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Hollins Columns

October 30, 2006

Hollins University

Volume 79, Issue 3

LOOKING BACK ON TINKER DAY CELEBRATIONS

BY EMILEIGH CLARE

It might've been just forty degrees, but that wasn't going to stop several hundreds of students from putting on their pink tutus, glittery fairy wings, and other thrift store swag when the campus gathered to celebrate Tinker Day last Wednesday.

President Nancy Gray donned a tutu and a Dr. Seuss inspired hat instead of her usual tailored business suits in honor of the one hundred and sixty-five year old holiday. But this year the students and faculty celebrated more than their conquering of the yearly hike up one of Roanoke Valley's landmarks, Tinker Mountain.

Recently a local consortium led by Hollins University purchased property to help protect Tinker Mountain. Tinker Day, named after the mountain, began just after the Civil War and continues to be

A group of Hollins students take in the sights over Tinker Mountain. Photo by: Emily Smith

held around the time of the first fall frost. The mountain's name comes from the metal workers, or "tinkers," who mended household and kitchen instruments and lived there around the time of the Revolutionary War.

Today, Tinker Mountain is an important aspect of student

and cultural life at Hollins University. The mountain can be seen at almost every spot in campus. Due to the financial support of three anonymous donors, Hollins bought land on Tinker Mountain in southern Botetourt County when it went up for sale.

The land includes most of

the southern face of the mountain and the top one-third of the western side facing Hollins, the area most visible from the Roanoke Valley. Hollins and other interested parties are working with the Western Virginia Land Trust to put a conservation easement on their portion of the property to preserve it for the public good. One day they plan to install hiking trails.

"It was a lot of fun participating in a Hollins tradition that's as long-standing

and unique as Tinker Day. I clearly recall the huffing and puffing of the other girls as out of shape as I dragging themselves (and each other) up the mountain." Jennifer Focht '09 said. "I think students should participate, at least once, just because it is such a great and different tradition; what Hollins has done to preserve this mountain affirms that."

MUSIC DEPARTMENT RECOVERS FROM GROWING PAINS

BY KADYROSE QUIQLEY

If Presser Hall is indeed haunted by ghosts who have made the music department's practice rooms and hallways their home, they are in good company.

Recent building renovations, including cozy seating areas, brightly painted yellow walls, and fresh carpet create an inviting atmosphere, while the serenade of violins, pianos, sopranos and bongo

drums entice visitors to stay awhile.

The structure of Presser Hall is not the only part of the Hollins music department to undergo a recent renovation. The program, which has been growing in leaps and bounds, underwent its own transformation not too long ago.

In the spring of 2005, the department was met with two faculty resignations, and suddenly the full-time faculty

of three was down to one - Dr.

Judith Cline, the current department chair. Cline, a spirited

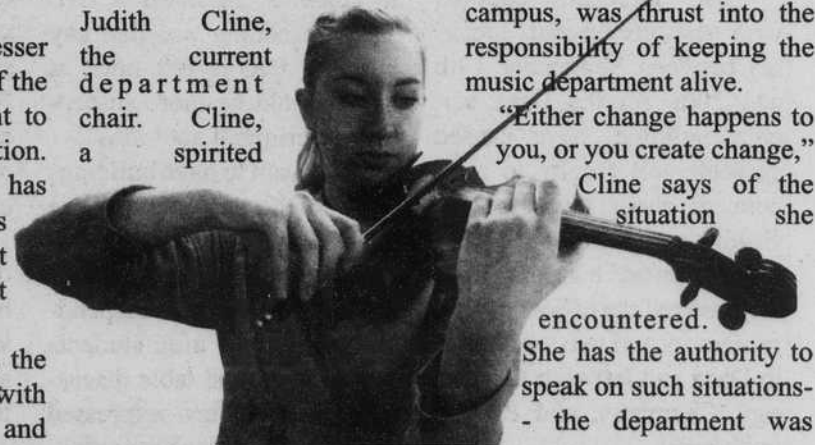
and warm presence to the campus, was thrust into the responsibility of keeping the music department alive.

