Getting the Word Out

by Margaret Schaus

Every September a new group of students arrives at Haverford. After a Customs Week packed with events and the first hectic days of class, we invite the students, along with their Customs leaders and upper class advisors, to the Library Open House.

For this annual event, Magill Library becomes a fair grounds, with booths for various Library services, including course reserves, reference, and Special Collections. There were new booths this year for wireless network access in the Fountain Area and for the Writing Center. Student workers or librarians staffed the booths, briefly explaining the services available. They also gave away gifts (such as the collectible book light pictured), ran contests, and offered fancy cookies and drinks.

Students were given a list of the booths as they entered the Library and were encouraged to ask questions. Several of the booths involved interaction. For instance, a tour of the book stacks was conducted where students were shown how to read the floor signs, negotiate the mysterious paths to the far reaches of the stacks, and avoid panic when the timer switches off the lights. At another booth, the students registered their reading advice for next year’s entering class. The winner in the “Best Book” category this year was J.D. Salinger’s Catcher in the Rye.

Library staff will follow up the Open House with individual messages to all frosh, introducing themselves as their “Personal Librarian” and offering a variety of individualized services to help with their first-semester projects.

Tri-College Efforts to Provide More! to Researchers

by Mary Lynn Morris Kennedy

During the last several years, the Tri-College Library Consortium has been the recipient of a series of Mellon Foundation grants aimed at expanding the cooperation between the three member libraries. Two services which have evolved from these collaborative efforts, the LiveHelp virtual reference service and a database-driven resource guide creation tool, were profiled in the last edition of the Library Newsletter. Development efforts for another new service supported by Mellon grant funds are well underway. Called “More!” and based on ExLibris’s SFX link server technology, it provides a powerful new way to deliver full-text links and other services directly to students and other users from within article indexes, the library catalog, and other databases.

SFX link server technology solves a long-standing problem in the online research environment. The development of online indexes and other databases has made the identification of articles and other works relevant to a desired research topic much easier than in the print-only era, and researchers have available to them an ever-increasing range of electronic journals, books, and primary source materials. However, once the library researcher has identified a desired item, for instance, a journal article, she still must identify the specific full-text version of the desired article to which her library subscribes and then locate a copy. Currently, this involves navigating out of the index in which the citation was found into Tripod, the library catalog, and doing a journal title search which may result in two, three, or more different electronic versions of the journal, all of which are subscribed to by one or more of the Tri-College libraries but each of which provides access to a different and sometimes overlapping range of volumes and perhaps to different types of full text, e.g., text only, text with graphics, full image, etc. The researcher must sort through the available options and decide which is the best available source — a time-consuming and burdensome task.
2003 Freeman Prizes

by Bob Kieft

As it has for the last few years, the Library this year awarded prizes to history department majors in memory of Michael Freeman, former Librarian of the College. This year, the faculty of the history department awarded the Michael Freeman Senior Research Prize to Thomas Goodhue ’03 for the archival work he did for his thesis “Imagining Haiti: The Historiography of Bois Caiman and the Development of Haitian National Identity.” Rachel Moston ’04 and Scott Simpson ’04 were awarded the Michael Freeman Prize for Outstanding Work in History 361, the history department’s junior seminar.

Thomas Goodhue’s thesis focuses on a controversial event of the Haitian Revolution (1791-1804), a Voodoo ceremony called Bois Caiman, which some historians claim was the start of that important revolutionary slave uprising. In analyzing accounts of Bois Caiman written by Haitian historians, Thomas found that the historiography of the Revolution changed dramatically after the 19th century. This transformation occurred within a 10-year period after World War I, when the United States occupied Haiti and Haitians reconstructed a Haitian national identity emphasizing African/Creole elements theretofore suppressed in favor of French cultural forms.

