Weekend work
Terry Mayhew, top, and Shane Conley wash windows while Gary Bowling holds the ladder outside the Main Library on Monday.
Floored

TONY MANIACI, library facilities coordinator, stands in the patterns of the refurbished 1940s Terrazzo floor in the Phillip Sills Exhibit Hall of the Main Library.

By Jo McCully
Man breaks legs in fall at OSU library

The man apparently fell or jumped to the roof of a fifth-floor atrium from the 11th floor.

By Connie A. Higgins
Dispatch Staff Reporter

A 20-year-old man was rescued yesterday from the roof of a fifth-floor atrium at the Main Library at Ohio State University after he apparently fell or jumped from the 11th floor.

Mark Mason of 2452 N. High St. suffered fractures of both legs, said officials at OSU Medical Center.

Mason fell onto aluminum framework of the acrylic plastic atrium at about 4:50 p.m., authorities said.

Columbus fire officials worked for about an hour with drills and sledgehammers to remove a portion of an adjoining wall to reach Mason.

Battalion Chief C.H. Bardocz said there was no good access from the atrium roof to get to Mason.

“We had to go through the wall three times in order to get to him,” Bardocz said.

Firefighters knocked one hole in the wall to see Mason. Two more holes were created on each side of the wall to rescue him.

Bardocz said Mason was conscious and talking when fire officials located him.

Capt. John Petry of the OSU Police Department said it has not been determined whether the fall was accidental. Petry said police do not know how Mason got on top of the library at 1858 Neil Ave. Officials didn’t know whether he’s an OSU student.

Several workers said the crash could be heard throughout the library.

“After we heard the crash we thought a book shelf had fallen to the floor,” said Rosemary Riel, a circulation desk worker. “Then we heard a voice screaming for help.”
What a view

The skyline of downtown Columbus provides a backdrop for Mirror Lake when viewed from the top floor of the Main Library.
Date: Fri, 12 May 2000 13:15:32 -0400
Reply-To: branin.1@osu.edu
Sender: owner-liball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
X-PH: V4.4@orb1
From: Joseph Branin <branin.1@osu.edu>
To: liball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
Subject: Staff Petition on Hot Conditions in Main Library
X-Sender: branin.1@pop.service.ohio-state.edu (Unverified)
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 3.0.3 (32)

On May 10, 2000, I received a letter and petition signed by 105 staff who wished to express their concern about "the intolerable high temperatures that staff in OSU Main Libraries is experiencing."

I want to let all the Libraries staff know that I understand and sympathize with their concern about the poor working conditions in the Main Library and several other library facilities on campus. A combination of unseasonably hot weather, delays in a Main Library HVAC upgrade, and a strike have made air quality and temperature conditions very uncomfortable in several of our libraries.

I assure you I am doing all I can to correct this situation and prevent it from happening again. The Provost and the Associate Vice President for Physical Facilities have been made aware of this situation. Linda Gonzalez and Ryan Langhurst are working closely with Facilities to communicate problems and monitor improvements. The contractors from J. A. Guy, Inc. have been back to work this week, and I hope that the HVAC upgrade in Main will be done within the next two weeks. Planning is also underway for both short-term and long-term renovations of the Main Library.

I appreciate the staff's patience and cooperation under these difficult work conditions. I believe our working relationship with Facilities and custodial staff will get better, our reporting on and monitoring of facilities problems will improve, and we will make all our library facilities--particularly the Main Library--more attractive and functional for both users and staff over the next two years.

While the temperature remains high in the workplace, please take care of yourself by drinking plenty of water and taking frequent breaks in cooler places.

Sincerely,

Joe Branin

Joseph J. Branin
Director, The Ohio State University Libraries
1858 Neil Avenue Mall
Date: Fri, 06 Apr 2001 10:29:40 -0400
Reply-To: langhurst.2@osu.edu
Sender: owner-libball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
X-PH: V4.4@orb9
From: ryan.langhurst <langhurst.2@osu.edu>
To: Libball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
Subject: Main Library Power Outage Recap.
X-Sender: langhurst.2@postbox.acs.ohio-state.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2

Colleagues,

In response to a myriad of questions regarding what happened on Tuesday night and through Wednesday, here is a summary of the power outage situation:

On Tuesday night, Main Library Circulation staff smelled smoke in several locations in the building. Physical Facilities and 911 were called. When the Fire department arrived they found that the smoke had come from an electrical fire that both originated and ended inside of a conduit (the pipes that house electrical wiring and cables). The fire started as a result of a loose connection between a power cable and the transformer in the sub-basement. It burned up a decent portion of the cable, blew the transformer, and extinguished itself inside of the conduit by way of a lack of oxygen. Smoke was able to travel through the conduit to the 4th floor mechanical room and thus filter into the HVAC system sending it to public areas. The University Utility crew worked throughout the night on Tuesday and all day Wednesday assessing damage, replacing cables, and installing a junction box in room 031. Power was restored Wednesday night at approximately 7:30pm.

