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Hollins Columns

February 28, 2006

Hollins University

Volume X, Issue X

“LIFE IS A CABARET, OLD CHUM”

BY EMILEIGH CLARE

The decadence of Berlin on the eve of the Hitler's rise to power will come to life in all its excesses when the theater department stages their spring production of the groundbreaking musical “Cabaret” this weekend, Thursday-Sunday, April 6-9.

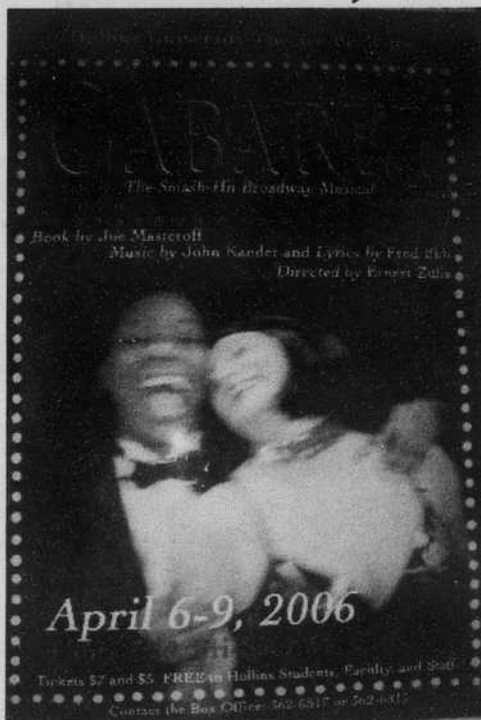
“It's going to be a great show,” Stella Snell '09 (who's playing the character Faulein Kost) said. “It's relatively, and by relatively I mean pretty damn raunchy, and incredibly entertaining and anyone who comes to see it is bound to have a lot of fun.”

A dark tribute to Weimar-era Berlin decadence, “Cabaret” finds its source material in the stories of Christopher Isherwood, who captured both the grandeur and the savagery of the years leading to the Nazi party's ascension in Germany in his book “The Berlin Stories.” Also pivotal to the musical are the songs by composer John Kander and lyricist Fred Ebb, who created the award-winning score for “Cabaret” and are well-known for their recent film and stage hit, “Chicago.” They are recipients of numerous Tony Awards.

The plot revolves around Sally Bowles, a flamboyant performer at the infamous Kit Kat Club. When a young American novelist, Clifford Bradshaw arrives in Berlin looking for another story, he meets Sally Bowles and they begin a tragic love affair as their world crumbles around them with the rise of the Third Reich.

Originally staged in 1966, the show went on to gain even greater fame with the 1972 film adaptation, directed by Bob Fosse and starring Liza Minelli as the vivacious Sally Bowles. The film version earned multiple Oscars including best motion picture, best actress, Liza Minnelli, and best supporting actor, Joel Grey.

“Cabaret” went on to play 1,165 per-



formances on Broadway at the Broadhurst, Imperial and Broadway theaters and for 336 performances in London at the Palace Theatre. It was revised for Broadway, first in 1987 and played for 261 performances at the Imperial and Minskoff Theatres, and most recently in 1998 at Studio 54, where it played for 2,377 performances. The fame of the show has been contributed to the dazzling display of excesses in a world falling down.

“This is one of Hollin's biggest productions in probably more than 25 years. To be part of it in anyway is an honor,” Assistant Director Moria Glace '08 said.

According to “The Grapevine”, the cast of Cabaret features 24 Hollins students, as well as three professional guest artists. Additional male performers are from Radford and Liberty universities.

The auditions for the roles were back in November. Those auditioning

had to prepare at least 32 bars of a song, and a monologue. There was a dance audition as well where participants were split up into two groups to learn a small choreographed dance section, which was then performed in smaller groups for the choreographer. Then there were callbacks, which lasted several days. Certain people were called back to read for different roles or sing a particular number. The process basically followed the typical format for auditions in the theater.

