

Marana Tigers (8-9)

vs.

Rincon/University Rangers (7-12)

Tonight's Matchup:

The Tigers begin their second semester tonight, coming off six straight wins and a tournament championship in Florence last week. Marana defeated Empire in the final by 30 points and are on the brink of getting back to .500 after starting the season 2-9. The Tigers spread it around, with no individual averaging in double figures so far this season. Tyson Corner (#33) leads in scoring at 8.1 points per game with four other Tigers between 6 and 8 ppg. Dylan Telford (#55) provides the interior presence for Marana, scoring 7 points and grabbing a team-high 6 rebounds per contest. The Tigers have combined to shoot 30% as a team from three-point range, a decent mark for a high school team. The Rangers will need a solid team defensive effort tonight to get the win.

Cienega 66 Rincon/University 62

On Tuesday night, the Rangers and Bobcats went back and forth all night long with the visiting Bobcats pulling out a narrow win. Rincon jumped out to a 9-2 lead before Cienega stormed back with the next 10 points. The first half continued to be filled with runs by both teams, resulting in numerous lead changes. The Rangers took a 34-28 lead into the locker room at the half, but the Bobcats quickly erased that margin in the third quarter. No lead by either team ever grew beyond 7 points and Rincon had an opportunity late, rebounding a missed Cienega free throw with seven seconds left and a two-point deficit; however, a turnover and two made Andrew Leonard free throws sealed the game. For the Rangers, Estevan Sandoval and Max Siath led in scoring at 14 points apiece and in assists at 4. Siath also added 7 rebounds. Joey Cable scored 10 points and Jon Mueller had 8. The JV Rangers rolled to a 71-55 win on the back of Lars Eckerstrom's 21 points and full statlines by Alejandro Hollingsworth (8 pts, 14 reb, 4 blk) and Logan Nixon (6 pts, 5 reb, 6 ast). The Freshmen Rangers dropped their first game of the season 51-45.

Southern Arizona Hoops Scene

**Current conference power ranking for each team shown in parenthesis. 1A-3A teams not included.*

The 6A Southern Region kicks off play tomorrow night with Sunnyside (#12) playing at Tucson High (#29). Rincon (#27) gets their first crack at each team next week. The Blue Devils are 8-2 in power point games and look to be the favorite with both the Badgers and Rangers just outside of the state playoff picture. In 5A, Cholla (#8) is likely to be the runaway winner of the Sonoran Region while the Southern Region is much more up for grabs. Buena (#1), Cienega (#4), Sahuaro (#10), and Ironwood Ridge (#21) all rank in the top 24 in state power points and would make the postseason if the season ended today. Mountain View (#27), a tough team in its own right, sits at the bottom of the 5A Southern Region for now. In 4A, Rio Rico (#6) looks like the strongest team in the Gila Region while Salpointe (#2), Walden Grove (#8), and Catalina Foothills (#15) will battle for the Kino Region title. In case you missed it, Salpointe sophomore Majok Deng was offered a scholarship by the University of Arizona last week.

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Next Home Game: Thursday 1/19 vs Sunnyside (SOUTHERN REGION HOME OPENER)



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