

# Man raids strip club with bomb

## Father of new employee subdued by police, none hurt

**Brian Clark**

Times Record News

Police arrested the father of a new Maximus employee who stormed into the strip club Saturday afternoon with a pipe bomb strapped to his chest and said he wanted to shut down the club, according to employees.

The man, dressed in fatigues and brandishing a large knife, slashed chairs and tables and threatened workers before they escaped and crossed the street to a Subway restaurant at about 6 p.m. — more than half an hour after the man entered the club at 3136 Seymour Highway.

"He said that he was going to have this place shut down one way or the other," said Pam Gilbert, who was to



Harry Tonemah  
/Times Record News

**Wichita Falls firefighter Mark Englishbee keeps communication open from a motel office next door to the scene.**

be the first dancer for the night.

He opened his jacket and  
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showed a bomb on his chest when he walked in the door, she said.

"There were no dancers on the stage," she said. "I was on standby, and I could see everything."

Dancers and the doorman, who said his name was Aaron, said the man threatened the business Friday after he found his daughter working her first night at the club.

"He saw his daughter there and was really pissed," Aaron said. "He called 10 times last night threatening the place. The last time he called he said he slashed some tires, and he did."

The lone customer in the club, who said his name was Dustin, watched as the man pulled a knife at the door.

"He started saying something about a girl working there," he said. "He started charging at people saying 'Do you want to die.'"

The club's general manager, Vic Robinson, said he had the dancers move to their dressing room when the man pulled out his knife, but the man went to the back of the club across from the bar and closer to the dressing room.

"I grabbed a great big metal ice scoop, and he backed up," Robinson said. "I wanted something in self-defense if he was going to be swinging a knife."

While police collected the knife, which was stuck in a table, and pipe bomb as evidence, Robinson and the dancers began to clear the stage of damage. Water columns had been broken in half, spilling water onto the stage, and several tables and chairs had been knocked down.

"In almost six years here I've never had anything like this happen," Robinson said.

The man wore "survival-

ist-type of attire" and appeared to be in his 30s, Wichita Falls Police Chief Ken Coughlin said after the man was arrested at about 6:30 p.m. The man was taken into custody uninjured after officers convinced him to surrender.

"The bomb will be packaged and sent to be analyzed in Fort Worth or Fort Sill," Chief Ken Coughlin said. "It'll have to be analyzed to determine if it's a valid or an unusable device."

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