

# Courts to decide fate of Tent City

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United Press International HOUSTON (UPI) — Harris County officials, confused last week by the wording in a judge's order pertaining to the demoli-tion of "Tent City USA," awaited a ruling in court Monday on whether or not they could clear the debris.

The makeshift city for the jobless, situated in a state rest stop east of Houston, was once a ing and he was unsure if he

Marshall J.J. Pruitt stood ready to tear down temporary homes now considered fire hazards be-cause camper James A. "Scotty" Boland, 41, was killed in a tent fire last Wednesday.

But Pruitt said a last-minute court order Friday was confus-

home to as many as 300 resi-dents. Friday, the area was de-serted as Harris County Fire cles pulled out Friday aftercles pulled out Friday afternoon

District Judge William Blan-ton scheduled a hearing at 1:30 p.m. CST Monday for the lawsuit filed by Lawyer Rod Phelps on behalf of camp leader Bill Collins, 54, an unemployed laundry worker.

Collins argued the campers have a constitutional right to live where they can during the current economic hard times. A handful of the campers

who left Friday moved back into the tent city over the weekend. Camper Darlene Shelby, 23, who left Tent City Friday, charged Texas Department of Public Safety Troopers chased her away from an alternate campsite she found on Inter-

state 10. DPS Spokesman Jim Garrett said he checked with DPS super-visors and could not locate any officer known to have confronted people camping along the interstate



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Feb. 20th, 1983



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"I told them they mi

"I have never with

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he said. But the fire was

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more professional ance," said Hobby.

goes the credit for sa

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One of the security

Battalion/Page 6 February 8, 1983



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## Hobby extols firemen, security officers' work

### AUSTIN — Lt. Gov. Bill Hob-

by, saying he could not be "too lavish" in his praise, extolled the work of state and city emergency crews who saved his daughter and prevented the destruction of the state's century-old Capitol from a weekend fire.

"Their bravery and dedica-tion to duty should serve as an example to all of us who accept a public trust," said Hobby.

The blaze in Hobby's apartment, which was discovered at

5:25 a.m. Sunday, killed one person in the apartment, but to start getting some three others escaped. Hobby was at his Austin duplex when the fire broke out.

The blaze did an estimated \$500,000 damage to the Senate wing. It apparently started in an electrical appliance in Hobby's apartment, officials said.

Austin acting fire Chief Brady Pool said he informed Gov. Mark White and Hobby around 6:30 a.m. that the building might not be saved.

and six firemen were during the blaze, which trolled by about 100 fire

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