#### Loaned by library

# Wild West art

pony to the Eastern dude decked out in Boston cap, riding jacket, breeches and special boots. In the next Charles M. Russell il-

ration, the dude - wide-eyed nd perplexed — is on the seat of s fancy britches in the dust. oves overrump, the horse bucks stirrups and reins flying.

The cowboys guffaw.
"Initiated," says the caption der the pen and ink drawing. It's ne of 3,500 items in a Western Ilators Collection acquired by xas A&M University Libraries. Another scene has a different notional impact. Painted by harles Schreyvogel, "The Last top" shows a cowpuncher on his bunkmate and another cowpo

hich his horse drinks. The artist who became famous ost overnight for his "My Bune" is also represented in the col-ction by "Custer's Demand." The ustration faces Gen. George emstrong Custer and several subdinates on horseback against a

oup of Indians. Painted just into the 20th Cenry, the Schreyvogel historical rering was viciously attacked by other painter whose works appear roughout the collection. Frederic smington, in letters to a newser, charged Schreyvogel with orically inaccurate elements in

nington traveled the West exively, arming his brush, pen tions

lated Remington's barrage to Schreyvogel. "I've no comment," he was reported to have said. "Mr. Remington is the expert. He knows

Remington blasted Schreyvogel's painting again. When Schreyvogel said he acquired data from the general's uniform trunk, courtesy of Custer's widow, Remington snorted: "Hiding behind a woman's

Expert opinion was invited by Remington, and it vindicated Schreyvogel.

The famous "My Bunkie" shows a trail rider getting his horse shot from under him by Indians. His bunkmate and another cowpoke

Complementing the library's Jeff Dykes Range Livestock Collection, the recently acquired illustrators' works can be viewed April 17 to May 17 in a Sterling C. Evans Library Exhibit.

The collection includes works by artists in the bibliographic checklist, "Fifty Great Western Illustrators." It was started by Texas Aggies, Louis P. Merrill, Class of '26 and Dykes, a 1921 A&M graduate.

Along with many famous illustrators, the collection assembled by Dykes also contains Jerry Bywaters, Dan Muller, Charles H. Ownes, W. S. Phillips and Remington Schuyler, according to Evelyn King, assistant director for special collec-



Western Illustrators Collection pieces are viewed by Dianne Longly of Wichita Fallas and Don Dyal, special collections division head. The 3,500-item collection will be exhibited in the Sterling C. Evans Library, April 17 through May 17.

friends of Texas A&M and scholars from other institutions.

"As an art form, illustrating has changed, radically," said Don Dyal, head of the special collections division. "Except for paperbacks and children's books, illustrations are no longer used in books. There used to be a whole school of illustrators. Now they are doing other things.

But even in their heyday, they did other things. James M. Flagg went afield to do the "I Want You"

recruiting poster.

The collection goes beyond the bibliographic list. A Jose Cisneros work, printed in Juan, Mexico, is the leather bound History of the It is available to students, faculty, Church of the Virgin of Guadalupe.

Another uniquely bound volume contains World War II sketches by the famous Tom Lea. He made the Pelelui landing with U.S. Marines. The book is bound in Marine combat fatigue cloth.

A unique rarity is Remington's "Done in the Open." The collection copy has a "k" on the end of Frederic, an error that was not caught until the press run had started. "The incorrections were recalled," Ms. King said, "but some got away."

Because Mr. dykes has been collecting so long, the collection includes some early, early things, she added. "It's quite comprehensive withing each artist, but we'd

being made available to the public.

way of saying, "Thanks Ags.

But it may be a long time.

Top soils range from 4 to 12 inches, depending on the area of the

"Our studies indicate that a oneyear-old reclaimed strip mine is a far more productive pasture than un-mined pasture land adjacent to it," he said. "When we get in there and break up the land as it is mined, we

# Strip mining doesn't hurt land, prof says

be viewed as a "deep plowing" op-better suited to agricultural produc-eration that will make agricultural tion."

dicted the rich lignite belt will attract major industry by the turn of land more productive, a Texas A&M

University geologist says. strip mining actually can improve strictions. Texas lands, then the mining companies may have a chance to mine the soft coal.

It's just some 80 feet of deep plowing. Mining in Texas does not destroy the land. If anything, it makes

fit more productive."

