

# Nyssa Gate City Journal

69th Year, 32nd Issue

The Sugar City

Nyssa, Oregon Thursday, August 7, 1975

Thunderegg Capital

15¢ Per Copy

## Nyssa Men Arrested For Rape, Sodomy

Malheur County officials are remaining silent about the arrest of a Nyssa police officer last Friday on a third degree rape charge involving a 14-year old girl.

Detective Joe Rodriguez, 29, posted \$1,000 bail and was released from custody after being arrested on the charge. Third degree rape is that involving a girl younger than 16 under Oregon law, according to Malheur County District Attorney Frank Yraguen.

A second man, Albert Leslie Eckley, 35, Nyssa, also was arrested Friday and has been charged with sodomy in connection with two girls, one 13 and one 14, Yraguen said. He is in the Malheur County Jail.

Yraguen would not give specific details on the charges. Neither would the Oregon State Police or the Malheur County sheriff's office. The two law enforcement agencies conducted a joint investigation of the matter.

### Sen. Packwood To Visit County

Senator Bob Packwood (R-Ore.) will make an 18-county tour of Oregon during the August Congressional recess.

Wednesday, August 13 he will be in Harney and Malheur Counties. He will hold hearings on the wild horse problems at the courthouse in Burns that morning, and will make an appearance at the Malheur County Fair at 7:30 Wednesday evening.

Thursday morning, he will attend the Optimists Club breakfast at the Moore Hotel in Ontario before proceeding to Baker for a noon luncheon.

Nyssa police were first called into the investigation, but when the nature of the case became known it was referred to the Malheur County District Attorney to be investigated by an outside agency, according to Police Chief Alvin Allen. Rodriguez was suspended from duty last Friday, Allen said, pending disposition of the case.

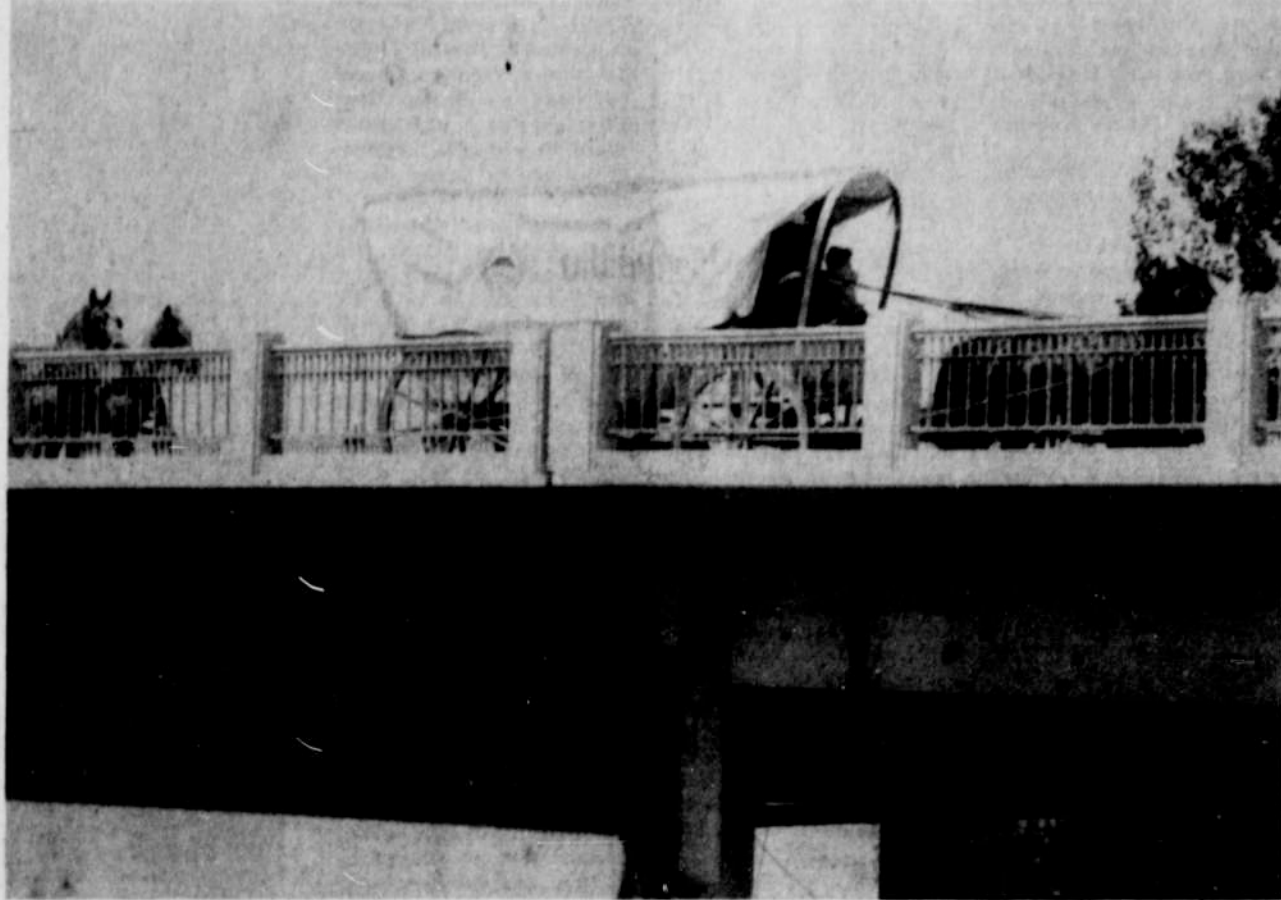
The Rodriguez and Eckley incidents are unrelated, according to Yraguen, but were jointly investigated. The exact times of the alleged crimes are not known, but one is said to have occurred before June 14, the other after, Yraguen said.

