

# Spring breakers swarm to Texas, California and Florida

(CPS)—It's that time of year again—when residents of beach towns across the United States and Mexico lock up their children, hide their valuables and brace themselves for an onslaught of less-than-well-behaved college students.

Chief Edward Sanders of the South Padre Island (Texas) Police Department laughed when he was asked what his officers were planning to do during spring break 1992 to control unruly, drunken students.

"We're going to Cancun, Mexico," he said.

So are thousands of others. Travel agents and tourism departments say the recession hasn't diminished the size of the hordes that will descend primarily on Florida, Mexico and South Padre Island, off the southern tip of Texas, this March and early April.

"The recession hasn't had a negative impact on us," said

Teresa Ogle, the marketing and sales coordinator for College Tours, which arranges Spring Break packages to Mazatlan and Cancun, Mexico. "This year we have a lot more students. There weren't as many last year because of the war."

Popular destinations this year include Hilton Head Island off the coast of South Carolina, Steamboat Springs, Colorado, for skiing enthusiasts, and various Caribbean Island cruises. The Florida Keys remain popular with Florida students, while California beaches attract students in the Northwest.

Most still consider Daytona Beach the hottest spot for spring break.

The only city discouraging visits from the spring break crowd is Fort Lauderdale, where strict open container and other drinking laws went into effect after wild beer riots and the deaths of some students a few years ago.

Through the '80s, increased reports of crime and deaths due to drinking and accidents during the break have prompted all of the spring break hot spots to take special precautions.

Party Smart is a national alcohol awareness program that doesn't tell students "Don't drink," but rather "Drink responsibly."

Karen Oliver, who works with Party Smart and is now in Daytona to promote the program during break, said, "We are trying to help promote community-wide awareness. We stress personal responsibility."

Another organization—BACCHUS, which stands for Boost Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students—is also promoting responsible drinking behaviors. BACCHUS stresses the dangers of drinking and driving and is asking students to sign "Safe Spring Break

Pledges" which state that students won't drink and drive, won't let friends drink and drive, will wear their seatbelts and won't get into a car with a drunken driver.

Everyone who signs a pledge is eligible to win a car

from the Chrysler Corporation, which sponsors the effort.

In a different effort to protect students, university student legal services departments and area Better Business Bureau offices are cautioning students to watch for scams.

## Hungover?

No student should wake up from the dredges of spring break without proper terminology. Therefore, authors Andy Griscom, Ben Rand and Scott Johnson provided us with these "buff" expressions in their guide *The Complete Book of Beer*. Eight foreign terms for hangover:

- katzenjammer (German for "the wailing of cats")
- stonato (Italian for "out of tune")
- la gueule de bois (French for "woody snout")
- resaca (Spanish for "surf of the sea")
- jeg har tommermann (Norwegian for "working in my head")
- ont i haret (Swedish for "pain in the roots of my hair")
- irie Rasta coco ganja (Jamaican for "stoned Rastafarian • trying to split my coconut")
- so to gi ko-ho (Vietnamese for "water buffalo plowing inside my head")

## Three students on spring break overcome by carbon monoxide fumes

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (CPS)—Three college students on spring break remained in serious condition after being overcome by carbon monoxide in their motel room.

The carbon monoxide fumes apparently seeped from a nearby boiler into the room. The three students, all from Massachusetts, were discovered March 20 by a maid at the 200-room Holiday Inn—Airport.

Rescue workers initially thought they were badly sunburned or had overdosed on drugs because their skin had turned a deep red. When a police officer collapsed, rescue workers realized that the students' color was the result of carbon monoxide poisoning.

All guests were evacuated from the motel, which will remain closed until authorities give the owners the go-ahead to re-open.

# Tops with students.



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