

Texas Air raises offer to acquire Frontier Airlines

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Texas Air Corp. on Tuesday increased its bid for lock in financially troubled Frontier Airlines from \$20 to \$22 a share. Houston-based Texas Air, the parent company of Continental Airlines, on Sept. 30 offered to buy 60 percent of Frontier's 12.5 million shares of outstanding stock.

The Texas Air offer is \$5 a share more than a bid offered by a coalition of Frontier employees.

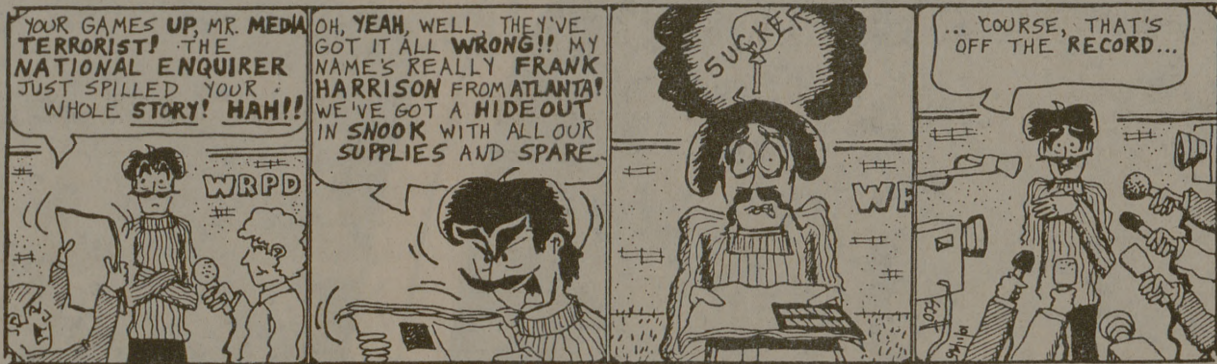
Bruce Hicks, a Texas Air spokesman, said the offer is for all outstanding shares of Frontier stock. Texas Air said that its latest offer for stock in Denver-based Frontier would expire at midnight Oct. 22.

But Frontier shareholders are not scheduled to vote until Oct. 30 on the labor coalition's \$17-a-share offer.

The Frontier group last month led a federal lawsuit seeking a permanent injunction against Texas Air's attempted buy out.

Warped

by Scott McCullar



Rabies outbreak reported in border town

Associated Press

EAGLE PASS — State health officials say they are concerned about keeping a rabies outbreak in Piedras Negras, Mexico, from crossing the border.

Rabies cases have been reported in 60 dogs, a person and a cow this year in Piedras Negras, said Dr. Kathryn Tull, a Texas Department of Health veterinarian from Uvalde.

Four cases in animals have been reported across the river in Eagle Pass.

Tull said officials are concerned the problem will worsen because of lax anti-rabies enforcement programs in Eagle Pass and the attitude of Mexican health authorities.

"Unfortunately, Mexico doesn't think they've got a problem," she said. "They don't seem to be alarmed that there are 60 to 80 deaths a year there because of rabies."

Eagle Pass does not have an animal control facility, Tull said. Last week, authorities put to sleep

a 2-month-old mixed breed puppy who bit its owner. Tests showed the animal had rabies and the dog's owner, his wife and their son, 10, are undergoing anti-rabies injections.

Most rabid dogs in Texas have contracted the disease from skunks, bats or foxes, Tull said.

Tull said health officials are visiting Eagle Pass schools this week to teach children about the problems of rabies.

Biomass products may help farmers increase incomes

By KATHY MCHUGH Reporter

Aggies who want to become America's farmers may be able to make more money than they ever imagined if products made from plants and animal wastes can be sold as a source of energy, says a Texas A&M professor.

"As most people know, farmers have recently been in a terrible financial state because they have produced more products than they can sell," says Bill A. Stout, a professor of agricultural engineering and a leading authority on alternative energy.

One way to help farmers get back on their feet again and to raise profits is by marketing biomass energy products, Stout says.

Biomass is a form of solar energy that is stored in all organic matter except fossil fuels, which include coal, oil and natural gas.

This energy is stored in products such as corn, cotton, wheat and many other plant types and also in animal wastes, Stout says.

"If we could get these plant materials into the market as a selling product farmers, producers and consumers would be happy," he says.

There are four basic processes through which biomass energy can be derived.

In the alcohol fermentation process, sorghum grain is converted into ethanol, which can be used in alcoholic drinks or as a fuel for vehicles, Stout says.

Anaerobic digestion is a forma-

tion process in which starch from sorghum grain is converted into methane gas, Stout says.