Ryan

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Ryan Langhurst
Coordinator, Library Facilities
027A Main Library
1858 Neil Ave Mall
(614)688-0076  Langhurst.2@osu.edu
Ohio State Announces First Major Gifts for Library Renovation
Excerpt from University Press Release

The Ohio State University Libraries have received $7 million, originating from Thomas E. and Patricia A. Duke Robinson of Troy, Ohio, to support the renovation of the William Oxley Thompson Memorial (Main) Library. The Robinsons’ gift of $5 million will be augmented by an additional $2 million from the Paul G. Duke Foundation, a supporting organization of The Columbus Foundation that was founded by Pat’s father.

“Pat and Thom Robinson have made an extraordinary gift to the university and its libraries,” said Director of Libraries Joe Branin. “Their generosity is a wonderful start, and a major step forward, in our campaign to renovate our grand Main Library at the head of the Oval. The Robinsons care deeply about the well-being and quality of education and research at The Ohio State University. They know a great university requires a great library. Their gift will help us to create a truly great, 21st century Main Library, one that will serve our students, faculty, and community well for generations to come.”

Renovation of the Main Library is a top priority of Ohio State’s Academic Plan. The university aims to raise $100 million for this project, $30 million of which will come from the private sector. Other gifts to support the renovation include $250,000 in pledges from the Friends of the Libraries and $100,000 from a sale of memorabilia by the Department of Athletics.

The Robinsons are longtime friends of the university and avid Buckeye fans. Their combined gifts to Ohio State total over $1 million, including support to create the Thomas E. and Patricia A. Robinson Athletic Fund and a gift to support the College of Veterinary Medicine’s building fund. As active volunteers on behalf of Ohio State, both serve on the Pre-Campaign Committee for the Library Renovation and the National Major Gift Committee for Miami Valley. They are members of the Buckeye Club and are recognized by the The Presidents Club. In addition, Pat is a director of The Ohio State University Foundation. Their gift, as well as the gift from the Duke Foundation, are part of Ohio State’s ongoing fund raising efforts in support of the Academic Plan.

“We made this gift because the Main Library is necessary for the academic program at Ohio State,” said Pat. “It is a special project that corresponds with our philanthropic goals of benefiting young people and education within Ohio. We are happy to be able to do this.”
Date: Tue, 22 Aug 2006 09:05:40 -0400
From: Larry Allen <allen.916@osu.edu>
Subject: Thompson Library Staff Closing Reception
Sender: owner-liball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
To: liball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
Reply-to: allen.916@osu.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 7.0.0.16
X-MIMEDefang-Relay-6e104725c4c19a394237685584bdf8f4153a690a: 128.146.216.100
X-Original-To: liball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
X-Spam-Score: undef - message too big (size: 294847, limit: 204800
X-CanItPRO-Stream: ihnat.1
X-Canit-Stats-ID: Bayes signature not available
X-Scanned-By: CanIt (www.roaringpenguin.com) on 128.146.216.81
X-Scanned-By: CanIt (www.roaringpenguin.com) on 128.146.216.12
X-Authentication-warning: defang1.net.ohio-state.edu: defang set sender to
<owner-liball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu> using -f
Original-recipient: rfc822;ihnat.1@osu.edu

You're invited to join your colleagues for a "Closing Party" as we prepare to lock up the Thompson Library for three years. Please plan on attending a special reception on Monday, August 28, 10:30 a.m., in the Sills Gallery.

See the attached invitation for details, and please print the invitation and post where appropriate.

Thanks.

Larry

Larry Allen
Communications Coordinator
Ohio State University Libraries
1858 Neil Avenue, Room 106-K
Columbus, OH 43210
Phone: 614/292-8999
Fax: 614/292-7859

Closing Party Invite1.pdf
Join us for a
Closing Celebration

Monday, August 28
10:30 a.m.
Sills Gallery
Thompson Library

It's time to say goodbye...
to our home with nearly a century of history,
and to reminisce with friends and colleagues.

