



*Time Out*



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**Two-In-A-Zillion?**

The numbers would tell you not to get too excited about this coming Friday's Homecoming Game when Apache Junction will host Scottsdale Chaparral.

Since 1997 when *The News* first started up, these two teams have met nine times and Chaparral holds a 423-32 scoring edge while piling up nine consecutive wins. The closest game, at 28-6, came in 1999. The most lopsided were the 2002 and 2003 contests when the Firebirds prevailed by identical 62-0 scores.

Since 1997, Chaparral has won three state titles, seven region titles, has gone 123-21 overall and has made the playoffs every year.

After a two-year break in 2005 and 2006 when the schools were in separate divisions and didn't face one another, the rivalry was renewed in 2007 with Chaparral winning 26-0.

But sometimes, maybe only one out of a zillion times, the numbers, well, they do lie. For instance, Chaparral and Apache Junction played four other times from 1993-96 before *The News* started up. Chaparral won 42-8 in '96, 48-8 in '95 and 26-7 in '93. But does anyone recall what happened when they played in 1994?

That was the year Chaparral went 0-10 under then Coach Gary Mauldin, who only lasted that one year. And when the mighty Firebirds hooked up with the Prospectors that season, Apache Junction came away a 32-14 winner.

The teams have never met when both, not just one, was 4-0, as is the case

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**AJHS 4-0 After 27-19 Win Over Queen Creek**

Prospectors entering "uncharted territory"

By Chuck Baker  
*The News*

When Apache Junction and Queen Creek meet on the football field you can throw out records and rankings and even little tidbits such as Apache Junction leading the entire nation in rushing after starting the season with three rather easy and lopsided wins.

Queen Creek, ranked No. 2 in 4A-II after beginning the season 2-0, out-rushed Apache Junction last Friday, out-gained the Prospectors in total yards and forced five AJHS turnovers, yet the Prospectors made enough big plays on offense and special teams and came up with three goal-line stances to hold on for a 27-19 victory to improve to 4-0 on the season.

The Prospector varsity football team may be entering uncharted territory on several fronts. For starters, many AJHS coaches, administrators and former players are speculating that



*Prospector quarterback Nate Scola out-runs a couple of Queen Creek defenders to the corner for a 29-yard gain in last Friday's 27-19 AJHS win.*

this could very well be the first time any AJHS team started a season 4-0.

From 1979 to 1984, the Prospectors had four teams that finished a season 8-2 and one team that went 7-3. The 1965 squad was 6-3 but AJHS isn't exactly known for keeping track of its past athletic history, successes and accomplishments. No one yet can recall if any of these AJHS teams was able to start their season 4-0 and

most "old-timers" say it is unlikely because Apache Junction typically started their season against some tough non-region opponents.

On another front, heading into last Friday's game with Queen Creek, the Prospectors were leading the entire nation in rushing offense according to the popular Web site, [www.maxpreps.com](http://www.maxpreps.com).

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**Lady Prospectors Defeat Cortez In Volleyball**

By Chuck Baker  
*The News*

The Lady Prospectors equalled their win total from a year ago with five thanks to last Tuesday's 23-25, 25-17, 25-23, 25-21 victory over Cortez. Apache Junction also dropped their first Desert Sky Region match of the season to Tempe McClintock last Thursday in a close one, 25-20, 25-23, 25-21 to finish the week with a 5-4 overall record.

A year, the Apache Junction girls won only five matches against 19 defeats with only one region victory but the young squad enjoyed a hot Summer winning two separate tournaments and it seems to be carrying over into this season.

Outside hitter Cat Ovalle



*Lady Prospector varsity volleyball player Sierra Aulik goes to her knee to come up with one of her 24 digs in last Tuesday's win over Cortez.*

had the hot hand in the win over Cortez, banging down 11 kills to go with her 14 digs. Sierra Aulik contributed with four kills and 24 digs, Setter Katie Karbo handed out 16 assists,

Kylie Bocskay added six kills and eight blocks, Jessica Iniguez came up with five kills and seven blocks, defensive special-

see **V-Ball**, page C-3

**Black & Gold Youth Football League**

The Black and Gold Youth Football League from Apache Junction is in full swing and features seven local teams playing in four separate divisions and as members of the new Pinal County Youth Football Federation.

The teams from Apache Junction include the Mighty Mite Predators with head coach Jake McCune and the Mighty Mite Miners with head coach Kaleb Rookstool, the Junior Pee Wee (9-10-year-olds) Predators with head coach Brandon Tomerlin and Junior Pee Wee Miners with head coach Joe Garcia, the Pee Wee (11-12-year-olds) Predators with head coach Jessie Elizondo and Pee Wee Mud Dogs with head coach Lance Uehling, and the Junior (7th and 8th grade) Mud Dogs with head coach Larry Williams.

