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Hollins Columns

November 7, 2005

Hollins University

Volume 78, Issue 4

INTERNSHIPS ADDED TO LONDON ABROAD

BY LORRAINE FLECK

Starting in Fall, 2006, an internship in Parliament or in fields including business, media, theater, education, graphic design, and many others, can be part of any qualified student's fall Hollins Abroad London experience. Hollins is now working with a London organization to create internship opportunities each fall where students can meet and work with people from all walks of British life and gain valuable experience in the global workplace, at the same time as they are learning about British culture in their courses.

The optional London internships will be tailored to student interests and will require 15 hours of work per week, scheduled around Hollins Abroad classes. A detailed journal and regular evaluations by supervisors will be required.

Applicants for internships must meet the regular requirements for the London

program, have a GPA of 3.0 or higher in courses related to the internship field, and provide an extra, work-related letter of



WWW.OBU.EDU

Students going to London during fall semesters will soon be able to intern in Parliament.

recommendation. Students applying for a Parliamentary internship must also apply for a security clearance, which requires letters from Hollins and a local police official indicating no record of legal or disciplinary problems.

Internships add a new dimension to a program that already offers students

several choices. All London students choose three Hollins Abroad courses and then, for their fourth course, can choose an additional Hollins Abroad course, a course at London Metropolitan University, or, in some cases, an independent study. Starting in 2006, fall Londoners will also have the option of an internship for their fourth course.

In other London program news, the move from College Hall to Connaught Hall, a few blocks away on Tavistock Square, was completed this summer. Connaught Hall is a beautiful Georgian building with its own garden where students can relax between classes. It is a lively place, with students from all over the world, social spaces and a pub, and social events to which Hollins Abroad students are invited. The cramped Hollins library in College Hall has been replaced by a larger space in Connaught Hall with more computers, all with Windows XP and broadband.

For more information on Hollins Abroad London and the new fall internship program, stop by Rose Hill.

CASA PLANS TO "TAKE BACK THE NIGHT"

BY OLIVIA BODY

"Casa" means "home" in Spanish. Home, among other things, is exactly what CASA (or Coalition Against Sexual Assault) would like you to envision when learning about the goals of their organization. Formerly known as The Center at Hollins, CASA is a safe-haven for students needing information or simply seeking a warm environment to help cope with the effects of sexual abuse.

Becky Klabunde '07, who is serving her first term as co-chair (alongside Carrie Hart '06), spoke of the organization's strong desire to become more involved in the Hollins community this year.

"This organization has made leaps and bounds since it started 3 years ago, but has been under-utilized in the recent past," said Klabunde. "We would like to

make a greater impact. Our goal is to raise awareness, educate, and be a resource for women who have not only experienced the personal effects of sexual assault, but might know someone who has been a victim in some way."

A study conducted by the National Victim Center found that 1.3 women (age 18 and older) are forcibly raped each minute in the U.S., and that 4 out of 5 students have experienced some form of sexual harassment during their time in school. Most women are assaulted by someone they already know or have come to trust.

Locally, CASA works in conjunction with SARA (Sexual Assault and Response Awareness), a 24-hour hotline dedicated to serving the needs of sexual abuse victims in the Roanoke area. CASA itself consists of a fully trained, volunteer staff

that rotates their time during its hours from 4 - 9 p.m., Sunday - Thursday on the 3rd floor of Moody, right next door to the SGA office.

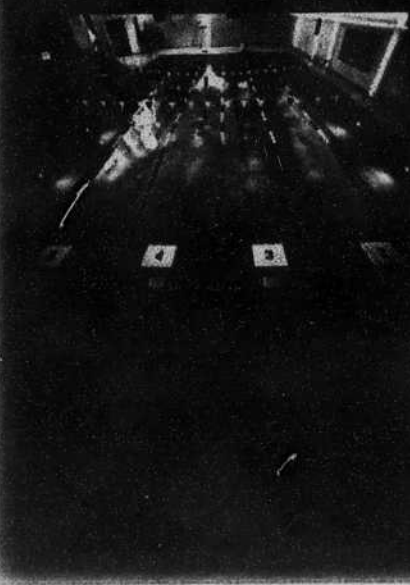
On CASA's social agenda, the organization will be holding its annual open-mic forum on Tuesday, November 8 at 9 p.m., on the front steps of the Coker Building. Take Back the Night is a nationally celebrated event in which people are encouraged to openly discuss their thoughts and experiences in a non-judgmental setting. Klabunde wants students to know that the events "are for everyone," and that, "people should attend even if they don't have a personal experience."

Meanwhile, stop by their offices and pick up the wallet-sized information card that offers phone listings for all area campus safety offices.



Hollins Celebrates Halloween

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GHOST MYTHS, MYSTERIES COME ALIVE HALLOWEEN

Halloween is always a mischievous, sometimes even downright spooky, time of the year. One always feels a little more wary to go and walk the loop at night, or walk to the library after it gets dark -- especially if they're on a campus surrounded by ghosts and ghouls.

