

THE NASHVILLIAN

STORIES FROM JANUARY 2002

TRUCK ACCIDENT NEAR WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The cause for yesterday morning's outbreak of hysteria has been determined to be the result of a freak mishap at the city's water treatment facility. A military tanker truck, carrying experimental hallucinogenic chemicals, overturned on a bridge, causing the chemicals to leak out and into the water treatment facility. The accident occurred at about 5 AM the morning of the incident. Workers at the plant worked feverishly throughout the day to cleanse the city's water supply, however, several thousand gallons of the tainted water were released into the water supply before anyone was aware of the problem. The chemicals in the water caused a brief outbreak of mass hysteria and delusion, which are the cause of the reported demon and huge spider sightings and other phenomena. The truck driver is being held at police headquarters for questioning and an investigation into the accident are underway. The head of the Nashville Water Treatment Facility issued this statement: [continued on 3A]

HUNDREDS DIE, MANY ARE INJURED IN OUTBREAK

At around 7 AM yesterday morning, many Nashvillians getting ready for work got more than they bargained for when they took a shower in water that had been tainted with an experimental hallucinogen. The symptoms of this chemical include delusions and hallucinations. Commonly reported sightings include large spiders attaching themselves to buildings, large mythical creatures such as demons and spirits, materializing and wreaking havoc throughout the city. Unfortunately, the reactions of the affected were somewhat extreme, and the city's traffic system was virtually shut down all day due to massive accidents resulting from people attempting to avoid these things which were not there. Property damage is estimated in the millions as people viciously attacked the creatures which had attached themselves to their homes and commercial structures, causing fires and even, in more extreme cases, buildings to collapse upon themselves and fall on their surroundings. Approximately 550 people were killed in traffic pileups, suicides, and rioting. The number of injured is still unknown, as hospitals were forced to turn away entrance to all but the most extreme cases, as the city's emergency rooms became overcrowded. The Red Cross has issued a call for blood to supply the many needy within the city, and are setting up temporary shelters for those whose home were [continued on 2A]

MAYOR ISSUES STATEMENT ON TRAGEDY

The mayor issued a public statement yesterday on the results of last week's tragedy. "I urge all citizens to stay calm. The city is setting up a relief fund for those who suffered loss in this terrible time. We will help those who lost their homes and loved ones. We will rebuild and recover, stronger than ever, from this terrible loss. All citizens who were charged with nonviolent crimes during and immediately after the outbreak are being issued a blanket pardon. There were mistakes made on the part of certain government officials during this crisis, and I would like to formally apologize now for those mistakes. Our internal investigation in the Water Treatment Facility is ongoing and we will devise new and more efficient methods, to ensure that such an event never occurs again." The mayor went on to report that [continued on 2A]

TWO MISSING STUDENTS FOUND

The bodies of two MTSU students who have been missing since the early part of October have been found. According to a statement by the Murfreesboro Chief of Police, they were recovered in a drainage ditch located on an abandoned farm in a remote part of Ruthgerford County, and had obviously been dead for some time. The boys were last seen leaving their Introduction to Business class together to return to their dorm rooms. They were reported missing soon thereafter, as they never appeared at their dorms. A campus search turned up nothing, and it was theorized by some that they had left the area, as one of their cars was also missing. The vehicle has not been recovered. [continued on 4B]

VAN EXPLODES ON INTERSTATE CAUSING MASSIVE PILE-UP

A city animal-control van exploded on Interstate 40 yesterday, killing the driver and all animals aboard, and incited a 13-car accident on the highway. The cause for explosion is still under investigation. Apparently, the gas tank ruptured, causing the explosion, but evidence as to how the tank ruptured has not yet been found. One passenger survived, suffering 3rd-degree burns, and is listed as being in stable condition at Vanderbilt University. The van was carrying wild dogs which were believed involved in last month's series of attacks upon civilians and Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency officials in various parks around [continued on 2B]

WAREHOUSE FIRE

A Murfreesboro storage warehouse was broken into and ransacked last week, and then apparently burned to the ground. The cause of the fire has been revealed to be arson. Police and fire investigations are still underway. The company which leased the warehouse, The Wild Hunt, Inc., sporting-goods manufacturer, reports that its security systems were all located on-site and have not yet been recovered. At this time, no suspects have been released.

LOCAL SOCIALITE'S HOME BURNS

A Belle Meade home caught fire and burned down yesterday, due to an accidental electrical fire in the kitchen. A sudden spark from a faulty wire started inside the wall, and the 100-year old house was soon ablaze. Metro Fire Department officials arrived on the scene, but were not soon enough to save the house, or the 2 servants who were caught in an upstairs area and unable to escape. The owner of the house is reported to be out of the country and was unavailable for comment.