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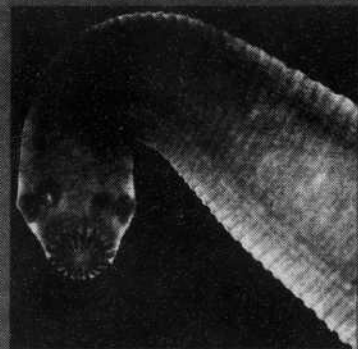
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# Hollins Columns

April 1, 2005

Hollins University

Volume 77, Issue 9



Could this be in your intestine?

page 8



Gossips R. Us.

page 7



Males from all walks of life recruited to join Hollins' Sports teams

page 5

**Disclaimer:** Due to extreme sleep deprivation and massive alcohol consumption by the editors, this issue might contain some factual errors. We apologize in advance.

## Mysterious 35 foot dildo discovered on front quad

BY LESLIE JARZABSKI

Erin Young '08 ventured outdoors at 7:30 yesterday morning to enjoy a breakfast cigarette before strolling to her first class. Not early enough to savor a Hollins watercolor sunrise, but at a sufficiently wee hour to catch the first glimpse of our beloved visitor: a magnificent dildo of considerable height and girth (approximately 35 feet tall and 5 1/4 feet wide) protruding from our manicured front quadrangle.

"I was rather stunned," Young said. "Isn't that the sort of thing the groundskeepers would promptly remove? But then I thought that perhaps one of the art students had set it up as an installation piece, and it wasn't really a dildo at all.

Whatever it is, it has an undeniable *je ne sais quois*."

As early as 8 AM crowds had begun to gather around the pink monolith. Many

the feeling of it and remained a safe twenty paces away until economics and women's studies professor, Drucilla Barker, declared that all in attendance were "a bunch of

wimps" and proceeded to wrap her arms around its base. Almost at once, witnesses say, its whole majestic form began gently swaying in what seemed like a gesture of gratitude or puppy-like bliss. A few students then emerged from the crowd to join Barker in extending the dildo a heartfelt Hollins welcome.

"It was so beautiful. Almost everyone was in tears, even the people who thought it was gross. I haven't seen anything bring the campus together like this before," said Kathryn Herndon '05,



Dildo stands proudly on front quad

Photo taken by Leslia Jarzabski

professors chose to cancel classes and allow students to indulge their natural curiosities. None were inclined to attempt

**Dildo**

cont. on pg. 2

## Top 10 ways to save Hollins University's financial crisis:

BY BRITTANY ADDISON-PRESCOTT

1. Have some students donate their pearls to the cause.
2. Sell Hollins "Live Strong" bracelets for ten dollars that say: "Live Hollins."
3. Have some students become Mary Kay representatives.
4. Provide a \$20 super shuttle to Hampden Sydney.
5. Stop paying Cocke inhabitants over \$100,000 a year.
6. Donate Alison Ridley's shampoo money to the cause.
7. Make Edward Lynch's son stand at the Hollins gates and charge an entrance fee. For those who refuse to pay he fires a water gun filled with bleach.
8. Stop buying president cabinet members "blackberries."
9. Sell Adderall.
10. Rent out the rock: Ten dollars a color.

**Dildo***cont. from pg. 1*

daubing her right eye with a kerchief.

Our dildo seems to be comprised of a dense, smooth material that reminds a girl's fingers of neither rubber nor plastic. Good Vibrations representative Shelley Mayfield was kind enough to explain in writing that the commercial dildo most resembling the "Hollins visitor" is a model dubbed the "purple plunge," but she has never been able to stock one quite as large as ours. She insists that the strange circumstances of our dildo's arrival mark it as what must surely be "an exciting prospect, foretelling prosperity and peace."

Indeed, many members of the Hollins community are extolling the positive uses of our dildo. Graduate student Kelley Shinn

went so far as to claim that igniting one's cigarette behind the newcomer "sure beats lighting a fag in the damned wind, Jesus."

"But what does it mean?" Eric Trethewey, professor of creative writing, sighed as he leaned pensively against one of front quad's historic trees now dwarfed by the enormous dildo. "It must mean something. I simply don't know how to read this."

