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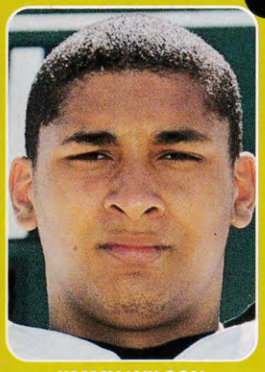
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FOOTBALL

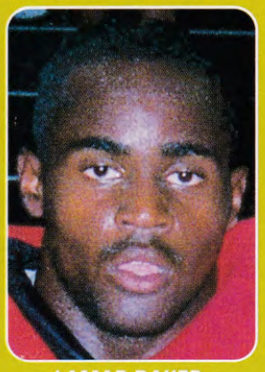
COMPLETE PHOENIX METROPOLITAN FOOTBALL PREVIEW



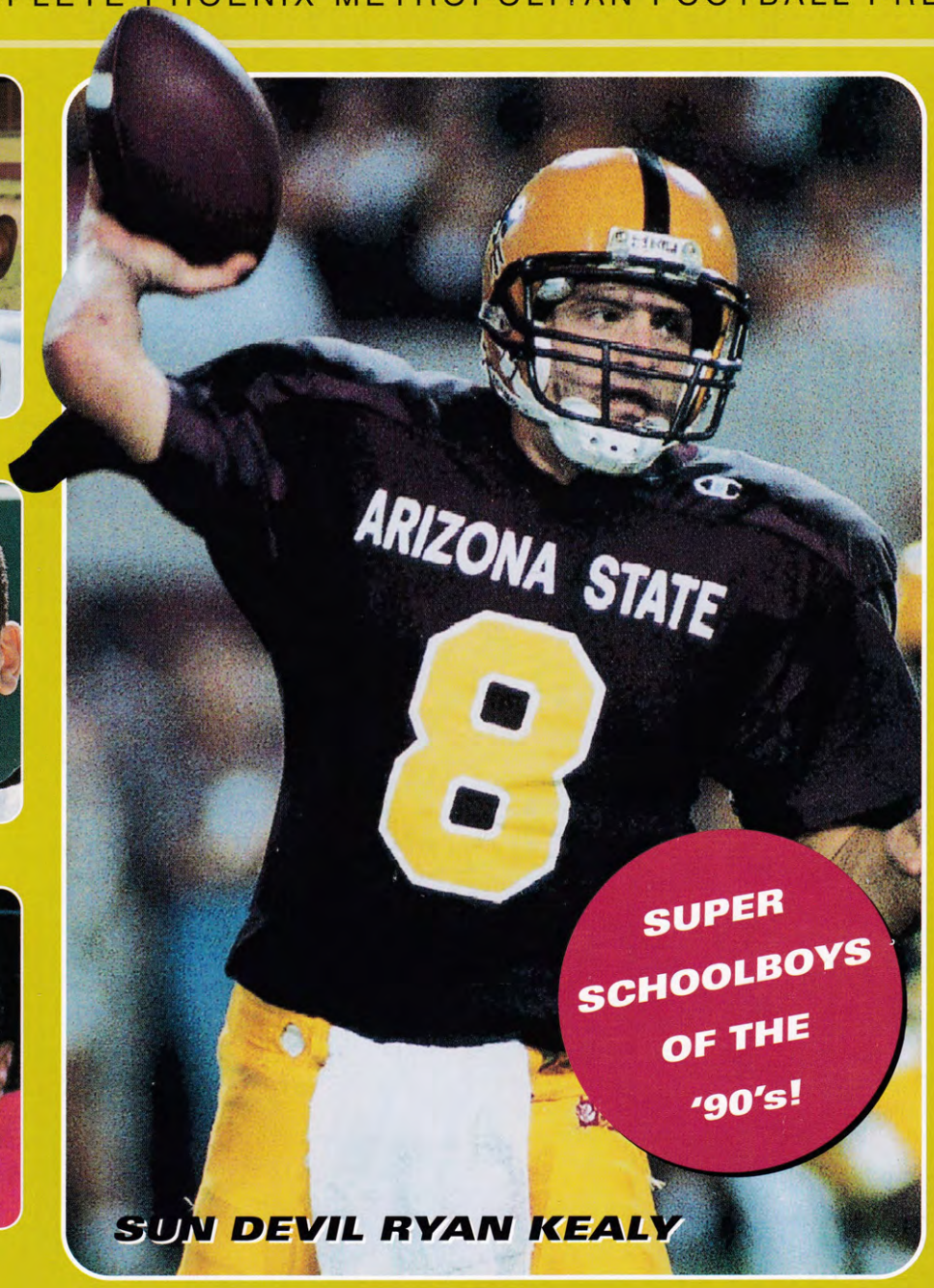
LYNZELL JACKSON
Tempe Union

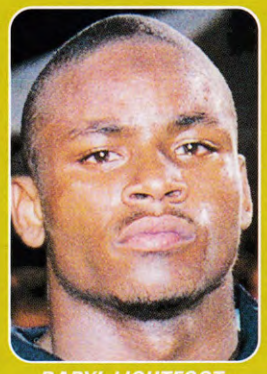


JIMMY WILSON
Phoenix Christian



LAMAR BAKER
Agua Fria

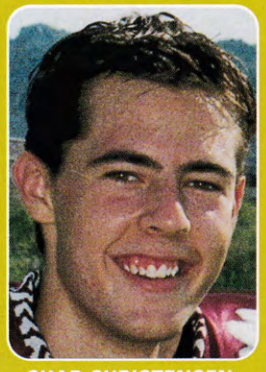




DARYL LIGHTFOOT
Maryvale



DREW SEVERN
Deer Valley



CHAD CHRISTENSEN
Desert Mountain

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7 25274 12995 9

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- Yesterday's Heroes • Super All-State Teams
- Coaching Leaders • Best Programs
- All-Time Records • Junior College Preview

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ARIZONA'S HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

1999 .....TERRELL SUGGS
.....Chandler Hamilton (RB)
1998 .....BOBBY WADE
.....Desert Vista (RB/DB)
1997 .....NATHAN WIZE
.....Tucson Sabino (RB)
1996 .....JUSTIN TAPLIN
.....Tempe (WR/KR)
1995 .....MIKE BROWN
.....Saguaro (RB/DB)
1994 .....TAVON COOPER
.....Peoria (RB/RS)
1993 .....KEVIN SCHMIDTKE
.....Marana Mtn. View (RB)
1992 .....MIKE MITCHELL
.....Brophy Prep (RB)
1991 .....CHRIS HOPKINS
.....Tucson Salpointe (RB)
1990 .....MARIO BATES
.....Tucson Amphi (RB)
1989 .....BRIAN DREW
.....Tempe McClintock (RB)
1988 .....ERIC DRAGE
.....Tucson Santa Rita (WR)
1987 .....KEVIN GALBREATH
.....Phoenix Maryvale (RB)
1986 .....BOBBY VALDEZ
.....Tucson Sunnyside (QB)
1985 .....CLEVELAND COLTER
.....Tempe McClintock (RB)
1984 .....STEVE BELLES
.....Phoenix St. Mary's (QB)
1983 .....ANTHONY PARKER
.....Tempe McClintock (RB)
1982 .....RODNEY PEETE (jr)
.....Tucson Sahuaro (QB)
1981 .....STAN GILL
.....Flagstaff (RB)
1980 .....FRED SIMS
.....Tucson Sunnyside (RB)
1979 .....MOSSY CADE
.....Eloy Santa Cruz (DB)
1978 .....MIKE CADE
.....Eloy Santa Cruz (RB)
1977 .....(TIE) ALVIN MOORE
.....Coolidge (TB)



All-American Terrell Suggs scored 26 touchdowns and gained 2,274 yards. (Andy Sawyer photo)

.....RIKI GRAY
.....Tucson Amphi (LB)
1976 .....GREG BRADY
.....Coronado (QB)
1975 .....BRIAN FELIX
.....Phoenix Union (RB)
1974 .....DAVID MITCHELL (jr)
.....Phoenix St. Mary's (RB)
TIE .....JIMMY MOORE
.....Marcos de Niza(TE/DE)
1973 .....ROB WILSON
.....Coronado (QB/DB)
1972 .....JESSE PARKER
.....Tucson Rincon (RB)
1971 .....FRED MORTENSEN
.....Tempe (QB)
1970 .....BILL CROWE
.....Tempe McClintock (LB)
1969 .....BENNY MALONE
.....Eloy Santa Cruz (RB)
1968 .....JOE PETROSHUS
.....Tucson (HB)
1967 .....TIM SMITH
.....Phoenix St. Mary's (RB)
1966 .....(TIE) BOB SOZA
.....Mesa Westwood (TB)
.....BILL DAWSON
.....Tucson (OT/DT)
1965 .....ART MALONE
.....Eloy Santa Cruz (TB)
1964 .....LEROY PEOPLES
.....Marana (HB)
1963 .....JAMES DUGAN
.....Flagstaff (HB/DB)
1962 .....EVERETT ROLLINS
.....Scottsdale Arcadia (HB)
1961 .....ANDY LIVINGSTON
.....Mesa (TB)
1960 .....TED LAWRENCE
.....South Mountain (G)
1959 .....BOB OLSON
.....South Mountain (FB)
1958 .....LEWIS ALBRIGHT
.....Scottsdale (HB)
1957 .....EDDIE WILSON
.....Chandler (QB)

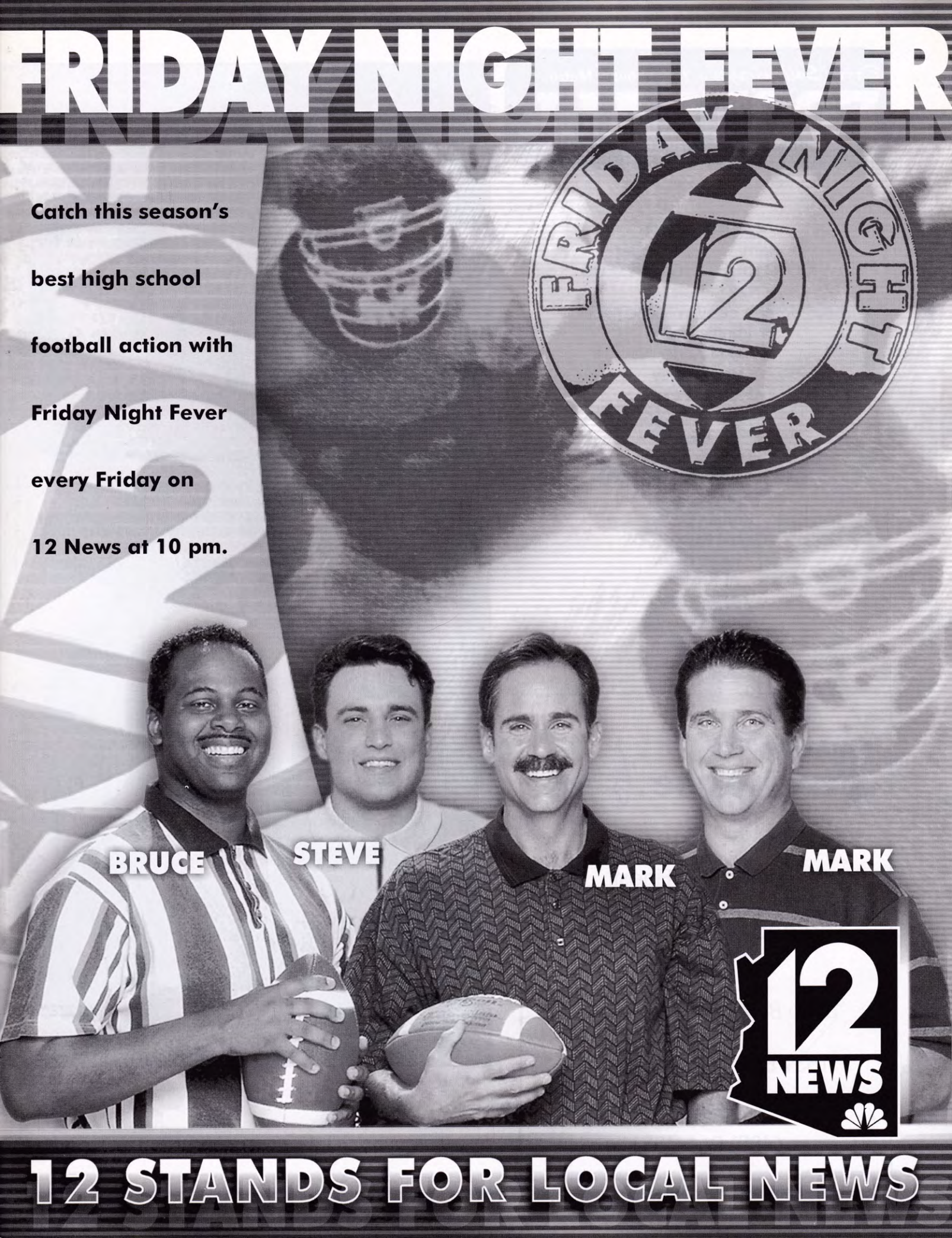
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FRIDAY NIGHT FEVER



12 STANDS FOR LOCAL NEWS

Barry Sollenberger's 2000 Phoenix Metro

FOOTBALL

COMPLETE PHOENIX METROPOLITAN FOOTBALL PREVIEW

PUBLISHER
Barry C. Sollenberger
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Al Kukulski
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Carol Downey
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Stop By The Firehouse



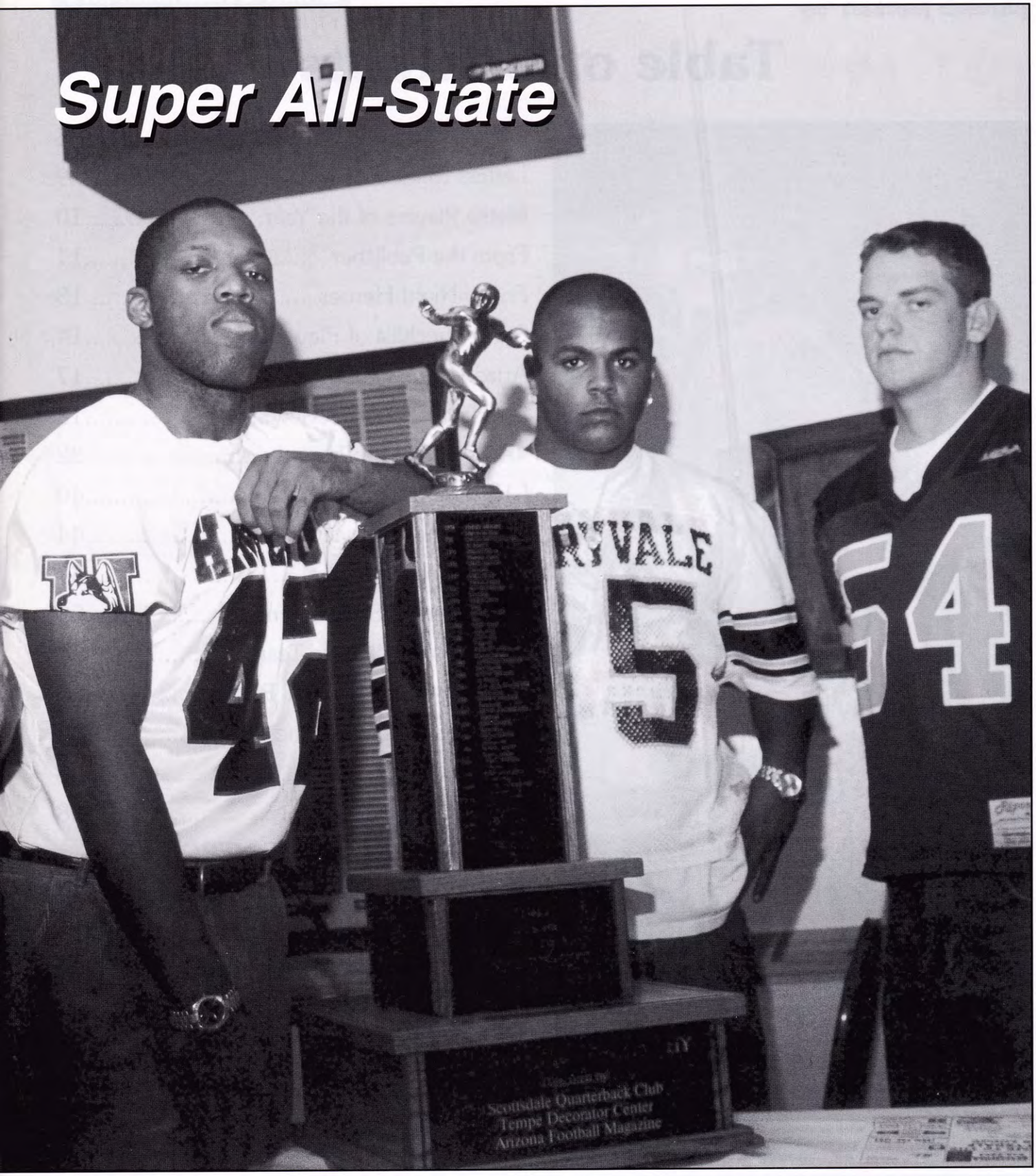
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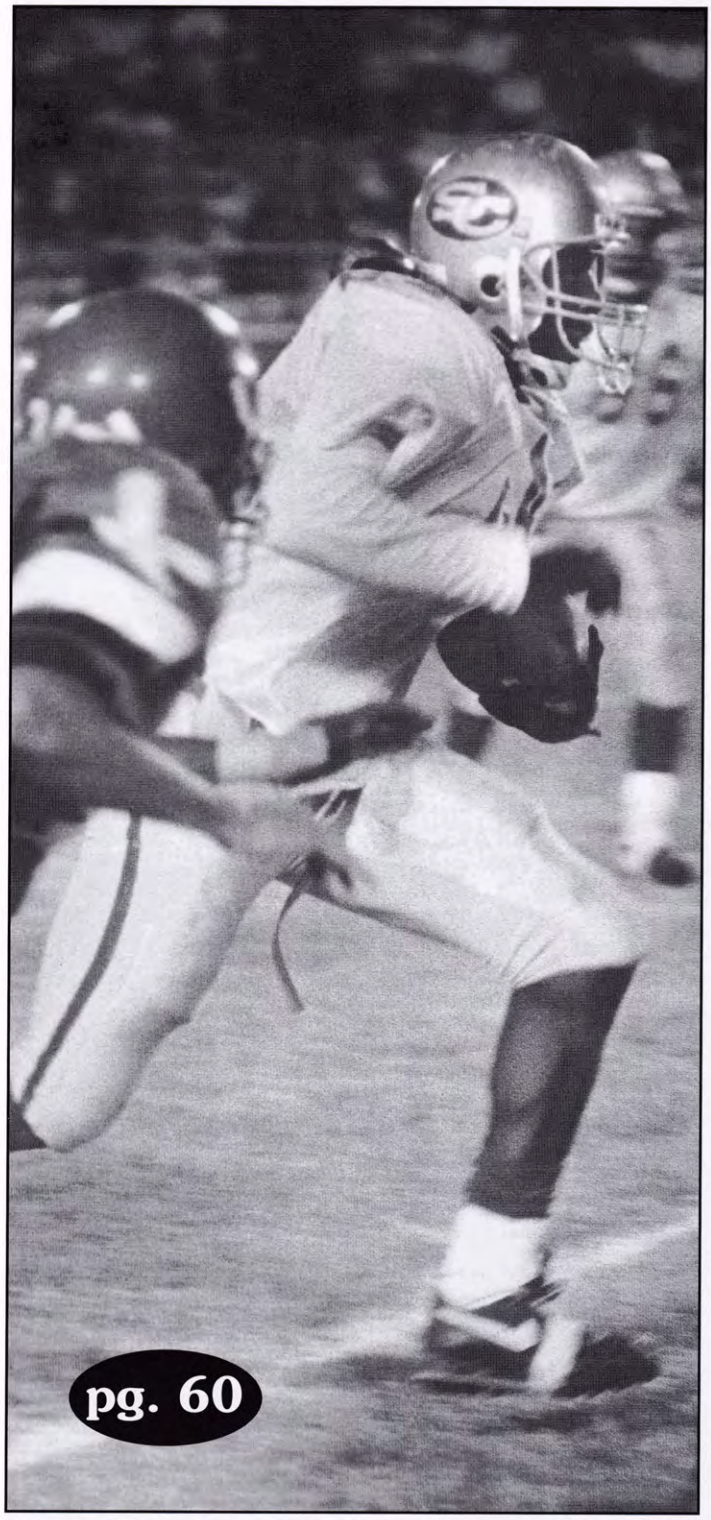


Super All-State



Five members of Phoenix Metro Football Magazine's Super All-State team pose for the camera at the Scottsdale Quarterback Club's Player of the Year Luncheon. L-R: Charles Parkinson (Blue Ridge), Austin Sendlein (Scottsdale Chaparral), Terrell Suggs (Chandler Hamilton), Josh Kirkwood (Phoenix Maryvale) and Cole "Doc" Golightly (Mesa). Photo by Todd Lillard.

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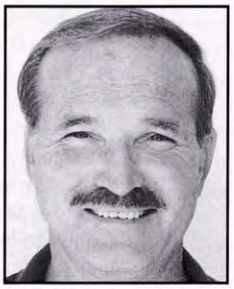
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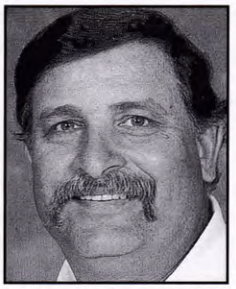
Keith Brown
Phx. Christian



Pat Lavin
Bourgade



Bil McKane
Mesa



Gerry LaBelle
Cactus Shadows



Jim Ewan
Mountain Ridge

Winning Pct./Coach/School/Record

.831 .. Keith Brown, Phoenix Christian (74-15-0)
.829 .. Ron Estabrook, Scottsdale Chaparral (97-20-0)
.811 .. Rim Rattay, Phoenix Desert Vista (189-44-4)
.793 .. John Wrenn, Chandler Hamilton (149-39-0)
.778 .. Sean Loomer, Chandler Valley Christian (7-2-0)
.771 .. Larry Fetkenhier, Glendale Cactus (148-44-4)
.761 .. Pat Farrell, Phoenix St. Mary's (204-64-2)
.759 .. Doug Clapp, Peoria (126-40-6)
.744 .. Bill McKane, Mesa (58-20-0)
.743 .. Charles Bell, Northwest Christian (52-18-0)
.727 .. Gene Dales, Chandler Seton Catholic (8-3-0)
.723 .. Karl Kiefer, Mountain Pointe (277-106-3)
.719 .. Jesse Parker, Gilbert (248-97-4)
.685 .. Doug Shaffer, Scottsdale Horizon (122-56-2)
.672 .. Tom Bruney, Phoenix Maryvale (45-22-0)
.657 .. Mickey Bell, Agua Fria (23-12-0)
.652 .. Steve Chisman, Phx. Washington (92-49-4)
.635 .. Greg Parrish, Glendale Apollo (108-62-4)
.649 .. Bill Mitton, Trevor Browne (203-110-2)

Winning Pct./Coach/School/Record

.644 .. Tom Joseph, Marcos de Niza (56-31-0)
.633 .. Bernie Busken, Mountain View (133-77-0)
.631 .. Gerry LaBelle, Cactus Shadows (94-55-3)
.613 .. Tim Sanford, Phoenix Brophy (106-67-2)
.611 .. Doug Meyer, Arizona Lutheran (22-14-1)
.605 .. Chuck Esquivel, Ironwood (26-17-1)
.606 .. Pat Lavin, Phoenix Bourgade (131-85-3)
.600 .. Tom Tucker, Phoenix Central (6-4-0)
.595 .. Gary Mauldin, Thunderbird (103-70-1)
.595 .. Cleveland Dansby, South (72-49-0)
.581 .. Jim Ewan, Mountain Ridge (36-26-0)
.575 .. Tim McBurney, Tempe Union (61-45-2)
.538 .. Mike Clark, Mesa Dobson (120-103-2)
.525 .. George Martinez, Westview (21-19-1)
.524 .. Richard Gray, Chandler (66-60-1)
.518 .. Mike Brown, Phoenix Greenway (71-66-2)
.511 .. Gary Venturo, Corona del Sol (118-113-2)
.510 .. Frank Lautt, Phoenix Alhambra (26-25-0)
.500 .. Matt Csoka, Queen Creek (5-5-0)

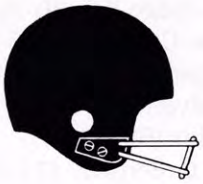
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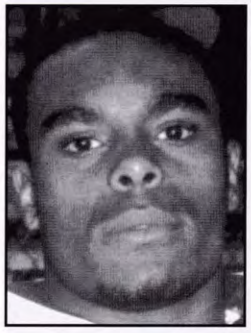
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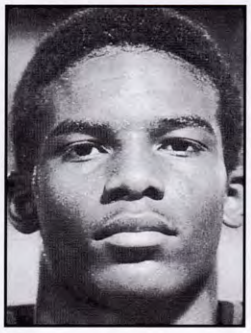
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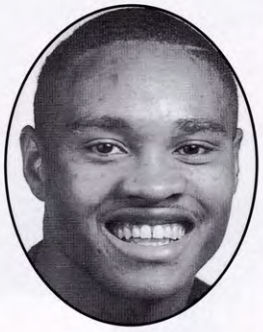
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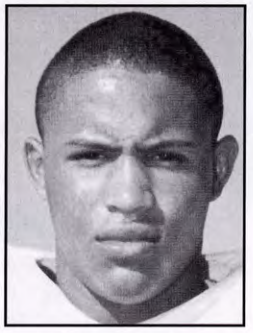
Rashad Bauman
South Mountain



Anthony Parker
McClintock



Tyrone Byrd
Chandler



Mike Brown
Saguaro



Marcus Thurman
Desert Vista

HONORING THE STATE'S BEST DEFENSIVE BACKS

1999..... Marcus Thurman, Tempe Desert Vista
1998..... Bobby Wade, Tempe Desert Vista
1997..... Brandon Falkner, Peoria
1996..... Rashad Bauman, South Mountain
1995..... Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro
1994..... Eric Johnson, Phoenix Alhambra
1993..... Corey Hill, Tucson Sabino
1992..... Mitchell Freedman, Phoenix Maryvale
1991..... James Richardson, Bradshaw Mountain (jr)
1990..... Eddie Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz
1989..... Billy Burris, Florence
1988..... Mike Salmon, Phoenix Greenway
1987..... Tyrone Byrd, Chandler
1986..... Nathan LaDuke, Phoenix Alhambra
1985..... Cleveland Colter, Jr., Tempe McClintock
1984..... John Giaspie, Phoenix Central
1983..... Anthony Parker, Tempe McClintock
1982..... Chuck Nixon, Phoenix Shadow Mountain
1981..... Shawn Benson, Mesa Mountain View
1980..... George Duarte, Tucson Sunnyside (jr)
1979..... Mossy Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz
1978..... Jeff Colter, Tucson Amphitheater
1977..... Charles Cobbs, Florence
1976..... Felix Kelson, South Mountain
1975..... David Given, Tempe McClintock
1974..... Harold Smith, Florence
1973..... Rob Wilson, Scottsdale Coronado
1972..... Carl Russell, McNary
1971..... Danny Smith, Safford (jr)
1970..... Derral Davis, Tucson
1969..... Dick Harris, Mesa Westwood (jr)
1968..... Joe Petroshus, Tucson
1967..... Rudy Quihuis, Tucson Pueblo
1966..... Bill Dipley, Scottsdale Arcadia
1965..... Bill Dipley, Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)
1964..... LeRoy Peoples, Marana
1963..... Earliest Nelson, South Mountain
1962..... James Dugan, Flagstaff (jr)
1961..... Elby Bushong, Phoenix Washington
1960..... Luther Harper, Phoenix Union
1959..... Jim Sims, Tucson (jr)
1958..... Dornel Nelson, South Mountain
1957..... Steve Vaughn, Phoenix North
1956..... Warren Livingston, Mesa
1955..... Warren Livingston, Mesa (jr)
1954..... Eddie Mitchell, Phoenix North
1953..... Charles Christopher, Phoenix Carver
1952..... Joel Favara, Tucson

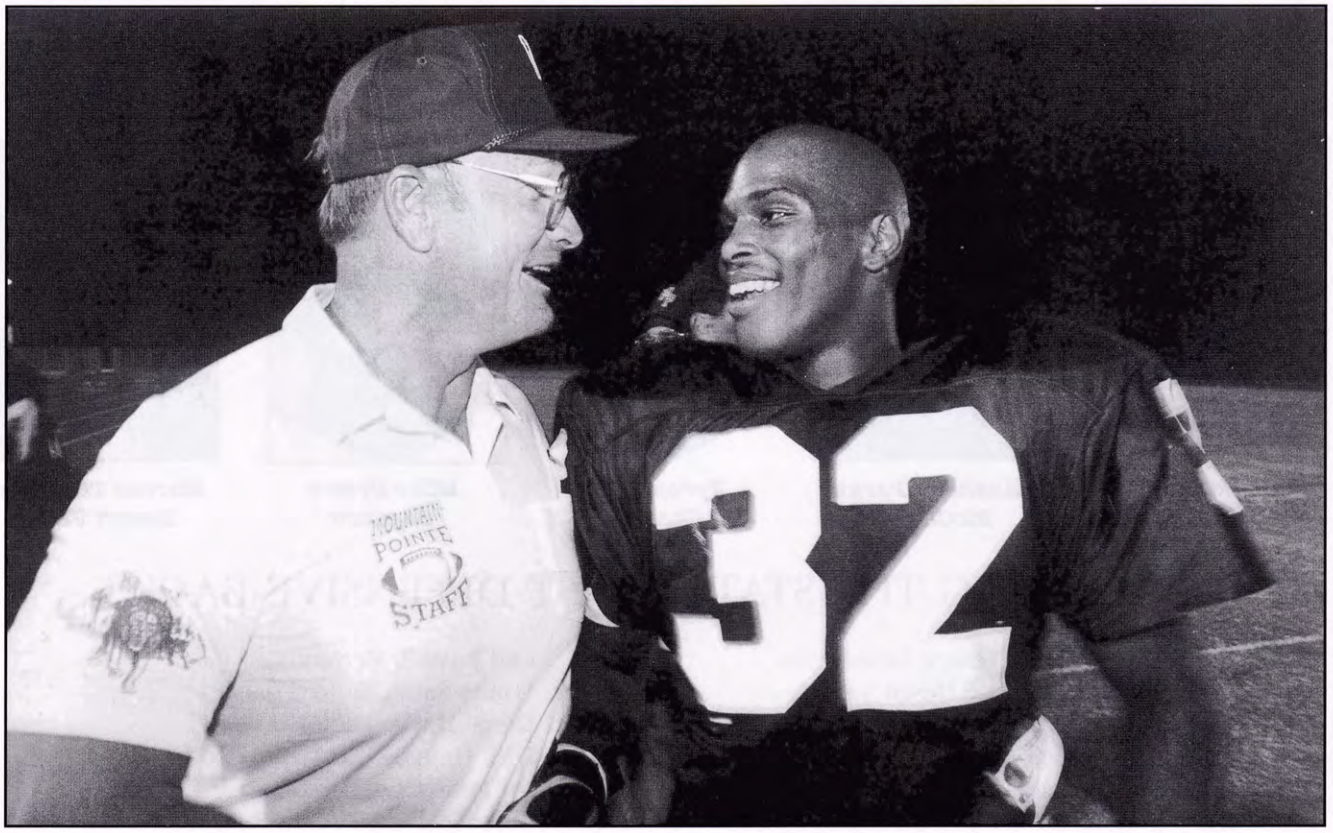
TYRONE BYRD, *a three-sport star at Chandler High School between 1985-87, was a star defensive back at Nebraska and a projected high NFL draft pick whose career was halted by an automobile accident in 1993.*

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277	**Karl Kiefer, Mountain Pointe**	**277-106**
265	**Vern Friedli, Tucson Amphi**	**265-97-2**
248	**Jesse Parker, Gilbert**	**248-97-4**
227	Edgar "Mutt" Ford, Mesa	227-64-17
227	Emil Nasser, Winslow	227-91-8
225	Tot Workman, Round Valley	225-67-2
224	Jerry Loper, Chandler	224-106-10
204	Boone Jackson, Mohave	204-71-6
204	**Pat Farrell, St. Mary's**	**204-64-2**
203	**Bill Mitton, Trevor Browne**	**203-110-2**

BOLD: Active Coaches
SOURCE: Arizona Football Record Book

Head coach Gary Venturo, Corona del Sol; Head coach Jim Rattay, Desert Vista;
Head coach Tom Joseph, Marcos de Niza;
Head coach Dick Baniszewski, McClintock; Head coach Tim McBurney, Tempe Union.

letters ...



NOTE: *Enclosed find a collection of what our staff considers the all-time classic letters which have graced our mail box in the 30 year history of our publication. Some have been condensed to save space.*

YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT

I have just read your latest edition. I have the best "morgue" in Arizona when it comes to any and all background information regarding Arizona high schools. I have material dating back to when I first started handling preps in 1959.

The idea of your magazine is great, however you do need assistance. I have only seen one issue, and although the basic idea is sound, there are far too many errors for it to be considered a first class publication.

"I have only seen one issue, and although the basic idea is sound, there are far too many errors for it to be considered a first class publication ... The only way to correct these errors is to hire people in the know ... like myself."

Examples: The headline on page 16, "The Wild Wild West." What's so wild about it? Also, your art production is terrible.

The critique is much too lengthy to discuss now, but I would be willing to sit down and talk about it with you.

The only way to correct these "errors" is to hire people in the know. People who know preps, people who know how and what to write. People who know journalism, from reporting to layouts to makeup.

My suggestion is by hiring one or two key people like myself, your magazine has the potential to be "great, first class and super." It could be the best resource for our state schoolboys. But you need help.

Don't take this as a direct slam to you or your staff, but merely as a yardstick of what a veteran writer thinks.

Ed Jordan
The Tucson Citizen
November, 1971

FORGET SALPOINTE

I just received your 1981 football magazine. The information about Salpointe Catholic High School is completely inaccurate. It says "this fall's squad could be the strongest since 1971." The truth is that by every criteria by which a football squad is evaluated, this is the weakest squad in Salpointe history.

Simple common courtesy would dictate that the facts be checked out before a publication such as yours goes to print. This was not done.

Such a blatant misrepresentation is unfair to our school, its team, and its coaches, and it places undue pressure on our players. If this represents the level of your reporting "expertise" please do not refer to Salpointe Catholic High School in any of your future issues.

Coach Ed Doherty
Tucson Salpointe High School
August, 1981

NOTE: Four months later, Salpointe finished 10-2 and lost to Phoenix Trevor Browne in the state championship game.

JUNK JOURNALISM

I listened to your halftime show (ASPN with George Allen) during the Mountain View-Dobson game, and I strongly resent the implication you made that I do "junk journalism."

If you guys feel I focus more on the coaches and not enough on the players, then why do you fuel it more by focusing part of your show on that? I guess you thought it would be great to take potshots at me, because that's the only way you get all your information to talk about anyway. You guys never have anything fresh or original to say. Everything is stolen from my stories.

Obviously, you ignore the Friday prep page I do each week ... you guys seem to be only interested in the superficial (stats, size, history of the programs, traditions, where they're going to college). There's much more to report than that. I like to find the human side of the athlete or coach, the heart and soul, what's inside.

As for concentrating on the verbal battle between Jesse Parker and Vern Friedli, I was only reporting the animosity they have toward each other, and what was said to me. They fueled it, not me. You obviously missed the Michael Bates feature that day. Wasn't that a positive story on a player? You could have talked about that during your discussion, because all you do is rip off my stuff every week anyway.

"I strongly resent the implication you made that I do junk journalism ... you guys never have anything fresh or original to say. Everything is stolen from my stories ... all you do is rip off my stuff every week anyway."

Well, at least I'm being read.

Dick Obert
The Arizona Republic
September, 1988

NOTE: Dick, we're still puzzled. Do we steal all your stories or ignore all your work?

"The omission of the undefeated 1996 Class 5A state championship team from your magazine is unconscionable. Your pathetic reasoning and miserable excuses are at odds with the facts."

CONTROLLED RAGE

As treasurer of the Mountain View Toro Booster Club, I am writing to express my extreme rage at your handling of our account with your publication. I have waited a week since our phone conversation to respond, in order to insure that my feelings were not just sparked in the heat of the moment.

You contacted me last November, asking if the boosters wanted to place an ad in the state championship program. I authorized the add personally and later presented the matter to and received approval from the board. To date I have never received an invoice for that add. A phone call to me, Dave Hines or Coach Bernie Busken would have resulted in a check immediately. There were a plethora of ways to handle this matter, any one of which would have been preferable to your slap in the face of Toro Football.

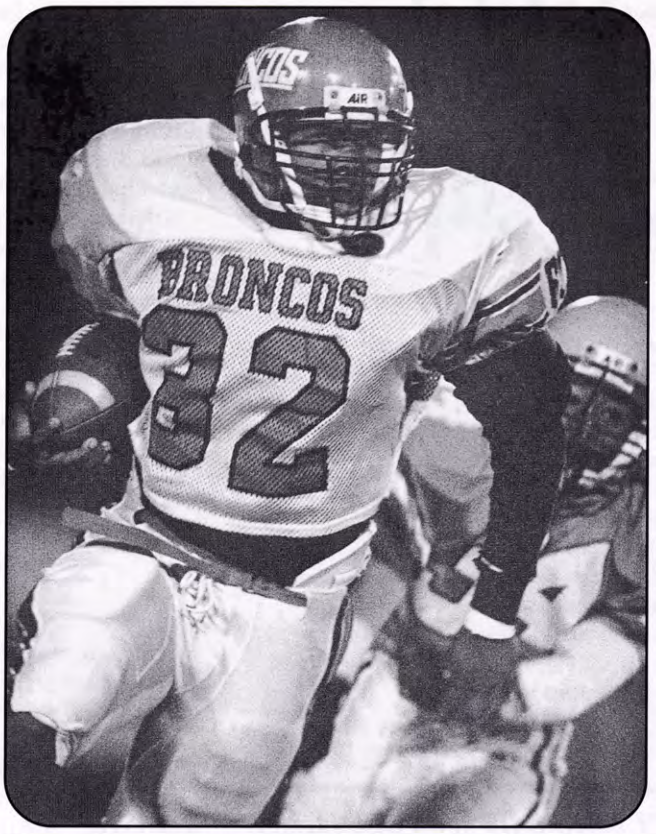
Your actions have been completely unprofessional and the omission of the undefeated 1996 Class 5A state championship team from your (*Phoenix Metro Football*) magazine is unconscionable. Your pathetic reasoning and miserable excuses are at odds with the facts. Our organization has dealt with you routinely over the years and I thought we had a good working relationship. It is unfortunate that you feel otherwise. I now feel otherwise also.

David L. Chaffee
Mountain View Booster Club
August, 1997

NOTE: Go Toros!

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Salutes the Phoenix Metro Players of the Year



Brophy Prep running back Mike Mitchell rushed for 5,669 yards and scored 76 touchdowns (Gazette photo).

1999 .. Terrell Suggs, Chandler Hamilton, RB
1998 .. Bobby Wade, Desert Vista, RB/DB
1997 .. Todd Heap, Mountain View, TE/LB
1996 .. Justin Taplin, Tempe, WR
1995 .. Mike Brown, Saguaro, RB/DB
1994 .. Tavon Cooper, Peoria, RB/KR
1993 .. Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, RB/DB
1992 .. Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, RB
1991 .. Sam Salts, St. Mary's, WB/DB/K
1990 .. Grady Benton, Mesa, QB
1989 .. Brian Drew, McClintock, RB/RS
1988 .. Mike Salmon, Greenway, WB/DB/K
1987 .. Kevin Galbreath, Maryvale, RB
1986 .. Nathan LaDuke, Alhambra, QB/DB
1985 .. Cleveland Colter, McClintock, RB/DB
1984 .. Steve Belles, St. Mary's, QB
1983 .. Anthony Parker, McClintock, RB/DB
1982 .. Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria, RB
1981 .. Frank Rudolph, Coronado, DE
1980 .. Jimmy Williams, Tempe, LB
1979 .. Todd Shell, Mountain View, LB
1978 .. Rory Barnett, Trevor Browne, RB (jr)
1977 .. Mike Pagel, Washington, QB
1976 .. Greg Brady, Coronado, QB
1975 .. Brian Felix, Phoenix Union, RB/DB
1974 .. David Mitchell, St. Mary's (jr)
1973 .. Rob Wilson, Coronado, QB/DB
1972 .. Keith Sobraski, Coronado, DT
1971 .. Fred Mortensen, Tempe, QB
1970 .. Bob Breunig, Alhambra, FB/LB
1969 .. Danny White, Westwood, QB
1968 .. Bill Mannion, St. Mary's, QB
1967 .. Tim Smith, St. Mary's, FB
1966 .. Bob Soza, Westwood, TB
1965 .. Bill Dunning, Mesa, RB
1964 .. Richard Griffin, Westwood, T
1963 .. Earliest Nelson, South Mountain, RB
1962 .. Everett "Moose" Rollins, Arcadia, RB
1961 .. Andy Livingston, Mesa, RB
1960 .. Ted Lawrence, South Mountain, G
1959 .. Bob Olson, South Mountain, RB
1958 .. Lewis Albright, Scottsdale, RB
1957 .. Eddie Wilson, Chandler, QB
1956 .. Warren Livingston, Mesa, RB
1955 .. George Greathouse, Phoenix Union, RB
1954 .. George Greathouse, Phoenix Union, RB
1953 .. Kenny Aycock, North, RB
1952 .. Jack Stovall, St. Mary's, E
1951 .. Bob Black, Phoenix Union, E
1950 .. Don Beasley, Mesa, FB

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Come on People, Have a Clue

After 30 years in the business, I shouldn't be surprised. Still, I'm amazed at some of the stories which continue to appear in the media pertaining to high school sports. Especially when reporters start to compare Arizona to the rest of the country. Especially when the writer should know better. If I've learned one thing in over three decades in this business, it's how little we all know about our own profession.

Take **Arizona Republic** newcomer **Dan Bickley** for example. Bickley, who is from Chicago, missed the entire target in a column entitled *Torch Passed to a New Top Dog,* after nationally ranked Desert Vista creamed rival Mountain Pointe in early November. "As the state's population continues to soar, so will the reputation and talent level of its high school football program," wrote Bickley. "In Texas, the sport is like oxygen, a state where 40,000 people regularly show up for featured prep games. Florida is so rich with talent that it stocks top-ranked college programs all across the country. Arizona is nowhere near that level, but the participation numbers are up, and the gap is surely closing."

What?

At no time in history have 40,000 people showed up on a regular bases for featured high school games in Texas. In fact, in the 100-year-history of the sport in the Lone Star State - which covers about a zillion games - five crowds have exceeded 40,000, with the largest being 49,953 at the Plano-Port Neches Groves matchup in 1977. When it comes to crowd support for high school football, nothing can compare to Illinois or Ohio. In fact, exactly 33 different Illinois high school games have drawn more fans than the largest ever in Texas. The historic crowd of 120,000 at the 1937 Prep Bowl in Soldier Field is the nation's all-time best. In Ohio, 70,955 fans came to Cleveland Stadium once for a city championship game.

Believe it or not, the crowds at the Arizona state finals in Sun Devil Stadium during the Decade of the '80s outdrew the Texas finals five out of 10 years, with the paid attendance of 23,487 at the Westwood-Mountain View finals in 1988 our state's all-time high. I agree with the late Art Johlfs, founder of the **National Sports News Service**, the first-ever national high school rating service, who often said, "The best thing about Texas high school football is the media hype which surrounds it. It's better than the sport."

"On Friday, Desert Vista's splendid quarterback, John Rattay, lived up to all notoriety," continued **Bickley** in his November column. "He tossed four touchdown passes. He scrambled for big gains. He looked very much like what he is - the best high school player in the state. In the coming years, Rattay can go a long way in furthering the image of our region. He has committed to Tennessee. If he succeeds, he will be a symbol, a positive reflection of Arizona football."

What?

John Rattay is a good quarterback. No offense to the Rattay family, but their son has never been the best football player in Arizona. Last fall, he arguably wasn't even the best quarterback in Maricopa County. Or his own household. To think that he needs to succeed as a Tennessee Volunteer to be a symbol or positive reflection of Arizona football is absurd.

Last year, over 100 different Arizona schoolboy products dotted Division I-A rosters at football programs throughout the country - from the east coast to the west. And this doesn't include I-AA schools, like Northern Arizona, which play good football and have sent thier share of players to the professional level. In fact, almost every major conference in the USA has an Arizona kid on the roster of at least one of its teams, with the Pac-10 leading the way - for obvious geographical reasons. I guarantee you, not one coach from any of these schools is waiting to see how John Rattay does at Tennessee before sending a recruiter to Phoenix. Past Arizona Players of the Year have attended schools like Alabama, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Texas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Nebraska before **Dan Bickley** or **John Rattay** were born.

This isn't an up-and-coming high school football state. Hasn't been for years. Arizona is arguably the third best high school sports state west of the Mississippi. It's not news.

It's old news.