Work for “Cabaret” began in February. Actors began their rehearsals and set design began the blue print process.

“Now looking back on the whole technical process,” Susie Vollandt '07 said. “It's totally worth everything going into it. I spent over 30 hours in the theater working, and to see the finished project, it is so fulfilling.”

The sets and lights were designed by renowned Roanoke designer John Sailer, and costumes by Jennifer Ruhland. Dance numbers are staged by Jennifer Davies Mansfield of Roanoke Ballet Theatre and Kristen O'Neal and Susan Honer, both graduate students in the dance department. Musical direction is by Kerry Morgiewicz, who has just turned over the baton to New York conductor Amy Jones. She is expect-

See Cabaret on Page 4



Cabaret rehearsal with the Kit Kat girls. Photo by Emileigh Clare

A Trip to Ireland



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Spring Break Pictures



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Movie Reviews



Page 6

Hollins Health Fair 2006

On Thursday, April 6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Health and Counseling Center will sponsor its annual Health Fair offering valuable information and free samples from the following organizations.

The exhibitors will be located in the Ballator and Mary Rowland rooms in the Moody Center. Come for education, free massages, beauty advice, fun, and free food!

Please join us and qualify for some great door prizes like a Sony Sound System from the Hollins University Bookstore!!

Exhibitors Include:

Affiliated Rehab
AA / Al-Anon
Carilion Health Services
Chiropractor
Council of Community Service
Dancing Crane Center of Chinese Medicine
Good Samaritan Hospice
Heartnet of VA
Markel Insurance
Nature's Outlet
Out Right
Planned Parenthood
Pzaz Day Spa
Roanoke County Police Dept
SARA
Spinal & Orthopedic Rehab Center

Hollins University Groups:

- Athletic Dept.
- Bacchus
- CASA
- Health & Counseling
- HOP
- OUTloud
- Office of Chaplain
- SHARE
- SRLA

Screenings Offered:

Blood sugar
Blood pressure
Skin Cancer
Fat Jars
Depression/Anxiety
Alcohol
Eating Disorders

CAREER CORNER

Senior Transition Programs

Location: Moody Center, Goodwin Private Dining Room

Thursday, April 6 5:30 p.m.

Car Maintenance: A Little Prevention Can Save Big \$\$
6:30 p.m.

Employment Benefits Package: Never Underestimate the Value!

Tuesday, April 11 5:30 p.m.

First Year on the Job: Hollins alumnae will discuss (all alum night!) workplace etiquette, boundaries, & "office politics." Guest alum include Emily Allen, Dannette Beane, and Lauren Perea.

6:30 p.m.

Temp Your Way to Success! Lauren Perea '85, senior sales executive at Ardell Associates, will talk about the value of working temp and temp-to-perm jobs. At the end of this session, Lauren would like to meet with seniors seeking employment in Northern Virginia and Washington, DC which are areas served by Ardell Associates.

Summer Internships Abound!

Alaska State Parks Program

Congressman Bob Goodlatte (Roanoke and DC offices)

Summer Study Internship Program, Boston University

The Cedars Academy, Bridgeville, DE

Center for Pediatric Therapies, Lynchburg (PT and OT)

Center in the Square, Roanoke

CIA Directorate of Operations (open to sophomores)

Childhelp USA, Fairfax, VA

Circuit City, Richmond (rising seniors)

The Corwin House, Salem, MA

Creative Time, New York City

These are just the A, B, and Cs- more in the CDC Internship Notebook.

One-Year Business Internship in London

The Mountbatten Internship Programme is offering young Americans with a bachelor's degree the opportunity to pursue a 12-month internship in the business environment of a London-based organization. The program is dedicated to the promotion of educational and business links between the USA and the UK. For further information, including details of how to apply, visit the website at www.mountbatten.org, or email mkemp@mountbatten.org.

