Martha Cornbrooks ‘01

What are you doing now?
I'm currently living and working in England. I went to the UK in 2001 to be a lacrosse coach at Benenden School in Kent. The position led to opportunities to coach at the school, county, territorial, university and international levels. My most recent coaching venture was as an assistant coach for the U19 Scotland side at the 2007 World Championships in Canada. I now live in Wiltshire with my boyfriend and continue to work with the national governing body, English Lacrosse, to promote and develop the game in the UK.

What was your major at W&L?
History

What do you miss most about Lexington and the W&L community?
So many things! The beautiful views you have from every corner in Lex - my particular favorite is the 360 view from Liberty Hall fields in the autumn; the speaking tradition - in my village I still find myself saying hello to people in passing out of habit. And that is just the beginning.

What was your favorite class and/or who was your favorite professor?
Every professor and every class has an immediate impact on you - that's the beauty of W&L. Since I have to choose, I would say my favorite classes were with Professor Merchant of the History department.

What is your most memorable moment as a member of the women’s lacrosse team?
There are three from the 2001 season - the overtime victory against Randolph-Macon; holding the trophy after our ODAC victory; and, finding out that we had set a new record for wins in a season (15-4 record)

What was your favorite game?
The ODAC final of 2001 - W&L vs Lynchburg. I still can see Liz Borges holding the ball in a stall play for the title (with a broken thumb!)

What do you miss most about the team?
It has to be the people I played with - I loved the laughs, the camaraderie, the encouragement.

Do you have any advice you would give to current players or rookies coming in?
Every moment is a learning experience - in practice, on the field or on the bench. Enjoy your opportunities and make the most of them.

What is one thing you learned at W&L that you have taken with you into the real world?
How to set challenging but realistic goals and how to work with others (sometimes as a leader, sometimes as a follower) to achieve those goals

If you could start your four years over at W&L, what would you do differently?
Nothing - every experience has been invaluable.

What is your favorite book?
It changes regularly. My favorite book to recommend at the moment is "Pillars of the Earth". Probably because I live in the area where the story is set and there is an abbey that was built at the same time as the one in the story. I suppose it's the history major in me . . .

What is the last movie you watched?
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix