

# Seniors, graduate students must fill out paperwork for graduation

By James Ezell  
Staff Writer

Seniors and graduate students who will graduate at the end of the current semester in December must fill out a degree request form before 5 p.m. Friday.

Seniors should go to Heaton Hall for their forms. Graduate students are instructed to go to the office of graduate students at the Olin Teague Research Center.

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Gardner requests that all seniors stop by his office at Heaton Hall to apply for their degrees. Additional

information, such as audits, will be mailed to seniors as it becomes available. This information cannot be sent if a senior or grad student does not fill out the proper form.

Seniors will also be able to verify that they have completed the necessary coursework needed for graduation. In addition to verifying classes, they will have a chance to make sure their diplomas will be correct.

Graduation announcements will be on sale until September 29 at the Student Finance Center in the Memorial Student Center in Room 217. Orders will be taken Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A paid fee slip is required at both offices to fill out the degree request. Students who have not paid their diploma fee of \$15 may do so at the Pavilion.

# Commercial banks enjoy good profits in spite of losses

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's commercial banks enjoyed their most profitable six months on record through June this year, despite continuing losses in Texas, the government said Wednesday.

"You could hardly ask ... for better," Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. Chairman L. William Seidman said.

Commercial banks earned \$10.5 billion in the first and second quarters this year, topping the \$9.7 billion in net income for the second and third quarters of 1985, which had been the most profitable six months since the FDIC began keeping track in 1934.

In the first half of last year, banks lost \$5.4 billion. The big loss was almost entirely attributable to huge reserves set aside by the largest banks for expected losses on loans to Third World countries.

Banks haven't seen the need to build those reserves further this year and are thus earning strong profits. Banks set aside \$916 million on foreign loans in the first six months of this year, compared with \$16.4 billion in the same period a year ago.

"We think ... we will see record profits for the year if the economy continues on its current level," said Seidman, whose agency insures commercial banks deposits up to \$100,000. The most profitable year for banking was 1985, when the industry posted earnings of \$18.1 billion.

The April-June period of 1988 was the second most profitable quarter on record, after the July-September quarter of last year, when banks reported \$5.8 billion in net income.

However, the banking picture remained bleak in Texas, a state troubled by soured real estate prices and a depression in the oil industry. Banks lost \$2.9 billion in the first half, with \$2.3 billion of that attributable to a single institution: First Republic Bank Corp. of Dallas, which has

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since been rescued with \$4 billion in federal money.

Elsewhere in the oil-dependent Southwest, banks earned modest profits.

Seidman said he hoped that the condition of banks in Texas would improve now that so many have been closed or merged with healthier institutions. At the end of August, 173 banks had failed or required government assistance to stay open. Ninety-seven of those — including 42 First Republic Bank subsidiaries — were in Texas.

Seidman said failures would continue at the same rate this year, setting a post-Depression record, but then decline next year.

In the Midwest, battered earlier in the decade by farm bank failures, the profitability of most banks has been restored. In the first half, 7 percent of banks in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota lost money, compared with nearly double that amount a year ago.

Farm losses caused by this year's drought may check the improvement in banks in the region, but Seidman said Midwestern banks should be able to weather any difficulties because they've lent more carefully than in the past and because of government aid to farmers.

Other figures cited by the FDIC include:

• The number of unprofitable banks has dropped from 2,243 in the first six months of 1987 to 1,729 this year.

# Publisher appointed to Houston paper

HOUSTON (AP) — William Dean Singleton, chief executive officer of the company that owns the *Houston Post*, is taking over as the newspaper's publisher, succeeding Donald F. Hunt, the *Post* announced Wednesday.

The appointment of Singleton, MediaNews Group's vice chairman and chief executive officer, became effective Tuesday, the newspaper reported.

Hunt will assume duties as president of MediaNews International, a new company owned by Singleton and MediaNews chairman Richard

Scudder, which was formed for international acquisitions.

Singleton and Scudder own MediaNews Group, parent company of the *Post*, the *Denver Post* and 47 other newspapers in nine states.

"We decided several months ago that we wanted to expand our operations outside the United States," Singleton said.

"Our newspapers have been very successful here, and there are some good opportunities in Great Britain and other parts of the world," he said.

"We wanted someone with inter-

national experience to run the company and Don has that experience," he said.

Hunt held several positions with Canadian newspapers including a stint as general manager of the *Toronto Sun* before he moved to Houston.

Singleton moved from Dallas to Houston after he announced in June that MediaNews Group had sold the *Dallas Times Herald*.

