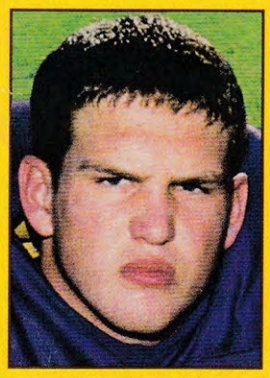
Barry Sollenberger's 1997 Phoenix Metro $4.00

FOOTBALL

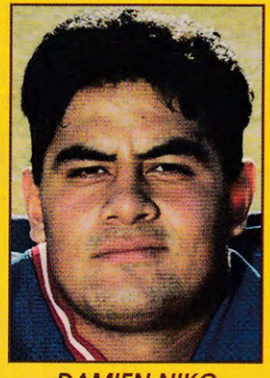
COMPLETE PHOENIX METROPOLITAN FOOTBALL PREVIEW



SCOTT FULLER
Mesa

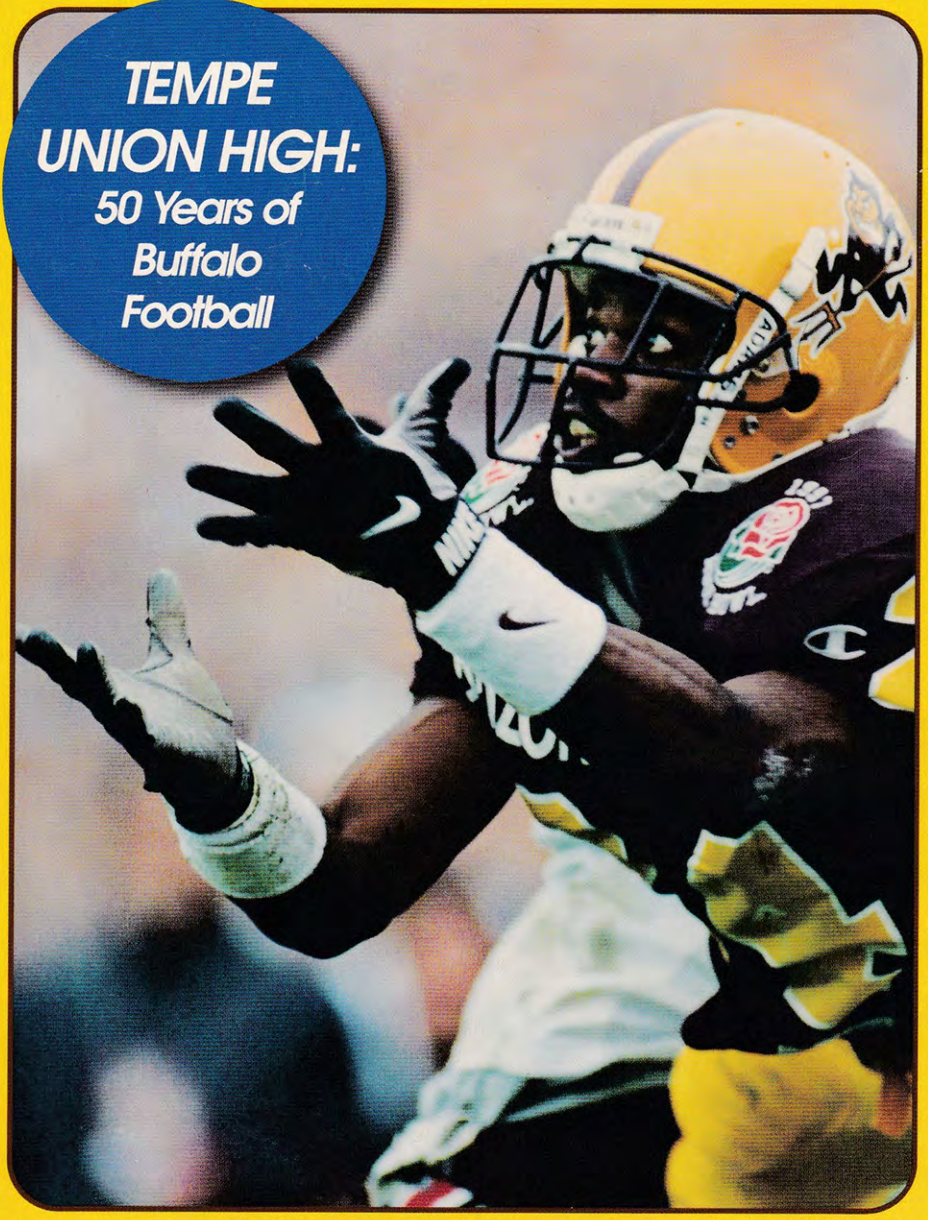


PHILLIP PAIGE
Westview

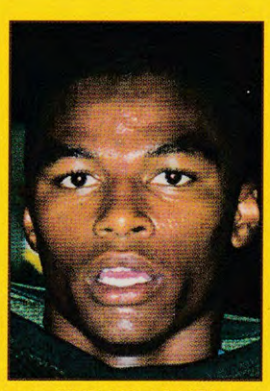


DAMIEN NIKO
Mountain View

TEMPE UNION HIGH: 50 Years of Buffalo Football



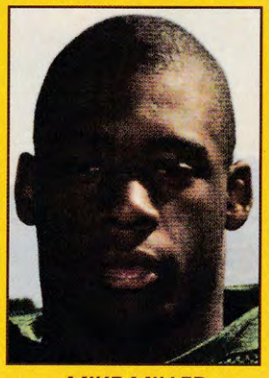
ARIZONA STATE WIDE RECEIVER RICKEY BOYER



KYRAN JONES
Peoria



JOHAANN CAMPBELL
McClintock

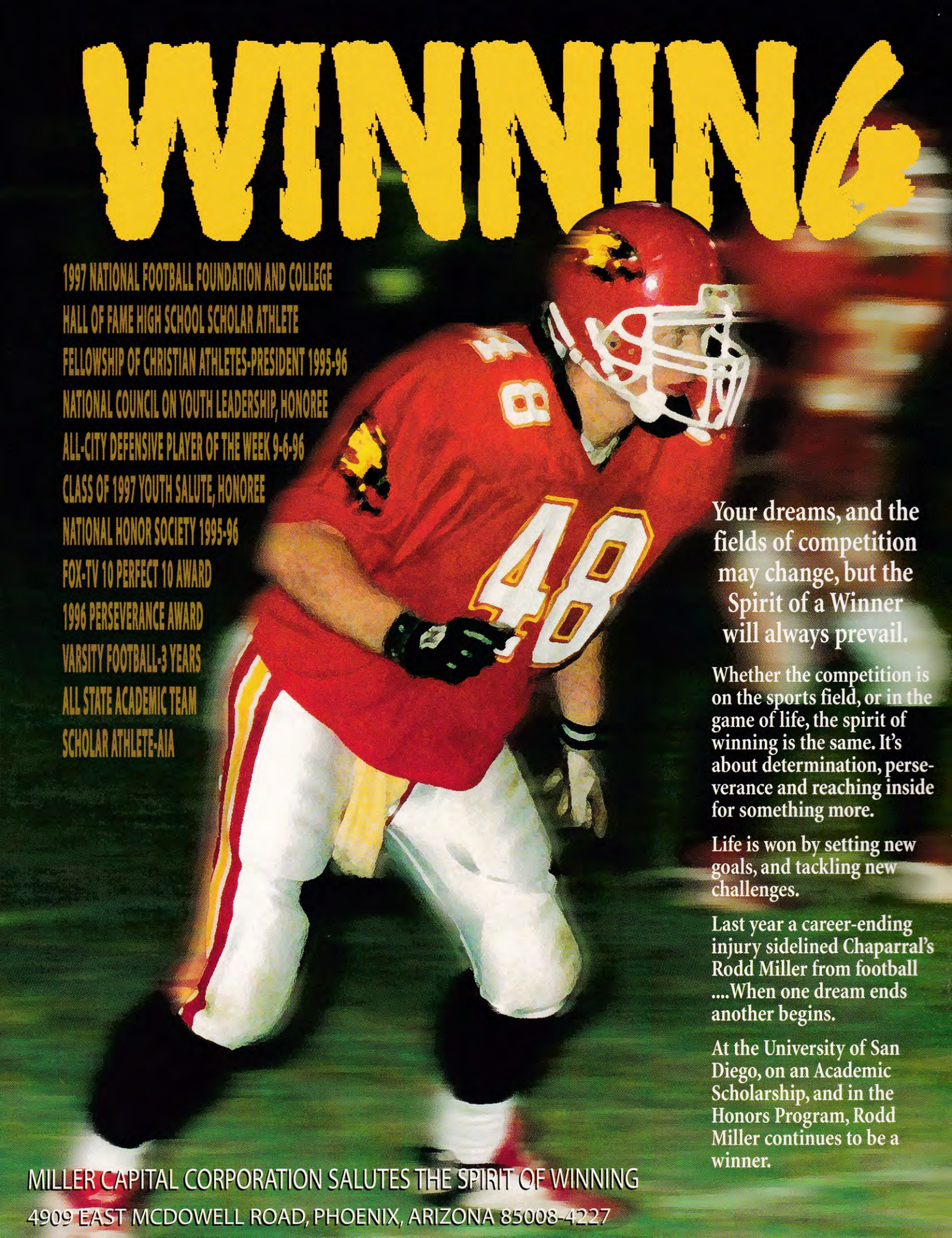


MIKE MILLER
Boys Ranch

75>
0 74470 12995 0

- Yesterday's Heroes
- Top Teams
- Best Players
- Coaching Leaders
- Best Programs
- All-Time Records

WINNING



1997 NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION AND COLLEGE HALL OF FAME HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLAR ATHLETE
FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES-PRESIDENT 1995-96
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON YOUTH LEADERSHIP, HONOREE
ALL-CITY DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK 9-6-96
CLASS OF 1997 YOUTH SALUTE, HONOREE
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY 1995-96
FOX-TV 10 PERFECT 10 AWARD
1996 PERSEVERANCE AWARD
VARSITY FOOTBALL-3 YEARS
ALL STATE ACADEMIC TEAM
SCHOLAR ATHLETE-AIA

Your dreams, and the fields of competition may change, but the Spirit of a Winner will always prevail.

Whether the competition is on the sports field, or in the game of life, the spirit of winning is the same. It's about determination, perseverance and reaching inside for something more.

Life is won by setting new goals, and tackling new challenges.

Last year a career-ending injury sidelined Chaparral's Rodd Miller from football ....When one dream ends another begins.

At the University of San Diego, on an Academic Scholarship, and in the Honors Program, Rodd Miller continues to be a winner.

MILLER CAPITAL CORPORATION SALUTES THE SPIRIT OF WINNING

4909 EAST MCDOWELL ROAD, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85008-4227

SUN DEVIL FOOTBALL

ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STAR SHOWCASE


Mitchell Freedman


Kenny Mitchell

ASU fans congratulate the 1996 PAC-10 Champions and anxiously anticipate the careers of the 1997 In-state Recruiting Class.

Clifton Jones	WR	Florence High School	6'2"	180
John Kashner	DB	Tucson Flowing Wells High School	5'10"	165
Kyle Kosier	LB'r	Glendale Cactus High School	6'6"	225
Cody Price	ILB	Mesa Westwood High School	6'3"	230
Justin Taplin	WR	Tempe High School	6'	180
Ralph Zarate	OL	Tucson High School	6'5"	275

These freshman will join all Pac-10 safety Mitchell Freedman of Maryvale HS, flyback Jeff Paulk of Tempe Corona de Sol HS, wide receivers Kenny Mitchell of Peoria HS, and Creig Spann of South Mountain HS. ALSO ..

These former All Arizona players will begin their careers as redshirt freshman Sun Devils.

Ryan Kealy	QB	St. Mary's High School	6'2"	190
Tariq McDonald	WR	St Mary's High School	6'1"	180
Jason Moore	TE	Horizon High School	6'5"	255
Stephen Trejo	LB	Casa Grande High School	6'3"	235
Quincy Yancy	DE	Glendal Ironwood High School	6'7"	245

Support these Sun Devils as they defend the PAC-10 Championship in 1997

Also don't miss the excitement of watching former Arizona High School/ASU stars in the NFL in 1997:

Mario Bates	Run Back	New Orleans Saints	Amphitheater
Brent Burnstein	D-Line	Tennessee Oilers	Deer Valley HS
Steve Bush	TE	Cincinnati Bengals	Paradise Valley HS
Eddie Cade	Safety	Kansas City Chiefs	Eloy HS
Eric Guliford	WR'r	New Orleans Saints	Peoria HS
Jason Kyle	LB'r	Seattle Seahawks	McClintock HS
Randall McDaniel	Off. Guard	Minnesota Vikings	Agua Fria HS
Kevin Miniefield	Corner	Chicago Bears	Camelback HS
Anthony Parker	Corner	St Louis Rams	McClintock HS
Phillippi Sparks	Corner	New York Giants	Maryvale HS
Shawn Swayda	D-Line	Chicago Bears	Brophy Prep HS
Danny Villa	Off Line	Kansas City Chiefs	Nogales HS
Darren Woodson	Safety	Dallas Cowboys	Maryvale HS

1997 ASU FOOTBALL HOME SCHEDULE

AUG. 30	NM STATE
SEPT. 20	BYU
OCT. 11	USC
NOV. 1	WASHINGTON
NOV 15	OREGON
NOV. 28	ARIZONA

FOR SEASON & GROUP TICKET INFORMATION CONTACT THE SUN ANGEL FOUNDATION AT

602-279-3585

Barry Sollenberger's 1997 Phoenix Metro $4.00

FOOTBALL

COMPLETE PHOENIX METROPOLITAN FOOTBALL PREVIEW

PUBLISHER/EDITOR
Barry C. Sollenberger

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
David Kukulski
Joseph Barry Sollenberger
Skip Bryant
Lonnie Collins
Jeff Krider
Bart Conley
Bob Snider

ALSO CONTRIBUTING
Dan Kukulski
Jim Lovell
Carol Downey
Ron Cosner
Gerald Kirkpatrick
Nick Worth
Amy Blodgett
Pam Kukulski
Al Kukulski

Stop By The Firehouse



Serving The Finest
In Charcoal Broiled Steaks,
Seafood and Sandwiches
for 30 Years!

"Good Luck Sun Devils!"

1639 East Apache Blvd.
Tempe
-85281-
(602) 966-4531





With seconds remaining, Tucson High tackle Mike Dawson decks Tempe quarterback Fred Mortensen, preserving a 20-14 Badger win in arguably the best played 5A title game in Arizona history (Mike Mulvena photo).

Table of Contents



Index of Teams 6
Metro Coaching Leaders 7
Consistency Goal for Arizona State 2A
The 'Cats Bounce Back 4A
NAU Big Sky Favorite 6A
Friday Night Heroes 11
Outstanding Player Checklist 12
5A High School Preview 16
4A High School Preview 26
'96 Super All-State Team 10A
Arizona Schoolboys in the NFL 12A
Junior College Report 14A
Small Schools Preview 34
White's Family Legacy Grows 38
All-Time Metro Football Records 50

YESTERDAY'S HEROES

The '87 Dobson Mustangs 3B
The '87 Peoria Panthers 4B
The '87 Florence Gophers 6B
The '77 McClintock Chargers 8B
The '67 St. Mary's Knights 11B
The '47 Mesa Jackrabbits 12B
The '47 Tempe Buffaloes 15B
The '37 Buckeye Hawks 16B

PHOENIX METRO FOOTBALL MAGAZINE is published annually by Phoenix Metro Publications, P.O. Box 27564, Tempe, Arizona 85285. Phone (602) 967-7256, or (602) 955-3303. Sold at newsstands and sporting goods stores throughout Maricopa County. Back issues available upon request. Cover photo of Rickey Boyer courtesy Arizona State University. All rights reserved.

ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS



Saluting Our 1967 State Champions - 30 Years Later!

HEAD COACH: Ed Doherty
ASSISTANT COACHES: Pat Lavin, Tom Kelley, Jim Sanford & George Koenigs

Sponsored By

St. Mary's High School Alumni

2525 N. 3rd. Street
Phoenix, 85004
(602) 254-6371
Bill Lehman, Principal
Jim Sanford, Athletic Director
Pat Farrell, Head Football Coach

"Good Luck Knights!"

1967 RESULTS (13-0-0)

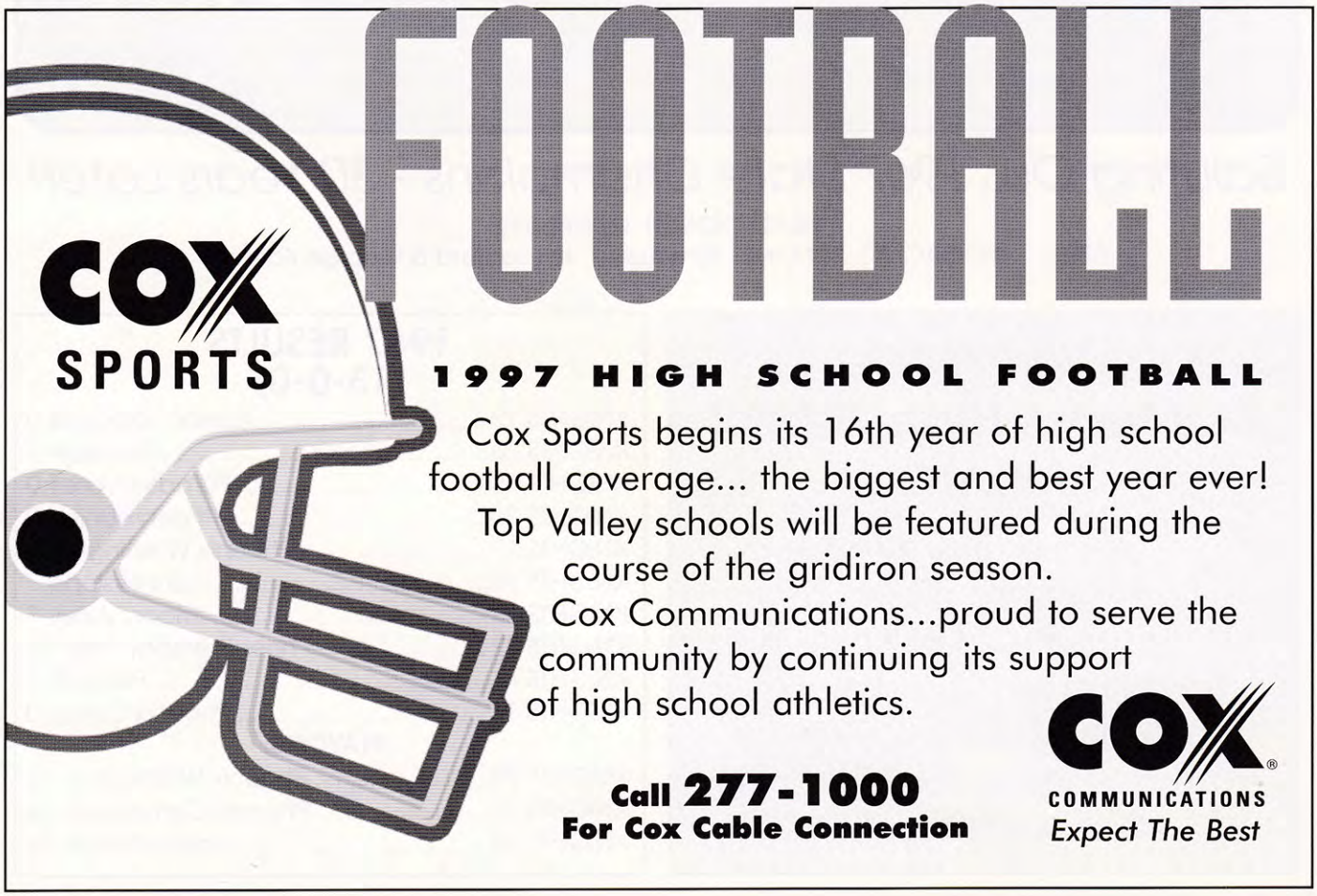
KNIGHTS 12	Tucson Salpointe 0
KNIGHTS 20	Glendale 7
KNIGHTS 48	Paradise Valley 0
KNIGHTS 26	Phoenix Union 0
KNIGHTS 19	Phoenix Washington 6
KNIGHTS 28	Sunnyslope 7
KNIGHTS 25	Moon Valley 7
KNIGHTS 32	Phoenix Brophy Prep 12
KNIGHTS 41	Prescott 7
KNIGHTS 14	Phoenix Cortez 0

PLAYOFFS:

KNIGHTS 28	Phoenix Washington 12
KNIGHTS 20	Phoenix Camelback 14
KNIGHTS 34	Tucson Pueblo 22

Index of High Schools

Agua Fria High School 27
Alhambra High School 23
Apache Junction High School 32
Apollo High School 27
Arcadia High School 32
Arizona Boys Ranch 34
Arizona Lutheran High School 36
Bourgade Catholic High School 35
Bradshaw Mountain High School 32
Brophy Prep High School 20
Buckeye High School 31
Cactus High School 27
Cactus Shadows High School 34
Camelback High School 23
Carl Hayden High School 23
Casa Grande High School 19
Centennial High School 26
Central High School 23
Chandler High School 19
Chaparral High School 32
Corona del Sol High School 19
Coronado High School 32
Cortez High School 31
Deer Valley High School 25
Desert Mountain High School 25
Desert Vista High School 20
Dobson High School 17
Dysart High School 35
Fountain Hills High School 34
Gila Bend High School 35
Gilbert High School 17
Glendale High School 27
Goldwater High School 25
Greenway High School 31
Highland High School 17
Horizon High School 20
Independence High School 32
Ironwood High School 25
Kingman High School 25
Kofa High School 20
Lake Havasu High School 31
Marcos de Niza High School 19
Maricopa High School 36
Maryvale High School 23
McClintock High School 19
Mesa High School 17
Mohave High School 27
Moon Valley High School 31
Mountain Pointe High School 19
Mountain Ridge High School 25
Mountain View High School 16
North High School 23
North Canyon High School 20
Northwest Community Christian 35
Paradise Valley High School 20
Peoria High School 26
Phoenix Christian High School 35
Prescott High School 31
Queen Creek High School 36
Red Mountain High School 16
Saguaro High School 32
St. Mary's High School 20
Scottsdale Christian Academy 35
Seton Catholic High School 35
Shadow Mountain High School 20
South Mountain High School 23
Sunnyslope High School 27
Sunrise Mountain High School 27
Tempe Union High School 32
Thunderbird High School 27
Tolleson High School 27
Trevor Browne High School 20
Valley Christian High School 35
Washington High School 31
Westview High School 25
Westwood High School 17
Wickenburg High School 34
Yuma High School 19

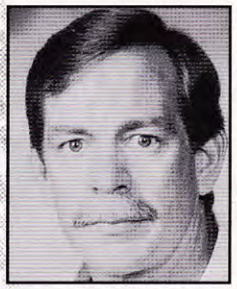


MATSOCK & ASSOCIATES
J.K. INSURANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES

"We Salute Phoenix's Winningest Active High School Coaches."



Chuck Esquivel
Ironwood



Pat Farrell
St. Mary's



Bil McKane
Mesa



Joe Corte
Coronado



Gerry LaBelle
Cactus Shadows

Winning Pct./Coach/School/Record

.846 .. Chuck Esquivel, Glendale Ironwood (11-2-1)
.830 .. Bill McKane, Mesa (39-8-0)
.826 .. Bill House, Glendale Independence (90-19-1)
.788 .. Doug Clapp, Peoria (108-29-4)
.776 .. Pat Farrell, Phoenix St. Mary's (180-52-2)
.748 .. Larry Fetkenhier, Glendale Cactus (116-39-2)
.733 .. Mike Epperson, Gilbert Highland (33-12-0)
.733 .. Jim Ewen, Mountain Ridge (22-8-0)
.731 .. Karl Kiefer, Mountain Pointe (256-94-3)
.727 .. Mike Epperson, Gilbert Highland (33-12-0)
.710 .. Keith Brown, Phoenix Christian (49-14-0)
.691 .. Steve Chisman, Phoenix Washington (76-34-4)
.666 .. Doug Meyer, Arizona Lutheran (6-3-0)
.655 .. Tom Wheatley, North Canyon (133-70-3)
.642 .. Doug Shaffer, Scottsdale Horizon (86-48-2)
.636 .. Bill Mitton, Phoenix Trevor Browne (178-102-2)
.632 .. Bob Lambie, Paradise Valley (67-39-2)

Winning Pct./Coach/School/Record

.628 .. Bill Gahn, Sunrise Mountain (113-67-6)
.622 .. Cleveland Dansby, South Mtn. (56-34-0)
.619 .. Gerry LaBelle, Cactus Shadows (73-45-2)
.604 .. Gregg Parish, Glendale Apollo (90-59-2)
.599 .. Tim Sanford, Phoenix Brophy (82-55-2)
.596 .. Tom Joseph, Marcos de Niza (31-21-0)
.592 .. Tim McBurney, Tempe Union (45-31-1)
.591 .. Joe Corte, Scottsdale Coronado (136-94-3)
.580 .. Mike Clark, Mesa Dobson (123-89-3)
.578 .. Curt Palmer, Mesa Westwood (26-19-0)
.575 .. Bernon Benson, VCHS (180-133-6)
.561 .. Dick Napolitano, Buckeye (23-18-0)
.559 .. Tom Bruney, Phoenix Maryvale (19-15-0)
.556 .. Bernie Busken, Mountain View (94-75-0)
.555 .. George Martinez, Tolleson Westview (5-4-1)
.516 .. Dennis Johnson, McClintock (32-30-0)
.510 .. Mike Brown, Phoenix Greenway (53-51-2)

Mark Matsock
& John K. Kelly

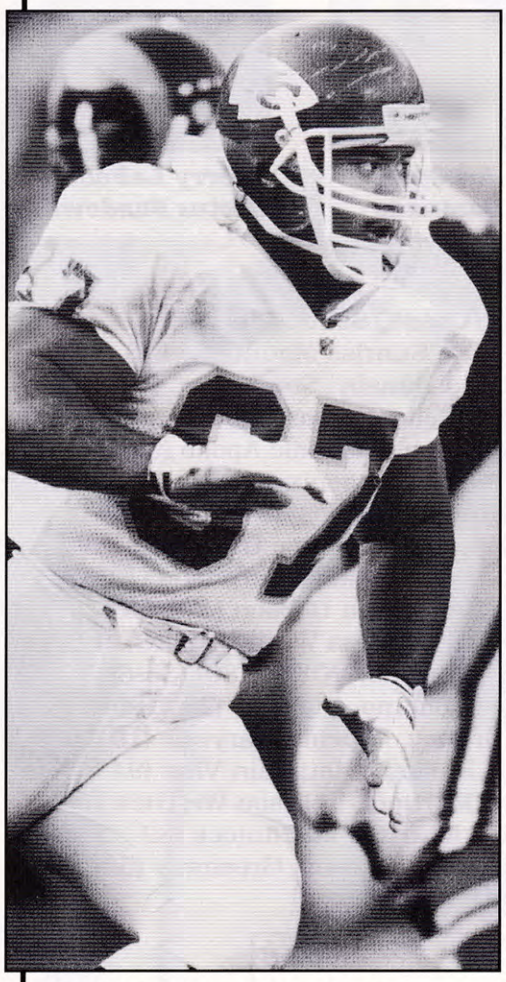
2930 E. Camelback Rd., Phoenix, 85016, Suite 120
Phone: (602) 955-0200

*LIFE INSURANCE *INDIVIDUAL & GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE
*DISABILITY INCOME PROTECTION *EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
*INVESTMENTS *QUALIFIED & NON-QUALIFIED PLANS
and MORE!

