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OFFICIAL POLICE DETECTIVE

# Official Police

SEPTEMBER 1978



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# DETECTIVE

**SYRACUSE, NY'S  
BATHTUB KILLER**

**CLEANLINESS  
IS NEXT TO  
DEADLINESS**

**MURDERED  
WITH  
HER OWN GUN...**

**SHE TRUSTED  
ONE MAN  
TOO MANY**

Suspected of 36 sex slayings,  
Ted Bundy pleads...

**'I'M INNOCENT AS  
A NEWBORN BABY!'**





# Official **DETECTIVE** Police

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**1978 NO. 5**

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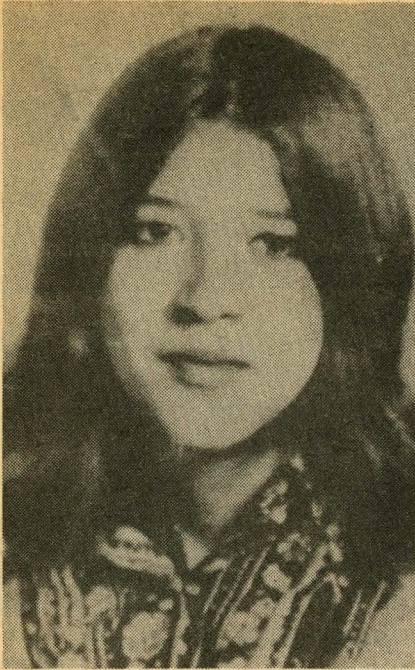


A  
SUSPECT  
IN SOME  
36 SEX SLAYINGS.  
TED BUNDY KEEPS BUSTING  
LOOSE FROM JAIL. BUT I  
SHOULDN'T EVEN BE THERE  
IN THE FIRST PLACE! HE PLEADS...

the  
**I'M INNOCENT AS A NEWBORN BABY!**  
By DEAN W. BALLENGER

Is the handsome law student what he claims to be — merely a victim of DAs who are using him to clear up their unsolved sex murders? He's seen here after his rearrest in Tallahassee, Florida.





Just a few of the 36 girls Bundy is suspected of killing. Police admit that in most cases the evidence linking him is purely circumstantial. The top three, (L-R) Laura Aime, Debbie Kent and Melissa Smith, disappeared in 1974 shortly after he arrived in Utah. Margaret Bowman and Lisa Levy were beaten and strangled at a Florida State University sorority house.

*Authorities in Washington, California, Utah, Colorado and Florida suspect that Ted Bundy, 31, has killed at least 36 girls and young women with "blunt weapons, sexual assault and strangulation".*

*Bundy says he is innocent. "I have never killed even one girl. In fact I have never killed anybody — man, woman, girl or boy. Not even a dog."*

*"They're just pissed off at me because I keep busting out of their stupid damn jails."*

*"But why should I stay in jail and face charges for murders I don't know anything about?"*

*Is Bundy telling the truth?*

*Authorities admit they don't have hard physical evidence linking him to even one of the murders, despite*



extensive investigations. Except, they say, in the case of the January 1975 killing in Aspen, Colorado, of a Michigan nurse named Caryn Campbell, and the prosecutor in that case, Colorado Springs District Attorney Robert Russel, acknowledges that evidence connecting Bundy to the murder is weak.

Bundy is a handsome man. He is 5 feet 11. He weighs 170 pounds and he has blue eyes, brown hair and a clear complexion. He is softspoken and the FBI describes him as "a very clever, intelligent individual".

He grew up in Tacoma, Washington, with his respected, well-thought-of family. He is a University of Washington psychology major. He has been a political campaign worker, a private guard and a salesman. He has studied law at the University of Puget Sound and in 1974 he enrolled at the University of Utah Law College.

He was arrested in late 1975 in Utah on a charge of kidnapping pretty Carol DaRonch, 17, from a Salt Lake City shopping center in 1974. "They got the wrong guy," he said.

He was convicted of the kidnapping and sentenced to one to 15 years in the Utah State Prison.

