Teacher Improvement Program Initiated by the University of Dayton's Elementary Education Department

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DAYTON, Ohio, June 13, 1967 --- Instant replay will be a feature of the Teacher Improvement program which the University of Dayton's Department of Elementary Education will initiate this fall. The program, made possible through a portion of the $75,000 Kettering Foundation grant to the School of Education last summer, will make use of an $18,000 mobile television unit, bringing the electronic medium into the classroom.

This is a co-operative venture with the Dayton public and parochial school systems. At present the mobile unit will go into the classrooms at Fort McKinley, Shoup Mill and Holy Angels elementary schools, observing seven student-teachers in co-operation with the principals of each school. One other school will be added before the fall.

"Through the mobile unit," explains Dr. Simon Chavez, Chairman, Elementary Education Department, "we will televise our student teachers in the classrooms and will use a recorder to play back the 15-to-20 minute prepared classroom session immediately. "Our theory," continues Dr. Chavez, "is for a student to witness his own performance while it is still fresh in his memory. He is more apt to seek improvement through this self-analysis than to accept the word of a superior.

"It really is a system of interaction analysis, which indicates the teacher-pupil relationship. It will show the pupil's response to the teaching methods. The video tape also will indicate the teacher's reaction to pupil's answers. This reaction on both sides is important to the development of a teacher. Video-taping should hasten this improvement."

Dr. Chavez says that he will serve as director of the study program, two or three other department members will work separate schools and a graduate assistant will serve as technician.

The crew will work with three cameras in the classroom and a television recorder in another room. The student-teacher and the program directors will study the instant replay as shown on the recorder.