

NEWS LIBRARY NEWS

Volume 10, Number 3

SPRING, MAY 15, 1988

JOY HILL CAPTURES KWAPIL AWARD

Russell and Trivedi Are Roll-of-Honor Winners

Joy Hill, retired *USA Today* photo librarian, has been selected the winner of the Joseph F. Kwapil Memorial Award, announced Diane Miller, head of the 1988 awards committee. Beverly Russell, former *Seattle Times* library manager, and Harish Trivedi, director of the *Dayton Daily News* library, will receive Agnes Henebry Roll of Honor Awards.

Murray State University librarian Celia Wall will be given a Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition for her bibliography of news librarianship published by SLA. The Ralph J. Shoemaker Award of Merit will be given to division chairman Bob Isaacs. The awards will be presented June 13 at the division awards banquet at the Rattlesnake Club in Denver.

JOY HILL

Joy is best known to most News Division members through her participation in numerous workshops and seminars around the country. Her sessions on picture librarianship are in great demand and always receive rave reviews. Also, for many years she wrote a column on photos and graphics for *News Library News*. Whether in print or in person, she freely imparts the expertise she has gained through more than 15 years as photo librarian with the Gannett newspaper chain.

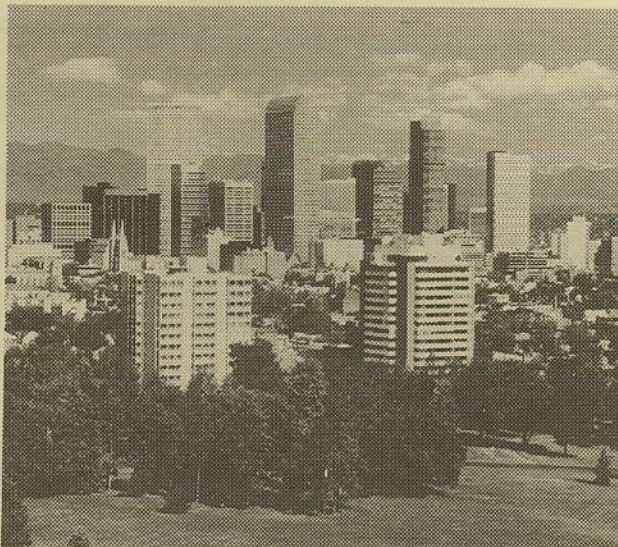
Her first newspaper library job was in Rochester, N.Y., where she worked with Rex Schaeffer in the Gannett newspaper library. Joy says Rex taught her "how to be a real librarian and what newspaper libraries were all about." She learned her lessons so well that when the Gannett decided to publish *USA Today* and needed an extensive picture library, it asked Joy to take on the job. She delighted in the challenge of developing a picture library with a broad range of subjects from all 50 states and a vast collection of color slides and film.

In Winnipeg at the 1985 annual conference, Joy received a Roll of Honor award from the division. She retired as *USA Today* photo librarian in December of 1986. After retirement, she continued to work on the division's slide program, "Introduction to Newspaper Libraries," which was funded by the Gannett Foundation. The slide program was shown at the annual conference in Anaheim, Calif., last June.



Joy Hill

SET YOUR SIGHTS ON DENVER



Denver, on the high-rolling plains of Colorado just east of the Rocky Mountains, is the site of the 1988 SLA Annual Conference, June 11-17. See Pages 14 through 16 for the News Division programs' and map of Denver.

BEVERLY RUSSELL

Beverly began her library career as a business and economics reference librarian with the Seattle Public Library in 1965. She joined the *Seattle Times* as an assistant librarian in 1967 and after two years, she was put in charge of the library. During her 18 years as head of the library, she instituted a microfilm program, reorganized and expanded the photo library, introduced database services in the mid-1970s and an electronic library in 1985. She also worked to get published credit

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THE ASIDE BAR / By Lany McDonald

One of my duties as the News Division's director of publications was to find a new editor for News Library News. It is probably the happiest job I will ever have and also probably the one with the best results. Kee Malesky, librarian for National Public Radio in Washington, D.C., has agreed to edit our bulletin beginning with the next issue, due out in August.

I am pleased that someone with such energy, intelligence and enthusiasm will be our editor. Under Kee's direction, News Library News will surely flourish. Also, I am pleased that in the first year after approval of our name change we have our first non-newspaper, news librarian editor. Certainly Kee's experience as librarian for the National Public Radio will open an interest in a broader range of topics than our bulletin previously has covered. And something else about Kee's editorship thrills me—it is an excellent testimony to the value of the Student Stipend Award, which Kee won just three years ago.

Welcome, Kee. I can't wait to get my next issue of News Library News. It will surely be the best ever.



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Advertising and copy deadlines are July 3, October 3, 1988, January 3, 1989 and April 3, 1989. To place advertisements or to obtain advertising information, contact **Jo Reitman**, Newspapers Inc., News Information Center, NLN Advertising, P.O. Box 661, Milwaukee, WI 53201, (414) 224-2376.

Copy may be submitted to **Lany McDonald**, The News & Observer Library, NLN Editor, 215 S. McDowell St., Raleigh, NC, 27602, (919) 829-4579.

News Library News gratefully acknowledges the contributions of its staff's employing companies.

AWARDS

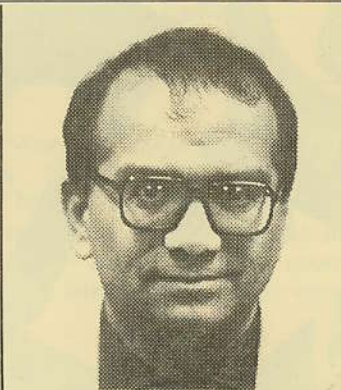
Continued from page 1

for the library staff members' contributions to published articles.

She served on the division's automation committee and helped write *Basic Specifications for a Full-Text-On-Line Automated Newspaper Library System*, which was published in 1980. In past years, she has been on the long-range planning committee and on the awards committee for the division. She retired in 1987.



Beverly Russell



Harish Trivedi

HARISH TRIVEDI

Harish served as chairman of the division in 1982-83 and received the Award of Merit in 1983. During his 19 years as a news librarian in Dayton, Ohio, he has been active on almost all of the division committees at one time or another. He also was the secretary-treasurer at a time when those duties were combined. He is currently the international liaison for the division.

An accomplished writer, Harish presented a paper on subject classification for media libraries at the SLA annual conference in 1974, and he co-authored a paper on newspaper libraries that was presented at the first International Information Conference in Cairo, Egypt, in 1982. Harish also has contributed articles to his newspaper, the *Dayton Daily News*. In addition, Harish has organized seminars and served as a speaker and panel member for numerous library conferences.



The Tabor Center, next door to the Westin Hotel, has 70 shops and 16 restaurants within a two-block, glassed in mall.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



Bob Isaacs

Division Chair
News / Sun-Sentinel
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

What's in a name? Apparently a lot.

In the news business, both broadcast and print, management worries about how it is perceived by viewers or readers and by employees. Perception is in the eye of the beholder. Changing the division name to NEWS broadened our scope in the industry and is paying dividends. Since the Anaheim, Calif., conference, we have gained 53 new members. As of March 15, the membership was up to 558. Our membership committee and other division members have been spreading the word. And the word is exciting, dynamic, energetic, enthusiastic, modern, hard-working, aggressive, talented, sharing, etc.

Our audio-visual presentation is receiving raves from viewers. The Florida News Librarians Association saw it in St. Petersburg on March 18 and the Fort Wayne (Ind.) regional seminar showed it on April 23.

Cary Kenney is finishing our new membership brochure. It has been redesigned and updated. **Barbara Semonche** is completing our first consultation/referral brochure. Both will be on display in Denver.

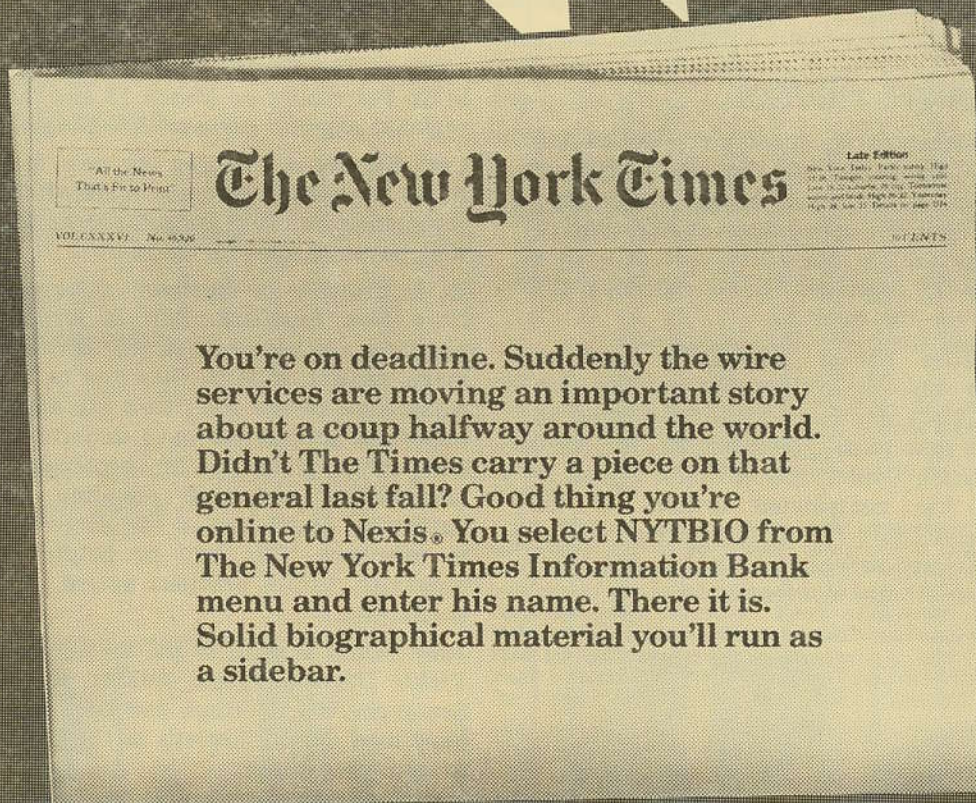
M. J. Crowley is receiving shipments of our archives from **Nan Stoddard**. She is writing a proposal and planning a schedule to work toward completion of this major project. If M. J. asks you to help her with special collections, please don't turn her down. This is the most important project we have undertaken in several years. Long-range plans for the archives call for cataloging, microficheing and then donating the collection to a university. Duplicates of the microfiche will be available to members. This will be helpful in planning future programs, listing previous award winners or publishing documents.

