

## **More Electronic Databases Now Available**

*by Nicholas Tomaiuolo, Bibliographic Instruction Librarian*

For several years, the Elihu Burritt Library has been meeting the electronic information needs of library users through a variety of means. CD-ROM databases were the first publicly accessible files. These may be used by visiting the Library's Reference Department on the third floor. A popular compact disc database is the full text version of the New York Times (full text indicates that complete articles may be found on the computer); the Hartford Courant is also available. A second option is World Wide Web access which allows the public to find documents on the Internet. Several computers located on the third floor have "surf" or "search" capabilities to the Web. Another electronic resource, CONSULS (the Connecticut State University's online catalog - or "electronic card catalog"), allows users to find items owned not only at the CCSU Library, but also at Southern, Eastern, and Western Connecticut State University by entering authors, titles, subjects, or keywords. An additional option within the CONSULS system is to search bibliographic databases (to find journal articles, for example). Among the database options that a user may select is "FirstSearch".

**While the CCSU Library has made electronic databases widely available in the past, access to more information than ever is possible through an expanded array of *FirstSearch* databases.**

### **What is "*FirstSearch*" and how did we "Expand" it?**

FirstSearch is NOT a database; it is a database service. Until recently, choosing the FirstSearch service would have given the user a choice of 14 databases on which to perform a search. Presently, however, the Library has now made it possible for the public to choose from **50** databases. This represents over thirty additional files that you may explore for your information needs.

Among the newly offered databases are Index to Legal Periodicals, INSPEC (a database for physics, electronics, and computing), Environment (key aspects of environmental science), PAIS Decade (public affairs), and Business News. *On the following page is a comprehensive list of all FirstSearch databases.*

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**Attend a Library Information Workshop on using FirstSearch and its new databases on Wednesday April 9, 1997 at the CCSU Library Curriculum Lab Classroom (3rd Floor), Time: 11 am until noon.**

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*New FirstSearch databases -- More Information for CCSU Library Users!* (continued)

<u>Database name</u>	<u>Scope</u>
1) WorldCat	Books and other materials in libraries worldwide
2) Article1st	Index of articles from nearly 12,500 journals
3) Contents1st	Table of Contents of nearly 12,500 journals
4) NetFrist	Database of Internet resources
5) A & H Search	Arts and humanities (a citation index)
6) AGRICOLA	Materials relating to all aspects of agriculture
7) AIDS/Cancer	AIDS and Cancer Research
8) AppSciTechAb	Applied Science and technology literature
9) ArtAbstracts	Leading publications in the world of the arts
10) BasicBIOSIS	A wide range of bioscience topics
11) BioDigest	Non-technical digests in biology, ecology & health
12) Biography Index	Guide to a wide range of biographical material
13) BiolAgrIndex	Leading publications in agriculture and biology
14) BookRevDigst	Reviews of fiction and nonfiction books
15) Books in Print	RR Bowker's Books in Print
16) BusDateline	Citations on Regional business articles
17) Business/Industry	New: Business and industry
18) BusinessNews	Daily news and information from 350 sources
19) BusinessOrgs	Organizations that serve business and industry
20) CINAHL	Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health
21) Consumer Index	An index of articles providing consumer information
22) DataTimes	An index of regional newspapers
23) Disclosure	Financial reports on publicly owned companies
24) Diss	Dissertation Abstracts Online
25) EBSCO	The EBSCO MasterFILE. Nearly 2,400 magazines
26) EconLit	An index of economic literature
27) EducationAbs	Leading publications in the field of education
28) Environment	Key aspects of environmental science
29) Eventline	Scheduled conventions, exhibits, etc., worldwide
30) FactSearch	Facts and statistics on topics of current interest
31) GeneralSciAbstracts	Leading general science periodicals
32) GEOBASE	Worldwide literature on geography and geology
33) GeoRef	Guide to materials in geology and earth sciences
34) GPO	U.S. Government publications
35) HumanitiesAbs	An index of articles in the humanities
36) IndxLegalPer	Index to Legal Periodicals & Books
37) INSPEC	Physics, electronics, and computing
38) LibraryLit	Materials on libraries and librarianship
39) MDX Health	Digest of medical and health information
40) MEDLINE	Abstracted articles from medical journals
41) MicrocompAbs	Microcomputer Abstracts
42) NewsAbs	Newspaper Abstracts
43) NYT	New: The New York Times
44) PAIS Decade	Materials on public affairs (most recent 10 years)
45) PapersFirst	An index of papers presented at conferences
46) Proceedings	An index of conference proceedings
47)RILM Abs	RILM Abstracts of Music Literature
48) SocSciAbs	Guide to the literature of the social sciences
49) WilBusAbs	Leading English-language business periodicals
50) WorldScope	Financial reports on companies worldwide

