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34 arrested at Atkinson's order in chancellor's office sit-in

Nothing I can do — Atkinson

BY REBECCA S. LOWEN
Staff Writer

As San Diego Police, armed with guns and billy clubs, arrived to arrest the students occupying the chancellor's office yesterday afternoon, a visibly shaken Richard Atkinson insisted to a group of about 200 students gathered in a nearby conference room that "there's nothing I can do" about Tolbert's tenure.

"I plan to go through the normal process," he repeatedly told Robert Tambuzi, spokesman for the protestors.

"That's the only thing I can do. I can't make a judgment on this case (of Tolbert's tenure)."

Atkinson also refused to act when Tambuzi requested that he prevent the police from arresting or harming any of the students occupying the chancellor's office.

"I don't know what I can do
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Chancellor Atkinson, during a meeting outside his office in which he could do little to quell the disturbance.

No injuries in Tolbert protest

BY JEFF BERESFORD-HOWE
News Editor

Thirty-four students were arrested yesterday afternoon at Chancellor Atkinson's order after a peaceful two-hour sit-in at the chancellor's office.

The students, who are demanding tenure for Black Assistant History Professor Emory Tolbert, as well as more Third World studies and recruitment programs, were all released by early last night.

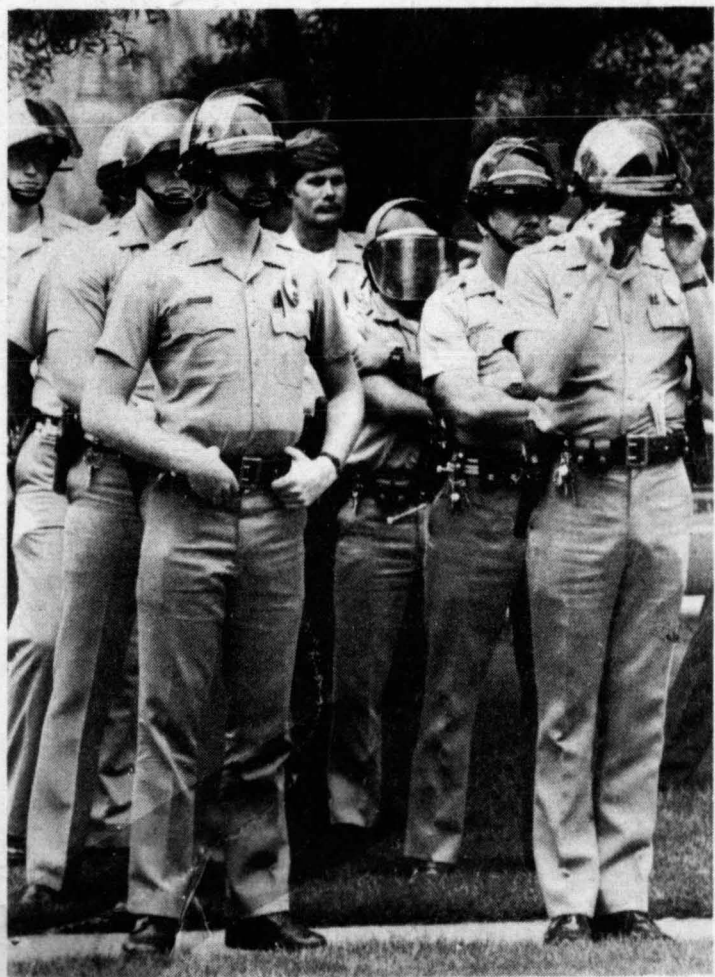
A hearing for the 34 has been set for June 16 in San Diego Municipal Court, should the chancellor decide to press charges.

The students occupied the office at noon, simultaneous with the start of a rally on the gym steps to support Tolbert, who received a negative tenure recommendation last week.

About a dozen students, led by Black Students Union Chairman Ken Overton, came into the office, locked the doors and initially "wouldn't permit us to use the phones," according to an Atkinson assistant.

The chancellor, who was having lunch with community leaders in a room adjacent to his office, immediately left the luncheon and asked students to leave the building with him so they could talk about their list of eight demands.

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San Diego County police outside the chancellor's office in formation, awaiting word from Atkinson, via campus police chief Hugh French, to remove 34 people sitting in the chancellor's office. They did so with no injuries.



Some of the students inside the chancellor's office just before their arrest on trespassing charges. They linked hands, formed a circle and chanted "Tolbert! Tenure!"

