# Astrodome official snuffs out cigarette protest

By JERRY URBAN Howston Chronicle

Houston City Councilman Dale Gorczynski and several members of a health promotion group were stopped Sunday from demonstrating against a tobacco company on Astrodome grounds

The councilman and members of DOC (Doctors Ought to @are) were told to leave about 2:30 p.m. as they protested outside the Astrodome, where a Cinco de Mayo weekend celebration continued.

"We were not blocking anyone's entrance," Gorczynski said. "I found it incredible that they had 15 to 20 security officers gathered around."

Gorczynski, instrumental in City Council's recent resolution banning the sale of cigarettes in municipal buildings, said he felt that the group was on the verge of being arrested.

Michael Coakley, director of customer service and security for the Houston Sports Association, which holds a long-term lease on the Harris County-owned Astrodome, halted the demonstration.

HSA officials would not comment

Dr. Alan Blum, chairman of DOC, said it was unclear why Coakley ordered a stop to the demonstration, which protested promotions set up on behalf of Camel cigarettes.

Blum accused R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., the cigarette's manufacturer, of targeting and "socializing" Hispanic children, associating the product with fun and entertainment and preparing them for tobacco use.

A Camel representative at the celebration would not comment.

"One of the most despicable things the cigarette industry is doing is targeting minorities and women,' Gorczynski said. "It made me sick to see one mother give a very small child a bunch of toys (sunglasses and tote bags with Camel promotions on them) that the Camel cigarette booth was giving out."

Friday in Washington, D.C., DOC will receive the American Medical Association's first award for distinguished achievement in adolescent health, said Blum, a Houston family practitioner and founder of the organization.

"I would like to think we are receiving this award because we were a group of doctors willing to make a fool of ourselves for many years before the cigarette issue was taken seriously," said Blum, 42, whose organization fights the promotion of products it deems un-

DOC, which has offices in Houston and Augusta, Ga., was founded in 1977 in Miami. It has about 5,000 members nationwide, including about 50 in Houston.

Tobacco products kill about 400,000 people in this country each year, about 100 times the number drugs kill, Blum said.

He added that the Astrodome demonstration, or what he calls a house call, was significant because Hispanic Americans are the fastestrising smoking population in this

See PROTEST on Page 13A.



the Houston Sports Association, tells Dr. Alan Blum, center, Hous-Sunday they cannot demonstrate at the Astrodome.

Michael Coakley, left, director of customer service and security for ton Councilman Dale Gorczynski and other smoking opponents

# Ex-officers safe, prison officials say

#### Fears blamed on Hollywood hype

By JERRY URBAN Houston Chronicle

The repeated criminal convictions of peace officers have renewed concerns that they are faced with undue danger in prison. However, indications are that the justice system is adequately protecting them.

That's Hollywood," said Harris County Assistant District Attorney Don Smyth, referring to the belief by many people that peace officers are in imminent incarcerated. wnen "That's James Cagney movies and Hollywood and TV, basi-

Attorneys who seek mercy for their clients claiming that putting them behind bars places them in inordinate danger are playing the role of super advocate and disregarding the realities of prison environment, said Smyth, who successfully prosecuted former Houston police Officer Alex Gonzales in the shooting death of Ida Lee Shaw Delaney.

"The system segregates them (former peace officers) and protects them," said Smyth, adding that attorneys "just want to get a jury to feel sorry for the guy and think that 'Oh, if he goes to the pen he'll be killed.'

So should there be real concern for the safety of Gonzales, the 25year-old former officer sentenced last week to seven years in state prison after being convicted of voluntary manslaughter? Or should there be for the three Sabine County law officers sentenced to prison late last week in the beating death of a black truck

Gonzales remains out of jail on bond pending appeal. But, of course, the Gonzales family is worried.

"I believe in Jesus Christ," said Gonzales' father. Luis, when asked if he would worry about the safety of his son if he goes to prison. "I'm Christian, all my family is. Alex, too. The last word

See PRISON on Page 13A.

# The struggle continues

## Tiananmen Square survivor brings message to Houston

By LORI RODRIGUEZ Houston Chronicle

Nearly a year has passed since Americans were riveted by the restless stirrings of hundreds of thousands of students on the campuses

and streets of Beijing. Jian-Li Yang was one of those

As a leader at China's Beijing Normal University, Yang found himself irresistibly drawn to the democratic movement that gradually roused millions of his Chinese countrymen to the possibilities of greater

It was a movement of free expression, open elections and a free press. It was a movement that has since toppled the Berlin Wall and energized Eastern Europe. But in spring 1989, the movement that pierced through the international consciousness like an echoing cry carried a different name.