Note: One additional database, the Modern Language Association Bibliography (MLA) is also available. For access details see “3a” below.

Expanded access translates into more information power for our users. Just six months ago, a typical technology query may have been searchable on only one available FirstSearch database, users now can try their search query against several related databases!

## **WHAT: Using the Expanded Database Options of the FirstSearch service**

### **HOW: From any CONSULS terminal in the CCSU Library**

*At the CCSU Information Gateway Menu*

- 1) Choose “D” Journal Indexes and Other Databases
- 2) Choose “F” FirstSearch
- 3) For easy access choose “T” Using OCLC Menus
- 3a) For access to MLA only choose “M”
- 4) When you are connected you will be presented with a list of **Topic Areas** — these **are not** the databases themselves — you must choose a category that is appropriate for your search, and *then* choose a database. Or you may choose “14” to see the complete list of databases as shown on the previous page.

#### Example of Topic Area Screen

NO.	TOPIC AREA
1	Arts & Humanites
2	Business & Economics
3	Conferences & Proceedings
4	Consumer Affairs & People
5	Education
6	Engineering & Technology
7	General & Reference
8	General Sciences
9	Life Sciences
10	Medicine & Health
11	News & Current Events
12	Public Affairs & Law
13	Social Sciences
14	All databases

#### Example of Result of Choosing Topic Area 8 “General Science”

NO.	DATABASE	DESCRIPTION
1	WorldCat	Books and other materials in libraries worldwide
2	Article1st	Index of articles from nearly 12,500 journals
3	Contents1st	Tables of Contents of nearly 12,500 journals
4	NetFirst	Database of Internet resources
5	Environment	Key aspects of environmental science
6	General Science Abstracts	Leading general science periodicals
7	GEOBASE	Worldwide literature on geography and geology
8	GeoRef	Guide to materials in geology and earth sciences
9	INSPEC	Physics, electronics, and computing

**Next Step: Choose the database best suited to your question!**

*More FirstSearch Databases* (continued)

5) Once you've selected a Topic Area, choose a database. After you have connected to the database a "banner" will appear; it tells you about the content of the database, for example:

\*\*\*\*\* **Social Sciences Abstracts** \*\*\*\*\*

COVERAGE: More than 400 international, English-language periodicals in sociology, anthropology, geography, economics, political science, and law. Indexing from February 1983 to the present. Abstracts from 1994. Updated monthly.

