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cover: UTA's precision flag and rifle team, Odyssey, twirled its way to a nationally ranked position in its first year of competition. The performers' choreography will be demonstrated across Texas this year. See story, page 11.

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#### Last stop—China

The Jazz Orchestra had to leave their instruments in Manila, but that didn't stop them from China. The musicians took in the atmosphere of a very different culture where even music is a different tune.



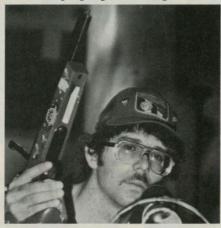
### INSIDE THE COVER:

International Day's music, food and sights were great, but a fella has to get some sleep, too. Meanwhile, students from 16 countries boasted silks to serenades during the all-day exhibits and festivities, acquainting visitors with worlds beyond their own. See story, page 6.

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# Sharpshooter's on-target with concentration

Michael Mabry outshot the nation's best in the recent American Intercollegiate Pistol Championship in West Point. Now he's set his sights on the Olympic pistol competition.



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#### Time for the 'real world'

Thousands of graduating seniors and their families participated in all-day ceremonies May 21 as college days ended with the traditional walk across the stage for the coveted sheepskin.



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#### Wheelchair athletes break for Hawaii

Six wheelchair athletes qualified for the national field and track competition at the University of Hawaii this month after setting three world records at the regional meet.

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# Former faculty recognized by Alumni Association

Melba Hammack and Thurman Jasper are the first recipients of the UTA Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Award.

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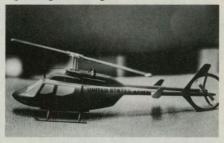
#### **New twist for Homecoming**

Kick up your heels after the Homecoming game Oct. 15 or sit back and reminisce during a new kind of postgame reception.

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# Chopper steers clear with new rotor design

Four graduate students' theses, combined with Bell Helicopter Textron's expertise and backing, have launched a new tail rotor design for Bell's TwinRanger series. The graduates are eagerly awaiting their work "getting off the ground."



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# Wheelchair athletes set world records

Six UTA wheelchair athletes not only qualified for the national Texas team but also set three world records in the Houston regional meet of the Southwest Wheelchair Athletic Association.

Jim Hayes, Monique Jannette, Danny Williams, Joseph Davis, David Kingsbury and Randy Snow will now compete in the Hawaii National Track and Field Competition June 11-20.

Hayes, Jannette, Dwight Goodman of Abilene and Andrew Maglioa of Houston teamed up to top the old time of 2:24 in the 4x100 mixed relay with a record of 2:02.

Snow shaved three seconds off the record in the 400-meter competition with a time of 1:08, and Hayes beat the 100-meter record of 21:03 with a 20:6.



PAPERS ACQUIRED — Dallas County Commissioner Chris Semos, far right, recently donated the official papers he collected while a state representative from 1967 to 1982. The papers, along with the artwork that was to have been the cover of the 1974 Texas Constitutional Convention, will be stored in the Texas Political History Collection on the sixth floor of the UTA Library in Special Collections. With Semos are, center, archives Director Bob Gamble and Charles Colley, director of Special Collections.

## Teachers in national spotlight continued from page 10

due to technology—and, sadly, money dictates prestige."

Teachers also are denied the autonomy allowed in other professions. "They can decide whether to spend 15 minutes on the War of Roses or two weeks, but they have to account for the curriculum and the child's progress," he said.

It's sometimes difficult when elected laymen direct the teacher on how and what to teach.

The emphasis on merit raises and master teachers being voiced by the Legislature, the press and the national commission could effect the changes.

"There's an overwhelming push for the merit-type pay scale," said Funkhouser. "Now we're tied into the same governmental structure as the mailman—paid the same regardless of how well you do the job."

Houston already has implemented its "Second-Mile Plan," which pays teachers more according to students' increased scores on standardized tests. There also is a pay difference for math and science teachers, a hot topic among teacher organizations.

Funkhouser disagrees with those who argue for equal pay. The law of supply and demand makes a math teacher more marketable, he believes, although a liberal arts teacher should be in line for raises based on performance.

At UTA, the number of math and science majors is increasing. From 1978 to 1982, secondary teaching students choosing math as their first field increased from one to 12. The trend was similar in the sciences with an increase from 15 to 23. Teachers returning for additional certification rose from three to six in math and from zero to 10 in the sciences.

But the graduates from every teaching institution in America won't come close to meeting the need. "There's about a 10 percent decline nationally in the number of math and science teachers certified each year," Funkhouser said, and of those, no telling how many never open a classroom door because business woos them away.

Funkhouser is watching another movement even closer. The center applied for a master's program in education, which has been approved by the UT System regents. It now must pass the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, and the Texas Education Agency.

The curriculum would provide 18 graduate hours in teaching and 18 graduate hours in a major discipline with training for master classroom teachers, academic supervisors or reading specialists.

The emphasis on academic rather than teaching theory makes the difference, Funkhouser believes. "We teach teaching skills but not theory."

And the graduate level is where he believes a good teacher should be. "We believe this is where teaching should happen." That opinion was shared by the national commission, which recommended incentives for master teachers.

The director anticipates January as the earliest the approval could transpire. "I feel confident it will go through," he said. "The timing's perfect, and the public wants quality education."

— Janet Neff