



**AJHS Football
Players Excel At
Under Armour
Combine, see B-6**

Cy Maughmer at the April 5th combine.
Photo by David De Pas for <http://sports.espn.go.com/ncaa/recruiting/football/news>

Time Out



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Mixed Signals

• You're going to have to help me out on this one. Four AJHS girls varsity tennis players missed last Thursday's home match against region foe Shadow Mountain to go and play in a volleyball tournament. Hmm. I thought high school volleyball was held in the Fall. Maybe it's because the AJHS girls lost 9-0 to Shadow Mountain earlier this season and they figured the volleyball tournament would be more fun. Maybe this was a really big and important volleyball tournament held during tennis, softball and track and field season.

I know the tennis coaches weren't thrilled with playing a region opponent short-handed. I also know the AJHS girls need a few more wins the rest of the way in order to qualify for the state tournament as a team. Kind of tough to do when you're players have their "sets" mixed up.

• Michigan State's basketball team was supposed to be known for its terrific man-to-man defense and their ability to get offensive rebounds. Yet they gave up a record 55 points to North Carolina in the first half of the NCAA title game.

In two "home" games versus the Tar Heels this season, MSU lost both by a combined 52 points. You may notice I'm not using one of my MSU photos above this week. Yes, I'm too embarrassed.

Morgan, Fernando Tops At Greenway

Zane Morgan wins 800 meters in 2:03.08; Rusty Fernando takes 300 meter hurdles in 36:69

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

Zane Morgan and Rusty Fernando came up with first place finishes at the Greenway Invitational Track and Field Meet held on April 4 with Morgan winning the 800 meter race in a time of 2:03.08 and Fernando running first in the 300 meter intermediate hurdles with a time of 39:69.

Morgan, who competed a year ago in the 800 meter finals at the 4A-I State Championships where he ran seventh overall with a time of 2:00.93, and Fernando, a member of last year's State Champion 4x100 meter relay squad from AJHS, accounted for 20 of Apache Junction's 42 team points at Greenway, giving the Prospectors a seventh place team finish out of 18 schools.

Phoenix Shadow Mountain scored 75 team points to finish first, Phoenix Deer Valley was second with 71, followed by Pinnacle with



(at left) Zane Morgan competes in a relay race held earlier this season;

(at right) Rusty Fernando runs the 300 meter hurdles from last year.



65 points, Valley Christian with 50.50, Phoenix Thunderbird with 48, Phoenix St. Mary's with 44 and then Apache Junction.

Also scoring points for the AJHS boys were Trevor Berner (six points) with his third place finish in discus (143-01), the 4x800 meter relay team of Andrew Frost, Colt Grandstaff, Morgan and Armando Zuniga (six points) with their third place finish (5:56.62), Fernando (five points) with his 4th place finish in the 110 meter high hurdles (15:89), the 4x100 meter relay team of Bo Bankhead, Fernando, Harrison Pomeroy and Brian Steward (three points) with their sixth place finish (44:81), Fernando (one point) with his seventh place finish in shot put (42-03.50), the 4x400 meter relay team of Ryan Golden, Grandstaff, Morgan and George Aguayo (one point) with their eighth

place finish (3:44.38), and Grandstaff (one-half point) by tying for eighth place in high jump (5-08).

The AJHS scored ten team points at the Greenway Meet, all coming from throw Keisha McClincy, who placed third overall in discus with a throw of 98-00.50 and fifth overall in shot put with a throw of 31-10.

Other results for the AJHS boys at the Greenway Invitational included Golden

running 11th overall in the 400 meters (53:60), David Fernando placing 11th in high jump (5-06), Zuniga running 16th in the 3200 meters (11:39.70), Parker Rathjen placing 15th in triple jump (37-01), Frost running 18th in the 1600 meters (4:57.75), Ole Gabrielson placing 18th in pole vault (9-06), Steward running 18th in the 200 meters (24:01) and 20th in the 100

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Lady Prospectors Sweep Paradise Valley In Tennis

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

The Lady Prospector varsity tennis team made it a season sweep over Paradise Valley on April 2 with an impressive 7-2 victory, the team's fourth win of the season and their victory over a Desert Sky Region opponent.

In singles play, Jessica Iniguez fell at number one singles, 6-0, 7-5, Katie Karbo lost a hard fought 6-3, 1-6, 7-5 decision at number two singles, Anna Ramos won her number three singles, 6-0, 6-1, Catalina Ovalle picked up a 7-6, 6-2 win at number four singles, Julissa Villaverde won at number five singles by the same 7-6, 6-2 scores, and Brittney Cowan earned a 6-1, 6-0 victory playing



AJHS freshman Brittney Cowan hits one of her patented two-handed shots in last Thursday's varsity match against Cave Creek Cactus Shadows.

number six singles.

The AJHS girls swept the doubles matches with Iniguez and Karbo winning 8-2, Villaverde and Cowan winning 8-3, and Ramos and Ovalle winning by a forfeit.

In an update from a March 30 match against Scottsdale Saguro, Apache Junction lost a 7-2 decision with Nicoletta Carbone winning

see **Tennis**, page B-6

Prospector Pitchers Roughed Up In Two Region Losses

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

Two teams struggling near the bottom of the Desert Sky Region, each with just two wins on the season, squared off against one another last week in a home-and-away series and one of them saw its offense get healthy real quick.

Phoenix Shadow Mountain combined for 27 runs in the series and swept the Apache Junction Prospectors, 12-7 and 15-1, to improve to 4-10 overall and 2-4 in the region. Apache Junction slipped to 2-14 overall and 0-4 in region games.

In last Tuesday's 12-7 loss, Tyler Tyson led the Prospector offense, going 2-for-4 at the plate and driving in a pair of runs. Mike Davalos was

also 2-4 with a RBI, Nick Saathoff went 2-for-4, Mike Caruana was 1-for-3 and also knocked in two runs, Johnathan Hanson went 1-for-2 and also reached base with three walks, Ryan Sparks had a hit in his three at-bats and Ryan Howard went 1-for-4, his hit being a double.

In last Thursday's 15-1 loss, Shadow Mountain batted around their lineup in both the second and third innings, scoring seven times in the second and six times in the third.

Apache Junction used three different pitchers trying to slow down the Matador offense, the most effective being lefty Nathan Higginbottom, who went two innings,

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Prospector Nick Saathoff slides safely into home following a base hit by teammate Mike Caruana to score Apache Junction's only run in last Thursday's 15-1 loss to Phoenix Shadow Mountain.

Deja Vu For AJHS Region Softball

Lose one region game at home, pick up region win on the road

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

For the second week in a row, the Lady Prospector varsity softball team lost a close region game at home only to pick up a region victory days later against the same team on the road.

Hosting Phoenix Shadow Mountain this past Tuesday, Apache Junction fell to the Lady Matadors 3-2 giving Shadow Mountain (8-13, 1-5) their first Desert Sky Region win of the season.

Shadow Mountain got off to a 3-0 lead after five innings and Apache Junction scored one run in the bottom

of the fifth inning and one in the sixth inning and left two runners aboard in their final at-bats to fall to 11-11 overall and 1-2 in the region.

Lindsey Skinner knocked in the first run for Apache Junction with a single in the fifth inning to score Katie Stout, who had reached base on a fielder's choice.

Stout then drove in Ashley Nordstrom with a run in the sixth inning on a single after Nordstrom had reached base on a fielding error.

The Lady Matadors collected 11 hits in the game off of AJHS pitcher Shelby

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Lady Prospector second baseman Sierra Aulik comes up with this grounder for an out at first base in last Tuesday's home game versus Phoenix Shadow Mountain.

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