"Dedication, Leadership & Teamwork!"
Key ingredients to success in athletics & our business.

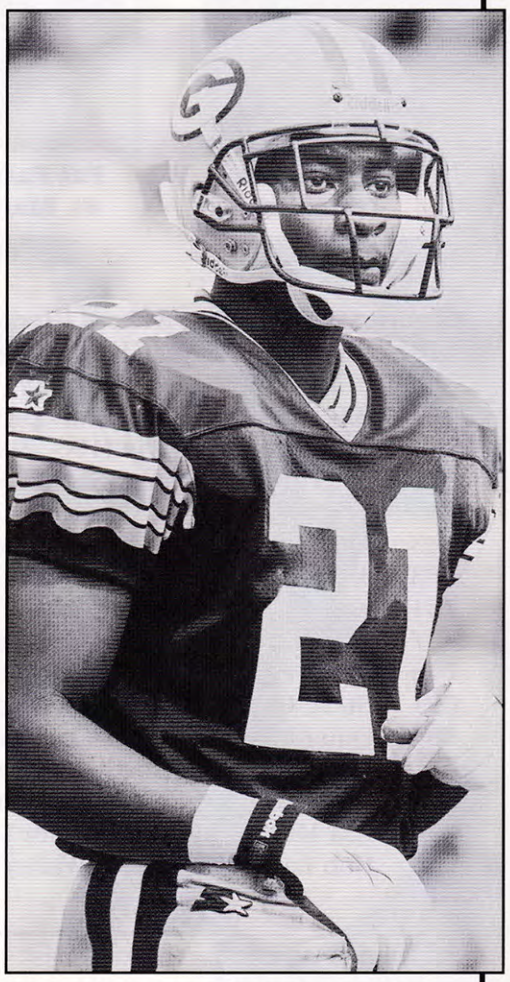
McDuffy's™
TEMPE ARIZONA

SALUTES FORMER SUN DEVILS NOW IN THE NFL



Dan Saleaumua, K.C. Chiefs

ERIC ALLEN .....New Orleans Saints
TRACE ARMSTRONG.....Miami Dolphins
MARIO BATES.....New Orleans Saints
TERRY BATTLE .....Detroit Lions
EDDIE CADE .....Kansas City Chiefs
SHANTE CARVER.....Dallas Cowboys
DAVID DIXON ....Minn. Vikings
JIM JEFFCOAT .....Buffalo Bills
PAUL JUSTIN .....Indianapolis Colts
JASON KYLE.....Seattle Seahawks
JEFF KYSAR .....Oakland Raiders
RANDALL McDANIEL.....Minn. Vikings
LENNY McGILL.....Green Bay Packers
KEVIN MINIEFIELD.....Chicago Bears
CRAIG NEWSOME....Green Bay Packers
ANTHONY PARKER.....St. Louis Rams
JAKE PLUMMER .....Arizona Cardinals
KEITH POOLE .....New Orleans Saints
BRYAN PROBY.....Kansas City Chiefs
DERRICK RODGERS.....Miami Dolphins
JUAN ROQUE .....Detroit Lions
LEONARD RUSSELL .....Denver Broncos
DAN SALEAUMUA.....Kansas City Chiefs
DEREK SMITH .....Washington Redskins
PHILLIPPI SPARKS.....New York Giants
ISRAEL STANLEY.....New Orleans Saints
SHAWN SWAYDA.....Chicago Bears
J.T. THOMAS .....St. Louis Rams
DANNY VILLA .....Oakland Raiders
SCOTT VON DER AHE .....Indianap. Colts
BRETT WALLERSTEDT...Cincinnati Bengals
DARREN WOODSON.....Dallas Cowboys



Craig Newsome, Green Bay Packers

*McDuffy's

"The Ultimate Sports Experience!"

230 W. 5th Street, Tempe, (602) 966-5600

Off Track Betting - Over 60 TV's - 9 Satellites

*Coming this fall, our new Nightclub: "The Bash on Ash!"

FIESTA
LINCOLN - MERCURY
1720 SOUTH MESA DRIVE
IN MESA • (602) 813-4900

DESERT TOYOTA
22ND STREET & KOLB
IN TUCSON • (520) 296-8535

BELL LEXUS
AT WEST BELL ROAD & I-17
IN PHOENIX • (602) 866-3300

BELL FORD
AT WEST BELL ROAD & I-17
IN PHOENIX • (602) 866-1776

DESERT
mazda HYUNDAI
22ND STREET & PANTANO
IN TUCSON • (520) 721-8000

BERGE
MAZDA-VOLKSWAGEN
1515 WEST BROADWAY
IN MESA • (602) 833-0001

1997 WILDCAT FOOTBALL SCHEDULE
Coach Dick Tomey

Sept 4. at Oregon
Sept. 13 Alabama-Birmingham
Sept. 20 at Ohio State
Sept. 27 at UCLA
Oct. 4 San Diego State
Oct. 11 Stanford
Oct. 18 Washington
Oct. 25 at Washington State
Nov. 8 Oregon State
Nov. 15 California
Nov. 28 at Arizona State

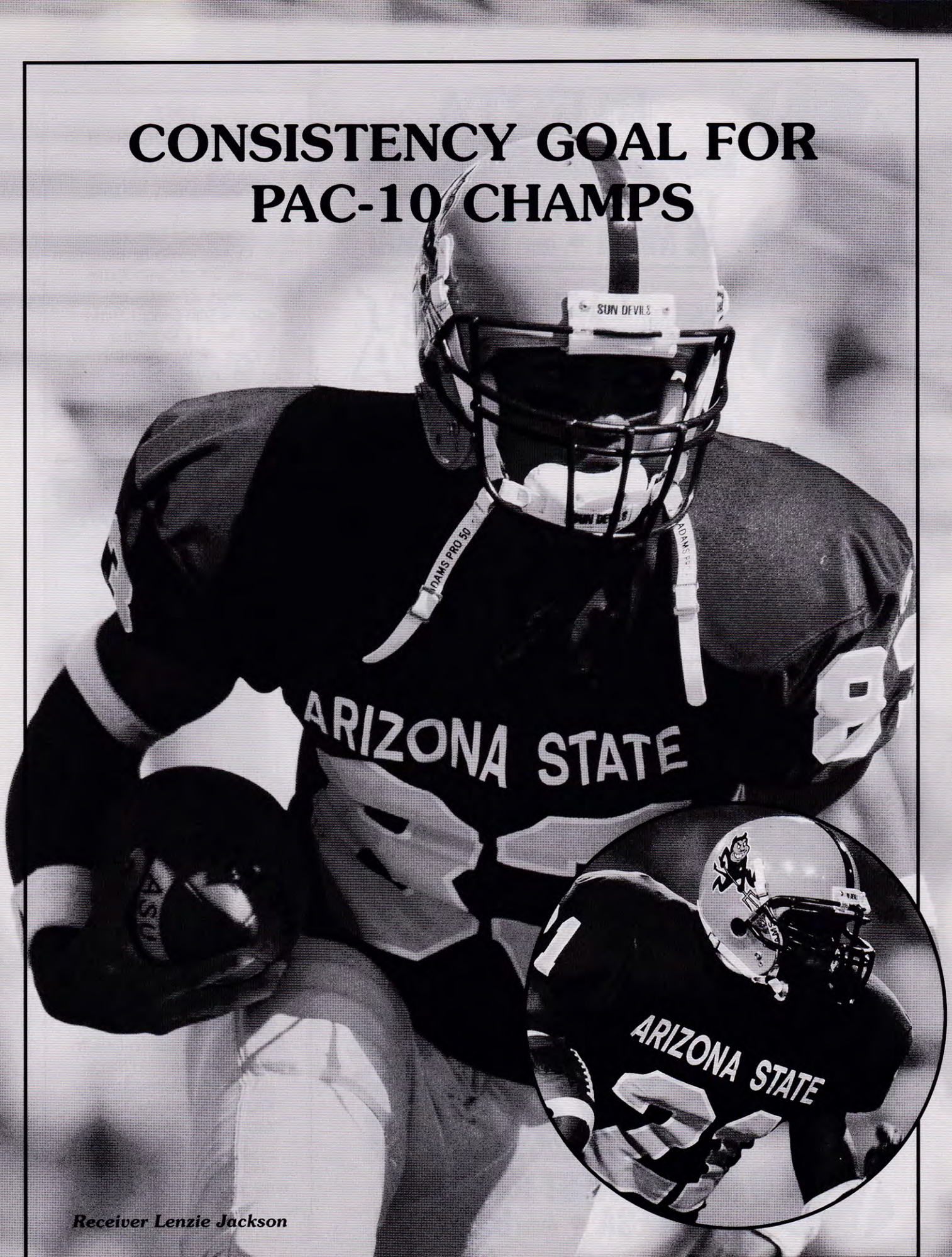
1997 SUN DEVIL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE
Coach Bruce Snyder

Aug. 30 New Mexico State
Sept. 13 at Miami
Sept. 20 BYU
Sept. 27 at Oregon State
Oct. 4 at Washington
Oct. 11 USC
Oct. 18 at Stanford
Nov. 1 Washington State
Nov. 8 at California
Nov. 15 Oregon
Nov. 28 Arizona

1997 LUMBERJACK FOOTBALL SCHEDULE
Coach Steve Axman

Aug. 30 at New Mexico
Sept. 20 Minnesota-Duluth
Sept. 27 Portland State
Oct. 4 at Weber State
Oct. 11 Montana State
Oct. 18 at Sacramento
Oct. 25 Montana
Nov. 1 at Idaho State
Nov. 8 Eastern Washington
Nov. 22 at Cal State Northridge

CONSISTENCY GOAL FOR PAC-10 CHAMPS



Receiver Lenzie Jackson

By Joseph Barry Sollenberger

Bruce Snyder, the NCAA Coach of the Year, has made several things perfectly clear since his thrill-a-minute Sun Devils came within seconds of winning the 1996 national championship.

"We don't want to go to the Rose Bowl every 10 years," said Snyder. "Consistency is a proven mark of success, and we haven't proven that yet."

Those remarks came in reference to the fact that ASU's appearance in the '97 Rose Bowl was the school's first post-season game since beating Air Force in the '87 Freedom Bowl.

To list just a few items, Snyder, whose 11-1 squad dropped a heartbreaker to Ohio State in the Rose Bowl, wants a program where the Devils attend a bowl each year, contend for the Pac-10 crown, and graduate its seniors.

Last year's run for the Roses was one of the most thrilling in school history. It was no fluke. Just take a look at April's NFL draft, and ASU fans couldn't help but feel proud. Eight Sun Devils were selected. Seven more signed free agent contracts.

Nobody produced more. Nebraska, Miami and A-State all had eight pro picks. The Devils lost a lot of talent, but a lot returns. The program looks solid. It's not perfect, yet. But it looks consistent. The best since 1987.

For the upcoming '97 campaign, the defending Pac-10 champs have switched the dates of three games to avoid playing 11-straight without a break. The Devils now have three bye weeks. And before you can say "Sun Devil," the season will be upon us.

New Mexico State comes to town in late August, when most fans are still at the beach. The date is August 30, so Camp Tontozona, the hideout north of Payson used as a preseason drill factory, opens early. Snyder, his staff and players will board the bus Aug. 12.

Two weeks after the Aggies visit Tempe, the Devils visit Florida, facing national power Miami on Sept. 13. One week later pass-happy BYU comes to town. Arizona State will not make a trip to Los Angeles, visits the Bay Area twice, and plays Washington State for the first time in three years.

Even with the loss of All-American Jake Plummer at quarterback, ASU's offense looks big and fast. Inexperience shows at three positions: quarterback, tight end and right tackle. But athletes are there.

If tailback Michael Martin (6-1, 209) is cleared from a neck injury, he'll join full-back Jeff Paulk (6-1, 245) to give the Devils' a terrific one-two punch. Up front, Kyle Murphy (6-4, 298) might be one of the best at that position in the Pac-10, if not the country. He looks to be a high draft pick.

Sophomore back J.R. Redmond (6-0, 191) will see plenty of action. He (photo insert) returns kicks, catches the ball and throws it. Last year he tossed 16-yard scoring strike to Jake Plummer against UCLA.

Who starts at quarterback, junior Steve Campbell (6-8, 220) or redshirt freshman Ryan Kealy (6-1, 195), is up for grabs. Last season, playing behind Plummer, Campbell threw only 17 passes, completing eight for 76 yards.

Whatever, wide receiver looks to be a strength, with speed and athletic ability big pluses. Lenzie Jackson (#83 photo), Kenny Mitchell, Greig Spann, Ricky Boyer and Tariq McDonald, along with incoming frosh Justin Taplin, the state schoolboy player of the year, help form a deep, solid nucleus, one of the Pac-10's best. Sophomore Kendrick Bates (6-5, 233), a former basketball star, could start at tight end. He'll be pushed by senior Zack Romero (6-4, 230).

Junior Grey Ruegamer (6-5, 287) has been switched from right tackle to left, replacing All-American Juan Roque. "I think Grey is one of the best tackles in the country," insists offensive coordinator Dan Cozzetto. "You don't find many linemen who are running downfield, making the extra block."

Junior Troy Davis (6-5, 252) or soph Thomas Schmidt (6-6, 259) will inherit Ruegamer's position on the other side. The coaches are high on left guard Kyle Murphy (6-4, 298), also. "He may be one of the best in the country," says one ASU aide. Murphy played all 103 snaps during a 48-35 double-overtime win over USC. Glen Gable (6-5, 295) and Victor Leyva (6-4, 290) will compete at right guard. Junior Randy Leaphart (6-3, 278) should start at center.

On defense, ASU returns five starters: three in the secondary, one at linebacker and one on the line. Defensive backs Damien Richardson, Jason Simmons and Courtney Jackson all started. The off-season status of safety Mitchell Freedman is uncertain. Linebacker Pat Tillman (5-11, 200) earned All-Pac-10 votes.

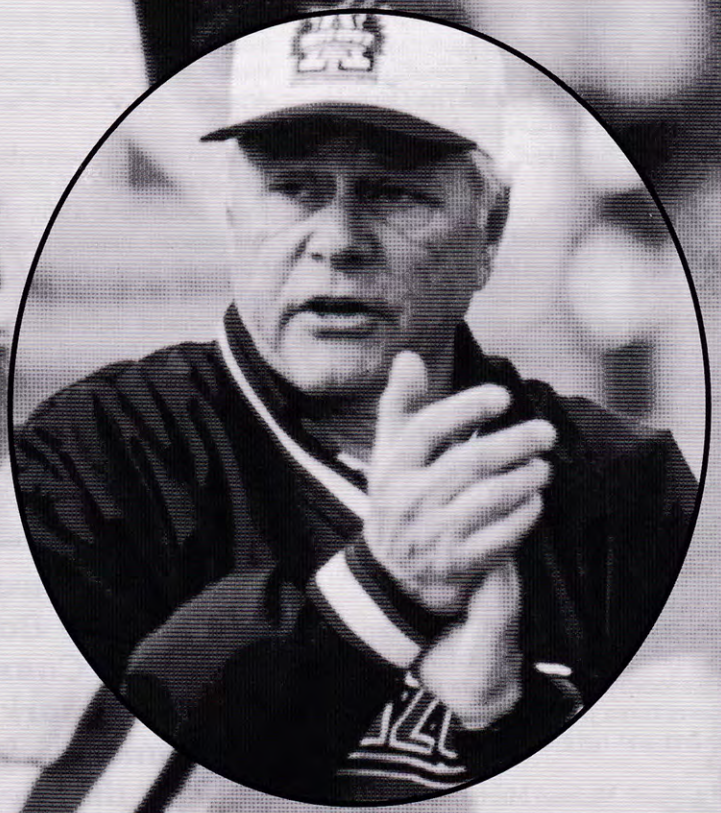
Up front, players like Vince Amey, Jeremy Staat, Albrey Battle, Derrick Ford, Hamilton Mee and Quincy Yancy get their chance to start.

SUN DEVIL NEWCOMERS

Pos.	Player	Size	Hometown(School)
QB	Chad Elliott	6-3, 190	Sacramento (Grant), Ca.
RB	Robert Thomas	5-11, 183	Las Vegas (Bonanza)
RB	Davaren Hightower	6-1, 190	Richardson (Lake Highlands), Tx.
RB	Larry Montgomery	6-2, 210	Diamond Bar (Troy), Ca.
WR	Clifton Jones	6-2, 180	Florence (Florence), Ariz.
WR	Justin Taplin	6-0, 180	Tempe (Tempe Union)
TE	Matt Cercone	6-5, 250	Bakersfield Junior College
OL	Scott Peters	6-3, 305	Pleasanton (Amador Valley), Ca.
OL	Ralph Zarate	6-5, 275	Tucson (Tucson)
LB	Joe Cesta	6-1, 235	Saddleback Junior College, Ca.
LB	Eric Fields	6-3, 200	Las Vegas (Western)
LB	Kyle Kosier	6-6, 225	Glendale (Cactus)
LB	Cody Price	6-3, 230	Mesa (Wretwood)
DL	Dayroni Harris	6-4, 280	Los Angeles Southwest Junior College
DL	Leroy Hawkins	6-4, 265	San Francisco City College
DL	Welton Kage	6-6, 255	Antelope (Center), Ca.
DB	James Dunn	5-10, 180	Corona (Centennial), Ca.
DB	Kyion Grayes	6-0, 185	Fullerton (Troy), Ca.
DB	Courtney Hysaw	5-10, 185	Denver (Montbello), Colo.
DB	Courtney Palmore	5-11, 177	Oxnard (Oxnard), Ca.
DB	John Kashner	5-10, 165	Tucson (Flowing Wells)
PK	Stephen Baker	5-11, 180	Bakersfield Junior College

"We don't want to go to the Rose Bowl every 10 years. Consistency is a proven mark of success, and we haven't proven that yet."

Dick Tomey and The 'Cats Bounce Back.



Quarterback Kevin Smith

By Lonnie Collins

It wasn't too long ago that Arizona's "Desert Storm" defense was the talk of the conference. But after last year's season finale, a 56-14 loss to rival Arizona State, the once proud Wildcat defense was left in shambles.

But that was last year. Watch for Dick Tomey and his 'Cats to bounce back. A lot can happen in one year. A lot can happen in the off-season.

No sooner had the dust cleared from a disappointing 5-6 campaign, when Tomey and his staff went to work to put the pieces back together.

On both sides of the ball.

Offensively, sophomore Kevin Smith (photo) returns at quarterback. Like all young starters in a tough conference, he rode a rollercoaster season. Two examples: 502 total yards against California (a 56-55 4OT loss), an NCAA single game total offense record for a freshman, including seven touchdowns. Then, against Rose Bowl bound Arizona State, he was sacked seven times, passed for only 91 yards and rushed for two.

Such is the world of a young Pac-10 quarterback. Still, the UA staff feels Smith (5-11, 202) has the ability, arm and skills to develop into one of the Pac-10's most dangerous threats. On the perimeter, Rodney Williams (6-1, 191), Jeremy McDaniel (6-0, 190) and young Dennis Northcutt 5-11, 160) are top-flight pass receivers. In two years, Williams has caught 71 passes. McDaniel hauled in 31 for 607 yards last season. Tight end Mike Lucky (6-6, 280) gives Smith a big target.

Senior Kevin Schmidtke (5-9, 191), a one-time state player of the year, and sophomores Trung Canidate (5-11, 185) and Leon Callen (5-9, 182) line up at tailback. Callen is battling an injury. Canidate, a former Phoenix Central all-stater, was a state 100-meter sprint champion (10.65) in 1995. Kelvin Eafon (6-1, 190) and Charles Myles (6-0, 241) give the 'Cats a good tandem at fullback.

Last year, the once proud Arizona defense slipped to eighth in the league. In the offseason, Arizona lost defensive coordinator Larry MacDuff to the New York Giants. Former UA assistant Rich Ellerson will replace him.

Good news came in the spring when the NCAA granted all-star defensive tackle Joe Salave'a (6-4, 280), a second team All-Pac-10 pick, an extra year of play. "This is the best single piece of news we've had," said Tomey. "It's a tribute to Joe for his hard work and academic focus, and a heck of a note for our team. He means everything to this team that a guy like Peyton Manning means to Tennessee."

Salave'a played in the East-West Shrine Game and the Hula Bowl, two NCAA-sanctioned all-star games which did not affect his status under new NCAA rules. One of the team captains in '96, he'll probably be one again in 1997.

"This is the best single piece of news we've had. It's a tribute to Joe for his hard work ... and a heck of a note for our team. He means everything to this team that a guy like Peyton Manning means to Tennessee."

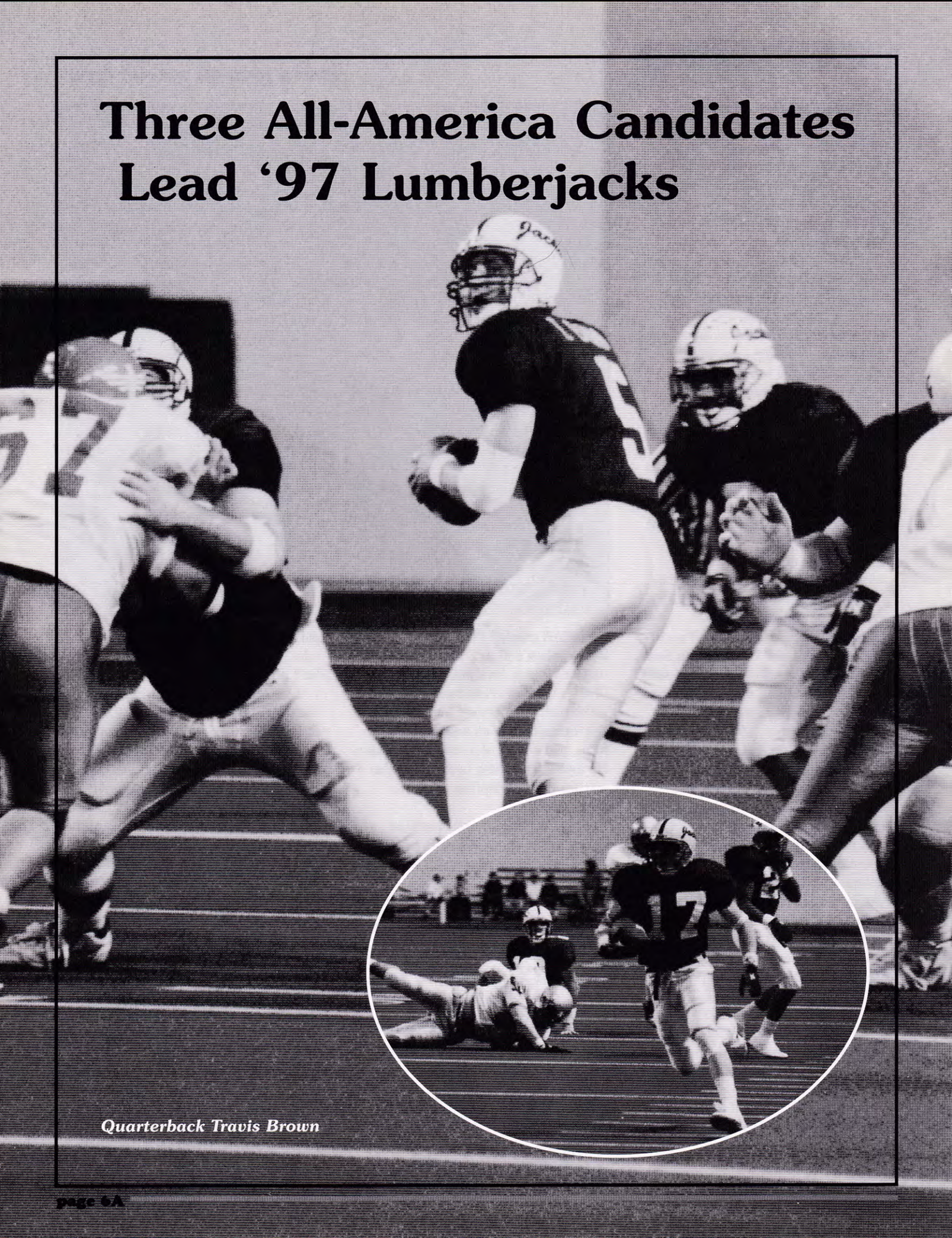
Lots of experience returns, including linebacker Jimmy Sprotte (6-2, 237), tackle Daniel Greer (6-2, 265), and ends Steve Tafua (6-3, 280) and Mike Szlauko (6-4, 250). Behind, the 'Cats will be led by middle linebacker Chester Burnett (5-10, 223), the team's leading tackler last year. Safety speed makes him one of the fastest 'backers in the Pac-10. Last year he recorded 124 tackles, best in the conference, recovered two fumbles, caused three, broke up three passes and picked off two - one for a touchdown. Redshirt junior Paul Shields, a former prep star from Paradise Valley, could back up Burnett.

