



Time Out



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Urgent News

Superstition Mountain Museum folks are urging those who had purchased Golf Ball Drop tickets for the December 6th tournament at Gold Canyon Golf Resort to hold onto those tickets. The tournament and Ball Drop event were rained out by the winter storm that rolled through and will be rescheduled. In fact, the golf tournament committee will be meeting this Wednesday to decide a new date (see related story on page B-2) for the tournament and assured me that the Golf Ball Drop will go off as originally planned with the one ball ending up closest to the hole winning a \$1,000 cash prize.

- Tiger Woods, who apparently prefers playing "threesomes," has a better chance at breaking Wilt Chamberlain's record than he does at breaking Jack Nicklaus' record of 18 majors victories.

- Time for more numbers trivia. Try this one. Who scored more points against Higley on Friday? Lady Prospector junior varsity player Rachel Bonow, or the entire AJHS boys varsity team? Time's up. Bonow tossed in 33 points while the Prospectors scored 32 points. Both, however, won.

- According to the Minnesota State University-Moorhead website, former Prospector football player Zach Tourangeau was a starting tackle this past season for the Dragons. Zach is a sophomore at MSU-Moorhead and is listed at 6-3 and 310 on the team roster.

Lady Prospectors Win Twice In Hoops

By Chuck Baker
The News

The Lady Prospector basketball squad picked up wins over Dysart and Higley this past week to improve to 7-3 on the season, counting the Queen Creek Turkey-Shoot Tournament.

In last Wednesday's 49-41 victory at Dysart, Apache Junction was trailing by eight points with five minutes left in regulation and fought back to tie the game, 39-39, to send it into overtime. In the extra period, the Lady Prospectors prevailed 10-2 for a big road victory.

Sierra Aulik scored 17 of her game-high 21 points in the second half to lead Apache Junction. Diana Woodruff tossed in seven points, Jessica Iniguez scored six points, Kylie Bocskay netted four

points, Sara Cranmer, Emily McGann and Christine Medrano all tallied three points and Jade Yost added a bucket.

In Friday's 49-22 win over Higley, it was all Apache Junction as they jumped out to a 9-0 lead and never looked back. Bocskay tossed in 10 points to go with eight rebounds, Aulik netted nine points and added four rebounds, four steals and three assists, Yost also scored nine points, Cranmer netted seven points and had seven rebounds and three steals, Iniguez tossed in five points to go with four rebounds and four blocks, Woodruff scored four points, Medrano drained a three-pointer and Melissa Ochoa contributed a bucket and three boards.

Apache Junction will be hosting (Buckeye) Verrado



Lady Prospector senior Kylie Bocskay (left) puts up a jump shot between two Higley defenders in Friday's 49-22 AJHS win. Bocskay scored 10 points in the game.

tonight, Monday, December 14 in their only scheduled game for the week. The freshmen team tips off at 4:00 p.m. tonight, followed by the junior varsity at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity

at 7:00 p.m.

The varsity squad's only other competition this month will be the December 28 and 29 Valley Christian Invitational. After tonight's junior varsity and

freshmen games, those two teams won't play again until January 5th of the new year due to the holiday break.

J.V. Rolls Over Higley

The Lady Prospector junior varsity team rolled to an easy 56-24 win over Higley on Friday as Rachel Bonow posted a triple-double with 33 points, 14 rebounds and 13 steals. Khyana Soper contributed eight points and 10 rebounds in the win, Erin Herbert scored six points and had five rebounds, Siobhan McKay netted four points, Carly Reid pitched in with three points, six steals, four rebounds and four assists, Shannon Ochs added a bucket, Jennifer Gallina came up with four steals and Al' Lexus White

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AJHS Soccer Has Come A Long Way

By Chuck Baker
The News

In just about every country but the United States, the sport of soccer is known as football. And back in the winter of 2005 when the sport was introduced at Apache Junction High School at the junior varsity level for the first time, you may have been a little confused reading the sports pages of *The News*. It was not uncommon back then for game scores to resemble more those of American football. Apache Junction lost, 14-0.

Flash forward to 2009 and the days of double-digit losses are gone. In fact, just this past week, both the boys and girls junior varsity soccer teams posted 2-1 wins over their Higley counterparts. Soccer at Apache Junction has come a long way in five

years.

Of the forty-two players listed on the varsity and junior varsity soccer rosters for the AJHS boys, thirty-six are underclassmen and twenty are either freshmen or sophomores. Of the thirty-eight players listed on both the girls varsity and junior varsity teams, twenty-four are underclassmen. The future of soccer at AJHS looks bright.