"Either change happens to you, or you create change,"

Cline says of the situation she

encountered.

She has the authority to speak on such situations - the department was



Fiona Zwieb 10' practices violin. Photo by Martha Sadler.

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BURGLARIES ON CAMPUS RAISE SECURITY CONCERNS

By LAURA LATZKO

Before classes begin, every student at Hollins University signs the Honor Code pledge, promising not to cheat, steal, or otherwise compromise their honor during their subsequent four years at school. A recent string of burglaries, however, including eight within the span of two months, have many members of the community wondering what has happened to the school's honor.

Between August 17th and 21st in the Richard Wetherill Visual Arts Center, the first burglary of the semester occurred, leaving two professors without their laptop computers. Campus security officers say there was no sign of forced entry, leaving them to suspect that the thief could be one of the few who hold master keys to the VAC.

"Since it's newly renovated, there's not many masters to that building," Chief David Carlson, Director of Campus Safety, said. "The grand master is separate for that building."

Since this robbery is considered a felony, the county police have become involved, and are currently trying to track the serial numbers of the stolen laptops.

That incident, coupled with the six recent break-ins between September 19th and 20th in the Dana science building, have caused students and faculty to raise concern about the safety of Hollins campus.

The latest burglars forcibly entered the offices of four professors and two secretaries in Dana and left with 62 Biology, Chemistry, and Physics textbooks.

"The doorknobs were

compromised," Carlson said. "They were very professional in the way they left."

The fact that the books were the only items that were stolen has led Campus Safety to believe that the crime was committed by outsiders who hope to re-sell them. Carlson does not think that these burglaries are connected with the incidents at the VAC.

"Every college or university has had a textbook theft. I guess it was our turn," Carlson said. "Dana was probably a group of people who do this everyday. Hollins must have looked good that night."

Since the textbooks did not have serial numbers or any identifying marks, it is unlikely that this theft will have an immediate resolution.

"You can't trace them," Carlson said. "With the textbooks, they just have to unload them."

The eight total burglaries this fall are overwhelming when compared to the number reported in recent years. In 2005, there were six; 2004, seven; 2003, five.

The night after the Dana break-ins, Campus Safety attempted to address the security concerns by locking up the Presser and Pleasants buildings, which are typically open to students 24 hours a day. Their reasoning was that any building that is left open at night would be more susceptible to criminal activities.

"We want to have buildings open to the students, but we want to think of their safety," Carlson said.

The practice was suspended the next day after students initiated a round table discussion where they expressed their apprehensions over closing these buildings. The issue

is currently being discussed by the Student Government Association.

The recent thefts are not the first to put members of the Hollins community on alert in 2006. Many faculty and staff members began to doubt the sanctity of the honor code at the end of the spring semester when Associate Professor Tina Salowey's pocketbook was stolen from her office on Reading Day.

"It was a significant loss. It felt like a violation," Professor Salowey said.

In her purse, Salowey had her passport, digital camera, driver's license and identification, and money ready for her trip to Greece.

"I guess it's disturbing in two ways- someone flaunted the honor code and someone knew about it," Salowey said.

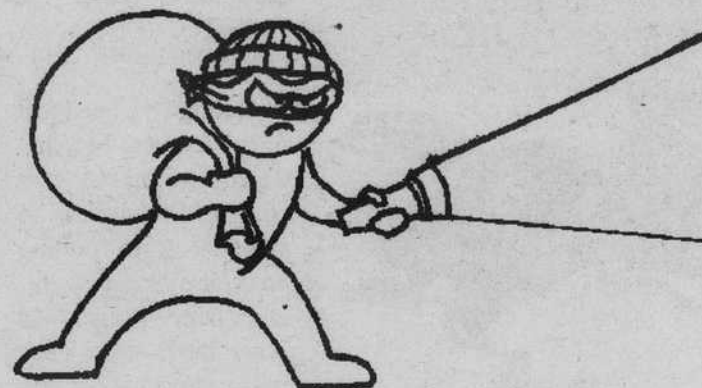
The robbery has had a profound effect on Professor Salowey. Since it happened, her perspective and habits have changed drastically.