BARRY SOLLENBERGER

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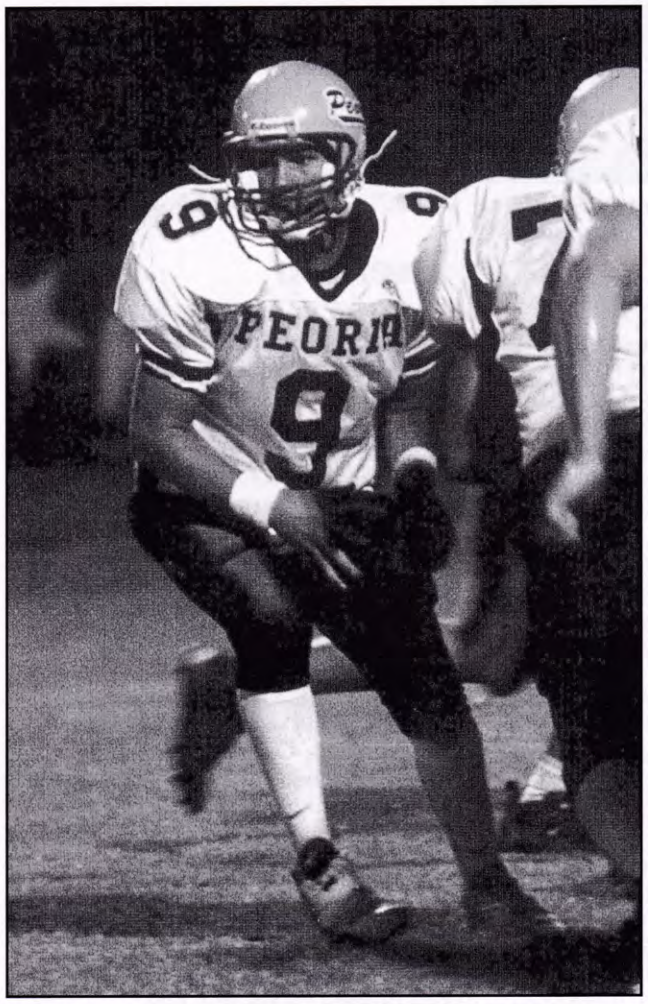
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Panther quarterback Vince Fiore passed for 1,808 yards and 13 touchdowns in just eight games. (Steve Paynter photo)

Phoenix Metro Football Magazine's *checklist of outstanding varsity players for the upcoming 2000 high school football season.*

QB ...Vince Fiore, Peoria, 6-2, 191
QB ...Ryan Fitzpatrick, Gilbert Highland, 6-2, 190
QB ...Chad Christensen, Desert Mountain, 6-2, 185
RB....Daryl Lightfoot, Phoenix Maryvale, 5-9, 175
RB....Jimmy Wilson, Phoenix Christian, 6-2, 210
RB....Mike Bell, Tolleson Union, 6-1, 201
RB....Steve Walker, Red Mountain, 5-11, 185
RB....Cornell Canidate, Phoenix Alhambra, 5-10, 170
WR...Lynzell Jackson, Tempe Union, 6-3, 180
WR ..Junior Taylor, Mesa, 6-2, 185
WR ..Ryan Jones, Scottsdale Saguaro, 6-0, 175
WR ..Joey Smith, South Mountain, 6-0, 195
WR ..Matt Miller, Mountain View, 6-2, 170
OL...Ryan Finn, Mesa Westwood, 6-6, 220
OL...Chris Palaia, Scottsdale Chaparral, 6-1, 210
OL...Mark Standage, Desert Mountain, 6-3, 240
OL...Richie Incognito, Mountain Ridge, 6-4, 294
OL...Brett Crandall, Mountain View, 6-3, 245
LB ...Jason Rodriguez, Chandler Hamilton, 6-2, 200
LB ...Todd Hannant, Desert Mountain, 6-3, 210
DL ...Drew Severn, Deer Valley, 6-2, 265
DL ...Luis Lujan, Phoenix Central, 6-4, 255
DB...Jason Shivers, South Mountain, 6-1, 190
DB...Lamar Baker, Agua Fria, 5-10, 188
PK ...Eric Oldencamp, Tempe McClintock, 5-11, 150
PK ...Brandon Woods, Chandler Hamilton, 5-11,170
P ...Derek McLaughlin, Mountain View, 6-1, 175

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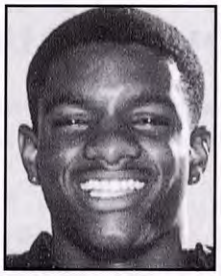
Metro Checklist of Players

quarterbacks

Travis Brown, Maryvale, 5-11,175
Garrett Chatham, Paradise Valley, 6-0, 170
Chad Christensen, Desert Mtn., 6-2,185
Ryan Cozzetto, Mountain Pointe, 6-0, 190
Trevor DeBenedetto, Seton, 6-2, 175
Vince Fiore, Peoria, 6-2, 191
Ryan Fitzpatrick, Highland, 6-2, 190
Kyle Kristick, Fountain Hills, 6-3, 218
Nick Gehrts, Buckeye, 6-2, 170 (jr)
Scott Martinez, Westview, 6-3, 190
Mike Nixon, Sunnyslope, 6-2, 180 (jr)
Johnny Ornelas, Alhambra, 6-2, 190
Scott Parsons, Apollo, 6-0, 185
Albert Ruiz, Mesa, 6-1, 185
Scott Walton, Cortez, 5-10, 168
Adam Wilson, St. Mary's, 5-11, 180

running backs

Derek Bair, Coronado, 5-10, 160
Mike Bell, Tolleson, 6-1, 201
Marquise Broom, Camelback, 5-8, 170 (jr)
Cornell Canidate, Alhambra, 5-10, 170
C.R. Davis, Moon Valley, 6-2, 180
Anthony Franco, Cactus, 5-10, 215 (jr)
Jafar Frazier, Buckeye, 6-0, 200 (jr)
Demarcus Green, Apollo, 5-9, 180
Tyree Hardge, Dysart, 5-8, 160 (jr)
Marques Hawkins, Mtn. Pointe, 5-9, 180
Randy Hill, McClintock, 6-2, 185 (jr)
John Lewis, Corona del Sol, 5-10, 180



Jason Norman
Deer Valley



Aaron Smith
Phx. Christian

Daryl Lightfoot, Maryvale, 5-9, 175
Quinton McCoy, Valley Christian, 5-11, 160
Kelly Mitchell, Peoria, 6-2, 191 (jr)
Jason Murray, North Canyon, 5-10, 210
Nathan Pittman, Maryvale, 5-9, 170
Jake Richardson, Westwood, 6-2, 180
Bogie Rodriguez, Glendale, 5-11, 195
Gabe Rosales, Apache Junction, 5-9, 150
Brandon Roy, North Canyon, 6-1, 185
Chaz Scott, Hamilton, 6-2, 200
Stephen Stine, Arizona Lutheran, 5-11, 170
Steve Terrill, Sunrise Mountain, 6-2, 205
Jessie Wagner, Cactus, 5-10, 170
Steve Walker, Red Mountain, 5-11, 185
Preston Weakland, Mountain Ridge, 5-8,180
Mike Wilda, Bourgade, 5-10, 180
Jimmy Wilson, Phoenix Christian, 6-2, 210

receivers

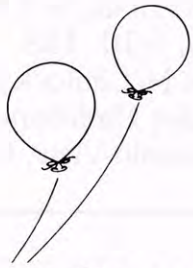
Chris Barber, Desert Mountain, 6-3, 203
Cameron Bennett, Arcadia, 6-2, 167
Seth Castillo, St. Mary's, 6-2, 190
Jeremy Gibbons, Alhambra, 6-2, 215
Jeremy Gilder, Maricopa, 6-2, 185 (jr)
Jared Grainger, Horizon, 5-11, 175
Brett Heaton, Dobson, 6-3, 180
Andy Holden, Gilbert, 6-2, 180 (jr)
Mike Hollowell, Seton, 6-3, 180
Antwuane Hooks, Tolleson, 6-1, 183
Kyle Hunt, Gilbert, 6-5, 215 (jr)
Lynzell Jackson, Tempe, 6-3, 180
Ryan Jones, Saguaro, 6-0, 175
Evan Judge, Chaparral, 6-3, 195
Billy King, Peoria, 5-11, 176 (jr)
Luke Linamen, Horizon, 5-10, 150
Chris Lindvall, Chandler, 6-1, 175 (jr)
Matt Miller, Mountain View, 6-2, 170
Terry McFarlan, Corona del Sol, 5-10, 170
Jason Norman, Deer Valley, 6-1, 170
Jerome Pittman, Cortez, 6-1, 163
Trent Quintanilla, Desert Mountain, 5-7, 160
Lee Resendes, Peoria, 6-2, 181 (jr)
Bryan Schlueter, Chaparral, 5-11, 180
Jason St. Clair, Desert Vista, 5-10, 175
Zach Stahlecker, Coronado, 6-1, 190
Aaron Smith, Phoenix Christian, 6-3, 230
Joey Smith, South Mountain, 6-0, 195
Junior Taylor, Mesa, 6-2, 185
Kyle Wooten, Apollo, 5-9, 160

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Jeff Bishop, Marcos de Niza, 6-3, 260
Shannon Clark, Tempe, 5-10, 205
Matt Huffman, Maricopa, 6-2, 220 (jr)
Adam Kunz, Saguaro, 5-9, 215
Aaron Lassner, Peoria, 6-1, 285
Chris Palaia, Chaparral, 6-1, 210
Adam Scheufler, Corona del Sol, 6-2, 210
Harley Smith, North, 6-4, 255
Austin Tryon, Red Mountain, 6-3, 240

linemen

Ryan Angus, Washington, 6-0, 240
Ivan Aragon, Phoenix Central, 6-0, 265
Jacob Bracamonte, Westview, 6-2, 255
Travis Bright, Highland, 6-5, 290
Artuso Cabrales, Millennium, 6-2, 230
Adam Collins, North, 6-1, 225
Brett Crandall, Mountain View, 6-3, 245
Brian Duncan, Mountain Pointe, 6-2, 220
Keith Finkle, McClintock, 5-9, 228
Ryan Finn, Mesa Westwood, 6-6, 220
Zack Fleming, Sunrise Mountain, 6-1, 195
Adam Garday, Centennial, 6-2, 212
Nate Gibbs, Moon Valley, 6-4, 290
Cory Gray, Horizon, 6-1, 250
Nate Griffin, St. Mary's, 6-2, 225
Ryan Harding, Deer Valley, 6-4, 245
Matt Hartsook, Greenway, 6-4, 280
Leon Hernandez, Apache Junction, 5-9, 240
Brandon Hopkins, Westwood, 6-6, 270
Kelly Huet, Arizona Lutheran, 6-4, 275
Kyle Huish, Westwood, 6-0, 190
Brian Hutchinson, Chaparral, 6-0, 210
Richie Incognito, Mountain Ridge, 6-4, 294
Chad Johnson, Dobson, 6-0, 210
Cody Johnson, Bourgade, 6-2, 240
Paul Kitchen, Peoria, 6-3, 290
Maika Kofe, Mesa, 6-1, 350
Austin Laguna, Marcos de Niza, 6-4, 290
Tyson Langford, Westwood, 6-1, 200
Kiel Littell, Wickenburg, 6-4, 305
Andrew Lickenbill, Greenway, 6-3, 220 (jr)
Luis Lujan, Phoenix Central, 6-4, 255
Dylan Lukens, Gilbert, 6-4, 210
Eric Marshall, Mesa, 5-11, 230
Jordan Merchant, Wickenburg, 6-3, 280
Chris Mitchell, Washington, 5-10, 230
Matt O'Malley, Paradise Valley, 6-1, 215
Eduardo Preciado, Cactus, 6-4, 229
Adam Ramos, Westview, 5-11, 220 (jr)
Russ Richardson, Phx. Christian, 6-2, 250 (jr)
James Robinson, Brophy Prep, 6-2, 240
Mike Santellan, Buckeye, 5-11, 240
Lyle Sendlein, Chaparral, 6-4, 245 (jr)
Drew Severn, Deer Valley, 6-2, 265
Joe Skipper, Goldwater, 6-2, 205 (jr)
Jacob Smith, Mesa, 6-3, 235
Chris Sofranac, Shadow Mtn., 6-3, 240
Mark Standage, Desert Mountain, 6-3, 240
Kevin Underwood, Sunrise Mtn., 5-10, 185
Albert Uriz, Buckeye, 5-9, 235



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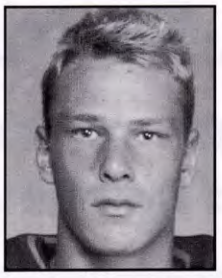
Aaron Viata, Desert Vista, 6-0, 230
Ben Von Rotz, Skyline, 5-9, 220
Nick Walag, Red Mountain, 6-3, 260
Tony Wineman, Fountain Hills, 5-10, 230
Robert Winfrey, Hamilton, 6-2, 260
Bo Zierden, Chaparral, 6-0, 190

linebackers

Louie Acevado, North, 6-1, 220 (jr)
Alonzo Alexander, Casa Grande, 6-0, 225
Danny Baugher, Mtn. Pointe, 6-0, 190 (jr)
Jose Buenrostro, Maryvale, 5-8, 185
Nick Clapp, Paradise Valley, 6-1, 225
Anthony DiDomizio, Camelback, 6-2, 210
Frank Drew, Buckeye, 5-10, 215
Justin Dutra, Westwood, 6-0, 190
Harry Flaster, Brophy Prep, 6-3, 225
Ben Flores, Mountain Pointe, 6-1, 200
Richard Galvan, Tempe, 5-5, 155
Sam Gibbs, Cactus Shadows, 5-11, 195
Matt Gromek, Ironwood, 5-11, 220 (jr)
Todd Hannant, Desert Mountain, 6-3, 210
Tanner Linsacum, Thunderbird, 5-8, 205
Ruben Lopez, Phoenix Central, 5-11, 195
Jacob Martin, Ironwood, 6-5, 215
Mike McNeil, Paradise Valley, 5-9, 185
Evan Reid, Skyline, 6-1, 195 (jr)
Mike Robson, Brophy Prep, 5-11, 205
Jason Rodriguez, Hamilton, 6-2 200
Brian Petrovich, Washington, 6-2, 210
Beau Raptis, Sunrise Mountain, 5-9, 190
Derek Swanson, Mountain View, 5-11, 185



Adam Collins
Phoenix North



Adam Scheufler
Corona del Sol

Mike Talbot, Agua Fria, 6-2, 215 (jr)
Nate Wahlstrom, Moon Valley, 5-11, 195
Troy Wolfgramm, Tempe, 6-2, 205

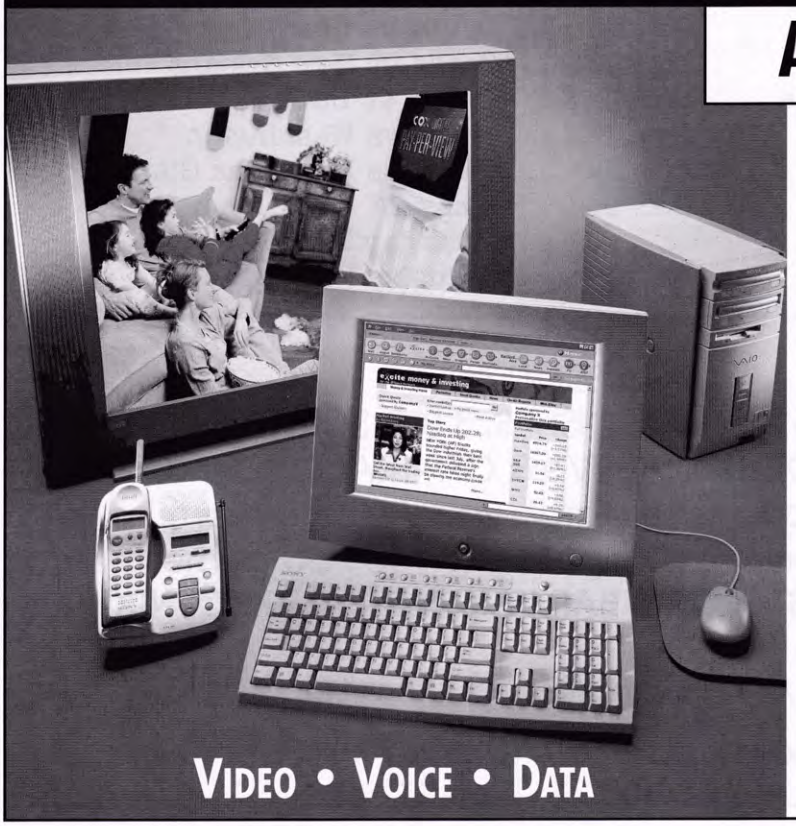
deep backs

John Amado, Glendale, 5-11, 170
Lamar Baker, Agua Fria, 5-10, 188
Joel Bocchi, Desert Vista, 5-11, 180
Chris Conner, Greenway, 5-9, 160
Matt Cutts, Greenway, 5-9, 150
Brandon Echols, Wickenburg, 5-9, 165
Ryan Field, Red Mountain, 5-9, 170
Vince Hernandez, Trevor Browne, 5-7, 140
Matt Higgins, Shadow Mtn., 5-10, 175 (jr)
Taman Jordan, Marcos de Niza, 6-0, 185
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Stanley LaRochelle, Westview, 6-0, 180
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Wally Murray, Mesquite, 6-3, 180
Oscar Rios, Alhambra, 5-11, 160 (jr)
John Robles, Brophy Prep, 6-0, 203
Ray Sanchez, Agua Fria, 5-10, 175
Vincent Sanchez, Independence, 6-1, 175
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Travis Brown, Maryvale, 5-11, 175
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Vince Fiore, Peoria, 6-2, 191
Derek McLaughlin, Mountain View, 6-1, 175
Eric Oldencamp, McClintock, 5-11, 150
Nagul Sabbagh, Saguaro, 5-9, 160
Glenn Staley, Washington, 6-0, 170
Javier Torres, Maryvale, 6-0, 150
Mike Nixon, Sunnyslope, 6-2, 180 (jr)
Reed White, Gilbert, 5-10, 165 (jr)
Ryan Williams, Chaparral, 6-1, 185
Brandon Woods, Hamilton, 5-11, 170

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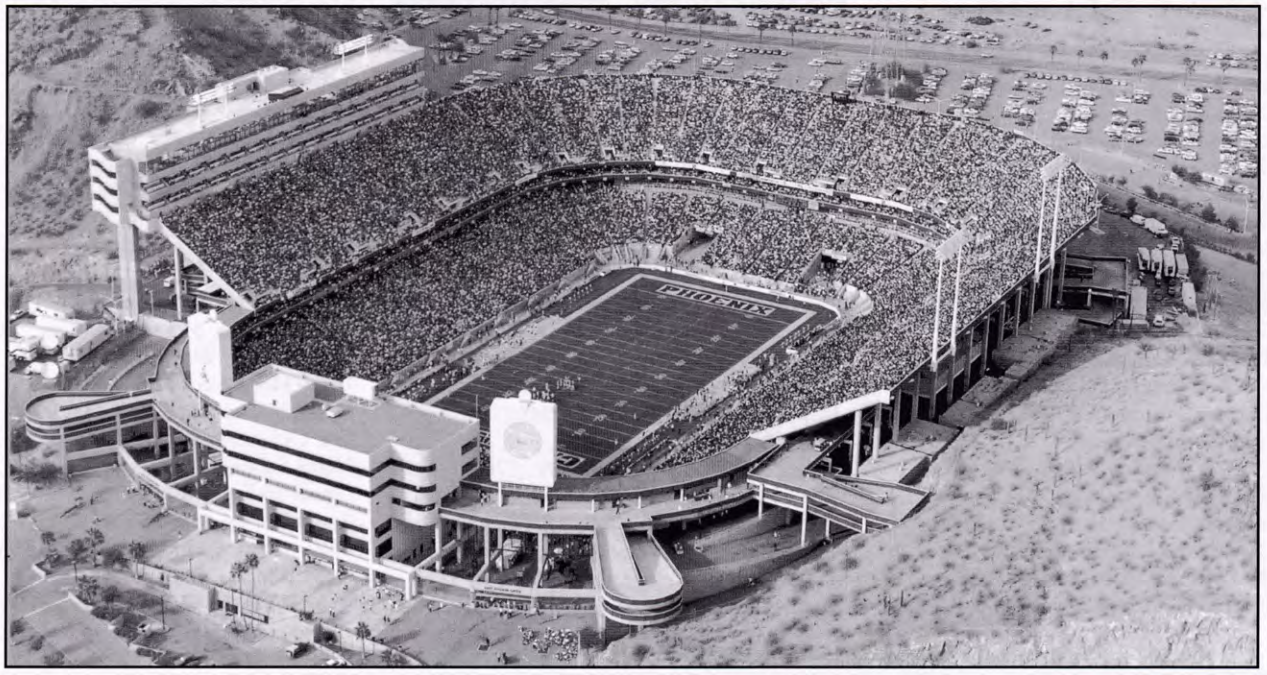
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Sept. 23.....Devils vs Utah State
Sept. 24.....Cards vs Green Bay
Oct. 7 .....Devils vs California
Oct. 8 .....Cards vs Cleveland
Oct. 14 .....Devils vs Washington
Oct. 15 .....Cards vs Philadelphia
Oct. 28 .....Devils vs Oregon
Oct. 29 .....Cards vs New Orleans
Nov. 4 .....Devils vs USC
Nov. 5 .....Cards vs Washington
Nov. 26 .....Cards vs New York Giants
Dec. 9.....Class 4A & 5A Finals
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Dec. 17.....Cards vs Baltimore

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2000 Arizona State Preview

By Joseph B. Sollenberger

A pair of creaky knees will have a major impact on the 2000 Arizona State football team.

Senior quarterback Ryan Kealy, whose career has had more ups and downs than Bill Clinton's, is recovering from his fifth knee surgery after tearing his anterior-cruciate ligament (right knee) in the '99 regular-season finale against Arizona.

With 31 career starts, Kealy (6-2, 198) is just 443 yards from becoming the school's second all-time leading passer, but whether he will be healthy for the entire season - or for any of the season - remains to be seen.

"This is really complicated because we have these things we have to be concerned about from a purely humanistic standpoint about Ryan's well being," said Bruce Snyder, who is entering his ninth season as A-State's coach. "If he's healthy, it's a huge asset. Experience, leadership, toughness. Ryan's been there, he's done that. Our plan is to head down the road that he's going to get healthy."

Red-shirt freshman Jeff Krohn (6-2, 178), a Scottsdale Horizon product, will be the No. 2 signal caller followed by senior Griffin Goodman (6-1, 212). Goodman played in six games last season, completing 26-of-46 attempts for three touchdowns and two interceptions. Junior John Leonard has decided to transfer.

Including Kealy, the Sun Devils return seven offensive starters. Standout tailback J.R. Redmond is not among them. The former All-American has graduated to the NFL (New England Patriots), but surprisingly the Devils' new backfield may be just as formidable as last year's. Senior Delvon Flowers (5-11, 185) scored six touchdowns and rushed for 512 yards, averaging 6.4 yards per carry and 17.5 yards per catch, both team highs.

"This will be his year to step up and be the guy," Snyder said. "If you look at our conference, he's the best returning tailback or one of the two or three best returning tailbacks." Junior Davaren Hightower (6-1, 214) will join Flowers in the backfield.

At wide receiver, Snyder must replace Tariq McDonald, who jumped ship early for the NFL Draft. Senior Richard Williams (6-0, 170) is the top returner after catching 37 passes for 608 yards and five touchdowns last year. A dozen others could line up as receivers this season.

While the receiving corps lacks experience, the Devils have no such problem at tight end. Snyder has given this job to senior Todd Heap (6-5, 323) and rightly so. With hands of super glue, the all-American candidate set school records last season for tight ends with 55 catches for 832 yards. "Todd has proven that he's the best tight end in our league and probably the best in the United States," says Snyder.

The rest of the offensive line isn't as stellar, but it could mature into a team strength, according to the head coach. "I really trust my instincts," he adds. "And my instincts tell me that we have a chance to be really good on the offensive line."

All-Pac-10 tackle Marvel Smith departed a year early for the NFL (Pittsburgh Steelers), but senior all-Pac-10 pick Victor Leyva (6-4, 303) returns at right tackle. Senior Scott Peters (6-3, 312) has played at center and right tackle. Junior Levi Jones (6-6, 305), from Santa Cruz High in Eloy, played in all 12 games.

On the ball's flip side, Snyder welcomes back six starters, including three linebackers and both safeties. Senior Adam Archuleta (6-0, 213) and sophomores Mason Unck (6-2, 220) and Solomon Bates (6-2, 25) anchor the linebacking crew.

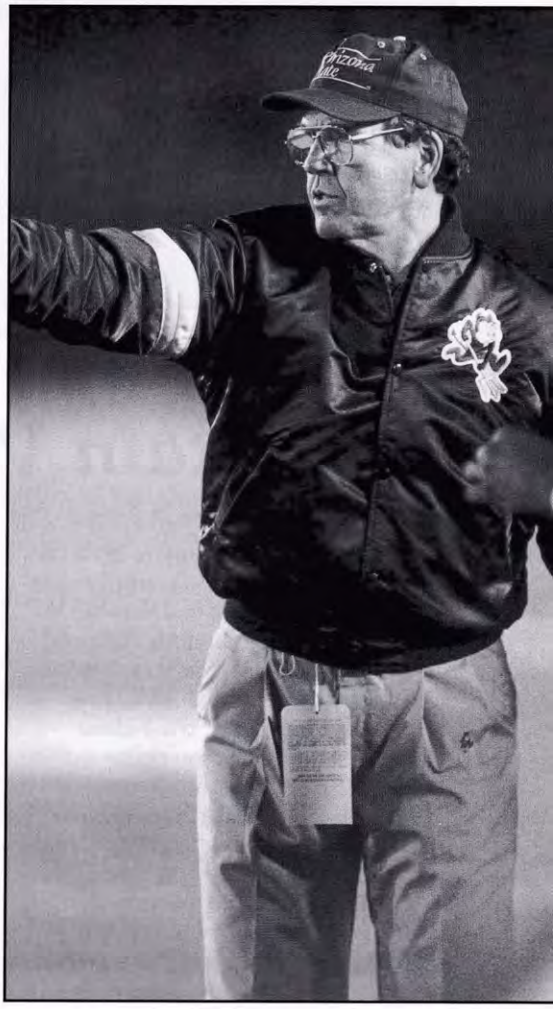
Archuleta has traveled the road from walk-on to first-team all-Pac-10, an award he garnered last season after becoming the first Sun Devil since 1996 to register more than 100 tackles. Bates, who is barely voter-eligible (turned 18 April 17), displayed poise beyond his years, landing on the *The Sporting News* all-freshman team, despite missing four games with an injury.

"We are deep at linebacker," says Snyder. "That will be the strength of our defense. Our safeties are also returning." At safety, senior Craig Koontz (6-0, 192), junior Willie Daniel (6-0, 203) and Sophomore Alfred Williams (6-1, 195) return. The trio accounted for 20 of the 22 starts in the secondary.

Unfortunately, the defensive line and cornerback slots are question marks. All-Pac-10 rush end Erik Flowers and standout tackles Junior Ioane and Ryan Reilly are gone. Fifty-year senior Quincy Yancy (6-8, 262) returns at rush end, and sophomore Josh Amobi (6-2, 207) is penciled in at the other rush-end.

Snyder must also find replacements at cornerback for Courtney Jackson and Kareem Clark. Senior Nijrell Eason (6-1, 204) is the leading returner, and seniors Kenny Williams (5-11, 190) and Christon Rance (6-2, 206), junior Courtney Palmore (5-11, 185) and sophomore Machtier Clay (5-11, 170) will see action.

The Devils welcome back two accomplished kickers in punter/placekicker Nick Murphy (6-0, 190) and placekicker Mike Barth (6-0, 200).



Snyder has won 120 games in the coaching profession, 52 as the Sun Devils' head coach (Chuck Conley photo).



In nine games, Phoenix Maryvale running back Daryl Lightfoot rushed for 1,453 yards and scored 17 touchdowns. (Arizona Informant photo)

Mountain View Still the Team to Beat

It took almost a century to do it, but Arizona finally produced several teams which won 100 games in a decade. In fact, two schools, Mountain View and Class 3A Blue Ridge, did it in 1998. When the Decade of the '90s closed its doors, the Toros (114), the Yellow Jackets (113) and Tucson power Sabino (112) were the leaders.

Phoenix St. Mary's (96) and Mesa (93) were close behind. But in 5A ball, the king was Mountain View, whose 114 victories and four state championships led the pack. Fueled by the largest student body in the state (see enrollment chart), plus an excellent system, the Toros were the pride of the Grand Canyon State.

Although 1999 was supposed to be the "Year of the Thunder", nationally ranked Desert Vista stubbed its toe in the semifinals - a 21-10 loss to 5A newcomer Sabino (See Kings of the Decade). That quite possibly was the premier upset in the prep ranks in Arizona in the Decade of the '90s. When the recruiting wars were over, Desert Vista sent six players to Division 1-A schools on football scholarships, the most since Phoenix Union and Tucson stocked the college ranks in 1971 with the same numbers.

This is a new year, a new decade and a new century. But some things never change. Mountain View returns almost half its starting lineup, plus several key all-region picks. The key position for the Toros will be quarterback. Who will replace John Beck? In his first year as a starter, the now graduated signal caller was the difference in a good year and a great year. In three months of play, he riddled East Valley secondaries for 2,669 yards and 42 touchdowns. Only Desert Vista, which creamed the eventual state champs during the regular season, managed to keep Beck under wraps.

Waiting in the wings is a large collection of challengers, including league rival Westwood, which returns seven all-region picks and one of the best collection of linemen around. Desert Mountain, with quarterback Chad Christensen (cover), is vastly improved.

In the past century, no league in Arizona has sent more players to a higher level of competition than the Phoenix Metro Region, with Phoenix Union (now closed) and South Mountain high schools leading the way.

South and Maryvale, along with Trevor Browne, will have its usual number of good players. Players who will attract the attention of college recruiters from throughout the West. But this year watch for Phoenix Central - with seven all-region picks returning - to make a big move upwards in the newly formed Metro Southwest Region. Overall, it promises to be another good race to the 5A finish line.

5A EAST VALLEY REGION
1. Mesa Mountain View (13-1)
2. Mesa Westwood (7-4)
3. Desert Mountain (4-6)
4. Mesa (6-4)
5. Mesa Red Mountain (8-4)
6. Mesa Dobson (2-8)

If the defending state champs develop a quarterback to replace John Beck, **Mountain View** will be right back in the hunt. With close to 4,000 students under its roofs, there's no reason to think they won't find one. Last year only one team had the Toros' number. During a late September matchup in Ahwatukee, top-rated Desert Vista handed them their heads, 36-6. But after that it was all Mountain View. The Toros went on to win their fourth 5A crown in the '90s, a hard-fought 21-14 win over Tucson Sabino, played before 7,340 fans at Sun Devil Stadium. Almost half the starting lineup returns, with wideout Matt Miller (6-2, 170), lineman Brett Crandall (6-3, 245) and punter Derek McLaughlin (6-1, 175) the key players. Last year Miller averaged 36.9 yards per catch (best in the state) on 24 receptions for 886 yards and nine touchdowns. Crandall started as a sophomore and could become one of the Toros' all-time greats. McLaughlin averaged 38.8 yards on 43 punts. He can also play quarterback. Fullback-linebacker Derek Swanson (5-11, 185), safety Paul Brown (6-1, 180) and cornerback Justin Murdock (5-11, 190) all started. Last year the Toros had two sophomore quarterbacks on the roster, Bryan Perkinson and Grafton Milne. Twenty-two varsity players return.

At **Westwood**, first-year head coach Roger Suchomel will miss big-play receiver Sammy Moore, who took his all-state credentials to Bakersfield Junior College. But some the best linemen in town reside at this Mesa school. Since it's what's up front that counts, the Warriors are set. As always, Westwood looks to a ground game, and with tailbacks Jacob Richardson (6-2, 180) and Will Taylor (5-10, 190) in the lineup, the Warriors have two good ball carriers. In 11 games Richardson gained 659 yards and scored eight touchdowns. Taylor managed 611 yards and six TDs in only six games. Look for those stats to double, with the development of Ryan Finn (6-6, 220), Brandon Hopkins (6-6, 270), Tyson Langford (6-1, 200) and Brandon Wilson (6-0, 230) on the front wall. Wilson is the center. Receiver Eric Anderson (6-0, 180) landed some post-season votes. Defensive end Kyle Huish (6-0, 190) and linebacker Justin Dutra (6-0, 190) give the Warriors two good players at key positions. Dan Deskins (6-1, 190) is a good punter. Overall, the Warriors look solid at every position except quarterback. "Injuries late in the season kept the team from being more successful," claims Suchomel, who also coaches the track team. "We improved from the previous year, but we need to improve on defense and develop a quarterback."

METRO 5A TOP 20 POLL

1. Mountain View Toros
2. Westwood Warriors
3. Desert Mountain Lions
4. Mesa Jackrabbits
5. Peoria Panthers
6. St. Mary's Knights
7. Brophy Prep Broncos
8. Gilbert Tigers
9. Hamilton Wolves
10. Highland Hawks
11. Red Mountain Lions
12. Maryvale Panthers
13. South Mountain Jaguars
14. Horizon Huskies
15. Mountain Pointe Pride
16. McClintock Chargers
17. Desert Vista Thunder
18. Corona del Sol Aztecs
19. Trevor Browne Bruins
20. North Canyon Rattlers

The new kid on the block, **Desert Mountain**, returns 26 players from a 4-6 club which was better than its record. The Wolves, coached by Steve Belles, enter their second year in the rough East Valley with high hopes and several real good players. Especially at quarterback, tight end and tackle. "I believe this will be the best team Desert Mountain has put on the field since we opened," says fifth-year mentor Belles. "Will that be enough in the East Valley? Time will tell. But the other factors which might play in our favor are experience and having a three-year starter at quarterback."

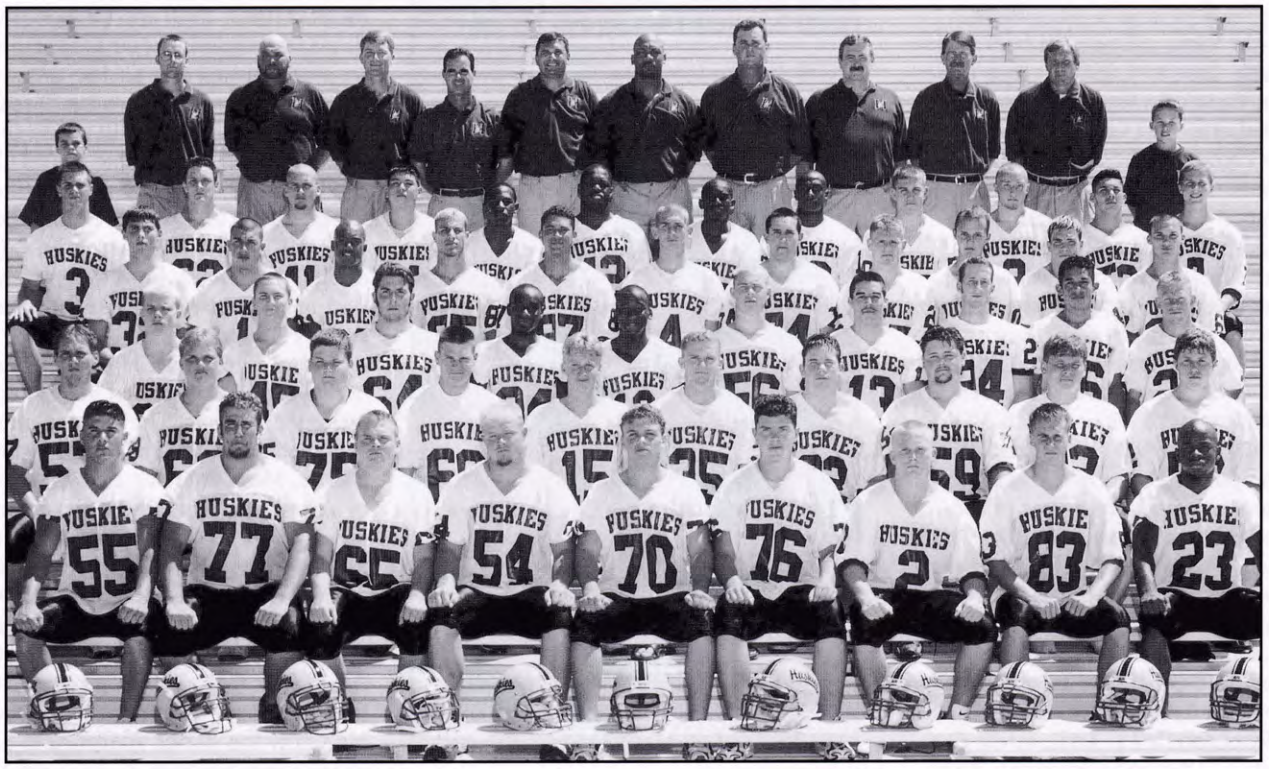
In senior Chad Christensen (6-2, 185) the Wolves have an all-region pick who completed 61% of his passes for 1,865 yards and 18 touchdowns. In two years of varsity play he's passed for 3,068 yards and 27 strikes. Last year, little wideout Trent Quintanilla (5-7, 160) caught 42 passes for 504 yards. Tight ends Todd Hannant (6-3, 210) and Chris Barber (6-3, 203) are good, big targets. Hannant, an excellent two-way player, is one of the best linebackers in the league. Tackle Mark Standage (6-3, 240) is one of the best lineman. Center Mike James (5-11, 230) anchors the line which also features Austin Fisher (6-2, 240), Grant Swope (5-11, 240) and Nick Gourian (6-4, 200). Adam Angelowicz, Mike Petersen and Lee Best are good skill players. On paper, the Wolves look tough.

Mesa, which missed the playoffs, was buried in an avalanche of injuries and still managed six wins. The last one gave the Jackrabbits 576 overall - best in state history. Mesa will have a good collection of skill players, something lacking in recent years. Best of the lot is split end Junior Taylor (6-2, 185), a 10.97 sprinter who caught 35 passes for 695 yards and five touchdowns. He also starts in the secondary. In just four games, quarterback Albert Ruiz (6-1, 185) completed 26 of 62 passes for 664 yards and four scores. He's now the starter. Maika Kofe (6-1, 350), Jacob Smith (6-3, 235) and Eric Marshall (5-11, 230) give Mesa three solid performers on the offensive line. Josh Laughlin (6-2, 220) is the center. Jim Hernandez (5-10, 230), Frank Hernandez (5-10, 225), Halsey Long (6-3, 240) and Alex Santa Cruz (6-0, 220) give the 'Rabbits depth. Taitusi Lutui (6-2, 250) is the biggest junior in camp. This Mesa squad might have its best collection of skill players in several years. Fred Smith, Stephen Gordon, Josh Ross, Mark Faraoni, Chad Haynes, Tyson Davis and Stuart Davis make up a good senior class. Since taking over the job seven years ago, head coach Bill McKane has won 74% of his games.

Graduation cleaned out the starting lineup at **Red Mountain**, where veteran coach Jim Jones returns just six starters, two on offense. Pat Adler (6-3, 210), a two-way guard, tackle Nick Walag (6-3, 260), running back/linebacker Steve Walker (5-11, 185), center Austin Tryon (6-3, 246), and cornerbacks Ryan Field (5-9, 170) and Matt Miller (5-9, 170) saw plenty of action. Big Buck Leavitt (6-5, 225) is a good tight end. Josh Hamlin (6-

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4, 210) can play both halfback and linebacker. Two transfers, tackle Casen Perkins (6-4, 220) and fullback Mike Green (6-0, 220, jr.) will help. "Our juniors took us to the second round of the state playoffs," says Jones, the only football coach the Lions have had. "We had an extremely large number of injuries, and that required our juniors to step up and play. They did a good job."

Mesa Dobson should have a good balance between running and passing, but with only 13 varsity players returning, the Mustangs might struggle again. Coach Mike Clark has two of the region's better players in wideout Brett Heaton (6-3, 180) and center Chad Johnson (6-0, 210). Heaton caught 20 passes for 270 yards. Johnson doubles at linebacker. Robbie Pennell (6-2, 185) returns at quarterback, where he completed 63 of 133 passes for 796 yards and five touchdowns. Halfback Sebastian Smith (5-11, 185) should have a good line to run behind with Johnson, Trevor Read (6-2, 240), Chris Bradley (6-4, 218), Matt Nephew (6-2, 240) and Ryan Taft (6-3, 225) in the lineup.

5A FIESTA REGION

1. Gilbert (4-6)
2. Chandler Hamilton (10-2)
3. Gilbert Highland (8-3)
4. Chandler (4-6)
5. Yuma Kofa (2-8)
6. Gilbert Mesquite (0-10)

No school in this region returns as many players (28) or all-region picks (5) as **Gilbert**. Veteran coach Jesse Parker, who built Mountain View into a state power before moving to Texas, returned to post a 4-6 mark. He looks for improvement soon. Like a trip to the playoffs this year. "The tough schedule was made tougher when injuries occurred," says Parker, who has won 248 games. "But the injuries and other problems were due to lack of a good off-season program. I believe we'll be one of the state's best teams. We have key players returning and we've made lots of progress."

Defensive end Dylan Lukens (6-4, 210) and safety Matt Jeffery (5-9, 165), both all-region picks, head a good bunch of seniors. Split end Julius Thomas (6-1, 170), tackle Brandon Kramer (6-2, 235), tackle Nick Johnson (6-3, 265), and guards Kevin Chiang (5-11, 250) and Jamie Gissel (5-10, 185) aren't too bad either. But its the junior class which might put the Tigers over the hump. Young Reed White (5-10, 165), the team's punter, could move from receiver to quarterback. Wideout Andy Holden (6-2, 180), tight end Kyle Hunt (6-2, 215) and running back Nigel Kelley (5-8, 170) all earned votes on the all-region team as sophomores. Holden caught 32 passes for 470 yards and three touchdowns. Kelley gained 415 yards on 97 carries. Scott Rogers (6-1, 175) joins Jeffery in the secondary to give the Tigers two solid defensive backs.

In his first year in 5A competition, **Hamilton** coach John Wrenn had the Huskies in the hunt. With player of the year Terrell Suggs (ASU) running wild, Chandler's newest school won nine regular season games and advanced two rounds into the playoffs. Twenty-four players return, including two all-state candidates, linebacker Jason Rodriguez (6-2, 200) and kicker Brandon Woods (5-11, 170). Rodriguez, who can also play quarterback, had a team high 110 tackles (8 for losses) and intercepted three passes. Woods made 51 extra points and three field goals. Defensive tackle Robert Winfrey (6-2, 260) recorded 12 tackles for losses and eight QB sacks. Running back Chaz Scott (6-2, 200) has some big shoes to fill, but he was the leading rusher on the varsity two years ago (861 yards, 9 TDs). He intercepted four passes in the secondary and made 35 tackles. Ty Falls (6-5, 270), Shawn Pack (6-5, 245), Jeremy Rials (6-2, 250) and John Snell (6-0, 200) give Hamilton another solid defense. Young Joey Vincent (5-11, 170) could start at quarterback. Adam Mannon (6-3, 190) is a promising junior receiver who averaged 16.7 yards on 11 catches. "It was a great year," adds Wrenn, whose team fell to Mountain View in the quarterfinals. "If our quarterback comes through we'll be good again."

So will **Highland**, who has no problem at quarterback. In senior Ryan Fitzpatrick (6-2, 190) the Hawks have the best signal caller in the league. Last year he completed 116 of 204 passes for 1,540 yards and 14 touchdowns. Coach Mike Reardon also returns his best offensive lineman, tackle Travis Bright (6-5, 290), along with a good collection of two-way skill players. Overall, 17 varsity players return. Two-way back Will Sykes (5-10, 185) was an all-league pick in the secondary. Halfback Nick Hale (5-10, 180) can also play linebacker. The same goes for wideout Derek McCabe (5-11, 180). Junior linebacker Spencer Larsen (6-0, 185) started as a sophomore. Watch out for the Hawks. The junior varsity finished 9-1.

At **Chandler**, the Wolves also return their quarterback, and little Dalas Bates (5-7, 160) is just a junior. Guard/linebacker Kevin Krieger (6-0, 200) and receiver/deep back Chris Lindvall (6-1, 175) started and earned all-league recognition. Lindvall is also a junior. So is scatback Jon Lombardo (5-7, 165). Defensive back Eric Wright, linebacker Justin Ludington and split end Dewayne Evans are the key returning players from a not-so-deep lineup.

Yuma Kofa got out of the blocks slow and finished 2-8. But the Kings look better, and played most games to the wire. Two-way tackle Cain Velasquez (6-1, 250), the state heavyweight wrestling champ, was a first team all-conference pick. He graded out no lower than 93% on offense. Tailback Michael DeLeon

All-region picks

Four different schools from Maricopa County return at least seven different all-region picks from last year's '99 campaign. The leaders include:

Picks	School	Last Year	Region
7	Mesa Westwood	7-4	5A East Valley
7	Peoria	7-4	5A Northwest
7	Westview	4-6	5A Metro Southwest
7	Phoenix Central	6-4	5A Metro Southwest
6	McClintock	5-6	5A Central
6	Maryvale	7-3	5A Metro
6	Trevor Browne	9-2	5A Metro Southwest
6	Tempe Union	4-6	4A East Sky
5	Desert Mountain	4-6	5A East Valley
5	Gilbert	4-6	5A Fiesta
5	Alhambra	5-5	5A Metro Southwest



Scott Martinez
Westview



John Lewis
Corona del Sol

gained 1,028 yards on 158 carries. He caught 22 passes for 237 yards. Wideout Felipe Ramos (6-0, 165), a starter since his sophomore year, caught 60 passes for 1,063 yards and six TDs. It was getting the ball in the end zone that was a problem. Matt Knight, Albert Sanchez, Dan Alleyne and James Daily are veteran players. Frank Mesa, one of the best athletes in the school, and Dan Pratt both took a year off, but could really help the Kings if they return.

At **Mesquite**, the young Wildcats have nowhere to go but up. Almost everybody returns. "It was tough for our underclassmen to play 5A as a new school," says Rich Iversen. "But each week we continued to improve, and the players learned what it takes to play at that level in Arizona."

Still, several 'Cats played well enough to garner votes on the all-region team, including deep back Wally Murray (6-3, 180), wideout Chris Mangan (5-11, 170) and center Mike Stowers (6-0, 215). Mangan caught 27 passes for 389 yards. Tailback Eric Dirk (5-10, 170) finished with 852 all-purpose yards. Big bodies like Jason Kehrer (6-4, 245), Mike Larsen (6-5, 210) and Sean O'Fallon (6-4, 250) give Mesquite a solid front. Look for sophomores Jake Stoltz and Jose Garcia to make the varsity.

5A DESERT VALLEY REGION

1. Phoenix St. Mary's (7-5)
2. Phoenix Brophy Prep (5-5)
3. Scottsdale Horizon (7-4)
4. North Canyon (3-7)
5. Shadow Mountain (3-7)
6. Paradise Valley (10-3)
7. Paradise Valley Pinnacle

Here's a short history lesson: When **St. Mary's** returns a quality quarterback, the rest of the league is in trouble. It's been that way for years. Well, St. Mary's returns a quality quarterback, senior Adam Wilson. The 5-11, 180-pound signal caller earned several all-region votes after guiding the Knights to the playoffs - for the 19th time in the past 20 years. He's one of 19 lettermen returning, including defensive lineman Nate Griffin (6-2, 225) and receiver Seth Castillo (6-2, 190), an honorable mention all-region pick. Two-way back Dominique Jacobs (5-9, 185), tight end Ken White (6-0, 185) and linebacker Isaiah Toloumu (6-0, 220, jr.) look solid. Still, depth will be a key issue, and help looks limited from a JV team which won only one game. The Knights got hot near the end, beat a solid Trevor Browne team in the playoff's first round, then were eliminated by an outstanding Sabino club. "Since we start out with more experience this year, we should come out of the blocks a little more quickly," says veteran Pat Farrell, who won his 200th game last year.

Unlike St. Mary's, look for **Brophy Prep** to hit the ground running. The Broncos, coached by Tim Sanford, always have a strong running game. This year should be no exception. However, four all-region picks return, and three earned laurels on the defensive side of the ball: Linebacker Harry Flaster (6-3, 225), linebacker Mike Robson (5-11, 205) and deep back John Riebel (6-0, 203). Offensive guard James Robinson (6-2, 240) was a first team pick. Receiver Matt Dalton (6-1, 160) was honorable mention. Flaster made 71 tackles, while Rieble intercepted six passes. Dalton caught 17 passes for 228 yards in the Broncos' run-oriented offense. Two-way players like Tim Hall, Mike Garduno and Jason Robles all started. Young Jeff Rush, just a junior, will start at quarterback. Steve Gammage, Kyle Dukeshier, Fletcher Perry, Mike LaPrade, Todd Chapman and Justin Evans all tip the scales at 200-plus pounds.

On paper it looks bleak at **Horizon**. Only five lettermen return and there's no experience at quarterback. Although the junior varsity went unbeaten, none of the players have varsity experience. Also, the Huskies non-league schedule includes Desert Vista, Peoria, Gilbert and Mountain Ridge. That's the bad news. Everything else is good. Coach Doug Shaffer, entering his 16th season at the school, has enough talent and tradition to make a playoff run again. Two first team all-region picks, wingback Jared Grainger (5-11, 175) and split end Luke Linamen (5-10, 150) return. So does two-way tackle Cory Gray (6-1, 25), the next in a long line of good Horizon linemen. Fullback Trent Ryberg (6-1, 215) gained 284 yards and scored seven times. Linebacker Scott Hodges (6-0, 190), deep back Travis Miller (5-11, 190) and wingback Brandon Peyton (6-0, 180) are quality players. Big Greg Frankenfield (6-1, 260) is the Huskies' center. Wes Huff (5-10, 160) and junior Tim Roemer (6-2, 160) will compete for the quarterback job. How they do may determine Horizon's fate in late November.

No team in the region returns more players (25) or more all-region picks (4) than **North Canyon**. With running backs Jason Murray (5-10, 205) and Brandon Roy (6-0, 185), head coach Jeff Bowen returns over 2,000 yards of offensive firepower. Murray, a first team all-region back, gained over 1,000 yards. Roy, an all-region kick returner, managed 1,505 yards total offense. Both are two-way performers. In the past two years, Murray has recorded 122 tackles at middle linebacker. Harry Miller, the Rattlers' quarterback, was an all-region punter (42.0), and 15 of his kicks were downed inside the 20-yard line. Tackle Mike Meyers (6-2, 235) and guard Matt Bryan (5-9, 190) make the running game go. Meyers is only a junior. Tight end James Mendoza (6-2, 220) and wideout Matt Martin (5-11, 155) give North Canyon a balanced attack. "With eleven starters back we should be able to compete with anybody on our schedule," warns Bowen.

Tom Wood takes over at **Shadow Mountain**, where injuries and poor depth resulted in a 3-7 finish. This year looks better. Over 20 lettermen greet the new coach, including defensive end Chris Sofranac (6-3, 240) and deep back Matt Higgins (5-10, 175, jr.), two all-region picks. Each play starts with Ryan Place (6-4, 230), the Matadors veteran center. Chris Myatt (6-0, 210) also plays center and starts at defensive tackle. Junior Jeremy Thorne (5-10, 170) could start at quarterback, or safety. Halfback Cory Nochta (5-11, 190) is the school's best runner, and with Place, Myatt and junior Jason Alsworth (6-4, 260) blocking, his overall production should vastly improve.

Donnie Yantis, a **Paradise Valley** alum, takes over the Trojans program after veteran Bob Lambie retired. Last year Lambie's squad reached the state semifinals, where Mountain View ended a real good run at 10-3. Back Geoff Ducksworth (1,876 yards/23 TDs) picked up his diploma and headed for college. So did a lot of other starters. Only 13 Trojans return. Plus the school is bracing for an enrollment hit, since the district's newest school, Pinnacle High, opens this fall. Still, Garrett Chatham (6-0, 170) returns

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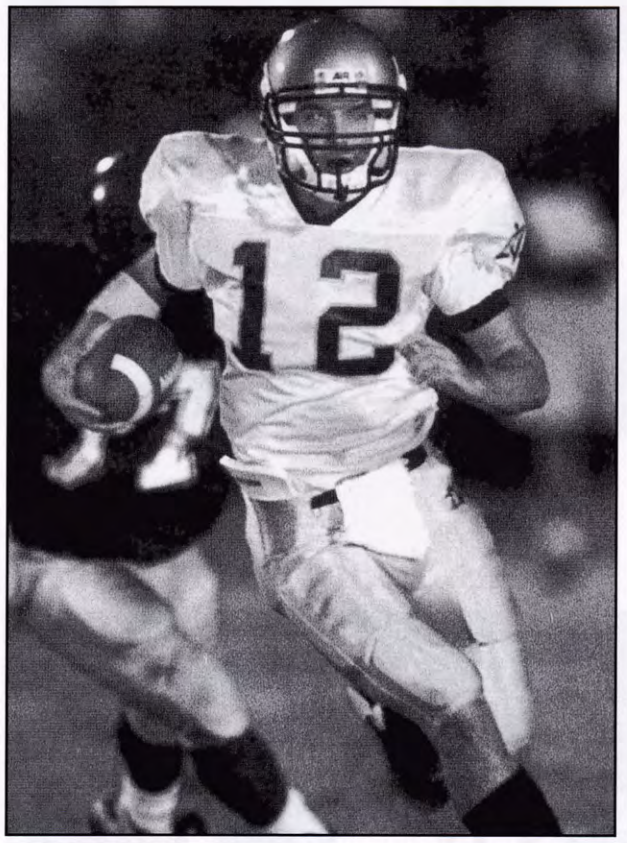
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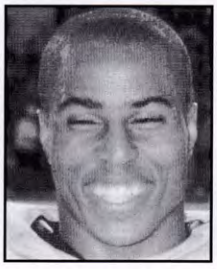
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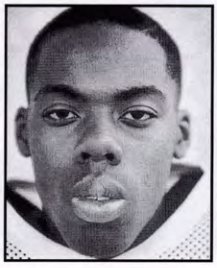
1999 ..... John Rattay, Mountain Pointe, QB
1998 ..... Bobby Wade, Desert Vista, RB/DB
1997 ..... Marcus Jones, Mountain Pointe, RB/LB
1996 ..... Justin Taplin, Tempe, WR
1995 ..... Keith Brown, Mountain Pointe, RB
1994 ..... Skeeter Brown, Mountain Pointe, RB
1993 ..... Darnell Autry, Tempe, RB/DB
1992 ..... Kenny Wheaton, McClintock, DB
1991 ..... Armon Williams, Valley Christian, QB/DB
1990 ..... Andrew McCormick, McClintock, RB/DB
1989 ..... Brian Drew, McClintock, RB/RS
1988 ..... Dan-iel Taplin, Tempe, TE/DE (jr.)
1987 ..... Bart James, McClintock, DB/K
1986 ..... Willy Lira, Marcos de Niza, QB
1985 ..... Cleveland Colter, McClintock, WR/DB
1984 ..... Rich Groppenbacher, McClintock, WR
1983 ..... John Walker, Marcos de Niza, QB
1982 ..... Shawn Patterson, McClintock, T
1981 ..... Glenn Dennard, Corona del Sol, WR
1980 ..... Jimmy Williams, Tempe, LB
1979 ..... Arthur Reeves, Marcos de Niza, RB
1978 ..... Matt Palacio, McClintock, LB
1977 ..... David Hinds, McClintock, RB
1976 ..... Andy Arrendondo, McClintock, RB
1975 ..... Ronnie Washington, McClintock, WR
1974 ..... Jimmy Moore, Marcos de Niza, TE
1973 ..... Preston Dennard, Marcos de Niza, WR



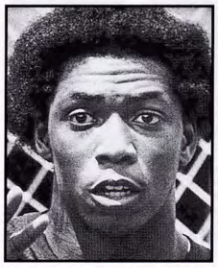
In three years, John Rattay passed for 7,089 yards and 82 touchdowns (Todd Lillard photo)



Marcus Jones
Mountain Pointe



Kenny Wheaton
McClintock



Glenn Dennard
Corona del Sol



Preston Dennard
Marcos de Niza

"Good luck Sun Devils, Cardinals, Rattlers and all local high schools in 2000!"

at quarterback, and that's a plus. Matt O'Malley (6-1, 215) started at wingback and defensive end. Mike McNeil (5-9, 185) was an all-region pick at linebacker. Nick Clapp (6-1, 225) joins McNeil at linebacker, while Josh Duncan (5-9, 175) started on the corner. Quick tackle John Bestenlehner (6-1, 210) was the other returning starter.