'Tolbert might get tenure'

BY JOHN BRICE
Staff Writer

A source in the UCSD history department said last night that Professor Emory Tolbert "may very well be granted tenure at UCSD." The tenured source, requesting anonymity, explained that Tolbert could receive tenure in the same manner that History Prof. Robert Edelman was granted tenure this year. (see related story, page 4)

This statement came out while the department member was questioned about the hiring of Black professor David Lewis. "We are requesting a new position in the department for Lewis because we cannot hire someone to

replace Tolbert as that case has not been closed."

"Tolbert's scholarship does not meet our standards," commented the source, adding that many people in the history department "felt that Edelman should not have received tenure," either. But, the source added the university administration over-rode the History Department and gave Edelman tenure.

The source described Lewis, a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study at Stanford, as "very impressive."



Atkinson inside his office, surrounded by demonstrators he was trying to convince, unsuccessfully, to leave his office.



Arrested sit-in participants, their hands bound behind their back by plastic cords, look out from a paddy wagon just before they are transported to Santee.



Atkinson talks outside his office with his assistant Pat Collum. Collum was arrested for participating in demonstrations at Morgan State University in Baltimore between 1960-64 that had as their aim desegregating a luncheonette counter. She addressed those sitting-in for a short time, urging them to get arrested if that's what they believed in, but telling them that she thought there were other ways to get what they wanted.



Campus police chief Hugh French gives his last warning to protesters that they will be arrested unless they leave the chancellor's office.

Atkinson says he can't help Tolbert

Tenure process is fair, he tells 200 outside office

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about it. I'm going to have that office cleared, and if they (the police) have to, then yes, they can demolish my office." Atkinson's meeting in the administrative conference room across from the chancellor's office was arranged after Atkinson left his office saying he would only talk with students if they left, too. About 35 stayed in Atkinson's office, but nearly 200 joined the chancellor, all the while making it clear that their sympathies were with those participating in the sit-in.

The chancellor, unprepared and shaken, faced a panel of four students representing campus Third World organizations who had prepared questions regarding amnesty for the protestors, Tolbert's tenure and Atkinson's commitment to affirmative action programs. Students listened quietly, but the room slowly emptied as San Diego police arrived to arrest the students still in the chancellor's office and as Atkinson tried to turn the discussion to his record of improving Third World Student and faculty recruitment. First asked to promise amnesty for all students involved, Atkinson promised there would be "no recrimination." But he added, "I'm not trying to threaten you, but I am going to have that office cleared."

He repeatedly insisted that the tenure process has "defined rules" which had "evolved over time" and that he could "do nothing" except

follow "the normal tenure process." He dismissed as "nonsense" one student's suggestion that the tenure process actually is highly political. "It's a fair process, a process that's very open, a process that all universities outside the United States envy."

The students at the meeting were unconvinced, however, and Tambuzi claimed that the three requirements for tenure — publication, community service and teaching ability — had been met by Tolbert.

Though Atkinson refused to commit himself on the issue of Tolbert's tenure, he did try to mollify the students by declaring, "affirmative action is my highest priority as chancellor."

"Recruitment of Third World students is atrocious," he admitted. "The University should be doing much better. Accused of 'just paying lip service,'" Atkinson pointed to the upcoming appointment of a new chancellor of student affairs, to Third College Provost Watson's report suggesting ideas for improving affirmative action programs and to the increased enrollment of Third World students this year as signs of his commitment to affirmative action.

All photos for this issue were taken by Guardian photo editor Phillip Davies.

34 arrested in sit-in

Tolbert regrets arrests

BY KATHY HUFFER
Editor

Professor Emory Tolbert said last night he was "gratified" by yesterday's display of support for his tenure bid, but expressed regret at the arrest of 34 students.

"I didn't want, and never would want, anyone to be injured or anyone's future to be jeopardized by my case," he told the *Guardian*.

Tolbert, who awaits a decision from Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs John Miles on his second try at tenure, said he had no prior knowledge of the sit-in. He did say, however, that he "was made aware that there would be a rally" after seeing posters and fliers distributed across campus.

He also said the rally and sit-in were not focused solely on his case, but were "an indication of a concern of all Blacks and Browns."

"I wouldn't be vain enough to think that I'm the only issue," he said. "My case seems to be a focal point in some situations...It's a sign of growing concern of the whole issue (of racial problems at UCSD).

"No one has told me they were arrested for me," he said. "The people who did get arrested got arrested for themselves."

