



N E W S

::: JUNE 2002 :::

**28 jun 02**

**Currently reading:** “On my desk I have the three volumes of correspondence between Thomas Jefferson and James Madison written with quill pen by candlelight and delivered by horse. The style is mostly impeccable. Even when they wrote about mundane things, they did so with clarity and insight. Their disagreements were expressed with civility and felicity. The entire body of letters can be read for both pleasure and instruction. Assuming people still read two centuries from now, will they read the correspondence of, say, Bill Clinton or George W. Bush for either pleasure or instruction? In contrast to our own, Jefferson and Madison were part of a culture that, whatever its other flaws, had time to take words seriously. They knew, intuitively perhaps, that information and knowledge were not the same thing and that neither was to be confused with wisdom. In large part the difference, whether they thought about it or not, was the speed of the society.”

Written with *clarity, careful argument, and felicity*, David W. Orr's [The Nature of Design](#) comes highly recommended to those interested in humane environmental architecture. **JB**

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**27 jun 02**

[How I learned to stop worrying and love Bill Gates](#), or more specifically, his muscle. **JB**

The first annual [netConnect Library Web Site Awards](#) have been announced. Public, School, and Academic Libraries are being recognized for the unique contributions they have made in building the Web. Excellent! [[ResourceShelf](#)] **JB**

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**26 jun 02**

Editor-in-chief of the magazine Psychology Today seeks a “co-researcher” to go through the process of falling in love. The experiment would eventuate not into a reality show, but a [book-deal](#). He's been walloped with over 300 responses. **JB**

**Just out:** “[At Home in the World](#),” a diverse set of articles that best capture journalist Daniel Pearl's 12 year career at the Wall Street Journal. **JB**

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**25 jun 02**

Cut and pasted word for word from [Shift's](#) Filter column:

**LIBRARIANS ARE THE SAVIOURS OF THE INTERNET**

“ Hot diggidy. Not only did librarians save Michael Moore's latest book, not only did they win a recent battle against filtering software on internet-enabled library terminals, but now they're running around the States campaigning for open source software. Librarians are cool. But most of all, librarians are sexy.”

Sending the love right back to you, [Shift!](#) **JB**

This timely and alarming article runs through a typical day of a regular guy and informs where [his actions are recorded and his privacy unknowingly violated](#). Absolutely essential reading for those concerned about diminishing privacy. **JB**

First, Bush signs the Patriot Act last October, and now the [FBI begins visiting libraries](#). Meanwhile, librarians are doing their best to support patron confidentiality. **JB**

The [California Labor History Map project](#) is [collecting stories](#) to document the State's rich history in labor. **JB**

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**24 jun 02**

Most of the time — there are [rare exceptions](#) — we preserve information; not so in the case of [patron confidentiality](#). **JB**

Is [Disney so hard up](#) they've got to crack down on a small library's [reading mascot](#)? [[librarian.net](#)] **JB**

[technology is god](#) **JB**

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**21 jun 02**

What's the [price of copyright](#) these days for online music programming by radio stations? [Too much](#), say college radio stations, and not enough, say record companies. Big surprise there, huh? **CB**

Also in the Chronicle: a lament on the [lost art of speaking and writing precisely](#). **CB**

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**20 jun 02**

[Stealth Librarian](#): A brand new forum for librarians and library workers to exchange information on working conditions at their library. [Posts](#) can be anonymous and the focus is public libraries. **JB**

**Lipstick lesbian, bad hair day, and chick flick:** just three of the new entries in the latest edition of the *Canadian Oxford Dictionary*. **JB**

**Privacy screens? Shame? Policing? Filters?** Probably the best way to handle the pornography wars involve two elements: at the local level & some choice. **JB**

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## 19 jun 02

The **Conservation Information Network** has launched a new, free **bibliographic database** designed to "facilitate the retrieval and exchange of information concerning conservation and restoration of cultural property." It currently holds 19,000 records. **RS**

The **Million Books Project** of Carnegie Mellon's **Universal Library** is forging ahead. Its goal? Nothing less than "access to all human knowledge — anytime, anywhere." **RS**

Certainly not the first, and it won't be the last **Book Burning**. Caution: Lego nudity and some violence. **JB**

It was around this time of year during the Summer of 1816 that Frankenstein was born. Do you know **the story**? **JB**

Literally **thousands of Tibetan texts to be scanned** and made available at no cost on the **Web** by their owner, a war resister with phenomenal expertise of Tibetan literature and a consuming passion for books. [**reenhead.com**] **JB**

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## 18 jun 02

**Project #4** of Jeffrey Yamaguchi's **52 projects** is library related, and an activity that ignited my deep appreciation for all things Thomas Hardy years ago. I began with **Jude the Obscure** and have worked my way down almost **every title** we own by Hardy. My heart beats with anticipation and palms sweat with more of the same whenever I approach that familiar PR4745 section on the 4th floor. **JB**

