

Whites, blacks clash; police nab 12 students

By JOHN FAIRMAN

Disturbances returned to the Ferris State College campus last night, as white and black students met in a confrontation in the Pickell - Brophy Resident Hall area.

Approximately 100 black and an equal number of white students were involved in the latest outbreak of violence on the campus, which began at 12:30 a.m. The black students gathered in the parking lot between the two resident dorms, according to college officials, carrying clubs and bricks. White students gathered in the lounge of Pickell, also armed with clubs.

The real trouble began, officials said, when the black students charged into the dorm, with fighting breaking out in the lounge area. The blacks finally left the building, gathering again in the parking lot, where they began throwing bricks and stones at the windows of both dormitories. All but three cars in the parking lot were damaged, as bricks were thrown through windshields and three were turned over.

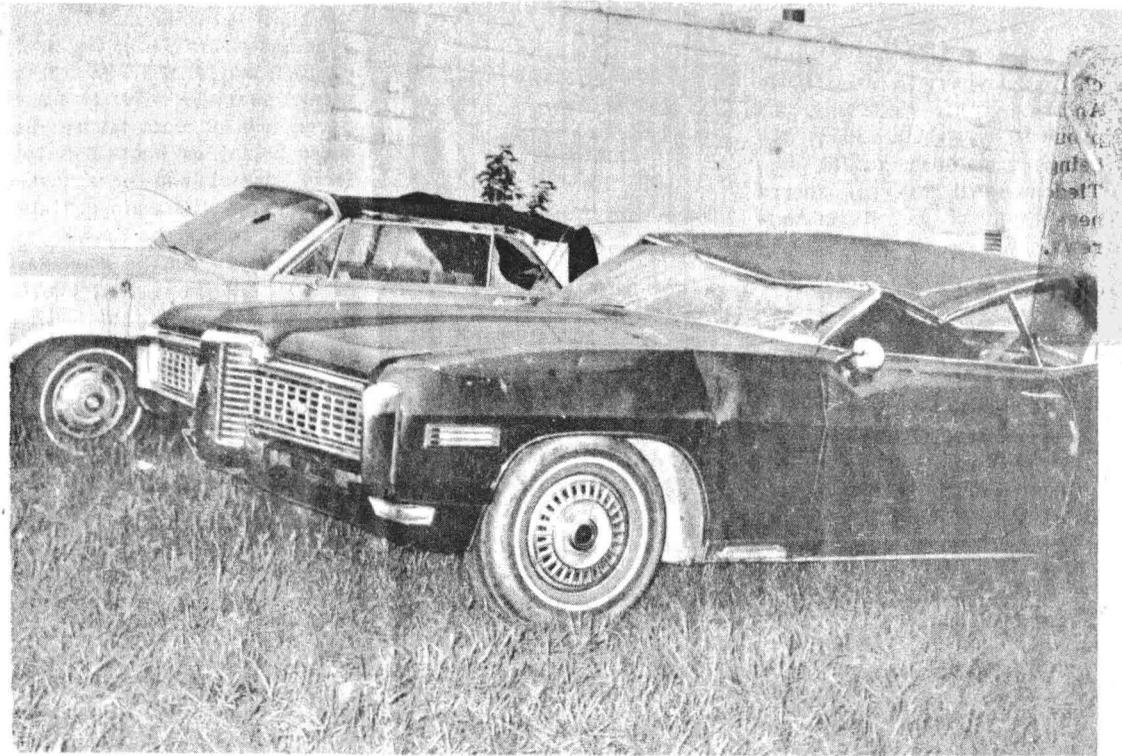
The campus Security Police force finally put in a call for assistance, receiving help from the Mecosta County Sheriff's Department, City Police and the Michigan State Police.

enforcement officials, when an inflammatory article appeared in the Travis Hall newsletter, attacking the conduct of black students in the food center. The article was discovered before the newsletter was passed out, and attempts were made to hold back on all of the issues. Still, some got out, with black students meeting later to protest the story. After this meeting, some fighting between white and black students allegedly broke out.

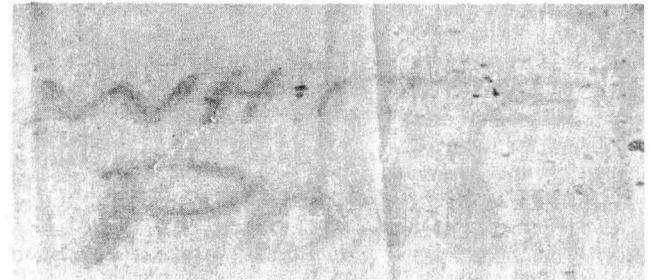
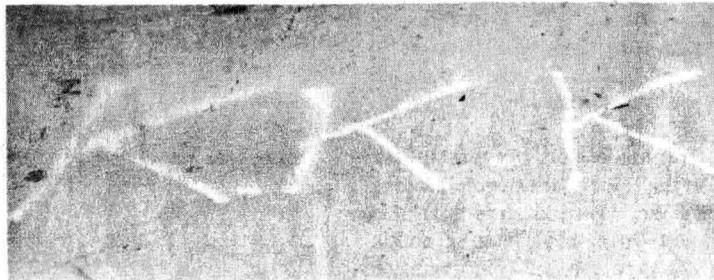
Still, college officials stated that the campus did not appear to be tense on Friday, though there appeared to be some uneasiness during the day yesterday.

This latest incident promises to put a statement on campus

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HEAVILY DAMAGED--Two of the many cars damaged in last night's racial outburst at Ferris State College belonged to Negro student leaders Louis Stone and Ronald Snead. Snead succeeded Stone recently as chairman of the student chapter of NAACP. --Pioneer Photo by N. Batdorff



Signs of our times