Summer Jobs

Tutor/Counselor, Upward Bound, Roanoke College

Naturalist Instructor, Stone Environmental School, NH

Girl Scouts of Shawnee Council, Martinsburg, WV

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Williamsburg, VA

Kiawah Island Golf Resort, SC

Camp Rim Rock for Girls, Yellow Spring, WV

Visions Vacation Camp for the Blind, New York

Wyonegonic Camps, Denmark, ME

Camp Cayuga coed camp, Pocono Mountains

All Saints' Episcopal Camp, KY

The Camp (Christian), Otter Lake, NH

Camp Illahee, NC

Camp Chanco, Surry, VA

INTERNSHIP WITH LOCAL COLORS PROGRAM IN ROANOKE

Local Colors organizes the annual Local Colors festival and other year-round programs. Intern applicants should be interested in international affairs, languages, and/or event organizing, with a strong interest in people of all cultures. Responsibilities would be to assist Pearl Fu, the executive director, and would include computer and paperwork; assistance with programs including afterschool, YMCA and nursing home programs; and, ideally, an intern who could work this semester to help prepare for May's festival as well as through the summer.

Interested students should contact Tina Rolan in the Career Development Center at x6272.

Tina Rolan

Director, CDC

TRIP TO IRELAND BRINGS CHOIR TOGETHER

BY KAITLIN SPAS

The Hollins Concert Choir took a trip to Ireland during J-term this year. While there they had the opportunity to perform in several different venues and visit places such as Killarney and Kilkenny.

When asked about their favorite performances the choir members interviewed brought up the energetic, supportive audience in the Methodist church in Kilkenny and the historic beauty of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Other highlights of the trip center around Ireland's scenic landscapes. The Hollins choir members spoke of falling in love with Ireland's acres of

rolling green hills, the castles, the churches, and rocky shores. Ashley Grizzard remembered, "My favorite experience outside performing was visiting the cliffs of Mo-hair. It was beautiful and you could see all the way to the separate island of Ireland."

Choir members also experienced more everyday things. Friendly gatherings in pubs for example, and traditional food such as fish and chips and a variety of sauces. They heard some traditional Irish folk music, some of which was sung to them (along with a few Johnny Cash tunes) by their bus-driver Joe.

The choir was escorted on this adventure by professors

Judith Cline and Esther Yoo.

Yoo, the choir director, is new to Hollins this year. Under her direction the choir's style has undergone a dramatic change, but one which the students see as positive.

Jenny Shelton, a veteran choir member and a music major says that under Yoo the choir has become more challenging, but in a good way, "We respect her, and she is a great conductor."

This seems to be the general feeling the choir has for their director, one student saying simply, "Professor Yoo is Amazing."



The choir poses in Ireland during January short term.

Photo By: Rachael McGuire

Hollins Columns 2005 - 2006

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 News Editor - *Rachael McGuire*
 Features Editor - *Heather St. Clair*
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Julia Knox
Miranda Dennis

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

All uncredited photos are taken from the www.hollins.edu

The Columns Staff would like to remind you that the April Fool's edition is a tradition at Hollins.

A Q&A WITH THE QUADRANGLE STAFF

BY RACHAEL MCGUIRE

The anonymous staff of The Quadrangle recently met to collectively answer some questions about their publication.

What makes The Quadrangle unique?

The Quadrangle is different from other Hollins University publications in its willingness to print any and all opinion pieces submitted to us. We're meant to be an alternative publication for students. We have committed ourselves to articulating personal truths, however subjective, and feel as though this is as valid as any journalistic endeavor.

Who selects the actual staff, and how many people involved?

The staff of The Quadrangle consists of ten people. We can not say how many of those write and how many do not, as this would jeopardize anonymity. Some members write and some do not. However, it is safe to say that we have a truly diverse staff - in terms of opinions,

approach, and experience on the Hollins campus.