Those seeking to uncover our dildo's purpose (if, that is, it has one--can a dildo formulate an agenda independently of, say, a human hand?) might find informative the writings of 18th century philosopher and physician Ernest Gunter, who wrote a number of lengthy treatises expounding upon the dildo's origins, manner, and disposition. Or Atthis of Mycenae, whose epic poem describes the journey of a jilted bride who so desired a child that she spent her life seeking the perfect golden dildo to present to the goddess Hera in return

for a daughter. Indeed, the dildo most often seems to represent unmet desire as the impetus for a triumphant journey of self-discovery and, in some cases, nirvana (recall the obscure sect of modern Buddhism, Dildatic Zen, whose adherents insist that the Buddha reached enlightenment while meditating in the shade of a humble sorg dildo native to southern Asia).

"This dildo has come to us for a reason," said student Berg '05, who has done extensive research in the area of dildo philosophy and aesthetics. "These majestic creatures don't just go sprouting out of the ground for no reason. It's like that early 90s pop song, I think it might have been by [David] Bowie: 'love, you know a dildo knows / the secrets of your heart / your unfulfilled desires, too / it'll show you where to start'. I think that holds some truth in this situation. The dildo is instinctively deliberate. I believe it sensed something,

perhaps a negative or anxious energy exuding from campus, knew that we were lost, and came to serve as our guide."

At 4:30 PM Nancy Gray issued an official statement on the enormous structure positioned almost exactly halfway between the Cocks and Main buildings.

"Although its appearance was quite an unnerving surprise, I recognize that as one of the few women's colleges remaining in the United States we are under increased pressure to demonstrate to the world the value of women's education: exposure to diverse views, realization of personal strength and potential, the ability to adapt to and thrive in any environment. We have no way of knowing what our visitor wants from us or how long it will stay, but we must demonstrate to it that we appreciate its presence and all it might deign to teach us."

An email blast was sent out this afternoon encouraging students to attend the events

slated for what will be called "Dildo Spirit Week", seven days of festivities celebrating the Hollins community's newest member.

**DILDO SPIRIT WEEK EVENTS:** April 4-10 (Sponsored by Intercultural Programs)

**MONDAY:** Maypole Dance! Come out into the sun and help us celebrate the return of spring! Green and yellow ribbons will be suspended from the top of the dildo in this revamped version of an old Hollins tradition. HRDC will also present a modern dance piece entitled "what the dildo gave me" choreographed by Mia Jacobucci '07.

**TUESDAY:** Dildo Movie Night. Enjoy a film directed by feminist filmmaker Lila Hortense: "Dildoa", the thrilling real-life survival story of a lesbian couple

**Dildo***cont. on pg. 5***PURE VALUE.**

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# Squirrels seize the school

BY KATIE RICHARDSON

Spring break was expected to be a quiet time on campus. But following the disappearance of Hollins students on Saturday, March 20th, a violent and epic seven-day clash between humans and campus squirrels erupted. Hundreds of furry rodents took control over Hollins University, the animals' first step toward world domination.

"We're tired of being dependent upon Moody leftovers," shouted an especially plump squirrel that appeared to be the rebel leader.

Approximately 315 squirrels gathered in front of Pleasants, the group's newly claimed headquarters, while thirteen squirrels dug a hole seven inches wide next to the leader. The leader picked up a leftover chunk of green Moody bagel from St. Patrick's Day and threw it into the hole, symbolically demonstrated the Hollins regime change.

"Let it be known that this land is now free for all squirrels," the leader proclaimed.

Great cheers erupted from the squirrel population, their chatters sounding like machine guns echoing through the empty campus.

Suicide squirrels scattered throughout the school. They gathered Moody bowls that had accumulated in dorms in order to build a four-foot wall around Botetourt, their new breeding grounds. All midterms were shredded immediately, and as of press time, Campus Safety was unable to locate unclaimed creative writing packets.

"We're doing everything in our power," reported Bill Lumberg, a Campus Safety Officer. "We just had no idea that these squirrels could present such a threat to our campus community."

He advised students to lock windows and shut doors at all times.

"No more of this 'friendly neighbor' stuff with doors open, girls," Lumberg said. "This is a crisis."

When asked about the unstable heating system that forced many girls to open their dorm windows, the Safety Officer had no comment. The maintenance crew was also unavailable for comment.

