

Goode Calls Himself 'Unusual'

• Judge denies stay, Page 9A.

By FRANK DORMAN
Sun Staff Writer

RAIFORD — Arthur Frederick Goode, speaking with several news reporters Thursday at Florida State Prison, said he is an "extremely unusual child molester" because no psychiatrist has been able to determine what makes him "tick."

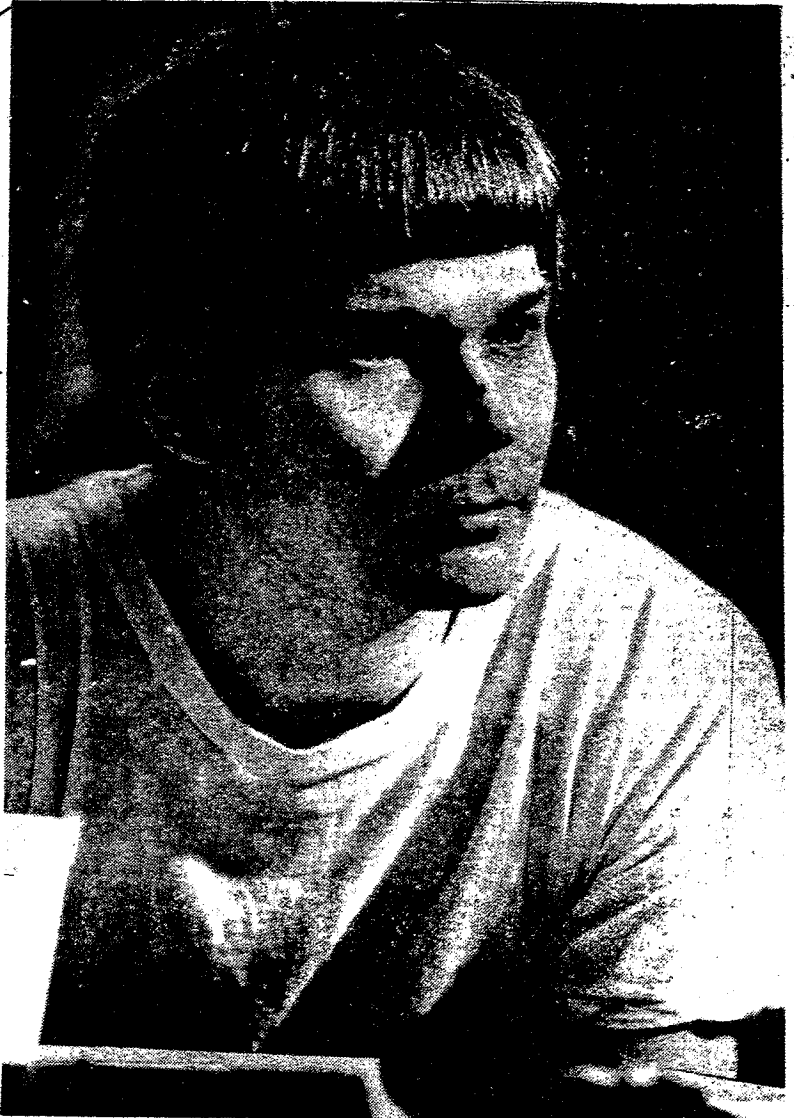
Goode, who is scheduled to die in Florida's electric chair Tuesday, hopes his life will be spared so that he can be "researched" by mental experts. He was convicted of the 1976 homosexual murders of two boys, ages 9 and 11, in Florida and Virginia.

During a two-hour "press conference," Goode was determined to deliver one message — that sexual relations between adults and consenting minors should be accepted by society as normal behavior. His answers to most questions about his past were inconsistent.

Asked by one reporter why he had killed the boys, Goode said he had wanted to attract people's attention to the problem of "pedophilia," which Webster's dictionary defines as "abnormal sexual desire in an adult for children."

"That's why you killed them?" the reporter asked. "No," Goode said. Later, another reporter asked him why he had killed the boys, and he repeated his earlier answer that society must be made aware of pedophilia.

Goode said he has mental disorders, but that he is not insane. He said he is "ashamed" about the murders. (See GOODE on Page 6A)



(Sun Photo by Stan Badz)

CONVICTED MURDERER ARTHUR FREDERICK GOODE
He Is Sentenced to Die in Electric Chair on Tuesday

Goode

From Page 5A

ers and regrets them, despite statements he had made in the past that he enjoyed the killings. Goode said Thursday that he had made such statements, but that he had not meant them.

Asked about his childhood, Goode

said it was normal. Asked if either of his parents had been overly dominant, or if they had ever beaten or otherwise mistreated him, he declined to answer. Those are questions his parents should be asked, he said.

Responding to another query, Goode said he had never been molested by an adult when he was a child. Earlier in the interview, he had told a reporter that he had been

molested as a child. But further questioning on that subject revealed that, when he was about 11, another 11-year-old boy had "more or less introduced me to it."

Asked if he had ever had a girlfriend, Goode said that when he lived in Maryland, he had a "nutty" female friend who used to ride around with him in taxicabs and buses, picking up children for "fool-

ing around" in the woods.

Goode said he used to have relations with 10 to 15 children, about half of whom had consents. Later during the interview, he had never had sexual relations with children without their consent.

Goode said that, despite the murders might indicate, he had children more than he does himself.

Banda C. Lee, Attorney at Law
10 Columbus Circle
New York, New York - 10019

14-20-78, Thurs 3PM.

Dear Mrs. Lee

I hope you have received my two letters by now! I want to meet you as soon as possible here! My parents gave me your address and I understood you were in my

Banda C. Lee, Attorney at Law
10 Columbus Circle
New York, New York - 10019

14-18-78, Tues. 3PM

Dear Banda,

My parents told me you are on my case in place of Attorney David Kendall. I just got your address from them!
I am in a "DANGEROUS" situation here again! Another job stolen by my beside who looks like TRUBLE! You have my situation here at est. did you?? Well, again is "AGAINST" me! and most of them "THREATEN" my life!!! I "DON'T" feel safe right now with this man as beside me! → I hope you will make every effort to PROTECT me here! My other Attorney John Max David in Miami "DON'T" seem to care! I urged him to come VISIT me, but he "WOULDN'T"! Please come down and VISIT me soon as possible Banda! I want to meet you immediately!
Like I said, in extreme "FEAR" right now with this man by beside me! And I'll write you a longer letter soon!
I hope you take ACTION on my situation here as I "DON'T" feel safe period! Please they keep MOVING to winter and real often!

Thank you so much!
Yours very truly,

Arthur Frederick Gore # 558781
ARTHUR FREDERICK GORE, III

Fla. State Prison, P.O. Box 747, A-1-W-3
Hialeah, Florida 32011

P.S. Please INFORM me when you receive this letter!!

can you see me
the VISIT me here soon!

I thank you for your interest in me and my case! I hope to see you soon!

Yours very truly,

Arthur Frederick Goode, ID 058781

ARTHUR FREDERICK GOODE, III

Florida State Prison
P.O. Box 747, A-1-W-3
Hank, Fla 32091

SUN MAY 29 1983 ED: STATE
SECTION: GLF PAGE: 1D LENGTH: 948 MEDIUM
ILLUST: photo: Mildred and Bud Goode
SOURCE: CHRISTOPHER BOYD Herald Staff Writer
DATELINE:
MEMO: ran shorter in the FINAL

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A KILLER'S LIFE TOUCHES 3 ON THE 'OUTSIDE'

Ken White is a Lee County firefighter and a contented family man. He also is a man who wants Arthur Frederick Goode III dead. In the past three weeks, White has collected 1,500 signatures asking for Goode's electrocution. "I'm not a blood-thirsty vigilante," White said. "But Arthur Goode is an imperfect creation. He killed a little boy and he should die for that."

A Lee County Circuit Court judge sentenced Goode to die in March 1977 for the rape and murder of 9-year-old Jason Verdow of Cape Coral. On May 2, more than six years later, a U.S. Court of Appeals overturned Goode's sentence.

"When I heard that, I became enraged," White said. "I thought that this ain't justice. I thought that if Jason were my child, that sucker would have never made it to jail."

Jason's partially nude and badly beaten body was found on March 6, 1976 in a clump of palmettos in North Fort Myers. He had bite marks over much of his body, had been sexually abused and been strangled with a belt.

Blames bleeding hearts

"I visited with the parents of the little boy after he was killed," White said. "Their grief was terrible. But Arthur Goode is still alive, and I've got to believe its because of these bleeding hearts trying to protect him and other murderers."

Goode lives on Death Row in the Florida State Penitentiary at Starke where he has been one of 203 inmates sentenced to die in Florida's electric chair. Goode was also sentenced to life in prison for a raping and murdering a boy in Virginia.

The 29-year-old inmate sees few people. Prison officials say he frequently flies into rages in his cell, yelling to his jailers to bring him young boys to rape.

On calmer days, Goode writes letters -- to the governor,

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judges, newspapers and his parents. Last month, he wrote The Baltimore News-American: "Be advised. I demand my 'execution' be carried out as soon as possible and I am being 'denied' my legal right to 'die.' "

He vacillates between wanting to live and die. In 1979, he even said that he had developed an interest in astronomy so powerful that it could overcome his lust for little boys.

Throughout Goode's incarceration, his 68-year-old parents have visited him at least once a month.

"It's like terminal cancer," said Arthur (Bud) Goode Jr. "It's a slow death for us. We ain't been living, really, for seven years now."

Use him for studies

The senior Goode said he never wants his son released from prison, but he believes he should be allowed to live and used in psychiatric studies.

"Ever since Freddy was three years old, he has wanted to destroy himself," Bud Goode said. "He's just wrapped, I guess. He just doesn't think like other people."

The Goodes moved to a small Pine Island retirement bungalow from Maryland in November 1975. The senior Goode, a retired milkman and water-company worker, said he and his wife, Mildred, were ready to cash in on the good life.

"We hadn't been here 3 1/2 months when Freddy came down here on the train," Goode said. "Less than a month later, they found that boy dead."

After the murder, Freddy Goode went north to Virginia, where he raped and killed Kenny Dawson, 11, and kidnaped Billy Artis, 10, committing homosexual acts on him for nearly two weeks.

"He was a change-of-life baby," Mildred Goode said, wringing her hands. "He was born early and they put him in an incubator with oxygen -- they say that does something to the brain."

Mildred Goode said she will never have the happiness she had hoped for in old age.

"If this had happened to us when we were 35, Lord knows, it might have been easier to handle," she said. "Now, I wish it would end for all of us. I sometimes wish Freddy could just die a natural death. I think he would be better off."

Execution is unlikely

Last year, Freddy Goode came very close to dying in the way his parents fear most.

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The most recent federal appellate court ruling makes it seem unlikely Goode will face execution soon, if ever. Charles Corces Jr., the Florida assistant attorney general handling the Goode case, has filed for the court to rehear the case, which he believes could take more than a year.

"This case went through three appeals to the Florida Supreme Court," Corces said. "Each time, the court upheld the sentence. In doing so, it also confirmed that the death sentence was proper."

If the appeals court does not grant a new hearing, Corces

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STARKE

PAGE

said, the state would appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. He said it is uncertain what would happen if both courts refused to hear the case again.

Wilbur C. Smith III, Goode's attorney, said he believes the appellate decision will stand and the state will allow Goode to serve a life sentence. He said resentencing Goode would likely require a new trial, which he said he doubts would occur.

For Goode's parents, the appellate court ruling didn't feel like a victory.

