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Hollins Columns

February 26, 2007

Hollins University

Volume 79, Issue 6

O'TOOLE AQUITTED OF MISDEMEANOR CHARGES

BY KADYROSE QUIGLEY

On February 9, 2007, Dean of Students Patty O'Toole was acquitted of two fourth degree misdemeanor charges of failure to report a felony.

The charges stemmed from incidents that occurred while she was Dean of Student Affairs at Notre Dame College in South Euclid, Ohio in late 2005. Two female students at Notre Dame confided in O'Toole that they had been sexually assaulted, but asked that she not report it.

"When I talked with the students involved I informed them that I was not sure if I could keep their confidence. I told them I would have to check with someone at the college," O'Toole said.

She said the head of campus police at Notre

Dame did not see any reason for her to inform the police.

The man responsible for the assaults was identified by the victims as Carl Wolfe, 20. He was indicted last June, and is awaiting trial on 21 felony charges including rape and kidnapping.

"The Cuyahoga County District Attorney sought charges against O'Toole, on the theory that the dean might have prevented sexual attacks against five other women, if she had reported the first crime," reported WDBJ7 in Roanoke.

Under federal law, any educator with knowledge of an assault on campus must contact the police immediately.

Prior to the trial, O'Toole was offered a \$50.00 fine if she pleaded guilty which she did not accept.

"This case, for me, was about my integrity and the rights of the alleged victims in

that it is their decision to proceed criminally or not," said O'Toole.

"As an advocate for sexual assault survivors, I fully believe that it's up to the survivor to decide whether to report an assault to the authorities," Becky Klabunde '07, Co-Chair of CASA (Coalition Against Sexual Assault), said. "It's about giving the power of decision back to someone from whom it's been taken away."

"Notre Dame College said that 'Ms. O'Toole acted with good intentions and the students' well-being in mind,'" said an article in "The Sun Press."

"It is always a difficult balancing act, helping and supporting students while ensuring policies and practices of a college or university are followed," O'Toole said. "I would recommend that

institutions work to ensure they have as many clear policies and practices in place for their students, faculty and staff."



Patty O'Toole

During the trial, Hollins University President Nancy Gray released statements informing the university of O'Toole's situation, declaring support for the dean and commending her for her forthrightness.

"I cannot speak highly enough of the people at Hollins," O'Toole said. "They believed in me, but I have found that believing in and supporting each other is just part of the Hollins way."

Had the jury convicted O'Toole, she could have faced a maximum of 30 days in jail in addition to a fine.

HPV Controversy



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"VAGINA MONOLOGUES" TAKES CENTER STAGE

BY KIMMIE LOCKETT

If your vagina could talk, what would it say?

Hollins is currently producing "The Vagina Monologues" to help contribute to the V-day College Campaign, which raises awareness (and funds) to empower women to take a stand in pursuit of a violence-free world.

The play, which is currently presented in 20 countries, is based on a book by Eve Ensler, who compiled the stories of over 200 women, giving them an opportunity to freely speak about their sexual experiences, fantasies, and fears. Proceeds



Susanna Young '09 at rehearsal. Photo by Martha Sadler

from this week's showings at Hollins will be given to local and international charities that support the prevention of violence against women. Additionally, a silent auction will be held to raise money for The Rape Crisis Center, CASA (Coalition Against Sexual Assault), and Hollins.

"Just because we go to a woman's college doesn't mean we haven't been affected by sexual abuse," said Becky Klabunde '07, the coordinator for this event and CASA chair. "I know women at Hollins who have been affected and this helps support the cause."

The monologues performed, all

by students, range from a humorous perspective to more sensitive subjects.

"Some of the monologues are funny, some of them are serious, and some of them are sad," said Rose Bottle '07, who is in charge of publicity and reads a monologue in the play.

Director Adrienne Wade, Klabunde, Bottle, and over 10 other people have worked since December to bring "The Vagina Monologues" to Hollins in an effort to inspire women, but men are encouraged to attend as well.

"Women should leave more confident about themselves, and leave more open to talking about what women feel they cannot talk about," Bottle said.

SPINSTER STAFF PREPARES FOR BOOK'S RELEASE

By STEPHANIE COSTON

It's spring semester and still no sign of last year's edition of the *Spinster*. Students have repeatedly asked about it, even in Senate.

The *Spinster* staff traditionally includes about 5 editors and several other students who contribute stories and photographs. When the majority of the staff from Fall of '05 did not return in the spring, the remaining staff had to train new students to take the open positions.

