outrageous charges being made and closed doors being slammed in my face, and if something like this has happened to you I encourage you (yes, you) to speak up. For my specific situation I would like to reiterate that I'm no Mr. Magoo behind the wheel. There was not, and never will be any joyriding around the loop in my car. I drive a 1991 duck-taped-together-grandpa-style Chevy Caprice that could be a key candidate for pimp my ride. I am expecting Exhibit to come by Main any day now. Look forward to reading about it in the grapevine.

I made a rolling stop. I would hardly call that reckless driving. It's ironic that it is labeled as a moving vio-

lation on the account that I was going so slow and on a real road grandmas would be passing me. There was absolutely no one around except for the big fat cop who I affectionately hate, and like I said, was the only officer on duty at that time. I know this because he told me so when I asked to speak with someone else. What does that say about the priority of safety on this campus? Or about how students are valued? It probably does not say something that we would want to be picked up by the Princeton review, so we can run an ad campaign about it.

The appeal board is another story. I have nothing against Lindsey Beging, or anyone on her appeal board. I was

told this was a unanimous decision, but I was also told the specifics weren't given to the appeal board or the fact that I requested a lesser fine. Miscommunication is a major problem here. Please note that Hollins isn't winning any "school runs like butter" awards.

So this was nice little cynical rant, but now I have to cough up the dough for a \$50 ticket.

This is ridiculous. The miscommunication and disorganization of the appeal and safety systems (and the lack of concern or care about it) infuriates me. But at least I can effectively communicate something to somebody.

Jen Spelkoman

Sophomore year: stuck in the middle

BY LAURA SMITH

Anyone who tells you sophomore year is easy is lying. In my opinion, sophomore year is chock full of emotional turmoil, inner reflection, and a sense of confusion. It's also filled with closer friendships, get-togethers with wine, and lots of dancing. There's less "What's going on at Tech?" and more "What's going on at the apartments?"

They tell you this is the year that the "honeymoon is over." Time to decide whether you are going abroad. Majors need to be declared. Homework is starting to pile up, and the various social activities you signed-up for as an eager first-year are calling your name. In advising sessions there's no more "Take whatever you want," but rather - "How is this class pertaining to your major?" or "Is this fulfilling a

requirement?"

There are many pluses and minuses to sophomore year:

1. More secure in social environment

Freshmen year everyone is fumbling around trying to make those "life-long" friendships which they've been promised exist. Sophomore year you feel more comfortable being surrounded by your friends, the campus, and the upperclassmen. You know which activities pique your interest and which ones to shy away from.

2. The novelty has worn off

By sophomore year the campus seems very small. Too small. The classes are a disappointment in their high-school like atmosphere, and getting through them can be tedious. Downtown Roanoke doesn't offer the wanted escape on a dreary Saturday afternoon. Responsibilities are

no longer as appealing as they were freshman year - laundry and the act of buying food are chores rather than accomplishments.

3. Closer Friends

By sophomore year you have a group of close friends you hang out with on the weekends. They are the ones who will walk into your room the night after heavy partying in which you drank more than you should, making sure you aren't sick and carrying with them a Nalgene full of water. They probably aren't the people you socialized with and went to a few parties together at Washington and Lee the first few weeks of your freshman year. They are the ones who you sit next to at Moody, who share their microwave popcorn with you when watching a movie.

4. More inner reflection

Freshman year was emo-

tional in a hurried external sense: making friends, getting homework done, joining clubs. Sophomore year is more of an emotional roller coaster internally. It's the year you begin to question your own values, ideologies, and if you haven't already (and this doesn't always apply) your sexuality. You begin to notice the flaws in your character and try to analyze, embrace, or even extinguish them.

5. I.n.d.e.p.e.n.d.e.n.c.e.

There are no more fanatical parents calling you every Sunday morning. No more need to go home every other week due to a bout of homesickness. By sophomore year you know what you've gotten yourself into, and you've taken your independence in stride. While freshmen year you may have curtailed the desire to hop on the greyhound with the dream of home-cooked meals danc-

ing in your head, by sophomore year you've continually forgotten to call home and the holiday breaks seem to sneak-up on you rather than arrive at a snails-pace at your doorstep.

Let's face it: sophomore year is nothing but a transitional period that pushes you away from first-year insecurities and toward a more confident attitude necessary to succeeding in the career world.

