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Vandalism Continued from Page One

The death, but the body was taken to the forensic laboratory at Ben Taub hospital for autopsy as required by law. Municipal Judge Mac Jones pronounced the man dead at the scene.

Collins formerly worked at the Thomas rice dryer, and most recently was employed at the Eagle Lake Rice Dryer.

The vandalism apparently started at Lake Motors where windows on several vehicles were smashed. About \$4,000 in damage was done. When the keys to a 1985 Chevrolet Caprice were found in the car, it was stolen and later wrecked on FM 3013 about 3.5 miles south of Eagle Lake.

A tractor then was stolen from the Eagle Lake turf farm and driven to the scene in an attempt to extract the car from its wrecked position. Police said the car was destroyed when vandals tried to push it with the tractor.

The tractor then was driven to the Wintermann home on Lakeside Drive, where a sheriff's report said Michael Arnell Davis confessed to that burglary and has been charged. The sheriff said other arrests are contemplated.

Last Saturday a Mexican National living in Columbus was killed by a train East of Columbus. The report said Jesus Moreno, 16, was lying between the rails. The engineer of an approaching train saw him but was unable to stop. The report said that had Moreno remained lying between the rails, instead of trying to jump out of the way, he would have been unhurt.

Earlier last week, the sheriff reported that the weekend home of a Houston man, on FM 102 south of Interstate 10, was burglarized. A large number of items was stolen.

The sheriff is reminding area residents that his office will check residences when occupants go on vacation. "If you are going to be away from home, call the sheriff's office and your property will be checked while you are away," the sheriff said.

In other reports, Deckard's Club in New Town was broken into sometime before July 18. A case of beer was stolen. The Chevrolet Suburban was broken into and a 22 caliber pistol stolen. The garage at the residence was entered and a 1983 four-door Mercedes was stolen.

Houston police stopped the Mercedes early Thursday evening and said Davis was the driver and Tillman a passenger. HPD were investigating the pair for a charge that was later dropped, but learned the car was stolen and notified Eagle Lake and the county. Friday, city police chief Ben Johnson, Sheriff's deputy Bill Esterling and Lt. Lucian LaCourse went to Houston and returned the two to Eagle Lake.

Davis was charged with two counts of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, two counts of criminal mischief, burglary of a building and burglary of a motor vehicle. Bond was set by Justice of the Peace Mac Jones.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department will hold a public hearing in the District courtroom in Columbus at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 31 to receive comments regarding non-toxic shot regulations. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

Sports

Proposed hunting season dates similar to '84; duck limit lowered

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has proposed to continue the three-segment duck hunting season for 1985-86 and lower the bag limit on mallard hens, mottled ducks, black ducks and pintails.

These and other proposals will be considered by the Parks and Wildlife Commission when it meets in August to adopt all late-season migratory bird regulations for the upcoming season.

The department proposes a split season for ducks of November 2-8, November 23 through December 8 and December 14 through January 19, except in the High Plains Mallard Management Unit of West Texas.

In response to data indicating that breeding populations of pintails and mallards were at extremely low levels during the 1984 nesting season, the department is proposing to raise the point value of pintails from 10 to 20 points, and mallard hens from 70 to 100 points. Mallard drakes would remain in the 20-point category.

Also proposed to be moved into the 100-point category because of low numbers as well as similarity of appearance to mallard hens are mottled ducks and black ducks.

As was the case last year, shooting hours for both ducks and geese is proposed for 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset. Hunters are reminded, however, that proposed shooting hours during the early teal season will be sunrise to sunset. The teal season will be set by the commission on July 31.

Proposed regulations for geese, sandhill cranes, woodcock and snipe are basically unchanged from last year.

East of U.S. Highway 81, the department proposes an 86-day straight season for light geese of November 3-January 26; a split season for dark geese of November 2-8 and November 16-January 19. Bag limit would be the same as last year, five light geese plus one Canada or black brant and one white-fronted goose per day. Possession limit would be twice the daily bag.

Sandhill crane seasons also are expected to be similar to a year ago. The Zone A proposed season is November 9-February 9; Zone B, November 20-February 9; and Zone C, January 11-February 9.

Persons wishing to comment on the proposed regulations may write Bill Brownlee at the above address or call toll-free 1-800-799-1112.

City build up the site, and add planning.

When finished, the portion near the dairy queen will be about five feet higher than the point at the intersection. Several trees will be planted there, hedges will be planted at that wide point as well, and other flowers and shrubs will be planted. The club is taking care not to obstruct the view of motorists.

The discussion of the airport included a report and recommendation of the airport committee that the facility be improved and the runway be lengthened. Those improvements have become one of the central positions of the industrial foundation as it works to bring new employers to the city. Council acted on only one of the recommendations after Struss modified it, as asked, Bob Ashby was officially appointed to negotiate with Joe Frasier for purchase of land needed for the runway extension. Roy Van Nort also was appointed to work with Ashby.

No action was taken on whether the city would make a commitment to do the work. The issue revolves around its cost, but there was no discussion about financing. Struss did say that the city now has to see whether it can afford the project, and whether the project should be undertaken.

Bill Harrison Jr., president of the First National Bank and the industrial foundation told council the foundation feels "the development of the area from FM 3013 to the airport is our best chance" at being successful. He has asked a road be built from FM 3013 to the airport, approximately from the intersection of FM 1098 to Airline or Waverly. He has talked to one company that said it would locate in the industrial tract if such a road was built, and county commissioner Bill Stiles has said he would build the road. Struss said a law adopted by this year's legislature allows a county to build a road in a city.

Others spoke on the issue, including Harry Boyette owner of Rice Aero, Inc. He said as a corporate pilot he knew that companies today depend on local airports, and that a runway nearly 5,000 feet long would be very attractive.

Mr. and Mrs. Verlin Argo, who live near the airport, said residents there understand progress, but "We just ask for consideration."

In other business, council learned most people favor a no-left-turn ordinance for traffic exiting the bank on Commerce. A small traffic island could be built for enforcement of the law. Also, council expressed its opinion that it wants a traffic signal at Lakeside Drive and Main St., not at Allen and Main. If the state won't install one there, Van Nort suggested one.

From Page One

New Rice band director hired

A new band director for the Rice School system had been hired, subject to approval of the school board. He is William L. Waggoner who attended public schools in Columbus and holds a doctorate of education in music from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

Supt. Harold King said Monday that Waggoner will be in the district shortly to meet with staff members and members of the band. The band will be notified soon of the fall practice schedule.

Waggoner and his wife, who has a BS degree in nursing, temporarily will live with his parents in Columbus. Their daughter, a high school sophomore and is an honor student, King said.

Waggoner has held various teaching positions and positions with symphonies, including: teaching social studies in the Yorktown school district; director of music at the Trinity school district; holding first trombone in the Austin Symphony.

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