"Mr. Smith called us up after the ruling and said we had won," Mildred Goode said. "I know better. We can never win now."

A MOTHER'S POEM FOR HER SON AWAITING EXECUTION

On Dec. 19, 1982, Arthur Frederick Goode's mother, Mildred, wrote this poem about her son's pending death sentence:

My son is on Death Row;/dear God, how can it be.

He was always a troubled child,/always a bit behind.

I go to bed at night and toss till 3,/or I wake up at 5, and roll the years back;/roll the years back like reflections in a mirror.

He always was a troubled child;/always looking for a friend who was not there./He loved animals, he had a black dog./And a Siamese cat, he wouldn't hurt a fly.

Dear God, he's on Death Row;/How can this be.

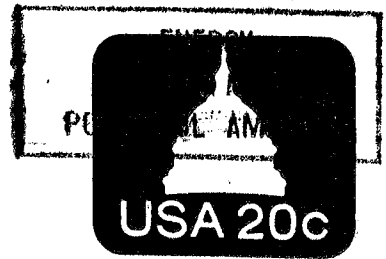
It's 10 years now, it seems like forever./When I see him, he's 28, but he looks 15;/you see, he was always a little behind./Mothers always know.

Dear God, how could this have happened?/I loved children, I tried to be a good mother./My heart almost bursts with grief of what he did,/with what happened./I pray every night for those left behind.

Dear God, I love my son;/it's in your hands now./Dear God, how can this be.

ADDED TERMS: text

R. Huber - 058 281
P.O. Box 247
Hwy. 90A - 32091



Mrs. Mildred Goode
288 Tropical Point Drive, Rt. 2
St. James City, Florida

33956

Condemned killer: study child molesters like me

By Phil Kuntz
Alligator Staff Writer

RAIFORD — Arthur Frederick Goode III says he has always been a non-violent person who loves children — male children to be exact, between the ages of 8 and 14. Once they are over the age of 14, he says they are too old to interest a pedophile — a person who has a sexual attraction to children.

Goode is scheduled to die Tuesday at 7 a.m. for killing Jason Verdow, a 9-year-old from Cape Coral he lured from a school bus stop into the woods to rape and strangle in 1977. He was also given a life sentence in Virginia for killing and raping another child.

In an interview here at Florida State Prison Thursday with a handful of reporters, Goode explained his interest in pedophilia. He refused to talk about anything else.

Goode is a frail 27-year-old with a wart on the tip of his nose and a smirk on his face that never seems to go away, except when he breaks into one of his heart felt chuckles.

"If society could just understand the reason for pedophilia," he repeatedly emphasized, "there would be a lot of changes in the laws and there would be a lot less violence in the world."

Goode, with much difficulty, attempted to relay his feelings on the subject to the seven reporters from around the county who had gathered to speak with him.

A U.S. district judge in Tampa denied Goode a stay of execution Thursday. Goode's attorney Wilbur Smith plans to ask the 11th Circuit Court of Appeal in Atlanta to grant Goode a stay.

Goode said there should be a way for pedophiles to obtain custody of a child to carry on a regular sex life with.

"I mean a real intelligent boy who would be approved by the courts who's willing to participate in these acts," he emphasized. "Then there wouldn't have been no reason for any violence or for me to go around to find other children."

Reporters repeatedly drilled Goode to find out why he has changed his mind about remorse. In letters to parents of his victims, newspapers, and former Gov. Reubin Askew, Goode had said he felt no remorse.

"I said a lot of things in them letters," he said. "I wanted society to understand there was a problem and pedophilia should be studied to the full extent. It is the way society reacts to pedophilia that led up to the violence."

Goode believes now that he should not be executed, contrary to what he said years ago in those letters following his conviction.

"I never wanted to be executed. I think I could be a great help to society by letting a psychiatrist study me in research to let society understand what lead to the violence, ya know," he said. Goode often punctuates his sentences with "ya know."

"This would save a lot of children's lives in the future."

Does he think he should ever be let out on the streets again?

"No," he said. He raised his handcuffed hands from under the table, with the ease of a man used to being shackled, to sip water from a styrofoam cup. "Definitely not. There would have to be a lot of security to protect society from it ever happening again."

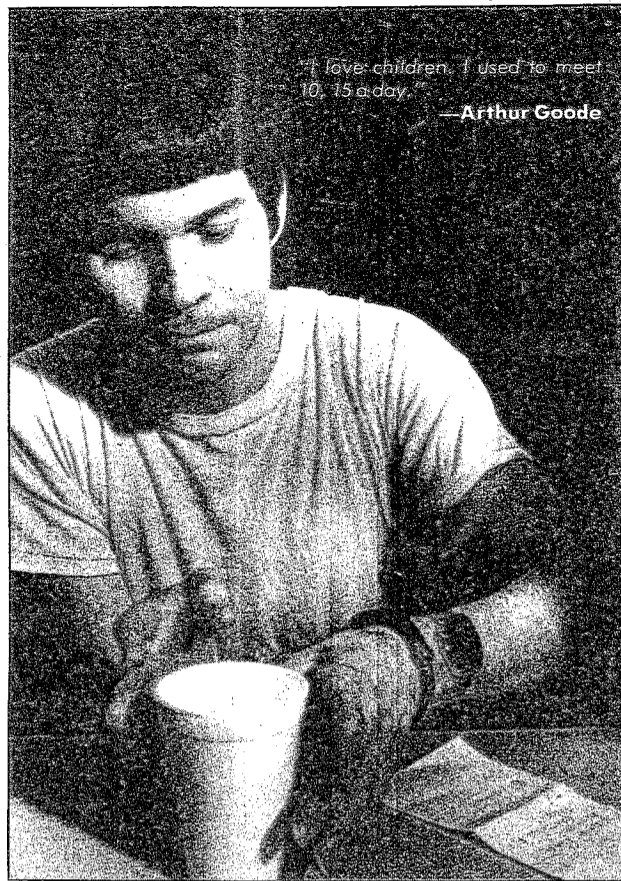
He constantly dodged reporters' questions that didn't deal with the message he was struggling to convey. When one reporter asked him about his family, his answer was brief.

"Maybe, if I'm lucky enough to get a stay, you can come on back and we can discuss this thing further," he replied, sincerely.

He did discuss his past life at one point though. Asked if he ever had a girlfriend, he said "I had one once, but she was kind of nutty, a little screwy. She used to go out with me and find little kids and take them into the woods, but it didn't work out."

His conversation always led back to pedophilia.

"I love children," he constantly repeated.



"I love children. I used to meet 10, 15 a day."
—Arthur Goode

Joe Burbank

"I used to meet ten, 15 a day."

But he said he had to kill those two children.

"What else could I do to get society's attention?" he asked. "I had to get them to realize that pedophilia is something that should be

studied, not hated."

And Goode, "Freddy," to his friends, still dreams. He said if he could wake up in another state where no one knew him, "I would find me a boy and have a good time, but I wouldn't hurt him."

Panel OKs graduate assistant fee slash

By Frank LaMonte
Alligator Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE — Florida Senate Education Committee members unanimously approved Thursday a measure that will save 2,400 Florida graduate students about \$900 each.

After many minutes of discussion and testimony from state education officials, senators decided to approve waiving matriculation fees for graduate assistants.

State University System Chancellor Barbara Newell told committee members a UF graduate assistant might make only \$4,500 a year and have to pay \$900 of that back to UF for the matriculation charge, the portion of fees that pays for classes as opposed to student activities and other functions.

The bill was sponsored by Sen. Pete Skinner, D-Lake City. But Skinner missed the

meeting so Sen. George Kirkpatrick, D-Gainesville, presented the argument for the bill.

"We are miserably inadequate in being able to provide incentives to take a graduate assistantship," Kirkpatrick told the senators.

But Kirkpatrick and Newell had a tough time convincing Sen. Jack Gordon, D-Miami Beach, that attracting talented graduate students was worth the loss in tuition revenue.

When Newell stepped to the podium to testify, Gordon repeatedly quizzed her on how she would make up the lost operating money for the university system.

"I happen to be a believer in the sales tax," Newell responded.

What if the sales tax wasn't a sufficient source of revenue, Gordon asked.

"I think at this point I would have to continue the (graduate student) fees if I was unable to get financial support," Newell concluded.

Committee members also passed three bills modifying the Florida Scholars Academic Scholarship Program.

The bills, which were accepted after only a

few minutes of discussion, clarify the requirements for being accepted into this aid program.

Another bill, dealing with the funding of state school buildings, was bantered around for nearly 30 minutes before the deadlocked group decided to send it back to the Senate appropriations committee.

Despite Gordon's protests, committee members also adopted a resolution from the state House of Representatives outlining a four-year master plan to improve the quality of state schools.

"It seems to me that you ought to have a higher goal in mind that just raising salaries," Gordon said, in reference to the plan's main goal to bring university faculty members' salaries into the top 25 percent in the nation.

Although the bills are designed to neutralize the effects of diminishing education dollars, Kirkpatrick said after the meeting these attempts at solving the state's educational problems are not well organized.

"The problem is that the State University System and the Board of Regents have not

established their priorities," Kirkpatrick said. "Their relationship with the Legislature is tenuous at best."

Spotting stolen cycle, man rams into rider

Romulo Duenas apparently wanted his stolen motorcycle so badly that he risked life and limb to get it back.

Duenas, a UF recreation major, told UF police he caused an accident on Hull Road Wednesday because he saw a man riding a motorcycle that was stolen from him two days earlier.

Duenas rammed the motorcycle he was riding into the stolen cycle, but was unable to catch the suspect, police records show. Police later arrested Terrence Lee McKinney after Duenas identified him, records show.

McKinney told police he took the motorcycle for a ride after seeing it sit near the Hub for two days.

As of Thursday night, McKinney was being held at the Alachua County jail in lieu of a \$500 bond.



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2 of 2



NEWS-PRESS

Cape Coral

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1984 **

DEATHS 4 **B**

Letter: Goode mad over lack of execution

By FRANCES D. WILLIAMS
News-Press Staff Writer

Arthur Frederick Goode III is a twice convicted child killer who is demanding he be executed for his crimes and is "fighting mad" at the state for ignoring his pleas to die.

"I am ready to die now and I demand my execution," Goode recently wrote to a Fort Myers News-Press reporter. "Justice for those two dead boys will not be done until I am executed and I want to be executed as soon as possible."

Goode, 28, was convicted in Fort Myers for the March 5, 1976, homosexual murder of nine-year-old Jason VerDow of Cape Coral.

Goode also was sentenced to life in prison for the March 20, 1976, mur-

der of 11-year-old Kenny Dawson of Falls Church, Va., 15 days after he murdered young Jason.

"I rejoice every time I hear a little boy getting murdered," Goode has written. "I don't desire to ever change my mind committing my dirty sexual murders on little boys. I am fully satisfied now knowing they are dead because I, A.F.G. III, murdered them for fun."

Steve Hull, Gov. Bob Graham's press secretary, said Goode's pleas to die would have no impact on "routine procedure" followed in death cases.

"There is a procedure that the governor goes through on death cases," Hull said, "and Goode's letters, which the governor is also receiving, will have no bearing on that proce-

dure."
In one of numerous letters which have been received at the News-Press from Goode, he wrote, "Dear Ms. Frances Williams, Fort Myers News-Press.

"REAL-URGENT! Are you receiving my letters?? Why haven't you wrote me back yet?"