Remarks by Joe Branin, followed by a reception.
There's a Volvo parked in the periodicals section
Ohio State relocates an entire library

By David Niven

Anyone who reads and has ever moved comes to understand a painful reality: Books are heavy, very heavy.

But advice from the experts eschews the popular "lift with your legs" advice. "Actually, if at all possible, don't lift," said Lori Simkins.

Simkins is part of the team from Hallett Movers responsible for relocating more than a million books from Ohio State's Thompson Library into a temporary facility on Ackerman Road. The effort represents the largest move in OSU history.

The Thompson, which is OSU's main library, will close on Sunday for renovations and is slated to reopen in 2003.

Moving the books involves stacking them, in order, in massive containers, including some in the shape of bookshelves. With every container on wheels, the books are pushed out the door, driven to Ackerman Road and then unloaded in same order.

Simkins, who has previously helped relocate public libraries in Minneapolis and New Orleans, said the Ohio State job was one of her most enjoyable projects.

Some of her staff did not seem to share her enthusiasm, however. One of them multi-tasked, unloading books while rapping about getting even with all the motherfuckers who were out to get him.

Aside from the massive cost of the actual renovation, just the move—getting the books and everything else out of the main library, then getting it all back three years later—is a $1 million project.

Simkins, who lives in Chicago where Hallett is based, has been in Columbus for months working on the move with dozens of other staffers.

"It takes a while to empty a big library building," confirmed Wes Boomgaard, the renovation project leader for the OSU libraries.

It seems like there would be a simpler way to move the books. Given that OSU has about 50,000 students, couldn't the university just ask every student to check out 20 books each from the old library, then return them a few weeks later to the new library?

"Well, uh, no," said Boomgaard, betraying no sense of amusement at the question. "This is a research collection. Not every book gets checked out every year."

The temporary library facility, almost due north of the Schottenstein Center, is something of an industrial space, with something of an industrial smell.

"I'll have to get some hard hats," Boomgaard said before entering the building with library spokesman Larry Aller.

Decked out in a hard hat in OSU football helmet colors, Boomgaard explained that most of the main library's collection would be moved to the Ackerman Library, but some pieces of it would be placed in other OSU libraries.

Beginning Monday, OSU students and faculty will be able to browse the stacks at the Ackerman Library or order books and have them delivered to one of the Ohio State University Libraries' other campus locations.

With bookshelves still being assembled, books being unpacked and a Volvo incongruously parked inside the new library, Boomgaard and Allen seemed a little concerned about the work left to be done.

"This will be a library someday," Allen said. "Hopefully, on Monday."

Pointing to the Volvo, he added, "If they don't have that gone by Monday, we're going to raffle it off."

The enormous scope of the move is illustrated by the fact that it is hard to come up with a topic that is unrepresented among the books being moved. Indeed, moving the main stacks requires the relocation of more than 300 books on irony — including the 2001 volume Irony in Action.

But the most ironic book that movers must box up, cart out the door and unload is a 1998 book by Elizabeth Habich titled Moving Library Collections.
From the Director of Libraries

Our Mission
The Ohio State University Libraries is committed to meeting the diverse and changing information needs of the university’s students, faculty, and staff, and to participating in resource-sharing programs throughout Ohio and the world.

The Libraries’ facilities, collections, services, instruction, and scholarship contribute to the University’s attainment of excellence in teaching, research, and service.

To these ends, the Libraries collect, create, organize, manage, preserve, and provide access to information sources, and foster an environment conducive to academic inquiry, scholarly communication, creative achievement, and lifelong learning.

The Ohio State University Libraries are committed to providing the information resources and services needed to support teaching, learning and research. Information today comes in many formats: the printed page, e-books and e-journals, digital data, audio and video files. While future advancements in creating, sharing and storing data will no doubt favor electronic means, students and scholars will expect access to needed information regardless of format. Print on paper is still the preferred reading medium for many.

The OSU Libraries have crafted new services to meet the evolving needs of our patrons. Students, faculty and staff can receive free digital copies of journal articles from both OSU and non-OSU collections. The number of full-text articles and e-books available online from the Libraries continues to expand, through our own collections and those provided through OhioLINK. OSU’s digital repository, the Knowledge Bank, offers web access to the research of a growing number of faculty members and university organizations. The Libraries’ Copyright Help Center now assists faculty and students in understanding the complex and ever-changing rules of copyright in the scholarly communications arena.

