



N E W S

::: NOVEMBER 2001 :::

**30 nov 01**

A new web site: Mitch Freedman's Task Force on [Better Salaries/Pay Equity](#). [thanks, Steve] **JB**

In commemoration of the 101st anniversary of Oscar Wilde's death, take a look-see at Jonno's [Oscariana](#). **JB**

On a non-library related note, [RuPaul](#) is even better looking as a man! **JB**

Disposable diapers, disposable cameras, disposable society, and now, the [disposable phone](#). **JB**

Although child abuse and neglect weren't officially recognised until the 1960s and 1970s, Charles Dickens managed to peg many categories of abuse in Oliver Twist, a "[textbook of abuse](#)," and an all time favorite of mine. **JB**

[George Harrison died yesterday](#) after battling cancer. He was 58. Rest in Peace. **JB**

[How is the Internet impacting English language?](#) And, RUOK with this? Nuh-uh. Personally, [Netspeak](#) irritates the bejesus out of me. [[NewPages](#)] **JB**

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**29 nov 01**

How's about some [Librarian Types](#) to break the chill of the autumn air? **JB**

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**28 nov 01**

[U.S. News' college rankings](#) measure everything but what matters, placing emphasis on a school's wealth, reputation, and the achievement of the high-school students it admits instead of learning outcomes, graduation rates, and student satisfaction as "it would embarrass many colleges and universities to admit just what happens on campus and how little attention they pay to students." **JB**

[How a Librarian Can Live Nine Lives in a Knowledge-Based Economy](#): rebuilding and redesigning your ever-evolving career from an adaptive set a skills, like Legos in new combinations. [thanks, Nick] **JB**

Great article from the Chicago Tribune about the [Center for Research Libraries](#). If you aren't familiar with CRL, do yourself a favor and read this. Also, if you work in an Academic Library, this is a good piece to forward on to your faculty to introduce/market/familiarize them with this special consortium. [[LISNews.com](#), and thanks Chris]

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**27 nov 01**

Like Naomi, I too used to spend hours in the library as a kid. I was unsupervised, unattended, and behaved. My brother and I would ride our bikes and hang out in the stacks for the better part of our afternoons. We loved it there. What did we do? Read. Everything we could get our hands on we devoured. [Some might call this neglect](#). Me: it depends on the kid and inherent safety of the place. I'm glad I grew up in a library. **JB**

[Publishers Page of Shame](#): a place for librarians to report on books that fall apart shortly after purchase. [[Neat New Stuff](#)] **JB**

[Why Copyright Laws Hurt Culture](#). **JB**

[Web classification is essential](#): "Before the Web, classification was some peripheral activity that happened deep in the bowels of the library. But the Web is a library. It is a place where people come to quickly find content. Quality classification facilitates them in doing that." [[iaslash](#)] **JB**

An [encyclopedia on hacking](#), written by 16 year old Ankit Fadia. *Sixteen*. **JB**

In order to escape criticism and embarrassment, leading journal, *Human Immunology*, has pulled a keynote research paper written by a prolific author demonstrating that Middle Eastern Jews and Palestinians are genetically almost identical. [Academics have been urged to rip out the offending pages and throw them away](#).

*"Such a drastic act of self-censorship is unprecedented in research publishing and has created widespread disquiet, generating fears that it may involve the suppression of scientific work that questions Biblical dogma."*

Commentary over at [Plastic](#). **JB**

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**26 nov 01**

[Bar Code Art](#). For [Christmas](#). For your next tattoo. [For Jesus](#) and for no reason at all. **JB**

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**25 nov 01**

**Jeanette Kamman**: Hugely eccentric old woman who has found symmetry, continuity, and stability through books. I wonder what the feng shui of her Victorian -- identified not by rooms, furniture, and the like, but by astonishing topographies of books -- is like? [thanks, Steve] **JB**

**E-portfolio templates** for School, Public, Academic, and Special Librarians. These online résumé templates are intended to showcase student projects and coursework through the academic career. **JB**

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**22 nov 01**

**Touch & Go**: a biometric scanning technology that identifies a patron by their finger rather than by their library card. **JB**

