

Hollins University

## Hollins Digital Commons

---

Hollins Student Newspapers

Hollins Student Newspapers

---

5-4-2005

### Hollins Columns (2005 May 4)

Hollins College

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

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

---

# Hollins Columns

May 4, 2005

Hollins University

Volume 77, Issue 11



Alum murdered in killing/  
suicide.

page 5



Study Abroad program  
opens up to Argentina.

page 6



Seniors bequeath their be-  
loveds to underclassmen.

pages 9-11

## Retiring Faculty Bring About Academic Changes

BY JULIA KNOX AND LISA BOWER

When the faculty returns to campus this fall, seven of their colleagues won't be joining them.

In an effort to maintain the personnel budget, faculty members of a certain age and tenure were offered a retirement incentive package, said Provost Wayne Markert.

Specific details of the package were confidential, but according to Markert, they included "some sort of incentive pay." The specific amount was based on a variety of factors, including the years of service at Hollins.

"The goal of the retirement incentive package was to make it so that the amount of financial aid would make it viable for them to retire at this time," said Markert.

The retirement incentive packages are offered approximately every 5-6 years.

Seven faculty members accepted the package, which will become effective at the end of this school year. They are: James Allen, Computer Science; Claude Caujolle, French; Thomas Edwards, Economics; Bernard Gauci, Business and Economics; Andre Spies, History; Jane Tumas-Serna, Communication Studies; and Lanetta Ware, Physical Education. For many professors who were considering retirement in the near future, the extra money to do so was an attractive benefit.

"I am 66 years old and have arthritis in my back and knees," said Ware, who coaches golf. "It is becoming more difficult to demonstrate my sports techniques."

"It just felt the right time," said Edwards. "I still enjoy teaching and being in the classroom as much as ever. Yet, in all my time here, I have felt that any faculty member has an obligation to move over at some point, to make room for a younger and more energetic replacement. This renews the lifeblood of Hollins, and now's the time for me to move over."

Markert added that an additional benefit from hiring new professors was the opportunity to evaluate all changes needed. The University plans to undergo a two year strategic planning process to help determine the best future academic plan for the institution. This, according to Markert, will help focus on where to allocate money for rehired professors.

"For example," said Markert, "we might look at the French department enrollment and determine that they don't need to replace Claude Caujolle's position. We then might take what was a French professor and make it a Communications professor, based on growing enrollment rates."

"It will give us more time to review," continued Markert. "To determine what has been successful [in enrollment and major declaration terms], and think of how the program could be structured." He gave a hypothetical example of the computer science department becoming more computer graphics oriented and becoming involved in the Communication Studies program.

In the mean time, one-year professors will be hired in certain departments (like Communication Studies and Economics) while a tenure-track search is being conducted. Other departments, such as Computer Science and French, will not be given replacements until the strategic planning process is over, if at all.

The idea of losing seven professors at one time leaves some students upset. Bree Husband '06 said, "I was sad to hear that James Allen would not be replaced, because women are already underrepresented in computer and technology."

"I think that the Economics department will be affected greatly, mainly because it's half the department and [Professor Casmir] Dadak is already not going to be here next semester. But the others I think will recover quickly," said Sarah Poulton '06 an Economics minor.

### Retiring

cont. pg. 2



Professor Thomas Edwards, Economics.  
found at: [www.hollins.edu](http://www.hollins.edu)



Professor Andre Spies, History.  
found at: [www.hollins.edu](http://www.hollins.edu)



Professor Claude Caujolle, French.  
found at: [www.hollins.edu](http://www.hollins.edu)

## Retiring

cont from. pg. 1

"Full-time tenure-track professors benefit the students in many ways that reach far beyond the classroom," said Emily Abeles '05 and Academic Policy Chair. "For instance, tenure-track faculty members get to know their students better and can therefore foster their intellectual curiosities. They also encourage students to pursue varying research and advise students on classes, future career paths such as graduate school. They also mentor students and write letters of recommendations."

She continued, "By not having as many full time tenure-track professors we're not only risk-

ing the quality of our teaching, but we're also sacrificing a lot of these things professors do for students outside of the physical classroom."

Elizabeth Bartenstein '07, a French minor said, "I think the French department will be able to handle the loss of a tenured professor. The only problem is that it will add additional workload to already overworked professors. But the remaining professors are still of an excellent quality."

In addition to losing professors, many students will also be losing their advisors. For example, Rachel Banger '06 is a double major in International Studies and Economics. Her advisors, Spies and Edwards, are both retiring.

The administration assures that all students whose advisor is retiring will be assigned a new

advisor. For example, all advising responsibilities for Computer Science have been re-assigned to professor Nancy Healy.

Markert assured that the



Professor Bernard Gauci, Business and Economics.

found at: [www.hollins.edu](http://www.hollins.edu)

changes would not diminish the quality of education students will receive.

"We need to define what the ideal curriculum would be with our staffing for approximately 700 students," he said. "... we will be very careful to ensure academic quality."

"[The new faculty] will help us transform and bring forward our curriculum in a positive way," he concluded.

Most retiring faculty say that they will miss the students the most. Ware said her favorite memories of Hollins would be "the wonderful students I have had the pleasure of teaching."

Allen said his would be "students' presentations showing that they have mastered what I was teaching."

While searching for replacement professors gets underway,

the future retirees are making plans to live their life outside Hollins.

"I plan to work more on my cattle farm and play golf," said Ware.

"There are grandchildren (5 and 2) to enjoy before they grow up, and all those books set aside to read when I have time," said Edwards. "And, my wife want to revisit several places in the world we've seen too briefly. But it strikes me that a new retiree must reinvent himself -- we'll see how that goes."

# A compilation of senior projects, thesis, and papers

BY JEN SPELKOMAN

Slaving over sentences and constructing concepts to represent the pinnacle of one's education is the process of the senior thesis.

In the same period of time that women have grown and birthed babies, these Hollins women have cultivated theses.

The following compilation is a "whose done it" of theses, senior papers and projects from the class of 2005:

**Name:** Elizabeth Sackett

**Major:** The Business and Art of Fashion (Interdisciplinary)

**Senior Paper/ Business Plan crammed into a sardine can:** My Art History paper focused on the gaze of women shown through fashion photography, fashion houses and society. For the senior seminar for the business side of my major I wrote a business plan for a vintage store.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** My major is unique to me, so really no one "capstone" fit my major. Although doing two projects was

really hectic, they were both on topics I was really interested in so I loved doing research for them and then writing them. Owning a vintage store is one of my future goals and something I totally plan on doing.



Seniors Elizabeth Sackett and Cathleen Kilgallen pose for a picture

**The Fabric of her Education:** It was somewhat difficult to sculpt my classes as we really have no fashion classes at Hollins, but it was much better than being an art history and business double major because I only had to take the classes I felt would be helpful to me. In business I've taken classes like marketing, accounting,

business communications, etc. In art and art history I've taken classes like 2D design, Drawing, Women and Art, Critical Methods of Art History, etc. Next year I will be attending Parsons School of Design, where I will get my degree in fashion marketing. As of now, I think I will probably stay in New York for a few years after that, hopefully pursuing a career in buying and then I will move to a smaller city where I will open my business.

**Name:** Zirwat Chowdhury

**Major:** Art History/ Economics

**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:**

**Right side of Zirwat's brain:** (a.k.a. senior art History Paper) Representations of women in Indian Academic Art and their role in developing an imperial and patriarchal 'other'.

**Left side of Zirwat's brain:** (a.k.a. Econ. Honors thesis) Palestinian economic development and its role in

restoring peace in the Occupied Territories... most people ask 'you mean there's a Palestinian economy?' I also looked at the implications of economic development on the terrorist activities carried out by Hamas.

**I dedicated 9+ months of life to this because:**

**Art History:** I was interested in looking at an art historical topic from the Indian subcontinent that could potentially become a dissertation topic.

**Econ:** I have always stayed out of discussions pertaining to the Arab-Israeli conflict, which is once again in the limelight today with the death of Yasser Arafat, renewed peace negotiations with Israel and Israeli disengagement from the Gaza Strip. The thesis was a great way to learn more about the situation and the economic nature of it allowed me to maintain as neutral a voice as possible.



Senior Sarah Patterson poses for a picture

**Name:** Sarah Patterson

**Major:** Religious Studies

**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** My honors thesis is about the fourteenth-century English mystic, Julian

**Seniors**

cont. pg. 3

## Seniors

cont. from pg. 2

of Norwich, and how her ideas managed to be both innovative and orthodox.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** I couldn't pass up an opportunity to think and write extensively about theology, which is what I hope to spend much of my life doing. Choosing this particular theologian also allowed me to dabble in medieval literature and history (and what's more fun than that?).

**Holy Moley:** I've known for a couple of years that I want to attend divinity school (I'm starting at Yale in the fall), so doing my thesis has really just confirmed that this is the best direction for me. I hope to teach theology at a small liberal arts college or seminary. I haven't really narrowed my focus yet (I could end up concentrating on systematic theology, early Christian history, biblical studies, or any number of things), but I love writing and researching in this field as a whole and can't imagine what could make me happier.

**Name:** Annetay Henderson  
**Major:** English/ Creative Writing and Woman Studies

**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** I did a Creative Poetry thesis entitled "Quilting It Together" on poetry in an international context. I read poetry by women and men from around the world for influence and then used my experiences traveling to write poetry.

**I dedicated 9+ months of life to this because:** I spent a semester in France last year then traveled in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Considering my family has never left Appalachia and never expected me to go to college, my traveling was a very difficult time for them. My thesis was a way to express my feelings about growing up in Appalachia, the culture shock I had abroad and in the States and the disassociation I felt with my family after I returned.

**Name:** Lauren Smith

**Major:** Political Science  
**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** The title of my honors thesis was "Inadequate Justice Under the Law: Constitutional Negligence in State Public Defense Programs." Basically, every person charged with a crime in the United States has a constitutional right to effective assistance of counsel. This means that states are required by the Constitution of the United States to provide attorneys to criminal defendants who cannot afford to hire counsel themselves. The states are providing this counsel, but it is not anywhere close to "effective." My argument was that the current status of state public defense programs violates the Sixth Amendment right to effective counsel.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** I wanted to study this topic because the right to effective counsel is the most important constitutional right a defendant has for his or her defense. Over 90% of people charged with crimes in the United States are too poor to hire private counsel, and are subject to the legal largesse of a financially constricted state. In order to maintain a fair and legitimate criminal justice system, both the prosecutor and the defense must have adequate and equal resources to try a case. The legitimacy of the criminal justice system has recently come under fire for allowing innocent people to be imprisoned and executed.

**Name:** Amy Fitzwater  
**Major:** History  
**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** I wrote my thesis on the Desegregation of Hollins College. I found that desegregation happened at Hollins with very little upheaval. There were no protests or overt racist behavior. Racial heated problems did not happen when one African-American student came to Hollins, it happened in the 1970s when one turned into six or seven. I was concerned with comparing Hollins' desegregation to that of other private Virginia colleges and universities to see how Hollins rated amongst other colleges in regards to desegregation. Hollins

was not the first to desegregate, nor was it the last.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** I feel this is an important issue to be discussed especially since the recent events on Hollins campus.

**Some more information because this is really cool:** I studied 5 colleges, including Hollins and found that these colleges desegregated within six years of each other and at least eight years after the Supreme Court declared segregation to be unconstitutional in *Brown v. Board of Education*. Sweet Briar being the exception, none of these colleges had a policy against admitting African-Americans, but remained segregated after *Brown* and even *Brown II*. Hollins had a smooth transition to a desegregated institution and any major racial incidents occurred later. Cecelia Long was the first African-American student and she came in 1967.

**Name:** Courtney  
**Cutright**

**Major:** Communication  
**Studies**

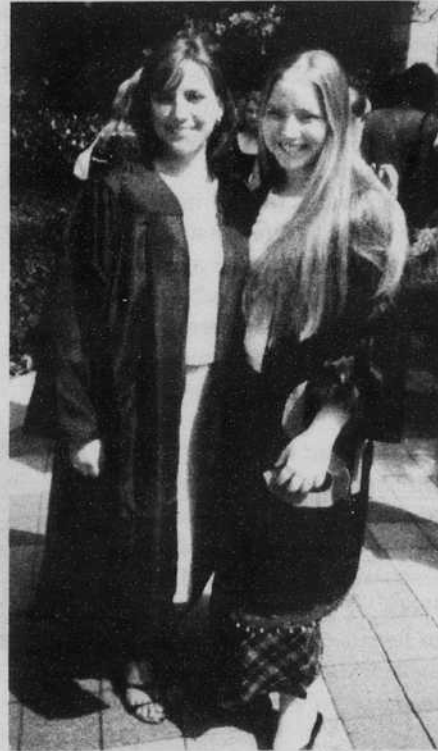
**Senior paper crammed into a sardine can:** I looked at how community is formed via on-line message boards among fans of soap operas, specifically "Days of Our Lives."

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** I've watched *Days* off and on since I was four (over 20 years). Soap operas have been popular for many years and most have almost a cultic following. I was interested in digging deeper to see how community is formed in the absence of face-to-face interaction.

**Name:** Danielle Thompson  
**Major:** History

**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** The Thesis is on Presidential Health Care Policy and it looks at the administrations of Truman, Johnson, and Clinton to see what worked/didn't work in their efforts to achieve universal health care for all Americans.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** I want to be a lobbyist for cancer and mental health legislation in DC. in the area of sociolinguistics and



Seniors Kyrie Henderson and Mary-Beth Blakey pose for the camera.

will most likely focus on LGBTs in some capacity.

**Name:** Ever C. McKinney  
**Major:** English/Creative Writing, Classical Studies/Latin

**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** "The Ghost Road and other stories." It's ten short stories based on stories from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, written in an Appalachian/Shenandoah Valley context.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** I did not have to do a thesis for my Classical Studies major, but I didn't want to focus on one major without involving the other. I figured a Creative Writing thesis somehow rooted in the Classics would be good and fun to do. Ovid is one of my all-time favorite writers, and his *Metamorphoses* is one of the most amazing books ever written. The Shenandoah Valley has been my home since I was born, and I have always wanted to write stories based in Virginia and the Valley. It felt very right to be able to write about my home

and to pull most of my inspiration from the *Metamorphoses* to put together my stories; I really do love how my thesis turned out - like a homage to my roots in all sorts of ways.

**Name:** Kyrie Henderson  
**Major:** Religious Studies  
**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** It Examines the Protestant Church in Nazi Germany. I looked at the internal struggle in the mainstream protestant denominations in Germany to define themselves in the National Socialist order. I look at how this may have impeded church protest of the persecution and holocaust of the Jews and what that means for the relationship between the two religious traditions today.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** As a Lutheran of German heritage Nazi Germany and the Holocaust was something I was drawn to naturally.

**Name:** Amy Torbert  
**Major:** Art History

**Senior Paper crammed into a sardine can:** The title of my senior art history paper is "Portrait of a Place: City Guidebooks and the Construction of Identity in Nineteenth-Century America." It looks at how illustrations in city guidebooks (the *Lonely Planets* of the 19th century) helped to create an identity for burgeoning cities and towns. I chose these particular cities because I knew that a wide range of travel guidebooks existed for them, and they each represented a different type of city during this period: Philadelphia was historical and settled, Cincinnati was just at the peak of its development, during its population boom, and New Orleans was just so "out there"!

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** During an internship at the Missouri Historical Society, I did research on an early St. Louis lithographer. In doing this research, I used these guidebooks on a regular basis and became interested in

## Seniors

cont. pg. 4

## Seniors

*cont. from pg. 3*

there had been no art historical research done on any of them.

**Travelocity and Trajectory:** Who knows if this will ever happen, but a dream career of mine would be to be a professional tour guide of Paris, New York, etc. So, I certainly enjoyed learning about other types of "tour guiding." This paper has influenced my future plans because now I am truly torn between whether I want to study American or British art. Next year I will be enrolling in the masters program in Art History at Williams College.

**Name:** Kathryn Berg

**Major:** Women's Studies

**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** "The Politics of the Reception of Women's Sexualities in Women's Writing." I analyzed audience responses to women's writing about women's sexuality to show that women's

writing has potential to undermine sexual violence towards women and promote women's pleasure.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** I was lead to this topic by my combined interest in the meaning texts take on in a specific social location, and because I have not yet ceased to be amazed that representations of violence against and exploitation of women are often accepted as normal, while inversely, subversive representations of women's pleasure are often regarded as outrageous and obscene.

**Name:** Mariana Denke

**Major:** Communication Studies

**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** It's called "Female Directors and the Celluloid

Ceiling that Does Not Break: A close Textual Analysis of Reviews of Female Directed Films". I take a look at the place of female directors in

today's Entertainment business by evaluating reviews

of their

movies in a variety of newspapers.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** I chose this topic because it combines my two passions in life that being communication studies and film.

And there are also few in depth studies of female directors except



Senior Mariana Denke poses for the camera.

to say that they do not exist, I wanted to find an explanation for their supposed nonexistence despite the fact that females graduate with film degrees in droves.

**Directing the Future:** I do have aspirations to be a film or television director. I've worked in LA and Dallas with film and television producers in the

past and have recently found a director in Roanoke who I hope to be working with in the next year. Film is my passion, Directing the dream.

**Name:** Lacey Dunham

**Major:** English/Creative Writing and Interdisciplinary Studies (Social Politics)

**Thesis crammed into a sardine can:** *English:* Short fiction creative stories centered on the same group of teenage characters from the same, small Midwestern town.

*Interdisciplinary:* Capstone Portfolio Paper sociological research proposal with

social and political background perspective on LGBTs identity formation in television and film mass media.