In the secondary, UA returns five former starters: cornerbacks Chris McAlister (6-2, 185) and Kelly Malveaux (5-9, 179), strong safety Rashee Johnson (5-11, 195), and free safeties David Flipp (6-0, 179) and Mikal Smith (5-10, 166). McAlister, a junior to be, was first in the Pac-10 with six interceptions, and returned a kickoff 100 yards for a score against UCLA.

WILDCAT NEWCOMERS

Pos.	Player	Size	Hometown(School)
RB	Manuel Golden	5-11, 185	Phoenix (Washington)
RB	William Blocker	5-11, 210	San Bernardino (Pacific), Ca.
RB	Jeff Inmon	6-3, 230	Raleigh (Cardinal Gibbons), N.C.
RB	Jay Hinton	6-0, 202	Glendale Community College
WR	A.J. Brown	6-0, 180	Phoenix (Washington)
WR	Brandon Nash	6-2, 195	Beverly Hills, Ca.
TE	Brandon Manumaleuna	6-1, 260	Torrance (Narbonne), Ca.
TE	Ashley Burrows	6-6, 230	Mesa Community College
OL	David Hubbard	6-5, 280	Tucson (Sabino)
OL	John Mamolo	6-4, 275	Lafitte (Fisher Creek), La.
OL	Ega Usu	6-4, 290	El Camino Junior College
OL	Steven Grace	6-2, 270	Honolulu (Kamehameha)
OL	Edwin Mulitalo	6-4, 340	Ricks College, Idaho
LB	Reggie Hardy	6-0, 205	Galena Park (North Shore), Tx.
LB	Mike Wilson	6-0, 190	Corona (Centennial), Ca.
DL	Bryan Kula	6-4, 285	Phoenix (Brophy Prep)
DL	Anthony Thomas	6-3, 240	Pasadena (Pasadena), Ca.
DL	Eli Wnek	6-3, 225	Glendale (Ironwood)
DL	J.J. Joppru	6-4, 270	Fullerton Junior College
DB	Malosi Leonard	6-2, 210	Palmdale (Palmdale), Ca.
DB	Alex Luna	6-1, 220	San Fernando (San Fernando), Ca.
DB	Charles Nash Jr.	5-10, 175	Gardena (Serra), Ca.
DB	Jimmy Ray Brown	5-11, 175	Los Angeles (Jefferson)
P	Ryan Springston	6-1, 210	Butler County, Ks.

Three All-America Candidates Lead '97 Lumberjacks



Quarterback Travis Brown

By Jeff Krider

It's been an upbeat summer, to say the least. With 17 starters back from an excellent 9-3 club, NAU looks tough.

Coach Steve Axman has three All-America candidates to work with: sophomore quarterback Travis Brown (Phoenix Moon Valley), offensive tackle Dan Finn (Mesa Westwood) and wideout Ricky Pearsell (Flagstaff). "Any coach in the conference would love to build a season around those three," claims one Big Sky head coach.

Last year's young club dropped a 42-31 opening round playoff game to Furman, the school's first such contest in the 1-AA national playoffs. But eight starters are back from one of the most prolific offenses in Big Sky history.

In 1996, the Lumberjacks set or tied 14 national records, leading the nation in scoring and total offense. The defense, which caved in late in the season, looks improved, with nine starters and some talented newcomers.

Throw in All-America punt returner Pearsell (photo insert) and it's easy to see why expectations run high in Flagstaff. In fact, one national publication, *The Sporting News*, ranks the 'Jacks No. 1 in the nation in Division I-AA.. From sideline to sideline, NAU will field one of the most talented offenses in 1-AA football. Four starters return from an offensive line that sprung Archie Amerson loose for 2,079 yards. Before picking up his diploma, Amerson carried off the Walter Payton Award, given annually to the nation's I-AA Player of the Year.

"It will be hard for us to produce the same numbers," says offensive coordinator Brent Myers. "With the loss of Archie, you take 2,000 yards away. He made us better at a lot of positions."

Despite the loss of Amerson, the 'Jacks appear loaded. Sophomore Travis Brown (photo) was terrific, completing 223 of 411 passes (54%) for 3,398 yards and 23 touchdowns. Only nine passes were intercepted. "Travis now needs to work on detail," claims Myers. "He can play and he knows the system, so now he can really focus on making himself a better all-around player. The kids believe in him. He is a very natural leader and our players have no doubt he will succeed."

Wideouts Gibbons St. Paul and Pearsall were all over the field. St. Paul caught 50 passes for 975 yards and six scores. Pearsall caught 47 for 728 yards and three TDs. And this in an offense with a back rushing for 2,000 yards.

The receiving corps may be the most talented position on the squad. Six receivers with at least 20 catches return. Wideouts Mike Lemo and Dion Black, two of the fastest squad members, also return.

"This is an area in which we are really going to be good," adds Myers. "St. Paul is a big-play guy and Pearsell is a natural leader. Lemos and Black are both poised for the kind of break-through season St. Paul and Pearsell had last year."

Another offensive threat is tight end Ray Flores, another Mesa Westwood product, who caught 23 passes, including a 67-yard touchdown.

"This is an area in which we are really going to be good. St. Paul is a big-play guy and Pearsall is a natural leader. Lemos and Black are both poised for the kind of break-through seasons that St. Paul and Pearsall had last year."

On the line, Finn (6-4, 290), left guard David Heasman (6-5, 335), center Ryan Lingenfelder (6-2, 280), and right guard James Martin (6-4, 320) return. Finn was a first team All-American, Lingenfelder was second team all-league, and Martin has been granted an extra hardship year by the NCAA.

Defensively, NAU lost two exceptional players to graduation, tackle Pete Petrucci and end Kevin Kolkman. But tackle Jarrett Loggins (6-3, 281) and end Nick Petrucci (6-3, 240) return. David Couture (6-2, 240) progressed and could replace Kolkman at end.

The outside linebackers are strong, quick and experienced. "It could be one of the team's best positions.," says defensive coordinator Robb Akey.

Damion Davis (5-10, 181), Afa Faraimo (5-10, 201) and Troy Campbell (5-10, 181) return to the outside corps. Young Faraimo (see cover) prepped at Long Beach Poly, the most productive high school ever for the National Football League. Campbell played at Phoenix Washington. Redshirt freshman Walter Jefferson, a Tucson Amphi product, was the 'Jacks' scout team player of the year.

Lots of experience returns in the secondary, too. Cleveland Dansby, the former South Mountain quarterback, Samaji Akili, Renal Robinson, Cedric Jones, Ryan Hill and Rod Washington all played and figure to improve.

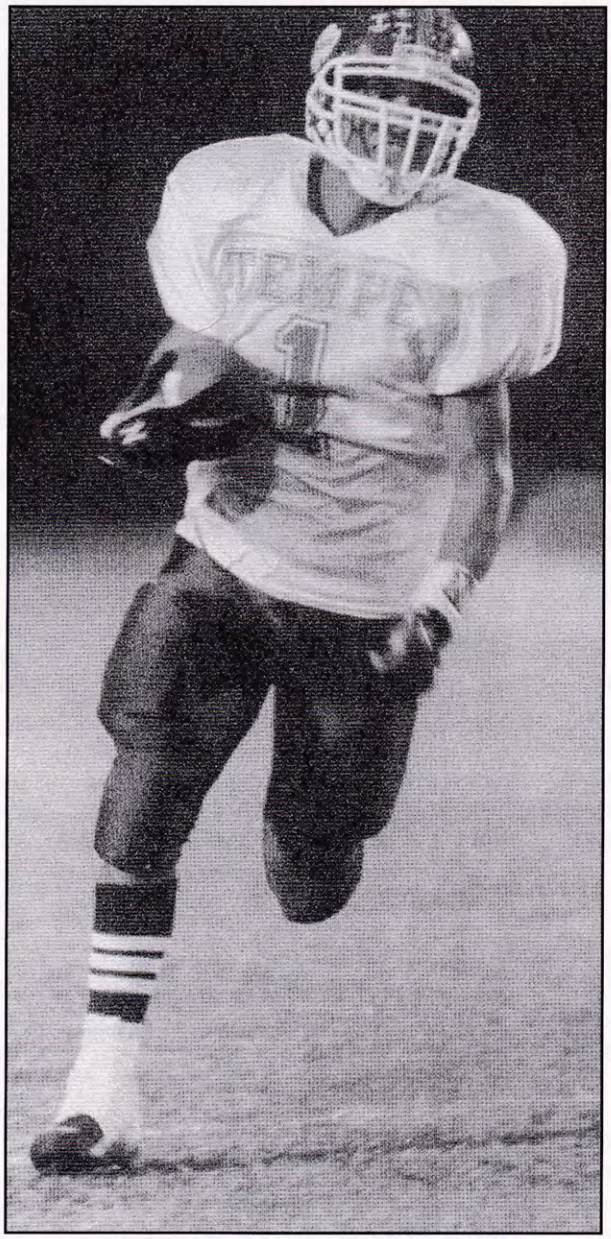
LUMBERJACK NEWCOMERS

Pos.	Player	Size	Hometown(School)
QB	Preston Parsons	6-3, 190	Portland (Jesuit), Oregon
RB	Francis St. Paul	5-10, 185	Los Angeles (Murphy)
WR	Christopher Nash	5-9, 175	Flagstaff (Coconino)
TE	Stevan Fontana	6-5, 240	San Geronimo (Marin), Ca.
OL	Kenny Hale	6-3, 260	Phoenix (South Mountain)
OL	Chris Hann	6-4, 270	Glendale (Cactus)
OL	Eric Damko	6-5, 265	Temecula Valley, Ca.
OL	Kevin Damko	6-5, 265	Temecula Valley, Ca.
OL	Nick Yerton	6-3, 280	Crescenta Valley, Ca.
LB	Kacey Allen	6-0, 215	Long Beach (Poly), Ca.
LB	Ricky Lavender	6-1, 180	Oakland (McClymonds)
LB	Terrance Petty	6-3, 234	Moorpark Junior College, Ca.
DL	Timmy Jones	6-4, 235	Omaha (Millard South)
DL	Malachai Keddington	6-3, 275	Palmdale (Highland), Ca.
DL	Andrew Anthony	6-1, 250	Phoenix (St. Mary's)
DB	Ricky Lavender	6-0, 170	Oakland (McClymonds)
DB	Brad Byers	5-10, 180	Moreno Valley, Ca.
DB	Chris Byers	5-10, 194	Riverside Junior College
DB	Raymond Perryman	6-0, 180	Phoenix (South Mountain)
PK	Ty Dondelinger	5-11, 190	Novato (Marin Catholic), Ca.

MYERS/STEVENS & CO. Salute

ARIZONA'S HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

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 .....ALVIN MOORE
.....Coolidge (TB)
.....RIKI GRAY
.....Tucson Amphi (LB)
1976 .....GREG BRADY
.....Coronado (QB)
1975 .....BRIAN FELIX



Justin Taplin, an Arizona State signee, caught 75 passes for 1,295 yards and 16 touchdowns (Amy Blodgett photo).

.....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 .....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)
1956 .....WARREN LIVINGSTON
.....Mesa (TB)
1955 .....GEORGE GREATHOUSE
.....Phoenix Union (TB)
1954 .....GEORGE GREATHOUSE

Sponsored by Myers/Stevens & Co. Student Insurance

Student Accident & Health Specialist Since 1946.
Call Lionel Goar (602) 962-9777, or Ann Lockwood (602) 493-2185
Selected annually by the editors of **Phoenix, Tucson** & **Flagstaff Football** Magazines

one year ago (1996)

Season Magical Despite Defeat

By Joseph Barry Sollenberger

(The following article appeared in The Michigan Daily, the University of Michigan newspaper, on Jan. 8, 1997.)

The people of this college desert town are in a state of mourning. It's as if their favorite son recently traveled to a far-off war in a far-off country, and they just received notice that he's dead.

Indeed, there is a sense of tremendous disappointment in this city. The Arizona State football team - Tempe's beloved Sun Devils - went off to battle in Pasadena against Ohio State in the Rose Bowl, and did not return victorious. The Buckeyes brought Arizona State's storybook season to an end, 20-17.

How could this have happened?

Weren't these Sun Devils, only two years removed from a 3-8 season, destined to erase mighty Ohio State (just as they had mighty Nebraska) to complete their first 12-0 season since 1975?

Wasn't Arizona State destined to win its first national championship ever? The city sure thought so.

When the Sun Devils' brilliant quarterback, Jake "The Snake" Plummer, slithered 11 yards for a touchdown with 1:33 left for a 17-14 lead, the state of Arizona shook from south Phoenix to the Grand Canyon.

But just when it seemed that Arizona State had completed a fourth-quarter comeback for the fourth time this season, a local boy dealt the Sun Devils a crushing blow. Quarterback Joe Germaine, who grew up in nearby Mesa, led the Buckeyes on an improbable 65-yard game-winning touchdown drive in the game's final two minutes.

With 19 seconds left, the Sun Devils didn't have enough time for another comeback.

What made the loss more difficult to stomach were the events that transpired the following night. Third-ranked Florida destroyed top-ranked Florida State in the Sugar Bowl. The Sun Devils could have won the national championship had they survived Ohio State.

In the end, ASU came up 90 seconds short. Ninety seconds short of a Rose Bowl victory. Ninety seconds short of a national championship.



Derrick Rodgers decks Nebraska quarterback Scott Frost for a safety. (Irwin R. Daugherty)

Time heals many wounds. Arizona State's 1996 season will be remembered as a stunning success, not a shocking disappointment. After winning their first two games of the season, the Devils hosted then-No. 1 Nebraska, which had won 26 straight and was gunning for a third straight national championship.

One year earlier in Lincoln, the Cornhuskers annihilated the Devils, 77-28. In an improbable upset, ASU blanked the Cornhuskers 19-0, marking only the second time in Nebraska coach Tom Osborne's 284 games that his team had been shutout.

Afterwards, the Devils jumped from No. 17 to No. 6. They were 3-0 for the first time since 1982. And the college football world took notice. Two more Arizona State victories set up back-to-back matchups with UCLA and Southern Cal.

The Devils came from three touchdowns down to beat UCLA and needed double overtime to dispatch the Men of Troy. Two victories later, the Devils welcomed California to Sun Devil Stadium with a Rose Bowl berth on the line.

With a couple of minutes remaining and A-State leading 35-7, an announcement was made that with the victory, the Devils would represent the Pac-10 in the Rose Bowl.

Bad move.

As delirious fans rushed the field, the officials had two options - to be trampled or race to the locker room. Fortunately, they chose the latter.

Arizona State fans tore down the goal posts with :21 still showing on the clock. The Devils were 10-0 with one regular season game remaining - at rival Arizona. Prior to the season, the Devils had defeated the Wildcats just twice since 1981.

Arizona State vanquished Arizona 56-14, in a game that wasn't that close. A break here and there and A-State could have won 77-7. From there, it was on to Pasadena, and you know the rest.

So, chin up Tempe. You were more than a part of something good. You were a part of something special.

TEMPE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

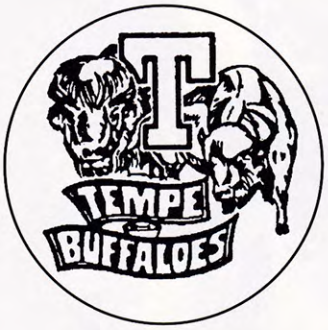
"Success on the Football Field
and in the Classroom
since 1924!"



McClintock Chargers



Corona del Sol Aztecs



Tempe Union Buffaloes



Mountain Pointe Pride



Marcos de Niza Padres

Eight State Football Championships!

158 First-Team All-State Players!

16 Prep All-Americans!

15 Professional Players Since 1970!

830 Friday Night Victories since 1924!



Desert Vista Thunder

Just 15 Different Head Coaches In Past 26 Years!

Teams Compete In Tough 5A & 4A East Valley Regions!

Outstanding Facilities For Every Sport!

Two State Football Championships in 1989!

Dr. James D. Buchanan, Superintendent
Don Wilkinson, Director of Athletics

District Offices, 500 West Guadalupe, Tempe, AZ, 85283, (602)839-0292

1997 FRIDAY NIGHT HEROES

Sponsored by CRN



Blue-chip tailback Kyran Jones rushed for 2,094 yards and scored 32 touchdowns.

Phoenix Metro Football Magazine's *checklist of outstanding players for the 1997 high school football season.*

QB... Richard Lucero, South Mountain, 6-0, 170
QB... Tate Gunning, Mesa Mountain View, 5-10, 175
RB... Kyran Jones, Peoria, 6-1, 183
RB... Johaann Campbell, Tempe McClintock, 5-8, 175
RB... Robert Dickie, Mesa Red Mountain, 5-7, 170
RB... Phillip Paige, Tolleson Westview, 5-8, 175
WR.. Matt Nixon, Phoenix Sunnyslope, 6-1, 195
WR.. Joey Graves, Casa Grande, 6-1, 175
TE ... Todd Heap, Mesa Mountain View, 6-4, 220
OL... Josh Jones, Peoria, 6-4, 281
OL... Ryan Bakke, Glendale Apollo, 6-3, 255
OL... Damien Niko, Mesa Mountain View, 6-5, 295
OL... Shawn Falk, Chandler, 6-2, 240
DB... Willie Daniel, Phoenix St. Mary's, 6-0, 190
DB... Brandon Falkner, Peoria, 6-2, 191
DB... Travis Wells, Phoenix Alhambra, 5-10, 175
DB... Landon Benson, Phoenix Goldwater, 5-11, 160
DL... John Clanton, Peoria Centennial, 6-2, 265
DL... Brad Payne, Gilbert, 6-3, 220
LB ... Mike Miller, Arizona Boys Ranch, 6-2, 215
LB ... Scott Fuller, Mesa, 6-2, 230
LB ... Brian Lindsay, Gilbert Highland, 6-0, 195
LB ... David Holmes, Phoenix Trevor Browne, 6-0, 205
LB ... Andrew Brigham, Scottsdale Saguaro, 6-3, 210
PK ... Josh Lane, Phoenix Christian, 6-0, 195

CRN
COLLEGE
RECRUITNET

DO YOU WANT
TO PLAY COLLEGE ATHLETICS?

CRN OFFERS
A PROVEN TRACK RECORD
OF GETTING ARIZONA ATHLETES
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS.

call Erik Walbot at
(602) 941-5541

Metro Checklist of Players

quarterbacks

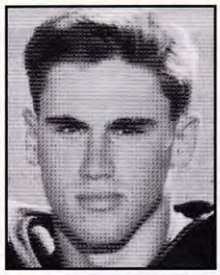
Bryant Berge, Red Mountain, 6-3, 210
Marco Burruel, Maryvale, 6-1, 155
Matt Cooley, Arcadia, 6-0, 185
Scott Gerlach, Marcos de Niza, 5-9, 175
Tate Gunning, Mountain View, 5-10, 175
Kerry Hodges, Moon Valley, 6-1, 175
Keith Jennings, Peoria, 5-11, 188
Scott Johnson, Chaparral, 6-3, 185
Rocky King, Westview, 5-10, 170 (jr)
Guillermo Lopez, North, 5-11, 155
Richard Lucero, South Mountain, 6-0, 170
Steve Mullins, Paradise Valley, 6-4, 195
B.R. Koehneman, Seton Catholic, 6-0, 170
Zack Threadgill, Apollo, 6-3, 190
Jake Wright, NWCC, 5-10, 170 (jr)

running backs

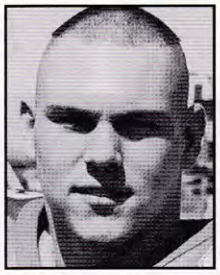
Raja Audi, Seton Catholic, 5-10, 180
Mike Ballinger, Seton Catholic, 6-0, 180
Johaann Campbell, McClintock, 5-8, 175
Robert Canidate, Alhambra, 5-7, 155
Jeremy Chantry, SCA, 6-0, 160 (jr)
Chris Cutting, Cactus, 6-2, 230
Robert Dickie, Red Mountain, 5-7, 170
Mike Downing, Marcos de Niza, 6-0, 185
Jared Fitzgerald, North Canyon, 6-0, 197



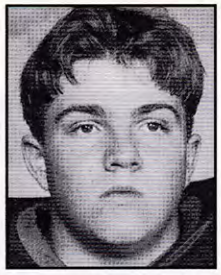
Matt Cooley
Arcadia



Scott Gerlach
Marcos de Niza



J. Schwatzberg
Chaparral



Matt Hendricks
Corona del Sol

Travis Gammage, Cortez, 5-11, 175 (jr)
Trevor Gilder, Red Mountain, 6-1, 220
Darnell Halsey, Dobson, 5-11, 190
Marcus Hansen, Highland, 5-10, 200
Joel Huerta, Coronado, 5-10, 175
Kory Hunt, Dysart, 6-3, 235
Kyran Jones, Peoria, 6-1, 183
Nick Mangosing, Apollo, 6-5, 225 (jr)
Chasada Martin, Moon Valley, 6-0, 185
Malcom Moore, Alhambra, 5-10, 165
Phillip Page, Westview, 5-8, 175
Jerry Schwartzberg, Chaparral, 5-11, 195
Tony Scott, Marcos de Niza, 5-9, 170
Garric Simmons, Washington, 6-0, 210
Dale Stuckey, Independence, 5-11, 165
Francis Turner, Paradise Valley, 5-9, 177
Dan Wilson, Apache Junction, 6-0, 190

receivers

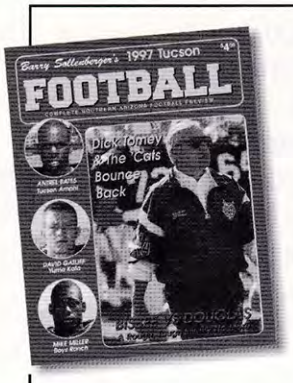
Brad Belsher, Brophy Prep, 5-10, 170
Zach Cresap, Gilbert, 6-5, 220
Jamel Gaines, Corona del Sol, 5-11, 170
Adam Goodworth, Chaparral, 6-2, 225
Joey Graves, Casa Grande, 6-1, 175
Todd Heap, Mountain View, 6-4, 220
Philip Hilliker, NWCC, 6-1, 165
Shane Johnson, Central, 6-0, 185
DeJowhn Mandley, Mesa, 6-4, 220
Khalid Meals, Boys Ranch, 6-2, 180 (jr)
Robert Milligan, Arcadia, 6-3, 175 (jr)
Ryan Niesz, Fountain Hills, 5-10, 160
Matt Nixon, Sunnyslope, 6-1, 195
Keith Schuttler, Agua Fria, 6-1, 184 (jr)
Neil Sharp, Mountain Ridge, 6-0, 195
Jon Sheaffer, Mountain View, 6-1, 180
Bobby Syndor, Central, 6-0, 178
Axel Trainer, Cactus Shadows, 6-3, 205
Tom Watson, North, 5-10, 150
Waymon Westbrook, Maryvale, 6-2, 180

centers

Bill Arterberry, Valley Christian, 6-1, 210
Trent Fangman, St. Mary's, 6-0, 210
Matt Hendricks, Corona del Sol, 5-11, 240
Scott Huff, Horizon, 6-1, 220
Zach Lisi, Gilbert, 5-11, 210
Chris Lundin, Arcadia, 6-2, 220 (jr)
Elliott Marks, Washington, 6-1, 201
Anthony Stannard, Phx. Christian, 6-4, 250
Travis Wood, Shadow Mountain, 6-0, 210

linemen

Donald Angulo, Shadow Mountain, 6-4, 215
Elias Aragon, Tolleson, 6-1, 215
Ryan Bakke, Apollo, 6-3, 255
Dan Basaco, Trevor Browne, 6-2, 250
George Baymon, Trevor Browne, 5-10, 230
Brent Benjamin, Independence, 5-11, 190
Adolph Bohn, Glendale, 6-1, 250
Del Bossert, Sunnyslope, 6-3, 210
Ben Bowlen, Apollo, 6-0, 225 (jr)
Jake Brinkerhoff, Westwood, 6-3, 275
Jereme Cade, North, 6-0, 270
Louis Cadriel, Tolleson, 6-0, 195
John Clanton, Centennial, 6-2, 265
Ken Davis, Trevor Browne, 5-10, 220
Ryan Distefano, Marcos de Niza, 5-11, 212
Chris Dobbins, Chaparral, 6-0, 225
Philip Eager, Westview, 6-6, 240 (jr)
Chris Espino, Deer Valley, 5-11, 225
Richard Fagan, Greenway, 6-3, 270
Shawn Falk, Chandler, 6-2, 240
James Ferguson, Cactus Shadows, 6-2, 220
Brandon Guida, Cactus, 6-0, 263
Ben Harris, North Canyon, 5-11, 255
Isaac Hawkes, McClintock, 6-2, 220
Gregg Hogemess, Valley Christian, 6-0, 180
*Colter Whillock, Arizona Lutheran, 6-0, 205
Aaron Huisman, Phx. Christian, 603, 215
Chris Johnson, Ironwood, 6-4, 225
Josh Jones, Peoria, 6-4, 281
Jason LaFon, Desert Mountain, 6-3, 185
Cordell Lewis, Agua Fria, 6-2, 209
Jason Lyon, Maryvale, 6-2, 275
Sylvestor Mata, South Mountain, 5-10, 230
Clayton Modic, Cactus, 6-1, 201
Clay Muschinski, Chaparral, 6-2, 240
Damien Niko, Mountain View, 6-5, 295
Adam Norwood, Paradise Valley, 5-11, 215
Nick Olson, Coronado, 6-0, 210
Brad Payne, Gilbert, 6-3, 220
Peter Renteria, Dysart, 6-5, 230
B.J. Richardson, SCA, 6-3, 190
Jesus Salomon, Carl Hayden, 6-3, 295
Gian Sapelli, Ironwood, 6-6-, 300
Travis Scott, Westwood, 6-5, 265
Gabe Seniceros, Carl Hayden, 5-11, 240
Brad Shelby, Saguaro, 6-5, 255
Scott Simon, St. Mary's, 5-11, 240



