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*Time Out*

# Maughmer Runner-Up At State

Converse places 3rd at 4A-I State Wrestling; Huynh, Hamlin and Dudley all finish 6th



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By Chuck Baker  
*The News*

In just his first season of wrestling competition, Apache Junction High School junior Cy Maughmer nearly went all the way. In fact, in most years, Maughmer might have captured a State wrestling title. Only this year, his nemesis, Doug Zisman of Phoenix Shadow Mountain got in the way.

Maughmer won his first three matches in the 275-pound weight class at the 4A-I State Wrestling Championships held February 20 and 21 to advance to the championship finals but lost to Zisman via a second period pin to settle for a runner-up finish.

Zisman wrapped up a perfect 22-0 season at 275 pounds while Maughmer finished his first year of competition with a terrific 37-6 overall record and a second place State medal to boot. Of Maughmer's

six losses this season, his last two came against Zisman, one at the State finals and one at the Desert Sky Region finals held February 14 at AJHS.

Maughmer was the only AJHS wrestler to advance to the finals at the State Championships. Three others, junior Chase Converse (119 pounds), senior Taylor Hamlin (189 pounds) and junior Brandon Dudley (215 pounds), who had won their first two matches to advance to the semifinals in their respective weight classes, all lost in the semis and dropped into the consolation bracket.

Converse had the best showing. After losing in his semifinals via an 11-0 decision to the number one seed and eventual State Champ in Trace Gutknecht of Vail Cienega, Converse defeated Jack Navarro of Nogales 3-2 and downed Jesse Corral of Tucson Pueblo and officially

placed third overall in the 119-pound weight class.

Earlier in the tournament, Converse, who finished his season with a 31-12 overall record, had beaten Corral via a 12-6 decision in the quarterfinals and stepped it up a notch in the 3rd-4th place finals.

Hamlin lost his semifinal match by a 7-2 decision to the No. 2 seed, James Lain of Prescott to drop into the 189-pound consolation bracket, then lost a 7-2 decision against Martin Aguayo of Pueblo and ended with a loss via a first period pin to Craig Lazenby of Paradise Valley to officially pick up the sixth place medal.

Lazenby had been the No. 1 seed in the 189-pound weight class but was upset in the semifinals and settled for a 5th place finish. Lain ended up as the 189-pound runner-up and Hamlin finished his senior season with a 31-9 overall record.



Apache Junction's Cy Maughmer (left) gets the traditional hand-raising gesture by a referee after winning one of his matches at the 4A-I State Wrestling Championships held February 20 and 21 at Jobing.com Arena. Maughmer posted the school's best finish at State as the runner-up in the 275-pound weight class.

Dudley lost via a second period pin to the number one seed Apollo Ford of Glendale Cactus in the semifinals, then dropped a

3-1 decision to Jose Munoz of Phoenix Thunderbird in the consolation semifinals

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**Sports Chatter**

I know there was a lot going on this past weekend with Lost Dutchman Days but last Saturday was also the NJROTC Orienteering State Finals were held out at First Water Trailhead. Apache Junction High School, we are told, had two teams entered into the competition and we hope to have some results for you in next week's edition.

The baseball season didn't exactly get off to the start that first-year AJHS head coach Preston English had hoped for. The team was suppose to play its opener at Desert Edge HS in Good-year last Wednesday but because of a water main break that flooded the outfield, the game was moved to Verrado HS in Buckeye. Then the AJHS bus driver over-shot his freeway exit by some eighteen miles and by the time a correction was made, the Prospectors arrived for their game with Desert Edge with just enough time for a quick throw-around.

In the first inning of the opener, Desert Edge scored a dozen runs and went on to a 14-2 victory. Things should get a little better for the Prospectors and Coach English this week. Both of their games, this Tuesday versus Moon Valley and this Thursday versus Queen Creek, are at home.

Lady Prospector softball player Marissa Munoz is on pace to shatter the AJHS homerun record and I hope I don't jinx her. Marissa went yard in last week's scrimmage against Globe and then a day later, went yard again in the season opener versus Desert Edge. Counting two upcoming tournaments, the Lady Prospectors will have some twenty-five games remaining to be played, which according to my math, would give the AJHS slugger 27 dingers, by far, a school record.

A reminder that additional sports photos will be available all Spring through a link on our [www.ajnews.com](http://www.ajnews.com) Web site.

## Going, Going, Gone!



(above) Lady Prospector Marissa Munoz makes a good swing at a pitch (left) in last Tuesday's scrimmage against Globe, then watches the flight of the ball as it sails deep to left field (middle) and, after the ball cleared the fence for a two-run homerun, is greeted by teammates at home plate (right).

## Lady Prospector Softball Opens With A Win

By Chuck Baker  
*The News*

The Lady Prospector varsity softball team opened their season last Wednesday with an 8-0 victory over Desert Edge as pitcher Shelby Olson tossed a four-hitter, fanned six and didn't allow a single base on balls. Olson also had a run-scoring single at the plate.

Lindsey Skinner, who led the team with a .406 batting average last season, picked right up where she left off, going 3-for-4 while driving in a pair of runs. Leadoff batter Chelsey Streibich went 2-for-3 with two RBI and two runs scored, Marissa Munoz went 1-for-3 with a solo homerun and two



Varsity player Sierra Aulik braces for impact before getting hit by this pitch in last week's scrimmage with Globe

runs scored, Katie Stout and Sara Cranmer each had one hit in three trips to the plate and drove in a run, and Siera

ra Aulik, Ashley Nordstrom and Jade Yost all had a hit. Also last week, Apache Junction and Globe played

a seven inning scrimmage with AJHS unofficially coming out on top by a 7-2 score.

Munoz had the big stick for Apache Junction with her two-run homerun deep to left field. Olivia Ochoa went 2-for-2 at the plate and drove in two runs, Rande Drennan was 1-for-1, scored a run and also tossed two inning of shutout ball from the mound, Olson went 1-for-2 with a RBI and threw two shutout innings, Nordstrom was 1-for-3 with a double and two runs scored, Streibich went 1-for-2 with a RBI, Skinner was 1-for-3 and drove in a run, Stout had one hit and scored a run in two at-bats, Aulik singled in two official

at-bats and April Haygood knocked in a run with a sacrifice fly.

Apache Junction has a busy week ahead with a Tuesday, March 3 game at Moon Valley (3:45 p.m.), a Thursday, March 5 game at Queen Creek (3:45 p.m.) and will also be competing in the Tempe McClintock/Marcos de Niza Tournament this Saturday and next Monday and Tuesday.

In the Tempe tournament with all games scheduled to be played at Marcos de Niza, 6000 S. Lakeshore Drive, AJHS takes on Mesa Westwood on Saturday, March 7 at 10:00 a.m., plays Marcos de Niza on

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## AJHS Tennis Springs Into Action



Apache Junction boys and girls tennis teams hosted Page this past Saturday to open their 2009 season. At the far left is Matt Meadows chasing down a forehand; In the middle, Lady Prospector Nicoletta Carbone hits a backhand with doubles partner Kylie Bocskay looking on; Above, Isaac Sortais stretches to hit a forehand. Both teams will also be at home this week (see schedules on B-3).