



Faces Of The Future: Our First Spacemen



Cooper



Glenn



Carpenter



Slayton



Grissom



Shirra



Shepard

By VERN HAUGLAND
WASHINGTON (AP)—Seven jet pilots in their 36-family men all faced a challenging future today as newly assigned Mercury Astronauts.

Their mission: to ride satellites in orbits around the earth at altitudes of 100 to 150 miles and speeds of 18,000 miles an hour—and to bring themselves safely home again.

Their test rides could open the way for future flights to the moon

and distant planets.

At a National Aeronautics and Space Administration news conference Thursday the astronauts analyzed their assignments with cool detachment.

The work would be difficult, they said, but not too dangerous.

Were they worried? Hardly. Did their families approve? Heavily.

Were they happy about it? Delighted to get on the team. From the relative obscurity of military

jet flying, the seven were catapulted into the status of public figures. Barring a Soviet first, one of them will gain fame as the first man to orbit the earth two years from now. The others are to follow him.

Three are Air Force captains—Leroy G. Cooper Jr., Carbondale, Colo., just turned 32, and the youngest of the lot, Virgil I. Grissom, 33, Mitchell, Ind., and Donald K. Slayton, 33, Sparta, Wis.

Three are Navy officers—J. L. Malcolm S. Carpenter, 33, Boulder, Colo.; Lt. Cmdr. Walter M. Schirra Jr., 36, Graded N. J.; and Alan B. Shepard Jr., 35, East Derry, N. H.

The oldest of the team is Lt. Col. John Herschel Glenn Jr., 37, New Concord, Ohio. In 1957 Glenn made the first supersonic all-the-way transcontinental flight, setting a Los Angeles-New York record of 2 hours 23 minutes.

Each of the Astronauts has two children except for Carpenter, with four, and Slayton, with one.

As they strode onto the stage of the NASA auditorium in their first public appearance, they were an impressive group.

All are slender, well groomed, neatly dressed in conservative suits, white shirts and dark ties.

Their heights range from 5 feet 10 to 5 feet 11, except for Cooper, 5 feet 9½, and Grissom, 5 feet 7.

Their weights range from 150 pounds for Cooper to 185 for Schirra.

All seven are white and Protestants. They are not extremely religious, but said they are sufficiently so that their Christian faith would help sustain them through the rigors of their new profession.

All emphasized that their wives endorsed the new careers, and that those of their children old

enough to understand were enthusiastic about it.

Shepard said he wanted to discount the idea that the Project Mercury experiment would be extremely hazardous. He said no attempt to orbit will be made until the safety probability is higher than that for the routine test flying all the men have been doing in their military planes.

The men were selected from 118 top flight test pilots of whom 31 actually took all the tests.

Pay Bill Hearing Is Delayed

RALEIGH (AP)—The House today postponed until next Tuesday a final decision on a 75 cents hourly minimum wage bill.

Rep. John Kerr Jr. of Warren County made the successful motion for delaying action on the measure, which passed the House Thursday on a roll call vote of 62 to 48.

Some supporters joined with House members who opposed the bill Thursday in the voice vote to put off third reading until next week.

MEMORANDUM JOB

Kerr asked for the delay so that much-needed wage minimum could be mineographed with the amendments fitted into their proper places.

Rep. Watts Hill Jr. of Durham opposed the delay, saying it would "give everybody a chance to lobby, except those most affected by it, who can't afford to hire a lobbyist."

However, Rep. Sam J. Burrow Jr. of Randolph, one of the bill's sponsors, said he had told some House members yesterday he would not object to a delay.

The measure, which provides for a statewide wage minimum of 75 cents previously had passed out of the House Labor Committee by the margin of Chairman Ed Wilson's tie-breaking vote.

While in committee the bill, introduced by Rep. Sam Burrow of Randolph, was short of exemptions. However, when it came up before the House, the original exemptions were restored and several others added.

SOME EXEMPTIONS

As the bill came up for House consideration today, it included these original exemptions: Farm and domestic workers, outside salesmen on commission, students doing part time work, workers whose pay consists mainly of tips, shoe shine boys, newsmen, caddies, baby sitters, theater ushers, and bowling alley pin boys.

The House added these exemptions Thursday: Part-time workers and those paid on a piece rate basis in the seasonal industry, employees of summer camps for children, all persons under 15 years old.

Another amendment, by Rep. John R. McLaughlin of Iredell, would include hospital workers under the 75 cent provision.

Legislation to provide "drunk

See WAGE on page 2-A

To The Public

News and circulation departments of The Charlotte News are continuing to operate from The News Building at S. Church and W. 4th Sts. The News' switchboard — EDison 3-4993—is also in operation.

Advertising and business office functions are being carried on from The Observer Building, 601 S. Tryon St., telephone EDison 2-7311.



Alleys Are Alive With All-Night Athletes

We Sleep, They Roll The Alleys Boom After Midnight

By JULIAN SCHUER

News Staff Writer

Who hea the bowls at 3 a.m.?

Insomniacs?

Second-story men after a hard night's work?

Tensed-up babysitters trying to relax?

PERHAPS THEY DO, but there are hundreds of other Charlotteans who also go bowling from midnight to seven or eight in the morning.

This may not be strange in other places, but in Charlotte, where they usually roll up the streets at 11:15 p.m., all-night bowling is a phenomenon.

While most of the city sleeps, a N. Independence Blvd. bowling alley is doing a brisk business. Manager Nick Hindors says at least a third of the alley's business comes after midnight.

Take this morning at 2 a.m., for instance.

