



Time Out



Chuck Baker
News Sports Editor
cbaker@ajnews.com

Runnin' On Empty?

Imagine having to run a 3200 meter race in this heat. Now picture doing it just after having eaten a burger and fries.

This is what happened to AJHS junior Montanna Scott last Wednesday evening on the first day of the 4A-I State Track and Field Championships.

I'm not sure who shoulders the blame, the Arizona Interscholastic Association who oversees the State Track and Field Championships, or Phoenix Shadow Mountain High School who hosted the Desert Sky Region Meet the week before, but AJHS girls were left out of three events when the heat sheets were released on the morning of the State Championships.

Instead of giving at-large berths to Scott in the 3200 meters where she finished fourth overall at the region meet, to Diana Woodruff in the 1600 meters who also finished fourth, and to Scott, Woodruff, Mayra Castaneda and Lauren Smith in the 4x800 relay after their fifth place finish at region, those at-large berths went to two individual girls from Scottsdale Saguardo and to the 4x800 relay squad from Paradise Valley, all of whom finished behind the AJHS girls at the region meet.

After contacting the A.I.A. to report the mistakes when heat sheets were released last Wednesday morning, AJHS coaches were told Wednesday afternoon to bring the girls to the State Championships and they would try and work them in.

Well, the 4x800 relay squad never got the call on Wednesday and things weren't looking up for Scott either halfway through day one, so the girls loaded up

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AJHS Softball Doles Out Post-Season Awards

By Chuck Baker
The News

The Lady Prospector varsity softball team held its post-season banquet this past week and doled out a series of awards, including All-Region selections.

Juniors Chelsey Streibich and Shelby Olson were each chosen to the 1st Team All-Region team for the Desert Sky Region, Streibich as a shortstop and Olson as a pitcher.

Streibich, who was also chosen the team's MVP for the season, ended up leading the team with her .424 batting average, .525 slugging percentage, 42 base hits and 28 runs scored.

Olson went 14-13 as the top pitcher for the season, posted an earned run average of 3.23 and struck out 131 hitters in 171 innings pitched. At the plate this season, Olson batted .322

4A-I State Track Championships

Controversy leaves AJHS girls 4x800 relay out, then back in, then out again, while mess-ups also occur with girls 1600 and 3200 meter finals

By Chuck Baker
The News

Five boys and two girls from Apache Junction High School competed this past Wednesday at the 4A-I State Track and Field Championships held at Mesa Community College led by senior Rusty Fernando who was in three separate events.

Fernando ran heats of the 100 meters and both the 110 meter high hurdles and the 300 meter intermediate hurdles on Wednesday but was only able to qualify for last Saturday's finals in the

100 meters after running second overall in his preliminary heat with a time of 11:31.

Although Fernando ran second overall in the first of two heats, he was seeded eighth overall for Saturday's nine-man finals, results of which were not available when *The News* went to press.

In the boys shot put finals held on Wednesday, senior Mike Taylor came in 7th overall with a throw of 46-04.50 while his teammate, junior Cy Maughmer, placed 10th overall with a throw of 44-6.

Junior Zane Morgan competed in the 800 meter finals on Wednesday and ended up running seventh overall although a time has yet to be posted by www.arizonatrack.com, the official site of the State Championships. A week earlier, Morgan set a new AJHS school record in the 800 meters competing at the Desert Sky Region Meet where he ran a time of 1:58.98. Morgan also ran seventh overall in the State finals of the 800 meters in 2008, where the AJHS boys captured the team championship title, the school's first ever title in track and field.

One of the biggest surprises on Wednesday came from AJHS junior Keisha McClincy, who came into State as the 13th overall seed out of 18 finalists. McClincy had finished second in this event at the region meet two weeks ago but she stepped up her performance with a throw of 102-02 at the State Championships and placed 6th overall.

There was a huge controversy at the State Championships involving the girls 4x800 meter relay and two individual races, the girls

1600 meters and 3200 meters.

AJHS coaches were looking through the heat sheets of the 4x800 relay when they came out last Wednesday morning and noticed the team from Paradise Valley had gotten an at-large berth for Wednesday night's State finals. The girls from Paradise Valley had run a time of 10:45.52 at the Desert Sky Region meet a week earlier and finished sixth overall in that race.

The 4x800 relay team see **State**, page B-6



Keisha McClincy, shown here throwing discus at the region meet, placed 6th overall at State with a throw of 102-02.



