



## Hayden...

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responsibility.

In March 1986, the downtown resident found himself appointed library director in charge of more than 100 employees.

His spacious office on the library's ground floor reflects Hayden's interests.

On the wall is a framed poster of Humphrey Bogart in "Casablanca." A film buff, Hayden said he and his wife, Susan, see at least two films a week.

But the most prominent items in his office, aside from the stacks of paperwork that sit atop his desk, are tennis memorabilia. Hayden said the game has become an all-consuming passion since he took it up three years ago.

"I'm somewhat compulsive. I play 15-18 hours per week and am out on the courts at least six days a week. It's really a cleansing of the mind."

This isn't the first time Hayden has assaulted a sport with unadulterated enthusiasm.

In 1985, he fancied marathons

and began a training regiment that included running 70 miles a week.

Sports is not the only thing Hayden has been compulsive about.

When he and Susan bought a house in downtown Huntington Beach, shortly after their marriage eight years ago, Hayden said he woke up one morning and decided he no longer wanted to live in an old house.

So, he did what any compulsive, highly motivated person would do; he tore it down and built a new one.

"When I started, I didn't know the difference between a crescent wrench and a screwdriver. So, I took a construction class."

Along with his wife and the help of friends, Hayden had built a new 2,700 square-foot home within four months.

"We'd get off work each day, strap on our nail bags and work until the neighbors complained."

Hayden said he is able to succeed at foreign tasks because of an ability to remain focused, whether it's tennis, running, building a house or fighting for a new children's wing at the li-



Independent Photo By Ed Compean

**SHORN LOCKS — Ron Hayden dons a more conservative appearance lately as top administrator of HB libraries.**

brary.

Although the wig cost him his hair, Hayden said it will further enhance the library's reputation as a leader in its field.

"We're usually first on the block to have a new program. Whether it's personal computers or compact disks, we usually think of it first."

During his spare time, Hayden said he often finds himself lost in the library reading a book or a magazine and learning something new.

"It's an oasis for the curious. It's almost impossible to be bored here. It's the exact opposite of what you think a library is."