Can't say I'm sorry I've missed this: **Tracy, Library Lady**. **JB**

Write a compelling essay and **win a bookstore**. **RS**

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## 17 jun 02

Women have few ways to express themselves in Iran — the web is becoming one of those ways. **Female Persian weblogs** are providing insight on taboo subjects and gender issues of a closed society. [**Shift**] **JB**

**Five Things Libraries Can Do To Market Their Worth.** Many good ideas here. The ones I like best always revolve around creative advertising. If I saw *Can you poach a salmon in the dishwasher? Your local librarian knows* on the side of a bus, I do believe that would stay with me for a few days. **JB**

Google has a competitor: Not only does **AllTheWeb.Com** claim to **index more** than the **popular default**, but is also moving to **first choice** among many scientists and librarians searching for obscure information. **JB**

I just heard Michael Moore speak at ALA. You might recall from an article in **Library Juice** earlier this year that Harper Collins tried to quash the release of the 50,000 copies of his book, "**Stupid White Men...**," that were sitting in a warehouse. However, a New Jersey librarian who happened to be sitting in the audience the day he told his story to a civic group spurred librarians across the country into outrage over the censorship and Harper Collins eventually released the book, which subsequently shot to #1 on the New York Times bestseller list.

This morning, Michael Moore showed the first 5 minutes of his newest film, "**Bowling for Columbine**," which examines increasing violence and fear in America. But guess what? The film has been purchased by United Artists, who has been told by Regal Cinemas, one of the largest theater chains in country and who has yet to view the film, that they will not ever show the film in their theaters. Sound like a familiar story? Regal Cinemas doesn't rely on the good will of librarians like Harper Collins does, but that doesn't mean we can't make a difference.

Michael Moore had a few announcements to make at the end of his talk, detailing how he plans to give back to the library community:

- He plans to put together a group of authors to advocate on behalf of librarians on a number of issues, but especially on issues of pay equity. He says it's time that authors put their money and their time toward demonstrating the value they place on libraries and librarians in a tangible way.
- He plans to personally endow an ALA scholarship for minorities who want to become librarians, and to encourage other authors to do the same.
- He plans to donate copies of his films (including **Roger & Me** and *TV Nation*) to any library that doesn't already own them (he'll put information up on his web site about how to get a copy).
- On his web site, which receives millions of hits each day, he plans to add a page to encourage people to give money to support their local librarians, and to provide a mechanism for people to purchase a book and have it sent to their local library.

This NewBreed Librarian says thanks. Keep up the good work, Michael. **CB**

Something to tickle the funny bone: on a construction sign at the Georgia World Congress Center - PLEASE EXCUSE OUR PROGRESS. Junk English in action. **CB**

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**14 jun 02**

How does your campus rate in terms of squirrel-friendliness? Consult **Campus Squirrel Listings** for reports and rankings from colleges far and near. Brought to you by Johnathan Gottshall, a librarian for the Los Angeles Times. **JB**

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**13 jun 02**

**Read naked**, a book designed for the sauna. **JB**

Fiona writes a **solid article about including all kinds** of people in the perception of librarian, not simply the schoolmarm or lately—in a fatuous attempt at recruitment—the **uber cool**. **JB**

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**12 jun 02**

Three new episodes of **Between the Stacks** are available - hosted by "a librarian and lover of all things that happen in them," you're also likely to hear some fine indie pop on BTS, and it's all brought to you by beautiful Sydney, Australia's **most established community radio station**. **RS**

On a salary related note, Cornell biologist studies personal ads from 23 cities and finds big city women are more interested in men with big bucks whereas their smaller city sisters prefer men with **emotional aptitude and hobbies**. **JB**

Censor the bite and you've got **community-lite**. [Thanks, Adam] **JB**

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**11 jun 02**

If you're going to ALA Annual, you may want to take advantage of the New Members Round Table **resume review service**. **JB**

The **Web Standards Project** steams ahead with a relaunch. What's new? An expanding **educational section** consisting of tutorials, articles, templates, and more. See the Rogue Librarian for a **nice overview**. **JB**

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**10 jun 02**

“At one time standards were an optional extra; **I just don't think that's true any more.**” Jeffrey Zeldman and the Web Standards Project are back and gearing into action for tomorrow's **relaunch**. [**Zeldman**] **JB**

“Today, storming the barricades of censorship and rejecting the demands of conformity, we have a different group of firebrands: **America's librarians.**” [**NewPages**] **JB**

Does **publicizing a wrong** add more fuel to the fire or is it in our best interest to have this kind of information readily available and at the surface of our consciousness? **JB**

**David Bowie**, 21st-Century Entrepreneur, 55, works out at the gym, has a 22-month-old daughter with model & wife, Iman, has just released a **new album**, and holds an **opinion on copyright**:

“The absolute transformation of everything that we ever thought about music will take place within 10 years, and nothing is going to be able to stop it. I see absolutely no point in pretending that it's not going to happen. I'm fully confident that copyright, for instance, will no longer exist in 10 years, and authorship and intellectual property is in for such a bashing.”

