

ET CETERA

SHOE

by Jeff MacNelly



## Two Dallas companies file under new bankruptcy laws

Associated Press

DALLAS — Great Western Sugar Co., the principal subsidiary of Hunt International Resources Corp., has assets of \$177 million while its liabilities exceed \$201 million, according to documents filed in bankruptcy court.

Great Western and Hunt International have filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy laws.

Hunt International, once a major holding of brothers Nelson Bunker and W. Herbert Hunt of Dallas, has filed schedules showing it owes \$175 million.

The total debt of Hunt International and its subsidiaries, a contract drilling company, Offshore Invest-

ments Ltd., is about \$400 million, according to records.

At its peak, Hunt International was involved in real estate development, retail food business, oil and gas exploration and development, contract drilling, precious metals investments and the production of sugar and related products.

Schedules filed Monday show that Great Western had a secured debt of \$151.7 million when it filed for bankruptcy March 7.

The schedules show the secured total included \$66.6 million owed to three banks and nearly \$82.6 million to the Commodity Credit Corp., a federal agency engaged in agricultural lending.

Great Western has reduced its bank debt by \$21.5 million since the

bankruptcy filing, documents show. The debt to Commodity Credit Corp. was reduced by \$38.3 million through the sale of six of its 13 sugar beet refineries, records reveal.

Former employees of Great Western as well as the farmers who supplied the company with sugar beets hold many of the \$45.6 million in unsecured claims, according to records.

The major assets of Great Western as of the bankruptcy filing March 7 included about \$112.8 million in inventory and real property, plant and equipment, records show. Some of the sugar stocks have been sold and the proceeds paid to the Commodity Credit Corp., according to the court documents.

## AIDS stirs unrest in nation's prisons

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A prisoner with AIDS spits at a guard. Another guard refuses to search inmates because he fears catching the deadly syndrome.

In prisons around the nation, AIDS is causing unrest, confusion and fear.

A survey of state and federal prison systems by The Associated Press found widely varying policies for dealing with prisoners with AIDS, and in some cases no procedures at all.

Most prison officials said AIDS is not widespread behind bars. However, routine testing for the deadly

syndrome is rare, so it is impossible to know how many inmates have been exposed to AIDS.

Prisons hold many drug abusers, one of the groups most at risk of developing AIDS. Homosexual encounters are also a factor.

In New York, where most of the prison AIDS cases have been diagnosed, "about two-thirds of inmates with AIDS admit to being drug abusers, and about the other third is homosexual," said James Flateau, a corrections department spokesman.

There is no evidence that AIDS, which cripples the immune system, can be spread by casual contact. Sexual contact, sharing of contaminated

needles and receiving transfusions of contaminated blood or blood products have been linked to transmission of AIDS.

Misinformation and fear abound, however. In most cases, the prisoner with AIDS is segregated in an isolation cell or in a hospital.

Routine testing for AIDS is generally rejected by prison officials as unnecessary.

The initial test determines only if the person had been exposed to the virus thought to cause AIDS. An additional test, more difficult and costly, is needed to determine if the person is actually carrying the virus.

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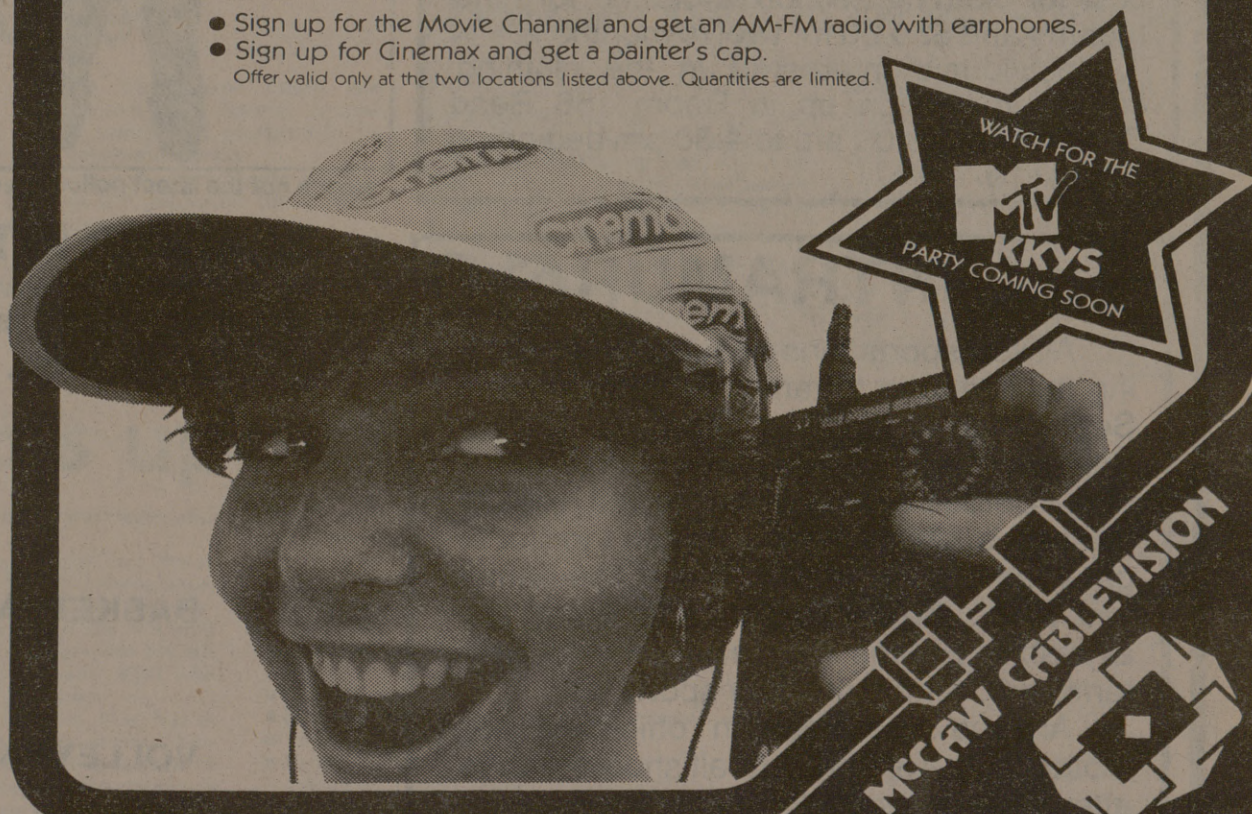
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