Judy Canter is chair of the logo committee. Members are **Vickie Dawson**, **Sheila Adkins**, **Roberta Grant**, **Barbara Semonche**, **Joe McHugh** and **Dargan Richards**. They will have logo design displays in the division suite. Be ready to add your input.

Sharon Reeves, chair, and members of the long-range planning committee will have our five-year plan ready in June. **Lois Doncevic** reports our book, *Automating the Newspaper Clipping Files*, is quite a success. We have received our first royalty checks.

Diane Miller has been busy with the procedures manual update and **Sharon Ostmann** is working on the New York conference plans. **Richard Geiger** and **Vickie Makings** are into the last roundup for Denver . . . so let's lift our drink in a toast to the above leaders and all our various committee members who contribute to making our profession a challenging and rewarding experience.

Who's Who?



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NPR librarian will be NLN editor



Kee Malesky

Reference Librarian
National Public Radio
Washington, D.C.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Christine "Kee" Malesky, librarian for National Public Radio in Washington, D.C., has accepted the job as editor of News Library News for the coming year. Kee will take over with the next issue of New Library News. So I am happy to present your soon-to-be NLN editor, who describes herself here in her own words.*

The naive and gullible soul who has agreed to be the next editor of *News Library News* is **Christine Malesky**, reference librarian at National Public Radio in Washington, D.C. She'll answer to her "real" first name, but prefers the short form, "Kee."

Kee was born and raised in what she calls "the center of the Universe"—Brooklyn, N.Y., where her family has lived since the Civil War. Even after 20 years, Kee still feels a little out of place in the "slow, sleepy Southern town" of Washington, D.C.

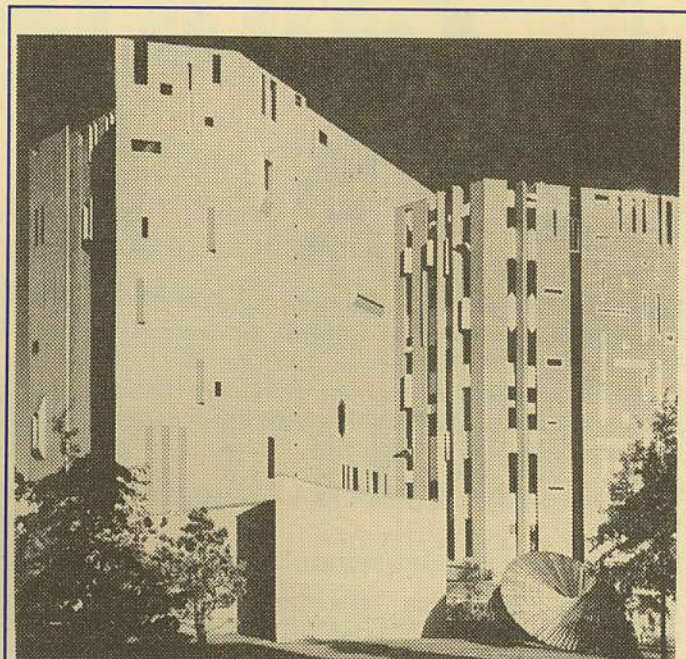
Armed with an unmarketable degree in fine arts, Kee began working for National Public Radio in an administrative capacity—and hated the job. In 1981, she escaped by enrolling in Catholic University's library science program. The plan was to hide in the stacks somewhere and have minimal human contact. But Kee was surprised to discover she'd found her ideal profession. A news junkie, always the one who's well-informed, Kee decided to become a reference librarian. NPR lured her back with a part-time contract during her student years. She worked in the tape library, cataloging "All Things Considered" and "Morning Edition" into the computer database system. Soon after receiving her master's degree, Kee was hired by NPR's arts and performance programs department to create a reference library for its new, daily arts magazine. "Performance Today" has been on the air since January, 1987, and Kee's role in it is a very active one. She's expected to bring story ideas to the daily editorial meeting, and maintain current awareness on a wide variety of music and art subjects. She's also the "grammar cop." "No split infinitives on this show," Kee's been heard yell. Susan Stamberg fans might like to know that Kee's husband, Robert Malesky, is the senior producer of Stamberg's Sunday morning show.

As with any number of other recent members of SLA's News Division, Kee was introduced to the group by **Barbara Semonche**. "I was still a student when I found out what a valuable organization this is," she explained.

"While working on an independent study project about broadcast libraries, I contacted Barbara. She took the time to discuss my research and conclusions, gave me some useful suggestions, and did a great job of promoting the SLA." In 1985, Kee joined what was then the Newspaper Division, and won the Student Stipend Award for the conference in Winnipeg. "That first conference convinced me of the essential importance of this kind of professional organization," Kee said. "And I knew right away that this was the group I belonged in. The knowledge and energy of the librarians I've met in this division is amazing."

In her copious spare time, Kee enjoys some of the traditional librarian hobbies—reading voraciously and conducting the family genealogy projects. Her music tastes runs the gamut, but, though she works for a classical music show, her heart will always belong to rock 'n' roll. Last spring, Kee and her NPR librarian colleagues made a public spectacle of themselves by winning the "Hammiest Group" award in Washington's annual "Gross National Parade." Following "Arms Dealers" handing out mannequin parts and a precision lawn mower drill team, the NPR crowd challenged the traditional library image by marching as "Conan the Librarian"—complete with Viking helmets, swords and snakes.

Kee was pleased to take on the NLN editor position, but reminded Lany that "I'll have to depend on a lot of help from you newspaper folks. In radio, we don't know much about printers." But, she added, "I look forward to talking about the newsletter in Denver. I think it can be an interesting experience, and certainly an educational one. I already know you need to lie to people about deadlines."



The Denver Art Museum, near the Denver Public Library and the Civic Center, features one of the world's greatest collections of Native American art.

Stipend Winner A Florida Newsman

Robert Davidsson of Tallahassee, Fla., is the winner of the 1988 Student Stipend Award. The annual stipend enables a graduate student interested in news librarianship to attend the Special Libraries Association Annual Conference. This year's \$1,000 award is sponsored jointly by the News Division and UMI of Ann Arbor, Mich., a Bell & Howell information company. The award will be presented at the division awards dinner on June 13 in Denver.

Bob has a bachelor of science degree in journalism and is currently enrolled in the School of Library Science and Information Services master's program at Florida State University. He has 12 years of journalism experience. Most recently he worked as a metro desk copy editor at the *Palm Beach Post*. His other newspaper jobs have included bureau reporter, assistant news editor and photographer for various Florida newspapers.

Bob is looking forward to the SLA annual conference as an opportunity to "learn about the latest trends in the profession," and believes the News Division program would be "a perfect supplement to the library science education I am receiving at Florida State University." His career goal is "to draw on my skills in both journalism and library science to manage a news library."

Members of this year's student stipend award committee are **Sharon Ostmann**, chairman (*Orange County Register*), **Ann Sausedo** (*Los Angeles Herald Examiner*), **Roberta Grant** (*MacLean's* magazine), **Teresa Leonard** (*Raleigh Times / News and Observer*) and **Kee Malesky** (National Public Radio).



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



EDITOR'S NOTE: *Carl Morgan is the editor of the Windsor Star in Windsor Ontario, Canada. His Point of View article in NLN, Aug. 15, 1987 pp. 29-31. Ralph Gee, librarian of the Nottingham (England) Evening Post, responded with a Point of View that appeared in (NLN, Feb. 15, 1988, page 18).*

Three loud cheers for Ralph Gee, who spoke for us all so wittily.

I would like to ask Carl Morgan a few questions myself.

- 1) Who chose his electronic retrieval system, management or the librarian? If the latter, how much time was allowed to research the options and evaluate them?
- 2) How much time was allowed for the changeover?
- 3) Were library staffers—many of whom had probably

never touched a computer before—given time and training enough to get thoroughly familiar with the system before it went online?

4) Was the job of teaching reporters how to access the data bank given to the systems department people, or was the library staff expected to make time for this task, too?

5) Did you stress to reporters the urgency of attending training sessions?

6) Was a simplified, step-by-step instruction sheet printed up and given to editors and reporters, to keep by the library systems terminals or at their desks?

7) Have you emphasized to editors the importance of entering library codes when they edit—or taking whatever steps are necessary to make printing codes compatible with the library's needs? Librarians I have talked to after they changed to electronic storage all said their biggest problems (after technical glitches were cleared up) were the result of editorial failure to follow new procedures. Every time you bring in a new editor, the potential for a problem exists.

7) Are all your reporters equally skillful at using their VDTs? Not in my experience.

8) Are you aware that many of the irritations involved in online retrieval are the result of the software program? It is only the cumulative impact of librarians attending user group sessions at conferences that has resulted in software improvements being initiated.

You can't expect us to hit a home run as long as we are seen as bat boys. Or at best, equipment managers. There's no glory and little pay to a librarian's job, but we sure as hell would like to be team members. We feel we are. Now how do we convince you?

Joy Hill
News-Photo Librarian
Annandale, Va.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *News Library News encourages the membership to write letters for publication. Topics can be about anything of interest to division members and not necessarily related to published articles.*

PR Committee offers award

The SLA Public Relations Committee is asking members of the News Division to nominate for the second annual Public Relations Award.

This award recognizes a journalist who publishes an outstanding feature article on the special libraries profession in a newspaper or general circulation magazine. By giving this award, SLA hopes to encourage more writers to develop stories on special libraries and the information professionals who manage them.

Nominated articles should have been published during the 1988 calendar year (reprints are not eligible) and should be at least two 8½-by-11-inch pages in length.