"I have 100 percent-trouble here as the guards TOOK-MY-CLOTHES on (11-28-83) and Supt. Dugger had them MOVE-ME to the CLINIC cell here and it is HELL and very WORSE (then) ever for me!!

"Please be advised I am dead SERIOUS demanding my EXECUTION this time so please do NOT ignore me!!

"I have made up my mind that I want to DIE soon as possible legally

in the chair!!!

"Everybody here (has) big PREJUDICE against me (and) it's HELL on me here they got me on DISCIPLINARY status FOREVER and ever here!!

"Please arrange to INTERVIEW me immediately.

"Sincerely yours, Arthur F. Goode III 058781, P. O. Box 747, Starke, Fla. 32091.

"PS. Be advised I have every legitimate reason on earth why I demand to be EXECUTED immediately!

"I wish you were here right NOW so I could discuss details with you!!!!"

Prison officials keep Goode in isolation because his life is constantly threatened by other inmates. He openly brags about the murders and has written letters to the parents of

his victims detailing the murders of their children.

On Feb. 2, 1982, Graham signed Goode's death warrant but he received a stay of execution from the 11th District Court of Appeals in Atlanta. The same federal justices later threw out Goode's death sentence.

But on Nov. 28, the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death sentence, saying the appeals court had erred in overturning the death sentence.

The effort to save Goode's life is carried on by his parents.

"Freddy doesn't know what he's saying," Goode's mother, Mildred, says. "He doesn't actually realize what he's saying. He has no idea what it means to walk down that hall to that (electric) chair."

Goode's father, Art, is angry about

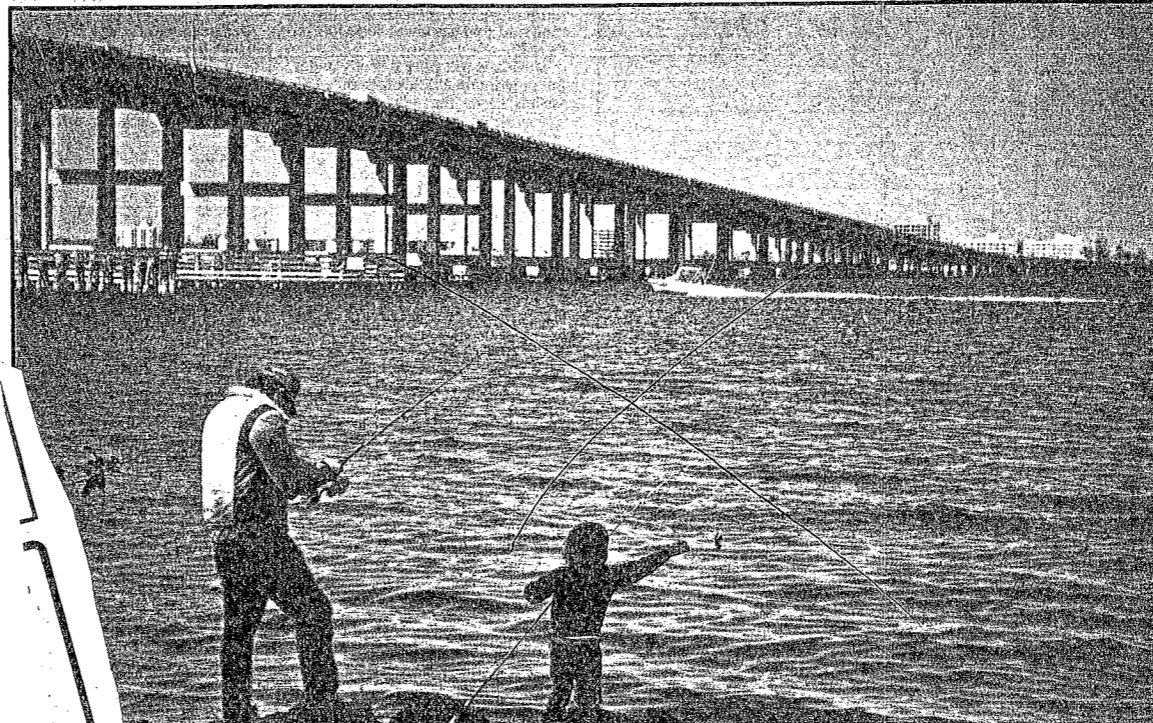
the stories that appear about his only son.

"He does this sort of thing all the time," Goode said. "What's so newsworthy about him? He's not competent and one day, the courts are going to do the fair thing and rule that he's incompetent. Anyone that's around Freddy knows he's not responsible for what he says and does."

Florida State Prison Superintendent Richard Dugger said Goode was placed on "disciplinary" restrictions for 90 days for cussing out the guards and Dugger himself.

"He's nearly through with that, though," Dugger said. "He has about 10 days left, and every time his TV and radio are taken away from him,

See GOODE, page 2B



Council: Year's big job will be handling growth

CAPE CORAL — A number of tough challenges await Cape Coral in 1984, according to city officials.

Deciding the best way to expand city water and sewer services to meet the rapidly increasing demands of a quickly growing city and establishing an impact fee that will offset the costly expansion of these services are the most crucial challenges the new year brings, city council members agree.

"Those are the three biggest challenges we face," said Councilman Charles Strausser.

"Coming up with a fair and equitable impact fee is the key to our problems," according to Mayor Joe Mazurkiewicz Jr. "It is the vital step toward paying for the solutions to our problems."

Councilwoman Dorothy Clemence agreed, saying, "Providing the essential services — water ... sewer ... fire ... police — are the biggest priorities."

Fears that Proposition 1 (Citizens Choice), if passed, will cut deeply into city revenues are also on the minds of council members. The statewide referendum that will appear on the 1984 general election ballot would roll back tax rates to 1980 levels.

could have and study ways to compensate for revenues lost if voters pass the measure.

Odds are that the measure will be approved, according to Councilman Tony Rotino.

"I'm willing to bet it will pass," said Rotino. "And, when it does, we will have to think of some other ways to raise revenues."

Improving the council's relationship with Lee County government and reaching an agreement on the dual taxation dispute between the council and Lee County Commission also is a difficult and important challenge ahead for 1984, Councilman Robert Frabell said.

The city should also look toward making the city attorney's job a full-time position, according to Councilman Herman Zaslovsky. The requirements of a fast growing city have become too much for a part-time attorney, he said.

Zaslovsky said the council should also start negotiating with Avatar Properties Inc. for the purchase of a 600-acre parcel of land in northern Cape Coral to start an industrial park.

The challenges come with growth and face every division of city government. City Manager Robert Duggan

Pro bono From page 1B

In addition to the pro bono program, the Legal Aid Society provides legal services to the poor. The society is a creation of the Lee County Bar Association and employs two full-time attorneys. Also available is the federally funded Florida Rural Legal Services Inc. with three staff attorneys and three legal assistants.

The Lee County Legal Aid Society is at 1411 Dean St., and the phone number is 337-6418. The Florida Rural office in Fort Myers is at 2209 Euclid Ave., and the phone number is 334-4554. These two offices also do the screening for possible pro bono program participants to see if they qualify financially and if their case has merit.

Due to cooperation among the separate groups, indigent clients can be screened and matched with attorneys who can best represent them, Hughes said. About 60 county bar members have signed up for the pro bono program, Hughes said.

Walker said he never dreamed he would be taking advantage of a free legal service, saying that until recent years, nothing bad happened to him.

"I paid my bills and took care of myself," he said.

But his life began to crumble about six years ago when a robber shot him in the face while holding up his New York grocery. After recuperating from his wound, he traveled to Cape Coral to inspect the house he and his wife had built for an investment.

After he arrived in Florida, his wife filed for divorce, and a lengthy and costly property settlement ensued. Sporadic employment made it difficult for Walker to meet the mortgage payments on the house and in 1981 he decided to sell it.

A person put a contract on the house specifying an 18-month lease arrangement with a closing date of April 1983. But as the time came to finalize the deal, it was discovered that a release was needed from his ex-wife, Walker said. That release was late in arriving and the buyer sued for his deposit and more than \$2,000 in alleged repairs to the premises, Walker said.

Walker went to two attorneys and discovered their fees were "out of reach." But someone pointed him in the direction of the pro bono program and Hughes decided to take the case.

Walker said he is appreciative.

Task force plans new YMCA image

After operating for a year in the red, officials of the YMCA in Lee County plan to reorganize the association.

"We're not in the red so (much) that anyone is going to shut off the lights," said Rev. Robert Weaver, president of the YMCA's board of directors. But the association is far from profitable, he said.

The first step towards reorganization was taken about six weeks ago when the board terminated the employment of the executive director, Dan Lima. Weaver would not say why Lima was terminated.

Lima said last week that he and the board "had a difference of opinion on the way the organization should be run," but he would not elaborate.

A task force of YMCA officials will be considering more ways to cut down on personnel at a meeting Wednesday, Weaver said. The task force's proposals will be presented to the board this month, he said.

Weaver said the YMCA has suffered from competition with the recreation center operated by the city of Fort Myers. The city bought the center from the YMCA.

"We need a new image for the Y and new types of programming," Weaver said.

Fort Myers fills top job in public works section

By KATHLEEN HALLORAN
News-Press Staff Writer

the public works division of the department.

An Opa-locka man has accepted the \$45,000-a-year position of heading up the newly revamped Fort Myers Public Works Department after being selected from a slate of four finalists.

Pending confirmation next week by the Fort Myers City Council, Donald C. McKenna of Opa-locka will give up his current position as public works director in North Miami to set up shop in Fort Myers on Jan. 23.

"He's the man who can do the job," said Mayor Ellis Solomon, who will recommend the appointment at the next council meeting.

The decisive factor in McKenna's selection was his administrative ability and management background, Solomon said. McKenna has held his North Miami public works position for about four years, before that serving as city manager of Opa-locka. He has also held management jobs in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, according to his resume.

The public works department is the largest in city government, Solomon said, calling this appointment "extremely important." The department is now in the midst of about \$40 million worth of construction, Solomon said, and has about 50 people on its staff.

McKenna will work directly under the mayor and will oversee three divisions, according to the new organizational chart approved by the council in October.

Roger Robinson, the former public works director, will head the engineering division; Victor Quick, formerly supervisor of the city's streets and ditches program, will be chief of

The supervisor of the utilities division will be selected by Solomon and McKenna after the administrator has settled into his new job, Solomon said.

"We've been small a long time, and now we look up and we're bursting at the seams," the mayor said of the city's need for reorganization in the face of rapid growth.

Solomon said he does not expect McKenna to enact any major changes in the structure of the department or in its personnel.

"I don't expect any changes at all," he said.

McKenna was selected over three other finalists: Harry E. Lampe of Wauchula; Hardee County administrator and county engineer; Harvey Michael Rose of South Miami, who is director of medical center services at the University of Miami; and Richard B. Shapiro of Coral Springs, director of engineering for the Gulfstream Land and Development Corp.

The four men were interviewed in November by Solomon, personnel director Gary Mundy, and a council member, then McKenna was called back for a second interview during Christmas week, Solomon's assistant, Dale Knotts, said.

McKenna was offered a salary of \$45,000 a year, plus the use of a leased automobile and other benefits available to city employees. He accepted the position in a letter received by Solomon's office last week.

Solomon said he does not expect any problems with council confirmation Jan. 9, since council members have been a part of the whole selection process.

Goode

From page 1B

he starts writing letters to newspapers, appeals courts, the governor — anyone — requesting he be put to death. But when he gets his TV and radio back, he quits the letter writing.