The two men were arraigned Tuesday morning in the Nyssa Justice Court before Judge E. Otis Smith. Eckley asked for a court appointed attorney, and Judge Smith appointed H. Clifford Looney of Vale to represent him. A tentative preliminary hearing was set for August 15, with property bail set at \$10,000, or cash bail of \$1,000. Eckley was committed to the Malheur County Jail in lieu of bail.

Judge Smith set a preliminary hearing for August 13 on Rodriguez, and he is out on \$1,000 bail. His attorney is John N. Hutchens, also of Vale.

### Veterans To Postpone Drive

The Disabled American Veterans will not sell forget-me-nots this week as announced. The drive was created to raise money for bedridden veterans in the surrounding areas, but has been postponed due to Thunderegg Days.



ONE OF THE FIRST TO ENTER Idaho in the Bicentennial procession to Pennsylvania was a covered wagon representing the state of Oregon.

As all five separate segments of the wagon train pilgrimage follow their trails across the country, a wagon from each state will join in order for all fifty states to be represented in Valley Forge, July 4, 1976.

## Backwards Pilgrimage Honors Bicentennial

Heading for a July 4, 1976, arrival at Valley Forge, the American Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage to Pennsylvania is divided into five different segments, one of which passed through Nyssa last week and continued through Idaho territory.

That train will follow the Oregon Trail, with an expected entrance into Wyoming in late August. At Fort Laramie, Wyoming the travelers will halt for the winter. In March, 1976, they will resume the eastward

trip, boarding flatboats at St. Joseph, Missouri, for a stretch of the Missouri, Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Pittsburgh. There they will begin the journey on historic trails, again, to Valley Forge.

The Oregon Trail train began at Blaine, Washington, June 8, and entered Oregon June 30. Consisting of about 60 people and 40 horses, the procession was greeted by large numbers of people here, including Idaho's Lt. Governor, John Evans, who gave an official welcoming address upon a historically symbolic crossing of the Snake River into Idaho.

Traveling at a rate of approximately twenty miles a day, and driving along the historic routes as closely as possible, the "backwards"

Oregon Trail pioneers camp each night in or near a central community, where nightly bicentennial programs are held with entertainment presented by the University of Pennsylvania. Residents of each state and community through which the train passes are able to participate in social events which include the eastward pioneers, through a cooperative effort between each state and the Bicentennial Trails.

In honor of this Nation's 200th birthday, other Bicentennial Wagon Trains will cover such historic trails as the Gila, Sante Fe, Old Spanish, Natchez Trace, Wilderness, Old Post, California and Lancaster Pike. Some trains will merge at

points, some will cover shorter distances than others and all will converge at Valley Forge on July 4 of next year, where they will remain encamped for 2 months during the height of the American Bicentennial celebration.

