

25 OF 28 MEN SURVIVE CRASH OF PLANE

Sea Scout Missing in Columbia

Two Oregonians Killed as Craft Falls Into Trees

Runway Overshot In Landing Attempt

Kerrville, Tex. — (UPI) — A chartered C47 transport with 28 men on board, 18 inches of ice on its wings, its landing gear frozen tight and one engine out, crashed and burned Sunday night while trying to make a belly landing.

Twenty-five of the men escaped, but three were killed and the fire almost consumed the bodies. The victims were W. O. Epps, 42, Portland, first pilot; Harvey Hitt, 36, Oswego, Ore., second pilot, and Idaho Air National Guardsman Robert C. Griffith, 19, Oia, Idaho.

Eugene Man Escapes

Twenty-five of the 28 men on board were members of the Air National Guard from Idaho and adjacent states. Three were crew members; third Officer Bill Wittliff, 42, Eugene, Ore., escaped with head, jaw and chest injuries. General Airways, a Portland charter line, owned the plane. It was taking the Air Guardsmen to Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, for basic training.

None of the survivors was burned. Their injuries were cuts, bruises and broken bones.

None Seriously Hurt

The others were released to the Air Force, which will take them to hospitals at Lackland Air Force, 60 miles from Kerrville. None was in critical condition.

"It was a miracle that any got out alive," said Sheriff Joe S. Price.

Wittliff said the main trouble was ice on the wings and a low fuel supply. He explained that Epps couldn't see the lights on the runway for the ice on the windshield as he tried to make an emergency belly landing at Schriener Field, Kerrville.

Taking Second Approach

He overshot and was swinging about for a second approach when one of his two engines failed and the plane went down in a cedar forest.

Wittliff said that when he saw a crash was inevitable, he got on the floor of the cockpit behind Epps and braced himself.

Something tore a gap in the side of the plane and he escaped through it, he said, but "someone gave me a shove or I don't think I would have been out."

The plane was about 10 minutes from Kerrville when the pilot first reported trouble. He said he had 18 inches of ice on his wings and his landing gear was frozen.

Fire Sunday Burns Furniture in Home

A table, two chairs and a television set were involved in a fire yesterday afternoon at the home of John I. Gustafson, Gregory rd.

Central Point rural firemen said that the blaze apparently broke out in the living room. There was smoke damage throughout the three-bedroom house. Exact cause was not determined.

Firemen were summoned at 3:15 p.m. and 11 volunteers responded with two pumpers and a tank truck.

Virginia Schools Admit Negroes In Reluctant, Peaceful Change

Picketing, Strife Threats Fail To Materialize

Massive Resistance Barriers Shattered

Norfolk, Va. — (UPI) — Virginia admitted 21 Negroes to white public schools today in a reluctant but peaceful change from a policy of massive resistance to integration.

Seventeen Negroes were admitted to schools in Norfolk and four at Arlington in the Washington suburbs.

There was not the slightest incident, despite a few pre-opening rumblings that there would be picketing and strife.

Until today, affected schools in Norfolk had been closed since last summer in the severe application of a Virginia law that required the closing of any school that was integrated.

Other schools that were closed under the same law are in Charlottesville — permitted to open segregated today under an eleventh-hour court reprieve that postponed integration until next September — and at Front Royal in Warren county. The affected school there did not open today.

Whites Form Corridor

Virginia bowed to integration only after federal courts had knocked down every state barrier and after the Legislature had passed fresh laws to cushion the impact of the historic transition.

At one school where Negroes were admitted, white pupils formed a long corridor down which two Negro girls, their heads erect, their eyes on the doorway to a new school and a new way of life, walked.

Phil Thomas, a 15-year-old Norfolk white student, said: "Boy, did I get a lecture from my dad last night. He said 'you just stand there. Don't do anything!'"

In Arlington, where police patrols and officers with gas masks were prepared for anything, Superintendent Ray E. Reid said with relief that "I am happy to learn there were no incidents and that everything is quiet."

A boycott had been threatened by white pupils at Arlington but it failed to develop.

Joan Potts, a white girl at Arlington, said she did not want to attend school with Negroes and went home. Her father sent her back to school. Four white boys also asked permission to leave but changed their minds.

Medford High Students Collect \$2,221 for MOD

Students of Medford Senior High school collected \$2,221.71 for the March of Dimes. It was reported today by Barbara Nulton, high school senior and Jackson county Teen Age Program chairman. The Teen Age Program is the student portion of the March of Dimes. The sum is a per capita of \$1.82 for the student body, Miss Nulton said.