Tolbert, one of a dwindling number of Black professors at UCSD, has been a target of student support since he was first denied tenure in 1979. The Black Students Union, in particular, adopted Tolbert's second bid for tenure this year as one of its primary concerns.

Yesterday's rally was the second in less than a week held to protest the History Department's recent rejection of Tolbert's request for tenure.

Despite the publicity that has surrounded his case, Tolbert has maintained his distance from his supporters, for fear that any personal involvement would harm his chances for tenure.

He refused to speculate on the possible effects of yesterday's sit-in and arrests on his chances of receiving tenure.

"Obviously I cannot discuss any effects they (the arrests) might have on my case, or someone might think I had something to do with the rally or the sit-in," he commented. "Students ought not to be just thinking of my case, but of the entire Black and Brown races," Tolbert said.

How many arrested?

San Diego media were reporting 35 and not 34 arrested in the sit-in yesterday, but a police summary listed one name twice, so those who simply corrected the number of names were one off.



BSU chairman Ken Overton (above left) talks with Atkinson in the chancellor's office, at the same time trying to quiet the crowd.

Bagneris backs office takeover

Offers AS funds as bail money for those arrested

BY JENIFER WARREN
Staff Writer

Amid shouts of "Tolbert...justice" at the Chancellor's Complex yesterday, AS President Jules Bagneris, the first Black to hold that office, vowed that his Council "supports 100 percent" the efforts of 34 students who were arrested after occupying Chancellor Atkinson's office.

"The AS has pledged over and over again its support for tenure for Tolbert, and we fully endorse the actions of our fellow students in demanding it," he said.

Although Bagneris "was not not involved" in the planning of the sit-in, which lasted nearly two hours, he said he could have "predicted something like this would happen" due to "building tensions over the past months."

And while only one AS member, Commissioner of Student Welfare Reggie Williams, was arrested, Bagneris was prepared to use his \$1,000 discretionary fund to post bail for all 34 students. He also sent university vans to pick up the demonstrators when they were released.

"I'd like to use my discretionary fund to get them out," said Bagneris before he knew the 34 had been released without penalty of bail. "But they (AS advisors) told me it was inappropriate to use student monies for that reason."

Money from the AS account would not have been available until this morning, and the protestors had no bail costs.

Bagneris, who was elected just three weeks ago, also noted that he "fully endorses" the demands made by the protestors.

In addition to tenure for Assistant Professor of history Emory Tolbert, these include

increased recruitment and retention of Third World students and faculty, the creation of Asian-American, Black and Chicano studies programs, the construction of a Third World Student Center and a guarantee of campus housing for low-income students.

AS Vice President Alma Key, who ran with Bagneris in the election, AS Elections Commissioner Denise Long and AS Appointments and Evaluations Commissioner Wendell Leonard on the all-Black "Respect With Perspective" slate echoed the president's views.

"We've been meeting with the chancellor and asking for help on these same issues for years," said Key.

All released in a few hours

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The students refused.

Fifteen minutes later, former BSU Chairman Robert Tambuzi was interrupted at the rally and told that the occupation, planned by members of the BSU, MEChA, the Native American Students Association and the Asian American Students Association, was successful. The approximate 200 people at the rally then marched to the chancellor's office, where they chanted, "Tolbert Tenure!" for over half an hour.

Atkinson remained in his office, trying to clear it of the demonstrators, who kept growing in number and voice.

"I'd like to go over with you to (Conference Room) 111 across the hall and talk about it there," he said. "It's just disrupting work in this office."

Overton, who was the protestors' spokesman inside the chancellor's office, told the chancellor, "We are willing to send a representative (Tambuzi) over to that building and the rest of us will stay here."

"What guarantee is there that you will negotiate our demands seriously?" MEChA leader Conrado Gerardo asked the chancellor. "How are you going to guarantee that you will negotiate in full faith? We did this 10 years ago, and we're back here doing the same thing. We want a commitment if we're going to go."

Atkinson said he had "no answer to that question," and then made a threat that he made at least five other times: "Once I leave this office, everyone will be removed from here by the police. You will be arrested on my order."

But Atkinson clearly was not eager to initiate any arrests. At different times, he offered to let four, then eight of the protestors stay.

Overton's only response, backed forcefully by the crowd, was that "more than four or eight want to support Dr. Tolbert."

Atkinson: "Well, isn't it good enough to walk across the way and talk about it?"

