

# 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

## Sunnyside

3 Bryant Hendricks  
10 Jose Gomez  
12 Jesus Miramon  
13 Ryan Rosthenhausler  
14 Luis Amaya  
20 Julio Felix  
21 Javier Miramon  
22 Juan Sanchez  
23 Richie Valerani-Knoblich  
32 Tyrone Fisher-Miller  
34 Santiago Romero  
42 Alan Levario

*Last Meeting - January 9, 2009: Rincon/University 75 Sunnyside 66*

**SUNNYSIDE BLUE DEVILS (3-21)**

**Vs.**

**RINCON/UNIVERSITY RANGERS (18-6)**

## **Tonight's Matchup:**

When these two teams last met, a little under a month ago, Sunnyside shot the lights out (15-30) from three-point land and were still not able to stay with the Rangers. So what could make it any different this time? Forwards Richie Valerani-Knoblich and Tyrone Fisher-Miller have returned from ineligibility to give the Blue Devils a more balanced attack. Rincon will have to control them in the front court but more importantly will have to be able to cover guards Jose Gomez and Ryan Rosthenhasler who combined for 11 threes in the first matchup. Sunnyside should not be able to handle the Rangers on the other end if they work to get good shots. With this win, Rincon will finish second in region.

## **The Big Picture:**

Ironwood Ridge clinched the 5A-II Southern Region last Thursday with their win over Sunnyside. With that battle over, Rincon must now focus on a run at a state title. As of yesterday, the Rangers sat at fourth in state power points. Phoenix North and Central along with Ridge will finish in the first three spots, but if Rincon can hold onto the 4 seed, they will host two state playoff games. The teams within striking distance of that position are Boulder Creek, La Joya, Tolleson, and Pinnacle. While nothing is guaranteed, it appears that if the Rangers can win three of their final four games, the road to Jobing.com arena will go through Rincon gymnasium where the Rangers are 5-1 this season.

## **The Last Three Games:**

7-2 Salpointe at the end of the first quarter and 19-17 Salpointe at the half. Going into the half, you would think the Rangers were disappointed but the real thought was, we missed almost everything we looked at and yet we are only down two. Even though they scored 39 in the second half, this game was about defense. Conor Kinston again shut down leading scorer Frank Kalil (2-14 from the field). Offensively, no Ranger scored more than 12, but the 9 of Mike Cardella may have been the most important. He knocked down three 3's against the Lancer's 1-3-1 zone at a time when no one else could put the ball in the basket. Gilbert Tafoya grabbed 18 rebounds. Rincon 56 Salpointe 52. However, last week was much more forgettable. At Buena, the Rangers got down early and were never able to get back in the game. Travis Timmons had an all-around performance of 13 points, 7 assists, and 6 rebounds, but it was not enough as the Colts rolled to a 73-51 victory. Rincon attempted to bounce back and stay in contention for the region crown last Thursday at Mountain View. While Timmons and Juan Pablo Favela combined for 41 points and 17 rebounds and the Rangers managed 8 more rebounds and 5 less turnovers than the Mountain Lions, the stat of the game was FG% (Rincon 32, Mt View 44). Aaron Anderson got a buzzer-beater backlob in double overtime to win it 59-58



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*Next Home Game: Friday 2/6 vs Casa Grande*