Short Subjects: News Reels

Glen McAninch
North Carolina State University is the headquarters for a new electronic service for the humanities and social sciences. The service, ScholarNet, offers a wide variety of useful telecommunications services to the academic community. Subscribers can exchange electronic mail and manuscripts for joint research. They can download course syllabi, bibliographies, software and book reviews, and public domain software. ScholarNet also includes the Associated Press news, travel planning, an online encyclopedia, an events scheduler, and much more. ScholarNet currently includes two divisions: PoliNet covers the areas of political science, public administration, and criminal justice; HumaNet includes materials for English, history, philosophy, and religion. For more information write Richard W. Slatta, ScholarNet Director; North Carolina State University, Box 8101, Raleigh, NC 27695-8101 or telephone (919) 737-2908.

The Metro Government of Nashville and Davidson County (Tennessee) dedicated a new archives this year. The archives is housed in the former Mount Zeno School. The papers of mayors and other city officials and data on the formation of the metropolitan form of government will be stored in the archives for use in documenting the city's heritage.
The state of Alabama has formed a DeSoto Commission to further studies on sixteenth and seventeenth century Alabama and the Southeast. Though the commission is mostly interested in DeSoto's exploration of Alabama, its five-year plan is to contact scholars who are interested in grant or contract work on topics relating to the era of exploration and conquest in the Gulf Coast states. Other topics that will be considered are the expeditions of Marcos Delgado and Tristan de Luna y Arellano, as well as the native contacts of maritime exploration. Interested scholars should contact Dr. Douglas E. Jones, DeSoto Commission, Alabama Museum of Natural History, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35466.

The George C. Marshall Foundation in Lexington, Virginia announced publication of Manuscript Collections of the George C. Marshall Library: A Guide. Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the guide provides an abstract for each of the 121 collections held by the library. To obtain the publication free of charge, contact Anita M. Weber, Assistant Archivist, George C. Marshall Foundation, P.O. Box 1600, Lexington, VA 24450.

The city of Mobile, Alabama has published A Guide to the Mobile Municipal Archives. The guide is authored by Clifton Dale Foster, Tracey J. Berezansky, and Frank E. Roberts. The work is the result of a one-year arrangement and description project funded by the National Historical
Publications and Records Commission. For more information contact Jay Higginbotham, Mobile Municipal Archives, P.O. Box 1827, Mobile, AL 36633-1827.

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The 1987 national meeting of the Popular Culture Association will be held in Montreal, Canada from 25 to 29 March. An invitation is extended to anyone involved in the teaching or study of Westerns and the West. There will be panels on "Space and Freedom in Western Film and Fiction" and "The Rise and Fall of Television Westerns," as well as papers on a variety of subjects dealing with Western history, literature, films, television programs, etc. For more information contact Gary A. Yoggy, Professor of History, Corning Community College, Corning, NY 14830.

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The Southern Association for Women Historians has established two biennial prizes. The Julia Cherry Spruill Publication Prize is for the best published work, book, or article in southern women's history. The Willie Lee Rose Publication Prize is for the best book in southern history written by a woman. The first carries a cash award of $500, and the second, one of $750. The first period of eligibility for both is 1985 and 1986. Entries should be sent by March 1987 to each of the following prize committee members: Carol Bleser (Chair), Department of History, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634; Elizabeth Jacoway, 4 Dogwood Drive, Newport, AR 72112; and Jo An Carrigan, Department of History, University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE 68123.
The Louisiana State University Libraries has recently created a new department in its Special Collections. The new Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Historical Collections encompass the collections and staff members previously designated as the Louisiana Collection, the Manuscripts Collection, the University Archives, and the Russell Long Collection. The new unit will be developed and serviced by a united staff and accessed through a single automated catalog.

The final report of the Louisiana Historical Records Assessment Project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission was submitted to the granting agency in June 1986. The report, which systematically analyzes records management programs in the state, will soon be available in published form. The project coordinator was Doug Harrison.

The University of Texas announced on 10 March 1986 the acquisition of an extensive archives of materials documenting much of the life of the Mississippi between 1790 and 1900. The acquisition, referred to as the Natchez Trace Collection, contains diaries, correspondence, court records, periodicals, household inventories, business ledgers, newspapers, slave bills of sale, medical records, maps, broadsides, catalogs, battlefield letters, and sheet music from Louisiana and Mississippi.

Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania announces a graduate degree in applied public
history. More than ninety percent of their graduates are employed in historical societies, museums, public and private agencies as well as archives. In addition to the regular program of study, the program offers courses and internships which concentrate on American daily life. For more information write Dr. John Opie, Director; Graduate Program in Archival, Museum, and Editing Studies; Department of History; Duquesne University; Pittsburgh, PA 15282 or telephone (412) 434-6470.

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An acid-free computer paper, called Texlife Computer Printout, is available now from Texwipe Company. For durability the paper is impregnated with latex during the manufacturing process. It is designed to be used for printouts that will receive extensive handling. Texlife comes in two sizes: 9 1/2-by-11-inch with removable perforated sides and 14 7/8-by-11-inch, blue-bar printed form. Fifteen hundred sheets come in a case. For information or samples write The Texwipe Company, 650 E. Crescent Avenue, Box 308, Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458 or telephone (201) 327-9100.

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The Association for Recorded Sound Collections has been awarded a $48,298 research grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for a study of audio preservation. The eighteen-month project will study existing practices and literature on sound preservation, conservation, and restoration and will publish a bibliography, a glossary, and recommendations for selection media. For more information contact Elwood McKee, Project Director, 118 Monroe Street, #610, Rockville, MD 20850.
The East Tennessee Historical Society received a $30,000 grant from the state office of Tennessee Homecoming '86 to produce a television documentary on twentieth century Tennessee.

The University of Kentucky Libraries, Special Collections, has been awarded $153,000 by the U.S. Department of Education's Title IIC program. The grant covers the second year of Special Collection's plan to enter collection level descriptions into OCLC, to deacidify and encapsulate pre-twentieth century Kentuckiana, and to produce a guide to the holdings in Special Collections that document the heritage of Kentucky.