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UNISTAR

Effective May 11 the Rod Library catalog provides expanded access to the holdings of the Iowa State University and University of Iowa library catalogs. Included are instructions on how UNI staff and students may obtain borrowing privileges at the other institutions. <http://unistar.uni.edu/search~S1/>
By Jerry Caswell, Library Information Technologies.

Rod Library Multipurpose Room

— Room # 324



The Multipurpose room is available for groups or individuals affiliated with the university who need a presentation practice area or a larger space for group work. The room is located on the 3rd floor and has a computer with all Microsoft Office products, a projector and a stereo receiver with speakers. The room has 12 tables and will seat 30.

The room can be booked or reserved in advance for up to a 3 hour session. If the room is not booked it is available on demand for a 2 hour check out with one 1 hour renewal option. For booking please call the Circulation desk at 273-2462. By Linda McLaury, Access Services.

WAVES come ashore at UNI

Surf on over to the Rod Library Digital Collections and check out the history of WAVES on campus. The WAVES (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service) in this case consisted of women serving as U.S. Navy volunteers during World War II. During the war Iowa State Teachers College (today's UNI) provided housing and facilities for the WAVES initial instruction phase, which involved of five weeks of basic training. After basic training at ISTC, these women moved on to other locations for specialized training and eventually filled support positions in the massive war effort. The WAVES on Campus collection contains many photos of the "boots" (as the WAVES in training were known) as they



New Library Website Coming This Summer

In mid-July Library Website visitors will be given the opportunity to preview our new and improved site, while still using the current site. This new site will have an improved look, easier navigation, and easier access to useful resources. We'll be testing our new site this summer and getting it ready for an official release sometime in August. Watch the homepage for more news! By Susan Basye, Web Coordinator.

www.library.uni.edu



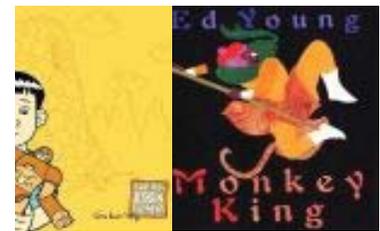
became a fixture on the ITSC campus. You can also read a contemporary description of the WAVES program as profiled in the January 1943 issue of The Alumnus magazine. Browse through the WAVES on Campus and other digital collections by visiting <http://cdm.lib.uni.edu> or by following the Digital Collections link on the Rod Library home page. By Bill Maravetz, Technical Services.

Graphic Novels

Around the turn of the century comics were inexpensive and a form of reading entertainment for children and adults alike. The picture books, called comics, which are now called graphic novels, helped students and adults become interested in reading, thereby causing additional interest in different genres of literature. According to Debra Viadero, in her article entitled Scholars See Comics as no Laughing Matter, President "Barack Obama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu credit comic books with awakening their love of reading." This article is printed in Education

Week, February 11, 2009.

Today, we are becoming a more visual civilization and the reading of graphic novels facilitate a different way to learn about non-fiction and fiction such as Beowulf, Shakespeare, Maus, Maus II, and American Born Chinese. The graphic novel, American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang discusses racism, immigration, and bullying.



The fable of the Monkey King is woven throughout this story into the present time to give readers a feeling of what it is like to master discipline, show friendship, and visualize the larger picture of life.

While students are reading graphic novels they are increasing their literacy passageway toward a superior learning initiative. By Amy Yates, Special Collections and University Archives.