



**Former Prospector,
Arizona Wildcat,
Cody Anderson,
Resurfaces At
Scottsdale CC,
see story, page B-2**

Time Out



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**The Good. The Bad.
And The Ugly.**

First, the good. Give it up to AJHS boys junior varsity basketball coach Tom Reichwald for the way he used his fifteen players dressed out for last Thursday's game against Campo Verde with three units of five players rotating throughout the game. The players really seemed to enjoy the format and the competition. Not against Campo Verde so much, but versus the other units. By the way, the Prospectors rolled out an impressive 62-34 victory.

Next, the bad. The two officials who worked last Tuesday's Cactus Shadows varsity boys basketball game were the worst I've seen in years, drawing technical fouls from both head coaches.

And last, the ugly. The violation/suspension called on an AJHS wrestler after getting pinned in the second period by his Williams Field opponent last Wednesday.

Boys Soccer Falls 3-2 In Soaked Shoot-Out

By Chuck Baker
The News

While the rain last Tuesday held off long enough for the Apache Junction girls to host Scottsdale Saguaro at Davis Field in relatively dry conditions, the AJHS boys weren't as fortunate taking on the Sabercats in Scottsdale on a soaked playing field. Still, the Prospectors made the most of it, giving the Sabercats all they handle in a 3-2 shoot-out victory for Saguaro.

With Kevin Angulo and Kevin Martinez scoring regulation goals for Apache Junction, the two teams

were tied 2-2. Instead of playing an overtime period, coaches and officials agreed to go directly to a shoot-out because of the inclement weather.

In the shoot-out, Apache Junction took a 3-2 lead after their first three shooters, David Gamboa, Jesse Gonzalez and Jair Ortiz, all scored. But Apache Junction's final two shooters were stopped and the Sabercats then put in their final two shots for a 4-3 shoot-out edge, officially recorded as a 3-2 Saguaro win.

"I would say we dominated all but the first five minutes



Apache Junction's Kevin Angulo (right) had a big game against Saguaro last Tuesday, scoring one goal and assisting on another. The Prospectors eventually lost in a shoot-out, 3-2.

of the game," AJHS coach Joshua Babcock said. "Both teams played very well and with a lot of heart."

Babcock also said his team played tough defense and

that he was impressed by the goal scored by Angulo, a header that tied the score 1-1 in the first half.

Angulo was also credited with the assist on the goal

scored by Martinez.

The Prospectors were also scheduled to host Notre Dame Prep on Thursday but with half the field under water, the game was cancelled.

Apache Junction wraps up their season this week, first playing at Prescott on Monday, January 25, then hosting (Peoria) Liberty on Wednesday, January 27, and finally, hosting Notre Dame Prep this Thursday, January 28, a make-up for last week's rainout. On all three days, the junior varsity team plays at 4:00 p.m.

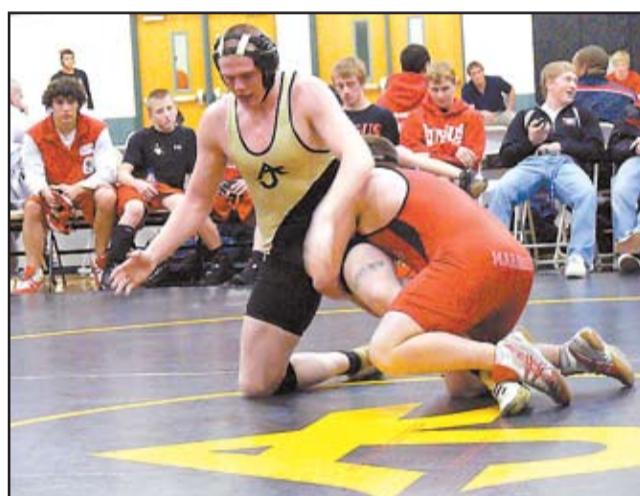
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A.J. Wrestlers Make Final Home Appearance

By Chuck Baker
The News

The Prospector wrestling program, winners of three State Championship titles and numerous State runner-up finishes, and once the pride and joy of Apache Junction High School, is now in a struggle mode due to injuries, illness and a lack of athletes.

That much was evident this past Wednesday when Apache Junction hosted Cottonwood Mingus, Williams Field and Tempe McClintock in separate dual meets. Giving up 24 points to Williams Field with four weight class forfeits, and then 36 points to both Min-



Prospector wrestler Brandon Dudley works on an escape during his match with this Mingus opponent. Dudley won the match with a second period pin and went 3-0 overall.

gus and McClintock with one more wrestler becoming ill and another booted out of the competition due to a

violation, Apache Junction, as a team, simply couldn't compete for a win, losing to Williams Field, 45-23, to

Mingus, 56-15, and to McClintock, 48-24.

There were some good individual performances from a couple of Prospectors. Chase Converse, at 125 pounds, and Brandon Dudley, at 215 pounds, both went 3-0 for the day, each wrestler winning via two pins and one technical fall. Trent McMinn, at 130 pounds, won his first match, a 15-4 decision over his Williams Field foe, but then dropped out of the final two duals with an illness.