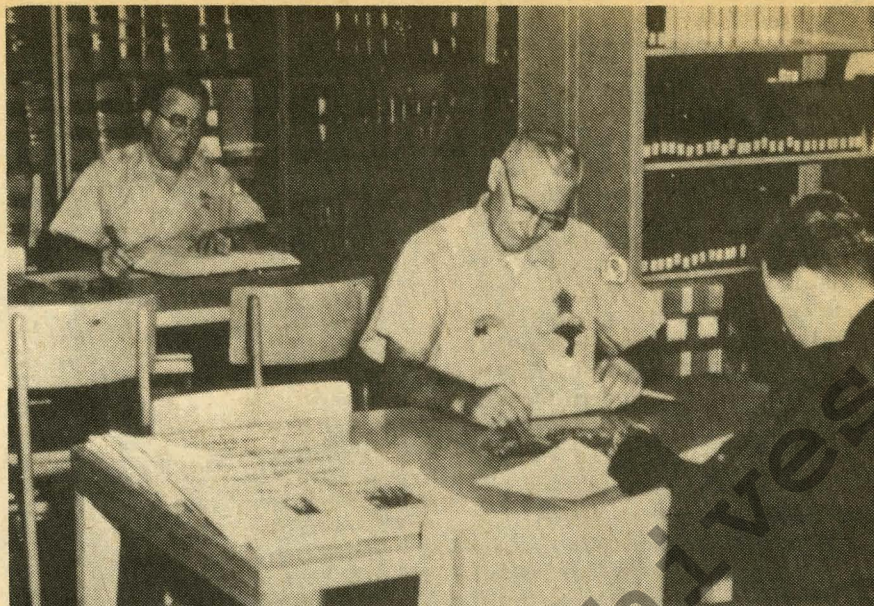
He was doing this time when the nude and frozen body of Caryn Campbell was found in a snowdrift, a month after her disappearance during an Aspen ski vacation.

Because Bundy had allegedly been in Aspen at the time Miss Campbell disappeared, and because certain circumstantial incidents seemed to connect him with the death, he was extradited from the Utah State Prison to Aspen to stand trial for the first-degree murder of the beautiful nurse.

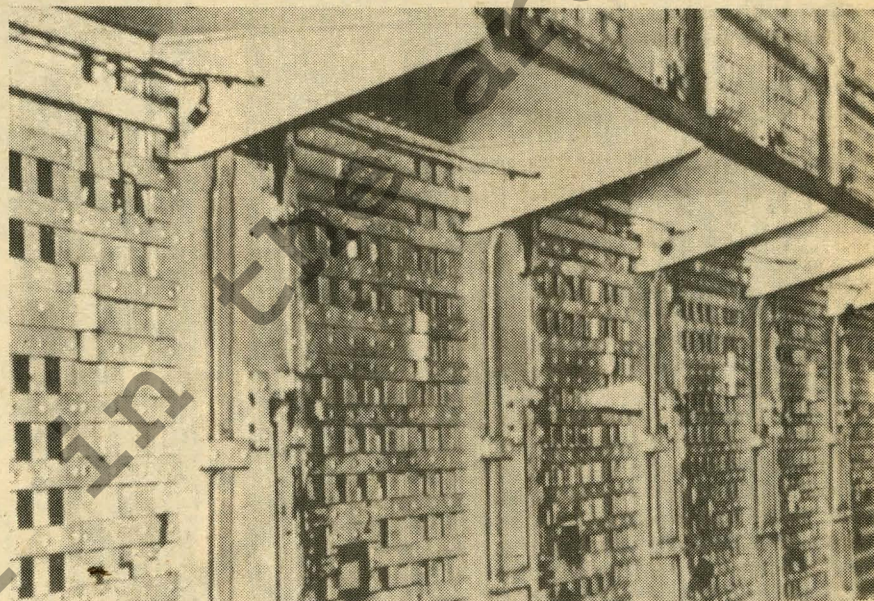
"You guys," he said to the Colorado authorities, "are barking up the wrong tree. I not only didn't kill the nurse, I never knew her or even heard of her. I'm innocent as a newborn baby."

Bundy's conduct in his cell in the Pitkin County Jail in Aspen baffled his jailers and the other prisoners. He spent hours jumping from the top bunk in his cell to the floor. "Naturally," jailer Ben Lucas said, "we thought he was some kind of nut."

June 1977 arrived. Bundy, the



Locked in the courthouse library while he prepared his own defense, Bundy escaped by jumping out a second-story window.



Florida authorities are taking no chances of Bundy escaping again. He is being held in a maximum security cell with additional locks welded to the door.

former law student, asked his jailers if he could go to the library on the second floor of the Pitkin County Courthouse to do legal research on his case.

He was taken from the jail upstairs to the library. "We locked him in there," a jailer said. "He was supposed to bang on the door when he finished his researching."

He didn't bang on the door. He opened the window and jumped 25 feet to the ground. Then he ran into the forest which surrounds the little

mountain village.

"At this time," jailer Lucas said, "we realized he had been conditioning his legs with all that jumping from the bunk in his cell."

Poses of law officers searched the wilderness around Aspen. Civilian volunteers looked for Bundy. Searching for the escaped prisoner became a sport — something to do on weekends.

"The rascal," a sheriff's department spokesman said, "is somewhere in these mountains."



