The long, arduous process of automating operations in Davis Library took a dramatic turn recently with the acquisition by the Acquisitions Department of a state-of-the-art Mickey Micro BS 77 terminal. The Mickey Micro is a dedicated terminal hooked into the Remote Wireless Cardboard Network and running on Microslick Whiz software. The deceptively simple interface belies a wealth of features long dreamed of by library workers but unavailable until now.

The Mickey's sophisticated olfactory software permits it to detect and respond to any of thirty-seven MARC flavors including USMARC, VanillaMARC, frankincense, myrrh, unscented MARC, and the notorious "forbidden fragrance" outlawed by the MARC Flavor Ratings Committee in the wake of AACR2.

A galaxy of search keys permits easy access to any book, no matter how inept and inarticulate its title page. For title searches, there is the cha-cha mode (three words forward, one word back) and for author searches the fuzz mode. Fuzz mode allows one to type in Smothers and retrieve items by Smothers, Smithers, Crothers, Carruthers, Dithers, and Joyce Brothers, while a search under Huckabee retrieves items by Huckabee and by Larrabee, and vice versa. (This is the feature of the software that was especially singled out for praise by Steve "Pearly" Gates in his laudatory review of the Mickey in Myte.) In a revolutionary new approach, all rare and medium-frequency words—an undisclosed number in excess of 100,000—have been declared stopwords. It is rumored that the next release will consolidate all title searches into three: Pro,of,th,a; sym,of,th,b; and his,of,th,c.

The Mickey has the capability to produce many categories of statistics useful to administrators, such as call number averaging, comparative frequency of different initial articles, and the statistics on the relationship between ISBN and price that were so difficult to compile manually. It can round off OCLC numbers to the nearest hundred or thousand. And it comes with the famous Kit of Tools utility programs, including the cataloging code decryptor and the cessation forecaster (two months' advance notice for serial cessations, one week for publishers going out of business). When not networked, the Mickey folds up into a paper cutter or folds out into a mass deacidification facility (rewiring instructions included.)

Frank Newton is a student in the School of Information and Library Science and a graduate assistant in Davis Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
YOU NEED
DORPH
the all-purpose
library mannequin

Tired of disruptive, uncooperative staff?
Fed up with surly, ungrateful patrons?
Disgusted with lack of direction and
initiative from library administrators?

YOU NEED DORPH.
the all-purpose library mannequin.

Dorph as Administrator:
* Handles complaints in a calm, empathetic manner
* Always available in times of crisis
* Does not monopolize travel budget
* Encourages staff input and initiative in decision making

Dorph as Staff Member:
* Immediately available to fill any vacancy
* Always willing to work night, weekend and holiday shifts
* Does not argue with patrons or dispense misinformation
* Never abuses personal phone call or sick leave privileges

Dorph as Patron:
* Never contests library policies and procedures
* Accepts all overdue fines and lost materials charges
* Increases program attendance statistics
* Models appropriate patron behavior

* NO ASSEMBLY REQUIRED *
* UNISEX ADULT OR CHILD MODELS *
* ACCESSORIES OPTIONAL *

Direct orders to:
DORPH ENTERPRISES
C/O New Hanover County Public Library
201 Chestnut Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

(919)341-4390 FAX (919)341-4300

34—Spring 1990