

For sale by owner: successful Wyoming commuter airline

United Press International
CASPER, Wyo. — Employees of Bridger Air say the Texas owner of the commuter airline is trying to sell it.

Basically, he just wants to get out of the state and keep his interests in Texas, company president Galen Pennington said in a Casper newspaper report.

Pennington said the Evanston airline's major investor, whom he declined to identify, told him last week he was selling the airline and its parent company, Evanston Aviation Inc.

"Everyone was so surprised, because we're carrying people," Pennington said. "We're turning

people away at Casper. For so long, we've needed a good commuter airline there.

The airline has been flying between Casper, Rock Springs, Evanston and Salt Lake City four times a day since it began operation last July. The airline also had planned to open additional routes to Cody, Worland and Gillette, and had hoped to begin flights to Cheyenne in April or May.

If Bridger Air does not find other investors, loss of the airline will leave a gap in air service to those cities it serves, Terry Igoe, Natrona County Airport manager, said.

Both say pleased with change, duties

Two A&M staffers get new jobs

Two Texas A&M staff members have assumed new positions with the University as of Jan. 1.

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, a former assistant to University President Frank Vandiver, now serves as assistant vice president for student services. He will help Dr. John J. Koldus, vice president for student services, coordinate student services staff members.

Nelda Green, who served as assistant to System Chancellor Frank W. R. Hubert, has assumed Southerland's position in the president's office.

Both appointments are subject to approval by the Texas A&M System Board of Regents at its meeting later this month.

Southerland, a 1965 graduate of Texas A&M, who received his doctoral degree in educational administration from the University last year, declined comment on his new responsibilities. He said he prefers to wait until his position is confirmed by the regents, but



Dr. J. Malon Southerland



Nelda Green

added that he is pleased with his new job.

"I'm delighted to have this chance," Southerland said. "My primary interest has been in the

field of student administration and this (gets me into the area)."

Southerland had served as assistant to the president since September 1979, a position he calls a

learning experience. Now, he says, he's ready to get back into his field.

Before working in the president's office, Southerland was

assistant to the dean of students, assistant to the vice president for student services, coordinator of educational placement and associate director of placement. He was also director of the University's cooperative education program.

Last spring Southerland received the student government's outstanding administrator award.

Green, the new assistant to the president, also is working in a familiar area, one which she says she "just loves." She said the responsibilities are similar to her previous positions.

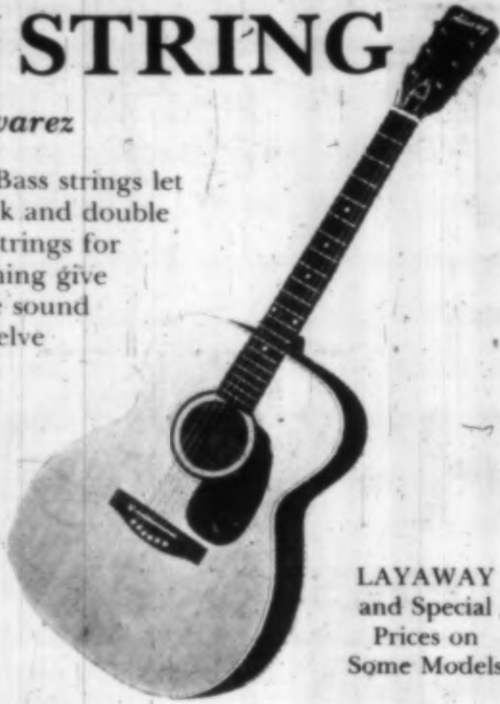
In addition to serving as assistant to Hubert, Green has served as assistant to the late Dr. Jack Williams, who was both president and chancellor of Texas A&M. She also was executive secretary to the late Gen. Earl Rudder during his terms as Texas A&M president and Texas A&M System president.

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Some IRA investments banned; others should be

United Press International
NEW YORK — Investors have a great many options with the new Individual Retirement Account, but not all of them are beneficial. Some should be avoided for legal reasons, some for financial reasons.

When it comes to allowable IRA investments, the choices range from savings certificates to stocks and bonds to annuities and mutual funds.

But the new tax law has made made collectibles ineligible as IRA investments. That includes gold, silver, stamps, coins, art, antiques, rugs, vintage wines and any other "tangible personal property" that the Internal Revenue Service specifies in its yet-to-be-drawn-up IRA regulations.

Life insurance is another prohibited investment. So are investments unpaid in full. For example, stocks can be purchased for an IRA account, but not those bought on margin. Stock options also are banned under this provision.

Tax-exempt securities, such as municipal bonds and All Savers certificates, can legally be included in an IRA account, but for financial reasons should not be.

Interest on a tax-exempt security kept outside an IRA would never be taxed. Inside an IRA, the interest, accumulated is taxed as ordinary income when the security is withdrawn, as is every cent withdrawn from an IRA.

That holds true for capital gains as well, and thus carries additional implications for IRA investment strategy.

For instance, profits from the sale of stock owned for more than a year are normally eligible for long-term capital gains treatment and are taxed at a lower rate than other income.

But in an IRA account the profits from the sale of stock are taxed on withdrawal like other items in the account — at the income tax rate and not at the special capital gains rate.

Zookeepers, animals face winter problems

United Press International
OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — If it isn't newborn buffalo calves battling to survive the sub-zero temperatures, it's gibbons walking on the frozen ponds or "welfare" birds dropping in for a free meal.

Lawrence Curtis, director of the 110-acre Oklahoma City Zoo said winter conditions bring all manner of unique situations for zookeepers.

While the rare snow leopards and other cold-weather animals were enjoying wind-chill factors far below zero, Curtis said a baby Cape Buffalo born into a freezing

world almost did not survive. "It's a wonder it didn't die," he said.

Its mother had the use of heated barns but chose to give birth outside. The male calf was found Sunday morning suffering from hypothermia.

"In the words of the veterinarian," Curtis said, "it (the calf) is defying all the laws of thermodynamics of staying alive."

Then there are Liz and Richard, the Asian gibbons who can peer across from their island home to a shore they have never visited. However, the arctic cold has built a bridge of ice they can easily cross

if they choose. Curtis recalled a previous winter when Harry, another gibbon, made such a crossing.

"It was during a day where then were quite a few people at the zoo," he said. "There was some lady in a very outlandish hat. It looked like a bunch of fruit on top, and he stole her hat. I had to pay \$5.95 for that hat."

Since Harry — who has been transferred to a zoo in Switzerland — none of the "extremely acrobatic, highly developed" primates have been off the island. But young Liz and Richard are new in town and with the first freeze came the attention of zookeepers.

It would be very simple for them to just walk across the ice to the other shore a few hundred yards away, Curtis said. "But they've never done it. We're kind of watching them."

Winter also brings freeloaders to the zoo.

"This time of year we have a number of 'welfare' ducks and geese come in on flights from the north," Curtis said. "They often stop here. Sometimes they spend the winter. They either like the water, the food, the company — or all three."

For the more exotic, pampered fowl, there are more luxurious accommodations.

"We built special facilities for the flamingos," Curtis said, describing the exclusive quarters that feature indoor and outdoor pools connected by a canal.

"Water birds get heat from the feet," he said. Their blood picks up heat from the water and circulates it through their bodies. They can be standing in very cold air temperatures and be able to maintain themselves," Curtis said. "They walk in and out of the building, but they never leave the water."

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