

World and Nation

Bundy dies in Florida electric chair

From Associated Press reports

STARKE, Fla. — Ted Bundy, a charming law school dropout who ended years of denials that he was a killer with emotional confessions to the gruesome slayings of 20 women in four states, was electrocuted Tuesday for murdering a 12-year-old girl.

Bundy's last words, before a blackhooded executioner pulled a switch at 7:06 a.m., sending 2,000 volts through his body, were to his lawyer and a minister: "Give my love to my family and friends."

More than 100 supporters of the death penalty waiting in a field across from the Florida State Prison cheered, lit sparklers and set off firecrackers at the signal that 42-year-

old Theodore Robert Bundy had finally been put to death for a crime committed almost 11 years ago. Three earlier execution dates were stymied by appeals.

"The people of Florida today administered justice," Gov. Bob Martinez said after the execution. "If there's ever been anyone on Florida's death row that deserved the electric chair, Ted Bundy was that individual."

Bundy had been quick-witted, known for his cockiness and arrogance — a handsome, blue-eyed charmer. He was the subject of five books and a television miniseries, "The Deliberate Stranger."

But he recently claimed to "feel God's presence" and was reported at

the end to be remorseful about his bloody trail of kidnappings, sadistic sexual mutilations and slayings in his home state of Washington and in Utah, Colorado, Idaho and Florida.

His execution, for the murder of sixth-grader Kimberly Diane Leach of Salt Lake City, made him the 20th man put to death in Florida and the 106th in the United States since the U.S. Supreme Court allowed states to reinstate the death penalty in 1976.

Kimberly was kidnapped from the grounds of her junior high school Feb. 9, 1978, just three weeks after the killings of two women at the Chi Omega sorority at Florida State University. The child's body was found three months later in an abandoned pigsty. Bundy was also

under a death sentence for the two Chi Omega murders.

Until near the end he had insisted he was innocent, although he had been suspected of as many as 36 killings and disappearances. Then late last week he began talking to investigators from the four Western states, closing the books on 20 unsolved crimes, including some in which he had not been a suspect.

One of Bundy's final acts was to permit James Dobson, a California psychologist and host of a syndicated radio show, to videotape an interview to be broadcast later. Dobson described Bundy as "feeling great remorse." He quoted Bundy saying his crimes "should serve as a warning to the dangers of pornography."

President Bush gets present of hot sauce and pork rinds

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — President Bush jokingly asked House Speaker Jim Wright on Tuesday why a gift bottle of Texas hot sauce bore a made-in-North Carolina label — and got a sizzling reply.

"Same way that some Texans were born in Kennebunkport," said Wright, D-Texas.

It was a reference to the ocean-side resort town in Maine where the Bush family maintains a vacation home. Actually, Bush was born in Milton, Mass., and grew up in Connecticut before declaring Texas his adopted state.

Bush was presented the "Texas Pete" hot sauce, manufactured in Winston-Salem, N.C., and a jar of pork rinds by Wright and other congressional leaders at a White House meeting called by Bush to promote political peace.

"Just lovely," Bush said of the gifts. Pork rinds are one of the president's favorite snacks, and he smothers much of his food with hot pepper sauce.

Election delay turned down

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — The president's party on Tuesday rejected a new offer by leftist guerrillas to participate in elections if voting is postponed for six months.

Fidel Chavez Mena, the Christian Democratic presidential candidate and a close adviser to President Jose Napoleon Duarte, said "great efforts must be made on behalf of peace" but that putting off elections beyond March 31 would be unconstitutional.

The constitution says elections must be held at least two months before a new government is due to take office. Duarte's term ends June 1.

Roberto Viera, minister of

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communications, said the government will analyze the document point by point and present a detailed, formal response.

Man attacks Vatican painting

VATICAN CITY — A man in a wheelchair hurled a flammable liquid at a 16th-century Raphael painting and tried to set it aflame Tuesday, but Vatican Museum guards rescued the work, officials said.

The guards extinguished the fire before it could reach the Madonna of Foligno, said Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro.

Police identified the man as Thomas Lange of Berlin, West Germany, and said he had lived in Italy for about a year, the Italian news agency ANSA reported.

Navarro said he was "showing signs of being handicapped, also mentally." After questioning, Lange was taken to the mental health department of Rome's San Filippo Neri hospital for examination.