Sources close to the rodent onslaught said squirrels -- particularly males -- felt tired of being treated like second-class Hollins citizens. The attack was originally scheduled for spring Tinker Day. But the coalition struggled to keep the group motivated for an unknown attack date. Members had other things on their minds. (Spring happened to be squirrel-mating season.) Organized squirrel leaders, therefore, opted to initiate a spring break takeover, knowing that the break equated fewer fights for domination due to the decreased campus population.

Students remaining on cam-



NASA tested and approved squirrel traps will be kept on campus in case of another deadly attack.

pus didn't know how to respond.

"For the last two years, Hollins was ranked number one for the quality of life," said Dye Verminy, a tearful Resident Assistant in West trying to cope with the attacks to her dorm. "I just don't see how they could do this to such a great school."

Verminy and thirty-six other

students spent the majority of spring break trapped in their dorm rooms, guarded by aggressive, almost rabid-like male squirrels.

"What I wouldn't give for Moody," text-messaged Augusta Gloop, a trapped Sandusky resident.

For several days, the trapped girls went without food other than snacks saved in their rooms.

Communications across campus were cut. Several staff and faculty members trapped in the VAC and Danna held banners in their windows that read, "Help" and "Trapped." One VAC sign showed, "Send wine and pistols."

The National Guard stood at the entrance of Hollins, awaiting



This little buddy isn't gonna take it anymore.

But waning rodent energies became apparent. Their backup food supply wasn't large enough.

Dave Barry-Bush, a squirrel specialist called in from Homer, Alaska, performed biopsies on several Hollins squirrels.

"These squirrels are the laziest I have ever seen," Barry-Bush said. "Nothing like in Homer. These squirrel diets include only 2% organic Virginia matter. The other 98% comes from your cafeteria. Amazing."

When asked how to handle the squirrel infestation, he had no answer.

"Apparently they can only last so long without students eating here," he said.

Several professors brought their dogs to campus, which was found to be an effective method for shaking out some of the squirrels--literally. By the neck.

"If you ask me, we could let loose those crazy shuttle bus drivers to run squirrels over since they hit everything, anyway," called in an anonymous student on her cell phone while peering through binoculars from her dorm window in West. She was held captive for three days. The rodents shredded all of her texts and notes leaving her with nothing to do over the break but chant. (Professors: please excuse the anonymous student who was unable to complete her homework.)

Other solutions for squirrel elimination popped up around campus as well. A trapped student in East suggested cages and

bear traps, while visiting alum offered to spray the campus.

Shipping and Mailing placed enormous shipping boxes in front of their office. The boxes, filled with Moody fries and a couple of candy bars, lured at least 150 squirrels. The Shipping and Mailing crew quickly closed the boxes and threw on labels, requesting immediately delivery to Hampden Sydney,

thereby eliminating half of the rodents.

"It's all in a day's work," said staff member, Jeanette Rankin. Nonetheless, a celebration luncheon will take place in the Private Dining Room on April 8th with complimentary Moody food for all Shipping and Mailing staff because of their heroic efforts.

Remaining squirrels, however, began taking hostages and holding rallies immediately after this happened.

Our beloved Dean Ridley was again working late into the night when squirrels charged toward her office. She grabbed a pile of work and snuck into the SGA office where she awaited rescue. Hopefully the permanent marker scent from SGA sign making didn't affect her and the squirrels did nothing more than march back and forth in front of SGA, ready to nibble anyone who ventured near.

Hollins doesn't want to search for two deans.

Twenty-six students that remained on campus during break--tragically nibbled to death--will be honored by candle vigil on Tuesday, April 5th.

In the meantime, peace talks are underway. Students should prepare for a tuition hike to pay for a new "squirrel tax" to be in effect next fall. All perspective student visits shall be canceled until further notice. In the meantime, the Columns sadly reports that class remains in session.

## “Honor” award bestows employment casualties

BY LISA BOWER

It seems that the Staff Appreciation Award aimed to praise those members of the campus community who are often overlooked, has turned into something of dread for Hollins workers.

The award, presented at Founders Day, was established three years ago in an effort to bestow honor on one deserving and dedicated staff member of the Hollins community. As Charles Cocke, the University's founder, was kind enough to support the local church.

However, in the past few years, the award has become known as a bad luck charm, nicknamed The Kiss of Death, due to some strange, and horrific, incidences affecting its recipients.

