

CROSSFIRE

* * * * * BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY * * * * *

VOLUME 2, NO. 3

MARCH, 1987

HALF-YEAR STATISTICS FOR 1986-87

By Ralph W. Hansen

Last year, after years of declining use of the collections, there was a marked increase in use of the Library. Alas, that resurgence does not appear to have carried over into 1986-87. Where are our library users? Do you need severe winters to bring (force?) students into the library? There is no one good answer to why BSU students are not flocking to the library in increasing numbers, only speculation. The figures, however, are real and discouraging.

For the first six months of this academic year, circulation is down 4%, exits are down 5%, in-house reshelving is down 11%, reference questions are down 21%, interlibrary loans handled are down .76% and computer searches are down 33%. The

one bright spot is reserve use, which has had a history of declining use. Reserve use went up 25% during the last six months.

The precipitous decline of requests for reference help is in part attributable to a change in a library assignment. Last year this assignment had a major, and somewhat hectic impact on reference thus inflating user statistics. The modest decline in interlibrary lending is a welcome sign after years of unparalleled uncontrolled and almost unmanageable growth. User fees were announced late last year and the number of users who made requests of our library showed an immediate decline.

(See pages 7-8 for Technical Service Statistics.)

FACULTY SABBATICAL LEAVE REPORTS

By Ralph W. Hansen

One of the conditions for granting a sabbatical leave is that the faculty member "must submit a written report...summarizing the work completed during the leave, how the new knowledge will be utilized...and any other benefits to the University as a result of the leave." (BSU 5311-B)

The Sabbatical Committee has turned over to the University Archives for historical preservation leave reports for 1984-85 and 1985-86.

THE JAMES CAMERON SCHOLARSHIP

Jim Cameron was a long-time bookseller, who was associated with Richard Abel before joining Academic Book Center. Jim's friends and ABC are offering a \$1,500 scholarship to a prospective library science student planning to specialize in collection development and/or acquisitions in an academic setting. Details and application blanks are available from Linda Kay.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

By Adrien Taylor

The Reference Department provides scheduled desk coverage for a total of 111 1/2 service hours a week. In addition to the several members of the Reference Department, Darryl Huskey, Anne Matjeka, Ellen Koger and Janet Strong each provide some hours of day, evening or weekend coverage for the desk. Hours of service are from 7:30 a.m. until 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 7:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Friday and, from 10:00 a.m. until 6:p.m. Saturday, Noon until 8:00 p.m. on Sunday. Two people are scheduled for desk duty at the same time during the hours of 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. each weekday. Mondays tend to be our busiest day, due in part, it is supposed, to the fact that the Public Library is closed then.

Reference services may take one or more of several different forms. Helping with assignments (e.g. who is the new recipient of the Nobel Prize for literature), with research paper topics (I'd like to do a paper on tattooing in Siam), in running down a specific quotation, fact poem, author or the like, advice giving - (wouldn't it be possible to do a paper on confetti). We also help folk learn about library services and organization both here and in other libraries.

Librarians who work on the week end usually take a weekday of rescheduled time, those working nights exercise a number of different options, some work 12 hours and take a half-day off some other time, others work from 1 until 9:30, still others work a split-shift. In addition to offering reference desk service the people assigned to the Reference Department provide other library services.

Don Haacke is in charge of the Basic Library Skills class and is working on a retrospective index to the Idaho Statesman for the years 1972 to 1981. Beverly Miller is the person in charge of Interlibrary

Loan. She tussles with policy formation, verifies the hard to verify requests and serves as departmental head in the absence of Adrien. Terry Madden is in charge of computer bibliographic searching, the bibliography file, and the pamphlet file. Katherine Ultican indexes the Statesman's current issues and maintains the KWIC catalog of the reference collection; she is also on a "permanent" backup for the reference desk, when a second or third hand is needed. Liz Cardinale supervises the student workers in the maintenance of the collection. (Shelving, filing the many loose-leaf transmittals we receive, binding and all of the many details present in such a position). She is also in charge of the Company Reports files and the collections of college catalogs and telephone directories. Gwen Pittam is the person who has to verify all of those Interlibrary Loan requests in all of those bibliographic sources to insure that our requests are accurate; she then has to transmit the request by whichever means she determines is best, to the library most likely to fill the request the most quickly. She also oversees the student workers of that section and the incoming requests--that is the requests for material we own that other libraries need for their patrons. Adrien Taylor tries to keep up with it all.