**I dedicated 9+ months of my life to this because:** *English* - because it sounded like a wonderful challenge and opportunity! *Interdisciplinary* - because it's a lot of what I have been working on throughout my time at Hollins.

**How she got to her Thesis and how it relates to her reality:** I had taken a couple of political science courses, an international studies course, a communication studies course, a theatre arts course, and a sociology course where I focused on similar or related issues that I presented in my thesis. I left Hollins in December, having finished with everything, and am currently working in Germany as an au-pair so really at the moment neither my research or thesis had anything to do with it. However, I plan on pursuing graduate school in the possible future.

# PURE VALUE.

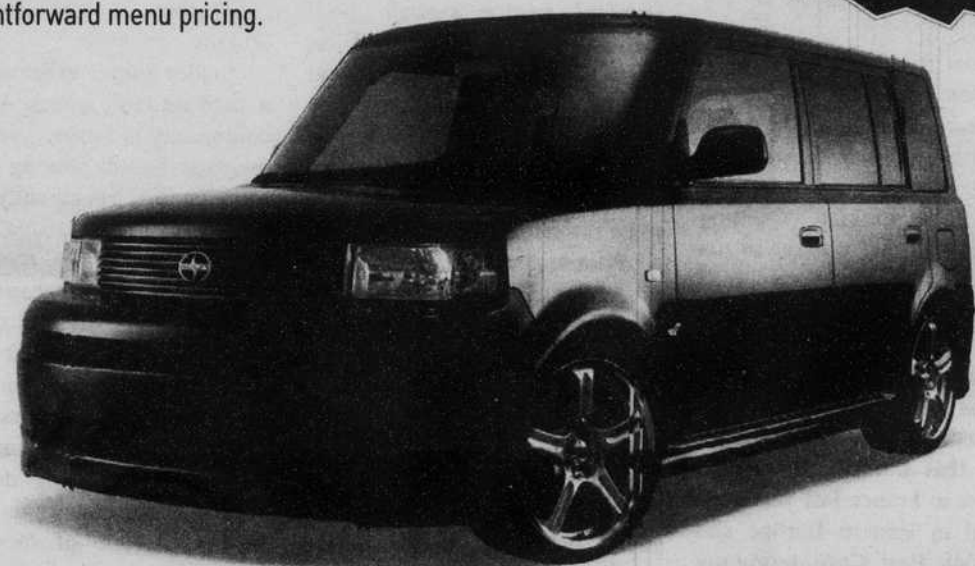
Scion's "Pure Price" purchase experience means No haggle. No hassle.

Vehicle starts well equipped. You can accessorize (or not). Simple, straightforward menu pricing.

Price starting at  
**xB \$14,195\*** Price as shown  
**\$16,070**

## Standard features include:

160-watt Pioneer CD stereo with six speakers, including two tweeters and Scion Sound Processing / MP3 capable and XM satellite ready / Air conditioner / Choice of three wheel cover designs / Anti-lock brakes / Power windows, door locks, and outside mirrors / 5-year, 60,000-mile Powertrain warranty†



31 MPG City  
35 MPG Hwy\*\*

Locate your nearest Scion Dealer at [Scion.com](http://Scion.com) or call 1-866-70-SCION.

\*MSRP includes delivery processing and handling fee; excludes taxes, title, license and optional equipment. Actual dealer price may vary. TRD USA, Inc. (Toyota Racing Development), an aftermarket performance parts company, markets a line of parts through some Scion dealers. These aftermarket parts are not Genuine Scion parts, and cannot be utilized for Scion warranty replacement. TRD parts are warranted by TRD, not Scion. Note that certain aftermarket equipment may not be street legal in all states and may impact your vehicle's performance or safety. \*\*EPA Estimates for xB manual 5-speed. Your mileage may vary.†See your Scion dealer for additional details on the Scion limited warranty. © 2004. Scion and the Scion logo are trademarks of Toyota Motor Corporation and Toyota is a registered trademark of Toyota Motor Corporation. For more information, call 866-70-SCION (866-707-2466) or visit [scion.com](http://scion.com).



what moves you  
[scion.com](http://scion.com)

# Senior Hilary DuBose creates community garden

BY LAURA LATZKO

For her senior honors thesis, Hilary DuBose didn't just write a 92-page paper. She planned a project that may have an impact on the Hollins community for years to come.

Hilary's idea is to have a community garden that will be open to anyone on campus. This includes faculty, staff, administration, and even larger groups like class and residential halls. Anybody who wants a portion of land will be able to have their own space, and a certain amount of land will be set aside for everyone to work on together.

"I think that getting people together will create a sense of community," DuBose said. "People would hopefully have more of a connection to Hollins."

This will not be an ordinary garden, however. Organic methods will be used to grow things like fruits, vegetables, plants, and flowers. This would mean that compost products, like manure from the horse stables, food scraps from Moody, and leaves will be used instead of chemical fertilizers.

This would be better for the land than industrial processes often are because they cause death and erosion to the soil, and pesticides leak into the ground water and leave a lot of workers, especially migrant ones, with chronological health problems.

"We are supporting the system that ruins the land and hurts people. I'm hoping that the garden will give people an alternative, so they don't have to go to Krogers," she said.

There is every indication that

this project could have a future. The space between the Parsonage, where the outdoor sculpture park is currently housed, is the place where the garden will be created. About half an acre or as much as an acre will be set aside in the beginning. This could possibly occur as early as spring of 2006. DuBose still has to meet with President Nancy Gray, but she has already gotten permission to use the land.

"This isn't just a plan. I'm hoping this will happen. It looks like it will. Everyone seems to think it will happen," said DuBose.

The planning for this project, if the plan is indeed set to start in the spring term of next year, would have to begin in the fall of 2005. Local farmers would be brought in sometime next term to teach the Hollins community what methods will need to be done to prepare the soil and start planting herbs, produce, and flowers.

This project could give

other members of the Roanoke Valley, especially refugees, a chance to become more involved with the Hollins community and its students. From the organic garden, these displaced men, women, and children would be able to meet and form relationships with people from all over the United States and obtain healthy food that they might not be able to afford. This could also create a cross-cultural exchange where these refugees would teach others about food from their countries.

"Gardening in this new place would build a connection to this new place. Since they would be working with people, they could make a connection to people," DuBose said. □

Along with this possible cultural program, the garden would create new educational opportunities. Academic departments could use this land for projects such as studying sustainable agriculture, the role of women in food production,

and the ethno-biology of the Appalachian Region. Students would also have the chance to do internships at this garden - doing things like taking care of the soil and plant life during the summer.

"It's not just a garden - it's more than that," she said. "I'd also like it to have an academic component as well."

Hilary may have designed this project, but she will not be the one carrying it out. Since she will graduate this year, it will be up to juniors, sophomores, and freshmen to do the planning and implementing. Hilary has already had more than 50 people email her about the project, and she presented her plan to more than 40 members of the Hollins community on Monday, April 25.

"So far I've gotten a lot of support," she said. "I'm sad to leave 'cause I want to see this happen."

## Hollins Columns 2004 - 2005

Co-Editors-in-Chief - *Laura Smith and Julia Knox*

Features Editor - *Jen Spelkoman*

News Editor - *Lisa Bower*

Photo Editor - *Jen Spelkoman*

Layout Editor - *Sian Thomas*

Copy Editors - *Cathleen Kilgallen*

Business Manager - *Katie Richardson*

Ads Manager - *Natalia Rocha*

Web Manager - *Lynne Hawkinson*

Staff Layout

*Laura Carruba, Ursula Jonnsen*

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

## Hollins Alum killed in Murder-Suicide

BY JEN SPELKOMAN

Ashley Bowe Black '00 died in an apparent murder-suicide on April 23.

According to a release from Botetourt County Sheriff's Department, Black was shot in the head and chest by her husband, Aaron Black, at the couple's Botetourt County home.

After shooting his wife, Aaron Black called Ashley Bowe Black's parents, said "I'm sorry," and then shot and killed himself.

The night before the shooting Ashley Black stayed with her parents, who live next door, due to an argument with her husband. She returned to her home to tell her husband she was leaving

him, the release reported.

The sheriff's office release went on to state that after the phone call, Elizabeth and Glenn



Ashley Bowe Black '00, shown here in her senior yearbook picture.

*taken from 2000 Spinster.*

Bowe went to the couple's house to find their son-in-law dead and their daughter still alive.

The Bowes immediately notified the police.

Ashley Bowe Black remained alive when the police arrived, but died in transport to Carillon Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

A March 2004 announcement in The Roanoke Times stated that the couple married Jan. 3, 2004. Originally from Salem, Virginia, Ashley Bowe Black graduated with a degree in biology, according to the Spinster yearbook. Ashley Bowe rode horses during her time at Hollins at her family farm, and, until her death, was affiliated with the Roanoke Valley Horse Rescue, a non-profit organization dedicated to treating and finding homes for neglected horses.

