

Waldo



by Kevin Thomas

Businessmen seeking change

Texas high court under fire

Associated Press
DALLAS — A business leaders' group that claims the Texas Supreme Court has benefited people who sue companies is spearheading a drive to raise money for next year's elections in an attempt to change the court's makeup.

The group's leaders said two of four contested court races in 1986 could be the costliest ever and more important than the gubernatorial election to the business community because of skyrocketing insurance premiums.

Committee leaders said that when they begin collecting money, they can easily raise \$1 million each for contested races, the Dallas Times Herald reported Sunday.

The group also says its membership, which will be announced after a meeting next month, will include some of the state's most powerful lobbyists and wealthiest companies, drawing key leaders from the insurance, banking, oil, trucking, health and construction fields.

Leaders want to halt a philosophical shift on the court that, critics say, is greatly expanding the circum-

stances under which injured people may sue for damages.

They also say the court is making it harder to afford or even find insurance protection from lawsuits. In another move, 150 business leaders in Austin planned to lobby the Legislature for protection from damage awards.

One lobbyist told the Dallas Times Herald he predicts that during the 1987 legislative session, the reform effort will be the most important issue next to the state budget.

Larry Thompson, an attorney who is heading the group in Houston called the Texas Supreme Court Justice Committee said, "There is a direct relationship between what the Texas Supreme Court is doing and what is happening to . . . insurance premiums," he said.

"We are only concerned with putting responsible people on the Supreme Court. We want impartial people; judges who won't be beholden to anybody."

Eight of the nine members of Texas' highest civil appeals court have been elected since 1978. Most received contributions from members of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association, the group of attorneys

who sue corporations, professionals and insurance companies for damages and get to collect a third or more of the awards, the Times Herald said.

Next year, Justices Robert M. Campbell, James P. Wallace, Raul A. Gonzalez and Sears McGee will be up for re-election.

Reform movement leaders contend the court has become more liberal in recent years, mostly to the benefit of plaintiffs. It has increasingly upheld sizable damage awards issued in lower courts and has overturned longstanding legal principles and decades-old statutes, they said.

"The Texas Supreme Court has handed down more and more decisions extremely favorable to plaintiffs' lawyers," Thompson said. "No question about it. It has become a legislative body rather than a court."

Chief Justice John L. Hill would not respond to Thompson's claims.

"We're calling them like we see them," said Hill. "We're applying the law. I don't comment on cases. They speak for themselves."

Supreme Court Justice C.L. Ray said the court in some cases has "brought the law into the 20th Century."

What's up

Monday

TEXAS A&M WOMEN'S CHORUS: will have open rehearsals Oct. 28, 30 and Nov. 1 at 10 a.m. in the MSC Lounge.

MESQUITE HOMETOWN CLUB: will meet for happy hour at 5:30 p.m. at Interurban restaurant. Bring dues please.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES: will meet at 7:15 p.m. outside of 145 MSC to support the lady Aqs in volleyball.

ASSOCIATION OF SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT: will have a Halloween candy sale in the MSC lobby.

TEXAS A&M JUDO: will meet at 7 p.m. in 263 G. Rolfie White. No experience necessary.

PSI CHI/PSYCHOLOGY CLUB: will meet at 7 p.m. in 301 Rudder. Speaker: Dr. Wendy Stock — The Effects of Pornography. Yearbook picture at 6:30 p.m. in MSC Lobby.

TEXAS A&M RUGBY CLUB: practices Tues.-Thurs. at 5:30 p.m. at East Campus Field behind the polo field.

TAMU JAYCEES AND IMAGE BY DESIGN: will have a fashion seminar at 8:30 p.m. in 510 Rudder.

AGGIE ALLEMANDERS: will have square dance lessons at 7 p.m. in the Pavilion.

INTRAMURALS: Entries open for handball singles, putt putt, cross country at 8 a.m. in 159 Read.

HENDERSON COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 604AB Rudder.

Tuesday

SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS: is meeting at 5 p.m. in 003 Reed McDonald.

TAMU TENNIS CLUB: will meet at 7 p.m. in 410 Rudder. Annual dues will be collected.

AGGIE DEMOCRATS: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 502 Rudder for a brief meeting followed by a reception.

ALPHA PIMU: will meet at 7 p.m. in 342 Zachry.

SADDLE-N-SIRLOIN CLUB: will meet at 5:30 p.m. on the steps of Rudder for yearbook picture.

TEXAS AGGIE MAJORITY FOR CLEMENTS: will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 510 Rudder.

INTRAMURALS: entries close for badminton doubles at 6 p.m. in 159 Read.

TAMU PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS: will meet at 7:15 p.m. in 404 Rudder for officer elections.

Dorm students protected from illegal search

(continued from page 1)

in a student's room, even if that's not why they're there, they can take it. The resident advisers must leave a receipt for what they've taken and draw a sketch showing where the items were before the resident advisers took them.

Koldus says although a resident adviser may confiscate the evidence against the student, whether the evidence will be allowed in the case against that student is decided by a court of law.

Bob Wiatt, director of security and traffic, says the University Police must have either a search warrant or a consensual release signed by the student before they can enter a room.

The consensual release allows students to give their consent to having their room searched, Wiatt says. When a consensual release is used, the police don't have to specify what they are looking for, he says.

A search warrant restricts the police to specifying what they are looking for, Wiatt says. A search warrant is based on the fact that a crime has been committed. The police search a room for either a weapon used in a crime or the fruits of a crime such as a necklace if the crime is robbery, he says.

Koldus says that a student accused of a crime will have to face the legal system and the school system. The University will follow up with disciplinary actions that may include expulsion.

2 FOR 1

NOW YOU AND A FRIEND CAN WORKOUT TOGETHER FROM NOW UNTIL JAN. 1 FOR THE INCREDIBLE LOW PRICE OF JUST

\$59 PLUS \$6 PHOTO I.D. CARD EACH

HURRY OFFER ENDS THURS. OCT. 31

INCLUDES AEROBICS

24 HOUR GYMS OF TEXAS 700 UNIVERSITY DR E

CALL NOW FOR MORE DETAILS 846-0053

Your Image is Showing

Starring: Constance Malone (image consultant, Houston) Sponsored by PSE

- A must for anyone in the JOB market
- Learn what the RECRUITERS are looking for
- More than interviewing skills, more than "Dress for Success"
- Enhance your image
- Constance Malone is an exciting, enthusiastic speaker that has helped many young executives climb to the TOP.

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 Location: MSC 201
Date: Tuesday, October 29
Admission: \$3.00 Students
\$15.00 Business Executives

Π Σ Ε
National Business Fraternity

Ad Sponsored by:
Beauty Control Cosmetics
Laura Butler
Certified Beauty Care & Color Consultant
3806 Spring Hollow
Bryan, TX 77802
(409) 846-5020

THE Porter AGENCY

DON'T LEAVE YOUR PARENTS STRANDED!

Hotel rooms will be hard to find. Don't put your parents in a bind.

Reserve a Hotel Room NOW!

STUDENT GOVT. presents (APRIL 11-13) PARENT'S WEEKEND