

Pearl Jam fans shake up rock concert

Riot police were called in after about 2,000 frustrated rock fans downed chain-link fences and hurled bottles and rocks at an outdoor Pearl Jam concert in Miami, police said Tuesday.

Four people were arrested, and five were injured, including three police officers.

"People were trying to force their way in," Miami police spokesman **Angelo Bitsis** said. "More showed up than had tickets."

Monday night's concert, held at the open-air AT&T Amphitheater at downtown Bayfront Park, was sold out in 11 minutes when the \$18 tickets first went on sale Feb. 16, said **Ira Katz**, the theater's executive director and general manager.

Katz said 8,314 tickets were sold. But an additional 2,000 fans of the Seattle-based grunge-rock group showed up, apparently hoping to sneak into the concert, Bitsis said.

"It was real ugly out there," said **Carah Thomas-Maskell**, 34, a freelance photographer who was covering the event and was hurt during the concert.

"Everyone was frustrated," she said. "The place was packed. Why didn't they play at a bigger venue?"

The crowds started knocking down the fences and kicking holes in them at about 8:30 p.m., police said.

Extra police were sent in shortly before 9 p.m. after the commanding officer of the 34 officers assigned to the concert asked for help, said Maj. **Edward Buff**.

About 65 riot-trained officers, clad in helmets, shields and batons,



AP

PEARL JAMS FANS whoop it up Monday night outside a sold-out performance in Miami.

helped disperse the crowd. Two officers were hit with flying bottles and rocks. A third officer was treated at a hospital for a severely sprained ankle, Buff said.

One concertgoer suffered minor injuries and another was treated at a hospital for an asthma attack.

Thomas-Maskell said she was roughed up inside the amphitheater when the group's road manager confiscated her camera after she took three or four photographs with a flash. Her camera was returned, but without the film. She has filed a complaint with the police department.

Two of the four concertgoers arrested were charged with disorderly conduct; two with possession

of marijuana, Buff said. At one point, 10 people were in police custody, but the others were released without being charged, he said.

On Tuesday, the Bayfront theater bore the scars of the Pearl Jam concert. Fences dividing the seating area from the grass were kicked in, and parts of the taller fences surrounding the theater were toppled. The main entrance's chain-link gate lay on the ground. Some small trees were uprooted.

Pearl Jam headed for St. Petersburg for an indoor concert Tuesday night, but security wasn't expected to be a problem, said the concert's promoter, **Rudolph Stein**.

Atlanta is the next stop on the group's tour.