

Texas A&M The Battalion

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Police use tear gas to end riot at beach

PORT ARANSAS (AP) — Coast Guard crews pulled a car with two bodies inside from waters off a ferry landing Sunday, as authorities picked up the pieces after a wild night that included a spring break beach riot requiring tear gas, helicopters and a phalanx of police to end.

The small car crashed through a flashing barrier early Sunday, sailing about 75 feet in the air before crashing into the Gulf and sinking, Coast Guard spokesman Bob Fisher said.

The identities of the two young men were not immediately available, he said.

The sinking occurred just hours after an unrelated midnight beach riot by partying youths who became enraged by a car accident, authorities said.

"What you have down there is a tremendous amount of intoxication going on," Jim Kaelin, a Texas Department of Public Safety officer, said. "All it takes sometimes is for someone to bump into someone else. The crowd just turned into a riot."

At least four people were stabbed and two law officers were injured in the midnight beach melee, police said. Eight people were arrested, and one person remained hospitalized Sunday.

Port Aransas police referred all queries to city manager Gordon

Beck. There was no answer at his office telephone, and a message left by the Associated Press on his home answering machine was not immediately returned Sunday.

About 30,000 students were staying in this island resort for spring break.

The Saturday night mayhem began when a motorist hit a girl on the beach at this Gulf Coast vacation spot on Mustang Island, offshore from Corpus Christi, and tried to leave the scene, DPS Officer A.G. Michniak said in Corpus Christi.

"They stomped the car, broke all the glass out of it and flipped it over," UT student Tom Frazier said.

It took more than 100 police officers to break up the mob with the help of tear gas and hovering Coast Guard helicopters with searchlights.

A portable toilet also was set ablaze, authorities said.

The first police officers on the scene tried to arrest two people involved in the alleged hit-and-run accident but found the crowd too much to handle.

"Objects were tossed and thrown at the officers and they called for assistance," a DPS dispatcher in Corpus Christi who would not give her name said.

Police fired seven tear gas projectiles to disperse the crowd, Kaelin said.

Michniak said the DPS received the first call at 11:35 p.m. Saturday and the disturbance wasn't declared under control until three hours later.

Paul Guerra of Port Aransas said he saw a stabbing victim while leaving the beach.

"All of a sudden, somebody yelled and a guy fell," Guerra said. "He had blood all over his chest. I heard them shout, 'He's stabbed! He's stabbed!' They started tearing at his clothes, and then the police came running over."

"I left. I hate to say it, but I was afraid for my life."

The DPS estimated the crowd at about 3,000.

"A good example would be to think of a high school football stadium where everybody ran down to the field and was packed tight," Kaelin said.

The car sinking was witnessed by a ferry captain and deck hand, Coast Guard spokesman Anthony E. Lloyd said.

"The car just flew right off the ferry landing," Lloyd said. "It didn't stop, didn't skid or anything, it just went right into the water, and they saw its tail end going down."

The Coast Guard had used a grappling hook to search for the vehicle Sunday. Divers initially used in the search were called off, Lloyd said.

Official says Jackson has solidified bid

DALLAS (AP) — Jesse Jackson has solidified his presidential bid in Texas and should have as many delegates as Michael Dukakis when Democrats hold their state convention this spring in Houston, the Texas Democratic Party chairman said Sunday.

Although Dukakis earned more delegates in Super Tuesday's primary voting in Texas, Jackson appeared to have gathered more at-large delegates in Saturday's 270 county and senatorial district conventions across the state.

Those conventions determine the allocation of 64 at-large delegates to the national convention, but statewide results of Saturday's meetings were not tallied.

With just over half of the 5,288 delegates accounted for, Jackson had 41 percent and Dukakis, governor of Massachusetts, 36 percent. Uncommitted delegates were running 10 percent; Tennessee Sen. Al Gore had 10 percent; Missouri Rep. Richard Gephardt, 3 percent, and Illinois Sen. Paul Simon, 1 percent. Former Colorado Sen. Gary Hart had one delegate, from a district in Houston.

"I would just guess the state convention will be composed of one-third Jackson, one-third Dukakis and about a third of the people either Gore, Gephardt or uncommitted," state Democratic Party Chairman Bob Slagle said.