Overton: "We want a commitment before we do."

After another 15 minutes, in which Atkinson twice threatened to have the protestors removed, he said, "What the police chief told me is that once the process of arrest starts, it can't be stopped."

Atkinson then left the building at about 1:15 pm with Tambuzi to discuss eight demands that Tambuzi's coalition had drawn up the week before. The two were followed by about 200 students in a crowd that by now had grown to 300.

Everyone left that second meeting, including Atkinson and Tambuzi, when San Diego Police arrived.

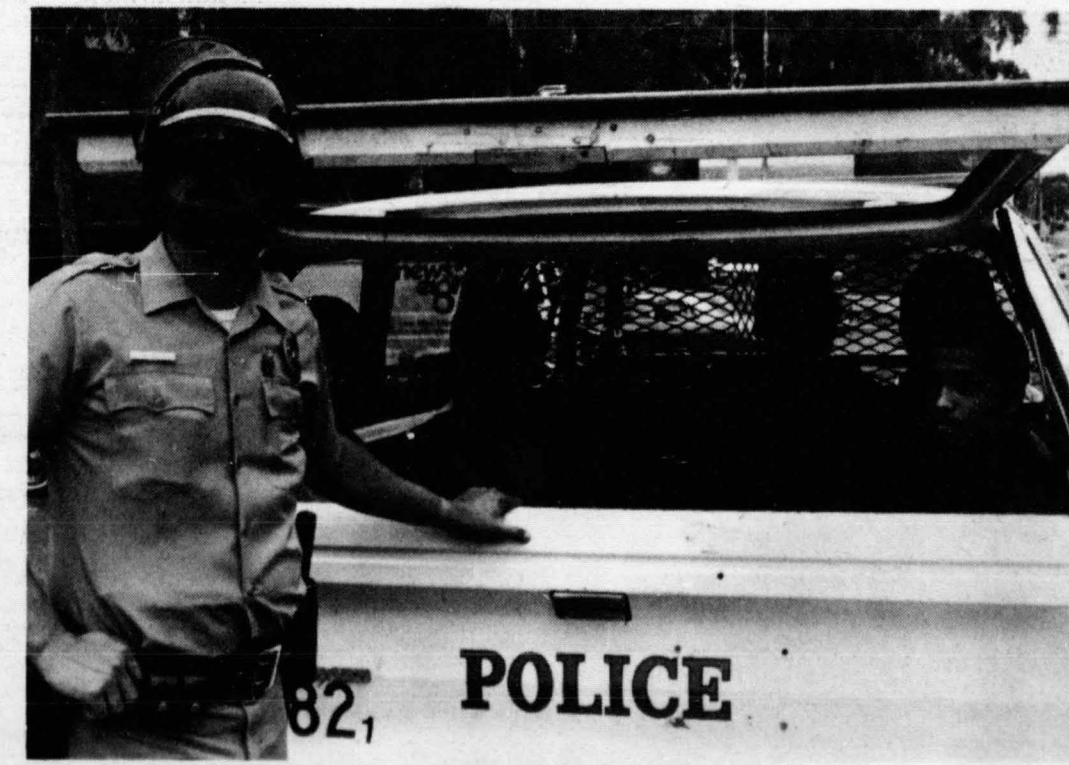
The demonstrators gave no evidence, however, of a shaken resolve. After a final warning from campus police chief Hugh French, the 34 who stayed to be arrested sat in a circle on the floor with their arms linked.

They appeared flustered only twice in the next few tense minutes.

Once, French "warned" the demonstrators that if arrested, they would be going downtown. "They don't treat people like we do — they don't know your students down there," he said, hinting at some sort of brutality against the almost all-Black group.

And Tambuzi came into the room from the Atkinson meeting to announce that there was a "fully armed riot squad" of San Diego County Police outside ready to arrest the protestors.

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A city police officer waits to drive off with four of those arrested in yesterday's sit-in at the chancellor's office.

34 arrested for office sit-in

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After a conference of organizing members, the group decided to proceed in a completely non-violent fashion, hands over their head when arrested.

French also alarmed some when he told San Diego Police by radio that the protesters would probably have to be dragged out violently.

About a dozen SDPD officers were in on the arrest, as well as at least eight campus officers.

At 1:45 pm, they started arresting the demonstrators, one-by-one, including one woman, Dail St. Claire Bacon, who had just left the hospital and could only walk with the aid of a crutch.