An independent schedule faces **Pinnacle High**, newest school in the Paradise Valley District. "We are opening with no seniors, so time will tell what the first year holds," claims Jim Hepting, a former assistant at nearby Horizon. "But we have a group of excited, hard-working young men. We hope to bring some of the success of Doug Shaffer's excellent program with us to Pinnacle." Two juniors, lineman Cody Snyder (5-10, 220) and split end/deep back Matt Siqueiros (5-6, 145), stood out in spring ball. So did halfback Evan Boardman, linebacker Matt Russo, wingback Chris Blanc and quarterback Steven Overman, all sophomores. The Pioneers will play mostly 3A schools.

5A CENTRAL REGION

1. Mountain Pointe (9-2)
2. Tempe McClintock (5-6)
3. Desert Vista (12-1)
4. Tempe Corona del Sol (6-5)
5. Tempe Marcos de Niza (9-4)
6. Casa Grande (3-7)

In this region no school returns less experience than **Mountain Pointe**, but those who return are quality players. Only 10 lettermen are back. But the all-important quarterback position is set, with two-year starter Ryan Cozzetto (6-0, 190) ready for his senior year. With Cozzetto in the lineup, the Pride has three positions covered: QB, safety and punter. He completed 45 of 106 yards for 603 yards and three touchdowns in the Pride's run-oriented offense. His 41.9 punting average was the best in the city. Marques Hawkins, at 5-9, 180 the quickest back (4.4) in the program, will start at tailback. He also returns kicks, averaging 10.4 yards on punts and 20.4 on kickoff returns. Defensive end Brian Duncan (6-2, 220), fullback/linebacker Ben Flores (6-1, 200) and junior linebacker Danny Baugher (6-0, 190) appear to be the Pointe's marque players. Tight end Ryan Jones (6-4, 205), guard Blake Graves (5-11, 190), tackle Derek Boyle (6-4, 220) and wideout Tony Dandre (5-11, 160) round out a good senior class. Underclassmen like Zane Miller, Shane Wilson, Brandon Russell, Steve Kirk, Larry Jordan, Chris Hernandez and Jon Shaw play multiple positions. Kiefer, the state's all-time winningest coach with 277 wins, won nine regular season games, including a 24-7 win over Marcos de Niza. But in the first round of the playoffs, the Padres turned the tables and sent the Pride home early.

Over at **McClintock** it's a different story. First-year coach Dick Baniszewski, a former Charger himself, welcomes 22 lettermen, including six different players who earned post season honors. At least six key starters return, including quarterback Blaine Davis (6-0, 171), who passed for 802 yards and six touchdowns. Keith Finkle (5-9, 228) was an all-region guard. Eric Oldenkamp (5-11, 150), one of the region's best kickers, starts at wideout. Bob Goodwill (5-10, 200) returns at center. Linebacker Nick Prasch (5-10, 205), backer Tommy McDonald (5-11, 190) and safety Jason Strack (5-10, 165) also started. Wide receiver David Palmer (6-2, 205) was a second team all-region pick. Andrew Weber (6-1, 190), another good kicker, also plays wingback. Tailback Randy Hill (6-2, 185), end Andre Bailey (6-2, 175), corner Dionte Lewis (5-9, 160), fullback Gabe Flores (5-9, 215) and tackle Jason Karcher (6-3, 280) are all juniors. Hill is a real prospect. "We have good speed and a great attitude," says Baniszewski, a member of McClintock's 1980 state championship team. "The players are doing an excellent job of adapting to a new system and support has been tremendous."

Desert Vista saw its storybook season end one week early, when Tucson Sabino upset the state's top ranked club in the semifinals. But that's why you play the games. Although graduation all but cleaned out the starting lineup, the Thunder return enough good players to make it interesting in the Central race. Linebacker/safety Joel Bocchi (5-11, 180), an excellent baseball player, was the team's third leading tackler. Wideout Jason St. Clair (5-10, 175) caught 33 passes for 594 yards and seven touchdowns. He's also a good baseball player. Big Aaron Vaita (6-0, 230) is the Thunder's nose guard. Richard Ramirez (6-1, 220), Tom Rosner (6-3, 220), Justin Salem (6-1, 215) and Cody Schiemann (6-0, 250) will join him on the line. Hard-hitting Jason Miller (5-11, 190) looks good at safety. Look for Matt Drummey (6-1, 225) on the offensive line. Tailback Willard James (5-11, 200) gained 303 yards in a backup role. Troy Harris (5-9, 155) and Michael Allen (5-11, 180) were members of Desert Vista's sprint relay team last spring. The battle for the QB spot boils down to junior Andrew Mathison (6-4, 195) and sophomore Brent Miller (6-3, 190).

Although **Corona del Sol** returned only two starting players, Gary Venturo's club managed to last one round into the playoffs. Except for quarterback, the Aztecs return three running backs who accounted for 2,066 yards rushing. Head of the class is tailback John Lewis (5-10, 180), who gained 1,099 yards on 168 carries and 13 touchdowns. Josh Smith (5-8, 150) managed 629 yards on 106 carries (40 in one game), while Michael Guadagnino (6-1, 200) ground out 338 yards on 38 carries. Brian Irby (5-9, 160),

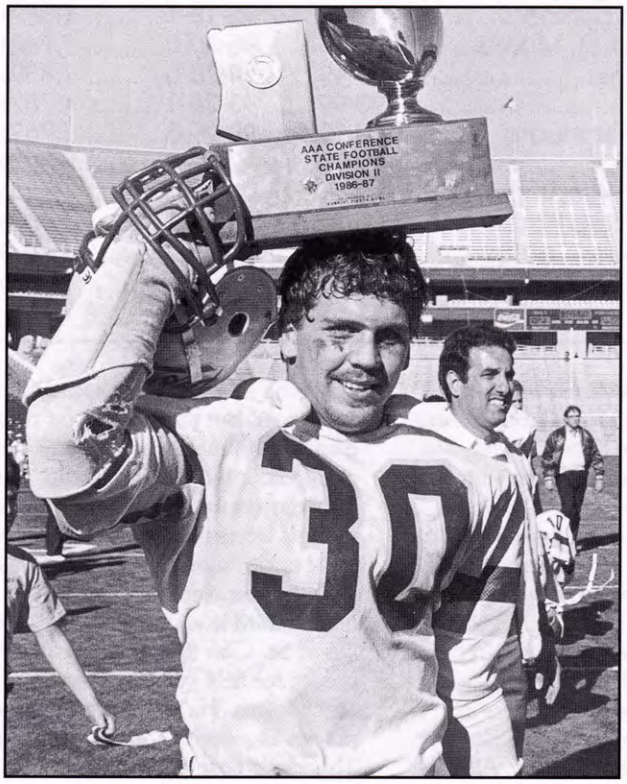
Race to 100

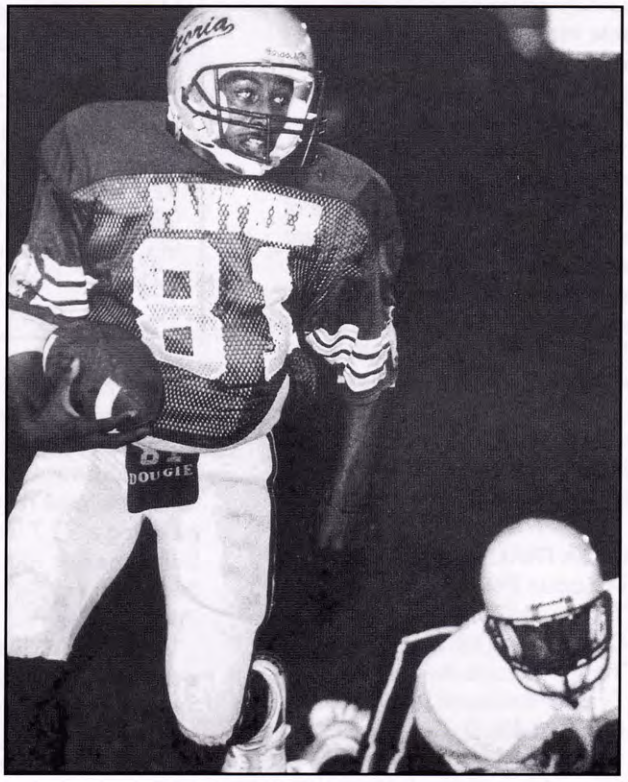
For the first time in Arizona history, three different schools won 100 or more games in a decade. The leaders in the Decade of the '90's:

Wins	School	Years	Overall	Winning %
114	Mesa Mountain View	1990-99	114-17-1	(.870)
113	Blue Ridge	1990-99	113-10-0	(.919)
112	Tucson Sabino	1990-99	112-18-1	(.862)
96	Phoenix St. Mary's	1990-99	96-30-0	(.762)
94	St. Johns	1990-99	94-30-0	(.839)
93	Mesa	1990-99	93-26-1	(.782)
93	Tucson Sahuaro	1990-99	93-29-3	(.762)
92	Thatcher	1990-99	92-22-0	(.807)
92	Tucson Amphitheater	1990-99	92-30-0	(.754)
90	Scottsdale Horizon	1990-99	90-28-1	(.763)
90	Glendale Cactus	1990-99	90-28-2	(.763)
87	Peoria	1990-99	87-27-3	(.763)

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Terry McFarlan (5-10, 170) and Tim Ryan (5-10, 170) are good receivers and defensive backs. Adam Scheufler (6-2, 210) anchors the line at center. He's flanked by Tim Raimer (6-3, 260) and Scott Thelander (6-1, 210). Seniors Grek Richmond, Erik Tange, Adam Olson, Steve Hallam, Justin Stickelman and Darren O'Hara have shown good leadership. Overall, 17 players return who saw playing time.

Most of the firepower which accounted for a school record 404 points at **Marcos de Niza** picked up diplomas, but Tom Joseph thinks this year's club might be just as good. That's bad news for the league. Last year's unit won nine games and reached the quarterfinals. Fifteen players return, including defensive back Taman Jordan (6-0, 185), center Jeff Bishop (6-3, 260) and two-way tackle Agustin Laguna (6-4, 290), three of the better players in the region. Mix in linebacker Anthony Villa (5-10, 185), wideout Sam Villalobos (6-2, 180) and deep back Jesus Tirado (5-9, 170), and the Padres have a good nucleus of players to build on. Transfer Elijah Muhammah, a defensive back, could start.

Improvement is the name of the game at **Casa Grande**, where the Cougars won only three times. John Batina's club was winless in the region, but look to break through this fall. Two all-region picks, defensive back Austin Skelley (6-0, 180) and linebacker Alonzo Alexander (6-0, 225), give the Cougars hope. This squad is senior dominated, led by linebacker Mario Canales, end Jaun Rios, back Mike Hazer, defensive end Gary Whatley, tackle Derrick Encinas and guard David Rascon. Two-way lineman Sidney Goodman (6-0, 230) is a junior who could crack the starting lineup.

5A NORTH WEST REGION

1. Peoria (7-4)
2. Mountain Ridge (4-7)
3. Glendale Ironwood (6-4)
4. Deer Valley (6-4)
5. Kingman (7-4)
6. Phoenix Goldwater (1-10)

Peoria, like all good programs, had little problem with the jump from 4A competition. The Panthers, in 5A ball for the first time in years, started slow but kicked into gear and won the region championship. Paradise Valley ended their playoff drive in the first round, 42-6. A look at Doug Clapp's roster showed that the Panthers carried 40 underclassmen, including 17 sophomores who played. Head of the class is quarterback Vince Fiore, a 6-2, 191-pound senior who completed 119 of 240 passes for 1,808 yards and 13 touchdowns. In two campaigns he's passed for over 3,500 yards, and should graduate as the most prolific passer in Peoria history. Wideouts Lee Resendes (6-2, 181) and Billy King (5-11, 176), both juniors, are back. Resendes caught 50 passes for 962 yards and nine TDs, averaging 19.2 yards every time he touched the ball. King caught 35 passes for 483 yards and five scores, and is dangerous returning kicks. He averaged 27.7 yards on returns and returned two for touchdowns.

Overall, the Panthers return seven players who earned all-region acclaim of some kind. Defensive back Ross Luna (5-11, 186), tackle Paul Kitchen (6-3, 290) and center Aaron Lassner (6-1, 285) head a good senior class. Throw in defensive ends Jason Van Tussenbroek (6-3, 220) and Aaron Wulk (6-7, 230), along with guard Russ Tyson (6-2, 285), and Peoria has veteran play at key positions. But the junior class is loaded. The sleeper is Kelly Mitchell (6-2, 191), a promising running back who was hurt most of last year. He's the younger brother of Panther great Kenny Mitchell, the former A-State star. Juniors dot the forward wall, with Cade Becher (6-4, 295), Jeremy Myers (6-2, 220) and Robert Baker (6-4, 275) three good examples. Skill position players Omar Harper, Ryan Hester, Mike Pezely, Chris Kluzek, Chad Dunda, Shawn Havill, Jess Montoya and Harry Gahagen give Panther fans reason to shout for two more years. "We enjoyed the move to 5A and the challenge it brought," says Clapp, one of the region's winningest coaches. "We look forward to this year, with several starters on offense and defense returning. Our tough early schedule will help us get ready for league play."

It was a tough season for **Mountain**

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Ridge. The Lions, coached by Jim Ewan, lost to both Paradise Valley and Mountain Pointe 21-20, and Peoria on the last play of the game. Fifteen players return, including a solid senior class, led by all-region pick Richie Incognito. The 6-4, 294-pound two-way tackle has verbally committed to Nebraska. Safety Cole Stoneman (6-2, 170), who also plays wideout, and running back Preston Weakland (5-8, 180) were all-region selections. End Josh Brayer, two-way back Dane Lunberg (6-2, 180), linebacker Chris Petrie (5-9, 175) and guard Kyle McQuaid (6-2, 215) are solid, veteran players. Bryan Page, Jeff Gaul, Jeremy Franz, Travis Bell, Scotty Ast, Brady McDowell, Diondie Travis and Ben Criddle are ready to go. The Mountain Lions will have a good running game.

It looks real good at **Ironwood** also. Chuck Esquivel returns eight defensive starters and five on offense. And that's from a rebuilding season which produced six wins. "I think we'll be very, very competitive," says the head coach. With back Simeron Wade (5-10, 170), linebacker Jacob Martin (6-5, 215), halfback Ryan Wagner (5-11, 180), defensive back Jeremy Hamel (5-11, 185) and junior backer Matt Gromek (5-11, 220) in the lineup, Ironwood has five of the better players on the northwest side. Hamel and Chad Running (5-11, 180) will



Richie Incognito
Mountain Ridge



Harley Smith
North

vie for the quarterback job. Wideout Chris Marini (5-11, 180) and fullback Adam Davis (5-11, 210) give the offense lots of punch. But not as much as linemen Jared Johannsen (6-0, 230), Joe Garcia (5-11, 240) or Randall Griffith (6-0, 215), to list just a few. Mike Sarter (6-2, 200) is a solid defensive end. In a rebuilding year, the Eagles' defense held opponents to a school record low of 141 points in 10 games.

Deer Valley, like league rival Mountain Ridge, has an all-star lineman of its own. Coach Rick Mey's prize pupil is defensive stalwart Drew Severn (6-2, 265), a three-year starter. His 89 tackles (9 for losses), three sacks and two fumbles earned him second team all-state honors. Tackle Ryan Harding (6-4, 245) is the driving force on the offensive side of the ball. Wideouts Jason Norman (6-1, 170) and Steve Boehle (5-11, 180), along with running back George Valencia (5-10, 185), were members of the Skyhawks' sprint relay team. Valencia was the region 100 meter dash champ as a sophomore, but injured his knee against Phoenix Central last fall. Safety Robert Price (5-10, 180) is a three-year starter. Wideout Steve Boehle (5-11, 180), the team's quickest player, averaged 27.5 yards on eight catches. Linebacker Alex Papamatheakis (5-11, 188) started two games. Down lineman Jake Severn (6-0, 210) and halfback Jon Jackson (5-9, 180) are the cream of the junior class. Scottie Paul, a transfer from the state of Washington, will battle junior George Preciado for the starting quarterback spot.

It could be a rough start for **Kingman**, since Ray Smith will be forced to start mostly underclassmen. "We played poorly in big games," says the head coach. "Our defense was poor early, but at the end of the year we became a quality team." However, quarterback Chris Casson (6-1, 170), halfback Tyler Davis (6-1, 165), center Michael McDermitt (5-10, 165) and tackle Justin Hembree (6-3, 235) are four seniors who plan on starting. Junior Brad Minkler (5-9, 175) is a promising running back. The Bulldogs have an early trip to Mesa Mountain View, so September could be tough.

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Goldwater, where John Burke stepped down to become athletic director. Waters was the defensive coordinator for a 1-10 GHS team which started eight sophomores. The future resides in the junior class, starting with two-way lineman Joe Skipper (6-2, 205), possibly the Bulldogs' best player. Classmate Noah Carpenter (6-1, 215) joins him on the line. Nick Manzo (5-10, 165) is a good two-way back, while T.J. Bayus (5-9, 150) gets the call at quarterback. Senior John Lockard (6-0, 170) is a good receiver. "We feel we will be more competitive this year," adds Waters, whose team scrimmages against Maryvale and opens at Phoenix South Mountain.

5A METRO SOUTHWEST

1. Phoenix Trevor Browne (9-2)
2. Tolleson Westview (4-6)
3. Phoenix Central (6-4)
4. Phoenix Alhambra (5-5)
5. Yuma Cibola (1-10)
6. Phoenix Carl Hayden (1-9)

Last year **Trevor Browne** lost only twice, with a 31-7 first round playoff defeat to St. Mary's ending their season. Twenty-four underclassmen played, including six players who earned all-region votes from rival coaches: Tight end Asad Hunter (6-0, 170), guard Chris O'Donnell (6-2, 270), running back Ron Patrick (5-8, 180), linebacker Art Sanchez (5-9, 175), defensive back Vince Hernandez (5-7, 140) and punter Dan Kayga (5-9, 165). The Bruins, who won 70% of their games during the '90s, get an early season test against vastly improved Gilbert.

Fast growing **Westview** returns 25 players from a 4-6 unit which should contend for the region championship. The Knights are set at quarterback, where senior Scott Martinez (6-3, 190), the coach's son, returns. Art Ramos, Josh Wallace, Mike Glover, Driesen James, Chris Alexander and Dan White make up a good receiving corp. White, a 6-1, 215-pound tight end, also doubles at linebacker. Center Ralph Wiley (6-2, 245) and tackle Jacob Bracamonte (6-2, 255) are solid linemen. Loren Randon (5-11, 190) and Stan LaRochelle (6-0, 180) are good two-way backs. James Bedoya (5-11, 180) will handle the kicking chores. Look for defensive lineman Adam Ramos (5-11, 220, jr) to crack the starting lineup. "Our kids know the pro passing game real well," claims Geroge Martinez, who took Ironwood to the 4A finals four years ago.

Surprising **Phoenix Central** won six of its last seven games to finish with a winning record - its first since 1984. Coach Tom Tucker has a good nucleus of returning players, including seven who earned some sort of post-season recognition. Overall, 21 players return, with Luis Lujan (6-4, 255) the big gun. An honorable mention all-state pick, Lujan was an all-region selection at both tight end and defensive tackle. Middle linebacker Reuben Lopez (5-11, 195) is a starting running back. Ivan Aragon (6-0, 265) was an all-region tackle. Versatile Brandon Mahn (6-5, 195) can start on the defensive line and play quarterback. Jason Sheppard (5-8, 140), Isac Russell (5-9, 165) and Mike Satchell (5-10, 170) are good two-way backs. "We should be more prepared at the beginning of the season," says Tucker, who enters his second year. "We hope to improve on last year's success."

Over at **Alhambra**, the Lions have one of the city's best backs in Cornell Canidate, a 5-10, 170-pound burner with 4.5 speed. Last year, during a 10 game schedule, he averaged 11.0 yards per carry, gained 1,552 yards and scored 19 touchdowns. Quarterback Johnny Ornelas (6-3, 19) also returns. If he improves his 1,100 yards he could become the school's all-time leading passer. Tight end Jeremy Gibbons (6-2, 215), a college prospect with excellent hands, also anchors the defense. Joey Paynter (6-2, 205), a two-year starter at center, plays defensive end. Guard Jomond Ervin (6-1, 210) and deep back Oscar Rios (5-11, 16) are solid. Rios intercepted seven passes. Linebacker Robert Reyes (5-9, 195) was the Lions' top tackler. Greg Bartlett (6-2, 185), a good all-round athlete, can play several positions, including quarterback if needed. "We are optimistic that we will be a top team," says Frank Lautt. "Our defense should be improved. Our offense gained over 4,000 yards and seven starters return."

It looks bleak at **Yuma Cibola**, where graduation cleaned out most of a roster which won only one game. Chris Marquez, an all-region receiver/defensive back, is the only returning player with post season honors. Last year's lineup included fullback Reggie Guerrero (5-10, 225), one of the biggest runners in the league. After that, most positions will be filled by newcomers.

Offensive lineman Tony Lopez is the only bright spot in preseason for **Carl Hayden**. He was a second team all-league pick as a junior. The Falcons, like Cibola, won only one game last fall, and have had only one winning season in 35 years.

5A METRO REGION

1. Phoenix Maryvale (7-3)
2. South Mountain (6-5)
3. Phoenix North (4-6)
4. Phoenix Camelback (2-8)
5. Yuma Union (2-8)
6. Phoenix Cesar Chavez

Late season injuries and off the field problems, plus a season-ending loss to South Mountain, kept a good **Maryvale** club out of the playoffs. But head coach Tom Bruney returns enough key players to make a run at the playoffs. Two of the Panthers' best athletes, halfback Daryl Lightfoot (5-9, 175) and quarterback Travis Brown (5-11, 175), verbally committed to Arizona State. Lightfoot, like Brown a two-way player, gained 1,453 yards on 189 attempts and scored 17 touchdowns. Brown, who doubles on the corner, completed 59% of his passes for 1,021 yards and five touchdowns. He rushed for 506 yards and scored eight more times, and handles the Panthers' punting with a 35.5 average. Place kicker Javier Torres added 25 extra points and two field goals to the mix. Little fullback Jose Buenrostro (5-8, 185) managed 438 yards and three scores. Another fullback, Nate Pittman, gained 457 yards and scored five TDs. Both play linebacker. Seniors Dustin Speer (5-10, 275), Bryan Kurec (5-8, 220) and Chuck McGuire (5-10, 230) add beef to the line. Juniors Paul Rodriguez (5-11, 290) and Carl Ross (6-1, 275) could start. Safety Jamion Turner and end Brandon James are solid defensive players. Corner Robert James, linebacker Ignacio Renteria and wideout Andre McMillon are juniors who could see lots of action. "We return several key players, but we have to stay healthy and injury free," says Bruney. "Depth is a problem. Lots of our kids go both ways."

At **South Mountain**, the problems are similar. Depth is a concern, but the Jaguars, like rival Maryvale, have good skill players and great team speed. In fact, two of their high-profile players, Joey Smith and Jason Shivers, were members of the Jaguars state championship 400 meter relay team. Smith, a 6-0, 195-pound end/safety, and Shivers, a 6-1, 190-pound wideout/safety, have committed early to Arizona State. Also on that relay squad was cornerback Dyzell Wilson (5-9, 170), with 4.4 speed a great cover man. One other senior,

Big schools

Enrollment figures for theValley of the Sun's largest 5A schools during the 1999 football season:

Students	High School
3,806	Mesa Mountain View
3,680	Mesa Dobson
2,922	Gilbert
2,922	North Canyon
2,763	Mesa
2,735	Tempe Corona del Sol
2,711	Mountain Ridge
2,709	Gilbert Highland
2,639	Phoenix Trevor Browne
2,630	Phoenix North
2,624	Paradise Valley
2,575	South Mountain
2,575	Scottsdale Horizon
2,530	Phoenix Alhambra
2,514	Chandler
2,479	Tolleson Westview
2,458	Gilbert Mesquite
2,455	Phoenix Camelback
2,405	Phoenix Central
2,391	Chandler Hamilton
2,379	Mesa Red Mountain
2,360	Desert Mountain

SOURCE: Arizona Interscholastic Assoc.

fullback/linebacker Jamar Patterson (5-9, 185), is a good two-way player. Still, several key juniors must step up for the Jaguars to make a run at the playoffs. Young Victor Rushing (5-9, 165) could start at quarterback. Line play looks improved with two-way players like DeAndre Johnson (6-1, 265), Jesus Hernandez (6-0, 245) and Carl Curry (6-5, 270). Hernandez is the team's center. Guard Yimin Bauman (5-11, 220) earned all-region votes as a sophomore.

"Our schedule was so tough, but we played well with a bunch of young players," says Cleveland Dansby, who enters his 12th year at the school. "We have the same schedule but our players know what it will take to make it back to the playoffs."

North, down and out for years, won more games (4) than any Mustang team since 1986. That club, ironically, won 11 games and advanced three rounds into the 4A playoffs. Coach Jeff Pankenier, with 15 lettermen, looks for his team to be more competitive. As always, seniors need to lead the way. With center Harley Smith (6-4, 255) and two-way lineman Adam Collins (6-1, 225), the Wild Horses have two good ones. Both were all-region picks as juniors. Linebacker Louie Acevado (6-1, 225) and fullback/safety Floyd Wimbush (5-10, 175) picked up a few votes of their own. Acevado is a junior. Derrick Peoples and Milton Corbin will compete at quarterback. Corbin can switch to running back, while Peoples also plays safety. Both have good targets to throw to in wideout Jason McGrath and tight end Ellis Mitchel. Big Jamisle Stringer (6-1, 280) starts at defensive tackle. Cornerback Larry Guinness is a good cover guy. Look for sophomore Breon Felix to start at linebacker, if not running back.

Few teams look to play as many underclassmen as **Camelback**, where less than half the roster are seniors. Coach Phillip Wooley sees a small lineup, with a competitive battle at quarterback. Linebacker Anthony DiDomizio (6-2, 210) heads a small senior class. Two juniors, running back Marquise Broom (5-8, 170) and tight end Dominic DiDomizio (6-3, 200), are starters. Broom gained 392 yards and scored five times in just three varsity games. Marvin Sumpter (5-10, 170) earned all-region votes as a defensive back. Safety Thomas Harris, halfback Eric Anderson, wideout Thomas Huff, and guards Erik Hernandez and Jose Herrera are underclassmen. Four players will compete at quarterback: Senior Kevin Bryant, junior James Heartquist, junior Chris Thomas and soph Ronny Phillips.

One of the biggest front walls belongs to **Yuma**, which has an excellent back in senior Jason Cullen, a 6-2, 205-pound fullback. He's also a straight-A student. Cullen and two-way tackle Will Burroughs (6-3, 260) are potential college prospects. Mike Evitcl (5-11, 260) is another good lineman. Junior Ryan Seale (5-9, 165), with 4.6 speed, joins Cullen in the backfield. The big question is who will start at quarterback? The Criminals return six offensive starters; five from the defense. Coach Pat Rowe is in his second year.



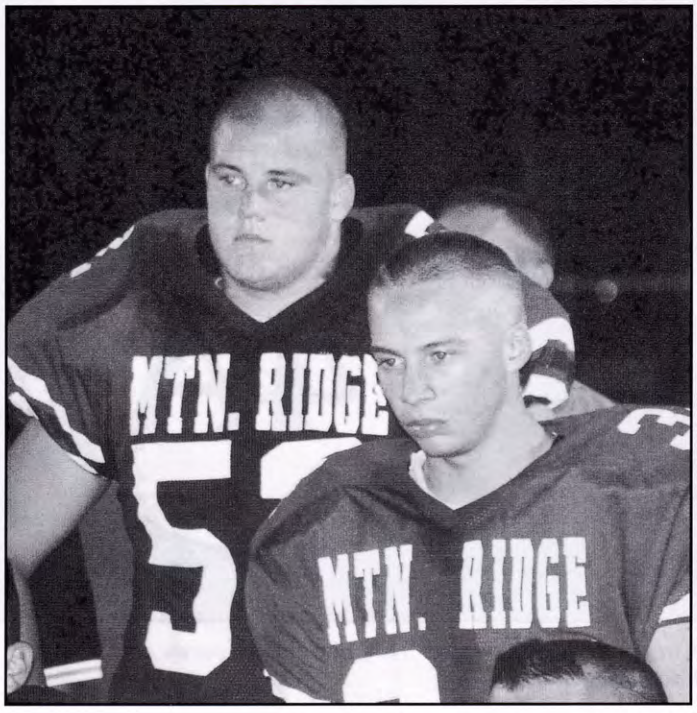


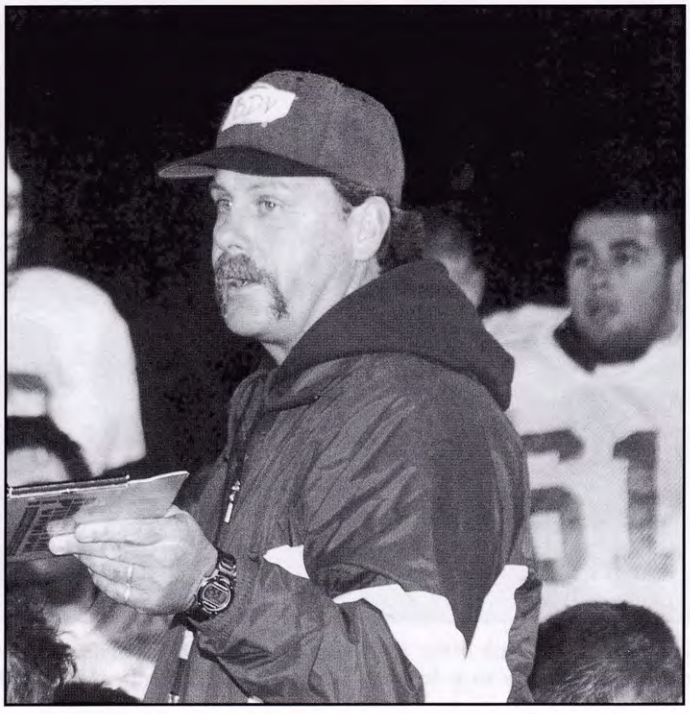


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2000
VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE:

Sept. 1.....at Phoenix Maryvale
Sept. 8.....Tempe Corona del Sol
Sept. 15.....at Mountain Pointe
Sept. 22 .....Mesa Westwood
Sept. 28 (Thur).....at Paradise Valley
Oct. 6.....at Scottsdale Horizon
Oct. 13 .....Glendale Ironwood
Oct. 20.....at Deer Valley
Oct. 27 .....at Phoenix Goldwater
Nov. 3 .....Peoria
Nov. 10.....Kingman

PLAYOFFS:



Wolverine tailback Mike Bell rushed for 2,037 yards, 1,305 in the last five games. He gained 333 yards and scored four touchdowns in a loss to Centennial (Tolleson High School photo).

For the first time ever, Tolleson is No. 1

If 1999 proved nothing else, it proved again that 4A football is not far removed from 5A. In fact, during the Decade of the '90s, almost as many athletes from 4A schools received college football scholarships as 5A players. Some years it was more.

Take the '99 campaign for example. In 5A ball Sabino of Tucson, up from the 4A ranks, won 13 straight games before falling to Mesa Mountain View in the state finals, 21-14. Along the way they spoiled Desert Vista's dream of a 5A repeat, 21-10 in the semis. And the Sabercats did it without their best player, two-way back Quinn Gooch, who missed every playoff game with an injury. Had he been in the lineup, Jeff Scuran's crew might have won it all.

Then there's 4A champion Scottsdale Chaparral. The unbeaten Firebirds, coached by Ron Estabrook, sent four players to Division I-A schools on scholarships: Tight end Mark Bell (Wisconsin), quarterback Steve Fleming (Arizona), linebacker Austin Sendlein (Texas) and halfback Josh Griffin (Nevada). Only one 5A school, Desert Vista (6), sent more. But then, only two other schools in the country, Houston North Shore (8) and Copperas Cove, Tex. (7) sent more.

In the Decade of the '90s, the premier 4A program in Maricopa County belonged to Peoria, which has spent only one year ('99) in 5A competition. The Panthers, under the direction of Doug Clapp, sent more players to a higher level of competition than any 4A school in Phoenix. A population boom on the northwest side, which kicked Peoria's enrollment up a class, caused a sigh of relief from many 4A coaches throughout the state. In fact, in the Panthers first year of 5A ball they won the newly formed Northwest Valley Region, and advanced to the playoffs.

That brings us to 2000, and for the first time in history a Tolleson school is a No. 1 preseason pick. Because of tremendous growth west of Phoenix, Tolleson now has two high schools - the older Wolverines and the newer Westview, which plays is the 5A Metro Southwest Region.

Tolleson High opened its doors in 1927, but the school didn't fund a football program until 1944, one year before World War II ended. And for three years the Wolverines, coached by Hank Jones, played in the old 6-man league - for 20 years the highest scoring football conference in Arizona history.

Only 17 times in the past 50 years has Tolleson had a winning season. It hasn't exactly been a football powerhouse. Rival Agua Fria has stolen most of the thunder. But the Wolverines have had their moments. First, in 1963, a Phil Santia-coached club (9-1) beat everybody on its schedule except Globe. They weren't too shabby the year before, either. Santia's '63 team was forced to play the season finale with Ajo a week later then scheduled because of the

assassination of President Kennedy. The loss to Globe prevented Tolleson, for the first time in its history, from being ranked No. 1 in the final Associated Press prep poll. The key players during that era were brothers, Burke and Martin Whitfield, both all-state guards. It was Burke who was recently the athletic director at the Arizona Boys Ranch. Almost 20 years later, three Thurman Simmons-coached teams reached the playoffs, with his 1978 club finishing 11-2 after falling to Gilbert in the 4A state championship game.

That brings us to the current crop, coached by Dan Widmaier. It has steadily improved. The Wolverines have made the playoffs two of the past three years. Last year's senior class didn't win a game as freshmen, but finished 6-4. A season-ending loss to Centennial kept them out of the playoffs. In that game, junior tailback Mike Bell gained 333 yards and scored four times. With 17 lettermen returning, including two of the best backs in Maricopa County, the Wolverines are temporally on top. But on September 1, the first Friday of the season, they host defending state champ Scottsdale Chaparral. That will be a good early season test. Yes, Tolleson is a No. 1 pick for at least one month.

4A WEST VALLEY REGION

1. Tolleson (6-4)
2. Agua Fria (7-4)
3. Glendale Cactus (12-1)
4. Sunrise Mountain (9-3)
5. Peoria Centennial (4-6)
6. Bullhead City Mohave (2-8)
7. Goodyear Millennium (1-7)

It's the worst kept secret on the west side. **Tolleson**, in the form of Mike Bell and Carl Marshall, has two of the best backs in the Valley on the same team. That's double trouble for everybody on their schedule. Coach Dan Widmaier returns seven starters on offense and eight on defense. But it's running backs Bell and Marshall who have gained all the attention. Especially Bell, a 6-1, 201-pound senior. He rushed for 2,037 yards, 1,305 in the last five games. During a 30-6 win over Mohave, Bell had 328 all-purpose yards and scored three touchdowns, one a 92-yard sprint. In the Wolverines 33-24 win over Agua Fria, he gained 254 yards and scored three TDs, including an 80-yarder in the first quarter. During the season Marshall (6-0, 189), a real good cornerback, gained 602 yards on 87 carries. Wideout Antwuane Hooks (6-1, 183, 4.6) also returns. Hooks is a three-year starter at safety. In fact, all the skill position players except fullback return. Sophomore Mark Spradlin will compete for the QB job with returner Ryan Owens. Defensive tackle Andrew Silva (5-10, 220), center Justin Cates (5-9, 230), defensive end Jose Salcido (5-9, 190), linebacker Art Aragon (5-9, 188) and corner Martel Hayes (5-8, 165) were honorable mention all-region picks. But the team's achilles heel could be the line. Tight end Chris Williams (6-2, 192) and tackle Bill Mercer (6-0, 210) are the only other driving forces up front. Mercer is a junior. Last year Tolleson lost to Sunrise Mountain 26-24 on a 45 yard field goal as time expired. In that game Bell gained 285 yards and scored twice. Early in the season THS failed on fourth-and-five at the five-yard line with 20 seconds against Apache Junction, and lost 13-7. A win in either of those games would have put them in the playoffs. The Wolverines open their season at home against Scottsdale Chaparral.

METRO 4A TOP 20 POLL

1. Tolleson Wolverines
2. Tempe Buffaloes
3. Chaparral Firebirds
4. Agua Fria Owls
5. Cactus Cobras
6. Moon Valley Rockets
7. Washington Rams
8. Sunrise Mtn. Mustangs
9. Saguaro Sabercats
10. Greenway Demons
11. Prescott Badgers
12. Buckeye Hawks
13. Thunderbird Chiefs
14. Sunnyslope Vikings
15. Apollo Hawks
16. Cactus Shadows Falcons
17. Centennial Coyotes
18. Apache Jct. Prospectors
19. Coronado Dons
20. Independence Patriots

Mickey Bell, the coach at **Agua Fria**, guided a young, inexperienced team through a 7-4 season. Twenty-seven players return, including one of the region's best backs, Lamar Baker. The 5-10, 188-pound two-way star - the 4A state 100 meter champ (10.86) - has verbally committed to Arizona State. West Valley Region foes will be glad to see him leave. The Owls return several key players, but Baker is the top dog. Defensive back Ray Sanchez (5-10, 175) and linebacker Mike Talbot (6-2, 215) were all-region picks. Tackle Joe Valenzuela (6-3, 310), nose guard Marc Johnson (5-8, 190) and wideout Marcus Pest (5-10, 170) are playoff tested. Junior Luke Taylor started at quarterback as a sophomore. The Owls appear one year removed from feeling the effect of the opening of nearby Millennium High, located in Goodyear.

Cactus rode an undefeated wave for 12 weeks before Scottsdale Chaparral ended their season in the semifinals, 42-21. Gone is the Cobras' aerial attack, where quarterback Jon Stoner took his 3,146 yards and 36 touchdowns to San Diego State. But the running game returns. Junior fullback Anthony Franco (5-10, 215) and halfback Jessie Wagner (5-10, 170) are back. So is defensive end Edurado Preciado (6-4, 229), like Franco and Wagner an all-region pick. Guard Ryan Smith (6-1, 237), wingback Jovan Bonelli (6-1, 181) and cornerback Nate Josey (5-10, 162) are the only remaining starters from the Cobras' season-ending loss to Chaparral.

First-year coach Jim Davis replaces veteran Bill Gahn, who stepped down after **Sunrise Mountain** went 9-3 with its first graduating class. Eight offensive starters left. Defensively, the Mustangs return all three linebackers, plus all-state honorable mention defensive end Zach Fleming, a 6-1, 195-pound senior. Linebacker Beau Raptis (5-9, 190), guard Kevin Underwood (5-10, 185), running back Steve Terrill (6-2, 205) and Fleming were all-region picks. Terrill gained 772 yards on 94 carries. He also punted for a 39.0 average. Fleming recorded 56 tackles and 11 sacks. Underwood is a quick pulling guard who will also play linebacker. Linebacker Darin Gronski (5-10, 185) made 76 tackles. Tackle Bryan Hicks (6-0, 260) is solid. The Mustangs lost to Tucson Sahuaro in the 4A quarterfinals.

Centennial will be young but big. Coach Richard Taylor welcomes 23 lettermen, but not too many starters. Quarterback Curtis Green (6-3, 182),

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Coach Ron Estabrook's 1999 Firebirds finished with an impressive 14-0 ledger, winning the East Sky Region for the third straight year and the Class 4A state championship at Sun Devil Stadium.

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defensive back/receiver Joel Konderik (5-11, 175) and junior end Adam Garday (6-2, 212) are three key players. Center Cameron McDade (6-2, 270), just a junior, has a lot of big friends on the line, including Cliff Mills (6-4, 300), Ryan Allen (6-3, 250) and Billy Larson (6-0, 260). Senior Matt Parks (5-9, 155) will start at flanker. George Cortez, Jon Cavello, Brad Lydic, Brian Keith and big Sean Horning form a solid junior class.

Few seniors contributed at **Mohave**, and the results were predictable. Coach Mark Ruckle looks for improvement from this year's senior class, starting with all-league defensive back Jesse Brister (6-0, 170) and running back Shannon Fernandez (5-6, 165). Jeremy Thompson (6-1, 230) doubles at guard/linebacker. Tom Talayumptewa, a 265-pound guard, also starts. Junior Daryl Staley (6-5, 255) is a promising two-way lineman.

The new kid on the block resides in Goodyear, where **Millennium High** returns its entire 40-man roster. The Tigers, with no senior class, still played competitively. "We were close in most of our games," claims Ron Frank. "We played a lot of kids. That will help us down the road." Seniors will be the key. Tackle Arturo Cabrales (6-2, 230), deep back/wideout Dan Villa (6-0, 170), tackle Dan Black (6-0, 250) and center Josh Fleshman (6-2, 220) are the leaders. The junior class could produce the starting quarterback, Tony Keller, guard/linebacker Shane Sandau and backer Ryan Carroll. "Our region is one of the toughest in the state," adds Frank. "We will have to play our best football early and post some wins."

4A SKYLINE REGION

1. Buckeye (4-6)
2. Phoenix Thunderbird (5-6)
3. Sunnyslope (11-2)
4. Glendale Apollo (6-5)
5. Cave Creek Cactus Shadows (7-3-1)
6. Lake Havasu (3-7)
7. Glendale (2-8)

The days of kicking sand in **Buckeye's** face might be over. Coach Rudy Pacheco's young Hawks won three of their last four games. They return three all-region picks at key positions, most of any school in the loop. They should be better. Linebacker Frank Drew (5-10, 215) is the leader of the defense. He's a bruising running back, also. He gained 719 yards on 131 carries (5.5) and scored 10 TDs. He caught 21 passes for 245 yards and two more scores. On defense he recorded 87 unassisted tackles, 48 assisted and intercepted two passes. Newcomer Jafar Frazier (6-0, 200) transferred from Glendale High where he started at fullback. He's just a junior. The Hawks have two quality linemen in Mike Santellan (5-11, 240) and Albert Uriz (5-9, 235). Junior Nick Gehrts (6-2, 170) was an all-Skyline honorable mention QB as a sophomore, when he passed for 1,105 yards and 10 scores. Little George Limon (5-9, 160) doubles at wideout/cornerback. The junior class adds tight end Matt Raney (6-3, 205), linebacker Ty Marcotte (5-10, 200) and guard Josh Oliver (5-8, 230) to the mix. "We should be better this year," warns Pacheco, a former head coach at Glendale Apollo. "The days of Buckeye being an easy win on the schedule are over." The Hawks open with Mesa Skyline, then travel to Sunrise Mountain. That will be a good test.

Thunderbird finished runnerup in the league for the third straight year. Coach Gary Mauldin lost 28 seniors from that squad, but newcomers from a good JV unit and several key returnees should help. Senior Robby Jones (5-9, 170) appears to be the most talented. He can play running back, wideout and defensive back. He gained 575 yards from scrimmage, plus 117 receiving passes. Linebacker Tanner Linsacum (5-8, 205) packs a good wallop. He's the leading returning defender. Only nine lettermen return, so seniors like wideout/safety John Leos (6-2, 195), along with linemen Geoff Debenedetto (6-0, 170), Josh Hampton (6-2, 250) and Richard Rael (6-0, 190) have to be ready for double duty.

Last year **Sunnyslope** rode the arm of a sophomore quarterback and a veteran lineup all the way to the state semifinals. Along the way, young Mike Nixon (6-2, 180) completed 135 of 248 passes (51%) for 2,351 yards and 14 touchdowns. He was intercepted just seven times. As a safety he intercepted seven himself. One of the best athletes in the region, he's also the Vikings' kicker. But with only eight returning players, including none of his receiving corp, the going looks rough. Halfback Chris Tiller (5-9, 175) and guard Bill Frank (6-0, 190) are the only returning seniors. Junior Gilbert Gallahar joins Nixon and Tifller in the backfield. Tackle Chris Awbrey (6-1, 215) has two years left to protect his quarterback. Young Matt Petersen (5-9, 160) looks like the best receiver in the bunch. It will be hard for coach Dallas Hickman's crew to repeat last year's accomplishment. But don't count them out.

Key injuries and a tough schedule couldn't keep **Apollo** out of the playoffs. Although the Hawks lasted only one round, making the playoffs is starting to become a habit, and head coach Gregg

Hamilton running back Suggs hard to catch

Last October, Hamilton running back Terrell Suggs rushed for a state 5A record 367 yards during a 48-21 win over Yuma Kofa. The previous 5A best was 358, set in 1982. The metro region's all-time single game best performances:

Yards/Player/School/Opponent	Classification
388 - Kyran Jones, Peoria vs Paradise Valley, 1996 (jr)	4A
367 - Terrell Suggs, Chandler Hamilton vs Yuma Kofa, 1999	5A
358 - Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria vs Phoenix Carl Hayden, 1982	5A
352 - Joel Huerta, Scottsdale Coronado vs Goldwater, 1995 (so)	4A
344 - Brian Pringle, Phoenix Sunnyslope vs Prescott, 1970	5A
343 - Russell Trejo, Casa Grande vs Scottsdale Chaparral, 1994	4A
339 - Ron Bonner, Mesa W'Wood vs Scottsdale Arcadia, 1972 (so)	5A
334 - Paul Fichera, Scottsdale Chaparral vs Tempe Union, 1990 (jr)	4A
333 - Mike Bell, Tolleson vs Peoria Centennial, 1999 (jr)	4A
331 - Darnell Autry, Tempe Union vs Scottsdale Chaparral, 1993	4A
329 - Tim Vining, Glendale Cactus vs Prescott, 1994	4A
328 - Keith Huckaby, Agua Fria vs Glendale Cactus, 1989	4A
327 - Jim McQuinn, Phoenix Central vs Phoenix North, 1976	5A
321 - Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro vs Phoenix North, 1994 (jr)	5A
321 - Russell Trejo, Casa Grande vs Apache Junction, 19944A	
319 - Terrell Suggs, Chandler Hamilton vs Tempe McClintock, 1999	5A
318 - Trung Canidate, Central vs Glendale Apollo, 1993 (jr)5A	

Parrish wants to keep it that way. "We have some size and speed," says the veteran coach. "But it looks more like a rebuilding year." Two-way back Demarcus Green (5-9, 180) looks like the best runner in camp. Last year he gained 611 yards and scored six touchdowns. Quarterback Scott Parsons (6-0, 185) passed for 693 yards and eight TDs as a part-timer. Split end Kyle Wooten (5-9, 160) caught 10 passes for 344 yards and six scores. He averaged 34.4 yards every time he touched the ball. Junior Mike Walker (6-2, 185) is a promising tight end. The Hawks best linemen, center/tackle Steve Threadgill (6-0, 230) and guard/tackle Clint Hirschi (6-3, 250) are quality two-way players. In fact, most of Apollo's key players will go both ways. Overall, 20 players return, and the JV squad lost only two games.

Coach Gerry LaBelle hopes the **Cactus Shadows** defense, which returns six starters, keeps the Falcons in each game until his offense gels. Sam Gibbs (5-11, 195) and Chad Krolczk (6-2, 222) are two of the region's best linebackers. Shilo Laibe (5-11, 200) is one of the best lineman. Throw in Jordan Skowron (6-0, 205), Griffin Joy (6-4, 295), Drew Petersen (5-11, 233) and Vinnie Ciliberti (5-11, 215), and CS has a solid front wall. Two juniors, tight end Rory Miller (6-3, 188) and halfback Kyle Early (5-10, 177) should start. Last year LaBelle's squad made the 4A playoffs in the school's first year up, giving the Falcons six straight playoff appearances.

Lake Havasu, winner of three games, returns all-league nose guard Max McCluskey and half the roster. The 5-11, 258-pound senior starts at tackle on offense. Big Zane Porter (6-2, 258), just a junior, was another two-way contributor. Young Mark Bohnstedt (6-4, 200) saw action at linebacker and has two more years to play. Overall, 20 lettermen return. But graduation cleaned out most of the starting lineup.