Spinster Editor-in-Chief Krystle Hunt '07 and *Spinster* advisor Joe Rosenberg were the incumbent members left working on the 2006 edition. After Rosenberg left

Hollins, Hunt was left with the sole responsibility of producing the *Spinster*. As a result, the book was still unfinished at the end of May, whereas it usually would have been off to the presses by that time.

"I certainly don't blame [her] for last year's missing book-- she was thrown into the deep end of an already difficult situation without knowledge of the club's history and current problems," Meghan Hennessey, 2005 *Spinster* Editor-in-Chief said in an email, referring to the new advisor, Jennifer Slusher.

Hennessey worked over the summer to finalize unfinished portions of the book until there were only two

sections left--'06 seniors and senior ads. As of her last progress report, these sections are still unfinished. She was told after contacting Slusher that the book was on track to be released.

"The *Spinster* has always been published and distributed to students by the second-third week of September of the following year," Hennessey said. "By these standards, it's nearly six months late."

According to Hennessey, Hollins has invested a substantial amount of money in a product that no one has seen and she is afraid no one might ever see if action is not taken soon.

"I can sense that people are starting to get concerned, as they should be,"

Hennessey said. "The *Spinster* has been published at Hollins since the mid-nineteenth century, and past books are in the Hollins Room at the library to prove it. It is incredibly upsetting and unacceptable that this might be the first year since then that there is not a yearbook to record our time spent at Hollins! I encourage students to get involved--there cannot be a yearbook without contributors, editors, and volunteers."

Slusher hopes that the book will be out in the next 6-8 weeks. As far as taking pictures, she is currently working to set up a time this semester and that information will be available as soon as the date is set.

WASSERSTEIN FESTIVAL HELD AT HOLLINS

By SARAH MANN

Broadway left New York to visit Hollins University last week during the Theatre Department's Wendy Wasserstein festival. Hollins Theatre featured four events from February 15 to the 17, including a lecture by Hollins 2007 Distinguished Speaker Jane Alexander, a reading of Wasserstein's play "Third", and a performance of Wasserstein's "Uncommon Women", a repeat performance of the fall play.

The festival comes almost one year after Wasserstein's death on January 30, 2006 and acted as a tribute to the playwright and her work. Several of Wasserstein's friends attended, including William Ivey Long, a four-time Tony award winner and Broadway set and costume designer. According to Heidi Hostetler '10 who plays Leila in "Uncommon Women", Meryl Streep, Wasserstein's college roommate, was also invited, but had to decline her invitation. She sent a handwritten note of regret.

Alexander, a Broadway actress who costarred in Wasserstein's "The Sisters Rosensweig", gave a talk on February 15 discussing "Women in Leadership, and the Arts in the Twenty-first Century."

"Wendy ruled the world of theatre," Alexander said of Wasserstein. "Wendy had an abundance of humor, heart, and wisdom...she sought to correct the injustices of life. The world needs more Wendys."

Friday evening featured a reading of Wasserstein's play "Third", a work following the conflict between college professor Laurie Jameson and her student



Wendy Wasserstein in 1997

Woodson Bull III, a young man who represents everything that Laurie detests about American culture. Jane Alexander starred. The play is an "examination of close-mindedness versus open-mindedness and all that good stuff," according to Joyce Lewis '10.

"I thought Jane Alexander...was marvelous, everyone in the cast was just awesome," said Lewis, who plays Carter in "Uncommon Women". "It was funny but definitely had a message."

Saturday was a busy day with two separate theatrical events. From 1 to 5 p.m., area colleges including University of Virginia, Roanoke College, Virginia Tech, Radford University, and Washington and Lee University put on a series of one-act plays written by Wasserstein.

Before the productions began, William Ivey Long regaled the crowd with stories of the playwright whom he has known since they shared a house with Sigourney Weaver and Meryl Streep at Yale in the early 1970's. "I looked around and Wendy became my best friend," Long said. "Wendy had about 5,000 best friends."

A short man with short, curly gray hair and glasses, Long has designed costumes for over 54 Broadway productions and currently has four shows running. He holds Wasserstein in an extremely high regard, although he deplors her taste in hairstyles. "After you've laughed at her hair, listen to her life," Long told the audience, "because that is the key to the magic."

The one-act plays that followed were warmly

received by a substantial audience and covered a wide variety of subjects. The largest production, featuring seven cast members, was UVA's "Waiting for Philip Glass". The drama was inspired by Shakespeare's Sonnet 94 and examines the disappointment that follows when life does not go according to plan. Roanoke College's one women production of "Workout" poked fun at the ideal "superwoman" -- the lady who balanced family, a career, and self-improvement and smiled about it.

