

LA GRANDE OBSERVER

245th Issue 63rd Year

LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1959

Price 5 Cents



OUTSTANDING STUDENTS — Pictured above are Mary Virginia Speckhart and Bob Klomp, who were chosen as the most outstanding boy and girl in the La Grande Junior High School. Their selection was announced at graduation exercises at the Junior High School auditorium last night. There were 182 students in the graduating class. (Observer Photo)

Russians Thought Willing

First Signs Of Progress

GENEVA, (UPI)—A high allied official said today Russia has shown signs it may be willing to give the western powers a firm guarantee of their continued rights in West Berlin.

Such a development would be the first major break in the East-West Foreign Ministers Conference which was called because of a Soviet demand that the western allies get out of West Berlin.

The allied official reported the Soviet move only one day after President Eisenhower told a press conference that the summit meeting asked by the Soviets depended on such a gesture.

The West already had presented a five-point program on a Berlin truce and was trying to push it through before Soviet delaying tactics block a summit conference altogether.

The high allied official also disclosed today that Britain, France and the U.S. might be willing to reduce the size of their 10,000-man Berlin garrison if they got a broader agreement underwriting their rights there.

The reports, from a unanimous source, disclosed signs that both sides were budging somewhat in an effort to reach an interim deal on Berlin and make a summit meeting possible.

High allied quarters emphasized that the western powers will insist that any stopgap deal on Berlin last until there is a final settlement of the problem of German reunification and not just until the summit meeting, Eisenhower made this clear Wednesday.

High allied officials said the most sensitive point in their current sparring with the Soviet concerns the relationship of Berlin to West Germany and the movement of civilians and civilian trade across the 110 miles of Communist territory separating West Berlin from West Germany.

An authoritative allied source said the possibility of offering Russia some token reduction in the western forces had never been mentioned to Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko or any other Russian.

The radio said the rebels plan to wage guerrilla warfare against the government, sneaking small bands down from the inaccessible peaks to harry loyal forces.

All insurgent broadcast said 400-odd invaders have entered the country, and that 300 peasants armed with sporting rifles and jungle knives have flocked to join them.

The radio report said a supply convoy with arms and equipment for 500 men is expected shortly, but did not indicate where it is coming from.

Fighter planes in the Nicaragua air screen Wednesday intercepted and forced down a Costa Rican air freighter carrying a cargo of shrimp to Miami. The plane was released and allowed to proceed about 9 p.m., after Costa Rican President Mario Echandi had warned that his country would break off diplomatic relations with Nicaragua unless the plane was released by 10:30 p.m.

The Idaho woman, who reportedly arrived in La Grande a few days ago by bus with an unidentified man, is charged with obtaining \$10 under false pretenses from a local merchant.

District Attorney George Anderson is also holding a check cashed by a "Cormac Mave." Mrs. Byer told police she met the man on a bus and that his first name is Jim. Police have been unable to locate the man.

EVEN CROOKS ARE SLIPPING

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—Inspector George Dyer, a 34-year veteran on the San Francisco police force, said that even criminals were better in the good old days.

Today's criminal simply doesn't take pride in his work," Dyer said. "Some of the old-fashioned confidence men would consider it an affront to their professional pride if they had to stoop to the hit-run action of today's criminals."

Coroner's Inquest Tonight

A coroner's inquest will be held tonight in the death of Mrs. Lola Jean Jensen, North Powder, who was killed in a single-car accident near North Powder the night of May 15.

Mrs. Jensen was killed instantly when a car driven by her husband, Buckley Jensen, failed to negotiate a curve on a county road leading toward Anthony Lakes, a few hundred yards from Highway 20. The couple was heading for the Durwood Hill ranch for dinner at the time of the accident.

Jensen received minor injuries in the accident and was treated the next day released from a Baker hospital.

The car skidded about 200 feet on gravel and 78 feet on pavement before flipping, according to reports immediately following the accident. The car door opened on Mrs. Jensen's side, investigating state police reported.

The 7:30 p.m. inquest has been arranged by County Coroner Norman Daniels and District Attorney George Anderson. The inquest will be held at Daniels Funeral Home.

Jury members, who viewed the body the day following the accident, include Leslie Keefe, Lloyd Moore, Forest Masters, Max Glasson, Ed Brog and Arnold Hakmark.

State Bureau Refuses To OK Farm Proposal

Directors of the Oregon Farm Bureau have refused to go along with a resolution from the Union County Grange Center which called upon property owners to quit paying taxes "until a sales tax is enacted." But they do on record advocating a broader tax base through a sales tax to offset "unbearable" property taxes.