Carol Hubbard, senior, was crowned March of Dimes queen by Dale Foresee, student body president, at festivities Saturday night. Each class had nominated a queen with the class collecting the most money to have its candidate crowned. The seniors raised \$777.73, a per capita of \$2.18 for the class. Sandy Clark was class project chairman. The seniors also won the Harry Chipman award, which annually goes to the class which raises the most money for the March of Dimes.

The juniors, under direction of Doug Kliever, collected \$683.28, a per capita of \$1.58.

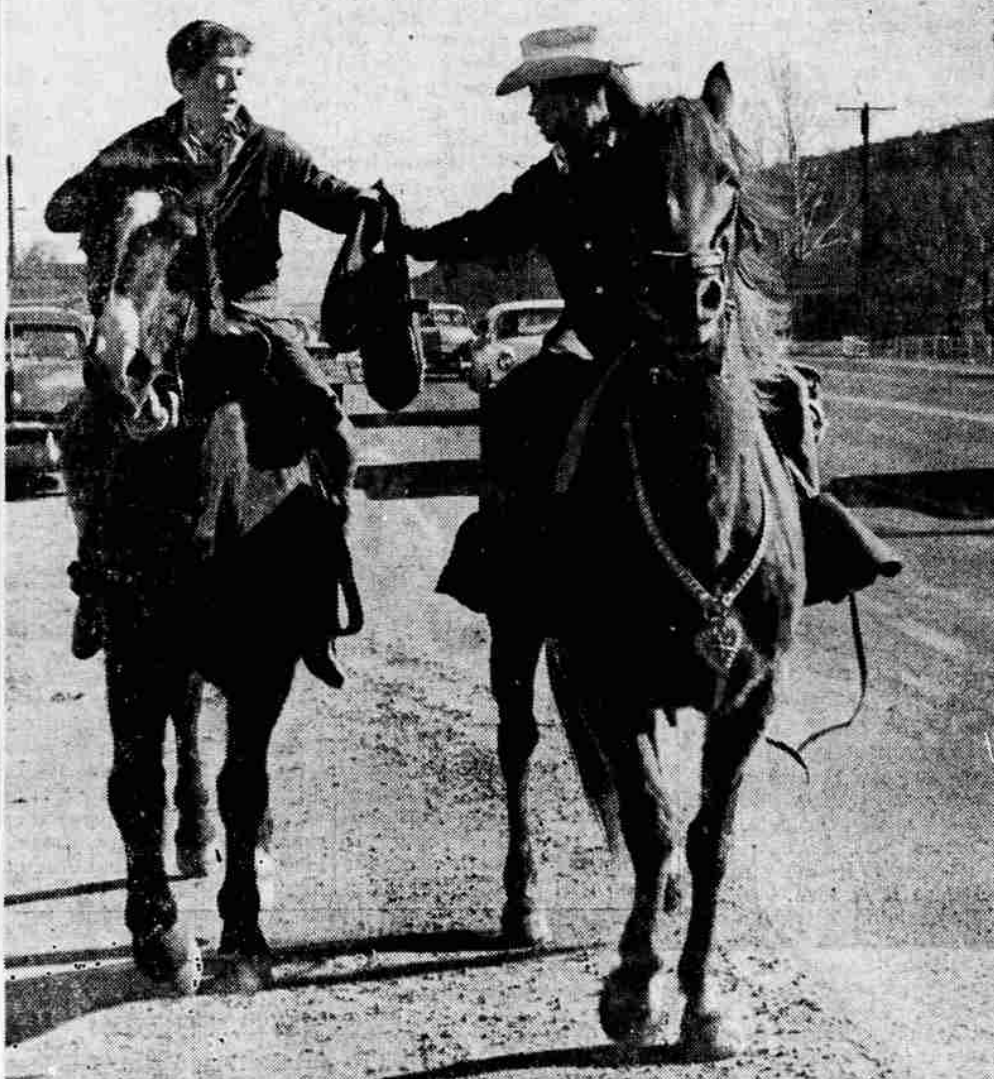


(Lands Photo) CAROL HUBBARD Senior High Queen

Their queen candidate was Monica Setty. The sophomores, with Mary Kay Harris as chairman, collected \$760.70. Roberta Willet was queen candidate.

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PONY EXPRESS—Exchanging the saddle bag on the run, above, two members of the Ashland Sage Riders "hustle" to get the mail through on time in the first trial run of the Oregon Centennial Pony Express made from the Siskiyou to Medford yesterday. The 24-mile route, with riders stationed at one-mile intervals, was covered in 1 hour, 35 minutes, for an average of about 15 miles per hour. The run will help determine the schedule for a regular weekly mail route beginning in June. Riders above are Gene Plankenhorn, 12, right, and Bill Lively, 13, both of Valley View. They are the two youngest members of the Sage Riders club.

