

# National News Reports

## 2 Amherst officers hurt, 62 people arrested as police get numerous disturbance complaints

by The Republican Newsroom  
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AMHERST - Two Amherst police officers were injured during the weekend as police responded to 264 calls, arresting 62 for fights, vandalism and other disturbances.

While arrests occurred throughout the weekend, the officers were injured Saturday night when between 500 and 600 people gathered at the Townhouse Apartments. The crowd became unruly, with some throwing bottles at police.

The two officers were injured trying to disperse the crowd and two University of Massachusetts students were arrested and face charges of assault and battery on police officers. But Capt. Michael R. Kent called the disturbance a "bump in the road."

"Two or three years ago, routinely bottles and rocks were being thrown," Kent said.

But since University of Massachusetts officials have been working on several initiatives to combat drinking and drug use on campus "this is becoming an exception. The dean of students takes (what happens) seriously," he said.

Kent was to meet with university representatives later Monday afternoon - something they do every week during the school year to review weekend events. University officials decide on student sanctions that could include suspensions.

"The concerning thing this weekend, was there was such aggressive behavior," Kent said.

One officer suffered a broken bone in his hand and will be out of work, Kent said. The other received a deep cut. Kent hopes the officer will return to work soon. Both were treated at Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton and released.

"You have to remain diligent, working with the dean of students. Hopefully this is just a bump in the road," he said.

The two charged in connection with the police injuries are both UMass students, according to police.

Tyren L. Freeman, 23, of Dorchester, was charged with disorderly conduct, assault and battery on a police officer and resisting arrest. Evan A. Piering, 23, of Brookline, was charged with violation of town noise bylaws, resisting arrest and assault and battery on a police officer.

## 400 Arrested at Wisconsin Block Party

A block party at the **University of Wisconsin** this weekend resulted in about **400 arrests**, a 10 percent jump from last year and the most in the party's history, the *Badger Herald* reports. Around 10,000 people attended the party, which produced no major fights or incidents but did prompt police to shut down house parties for excessive noise and overcrowding. Most of the arrests were for infractions such as open containers of alcohol on public property or underage drinking.

Critics of the arrests say the heavy police presence has given the party an undue bad reputation. "I'm not blaming the cops," said the alderman whose district includes the area. "I'm just saying that their pro-arrest, zero-tolerance policy of heavy enforcement of all laws makes it seem as if this party is absolutely out of control, which it is not."

# ***More Than 100 Arrested During UConn Spring Weekend***

By JODIE MOZDER  
The Hartford Courant

Just after midnight Saturday, when party-goers began tossing glass bottles, University of Connecticut and state police shut down the last party of the last night of Spring Weekend.

In all, more than 100 arrests were made at the annual fling, which attracts college-aged people from across the state and region.

The weekend college partying and problems were not confined to UConn. At the University of Hartford's Spring Fling, a student was stabbed in the shoulder and another student reported being sexually assaulted.

The weekend parties at UConn began Thursday night at the Carriage House apartments, continued Friday at Celeron Square, and ended Saturday at the X parking lot across from the police station on campus.

Police estimated more than 15,000 people attended Saturday. UConn police arrested 47 people Saturday night and Sunday morning, only six of them students. News reports pegged the total number of arrests at 51 last year, although the university police spokesman said he believed the number was slightly higher.

"Without a doubt, there were more arrests this year than last year," UConn Maj. Ronald Blicher said. "Potentially, the reason for that was the warmer weather. And I think the crowds were a little bit larger than last year due to the warmer weather."

Police reported minor injuries — including two people who were cut on the head from the bottles thrown at X lot. The arrests were for charges such as criminal trespass, narcotics offenses, weapons offenses, interfering with police, breach of peace and reckless endangerment.

And an early morning fire was reported in an unoccupied residence on King Hill Road, next to X parking lot. Police said it's not clear whether the fire was related to Spring Weekend party-goers.

"The only relation I can see is that the time of the fire at 1:47 was approximately one hour after X parking lot had been cleared," Blicher said.