Animal manure also is converted into methane gas through this process. Methane is used in heating homes and in gas stoves, he says.

Diesel fuel can be processed through plant-oil extraction, which involves squeezing seed oil from corn, soybeans, sunflowers and cottonseed.

"There's only one small problem with diesel being made from corn oil and that is that your car exhaust may smell like popcorn," Stout says.

The final process is that of gasification, which involves the burning of cotton gin trash (particles left over after the cotton was processed) which produces carbon monoxide and hydrogen.

"People are not using these processes today because of the cost and probably won't use them for another 10 years or so or until it is extremely necessary to use them, whichever comes first," Stout says.

This research needed to be done and was well worth the time and tax dollars that was put into it, he says.

Stout and Edward A. Hiler, professor and head of A&M's Department of Agricultural Engineering, have published a book on biomass energy titled "Biomass Energy: A Monograph."

Proposition 10 designed to aid young farmers

By MARYBETH ROHSNER Staff Writer

Some Texas A&M agriculture graduates may be eligible for up to \$100,000 in low-interest farm loans if Proposition 10 is approved by voters Nov. 5, state Rep. L.P. Patterson said in a public hearing Tuesday.

Patterson, D-Brookston, and Texas Land Commissioner Garry Mauro said the proposed Farm and Ranch Finance Program is designed to aid young farmers.

Under the provisions of the program, a farmer would be eligible to apply for one of the 5,000 loans if 35 percent of that farmer's income the past three years has been derived from farm or ranch products. However, Patterson said recent graduates who do not meet that qualification would be eligible if they have worked on their family farm and meet other criteria.

To qualify, an applicant must have been a Texas resident for five years, must have experience in farm-

ing and must have a net worth of less than \$250,000.

Mauro said he was concerned that the average age of the American farmer is 60. He said the program is aimed at helping young farmers and ranchers to own rather than rent their farm land.

If passed, the loans will be financed by the sale of up to \$500 million in general obligation bonds issued by the Veterans Land Board. Mauro said no tax money will be used — the borrower will cover the

cost of administering the program through fees established by the board. Interest rates will be determined after the sale of the bonds.

Patterson, who co-authored Proposition 10 with state Sen. Bill Sarpaullus, D-Amarillo, said applicants can pay off the loans in up to 40 years. The loans would require a 5 percent down payment, he said.

Patterson said the current loan program of \$20,000 or 10 acres was simply not enough.

WHOLESALE DIAMONDS

LAY-AWAY NOW FOR CHRISTMAS!

We don't offer financing, but with our low wholesale prices, you don't need credit! Save up to 70% when you buy from us.

NEVER A SALE... JUST THE BEST PRICES IN TOWN!

No questions asked. 30 day money back guarantee on all loose diamonds sold. (Does not include lay-away or mountings.)

ROUND		Compare At:	Our Price:	OVAL		Compare At:	Our Price:
2.89 carats	15,000	390	\$ 195	.71 pts	\$2,700	\$1,425	
2.16 carats	9,000	20 pts	205	.71 pts	2,800	1,425	
2.12 carats	14,700	20 pts	130	.63 pts	1,500	895	
2.04 carats	14,000	17 pts	105	.45	875	425	
1.80 carats	12,500	.15 pts	95.00	.44	695	335	
1.86 carats	10,900	.11 pts	68.00	.42	650	315	
1.33 carats	6,500	.10 pts	63.00	.41	650	310	
1.24 carats	5,200	.08 pts	85.00	.38	600	285	
1.24 carats	6,300	.07 pts	76.00	.35	550	265	
1.16 carats	4,900	.06 pts	65.00	.32	495	240	
1.10 carats	3,700	.05 pts	50.00	.30	450	225	
1.06 carats	3,300	.04 pts	42.00	.28	450	210	
1.04 carats	33.00	.03 pts	28.00	.27	385	200	
1.02 carats	4,900	.02 pts	18.00	.25	390	195	
1.01 carats	3,300	.01 pt	11.00	.13	195	98	
1.00 carats	3,300						
1.00 carats	3,300						
.93 pts	3,250						
.93 pts	2,950						
.80 pts	2,850						
.78 pts	1,800						
.75 pts	2,800						
.71 pts	2,700						
.70 pts	2,600						
.62 pts	1,700						
.62 pts	1,700						
.59 pts	1,700						
.55 pts	1,650						
.55 pts	1,350						
.55 pts	1,650						
.52 pts	1,750						
.50 pts	1,595						
.49 pts	1,495						
.47 pts	1,395						
.45 pts	1,150						
.45 pts	1,175						
.44 pts	1,050						
.42 pts	1,250						
.40 pts	1,240						
.38 pts	590						
.34 pts	625						
.31 pts	625						
.25 pts	425						
.22 pts	410						
.21 pts	400						

