

# Barney Glazer's "HOLLYWOOD HOTLINE"

Director Mike Nichols and producer Lawrence Turman selected Dustin Hoffman to play the male lead in "The Graduate" for Joseph E. Levine's Embassy Pictures.

Hoffman received an Obie Award last year for the best actor of the off-Broadway season and has earned plaudits for his work in the off-Broadway comedy, "Eh?"

"My mother named me after Dustin Farnum, the cowboy actor," said the 29-year-old actor. "She named my brother Ronald after Ronald Colman."

Dr. Ronald Hoffman, a Ph.D. and Professor of Economics at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, is six years older than Dustin. He moves in July to Washington where he enters long range planning research.

Dustin, called Dusty by his

family and intimates, is single. He has been dating a young lady for the past year but they have no marriage plans.

The talented young actor was a music major at Santa Monica City College and also studied with the L. A. Conservatory of Music. He planned to become a classical pianist but switched to the jazz idiom and then plunged into dramatics.

"My father was in charge of set decorating and the prop department at Columbia Pictures," informed Dusty. "He remembers giving a promising young actor \$50 to buy a tuxedo for a premiere. His name was William Holden."

Hoffman was turning 21 when he arrived in New York. He struggled for 8 years, doing odd jobs, including playing piano for dance

### HERST FUND

(Continued from Page 1)

chairs. Katz vows the film will be a super special feature, guaranteed not to be released before the summer months.

Please have an early dinner and don't eat another drop of food until you get to the theatre at midnight. All the popcorn and candy sold will go to swell the fund for a swell guy who recently departed, Harry Herst.

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classes. He did a few tv shows, played in repertory in Boston, directed two plays during a blizzard in North Dakota, then concentrated his energies on becoming a director.

"Just when I was about to take over the son's role in 'The Subject Was Roses' in New York," said Dusty, "I suffered third degree burns on both arms from hot oil in a kitchen accident.

"I was confined to the hospital for three weeks and laid up another two weeks. It was enough to lose my big break as a Broadway leading man but it eventually turned out

to be my destiny.

"Had I obtained the role, I wouldn't have been selected for 'The Graduate.' I still would have been pushing for a director's career."

Hoffman credits Dr. Lloyd Bergner at the Flower-Fifth Avenue Hospital for saving his life. "Knowing my bitter disappointment about losing a Broadway role, he personally came in every day and dressed my wounds like a saint.

"When I later told him I had won 'The Graduate' leading role, he was elated over my success."

Ann Bancroft plays the femme lead. As the result of her tests, Catherine Ross won an important supporting role. Rehearsals start at Paramount April 3. Shooting begins April 24.

Dustin sums up his selection as a minor miracle.

"I was playing 8 shows each week off Broadway with two shows Saturday night back to back, plus a Sunday matinee and evening show.

"I planed out for Hollywood on my day off, Monday, arriving at 2:30 in the afternoon. I read for Mike Nichols, took home the script, stayed up all night learning my lines and reported to the Paramount set at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

"Mike tested me and Catherine Ross all day long in a 10-minute scene.

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### Neo-Nazi Spy Film at Fox



GEORGE SEGAL

Ivan Foxwell's production of "The Quiller Memorandum," a tensity dramatic suspense thriller released by 20th Century Fox, is set for a limited one week engagement at the Fox Theatre. Directed by Michael Anderson, the cast is headed by George Segal, Alec Guinness, Max von Sydow and Senta Berger, with George Sanders and Robert Helpmann in guest star roles.

Segal is hired by the head of British Intelligence, George Sanders, to replace one of their men who was killed while on duty in Berlin. He works with the head of the British agents in Berlin, Alec Guinness, and soon discovers, with the aid of school teacher, Senta Berger, that the leader of the ruthless group is Max von Sydow. What he has to find out is

where their headquarters are.

The picture is based on the best-selling spy novel of the same name written by Adam Hall.

Segal's role in "The Quiller Memorandum" followed closely his starring role in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and he has also appeared in "The New Interns" and "Ship of Fools."

Since his motion picture debut in "Great Expectations," Alec Guinness has appeared in numerous films, both comedies and drama, and won an Academy award for his role in "Bridge on the River Kwai."

Viennese beauty Senta Berger made her film debut in Richard Widmark's "The Secret Ways" and has since appeared in "The Victors" and "Cast a Giant Shadow."

Director Anderson is probably best known for his direction of Michael Todd's "Around the World in 80 Days."

The Fox Theatre is in the Charleston Plaza Shopping Center.

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