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# Hollins Columns

October 24, 2005

Hollins University

Volume 78, Issue 3

## PRESIDENT NANCY GRAY IS INAUGURATED

BY LAURA SMITH

The inauguration of Nancy Oliver Gray, Hollins' 11th president, took place on Oct. 14, during a weekend Gray dedicated to "celebrating Hollins."

"During inauguration I felt a strong connection to the past, and had the sense that the founding ideals of Hollins will continue to be present in all realms of our lives here. Yet the speakers also conveyed that Hollins is moving forward, approaching new horizons academically while retaining the social community that is so important to its members," said Martha Gregor '08.

The ceremony, held in duPont Chapel, began with a procession of the seniors, board of trustees, faculty and delegates.

The chapel was packed with students, parents, alumnae, and members of the Roanoke community. In an effort to accommodate the large number of people, a live feed was set-up in the Theatre and Babcock Auditorium.

Gregor, however, noticed that there seemed to be a low number of faculty present.

"I was surprised that so many members of the faculty were absent. It seems to me to that inauguration is the most important event of the year," she said.

Many students' favorite parts of the inauguration ceremony were the short greetings made by representatives from various constituencies.

"I enjoyed the short introductory speeches because they held my attention," said Rachel McCarthy James, '08.

Mary Brown Bullock, president of Agnes Scott College and chair of the Women's College Coalition, began the greetings by talking about the importance of women's colleges and the strength women have coming from a single-sex education.

John Williamson III, CEO of Roanoke Gas Company and a former trustee at Hollins, talked about how Gray is such an asset to Hollins, and Hollins in return is an asset to the surrounding Roanoke community.

Senior Gwen Fernandez greeted Gray on behalf of the students and talked about Tinker Day last year, when Gray wore a wet suit up the mountain. She remarked that perhaps Hollins students should give her a "Tinker Day: 101" lesson about what to wear.

"Gwen's speech was really good. She was talking next to people who had been publicly speaking in a professional environment for years, and I really thought she held her own," said Fred Whiteman '07.

Linda Koch Lorimer, vice president of Yale University and chair of the Presidential Search Committee introduced Gray and talked about the search committee's efforts to recruit Gray. The committee had to work hard to persuade her - Gray actually turned them down twice before agreeing to talk with them.

"Linda Lorimer said it was hard to turn a Hollins girl down, meaning that when Hollins wants something the women that have attended it won't stop until they get it," said Boyle.

Gray's son, Scott Michael Gray, a senior at Wooster College, remarked that Gray, his "best friend," was a "super mom" who handled both her workload and the raising of children.

"It was funny, and of course, he was cute. Everyone has a crush on President Gray's son now," said McCarthy James.

In her acceptance speech, Gray thanked all those who gave greetings and presented her plan for Hollins' future.

"I really liked Nancy's acceptance speech. It was really appropriate for the occasion. She took the complements that she was given very humbly and gave thanks where it was due," said Boyle.

Not everyone thought the inauguration was as entertaining as it could have been.

"It was okay, it dragged on a bit. Overall



**Nancy Oliver Gray, Hollins' 11th president, thanks the crowd.**

there were some pieces that were good, funny, well written, and others that did not hold my attention," said McCarthy James.

After the ceremony, there was a luncheon on front quad. More than 80 tables were set up with autumn-colored table clothes.

"I enjoyed the sense of community at the luncheon. It's rare that we get to socialize with the entire Hollins community at one occasion, and I had a couple of really great conversations with the visitors," said Whiteman. "By the way, I found it incredibly amusing that as you walked past the different tables, many of the students were talking about Scott Gray. Although I wouldn't expect anything different concerning a 22-year-old who can call his mom his best friend."



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Carrie Mae Weems  
photography exhibit



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Music department under-  
goes changes



## MUSEUM OPENING DRAWS CROWDS, INTEREST

BY RACHEAL MCGURK

The Eleanor D. Wilson Museum was inaugurated during Hollins Family Weekend. Dedicated in October 2004, the museum was named for the late Eleanor "Siddy" Wilson '30, Tony-nominated actress and art enthusiast who made the establishment of a museum at Hollins her life goal.

Wilson appropriated a grand total of \$9.4 million to the constructing of both the Richard Merrill Visual Art Center, named for her grandfather, and the museum. At the museum's entrance are two works of art by Siddy, alongside a photograph of her on a motorcycle at the age of 15.

Inauguration began at 4:30 P.M. Thursday with a student dialogue session in the Frances Niederer Auditorium with world-renowned artist Carrie Mae Weems.

Weems presented the lecture by Museum Director Wynna Lench McWhite and her staff on a much hard work. "Because of Siddy's vision," said Gray. "We are all here today to celebrate."

Weems began her lecture, "On a day of so many inaugural events, I salute you, Madame President."

Weems proceeded to re-cap Wilson's life and acknowledged the executors of her will, who were present at the ceremony to see the realization of their client's dream.

"I only wish Siddy were here with us now," she commented, to which the executors responded in unison, "She is!"

Weems spoke of her work for the remainder of the lecture, during which she presented a slide show of her most famous and most recent works including "Mandela and his wife," "Graca's point of view," and "Weems made many points about her art, three common themes on the basis for her work: slavery, family, and the role of women in society."

"There is a space in this world for women. We have to claim it as our own. Otherwise, we are all accomplices in our own victimization. We are history. We cannot stand outside of it," said Weems.

The museum inauguration concluded with a reception in Fishburn Hall sponsored by Wachovia.

In honor of Gray's inauguration, works by Judy Bates '98 and Hollins art professor Nancy Dahlstrom will be on view in Ballator Gallery through Oct. 21, 2005. The museum's inaugural exhibition, "Carrie Mae Weems: A Retrospective," will remain on display through Dec. 15, 2005. Exhibition catalogues are available for purchase at the museum gift shop.

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## COLUMNIST ELLEN GOODMAN COMES TO CAMPUS

BY STEPHANIE PROSACK

As part of the Distinguished Speakers series, Ellen Goodman came to campus on Oct. 13. Goodman is a syndicated columnist with *The Boston Globe*. Her lecture that night packed duPont Chapel with students and members of the Roanoke community.

Goodman spoke mostly of women's rights and roles in society and the workplace. Treanna Dennis '09 thought her talk was very interesting and said, "She had a lot of insight on the balance of motherhood and work."

Goodman has her own column, which appears in 450 newspapers. Her column

has even led Goodman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Distinguished Commentary.

Goodman became a journalist at *The Boston Globe* in 1967. She graduated from Radcliffe College in 1963. Her first job out of college was as a researcher at *Newsweek* in 1963. It was one year before the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and at a time when only men wrote and women researched. When Goodman came to *The Boston Globe* in 1967, she was the only woman there with a preschool age child.

Goodman spoke a lot about women as mothers and as career-oriented women and said that as hard as modern women try to advance in the business world there are still obstacles.

As a journalist, Goodman writes about all sorts of current events. From her opinion on the morning-after-pill to effects of Hurricane Katrina, Goodman always lets her readers know her opinion "I feel it is much more interesting to say what you think than to suppress it," said Goodman.

But sometimes Goodman prefers the slower times in the news world. When events are not newsworthy, then she "can write about less time-sensitive subjects" that she still feels strongly about.

Goodman also spoke to young women who will be entering the workplace soon. Women are paid less and less represented in the business world. Goodman feels

"women will never feel we achieved equality in our own terms until we feel equality in our values."

She did recognize that social changes come slowly. She even quoted Jack Kerouac saying "walking on water wasn't built in a day."

Goodman also told young women to have high standards and never be afraid to give their opinions. She tells young ladies to "Speak up! Speak up! The only man you will scare off is your future ex-husband." She also said young women should do what they wanted and not let social taboos stop them.

After all, Goodman said "life happens when you're making other plans."

