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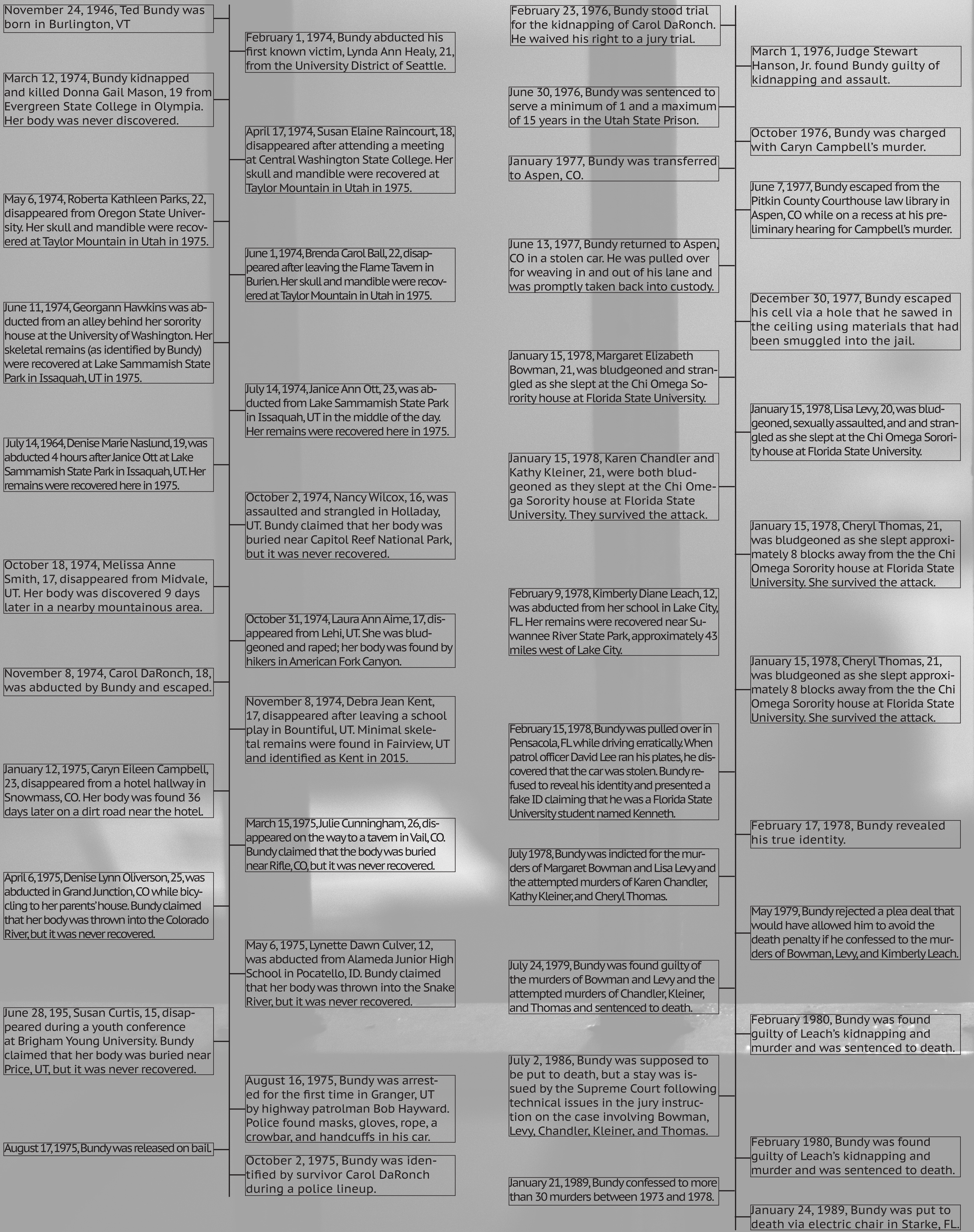
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Ted Bundy: The Development of a Serial Murderer

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Timeline of Events



Introduction

Who is Ted Bundy, and why did he commit the crimes that he did? This study was devised to assess the life of Ted Bundy, one of the most prolific murderers in the United States. This secondary research study was conducted using interviews from Bundy, professional analyses conducted of him post-arrest, testimonials from people who knew him, and research regarding serial killer typologies and motivations. This information has been complied in the form of a poster board presentation, complete with the researcher's own assessment of Bundy, an analysis of the motivations for his crimes, and a timeline of his life. The results of this comprehensive analysis will provide insight on what it took for Ted Bundy to become one of the most prolific serial killers in U.S. history.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to develop a profile of serial killer Ted Bundy.

Materials/Methods

This is a secondary research analysis utilizing interviews with Ted Bundy, professional analyses conducted of him post-arrest, testimonials from people who knew him, and research regarding serial killer typologies and motivations.

Results/Conclusions

Motive:

When questioned about his crimes during a series of recorded interviews conducted in 1989, Ted Bundy always referred to himself in the third person. He cited an “entity” as the person responsible for his murders, and claimed that it was a separate part of his personality. Bundy stated that he needed to be heavily intoxicated in order for this part of his personality to emerge and begin killing. Bundy also claimed that this “entity” was motivated entirely by sex; the murder was merely a part of the process that allowed him to continue his work without being apprehended. While recounting his childhood and early adult years, Bundy mentioned that he spent large quantities of time committing acts of voyeurism and reading pornographic materials. He cited these as potential causes for his obsession with sex and rape which, eventually, resulted in the murder of his victims.

Process:

Ted Bundy gained access to his victims in two different ways. Oftentimes, he would put his arm in a sling or his leg in a fake cast and then utilize his charm and phony disability to lure young, attractive college women in to help him either carry books or unload something from his vehicle. He would then hit them over the head with a pipe or crowbar, handcuff them, shove them into his vehicle, and drive away (Crime Museum, 2017). Alternatively, Bundy would sometimes impersonate an authority figure such as a police officer or firefighter in order to gain his victim's trust before attacking (Crime Museum, 2017). Once Bundy had his victim, he would rape and/or sexually assault her. After he had achieved sexual gratification, he would typically murder his victim by either strangulation or bludgeoning. He often mutilated the bodies of his victims post-mortem, and was even known to take corpses home with him to commit sexual acts upon them for extended periods of time before discarding them (Crime Museum, 2017).

Typology:

Ted Bundy is most commonly categorized as a power/control serial killer according to Ronald Holmes and James DeBurger's 1988 motivational model of serial killer typologies. Power/control killers are typically charming, charismatic, and intelligent. Many power/control serial killers rape and sexually assault their victims not out of lust but as another form of control. It is very common for power/control killers to engage in necrophilia, which is defined by Merriam-Webster as the obsession with and typically erotic interest in or stimulation by corpses. Power/control killers are typically very organized, and they are known for keeping trophies from their kills. Bundy took polaroid photos of his victims because he said that “when you work hard to do something right, you don’t want to forget it” (1989).

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