a column reporting on news and developments
relating to acquisitions and document delivery

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Have You Heard?

The Marine Biological Laboratory/
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Library has become a contributing
and supplying library for the UnCover database. New titles from this collection
will be added by UnCover in the spring of 1995. Their additions will strengthen
the scientific collection of the database, with additions from areas such as
marine biology, radioanalytical chemistry, fisheries, geology, pesticides, physics,
natural history, and petroleum geology.

PromptCat. OCLC's newest cataloging product should be available in
April 1995. It is a vendor-prompted catalog service for nonserial titles.
PromptCat links order-fulfillment by a vendor to a method and delivery by
OCLC of a monographic OCLC-MARC record to the library. This service is
designed for all library types whose material vendors are capable of working with
OCLC in the automated US-MARC format environment. PromptCat will in-
crease library staff productivity by providing timely, quality cataloging with
little or no staff intervention. PromptCat delivers a record for any title ordered
through a vendor for which there is a monographic record in the Online Union
Catalog (OLUC). Options for timing of setting the holdings, record selection,
record editing, and record delivery will allow libraries to fit the services to their
needs. The service works both with firm and approval orders. Academic Book
Center, Baker & Taylor, and Blackwell North America have agreed to collab-
orate with OCLC to offer PromptCat. They join Yankee Book Peddler, the first
vendor to agree to participate in OCLC's PromptCat service. For pricing informa-
tion, call your OCLC utility.

Nearly 600 libraries in Colorado will
have the opportunity to participate in a
FirstSearch pilot beginning in Febru-
ary. The pilot will allow patrons of Col-
orado libraries to access OCLC's FirstSearch Service. During the trial, par-
ticipating libraries will have access to
more than 50 databases and document
ordering. For the month of April, ASCII
full text will also be available. The project
was organized by the Colorado Con-
sortium for Database Networking
(CCDN) and endorsed by Colorado Li-
brary Resource Sharing and Informa-
tion Access Board (CLRSIAB). The
Bibliographic Center for Research
(BCR), an OCLC-affiliated regional net-
work, will provide free technical sup-
port and training for all pilot project li-
braries.

EBSCO is grouping several of its di-
visions and services together under a new
— EBSCO Information Services
— to signify the company's ability to
provide fully integrated serial informa-
tion management in the most convenient,
cost-effective manner possible. Services
included in the group are: subscription
management; reference database devel-
opment and production; online multi-
da-
tabase access; and document delivery.

Here's word of a newly created li-
brary software company! Endeavor In-
formation Systems is bringing a state-
of-the-art academic library and informa-
tion management system to the market-
place. Voyager is a client/server product
that combines open system standards with a practical user interface and image
technology. Endeavor Information Sys-
tems can be reached at (800) 762-6300
or Endeavor@EndInfoSys.com. They
have offices at 9700 W. Higgins Road,
Suite 100, Rosemont, IL 60018-4734 and
at 2000 Alameda de las Pulgas, San
Mateo, CA 94403.

OCLC offers enhancements to
FirstSearch/ILL transfer with the addi-
tion of the ISSN included in the :VERI-
FIED: field. The verification field now
gives the name of the database, record
number in addition to the ISSN. The
ISSN is always at the end of the field
and is labeled ISSN: to make it easy to
spot. This gives the user a good numeric
key to help search the Online Union Cata-
log (OLUC).

OCLC has designed a World Wide
Web interface for the OCLC Electronic
Journals Online system that will make
subscriber access to journals possible from multiple computer platforms using
NCSA Mosaic software. Using the Mos-
aic software, IBM PC, Macintosh and
UNIX users have access to the full text,
color and halftone images, graphics, com-
plex equations and tables available in
OCLC Electronic Journals Online. The
Electronic Journals Online System for
IBM PC users is also available through
Guidon, OCLC's Windows-based
graphical user interface. Applied Phys-
ics Letters Online, the electronic ver-
sion of the weekly journal published by
the American Institute of Physics
(AIP), is the first of the OCLC Elec-
tronic Journals Online to be available
through the Web. Other OCLC Electric-
tronic Journals Online will be available
on the Web over the course of 1995.

Dialog Information Services (a
Knight-Ridder company) has acquired
100% interest in Article Express, mak-
ing it a wholly-owned subsidiary. Ar-
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... it is a remarkable project and a very exciting resource for people like me who are working in the area of AIDS research.
- Michael R. Fraser
University of Massachusetts

April 1995 / Against the Grain
will be an all-inclusive review source for librarians covering books, audio, video, CD-ROM multimedia, and CD-ROM and online databases. The reviews would be available online or on CD-ROM. They would be provided 2 1/2 to 3 weeks prior to their inclusion in the printed issues, when accessed online via the Internet. All reviews currently found in these three publications would be included, encompassing all adult and children's material published, as well as all book-related feature articles and bestseller lists. If accessed via the Internet, the product would have a weekly frequency with daily updates available. The CD-ROM product would have a monthly frequency with daily FAX updates. The service would be searchable by author, subject and title. It would allow the user to download the information for use in collection development and ordering. The system would offer a direct ordering module and additional components might include a listing of titles as they are assigned for review for loading onto a user's acquisition system, and cataloging, particularly for children's books. Additional advantages to the service would be the ability to compile possible purchasing lists based on titles sent out for review, the elimination of cutting and pasting of reviews for selection lists, the ability to compile subject bibliographies with reviews and, eventually, access to reviews not available in print. The editors are seeking information and feedback from library staff who are likely to use this type of product/service.

Winnebago Software Company has released educational products and developed services to assist library professionals in learning how to use the Internet. Winnebago's Internet resources include full-day training sessions and an Internet video starter kit. Both are designed for the beginner Internet user. With Winnebago's Internet educational products and services, library professionals can learn how to: choose the appropriate Internet connection; select a provider; join an online discussion group; perform "gopher" searches; transfer files between computers; send and receive email; and log on to a remote computer. Educational materials and answers to frequently asked questions are provided with each training session. The video starter kit includes two 30-minute videos and a reference guide. The accompanying guide contains glossaries and helpful worksheets in addition to a step-by-step tutorial and tear-out reference sheets.

Follett Software Company has released Sneak Previews Plus — a new multimedia CD-ROM product designed to enhance the book acquisitions process within the school or library environment. Utilizing current multimedia technology including the Kodak Photo CD system, Sneak Previews Plus enables librarians to actually 'preview' books before ordering, thereby supplementing current review media. Book buyers not only read full-text reviews of newly published books from selected journals, but also view a full color image, enhanced MARC record, text/illustration image and, if available, publisher-provided annotation, table of contents, index and author/illustrator information. Audio is also provided, when available, for author interviews and annotations. Sneak Previews Plus enables users to search for a record by author, title, subject (Library of Congress and/or Sears), illustrator, publisher series, Dewey Decimal Classification, or 'gallery' (multimedia entities only). The 'Search Window' contains a selection box that can be used to limit a search to fiction, nonfiction, or both (default), or to a particular interest level (default). Sneak Previews Plus even enables users to complete and print a "want list" of desired titles. Follett is using Photo CD technology from Eastman Kodak Company to include photographs in Sneak Previews Plus. The Kodak Photo CD system allows users to see photographic images of a book's cover and spine, along with illustrations and other images where appropriate. Issued quarterly on subscription, each release will consist of two CD-ROMs— "Books for Young Readers" for the elementary school audience and "Books for Young Adults" for the secondary school audience. Subscriptions targeted toward each audience can be purchased separately. For information on hardware requirements and costs contact the Follett Software Company at (800) 323-3397.