# New study abroad program offered in Argentina

BY LAURA SMITH

It's a little bit like Evita's excited proclamation, "What's new Buenos Aires? I'm new - I want to say I'm just a little stuck on you, you'll be on me too." Except Hollins new study abroad program in Argentina isn't based in Buenos Aires, it's in Cordoba. The only thing Rose Bottle '07, who expects to go to on this program during spring term next year, and Evita have in common is their love of dancing.

"I want to learn to tango, and I will sleep with any man who's willing to teach me," she laughed as she sat on her loft bed in a Starkie dorm room.

The Argentina abroad program will begin in the spring of 2006, since there are no students currently enrolled in the fall program. Lorraine Fleck, director of international programs, believes this is "not unusual with a brand-new program, especially as more Hollins students go abroad in the spring than the fall."

The program in Cordoba is offered through the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies, which also administers the study-abroad program in Seville, Spain, through which Hollins is affiliated. The Havana, Cuba program, also offered through the Center, was suspended in July of 2004 due to U.S. regulations enacted by the current Bush administration.

According to the U.S. Treasury's website, the Office of Foreign Assets Control states: "students may no longer engage in Cuba travel-related transactions under the license of an educational institution other than their own even if their own institution will accept the licensed institution's program for credit toward the student's degree."

In order to combat this sudden loss of a Latin America program, the Argentina program was created.

"Hollins is offering the program because we want to have a study abroad opportunity in Latin

America for our students and because we think the Center's programs are very good ones," said Fleck in an email interview.

Bottle, a psychology major and Spanish minor, originally wanted to go to Cuba but with the new ban was forced to reevaluate her options.

"I wanted to go to a Spanish speaking country and had already been to Spain and didn't want to go to Mexico, and so I decided Argentina would be the best fit," she said.

If students enrolled in the Argentina program pass a language proficiency test, they can take classes offered at the local university, Universidad Blas Pascal. Or they can opt to take those classes solely offered through the Center, with other international students. Bottle hopes to pass the exam so she can take classes at the university, rather than the school created by the Center.

"As far as I understand it, all the classes you take are with other American exchange stu-

dents. They are taught in Spanish but not in [one of] Argentina's schools. In order to take classes in Argentina's schools you have to pass a language proficiency test, and my goal is to pass this test and take those classes," she said.

The Argentina program also requires students to participate in a four-week intensive Spanish language course and introduction to Argentine culture that marks the beginning of their semester abroad. During this time, students live with families of local students, and afterwards, as they begin their classes, can choose to either stay with their host families or move into a residence hall with other classmates.

"On all of our programs, we try to assure that students have as many academic and other opportunities as possible to interact with the local culture, and that is true with this program as well," said Fleck.

To study abroad in Argentina, students, according to Fleck, must

have a cumulative GPA of 3.0, a B average in Spanish classes taken at Hollins, have completed Spanish 112, 121, or an equivalent, and have a recommendation from a Spanish faculty member.

The first study abroad program was the Paris program, which was implemented in 1955. The London program was established 17 years later. Nearly 30 students went to Paris when it was offered the first time, and currently nearly 40 percent of all Hollins students study abroad.

Both Fleck and Bottle have high hopes for this trip.

"I am really excited that we are able to offer this opportunity for study in Latin America and hope that students will take advantage of it," Fleck said.

Bottle remarked: "I just really want to become fluent in Spanish and learn as much as I can about other cultures."

# New director of dining services, Janett Russell, arrives on campus

BY URSULA JONSSON

Have you wondered what kind of job can give you the opportunities to travel around the world bringing people together? Janet Russell knows what kind of job can do that. She is the new director of dining services, taking over Gerard Short's position.

Her first official day was April 18, but she has been in Roanoke since March. She said it has been a nice transition into her new position because she was able to come on campus and meet people and get acclimated with the community.

Russell has been an Aramark employee since college and took a position working in Athens, Greece from July to October of last year during the Olympics. Aramark holds the contract for the Olympics and Russell was recommended for the position.

There were many Aramark employees from all over the world who came together as the food provider of the 2004 Olympics. Russell said the opportunity fell into her lap and it was not tough to say yes.

She attended University of Virginia in Charlottesville and worked in catering as a cheap way to eat. She majored in English literature and anthropology, but really fell in love with catering.

In her last year in school, Aramark took over the catering account and she stayed on as an employee. Following college, she continued working in food services as the opening team at the College of William and Mary and eventually found her way back to UVA for the past four years. She enjoyed working in dining services, but particularly connected with the campus work and was looking for her own

account when she learned of the opening at Hollins.

Aramark works in the entertainment and sports industries, parks, resorts, and convention centers around the world as a management company. Russell has worked for Aramark in dining services on campuses and says she has learned a lot about people in addition to smaller things like proper table settings and napkin folds.

"There is a real sense of community here," said Russell about her initial reaction to the school. "I was really impressed by how much the dining staff and students interact."

She accredits her ability to make a smooth transition into the school to her anthropology studies in college as well as her experience in the industry.

As the director of dining services, Russell said, her job is

"ultimately meeting the needs of the community."

She said this can mean doing any number of things from serving, to meeting with student organizations, to passing along suggestions and preparing meals. She is already a very prominent figure in Moody during mealtimes.

"It's a rewarding business because I am fulfilling a basic need," said Russell.

Russell was very impressed with the Hollins students who worked to promote locally grown produce. These students spent the lunch time giving samples of locally grown apples trying to get the word out about what it means to support the local produce market.

"They really did their research. It is something that I want to work [towards,]" said Russell in support of the active

student body working to change something they feel is important.

She encourages feedback and wants to keep the lines of communication open for any suggestions.

"I'm learning what people like," she said. This has led to some experimentation, particularly in the Pan Geos section, one that Russell seemed surprised to find was so popular.

Her favorite Moody dish?

"It would probably be a tie between the sweet potato burrito and Alma's macaroni and cheese."

# The "Goombah" program begins search for student mentors

BY LAURA SMITH

As the semester winds down, the Batten Leadership Institute projects are springing-up like budding flowers. For their project, sophomores Nicole Cox, Rose Bottle, and Allison Butt created a program geared towards solidifying a mentor-like friendship between upperclassmen and an assigned incoming first-year student.

Known as Goombah, this program's purpose is to "ease new students' transition into the social side of college life, to offer new students companionship, and to provide a means to lessen class distinction and separation," said Butt in an email.

After brainstorming their idea they notified Dean Ridley and she collaborated with them to make this program possible.

"We saw a need to make the new students feel more welcome and involved on campus, ultimately increasing the retention rate and involvement of the new students with the rest of the campus community," said Cox in an email.

Over the summer those who sign-up are assigned their first-year student based on registration forms filled out by both groups. The mentors then receive a brief bio about their incoming student. The first-years, however, are not told who their mentor is. Upon arriving on-campus they receive clues from their mentor in regards to her identity. Then, after two-weeks, there is a "reveal" celebration in which the first-years learn and finally meet, their mentor.

To be a member of Goombah, upperclassmen are expected to spend roughly two hours per month with their first-year, which can include "eating dinner in Moody together, going off campus somewhere (downtown, the mall, etc.), visiting friends, etc.," Butt said.

"They can send emails, visit the new students rooms to talk for a few minutes, give them a phone call every now and then just to check in, or send them a small

gift or email on their birthday or near finals - or just because," added Cox.

Currently, it is mandatory for all first-years to participate in this program. However, if not the projected 250 upperclassmen participate, and more than two first-years are assigned per mentor, this requirement may be reconsidered, said Bottle when asked about it during last Tuesday's Senate.

As of Sunday, 70 registration forms have been completed.

"By the end of next week we hope to have 100, which will be plenty to have the program run," said Bottle.

There is currently a mentor program situated on-campus. Known as the Student Success Leadership (SSL) program, upperclassmen are assigned groups of first-years that they mentor during the week of orientation. According to the Hollins University website: "'Student Success Leaders' orientation takes a new student through every aspect of life at Hollins. Orientation involves academic components as well as activities aimed at teaching teamwork. It also provides multiple opportunities to meet classmates before school begins."

According to Butt the Goombah program differs from the SSL program because it "provides social support, whereas the SSL program leans towards academic support. It seems that a lot of SSLs start off as friends with their students, but that relationship often fades. We wanted someone who could specifically be a friend to a first year and to be there for the whole year."

Bottle felt that the SSL program was requiring upper-classmen to do too much work.

"The Goombah program should help make their job easier. With the social end taken care of the SSLs are free to focus on the academic setting. They don't have to mentor 5-8 girls socially as well," she said.

Julia Knox '07, an SSL last year, agrees.

"The Goombah program seems like a good idea in theory.

The SSL program is so busy that mostly people end up just focusing on the academic areas and the adjustment that comes along at the beginning. To have someone specifically for social areas seems like a good idea, if it's set up and executed correctly," she said.