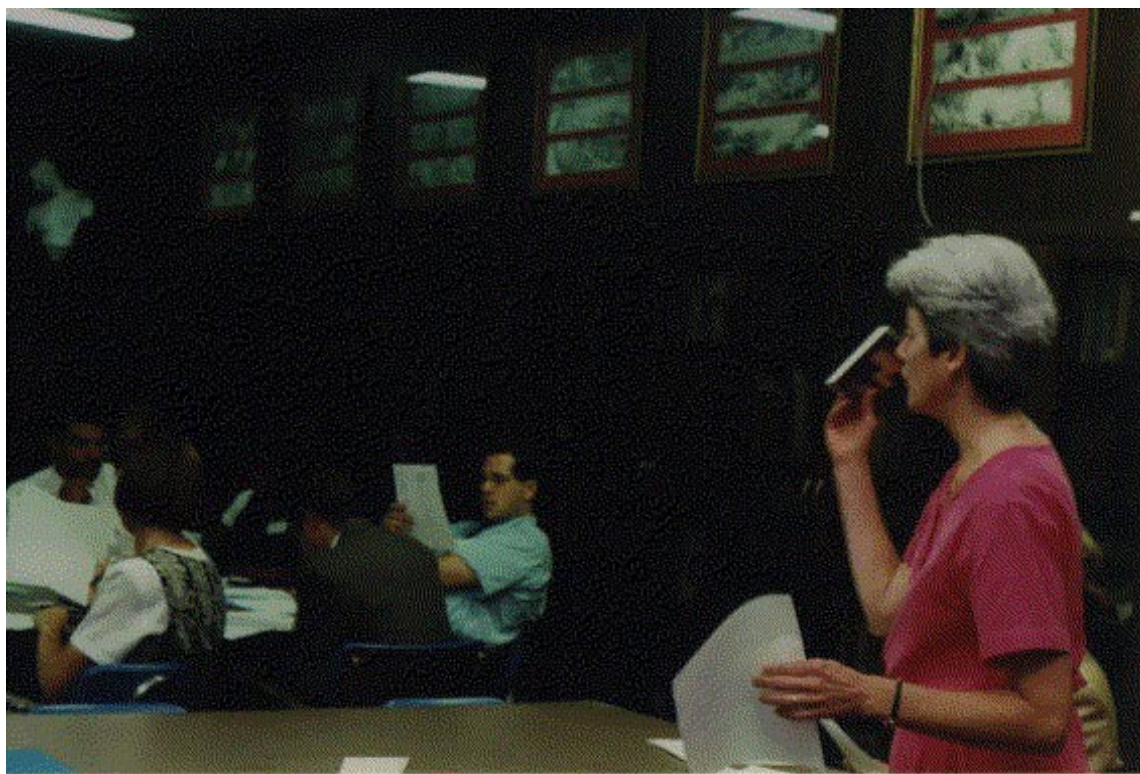
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6) Searching the selected database: After you see the "banner" press "ENTER" to continue. Follow any prompts, "Hints," or "Help" that you may encounter to begin your search, refine your search, and view your results.

**WHERE:** You may use *FirstSearch* as follows:

- 1) The full menu of 50 FirstSearch databases (plus MLA Bibliography) is available at any CONSULS terminals at the Library.
- 2) If you are a student, faculty, or staffperson with a CCSU VAX account, access the VAX through your usual means, and type CONSULS at the prompt. Follow the instructions under "HOW" above. *If you are using your VAX account, you do not need to be in the Library to use FirstSearch.*

**Caveat:** Despite better computer hardware and software, users sometimes experience a delay in using FirstSearch, particularly after the West Coast has "logged on."



Emily Chasse,  
Online Services  
Librarian  
discusses  
**FirstSearch**  
and other  
resources  
with  
new faculty  
members during  
an orientation

## Need a Telephone Number, an Address, or Are You Curious as to Who Belongs to a Number??

by Joan Packer and Nick Tomaiuolo

Every now and then a library user will approach a Reference Librarian and ask "How can I find out who has been calling me -- I have the number, but I don't know who it is." More often a person wants to get in touch with a friend with whom contact has been lost. Well, thanks to the World Wide Web both of these tasks can be accomplished with relative ease.

Several years ago CD-ROMs were the hottest information mechanism in the world. In 1984 when Bruce Springsteen's *Born in the USA* was the first music CD released in America, it certainly was a breakthrough in technology, storage, and sound quality. Soon after, information began being marketed on compact disc also -- we still use them at the library (see page one). In fact, one product called "PhoneDisc" took the country by storm by scanning telephone books and writing the information on CDs. "Reverse PhoneDisc" did the same job, only this time you were looking for a name to match a phone number. "SelectPhone" is an online database program which essentially accomplishes the same things.

