

# State and Local

## A&M abandons adoption plan for private law school in valley

By Carolyn Garcia  
Assistant City Editor

"They (law school officials) called me and asked me if we would be interested in it and I said, 'I don't know, let us take a look at you.'" Vandiver said. "So they went out and told the press we were going to get married."

"That really hacked me because we are probably not going to affiliate with that school, and I don't like being told by the Regents that I did something that I oughtn't have done, because I didn't do it. It really made me mad."

A&M was interested in obtaining a law school a few years ago, Vandiver said, but he's not sure why the plans were aborted.

"We didn't pursue it for reasons I don't understand," he said. "Apparently the board decided, along with the faculty, that we didn't have either the resources or the real neces-

sity for a law school. There are a good number in the state and I think there's a question as to whether or not we ought to have another law school."

Vandiver and the dean of the law school, Michael DeMoss, differ on what A&M stood to gain from such a union.

DeMoss said he believes A&M would receive a substantial dowry.

"We have a \$2 million law library," DeMoss said. "We've gone through the initial feasibility costs. It would be a gift to anyone who affiliated with us."

"We also have a sizable gift of a large Hispanic group of students."

"We're probably the last law school to be formed in the state. If A&M wants a law school, this is the opportunity. There is no debt. In

fact we have a large facility with substantial assets. We're never in excellent shape. We're always trying to get help and donations."

"The alumni of that institution (A&M) are a big factor."

But Vandiver disagrees that A&M would really benefit from the venture.

"This is a private law school," Vandiver said, "and the dean is very fond of saying that it would bring a dowry to the marriage. Actually it would bring a considerable debt — I found out after I looked into it further. And, with the funding problem in Austin, we simply can't afford to take on a burden like that."

"Now, if they had money, I would be very interested. But without it we can't spread ourselves any thinner than we already are."

## Hunt attorney claims brothers will collect only \$1.5 billion in suit

DALLAS (AP) — A year after the Hunt brothers filed a \$13.8 billion lawsuit against their lenders, a Hunt attorney says the damages the brothers stand to collect might not amount to more than the \$1.5 billion they originally borrowed.

Even that reduced amount will be enough to erase the Hunts' enormous debt obligation, attorney Stephen Susman says.

The accusation that 23 banks planned to take over the Hunts' oil and gas empire, violating anti-trust statutes in the process, didn't pan out, Susman says.

If the banks had planned an industry takeover — and Susman says he would have a difficult

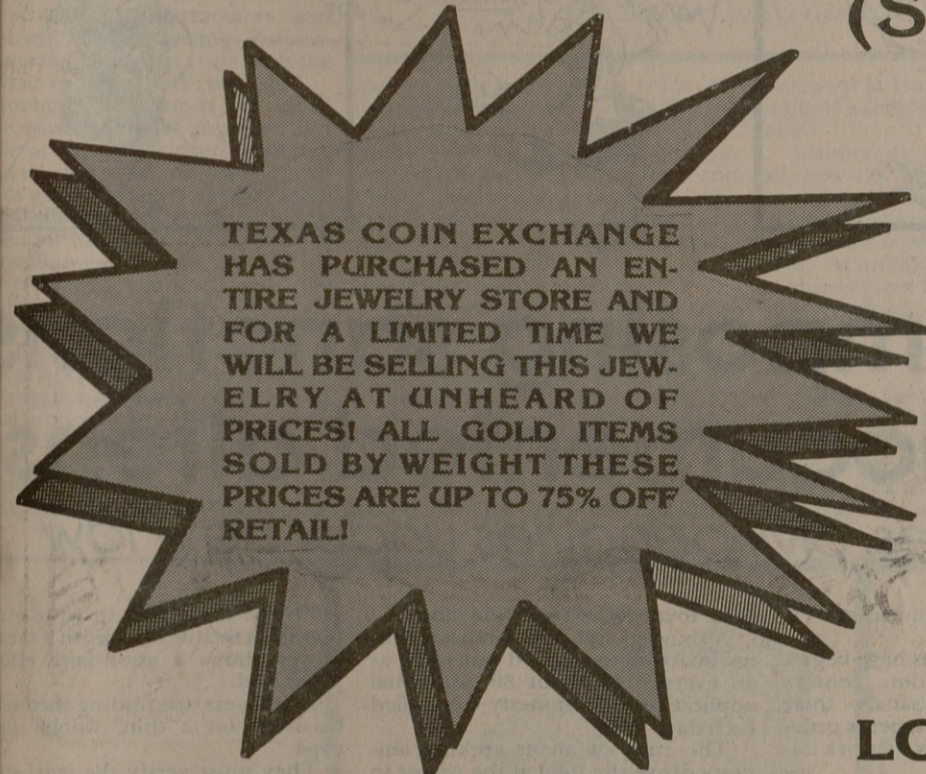
time proving that — he believes the suit chilled the plan.

Attorneys from both sides say a jury trial, set for October 1988, will be risky. Finding a solution will involve a compromise strategy that is face-saving, they say.

"The key to settling this case is to figure out a way for the banks to say, 'We got every penny we're entitled to,' and for my clients to say, 'This is just what we wanted,'" Susman says. "We don't want to turn over the keys to the banks. Even if our chances are no more than, say, 20 percent, we really would rather roll the dice."

The Hunts defaulted on the loans; that fact is not in dispute.

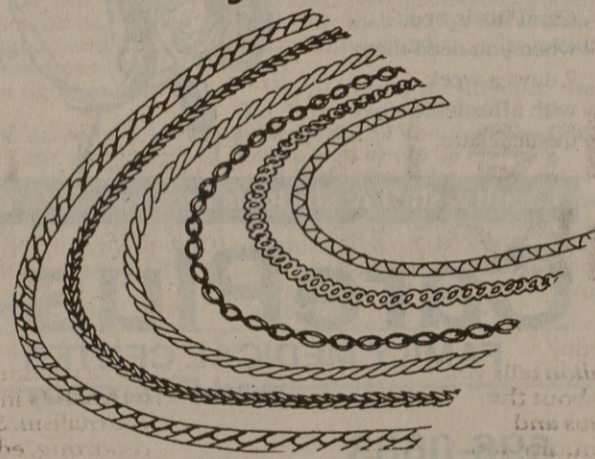
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| .57        | 1800      | 930    | .54        | 1300      | 695      |            |           |        |
| .55        | 1400      | 695    | .47        | 1300      | 695      |            |           |        |
| .55        | 1300      | 695    | .47        | 1300      | 695      |            |           |        |
| .55        | 5500      | 2625   | .47        | 1300      | 626      |            |           |        |
| .54        | 1400      | 695    | .47        | 1300      | 626      |            |           |        |
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