



Soaring

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Newest—and Youngest— Diamond Pilot

At 6:35 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time, on the evening of August 25, 1966, David M. Nees, of Laguna Beach, California, landed his K-6CR a few miles from the town of New Harmony, Utah. The flight had begun at El Mirage, California, seven hours and four minutes earlier and had been in serious doubt 500 feet above the ground in the vicinity of Clark Mountain. The total distance was 329 miles and the distance Diamond it earned completed U.S. Diamond badge number 62. David, who was the youngest competitor at this year's Nationals (and whose picture appears on page 21 of the August issue of *Soaring*) was, by rough calculation, 19.773 years old at the time he completed his badge. Thus he is the youngest U.S. pilot, and possibly the youngest pilot in the world, ever to have earned all three Diamonds.

Eastern Open Results

Twelve contestants were entered in this year's Eastern Open Soaring Championships at Harris Hill (July 3rd to 9th). Bob Smith, flying a Skylark Four, and Walter Cannon in a 1-23H-15 split the five contest days between them. Bob won the first (twice around a 48-mile triangle) and the fifth (97-mile triangle); Walt finished first on the second (52-mile goal-and-return) and third (42-mile speed dash). The two pilots tied on the fourth day, when an open task was declared, with 195 miles each. The first five places were as follows:

Robert Smith (Skylark Four)	4,824 pts.
Walter Cannon (1-23H-15)	4,228 "
Erwin Jones (1-23H-15)	3,277 "
Leslie Schweizer (1-26)	2,758 "
Edmund Dawson (2-32)	2,332 "

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Richard Miller — Editor

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COVER PHOTO: The Finnish Standard Class Vasama, seen here in flight over Inyokern, California, is one of two currently known to be flying in the U.S. This one, attractively done up in blue and white, belongs to Irving Taylor of Lafayette, California and is being flown here by Herman ("The Big Stick") Stiglmeier.

—Soaring International Photo

\$10 will be paid for any picture submitted if used for the cover.

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