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**21 nov 01**

**Tight portfolio** for graduate assistant, M.Troy Davis. Not only is a portfolio a requirement for the MLIS at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, it's also a good idea when interviewing. If your site is well done, the hiring committee will remember your name. **JB**

**Bookmouth** is a site about books, mainly independently published books. It also features tips and advice on how to **get the word out** about independent projects. **JB**

This **Public Domain Chart** lists when items come into the public domain and how some of the recent copyright acts have changed that. [newslib] **JB**

First NetLibrary, now **Questia**. It appears as though ebooks aren't the immediate success many thought they would be. **JB**

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**20 nov 01**

**Open-source religion**: organic, interactive, and real. An interview with Douglass Rushkoff on books and open-source at *Shift*. **JB**

Fear of terrorist exploitation has prompted the U.S. Government to obfuscate sensitive information, such as chemical reactors, airport data, and more. Furthermore, **the GPO has ordered 1,300 libraries that serve as federal depositories to destroy sensitive government records**. After the terrorist attacks of September 11th, we're witnessing a pull away from freedom of information and public access to conservative restriction. As a librarian and as one committed to the free flow of information, this is painful. Being asked to destroy cdroms is liked being asked to put your hand in the Gom-Jabbar. **JB**

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**19 nov 01**

After 11 years of rewrites, the sixth episode of Douglas Adams's *Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy* series is found by his widow and personal assistant. [A Salmon of Doubt](#) will be out May, 2002. **JB**

Who knows about [the roiling, secret activities of librarians](#)? Dennis Mahoney of **0 (zero) format** does. On both the article and the redesign: a fantabulous well done! **JB**

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**18 nov 01**

News from Oxford, Ohio: I've been at the [Lilly Conference](#) this past week, soaking up fascinating facts and powerful pedagogy practices. If you teach in higher ed, this is one conference you should attend at least once. It doesn't matter what subject you teach, you are guaranteed to learn something about yourself, about your students, and about teaching. Recommended reading: Marcia Baxter-Magolda, [Making Their Own Way: Narratives for Transforming Higher Education to Promote Self-Development](#). **CB**

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**16 nov 01**

Hot Diggity! NewBreed Librarian has been approved by Backwash - specifically by an Artsy Jewish Librarian in Striped Stockings. Backwash is an Internet community that filters and classes sites by personalities rather than by subject matter. Read their About page: this is a triple-good idea. **JB**

[Chronicle's Colloquy](#) from yesterday discussed these issues:

1. What effect has the Internet had on the way students learn?
2. What role can faculty play in helping to bring students to the library?
3. What is the role of the college library, traditionally the intellectual and social heart of campus?

Some good questions included:

1. Why don't we ask the students what they need and want from a library?
2. If students are using libraries less, why are they demanding longer hours -- even 24/7?
3. How do you define a library? As a place or as a constellation of collections and services some physical, some digital, some place bound, others not? **JB**

[A pretty popular read](#)... and I would bet, if I were the betting type, that every last copy is checked out to a librarian. **JB**

[Weblog on inequality](#). Reading through [some of these](#), I'm reminded of an all time favorite movie: *Scarface*. Maybe *Blow* too... wasn't [Johnny Depp](#) fabulous in that?! [[Social Sciences Weblog](#)] **JB**

Subject specialists for the social sciences may want to bookmark the [Social Sciences Weblog](#) maintained by Amit Dubey, PhD student in linguistics. [[Library Stuff](#)] **JB**

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**15 nov 01**

More than ever, I need to get my hands on Kurzweil's *The Grand Complication*. He *gets* librarians. (entry for 10/30/01). [\[Library Juice\]](#) **JB**

[Museum of Hoaxes](#), arranged by date and category. **JB**

[OCLC has offered to purchase NetLibrary](#). Hopefully, OCLC incorporates NetLibrary in with their bibliographic databases. **JB**

[Taxonomic Flurry](#): Whether you're genetically sampling and building a comprehensive DNA inventory of every living species or attempting to archive the global life and human thought of the Internet, it seems that classification and preservation are everywhere these days. **JB**