Dugger said he had Goode placed in the medical clinic at the prison because of complaints of various illnesses, but he said he will go back to isolation when he completes his punishment.

On March 6, six years ago, Goode, a mental patient with a history of child molesting, lured Jason from a bus stop, where he waited with other children, into a wooded area across the road.

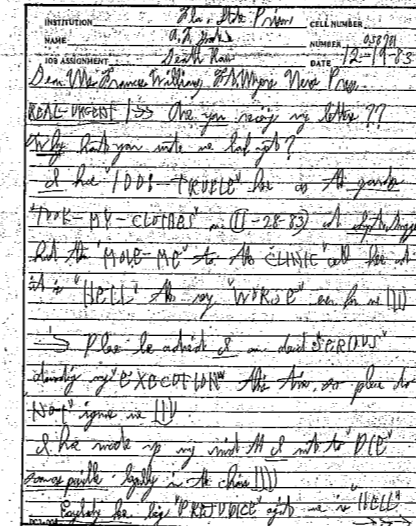
Verdow's parents were separated at the time and it was nearly dark when it was determined that Jason had not attended school that day and was not with either parent.

Uniform and off-duty lawmen and dozens of concerned neighbors and relatives immediately began a massive search of the wooded area. But darkness halted the search until the next day.

The search began again at dawn and, a short time later, Jason's nude body was found stuffed in a palmetto patch. He was on his hands and knees face down in the dirt.

He had been sexually assaulted and, as Goode later said, "I just took my belt and put it around his neck and pulled it tight until he (Jason) turned blue and died."

Although Goode quickly became a prime suspect in Jason's murder, he



A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE LETTER ARTHUR GOODE SENT TO THE NEWS-PRESS ... the convicted child killer is demanding that he be executed

was able to flee to Virginia before Cape Coral police could arrest him. Once in Virginia, he kidnapped 10-year-old Billy Arthes and held him hostage for 10 days before his arrest.

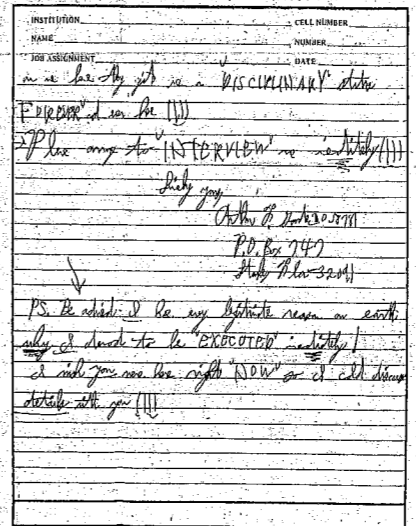
But while holding Arthes hostage, he abducted 11-year-old Kenny Dawson from his paper route, took him into some woods where he fed him lunch, sexually molested him and then strangled him to death.

Virginia does not have a death

penalty, but Goode was sentenced to life in prison for Dawson's murder before being returned to Lee County, where he was tried, convicted and sentenced to death for Jason's murder.

Goode had been committed to the Spring Grove Mental Institution in Maryland for molesting children — a tendency his father says he began at age 6.

The day before he walked out of



Aid From page 1B

20f02

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Lee County Commission
Agenda
January 4, 1984
 9:30 Invocation: Reverend Dean McKinney, Broadway Church of

**“I know
society
wants to
see me
executed”**

— Arthur Goode III —
Scheduled Execution
March 2, 1982

NEWSWATCH 11

Exclusive Interview Tonight

Chere Avery was granted an exclusive
interview with the confessed killer of two
children...one of which was an eight year old
boy from Cape Coral.

AT 6:00

WINK

Killer believes in death penalty — but not for himself



'There's no legal way I'll ever get on the street again. . . . If I was to go out that door and onto the street, somebody would shoot me down.'

— Arthur F. Goode III

■ On Feb. 5, Gov. Bob Graham signed a death warrant for Arthur Frederick Goode III, who was convicted in 1977 of sexually assaulting and murdering a 9-year-old boy near Fort Myers. Goode also has been convicted and sentenced to life in prison for a similar crime in Virginia. He is scheduled to die in Florida's electric chair at 7 a.m. on March 2. Because his case is being appealed (arguments were heard Monday before the State Supreme Court), it is unlikely that the execution will take place as planned. His parents say that their son is insane and should not be executed. Others disagree. The following is the second of a two-part examination of the case of Arthur Frederick Goode III, who is known as Freddy to his family. ■

FLORIDA STATE PRISON — The door to the small, glass-enclosed room swings open, and a frail, pallid figure arises from his straight-backed chair to greet a visitor.

The visitor extends a hand, and that seems to take Freddy Goode by surprise. After a second of hesitation, Freddy responds by offering a marshmallow-soft right hand that is joined to his left by

**BILL
CORNWELL**



shiny metal cuffs and a linked chain.

In Freddy Goode's world, such niceties as a handshake are practically nonexistent.

Goode is probably the most hated man along death row here. In fact, he might be the most hated person in the entire prison population. Officials have to keep Freddy separate from the other inmates. If they didn't, someone would kill him sure as the world.

FREDDY, YOU SEE, is a child molester. A child molester who kills his helpless male victims on occasion. As if that isn't enough, Freddy has endeared himself to his fellow prisoners in a number of other ways. He has outspokenly called for his own execution and the executions of other death row residents he believes to be deserving of such a

fate. Also, he has, at times, openly coveted the small sons of inmates after catching glimpses of family photographs in their cells.

And then there were the letters. Freddy is — or at least used to be — very big on writing letters. He would send letters to then Gov. Reubin Askew in which he said things like, "I have absolutely no remorse whatsoever for any of the boys I murdered or their parents either," and "I rejoice every time I hear a little boy getting murdered!"

The worst letters were those he sent to the parents of the boys he murdered. In these obscene and brutal missives, he would describe in great detail what he had done to the children and how much he had relished it.

Even in the often distorted social order of a prison, someone like Freddy Goode is roughly equivalent to a substance you scrape off of your boots.

In person, though, he doesn't look like someone who would be the object of such scorn and derision.

He appears to be quite a bit younger than his 27 years — a fact that pleases him greatly.

'HOW OLD DO YOU think I look?" he asks his visitor.

When the visitor says about 20 or 21, Freddy is

genuinely disappointed.

"Most people think I look about 18 or even 17. They can't believe how old I really am. . . . You see I'm very immature. I'm just like a little kid myself."

But don't let Freddy's acne-cratered face and Prince Valiant hairdo fool you. He's a human time bomb: A walking plague on pre-adolescent males.

As one psychiatrist wrote of him: "Should he live, if ever released from prison, it is my firm conviction that another boy will be sexually abused and killed."

Everyone — except maybe Freddy himself — seems to agree on that one point. Whether he is executed or not, Freddy must never, ever, be set free.

My attorney told me to tell any reporters that if I don't get executed, you don't have to worry about me being paroled," Freddy explains as he runs a black plastic comb through his little-boy head of hair. "There is no legal way I'll ever get on the street again. . . . If I was to go out that door and onto the street, somebody would shoot me down."

Despite his earlier expressed desire to go to electric chair, Freddy has now changed his tur-

See **CORNWELL**.

Cornwell from 1-B

"I'm not totally insane, but I do have mental problems," he continues. "I don't think I'm competent enough to go to prison. I should've been sent to a mental hospital."

(Freddy walked out of mental hospitals shortly before he killed 9-year-old Jason VerDow near Fort Myers in 1976 and, later, 11-year-old Kenneth Dawson of Falls Church, Va.)

Although Freddy says he still favors the death penalty in "certain cases," his is not one of them.

"BELIEVE ME, I don't want my execution to be carried out . . . I didn't mean it when I said I did . . . I was just tryin' to get attention to my case . . . Justice wouldn't be execution in my case. I think clemency in my case would be justice . . . They want to execute me 'cause I killed kids."

In addition to his recently acquired desire to live, Freddy has also added a new word to his vocabulary: Remorse.

"I have remorse now for the kids I murdered," he insists. "I know you've heard about all the bad letters I wrote the families, but I wouldn't do that now; I'm sorry for it . . . I wish I could bring those kids back. But I guess people don't believe me."

How does this remorse affect Freddy? Does he spend sleepless nights or agonizing days reliving the atrocities he committed?

"Huh?" he responds. "I don't think I know what you're talkin' about."

Freddy speaks of remorse, but he seems to be at a loss when it comes to displaying the emotion.

He says he can't quite explain why he killed those little boys after raping them, since he fancies himself a "nonviolent" person at heart.

"A LOT OF PEOPLE think I'm one of the most polite people ever was," he says with more than a hint of pride in his voice.

In spite of the horror and heartache his mental aberrations have wrought, Freddy still clings to them with a frightening intensity.

"Sex is such a beautiful thing and pedophilia (the abnormal sexual desire in an adult for children) is, too," he says. "There are ways to do anything, and there ought to be a way to do (pedophilia)."

He recognizes that he landed on death row because of his sexual obsession with male children. Yet he can't bring himself to denounce this longing.

"I love it," he admits.

His dream is that somehow he could be released from prison and find an "intelligent" little boy — "maybe an orphan" — who would be allowed to live with him legally.

"That would be a miracle situation," he acknowledges, and it is obvious that not even Freddy's scrambled brain treats such an outrageous scenario with much seriousness.

What is more plausible is that somehow Goode's lawyers will keep him out of the electric chair.

If that is the case, Freddy may well spend the rest of his days peering out of his isolated prison cell at the small, flickering black-and-white television screen that displays the kiddie shows he says he loves so dearly.

There is talk that Freddy ought to be studied by doctors and scientists to determine what causes someone to become a child molester and murderer. Such research might yield information that could prevent future Freddy Goodes, at least one doctor believes.

FREDDY'S CASE, however, is beyond the scope of treatment, it would appear.

In 1978, a psychiatrist from New York journeyed all the way to Florida to examine him.

A portion of his report illustrates the hopelessness of the situation:

"Perhaps a metaphorical way of summarizing his condition is to say that, if he were to appear before the Throne of Judgment, he could relate the chain of events that led to his appearance, but he would be totally incapable of understanding WHY he was there."

High court hears appeal for delaying execution

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — Convicted killer Arthur F. Goode III shouldn't be executed March 2 and should be granted a new appeal because his former appeal lawyer made some mistakes, Goode's present lawyer told the Florida Supreme Court on Monday.

Wilbur D. Smith III of Fort Myers said Goode probably wouldn't be facing electrocution next week if three issues concerning aggravating and mitigating circumstances had been raised in earlier appeals.

Gov. Bob Graham signed Goode's death warrant Feb. 5. He is scheduled to die in the electric chair March 2 at Florida State Prison in Starke.

In papers filed last week, Smith asked the justices to stay Goode's execution and grant him a new appeal because of ineffective representation by his former lawyer. The

court already has upheld Goode's death sentence.

In his oral argument, Smith said Lee Circuit Judge John H. Shearer Jr. improperly considered an aggravating circumstance that is not in Florida's statutes, failed to recite in detail a mitigating circumstance that he found in the case and used the wrong burden of proof for mitigating circumstances.

Smith said the first point was the most important because the justices already decided in a 1979 case that sentencing a defendant to death because he is mentally ill and might hurt someone else if ever paroled was contrary to legislative intent. Shearer also was the judge in that case.

But David Gaudin, an assistant attorney general in Tallahassee, told the justices that Shearer was editorializing when he made a comment to that effect and records show he did not use it as an aggravating circumstance when imposing sentence.

