Cordina's Royal Family is not a book you can judge by its cover

ROBYN REED
Staff Writer

Nora Roberts is a *New York Times* #1 Best-selling author and *Cordina's Royal Family* is a great example of why she is so popular. The book contains three full-length novels set in Cordina, a fairytale kingdom where anything can happen.

Each novel focuses on one of the children of Prince Armand, the country's leader, and how they meet that special someone. Many people might see this novel as being a bit pornographic because it is a romance novel from Silhouette, a division of Harlequin, but they would be defacing these wonderful stories.

Her Serene Highness Gabriella de Cordina-called Brie by her family-is kidnapped from her car. When she is found, she has no memory of being a princess, and security has been beefed up a bit, including the entry of American Reeve MacGee. Reeve is a former cop turned private eye who has a few classified cases he did for the United States government. His father and Prince Armand went to college together, so Armand uses that friendship to get Reeve to be Brie's bodyguard.

Who kidnapped the princess? What does a man in prison have to do with anything? Read the first stor "Affaire Royale," to find out.

His Royal Highness Alexander de Cordina, the heir to the throne, asks a family friend, Eve Hamilton, to bring her company of players to Cordina to perform several

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2002 Summer Research Project Updates

Dr. John Mecham's project, "Calcium Deposition and Metabolism in Biomphalria glabrata, the Intermediate Host of Schistosoma mansoni," is still in full swing. The project paired the research assistants with snails. Wherever the snails were plentiful, the team deduced that the parasite S. mansoni was present. The radioisotope of calcium was used to map calcium deposition in snails in various states of development and during the course of their development this summer. The group will continue on with the project by determining rate and efficiency of calcium uptake. Using Patterson's predicated mass exponents for aquatic vertebrates, empirical data using Ca45 uptake as a measure of mass exponents in the aquatic snail B. glabrata, will be used to test Patterson's numbers. Finally, experiments will be done to determine the effects of capsaicin on snail development.

Dr. Swab's research team took a former survey/map of the trees on campus and updated it, adding newly planted trees and eliminating ones that have been cut. They checked the identifications of each tree, and recorded species and took measurements on each tree's size and created new maps to reflect the new building. The team then put the new tree data into a database. This data will be used in the future by biology majors in conjunction with CityGreen software. This software calculates the monetary value of the trees that were cut in terms of pollution control, stormwater drainage control, noise reduction and shade value. Research assistant to Dr. Swab, Sandra Strenka, said, "I learned a lot about identifying tree species, about the unpredictable nature of doing field work, and about the general public ignorance of the value of the natural world, and how it is vital that people be educated to realize the importance of conserving trees and water."

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