No one was injured in the fire, which appeared to have started in the basement of the unoccupied residence that is not owned by the university, Blicher said.

State police also patrolled each of the Spring Weekend events. On Saturday, state police ran a sobriety checkpoint and made two arrests for driving under the influence and issued 96 infractions for other motor vehicle violations, according to state police spokesman Lt. J. Paul Vance.

Both state and university police said that overall the crowds were well-behaved.

At the University of Hartford, police said the male student who was stabbed told them he was breaking up a fight in the basement of the F Complex residence hall.

Hartford police said the student, who was not identified, was treated at Hartford Hospital for the knife wound in his left shoulder. Police said they have not been able to corroborate the details of the incident.

And a female student reported to police that she was sexually assaulted in a bathroom in one of the Village Apartments Friday night.

The woman told police a man she knew only by the nickname of "Biscuit" followed her into a bathroom and sexually assaulted her there. University spokesman David Isgur said it was not a random attack, so no alert was posted on campus.

Hartford police continue to investigate both incidents. No arrests have been made.

# SUNY Cortland students arrested at Spring Fling party

by The Post-Standard

Monday April 27, 2009, 11:05 AM

Cortland, NY -- Some 60 State University College at Cortland students were arrested at off-campus drinking parties Saturday while the college held its annual alcohol-free "Spring Fling" weekend. More than half of the arrests were for alcohol-related violations but the number of students arrested represented a small percentage of the 2,000 to 2,500 students partying all day and night Saturday on Monroe Heights, a street near the campus, Lt. Jon Gesin said today. "There were kids everywhere but 99 percent of them were respectful and cooperative. There were no major problems," Gesin said.

The college held many alcohol-free events, including a concert, this "Spring Fling" weekend for students to celebrate spring and to enjoy college life, said Jennifer Wilson, a Cortland State spokeswoman. It's a dry event but some students living off-campus hosted parties where alcohol was served and that was difficult for the college to try to control, Wilson said. Some of the students arrested could wind up before the college judicial review board for possible discipline, she added.

Of the arrests, 30 were for consuming alcohol in a public place, 13 were for underage drinking and five students were charged with disorderly conduct, Gesin said.

## ***Drinking party brings 48 arrests***

Officers of the Alliance Police Department Patrol Division arrested 48 persons after an anonymous female caller reported that underage drinking was occurring at 36 Hartshorn St. at 12:30 a.m. Sunday, according to a press release from the police department.

Midnight shift patrol officers Robert Rajcan, Donald Wensel, Anthony Palozzi, Michael Jones and Scott Dean responded to the large college party and encountered underage persons trying to leave the party on the sidewalk. Subjects were detained and taken into custody after it was verified that they had been consuming alcohol and were under 21 years of age.

In the meantime, officers made contact with two residents, Franklin Margazano and Paul Schmid, who gave consent to search the premises. While the officers were speaking to these subjects about the number of underage persons inside, other persons began exiting second-story windows in an attempt to hide on the roof of the residence to avoid apprehension. Once spotted they quickly retreated back into the residence and hid in second-floor bedrooms.

Of the approximately 70 persons located by officers, about 20 were 21 or older and were released. The remaining persons were interviewed and charged with underage prohibitions. Approximately five to 10 subjects jumped from side windows in an attempt to flee. Several escaped while several were apprehended in the process. They were subsequently charged with additional charges of obstructing official business and resisting arrest. Charges are forthcoming for others who fled the scene. The two residents, although cooperative, were charged with permitting underage persons to consume alcohol on their premises, a first-degree misdemeanor.

All subjects were transported to the police station for booking and released with the exception of Silas M. Pisani, who was transported to Stark County Jail after fighting with officers at the scene. The following persons will appear in Alliance Municipal Court at 1 p.m. on either today, Wednesday or Friday.

This incident represents the largest number of persons ever arrested for underage drinking during one incident and emphasizes the midnight shift patrol officers' zero tolerance policy for underage drinking in Alliance.

