



Time Out



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• By now I'm sure you already heard the best Tiger Woods jokes, like his latest Nike commercial – "Just Don't Do It!" Or the club his wife was using to beat on him – "a bitching iron." So I'll spare you the replays.

• You've probably also heard the old football joke about one inept Midwest team playing another inept team. "Late in the fourth quarter, the town's steel factory whistle went off. The defense, thinking the whistle signified the end of the game, all left the field and headed for the locker room. Four plays later, the other team scored to win the game."

In last Friday's freshmen girls game between Apache Junction and Palo Verde, the visiting team was given possession of the basketball underneath their own hoop but the A.J. defenders, apparently confused, had all gone down to the other end of the court. Palo Verde inbounded the ball and even though they could have scored on an uncontested lay-up, they brought the ball down past half-court and were whistled for an "over-and-back" violation.

You just have to love freshmen girls basketball.

AJHS Wrestlers Edge Higley, 39-30

By Chuck Baker
The News

The first varsity wrestling match of the 2009 season and the first under new head coach Don Mabry and it came down to the last weight class. With Apache Junction holding a slim 33-30 lead over the Higley Knights through the 215-pound weight class at last Thursday's season-opener for both teams, it was up to AJHS senior heavyweight Dylan Munyon to hold onto the Prospector lead for the win. A pin victory by Higley or one by majority decision would have given Higley the win. But Munyon left little to chance, coming up with his victory via the pin in the first period, lifting Apache Junction to a 39-30

win. A pretty good start to his senior wrestling season for Munyon.

The match with Higley was close throughout with several lead changes. After freshman Brandon Edwards lost by a pin in the 103-pound class to get things started, and after both schools forfeited the 112-pound weight class, Prospector senior Dallon Bush needed just eighteen seconds in his 119-pound match to tie it up with a pin.

Senior Chase Converse then gave Apache Junction a 12-6 lead with a pin victory at 125 pounds and sophomore Trent McMinn made it 18-6 in favor of the Prospectors when he pinned his 130-pound Higley opponent in just sixteen seconds.

Senior Thomas Eckhardt then came up with an 8-2



Prospector senior Chase Converse starts to roll his Higley opponent over on the way to a first period pin victory in last Wednesday's first varsity wrestling match of the season

decision win at 135 pounds to make the score 21-6 but Higley fought back. The Knights won via forfeit at 145 pounds and Prospector 152-pounder Chris Novak lost with a pin to make the score 21-18.

Higley then took their first

Crothers was wrestling at 171 pounds and was trailing in his match, 7-5, all five of Crothers' points coming from penalty points. After a fifth penalty was called on the Higley wrestler, Crothers was awarded the win by default and his six earned points put Apache Junction back in front 27-24.

Higley came right back to take a 30-27 lead when senior Matt Tomasetti, in his first year of competition, lost via a pin in the 189-pound weight class with two weight classes to go.

Prospector senior Brandon Dudley then won the 215-pound match by forfeit putting the Prospectors up 33-30 and setting up the final match of the night in the

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Prospectors Beat Youngker As Grandstaff Tosses In 29

By Chuck Baker
The News

The Prospector varsity basketball team put up 51 first half points, 21 of those from senior guard Colt Grandstaff, and routed the Youngker Roughriders 79-49 last Wednesday at home for their first win of the season. Apache Junction also lost a heart-breaker, 48-45, to Prescott on Tuesday and played Friday down in Tucson against Palo Verde but results were not available at press time.

Grandstaff finished with 29 points in the win over Youngker and added six assists and four rebounds. Mike Cano played a solid all-around game, scoring 10 points, grabbing five



Prospector guard Mike Cano (#10) puts up a short shot against this Youngker defender in last Wednesday's game

boards, coming up with four steals and handing out three assists.

D'Mario Hill also netted 10 points, Ravi Patel tossed in eight points, grabbed five rebounds and dished out

three assists, Kyrel Parker and Paul Miles both scored six points, John LaChapelle scored five points and Dalawn Caldwell and Jared

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First-year AJHS wrestling coach Don Mabry (right) and senior 215-pounder Brandon Dudley watch the action on the mat in last Wednesday's season-opener

AJHS Soccer Kicks Off 2009 Season

By Chuck Baker
The News

Both the boys and girls soccer teams from Apache Junction kicked off their 2009 seasons this past week and despite no wins by the Prospector or Lady Prospector varsity and junior varsity teams, there was some outstanding action, great defense and solid goalkeeping.