Lewis' favorite one-act was Tech's production of "Medea", a farcical interpretation of Euripides' tragedy. "I knew the story going in and the way Wasserstein adopted it and made it into the hilarious comedy -- I was like, wow," she said.

Later that same day, Lewis performed in Hollins Theatre's "Uncommon Women". According to Lewis, the all-women cast was nervous about performing because "we knew who was in the audience." Long and several of Wasserstein's friends watched the performance.

"We were greatly relieved when we received all the praise," said Lewis.

"[Long] felt like it was one of the better revivals of the show and felt that we embodied the characters," said Hostetler. She expressed her delight that the symposium was a celebration of theatre rather than a competition between the area colleges.

The theatre certainly has a lot to celebrate; Hostetler revealed that the Hollins theatre department received over \$200 in donations. More than that, the theatre was able to celebrate a great playwright.

"They feel so natural," says Joyce Lewis of Wasserstein's plays. "Wasserstein somehow psychically sat down in Moody or our dorm rooms

VACCINE MANDATE UNDER SCRUTINY

By CAITLIN COAKLEY

The Virginia legislature has finally found a way to bring liberal feminists and conservative Christians together.

Both groups are united in their opposition to bills passed by the General Assembly requiring all girls entering the sixth grade to be vaccinated against human papillomavirus, or HPV.

The HPV vaccine, Gardasil, was given FDA approval on June 8, 2006. By mid-November, Merck & Co., Inc., had launched a national advertising campaign urging eligible women to begin their series of vaccinations.

"The medical community is very excited about having a vaccine that can prevent cancer," said Sen. Janet D. Howell in a February 11 article in the Washington Post.

HPV is a sexually transmitted disease that cannot be detected in men, so most male carriers are not aware that they have the disease, and may transmit it unknowingly. Condom use does not always prevent transmission. The following quote from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's webpage reflects the widely held attitude about HPV in men:

"There is no clear health benefit to knowing you have this virus—since HPV is unlikely to affect your health and cannot be treated. For most men, there would be no need to treat HPV, even if treatment were available, since it usually goes away on its own."

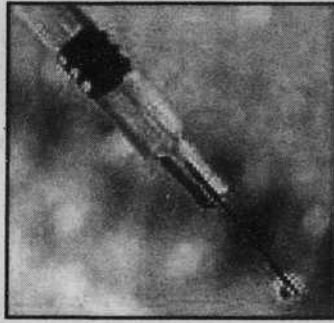
In women, however, in rare cases, certain strains of the virus may develop into cervical cancer.

Courtney Chenette '09 feels that a mandate would help protect girls whose parents disapprove of their daughters being vaccinated for an STD.

"Girls are going to have sex, and not all of them are going to tell their parents," Chenette said. "Is it wrong to punish a girl with preventable cervical cancer because she didn't tell her folks she was sexually active or they did not support the vaccine?"

Early in 2007, Merck launched a campaign, funded through the group Woman in Government, urging lawmakers in 28 states, including Virginia, to instigate a mandate requiring girls to be vaccinated before they enter the sixth grade.

Criticism of the legislation has come from a variety of groups: parents who feel the mandate infringes on their right to make health decisions for their children; religious conservatives who fear that the mandate would encourage promiscuity; and feminists who object to the government ruling over what women (or, in this case, young girls) must do to their bodies.



"People are making decisions for us, just like the right to choose to have an abortion," said Dr. LeeRay Costa, assistant professor of anthropology and women's studies. "It re-enforces the infantilization of women -- we're not intelligent enough to make decisions for ourselves."

But Rita Turner, interim director of Health and Counseling Services, thinks

that women's lack of choice in some situations may be the biggest reason to mandate the vaccination. "For women who are sexually assaulted, who are raped... If (the vaccine is) mandatory, it can help protect some of our victims." Turner has vaccinated approximately 17 Hollins women since November 3, 2006.

Gardasil has shown to be 95-100% effective in protecting women from HPV types 16 and 18, the two strains of the virus which account for approximately 70% of all reported cases of cervical cancer, according to the Gardasil website.

Even before the vaccine was introduced, however, cervical cancer was becoming less of a threat. According to the National Vaccine Information Center (NVIC), the number of cervical cancer deaths in the United States dropped by 74% between 1955 and 1992, mostly because more women were getting regular pap smears, which can help detect changes in the cervix before cancer develops. With early diagnosis and treatment, the survival rate for women with pre-invasive cancer lesions is nearly 100%.

There is also some apprehension regarding the widespread administration of the vaccine so soon after its release. According to documents on the Merck website, the 20,000 women who participated in clinical tests of the drug were only followed up for about three-and-a-half years on average.

