

The library at the University of Illinois

at Urbana-Champaign has received a \$397,000 two-year grant from the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) for its Illinois Digital Newspaper Project. The award will support the digitization of 100,000 pages of historically significant Illinois newspapers dating from 1860 to 1922. NDNP is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Library of Congress to provide online access to U.S. newspapers. It is part of the “We the People” program at NEH designed to promote the study and teaching of American history and culture. The NDNP funding will be used to digitize Illinois newspapers selected by an advisory board based on their regional influence, their role as

the “paper of record” at the county level, or their significance for specific ethnic, racial, or other social groups. The digitized material will be deposited in *Chronicling America*, the browsable and searchable repository of historical newspapers digitized through NDNP. *Chronicling America* was launched in 2007 and currently contains more than 1.1 million pages of U.S. newspapers published between 1880 and 1922. For additional information about NDNP, visit www.neh.gov/projects/ndnp.html. To view newspaper pages using *Chronicling America*, visit chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/.

Ed. note: Send your news to: Grants & Acquisitions, *C&RL News*, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795; e-mail: agalloway@ala.org.

Acquisitions**The papers of Robert Davolt (1958–2005)**

national columnist, writer, publicist, and editor have been acquired by the Leather Archives and Museum at Northern Illinois University. The 25-box collection covers several decades of Davolt’s fiction and nonfiction literary work, including materials from his time as the final

editor of *DRUMMER* magazine from 1996 until 1999, significant business correspondence and internal papers of Desmond Publishing, and his erotic fiction pieces, which appeared in *Bound and Gagged* magazine. Davolt was a major figure in the leather and levi counterculture of the United States. His online columns on leatherpage.com reached a global audience

and were eventually published in 2003 as the anthology *Painfully Obvious*.

A copy of Eudora Welty’s first book,

A Curtain of Green, has been donated to a collection-in-progress at Mississippi State University (MSU) Libraries by MSU English professor and editor of *The Mississippi Quarterly* Noel Polk. Polk, both a Welty and Faulkner scholar, is currently working with Mitchell Memorial Library’s Special Collections department to create the Noel Polk Collection, which will feature books, papers, and memorabilia on Mississippi authors. This 1941 edition of *A Curtain of Green*, with an introduction by author Katherine Anne Porter, is signed by both Welty and Porter. Visit library.msstate.edu/specialcollections/index.asp for more information about the collections. ♪



Mississippi State University Libraries’ Lynne Mueller (left) accepts Eudora Welty’s first book from Noel Polk to be added to Polk’s Collection at Mitchell Memorial Library. Photographed by Jim Tomlinson, MSU Libraries.