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## Top sportsmanship LL All-Star team wins state prize

By SHANE WELSH  
Staff Writer

For the first time in the history of Illinois Valley Little League Baseball, the I.V. Junior All-Stars competed in state championship competition in Bend and won the Sportsmanship Award.

To go to Bend, I.V. led Rogue River during a 5-game series to cinch state competition.

Trailing Rogue River by 1 point in the bottom of the seventh inning (game 4 of the 5-game series in Cave Junction), I.V. pulled out a 7-6 win.

The All-Star competition began with a double-header on Saturday, July 10 at Jubilee Park in CJ.

During game 1, I.V. held the lead over RR 11-10 after six innings, with pitcher William Crawl. Pitcher Doug Hoskins finished the seventh inning with I.V. winning 13-12.

Game 2 marked the second victory for I.V. Jack Anderson pitched all seven innings. Player #4, Chris Carlton, drew first blood in the second inning with a scoring run followed by 3 additional runs scored by his teammates. I.V. took home the win, 11-7 over RR.

On Monday, July 12, I.V. played its third game of the series. The team upset RR in the fourth with a triple-play aided by player #3, Antonio Escalante, who tagged RR's Kyle Owen out at first base, then threw to second base for an out by Carlton; following a fly ball pitched and caught by Crawl.

Despite valiant team efforts, I.V. suffered a disheartening 10-17 loss to RR who led 4-0 at the top of the second inning. Crawl finished the game, following pitcher Andrew Augustadt, after the first three innings.

However, I.V. once again demonstrated its All-Star talent in game 4.

Tension mounted with I.V. trailing RR 6-5 at the bottom of the seventh. Crowell tied the score 6-6 after stealing third, putting him in position for a score off Escalante's base hit.

With RR still reeling from the tie, Escalante scored the winning run off a base hit by player #6, Jesse Fullerton; bringing I.V. to a 7-6 victory.

Gary Gentry, District 8 representative, presented the All-Star team its first-place trophy. For its accomplishments, Rogue River was presented a second-place trophy.

Following the games, coach Keith Fisher went into the community to gather more than \$1,800 in donations to pay for the team's trip to its first state championship.

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FLOAT FLY AND 'EXTREME' - Rogue Valley Flyers held its annual Float Fly at Lake Selmac on Saturday, July 17 (top), while Cross Quest Expeditions held an 'I.V. Extreme' event at Jubilee Park in Cave Junction the same day. The Float Fly involved radio-controlled model boats and aircraft. 'Extreme' included free games, refreshments and live entertainment. (Additional photos on page 8).



Photo by  
Shane Welsh

## Missing man's family issues heartfelt plea at party noting his 22nd birthday

A celebration of his 22nd birthday was held for Cave Junction resident Domingo Company-Ramirez Tuesday, July 20.

There was a cake with candles; his fiancée; family and friends; and refreshments.

But the young man being honored was absent.

He's been missing since June 5 after going camping in the Kelly Lake area, on the Oregon-California border.

On Tuesday, his mother and father, of Selma, issued a plea during the party in Jubilee Park in Cave Junction.

With her husband, Javier Company, beside her, plus the missing man's fiancée, Breanne; and his

grandparents, Selma residents, Charlie and Dixie Valdez, the missing man's mom addressed those who know where her son is.

"I want to tell those people who have taken Domingo from us that they could have come to us with any problems they might have had with him," she said, "and we could have helped."

"Instead, you have caused an eternity of emotional heartbreak to our family and friends."

"For those who know where Domingo is, tell us where we can find him so we can bring him home."

"The 'Illinois Valley News' has offered to accept all anonymous, written information of where

Domingo is so he can be found. Information can be left at the front door of the newspaper office."

Showing emotion, Company-Ramirez said, "Domingo - your family and friends miss you dearly, and will never stop looking for you until you come home to us."

"Domingo - come back home!"