In matches played this season thus far for the varsity boys at AJHS, they lost 4-2 to Tempe McClintock, 2-0 to Scottsdale Saguaro and 1-0 to Higley in a pre-season tournament, picked up their first win of the season at that tournament, beating Maricopa 5-0, and just this past Tuesday, in a rematch with Higley in a home match played at Davis Field, the Prospectors fell 2-0 despite



Apache Junction senior defender Miguel Rascon goes up high for a header in last Tuesday's home match against Higley played at Davis Field

out-playing the Knights the entire first half.

Behind a solid defense led by David Gamboa, Miguel Rascon, Jesus Godinez and Erik Villalva, the Prospectors battled Higley to scoreless tie through the first forty minutes. The second half wasn't bad either for AJHS, except for a four-minute lapse when Higley put two headers into the net for the match's only scores.

Higley's coach had even commented to Prospector coach Josh Babcock that he wasn't looking forward to

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Prospector midfielder Jair Ortiz tries to keep the play alive from the ground in last Tuesday's match with Higley

Prospectors Edge Higley, 32-30

By Chuck Baker
The News

In their only game from last week, the Prospector varsity basketball team picked up their second win of the season Friday at Higley, rallying for a 32-30 victory in a defensive battle.

Senior guard Colt Grandstaff led the Apache Junction with 13 points in the game but that was the only player points that were available from the contest.

In an update from the December 4 game at Palo Verde in Tucson, Grandstaff poured in 30 points, John LaChapelle and Dalawan Caldwell both netted 10 points but Palo Verde was just too strong of a team and prevailed 87-72.

Despite trailing big early, Apache Junction fought back to close the gap to 36-32 at halftime but ended shooting just 32 percent from the court in the loss.

The Prospectors play again

today, Monday, December 14 at (Buckeye) Verrado and return home this coming Friday, December 18 to host Williams Field. For both dates, the AJHS freshmen team tips off at 4:00 p.m. followed by the junior varsity at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity at 7:00 p.m.

Following Friday's home game with Williams Field, the AJHS teams are off for the holiday break and won't play again until a January 5th, 2010 game versus Raymond Kellis.

J.V. Wins

The Prospector junior varsity squad saw their season record improve to 3-1 overall with last Friday's 41-36 victory over Higley. Jared Kraps tossed in 13 points to lead Apache Junction. Lawrence Johnson and Richie Pagels each netted 10 points, David Sandoval scored six points and T.J. Johnson added a bucket.

The Prospector junior var-



Prospector senior guard Colt Grandstaff (#22), shown here putting up a jump shot in a recent home game against Youngker, scored 13 points in last Friday's 32-30 win over Higley. Grandstaff also poured in 30 points in the December 4 loss at Tucson Palo Verde. Teammate John LaChapelle is pictured at the far left.

sity team plays at home versus Williams Field this Friday with tip-off scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

Freshmen Win

We got a report that the AJHS freshmen team also won at Higley at Friday

making it a sweep for the Prospectors. A game score or individual player highlights were not available from the game.

The AJHS freshmen team plays again this Friday at home versus Williams Field, tipping off at 4:00 p.m.

A.J. Wrestlers Go 2-2 On The Mat

By Chuck Baker
The News

The Prospector wrestling team split their four home matches this Wednesday with wins over Seton Catholic and Maricopa, and losses to Tempe McClintock and Gilbert Campo Verde.

Apache Junction was giving up three weight class forfeits and 18 points when the night began so when senior 189-pounder Matt Tomasetti injured his shoulder in the team's first match against Seton and was done for the night, that made it four weight class forfeits and 24 points the Prospectors were giving up in each match.

Still, Apache Junction was able to defeat Seton 41-39 and Maricopa 48-30, while losing 45-29 to McClintock in an otherwise close match considering the 24-point deficit. The only match of the night where the Prospectors got thumped was in the 61-15 loss to Campo Verde.

Apache Junction 119-pounder Dallon Bush and 130-pounder Trent McMinn both went 4-0 on the night in their respective weight classes. McMinn won all four of his matches via the pin, including one in just twelve seconds against his Campo Verde opponent. Bush won three matches with pins and the other by a technical fall with a score of 17-2.

Chase Converse (125 pounds) and Brandon Dudley (215 pounds) both went 3-1 overall, two AJHS 135-pounders, Thomas Eckhardt and Emerson Tucker each went 2-0, Marc Uehling (103 pounds), Cruz Blake-man (145 pounds) and Derrick Craig (160 pounds) all went 2-2, Chris Novak (152 pounds) and Myles Crothers (171 pounds) were 0-4 on the night, and Tomasetti officially lost his only match by injury default before

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Prospector wrestler Dallon Bush (right) went 4-0 last Wednesday in the 119-pound weight class, including a win over this Tempe McClintock foe