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**14 nov 01**

I went to see Tenacious D in Portland last night. Sheer poetry, people! And I have to say, when fabulous Jack sang [Cosmic Shame](#), it penetrated to my very depths. To all of you overworked and underpaid dreamers, set your artist free! **JB**

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**13 nov 01**

[The End of the Net?](#) [\[Wired\]](#) I don't think so. Not as long as we've got people driven to create their own spaces for [the love of it](#). **JB**

For the first time, native [English speakers are no longer the dominant Internet demographic](#). We're 45% of 500 million users. Other stats:

- Within the U.S., 59% of households have home Internet access.
- Women constitute 52% of U.S. Internet users.
- 51% of African-American households are online.
- South Korea and Canada have the highest number of broadband subscribers per capita

On regulation:

- Afghanistan bans all use of the Internet within its borders
- The Chinese government is building their own restricted Cyber Web. [\[Digital Web\]](#) **JB**

Planning a trip? You might want to inquire at [bathroom diaries.com](#). This site locates clean, free restrooms around the world and includes a section on the world's best public toilets.

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**12 nov 01**

**THE DESERTED LIBRARY**, and my Stacys are soakin' wet : geez, sounds so dejected. I've heard that the ability to research remotely has effected reference statistics, but I haven't experienced it yet. This term in particular, we've been receiving an all time high of solid questions - and loving it. As far as adding a Java Hut to attract students to the library: yes, by all means. An independent local - *not* Starbucks. **JB**

Time change for the Independents Day event. Essays will start appearing at 7am EST instead of 10. Check it out if you can. The Independents Day initiative is an honorable one: raising awareness of independent web content and inspiring others to create their own. **JB**

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**11 nov 01**

It's **Remembrance Day** in Canada and **Veteran's Day** in the U.S. I was talking to my Dad last night, whose father fought in World War II - my Dad was about 8 years old at the time. Growing up, I remember wearing a poppy, and I remember the Canadian motto, "Lest we forget." I also remember attending a memorial service with my classmates from school, even though I was too young to actually remember anyone who had fought in a war. I imagine that this year Remembrance Day/Veteran's Day has a special poignancy for many of us. On my way to work, I noticed several cars displaying American flags (the kind that hook onto car windows and are used mostly for team banners). But at the same time I was listening to a commercial on the radio advertising a **Veteran's Day Sale**, and I can't help but wonder what possible connection there could be between crass commercialism and the solemnity of remembering those who have served (and died) in times of war. In recent years I have chosen to interpret Remembrance Day more broadly, by remembering those who have influenced the person I have become, but who are no longer with me. **CB**

**Ken Kesey passes away** in Eugene, Oregon at age 66. "Most people would be happy to write just one great American novel. Before he was 30 years old, Kesey had written two - *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Sometimes a Great Notion* - before settling into the more varied life of Merry Prankster, friend of the Grateful Dead and leading man in his own ongoing personal pageant." More at **NY Times** and **LA Times**. **CB**

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**09 nov 01**

"You're a librarian?! Dude, you have it easy! I bet you get to sleep all day, huh? And always having to say, 'Shhhhh!' You know, if they'd get some hot chicks to be librarians I'll bet the literacy rate in America would sky-rocket, dude!"  
halfway down the page... entry for November 7th **JB**

Be sure to check out the first Independents Day online event next Monday. Essays by artists and writers will begin appearing at <http://independentsday.org/> on Monday, November 12 10am EST (GMT-5), with a new essay appearing every six hours. **JB**

On Mr. Eggers' behalf, somebody ought to [suggest](#) these [subject headings](#) to the Library of Congress. We all know there are significant accounts of justifications and overkill to warrant them! **JB**

[Tennis anyone?](#) Noon SF. 2p Chicago. 3p NYC. 8p London. Listo? Andale! **JB**

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**08 nov 01**

Perhaps I'm clueless, but, how do [penises on a clothesline](#) relate to domestic violence? [[LISNews](#)] **JB**

What are some specific programs libraries and other cultural organizations have created [in response to September 11](#)? **JB**

