

Local / State

Suit alleges Hunts took illegal action

HOUSTON — The chairman of Coastal States Gas Corp. has testified his company would have gained "astronomical" profits from a Libyan oil deal which his federal court lawsuit claims Nelson and Bunker Hunt illegally stopped.

Oscar Wyatt is seeking \$231 million from the Hunt brothers of Dallas, alleging they violated anti-trust laws in preventing Coastal from buying oil the Libyans sold them in 1973.

The Hunts claim they owned with British Petroleum the concession to buy the oil, which the Libyans sold to Coastal after nationalizing the petroleum industry in its country.

Wyatt testified the Hunts, following the nationalization, forced Coastal's lawyers to shy away from the deal. He claimed his legal problems with Lo-Vaca Gas Co. in 1973 prompted the Hunts to pick him out as a target.

Lo-Vaca was a subsidiary of Coastal, and its troubles stemmed from gas curtailments and high prices charged customers.

Coastal's potential profits from the contract with the Libyans, Wyatt said, were "astronomical and unbelievable."

He said the contract was reassigned to a Swiss firm because of pressure from the banks to get out of the contract. The Hunts had brought the pressure by telling everyone they owned the oil, he said.

Embryo-transfer calf is born at A&M

By RACHEL BOSTWICK

The Texas A&M University Dairy Cattle Center is pleased to announce the arrival of a new baby boy.

This boy, however, happens to be the first purebred embryo-transfer calf to be born at the center, said center manager Paul Castenson.

Born Feb. 20, the Holstein calf is the result of an experiment conducted by Castenson and Diego Barrios, a Venezuelan veterinarian working on a master's degree in veterinary physiology and pharmacology.

Embryo transfer is rapidly increasing in popularity, Castenson said, because of the rate at which a herd can be increased in value. With the five to six year life span of a dairy cow, he said, she can only produce three or four calves, thus contributing to a large herd only on a small scale.

However, with embryo transfer, the embryos of a high-producing (high quality and milk production) cow can be transferred to low-producing cows and increase a herd at a much faster rate, Castenson said. This also eliminates the risk of the genes of low-producing cows being put back into the herd.

Castenson said dairymen see the advantage of embryo transfer. "They're realizing the importance it could have," he said. The technique is becoming more common as people buying cattle use it more and more, he added.

When the calf gets older, Castenson said, he will be used by Dr. Duane Kraemer, a professor of veterinary physiology and animal science, for experimentation.

Castenson and Barrios plan to continue their work on embryo transfer. At the present, they have two Jersey cows they believe are pregnant by embryo transfer, but the pregnancies have not yet been confirmed by a veterinarian.



The first purebred embryo transfer calf was born Feb. 20 at the Texas A&M University Dairy Cattle Center. The Holstein calf is the result of an experiment conducted by Center

manager Paul Castenson (left) and Diego Barrios, a Venezuelan veterinarian working on a master's degree in veterinary physiology and pharmacology.

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State Senate will not OK 55 mph bill

AUSTIN — Senators refused today to consider a resolution urging Congress to abolish the national requirement for a 55 mph speed limit and to allow each state to set the maximum speed limit on highways.

The resolution by Sen. Jim Traeger, D-Seguin, would have little official impact, but would have "memorialized" Congress to consider the change.

Sen. Carl Parker, D-Park Arthur, called the proposal a waste of time, and suggested Traeger personally contact his congressman if he wanted to express his sentiments about the 55 mph limit.

"We've got enough to do without trying to run Congress," Parker said.

He asked Traeger if he planned to send a copy of the resolution to the president as well as to members of congress.

Traeger said that might be a good idea.

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