



SUNDAY OCTOBER 28th, 2001

[illegible]

## Thar's Gold In Them Thar' Hills

By Clyde E. Miller



*Oklahoma City Braves celebrate moments after their win over the LA*



*Oklahoma City Braves proudly display their trophy after their victory.*



*Steve Rosenberg, Assistant tournament director awards championship caps.*



*How low can you go for a limbo strike?*

When MSBL teams are playing at Apache Junction High School they have a magnificent view in right field of the Superstition Mountains. What players may not know is that somewhere in those mountains is a fortune in Gold. Legend has it that an old German prospector named Jacob Waltz would periodically make trips into the mountains and return to Phoenix with bonanza quality gold ore. The trips were doubly hazardous because of the terrain and the marauding Apache Indians. Jacob died, leaving clues to the location of his rich hoard, but to date, no one has ever found it. Though some were rumored to have come close and died for it.

The two hundred and forty-two square miles of rugged terrain found in the Superstition Wilderness makes it a difficult task to systematically search or prospect the region. Most professional geologists will insist there is little geological evidence to suggest a rich gold deposit exist in these volcanic mountains. Waltz, claimed his mine was located where no other miner or prospector would search for gold. A recent U.S. Geological Survey could possibly support this clue Waltz left behind. The application of the mercury vapor test over the Superstition Wilderness Area found the region to be highly mineralized. The report is indicative of deep-seated mineral deposits. Who knows for sure, maybe one of those highly enriched mineralized bodies reached the surface by way of an intrusion. This report could explain why a man would devote his entire life to searching for gold in this land of barren ash and basalt.

Since 1891, more than one hundred and thirty-seven people have claimed to have found the Dutchman's Lost Mine. The first claim was made on December 7, 1895. The story of the Dutchman's Lost Mine was well rooted in pioneer history long before the first tourist visited Arizona.

Fake maps, lies and imagination formulate the foundation of many tales told about the Superstition Mountain region. During the past three decades investors have lost millions of dollars to unscrupulous con men and promoters. The naive investor better not take the written word of authors or periodical chroniclers without knowing their credentials. Authors and periodical chroniclers often take a writer's liberty to tell a story. Oren Arnold once said it all, when he said, "Don't let the truth stand in the way of a good story."

No landmark in the history of the Southwest has generated so many interesting tales of lost gold and resulted in more deaths than Superstition Mountain. According to some, Weaver's Needle towers high over the surrounding terrain east of Superstition Mountain and serves as monument to those who have searched and died for the gold of Superstition Mountain.

That old German Miner left clues. Perhaps between double headers or on a slow day you might want to follow up.

The clues to Waltz's gold mine still ring clear through the towering peaks and deep canyons of the Superstition Wilderness Area. "No miner will find my mine." "To find my mine you must pass a cow barn." "From my mine you can see the military trail, but from the military trail you can not see my mine." "The rays of the setting sun shine into the entrance of my mine." "There is a trick in the trail to my mine." "My mine is located in a north-trending canyon." "There is a rock face on the trail to my mine." These and many other clues have fired the imaginations of men and women for more than a century.



|                                 |                                  |          |          |          |                                            |          |          |          |          |  |          |          |          |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>30+ Central Championship</b> | <b>1</b>                         | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>5</b>                                   | <b>6</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>9</b> |  | <b>R</b> | <b>H</b> | <b>E</b> |
| San Diego North County          | 1                                | 1        | 0        | 2        | 0                                          | 3        | 0        | 0        | 0        |  | 7        | 16       | 4        |
| California Giants               | 1                                | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0                                          | 2        | 7        | 0        | x        |  | 10       | 14       | 1        |
| <i><b>WP - Bob Diaz</b></i>     | <i><b>LP - David Averill</b></i> |          |          |          | <i><b>MVP - Tjoe Howard (3 run HR)</b></i> |          |          |          |          |  |          |          |          |



*A perfect moment in baseball. Blue skies, championship game...the pitch and the opportunity to be a hero.*



*Annie Sullivan, Tournament Administrative Assistant keeps smiling through a long day of Championships at Papago.*



**GIANTS WIN! GIANTS WIN!**



*MSBL World Series Tournament Director Tom Prendergast awards the Continental Championship Trophy to the Braves*



*Slam bang play. Robert Wasmund —LA Grays. Larry Cutter OKC Braves.*



*Hatless Joe Howard. Traditions rule baseball. Howard's ponytail is history, but warm-up pitches...hatless, remain.*