

Bike tour reaches Missouri

Thirteen Clark County bicycle riders pedaled into Missouri Thursday afternoon, having survived 105-degree heat and searing winds on the plains of Kansas.

Sid Muzzy, one of three adults making the 3,700-mile ride from Battle Ground to Washington, D.C., said in a telephone interview that all 13 are in excellent condition and spirits, but most of them have lost weight. "All of a sudden our clothes are too large for us," Muzzy, a Battle Ground High School driving instructor, said.

Muzzy said the group has covered 2,100 miles and expects to be in the national capital on Aug. 1. He said they have been riding eight to ten hours each day and covering more than 80 miles on a daily average.

"The people have really been fantastic to us along the way," Muzzy said. On one occasion, he said, a dentist in Fort Collins, Colo., fixed a sore tooth for Butch Hill, another Battle Ground teacher, and would accept no money.

He said "bad water" in Laramie, Wyo., put two of the riders in the hospital temporarily, but both have recovered.

"Outside of a sprained ankles and an average of two flat tires a day, we've had no other problems," Muzzy noted.

He said the group, composed mostly of Battle Ground students, has spent most of its nights sleeping in churches and has had to camp in the open on only a few occasions.