The movement began when North Powder Farm Bureau members asked all property owners to defer paying taxes until a sales tax is enacted. The proposal was adopted by the local Farm Bureau center.

"Property taxes have become unfair because of the inability of the land to earn for the owner the taxes demanded," declared a statement released with the resolution, which called for a sales tax "which shall be limited to be a direct offset of real property taxes and shall be earmarked to cover the entire cost of education and welfare."

The state board of directors, meeting May 25-26 in Salem, concurred with the Union county group that "property taxes are almost unbearable and that farmers across the state have repeatedly called for a broader base tax plan."

Judge Brownton ruled that for years the fence line had been regarded as the property line and that the 20 feet of property in question should be decreed to Mrs. Watson. The decision was filed yesterday in the county clerk's office.

Judge Brownton today left for Virginia where during June he will be attending an Army military school for judges.

Local farm bureau members hoped the state board of directors would go along with their idea of tax-refusal. Ed McCaule, North Powder rancher, stated at the time of the initial resolution that "The way taxes continue to go up, in 10 years we won't be able to pay them so they might as well take our land now."

Under current programs, men or woman can join the military organization and not report for active duty for 120 days, according to Marine Corps officials.

Traveling Marine Recruiter Sgt. Robert A. Jefferson will be at the La Grande post office June 9 and 10 to interview prospects for the Marine Corps.

Under current programs, men or woman can join the military organization and not report for active duty for 120 days, according to Marine Corps officials.

Satellite Plunges To Fiery Death Soon After Launching

DATA RECEIVED FOR 13 MINUTES

VANDENBERG AFB, Calif. (UPI)—The Discoverer III satellite vehicle, fired aloft Wednesday with four "moon mice" aboard, re-entered the earth's atmosphere and burned up, it was announced today.

Roy W. Johnson, director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency, said that "all available data" indicated the mouse-carrying rocket plunged its tiny passengers to a fiery death several thousand miles south of here within minutes after launching.

But Air Force bioastronautics authorities indicated that valuable information was received on the mice during the period of rocket lift-off, the period of "weightlessness" in space and the period when the satellite stage fired to inject itself into orbit.

"One of the possibilities under investigation," Johnson's statement said, "was that the injection (into orbit) angle of the vehicle was improper, causing it to re-enter the atmosphere..."

Heard For 13 Minutes
Air Force scientists added: "Data thus far available indicates that the mice were alive and apparently in good condition during these periods and that the 'life call' which housed them was functioning properly."

The announcement said the last signals obtained from Discoverer III as it roared toward the South Pole were received 13 minutes after launching from this base.

Johnson's Washington statement was combined with the announcement issued here.

Earlier, Air Force sources had expressed extreme pessimism about the fate of the satellite and its four "space mice."

"It is very, very doubtful that it went into orbit," said an official.

To succeed, scientists had to aim the huge seven-story rocket at such a precise angle that a two-degree error in any direction could have caused it to roar through the skies like a "super-intercontinental ballistic missile," officials said.

If that happened, Discoverer III and its black mice burned up in the heavy earth atmosphere like a blazing meteorite. It could have flown in excess of 6,000 miles before disintegrating.

Two other possibilities existed. A "complete power failure" could have blacked out all of the satellite's radio transmissions even if it were in orbit. The breaking of several electrical couplings could cause such a failure.

Or it could be tumbling end over end like the first Discoverer did last April. The tumbling prevents transmission of vital data.

The 78-foot modified Thor missile with a Bell-Hustler second stage was blasted aloft at 4:09 p.m. e.d.t. Wednesday in what appeared to be perfect launching.

The second stage with its mice cargo and array of scientific measuring data ignited as planned.

But radio signals were received for only 13 minutes.

The last station to receive the vehicle's signals was a tracking ship 1,200 miles down the Pacific range shortly after blastoff. At that time all appeared well.

It was learned Discoverer III was speeding at almost the 18,000 mile an hour velocity necessary for orbiting. It was 140 miles high and seemed about to go into a planned orbit which would have whirled it around the earth across the north and south poles.

Hours of silence followed until 10 p.m. e.d.t. when the Air Force issued this statement: "Reduction of the 13 minutes of telemetry received during the launching of Discoverer III is still under way."



EOC EDITORS CHOSEN—Editors for two EOC publications have been selected. Suzanne Switzer (left) Condon, will be editor of the Beacon, campus newspaper. Jo Ann Berryman, La Grande, (right), will direct publication of the Mountaineer, student yearbook. Miss Switzer is the recipient of the La Grande Observer scholarship and Miss Berryman will receive a scholarship from KLBW.