The award carries a cash prize of \$500 plus travel and living expenses of up to \$500 for the 1989 SLA convention in New York.

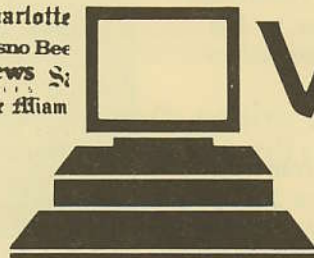
Send nominations to David Malinak, Special Libraries Association, 1700 18th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009, before the end of 1988.

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PERSONAL GLIMPSES



Elizabeth Whisnant

State-Record Co.
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Please send news of all projects, endeavors, and events to me: Elizabeth Whisnant, Newsday Library, 235 Pinelawn Road, Melville, New York 11747. Everthing you do is important enough — no project is too small, no endeavor is too modest. Let us hear from you.



Alfred M. Thomas, head librarian at the *Arkansas Gazette*, has been named president of the Arkansas Library Association. Alfred joined the *Gazette* in 1978 as assistant librarian and was promoted to the head position in 1981. Alfred is also involved in the Legislative and Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Arkansas Library Association and has been chair of the Special Libraries Division.

Paula Stevens, librarian at Phoenix Newspapers Inc., was the luncheon speaker at the annual conference of the Central Arizona Chapter of the Institute of Industrial Engineers. The conference theme was "Information Management: the Competitive Edge." Paula spoke to a luncheon crowd of 150 industrial engineers, systems analysts and members of management information systems departments. She gave background on the development and maintenance of the library's VU/TEXT database, including the human side to automating an office. She also discussed the reference and research services the Phoenix Newspapers Library offers to the company, and the value of the information professional in the corporation.

Debbie Millward, a recent MLS graduate from the University of British Columbia, has joined **Janice Butler** and **Shirley Mooney** at *The Pacific Press* library. Debbie comes well-prepared after, in Shirley's words, "toiling as the clerical at *The Press* library during her student days." In her new position, Debbie is acting as database administrator. Shirley, by the way, knows how to operate. Now that she has extra help, she and her

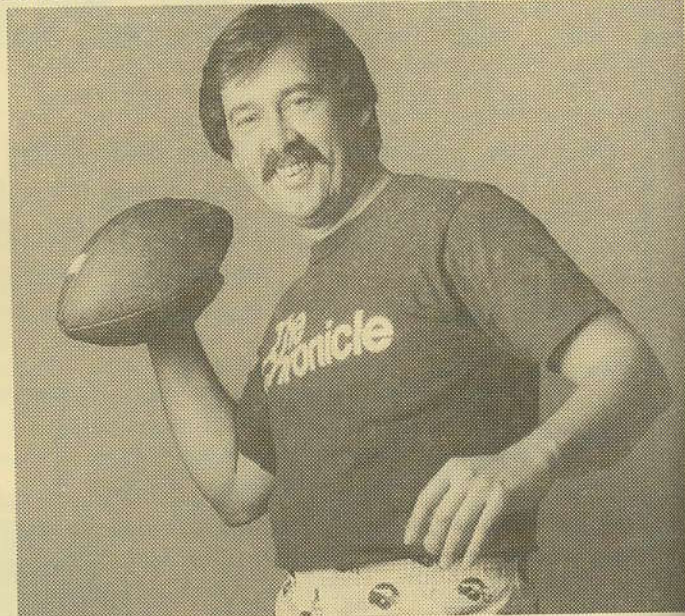
husband Bent Aabjerg are off to Denmark to join the her in-laws' 60th wedding anniversary celebration.

Katherine Leppok of the *Mail Tribune* (Medford, Ore.) has been named literacy coordinator as part of her job as librarian at her 30,000-circulation daily newspaper. The *Mail Tribune* for Literacy project was started in January, 1988, and her work includes research, talking to literacy groups, and fielding questions from the public. She also funnels story ideas to the newsroom and writes a column on classic reading once a month. Katherine says her library is currently looking at a computerized index for the clip file.

Teresa Leonard (News Observer Publishing Co.) is contributing to "Kudos and Catcalls," her newspaper's in-house newsletter. Terri reviews new library books so the editorial staff will know what is available, but these are no typical reviews! Terri tells not only what information the book contains, but also its arrangement, useful indexes, special types of information in the book and where to find it, and the book's location in the library.

Barbara Newcombe, formerly of Chicago and now of sunny California, talked the California Newspaper Publishers Association out of \$5,000 to sponsor the writing of a guide to California Public Records.

Richard Geiger (*San Francisco Chronicle*) lost his shirt recently. When the San Francisco 49ers met the Minnesota Vikings in the NFL playoffs, Richard called **Bob Jansen** (*Minneapolis Star Tribune*) and bet him a *Chronicle* T-shirt that San Francisco would win. Bob countered with a *Star Tribune* T-shirt. Wonder what Bob's editors think of him wearing a *Chronicle* T-shirt?



Minnesota *Star-Tribune* quarterback Bob Jansen makes a winning fashion statement in his *San Francisco Chronicle* trophy tee shirt and his patterned Vikings emblem shorts.

Turn to next page

PERSONAL GLIMPSES

Continued from previous page



Nan Stoddard spent February writing free-lance articles for *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* Sunday restaurant section while she recovered from surgery. She says that if a body has to be out of commission in Missouri, February is a good month to do it. Nan also reports that she has been elected president of the Manchester, Mo., Ladies' Auxiliary of the American Legion.

John Cronin is Keeping the Faith in Boston. John (*The Boston Herald*) writes a weekly column (12 inches and bylined, no less!) on the history of Boston's urban churches called Keeping the Faith. This fascinating column runs in a zoned downtown edition, reaching approximately 80,000 readers weekly. Response to the column has been so good that soon it will run in the mainsheet, reaching 260,000 readers. Keeping the Faith covers the traditional (St. Paul Church in Harvard Square) and the non-traditional (Metropolitan Community

Church, which serves Boston's gay community). In addition to history, the column covers topics such as special music and services offered by each church. Next time you find yourself in Boston, pick up a *Herald*. You'll learn something.

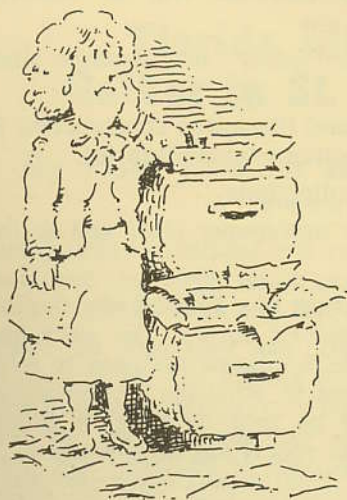
A certain Canadian company probably wishes it hadn't tangled with *Toronto Sun* librarian Katherine Webb Nelson. Katherine booked a European vacation with a travel company that proceeded to lead her on a wild goose chase that included canceled flights, ignored phone calls, delays in hotel rooms and unexpected out-of-pocket expenses. When Katherine told John McLeod, assistant business editor, about her plight, he wrote a column about the tour company. Touche!

Suzanne Caster has resigned her position as head librarian of the *San Francisco Chronicle* to work as a free-lance researcher and consultant.

Gee, Toto, I don't think we're in Kansas anymore! Elizabeth Whisnant, roving gossip-monger for *News Library News*, has resigned her position as reference librarian at the State-Record Co. (Columbia, S.C.) to move to Long Island, N.Y., and work with Mary Ann Skinner as library manager at *Newsday*.

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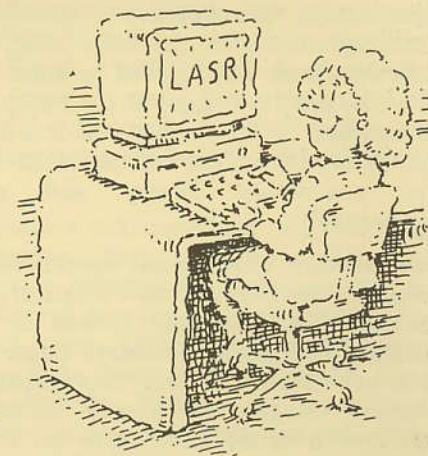
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REGIONAL SEMINARS



New England librarians meet in Providence

By John Cronin
Boston Herald

On a typically cold, blustery winter day, nearly 40 news librarians and / or editors gathered at the Omni-Biltmore Hotel in Providence, R.I., for a news library seminar. The seminar, sponsored by the New England Newspaper Association, was organized by **Joe Mehr**, librarian at the *Providence Journal Bulletin*.



The non-smoking section of the New England Newspapers seminar in Providence, R.I.

After registration and coffee, the seminar got off to a good start with a showing of the division's new slide production, "Introduction to Newspaper Libraries." The morning session on the how, what, when and where of news libraries was chaired by **John Cronin** of the *Boston Herald*. **Charles Campo** of the *Bangor Daily News*, **Linda Henderson** of the *Providence Journal* and **Patricia Nute** of the *Hartford Courant* described microfilm operations, the one-person library and clipping operations, respectively.

An overview of electronic operations was given by **Angel Diggs** of the *New Haven Register*, **Shirley Jobe** of the *Boston Globe*, **Dorothy Newell** of the *Quincy Patriot Ledger* and **Susan Fedorzyn-Edgar** of the *Providence Journal*. Since all four newspapers happen to be in varying stages of library automation, participants received a broad perspective on the state-of-the-art of news library electronic operations.

The morning session was followed by lunch. Guest speaker at the luncheon was **James Ragsdale**, editor of the *New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times*, who spoke of the value of the news library to his paper. **Maurice Lauzon**, the librarian at the *Standard-Times*, and his library, got a lot of plaudits from Mr. Ragsdale.

The first afternoon session on graphics was chaired by **Joy Hill**. **Charles Campo**, **Maurice Lauzon** and **Mary Sparrow** of the *Portland, Maine, Press-Herald*, described the various techniques used to manage their photo collections, again providing the attendees with an overview of the various methods used to manage photo collections.

