

Local

CSISD spoilage has minimal effects

By JANA SIMS
Battalion Staff

College Station Independent School District authorities said that 11,746 pounds of spoiled food discovered last week — some of it three years old — will have little effect on the school district's food program.

The rotten food, which was a combination of spoiled food and some food infested with weevils, was found Aug. 26 when a truckload of supplies was delivered to the College Hills Elementary prior to the start of this school year.

Bill Goodwin, director of business services for CSISD, notified the Brazos County health authorities, which Goodwin said is standard procedure. The health authorities are responsible for checking the CSISD foods at Goodwin's request, such as when a power shut down in August caused the CSISD to lose some frozen foods.

The health department inspected the full inventory of food. In a letter received Sept. 5 by Goodwin, the department said that food in the amounts of 6,862½ pounds at the Holik warehouse and 4,884 pounds at a former gymnasium-turned-warehouse was ruined.

According to packing dates stamped on the packages, some of the food was discovered to be as old as three years. Goodwin said they are in the process of reviewing inventory stockage to determine whether or not the government shipped the food old, or if too much was ordered at times and it remained in storage.

"As of now," Goodwin said, "we have to assume that the food was shipped to us fresh and that we kept it three years, unless we can prove otherwise."

Also, he said they are reviewing requisition procedures to

make sure that foods ordered comply with menus and products are not being ordered "just because they offer it, which may have been a problem in the past."

Also, Goodwin said, "We want to make sure that the procedure of first in, first out is being accomplished."

"We're not trying to lay the blame on anyone. We just want to learn from past mistakes and improve the situation."

Goodwin said the contributing factor in the incident was inadequate storage. He said the present warehouses are in poor condition, do not protect the food from the weather and do not have proper ventilation.

"But whether or not perfect storage would have prevented it," Goodwin said, "we don't know."

Nevertheless, the cost of the nearly six tons of food was only about \$3,200, or about 3.5 percent of last year's \$89,100 CSISD food budget, Goodwin said. The costs of the foods were obtained from a government commodity agency.

The food that ruined was federally funded. The CSISD participates in the national school lunch program, and the federal government allots supplies to schools in proportion to their needs.

"We are required to pay a service charge of a few hundred dollars," Goodwin said, "in return for thousands of dollars worth of food, and we must provide transportation to Houston monthly to pick up supplies."

The only effect of the food loss, Goodwin said, is that his office will have to do some "readjusting."

"We had enough on order and have plans to receive enough supplies" that there will be no shortages or menu changes.

"We keep going," Food Service Supervisor Betty Haugen said, "We've just outgrown our facilities."

However, Goodwin continued, "I don't want to minimize the problem." He said he hated to see it happen and would be bothered if it were only "a bag of sugar" that ruined.

The rotten food included such things as oats, macaroni, spaghetti, flour, corn meal and pork. The pork, some spaghetti and macaroni and pinto beans were put in the College Station landfill. The rest of the food was given away by the CSISD maintenance people, Goodwin said, to livestock owners with the instructions to cook the food per health authorities' orders.

Goodwin said hopefully the inadequate storage will be taken care of with a new warehouse to be completed in January. The building will contain temperature-controlled areas for heat- and humidity-sensitive items and walk-in freezers, a maintenance facility and a transportation facility. The contract was awarded to Jordan and Woods Construction Company and the money was appropriated by a 1976 bond issue. The cost of the facility will be \$308,760.

All food supplies will be kept in this central warehouse, Goodwin said, and deliveries will be made to the schools as needed. Goodwin said each school has a few weeks supply storage capability.

Goodwin said the CSISD officials are aware of the problem and are "all for" the new warehouse.

Goodwin said the commodities supplied by the government are good quality but the total nutritional requirements cannot be met with these foods alone. The CSISD purchases additional foods such as eggs, some meats and fresh vegetables on a bid basis from wholesalers in Waco, Brenham, local merchants and others. Milk and bread are bid upon annually and delivered daily to schools.

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Lack of enforcement a problem in CS

City ordinances discussed

By DEBBIE NELSON
Battalion Staff

Problems with ordinance enforcement, zoning and planning in College Station were tossed around at an unusual joint meeting of the city council and the planning and zoning commission Wednesday.

Too many residents in a single family dwelling and too-heavy loads on city streets are common ordinance violations.

Pat Maher, planning and zoning chairman, asked why "the city writes enforcement provisions into an ordinance and nobody enforces them."

Finding salaries in the city budget for staff to seek out ordinance violators is unlikely, several councilmen said.

"If neighbors are knowledgeable about it (violations) and would issue a complaint ... that's the best way of solving the problem," Councilman Tony Jones said.

Another snag in the city system is zoning. Large portions of land are zoned for commercial use upon the

owners' requests and then never are developed.

"I really don't know how you solve the problem other than putting a time limit on development," Mayor Gary Halter said. No limits are now required.

Councilman Bob Runnels said the problem is a philosophical one. He asked, "Can you compel someone to use or not use their land in a certain way?"

Concern was also expressed for city planning — a blueprint for city growth.

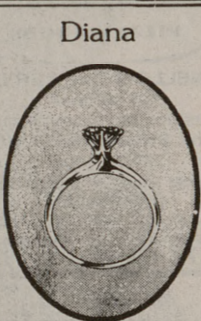
Many residents have objected strongly to "strip zoning" at planning and zoning meetings, commissioners said.

Maher described strip zoning as a line of commercial sites bordering a major road, which forces shoppers to make short trips from one store to another.

To remedy some of these problems, College Station for the past few months has been drafting — with residents' help — "City Plan 2000," a

comprehensive plan for the future. City Planner Al Mayo said it should be completed by the end of the year.

The city council and planning and zoning commission will meet again soon to discuss solutions to problems raised at Wednesday's session.



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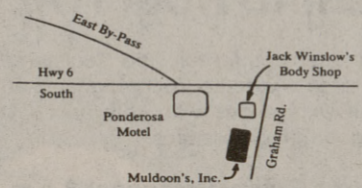
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Who's who closes Friday

Nominations are being accepted through Friday for listing in Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges for 1980-81.

Nomination forms are available from most academic departments or at the office of the Vice President for Student Services. They may be returned to ballot boxes in the Housing

office, Commandant's office, Memorial Student Center, Zachry Engineering Center, Sterling C. Evans Library and the office of the Dean of Veterinary Medicine.

To be eligible, a student must be classified as a senior and expect to graduate not later than Aug. 31, 1981. Deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. Friday.

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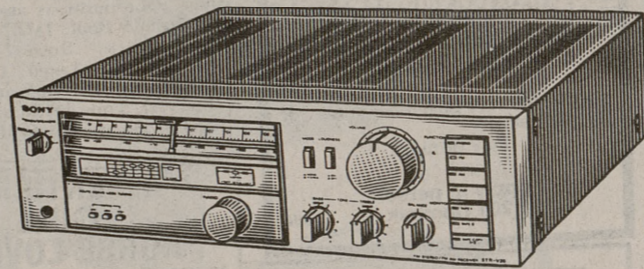
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