

Progress in Orbiting Man Shown; Atlas Test Lauded

Cape Canaveral, Fla. — (UPI) — Project Mercury scientists, who have the job of getting a man into space and back, said today that if a member of the Mercury astronaut team had been in a test space capsule fired Wednesday he would have survived.

The confident opinions of the scientists demonstrated the dramatic progress of the United States in preparations for putting a human into orbit around the earth.

The test shot Wednesday "did not come out 100 per cent successful" Robert R. Gilruth, director of the Mercury Project said, but constituted a "major step" toward the final goal.

More Steps Follow

He cautioned that many more steps must follow, however, before a man actually is put into orbit. The capsule fired Wednesday was not designed to orbit.

Because of a failure in the Atlas missile used to launch the 9.5-foot capsule on a straightaway flight down the Atlantic tracking range, the funnel-shaped vehicle failed to achieve the 2000-mile range planned for the test.

Watching as the huge missile blasted off was Lt. Cmdr. Jan B. Shepard, one of the seven Mercury astronauts, hand-picked to ride in space someday.

Joshes About Job

After the Atlas and capsule had been in flight about two minutes — before the trouble in the missile developed — Shepard joshed about his job with other blockhouse occupants.

"If I had my suit on," an observer quoted Shepard as saying, "I think I would have gone this time."

One scientist estimated that any human aboard the test capsule would have been subjected to a force about 15 times the pull of gravity.

This was because the cap-

Fires in Vale Area Believed Deliberately Set

Vale — (UPI) — Two range fires about four miles apart near here burned 500 to 600 acres late Wednesday and early today. A Bureau of Land Management official said both were deliberately set.

Max Olson, BLM fire control officer here, said the fires were in the Tub Mountain area about 15 miles from Vale. The flames were extinguished about 2:40 a.m.

"There's no doubt about it," he said, "They were set."

Spots From Air

The first blaze was reported at 5:02 p.m. Wednesday. Olson sighted the second fire from the air as he flew over the first blaze in a scouting plane.

He said another BLM official, Assistant District Manager Don Gipe, noticed a car leaving the area and Gipe attempted to overtake the vehicle to question its driver. The car disappeared on a mountain road. Olson said they doubted any real connection with the fires and no further attempt to locate the vehicle would be made.

Two other fires in the same general area within the past few days also were believed of incendiary origin.

A uniform system of highway markers for federal routes was generally adopted in the U. S. in 1925.

State Game Commission Chairman Named

Oregon City — (UPI) — George L. Hibbard, Oregon City, president of the Oregon State Bar association, Wednesday named Dean F. Bryson of Portland as general chairman of the bar's 25th annual convention which opens in Bend Sept. 23.

Keynote speaker will be television actor Raymond Burr, who portrays lawyer-detective Perry Mason.

A human stomach, fully distended, is about the size of a football. When completely empty it sometimes shrinks to the size of a finger.

State Employees Get Cash Awards

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Top award of \$300 went to Mrs. Elsie M. Gilliam of the State Industrial Accident Commission for her suggested way to redesign the form used to notify doctors and hospitals of their patients' claim numbers.

This new method will save the state some \$3,000 a year.

Second highest award of \$200 went to Lloyd Smith, Bend, an employee of the

Lebanon Man Given 10 Years in Prison

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He was charged in the death of Lester Cosner, 50, a Lebanon tavern owner. Hel-land was charged with striking Cosner in a brief fight in Cosner's tavern in June 5. Cosner died June 18.

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Portland May Get Drydock Renewal

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The governor said White House sources have indicated to him that Portland "very probably will get" the renewal. The city has been fighting Seattle for the Navy facility.

Hatfield and the Oregon congressional delegation have worked on the project for several months.

Centennial Crowd Total 1,231,416

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