In addition to their other jobs the librarians also serve as the liaison librarian for one or more departments on campus for the selection of library materials. Don has Geology and Biology (which includes botany); Beverly has Criminal Justice, Social Work, Sociology, Anthropology; Terry has all of the academic health science departments as well as the Vo-Tech nursing program and the Physical Education Department; Adrien has the departments of Economics, Computer Systems and Decision Sciences;

Marketing and Finance; Management, and Accounting.

The staff of the Reference Department also provides tours for any who sign up for them during the first four or five weeks of each semester and give bibliographic instruction lectures and demonstrations to classes whose teachers so request.

The Reference Staff, too, serves on Library and Campus committees and are involved with community, social, political, educational and service groups. ■



The most recent COM Catalog supplement has these new entries:

Book format	5,584
Film format	367
Serials format	900
Music format	177
TOTAL	7,028

NOT-SO-CURRENT EVENTS

Submitted by Beverly Miller

Of late, there has been a lot in the library literature about the "greying" of the profession and its attendant problems. However, some of us feel we are greying faster than others. Think, for example, what it's like to sit at the reference desk and field questions like the following.

- I'm trying to do an article on the plane crash that took place in Boise in 1969. I called the Statesman and the Public Library but no one there remembers that far back, so I called you.

- Was I wearing a coat when I came in here?

- My teacher told me to find something on Linda Baines Johnson, whoever she is.

- Do you have any dental floss?

- Do you have an index to the Statesman that would list when my ex-girlfriend got married and to who?

- I need information on John Dead, you know, the Watergate guy.

- I graduated from BSU six years ago and can't remember what degree I earned, but I thought Adrien would know.

- (Patron calling long distance from Tennessee) My son took his GED exam at Boise State several years ago and now the Army wants to know his score but he's lost it; however I'm sure the Library has it on file.

- I have to write a paper on what it was like in the 1940's and you look like someone who would know.

- My teacher said something about the French and Indian War. I didn't know the French were even in India.

- Our freshman comp teacher wants us to do a compare/contrast paper, and I need some help. I'm comparing Lady Di and Sarah Ferguson.

- Do you remember the 1920's?

By this time, of course, we feel as though we certainly should! ■

NOTES FROM CRC
By Carole Clemens

As usual, the CRC staff has been busy with education students and music students, whether it be requests for unit material on space, the ocean, Canada, or the duplication of tapes. We are currently averaging 25-30 tapes per day. Fortunately our equipment keeps on running.

The reference questions are interesting, to say the least. Students and faculty experience some difficulty locating specific selections in the phonorecord card catalog. After helping Madeline Hsu and a student find the solo piano works by Gabriel Faure, a patron on the telephone requested the lyrics to "Dark Town Strutters' Ball." Thanks to a song book from home, Carole Clemens was able to provide those words. As a result of this experience, Carole gave a brief explanation about the phonorecord card catalog to the rest of the CRC staff.

Our compact disc player is not used very often but occasionally people want to try it out. We suspect that the selection of discs is too limited at this time. A patron did want to check out one of the discs to demonstrate a machine in the store where he worked. Apparently the business wants to sell players but won't purchase a demonstration disc for its salesman. We refused to help the patron at this time.

Since the incident with falling shelves in the old EMS area, Anne

Matjeka located several sections of CRC shelving which were suspected of having problems also. Only one range plus one section were determined to be faulty. The one section housed the "F" section of the record collection. It has been repaired and permanently bolted to the wall, this time with real bolts instead of two wood screws! The section of juvenile shelving will be fixed in the near future. We are also in the process of installing double wood braces across all of our stacks. The materials may fall off the floor in the event of an earthquake, but the shelves themselves should remain standing.

We have received a new two-part kit on medieval life. If any of you want to role-play some people from the Canterbury Tales, we have costumes to help you out.

