

ABORTION SLAYING

Roeder Gets Life For Doctor's Murder

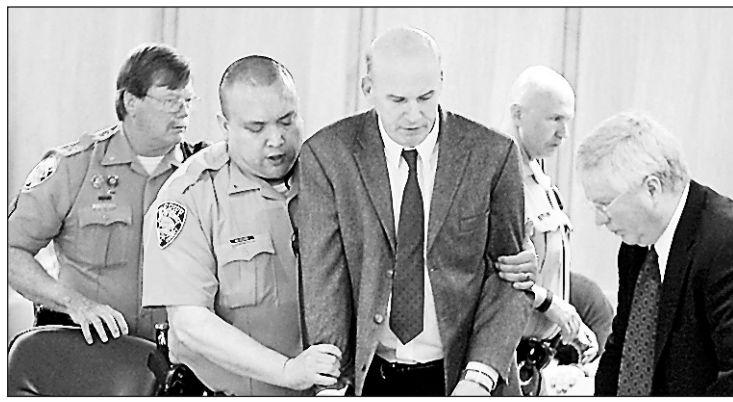
BY ROXANA HEHEMAN
Associated Press Writer

WICHITA, Kan. — Defiant in court, a man who murdered one of the few U.S. doctors who performed late-term abortions used his sentencing hearing to do what the judge wouldn't let him do during his trial — justify his crime by describing abortion in gritty detail.

Scott Roeder was sentenced Thursday to life in prison with no possibility of parole for 50 years, the harshest sentence possible under Kansas law for gunning down Dr. George Tiller in the foyer of the Wichita physician's church last May.

"I stopped him so he could not dismember another innocent baby," Roeder said. "Wichita is a far safer place for unborn babies without George Tiller."

Roeder, 52, also was sentenced to an additional year in prison on each of two counts of aggravated assault for threatening two church ushers as he fled. With time off for good behavior, Roeder won't be eligible for parole for 51 years and



JEFF TUTTLE/WICHITA EAGLE/MCT
Scott Roeder (middle) is led from the courtroom after he was given a life sentence by Sedgwick County District Court Judge Warren Wilbert in Wichita, Kansas, on Thursday. Roeder was convicted last January of murdering Dr. George Tiller.

eight months. An attorney for Tiller, speaking in court as a friend of the slain doctor, said the toughest sentence would discourage other anti-abortion zealots from attacking doctors. Tiller's widow, Jeanne, cried as the sentence for murder was announced.

"We only can hope that this sentence will serve as a deterrent

to those who have conspired and continue to conspire to murder abortion providers," the Tiller family said in a statement.

"Certainly everything possible should be done by the prison system to insure that this man does not continue to foment hatred and violence from his prison cell."

District Judge Warren Wilbert could have made Roeder eligible

for parole on the murder charge after 25 years. But he said there was evidence Roeder stalked Tiller and added that killing him in a church made the crime heinous because a house of worship is meant to be "a place of peace and tranquility."

Roeder argued he had chosen to obey "God's law" to save babies.

"I did kill him. It was not a murder," Roeder said. "If you were to obey the higher power of God himself, you would acquit me."

Roeder also took the opportunity to describe abortion procedures in detail, which he had been forbidden from doing during his trial. Most abortions are legal in Kansas, and prosecutors were careful not to turn the trial into a referendum on the issue.

Roeder accused Wilbert of "duplicitous" and said his trial was a miscarriage of justice because he wasn't allowed to present testimony then about the evils of abortion. He also said God's judgment against the U.S. will "sweep over this land like a prairie wind."

"He will avenge every drop of innocent blood," Roeder said.

OBITUARIES

Sylvia Loecker

FORDYCE, Neb. — Sylvia C. Loecker, age 81, of Fordyce, NE, died surrounded by family on Tuesday, March 30, 2010 at her residence. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 AM, Monday, April 5, 2010 at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Menominee, with Rev. David Fulton and Rev. Tim Lange officiating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery. Visitation will be 3-5 PM, Sunday, April 4, 2010 at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton and resume at 7:00 PM, Sunday, for a wake service at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Menominee. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the service at the church. Pallbearers will be her grandsons. Honorary pallbearers will be her granddaughters.

Sylvia Christene was born to Edward and Theresa (Kleinschmit) Lange on October 17, 1928 in Fordyce, NE. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Bow Valley, NE. Sylvia married Leon Loecker on August 30, 1949 at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Bow Valley.

