

Time Out



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Fair Or Foul?

Last Monday's baseball game between Apache Junction and top-ranked Cave Creek Cactus Shadows began at 4 p.m. at AJHS and ended some 72 hours later and 54 miles away with the Falcons pulling out an 11-8 win despite being clearly out-played by the Prospectors.

Apache Junction came into the game just 2-10 on the season but riding a two-game win streak while Cactus Shadows, at 11-3, was ranked No. 1 in 4A-I by the *Arizona Republic* and listed No. 3 overall in power points. The Falcons were also coming off of a two-game sweep over defending 4A-I State Champs, Scottsdale Chaparral.

But it was Apache Junction jumping out to a 3-2 lead after one inning, a 6-3 lead after four innings, and after Cactus Shadows scored three unearned runs in the top half of the fifth inning to tie the game at 6-6, the Prospectors came right back in the bottom of the inning to score one and re-take a 7-6 lead.

Cactus Shadows then tied the game, 7-7, with a run in the top of the seventh, and the two teams were still tied after eight innings.

Although the sun had already disappeared in the western skies and darkness was setting in, they began the ninth inning at 6:45 p.m.

The first Cactus Shadows batter hit a towering fly ball to left center field that was misplayed by the AJHS left fielder and dropped in for a double. Perhaps the left fielder had trouble picking up the ball against all those

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Fernando 4th In Chandler Rotary 300 Meter Hurdles

By Chuck Baker
The News

Apache Junction senior Rusty Fernando ran to a 4th place finish in the 300 meter intermediate hurdles at the Chandler Rotary Invitational Meet held March 27 at Chandler High School but overall it was a disappointing performance for the AJHS boys, who finished tied for 33rd out of 47 schools, scoring just the five team points with Fernando's finish.

The Prospectors are the defending 4A-I State Champions and had ten athletes competing at the invitation-only Chandler Rotary. Their next highest finish came from junior Trevor Berner in discus, who placed 10th overall out of 34 competitors with a throw of 136-03.

Junior Stephen Hughes was 12th overall in dis-

Lady Prospectors Split One-Run Region Games

Beat Cactus Shadows, 5-4, but fall at home, 1-0

By Chuck Baker
The News

So much for home field advantage. The Lady Prospector varsity softball team opened Desert Sky Region play last week, pulling out a come-from-behind 5-4 victory at Cave Creek Cactus Shadows on Monday but then dropped a 1-0 decision to the same team at home on Thursday. The split gives the AJHS girls an 11-10 overall record, not bad for a team that has played nineteen of their twenty-one games thus far on the road, although home advantage didn't help them last week.

On Monday at Cactus Shadows, Apache Junction was trailing the Lady Falcons 4-3 batting in the top half of the fifth inning when Marissa Munoz led off with a single. Ashley Nordstrom followed that up with a single of her own, Chelsey Streibich then added a third straight single but Munoz was thrown out at home plate trying to score.

Following a strikeout for



Shelby Olson dives safely back to first base during a pickoff attempt in last Thursday's game against Cactus Shadows. Olson had two of the team's four hits but it wasn't enough as Apache Junction fell 1-0.

the second out in the inning, Lindsey Skinner singled to score Nordstrom with the tying run, and Autumn Rhodes followed with a single to score Streibich with the go-ahead run and what eventually proved to be the winning run.

Also in that fifth inning, Sierra Aulik came up with the defensive play of the game, snaring a sinking Texas leaguer behind her second base position and then threw

to second base to complete a double play.

With two outs in the last half of the fifth inning, right fielder Munoz avoided a potential collision with center fielder Nordstrom and ran down a fly ball for the third out in the inning.

Streibich finished with two hits, including a double and two runs scored, Nordstrom was 2-for-3, Skinner went

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AJHS Ties Cactus Shadows At Home, Then Loses Same Game On The Road

By Chuck Baker
The News

Winners of two straight after starting the season 0-10, the Prospector varsity baseball team had top ranked Cave Creek Cactus Shadows on the ropes last Monday at home but lost a three-run lead in the fifth inning, a one-run lead in the seventh inning, and then, after playing to a 7-7 tie through eight innings, lost home field advantage and eventually the game three days later.

