

# LIBRARY LIFE

There's a lot more to Collier than meets the eye

By Christopher C. Manson

**P**rologue: Between the time when you fill out your first schedule card a confused freshman and the time you receive your diploma a confused senior, you are quite likely to pass through that cherished sanctuary of books, magazines and microfiches—Collier Library.

I. The library, of course, is for studying for an important final, researching a last-minute term paper or copying a month's worth of missed Poly Sci notes. But to the many students who put social life ahead of academic fulfillment, this familiar building is simply a great place to hang out and meet people.

"Girls who study, girls who party but don't study, girls who study and party . . . they all come to the library!" said Scott Posey, who spends the average six hours a week in the library. "I'm fairly active on campus, but I meet people here everyday that I don't know."

Other students agree that the library is the most ideal place to expand one's circle of friends and lovers.

"My roommate met his girlfriend here. Oh, he'd seen her all around campus, but this was the first place he actually got the chance to sit down and talk to her."

II. Is the library really a nice, quiet place to study? No talking, no socializing, but some actual hardcore reading and memorizing and note-taking? Consider this: on a Thursday afternoon,

during lunch hour, months before finals, the library was packed and unquestionably hushed.

Still, there are some who look to the library as a last resort; say, in the case that the dorms become too noisy. A few deadbeats dismiss the place altogether by saying, "Well, I only go there like before exams and stuff."

With the growing number of non-regulars using the facilities during exam week, however, it would appear as if the library's social and academic functions would collide.

"I really don't study here during exams," Eve Elkins explained. "If I did, I'd probably run into someone I know, and that would take away from my study time."

Fred Heath, dean of Library Sciences, agrees that exam time is especially busy, but adds that, during a regular week, Tuesday nights at 7:30 are big.

III. "I don't open a book ever, much less when I'm in the library!"

Although some students love to make comments like the above, a few bright individuals have offered some impressive critiques of library materials.

"The old school annuals on the second floor or third floor . . . I like to see what people looked like then . . . you know, when they had trolley cars around . . ."

"This older edition of 'Madame's Book of Etiquette' was interesting and funny . . .

things you don't do now, like, eating with one hand . . . and not touching the table."

Yet many skeptics still fail to acknowledge that the literary critics and authors' agents of tomorrow are coming from Collier Library!

IV. "Out of 6,000 students, someone is gonna try to sneak something past the Book-O-Graph!"

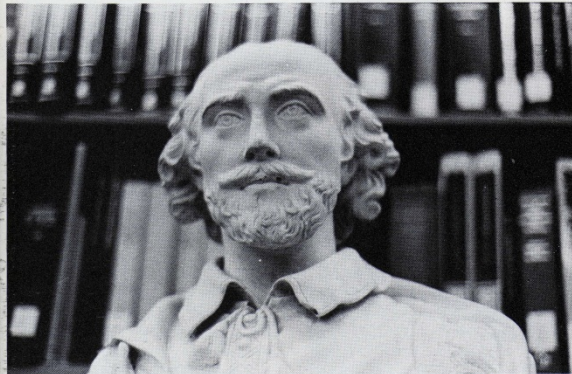
Call it a Book-O-Graph or a highly sensitive state of the art detection device, that huge doorway that precedes the library exit is a constant source of amazement and amusement for students.

According to Fred Heath, the system (estimated to be worth a cool ten grand) replaced the primitive "invasion of privacy" method of checking briefcases at the door and the like.

Occasionally, the study/party scene is interrupted by the Book-O-Graph alarm—someone is (maybe unknowingly) attempting to walk away with a book, *without checking it out!*

This is, however, a familiar sight across the country. "In fact, at many schools, people have been sent to jail [for sneaking books], but never here," Heath said.

Epilogue: Collier Library. The studious ones call it home, but it is more. The library doubles as a popular campus hangout . . . at least until the spectacular new SUB opens its doors!



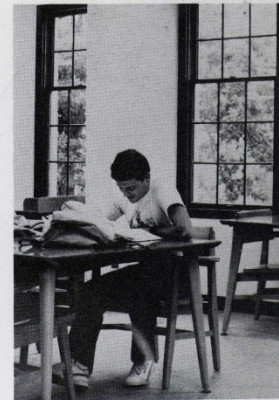
ROBERT LAWER



STEPHEN ANDERSON

THE NO-NONSENSE SIGN admonishes users of the library.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE can be found in the stacks—his poems and plays, anyway—and this 30-year-old bust of the Bard is near the library entrance.



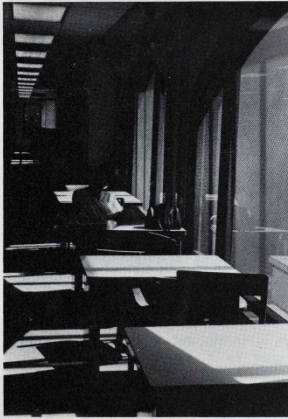
WADE MYHAN

A FRESHMAN majoring in Sociology, Rodney Gobbell often studies in the library.

**FRAMED BY THE STACKS** of books classified by the Library of Congress system, freshman Trina Fowler gets in a few minutes of study time at the individual tables available.

**THE EARLY MORNING SUN** makes the windows on Collier Library second floor inviting, and Tammy Sills takes advantage of the situation to make herself comfortable.

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ROBERT LAWLER



**STUDYING IN A GROUP**, Gayla Newton, Michelle Robinson, and Brenda Frazier find their homework a little easier.

**A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW** of the Reference Room gives a feeling of space.

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