The William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library, scheduled to re-open in the late summer of 2009 following a three-year renovation, is being transformed into an exciting center for learning and research. Quiet and social spaces for individual and group study, access to information in numerous formats, and the wealth of resources available in the Libraries’ special collections, will be available to users in this state-of-the-art library.

On behalf of the Libraries’ faculty and staff, our thanks for your support. We look forward to continuing to meet your information needs whatever they may be.

Joseph D. Branin
Director of Libraries
Library as Place

Thompson Library Renovation
Currently closed for renovation, the William Orey Thompson Memorial Library will reopen in the late summer of 2009 as a 21st century Information Age center for research, learning and discovery.

Sullivant Library
The Sullivant (formerly EHS) Library is serving as the central campus main library during the Thompson Library renovation, and is home for reference materials and librarians to help patrons find the information they need. Sullivant was renovated in 2008 to add individual and group computer stations in two separate "learning commons."

Knowlton School of Architecture Library Receives AIA/ALA Library Building Award
The Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture Library was awarded an American Institute of Architects/American Library Association (AIA/ALA) Library Building Award, which annually honors the finest examples of library design by architects licensed in the U.S.

The Digital Union
The Digital Union was created through a partnership between Office of Technology Enhanced Learning and Research (TELIR), The Office of the CIO, and University Libraries as a space at OSU for faculty, students, and staff to explore emerging technology. Located in the Science and Engineering Library, the Digital Union offers the university community an environment for low-risk trial-and-error experiences with technology.

Ackerman Library
The Ackerman Library, which houses most of the circulating collections previously kept at the Thompson Library, will continue operations until the Thompson renovation project is completed.

The Center for Knowledge Management
The Center for Knowledge Management (CKM), in collaboration with the Prior Health Sciences Library, supports The Ohio State University Health Sciences Center in its three-part mission of research, storage and distribution of biomedical and other health science-related information. CKM is comprised of several service units including web, presentation, mobile, digital, print and educational technologies. CKM is organized into creative, user and shared solutions teams that support the Center and the Library.
Informative Services
Reaching Out to Our Patrons

Undergraduate Research Prizes
The Libraries’ Undergraduate Research Prize rewards a student/instructor team that works with an OSU librarian in using library or Web resources to complete an upper division undergraduate course research project. A $750 cash prize is awarded to the student, and a $250 prize is presented to the participating instructor.

Course Enhancement Grants
The Libraries’ Course Enhancement Grants program awards faculty members $2,000 to enhance a course by substantially integrating library and other valuable resources. The objectives of the program are to:
• encourage faculty to incorporate the Libraries’ resources into existing courses.
• foster collaboration between faculty and librarians in developing syllabi using the full range of resources available.
• increase awareness of the wide variety of library services.

Librarian Teachers
The Libraries’ faculty members provide opportunities for patrons to learn about library services, train users on the Libraries’ many discovery tools, and teach for-credit courses covering many different specialties. Each year, University Libraries’ faculty reach more than 20,000 users through tours, workshops, course-related instruction, for-credit classes and distance education sessions.

ReadAloud
The Libraries’ weekly “ReadAloud” program provides a unique venue for readers to share their favorite books. Readers have included state legislators, radio personalities, authors and a medieval reading group, as well as faculty, staff and students from across the university. ReadAloud has also offered programs conducted entirely in Spanish.

Lecture Series
The Libraries’ lecture series provides learning opportunities with nationally recognized guest speakers. The series has covered innovation, scholarly communications, intellectual property in the digital age, information overload, institutional repositories and research library trends. Specific lectures are supported by the Friends of the OSU Libraries, and many are available through the Knowledge Bank.

Exhibits and Displays
The principle purpose of exhibits held in the OSU Libraries is to promote the collections and services of the Libraries and closely related organizations by bringing them to the attention of the university community and visitors. Exhibitions focus on topics consistent with the overall scholarly and cultural concerns of the university. University Libraries also serves as a site to display the winning projects from the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum, recognizing Ohio State’s undergraduates’ significant contributions to research.

Superb Collections
Organizing and Preserving Knowledge

OhioLINK
OSU Libraries is a member of the Ohio Library and Information Network (OhioLINK), a consortium of Ohio’s college and university libraries and the State Library of Ohio. OhioLINK offers access to more than 45 million library items, 100 electronic research databases, and 19,000 e-book titles.