At **Glendale**, the Cardinals have their fifth coach in seven years as Mark Smith replaces Donnie Yantis, who moved to Paradise Valley. Smith, a former head coach in Wisconsin, welcomes only 15 players from last year's 2-8 squad. But with halfback Bogie Rodriguez (5-11, 195) and defensive back John Amado (5-11, 170) in the lineup, Smith has two of the better players in the Skyline. Amado was a first team all-region pick, and also plays wide receiver. In fact, with wideout/safety Octavio Luna (5-11, 175) also returning, the Cardinals look strong at those two positions. Matt Neely (6-1, 240) is a good lineman. However, Glendale took a big hit when starting fullback Jafar Frazier moved to Buckeye.

4A DESERT SKY REGION

1. Phoenix Moon Valley (3-7)
2. Phoenix Washington (7-4)
3. Phoenix Greenway (8-4)
4. Prescott (6-4)
5. Glendale Independence (5-5)
6. Bradshaw Mountain (4-5-1)
7. Phoenix Cortez (1-9)

Things are looking good at **Moon Valley**. The Rockets, coached by Roger Briston, return more players (31) and big, strong linemen than any school in the region. Also, they started 11 sophomores, so experience is a plus. Defensive tackle Nate Gibbs (6-4, 290), an all-region pick, has several big buddies, including Justin Schockey (6-4, 305) and Brey Vacchina (6-1, 300), who is a junior. All three squat 600 pounds. Tailback C.R. Davis (6-2, 180), a burner with 4.4 speed, and cornerback Bruce Hubbard (5-10, 170) are good and fast. Hubbard ran a wind-aided 10.7 100-meter dash in the spring. Junior linebacker Nate Washington (5-11, 195) was another all-region pick. Junior Nick Wahlstrom (6-0, 190) starts at defensive end. "We lost a lot of close games early with young players," says Briston. "But we showed improvement."

At **Washington**, Steve Chisman needs to rebuild his defense, one which carried the Rams to the first round of the playoffs. Tucson Sahuaro ended their season at 7-4. But Washington's Wing-T offense looks improved, and several key defenders return. The key player is linebacker Brian Petrovich (6-2, 210), an all-region pick who doubles at running back. Two-way linemen Ryan Angus (6-0, 240) and Chris Mitchell (5-10, 230) won post-season honors, also. Quarterback Sean Carlton (5-9, 160) runs the offense. He's a key player. Junior Daniel Gomez could back him up. Versatile Glenn Staley handles the Rams' kicking game. Damien Reagor, David Burtch, Matt Halbach, Matt Jewell, Nat Opel, Jose Rangel, Jacob Garcia, Jon Frinkle, Chris Tobler and Doug Thomas form a solid senior class. "We've got some hungry young juniors coming up, and that's a plus," adds Chisman, who is just eight wins shy of 100 at the school.

Greenway had an outstanding year, going 6-0 in the region and losing to Cactus in the quarterfinals by one point. It was their second loss to Cactus, the other losses were to Sunrise Mountain and Chaparral. The Demons offense averaged 32.7 points and 412 yards per game. But graduation cleaned it out. Still, coach Mike Brown hopes the Demons' tradition of good offensive teams will carry over with the new group. Several key players return. With tackle Matt Hartsook (6-4, 280) in the lineup, Greenway has an excellent two-way player. Classmate Mark Goodman (6-2, 220) joins him on the line. Chris Conner (5-9, 160) and Matt Cutts (5-9, 150) are good skill players. Both play in the secondary, with Cutts a possible quarterback candidate. Conner, in two years of varsity play, has 84 tackles and 11 pass interceptions. Junior Andrew Luckenbill (6-3, 220), a guard/defensive end, as a real prospect. Speedy Andrew Johnson looks to start at split end. In fact, with Johnson in the lineup, plus young burners Brandon Halverson and Troy Frankie, Greenway might have the quickest team in the league.

Coach Lou Beneitone saw his young **Prescott** club miss the playoffs by one game. A lack of senior leadership at key positions, plus late season injuries spelled doom in the end. But that was last year. The Badgers, entering their 90th season, return 12 starters - nine on defense. In fact, 16 players return with experience, including quarterback Tony DeMark (6-2, 190), linebacker Colby Shelstad (6-0, 180) and all-purpose back Jason Pridie (6-1, 175), who is just a junior. These three earned all-region votes by opposing coaches. DeMark threw for 1,204 yards and nine touchdowns. Pridie caught five TD passes, had nine interceptions in the secondary, kicked 10 field goals and missed only one extra point. Five field goals sailed 40 yards or more. Shelstad had 107 tackles, with 25 in one game a school record. Seniors Andrew Wegner and Alofi Pomee are good two-way players. Juniors Forrest Mitchell and Erik Folger will start.

Independence, like Prescott, came real close to playoff territory. The Patriots, 5-5 in Kelly Epley's second year, return just 13 players, so juniors from a near-perfect JV squad need to step up. But the leader of the pack is a senior, all-league safety Chris Mauzey (5-9, 175), who doubles at running back. Vincente Sanchez (6-1, 175) was an all-region kick returner. He also plays wideout and defensive back. Senior David Dent (6-1, 245) starts each play at center. Junior Ramon Jaramillo (6-1, 180) gets the call

at quarterback. Two linebackers, Pedro Galaviz (6-1, 205) and Jeff Lin (5-11, 215) hope to finish their senior season in the playoffs.

If the passing game improves at **Bradshaw Mountain**, the Bears will be better. Plus, it will take pressure off Tony Gray, the best back in the league. Last year Gray, a 5-9, 175-pounder, dashed for 1,100 yards and 10 TDs. He scored on a kickoff return and caught two touchdown passes. Guard Adam Clinton (5-11, 210), a good baseball player, was an honorable mention all-region pick. Two-way back Luis Olmos (5-9, 190) averaged 39.0 yards per punt. Jason Moore (5-10, 190) doubles at fullback/nose guard. These four seniors are key figures in the Bears' season. But they can't do it alone. Wide receiver David Rushbrook could be a deep threat. "Our defense should be tough again, but our quarterback and line play will be the key to our success," says third-year coach John Rodriguez, a former all-state quarterback at Phoenix St. Mary's.

With 12 sophomores in the lineup, **Cortez** struggled. But the Colts never quit, and head coach Vito Maynes hopes that carries over to 2000. Returning quarterback Scott Walton (5-10, 168) passed for 1,916 yards and rushed for 297. Most of his receiving corps is back, starting with senior Jerome Pittman (6-1, 163), a burner who caught 28 passes for 704 yards and seven TDs. He averaged 25.1 yards per catch, and returned one kickoff for a score. Kyle Cooper (6-3, 172), just a junior, averaged 19.3 yards per catch, while Matt Visnansky (6-1, 172) averaged 15.5. Also the team's safety, Visnansky recorded 86 tackles and two interceptions. Junior Robert Harrison (5-9, 163) will head the running game. Classmate Amiel Jaramillo (6-4, 241) will anchor the line.

4A EAST SKY REGION

1. Tempe Union (4-6)
2. Scottsdale Chaparral (14-0)
3. Scottsdale Saguaro (5-5)
4. Apache Junction (3-7)
5. Scottsdale Coronado (7-3)
6. Mesa Skyline (2-8)
7. Scottsdale Arcadia (0-10)

It was frustrating at **Tempe**, where the Buffaloes played most opponents tough, but won only four games. Hopefully, that trend is over. Key players return at key positions. The passing game looks sound, and head coach Tim McBurney returns one of the state's premier athletes, senior split end Lynzell Jackson, a *Street & Smith* preseason Top 50 pick. The 6-3, 180-pound senior, in his first year of football, caught 50 passes for 1,060 yards and 12 touchdowns. An outstanding athlete, he returned two kickoffs for scores and handled the team's punting. He plays free safety in the Buffaloes' nickel defense. Wideout Andrew Winters (6-0, 150) gives Tempe another outside threat. Troy Wolfgramm (6-2, 205), a fullback/linebacker who was injured last year, is back. So is all-region center Shannon Clark (5-10, 205) and all-city backer Richard Galvan (5-5, 155), the Buffs' toughest player. Speedy little Maurice Smith (5-4, 140), just a junior, gained over 800 yards rushing. Halfback Dwane Briggs (6-0, 180) gained 303. Junior John Cole (6-3, 220) can play fullback or linebacker. Tackles Ryan Baker (6-2, 250) and Robert Ansley (5-10, 210) are two-year starters. Senior Phillip Pifer (6-2, 180) and junior Nate Mortensen (6-0, 185) will compete at quarterback. Mortensen managed 404 yards in a part-time role. Jacob Laikona (6-4, 220), a two-way end, has moved back into the district and could start. Sophomore Nikolas Uiha, a 6-2, 280-pounder, could see playing time. Tempe opens its season Sept. 2 against defending 3A champ Show Low in the Round Valley Classic in Springerville.

However, **Chaparral** won't give up the crown without a fight. Although the Firebirds lost 17 of 22 starters, like all good programs they reload. The JV squad was unbeaten. Most of Ron Estabrook's projected starters are seniors. Line play looks exceptional, especially with all-region center Chris Palaia (6-1, 210) in the lineup. Guard Brian Hutchinson (6-0, 210) and tackle Lyle Sendlein (6-4, 245) will start.

Domed start for the Buffs



Lynzell Jackson
Tempe

Tempe's Tim McBurney knows a good show when he sees one. But this year his Buffaloes will be part of the show. Like right in the middle of it. On Saturday, Sept. 2, Tempe will face defending 3A state champ Show Low in the Round Valley Classic in Springerville. The game will be played in the Ensphere, indoor home of the host school, the Round Valley Elks.

The Tempe-Show Low matchup will be the second of three games on the agenda. At 2:00 p.m., Phoenix Bourgade Catholic faces Maricopa, while Round Valley faces area rival St. Johns in the 8:00 p.m. nightcap. The Tempe contest is scheduled to start at 5:00.

Football fans in the White Mountains, and those from Phoenix who want to beat the heat, are in for a treat. Especially in the Tempe-Show Low clash. The visiting Buffaloes have possibly the state's top recruit, wide receiver Lynzell Jackson. Almost every national scouting service has McBurney's prize pupil listed as Arizona's best. Jackson, also an all-city basketball player, caught 50 passes for 1,060 yards and 12 touchdowns in his first year of football.

But Show Low has guns of its own, starting with quarterback Matt Belshe, a 6-2, 215-pound senior-to-be who recently committed to the University of Arizona. The Cougars also return all-state lineman Scott Croff, a 6-2, 290-pound junior rated by *Street & Smith* as one of the best at his position in the West. Last year Show Low regrouped after an early-season pounding by Blue Ridge and beat the Yellow Jackets in the 3A state finals. The Cougars are coached by Bill Morgan, brother of St. Johns coach Mike Morgan.

The Redskins have a good tradition of their own. Under (Mike) Morgan, St. Johns has won 83% of their games and three consecutive 2A state championships. Between 1992-95, the 'Skins won 43 games in a row, a state record at the time. Since then Blue Ridge won 63.

"The purpose for the event is to promote high school football," says Round Valley athletic director Willis Haws. "Promote the Ensphere, let the athletes come and have a great time playing indoors, and create lasting memories that are good ones."

Gate receipts from the triple-header will help cover traveling cost for Phoenix area teams, plus other expenses. The Chamber of Commerce will help and host a barbeque Friday night for visiting teams.

Sendlein, just a junior, also plays middle linebacker. Defensive tackle Bo Zierden (6-0, 190) had 10 sacks. Wideouts Evan Judge (6-3, 195) and Bryan Schlueter (5-11, 180), plus tight end Dominick Ruggiero (6-4, 220) form a solid receiving corps. Who will throw the ball? J.T. Mezick (6-3, 185) or Cory Anderson (6-4, 220) could be the answer. Both have potential. Dustin Ireland (5-8, 185) was the school's second most productive back, behind all-stater Josh Griffin. T.J. Tasco (6-0, 180) is a quality defensive back. Safety Ty Thomasson (6-1, 190), corner Ryan Benscoter (5-10, 185) and linebacker David McDonald (6-0, 210) should start. Punter Ryan Williams (6-1, 185) is a college kicker. His leg is strong and he has good hang time on kickoffs and punts. Linebacker Kyle Dillingham (6-3, 205), tackle Lance Robinson (6-2, 290) and defensive end David Duley (6-4, 250) are ready to go. But with the graduation of just two people, quarterback Steve Fleming (Arizona) and tailback Josh Griffin (Nevada), the Firebirds lost 80% of their offense." We had a dream season," adds Estabrook, the state coach of the year. "We had a great staff, administrative, booster club and fan support, and injuries were minimal. The chemistry was right."

Scottsdale Saguaro, just five years removed from a state championship, might be back in the hunt. After a near-perfect '95 campaign, the school took an enrollment hit, when Desert Mountain opened to the north. Stuart Goldstein's Sabercats have the potential to be better than last year (5-5), with 14 lettermen and several key starters. The 'Cats high-profile player is wide receiver Ryan Jones (6-0, 175), an all-city pick who caught 63 passes for 1,056 yards and six touchdowns in Saguaro's spread formation. Against Tempe, he set school single game records for receptions (11) and yards (247). Kicker Nagui Sabbagh (5-9, 160) was another all-city pick, along with lineman Adam Lunz (5-9, 215), the team's center. Guard Joe Rodgers (6-0, 205), linebacker Fernando Maldanado (5-10, 180), fullback Brady Smith (5-9, 175) and two-way lineman Max Gabriele (6-1, 205) are penciled in as starters.

Although **Apache Junction** won only three games, the Prospectors played most games close. Coach Steve Neal returns 11 players, including two all-region picks, running back Gabe Rosales (5-9, 150) and guard Leo Hernandez (5-9, 240). Rosales, just a junior, gained 644 yards on 166 carries. Quarterback Josh Winn (5-10, 155) completed 86 of 180 passes for 1,111 yards and seven touchdowns. He gained 112 yards on 63 rushing attempts. J.R. Marquez (5-7, 140) will back him up and play in the secondary. Wideout Seth Baczynski (6-4, 185) had 248 receiving yards and three touchdowns. With 4.7 speed, Ryan Johnson (6-4, 165) is a deep threat. Mike Worley (5-10, 195) is the Prospectors' center. Jared McVicker (5-10, 195) and Mike MaCallister (6-0, 175) are solid linebackers.

First-year **Coronado** coach B.J. Pasquel has only 15 players from last year's club to work with, but he thinks a playoff spot is in sight. Last year the Dons finished strong and were second in the region. Two all-city picks, end Zach Stahlecker (6-1, 190) and running back Derek Bair (5-10, 160), return. Two-way tackle Jensen Valenzuela (6-2, 285) is a driving force on the line. Still, depth is a major concern. Last year five sophomores, Charles Carle, Scott Root, Kenny Young, James Cobb and Valenzuela played on the varsity - a sight once not common at a school which one time had 3,000 students.

It was a tough situation for **Skyline**, the newest Mesa school. Coach Mark Swartz guided the young Coyotes through a 2-8 campaign with little varsity experience, and even less seniors. Nineteen players return, including promising linebacker Evan Reid, a 6-1, 195-pound junior. Senior Ben Von Rotz (5-9, 220) is a solid lineman. In fact, seniors dominate the front wall, including Matt Bock (6-0, 210), Randy Forrest (5-10, 225) and Von Rotz. Randy Mairena (5-11, 185) and Branden Ellington (5-9, 185) form a good linebacking duo. Junior Ken Holmes (5-10, 170) gets the call at quarterback. His top target looks like receiver Jeff Borup, who also doubles at safety. Juniors Steve and Chris Trujillo will join him in the secondary. "We did find out what some of our kids were made of," says Swartz about last year. "But I feel good about the progress we've made."

At **Arcadia**, the Titans struggling program hit rock bottom, going winless for the first time in its history. Again, they face an age only problem - lack of numbers - plus a new coaching staff. Best of the lot is their punter, all-city pick Jaret Johnson. Johnson made a 50-yard field goal against Skyline and averaged 36.4 yards per punt. The receiving corps, including quarterback Matt Guernsey and wideouts Cameron Bennett and Brian Ringo, also return.

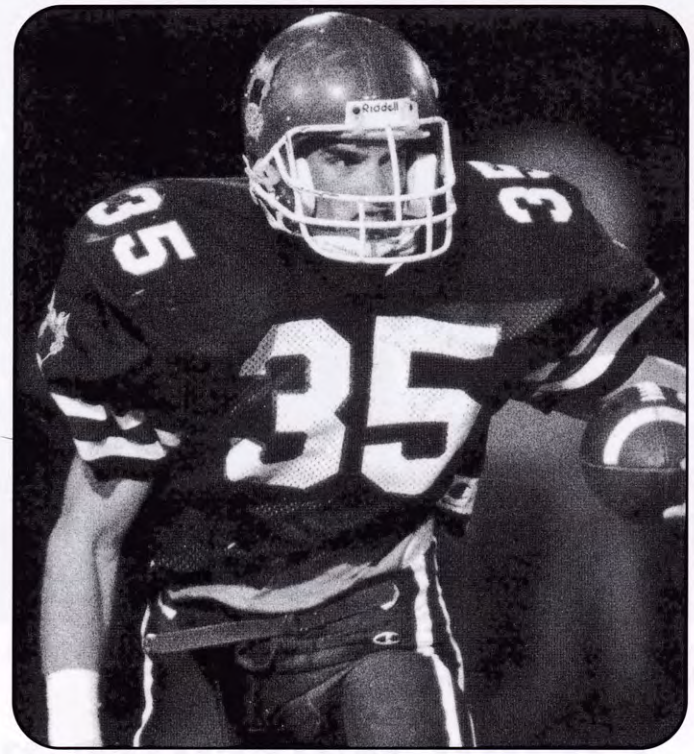
Southern Arizona's Best

QUARTERBACKS - Ryno Bethel, Willcox (6-1, 165), Erik Hinton, Ft. Thomas (6-0, 154), Joel Romano, Tucson Amphitheater (5-9, 170), Tony Chavez, Queen Creek (5-9, 151, jr.); **BACKS** - Jason Cullen, Yuma Union (6-2, 205), Michael DeLeon, Yuma Kofa (5-8, 165), Mike Smith, Coolidge (5-10, 175), Ben Cardenas, Superior (5-10, 160), Isreal Ibarra, Eloy Santa Cruz (5-9, 160, jr.), Scott Nichols, Florence (6-0, 190), Jeremy Morris, Palo Verde Christian (5-9, 180), Marquez Tadeo, Douglas (5-9, 160), Michael Romney, Thatcher (6-0, 165, jr.), Reggie Guerrero, Yuma Cibola (5-10, 225); **RECEIVERS** - Matt Mathieu, Mountain View (6-1, 170), Felipe Ramos, Yuma Kofa (6-0, 165), Adrian Fuentes, Willcox (6-1, 160), Jeremy Gilder, Maricopa (6-2, 185, jr.); **LINEMEN** - Cain Velasquez, Yuma Kofa (6-1, 250), Will Burroughs, Yuma (6-3, 260), George Parker, Catalina Foothills (6-2, 210), Albert Hernandez, Flowing Wells (6-1, 250), Coe Van Winkle, Tucson Sahuaro (6-1, 255), Rocky Buelna, Tucson Catalina (6-2, 280), Hector Rivera, Tucson Pueblo (6-1, 225), Edward Moreno, Benson (6-0, 205), Matt Huffman, Maricopa (6-2, 220), Joey Titus, Thatcher (6-0, 195); **LINEBACKERS** - Chris Chaney, Tucson Santa Rita (6-0, 210), Andy Pogue, Mountain View (5-11, 205), David Coronado, Tucson Sunnyside (5-10, 175), O.J. Flores, Tucson Sunnyside (5-11, 220), Alonzo Alexander, Casa Grande (6-0, 225), Pedro Limon, Douglas (6-2, 225), Chris Goss, Miami (6-1, 185); **KICKERS** - Brandon Blair, Morenci (6-0, 160), Peter Gartner, Tucson Sahuaro (5-10, 150), Tony Diaz, Tucson Sunnyside (5-8, 150), Austin Skelley, Casa Grande (6-0, 180).

Scottsdale Quarterback Club

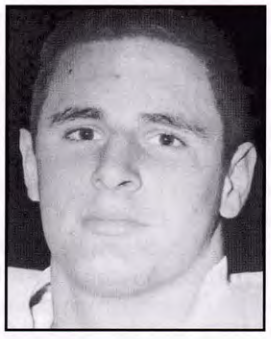
SALUTING OUR CITY PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

1999 ... Josh Griffin, Chaparral, RB/KR
1998 ... Jeff Krohn, Horizon, QB
1997 ... Jerry Schwartzberg, Chaparral, RB
1996 ... Mike Mantle, Coronado, RB/DB
1995 ... Mike Brown, Saguaro, RB/DB
1994 ... John Clayton, Horizon, RB
1993 ... Randy Hakes, Arcadia, TE/LB
1992 ... Rod Bair, Coronado, FB
1991 ... Paul Fichera, Coronado, RB
1990 ... Justin Olson, Horizon, RB
... Paul Fichiera, Coronado, RB (jr)
1989 ... Kevin McLemore, Coronado, RB/LB
1988 ... Andy Davis, Saguaro, RB
1987 ... Tony Werstler, Sagaro, QB
... Neil Begalman, Saguaro, LB
1986 ... John Boyer, Coronado, FB/LB
1985 ... Charles Sanfilippo, Chaparral, RB
1984 ... Steve Rosholt, Arcadia, RB
1983 ... Dave Schilling, Coronado, RB
1982 ... Lee Bishop, Chaparral, RB
... Tim McInnis, Coronado, TE
1981 ... Frank Rudolph, Coronado, DE
1980 ... Randy Hayes, Scottsdale, WR
1979 ... Jeff Harper, Chaparral, RB
1978 ... Kevin Smith, Saguaro, QB (jr)
1977 ... Joey Lumpkin, Scottsdale, FB/LB
1976 ... Greg Brady, Coronado, QB
1975 ... Bob Pitre, Arcadia, QB
1974 ... Rick McClelland, Saguaro, FB/LB

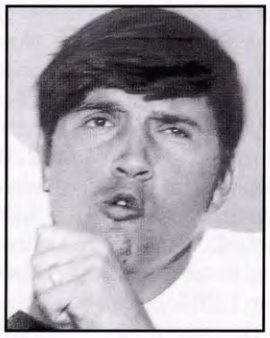


Coronado running back Rod Bair.

1973 ... Rob Wilson, Coronado, QB/DB
1972 ... Keith Sobraski, Coronado, DT
1971 ... Gil Gillenwater, Arcadia, RB
1970 ... Jim Cedarstrom, Saguaro, DE
1969 ... Wayne Mattingly, Saguaro, FB
1968 ... Marty Stajduhar, Coronado, WR
1967 ... Marty Shuford, Saguaro, RB/P
1966 ... Bill Dipley, Arcadia, DB
1965 ... Bill Dipley, Arcadia, WR (jr)
1964 ... Don Burger, Scottsdale, HB
1963 ... Dana Woudenberg, Arcadia, FB/LB
1962 ... Everett "Moose" Rollins, Arcadia, HB



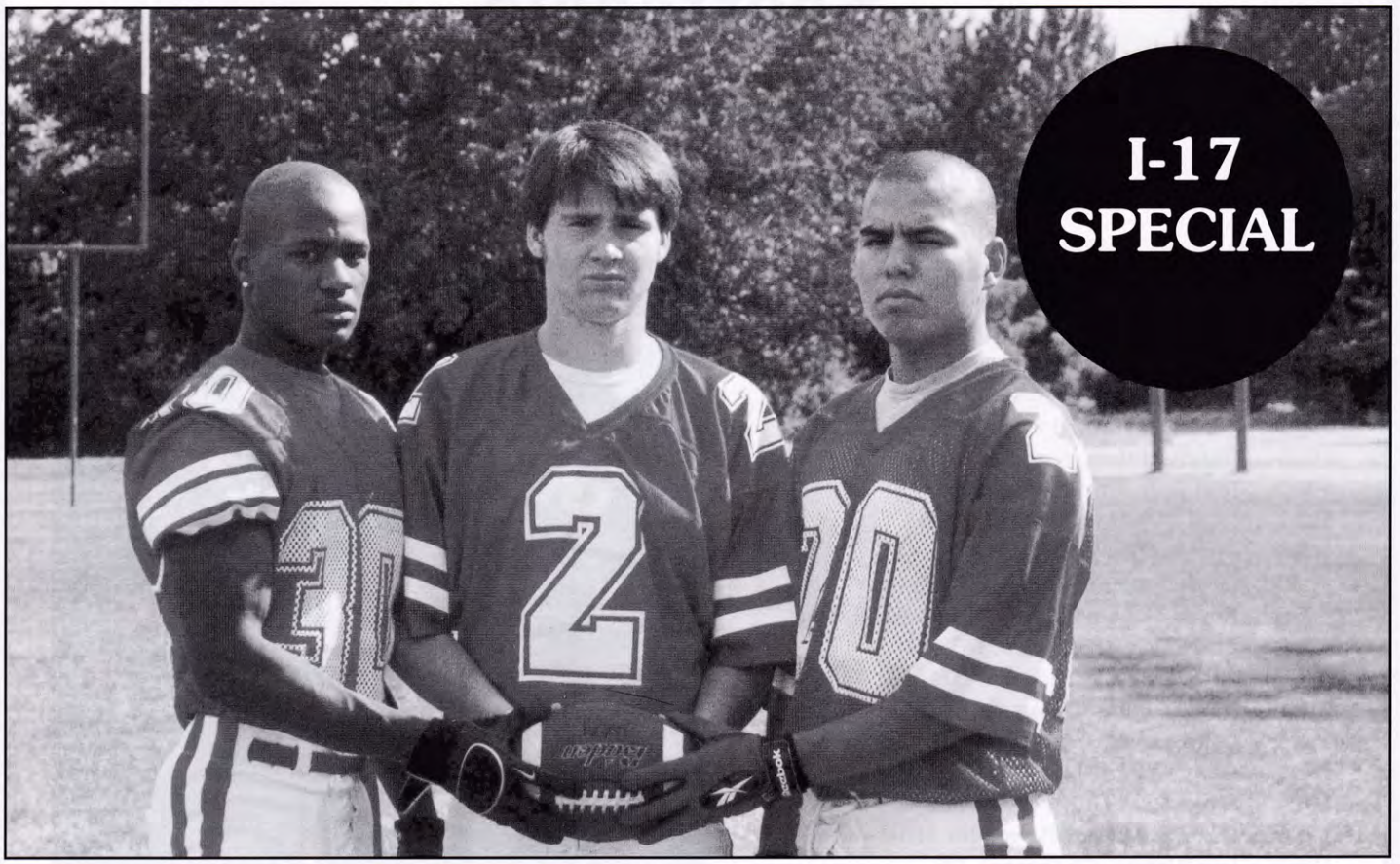
Dana Woudenberg
Arcadia



Marty Shuford
Saguaro

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"Honoring the Arizona High School Player of the Year."



The Orme School's all-star backfield includes tailback Jabari Felton-Smith (30), quarterback Eli Smith (2) and fullback/linebacker Carlos Leyva (20).

Orme Warriors now a 2A Threat

It didn't take The Orme School long to adjust to 11-man football. In their first year after jumping from 8-man competition to the 2A North Canyon, the young Warriors were in the playoffs. Unfortunately for Bob Miller's feisty squad, they faced state power St. Johns in the first round, and were sent home early, 28-6.

But each talented skill player returns, especially Jabari Felton-Smith, a three-time state sprint champ. In May, at the Luke Greenway Invitational, the season-ending track meet in Phoenix, Smith beat highly touted football recruits Jason Shivers and Joey Smith of South Mountain in the 100 meter dash in 10.96 seconds.

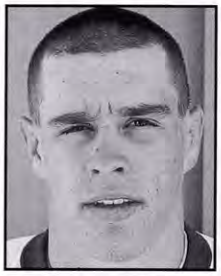
Not far down the road from the Orme School is Prescott, the former Capital City. The Badgers, who enter their 90th year of football, might be the best 4A school in northern Arizona. Time will tell, but the Badgers return several key players and two coaches in the Desert Sky Region tabbed PHS as the team to beat.

CLASS 4A

One too many losses caused **Prescott** to just miss the playoffs. Coach Lou Beneitine's young squad (6-4) was also hit hard by injuries. This year the Badgers return 12 starters - nine on the defensive side of the ball. Al least 16 players saw considerable playing time. Best of the bunch is quarterback Tony DeMark (6-2, 190), linebacker Colby Shelstad (6-0, 1890), and all-purpose back Jason Pridie (6-1, 175), who is just a junior. All three were all-region picks. DeMark, whose older brother Dominic was an all-state kicker in 1991, passed for 1,204 yards and nine touchdowns. Pridie caught five TD passes, had nine interceptions on defense, kicked 10 field goals and missed just one extra point. Five of his field goals were 40 or more yards. Shelstad had 107 tackles - 25 in one game. Seniors Andrew Wegner and Alofi Pomee are good two-way players. Juniors Forrest Mitchell and Erik Folger should start.

After a two-year absence, Bob Young returns to **Mingus Union**, and the cupboard is full. Over 20 lettermen return, including 18 starters from a 2-8 club. Four key offensive linemen are back, including 6-5, 280-pound James Mickelson, one of the best in the region. Nose guard Clint Mangus (5-11, 175) and linebacker Mike Holmes (6-1, 205) were all-region picks. Mangus also plays running back. Center Jeff Bowers (6-1, 220) and guard Mike Coffey (6-0, 220) were second team picks. Add safety Justin Curry (6-1, 180), corner Richard Rosas (5-11, 170), defensive end Ammon Naylor (6-0, 185), defensive back Eli Arnett (6-1, 175) and strong safety T.R. Gaff (6-0, 180), and the Marauders are very quick defensively. Mike Lyons (6-0, 230) starts at linebacker. Max Vickers, Kolter Duke, Trevor Gottschalk, Colt Mangus and Chris French bolster a strong senior class.

Coconino fared better, going 8-3 and playoff hunting. Marana Mountain View sent the Panthers packing early, 34-9. But George Moate's club was young.



Caleb Miller
Payson



Tony Gray
Bradshaw Mtn.

Seven different underclassmen received some sort of post-season acclaim. These seniors are the cream of the crop: Fullback/linebacker Bruce Branch (6-2, 205), two-way back Corrin Johns (6-0, 195) and wide receiver/defensive back Josh Roybal (5-10, 160). Running the ball, Branch gained 1,205 yards and scored 11 touchdowns. On defense he made 84 tackles. Corrin gained 1,291 yards and scored 19 times. He made 47 tackles and intercepted three passes. Roybal picked off three also, returning one 80 yards for a score. Tight end David Odgers (6-1, 205), wideout Cory White (5-10, 165), and linemen Nick Estrella (5-10, 215) and Donald Ignace (5-11, 240) started. Junior quarterback Brad Reber (6-2, 170) completed 56% of his passes for 808 yards. Junior tackle Pete Smith (6-2, 290) has promise. Zack Herrera, Lawrence Duran, Mark Buchanan, Joe Greco, Derek Day and Trent Stingley all contributed.

Flagstaff played 11 games and won only two. Coach Craig Holland's Eagles hung with everybody for a half, but a lack of depth and injuries spelled doom in the end. Hopefully the team will stay healthy this year. Twenty-six players return, including fleet-footed quarterback Mark Delgiorgio (5-11, 177), who started the final eight games. He has great vision and a strong arm. He completed 56 of 113 passes for 692 yards and rushed for 426 on 72 carries. Fullback/linebacker Dan Schmidt (6-3, 200) missed all of last season with a shoulder injury. He's a crisp hitter. Tackle Glenn Slivers (6-4, 300) has quick feet for a big man, but missed most of last year with injuries. Tight end Brian Buzzard (6-4, 190) is a good candidate for post-season honors. Two juniors, linebacker Chad Hiser (5-10, 170) and defensive end Colin Rice (6-3, 225) started as sophomores. Halfback Sergio Riveria (5-9, 165) with blazing speed, averaging 6.2 yards per carry in limited varsity time as a freshman. The Eagles, once of the dominating football force in northern Arizona (four-straight state titles between 1981-84), are six wins shy of 400 in their storied history.

"We have lots of good young kids," says Holland. "The line will have some needed size and we look strong at quarterback. That's a plus."

Graduation all but cleaned out the locker at **Flagstaff Sinagua**, where the region champs went 8-3 with all-star back Jeremiah Miller leading the way. But he's gone. Only 14 lettermen return. No all city or all-region players remain. For the ship to stay afloat, seniors need to take charge. That duty rests with tackle Andrew Johnson (6-3, 240), guard Josh Babb (5-10, 180), and two-way backs Richard Booth, Carey Wilson and Andres Delgadillo. Transfer Sean Avery, a 6-0, 220-pound tight end/linebacker, shows promise.

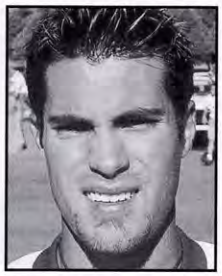
"We were an undersized team which played with a lot of heart, enthusiasm and determination," claims head coach Ed Campos. "But we lack experience this year. Jeremiah Miller was fun to watch and will be greatly missed."

Bradshaw Mountain, with an improved passing game, looks better. The Bears, who compete in the Desert Sky Region against tough Phoenix Schools, return the best back in the region, 5-9, 175-pound Tony Gray. Last year Gray gained 1,100 yards and scored 10 touchdowns. Guard Adam Clinton (5-11, 210) was an honorable mention all-region pick. Kicker Luis Olmos averaged 39.0 yards per punt. Jason Moore plays fullback and nose guard. Coach John Rodriguez predicts that wide receiver David Rushbrook will become a good deep threat.

"Our defense should be tough again, but our quarterback and line play will be the key to our success," says Rodriguez, himself an all-state quarterback at Phoenix St. Mary's."



Carlos Leyva
Orme School



Scott Garduno
Payson

CLASS 3A

Payson, just one year removed from a state championship, managed a playoff spot with a green lineup. The Longhorns made it back to the tournament, but were beaten early by a good Globe team. New coach Mike Wheelis looks for competitive play from a squad with only eight returning lettermen. Several key players are seniors, including halfback/linebacker Levi Armstrong (5-9, 160) and two-way

Northern Arizona's Best

QUARTERBACKS - Tony DeMark, Prescott (6-2, 190), Mark Delgiorgio, Flagstaff (5-11, 177), Eli Smith, Orme School (6-2, 185), Matt Belshe, Show Low (6-2, 215), Kyle Kristick, Fountain Hills (6-3, 218), Chris Semore, Ganado (5-11, 190); **BACKS** - Tony Gray, Bradshaw Mountain (5-9, 175), Corrin Johns, Flagstaff Coconino (6-0, 195), Jason Pride, Prescott (6-1, 175, jr.), Jabari Felton-Smith, Orme School (5-10, 180), Josh Roybal, Flagstaff Coconino (5-10, 160), Dusty Brockett, Payson (5-8, 155), Tony Quorri, Wickenburg (6-5, 220), Brandon Echols, Wickenburg (5-9, 165), Mike Montgomery, River Valley (5-9, 160, jr.), Shannon Fernandez, Bullhead City Mohave (5-6, 165), Aaron Westover, Joseph City (5-10, 166), Tyler Maxwell, Blue Ridge (5-9, 170); **LINEMEN** - Glenn Slivers, Flagstaff (6-4, 300), Carlos Leyva, Orme School (6-1, 190), Glen Jackson, Show Low (6-0, 190), Scott Croff, Show Low (6-2, 290, jr.), James Mickelson, Mingus Union (6-5, 280), Clint Mangus, Mingus Union (5-11, 175), Jesse Brister, Bullhead City Mohave (6-0, 170), Jordan Merchant, Wickenburg (6-3, 280), Kiel Littell, Wickenburg (6-4, 305), Tony Wineman, Fountain Hills (5-10, 230), Jed Hunt, Sedona Red Rock (6-1, 280), Max McCluskey, Lake Havasu (5-11, 258); **LINEBACKERS** - Bruce Branch, Flagstaff Coconino (6-2, 205), Dan Schmidt, Flagstaff (6-3, 200), Colby Shelstad, Prescott (6-0, 180), Jack Stock, Camp Verde (6-3, 185), Levi Armstrong, Payson (5-9, 160), Mike Holmes, Mingus Union (6-1, 205), Sam Gibbs, Cactus Shadows (5-11, 195), Jason Semore, Ganado (5-11, 190), Adam Moro, Blue Ridge (5-11, 190, jr.).



Round Valley Classic

*Saturday, September 2nd
Springerville, Arizona

THE LINEUP:
Bourgade Catholic vs Maricopa
(2:00 p.m.)
Tempe vs Show Low
(5:00 p.m.)
Round Valley vs St. Johns
(8:00 p.m.)

For ticket information call (520) 333-4315

back Dusty Brockett (5-8, 155), the 'Horns best players. Both were all-region picks. With Brockett, plus Caleb Miller, O.J. Siebert, Steve Williamson and Scott Garduno in the secondary, Payson's pass defense looks solid. End Sterling White and linebacker Cory McRae fit in well. Payson looks to again be strong in what might be the best 3A league in the state, the 3A East.

Injuries and a lack of depth caused problems at **Camp Verde**, where second-year coach Luke Steege returns just 12 players from a 4-5 squad (2-5 in the 3A West). "We showed improvement," claims Steege, "But we lost some key players, and we have to come up with a quarterback." They're set at running back and linebacker, and in each case it's the same player, 6-3, 185-pound senior Jack Stock. With 4.6 speed he's the fastest Cowboy on the squad. Big Josh Matthews (6-1, 215) plays the same two positions. The line looks solid, with Donald Rezzonico (6-1, 270) and Keith Sneathen (6-0, 205) set to go. Chris Schnieder and Jimmy Frost are good receivers. Both play in the secondary. But who will throw to them? Sophomore David McDonald is a promising running back. The Cowboys, once a consistent playoff team, have had five different head coaches in six seasons.

At **Chino Valley** the Cougars are still looking for a playoff ticket, and a new coach. Two underclassmen, guard Allen Short (6-0, 220) and tackle Justin Cupp (6-4, 235), stood out early. But a senior-dominated lineup struggled in conference play, so improvement is the name of the game. The Cougars have just one playoff appearance in their 10-year history.

Class 2A

In its first year back in 11-man ball, **The Orme School** held its own. Coach Bob Miller's club fell to St. Johns in the playoffs' first round and finished 6-2-1. The Warriors look much stronger on the line, and that's bad news for the league, because their backfield is as good as it gets. Quarterback Eli Smith (6-2, 185) completed 61 of 95 passes (61%) for 1,361 yards and 14 touchdowns. His best games were 298 yards against Mayer, 247 against Arizona Lutheran and 232 vs Valley Union. Tailback Jabari Felton-Smith (5-10, 180), a three-time state sprint champ, scored 21 touchdowns. He gained 911 yards on 94 carries, caught 10 passes for 161 yards and returned three kickoffs for touchdowns. He gained 245 yards rushing against Superior. He intercepted seven passes in the secondary. Defensive end Carlos Leyva (6-1, 190) is a good blocking fullback. Senior Dylan Carson (5-10, 265) anchors an improved line. Sophomores Sean Fisher (5-9, 180) and J.B. Kessler (5-9, 205) give the Warriors good guard play. John Tang, Nick Jourdan, Steve Sorenson, Landis Taylor and Matt Slovak are good skill position players.

Six wins and three losses kept **Williams** out of the playoffs, but veteran coach Rick Shipley wasn't discouraged. "Our losses were to Blue Ridge, Mogollon and Orme, all solid teams," he says. "We need to get one of those guys this year, and we'll be in." To compete with Orme's speed in the 2A North Canyon, the Vikings will counter with speed of their own, starting with halfback/linebacker Juan Alvarado (5-10, 180), linebacker Brandon Evans (5-9, 175), safety Mike Hernandez (6-0, 185) and two-way tackle George Lockhart (6-0, 210). Evans is just a sophomore. The Vikings are young at quarterback, where junior Chris Loxterman (6-1, 170) is in charge. He also plays in the secondary. Shipley, the Vikings head coach since 1989, has won 76% of his game and two 8-man state championships. Williams, located just west of Flagstaff, moved into 2A competition in 1995.

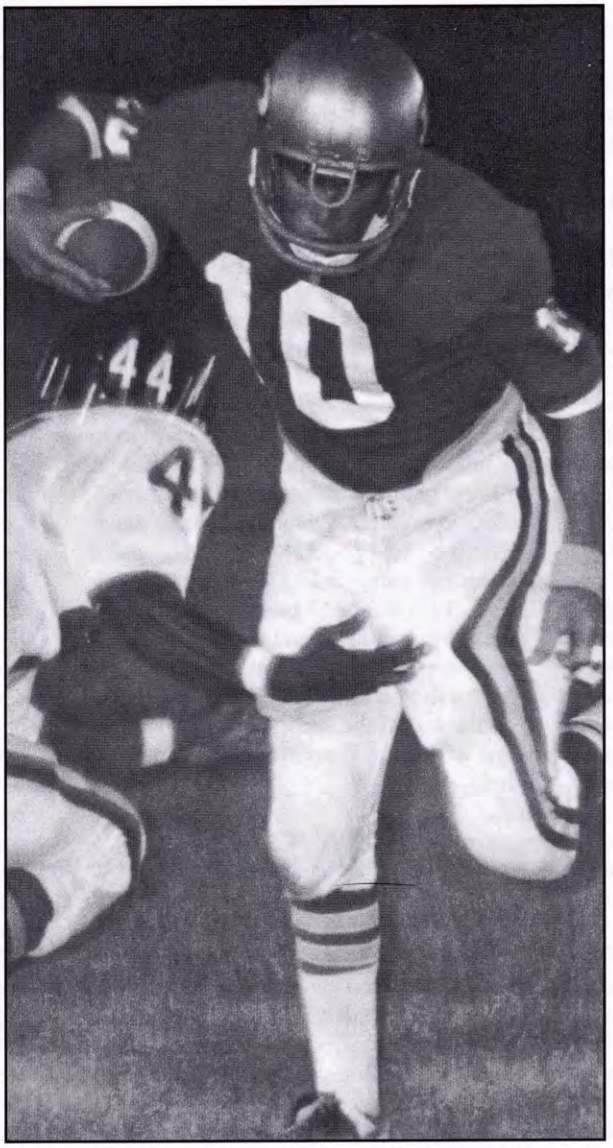
With all-league center Jed Hunt in the lineup, **Sedona Red Rock** has one of the region's best players. The 6-1, 280-pound senior also plays on the defensive line. He's a force to be reckoned with. The rest of the lineup is young, but skilled. Sophomore Johnny Cunningham (6-1, 170) gets the call at quarterback. He also plays in the secondary, and is a good pass catcher. Receiver/safety Mike Scagnelli (6-2, 175) and guard/linebacker Ceasar Felix (6-0, 225) are both seniors. Like most schools in the 2A ranks, two-way performers are a welcome sight. The same goes for Sammy Davis' Scorpions, who won only one game last year.

Mayer is also looking for a new coach. Veteran Vince Cahill (87-44-1) stepped down after 13 years at the school. The Wildcats, one of the state's smaller 2A schools, have struggled in 11-man ball, but hope to improve with the likes of guard Cody Probst (6-3, 230), tackle Williams Whitaker (6-2, 230) and center Scott Wichrowski (6-0, 190) still in the lineup. The "Cats look sound up front, but weak at the skill positions. Especially trying to matchup with The Orme School.

ALL STAR SPORTS CENTER Salutes

THE YAVAPAI COUNTY PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

1999 .....TONY GRAY
.....Bradshaw Mtn. (RB) jr.
1998 .....LAYNE CAMPBELL
.....Prescott (LB)
1997 .....MIKE RHORER
.....Mingus Union (RB/DB)
1996 .....KEVIN LARSON
.....Prescott (RB)
1995 .....DAVID MORAN
.....Bradshaw Mtn. (QB)
1994 .....DAVID MORAN
.....Bradshaw Mtn. (QB) jr.
1993 .....HEATH MELTON
.....Mingus Union (RB)
1992 .....HAMILTON MEE
.....Mingus Union (DL)
1991 .....JIM RICHARDSON
.....Bradshaw Mtn. (QB) jr.
1990 .....JAKE BARNES
.....Mingus Union (OT)
1989 .....JAKE BARNES
.....Mingus Union (OT) jr.
1988 .....SAM AUSTRINO
.....Prescott (DL)
1987 .....GUY GROVER
.....Prescott (RB/DB)
1986 .....COREY SUTTLES
.....Prescott (C)
1985 .....TIM WEST
.....Prescott (DB)
1984 .....DAVID ANDERSON
.....Bradshaw Mtn. (RB)
1983 .....BRIAN SCHAR
.....Prescott (QB)
1982 .....MIKE REHMET
.....Orme School (C)
1981 .....DAVID MCELVAIN
.....Bradshaw Mtn. (QB)
1980 .....CURT DEVEREAUX
.....Prescott (DL)
1979 .....JOE PRUZINA
.....Prescott (DL)



In 1971-72, Prescott's Bobby Manriguez was the best back in the county. (Prescott Courier photo)

1978 .....ART MARTINEZ
.....Mingus Union (DB)
1977 .....DAVID SORIANO
.....Mayer (LB)
1976 .....JIM TATUM
.....Prescott (RB)
1975 .....RON LOTT
.....Prescott (OL)
1974 .....STEVE CORSON
.....Mingus Union (RB)
1973 .....MARVIN DOTSON
.....Mingus Union (E)
1972 .....BOBBY MANRIGUEZ
.....Prescott (WB/DB)
1971 .....BOBBY MANRIGUEZ
.....Prescott (WB/DB) jr.
1970 .....GEORGE KAGELE
.....Prescott (DL)
1969 .....MAX CASTILLO
.....Mingus Union (G)
1968 .....JOE FLAGNIK
.....Prescott (OC)
1967 .....DENNIS KENDRICK
.....Prescott (DB)
1966 .....RAYMOND ACOSTA
.....Ash Fork (C)
1965 .....FRANK MURDOCK
.....Camp Verde (RB)
1964 .....JOHN PARKER
.....Mingus Union (G)
1963 .....CLIFFORD BIRD
.....Camp Verde (QB)
.....WAYNE HODGES
.....Camp Verde (WR)
1962 .....JOE RUDY
.....Camp Verde (RB)
1961 .....KENNETH FAIT
.....Orme School (RB)
1960 .....DON WILSON
.....Bagdad (C)
1959 .....DON WILSON
.....Bagdad (C) jr.

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SMALL SCHOOL PREVIEW

3A West

There's lots of enthusiasm for football in **Wickenburg**, and for good reason. Last year the Wranglers dropped just two games, a 35-20 shootout with eventual 2A champ Phoenix Christian, and a heartbreaking 21-20 quarterfinal loss to 3A champ Show Low. Sixteen lettermen return, plus the junior varsity was undefeated. Five key players make it go, starting with fullback Tony Qorri (6-5, 220) and tackle Jordan Merchant (6-3, 280). In fact, WHS has one of the biggest lines around, with Merchant, Kiel Little (6-4, 305) and center Nick Pecova (6-0, 205) in the lineup. Qorri also starts at defensive end. Pecova is a junior. Cornerback Brandon Echols (5-9, 165) can play three positions. Brandon Thayer (6-3, 190) gets the call at quarterback. He also plays defensive end. Halfback Shane Fern, guard Ty Hubbard, guard Matt Ostrander, wideout Chuey Gonzales and kicker Nando Rodriguez give the Wrangles (9-2) good senior leadership. Sophomore David Alexander, a 5-9, 210-pound fullback/linebacker, could crack the starting lineup. "We had an excellent season," says Tom McGoldrick, who enters his third season. "Our playoff game with Show Low was an all-time classic."

Seton Catholic played well in 3A competition and advanced two rounds into the playoffs. The Sentinels (8-3) lost only to Coolidge, Wickenburg and Blue Ridge, all solid teams. Second-year coach Gene Dales returns 23 lettermen, including all-state receiver Mike Hollowell (6-3, 180), a pass catcher deluxe. Last year he caught 46 passes for 808 yards and 12 TDs. Quarterback Trevor DeBenedetto (6-2, 175) completed 103 of 184 passes (56%) for 1,592 yards and 23 scores. Ben Regan (5-8, 175) split time at halfback and managed 620 yards on 105 carries in nine games. Little Tom Conner (5-5, 145) was a first team all-region defensive back. Junior Cody McDonald (6-1, 230) returns at center. He has promise. Guards Steve Hart (5-10, 195) and Josh Mejia-Sanchez (5-11, 195) are ready to go. Josh Phillips (5-10, 235), Dan Walsh (6-4, 205) and Levi Redger (6-2, 208) are newcomers to the offensive line. All three should start.

With most of the line returning, **Fountain Hills** is looking at an exciting season. That means promising quarterback Kyle Kristwic (6-3, 218) will have some protection. Especially if linemen like Tony Wineman (5-10, 230), Tony Kostura (6-0, 190) and Pete Montgomery (5-11, 205) help get the running game going. Halfback James Jackson (6-1, 185) finished with 868 yards and eight touchdowns. Wineman, a two-way tackle, was a first team all-region selection. Junior David Bently (5-10, 190) started every game at middle linebacker. He made 31 solo tackles and 27 assists. Classmate Todd Hadley (5-10, 170), with 4.6 speed the fastest Falcon in the lineup, looks good at wide receiver. Coach Jim Fairfield returns 17 lettermen.

At **Dysart**, the numbers are down, but Steve Mason hopes his team's spirits are high. Watching tailback Tyree Hardge run is uplifting. Last year the speedy (4.6) little runner gained 909 yards on 107 carries playing on a team which won only once. The 5-8, 160-pound junior averaged 8.4 yards per carry. Fullback Melvin Watson (6-0, 170) is a good blocking back, which comes in handy behind a green line. Two brothers, Kenny and Chris Halstead from Tennessee, come with high praise and could start in the secondary. But it's the line where the Demons need the most help.

