

Library Sports Beat



President Martin shakes his pom-poms for the Library.

When Dr. Michael V. Martin became NMSU President in 2004, he demonstrated early on his ambitions for the campus. A strong believer in public higher education, he indicated in a newspaper interview that he intended equal support for athletics and academics.

"I hope to be as much a cheerleader for the Library as for the football team," he said.

On April 1, President Martin's dream was realized at a basketball match between the staffs of the NMSU Library and the Superior State University Library. NMSU demolished Superior State 201-1, thanks to the finely honed dribbling skills of the Aggie Library staff. Superior State University is the alma mater of actor and celebrity governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Huffed Schwarzenegger, who served as cheerleader for the losing team, "I'll be back!"

Rejoined President Martin, "Go, Aggies! Go, Library!"

If the Shoe Fits

The Library's annual spring fundraiser, the Sensible Shoes Spring Fashion Show, attracted a standing-room-only crowd on April 1 at NMSU's Corbett Auditorium.

The latest in sensible shoe couture for bibliographers, bibliographic instructors, knowledge managers and information scientists was modeled by celebrity volunteers.



Models included librarians Gloria Mundy, Bunny Watson, Laura Bush, Flynn Carsen and Marian Paroo of stage and screen. The event was underwritten by Dr. Scholl's Insoles.

"I'm gellin' like Magellan!" said Library Dean Elizabeth Titus.

I'm gellin' like Magellan!

Event organizer Imelda Marc Tag, said "This was our best show ever! Give me something else to organize!"

Attendees demonstrated their enthusiasm by giving generously to the travel and acquisition fund for building the Library's collection of special rare artifacts (see related story on page 2).

T. Rex Retires



Stan T. Rex

Rex has purchased a condo on Isla Nublar near Costa Rica. He, his wife Sue and their son Dino plan to relocate there as soon as they sell their home in Las Cruces. "I've seen a lot of changes in the Mesilla Valley, and I'll miss it," said Rex. "But it's time to move on and see another part of the world."

The Library announces the retirement of Stan T. Rex, the door guard at Zuhl Library.

Rex has worked at the Library since the Jurassic Era. He earned a doctorate in paleontology at NMSU in 1971.

Librarian Joins Library Faculty



Flynn Carsen

Flynn Carsen joined the Library faculty on April 1 in a newly created position in the Special Rare Artifacts Department.

Carsen comes to the Library from the Metropolitan Public Library, where he was in charge of such wondrous artifacts as Tesla's Death Ray, The Holy Grail, The Ark of the Covenant, Excalibur, Pandora's Box, the Mona Lisa and the Spear of Destiny.

Carsen holds twenty-two academic degrees. His main research interest is the statistical analysis of library and museum acquisition of special rare artifacts. In addition to one year of experience at the Metropolitan Public Library, he also worked as an actor in two made-for-TV movies, *The Librarian: Quest for the Spear* and *The Librarian: Return to King Solomon's Mines*.

Carsen looks forward to the challenge of building the Library's collection of special rare artifacts. He expects to be on the road a lot, and expresses his thanks to those who raised funds through the annual Sensible Shoes Spring Fashion Show, which will support his travel and acquisition costs. As he develops the collection, he plans to consult with colleagues from other institutions who are specialists in special rare artifactology, including Lara Croft, Buffy, Indiana Jones, Briscoe County, Jr., Rachel Weisz and Nicolas Cage.

In his spare time, Carsen likes to just sit and watch TV. His office is on the sixteenth floor north of Branson Library.

Papers of Oscar Gustafsen, a Tragic Minor Figure of American Librarianship, Now Available in the Special Rare Artifacts Department

The papers of Oscar Gustafsen, a tragic minor figure of American librarianship, are now available to researchers in the Library's Special Rare Artifacts Department. The location of the papers was unknown for many years after Gustafsen's untimely death in 1922.