## City Landmark Will Go When Water Tank Comes Down

A Nyssa landmark since 1913 will disappear shortly, as the work of dismantling the old 50,000 gallon elevated water tank has begun. The 117 foot tall tank could be seen for miles as it towered

above the adjacent buildings of the original townsite, a visual example of the progress of the City of Nyssa in the early days.

City manager Henry Schneider said the tank

construction started on August 6, 1913 as Chicago Bridge and Iron Works crews moved in with the steel to begin the assembly.

Specifications called for a three foot overflow, 17 feet up the side wall. Moderately large for a city with a population of 417, the tank diameter was 19 feet and its 50,000 gallons insured each citizen 103 gallons for daily cooking, bathing and fire fighting. The tower supports measured 100 feet to the balcony and consisted of three levels with eight rods crisscrossing each section for support.

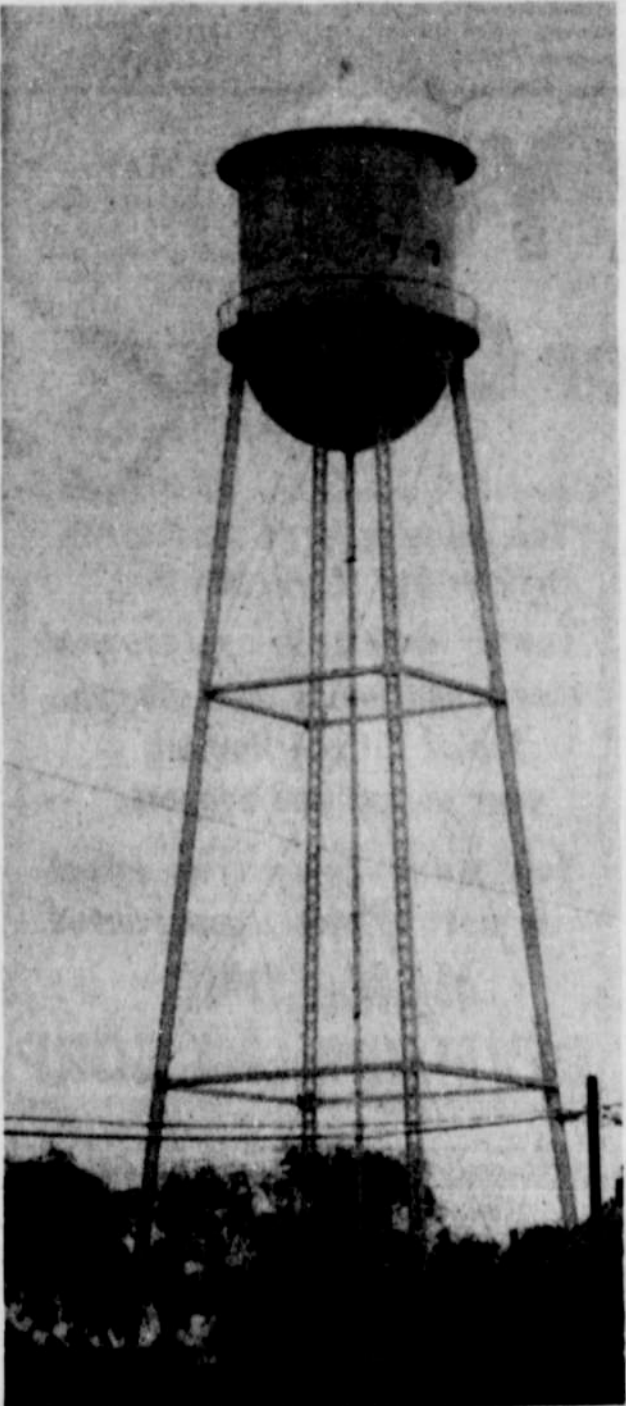
Painting specifications called for one shop coat of graphite and one field coat of standard green graphite on the exterior walls with one shop coat primer and a prime resistant field coat inside. The under portion received two field coats of standard green graphite. Records do not disclose when the city began the silver coat painting.