Have any significant changes in HU policy come from an article in The Quadrangle?

No specific changes in HU policy have come as of yet, though we have only existed for a month's time. However, one contributor, Amy Dixon '09, has been in a dialogue with Health Services in regards to the dissemination of their information.

Who decided to restore The Quadrangle after such a long absence from Hollins life?

A number of students decided to reinstate The Quadrangle. We would rather not use names, as we hope to be a face for students and would rather not serve as a vehicle for name brand activism.

What do you hope The Quadrangle brings to Hollins' students?

We hope that students find a new idea or perspective in our pages and that they feel empowered to engage not only with us, but with each other.

MEET SOME OF NEXT YEAR'S SGA REPRESENTATIVES



Erika Ogier '08 Co-Treasurer

Q: Why did you apply for this position?

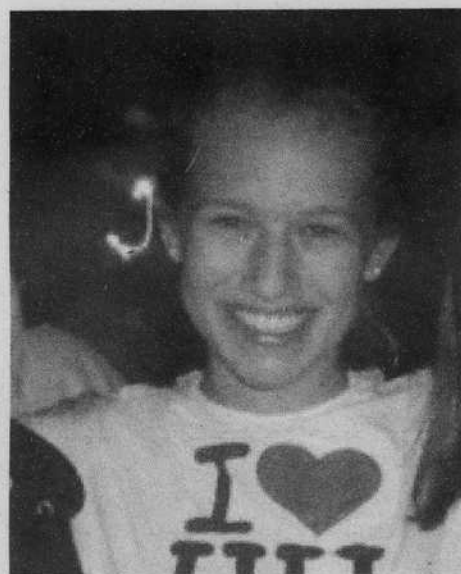
A: I applied as an appointment for treasurer earlier this year. I wasn't given it but Ferima asked me to help her out for next year and I was more than willing to.

Q: What is one of your favorite things about Hollins?

A: I love the creative and talented people that I've met, professors and students alike.

Q: What is something you love about the soon-to-be junior class?

A: I would say how active we are in the Hollins Community and how committed we are to improving it. Plus...lets face it...we're fun girls...



Laura Bieging '09 President

Q: Why did you apply for this position?

A: I applied for this position because I really enjoyed doing it this year and want to continue my involvement with SGA.

Q: What is one of your favorite things about Hollins?

A: One of my favorite things about Hollins is its traditions.

Q: What are your goals for the upcoming school year in regards to the class of '07?

A: I would like to get more people in the class involved and excited about events on campus.



Christie Houser '08 VP

Q: Why did you apply for this position?

A: I really enjoyed this past year working with my class. Our class has such a great spirit and many great ideas. I love to hear their concerns and find a way to help them.

Q: What is one of your favorite things about Hollins?

A: One of my favorite things about Hollins is the importance of students voice and how much we can get involved

Q: What is something you love about the soon-to-be junior class?

A: I love our class because we are all great leaders and don't just sit back and complain we try to make a difference

Q: What is something you love about the soon-to-be junior class?

A: I love our class because we are all great leaders and don't just sit back and complain we try to make a difference.

Q: What event would you like to see occur (or what is something that can make a traditional event even better) on-campus?

A: I think the different groups at Hollins are doing a great job at setting up events and planning some fun things but what I want to see if the student body go out and enjoy them.



Candice Dalton '07 President

Q: Why did you apply for this position?

A: I applied for the office of president because I know that I can make a positive contribution to Hollins University and the Class of 2007. Hollins has a tremendous history of educating strong and intelligent women. Our class has many young ladies with a lot to say. As class president, it is my goal to make sure that their voices are heard. The senior class president is also responsible for helping plan and organizes our alumnae reunions. I will make certain ours are great!

Q: What is one of your favorite things about Hollins?