Alexandra Lee '07 plans to participate in the Goombah program.

"I am interested in positively sustaining retention here at Hollins and I think the Goombah program will help do this. I am looking forward to helping the incoming freshmen ease into college life," she said.

First-year Amy Grenier also plans to become a Goombah mentor.

"I signed-up because I think it's a good program that should really make the adjustment for the first-years easier. It should also help ease the gap between the first year class and the upperclassmen," she said.

But with the rigors of academic life, involvement in the program is expected to diminish. Some upper-classmen may choose to abandon Goombah mid-semester.

"If people feel that they cannot continue we would probably either assign that student to an already existing mentor (so that that mentor would have more than one student), or we might try to find another upperclassman to substitute the one who dropped out," said Butt.

Cox feels that if people can't dedicate their time to the program, than they shouldn't agree to participate in it.

"If they feel as though this is something they won't be able to keep up with throughout the semester, then they should probably not sign up. This program will really be relying on the honor code. Each registration forms says that the program requires participation on the mentor's part, and we don't feel that it is too difficult to email someone or to stop by and say 'hi' every now and then," she said.

In order to track the mentors involvement throughout the year,

says Butt, emails may be sent out reminding them to stay in contact with their first-year students. First-year students will also be asked "how things are going and if they are happy with the way the program is running."

The Goombah program has received some criticism over its name. Originally known as H.U.G.S. (Hollins University Gurus) the name was changed to Goombah, meaning mentor in English, because some students found H.U.G.S. demeaning. Now, there has been even more of a public outcry - Goombah means "idiot" in Italian.

"Our programs original name was HUGs, but people thought that it was demeaning and juvenile. We changed it to Goombah, which in English means 'mentor' or 'advisor.' When we thought of the name, we had no idea it had a negative connotation in Italian. We have had a few people express concerns about this connotation, and if we feel it is necessary in the future, we may have to change the name again. Right now we are focusing our attention on getting people to sign up. It is in no way our intention, however, to offend anyone with the current name," said Butt.

Grenier feels that by focusing on the name, the program's purpose becomes lost.

"I think that people forget the context of the word in this program. In this program it means 'mentor, friend,' etc. I think people are forgetting that Goombah is a really good program and they are getting wrapped up in the negative connotations of another language when it means something positive in English. There are too many words in our language that are potentially offensive in another culture," she said.

Lee does not seem concerned over the name.

"I'm assuming that not many people know Italian so therefore we shouldn't disregard the name just because one of its meanings is an Italian slur," she said.

Knox, however, feels the name Goombah shouldn't be endorsed.

"The specific name 'Goombah' doesn't really offend me, considering that I'm not Italian and I didn't know what it meant. But I am offended by the idea that the leaders think they shouldn't change it because 'we're in America and we speak English here.' First of all, that just makes you sound ignorant. Second of all, it takes about 10 steps backwards from all the work Hollins has done with diversity.

She continued: "Third of all, what if I'm an Italian or my parents are Italian and our first impression upon arriving at Hollins is a program that calls us idiots? And finally, let's say something in Germany or France or something has a program called 'The Nigger Program.' Even though the word may mean something else in German or whatever, am I, or an African-American, supposed to not be offended because 'We're in Germany and we speak German here?'"

With the dissension, Bottle has decided to re-evaluate the program's name.

"We are planning to look more seriously at the concerns about the name over the summer and we strongly encourage everyone to contact us with any feed back they have. Especially suggestions for a new name, because frankly we are out of ideas," said Bottle.

Butt, Bottle and Cox have many hopes for this program.

"We hope that we will get a lot of participation and the program will be successful in getting the new students involved on campus and make them feel more apart of the Hollins community. We also hope that it will be a program that continues on for several years," said Cox.

Butt agreed: "We hope that this program will help new students feel more comfortable and accepted here at Hollins. Also, we hope that by involving all upper classes, as well as Horizons and commuters, we will help lessen distinctions between classes."



# Theater department undergoes a variety of changes

BY LAURA LATZKO

This year, things have been stirred up in the theater department. David Dvorscak, the chairman of the theater department decided to extend his leave of absence to work on his own projects. He plans to be on sabbatical for the next year.

To deal with Dvorscak's absence, the department has brought in accomplished producer Ernest Zulia. Zulia has experience as the associate producer at Mill Mountain Theater and periodically directing productions as a member of the Apple Tree Theater in Chicago.

Although he is only a visiting assistant professor, Zulia has been instrumental in implementing new ideas into the structure of the department.

The major production he is working on at the moment is "All I Really Need to Know, I Learned in Kindergarten," which will be performed from Friday, May 6, until Sunday, May 8. This

play, adapted from a collection of essays by Robert Fulgham, has already been directed by Zulia in venues around the world.

The Hollins production will be a little bit different from what Zulia is used to, though. Instead of the customary cast of five professional actors, the Hollins version will feature 22 amateurs. Some faculty members, including Klaus Phillips, Wayne Markert, and John Guy, will be a part of this cast along with a number of students.

With this larger group, Zulia will need to work harder to get everyone on the same page.

"It's really different, and I love it. The students are great. It's a breath of fresh air – actors and designer who aren't jaded," Zulia said. "There's a different creative energy. Here people are developing their skills. You have more raw material to work with."

Other productions that he has directed since being at Hollins include "The House of Blue

Leaves," "Angels in America," "Say It Like You Love Me," and "The Yellow Boat."

Many elementary schools were reluctant to book "The Yellow Boat," because it is about a boy with AIDS who contracted the disease because he was a hemophiliac.

"That was a brave and difficult task getting that subject into Roanoke schools," said Rachel Nelson '07, a theater major who has worked extensively with Zulia. Even though there was some difficulty in marketing "The Yellow Boat" for children from third to fifth grade because administrators were concerned with how parents and the Roanoke community would react to it, many kids came up to the group of actors afterward and told these Hollins students that they had not known about AIDS before the play.

"The Yellow Boat" also had an impact on Zulia. After directing it, he decided to form an AIDS

awareness week on campus and bring the AIDS quilt to Hollins.

"This was a case of the theater touching people and giving the people something they wouldn't get in school," Nelson said.

Along with new innovative performance pieces, Zulia is bringing a different style to the department. He has taught classes in acting dynamics and playwriting, and he plans to have a musical performance workshop next semester.

Zulia's main objective is to get more people from all disciplines involved in the theater department. The pieces he plans to feature will include plays that deal with important social issues like gender and free speech.

"David picked out plays differently than Ernie. He's getting input from a lot of people on campus – faculty, students," Nelson said. "He's very interested

in anyone who has new ideas."

Zulia has already shown his commitment to the theater department by encouraging more student to produced pieces. Nelson wrote "Say It Like You Love Me," one of the plays that Zulia produced this year.

Zulia worked with Nelson on the script, found actors, and spent a few hours a night on the production, and directing it. "Say It Like You Love Me" focused on the gendered discourses that shaped the communication of a couple, Sam and Emma, who were played by John Robertson and Adrian Wade.

"To be able to have that opportunity as a sophomore is amazing," Nelson said. "Ernie is ready to do that for a lot of people. Anyone interested in performance around campus would have a chance."

## Mayfest brings rocking bands to campus

BY JULIA KNOX

This coming Friday, Hollins will be even more rocking than usual.

Mayfest, the annual spring end-of-the-year blowout, will be taking place Friday, May 6, at 7:00 p.m. on Back Quad by Tinker.

This year, Mayfest will also serve as the Night Before Cotillion event. Cotillion will be held Saturday, May 7.

This year's talent will be opening band the Recipe, followed by headliners the Pat McGee Band. Tickets are free for Hollins students, \$15 for visitors with a student ID and \$20 for the general public. The Black Student Alliance will host the official after-party in the Rat.

"People had requested the Recipe and I was familiar with them so we decided to book

them," said Kristina Mascelli '07, Social Events Chair. "Pat McGee just kind of fell into place, because they were what we could afford with the money we had left over, and they have good name recognition and most people like them."

The Recipe, according to their website [www.therecipefamily.com](http://www.therecipefamily.com), "In the 'Family and Friends' spirit of The Grateful Dead, Delaney and Bonnie and Willie Nelson [are] one of the most original and refreshing bands on the roots-rock / jamband scene today."

The Pat McGee Band, huge hometown favorites in Richmond Va., makes "fresh, original music that actually sounds effortlessly spontaneous," according to their official band biography.

Mascelli had a little less than \$20,000 spend on Mayfest talent. She had originally wanted Liz Phair or Jack Johnson, but both

performers were more than \$30,000.

Joe Rosenberg, Director of Student Activities and Hollins Activities Board (HAB) advisor wants to revamp the Social Events budget to allot more to Mayfest.

"If we spend less money on events like Fall Party or Oktoberfest, we can take the money that we save from there and give it to Mayfest," said Rosenberg. "This will give us a chance to make Mayfest even bigger and better, with more recognizable names. This, in turn, will allow us to charge higher admission prices and make even more money."

