

Group turns legislature into Irish fistfights

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP)—Northern Ireland's trouble-plagued provincial assembly broke up in disorder Tuesday with militant and moderate Protestant legislators trading punches over a place to sit.

It took six hefty security men to carry out the Rev. Ian Paisley, a burly hardline leader. As he was dumped outside, Paisley boomed: "We shall be back."

Paisley had vowed before the session, the first since the province's new government took office, that his supporters would occupy the front-bench seats allocated to chief executive Brian Faulkner and his coalition administration of moderate Prot-

estants and Roman Catholics. The trouble flared when Faulkner and his men tried to take their seats—and Paisley's supporters refused to move.

Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist party, shouted: "You'll not jackboat us with your armored cars and your British army."

He was referring to the reinforced cordon of troops and police that ringed the Stormont assembly building, on Belfast's outskirts, in expectation of trouble from hard-line Protestants.

Behind the brawl was the militants' vow to wreck the assembly and Faulkner's coalition executive, the first in the province's

53-year history to allow Catholics to share power with the majority Protestants.

Speaker Nat Minford adjourned the session. It finally reconvened 70 minutes later, but only four of the 30 hard-liners were in their seats.

The militants are gunning for Faulkner and his coalition because they charge its policy of boosting links between the mainly Protestant province and the predominantly Catholic Irish Republic constitutes the first step in a "sellout" to a united Ireland.

Many of the Northern Ireland's million Protestants fear they would be swallowed up into a Catholic state after unification. The so-called "Loyalists" want the province to remain firmly British.

Earlier Tuesday, the Protestant-based Unionist party that once ruled the province elected former Agriculture Minister Harry W. West as its leader.



Ed Huckaby points out one of the "joints" fundamental to the stability of the tensegrity he and two other students built. (Photo by Roger Mallison)

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Grads build tension tower

There is a tensegrity on the lawn of the Architecture Building.

A tensegrity is a building frame superior to conventional frames because it uses cables instead of rigid supports. The full size model stands about 30 feet tall.

The model was built as a project for a creative structures class by graduates Ed Huckaby, Dave Trevino and Steve Foster.

"We were told to construct a model of one of the six natural forms," Huckaby. "Most of the models were made of cardboard and matches but we got interested in the tetrahedron, the basis of the tensegrity and decided to go all out."

Trevino said they worked most of the summer on the model. "The Architecture Building is almost home, so when we told our wives we were going out with the boys to build a tensegrity, they understood."

The total cost for the materials, about \$217, was split between the students and the college. Now that it's up, the college is going to reimburse the students and keep the model for

future students.

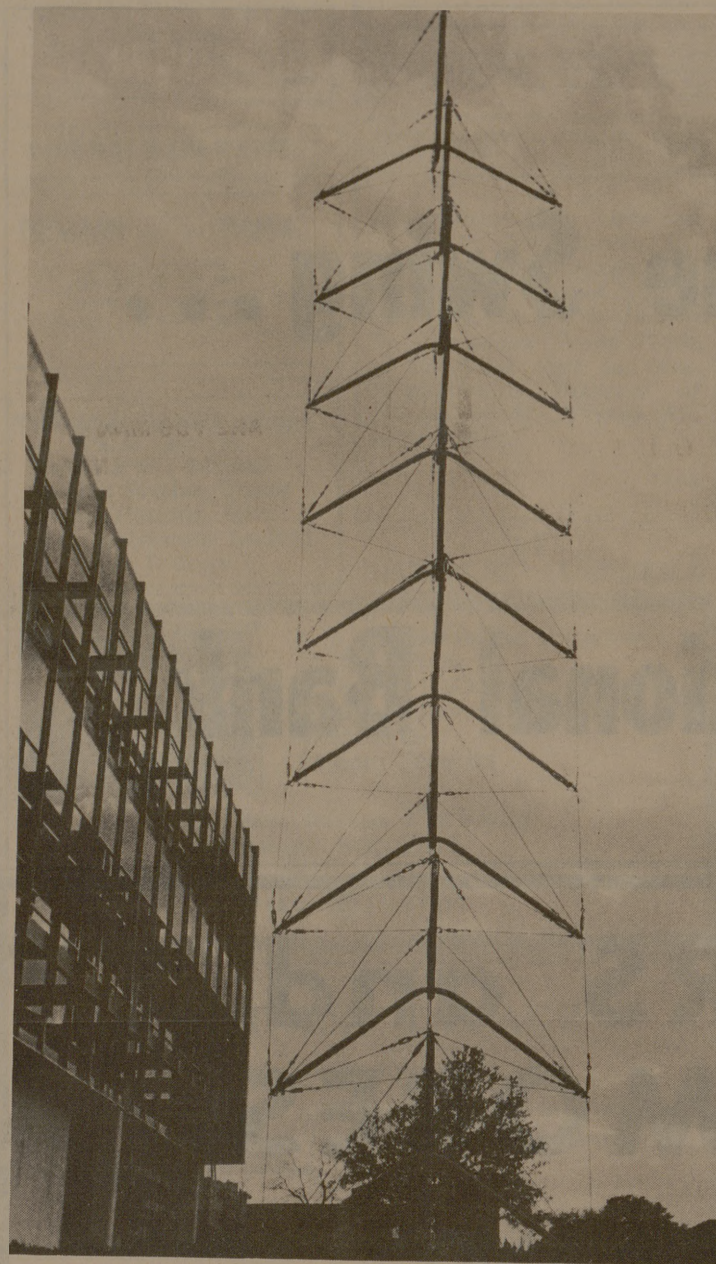
Huckaby explained Buckminster Fuller made the biggest advances in tensegrities 25 years ago working on the principal that steel performs better under tension than compression.

"There are several advantages," Huckaby continued. "This whole structure could be collapsed in 45 minutes and put in the trunk of a car; it takes four hours to construct. You can control how rigid the structure is

by adjusting the tightness of the cables."

The first time they knew it would work was after they had put it up, said Foster. "We knew the theory was sound but we weren't sure we had chosen the right materials."

"The night we got it up a rain-storm came through town. We were really pleased the next morning to find that it was still standing. The thing's surprisingly stable."



"Oh what a tangled web we weave, when we build a tensegrity." (Photo by Roger Mallison)

Tower

Dining Room

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TUESDAY

GARDEN SALAD from the salad bar
CHAR-BROILED HAM STEAK with pineapple ring
YAM PATTIES with orange sauce
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WEST SCREEN AT 7:15 P. M.
"JESUS CHRIST, SUPER STAR"

At 9:10 p. m.
"2 LANE BLACKTOP" (Both PG)