Hollins is well known for its abundance of ghosts that have taken up residence on the campus. In almost every building on campus, rumors often fly about the possibility of ghosts choosing them for residency.

Randolph is an unpleasant surprise for freshman on the second floor. There, a mischievous ghoul likes to lock the door to a particular dorm room.

In the Green Drawing Room, located in Main, there is a rumor of a girl who shot herself. To this day, it's thought that if you look in the mirror, you might catch her looking back.

In West, there is a mischievous ghost who goes by the name Wicked West. He is often blamed for flickering lights, rearranging room, hiding tools, and throwing objects around.

In Presser, the ghost of a girl, killed by a professor after he proclaimed his love and was denied, still can be heard practicing on her piano.

Pleasant hosts its own ghost as well. When the building burned down, a professor was trapped in his third story office. After it was rebuilt, it was said that he could be seen inside his old office, with

the lights on after hours, doing endless amounts of office work.

In the dance rooms, it's said that if you turn the lights out while you are in there, you just may hear a girl still practicing her dancing.

In Starkie, which used to be the infirmary, some believe that a former nurse haunts ailing students to comfort them when sick.

Other ghosts also haunt the buildings around the campus, like Tinker, East, and Main, and it certainly leaves enough doubt to wonder if ghosts do exist and if so, are they haunting the campus to this very day?

On Sunday, Oct. 30, students and faculty gathered at the Forest of Arden to go on a ghost walk that left them with

goose bumps running up and down their arms. Beforehand, they enjoyed a fun atmosphere and the pleasant warmth of a campfire. Some participants enjoyed delicious s'mores, while others just chatted. Afterwards, they enjoyed a walk around campus, taking in the spectacular sites while Hollins' lore is shared. Prospective students also had the option of going with their hosts, if they so desired.

It was a fun way to celebrate the coming of Halloween. The interesting folk lure along with the companion of Hollins friends and the spooky feelings left behind made for an excellent way to celebrate a holiday dedicated to the ghost and black cats, while still keeping Hollins' traditions alive.

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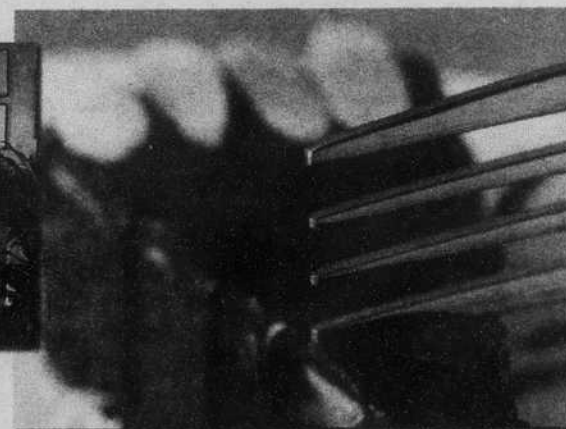
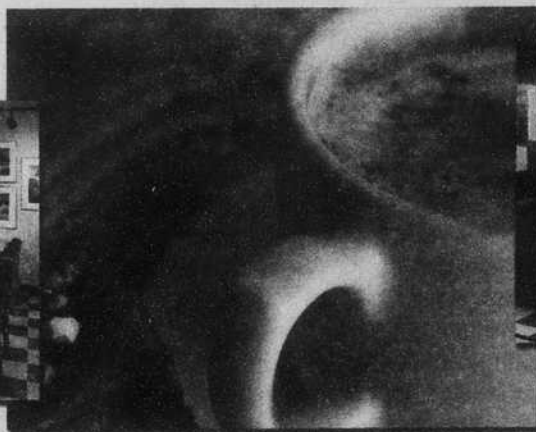
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GREETINGS FROM YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

We would like to begin with an apology for the delay in our second Hollins Columns Update. We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of our group activities during the month of October. Individual officers have been working on projects of their own during this time as well so I encourage you to attend Senate these last few weeks if you do not currently do so to hear our Semester Reports. In addition to the various meetings with different groups and individuals on campus such as Campus Safety, Computer Services, and the President's Cabinet to discuss your concerns, here is a brief resume of what we have been doing this past month and a preview of what is in store for November.

We told you in our last letter

that we were working on a project called "Traditions 101." Posters featuring the information we collected have been hung

SGA UPDATE

in Moody and are changed occasionally depending on the tradition. Take a look at the Ring Night poster currently on display for information about the activities and history of this much beloved tradition. Have fun and be safe this weekend!!

