

about ² the college



NEWS

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L R C N O T E S

There's a lot to be said for microfilm - much of it negative.

Let's face it, the stuff is a nuisance to thread on the microfilm readers; it's difficult to locate the article you want; reading it can strain the eyes; and then there's the hassle of rewinding it, getting it back into the little box, etc.

So why bother with it?

Well, if we didn't use microfilm as a replacement for the older issues of some periodicals, we'd either have piles of loose copies flopping around on the shelves (getting torn apart, lost or misplaced) or we'd be getting most things bound - i.e. all the issues for one year being sewn into hard covers like a book.

Okay, what's wrong with that?

The cost, for one thing. Binding is expensive, and it's better to spend limited bucks acquiring as many different periodicals as possible.

Another hitch is the area taken up by bound periodicals. Take a look at the Physics and Chemistry sections and you'll see what we mean. We couldn't house everything that way.

Binding also uses up a tremendous amount of staff time - always a scarce commodity but especially so this year when there are a lot more of you but no more of us. And it means issues can be out of circulation for months at a time.

In short, binding is a real bind. Often it's better to think small, as they say.

For those who haven't winged it with microfilm, instructions for operating the readers are provided beside each one. It's fairly straightforward, but ask us for help if problems arise. And don't forget that you can obtain full-size copies from the downstairs microfilm reader, at a nominal cost.

Microfilm may contain little information, but if you take time to unravel it, you'll find it goes a long way!

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Ask-and-ye-shall-have Department: The Students' Association asked if the Library could be open Sunday evenings again (last Spring's trial period was quite successful). From now on, then we'll be open every Sunday from 7:00 to 10:00 P.M., as well as afternoons from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. Three additional hours to use that "little" information we've been talking about - and the big stuff, too!

The introduction of new programs at Red Deer College is no easy feat. Much careful planning must go into each proposal, and the arguments used to support a new program for the college must be well researched before the proposal is presented to the Department of Advanced Education for approval.

The early childhood education program planned for implementation in September 1975, for example, requires a full-time researcher to get it off the ground.

Ede Duckering, 30, dedicates most of her time to developing and co-ordinating the program and maintaining liaison with the other colleges and universities in the province and with the Department of Advanced Education, and Early Childhood Services. As regional coordinator of the Alberta Association for Young Children and member of the Early Childhood Services Regional Coordinating Committee, she has input into province-wide agencies designed to improve instruction and care of young children.

At the college, she supervises the activities of the child care centre and is a member of the staff development seminar committee and the promotions committee. She has organized workshops for early childhood services teacher and parent groups, and is convener for an early childhood education conference planned for November.

The early childhood education program, as Ede envisions it, will be a two-year diploma program primarily designed to prepare students to be assistants in day care centres, nursery schools and kindergartens.

The program would also prepare assistants to teachers of early childhood classes in elementary schools. And Ede envisions many other uses for the diploma: assistants to pediatricians and dentists, and social workers at family courts, for example, could take advantage of specialized training in dealing with young children.

"The program will concentrate on child development with a large laboratory school component at its core," says Ede. "It will be like having a child care centre right at the college. Emphasis will be placed on aesthetic, physical, intellectual, emotional and social development."

Students with high school diplomas or adult status will be accepted into the program. The courses will be transferable for students who wish to continue to a Bachelor of education degree.