

Campus libraries await computers

By DAVIS ROWELL
Staff writer

Library users take NOTIS. The NOTIS system, which is currently being implemented into USC libraries, will allow library patrons to search the inventories of all libraries of the nine campuses from a single terminal.

The system, resembling the system used by the Richland County Public Library, but capable of more sophisticated search procedures, will make catalogs using paper index cards obsolete.

Since May, USC librarians, computer services staff and administrators have been working to link the libraries at all nine campuses in the university system with a computer catalog.

Fiber-optic cables are being installed in Columbia to bring the Northwestern Online Total Integrated System into operation by late April. Software is being tested to make sure the system will work well from the start.

"Money is still the biggest problem we have, mainly in the form of labor costs," Nancy Washington, director of the NOTIS publicity committee said.

The original \$2.3 million funding request sent to the state Legislature in 1987-88 was turned down. The budget was trimmed to \$1.3 million to be spent over a two-year period, and the project was approved.

This funding decrease means the project will take longer to implement, and there will be fewer terminals than had been planned. The original proposal called for 150 terminals throughout the system, but only a small number of terminals will be bought this year, with more scheduled for purchase in the next fiscal year.

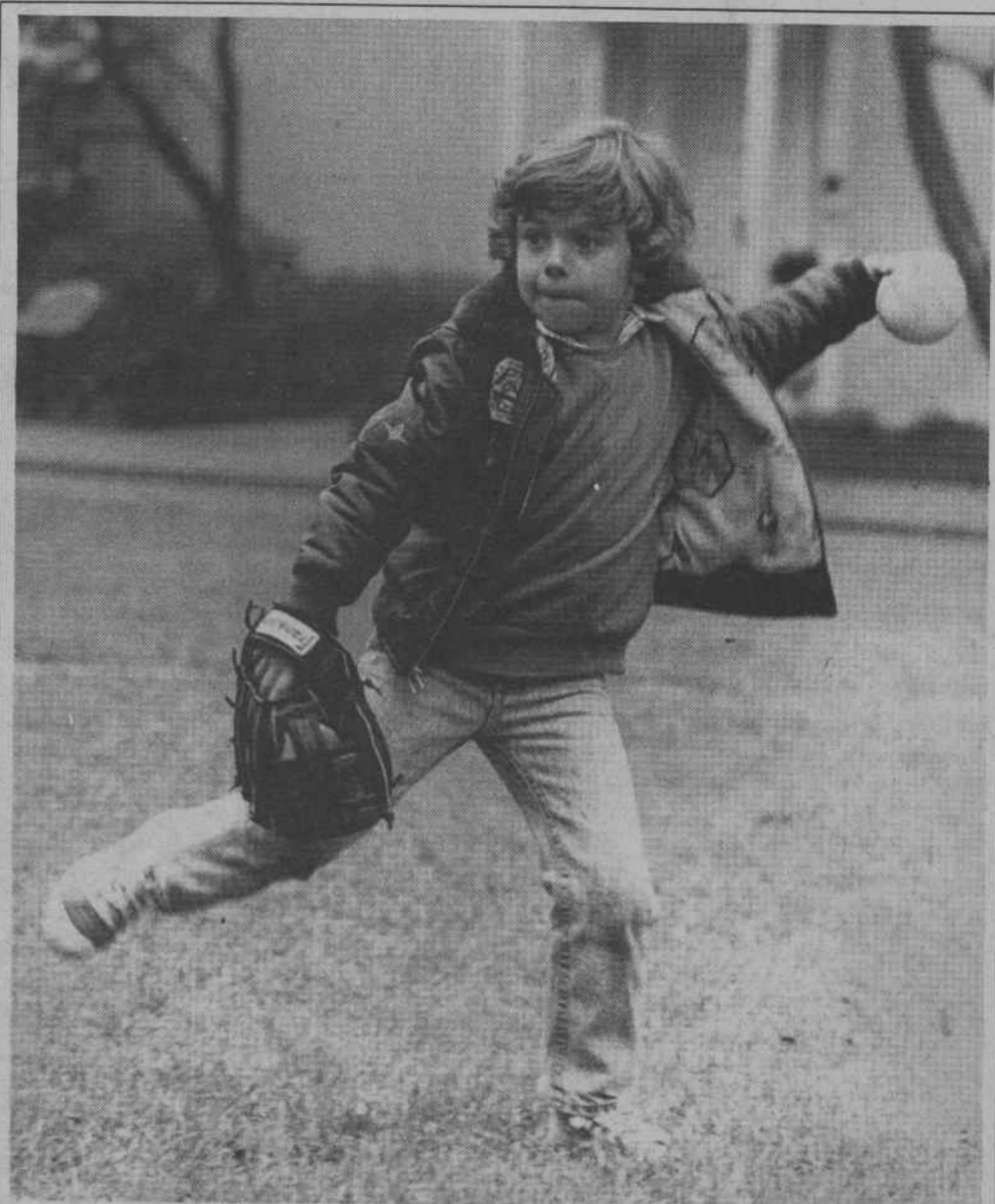
USC will have 16 terminals, including one each for the music, business and South Caroliniana libraries. Two terminals will be used for training librarians throughout the system, and 11 will be dispersed throughout the Thomas Cooper Library to support technical services and public use.

This small number of terminals will be inadequate with the Thomas Cooper Library's status as a major research library, serving an average of 5,600 patrons daily. To offset the problem, the library has purchased as many additional terminals as its budget will allow.

