

High Court to hear appeal

Barefoot execution stayed

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court Monday stayed condemned killer Thomas "Andy" Barefoot's execution set for shortly after midnight.

Barefoot faced execution on the Aug. 7, 1978, murder of Harker Heights, Texas, policeman Carl Evin.

The judges ruled they will hear arguments on his appeal themselves on April 6.

Barefoot probably will not be tried in New Mexico on charges of raping a 3-year-old Grants girl if he is spared the death sentence for the Texas murder, a prosecutor said Monday.

Barefoot, 37, is accused in

the alleged Oct. 30, 1977, rape of a Grants child, who was found unconscious at the city dump. Authorities said Barefoot, who had been drinking, was found passed out beside the child.

District Attorney Thomas Esquibel said in the event Texas is unable to execute Barefoot, he hopes the condemned man's sentence will be commuted to life.

"Then there wouldn't be any need to prosecute him in New Mexico. I wouldn't want to put the little girl through that and have to spend the taxpayers' money," he said. "I'm sure she's half-way gotten over it, and I wouldn't want to bring it up again," he said.

In 1977, when he was a

parolee from Louisiana, Barefoot moved to Grants, where he took a job as a uranium miner.

"He befriended a guy up in Grants who was a next door neighbor to a large family," Esquibel said, adding that Barefoot's friend was a trusted man in the community.

"He (Barefoot) lived there about a month. The kids were out playing one day. He (Barefoot) went and asked the parents if he could take them and buy them an ice cream cone.

"He drove a short way and dropped off all the kids except the 3-year-old. He was even stopped by the Grants police for a routine traffic violation. The kid was with

him at the time. He was cited and allowed to continue.

"After the child was reported kidnapped, they had a description of the car. They knew pretty much who they were looking for. They looked all throughout the city. It was not until several hours later that they found Barefoot and the little girl at the city dump," the district attorney said.

Reports of the attack on the child provoked outrage in the community.

Barefoot was indicted by a Valencia County Grand Jury on Nov. 19, 1977, for first-degree criminal sexual penetration. But he escaped from the jail at Los Lunas with another inmate, Johnny Strohm, on Jan. 19, 1978.

Parton ends tour because of threats

United Press International
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Singer Dolly Parton, secluded in her suburban estate since being threatened before a show, will discontinue all concert performances this spring and lay off her band, a spokeswoman said Monday.

Katie Valk, publicist for Parton, said the singer-actress will not tour for up to six months, with her final performance coming in London. During the six-month hiatus, she will work on movies.

The 11 members of the band, who are paid whether or not Parton performs, were being let go to allow them to concentrate on other activities, Valk said.

"Her closest friends are the members of the band. She lets very few other people get as close to her as they are. She travels with them, records with many of them, and shares her

life with them," Valk said. "She's just doing this to free them up, to let them pursue their own interests while she's on the movie projects."

Parton left Owensboro, Ky., Jan. 15 under police escort, returned to her Brentwood estate and canceled shows in New Orleans and Beaumont, Texas, on the advice of a professional security consultant who was informed of the threats.

A woman had called the Owensboro police department the night before a performance and asked whether Parton would have police protection. She said she knew a man who "hated the ground she walked on" and intended to hurt the country singer.

Parton also hired a Los Angeles detective agency that specializes in investigating threats against celebrities.

Valk said Parton's last performance will be March 28-29 at London's Palladium. The show will be taped for her first television special on HBO cable TV.

"She has plans for movies for five or six months, so there will be a long block of time with no touring," Valk said. "There is a possibility she'll do two films back-to-back during that time."

The blond star, who starred in "9 to 5" and "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," recently indicated she may take a role in "Supergirl," the third in the series of "Superman" movies. She has also indicated the possibility of co-starring with TV's "Magnum PI" star Tom Selleck.

Valk said neither of the projects is finalized at this time, but the "Supergirl" movie is set for production this spring in England, where Parton will begin her six-month break from touring.

Steelmakers to reveal costs

United Press International
PITTSBURGH — U.S. steelers soon will disclose just how much it cost them to weather 1982, their worst year since the Great Depression.

In the next several weeks, or companies are expected to issue year-end financial reports dripping with red ink, in some cases as much as \$3 billion in losses.

As 1982 limped to a close, the nation's steel mills were running at about one-third of capacity, only half of their 1979 workforce.

The industry is beginning to weather an especially deep day slump, but prospects for improvement in 1983 are lukewarm at best.

"This is the worst that I've known it to be," said analyst Robert A. Hageman, vice president of Kidder Peabody & Co., in New York. "All the major steelmakers will post losses. Losses will be pushing \$3 billion in 1983, he said, with \$2 billion of that sum in the fourth quarter alone.

Already, Republic Steel Corp., the nation's fifth largest steelmaker, has disclosed a 1982 loss of \$239 million the first loss in its 44-year history — compared with a \$190 million profit in 1981.

Seventh-ranked Inland Steel Co. Friday posted a loss of \$8.8 million, reflecting the company's lowest production since 1960.

None of the other major steelmakers is expected to fare much

Analyst Charles Bradford, vice president of Merrill Lynch, Pierce Fenner & Smith, said U.S. Steel Corp. ranked No. 1 will report today 1982 loss of \$400 million, including \$120 million in writeoffs from plant closings.

The company itself said it expects a "staggering" loss and will cut the salaries of 28,000 management and clerical employees by 5 percent.

Bethlehem Steel Corp., the nation's second largest steelmaker, is expected to write off \$750 million to \$850 million for the closing of its Lackawanna, N.Y., plant, and may add \$100 million in operating losses to the \$322.7 million it lost in the first nine months of the year, Bradford said.

The industry's performance should improve this year, assuming that consumers and business spend more freely and boost demand for steel.

"My guess is that 1983 losses might be one-third as large as 1982's," said David Healy, vice president of Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc.

Bradford was more optimistic, saying steelmakers "have a chance of getting into the black sometime this year."

But the industry will operate perilously close to the breakeven point and any "minor profit" they make come from tax credits, not operations, he said.

He estimated a 60 percent chance that the United Steelworkers union will reject contract concessions for the third time in a year, resulting in more

plant closings and longer layoff rolls.

"If there's no progress (on reducing wage and benefit costs), half — maybe even three-quarters of the laid-off steelworkers

will never get their jobs back," he said.

Almost 160,000 steelworkers were on furlough last week, not counting those who lost their jobs more than two years ago.

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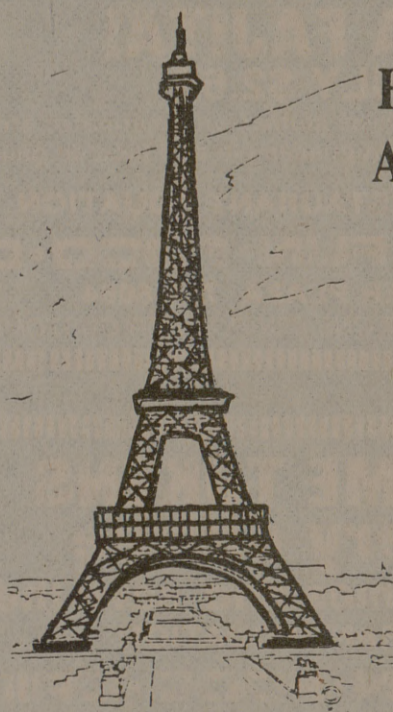
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