On the down side, someone with sticky fingers has ripped off another head and cartridge from one of the stereo record players. We wish we had some way to attach an electric shock device to portions of our equipment. Perhaps such immediate recognition for their proposed indiscretion would discourage their friends.

We have expanded the card catalogs for the phonorecord and juvenile collections. Dorothy Haskins will soon have them completely shifted and labeled. The card catalog for the records will be moved but not far; it is trading places with the map and globe stand.

200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S.
CONSTITUTION

On September 17, 1987, and probably for the entire month, the USA will celebrate the anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. The Library plans to mount a major exhibit in September to honor this event. An ad hoc committee is preparing the exhibit. Watch for a library-wide exhibit.

MORE CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are in order for another Library employee. This time Don Haacke, Reference Librarian, became a new daddy when Andrew James Haacke was born, Saturday, February 7th. He weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces. He was happily greeted by four brothers and sisters. Don says that mother and baby are doing fine.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

By Don Haacke

Every semester temporary signs are posted about the library to encourage students to sign up at the Reference Desk for a library tour and/or Library Skills (LS 102). Comments from staff and declining response from library patrons points to an urgent need to refresh many of these signs. Early retirement is indicated for those with a tattered look as well as those whose wording has become dated. Help is needed from everyone to come up with a number of new slogans, jingles, and other catchy phrases.

Jokers, punsters, and admen this is your chance. Throw off your inhibitions, let your imagination soar. Take a few minutes to brainstorm. Jot down your ideas and submit them to the Reference Desk. Some of the slogans used in the past are:

- COM/LINEDEX
and other stuff explained on Library Tours!

- Light up your life with a tour of the Library.

- Improve yourself with a Library tour.

- Even YOU can learn from a tour of the Library!

- Yes, YOU too can tour the Library. Sign up at Reference.

- Check it out! Library Tours. Sign up at the Reference Desk.

- Don't meditate! Activate! Register for Library Skills.

- Feel like a rat in a maze? Tour the Library.

- T is for the time and trouble saved;

O is for the Library overview;

U is for use made simple;

R is for research quickly done.

All together they spell TOUR. Sign up at the Reference Desk.

- Had enough frustration? Fight back! Sign up for a library tour at the Reference Desk.

- Whet your appetite. Tour the Library.

- Get a charge out of the Library. Cash in on a tour.

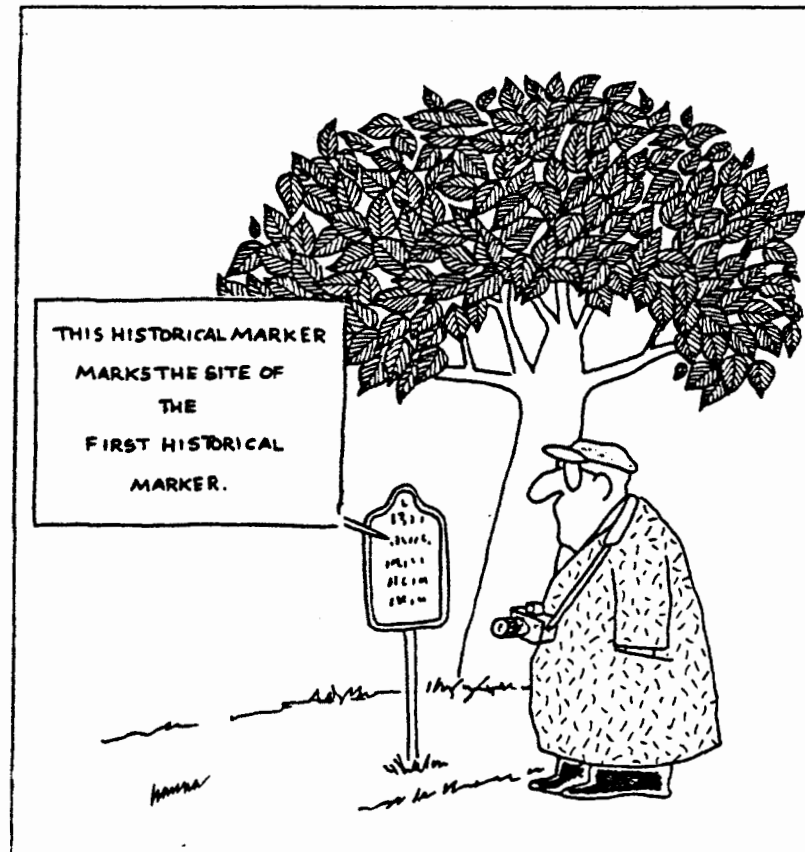
- One thing library tours are not, obscurum per obscurius.

BEVERLY MILLER ADDRESSES BSUAOP

On Tuesday, February 10th, Beverly Miller spoke to the Boise State University Association of Office Personnel on copyright laws. In her speech entitled, "Copy Rights and Wrongs: What You Need to Know About Copyright Laws," she discussed the development of the copyright law and described the different methods people use to copyright their work. This was followed by a review of "fair use" copying guidelines.

Secretaries were encouraged to talk with their department heads about keeping records of copies made for classroom distribution, as accreditation teams seem to have developed an interest in these recently. Library resources which can be useful in dealing with copyright problems were emphasized.

A question-and-answer period followed.



FRANK CHURCH COLLECTION PROGRESS NOTE

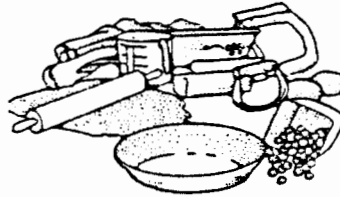
By Ralph w. Hansen

"Hidden" away, as it is on the third floor we haven't heard much about the Frank Church Collection Processing Project. Rest assured that the work is moving forward with dispatch. As of January 31st, almost 50% of the collection has been processed. Target date for completing the processing part of the project is June 30th. Does that mean that in five months the staff will have to process as much as it has in the last year-and-a-half? Yes and no. Most of the difficult work is behind us. The Legislation, Committees and Campaign series are essentially done. The Federal Government series is half done. That which remains is not of the same research value as that which is done and should be processed faster. We are counting on this assumption

to make it possible to meet our deadline for completion. Sometime soon we will begin a computer index. This effort will continue at least until October 30th.

As part of the IHC Grant we were to produce three newsletters describing the project. Look for the first newsletter in February.

The A-V processing is moving forward at a rapid pace. Audio tapes are nearing completion as are video tapes and motion pictures (predating video). Indexing for this media has been input in conjunction with material processing. Shortly the A-V staff will begin processing the vast collection of photographs in the Church Collection.



From Bethine's Kitchen:

AFTER-SKI POTATO MEAT CASSEROLE

3 Large Idaho Potatoes (baking size)
1 Serving, baking casserole (large)
6 Pork Chops
1 Can Mushroom Soup
1 Cup Milk to cover sliced potatoes
4 Teaspoons Butter
Salt and Pepper to taste

Sprinkle the pork chops with flour, salt and pepper.
Brown in a little low saturate oil.
While this is being done, slice large potato into thin slices.
Butter casserole--add layer of potatoes--sprinkle of flour. Dot with 1 teaspoon butter.
Cover with milk.

Repeat process using the 3 potatoes (about three times) salt and pepper each layer lightly.

Place on top of the potatoes the browned chops.

Sprinkle with salt and pepper and paprika or Lowry's seasoned salt and paprika.

Bake at 350 degrees about 45 minutes, covered. Uncover about 1/2 hour more, or until the top browns and testing with a fork assures you that the potatoes are tender.

Green pepper and pimento may be added to make this dish more festive.

Wonderful Idaho after-ski fare with a big tossed salad and Idaho apple pie. (Editorial note: I use Symms Apples.)

This recipe was taken from Bethine Church's Mountain Cook Book of Idaho Recipes.

RECON PROGRESS REPORT

By Gloria Ostrander

As of December 31, a total of 1788 titles had been pulled and placed on the review shelves for subject librarians. Of these a search of the WLN database provided "hits" for 518, another 252 were considered "hits" after review by Cataloging, 339 were marked for withdrawal, and 489 interim records had been created for the non-hits that needed original cataloging. If you are counting, this leaves some 200-odd volumes in process. They are on the shelves awaiting decisions or have been marked for replacement, etc.