# BRIDGE TO TEREIBITHIA CAST OVERCOMES PRODUCTION PROBLEMS

BY MEGHAN STOLTZ

On Friday, Oct. 14, "Bridge to Terebithia" opened at the Theatre. Under the direction of Ernie Zulia and with a cast and crew that is mainly student-run, the production presented a touching story about the friendship between a young boy and a young girl.

Zulia chose "Bridge to Terebithia" for several reasons; first of all because it is a beautiful story and one that is familiar with many Hollins students. The play is based on a novel which is commonly taught in schools and is beloved by most who read it. Zulia pointed out that "affection for the book [means] a powerful theater performance."

"Bridge to Terebithia" will also be presented to approximately 1,200 5th graders who will be coming to Hollins to watch the play since that is the grade level in which the book is most often taught. This play will be a strong part of the theater production's outreach program

to the community.

About half of those involved were first-years; this is a common occurrence in the fall production to have a high involvement of new students, but also in this case the characters are ten years old and therefore younger cast members embodied the characters a lot easier than seniors, for example. Stage manager Hannah Urrey '09 commented how the fact that everyone knew "where they're supposed to be and what's going on" helped make production a lot easier. She also commented how the crew was lucky enough to be on set relatively early in the rehearsal.

The production had experienced its share of problems, though. It was difficult to get enough people for crew positions. As production picked up, Urrey pointed out that "many [people] left because they didn't have the time and not many more had come in" to replace the empty positions. Zulia also said that the fact that fall break fell a week before opening

night was difficult since suddenly there were four days lost when production was at such a critical time.

"It interrupted the momentum," said Zulia.

Otherwise progress was on schedule. Working on "Bridge to Terebithia" was, for most of the students involved, the first time the theater was more than simply a fun club.

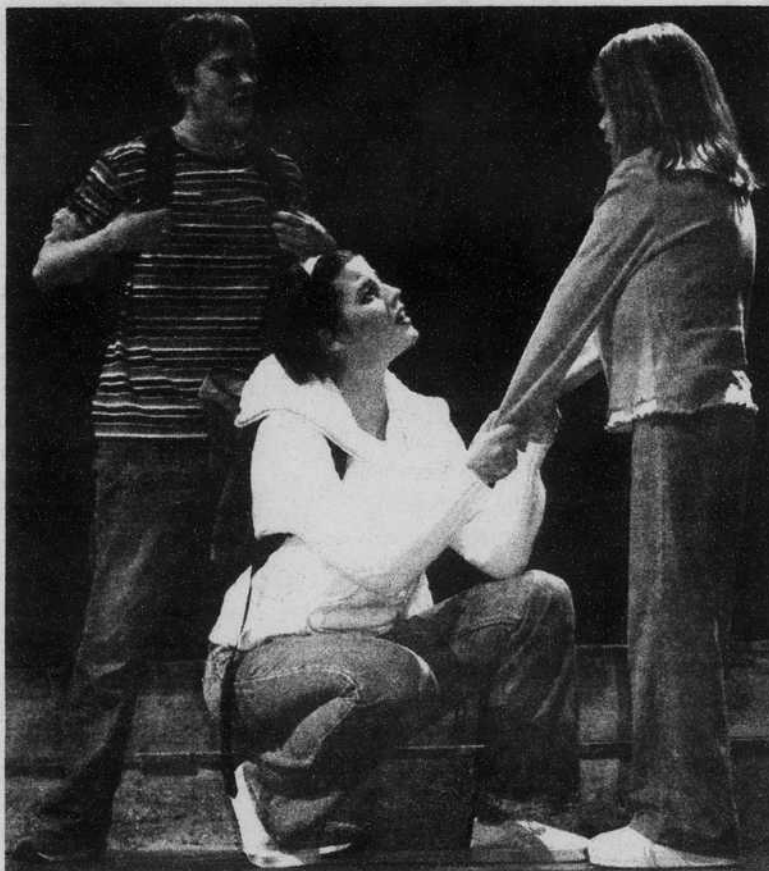
It was a much higher level of work and dedication, something that Urrey, for one, definitely noticed. This was also a first-time theater experience for many of the cast members and the fact that an all-female cast had to portray male roles was also a unique challenge.