A summary of the reference services available both traditionally and via the new technologies followed and a "potpourri" session at the end of the day gave participants the opportunity to question the panelists. A summary reading of the evaluation sheets proves that this is another one of the successful seminars given on a regional basis by members of the News Division.

The only general critique, and a positive one at that, suggested that there should have been more opportunity for round-table discussion of issues related to news libraries as an alternative to the all-day panel / speaker format.

Joe wrapped up the day by telling the participants that, if enough interest was generated, efforts would be made to establish a New England Newspaper Library group. So far, response has been somewhat positive; there will be some followup on that idea.



Wisconsin Workshop Planned

The *Capital Times / Wisconsin State Journal* library in Madison, Wis., will sponsor a news library workshop on Sept. 10, 1988. The one-day workshop, designed especially for librarians of small and medium-sized libraries, also will be of interest to publishers, editors, students and others interested in learning about and meeting the challenges of newspaper libraries. Several news librarians from the Midwest will be featured speakers. Topics include:

- Microcomputer use in small or medium-sized newspaper libraries.
- Subject heading control and thesaurus construction in automated and manual system news libraries.
- Management of photo collections.
- Reference service to the newspaper staff and to the public.

Also included in the program is a tour of the *Capital Times / Wisconsin State Journal* library. The workshop will end with a round-table discussion designed to raise questions and offer solutions to problems of newspaper libraries. A reception will be held on Sept. 9 at the Inntowner Hotel. A block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel for Friday night. Final details and registration forms will be available early in May. If you are interested in receiving a registration form, please contact **Ron Larson** of the *Capital Times / Wisconsin State Journal* Library, 1901 Fish Hatchery Rd., P.O. Box 8058, Madison, Wis., 53708 (608-252-6112).

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REGIONAL SEMINARS

Continued from previous page

SLA Regionals Announced

A two-part regional continuing education program on one-person libraries has been announced by the Special Libraries Association. The 1988 program, "Going It Alone: Managing the One-Person Library," will be taught by noted author and lecturer, **Guy St. Clair**. Registrants may enroll in an introductory program, an advanced program or the complete two-day program.

Part One: The Basics: A review of basic management techniques for those with minimal library management experience. In addition to an overview and introduction to one-person libraries, Part One covers time management and automation.

Part Two: Advanced Management Techniques: Keys on the needs of those with library management expertise. Topics include personnel, roles and relationships with management, financial management, and public relations and marketing.

"Going It Alone" will be presented at the following locations:

May 6-7	Philadelphia
Sept. 15-16	Chicago
Oct. 20-21	Ann Arbor
Nov. 17-18	San Francisco

Fees for the program are \$110 for attendance at the one-day program or \$200 for the two-day program. Non-member fees are \$130 for one-day registration or \$240 for the complete program.

For additional information or a registration brochure, contact the Professional Development Section, SLA, 1700 18th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009 or call 202-234-4700.



Florida Librarians Gather in St. Petersburg

By Pete Basofin and Cary Kenney
St. Petersburg Times

Florida news librarians met recently to eat a sumptuous lunch and chew over issues and problems that have come to their attention in the last six months.

About 50 librarians and assistants assembled in St. Petersburg for the Florida News Librarians Association spring meeting March 11. FNLA members meet twice a year for informal one-day seminars to network, talk shop, and generally to keep on the cutting edge of the profession. The *St. Petersburg Times* and the Poynter Institute for Media Studies hosted the conference.

The morning session was introduced by **Jo Cates**, librarian at the Poynter Institute. The institute is an educational facility that the former owner and publisher of the *St. Petersburg Times* and Congressional Quarterly, Nelson Poynter, set up before his death in 1978. He

wanted to establish an institution to further the study of higher education in journalism, and he also wanted to ensure that the *St. Petersburg Times* would never be purchased by a chain of newspapers or any other self-interested party. The Institute holds the controlling stock of the *Times*, and its mission is to act as a bridge between the working journalist and advanced study in journalism.



Gail Bulfin and **Bob Isaacs** of the Ft. Lauderdale papers and **Nora Paul** and **Betty Scott** of the *Miami Herald* took part in a panel discussion when the Florida News librarians met in St. Petersburg.

In the first morning session, **Donald K. Fry** and **Roy Peter Clark**, professors at Poynter, talked about how journalists think. Don is currently working on a book on the topic and he gave results of surveys of reporters that summarize the rules and misconceptions that make up the atypical news junkie mind-set. Roy, former writing coach for the *St. Petersburg Times*, spoke as a journalist user of library and research services—how inaccuracies are often enshrined in our news records and how essential it is for news librarians to assume a more active, creative role in assisting journalists.

In the later morning session, two panels addressed the issue of service to bureau libraries. One panel was composed of reporters from bureaus at the *Tampa Tribune* and the *St. Petersburg Times*. The other panel was made up of bureau librarians and their directors: **Nora Paul**, *Miami Herald*, with **Betty Scott** of the *Herald's* Broward bureau, and **Bob Isaacs**, *Fort Lauderdale News* and *Sun Sentinel*, with **Gail Bulfin**, one of his team of librarians who take turns working in the Palm Beach bureau.

While the bureau reporters acknowledged frequent help from their news libraries, they said they often feel isolated and cut off from information. They complained about the lack of resources and the seeming indifference of the library to their needs. Librarians countered that reporters should make their needs known. Despite some protestations to the contrary, bureaus are considered training grounds for new and/or inexperienced reporters. Discussion with the panel of librarians centered around how to make the initial decision to staff a bureau library as well as the issues of use and available materials for research.

In the afternoon, the group moved eight blocks over to the *St. Petersburg Times*, where a new building is being

Turn to next page

REGIONAL SEMINARS

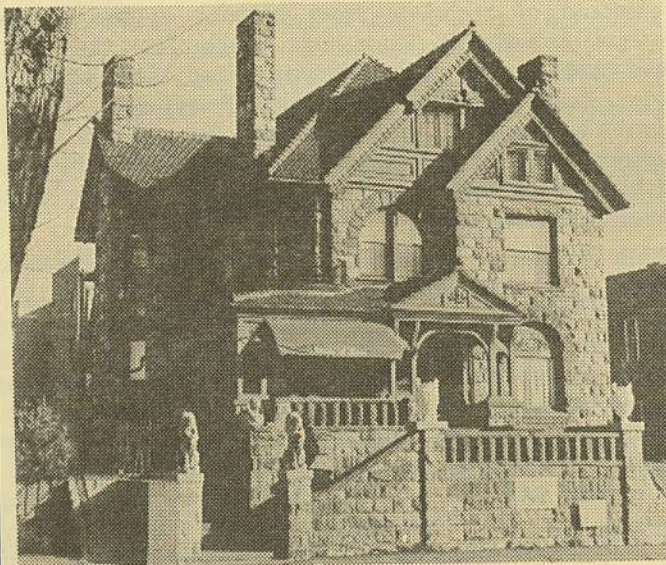
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constructed. They squeezed into a small conference room to hear talks by the news executive in charge of the library and a session coordinated by *Times* graphics librarian, **Barbara Hijek**. **Tom Rawlins**, associate editor, spoke about technological change in the newspaper industry and answered a number of questions from the perspective of a newsman who has been in the business for 25. Barbara had a news artist and an art director explain how MAC graphics are created and the challenge these materials present to libraries for storage and retrieval. She also described how the library plots an active role in research for graphics and the informal process for ensuring credit for the research when it ultimately appears in the paper.

Final items on the agenda for the day were tours of the *Times* library—its research facility and the database operation that processes an average of 275 stories a day for storage with DataTimes in Oklahoma City. Attendees also saw a brief demonstration of the Associated Press electronic darkroom project for which the *Times* is a test site. The photo department uses special terminals to call up daily wire art, select, crop and store AP color and black and white photos. So far, storage is limited to about 200 images. A hard copy can be created but the system allows full electronic selection and production.

The session gave participants a look at new ideas and new technology, with eyes turned toward a future of expanding library service both geographically and through the use of new materials.

The fall meeting in Gainesville will be hosted by **Dolores Jenkins** at the University of Florida School of Journalism and University Library.



The memory of the "Unsinkable" Molly Brown, one of Colorado's most colorful characters, lives on in her Victorian house, which is near the State Capitol building.

Treasurer releases 1987 financial report



Lois A. Doncevic

Division Treasurer
The Morning Call
Allentown, Pa.

Our closing balance in 1987 of \$9,454.89 is lower than that of the previous two years, so we need to keep a close watch on our expenditures so our savings can once again increase. But we have good news from SLA—we have recouped our publication costs on *Automating the Newspaper Clipping Files*. The first royalty check, for \$1,346.96, arrived after this report was filed.

We are always thankful that vendors help offset the costs of the division suite at conference time and we are grateful to the many businesses that have taken out ads in *News Library News*; this certainly helps us financially. Also, our interest from income, especially the CD, is continually on the rise.

Listed below is our financial report filed with SLA this past January.

OPENING BALANCE JAN. 1, 1987	\$18,023.80
INCOME	
Allotment from SLA	3,105.75
Bulletin subscription income	330.00
Bulletin advertising income	4,970.00
Income from meetings	4,452.00
Interest income	941.41
Suite fee assessments	1,240.00
Donations	5,658.97
Publication sales	124.04
TOTAL INCOME	\$20,822.57
Total available for expenditures & disbursements	\$38,846.37
EXPENDITURES & DISBURSEMENTS	
Bulletin costs	5,095.44
Bulletin advertising costs	566.16
Costs for meetings	8,752.99
Bank charges	55.00
Foreign librarians grants	2,000.00
Awards	1,839.00
Publications costs	10,974.80
Conference photography	108.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$29,391.48
Closing balance on Dec. 31, 1987	\$ 9,454.89

In this election year, need we remind you of the danger of reporting on insufficient information?



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EXPANDING HORIZONS



DENVER CONFERENCE PROGRAM

SATURDAY, June 11, 1988

2-4 p.m.: Executive board meeting in the hospitality suite.

4-5 p.m.: 1989 New York Program Committee meeting in the hospitality suite.

6 p.m.-midnight: Hospitality suite open.