City Fire Protection Concerns Commission

City commissioners last night directed City Manager Fred Young to contact the Oregon Insurance Rating Board to determine what would be needed by the city to change La Grande from a number 5 rating to a class 4 status.

Young is to explain proposals being made to build a new central fire station and buy an aerial ladder truck and the state rating board members will be asked what affect those changes would make in the city's rating.

Lowering the rating could result in lower insurance premiums for residents.

In the continuation of the discussion on city fire protection, Commissioner Arlo Noyes said he favors remodeling the city hall building to house additional fire department equipment. Commissioner William Herrmann said the proposed new centrally located fire station would better serve the north side area of La Grande. He said he is against trying to remodel the city hall building.

Commissioners last night concluded a pact with the Union Pacific railroad for the use of the railroad's well water system which for years was used in connection with steam engines. City and railroad officials have been in complete agreement on use of wells, but legal technicalities have taken months to iron out. The city will use the wells to augment the city water supply.

Eastern Oregon College officials and city officials last night reached agreement on improvement of storm sewers along the campus, on Eighth street, from J street to just past I street. The college will put \$700 toward the project, with the city to furnish an estimated \$1,300.

City officials last night approved the use of the city street flusher at the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show in Union but decided to charge \$7 per hour for use of the equipment, fuel and operator. Livestock show officials had asked for free use of the equipment. City officials also authorized the use of city equipment for the cleanup program being sponsored by the Retail Merchants Association next week.

Inland Machinery Announces Plans For New Plant

Plans have been completed by Inland Machinery Company for the construction of a 20,300-square-foot plant in La Grande.

Bids for construction of the concrete structure will be received in Portland until 4 p.m. June 15 at the architect firm of Jensen Gilham.

The new plant will include 9,000 square feet of shop area, a 6,000-square-foot parts department, and 5,250 square feet of office and display space.

The building will be of tilt-up concrete construction with brick veneer in some portions. Roof construction will be of glued laminated beams with purlins and two-inch and three-inch decking, and built-up roofing.

Interior features will include asphalt tile on floors in offices and colored concrete floors in the display rooms. Office walls will be wood paneling and sheet rock. Acoustical tile ceilings will be provided in the office section.

Exterior work will include concrete aprons and asphaltic concrete parking areas.

La Grande Library Sets Closing Hours

The La Grande library will close at noon each Saturday through June, July and August.

Mrs. G. L. Gregory, acting librarian, said the new closing time will take affect this Saturday.

The circuit judges' ruling was read by Judge W. Woodrough.

Escaped Convicts Captured

DES MOINES, Iowa (UPI)—The Highway Patrol said today all four convicts who escaped from the Iowa Penitentiary Wednesday, have been captured. Three were captured near Georgetown, Iowa, and the fourth was picked up a short time later near Tyrone, Iowa.

A farmer, identified as George Conway, provided the tip that led to their capture. Conway said he pulled a car out of the ditch for four men about an hour before they were captured and identified them through pictures as the convicts.

Conway came across the men in a ditch near his farm near Melrose, Georgetown is a small farming community near Melrose.

The convicts, led by cop-killer Lloyd Woodson, 38, Quincy, Ill., broke out of the state prison at Fort Madison early Wednesday by overpowering two guards and sawing out two cell bars.

Conway came across the men in a ditch near his farm near Melrose, Georgetown is a small farming community near Melrose.

Conway came across the men in a ditch near his farm near Melrose, Georgetown is a small farming community near Melrose.

Wind Delays Space Ship Flight Test

EDWARDS AFB, Calif. (UPI)—Adverse winds today delayed the possible first free flight test of the manned rocket ship, the X-15.

It was rescheduled tentatively for Friday.

The experimental plane built by North American Aviation was to have gone aloft today cradled under the wing of a giant B52 mother ship," presumably on its fifth captive flight. But it had been planned to release the ship in powerless free flight—if all equipment checked out once the linked planes were airborne.

Friday's flight was rescheduled as another captive flight and possible free-flight drop.

"If everything works out properly, it will be released," officials said.

The craft, with veteran test pilot Scott Crossfield, 37, in the cockpit, would glide back to earth over the Mojave Desert from a height of around 38,000 feet.

City Firemen Rescue Child

A four-year-old La Grande youth had his feelings hurt more than anything else when he became entrapped in a sunken water meter at his home at 510 Fourth street yesterday.

City firemen rushed to Brad Sargent's house, gently folded his leg closer to his body and lifted him from the water meter hole.