# Fitchburg State College Party Arrests

FITCHBURG -- Police arrested 10 individuals for alcohol-related crimes Thursday night near Fitchburg State College campus in what Police Chief Robert DeMoura called a continued crackdown on underage drinking.

City police partnered with Fitchburg State College Police to make the arrests, DeMoura said. DeMoura said the incidents stemmed from complaints to police from parents and neighbors in the area of a party.

When police arrived at the two scenes, officers found house parties where people were serving alcohol to minors at a cost.

"They were charging a fee to come into the party," DeMoura said. "We're going after these places that are selling alcohol to minors." DeMoura said a liquor license is required to sell alcohol in the city. DeMoura said police have seen an increased rowdiness in the area since Fitchburg State classes began.

Police responded to 61 Clinton St., around 11:15 p.m. Thursday, according to police reports. Police arrested seven people, including Eric David Rummel of 5 Bentley Lane, Chemsford and Nicholas Jordan Bruegger of 169 Pearl St., Fitchburg, for possessing liquor under the age of 21. Cory Michael McCue of 28 Country Lane, Sharon was charged with illegal sale of alcohol and David Lynne, of 1 Oak Hill Lane, Barrington, N.H., Nicholas Russo of 44 Damon Road, Rockland, Richard Michael Russo of 61 Clinton St., Fitchburg and Joseph Rich of 27 Chestnut St., Wakefield were all charged with selling liquor to an individual under the age of 21.

Four minutes later, police records show, officers responded to 197 Highland Ave. where records indicate a "large college party" was under way.

James Wilfred Kergaravat of 197 Highland Ave., Fitchburg and James Anthony Tirabassi of 259 Read St., Attelboro were charged will selling liquor to a person under 21.

At 20 Highland St. at 12:03 a.m., Sean Jerome Reardon of 28 Chestnut St., Gloucester was charged with having an open container, resisting arrest and possessing liquor under the age of 21. DeMoura said he's also heard concerns about minors using out-of-state fake IDs to enter licensed liquor establishments, which he said police would be cracking down on in future weeks as well. "We're going to continue this initiative weekly," DeMoura said about targeting alcohol-related crimes.

## ***Party busted with total of 48 arrests***

ST. CLOUD, Minn. -- Police officials broke up a large party Saturday night and used Tasers to control party-goers.

Forty-eight people were arrested on various charges including 31 on minor consumption. Of the 48 arrested, 40 were taken to county jail where three were found to have previous warrants.

Police responded to a report of a loud party on McKinley Street and attempted to enter the house, but the renters would not allow their admission.

Police then obtained a search warrant and broke into the house.

# Party bust leads to 57 arrests

## ***Indiana Excise Police ticket minors on Corby Blvd. early Saturday***

By: Kaitlynn Riely

Fifty-seven people were arrested, mostly for underage drinking, after police disrupted a party early Saturday morning at a house owned by Notre Dame students.

Fifty-three people were given arrest tickets for minor consumption of alcohol at the house on the 900-block of Corby Blvd., known locally as Corby Street, said Jennifer Fults, a public relations officer for the Indiana State Excise Police.

Of the 53 minors, two were jailed, Fults said. The first was taken to jail for minor consumption and false informing, the second for minor consumption and also for resisting arrest by fleeing.

Several people fled from the area, Fults said.

Four of the five tenants were given arrest tickets for furnishing alcohol to minors. One of the tenants was not at the house when police came, said a resident of the house who asked to not be named.

Two officers from the Indiana State Excise Police and four officers from the Indiana State Police Bremen Post arrived at the house at 12:35 a.m. Saturday.

"They were just doing saturation patrols in the campus area and they noticed a larger group of individuals on the front lawn and spilling out into [Corby Street]," Fults said.

The incident was not listed as a noise violation, Fults said. The police report says the large numbers of individuals on the front lawn and overflowing into the street alerted police to the party.

The police remained at the house until 3:30 a.m., Fults said.

A resident of the house, who asked to not be named, said the police were at the house for three hours because they lined everyone up, gave Breathalyzer tests and checked IDs one by one. They also searched the house and had the exits from the house and the backyard blocked off to prevent anyone from leaving, the resident said.