The AJHS boys varsity squad opened their season with a 3-1 loss to Scottsdale Coronado on Wednesday and dropped a 4-1 decision to Copper Canyon on Thursday in two away matches. The Prospectors started slow in both matches according to Coach Josh Babcock but played strong in the second half.

Jesse Gonzalez scored the lone goal for Apache Junction against Coronado and Andres Ruiz put one in the next versus Copper Canyon.

"We played a strong second half against Coronado, Coach Babcock said. "There were a lot of missed calls but all in all, it was a tough match played by both teams."

The Lady Prospector var-



Lady Prospector varsity player Brenda Carrillo puts a shot toward the goal in last Thursday's home match with Copper Canyon

sity team began their season with a 4-0 loss to Coronado at home on Wednesday and then came up with a terrific effort in a 1-0 loss to Copper Canyon on Thursday.

Copper Canyon scored the game's only goal less than two minutes into the match.

After that, Apache Junction, despite a lack of offense, had plenty of defensive gems, including plays by defenders Jade Lucin, Chayla Langley and Nancy

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Lady Prospectors Down Palo Verde, 50-40

By Chuck Baker
The News

"Finish strong." It's what coaches often preach to their athletes, and that's exactly what the Lady Prospector basketball team last Friday night.

Tied 40-40 with Tucson Palo Verde with two minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Apache Junction girls saved up their best for last, scoring the game's final ten points and earning an impressive 50-40 victory.

Junior Sierra Aulik, who finished the game with 18 points and eight rebounds, led the late charge for Apache Junction with two

free throws, three rebounds and an assist. Also in the last two minutes, senior Diana Woodruff drained a back-breaking three-pointer, junior Jade Yost sank a bucket and two free throws and senior Sara Cranmer finished off the run with another free throw.

Yost finished the game with nine points and seven rebounds, Woodruff scored eight points and had three steals, Cranmer netted six points, senior Jessica Iniguez had five points and four rebounds, junior Melissa Ochoa made a pair of free throws to go with five

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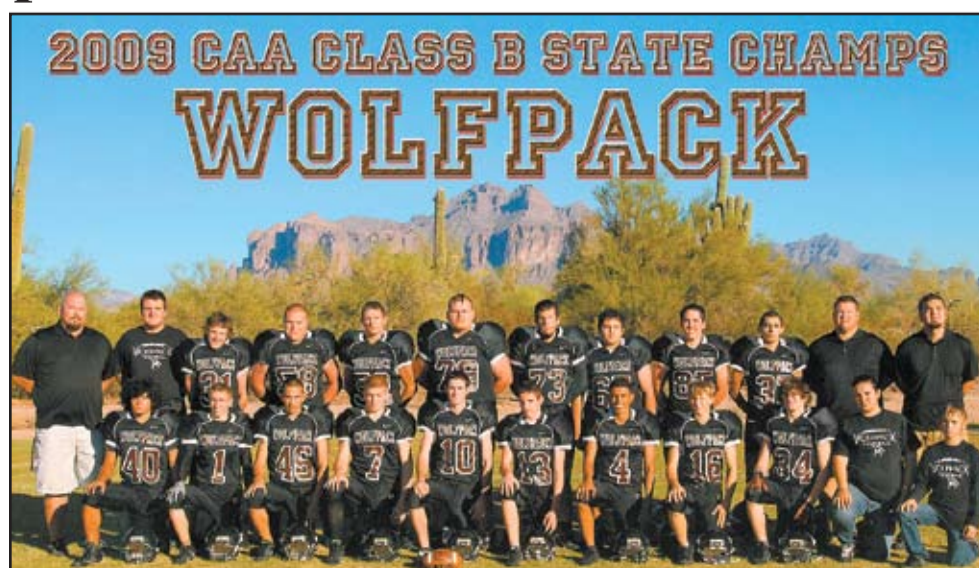


Senior guard Emily McGann (#20) is at the free throw line in last Tuesday's game against Prescott while teammate Sara Cranmer (#52) looks on

State Champs Hand Out Post Season Awards



Apache Trail High School
2009 CAA
"Class B"
State Champs
11-1 Overall



The 2009 CAA State Champion Apache Trail Wolfpack held their post season award's ceremony this past Friday night at the Apache Junction Boys and Girls Club. In addition to handing out varsity letters and individual awards, coaches and administrators also recognized the team's supporters. For more details on the award's ceremony, check out the article on page B-6 in this week's edition.



Lady Prospector varsity soccer player Catalina Ovalle handles the ball near mid-field in last Thursday's home match against Copper Canyon