Goode is granted group press conference

By NEIL SKENE
St. Petersburg Times Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE — For the first time since the execution of John Spenkelink, a Florida prisoner has asked for a pre-execution press conference.

Arthur Frederick Goode III, convicted of molesting and murdering a 9-year-old boy near Fort Myers, has been talking to a dozen or so individual reporters in recent days, and now he wants to meet with reporters as a group. Prison officials scheduled the press conference for 2 p.m. Monday, 17 hours before Goode is scheduled to die in the electric chair.

"If he gets a stay, the group interview is off," said Vernon Bradford,

spokesman for the Department of Corrections.

John Spenkelink, the last person executed in Florida, died in May 1979. Complaints by Spenkelink's supporters that he was denied a last chance to speak to reporters prompted the state to change its rules and allow press conferences.

"He's been talking to individual reporters," Bradford said. Goode's interview with the *St. Petersburg Times* was published Monday and Tuesday.

Goode, boyish looking himself even at 27, revels in his sexual desire for young boys and admits murdering two boys he molested. He used to call for his own execution, but he doesn't do that anymore. "I have remorse now for

the kids I murdered," he told the *Times*.

On Thursday, U.S. District Judge Wm. Terrell Hodges in Tampa rejected a bid by Goode's attorney for a stay of execution. Goode's lawyer, Wilbur Smith of Fort Myers, said he will next ask the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta to issue a stay.

Meanwhile, another convicted murderer will not face execution next week. District Judge James Paine of West Palm Beach granted an indefinite stay of execution to William Lee Thompson, a former member of the Outlaws motorcycle gang convicted of murdering a woman in a Miami motel room in 1976.

— United Press International
was used in compiling this story.

CS

2-27-82

Appeal Court Considering Stay Request for Goode

ATLANTA (AP) — Child-killer Arthur Goode III's appeal of a Florida death sentence moved to a new arena Friday as his lawyer filed papers asking the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to spare his life.

Goode, 27, is scheduled to die Tuesday morning in the electric chair at Florida State Prison in Starke for sexually assaulting and killing 9-year-old Jason Verdon of Cape Coral in 1976. The warrant calling for Goode's execution expires at noon next Friday.

A ruling from the appellate court was expected by today.

He lost his first round in federal court Thursday when a Tampa judge refused to block the execution. The Florida Supreme Court had rejected his appeal on Tuesday.

In his 26-page ruling Thursday, U.S. District Judge W. Terrell Hodges of Tampa said he found no merit to arguments by Wilbur C. Smith III, the

Fort Myers attorney, that his client's constitutional rights were violated during his trial in the Verdow killing.

Goode also is under a life sentence in Virginia for killing a young boy in that state.

In the past, Goode had written letters to state officials and his victims' families, repeatedly asking to be put to death and describing the pleasure he took in killing the boys.

But in a rare death-watch interview Thursday, the Death Row inmate said he now feels remorse for what he did and no longer wants to die for his crimes.

Goode also told reporters that if he wins a reprieve from the electric chair, he would like to lobby for understanding of pedophilia, a sexual desire for children that allegedly led to his killing the two young boys.

"It's like ice cream," he said. "If you haven't tasted it, you don't know what it's like."

Condemned killer 'proud' of murder

(Over-enlarged)

By TOM BUTLER
Alligator Staff Writer

With less than 18 hours to live, condemned murderer and child molester Arthur Goode enjoyed a last opportunity Wednesday afternoon to be the center of attention.

Goode, 30, who was scheduled to die in the Florida electric chair at 7 a.m. today, bragged to approximately 30 reporters at a prison press conference about the murders he had committed. He repeatedly claimed that he had murdered two young boys after sexually assaulting them to protest society's rejection of him for being a pedophile — a child molester.

"I'm proud of the fact that I murdered those children, because society is prejudiced against me because I'm a child molester," Goode said in a thin, rapid-fire voice. "My execution is the only thing I want because I'll never have sex with young boys again unless I escape, which is impossible."

Wednesday afternoon a federal judge in Tampa denied a stay of execution for Goode. Attorneys for Goode then filed an unsuccessful appeal with the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta.

On March 5, 1976, Goode raped and murdered 9-year-old Jason Verdow in Cape Coral, near Fort Myers. Later that month, he raped and murdered 11-year-old Kenny Dawson in Falls Church, Va., near Washington, D.C.

Goode bragged again and again of his sexual desire for young boys. He showed reporters a sheet of legal paper with a wish list of sexual fantasies involving young boys.

And Goode repeatedly told reporters that his last wish is to have child television star Ricky Schroeder sit naked on his lap when he is strapped into the electric chair.

"Do you get some satisfaction from grossing people out?" Jacksonville television reporter Bert Roselle barked at Goode.

"I just consider myself an odd person," Goode responded before he returned to graphically describing his sexual fantasies to the reporters. By the time the one-hour interview was half finished, reporters were already drifting away from Goode as he repeated his statements.

Goode has accepted numerous interviews since Florida Gov. Bob Graham signed his death warrant. At his Wednesday press conference — traditionally offered to condemned prisoners the day before the execution — Goode appeared relaxed as he chided reporters for asking a vague question or shining television spotlights in his face.

And Goode took advantage of the press attention to renew his demand that his execution be televised. Goode began requesting a televised execution after Texas killer James Autrey made a similar request before his recent execution.

"Why can't the major news networks push the issue?" Goode demanded. "Why can't y'all get a court order like you did for cameras in the courtroom?"

The reporters, who were preparing to leave when Goode raised the question, did not answer. Goode claimed he had written Dan Rather of CBS television and Ted Koppel of ABC television to demand that his death in the electric chair be televised.

In between saying that he had murdered two children to protest society's attitudes, Goode described himself as a



ERIK LESSER/ALLIGATOR

Child killer Arthur Goode, scheduled to die this morning in Florida's electric chair, shows reporters a newspaper clipping of TV child actor Ricky Schroeder at a news conference Wednesday.

can get along with young boys — and I mean in general, not sexually — better than their fathers can.”

Goode uttered one contradictory statement after another. He said he wanted to die in the electric chair but he said he had not told his attorneys to stop fighting for his life. And although he said he had never had sex with a woman and wanted only sex with young boys, he denied that he is a homosexual.

“I'm not homosexual. I don't care to have sex with an older man,” Goode insisted. “I just want to live my life and marry a 10-year-old.”

Goode was sentenced to life imprisonment in Virginia for the murder of Dawson and was returned to Florida to be

tried for the murder of Verdow. On March 21, 1977, Goode was sentenced to death.

In January 1982, Florida Gov. Bob Graham signed a warrant to have Goode executed that February. The 11th U.S. Court of Appeals in Atlanta stayed the execution and later threw out the death sentence on the grounds that the trial judge had allegedly made prejudicial remarks at the sentencing.

But attorneys for the state of Florida appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which overturned the decision of the

See 'Execution'
next page

Execution

continued
from page one

Atlanta court and affirmed the death penalty. Graham then signed a second death warrant for Goode.

Goode has become one of the most well-known inmates of the 216 persons currently condemned to death in Florida because of his habit of writing letters to state officials and reporters across the state. Often these letters are frantic pleas for help of one kind or another.

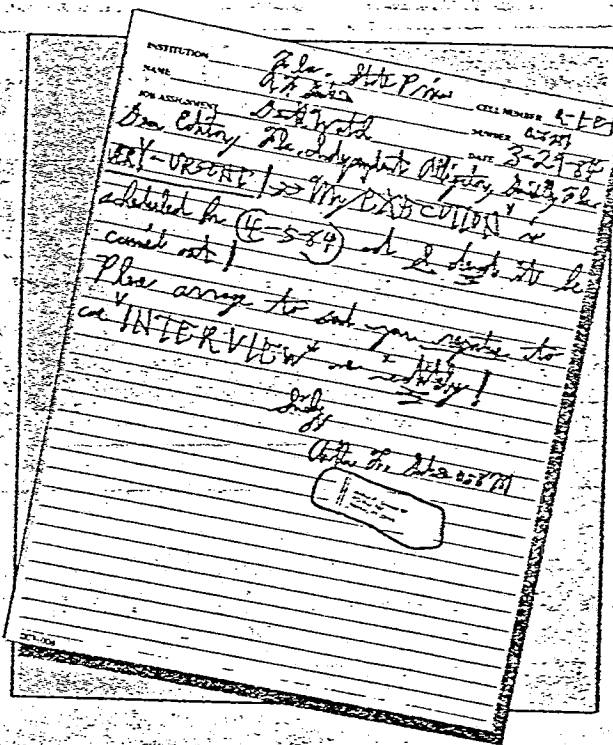
Goode wrote letters to Graham several years ago demanding to be executed. But when Graham signed his death warrant in 1982, Goode began writing letters to various persons begging for help.

Reporters who have visited Goode at Florida State Prison often received letters from him afterward. When Alligator reporter Phil Kuntz visited Goode in February, 1982, Goode wrote a stream of letters to *The Alligator* asking Kuntz to visit him and bring such items as books of postage stamps.

At his Wednesday press conference, Goode bragged that he looked forward to death.

"Yes, I do want my execution carried out," Goode answered a reporter's question. "I consider myself competent for execution."

Anti-death penalty attorneys have argued that Graham should cancel Goode's execution on the grounds that Goode is legally insane. However, a state-appointed team of three psychiatrists recently examined Goode and declared that there is no psychiatric reason to block the execution.



ALLIGATOR GRAPHIC

In a letter to *The Alligator* dated March 29, condemned murderer Arthur Goode writes: "My execution is scheduled for 5/4/84, and I demand it be carried out! Please arrange to send your reporters to come interview me immediately!"

Goode: I Want to Die; 3-23-83 State Doesn't Believe It

By GEORGE BAYLISS
Sun Staff Writer

Arthur F. Goode III says he wants to die, but a federal court in Atlanta won't let him.

Convicted of the rape and murder of Jason VerDow, a 9-year-old Cape Coral boy, on March, 5, 1976, Goode was sentenced to die at his own request. Now he is writing to newspapers, state officials and the governor's office, demanding that his execution be carried out.

The 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, which stayed Goode's execution in Feb. 1982, has not rendered an opinion on Goode's case. And an aide to Gov. Bob Graham said he cannot comment on what Graham will do since the case is pending.

Writing with convoluted reasoning and in a nearly illegible scrawl from his cell at the Florida State Prison in Starke, Goode says: "I have every reason on earth why I want to be 'EXECUTED!'"

Goode, who was also convicted of murdering an 11-year-old Virginia boy on March 20, 1976, claims he is being beaten by prison guards and that both guards and inmates want to kill him. He says he refuses to grant interviews because he is afraid to leave his cell. His letters begin with "VERY URGENT!" He underlines words and writes others entirely in capitals throughout his letters.

Vernon Bradford, information



ARTHUR F. GOODE
Convicted of Killing Two

director for the Department of Corrections, said that Goode makes allegations "all the time" and that the DOC looks into them. FSP Superintendent Richard Dugger said Goode "complains about everything and anything."

"First he wants his door open, then he wants it closed," Bradford said.

Two weeks ago Goode sent a notarized affidavit to state Rep. Bobby

(See GOODE on Page 8B)

Goode

From Page 1B

Brantley, a member of the House Corrections, Probation and Parole Committee, saying that he wants his lawyer — Wilbur C. Smith III of Fort Myers — dismissed, his appeal dismissed and his death warrant signed. Brantley said he forwarded Goode's request to Graham.

"He enjoys attention, and he would do almost anything to get attention," Brantley said.