"I lock my office up at all times now, even if I go to the bathroom," Salowey said. "It's changed the way I look at Hollins."

Despite the greater number of thefts during the last few months, Chief Carlson still asserts that "we are a safe campus." He and his staff are taking measures to ensure that students can feel secure at Hollins, including having officers patrol the apartments every 2-3 hours and go through open buildings every night.

Chief Carlson is confident that Hollins will continue to be a safe place for students as long as everybody is involved and "aware of suspicious behavior."

"We need community involvement for crime preven-



tion," Carlson said. "It takes a whole community to keep it that way."

After her experience and the recent burglaries, Professor Salowey agrees that if people work together, Hollins will remain a place where students can stay in Dana or the

VAC until 3:30 in the morning, studying for finals or working on last-minute assignments.

"I hope that we can be vigilant to everyone and create a community that doesn't accept that behavior," Salowey said. "The campus is still very friendly and feels like home."

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

By HOPE SWENSON

As highlighted in the previous edition of Columns, the Challenge Job Fair is quickly approaching: Tuesday, November 14 at the Wyndham Hotel, Roanoke. Registration through the Center for Career Services is required along with a \$5.00 fee. There will be 66 employers covering several fields on hand, many with branches throughout the country, to discuss the beginning of your professional career. Stop by the CCS if you have any questions concerning this Fair.

In order to prepare for the interviews at the Job Fair, CCS Director Tina Rolen is holding Mock Interviews in preparation for the Job Fair on Thursday, November 9 in the Career Center from 4:00 - 6:00 pm.

Upper-classwomen who are interested in a J-Term internship, be sure to stop in to see Tina in the CCS for help composing your resume or to see what internships are available. The opportunities span throughout the US and the world, covering many areas of discipline.



VISITING PROFESSORS FIND A HOME ON CAMPUS

BY COURTNEY CHENETTE

Visiting professors Sandra Miller and Thomas Beller in the English Department bring their current artistic undertakings and interests to the Hollins campus for the 2006-2007 school year.

This fall, Sandra Miller is teaching Fundamentals of Writing Poetry and Fiction and two Advanced Creative Writing classes while supervising an independent study. Spring Term she will be teaching Intermediate Creative Writing, two more Advanced Creative Writing classes, and a graduate student tutorial. For short term, she will be teaching a course about literary magazines.

In addition to teaching, Miller plays the drums in the band The Diets, which she and



Visiting English professor Sandra Miller works with Chi-Wen Lee, '10. Photo by Elaine Parrott.

her husband started. Since coming to Roanoke, she has also developed a fondness for the Special Screenings at the Grandin Theater and Towers Book Store.

Miller will also be doing some creative writing of her own, as she is currently working on a collection of her own prose poetry, inspired by the language and references

found in Emily Dickenson's letters to her brother, Austin. On Tuesday, November 7th she will be reading selections from her recently published collection *Oriflame* and her upcoming publication *Chora*.

Thomas Beller is also teaching Fundamentals of Writing Poetry and Fiction and two Advanced Creative Writing classes, as well as a graduate student tutorial. Spring Term he will be teaching Intermediate Creative Writing and two more Advanced Creative Writing classes.

Beller comes to Hollins from New York City, the inspiration for his website Mr. Beller's Neighborhood (mrbellersneighborhood.com). The success of his website inspired his short term class Story Maps: The Roanoke Project, which

will allow students a similar opportunity to examine the surroundings of Roanoke through the writing and sharing of short stories

He is the author of three books: *Seduction Theory*, *The Sleep-Over Artist*, and *How To Be a Man* and editor of three anthologies. Beller has been able to use his transition to Virginia as material for essays for the magazine *Travel and Leisure*, for which he is a contributing editor. Like Miller, he is also working on his own projects, including a new novel and a collection of essays.