Organ brokering suspected

ISTANBUL, Turkey — Police on Tuesday charged a man with brokering the sale of kidneys for use in transplants at an exclusive London hospital, a public prosecutor said.

Retired military officer Tunc Ay Kunter has "confessed to acting as a middleman for four such operations," but insists he acted for humanitarian reasons, according to the prosecutor, Sait Erel.

The arrest follows one man's charges that one of his kidneys was removed without his knowledge or consent at London's private Wellington Humana hospital, Erel said.

Israeli official may enact new restrictions

From Associated Press reports

JERUSALEM — Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Tuesday was considering new measures to stop the Palestinian uprising, including blocking Palestinians suspected of taking part in riots from entering Israel.

Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian teenager in a predawn raid on a West Bank village, and at least 18 Palestinians were shot in clashes with troops.

Several Israeli newspapers reported that a secret army report said the 13-month rebellion in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip would go on all year and that the violence could intensify.

The assessment, reportedly compiled by senior officers, said the revolt could not be halted by military means because troops already were doing all they could without resorting to unacceptable levels of violence.

Israel radio reported that Rabin was considering a policy to block suspected rioters from entering Israel but said he had not decided whether to adopt it.

Work in Israel is the main source of income for an estimated 100,000 people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Rabin's policies for ending the uprising came under renewed criticism Tuesday in a letter two dailies printed from an unidentified reserve soldier who said service in the

occupied lands was a "nightmare."

"I'm helpless against my feelings and wonder if that's what I was raised for by my parents, survivors of the terrible Holocaust," said the letter.

Last week, soldiers complained to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that they were forced to beat Palestinians to keep order.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency, which oversees Palestinian refugees, issued a statement expressing concern over the "continuing toll of casualties" and the indefinite closure of all 1,200 West Bank schools.

Israel radio quoted Rabin as saying the school closures, ordered Friday,

were helping reduce casualties because classrooms served as hotbeds for protests.

At least 18 Palestinians were reported shot in clashes that erupted during a general strike called by the PLO-backed leadership of the uprising to protest the military's policies in the occupied territories.

Abortion stand controversial for health secretary nominee

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — Members of Congress said Tuesday that Louis Sullivan, President Bush's nominee as health and human services secretary, has told them he supports the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion and favors abortion in limited circumstances, but would carry out the pro-life policies of his new boss.

The controversy is unlikely to threaten Sullivan's nomination.

Senators who met with Sullivan said his comments appear to conflict with those of Bush, who told an anti-abortion rally Monday he considers abortion an "American tragedy" and that he would like to see the high court's landmark 1973 decision

reversed.

The White House maintained that Sullivan's position was consistent with Bush's.

Earlier this month, Sullivan told several senators during courtesy calls on Capitol Hill that he supports the court's 1973 decision. He also said he favors allowing abortion in cases of rape, incest and danger to the mother's life, exceptions Bush has said he also favors.

Members of Sullivan's transition team referred all questions about the matter to the White House, where spokesman Marlin Fitzwater did not directly address reporters' questions of whether Sullivan, in his meetings with lawmakers, had parted company with Bush on the abortion issue.

Instead, Fitzwater insisted that Sullivan agrees with Bush's advocacy of reversing the Roe vs. Wade decision. In any event, the spokesman said, Bush's policy would prevail.

"I am saying that in all of the times that the president has discussed this with Dr. Sullivan, Dr. Sullivan has said his views are consistent with those of the president, and we have no information to the contrary."

Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., who is firmly pro-choice and a Sullivan supporter, said the doctor told him that "I will carry out the administration's policy, but my personal view on Roe vs. Wade is that I support the decision and don't think it should be overturned."

Packwood also said Sullivan said he didn't understand "this disproportionate interest in abortion," an issue that commands only a tiny fraction of the department's annual budget of nearly \$400 billion.

For the Record

In the Jan. 24 article, "Gubernatorial veto may face referendum," N.C. House Majority Leader Dennis Wicker was incorrectly identified as representing Chatham County. Wicker is from Lee County.

Information concerning notations of degrees in "Committee proposes

academic minor option" was incorrect. Specific liberal arts majors are not listed on diplomas. Only bachelor of science degrees are listed on diplomas. Bachelor of arts degrees are denoted as general liberal arts degrees.

The DTH regrets the errors.

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