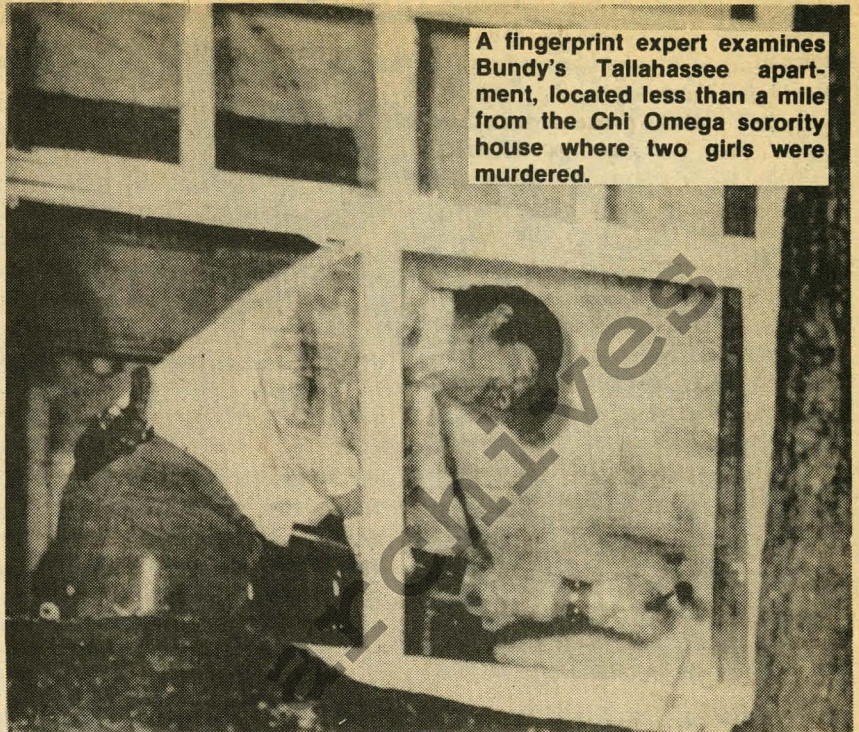
The searches continued. Meanwhile Bundy's jump to freedom was given publicity in regional and national media.

Then Bundy was captured. He was sitting on a rock in a forest glade eating salami when a posse surrounded him. He made no attempt to flee, or resist arrest. "Those vigilantes would have shot me," he said later.

He was taken to the Garfield County Jail in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, 42 miles from Aspen, supposedly a more modern lock-up than the Aspen facility. Glenwood Springs is a small railroad town on Interstate 70 in a mountainous area about halfway between Denver and the Utah-Colorado border.

Bundy was put in a "solid steel" cell from which, everybody said, there was absolutely no way he could escape.

Jailers and prisoners at Glenwood Springs took an immediate liking to Bundy. "He has got one hell of a



A fingerprint expert examines Bundy's Tallahassee apartment, located less than a mile from the Chi Omega sorority house where two girls were murdered.

# WANTED BY THE FBI

INTERSTATE FLIGHT - MURDER



THEODORE ROBERT BUNDY

DESCRIPTION

Bundy was recaptured five days after being placed on the FBI's '10 Most Wanted' list. The poster warns he should be considered 'an escape risk'.

personality," jailer Dave Bowlen said.

The former law student filed a motion in District Court seeking a change of venue in his murder trial. In his motion he claimed that pre-trial publicity about his escape from the courthouse in Aspen would make it impossible for him to get a fair trial back in Pitkin County.

District Court Judge George Lohr ordered the murder trial moved to Colorado Springs and set January 9, 1978, for the start of the trial.

Bundy liked this even less than having the trial in Aspen. Colorado Springs is also the home of Bundy's special prosecutor, El Paso County District Attorney Bob Russel.

"You're sentencing me to die!" Bundy told Judge Lohr, his voice choking.

Judge Lohr explained that he felt the trial should be held in a metropolitan area and that the location of Russel's office in Colorado Springs had influenced his decision to have the trial held there.

"I won't have a chance with a jury in Russel's home town," Bundy shouted as the bailiff led him out of the courtroom and back to his cell.

Bundy didn't eat all his food the next day. He left much of it on the tray. He didn't eat all of it the next

(continued on page 50)



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# "I'M INNOCENT AS A BABY!"

(continued from page 29)

day, either, or on subsequent days. "We thought he had lost his appetite because the judge nixed him on the Colorado Springs thing," jailer Bowen said.

About a month later Bundy, whose weight had dropped 65 pounds, pushed his cell's ceiling light out of its mounting and squeezed through the hole, which was a foot square. He crawled around the area between his cell's ceiling and the floor of the room above his cell. Then he came back down into his cell, replaced the light fixture and lay on his bunk.