She worked for the School Lunch Program, the Yankton Inn and the Yankton Care Center. Sylvia served as an EME for many years and led the rosary with husband, Leon. She enjoyed activities with her grandchildren and she liked to sew. Her favorite pastime was playing cards. She was a member of the Altar Society of St. Boniface Catholic Church and



Loecker

the Christian Mothers.

Sylvia's memory will be cherished by her husband, Leon of Fordyce; sons: Arlen (Wilma) of Manhattan, KS, Mark (Deb) of Fordyce, Francis

(Jackie) of McPherson, KS and Steve (Special friend Kathy) of Grain Valley, MO; daughters: Joyce (Ron) Sestak of Tabor, SD, Carol Loecker of Irene, SD, Lois (Dave) Kosch of Bellevue, NE, Lynne (Doug) Gurney of Yankton, Gerald (Gerald) Pedersen of Worthington, MN, Mary (Scott) Silvernail of Yankton and Julie (Wayne) Kirkpatrick of York, NE; 32 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild. She is also survived by brothers: Linus (June) Lange of Bow Valley, NE, Edward (Bernadette) Lange of Hartington, NE and Marvin (Evelyn) Lange of Fordyce, NE; sisters: Colleta (Jerry) Koch of Fordyce, NE and Jeanie (Loren) Schieffer of Crofton, NE.

She was preceded in death by her parents, son, Charles and sisters: Rainaldes, Tessie and Sister Diane.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
April 2, 2010

PSAHL-KOSTEL
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC.
Online condolences at:
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Lester M. Tesky

TRIPP — Funeral services for Lester M. Tesky, 70, of Tripp will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, April 5 at Frieden's Reformed Church in Tripp with Rev. Greg Way officiating. Interment will follow in Frieden's Reformed Cemetery, Tripp.

Visitation will be from 3-8 p.m. Sunday, April 4 at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tripp. Prayer service is 7 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Lester passed away on Thursday

(April 1, 2010) at the Human Services Center in Yankton. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Goglin
Funeral Home
Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

Rolinda Streyle

Rolinda Streyle died Thursday (April 1, 2010) at Sanford Hospital in Sioux Falls.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Zion Reformed Church, Menno.

Visitation is one hour prior to the service at the church.

Aisenbrey-Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Menno, is in charge of the arrangements.

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BOUNTY HUNTER PG-13 1:55 4:30 7:15 9:50
DIARY OF A WIMPY KID PG 1:40 4:15 7:00 9:25

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It's the first of the month...

April	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
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Obama Urges Patience As Health Care Law Kicks In

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Facing a public still wary of his massive health care overhaul, President Barack Obama on Thursday urged Americans not to judge the nearly \$1 trillion legislation he signed into law last week until the reforms take hold.

During an enthusiastic, campaign-style appearance in Maine's largest city, Obama mocked the pundits and pollsters who say he isn't getting a boost from his yearlong campaign to pass the sweeping reform.

"Every single day since I signed the reform law, there's been another poll or headline that said, 'Nation still divided on health care reform. Polls haven't changed yet.' Well, yes. It just happened last week," Obama said to laughter.

He continued: "Can you imagine if some of these reporters were working on a farm and you planted some seeds, and they came out the next day and they looked and — 'Nothing's happened. There's no crop. We're going to starve. Oh, no! It's a disaster!' It's been a week, folks. So, before we find out if people like health care reform, we should wait to see what happens when we actually put it into place. Just a thought."

The president's overhaul extends health coverage to 32 million people who are uninsured and will shape how almost every

American receives and pays for medical treatment. Some aspects of the plan go into effect this year, but the president himself has said it could take four years for the full plan to take hold.

Obama's trip to Portland took him to the home state of two moderate Republican senators, Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe, whose votes for the legislation the president ardently sought but ultimately could not win. The White House said both senators were invited to attend the event, but neither did.

At a later stop in Boston, Obama celebrated the health care win at a Democratic fundraiser.

He reminded them of the doomsday predictions for health reform about two months ago, when Republican Scott Brown won the Senate seat long held by the late Democratic Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts. And he drew his laughs with a reference to a slip by Vice President Joe Biden, who had whispered into an open microphone during the overhaul bill signing that it was a "big (expletive) deal."

Even as he reveled in defeating Republican opposition on health care, the president acknowledged that he has not succeeded in breaking down partisan gridlock as promised. "We have to admit that," he said. "I wanted to change the tone in Washington. It hasn't changed. Yet."

