

Police, protesters clash; Eleven students arrested

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Eleven students were arrested Friday after they refused to leave an office they had taken over in the Whitmore Administration Building to protest the presence of a CIA recruiter on campus.

The eleven were arraigned in Hampshire District Court on one count each of disturbing the peace.

The protesters were arrested in the Affirmative Action office on the third floor of Whitmore. Some had to be carried out of the building and loaded onto a schoolbus which awaited the eleven.

About 70 supporters of those arrested gathered outside Whitmore as the bus was being readied to leave for the courthouse. Supporters chanted, "Hey, ho, Uncle Joe, CIA has got to go," as the arrestees were being put on the bus.

After supporters circled the bus, UMass police moved in and dragged and pushed supporters out of the way.

As the bus moved slowly down Massachusetts Avenue, it was repeatedly blocked by supporters. Police butted those people out of the way, sometimes using their batons to push back people in front of the bus and lining the

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street.

After about five minutes, police were able to clear the street and the bus drove toward the courthouse in Northampton under police escort.

The occupation of the office evolved from a protest at the University Career Center at Fraternity/Sorority Park. The recruiter was scheduled to hold interviews for the intelligence agency starting at 9 a.m.

Protesters who twice blocked the doors to the building, which was locked and staffed by UMass police, soon learned that the interview site had been moved, though officials told them they did not know to where.

So the protesters, 23 of them, moved into the Whitmore building. They arrived at the office of Chancellor Joseph D. Duffey in time to see a man inside close and lock the doors.

A check by protesters revealed that most of the doors in the building had been locked. But around 10:15 a.m. as protesters sat outside Duffey's office, discussing strategy, someone said "We've got an unlocked door."

The door was that of the Affirmative Action Office. Protesters gathered outside it, and one of them opened it.

As the protesters tried to get inside, employees in the office attempted to block them. For about a minute, employees and protesters pushed against each other. Then some of the protesters fell into the office, and others moved in.

The protesters entered the Affirmative Action room hoping to find a path to Duffey's offices. But they found no way to get there, and it became clear that they would either have to back down or risk arrest.

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The protesters had with them a list of demands, the most immediate of which was insistence that they meet with either Duffey or Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Dennis L. Madson, to discuss the CIA's being allowed on campus and why the interviews had been shifted "over the heads" of Placement Service personnel. Other demands included ones that the CIA be banned from UMass, that officials explain what the protesters called the University's "complicity with war criminals" and

that they explain why public buildings were locked up during normal operating hours.

Associate to the Chancellor Cleveland Donald told the group they would not be able to meet with Duffey that day. And he urged the protesters to leave.

Charmaine Wijeyesinghe, Madson's assistant, warned the protesters they were in violation of the University Picketing Code, which prohibits interference with UMass business.

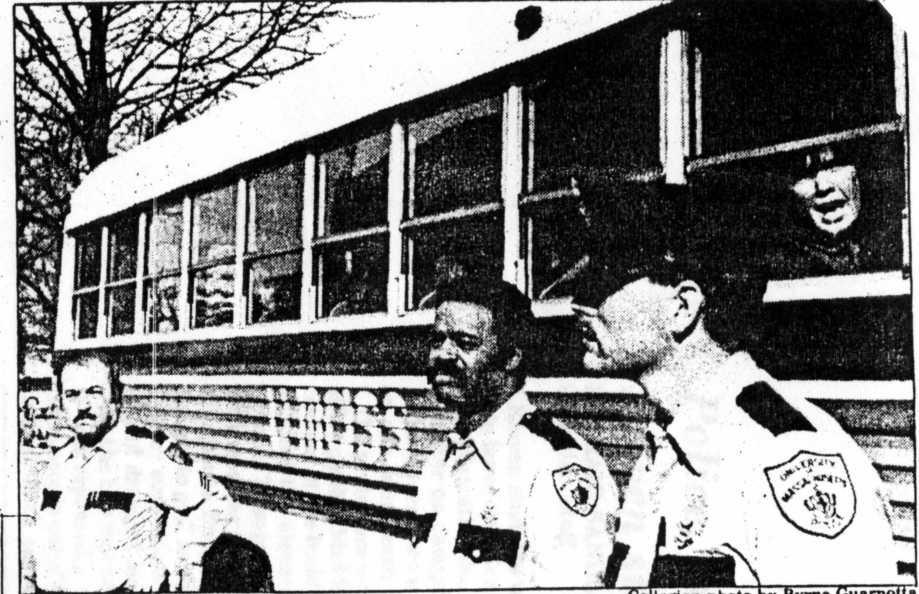
As the occupiers tensely talked about what to do next, Wijeyesinghe and her

colleague Trey Williams shuttled between an outer office and the main room, telling Madson what the students wanted and seeing if a meeting could be arranged.

At around 11:20, Donald emerged from his office and said, "I know you haven't made your decision. The University has made its decision. The University wants you to leave. Now."

Protesters were told they would have until noon and then would be arrested. The final offer from Madson was that he would meet at 4 p.m.

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Collegian photo by Byrne Guarnotta

One arrested protester chants on the bus, waiting to be driven to Hampshire District Court in Northampton for arraignment.

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with three representatives, on the condition that the protesters leave the office. The group decided that was unacceptable, saying the whole body should be included.

At noon, those who did not want to be arrested left the office to the applause of those remaining. Wijeyesinghe read the Picketing

Code to the protesters.

Shortly afterwards, about 30 UMass police officers streamed into the office, lead by Chief Robert G. Joyce. Joyce warned those who did not work in the office to leave or they would be arrested.

Then the police handcuffed the students one by one, and led them to the elevator to take them to the first

floor. Groups of three officers carried those who slumped and refused to stand.

Arrested were Carrie Nobel, Nancy Callahan and David Bassi, whose cases were continued for pre-trial conferences until January 7; Alice Sloan, Marc Kenen and Rachel Majore, whose cases were continued until Jan. 14; Sarah Bush, Gregory John Fink, Rob Stone and Mark Hubbard, whose conferences will be on Jan. 21; and Alison Post, whose conference will be December 28. All 11 were released on personal



Collegian photo by Byrne Guarnotta

Anti-CIA protesters outside the Affirmative Action Office in Whitmore await their fellows who were arrested after refusing to leave the office.