The protesters were each led by two uniformed officers down a path created by the SDPD to three vans and two police cars, where waiting friends took down their names so that campus attorney Nick Aguilar could identify them on petitions to get them out of jail quickly.

There were no injuries and no rough treatment of demonstrators, all those contacted by the *Guardian* agreed. The men were taken to county jail downtown and the women to a facility in Santee, then were released on their own recognizance, with no bail money required.

AS President Jules Bagneris had offered to use AS funds to help pay bail, a move he was later told violated university policy (see story, page 3).

The coalition of students which put together the sit-in presented Atkinson with the following list of eight demands last week and again during the sit-in:

"1. We demand that Dr. Emory Tolbert be given tenure! More Third World faculty in the departments..."

"2. We demand that there be more American Indian, Asian American, African-American and Chicano historians in the history department. One of each is not enough..."

"3. We demand that there be an Asian-American studies program, Black Studies program, Chicano studies department... In addition, we demand that the Third World Studies program be a general education requirement for all four colleges at UC San Diego..."

"4. We demand that the Educational Opportunity Program be physically separated from the Office of Relations with Schools — that the EOP Director be directly responsible to the Vice Chancellor of which the unit is under..."

"5. We demand that a student review committee be set up which will have the charge of reviewing faculty tenure files, just as the departments and provosts do, and submit a recommendation which will be given full regard by the vice chancellor and the chancellor in the final decision..."

"6. We demand a Third World Student Center Building..."

"7. We demand that criteria be set up whereas those students coming from low-income backgrounds will have assured eligibility if they cannot afford off-campus housing and assured the necessary financial support to live on campus."

"8. We demand amnesty for all Third World students participating in this demonstration."

These demands were handed to the chancellor last Wednesday, and discussed by Overton and others with the chancellor Friday.

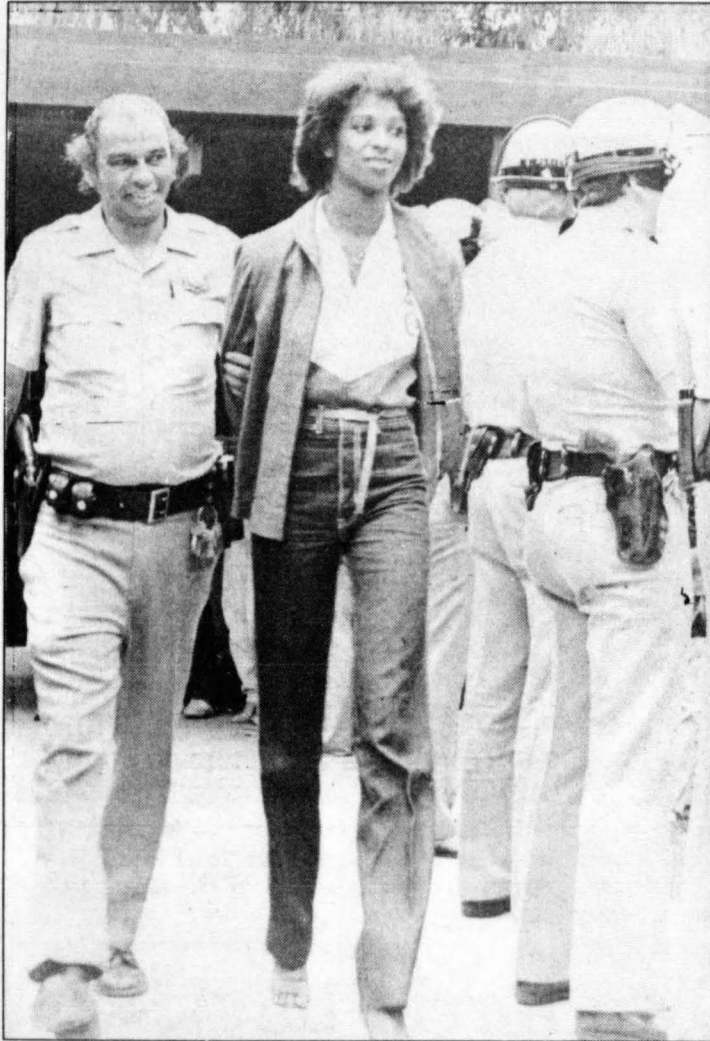
But Tambuzi said the meetings were with a 'short man who kept telling us he couldn't do anything, that he was impotent. That man is a slave master running our lives and we can't let him do it anymore."

