Tony) Bailey, the 19-year-old coal miner, and probably would have liked it, un- liked it, and probably would have enjoyed it, unless he was a girl. Upper County residents still express their surprise over the disclosure last Friday that “Tony” is a girl.

Born in Whitefish, Montana, July 19, 1920, Gloria was graduated from eighth grade as a brilliant student, her mother, Mrs. Zora Bailey of Cle Elum, told The Miner-Echo.

But it was a case of another broken home. Her father, a skilled mechanic, had left when she was 10 years old, after one brother and two sisters had grown to adulthood. Mrs. Bailey raised her from then on alone.

An independent girl, Gloria's views of life were badly shaken when her father left home. She preferred going to work instead of continuing through high school, and even at that tender age began wearing boy's clothes because, as her mother said, it was safer.

As a cook, Gloria has always been a natural, her mother added. She liked work in a cafe. It was then, wearing a white cap, she found her decidedly bad locks of hair much to her advantage and cut them off. Then on she was so often

Gloria went to work in the Northwest Improvement Company's No. 9 mine July 12, 1949, disguised as an "awfully young looking" boy. No one except Gloria and her mother, Mrs. Zora Bailey, knew of the deception.

Foreman Bill Wiseman called Gloria a 'darn good worker' as he loaded her quota of coal in the mine depths each day.

Things were looking up for the Balleys—the rent was being paid each month, the new stove's contract was nearing completion, and there was even the beginning of a nest egg for the operation. Mrs. Bailey must have soon.

It was then that Gloria, unthinkingly, entered the wrong rest room in a Roslyn establishment.

"Gloria was always headstrong," said Mrs. Bailey. "All her life she has run around in boy's clothes.

"In fact, I don't even think the girl has a dress left to her name that she could wear now. When she was looking for a job where she could make good money—and we needed it—I guess she thought acting as a boy was the most natural thing in the world."

Gloria fooled a lot of people. The total includes everyone who knew her in Cle Elum, the man who worked with her in the mine, and even the observant editor of the Cle Elum Miner—Echo, P. D. Peterson.

"Gloria has been mowing our lawn," said Peterson. "It never occurred to me that "Tony" was not a boy.

"If anyone had suggested to me that "Tony" was other than what she seemed, I would have called him crazy. We didn't find out until 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon when I told my wife she didn't look right and I was surprised that she didn't say anything."

"Tony" Bailey no longer works as a loader in No. 9 mine.

Northwestern Improvement Co. officials instructed "Tony" he would have to leave the job during the recent stabilization walkout after Chief of Police Vic Cusworth and Patrolman Tony Chapetta of Roslyn discovered that "Tony" is a plucky 19-year-old girl, that her real name is Gloria.

"State law prohibits employing any girl or woman around the actual workings of a mine.

Thus ended the first known case of a woman impersonating a man and working in the Roslyn-Cle Elum mines.

Under the male name and in men's clothing, Gloria started in at No. 9 July 12 last year—seven days before her sixteenth birthday. Before that she worked as a male cook's helper in a Cle Elum cafe.

She was a "darned good worker," as Foreman Bill Wiseman, still ignorant of the facts, told Supt. Frank Badda in reporting that Bailey had missed five shifts and probably would have to be fired. In the know then, Badda had trouble keeping a straight face.

Those few who have learned of the impersonation were amazed as will be fellow workers others when they read this. A young girl could do the heavy work of loading, and carry on the ruse successfully for nearly a year.

Chief Cusworth and Chapetta uncovered Bailey's real identity in questioning after they had seen "him" enter and come out of a women's lavatory. Bailey refused to admit being a girl until the last.

"The girl who worked in the loco folded this week as amazed..."
Navy Veteran Dies In Mine Accident

John Popovich, Rope Rider, Killed in No. 9 Mishap  
Monday Morning

The third tragic fatality in less than 24 hours struck the Upper County Monday morning when John Popovich, 32, well known in Roslyn and Cle Elum where he has resided all his life, was killed in a No. 9 mine accident.

Upper County residents had been shocked only the previous evening by the news of the young college couple drowning at Lake Cle Elum.

Popovich is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Popovich of Roslyn and he lived there until entering the Navy in 1942. Following his discharge from the service, late in 1945, he has made his home in Cle Elum. He was married to Cornine Munroe of Cle Elum in October of 1944.

Military funeral services were held for Popovich at the Coleman funeral chapel Thursday. Interment followed at the Roslyn Veterans' cemetery, with Herbert Irwin post 1373 of the V.F.W. in charge.

Beside his wife and parents, he is survived by two brothers, Tony of Roslyn and Frank of Renton and two sisters, Mrs. Pauline Bernrilt of Bremerton and Catherine Popovich of Seattle.

A rope-rider, he was fatally injured about 11:15 a.m., when he was struck by the snap of the rope and the lunge of the trip of cars following a mix up in his signals to the hoisting engineer, N.W.I. company officials and safety committee have reported.

An investigation was made at the scene of the accident and a hearing was held at the mine office by the company officials, safety committee, state mine inspectors and federal mine inspector. As no one witnessed the accident, it was necessary to interpret the evidence at the scene of the accident, officials said.

Apparently Popovich had decided to pull the third east entry after telling the hoisting engineer he was going to the second level. Presumably, he did not give the correct signal to the engineer and the accident resulted from the incorrect signal, according to the officials.

They reported, "Shortly before the accident, Popovich was at the bottom of the slope, pulling coal from the third west entry. He told the haulage foreman (John Bly-yack) he was going to pull two more trips from the third west and then go up to the second level. The haulage foreman went to the top of the slope on the next trip."

"After pulling one more trip from third west, Popovich signaled the hoisting engineer that he would go to the second (level) on the next trip. After doing so, he evidently heard or saw a trip in the third east, so he threw the switch for the third east but did not give the hoisting engineer the return bell for the third east.

"As the empty trip came down, he signaled the engineer to drop down by giving him three bells; after dropping down some distance, he then gave the engineer two bells which meant to pull up.

"The engineer, assuming he was on the straight and that Popovich was ready to come up to the second level, started to pull

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notches to start the trip up.
"The hoistman knew from the action of the hoist that the trip was off the track and stopped."

"In the meantime, the evidence indicated that Popovich rode the trip in to the third east as he cut the rope off the empties, he gave the hoistman two bells to pull."

"Then he hooked the rope on to the loaded trip but was caught by the snap of the rope and the lunge of the trip which threw him to the high side, fatally injuring him.

"The haulage foreman, noticing the rope jerk and then stop, tried to get Popovich on the telephone; getting no answer, he told another rope rider to go down and see what was wrong."

"John Kuchera, the rope-rider found Popovich on the high side of the entry, along side the third car from the rope. Getting no answer from Popovich, he immediately went for help and called for a stretcher. Popovich was taken to the surface where he was pronounced dead by the doctor.