Print & Digital
The Libraries at OSU – University Libraries, the Moritz Law Library, and the Price Health Sciences Library – have a combined collection size of nearly 6 million volumes and regularly receive approximately 35,000 serial titles. In 2006, the Libraries purchased more than 200,000 electronic books originally published before the 19th century. Over 4.6 million searches were performed in online resources last year, and over 3.6 million electronic journal articles were downloaded.

Distinguished Special Collections
Special Collections acquire, preserve, and promote the use of rare books, primary research materials and manuscripts. The collections include polar archives, cartoon research, American fiction, rare book, manuscripts and the university’s archives.

“Humor in a Jugular Vein: A Selection of the Art and Antifacts of MAD Magazine,” from the Mark J. Cohen and Rose Marie Daniel Collection, on exhibit at the Cartoon Research Library.
The Knowledge Bank

The OSU Libraries and the Office of the Chief Information Officer collaborated to create and maintain the “Knowledge Bank,” a repository for digital material. OSU communities can place journal articles, technical reports, conference papers, audio-visual files, electronic publishing, datasets, images, video streams and teaching materials in the Knowledge Bank, which will be maintained perpetually, alleviating the need for content creators to maintain or backup work or migrate to new equipment.

OSU: pro

OSU: pro is a knowledge-based initiative of the Center for Knowledge Management on the Ohio State campus. Through the support of the Knowledge Bank and the Office of Health Sciences, OSU: pro serves as a comprehensive, single-point resource of faculty and staff expertise and scholarly activity. An innovative tool for collecting, tracking and reporting on faculty research, teaching and service activities, OSU: pro provides access to vital information and positions the university to change how it documents experiences, to identify collaborators and benchmarks achievements.

New Programs

Media Manager

The Media Manager is a tool that helps organize, share and present digital media files. The Media Manager makes it easy to:

- Share digital files on the web quickly without programming — data sets, digital images, video clips, 3D animations and more.
- Password-protect those digital files and share them with students, colleagues, partners around the world.
- Re-use the same digital files in different contexts — web site, PowerPoint, off-line slide show, zip archive, etc.

Copyright Guidance

A new unit of The Ohio State University can help researchers make informed choices regarding copyright issues. The OSU Libraries’ Rights Management office will review publishing contracts with authors and faculty and explain the terms of use and rights they will receive. The office also advises authors how to revise and negotiate their contracts to retain the most rights possible, granting only those essential for publication.

Helping Transform Scholarly Communications

Costs for many scholarly and scientific journals and databases have inflated at an annual rate far above libraries' acquisition budgets. Publishing consolidation has resulted in less competition and unsustainable high prices for some journals and databases. The OSU Libraries, with the support of the University Senate, works actively to improve the fundamental economy of scholarly communications through initiatives such as the Knowledge Bank and the Association of Research Libraries Shared Print Procurement (SPARC) program. The University Senate supports the Libraries' request for reasonable annual increases to its acquisitions budget, not to fund predatory price increases by a few publishers, but to acquire the greatest number of relevant information resources in a fiscally responsible manner to support the university’s teaching and research mission.

Fundraising & Friends

Ohio State Athletics contributes to Thompson Library campaign

The renovation of the William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library received a significant boost with a $5 million gift from the Ohio State Department of Athletics in September 2006.

Library renovation receives national recognition

The renovation of the Thompson Library was recognized in April 2007, when Library Journal featured the project and the subsequent changes in OSU library services as the lead story.

Supporting the Ohio State University Libraries

The OSU Libraries have a cadre of individuals supporting the library system with time, talent and financial resources.

The campaign for the Thompson Library, headed by OSU football coach Jim Tressel and his wife Ellen, has raised more than $26 million toward the $30 million goal. The Libraries are also seeking contributions toward endowed funds that support various library collections. Call the Libraries’ Development Office, 614-247-6628, for more information.

Director of Libraries Joseph Brannan, left, with Thompson Library renovation benefactors Patricia and Thomas Robinson.
The OSU Libraries by the Numbers

Did you know...?

The OSU Libraries purchased over 200,000 electronic books that were originally published before 18th century?

The Libraries spend 50 percent of the collection budget on online materials?

The OSU Libraries faculty and staff made more than 1,000 presentations to nearly 22,000 people last year?

The Libraries online resources are searched nearly 5 million times every year?

Library patrons downloaded more than 3.6 million journal articles annually?

The Libraries loan nearly 2 million items each year?