Rosenberg gave an example of turning Oktoberfest into a Battle of the Bands-type event instead of hiring a band like in past years. This, he said, would increase profit because the bands



The opening band at Mayfest: The Recipe.

found at: [www.therecipefamily.com](http://www.therecipefamily.com)

would pay us, instead of us having to pay the band.

Mascelli says Rosenberg's idea makes sense and she will take it into consideration as she continues her tenure as SEC next year. She assures, however, that these events will not be canceled. Instead, she and HAB will look for ways to lower the costs while maintaining the expected quality of the event.

As Mascelli, Rosenberg and the rest of HAB begin to look forward to next year, the rest of the students are looking forward to this week's concert.

"I can't wait for Mayfest," said Grace Kuznkowski '07.

"I'm really excited about seeing the Recipe, and it's going to be a blast."

Mayfest tends to draw a large crowd from area schools like Hampden-Sydney and Virginia Tech. This year is no exception.

"My roommate is a huge fan of Pat McGee, so we're both going to pay the \$15 and come up there," said Alison Francis, a sophomore at Virginia Tech.

"I am definitely going to try and come to Mayfest," said Jonathan Schaff, a sophomore at Hampden-Sydney. "It sounds like a lot of fun and a good way to let off steam from finals week and the end of school."

# Senior Wills

I, Emily Abeles, being of Pleasants-loving mind and caffeinated body, do hereby bequeath the following:

To Rachel Banger and Nandini Roy: Amazing positions with SGA Academic Policy Board, hilarious Academic Affairs Council meetings, tedious Ac Pol meetings, independent exams, and fabulous ECON 158 memories.

To Benita Bobo: Student affairs (hopefully without seat counting escapades) and fun times during work study.

To Rosanna Cabatic and Julie Hanna: Political science, Politics of France memories, and lots of laughs.

To Julia Knox: The joys of orientation, late nights in Pleasants, quality reality television, and damn good gossip.

To Mallory Haar, Katy McGarr and Laura Smith: Post-it-notes, tea, and the WC.

To Cesely Smith: Buddy, Chanukah celebrations, and sleepless nights in Dana.

I, Amelia du Pont Bartley (or Meems) being of sleep deprived (but IHOP nourished) mind, do hereby bequeath the following:

to sophomore Claire Cruce: Starkie 34... I'm sure the English department won't mind; and also my Hilary Duff cd.

to sophomore Ashley Richardson, "special love" and a phone so you can always vote for anyone but Anthony.

to sophomore Amanda Cox, my Rodgers and Hammerstein collection, and whatever other musicals you want-except

SoM because the SoM goes to Claire.

and finally, to the class of 2006, my life time supply of spray paint for next year's antics.

I, Courtney Cutright, leave bowling alley birthday parties and the long hours of writing a senior research paper in Communication Studies to Melissa James.

I, Bethany R. Ewing, being of questionable mind and hungover body, do hereby bequeath the following...

To Cesely Smith, I leave stalkers, my awesome taste in music, my judgement when it comes to relationships, and a large mirror to admire herself.

To Shivaughn Ferguson, I leave my dancing skills, my pink turban, and my spanish skills.

To Gwen Fernandez, I leave all the headaches, chaos, and fun of Roundtable.

To Tessa, I leave all the joys of being a French major (bon courage!).

To Kate Stanley, I leave my drama free existence at Hollins (use it wisely!).

To all of my underclasswomen sisters, I leave you Hollins, one of the best places on the face of this Earth!

I, Zirwat Chowdhury, having spent four 'productive years' of work-study, do hereby bequeath the large couch in the Pleasants lounge to fellow Student Assistant, Erin. I hope you will continue the tradition of taking naps, doing homework and pretty much anything non-work-study related...

I Mariana Denke, senior in the class of 2005, here by leave the following items to the following people:

To Czarina, I leave you 10 o'clock tuck-ins and wild adventures.

To Ashley, I leave you crazy parties and the title of Blockbuster Queen.

To Samantha, I leave you cleavage basketball and very large margaritas.

To Jessie, I leave it up to you to expose Czarina to the 'real world'

To Claire, I leave you the madness of the Communication department.

To Gwen and Irene, I leave you the good memories of Tinker 2A, keep them alive and well until you graduate!

To the class of 2006, I leave the graduation I would have had, treat Hollins well and leave your mark :)

Love you all!

friends to visit while brushing teeth; Anne Fisher, an amazing Head RA; Tseng Tsun-Yu, best wishes for a super-senior year at Hollins; Biology majors the BEST biology department ever!; I love SRLA!; RockstArs wonderful communities; 2006, 2007, and 2008, more memories of the most amazing experiences ever!

I, Amanda Range, being of loving mind and body, do hereby bequeath to the following: My fabulous HCFers, Hollins angels all around to share God's love; Carrie Spruill, plenty of woman power- you are amazing; Ashley Richardson, PIMPLE-time hugs; Sarah Parkington, prayer-time and hugs!; Meghan Morse,

## Best of luck to the seniors in their lives after Hollins!

I, Lisa Bower under a (semi) sound state of mind, bequeath the following items/philosophies/obsessions/loves/spaces, to the following underclasswomen of Hollins University:

**Pleasants:** My mistress of this past semester. This is a place of many a cell phone ringing, many a printer crisis, many a hot temper. The mainstays now have control of the heat, windows, shades, printing, and talking privileges - offenders may be defenestrated. Dorcas Abok, she is yours. Bonni Keveton, your perch in the corner will always remain imprinted in my mind. Laura Smith, though you are cheating on your first love with Dana, Pleasants calls your name. Julia Knox, we wouldn't be friends without that place, without the useful and dis-

tracting technology that is AOL instant messenger (even when we're sitting right next to one another). Carrie Hart, Britt Addy P, Emily Clark, Erin Young, Leslie Jarzabski - do right by our computer lab and love her madly.

**Dana:** My first love, probably from the time I spent in its labs during HollinsSummer up until last semester when we had our first rift. Kate Stanley, Cesely Smith, Nandini Roy, Kate Ferguson (DANCE PARTIES) - this space is now yours. Happy chair twirling, happy procrastination/sanity saving parties, happy homeworking and test taking and paper writing to you.

**SGA:** A hard thing to give out, as it's an acquired taste indeed. Shivaughn, please, open your mouth wide and say what

needs to be said, she is yours. Rachel Banger, do what must be done, and then come to me and we will watch Sex in the City. Vinson, CJ, Irene, Sarah, Gwen, Meg, Kate (Jane), Becca, Candace - please, for the love of God, be student advocates first. You now have what has been one of my biggest joys and worst nightmares. It is what you make it. Stay logical.

**Senate:** CJ, you have one of the most important venues of Hollins. You now have the place where so many independent and feisty and creative women sit. Good luck with Student Concerns, good luck remembering all that needs to be done. Good luck with remembering who needs to be on the agenda. You are a far better woman than I.

**English Dept. Dorkdom:** Katie McDonald, though your heart may never leave Ghana, you, my fellow comrade of two years (work study copy knomes for life), you may have the crown for now. Ashley Anderson, Kathleen Shaw, Leslie Jarzabski, Miranda Dennis, Erin Young, Mara Robbins, Emily Clark, Rachel James, Blair Fross, Laura Smith, Rhiann Pask, Benita Bobo, Carrie Hart, Shaneka Bynum, Lynita Lykes, Danielle Walker and all you undercover English majors/lovers that I can't remember right now because my brain is just as fragmented as my work - write until you can no longer breathe. All live angora rabbits.

I leave the gift of (bad) puns/poetry and breakfast conversation to Sophia Koinis.

I leave the gift of stellar film taste to Julie Hanna.

I leave the gift of fun, sun, and peace of mind to my lovely duo Jethro Tull.

I leave my room to Rachel Banger.

Good conversation/alcohol (of course when you're of age). Livejournal: Sian, Rose, Becky Allie, Laura, Julia, , Kate, Jenn and all I have encountered.

And to the Hollins campus Raise hell, love hard, and do your research. Not necessarily in that order.

# We love you Seniors, oh yes we do!

I, April Seymore, being of warped mind and gangly body, do hereby bequeath the following:

To Sophia, serious mealtime discussions and debates over ridiculous topics. To Kathleen, tupperware plates divided to prevent touching foods. To April May, memories of black light and body paint. To Blair, a tv sans Lifetime channel. To Jen, my merkin collection, a quirky sing-songwriter or two, my NEFA presidency, and plenty

of no-talents. To Jo, laugh yoga and a massage for \*you\* once in a while. To Alpha Psi Omega, I leave viewpointing and the BURSTS and the outreach to so-called non-theatre folks. To Mallory, I leave the Slow Movements and an invitation to our treehouse IC in forty years. To Leslie, I leave christmas lights for anything-but-clothes parties.