Fults said she has not worked in her position long enough to say whether 57 arrests is unusual for the area near Notre Dame's campus.

"Statewide, I wouldn't say that it's out of the ordinary," she said.

The officers were on routine patrol when they discovered the party Saturday morning, Fults said.

"We are assigned to St. Joe County, and I cannot tell you for sure that they are there every weekend, but they are assigned to St. Joe County," she said.

Fults advised people to refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages until they are 21 to avoid encounters with the Indiana State Excise Police.

# Off-Campus College Party Results in 27 Arrests

By Maureen Boyle

Bridgewater- Police broke up a loud, drunken party early today and arrested 27 people – most believed to be students – on Plymouth Street.

Three men renting an apartment at 212 Plymouth Street who were hosting the party were charged with Keeping a noisy and disorderly house and other charges, including procuring alcohol for minors.

Police Lt. Michael Bois said police from Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, West Bridgewater and the Plymouth County Sheriff's Office and Bridgewater College campus police helped to transport the 27 people arrested at the scene.

The landlord was also called to the scene by the police, Bois said.

Police were called to Plymouth Street around 2 am today to investigate a loud party and, when officers pulled up, saw people fighting and a drunk woman laying in the street.

That woman, as well as a second drunken female, were taken to the hospital for treatment.

The party was one of two on the street, Bois said.

## ***Officer uses pepper spray to break up brawls***

**By: Managing Editor**

A UTM Public Safety police report released Monday, Aug. 25, shows that the incident that occurred Friday, Aug. 22 in the ballroom of the Boling University Center has resulted in the arrest of 15; of those, 11 are currently enrolled at UTM and three are former UTM students. Charges range from fighting, simple assault, disorderly conduct to assault on a police officer. Public Safety's investigation to identify the participants in the fights show that the primary combatants were members of the Phi Beta Sigma and the Omega Psi Phi fraternities and that members of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority had been assaulted during the fights.

The following information is based on records obtained from the Department of Public Safety: According to the police report, at 11:45 p.m. Aug. 22, UTM Public Safety Officer David Sliger, the responding officer, was walking through the University Center when he noticed that a fight had taken place in the ballroom. Delta Sigma Theta sorority was hosting a party in the ballroom at that time. After a phone call to the sorority's adviser, Deborah Boyd, Sliger asked that the disc jockey stop the music and said that all participants needed to leave the building immediately. A second fight erupted in the crowd while Sliger was trying to clear the guests from the ballroom. When he attempted to break up the fight, he was struck three times in the back with a chair by a suspect who was later identified as Frankie Doss of West Point, Miss. Doss, who fled through the southeast door of the ballroom, was charged with assault on a police officer and disorderly conduct after refusing to leave the area.

While in pursuit of the assailant, the responding officer observed a third fight. After attempts to stop the fight with verbal commands failed, he warned that pepper spray would be deployed. When the combatants did not respond, pepper spray was deployed to break up the fight. Sliger then observed that Officer Michael Wenz of UTM Public Safety was trying to break up a fourth fight. Sliger was unable to assist Wenz because of a fifth fight that developed between his location and Wenz's location. Verbal commands to stop fighting were ignored, and the responding officer deployed pepper spray to break up that fight. After breaking up the fifth fight, Sliger was able to make his way to Wenz's location. Wenz was still trying to break up the fourth fight. After verbal commands from Wenz and Sliger were ignored, pepper spray was deployed to break up this fight as well. While still trying to clear guests from the ballroom, Sliger observed a sixth fight. Once again, attempts to stop the fight with verbal commands failed. Pepper spray was once again deployed. The responding officer then observed a seventh fight near the southeast door of the ballroom. Pepper spray was deployed to break up this fight after verbal commands were ignored.

As the participants departed the building, groups began to form on the patio south of the University Center and continued to shout at one another. When the groups were advised to disperse, two subjects apparently refused to do so and were arrested outside the east side of the Ellington Hall lobby. The two were charged with disorderly conduct.