

Repairs will be expensive

Road conditions discussed

by Gwyneth M. Vaughn

Battalion Reporter
The current tax rate is not enough to maintain deteriorating county roads, Bill Cooley, county commissioner of Precinct 1, said Monday.

"If we're to have adequate roads and bridges, we're going to have to raise road and bridge taxes," he said.

A tax increase will be discussed in October.

Brazos County roads are deteriorating because of increased traffic and heavy truck traffic, Cooley said. The county roads were built years ago for light vehicles and can't take the stress of increased travel by heavy vehicles.

Newcomers to Brazos County don't know how to handle the gravel roads, he added.

B. G. Bockman, resident engineer with the State Highway Department said, "The increased oil field activity over the past few years has damaged and deteriorated our roads to a great extent."

Bockman also said part of the problem is that overweight vehicles use the roads, sometimes illegally. Overloaded vehicles are required to obtain a permit

before using the roads and must repair any damage they do to the roads. However, he said, it is hard to pin damage on any one user because the damage often does not appear until weeks after the road was used.

The Highway Department currently is engaged in several construction and reconstruction projects in Brazos County. The projects will help the deteriorating road problem, Bockman said.

Three of these are urban projects and involve widening and resurfacing major streets.

Holleman Drive will be changed from an old, narrow city road to a four-lane street with curbs and gutters. The cost of the change will be \$497,000, Bockman said. The reconstruction will run from FM 2154 east to Winding Road and should be complete by next summer.

Another project underway is the reconstruction of Villa Maria from Briarcrest to FM 158. The total project will cost \$1.5 million and will be complete within the next two weeks, Bockman said. It also involves changing an old, narrow city road to a four-lane street with curbs and gutters.

The other urban project — actually two projects under one contract — involves resurfacing FM 60 and State Highway 30 —

Harvey Road. Harvey Road will be widened in the vicinity of the access roads of Highway 6 and will get a "hot mix overlay", or a hot mix asphalt concrete made of field sand and asphalt.

The hot mix gives an improved riding surface, adds to the life of the road and is less susceptible to skidding, he said.

Harvey Road also will get two-way left-turn lanes. The Harvey Road project will cost \$165,000, Bockman said.

FM 60 also will get the hot mix overlay in addition to repair of its base. It will cost \$152,000, Bockman said.

"We should see a decrease in accidents on Harvey Road," he said.

Bockman said the Highway Department's major project is replacing the old Brazos River bridge on Highway 21. That project, which will take two to two and a half years to complete, will cost \$5.6 million, he said.

Two bridges will be constructed — one for the east-bound lane and one for the west-bound lane. The east-bound bridge and its approaches should be finished by Christmas, he said.

Traffic will be routed over the bridge while the old one is torn down and the west-bound bridge built in its location, he said.

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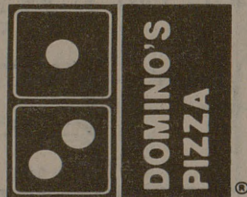
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Share and share alike

Ann Brimberry, left, a junior journalism major from Sugarland, shares an umbrella with Christie Johnson, right, a senior journalism

major from Tyler. The two are on their way to develop a photography class afternoons.

Aggie patents process to make soybeans tasty

by Bill Conaway

Battalion Reporter

A Texas A&M researcher has patented a process for removing the bad flavor from soybean protein products.

The patent was awarded this June to Jim Lawhon, a research engineer with the Food Research and Development Center. Lawhon's patent covers two similar processes causing the same results — extracting the bad taste from soy flour.

Both processes involve a complex filtering system, Lawhon said, but they result in different qualities of soy proteins.

One process makes a protein isolate — a product 90 percent or higher in protein content.

First, defatted soy flour is dissolved in a 4.5 Ph solution. The soy solution then is put through an ultra-filtration membrane, a thin, large pore tissue. As the soy solution passes through the membrane, smaller unwanted elements of the solution such as sugars, salts, and carbohydrates are filtered out.

A second process makes a protein concentrate — a product 70 percent or higher in protein content. The process is similar to the isolate process ex-

cept that the soy flour is in soluble form to pass the filtering membrane.

But the results are the isolate process. Lawhon said he is currently purifying the soybean taking out the soybean

Research on the protein began during the fall of 1979 when Lawhon said, when the membrane became clogged. By August of 1980, Lawhon was ready to patent on his process.

Lawhon, who has a Texas A&M for 20 years, his process may be used in products such as cheese or mixes like Helper. He said soybean flour is the most popular used by food companies.

Several countries have expressed interest in Lawhon's process. He has filed for foreign patents in eleven countries. Lawhon said he will be researching and developing protein products with making better soy products.

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Prize play run

by Ros

Three original plays will debut at Thursday and Saturday.

The play consists of a stage contest pagecenter, a man, who chairman.

The two plays were nationwide as limited to reduce the large.

Next year's nationwide.

The three judges on audience appreciation use of the stage, Pitman first, second writers will prize money.

The three were judged by community and creativity.

They're in the first play drama is a play and Victoria.

The story is about a girl's friend, his name Troglodyte, played by Li.

Charity, Donna Reardon, the play company.

Anna Mae Nelson, is an older 70s who got and cordie, played in, also is elegant — not average. Delaney Jean laughter.

Through the play on a United LUBBOCK passion by officials prompt Fader to President attorney Tuesday.

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Loree threatened to run and several Reagan's "I don't ure threat of the Un said, adding was just game became trouble fir

Assistant McBride should not poverty. I ore wa when Fad Magné too ser