With an incoming freshman class of over 300 students and visiting professors in several departments, the Hollins community is growing more rapidly every year.

RING NIGHT TRADITION PREVAILS

BY MONICA VILLA

The tradition of Ring Night is an ever-evolving one, a daring and fun experience that is different for every girl.

It begins when a senior adopts a junior ring sister, a process which may take long hours of negotiation before deciding who may adopt whom. Ring Night is taken very seriously by those involved and therefore planning becomes a very careful process.

After the selection is made, the adopted junior ring sister is given a list of prioritized duties which she must follow and complete within the given time frame. Dressing up in a funny costume and driving to VMI to find cute boys who are willing to take pictures with the girls is an example of a possible duty.

It is not just not a tradition for the seniors and the juniors, however. The sophomores and freshman can participate by helping the junior girls finish their duties. The sophomore or freshman would, for instance, accompany the junior ring sister to VMI and help taking the pictures. The prioritized duties vary depending on the senior and the junior.

In order for the seniors to put together a list of duties, the juniors must first fill out a questionnaire to give the seniors an idea of what she is capable of and willing to do. The questionnaire also provides the seniors with a cursory profile of the juniors' individual interests, so that at the end the seniors may give them a reward for daring to accomplish the extensive assignments.

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“PLACE OF STONES”: DISCOVERING THE BURREN

BY JILLIAN ULLRICH

Picture Ireland, and the imagination will probably conjure an image of green—the lush fields, rolling hills, and pastures full of contented cows that comprise the traditional image of an Irish landscape. But in the Burren, an area of County Clare on the west coast, a visitor feels as though she is looking at Ireland's bones.

The name “Burren” comes from the Gaelic *boireann*, meaning “place of stones.” The area is famous for topography known as karst: limestone characterized by rugged bluffs and paved valleys. The pale limestone of the Burren is reminiscent of a skeleton.

While many sources depict the Burren as a pristine environment, untouched since rising from the Atlantic, its rugged appearance is primarily the result of erosions caused by agriculture and overgrazing of the land. Since farming has declined in recent years, resurgent growth has begun to reclaim the land. Nutrients contained in the grykes—gaps between limestone slabs—provide prime growth conditions for many rare plants. Though this growth is part of the Burren's natural state, it sabotages the rocky lunar landscape for which the area is known. The Irish government



The majestic Poulnabrone portal dolmen towers over Ireland's landscape. Photo contributed by Jillian Ullrich.

is currently debating whether or not to pay farmers maintain the characteristically barren environment.

Visitors seeking more dramatic vistas head for the Cliffs of Moher, famous as the Cliffs of Insanity from “The Princess Bride”. Rippling cliffs plunge to the foam-webbed waves of the Atlantic feet below. A large sign at the end of the observation deck warns visitors to go no further, but many

tombs, appear more frequently in the Burren than anywhere else in Ireland. Local legend holds that that Diarmait and Grainne, eloped lovers from Irish myth, built the tombs as shelters during their flight.

Many prominent medieval sites can be found in the Burren, including Kilfenora, an early monastery. Allegedly founded by St. Fachnan, the site

ignore the unenforced mandate, finding the forbidden venture to be worth the indiscretion. Trespassers can wander a path along the grassy cliffs, enjoying spectacular views beyond the tourist-crammed deck.

The Burren is also noted for its archaeological and historical record. Stone tombs from the Neolithic era (4000-7000 BCE) occur across the region, including the iconic Poulnabrone portal dolmen. Poulnabrone consists of upright stones—the front pair resembling a doorway, hence the term ‘portal’—supporting a massive capstone over a small burial chamber. Excavation has uncovered the remains of 22 individuals buried in Poulnabrone. Another type of tomb from the Later Neolithic, Wedge

became one of the smallest recognized cathedrals in Ireland in 1153 CE. The distinctive architecture, a blend of Romanesque and Gothic elements popular in ecclesiastical sites, is known as “School of the West” and remains unique to western Ireland. A few miles from Kilfenora stands Laemaneh tower house, built by Conor O’Brian and his notorious wife, Maire Rua, who reputedly disposed of three husbands by pushing them out of the tower windows. Tower houses—fortified residences for affluent nobles—were popular in the medieval period and appear all over the Irish landscape.