To Nicole and Hannah, I leave a place to stay when you come to Ireland. To Mia, a reminder

to simmer down. To NEFA, my undies on the banner, the fall music fest, decorated bathroom stalls, PBR, costume parties and streaking. To the Pleasants Lab, a set of headphones and a coffeemaker/snack machine for every computer station. To Carrie, plenty of tea parties, poetry readings at midnight in the woods, and foreigners reading you Harry Potter. To Danielle, joy and no jerk boys. To Lil, I leave The Big Lebowski, dude.

To Emily and Erin, skits for No Shame, and of course no shame in general. To DeBruycker, a case of Killian's Irish Red, the rights to Keanu Reeves' "personality," and some turtle necks. To Ashley, I leave my disgusting hypothetical discussions.

To Cathie and Robert, some days off work. To Richard, overtime pay and some appreciation damn it. To Adrian, skills for guiding blindfolded people along yarn. To Parker,

a handle of rum and my spare testicle. To Dee and Dy, an ashtray. To Christina, more drag shows in your future. To Vince, I leave hugs and games of Big Booty. To my professors, a future student to answer questions that no-one asked, at great and convoluted length. And to everyone, a legacy of funny, unruly women.

# We love you Seniors, and we'll be true!

I, Lacey Dunham, being of fantacular mind and body, hereby bequeath the following:

To Jen Boyle, snails. Lots of snails.

To Sara Geres many nights of successful ghost hunting.

To Berg and Meredith my reputation at MTC,

To Nicole in room 107 Carvin, many more happy years in a wonderful place,

To Alia, Andy Lao, Snookie, and a reminder that I probably owe you money,

To Alysha, Berg, and Meredith, many more Happy Hannukahs in possible violation of fire codes,

To Tiffany, sanity and hugs (stop worrying all the time! It takes ten years off your life!),

To Little White, big hugs and a cute girlfriend,

To Danielle Thompson, my two queer feet,

To Emily Abeles, a winning hand in mao,

To Skyler and Tori, peeps on drugs, peeps on alcohol, and many more laid back library hours,

To Lisa Bower, my David Lynch collection, especially my souvenir copy of Mullholland Drive,

To Rachel Fletcher, an abundance of hugs, great conversa-

tions, and a the ability to always return to childhood,

To Ever, tea, fairies, F.L.B., and Guinness,

To Mary-Keith, a place in my bed--always,

To Alli Crandall, Pepsi, not Coke, and the knowledge that you are well loved,

To Alysha, all things beautiful because you are,

To Meghan Morse, an opportunity to always return to childhood anytime you need to,

To Beverley Sweentburg, all my love and gratitude,

To David Reep, a giant chocolate candy bar the size of a the state of Tennessee,

To Lisa Radcliff, a signed copy of my future Pulitzer-prize winning novel about monkeys and cheese,

To Lori Joseph, a spot in my future presidential administration as (liberal) media czar and official watch-keeper of both O'Reilly and Limbaugh,

To my advisor Dr. Lynch, all of my anti-Bush paraphernalia,

To my other advisor Dr. Poskocil, a box of teddy grams,

To my other advisor Dr. Markert, much thanks and appreciation for putting up with me,

To Meg Airey, a good book and "bollocks",

To Andi Ogier, a cute man in

a kilt,

To Arian Reed, my love of mediation and the beauty of plants,

To Nandini Roy, my secret stash of Whisky in Carvin,

To Berg, my handcuffs and any and all things transgendered because remember it's all "just a mystery".

And most of all, to Super Q, many more transversal adventures, Wildflower trips, Kroger carolings, screaming bridge outings, general subversivity and much much love. I miss you all!

# Oh Seniors, we love you!

I, Jen Spelkoman, leave Hollins feeling accomplished, happy and prepared (petrified) to embark upon my journey in Brazil. I leave my college remnants to the following underclassmen:

Whether or not she will take it, I leave my love and enthusiasm for the Hollins Columns to Ursula Jonnson. Ursula, I know you will succeed in whatever organization you involve yourself with. You're just that cool. I also leave you my little space in Batten. You have a great three years ahead of you.

I leave all Jewish Men of the

world to Sandi Day. You can have 'em. I also leave Sandi, mid-night sushi, the fence past faculty row, people we don't like, my dirty laundry (I am being literal- please pick it up from my room ASAP), and every moment we spent together as they were all integral to me.

I leave all Hollins Parking lots to Cate McAnulty. Cate, I leave you all crappy cars, including Pearl, and "It Nasty." I leave you the title of "Big Phat," which means you can no longer order anything "skinny" from Mill Mountain. I leave you

Mill Mountain. I leave you our SHARE Olympiad team, from 2003. I leave you licked beer. I leave you Cockfosters and swims with passports in the Thames. I leave you the shed. I leave you all prospective Jewish Students (Just wing it, you went to JCC). I leave you Quan Lo. I leave you puke with food you ate from a month ago. I leave you phat brow belts that we need to make. I leave you Happy's. I leave you Hollins laugh cry social rooms. I leave you New York. I leave you my collection of speeding tickets. I leave you the steps of Moody

(think Barry Manilow) and the Moody Salad Bar (no one does it justice like you do). I leave you the front steps of main at 5pm. I leave you very sad.

I leave the title of "Undercover English Superstar" to Ms. Sarah Parkington. Rock it out Parkington- kick some poetic ass. I leave you handsome Rob from travel and treats. You can have him, you know you want him.

I leave Gwen Fernandez the title of "Foodie Queen," and with that I leave her all the chocolate maple cake from Anglers that she can stomach. Raid the new UK-

ROPS Gwen, do it for Amy and I.

I leave Alexis Hair and Carmel Palmer Sandusky, even though I know they are moving out. I leave them their giant smiles and unrelenting goodness that they have had since I met them.

I leave a big thank you to everyone who had said they had enjoyed or learned something from one of my articles. It really made my day and made me want to stick with it.

## A Grand Ol' Time at the Grandin: "Les Choristes" & "Melinda and Melinda"

BY HOPE SWENSON AND  
CATHLEEN KILGALLEN

Much as we started off this column encouraging you all to take advantage of the library as a wonderful entertaining resource, today we will be shamelessly plugging the Grandin. One would hope that most of you don't need the extra nudge, but for those of you who have not yet been drawn in by its famous buttery popcorn and cozy little make-out theaters, this one's for you.

Although the Grandin is small and can only handle about four movies at a time, with our powers combined, we managed to see two films there this week alone (and on school-nights, mind you). The first was "Melinda and Melinda," the new romantic "dramedy" from Woody Allen. And the other was "Les Choristes," a French film about a horrid little school for boys.

The Grandin generally boasts the gems of the big screen that end up making it to the Oscars, and they'll often be the first to host independent films that end up as big hits of the mainstream like "Sideways." But it's not just the quality of films that draw people to the Grandin, for the people

that work there aren't bound by the constraints of "the man" and will often get you a ticket even if you're a little short on change, and you get service with a nice laid-back smile.

All in all, it makes for a very pleasurable movie-going experience.

Originally released in 2004, "Les Choristes" (The Chorus), directed by Christophe Barratier, is a mix between "Mr. Holland's Opus" and "The Dead Poets Society," but with pre-adolescent delinquent French boys. It's a fairly simple movie, but it's also rather pleasing in its simplicity. The bad guys are bad, the good guys are good, and with the nurture of culture, everyone has a swell time.

A new 'supervisor' Monsieur Mathieu (G ard Jugnot) arrives to begin instruction at this boarding school for misbehaved boys, and brings with him kindness and belief in their abilities that the children have never seen from their violent headmaster played by Fran ois Berleand.

The students inspire Mathieu, a failed composer, to begin writing again and amongst them he finds a prodigy with the face and voice of an angel (Jean-Baptiste Maunier).



Out to the Movies with Hope Swenson and Cathleen Kilgallen

Both of these characters are exceedingly watchable, as are the slew of youngsters with their tricks and eagerness and little distinct personalities. The film is beautiful in the way that many foreign films are, but without the dark twists that one so often finds. It's a light movie that carries a moral about the importance of thinking before acting, and taking into account the way that you impact the lives of others by the things you do and

the way that you treat them. And the pleasure of the experience is really completed by soundtrack of the boys' choir that permeates the film.

"Melinda and Melinda" is much more "edgy." Three plots run simultaneously, and because it begins with an argument about whether the nature of life makes for a better comedy or tragedy, this element of theatre never really goes away. In many ways it's like a filmed play, as many of Woody Allen's pieces seem to be.

The star of the film was Radha Mitchell, who played the same character, Melinda in both of the scenarios; in one story line as the tragic, ex-con, suicidal, traumatic Melinda and the other as the fun, innocent, desirable Melinda. Both storylines run similarly but with different characters and different viewpoints on life. The situation begins with Melinda dramatically rushing in on the respective couples' dinner parties. The couple from the comical

side is Susan (Amanda Peet), a filmmaker beginning a new film and her husband Hobie (Will Ferrell), an actor in between jobs looking forward to the new lead role in Susan's film. The tragic couple is Laurel, (Chloe Sevigny) a rich New Yorker married to Lee (Jonny Lee Miller), a struggling actor as well.