3A South

Coolidge, rich in football tradition, returns 10 players from a 10-2 show which reached the state semifinals. Blue Ridge ended the run, 28-19. Graduation cleaned out most of the line, plus head coach John Kashner moved up to athletic director. But first-year coach Carlo Hernandez welcomes the best player in the league, two-way all-state back Mike Smith. The 5-10, 175-pound senior, with 4.4 speed, is also one of the regions' best basketball players. The Bears could start junior Randy Youtsey (5-11, 185) at quarterback, with Smith and Adam Cardova (5-10, 165) in the backfield. All are burners. Wideout Jim Mitchel (5-11, 170) is hard to cover on the wings. Junior Johnny Mosley (5-10, 200) is the only sure bet on the line. The Bears will miss all-state quarterback/defensive back Lee Wheeler, who signed with Tennessee. "If we can become solid up front we should have a good season," claims Hernandez.

Nearby in Eloy, **Santa Cruz** won only three games, but they were the right ones and it put the Dust Devils in the playoffs. Unfortunately, they faced Blue Ridge in the first round. Junior running back Isreal Ibarra (5-9, 160) has two more years to show his stuff. He's a good one. Junior Richie Reyes (5-01, 160) gets the nod at quarterback. If junior tackle Elezar Hernandez (6-2, 240) and guard Mundito Ogle (5-9, 185) improve their blocking, Eloy's running game should click better. Eddie Lara (6-1, 185) is a good two-way end. Seniors Miguel Salinas, Chris Vancil, Jeremy Timmons and Andrew Myers are ready. Two sophomores, Miguel Camerena and Gilbert Cervantes, could start. "We still have number problems, but we're getting better physically," says veteran coach Jay Denton, who last year won his 100th game at the school. "This looks like a good group to work with."

2A Metro

Last year **Phoenix Christian** was almost perfect. The only blemish on a near-perfect slate was a 27-14 loss to Bishops of San Diego on the road. After that, only Northwest Christian played the Cougars close (32-28). In 13 games, Keith Brown's high octane machine scored 512 points and recorded five shutouts. In their opener, they nailed eventual 3A quarterfinalist Wickenburg, 35-20. Twenty lettermen return, including all-state tailback Jimmy Wilson, one of the state's best. The 6-2, 210-pound speedster gained 2,018 yards and scored 26 touchdowns. Tight end Aaron Smith (6-3, 230) caught 23 passes for 309 yards and six TDs in the Cougars' wide-open offense. Center Mike Martin (6-1, 250) and guard Russ Richardson (6-2, 250) are big-time players. Martin graded out at 90% blocks for the season. Richardson recorded 100 tackles and 11 sacks. Linebacker Brandon Isaac (5-10, 220) recorded 188 tackles and 14 sacks as a sophomore. He squats 600 pounds. Kyle Navarette, Adam Thorson and John Tefteller round out the senior class. Tefteller, along with young Ryan House, will compete at quarterback. The rest of the lineup is juniors, including Isaac Lavant, Danny Davis, Zach Gingg, Chip Allison, Chris Dickerson and Greg Bouten, the team's kicker.

Look for **Valley Christian**, which did a good job learning a new system in a short time, to compete for the crown. Coach Sean Loomer welcomes 17 players from a 7-2 squad which missed the

playoffs by one game. Only Phoenix Christian and NWCC beat them. Junior back Quinton McCoy (5-11, 160) gained 416 yards from scrimmage, averaged 10.4 yards per carry, caught seven passes for 105 yards and completed three of five passes for 173 yards. Wideout Jason Coate (6-1, 180) averaged 21.3 yards per catch. Junior Drew Rymer (6-0, 180) may get the call at quarterback, where he managed 378 yards and eight TDs in a part-time role. The defense looks solid with juniors Nicholas Kredit (6-6, 200), Jason Voss (6-2, 225) and Matt Bergsma (6-1, 200) in the lineup.

If **Bourgade Catholic** can improve on back-to-back 6-3 seasons, the Golden Eagles will make the playoffs. Coach Pat Lavin's squad missed the mark by one game. It's almost the same outlook again, with talented tailback Mike Walda (5-10, 180) the lone offensive threat, surrounded by good, strong linemen. Finding skill players to support him is the goal. Last year he scored 19 touchdowns, four against NWCC and three against Valley Lutheran. In that game he dashed 96 yards for the longest score in BC history. The Eagles' top player also starts at linebacker. Two key linemen, guard Cody Johnson (6-2, 240) and tackle Mark Lusson (6-5, 270) are back. Seniors Micah Pappas, Aaron Royster and Kevin Schwartz form a good support group. "The program is on a stronger footing with the development of a track program and a new weight facility," says Lavin, whose team opens the season against Maricopa as part of a triple-header in the Round Valley Classic in Springerville.

Northwest Community Christian made the playoffs but bowed out early. Only nine seniors played, so a repeat trip is possible. Still, the senior class was strong. However, three all-region picks return, including defensive back Eric Harper (5-8, 150), running back Justin Garrison (5-9, 178) and kicker Jance Nave (5-11, 160). Up-and-coming Mogollon High from Heber sent the Crusaders home early, 36-8.

Arizona Lutheran lost only four players through graduation, so watch out. In their first year in 11-man ball, Doug Meyer's crew won five games, averaged 35 points per outing, and rushed for 398 yards against state champ Phoenix Christian. One look at the line and it's understandable. All-region tackle Kelly Huet (6-4, 275) leads the charge. If all-state tackle Stephen Berg (6-6, 315) returns, things will get even better. Stephen Stine (5-11, 170) was an all-region running back. Phil Bischoff (5-7, 150) picked up some votes. Two-way end Cecil Pechuli (6-0, 200) and safety Zach Wendt (5-11, 170) are starters. Quarterback Kevin Bauer (6-1, 175) heads a strong junior class, which features Nate Jaehnig, John Bredo and Steven Rope. Gavin Guzman, a 6-0, 225-pound nose guard, is just a sophomore. "I think we surprised some of our opponents with our ground attack," claims Meyer.



Mike Martin
Phoenix Christian



Mike Wilda
Bourgade

Only seven lettermen return at **Scottsdale Christian**, where the Eagles went 3-5. Coach Pete Wahlheim's club looks young again, with little experience and not much depth. However, two returning starters, quarterback/defensive back Jared Doe (6-2, 175) and halfback/linebacker Pete Magary (5-8, 160) were honorable mention all-region picks. Wide receiver Kevin Yarbrough (6-3, 180) and tackle Steve Jones (6-2, 230) were starters. Junior Nathan Day (6-2, 170) is good two-way player.

2A Central

Although **Miami** finished with a 4-5 mark, the Vandals won their first game in over two years. Coach Scott Strenge's never-say-die club averaged 27.6 points and recorded three shutouts. Linebacker Chris Goss (6-1, 185) was the region's defensive player of the year. He made 78 tackles, recorded 14 sacks and blocked three kicks. As a fullback he gained 948 yards on 161 carries and scored 11 touchdowns. Junior tackle Jonathan White (6-2, 230) anchors both lines. Young Anthony Castaneda (5-10, 160) gets the call at quarterback. He's just a sophomore. Ollie Talgo, Adam Padilla, Matt Bunney and Justin Rodriguez represent each class and will start. Bunney is a sophomore. "We are excited about our chances," says Strenge. "We return 16 starters and hopefully learned something from so many close games."

Injuries and discipline problems at the end of the season spelled doom for **Florence**, which won nine straight games before a playoff match with Mogollon. "That terrible finish left a bad taste with everybody," claims Richard Beeler, who returns a good nucleus for this year. Mr. Intensity, running back/defensive lineman Scott Nichols (6-0, 190) is the main man. The hard hitting senior is a three-year starter. So is quarterback Andy Manzanedo (5-9, 155), the team's safety. Junior John Ramirez (5-10, 200) is one of the league's best backs. Seniors Jake Jimenez, Robert Frias, Michael Sheaver, Justin Hemstreet and Jesse Guilin are solid players. Junior Noel Felix (6-3, 345) is agile for his size.

Coach Earl Tucker hopes **Superior** bounces back from a one-win season, but with just seven lettermen it might be tough. The Panthers are still rebuilding, but several key seniors, including halfback/linebacker Ben Cardenas (5-10, 160) and two-way back Aaron Alvarado (5-7, 155) might get them over the edge. Junior Richard Jimenez (6-1, 160) gets the nod at quarterback. His best target might be a sophomore, wideout Andrew Arriola. One transfer might play a big role, as Michael Montrel (5-10, 210) could anchor the line of scrimmage on both sides of the ball.

Fast growing **Queen Creek**, a playoff contender recently, might have the best passing game in the league. With 5-9, 151-pound Tony Chavez calling signals, the Bulldogs have a veteran quarterback. The little junior saw playing time as a freshman. Tight end Mitchell Willis (6-3, 210) might be the best in the business. He also plays on the defensive line. Two years ago the 'Dogs, riding the arm of Chavez, made it all the way to the finals.

2A West

Maricopa, 4-4 in the 2A West, returns 24 players but no coach. For the fourth time in six years, the Rams are looking for a mentor. He won't find the cupboard bare. The future looks bright. Almost every key player is an underclassmen, starting with all-region center Matt Huffman. The 6-2, 220-pound junior is a solid two-way player, including 28 solos and six sacks on defense. Junior wideout Jeremy Gibler (6-2, 185), with 4.4 speed, caught 23 passes for 1,027 yards - an average of 44.6 yards per touch. He scored 11 touchdowns. Nose guard Jose Carabes (5-11, 235) is one of the few senior starters. Quarterback Chris Bandon (5-10, 170) completed 56% of his passes for 16 touchdowns. Juniors Cory Adams, Dalen Snow and Brandon Miller, two-way players, will start. Sophomore Gonzalo Loera is a two-way end.

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Phoenix Christian Cougars

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***Six Division I scholarship players *Nine region players of the year**

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SALUTING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL CENTERS

1999.....Adrian Zvirgzdins, Glendale Cactus (6-3, 277)
1998.....Pat Walsh, Phoenix Brophy Prep (6-4, 260)
1997.....Scott Huff, Scottsdale Horizon (6-2, 250)
1996.....David McKane, Mesa (6-3, 215)
1995.....Eric Quackenbush, Show Low (6-4, 230)
1994.....Joey Horvat, Mesa Dobson (6-3, 245)
1993.....James Langston, Gilbert (6-1, 220)
1992.....Steve McKane, Mesa (6-2, 225)
1991.....Alvin Huff, Phoenix Maryvale (6-2, 232)
1990.....Rusty James, Mesa Mountain View (6-3, 235)
1989.....Jeff Wisch, Phoenix Moon Valley (6-1, 225)
1988.....Darian Mellon, Agua Fria (6-1, 211)
1987.....Andy Schultz, Tucson Amphi (6-2, 245)
1986.....Corey Suttles, Prescott (6-6, 230)
1985.....Dave Henderson, Phx. Alhambra (6-2, 220)
1984.....Jason Wisch, Moon Valley (6-2, 220)
1983.....Steve Spurling, Scottsdale Horizon (6-3, 230)
1982.....John Hoebee, Phoenix Maryvale (5-11, 200)
1981.....Tim Wyatt, Phoenix Moon Valley (6-1, 200)
1980.....Joe Williams, Apache Junction (6-1, 215)
1979.....Jim Polenske, Phoenix Maryvale (6-3, 255)
1978.....David Anders, Gilbert (6-2, 202)
1977.....Marty Van Gorder, Chandler (6-2, 220)
1976.....Tim Little, Phoenix Thunderbird (6-1, 225)
1975.....Frank Collins, Phoenix Maryvale (6-1, 210)
1974.....Jim Flannery, Chandler (6-1, 190)
1973.....Nick Petrucci, Phoenix Camelback (6-2, 200)
1972.....Matt Smith, Phoenix St. Mary's (5-10, 190)
1971.....Mike Bailey, Tucson (6-3, 215)
1970.....Randy Collett, Tempe McClintock (6-0, 240)
1969.....Jeff Caldwell, Tucson Salpointe (5-11, 180)
1968.....Joe Flajnik, Prescott (6-3, 235)
1967.....Ken Hatcher, Mesa (6-1, 230)
1966.....Ken Hatcher, Mesa (6-1, 225)
1965.....Steve Pearson, Mesa Westwood (6-1, 225)
1964.....Mike Danielek, Glendale (6-0, 240)
1963.....Steve Sowders, Phoenix Camelback (6-1, 185)
1962.....Walt Jones, Phoenix Union (6-1, 195)
1961.....Allen Thorn, Phoenix St. Mary's (5-10, 210)
1960.....Terry Cassady, Mesa (6-2, 230)
1959.....Tony Fletcher, Bisbee (6-2, 218)
1958.....Stacey Ostland, South Mountain (6-1, 190)

Accident Adjusters

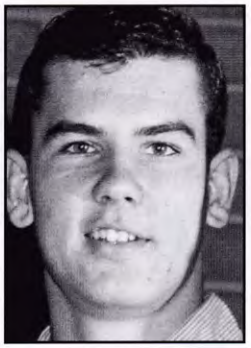
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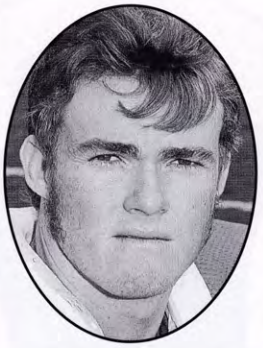
BRIAN MURRAY AWARD WINNERS



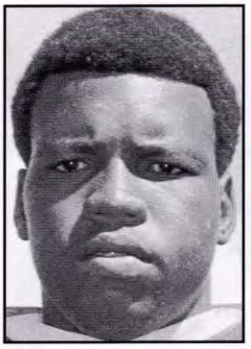
Curley Culp
Yuma



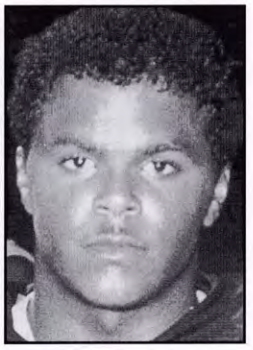
Bob Bertelsen
Arcadia



Brian Murray
Salpointe



Glen Gresham
Phoenix Union



Josh Kirkwood
Maryvale

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL LINEMEN

1999 ..... Josh Kirkwood, Phoenix Maryvale (DL)
1998 ..... Brandon Phillips, Tempe Corona del Sol (OT)
1997 ..... Mike Saffer, Tucson Sabino (OT)
1996 ..... (TIE) Ralph Zarate, Tucson (OT)
..... Brian Kula, Phoenix Brophy Prep (DL)
1995 ..... Chris Watkins, Gilbert Highland (DL)
1994 ..... Matt Griffith, Mesa (NG)
1993 ..... Todd Thompson, Tucson Sahuaro (DL)
1992 ..... John Tait, Tempe McClintock (OT)
1991 ..... Willie Walker, Tucson Desert View (DL)
1990 ..... Grady Stretz, Tempe McClintock (DL)
1989 ..... Mike Ciasca, Tucson Sahuaro (OT)
1988 ..... Eric Ipock, Peoria (OT)
1987 ..... Richard Griffith, Tucson Catalina (DL)
1986 ..... Tim Landers, Round Valley (DT)
1985 ..... Gary Pay, Glendale Apollo (OT)
1984 ..... Vincent Byrd, Eloy Santa Cruz (DT)
1983 ..... Steve Spurling, Scottsdale Horizon (C)
1982 ..... Richard Bear, Moon Valley (DT)
1981 ..... Frank Rudolph, Scottsdale Coronado (DL)
1980 ..... Tom Briehl, Phoenix Gerard (T)
1979 ..... Dave Wood, Phoenix Washington (DL)
1978 ..... Doug Kellermeyer, Scottsdale Coronado (DL)
1977 ..... Marty Van Gorder, Chandler (C)
1976 ..... Jack Housely, Phoenix Maryvale (DL)
1975 ..... Phil Hedrick, Phoenix Maryvale (T)
1974 ..... Jimmy Moore, Tempe Marcos de Niza (DL)
1973 ..... Jon Abbott, Phoenix Central (T)
1972 ..... Keith Sobraske, Scottsdale Coronado (T)
1971 ..... Mike Dawson, Tucson (T)
1970 ..... Glen Gresham, Phoenix Union (OT)
1969 ..... Roger Kronberg, Tempe (OT)
1968 ..... Fernie Mendoza, Tucson Salpointe (T)
1967 ..... Ken Hatcher, Mesa (C)
1966 ..... Bill Dawson, Tucson (T)
1965 ..... Bill Dawson, Tucson (T) jr.
1964 ..... Richard Griffin, Mesa Westwood (OT)
1963 ..... Curley Culp, Yuma (MG)
1962 ..... (TIE) Gary Swift, Scottsdale Arcadia (T)
..... Bob Bertelsen, Scottsdale Arcadia (T)
1961 ..... Allen Thorn, Phoenix St. Mary's (C)
1960 ..... Ted Lawrence, South Mountain (G)
1959 ..... Dennis Couse, Tucson (T)
1958 ..... Stacey Ostland, South Mountain (C)
1957 ..... Wayne Magnusson, Phoenix West (G)
1956 ..... John Vucichevich, Miami (C)
1955 ..... Sumner Smith, Phoenix Union (T)
1954 ..... Al Carr, Phoenix Union (G)
1953 ..... Dick Nordmeyer, Tucson (DT)
1952 ..... Guy Barrickman, Tucson (T)
1951 ..... Robert Green, Phoenix Carver (T) jr.

BRIAN MURRAY, *a 1972 Salpointe H.S. grad, was a three-year starter at Arizona, and projected as a high NFL draft pick, but was killed in a fall at Redington Pass, between the Catalina and Rincon mountains, in 1977.*

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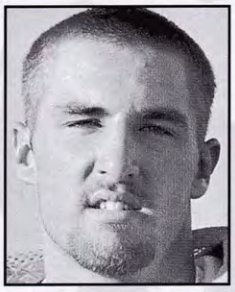
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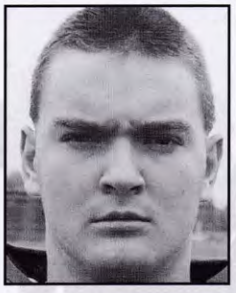
Riki Gray
Amphi



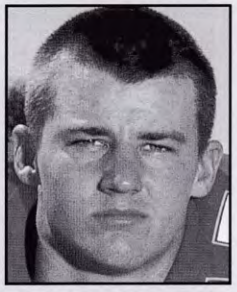
Jeff Johnson
Peoria



Steve Trejo
Casa Grande



Randy Hakes
Arcadia



Austin Sendlein
Chaparral

1999 .. Austin Sendlein, Scottsdale Chaparral
1998 .. Brian Gaffney, Phoenix Brophy
1997 .. Mike Miller, Arizona Boys Ranch
1996 .. Cody Price, Mesa Westwood
1995 .. Steve Trejo, Casa Grande
1994 .. Jeff Johnson, Peoria
1993 .. Randy Hakes, Scottsdale Arcadia
1992 .. Jim Sprotte, Lakeside Blue Ridge
1991 .. Jon McGee, Tucson Sahuaro
1990 .. Aaron Franklin, Peoria
1989 .. Daniel Taplin, Tempe
1988 .. Luke Davis, Mesa Dobson
1987 .. Jeramiah Clark, Mesa
1986 .. Odel Stewart, Sierra Vista Buena
1985 .. Bob Davis, Mesa Mountain View
1984 .. Charles Matthews, Eloy Santa Cruz
1983 .. Tim Hicks, Sunnyslope
1982 .. Randall McDaniel, Agua Fria
1981 .. Darin Tupper, Phoenix Trevor Browne
1980 .. Jimmy Williams, Tempe
1979 .. Todd Shell, Mesa Mountain View
1978 .. Kurt Whiteman, Scottsdale
1977 .. Riki Gray, Tucson Amphitheater
1976 .. Riki Gray, Tucson Amphitheater (jr)
1975 .. Alan Edwards, Morenci
1974 .. Roark Shirley, Tempe Marcos de Niza
1973 .. Richard Rucker, Canyon del Oro
1972 .. Tim Peterson, Ajo
1971 .. Larry Gordon, Phoenix Union
1970 .. Bob Breunig, Phoenix Alhambra
1969 .. Bill Crowe, Tempe McClintock (jr)
1968 .. Larry Delbridge, Coolidge
1967 .. Jeff Quinn, Mesa Westwood
1966 .. Jay Ray Rokey, Mesa Westwood
1965 .. Bill Owsley, Phoenix North
1964 .. Ron Hendrix, Camelback
1963 .. Dana Woudenberg, Arcadia
1962 .. Fred Carr, Phoenix Union (jr)
1961 .. Ross Shannon, Phoenix North
1960 .. Florence Chandler, Tucson
1959 .. Bob Olson, South Mountain
1958 .. Sam King, Mesa
1957 .. Art Acosta, Tucson

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Junior College Preview

By Jeff Krider & Brian Pedersen

The Maricopa Community College Conference, stocked well this fall with good local talent and experienced returning lettermen, looks like another wide-open race. Or so it seems on paper. The news in the off-season comes from Tucson, where **Pima Community College**, one month after laying the groundwork for its journey into college football, has found a coach.

Jeff Scurran, best known for turning Sabino High into a statewide powerhouse, was named as the school's first head football coach. The position is a temporary one-year appointment. The school board approved the sport in May, and a citizen's group immediately pledged to raise $50,000 for the program by November. "To be able to stay in Tucson and have a college head coaching job is everything I could have ever wanted," Scurran told the *Arizona Daily Star.*

The school plans to join the Arizona Community College ranks in 2001. Once in position, Scurran said his first job will be to pique the interest of Pima County's vast crop of high school football talent, as well as begin to raise funds for the school's new program.

ONE SCHOOL TOWN

The addition of a football-playing JC in Tucson could solve many scheduling problems for existing programs throughout the state. But one school in a city the size of Tucson playing football has the potential to become a real threat, a possible powerhouse. Plus, it's in the University of Arizona's backyard.

Historically, Tucson has raised lots of talented football players, but with the nearest junior colleges residing in Safford, Yuma and Phoenix, those not wishing to leave the city have given up the sport. "Having a team in Tucson will help keep players' careers alive," adds Scurran. "It will allow some to eventually move on to a major college program."

But until then, coaches in the state JC ranks will have to contend with the likes of Mesa and Glendale, today's state powers. Look for **Mesa** to bounce back from the most disappointing season (3-7) David Rice has experienced at the school. "Fourteen injured players in the first two weeks of the season led to a very dismal year," says Rice. "But we return most of our offense and our starting quarterback. It looks a lot better."

Mike Strack (6-3, 210), the former signal caller at Peoria Centennial, is the Thunderbirds' take-charge guy. He's the key. His support group is ready, starting with center Antwon Hazzard (6-3, 205), tight end Chris Ensminger (6-4, 235), tackle John Harvey (6-6, 305) and running backs Emmanuel Fuller (5-10, 200) and Ralhad Armstrong (5-9, 205), who is a freshman. Defensively, the T'birds have one of the league's best tackles in Bryan Savelio, a 6-4, 290-pound soph from Basic, Nevada. Still, the majority of Mesa's key players reside from the local prep ranks, including promising newcomers Scott Fuller (Mesa), Kenny Clayton (Corona del Sol), Brandon Tomerlin (Superior), Clifford Starks (Mountain Pointe) and Cole Golightly (Mesa), to list just a few.

BOWL GAME BLUES

Glendale was another school hit hard by injuries. Coach Mike Grossner's club (5-5) looks strong on defense, with nine returning players who saw playing time. The Gauchos will be young but talented on offense. Defensive end Adrian Watson (6-3, 245), an all-league pick, is a Div. I recruit. Linebacker Steve Rangel (6-4, 240) is another highly touted player, and one of the team's strongest. Two-way back Robert Canidate (5-8, 180), brother of former Phoenix Central star Trung Canidate (now with the St. Louis Rams), is a burner with 4.4 speed. Last year he returned an interception, a fumble and two kickoffs 103 and 101 yards for touchdowns. Free safety Josh Pearson (5-11, 195), a decathlete on the track team, is a big time hitter on defense. Strong safety Seth McKinnon (6-0, 205) was the second leading tackler. Transfers TyJuan Swasey and Mark Marcos, both receivers, give the passing game a lift. Newcomer Rashann Ross, a state 100/200 sprint champion from Maryvale, joins the receiving corps.

Last year Hutchinson (Kansas) ended Glendale's year with a 33-8 trouncing in the Valley of the Sun Bowl. Still, five different GCC sophomores signed on with Division I-A schools.

PASS CATCHERS DELUXE

Although **Phoenix College** won only three games, it was the best the Bears had done in five years. Second-year coach Gary Cook saw the state's JC player of the year, quarterback Richard Lucero, head off to UMass, along with six additional college prospects. But he returns enough players to make it competitive. Former Greenway High star Jimmy Conner (5-9, 150) caught 66 passes, while Desert Vista grad Josh Gill (5-9, 180) latched on to 35. Tight end Mike Walker (6-4, 245), and wideouts Wayman Westbrook and Tony Manning add to the mix. Trey Alexander (5-9, 175), a former running back at Eloy Santa Cruz, could start at tailback. The Bears have two of the biggest tackles in the city in Alvin Hanks (6-5, 300) and Omar Rabadi (6-5, 315).

TOP GUNS

When the dust had cleared last season, it was easy to see through the maze and pick out the single best individual performance and the most impressive game. Well, at least the wildest game.

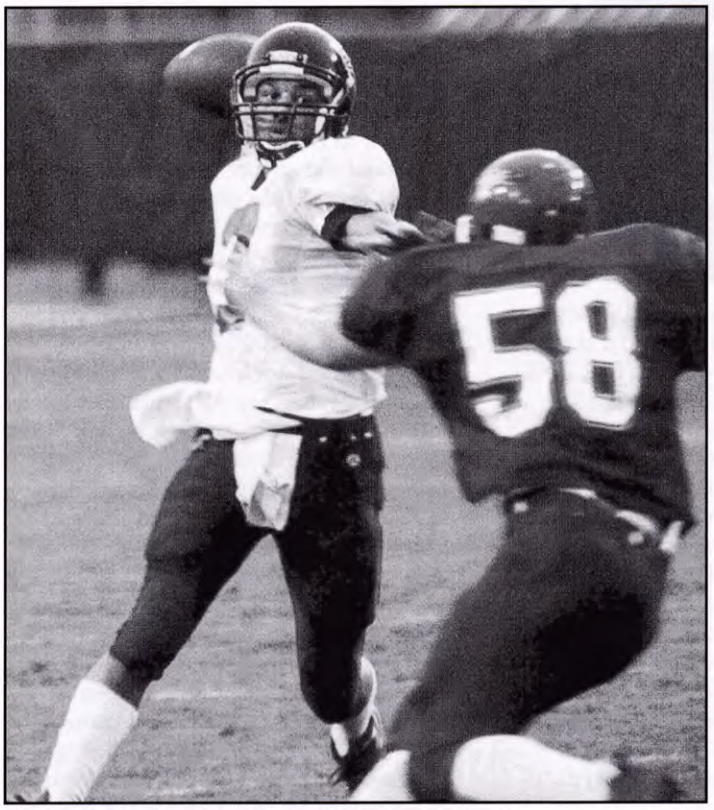
In mid-September, Phoenix College quarterback Richard Lucero completed 31 of 48 passes for 502 yards and a school record eight touchdowns during a 56-42 win over Arizona Western. The game was played in Yuma. The eight TD strikes tied a national JC record.

"It was unbelievable," Lucero told *The Arizona Republic* afterwards. "I went home and laid down, and I didn't even realize what I had done. It's a big step for me. But I couldn't have done it without my offensive line."

Lucero, who two years earlier won the Fred Enke Award (given annually to the state's best quarterback) while a senior at South Mountain High, rallied the Bears from a 35-21 deficit to beat one of the state's preseason favorite teams. It gave Phoenix a 2-0 record at the time, having beaten the semi-pro Wickenburg Warriors a week earlier. Jimmy Conner, a Greenway High grad, caught nine passes for 113 yards and four touchdowns. Josh Gill (Desert Vista) had five catches for 141 yards and two scores.

Then on Nov. 6, Eastern Arizona College in Thatcher ended the season on a wild note by falling to AWC 69-66 in two overtimes. The teams combined for more than 1,600 yards total offense.

The Yuma school had 734 yards rushing and 103 passing. Eastern had 581 yards passing and 272 on the ground. Their quarterback, Chris Malone, finished with 43-of-64 for 581 yards and four touchdowns in the loss. Daniel Linden caught 17 passes for 269 yards.





The 4A finals at Sun Devil Stadium matched Tucson Sahuaro quarterback Reggie Robertson (2,869 yards, 34 touchdowns) against Chaparral runner Josh Griffin (1,811 yards, 32 touchdowns). Chaparral prevailed, 27-10. (Steve Paynter photos)

Chandler's Suggs Tops '99 All-State

By SAM WRIGHT

Talented Terrell Suggs, virtually unknown before transferring to Chandler's new Hamilton High last summer, takes top billing on our 30th **Super All-State** squad, picked each year by the editors and staff of *Phoenix Metro Football Magazine*.

Arizona, with Maricopa County leading the way, continues to crank out more than its share of schoolboy All-Americans, blue chip prospects, college football stars and NFL picks. The 1999 grid season was no different.

Suggs, a bruising 6-4, 235-pounder, motored his way for 2,274 yards on 297 carries (7.6) and 26 touchdowns for a 10-2 quarterfinalist team playing its first year with a senior class. Suggs' selection as the player of the year was his third such MVP award, having also been selected as Arizona's best by *Gatorade* and *USA Today*.

In October, the Arizona State signee rushed for a state 5A record 367 yards and scored five touchdowns during a 48-21 win over Yuma Kofa. The previous 5A mark was 358, set by Agua Fria's Glenn Rogers during a win over Phoenix Carl Hayden in 1982. Suggs, Hamilton head coach John Wrenn and Chandler Athletic Director John Carlson were presented with the **Vic Housholder Trophy** by the Scottsdale Quarterback Club (see pg. 3) in January. The traveling trophy, representing the state's premier football player, will reside at the Chandler school until next fall.

Although nationally ranked **Desert Vista** received all the preseason hype, it was long-time power **Mountain View** which walked off the turf at Sun Devil Stadium with another gold trophy. The only blemish on the Toros' 13-1 record was a 36-6 pounding by Desert Vista in late September. But 5A newcomer Tucson Sabino upset the Thunder in the semifinals, setting up a first-ever matchup of the two schools in the 5A finals. The Toros' 21-14 win was the Mesa school's seventh state crown, moving them into fifth place among 5A championship schools. The leaders include Phoenix Union (25), Tucson (13), Mesa (11) and Phoenix St. Mary's (8). According to the National Federation of High School Sports, Phoenix Union's 25 was a national record at the time, since broken by Washington High of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

It was a record breaking career for several Arizona quarterbacks. Desert Vista signal caller **John Rattay**, now at the University of Tennessee, finished a brilliant prep career with 7,089 passing yards and 82 career touchdowns. **Jon Stoner** of Glendale Cactus threw for 7,250 yards and 78 TDs, while Tucson Sahuaro's **Reggie Robertson** struck for 7,042 career yards and 77 scores. Stoner later hooked up with San Diego State, while Robertson signed with California's Golden Bears.

Mark Tefteller of 2A state champ Phoenix Christian hit for 6,142 yards and 73 touchdowns, while Mountain View's **John Beck** passed for a single season record 42 touchdowns, breaking the previous best of 41, set by former St. Mary's star Ryan Kealy. Beck, like Suggs



Devvin Richardson
Chandler



Clifford Starks
Mountain Pointe

an unknown prior to the '99 campaign, threw only four interceptions. His 2,669 yards was third best in the prep ranks last fall, behind Stoner (3,146) and Robertson (2,869). In fact, for the first time in state history, seven different quarterbacks passed for over 2,000 yards in the same season.

Three members of our '99 Super All-State squad displayed their talents at the state track & field championships in May. **Sammy Moore**, Westwood's gifted receiver/kick returner, won three solo events and ran on the Warriors' winning 1,600 meter relay team. He recovered from a bad start to win the 100 meters in 10.61 seconds, the 200 in 21.37, and the long jump with a 24-5 leap. Earlier in the season, at the high-powered Tribune Relays, Moore jumped 24-10, and all three of his performances were nationally ranked. **Clifford Starks**, an Arizona State track signee, won his second straight shot put crown with a throw of 58-feet, 9-inches. Trevor Browne tackle **James Clement** finished second.

Tempe receiver **Lynzell Jackson** and Show Low lineman **Scott Croff** earned berth's on the squad as underclassmen. Croff, a 6-2, 290-pounder, was just a sophomore, and is one of the state's premier young prospects. Jackson's 50 catches was second best among underclassmen, behind Scottsdale Saguaro's **Ryan Jones**, who caught 63. Jackson also stars on the Buffaloes' basketball and track teams.

At Tucson High, University of Arizona signee **Tremaine Cox** rushed for 1,787 yards, most ever at the once proud football school. Tucson's 4-6 finish enabled the Badgers to become the second school in state history to win 500 games. Mesa is the all-time leader with 576. At Tempe Mountain Pointe, **Karl Kiefer** finished the decade as the winningest Arizona football coach in the 20th Century, with 277 wins and three 5A championships. His most recent edition went 9-2, losing only to Desert Vista and Tempe Marcos de Niza in the first round of the 5A playoffs. Both the **Scottsdale Quarterback Club** and the local chapter of the **National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame** saluted Kiefer recently for his accomplishments.

This year the **Arizona Interscholastic Association** will present oak plaques to both Kiefer and Mesa High as the winningest coach and most successful football school during the 20th Century.

It was a decade of streaks. Show Low's 26-25 upset of **Blue Ridge** in the 3A finals avenged an earlier 48-0 loss in September. The defeat was only the second in 77 games for the Yellow Jackets. Both losses have come in the state finals. Payson edged Paul Moro's club 29-20 in the '98 title game.

'99 Super All-State

OFFENSE

Pos.	Player/High School/Size	Head Coach
QB	John Beck, Mesa Mountain View, 6-1, 175	Bernie Busken
RB	Terrell Suggs, Chandler Hamilton, 6-4, 235	John Wrenn
RB	Nic Lovett, Tempe Mountain Pointe, 6-1, 179	Karl Kiefer
RB	Tremaine Cox, Tucson, 6-0, 193	Will Kreamer
TE	Elton Johnson, Phoenix Desert Vista, 6-0, 190	Jim Rattay
WR	Sammy Moore, Mesa Westwood, 6-0, 180	Bob Young
WR	Lynzell Jackson, Tempe Union, 6-3, 175 (jr)	Tim McBurney
OL	Adrian Zvirgzdins, Glendale Cactus, 6-3, 277	Larry Fetkenhier
OL	Brian Goggin, Phoenix Desert Vista, 6-4, 270	Jim Rattay
OL	James Clement, Phoenix Trevor Browne, 6-4, 310	Bill Mitton
OL	Derek Joyce, Paradise Valley, 6-6, 250	Bob Lambie
OL	Rocky Huntsinger, Tucson Amphi, 6-2, 255	Vern Friedli
AP	Charles Parkinson, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-0, 180	Paul Moro
K	Scott Lane, Scottsdale Chaparral, 5-10, 165	Ron Estabrook

DEFENSE

DB	Quinn Gooch, Tucson Sabino, 6-1, 190	Jeff Scuran
DB	Marcus Thurman, Phoenix Desert Vista, 5-10, 180	Jim Rattay
DB	Devvin Richardson, Chandler, 5-11, 190	Richard Gray
DB	Marquis Cooper, Gilbert Highland, 6-4, 210	Mike Reardon
LB	Cole "Doc" Golightly, Mesa, 6-3, 215	Bill McKane
LB	Luke Hauptman, Tempe Marcos de Niza, 6-1, 225	Tom Joseph
LB	Austin Sendlein, Scottsdale Chaparral, 6-4, 235	Ron Estabrook
DL	Josh Kirkwood, Phoenix Maryvale, 6-4, 240	Tom Bruney
DL	Jared Wolfgramm, Tempe Union, 6-5, 215	Tim McBurney
DL	Clifford Starks, Tempe Mountain Pointe, 6-0, 240	Karl Kiefer
DL	Derek Kennard, Phoenix Desert Vista, 6-1, 240	Jim Rattay
DL	Scott Croff, Show Low, 6-2, 290 (so)	Bill Morgan
RS	Sammy Moore, Mesa Westwood, 6-0, 180	Bob Young
RS	Josh Griffin, Scottsdale Chaparral, 5-10, 190	Ron Estabrook

'99 STATE-WIDE AWARDS

5A Player of the Year
Terrell Suggs, Hamilton

4A Player of the Year
Josh Griffin, Chaparral

3A Player of the Year
Charles Parkinson, Blue Ridge

2A Player of the Year
Mark Tefteller, Phoenix Christian

1A Player of the Year
Brandon Larson, Joseph City

'99 All-State Teams

CLASS 5A

Offense:

QB John Beck, Mesa Mountain View, 6-1, 175
RB Terrell Suggs, Chandler Hamilton, 6-4, 235
RB Nic Lovett, Tempe Mountain Pointe, 6-1, 179
RB Tremaine Cox, Tucson, 6-0, 193
TE Elton Johnson, Tempe Desert Vista, 6-0, 190
WR Sammy Moore, Mesa Westwood, 6-0, 180
WR Terrell Dansby, Phoenix South Mountain, 5-9, 160
OL Brian Goggin, Phoenix Desert Vista, 6-4, 270
OL James Clement, Phoenix Trevor Browne, 6-4, 310
OL Derek Joyce, Paradise Valley, 6-6, 250
OL Rocky Huntsinger, Tucson Amphitheater, 6-2, 255
OL Brad Smith, Mesa Mountain View, 6-3, 240
PK Ramey Peru, Mesa Dobson, 6-1, 190
K Paul Ernster, Glendale Ironwood, 6-2, 210

Defense:

DB Quinn Gooch, Tucson Sabino, 6-1, 190
DB Marcus Thurman, Phoenix Desert Vista, 5-10, 180
DB Devvin Richardson, Chandler, 5-11, 190
DB Marquis Cooper, Gilbert Highland, 6-4, 210
LB Cole "Doc" Golightly, Mesa, 6-3, 215
LB Luke Hauptman, Tempe Marcos de Niza, 6-1, 225
LB Jeff Drumm, Tucson Sabino, 5-11, 195
DL Clifford Starks, Tempe Mountain Pointe, 6-0, 240
DL Derek Kennard, Phoenix Desert Vista, 6-1, 240
DL Josh Kirkwood, Phoenix Maryvale, 6-4, 240
DL Chad Curtis, Mesa Mountain View, 6-2, 190
RS Sammy Moore, Mesa Westwood, 6-0, 180

CLASS 4A

Offense

QB Reggie Robertson, Tucson Sahuaro, 6-2, 185
RB Josh Griffin, Scottsdale Chaparral, 5-10, 190
RB Jeremiah Miller, Flagstaff Sinagua, 6-0, 187
RB Lamar Baker, Agua Fria, 5-10, 188 (jr)
TE Mark Bell, Scottsdale Chaparral, 6-5, 230
WR Calvin Dacus, Tucson Sahuaro, 6-0, 175
WR Lynzell Jackson, Tempe Union, 6-3, 175 (jr)
OL Adam Zvirgzdins, Glendale Cactus, 6-3, 277
OL Martin Lopez, Glendale Apollo, 6-7, 320
OL Richard Rodriguez, Tucson Desert View, 6-4, 290
OL Dusty Tissaw, Flagstaff Coconino, 6-3, 250
OL Pete Mills, Bullhead City Mohave, 6-4, 315
K Scott Lane, Scottsdale Chaparral, 5-10, 165

Defense

LB Cameron Bell, Tucson Sahuaro, 6-0, 205
LB Austin Sendlein, Scottsdale Chaparral, 6-4, 235
LB Sam Jacobs, Phoenix Washington, 5-10, 215
DL Dustin Randolph, Glendale Cactus, 6-2, 230
DL Matt Graves, Phoenix Moon Valley, 6-0, 230
DL Jared Wolfgramm, Tempe Union, 6-5, 215
DL Norman Wellington, Glen. Independence, 6-3, 235
DB Tony Wingate, Tucson Sahuaro, 6-2, 195
DB Marcus Parker, Phoenix Thunderbird, 6-1, 195
DB Zak Seward, Tucson Sunnyside, 6-0, 185
DB Kailen Williams, Marana Mountain View, 6-2, 185
RS Josh Griffin, Scottsdale Chaparral, 5-10, 190
P Jaret Johnson, Scottsdale Arcadia, 5-9, 150 (jr)

CLASS 3A

Offense

QB Lee Wheeler, Coolidge, 5-10, 180
RB Charles Parkinson, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-0, 180
RB Mike Smith, Coolidge, 5-10, 175 (jr)
RB Brian Wayas, Wickenburg, 5-10, 175
TE Matt Brecker, Fountain Hills, 6-2, 218
WR Mike Hollowell, Chandler Seton Catholic, 6-2, 180 (jr)
WR Buddy Lynch, Ganado, 5-11, 175
OL Jordan Merchant, Wickenburg, 6-3, 275 (jr)
OL Trevor Whipple, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-3, 285
OL Glen Jackson, Show Low, 6-0, 190 (jr)
OL Scott Croff, Show Low, 6-2, 290 (so)
OL Brandon Phillips, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-0, 187
OL Hayden Harper, Parker, 6-5, 240
K Nick Toppel, Fountain Hills, 5-7, 125

Defense

LB Charles Parkinson, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-0, 180
LB Jason Semore, Ganado, 5-11, 190 (jr)
LB Jimbo Armstrong, Payson, 6-1, 200
DL Jeff Adams, Show Low, 6-2, 205
DL Travis Wuertz, Coolidge, 6-2, 205
DL Scott Croff, Show Low, 6-2, 290 (so)
DL Josh Salyers, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-3, 255
DL Ernie Gutierrez, Safford, 6-0, 235
DB Lee Wheeler, Coolidge, 5-10, 180
DB Mike Smith, Coolidge, 5-10, 175 (jr)
DB Nathan Gates, Show Low, 5-9, 165
DB Tim Merrill, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-3, 185
RS Charles Parkinson, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-0, 180

CLASS 2A

Offense

QB Mark Tefteller, Phoenix Christian, 6-2, 185
RB Alex Valencia, Florence, 5-11, 215
RB Jimmy Wilson, Phoenix Christian, 6-2, 195 (jr)
RB Josh Raban, St. Johns, 6-1, 192
TE Aaron Smith, Phoenix Christian, 6-2, 230 (jr)
WR Sean Bowman, Phoenix Christian, 6-3, 197
WR Adrian Fuentes, Willcox, 6-1, 160 (jr)
OL Ross Hunt, Heber Mogollon, 6-5, 245
OL Paul Jajou, Phoenix Bourgade Catholic, 6-2, 230
OL Nathan Moroney, Phoenix Christian, 6-2, 215
OL Stephen Berg, Arizona Lutheran Academy, 6-5, 300 (so)
OL David Keene, Queen Creek, 6-2, 272
K Sean Bowman, Phoenix Christian, 6-3, 197

Defense

LB Aaron Heap, St. Johns, 6-1, 224
LB Jesse Ross, Northwest Community Christian, 6-2, 197
LB Clay Romero, Thatcher, 5-9, 185
DL Gary Emerling, Phoenix Christian, 6-1, 218
DL David Plant, St. Johns, 6-1, 200
DL Dan Underwood, Northwest Christian, 5-10, 215
DL Tyrel Lemons, Duncan, 6-3, 230
DB Adam Draper, Phoenix Christian, 5-11, 180
DB Michael Romney, Thatcher, 6-0, 165 (so)
DB B.J. Lee, Northwest Community Christian, 5-9, 165
DB Alan Nevitt, Queen Creek, 6-0, 205

Selected by the editors and staff of **Phoenix Metro Football Magazine, Barry Sollenberger publisher.*



All- Region candidate Demarcus Green

APOLLO HIGH SCHOOL

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APOLLO ALL-STATERS IN THE '90s:

1995

Troy Sheets (DB)
Jeff Blaich (OL)

1997

Zack Threadgill (QB)
Ryan Bakke (OL)
Nick Mangosing (RB)

1998

Nick Mangosing (RB)

1999

Martin Lopez (OL)

2000 APOLLO HAWKS SCHEDULE:

Sept. 8 vs Chaparral
Sept. 15 at Washington
Sept. 22 vs Buckeye
Sept. 29 at Flagstaff
Oct. 6 vs Flagstaff Sinagua
Oct. 13 at Thunderbird
Oct. 20 vs Sunnyslope
Oct. 27 vs Cactus Shadows
Nov. 3 at Glendale
Nov. 9 at Lake Havasu
(Thursday)

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Trung Canidate
Central

TOUCHDOWNS (GAME)
7 .....Coury Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
7 .....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
7 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)
6 .....Cotton Reiman, Phoenix Union, 1928
6 .....Art Halbrook, Glendale, 1936
6 .....Bill Crabtree, Agua Fria, 1952 (so)
6 .....Phil Smith, Cortez, 1967
6 .....Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria, 1982
6 .....Anthony Parker, McClintock, 1983
6 .....Art Greathouse, McClintock, 1984 (jr)
6 .....Darren Woodson, Maryvale, 1986
6 .....Andrew McCormick, McClintock, '90
6 .....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990 (so)
6 .....Skeeter Brown, Mtn. Pointe, 1994
6 .....Tim Vining, Cactus, 1994
6 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)
6 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)

TOUCHDOWNS (SEASON)
41 .....Bobby Wade, Desert Vista, 1998
38 .....Brian Drew, McClintock, 1989
37 .....Tavon Cooper, Peoria, 1994
35 .....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
34 .....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1988
34 .....Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, 1993
34 .....Micah Barton, Phoenix Christian, 1996
34 .....Travis Gammage, Cortez, 1998
33 .....Coury Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
32 .....Danny Reynolds, VCHS, 1996
32 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)
32 .....Josh Griffin, Chaparral, 1999
31 .....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1987 (jr)
31 .....Keith Huckaby, Agua Fria, 1989
31 .....Keith Brown, Mountain Pointe, 1995
30 .....Marvin Johnson, Peoria, 1987
30 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1997

TOUCHDOWNS (CAREER)
76 .....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1986-88
76 .....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990-92
72 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1995-97
71 .....Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, 1991-93
63 .....George Greathouse, Carver/
.....Phoenix Union, 1952-55
63 .....Sean Reeder, Cave Creek, 1985-88
61 .....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955-58
60 .....Tim Smith, St. Mary's, 1964-67
54 .....Anthony Parker, McClintock, 1981-83
52 .....Whizzer White, Mesa, 1944-46

POINTS (GAME)
42 .....Coury Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
42 .....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
42 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)
38 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)

POINTS (SEASON)
246 .....Bobby Wade, Desert Vista, 1998
228 .....Brian Drew, McClintock, 1989
222 .....Tavon Cooper, Peoria, 1994
216 .....Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, 1993
213 .....Cleveland Colter, McClintock, 1985
210 .....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
204 .....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1988
204 .....Micah Barton, Phoenix Christian, 1996
204 .....Travis Gammage, Cortez, 1998
200 .....Coury Hankins, South Mountain, 1994

POINTS (CAREER)
460 .....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1986-88
456 .....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990-92
440 .....Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, 1991-93
434 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1995-97
386 .....Sean Reeder, Cave Creek, 1985-88
383 .....George Greathouse, Carver/
.....Phoenix Union, 1952-55
378 .....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955-58
376 .....Ronnie Bonner, Westwood, 1972-74
368 .....Tim Smith, St. Mary's, 1964-67
353 .....Whizzer White, Mesa, 1944-46
348 .....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995

RUSHING YARDS (GAME)
388 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)
367 .....Terrell Suggs, Hamilton, 1999
358 .....Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria, 1982
353 .....Brian Galbreath, Cortez, 1991
352 .....Joel Huerta, Coronado, 1995 (so)
344 .....Brian Pringle, Sunnyslope, 1970
339 .....Ronnie Bonner, Westwood, 1972 (so)
334 .....Paul Fichera, Coronado, 1990 (jr)
331 .....Darnell Autry, Tempe, 1993
329 .....Tim Vining, Cactus, 1994
328 .....Keith Huckaby, Agua Fria, 1989
327 .....Jim McQuinn, Central, 1976
321 .....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1994 (jr)

RUSHING YARDS (SEASON)
2,601 ...Keith Brown, Mountain Pointe, 1995
2,274 ...Terrell Suggs, Hamilton, 1999
2,230 ...Tim Vining, Cactus, 1994
2,224 ...Micah Barton, Phoenix Christian, 1996
2,201 ...Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1992
2,149 ...Travis Gammage, Cortez, 1998
2,094 ...Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)
2,036 ...Mike Mantle, Coronado, 1996
2,030 ...Tavon Cooper, Peoria, 1994
2,027 ...Coury Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
2,023 ...Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
2,018 ...Jimmy Wilson, Phoenix Christian, 1999
2,003 ...Marcus Dickson, Maryvale, 1989

RUSHING YARDS (CAREER)
5,669 ...Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990-92
5,204 ...Sean Reeder, Cave Creek, 1985-88
4,551 ...George Greathouse, Carver/
.....Phoenix Union, 1952-55
4,417 ...Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955-58
4,307 ...Whizzer White, Mesa, 1944-46
4,240 ...Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1995-97
4,128 ...Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1986-88
4,119 ...Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1993-95
4,050 ...Ronnie Bonner, Westwood, 1972-74
4,005 ...Kenny Mantle, Coronado, 1992-94

CARRIES (GAME)
45 .....Jose Valenzuela, Apache Jct., 1989
44 .....Forrest Valora, Trevor Browne, 1975
44 .....Carlos Cochrane, Ironwood, 1991 (jr)
43 .....Forrest Valora, Trevor Browne, 1975
40 .....Craig Amack, Tempe, 1974
40 .....Ryan Christopherson, Cactus, 1989
40 .....Joshua Smith, Corona del Sol, 1999 (jr)

AVERAGE YARDS PER CARRY (SEASON)
12.6 .....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955 (fr)
12.5 .....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1957 (jr)
12.3 .....Rick Kelton, Gilbert, 1974
12.0 .....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1956 (so)
11.9 .....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1958
11.9 .....Sean Reeder, Cave Creek, 1987 (jr)
11.8 .....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990 (so)
10.8 .....Jerry Lamb, Chandler, 1955 (jr)
10.7 .....Everett Rollins, Arcadia, 1962
10.7 .....Coury Hankins, South Mountain, 1994

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN RUN
99 .....Sammy Johnson, Mesa, 1952
99 .....Craig Ponciak, Gerard, 1964
99 .....Wayne Jones, Dysart, 1972



what if?
What if something happens on vacation?