Schneider said that Ralph Lowe, water superintendent, had taken the tank out of the system and that it was just on standby status due to the bottom section leaking for several years. He stated the tank would jeopardize the area more as it became older, and the expense of repairing the tank was not justified.

The Budget Committee and City Council both agreed that it should come down and \$5,500 was budgeted for the lowering and dismantling work. B-K Fabricators, Boise, Idaho, will begin removing the tank under a proposal for \$4,800 and the steel from the deteriorated tank. The City will retain the legs, stand piping and brace steel for salvage uses.

Schneider said that Nyssa's present water system storage even without the old tank averages 1,170 gallons per capita for fire and household needs. National averages are generally considered to be only 150 gallons per person per day.

The old tank will only be missed nostalgically as the passing of an era.



A NYSSA LANDMARK will be torn down this month, giving way to the recently completed 3,000,000 gallon water storage tank on airport hill. This tank, built in 1913, was for many years Nyssa's only water storage and could be seen for many miles.

## Rep. Al Ullman Will Visit Nyssa Next Week

Congressman Al Ullman (D. Ore.) will be in Eastern Oregon next week for several appearances, including a breakfast visit in Nyssa next Wednesday morning. Rep. Ullman is chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Tuesday, August 12, Ullman will hold a press conference upon his arrival at the Boise airport at 2 p.m. He will hold another press conference at 4 p.m. at the Tapadera Motel in Ontario, followed by a speech and dinner at the Eastside Cafe at 6 p.m. Reservations may be made for the dinner by calling Dr. C. R. Van Patten.

### Two New Teachers Hired

Superintendent W. L. McPartland announced that two new teachers have been hired to replace two who have recently resigned.

Tom Snyder will teach Elementary P.E., replacing Scott McCormick. He received his master's degree in Physical Education at Montana State University after teaching two years in Australia. He is married and has a 2-year-old daughter.

Toni Lewin will teach Home Economics in the high school, replacing Joan Dahl. Miss Lewin is from Donnelly, Idaho, and received her degree from George Brown University in Arkansas.

### WEATHER

Date	Max.	Min.	Prec.
July 30	79	53	.26
July 31	78	56	
August 1	84	50	
August 2	92	51	
August 3	89	49	
August 4	96	55	
August 5	96	56	
August 6		60	

Owyhee Reservoir  
8-6-75 632,750 Acre Feet  
8-6-74 518,110 Acre Feet

889-6158 or County Judge Roy Hirai, 437-3123. Later that evening there will be a public reception and speech at TVCC, Room W-10.

Wednesday morning Rep. Ullman will have breakfast at the Twilight Cafe in Nyssa at 7 a.m. Jake Fischer is in charge of arrangements, and Ullman will speak and visit with those present. He will appear for coffee at Vale at 9 a.m., will make a noon speech at John Day, and will be in Burns for a speech at 7:30 Wednesday evening.

Ullman will be in Lakeview and Klamath Falls on Thursday for several appearances.

### Bratton Reports On Property Tax

Malheur County Assessor, Oscar Bratton, said today that some Malheur County property owners are wondering where they stand in regard to their property value assessments for tax purposes as a result of the recent storms that have been devastating the county.

Bratton said that this year's values have been set and that his office is in the process of developing the tax rates. There is no possibility of relief from this year's assessments at this date.

There is an Oregon law, ORS 308.425, that offers relief if the damage or destruction happens after January 1st and before July 1st due to fire or Act of God. The owner may apply to the Assessor within 30 days after the loss and request a reappraisal. The value determined as of July 1st is then substituted for the January 1st value.

However, Bratton emphasized, that since it is too late to obtain relief this year that in the event the damaged or destroyed property is not fully restored by January 1, 1976 the property owner may apply after that date and before May 1, 1976 for a reappraisal of their property for the 1976 assessment roll.

## Exhibit Entry Times Announced For Fair

Hundreds of exhibits are expected to compete for special Bicentennial awards and cash premiums at the Malheur County Fair, August 13-16.

Exhibit entry times and places have been announced. Families exhibiting at the Fair are urged to carefully check the entry times which are different for the various categories.