Your assignment, if you choose to accept it, is to create an information resource that explores the nature of [librarianship at the beginning of the 21st Century](#). You will work electronically with your collaborators (MLS students at Syracuse University), never meeting them face to face. You will create a comprehensive and well organized guide on who we are, where we're going, and becoming a librarian. You will impress all who visit your site with its dazzling thoroughness and salutary content. **JB**

Opportunity to attend [ALA Conference for FREE](#). **JB**

Looking for an interesting domain name? Here's a source for domain names that [no one has snapped up yet](#). [link via [Newstrolls](#)] **CB**

I just bought a new computer with Windows XP, and apart from the problems getting my cable Internet working again, it's been great. But I'm still trying to figure out how to get around some of the features Microsoft wants you to buy into, such as [Passport](#). I simply don't trust that Microsoft (or anyone else, for that matter) can keep the hackers and identity thieves at bay when having a single place that controls my e-identity (with access to my financial institutions, etc.) provides such a temptation. **CB**

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**07 nov 01**

Wicked Fresh on the [muddled contention](#) between Oprah and *The Corrections* author, Franzen. **JB**

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**06 nov 01**

For those of you who sit on Web Site Committees, Information Gateway Task Forces, and/or Homepage Makeovers, [A New Look at Web Pages](#) from a new edition of [Digital Web](#) is an applicable read. **JB**

To justify the expense of a new library, Roanoke, VA, must first increase use of its library system. Is the new, nontraditional library director, [Wlodek Zaryczny](#), the man for the job? Previous innovative library programs include health information centers, theater shows, coffee bars, and singles nights. **JB**

Library of Congress scores big on acquiring the papers of baseball legend [Jackie Robinson](#). **JB**

**Super librarian - with nappy:** Brian Lovegrove, one very dedicated librarian, has done a great job in teaching technology and involving parents at Lithgow Public School, New South Wales. **JB**

What's a **nappy** anyway? **JB**

The Chicago Tribune is looking for a **WebMaster-Information Researcher** to create and maintain an Editorial intranet presence. **JB**

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**05 nov 01**

Lots of action in the **bathroom stalls** at Aberdeen Central Library. [[librarian.net](#)] **JB**

**MIT, Online and Open:** a bold, Give't-away-now combo that's all about process, innovation, and strengthening a knowledge-based society. [Thanks, Nick] **JB**

**Information for Social Change**, Summer 2001, is now on the web. **JB**

**Mitch Freedman** on privacy, defending intellectual freedom, combating the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act, budget projections, promoting library advocacy, diversity, and better salaries and pay equity by overcome the stereotype of pittance for pay and promote a better understanding of what librarians do. [Thanks, Steve] **JB**

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**02 nov 01**

Well now, here's a little something I found off of Marylaine's **Neat New Stuff**: a search engine for **strange sites**. For instance, there's a site on **furniture porn** that's given me ideas for the lonely chairs on the fourth floor. You'll find some great tips to **spice up your headgear** for those cold winter mornings. Plus, I never realized just how cute and adorable and useful **Jar Jar Binks** can be. I was a bit disappointed, though, not to find my **sad-muffin discovery** for this week. **JB**

**LISNews turns 2.** Happy Birthday! **JB**

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**01 nov 01**

Technology Review has a good article on the **semantic web**. What we're talking about here, intensely and in low-volume bursts, is the web's ability to interpret, exchange, and process all-compatible-like (everyone, MIX!) using metadata linked to ontologies that define the metadata terms and their interconnections. Millions of existing database islands: unite! Pangea!! **JB**

Career development maven, Priscilla Shontz, has just launched a great site for new librarians: **LIScareer.com**. It's starting out as a companion site to her book, **Jump Start Your Career in Library & Information Science**. (Scarecrow Press, 2002). The site is in its infancy and she's looking for folks to write articles to build this useful resource with her. **JB**



November has tied me  
To an old dead tree  
Get word to April  
To rescue me  
November's cold chain  
Made of wet boots and rain  
And shiny black ravens  
On chimney smoke lanes  
-**Tom Waits**, *November*. **JB**

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