A: One of my favorite things about Hollins is how proud I am to tell people I am a student at Hollins. We have so much to be proud of...the fantastic educational opportunities; the "small school" atmosphere; the exposure to the arts; century old traditions; the beautiful campus; and of course, the great students. I am proud to go to the oldest women's university in Virginia.

Q: What is something you love about the soon-to-be senior class?

A: I love our individuality. We are a very diverse group of young women with unlimited potential.

Continued from page 1

CABARET MEETS HOLLINS

ing twins on April 10. As for student leadership, Glace and Sunshine Manderbach '07 are the assistant directors. Vollandt is in charge of the set.

"Cabaret" is directed by professional stage director Ernest Zulia, who is serving as visiting chair of the theater department.

"It is thrilling to work on such a powerful piece of theater with this wonderfully talented group of students and professionals. 'Cabaret' is one of the most entertaining musicals

ever written, and its thought provoking ideas are more relevant than ever in today's world," Zulia said in an interview to "The Grapevine."

Performances are Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors, and are free for Hollins students, faculty and staff. For details call the Hollins Theatre Box Office at 362-6517.



Allison Butt '07 and friend stand outside "Grand Ole Opry" in Nashville, TN.



Kathryn McKellar '05, Nicole Jupp '06, Corinne Everett '06, and Sarah Poulton '06 stand next to a horse in Charleston, SC.



Kathryn McKellar '05, Nicole Jupp '06, Corinne Everett '06, and Sarah Poulton '06 stand on a pier during their visit to Charleston, SC.



Allison Butt '07 and Fred Whiteman '07 stand in a restaurant during their trip to Nashville, TN.

“MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS” A SUCCESS

BY RACHAEL MCGUIRE

Set in London before and during the World War II era, “Mrs. Henderson Presents” is the true story of Laura Henderson (Judi Dench), a newly widowed noble who impulsively decides to buy the condemned Windmill Theatre as a hobby. Laura hires vivacious Vivian van Damm (Bob Hoskins) to produce a revue cleverly titled “Revudeville.” Van Damm demands absolute creative control, which becomes problematic since Laura is strong-willed. As the production succeeds, every theater in the area begins to adopt new revues, and the Windmill loses its audience.

To avoid closing, Laura, influenced by the ever-popular showgirls in France, proposes to use nude actresses in the revue. This presents a problem, because London in the 1940s is very high-brow and anti-public nudity. Fortu-

nately, the Lord Chamberlain, (Christopher Guest) who makes all the decisions regarding what is proper for the London stage, is an old friend of Laura's. She convinces him that the revue will be exactly like viewing art in a museum. Chamberlain allows the nudity provided none of the girls move, because movement would just be too naughty.

As “Revudeville” continues to entertain soldiers from all over the world, the war escalates and London suffers much damage due to bombing. The Windmill remains open in spite of the danger to show Hitler that he will not succeed in shutting London down.

This movie battles the ridiculous idea that the naked human body is dirty. There is absolutely nothing sexual about the nudity, and aside from “Schindler's List” and a few select others, this is

the only movie I've seen that shows a naked man. Most American movies tend to discourage male nudity and exploit females, probably as a

dramatic, and musical styles into one movie. He doesn't overdo any one of the three genres, but uses them together to create a master-

she appears on the screen wearing her big hat with her miniature Dachshund tucked under her arm, the audience knows exactly who Laura Henderson is. Dench is commanding and obviously a well-rounded actress. Her heartwarming speech about her son is both heartbreaking and inspiring. She's funny, sharp and the core of the movie.

Bob Hoskins is the perfect compliment to Dench. Their chemistry is unmistakable. Van Damm has just enough heart to be human and more bite than necessary, and Hoskins is ideal for this role. He's also not afraid to shed his clothes for the camera.

This movie did not disappoint me at all. I highly recommend it for those who don't mind a bit of British humor and a few naked women.



found at: www.google.com

way to keep male dominance alive, but the British don't seem to have that problem.

