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Changing Olympic perspectives

To say working in the Olympic Village was inconvenient would be an understatement. Staff frustration before the Olympic secure period was high. Dire predictions were being made about traffic congestion, and procedural changes and new restrictions were publicized almost daily. As the athletes began arriving and the campus was transformed into the Olympic Village, the festive atmosphere helped to lift spirits. Library staff discovered they were in the middle of the place everyone wanted to be but couldn't—the Olympic Village.

Library staff had virtually unlimited access to the Olympic Village, which included the opportunity to participate in activities for the athletes. Free concerts and performances were ongoing in the center of campus, and the cafe offered free coffee and beverages for everyone in the Village, not just the athletes. The Village hosted the international premiere of the action film *Eraser*, and stars Arnold

Schwarzenegger and Vanessa Williams made guest appearances. President Clinton made a speech in the Village. Many staff used their breaks and lunch times to take photographs, mingle with the athletes, and participate in pin trading. Staff met and talked with people from all over the world, and found that the Olympic spirit was infectious.

At the end of the Games, some library staff temporarily experienced a letdown, since many years of planning and effort had been devoted to several quick weeks of athletic competition. Looking back, it seems that the Games opened and closed simultaneously. Being in the middle of the Olympic Village was a wonderful and once-in-a-lifetime experience. The athletes and their competitions, the international visitors, and the star-filled ceremonies contributed to a unique ambiance. People with different languages, social customs, and political perspectives competed and shared as members of a global village. The Georgia Tech Library and Information Center staff were proud participants in this village's activities and events.

Note

1. Anne Rochell, Kristin Eddy, and Lillian Lee Kim, "Spirit of Kinship Abounds in 'City'," *Atlanta Constitution* (July 11, 1996): S16. ■



C&RL News 30th anniversary quiz

Here is the next installment of the *C&RL News* 30th anniversary quiz.

Test your recollection of events that have been reported in the *News* since 1966.

1. According to Hardy Franklin, 1994 ALA president, what is at the heart of the library profession?
2. What was Zeb's (a student) suggestion for improving his university's library in 1992?
3. When did the Board of Directors vote to

establish a Bibliographic Instruction Section (now known as the Instruction Section) within ACRL?

4. What did participants think about the first ACRL National Conference held in Boston in 1978?
5. On May 5, 1972, library history was made when a class action suit challenging the constitutionality of a state statute was filed in federal court on behalf of all librarians and library employees of that state. Name the state and the statute.

1. Customer service (February 1994). 2. To get some better looking librarians (July/August 1992). 3. January 31, 1977 (May 1977). 4. 55% of those surveyed rated the conference "excellent" and 51% judged it "very good" (March 1979). The suit challenged the constitutionality of the California Harmful Matter Statute, which became effective in 1969 (July/August 1972).