Of the women tested, fewer than 1,200 were under the age of 16, Merck & Co. officials said. The younger girls have been followed for only 18 months.

Much of the apprehension may stem from the company's history. In May of 1999, the FDA approved the drug Vioxx, a painkiller manufactured by Merck. Five years later, the drug was recalled after tests indicated that long-term use significantly increased the risk of heart attacks and strokes.

Adding Gardasil to the list of required vaccinations for schoolchildren will protect Merck under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (NVICP), which requires citizens to apply for federal compensation prior to filing a lawsuit against the company.

Even in the short amount of time that Gardasil has been on the market, an increasing number of side effects have been reported, and early information on the drug is quickly becoming outdated.

At the campus clinic, patients receiving the vaccine are provided with an information packet dated September 5, 2006. The health department requires the girls to be given the packet "not necessarily before (they receive the vaccine), but as long as they have it," according to nurse practitioner Lisa Kirk.

The packet includes a list of risks for the HPV vaccine, but states that Gardasil "does not seem to cause any serious side effects." It then lists several mild reactions that commonly occur, such as pain, itching or swelling at the injection site.

The packet makes no mention of the more serious side effects that have been reported to the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), especially in young girls.

"VAERS is now receiving reports of loss of consciousness, seizures, arthritis, and other neurological problems in young girls who have received the shot," Fisher said in a press release dated February 1, 2007. Between July 2006 and January 2007, there were 82 reports of such events filed.

The possible health risks raise the question of why Merck is pressing for an immediate mandate. Merck has stated that research suggests that the best age for vaccination is right before children hit puberty, before they become sexually active.

Others, such as Costa, believe that Merck is attempting to issue the mandate before cheaper generics become available.

"It's all about the profit," Costa said, shaking her head slowly.

Certainly, Merck stands to money off of the vaccine. The company posted revenues of \$22.6 billion last year, \$235 million of which came from Gardasil sales, according to the website. The price of the vaccine -- \$120 per injection, a total of \$360 for the full three-shot vaccination -- makes Gardasil the most expensive vaccine ever developed.

"The cost is what should make people think," said Costa. "Why is it so expensive if people need it?"

The NVIC and Fisher agree that the price is unnecessarily inflated. "The cost is going to break the pocketbooks of parents and break the banks of both insurance companies and taxpayers, when the reality is that almost all cases of HPV-associated cervical cancer can be prevented with annual pap screening of girls who are sexually active."

On Tuesday, February 20, Merck announced that it was suspending its lobbying campaign to convince state legislatures to require the vaccine in sixth-grade girls. The same week, Virginia's legislature became the first to pass the mandate bill (Texas Gov. Rick Perry imposed the mandate despite his legislature's disapproval.) Governor Timothy M. Kaine now has until late March to either amend the bill, sign it into law, or veto it.



TRAVELOGUES

BY EMILY MORRIS



When we landed in Greece, we were met by rays of golden sunshine. I was filled with amazement at the sight of this sunny ancient land, dotted with olive trees and rugged mountains, the land of the gods and the lands that inspired Lord Byron. Unable to turn my head from the window, I took in as much landscape as possible from the bus trip to the hotel.

Just as soon as we settled into our hotel, after tugging our luggage through narrow marble streets, we were hiking up Lykavittos Hill, jet lag be damned. It was worth it. I could almost imagine nymphs dancing and centaurs leaping about the green paths through the pine and olive trees.

When we reached the top of the hill, the spectacular view was unimaginable. We saw the sun set over the city, casting everything in a rosy glow and reflecting in the sea. From there we could see shadowy mountains rise beyond the bustling city, and across from us, miles away, we saw the Parthenon on the Acropolis. My thought on Greece so far was: so much amazingness, so little time.

Photo at top right corner is a guard at the Athenian tomb of the unknown soldier.
Photos by Emileigh Clare.

Photos at left from top to bottom: the ruins of Delphi and the theatre of Sparta, with the modern city beyond. Photos by Emily Morris.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS?

-From the International Programs Office

We wished our spring abroaders *bon voyage* as they headed off on their academic adventures around the globe and now we're gearing up for the fall application season and the coming academic year. The following are some of the exciting new opportunities for abroaders next year.

Studio Art in London: Starting in fall, studio art students on Hollins Abroad London will be able to take a diploma-level class in painting, drawing, or sculpture at the Art Academy. For more information, check out the website at www.artacademy.org.uk.

Internships in London: The Travel Channel, the House of Lords, the Finborough Theatre, and the public relations firm that handles London Fashion Week were sites for Hollins Abroad London interns. Internships are developed individually for students based on their interests and are open to any Hollins Abroad Londoner with a 3.0 or higher GPA.