Stephen Frears is a filmmaking genius. He manages to incorporate comedic,

piece. The fact that the movie was drawn from a true story makes it even more intriguing.

Judi Dench is extremely believable. From the moment

V: A PRETTY GOOD GUY

BY MIRANDA DENNIS

My love for “V for Vendetta” is strong, so strong that I feel it necessary to inform you of this bias up front. I like this movie so much that people may already be sick of hearing about it from me; I might even read the graphic novel on which it's based, just out of love. And for the sake of disclosure: this movie appealed greatly to my bleeding heart sensibilities, which covers everything from depictions of solidarity and empowerment to criticism of the rhetoric of powerful leaders. But wait! Does this mean, then, that if one's heart does not bleed profusely, one can not enjoy “V for Vendetta”? Oh, no, I would never say that. After all, how could I get you on my side if I scare you off?

Imagine first of all a film where the hero's face is entirely obscured by a Guy Fawkes mask. Now, for those of you who aren't on top of your British history, Guy Fawkes was involved in the Gunpowder

Plot of 1605, in which he and his coconspirators attempted to blow up Parliament. Fawkes was found out and hanged for treason, and in “V for Vendetta,” Fawkes serves as a symbol of V's personal philosophy regarding justice. Come now, a masked figure whose every other line is perfectly quoteable for justice-loving people in search of credos? What's not to love? As V says when facing death (as he tends to do throughout the film), “Beneath this mask there is more than flesh. There is an idea...and ideas are bulletproof.” Whoa, that's going to be my credo from now on. Ideas are bulletproof.

V takes justice into his own hands in a world that is controlled by fear, by surveillance, by pestilence, by the greedy and the corrupt, the usual terrifying elements of a powerful dystopia. He blows up a building; he threatens to blow up Parliament. Pretty straight-forward. Enter a young woman by the name of Evey Hammond, an average woman (played

by Natalie Portman) with a quiet life and, of course, a troubled history. Look at the plot: by inserting the lovely Natalie Portman into a film centered on dystopias and a Guy Fawkes-esque hero, we have the perfect combination for emotional attachment to a film. That's all I'm advocating: that you, reader, pay 6.50 (student discount!), grab some popcorn, wade through previews, and watch a movie about empowerment.

Empowerment may be a buzzword on this campus, but it's important to be reminded of that. For all of you who are put off by the film's blatant critique of the war on terrorism (oops, have I said too much), know that at the very least we can all do what I did: assume “V for Vendetta” was created for Hollins loyalists to remind us of solidarity, of fighting for what you believe in, and of dramatic songs drifting from a jukebox as sexual tension builds between a masked hero and a bald heroine. So Hollins!



found at: www.google.com

A FEW THINGS I MISS ABOUT THE US

Today is April 2, which means I can officially say that I return to the U.S. next month. This seems unbelievably soon, especially I feel like we've only been here for two weeks.

I'll undeniably miss London and many things about going abroad (new friends, finding yourself barefoot on the street after leaving a club being socially acceptable, the opportunity to experience sketchy sexually ambiguous Ventian gondoliers with a tendency to take off their pants, etc.). But at the same time, I have to say that there are things about the U.S. that I definitely wish Britain would find useful. Therefore, the other day while I was nursing my cocktail of Diet Coke and painkillers (my foot is fractured, no need for alarm), I came up with my list of things I'm going to do as soon as I get back to

Virginia. The following is an excerpt.

1. Watch Law and Order: SVU and a lame (read = amazing) MTV show, ie. Laguna Beach.

Due to the aforementioned fractured foot, I spent some quality time with British TV this weekend, an opportunity I hadn't had before because I usually am able to walk around. Well, I'm glad to report that I haven't been missing anything.

