

The Blue Banner

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Photo by Michelle Samuel

ALL SMILES: Tisharra Ridley (left) and Jyll Thomas sat watching the world go by in the Highsmith Center recently.

Ramsey first UNC library to eliminate card catalog

By Michelle Samuel & David Proffitt

UNCA's Ramsey Library is the first library of the 16 in the UNC network to completely phase out old-fashioned card catalogs in favor of a computerized system that is connected to regional and national bibliographic utilities, said Malcolm Blowers, university librarian.

Most libraries today belong to a bibliographic utility, which are data bases created when libraries pool their records. These utilities enable smaller libraries to use an extensive computer network that provides not only online cataloging capabilities but also related services such as keeping an up-to-date record of library holdings on both the online catalog and

microfiche, said Steve Squiers, assistant technical services librarian.

Although Ramsey Library fully implemented the present system at UNCA only last summer, plans are already in the works for UNCA to join Western Carolina University and Appalachian State University in purchasing a computer that will eliminate the need for belonging to the Southeastern Library Network (Solinet), said Squiers.

Blowers said that while the other 15 UNC libraries are also working toward eliminating card catalogs, "This is not our final system. This summer we, along with Western and Appalachian were given funds for an inter-

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Undergraduate research grants awarded to 14

By Scott Luckadoo

The Undergraduate Research Program at UNCA recently awarded grants to 14 recipients, according to the program's director, Stephen Anspacher.

Chancellor David Brown allocated \$150,000 of university funds for the program last spring. The money, to be used over the next four years, was set aside for the entire Undergraduate Research Program, said Anspacher.

This fall, the total amount of all grant awards was \$5,233.55, he said.

The grant money cannot be used to pay for students' time, but only for materials, and some faculty members have complained that the limitations on how the grant money may be spent inhibits its potential use and in some ways defeats its purpose, which is to promote research by students.

"A lot of the expense in doing research, especially in fields outside the realm of the hard sciences, is the time involved, not necessarily supplies," said one professor.

Anspacher said that the grants, which must not exceed \$500, do have their limitations.

"The grants are limited to supplies, equipment, and activities relating directly to research. At this point, the research projects are student projects that are part of class work.

"We didn't feel we should be using up the money to pay them (students) because the money would be used up rather fast," Anspacher said.

He went on to say that additional financial support must come from major grants.

Faculty members pursue major grants, which are awarded by

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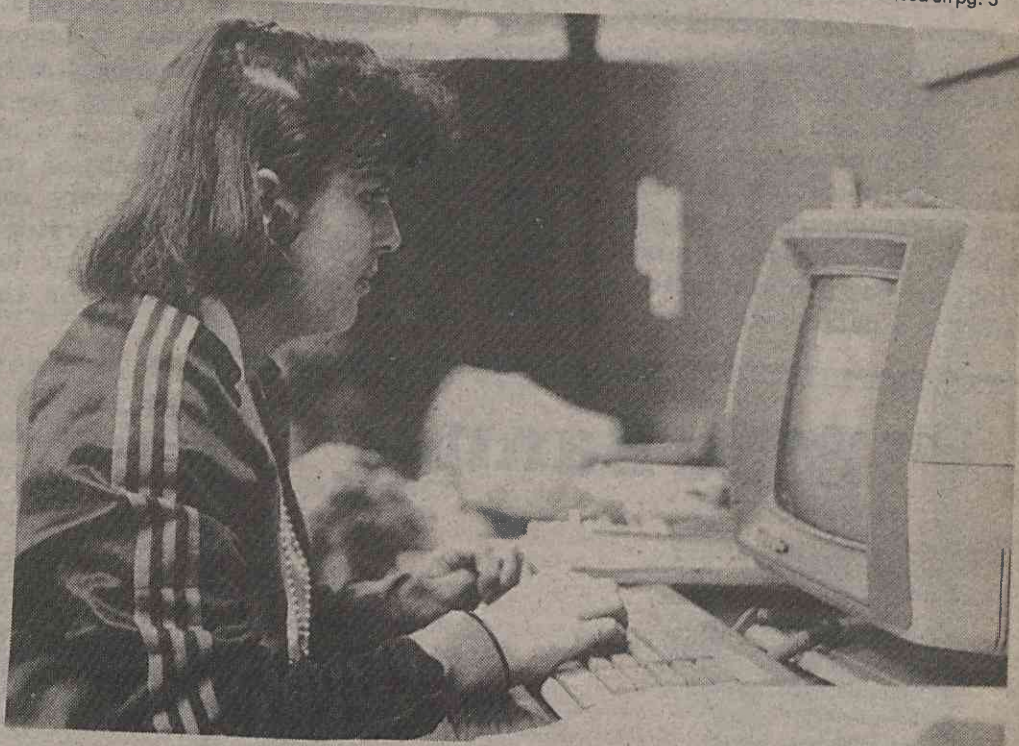


Photo by Sarah Gottfried

A DIRECT LINE TO ATLANTA: UNCA student Shannon Burns works at one of the three terminals that are part of an online catalog. Connected to the Southeastern Library Network, UNCA is the first school in the UNC system to eliminate the card catalog.

Video Fever

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Teddy Bear Craze

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NOTICE: The Blue Banner will not publish during Thanksgiving holiday, November 28 - December 1. The next issue will be Dec. 5.