



LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STARS
The fourth of five games that could determine whether the Illinois Valley or Rogue River All-Star team will go to state was to be played Tuesday evening, July 13 in Jubilee Park. In the best-of-five district tourney, I.V. was leading 2-1 games after play Monday. The state game will be in Bend July 17; donations are needed. Phone 592-3059.



Photos by
Shane Welsh

Some see Fiddler Mt. area as preservation site

ByCRYSTALSCHROETER Correspondent
The sight of thousands of acres of standing dead trees can really bring to mind about how when Nature and the human element collide, the situation is often emotionally charged.

The Fiddler Mountain salvage sale and the threatened botanical waysides and forest that surround it bring to the fore questions like how to deal with forest management and timber harvest after a fire; the effect on local business and cottage industry; and tourism.

In short, how will the sale of timber on Fiddler Mt. influence Illinois Valley? Will it affect Illinois Valley's potential ability to bring tourists?

These are the issues on the table for Roger Brandt and a grass-roots valley tourism committee, to which he belongs.

According to Brandt, "Recreation in Siskiyou National Forest, specifically the T.J. Howell Botanical Drive, will be affected as well as tourism in the years to come. The influence on local business has been the focus."

The drive was named for Thomas Jefferson

Howell, an 1800s self-taught botanist who discovered 44 previously unidentified plant species on his travels through Oregon and Washington. He traveled by train from Portland to Grants Pass, and then on

Tourism group contends that salvage sale would drastically affect valley community.

to Illinois Valley.

On his travels to the Northwest and to what is now the Kalmiopsis Wilderness, he found the last identified conifer in North America, the Brewer Spruce. This unique spruce is only found in this region, and can still be found on Fiddler Mountain.

Only 4 1/2 miles north of Cave Junction is the turn-off for the T.J. Howell Botanical Drive on Eight Dollar Mountain Road. A helpful interpretive pamphlet is available through Brandt's website: <http://user.cavenet.com/rpbrandt>. Click on "botanical drive."

Cross the cattle guard, set your trip meter to 0 and get ready to see "some of the most exceptional plants and rock landscape of this region," Brandt attests.

The crossing at the

green bridge begins the journey and is a unique chance to see Josephine Creek spill into Illinois River.

Within a short distance, a large Darlingtonia patch growing on a slope

and fed from a nearby spring is visible by car or short walk. These insectivorous plants are of interest, as well as beautiful. Serpentine rock outcrops are in various places for the next 3 miles bringing you to a good pull-out spot for the whole family to enjoy the view.

"The great geological diversity really comes into scope at Mike's Gulch," Brandt said at the obvious change in scenery; even to the uneducated eye. The diversity of plant life and tree type result from the soil changing from serpentine to ancient ocean basin.

In this section there is a visible line that denotes the change that can be seen from the view point. Along this part of the drive there are many different trees to identify, including Douglas fir, Alder, Jeffery pine and Incense cedar.

At mile nine, the ravages of the Biscuit Fire become apparent. This is also one of the areas marked for immediate sale. The controversy for Brandt on this spot is the "visual appeal and how after the salvage this area could attract or detract tourists.

"Although the burned trees would seem to be an eye-sore, this is really nature at work," Brandt said, pointing to foot-tall trees already sprouting from the ashes.

As the road begins to round toward Fiddler Mt. and although mostly burned, there are standing live trees. Here Brandt points out "that a natural recovery is best for keeping the history story of the T.J. Howell Drive."

This steady, natural recovery lies in sharp con-

Sports Challenge By WALTER BRANCH

1. Which country's female caddies chose to wear helmets after 500 of them were hit in the head with golf balls?
2. What Reformation religious leader is credited with inventing nine-pin bowling?
3. Who made his first NHL all-star game appearance in 1948 and his last in 1980?
4. What two countries qualified for the 1994 World Cup soccer tournament without playing a qualifying game?

Sports Challenge Answers
1. Japan's; 2. Martin Luther; 3. Gordie Howe; 4. Germany and the U.S.
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\$8 Road wildfire extinguished

Firefighters with 12 fire rigs from three agencies worked to extinguish a wildfire 2 miles out Eight Dollar Mt. Road.

The blaze in a steep, difficult-to-reach area was

reported at 9:10 p.m. on Monday, July 12.

I.V. Fire District, Oregon Dept. of Forestry, and U.S. Forest Service responded. Smoke was visible from a distance.



MISSING, but not forgotten

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22nd birthday.

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