One particular show I got to enjoy was called "The Mint." It happened to be its first night broadcasting, and it got the coveted time-slot of 1 a.m., which should have been my first clue. The show revolved around the concept of having a celebrity guest (tonight it was Chantelle, the British Paris Hilton) giving six answers to a category each worth a specific amount of

money, and having viewers call in and guess the answers in order to win the money. The trouble was, nobody could guess the answers and



Julia Knox
Abroad Correspondent

eventually people stopped calling in. It was hilariously awkward, as they couldn't go off the air until all the answers were guessed. Finally, circa 3 a.m., the show was over and I wanted the last two hours of my life back.

2. Have a salad with ranch dressing, and engage in the Meg Culp tradition of putting honey mustard on everything.

The main British ingredient is mayonnaise. Mayonnaise, according to the Brits, goes with everything. Except me, as I hate mayonnaise. Unfortunately, the British answer to ranch dressing is "salad cream" (aka mayonnaise). When I made my Mom take me to TGIFridays in Leicester Square when she was visiting they actually had honey mustard flavored (you guessed it) mayonnaise. Ew.

3. Drive. On the correct side of the road.

Public transportation is great and all, and I've had some good times on the bus/tube but sometimes you just want to get in the car sitting in your driveway and drive, not have to walk three blocks to the tube then walk

three more blocks to your actual destination. It's also not really socially acceptable to sing along to your ipod on the bus, especially if you're tone deaf.

Other items on the agenda: visit Pleasants, watch "Newsies," and have a sing-a-long on the Loop.

I'm sure many of you probably don't care what I'm going to do when I get back to the States, but unfortunately, the painkillers I'm currently on pretty much leave me incoherent enough to barely be able to get this column out, let alone think of a subject worth writing about. Luckily, I'll still be wearing a highly attractive orthopedic boot on my right foot when I return. If you'd like to see it, come to the couch in Apartment 303 on May 16th. Bring some honey mustard and the Laguna Beach DVD.

A RESPONSE TO THE LETTER "QUADRANGLE ARTICLE MISLEADING"

Dear Editor,

We at The Quadrangle want to applaud Noren Bonner '09 for her response to our publication. If something we publish upsets you, we encourage that you write in about your perspective. The point to our publication is not one of silence, disempowerment, or even a claim of ultimate truth. We serve as an alternative, as a space for opinions and a perspective that may not be appropriate for The Hollins Columns. We thank, also, Amy Dixon '09, Writtika Roy '08 and the great number of faculty members who have emailed us for clarification, dialogue and/or support.

However, we take offense with the section of Ms. Bonner's letter that questions our integrity by insinuating that we intentionally left off Ms. Dixon's email correspondence from our

website. How hurtful, considering that before the issue of the Columns came to print, the opinions were posted and an email was sent explaining our delay (as overcommitted students, we simply didn't have the time – as well as the fact that had some technical difficulties), something Ms. Bonner would have known if she or Ms. Dixon had emailed us asking about the delay.

Though Laura Smith, the current editor in chief of The Hollins Columns has contributed a piece to our publication, she is not a person who would risk her own integrity or the campus newspaper's. To clarify, she is also not involved in organizational tasks such as the writing of this letter. There is no conspiracy.

We respect Ms. Bonner's right to disagree with Rachel McCarthy James. We respect Ms. Bonner's perspective, information, and obvious love for the

admissions department; we hope everyone reading this has a similar passion for some aspect of the Hollins campus.

Also, as a point of reference, please do not assume what The Quadrangle does or does not object to. We're a diverse staff and rarely agree on all issues. To assume we, as a publication, objected to Amy's words is very judgmental.

We can agree to disagree. However, before our integrity is called into question, we ask what Ms. Bonner has asked in her letter – that she do her research.

Yours,

The Quadrangle.



Front page of the first issue of the Quadrangle. Photo by Laura Smith

MALS STUDENT SEEKS SIGNATURES FOR U.S. SENATE CANDIDATE

Dear Editor:

Electing James Webb to the U.S. Senate is the goal of Hollins University graduate student Don Schellhardt. His first step is to collect signatures from registered voters in Virginia, including eligible members of the Hollins community, on Petitions to place James Webb's name on the ballot for the June 13 Democratic primary.