Teachers aren't as lenient as they were last year. Academic and social responsibilities are more pressing. And you're in the most ignored year of your college career. Freshmen are the newbies. Juniors are one step away from becoming seniors. And seniors are one step away from becoming a loving memory. Sophomores are just there, standing on the brink of adolescence and adulthood.

Reverend Hale '75 visits campus

BY COURTNEY CUTRIGHT

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Hale, '75, returned to her hometown and her alma mater Sunday, November 7, 2004 to deliver a sermon to the Hollins community. Hale is the senior pastor at Ray of Hope Christian Church in Atlanta, Ga. She started the church in 1986 and it now has an active membership of 3,500. Hale's many accomplishments include receiving honorable mention in Ebony magazine's "America's 15 Greatest Black Women Preachers."

Hale delivered a sermon entitled 'Wake Up Your Dreams' in du Pont Chapel in a service that was open to both the Hollins and Roanoke

Valley communities. An impassioned speaker, Hale filled her message with bits of advice about not getting stuck in the day-to-day grind that so many of us are accustomed to.

"Dare to dream!" Hale exclaimed. "Take risks to pursue your dream. Your dreams will stretch you and make grow. Dreams are to be fulfilled. You will never possess what you do not pursue."

Hale's message made Hollins University Chaplain Jan Fuller-Carruthers to stop and think about her own life.

"I get caught up just getting through the day," she said. "But if you don't know what you're doing in the big picture, how are you going to

get empowered?"

Hale went on to urge students and local members of the community to take time to dream and to spend time in prayer. She referenced Proverbs 16:3, which says, "Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed."

Hale, 52, shared with her dream of someday getting married and having twins. Hale has made sacrifices in order to achieve her dream of becoming a successful preacher. To relate her message to the congregation, she used her own experience of having a dream to start a church 18 years ago. She admitted that she did not know what she was doing and that she was scared of not being

successful. But she learned what she needed to know and she succeeded because she never lost sight of her dream.

"Courage is not the absence of fear," said Hale. "It is the ability to press on in spite of your fear."

Fuller-Carruthers was very excited to have Hale back on campus.

"Cynthia herself is such a model of strength- spiritual, physical, and personal power," she said. "It's important for Cynthia to come back to Hollins because I want our community to know how important spiritual shaping is on this campus."

According to Fuller-Carruthers, there are more than 40 ordained alumnae.

"I want to call attention

to the many religious leaders Hollins has produced," she said. "I love when Cynthia gets to come back to campus. We don't want to lose her connections. We adore her at Hollins and we need her presence. She is a model of success."

Victoria Downey, '08, attended Hale's sermon and was part of The Hollins United Gospel Singers' (T.H.U.G.S) performance.

"It was my first time hearing an African-American minister," said Downey. "It was a very upbeat, positive experience."

If you missed Hale's visit, look for her on campus in the spring.

Swim team dives into another good season

BY STEPHANIE LOHNANN

The concept of a swim team could seem somewhat strange. The word "team" which generally implies bonding within a group, just doesn't seem to fit into the truly solitary sport of swimming.

"You're underwater. You can't hear anything. You can't see anything. It's almost entirely sensory deprivation. But you know that when you get out, you aren't alone anymore," said Lynda Calkins, Hollins

swim coach.

Hollins' swim team has managed to overcome the blockade of solitude, through Calkins' program of daily two hour practices, weekly team dinners, team building activities, and regular speakers.

"We encourage cheering and team building activities, and the team has come together much stronger much quicker," said Calkins.

In sport's terms, the team is green – meaning that it is comprised primarily of

first year students.

"It's really great to have the younger girls being so dedicated and really pushing the team further," said Calkins.

Rachel Bright, a truly devoted first year swimmer, has described the commitment as demanding.

"You have to be really dedicated to be on this team," she said. "Having school and work and then trying to fit in a two-hour practice is exhausting, but I've definitely never slept better before in my life."

The intense workouts have definitely benefited the team's track record, helping them to beat the College of Notre Dame 61-59, and Emory and Henry last weekend, 92-65. The team also won its meet against Guilford this weekend when swimmers produced 13 new fastest times.

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Congratulations to Field Hockey, Soccer, Volleyball, Riding, and Cross Country for their great fall season!

Make sure you pick out that Hollins Christmas tree ornament for your family at the Field Hockey team's fundraiser, and get a trading card of your favorite player for yourself.