Food and Friends in Paris: Receptions with French university students, membership in the Club International des Jeunes, and culinary arts events such as hands-on cooking classes are some of the new ways that Hollins Abroad Paris students are diving into French culture and cuisine in the "Taste of France" series, which focuses on the role of food and wine in French culture.

Italian Language and Culture: The Hollins program at the Umbra Institute in Perugia, Italy offers courses in Italian language, Italian art, film, history, literature and politics, and international economics and business. The program is now open to all students with an interest in Italian studies.

Italian Language and Culture in Summer: A new six-week summer program in Todi, Italy, directed by Visiting Assistant Professor Alison Hall, will offer a landscape drawing and painting class and an introduction to Italian culture and language. Activities include art restoration, tours of archaeological sites, and participation in a contemporary artist's workshop. Regular Hollins financial aid doesn't apply to this program but some special scholarships are available.

Study at the University of Alicante in Spain: Starting in fall, Hollins students can study in Alicante, on Spain's Costa Blanca in a program run by the Center for Cross-Cultural Studies. Students can either enroll with Spanish students in courses at the U. of Alicante or take courses in Spanish language and culture offered by the university for foreign students.

New University of Limerick Calendar: The University of Limerick has revised its academic calendar to better accommodate U.S. students. Fall students at U.L. no longer

have to stay for the dreaded post-holiday exam period but can finish up the term in mid-December. This program is open fall and spring and is especially strong in the natural sciences (including equine science) and business.

New Study Abroad Scholarship: Although Hollins financial aid applies to most Hollins study abroad programs and there are several endowed scholarship, some students have difficulty paying for airfare and other extra costs. Starting in Fall '07, the new Figge Scholarship for Study Abroad will be awarded to two students, chosen based on financial need and academic achievement, to help with extra expenses on any abroad program.

Hollins Abroad Blogs: Want to know what the London and Paris abroaders are up to? Check out the new Hollins Abroad blogs on the Hollins website (just click on "Hollins blog" on the homepage and scroll down to Hollins Abroad). This spring's bloggers are Rachel Bright (London) and Ferima Sidibe (Paris). Watch for their blogs to be posted soon.

For More Information: Lots more information on study abroad is on the International Programs page of my-hollins.edu (Academics) and at the International Programs Office in Rose Hill. Information on the summer program in Todi, Italy is available from Profs. Hall or Knipe in the Visual Arts Center.

FROM GREECE

BY EMILEIGH CLARE

In the morning we went to the American School of Classical Studies and we were shown Heinrich Schliemann's notebooks, the ones he recorded his notes in when he excavated Mycenae.

It's so crazy because we have seen the exact ruins he was writing about. We talked about him in my Greek history class, and now I know what his handwriting looks like. It's surreal.

Seeing what archeologists do here gives me so much respect for them, it's very involved work. Excavations and preservations demand such intense concentration and passion. It was fascinating to observe these people in their work and hear about the processes.

Next we went to the National Museum for our second visit. There was a presentation by Kristen Gillespie about an ancient astrolabe (the Antikythera device) that was discovered in the wreckage of a Roman shipwreck. The Greeks were so advanced in sciences and astronomy, it's so interesting to think about what would have happened if the ship hadn't crashed and science hadn't moved backwards.

Finally we went back up to the Parthenon which was so fitting because that's where our whole trip started. I remembered the first time we went up there and there was the little old man with a tabby cat talking philosophy and physics, just like people in antiquity would have done on the Acropolis. I remembered the kind grandmas of Arachova and how they brought slices of birthday cake to our table when we shared the same taverna one night. I remembered the sights of Corinth and looking over the mountains while enjoying the freshest, sweetest orange I've ever tasted. I remembered eating lunch (fresh fruits, bread, cheese and salami from the Athenian markets) in the ruins of a castle in Arcadia, a castle that the Greek soldiers would have used during the Greek War of Independence. I remembered seeing a glorious golden-red sunset over the Temple of Poseidon at Sounion.

Looking out over the Parthenon on our last day was really the best moment to reflect on everything that has happened in the past few weeks. It was really windy but it was the best way to say goodbye to the city, no matter how much it was to my regret. All the more reason to find a way to come back.

Photos at right from top to bottom: the Temple of Poseidon at Sounion; the group wandering the ruins at Corinth as Dr. Tina Salowey lectures; the view from the island of Monevassia. *Photos by Emileigh Clare.*

Want to learn more about this group's travels in Greece? Check out <http://greecetrip.wordpress.com/>



SHARE PARTICIPATES IN SERVICE PROJECT

BY MONICA VILLA

One big day, one big thanks.