He prefers to call it a "no net volume loss" mining operation. There's

more dirt after mining than before. The increased volume of dirt does not make sense, Mathewson admits, until people realize the soil over the lignite areas is very compact. In tests at Texas A&M, as much as a 50 percent increase in volume was

'Federal law decrees that miners save the top soil, and put it back on top," Mathewson emphasizes. "The top soil around the highland coal mining areas of Texas is about as porous as a concrete slab."

Strip mining Texas lignite should also have a more porous land that is sources at Texas A&M, has pretract major industry by the turn of

Mathewson said the attitude that the century. strip mining is raping Mother Na-Improving the landscape will re- ture is wrong. "Emotional presquire special dispensations from the entations you see of mining operafederal government, said Dr. Christions decades ago are the worst view topher Mathewson, associate pro- of strip mining imaginable," he said. fessor of geology at Texas A&M. He "They have nothing to do with cursaid once environmentalists and the rent mining operations, especially federal agencies accept the idea that in light of today's governmental re-

Approximately 100 billion tons of some reason, people think that Texas lignite are at depths of 200 to when lignite mining comes to Texas 500 feet, uneconomical for strip we are going to dig up the whole define strip mining as agricultural improvement," Mathewson says. strip mining depth, in layors of layons than 10 feet.

The major deposits occur in areas with no serious acidic water problems, no large rock formation and average to poor farmland.

Fred J. Benson, vice president for engineering and non-renewable re-

consumption in 1973. It is up to 20 percent now Texas lignite is a low-energy member of the coal family.

'So much of American industry

'Texas lignite reserves constitute about 1 million surface mineable acres," explains Mathewson. "For

Use of coal throughout the United

States is increasing. Since 1973, coal

production has increased an average

of 3.5 percent a year. Coal ac-

counted for 18 percent of all energy

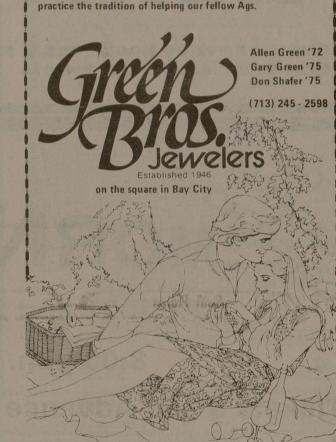
will have moved to Texas that parts

of the state will be like Germany's

Ruhr Valley or the midland area of England around Birmingham," Ben-

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## Court blocks release of Nixon tapes

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ASHINGTON — The Supreme art Tuesday blocked a plan to ke available to the general public pies of the White House tapes at were played at the 1974 ergate cover-up trial of Richard xon's top aides.

The 7-2 decision reversed a U.S. ellate court ruling that had red the way for release of about hours of Nixon's presidential

While printed transcripts of the e in stores, they have been ed in public only at the conspiy trial of Nixon aides H. R. deman, John Ehrlichman,

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Mardian and Nixon re-election committee counsel Kenneth Parkin-

Haldeman, Ehrlichman and Mitchell were all jailed eventually for their roles in the coverup. Mardian's conviction was reversed on appeal and Parkinson was acquitted.

recording company sought public distribution of the actual recordings which include John Dean's warning to Nixon of "a cancer on the

mer Attorney General John stations to broadcast the confidential thell, Mitchell's aide Robert Oval Office conservations.

But Justice Lewis Powell, speaking for the Supreme Court, rejected their argument that copies of the tapes in U.S. District Judge John Sirica's custody may be publicly distributed under a commonlaw right

That right is not absolute, said In this case, major networks and a Powell. In this case there is an "alternative means of public access.'

Today's ruling affects only the networks' plan to copy the Watergate cover-up tapes which are in Sirica's custody. A lawyer for They proposed a plan to have the National Archives sell cassettes of the tapes to the public at a modest price and for radio and television

National Archives sell cassettes of Nixon said it has always been his understanding that these tapes eventually will be turned over to the National Archives. Thus, the Supreme Court decision does not

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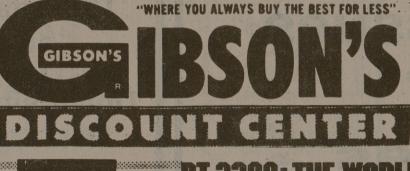
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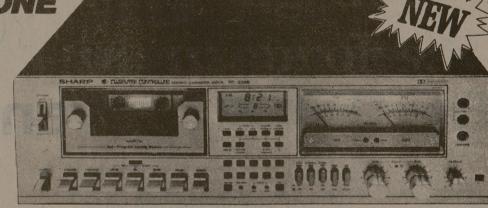
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