SUNDAY, June 12, 1988

8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.: **NEWS LIBRARIES AND THE 4M FORMULA: MATERIALS, METHODS, MONEY & MANAGEMENT.** Basics seminar hosted by the *Rocky Mountain News* followed by tours by seminar attendees of the *News* and *Denver Post*. Organized by **Barbara Semonche**, **Diane Spooner** and **Vickie Makings**.

Noon-4 p.m.: Tours of the *Denver Post* starting on the hour. **Vickie Makings**.

6-7 p.m.: Chairman's reception in hospitality suite.

7 p.m.-midnight: Open house, hospitality suite: Mead Data Central, vendor host / demonstration.

MONDAY, June 13, 1988

9-10:15 a.m.: **INFORMATION EFFECTIVENESS / HOW TO DEFINE AND SELL YOUR BUDGET REQUEST.** Learn how to buy effectively, how to assess your budget needs and how to sell that big budget to management. **Herb Pierson** of the *Washington Post*, **Anthony Cambell** of the *Denver Post*, **Kathy Trimble** of U.S. News and World Report, **Beverly Parisot** of the *Omaha World Herald* and **Candice Bryant** of the *Washington Post*.

10:30 a.m.-noon: **SUBJECT CONTROL IN FULL TEXT DATABASES.** The panel will discuss the use of controlled thesaurus enhancement in full text databases vs. reliance on free-text searching. **Kathy Foley** of the *Washington Post*, **David Batty**, library consultant, **Nora Paul** of the *Miami Herald*, **Larry Phillips** of the *Washington Post* and **John Jansson** of the *Chicago Tribune*.

2-4 p.m.: **NEWSPAPER DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING.**

6-9 p.m.: **NEWSPAPER DIVISION AWARDS BANQUET.** Cocktail reception sponsored by University Microfilm International. Rattlesnake Club, Denver.

9 p.m.-midnight: Open house in hospitality suite.

TUESDAY, June 14, 1988

9-10:15 a.m.: **SMALL NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES INTEREST GROUP.** Panel on library automation for small and medium-sized newspaper libraries: case histories and pearls of wisdom. **Margaret Neu** of the *Corpus Christi Caller Times*, **Louise Tucker** of the *Gary Post-Tribune* and **Paul Witherow** of the *Colorado Springs Gazette-Telegraph*.

9-10:15 a.m.: **CONTENT ANALYSIS OF NEWSPAPER DATABASES AS A MANAGEMENT TOOL.** Provides a presentation and discussion concerning the use of full-text databases to aid management decisions. By divising various formulas, a database can be used to analyze subject, placement and length characteristics in your newspaper. **Robert Jansen** of the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*.

10:30 a.m.-noon: **ACCESSING LOCAL PUBLIC INFORMATION: CHALLENGES FOR THE NEWS LIBRARY.** This session explores the variety of information resources available for use by news libraries. Representatives of the Investigative Reporters and Editors Inc., and InfoColorado explain resource centers available for news organizations and how news

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Continued from previous page

libraries can use these resources to assist reporters and editors. **Aurora Davis** of the *Kansas City Star Times*, **Steve Weinberg** of Investigative Reporters and Editors Inc. and **Joan Fiscella** of the Auraria Academic Library.

Noon-1:45 p.m.: Executive board meeting in hospitality suite.

12:30-1:45 p.m.: **NEWSBUG MEETING**. News library applications of BASIS software will be discussed, including features of the new Release L. **Sharon Ostmann** of *The Orange County Register*.

2-2:45 p.m.: **DATATIMES USERS GROUP MEETING**. DataTimes will update users and prospects on all new databases, services and features. Open forum discussion will follow. **Linda Paschal** of DataTimes.

3-3:45 p.m.: **NEXIS USERS GROUP MEETING**. Discussion of NEXIS applications in the news media. **Olga Staios** and **Deborah Silcox** of Mead Data Central.

4-4:45 p.m.: **VU/TEXT UPDATE SESSION**. This session is open to anyone interested in VU/TEXT or is a current user. There will be a review of the latest system improvements. **Mary Lou Whitman** of VU/TEXT.

6 p.m.-midnight: Open house, hospitality suite: DataTimes vendor host / demonstration.

WEDNESDAY, June 15, 1988

8-9 a.m.: **NEXIS BREAKFAST** for the News Division. Speaker **Fred Graham**.

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: **PROMOTING THE NEWS LIBRARY: INCREASING VISIBILITY AND VALUE**. Ways of increasing your stature in your news operation through editorial cooperation, coordination and credit . . . and corporate recognition. **Ann Saucedo** of the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*, **Judy Canter** of the *San Francisco Examiner*, **Gary Lance** of the *San Jose Mercury News*, **Theresa Redderson** of the *Seattle Times*, **Sharon Reeves** of the *San Diego Union-Tribune* and **Deborah Reifman** of the *Los Angeles Daily News*.

2-3:30 p.m.: **BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL NEWS ONLINE: AN UPDATE**. Joint program with the Business & Technology Division. The number of databases providing business and financial news is growing and the methods for end-user formatting of this information is becoming available to PC users. This session provides an overview of how top users in newspaper and financial libraries are searching for and delivering this information and what online sources they turn to in their fast-paced environment. Secondly, DIALOG, Dow Jones and NEXIS will each present an overview of the recent databases and services added in this area to their systems—and how to get the best retrieval from each. **Lydia Dehn** of DIALOG, **Barbara Burton** of Dow Jones News Retrieval, **Leslie Jacobs** of DIALOG, **Debra Silcox** of Mead / NEXIS, **Karen Van Rossem** of *Newsday* and **Carol Brotman White** of McKinsey and Co.

4-4:45 p.m.: **I CAIN'T SAY NO**. Providing alternative sources to using the news library. **John Cronin** of the *Boston Herald*.

5-6 p.m.: New York Program Committee meeting II.

6 p.m.-midnight: Open house in hospitality suite: VU/TEXT vendor host / demonstration.

THURSDAY, June 16, 1988

9 a.m.-4 p.m.: **NEW TECHNOLOGY IN NEWSROOMS AND ITS IMPACT ON NEWS LIBRARIES (CONTINUING EDUCATION)**. A discussion of the effects of pagination, electronic darkrooms, computerized graphics services, scanners and telecommunications on news libraries. Both vendors and users will be participants. **Diane Mirvis** of the *Syracuse Herald-Journal / Post-Standard*, **Howard Finberg** of the *Phoenix Newspapers*, **Ian Krantz** of VU/TEXT, **Allen Paschal** of DataTimes, **Roger Fidler** of Knight-Ridder Newspapers, **Tim Flaherty** of Crosfield-Hastech and a representative from Associated Press.

5-7 p.m.: Cocktail reception and tour at the *Rocky Mountain News*.

7 p.m.-midnight: Open house in hospitality suite.



Notice to first-time attendees

If the Denver conference is the first annual conference you will attend as a member of the News Division, please contact chair-elect **Richard Geiger** immediately at 415/777-7230, or the *San Francisco Chronicle* Library, 905 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif., 94119. He will arrange to have a member welcome you and introduce you to our division activities and other members. Also call if you would like to greet first-time attendees.

DENVER

All Denver photos and map in this issue are courtesy of the Denver Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau

- Attractions
- A Auraria Campus
- B Colorado History Museum
- C Colorado State Capitol Building
- D DENVER CONVENTION COMPLEX
- E D&F Tower
- F DENVER METRO CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
- G Denver Art Museum
- H Denver Center for Performing Arts
- I Denver Firefighters Museum
- J Larimer Square
- K Molly Brown House
- L Museum of Western Art
- M Sakura Square
- N Shops at Tabor Center
- O Tivoli Denver
- P Union Station
- Q United States Mint



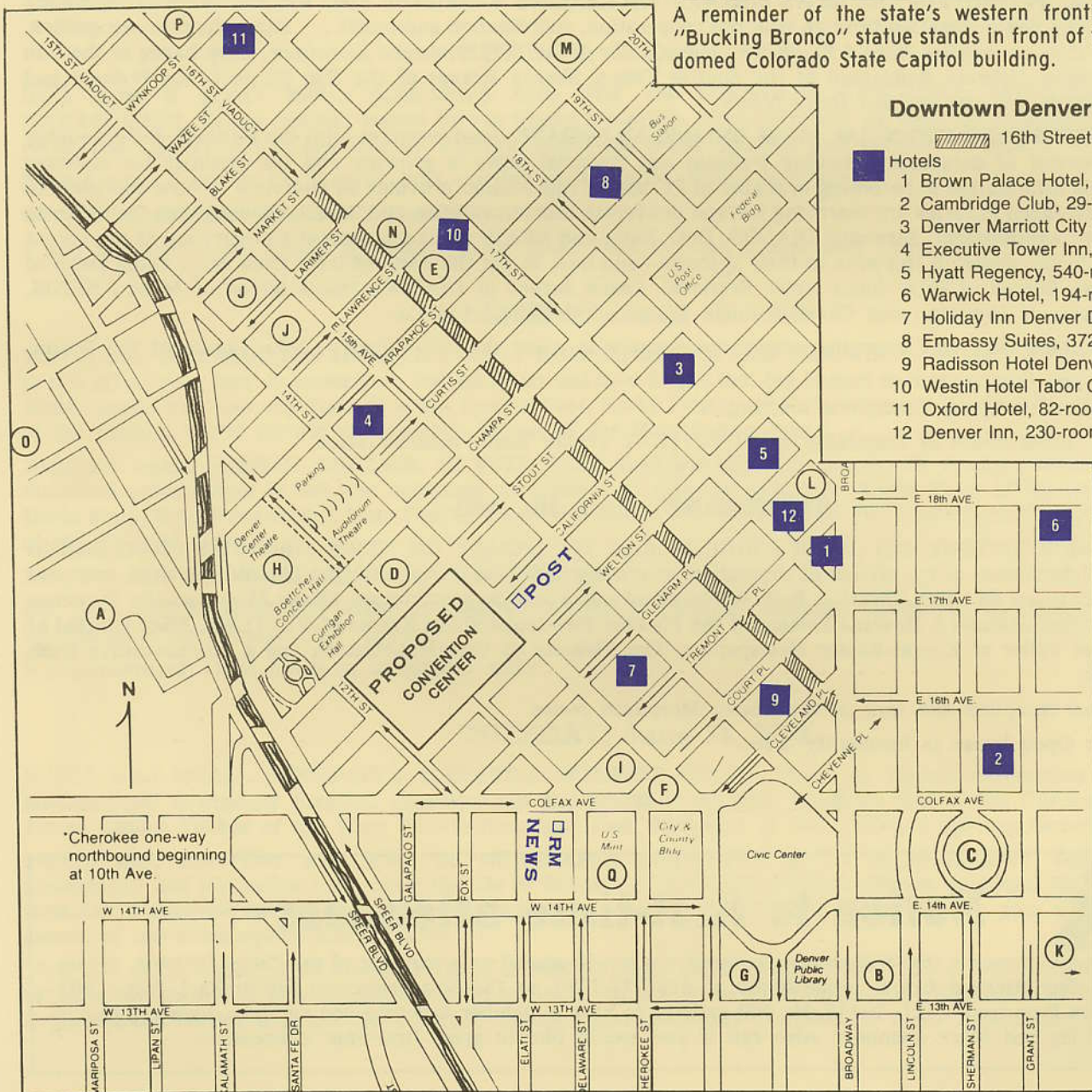
A reminder of the state's western frontier heritage, the "Bucking Bronco" statue stands in front of the 24-carat, gold-domed Colorado State Capitol building.

