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## Race-related fight points to problem of alcohol and violence

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# *Race-related fight points to problem of alcohol violence*

**S**unday morning, two black UMaine students were attacked by white men.

Orono Police Chief Dan Lowe said the incident wasn't racially-motivated. The two black men aren't talking, and Lowe refuses to identify the nine white men, because he fears racial overtones to the crime will prevent the administration of justice.

Lowe bases his claim that the incident wasn't racially-motivated on the relative frequency of assaults in Orono and the fact that he has seen too many cases of alcohol-related violence to believe that this incident is and different.

Perhaps he is right. Or, maybe he isn't. He is certainly correct in stating that too many alcohol-related fights take place in the Orono area.

It would be a pity to have to acknowledge that fact now, and only because a race clash is involved.

After all, if fights based on the color of one's skin are wrong, aren't fights based on one's intoxication just as bad?

In our minds, it's worse. You can't change the color of your skin, but you can control the amount you drink. (DHV)