

of American Civil Liberties Union (left) and James F. Salanci (right) point argument over racial picketing in Torrance. Looking on are attorneys H. Ram-m (left) and Lawrence R. Booth of the Congress of Racial Equality.

# That Wing-Thing Is a Regular Wing-Ding

A wing-ding of a wing-thing is on display as part of the 32nd annual Model Airplane Championships at Los Alamitos Naval Air

Station.

It is a 52-by-36-inch piece of plastic cloth held in a bat-shaped triangle by three plastic spars and powered

by a tiny gasoline engine.

Its main claim to fame is that it is being considered a method of bringing astronauts back into the atmosphere in Project Gemini, the preliminary to the planned moon flight.

Technically called the flexwing it is the brain-child of engineers of the toy manufacturing company, A. C. Gilbert, who have dubbed it the "Wing Thing."

THE IDEA BEING, according to Gilbert officials, a combination of a parachute and an airfoil, there-

The show will close Sunday with finals in jet speed tests, A.M.A. and F.A.I. team racing, C/L Flying scale, Navy carrier landing for juniors and seniors, C gas, rocket power and R/C pylon.

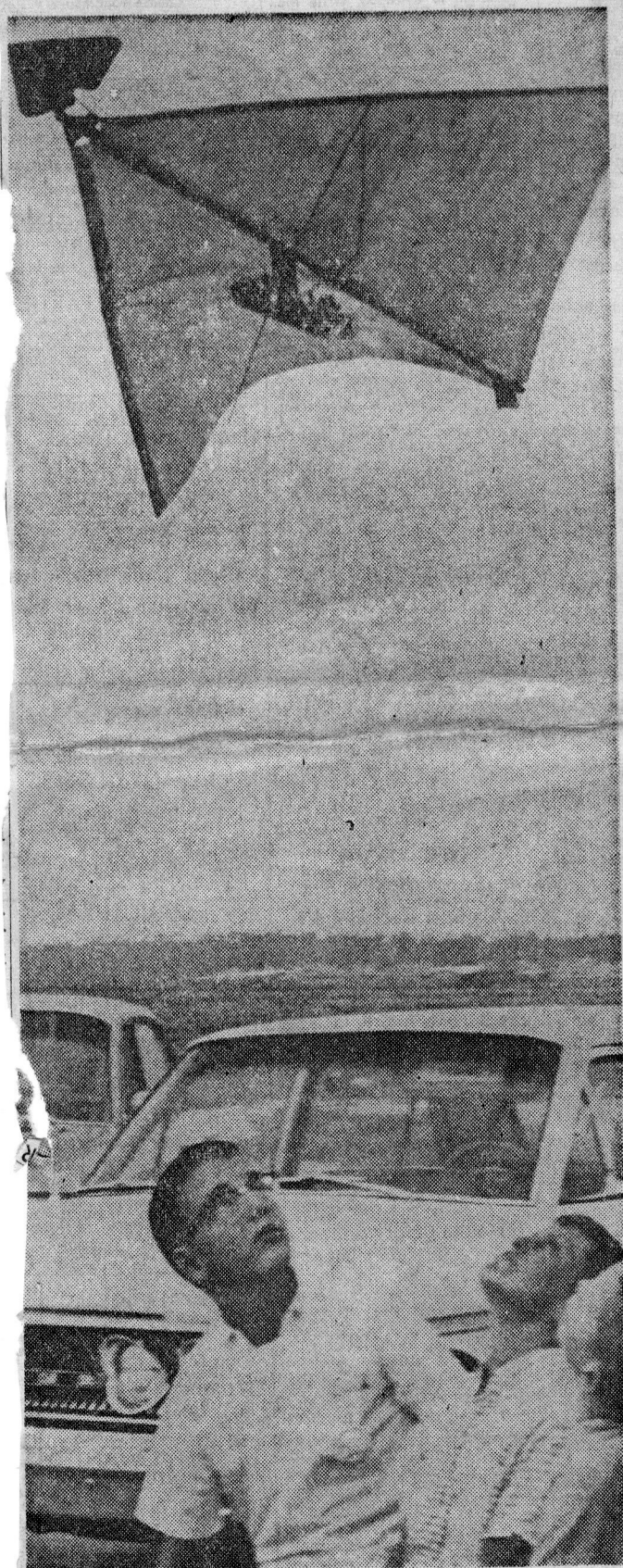
These will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will be followed by the final exhibition at 1 p.m. of the famous Blue Angels, Navy precision flying team.

by giving the potential astronaut control over both his speed and his flight path, rather than having to depend on the vagaries of a wind-blown parachute.

Ryan Aeronautical Co. and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration both are experimenting with the flexwing as a means of returning astronauts, Gilbert officials say.

While no figures are available on what the full-scale flexwings will cost, the Gilbert people are selling their version for \$13 in toy stores over the counter, and that includes the motor.

IN DEMONSTRATIONS at Los Alamitos NAS today the Wing Thing was hand-launched by several young model enthusiasts, climbed in concentric circles to almost 300 feet in a minute and a half before the engine quit and allowed it to soar in long sweeping swoops back to earth



—Staff Photo

THE THING . . . star attraction at Model Meet

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