This spring, Hollins University and S.H.A.R.E., the community service organization on campus, will be participating in an event that began in 1982 at Texas A&M.

"The Big Event" is a national community service project in which many universities

around the country participate. Virginia Tech has held the event for the past five years, and with their help, Hollins has the opportunity to be involved for the first time this spring.

"The Big Event" will take place

on March 31 when Hollins students, faculty, and staff will be performing service projects free of charge in the Roanoke Valley area, such as painting fences, washing windows, general cleaning, yard work, and minor construction projects.

Most of the work being done will only require three to four hours and do not involve power, electric, or gasoline equipment. Any other equipment will be

provided by Hollins University.

Members of S.H.A.R.E. are spreading the word around by distributing job request forms to residents of the Roanoke Valley area. The job request forms provide information about the event and include questions such as,

"How many people would it take to get it done?" and "What kind of materials will be needed?" Any community member who needs work done can submit a job request form by registering online at www.sga.vt.edu/big-event by March 16.

"It's 3 to 4 hours of community service to give back to the community in which we live," Kirsten Byrd, Co-Director of "The Big Event" for Hollins said. "One big day, one big thanks" is the national tagline. For Hollins, we will be giving the Roanoke area a chance to get to know us."

S.H.A.R.E. is making "The Big Event" more special by volunteering at the 125th Anniversary of Roanoke City while working on the jobs requested by residents of Roanoke Valley. S.H.A.R.E. needs volunteers to help with "The Big Event".

Tiffany Allen, secretary of S.H.A.R.E. says, "The Big Event is a great way for the Hollins community (students, as well as faculty and staff) to give thanks to Roanoke County and City for being our "home away from home" for most of the year. In doing these different service projects we will be showing our gratitude to the people of Roanoke, as well as getting Hollins some great publicity. It's a win-win situation!"

Tiffany also suggests that Hollins students sign up in groups with a selected captain for contact purposes, making it easier to match up a group to a project. However, S.H.A.R.E. will still take single individuals who wish to volunteer.

For more information, contact Kirsten at kbyrd@hollins.edu.

"The Big Event is a great way for the Hollins community to give thanks for being our 'home away from home' for most of the year."

-Tiffany Allen

POET BRIAN HENRY VISITS CAMPUS

BY ASHLEIGH KRZYWICKI

After reading some of his poetry to the students and professors in the Hollins Room on February 13, poet, professor, and literary critic Brian Henry spoke about his work, the creative process of writing, and self-gratification.

"Lyric poems are like masturbating because it never really ends" Henry said. Writer in residence Elizabeth Morgan responded, "But [I thought] you said it never really ends?" Laughter consumed the room.

Henry visited Hollins to read from his books "Graft," "Quarantine," and "The Stripping Point." Some of his influences include Wallace Stevens, William Carlos Williams, Emily Dickenson, and many more.

Much of his reading was from "Quarantine," a plague-ridden poetry book that tells the story of a homosexual man who becomes infected with the bubonic plague in one long poem spread across 40 pages. The book was written in about 3 days, shortly after Thanksgiving 2001.

"I'll never do that again" Henry said with a sigh of relief.

Although the story includes several historical facts, Henry claims to have done no research before writing.

"I didn't do any background research about the plague before I wrote it" said Henry. "In fact--I encourage everyone to research afterwards."

Henry also read from his most recently published book "The Stripping Point," which he was seeing in book form for the first time. While reading one of the book's poems, he noticed something missing -- the publisher had left out a line in the poem.

"Good thing I remembered it," Henry said, prompting a nervous laugh from the audience.

Like most poets, Brian Henry is also an active critic. One of his most memorable and recent critiques is of fellow poet and critic William Logan. The review can be found on the "Verse Magazine" website.

Henry's latest book "The Stripping Point" is now available -- minus the missing line of poetry -- in the Hollins Bookstore.