Games are played on Saturdays at various locations including Davis Field at Apache Junction High



*Members of the 7th and 8th grade A.J. Mud Dogs tackle football team from the Black and Gold Youth Football League celebrating a recent 44-0 victory over a team from Cottonwood. (submitted photo)*

School.

In recent action in the Juniors division, the Mud Dogs blanked Cottonwood 44-0 and edged the Cyclones Navy 29-26. The Mud Dogs next home game is September 27 versus Flagstaff at AJHS Davis Field with kickoff scheduled for 7 p.m.

In recent action in the Pee Wee division, the Mud Dogs are off to a 4-0 start while the Predators are 2-2 on the season. The Mud

Dogs play their next game on September 27th against the Rams in Maricopa at 12 while the Predators play at AJHS Davis Field on September 27th against the Cyclones Maroon at 3 p.m.

In the Junior Pee Wee division, The Predators are off to a 3-1 start to the season and will play their next game on September 27 at AJHS Davis Field versus

see **BGYFL**, page C-2

**What:** Youth tackle football league from Apache Junction featuring seven teams in four separate divisions, all playing as members of the Pinal County Youth Football League.

**Web sites:** [www.pcyff.com](http://www.pcyff.com) and [www.blackandgoldyouth-football.com](http://www.blackandgoldyouth-football.com) for listing of teams, schedules, scores and standings



*A Junior Mud Dogs player (#55) tackles a Cottonwood player during a recent game. (submitted)*

**Up Next . . .**



**Apache Jct. vs. Chaparral**  
**"Homecoming 2008"**  
Friday, September 26th  
(7 p.m.) @ Davis Field

**Last Meeting:** Apache Junction played their best game against then No. 2-ranked Chaparral but still fell to the Firebirds by the score of 26-0. Chaparral is 4-0 this season and ranked No. 2 once again. Desert Sky region opener for both teams.  
**Next Week:** The Prospectors travel to Glendale to take on the Independence Patriots.

**Boot Camp Girls Graduate - Sort Of**

By Chuck Baker  
*The News*

Remember the story a few weeks back about the A.J. Boot Camp Girls? They were the four Apache Junction women - Mimi Judah, age 53, Beth Lewis and Jacquie Smith, both 48, and Kim McCune, age 34 - who had developed a friendship while attending Lewis' Boot Class physical fitness class at the Apache Junction Multi-Generational Center.

When I met the women, they were undergoing some grueling and intense training in preparation for their very first sprint triathlon to be held in Vail, Colo.

None of them had any previous kayaking or trekking experience, which makes up two venues of the sprint triathlon, and two of the ladies had to purchase mountain bikes in order to train in the third venue.

Well, the Boot Camp Girls have graduated, sort of. They competed on September 6 in the Adventure Xtreme Sprint Triathlon in Vail with three goals in mind - to complete the race, not come in dead last, and still remain friends when it was all said and done. Well, two out three ain't bad, right?

Although the four women finished last in the Open division that included a 12-mile bike, 6-mile trek while using a navigation system, and a 6-mile river paddle using kayaks, they competed against four other all-male teams.

But when compared with all 30 of the competing teams that included two-person all-male teams, two-person co-ed teams, four-person all-male teams, four-person co-ed teams and the lone all-female team, the Boot Camp Girls actually finished with the 26th best overall time of

five hours and thirty-one minutes.

In fact, when you compare some of their venue times with all of the other thirty competing teams, the Boot Camp Girls were quite competitive in the kayaking portion (17th fastest overall) and held their own in the trekking portion (19th fastest overall).

"We had a blast, Judah says about the experience. "And we would do it all over again, with some changes."

I guess we can take that to mean they still remain friends after returning from Colorado which might also mean a bigger challenge is forthcoming.

In the previous story, I had asked the Boot Camp Girls what might be next after the sprint triathlon and Lewis jokingly answered, "Maybe we'll climb Mount Everest." At least I think she was kidding.

Also in the original story, Lewis said that she hopes that what the four ladies were attempting to accomplish would be an inspiration for other women. "Maybe when they find out what we are doing, they will feel challenged to want to try something new," she said.

"It's more than just a race," Mimi said a few weeks back. "It's about building relationships with one another and learning from our experiences."

So while the Boot Camp Girls may have graduated through their first sprint triathlon and become inspirational role models for other Apache Junction women in the process, they may also be back at Lewis' fitness class this week at the MGC getting ready for a new adventure.

Because a real Boot Camp Girl's job is never finished, right?



*The A.J. Boot Camp Girls, Mimi Judah, Beth Lewis, Jacquie Smith and Kim McCune, pictured at the Adventure Xtreme Sprint Triathlon held September 6 in Vail, Colo. (submitted photo)*