



Time Out



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“Decking It”

After spending about 15 Summers inside Davis Field helping to coordinate July 4th festivities during my days working for the A.J. Parks and Recreation Department, I'd much rather sit on my back deck and watch the fireworks from a distance in my old age.

From my deck, you can usually see about six or seven different fireworks shows around the southeast valley although Mesa had cancelled their show this year for budgetary reasons.

There have been Summers when the A.J. fireworks show started before the one in Queen Creek and lasted longer but that wasn't the case this time. I could be wrong but the A.J. show seemed a little shorter than normal, and at an annual cost of \$14,000 (see last week's front page story in *The News*), could be even shorter next year unless some donations come pouring in.



(above and below) *The A.J. Fireworks show photographed from my deck.*



Summer Volleyball League Begins

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

The Apache Junction High School volleyball squad kicked off its Phoenix

College Summer League in impressive fashion this past Tuesday winning all three of their matches. Using mostly what will likely be their starting varsity

lineup this coming Fall, the Apache Junction girls defeated (Surprise) Valley Vista 25-20, 25-11 in the first match of the night and downed Williams Field 25-13, 25-19 in the night-cap.

Fielding a team mixed with starters and reserves in their middle match versus (Ahwatukee) Horizon Honors, the AJHS girls rallied from behind in both games for a 26-24, 25-22 victory.

In the opening match with Valley Vista, Katie Karbo came up with 10 service points and 10 assists to pace the AJHS girls. Jessica Iniguez had six service points and four kills, Kylie Bocskay contributed five blocks and three kills, Cat Ovalle added four service points and two kills,

Diana Woodruff had four service points and came up with five digs, Sierra Aulik pitched in with six service points and a kill, Alissa Aranda had four service points and Monica Geer added a pair of kills.

In the win over Williams Field, Ovalle exploded for 10 service points including three aces and pounded down eight kills to lead the Lady Prospectors. Karbo handed out 18 assists, Iniguez added seven

service points, five kills and two blocks, Bocskay came up with six kills, Aranda had eight service points and two digs, Aulik contributed three digs and two kills, Woodruff added six service points and three digs, and Geer had a kill.

Playing against Horizon Honors, Apache Junction fell behind 7-0 early in the first game and was still trailing 22-20 before rally-

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Apache Junction volleyball players (left to right, dark jerseys) Jessica Iniguez, Sierra Aulik and Monica Geer are positioned at the net in last Tuesday's Phoenix College match against (Surprise) Valley Vista.



Katie Karbo (right, dark jersey) is about to set up her charging teammate Jessica Iniguez in last Tuesday's Phoenix College league match against Valley Vista.

July 4th Happenings/Results

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

The results are in from the Locals Only V Skate Competition, the float decorating contest and the coed sand volleyball tournament all held as part of the July 4th Celebration sponsored by the City of Apache Junction Parks and Recreation Department.

In the skate competition, which was co-sponsored and coordinated by UBF (Underground Board Factory), eight separate divisions were offered in the event that drew more than 80 participants and more than 150 spectators.

In the 8-and-Under Begin-



Caitlin Smith, playing for the "Toros" at the July 4th sand volleyball tournament, dives for a dig attempt.

ner/Intermediate division, first place went to Dylan Wampler, second place goes to Jackson Ellis and third

place went to Cody Barker.

In the 9-11 Beginner/Intermediate division, Cambrian Sedlick took first place, Ethan Zimmerman came in second place and third place went to Drake Hendrix.

In the 12-14 Beginner/Intermediate division, Tyler Brandt captured first place, Corbin Graham came in second place and Chance Menendez took third place.

In the 15-17 Beginner/Intermediate division, first place went to Adam Creed, Justin Miller captured second place and Alex Bevak came in third place.

In the All-Girls division, Kora Grzyb came in first place, Brenna Pauley came in second place and Megan

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Kora Grzyb performs a maneuver during the July 4th "Locals Only" Skateboard competition. Grzyb ended up taking first place in the girls division.

Little League All Stars Wrap Up District 7 Tournament Play

By **Chuck Baker**
The News

Both the Juniors Baseball (13 & 14) and Majors Baseball (11 & 12) All Star



Junior Boys Baseball All Star shortstop Travis Turner charges the ball during a recent District 7 tournament game.

teams from Apache Junction Little League wrapped up their District 7 Tournament play this week at two separate Mesa locations.

Playing at Westwood High School, the Juniors All Stars dropped a 14-0 decision to the Red Mountain American All Stars, while at Countryside Park, the Majors All Stars lost to the Four Peaks All Stars also by a 14-0 score.

In the Majors All Stars final tournament game, the Four Peaks squad tallied four runs in both the first and second innings to grab an early 8-0 lead. But after that, Apache Junction pitcher Cory Wright settled down and held the opponents scoreless over the next 2 and 1/3 innings.

Jordan Sample came on in relief and finished up a scoreless fifth inning by getting two batters out but



Majors Boys Baseball All Star shortstop Eric Duarte puts the tag on this Four Peaks All Star baserunner in last Monday's District 7 Tournament game. Second baseman Jordan Sample backs up the play while pitcher Cory Wright (far left) looks on.

in the sixth inning, Four Peaks added four more runs for their final tally.

The A.J. All Stars only had five baserunners in the game. Tihler Converse singled to right field but was stranded at first base, Eric Duarte reached after being hit by a pitch but

was thrown out at second base attempting a steal. Eric Willis reached via a fielder's choice and was also thrown out trying to steal second, Stoney Smith reach via a walk but was forced out at second, and

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Corwin Brundrett - 2009
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