All three are costly and, although the price of these products has been coming down, the World Wide Web has again stepped in with a "free" solution for computer users. Librarians at the Burritt Library have identified at least two World Wide Web directories that can help you find an old friend, your missing uncle, or the person who keeps dialing your number by accident!

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### Service #1

#### WHOWHERE?

#### PHONE NUMBERS & ADDRESSES

<http://www.whowhere.com/phone.html>

WHOWHERE helps you find private numbers, toll-free numbers, company numbers, and email addresses. *Try it!*

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### Service #2

#### InfoSpace

<http://www.infospace.com>

InfoSpace offers the same services; **try it alternatively!**

*Editorial note: Why are these services free to you? Because advertisers are marketing their products on these Web services!*

## Gay and Lesbian Studies: A Bibliography on the CCSU Library's Web pages at

<http://library.ccsu.ctstateu.edu/lib/able/glsintro.html>

-Priya Rai, Technical Services Librarian

Central Connecticut State University houses a sizeable collection of books in gay and lesbian studies. The Collection, consisting of approximately 1,000 volumes, has primarily evolved from two donations made to the Library in 1994: the George W. Henry Foundation Library's Collection and the Hartford Women's Center Feminist Collection. Combined with a third collection, the Audrey Beck Learning in Equity (A.B.L.E.), the focus of which is gender equity issues, the three collections comprise the Equity and Diversity Issues Collection at the Burritt Library on Stack 2.

*Gay and Lesbian Studies: A Bibliography* has been compiled to assist the casual reader as well as the serious researcher in the study of the subject. To access the *Bibliography*, simply point your browser at:  
<http://library.ccsu.ctstateu.edu/lib/able/glsintro.html>

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Does your class need an orientation to the CCSU Library? Telephone 832-2068 to schedule a session.



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Joan G. Packer, editor;

Nicholas Tomaiuolo, managing editor.

## Britannica Online: Encyclopaedia Britannica on the Web *by Steve Cauffman*

### What does *Britannica Online* contain?

The electronic encyclopedia contains more than 65,000 full-text encyclopedia articles and year-in-review articles in one searchable database. For those familiar with the print version of Britannica, the online version contains the Macropaedia, Micropaedia, Propaedia, and Book of the Year, in addition to an Index and *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*. The articles contain text and pictures. Some articles contain bibliographies on the topic and some articles have links to related Internet sources.

### How can I search?

You can search *Britannica Online* by keyword, phrase, or question. For example, you can search for information on New York City by typing "Where is New York City?" into the dialog box on the *Britannica Online* Home Page. In addition to this kind of natural language searching, *Britannica Online* also allows you to search using AND, OR, NOT and ADJ, (which stands for "adjacent to"). Using these Boolean operators, a search for "(new ADJ york ADJ city) NOT state" also would give you information on New York City. For articles that contain bibliographies you can search for a topic or an author's name and the word "bibliography"; a search for "bibliography AND alcott" would put the Louisa May Alcott bibliography at the top of the results list.

### Can I browse?

You can browse through *Britannica Online*. If you select "Explore Britannica" from the bottom half of the Britannica Home Page you have access to a few different browsing tools. The editors of Britannica have collected articles on topical areas such as the Presidential elections and The Atlanta Olympic Games. The 1994, 1995, and 1996 Book of the Year are available for browsing. You can browse through the Propaedia which provides a listing of articles by topic. If you really want to browse without bounds, you can select "random article" and let *Britannica Online* select an article for you.

### How can I get to *Britannica Online*?

The URL for *Britannica Online* is <http://www.eb.com/>, but remember, your computer must have access to the World Wide Web and must be on the campus network. The system will not recognize you as a "CCSU subscriber" if you are not on the campus network. *Britannica Online* also is available on the workstations in Reference Department on the third floor of the CCSU Library.

### Where can I get more information on *Britannica Online*?

The best way to learn about Britannica Online is to try it out, but other help is available. First, there are numerous help screens available in *Britannica Online* itself, or you can send a message to "tellus@eb.com" for direct communication with *Britannica Online* staff. If you prefer, you can call the Reference Department at the CCSU Library at (860) 832-2060. Lastly, the Library is offering an Information Workshop on *Britannica Online* on Thursday February 27, 1997 from 11 a.m. to noon. It will be held in the Curriculum Lab on the third floor of the Library. The workshop is free and open to everyone.