However, Zulia commented, "It doesn't make a difference in the gender of an actor if they are successful in the character." It was also interesting to work on a play that is an adaptation of a novel, she said.

"Because Hollins is such a powerful writing school," Zulia said, "it's interesting to see how fiction writing and playwrighting work together."

The involvement in the behind-the-scenes work for "Bridge to Terebithia" also spread beyond just volunteers. Besides those who auditioned and signing up for specific parts in the cast and crew, Lisa Johnson's scene painting class was called on to help out.

"[Johnson's] got some interesting techniques that I'd never seen before," said Joanie Brew '09. "It's pretty cool to



**The show must go on... Cast members of Bridge to Terebithia dealt with several issues before during production.**

know that I have a contributing factor."

The scene class helped with anything that involved painting, such as the Birch trees, background flats, and other parts of the stage.

The next musical performance will be "Cabaret." Auditions will take place in November. "Cabaret" will be presented on April 6, 2006.

**Congratulations to the field hockey team for their win over Salem College.**

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## MUSIC TO OUR EARS: DEPARTMENT PREPARES FOR EXPANSIONS

BY LINDSEY CROLL

The music department is abuzz with new and exciting noise this semester. With new pianos, a new choir director, and an enlarged choir, they have plenty to be excited about.

New pianos were almost a necessity for the department this year. About 70 percent of their pianos had aged around 50 years or more. The department traded in eight old grand pianos to purchase four new Steinways.

Funding came from the Kenan Foundation, which was created to help fund the music program. This first purchase is what the entire music department hopes will be a gradual introduction of new pianos to replace the older ones over a period of time.

The replacement piano in Talmadge Hall was inaugurated on family weekend in a public recital.

All pianos are available to be used by students to practice and numerous other instatements are available for students who wish to play. It is the music departments' hope that they will become an all Steinway institution one day.

The music department also has a new choir director, Ester Yoo. Yoo is a doctoral candidate at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of

Music. She came with experience as a choir director, and a professional concert pianist and accompanist. She studied in Canada, Europe, as well as the United States.

Currently, she is taking part in an international master's conducting course in Toronto.

Besides their new conductor, the choir department received a large number of interested students in their class. The choir is 22 members this semester, an increase from last year, says Professor Judith Cline.

She thinks it helps to have a new director, as well as the new classes, such as Introduction to music of Latin America, which have proven quite popular this semester. Additionally, there are going to be new classes next semester, such as Survey in Art Management, which she anticipates will be very interesting and popular.

The choir performed at Preasient Nancy Grey's inauguration. In addition, the large group will be traveling to Ireland in January, to perform at four or five venues during short term.

The final change to the music department is the final stage of restoration of Presser Hall. It has always been the home of Hollins' music program and will be undergoing its final restoration next summer, which will include reconfiguring practice rooms, enlarging them for greater comfort for students, adding a listening room to the music library, computer set-ups for music processing programs, a lounge/study area and many other small but significant changes in the space.

Everyone in the department is thrilled that the building will be enduring these significant changes, especially since it is growing in size. Currently, 162 students are applied to some course in the music department. Many students can check out the choir, individual student instrumental recitals and the developing music department through out the year.

There is always two recitals a semester, chances to see the students practice their craft on campus.



Choir members serenade audience in Moody. In January they will serenade several venues in Ireland.



Violin Professor Martin Irving performs.

## BSA CATALYST FOR EMPOWERMENT

BY EMILEIGH CLARE

The Black Student Alliance (BSA) hosted Women's Empowerment Week from Oct. 10-13. Activities included Roanoke City Sheriff candidate Octavia Johnson, and a cocktail party.

Last year the alliance had an empowerment week as well. BSA touted this week of activities as their new tradition welcoming all women to participate.

"All women are empowered in some way, so why not celebrate the empowerment of the past, present, and future," LaNita Lykes '07 said. "We are the under represented majority. Sometimes we do not get the recognition or support that we deserve. Women's empowerment week is a time for you, as a woman, and women as a whole, to show appreciation for yourself as well for others on your accomplishments."