The first recipient of the award was a woman named Jan Posterior who was given the award for her secretarial work in Admissions. It was after the award that the filing cabinet with prospective students was found missing, her husband left her, and she too was awarded

a pink slip, as it was feared she was personally at fault for the incidents.

Two years ago, a man named Lloyd Plant was given the award for his work with Maintenance. An individual known for both his quiet demeanor and his love of Hollins, he had worked at the institution for close to thirty years. A month after receiving the award, he was struck by a series of fainting spells, and eventually was forced to leave because he was apparently not performing up to the status quo.

Though faculty and the students who act from emotion argued his dismissal, little was done, as most did not know him by name and most were unaware he had been let go until it was too late.

Lloyd was unavailable for comment, as he is held to strict rules of confidentiality, and is only conscious about two hours per day.

This past Convocation held turmoil when the award was given yet again, despite the faculty's misgivings and the

student's concern.

Mathew Mannerisms, a man known both for his ability to sing Earth, Wind and Fire and for his mastery with the microphone and camcorder, was walking across the Main porch when a board gave and he fell through. Unfortunately, because of bad hip, Mannerisms leaned too far to the right and fell so that his body was pierced by a metal pole stored in a storage closet.

Mr. Alcatraz is the man who serves as both the overseer of the staff at Hollins and as chair of the selection committee for the award. Alcatraz has only mentioned that the death of Mr. Mannerisms has resulted in the reorganization of various departments on campus, in an effort to spread the grief and promote the philosophy at the core of Hollins, as a truly inclusive community.

All of the staff members I tried to interview were unavailable for comment, as they feared not only

the typical pink slip, but death or dismemberment.

Alcatraz has tried to speak



Award carries ominous undertones.

to the staff members to reassure them of their safety and of his intentions, except, because of his association with the award, and consequently with death, the campus community has taken to running just at the sight of him

leaving the Cocke building.

Claims that he is ignoring the core problem associated with the honor have been met with silence on the part of Alcatraz. Numerous emails have been sent to President Periwinkle, explaining dismay and speculation over the possible causes of the tragedies. Such theories have ranged from voodoo to karma to just pure bad timing.

Students have taken action, writing letters to the campus newspaper, The Pillar, talking about it in a meeting of the student Congress and hanging a banner saying, “Why is this Award Still in Existence?”

Currently, there are no plans to nix the award, though letters from Student Government and the faculty have been written. A replacement for Mr. Mannerisms is in the works, with the search moving forward fast in the hopes that the campus will be able to conduct its business without any other disruptions.

## Roommate slain on campus

BY PERIDOT STARFLOWER

A tragic event occurred on campus earlier on this week that many believe has been in the making for a quite while.

“You totally saw it coming,” Ashley Smith, '08 commented. “But, I mean, it's not like you really expected her to do it.”

The “it” Smith is referring to is murder. And that is exactly what happened on the second floor of Randolph on Tuesday, March 29. Freshman Tire-Ra Banx has apparently been putting up with her roommate's antics for quite some time. Sporting a sling and a cast on her right arm, Banx admits to “losing it” after tripping over a pair of stilettos that her roommate had left lying on the floor.

“I just couldn't take it anymore,” she said tearfully through the small circle cut in the plexi-class of the Campus Safety office.

Some, however, do feel that this was rather unexpected.

“We never heard them fight or anything,” Andrea Yager, one of Banx's next door neighbors, proclaimed. “I was so surprised to hear that this had happened.”

Banx's roommate, 19 year-old Lisa Camry, was hauled off to the hospital and pronounced expired at 8:02 PM. Banx has been arraigned and is currently awaiting trial. Her defense is the proclamation that Camry “never cleaned up the room” and “would often leave the most random of objects (boxers, Fanta bottles, tampons, concrete blocks, shoes,

books, and small woodland creatures, to name a select few) in the middle of the shared floor space,” therefore creating a frequent safety hazard.

Lisa Camry was strangled with some used dental floss and then tossed down the stairwell. A memorial service will be offered for her. Housing and Residence Life is currently attempting to structure even more “let's all just get along” activities in addition to its already lengthy list.

Our thoughts are with Camry's parents and family, as well as the entire Hollins community over her untimely, ironic, and heart-wrenching death.