Also this month we launched a joint project with the Library staff to bring you a means to expand the current holdings at the Library to fit new student needs. There are applications available on the SGA website (available through the Hollinsnet) as well as the Library's site. You must include the titles and sources

for purchase in addition to how these materials will serve the greater campus community. Your application will be reviewed by a committee of students (mostly SGA) and Library staff. Please take advantage of this new opportunity to learn more about topics that your club or group of friends that you think we might all benefit from knowing more on the subject.

On October 21, SGA participated and won second place in the SHARE Olympiad. Our team of five Roundtable members and two staff members (Jennifer Slusher, Assistant Dean of Students, and Emilé Simpson, French Assistant) raised nearly \$100 dollars for RAM House and blew all the other teams (including the Sophomore Class, the Swim Team, the Field Hockey

Team, SHARE, and ADA) away with our incredible Cher impersonation and cheerleading skills.

As far as more official business is concerned, Roundtable invited Katie Lowe, SGA IT Coordinator, to join our weekly meetings for the remainder of the semester. Our hope is that this will help open our lines of communication via technology even further as well as strengthen student government's ties with Computer and Technology Services. Katie has been working hard this semester to get our website up-to-date and fully functional. Visit the site (<http://www1.hollins.edu/Docs/CampusLife/sga/index.html>) to download forms, submit a Senate Agenda form, get information concerning policies, and see what's up with

HAB or your class.

We would like to also thank each of you who participated in the initial steps of the strategic planning process. The senate sessions were a huge success thanks to your input and thoughtful suggestions. We are working currently to compile all these ideas along with individual submissions and club/residence hall reports into our final submission to the President on November 11th. Look forward to seeing that document posted on the website soon! The preliminary draft of the President's suggestions will be made available December 9th.

Finally, we would like to invite

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Grandin images taken from www.grandintheatre.com. Swimming pool image taken from www.hollins.edu.

COME OUT AND KNIT FOR CHARITY

BY EMILEIGH CLARE

Amy Grenier '08 started Knitting for Charity last January. This year a new group of students who knit or crochet are getting ready to sell various knitted items at a fundraiser on campus. The money earned from the sale is then donated to a charity chosen by the group.

"We have 6 to 8 individuals committed to helping out this year, though we are still looking for any one interested in helping out," Candace Norton '08 said.

Their first fundraiser took place in February of 2005 to celebrate and support AIDS awareness, and they raised over five hundred dollars.

Hand made scarves will be available at their next sale, as well as hats and possibly a few bags. Pricing depends on the type of yarn, the amount of yarn, and the cost of the yarn itself. But generally the prices will usually vary between \$7 and \$18 dollars.

This year they are donating their earnings to the National Mental Health Association.

A typical meeting involves this year's organizers Norton and Christine Bryant-Ryback '05 updating the other members

involved on new meeting dates and locations, how contact is going with the organization we're donating funds to, etc. Members enjoy it because at meetings consist of sitting around talking and knitting while the meeting is going on; it is a very relaxed atmosphere.

The sale will be a week before exams, December 6-8 in Moody; because the officers feel that there will be plenty of time for last minute holiday shopping for parents and friends.

"I enjoy working with Knitting for Charity because it is fun," Norton said. "I enjoy knitting and making things so it is an ideal way for me to make an effort to help an organization that doesn't always get the recognition it deserves."

Members feel that Hollins should be involved not only to help with the effort to raise money for the National Mental Health Association, but because it is a student endeavor. Almost all of the items that will be sold are made by Hollins students and Hollins community members.

"It's a great way to show appreciation for their skills while benefiting a good cause," Norton said.

HOLLINS ALUM DEMYSTIFIES LOCAL CELEBRITY

BY LAURA LATZKO

For one night only, former Hollins student Janet Lubas will give the Roanoke community a glance into the life and art of the Chicken man.

Lubas will be showing her documentary, *The Charles E. Cullen Story, A Tale of Savage Independence* at Roanoke's Grandin Theater on Thursday Nov. 10. The only viewing will begin at 9 pm and will cost \$7.50 a ticket.

Lubas' documentary was inspired by her boyfriend, Charles Cullen, who is often referred to as the Chicken man. He got the nickname because chickens were the topic of conversation several times on his television show. Viewers watching him on channel 19 started calling him "Chicken man" and he stuck with it.

The name does seem to fit him to a tee. He has written songs about chickens, made a movie about a rooster, entitled "Ray the Rooster," and even raised chickens in his spare time. He loves the animals so much that when he tried to give up being a chicken farmer last year, he couldn't do it. He ended up buying a new batch of baby chicks this past spring.

"The chicken theme has just kind of stuck with Charles," Lubas admitted. "He is so proud of those chickens. He once spent an entire day in the brooder house painting the walls. It was ninety degrees outside, and he was sweltering in this tiny little space."

Although Cullen is committed to his chickens, he is even more dedicated to his work. His full time job is working as a television performer, filmmaker, and singer.