Downtown Denver

16th Street Mall

Hotels

- 1 Brown Palace Hotel, 231-rooms
- 2 Cambridge Club, 29-suites
- 3 Denver Marriott City Center, 612-rooms
- 4 Executive Tower Inn, 337-rooms
- 5 Hyatt Regency, 540-rooms
- 6 Warwick Hotel, 194-rooms
- 7 Holiday Inn Denver Downtown, 400-rooms
- 8 Embassy Suites, 372-suites
- 9 Radisson Hotel Denver, 751-rooms
- 10 Westin Hotel Tabor Center, 420-rooms
- 11 Oxford Hotel, 82-rooms
- 12 Denver Inn, 230-rooms



Volunteers needed for 1989 New York Convention



We are now planning the Newspaper Division activities and programs for the 1989 annual conference in New York. To make the program a success, we need volunteers. Please fill out the form below and send it to:

**Sharon Ostmann
Library Director
The Orange County Register
625 N. Grand Ave.
Santa Ana, CA 92701**

I have an idea for a program, it is: _____

I am willing to organize a program on: _____

	YES	NO
I am willing to make sure a meeting room is set up properly and make sure program evaluations are handed out and picked up.	_____	_____

I am willing to tend bar at the newspaper suite one evening.	_____	_____
--	-------	-------

Name: _____

Company: _____

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News ▶ Guardian and Guardian Weekly
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York Times ▶ Pravda* ▶ St. Louis Post-Dispatch
▶ San Francisco Chronicle ▶ USA TODAY ▶
Wall Street Journal** ▶ Washington Times

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SHHH . . . Quiet Heroes at Work

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"And the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting is awarded to the staff of the Baltimore Sun library, without whom hundreds of award-winning articles could never be written..."

Dee Lyon knows this is one story she'll never clip from a newspaper, but she likes to dream that one day the Baltimore Sun library and other special libraries like it will be recognized for their important contributions to the creation of the newspaper.

"I really like my job," she says, "but I don't think the library gets enough credit. I often see stories we've worked on winning awards, and I know that the public has no idea how much we contribute to what appears in the newspaper."

Photo librarian Phyllis Kisner agrees. "It gives you real pleasure to see something you worked really hard on appear in the paper," she says. "But we labor in anonymity," finishes her co-worker, Fred Rasmussen.

They may be unknown to the public, but the news staffs of the papers know and appreciate their contributions.

"The library often means the difference between thinking a story is correct and knowing it's correct," confirms Evening Sun editor Bill Hawkins. "It is a vital backstop for checking facts."

But exactly what does the library do? They provide a complete history of everything that's ever appeared in the Baltimore Sun, saved and sorted into complete pages, clippings (there are nearly 3 million, listed by subject and reporter) and photographs. They also house a reference library with about 2,000 books and subscribe to more than 70 periodicals. They can access four international databases. They answer requests from people throughout the company, as well as inquiries from the public and from other news organizations. Sometimes they tip reporters to stories breaking in other places that may eventually impact on the Baltimore area. But mostly, they provide the staffs of the Evening Sun, the Sun and the Sunday Sun with the most complete background possible for each story that appears in the papers.

They are also part of a national network, and that can be handy: chief librarian Carolyn Hardnett, who last year was elected to the national Board of Directors of the Special Libraries Association, picks up her telephone during an interview and greets Sun Features editor Jan Warrington. Alice Steinbach is flying to San Francisco to interview outbound mayor Dianne Feinstein. Before the meeting, she'd like to review an article on Feinstein that appeared in a San Francisco newspaper: Can Carolyn help her get it? No problem, Carolyn assures her, she'll call a friend at the San Francisco Examiner and the clips will be waiting at Alice's hotel when she arrives.

Carolyn came to the Baltimore Sun three years ago, after 15 years with the Washington bureau of the Chicago Tribune. Her special libraries contacts are not limited to the newspaper business; the 29 divisions of the SLA include advertising, engineering, food, geography, military, arts and transportation libraries. In her old job she was often asked to call friends in the libraries of closed-door businesses and agencies and scout out information no reporter could glean from a press release. Those contacts have served her well here, too.

"A while back Ken Paik called me up and said, 'This is probably impossible, but is there any way we can find out how many Americans have died as a result of hostile actions during the Reagan administration?' " she recalls. "I told him all we had to do was call my friend who heads the military records division of the Library of Congress. An hour later I handed him the figure and he was stunned."

Carolyn never intended to be a newspaper librarian when she enrolled at the Hampton Institute, not far from her hometown of Remington, Va.; she was going to teach home economics. In 1970, to help finance her education, she got a job as a receptionist at the Tribune's Washington bureau. The position gave her plenty of chances to work with the bureau's librarian, and she showed a knack for research. When that librarian was booted upstairs to the Chicago library in 1976, Carolyn was offered the job. She came to the Baltimore Sun in 1985 when the paper's immortal librarian Clem Vitek retired.

Things are a bit different under the ebullient Carolyn, under whose warm management style the library staff has loosened its collar and become a more mellow place to work. And some frolic has been introduced into the frenzy. When Carolyn celebrated her first birthday in her new job, the staff hired a stripper to serenade her.

But the tomfoolery helps relieve the tension of trying to keep current a library that is constantly being swamped with more data and more requests for it. In addition to the regular workload there are special projects, like the 150th anniversary celebration, that need attention.

"Working on the anniversary was fun," says Fred Rasmussen, "but from January through May, 1987, this place was a zoo. It was really time-consuming."

One of the biggest ongoing projects of the library is bringing 150 years worth of history into the age of technology. The microfilm department, which started about 19 years ago, has more than 2.4 million clippings waiting to be converted from large, brittle newsprint into durable 35mm transparencies. And that number grows every time a new edition is

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Continued from previous page

published.

"We realize," sighs Juanita Pryor, who has been with the microfilm department since it started, "that we can work on these clippings until we retire and still they will not be complete. There are so many to do."

"But we keep the by-line files [listed by who wrote them] fairly current," says her co-worker Diana Stratton, "and we do the rest as the files for each subject become too full to hold any more." With the help of colleague Austin Baker, they turn about 2,400 clippings per week into transparencies.

The library staff likes being the source of information, sometimes for the national media.

"It was really exciting for me when Spiro Agnew became a vice presidential candidate," Dee Lyon says. "He was unknown outside of Maryland and we sent a lot of information about him out over the wires. Many visiting reporters came in, and we gave them what we had. That was fun."

She was also caught up in the scramble for information that surrounded the Baltimore riots after Martin Luther King's assassination. "Every reporter was working on some aspect of the story. There was such tension in the building, but it was different from the tension on the streets. I was here the night he was shot, and I was in a state of shock all evening. I will never forget that."

The total experience of the 19-member library staff equals more years than the Baltimore Sun has been around. Dee Lyon started here 21 years ago, Phyllis Kisner came in 19 years ago, and Fred Rasmussen is the newcomer of the three—he joined the company just 15 years ago.

As their longevity suggests, people like working in the library. They like knowing what's happening in the world before it appears in the newspapers. Some of them are information junkies, enjoying what Dee Lyon calls a "curiosity about knowledge." But the one other thing she craves, that they all crave, is a little credit to the folks behind the headlines who "labor in anonymity."

From *Inside Story*, the employee magazine of the *Baltimore Sun*, February, 1988.



The day staff of the *Baltimore Sun* Library

SLA introduces computer-aided study program

Special Libraries Association will introduce its first computer-assisted study program during the association's 79th Annual Conference in Denver. "Time Management in the Small Library" was developed by Edward Berner, director of the University Club Library, New York, N.Y., and will be available in July, 1988.

"This program is excellent for those unable to attend conferences and meetings or those one-person librarians who cannot participate in continuing-education programs," said Kathy L. Warye, of SLA.

The program will be available on floppy disc for an IBM PC, or compatible equipment with 256K or an Apple MacIntosh with 512K. A workbook with additional readings and exercises on time management will accompany the diskette. Portions of the computer-assisted study program will be demonstrated at SLA's booth in the exhibit hall at the Denver Conference.

Additional information on SLA's computer-assisted study program is available by contacting: Professional Development Section, SLA, 1700 18th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009 or by calling (202) 234-4700.



Behind the Pages of News Library News

You have seen bylines and photo boxes of those who have contributed columns and articles for these last two years I have been editor, but others, whose names and faces have not been so visible, have worked hard to help produce and promote our bulletin. Therefore, in this issue, they are presented here as a public thank you for their invaluable contributions to *News Library News*.