The Burren represents a core of Irish culture into the present day. Kilfenora is the home of the renowned Kilfenora Ceili Band, whose music ignited a revival in traditional ceili music. Many pubs offer live music on a regular basis. Musicians playing accordions, fiddles, and woodwinds weave melodies to entertain the clientele. In a cozy pub atmosphere, the music evokes a timeless culture which is just as lively today as when the first jig rattled Irish rafters.

Steeped in history, rich with medieval artifacts, it may seem to some like a place trapped in time. But atop the ancient stone is a vibrant, living culture that is far from antiquated. Perhaps it is inaccurate to think of the Burren as Ireland's bones; with its rich history and thriving contemporary culture, this “place of stones” lies closer to Ireland's heart.

FALL FORMAL PLANS TO ENCHANT STUDENTS

BY HARMONEY WOLFE

This year's fall formal will be held at the Patrick Hotel in downtown Roanoke on Saturday, November 4, 2006 from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. The fall formal, sponsored by Hollins Activity Board (HAB), is themed ‘Passport to Enchantment.’

In addition to providing a DJ, HAB has posted a musical suggestion sheet in Moody where students can request songs they would like to hear, ensuring musical variety. Fall formal chair Hope Swenson explains any songs, bands or genres students prefer will be played by the DJ during the dance.

Besides student-selected tunes, a variety of food and drinks will be served the entire night. Hors d'oeuvres include sesame chicken kabobs, thai spring rolls, cheese, sliced fruit, crudites and dessert. Two cash bars serving wine and beer will also be open, offering one free drink to seniors who can provide ID. Iced tea, soda and water will be provided for those who can not or choose not to drink.

Decorations will include centerpieces featuring tropical Asian flowers and tall vases with goldfish, as well as small Zen gardens displayed on tables outside of the ballroom.

The fall formal committee is also selling a commemorative tee shirt for ten dollars featuring an

ink flower drawing by Pam Cruz. The shirts will be available for purchase with tickets for the dance and at the formal.

Students, faculty or staff will be admitted for free; guest tickets are ten dollars. Tickets will be available during the week of October 30 at lunch and dinner. While tickets will be available at the door, Swenson advises students get a ticket before Saturday. All students and guests must have a ticket upon arrival.

A shuttle will be provided for transportation from the Moody Center to the Patrick Henry Hotel. Beginning at 7:50 p.m., the shuttle will run every half hour. Parking downtown is scarce, so it is advised that students take advantage of this opportunity.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT ENHANCES PROGRAM

Continued from Front Page

drastically changed by the resignations but she had the opportunity to steer that change in a positive direction.

"It's one of those signal moments in your life where you can say 'I can go in this direction, or I can go in that one,'" says Cline.

Under the direction of Cline and the rest of the music department, the program has undergone a vast transformation, expanding not only the opportunities available to music majors, but to the Hollins and Roanoke communities as a whole.

Brand new Steinway grand pianos that were delivered and new music lessons were offered, including the harp, organ and bongo drums (instructed by Vladimir Espinosa). State of the art equipment, including a midi player, a liquid crystal screen and a sound tube piece - where sound is able to be produced inside an acrylic dome and allows a single person to hear the sound, while remaining inaudible to others - will all be accessible to students soon. The faculty hopes the new amenities and offerings will attract more students to the building and department.

"What's really thrilling for me," says Professor William Krause, "(are) moments like that, when people walk by carrying their violin - that sense of energy, preparing for an upcoming concert." Krause is a popular musicologist and arts administrator in the department and former director of Opera Roanoke.

Krause feels strongly about the effects of music on the community. "It builds a sense of community when people can see what your doing and preparing for," he says.