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In 1995, future UCLA running back Keith Brown rushed for a city record 2,601 yards and 31 TDs for Mountain Pointe (Todd Lillard photo).

99.....Jerry Harper, Chaparral, 1980
99.....Tom Collins, Apollo, 1985
99.....Randy Carr, Central, 1986
99.....Phil Hayward, Deer Valley, 1993 (jr)
99.....Trung Canidate, Central, 1994
99.....Phil Hayward, Deer Valley, 1994
98.....Marvin Davis, Tempe, 1950
98.....Jim Rawlins, Tempe, 1950
98.....Danny Arredondo, Tempe, 1952
98.....Paul Fichera, Coronado, 1990 (jr)
98.....Craig Brown, Westview, 1994

PASSING YARDS (GAME)
479.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
429.....Mark Tefteller, Phoenix Christian, 1998
418.....John Beck, Mountain View, 1999
404.....Mike Makings, Scottsdale, 1971
403.....Rick Johnson, Paradise Valley, 1983
402.....Richard Lucero, South Mountain, 1997
396.....Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1994 (jr)
385.....Rick Savale, Arcadia, 1966
380.....Bob Pitre, Arcadia, 1975
375.....Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994

PASSING YARDS (SEASON)
3,462...Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
3,146...Jon Stoner, Cactus, 1999
3,094...John Rattay, Desert Vista, 1998 (jr)
3,009...Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994
2,768...Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1995
2,683...Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1995
2,669...John Beck, Mountain View, 1999
2,646...Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
2,566...Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1994 (jr)
2,539...Kent Kiefer, McClintock, 1985
2,507...Kevin Stephens, Cactus, 1991
2,507...Dennis Gile, Cortez, 1998
2,486...Mark Tefteller, Phx.Christian, 1998 (jr)
2,486...Mark Tefteller, Phoenix Christian, 1999
2,442...Todd Mortensen, Tempe, 1996
2,405...Richard Lucero, South Mountain, 1997
2,372...Justin Echols, Greenway, 1998
2,352...Brian Judd, Cactus, 1989

PASSING YARDS (CAREER)
7,239...Jon Stoner, Cactus, 1997-99
7,089...John Rattay, Desert Vista, 1997-99
6,441...Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1993-95
6,350...Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1993-95
6,346...Kent Kiefer, McClintock, 1983-85
6,142...Mark Tefteller, Phx. Christian, 1997-99
6,064...Marty Rincon, Westview, 1991-93
5,139...Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 193-95

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (GAME)
7.....Tommy Scott, Gilbert, 1926
7.....Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
6.....Duncan Brown, Mesa, 1924 (jr)
6.....Charlie Beal, Mesa, 1943
6.....Gary Carpenter, North, 1968
6.....Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994
6.....Marco Burruel. Maryvale, 1997
6.....John Beck, Mountain view, 1999
6.....John Rattay, Desert Vista, 1999

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (HALF)
6.....Marco Burruel, Maryvale, 1997

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (SEASON)
42.....John Beck, Mountain View, 1999
41.....Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1995
40.....Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
37.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
36.....John Rattay, Desert Vista, 1998 (jr)
36.....Jon Stoner, Cactus, 1999
33.....Justin Echols, Greenway. 1998
32.....Todd Mortensen, Tempe, 1996
31.....Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1995
31.....Mark Tefteller, Phoenix Christian, 1999
30.....Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (CAREER)
83.....Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1993-95
82.....John Rattay, Desert Vista, 1997-99
78.....Jon Stoner, Cactus, 1997-99
73.....Mark Tefteller, Phx. Christian, 1997-99
60.....Todd Mortensen, Tempe, 1994-96
58.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1991-93
58.....Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1993-95

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN PASS
99.....Frank Zellner to Gloyes Lemons,
.....Buckeye, 1955
99.....Doug Stitler to Curt Reiman,
.....Brophy Prep, 1978
98.....Ken Butler to Ralph Flores,
.....Sunnyslope, 1960
98.....Matt Saxe to Colin Fuel,
.....Washington, 1993
98.....Ryan Leyba to DeRonn Finley,
.....Marcos de Niza, 1994

RECEPTIONS (GAME)
17.....Sean Bowman, Phx. Christian, 1999
16.....Mickey Hatcher, Mesa, 1973
14.....Willie Haefs, Tempe, 1998
13.....Jason Birdsong, 1989 (jr)
13.....David Stephens, Glendale, '90 (jr)
12.....Brad Anderson, Alhambra, 1978
12.....Adam Mesa, Gilbert, 1982
12.....Pat Schabel, Westwood, 1984
12.....Pat Schabel, Westwood, 1984
12.....Shelby Hill, Central, 1988
12.....Rick Huisman, Phx. Christian, 1998
12.....Ryan Jones, Saguaro, 1999 (jr)

RECEPTIONS (SEASON)
84.....Travis Brun, Deer Valley, 1996
76.....Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1989 (jr)
76.....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1995
75.....Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1996
74.....Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1995
68.....Chris Baniszewski, McClintock, 1985
66.....Brant Williams, Independence, 1986
66.....Tony Vining, Cactus, 1991
66.....Matt Nixon, Sunnyslope, 1996 (jr)
66.....Sean Bowman, Phx. Christian, 1999
65.....Tim Kohner, Phx. Christian, 1994

RECEPTIONS (CAREER)
166.....Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1993-96
148.....Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1988-90
138.....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1993-95
126.....Matt Allen, Cactus, 1997-99
123.....Sean Bowman, Phx.Christian, 1997-99
120.....Roger Aguilar, St. Mary's, 1992-94
119.....Speedy Hart, St. Mary's, 1973-75
117.....Cleveland Colter, McClintock, '83-85
117.....Don Yantis, Paradise Valley, 1986-88


what if?
What if my kid's in college in Connecticut?
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RECEIVING YARDS (GAME)
340 .....Sean Bowman, Phx. Christian, 1999
335 .....Ruck Huisman, Phx. Christian, 1998
315 .....Mark Marcos, Centennial, 1997
302 .....Pete Klaass, Paradise Valley, 1983 (jr)
296 .....Larry Bandura, Scottsdale, 1971
263 .....Ryan Jones, Saguaro, 1999 (jr)
260 .....Keith Rawls, Corona del Sol, 1982
258 .....Jimmy Conner, Greenway, 1998
255 .....Brian Ruede, Brophy Prep, 1989
240 .....Shelby Hill, Central, 1988
234 .....Murl Huff, Phoenix Union, 1924
226 .....Larry Bandura, Scottsdale, 1971
225 .....Jim Palmer, Scottsdale, 1962
225 .....Craig Brown, Westview, 1993 (jr)

RECEIVING YARDS (SEASON)
1,760 ...Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1995
1,662 ...Jimmy Connor, Greenway, 1998
1,298 ...Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1996
1,226 ...Mickey Hatcher, Mesa, 1973
1,208 ...Sean Bowman, Phx. Christian, 1999
1,201 ...Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1989
1,190 ...Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1995
1,188 ...Tony Vining, Cactus, 1991
1,183 ...David O'Hara, Cortez, 1998
1,180 ...Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
1,158 ...Elton Johnson, Desert Vista, 1998 (jr)

RECEIVING YARDS (CAREER)
3,333 ...Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1993-95
2,724 ...Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1993-96
2,508 ...Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1988-90
2,266 ...Matt Allen, Cactus, 1997-99
2,183 ...Sean Bowman, Phx.Christian, 1997-99
2,172 ...Speedy Hart, St. Mary's, 1973-75

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (GAME)
5 .....Dwight Bennett, Glendale, 1966
4 .....Murl Huff, Phoenix Union, 1924
4 .....Merrill Brookings, Gilbert, 1926
4 .....Cecil Crouch, Mesa, 1943
4 .....Jim Palmer, Scottsdale, 1961 (jr)
4 .....Jim Palmer, Scottsdale, 1962
4 .....Mike Bowling, Agua Fria, 1966
4 .....Dan White, West, 1967
4 .....Dick Harris, Westwood, 1969 (jr)
4 .....Jesus Tirado, Marcos de Niza, 1974
4 .....Shawn Harris, Tempe, 1988
4 .....Scott Mettham, Chaparral, 1988
4 .....Mike Collins, Mt. Pointe, 1993 (jr)
4 .....Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
4 .....Mike Allen, Cactus, 1994
4 .....David Tefteller, Phoenix Christian, 1995
4 .....Elton Johnson, Desert Vista, 1999
4 .....Sammy Moore, Westwood, 1999

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (SEASON)
23 .....Jimmy Connor, Greenway, 1998
21 .....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1995
21 .....Sean Bowman, Phx. Christian, 1999
20 .....Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1995
17 .....Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
17 .....David O'Hara, Cortez, 1998
16 .....Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1996
15 .....Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1989 (jr)
15 .....Bristol Olomua, Red Mountain, 1998
15 .....Elton Johnson, Desert Vista, 1998 (jr)
15 .....Ed Grigsby, Cactus, 1998 (jr)
15 .....Elton Johnson, Desert Vista, 1999

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (CAREER)
35 .....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1993-95
33 .....Sean Bowman, Phx.Christian, 1997-99
32 .....David Tefteller, Phx. Christian, 1993-95
31 .....Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1993-96
30 .....Elton Johnson, Desert Vista, 1998-99

INTERCEPTIONS (GAME)
5 .....Dick Gwinn, Judson, 1964
4 .....Ned Newell, Mesa, 1921
4 .....Albert Guthrie, Mesa, 1921
4 .....Seth Williams, Glendale, 1958
4 .....Jack Meck, Buckeye, 1958
4 .....Craig Cardon, Mesa, 1966
4 .....Ralph Quintero, Gilbert, 1966
4 .....Pat Farrell, St. Mary's, 1969
4 .....Dick Harris, Westwood, 1970
4 .....Mark Oligschlaeger, Bourgade, 1972
4 .....Bret Baker, Saguaro, 1974
4 .....Vince Martinez, Tempe, 1981
4 .....Steve McDowell, Gilbert, 1983
4 .....Rich Henkel, Horizon, 1984
4 .....Ty Hawkinson, Valley Christian, '90

INTERCEPTIONS (SEASON)
15 .....Mike Vere, Bourgade, 1972
14 .....Mickey Bell, Cactus, 1979
14 .....Andy Zwingle, Peoria, 1979
13 .....Shawn Benson, Mesa, 1981
13 .....Scotty Malm, Phoenix Christian, 1986
12 .....Phil Havens, North, 1962
12 .....Bill Dipley, Arcadia, 1965 (jr)
12 .....Scott Hutson, Mountain View, 1983
12 .....Rhon McKinney, North, 1986

INTERCEPTIONS (CAREER)
26 .....Phillip Echeverria, Buckeye, '85-87
24 .....Carlos Artis, Washington, 1988-90
20 .....Rhon McKinney, North, 1985-86

LONGEST RETURN (INTERCEPTION)
105 .....T.C. Richmond, Agua Fria, 1985 (jr)
103 .....John Heffton, Moon Valley, 1980
103 .....Armando Bernasconi, Seton, 1991 (jr)
102 .....Quincy Fowler, St. Mary's, 1941
102 .....Elby Bushong, Washington, 1961
102 .....Chris Enos, Cortez, 1982
100 .....Benny Garcia, Agua Fria, 1962
100 .....Mike Smith, Phoenix Christian, 1962
100 .....David Given, McClintock, 1975
100 .....Scott Lubow, Shadow Mt., 1984
100 .....Brian Fair, South Mountain, 1988 (so)
100 .....Jerry Ingram, Independence, 1988
100 .....Al Sparks, Maryvale, 1990 (jr)

FIELD GOALS (GAME)
5 .....Jeremy Kelley, Mountain View, 1996
4 .....Lawrence Bever, Phoenix Union, 1925
4 .....Phil Insalaco, Phx. Christian, 1984
4 .....Joe Ackie, Carl Hayden, 1990
4 .....Marcus Williams, McClintock, 1992
4 .....Andy Schiesl, Chaparral, 1993 (so)
4 .....Terry Wood, Brophy Prep, 1995 (so)

FIELD GOALS (SEASON)
19 .....Mike Cortright, St. Mary's, 1985
16 .....Kyle Pooler, Cactus, 1989
15 .....Jeremy Kelley, Mt. View, 1995 (jr)
15 .....Jeremy Kelley, Mountain View, 1996
13 .....Phil Insalaco, Phoenix Christian, 1984
13 .....Cameron Mark, Arcadia, 1993 (jr)
12 .....Randy Weiskittle, Brophy Prep, 1987
12 .....Kyle Bell, McClintock, 1989
12 .....Mario Silva, St. Mary's, 1990
12 .....Marcus Williams, McClintock, 1992
12 .....Jim Sanson, St. Mary's, 1994 (jr)

FIELD GOALS (CAREER)
36 .....Mike Cortright, St. Mary's, 1983-85
30 .....Jeremy Kelley, Mountain View, 1994-96
26 .....Quin Rodriguez, Dobson, 1984-86

LONGEST FIELD GOAL
62 .....Kyle Pooler, Cactus, 1989
58 .....Jim Sanson, St. Mary's, 1994 (jr)
57 .....Mike Johnson, Centennial, 1995
57 .....Todd Purdin, Saguaro, 1995
56 .....Lucas Coelho, Dobson, 1996
55 .....Marcus Williams, McClintock, 1992
55 .....Marcus Williams, McClintock, 1992
55 .....Don Gallardo, Cactus, 1995
54 .....Bob Facio, Gerard, 1977
54 .....Chuck Hunzinger, Deer Valley, 1984
54 .....Matt Belden, Glendale, 1992 (jr)

PATS (GAME)
11 .....Ed Brooks, Phoenix Union, 1914
10 .....Danny White, Westwood, 1969
10 .....Cleveland Colter, McClintock, 1985
10 .....Darin Madrigal, Mesa, 1993
10 .....Chris Nelson, North Canyon, 1997

PATS (SEASON)
78 .....Sergi Sausedo, Agua Fria, 1998 (jr)
70 .....Don Gallardo, Cactus, 1994 (jr)
69 .....Tony Camino, Peoria, 1987
66 .....Kyle Bell, McClintock, 1989
63 .....Frank Coen, McClintock, 1980
63 .....Brian Golladay, Mountain View, 1999

PATS (CAREER)
169 .....Josh Lane, Phoenix Christian, 1994-97
142 .....Kyle Pooler, Cactus, 1987-89
142 .....Jim Sanson, St. Mary's, 1993-95
135 .....Derek Lay, Maryvale, 1991-93
134 .....Rich Groppenbacher, McC., 1982-84
128 .....Don Gallardo, Cactus, 1993-95
115 .....Frank Coen, McClintock, 1979-80
115 .....Tony Camino, Peoria, 1985-87

LONGEST PUNT
99 .....Walter Williams, Mesa, 1925
84 .....John Durso, Arcadia, 1976
81 .....Jerry Hammond, Red Mountain, 1994
80 .....Justus Goebel, Phoenix Union, 1910

PUNTING AVERAGE (SEASON)
47.6 .....Matt Belden, Glendale, 1992 (jr)
47.5 .....Jess Skousen, Mesa, 1922
47.0 .....Jim McCann, North, 1965
46.0 .....Pat Hawbaker, St. Mary's, 1971

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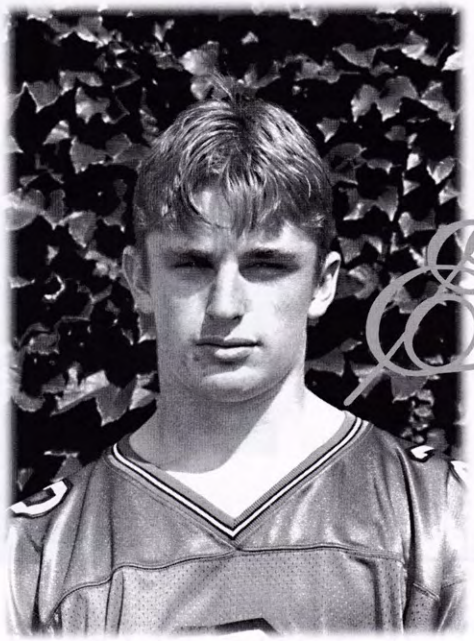
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for academic excellence, adventure, and personal challenge.

Tradition,

"The great thing about the athletic program at Orme is that everybody gets to play. Young men and women who have little or no prior athletic experience can end up playing in state level play-off games. Experiences like these build a student's confidence, and that new-found confidence carries over into the classroom."

Bob Miller
Dean of Students, Head Coach



Excellence,

"The first time I ran onto the field to start my football career for Cornell, I thought of my Orme coaches and how they helped me realize my dreams. Serving as coaches, teachers and mentors, they taught me values such as integrity and maturity that are carrying me further than I ever thought was possible. The challenging course loads, competitive sports, and many opportunities for leadership have more than prepared me for the rigors of Engineering School at Cornell University."

Peter Iverson
Class of '98

Character

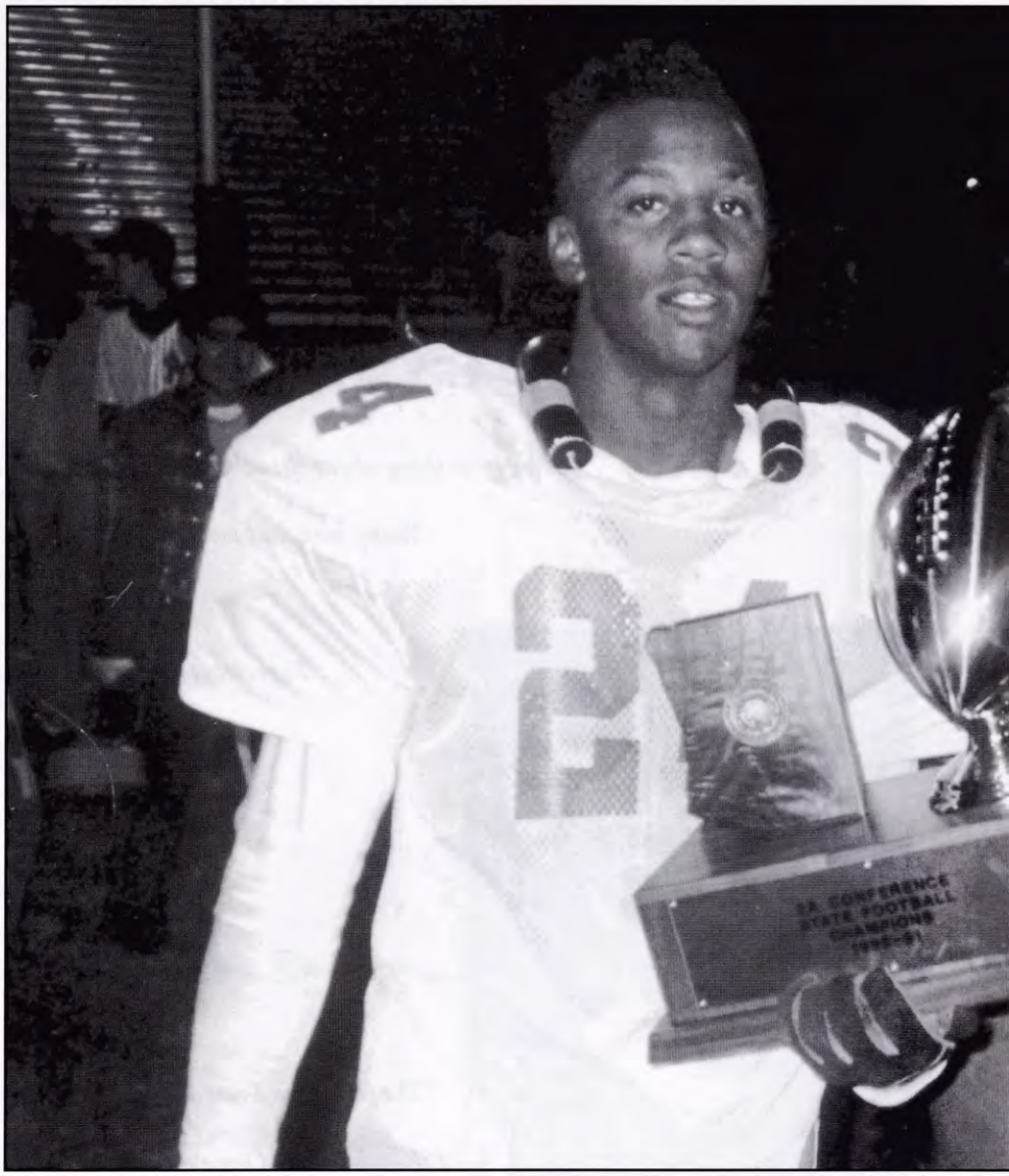
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SUPER SCHOOL BOYS OF THE '90s

Brown, Bates, Kealy, Tait and Taplin were the decade's best.

By BARRY SOLLENBERGER



On a cold December night in 1995, on the turf at Sun Devil Stadium, Scottsdale Saguaro's Mike Brown was the best player in the state. For the third month in a row. In the 4A title game, won by his Sabercats, Brown was a man among boys.

Saguaro was leading Glendale Ironwood by only 14-7 at the half. But it didn't seem to matter. They went out and proved they were one of the best teams in Arizona, regardless of classification. Led by Brown, Saguaro amassed over 400 yards total offense and wiped out the Eagles, 42-7.

"We wanted to come out and prove to everyone that we are a pretty good football team," said Tim Beck's prize pupil afterwards. "We knew a lot of 5A fans would be in the stands, waiting for their teams to play next."

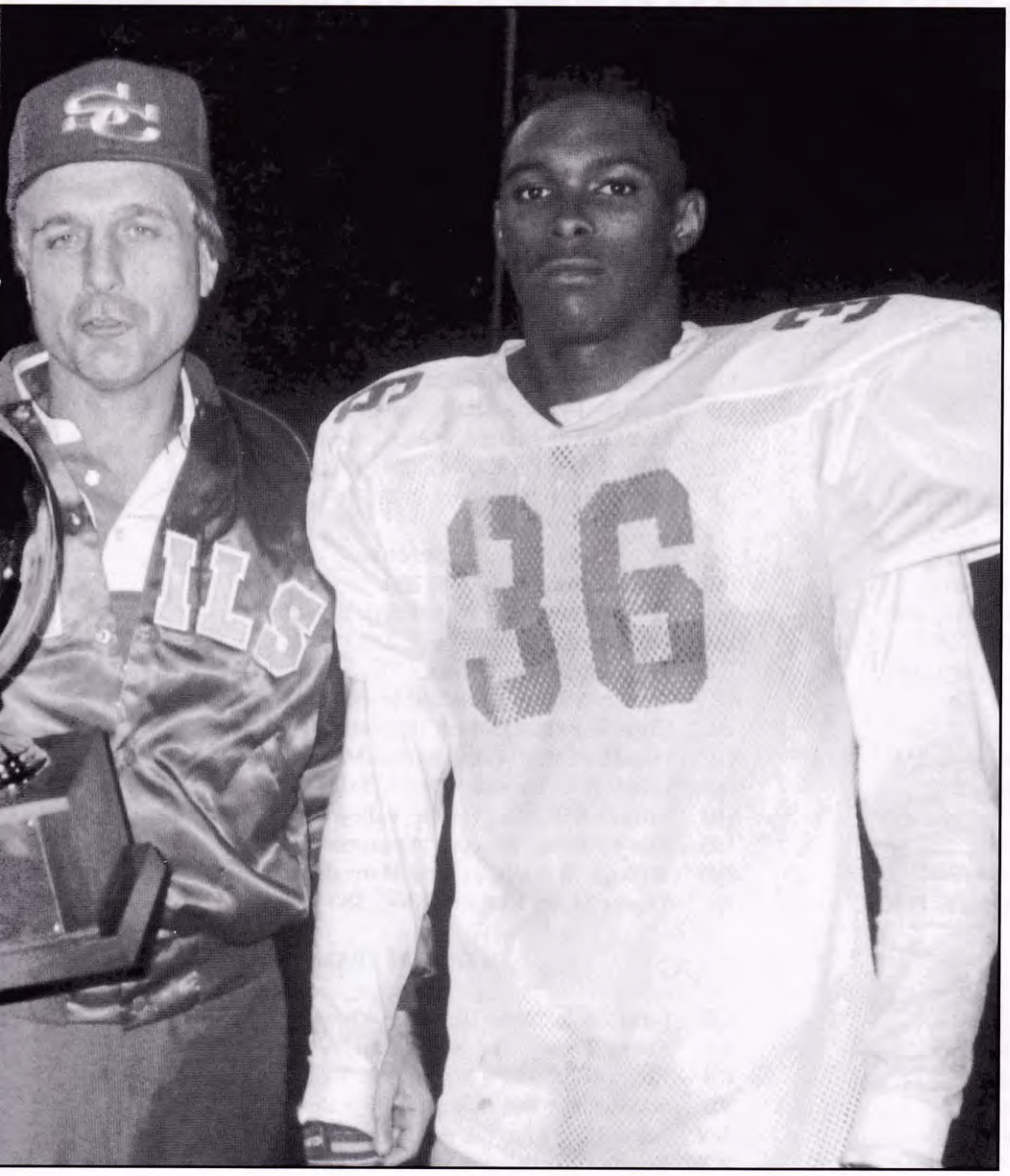
"Mike Brown is a sure tackler who packs a lot of punch. If he misses a tackle, it is a shock. He covers well, tackles well and is extremely bright. He's the whole package."

Brown's performance, which included 189 rushing yards and three touchdowns, was one of the best single game performance in a championship game in the decade. His first score, an 83-yard run with a screen pass, and his last, a 56-yard sprint, resembled a Sunday afternoon performance. He even threw a touchdown pass, five yards to quarterback Ryan Smith. Smith put his name in the record books in the second quarter when he dumped that short screen to Brown, who turned it into a 4A title game record 83-yarder.

With Brown as the key player, it is easy to overlook the rest of the cast, but this Saguaro squad earned top billing as the decade's best in 4A because of Brown, possible the decade's best player, and five Division I singees, including Smith, who threw for 2,102 yards (61%) and 21 touchdowns.

Winner of both the Whizzer White and Tyronne Byrd Awards, Brown rushed for 2,023 yards and scored 35 touchdowns, then picked up his diploma and headed for Nebraska. Today he belongs to the Chicago Bears. His near-perfect 'Cats dropped one game, to Peoria Centennial, when he was shelved with an injury. But with Brown in the lineup they were perfect.

Four years later Nebraska secondary coach George Darlington said, "Mike Brown is a sure tackler who packs a lot of punch. If he misses a tackle, it is a shock. He covers well, tackles well and is extremely bright. He's the whole package. He's what a student-athlete should be.



In 1990, the best backfield in Arizona was at Eloy Santa Cruz, regardless of classification. Here Kevin Butler (24) and Eddie Cade (36) flank head coach Jay Denton (Casa Grande Dispatch).

He's a tremendous leader."

KEALY & CO.

On that December in 1995, Mike Brown and Saguaro were not alone. In the 5A finals, Phoenix St. Mary's and quarterback Ryan Kealy cleaned Scottsdale Horizon's clock. To the tune of 33-7. It avenged a 16-14 loss to the Huskies in the '94 finals. Although St. Mary's produced three Division I signees that year, the catalyst was Kealy, the 5A Player of the Year. The *Parade Magazine* All-American passed for 2,683 yards and 41 touchdowns, the latter a state record. During his three-year career, the Knights' all-time best signal caller threw for 6,350 yards and 83 touchdowns. Two years later he was the starting quarterback at Arizona State.

"We wanted to come out and prove to everyone that we were a pretty good football team. We knew a lot of 5A fans would be in the stands, waiting for their teams to play next."

Athletes like Brown and Kealy, along with Tucson Amphitheater's Mario Bates, Tempe's Justin Taplin and McClintock's John Tait, were arguably the best at their position in Arizona's high school ranks in the Decade of the '90s.

And what a decade. In this business, population growth brings more recruiters. From everywhere. "I was really surprised at football in the Phoenix area," said Tom Holmoe, a Stanford assistant who recruited Arizona. "They play great ball in Phoenix. One of the best football cities in the country. Top to bottom the leagues are tough. It's just a great football state. A real fruitful area. But it's no secret."

In the past 10 years 66 different Arizona high school products dotted National Football League rosters. They came from schools like Eloy Santa Cruz, Sierra Vista Buena or Phoenix Camelback. The state has never been short of running backs, and the Decade of

ALL-TIME ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL VICTORIES



Wins	School	Years
576	Mesa	1920-99
503	Tucson	1912-99
485	Safford	1925-99
447	Phoenix St. Mary's	1938-99
433	Winslow	1915-99
418	Round Valley	1921-99
417	Douglas	1906-99
413	Gilbert	1923-99
398	Snowflake	1929-99
394	Flagstaff	1923-99
390	Tucson Amphi	1939-99
380	Tempe	1924-99
367	Peoria	1933-99
367	Miami	1923-99

The Decade's Super Teams

FIRST TEAM

Offense:

QB Ryan Kealy, Phoenix St. Mary's, 6-2, 195
RB Mario Bates, Tucson Amphitheater, 6-2, 205
RB Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro, 5-11, 185
RB Mike Mitchell, Phoenix Brophy Prep, 6-1, 210
WR Justin Taplin, Tempe Union, 6-0, 175
WR Sammy Moore, Mesa Westwood, 6-0, 180
TE Todd Heap, Mesa Mountain View, 6-5, 220
OC Steve McKane, Mesa, 6-2, 225
OL John Tait, Tempe McClintock, 6-7, 260
OL Mike Saffer, Tucson Sabino, 6-5, 295
OL Warner Smith, San Manuel, 6-3, 255
OL Ralph Zarate, Tucson, 6-5, 285
K Marcus Williams, Tempe McClintock, 6-1, 212

Defense:

DB Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro, 5-11, 185
DB Kenny Wheaton, Tempe McClintock, 5-10, 178
DB Rashad Bauman, South Mountain, 5-9, 165
DB Mitchell Freedman, Phoenix Maryvale, 6-0, 185
LB Mike Miller, Arizona Boys Ranch, 6-2, 220
LB Steve Trejo, Casa Grande, 6-3, 230
LB Austin Sendlein, Scottsdale Chaparral, 6-4, 235
DL Grady Stretch, Tempe McClintock, 6-5, 250
DL Matt Griffith, Mesa, 6-3, 240
DL Joe Brown, Catalina Foothills, 6-6, 260
DL Josh Kirkwood, Phoenix Maryvale, 6-4, 240
RS Terry Fair, Phoenix South Mountain, 5-11, 175

SECOND TEAM

Offense

QB John Rattay, Phoenix Desert Vista, 6-4, 200
RB Terrell Suggs, Chandler Hamilton, 6-4, 235
RB Darnell Autry, Tempe Union, 6-0, 180
RB Trung Canidate, Phoenix Central, 6-0, 166
WR Brian Poli-Dixon, Tucson Sabino, 6-3, 190
WR Kenny Mitchell, Peoria, 6-4, 198
TE Steve Bush, Paradise Valley, 6-3, 228
OC Pat Walsh, Phoenix Brophy Prep, 6-4, 260
OL Danny Finn, Mesa Westwood, 6-4, 260
OL Brandon Phillips, Tempe Corona del Sol, 6-7, 280
OL Damien Niko, Mesa Mountain View, 6-5, 295
OL Levi Jones, Eloy Santa Cruz, 6-5, 235
K Cole Ford, Tucson Sabino, 6-3, 190

Defense

LB Jimmy Sprotte, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-3, 220
LB Marcus Bell, St. Johns, 6-2, 205
LB Jon McGee, Tucson Amphitheater, 6-3, 238
DL Willie Walker, Tucson Desert View, 6-4, 284
DL Bryan Kula, Phoenix Brophy Prep, 6-3, 275
DL David Carder, Flagstaff, 6-5, 245
DL Shawn Swayda, Phoenix Brophy Prep, 6-5, 235
DB Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, 6-2, 195
DB Bobby Wade, Phoenix Desert Vista, 6-0, 190
DB Eddie Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz, 6-1, 180
DB Kenny Wilkins, Mesa Westwood, 6-3, 195
RS Shaun McDonald, Shadow Mountain, 5-9, 166

THIRD TEAM

Offense

QB Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 6-2, 180
RB Nathan Wize, Tucson Sabino, 5-8, 180
RB Robert Holcombe, Mesa, 6-0, 190
RB Keith Brown, Tempe Mountain Pointe, 6-0, 203
WR Brandon Thomas, Mesa Westwood, 5-10, 170
WR Bristol Olomua, Mesa Red Mountain, 6-4, 210
TE Randy Hakes, Scottsdale Arcadia, 6-3, 220
OC Rusty James, Mesa Mountain View, 6-3, 235
OL Brian Goggin, Phoenix Desert Vista, 6-4, 270
OL Brad Selby, Scottsdale Saguaro, 6-5, 270
OL Erin Huizingh, Tempe McClintock, 6-7, 247
OL Mike Kalin, Peoria, 6-4, 290
K Matt Belden, Glendale, 5-10, 180

Defense

LB Scott Fuller, Mesa, 6-1, 230
LB Cody Price, Mesa Westwood, 6-3, 205
LB Jeff Johnson, Peoria, 6-3, 218
DL Tony Griswold, Phoenix Thunderbird, 6-4, 240
DL Quincy Yancy, Glendale Ironwood, 6-8, 220
DL Chris Watkins, Gilbert Highland, 6-3, 255
DL Hamilton Mee, Cottonwood Mingus Union, 6-3, 233
DB Corey Hill, Tucson Sabino, 6-0, 205
DB Armon Williams, Tempe Valley Christian, 6-3, 180
DB Eric Johnson, Phoenix Alhambra, 6-0, 182
DB William Bennett, Tempe Marcos de Niza, 6-1, 185
RS Trevor Mote, Kingman, 6-0, 180

FOURTH TEAM

Offense

QB John Beck, Mesa Mountain View, 6-1, 175
RB Kevin Butler, Eloy Santa Cruz, 6-0, 170
RB Kevin Schmidtke, Marana Mountain View, 5-10, 180
RB Scooter Sprotte, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 5-11, 205
WR Jason Birdsong, Glendale Cactus, 6-1, 180
WR Kenny Cheatham, Phoenix South Mountain,
TE Elton Johnson, Phoenix Desert Vista, 6-0,190
OC Adrian Zvirgzdins, Glendale Cactus, 6-3, 277
OL Marquise Muldrow, Phoenix Maryvale, 6-3, 303
OL Travis Scott, Mesa Westwood, 6-6, 270
OL Derek Joyce, Paradise Valley, 6-6, 250
OL Eli Wnek, Glendale Ironwood, 6-4, 225
K Jim Sanson, Phoenix St. Mary's, 5-9, 170

Defense

LB Paul Reynolds, Snowflake, 6-3, 215
LB Raymond Perryman, Phoenix South Mountain, 6-2, 202
LB Aaron Franklin, Peoria, 6-3, 220
DL Tim Croff, Mesa Dobson, 6-4, 255
DL Joe Young, Scottsdale Arcadia, 6-2, 252
DL Jared Wolfgramm, Tempe Union, 6-5, 215
DL Kyle Kosier, Glendale Cactus, 6-5, 225
DB Brandon Tomerlin, Superior, 6-2, 192
DB Joe Germaine, Mesa Mountain View, 6-2, 185
DB Adam Archuletta, Chandler, 6-0, 190
DB Quinn Gooch, Tucson Sabino, 6-1, 190
RS Charles Parkinson, Lakeside Blue Ridge, 6-0, 180

the '90s was no exception.

The best back played at Tucson Amphitheater, and his name was Mario Bates. In 1990, Mesa put the clamps on Bates in the 5A finals, but the 'Rabbits were the exception, not the rule. During the season, Vern Friedli's gifted back scored 34 touchdowns and gained 2,740 yards. No 5A back had gained that much yardage before or since. During a 27-7 semifinal win over St. Mary's, Bates gained 288 yards and scored three touchdowns. After a short stint at Arizona State, Bates has run with the New Orleans Saints and the Arizona Cardinals.

BACKS GALORE

But the Grand Canyon State is loaded with backs. Lots of them. Joining Brown and Bates in this star-stunned backfield is Brophy Prep All-American Mike Mitchell. When his prep career ended in 1992, the Broncos' all-time best player headed to Stanford with 76 touchdowns, 456 points and 5,669 rushing yards.

The list is endless: Chandler's Terrell Suggs (2,274 yards, 26 TDs), Tempe's Darnell Autry (1,812 yards, 20 TDs), Phoenix Central's Trung Canidate (1,617 yards, 27 TDs), Mesa's Robert Holcombe (1,606 yards, 19 TDs), Peoria's Tavon Cooper (2,030 yards, 37 TDs), Mountain Pointe's Keith Brown (2,601 yards, 31 TDs), Tucson Sabino's Nathan Wize (3,101 yards, 51 TDs), Mountain View's Kevin Schmidtke (2,515 yards, 39 TDs), Blue Ridge's Scooter Sprotte (2,961 yards, 38 TDs), and Eloy's Kevin Butler (1,892 yards, 30 TDs) could have played on any high school team in the country.

Suggs, a giant of a back (6-4, 235), exploded upon the scene last year with 2,274 yards and 26 touchdowns for Hamilton High. During a 48-21 win over Yuma Kofa, Suggs gained a 5A record 367 yards and scored five touchdowns. He helped Hamilton, the newest 5A school on the playoff block, advance two rounds into the playoffs

Autry and Canidate, both champion sprinters, took their skills to higher levels, at Northwestern and Arizona respectively, before joining the ranks of the NFL. In 1996, Autry finished fourth in the Heisman Trophy balloting as a sophomore. It was Wize, the little 5-8, 180 sparkplug, who not only rewrote the state single season rushing (3,101 yds.) and scoring (51 TDs) records, but his performance that year was among the nation's best.

The decade had more than its share of "dream team" quarterbacks, too. And most have made it to a higher level. Besides Kealy, the Grand Canyon State produced Desert Vista's John Rattay (7,089 yards, 82 TDs), Phoenix Christian's Tim Rattay (2,646 yards, 40 TDs), older brother of John, and current Kansas State quarterback Jonathan Beasley (5,139 yards, 56 touchdowns), to list just a few.

It was the older Rattay who made the biggest impact in college. A Class 2A all-state quarterback in 1994, he wasn't highly recruited out of high school. But an impressive year at Scottsdale Community College landed him at Louisiana Tech, where his 12,746 passing yards was second in NCAA history.

In 1998, during a national TV game against Nebraska, Rattay set Tech school records for passing attempts (68), completions (46) and yards (590) during a 56-27 loss. He was later drafted by the San Francisco 49ers.

RECEIVERS DELUXE

The receiving corps is terrific, as good as you'll find anywhere. Wideouts Sammy Moore and Justin Taplin, along with tight end Todd Heap, rank with the best ever. While leading Tempe to the 4A finals in 1996, Taplin caught 75 passes for 1,298 yards and 16 touchdowns for the unbeaten Buffaloes. During his career, Taplin caught more passes (166) for more yardage (2,724) than any player in the history of the Tempe School District.

Moore, one of Westwood's all-time great athletes, was a nationally ranked sprinter/long jumper (10.56, 21.33, 24-10) and a terrific kick returner. He caught 48 passes for 828 yards and eight touchdowns last year. Heap, a tight end/linebacker for Mountain View's unbeaten '97 champs, has blossomed into

Kings of the Decade

BEST QUARTERBACK
Ryan Kealy, Phoenix St. Mary's

BEST RUNNING BACK
Mario Bates, Tucson Amphi

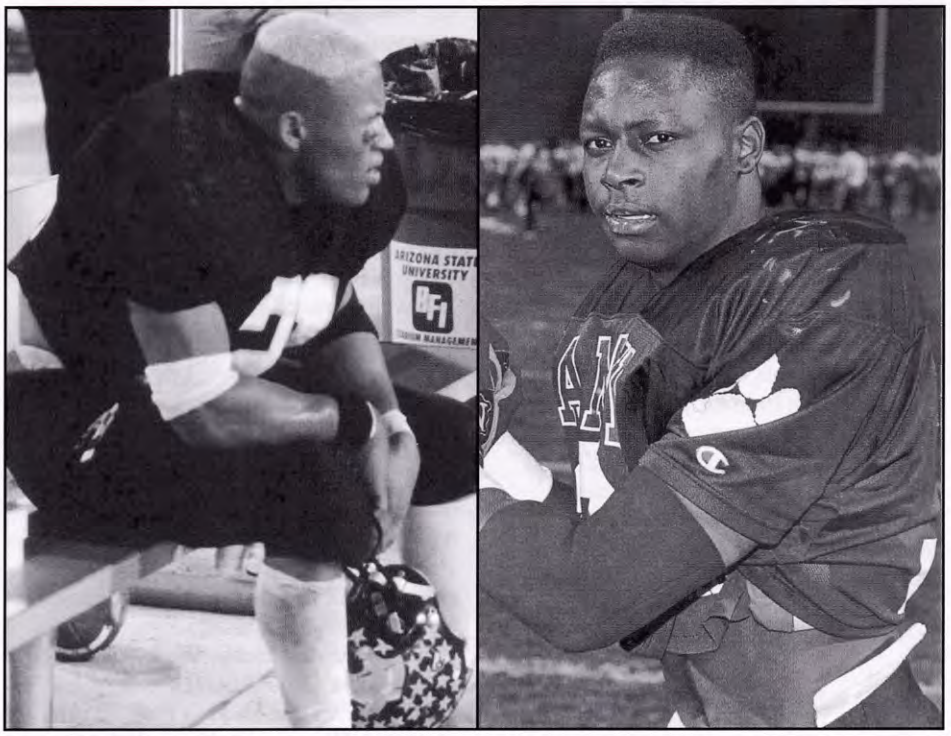
BEST RECEIVER
Justin Taplin, Tempe Union

BEST LINEMAN
John Tait, Tempe McClintock

BEST LINEBACKER
Steve Trejo, Casa Grande

BEST DEFENSIVE BACK
Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro

BEST KICKER
Marcus Williams, Tempe McClintock



Scottsdale Saguaro's Mike Brown (left), the decade's best player, and Tucson Amphi's Mario Bates, the best back.



In 1992, the best line in Arizona was at Tempe McClintock, and the best lineman was John Tait, today a member of the Kansas City Chiefs.

one of the Pac-10's best players. He caught 87 passes for 1,377 yards and 25 touchdowns during a three-year high school career which included a 28-game winning streak.

Not to be overlooked are tight ends Steve Bush from Paradise Valley (Arizona State/Cincinnati Bengals), Arcadia's Randy Hakes (UCLA) and Desert Vista's Elton Johnson, Rattay's big target in the Thunders' arsenal. In the past two years, Johnson caught 127 passes for 2,119 yards and 30 touchdowns.

Since 1955, no Arizona high school has sent more players to a higher level of competition (junior college, NCAA, NFL, etc.) than Phoenix South Mountain. One of the decade's premier players, cornerback/kick returner Terry Fair, is a "can't miss" prospect for anybody's all-star list. With Fair in the lineup, along with six additional college prospects, the Jaguars reached the 1993 finals, only to run into one of Mountain View's all-time best teams. South's only score during a 38-7 loss was an 82-yard punt return by Fair.

GETTING THEIR KICKS

Then there's the all-important kicking game. You can't get much better than Marcus Williams, one of the big weapons on McClintock's 1992 nationally ranked club. Almost every kickoff cleared the end zone, and his 12 field goals tied a school record. His long range boots were 55 yards against both Mountain View and Tempe. He kicked four in one game against Westwood. At Arizona State, his 43.6 punting average in '97 earned him first team all-Pac-10 honors.

Tucson Sabino's Cole Ford, Glendale's Matt Belden and St. Mary's Jim Sanson took their skills to a higher level, also. Ford, who later kicked at USC and in the NFL, booted a 54-yard field goal and 52 extra points for Sabino's undefeated state champs. The Cardinals never had a better kicker than Belden. Before becoming one of the Big Sky's best-ever kickers at NAU, his 77-yard punt, 47.6 average and 54-yard field goal were the best in Glendale High's history.

Sanson, one of three outstanding prospects on St. Mary's nationally ranked '95 squad, kicked a 58-yard field goal against Westwood in 1994, the longest in Phoenix city history. He holds almost every St. Mary's kicking record, including 54 extra points in '95 (142 career) and 22 field goals, playing on teams which scored mostly touchdowns.

As a Notre Dame freshman, Sanson didn't let the pressure or a crowd of 83,312 at Texas Memorial Stadium faze him when he lined up and kicked a 39-yard field goal to beat the Longhorns, 27-24. "My school couldn't afford goalposts," he told the media afterwards. "We kicked between palm trees. I was really nervous, but I kept saying, 'Give me the ball.' All I wanted was a chance."

THICKER THAN ELK

In the '90s, college recruiters found more defensive backs in the Grand Canyon State than elk. Saguaro's Mark Brown (Nebraska), McClintock's Kenny Wheaton (Oregon), South Mountain's Rashad Bauman (Oregon) and Maryvale's Mitchell Freedman (Arizona State) top our list. South's Terry Fair (Tennessee), as good as any, is our kick returner (see chart). During their college careers, Brown and Fair played in almost every major bowl game. Wheaton and Freedman started in Rose Bowl games. Today Fair plays for the Detroit Lions, while Brown is a rookie with the Chicago Bears.

Desert Vista's Bobby Wade (Arizona), Eloy's Eddie Cade (ASU/New England Patriots), Paradise Valley's Paul Shields (Arizona), Westwood's Kenny Wilkins (Colorado), Sabino's Corey Hill (Stanford),

"My school couldn't afford goalposts. We kicked between palm trees. I was really nervous, but I kept saying 'Give me the ball.' All I wanted was a chance."

Valley Christian's Armon Williams (Arizona/Tennessee Titans), Phoenix Alhambra's Eric Johnson (Nebraska), Marcos de Niza's William Bennett (Northwestern), Superior's Brandon Tomerlin (Arizona State), Sabino's Quinn Gooch (BYU), Chandler's Adam Archuleta (Arizona State) and Mountain View's Joe Germaine (Ohio State) would make any secondary coach smile.

It was Germaine who didn't make anybody's all-state team as a quarterback, but landed several spots as a defensive back. Like Phoenix Christian's Tim Rattay, Germaine went the junior college route first, then landed at Ohio State, where he was MVP of the '97 Rose Bowl game after a 20-17 win over Arizona State - as a quarterback.

Two years ago, Bobby Wade of state champ Desert Vista picked off 10 enemy passes, but it was his performance on offense which did the most damage. In 14 weeks he rushed for 1,620 yards, scored 41 touchdowns and 246 points. Today he's a receiver at Arizona.

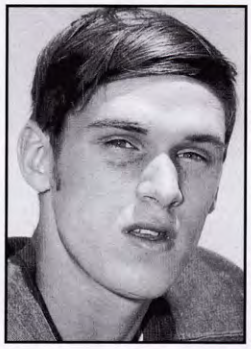
Armon Williams, the pride of little Valley Christian High, located now in Chandler, roamed the Trojans' secondary and started at quarterback. In track, his 13.93 clocking in the high hurdles in 1991 was one of the fastest in the nation by a junior. He was injured as a senior. Like Williams, Superior's Tomerlin was another outstanding prospect from the 2A ranks. His 32 career pass interceptions is an all-time state record.

Then there's Gooch, one of Sabino's all-time best players. The outcome of last year's 5A finals, won by Mountain View 21-14, might have been different had the Sabercats' best player played. Out for the playoffs, Gooch showed his metal in Sabino's opener, a 62-7 rout of highly regarded Tucson Sahuaro, the eventual 4A runnerup. In three quarters of play he rushed for 100 yards, scored three touchdowns, blocked two punts, intercepted a pass and made a two-point conversion.

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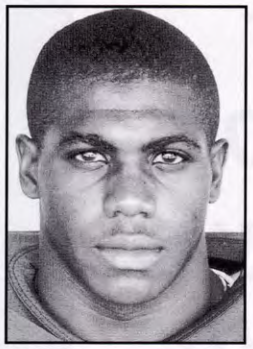
JOE PETROSHUS
Tucson



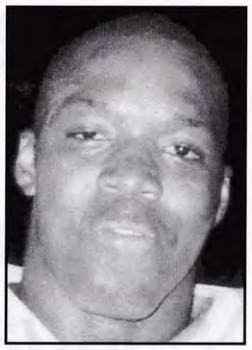
ROBERT HOLCOMBE
Mesa



WHIZZER WHITE
Mesa High



REGGIE McGILL
St. Mary's



TERRELL SUGGS
Hamilton

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL BACK

1999.....Terrell Suggs, Chandler Hamilton
1998.....Bobby Wade, Tempe Desert Vista
1997.....Nathan Wize, Tucson Sabino
1996.....Kyran Jones, Peoria (jr)
1995.....Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro
1994.....Tavon Cooper, Peoria
1993.....Robert Holcombe, Mesa
1992.....Mike Mitchell, Phoenix Brophy Prep
1991.....Chris Hopkins, Tucson Salpointe
1990.....Mario Bates, Tucson Amphi
1989.....Brian Drew, Tempe McClintock
1988.....Michael Bates, Tucson Amphi
1987.....Kevin Galbreath, Phoenix Maryvale
1986.....Reggie McGill, Phoenix St. Mary's
1985.....Cleveland Colter, Jr., Tempe McClintock
1984.....David Winsley, Flagstaff (jr)
1983.....Paul Kasprzyk, Mesa Mountain View
1982.....Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria
1981.....Stan Gill, Flagstaff
1980.....Fred Sims, Tucson Sunnyside
1979.....Fred Sims, Tucson Sunnyside (jr)
1978.....Mike Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz
1977.....Alvin Moore, Coolidge
1976.....Willard Reeves, Flagstaff Coconino
1975.....Brian Felix, Phoenix Union
1974.....David Mitchell, Phoenix St. Mary's (jr)
1973.....Ronnie Bonner, Mesa Westwood (jr)
1972.....Jesse Parker, Tucson Rincon
1971.....Manuel Jones, Phoenix Union
1970.....Don Washington, Agua Fria (jr)
1969.....Benny Malone, Eloy Santa Cruz
1968.....Joe Petroshus, Tucson
1967.....Tim Smith, Phoenix St. Mary's
1966.....Bob Soza, Mesa Westwood
1965.....Art Malone, Eloy Santa Cruz
1964.....LeRoy Peoples, Marana
1963.....James Dugan, Flagstaff
1962.....Everett "Moose" Rollins, Scottsdale Arcadia
1961.....Andy Livingston, Mesa
1960.....Jim Sims, Tucson
1959.....Bob Olson, South Mountain
1958.....Lewis Albright, Scottsdale
1957.....Clay Freney, Globe
1956.....Warren Livingston, Mesa
1955.....George Greathouse, Phoenix Union
1954.....George Greathouse, Phoenix Union (jr)
1953.....Kenny Aycock, North Phoenix
1952.....Joel Favara, Tucson
1951.....Hadley Hicks, Bisbee
1950.....Don Beasley, Mesa
1949.....Danny Seivert, Phoenix St. Mary's

WHIZZER WHITE, *a 1946 high school All-American, was a three sport star at both Mesa High School and Arizona State University, and later played in the National Football League with the Chicago Bears.*

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KINGS OF THE DECADE: St. Mary's, Saguaro, Blue Ridge

The Decade of the '90s saw coaching milestones, great winning streaks and countless good teams.