In History 361 each student does two exercises, one studying an artifact and the other editing a document from the Library’s manuscript collections. Rachel Moston’s “Barbed Wire: A Historical Analysis of the Wire that Tamed the West,” discusses the historical significance of five strands of barbed wire in terms of how tension between cattle ranching and farming interests shaped the development of the U.S. West in the later 19th century. Her “Bayard Rustin: An Idea Whose Time Has Come?” studies a 1946 postcard sent upon his release from prison by Bayard Rustin, conscientious objector, peace activist, and civil rights strategist, to Douglas Steere, Quaker philosopher, religious leader, and Haverford professor; the paper uses Rustin’s postcard as an opportunity to look at the life of a man who selflessly and tirelessly devoted over 50 years to the nonviolent struggle for racial equality and social justice and was marginalized, vilified, and misunderstood.

Scott Simpson’s object, a broken monocle, produced a paper titled “The Lens is Not a Pill: The Professionalization of Optometry as Seen Through a Monocle,” in

Digitizing the Cope-Evans Collection

by Claire McGuire

A few years ago a friend told me she’d heard that the complete holdings of the Library of Congress were now online. This sounded plausible for a moment, until I thought about the actual process of scanning all those billions of pages. This rumor about the amazing digitized national library has since become one of my favorite urban legends.

Online resources are changing library services rapidly. Even Special Collections materials, once available only to on-site researchers, are now becoming more accessible through online finding aids, e-mail reference, and even full-text digital collections.

In February of 2002, Haverford College Special Collections was awarded a two-year grant from the SNAVE Foundation. This grant financed creation of a digital library that contains transcripts and scanned images of some of our most precious historical artifacts. The Cope-Evans Family Papers were selected to form the core of this digital repository. This collection of 2,500 letters, written between 1732 and 1911, showcases the most important subject holdings of the College’s Special Collections. The subject coverage of these letters includes Quaker history, business and finance, African American history, women’s history, and Reconstruction.

Now that the digital library is up and running, our colleagues at Bryn Mawr and Swarthmore have been able to use the structure built by Haverford’s project staff. Bryn Mawr will be adding images from an important women’s suffrage collection this fall. Swarthmore’s Friends Historical Library has already added over 700 images from their collections, while the Swarthmore College Peace Collection has published images of over 1,000 political buttons and a collection of Soviet posters.

The Tri-College Digital Library is available at <http://triptych.brynmawr.edu/>

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Wireless @ the Libraries

by Donna Fournier

Good news for our library patrons – the Science Library and the Magill Library fountain area now have wireless network capability.

More and more students are arriving on campus with shiny new laptop computers that have built-in wireless capability. We wanted to offer them the ability to plop down in our lounge furniture, put their feet up, and do their computing. Whether it be instant messaging with high school sweethearts, reading course materials on the Web, or searching library databases, it can all be done in our wireless spaces with no strings (that is, wires) attached.

Well, there is one string attached. In order to get on the wireless network, the user must be a Haverford student, staff, or faculty member and needs to have special software on their laptop that allows them to log-on to the network. Installation of the authorization software is being supported by both the Academic Computer Center and some members of the Library staff.

Response to wireless in the Libraries has been enthusiastic. When we made an announcement about it to upper class advisors during orientation week, we heard a happy round of applause, and at our open house during the first week of the semester students were asking when wireless would be available throughout all of Magill and all over campus. We look forward to extending this service to our users.

— Donna Fournier is Coordinator for User Services and Collections

Staff News and Announcements

by Mike Persick

The library welcomes two new staff members. Lisa Boughter joins us as Bibliographic and Digital Services Assistant (Acquisitions). Before coming to Haverford, Lisa worked in the educational media department at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and in the special orders department at Borders Books & Music in Rosemont. In addition, Lisa has experience as a Web designer and is an architectural, medical, and fine-art photographer who frequently exhibits in the Philadelphia area.

Elizabeth Salmon is our new Science Library Assistant. Previously, she was a study coordinator at the Jefferson Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, where she worked on multiple grants and assisted physicians and medical students with research projects and publications. She plans to begin course work for a MLS degree this winter and her personal interests include ballet and learning how to garden.

