

the state

Hobby: no need for special session

AUSTIN — Lt. Gov. William P. Hobby said Saturday there is no need for the special legislative session Gov. Bill Clements has announced he will call next year.

"Special sessions are proficed for in the constitution to deal with emergency matters, unforeseen circumstances, what not. There is no justification on that grounds for it."

Hobby indicated he disagrees with the governor on the issues Clements wants lawmakers to consider — initiative and referendum, legalizing wiretaps and tax relief — at a special session.

"Initiative and referendum seeks to bypass the legislative process," the lieutenant governor said. "The legislative process is a process of examination of alternatives, it's a process of compromise, it's a process that has stood the test of time well over the years."

Hobby made his comments dur-

ing an interview on the weekly television program, Capital Eye.

Hobby said he hopes there will be a year-end or biennium balance in the state treasury \$800 or \$900 million but does not believe there will be a surplus to finance large tax reductions.

The state's share of costs of operating public schools is going to increase \$1 billion just because of an increase in the number of students, he said.

"We're one of the lowest taxing states that there is," Hobby said.

On wiretapping, the lieutenant governor said he opposes Clements' proposal to authorize electronic surveillance by the Department of Public Safety.

"Wiretapping is again putting the government into your life and my life more than it now is, and I think so far from being legalized, the prohibitions and penalties for it ought to be increased."

Democrats to oust defectors to GOP

AUSTIN, Texas — The State Democratic Executive Committee (SDEC) — in a move conservatives complained would lead to punitive purges — voted Saturday to tighten party discipline by ousting Democratic party officials who endorse or publicly support Republican candidates.

The new rules may curtail moves by prominent Democrats to support former Gov. John Connally, a Democrat-turned Republican, in his bid for the GOP presidential nomination.

Impetus for the rules change, however, was the large scale defection of Democrats to Republican Bill Clements in the 1978 election that gave Texas its first GOP governor in 100 years.

The rules established procedures for the removal of any Democratic official who publicly backs a Democratic nominee's opponent or endorses a candidate for GOP nomination.

An ousted official will be barred from holding any other Democratic Party post for at least a year.

The SDEC voted down a proposal by Dallas County's Democratic Party chairman, Joe Devany, that would have allowed ousted officials to quickly regain their party posts if they returned to the Democratic fold.

"These are people that might find the error of their ways," Devany said. "I don't want to see this become a punitive rule. I don't think I'm interested in turning these people away."

Devany's proposal, critics said, would allow turncoats too much influence in party affairs and the election of statewide party officials.

"I see it as our own responsibility to cleanse our ranks and to keep people honest and faithful," said one critic of Devany's proposal.

Ed Miller of Texarkana said ousted party officials could return to the party and regain party office in future elections but should not be allowed to speak for the Democratic Party in the same year they supported a Republican candidate.

"A person who does this knowing the rules forfeits his position as a Democratic party officeholder during that election," Miller said.

Wanda Britton of Gainesville called the new rules anti-Democratic and said the party hierarchy had no right to oust officials elected at the local level.

Despite tight security, newsmen get close to shah

SAN ANTONIO — Gate-crashing techniques used by enterprising journalists show that even in his heavily guarded sanctuary on the nation's largest Air Force base, the de-

At least 21 incidents in which reporters and photographers have coolly strolled, jogged or driven onto Lackland Air Force Base have occurred since Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi arrived here before dawn on Dec. 2, a base source said.

Much of the base is surrounded by a 10-foot chain link fence, but numerous other areas are open, including the area near Wilford Hall, the hospital where the shah was admitted upon his arrival.

The base's layout is known to thousands of Iranians who studied English during the past two decades at Lackland's Defense Language Institute. Lackland also offers flight instruction to foreign airman — more than 200 trainees from Moslem

countries are there now, although the last Iranian Air Force student left Jan. 19.

State Department spokesman Miro Morville, questioned why the shah would be sent to a base well known to thousands of Iranians, said Sunday. "I'm sure that whoever decided (on Lackland) must have taken that into consideration."

The shah, recovering from cancer treatment and gall bladder surgery and with a \$131,000 bounty offered for his death, is being housed at Lackland's visiting officers quarters.

Since his arrival, government officials had been touting the tight security provided by the base.