It was called Tiananmen Square. Yang, in Houston Sunday to raise support for that movement, was one of the lucky ones. After protesting with the masses gathered in the square to oppose the entrenched

communist regime and after watch-

ing thousands of students get gunned down by the People's Liberation



Jian-Li Yang, a Chinese democracy movement leader, now lives in the United States.

Army, Yang escaped to America.

"After the massacre at Tiananmen Square, I had two choices," said Yang. "I could stay in China and return to my hometown, where I would have been arrested. Or I could come to the America, and stay here.

"I'm glad I made this choice."

Once safely here, Yang, 26, tried to focus on his mathematics studies at the University of California at Berkeley. But Tiananmen Square had changed him. Watching his fel-low students slain by soldiers had

Today, Yang travels the country as president of the United States chap-

left its mark

ter of the Federation for a Democratic China. His mission: To raise support for a movement he believes will ultimately succeed.

There is a lot of sympathy in China for the movement," says Yang, who has testified for the Congressional Human Rights Caucus in Washington. "The problem is how to organize the sympathy, how to organize the people.

dents in China made their way through the countryside to escape to America, they found support in places as unlikely as the higher ranks of the Communist Party and the humble homes of rural peasants. "One of my friends stayed with the

Yang said that as dissident stu-

family of a high-ranking party official while he was escaping," said Yang. "He told me how the members of the family would wash his clothes by hand and how they tried to encourage him.

Another student told Yang of being on a bus stopped by police searching

'Don't worry,' the other people on the bus told him. 'We'll protect you," " said Yang. But the dark side of the days that

have passed since Tiananmen Square is the greater repression by the Communist Party, which saw its supremacy challenged before the eyes of the world and did not like it. Beijing is still under martial law,

says Yang. Public gathering places like Tiananmen Square are blocked off Students are rigorously monitored. Government investigators have visited Yang's hometown schools and questioned his brothers and sisters

Still, Yang thinks the current communist regime is doomed.

'A totalitarian government is dependent on three things," said Yang. One is a conviction that leads people to support the government just because they should. Another is a faith that convinces people to trust the government. And the third thing is terror.

"But since the massacre at Tiananmen Square, the people have lost their conviction and they have lost their faith. All the government has left is terror," Yang said.

"And when that fear dies out. the government will have lost everything. And it will collapse.'

#### 'Robin Hood' bill mulled for school finance

AUSTIN (AP) — Lawmakers working to reform the public school finance system are trying a new tactic to break their impasse with Gov. Bill Clements over his no-newtaxes pledge.

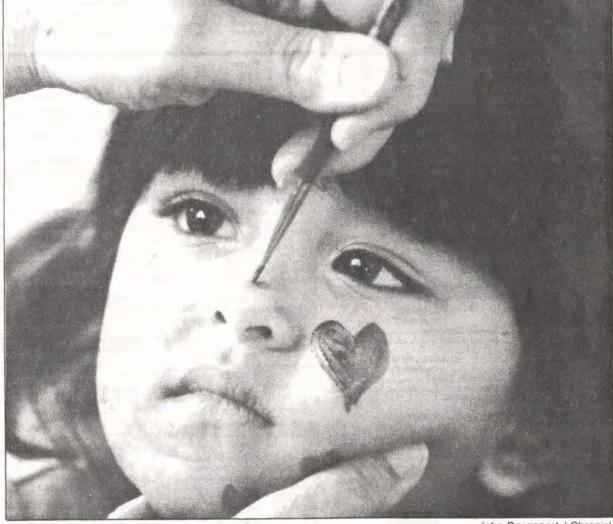
The House Public Education Committee has endorsed a bill that backers say would answer the Texas Supreme Court's order to make more money available to propertypoor school districts - yet wouldn't necessarily require a tax increase.

The catch, lawmakers say, is that the "Robin Hood" measure could divert state money from rich school districts to poor ones if it becomes law without new revenue being added to education.

'The wealthier school districts would have a substantial loss in state aid," said Rep. Ernestine Glossbrenner, D-Alice, head of the Education Committee. Those districts would have to raise local property taxes or cut spending, she said.