State Democrats meet for their convention that will be held from June 9-11 in Houston, where they will choose delegates to the national convention.

Officials claim fight not likely for U.S. troops

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — American soldiers practiced military maneuvers Sunday on a Honduran airstrip just 21 miles from the Nicaraguan border, but U.S. officials said the threat from Sandinista troops had subsided and combat appeared unlikely.

"These guys are not going to get involved in any sort of conflict," Maj. Gary Hovatter, spokesman for U.S. troops, said.

Nicaragua formally protested a Honduran bombing raid on Sandinista positions Saturday as an unwarranted act of aggression. It has denied that its troops crossed the jungle-choked border dividing the nations.

U.S. officials in Washington said the Sandinistas appeared to be drawing back from the Honduran border and predicted that the training exercises involving 3,200 U.S. troops soon would end.

A U.S. House delegation viewed a military exercise involving U.S. infantrymen and Honduran soldiers at Jamastran, a dirt airstrip about 55 miles south-east of here and about 20 miles from the border.

The exercise was held about 80 miles south of the Bocay border region, where Honduran fighters on Saturday dropped bombs on

Sandinista positions.

Honduran officials said the raid was carried out because about 600 Sandinistas troops were moving too slowly from the disputed Bocay area, which Honduras considers its territory. Two Honduran jet fighters carried out a similar raid Thursday.

No one was hurt in either raid and no damage was reported in Saturday's attack.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto sent a protest note to Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez, saying his government "energetically and formally protests" Saturday's attack, which it called "aggression against Nicaraguan territory."

The ministry also said two F-5 warplanes flew over Sandinista positions Saturday morning in the frontier sectors of Mukuwas, San Andres de Bocay, Waniwas and Wayawas, but dropped no bombs.

The 600 Sandinista troops were part of a force estimated at 2,000 that was believed to have entered Honduran territory last week in pursuit of U.S.-backed Contra rebels.

The action prompted President Reagan to send in U.S. troops to non-combat areas for military exercises in a show of force to the Marxist regime.



Photo by Shelly Schluter

Coming home again

Seniors Perry Eichor, a marketing major, and Wade Welkener, a petroleum engineering major,

return to A&M Sunday after spring break. Eichor and Welkener spent their vacation in South Padre.

Group plans to reconstruct ruined shack

By Richard Williams
Senior Staff Writer

The president of Texas A&M's Students Against Apartheid said they will rebuild the anti-apartheid shanty destroyed by vandals the night of March 10.

Susan Vint, SAA president, said the group had planned to dismantle the shanty on March 11, but because of the vandals the group will build the shanty again.

"We had let everybody know that it was only going to be up for a 10 day period," Vint said. "All they made us do is want to put it back up."

She said before the shanty was destroyed the group was not sure if they would construct a shanty on campus again, but "somebody has already made the decision for us — we are going to put it back up."

The shanty has been constructed three times. It was first constructed on Feb. 22, but A&M officials tore the shanty down because it was built without University permission.

A second shanty was built after gaining A&M's approval. The second shanty was constructed on March 6 and two days later it was



Battalion file photo

Jeff Dyess works to reconstruct an anti-apartheid shack on March 6. It was destroyed before Spring Break.

vandalized. The vandals turned the shanty over, damaged the roof and tore one wall off.

Norman Muraya, a group member, said he urges the vandals "to use the appropriate democratic channels for free expression."

"It is ironic that they tore it down because the whole purpose was to use the democratic channels for free expression that we do have here in the United States to stir up human conscience with regards to the situation in South Africa," he said.

Vint said she is angry about the destruction of the shanty.

"I'm really upset about it," Vint said. "I'm really shocked that people would take such a violent action against a peaceful group. We're just trying to make a statement for the people on campus."

Vint said the group would press charges against individuals caught destroying the shanty.

University Police Department Sgt. Michael Buckley said that if the vandals were caught they could be charged with a class C misdemeanor. The maximum fine for a class C misdemeanor is \$200.