ASPIRE
HIGHER
THIS
SUMMER

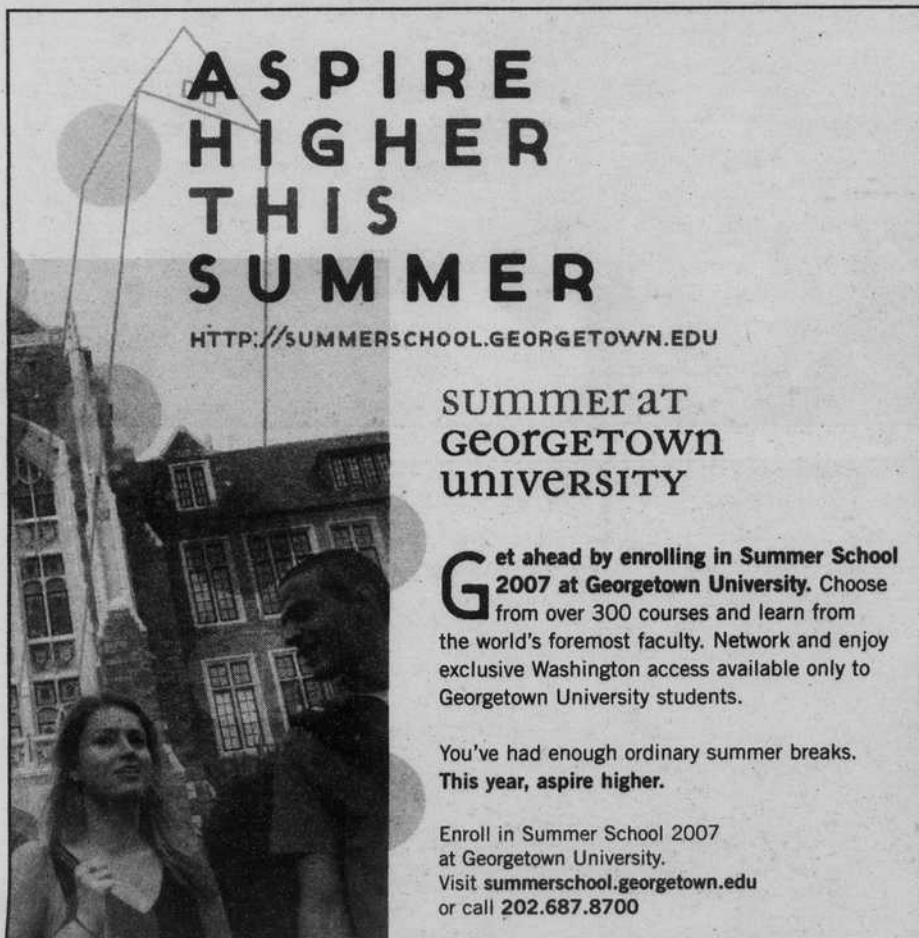
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HOLLINS COLUMNS: THE NEW REGIME

By CAITLIN COAKLEY

On December 5, 2006, armed soldiers of Commodore Frank Bainimarama's military approached one of the most highly respected buildings of the area as part of a military coup of the Fiji government. They marched in through the front doors with the intent of protecting their new power, to shut down this channel through which the blood of the people was pumped, to secure that there would be no criticism of the new government.

The sign above the door read, "The Fiji Times".

I joined the Columns last semester as a copy editor. Very quickly, I discovered that working on a newspaper was much like tapping into some sort of vein, becoming a part of the community in a way with which joining a club or sorority could never compete with.

This year, I am co-editor-in-chief. My goal is to improve the paper's written content. I want the paper to do more than report news -- I want it to be news. A newspaper is more than a reflection of the people. A newspaper is a vehicle of the people.



Caitlin Coakley
Co-Editor-in-Chief

It should do more than simply report changes -- it should cause them.

I'm pleased to announce my new comrades, features editor Kadyrose Quigley, news editor Paige Briddell and sports editor Ashleigh Krzywicki. We will be working to turn this paper into one that the Hollins University community deserves.

When Bainimarama's military threatened the Fiji Times with censorship, the managing director Tony Yianni decided he would rather his paper not print than to be censored, and suspended publication.

Students of Hollins University, I make you the same promise. I'm adding my voice to the plea that Emileigh has already made: Tell us what you want to hear. I want this newspaper to answer questions. At the same time, I want it to raise questions. I want to change your perspective on something you may have previously believed.

We're here -- unabashed, uncensored, and notorious, just like the women of the university. *Levavi oculos*, indeed.

Staff Spring 2007

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HOLLINS COMIC: ANOTHER NIGHT IN TINKER



BASKETBALL TEAM ENDS SEASON

BY KATIE LOWE

This season began a new era in Hollins basketball under head coach Richie Waggoner. Waggoner was assistant coach for the Glenvar High School team last year; previously, he was also head coach at Lynchburg College for six years and assistant coach at Roanoke for nine years.

Despite what their record shows, Hollins had a good season according to Waggoner. "We reached our goal this season. Our goal was to get better everyday and we did that," Waggoner said.

The Hollins University Basketball team finished 1-23 overall and 1-19 in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference.

The development of the team shows through with them scoring over 40 points in four of their last five games of the season.