Many people have been walking the Presser halls with instruments in hand lately, as many musicians are preparing for orchestra performances.

The Valley Chamber Orchestra, which is going into its third season on the Hollins campus, has been a growing feature of the Hollins and Roanoke

communities. Richard Rudolph is the conductor of the only "community orchestra" in the region, comprised of musicians from the area. Rudolph approached Dr. Cline about using a space on campus for rehearsals about three and a half years ago.

"My attitude was like 'Sure, why not,'" remembers Dr. Cline. Although the orchestra is a separate entity from the Hollins Music Department, Cline wanted to make sure Hollins students were allowed to participate in reciprocation for the orchestra's use of campus space for rehearsal.

"They have their own Board of Directors, own director. We support them by providing a space to play," says Cline.

In three and a half years, the orchestra has grown in numbers, talent and recognition. Hollins students participate as members, refining their skills through once a week practice and performances each semester, while non-participating students (and community members) are able to enjoy the melodic sounds of the orchestra's skills and success.

"I really feel it's poised to take off," states Cline.

All these changes, renovations and improvements have been encouraged by a \$500,000 grant from the Kenan Foundation, which was first pursued by previous Hollins president Nora Bell. The grant allowed the department to purchase four new grand pianos and one upright last year according to Cline and Krause.

This year, enrollment continues to be high in music classes, which Cline attributes to the department's accessibility as well as exciting course offerings and its stellar faculty. From Vladimir Espinosa's Latin drums course, to Barbara Mackin's use of her own textbook in her Music Theory course, Cline feels the faculty's passion for what they do and their



Professor William Krause discusses term paper topics with a student. Photo by Martha Sadler.

availability is a major factor in the department's continued success.

"One of the things we do very well is we're accessible and...passionate about music," she says.

The department hopes for increased student attendance at music events in the future. "You need to support other artists," stresses Cline. "Being an event-going person in the community is the life and blood of the community. That's the way you keep your mind open and continue learning." She encourages the students of Hollins to attend the concerts put on at Hollins and in the Roanoke community.

Krause notes the variety of audience members at performances: "People bring their little kids," he says. "It's not just people from Friendship Manor," adds Cline.

The performance of the Valley Chamber Orchestra on Sunday, November 5 will launch the season. It is scheduled to begin at 3:00pm in the DuPont Chapel and is open to the entire Roanoke community. The concert will include a variety of traditional orchestra pieces as well as popular music.

"UNCOMMON WOMEN" HITS THE STAGE

BY EMILEIGH CLARE

Hollins University Theatre will be presenting the first play by Wendy Wasserstein, the Off-Broadway hit "Uncommon Women and Others", on November 8-12.

The play takes place in the early seventies. The story follows a group of seniors at an all women's university, Mount Holyoke, as they face the new face of opportunities made available for the first time to a new generation

of women.

Cue magazine called the play "hilarious, touching, witty, insightful, and a lot of other nice things." The New Yorker said "Miss Wasserstein is an uncommon woman if ever there was one."

Uncommon Women thrust playwright Wendy Wasserstein into the national spotlight as she became a major voice for women's issues.

Wasserstein died at the age of 53 in January. Hollins will host a per-

formance celebration and symposium honoring this Wasserstein from February 15-17. The event will feature the work of six regional universities, and celebrity guest artists. This is part of a series of events at Hollins honoring the late Pulitzer Prize winning playwright who made such a tremendous contribution to American Theatre and American women.

"Uncommon Women and Others" is directed by professional director and Hollins faculty, Ernest Zulia. Scenery

and lights are designed by regional veteran, John Sailer, and costumes by local designer Patsy Bessolo. Special choreography is created by Ashley Anderson, who is a candidate in Hollins renowned MFA dance program.

Performances are November 8, 9, 10, & 12 at 7:30 P.M. Saturday November 11 at 2:00 only in the Hollins Theatre. For ticket information and reservations call Hollins Theatre department box office at (540)362-9602.

MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE REINVENT THEMSELVES IN NEW CD

BY FAYE DAIGLER

Friends and foes of My Chemical Romance, take notice: This is not the band you remember. Both, though, may be equally pleased by My Chemical Romance's return in their third album, *The Black Parade* (Warners). A genre-spanning epic citing influences such as Queen and The Who, *The Black Parade* brings a new level of complexity to the band's repertoire and presents a vocal range previously unheard from the band's frontman, Gerard Way.

The Black Parade is the journey of one character, The Patient, who is dying of cancer. The premise is that death comes to you in whatever form you will best accept; Death visits The Patient in the form of a black parade. Having joined the parade, he learns to deal with his own mortality and the separation from his loved ones. In live performances, MCR shed their identities and transform into The Black Parade, echoing performers such as David Bowie and The Smashing

Pumpkins.

The album opens up strong, with the ironically titled "The End" and fierce riffs from guitarists Frank Iero and Ray Toro; the intensity doesn't let up for the rest of the album. There's not an instrument that feels like it

should be pulling more weight; each member of the band stands out while contributing to the group.

The songs are a fascinating patchwork. Though they transition abruptly — my main complaint with the album — they show a range of styles without losing MCR's particular touch. There's "Dead", where upbeat vocals and drums meet dark lyrics and guitar in a combination that will leave you



you even turn to say, 'I don't love you like I did yesterday?'; later on the album, "Teenagers" evokes T.Rex with its driving boogie beat and catchy, biting lyrics. From the incredible martial percussion, Queenesque guitars and theatrical stylings of "Welcome To The Black Parade" to the oddly addictive graveyard polka of "Mama" (with guest vocals by Liza Minelli), there is indeed a song for

dancing around your dorm room. "I Don't Love You", a piano-based, melodic ballad, asks "When you go, would

everyone. But more than that, the songs are so well done that they'll invite you to listen: I didn't skip a single song on the album. (And I didn't think I'd be finding myself saying "the oddly addictive polka", you can be sure of that.)

Overall, the album improves leaps and bounds over its predecessors, *I Brought You My Bullets, You Brought Me Your Love*, and *Three Cheers for Sweet Revenge*. Though the songs follow a conceptual pattern, they are also relatable to real life: themes of heartbreak, addiction, depression, and self discovery are all visible beneath the context of The Patient's larger journey with Death. That said, it would be a misjudgment to simply sweep this band into a general category such as "emo". My Chemical Romance have proven themselves capable of complex melodic, lyrical, and conceptual skill: *The Black Parade* delivers with grandeur and grace.

POLICE AND MAFIA CLASH IN "THE DEPARTED"

BY HOPE SWENSON

Director Martin Scorsese's latest film "The Departed" delivers a fast-paced detective caper that examines the possible corruption that may be lurking within America's police systems.

Following the success of 2004's *The Aviator*, Scorsese is paired with Leonardo DiCaprio in a starring role a second time. The rest of the cast includes Matt Damon, Jack Nicholson and Alec Baldwin, lending to the film a little bit of credit with the Academy while providing a lineup that is not too hard on the eyes, either.

The movie is about a mob syndicate in Boston, run by a man named Costello (Jack Nicholson), a remorseless man with a nasty reputation. Costello's syndicate has been trafficking drugs and selling stolen computer chips in Boston for awhile, and has heretofore been eluding the police. In order to shut down Costello's dirty business, police academy student Billy Costigan (Leo DiCaprio), is appointed to work undercover in order to infiltrate Costello's mob operation, unaware that fellow police detective Colin Sullivan (Matt Damon) is acting as Costello's mole, tipping off the mob whenever the police is about to bust one of their operations.

As the months pass, both cops gets very involved in their secret, double life. Eventually they each become aware of the other's presence, but not identity, and they each man ends up in a deadly race to discover the other in order to save his own skin.

Interlaced with gory murder scenes, this movie is certainly not for the squeamish viewer. Scorsese stays true to his unsentimental reputation, demonstrating once again that he is not shy about portraying the notorious ruthlessness of the mob.