On his channel 19 program, he does everything from tap dancing to talking to animals. The segment that has become

most popular with his viewers is his puppet show with mushrooms Keith and Bob. Some episodes of this show are "The Worst Puppet Show," "Local Livestock," and "Chicken Chat."

Cullen has produced eight films, all of which he has labeled and marketed as ultra violent. These productions are local products because several members of the Hollins community have made cameos in them, including Professor James Downey, Professor Dan Murphy, and Lubas herself, and they were all shot in Roanoke locations. One of the films Lubas appeared in was "The Day the Whole Fucking Earth Blew," which she confessed is her favorite, a social commentary in which a New Jersey couple and corrupt government officials try to save the world from aliens but end up making it worst.

Cullen has played an important role in both the Roanoke and Hollins community through his work. He performed on campus in 2001 with his band, which Professor Downey was a member of during that time, and has taught film and alternative media classes at Hollins. He also helped the Grandin Theater when it in danger of closing down. He did a performance there to a sold out crowd and then donated all the proceeds to the Grandin Foundation.

"Charles is important to the Roanoke community. For one thing he has remained fiercely loyal to this community," Janet said. "Sometimes I wonder why he doesn't up and leave for a place like New York, a place that is more embracing of independent artists."

In her documentary, Lubas explores how Cullen's unique style manifests itself in his works. Using a combination of interviews and footage from his live musical performances, and movies, and television shows, she has attempted to

give others insight into Cullen's creative process and the affect it has on his art.

"I wanted to learn more about that unique quality that sets his work a part from other artists and filmmakers," Lubas confessed when describing the purpose for her documentary. "I tried to create a final product that highlights how and why Charles creates."

Lubas started her project in February 2005 by interviewing people about Cullen. She talked with those individuals who had had experience working with him or had watched his television shows and films a number of times. Four Hollins professors, Klaus Phillips, Pinckney Benedict, James Downey, and Dan Murphy, appeared in the documentary.

According to Lubas, along with discussing Cullen and his different types of art, these professors also had "amusing anecdotes about what it's like to work with Charles," which she included in the final version of her film.

Lubas, who graduated from Hollins last May with bachelors' degrees in women's studies and political science, faced a few minor problems along the way. Although she had some help from her former roommate, April Seymore, who had taken a number of film classes, she had to do most of the editing herself. After finishing with all of the interviews, she had eight hours of footage to sift through.

She admitted that the editing process

was more than she expected and "with over eight hours of interview footage, eight movies, a number of taped live performances, and hundreds of TV shows to pull footage from, I often felt like I was drowning."

Lubas also encountered problems because she was using the same production company as her boyfriend, Cullen Studios. Computers, cameras, and editing equipment that Lubas wanted to work with were often tied up because Cullen was dubbing television shows at the same time as she was shooting the documentary.

Even with the difficulties that she faced along the way, Lubas expressed that shooting the film has been a rewarding process for her because of what she has been able to accomplish with this piece. Through the interviews and footage, she has been able to show the many sides of an artist that many audiences may not be aware of due to the violent and satiric nature of his television shows and films.

"Since Charles' work can at times be so seemingly absurd, I don't think many people have taken the opportunity to consider all he has done," Lubas admitted about Cullen's work. "In a way, Charles has retained a child-like quality to his personality that makes it practically impossible for him to repress himself."

If all goes well at the Grandin premiere on November 10th, Lubas plans to market her documentary more extensively and get it shown in as many venues as possible.



The Grandin Theatre in Roanoke provides indie movies as well as Hollywood projects. Pricing is less than at franchise theatres.

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AN EXPLANATION OF SOME POPULAR TRADITIONS

As the school year prolongs, many students may have noticed various traditions happening on the Hollins campus. From First Step to Tinker Day, some of the many traditions at Hollins have already occurred.

One of the very first traditions which occurs every school year is First Step. First Step is when Seniors take their first steps on the Front Quad, an area of grass with use limited to only Seniors.

Another tradition which occurs fairly early in the school year are Tinker Scares. Tinker Scares are when seniors try to trick first years that it is Tinker Day by parading throughout the campus banging pots and yelling.

Tinker Day is a surprise that occurs during the month of October. This year's occurred on Oct. 20. Seniors announce that it's Tinker Day and classes are canceled so students, staff, faculty, and administrators can climb Tinker Mountain wearing their tackiest outfits.

Anna Gifford, a first year said, "the hike

was really strenuous, but once you got to



Seniors Loren Tate, Jen Roberts and Christine Jehu play a fierce game of Family Feud for their Tinker Day '05 skit.

the top, the view made it all worthwhile." Once everyone is at the top of Tinker Mountain, everyone participates in class skits, songs, fried chicken, and Tinker cake. Emily Mendelssohn, a first year loved her first Tinker Day because "I

didn't have classes, I got to climb a mountain with my friends, and eat cake."

