

# The Ranger Gameday

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## Rincon/University

3 Mike Cardella  
4 Travis Timmons  
5 Juan Pablo Favela  
10 Conor Kingston  
12 Rene Luna  
20 Nick Mata  
22 Nate Foster  
23 JC Gonzalez  
30 Billy Morrison  
31 Gilbert Tafoya  
33 Eli Foy  
40 Josh Smith  
42 Jose Ibarra

## Mountain View

3 Josh Bartlett  
10 Donovan Grant  
13 Scott Volpe  
21 Darius Ehlers  
22 Stephen Williams  
23 Scott Jenks  
31 Aaron Anderson  
32 Justin Williams  
40 Chris Olson  
44 Charle Hintze  
50 Andres Sanchez  
54 Joshua Goshen  
55 Scott Coleman

*Last Meeting - November 26, 2008: Rincon/University 67 Mountain View 46*

**MT VIEW MOUNTAIN LIONS (5-11)  
VS.  
RINCON/UNIVERSITY RANGERS (13-3)**

## 5A Southern Region Preview:

Tonight is the Ranger's first of six region games this year. Rincon is a member of the 5A-II Southern Region, where each of the four teams play all the other teams twice during the year (once at home, once on the road). Since the region is so small, Rincon also plays the members of the 5A-I Southern Region twice. OK, now for some projections for the two Southern Regions. 5A-I, which was stacked last year, is far down this year. The clear frontrunner must be Sierra Vista Buena.. The competition for the Colts may be the little known Casa Grande Cougars, who have a decent record, but lack any real quality victories to this point. The most talented team is probably Tucson High, but their athleticism has failed to make up for their lack of team chemistry and experience so far. And Salpointe will probably finish last unless they are able to steal a victory or two by just playing harder than their opponent. For 5A-II, everyone is predicting another region title for Ironwood Ridge. The defending state champion Nighthawks return three starters and look poised to make another deep playoff run. According to the papers, the only challenger in the region is Mountain View. However, they started off with 10 straight losses and really are not a threat. Sunnyside is riddled with problems and will battle with Mountain View for third place. So who wins the region? My guess is it comes down to the last game of the season, a February 12<sup>th</sup> battle, Ridge at Rincon, and the Rangers win in a great game to secure their first region championship in three years.

## Tonight's Matchup:

In last year's Mountain View Gameday, the key to the game was holding down Sophomore Andre Hatchett and Junior Aaron Anderson. At that time the future looked extremely bright for the Mountain Lions, but with Hatchett's transfer to Santa Rita, Mountain View has been left a one trick pony. Anderson is averaging 16.6 points and 11.9 rebounds per game. Sadly though, no other Lion is averaging even half as much as him in either category. As a team, Mountain View is averaging a meager 48 points per game compared to Rincon's 68 per contest. However, as of late, the Mountain Lions are starting to pull it together. After starting 0-10, they went 4-1 in the Northwest Desert Classic over break, losing only in the championship game to Sabino by four. They started the second semester by beating region foe Sunnyside on Tuesday to climb to 1-1 in the Southern Region and are clearly more prepared than they were in the Salpointe Tip Off Classic where Rincon took them down by 21. In order to make the games with Ridge meaningful, the Rangers need to take care of business against Mountain View and Sunnyside

## Rincon 33 Buena 67:

This one is pretty simple; sometimes it is just not your night. The Rangers led 4-0 but it went all downhill from there. They missed some layups, even more free throws, turned the ball over, and showed no ability to stop Buena from scoring. Without point guard Travis Timmons, Rincon looked lost, not to mention tired and rusty. Give credit to the Colts, who played extremely well and don't count out the Rangers as a legitimate state contender based on one game. Its just too bad this aberration happened as Rincon was finally beginning to get noticed



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*Next Home Game: Thursday 1/15 vs Tucson High*