LANY MCDONALD
NLN Editor

Jo Reitman

NLN Advertising Manager



Jo is manager of the News Information Center for Journal / Sentinel Inc. of Milwaukee, Wis. She has been a newspaper librarian since 1979, and active in the division on many committees. She served as chairman of the division's nominating committee in 1984 and

chairman of the publications advisory committee in 1985. NLN advertising has increased 50 percent since she became NLN advertising manager.

Michael Perlman

NLN Layout and Typography

Mike is a 12-year veteran of the *Chicago Sun-Times* library. As a systems librarian, Mike is in charge of the library's database and related computer activities. His experience doing graphics for the *Sun-Times* library led to his NLN job. Mike spent countless hours working out the formats for NLN and laying out each issue. He also was NLN photographer for the annual conference in Anaheim, Calif. Without Mike's attention to all the details of page makeup, NLN would have suffered mortally. In addition to his wizardry for NLN, Mike also authored the chapter called "The Data Base and the Newsroom" in the division's book published last year, *Automating the Newspaper Clipping Files*.

Jennifer Steinbeck Burklow

NLN Copy Editor

NLN copy editor Jennifer Steinbeck Burklow is deputy editor of WeekendPlus, the *Chicago Sun-Times*' Friday entertainment section. A graduate of Indiana University, she interned with the *Sun-Times* and was hired as a features copy editor in 1979. She served as assistant copy desk chief on the features desk for three years before moving to WeekendPlus. Ever since Jennifer has been with the *Sun-Times*, Mike Perlman has managed to persuade her to assist him in most of his schemes—so this job was just a natural progression.

Ross Rumore

NLN Typist

Ross Rumore has retired three times from the newspaper business, and he just keeps coming back for more. Ross

Shirley Jobe

NLN Circulation Manager



Shirley became a newspaper librarian in 1984 when she became head of the *Boston Globe* library. Prior to that time, she was with the John F. Kennedy library for 12 years. In her few years as a newspaper librarian, she has been active as a regional conference speaker for two

New England conferences, and she hosted the *Boston Globe*-sponsored regional held in conjunction with the 1986 SLA annual conference in Boston. Shirley has created a subscriber database for NLN and a subscription flyer, which she has mailed to library schools and other potential subscribers.



Jim Frost / Chicago Sun-Times

Chicago Sun-Times typography team Michael Perlman (right), Jeffifer Steinbeck Burklow (center) and Ross Rumor (left).

now inputs free-lance material for the *Sun-Times* on a part-time basis. Not one to say no, Ross just couldn't refuse Mike Perlman's offer of yet another job—typing in copy for NLN. Ross started his career as a teletype operator in radio, then switched to the print media. He has worked for the *New York Times* (aiding in starting the news service there in 1943), the *Boston Herald*, AP, UPI and the *Sun-Times* News Service as a typesetter.

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Microcomputers Offer Options to News Libraries



Ernest Perez
Circulation Administrator
Chicago Sun-Times
Chicago, Ill.

Many news librarians long have hoped for quality full-text retrieval on microcomputers.

Text retrieval programs were not available in the early days of PC software. But now, a veritable flood of full-text, free-text retrieval software is appearing on the PC software market.

Although PCs can't practically store an archival news text database of any size, they can store smaller files of text information from a variety of sources.

The most obvious application is for searching downloaded text from commercial online databases. But a micro text database can also give you fast, easy, accurate retrieval of just about anything in electronic text form. For instance, you can store downloaded data-base, videotext, or teletext data, unpublished text, extracts from database files, personal copies of byline files, unpublished wire copy, special reference compilations created by the library, and so on.

FREE-TEXT SOFTWARE

There are two main types of PC text-retrieval products summarized in the accompanying list. The first, most familiar to news librarians, is true inverted-file indexing, or "free-text" software.

Free-text PC programs are powerful, precise information retrieval tools. They are miniature versions of programs like BASIS, VuTEXT, or NEXIS. And, just like their mainframe relatives, they have varying approaches to text searching.

Several of these PC free-text programs can accurately translate formatted electronic text into the correct fields of their own database files. In this way, you can keep all the power of formatted field searching, and get the benefits of automated translation.

Free-text retrieval is the best approach for large, regularly formatted, database files. The greatest advantages of this approach is free-text retrieval speed, precision in phrase-searching and specific-field-location, and the ability to display or printout defined format reports.

TEXT-SCANNING SOFTWARE

There is another, "lower tech" approach to text information retrieval. "String-searching," or text-scanning, software is surprisingly effective for accessing smaller information files. String-scanning software is slower because it literally has to scan or sequentially read

the full text of ASCII to search for desired terms or character strings. String-searching software can take up to two or three minutes to search through a big batch of files, but it works acceptably on files of up to a megabyte or two in size.

Here are a couple of good reasons to consider this software even though it is slower than free-text:

First, it's a quick and dirty approach to building a database file. There's no need for database definition, field specifications, or text file translation or processing to create database templates. You simply store downloaded files, word processing files, spreadsheet files, or any kind of text information. Just choose the files you want to store for reference, and copy them on to a "reference file" PC directly (disk storage area). Aside from using ASCII text files as input, there's no "database maintenance."

You can categorize disk directories into areas for specific types of files for more precise, faster searches. Examples might be separate directories for downloaded newspaper text, others for downloaded index/abstract records, and so on. Or you might also decide to lump all text files together for one-stop searching serendipity. It's not irreversible. With a string-searching program, you can easily change your mind about storage design by simply moving files into a different disk directory "file drawer" approach.

Text-scanning software doesn't need time for "database building," or indexing. You can string-search text files as soon as you have them on disk. There's also no "index overhead" to use up your disk space.

SUMMARY

Free-text is faster and more precise, but you pay (in disk space) for what you get.

Both programs have practical applications and advantages for news library editorial information operations. This kind of retrieval ability means that you can reuse or recycle electronic text information that you've downloaded, assembled, or created.

The accompanying box contains a listing and notes on some PC text retrieval software. The comments are purely personal; this isn't any kind of formal review. I'd appreciate hearing from you about any other examples of this type of micro-computer program that you may have found useful.

FREE-TEXT PROGRAMS

■ **BIB/Search**, by Bib/Search, P.O. Box 20503, New York, N.Y. 10009. (212) 477-4857. \$385, \$10 demo diskette.

An early generation of an amazing program. Written by an ex-computer programmer turned psychology academic to help with his academic publishing and downloading. It's almost displaced ZyIndex as my favorite text retrieval program. A partial list of the software abilities:

A full-text, free-text database, extremely easy search query input, the simplest I've ever seen. Very fast search and retrieval. Super-easy display formatting commands, for example, "d" means default display; "d jat" means

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MICROCOMPUTERS

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"display journal author title," etc. Easy output to printer, disk, or even a new database extract file. Online help, online full manual text, online demo-tutorial for every command.

Automatic translator program module for importing from virtually any data format, downloaded database or otherwise. The translator works off an "Input File Specification," sort of like a LOTUS macro. Identifies tagged or untagged fields, to automatically translate data into the proper fields. Comes with about a dozen IFS files, for common online databases, and credit for custom-preparation of three additional ones. Additional customized IFS files available at \$20 apiece.

Report module will output bibliographies in any of the standard bibliographic formats, like U. of Chicago, MLA, Chem Abstracts, etc. Output File Specification macros will output practically any conceivable format, including bibliographic, database input templates, typesetter input, whatever.

With another program module, you can download a short title list from an online database search, compare it to your local database. Bib/Search gives you back a list of the documents you DON'T already have! Then you can log back on to the database and download full records of only the ones you need. Do this a few times, and you've paid for the software!

BiB/Search requires a bit of sophistication from the database manager, but is unbelievably easy for the end-user.

■ **Search Express**, Version 2.10, by Executive Technologies Inc., 2120 16th Ave. South, Birmingham, Ala. 35205. (205) 933-5494. \$349. One million document capacity.

Powerful free-text search, with versions for magnetic disk, CD-ROM, and WORM laser disk. Predefined templates for document input, multiple templates allowed. Menu-assisted operation throughout. "Word search" menu allows simple "ranked" retrieval, documents ranked according to number of hit terms. Advanced search menu allows linking of multiple specifications, e.g., words, fields, proximity, Boolean logic, document ranges, etc. Search Express also includes user-defined "hypertext" links, ability to subjectively and permanently link related documents (Even if they do not contain any common indexed terms). This is a very powerful, but complicated package.

Survey Available

Copies of the 1986 survey issue of NLN, containing statistics on salaries, staffing, services relating to newspaper libraries, are available from **Lany McDonald**, The News & Observer Library, 215 S. McDowell St., Raleigh, NC 27602. The price is \$12.00 each.

■ **Textbank**, by Group L Corp., 481 Carlisle Dr., Herndon, Va. 220700. (800) 672-5300; in Virginia, (703) 471-0030. \$995

Sophisticated free-text searching capabilities uses menu approach. Versions for CD-ROM and laserdisk. Contains demo system and tutorial. Ability to define "zones" contained in input document organization, to allow field-specific indexing and searching. This is an after-the-fact field template. You define the input; it doesn't have to fit a Textbank input template requirement. Zone definition changes are allowed. Search ability includes word, truncated word, phrase, proximity, ranges, full Boolean logic, combining searches, saving search results, macros, and more.

■ **Zyindex**, Version 2.20, by Zylab Corp., 3105-T N. Frontage Rd., Arlington Heights, Ill. 60004. (312) 632-1100. \$295, Professional Version (5,000 documents capacity).

Extremely easy, fast, free-text searching. Simple searching approach, search a word by entering the word; a phrase by entering the phrase. Supports truncated word, full Boolean, and proximity searching. Online help at every point. Full-document, non-field-specific, searching, but can define "fields" by describing surrounding text labels or terms. Then uses proximity search to do accurate "field" searching. Easy construction of user-defined macro searches. User-defined stopword and synonym lists. Built-in, user-modifiable, thesaurus of alternate search words. One of the first, and still one of the best text retrieval programs.

■ **Word Cruncher**, by Electronic Text Corp., 5600 N. University Ave., Provo Utah, 84604. (801) 226-0616. \$299.