Goode has written his letters, including some to families of his victims describing the crimes, off and on since he entered prison. Dugger said that while Goode is neither violent nor threatening, "he's a pain in the a--," Dugger, who also called Goode a "nuisance," "irresponsible" and "childish," says he's received four letters a day from Goode for five years.

"We have letters from him dating back to 1977," according to Art Wiedinger, Gov. Graham's assistant general counsel.

Wiedinger said Graham reviews Goode's case on a regular basis to decide what action to take. He said that while he couldn't comment on what Graham would do, he noted that the governor had signed a warrant for Goode's execution before but that the execution had been stayed.

If Goode is serious in his demand to have his execution carried out, then he is alone among the other inmates on Death Row, according to state and prison officials, who doubt that Goode really wants to die. Wiedinger said he does not recall anyone writing the governor's office to demand an execution.

And more important, they doubt that Goode, in his capriciousness, wants to die. Brantley noted that while Goode wrote him prior to the signing of the 1982 death warrant, demanding his execution, the day the warrant was signed, Goode wrote to say that was not fair. Brantley said he "would almost bet" on Goode changing his mind if a new warrant were signed.

Is TV worth dying for? Con

By BILL KACZOR
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — A lawyer for convicted child-killer Arthur F. Goode said Wednesday that Goode wants Gov. Bob Graham to sign his death warrant so he can keep his death row television set.

Wilbur Smith of Fort Myers cited Goode's request as an example of mental illness and urged Graham and the state Cabinet, for that reason, to spare Goode, 25, from the electric chair.

The panel, acting as the Executive Clemency Board, also heard Carol Ann Turner ask mercy for James David Raulerson, 30, of Rockmart, Ga. He is on death row for the murder of a police officer during a 1975 restaurant robbery in Jacksonville.

Goode was convicted for the 1975 homosexual rape-murder of 9-year-old Jason Ver-

dow in Fort Myers after previously being convicted of raping and killing an 11-year-old boy in Tyson, Corner, Va. He was sentenced to life in prison in Virginia. Both victims were strangled in a similar manner.

Goode confessed to the Verdow murder and urged Lee County Circuit Court Judge John Shearer to sentence him to death, which Shearer did.

"Arthur F. Goode is a deeply emotionally, mentally disturbed person," Smith said.

He said Goode could be turned from a liability to an asset if he were kept alive so psychiatrists and psychologists could study him in an effort to determine what caused him to kill and perhaps to prevent others from also killing.

Although Goode has been found legally sane, Smith said he is "medically insane."

He last saw Goode on death row Monday

and said Goode's first concern was about the loss of his television set, not the clemency proceedings. Smith said Goode told him to urge Graham to sign his death warrant so he could keep the television.

Meanwhile, Lee County State Attorney Joseph D'Alessandro called for Goode's death sentence to be carried out, if nothing else to prevent him from killing again if he should be released.

He compared Goode to John Gacy, convicted in Chicago of killing a number of young men and hiding their bodies in his home.

"If you think what they convicted Mr. Gacy for in Chicago is horrendous, then this is what we will have down the road," D'Alessandro said.

Smith agreed that all experts say Goode cannot be rehabilitated, but said that factor is no reason for sentencing him to death. He

says yes

pointed out the state Supreme Court last year had reversed another death sentence imposed by Shearer because the judge based his decision, in part, on a belief the defendant would kill again.

He said he expects eventually to win reversal of Goode's death penalty in the courts for the same reason because Shearer has indicated he also considered possible repetition in Goode's case.

In the Raulerson case, Ms. Turner made a highly emotional appeal, saying the state would be taking vengeance not on Raulerson but on his 6-year-old daughter, whose picture she gave to the board.

She said Raulerson was a killer, but not a murderer because he acted "in a blind panic" after seeing his cousin and robbery accom-

TV, Page 8-C

TV

From 1-C

plice, Jerry Tant, shot to death by police.

Duval State Attorney Ed Austin called for his execution because Raulerson and Tant were "professional criminals" who "deserve to be held accordingly."

He also said persons who kill policemen have got to know they will die for their crimes.

"When they (police) put their lives on the line, you've got to back them up," he said.

Austin said that when police arrived, Raulerson was raping a teacher in a back room of the Sailmaker Restaurant where she worked part time. Tant died in a shootout with policeman Jim English, who then was surprised by Raulerson coming out of the back room.

Raulerson fired a shot point-blank at English, but he survived when the bullet deflected off a ballpoint pen in his pocket, but officer Michael Stewart, 23, was not so lucky.

Austin said Raulerson emptied his gun into Stewart's body. He said Raulerson had "an evil, guilty, ugly state of mind that is premeditated murder."

The clemency board also had been scheduled to hear the case of Carl Jackson, 35, of Panama City, but it was postponed until May because Bay County State Attorney Leo Jones did not appear. Jackson, a three-tour Vietnam veteran, was sentenced to death for murdering two women in Panama City in 1975.

Austin's letter
3/20/85

Region

Arthur F. Goode III

The 29-year-old murderer of two boys has been found 'competent' for

By GEORGE BAYLISS
Sun staff writer

Arthur F. Goode III is scheduled to die April 5 in the electric chair for raping and murdering a 9-year-old boy he abducted from a school bus stop. He has a great deal on his mind.

"I think they're trying to give me a DR — disciplinary report — again," Goode said. The issue is toilet paper. "In the last couple of weeks I've had trouble getting toilet paper." He told guards he needed more toilet paper, though he had five rolls stashed in his cell. Guards discovered the cache when they searched his cell at the beginning of his death watch.

"They tried to say I lied," Goode said, adding that "sometimes it's good to tell a white lie like that because if I did run out and I told them I didn't have any and they figured I had five, then I'd have none."

Goode is one of four men awaiting execution. Paul Edward Magill, 24, and Kenneth Griffin, 38, — are scheduled to die March 20. Roy Stewart, 28, is scheduled to die along with Goode on April 5. This is the first death warrant Florida Gov. Bob Graham has signed for the three, according to Scharlette Holdman of the Florida Clearinghouse on Criminal Justice.

"They just gave me brand-new clothes, brand-new everything," Goode said. "You know how death watch is." For Goode, it's the second time around. He was scheduled to die in February 1982 but won a reprieve from the 11th Circuit Court of Appeal in Atlanta.

Eventually, the appeal court threw out Goode's death sentence and ordered the circuit court in Lee County to resentence him. The state appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which reinstated Goode's death sentence in November.



Arthur F. Goode III has April 5 date with electric chair

his spring prom. He says he needs to speak with FSP Superintendent Richard Dugger.

"I got to talk to him about — the execution is supposed to be coming — about a lot of different things, especially the DR. I don't know if I got one."

If Goode were disciplined, he said, he would have to spend another 30 days with his privileges severely curtailed. "I'm definitely worried about being put back on DC (disciplinary confinement). Who wouldn't? You don't know what it's like on DC back in the back... You lose your privileges; you don't have your radio; you don't have your T.V.; you don't get your canteen foods. The food

Goode maintains that he killed the two boys as a protest against what he sees as prejudice toward him. "I planned that case to rape and more or less murder (VerDow) like I did," he said.

here is mostly terrible, and you could starve to death back there, you know?"

The bottom line, as far as Goode seems concerned, is that "nobody on death watch should be put on DC."

On Feb. 15, Goode was examined by three doctors at the behest of Gov. Graham to see if Goode is competent to be executed. Art Wiedinger, one of Graham's legal aides, said while psychiatrists have finished their report, "We've taken the position that we can't release it." He said that Graham "stated that he is competent."

(over-
changed)

never stopped Ages."

"There are dman said, a comprehension

Wiedinger only be obtain of Fort Myers.

and Goode said I guess I'm con death warrant,

Holdman said a person who's fense." She ad about people li

"People ju molester — th can. You don't have to talk al

worst thing the think that's right News need

committed in F court file.

Jason VerDo away from the Island Road, II

found in the w clothed except f Goode had e

Goode

From page 5A

for violating his probation by escaping the first time.

He kidnapped a 10-year-old paperboy, Billy Arthes, from a parking lot. Arthes later told police that Goode had murdered Kenneth Dawson, an 11-year-old boy who disappeared from a shopping center in Virginia on March 20, 1976. Dawson's body, unclothed and hidden under some brush, was found after Goode led police to the area four days later.

Goode was convicted of murder in Virginia and sentenced to life in prison in September 1976. He was convicted of VerDow's murder and sentenced to die in March 1977.

Goode maintains that he killed the two boys as a protest against what he sees as society's prejudice toward him. "I planned that case to rape and more or less murder (VerDow) like I did." He said he would kill the children of people who are open-

ly prejudiced against him.

But Goode said he feels remorse "as far as the boys are concerned personally, or any boys. Here's the point: I love boys; I love kids. Not just for sex. I love children." In fact, he wants the Legislature to allow adults to marry children.

Goode said he is worried that somehow he will be cheated out of privileges condemned men are afforded and that if he isn't executed, someone will try to kill him or hurt him. He wants his execution televised, but worries that the press will spend more time covering the presidential election than his execution. He wants reporters to interview him.

"I know that I'm never going to have sex with no kids again . . . that I will never be a free person again, and that everybody wants to do the worst to me. Don't you think maybe I should go ahead and be executed on my request?" Goode asked.

"The last thing in the world I want to do is be executed. But the other last thing — the main last thing in the world I want to do — is stay in this place."

(over-
enlarged)

Goode blames his murders on boys' parents

By GEORGE BAYLISS
Sun staff writer

STARKE — A seemingly unrepentant Arthur F. Goode III told reporters he had one last request: "I would like to have sex with a 10-year-old boy."

"I've made the statement I would murder as many children as I could get my hands on," Goode told the group of reporters and photographers at Florida State Prison near Starke, where Goode is scheduled to die this morning in the electric chair. Most of his comments were in response to questions from reporters.

"Yes, I do want my execution carried out," Goode said. "I'm looking forward to the execution to be carried out; I'm not looking forward to dying." He seemed calm during the session and said, "I'll walk to the electric chair."

"I want the public to remember me as a young man who loves young boys," Goode said. "I went through years of molesting children without getting violent." Goode, 30, was sentenced to die in March 1977 for the murder a year earlier of Jason Verdow,

whom he had lured into some woods from a Cape Coral school bus stop.

Goode, an escapee from a mental hospital in Maryland, was also sentenced to life in prison for killing a Virginia boy, Kenneth Dawson, only weeks after the Verdow boy's murder.

On the day before his execution, Goode blamed the deaths on the parents of the murdered children. "The parents are responsible for the children's actions. If the children are in a position where they are in danger, it's the parents' responsibility."

"If I had a child I'd make sure that he was well protected so no one would get near him," Goode said.

Over the years, he has maintained he murdered both boys to protest what he claims is societal prejudice against pedophiliacs. "My main goal is pedophilia — doing sex with young boys 7 to 14 years old," Goode said. "I don't want people to think I'm crazy because I like molesting children."

"If there was more people around like me, child molesting wouldn't be sick; it

wouldn't be crazy; it would be reality."

The interview see-sawed back and forth between topics as reporters asked Goode about his sexual attraction to young boys, the murders and his claims that he would kill again.

"I chose to murder the kids," Goode said. "I've only murdered two boys. I have remorse for those two boys," he said. "If there was some way possible of bringing them back alive without the press knowing it, I would do that."

Goode has asked repeatedly to have his execution televised and wants to have the electric chair moved to the basement of the state capital building in Tallahassee. "What is the state of Florida hiding? Are they embarrassed to have me executed?"

