

Father, 12-Year-Old Son Perish When Icy Climb Becomes Tragedy

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EVERETT (UPI)—A 25-man rescue party, working in relays, Saturday recovered the bodies of a Seattle man and his 12-year-old son from the slopes of Mt. Index where they died early Friday morning of cold and exposure.

Foggy conditions prevented the use of a helicopter in recovering the bodies of Horace Gates, 41, and his son, Frank. Sheriff's officers said it was "a long, slow process" in getting the bodies down the mountain.

Two other sons who survived the ordeal on the frozen mountain with their father and brother were recuperating at their Seattle home.

The two survivors, William, 16, and Louis, 13, were returned to their home Friday afternoon.

The bodies of Gates and Frank were found earlier in the day about 50 yards from where Louis had lain through the night huddled next to a fire.

Louis was taken down the mountain, about 40 miles east of here, by a helicopter from Paine Air Force Base.

William walked out, for the second time. The older boy made the same hike early Friday after his father and brothers became too tired to make it to safety. William then led a 31-man search party to the area in time to save Louis' life.

The hiking expedition began Thursday morning, when Gates, an experienced mountain climber and his three sons drove to Mt. Index from Seattle.

They missed a trail while scaling the peak and night closed in on them on an icy slope at the 3,000-foot level of the 5,369-foot mountain.

"Louis and I were about 50 yards ahead of my dad and Frankie when Frankie collapsed," William said. "Louis and I built a fire. It was about 11 o'clock. We went back to try to get dad and Frankie to the fire, but they couldn't make it. That's when I left to come down the mountain to get help."

Searchers found Gates and Frankie lying face up. The father had his arms around the son.

Playwright Badly Hurt

DUBLIN (UPI)—Irish playwright Brendan Behan, apparently struck by a hit and run driver early this morning, was reported unconscious and in "only fair" condition with pneumonia and head injuries.

Behan, 40, the hard-drinking former revolutionary whose plays have been hits in London and New York, was found unconscious in a Dublin street shortly after midnight.

He had left Dublin's Royal Hospital only Sunday after undergoing treatment for diabetes since Christmas Eve.

Today, he was in Meath Hospital, where a spokesman said "his injuries are definitely consistent with his having been knocked down by a car."

"Early this morning he regained consciousness, but he has lapsed into unconsciousness again," the spokesman added. "I would not say he was in a coma."

Behan's books and plays include "Borstal Boy," "The Hostage," "The Square Fellow," and "Brendan Behan's Island."

Many persons have drawn a parallel between Behan and the Welsh-born poet Dylan Thomas, who shared the Irishman's penchant for uncontrolled drinking.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY
LANGELL VALLEY COMMUNITY, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., New Year's Eve dance, supper, community hall.

MIDLAND GRANGE, 8 p.m., New Year's Eve dance, party, grangers and friends, grange hall. Women bring sandwiches.

Y-NE-MA TWIRLERS, 9 p.m., New Year's Eve party, bring food for smorgasbord, KC Hall, 10th St. All square dancers welcome.

NEIGHBORS OF WOOD-CRAFT, 8 p.m. K.C. Hall.

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CHANCELLOR DEPARTS — Secretary of State Dean Rusk, right, bids West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard, left, goodbye at Bergstrom AFB at Austin, Tex., after the German leader had finished his two-day round of talks with President Lyndon Johnson at Johnson's ranch near Austin. Between the two men is Gerhard Schroeder, West German foreign minister.

West Berlin To Negotiate On Keeping Wall Door Open

BERLIN (UPI)—West Berlin today accepted informal Communist proposals to negotiate a new agreement for West Berliners to pass through the Communist wall in the future to visit East Berlin.

West Berlin Deputy Mayor Heinrich Albertz said the city government is ready to meet with the East Germans in an effort to reach a new official agreement. The current holiday visiting pass agreement, in unprecedented negotiations this month, expires Jan. 5.

There was uneasiness in the West Berlin press over the prospect of negotiations with the

Communists, whose regime the West does not recognize. But Albertz said there was no reason for such fears. He said the city acted only in agreement with the West German government and the Western Allies.

He said the "technical, practical contacts" with the Communists did not constitute recognition. Western Allied sources disagreed and said West Berliners would not have accepted the visiting passes if they realized the political cost.

East German Communist officials Sunday renewed their offer to negotiate a new agreement on passage through the

city wall after the present arrangement for holiday visits to East Berlin expires Jan. 5.

West Berliners took advantage of their passes Sunday in record numbers, with 154,621 crossing into the Soviet sector for the day. The previous day's high was 70,000 on Saturday.

The crush caused an unprecedented traffic jam of automobiles, buses, street cars, baby carriages, and pedestrians.

West Berlin Mayor Willy Brandt indicated he was willing to hold new talks with the Communists. In the past, the West has refused to negotiate with East Germany because it has sought to avoid giving the Communist regime any measure of recognition.

Brandt called the Christmas pass agreement a small step forward.