The full schedule of the women's empowerment weekend included making a mural on Monday and the

health, such as breast examinations and sexually transmitted disease awareness.

On Wednesday, Johnson visited. Over the summer Shaneka Bynum '07 and Lykes went to a reception at the Harrison, an African American museum downtown, and met her. Later on they invited her to come speak.

"She spoke about what empowered her to run against her boss," Bynum said. "She is an African American woman, and there is certain things we have to deal with. She is using what she has gone through to get through the campaign. Her message was really relevant."

On Thursday BSA had a cocktail party organized by Andie James '06 to wrap their event-filled week up. There were refreshments, makeovers, games, and there was a booth for the women's empowerment banner where women who came could write what empowered them.

That banner will be displayed in Moody later on this week.

"I wanted to do something that would

# OCT. 20: IT'S TINKER DAY!



Seniors Meg McFerren and Becca Stuart serenade the sophomores.



Above: SGA President Gwen Fernandez gives President Gray her Tinker Day sweater, bringing back an old Tinker Day tradition.



The senior class lifts up 2006 president Becca Stuart after being awarded the Golden Donut, the reward for the most spirited class.



Left: Elizabeth Pless '07, aka Derek Zoolander, gives her best male model look during the junior class skit.

# IN HER SHOES DELIVERS LAUGHTER AND TEARS

BY HOPE ANGELA SWENSON

Over this past rainy fall break, three of my girlfriends and I decided that a trip to the theater would enhance our dreary Saturday afternoon. Between the animated creations and the intense action films, we decided a lighthearted chick flick would be greatly entertaining. However, with "In Her Shoes," we got so much more than a simple, flirtatious chick flick. Filled with real life lessons and some comic relief, we were far from disappointed with this dazzling depiction of a relationship between two clashing personalities.

Jennifer Weiner's 2002 novel has been magically transformed into a film directed by Curtis Hanson ("8 Mile" and "Wonder Boys"). "In Her Shoes" features a wonderfully dynamic pair of sisters. Rose (Toni Collette, "Muriel's Wedding" "The Sixth Sense") is an Ivy League educated lawyer with a top-notch law firm

in Philadelphia. She is a simple woman, wearing conservative suits and no makeup, and putting in long days at the office. She is a dedicated lawyer who seems to be an over-achiever, but not wholly content with her life. To compensate for her life's solitude and her overweight figure, Rose fills her closet with indulgent, sexy, designer shoes, which always fit and make her feel fabulous.

Rose's sister, Maggie (Cameron Diaz, "The Mask," "There's Something About Mary"), is the complete opposite of Rose. Maggie is the sexy scarlet who cannot hold down a job and jumps from her parents couch to Rose's. Her strengths are with her ability to get dolled up and seduce men. At the same time she struggles with her reading disability, which is discouraging in the search for work and leads to compulsive stealing, which includes some of Rose's favorite stilettos.

After an intense falling out,



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Rose kicks Maggie off her couch in a hateful rage. As Maggie visits her father and stepmother's house (their mother committed suicide when the girls were young) and looks for money in her father's desk, she comes across a stash of birthday cards from her grandmother, which her father collected since she was young. Maggie decides to visit

her long lost grandmother (Shirley Maclaine, "Terms of Endearment") to see if she can tap her bank account. During her scam, Maggie seems to be aloof and fearless, but her actions portray an undertone that calls her bluffs and reveals her lonely, self-centered nature.

At the same time, Rose decides that she is not happy with her life. She proceeds to quit her job and become a dog walker, work that is relaxing, enjoyable, and fulfilling.

She soon transforms into a more beautiful, pleasant person, with a new love in her life. But throughout these months, she is worried about Maggie, who she cannot contact and does not know where she is living.

Maggie is growing close to her grandmother, who is helping her find herself, encouraging her to work for the money she needs,

and assisting her in starting a small business that allows her to thrive by doing what she loves.