Don't forget to order your 1997 edition of

TUCSON FOOTBALL MAGAZINE

send $7.00

to

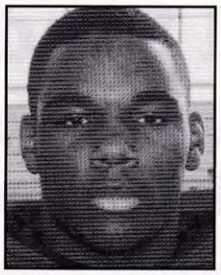
SAGUARO SPORTS PUBLICATIONS

4115 E. Catalina Drive
Phoenix, 85018
(602) 955-3303

A.J. Tucker, Tempe, 5-10, 215
Marc Venturo, Corona del Sol, 6-2, 265 (jr)
Randy Zimmerman, Peoria, 6-4, 262

linebackers

Ian Accomazzo, Buckeye, 6-0, 185
Todd Adkins, Mountain View, 6-2, 210
Chris Boyland, Apollo, 6-4, 200
Andrew Brigham, Saguaro, 6-3, 210
Tony Brunetti, Peoria, 6-0, 196
Lee Carrier, Boys Ranch, 6-1, 200
Matt Clonts, Gilbert, 6-0, 205
Evan Cluff, Queen Creek, 5-11, 190
Brian Curl, Red Mountain, 6-3, 200
Matt Butcher, Fountain Hills, 6-1, 205
Scott Fuller, Mesa, 6-2, 230
Brian Gaffney, Brophy Prep, 6-1, 220 (jr)
Josh Glennie, SCA, 5-11, 190 (jr)
Matt Hamblin, Westview, 5-9, 170
Mike Hernandez, Carl Hayden, 5-9, 209
David Holmes, Trevor Browne, 6-0, 205
Brad Holmes, Agua Fria, 6-1, 192
Camron Hulbert, Phx. Christian, 5-10, 215
Jake Ireland, Chaparral, 5-10, 210
Ryan Kittle, NWCC, 6-4, 210
Josh Lane, Phoenix Christian, 6-0, 195
Brian Lindsay, Highland, 6-0, 195
Josh McBurney, Dobson, 5-10, 205
Andy Meja, Marcos de Niza, 5-8, 185
Mike Miller, Boys Ranch, 6-2, 215
Nick Poole, Coronado, 6-0, 195
Kyle Siever, Mountain Pointe, 6-2, 200



Brandon Falkner
Peoria



Matt Nixon
Sunnyslope

Josh Spratley, McClintock, 6-2, 210
Ryan West, Centennial, 6-2, 240

deep backs

John Armijo, Greenway, 5-9, 170 (jr)
Landon Benson, Goldwater, 5-11, 160
Nate Brink, Wickenburg, 5-11, 150
Brian Clark, Marcos de Niza, 6-1, 180
Willie Daniel, St. Mary's, 6-0, 190
Jack Douglas, Apache Junction, 6-0, 170
Scott Ernster, Ironwood, 5-11, 175
Robbie Eufemia, Centennial, 5-9, 168
Brandon Falkner, Peoria, 6-2, 191
Mike Garrett, Valley Christian, 5-9, 150
Joe Halley, Horizon, 5-10, 185
Marcos Herrera, Bourgade, 5-9, 170
Dallas Haught, Chandler, 6-1, 190
Collin Hurd, Deer Valley, 5-8, 175 (jr)
Mike Izdepski, Independence, 5-10, 155
Jason Jennings, South Mountain, 5-11, 170
Eric Keys, Camelback, 6-1, 170
Brian Konderik, Centennial, 6-0, 190
Nathan Krank, Dobson, 5-10, 170
Jason Lunsford, Cortez, 6-1, 175
Owen Phelps, Peoria, 5-11, 167
T.J. Rackley, Casa Grande, 5-10, 170 (jr)
Andy Ramirez, Dysart, 6-0, 150
Jon Rentschler, Saguaro, 6-0, 175
Larry Steward, Maryvale, 5-9, 145
Jon Thompson, NWCC, 6-0, 166
Nathan Thompson, Brophy Prep, 5-6, 145
Sasha Vinnikov, Desert Mountain, 5-8, 150
Andrew Ward, Phx. Christian, 5-10, 170
Travis Wells, Alhambra, 5-10, 175
Edward Williams, Boys Ranch, 5-11, 175
Chad Womack, Thunderbird, 5-10, 165

kickers

Matt Axford, Desert Mountain, 5-11, 165
Mike Blake, Brophy Prep, 6-0, 175
Travis Yuen, Buekeye, 6-2, 210
Scott Ernster, Ironwood, 5-11, 170
Kevin Fahrendorf, St. Mary's, 6-1, 170
Justin Jackson, Independence, 6-0, 175
Josh Lane, Phoenix Christian, 6-0, 195
J.C. Rodosta, Cortez, 6-1, 185
Travis Schugg, Valley Christian, 5-11, 185
Axel Trainer, Cactus Shadows, 6-3, 205
Chris Wahl, Apollo, 5-10, 160
Jeff Wilder, Goldwater, 5-10, 170
Terry Wood, Brophy Prep, 6-0, 155

Here Comes The Thunder!

"You'll know the reign has started when you hear the Thunder roll!"

16440 South 32nd St., Phoenix (602) 706-7900

1997
DESERT VISTA HIGH SCHOOL
VARSITY SCHEDULE
Head Coach Jim Rattay

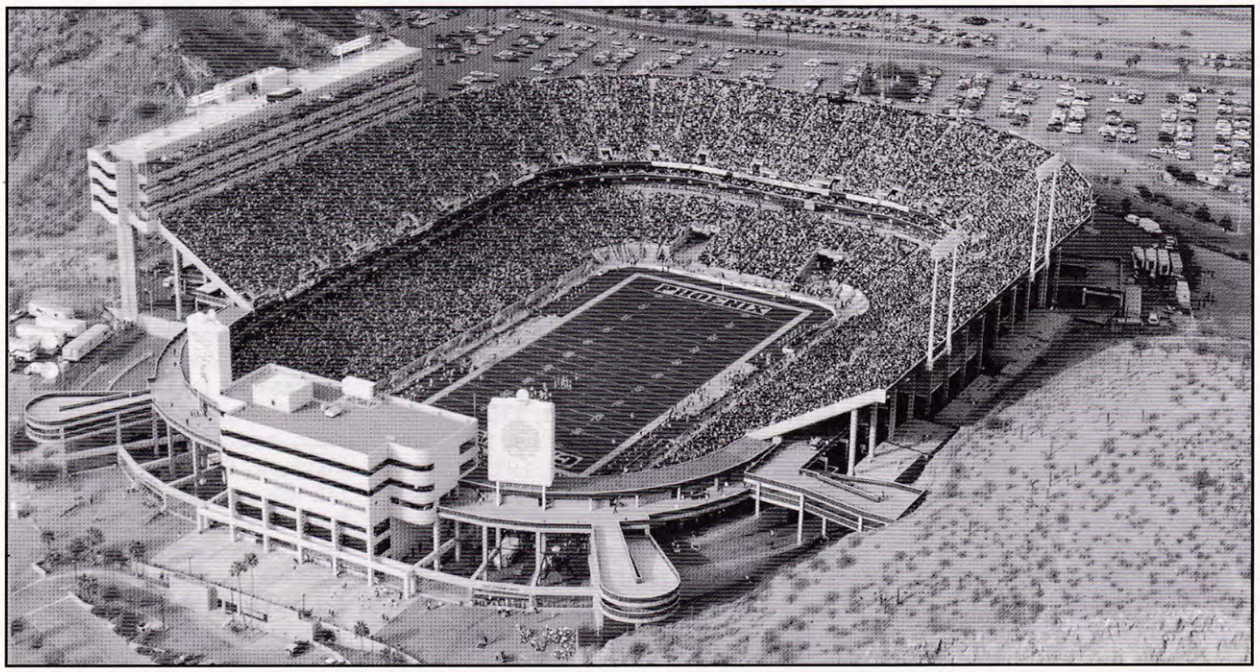
Sept. 12.....@ Mountain Ridge
Sept. 19.....@ Desert Mountain
Sept. 26.....Carl Hayden
Oct. 3 .....Mountain Pointe
Oct. 10.....@ Yuma Union
Oct. 17.....Corona del Sol
Oct. 24 .....Marcis de Niza
Oct. 31.....@ McClintock
Nov. 7.....Casa Grande
Nov. 14.....@ Chandler

SPONSORED BY THE

Desert Vista Football Boosters

Sun Devil Stadium

"Home of the Fiesta Bowl, The Sun Devils & The Cardinals"



'97 Sun Devil Stadium Schedule

Aug. 22 .....Cards vs Oakland
Aug. 30 .....Devils vs New Mexico St.
Sept. 7.....Cards vs Dallas
Sept. 20.....Devils vs BYU
Oct. 5 .....Cards vs Minnesota
Oct. 11 .....Devils vs USC
Oct. 12 .....Cards vs New York Giants
Oct. 26 .....Cards vs Houston
Nov. 1 .....Devils vs Washington St.
Nov. 2 .....Cards vs Philadelphia
Nov. 15 .....Devils vs Oregon
Nov. 28 .....Devils vs Arizona
Nov. 30 .....Cards vs Pittsburgh
Dec. 7.....Cards vs Washington
Dec. 12.....4A/5A High School Finals
Dec. 21.....Cards vs Atlanta

BIG DADDY'S SPORTS LOUNGE

FEATURING
5 SATELLITE DISHES, 3 BIG SCREENS
14 ADDITIONAL TV's & OFF-TRACK BETTING.
"Stop by and watch your favorite team."

LARGEST SPORTS BAR IN NORTHEAST PHOENIX!

GO DEVILS!

721 East Dunlap * Phoenix, Arizona * (602) 861-1034

Peoria Unified School District

5 High Schools

Cactus...Centennial...Ironwood...Peoria
Sunrise Mountain

A Decade of Success

- 19 Scholar Athlete Teams
- 29 State Championships
- 28 State Runners—up
- 112 Region Championships
- 2 Tony Komadina Awards
- 1 H. A. Hendrickson Award

"Nurturing Lives and Shaping the Future"

For a Free Information Packet, Call 486-6040.



Mountain View quarterback Tate Gunning takes a hit in the 5A finals against Brophy Prep. MV won 17-3. (Amy Blodgett photo)

Class 5A a One Horse Race

Just like 1995, when Phoenix St. Mary's was a clear-cut favorite, the '97 campaign is a one horse race. At least on paper.

Mesa Mountain View, the defending state champs, returns a solid nucleus of players, and three all-state candidates in quarterback Tate Gunning, tackle Damien Niko and tight end Todd Heap. Niko and Heap are major college prospects.

Third-year coach Bernie Busken is 24-3-0 with the Toros, an .888 winning percentage, good in any book. In fact, Mountain View's all-time football log, 208 wins, 46 losses 2 ties, is the best winning percentage (.819) among 200-plus high schools which have fielded teams in Arizona's history.

But when it comes to overall wins, that belongs to another Mesa school, the Mesa Jackrabbits. Last year's 8-4 playoff squad pushed the 'Rabbits to 557 wins since 1920. On the gridiron, the Purple & Gold football legions have won 11 state championships and 70% of their games.

5A EAST VALLEY REGION

1. Mesa Mountain View (14-0)
2. Mesa Red Mountain (6-4)
3. Mesa Westwood (3-7)
4. Gilbert Highland (9-3)
5. Mesa (8-4)
6. Mesa Dobson (4-6)
7. Gilbert (6-4)
7. Yuma Cibola (0-10)

It's easy to see why **Mountain View** head coach Bernie Busken is excited. He's not alone. Thirty lettermen (11 starters) return from a 14-0 club which stuffed Brophy Prep 17-3 in the 5A finals. The Toros high octane offense starts with quarterback Tate Gunning, a 5-10 signal caller who plays bigger than his size. His 100 for 160 pass completions (63%), 1,796 yards and 22 touchdowns earned him all-state votes. Tight end Todd Heap (6-4, 220) caught 35 passes for 522 yards and 10 TDs. Two-way tackle Damien Niko (6-5, 295), Ryon Seymore (6-2, 260), Nate Bennett (6-2, 240), Evan Hixon (6-2, 210) and Brett Murdock (5-11, 200) give Mountain View the best line in the region, if not the state. Wide receiver Jayton Jadlot (6-1, 185), an excellent all-around athlete, caught less than 10 passes, but averaged 27.3 yards per catch. He also does the Toros' kicking. Jon Sheaffer (6-1, 180) caught 18 passes for 303 yards. Defensively, Heap, Preston Carling (6-0, 215) and Todd Adkins (6-2, 210) help form a solid front, and again, maybe the best in the region.

For **Red Mountain**, it was "heartbreak hotel." The Lions, 6-4 and out of the playoffs, lost to state champ Mountain View by three points and Mesa in double overtime. Coach Jimmy Jones returns 46 players, 11 from the varsity and 35 from a 7-1 junior team. "We're very upbeat," says Jones, head coach since the school opened in 1988. "We expect a mature group with lots of seniors."

Halfback Robert Dickie (5-7, 170, 4.6), an all-region pick, rushed for 1,200 yards. Big Bryant Berge (6-3, 210) split duties at quarterback and has a good arm.

He also plays in the secondary. Split end Tom Rayburn (5-11, 170) makes a good target. Linemen John Gann (6-0, 190) and Nate Lord (6-0, 220) protect backs like Dickie, Berge, Matt Billingsley and Jeremy Jazwinsky. Add transfer Trevor Gelder (6-1, 220), a fullback/linebacker with good speed, and the offense becomes even more dangerous. But Gelder's contribution may come at linebacker, where he joins Brian Curl, Ryan Owens and Jazwinsky to form a solid defensive wall. The kicking game, important in playoff games, looks in good hands with Erick Kline and Issac Thompson in the lineup. However, it's playoff games which Red Mountain has little experience in.

An uncharacteristic 3-7 record plagued **Westwood**, but the Warriors should bounce back, with 10 returning starters, including two top-flight tackles: 6-3, 275-pound Jake Brinkerhoff, and 6-5, 265-pound Travis Scott, back in the fold. The key to Westwood's season resides at quarterback. Who will take charge? The receiving corps is set, with Jason Brown, Ron Hobbs and Marshall Ward at the wideouts. R.J. Navarette is the tight end. Backs Billy Baker and Rob Scoresby are good runners. Aaron Ellertson starts at guard. Rob Castillo is the center. Every player above plays on both sides of the ball.

In Gilbert, **Highland** is on a roll. The city's newest school has made big waves in two different classes, going 9-3 last year in 5A. Two years earlier the Hawks finished 12-1 in Class 4A. Coach Mike Epperson's club lost twice to state champ Mountain View. The other setback was to Mountain Pointe. This year, veteran linebacker Brian Lindsay (6-0, 195) is the key player: 65 tackles, 55 assists, five sacks, four fumbles, one interception. Running backs Justin Neilson (6-0, 195) and Marcus Hansen (5-10, 200) are tested. Neilson averaged 6.2 yards per carry, gaining 330 yards. Hansen gained 657 yards on 127 carries and scored eight TDs. Josh Stoltz (6-0, 180) should start at quarterback, with competition from Sage Randall (6-0, 170). Sam Jefferies, Chris Krogman and Matt Laningham tip the scales at 230-pounds or more, and give the Hawks a sold front line. When called upon, linebacker Ryan Meraz and cornerback Brian Smith are two-way players.

Graduation all but cleaned out **Mesa**, but shed no tears for the Jackrabbits. Coach Bill McKane's club will come to play. There are lots of bodies to work with. Especially three-year starter Scott Fuller (6-2, 230, 4.6), quite possibly the best linebacker in the region. He's the only true starter returning. Tight end DeJowhn Mandley (6-4, 220, 4.7) looks like the next big gun. Senior Myles Dey (6-2, 172) is a possible starter at quarterback. He'll be pushed by Ryan Pace, Trey Warner and Nathan Skinner, all underclassmen. Warner is just a sophomore.

Offensively, Fuller can also play fullback, with Neil Garcia, Tyler Schreiner, Linwood Walker, Glen Smith and Jared Dent ready to run. Slotback Dan Blancarte joins Mandley, Chris Black, David Glover, Chris Alston and Tyro Edwards to give the 'Rabbits a deep receiving corps. Mesa doesn't throw often, but when they do it's usually effective. Edwards is a 6-3, 248-pound tight end, and like most of his teammates, a solid two-way player. Ken Balltrip (6-3, 245) and Chris Henderson (6-6, 295) add beef to the line. Blancarte, Garcia, John Crismon and Sam Siaki join Fuller at linebacker.

"We lost some close games early," says McKane, whose club finished 8-4. "With our backs against the wall, the kids responded by winning six in a row."

Head coach Mike Clark is just one win shy of 100 at **Dobson**. Since 1981, his Mustangs have gone 99-74-0, winning the 1987 state crown over Mountain View (see *Dobson's Wild Horses*). "After a 3-7 finish, we should be back on track," says Clark, 123-89-3 overall in the prep ranks. The loss of all-region linebacker Josh McBurney, who transferred to Tempe, will hurt, but plenty of experienced players return. Last year's offense scored only 190 points. If Clark gets a consistent performance from tailback Darnell Halsey (5-11, 190, 4.6), it could make Dobson tougher. Dan Everlove (6-2, 190) should start at quarterback. Mike Harris (6-3, 260) is another big Mustang center. Justin Castro (6-2, 275) is a two-way starting tackle; Jared Johnson (6-0, 220) a two-way end. Defensively, Nathan Krank (5-10, 170) roams the secondary with Halsey, A'Tori Thomas and Matt Hilliker. All three have good speed.

Since **Gilbert** is back in 5A, the Tigers again have a chance to become the first school in Arizona history to win football crowns in every classification. Last year's club improved to 6-4, its best in eight years. "Doc" Holiday's forces lost to 4A state champ Tempe, 35-34, after being down 35-7 in the third quarter. The coaching staff plans to move all-league guard Brad Payne (6-3, 220) to fullback. He also plays defensive end. Although moving to 5A, tight end Zach Cresap (6-5, 220), linebacker Matt Clonts (6-0, 205) and center Zach Lisi (5-11, 210) are all-region candidates. Fred Clare, Ken Jones and Greg Ethington will battle for the quarterback job. Clare started at linebacker last year. Ryan Chapman (6-5, 230) and Antwon Hazzard (6-5, 250, jr) are big, strong two-way linemen. So is junior Danny Burrell, one of three 230-pounders up from the JV unit who could make an impact.Overall, Gilbert is just two wins shy of 398, and is the only school in state history to finish undefeated in its first year of varsity football. The Tigers went 8-0 in 1923.

'97 METRO 5A TOP 20

1. Mountain View Toros
2. Trevor Browne Bruins
3. St. Mary's Knights
4. Red Mountain Lions
5. Brophy Prep Broncos
6. Chandler Wolves
7. Westwood Warriors
8. McClintock Chargers
9. South Mountain Jaguars
10. Highland Hawks
11. Mesa Jackrabbits
12. Ironwood Eagles
13. Corona del Sol Aztecs
14. Maryvale Panthers
15. Dobson Mustangs
16. Mountain Pointe Pride
17. Westview Knights
18. Marcos de Niza Padres
19. Paradise Valley Trojans
20. Horizon Huskies

5A CENTRAL REGION

1. Chandler (9-4)
2. Tempe McClintock (6-5)
3. Tempe Corona del Sol (8-3)
4. Tempe Mountain Pointe (8-5)
5. Tempe Marcos de Niza (4-6)
6. Yuma (4-6)
7. Casa Grande (1-9)
8. Tempe Desert Vista (JV)



CHANDLER WOLVES



Saluting the 1996 Class 5A State Semifinalist, and former head coach Jerry Loper.

Chandler High School

350 N. Arizona Ave. -85224-

Phone: (602) 812-7140

*Camille Casteel, Superintendent

*Fred Coates, Asst. Superintendent

*Robert Caccamo, Principal

*John Carlson, Athletic Director

*Jim Sherman, Football Coach

1996 RESULTS:

(9-4-0)

Wolves 24	Phoenix Maryvale 6
Wolves 13	Mesa Dobson 17
Wolves 3	Mesa Red Mountain 21
Wolves 24	Tempe Corona del Sol 14
Wolves 35	Casa Grande 7
Wolves 0	Scottsdale Horizon 17
Wolves 14	Yuma Union 6
Wolves 28	Tempe Mountain Pointe 20
Wolves 29	Tempe Marcos de Niza 26
Wolves 35	Tempe McClintock 24

PLAYOFFS:

Wolves 17	Scottsdale Horizon 7
Wolves 28	Gilbert Highland 7
Wolves 30	Mesa Mountain View 37 (3OT)*

**Longest state playoff game in Arizona history*

Streak Busters

Class 3A state champion Blue Ridge of Lakeside enters the 1997 football campaign with a 39-game winning streak, second longest in state history. The state's all-time leaders, and the schools which beat them:

Students	School	Year	Lost To/Score
43	*St. Johns	1992-95	Monument Valley, 24-16
39	Lakeside Blue Ridge	1994-96	Active!
34	Round Valley	1977-81	Payson, 21-20
32	Tucson High	1943-45	El Paso Austin, Tx., 7-0
29	Patagonia	1986-87	Valley Union, 26-8
27	Pima	1969-71	Fredonia, 57-28
27	Phoenix St. Mary's	1984-86	Phoenix Moon Valley, 14-7
26	Coolidge	1942-45	Mesa, 27-12
25	Phoenix Carver	1951-53	Blythe, Ca., 20-14
25	*Bisbee	1953-56	Tucson High, 12-6
25	Safford	1968-70	Agua Fria, 48-26

**Includes ties.*
Patagonia & Pima play 8-man football.

It's was a rough season at **Chandler**, to say the least. Five weeks into the season, popular head coach Jerry Loper was killed in an automobile wreck. Assistants Jim Sherman and Ned Jolly split coaching duties, guiding the Wolves to the 5A semis, where they dropped a heart breaker to Mountain View.

"Our players fought through the loss of Coach Loper and had a fine season," says Sherman. "Losing to the eventual state champion in triple overtime was a real testimony to the kids, coaches and parents."

The staff will build this year's squad around several veteran players, including two all-region picks: tackle Shawn Falk (6-2, 240) and safety Dallas Haught (6-1, 190), who will double as the Wolves' quarterback. Both are excellent two-way players. So is center Tyler Burchett (6-2, 230) and guard Dan Auxier (6-1, 230). Teammates Jason Rowan, Justin Gilbert, John Rothleutner, Bobby Lopez, Reggie Leverette, Joe Critchfield, Nick Lombardo and Troy Flowers are playoff tested. This will be Chandler's last year before an enrollment split with Hamilton High, which plans to open next year.

Without jinxing **McClintock**, this looks like the best Charger team since 1992 (10-1). Exactly 19 players return, with excellent team speed and improved strength. "We should be a very good hitting team," warns Dennis Johnson, 32-30-0 at the Tempe school. The littlest player is the biggest weapon, 5-8 tailback Johaann Campbell (cover). Last year he netted 1,135 yards and scored 11 TDs. He averaged 24.6 yards on kickoff returns. Teammate Cameron Long (5-8, 155) averaged 34.2. Angel Montemayor (5-10, 160) will move from wideout to quarterback. Linebacker Josh Spratley (6-2, 210) and end Isaac Hawkes (6-2, 220) are defensive standouts. In fact, with seniors Kyle Hughes, Todd Bassett, Greg Hein, Jamie McDowell and Bill Avilla in the lineup, McClintock might have the league's stoutest defense. Randy Tyree and Phil Morgan are speedy two-way players.

It could be another playoff year at **Corona del Sol**, if the Aztecs stay healthy. Coach Gary Venturo's forces lasted one game into the playoffs, and could be back. Several key players return, including center Matt Hendricks (5-11, 240), wideout Jamel Gaines (5-11, 170) and two-way tackle Marcus Venturo (6-2, 265), the team's punter and just a junior. Two other juniors, Geoff Revling and Aaron Hochuli, vie for the QB position. Last year each started three games. Gaines is also a good kick returner, returning 11 for 413 yards. Two-way back Micah Harris (6-3, 175) and guard Chris Silman (6-2, 210) will start. Speed wise, this could be Corona's quickest club in years.

The season gets started early at **Mountain Pointe**, as the Pride opens Aug. 29 in Pennsylvania, against Wilson High in West Lawn. Coach Karl Kiefer, the state's winningest coach (256-94-3), will face WHS next year in Tempe. Since the Pointe opened in 1992, this will be Kiefer's youngest club. Only 15 players return from last year's 8-5 squad. In fact, tight end/linebacker Kyle Siever (6-2, 200) is the only player who received post season honors. Still, quarterback Austin Griffiths (6-3, 190) managed to score 10 touchdowns. Fullback Marcus Jones (6-2, 205) scored six. Wideout Andy Wolcott (5-11, 170) doubles in the secondary. Up front, the Pride needs solid production from two-way players Ryan Tranter (6-2, 225), Steve Ranes (5-11, 220) and Matt Martinez (5-11, 190) to come close to a playoff spot. As always, the Pride will have good speed. The track team, coached by Kiefer, has won three consecutive 5A state championships. Most of the football team runs track.

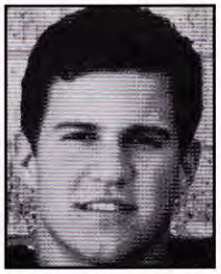
Improved **Marcos de Niza** looks to get better. Second-year coach Tom Joseph returns 21 lettermen - most in the league - from a 4-6 squad which played everybody tough except Mountain View. The Padres offense starts with quarterback Scott Gerlach (5-9, 175), who played well last year, throwing for 722 yards and seven TDs. Two-way back Mike Downing (6-0, 185) rushed for 741 yards and scored 13 times. Another two-way back, senior Tony Scott (5-9, 170), down lineman Ryan Distefano (5-11, 212), linebacker Andy Meja (5-8, 185) and safety Brian Clark (6-1, 180) are best bets for all-region honors. If lettermen John Downing, James Dietrich, Kieran Davern, Joby Carlson, Adam Smith, Ignacio Garcia and Justin Gammage step up, Marcos has a shot at a playoff spot for the first time in eight years.

Curt Weber returns at **Yuma**, a school he coached to 6-4 and 7-3 seasons in 1992-93. It will be a challenge, but big, physical linemen give the Criminals a shot. Aaron Grant (6-3, 260) starts at tackle, but has enough skills to play linebacker. Jeff Ordway (6-7, 275), Dan Doerr (5-9, 260), Fred Dammeyer (6-3, 220), Bill McKenzie (6-3, 220), Scott DeLoge (6-1, 210), Sergio Vasquez (5-11, 260) and Jason Chretin (6-1, 260) help form the biggest forward wall in the Central Region.

