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# Job-jumping teacher fulfills dream, teaches 25 classes

**United Press International**  
BOSTON — When Sandi Serkess graduated from college a decade ago, there were no jobs open for the teaching training she was so anxious to use.  
Faced with a glutted market and an oversupply of elementary school teachers, she found employment and frustration in one job after another — from clerk to stand-up comedienne.  
Now at age 31 she describes herself as a "one-woman university," teaching 25 different subjects in a 10-week semester and qualified to teach 25 more. She says the ideas all emanate from her rocky emotional and professional past.  
"My teaching dream has finally come true," she said.  
The classes she teaches in-

clude such basics as grammar, writing skills, vocabulary building and spelling extending through a huge repertoire dealing with psychology, business skills, preparation for graduate school exams and the histories of psychoanalysis, economics, holidays and humor.  
"But I'm always looking out for new subjects," she said. "I'd try teaching almost anything."  
Serkess, who has written a book on improving memory, teaches at the Cambridge and the Boston Centers for Adult Education. With a master's degree in counseling, she is often an instructor of American literature and salesmanship at Chamberlayne Junior College.  
By choice, she hasn't taken a vacation in seven years.  
"My courses are my autobiography," she explains, going through a list four pages long. "If you read the list, you'll know me."  
"Take Math Anxiety," she said. "In order to work as an income tax preparer, I had to get over my apprehensions about math."  
But the popular class goes far beyond her success in overcoming her trepidations during her years of job jumping.  
"Sharing anxieties in a supportive environment encourages adults to tackle what they fear, whether it be decimals, fractions or the many problems found in everyday math."  
"Together we balance check-books and learn to get the most for the money on shopping trips."  
Citing "Business Strategies"

and a selection of related subjects such as "Organizational Decision Making" and "Writing for Business," she referred to the office she encountered from clerking position to public relations.  
"The class focuses on behavior, communication and sexual harassment in the workplace," she said.  
It also deals with the "Seven Rules, handling the pest and answering questions as, 'Is it good or a eager beaver?'"  
Then there's a "Woody Allen Meets Freud" class that she took from her nightclub days created when she was several jobs to pay the bills.

crowded with paraphernalia. Medals and plaques hang on a wall and another set of medals hangs on a wall. There are more than 100 prizes altogether.  
Ogilvie says he became interested in running when he joined Texas College.  
"The running movement is just beginning, and I'm a running magazine enthusiast and read anything I liked what he read."  
"I was a little overweight out of shape," he recalled.  
Ogilvie entered his first marathon in 1978. He won. "I could wipe out guys who had been running for 10 years," he says.  
In December, 1978, he entered his first marathon and behold, I took second. I was a philosophy class runner from North Thomassen land."  
His first national achievement came in 1980 when he broke the U.S. record in a 25-kilometer race in San Francisco. That race, Ogilvie recalled, had potential as a master runner, he says. In 1981 he placed seventh in his class in the world's most prestigious marathon, the Boston Marathon. He has run marathons in London, Mumbai, Canada and Hong Kong more than 45 in all.

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# Races give doctor a break

**United Press International**  
BEN WHEELER — Like an apparition, the lean figure strides, weapon in hand, before his dog, the pair silhouetted against the gathering dawn of a more essential American landscape.  
The figure is not the spirit of a Cherokee brave on the heels of game. It is a Nike-clad country doctor leading his dog Manfred on their morning miles.  
The feather-dangled cow's rib clasped in his right hand is not an ancient weapon, al-

though it may be related to one. But the aura of simplicity, of life close to the earth and stars, is real. At 66, Dr. Charles Ogilvie has found his spot of earth. And he has found a new facet to life — running. He and Manfred often run 90 miles per week on the country roads surrounding his Arc Ridge Ranch near Ben Wheeler.  
Ogilvie began running when he was 59. Today he is a "master's runner" ranked second in the nation in his age bracket in the marathon and 10-kilometer races. He ran 10 marathons, 26.2 miles each, in 1983. He placed first in his class in all but one.  
The three hours or so that Ogilvie puts in with Manfred each morning clears his mind, he says, and gives him time to chart his day. The osteopathic physician has a busy practice in Tyler. He is the only doctor in a medical district of 4,000 people. He and his staff