By the end of the movie, a sense of balance is found in everyone's life. This movie highlights the intense complexity of family relationships, especially the strong love/hate relationship present in the hearts of many sisters.

In addition, "In Her Shoes" has some remarkable footage of my favorite city. Philadelphia is a city of great culture and intellect, but at the same time, home to super-swingin' nightlife. The diversity of what this city has to offer draws direct parallels to the lifestyles of Rose and Maggie.

This movie is more complex than most films Cameron Diaz stars in, which is extremely refreshing and hopeful for a more distinguished film career in her future.

All in all, "In Her Shoes" seems like the right fit for anyone craving delightful acting that will make you laugh and cry.



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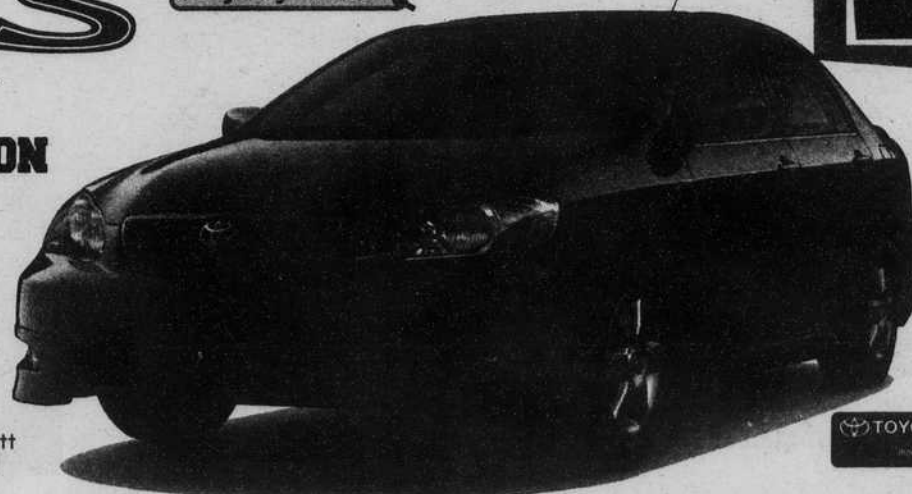
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# SOCIAL REVELATIONS OF A COLLEGE UNDERGRAD

The other day I was asked by the "Center for Learning Excellence" newsletter staff to give advice to first-years based on things I wish I had been told during that tumultuous year of adjusting and re-adjusting. I said something about sleeping more, not procrastinating, and understanding that one's roommate does not necessarily have to be one's best friend.

Now, looking back on my first two years at college, I think it's amazing how I've become the person I am today. I can sit here and write a column about all the advice I wish I had been given, but really to what end – what would that accomplish?

College is a process. It's about finding one's self, gaining new perspectives, learning academically and socially, and re-evaluating and tightening friendships – all part of the formation of one's identity. It's about understanding, and wanting to understand, who you really are.

So how do we embrace ourselves, learn to be happy with our choices, and understand that we can oscillate between friendships and discover the ones we truly value? There are so many factors involved. I'm just going to touch on two important ones.

## Cut Back the Shrubbery.

A lot of the stress I've felt this year is due to the amount of time I've put into various friendships that have become overly complicated. It's important to realize (as I've recently applied to my own social circle) that there are many different types of friendships – there are those people who you are closest with, who will realize you are upset through an obscure AIM conversation and invite you to their dorm room to talk things over; there are those that are super fun to hang out with for



Laura Smith  
News Editor

a day and talk about random things; and then there are those who you aren't really sure why you are friends with them. Basically there are primary friends, secondary friends, and peripheral friends.

It's important to realize that the primary ones really care about you for who you are; they'll be there for you whenever you ever need them. A friend of mine once described them as penguins – penguins mate for life. Through conversations they challenge you in a positive way, causing you to re-evaluate your choices, your past experiences, and of course, yourself (and your value system, norms, perceptions, assumptions, choices you've made, etc).