At the onset of the project we made two changes that slowed the workdown and made our original hoped-for completion time of 8 months unrealistic. One of the changes was the decision to make

interim records for all titles that were to have original cataloging. This turned out to be very time consuming--albeit very worthwhile, as these titles now appear in the COM Catalog as soon as they are identified for cataloging by the subject librarian.

The second task that was added was searching the CRC non-print material that had not previously been systematically searched. Of the 3,642 titles reviewed by December 31, 657 were already in the database, and we were able to add our holdings to an additional 941 titles. This means that approximately 45% of the non-book items we are searching are in the WLN database, and will be included in the next COM.

ACQUISITIONS DEPARTMENT

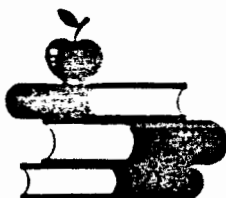
18-Feb-87			
Statistics Mid-year 1986/87			
	1985/86	1986/87	Percent of increase or decrease
*Requests	7,961	8,554	7.45%
% Dup Req	30%	29%	-3.60%
*Material to Be Cataloged			
Items ordered	5,397	5,582	3.43%
# Gifts Recd	8,467	4,984	-41.27%
*Material to Be Cataloged			
TOTAL	6,240	6,546	4.90%
*Bibliographic Information			
% of Hits	91%	93%	2.17%
% NB hits available	not	41%	
TIME LAGS			
Total # items	5,351	5,019	-6.20%
Total average	39	33	-15.38%

BINDING

Actual shipping dates have varied greatly so comparison by 6-month period is not very useful....

	7/85-12/86	7/86-12/87
Periodicals	836	1137
Reference	64	132
Documents	33	25
Mending	208	133
CRC	35	62
Theses	68	58
Archives/Maps	21	1
	<u>1265</u>	<u>1548</u>

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BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

ADDITIONS, WITHDRAWALS, HOLDINGS BY TYPE OF MATERIAL

JULY 1986 - DEC. 1986

Type of Material		Added	Withdrawn	Net Additions	Previous Holdings	Current Holdings
BOOKS						
Books (vols.)	cat	7,246	1,216	6,030	282,188	288,218
	non-cat	0	0	0	2,583	2,583
Manuscripts (cubic feet)	non-cat	0	0	0	3,470	3,470
Browsing	non-cat	60	31	29	1,536	1,565
DOCUMENTS						
U.S. GPO (pieces)	paper	3,870	8,060	(4,190)	122,670	118,480
	fiche	5,557	669	4,888	58,145	63,033
Idaho State (pieces)	paper	492	2,825	(2,333)	26,655	24,322
	fiche	38	7	31	644	675
CIS	fiche	4,525	0	4,525	144,721	149,246
Canadian Pubs.	paper	546	154	392	3,142	3,534
	fiche	108	0	108	572	680
SERIALS						
Periodical Subs. (titles)	non-cat	138	16	122	2,418	2,540
Newspaper Subs. (titles)	non-cat	2	0	2	48	50
Bound Per. (vols.)	Com Bd	1,232	256	976	38,880	39,856
	Pre Bd	11	0	11	753	764
	B10 Bd	422	140	282	4,111	4,393
Total Bound Per.		1,665	396	1,269	43,744	45,013
Loose-Leaf Services (titles)	cat	1	0	1	94	95
Standing Orders (titles)	cat	50	17	33	1,216	1,249
B10 Binding						
Periodicals	non-cat	422	140	282	4,111	4,393
Other	non-cat	86	0	86	812	898
MICROFORMS						
Book Titles on Microforms	cat	6	0	6	937	943
Periodical Titles on Microforms	non-cat	3	0	3	972	975
Reels (pieces)	non-cat	497	262	235	16,868	17,103
Fiche (pieces)	non-cat	3,577	0	3,577	149,187	152,764
Opagues (pieces)	non-cat	0	0	0	3,274	3,274
ERIC	non-cat	8,413	0	8,413	352,788	361,201