A popular upcoming tradition is Ring Night. On Ring Night, seniors secretly adopt junior ring sisters, who then must perform skits and demands in order to get their ring night basket full of presents.

A tradition that occurs at the end of the year is Cotillion. Cotillion occurs in May and has been

happening since the late 1800s. In the 1890s, Cotillion was a cheerful formal dance. There were no men due to social regulations at that time. Now, Cotillion is still a formal dance which occurs during a weekend in May. Other informal activities

occur during the weekend as well.

Traditions at Hollins are very important to the Hollins community. Anna Goodwin, Assistant to the Dean of Academic Services and Dean of Students, says upholding traditions is important because "they promote sisterhood on campus, bringing a sense of community and timelessness to being a part of Hollins."

Goodwin also said upholding the traditions at Hollins is also important for many students because "they can experience the same traditions as their mothers, grandmothers, aunts, or sisters who also attended."

Torey Lockwood, a first year said she likes the traditions at Hollins because "everyone gets into traditions so there's a real sense of community spirit."

Look for more traditions posters in Moody, coming soon from SGA.



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INSPIRATIONAL FILM PUTS EMPHASIS ON EQUALITY

BY HOPE ANGELA SWENSON

On a chilly Saturday night while my mom was visiting Roanoke, we decided to go to the movies. It was late and we weren't sure if we were awake enough to sit through a long film, but we decided to go for it anyway. I have been interested in the advertisements of the newest Charlize Theron film, of who I am a huge fan. So North Country was our pick and we were both wide-eyed for the 2 hour and 10 minute duration of the movie.

Josey (Theron - Monster, Cider House Rules) is a mother in her 30s living in Minnesota in the early 1980s. Being a victim of spousal abuse and thoroughly disgusted with her life, she packs her two children and all of their belongings into her old pick-up and moves north to live with her parents. After many attempts at holding down a job, she meets an old high school girlfriend, Glory (Frances McDormand - Almost Famous, Something's Gotta Give), who tells her about the work she is doing in an iron mine,

which makes her much more money than being a waitress or washing hair in a salon.

Glory is a strong, enduring woman, who stands her own with the men and is active in representing her female colleagues at the local union. Women have just gained the right to work in the mines, so there are just about 10 women working with hundreds of men.

Glory helps Josey begin her new job at the mine, doing various tasks that the men do not want to do. Josey and her two children move in with Glory because Josey's father works at the mine and is furious that his daughter is working alongside him because he knows all of the harassment she and their family will receive because of her new-found career.

As the days pass, Josey is appalled at the way she and the other females are being treated. She is harassed every day at work, then ridiculed at public events in the community, and her teenage son won't talk to her. However she is making enough

money to put a down payment on a modest house.

Josey attempts to meet with her boss and even the owner of the mine to discuss the unfair workplace treatment, but she has no success. With rage causing her blood to boil, she meets a hometown man (Woody Harrelson), who is a lawyer. She asks him to represent her in court as she attempts to bring about the first class-action law suit for sexual harassment. But Josey is faced with the challenge of gaining the support from her female colleagues who do not want to make a spectacle of their unfair treatment because their job is their way of life, their survival.

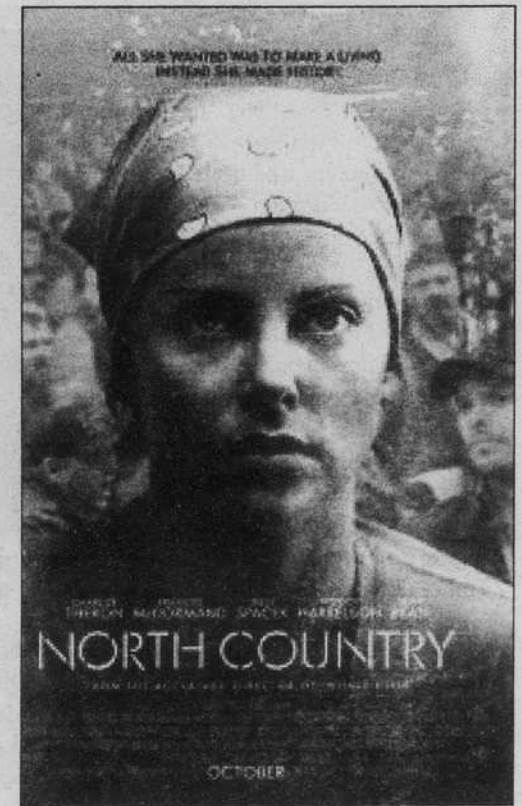
With Josey's unyielding passion to gain respect and equality, she works wholeheartedly towards her goal. At times, she is blindsided by her past, and must work diligently to gain credibility from those community members who thought they knew her, but turns out, they had no idea about her true character.

This film is very sexually

graphic, which drills into the viewers' brain the immense sexual harassment towards women that occurred in a male dominated workplace.