And through the sharing of these past experiences and the giving-and-taking of sound advice, discussion, and quality time spent together, a strong relationship is solidified. One where identity is understood as something continually questioned, assessed and re-assessed; where this formation and eventual growth is both encouraged and praised; where criticism is only used in a loving and positive way. This all leads to a stronger understanding of one's own identity and that of their friends, and through this a loving and very giving relationship is

created – there's is no power-relation here, there's only equal ground.

The second group of friends is those whose company you enjoy, but probably aren't people you will keep in touch with after graduation. They are fun to hang out with, but, as I've learned, it's best to manage your time with them – party with them, but don't let them overwhelm you and cause you to lose sight of who you or who your true friends are.

The third group of friends are those persons you're friends with on a superficial level – whether it's through loyalty to others, a friendship that's taken some turns, due to academics (i.e. you're in all of the same classes), or because, as tends to happen when one is forming their identity, you see something in their personality that you wish you could emulate. Ask yourself this question when you are around them: what is my friendship with them really based upon? And what are they giving to this friendship?

These aren't really friendships, they are distorted relationships where one individual holds the power over the other. In these unfortunate power-relations, the identity of the one overwhelms the other – leaving the other to feel a loss of herself. I've been in these types of relationships and they have caused me loads of introspection, self-doubt, and stress. They lead you to feel like at any moment the friend is going to drop you for someone "cooler," and that in order to prevent this betrayal one has to give more, make excuses for the friend's behavior, and fight for her to respect your character when she should accept you for who you are.

Attempting to prove yourself in an effort to gain a skewed sense

of respect from a dominating person, when you're unsure of just who you are and why you are attempting to show that self to someone else, is draining. It causes one's own formation of identity to take the backburner as she feels the continual need to prove her intelligence and self-worth to the other.

The truth of the matter is this: by being in this relationship, this dominating person has a negative impact on one's own personality because they are making one feel like less of a person. And no one should ever, EVER, make you feel this way. Friendships should be about integrity, communicating in a loving way on various planes (social, political, experience-wise, etc.), and understanding the necessity of this questioning process. This third type of friendship is not needed – friends should encourage your growth and changing identity, not make you feel like it's something to be earned or even devalued.

## After a While, Talk becomes Cheap.

Through losing a sense of self, we need to decide who is important to our growth – those who will challenge us in healthy, yet loving ways. As someone who has spent much of her junior year complaining about her life, her feeling that she's lost a sense of self, her need to re-prioritize and find the balance between her social and academic life, she knows the importance of talking through one's problems. Talking is necessary to change. And it goes hand-in-hand with introspection when trying to understand these sudden "emo" diatribes that have begun to spew from one's mouth at all times of the day.

But after a while, talk becomes cheap. If you're talking to a friend for the fifteenth time about something (or someone) that/who

is making you unhappy, perhaps you need to really address the problem within yourself and implement steps to re-direct your life. Friends can only do so much – it's you who has to make the move to change yourself, and therefore continue the process of re-assessing your identity. Whether this means hanging out with certain people less, focusing more on schoolwork, hermiting, whatever – things aren't going to change until you make a conscious effort to do something about it. And yes, it's very hard and frustrating as everyone wants their unhappiness to disappear immediately, but change takes time. But if you really want to understand yourself and focus on your wants/needs, you'll be willing to sacrifice some things, and make time for others.

By applying these things to one's own life, one would hope it would be less dramatic and stressful, and more productive and happy. What it comes down to is this: What does happiness mean to you? And are you willing to take the time to re-direct your life and make it better? I can tell you right now, I'm not about to spend my junior year under a skewed umbrella of happiness.

I haven't fully lowered that umbrella yet, but I'm working on it. I'm cutting back the shrubbery, letting my own voice be heard, and am surrounding myself with loving friends. I encourage you to do the same. Remember: friendships are all about equality, integrity, active listening, and respect. My friend wrote to me today, "Anyone can be nice. That doesn't mean they're worth your time." And that's the truth.



# EN GUARD: FENCING TEAM FACES NEW CHALLENGES



Fencers dual it out during a recent meet.

