

Sweden Salvaging Ship Sunk 331 Years Ago

By ERIC HOLMERTZ
United Press International

STOCKHOLM (UPI) — The "Vasa," probably the shortest-lived man-of-war in naval history, will float again in a couple of years.

From the depths of Stockholm harbor they are raising the pride of the Swedish Navy, which in 1629 set sail on her maiden voyage—and promptly sank.

The job of salvaging the 64-gun warship will take two more years, but when she is brought to the surface Sweden will boast one of the most unusual historic relics in the world.

Thousands cheered when the Vasa left her dock for the first time. She was the most powerful, best-equipped warship on the Baltic. Less than a mile from shore a fierce gust of wind lurched the ship and water poured into her open gunports.

The Vasa began to sink. The weight of her guns—about 4,000 pounds apiece—helped roll her under. Fifty crew members went down with the ship. The tragedy

took only seconds.

In time, the wreck was forgotten. But three years ago an amateur historian named Anders Frantzen located it by careful study of eyewitness reports of the sinking. Then the Navy decided to use the sunken ship as a "playground" for sailors in diving school.

The divers found that the Vasa was in unusually good shape. Her masts and rigging had collapsed but the hull—built of solid oak timbers—was intact.

Swedes responded to a private fund drive to raise \$200,000 for the salvage job.

Experts say the Vasa remained relatively undamaged because she sank in the "mild" waters of the Baltic. They say any 17th century ship sunk in the open ocean would have been destroyed long ago.

The Vasa may contain its own "treasure" — a chest filled with gold coins which were to be used for paying the crew. Already, several hundred objects have been raised from the wreck.

One is the woman figurehead from the ship. Stockholm has given her a name — Anita Ekberg.

Warner Canyon

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no charge. However, donations toward the upkeep of the area are never turned down and a community appeal this year was well received.

It is no small feather in the cap of the local group that one of their members is Jean Saubert, national junior women's ski champion for the past two years. Jean has brought home trophy after trophy under the colors of the Fremont Highlanders and is now in competition for the 1960 win of the national honors. Her recent competition in the Cranston Cup Races netted four cups to add to her impressive collection.

She will attend the Hayward Banquet as the club's candidate for honors as Oregon's top athlete of the year. Jean, now 17, won her first national championship at 14. She and her sister, Joan, both started skiing in 1950 and both are high in the competition list. Jean is a senior at Lakeview High School and is a straight A student.

The Highlanders also had the distinction of having the youngest National Ski patrolman in the United States. Jim Johns, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Johns of Lakeview, got his national appointment at the age of 16. This year, at 22, he was one of 75 National Patrolmen serving for the Winter Olympics at Squaw Valley.

Jim is attending Southern Oregon College at Ashland where he is a senior and a math and science major. The break in his studies this year will necessitate an extra semester but he is planning to continue until he receives his masters' degree.

A 6-footer, weighing 170 pounds, he spends his summers working locally in the woods. For recreation he does a lot of bowling, and is a member of the college choir during the school year. During weekends at home he gives skiing lessons to youngsters under 10, and plans certification as a full-fledged instructor.

On the Warner Hill the are four National Ski Patrolmen, about six local patrolmen and two patrolwomen. The club is headed this year by Don Sanborn as president; Tony Castel, vice president, and Henry McCormick, secretary-treasurer.

COOKING AARON'S HOBBY
MILWAUKEE (UPI) — Hank Aaron, slugging outfielder of the Milwaukee Braves, lists cooking as his favorite hobby.



A LONELY SENTINEL looming against the winter sky best describes the KPFA fire lookout tower on top of Hogback east of Klamath Falls. The tower is manned during the fire season where it commands a sweeping view of a large portion of the Basin. During the winter it broods bleakly in cold solitude. The road leading up to the tower, closed to public travel, is kept graded during the season as shown in the lower picture. These two pictures were taken not too long ago by the editor for no good reason and are reproduced here for the same reason. Just seemed a shame to waste the film, maybe.

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GETTING DISTANCE
ATLANTA, Ga. (UPI) — Bob Parnham of Georgia Tech punted a football 115 yards on the roll in a game against Georgia in 1926.

CARRYING THE BALL
BALTIMORE, Md. (UPI) — Len Moore, Baltimore Colt half-back, averaged 7.3 yards each time he carried the ball in 1958.

EARRING FANCIER
HARTFORD, Vt. (UPI) — Mrs. Connie Johnson, a town officer, admits she owns 400 pairs of earrings.