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476 YEARS AGO, IT WAS NEW
Farkas and the Folio of St. Jerome

N.Y. Book Dealer Donates Ancient Folio to UNF

"I was visiting him one time and I said 'when we open our new library, you could let us have one of those books,'" said University of North Florida librarian Andrew Farkas.

So he did.

The infant university is now the possessor of a folio printed in Venice 476 years ago.

It is the gift of New York book dealer and collector Walter Goldwater.

Goldwater is a long-standing business associate and personal friend of the University of North Florida librarian.

The folio is "The Epistolae of St. Jerome."

Farkas said the book is in good condition. He described it as an excellent example of early printing techniques.

"The wide margins indicate the book has not been repeatedly bound and cropped," said

Farkas.

The outside of the folio is contemporary tooled leather bound over original oak boards. Each leaf is numbered, and dates appear at the end of each part of the work showing the month, day and year when the actual printing was completed.

Farkas said he became acquainted with the New York book dealer and collector while acquisition librarian and chief bibliographer at the University of California at Davis.