Because the bill doesn't require additional appropriations in the 1990-91 school year, it would go straight to Clements if approved by lawmakers. Bills that directly spend money must stop at the comptroller's office to ensure the funds exist.

The move would prevent a rerun of last session, when Clements killed a \$555 million education bill simply by vetoing the half-cent sales tax increase needed to help pay for it. Rep. James Hury, D-Galveston.



John Davenport / Chronicle

#### **Facial canvas**

Tish Tydlacka uses 5-year-old Cynthia Gonzales' face for a mini-canvas Sunday during the sixth See LAWMAKERS on Page 13A. | annual Very Special Arts Festival. The festival.

benefiting the physically and mentally challenged, was sponsored by the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County.

## Despite calls to resign, Hartnett lands in runoff

By KEVIN MORAN Houston Chronicle

GALVESTON - Mayor Pro Tem Pat Hartnett - the tension of his final week of campaigning intensified by black leaders seeking his

resignation made it into the May 26 runoff by placing third in a race for two at-large Galveston council seats.

The race was among numerous hard-fought municipal and school district elections de-

Hartnett cided over the weekend, including the Saturday night election of a dead woman as mayor of Hilshire Village.

In final unofficial returns from Galveston late Saturday, Hartnett received 2,109 of the 6,397 votes cast - 176 votes behind first-place finisher William C. "Bill" Clayton, a former Texas A&M University-Galveston president and first-time candidate for a city council seat.

Besides Clayton, 62, now a computer oceanography and meteorology consultant, Hartnett will campaign against real estate agent David Bowers, 36, and Mel Rourke, 50, a private investigator.

Bowers, who is also an attorney, received 2,042 votes to take fourth place in the runoff standings and ■ Results of area municipal and school district elections: Page

Rourke came in second with 2,203 votes. Physician Bill Meshel, 43, finished fifth with 1.302 votes.

Hartnett last week was blasted by the local NAACP and prominent black citizens for remarks made as he sought the endorsement of the Galveston Municipal Police Associa-Hartnett told officers the city

needs to untie their hands and let them "come down hard" in a predominantly black area of the city that lies north of Broadway and stretches from 26th to 53rd streets.

"Somebody's got to come down hard sometime," Hartnett told the police. "And that's what it's going to take when you've got a minority situation like we've got on the north side of Broadway. That's the one thing they understand.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People called for his resignation. He later apologized for his remarks, saying he meant to call for a crackdown on dope dealers and other criminals not honest minority group members. Still many black leaders had called for his defeat at the polls.

"I'm going to mend fences with the black community if they can be mended," he said Saturday night.

In Hilshire Village, the lone candi-

See ELECTION on Page 13A.

California.

this summer.

John Wayne

DALLAS (AP) — The bronzed likeness of The Duke is back in Texas

after eight weather-beaten years in

But the statue of John Wayne has only returned to the Hoka Hey Fine

Arts Foundry and Gallery near Dub-

The foundry cast the statue in 1982,

and now, after facing the elements

outside the John Wayne Airport in Orange County, Calif., it is being

moved to a new terminal building

It will be inside an atrium where it

will be under sunlight during the day

That requires a new look. And eight years underneath the open

skies has given the once reddish-

The only bronze color showing was

Probably a lot of photographs out

there in the world are of people shaking his hand," said Wade Cowan

of the Hoka Hey foundry and gallery.

Bronze statues that are exposed to

the elements don't age evenly "until

they get like 100 years old, and

finally they just turn green like the Statue of Liberty," Summers said. In a room at the back of the Hoka

Hey gallery, all 9 feet, 2 inches of

bronze now looks almost lifelike

its right hand where people had touched it on their way into the

brown bronze a dusty gray finish

statue gets

a new look

lin for cosmetic reasons.

and spotlights at night.

## Prison

Continued from Page 11A.

is God." The elder Gonzales, an east side school bus driver originally from Mexico, along with other members of the Gonzales family, would not comment further.

But James A. "Andy" Collins, the director of Texas' prison system, suggested Gonzales' family should not be overly worried.

"I can't remember off-hand anytime in my career when we had a serious problem because of somebody's law enforcement background," said Collins, who has worked in the state's prison system for nearly 20 years.

The state of Texas, as well as the federal government and Harris County, use classification or segregation systems to protect former peace officers.

