

fighters battle wind-whipped flames
De Luz area northeast of Fallbrook.

blaze which swept over 7,000 acres,
and Cleveland National Forest areas, w

Curious path of fire puzzle to residents

By LAURIE BECKLUND

FALLBROOK — The ranchers who live in the De Luz Canyon thought they knew all about fires.

But they don't know about this one.

"Why did it take my house and leave the shack around the hill?"

Lady is tired of "weighting"

and that's why she bought the exercise bike thru a recent Union Trib Want ad. Seller's not going to "waist" a penny of her new cash.

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asked Mrs. William Arterberry, whose 831-acre avocado ranch was virtually destroyed yesterday morning.

"Why did it destroy our shed and come within 10 feet of the butane tank, then back off?" asked Mrs. Galen Shaver, whose home was surrounded by fire at one point.

"Why does it keep burning around and around the top of Smoky Peak and leave that old oak tree?" said Ron Schade, a tenant at the "Flying E" Ranch.

The tree, a huge landmark on the very top of the peak, was still standing last night.

It's a curious fire, this one, the residents say. Curious, but not funny. It's the biggest most of them can remember having seen.

It's called the Temaja blaze. It's threatening to burn out the De Luz Canyon, about 12 miles northwest of

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