

Harris County votes on toll roads today

United Press International
HOUSTON — Harris County voters will consider today a \$900 million revenue bond to build three toll roads which hopefully will relieve the city's crowded freeways.

County Judge Jon Lindsay said Houston's freeways are operating at double their designed capacity and called the toll road plan democratic since only users would pay for them and not taxpayers in general.

Voter turnout is expected to be better than in June when 12 per-

cent of the registered voters overwhelmingly rejected a Metropolitan Transit Authority plan for a rail system. The entire county will vote this time as opposed to the smaller Metro service area.

The proposed roads total 49 miles in length. One is a 21.6 mile Hardy Street toll freeway between the North Loop and Intercontinental Airport. The other two roads would be toll-supported links in the Beltway 8 system, which has been planned since 1954.

Absentee voting on the proposal for toll roads ended Friday, with 1,648 ballots being cast in person. Harris County Clerk Anita Rodeheaver said 1,118 absentee ballots were cast in the Metro rail election.

Metro has gone back to the drawing boards to try to come up with a mass transit plan voters will accept. Meanwhile, General Manager Alan Kiepper has directed continued improvement of historically inadequate bus service.

Crash kills stunt pilot

United Press International
PLAINVIEW — Some 1,000 spectators watched helplessly as a stunt pilot lost the wings of his plane and crashed to his death while his wife described the airshow routine he was attempting over a public address system.

Wes Winter, 46, of Mesa, Ariz., died Sunday while performing a stunt at 250 feet during an airshow at the Plainview Municipal Airport.

Spectators said he had completed two passes in his Partenavia

P-68C, making rolls and a figure "8". On his third pass, Mrs. Winter told the crowd her husband would perform a loop in the twin-engine plane which she said was not designed for aerobatic stunts and had not been modified.



A little canine tutoring

staff photo by Guy Hood

Scott Speck, a senior agricultural economics major from Rock Spring catches up on studying, with a little help from his constant canine pal Liz. They were caught studying near the System Building on a typical Aggie dog day afternoon.

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Today's children being 'eroticized' say doctors

United Press International
CHICAGO — Children today are being "eroticized" by overexposure to sexual materials, often leading to incest, and are making marijuana a regular part of their lives, doctors say.

Parents are no longer the prime influence in their child's life after age 9 and are deluding themselves if they think they are, Dr. Domeena Renshaw said Sunday at a conference on "Impact of Lifestyles on Child and Adolescent Health Problems," cosponsored by the American Medical Association.

"We have to learn desexualized affection," she said. "Grandparents can be loving but they can also be oversexualized."

"Grandmothers seduce grandsons," she said, citing a case of a woman who slept with her young grandson over a six month period. "Who thinks of a grandmother as being a sexual offender?"

"Boys get seduced by older women in and outside the family."

Rape usually is associated with girls because of the consequences of pregnancy. However, she said, boys also must be protected when they leave home because "boys also are raped."

"Kids are exposed to an enormous amount of sexual materials," she said.

Children may be highly "eroticized" by available X-rated cable or cassette television programs, said Renshaw, a psychiatry professor at Loyola University Stritch

School of Medicine in Maywood, Ill.

On Saturday, Dr. Kenneth Schonberg, director of adolescent medicine at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx, N.Y., told the conference: "What we're seeing in the rise in the use of marijuana is here to stay."

"It is not a trend. It is not a fad," he said. "It will become ingrained within us."

Once a month, one-third of high school seniors become intoxicated with alcohol — and between 15 percent to 20 percent with marijuana, National Institute of Drug

Abuse statistics showed.

"There is clearcut evidence smoking marijuana interferes with the ability to learn," Schonberg said.

An adolescent smoking marijuana while attending school may experience short-term memory impairment, poorer oral communication and may not be able to recall information gained while under the influence of the drug.

Marijuana use also impairs motor coordination — slowing reactions — interfering with ability to perceive lights and sounds and altering sense of time, he said.

The leading cause of death for young people in 1979 was accidents — and more than 60 percent of them were alcohol-related car accidents, Schonberg said. The 19-year-old driver is in the most danger, followed by 18-, 17- and 16-year-olds.

Unfortunately, Schonberg said, adolescents do not perceive their alcohol and drug use as a problem.

Five percent of adolescents are in "deep trouble" with alcohol abuse, meaning they run the risk of suicide, pregnancy, running away from home and dying in a car accident, he said.

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