For example, the "stereotypical 90-pound weakling" would be provided sleeping quarters with some one of comparable size, one prison official said. Special measures are taken to separate homosexuals and gang members. The classification system used by the state includes the "safekeeping" status and the more restrictive "administrative segrega-

"We do that (provide extra protection) for other people, it's not just law enforcement officers," said Collins. "You always have to do that with attorneys. They've basically got the same problems, especially if they were involved in criminal law (and represented someone who may want to retaliate against them).

'We try to look at every individual situation and his background to see if anything he was doing in his life is going to impact his confinement here, because we don't want a prob-

Another state official said sometimes it's better to emphasize the anonymity of former officers and let them mix and sort of melt into the general population. Placing them in safekeeping or other special protective care could result in them being stigmatized and being identified, said the official, who asked to remain anonymous

Collins acknowledged that Gonzales could have "a hell of a problem" if he was put in the wrong prison unit. "You put him with younger, more volatile inmates, who are doing long sentences and happen to be from the Harris County area, yeah, that guy probably would have a problem," Collins said. "But we're not going to do that."

Interviews with inmates indicated a need exists for extra care for former peace officers.

"Police officers are in more danger than others - they're right down there with baby rapers," said death row prisoner James Beathard, 33. One of his colleagues is former

Amarillo policeman James Vanderbilt, who's under a death sentence for the 1975 abduction and murder of Katina Moyer, the 16-year-old daughter of former state Rep. Hudson Moyer and his wife, Nancy.

According to Beathard, Vanderbilt was subjected to "a lot of bad attitudes and a lot of threats" when he was first imprisoned 15 years ago. While a few condemned killers "still hold it against him for having been a cop," Beathard says Vanderbilt is in less danger on death row than he

would be in the prison's general population.

Another inmate said he doesn't believe that former peace officers are in any real danger, unless he was being retaliated against by a particular inmate. The inmate, who did not want to be identified, said "some (inmates) said they would like to stick it to them (peace officers), but it was more or less boasting.

Chris Flood, an attorney who represented a Houston police officer recently handed a 99-year prison term for raping a teen-ager and robbing her boyfriend, contends the state system for protecting officers is "responsive rather than prophylactic.

"Trustees have ways of getting ahold of information in working in different facets of the jail, which is quickly passed on to some of the more influential prisoners in jail," said Flood, whose client is former officer Harold Burkett. "I know this sounds like a movie, but it's true. There's nothing really - other than the attempt to maintain his anonymity — that keeps him safe."

A former Houston police officer, who served time in a federal prison camp, said that within a day inmates learned of his former occupation. "I had to stay on my guard all the time," said the former officer, who did not want to be named.

The only thing that the prison staff does is control the entrances and exits to the prison. So, you have your own city within the city being run by the inmates. They control the records.

The former officer said he was verbally harassed during confinement but never assaulted.

"Where I went to was nothing but a scum-bag facility. Everybody seems to think that federal facilities are the Holiday Inns of the judicial system,' he said.

A former chief deputy, who also did not want to be named, said that he was never harassed during the 18 months he spent in federal penitentiaries because other inmates did not know that he had been a peace

"You learn to protect your own butt, you know. There's no law that says you have to tell them you are a peace officer. Some people run their mouth," he said. "I learned a long time ago that that is not the thing to do in any business.'

Three former Houston police officers serving time in the state penitentiary were contacted about this story. They declined to comment.

Except to say that relatively few inmates have law enforcement backgrounds, neither the state of Texas nor the federal government was able to say how many peace officers are incarcerated. (Texas currently has more than 40,000 inmates behind bars and the federal government has about 56,000 federal prisoners nationwide.)

At the same time, there appears to a significant number of law enforcement personnel being incarcerated. In a letter written late last year, Harris County District Attorney John B. Holmes recounted "just from memory" the prosecution of 26 people in law enforcement.

Smyth said new ground is being broken in the prosecution of people in law enforcement "and giving them the same kind of punishment that a citizen in the same position would get."

Chronicle reporter Kathy Fair contributed to this report.



#### Faster than a speeding bullet?

Olympic gold medalist Carl Lewis clowns around during the Houston Summit Sprint Sunday by brandishing the starting pistol at his sister, Carol, Polk and Louisiana streets.

left. Lewis was on hand to sign autographs at the children's one-kilometer race, which started at

# Pasadena approves bond issue; Magnolia votes against college

Houston Chronicle

Pasadena voters approved a bond referendum for \$60 million in major infrastructure work and an expansion of city facilities, but Magnolia school voters nixed joining the North Harris County College District.

