## Songwriter changing tunes

United Press International DALLAS — Les Chambers, a 54-year-old country and western composer, is no longer satisfied with just singing about the working man's blues.
At a Dallas press conference

Tuesday, he announced his candidacy for governor.

I'm standing up for the working man so he doesn't have to swallow the hogwash of big oil and other big industries that control the people who are in government now," said Cham-

Running as an independent, the composer of such songs as "Goodbye World" and "Welcome Fool to the Stool next to Mine" said he will advocate better pay for teachers, increased tion of life sentences for habitual offenders if violent crimes are not involved.

To boost his candidacy, Chambers said he filed a suit in U.S. District Court challenging provisions of a state election law which he says blocks indepen-dent candidates from petition-ing for places on the ballot until after the Democratic and Republican primaries.

Besides the suit, he hopes his campaign will be aided by fellow country singer Dallas Howard, "the sweetheart of Texas' who will perform for Chambers' campaign audiences around the

Said Chambers: "She'll be the next Dolly Parton.

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## Clayton denies seeking LCRA job

United Press International AUSTIN — Speculation has surfaced around the Capitol that Speaker Bill Clayton will take a \$90,000-a-year job as general manager of the Lower Colorado River Authority and wait until

1986 to run for governor.

Despite the speculation,
Clayton, who is concluding his unprecedented fourth term as speaker, maintains he will run for the statewide office of land commissioner in 1982.

"Tve got no ambition or desire to go the LCRA," Clayton said. And John Scanlan of Austin, an LCRA board member and secretary of the five-member committee that is screening the 150 applicants for the job, said Clayton's name has not come up in the

panel's discussion. 'He is not being considered as a candidate as far as I know," Scan-

Panhandle farmer has an unfavorable rating with Texas voters and the speaker could choose to accept the highpaying state job rather than run for land commissioner.

The supporter said a poll conducted by Clayton indicates he has a higher-than-average negative rating because of his Brilab trial last year on allegations he quitted by a federal jury in Hous-

"(Clayton) has some bad poll information going against him and some friends who say he should drop out (of the land commission race) because of that," the supporter said. "The LCRA job would keep him in Austin, at a good sal-

But a supporter of Clayton who accepted a \$5,000 bribe. Clayton asked not be identified said the and two Austin attorneys were accould keep him in the spotlight for a later race for governor.

Clayton indicated he would announce his plans around Labor cated he still wants to Day but then said he would not make a decision until after the November referendum on his pet legislative issue. Voters will vote whether to approve a constitutional amendment creating a Water Trust Fund to solve the state's fu-

viewed the details of the race for land commiss Mauro, former executiv of the State Democrat already has announced hi

"It looks like I ought to

## Harrelson offered guilty ple in judge's slaying, paper say

SAN ANTONIO — Charles V. Harrelson, suspected by federal authorities of assassinating a federal judge, agreed to plea guilty to the slaying but his offer was rejected because it involved a pres-

idential pardon, a newspaper re-ported Wednesday. Former U.S. Attorney Jamie Boyd was surprised at the plea bargaining offer from Harrelson's attorney, Bob Tarrant, the San Antonio Express reported in a copyright story.

Quoting unnamed sources, the newspaper said Tarrant approached Boyd four weeks after farrelson was arrested in Van Horn, Texas, on Sept. 1, 1980. Harrelson was arrested on drugs and weapons charges unrelated to the May 29, 1979 slaying of U.S.

District Judge John H. Wood Jr. Tarrant said his client, pre-viously convicted of a contract killing, would plead guilty to killing Wood and help federal investigators make a case against others in exchange for certain guarantees, the newspaper reported.

Harrelson wanted a guarantee of no more than a 30 year jail sentence, immunity from prosecution on state capital murder charges that could carry a death penalty

purchased the murder weapon, the paper reported. Harrelson's wife, Jo Ann, was arrested recently on charges of using false identification to purchase a weapon similar to the murder rifle at an exclusive Dallas sporting goods

Tarrant confirmed he held discussions with Boyd but declined to reveal their exact nature.

"There was never any plea bargain agreement, formally or informally," Tarrant said. "I talked to him (Boyd) all about the Wood case several times.

Harrelson, currently being held in the Harris County Jail in Houston, also wanted a presidential pardon for Tarrant, his Houston attorney who had been convicted in 1971 in federal court of posses-sion of unregistered firearms, in-

Tarrant was sentenced to three years probation and has been barred from practicing law before federal courts.

The newspaper said Harrelson wanted the pardon for Tarrant because the Houston attorney was the only one he trusted to represent him in federal court, the pap-

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the offer, secured Bexar County District Attorney Bill White's assurance that Harrelson would not be tried on state charges and the former federal prosecutor proposed acceptance of the plea bargaining offer by his superiors with the U.S. Justice Department in Washington.

But top-level Justice Department officials rejected the offer and ordered negotiations to cease between Boyd and Tarrant, the

newspaper said.

Philip Heymann, thenassistant U.S. attorney general in
charge of the criminal division, and Lawrence Lippe, chief of the litigation section, reportedly vetoed the plan because of a per-ceived conflict of interest in Tarrant's receiving a pardon in exchange for a guilty plea.

Department officials had lem with Tarrant benefi deal he was helping to They also objected tod president into a plea! negotiation, the new

surprise offer was the break in the Wood in and led federal official Harrelson the pri the judge's killing. a Nov. 20, 1980 li the first public inc was a suspect in the cas

charged in the judges tion but federal author clearly indicated their he pulled the trigger Antonio.

## Funds needed to move statue

United Press International AUSTIN — State officials and the artist who created the monument dedicated to the battle of Iwo Jima have initiated a fundraising drive to move the original plaster statue to a Texas military

Meetings were scheduled for Dallas Wednesday and Houston next week to coordinate the effort to raise \$400,000 for the relocation of the statue to the Marine Military Academy in Harlingen.

Dr. Felix de Weldon of Newport, R.I., sculpted the monument to commemorate the Marines who raised the flag on Iwo Jima during a vicious World War II battle to take the Pacific Ocean island away from the

The fund raising drive was started in Austin Tuesday by Secretary of State George Strake.

The 130-ton statue of the flag

raising currently is at de Weldon's feet high, the monu Rhode Island home. It served as a model for the bronze monument raised by the Marinesin in Washington

Strake said the huge plaster the total height of the monument will be cut into 108 in Harlingen to about pieces and packed for shipping to

Liborio Hinojosa of Mercedes, chairman of the group raising funds for relocation, said railroads and the trucking indust have volunteered to trans monument to Texas free

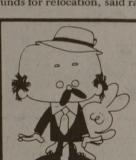
Hinojosa estima \$380,000 to \$400,000 to base for the monument academy and complete the Strake and Gov. Bill O

both have supported the locating the monument ingen.

erected on the Harlinge will be coated with a bro to protect it from the wea to give it a patina finish "We shall assemble grounds in Harlingen at

structed, and when it is a bled it will be lifted onto and fixed with concrete Hinojosa said the ba 48 feet high, and a flag p

be unveiled at its new Feb. 19, 1982, the 37 sary of the Marine lan Jima during World War



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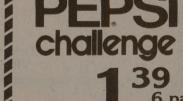
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