MARQUISE		Compare At:	Our Price:	MODIFIED RADIANT		Compare At:	Our Price:
2.54 carats	\$15,900	1.47 carats	\$ 7300	\$3195			
1.67 carats	11,500	1.03 carats	4950	2495			
1.49 carats	9,250	1.04 carats	4800	2350			
1.46 carats	5,900	.93 pts	3700	1850			
67 pts	2,500	.42 pts	1595	795			
65 pts	2,800	.35 pts	1350	635			
63 pts	3,100						
55 pts	1,700						
50 pts	790						
45 pts	700						
40 pts	950						
40 pts	650						
38 pts	750						
35 pts	750						
35 pts	750						
35 pts	750						
37 pts	900						
37 pts	875						
34 pts	820						
33 pts	850						
30 pts	750						
30 pts	750						
27 pts	725						

OVAL		Compare At:	Our Price:	PEAR		Compare At:	Our Price:
.83 pts	\$ 2900	1.99 carats	\$14,000	\$ 6780			
.78 pts	2900	1.64 carats	3,000	2975			
		1.27 carats	5,200	2570			
		.62 pts	2,800	1395			
		.54 pts	2,300	1195			
		.47 pts	2,100	1050			
		.39 pts	495	290			
		.33 pts	675	325			
		.33 pts	490	250			
		.28 pts	395	210			
		.23 pts	395	175			

GOLD COIN JEWELRY

Largest Stock of Gold Jewelry in the Area! Hundreds of Pieces to choose from. Rings, Pendants, Diamond Gold Coin Jewelry. Large stock of gold coin mountings for all popular Gold Coin Krugerands, Maple Leaf, Gold Panda.

14 KARAT GOLD CHAINS

Largest stock in the Brazos Valley, over 1,000 gold chains in stock! All gold sold by weight!! 22.95-25.95 a penny weight. Don't be fooled by Half-Price Sales, Clearance Sales or Going Out of Business Sales! If you pay more than this, you paid too much! Some items one-of-a-kind, subject to prior sale.

JEWELRY REPAIR WHILE YOU WAIT!

We now have 2 full-time jewelry repairmen and will be doing most jewelry repair in one day. Some repairs (like chain solders) while you wait. (Repairs while you wait at College Station store only).

We now have silver beads and silver chains

TEXAS COIN EXCHANGE

404 University Dr. East • College Station • 846-8905 3202 A. Texas • Bryan • 779-7662

We pay Cash for gold, silver, rare coins, diamonds and rolex watches

We also have jewelry set with opals, sapphires, Emeralds, Rubies, Blue Topas and Amethyst.

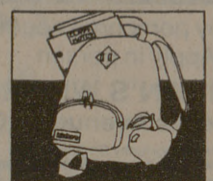
Since 1958. One of Texas' Oldest Rare Coin Dealers.



Bryan Store Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 9:30-5
Sat. 9:30-3
Across from Wal-Mart

College Station Store Hours
Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 9-3 p.m.
Next to Conare

BACK TO KINKO'S



- High quality copies
- Low cost
- Close to campus
- Open early, open late, open weekends

kinko's®
201 College Main
846-8721

PLITT THEATRES

\$250 First Show Only Sat. & Sun. A&M Nite Tuesday Senior Citizens Anytime

Cinema 3 318 College St. 846-6714
Midnight Shows 846-8888

Mon-Fri 7:30/9:45
STEVEN SPIELBERG Presents
BACK TO THE FUTURE
Mon-Fri 7:45/9:55

2nd SCREENING
INVASION USA
MON - FRI - 7:15-9:30

Post Oak 3 in the Mall 846-8714
7:45/9:15

PETER O'TOOLE
STARTS FRIDAY
7:45-10:00 PG

WHICH DO YOU TRUST...
YOUR EMOTIONS OR YOUR EVIDENCE?
Mon-Fri 7:30/9:45

JAGGED EDGE
PG Mon-Fri 7:20/9:20
PEE-WEE'S BIG ADVENTURE
STARTS FRIDAY
7:00-9:30 PG13

SCHULMAN THEATRES

\$250

PLAZA 3 693-2457
MANOR EAST III

Agnes of God
Maxie

Silverado
Get ready for the ride of your life.

COCCOON
SCHULMAN 6 2002 East 29th 775-2463

CODE NAME EMERALD (PG)

DEATHBED

RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD

REAL GENIUS