The two votes were among numerous issues decided in area elections Saturday.

In Pasadena, all 11 propositions in the city's largest-ever bond election passed easily - some by 3-1 mar-

The bonds will fund street improvements, an asphalt overlay program, water-sewer improvements, a major overhaul of the Golden Acres sewage treatment plant, along with a new municipal court, public li-

brary annex and police substation. Voters in the Magnolia Independent School District voted 347-295 against a proposal to join the North

Harris County College District. Opponents said the benefits wouldn't outweigh an added tax burden.

three propositions, including raising the sales tax from 7 to 8 cents and giving firefighters the right to bargain collectively.

Seabrook voters approved nine charter amendments mostly designed to conform to state laws.

Voters in Dayton in Liberty County balloted 706-176 against renaming Cleveland Street, one of the town's main arteries, after Martin Luther

In Hilshire Village, a petition to roll back taxes to last year's rate -39 cents per \$100 of assessed value was defeated 202 to 64. The rate will

remain 52 cents. La Porte voters approved 2-1 a charter amendment requiring the city to seek bids on purchases ex-

Election

Continued from Page 11A.

one-year term.

write-in campaign.

date for mayor, Myrna Davis, 53,

died of a sudden illness two days

before the election. Residents cast

237 votes for her Saturday. Alder-

man Karen Huff said the board of

aldermen will appoint a mayor for a

Huff said the residents cast the

votes, partly as a show of support for

Davis' family, and partly because

there was not enough time before the

election for anyone to launch a

ceeding \$5,000, instead of \$3,000 as under the old rule.

Stafford voters approved \$5.4 million in bonds for municipal school district improvements.

Alvin voters approved four of five proposed charter changes. They approved changing the title of the city secretary to city clerk, allotting citizens to be heard for five minutes during budget hearings, clarifying that the correction of errors in assessment, tax rolls or tax statements must conform to state law and adding a section allowing zoning and land use controls.

A proposal to expand the use of sales tax funds to beautification projects involving streets and drainage was defeated 553-375.

In Pearland, voters approved eight propositions, including one changing the terms "he" and "his" in the city charter to "he/she" or "his/ hers" and "councilman" to "council mem-

Voters approved propositions clarifying that council members cannot hold paid positions in city governwhile in office; allowing cil to bypass reading aloud ordinances and resolutions provided that copies are made available; allowing the appointment of a court clerk by the city manager and outlining the clerk's duties; changing the term City Health Officer to City Health Authority; calling for city elections the first Saturday in May; requiring candidates for city office to file applications at least 45 days prior to the election; and requiring the city secretary to give notice of runoff

elections. Freeport voters decided against allowing non-resident lawyers to

serve as city judge or city attorney. Freeport voted to abandon settling elections by a plurality vote and agreed to set up a system for runoff

In Liberty County, voters ousted

an incumbent mayor by electing a

write-in candidate. Two other races

on the ballot - also were won by

write-in candidates.

received 31 votes.

ment for his council seat.

- which had no official candidates

Incumbent Daisetta Mayor Wil-

liam "Bill" Bachman, an emergency

medical technician, was defeated by

former mayor Pat Abshier, who re-

ceived 117 write-in votes. Bachman

bent councilman, Rick Stears,

mounted a write-in campaign for the

mayor's job, garnering 27 votes to win. Council will appoint a replace-

Also, write-in candidate Roy

In Dayton Lake Estates an incum-

elections when no one receives a majority vote. Voters also changed the city charter to conform with state law regarding debts owed to the city by candidates for city office.

Lake Jackson voters turned down a proposal to abolish a requirement that City Council members be property owners. Voters upped the monthly compensation of council members from \$37.50 a month to \$75.

Also passed was a proposal requiring that meeting minutes reflect the reason given for dispensing with the second reading of a proposed ordinance before its adoption. Voters also agreed to transfer the Traffic Commission from city ordinance provisions to the charter and to hold referendum elections on dates prescribed by state law rather than the current practice of holding elections 30 days after the submission of petitions forcing such elections.

Sugar Land voters passed six charter amendments, including restructuring the council's district and atlarge representation and defining the city manager's responsibilities regarding council meetings, department head appointments and the

Other amendments include redefining the authority of the city and its council to conform with legislative changes and the existing councilmanager form of government, redefining council member qualifications and post-annexation district boundaries and redefining notice requirements for referendum and claims

Also approved were amendments to redefine the authority and duties of commissions involved in planning and zoning and to lengthen the interval between charter review commission appointments.