The papers were recently discovered in the walls of a converted barn near Baxter, Massachusetts, by the heirs of Letitia Van Remsen. Van Remsen succeeded Mr. Gustafsen as the librarian of Baxter's Ezra Beesly Free Public Library, and she remained a close friend all his life. (Papers, continued on page 4)

Staff News



Pegasus

The Library announces that Pegasus, the flying horse that delivers library materials to campus offices, will be going on sabbatical.

"We assure users that there will be no disruption of service whatsoever," said his owner and trainer, Carol Boyse. "There has been a tremendous response to our job posting for a temporary replacement flying animal."

Finalists for the nationally advertised position will interview on campus the week of April 1. They are:

Dancer, Dasher, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen and Rudolph, all of the North Pole. Rocket J. Squirrel, Frostbite Falls, Minnesota.

Boyse hopes to have Pegasus' temporary replacement hired and trained within a month.

Pegasus will fly to Europe the first week of May. He will return to the Library on April 1, 2008.

NM **ibid.nmsu.edu**
NMNUM NUMNUMNUM Not the Newsletter of the New Mexico State University Library

Written by Jeanette Smith, jcsmith@lib.nmsu.edu. Distributed with permission of Dean Elizabeth A. Titus.

Film Festival Announced

The Library announces its first annual Linda Blair Film Festival. Blair's classic movies *The Exorcist (1973)*, *Exorcist II (1977)* and *Roller Boogie (1979)* will be featured.

The festival will begin at 2 a.m. on April 1 on the fifteenth floor south of Zuhl Library. The movies will be shown consecutively with absolutely no breaks.

The movies are free to the public, and all-you-can-eat popcorn will be served. The program is sponsored by the Library's Excess Services Department.

Library to Participate in Branding Initiative



The Library is making plans to brand all of its books and periodicals with NMSU's new logo. The work will be outsourced to NMSU's mascot, Pistol Pete.

The project is expected to be completed on April 1, 2008. "It would have been finished sooner," explained Library officials, "but Pete is currently busy roping and branding NMSU's herd of cows."

Said Pete, "Move 'em on, head em' up, head em' up, move em' out. Rawhide!"

Is Something Puzzling You? Ask Miss Information

Dear *Miss Information*: How many librarians does it take to change a light bulb?

Facilities and Services Department

Dear Facilities: It doesn't matter as long as they do it quietly.
Miss Information

Dear *Miss Information*: Do you know how many librarians it takes to change a light bulb?

Music Department

Dear Music: No, could you hum a few bars?
Miss Information

Dear *Miss Information*: Could you please tell us how many librarians it takes to change a light bulb?

Institutional Research Office

Dear Institutional: Twelve. Ten to form a committee, one to ask the American Library Association for permission to study the issue and one to eventually hire a consultant to do the work.

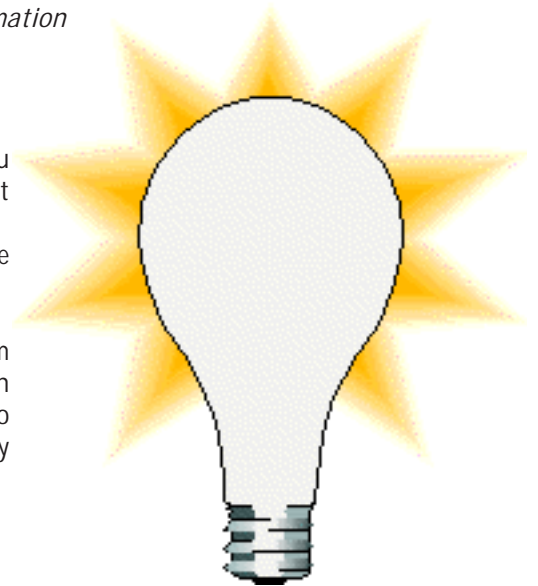
Miss Information

Dear *Miss Information*: Do you know how many librarians it takes to change a light bulb?