Huh. **JB**

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**09 jun 02**

**Modern Library Dust Jackets** from 1917 through 1970. 1500 submissions thus far. [**typographica**]

Our library discards the jacket which is a shame as they provide rich information about the book. I save my favorites and use them as gift wrapping for Christmas presents and birthdays, matching titles to personalities. **JB**

The Library of Taiwan National University gets ready to dust off and catalog a **special collection** of 50,000 Western-language titles acquired during Japan's occupation of Taiwan. Some treasures include a French edition of Aesop's Fables dated 1371 and a Latin-Japanese dictionary, published by the Papal Press in Rome in 1632. **JB**

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**08 jun 02**

**Scholarly Electronic Publishing Weblog** **JB**

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**07 jun 02**

**Splish Splash Read!** Summer Reading 2002 from New York Public Library for **kids** and **teens**. Includes **reading lists**, **author chats**, and **eCards**. Inviting and well done! [**Zeldman**] **JB**

A journalist for the *Beijing Evening News* **cribs** “**America's finest news source**,” *the Onion*, without bothering to check his source. **JB**

It used to be a dead toaster. Now it's a **working 33.6k modem**. **JB**

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**06 jun 02**

**Dreamlab: The Big Library Experiment** paired the UK's Library Association with the Psychology Department of the University of Wales, Swansea in an effort to "discover if reading affects dreaming

and whether reading certain kinds of books has a particular influence on our dreams." Results are pending. **RS**

**Dee Dee Ramone found dead** last night of a possible drug overdose. He was 50. **JB**

Hundreds of scientists and scholars are **demanding reinstatement** of Physics Today magazine staff editor, Jeff Schmidt. Schmidt was fired for writing *Disciplined Minds*, a book on the politics of professional work using physicists as examples. This condemnation constitutes the largest number of physicists ever to speak out on a freedom-of-expression issue in the U.S. More [here](#). [**Library Juice**]  
**JB**

From ACRL: **Recruitment, Retention, & Restructuring**: a white paper on human resources issues in academic libraries. You probably don't need a refresher on the problems, but some of the suggested strategies look interesting. **CB**

**Avid record collector**, Arnold Jacobsen, spent a lifetime indexing and cross-referencing his eclectic collection which included food songs, campaign songs, Civil War songs, baseball songs, disaster songs, and many more rare recordings. He was often called on by the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian for songs and donated his first collection to Chicago Public. Now, his son promises to keep his father's memory alive by perserving much of this impressive collection on a web site. **JB**

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## 05 jun 02

**Letters** for June has been updated: Rory Litwin responds to Matt Wilcox. And in April's **Letters** you'll find another response to the Sex in the City article. **CB**

"Media Services is currently recruiting for **Interactive Media Project Managers** (two positions), with a closing date of June 14."

Min. salary: \$37,500, requires a B.A./B.S. We pay our entry-level librarians holding an MLS \$31,500. If the project manager positions had been advertised as classified (union) positions, the salary range would start in the \$40Ks. Something wrong with this picture?

A colleague, who calls it the "MLS discount," suggests that we've done it to ourselves, and he may just be right. Now how do we get out of this situation? **CB**

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## 03 jun 02

One city's solution to **removing barriers to technology access** - "ensuring that residents have the technology training and access needed to ensure civic and cultural participation, employment and lifelong learning." **CB**

"We will do almost anything for our state agency customers who, in this biennium, are paying us nearly \$5 million out of their own tight budgets for a whole range of services. ...We manage listservs for any agency that needs one (and many do). We developed a legislative bill tracking service that was heavily

used in the last session. We developed a search engine for the state Web portal, [Oregon.gov](#), that was visited over 80,000 times in March.

"We never paused to think about whether these were library services or not. We saw a need that our customers had, and we filled it. In the 21st century, that's what we have to do. If a customer needs it, and we can do it well, it's appropriate."

Oregon's State Librarian Jim Scheppke responding to the March BackTalk column in *LJ* on [providing tax help](#) at the reference desk.

He makes a good point - at our library we've done many things that are not "traditional" library activities, and that's certainly enhanced our visibility within our university community. Libraries are part of the community, and if we can do something to enhance that community, who cares if it's something we "should" be doing? **CB**

Skateboarders in surftown Encinitas are heading to the public library, or more specifically, to the [flat roof](#). (Note to self: need to see [Dogtown](#) before it leaves.) [[Library Stuff](#)] **JB**

[RSS For Non-Techie Librarians](#): How to set yourself up — in plain English and with plenty of screen shots. **JB**

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## 01 jun 02

Welcome to June and a new installment of NewBreed Librarian. This month we bring you

- **Feature**: A rousing rant on naked librarians
- **Interview**: Past President, American Indian Library Association and ALA Councilor-at-Large, 1992-2000, Naomi Caldwell tells us about what's important to her as a librarian
- **People**: Clara Chu, this year's ALA Equity Award winner, talks about her research interests
- **Susu** hunts down stats and such about the profession
- **TechTalk**: Metadata for dummies

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