Dallon Bush won two of three matches at 119 pounds, Chris Freed (152 pounds), Derek Craig (160 pounds) and Dylan Munyon (285 pounds) each picked up

one victory, Mark Uehling (103) and Anthony Nieves (135 pounds) went 0-3, and Thomas Eckhardt lost his only match of the day.

Emerson Tucker, who has been solid this season wrestling at 135 pounds, was on crutches last week nursing a leg injury, and there just simply aren't enough bodies involved in the Prospector wrestling program this season to fill the voids at 112, 145, 171 and 189 pounds.

Last Wednesday's match was Apache Junction's final home appearance of the season. The team was scheduled to compete this past Friday and Saturday in

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Lady Prospectors No Match For Cactus Shadows In Region Showdown

Lady Prospectors honor **Breast Cancer Awareness** with this Tuesday's home game against Q.C.; Wear **pink** if you go

By Chuck Baker
The News

Last Tuesday's Desert Sky Region showdown between two teams off to 3-0 region starts didn't live up to its billing as Cave Creek Cactus Shadows rolled to a 50-32 victory over Apache Junction. No individual player statistics were available from the game, nor were we able to get results from the junior varsity and freshmen team games.

This Tuesday, January 26, the Lady Prospector basket-

ball teams will be honoring "Breast Cancer Awareness" by wearing pink jerseys borrowed from Mesa Skyline High School when they host Queen Creek. The junior varsity girls will wear them during the 4:00 p.m. game with Queen Creek while the Lady Prospector varsity team will have them on for the 7:00 p.m. game. In between, on a special scheduling night, the AJHS boys varsity basketball team will play Queen Creek in the

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The Lady Prospector basketball teams will be wearing these same pink jerseys that Queen Creek wore when they hosted Apache Junction back on January 8 during this Tuesday's home games with Queen Creek in support of Breast Cancer Awareness. The jerseys are borrowed from neighboring Mesa Skyline High School.

Prospectors Fall 58-56 To Cactus Shadows

By Chuck Baker
The News

Apache Junction saw its chances for their first region victory in three years slip away in the closing moments of last Tuesday's 58-56 loss to Cave Creek Cactus Shadows, a game where the Prospectors held a four-point lead with just 26.7 seconds left in regulation.

After Apache Junction committed a foul with 21.9 left on the clock, Cactus Shadows made one of two free throws but grabbed the offensive rebound and drained a game-tying three pointer with 12.5 to play.

The Prospectors then threw the ball away with the next possession and Colt Grandstaff, who led Apache Junction with 22 points, was whistled for a questionable blocking foul with just 8.1

left, his fifth and final foul of the game. The Falcons sank both shots at the foul line and Prospector guard Mike Cano missed an off-balance shot at the buzzer, giving the Falcons the two-point win.

The game was a strange one throughout and featured several questionable calls, drawing technical fouls from both head coaches.

After Apache Junction jumped out a 5-0 lead in the first seventy-seconds of the opening quarter, Cactus Shadows then closed out the quarter with a 14-1 run to lead 14-6. The Prospectors then went on a 9-0 run to begin the second quarter and on a 15-3 run the first 2:14 of the second period to take a 21-17 lead.

But the Prospectors would not score another point before intermission and trailed the Falcons, 26-21, at the



Prospector guard D'Mario Hill soars through the lane while putting up a short jumper in last week's game

break.

Apache Junction fought back in the third period behind a 19-9 edge to take a 40-35 lead into the fourth and wild final quarter.

Grandstaff also added nine rebounds and four steals to go with his 22 points. Guard D'Mario Hill contributed 16 points, two assists and five

steals, Cano finished with 10 points, Ravi Patel added four points, four rebounds and three steals, and Kyrel Parker scored a bucket.

Cactus Shadows made 8-of-23 from behind the arc and sank 12-of-20 at the charity stripe. The Prospec-

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Apache Junction wrestler Chris Freed works over this Williams Field opponent on his way to a 13-7 win by decision

AJHS Girls Soccer Falls 3-0 To Saguaro

By Chuck Baker
The News

The Lady Prospector varsity soccer team dropped a 3-0 decision at home to Scottsdale Saguaro last Tuesday, a match dominated by the Lady Sabercats on offense.

Saguaro put a total of twenty-seven shots on goal while Apache Junction had just one shot on goal, that one coming from a long distance in the second half off the foot of Lauren Brownlee.

The final score could have

been much worse had it not been for the defensive play of Nancy Valtierra, Chayla Langley and Breanna Milkey, along with the 24 saves registered by goalkeeper Sabrina Crawford.

Apache Junction's best chance to score came with just over six minutes remaining. Brownlee sent a corner kick out on front of the Saguaro goal, Jade Lucin then kicked the ball over to Cecilia Medina, who's shot sailed just wide.

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Apache Junction's Marlene Robledo (right, in white jersey) battles a Saguaro player for the ball while teammate Brenda Carrillo (left) awaits a possible play