### Hollins Columns Staff

Fearless Leaders - *Julia Knox & Laura Smith*

Don't Mess with Her - *Lisa Bower*

Shutterbug Boss - *Jen Spelkoman*

Official DJ - *Sian Thomas*

Grammar Nut - *Cathleen Kilgallen*

The Suit - *Katie Richardson*

She Finds Us Money - *Natalia Rocha*

Computer Expert - *Lynne Hawkinson*

They Only Come Here For the Candy:

*Ursula Jonsson, Brooke Ridgeway*

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

# Hollins PR has local men join sports teams

BY JEN SPELKOMAN

In hopes to increase popularity of sports among students, Hollins has begun recruiting men to join University sports teams.

Due to the fact that Hollins is a woman's college, college aged men can not play on the teams. Adolescent boys from community school and older men from Friendship Manor Retirement community as well as Williamson Road locals are being recruited to join the teams.

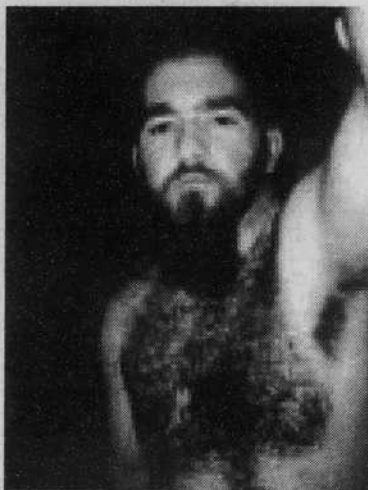
The idea was originated by the Universities public relations and marketing department. Those in the public relations office have taken a break from accosting prospective students, as the administration asked them to device a plan to increase publicity for sports and get more media attention focused on Hollins athletics.

"I like sports. People should go see the sports. But people aren't going to see the sports, so we are going to have bells and whistles so people go see the sports," said Provost Wayne Markert of the idea.

The planning process went on for months.

"We thought about having

a 'uniform optional' policy. We thought that would get more locals to come to the games, and oh the media attention! But Coach



This male swears he can save the day.

Calkins is a party pooper, so that idea was put in the can pretty quickly," said Jeff Hodges, Director of Media Relations.

The idea of inviting males to join the Hollins sports teams came from the overwhelming turnout to one particular sport. Although students are sparse at field hockey and golf games, there is always a large turn out at fencing tournaments.

"We thought- why is fencing doing so well? Why does everyone love fencing? Weapons and bondage-like outfits! But once again Coach Calkins is a party pooper," said Hodges.

It was at a meet last year with Washington and Lee that the fencing team had one of its largest turnouts. W&L's fencing team is co-ed.

"How great would it be if men joined the teams? It would be a great way to incorporate the Roanoke community as well as bring attention to our athletics. No other woman's college is doing it."

To this notion Athletic Director Coach Linda Calkins left the room shaking her head.

"They're all crazed loons I tell you!" Said Calkins.

Regardless, the plan is going into action and men will be joining the teams next fall and they have already started practicing with the teams.

To date, Charlie from the Texaco station, three members of the kindergartens class from Community School and two limber men from Friendship Manor retirement community have been recruited by the public relations office.

The Chicken man was all

booked up.

"We have a very diverse mix of men, which could potentially give us points with the college



This one can't wait to meet the girls.

ranking magazines," said vice president of marketing and enrollment, Jules Sowder.

Some Hollins Athletes are concerned about their new teammates.

"I like sticks. I'm glad I get to hit things with sticks. Girls smell, I will chase them with my big stick." Said Tommy, 5, who is now a member of the field hockey team.

"This is ridiculous," said Captain Beth White '07. "He totally blew snot in my kleet."

"Did not," said Tommy.

"You totally did!" said White.

To this, Tommy ran off the

field crying. His mother is worried about the long term effect of him running around in a skirt.

Charlie is excited about the opportunity to be on the swim team.

"I am excited to be famous," said Charlie from the Texaco about the potential media attention and then turned to his new teammates and asked, "Do you girls know anything about shrinkage?"

Once again, Coach Calkins left the room shaking her head. All of the members of the swim team switched to Exxon except for Sarah Parkington '06 and Cate McAnulty '06.

Members of the faculty are not pleased about the new initiative. "Aw hell!" said Physical Education Professor Coach Ware when she heard the news, "I am going to retire!" she continued.