A&M leaves radio network of SWC

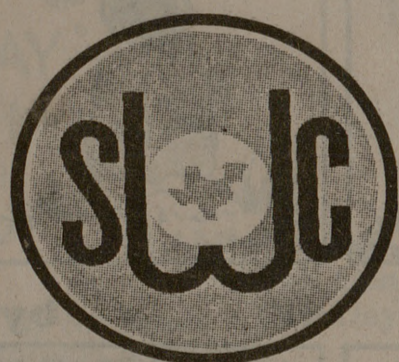
By Richard Williams
Senior Staff Writer

During spring break Texas A&M broke from the Southwest Conference Radio Network because of what Athletic Director Jackie Sherrill called "preferential" treatment for the University of Texas. SWC and SWC Radio Network officials said that charge is false.

On March 12, Texas A&M announced it was pulling out of the SWC radio network, and two days later A&M announced the formation of its own radio network.

The three-year, \$1 million contract for the broadcast of Aggie football, basketball and baseball games was awarded to Learfield Communications of Jefferson City, Mo. Learfield will operate the network on a 50-50 basis with Gene Ashcraft, a former manager of the Texas State Network.

Sherrill said A&M was leaving the SWC radio network because of what he calls "preferential" treatment being given to the University of Texas. Host Communications, the company holding the SWC Radio Network contract, had given UT football coach David McWilliams a statewide



radio talk show and does all of the printing for UT's programs, he said. "We have a major problem of why Texas A&M is not as valuable (to Host)," Sherrill said. "It gives a school a distinct advantage to have a coach's talk show."

Sherrill said A&M had asked for the same deal but had been turned down.

Jim Host, of Kentucky-based Host Communications, said that charge is false.

"We made, on more than one occasion, an offer to work with Texas

A&M to help them in any way possible, but the whole premise was tied to the fact that we had to do the print projects — meaning the football and basketball print programs — in order to gain enough revenue to then be able to support the coach's call-in show and other shows like that," Host said. "Texas A&M said they did not want us to do the print projects, and we said if we can't do the print projects with meaningful revenue then we can't do the call-in shows."

That same offer was made to every school in the conference, Host said.

Fred Jacoby, SWC commissioner, said UT had not been given any preferential treatment by Host Communications.

"Our position all along was that if it was only offered to Texas it would have been preferential treatment, but since it was offered to all institutions then it was not preferential treatment," he said.

Host said Sherrill probably had a different reason for pulling out of the conference network.

"I felt it had to do with the fact that he (Sherrill) felt Texas A&M could gain a more decided advantage in terms of public recognition by having a radio network on their own as opposed to being a part of the Southwest Conference network," Host said.

Before A&M's decision to pull out of the SWC network, all members participated and received shares of revenue based on a point system.

The agreement gave schools with larger followings the ability to make more money for the institutions and conference.

However, John Keith, A&M's sports news director, said Host Communications' "promises for an amount of money each year never came true."

"One time they promised us something like \$100,000 — we got \$52,000," Keith said. "Last year we made a paltry \$95,000 off the radio contract."

A&M is expected to be paid about \$130,000 for its 1987 radio contract.

Even though the announcement that A&M was pulling out of the SWC network was not made until

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Soldiers warned before mob attack, British army says

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Two British soldiers who were killed in a brutal attack by an angry mob ignored orders to stay away from an Irish Republican Army funeral procession, the British army said Sunday.

All soldiers in the British-ruled province were told the funeral was taking place on Saturday and had been warned to steer clear, an army spokesman said. He said the army had begun an investigation.

"The two corporals should not have been where they were and we are interested in examining how that came about," said the spokesman, speaking anonymously in keeping with British custom.

"They would have been briefed about the route of the funeral procession, and the two cor-

porals were not expected to be there and had no requirement to be there," the spokesman said.

Cpl. Derek Wood, 24, and Cpl. David Howes, 23, were shot dead in Belfast on Saturday after funeral mourners dragged them from their unmarked car, beat them and stripped them naked.

The outlawed IRA claimed responsibility for the deaths and the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Northern Ireland's police force, said it was questioning three people.

Cardinal Tomas O Fiaich, head of the Roman Catholic church in Ireland, said, "The thought of these two soldiers being savagely beaten and then shot in cold blood will give rise to feelings of revulsion in every Irish man or woman who has a spark of human feeling."