Schellhardt will be collecting signatures at a table, outside Moody Cafeteria, during the lunch hours and dinner hours of Thursday, April 6 and Friday, April 7. Any citizen of Virginia, so long as he or she is registered to vote here, may sign the Petition and/or vote in the June 13 Democratic primary. Legally, signing the Petition is only a request to

place James Webb on the ballot, not necessarily a pledge to support him. As for the June Democratic primary itself, it is open to all registered voters - not just Democrats.

If you want to sign the petition but can't make it to Moody on April 6 and/or if you want to help Schellhardt help James Webb, and/or if you simply want more information, please contact Don at pioneerpath@hotmail.com or (415) 637-5780.

James Webb is the only U.S. Senate candidate in Virginia to support the initiation of a phased military withdrawal from Iraq. He is also a decorated career Marine, a former U.S. Secretary of the Navy (appointed by President Ronald Reagan), a bestselling author of fiction

and non-fiction alike (such as "The Emperor's General" and "Born Fighting," a screenwriter ("Rules of Engagement" and "Whiskey River"), a prize-winning reporter and a former Republican. If he defeats Democrat Harris Miller, a Washington lobbyist for the high tech industry, in the June 13 primary, he will go on to face incumbent Republican Sen. George Allen in the Nov. 7 general election.

Like James Webb, Schellhardt is also a former Republican, as well as a former Washington lawyer with 25 years of public policy experience. This year, Schellhardt expects to complete his coursework for a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) degree, with a focus on Cross-Cultural Politics: U.S./Asian and male/female.

Sincerely,
Don Schellhardt



FINISHING SCHOOL MYTH PUT TO REST

Dear Editor:

As Special Collections Management Librarian, I am in charge of the University Archives and I feel compelled to correct an ongoing myth that Hollins started out as a finishing school, as recently cited in Kathryn Bergis's letter to the editor in the Feb. 27 issue of the Hollins Columns.

Established at the former hotel at Botetourt Springs, our founder, Charles Lewis Cocke, was determined to turn Valley Union Seminary, as it was called at that time, into a place of serious learning. The 1846 school catalog states "this institution is not designed to be a resort for the pleasure-seeking but shall be sacred to the cultivation of sound learning, virtuous feelings, and independent thought."

While they did offer what were considered traditional female studies of music and French, which were of-

fered in finishing schools of the day, a further look at course offerings in the catalogs from that era include such substantial topics as geography, history, rhetoric, chemistry, geometry, natural philosophy (i.e. science), astronomy, mathematics, and Latin.

During the following decade, Cocke declared in his report to the Board of Trustees (July 1857) "young ladies require the same thorough mental training as that afforded to young men." In 1855, the Euzelian Literary Society was established and its members enjoyed debates and writing essays. In addition, the 1854-55 catalog states that "The education of teachers was one of the principal objects contemplated in the establishment of this Institution."

Offering women the same high quality standards was not an easy task as it involved attracting enough funds

for the latest laboratory equipment, books, quality faculty, etc. at a time when women's education was low on the priority list during the Civil War and Reconstruction eras.

Our founder's goal was to make women's education equal to that which men received despite these challenges.

Although that goal was not achieved in his lifetime, it was something his successors strove towards and eventually achieved.

I hope this letter will clarify Hollins' standing as an educational institution of greater rigor than a "finishing school." Thank you for giving me the opportunity to do so. I encourage anyone who is interested in learning more about Hollins history to consult Frances Niederer's Hollins College: an Illustrated History (call no. LD7251. H722 N53) and visit the University

Archives in Special Collections on the 3rd floor of the library.

Sincerely,

Beth S. Harris
Special Collections Management
Librarian

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