At the same time, he announced that MediaNews Group was moving its corporate headquarters to Houston.

He said he was looking forward to being publisher because he has missed running a newspaper for the past five years.

In other moves at the newspaper, *Post* Vice President and General Manager Jerry Jackson will become vice president and assistant to the MediaNews president.

Robert Hollingsworth, former executive vice president and general manager of the *Times Herald*, will replace Jackson as executive vice president and general manager of the *Post*.

# Bush makes mistake in speech to veteran

From Associated Press

Republican George Bush caused a momentary stir Wednesday at an American Legion convention in Louisville, Ky., when he mistakenly referred to the day as the anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

"I wonder how many remember today is Pearl Harbor Day," Bush told the veterans. "Forty-seven years ago to this day we were hit and hit hard at Pearl Harbor and we were not ready."

He went on, but then, alerted by the murmuring among the 6,000 veterans in the audience, Bush abruptly stopped and said:

"Did I say Sept. 7? Sorry about that."

The attack was on Dec. 7, 1941.

Later, speaking before a Jewish group he criticized Democrat Michael Dukakis as having trouble making up his mind on whether to support or oppose creation of a Palestinian state.

Bush and Dukakis were speaking

to a B'nai B'rith convention in Baltimore.

The vice president was the first to address the Jewish group and he underscored the closeness of U.S.-Israel relations.

"No threat, no stone thrown, is strong enough to divide us. No wedge will be driven between us," he said.

Bush declared his opposition to creation of an independent Palestinian state in the Middle East and crit-

icized Dukakis, although he didn't mention him by name.

"My administration would not support the creation of any Palestinian entity that would jeopardize the security of our strategic ally, Israel," he said.

"Anyone who has trouble making up his mind on this issue, or who proposes to leave it open, just doesn't understand the dangers to Israel and to the United States," he said.

## Find Out Why These 1987 - 88 Aggie Graduates Elected to Pursue a Career with ARTHUR ANDERSEN & Co.

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- John Akard
- Kevin Albright
- Michelle Atchley
- Mark Beavers
- David Booty
- Christopher Curran
- David Dorsett
- Bret Farrar
- John Fite
- Eugene Harris
- Michele Hartwick
- Mary Hendricks
- Leigh Jones
- Greg Lenzen
- Jennifer Lofland
- Scott Marek

### HOUSTON

- John Alger
- Mary Borza
- Gregory Braddock
- Bryant Brown
- Susan Cassity
- Layne Cole
- Kenneth Cunningham
- Lisa Cunningham
- Catherine Deangelis

### Brian Elliott

- Vara Fletcher
- Daniel Fortune
- Monica Frazer
- Lynn Garland
- Alfredo Gutierrez
- Karen Hablinski
- Wade Henderson
- Elizabeth Hill
- Ernest Huntley
- Liesl Jankowski
- Eric Kelly
- Edward Kerschner
- Dave Knowles
- Drew Koecher
- Richard Kolodziejczyk
- Suzette Kynor

### Laura Land

- Sheri Lathrop
- Jeffrey Mackey
- Molly Malone
- Jon Malstrom
- Michele Margo
- Monique McCoy
- Jimmy McDonald
- Philip Meacham
- Beth Mitchell
- Elizabeth Muir
- Linda Muras
- Kelly Nimmo
- Jeff Pepper
- Susan Peterman
- John Porche
- Linda Porter

### Joey Pospisil

- Jan Rankin
- David Reed
- Jeffrey Rees
- Russell Renfro
- Gayle Renfro
- Jim Sandell
- David Schwarzbach
- Scott Seabolt
- Jacqueline Sentmanat
- Rosemary Simmons
- Brian Smejkal
- Chip Staton
- Wade Stubblefield
- Angelyn Tarrant
- Kristen Thomas
- Marta Troche

### Stephen Vezendy

- Jill Volberding
- John Warner
- Andrew Whelan
- Leanne Whittis
- Carolyn Whitten

### OTHER

- Scott Cosman
- Edward Fowler
- Edwin Hinson
- Anthony Lordi
- Greg Nihill
- Erin Shaw
- Kah Yee Wong

To find out about our

## MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CONSULTING PRACTICE,

attend a

PRESENTATION & RECEPTION

Tuesday, September 13, 1988

College Station Hilton - Bluebonnet Room

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Casual attire - refreshments provided

All Masters candidates in business and computer science as well as senior undergraduates in engineering, accounting, finance, computer science and BANA are invited.

We will be interviewing on campus for Audit, Tax & Consulting positions September 28-30.

