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# Battalion Staff

Applications for both the Summer and Fall semesters are now available to interested students in 216 Reed McDonald.

Open positions include:

- Columnists
- Cartoonists
- Editorial Cartoonists
- Staff Writers
- Reviewers
- Photographers

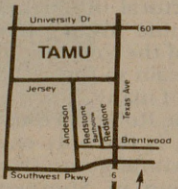
Complete applications must be returned by Friday, April 24.

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## Texas bank posts net loss of \$4.2 million

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas Commerce Bancshares posted a net loss of \$4.2 million for the three months ending March 31, a decline from earnings of \$20.6 million recorded during the same period in 1986, officials said Tuesday.

The loss amounts to 12 cents per share, compared to the 63 cents per share earnings in the 1986 quarter for the Houston-based bank that was recently acquired by Chemical New York Corp.

For the fourth quarter of 1986, the bank posted a net loss of \$21.1 million, or 64 cents per share.

Loan-loss provisions charged against earnings were \$49 million in the first quarter, compared to \$125 million in the preceding quarter and \$36 million in the first quarter of 1986.

Texas Commerce's reserve for possible loan losses increased to \$373 million, or 3 percent of loans as of March 31, up from \$368 million, or 2.8 percent of loans on Dec. 31, 1986, and \$294 million, or 2.3 percent of loans this March 31.

Medium-term and long-term loans to Brazilian public-sector borrowers totaling \$41 million were placed on a non-accrual status at the end of the first quarter due to suspension of interest payments on such debt.

If the Brazilian loans remain on non-accrual for all of 1987, the reduction in interest income would be about \$3.3 million, bank spokesman Mike Cinelli said.

Texas Commerce also placed loans totaling \$21 million to one Mexican private sector borrower on a non-accrual status, he said.

About 53 percent of Texas Commerce's non-performing assets are related to the real estate sector, 27 percent to the energy sector, 13 percent to the non-energy commercial sector and 7 percent to the international sector.

Loans averaged \$12.6 billion during the first quarter of 1987, down 1 percent from the fourth quarter of 1986 and 2 percent lower than the first quarter of 1986.

## In Advance

### Porn commission official speaks at A&M

Alan Sears, the executive director of Attorney General Edwin Meese's commission on pornography, will be at Texas A&M Thursday to give a summary of the commission's findings and discuss the process used to select the commission members.

The program, "Pornography: Is it 'A Flood Tide of Filth Inundating Our Society?'" is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday in 510 Rudder.

As executive director, Sears was responsible for selecting and supervising the commission's staff, managing six public hearings, preparing the final report and coordinating the commission's activities.

A news release from the Memorial Student Center's Political Forum committee, which is sponsoring the program, said Meese appointed Sears to the commission position as a result of Sears' previous experience as chief of the criminal section in the Office of the United States Attorney in Louisville, Kentucky. As a federal prosecutor, Sears developed a solid reputation in prosecuting narcotics, fraud and obscenity offenses.

Sears also is on the legal staff of Citizens for Decency through Law, Inc. — a group working to regulate obscenity and pornography.

### Workshop for club officers to be held

The Department of Student Activities will sponsor a Student Organization Officer Workshop for officers and advisers of Texas A&M organizations on Thursday, beginning with registration at 6:30 p.m. in 601 Rudder.

An opening session will allow officers to update organizational records and receive an introduction to policies and procedures affecting their organizations.

Following this general meeting, the group will divide for the following sessions:

- Membership selection in 410 Rudder.
- Service project development in 504 Rudder.

• Fund-raising ideas in 510 Rudder.

The group then will divide for the following sessions:

- Presidents/vice presidents will meet in 410 Rudder.
- Secretaries/treasurers will meet in 510 Rudder.
- Advisers will meet in 504 Rudder.

Also, a management class on "Greek Leadership" will present four sessions dealing with Greek officers and organizations.

The workshop sessions will be from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Newly elected officers, presiding officers, chairmen, members and advisers are welcome.

### Debate to focus on immigration law

The pros and cons of the new immigration law passed by the U.S. Congress last year will be debated today at 7:30 p.m. in 201 MSC.

Sponsored by the MSC Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture and MSC Political Forum, the debate will center on the Simpson-Rodino Immigration Law allowing illegal aliens who have resided in the United States on a permanent basis since 1982 or earlier to apply for citizenship.

However, aliens who cannot prove that they have lived in the country that long or who cannot pay the \$200 application fee for citizenship legally will not be allowed to remain in the country.

Dr. Jorge Bustamante, an authority on border studies in Mexico, and Ronald Parra from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, will debate the law and whether or not it has worked since it has been put into effect.

## Actor to bring literary world of Thurber to A&M campus

By Karl Palmeyer

James Thurber's wonderful world of eccentric essays, funny fables and satirical stories will come to life in Rudder Auditorium at 8 p.m. Thursday when MSC Townhall presents William Windom in his one-man show, "Thurber I."