Firemen responded to a fire call at 1:30 a.m. today at 604 Ladd avenue where a water pump house burned. A "silent" run was made by the department at 11:45 a.m. yesterday to 1406 T avenue to inspect an overheated oil stove. There was no fire, firemen said.

RECORD-SMASHING FLIGHT IS SET BY SAN FRANCISCO PILOT

EL PASO, Tex. (UPI)—Pilot Max Conrad, San Francisco, broke the record for nonstop, single-engine, light plane flight today and radioed as he passed over El Paso that he is going to try to fly to San Diego.

Conrad took off from Casablanca, Morocco, Tuesday in a Piper Comanche 250 and has been going ever since.

"I am feeling good," he radioed Southwest Air Rangers as he passed over El Paso International Airport at 9:52 a.m. p.d.t.

Somoza's Government Fears Ship Invasion

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (UPI)—President Luis Somoza's government, fearing the arrival of invader-laden schooners from Cuba, has ordered the air force to attack any unidentified ship approaching the coast.

There was no fresh word of the three schooners said to be heading here from Batabano, Cuba, carrying men and arms to reinforce the invaders who flew in from Costa Rica during the week end.

But warplanes were maintaining dusk-to-dawn patrols along both of Nicaragua's coasts. By night, the air force flies protective cover over the nation's principal cities.

No new fighting has been reported from the central Nicaragua invasion zone. The government said 70-odd rebels were fleeing through snake-infested jungles, pursued by loyal troops.

An official spokesman, making the government's first mention of casualties, said 12 invaders and three loyal soldiers were killed Monday soon after an invasion landed on the plains of Olama.

The rebels had reported 133 persons killed or wounded in a series of engagements, but the government spokesman said there has been no large-scale fighting so far.

The rebel radio reported Wednesday that the invaders are entrenched at two points in the mountains of central Nicaragua—northwest of Mymny and in the Santo Tomas area.

The radio said the rebels plan to wage guerrilla warfare against the government, sneaking small bands down from the inaccessible peaks to harry loyal forces.

All insurgent broadcast said 400-odd invaders have entered the country, and that 300 peasants armed with sporting rifles and jungle knives have flocked to join them.

The radio report said a supply convoy with arms and equipment for 500 men is expected shortly, but did not indicate where it is coming from.

Fighter planes in the Nicaragua air screen Wednesday intercepted and forced down a Costa Rican air freighter carrying a cargo of shrimp to Miami. The plane was released and allowed to proceed about 9 p.m., after Costa Rican President Mario Echandi had warned that his country would break off diplomatic relations with Nicaragua unless the plane was released by 10:30 p.m.

The Idaho woman, who reportedly arrived in La Grande a few days ago by bus with an unidentified man, is charged with obtaining \$10 under false pretenses from a local merchant.

District Attorney George Anderson is also holding a check cashed by a "Cormac Mave." Mrs. Byer told police she met the man on a bus and that his first name is Jim. Police have been unable to locate the man.

WEATHER

Sunny today; increasing clouds tonight; mostly cloudy with a few showers Friday; high today 75-80 and Friday 72-78; low tonight 50-55.

CLOSE-KNIT MONOPOLY

Pinball Kingpins Refuse To Admit Making Payoffs

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Two Lake County, Ind., pinball kingpins refused in union today to tell the Senate Rackets Committee whether they paid a former county prosecutor to help them set up a close-knit gambling monopoly.

George Welbourn and Steven Snochack, both of Gary, resorted to the Fifth Amendment in their refusal to discuss their alleged dealings with the ex-prosecutor, Metrol Holovachka.

Holovachka, now chief deputy prosecutor, sat in the hearing room as committee investigator Richard Sinclair testified that he (Holovachka) had been able to make a \$43,599 cash down pay-

ment on an \$80,000 home. This occurred even though Holovachka's salary was \$12,000 a year, Sinclair said.

Welbourn and Snochack have been accused of raking in more than 12 million dollars over a five-year period from pinball gambling operations. Holovachka was to be questioned later on whether he helped them.

Other congressional news:
Sponsoring: Outnumbered House Republicans tried to woe southern Democratic votes to spike a bill that would double federal aid for construction of state and local sewage disposal plants. The measure would authorize 100 million dollars a year. Rep. John A. Blat-

nik (D-Minn.), the sponsor, predicted the House would override administration objections and approve the measure without change.

Johnson: Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas said he does not expect to disclose his position on the confirmation of Lewis L. Strauss as commerce secretary until shortly before the Senate reaches the show-down vote.

Schools: Dr. Arthur S. Fleming, secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, said he would urge President Eisenhower to veto any school construction bill passed this session in it does not follow closely the "principles" in the administration's legislation.