

Wood High Blast Causes Door Damage

A homemade bomb damaged a door at Wood High School and a Northside service station was damaged by arson in separate incidents overnight.

At Wood High School, 501 S. Meridian, an explosion about 10:45 p.m. shattered a rear door in the building.

Police said the blast was caused by what appeared to be a dynamite bomb. The incident took place shortly after graduation ceremonies.

Principal Richard Emery called the incident "a prank." He said glass in the door was shattered but the door is still usable.

Janitor Max Gamble, 53, 765 Lexington, said he heard the blast and called police. Witnesses said two boys ran from the area to a parked car or truck on McCarty and fled.

Charles Hill, fire prevention chief, said a fire that damaged Pat's Texaco Station, 1802 E. 38th, about 1:45 a.m. was set after a flammable liquid, probably gasoline, was poured over a paper strewn card table in an office.

Hill said an explosion resulted, damaging the station.

Paul McDougall, 29, 2732 N. Adams, assistant manager of the station, was taken to General Hospital with leg burns and is in fair condition.

McDougall told Hill he was in the neighborhood washing his uniforms at a self-service laundry when he saw the smoke and fire.

McDougall opened the station's front door, then kicked in another door, suffering burns as he did, he told police.

The fire was reported by John Lowe, 20, 3810 Kinnear, who said he heard the blast and investigated. He immediately called police.