Through his books, short stories, articles and drawings in New Yorker magazine, Thurber established himself as one of the greatest American humorists since Mark Twain. The strength of his humor was the portrayal of the common man's idiosyncrasies and follies.

Born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, Thurber's childhood was plagued by strange relatives who later would inspire some of his funniest works.

He had lost an eye when he was six, and his sight was so poor in the other eye that he became the butt of many jokes from his classmates.

He attended Ohio State University but never received a degree because he didn't pass biology. Accord-

ing to "University Days," his memories of college life, he couldn't see anything in the microscope except the reflection of his glass eye.

Talented as a writer and cartoonist, Thurber became editor of Ohio State's literary magazine and a popular figure on campus.

After college, Thurber worked for the State Department, the American embassy in Paris and the New York Evening Post before landing a job with the New Yorker.

He wrote several books, including "Is Sex Necessary?" (with E.B. White), "My Life and Hard Times" and "The Last Flower." His best-known short story, "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," was made into a movie starring Danny Kaye. The term "Walter Mitty" often is used to describe a mild-mannered daydreamer.

Windom's association with Thurber dates back to 1969 when he played Thurber on television's "My World . . . and Welcome To It," a program of sketches based on

Thurber's stories and cartoons. When the show ended in 1970, Windom began work on a one-stage show based on Thurber's works.

Aside his role as Thurber, Windom has appeared in several Broadway plays including "The Merchant of Venice," "Candide" and "The Man of Suzie Wong." He also has appeared in movies including "The Americanization of Emily," "Escape from Planet of the Apes," and episodes of television's "Star Trek," "Night Gallery" and "Murder, She Wrote."

Windom tours the country with "Thurber I and II" and "Ernie and I," a one-man stage show based on the writings of newspaper cartoonist and soldier Ernie Pyle.

Tickets for "Thurber I" are available at the Rudder Box Office. Prices are \$12, \$9.75 and \$7.50 for students and \$14, \$11.25 and \$8.75 for non-students. Call Rudder Box Office at 845-1234 or MSC Townhall at 845-1515 for more details.

## Pastor plans to enter gubernatorial race

AUSTIN (AP) — Fort Worth pastor W.N. Otwell, who was a fugitive last year when he refused to close his unlicensed church home, said Tuesday he is running for governor.

Otwell became the first announced candidate for the 1990 election.

"I'm just doing what I feel is right to do," he said in a telephone interview from his Community Baptist Church in Fort Worth. "There's a real feeling out there that the time is right for somebody with leadership. Texas needs a strong leader."

A news release from the church said, "Pastor Otwell is that man."

A state district judge last year found Otwell guilty of violating state licensing laws for youth homes.

Otwell refused to show up for a court hearing in the case and remained a fugitive for several weeks.

He later surrendered and agreed to close the home when Attorney General Jim Mattox agreed to drop the case against Otwell.

The pastor said he would run as an independent candidate.

"The Democrats are probably more liberal than I'd be," he said. "I would probably run on the Republican side if they would draft me. I don't know if they would want that." Otwell plans to formally announce his candidacy at his church on May 1.

Otwell had harsh words for Mattox during last year's legal battles concerning the youth home.

The church release announcing the May 1 announcement said, "Texas does not need another Mark White, Bill Hobby, Jim Mattox or

even, as it is looking now, a Clements as governor of Texas."

"We have had enough of government tyranny, state control, regulations, licenses, and tax increases that seem only to make the richer and the poor poorer."

## Intermediary for prankster pays for staff lot's damage

By Curtis L. Culberson

The identity of the early-morning parking-lot painter, who transformed the staff lot behind the Reed McDonald Building into a Battalion "Members Only" lot, is still a mystery. But the case now is closed.

Director of University Police Bob Wiatt Tuesday said he told members of The Battalion Editorial Board that he would launch a full investigation and charge the parties involved with vandalism — a class A misdemeanor — if they had not turned themselves in by 2 p.m. on April 9.

"A student called my office about 1:30 that day and got very anxious and nervous when my secretary told them that I was in a meeting," Wiatt said.

third party for a friend who wanted to remain anonymous.

Wiatt said he told the student that he wouldn't file any charges if monetary amends were made for the repainting of the lot by grounds-maintenance personnel.

"An intermediary presented me with three \$100 bills, which I turned over to the Director of Grounds Maintenance," he said.

UPD was flooded by irate callers following the April 8 parking-lot prank. "They wanted to see someone hang for it," Wiatt said. Assigned faculty and staff spaces had been painted over and designated for members of The Battalion Editorial Board, while other spaces and a no-parking zone were marked "Batt Staff Only."

Grounds maintenance personnel began fixing the spaces just a few hours after it was reported.