Waggoner and the team had a big hurdle to overcome

at the beginning of the season: a 31 game losing streak. This streak snapped against ODAC rival Randolph-Macon Woman's College. The team's big win came about half-way through the season when they upset RMW-C 77-75 on the road.

Hollins took an early lead against the WildCats, sending them in to the locker room at half-time up 42-34. RMW-C attempted a comeback, but Hollins held on for the win with Nicole Grant notching a double-double and Ashleigh Smith putting-up a season high 21 points.

Hollins graduates Smith this season, and in doing so losses their main point guard and one of the captains. Smith posted 64 assists and 25 steals for the year, and she averaged 36.8 minutes per game.

Some of the key returnees next year will be Grant, Allison Kibler, and Emily Frost. Grant came into the season late, but certainly made an



Jeanette Price '09 blocks a Roanoke College player while Allison Kibler '09 looks on. Photo by ODAC.

impact when she arrived. She averaged 14.4 points and 8 rebounds a game. Grant also achieved over 20 points during five different games this season.

Kibler was one of the team's leading three-point scorers with a three-point percentage of .245. Long will return at center for

Hollins next year. Long pulled in 149 rebounds, posted 193 points, and generated 29 blocks this season.

Coach Waggoner and the returning Hollins Women will look forward to adding new members to their squad and to having an exciting season next year.

SWIM TEAM EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

BY KATIE LOWE

The Hollins Varsity swim team completed their season two weekends ago after participating in the 2006-07 Atlantic States/Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Championships hosted by Radford University. Going into the championships Hollins had a regular season overall record of 1-9 and a conference record 0-6.

Hollins had been picked to finish sixth in the ODAC in the coaches' preseason poll, but after a strong performance during the championships they finished fifth with a total of 127 points. Swimming is an individual event, but the team score comes from



Rachel Vaughn '10 prepares to dive. Photo by Martha Sadler.

the points each individual or relay receives depending on how they place.

"The meet this weekend went very well," Cortney Phillips '09 said. "We managed to place ahead of some teams that had beaten us in the regular season. We made a really strong showing after a season where we only won one meet and it was a great way to finish off the season."

The Hollins swimmers were able to place in the top eight in multiple events including: 200 yard freestyle relay, 400 yard medley relay, 800 yard free relay, 400 yard freestyle relay, and the 200 yard individual fly.

The two seniors graduating from the Hollins swim team this year are Mary Petit and Meghan Hennessey.

Petit has swum all four years during her time and was one of the team captains this season. Petit specializes in the sprinting events such as the 50 and 100 meter freestyle and the 100 meter fly. Hennessey spent last season in London and has been injured this season, but when she was able to swim she has been a great asset to the freestyle relays.

Rianna Jones was the only individual swimmer to place in the top eight this past weekend. Jones is a junior and will have one more chance at competition in the ODAC's next season. Phillips will also be returning next season for Hollins. Phillips is freestyle distance swimmer, competing in events such as the 1,000 meter freestyle, and a sprinter in backstroke.

Only losing two seniors, Hollins looks to welcome back a strong and experienced team next season.

FITNESS TIPS

BY KADYROSE QUIGLEY

With schoolwork, activities and busy social lives, college students often forget how important it is to live a healthy lifestyle. Not only does a balanced diet and exercise plan help you look good in a bikini, but they also increase your immunity to sicknesses and help you function at your peak each day. In each issue of the Hollins Columns this semester, you will be able to get a new fitness and/or health tip to help you get in shape and live a healthier and more fit life. Good luck and stick with it!

Fitness Tip:

If you are looking for flat abs before bathing suit season, try this tip from Hollins Physical Education Instructor, soccer, and golf coach, Kim Jones:

When doing crunches, to make sure you are engaging your abdominal muscles properly, pull your stomach in while tilting your pelvis. Tilting the pelvis will keep your back on the ground and supported, ensuring that you are using your ab muscles to do the crunching work. Keep your neck and head in a neutral position and be sure to move in a controlled manner versus bouncing up and down

Health Tip:

One of the easiest ways to achieve your goals of fitness, health or weight loss is to begin your day with a healthy meal. Eating breakfast gets your metabolism going, and will help keep your energy levels up all day.

Choose filling foods that will keep you full and energized during the day. Jones suggests items like fruits and whole grains with some protein like peanut butter. And because it is especially important for women, try to fit in a serving of dairy - a glass of milk or a bowl of yogurt with fruit or granola are both great choices that can be easily found at Moody.

For more information on fueling your body with the right foods and balancing nutrition with exercise, Jones recommends visiting www.mypyramid.gov and www.fittoday.com.



Ashley Jones '09 exercises in the gym. Photo by Katie Lowe.