Discussion Set Here Tonight By School Districts

Representatives of Ruch, Applegate and Griffin Creek school districts will meet with Medford school district officials tonight to discuss possible reorganization and consolidation of their districts with Medford, according to Dr. Leonard B. Mayfield, Medford school superintendent.

The meeting is the second in a series of two meetings to discuss what happens under the programs of reorganization and consolidation, Dr. Mayfield explained.

The smaller districts without high schools are faced with the problem of starting a high school or joining with a district which has one, the superintendent explained.

They may do this joining voluntarily or let the school district reorganization law take its course. Under the latter plan the county school committee would set up a proposal for reorganizing the smaller school districts and require a vote of school district patrons. The smaller districts are also faced with the time element — to consolidate by July 1, 1959 or a year later.

Medford may be required to build a new high school in addition to the present one sooner than anticipated, the superintendent explained, if consolidation with smaller districts require it. Previously the Medford school district had planned to add a new high school in about 8 or 12 years if the district remained basically the same, Dr. Mayfield explained.

Those districts actively expressing interest in joining with Medford are Jackson, Griffin, Creek, Ruch, Howard and Lone Pine.

Traffic Problem to Be Studied Following Pony Express Trial

A trial run of Oregon's Centennial Pony Express went off without a hitch yesterday as 24 members of the Ashland Sage Riders, running in relay, carried a saddle bag containing a single letter from a point near the top of the Siskiyou to Medford in 1 hour, 35 minutes.

The riders, stationed at one-mile intervals along Highway 99, exchanged the saddle bag on the gallop, Pony Express style, to make the best possible time. The saddle bag was one used in 1851 and 1852 on the mail run between Yreka and Medford, loaned to the club by C. E. Lane, Ashland.

The run yesterday was the first one in the state and will provide a basis for figuring the schedule for the weekly runs.

Representative Here

Here for the trial run was champion rope twirler, Troy Nabors, a representative of the Portland Pony Express office. It has not been decided whether or not the Pony Express will operate through the night on the regular run, Nabors said.

He added that a great deal was learned about the traffic problem during yesterday's run, and what must be done to correct it. Strings of cars, jammed bumper to bumper, jammed through traffic yesterday, as state police kept cars back as protection to riders.

The checks are the payments for January, the first month to show the increased benefit amounts for old-age, survivors, and disability insurance provided by the 1950 amendments to the social security law. The general increase in benefit amounts is about 7 per cent.

WEATHER	
FORECAST: Fair through Tuesday with patchy valley fog early Tuesday. Low tonight 25-28. High Tuesday 55.	
Highest Yesterday	Temp. 55
Lowest This Morning	28
Our Skies Tonight	
Sunset today	5:26 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow	7:25 a.m.
Moonrise tomorrow	3:45 a.m.
New Moon	Feb. 7
PROMINENT STAR	
Sirius, in the southeast	7:08 p.m.
VISIBLE PLANETS	
Venus, sets	6:39 p.m.
Mars, high in south	6:57 p.m.
Pupiter, low in southeast	4:43 a.m.
Saturn, rises	5:28 a.m.

11 Boys Dunked As Boat Overtakes On Sunday Outing

Search Resumes For Portland Boy

Vancouver, Wash. — (UPI) — A search in the Columbia river resumed today for a 15-year-old Sea Scout lost when a 30-foot boat he and 11 other boys were riding in overturned Sunday afternoon north of Vancouver shipyards.

Object of the search was young Bob Leverich of Portland.

Eleven other youths on the ketch "City of Roses" were picked up by a tugboat and all but one, Ron Becksted, 15, Portland, were reported in good condition. Becksted was hospitalized here suffering from shock and exposure.

In Water 15 Minutes

The 11 boys were in the water about 15 minutes before being taken aboard the tug. All of the boys were able to swim. Prompt action by the tug was credited with saving lives.

Seven of the other boys were from Portland, two from Beaverton and one from Oswego.

Those from Portland who were rescued, in addition to young Becksted, were Stan Myers, 18; Larry Peyton, 17; Jerry Steed, 17; Dave Wiley, 14, and three 15-year-olds, Kenuneth Maki, Bruce Higgins and Jim Basham. The two Beaverton youths were Mike Herr and Don Kristensen, both 14. The 11th boy saved was Bob Chappel, 16, Oswego.

Had Chills

Higgins said the boys all had chills "and were just about done for" when they were rescued.

He was a neighbor of the missing boy. "The last time we saw Bob was when he was coming forward when the stern was under water." He said the missing youth as a good swimmer.

Commander of the boat for the cruise was Myers. He said a gust of wind hit the boat when it was on part tack and caused one of the sails to foul in other gear. The next thing he knew, he said, the boat had turned on its side.