Stubbs will fill the marshal's job

after slipping past another write-in

candidate, Mike Stubblefield, by a

17-16 vote. One other candidate, Paul

Chalifoux, received one vote. Despite

the close election, city secretary Kay

Strong said a runoff was not planned

quested it.

mond Donatto.

this report.

unless one of the candidates re-

In Ames, a council seat vacated by

three-time incumbent James He-

bert, whose job made it difficult to

attend council meetings, will be

filled by write-in candidate, Ray-

Chronicle reporters Cindy Hor-

swell and Ruth Piller contributed to

# Lawmakers

Continued from Page 11A.

with its new coloring.

head of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee, has said he thinks even the governor would support a tax increase rather than taking money from rich school districts.

But Clements could simply veto the education bill. Its structure is similar to the one he criticized and indirectly killed Tuesday, the last day of the last 30-day special session.

The governor immediately called lawmakers into a third session that started Wednesday.

The Senate Education Committee has approved a measure similar to the House's, and it could be taken up Monday by the full Senate.

Like the House bill, the Senate bill would require a separate spending measure and so would go directly to Clements if passed by the Legislature. But the Senate school reform bill wouldn't take effect unless at least \$555 million in new state revenue also was provided.

Although Clements pushed a \$250 million, no-new-taxes, education plan, it was criticized by lawmakers who questioned whether it could or should - be funded with budget cuts and by raising the state fee for obtaining driving records.

Meanwhile, the June 1 deadline for reform set by State District Judge Scott McCown is looming.

If, by the deadline, lawmakers and Clements don't write a plan sending more money to property-poor schools, McCown is appointing a court master who will devise one for

The \$13.5 billion-a-year school finance system relies on a combination of state aid, local property taxes and some federal money.

## **Protest**

Continued from Page 11A

country.

Only the upper middle-income population is using tobacco less, he

"What we try to do is kill the camel so to speak," Blum said about the purpose of the demonstration Sunday. "Our motto is 'Laughing the pushers out of town.'

Blum questions identifying DOC as an anti-smoking organization. If anything, he said, it is anti-cancer, antihigh medical costs and anti-heart

#### Woman kills father during altercation

A woman abused by her father for several years shot and killed him during an altercation at her northeast Harris County home, authorities said Sunday.

They said Leon Kroll, 46, went to his daughter's home in the 11800 block of Spicewood about 7 p.m. Saturday and began quarreling with

her boyfriend. The daughter, Michelle Kroll, 22,

got a shotgun and ordered her father to leave. He lunged toward her, she said, and she fired, hitting him once in the chest. The woman told investigators she

had suffered several years of abuse by her father, and had filed a restraining order against him after she moved from his home.

However, investigators said, the father continued to harass her to The slaying will be referred to a

Harris County grand jury without charges.

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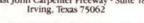
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FORT WORTH (AP) - Tarrant County voters overwhelmingly rejected a proposed half-cent increase in the sales tax to pay for a crime-fighting district that would have been the first of its kind in the nation.

The vote on the proposed Tarrant County Crime Control and Prevention District was 9,179 votes, or 29 percent for, and 22,784 votes, or 71 percent, against.

Advocates touted the crime district as a means of dissolving invisible boundaries between governmental agencies and a way of linking private organizations involved in the battle against crime.

But the plan drew opposition from

two separate fronts — conservatives opposed to a tax increase, and minority groups who said the plan wouldn't be an improvement.

Tarrant County rejects crime-fighting sales tax

Conservative opponents sent out letters last week and handed out cards at polling places telling voters, "Your taxes are about to go up!" The crime-fighting tax would have

raised an estimated \$45 million a year for police, courts, education, crime prevention, punishment and rehabilitation programs.

Some of the money would have paid for four new criminal district courts in Fort Worth, a state-of-theart computerized fingerprint identification system to be shared by all

camp" for young first-time criminal offenders; and several other community jails. Also proposed were drug educa-

police agencies in the county; a "boot

tion and treatment programs and expanded citizen crime-prevention programs.

Tarrant County Judge Roy English said the crime district plan "probably should have been directed more toward hard costs and equipment." English, a chairman of a board of city and county officials who put together the plan, pushed for law enforcement-oriented programs in early discussions.