It went from bad to worse at **Casa Grande**. The Cougars beat Nogales 22-15 in their opener then dropped nine straight. In the process, the defense gave up 430 points. Somehow, the coaching staff needs to find a way to get the ball to Joey Graves, a slick 6-1, 175-pound all-region pick at receiver. He also plays in the secondary. That job belongs to quarterback Jon Roberts (6-2, 185), the key figure in the game plan if the team is to avoid another 1-9 finish. Two-way back T.J. Rackley (5-10, 170) saw playing time as a sophomore. Felipe Canales (5-11,



Jamel Gaines
Corona del Sol



Mike Downing
Marcos de Niza

235) and junior Tommy Tracas (6-2, 235) will be asked to go both ways on the line.

Desert Vista, newest school in the Tempe District, gets its varsity baptism, but the Thunder will operate without seniors. Only two other East Valley schools, Mesa Westwood in 1962 and Marcos de Niza in 1972, played varsity ball without seniors. Veteran coach Jim Rattay, a former Mesa mentor, likes what he sees in several juniors, including backs Bobby Wade (5-11, 175), Corey Noonan (6-1, 180), Chris Snow (6-0, 175), Kevin Gawlick (5-9, 180) and Josh Gill (5-10, 180). Two linemen, Brent Avila (5-10, 205) and Scott Schafer (6-0, 220) look solid. Unfortunately, they'll have to go both ways, until the Thunder's growing enrollment helps improve the depth chart.

5A DESERT VALLEY REGION

1. Phoenix St. Mary's (5-5)
2. Phoenix Brophy Prep (12-2)
3. Paradise Valley (7-2-2)
4. Scottsdale Horizon (7-4)
5. Yuma Kofa (3-8)
6. North Canyon (3-7)
7. Shadow Mountain (2-8)

Last year, **St. Mary's** season ended abruptly, at 5-5. It was the first time the Knights failed to reach the playoffs since 1979. "We should see improvement in all areas of our game," says Pat Farrell, approaching his 20th head coaching season at the school. "I would consider us a top ten team this year."

Better depth and experience will help. Seventeen lettermen, some of the biggest linemen in years, an improved kicking game, and an all-state defensive back make the Knights a high pick. Talented Willie Daniel (6-0, 190), a two-way back with 4.6 speed, is the school's top prospect. He also played on the Knights' 26-4 basketball team. Wingback Kevin Fahrendorf (6-1, 170) and Daniel make the Wing-T go. He's also the team's punter. Center Trent Fangman (6-0, 210) and guard Scott Simon (5-11, 240) earned all-region honors. Rob Thompson (5-9, 185) and Greg Swenson (5-10, 190) start at linebacker. Big Zach LaPrade (6-4, 210) is a two-way end. At one time or another, Rocky Burgess, Nate Pacheco, Marcel Lopez and Andy Hill started. The quarterback position could belong to senior Charles Rogucki, but it's not a sure thing. Junior tackles Jason Stevenson (6-2, 230) and C.R. Duley (6-4, 245) could start.

Brophy Prep qualified for post-season play for the 10th straight year, reaching the finals for the first time since 1972. Coach Tim Sanford's high-scoring squad (507 pts.) lost only twice, both times to Mountain View. Along the way they beat St. Mary's (24-0) for the first time in 16 years. Only six of 22 starting positions return, but one, junior fullback/linebacker Brian Gaffney (6-1, 220), is top-notch. Last year he rushed for 600 yards, averaging 6.7 yards per carry. Other starters include receiver Brad Belsher (29 catches), defensive backs Tim Chester and Nathan Thompson, big (6-3, 260) center Bruce Hermie, punter Mike Blake (32.8 aver.) and kicker Terry Wood (58 PATs, 8 FGs). Look for senior guard Mike McHorney and juniors Ryan Dickerson, Carson Bradley, Monte Coleman and Courteny to start. Bradley, at quarterback, has big shoes to fill. Last year Tom Wurtz passed for 2,123 yards.

With only six lettermen returning, **Horizon's** eight-year playoff run could end. "We'll be very young," claims Doug Shaffer, 86-48-2 at the Scottsdale school. "With the addition of Paradise Valley, we'll have one of the toughest leagues in the state. It will be hard to do well with a young team." Center Scott Huff (6-1, 220) and deep back Joe Halley are best bets for post-season honors. Tadd Barnett (5-10, 165) looks to start at quarterback. Tight end Justin Jiles (6-5, 230) is a big target. Andrew Hawking and Neal Thompson double at receiver and start in the secondary. Jesse Kovac and Joe McDonagh play fullback/linebacker. Typical Horizon linemen like Ryan Gregor, Nate Pownall, Dan Pownall, Derek Sanz and Matt Marach tip the scales at 220-plus pounds.

Paradise Valley moves back into the league, up from the 4A Skyline, where they finished 7-2-2. If all the cast members return, the Trojans will be competitive. Quarterback Steve Mullins (6-4, 195) improved each game, finishing with 171 completions for 1,437 yards and 14 touchdowns. That's a lot of passing for the Trojans ground-oriented Wing-T. Junior Adam Marazzo (6-0, 195) was one of 10 sophomore who logged playing time. Reliable Matt Damore (5-10, 190) starts at center. Adam Norwood (5-11, 215) is a solid two-way tackle. Still, a key player in PV's attack is junior Francis Turner (5-9, 177), who rushed for 1,314 yards and 16 TDs. He already holds single game school records for rushing yards (289), points scored (34) and TDs (5). With so many young players, Paradise Valley could still be one year away.

Down in Yuma, the **Kofa Kings** played well at the end, but still finished 3-8. Fourth-year coach Louis Nightingale has one of the best signal callers in the state, quarterback David Gatliff. The 6-3, 210-pound senior completed 143 of 281 passes (51%) for 2,275 yards and 19 TDs. He threw for 317 yards against Scottsdale Horizon, and tossed five TD strikes against San Diego Montgomery. Two receivers, Jeff Weiss (20 catches, 466 yds.) and Matt Tams (20 & 364), are back.

North Canyon enters its fifth campaign, and it could be its best. Twenty-eight underclassmen played - most in the region - and two earned all-league spots: fullback Jared Fitzgerald (6-0, 197) and tackle Ben Harris (5-11, 255). Fitzgerald and back Danny Padilla played varsity ball as freshmen.Quarterback/safety Tim Patrick (6-0, 166), defensive end David Brockman (6-1, 189) and tight end Scott Asai (6-3, 203) add senior leadership. Shawn Quimby (6-2, 161) and tailback Conrad DeLaCruz (5-11, 186), both juniors, give the Rattlers extra bite.

Hal Pigusch played a lot of young players at **Shadow Mountain**, and it showed. But with quality players returning, the Matadors (2-8) should improve. Two-way linemen Donald Angulo (6-4, 215) and Travis Wood (6-0, 210) are best bets for post-season honors. With a lack of depth, several players will have to go both ways, but seniors Neil Cameron (6-4, 210), Chris Lingley (6-2, 250), Mike Duggan (6-0, 190) and Clark Childs (6-0, 210) are good two-way players.

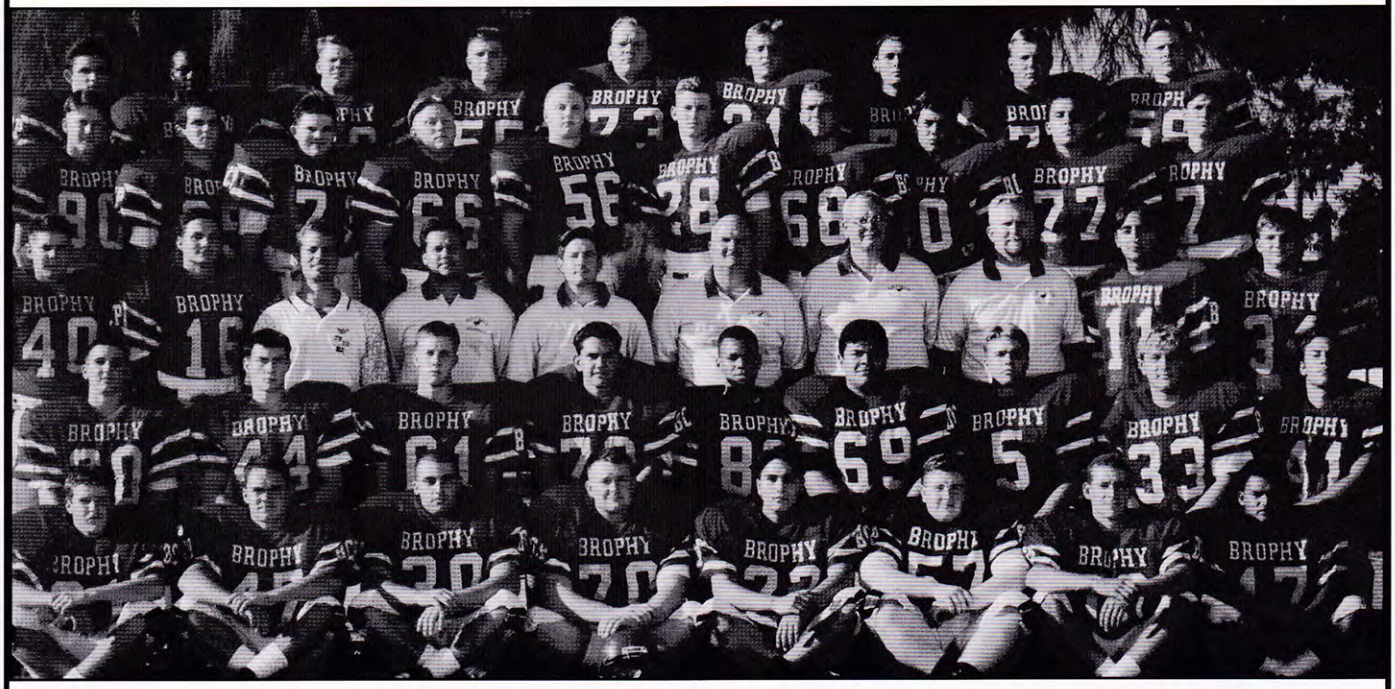
5A METRO REGION

1. Phoenix Trevor Browne (6-4)
2. South Mountain (8-3)
3. Phoenix Maryvale (8-4)
4. Phoenix Carl Hayden (6-5)
5. Phoenix Alhambra (6-4)
6. Phoenix North (3-7)
7. Phoenix Camelback (4-6)
8. Phoenix Central (0-10)

Trevor Browne, near-perfect two years ago (11-1), just missed the playoffs,

Saluting the 1996 Brophy Prep Broncos!

Arizona Class 5A State Finalist!



"Congratulations Broncos! We're Proud of You!"

Head Coach Tim Sanford 5A Desert Region Coach of the Year!

Twelve AIA Scholar Athletes with 3.5 GPA or above!

Bryan Kula, Tom Wurtz, Carter Benton, Mike Derksen 5A All-State!

Quarterback Tom Wurtz National Football Foundation Scholar Athlete!

Broncos scored school record 507 points & totaled 4,979 yards!

Sponsored by

BROPHY COLLEGE PREPARATORY & THE BROPHY DADS CLUB

4701 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, 85012

(602) 264-5291

Saluting the '87 Dobson High School MUSTANGS



Saluting the Class 5A Championship Mustangs on their 10 Year Anniversary!

THE '87 MUSTANG SUCCESS STORY:

* Coach Mike Clark Arizona Coach of the Year!
* Scored school record 462 points during 12-2 campaign!
* Averaged 42.3 points in four playoff games!
*Defeated Mountain View 35-14 in 5A finals before 20,036 fans at Arizona State!
*Josh Arnold, John Patterson, David Taylor, Kevin Schrage, Steve Holmes,
* Brian O'Roark and Steve Rausch First Team All-State selections!

Sponsored by

The Dobson Football Alumni War Horses

1500 W. Guadalupe Rd., Mesa, 85202, (602) 898-2900

but looks to be the Metro's top pick again. Only 14 seniors dotted its 34-man roster, so a 6-4 finish wasn't so bad. The Bruins return four all-region picks from one of the most talented leagues personal-wise in the state. Senior David Holmes (6-0, 205) is the main man. The fullback/linebacker, with 4.9 speed, could be one of the region's top players. Up front, TBHS has the league's best line, with all-region picks Dan Basco (6-2, 250), Kenny Davis (5-10, 220) and George Baymon (5-10, 230) returning. Big bodies Eric Montijo (5-11, 230), John Crites (6-3, 250), Ed Gonzales (5-10, 240) and Deshawn Fox (6-3, 255) add beef. Skill players like Joe Maloy, Ricky Denman, Joel Hernandez, Clifton Maggard, Tafuma Alston, Brad Timmons and Kevin Hughes are varsity tested. Hughes, just a sophomore, is one of the smallest (5-4, 135) but quickest backs in the league.

At **South Mountain**, 18 lettermen return from an 8-3 club which lasted one game into the 5A playoffs. In a wild offensive show, Mountain Pointe sent the Jaguars packing, 42-21. How well South does this year depends upon the defense. The offense looks loaded. Last year, the Jaguars blitzed rival Camelback 65-3, Casa Grande 63-27. Quarterback Richard Lucero (6-0, 170), a 6-6 high jumper last spring, completed 87 of 156 passes (56%) for 1,479 yards and 18 TDs. He threw only seven interceptions, and spread the wealth around. Wideout Jason Jenkins (5-11, 170) caught 17 passes for 261 yards. Dennis Bracamonte (5-11, 175) caught 12 passes for 237 yards. Jamarei Bryant (5-11, 180) caught five passes for 66 yards. In the trenches, Silvester Mata (5-10, 230) is the best bet for post-season honors. Mike Aldana (5-10, 210) returns at linebacker. Young Chris Manoz, a 240-pound tackle, played as a sophomore.

After a 2-8 slate in '95, **Maryvale** rebounded and won the Metro, finishing 8-4 after a quarterfinal loss to Chandler. Coach Tom Bruney has a blue-chip prospect in 6-2, 180-pound receiver Wayman Westbrooks. In two years, Westbrooks has caught 60 passes for 1,062 yards and 11 touchdowns. Last year he averaged 18.2 yards per catch. Westbrooks doubles in the secondary, along with teammate Larry Steward (5-9, 145), who averaged 21 yards per punt return. Senior Marco Burruel (6-1, 155) starts at quarterback. Jason Lyon (6-2, 275), David Speer (6-1, 270), Alfred Alvarez (5-10, 245), Eddie Clark (6-0, 245) and Rasteen Rice (6-0, 245) form a mammoth front wall. Rice is just a junior. Derrick Williams (6-0, 235) is the Panthers' best linebacker.

Once the region's doormat, **Carl Hayden** has become more competitive. Last year's 26-20 opening night win over North Canyon ended a 26-game losing streak. Nine weeks later the Falcons were in the playoffs for the first time ever. Linemen Jesus Solomon (6-3, 295) and Gabe Seniceros (5-11, 240) were all-region picks. Rafael Rios (5-10, 250) started. Linebacker Mike Hernandez (5-9, 209) earned several votes. Little Ruben Macias (5-8, 160) takes over at quarterback. Alfredo Robles (5-11, 160) averaged 10.0 yards per catch. Jeremy Brown (6-4, 205), the squad's best athlete, averaged 15.7. Twenty underclassmen lettered.

Alhambra started 3-0, then lost three close league games. Still, the Lions finished with the school's first winning season (6-4) since 1986. Coach Frank Lautt has three of the better players in the Metro, starting with all-state defensive back Travis Wells (5-10, 175). Running backs Robert Canidate (5-7, 155) and Malcom Moore (5-10, 165), who could see action at quarterback, both run 40 yards in 4.6 seconds. Wingback Charles Adams is a threat. Up front, the Lions are set with Bubba Paynter (5-10, 265) at center, flanked by Joe Murillo (6-3, 255) and Shamar Matthews (6-2, 250). James Eggleston (5-10, 175) is a small but quick (4.6) linebacker. "We'll be quick," warns Lautt. "If we get leadership from our senior class we'll be tougher than last year. We have a great group of hard working kids."

North was young and carried only 20 players. It showed. The Mustangs gave up over 360 points for the second year in a row. But they finished 3-2 over the last half of the season, and 10 starting positions return. Quarterback Guillermo (5-11, 155), nose guard Jereme Cade (6-0, 270) and wideout Tom Watson (5-10, 150) could start for any team in the Metro. All three are solid two-way players. For the defense to improve, linebackers John Campos (5-9, 160), Richard Lomeli (6-0, 240) and Greg Aniceto (6-0, 195) must stay healthy. Junior Reuben Rico (6-3, 280) is a big, strong two-way tackle. Still, depth is a problem.

At **Camelback**, the Spartans gave up plenty of points themselves, 342 to be exact. South drilled them 65-3. Two years ago, two sophomores made an impact on the varsity: defensive back Eric Keyes (6-1, 170) and linebacker Derrick Williams (6-0, 208). Both played receiver and possessed good speed. But neither are in the program today. Defensively, seniors Dominic Charon, Chris Newton and Arthur Araiza must step up. Aeaiza is the Spartans' quarterback.

Central's plight was worse. The winless Bobcats gave up 41.2 points per game. Half the varsity returns. Six sophomores played. Two receivers, Shane Johnson (6-0, 185) and Bobby Snydor (6-0, 178) earned all-region acclaim. But quarterback Ray Brown (5-10, 175) may be the key. Mike Gray graduated. Three sophomores forced into combat last year were big: Jamie Sanchez (6-0, 260), Pedro Flores (6-0, 295) and Joe Moreno (6-0, 202).

Race to 100

In the annals of Arizona schoolboy football, no high school has ever won 100 games in a decade. Phoenix St. Mary's, with 99 triumphs in the 1980's, holds the state record. Below are the leaders in the Decade of the '90's:

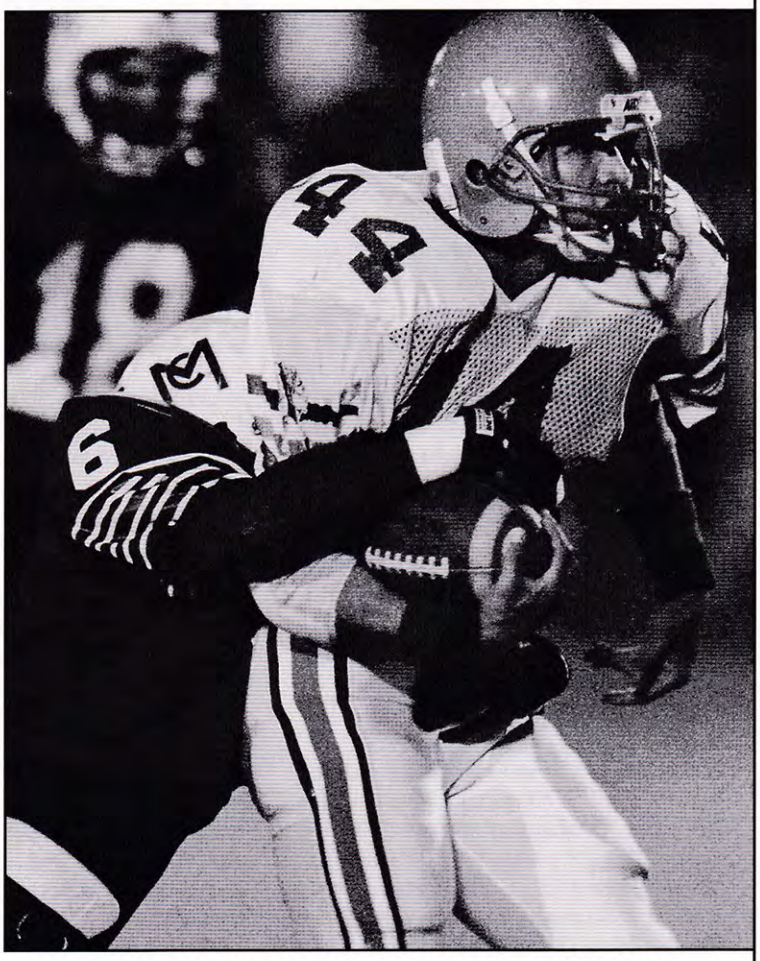
Wins	School	Years	Overall	Winning %
77	Lakeside Blue Ridge	1990-96	77-8-0	(.906)
74	Mesa	1990-96	74-14-1	(.841)
74	Tucson Sabino	1990-96	74-15-0	(.831)
72	St. Johns	1990-96	72-9-1	(.889)
72	Phoenix St. Mary's	1990-96	72-18-0	(.800)
69	Peoria	1990-96	69-16-1	(.812)
67	Tucson Sahuaro	1990-96	67-17-3	(.797)
65	Mesa Mountain View	1990-96	65-15-1	(.813)
64	Scottsdale Horizon	1990-96	64-20-1	(.762)
64	Snowflake	1990-96	64-20-1	(.762)
64	Tucson Amphi	1990-96	64-23-0	(.736)
60	Thatcher	1990-96	60-18-0	(.769)

MESA SPRINKLER INC.

201 W. Juanita
Mesa -85210-
(602) 964-8888

We Salute the Mesa City Player of the Year

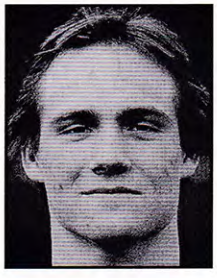
1996 .....Cody Price, Westwood, LB
1995 .....Tom Pace, Mesa, QB
1994 .....Matt Griffith, Mesa, NG
1993 .....Mikel Moreno, Mesa, QB
1992 .....Brandon Thomas, Westwood, WR
1991 .....Mike Cook, Mountain View, WR/DB/K
1990 .....Grady Benton, Mesa, QB
1989 .....Mark Jorgensen, Westwood, DB
1988 .....Lance Smith, Mountain View, RB
1987 .....Josh Arnold, Dobson, RB/DB
1986 .....Quin Rodriguez, Dobson, PK
1985 .....Bob Davis, Mountain View, LB
1984 .....Pat Schabel, Westwood, WR
1983 .....Paul Kasprzyk, Mountain View, RB
1982 .....Keith Moody, Mountain View, T
1981 .....Brian Denton, Mesa, T
1980 .....Kevin Van Norman, Mountain View, DB
1979 .....Todd Shell, Mountain View, LB
1978 .....Keith Miller, Mountain View, WR
1977 .....Ron Sowers, Mountain View, T
1976 .....Fred Freeman, Westwood, T
1975 .....Darrel LeSuer, Mesa, LB
1974 .....Ronnie Bonner, Westwood, RB
1973 .....Mickey Hatcher, Mesa, WR
1972 .....Don Woods, Mesa, WR
1971 .....Greg Daly, Mesa, RB
1970 .....Dick Harris, Westwood, WR
1969 .....Danny White, Westwood, QB
1968 .....Benny Alvarez, Mesa, RB
1967 .....Ken Hatcher, Mesa, C
1966 .....Bob Soza, Westwood, TB
1965 .....Bill Dunning, Mesa, RB
1964 .....Richard Griffin, Westwood, T



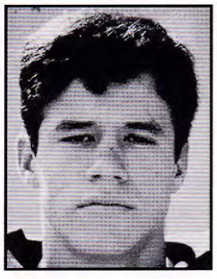
Westwood receiver Brandon Thomas (Mesa Tribune photo).



Danny White
Westwood



Paul Kasprzyk
Mountain View



Mikel Moreno
Mesa



Bob Davis
Mountain View

Distributor of Landscape & Irrigation Products

Offices in Mesa, Scottsdale, Peoria, Tucson & Las Vegas

5A NORTHWEST REGION
1. Glendale Ironwood (11-2-1)
2. Tolleson Westview (5-4-1)
3. Scottsdale Desert Mountain (3-7)
4. Deer Valley (3-7)
5. Phoenix Goldwater (5-5)
6. Kingman (11-2)
7. Mountain Ridge (0-5)

Five teams from this new region move up from 4A, with **Ironwood** the most prominent. The young Eagles (11-2-1) have played in back-to-back 4A championship games. Chuck Esquivel's forces almost won it all, dropping a 20-17 overtime thriller to Tempe in the finals. "I think going to ASU (for the finals) improves school spirit 100 percent," says the second year head coach. "We have definitely turned the corner as far as winning programs go."

Like all newcomers, Ironwood will have to earn respect. But the Eagles have the horses to do it. Thirty-three lettermen return, including several big bodies on the line. Gain Sapelli (6-6, 300), Chris Johnson (6-4, 225), Chris Morris (6-4, 215), Dan Pina (5-9, 215) and Josh Peper (6-2, 225) can match up with any 5A front. Tony Merlino (6-0, 200) has a shot at quarterback. Wide receiver Ben Moul (6-2, 180, 4.5) is the fastest Eagle in camp. Junior fullback Marcus Griffith (5-10, 215) and halfback Pat Wilson (6-0, 185) add size and speed. Defensively, Leo Zuniga (5-11, 190) is a solid linebacker. Scott Ernster (5-11, 175) and Adam Wagner (6-0, 170) start in the secondary. Ernster is the club's kicker, and a good one.

Ironwood's lone tie was with **Westview**. The Knights (5-4-1) were 15 points from an 8-2 season, and a possible playoff berth. With junior Rocky King (5-10, 170) and senior Eric Jackson (6-0, 180) in the lineup, coach George Martinez may have the best one-two quarterback punch in the Valley. Jackson played more (981 yards, 8 TDs), but King is penciled in as the starter. If that works, Jackson can move elsewhere, including the secondary. Both run 40 yards in 4.6 seconds. But the real threat is tailback Phillip Paige (see cover), a burner with 4.5 speed. He averaged 8.1 yards per carry, gained 1,038 and scored nine TDs. Against Lake Havasu he rushed for 250 yards on 22 carries. Wideout Robert Espinoza (5-10, 170) is a prime target. Mini-linebacker Matt Hamblin (5-9, 170) played varsity ball as a sophomore. Tackles Jaime Thiele (5-10, 160) and Philip Eager (6-6, 240) go both ways. Eager is just a junior.

Desert Mountain concluded its varsity baptism 3-7 and 66% of the squad returns. Two key players, deep back Sasha Vinnikov (5-8, 150) and punter Matt Axford (5-11, 165), earned first-team Scottsdale all-city berths. Vinnikov recorded 75 tackles, 10 fumble recoveries and three interceptions. Axford averaged 37.0 yards per punt. Defensive lineman Jason LaFon (6-3, 185) and receiver/deep back Eric Carrigan also return.

