



Scott Barnett/Emerald

A photo service employee of the Knight Library demonstrates how some of the photocopiers received their names. All of the photocopiers in the Knight Library have been named after cartoon characters.

Cartoon names give campus copiers a little character

By Eric Collins
Oregon Daily Emerald

Ren and Stimpy sit facing each other across the Knight Library's fourth floor.

Bart, Lisa and Maggie await in the library's Reserve Room.

Then there's the South Park kids — Kyle, Cartman, Stan and an oft-injured Kenny, stuck in government documents.

Sure, they're not like the cartoons on television, especially because they aren't in color. Actually they're pretty square and quite uniform, as you would expect in a library.

OK, so they are just photocopiers named after cartoons, with the plaque inside the glass copy screen to prove it.

The dictionary calls it anthropomorphizing, which means ascribing human form or attributes to an animal, plant or object, and library officials across campus have been giving their copiers a little personality over the past few years, if you haven't noticed.

The Science Library has its flora, while the Architecture and Allied Arts Library has its Disney characters.

However, the confines of the

Kenneth Lucas Fenton Memorial Law Library remain with "boring," numbered copiers, and the Map and Aerial Photography Library contains only a single, unnamed copier.

As hard as it is to imagine, Dexter and Dee Dee didn't always help with Knight Library photocopiers. When Stephen Onaclea came to the Knight Library in 1988 to work at its circulation desk, its 10 copiers were ... ugh ... numbered.

Once Onaclea joined the library's copy service a year later, he found out why numbered copiers were a problem. When patrons complained that copier 5 on the second floor broke down, for example, distinguishing between copier 5 and copier 6 involved a complex series of investigative questions — where, what floor and by what — that took too much time.

Onaclea acted ... about five years later. In 1994, he spent his own money to buy nametags from a local trophy shop for a couple of bucks a tag. He ordained every copier with cartoon themes and placed the tags inside the glass screens. "I found that people tend to remember those more than

numbers," he said. "It's fun, too. People can actually complain about the copier. It's a way to place their frustration."

Luckily Bart won't tell you to "eat my shorts" when the paper is jammed, and Ren won't say "you eediot" if you run out of money.

Yet, one copier seemed to embrace its personality too well. Onaclea, now the coordinator of library copy service, named the Current Periodicals and Newspaper Reading Room copiers after Rocky and Bullwinkle characters. For some reason Boris, the villainous accomplice of the evil midget Mr. Big, broke down most often, "which made sense because he was an evil character on the show," he said.

Needless to say, Boris got the boot, and now the three copiers work as Natasha, Bullwinkle and Rocky.

Over the summer, the library received four new copiers, and Onaclea replaced some cartoon show themes with new ones to make them more consistent.

For example, the three Government Documents copiers used to be named after Johnny Quest characters, but with the addition of one more copier this summer,

Onaclea had the four he needed for the South Park kids. He envisioned someone complaining that Kenny broke down, and "being able to say 'You killed Kenny, you bastard!' just really appealed to me," he said.

Although he later admitted that, "I don't think we'll be able to say 'you bastard' to their face."

Across campus, the Science Library jumped on the anthropomorphic bandwagon this summer, naming its five copiers after trees — maple, magnolia, tulip, ginkgo, oak — only to realize the irony of the situation: Copiers use paper ... paper comes from trees ... get it?

But take heart. All Science Library copiers use recycled paper, said Isabel Stirling, head of the Science Library. Like the Knight Library, the copiers were named and pictures taped nearby each one to help patrons remember which machine broke down or ate their card, she said.

Not to be outdone, the Architecture and Allied Arts Library used a Disney theme for its three copiers. A former circulation manager named its copiers Spot, Fluffy and Tiger and placed a Disney-themed picture nearby each

one. Circulation Manager Rod — who declined to give his last name — said he sticks to using numbers to differentiate the copiers instead of using their given animal names.

He isn't thinking about renaming them, however, because "at this time of year there's just a lot more important things we do," he said.

The Map and Aerial Photography Library and Mathematics Library have only one copier each, so personalizing it isn't necessary for helping patrons, library officials said.

However, at the Kenneth Lucas Fenton Memorial Law Library, its three copiers remain numeralized. Beth Dahl, a circulation desk worker for four months, said, "We're boring." People usually just tell her the middle one, one on the left or one on the right is broke, she said.

"We just don't do things like name the copiers," she said.

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Residents of Bethel debate parks and recreation measure

By Felicity Ayles
Oregon Daily Emerald

Ballot Measure 20-03, if passed, will provide more than \$25 million for 13 new parks and open space projects in Eugene, but some residents are worried the money will not be spent effectively.

Residents of the Bethel commu-

nity met Monday night at the Petersen Barn Community Center to discuss the ballot and its promises.

The community has not had an opportunity to vote on a parks issue since 1976, City of Eugene principal park planner John Etter said. And the citizens of Bethel want to make sure they use their

vote wisely this time around.

Residents said they don't want to spend money on new parks when the city has not taken care of the parks already in Eugene.

The measure includes a mix of proposals that will develop parklands that already exist, Etter said.

"We want to improve parks we

already own," he said.

Some residents questioned why there was not more parkland in their neighborhoods.

"We want you to take ownership of the natural resources and parks that aren't in your neighborhood," Etter said.

State representative candidate

Jim Seaberry suggested a focus on the arts in Eugene parks.

Janelle Leson, a Bethel resident, agreed with Seaberry's suggestion.

"I have a real problem with continued emphasis on sports and no emphasis on arts," Leson said.

"Arts is something that is sadly rejected," she said.

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