BUDGET

From Page 1A

The March confidence index declined slightly to 70.1 from February's 73.

Manufacturers say the prices of raw materials are rising, so consumers are likely to see inflation later this year. The survey's prices-paid index climbed to 80.5 in March from February's already-high 78.3.

The March inventory index increased slightly to 57.5 from February's 57.4, suggesting that businesses are restocking after more than a year of inventory reductions.

The exports index increased to 61.6 in March from February's 55.4 as the global economy continued to improve.

The import figure declined slightly to 57 in March from February's 58.8.

Other components of March's overall index were:

- New orders climbed to 72.1 from February's 66.1.
- Production or sales increased to 72.2 from February's 67.3.
- Delivery lead time increased to 61.8 in March from February's 58.4.

NATION/WORLD DIGEST

Gov't Rules: Higher Car Prices, Fuel Savings

WASHINGTON (AP) — Drivers will have to pay more for cars and trucks, but they'll save at the pump under tough new federal rules aimed at boosting mileage, cutting emissions and hastening the next generation of fuel-sipping hybrids and electric cars.

The new standards, announced Thursday, call for a 35.5 miles-per-gallon average within six years, up nearly 10 mpg from now.

By setting national standards for fuel efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions from tailpipes, the government hopes to squeeze out more miles per gallon whether you buy a tiny Smart for two micro cars, a rugged Dodge Ram pickup truck or something in between.

The rules will cost consumers an estimated \$434 extra per vehicle in the 2012 model year and \$926 per vehicle by 2016, the government said. But the heads of the Transportation Department and Environmental Protection Agency said car owners would save more than \$3,000 over the lives of their vehicles through better gas mileage.

Touting the plan, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said, "Putting more fuel-efficient cars on the road isn't just the right thing to do for our environment, it's also a great way for Americans to save a lot of money at the pump."

Man Arrested After Body Parts Found In Truck

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Police in Albuquerque arrested a businessman on fraud charges in a gruesome case in which body parts that were supposed to be cremated and returned to families turned up in plastic bins in a delivery truck in Kansas.

Albuquerque police on Thursday identified two men and a woman whose remains were discovered among six heads and numerous other human body parts in the truck at a Kansas medical waste facility. Bio Care Southwest owner Paul Montano, 31, was arrested late Wednesday at his office on three counts of fraud and was being held on \$100,000 bond.

Sealed plastic bags containing the heads and body parts — apparently dismembered with a chain saw or other coarse cutting instrument — were found last week in 12 large red plastic tubs inside a delivery truck at a Stericycle Inc. facility in Kansas City, Kan. The tubs had shipping labels from The Learning Center, which is affiliated with Bio Care.

Bio Care receives donated bodies and harvests organs and other parts, which it sells for medical research. Bodies are stored in refrigerated units until donated organs are returned, then Bio Care sends the remains for cremation and gives the ashes to the families, according to the affidavit. The company has a contract with Stericycle to dispose of any leftover medical waste.

Authorities there said Stericycle disposes of waste such as operating room debris or syringes but doesn't incinerate major body parts.

Cardinals Defend Pope, Criticize Media

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Cardinals across Europe used their Holy Thursday sermons to defend Pope Benedict XVI from accusations he played a role in covering up sex abuse scandals, and an increasingly angry Vatican sought to deflect any criticism in the Western media.

The relationship between the church and the media has become increasingly bitter as the scandal buffeting the 1 billion-member church has touched the pontiff himself. On Wednesday, the church singled out *The New York Times* for criticism in an unusually harsh attack.

Western news organizations, including The Associated Press, have reported extensively on the burgeoning scandal, and new details have emerged on an almost daily basis.

On Holy Thursday, Benedict first celebrated a Mass in St. Peter's Basilica dedicated to the union between the pope and the world's priests. In the late afternoon, he washed the feet of 12 priests in a ceremony symbolizing humility and commemorating Christ's Last Supper with his 12 apostles on the evening before his Good Friday crucifixion.

Although there were expectations by some that the pope would address the crisis, Benedict made no reference to the scandal at either ceremony.

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Ribbon Cutting — April 6th, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

Join Kevin Opsahl and Tami Keller for a short program about the new location and the service Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel - Tyndall will offer the community. The staff of Opsahl-Kostel believes each life is special and we look forward to serving families in the Tyndall community.

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