

LIBR 289 e-Portfolio
Fall 2008

Evidence for Competency E

LIBR 244 – Online Searching

Nexis Exercise

October 4, 2005

Exercise 4: Nexis.com only

Do the following searches after you have thoroughly studied the Nexis Instructions provided on this web site for you. For each problem, do online searches and record your file choice, search strategies, output choices, and enough of your results to let me see the kind of output you obtained. You may use any of the commands available to you. As always critique each search.

1. Use appropriate sources to identify any hotel that is famous for having ducks parade to and from their fountain each day. Try to find enough information to be able to contact this hotel.

Peabody Hotel
Three Statehouse Plaza
Little Rock Arkansas
501.906.4000
www.peabodylittlerock.com

I didn't know where to start for this search so I decided that something this unique should have generated news at some point and thought to start there. Under *Search Forms* I selected *General News* and searched for "duck parade" AND "hotel" AND "fountain."

The first entry was related to attractions in Arkansa's capital. Once I clicked on it and scanned for the search terms, I learned about this hotel. Towards the end of the document, the hotel's website is provided which is how I obtained the contact information.

Comment [q1]: The original is in Memphis and there is one in Orlando.

2. Find the most recent information you can on any settled court case that involved a public library or public library system and the Internet.

Ralph Miller, Plaintiff v. Northwest Region Library Board, Defendant.
1:03CV01239. Decided for Defendant. 12.08.04. Miller alleged that the NW Library Board barred him from using the internet at any of the 13 branches.

United States of America, Plaintiff v. ALA, Defendant. 02-361. Decided for Plaintiff 06.23.03. Reversal of previous decision (01-1303 05.31.02) in which ALA had successfully proved that the Children's Internet Protection Act was unconstitutional.

I started by selecting the Federal & State Cases Combined source. I then searched for *public library AND public library system* (other combinations such as *public library* yielded more than 1,000 results to be listed). Once in the file, I narrowed the results by searching for *internet*.

Comment [q2]: I think this should be OR logic

3. Why was Bailey, Colorado in the news in April of 2002?

On 04.29.2002 a 2,000 acre wildfire forced the evacuation of the town of Bailey, CO.

Given the precision of the question, I started a *Power Search*. I then selected the *US Newspapers and Wires* source. Realizing that a search for *bailey* may retrieve personal and company names, I decided to click on the *Add Index Terms to your Search* link as a way to focus and narrow the search.

Once there I looked for *Bailey and Bailey, CO* under Places term type. Nothing came up so I then looked for *Colorado*. This retrieved several search terms. I picked the one that referred to the state name. Once selected, Nexis added this term to my search terms *AND STATE ("COLORADO, USA")*. Before the *AND* connector, I then typed *Bailey*.

Under the date field, I specified *04/01/2002* to *04/30/2002*. Then I clicked on *Search*. The 1st article mentioned a fire in bailey but didn't go into detail. Knowing what the news could potentially be about, I scanned the headlines in the first page of results and selected the most relevant "*Colorado fire forces evacuation out of town*".

4. Who is Dennis Tito and why was he newsworthy?

He was the world's first paying space traveler. After working for 5 years for NASA's first propulsion laboratory and later for a California investment firm, in 2001 he paid \$20 million to Russia's space program becoming the first paying traveler into space.

I started this search by clicking on the *Find more Sources* link. I then selected *People, Business & Asset Locators, Person Locator* and *Directories*. I selected *Gale Biographies* as it seemed broader than the rest. I saved it to *My Sources List* and returned to the *Power Search* screen. With this new source selected, I searched for the terms "*Dennis Tito*". The first result yielded the answer.

5. Were there any safety recalls of baby furniture during the year 2000? If so, which companies and which products were involved? What were the safety hazards?

11.28.00 - Costco recalled 1 million high chairs on news of falling seats.

10.13.00 - Century Products Co. recalled 4 million rear-facing infant car seats/carriers on news that they have defective handles that can break and cause injuries to babies.

02.05.00 - Thornwood Furniture Manufacturing of Phoenix recalled 400 toy chests because of faulty lids that could injure children.

After a frustrating search through Furniture News and Product Manufacturing News, I turned to the News, All (English, Full Text) source (per the professor's suggestion). Was I glad I did! It took some tweaking of the search terms to arrive at the winning combination (*infant OR baby*) AND *furniture w/2 recall* with the dates restricted to the year 2000.

Comment [q3]: Yes, this one is simple because it is a basic NEWS search, but complex because you have to come up with the "right" terms and strategy.

**Very good, just keep trying out Nexis functions. Your Nexis password should stay good until you graduate so use it now and then.
Grade = 10**