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Mary Charles Collection - 1931 National Air Races. Cleveland. Official Program. Mary Charles -- Participant. U.S. Air Pilot #17050

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MRS. O'DONNELL LEADS 2ND LAP OF AIR DERBY

Long Beach Aviatrix First to Phoenix, Phoebe Ombie 2nd and Florence Barnes 3rd

By International News Service

PHOENIX, Ariz., Aug. 24.- Gladys O'Donnell of Long Beach today continued to lead in the air derby from Santa Monica, Cal., to Cleveland. Mrs. O'Donnell was the first flier to arrive today from Calexico, Cal., last night's control point. She landed at 11:24 a. m. Phoebe Omlie of Memphis was second and Mrs. Florence Lowe Barnes was third.

By Pacific Coast News Service

CALEXICO, Calif., Aug. 24.- Heading straight into threatening weather over the hot plains of southern Arizona, 16 women and 42 men pilots in the Santa Monica, Calif., to Cleveland, Ohio, national air derby hopped off here on their second lap today.

The pilots, who were feted last night at Mexicali, Mex., were led from the first night control station by Gladys O'Donnell, beautiful Long Beach, Calif., aviatrix, and winner of the 1930 derby.

The weather over Arizona was reported treacherous due to the intensely hot spell which was breeding thunderstorms.

Mary Charles, Chicago, flying a Los Angeles plane, was forced down in a plowed field three miles east of Herber, Cal., a few minutes after her take-off.

Miss Charles was unhurt and her airplane undamaged except for a cracked cylinder head in the motor.

Sixty pilots, 16 women and 44 men, hopped off at Santa Monica yesterday afternoon. All the women and 42 of the men arrived here safely. Gerald Nettleton of Toledo and J. E. Owen of Chicago were forced down in the Imperial valley.

Mrs. O'Donnell was the first to arrive here. She averaged 162 miles an hour on the 200-mile hop, the fastest time made by any man or woman pilot.

Most of the pilots were on the field early today, tuning up their motors for the perilous 206-mile hop to Phoenix, Ariz., for lunch. The schedule calls for all fliers to be in Tucson, Ariz., 106 miles from Phoenix, as tonight's control station.

Mellon Back From [[cut off]]

FORCED DOWN

[[image]]

[[caption]] Gladys O'Donnell, who was forced to land at a Long Beach airport when her plane developed mechanical trouble. [[/caption]]

AIR DERBY PACE IS SET BY GIRLS

[[written in]] Cleveland news Aug '25 [[/written in]]
Gladys O'Donnell Still Leads Flyers on Way to City.

With the women still showing the way in the free-for-all cross country race from Santa Monica, Cal., to Cleveland, the entrants today were to hop from Tucson, Ariz., to El Paso, Tex., via Douglas, Ariz.

Mrs. Gladys O'Donnell, winner of the women's race last year, landed first again yesterday, after taking the lead Sunday. She was followed by Phoebe Omlie, Clema Granger and Louise Tnaden.



Mrs. O'Donnell's status was somewhat in doubt, as she had announced at the end of the first day's flight at Calexico, Cal., that she was withdrawing, but C. F. Lienesch, derby race manager, today said that she had indicated she would remain in the race.

Only 57 of the 60 who started in the race landed at Tucson last night, Associated press dispatches said.

Gage Irving was forced down by motor trouble near Red Rock, Ariz. Some anxiety was felt for his safety until a telegram came from him. Winnifred Spooner of Liecester-
[[cut off]]

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST
FLIERS LAND AT EL PASO
DETROIT FREE PRESS
Cessna Is Leader in Derby Rating

EL PASO, Texas, Aug. 25--(A. P.)--Gladys O'Donnell, of Long Beach, Cal., was the first of the Santa Monica to Cleveland air derby entrants to land here this afternoon on the hop from Douglas, Ariz.

She averaged 140 miles per hour facing a head wind. Other contestants arrived in quick succession.

Phoebe Omlie, Memphis, Tenn., was second across the finish line. The racers will fly tomorrow to Roswell, N. M., and Amarillo, Texas.

Cessna's Percentage Best

DOUGLAS, Ariz., Aug. 25--(U.P.)--Elden Cessna, flying a Cessna-Warner monoplane, held first place in the air derby to Tucson, it was announced today. On a handicap basis his flying percentage was 95.28.

Charles Goldtrap of Phoenix was second with 93.02, despite a three per cent penalty for zooming across the Tucson finish line.

Other leaders were: Lee Gelbach, 91.90; Ruth Stewart, 97.71; D. C. Warren, 91.19; James Granger, 91.17; Joan Shankle, 89.89; Lee Brusse, 89.24; Pancho Barnes, 88.60; Miss Morgan, 78.79.

Girl Fliers Set Pace for Derby With Fast Hops

El Paso, Tex., Aug. 25 (UP)- Led by Gladys O'Donnell of Long Beach, Calif., the fliers in the national air derby arrived here late today. They will make an overnight stop in El Paso and take off tomorrow for Roswell, N. M.

[[image]]

[[caption]] Mrs. Gladys O'Donnell [[/caption]]

Mrs. O'Donnell arrived at 3:19 p. m., flying the 182 miles from Douglas, Ariz., to El Paso in one hour and 18 minutes. Phoebe Omlie of Memphis, Tenn., was the second to land, arriving nineteen minutes after Miss O'Donnell. Mildred Morgan landed third.

Mrs. Glenna Granger who is racing against her husband, James Granger, entered in the men's division of the derby, landed fourth, but still retained first place in elapsed time.

Miss Omlie was reported in second place in elapsed time and Mrs. O'Donnell in fourth.

William Musgrove was the first flier to land in the men's division of the derby, alighting at 3:50 p. m. A. S. Sharman was second and George Curtis Quick, third.

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