By JEFF KRIDER



In 1990, Mesa High and its slick quarterback, Grady Benton, faced Tucson Amphitheater and its All-American back, Mario Bates, in the 5A state finals. The game attracted 15,015 fans to Sun Devil Stadium and Mesa prevailed 21-7. It was seen by exactly 12,000 more people than witnessed the 2A finals, played one week earlier at Marcos de Niza High School.

"I'm walking past the end zone, trying to catch the opening kickoff, and here comes this kid (Eddie Cade) right at me with the kickoff ... I've done hundreds of 5A games on TV, but I'm not sure I've seen a backfield in 5A with three backs like that on the same team."

But on that cold November night, one day before Thanksgiving, Santa Cruz High of Eloy put on a show of its own. Even the strongest diehard 5A fans were impressed.

"I don't want to offend anybody in Mesa," said Glendale Community College assistant David Rice, "but Mesa High won the 5A title that year, and except for their quarterback, nobody in their backfield could have started at Eloy."

Not since 1968, when a Cleveland Colter-led Marana squad blitzed the "small school" field, had Arizona produced a 2A football team like Santa Cruz High of 1990. It was their last good run, too. It was their second of two years in 2A competition. Things have changed in Eloy, and not necessarily for the better.

Watching Kevin Butler, Eddie Cade and Joe Cade play at that level was scary. The Dust Devils, coached by Jay Denton, haven't been the same since.

"I'm walking past the end zone, trying to catch the opening kickoff, and here comes this kid (Eddie Cade) down the sidelines, right at me with the kickoff," said *Cox Television* sportscaster George Allen after the Devils blitzed Thatcher in the semifinals. "He scores before I even get to my seat. I've done hundreds of 5A games on TV, but I'm not sure I've seen a backfield in 5A with three backs like that on the same team. The problem with following 5A games, week after week, you never get a chance to see the smaller schools play. If you look back, some of



After a perfect night of football, following a 42-7 win over Ironwood, Scottsdale Saguaro players display the 1995 Class 4A state championship trophy.

those schools have had some great players."

Butler, the 2A Player of the Year, gained 1,892 yards and scored 30 touchdowns (second most in Eloy history) for what *Phoenix Metro Football* has rated the best 2A school of the decade.

"The problem with following 5A games, week after week, you never get a chance to see the smaller schools play. If you look back, some of those schools have had some great players."

Although Santa Cruz was unstoppable in 1990, with its speed and talent, St. Johns in the White Mountains was the 2A "school" of the decade. The Redskins, coached by Mike Morgan, won 84% of their games, three consecutive state championships and 43 games in a row - the second best winning streak in Arizona history. In the process they cranked out more then their share of quality players, including All-America linebacker Marcus Bell, today a product of the Seattle Seahawks.

Then there's those little 2A quarterbacks. Like Tim Rattay and Mark Tefteller, both products of Keith Brown's Phoenix Christian Cougars. In one short season Rattay, now a member of the San Francisco 49ers, passed for 2,646 yards and 40 touchdowns. In three recent campaigns Tefteller, a freshmen this fall at Eastern Arizona College, threw for 6,142 yards and 73 touchdowns.

"I coached in 5A long enough to know

THE DECADE'S TOP TEAMS

Class 5A

1. Phoenix St. Mary's, 1995.....(14-0)
2. Mountain View, 1993 .....(13-1)
3. Tempe Desert Vista, 1998.....(14-0)
4. Mountain View, 1997 .....(14-0)
5. Mesa, 1992.....(13-1)

Class 4A

1. Scottsdale Saguaro, 1995.....(13-1)
2. Tucson Sabino, 1992.....(14-0)
3. Tucson Sabino, 1990.....(14-0)
4. Scottsdale Chaparral, 1999 ...(14-0)
5. Tempe Union, 1996 .....(14-0)

Class 3A

1. Blue Ridge, 1997.....(13-0)
2. Blue Ridge, 1996.....(13-0)
3. Arizona Boys Ranch, 1997....(12-1)
4. Blue Ridge, 1994.....(13-0)
5. Blue Ridge, 1995.....(13-0)

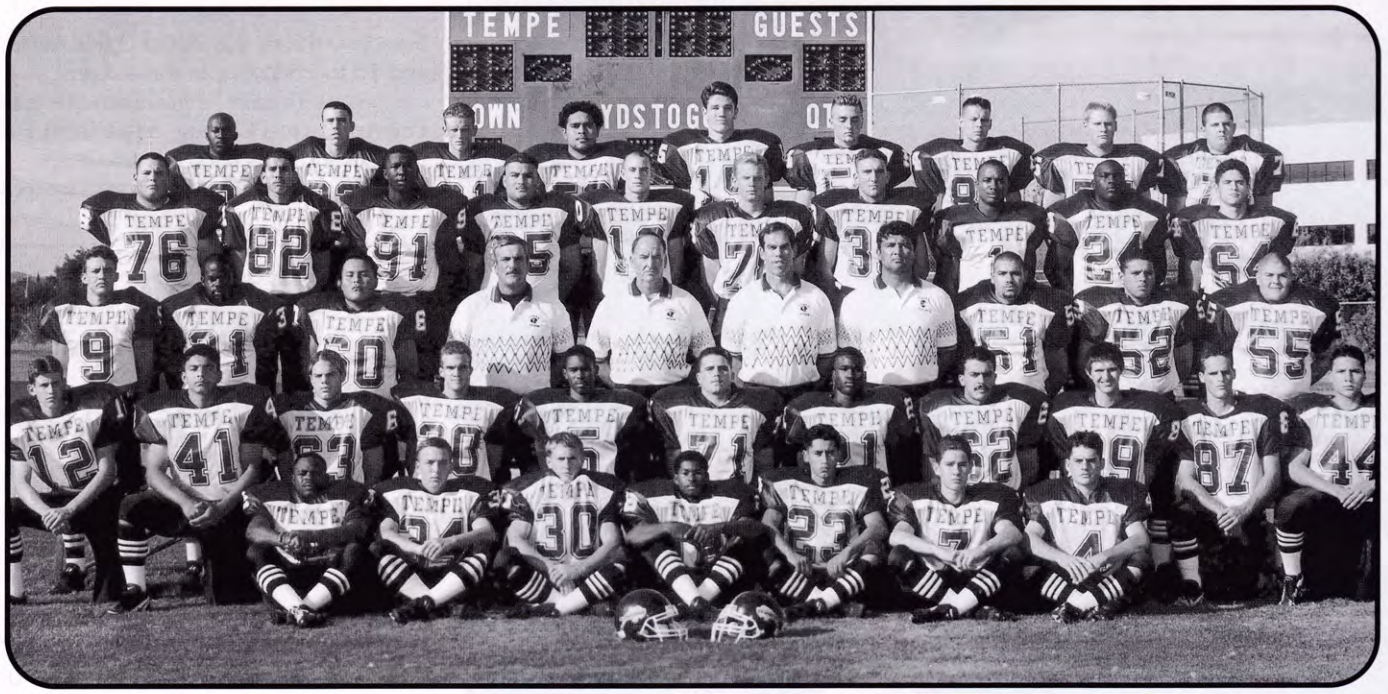
Class 2A

1. Eloy Santa Cruz, 1990 .....(13-0)
2. St. Johns, 1993.....(13-0)
3. Phoenix Christian, 1999.....(13-0)
4. St. Johns, 1994.....(13-0)
5. Kearny Ray, 1995 .....(13-0)

Best Teams Not To Win State Titles

1. Phoenix Desert Vista, 1999 ...(12-1)
2. Tucson Amphi, 1994 .....(13-1)
3. South Mountain, 1993 .....(12-2)
4. South Mountain, 1994 .....(12-1)
5. Tucson Sabino, 1999.....(13-1)

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Buffaloes 35	Gilbert 34
Buffaloes 28	Chaparral 20
Buffaloes 39	Apache Junction 0
Buffaloes 54	Desert Mountain 3
Buffaloes 15	Coronado 12
Buffaloes 21	Tucson Sahuaro 14
Buffaloes 43	Arcadia 11
Buffaloes 35	Greenway 13
Buffaloes 7	Coronado 0
Buffaloes 21	Tucson Sabino 13
Buffaloes 20	Ironwood 17 (OT)

good football players when I see them," said current Bourgade Catholic mentor Pat Lavin, once the head coach at St. Mary's. "Some of these kids we face at this level could play for any 5A school, no doubt about it."

YELLOW JACKETS REIGN

In 3A football, the state has never seen the likes of Blue Ridge, coached since 1985 by Paul Moro. Talk about domination. When Show Low upset the Yellow Jackets 26-25 in the 3A finals last fall, it avenged an earlier 48-0 loss in September. In that contest, played before a packed house in Lakeside, the 'Jackets, with all-state back Charles Parkinson running wild, could do no wrong.

But in the finals Show Low was ready, and the loss they handed their bitter rival was only the second in 77 games for the Ridge. Incredibly, both losses have come in the state finals.

Between 1994 and the '98 finals, Blue Ridge won 63 games in a row and four consecutive 3A championships. Except for a 41-13 win over the Boys Ranch in 1995, each championship game during the streak was a barn burner. Two were with the Ranch.

In the '96 finals, Moro's poised club went the length of the field and Stephen Waldo kicked a 16-yard field goal with 17 seconds left to beat the Spartans, 22-20 in one of the all-time best finishes in 3A history. In a losing effort, Tylon Law accounted for 196 of the Spartans' 214 total yards.

But one year later Boys Ranch was ready. Or so they thought. First-year coach Gary Galante, with the school's best club ever, scored 633 points (the most in 3A history), and averaged 49.4 points in four playoff games.

But Blue Ridge, with two-way back Cory Lizzaraga leading the way, was their usual poised self in the finals and edged the Spartans 27-21. The game, played before 5,112 fans at Mesa Community College, was one of the best matchups in the state - regardless of classification. With Moro at the helm, Blue Ridge has won 85% of its games and seven state championships. Five teams have been undefeated. When Payson eventually ended the 'Jackets' win slate at 63, it was the second longest active streak in the nation.

Besides Blue Ridge, only lawsuits and the courts were able to derail the Boys Ranch program. But during the Decade of the '90s it was one of the most unique in Arizona history.

STREAKS & STREAKS

Blue Ridge and St. Johns were not the only schools with impressive streaks. In 5A ball, Mountain View had a good run of its own. In fact, Mountain View and Blue Ridge became the first Arizona schools to win 100 games in a decade. In 1998, Brophy Prep ended the Toros' 40-game winning streak 10-3 in the state semifinals. Earlier in the campaign, Bernie Busken's crew beat rival Westwood to snap the long-standing "big school" record of 32 consecutive wins, set by Tucson High during World War II.

If there was a big game, Mountain View was usually in it. In one of their finest hours, the Toros stung high-powered South Mountain 38-7 in the 1993 finals, played before 20,142 fans at Sun Devil Stadium. This Mountain View squad, coached by Jesse Parker, was arguably the school's best during the Decade of the '90s. Led by unheralded quarterback Joe Germaine, the Toros rang a warning bell in the semifinals, when they shut down favored Mesa 20-6. The Jackrabbits were fresh of an 82-21 shellacking of Tucson Canyon del Oro one week earlier.

South Mountain made noise of their own, clobbering a Ryan Kealy-led St. Mary's club in the other semifinal matchup, 46-9. But the Jaguars, with future college standouts Terry Fair (Tennessee) and Kenny Cheatham (Nebraska), were no match for Mountain View in the big game.

The Best Games

Desert Vista 38, Brophy Prep 31
1998 5A finals.
Blue Ridge 27, Boys Ranch 21
1997 3A finals.
Mountain View 37, Chandler 30
1996 semifinals in 3 OTs.
Horizon 16, St. Mary's 14
1994 5A finals.
Mountain View 28, Amphi 24
1997 5A finals.

The Biggest Upsets

Tucson Sabino 21, Desert Vista 10
1999 5A semifinals.
Blue Ridge 27, Boys Ranch 21
1997 3A finals.
Mingus Union 23, Tucson Sabino 14
1997 4A finals.
Show Low 26, Blue Ridge 25
1999 3A finals.
Westwood 39, McClintock 3
1992 playoffs.



In one of Mountain View's finest hours, head coach Jesse Parker congratulates South Mountain mentor Cleveland Dansby after the Toros blitzed the Jaguars, 38-7. (Arizona Informant photo)



Mountain Pointe's Karl Kiefer addresses the Scottsdale Quarterback Club after being recognized as Arizona's winningest high school coach in the 20th Century (Todd Lillard photo).

Four years later the Toros were in a different fight. In the 1997 finals Tucson Amphitheater took them to the wire. But on fourth-and-one late in the game, at midfield, the Panthers elected to go for the first down, in a effort to run out the clock. However, the Toros' defense stuffed running back Antrel Bates, and the offense scored moments later for a 28-24 come-from-behind win.

Then there was the 1996 semifinal matchup between Mountain View and Chandler. The Wolves, playing after head coach Jerry Loper had died in a traffic accident, took the eventual state champs into three overtimes. Mountain View quarterback Tate Gunning hit tight end Todd Heap with an 11-yard touchdown pass in the third overtime and the Toros prevailed, 37-30. It was one of the longest playoff games in state history.

The 1994 "big school" finals had a wild ending of its own. After St. Mary's took a last minute lead, Scottsdale Horizon marched the length of the field where quarterback Jeff Voigt dished off the winning pass underhanded to Brooks Tyree on fourth down with 24 seconds left. In that game, St. Mary's was again led by quarterback Ryan Kealy. In fact, during Kealy's tenure on the varsity, the Knights were beaten in the semifinals (1993), the finals (1994), and won the whole thing (1995).

The '95 Knights, coached by Pat Farrell, featured Kealy, wideout Tariq McDonald and kicker Jim Sanson, three of the school's best ever at their positions. During their 14-0 run, the Knights scored more points (550) then any team before them, and dominated the playoffs. Their 39.3 scoring pace was also a school record. The big game was a surprising 44-13 win over Mountain Pointe in the semifinals. Tailback Keith Brown, later a standout at UCLA, was the Pride's big gun that year.

ROLLING THUNDER

Desert Vista's 38-31 come-from-behind win over Brophy Prep in the 1998 finals was as good as it gets. Player of the Year Bobby Wade, the Thunder's all-purpose back, scored two touchdowns in the final two minutes, including a 70-yard burst with 2:56 on the clock. It gave the new Tempe school its first championship, played before 21,843 fans at Sun Devil Stadium. On the season, Wade's 41 touchdowns was the most in 5A history, breaking the previous mark set by McClintock's Brian Drew. Desert Vista had been on the football map for only two varsity seasons, and already was a state power.

Other thrilling games included Sabino's 31-28 win over Peoria in the 1990 Class 4A finals, and a recent regular season shootout when Glendale Cactus beat Tucson Sahuaro 62-55.

Sabino's win over Peoria was the first of three state titles won by the Sabercats, coached by Jeff Scurran. In the Cactus-Sahuaro matchup, played on Sept. 18, 1999, the two 4A powers recorded the second highest scoring game in Arizona history. The two-team total of 117 points trailed only the 122 set in 1997, when Mingus Union beat Peoria Centennial 78-44 in a playoff game.

In a losing effort at Cactus, Sahuaro junior quarterback Reggie Robertson completed 29 of 44 passes for 466 yards and five touchdowns. He didn't throw an interception. His counterpart, junior Jon Stoner, scored on a short run with 11 seconds left to give the Cobras the win. Four state records were set or tied: Offensive yards by one team (786 Cactus), total yards by two teams (1,341), first downs by two teams (64), and most points in a losing game (55).

During the Decade of the '90s, Sabino was 5-2 against outside competition, playing teams from Hawaii, California, Utah, Montana, Ohio and Connecticut. All but one game was played on the road.

THE UPSETS

You can't get much bigger than Tucson Sabino's 21-10 win over Desert Vista in last year's 5A semifinals, played at Chandler High. The Thunder, unbeaten and nationally ranked in three different prep polls, saw their dreams of a repeat start to melt when Jovan Vercel ran the second half kickoff back 88 yards for a score. One week later Sabino, playing without their best player, all-purpose back Quinn Gooch, lost to Mountain View in the state finals, 21-14.

Sabino's performance in their first year of 5A ball should have been no surprise. In 1992, the 'Cats sounded a warning bell and nobody was paying attention. In the second game of the season, Sabino flew to Hawaii, got off the plane and dunked Waianae 31-12. Three months later Waianae fell to national power Honolulu St. Louis in the Prep Bowl, the equivalent of Hawaii's state championship game.

During the Decade of the '90s, Sabino was 5-2 against outside competition, playing teams from Hawaii, California, Utah, Montana, Ohio and Connecticut. Only Salt Lake Skyline managed a win. All but one game was played on the road.

COACHING MILESTONES

Like many of the players, coaches also shinned in the decade. Last year Pat Farrell (St. Mary's) and Bill Mitton (Trevor Browne) became the next in a growing list of Arizona coaches to win 200 games at the same school.

At Mountain Pointe, the Pride closed out the season with a 9-2 record, giving veteran coach Karl Kiefer a 277-106-3 career mark at two different schools. Later two different organizations, the Scottsdale Quarterback Club and the local chapter of the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame honored Kiefer for being the winningest Arizona coach in the 20th Century.

Mesa Public Schools

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SINCE 1920



Dobson HS



Mesa HS

ACADEMICS

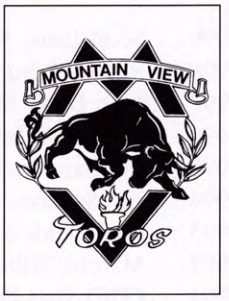
Nine graduates of Mesa Public Schools have received Arizona Interscholastic Association "Scholar-Athlete" Scholarships since 1990.

ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

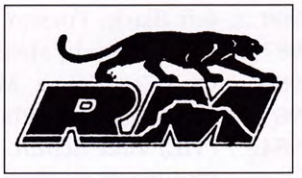
Beginning with the 1989-90 school year, Mesa Public Schools have won over 50 State Championships in

- ❍ Baseball – Boys
- ❍ Basketball – Boys
- @ Basketball - Girls
- ❍ Cross Country – Boys and Girls
- ❍ Football – Boys
- ❍ Golf – Boys
- ❍ Softball – Girls
- ❍ Speech and Theatre – Boys and Girls
- ❍ Track and Field – Boys and Girls
- ❍ Volleyball – Girls
- ❍ Wrestling – Boys
- ❍ Tennis – Boys


Skyline HS



Mountain View HS



Red Mountain HS


Westwood HS

DR. DALE FREDERICK
Superintendent

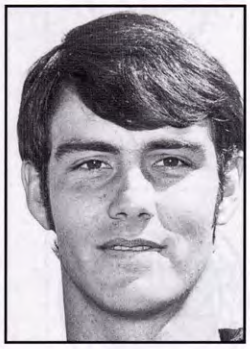
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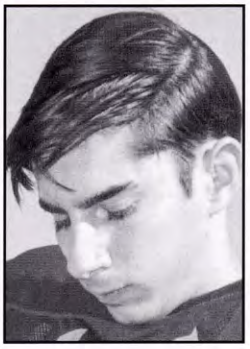
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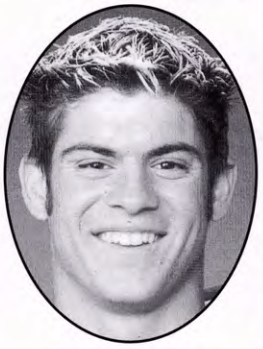
GOLDEN TOE AWARD



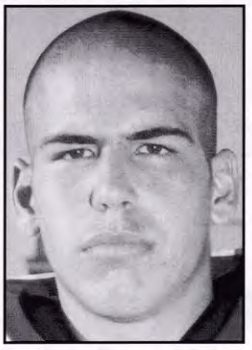
Danny White
Mesa Westwood



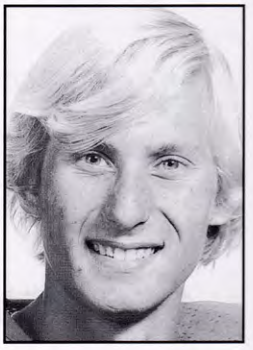
Luis Vega
Phoenix West



Scott Lane
Chaparral



Ramey Peru
Mesa Dobson



Lee Pistor
Phoenix Central

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1999..... Scott Lane, Scottsdale Chaparral (PK)
1998..... Ramey Peru, Mesa Dobson (PK)
1997..... Josh Lane, Phoenix Christian (PK)
1996..... Jeremy Kelley, Mesa Mountain View (PK)
1995..... Jim Sanson, Phoenix St. Mary's (PK)
1994..... Jim Sanson, Phoenix St. Mary's (PK)
1993..... Matt Belden, Glendale (PK)
1992..... Marcus Williams, Tempe McClintock (PK)
1991..... (TIE) Matt Peyton, Tucson Sahuaro (PK)
..... Dominic DeMark, Prescott (P)
1990..... Cole Ford, Tucson Sabino (PK)
1989..... Terry Belden, Glendale (P)
1988..... Jeff Black, Tucson Sahuaro (PK)
1987..... Steve Rausch, Mesa Dobson (PK)
1986..... Quin Rodriguez, Mesa Dobson (PK)
1985..... Mike Cortright, Phoenix St. Mary's (PK)
1984..... (TIE) Mike Schuh, Mesa Mountain View (P)
..... Phil Insalaco, Phoenix Christian (PK)
1983..... Dean Roney, Winslow (PK)
1982..... Richard Jones, Scottsdale Chaparral (PK)
1981..... Jerry Necoechea, Bisbee (P)
1980..... Jerry Necoechea, Bisbee (P)
1979..... Dave Wood, Phoenix Washington (PK)
1978..... Matt McKinney, Scottsdale Saguaro (PK)
1977..... Bill Zivic, Tucson Palo Verde (PK)
1976..... Kevin Rutledge, Gilbert (P)
1975..... Monte Varah, Scottsdale Saguaro (PK)
1974..... Gary Williams, Lakeside Blue Ridge (P)
1973..... Lee Pistor, Phoenix Central (PK)
1972..... Pat Whitehurst, Phoenix North (P)
1971..... Pat Hawbaker, Phoenix St. Mary's (P)
1970..... Jeff Hernandez, Miami (PK)
1969..... Danny White, Mesa Westwood (P/PK)
1968..... Cleveland Colter, Marana (PK)
1967..... (TIE) Luis Vega, Phoenix West (PK)
..... Marty Shuford, Scottsdale Saguaro (P)
1966..... Luis Vega, Phoenix West (PK)
1965..... Jim McCann, Phoenix North (P)
1964..... Ron Hendrix, Phoenix Camelback (PK)
1963..... Sam Maya, Glendale (PK)
1962..... Tom Lindsey, Marana (P)
1961..... Tom Crater, Gilbert (P)
1960..... Jon Chesser, Mesa (PK)
1959..... Bob Olson, South Mountain (PK)
1958..... Dornel Nelson, South Mountain (PK)
1957..... Eddie Wilson, Chandler (P)
1956..... Chubby Nottingham, Coolidge (P)
1955..... Art Bruce, St. Johns Indians (P)

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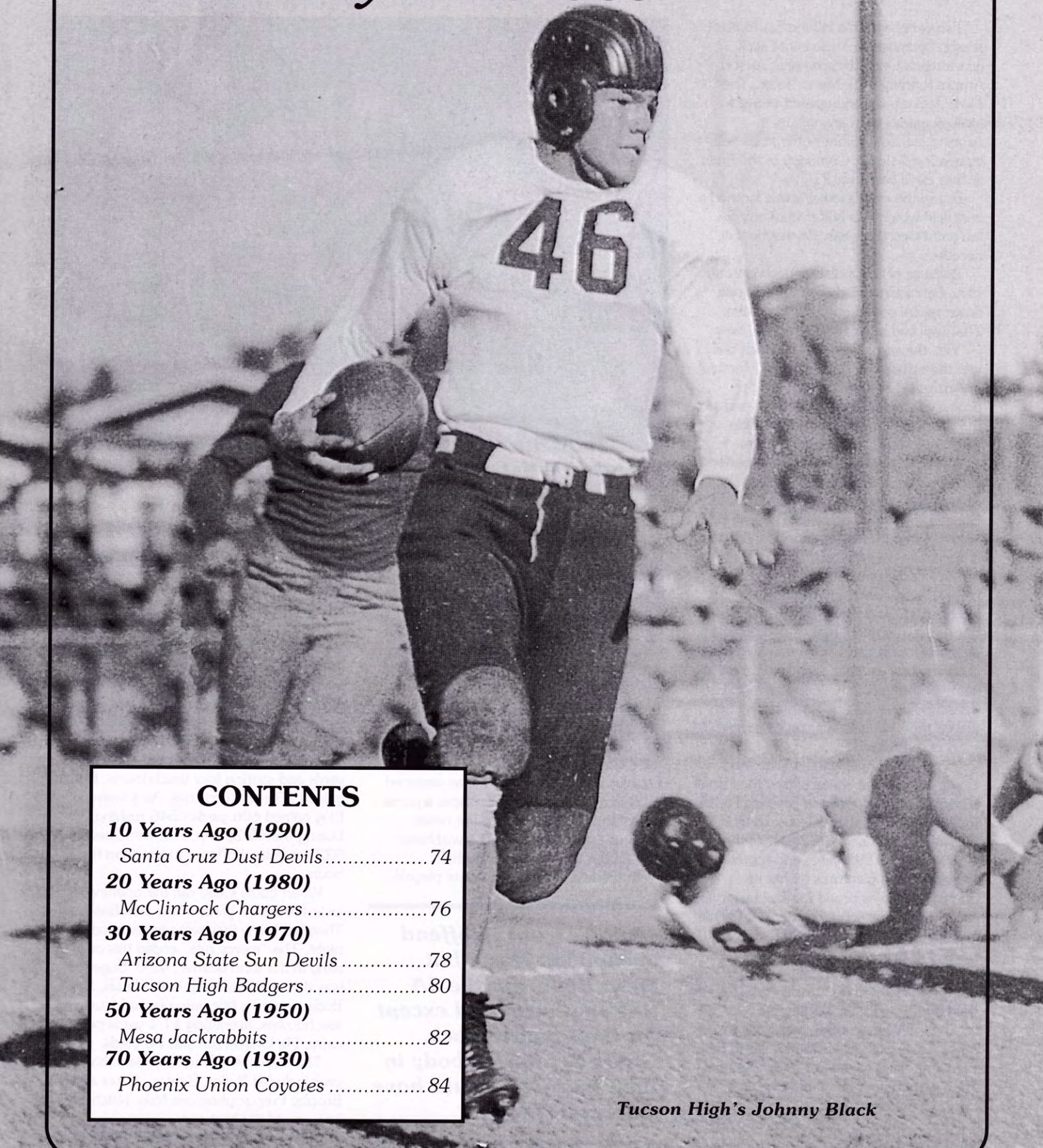
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Yesterday's Heroes



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Tucson High's Johnny Black

10 years ago (1990)

Eloy's Backfield Simply the Best

Ten years ago this fall the 5A football season belonged to Mesa High, slick quarterback Grady Benton and Tucson Amphi running back Mario Bates. The Mesa Jackrabbits, triumphant in more football games than any school in Arizona, added another notch to its belt by beating Bates & Company in the finals at Sun Devil Stadium, 21-7.

But in the state's lower levels loomed a backfield which was better than any 5A fan witnessed that year. Or maybe that decade.

Because of a population decline in tiny Eloy, Santa Cruz High School dropped down to 2A competition for two years. That was bad news for 2A football fans.

Yes, the same Santa Cruz which once was the scrooge of "small school" football in Arizona. The same school which produced the Malones, the Cades and all those faster than lightning backs who went on to college and pro stardom.

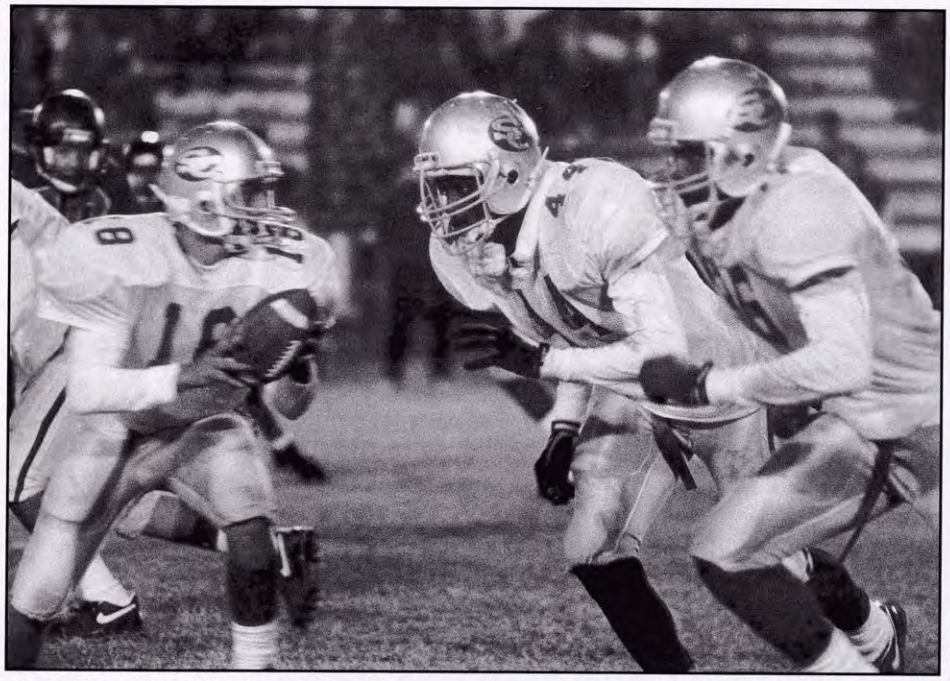
In 1990, the Dust Devils were perfect. Never before had a 2A school seen the likes of Kevin Butler, Joe Cade and Eddie Cade in the same backfield. They were bigger, faster and better than any school in the state - regardless of class.

"We had a real young team the year before," said coach Jay Denton afterwards. "And Kevin Butler didn't play. We had to discipline him. The next year, after the fourth game, we knew we had a chance when we beat coolidge in a tough game at their place. Coolidge was still a 3A school, but they're our rivals, so we played them. In fact, we played several 3A schools that year."

Not since 1968, when a Cleveland Colter-led Marana squad blitzed the "small school" field, had Arizona produced a 2A football team like the '90 Dust Devils.

Butler, the state's 2A Player of the Year, gained 1,892 yards and scored 30 touchdowns in Denton's wishbone offense. In Eloy's proud football history, only Art Malone scored more TDs (37) in a single season than Butler. He and Joe Cade, the fullback in the 'bone, later attend Glendale Community College, while Eddie ended up at Arizona State and the NFL (New England Patriots).

"I don't want to offend anybody in Mesa," said Glendale assistant David Rice, today the head coach at Mesa, "but Mesa High won the 5A title that year, and except for their quarterback, Grady Benton, nobody in their backfield could have started at Eloy."



Quarterback Richie Curradi picked out Joe Cade (44), Eddie Cade (36) or Kevin Butler (Casa Grande Dispatch photo).

Against Coolidge, Butler scored twice, Eddie Cade once and Jimmy Jimenez booted a 26-yard field goal in a 23-18 win, highlighted by an 98-yard run by the Bears' Jeremy Johnson. The following week, Butler rushed for 237 yards on 22 carries as SC blitzed Miami 46-14. In the 3A finals in November, Miami fell to Blue Ridge, 39-17.

Ten players, including Butler (for disciplinary reasons), missed the Devils' 12-0 win over Ajo. Then Seton Catholic fell 47-14 in a game marred by 20 fumbles. The league crown was wrapped up with a 42-0 rout of Maricopa; a game called after the first half by the newly adapted "mercy rule." Eloy's wishbone ground out 292 yards in one half.

In the first round of the state playoffs, Butler averaged 20.2 yards on 14 carries and scored three TDs (54,80,24) during a 40-8 win over San Pasqual, a California school playing in the Arizona Interscholastic Association.

Then, in the quarterfinals, SC gave up 326 yards to Tempe Valley Christian, most of it gained by the Trojans' terrific quarterback, Armon Williams (later a defensive back with the Tennessee Titans). However, nobody at VC could stop anybody from Eloy. Eddie Cade had his best night as a Dust Devil, gaining 246 yards and scoring four touchdowns. Butler gained 235 on 10 carries. As a team, Eloy gained 606 yards - 546 rushing. During the 45-25 win, fans witnessed 932 yards total offense in less than two hours.

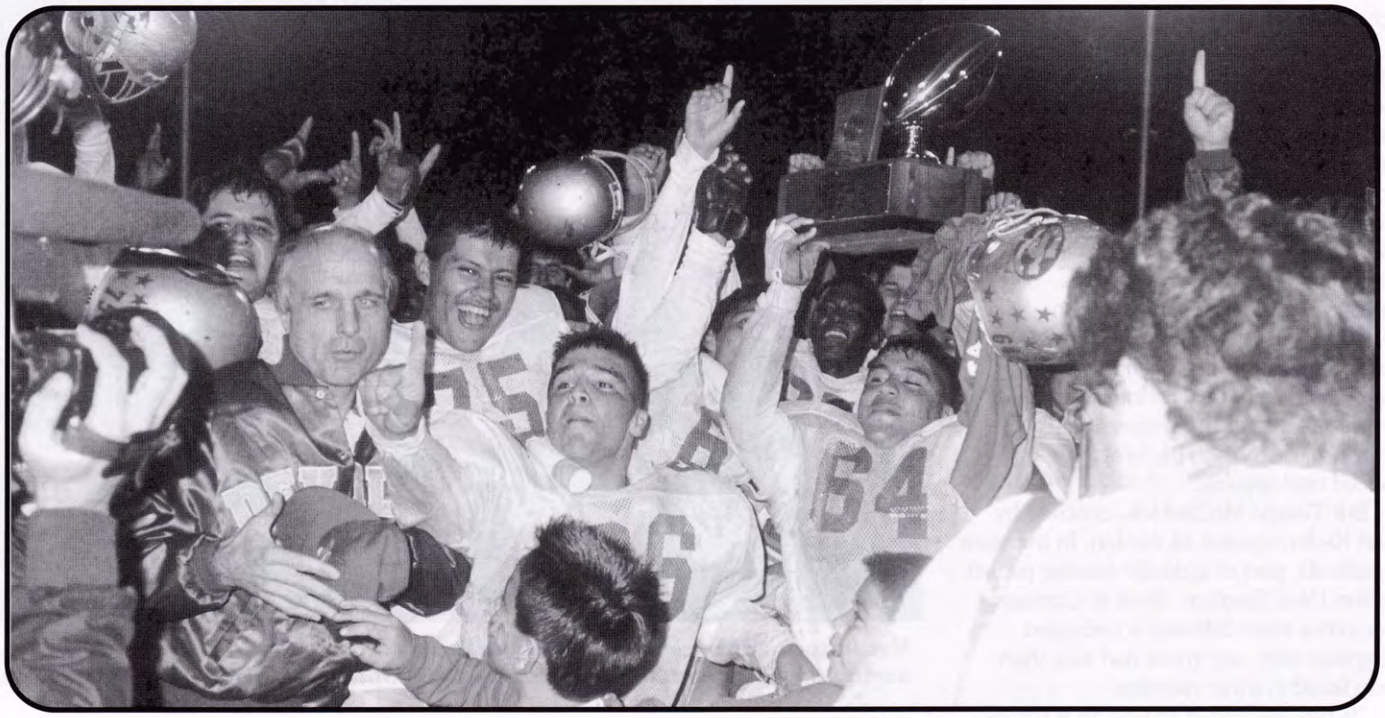
When Eddie Cade ran the opening kickoff back 77 yards in the semifinals, Thatcher knew they were in for a long night. The "mercy rule" ended this one early in the third quarter, 42-0. Superior was the sacrificial lamb in the finals, 33-7. Butler scored a title game record four touchdowns, averaging 11.1 yards per carry. He longest run was 86 yards.

The *Super All-State* backfield that year included Butler, Benton, Bates and Brophy Prep sophomore Mike Mitchell. It was one of the best ever.

By JAMES EDWARD

"I don't want to offend anybody in Mesa, but Mesa High won the 5A title that year, and except for their quarterback, Grady Benton, nobody in their backfield could have started at Eloy."

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THE '90 DUST DEVILS:
(13-0-0)

Devils 20	Buckeye 0
Devils 34	Florence 0
Devils 26	Wickenburg 0
Devils 23	Coolidge 18
Devils 46	Miami 14
Devils 12	Ajo 0
Devils 47	Seton Catholic 14
Devils 42	Maricopa 0
Devils 38	Queen Creek 20
PLAYOFFS	
Devils 40	San Pasquel 8
Devils 45	Valley Christian 25
Devils 42	Thatcher 0
Devils 33	Superior 7

20 years ago (1980)

McClintock was Charged Up

On paper, the 1980 football season belonged to Tucson Sunnyside, and their all-star backfield of Fred Sims and David Adams. They were possibly two of the best running backs in the same high school backfield in the Southwest.

Coached by veteran Paul Petty, the Blue Devils made a shamble of southern Arizona. They started their march to the finals with a convincing 42-28 win over undefeated Phoenix Camelback in the quarterfinals. Along the way they crushed such hapless foes as Tucson Palo Verde 82-6. Their 596 points was an all-time 5A state record. In the process Sims - before he left for Sooner Country and the University of Oklahoma - gained 2,017 yards and scored 33 touchdowns. Teammate Adams, who later became a crowd favorite at the University of Arizona, was hot on his heels. They looked unstoppable.

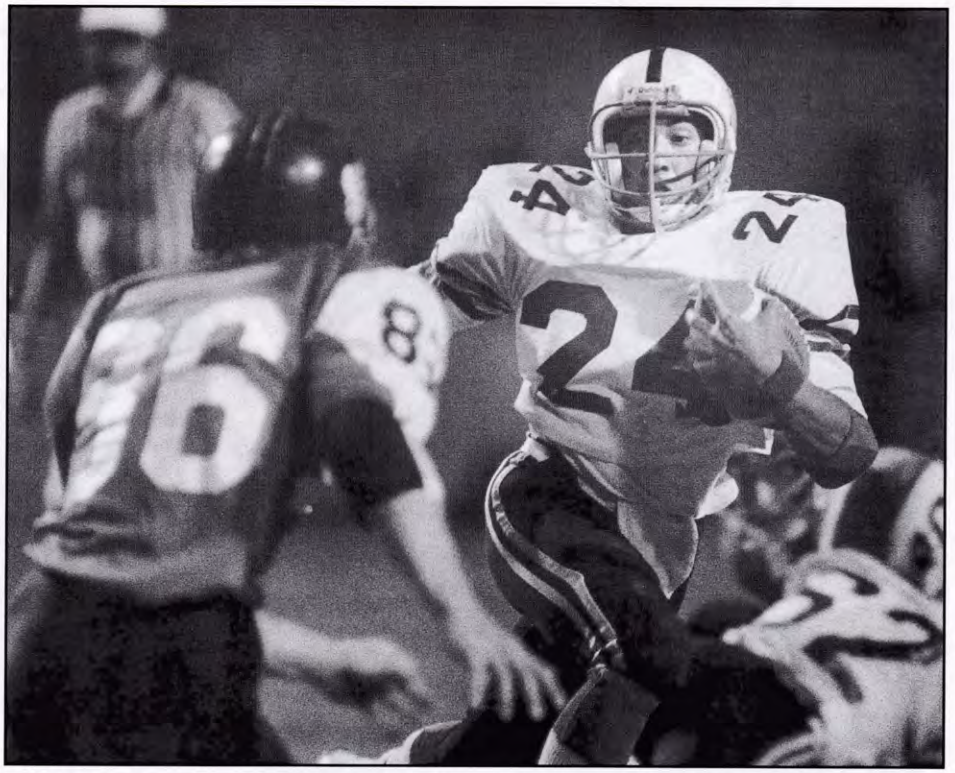
But Tempe McClintock, coached by Karl Kiefer, spoiled all the fun. In the state semifinals, part of a double-header played at Sun Devil Stadium, Sims & Company ran into a stout defense, a well-oiled offensive club, and more bad luck than they faced in three months.

"When you win it all you have lots of memories," says Harold Slemmer, the Chargers' line then and today the Executive Director of the Arizona Interscholastic Association. "But the seminal game with Sunnyside and Fred Sims stands out the most. They were highly favored and had that other great back, David Adams.

"You can't score if you don't have the ball, so to speak," continued Slemmer. "They had great athletes. But when we scouted them earlier we felt we could run against them. Right at them, with our trapping game. Just like we ran it at Arizona State. It worked. They couldn't stop us, and they got flustrated."

Early in the game both Sims and Adams busted two long runs each. But when the dust had cleared, Sunnyside was sent home packing, 38-14. Mini-backs like Mike Arthur and Terry Payne dipped and dodged their way through the Devils' big front wall. Receivers Danny Hinds and James Sosinski (a state golf champion) had the secondary guessing. Quarterback Jim Fossenkemper ran the game plan to perfection.

The win over Sunnyside set up a McClintock-Trevor Browne matchup in the finals. Browne advanced by beating Tempe 28-19 in the other match.



McClintock halfback Terry Payne picks up yards against Trevor Browne during the Chargers 34-7 win at Sun Devil Stadium (Arizona Republic photo).

The Bruins, coached by Bill Mitton, were playing in their second consecutive state championship[game. Unfortunately, the results would be the same. McClintock, which had the best winning percentage of any 5A school in the '70s, began the new decade with its second championship in four years. Before a crowd estimated at 8,500 fans, the Chargers prevailed 34-7. Mistakes killed the Bruins. "Things went against us in the first half that hurt," Mitton said later.

McClintock's first two scores came on swing passes to Hinds. Both were set up by pass interference calls in the end zone. Hinds entered the game with only nine catches on the season, but with Sosinski drawing double-coverage, he became the primary target.

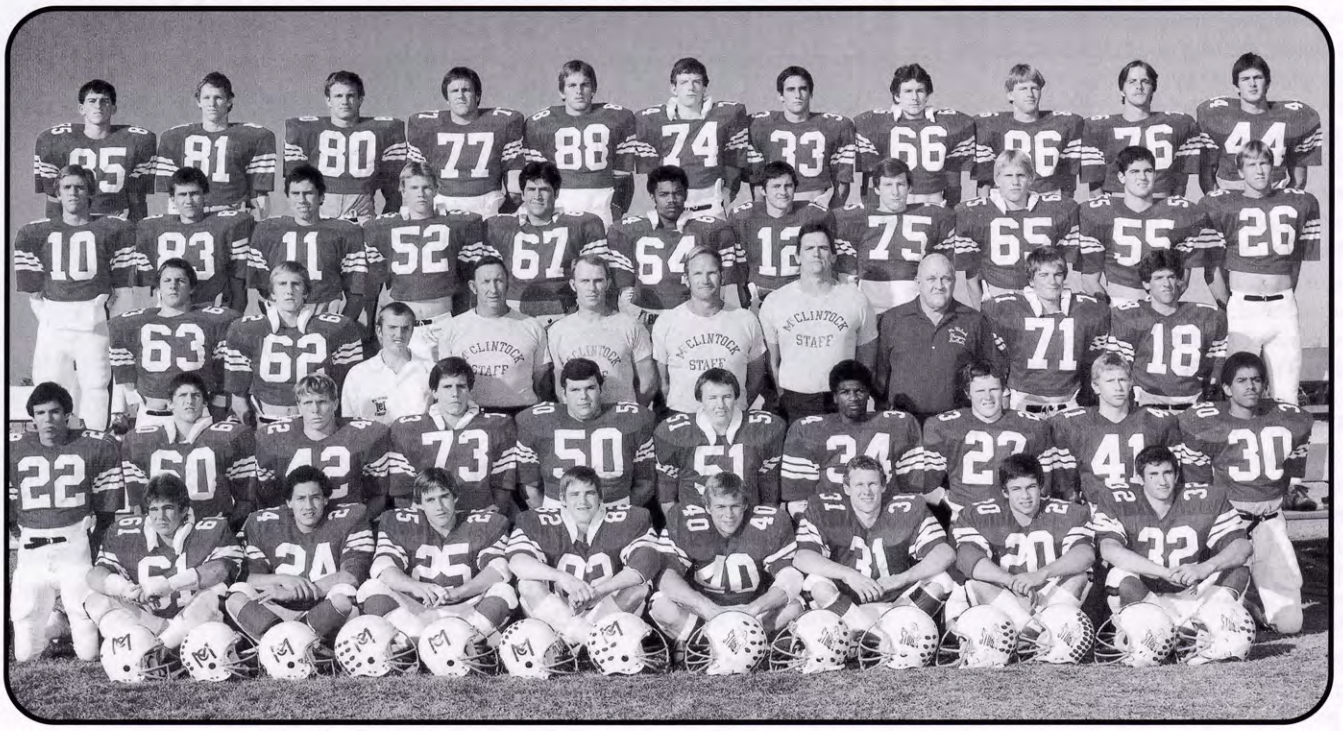
"When you win it all you have lots of memories. But the semifinal game with Sunnyside and Fred Sims stands out the most. They were highly favored and had that other great back, David Adams."

At halftime the Chargers led 20-0 and were in complete control. Arthur provided the other touchdown on a short run. Fossenkemper later ran one in and Payne scored from 20 yards out.

Ironically, McClintock dropped its opening season game to rival Tempe, 33-30. They lost a late-season contest with Mountain View, 7-6. It kept them from winning the league title out-right, and forced them through the playoffs' lower bracket. But they steamrolled Marcos de Niza 56-0, clobbered Glendale Apollo 31-3, and beat Sunnyside. Only two Chargers, Sosinski and tackle Greg Land, earned all-state acclaim.

"It was a very motivated group," says current McClintock coach Dick Baniszewski, a two-way starter that year. "We had no stars. It was the ultimate in team play. The varsity won the state championship when we were freshmen. We sat in the stands and watched those guys win it. That was a real motivator. It got us going."

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THE '80 SEASON:

CHARGERS 30.....Tempe 33 (L)
CHARGERS 35.....Brophy Prep 0
CHARGERS 21 .....Maryvale 0
CHARGERS 54.....Marcos de Niza 7
CHARGERS 42.....Coronado 0
CHARGERS 75.....Yuma 0
CHARGERS 41 .....Mesa 0
CHARGERS 42.....Chaparral 14
CHARGERS 6 .....Mountain View 7 (L)
CHARGERS 42 .....Chandler 0

PLAYOFFS:
CHARGERS 56.....Marcos de Niza 0
CHARGERS 31.....Apollo 3
CHARGERS 38.....Tucson Sunnyside 14
CHARGERS 34 .....Trevor Browne 7

30 years ago (1970)

Speedy Sun Devils Outrun Tar Heels

Frank Kush and his football entourage from Arizona State pulled into Atlanta with a mission that was more possible than impossible.

"We want exposure," he said, referring to the relatively unrecognized status of his Sun Devils, despite an undefeated season and a winning streak of 16 games.

True, the Devils were eight-ranked in the land, but the bowl crowd shunned them as if they were using the wrong deodorant. Shoot, they were beginning to get a complex about the whole thing.

The way it is in Arizona, a team could get lost from the rest of the country. The college crowd, that is. The NFL has known about A-State for years. Charley Taylor, Travis Williams and Art Malone, among others, came out of the school.

The pros knew that wide receiver J.D. Hill was the real deal. And everyone knew about quarterback "Spaghetti" Joe Spagnola, mainly because of his name. In addition, the Devils had a defense and a couple of strong running backs named Monroe Eley and Bobby Thomas.

But there was another thing about these Sun Devils. They were the fastest team in the country, running like blazes, but prone to forget the football at times. During their undefeated campaign, they had fumbled three different times running into the end zone.

However, in football this is recognized as a habit peculiar to speed. Fast backs fumble more than slow backs. But as Kush said, the Devils (11-0), ignored by other bowls, accepted the Peach Bowl invitation to play North Carolina (8-3) with the hopes of getting some exposure. They came to the right place.

Talk about exposure! The night of December 30 - in Atlanta in the Sunny South - suddenly developed into an evening of rain and snow. It was almost a blizzard. They said an off-track would favor the bigger, slower Tar Heels, with power back Don McCauley haven broken O.J. Simpson's single season rushing record.

Yes, the Devils were exposed. They were exposed to the rain, the cold, the snow and the Tar Heels. Determined to win a place in the football sun - even at night - they overcame a 26-21 halftime deficit to win going away, 48-26. The Tar Heels simply could not contain Arizona State's speed, even in the mud and slush. And this time the Sun Devils did not fumble running into the end zone.



