



**And The
Band
Played
On ...**
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Time Out **Wrestler Dudley 2nd At Flagstaff Tourney**



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McMinn and Maughmer place 3rd; Converse places 4th

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

Apache Junction wrestler Brandon Dudley led the Prospector wrestling team at the Wade Hendershot Tournament held December 5 and 6 at Flagstaff High School with his second place finish in the 215-pound weight class.

Dudley was one of four AJHS wrestlers who placed at the tournament. The others were Trent McMinn, who was third at 119 pounds, Cy Maughmer, who was third at 285 pounds, and Chase Converse, who placed fourth at 125 pounds.

After opening the 2008-09

season with a 66-16 victory over Higley on December 3, the Prospectors competed against three schools in dual meets this past Wednesday and fell to Glendale Sandra Day O'Connor by 12 points, to Prescott by 10 points and to Cave Creek Cactus Shadows by nine points. Apache Junction gave up 24 points in each match because of four weight class forfeits and Sandra Day O'Connor finished third as team at the 4A-I State Championships a year ago while Prescott was right behind in fourth place.

The Apache Junction varsity wrestling won't compete again until after the



(at left) Prospector wrestler Brandon Dudley was one of four AJHS wrestlers who placed at the December 5 and 6 Wade Hendershot Tournament held at Flagstaff High School. Dudley, wrestling in the 215-pound weight class, placed second overall. Trent McMinn (119 lbs.) and Cy Maughmer (285 lbs.) placed third while Chase Converse (125 lbs.) placed fourth.

Gooaall! (Or Not)

The Apache Junction boys varsity soccer team from AJHS picked up their second career victory this past week and they did so without scoring a goal. No, this is not a trick question.

Apache Junction played Marana this past Wednesday just outside of Tucson and when the match was over, Marana had registered a 1-0 victory, or so they thought.

Two days later, the athletic director from Marana sent an e-mail to the AJHS athletic director letting him know that Marana's coach had used an academically ineligible player and that Marana would be forfeiting the game to AJHS and would report the official score to the Arizona Interscholastic Association of the match as 1-0 in favor of Apache Junction.

The A.D. from Marana apologized and mentioned in his e-mail that the first-year coach at the school is "having difficulty understanding the academic eligibility procedures."

I'm sure that's a tough one to comprehend. But anyway, congratulations to the Prospectors for their second win in school history. Their team defense has been outstanding thus far. Now, if they could only muster up a little bit of "O."

Lady Prospectors Hold Off Williams Field, 33-30

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

After a tough 64-40 home opening loss to Glendale Apollo this past Tuesday where they were outscored 25-4 in the fourth quarter, the Lady Prospector varsity basketball team bounced back the following night with a 40-32 win over a scrappy Williams Field team before heading off to Payson for a Friday-Saturday tournament against more tough competition.

The Lady Prospectors were scheduled to play Apollo again on Friday morning in the Payson Tournament, then take on Parker and Scottsdale Desert Mountain in the afternoon. The results from Friday's games in Payson were not available when the News went to press.

Apollo was a 4A-I State Tournament qualifier a

year ago while Parker was the No. 2 seed for the 3A State Tournament and Desert Mountain was a 5A-I division State Tournament qualifier.

Apache Junction hung close with Apollo in last Tuesday's home opener and trailed just 39-36 to begin the fourth quarter. Sierra Aulik led the AJHS girls with 20 points, nine rebounds and three assists.

Katie Karbo contributed 8 points and six rebounds, Jessica Iniguez scored 6 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, Emily McGann netted 4 points, Katasha Braaten scored a bucket and had three rebounds, Sara Cranmer pitched in with four boards and Dianna Woodruff had a pair of rebounds and a pair of assists.

Apollo enjoyed a tremendous advantage at the free throw line where they sank 23 of 34 foul shots com-

pared to just four foul shots made by AJHS in only five attempts, all by Aulik.

In Wednesday's victory over the Black Hawks of Williams Field, Aulik tossed in 18 points and had four rebounds, Karbo netted 8 points to go with her seven rebounds, Braaten scored 6, McGann added 4 points, four rebounds and

three assists, Iniguez sank a pair of free throws and had eight rebounds, and Cranmer added a bucket, three boards and two blocks.