Entries will be accepted as follows:

**ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY**, in the newly remodeled art building—1:00 - 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 12; 8:00 - 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 13.

**FOODS, CLOTHING, TEXTILES**, Main Exhibit Hall—1:00 - 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 12; 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, August 13.

**HOBBIES AND CRAFTS**, Under the Grandstand—1:00 - 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 12; 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, August 13.

**FLOWERS**, Main Exhibit Hall—8:00 - 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, August 13 only.

**LAND PRODUCTS**, Main Exhibit Hall—5:00 - 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 12; 8:00 - 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 13.

Judging in all of these categories will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

Judges include Frank Tuning, Burns, Art and Photography; Jane Betts, Weiser, Clothing and Textiles; Pat Link, Ontario, Foods; Leona Anderson, Payette, Food Preservation; Helen Johnson, Payette, Bies and Crafts and Phyllis Huff, Wilder, Ceramics.

Certified garden club judges will be making the placings in the flower division, however their names have not yet been announced.

Land Products and Booth Exhibits will be judged by D. F. Franklin, of Parma and Orris Rudd of Madras.

Chairman of each Fair division along with hundreds of volunteers are responsible for registering exhibits, arranging them for display, clerking for judges and guarding the display areas.

Division chairman of the Art and Photography is Helen Wasson of Ontario; other chairmen include Land Products, Steve Piercy, Adrian; Foods, Kay Nielson of Ontario; Clothing and Textiles, Elaine Russell, Vale; Hobbies and Crafts, Ila Mae Mills, Ontario; and Flowers, A.N.K. Garden Club of Adrian.

Persons who wish to volunteer to help with fair exhibits should contact the division chairman.

Fair books listing schedules, exhibits and premiums are still available and may be obtained from banks, newspaper offices or the Extension Office in Ontario City Hall.

## Social Events Unite Rockhounds

Yesterday marked the beginning of Thunderegg Days, but tonight, Thursday, the first organized social event, a Lions Club sponsored barbecue, will bring crowds of rockhounds and city residents together here.

The barbecue, held at South City Park, begins at 7 p.m., topped by a carnival sponsored by the Sports Boosters. The carnival will also be open tomorrow night.

A local gospel singing group, "The Son Shiners," will highlight an ice cream social tomorrow night on the school grounds.

On Saturday night, a watermelon feed is planned, by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, to begin at 7 p.m.

Both local and visiting rockhounds are being provided with the early-morning departure of tour busses to Jamieson Bog, Graveyard

Point and Succor Creek. The excursions are designed for the purpose of directing rock hunters to the fields for a day of digging.

Planning committee Chairman Emil Wohlcke said that more tailgaters had been expected this year than in previous years. The number of visitors to the rock exhibit, organized by the Treasure Valley Rock and Gem Club, is, as well, an expected increase.



ALBERT KUELBS, LEFT, Bill MacMillan, and Alyce Kuelbs compare and admire jewelry made themselves from cut and processed stones.

Mr. and Mrs. Kuelbs from Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, have been rockhounds for 23 years, while Mr. MacMillan, from Sun City, Arizona, claims to be one of a large number

of rockhounds in his city. All three are tailgaters, in Nyssa this week for Thunderegg Days.

According to MacMillan, the yearly gathering of rockhounds in Nyssa is one of the most pleasant and relaxing of all. This year an increase in the number of visitors is expected.



THE FIRST BUFFALO CALF was born Sunday, August 3 at the ranch of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Brown of rural Nyssa. The proud parents are Bertha, left, and Bert.

The Browns obtained the bull and four buffalo cows about three years ago from the Ponderosa Ranch at Seneca. Brown said that he got interested in buffaloes several years ago, and hopes to develop a herd of beafalo, which is a cross-breed of Charolais or Holstein and buffalo. So far the only calf from this mixture was born dead. Beafalo grow

bigger and faster than cattle on less feed, and are very tasty, according to Brown.

The buffaloes are of good disposition, easy to handle, and require only a one-wire electric fence for confinement. The bull is very protective of the calf, Brown said. The Browns are also "playing around" with Texas Longhorns, and they have a bull and three calves. However, if the cattle business gets any worse he will "shuck the whole thing," Brown said, because "cattle are no good right now."