Atkinson refused comment with the press all day yesterday, and went to an undisclosed location after the protesters were arrested. But he released a written reply to the demands yesterday.

In that reply, he made no promise to intervene in the Tolbert case; indicated that he would establish a Third World faculty steering committee to recruit other Third World faculty; suggested that programs like Chicano Studies would only be implemented if there were interested faculty currently on the staff; said he was powerless to change the tenure process; suggested "that some space in the student center" be set aside for Third World students and said he didn't know enough about the housing policy to comment on the seventh demand, though he believed the protesters "raised an interesting point... that merits discussion."



An unidentified protester in Atkinson's office



A sit-in participant is led to a paddy wagon by campus police, protected by a cordon of city police.

Edelman: Tolbert model?

BY JOHN BRICE
Staff Writer

The History Department that denied Emory Tolbert tenure has undergone a conservative shift in the last six years, Associate History Professor Robert Edelman said yesterday, but may be on the way to liberalization.

Edelman was recently granted tenure by the administration after a negative history department recommendation in much the same way Tolbert hopes to gain his post.

Edelman also got his bad recommendation on much the same justification that Tolbert did — an alleged weakness in scholarly research.

The Russian History scholar said yesterday that the senior staff of the department felt his "scholarship was utterly useless."

He blames two problems for his difficulties: a lack of community in the department, and a "division that goes back to 1966 when the department was founded."

"There has been a slow shifting of camps. The personal animosity does not always directly relate to political views, but roughly speaking there are individuals in the department who are more positive about affirmative action, interested in innovative approaches to history and more tolerant of variant personal styles."

Later, after H. Stuart Hughes came in 1975, the department's approach became more conservative, Edelman said.

"I think now the future course of the department is less clear. In my own case I was caught between two fairly amorphous groups. However I had a very strong and powerful group of allies, including Michael Parrish and Harry Scheiber, who worked very hard to see my case through to a victorious end."

History department chairman Allen Mitchell, in France, and H. Stuart Hughes, recovering from heart surgery, were unavailable for comment.

Edelman feels that "there was a strong political dimension" in what happened to him two years ago. He also places great value on his tenure. "You can speak what is on your mind, it is extremely important for someone who is politically different."

Edelman hopes the future situation may improve. In the last two years, four professors, Paul Pickowicz, Thomas Dublin, Michael Monteon and himself, have all been granted tenure. Edelman feels this group is "committed to treating people fairly."

List of those arrested Tuesday

A list of those arrested in the sit-in yesterday:

- Atkins, Steven V., 28, La Jolla.
- Bacon, Dail St. Claire, 21, La Jolla.
- Barrington, Dana Elizabeth, 19, San Diego.
- Bannister, Joana Arleen, 22, Del Mar.
- Bossett, Charles Edward, 22, La Jolla.
- Brooks, Kevin D., 26, San Diego.
- Broughton, Robyn Frances, 20, San Diego.
- Brown, Sondra Lynn, 20, La Jolla.
- Cathey, Ricky, 24, San Diego.
- Ching, Barry Chi Wai, 23, San Diego.
- Curry, Patrice Marie, 19, San Diego.
- Davis, Damita Darnice, 19, La Jolla.
- Dumbar, Kim Tracy, 21, Del Mar.
- Ellis, Daryl Arthur, 19, San Diego.
- Gibbs, John Franklin, 22, San Diego.
- Harb, Basem, 18, La Jolla.
- Hardimon, Deidra H., 18, Drake Hall.
- Inouye, Susan Ericka, 21, La Jolla.
- Johnson, Sherman T., 22, Third College Apts.
- Jordan, Byron Utah, 28, La Jolla.
- Laroya, Luke Agbas, 20, National City.
- Moseley, Monica Michelle, 20, Muir Apts.
- Overton, Kenneth Ray, 21, San Diego.
- Pizarro, Christina Camilla, 20, San Diego.
- Richardson, Riginald B., 22, La Jolla.
- Smith, Anthony G., 23, Lemon Grove.
- Smith, Fred E., 20, La Jolla.
- Solomon, Calvin W., 21, La Jolla.

- Thompson, Sam, 26, San Diego.
- Trahan, Janine Mary, 21, San Diego.
- Veal, Carolyn Jean, 20, San Diego.
- Warren, Lisa Michele, 19, La Jolla.
- Wasserman, Mark H., 22, Solana Beach.
- Williams, Reginald, 25, San Diego.

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