1999

Letters to the Editor

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From your (volleyball-watching) Editor:

Volleyball season is in full swing and I am out every night watching our daughter Ileana’s team win, win, win! It’s pretty exciting, but also nerve-wracking. And, guess what it reminds me of? Our world. We librarians, publishers, and vendors just keep striving and striving and striving, hoping to come out the very best. This issue of ATG is full of examples. First, we have great articles by Ana Terry, Bob Nardini and Janet Flowers about e-books, alternative presses, and antiquarian booksellers and the Web. Plus check out Donna Heady’s report on the ebooks ALCTS preconference on page.

This issue also has some great interviews with Ken Howard of MCB University Press and Alan Klein of RoweCom. At least four articles in this issue deal with the merger word. See John Cox’s Handling Medusa/Mergers in Publishing: Do They Matter, Gary Herald’s Op Ed/Don’t Discount Your Vendor, Tom Leonhardt’s Oregon Trails/Support Your Local Bookseller, and Bob Schatz’ sotto voce/My dear Reader.

Last Word (maybe) on Mergers. And, of course, there’s a lot more. I have to get going to another volleyball game and I hope they are over by the 1999 Charleston Conference! See you there!

Yr. Ed.

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <strauchk@earthblink.net> (Please note NEW email address), phone or fax 843-723-3336, or snail mail, Against the Grain, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the ATG Homepage at <http://www.against-the-grain.com>

Dear Editor:

Just wanted to send a thank you note for the publication Against the Grain. I’ve always enjoyed reading it and know that this whole publication must be quite a bit of work. In my new job (I was at East Tennessee State’s Medical Library) I’m now doing primarily Acquisitions and love it.

Kim Laird (Acquisitions, Documents; Serials Team Leader, Library of Michigan, PO Box 30000?, 717 West Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48909)

Dear Editor:

In the April 1999 issue of ATG, our issue is missing pages 22-28. We received 2 copies of this issue, and both copies are missing these pages. Is it possible to receive them?

Thanks,
Sharon Eckert (University of New England Libraries) (207) 283-0170 x2364

Editor’s note: Actually, these three pages are really and truly in the April issue, just at the end of the wrong signature. (I guess printers have their own set of problems!). But, not to worry. We will send you good clean issues to replace the ones that you got. Will any of you please let me know if you need another copy of the issue for that same reason! Thanks! — KS

Dear Editor:

I really look forward to reading each issue of Against the Grain. The Rumors column is the first place I check, primarily to keep up with my friends in the vendor world. Thanks for the great work!

Best regards,
Linda Kyprios (RIA) <Linda_Kyprios@clir.com>

Rumors from page 1

sachusetts; Oregon, Illinois; Chantilly, Virginia; and Carlsbad, California. “International expansion is essential to the success of any e-commerce company,” said Dr. Richard Rowe, president and CEO of RoweCom. “In Western Europe, revenues generated by e-commerce are expected to grow from approximately $5.6 billion in 1998 to $8.4 billion in 2003, the bulk of which will derive from business-to-business transactions. Exploiting the Internet is absolutely essential for future growth—RoweCom’s kStore and kLibrary will provide the vital infusion of technology that is necessary to maintain and expand Dawson’s broad client base” Knowledge Store (kStore) and Knowledge Library (kLibrary) provide new levels of control, convenience, and cost-savings, allowing companies to order, pay for, and manage 120,000 titles online from over 17,000 publishers as well as 8 million discounted books via RoweCom partner barnesandnoble.com. See our interview with Adam Klein, Chief Client Officer, Rowe.com, p. 28 this issue. To find out even continued on page 8

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