## *No Doubt you Have Always Wondered...*

**W**ho in the world were **Gog** and **Magog**? In the Bible (Ezek. 38:39) Gog was King of Magog, a northern land whose fierce hordes eventually invaded Israel. Also, in Revelation 20:7 Gog and Magog symbolize the enemies of the Kingdom of God, Gog being associated with Magog, a son of Japeth (Gen. 10:2).

**I**n British legend, Gog and Magog are the sole survivors of a monstrous brood, children of the 33 “infamous” daughters of Roman Emperor Diocletian (AD 245-313). They murdered their husbands and were set adrift in a ship. Reaching Albion (an ancient name for Great Britain, from the Latin *albus*, meaning cliffs; Napoleon referred to England as *Albion Perfide* or Perfidious Albion) they fell in with a number of demons. Their descendants were a race of giants eliminated by Brute (a mythical ancestor of the British) with the exception of Gog and Magog, who were brought in chains to London and sentenced to duty as porters at the royal palace, on the site of the London Guildhall, where their effigies have been since the reign of Henry V. There was, at one time, a large figure called Gogmagog cut into chalk near Cambridge. The hills nearby have been nicknamed Gog Magog Hills by Cambridge University students as well as local golfers. Most of this information can be found in *Benet's Readers Encyclopedia*, as well as other arcane and useful bits of literary lore.

—Joan G. Packer, Head, Reference Department

### *Recent Activities Reported by Burritt Library Staff*

- ◆ **Stephen Cauffman**, formerly of the CCSU Library Circulation Department, has joined the Library Systems staff as Systems Assistant.  
Visit Steve's WWW page at <http://library.ccsu.ctstateu.edu/~steve>  
BTW, Steve will be completing his Masters in Library Science from Simmons College (Boston, Massachusetts) in May 1997.
- ◆ **Shelley Osterreich**, Assistant Librarian in the CCSU Library's Technical Processing Department, will begin sabbatical leave in January 1997. Shelley will be preparing to publish a bibliography on Native American shamanism.
- ◆ **Nicholas Tomaiuolo**, Assistant Librarian and **Joan Packer**, Head Reference Librarian, recently returned from London, England where they presented a paper entitled “Web Search Engines: Key to Locating Information for All Users or Only the Cognoscenti?” at Online UK'96, an international conference sponsored by the *Guardian*.

## Spring 1997 Information Workshops at the Elihu Burritt Library

Each session is held in the Curriculum Laboratory Classroom, Third Floor, Burritt Library.

Each session begins at 11 a.m. and runs until noon.

**These sessions are recommended for everyone!**

**Students, faculty, and staff are invited and encouraged to attend!**

No registration is necessary!

*Session I, Thursday February 27, 1997 11 am -- noon*

### **UNLIMITED ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO THE ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA**

You may not yet know this, but one of the world's finest basic research tools is available through the CCSU Library's WWW Home Page <http://library.ccsu.ctstateu.edu/lib>

The Library has subscribed to the electronic *Encyclopedia Britannica* and made it available to members of the CCSU community! The online version has many "value added" features including hypertext links to reliable Web subject resources. Come to our demo and then start searching!

*Session II, Thursday March 13, 1997 11 am -- noon*

### **SEARCHING CONSULS**

Do you know how to find what the CCSU Library owns? Learn to search CONSULS (Connecticut State University Library System). CONSULS has many functions of which you may not be aware or haven't used to maximum advantage. Explore CONSULS.

*Session III, Wednesday April 9, 1997 11 am -- noon*

### ***FirstSearch*: INTRO TO AN EXPANDED VERSION OF DATABASE INFORMATION**

The CCSU Library now offers access to 50 databases through the *FirstSearch* service. Come and partake of the information smorgasbord.