Only nine seniors, 11 lettermen overall, return at **Deer Valley**, where the Skyhawks (3-8) were buried in the playoff's first round by Mountain View. Coach Fred Haeger has to replace his entire secondary, but looks close to 100% on the line. Chris Espino (5-11, 225), an all-region pick, Joe Stroble (6-0, 210), Juan Jimenez (5-11, 225) and Sean Davidson (6-2, 230) return in the trenches. Newcomer Mike Reischman (6-4, 290) is just a junior. Offensively, juniors Matt Polk (6-3, 205) and Andy Gray (6-1, 175) will compete at quarterback. Gray will join Chris Burns (5-9, 160) and junior Collin Hurd (5-8, 175) in the Skyhawks' secondary. Polk, Josh Jensen (5-10, 200) and junior Allen McBride (5-10, 200) form the linebacking corps.

Seventeen underclassmen picked up letters at **Goldwater**, where the Bulldogs return one of the more talented players in the region, Landon Benson. The 5-11, 160-pound senior plays everywhere: secondary, running back, receiver and kick returner. Jeff Wilber (5-10, 170) plays everywhere too, but his strength is kicking the ball. J.D. Hutchinson (6-3, 225) is the Dogs' best lineman. Several underclassmen tipped the scales at 215-plus pounds, including Dwight Grape, Nathan Perkins, Ken Harbison, Nathan Lamb and Jason Mains.

At **Mountain Ridge**, a school with no seniors, 16 serious injuries doomed the Mountain Lions, and the school dropped varsity play after an 0-5 start. Coach Jim Ewan's forces will be better prepared, but less than one dozen seniors dot the roster. Two-way end Neil Sharp (6-0, 195) has all-region potential. Backs Chris Duffy (5-8, 150) and Pat Finkbone (5-9, 170) play both ways. Junior back Jose Virgil (5-10, 175), a good baseball player, had a 100-yard game against Independence. Look for Justin King (5-10, 175) to start at quarterback. Two-way tackles Ryan Taffe (6-3, 205) and Ryan McCoy (5-10, 205), a transfer from Nebraska, are going to be busy. Sophomore Skip Ast (5-9, 183) is a promising young back.

Kingman, a 4A school for years, moves into 5A warfare one year late. All-staters Trevor Mote and James Moua, two of the best players in the state, graduated. Running back Kurtis Yocum (5-11, 170, 4.7) is the Bulldogs best bet for post-season honors. Last year's 11-2 club dropped a 21-12 semifinal contest to Ironwood. Both schools move up to 5A together.

THE HAT CLUB



FIESTA MALL
1445 W. Southern, Mesa
(602) 835-9343

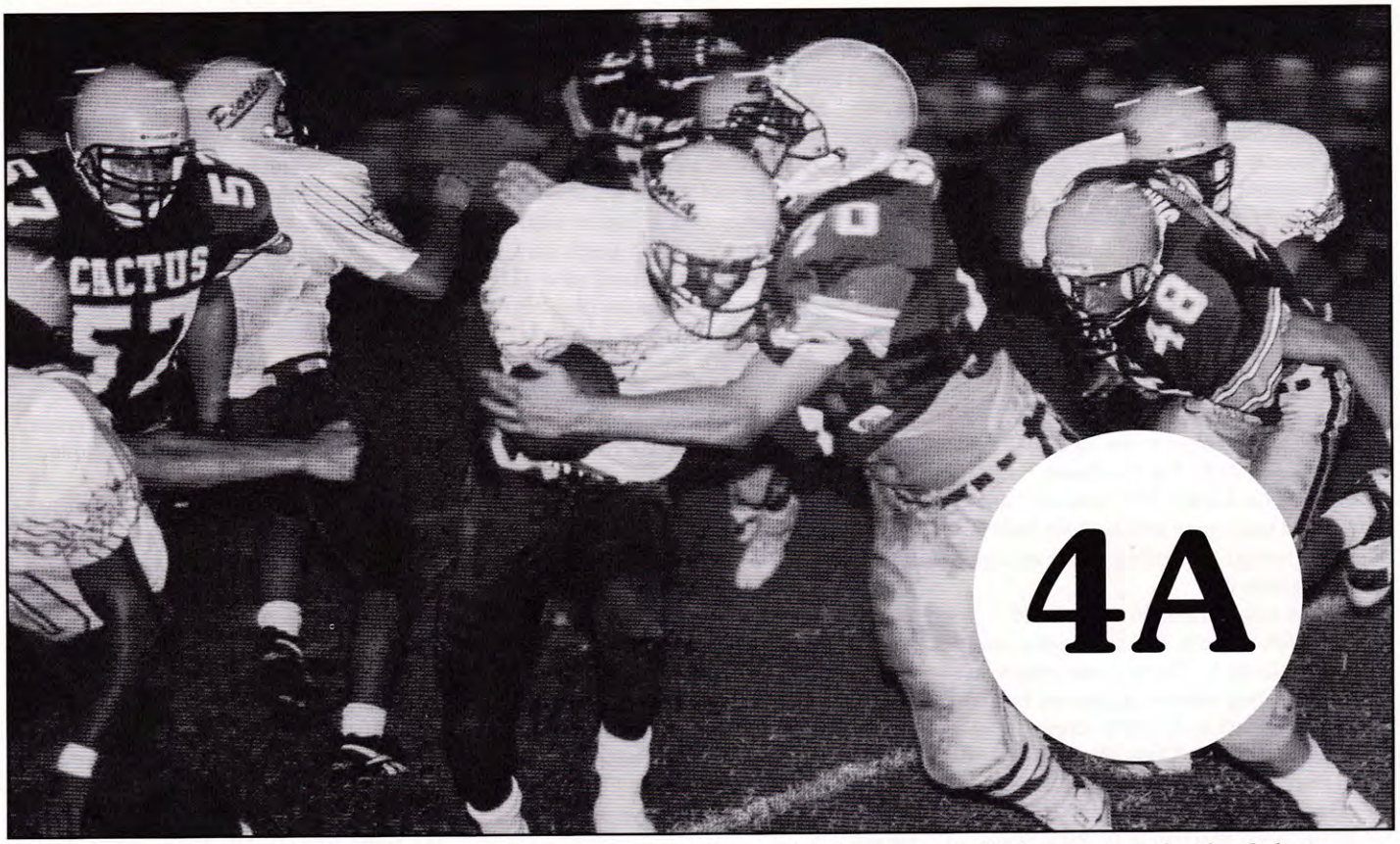
METRO CENTER
9617 Metro Parkway West, Phx.
(602) 997-1567

PARADISE VALLEY MALL
4568 E. Cactus, Paradise Valley
(602) 494-2595

SUPERSTITION SPRINGS MALL
6555 E. Southern, Mesa
(602) 396-8824

ARROWHEAD TOWNE CENTER
7700 W. Bell, Glendale
(602) 486-2252

CAMPUS CLUB & CORNERSTONE
Rural Rd. & University, Tempe
(602) 829-7009



Peoria's Kyran Jones is tackled by Cactus linebacker Alan Sinay (70) during westside battle, won by the Cobras. (M. Dean photo).

Peoria Powerhouse Packed Again

This fall Peoria, which has produced as many major college football prospects as any 5A school starts out on top. Staying there, in the competitive Arizona 4A race, will be another story. This year the school's high profile player is tailback Kyran Jones (see cover), a slashing runner with 2,094 yards and 32 touchdowns in his resume. Coach Doug Clapp, 108-29-4 (.788) in the past 11 years, returns enough quality players to field two teams. In fact, that's exactly what the Panthers do each year - two platoon.

At Glendale Apollo, coach Gregg Parrish has the Hawks flying high, finally. No 4A school in Maricopa County returns as many all-region picks as Apollo, including key position players like quarterback Zack Threadgill and young two-way tackle Ben Bowlen.

In Tempe, graduation cleaned out the state champs cupboard, but the Buffaloes got a break when linebacker Josh McBurney, a 5A Central all-region pick at Mesa Dobson, transferred in to play for his uncle, Tim McBurney

4A WEST VALLEY REGION

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

Yes, **PEORIA** is the team to beat in this region, if not the state. If the Panthers stay healthy (that's been a problem lately), watch out. Coach Doug Clapp returns 28 regulars from a 60-man roster, including the Valley's top back, senior Kyran Jones (6-1, 183). The slick Panther used his 4.5 speed to set several school records, including touchdowns in a game (7), points in a game (42) and rushing yards (388). Quarterback Keith Jennings (5-11, 188) passed for 967 yards and six TDs. His guns are loaded. Marcus Neal (6-2, 180) and Kelvin Harris (5-7, 171) step in at receiver. Tackle Josh Jones (6-4, 281) is the main blocker. Center Reynaldo Moreno (6-3, 243) starts the show. Tony Hernandez (6-4, 274), David Lopez (5-11, 205), Ricky Ferrel (6-1, 251) and Anthony Cortinas (5-10, 235) join them on the line. Ferrel and Cortinas are juniors.

Defensively, Peoria gave up 265 points. Watch that drop. The secondary looks stronger than ever, especially with Brandon Falkner (6-2, 191, 4.6) and Owen Phelps (5-11, 167, 4.6) roaming around. Stay clear of Randy Zimmerman (6-4, 264), an excellent end. Tony Brunetti (6-0, 196), just a junior, is a productive linebacker (32 solo tackles, 96 assists). In fact, that position is deep, with Thad Cramer (5-10, 202), Garrett Battin (5-10, 205), Brian Schroder (5-11, 193) and Robert Tolliver (6-0, 206) in the lineup. The latter three are juniors.

"We were disappointed in the record, but not in the effort," claims Richard Taylor at **Centennial**, where the Coyotes return 21 players from a 3-6-1 team. Taylor's never-say-die squad lost to Peoria, Agua Fria, Paradise Valley and Mohave by one touchdown or less.

Defense will be strong, with five three-year starters returning: lineman John Clanton (6-2, 265), linebacker Ryan West (6-2, 240), safety Brian Konderik (6-0, 190), corner Robby Eufemia (5-9, 168) and guard Anthony Becker (6-4, 250). Clanton, with 13 tackles for losses, is the key. West and Konderik recorded 98 and 66 tackles respectively. Junior Robbie Rawlings (6-2, 250) could start on the offensive line. If fullback Kyle Smith (5-10, 185) and tailback Brent Bean (5-9, 170) improve, the offense might catch up with the defense. Wideout Mark Marcos (5-11, 160), with 4.5 speed, is the fastest Coyote in camp. Seniors Mike Puente and Gavin Costly will compete at quarterback. Costly is the club's punter.

Under first year coach Mike Grossner, **Agua Fria** jumped from the doghouse (0-10) to the penthouse (8-4). But Grossner departed for Glendale College, and the Owls face '97 with its third coach in three years, Mickey Bell. Three all-region picks return: linebacker Brad Holmes (6-1, 192), defensive end Cordell Lewis (6-2, 209) and junior back Keith Schuttler (6-1, 184). Schuttler was one of eight sophomores who saw varsity action. Three were good-sized linemen: Chris Schroeder (6-4, 286), Amos Walker (5-10, 240) and Alan Parker (6-4, 210).

Cactus, 9-2 on the field, lost heavily to graduation. Veteran coach Larry Fetkenhier returns just two offensive starters and four defenders. Rival Peoria knocked the Cobras out in the playoffs' first round. Still, size and speed are trademarks, and several key players possess both. Fullback Chris Cutting (6-2, 230, 4.7) rushed for 628 yards and nine TDs. Halfback Ryan McConnell (6-2, 203, 4.6) gained 444 yards. Sophomores Mike Schmite (6-4, 181, 4.7) or Jon Stoner (6-2, 178, 4.7) could get the nod at quarterback. The rest of the key players are linemen: Brandon Guida (6-0, 263), Clayton Modic (6-1, 201), Jimmy Salazar (6-2, 246), Craig Kurtzeborn (6-2, 247), Chad Best (6-3, 231) and Arthur Marsh (6-2, 228). Berto Preciado (6-2, 208) and junior Norm Boebert (6-5, 223) start at linebacker.

Improvement is the name of the game at **Tolleson**, where the Wolverines gave up 333 points in 10 games. Overall, 30 underclassmen played, including 15 sophomores. That's too many. Two-way linemen like Louis Cadriel (6-0, 195) and Elias Aragon (6-1, 215), both good players, need some help. Maybe it will come from the sophomore class, which included Da-Ron Gilbert (6-0, 200), Jesus Valdez (6-0, 225), Dan Molina (6-2, 240) and Chris Tom (6-0, 270), linemen all. Isaac Salcido (5-9, 170) and junior Ty Solie (5-10, 165) compete at quarterback.

'97 METRO 4A TOP 20

1. Peoria Panthers
2. Apollo Hawks
3. Chaparral Firebirds
4. Centennial Coyotes
5. Washington Rams
6. Greenway Demons
7. Coronado Dons
8. Agua Fria Owls
9. Cactus Cobras
10. Arcadia Titans
11. Saguaro Sabercats
12. Cortez Colts
13. Moon Valley Rockets
14. Glendale Cardinals
15. Sunnyslope Vikings
16. Tempe Buffaloes
17. Thunderbird Chiefs
18. Independence Patriots
19. Tolleson Wolverines
20. Buckeye Hawks

Mohave batted .500 but missed the playoffs. Coach Terry King returns 13 lettermen from a 5-5 team which played tough the last three games. Mosses Love, a 2,000-yard back, is gone, but two first team all-league players return: safety Greg Young (5-10, 165) and two-way lineman Julian Perez (5-10, 230). Young will start at tailback. **Sunrise Mountain**, coached by former Prescott mentor Bill Gahn, starts its second year of play. The Mustangs will field frosh and JV squads only. Last year's frosh club got off to a great start, losing only once.

4A SKYLINE REGION

1. Glendale Apollo (4-5-1)
2. Glendale (4-6)
3. Sunnyslope (0-9-1)
4. Phoenix Thunderbird (1-9)
5. Buckeye (6-4)
6. Lake Havasu (3-7)

It's a one man race in this region, too. **Apollo** looks too strong for the pack, with nine all-region picks. Coach Gregg Parrish returns 18 letter winners, and most saw action. The Hawks just missed the playoffs, playing juniors at every key position. Center James Anderson (6-4, 230) snaps the ball to the key guy, quarterback Zack Threadgill (6-3, 190), who passed for 1,737 yards and 14 TDs. Threadgill also holds on extra points and field goals, making Chris Wahl's job easier. Wahl was a second team all-region kicker. Junior fullback Nick Mangosing (6-5, 225) led the team in rushing (626 yds.), scoring (13 TDs) and receiving (30 cat.). "He will be a major college prospect," claims his head coach. Mangosing also plays linebacker, along with all-region picks Chris Boyland (6-4, 200) and Jason Hatch (6-2, 210). Nose guard Ryan Bakke (6-3, 255) and two-way tackle Ben Bowlen (6-0, 225) come to play. Bowlen is just a junior. Nonnie Bradley (5-10, 170), an all-region back, joins Chris Laute (5-11, 175) and Sergio Morning (5-10, 160) in the secondary. Laute, along with speedy little James Navarro (5-8, 150), give the Hawks two good pass receivers.

Glendale looks improved, especially depth-wise. Juniors from a solid JV unit move up. Second-year coach John Croteau runs the Wing-T and has the horses up front to make it go. Two-way tackle Adolph Bohn (6-1, 250) was an honorable mention all-region pick. Jerry Pacheco (6-1, 240), Jerome Lewis (6-0, 260) and Charles Parvin (6-32,190) join Bohn in the trenches. Junior fullback Victor Morales (5-10, 210) and halfback Pat Beavers (5-9, 170) form a solid backfield. Morales doubles at linebacker. Speedy Jeff Allen (5-9, 180) starts in the secondary.

Sunnyslope was better than its record, losing games by two, three and seven points. Still, the Vikings were winless. One dozen players return, but the key man is quarterback Stuart Hansen (5-11, 175). Why? He *has* to get the ball to Matt Nixon (6-1, 195), the Vikings do-everything receiver. Last year Nixon caught 66 passes for 959 yards and eight scores. He averaged 14.5 yards per catch. With 4.7 speed, big Dave Campbell (6-2, 205) doubles at fullback/linebacker. Still, for the offense to click, Hansen & Co. need protection. That comes in the form of Del Bossert (6-3, 210), Bob Hitchcock (5-9, 185), Gabe Rodriguez (6-0, 190) and Isreal Canez (5-11, 190), two-way linemen. Depth is still a problem.

Every team in the region looks improved, including **Thunderbird**, which

APOLLO HIGH SCHOOL



Zack Threadgill
Quarterback



Chris Boyland
Linebacker

"In 1997, Fly With The Hawks!"

1996 ALL-REGION OFFENSE:

First Team:
Zack Threadgill (QB)
Nick Mangosing(RB)
Ryan Bakke (OL)

Second Team:
Rob Walker (OL)

Honorable Mention:
Adam Hauer (TE)
James Anderson (C)

1996 ALL-REGION DEFENSE:

First Team:
Chris Boyland (LB)
Ryan Bakke (DL)
Ben Bowlen (DL)

Second Team:
Nonnie Bradley(DB)
Jason Hatch (LB)
Chris Wahl (K)

Honorable Mention:
Adam Hauer (DE)

1997 SCHEDULE:
Head Coach
Gregg Parrish

*Aug. 27 vs Cortez
Sept. 5 vs Flagstaff
Sept. 12 at Prescott
Sept. 19 vs Saguaro
Sept. 26 at Washington
Oct. 3 vs Lake Havasu
Oct. 10 vs Thunderbird
Oct. 17 at Sunnyslope
Oct. 24 at Greenway
Oct. 31 vs Glendale
Nov. 7 at Buckeye

**Preseason scrimmage*



Ben Bowlen
Nose Guard

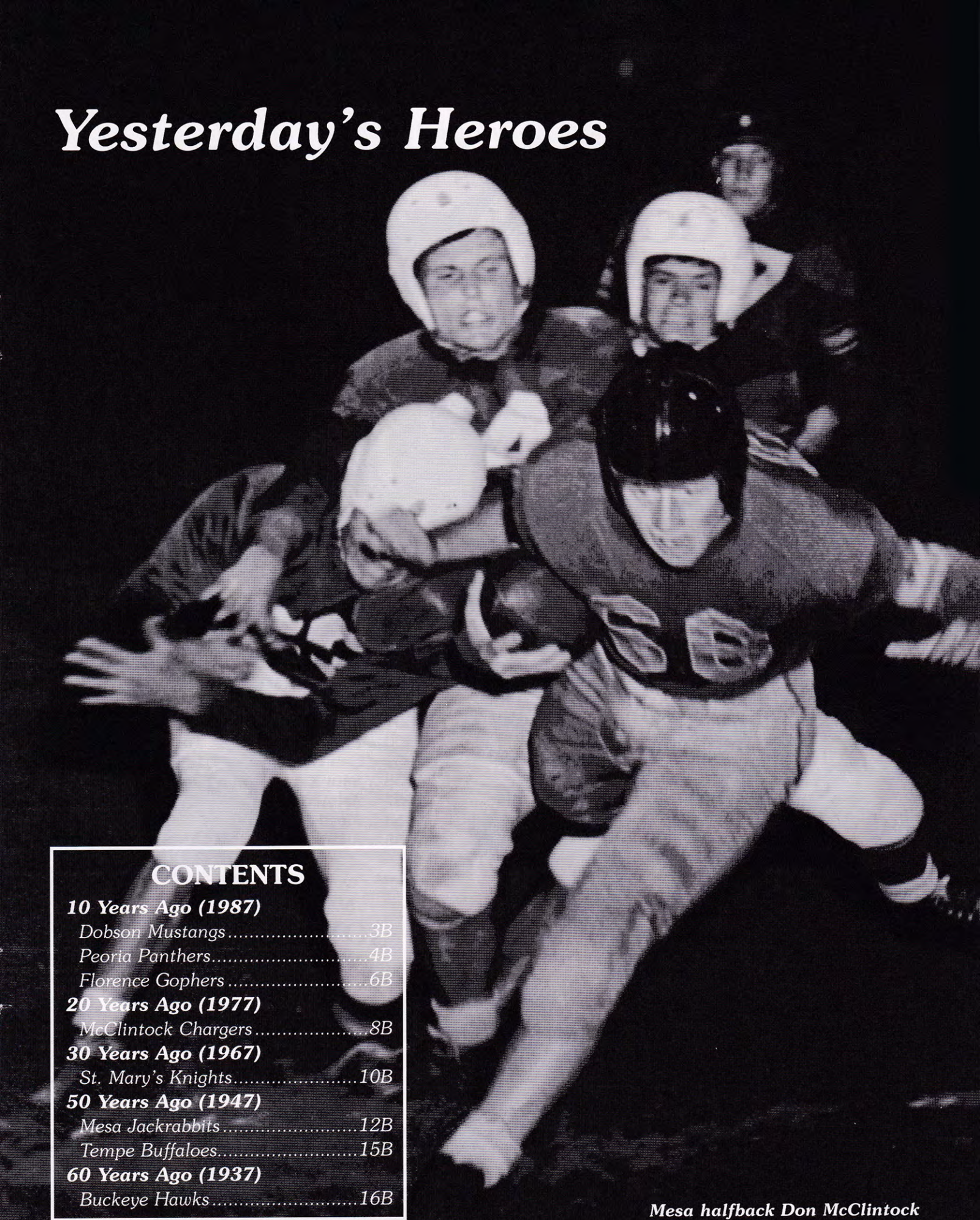


Ryan Bakke
Guard/Tackle

Sponsored by Apollo Hawk Football Fans & Boosters
Glendale Apollo High School

8045 N. 47th Ave., Glendale, 85302, Phone: (602) 435-6325

Yesterday's Heroes



CONTENTS

10 Years Ago (1987)

Dobson Mustangs *3B*

Peoria Panthers *4B*

Florence Gophers *6B*

20 Years Ago (1977)

McClintock Chargers *8B*

30 Years Ago (1967)

St. Mary's Knights *10B*

50 Years Ago (1947)

Mesa Jackrabbits *12B*

Tempe Buffaloes *15B*

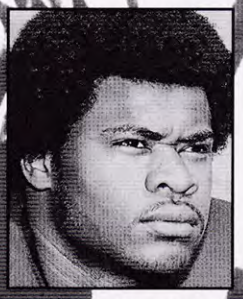
60 Years Ago (1937)

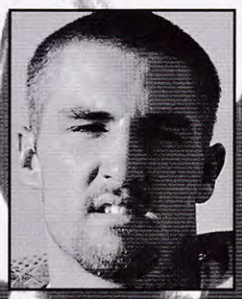
Buckeye Hawks *16B*

Mesa halfback Don McClintock

SIMMONS®
Beautyrest®
The Do·Not·Disturb Mattress
Salutes the
LARRY GORDON AWARD WINNER
HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL LINEBACKER:


Riki Gray
Amphi


Larry Gordon
Phoenix Union


Steve Trejo
Casa Grande


Jim Sprotte
Blue Ridge


Cody Price
Westwood

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
1956 .. Floyd Smith, Phoenix Union
1955 .. Allan Sandell, Phoenix North

AUTHORIZED DEALERS:
JOY'S Furniture
Located at
MAVERICK CENTER
Highway 260 in Lakeside - Pinetop
Phone (520)368-5542
Instant Credit! *Open Sundays!
Free Delivery!
See our Beautyrest Gallery!

KERBY'S FURNITURE STORES
AUTHORIZED DEALERS
Complete selection of Beautyrest Products
East Mesa Store: 9505 E. Apache Blvd., Mesa (602)984-2127
Design Center: 422 E. Broadway, Mesa (602)834-3888

10 years ago (1987)

Dobson's Wild Horses Finish Strong

By LONNIE COLLINS

Apparently, it was Dobson's turn. Prior to the 1987 football campaign, every high school in Mesa had won a state championship except Dobson.

But Mike Clark's 51-man crew took care of that in a big way. Before 20,036 fans at Arizona State University, the Mustangs crushed rival Mountain View, and with surprisingly ease.

The score was 35-14.

"This is a great group of guys," said Clark after the win. "There is no most valuable player. I mean, they are all just great guys. Josh Arnold, T.C. Wright, Greg Boland, all of them. Emotionally, I'm 10 feet above the press box. This is the pinnacle of my coaching career."

Tailback Wright led all runners with 97 yards on 12 carries against the Toros. Fullback Boland rushed for 94 yards, and Arnold, a great two-way back who later starred at BYU, gained 81 yards.

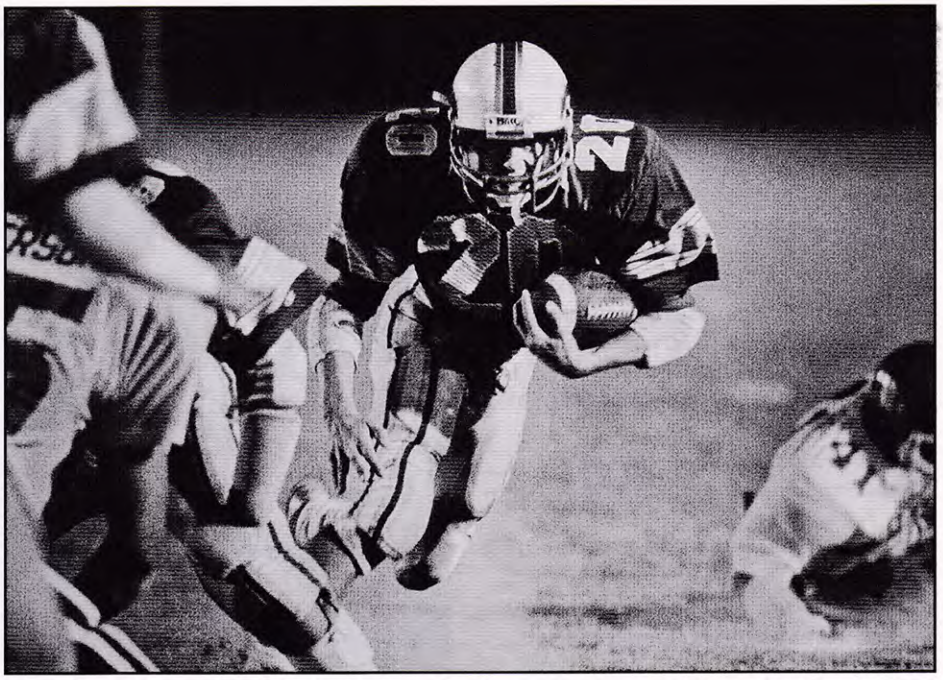
"Our offensive line is the best in the state," added Wright, whose younger brother Toby currently plays for the St. Louis Rams. "They've been doing it all year. They've never let us down."