Scorsese also takes the time to interject a bit of romance between the the scenes of blood-spattered violence. Vera Farminga plays Madolyn, Colin's girlfriend who is also Billy's psychologist. Although she is loyal to Colin, she is attracted to Billy's insightfulness, and finds herself torn between the two men.

If the presence of Leonardo DiCaprio and Matt Damon were not intriguing enough to the female audience, Mark Wahlberg appears in the small role of a jaded and cynical police detective who is extremely tough on Billy. With his stern appearance and his appallingly foul language, he is a small treat whose handsome features and brute attitude are sure to please.

The first hour of the film may leave a viewer



Matt Damon and Leonardo DiCaprio face off in "The Departed"

feeling lost. The actions and the characters seem vague and without direction; however, as the film progress and the plot develops more fully, the viewer becomes consumed in this dark tale of gangster logistics and cop infiltration.

The critics may argue over whether it's Scorsese's guidance as a director or the stellar performances of his A-list cast who make the film. Whatever the secret to success may be, "The Departed" is an incredible film which will appeal to everyone who does not mind a little bloodshed with their cop drama.

HOLLINS COLUMNS SEEKS FRESH MEAT

I'll be the first to admit that the Hollins Columns has issues. And I'm not just referring to the stacks of our unread editions in Moody. I'm referring more to the kind on heavy metal band Korn's 1999 album "Issues". You know, all the dysfunction, apathy, bad spellings (see the letter to the editor below this for further evidence). For a school that is renowned primarily for its creative writing program, that's just all kinds of pathetic and mind boggling.

As the new editor-in-chief of the Hollins Columns, I am committed to making this into a better newspaper. But despite journalism being the love of my life, I can't do it all on my own.

Already a lot of efforts have been made to improve the quality of this newspaper. We finally have an official copy-editor, Caitlin Coakley, a new layout co-editor, Faye Daigler, and new advisors, John Muncie and Jody Jaffe. But we aren't there yet.

The Hollins Columns needs people who care to get involved, and to help make this paper great. We are looking for fun, witty cartoonists, eclectic movie/music buffs, students who are interested in managing businesses or want to go into advertising, photographers, and most of all great writers.



Emileigh Clare
Editor-in-Chief

I can't even count how many girls I've met at Hollins who say they are interested in journalism but have yet to work on a newspaper. There's a tried and true formula at work here: university newspaper work= clippings for future jobs. It's a must. But ask now what your student publication can do for you...

The Hollins Columns is a student run, and student paid for publication. Our newspaper is supposed to represent campus life, but we are under-staffed and under-equipped when it comes to representing the student body. How then can the Hollins Columns be an accurate record of what goes on? Newspapers exist as part of a check and balance system in our society, and at many schools. Many bumpers in Siberia parking lot proudly proclaim "Well-behaved women rarely make history". Well Hollins women, I say put your money where your mouth is and get involved.

When registration for spring classes comes up in the next few weeks, please consider the Hollins Columns as a way to get involved on campus, make new friends, learn skills that will help you for life, and fill those pesky credit requirements.



Questions?
Comments?
Suggestions?

HollinsColumns@
Hollins.edu

CORRECTION: STUDENT SETS RECORD STRAIGHT

Dear Editor,
To whom this may concern:

I just wanted to correct the Hollins Columns on the spelling of my name. It was spelled incorrectly in the newspaper on the front page article of the last issue as "Shanon Sarkozy" it is "Shannon Sarkozy".

Also the photo of Aly Sanderford was courtesy of Aly, but taken by Shannon Sarkozy. Aly told me that she told a person on the newspaper staff that it was taken by me, Shannon Sarkozy, but no credit was given to the photographer in the caption.

I just wanted to correct the mistakes.

Thanks for your time,
Shannon Sarkozy



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HOCKEY TEAM FOR THEIR WIN AGAINST SALEM COL- LEGE, 4-0 ON SUN- DAY.



