Launch biographical searches from the most comprehensive site on the Internet today

The new Biography Resource Center, the first product to benefit from the expanded resources of The Gale Group, is a comprehensive online biographical reference database designed to meet the needs of public and academic library patrons in the areas of literature, science, multicultural studies, business, entertainment, politics, sports, government, history, current events and the arts. By combining 40 of the most frequently consulted Gale biographical databases with more than 275 full-text periodicals from the former Information Access Company, the Biography Resource Center delivers in-depth, full-text answers to a wide range of questions. Your patrons can learn about the lives and accomplishments of past and present noteworthy figures for their own interest or conduct in-depth research on a particular event, country or era — all within one easy-to-navigate platform.

The Biography Resource Center provides multi-source, full-text coverage of the topics most often cited as key to biographical reference collections. Students and patrons will appreciate the following categories in conducting their research:

- Thumbnails — one or more brief biographies and key facts
- Narrative biographies — extensive biographical profiles collected from databases such as the Encyclopedia of World Biography and its Supplements
- Full-text magazine and newspaper articles — selected articles from publications such as Time, Newsweek and U.S. News and World Report that amplify and update the narrative biographies and Who's Who entries that provide information on individuals not yet profiled in the Biography Resource Center
- Tips on biographical research — helpful instructions that lead patrons to the most effective results
- Person of the week — individuals currently in the news are profiled each week on the Home Page. Researchers will also appreciate interviews with other recent newsmakers. The profiles and interviews link to related biographies and periodical articles within the Biography Resource Center to facilitate further study

Look for these enhancements within the first year

- Web site links — links to approximately 10,000-15,000 Web sites relating to individuals profiled in the Biography Resource Center
- Library holdings links — links to titles held in library collections relating to individuals profiled in the Biography Resource Center
- Primary source documents — access and read the actual documents noted in the biographical sketches
- Audio and video — available via links to Web sites
- E-mail — users will be able to e-mail Biography Resource Center search results to selected computers

Source/subject coverage
Indexed/Full-Text Sources include:

- American History
- The Art Bulletin
- Black Enterprise
- The Christian Century
- E!
- Maclean's
- National Review
- Saturday Night
- U.S. News & World Report
- And many, many more

Current and relevant coverage
Reference Materials: current
Periodicals: varies based on source, for example:
- Business America: October 1978-present
- Ladies Home Journal: January 1983-present
- Scholastic Update: April 1983-present
- Contemporary Review: January 1993-present

The benefits you'll find in every Gale Group database

Standard Search Features
The following search paths ensure thorough, dependable search results every time:

- Name Search — search by personal name and retrieve full-text Gale biographies, Gale Who's Who type entries, IAC full-text periodical articles about the individual and, as available, full-text articles by the person
- Personal Data Search — search by birth/death years and places, nationality, ethnicity, occupation and gender. Receive a list of individuals meeting the search criteria and then retrieve full-text biographies, Who's Who entries and periodical material on the chosen person(s)
- Full-text Search — search for a particular word or phrase. Retrieve full-text biographies and Who's Who entries
Additional search features to be added during 1999

- Enhancements to Name Search — retrieve links to Web sites and library holdings related to the person chosen. Hypertext links between biographies and related biographies also will be incorporated
- Subject Search — search by topics, events, etc., to identify individuals related to them
- Place Search — search by locations relating to an individual’s major activities
- Time Period Search — search by major eras and time periods to identify persons related to them

Regular Database Updates
New and updated material will be added approximately every two to three months for the first 12 months, shifting to monthly or more often. Updating will consist of new biographical essays being added to the Biography Resource Center along with related full-text periodical articles and Web sites. Then, new periodical articles will be added to update the original essays; Web sites will be verified/modified; and death dates, major awards, major literary works, major newsworthy events or career-related events will be added to all essays when applicable.

Easy-to-use Interface
The Biography Resource Center search interface provides powerful capabilities for both novice and experienced searchers. Full Boolean search capabilities, as well as standard and custom search modes, deliver concise results each time. Help screens are context-sensitive, meaning users get the help they need no matter where they are in the search process.

Availability
The Biography Resource Center is available via subscription through The Gale Group’s online reference service, GaleNet. For a free preview of the Biography Resource Center, and to view other titles available on GaleNet, go to www.gale-group.com and click on the Gale button on the left-hand side.

For additional product or pricing information, call your Gale Group Representative at 1-800-877-GALE.