Oregon Trails

Thomas W. Leonhardt
Oregon Institute of Technology

Follow this and additional works at: http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg
Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

Recommended Citation
DOI: https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.3513

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.
Something About Books
from page 90

Doris Kearns Goodwin weaves that won-derful mixture of daily life, political times and sports into an absorbing memoir.

"Although my interest in public events rarely went beyond the sport page," she did manage to worry about Julius and Ethel Rosenberg; the Soviet Union; the bomb; the work of Senator Joe McCarthy and her beloved Brooklyn Dodgers. She also learned, at the hands of her devoted father, the fine art of keeping a true and accurate box score, and of telling of her father what happened during the day games on his return home after a long day at the office. Taking the box score in hand, she would replay the game, inning by inning, keeping the outcome to herself and keeping her father in suspense—the start of her life as a storyteller and historian.

Towards the end of her story, during the 1955 season, Goodwin attended a special July game celebrating Pee Wee Reese’s thirty-seventh birthday. “Just before the celebration was to begin, I caught Jackie Robinson’s attention.... The aging warrior remained my favorite player... I leaned over the railing, and with my most beaming smile waved my autograph book.” She signed it “Keep your smile a long, long while, Jackie Robinson.” She continues: “I would not let the book out of my hand... As Reese approached home plate, I thought about the very special relationship which existed between Robinson and Reese—the black pioneer and the southern captain. When Robinson first came to the Dodgers, it had been Reese who quashed the petition against him by his teammates.... Now, as Reese walked forward to receive the tributes... Robinson reached out in a swift, barely noticeable gesture and put his hand on Reese’s shoulder. ‘Reese and Robinson,’ my father remarked, ‘they’re a lot more than great baseball players.”

And Ms. Goodwin’s work is a lot more than a baseball story, more than the simple quest for championship in the World Series which so often did not come to the Dodger fans of the late 1940’s and 50’s. This is the story of growing up, facing death and getting on with one’s life. 

Against the Grain / June 2001
Desperately Seeking Website

by Amber Williams  (American Society for Bone and Mineral Research; Phone: 919-620-0681)
<amber@jbmr.org>  www.jbmr-online.org/

I spoke with Eric Albright, Head of Acquisitions at Duke University Medical Center Library, and I realized our perspectives on the matter of online access are not so divergent. It is my hope that the paths of librarian and publisher can come together in more places than in print.

PUB: In your opinion, what is the most difficult aspect of accessing online journals?

LIB: Negotiating the license is usually the most difficult portion of this process. When we purchase print materials from our various publishers we know the restrictions, i.e. copyright and fair use, but that is not the case with a site license. Just as you have many customers with varying concerns we have various publishers each with different concerns which lead to the site licenses looking very different.

PUB: What do you think publishers can do to change this?

LIB: I offer either the adoption of mutually agreed upon model licenses or doing away with licenses altogether. What have either of us really gained from them?

PUB: You suggest the adoption of mutually agreed upon model licenses for publishers or to do away with the site license altogether, but doesn’t the site license offer protections/guarantees for the library customer as well? Shouldn’t these needs be addressed in some medium (such as the site license)? I don’t know how often you purchase online only subscriptions, but if you do, don’t you need some kind of security that the product will be available and maintained for you?

LIB: In the ideal world where we are full partners in the pursuit of academic endeavors, I would love it if we could do away with them altogether. Unfortunately, yes we do need simple agreements that say we agree to pay you and make it only available to certain IP ranges and to follow copyright and you agree to deliver the product and ideally guarantee archival access. That takes but a page or two. Some licenses we see go on for many pages about liability, indemnification and prevailing court authority. When we subscribe to a print title, we have expectations that you will deliver the title and its content to us. But we have yet to sign an agreement with you stating that we expect you to maintain an editorial board of such and such caliber and have it delivered by the 13th of every month with X number of minimum pages on glossy paper. We can do that in print because there are accepted norms in the publishing industry which we and the courts would uphold. In this emerging electronic world those norms have yet to be established.

PUB: What is favorable about electronic journals?

LIB: As opposed to print? The obvious advantage for us is the link from our indexing sources directly to the article. Our patrons, like most of society, want instant satisfaction.

PUB: Are you happy in general with the service you receive from publishers when subscribing to online journals?

LIB: At the turn of the year when the subscription agents cause us to lose access to a journal, it is rather frustrating but in general we are happy. We also do not get clear information about when some of the larger sites are down or experiencing difficulties. The electronic environment requires more communication than the print because of enhanced expectations.

PUB: How do the subscription agents cause you to lose your subscription/access? Is this because they do not make payment in a timely manner or because they are responsible for getting online access for your institution?

LIB: We renew a title with the vendor but negotiate the site license with the publisher. Often it seems that the publisher cannot make the link from the vendor renewal request to the online product.

I am not even certain that they ever will.

PUB: What is your role in the publishing process?

LIB: We make the decision but we have the publishers sign agreements regarding delivery and content services.

92 Against the Grain / June 2001