"You already planned to," said Coach Calkins.

"Aw hell!" said Coach Ware.

Students express concern as well. "This is a joke!" said Jen Spelkoman '05 in outrage, "But, please do not be offended as it is April fools," Spelkoman concluded shamefully.

## Dildo

cont. from pg. 2

shipwrecked on an uncharted desert isle. 164 minutes, color. 7:30 PM in Babcock. Discussion will follow.

**WEDNESDAY:** "Good Vibes" Party! Come one, come all! In honor of our visitor, a number of local dealers specializing in pleasure apparatuses have offered to display their wares for purchase at discounted rates. Dildos of every shape and color will be on hand! 12 PM-4 PM, Moody Plaza.

**THURSDAY:** Writing on the Dildo: Panel Discussion.

You've heard the question on everyone's lips: "What is our visitor, and why is he here?" What happens when we assign gender and personhood to our seemingly androgynous guest? Dr. Jen Boyle will moderate a panel of women's studies faculty at 8 PM in Babcock for a panel discussion on the dildo and its social implications. Sponsored by OUTLoud.

**FRIDAY:** Dildofest. An all day, campus-wide celebration to draw Dildo Spirit Week to a close. Carnival games and art booths (sponsored by NEFA) will be available for the enjoyment of the young and old alike from 10 AM 'till 4:30 PM (front quad, dildoside). A luncheon of locally grown organic foods will

be served on the quad at noon. At 1:30, attend the drum circle led by Megan Anderson '05 to celebrate the creative influences of the dildo. T-shirts portraying the dildo as honorary Hollins mascot, the "Fightin' Phallus", will also be available (yellow dildo outline on green cotton) for \$15 each. All students, faculty and staff are invited to enjoy an outdoor Grapheon reading at 4:30 PM featuring dildo-themed verse (seats limited, please come early!). As the day ends, don't forget to spend a tender moment with the dildo. Thank it for all it has offered you, the growth it has nurtured within you, for no one knows when we will be left staring mournfully at a vacant hole in the grass.

Miss Sian Thomas would like to extend her warmest congratulations to her dog, Ebony, on reaching her 15th birthday.



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## Lisa Bower, wipe my ass!

BY LAURA SMITH

There have been a variety of student concerns brought up at senate over this past academic year. All concerns are publicly announced to the entire voting body, and senior Lisa Bower '05, vice president of the Student Government Association, follows up on these complaints.

Here are this year's "student concerns" highlights:

1. "I'm concerned with the smells emanating from the third floor bathrooms of West. I just don't understand, don't we have windows? Lisa, do you think we could open the windows there?"

2. "Campus Safety was kind enough to change my tire, but they did it wrong. They put my

flat spare on the car! I think we need to email them a set-by-step manual on how to do this correctly."

3. "I'm concerned about the lack of camaraderie on this campus. I really think that every student needs to become a member of 'The Facebook.'"

4. "I don't understand why I have to walk all the way from Siberia to my room. Aren't there other parking lots? And why, when I parked in Nancy Gray's spot at 5 in the morning, did I get ticketed like .5 seconds later?"

5. "My boyfriend, Blake, was actually told to be quiet while singing the Hampden Sydney fight song at 5 in the morning! Can't we show a little respect for men? I know some girls are jealous about my fascination with the superior race, but come on people! Let him have fun too."



Senate <3's stilettos!

6. "Could we please sell cigarettes in the rat?"

7. "Taco night gives me gas. I mean, it's a good idea, but have you seen that slush? And

they say it's beans! Do you think we could ask for real beans?"

7. "Could SGA fund us for cheerleading costumes because VMI doesn't have cheerleaders,

and we love ca-dets!"

8. "The cracks in the sidewalk are right up there with fire hazards. I tripped in my stiletto heels mid-dash to Moody and nearly killed myself."

9. "I'd just like to state that: catcalls from squirrels are no longer going to be tolerated, mmkay? Lisa, do you think you could take care of this?"

10. "President Nancy Gray's skirt is too modest!"

11. "Is there anyway we could possibly have a van up to VMI for their parades on Friday? They are so cute in their uniforms."

12. "I take issue with the mud between Tinker and the parking lot, and the parking lot and Tinker, it sticks to my stiletto heels! I think we need to have ground control plant hard grass there."