Security violations, however, became commonplace during the first week of his stay.

— One reporter, clad in a sweat-suit, jogged past guards at the base's main gate to within 50 feet of the heavily guarded barracks compound that houses the shah;

— A free-lance photographer Paris slipped into tennis club and walked nonchalantly onto the

— The 19-year-old son of a commissioned officer was at a gunpoint and detained after attempting to photograph the shah's letters from a clump of shrubs behind the compound.

— A San Antonio cameraman drove a borrowed with an expired base permit to a checkpoint and filmed the party taking a walk.

"I got close enough to the shah," Duncan said. "Somebody else too."

Security was tightened after the assassination of the shah's nephew in Paris. Officials were security porters and other unauthorized military installations for a found on the base. The charges were threatened for offense.

Kids die in fire trying to rescue

PLANO — A 40-year-old man carried his sons to safety from their burning home Saturday, but while summoning aide, the younger boy ran back inside to rescue the family dog and the older one followed in an attempt to save his brother's life. Both died.

Firemen found the bodies of the

two half-brothers, Chris Watermon, 6, and Tim Wilson, 13, under a pile of debris less than 15 feet from the front door.

Their father, Rathel Watermon, said the bodies were just a few feet away from the portion of the house he had searched when he realized they had gone back inside.

"It was so close and yet so far. It's

difficult to stand a few feet from kids and have them destroyed and not be able to do anything," he said.

Neighborhood children later found the dog Chris was to save — shivering and with cinders — behind a tree back of the Watermon house.



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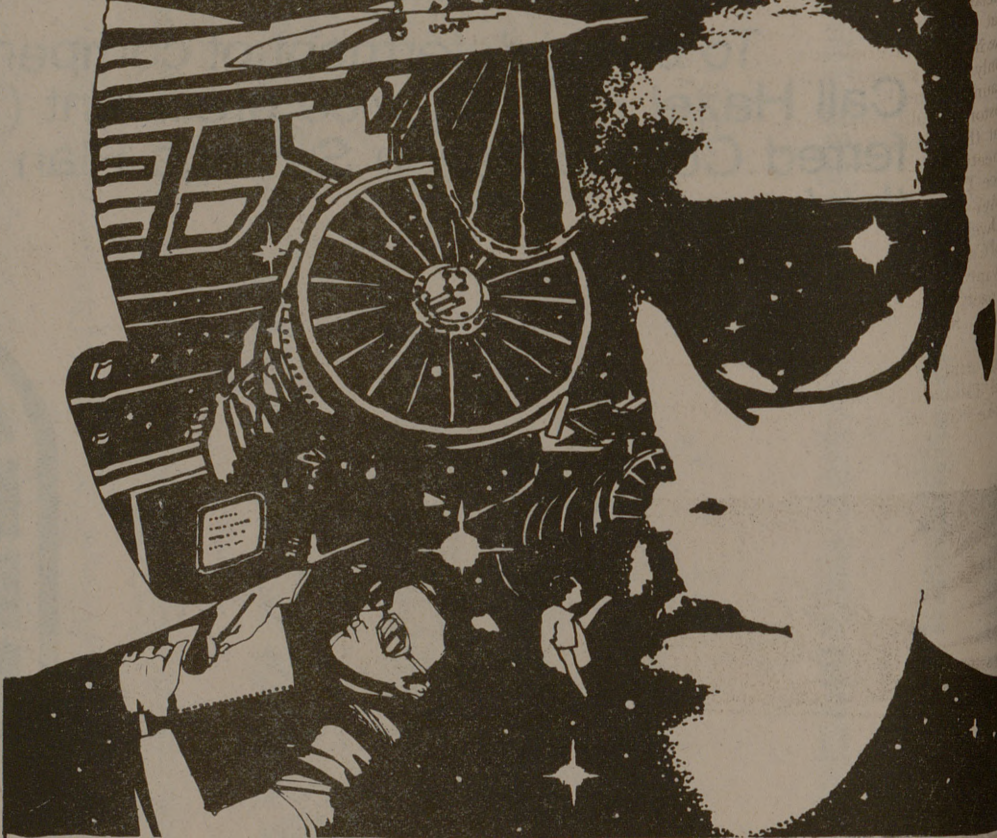
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