

Ranger Gameday: State Tournament Rd 1

February 26, 2009

Volume 2, Issue 10

Rincon/University

3 Mike Cardella
4 Travis Timmons
5 Dylan Hidalgo
10 Conor Kingston
11 Brian Huff
12 Rene Luna
20 Nick Mata
23 JC Gonzalez
30 Billy Morrison
31 Gilbert Tafoya
33 Eli Foy
40 Josh Smith
42 Jose Ibarra

South Mountain

1 Andrew Richardson
2 Hanok Tekest
3 Tyler Simpson
4 Jordan Vigil
10 Anthony Warner
12 Aaron Hardwick
14 Justin Hill
20 Jesus Cinco
22 Mike White
24 Kenny Washington
30 Brandon Hinton
32 Robert Avila
34 Stephen Knox
42 Joseph La Mar
44 Shakir Prston
50 Ronald Tademy
54 Jordan Campbell

12 SOUTH MOUNTAIN JAGUARS (13-14)
Vs.
5 RINCON/UNIVERSITY RANGERS (22-8)

Tonight's Matchup:

South Mountain is an unfamiliar foe to say the least. These two teams have not played each other in regular season, tournament, or postseason games anytime in recent history. So what type of team are they? They are very athletic and will likely full court man press or half court trap. They have a very deep bench and while Shakir Preston leads them in scoring at 11.3 ppg, they have eight players that average at least 4 ppg, including their best shooter, Robert Avila, who Rincon must keep track of wherever he is on the floor. Any Jaguar could be the leading scorer on any night so it will take a group defensive effort by the Rangers to keep them down. Weaknesses include their lack of patience on offense, which makes it surprising that they only average 57.6 ppg as a team, and ineptitude at the free-throw stripe, where they are a dismal 51% on the year. Of all the teams the Rangers could have drawn, South Mountain appears to be a good one. Spot by spot, Rincon matches up really well and should move on to play the Boulder Creek/Kofa winner on Saturday (cheer for Kofa, so the Rangers can play again at home).

5A-II Southern Regional Tournament:

Mountain View defeated Sunnyside 50-41 to end the Blue Devils season at 4-25.

Rincon 51 Mountain View 40. This was a game of pairs. The offensive pair of Travis Timmons and Gilbert Tafoya each scored 20 while no other Ranger had more than 4. On defense, Conor Kingston and Mike Cardella took turns guarding Scott Volpe, holding him to 5. The pair that made the difference was Jose Ibarra and Josh Smith, covering region player of the year Aaron Anderson, who scored 29 against Rincon in the last match. This time he had only 9 and never had any rhythm. Mountain View also failed to make the state tournament and finished 10-21.

Ironwood Ridge 67 Rincon 44. This game was much closer then the score would indicate. After getting pounded inside in the first two contests, the Rangers were fully up to the battle down low and held Brandon Duliakas to only 8 points. Rincon rebounded very well and cut the lead to 1 point midway through the third quarter. But packing the paint gave up some outside shots that the Nighthawks knocked down. Rincon appeared to get a little tired and Ironwood Ridge was able to pull away in the fourth quarter. No Ranger scored in double digits.

Season Recap:

The Freshman team finished 9-9, led in scoring by Greg Vinueza (16.1 ppg). The JV team finished 10-8 on the season, led in scoring by Brian Huff (13.1 ppg). Complete Freshman and JV stats are online. As far as the Varsity team goes, it has been an up and down year. After winning their pool at the Salpointe Tip-Off Classic, they lost two straight in poor showings. Rincon bounced back and went on a 10 game winning streak that included capturing the title at the Alvarez Tire Holiday Hoops Classic But without Travis Timmons, the Rangers were killed by Buena in their first game back from break. That loss sent them on a downward spiral of mediocre performances including an 18-point defeat at Ironwood Ridge and culminating in a loss at Mountain View. Rincon started to get it back together with wins over Sunnyside, Casa Grande, and Tucson, but have lost two of their last three, both to Ironwood Ridge. The Rangers have a run in them, if it will materialize or not is yet to be seen. Both Juan Pablo Favela and Travis Timmons were named 1st Team All-Southern Region selections.



www.rangerposse.com

Next Game: Saturday 2/28 (if win tonight) vs TBD (check website later tonight for more info)

Thursday
02/26/09

Saturday
02/28/09

Friday
03/06/09

Saturday
03/07/09

Updated: 02/21/09: bb
Original Post: 12/18/08: bb

#1 Ironwood Ridge

Automatic Qualifiers in Bold

**2009 AIA 5A Div. II
Boys State Basketball**



7:00 p.m.
#16 Horizon

Tie for #8 between Yuma and Willow Canyon. Yuma is the #8 based on better overall power ranked record, Willow Canyon is #9.

7:00 p.m.

#8 Yuma
7:00 p.m.
#9 Willow Canyon

#5 Rincon
7:00 p.m.
#12 South Mountain

Jobing.com Arena
12:45 p.m.

#4 Boulder Creek
7:00 p.m.
#13 Kofa

7:00 p.m.

#3 Central
7:00 p.m.
#14 Camelback

High seed will be the designated home team

Jobing.com Arena
12:00 p.m.

#6 La Joya
7:00 p.m.
#11 Tolleson

7:00 p.m.

#7 Pinnacle
7:00 p.m.
#10 Ironwood

Jobing.com Arena
11:00 a.m.

#2 North
7:00 p.m.
#15 Marcos de Niza

7:00 p.m.



Feb. 26 & 28, 2009:
Site: High Seed.

March 6 & 7, 2009:
Jobing.com Arena
9400 W. Maryland Ave.
Glendale, AZ

AIA Tournament Coordinator:
Ron Halbach; 602-385-3824