Only twice, early in the season, did Dobson's backs drop the ball. Turnovers played big roles in two losses, 14-13 to Mountain View, and 26-12 to Mesa. But after that, only Tempe McClintock played the Wild Horses tough, falling 10-8 in October. Kicker Steve Rausch, who would later star at Arizona State, saved the day with a 45-yard field goal.

Then the Mustangs rolled. From November on, Clark's well oiled machine averaged 41.0 points to their opponents' 11.8, starting with a 35-14 rout of Tempe Marcos de Niza.

Wright scored on an 87-yard punt return, then blocked a punt and recovered it in the end zone, as Dobson finished the regular season with a 42-10 win over Tempe. Arnold rushed for 127 yards, including a 70-yard score, and Boland struck from 86 yards out.

The 'Horses sounded a warning bell in the playoff's first round - an easy 66-11 rout of Tucson Santa Rita. Rausch kicked a 48-yard field goal midway through the first quarter to get Dobson on the board.



Josh Arnold, an all-state back, breaks through a large hole in the line against Westwood (Phoenix Gazette photo).

Playoff games were something new to Dobson, but against Santa Rita the Mustangs played like veterans. "We've been getting better," said Clark afterwards. "I feel like we have a great team, but we're going to have to do things better, like throw more, as we go along. But right now I feel real good."

Better than Santa Rita coach Will Kreamer. "We had that touchdown called back early, which really hurt, and after that the wheels fell off. I haven't seen many teams in that league (Central), but I don't see how they can be better that Dobson," he said. "If we had to lose, at least I feel better that we lost to a team I think will be the next state champions."

The playoff victory was the Mustangs' first in the school's short history. It wasn't its last. After a mediocre first-half performance, the Dobson ground game kicked into gear and sliced through Moon Valley, 31-10. Rausch's foot was a big weapon, booting four extra points and a 47-yard field goal. Five of his six kickoffs landed in the Rockets' end zone, preventing returns.

"Emotionally, I'm 10 feet above the press box. This is the pinnacle of my coaching career."

Clark's club pounded Brophy in the semifinals, 37-12, before an overflow crowd of 8,000 at Westwood High. Arnold rushed for 146 yards and scored on a 65-yard interception return.

On the west side of town, before 8,000 fans at Glendale Community College, Mountain View's stingy secondary picked St. Mary's clean, intercepting quarterback John Bonds five times, as the Toros stopped the Knights, 21-18. It set up an all-Mesa finals for the first time in Arizona history.

After the season, Dobson reaped the rewards of victory. Between *The Phoenix Gazette* & *The Arizona Republic*, seven Mustangs landed first-team all-state berths. Clark was selected Arizona Coach of the Year. His Mustangs rushed for 4,004 yards and ground out 5,077 yards total offense. Ten years later, this Dobson squad is still one of the most productive in Mesa city history.

10 years ago (1987)

Peoria-Cactus Rivalry Biggest, Best

By JEFF KRIDER

The opponent was Cactus High, and a rematch was taking place in the '87 Class 4A finals, played at Arizona State.

Paybacks can be fun. Especially in athletic events. Especially the same year.

Peoria had another shot. Earlier in October, before 8,000-plus fans at Glendale College, Cactus handed the defending state champs its second consecutive loss, 28-14. One week earlier, Peoria fell one point short during a 14-13 loss to talented South Mountain, a larger 5A school.

By this time, the Cactus-Peoria rivalry had become one of the state's biggest and best. Always played at Glendale College and usually on city-wide TV, crowds estimated at 10,000 sometimes showed.

Coaches Doug Clapp at Peoria and Larry Fetkenhier of Cactus had the two hottest football programs on the "west side of town."

On a picture-perfect afternoon in Tempe, Peoria handed Cactus (12-1) its only loss, 28-6, giving the Panthers back-to-back state crowns for the first time ever.

In the 5A clash on the same field, Dobson trampled Mountain View 35-14 in an all-Mesa finals. Western Athletic Conference power BYU gobbled up two of Dobson's stars, halfback Josh Arnold and end Steve Holmes.

But the best and most talented team was probably Peoria, where college recruiters had a field day in February. No less than six Panthers landed college football scholarships: flanker Eric Guliford (Arizona State), end Steve Good (Stanford), linebacker Dusty Weiland (Iowa), guard Scott Peterson (Nebraska), halfback Marvin Johnson (New Mexico State), and deep back Ervin Cutright (Nevada-Reno).

The rematch in the finals was a complete reverse. In October, the Cobras' defense all but shut down Peoria, giving up two short scoring passes from William Babb to Good. But in December, Peoria's defense came to play, along with its explosive offense.

Cactus, which averaged 38 points a game, scored only in the second quarter, after recovering a fumble by Johnson, the state's leading scorer. Three plays later quarterback Kevin Standerfer passed to Jim Robinson for a 7-yard touchdown.



Marvin Johnson, who scored 30 touchdowns, runs for one of four against Sunnyslope, a 41-6 Panther win (Arizona Republic photo).

For Peoria, Babb passed for 217 yards, tossing two scoring strikes to Guliford, one covering 80 yards. Johnson made up for his lost fumble and scored twice on short runs, giving him 30 touchdowns on the season.

But the big play of the game was Babb's 80-yard strike to Guliford early in the game. That set the tone.

"It gave us a big edge," said Guliford, who in spite of his size (5-8, 160) played both college (Arizona State) and pro (Minnesota Vikings/Carolina Panthers) football. "We weren't upset we lost the first game, it was the way we lost. We knew we were capable of beating Cactus. We just had to show everybody we were capable of doing it."

While losing to South and Cactus early, Peoria was going through troubled times. "From a defensive standpoint, we had four starters out, half our defense," Clapp told *The Arizona Republic*.

"Our offense is very similar to theirs. We run a lot of the same plays. But you can't just try to stop one player. They have so many weapons."

"Quietly, our defense has built itself back into making us a good team. Defense is what's going to determine this game. We're going to have to keep them off the scoreboard."

In the loss to South, Guliford, who had returned three punts for touchdowns, played sparingly because of an ankle injury. The Panthers were out of step.

"Our offense is very similar to theirs," added Fetkenhier before the finals. "We run a lot of the same plays. But you can't just try to stop one player. They have so many weapons."

Peoria returned most of its big guns from a team which beat Agua Fria in the '86 finals. These two clubs met again in the '87 semis, won 21-16 by Peoria, thanks to a 66-yard return of a fumble by Marvin Cobbs. In the other matchup, Cactus scored two late TDs to topple Prescott, 14-10, setting up a rematch with the Panthers.

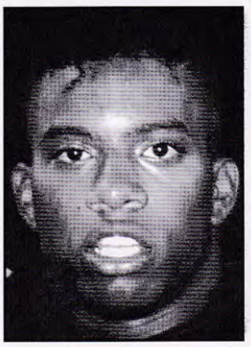
Two years earlier, Cactus had lost to Gilbert in the '85 finals, 27-0. Unfortunately for Cobra faithful, the '87 finals were similar.

An interesting note was the performance of Peoria place kicker Tony Camino, who finished the season making 53 consecutive extra points.

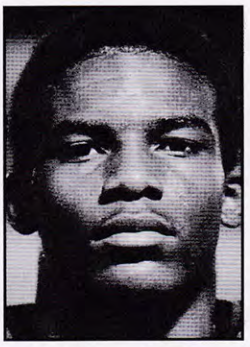
International Fiber-Com, Inc.

Salutes the

Tyrone Byrd Award Winners



Corey Hill
Tucson Sabino



Anthony Parker
McClintock



Tyrone Byrd
Chandler



Derral Davis
Tucson



Rashad Bauman
South Mountain

HONORING THE STATE'S BEST DEFENSIVE BACK

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
1951..... Hadley Hicks, Bisbee
1950..... Gene Mitcham, Phoenix North

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.*

"We Salute These Great Young Athletes."

INTERNATIONAL FIBER-COM, INC.
3615 South 28th Street, Phoenix -85040- (602) 941-1900 FAX (602) 276-0567

10 years ago (1987)

Florence Grinds Out Perfect Season

By DAN KUKULSKI

Tom Mix and Tony the "Wonder Horse" thrilled movie goers for years. In 1994, longtime Florence residents were on hand to dedicate a roadside memorial to Mix, a star of silent Westerns, and Tony, his popular steed. Mix died in a car crash south of Florence in 1940.

Like many old Arizona towns, Florence has other historical landmarks, like the state prison, which originated in Yuma.

And the local high school.

In this Pinal County town, the popular sport of football originated in 1927, when head coach Vince Killerlain, a former Minnesota resident, guided the school's first squad. It was Killerlain's presence which led to the naming of the school's mascot, the Gophers.

During the Minnesota transplants first two seasons in the profession, the Gophers won only one game, a 7-0 win over Superior, played at the new Florence airport.

But times change. Football interest took off. Sixty years after the school's first game, Florence posted a perfect 13-0 record and knocked out Phoenix Christian in the 1987 Class 2A finals, 35-17. These Gophers were coached by Tom Shoemake.

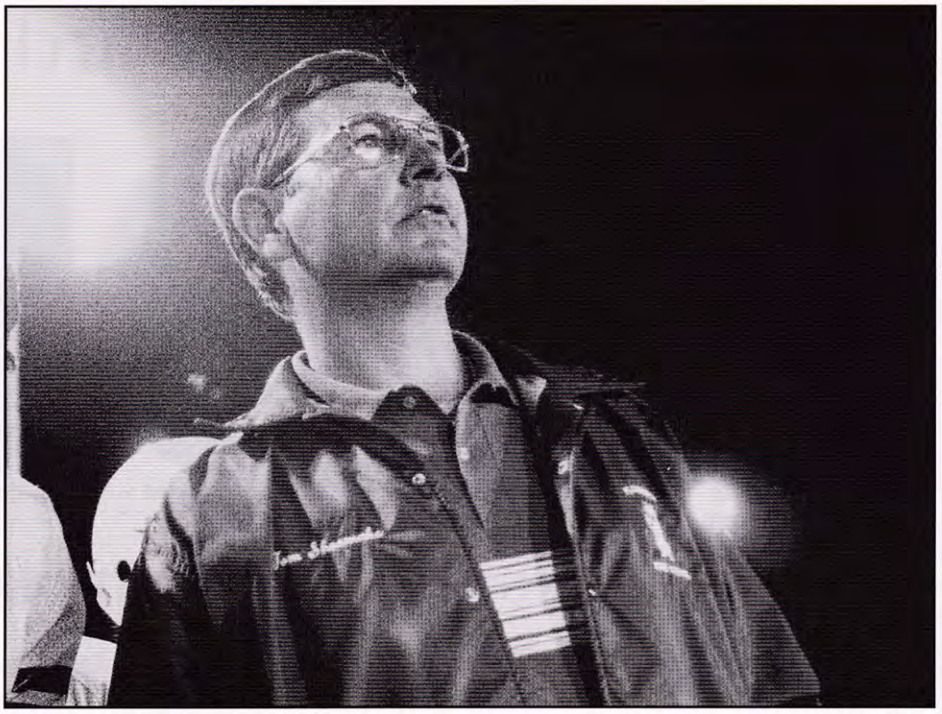
The schools followed the same script two years earlier, when the two Central League powers met in the finals, only to have Christian upset the unbeaten Gophers, 17-7.

"The comparisons are real similar," PC coach Walt Beamis told *The Arizona Republic*. "They were 12-0 in 1985 and everyone thought they would be a shoo-in to win it."

"We're playing pretty good now," said Shoemake. "I thought we had the possibility of going all the way this year."

Florence had the most potent offense in Class 2A ball, scoring 445 points and grounding out 4,470 yards of real estate. All-state halfback Willie Smith, just a sophomore, rushed for 1,505 yards and scored 25 touchdowns. His biggest day: 250 yards and five TDs during a school record 89-8 slaughter of Seton Catholic High in Chandler.

Following a hard-fought win over Hayden the week before, Florence's Red & White machine hopped back with a passion. "The game, played in Chandler, pitted a spaced-out Gopher crew against a smaller but spirited Seton team," wrote Jac Polsgrove of the *Florence Reminder*. "Florence's size and experience, not the team's attention to on-field action, saved the game for the Gophers."



Shoemake, who coached for 11 seasons in two different stints, won three state championships (Florence Blade-Tribune).

Florence's lack of attention was best illustrated when senior Frenchie Taylor picked up a Seton fumble and proceeded to dash 76 yards downfield - into the wrong end zone. He then ran 42 yards back toward Seton's goal once he realized his mistake, but officials had already decided to grant the Sentinels a safety.

The Gophers had taken a 21-0 lead before "Wrong Way" Taylor did his 118-yard tour of the field. Paradoxically, Taylor had put Seton points on the scoreboard for the first time this season.

Shoemake, who would coach two different stints at FHS, knew he had a championship-caliber club after four impressive wins in September: 41-0 over Coolidge, a larger 3A school, 22-0 over Eloy Santa Cruz, 44-7 over outmanned Ajo, and the hard-fought win over Hayden.

... The Gophers had taken a 21-0 lead before "Wrong Way" Taylor did his 118-yard tour of the field.

Running and throwing, Joey Mariscal, who would pass for 1,107 yards on the season, accounted for four touchdowns against Coolidge.

Smith's 86-yard kickoff return got the train on track against Eloy, and the Gophers' stingy defense picked off three passes on way to the rout of Ajo. Mariscal's short field goal sealed Hayden's fate. Then came the Seton debacle.

During a 55-0 rout of Queen Creek, the Gophers scored 42 points in the first half. The secondary intercepted a school record six passes, three by Lance Gardner.

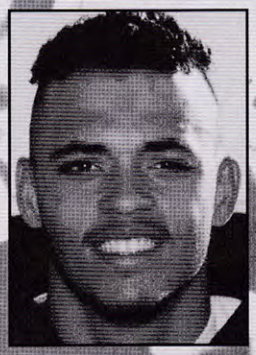
This set the stage for the first meeting with Phoenix Christian, a 15-7 Gopher triumph with Smith scoring twice. During a 35-0 win over Superior, the Gophers secondary, led by sophomore Billy Burris, stole five enemy aerials.

In the rematch with PC, young Smith, who would drop out of school before his junior year, rushed for 223 yards on 29 carries He scored on an 87-yard run as Florence ground out 424 yards.

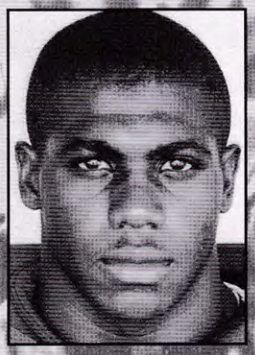
BROWN-O'HAVER, Adjusters International

Salute the

WHIZZER WHITE AWARD WINNERS



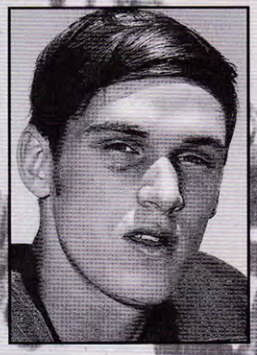
TAVON COOPER
Peoria



REGGIE McGILL
St. Mary's



WHIZZER WHITE
Mesa High



JOE PETROSHUS
Tucson



KYRAN JONES
Peoria

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL RUNNING BACK

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
1948.....Gib Dawson, Douglas
1947.....Marvin Wahlin, Casa Grande
1946.....Whizzer White, Mesa

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

BROWN-O'HAVER, Adjusters International

Professional Loss Consultants Representing Insureds

5110 North 40th Street, Suite 252

Phoenix -85018- (602)381-0001

20 years ago (1977)

McClintock Finally Reaches The Top

By LONNIE COLLINS



McClintock defenders, including Todd Greer (40) and Curtis McGahn (76), swarm Washington fullback Dave McKee (44).

Tempe McClintock head coach Karl Kiefer had it all figured out. "We're going to try to dominate them on the line," he told *The Arizona Republic*, moments before his teams' clash with Phoenix Washington in the 1977 large school finals. "The greatest defense against the pass is a good rush.

"We'll blitz them. We'll stunt. As far as I'm concerned, it's stupidity to sit back and wait fro them to pass. We'll be very aggressive."

The main object of attention was Washington's heralded passer, quarterback Mike Pagel, the soon-to-be player of the year who would later play at Arizona State, and start for the NFL Baltimore Colts as a rookie.

It was the Chargers' line play which led to a hard-fought 14-9 triumph, played before 14,900 at Arizona State. Both teams were making their first appearance in the finals. Washington finished 12-2. McClintock finished 14-0, after nearly one decade of exceptional play and near-misses in the playoffs.

"We've been knocking on the door for a long time," said Kiefer afterwards. "We've had some good teams before, but we always seemed to lose the big games. I hope we've finally put that behind us."

"They really put on a pass rush," said Pagel, who finished with 1,750 yards on the season. "They were getting a good rush, and when I did get away, I couldn't find anyone to throw to."

Pagel landed co-player of the year honors with Tucson Amphi linebacker Ricki Gray, later a star with the Oakland Raiders and San Francisco 49ers. But McClintock had a good field general of its own, junior Rick Neuheisel, who would later win MVP honors at the Rose Bowl, playing for UCLA.

The Chargers' game winning drive was sparked by a third-down pass from Neuheisel to tight end Doug Garrett, covering 26 yards and giving McClintock a first-down-and-goal at the Rams' 10 yard line. Two plays later, fullback Todd Greer smashed over for the winning score. On the night, Greer gained 131 yards on 23 carries.

Washington took a fourth quarter lead after Dave Wood's 40-yard field goal. Earlier, Pagel hit John Ross with a 22-yard scoring strike.

"We've played teams with big lines before," said Washington head coach Dave Swerdfeger afterwards. "But not one with players as big and quick as they were. They're a great team. To come back the way they did proved they're champions."

Kiefer's Chargers finished 9-1 in 1976, 10-1 in 1975, and 8-2 in 1974. His 1969 club, led by All-American linebacker Bill Crowe (University of Texas), advanced to the large school semis, only to lose to Phoenix St. Mary's. But the most disheartening loss came in the '75 playoff opener, a 15-14 loss to Scottsdale Saguaro. That Charger club, led by all-state quarterback David Given and All-America wide receiver Ronnie Washington, was considered the school's best ever, and entered the playoffs ranked No. 1 in the state.

"We've been knocking on the door for a long time. We've had some good teams before, but we always seemed to lose the big games. I hope we've finally put that behind us."

But in 1977, the playoff chips fell into place, starting with a brutal 10-7 battle with surprisingly tough Casa Grande. In that contest, McClintock lost running back/linebacker David Hinds for the rest of the season.

One week later, before an overflow crowd of 8,000 at Glendale College, the Chargers faced unbeaten St. Mary's. McClintock rallied for a 24-7 win after the Knight's Joe Allen returned a kickoff 96-yards for a score. Before Allen's sprint, Tony McClure got the Chargers on the board with a 28-yard field goal. From then on the winners controlled the line of scrimmage.

The semifinals pitted McClintock against Phoenix Maryvale, and Washington against Tucson Amphi; a double-header clash at Sun Devil Stadium. Both were hard-tough affairs, with McClintock prevailing 7-0 on a solo touchdown jaunt by Todd Greer.

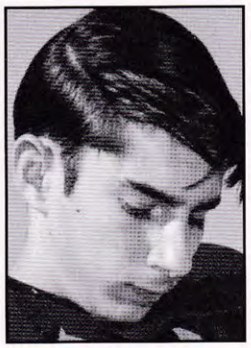
Post-season honors rolled in for the Chargers, with end Kris Kentera, tackle Curtis McGhan, guard Steve Houston, linebacker Ron Thomas, deep back Mark Massey and Hinds landing first team all-state honors.

M B R C™

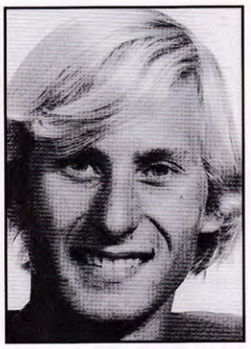
MEDICAL BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER

Sponsors of the

GOLDEN TOE AWARD



Luis Vega
West



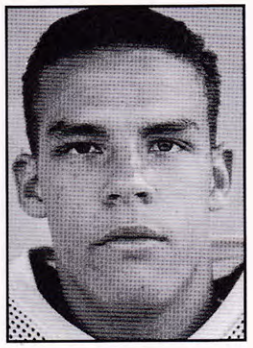
Lee Pistor
Central



Jeremy Kelley
Mountain View



Jim Sanson
St. Mary's



Marcus Williams
McClintock

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL KICKER

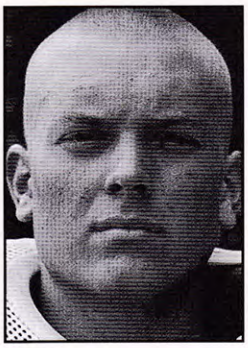
1996..... Jeremy Kelley, Mesa Mountain View (PK)
1995..... Jim Sanson, Phoenix St. Mary's (PK)
1994..... Jim Sanson, Phoenix St. Mary's (PK)
1993..... Matt Belden, Glendale (PK)
1992..... Marcus Williams, Tempe McClintock (PK)
1991..... (TIE) Matt Peyton, Tucson Sahuaro (PK)
..... Dominic DeMark, Prescott (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 (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)
1954..... Chester Beach, Ajo (P)
1953..... Jack Denton, Phoenix North (P)
1952..... Gordon Phegley, Thatcher (PK)

Medical Business Resource Center

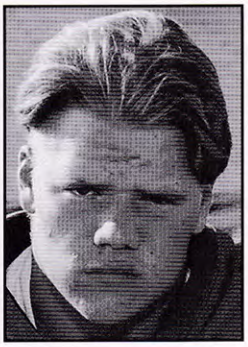
*Billing *Consulting *Education *Training *Practice Management
5060 N. 19th Avenue, Suite 405, Phoenix 85015
Phone (602) 249-7333, Fax (602) 249-7377 1(800) 711-0527

Smith & Green Corp.
Salute the

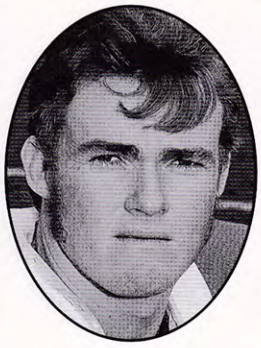
BRIAN MURRAY AWARD WINNERS



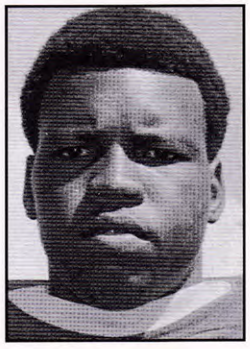
John Tait
McClintock



Chris Watkins
Highland



Brian Murray
Salpointe



Glen Gresham
Phoenix Union



Ralph Zarate
Tucson

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL LINEMAN

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.
1950 ..... Glenn Bowers, Mesa (G)
1949 ..... Phil Russell, Phoenix St. Mary's (T)
1948 ..... Roy Alba, Phoenix Union (G)

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.*

Lightweight insulating concrete roofing, fireproofing, metal decking & siding

"Our professional reputation is based on meeting construction schedules with quality performance!"
OFFICE: 136 South 40th Place, Phoenix, (602)273-6105 -85034-

30 years ago (1967)

St. Mary's King of Football

By JEFF KRIDER

The scoreboard told it all: St. Mary's 34, Tucson Pueblo 22. The little Catholic school, located in downtown Phoenix, had done it. For the first time since 1949, the Knights were King of Football in the Grand Canyon State.

Looking on at the University of Arizona, and unbelieving crowd of 13,000 watched Ed Doherty's small, feisty club manhandle bigger Pueblo and make a clean sweep of the state.

St. Mary's jumped to a 21-9 first quarter lead and never looked back. All-state fullback Tim Smith, whose jersey number (40) was retired after the game, was the night's leading rusher, blasting his way for 139 yards on 29 carries. Junior quarterback Bill Mannion hit end Greg Anderson four times for 132 yards and a key first half TD.

It cooled down in the second half. St. Mary's struck to ball control with the running game. Mannion threw no passes. Pueblo quarterback Frank Fernandez hit 10 of 24 for 234 yards and two scores, but it wasn't enough. The score stood at 34-15 at the half. St. Mary's had arrived as a true football power.

"This is impossible, it's got to be," said Smith, who finished with a school record 1,720 yards and 25 touchdowns on the season. "Just two years ago we were only a little school down the street. Now we're state champs!"

St. Mary's took advantage of an ankle injury to Pueblo's key defensive player, halfback Rudy Quihuis, who had intercepted a state record 18 passes during the season. He was ineffective.

When Pueblo started a comeback, senior Joe Vales, a 175-pound tackle, halted a Warriors drive with an interception. Then Smith recovered a Pueblo fumble on a St. Mary's punt. "Pueblo was the best offensive team we played all year," added Jim Ewen, at 145-pounds one of the smallest players on the Knights' 30-man roster.

"We couldn't match them in size or speed, but we sure matched them in guts," said Doherty after the game. "Our guys are small and slow, but great."



Smith rushed for a school record 1,720 yards and scored 25 TDs.

The Knights' defense provided the margin of victory. Recovered fumbles, interceptions, clutch tackles. It all fell into place.

But the seed was planted two years earlier, when the school hired Doherty, a former head coach at both Arizona and Arizona State. It paid off quick, as the Knights won the Skyline Division crown in 1966 and advanced to the state semifinals.

But that campaign ended with a thud, a devastating 34-0 loss to nationally ranked Tucson High. The difference that night was speed and bruising line play, headed by the bone-crushing blocks and tackles by Tucson's trenchmen.

"This is impossible, it's got to be! Just two years ago we were only a little school down the street. Now we're state champs!"

"I've had some long nights in this stadium, and this was one of them," said Doherty. "Tucson High is by far the best football team we've played. They're incomparable. They're just great."

But one year later it was different. St. Mary's provided the hurt. Throughout the '67 campaign, the Knights seldom faced anyone their own size or speed, but they didn't meet anyone who could match them in desire or determination.

They sounded a warning bell early, a 12-0 victory over Tucson Salpointe. Flanker Greg Anderson was a standout, intercepting three passes and making key tackles to keep Salpointe contained.

Led by the 210-pound Smith, St. Mary's then rolled through Glendale, 20-7. They scored in every period and routed Paradise Valley, 48-0. Smith gained 208 yards as the Knights won their third shutout in four games, a 26-0 win over Phoenix Union.