of three attend to an average of 27 patients each day, he says.  
One day each week, he travels to Fort Worth to lecture at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine where he founded the department of medical humanities before coming home to Arc Ridge Ranch in 1981. Once each week he drives to Mineola to assist the radiology department at the osteopathic hospital there.  
For a man who seems to be running continuously in one fashion or another, the white-haired doctor is serene and soft-spoken. A hand-written phrase from Thoreau's "Walden" pinned to a wall in his study echoes his demeanor.  
"To be a philosopher is not merely to have subtle thoughts, nor even to found a school. But so to love wisdom as to live according to its dictates is a life of simplicity, independence, magnanimity and trust."  
Every windowsill and shelf in the Arc Ridge Ranch study is

crowded with paraphernalia. Medals and plaques hang on a wall and another set of medals hangs on a wall. There are more than 100 prizes altogether.  
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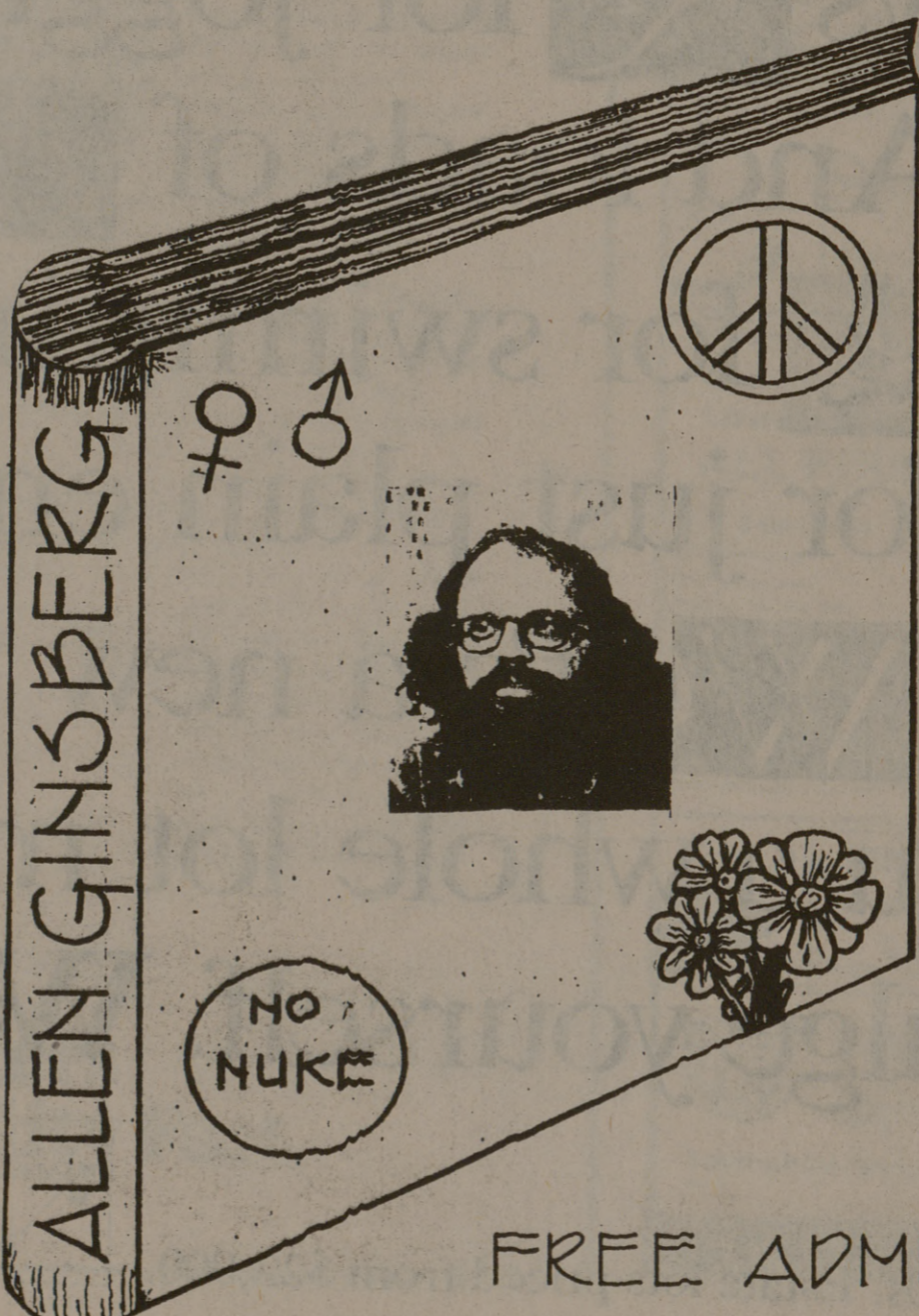
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