Goode said his parents did not plan to see him before the execution "because they are too upset to say goodbye to me for the last time." He went on to say, "I want my parents to know I love them and I'm sorry I caused them so much trouble."

Goode's parents were unavailable for comment Wednesday night. In an interview:

last year, his mother said she didn't know Goode was responsible for his actions. "I always said I have no doubts that he will go to heaven," she had said.

"It's been a terrible strain all through. But from the beginning, I constantly had hopes... we thought there where along the line someone would step in," Goode's father said during the interview.

In 1983, the Goodes said they didn't know how they would deal with the execution. "If it ever happens, I want to leave Lee County."

Prison officials allowed Goode to speak for the interview. As they led him out of the room, he told reporters, "I'll see you tomorrow."

In Gainesville Wednesday night, 30 people showed up at the downtown community plaza to listen to speakers against the death penalty. Spokesman for the Gainesville Citizens Against the Death Penalty said they will hold a vigil this morning.

Executions

From page 1A

Goode is not competent to be executed and treats his situation like "make-believe" or like "child talk of a game called 'Death.'"

Hodges twice has denied a stay for Goode. After the first denial in 1982, Goode won a delay from the Atlanta appeals court and now is under his second death warrant.

In a written 10-page order signed at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Hodges said a petition for habeas corpus was "denied and dismissed; petition being frivolous and constituting an abuse of the writ."

The judge agreed with Assistant State Attorney General Charles Corces who claimed Goode's plea of "present insanity" should have been raised earlier after Goode was convicted of the brutal strangulation murder eight years ago of Jason Verdow, a Southwest Florida boy from Cape Coral.

Goode's 24-page brief filed Tuesday "mounts an assault against Florida (law)," Hodges wrote, noting that the points raised had already been decided by the nation's highest court.

A panel appointed by Graham has found Goode mentally competent. And the state Supreme Court upheld the findings Monday in a 7-0 decision.

At his trial, Goode testified how he strangled the Verdow youngster on March 5, 1976 by wrapping a belt around his neck and pulling tight for 10 minutes until the boy turned black and blue "because I wanted to make totally sure that he wasn't just unconscious, you know."

Goode said he saw Jason at a school bus stop, coaxed him into going with him, and performed sexual acts on him.

"I told him I was going to kill him," Goode testified. "I told him why, simply because he denied to try to enjoy the sexual acts. That's mainly the reason. The second reason is because he tried to get away."

The same month he killed the Verdow boy, Goode molested and strangled 11-year-old Kenny Dawson in Falls Church, Va., and was sentenced to life in prison for that crime.

At the time, Goode was a 22-year-old escapee from a mental hospital in Spring Grove, Md., and had been in psychiatric care or counseling since age 5.

In a letter from prison in 1977 to then Gov. Reubin Askew, he bragged about his crimes against children, asked to be executed and told him how he took pleasure in hearing of little boys being murdered.

"It's like ice cream. If you haven't tasted it, you don't know what you're missing," he said in a Death Row interview two years ago.

Regional/Local

Gainesville Sun

Censorship Is the Same

By FRAN HESSER
Sun Staff Writer

STARKE — Although they admit it is against the law, officials at Florida State Prison are deliberately censoring the mail of a young inmate to keep him from writing obscene letters to the families of his victims.

Convicted child molester and murderer Arthur Frederick Goode, 25, a paranoid young man who believes prisoners and guards at FSP are "out to get him," wrote an impassioned letter to The Sun protesting his lack of mail and visitation privileges.

In scrawling, nearly illegible printing, marked with three different colors of ballpoint pens; Goode complained he wasn't being allowed to write his attorneys.

But FSP Superintendent Dave Brierton denied Goode's charges, explaining Goode was allowed to write anyone on an approved writing list of 23 family members, friends and attorneys as well as any member of the news media.

Goode, who was sent to Death Row for the 1976 murder of Janson Verdow, 9, of Cape Coral, has been harassing the parents of his victims.

The young inmate was also convicted of the 1976 slaying of Kenneth Dawson, 11, of Virginia, a few weeks after young Verdow was killed.

Brierton said Goode was writing obscene letters to the families of his victims, describing in detail the lurid sex crimes Goode committed.

"It may not be legal, but I just can't permit that," Brierton explained about stopped Goode's mailing privileges.

Brierton said he had detailed one of Goode's prison counselors to pick up mail from Goode's cell every day and determine which letters were appropriate for mailing.

Brierton said he had also received complaints from mothers of young boys across the country complaining their sons had received obscene letters from Goode who had obtained their addresses from pen pal sections of teenage magazines.

The superintendent said counselors meet with Goode regularly to revise the mailing list.

Goode has also complained because he was moved upstairs on "Q-Wing" away from the area of the death chamber where he was formerly housed.

The young inmate, who said he is

afraid of attacks against his life from other prisoners, complained his life is in danger in his new cell.

"You can't imagine how atrocious it is," Goode told The Sun during an interview at FSP. "It's hot, I can't breathe. I don't know how I can prepare my case. There's too many worries here."

Ironically, Goode now wants to protest the death penalty he was given on his own request during his 1977 murder trial in Fort Myers.

Goode, who spent much of his life in mental institutions, demanded the right to represent himself at the trial and fired the attorney his worried parents had hired for him.

Goode's father, Arthur Goode Jr., said the court had three psychiatrists examine his son. They determined the young man was sane.

Despite arguments by attorneys that Goode was not competent, Circuit Court Judge John Shearer allowed Goode to serve as his own attorney with assistance from the public defender's office.

Goode asked for the death penalty and the judge granted the request.

But now, after John Spenklink's May 25 execution apparently brought home the reality of the death penalty, Goode is frightened he might actually meet his end in the electric chair.

With bizarre reasoning, Goode attempted to explain his change of heart on the death penalty. But the young man, who finds it hard to stay on one subject for long, had difficulty explaining his rationale.

"I think the crime was committed for a reason," Goode mused. "I was trying to prove a very important point to society."

"Of course, that doesn't make it right," he added. "But who you have sexual relations with should be up to you, not the courts. I don't mean out in public, but behind closed doors."

"When you're over 18, you should be able to do everything you want to do. Kids should be able to, also. Kids should be able to buy adult books. But society is against all of this."

"This is what caused me to carry this violence out — the murder of those two boys," Goode explained during The Sun interview.

Despite years behind bars, Goode apparently has not mellowed on his sexual preferences.

Psychiatrists explain some people simply prefer young children, as some

From Hesser Gainesville Sun

*Dear Mr Hesser LIFE
has me in real serious
-MIND who are thing
ed, I. The guards
me (DRS)!*

*Will you please take
to FBI? I in
to guards are setting
Place at VISTINE girl!
KILLED at anytime!!!*

men might only be turned on by red heads or blondes.

Goode explained it more simply. "If you have never tasted ice cream, you don't know what it taste like," he instructed a reporter, while boasting about his sexual tastes.

"Why is society against sex with children? Why can't society see the beauty in it? If the majority of society tried it, they'd change the laws, but quickly," Goode proclaimed.

Goode's parents claim their son is mentally ill and should be in a mental institution, not a state prison.

"I don't want him turned loose," explained Goode's father. "But I want him someplace where he can be treated and maybe studied to help others."

"But it seems like everything we try to do to help him, everybody

Sunday, Sept. 9, 1979

Worst of His Problems

18-4-79



(Sun Photo by Bill Wax)

OBSTN! Supd. Brierton
N6ER here beside MAD
CRE-BOMBOS at me at
CUSNS-MA at going

CTDN immediately at
DANGER here at
things to happen to me!
I cld be BURT led out
hardly,

Arthur Frederick Goode 258971
THUR FREDERICK 500 0524
P.O. Box 247
Hialeah, Fla 33091

ARTHUR FREDERICK GOODE SITS ALONE AT FLORIDA STATE PRISON
Inmate's Scrawling Letters to Journalist May Belie His Troubled Psyche

clamps right down," the elder Goode said.

Goode's parents say they knew from infancy that something was wrong with their youngest child. Even in special classrooms he acted "fearful, he acted like he was afraid of the sky," his father said.

Goode was a in mental institution in Maryland, but was allowed to leave shortly before the murders were committed.

The young man had admitted himself to the hospital after being convicted of two sex offenses in Maryland. Hospital officials said they were helpless to keep him at the institution because the admission had been voluntary.

The hospital is currently being

sued by the parents of Kenny Dawson for \$2 million.

In attempts to save their son's life, the Goodes have hired attorneys and are fighting the State of Florida.

They argue their son is incompetent.

Prison Superintendent Brierton agreed that Goode has mental problems, but Brierton argued that prison was the best place for Goode.

"At least we know where he is," Brierton pointed out. "The one out there like him could be walking around Gainesville and we don't know who he is."

"There are child molesters arrested every day," agreed Goode's father. "We want to help stop it."

"All we want to do is get him (Goode) into a mental institution,

hopefully someplace like Shands (Teaching Hospital). We hope to do some good for the future Freddie's that come along.

"Doing it (killing Goode) like they did Spengelink, won't help it," he said.

Goode himself does not know whether he's mentally competent or not.

"I guess I must have been incompetent, if I did it," Goode puzzled. "I must not have been competent at the time I committed the crimes, or at least not at the trial."

Goode said his mother described him as "25 going on 9." Is she right? Goode worried about the question then responded. "I guess she is," while he ate a quart of ice cream he had demanded a reporter buy for him.

Brenda E. Lee, Attorney at Law
10 Columbus Circle
New York, New York - 10019

7-20-78, Thurs, 3PM.

Dear Mrs. Lee

I hope you have received my two letters by now! I want to meet you as soon as possible here! My parents give me your address and I understand you are in my case too! **URGENT!** → → I'm in a bad situation here again! As I told you in my last two letters, they keep "MOVING" the inmates around here! Right now they got a guy beside me who looks like a "MAC-MAN"! And in all "UPSET" and **WORRIED** that he will try "KILLING" me or etc.!!! I have urged the Superintendent here Mr. David H. Brinson to please instruct his staff to get some beds in the "QUIET" and also "NO" threat to my life! But they "DON'T" seem to care who they get beside me! There are only two other cells beside me here, and it shouldn't be much trouble for them to get two beds here beside me who are "NO" threat to me!!! I am just so "WORRIED" and "MISERABLE" all the time, that I "CAN'T" see that I'm not dying in my death sentence!, and I "DON'T" even sleep well at night either! You "CAN'T" imagine how "UPSET" and "AFRAID" I really am here Mrs. Lee! Everybody "HATES" me due to their atrocious feelings they have **AGAINST** the horrible crimes I committed on all these little "BOYS" and etc.!!! I am trying to "COOPERATE" here, but I'm just so "UPSET" and in extreme "FEAR" most of the time! I talk to my only friend James our "LORD"! I know JESUS understands my terrible desires and etc. I have tons of little logs! But I have "GOOD-REASON" for every bit of it! And the main reason I murdered these little "BOYS", is because our society is so **AGAINST** the fact of "CHILDREN-DOING-SEX" together or with adults! I believe children should be **ABLE** to do sex! And I can "ARGUE" that all the way to the "U.S. Supreme Court"! "SEX" is a great "GIFT" that God gave me all!!! I'll be happy to explain this in great detail to you when you are "VISITING"!

