

# Trustee claims oilman's assets unaccounted for

FORT WORTH (AP) — A trustee representing creditors of Fort Worth oilman T. Cullen Davis said millions of dollars once counted among Davis' assets are unaccounted for in bankruptcy records.

"They (the assets) were there, according to certain records, and according to bankruptcy records, they're gone," trustee Twalla DuPriest said. "Where did it go? The creditors have a right to know."

DuPriest told U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Massie Tillmon in a court document the assets include proceeds from stock sales and rare art objects that were once counted among Davis' assets.

Davis, who has been waging a legal battle for more than a year to declare bankruptcy and escape paying an estimated \$865 million in debts, suffered a setback in court Wednesday when a federal bankruptcy judge ordered his attorney to produce financial records detailing the one-time billionaire's income over the last several years.

DuPriest accuses Davis of failure to explain satisfactorily his loss of assets in a list of assets he filed when he

declared bankruptcy. She's fighting to have the bankruptcy permanently overturned, and claims Davis illegally gave away or concealed assets in order to qualify for Chapter 7 protection from his creditors.

DuPriest alleges the missing assets includes \$10 million Davis received for the sale of his southside mansion in late 1984, \$9 million in personal income from business holdings in 1984 and 1985, \$50,000 from the sale of oil and gas stocks back to their parent company and art objects, including a lapis cigarette case, antique violin and a miniature racetrack.

The documents also claim Davis illegally failed to disclose donations of art pieces and hundreds of acres of real estate to religious organizations, paid up utility bills in advance and bought a new car, which is protected from seizure by creditors, just before filing for bankruptcy. At the time he filed, Davis listed a net worth of \$1.8 million.

The judge granted a request by trustees that he postpone until next March a trial to decide whether the bankruptcy will be allowed.

# Decision expected Friday in FBI case

EL PASO (AP) — A federal judge is expected to make a decision Friday morning in the discrimination suit against the FBI.

Lawyers for El Paso agent Bernardo "Matt" Perez, who filed the class-action suit in 1987, says a favorable ruling could affect Hispanics in all levels of government agencies and private industry.

Perez said he hopes it will improve promotional policies within the agency.

"We have great expectations but

we won't know until the judge renders his decision," Perez said Wednesday.

U.S. District Judge Lucius Bunton presided over the three-week trial in August. The class-action suit, which includes 311 agents from across the nation, alleges that the agency discriminates against Hispanics in its promotion policies. It seeks \$5 million in damages.

Bunton told the *El Paso Times* before the end of the trial that he expected to make a decision by Oct. 1.

The trial involved 90 witnesses, including 60 FBI agents. Agents testified about being subjected to racial slurs, about having to do tedious assignments because of their Spanish-speaking ability and about being overlooked for management positions.

Some agents also said Hispanics are more likely to be sent to dangerous or less desirable assignments.

# Wheat fields hold secret of proposal

ABILENE (AP) — For Tim Wood of Tulsa, Okla., proposing to his girlfriend was a tough row to hoe.

In big block letters, 140 feet high and perfectly straight, Wood, an airline pilot, spelled out his proposal to Michelle Bryan of Abilene on 11 acres of her father's wheat field near Winters, about 45 miles south of Abilene.

Then he headed for Abilene to pick up Michelle after she got off work, and they went up in a rented plane for what purportedly was a pleasure flight.

There were also hundreds of documents, including an analysis by a University of New Mexico sociologist who testified that Hispanic agents were not being promoted according to their numbers. There are 437 Hispanic agents in the FBI, about 4 percent of the agencies 9,574 agents.

The study by Gary LaFree said that 15 percent of Hispanic agents with at least five years experience have management positions, compared with 21 percent of non-Hispanic agents with similar experience.

# Weapons case hangs jury, ends in mistrial

WASHINGTON (AP) — A judge on Thursday declared a mistrial in the weapons-possession case of syndicated columnist Carl T. Rowan after the jury reported it was hopelessly deadlocked.

Earlier in the day, Judge Arthur L. Burnett of District of Columbia Superior Court had re-read his instructions to the jury after the 12-member panel said it was unable to reach a verdict.

Rowan has been charged with using an unregistered handgun and ammunition to wound a teen-aged intruder in the backyard of his home last June. He faced a maximum penalty of two years in prison and a \$2,000 fine if convicted.

Burnett said he was convinced that further deliberations would not lead to a verdict. The jury had deliberated about nine hours over two days.

One juror, who declined to be identified, told reporters the panel had been in favor of acquittal by a 9-3 margin. A unanimous verdict was required.

As Burnett announced his decision, Rowan, who was seated at the defense table, smiled at his attorneys and then at his wife Vivian. He has no comment as he left the courtroom.

Claude Bailey, a spokesman for city Corporation Counsel Frederick Cooke, said city officials had not discussed what action to take if the trial ended in a hung jury.

Rowan, 63, shot 18-year-old Benjamin Smith in the wrist after Smith and friends had taken an uninvited swim in his backyard pool.

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Bryan plowed the letters with a 20-foot chisel plow, Wood said. The proposal covers an area larger than 10 football fields on her father's farm, but is readable only from the air.

Wood's novel way of popping the question didn't affect Michelle's answer — she would have married him anyway, she said.

But it was still worth all the bother to Wood.

"I just wanted some way to show her how special she was," said Wood.

Only about one bride in a million gets such an imaginative proposal, he said. "And she's one in a million."



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