Based on actual events and the book "Class Action: The Landmark Case that Changed Sexual Harassment Law", North Country brings to life the hardships of a working class single mother in the 1980s. Josey is simply struggling for equality, safety and dignity in the workplace so she can be a good mother, daughter, friend, and citizen.

North Country made me furious, but at the same time, I was inspired and uplifted by Josey's determination. This film is definitely encouraging for



anyone who has set out for a goal, but was sideswiped with oppression and continued to plough through the problems, no matter what the obstacles may be.

WE HAVE VOICES AND SOME EVEN PAY TUITION

Every semester I find myself walking back and forth from the business office to the financial aid office, desperately trying to get a hold taken off my record so I can register for classes. It's not that far of a walk, but when two offices don't seem to fully understand which one deals with certain student issues, and subsequently waste students' time, it becomes a problem that is explained only by the casual "Oh, the administration is just tangled up in red tape."

When registration week comes along, I always find myself being directed to first one office then the other, having been told that the holds on my record - which don't allow me register for classes online or see my transcript - are either a business office problem or something related to my financial aid package. And half the time that little "o/s" (outstanding balance)



Laura Smith
News Editor

statement that has stapled itself onto my bills can't even be explained.

Often my phone messages aren't returned, and the holds I'm told have been taken off my record are still there a week

later. Last semester I called the business office three times and never heard a response. Finally, the last day I could add a class, I called my mother ranting about how I didn't know how to get a hold off my record and I wouldn't be able to enroll in the class I wanted to take. My mother then called the business office and 45 minutes later it magically disappeared.

How is this sudden removal of a hold simply because an authority figure made a telephone call conducive to the whole "women who are going places start at Hollins" motto, when these "women" are treated as students whose concerns aren't even addressed but rather ignored? Why did it take my mother's voice to make a difference on my account? Is it merely because it's assumed she pays the college bill?

I find it rather disturbing that on a

campus that promotes women's advocacy, students' monetary problems are often ignored. I know this example may seem a little ludicrous, but if I'm having a problem merely getting a hold taken off my account, what does that say for the larger issues I see for the university and want to address?

Are those going to be ignored as well, only to be re-evaluated when someone who seems to be carting purse-strings affirms my complaint? How is this encouraging student advocacy, when student concerns don't even seem to be a top priority?

I'm tired of being silenced. Not only when it comes to a hold on my account, but the permeating whisper of "Shh, we can't talk about that," that seems to have blanketed itself on our campus. As those secretive posters cry: "Who runs this school?" We do. Don't we?

FOCUS ACTIVISM ON SOMETHING WORTHWHILE

There have been a lot of changes in dynamics at Hollins this year. Maybe it has to do with the strategic planning sessions at Senate, or the feeling of change that comes with a new president. But for whatever reason, I feel like people are talking more about positive change at Hollins. This is a good thing. Who isn't for positive change? But I can't help but feel like much of it is either pointless or misguided.

Let's start with the new Activist Scoundrels group. You've probably seen their posters plastering the walls of Pleasants asking, "Who runs this campus?" and "When was the last time you missed a campus event to watch 'The O.C.?'"

These aren't bad. A little melodramatic maybe but at least they get some discussion going. Although I have to say that after discovering Netflix earlier this semester, I watched the entire first season of *One Tree Hill* in a week and still found time to attend Senate, a HAB meeting and spend an entire Sunday in appointment board while doing so.

Then there's the underclassmen group



Julia Knox
Editor-in-Chief

(publicly nameless so far, although many have assumed they're the Activist Scoundrels. For this column we will assume they're different.) who do such rebellious things as -- wait for it -- take apart the senior table!

Omigod!! The tables were moved five feet away from each other!! The 10 seniors who come to breakfast ate at round tables!! However will anyone find the 30 seconds it takes to push them back together??

Um, as the seniors said on the rock in response "whatever, whatever."

Besides, aren't there more important

things to worry about on campus than a table? Just wondering.

And speaking of having more important things to worry about, I'd like to direct you to a recent HAB meeting. At the meeting before Fall Formal, we were warned of a campus crackdown on underage drinking. OK, underage drinking is illegal and I'm not writing this column to condone it. But is this seriously the biggest issue we can think of to crack down on?

As indicated by last semester's article on the abuse of ADD medication, people are shoving Adderall up their nose on a daily basis and, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, the rate of cocaine use among college students is the highest it's been since the 1980s. Hollins is not immune to these problems, and I'm 99 percent sure the administration is aware of it. There was a question about recent Adderall abuse on my Public Relations midterm last semester. There's also a Power Point printout warning of the dangers of cocaine conveniently located in the campus-central apartment laundry room. But it probably wouldn't look too good for our image if we had any cocaine

arrests on campus, so I guess we should find something else to focus on.

That's my problem with trying to change things on campus - either we don't do anything to back up our "activism," or we ignore the things that we really need to act on. As I previously stated, I am all for some positive change. But if we really want to enforce the change, perhaps we should make sure we can back up all our talk with some action. And let's make sure that action means something. It shouldn't be just another thing for students to roll their eyes at.

P.S. This whole column might seem kind of negative, so in the spirit of celebrating the positive: I'm a huge fan of Dean Alison Ridley and the vast majority of Student Services, I think Health Services has an unfair reputation, I'm extremely happy that Christine Jehu has cut down on story time at Senate, Kate Sayers is working extremely hard to improve HAB and I think Nancy Gray is a wonderful addition to Hollins.

DEAR EDITOR: GREETINGS FROM FREYA

Dear Editor,

The members of Freya wish to welcome the Hollins community back to campus and celebrate the arrival of the Class of '09, incoming transfer students, as well as new additions to Hollins' faculty and staff. We would like to take this opportunity to explain our often misunderstood organization's traditions, goals, and purpose.

Freya was founded at Hollins in 1903 by a group of students who felt that there should be an organization which would strive to represent the institution's high ideals. Over the last 102 years Freya has been many things, including an honor society and, until the early

50s, acted as the May Day planning committee. When May Day was discontinued Freya established the Founders Day forum to stimulate and encourage academic pursuits within the student body. Our records suggest that members of Freya have been working to promote women's equality and affirmative action long before the heyday of such issues.

Currently we see ourselves as an organization dedicated to anonymous service. We support and further enhance the efforts of existing organizations while remaining responsive to unmet needs. Concrete examples of our support include our scholarship fund and the Emergency

Relief Fund available to members of the community experiencing medical, academic, or transportation crises. You may have already witnessed our best known tradition, the late-night walks that serve to draw attention to significant events and heighten awareness of issues relevant to us all. We choose to continue the tradition of wearing black robes during our walks, not only to ensure our anonymity but also to symbolize our existence as a cohesive whole. Each walk is a contemplative act and gesture of goodwill to the Hollins community, many members of which choose to stay up late and observe the walks. At one time, for instance, it was

customary for students to turn their dorm room lights out so that Freya's white candles, symbolizing faith and hope, could be seen more brightly.

"But in the discrepancy that falls between what one could be and what one is, there lies the great challenge..."

We invite you to take part in this challenge with us. If there are any issues or concerns that you feel are neglected, we urge you to let us know by contacting freya@hollins.edu or Jan Fuller Carruthers, our faculty advisor and community contact person: jfuller_carruthers@hollins.edu

Sincerely,
The Members of Freya

SGA UPDATE

Continued from p.3

you to join a new discussion on campus about the latest topics of concern and debate. We have initiated a new program on our website called "Question of the Week." The idea sprung from the highly productive Senate sessions about strategic planning to continue these dialogues through other means. Each week a new question will be posted on the SGA website along with the responses to the previous week's question. To start things off on a positive note we are asking you to share your favorite Hollins experience or memory. Future topics will include

ideas to improve student life and events you would like to see brought to campus. Of course, if you have any suggestions for topics or just want to contact us please do not hesitate to email us at sga@hollins.edu or visit us in our office on the second floor of Moody.

We wish you a productive few weeks and a very relaxing Thanksgiving Break!!

Cheers!
Gwen Fernandez '06
SGA President

SWIM TEAM DIVES INTO THE NEW SEASON

BY KATIE LOWE

Swimmers, stand up. Take your marks. Bang!

And with that those words the 2005-2006 Hollins University (HU) swim season began. With two meets already under their belt, this year's HU swim team has the possibility of having on the best records in years. This year's swim team is coached by Lynda J. Calkins, the athletic director at Hollins University.

On October 22, 2005, HU held its first meet, its annual Green & Gold meet. This match was an intra-quad meet. The meet followed the typical collegiate format, but instead of swimming another school Hollins competed against Hollins.

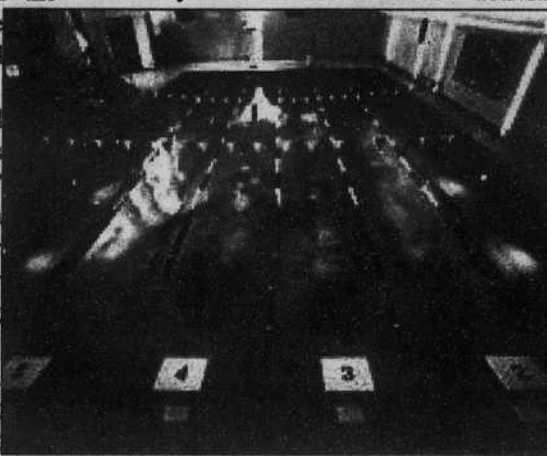
In the Green & Gold meet two students are chosen to be the

coaches of each team. This year days a Week." Megan Hennessey coached the green team and Emmaline Simpson coached the gold team.