The gathering Tuesday included opportunities for attendees to record their thoughts about Domingo in a book, plus single sheets for writing letters and returning them to the family.

A \$10,000 reward is offered by Domingo's grandfather for information that will lead to the whereabouts of Domingo.

## Three of five Biscuit Salvage sales sold

Of the five timber sales offered Friday, July 16, as part of the Biscuit Recovery Project by Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, three were sold.

"I am pleased to be to be moving forward (with) this portion of our recovery activities," said Scott Conroy, forest supervisor for Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest. "The sale of this timber to local companies will provide jobs, wood products, and important funding for other restoration work."

Regional Forester Linda Goodman has granted an Emergency Situation Determination for these sales. This means that work can begin immediately after the sales are awarded.

Two of the sale areas, Fiddler and Berry, are in Late Successional (old growth) Reserves, while the Indi Sale is in a Matrix Area, as designated by the Northwest Forest Plan.

The apparent high bidder for the Indi Salvage Sale is East Fork Lumber of Myrtle Point, which bid \$304 per thousand board feet (mbf), or \$1.9 million, three times the advertised rate. The Indi Sale will

harvest 153 acres for 6.3 million board feet (mmbf).

CLR Timber Holdings Inc. of Brookings is high bidder for the Berry Salvage Sale, bidding the advertised \$42.61 per mbf for a half-million dollar sale.

Silver Creek Timber of

## USFS cites jobs, wood products, restoration results.

Merlin is the high bidder for the 697-acre, 14.5 mmbf Fiddler Salvage Sale. Silver Creek bid the advertised \$73.25 per mbf for a total sale of approximately \$1.1 million.

There were no bidders for the Flattop or Cedar Salvage sales.

The Biscuit Fire, located in Southwestern Oregon and Northern California, began on July 13, 2002 and grew to 499,965 acres. On approximately half the burned acreage, greater than 75 percent of the vegetation was destroyed.

One of Oregon's largest fires in recorded history, the Biscuit Fire burned most of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness.

(Related story on page 9)

## County unemployment up a bit to 7.1 percent

Employment in Josephine County rose by 360 jobs during June, said Oregon State Employment Dept. (OED).

During the past 12 months Josephine County's payroll job count rose by 470 jobs; a growth rate of 2 percent. Total employment for Josephine County in June was approximately 30,440 workers; up 621 jobs from June 2003.

As more people enter the work force during summer months, the result is typically a slight increase in the county's unemployment rate. County unemployment rose slightly, inching up from 6.7 percent in May to 7.1 percent in June.

Josephine County's unemployment rate has fallen by about 2 percent since June 2003, when it stood at 8.9 percent.

Seasonal upturn in a number of industries contributed to the gain in payroll jobs in June. Construction added 50 jobs in June with an increase of 130 jobs since June 2003.

Manufacturing also added 50 jobs in June. During the past year, manufacturing employment rose by 230 jobs. These two sectors account for three-quarters of the county's nonfarm payroll job growth since June '03.

Retail trade employment added 40 jobs in June this year and is up by the same amount for the year. Food and beverage stores shed 20 jobs during the past 12 months. Health-care and social assistance employment, while unchanged during the month, is another sector that contributed to the county's job growth since June 2003. This sector has increased employment by 130 jobs since June last year.

Government employment also gained 50 jobs in June, with all of that increase occurring in the local government sector. During the past year, government employment in Josephine County has fallen by 180 jobs, with a loss of 140 local education jobs contributing to most of the decline, said OED.

	Unemployment Rates		
	June 2004	May 2004	June 2003
Josephine County	7.1	6.7	8.9
Jackson County	6.4	5.9	8.0
Oregon ("raw")	6.8	6.5	8.6
Seasonally Adjusted	6.9	6.8	8.7
United States ("raw")	5.8	5.3	6.5
Seasonally Adjusted	5.6	5.6	6.3

God bless America