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—AP Wirephoto

Students Cover One of Many Car Windows Smashed in Racial Clash at Ferris State

# 14 Hurt, 13 Arrested in New Racial Violence at Ferris State

BIG RAPIDS (AP)—At least 13 persons were arrested Tuesday after about 90 sheriff's deputies, state and local police broke up a clash involving black and white students at Ferris State College.

Police said order was restored to the campus after the crowd dispersed. However, State Police continued to patrol throughout the day.

Fourteen persons suffered cuts and other minor injuries from fights and from

thrown bottles, bricks and boards. They were treated at the student infirmary.

Expensive dormitory windows were smashed. About 33 cars were severely damaged. Furniture in a dormitory lounge was smashed. At least one Molotov cocktail was thrown.

It was the latest outgrowth of violence between white and black students during the school year.

On March 3, State Police were summoned by Ferris State president, Dr. Victor Spathelf, and arrested 263 black students. The students were charged with trespassing after a sit-in at the college's administration building.

Charles Benagh, an editor on the campus newspaper, said 100 black students and up to 400 white students congregated in a parking lot outside two dormitories before police arrived. State Police said when they moved in the crowd consisted of 60 black students and between 100 and 200 white students.

Nearly every window was broken on the side of Pickell dormitory, in which the fighting started. Police arrested eight black and five white students. Some white students were reportedly arrested after overturning cars belonging to the local leaders of the NAACP student chapter.

Police identified two of those arrested as Ron Snead, president of the NAACP student chapter, and Louis Stone of Albion, former president of the group.

When police arrived, the black students were clustered in the center of the parking lot. The white students were outside two dormitories.

The students exchanged insults and

threw additional bottles and firecrackers, Benagh said.

Authorities said trouble started brewing last Thursday night when "a series of incidents" was reported. Monday night, police said, some Ku Klux Klan signs were posted in one dormitory and black youths ran through the building tearing them down.

A confederate flag found in one student's room was ripped off the wall, police said, and a black student was hit on the head with a pop bottle.