

## **William Windom to present "Thurber II"**

**September 26, 1980**

The eccentric charm of writer James Thurber will be presented in a one-man show starring William Windom at 8 p.m. Sunday, October 19, in the Mandeville Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego.

Last year, Windom presented "Thurber" to a standing-room-only crowd. This year's "Thurber IV contains all new material gleaned from the humorist's published works.

Admission to the performance is \$6.50 for the general public, \$5.50 for students and UC San Diego faculty and staff and \$4.50 for UC San Diego students.

Thurber began making literary waves when he joined the staff of a new magazine called The New Yorker in 1927. With the encouragement of his friend and colleague, E.B. White, Thurber went on to publish articles and books which have been translated into 21 languages.

Thurber's prose was called "as unexpectedly conquering as a second vodka martini" by the New York Times Book Review. He created a world populated with feckless and bewildered men confronted with a relentless, unsympathetic society.

The illustrations that Thurber created to portray this literary world were to become as popular as his writing, much to his editor's surprise and chagrin. The drawings, which Dorothy Parker once said resembled "unbaked cookies," had been consistently rejected by The New Yorker's artistic staff as being unsophisticated doodles. The mousy little men, fierce-looking women and innocuous hounds were to become Thurber's trademark.

William Windom won an Emmy for playing Thurber in the 1969-70 television series "My World and Welcome To It." As a long-time fan of Thurber's, Windom's interest in the man was sparked when he did the series. He read and re-read most of Thurber's published works and corresponded with Thurber's widow in order to create the one-man shows.

"Thurber IV is being sponsored by the University Events Office. Tickets can be purchased at the UCSD Central Box Office, 452-4559.

For more information contact: Leslie Franz, 452-3120

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