After beginning the ninth inning on Monday at 6:45 p.m., the umpires decided to call the game two batters into the inning on account of darkness after a Cactus Shadows hitter lined a sharp line drive right at Prospector first baseman Tyler Tyson,

who was fortunate to be able to get his glove up in time to deflect the ball. The Falcons first batter of the inning had lofted a high fly ball to left center field that dropped in for a double.

It was decided later that the game would be completed Thursday, this time at Cactus Shadows and would resume in the top half of the ninth inning with Falcon runners on third and second base, which is exactly where they left off on Monday at AJHS.

Cactus Shadows, who was clearly out-played by Apache Junction on Monday, got the best of the Prospectors at home on Thursday, scoring four runs in the top of the ninth inning and pulled out an 11-8 victory.

The two teams then played



Mike Caruana makes contact with this pitch from last Monday's game with Cactus Shadows while his Prospector teammates intently look on from the dugout.

their regularly scheduled game for last Thursday at Cactus Shadows and the Falcons, not taking any chances this time, threw their ace of the staff, Jackson Goulder, who tossed a three-hitter while running his season record to 6-0 in an 11-3 win by the Falcons. With the win, Cactus Shadows improved to 13-3 on the season while the Prospectors fell to 2-12 overall.

In last Monday's game, Cactus Shadows, ranked number one in 4A-I by the *Arizona Republic* and No. 3 overall in power points, jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the top of the first when their cleanup hitter Chris Sabanosh belted a two out, two-run homerun to left field.

Second AJHS Coach Arrested For Sexual Misconduct, Luring

By Chuck Baker
The News

According to an Apache Junction Police Department press release sent last Friday, Raeanna Jewell, 25, a coach at Apache Junction High School and a resident of Gilbert, was arrested on March 29 and charged with two (2) counts of Sexual Misconduct with a Minor and Luring a Minor for Sexual Exploitation. According to the same release, Jewell was transported to the Pinal County Detention Facility in Florence where a judge set her bond at \$750,000. The report also states that a trial date is yet to be set.

Jewell is the second AJHS coach this year to be arrested on Sexual Misconduct charges. On February 3, Jason Beck, 23, a former AJHS girls junior varsity basketball head coach who resigned on January 13, was arrested on identical charges as Jewell and also trans-



Raeanna Jewell – photo taken when she played college basketball.

ported to the Pinal County Detention Facility.

At the time of Beck's resignation back in January of this year, Jewell was coaching the AJHS girls freshmen basketball team and finished out the season coaching both the freshmen and junior varsity teams.

Jewell was also coaching the AJHS girls junior varsity softball team this Spring but according to an e-mail sent on March 26 by another AJHS softball coach, "Rae had to get a full time job and is no longer able to do it (coach)."

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first inning with three runs to grab the lead.

Nathan Higginbottom led off with a base on balls, Ryan Sparks singled and Mike Davalos drove in Higginbottom with a single to left field. Sparks then scored from third base on a passed ball, and Davalos scored when Tyler Tyson reached base on a fielding error.

The Prospectors then extended their lead to 6-3 with three more runs in the bottom of the second inning. Johnathan Hanson was hit by a pitch to get on base, Higginbottom drew his second base on balls, Sparks singled in Hanson, Davalos then singled in Higginbottom and Tyson singled to right field to score Sparks.

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Prospector shortstop Ryan Sparks can't quite come up with this base hit up the middle in last Monday's 7-7 tie with Cactus Shadows despite a great effort.



Rusty Fernando, shown here running the 110 high hurdles at an earlier meet at Williams Field HS, finished 4th overall in the 300 meter intermediate hurdles at the Chandler Rotary Invitational Meet held March 27.

cus with a toss of 133-02, Fernando finished 14th in discus with his throw of 128-09 and then placed 15th overall out of 48 competitors in the 110 meter high hurdles with a time of 15:40, junior Cy Maughmer was 12th overall in shot put with a throw

of 44-08.50, junior Ryan Golden was 28th overall in the 400 meters with a time of 53:07, junior Zane Morgan was 31st overall in the 800 meters with a time of 2:05.07, sophomore David Fernando failed to clear the

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