I've not seen this one, but have heard good reports. A powerful, full-text retrieval package, especially suited to archival databases. Supposedly particularly suited to academic and professional writer use. Can perform sophisticated analysis of large files, even to contextual area extracts, preliminary content indexing. For example, the Sun-Times' book editor is using it on a Toshiba 1000 laptop computer, working on a new book. He carries the laptop PC to libraries and other research facilities, takes notes and downloads text from a variety of sources. He is using Word Cruncher extensively in analysis and organization of his materials.

TEXT-SCANNING PROGRAMS

■ **Dragnet**, by Access Softek, 3204 Adeline St., Berkeley, Calif., 94703. (800) 222-4020; in California, (800) 445-6466. \$145.

Sophisticated string-searching software. Menu assist, but complicated. The search template gets in the way. Too much detail for simple searching. Dragnet works with Windows operating system, but there is an MS-DOS version. You can search in background mode, with the Windows version, while you work in another program. I felt that the MS-DOS version was slow.

■ **GoFer**, by Microlytics, 300 Main St. East, Rochester, N.Y. 14445. (800) 828-6293 or (716) 377-0130. \$79.95.

Turn to next page

MICROCOMPUTERS

Continued from previous page

"Memory-resident" software, runs in background, ready for pop-up at the touch of a defined call-up key. GoFer conducts a fast, unindexed, text scan of your disk files, incorporating Boolean logic. It was the fastest of the text-scanning programs I've used. It will search a defined list of files, or search all files except those you've specified to ignore. Allows AND, OR, and NOT, but does not allow truncation. The latter is a bit of a disadvantage. GoFer can copy selected text to a "notes" disk file. Will also "cut and paste," or lift highlighted text to another document or record you're working on. For example, you can "cut and paste" into a wordprocessor document, a database record, etc.

■ **Golden Retriever**, by SKDATA, Inc., 60 Wilmington Rd., P.O. Box 413, Burlington, Mass. 01803. (617) 229-8909. \$99; \$5 demo diskette.

Text retrieval with a delightful, serendipitous, difference. Golden Retriever incorporates a couple of non-standard approaches, for fast, clever text information retrieval. First, it finds "close matches" and "near misses," and ranks them in closeness to your search request. For example, specify "newspaper free-text retrieval," and it will find this exact phrase. But it also finds documents containing "retrieving full text from newspapers," or "news text retrieval," or "newspaper database retrieval." Retriever uses "close match" logic to rank the retrieved material in order of similarity to your request.

The second unusual approach is that the Retriever will display documents for your inspection, as soon as they are retrieved, while the program continues to search in background mode. Retriever is slower than GoFer, but "the apparent response time" is fast, since you can start examining documents as soon as they are located.

No fancy Boolean logic, but the phrase searching and "close match" logic more than make up for it. This is *not* classic text retrieval, yet somehow it finds what you want, even spelling and wording variations. Recently I was working on a free-lance article about "The Complete Answering Machine," a brand-name PC voice mail product. I used Golden Retriever to check my wordprocessor file directory for notes on this subject. I found a previously overlooked memo on "computer answering machines," that was right on target. This approach works.

It can run in regular mode, or memory-resident, like a Sidekick pop-up utility. It will do full-document prints or save to disk file, and will also allow cut and paste to another document. You can, by the way, buy a demo copy of the Retriever (named "Puppy," of course). It costs \$5, and has the full software ability, but will only run on floppy disk files.



Denver roundtable focuses on child care

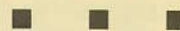
"Who Is Minding the Children, While You Are Minding the Library?" is the topic from 4 to 6 p.m. June 13 at the SLA Annual Conference in Denver.

The Women's Resources and Concerns Roundtable invites all SLA members to hear three perspectives on child care for working parents. **Anna Jo Haynes**, executive director at Mile High Child Care Association in Denver, will begin by giving a state-of-the-art presentation. Haynes chaired the Colorado Governor's Conference on Child Care in 1987 and currently serves on the board of the new Women's Foundation of Colorado. The Mile High Child Care Association operates nine child-care centers that care for 600 children (6 weeks to 11 years) of low-income families.

Christina Benaro, executive director of the Work and Family Consortium, will speak from the employer's point of view. The Work and Family Consortium serves as a resource for employers and working parents on child-care issues; the Consortium is currently working with RTD (Denver's Regional Transportation District), Adolph Coors Co., IBM, Pitney Bowes, McKee Medical Center, Rose Hospital, NCR, Tandem and others.

Ruth Seidman will give the perspective of the working librarian. She co-founded the Government Center Child Care Corp. and the Devotion Primary Extended Day Program (after-school, kindergarten through grade 3). She organized the "Establishing Inter-Agency Child Care Training Program" and participated as a speaker. In 1987 she chaired the Joint Labor-Management Child Care Study Committee at the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory. Currently, she is chair of the SLA Division Cabinet and serves on the SLA Board of Directors.

Following the panel presentation, Read-More Publications will host a wine and cheese reception. Those who would like to be more active in the Women's Resources and Concerns Roundtable should contact **Jeanne Bohlen** (Independent Sector, 1828 L St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, 202-223-8100) or **Meredith Averill** (Rockefeller Foundation, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036, 212-869-8500).



Speakers bureau planned

At the annual business meeting on June 13 in Denver, forms will be available for members who wish to be part of the News Division speakers bureau. **John Cronin** will be compiling a list of those willing to serve on panels or speak about news library operations to organizations or schools in your area. Interested members are urged to sign up. There is no obligation for anyone listed, and each request may be handled as it occurs. See John Cronin in Denver to officially sign up or answer your questions. Sign-up forms also will be printed in future editions of *News Library News*.



Books Investigate Award-Winning Stories

IRE BOOK 3: TOP INVESTIGATIONS FROM 1985 and 1986 and SUPPLEMENT TO THE INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST'S MORGUE, Stan Abbott and Jan Colbert, editors, Investigative Reporters and Editors Inc., P.O. Box 838, Columbia, Mo., 65205. (\$10 for IRE BOOK 3; \$8 for MORGUE SUPPLEMENT)

By Teresa Leonard
News and Observer Co.

IRE Book 3, Top Investigations From 1985 and 1986 is a behind-the-scenes look at the award-winning investigative stories for those years. In addition to the winners in newspaper, television, magazine, radio and book categories, the book includes a mix of other entries that display quality of reporting, uniqueness of topic, or a fresh angle. Each entry includes a summary of the story, a brief description of how the investigation began, the documents and resources used, and any changes made or actions taken as a result of the story. All information is supplied by the reporter on the contest entry form.

The lessons of the reporter's handbook are put into practice here as reporters turn to public records and officials to document their stories. Especially useful are the sections in which the reporters explain difficulties encountered while researching the story and advise other reporters planning similar investigations.

An entry form for upcoming competition is provided in the back along with a complete list of the 1985 and 1986 entries.

Another IRE publication, the *Supplement to the Investigative Journalist's Morgue*, is a subject index to the holdings of the IRE's files of investigative stories. Entries added since the 1986 publication of *The Investigative Journalist's Morgue* are listed by subject and include the source, date and a brief description of the story.

Full-text reprints of stories listed in both publications are available through the IRE resource center. There is a copying charge for members and an additional \$10 charge for non-members.



Culture for Conventioneers



Denver's Museum of Natural History has a rare collection of fossil remains and unusual dioramic displays.

Many of Denver's public buildings (including the Museum of Natural History) are clustered around the parklike Civic Center in downtown Denver at the opposite end of the Sixteenth Street Mall from the Weston Tabor Center, the site of this year's News Division suite. In addition to those attractions pictured here, the Denver Art Museum, the Colorado History Museum, and the Denver Firefighters Museum are near the Civic Center. The Denver Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau (which supplied the Denver photos) is conveniently located right across from the Capital City and County Building (pictured below). You may pick up brochures about the various attractions you choose to visit. There is a free shuttle service available along the Sixteenth Street Mall.



One of the largest buildings in the Civic Center area is the neo-classical Capital City and County Building (right). Also visible in this aerial photo, is the U.S. Mint (center), which is the storehouse of nearly \$24 billion worth of gold bars. Approximately 20 million new coins are produced there each day.

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'Who Is Running This Show?'

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AUTOMATION/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE: Robert (Bob) Jansen, Minneapolis Star & Tribune Co. Library, 425 Portland Ave., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488, (612) 375-7398

CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS: Diane Mirvis, Director (Education)

DIRECTOR (Publications): Lany McDonald, the News and Observer Pub. Co. Library, 215 S. McDowell St., Raleigh, N.C., 27602, (919) 829-4579

NEWS LIBRARY NEWS: See page 2.

ARCHIVES & HISTORY: Mary Jo (M. J.) Crowley, Philadelphia Newspapers Inc. Library, 400 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa., 19101, (215) 854-4665

BYLAWS: Shirley Mooney, Pacific Press, Ltd. Library, 2250 Granville St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada, V6H 3G2, (604) 732-2519

LONG-RANGE PLANNING: Sharon Reeves, Union-Tribune Publishing Co. Library, P.O. Box 191, San Diego, Calif., 92112, (619) 299-3131

MEMBERSHIP: Cary Kenney, St. Petersburg Times Library, P.O. Box 1121, St. Petersburg, Fla., 33731, (803) 893-8846

NOMINATIONS: Anne Legett, Advocate & State Times Library, 525 Lafayette St., Baton Rouge, La., 70821, (504) 388-0327

ELECTIONS: Gary Lance, San Jose Mercury News Library, 750 Ridder Park Dr., San Jose, Calif., 95190, (408) 920-5345

DIRECTOR (Awards): Diane Miller, the Pantagraph Library, 301 W. Washington St., Bloomington, Ill., 61701, (309) 829-9411

STUDENT STIPEND AWARD: Sharon Ostmann, Register Library, 625 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana, Calif., 92711, (714) 835-1234

DENVER CONFERENCE (1988): Richard Geiger, Chair Elect

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE: Victoria Makings, Denver Post Library, 650 15th St., Denver, Colo., 80202, (303) 820-1691

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