Bureau of Recruitment and Retention

Dear Bureau: No, but I can look it up. [*Miss Information* leaves and then comes back to the phone.] That question requires lengthy research; I will call you back. By the way, Superior State University changed its name to the University of Wisconsin-Superior in 1971, giant pandas appeared on Earth during the late Pliocene or early Pleistocene and Canada is the second largest country in the world in area and the 37th largest in population.

Miss Information



Papers (continued from page 2)

The papers were generously donated to the Library by the Van Remsen Estate.

According to Gustafsen's biographer, Dr. Norman D. Stevens, the Director of the Molesworth Institute, Gustafsen was born in Göteborg, Sweden, on April 1, 1882. He came to the U.S. in 1902, and received a doctorate from the Library School at Albany in 1908. In 1906 he became the librarian in Baxter. Unfortunately, he proved to be too progressive for the community, and in March of 1908, to their pleasure, he left.

Gustafsen delivered a paper at the 1906 conference of the American Library Association at Narragansett Pier, Rhode Island, on "Ancient Theories and Modern Ideals in Public Library Management," that was proclaimed by *Library Journal* as the outstanding paper at that conference. Gustafsen was one of the first advocates of time and motion studies in libraries. Another paper he delivered at the Aunt Matilda Club of Kaskaskia, Indiana, in 1907, on "How Librarians May Save 14 and 3/4 Seconds a Year," was a brilliant presentation of his theories. Unfortunately, none of his papers was published. He was, by all accounts, a boring speaker who often put his audience to sleep.

Read more about Gustafsen's life and career in the *Archives of Library Research from The Molesworth Institute* by Norman D. Stevens (New York: The Haworth Press, 1985) and *The Journal of Library History* 15 (1980): 183-187.

"The Library is delighted to have the Oscar Gustafsen Papers," said Flynn Carsen of the Library's Special Rare Artifacts Department. "While we prefer to acquire wondrous artifacts, what we like next best is to get unpublished papers."

Why was Oscar Gustafsen a tragic minor figure of American librarianship? What caused his untimely death? "That's what primary source materials are for," said Carsen. "We invite you to read them and find out for yourself."

The Book Whisperer Knows

Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of suspense novelists? The Book Whisperer knows. The Book Whisperer haunts the bookshelves by night. She knows all the creepy secrets of the closed stacks.

Come meet the Book Whisperer at midnight on April 1 in the mystery section of Zuhl Library. She will be signing copies of her new book, *The Book Whisperer Knows*. The free public program is sponsored by the Library's night crew.



The Book Whisperer

ALA Midwinter Meeting Report

The American Library Association held its recent Midwinter Meeting in the middle of the winter in Chicago. As a chill wind blustered off Lake Michigan, intrepid librarians, information scientists and knowledge managers availed themselves of the opportunity to enjoy the many cultural features of the City of Big Shoulders.

Popular attractions included the Chicago Art Institute, the Field Museum of Natural History, the Museum of Science and Industry, Millennium Park, Navy Pier, Shedd Aquarium, the Adler Planetarium, Hancock Observatory, the Lincoln Park Zoo and the million-dollar view from the Sears Tower Skydeck.

"Wow!" said knowledge manager Jeanette Smith, "It's my kind of town!"

The robust cuisine of the Windy City afforded the hungry librarians plenty of good eating. Chicago's famous deep-dish pizza originated in the 1940s, when Americans ate hearty and affordable one-dish casseroles. Stuffed with cheese and other delicious ingredients, the deep-dish pizza is the pizza equivalent of a Midwest hot dish. Famous Chicago pizzerias include Uno's, Due's and Gino's East.

Chicago hot dogs are also a unique specialty of the city. Besides the hot dog and the bun, they feature mustard, sweet green relish, chopped onions, tomato slices, serrano peppers and a dash of celery salt (never catsup!) The classic place to get a great Chicago dog is Fluky's.

Shopping at Macy's, Bloomingdale's and other Chicago landmarks was also a popular activity. As they returned home, the weary but content librarians brought back armloads of souvenirs and lots of happy memories.