Guy P. Miller, executive of the Portland Area Scout Council, said there were only five lifejackets aboard the Sea Scout boat at the time. He also said it was normal practice for an adult to be aboard.

California Collision Kills Ashland Man

Ashland — Word was received here today of the death of Leslie E. Hodgins, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Hodgins, 192 North Mountain ave., Ashland, Feb. 1 in an automobile accident near Fort Ord, Calif. Five others were injured in the head-on collision.

Young Hodgins, a private first class in the U. S. Army, joined the service in Feb. 1957. He is a graduate of Ashland High school and attended Southern Oregon college. He was also employed by the Ashland Lumber company.

Survivors in addition to his parents include a sister, Mary Gayle, and a brother, Robert, both of Ashland. Funeral services will be held in Ashland.

Portland — (UPI) — Mary Ann Mobley of Mississippi, Miss America of 1959, arrived here today for a two-day visit.

Famed Groundhog of Punxsutawney Sees Shadow; More Winter Weather

Punxsutawney, Pa. — (UPI) — The famed Punxsutawney groundhog, just back from a "successful" trip to the moon, bounded out of his cozy lair atop Gobbler's Knob at 8:23 a.m. today, saw his shadow, and forecast six more weeks of wintry weather.

While members of the Punxsutawney Groundhog club braved six above zero temperatures on Canoe Ridge, the world's foremost weather prophet waddled into a bright sunlight. He sat up on his haunches and cast the largest shadow ever witnessed during the 59 years of his annual ritual.

According to tradition, when the groundhog sees his shadow on Feb. 2, six weeks of cold weather are in store. Otherwise there would be an early spring.

The Punxsutawney groundhog—the only reliable prognosticator, local tradition has it — interrupts his winter sleep each Feb. 2 and wiggles to the mouth of his hole. When he sees his shadow, the icy grip of winter hangs on six weeks longer. When he doesn't, spring is just around the corner.

Rival groundhogs at Quaryville, Pa., and Sun Prairie, Wis., are strictly "woodchuck non grata" here. And official U.S. Weather Bureau forecasts? "Hogwash."

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York — (UPI) — Dow Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 592.23, off 1.73; 20 railroads 161.57, off 0.34; 15 utilities 90.72, off 0.16; and 65 stocks 205.17, off 0.52. Sales today were about 3,610,000 shares compared with 3,600,000 shares Friday.

Milwaukee — (UPI) — Seven thousand AFL-CIO United Auto Workers at the Allis Chalmers Co. main plant in suburban West Allis went on strike today.



"It Was A Breeze"

St. Joseph's Church Centennial Includes Mass and Dinners

Some 350 guests joined with speakers and entertainers last night in paying tribute to present and past generations of religious and laymen responsible for founding and developing the Catholic community in southern Oregon.

At a Centennial banquet held in the gymnasium of St. Mary's school, climaxing the first day's activities in the century celebration of the blessing of St. Joseph's church in Jacksonville, the Most Rev. Edward D. Howard, D.D., Archbishop of Portland in Oregon, stressed the debt of gratitude owed by Catholics to those who laid the foundations of their faith in this area.

Mark, their provincial superior.

Archbishop Howard, Mother Mark, Sister M. Leonella, oldest living nun from Jacksonville, and the Sisters of St. Mary's Convent in Medford were guests of honor.

Honored civic officials included Mayor John Snider of Medford and Mayor E. O. Graham of Jacksonville.

Members of the Applegate and Buckley families were among the pioneer families represented.

(Continued on page 11)

Ike Gives Report On Space Program

Washington — (UPI) — President Eisenhower told Congress in his first annual space report today that the goal of this nation is peaceful interplanetary flight.

Looking beyond the U.S. project to place a man in orbit within two years, the Chief Executive said that new programs are aimed at "exploring our solar system — first by unmanned, then by manned deep-space vehicles."

"As man-made devices, one after another have reconnoitered the frontiers of space," he said, "there is a realization that the human race has begun its greatest, most daring adventure."

The President's comments were contained in a 53-page document, summing up space achievements of 1958. The annual report is required by the National Aeronautics and Space Act.

Atlantic Scanned For Fate of Ship

Halifax, Nova Scotia — (UPI) — Four planes and two ships searched the ice-choked North Atlantic today for clues to the fate of 95 persons on the Danish motor vessel Hans Hedtoft which disappeared after striking an iceberg four days ago.

Moderating weather aided the search. But no trace of the world's foremost weather shadow was visible.

Although Mr. Groundhog didn't like the sun, valley residents enjoyed the sunshine for the second straight day as temperatures passed the 50 degree mark.

State police reported a large number of motorists on the highways over the week end, although no traffic accidents have been reported since late Friday, they said.