As Melinda enters their lives, the couples' relationships change and they learn life lessons from the mysterious woman. She has a dramatic effect on each couple's lives in both the comical and tragic spins on the plots, showing that whether life is a comedy or tragedy, it continues to produce love, hate, unfaithfulness, disappointment, and surprise.

We are both huge Will Ferrell fans, so we were super excited about seeing this film, but at the same time, a little hesitant because one never knows what to expect from Woody Allen. While it was certainly an unconventional film that had trouble drawing the audience into the two shifting plots simultaneously, Ferrell added a pleasant performance in a character that we could get attached to, and ultimately tilted the scales enough for us to give it a favorable recommendation.

## Dear Editor: Rising tuitions and the three-year program - a direct correlation

Dear Editor,

Last fall I boarded a plane in Phoenix, Arizona and got off 3 1/2 hours later in Roanoke, Virginia. I had six suitcases and 33 college credit hours from a variety of AP and community college courses that I had earned throughout my high school years. This was it. I was officially a Hollins girl! I went whitewater rafting during my first year orientation, I was in the 2008 class skit on Tinker Day, and I took part in the Rookie Flex-Off Contest during the ODAC swim championships. But I will graduate in 2007, as a third

year Hollins student.

The overwhelming response from the Hollins community to this revelation has been a huge, resounding "WHY?!" I attribute my decision to the steep \$30,000/year tuition and fees that, as an 18 year old lifeguard with no financial support from my family, I can't even afford after scholarships. But there is also another reason. I will graduate in 3 years because I can. I will graduate in 3 years because I've worked hard enough to earn it, and I will continue to earn it in my remaining 2 years at Hollins.

In the past few weeks I have

observed a discouraging tone from my interaction with the administration regarding my plans. They list the "caveats" of graduating early. Most of these, like the warning that my relationships with the faculty may suffer, are ignorant and flimsy. It is impossible to be a student at Hollins University and not have strong relationships with the faculty and staff. Another admonition claims that both my social and academic schedule will lack diversity. I could respond with a full resumé listing my involvement this year alone in activities ranging from horseback riding lessons to vol-

unteering at Relay for Life, as well as enrollment in numerous classes outside of my double major.

My experiences at Hollins thus far have been incredible, memorable, and even life-changing. But there are other experiences to be had outside of these red brick walls and this sheltering valley. I laugh when my friends talk about "the real world" and what will happen "when we grow up," because I already believe that I'm truly living my life in reality and that my young age cannot exclude me from this world. I will graduate in 3 years because

those 3 years, and the 17 years before them, will have prepared me to do so.

Sincerely,  
Megan J. Hennessey

# Goodbye sophomore year, goodbye class of 2005

BY LAURA SMITH

Well, the best year (so far) of my college career is coming to a close. And with it goes a collage of sleepless nights in both Pleasants and Dana (more so the former), a gazillion and one midnight trips to Sheetz, cups and cups of hot tea and coffee, stellar apartment and NEFA parties, and countless quality talks with friends.

While freshmen year is spent figuring out and adapting to a new college life, sophomore year is spent figuring out who you really are. Hello introspection, my old friend. The first semester is spent in an emotional upheaval; the second semester is spent cruising the campus with a newly-gained confidence. And, thank god, the balance between academic and

social life is finally becoming feasible.

But the course load is worse than it's ever been. And after five emotional breakdowns, one wants to say – to hell with you, sophomore year, I'm becoming re-acquainted with my pillow.

Still, sophomore year is something to cherish forever. And the best part of it is becoming close with your sister class, the seniors. And so I'd like to take the opportunity to say goodbye to some of my best friends in the senior class. Although I've been told by Julia that this is a lame thing to do (see her column below).

**Emily Abeles:** Mallory and I were talking the other day about the writing center and the seniors and suddenly Mallory said, "I don't want Emily to leave."

Neither do I. I remember the first talk we really had. It was



Staff writer Laura Smith

in the "I" shaped walkway between Pleasants and East, and we were discussing our love for *The Awakening*. I remember thinking: Damn, that girl is smart, nice,

and super cool. I will miss your post-it notes, stealing your apple cinnamon tea, talking Hollins politics, and your laugh. Enjoy your summer by getting lots and lots of sleep. I hope it is complete with an overload of reality T.V. (specifically re-runs of the *Apprentice*).

**Leah "Vivie" Satorsky:** I will miss all the ridiculous links you send me via aim, the discussions about your love life, and the late-night treks to Sheetz. Know that you are beautiful and better than all those men. Listen to the words of Stephen Dunn: "May you turn/stone, my daughter, into silk./May you make men better than they are." I can't wait to see you this summer in Philadelphia.

**Lynne Hawkinson:** Every time I saw you I was having a cri-

sis, and every time you brought my life into perspective in a very grounded and no-bullshit kind-of way. I think you are quite possibly the coolest person I have ever met. I love your heart-felt moments with Buffy, your writing, and your witty antics. And my Jesus, those boots . . .

**And Lisa Bower** - I'll wait till my senior year to write your blurb, as you are bringing your loveliness back to this school as a graduate student. Keep writing. As Sylvia Plath says in her journal: "And write – you have seen a lot, felt deeply, and your problems are universal enough to be made meaningful – WRITE." And rage on, my friend, rage on.

Goodbye, sophomore year, you have served me well.

Good luck seniors. There are many high times ahead.

## Sometimes, there's more than just one "family"

BY JULIA KNOX

This is the last column I get the pleasure (in sort of a masochistic sense) of writing for your enjoyment this year (although, never fear, I'll be back in September). I was originally going to get all sentimental and talk about how fabulous this year has been and do a senior will type thing, but then I remembered that I'm not a senior so that would be lame.

So instead, I did what I always do when I have a big assignment coming up - watch TV. On this particular afternoon I enjoyed a fine marathon of "Sex and the City: Season Two." In between yelling at Big and realizing I am the carbon copy of Miranda, I watched the episode "Shortcomings," which deals with the problem of loving your boyfriend's family, but not really liking your boyfriend.

The episode summary isn't very important, as the episode won't go down as one of the series' most pivotal, or even funniest or most popular episode. But

it does have one of my very favorite quotes at the end:

"The most important thing in life is your family. There are days you love them and days you don't, but in the end they're the people you always come home to . . ."

As I plan to visit my brother in D.C. this summer and pick out a college graduation card for my sister and get ready to return home for a summer with my parents, the quote rings true. My brother and I despised each other as children but now make an effort to spend at least a weekend together each semester (which is saying a lot, since he goes to school in Kentucky). My sister and I used to fight 24/7, but she's now on my list of "Top People to Tell When Something Happens." In high school I would have rather hung out at the local jail than stayed home with my parents. Now when I'm home, I'm 10x more likely to spend the evening at home with my parents than go out with the majority of my high

school friends (I can't decide if this makes me or my high school friends lame).

As warm and touchy-feely as that is, I also have a second family: my Hollins family. These are the ones who save you from scary H-SC boys who are trying



Staff writer Julia Knox

to get in your crevices (thanks, Little Wife, for that and the story of Jabari), spend all-nighters with you in Pleasants with the constant break for a Sheetz run (Lisa,

Emily, Vivie, etc.), and fuel your procrastination habit by holding "The O.C." marathons on Saturday afternoons (Liz).

These are the people I'm going to dread leaving for three months. While I'm super-excited about seeing my absolutely adorable puppy, a shih-tzu doesn't really compare to someone who will help you and your roommate when you keep falling down that hill on the way back from the apartments after eight glasses of wine. It will take some time to get used to not going to El Rodeo every weekend, not constantly stopping by Apt. 105, not speaking in code with Brittany, and not being super sketchy with most of my BFFs.

It will be hard to come back in the fall without the class of 2005. Without Emily making me leave Pleasants to go to Bradley with her and rolling her eyes at my latest adventure, without Vivie IMing me weird cat links, without Heather and the rest of 105's delicious punch and fabulous parties (since Lydia is

the only one who can actually remember Mardi Gras, I'll just have to assume from the pictures of all of us on tables that it was, in true Gwen Stefani style, b-a-n-a-n-a-s). I am uber-grateful that Hollins paid Lisa to stay, and therefore next semester will be spent in apt. 401 with the two of us (and our good pals Jack and Jim) watching movies, listening to music (especially her favorite, Travis Tritt) and talking about who we want to throw out the window.

And that's why I love the Sex and the City quote so much. After Carrie declares the importance of family (see above), she then sees Samantha, Miranda and Charlotte in the coffee shop window and concludes:

"Sometimes it's the family you're born into. And sometimes, it's the family you make for yourself."

To the rest of the class of 2005, good luck in the real world. I'll be back here at Hollins, praying they let me stay forever.