## The gossip corner -- keep it on the down low

By Julia Knox

Which high-profile student loves to ski? And I don't mean what you do in Colorado. She blows more rails than Paris Hilton and Lindsay Lohan in a nightclub bathroom.

Which self-righteous student should be more careful before telling a friend she wants to take over an organization she's a part of? Word got back to the top members of the club, and now the student is lucky if she's even talked to at meetings.

Which fun-loving gal had a little too much fun on St. Patrick's Day? Her sleeping companion happened to be the current boyfriend of a Hollins alum.

Which religious Hollins Republican recently had a secret Sapphic relationship? We think that might go against George W.'s plans for America.

Who returned from their summer break 20 lbs thinner and

continues to lose weight? Apparently she's a strict follower of the Mary-Kate Olsen diet. All cattiness aside, we honestly hope she gets better.

Which Hollins girl is cheating on her boyfriend? Here's a hint: it's with foreign boys.

Which sophomore has literally eaten in the Hampden-Sydney cafeteria more times than Moody?

Which two staff members have been seen exchanging tense glances? Well they WERE rumored to have an affair recently...could they be wanting to rekindle the flame?

Who spent her J-Term in a less-than-academic way? My spies tell me that she was late to her internship almost every day, thanks to a daily hangover that made it hard to get out of bed.

Which now-transferred stu-



Gossip. A way of life.

dent recently smoked a joint with a member of a popular rap entourage? She and the weed were both apparently "on fire."

Which student should watch out for the karma boomerang? Her friend recently became ridiculously inebriated. Instead of helping, the self-righteous student

instead commented with disdain about how stupid such people are, and how fabulous she herself was for never being drunk. Minutes later, her "immature" friend puked all over the self-righteous girl's feet.

Which student believes she's the darling of her department,

when in actuality the professors dread having her in a class?

Which know-it-all student should be nice to her professor, instead of rudely commenting on everything from her handwriting to her computer skills?

Which straight-edge student announced to her hall that her roommate was an alcoholic, but when confronted vehemently denied the entire thing and

went back to watching her favorite show on UPN?

Who was recently told they were pathetic by a date? I guess that's what happens when you try and juggle three fraternity brothers.



## Scientists discover "super-tapeworm!"

By Rhiann Pask

Scientists at the Parasite Institute of America have recently discovered a new strain of *Taeniarhynchus saginatus*. "The beef tapeworm usually can grow to a maximum length of about thirty feet in the human digestive tract," said Dr. Lionel McGraff of PIA, "but in this case we've found that the new strain reproduces surprisingly fast, some three inches an hour, expanding to over forty feet in one week, and it just keeps on growing." McGraff and his staff have had no shortage of subjects for their research, as new victims are calling the Institute for help at "an alarming rate."

"I was completing my usual morning routine," said Bethany Larue, "taking the dog for a walk, eating breakfast, and, you know, spending a little time on the john, when I realized there was something hanging from . . . well, you understand." Larue had found in the previous weeks that she had had a pretty significant weight loss of some "fifteen to twenty pounds." "I was pleased, what can I say. I felt fine and looked better than ever. How was I supposed to know there was a forty-foot worm sucking the life out of

me?"

None of the victims McGraff and his staff have come across were aware they were infected with anything. "The only time you can ever really feel the tapeworm," said McGraff, "is when you take the prescribed medication, usually one dose of Niclosamide or Praziquantel, and you feel the worm writhing in your intestines as it dies. Other than that, the experience is usually painless, unless you develop appendicitis or the larvae infect the central nervous system and cause neurocysticercosis."

Infection with *Taeniarhynchus saginatus* generally occurs when a person consumes undercooked beef that contains the tapeworm eggs, having begun their life-cycle in the cow's intestines, produced by the adult tapeworm which is made of a head-section and neck and many tail segments which each have their own digestive system and reproductive tract. The eggs travel through the intestinal wall and become lodged in the muscle tissue of the cow, which is then consumed by people. The eggs then hatch within the person's smaller intestines and a worm attaches itself to the wall of the intestine with its six rows of teeth.