Both Hennessey and Simpson said coaching "was a wonderful experience." Hennessey said "As a coach it was great to see my friends swimming in new events and really testing themselves."

In the Green & Gold meet, along with the swimming competition, has a song and cheer competition. For this, both teams had to create a song and cheer to show their team spirit. The green team won the cheer competition. The gold team however, won the song contest with their unique rendition of the Beatles "Eight

This year's Green & Gold



Swim season has started!

meet had an extra element of entertainment. Since the intra-quad meet was held during Family Weekend, the parents and siblings of the HU swim

team participated in various activities. During the song and cheer competition the parents served as judges in an "American Idol" type fashion. Each parent chose one of the judges to act like and the winner was determined by whichever team received the most votes.

Family members also had the chance to get in the pool during the meet. There was a pumpkin relay and an inner tube relay in which the family members raced. The parents gave the swimmers a run for their money, but the Hollins ladies came out victorious.

Cortney Phillips, one of the first-years on the team said, "The Green & Gold meet was a lot of

fun especially as a newcomer to the team. It was great to see everyone swim and cheer each other on in such a relaxed environment. It made me really look forward to future meets."

According to Coach Calkins "this year's Green and Gold Meet will go into the record books."

The ladies of the HU swim team not only swam some of their fastest times ever, but everyone had a lot of fun too. The HU swim team this year is comprised of nine seniors, one junior, four sophomores, and four first-years.

The Hollins University swim team also won their first inter-collegiate meet against College of Notre-Dame with a score of Hollins 132 and College of Notre Dame 113.

DEAR EDITOR: RESPECT SENIORS

Dear Some Members of the Class of 2009,

Ladies, ladies, ladies, what has gotten into you? It's the first semester of your college experience, and already you have made enemies of an entire class! I sincerely hope none of you are planning on going into politics.

Now, I realize that it might be hard for you to accept, but you are First-Years. This means that you can't do some things, like paint the rock, sit at the Senior table, or walk on Front Quad. You also don't have to write a thesis yet, take anything over 100-200 level classes, and you don't have the awful burden of being 21 and having to drink at every opportunity. It's very sad for you, I know, having four years left at our wonderful school to participate in long-standing, class-related traditions. But this is not a Lindsay Lohan movie (fortunately, because I don't think a winter full of short-skirt related pneumonia would be all that fun) and we do not express our issues by publicly defacing Senior items.

Perhaps you should think about therapy; do you know we, as Hollins students, get six free counseling sessions? And that's not a senior thing, you can participate too!

You clearly have some identity issues—you put posters up in Moody, which is not a Senior thing, but a Juniors-during-Ring-Night thing. So you can't even make up your mind as to which upper class you want to be.

The thing is, unless all of you suddenly pull about 24 AP credits out of somewhere smelly, you can't be a Senior. You can, however, enjoy your First-Year experience, and before you know it, you'll be dealing with a Mean-Girls-inspired, Lifetime-movie-channeling, drama-causing Class of 2012 painting *your* rock and dismantling the place where *you* eat breakfast.

And by the way, just because Tinker Scars are over doesn't mean the Seniors are just going to sit by like Soccer Moms with behaviorally challenged children, remarking on how your rebellious phase is just "so cute."

Cordially,
Some Members of the Class of 2006

PS If you aren't into traditions, I hear that most Community Colleges in Virginia don't have them. Maybe you should try there?

DEAR EDITOR: SLEEP AT HOME

Dear Editor,

A large reason I chose to attend Hollins was to experience classroom vitality at its fullest—active debate and lively conversation, with students who genuinely care about the subjects they are discussing.

Unfortunately, a noticeably growing trend around Hollins is that of the sleeping student. In most of my classes, there are always several women who can be found snoring away. Some seem to have even inadvertently scheduled classes during their designated nap time, as these students doze during every single session of a particular class.

Working three jobs while attending school full-time, I fully understand the various pressures that can contribute to sleep deprivation. However, I don't think those students who nod off in class understand the full repercussions of

their carelessness. Aside from offending or upsetting professors who may feel discouraged by the lack of enthusiasm, it diminishes everyone's overall classroom experience. I am especially disheartened to find that repeat offenders are not embarrassed about their behavior, as they continue to nap through class time and time again.

Sleeping in class is rude and disrespectful. To the perpetual napper, please...if you can't stay awake, go back to your bed; it is no doubt more comfortable than a desk anyway. Do not subject everyone else to your indifference. And to the Hollins community at large, I implore the following: if you are not pleased with your academic environment, express your dismay to your professors, or better yet, directly to the students who are devaluing your learning experience.

Sincerely,
Heather St. Clair '06

Got something to say? Send a letter to
hollinscolumns@hollins.edu

Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the
Hollins Columns or its staff members.