Snow fell like little tufts of cotton as Arizona State defenders swarm Tar Heel running back Don McCauley (Chuck Conley photo).

Eley, a native of Georgia, and Thomas rushed for 306 yards to offset a 140-yard evening by McCauley. The finest Tar Heel runner since Charlie Justice, McCauley scored three touchdowns within seven minutes of the second quarter. Then just before half-time, quarterback Paul Miller fired a 36-yard scoring strike to Tony Blanchard, son of the fabled "Doc" Blanchard, to give the Tar Heels a short-lived lead.

Ironically, this blitz finished the Tar Heels for the night. On the pass to Blanchard, Miller was knocked unconscious by defensive end Junior Ah You. After that, the Devils keyed everyone but the groundskeeper on McCauley.

Still, it took some punting flubs by McCauley and his backup to put A-State in position for easy touchdowns in the second half that put the game out of reach for the Tar Heels.

"Arizona State is a great team. We knew it before the game and there was no reason to change our minds. Their speed is incredible. We could not contain their speed."

We had two game plans," said Kush. "One for good weather and one for bad. We simply switched to an off-track game plan."

In other words, the Devils eschewed the outside game and concentrated on power runs inside tackle. Eley and Thomas ran with power, plenty of it. Spagnola put the ball up 24 times, completing only nine, but one went for a 67-yard TD to Hill. Thomas scored three times, Eley twice and young receiver Steve Holden once, on a 13-yard flanker reverse. Linemen Gary Venturo, Ed Fisher, Mike Tomco, Ken Coyle and Roger Davis played superb.

"Arizona State is a great team," said Tar Heel coach Bill Dooley after the game. "We knew it before the game and there was no reason to change our minds. Their speed is incredible. We could not contain their speed."

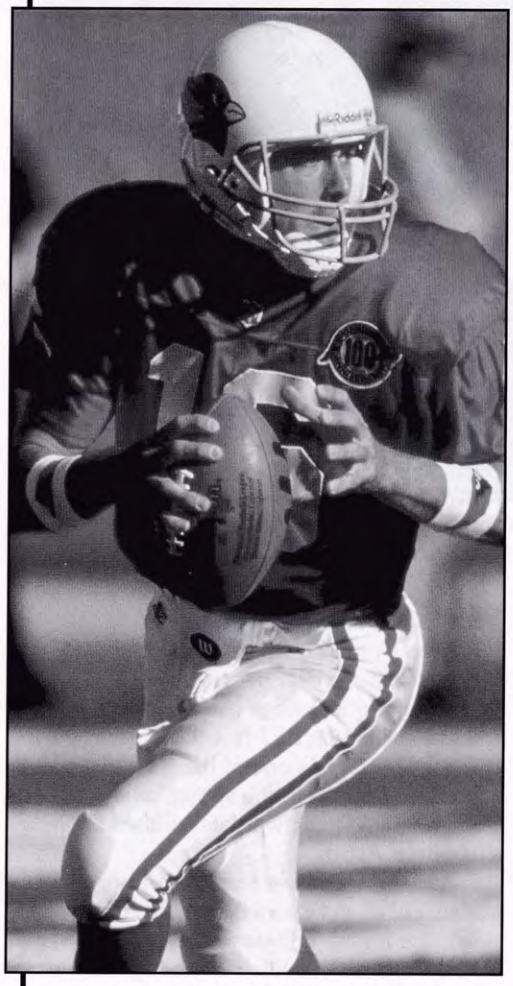
Not only were the Sun Devils and Kush exposed in the third annual Peach Bowl, but a record crowd of 52,126 braved the elements to watch the contest, played on Georgia Tech's campus.

By AL THOMY

THE Bash ON ASH

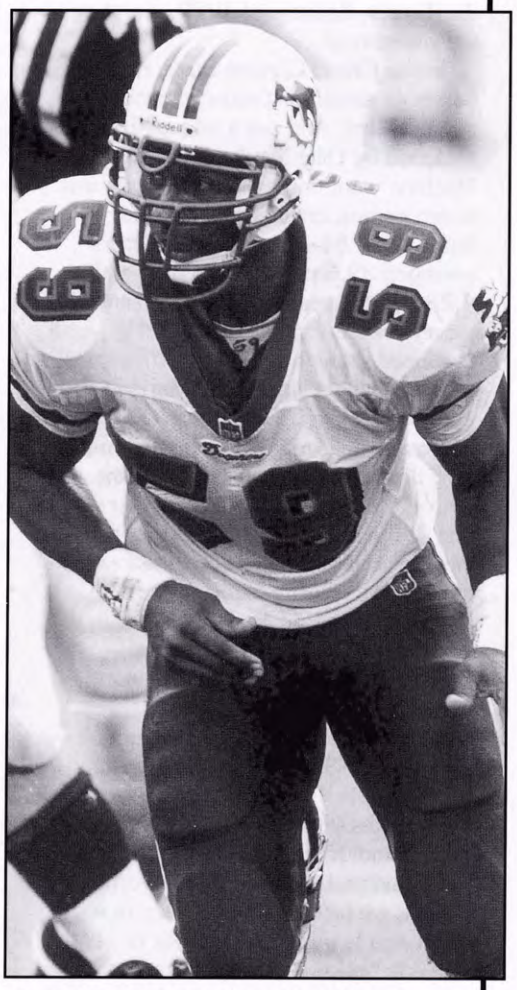
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MARVEL SMITH.....Pittsburgh Steelers
TERRELLE SMITH.....New Orleans Saints
JEREMY STAAT.....Pittsburgh Steelers
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30 years ago (1970)

Tucson's Big Red Machine Best Ever

They were the best ever. The biggest and fastest high school team in Arizona history. They were better than the 1930 Phoenix Union Coyotes, the 1944 Tucson Badgers, the 1953 North Phoenix Mustangs, the 1960 Mesa Jackrabbits or the 1962 Arcadia Titans.

They were better than any Tucson team before them, or since. Which is saying a lot, since the school has won more than 500 football games. They were the Tucson Badgers of 1970, and they were awesome.

In the Grand Canyon State, no team before or since has produced such speed, size or talent. And put it all together. Coached by Ollie Mayfield, the Big Red Machine went unblemished through one dozen games, crushed outmanned Sunnyslope 54-16 in the state finals, averaged 39.6 points a clip, rushed for 4,280 yards, passed for 1,038, sent 28 players into the college ranks and produced six high school All-Americans.

Two players, linebacker Marvin Lewis and tackle Mike Dawson, were *Parade Magazine* All-Americans, the first and only time two players from the same Arizona team won such honors. At the end of the season, the *National Sports News Service*, the first such organization to rank high school teams, rated Mayfield's Big Red Machine No. 3 in the land, behind Washington High of Massillon, Ohio, and Austin Reagan, Texas.

Prior to the state semifinals, an electrifying 39-34 win over Mesa Westwood in Tucson, Warrior head coach Dave Gates said, "They may be the best high school team I've seen since I've been here, and that includes the California schools we faced at Mesa. They're so quick as a team. They have six or seven real fine backs, and all of them can move."

Bill Buck, head coach at Sunnyslope, saw it coming before his team took the field in the finals. "They are a team the state of Arizona can be proud of," he said before the 54-16 thrashing.

"In the years to come, when people talk of Arizona's greatest high school teams, this Tucson team will be high on the list," added Sam Payne of *The Phoenix Gazette.*

All three running backs, Darrell Davis, Allistaire Hartfield and Mark Simon, rushed for more than 1,000 yards in the same backfield. That had never happened before. Quarterback Anastacie Martinez, who attended Stanford on an academic scholarship, somehow managed to pass for 1,000 yards in the Badgers' famed T-formation offense.



Fullback Mark Simon, a University of Wisconsin signee, was one of three Tucson backs to rush for more than 1,000 yards in the same backfield.

Tackle Mike Dawson (6-4, 240), who later played for the St. Louis Cardinals, anchored a line which included the likes of Mike Bailey (6-1, 205), Gilbert Ramos (6-2, 220), Al Lopez (6-2, 205), Jinx Johnson (6-4, 205) and Lonnie Williams (6-2, 180). All six played major college football or baseball.

Lewis, a 6-3, 230-pound linebacker who signed with USC, was considered one of the best at that position in Tucson's proud history. Outside 'backer Eddie Williams later became a seven-foot high jumper in college (Alabama) and threw the javelin 257-feet. Defensive back Frank Castro was one of the state's premier pitchers in the spring, while safety Mike Odum was later drafted by the Houston Astros.

"They may be the best high school team I've seen since I've been here, and that includes the California schools we faced at Mesa. They're so quick ... they have six or seven real fine backs."

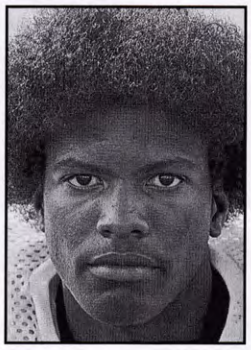
Davis, one of five finalist for the National High School Athlete of the Year, was the fastest 180-yard low hurdler in Arizona history, while Kelly Langford, who rushed for 1,575 yards one year later, was the state high hurdle champion - although blind in one eye.

"John McKay coached at Southern Cal then, and he told us we had one of the best teams they'd seen in the country that year," said Mayfield after the season. "They were recruiting some of our kids."

Ken Stites, a former coach at Maryvale and the Arizona junior college ranks, might have said it best. "There was a period for several years when Tucson High had football teams that could play with anybody, anywhere. They may have been the best."

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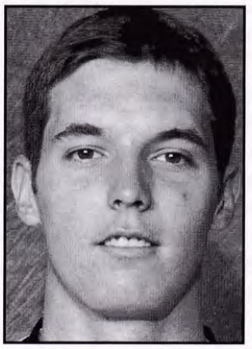
Ryan Kealy
St. Mary's



Fred Enke, Jr.
Tucson



Grady Benton
Mesa



John Rattay
Desert Vista

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL QUARTERBACK

1999 ..... John Beck, Mesa Mountain View
1998 ..... John Rattay, Tempe Desert Vista (jr)
1997 ..... Richard Lucero, South Mountain
1996 ..... Todd Mortensen, Tempe
1995 ..... Ryan Kealy, Phoenix St. Mary's
1994 ..... Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope
1993 ..... Jason Maas, Yuma
1992 ..... Jason Verdugo, Tucson Canyon del Oro
1991 ..... Anthony Sanders, Tucson Santa Rita
1990 ..... Grady Benton, Mesa
1989 ..... Aaron Santini, Tucson Santa Rita
1988 ..... Bret Powers, Glendale Cactus
1987 ..... John Bonds, Phoenix St. Mary's
1986 ..... Bobby Valdez, Tucson Sunnyside
1985 ..... Kent Kiefer, Tempe McClintock
1984 ..... Steve Belles, Phoenix St. Mary's
1983 ..... John Walker, Tempe Marcos de Niza
1982 ..... Rodney Peete, Tucson Sahuaro (jr)
1981 ..... Steve Stallworth, Yuma
1980 ..... Trent Hutchinson, South Mountain
1979 ..... Lloyd Coker, Phoenix Central
1978 ..... Kevin Smith, Scottsdale Saguaro (jr)
1977 ..... Mike Pagel, Phoenix Washington
1976 ..... Greg Brady, Scottsdale Coronado
1975 ..... Jim Krohn, Tucson Amphi
1974 ..... Mark Whipple, Phoenix Camelback
1973 ..... Rob Wilson, Scottsdale Coronado
1972 ..... Greg Hubbell, Phoenix Central
1971 ..... Fred Mortensen, Tempe
1970 ..... Fred Mortensen, Tempe (jr)
1969 ..... Danny White, Mesa Westwood
1968 ..... Bill Mannion, Phoenix St. Mary's
1967 ..... Ken Johnson, Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)
1966 ..... John Svob, Tucson Catalina
1965 ..... George Mattingly, Scottsdale Arcadia
1964 ..... Dave Grangaard, Phoenix Camelback
1963 ..... Rusty Tillman, Agua Fria
1962 ..... Tim Flood, Phoenix Brophy Prep
1961 ..... Elby Bushong, Phoenix Washington
1960 ..... Gary Deak, Scottsdale Arcadia
1959 ..... Eddie Bricker, Miami
1958 ..... John Power, Phoenix Camelback
1957 ..... Eddie Wilson, Chandler
1956 ..... Carlos Rodriguez, Morenci
1955 ..... Jim Wolf, Yuma
1954 ..... Ralph Hunsaker, Mesa
1953 ..... Clyde Nielson, North Phoenix (jr)
1952 ..... Pat Flood, Tucson
1951 ..... Vaughn Patterson, North Phoenix (jr)
1950 ..... James Black, Phoenix Union
1949 ..... Buster Madariaga, Round Valley
1948 ..... Don Ahee, Tucson

FRED ENKE, JR., *a three-sport star at Tucson High and the University of Arizona, was the first Arizona schoolboy to start at quarterback in the NFL. He played with Detroit (1948-51), Philadelphia (1952) and Baltimore (1953-54).*

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"Good luck to all coaches and players in 2000!"

50 years ago (1950)

Ford's '50 Edition Mesa's Best?

Since 1920, Mesa High has won 576 football games. In Arizona's grid circles, nobody else is close. Along the way the Jackrabbits have managed to win 11 state championships, with the most recent coming in 1992.

Those 11 crowns were won by only four different coaches: Steve Coutchie, Edgar "Mutt" Ford, Royal Price and Jim Rattay. Picking the best team is no easy task, but from an historical standpoint, it's hard to match the 1950 'Rabbits, coached by Ford. It just may have been the school's best ever. Even by today's standards.

One week after posting a perfect league record and landing the mythical state championship crown, St. Mary's tied Ford's squad 14-14 in a bizarre game which ended the '50 campaign. But along the way the nationally ranked 'Rabbits looked unbeatable.

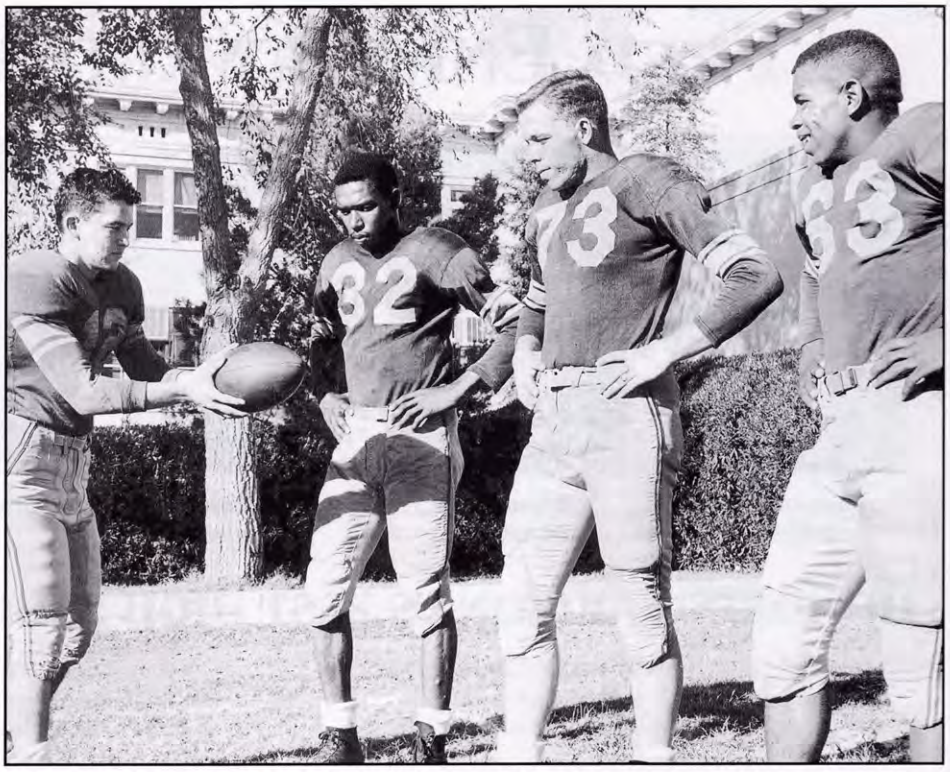
Ford, who would go on to become the state's all-time winningest coach, was assisted by Ken Heywood and Hil Brady. They had a 206-pound forward wall, anchored by 6-foot, 1-inch, 235-pound Glenn Bowers, a *Sporting News* All-American guard. Halfback Don Beasley and end John Allen later joined Bowers on *The Arizona Republic's* all-state squad.

The season started in Tucson, where Beasley & Co. gained 439 yards and recorded 20 first downs during a 28-0 win over Amphitheater. The game was played before 5,000 fans at Tucson High.

One week later, before 7,000 valley fans in Mesa, quarterback Eddie Harmon's two touchdown passes kept North High off guard during a hard-fought 21-13 win. Before the season was over this Mustang squad, coached by Tom Black and featuring all-star back Gene Mitcham, would beat defending CIF champ Compton High 26-14, followed by a 48-28 pasting of Santa Barbara.

The Jacks' forward wall was responsible for capturing a 41-6 win over Pasadena Muir, the first California team the 'Rabbits had ever faced. Playing in Pasadena, Ford's running game (so well oiled books were written about it) caught the Colts off-guard in the first half, jumping to a 34-0 lead.

On the same night Mesa beat Muir, Phoenix Union beat two-time defending L. A. city champ Fremont High, 12-6. Said Ford years later, recalling that evening and the week to come, "We knew we had a fight on our hands with Phoenix. On the same night we beat Muir, those guys were beating Fremont, the Los Angeles city champions. It set the stage for a good matchup and a big crowd."



Mesa's 1950 all-star backfield featured, L-R, quarterback Eddie Harmon, halfback Willie Harris, fullback Jay Smith and halfback Don Beasley.

He was right. One week later, before 15,000 fans at Montgomery Stadium in Phoenix, the Purple & Gold clicked again, beating Union 20-14 in the marquee game of the week. Two-way linemen Denzil Arrington, Bowers and Allen halted the Coyotes' ground game and enabled scatbacks Harris and Beasley to cut loose for big games. From then on Mesa was the team to beat.

"We knew we had a fight on our hands with Phoenix. On the same night we beat Muir, those guys were beating Fremont, the Los Angeles city champions. It set the stage for a good matchup and a big crowd."

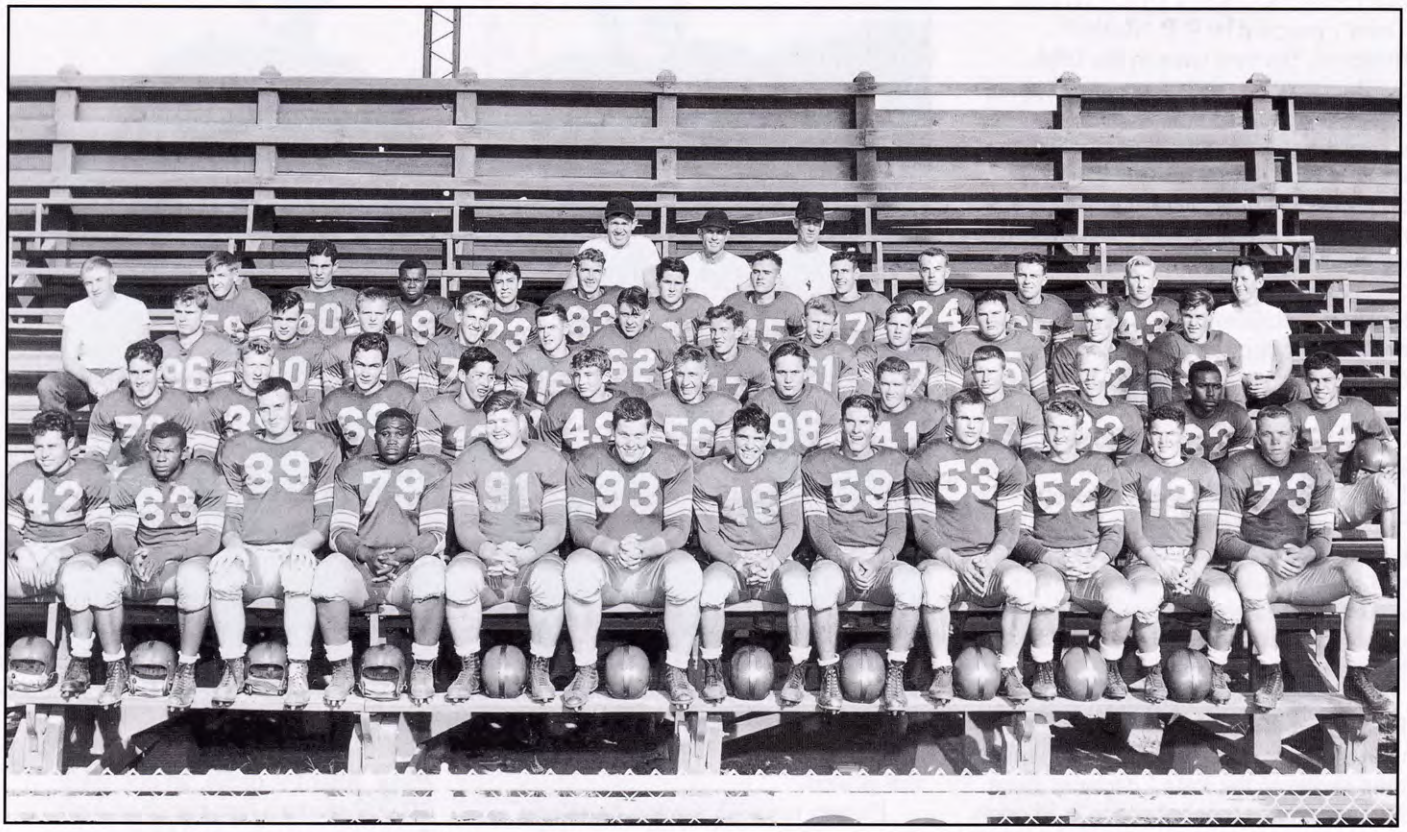
After a shaky start, the Jacks settled down to beat Yuma's Criminals 33-14. It was this game that Kent Mulleneaux started to shine on defense. Then it was Beasley's turn, scoring three touchdowns as the Hares slammed Tucson 41-13. He gained 199 yards on nine carries. Mulleneaux scored on a fumble recovery.

In the Hares' second interstate tilt against West Coast teams, Covina's Fred Knapp ran the opening kickoff back for a touchdown. But Beasley scored from 80-yards out, Mulleneaux went 15 yards with a blocked punt, Jay Smith scored with a 48-yard pass interception, and Beasley added two more scores as Mesa rolled to a 49-20 victory. Rudy Garcia was perfect on seven extra point attempts.

Smith then scored three times as Mesa glided past the Douglas Bulldogs, 28-0. Douglas' Art Lawrence, a 200-pound quarterback, played outstanding ball for the 'Dogs. Then the fired up Glendale Cardinals gave Mesa a scare, but fell in the end, 14-6. The win clinched the "large school" state championship for the 'Rabbits, their third such crown in the past five years.

All three were coached by Ford.

Saluting the
1950 MESA JACKRABBITS
"Best on the State Gridirons"



Coach Edgar "Mutt" Ford and assistants Ken Heywood and Hil Brady guided the 'Rabbits through a near-perfect campaign and the state championship.

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- One dozen Prep All-Americans!
- Former Coach Mutt Ford's record: 227-64-17!
- Nationally ranked in 1950, '54, '60 & '63!
- Posted .820 winning mark in Decade of the '30s!
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- Scored in 85 straight games between 1945-53!
- Scored in 84 consecutive games from 1955-63!
- Produced nine professional football players!

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"It's Great to be a Jackrabbit!"

70 years ago (1930)

Phoenix "Wonder Team" the Nation's Best

They called him Captain Flippen. His real name was Conrad, and he was the best back on the best high school team in the country. At least one national poll rated Phoenix Union's 1930 "Wonder Team", coached by R.R."Robby" Robinson, the best team in the USA.

The guy who made it go was Flippen, one of the city's all-time legendary schoolboy stars. In the 20th Century, no Arizona high school - in any sport - accomplished or achieved the national recognition as Robinson's '30 Coyotes, captained by Flippen.

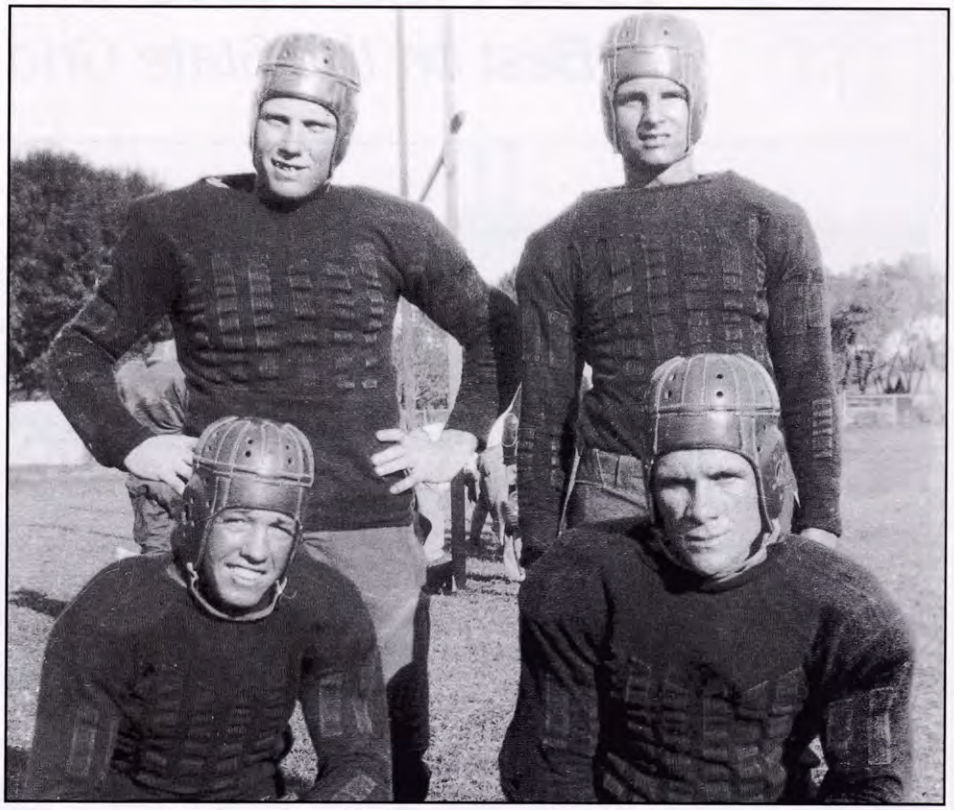
"Connie was the best athlete we ever had here," Robinson often said. "He was the finest floor general I ever coached in basketball. He could do it all. Just a terrific player."

In 1929, a 7-0 loss to Tucson High cost Phoenix the state and Southwest title. During this era, the Coyotes played in the Southwestern Interscholastic League, with games against Albuquerque, Las Cruces and El Paso dotting the schedule. The key player was Flippen, a junior who would go on to win varsity letters in baseball, basketball, football and track.

As a sophomore third baseman, Flippen led the varsity through an undefeated season. "Connie was the best third sacker in the state," declared Jesse McComb, head baseball coach at Phoenix Union for over a decade. "He led the club with the highest batting average, too."

But the fall of 1930 was special. In a practice game Flippen, a 5-foot, 10-inch quarterback in Robinson's Wing-T attack, scored three TDs, one a 75-yard pass interception, as the varsity beat a star-stunned alumni squad 31-6. He tossed two scoring strikes to Fay Swingle during a 12-6 upset of the University of Arizona freshmen. Using a white ball as an experiment, it was the first night football game ever played in Phoenix. Then Flippen and Bing Miller did all the damage during a 38-0 win over Yuma High.

In late October, Flippen and All-American end Harry Tompkins, a 9.8 sprinter who later ran at USC, kept 7,000 Phoenix fans on the edge of their seats during a 22-20 win over powerful San Diego High. "Red" Horne's 69-yard run and a late safety made the difference. During a 59-13 slaughter of Tucson in the Old Pueblo, Flippen scored on an 80-yard run with a fake punt and a 50-yard pass interception. Tompkins blocked two punts. The Coyotes gained 499 yards on the ground.



Flippen (front left) teamed with - top row from left - Rhodes Neece, Don Clark and Eddie "Red" Horne to form a solid backfield in 1929.

Flippen ran wild, scoring four times during a 40-0 win over Glendale, followed by a three-touchdown game in a 21-0 win over El Paso, played ankle deep in mud in the border city. He scored four times and hit Tompkins with a scoring strike during a 40-0 win over Albuquerque, played before 10,000 fans at Montgomery Stadium. An army of students, numbering close to 4,000, descended upon downtown Phoenix prior to the game, shouting "Beat Albuquerque" as the stadium started to fill. The win clinched the Southwestern crown for the Coyotes. One week later, Flippen's early TD runs set the tone during a 55-0 shutout of Mesa. After the game, an estimated 10,000 glorious fans marched down Central Avenue in one of the greatest displays of fan support for a high school team in state history.

"I've no alibis to offer. Phoenix is the best high school team I've ever seen, and deserved the victory. The best team won and my congratulations to them."

"It was unbelievable," recalled Phoenix Mayor Franklin D. Lane. "We all thought Lindbergh had landed again."

For the benefit of the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, Phoenix met unbeaten Ft. Collins, Colorado on Dec. 14, in a post-season game at Montgomery Stadium. In nine games the Lambkins had scored 413 points against the best from Colorado and Wyoming. But they were no match for the Coyotes, who exploded for five touchdowns in the second half for a 38-7 win.

"I've no alibis to offer," said Ft. Collins coach George Scott. "Phoenix is the best high school team I've ever seen, and deserved the victory. The best team won, and my congratulations to them."

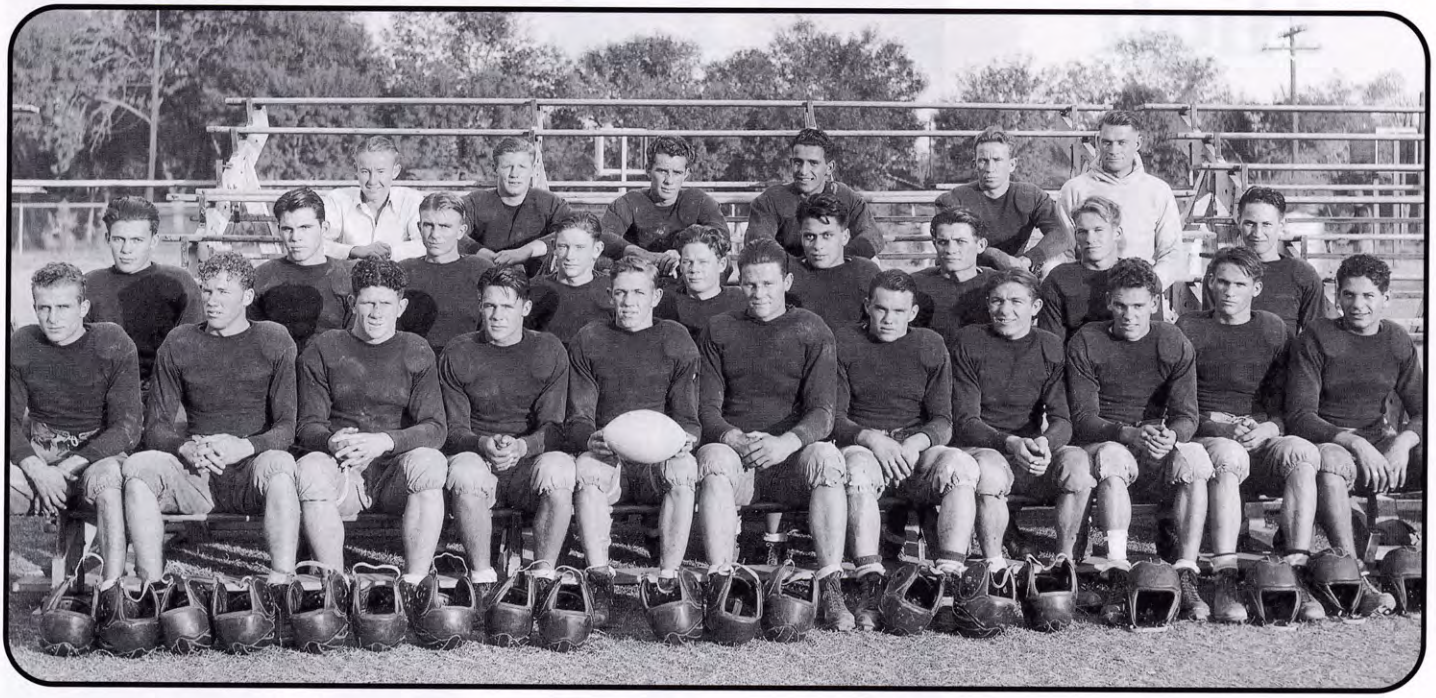
Flippen, who briefly attended Notre Dame, Tompkins and Horne joined teammates Don Pace, John Harrell, Kenny Goodson and Zack Adams on *The Arizona Republic's* all-state team.

By THOMAS MOORE



Saluting the 1930 Phoenix Union Coyotes

State & National Champions



One of Arizona's Most Historic High School Teams!

With Coach of the Year Robby Robinson, All-American Conrad Flippen and seven all-state players, the Coyotes were perfect!

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THE 1930 PHOENIX UNION COYOTES

COYOTES 12	Alumni 0
COYOTES 12	Arizona Frosh 6
COYOTES 21	Flagstaff Frosh 7
COYOTES 38	Yuma Union 0
COYOTES 22	San Diego, Ca. 20
COYOTES 59	Tucson 13
COYOTES 40	Glendale 0
COYOTES 21	El Paso, Tx. 0
COYOTES 41	Albuquerque 0
COYOTES 55	Mesa 0
COYOTES 27	Phoenix Indians 7
COYOTES 38	Ft. Collins, Co. 7

The Best High School Teams Ever

By Barry Sollenberger
for the
Gannett News Service



In 1957, Bruce Fullerton of Little Rock Central was the best back on the best high school team in the country (Arkansas Gazette photo).

With the close of the 20th Century, here's one author's opinion of the 12 best high school football teams in the United States in the past 100 years, based on the impact each school had during its era of competition.

Pine Bluff, Arkansas
1925 (16-0)

The Zebras, called "one of the greatest high school teams ever" by the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, outscored 16 opponents 684-21. The national champions beat Little Rock Central, Jackson (Tenn.), Houston Central, Atlanta Tech, and Ohio champ Dayton Stivers in a post season contest, 61-0. Coach Foy Hammons' squad recorded 12 shutouts, scored 103 touchdowns and gave up three. All-American Billy Hicks scored 286 points on 42 touchdowns and 34 PATS. Pine Bluff is arguably one of the three most historic high schools in the South.

Waco, Texas
1927 (14-0)

Coach Paul Tyson's third straight Texas schoolboy crown came after a 21-14 win over Abilene in the finals, played before 20,000 fans in Waco. The famed Tigers followed that with a 44-12 post season win over Ohio champion Cleveland Latin. Tommy Glover scored 166 of Waco's 784 points. The Tigers beat Marlin 107-0, followed by a 124-0 playoff win over Houston Davis. This Waco school, possibly the most historic in Texas history, went 107-7-3 (.917) during the Decade of the '20s.

Ashland, Kentucky
1931 (10-0)

The legendary Tomcats, coached by Paul Jenkins, beat teams from five different states, including undefeated Decatur (Ga.) 85-6 for the Southern USA title. Ashland went 57 consecutive games without defeat in six years. Also a national basketball power, over 10,000 fans greeted the Tomcats at the Ashland train



Gerry Faust
Moeller



Wilson Matthews
Little Rock

station upon arrival from Chicago after Jenkins' heroic 37-0 basketball team won the 1928 national scholastic roundball championship.

Chicago Austin
1937 (10-0)

Billy DeCorrevont, one of the most highly publicized high school players ever, rushed for 1,873 yards and scored 35 touchdowns for the No. 1-ranked team in the country. During a 93-0 win over Chicago McKinley, "Wild Bill" scored nine touchdowns on 10 carries. One year earlier Austin and DeCorrevont - who later played at Northwestern and with four NFL teams - tied Fenwick 19-19 in the city championship game, in front of 88,000 fans at Soldier Field. But in 1937, DeCorrevont and the fans outdid themselves. Austin skunked Leo High 26-0 before an estimated 120,000 spectators in the most historic high school game ever played.

Bill Heiland's city champs followed that with a 13-0 post season win over west Tennessee champ Jackson Central, even though DeCorrevont was lost in the second quarter with a shoulder injury. Although he made the trip, the injury prevented DeCorrevont from playing against the Arizona All-Stars in the Valley of the Sun Bowl in Phoenix. Without Bill in the lineup, the Chicago All-Stars still beat the best from Arizona, 9-6 on a last minute field game.

Donora, Pennsylvania
1945 (10-0)

The Dragons, coached by James Russell, won their second straight WPIAL crown and were labeled one of the state's all-time great clubs. "Deacon" Dan Towler, a 217-pound fullback who later played with the Los Angeles Rams, scored 24 touchdowns in Donora's talent-loaded backfield, rated the best ever in Western Pa. The Dragons became the No. 1-ranked team in the USA after demolishing New Kingston 38-6 in the WPIAL championship game. The "Home of Champions" recorded eight shutouts with Towler, Roscoe Ross and Bimbo Celloni heralded two-way players.

Abilene, Texas
1956 (14-0)

In the golden era of oil-rich West Texas, Chuck Mosher's Abilene dynasty was the pinnacle of Texas high school football. With Mosher the architect, the Eagles won 49 consecutive games and three state championships, with his '56 Warbirds scoring 491 points behind the running of Glynn Gregory, Jimmy Carpenter, Bill Sides and Chuck Colvin. They were the No. 1-ranked team in the USA, according to the *National Sports News Service* in Minneapolis. For a 1955 playoff game, Abilene fans charted two commercial airplanes to El Paso.

Little Rock Central, Arkansas
1957 (12-0)

The best ever squad at this national powerhouse finished the '57 campaign with a 33-game winning streak and a No. 1 national ranking. Coach Wilson Matthews, later an assistant at Arkansas, had two All-Americans in his lineup, Bruce Fullerton and Billy Hicks. The Tigers beat teams from Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas for the school's 22nd state championship - a national record at the time. Fullerton, later a fighter pilot in Viet Nam, scored 27 touchdowns as an estimated 500 troops from the 101st Airborne watched each Central home game during the infamous integration conflict. In the spring, Fullerton was a member of the Tigers' nationally ranked track team. Little Rock Central is one of the few American high schools to win over 100 state championships in team sports.

Pasadena Blair, California
1969 (13-0)

Future pros James McAlister (228 pts.) and Kermit Johnson (158 pts.), known as the "Blair Pair," were key figures in the Vikings' terrific 28-27 win over Pat Hayden and John McKay Jr. of Bishop Amat High in a spectacular Southern CIF finals. Coached by Pete Yoder, Blair scored 580 points, 62 against rival Pasadena Muir, was the No. 1-ranked team in the nation, and considered one of the all-time best high school teams ever in the Southland.

Tyler John Tyler, Texas
1973 (15-0)

Halfback Earl Campbell, tight end Ronnie Lee and flanker Larry Hartsfield helped produce one of the Lone Star State's greatest teams. Campbell, later the Heisman Trophy winner at Texas, hammered out 2,036 yards and scored 28 touchdowns as the Lions ripped off 15 straight wins, beating Austin Reagan in the finals. Coached by Corky Nelson, Tyler was the nation's No. 1-ranked team after its perfect season.

Cincinnati Moeller, Ohio
1976 (12-0)

Gerry Faust, who later coached at Notre Dame, saw his best ever Moeller team outscore one dozen foes 488-40, including a 43-5 state finals rout of Gahanna Lincoln. The '76 Crusaders sent 10 players to Division I schools, including Jim Brown (Penn State), Tim Koegel (Notre Dame), Steve Givens (Wisconsin) and Rich Hubbard (Kentucky), to list a few. During the Faust era, Moeller was unbeaten against teams from Michigan, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York and Texas, and was the No. 1-ranked team in the USA four times.

Valdosta, Georgia
1986 (15-0)

The nation's all-time winningest football school won its second mythical national crown in three years with a 28-0 win over Athens Clarke Central in Georgia's AAAA title game. Coached by the late Nick Hyder, the '86 Wildcats carried the torch lit by the legendary Wright Bazemore to their 19th state crown since 1940. Valdosta started the campaign with 80 varsity players and finished with 80. The Pride of Georgia enters the 2000 season with 775 wins - the most in American history.

Concord De La Salle, Ca.
1999 (12-0)

The Spartans, with the best modern day dynasty in high school football, stretched their winning streak to 100 games with a 38-14 win over San Leandro in the CIF-North Coast Section finals. It was Bob Ladouceur's 16th CIF crown in 21 years. His Spartans beat Santa Ana Mater Dei 42-0, Bakersfield 35-8, Mountain View St. Francis 35-7 and Oakland Skyline 37-0 during a 12-0 campaign. Mater Dei later tied Long Beach Polly - the school which has sent more players into the NFL than any in American history - in the Southern CIF finals. De La Salle has won 134 of its last 135 games and has scored in 245 consecutive contests. Ladouceur is 236-14-1 at the Bay Area school, with the Spartans' 100-game winning streak the most impressive record in high school football in the 20th Century.

SPORTS QUIZ

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW FOOTBALL ...

1) The high school ranks of Tempe have sent more than its share of players into the NFL, including the former all-state defensive back in this photo (right), upending a Chicago Bear receiver for the Dallas Cowboys. Who is he and what high school did he attend?



Who is this Dallas Cowboy defensive back, an all-state performer in high school, and what Tempe school did he attend?

2) Since 1955, this Arizona high school has sent more graduates to a higher level of competition (college, NFL, CFL, etc.) than any school in the Grand Canyon State:

a) Tucson Amphi
b) Phoenix St. Mary's
c) Mesa
d) South Mountain
e) Peoria

3) This former Arizona high school coach won more games (227) at the same school than any coach in state history:

a) Ed Doherty, Phoenix St. Mary's
b) Emil Nasser, Winslow
c) Edgar "Mutt" Ford, Mesa
d) Rollin T. Gridley, Tucson
e) Jerry Loper, Westwood

4) During the Decade of the '50s, this Phoenix area school never lost to a California team, winning all 10 games in 10 years:

a) Phoenix St. Mary's
b) Phoenix Union
c) South Mountain
d) Mesa High

5) In 1970, this Arizona high school was the No. 3-ranked team in the nation, the second highest national ranking ever by an Arizona high school football team:

a) Phoenix Union
b) Tucson
c) Mesa Westwood
d) Mesa

6) With 775 overall wins in high school football, this is the nation's leader entering the upcoming 2000 season:

a) Valdosta, Georgia
b) Little Rock Central
c) Odessa Permian, Tx.
d) Concord De La Salle, Ca.

ANSWERS

1) Kenny Wheaton, McClintock
2) South Mountain
3) Emil Nasser 4) Mesa High
5) Tucson High
6) Valdosta, Georgia

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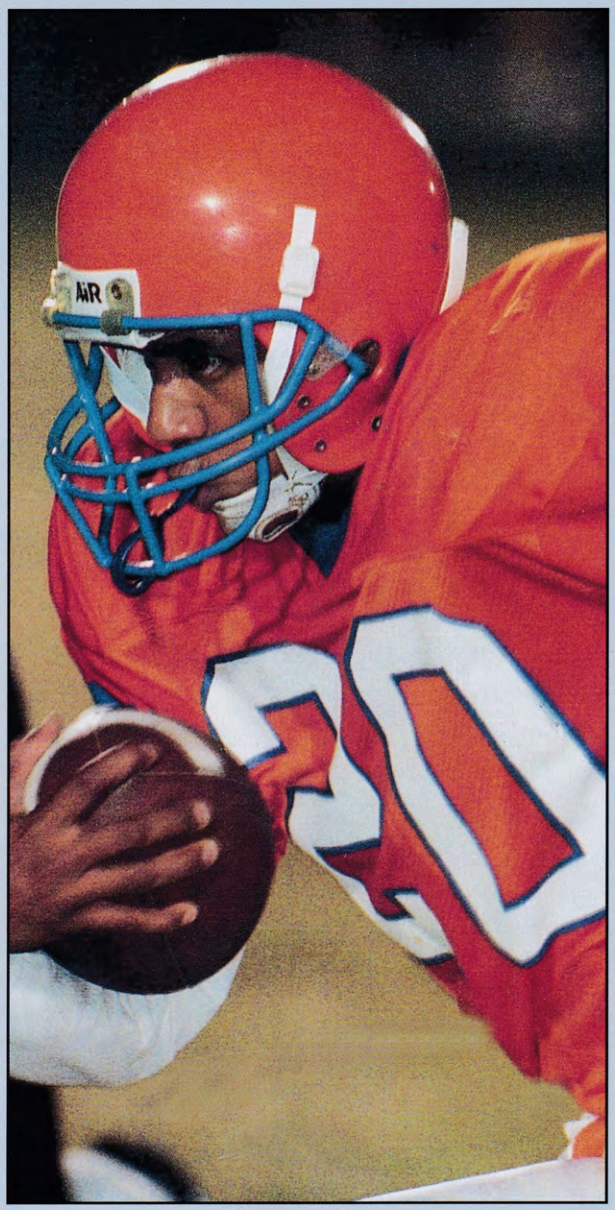
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1998.....BRISTOL OLOMUA
.....Mesa Red Mountain
1997.....JASON JENKINS
.....South Mountain
1996.....JUSTIN TAPLIN
.....Tempe Union
1995.....TARIQ McDONALD
.....Phoenix St. Mary's
1994.....KENNY MITCHELL
.....Peoria
1993.....KENNY CHEATHAM
.....South Mountain
1992.....FREDDIE DODSON
.....Chandler
1991.....STEVE BUSH
.....Paradise Valley
1990.....JASON BIRDSONG
.....Glendale Cactus
1989.....JASON BIRDSONG
.....Glendale Cactus (jr)
1988.....ERIC DRAGE
.....Tucson Santa Rita
1987.....ORLANDO MCKAY
.....Mesa
1986.....ERIC GULIFORD
.....Peoria (jr)
1985.....STEVE MARTIN
.....Tucson Sahuaro
1984.....TODD YOUNG
.....Tempe Marcos de Niza
1983.....VINCE MASTERS
.....Coolidge (jr)
1982.....RANDALL McDANIEL
.....Avondale Agua Fria
1981.....GLENN DENNARD
.....Tempe Corona del Sol
1980.....SKIP PEETE
.....Tucson Sahuaro
1979.....JAY DOBYNS
.....Tucson Sahuaro
1978.....JUNIOR SOLOMON
.....Coolidge



Westwood's Sammy Moore caught 48 passes for 826 yards and eight touchdowns. (Photo by Bob Dunn/The Tribune)

1977.....CHARLES COBBS
.....Florence
1976.....JOHN MISTLER
.....Tucson Sahuaro
1975.....RON WASHINGTON
.....Tempe McClintock
1974.....SPEEDY HART
.....Phoenix St. Mary's
1973.....PRESTON DENNARD
.....Tempe Marcos de Niza
1972.....DON WOODS
.....Mesa
1971.....WILLIE SCROGGINS
.....Safford
1970.....DARION GILBERT
.....Phoenix Union
1969.....LARRY SHORTY
.....Eloy Santa Cruz
1968.....ED WEATHERSPOON
.....Globe
1967.....CALVIN DEMERY
.....South Mountain
1966.....MIKE BOWLING
.....Avondale Agua Fria
1965.....BILL DIPLEY
.....Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)
1964.....BILL SORCINELLI
.....Phoenix Camelback
1963.....BOB WALLACE
.....South Mountain
1962.....FRED CARR
.....Phoenix Union (jr)
1961.....WILLIE NASH
.....McNary (6-man)
1960.....MORRISON WARREN
.....South Mountain
1959.....ANDY STOGLIN
.....Phoenix Union
1958.....GEORGE HEARD
.....South Mountain
1957.....STEVE VAUGHN
.....Phoenix North
1956.....GORDON SMITH
.....Phoenix West

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1996.....Paul Moro, Lakeside Blue Ridge
1995.....Richard Gray, Arizona Boys Ranch
1994.....Doug Shaffer, Scottsdale Horizon
1993.....Mike Morgan, St. Johns
1992 .....Jim Beall, Snowflake
1991.....Tom Wheatley, Agua Fria
1990 .....Jeff Scurran, Tucson Sabino
1989.....Gary Venturo, Tempe Corona del Sol
1988.....Jerry Loper, Mesa Westwood
1987.....Mike Clark, Mesa Dobson
1986.....Jim Rattay, Mesa
1985 .....Jim Bevell, Scottsdale Chaparral
1984.....Pat Farrell, Phoenix St. Mary's
1983.....Jesse Parker, Mesa Mountain View
1982 .....Earl Putman, Moon Valley
1981 .....Richard Gray, Scottsdale Horizon
1980.....Karl Kiefer, Tempe McClintock
1979 .....Vern Friedli, Tucson Amphi
1978.....Dan Dunn, Gilbert
1977.....Jim Russum, Casa Grande
1976.....Ed Anderson, Scottsdale Coronado
1975.....Jerry Loper, Tucson Amphi
1974 .....Bill Epperson, Flagstaff Coconino
1973.....Van Howe, Tucson Palo Verde
1972 .....Harvey Keeney, Miami
1971 .....Ollie Mayfield, Tucson
1970.....Ed Hubbard, Pima
1969.....Ray Laing, Phoenix Central
1968.....Ike Sharp, Douglas



CHAPARRAL'S RON ESTABROOK

1967 .....Ed Doherty, Phoenix St. Mary's
1966 .....Lonnie Foster, Eloy Santa Cruz
1965 .....John Mallamo, Tucson
1964 .....Emil Nasser, Winslow
1963 .....Royal Price, Mesa
1962 .....Bob Hendricks, Scottsdale Arcadia
1961 .....Lou Farber, Tucson Pueblo
1960 .....Edgar "Mutt" Ford, Mesa
1959.....Fred Bingham, Sunnyslope
1958 .....Phil Kreuger, Yuma Union

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