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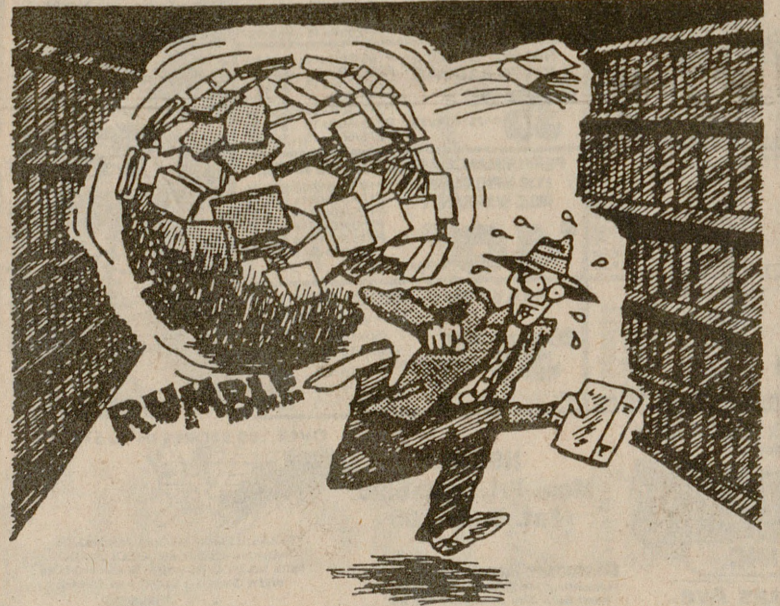
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Analysts say worst is over for Texas

DALLAS (AP) — Investors should begin cashing in on upcoming investment opportunities in Texas now that the worst of an economic slump is over, according to a Wall Street brokerage firm.

"My suspicion is that people in the investment community that really don't know Texas well will say it's time to take a look at Texas again," Robert Hopkins of Salomon Brothers Inc. said.

A report by the New York company predicts the worst is over in Texas now that the economy "bottomed out."

In the last two years, rising unemployment and decaying economic conditions have plagued the state. But the firm's analysts predict Dallas will be the state's first metropolitan area to rebound from the state's economic slump.

Hopkins, an analyst who worked on the report, says unless the national economy takes an unexpected downturn or oil prices tumble again, the state likely will see slow, steady economic growth over the next few years.

"We wanted to make the case that it is now time to seriously consider Texas investments," Hopkins said. "Everybody is asking us, 'When is Texas going to turn around?' We feel Texas has bottomed out and that's important for our clients to know."

"There is a fundamental, positive attitude that Texas is going to turn

around at some point. That's what we tried to answer," Hopkins told the *Dallas Morning News*. "It's somewhat unique — 15 years ago when New York was in the bottoms, nobody was asking when New York was going to come back."

The report cited J.C. Penney Co.'s pending move from Manhattan to Dallas as an indication that Texas is still viewed as an affordable, attractive state for business.

"Of all the major metropolitan areas in Texas, the broadly diversified Dallas economy is now viewed as a desirable, yet inexpensive business location; thus, it seems the most poised for economic recovery," the report said. "Office users seeking lower costs with a strong labor pool will find Dallas most attractive."

Texas lost 194,000 jobs in the last three years, its unemployment rate climbed to 11.1 percent and office vacancy rates peaked at 30 percent in some urban areas, the report said. Personal income fell to about 10 percent below the national average between 1982 and 1986, it said.

But Salomon Brothers cautioned that real estate and financial areas still show signs of trouble, citing commercial construction as an area where continued declines are probable.

Texas' banking sector, which has lost 10,000 jobs since 1985, could provide further problems for the overall economy, Salomon Brothers' analysts warned.

What's up

Thursdays

- NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS:** will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 145 MSC.
 - ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:** will meet at 12:15 p.m. Call 845-5826 for the location of the meeting.
 - ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS:** will meet at 6 p.m. in 145 MSC.
 - SOCIOLOGY CLUB:** will take a yearbook photo at 7:50 p.m. in Zachry.
 - WRITING OUTREACH:** J.J. Dent will discuss "Applying for the Job: The Letter of Application" at 6:30 p.m. in 110 Blocker.
 - MSC BLACK AWARENESS COMMITTEE:** will have a fall fashion show at 7:30 p.m. in 224 MSC.
 - MANAGEMENT 481:** J. Thomas Hairston Jr. will speak at 10 a.m. in 114 Blocker.
 - HILLEL, JEWISH STUDENT FOUNDATION:** will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Hillel Building, 800 Jersey St.
 - INTRAMURAL SPORTS:** Swim meet captains will meet at 6 p.m. in 167 Rudder, volleyball captains will meet at 5 p.m. in 701 Rudder and flickerball captains will meet at 5 p.m. in 167 Rudder.
 - SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS:** will take pictures for the Aggie land at 7:30 p.m. in the Zachry lobby.
 - ARGENTINE CLUB:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 704A-B Rudder.
 - INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM:** Dean Kunkel will speak at 7 p.m. in 607 Rudder.
 - COLOMBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** will meet at 7 p.m. at Mama's Pizza on Texas Ave.
 - TAMU CYCLING TEAM:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 501 Rudder.
 - NAVIGATORS:** Shane Saunders will discuss "Your Peer Group: Friend or Foe?" at 7:30 p.m. in the Corps Quadrangle lounge B.
- Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three working days before desired publication date.

Houston's apartheid law causes controversy

HOUSTON (AP) — The city's anti-apartheid ordinance may keep some publications off library shelves as well as stop the zoo from buying antidotes for rare snakebites, officials say.

City Council members approved the ordinance in July 1986 after weeks of emotional debate. Key elements of the ordinance severely limit city government dealings with banks and businesses that do business with the South African government.

But some city council members

say a few of the effects of the law stray from the intended purpose — to strike a blow against apartheid. In recent months, the directors of city library and park departments have had problems with the ordinance.

Many types of exotic snakebite antivenin that the city zoo keeps are only available through companies that do business with South Africa, Parks and Recreation Director Donald Olson said.

"It's a matter of having it around," Olson said, adding that the zoo is often the only source of many exotic

snakebite treatments in the Houston area.

Much of the zoo's supply is reaching the end of its shelf life, he said.

Library Director David Henington noted in April that his department had to request that all 3,500 of its vendors sign affidavits denying ties with South Africa. He predicted that the library would lose many publishers unable to sign the affidavit.

True to the predictions, Henington's assistant, Margaret Green, said publications such as the *Wall Street*

Journal cannot comply because they use a reporter in South Africa. Even Congressional Quarterly and the *Encyclopedia Britannica* cannot comply, she said.

"Our concern is we're unable to serve the citizens of Houston," she said.

Councilwoman Eleanor Tinsley said she thinks it would be censorship if some publications were withheld because of their source.

"We really do want the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Encyclopedia Britannica*," Tinsley said.

MSC Town Hall Presents



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