

Kemper Hears Charges In Eight Slayings

By TOM HONIG
Sentinel Staff Writer

Accused mass murderer Edmund Emil Kemper, indicted Thursday by the Grand Jury for the slayings of eight women, was arraigned in Superior Court this morning.

The 6-foot-9 Kemper, his wrists bound to a chain running around his waist and his ankles connected by another chain, was led into court by several deputies.

Superior Court Judge Harry Brauer asked the defendant if his true name was Edmund Emil Kemper III, to which he replied, "Yes, your honor."

Brauer also asked if he had Kemper an attorney, and after the defendant said he didn't, the judge assigned Jim Jackson of the public defender's office to represent him.

Kemper was originally represented by Santa Cruz attorney Roland Hall. After the court session, Jackson said Kemper was without the funds to pay the attorney's fee, so the public defender was appointed.

Brauer informed Kemper in court that "the Grand Jury returned an indictment charging you with eight counts...of murder."

The judge then read the

names of the alleged murder victims. They included the names of six hitchhiking coeds, Kemper's mother, and her best friend.

Brauer also took the time to advise Kemper of all his constitutional rights, including the right to an attorney, the right to call witnesses and the right to a trial within 60 days.


Jackson asked for a continuance on the matter until he can receive a copy of the Grand Jury proceedings, which have not been transcribed. Brauer set a court date of May 30 at 8:30 a.m. for further proceedings.

It is not known if Kemper will enter a plea at that time.

Kemper's eyes remained downcast throughout the court hearing today except for occasional glances at the judge.

Brauer ordered that he be held without bail. After the hearing, he was taken back to Santa Cruz County jail.

Dist. Atty. Peter Chang called 17 witnesses before the Grand Jury to testify Thursday. Several lawmen, paid identification technicians and pathologists were among the witnesses.



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Edmund Emil Kemper, his wrists handcuffed to a chain around his waist, is led into Superior Court by sheriff's deputy Bruce Colomy. Kemper was arraigned on eight

counts of first - degree murder. Although he sported a moustache at an earlier court date, Kemper appeared in court today clean-shaven. (Photo by Sentinel Photographer Bill Lovejoy)