THERE WAS Lucky Roberts, a wrestling referee, and a couple of waitresses.

A surveyor, two diesel equipment men and a restaurant operator. Business was light for a Friday morning.

And then there was this young man named R. R. Pharr. He's a nine to five man. He was bowling last night—and often does so.

Why does the surveyor bowl at 3 a.m.? It's simple. It's just not too crowded, that's all.

And velocity. The instruments will make readings possibly up to 115,000 feet, and at the peak of the ball's flight the instrument package will fall away and parachute to earth.

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Snowfall, Mercury Marks Set

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sunny skies returned to the Rockies today after a three-day storm piled as much as three feet of snow in the mountains and chilled temperatures to record lows.

Frigid air rushed in on the area last night as the storm clouds moved east and south ahead of light breezes. Near zero readings were common in the mountains with the 9 below at Fraser, Colo., the lowest.

Denver's overnight low of 9 above early Friday was a record for April 10.

Three days of continuous snow fall ended Thursday afternoon for the region.

Colorado Springs was buried under 23.5 inches of white stuff, a record for the recent city. Denver, with 14.5 inches, now has received more than 75 inches of snow already this year. That is more than double the normal figure for the Colorado capital.

Three Coloradans died as a result of the three-day blizzard.

One Denver man and another in Colorado Springs suffered fatal heart attacks while shoveling snow from their walks. An auto overturned on a slushy road near Salida, in southern Colorado, causing fatal injuries to a woman.

Winds whipped up ground blizzards in northern Colorado. An estimated 250 cars lined up west of Cheyenne, in southeast Wyoming, waiting for crews to sand U. S. highway 30.

Schools were closed in many localities. Bus air and rail transportation was delayed as much as an hour.

The heaviest snowfall was 56 inches at 9,382-foot La Veta pass in southern Colorado. Wolf Creek passed had 30 inches.

Our Weather

Increasing cloudiness and warm today, tonight and tomorrow. Scattered showers beginning late this afternoon and continuing tomorrow.

Low this morning 62

Low tomorrow morning 62

High today 82

High yesterday 86

High tomorrow 80

Sunrise today 6:38 a.m.; sunset today 6:51 p.m.

More Weather Data on page 2-A

Connie Tells About Fatal Struggle With Her Lover

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Minnie B. (Connie) Nicholas told her murder trial jury today she left her fickle lover's parked car without knowing he had been shot while they struggled.

The 44-year-old divorcee said in her long, delayed testimony about the shooting last July 31 that her little pearl-handled revolver went off while her ex-lover, Forrest Teel, twisted her arm.

"He hit me and I remember taking the gun from my purse," she told the jury of 12 married men. "Simultaneously, he struck me and threw me back across the seat."

"He grabbed my arm, and the gun went off," she said.

"I continued holding my arm and twisting it. I felt a crack in my upper arm, and I tried to get loose. Finally he let go of my arm and I got out of the car."

Connie, do you know how many shots were fired?" asked

Charles W. Symmes, one of her lawyers.

"I know there was one shot. I was told later there were three additional shots."

"During the time of the shooting, I was in the car."

See CONNIE on page 2-A

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Oil Stove Sets Early A. M. Blaze

By JOHN KILGO

News Staff Writer

One person was killed and eight others escaped injury early today when fire swept through an apartment house at 809 Oliver St. in the city's Greenville section.

George Cunningham, about 30, was identified by officials as the victim of the blaze. He was a Negro man who occupied the first floor of the two-story building.

First Fire Chief George Barnett said the fire was sweeping through the rear end of the apartment house when firemen arrived about 2:15 a.m.

"I asked the people standing outside if anyone was in there," Barnett said, "and they told me they thought a man was still in the apartment."

"We used our resuscitators on him," Chief Barnett said, "and administered about five tanks of oxygen."

Firemen worked for nearly an hour in an attempt to save the man's life.

Chief Barnett said the fire started from an oil stove located

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—STONE HURLED AT AKIHITO—

Prince's Wedding Revelry Continues

TOKYO (AP)—Millions of Japanese rejoiced with parades and picnics today over the precedent-breaking marriage of Crown Prince Akihito to a beautiful commoner who will one day share the ancient chrysanthemum throne.

Celebrating through the streets of flag-bedecked Tokyo long after a gold-encreased carriage had carried the radiant bride, Michiko Shoda, and her prince to their suburban residence.

Thousands jammed motion picture theaters, bars and restaurants. Some spread bouquets along banks of the Imperial Palace moat. Others

headed for concerts and night-lantern parades.

Only an unemployed 19-year-old youth, Kenesaku Nakayama, married the day-long celebration. He electrified the throng along the newlywed's processional route — and millions more watching on television — by hurling a stone at Akihito from the crowd.

When it missed, he burst into the street and leaped onto the moving horse-drawn carriage in a desperate lunge at the prince.

Police seized him immediately. He told them: "I am opposed to the emperor system and have been since childhood,

but I had no intention of killing."

Police withheld charges pending completion of their investigation. There were suggestions the youth might be mentally ill.

The 25-year-old prince and his new princess reacted with traditional royal aplomb. They gave no sign of noticing the incident and continued to smile amiably and wave to the crowd.

The sun-filled day touched three age-old symbols of the new Japan that blends democracy and age-old tradition.

With a sip of sacred wine, at a Holy Shrine Sanctuary deep

within the Imperial Palace grounds, the 25-year-old heir to the throne wed the gracious 24-year-old girl he met on a tennis court. Origin of the ceremony is lost in dimmed centuries of Japan's past.</