

Big Colorado Mob Cheers Space Hero

BOULDER, Colo. — (UPI) Astronaut M. Scott Carpenter was given a tumultuous, unscheduled hero's welcome by his fellow Coloradoans Monday, and wound up the evening playing the guitar after a quiet dinner at the home of the president of the University of Colorado.

The 37-year-old Boulder, Colo., native, who was supposed to get a "good night's rest" at his home town before celebrations planned today and Wednesday on his Colorado visit, found little quiet most of the day.

From the time he stepped off President Kennedy's personal plane at Denver after a four-hour trip from Cape Canaveral, he was cheered with such enthusiasm by such numbers that a state patrolman said he was "amazed."

HIS FELLOW Colorado residents turned a 30-mile automobile ride from Denver to Boulder into a cheering, wildly enthusiastic triumphal procession.

But after the astronaut's party had arrived at Boulder and checked into their hotel, they paid a call on university President Quigg Newton and were invited to stay for dinner.

They wound up the evening feasting on buffet-served chicken and spiced tea. Then Carpenter sat on the floor with Newton's daughters and played guitar and ukelele music.

Boulder Mayor John P. Holloway, and Dr. Walter Orr Roberts, one of the university's most distinguished scientists who directs the university's high altitude observatory in the Colorado Rocky Mountains, also attended the dinner.