Bob Kieft, Librarian of the College, presented a paper on the next edition of the Guide to Reference Sources, of which he is the general editor, at the University of Minnesota Libraries’ annual collection development symposium, “Libraries as Digital Crossroads,” with speakers from MIT and the University of Maryland. At the American Library Association’s Annual Conference in Toronto in June, Bob presented at the pre-conference seminar “Real-World Collection Development: What You Didn’t Learn in Library School” with speakers from the Chicago Public Library, the University of Minnesota, and the Committee on Interinstitutional Cooperation. The pre-conference was sponsored by the Collection Development and Evaluation Section of ALA’s Reference and User Services Association. Bob also attended “Preserving America’s Printed

Continued on p. 6

The climbing stone, outside Magill Library, as photographed by Lisa Boughter, Acquisitions Assistant

The Library newsletter is available on the Web at:
Preserving Student Scholarship
by Norm Medeiros

The Library has undertaken a project to collect, organize, and preserve senior theses. The initiative, begun in May 2002 under the leadership of Margaret Schaus, Reference Librarian and Bibliographer, involves collecting print theses from the academic departments, creating bibliographic records for each thesis in Tripod, and shelving the papers in Magill Library’s 5th tier storage area. All theses produced in 2002 and 2003 have been processed, and older works will be added to Tripod as time permits.

A second aspect of this project involves delivering electronic versions of theses to the Web. Electronic thesis and dissertation services are not new to academic institutions, but liberal arts colleges have generally not taken steps to provide electronic access to undergraduate scholarship. Seniors who choose to place their work in the thesis archive will see it disseminated to the larger research community through the Open Archives Initiative, an increasingly popular way of collecting and making searchable metadata describing scholarly papers. The Library expects to have this service is production by the end of the academic year.

— Norm Medeiros is Coordinator for Bibliographic & Digital Services

Library Open House Winners
by Margaret Schaus

Congratulations to the nine winners drawn at random from the book questionnaires “Class of ’07 Recommends,” a contest that occurred during the Library’s annual Open House for new students (see “Getting the Word Out” on p.1). The winning students will be shopping in bookstores for additions to the Library Browsing Collection. Their chosen readings will soon appear on the browsing shelves across from the Circulation Desk. The book most often recommended (3 times) in the questionnaire was *Catcher in the Rye*, with ten other titles in second place ranging from Jhumpa Lahiri’s recent *The Interpreter of Maladies*, to Joyce’s classic *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*.

Congratulations also to the three students who came closest to guessing 60,274, the number of items checked out of Haverford’s libraries last year. Students’ estimates ranged from the very low (4,231) to the satisfyingly large (3,000,000). Three more winners came closest to guessing the number of sheets of paper (1,053,665) used by the public printers in Magill and the Science Library last year.

— Margaret Schaus is Reference Librarian & Bibliographer

2003 Freeman Prizes . . . continued from p. 2

which he explores how the professionalization of optometry was driven by the larger impulses of the Progressive Era. Scott’s document was a letter from a Northern businessman named J.A. Sanborn discussing investment prospects in the Reconstruction South. His paper, “Southward Ho!: The Roots and Consequences of Carpetbag Imperialism,” discusses Sanborn’s attitudes as emblematic of Northern capitalistic culture and the wide-ranging effects of such attitudes during Reconstruction.

The prizes honor librarian and historian Michael Freeman, Librarian of the College from 1986 to 1999. Many friends, staff, faculty, family, and College community members contributed to a fund in his memory, which the Library, with the concurrence of his family, is using in part to honor history students whose work demonstrates particularly effective research and use of archival materials. The Library extends its warmest congratulations to Rachel, Scott, and Thomas on their fine work.

— Bob Kieft is Librarian of the College

Continued on p.5
Shopping Around, but Parking at Haverford
by Diana Franzusoff Peterson

Last January, Special Collections staff got a call from the Welsh Society of Philadelphia. They asked if we were interested in the records of a benevolent society whose roots were set in the 18th century to help Welsh people immigrate to Philadelphia and to provide them with services once they arrived. “Possibly,” we responded; “it all depends on how the materials fit with our existing collecting interests.” We met with Charles Wenzel, President of the Welsh Society, and discovered that as much as we were concerned with strengthening our collections, he was interested in finding the right home for their materials. Haverford wasn’t the first stop for him. He had been shopping around, trying to find a repository that would provide the right mix of applied use and good stewardship for the Society’s records.