Apache Junction's Zane Morgan (third from the right) is just about to start his 800 meter race at last Wednesday's 4A-I State Track and Field Championships at Mesa Community College. Morgan ended up seventh overall in the race for the second straight year.



Apache Junction's Rusty Fernando crosses the finish second overall in his 100 meter preliminary heat last Wednesday on the first day of the 4A-I State Track and Field Championships to qualify for this past Saturday's finals. Although he finished second in his heat, Fernando was seeded eighth overall out of nine runners in Saturday's finals. Fernando also ran heats of the 110 meter high hurdles and the 300 intermediate hurdles on the first day of State but failed to qualify for Saturday's finals in both of those events.

Middle School Baseball Champs



Congratulations to the Thunder Mountain Middle School baseball team for winning the championship game recently with a 9-0 victory over Desert Shadows Middle School. According to the team's head coach, Jason Miller (at right in dark T-shirt), all 13 TMMS players reached base safely at least once in the victory while pitcher Jacob Garratt tossed a no-hitter. The team's players included Amber Schmidt (sitting in the middle) and (standing, l-r) Jacob Garratt, Layne Duran, Logan Escobar, Ashley Wigal, Jon McCune, Chris Downey, Jereck Dewey-Barwick, Nick Drakovich, Walker Barr, Ramon Pacheco, Dylan Machajewski, and Wyatt Sweezy. (submitted photo)

Girls Basketball To Start Busy Summer Next Week

By Chuck Baker
The News

A very busy Summer of girls basketball will begin next week for Apache Junction as they field not one, but two teams, in the Mesa Skyline League starting on Tuesday, May 26.

The AJHS varsity team will play a doubleheader on May 26, taking on Mesa Mountain View at 6 p.m. and playing against Mesa Westwood at 8 p.m.

The junior varsity girls from AJHS also play a doubleheader that Tuesday, facing Arizona Lutheran at 5 p.m. and taking on Chandler #2 at 7 p.m.

Both AJHS teams are also scheduled to play doubleheaders in the Skyline

League on Tuesday, June 2, Tuesday, June 9, and Tuesday, June 16.

In addition to the Skyline League, the AJHS varsity and junior varsity squads will compete in the Skyline Shoot-out Tournament May 29 and 30 while the varsity squad will play in the Valley Christian Tournament June 5 and 6, the Gilbert High Tournament on June 12 and 13, and the Mesa Jack Rabbit Tournament June 19 and 20.

The AJHS basketball program will also be conducting regular practices throughout the Summer days as well as a girls basketball camp scheduled through the Apache Junction Parks and Recreation Department.

Mesa Skyline HS Summer Girls Basketball League

AJHS Varsity Schedule

Date	Day	Opponent	Time
5-26	Tues.	Mountain View	6:00 p.m.
5-26	Tues.	Westwood	6:00 p.m.
6-2	Tues.	Fairfax	6:00 p.m.
6-2	Tues.	Desert Vista	8:00 p.m.
6-9	Tues.	Skyline	6:00 p.m.
6-9	Tues.	Mountain View	8:00 p.m.
6-16	Tues.	Westwood	6:00 p.m.
6-16	Tues.	Fairfax	8:00 p.m.

AJHS Junior Varsity Schedule

Date	Day	Opponent	Time
5-26	Tues.	Arizona Lutheran	5:00 p.m.
5-26	Tues.	Chandler #2	7:00 p.m.
6-2	Tues.	Valley Christian	5:00 p.m.
6-2	Tues.	Hamilton	7:00 p.m.
6-9	Tues.	Chandler #1	5:00 p.m.
6-9	Tues.	Arizona Lutheran	7:00 p.m.
6-16	Tues.	Chandler #2	5:00 p.m.
6-16	Tues.	Valley Christian	7:00 p.m.



Junior Chelsey Streibich



Junior Shelby Olson



Senior Katie Stout



Sophomore Lindsey Skinner

and drove in 13 runs.

Senior Katie Stout and sophomore Lindsey Skinner were both selected to the 2nd Team All-Region squad. Stout, an outfielder, batted .368 this season and scored 15 runs. Skinner, a catcher, posted a .376 batting average and led the team with her 23 runs batted in.

Sophomore infielder Sier-

ra Aulik and freshman third baseman Autumn Rhodes were named to the All-Region Honorable Mention. Aulik batted .273, led the team with three triples, and drove in 18 runs. Rhodes hit .358 for the year and knocked in 17 runs.

Other individual team awards handed out at the

see **Girls**, page B-2