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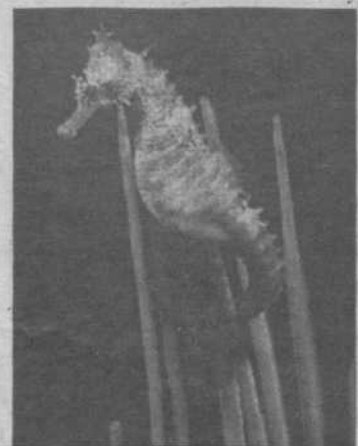
from page 6

exhibit. Visitors are allowed to look in to each mini-diorama and show replicas of spiders and other insects.

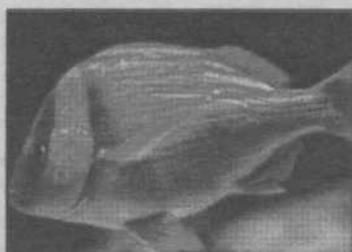
The Swamp Snakes exhibit is a microcosm of a swamp. It features an uprooted tree with a pool at the base. The roots provide a place for snakes to live. The majority of light from this exhibit comes from the foreground, and the background remains in shadow.

The Coastal Gallery

The Coastal Gallery features the salt-water marshes of South Carolina. The South Carolina coastline totals nearly



A Seahorse is attached to a piece of sea-whip coral. Since they are such weak swimmers they maintain their position on either seaweed or corals



A flounder swims in the Ocean Exhibit of the South Carolina Aquarium.

3,000 miles. This exhibit ranges from deep-water sounds to tidal marshes and beaches.

It consists of many mini exhibits: a rice-culture exhibit, mud-flat relief model, and burrowing animals touch model. There are also exhibits about alligators, seahorses, turtles, schooling fish, fish sounds and coastal erosion.

Each of these exhibits are small, but together they present the Saltwater marshes as a whole and are the largest part of the Aquarium.

The Ocean Gallery

The ocean habitats of South Carolina vary from reefs to sandy plains and from surface to deep water.

The Ocean Gallery of the South Carolina Aquarium is dominated by the Great Ocean Tank. It extends over two levels of the Aquarium and holds 322,000 gallons of water and contains many fish, including large-mouth bass and some sharks, plants and even an occasional scuba diver (who cleans the rocks).

For more information about the South Carolina Aquarium, call (843) 720-1990.

Bookstores break sales records with release of new Harry Potter book

BY RACHEL BECK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Harry Potter performed some cash-register magic for the nation's bookstores over the weekend, many of which tallied record-breaking sales, thanks to the release of the fourth book in the children's series.

Booksellers reported Monday that crowds packed their stores continuously since early Saturday, when "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" went on sale at 12:01 a.m. local time.

The U.S. publisher, Scholastic Inc., already plans to print about 2 million more copies of the \$25.95 book in the next few months. The initial print run in the United States was 3.8 million copies.

Barnes & Noble had its biggest weekend in history, selling 502,000 of the new

Harry Potter books as of the close of business Sunday night. That included about 100,000 through its Web site.

Barnes & Noble spokeswoman Mary Ellen Keating said the huge crowds helped boost overall sales, as the people who flocked to the stores ended up buying other books, as well.

Amazon.com had a stellar weekend, with 389,000 total orders for the new book coming in. Eighteen percent of the orders came from new customers to its Web site, the company said.

About 350,000 were ordered before the book even went on sale, and about 40,000 orders were tallied since early Saturday.

FedEx Corp. delivered 250,000 copies for Amazon on Saturday, 95 percent of the orders arriving at customers' homes by 4 p.m.

The giant retailers weren't the only

'The rush has somewhat ended, but the books are still easing out the door at a nice pace.'

Barb Bassett

The Red Balloon Bookshop

ones pulling in the big crowds.

Barb Bassett of The Red Balloon Bookshop in St. Paul, Minn., said the store had about 500 advance orders and then sold an additional 150 to 200 books. The bookstore still has around 100 books left.

"The rush has somewhat ended, but the books are still easing out the door at a nice pace," Bassett said.

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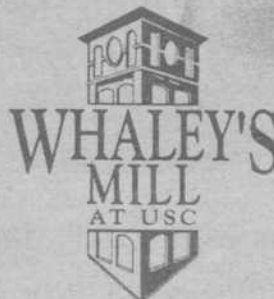
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