

African American Men in College, edited by Michael J. Cuyjet (357 pages, March 2006), discusses the issues surrounding the recruitment, retention, and graduation of African-American men in American universities. Contributors examine the factors that promote a climate of academic success for black males, extracurricular activities, mentoring, specific challenges for gay men, historically black institutions, and profiles of recent support programs at such schools as Bowling Green State University, Rutgers, and Central State University. \$38.99. Jossey-Bass. ISBN 0-7879-6460-3.

Film and Television: A Guide to the Reference Literature, by Mark Emmons (366 pages, March 2006), is an annotated bibliography of English-language reference books and Web sites about movies and television shows. Emmons provides 1,244 descriptions of titles divided into chapters on indexes and bibliographies, dictionaries and encyclopedias, filmographies, national cinema, genres, formats, studios, portrayals, filmmakers, screenplays, production, the industry, and fans. Given the vast number of published items in this area, Emmons' comments will help in making wise acquisition choices. Appendices provide relevant LC and Dewey classification lists by subject and by call number. \$40.00. Libraries Unlimited. ISBN 1-56308-414-9.

The Forgotten Fifth: African Americans in the Age of Revolution, by Gary B. Nash (235 pages, February 2006), looks at the potential avenues to freedom for blacks, one-fifth of the U.S. population at the time, during the American Revolution and early republic. Nash presents a cogent argument that the political climate of the 1780s and 1790s might well have led to the abolition

of slavery, but the election of Thomas Jefferson in 1800 and the subsequent ascendancy of states rights over federalism led to more narrowly defined concepts of citizenship. \$19.95. Harvard University. ISBN 0-674-02193-2.

Forts of the United States: An Historical Dictionary, 16th through 19th Centuries, by Bud Hannings (738 pages, March 2006), describes every known U.S. fort, camp, blockhouse, presidio, trading post, battery, and barracks established from colonial times to 1900. Information on many of these often temporary fortifications can be difficult to find, and Hannings has done a superb job in identifying locations and describing each site's significance. One drawback is that—unlike Robert W. Frazer in *Forts of the West* (University of Oklahoma, 1972)—Hannings only gives the year of establishment or abandonment of a facility, rather than month and day. However, he makes up for it by providing appendices on D.C. Civil War defenses, Seminole Indian War forts, Pony Express depots, Spanish missions, a chronology of conflicts, and a state-by-state list of 20th-century military bases (including their activation status), as well as a four-column, 65-page index. \$125.00. McFarland. ISBN 0-7864-1796-X.

The Great Deluge: Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans, and the Mississippi Gulf Coast, by Douglas Brinkley (718 pages, May 2006), describes in riveting detail eight days in 2005 from August 27 when Hurricane Katrina reached Category 3 intensity to September 3 when the U.S. 82nd Airborne took control of New Orleans and evacu-



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ation buses finally arrived at the Convention Center. Brinkley, a history professor at Tulane University, captures the confusion, the terror, the heroism, the rage, and the drama of that week of wind, rain, and flood, not only within the Crescent City but along the harder-hit Mississippi coast in Bay St. Louis, Waveland, and Biloxi. The author, who pulls no punches in ascribing blame for government mismanagement at all levels and praise for individual acts of foresight and bravery, spent six months interviewing refugees, survivors, and officials about the disaster and documenting the details from numerous news sources. A detailed timeline in an appendix helps anchor the narrative, but the book is sorely in need of a New Orleans map. \$29.95. William Morrow. ISBN 0-06-112423-0.

Hell in the Holy Land: World War I in the Middle East, by David R. Woodward (253 pages, March 2006), provides a rare look at the experiences of British foot-soldiers in campaigns against the Turkish army in Egypt and Palestine in 1916-1918. Although spared the horrors of stalemated trench warfare in France, the men of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force were not swashbuckling, romantic heroes in the T. E. Lawrence mold; they faced a harsh and unexpected environment, acute shortages of food and water, and a resilient foe. Woodward dips into many archival sources to let the soldiers speak for themselves. \$29.95. University Press of Kentucky. ISBN 0-8131-2383-6.

Hippo Eats Dwarf: A Field Guide to Hoaxes and Other B.S., by Alex Boese (278 pages, April 2006), serves as a critical-thinking primer for postmodern media. Thankfully eschewing commentary on UFOs and other anomalies, Boese focuses on much more prevalent manifestations of unreality as hoaxes, urban legends, spoofs, scams, advertising ploys, political doublespeak, and other forms of b.s. that lurk in the modern world. Scattered throughout this volume are such reality

rules as Anyone can create a website, including liars, practical jokers, and people who want to sell you a t-shirt and Unsolicited email is not a reliable source of information about anything; and handy definitions like Greenscamming: Deceptively using environmentally friendly rhetoric for non- or antienvironmental purposes and Media contamination: The skewed perception of reality that results from overwhelming media coverage of an event. A fount of disinformation about cat-droppings coffee, the Nigerian bank scam, the NCSU fellatio breast cancer study, the Cocktail Party Chatter Index, political photo fakes, mushroom licenses, and fake Amazon book reviews (for some of these, see the Amazon reviews of this title alone). \$14.00. Harcourt. ISBN 0-15-603083-7.

Information Literacy Assessment: Standards-Based Tools and Assignments, by Teresa Y. Neely (216 pages, April 2006), provides an excellent basis for information literacy testing based on the ACRL standards. Neely and several contributors offer background on information literacy, supply references on information-skills assessment, and give examples of questions from existing testing instruments. One chapter discusses assessment areas that are not covered by the standards. \$40.00 (ALA members \$36.00). ALA Editions. ISBN 0-8389-0914-0.

The Oxford Companion to Ships and the Sea, edited by I. C. B. Dear and Peter Kemp (677 pages, 2nd ed., December 2005), is a handy reference of nautical terms and topics that can guide a reader through the more jargon-lled portions of Melville and Conrad as well as elucidate the mysteries of naval propulsion and navigation. Significantly updated since the 1976 edition, this handbook has widened its coverage of environmental issues and recent technical developments. Filled with useful diagrams, charts, and maps. \$65.00. Oxford University. ISBN 0-19-860616-1. *z*