BY BRITTANY TROEN

Since 2002, funding has sponsored fencing as a club sport. Previously offered as a varsity sport, the club can't enjoy as many benefits.

This year the club is entirely student-run, whereas in previous years they have had an instructor. Now, many of the veteran fencers give assistance to those with little fencing experience.

"It's not so much as what should we teach today, as let's work on what we have to work on," fencing captain Whitney Stanton said.

Even the competitions are student-run. The captains from each team help put together pools of participants, keep track of who wins the bouts, even act as referees.

This year, about 20 people are participating in this strategy-based sport. On Oct. 2, the

fencing club had its first competition. Pools of participants were drawn up, putting Hollins students against Washington & Lee students. Sometimes members from the same team went into bout against each other.

While the first competition featured mostly foil, fencing has two other weapons: epee and sabre. Beginning fencers start out on foil, in which the blade is about 35 inches long. During a foil bout, the only area which will produce a point when hit is the torso.

With epee, a slightly heavier weapon, the entire body is a target area.

Finally, the sabre most resembles a cavalry sword. The target areas are from the waist to the head. Similar in length and weight to the foil, the sabre features the point-thrust method as well as a cutting motion.

To protect their bodies from

injury, fencers wear a glove and helmet in addition to their uniform of jacket and pants.

In modern bouts, fencers use wires and metallic jackets hooked up to a machine which keeps track of points. When a valid hit is made, either a red or green light will appear on the screen. If a fencer hits outside the target area, a yellow light appears. A bout goes to five points.

The fencing team looks forward to upcoming competitions, including States at Virginia Tech and Nationals in South Carolina. But perhaps the biggest goal for the fencing captain is to achieve varsity status again.

"With varsity status, the team would receive more funding, more respect, and a coach," Stanton said. "I just hope we can get varsity status before I graduate."

# TENNIS TEAM RECEIVES SUPPORT FROM COACH, FANS, EACH OTHER

BY MALLORY POTOCK

As students make the trek to their cars in Siberia after a long day of classes, they can catch a glimpse of the team hard at work. Coach Leslie Bernard and the tennis team have been practicing hard and reaping the benefits.

The tennis team begins their competition season in the fall. This part of the season consists primarily of tournament play with a few dual matches. The team continues to train during the winter off-season and resumes competition in February. During the spring season, the team will compete in approximately 15 dual matches, as well as tournament play and the ODAC Championship.

The team has been extremely successful on the court so far. Members of the team attribute this success to the attitude and friendships both on and off the court.

"The tennis team here at Hollins is very supportive of one another on and off the court," Candice Dalton 07' said. "After a day of classes, the team always looks forward to practice because it's not only a chance to be outside, but it's a time to hit around with friends."

Bernard is another key component to the success of the Hollins tennis team. Bernard came to Hollins in 1997 and as of the start of this season has accumulated a

record of 79-32. Her record is impressive and the athletes she coaches sing her praises.

"Coach Bernard is really supportive and motivating. She treats players like adults but at the same time, she will level with you like a friend," Jackie Cokenias, 09' said.

The fall season opened with a bang. The Hollins tennis team cleaned up in the Virginia Womens Tennis Championship, winning all the singles flights and winning the number one flight in doubles.

The team victories continued at the ITA Regional Championships where team Captains Melissa James and Candice Dalton defeated the sixth seeded team from Johns Hopkins University and finished in the top eight for the tournament. Katherine McDonough finished in the top eight in the gray flight of the tournament.

The First Annual Hollins Fall Festival concluded the tennis team's fall season. Melissa James lost in the finals to the top player from Radford University, a division 1 school. James and Dalton finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the flight number one doubles.

After such a successful fall season, Bernard is



Christine Han 09' keeps her eye on the ball during a tennis practice session on campus.

looking forward to the spring.

"The team is very motivated to do well in the ODAC Conference," Bernard said. "We are hoping that our strong fall season will help lead us to a second place finish in the conference championship in the spring. We have a highly competitive group of players and we will have a strong spring season."