I hope you have been in "CONTACT" with my parents and Diid Conth and Dr. Norma Klein on my case and etc.! Also, John McMac Donald my Attorney in Wisconsin, etc.! He has "NOT" taking any action on my situation here for a long time now! But I sure hope you will make every effort Mrs. Lee to **PROTECT** me here, and do whatever

OVER → → →

(over-enlarged)

The Florida Times-Union

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA THURSDAY APRIL 5, 1984

Goode dreams of cheating death

By Andrea Rowand
Staff Writer

STARKE — On the eve of his execution, Arthur Goode fantasized about surviving his electrocution at Florida State Prison today and getting away free.

Goode, who was scheduled to die at 7 this morning, put on his usual bravado routine for television cameras at a news conference for reporters from across the state yesterday, saying he wanted to be executed. But in a private interview with The Florida

The Supreme Court refused to postpone the execution of Elmo Patrick Sonnier, scheduled to die early this morning in Louisiana. Story, Page A-3.

Times-Union after the media circus, he admitted that "nobody wants to die."

"I wish there was some way I could escape and get the hell out of here. Wouldn't that be nice?" asked

Goode, who admits he killed two young boys and says he would kill again. "Do you think that would make the news?"

Goode, a 30-year-old former mental patient from a Baltimore suburb, said again yesterday that if he is not put to death, a prison officer or another prisoner might kill him — a way of death he fears more than electrocution.

Meanwhile, in Tampa yesterday, (See GOODE, Page A-5)

Goode relates fantasy of surviving execution

(From Page A-1)

U.S. District Judge William Terrell Hodges refused to stop Goode's execution, calling his mercy plea an abuse of the legal system.

In a 10-page order, Hodges said a petition for habeas corpus was "denied and dismissed; petition being frivolous and constituting an abuse of the writ."

Goode's 24-page brief "mounts an assault against Florida [law]," Hodges wrote, noting that the points raised had already been decided by the nation's highest court.

Last night a panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta denied a stay of execution. The Supreme Court also refused to postpone the execution. By a 6-2 vote, the court turned down an emergency plea from Goode's lawyers who said their client is insane.

At his news conference yesterday, Goode said, "I don't want people to think I'm crazy because I like molesting children. I'm competent . . . I'm aware that what I've done is wrong. I'm proud of the fact I murdered those two boys as a protest against society."

Goode made similar comments at his 1977 Lee County trial for the murder of Jason Verdow, 8, of Cape Coral. Goode's death sentence was thrown out last year by the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, but reinstated soon after by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Shortly before the murder, Goode had escaped from Spring Grove State Hospital, a mental institution near Baltimore. He kidnapped one boy and killed another in Virginia. He was sentenced to life in prison in Virginia for killing Kenny Dawson, 11, in 1976.

Goode was first admitted to Spring Grove for treatment of deviant sexual behavior at age 14. The slightly

Goode termed his group press conference "difficult." He said that the television lights blinded him and that people he had never met asked so many questions all at once.

During the interview, one woman reporter reacted with disbelief at Goode's statements about killing children. "Is that how you want the public to remember you?" she asked.

Later, alone except for four prison officers and one reporter, Goode said he had no qualms about offending or sickening reporters with his graphic descriptions of sex with young boys, of murder, and of why he prefers children.

Goode always carries a magazine photo of Ricky Schroder, 13-year-old star of the television series *Silver Spoons*. Goode says he loves Schroder.

But his main concerns yesterday were watching television; composing his last words ("they said I could be obscene," Goode laughed) for witnesses who will watch him die; having pictures of young boys to look at, and getting a good night's sleep.

A 7 a.m. execution is much too early, Goode complained.

"Why so early?" Goode asked Department of Corrections spokesman Vernon Bradford. "Why not at 10? It would be more appropriate."

Goode says one of his regrets about being executed is that he will miss media accounts of his death.

"I won't be able to read this, I'll be gone," he said.

A priest from Macclenny was to spend the night with Goode, who is Catholic. The final execution ritual was to begin about 4:30 a.m., when Goode was to be fed his last meal — he has asked for corn, broccoli, steak, ice cream, cookies and milk. Then his head and leg were to be shaved to accommodate the electrical wires.

Goode said his main fantasy for the

Thursday

THE TAMPA TRIBUNE

April 5, 1984

90th Year — No. 81

Tampa, Florida

Six Sections — 146 Pages

Death row killer says he's sane, should die

Goode was scheduled to be electrocuted today at Florida State Prison for the rape and murder of an 8-year-old boy.

• Attorneys attempting to halt execution in Louisiana — 12A

By ED DEITZ
Tribune Staff Writer

STARKE — Arthur Francis Goode III insisted Wednesday that he was not insane because he harbored sexual desires for young boys, and said he wanted to die in Florida's electric chair for the rape and murder of an 8-year-old boy in 1976.

His execution was scheduled for 7 a.m. today at Florida State Prison near here.

A federal judge in Tampa Wednesday refused to halt today's scheduled execution, saying legal efforts to overturn the sentence were "trivialous" and an "abuse" of the legal procedure.

And Wednesday night, a three-judge panel of the U.S. 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta rejected Goode's appeal in a four-page decision shortly after 8 p.m.

Goode's lawyers Charles V. Santore and Sanford Bohrer of Miami argued that Goode was insane. They also argued that the procedures used by the state to determine

prisoner to cross-examine state psychiatrists, or to hire one of his own.

In addition to their appeal with the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Goode's attorneys also filed an emergency application with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell asking him to halt the execution so the full court can review the argument Goode should not be put to death because he is insane.

The Florida attorney general's office filed papers at the same time asking Powell to reject the request for a stay.

"I'm not insane," Goode insisted during a prison interview on Wednesday.

"I don't want to be declared insane. I don't want people to think I'm incompetent because I like young children."

Goode said his lawyers have argued his case on those grounds "because that's part of the process. That's the way it has to be done. But I'm not incompetent."

Goode said he is "proud of the fact that I murdered ... because society is prejudiced against me."

He said he did it "as a protest

(no jump)



(over-elongate)

Goode told a news conference Wednesday his execution should take place "in the

Tribune p

BILL WAX
on Goode

AFG → So effeminate - no hair on
his hands, no facial hair, working
his hands - slope shouldered - he
was wimpy →

When we int'd → he had taken
back the loony stuff - but I
felt he wanted to scream out
"I loved every minute of it"

Twitching, giggling around - looked like
a little worm

Sad felt remorse - but just knew
he was BS-ing

Wrote on TP to parents how much he
enjoyed raping & killing these
boys...

Prison permitted these letters to go
out →

'I want to be executed'

3/22/83

FORT MYERS (AP) — "I want justice done. I want to be executed," twice-convicted child-killer Arthur F. Goode has written Gov. Bob Graham and a newspaper reporter, saying he wants to die because prison guards are torturing him and the TV in his cell doesn't work.

MAR 22 1983

Goode, 27, was sentenced to death in March 1977 for sexually assaulting and murdering Jason VerDow of Cape Coral. The 9-year-old's battered, bitten, partially nude body was found March 1976 in a clump of palmettos in North Fort Myers.

After being convicted in the homosexual rape and murder of a Virginia juvenile, Goode was imprisoned at Florida State Prison near Starke. His death sentence was upheld by the Florida Supreme Court and Graham issued a warrant for his execution in February 1982.

But the following month, the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta stayed the execution. The court still has not ruled on an appeal filed on Goode's behalf a year ago by Fort Myers lawyer Wilbur C. Smith III.

In a letter sent to Graham and a reporter for the *Fort Myers News-Press*, Goode asked for execution, emphasizing with capital letters words he thinks are important.

"I desire my attorney Wilbur C. Smith III fired and my EXECUTION carried out," Goode wrote. "The Appeals Court in Atlanta REFUSES to take any action to dismiss my pending appeal. Everybody ignores my need to be executed."

But Smith said Monday night that Goode's parents, who retained him to defend their son, have not fired him.

"No. Same old thing," Smith told the *News-Press*. "He's been doing this for nearly two years now, and it's usually to get his TV fixed or if he's

being harassed."

"I am SERIOUS this time for real and WHAT can I do in order to ENFORCE JUSTICE?" Goode wrote. The convicted killer "operates with the mentality of a 6-year-old," Smith said.

In the letter, Goode said he wants to die because he is being tortured by guards at Florida State Prison and because his television is not working.

Goode did not specify how he thinks guards are torturing him, but Graham's office said the accusations would be looked into.

"We get letters from him (Goode) every day," an Atlanta federal court clerk told the *News-Press* Monday. "Some days he wants to die and other days he wants them to find a little boy to come live in his cell with him."

According to police, Goode fled to Virginia after murdering the VerDow boy. In Virginia, he was arrested and charged with kidnapping one youngster, then raping and killing 11-year-old Kenneth Dawson while holding the other boy captive.

Goode said on the witness stand at his Virginia trial that he killed VerDow. He said he was proud of the slayings and would murder other children if given the chance.

Goode had voluntarily committed himself to the Spring Grove State Mental Hospital in Maryland in 1975 as part of a plea bargain agreement after admitting he committed acts of sexual perversion with several children.

Doctors at the hospital recommended Goode be committed to an institution for the criminally insane or a state prison. Despite that recommendation, the same doctors approved Goode's unconditional release the next day.

* Bear in mind the proximity of
this to Gilmore ...

Associated Press

JUN 9 1977

TALLAHASSEE — "Please, order me executed," the convicted sex slayer of a 9-year-old boy has begged in letters to Gov. Reubin Askew.

The 11 letters from Arthur Frederick Goode III, 22, of Fort Myers, were obtained Wednesday from the governor's office.

Goode said he has murdered several children for thrills, feels no guilt over their deaths and would kill again if he were free.

"I HAVE ABSOLUTELY no remorse whatsoever for any of the boys I murdered or their parents either," he said in one letter. "I don't desire to ever change my mind committing my dirty sexual murderers (sic) on little boys. I am fully satisfied now knowing their (sic) dead because I, A. F. G. III, murdered them for fun!

"I rejoice every time I hear a little boy getting murdered! I have the desire to continue doing my thing if I could."

Goode was convicted in Fort Myers of the March 5, 1976 murder of Jason VerDow. The boy was raped and strangled.

A former mental patient, Goode proclaimed his guilt at a conference in the middle of his trial but said he wanted to continue so he could be sentenced to death in Flor-

FROM THE LETTERS OF ARTHUR FREDERICK GOODE III:

*'I have absolutely no remorse
whatsoever for any of the boys I
murdered or their parents either.'*

*'I don't desire to ever change my
mind committing my dirty sexual
murderers (sic) on little boys.'*

*'I rejoice every time I hear a little boy
getting murdered!'*

ida's electric chair. A jury later recommended the death sentence.

Goode also has been convicted in Virginia of murdering an 11-year-old boy a few weeks after killing VerDow.

An aide said Askew has not seen the letters Goode sent to the governor's office. He said Askew can do nothing about Goode's death plea until the case completes mandatory court reviews, which could take months.

THE GOVERNOR CAN sign a death warrant only when he and three Cabinet members agree to execution after reviewing death cases. However, their review does not begin until the court process is completed.

Goode's plea echoes the case of Gary Gilmore, who was shot by a Utah firing squad in January. Gilmore, who pleaded for execution after he was convicted of killing a motel clerk, is the only person to be executed in this country since the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the death penalty last year.

Goode said in one letter that he was beyond help. "I realize man here on earth can't help me, only the Lord Jesus Crist (sic)," Goode said. "I fully desire to be executed soon as possible to be right with the Lord Jesus, and let Him take care of me. He's the only one who loves me besides my parents."