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**DAMAGE REPORT** - President Bush and Sen. John Seymour, R-Calif., listen Thursday as Derek Carr, manager of The Boys grocery store, talks of doing and looting that occurred in Los Angeles last week after the verdicts in the Rodney King beating trial.

And the charred remains of a shopping center and listened to pleas for quick help from the victims of three days of violent unrest.

At a prayer service inside the riot corridor of south-central Los Angeles, the president called for stronger families but offered no specific remedies for the neighborhood's problems. "This is no time to outline federal programs," he told black community leaders at Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

"All of us must ask ourselves what we can do to help."

the city was "well on its way to recover" after unrest that left at least 55 dead and \$770 million in damage.

It was an emotional day for Bush, who came to examine firsthand the scene of the most critical domestic challenge of his presidency.

He was driven through neighborhoods where windows were boarded up and the smell of smoke still hung heavily around the blackened remains of stores, restaurants and whole shopping centers. Few onlookers, except school-

See BUSH, Page 21A

## Michigan puts amendment to deny Congress pay raises over the top

BY BILL ROSE

Associated Press Writer

LANSING, Mich. -- It was neck and neck at the finish line, but it took 203 years to complete this race. Michigan lawmakers on Thursday edged out New Jersey in the decisive vote for a constitutional amendment to restrain congressional salaries.

Now the question is whether there's any legal force

to something that took that long to ratify, that was forgotten for decades at a time.

The amendment to bar Congress from giving itself a mid-term pay raise, was ratified by New Jersey lawmakers a few hours after Michigan's approval.

The idea was proposed by James Madison in 1789. Mary-

See SALARIES, Page 12A

## Top pick for LR superintendent job withdraws

BY CYNTHIA HOWELL

Democrat-Gazette Staff Writer

Dr. Henry P. Williams, superintendent of the Syracuse, N.Y., City School District and apparent top contender for the Little Rock superintendent's job, withdrew from consideration late Thursday.

"Given the circumstances and conditions, I thought it best that I withdraw for personal and professional reasons," Williams told the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette about 11 p.m. Thursday.

He said division among Little Rock School Board mem-

• Related article 15A

bers about his employment deterred him from taking the job. He said it would be very difficult to go into a situation where as many as three board members might not be supportive of administration programs. "It's not healthy or productive," he said.

"A lot of people appeared interested in my coming," he said. "They will be disappointed that they won't have the candidate of their choice." Williams said his decision

had nothing to do with the suggested salary of \$110,000 or the fact that he is one of two finalists for the superintendency in Cleveland, Ohio, a district of 71,000 students and a budget of \$500 million.

The Cleveland School Board is scheduled to meet at 5 p.m. today to select a superintendent. Patricia Martin, a district spokesman, said Thursday. The district has not publicized how much it would pay a new superintendent. The interim superintendent is making \$94,000.

The Plain Dealer, a Cleve-

land newspaper, is publishing a story in today's editions saying that at least five of the seven Cleveland board members favor Williams over the other finalist, who is an administrator in the North Carolina Department of Education.

Little Rock School Board member John Moore said he talked with Williams about 10 p.m. Thursday. Williams said then he did not want to be considered for the job, Moore said.

Little Rock board members Tuesday had approached Will-

See SCHOOL, Page 14A



riety took a year with others Thursday's Mansion in a

candlelight vigil for Steven Hill. Hill was executed Thursday night for the slaying death Oct. 15, 1984, of state police investigator Robert Klein.

## Hill dies by injection for '84 police killing

BY ANDY GOTTLIEB

AND LINDA SATTER

Democrat-Gazette Staff Writers

VARNER - Steven Douglas Hill, 28, of Scott, the youngest inmate on Arkansas' death row, died at 9:10 p.m. Thursday by lethal injection.

The medical staff at the Cummins Unit at Varnor (Lincoln County) connected an intravenous line to Hill at 9:03 p.m. He was pronounced dead eight minutes later by Lincoln County Coroner Jimmy Hawking.

The three chemicals used were sodium pentothal, which makes a person unconscious; Pavulon, a muscle relaxer; and potassium chloride, which stops the heart.

Hill is the fourth inmate ex-

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ecuted in Arkansas since the state resumed executions in 1990, and the third to die for killing a police officer.

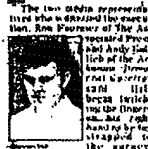
Hill was convicted March 7, 1985, in the Oct. 15, 1984, shooting death of Arkansas State Police investigator Robert Klein, 30.

David White, spokesman for the state Department of Correction, said that Hill's last words were, "Yep, I would like everyone to know that's rooting for me that they're going to have to go home and live with it. I ask for my family's forgiveness for the pain I caused, and officer Klein's family. The

See HILL, Page 17A

### Hill

**60 Protesters Demand Hill Execution**  
A group of 60 protesters gathered in front of the Arkansas State Capitol in Little Rock on Thursday to demand the execution of James Earl Ray, the man convicted of murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The protesters, including members of the Black Panther Party and other radical groups, held signs and chanted slogans such as "Death to the racist scoundrel" and "Hill is a murderer."



Protesters gathered in front of the Arkansas State Capitol on Thursday to demand the execution of James Earl Ray. The protesters, including members of the Black Panther Party, held signs and chanted slogans.

At 8:30 p.m. Hill was still there as an execution chamber was being prepared for the execution. The protesters gathered in front of the building and chanted slogans. The Arkansas State Police reported that the protesters were peaceful and did not cause any damage to the building.

The protesters held signs that read "Death to the racist scoundrel" and "Hill is a murderer." They also chanted "Death to the racist scoundrel" and "Hill is a murderer." The protesters were peaceful and did not cause any damage to the building.

### Sixty protest Hill execution

About 60 people gathered at the base of the State Capitol on Thursday night to demand the execution of James Earl Ray. The protesters, including members of the Black Panther Party and other radical groups, held signs and chanted slogans such as "Death to the racist scoundrel" and "Hill is a murderer."

The protesters held signs that read "Death to the racist scoundrel" and "Hill is a murderer." They also chanted "Death to the racist scoundrel" and "Hill is a murderer." The protesters were peaceful and did not cause any damage to the building.

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### This time, execution goes smoothly

When the curtains opened, James Earl Ray was the first to be executed. The execution went smoothly and the prisoner was killed without incident. The execution chamber was prepared for the execution and the execution was carried out as planned.

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