We met several times, each time becoming more enthusiastic about the materials which had so lovingly been cared for by the Society. There were medical records indicating how ships coming from Wales were met with medical assistance, then legal and financial records, membership, and finally burial records. It was the combination of membership lists resonating with Quaker names and the predictability of use by our researchers that clinched the deal for Special Collections. It was the knowledge that their materials would be made available through the Tri-College online catalog, finding aids, and display, as well as continuing thoughtful care for the records that clinched it for the Welsh Society.

— Diana Franzusoff Peterson is Manuscripts Librarian & College Archivist

New Women’s Encyclopedia
by Margaret Schaus and Susan Mosher Stuard

Margaret Schaus, Reference Librarian and Bibliographer, will be the editor of the new encyclopedia, *Medieval Women and Gender*, to be published by Routledge in its series, *Medieval Encyclopedias*. Emerita history professor Susan Mosher Stuard will serve as an associate editor. They are looking forward to making the innovative scholarship published in the last quarter century available to a wider audience. No current reference work addresses the many areas in which women’s activities are now viewed as crucial, including women patrons of the arts and the Church, female mysticism and devotional practices, and women’s roles in government, politics, and diplomacy. Furthermore, gender studies now make it possible to recognize the expectations for masculinity in representations ranging from Crusader tomb sculptures to the bumbling St. Joseph in late medieval stories.

The study of women and gender in the Middle Ages has seen phenomenal growth in the last generation. This scholarly encyclopedia will give students and researchers a quick orientation to a subject and a place to check for definitions and identifications. It will also help to identify the major research trends in the field, draw attention to important topics that have not yet had full treatment in a monograph, and highlight representative individuals who are now known only by a few specialists. Publication is planned for 2006.

— Margaret Schaus is Reference Librarian & Bibliographer, and editor of Feminae: Medieval Women & Gender Index
— Susan Mosher Stuard is Professor of History, Emeritus

Tri-College Efforts to Provide . . . continued from p. 4

through to the various services. Thus, the interlibrary loan request form will be filled in by the system thereby eliminating the need for the researcher to cut and paste or rekey the citation.

Students, faculty, and staff will begin to see the More! button in some databases by fall break with additional databases being activated as the semester progresses. Readers can learn more about SFX at <http://www.sfxit.com>.

— Mary Lynn Morris Kennedy is Digital Services Librarian

The Reading Room at Magill Library, as photographed by Lisa Boughter, Acquisitions Assistant
Resources,” held in Chicago in July and sponsored by the Center for Research Libraries and the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

Norm Medeiros, Coordinator for Bibliographic and Digital Services, was recently appointed chair of the American Library Association’s ALCTS/CCS Research and Publications Committee. He has also begun a two-year term on the editorial board of Library Resources & Technical Services.

John Anderies, Music Librarian, attended the Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) annual conference held in Philadelphia at the University of Pennsylvania in May. In addition he participated in a pre-conference workshop on “Audio Preservation: Technical Issues Facing the Institutional Archivist.” Also in May, John attended a one-day conference at Columbia University Law School on “Virtual Music Scores and their MIDI Analogs: Copyright and Licensing Issues.”

Emma Lapsansky, Curator of the Quaker Collection, was one of the historians featured in a recent PBS special on 19th-century steel magnate Rebecca Lukens. Also, last November, she helped successfully persuade the West Chester School District to name a school for a controversial African American Quaker named Bayard Rustin. In July, she taught a weekend course at Pendle Hill for new Quaker “inquirers” and, in March and April, presented a series of workshops on using primary documents in the classroom for Philadelphia schoolteachers. Emma has her hand in several recent publishing-related endeavors: she is on the advisory board for Pendle Hill publications and for the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography; the Wellesley College Women’s Review of Books recently published her review of Mordecai: An Early American Family; and the Haverford Alumni Magazine published a profile of Emma in the winter 2003 issue titled, “History and Her Story.”

— Mike Persick is Acquisitions Librarian & Assistant Catalog Librarian