Again, AJHS was at a disadvantage at the charity stripe where Williams Field attempted 26 foul shots, making 16, while Apache Junction hit four of nine from the foul line.

with a home meet this past Thursday, December 11 with teams from Higley, Queen Creek, Notre Dame and J.O. Combs all com-

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AJHS varsity player Jessica Iniguez (#54) puts up a short jump shot in last Tuesday's game against Apollo.

The AJHS girls are back home today, Monday, December 15, hosting Cave Creek Cactus Shadows in their Desert Sky Region opener. It is Apache Junction's only game scheduled this week and the freshmen team will tip off at 4 p.m. followed by the junior varsity at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity at 7 p.m.

J.V. Pulls Out Two Thrillers

The Lady Prospector junior varsity team won two thrilling home games this past week, edging Apollo 25-23 on Tuesday, and edging Williams Field 33-30 on Wednesday.

In Tuesday's game with Apollo, Jade Yost hit teammate Allisa Aranda with a long pass and Aranda laid in her only bucket of the game to tie the score 23-23 with just :28 left in regula-

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Snowman Classic



(above) In the "championship division" of the December 8-11 Snowman Classic Mixed Singles Shuffleboard Tournament, first place went to Fran Kardish (left) of Desert Holiday Resort, second place went to Betty Bradfield (second from left) of Venture Out Resort, third place went to Verne Howard (second from right) of Montessa Resort and Gloria Toutloff (right) of Gold Canyon Golf Resort was fourth



(above) In the December 8-11 Snowman Classic Mixed Singles Shuffleboard Tournament's "consolation division" played at Dolce Vita, Walter Edge (left) of Rock Shadows Resort took first, Stan Schumacher (2nd from left) of Greenfield Resort was second, Pearl Holmes (3rd from left) from Golden Vista Resort was third and Bob Inglebright (right) from Dolce Vita was fourth (photos courtesy of Pearl Holmes).

Prospectors Open Region Basketball

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

The Prospector varsity basketball team took on two tough opponents this past week on the road, including Tempe McClintock on Friday in their Desert Sky Region opener. Apache Junction lost to McClintock by the score of 64-28 and also dropped a 70-35 decision on Tuesday to Glendale Apollo.

In Friday's game at Tempe, Brandon Robbins scored 11 points, grabbed eight rebounds and came up with three steals to lead the Prospectors. Colt Grandstaff added 9 points, four rebounds and two assists, Ian Firnbach netted 4 points to go with six rebounds, Mike Cano scored a bucket and handed out three assists and Ravi Patel also scored a bucket.

Individual player results from Tuesday's game at Apollo were not available when *The News* went to press.

Apache Junction, now 0-8 on the season, has just one game this week and another on the road at Cave Creek Cactus Shadows tonight, Monday, December 15. The freshmen team will tip off at 4:00 p.m. followed by the junior varsity team at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity team at 7:00 p.m.

For the remainder of 2008, Apache Junction is scheduled to host Prescott in a non-region contest on Monday, December 22 and will compete in the Maricopa Tournament on Monday, December 29 and Tuesday, December 30.

Apache Junction is a member of the 4A-I divi-



Prospector varsity basketball player Mike Cano puts up a jump shot in Friday's game at Tempe McClintock.

sion and the Desert Sky Region which also includes teams from McClintock, Cactus Shadows, Scottsdale Chaparral, Paradise Valley, Scottsdale Saguaro and Phoenix Shadow Mountain.

J.V. @ McClintock

The Prospector junior varsity team dropped a 66-38 decision at McClintock on Friday.

Corbin Ott scored 14 points and had five assists, three rebounds and three steals to lead Apache Junction. Jake Pacyne

added 6 points and five rebounds, Armando Zuniga netted 4 points and grabbed four rebounds, Dalawn Caldwell and Jake Abbatacola both had 4 points and two rebounds, Christian Wilder tossed in 2 points and pulled down five rebounds, Andrew Sturgeon-Smith scored a bucket and Mike Williams contributed three rebounds.

Freshmen Results

The Prospector freshmen team trailed McClintock 9-0 to begin their game on Friday and fought back to within 26-21 at halftime, were down by only sev-

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(at left) Prospector varsity player Ian Firnbach lays in a bucket in Friday's game at Tempe McClintock