The card catalog will remain in place for as long as necessary to insure a smooth transition to the new system.

The card catalog will be frozen when the NOTIS system becomes operational. All new books purchased and all lost or destroyed books will be entered into or removed from the NOTIS system, but not the card catalog. The cards will be available, but the most accurate information will be available only through NOTIS.

Education of the library staff on the system will begin as soon as NOTIS terminals are available. The biggest project will be educating the public. "Librarians will be available who are anxious to help people learn to use the system. It's no stigma to ask for help," Washington said.



Here, catch!
Six-year old Jonathan Fletcher pitches a softball to his father on The Horseshoe Sunday. The Fetters, who are from Duncan, were in Columbia visiting relatives.

Apathy kills escort service

By PAM CREECH
Staff reporter

Patterson Hall's Protect Our Women program was cancelled last week because of student apathy.

POW was begun in response to the safety needs of Patterson residents in November 1987 and provided an escort service to the library Monday through Thursday from 8 p.m. to midnight.

The Sims-based service was available for all residents of Sims, Wade Hampton, McClintock and Patterson.

The program's major problems concerned volunteers. "People wouldn't show up to do their shifts," said Kathryn Walsh, Patterson Hall government president. "That was the major problem."

"They would forget about it, or they just decided not to do it, or they decided that there weren't enough people coming back and forth from the library," Walsh said.

Recruiting volunteers was as difficult as getting them to work their shifts.

"We almost had to go door to door," she said.

Michelle Lefeld, president of the Residence Hall Association, agreed that getting students involved in residence hall programs is a problem all over campus.

"It's hard to get government officers," Lefeld said, "and when you can't get government officers, how are you going to get people to volunteer to do something that would take that many hours of work to go back and forth?"

In one last effort to save the program and make improvements, a questionnaire was given to Patterson residents.

The results showed that 76 percent of the residents thought the program should be continued, but only 13 percent were willing to volunteer their time to be escorts.

The responses also showed that only 16 percent of Patterson Hall's residents had even used the escort service.

The Patterson Hall Government decided not to revise, but just to cancel the program.

"We just couldn't think of anything else to do," Walsh said.

The POW program will be out of operation for at least the remainder of the semester.

"They have tried and tried almost every resort, and finally they just said, 'I can't anymore,'" Lefeld said.

The only other escort service on campus is provided by APO.

"They can't get the manpower," Lefeld said of attempted rival programs.

Despite its failure, Lefeld is optimistic about programs like POW.

"I think they could be very successful, if people had the commitment behind it," she said.

A similar program may be started in cooperation with a greater number of residence halls, but only if interest improves dramatically.

"The problem is the people want protection, but they aren't willing to commit to protecting," Lefeld said.

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rescheduled last year because of at least 13 election code violations.

Ramsdale said she was glad no major problems happened during this year's election, and said she was looking forward to the runoff Thursday against Shealy.

"It is obvious this election is far from over. We just have to work really hard this week. Hopefully, when the tally comes in, it will be in our favor. It will just be a question of reminding people that their vote counts just as much this week as it did last week," Ramsdale said.

Shealy said her campaign had the toughest job ahead of them this week.

"I believe the support is out there for me. I know I am sort of the

underdog in this election, but I am not going to give up. Thursday we failed to turn out the masses we needed. That is going to be our attack this time," she said.

Runoffs are also needed for senators' seats.

The College of Public Health District will have a runoff for the two senate seats. Candidates were writers who received one vote each. They are Katey Mulligan, Meredith Thomason, David Toole, John Rodermund, Louis Fox and Wade Holliday.

In the Journalism College District, Troy Jowers and Todd Warner will compete in the runoff election.

Eight write-in candidates will compete for an Engineering District seat.

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"I think most students are here because of the internship. There are other programs with language and international focus, but this is one with an internship that adds to the program as far as helping students decide what field they want to go into," Monju said. "It's a learning experience, much more so than just being in a classroom."

He said he is not sure how the No. 1 rating will affect him. "It depends on how extensive the rating is. I'm not so sure how closely the companies follow the rating."

Another student, Brigitte Braun of France, who is in the foreign national track of MIBS, is unsure of how the rating will help her with companies overseas.

"It all depends," she said. "As long as I'm talking to American companies, and they have

recruited in MIBS before, I think it will help. If I go to France, I don't think it will help because they've probably never heard of MIBS."

Braun said the best part of the program is the diversity and the internship. She spent five months in an internship in New York. "For me, it helped my job search. It was definitely a great experience."

Arpan said the recognition is representative of the contributions of several people.

"This was a tremendous collective effort," he said. "There are so many faculty involved from different areas like the foreign language department, government and international studies and the geography department as well as the international business faculty. Without the leadership of President Holderman and Dean Kane of the school of business, we would not have received the rating."

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The four-story design would encompass about 125,000 square feet. With an enrollment of about 1,100 students the college now houses classes in a 40,000-square-foot area of Carolina Coliseum.

"Our need for a building is urgent," Shoquist said. "We have outgrown the present facility, and this journalism program will suffer considerably if we don't build a new facility in the near future."

Shoquist said the lease-purchase method is not a commonly used method of financing in South Carolina.

"Generally, it is true lease-purchase financing would cost more than if you used bond financing," Research Director for the House Ways and Means Committee Scott Inklely said.

"Historically, they can cost 50 to 60 percent more," he said. However, Inklely did say there could be circumstances in which the cost difference would vary only slightly.

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