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VIDEOS TO FEATURE CHINESE EMPEROR

by Gene C. Johnson Jr.

Archaeological findings of China's first emperor will combine with interactive video disk technology and microcomputers today in a video presentation by Ching-chih Chen, associate dean of Simmons School of Library and Information Science in Boston, Mass.

The presentation will be held in the Art Building, Room 133 at 9:30 a.m. to document the emperor's tomb in Xian, China, with a reception to follow in Clark Library: Room 511.

This event will be a chance to view the treasures of Qin Shi Huang Di, circa 225 B.C., which include a pottery army of 7,000 life-sized men and horses.

The presentation includes information about Emperor Huang's Historical contributions during his 15-year reign, such as standardizing weights and measures and written characters, completing the Great Wall of China, and establishing a system of roads and canals.

The tomb of the emperor is located near Xian, China where the 7,000 figures are buried in military formation.

"They're still digging burials," said Ruth Hafter, library director, "The statues have developed arthritis."

Archaeologists have dug sand away from the tomb, exposing portions of the statues such as the knees, because they have begun to sag as a result of being exposed to the air, she said.

To retrieve the information for the presentation, Chen will use Digital Equipment Corporation System hardware. This consists of a personal computer with a 10 megabyte subsystem, a 13-inch color monitor, a video disk player and a unit that serves as an interface between the computer and the videodisk player.

Chen will present two double-sided analog video disks consisting of 216,000 frames of visual images and a two-hour narration in double sound tracks of English and Chinese.