"I have no doubt that we must continue along this path," he said. "This is our immediate task in the new year."

Neues Deutschland, the Communist party newspaper of East Germany, said East Germany was willing to make concessions "but we also have demands to make on the other side. Compromises are necessary."

The West Berlin newspaper Tagesspiegel said further pass talks could make the Western allies feel West Berlin and West Germany were adopting a new policy of negotiations with the Communists.

Naturalized Composer, Paul Hindemith Passes

FRANKFURT, Germany (UPI)—The music world today mourned the death of German-born composer Paul Hindemith, 68, who became a naturalized American after being driven from his homeland by Nazi tyranny.

Hindemith, one of the greats of modern music, died Saturday in a Frankfurt hospital of what was diagnosed as circulatory failure.

"Germany has lost its greatest musician since Richard Strauss," said French composer Darius Milhaud.

Hindemith's controversial music, which was often full of dissonance, was banned in Germany in 1934 by Nazi propaganda chief Josef Goebbels as "culturally Bolshevist" and "spiritually non-Aryan." The composer left Germany shortly afterward and lived for a time in Turkey.

He settled in the United States in 1939, accepted a professor's chair at Yale University and became an American citizen. He was credited with revitalizing the Yale Music

School and helping mold a generation of young American musicians and composers before leaving in 1951 to make his home in Switzerland.

Perhaps Hindemith's greatest work was the opera, "Mathis der Maler," barred by the Nazis from performance at the Berlin State Opera.

The composer received the Bach Prize of the city of Hamburg in 1951, Finland's Sibelius Prize in 1955, the Goethe Shield of Frankfurt in 1956 and this year was awarded the \$50,000 Balzan Prize of Italy's Balzan Foundation.

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REAMES GOLF and COUNTRY CLUB
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Johnson, Erhard Talk Summary Pledges Renewed Cooperation

JOHNSON CITY, Tex. (UPI)—President Johnson has injected new and lively elements into the ordinary stuffy world of diplomacy — the 40-liter hat, country dances and finger-lick-in' barbecued spareribs.

The colorful social side of Johnson's two-day visit here with West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard all but overshadowed the carefully honed communique which signaled the end of their conference Sunday night.

Erhard and his chief advisers flew out of Texas for Bonn at dusk, wearing wide-brimmed Western hats, champing on Mexican cigars and praising the glories of Texas hill country hospitality.

Implementation and activation of diplomatic decisions reached here will be up to cabinet ministers and ambassadors of the two nations, and this will take time. But the ministers and envoys had new guidelines from the top.

Pursue Cooperation
The guidelines showed plainly that, after meeting and talking, Johnson and Erhard would pursue a new degree of cooperation and consultation.

Early Sunday afternoon the two leaders, in consultation with their foreign ministers, agreed on a joint communique that stressed the importance of continuing to explore all possible avenues to improvement of East-West relations, easing of tensions and the enlargement of prospects for peace.

The communique was issued in a dusty yard outside the gymnasium of the grammar school at Stonewall, Tex. Smoke from barbecue pits swirled over the scene in a pungent fog. A cauldron of rich barbecue sauce bubbled over a wood fire at the door of the frame building.

Inside the gym, Texas' gift to

the concert world, piano virtuoso Van Cliburn, rippled off gentle passages from Brahms and Beethoven from a wooden stage unaccustomed to the burden of a 3,000-pound grand piano.

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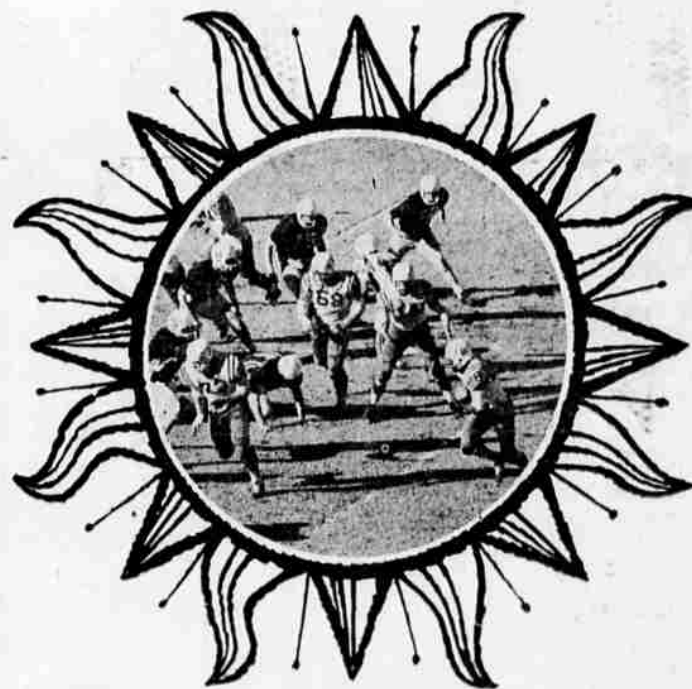
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