The next night, and during several subsequent nights, he crawled around in the space above his cell's ceiling. At this point his cellmate complained to the night jailer that "Bundy has been up there crawling around" and that because of the noise Bundy made he couldn't sleep.

Jail officials inspected the hole. Then they phoned a local welder. "We want that area welded so tight a cockroach couldn't get through," they said.

The welder said he'd get at it as quickly as he could but that he had a lot of other jobs people were in a hurry for, too.

Saturday morning, December 31, 1977, a jailer knocked on the door of Bundy's cell to tell him his breakfast was here. There was no response. The jailer looked through the tiny window in the cell's door. He thought he saw Bundy sleeping.

The jailer came back at noon with Bundy's dinner. This time he discovered that the form on the bed was a shirt stuffed with crumpled pages from a Denver Post.

Sometime during the night Bundy had crawled 30 feet through the space above the cell's ceiling to a hole in the ceiling of a closet in a jailer's apartment. He had lowered himself into the closet, crept through the sleeping jailer's bedroom and gone out a door onto the street.

"We now realized the true reason he had not been eating all his food," jailer Bowen said. "He wanted to

become skinny enough to get through that hole in the ceiling."

Sheriff's deputies put their "best dog" on the case. He sniffed Bundy's trail across a bridge over the Colorado River to a motel parking lot. There, as far as the dog was concerned, the trail ended.

Roadblocks were set up. Officials got more dogs. "They just followed their own scent around in circles," Undersheriff Robert Hart said.

Ground units, helicopters and small airplanes joined the 50 members of the Garfield County Sheriff's Department in a search of the area around Glenwood Springs.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation was asked to help find Bundy on the grounds that since Bundy was under sentence in Utah for the kidnapping of the DaRonch girl his escape from a Colorado jail made him an interstate fugitive.

Officials were irate. District Attorney Robert Russel said the escape showed "absolute negligence" on the part of the Garfield County authorities.

The Rocky Mountain News commented, "If and when Bundy is recaptured a cell in a third jail, one operated by people who have some idea of what they are doing, should be found for him."

Pitkin County District Attorney Frank Tucker blasted the Garfield County Commissioners for being "derelict in their duty", and said they should be subject to recall for what he called their part in Bundy's escape.

The sheriff, Tucker said, had asked the commissioners to purchase electronic safeguard equipment for the county jail, but was refused on budgetary grounds. "The commissioners are responsible for not providing the funds. And they're blaming everyone else."

The search continued. "It was bad for business," a local businessman said. "They were stopping cars with skiers two or three times."

A month later officials announced, "Theodore R. Bundy has disappeared without a trace."

"He could be anywhere," a sheriff's department spokesman said. "All we know is, when he escaped he was wearing blue jeans, a gray turtleneck sweater and blue tennis shoes."

The FBI joined the search for Bundy with federal warrants char-



ging him with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution for murder.

He became one of the "Ten Most Wanted" criminals. The FBI posted his photograph in every post office and law enforcement facility in the U.S.

On Wednesday, February 15, 1978, seven weeks after his escape from the Garfield County Jail, Bundy was arrested in Pensacola, Florida, while driving a stolen car.

He was jailed but authorities didn't know who he was — he had told them his name was Kenneth R. Misner, a Florida State University student — until a routine fingerprint check identified him.

He was then whisked from his jail cell to an isolated, armor-plated cell.

Florida officials lost no time trying to connect him to the January 15 murders of two Chi Omega sorority coeds in Tallahassee — 210 miles from Pensacola — who had been clubbed to death on the campus of Florida State University.

Wayne Smith, a spokesman for the Leon County sheriff's office in Tallahassee, said, "We can't even be sure he was in Tallahassee during the time of the Chi Omega slayings. But," Smith added, "he is certainly a very serious suspect because of the nature of the murders he has already been charged with in other states."

The next day Florida authorities tried to link him with the February 9 disappearance of a 12-year-old Lake City, Florida, schoolgirl.

Bundy admits to a few "minor thefts" but says he has never killed anyone and did not abduct the 12-year-old girl.

While Florida authorities continue to look for evidence connecting him with the murders of the Tallahassee coeds and other killings, they are keeping him all by himself in a four-man steel-wall cell that is reinforced above its ceiling and below its floor with 20 inches of concrete.

Just to make sure that Bundy can't, somehow, escape officials have welded several additional locks to his cell's door and a guard looks in at him "every few seconds".

"He is not going anywhere unless we take him," says Chief Deputy Leonard Terito.

"If he thinks he can lose enough weight to get out of here like he did up in Colorado he'll have to shrink himself down to about three ounces." □

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