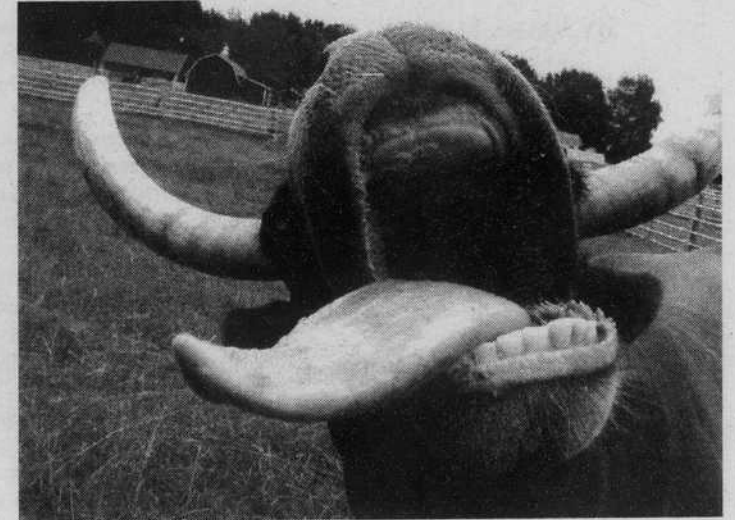
McGraff offered some consolation. "We don't believe people should become alarmed at our new discovery, even though these suckers are far more resilient against the medicinal treatment used previously, and can probably live longer too, which is a very long time when you consider the fact that the beef tapeworm can already live for up to twenty-five years."

McGraff explained that the chance of becoming infected with this new strain is slim. "Unless you live somewhere where meals are mass-produced, like in places with cafeterias, or the army.

Also, if you generally live surrounded by a lot of people, the chance of the eggs being spread is much greater, especially if people don't wash their hands properly after using the restroom."

When asked what the chance of infection would be if people didn't wash their hands altogether, McGraff answered, "You may as well start serving the eggs like caviar, which wouldn't be difficult since a tapeworm can lay up to a million eggs a day."

More alarming still is the fact that when certain food distributors for such mass-producing cafeterias were contacted, the repre-



Mary Moo Cow demonstrates the last resort tapeworm removal

sentatives were highly aware of the new strain of tapeworm, but would not comment as to whether more drastic precaution is being taken to prevent and detect contamination in beef. One woman did state, however, that, "the meat in our clients' cafeterias is generally overcooked anyway."

The PIA recommends that if you're afraid you may be infected with this new "super-tapeworm" at this very moment, and you don't feel like going to the doctor, or haven't noticed the telling sign of white ribbon-like segments of tapeworm tail in your stool, then you could try the old milk trick.

First, don't eat for a few days. Then, merely set a bowl of hot milk in front of you and keep your mouth open. After a while the tapeworm should begin to come up your throat, drawn to the smell of the milk. Have someone move the bowl further and further away from you until the tapeworm is completely out. Just don't forget, in your overwhelming moment of relief, to do something about the forty-odd foot worm crawling across your kitchen (or dorm room, depending where you are) floor.



## Just who the heck is I.N. Cognito?

**Full Name:** Ida Nielson Cognito

**Occupation:** Book Reviewer, Lingerie Model, Sheep Rancher  
**Height:** 5 inches

**Weight:** Eh, five ounces on my heavy days (I'm a hairless mole rat, we're little)

**Favorite Food:** Soy Cheese (I'm a vegan)

**Favorite "Material Object":** My hand whittled fork.

**"Love of your life":** Myself. Self-love is the best love. I don't need Mole-Men! Don't look at me like I'm bitter!

**Favorite Vacation Spot:** Subways of New York

**Tattoos or Body Piercings:** One Tattoo that says "Your Mom!" on my right back ankle.

**Favorite Designer:** Juicy Couture

**Favorite Workout:** Pilates

**Favorite Musical Group:** The BeGees

**Favorite TV Show:** The Nanny  
**Favorite Movie:** The Way We Were

**Thong, Panties, or Boy Shorts:** Boy Shorts

**Favorite Ice Cream:** Ben &

Jerry's "Chubby Hubby"

**Pets:** A gerbil. I find fur to be so, well "quaint"

**East Coast or West Coast:** East Coast

**Night Gown or PJ's:** Neither, ex-boyfriend's old shirts.

**Flannel or Cotton:** Flannel  
**Pads or Tampons:** Neither, I'm menopausal.