After St. Mary's speared Washington 19-6, half the regular season was over and the Knights were still undefeated, and ranked No. 2 in the state. Smith, who carried the ball 28 times, and little Joe Fierros were the workhorses

St. Mary's then clobbered Sunnyslope, 28-7. Moon Valley succumbed 25-7, setting up a key match with rival Brophy Prep. Anderson hauled in touchdown passes covering 10 and 66 yards and the Knights prevailed, 34-12.

During a 41-7 rout of Prescott, Smith toted the ball 30 times for 201 yards as the Knights rolled. The Badgers' chances for a playoff spot disappeared in the dust. One week later Doherty's club wrapped up the league crown with tough 14-0 victory over Cortez. Smith gained 192 of St. Mary's 227 yards rushing and scored both touchdowns.

Before 8,000 fans at Glendale College, Washington fell 28-12, stung by two tackle eligible plays. Both worked for touchdowns. One week later St. Mary's posted a tight 20-14 win over Camelback in the state semifinals, before 11,568 fans at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, setting the stage for a matchup with Lou Farber's Pueblo Warriors.

50 years ago (1947)

Mesa's Repeat a Surprise

By SKIP BRYANT

It truly was the lazy days of summer in the Valley of the Sun in 1947. But when Labor Day weekend rolled around, dramatic changes took place - summer vacations ended, schools started again and the long awaited first day of football practice arrived.

As the Mesa High football team assembled, fresh from a state championship campaign in 1946, coaches, players and fans had every reason to envision another big season.

Mesa had long since arrived as a consistent force. Across the 1930s, the Jackrabbits averaged over eight wins per season, and now, well into the 1940s, they were still winning at least eight games a year. In fact, Mesa was coming off three straight nine-win seasons, with schedules that included Texas schools.

The winning tradition, established by coach Steve Coutchie over an 18 year stint, was in the capable hands of a rising Arizona prep coaching star, Edgar "Mutt" Ford.

Only big city schools Phoenix Union and Tucson had ever repeated. Ironically, as good as Mesa had been between 1930 and 1946, it had just two state titles to show for it.

Also helping to keep repeat talk subdued was the obvious: Two-time all-state tailback Wilford "Whizzer" White was now a freshman at Arizona State. "When Wilford graduated we lost our backfield," recalled Bill Workman, an all-state center in '46, and destined to repeat in '47.

"I spent a lot of time handing off to Whizzer," added three year starting quarterback Dan Russell, who also would make the '47 all-state team. "He was quite a player, a great athlete. After Whizzer left, everyone thought we'd have nothing left."

Russell was the only starter returning in the backfield. On the line, only Workman and right tackle Gene Johnston returned as starters.

As it turned out, Ford had all the right answers. It didn't take long for preseason question marks to turn into exclamation points.

Charging out of the gate, the 'Rabbits rolled through their first four games. Safford was crushed, 39-12, as Mesa rushed for 408 yards. North High fell, 26-13; Mesa stopped El Paso Bowie 14-0, and St. Mary's was edged 12-6.



Quarterback Dan Russell and head coach "Mutt" Ford.

Ford had retooled the offensive line with new faces around Workman and Johnston, the most prominent being tackle/kicker Gary Feezor. Ford went to the air more frequently. Russell and '47 all-state end Bill Glazier became one of the best pitch-catch teams in Mesa history.

"I thought he'd (Glazier) be too small, but he started to put on some size that year," Russell said about his all-state battery mate. "He had the ability to catch them where I threw them. He could reach around and make those fabulous catches. He was quite an athlete."

Russell would throw 15 touchdown passes, and Glazier was on the receiving end of 10, including two in the fourth quarter when Mesa rallied to beat St. Mary's. Dick Stowe started at tailback, but a junior, Don McClintock, came on to take over the spot, scoring nine touchdowns.

"We called him (McClintock) "Ducky" because of the way he waddled around and through teams for yards," Workman said. "He was more of a power runner than Wilford."

Four straight wins set the stage for the lone '47 meeting with arch-rival Tucson. It was Mesa that ended the Badgers' run of four straight state titles in 1946, and for 46 minutes it looked like it had the Badgers' number again.

"We were leading late in the game and they sent in John Carroll at quarterback," Russell remembers. "In substituting they set up a sleeper play and completed it for a touchdown."

So the 'Rabbits left Tucson with a 7-7 tie. It would be the only blemish on a near-perfect 10-0-1 record. But three close calls remained. After Glendale was smoked 39-7, Mesa was able to salvage back-to-back one point victories.

A tough Yuma squad was nipped 14-13, with Feezor's two extra points deciding the hard fought contest. A week later McClintock and Stowe each rushed for a score, Russell and Glazier teamed on another and Feezor added two extra points as El Paso High was edged, 20-19.

Two easy victories, 26-6 over Phoenix Union and 26-7 over Bisbee, set the stage for the seasonal finale against Tucson Amphitheater. A win would give Mesa its first unbeaten season in the school's history.

What was expected to be a rout ended up a cliffhanger, with the 'Rabbits finally prevailing, 20-14.

"We had no outstanding players but we worked together as a unit," said Workman. "Ford made it all work and we had the championship season of 1946 to build on. There was no playoffs then but we were champions because we played and beat the other schools that were in contention."

Adds Russell, "I think we surprised a lot of people. I know (our season) surprised me. It was a case of playing well together as a team."

The Jackrabbits' 1946-47 titles remain landmark achievements. Fifty years later none of the Mesa schools (four have joined Mesa along the way) have been able to put together back-to-back state championships, failing 14 times.

Perhaps fittingly, opportunity number 15 presents itself this fall, 50 autumns later. Entering the 1997 campaign, Mountain View, with Workman's grandson Tate Gunning returning at quarterback, is heavily favored to repeat its 1996 Class 5A title.

Saluting Mesa's '47 State Champions! A Great Jackrabbit Team!



Coach Edgar "Mutt" Ford's near-perfect 10-0-1 squad defeated two Texas schools, and Yuma 14-13 for the 1947 state championship.

MESA HIGH SCHOOL

"Arizona's All-Time Winningest Football Program!"

- State record 557 wins since 1920!
- Eleven Class 5A football championships!
- 1973, 1986 & 1993 Class 5A semifinalist!
- 15 Class 5A runnerups!
- 30-10-2 record vs. out-of-state teams!
- 10-0-0 record vs. California schools!
- 14-10-2 record vs. Texas schools!
- 6-0-0 record vs. New Mexico and Utah schools!
- 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!
- Intercepted state-record 33 passes in 1947!
- Scored in 85 straight games between 1945-53!
- Scored in 84 consecutive games from 1955-63!
- Produced eight (8) professional football stars!

Sponsored by the

Mesa Football Booster Club

Mesa, Arizona

TEMPE HIGH SCHOOL



Saluting Arizona's 1947 Class B Champions!

With head coach Hascall Henshaw and assistant Bill Boyle, the Buffaloes posted an unblemished record and landed four players on the annual all-state squad: tackle Bob Fram, end Roy Coppinger, center Alonzo Holmes, and back Ben Elkins.

Advertisement Sponsored By

REALTY EXECUTIVES

#1 in Arizona

6197 S. Rural Rd., Suite #101
Tempe, -85283-
Phone: (602) 831-0322
Mr. Doug Royse
Tempe Class of '64
"Seven Royse Brothers & Sisters were THS Athletes!"

1947 BUFFALO RESULTS (9-0-0)

Buffaloes 12	Casa Grande 6
Buffaloes 19	Miami 0
Buffaloes 13	Prescott 6
Buffaloes 39	Buckeye 6
Buffaloes 7	Superior 6
Buffaloes 13	Glendale 6
Buffaloes 33	Ajo 6
Buffaloes 26	Chandler 13
Buffaloes 25	Coolidge 6

50 years ago (1947)

Tempe Wins on "Jim Sparks Night."



Buffaloes' Pete Ruiz (44), Carl Miller (36), Jim McRoy (30) and Billy Barnes (43) chase down a Coolidge ball carrier.

On Nov. 29, 1947, at historic Goodwin Stadium, on the campus of Arizona State College, Tempe High's Buffaloes made it nine straight victories, walloping the Coolidge Bears, 25-6.

The season was a far cry from the 4-7 finish at nearby Arizona State.

Close to 3,000 fans witnessed the game, plus the half-time ceremonies, which honored Jim Sparks ("Jim Sparks Night"), who died earlier from injuries suffered in football practice.

With the win came the mythical Class B state title. The most successful Buff season in history had been postponed from October 3, the date of Sparks' death. Proceeds went to his family.

The game was played with the American flag at half-mast. During halftime, the Buffalo marching band formed "Jim" on the playing field, and tackle Bobby Fram sang the hit song "My Buddy."

After the game, players hauled their coaches off the field. Two carried head coach Hascall Henshaw, but it took six players to take care of hefty Bill Boyle, the line coach.

Like the previous eight games, Tempe rolled up a three touchdown lead before the opposition crossed midfield. Henry Hammer cut loose with a spectacular 48-yard jaunt for the first Buff TD. Bobby Wood scored on a short run, then Ben Elkins hit junior Roy Coppinger for a score. Coppinger, later a basketball and baseball star at Arizona State, later tallied the final TD.

Henshaw, who won 70% of his games at Tempe, offered a simple answer for all the success: "They win because they're happy. These kids sing and laugh before every game. You never saw such morale. It's real team play that has brought us along."

The cheerful one-time all-conference halfback at Arizona State, and a former schoolboy star in Tombstone, hesitated to rate one of his players above another. "This is a team," he said. "No individual stars."

But the general opinion is that the Buffs' star end, Coppinger, is as good as any found in the high school ranks. Quarterback Elkins is the big brain of a smart, little ball club, which averaged 158-pounds across the line.

Henshaw, who died in 1996, rated all his lightweight ball carriers, especially 160-pound fullback Bob Wood, as equally valuable. Every other back weighed less than 150 pounds, just like Henshaw himself, a 139-pound college back. When he and Boyle played at Arizona State, the school's mascot was a "Bulldog." These two played like it.

As a scatback on Dixie Howell's two Sun Bowl teams, Henshaw ran the Border Conference ragged. He performed such feats as dropping a kickoff, picking it up on the bounce and scoring. He once scored on a 94-yard run from scrimmage in the Sun Bowl.

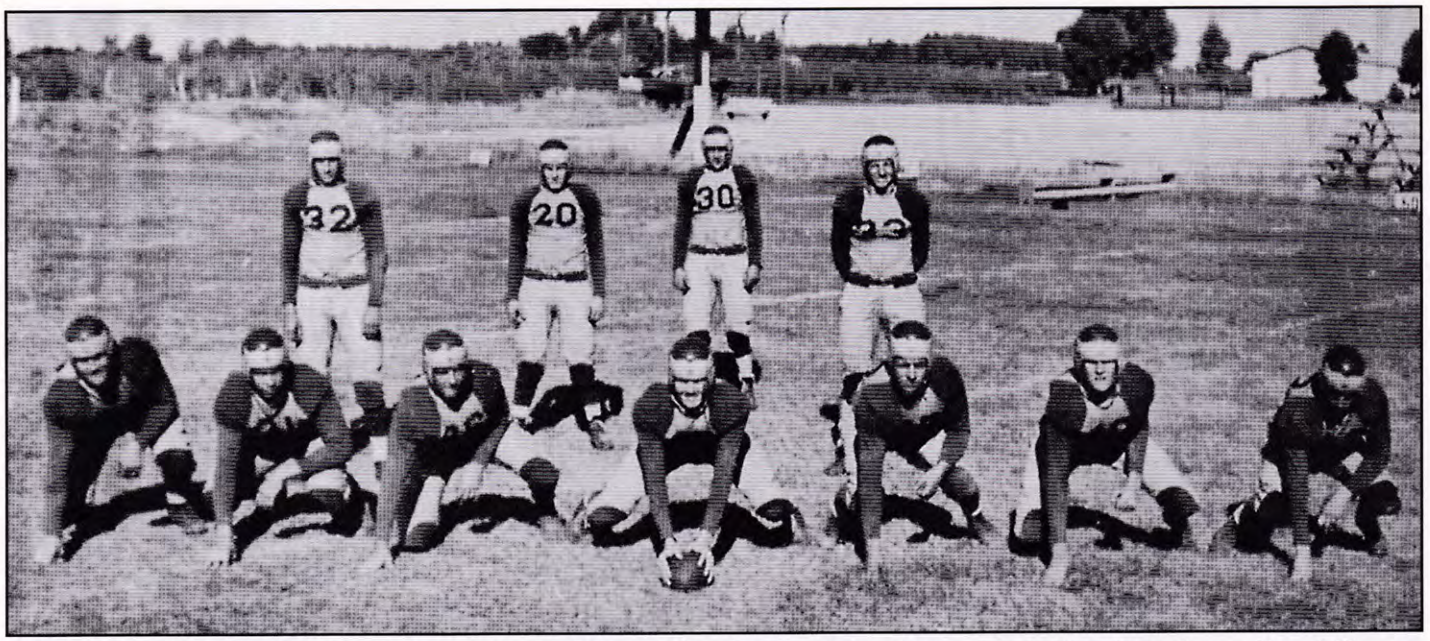
In 1947, three different Arizona newspapers selected all-state squads. Fram, Coppinger, Elkins and center Alonzo Holmes were mentioned.

Two Class B coaches, Henshaw and Tucson Amphitheater's Murl McCain, were voted outstanding prep mentors by fellow coaches. The 30-year old Henshaw refused to take all the credit for his success.

He gave most of the credit to Boyle, his assistant. The Buffs employed a T-formation and were stronger in the second half than the first. Defensively, only one school, Chandler, scored more than one TD against them. The Buffs beat the Wolves 26-13.

60 years ago (1937)

Buckeye's Backs Just Too Much



L-R, Buckeye linemen John Parker, Robert Weskamp, Bill Johnson, John Butler, Keith Rice, Tom Cantrell and Elmer Shepard blocked for backs Murray Johnson, Tommy Jones, Dan Rogers and Walter Wade.

Buckeye, founded in 1888 and located 30 minutes west of Phoenix, has withstood floods, droughts and economic changes. Still, this small Arizona settlement managed to transform the hot desert land into a green and productive valley.

The town was incorporated in 1929, and included 440 acres. That same year the local high school, the Buckeye Union Wildcats, laced up their football shoes and hit the gridiron running.

Three months later Chester Vaughn's once beaten squad was the toast of Arizona's Class B ranks, thanks to a 25-7 post season win over Phoenix Brophy Prep. Only Phoenix Union, a Class A school with an enrollment exceeding 3,000 students, managed to beat the Wildcats. Fullback Lewis Burke landed votes on *The Arizona Republican* all-state squad.

Soon, football became so popular in Buckeye that new bleaches were added to handle the increasing crowds. Year after year, Buckeye was a contender for the "Little 7" crown, a league which featured the Hawks, Casa Grande, Glendale, Tempe, Chandler, Peoria and Gilbert.

By 1937, first year coach Chet Fuller had a real juggernaut on his hands, and a school with a new mascot. Fans of the state's largest college, the University of Arizona, objected to another state school using the Wildcat mascot. Thus Buckeye became the "Hawks."

With captain Tommy Jones, the Hawks' slick quarterback, and a supporting cast including flashy junior halfback Dan Rodgers, Fuller's squad knifed its way through nine opponents, undefeated and almost untested. They pitched six shutouts.

In the season opener, a 38-7 rout of Casa Grande, the Hawks' backfield rolled for 425 rushing yards. Rodgers scored on sprints from 85 and 55 yards out. Quarterback Jones scored three times and hit end Walter Wade for another. Rogers scored every touchdown during a 27-0 shutout of Coolidge, and all but one during a 20-0 pasting of Peoria. He showed his versatility during a 26-7 win over the Phoenix Indians, sending a 62-yard quick kick dead at the two.

The finale against Glendale was a classic defensive struggle, with the Hawks prevailing, 14-0. Rodgers set the tone with a 70-yard punt return for a score, then sealed the Cardinals' fate with a short run to the end zone. Wade tacked on two extra points.

"... I played with so many great players. Especially the entire team of 1937. Every member of that team deserves recognition."

End John Parker, tackle Robert Weskamp and Rodgers earned all-state acclaim. Jones and guard Bill Johnson were honorable mention picks.

After the season, Rodgers, Jones, Parker, Johnson and Weskamp were selected to the first Arizona all-star prep squad to represent the state in intersectional competition. Against the Chicago All-Stars, in the first Valley of the Sun Classic, the visitors from the Windy City edged Arizona 9-6 on a last minute field goal.

One year later, Rodgers finished his career as the most productive rusher and scorer in Buckeye's short history. To this day Rodgers, along with future all-state backs Ronnie Rainey, Gloyes Lemons, Jerry Bridgeman and Gerald Brown, are considered the school's all-time best players.

"My years in Buckeye taught me many things, and certainly helped me keep both feet on the ground," said Rodgers recently from his home in Fresno. "It's such a great honor to be thought of and remembered, because I played with so many great players. Especially the entire team of 1937. Every member of that team deserves recognition."

Saluting the 1937 Buckeye Hawks!

Arizona Class B Champions!





Head Coach Chet Fuller
Team Captain Tommy Jones

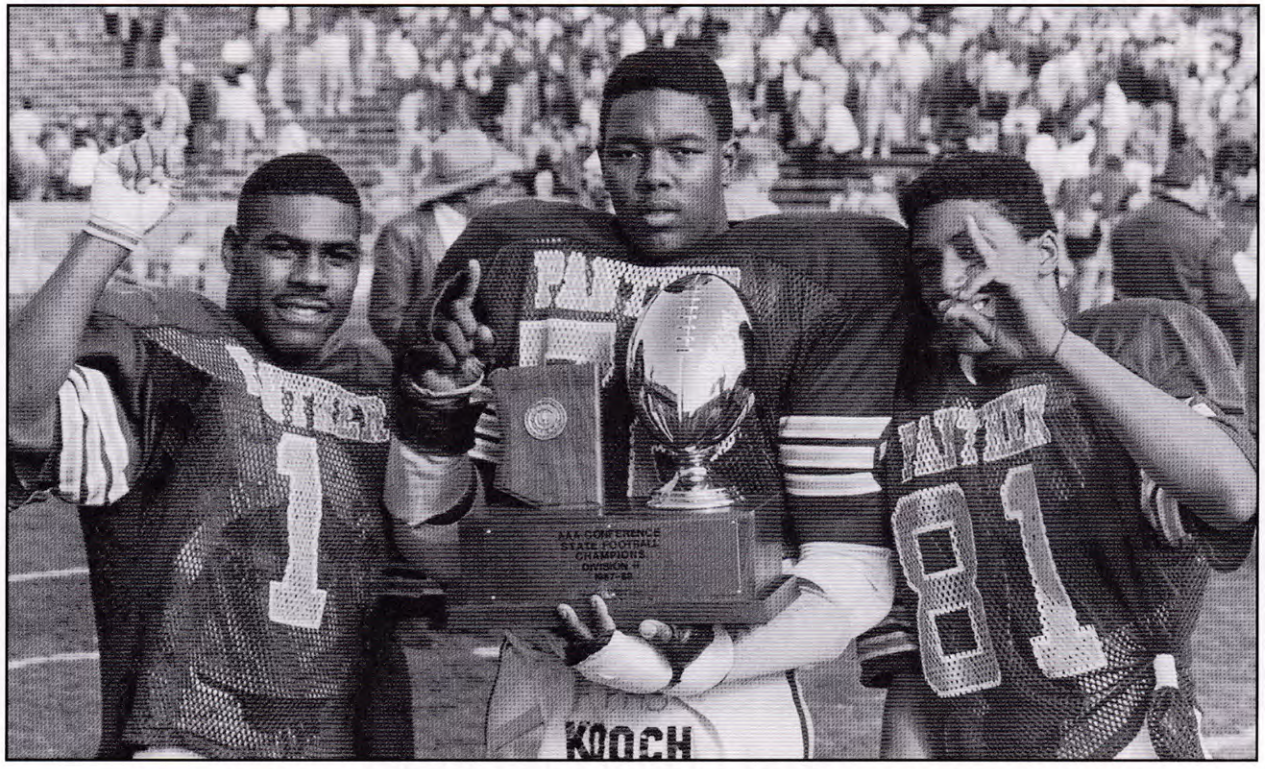
THE
PERFECT SEASON:

HAWKS 38, Casa Grande 7
HAWKS 27, Florence 6
HAWKS 27, Coolidge 0
HAWKS 20, Peoria 0
HAWKS 26, Phoenix Indian School 7
HAWKS 12, Scottsdale 0
HAWKS 20, Chandler 0
HAWKS 20, Phoenix Union Greys 0
HAWKS 14, Glendale 0

Sponsored by
The 1997 BUHS Falcon Yearbook Staff
Verlyne Meck, Advisor (602) 386-4423

PEORIA, ARIZONA

"You're in Panther Country!"



Happy Panthers Marvin Johnson (1), Marvin Demery (72) and Eric Guliford (81) (Michael Dean/Arizona Informant)

SALUTING OUR 1987 CLASS 4A STATE CHAMPIONS, 10 YEARS LATER!

REGULAR SEASON

PANTHERS 41, Mohave 0
PANTHERS 41, Sunnyslope 6
PANTHERS 56, Buckeye 6
South Mountain 14, PANTHERS 13
Glendale Cactus 28, PANTHERS 14
PANTHERS 45, Phoenix North 7
PANTHERS 56, Casa Grande 0
PANTHERS 52, Globe 3
PANTHERS 45, Apache Junction 0
PANTHERS 35, Scottsdale Arcadia 19

PLAYOFFS

PANTHERS 35, Tolleson 13
PANTHERS 47, Desert View 12
PANTHERS 21, Agua Fria 16
PANTHERS 28, Glendale Cactus 6

Sponsored by The Peoria High School Gridiron Club

Tony Brunetti, President; For Information call: (602) 991-0018

won only once. Seventy players played spring ball, so the numbers are there. The Chiefs have good size and improved speed. Halfback Chad Womack (5-10, 165), the club's MVP, managed over 500 yards rushing and receiving. He also starts in the secondary. Two-way back Heremy Urban (5-9, 160), just a junior, was the Chiefs' defensive star. Junior Chris Lundberg (5-8, 150) starts at wideout and does the kicking. Nick Van Peursen (5-11, 155) is another two-way back. Tight end Kyle Lane (6-1, 200) flanks Charlie Bays (6-3, 205), Lucas Hampton (6-2, 245) and Kyle Dinapol (6-0, 185) on the line. Colin Laisure-Pool is the team's fullback. "We had a very young an inexperienced team," says Gary Mauldin, 85-57-1 in 13 years in the prep ranks. "We'll be a lot better this time around."

Under Dick Napolitano, **Buckeye** has been competitive in 3A warfare, winning 56% of the time. Now the Hawks move up to 4A, so it's going to be interesting. Quarterback Jake Nelson (6-0, 185) shows promise. Jaron Christensen (6-0, 180) doubles at receiver/defensive back. Sam Uptegrove (6-2, 210) is a solid fullback. Travis Yuen (6-2, 210) does the kicking, but also plays linebacker. Still, the key player is all-region 'backer Ian Accomazzo (6-0, 185), who might switch to the secondary. Last year he recorded 17 tackles in a playoff loss to Globe.

Back-to-back 3-7 campaigns greet **Lake Havasu** fans. The Knights' coaching staff welcomes 60% of the team, including all-region lineman Dion Nelson (6-1, 192), a solid two-way player. Running back Ronnie Fleming (6-3, 188) and tight end Jason Thuneman (6-0, 180) are back. Only four regulars tip the scales at 200-plus.

4A DESERT SKY REGION

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

Year-in-and-year-out, in this region, different teams rise to the top. But **Washington** is the most consistent. Last fall, Steve Chisman's Rams were loaded with skill players (two signed with Pac-10 Arizona), but this year rely upon size and strength. Junior center Ryan Gerdes (6-1, 215) starts the show. Look for Jimmy Meyer (5-9, 160) to start at quarterback.

Peoria junior runs for 388 yards

*During a 43-43 tie with Paradise Valley last year, Peoria tailback Kyran Jones set a Phoenix Metropolitan record for a junior with 388 yards rushing. Below are the **state's** all-time single game rushing leaders:*

469 - Stanley Jackson, Chinle vs Red Mesa, 1976
426 - Aaron Craig, Window Rock vs Tuba City Greyhills, 1993
403 - Joey Capps, Bullhead City Mohave vs Flagstaff Coconino, 1993
402 - Burton Belton, Winslow vs Prescott, 1958 (jr)
388 - Kyran Jones, Peoria vs Paradise Valley, 1996 (jr)
381 - Alvin Leon, Baboquivari vs Clifton, 1977
376 - Cippy Correa, Wellton Antelope vs St. Johns Indians, 1973
358 - Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria vs Phoenix Carl Hayden, 1982
352 - Joel Huerta, Scottsdale Coronado vs Phx. Goldwater, 1995 (so)
344 - Brian Pringle, Sunnyslope vs Prescott, 1970
343 - Russell Trejo, Casa Grande vs Scottsdale Chaparral, 1994
339 - Ronnie Bonner, Mesa Westwood vs Scottsdale Arcadia, 1972 (so)
336 - Mario Bates, Tucson Amphitheater vs Tucson Santa Rita, 1990
334 - Paul Fichera, Scottsdale Coronado vs Tempe Union, 1990 (jr)
331 - Darnell Autry, Tempe Union vs Scottsdale Chaparral, 1993

Fullback Garric Simmons (6-1, 210) averaged 5.8 yards per carry, gained 726 and scored 14 TDs. Up front, Nick Puchta (6-2, 205) and Elliot Marks (6-1, 190) are crisp blockers. On defense, Sebon White, David Witt, Ryan Franklin and Sal Rizzo are key players. Rizzo is a 5-10, 215-pound junior linebacker. "We've got to rebuild this year," warns Chisman. "But I'm confident that my staff will have this bunch ready."

Greenway coach Mike Brown sees back-to-back unbeaten JV teams, plus leftovers from a 7-4 playoff club as positive signs. Senior tackle Richard Fagan (6-3, 270) is a force in the trenches. Mike Hertzog (5-10, 205) joins him. Junior John Armijo (5-9, 170), with 4.6 speed, is an excellent two-way back. In the Demons' Pro-I, fullback Jay Ward (6-1, 200) does the blocking. Junior Jim Danielek (6-0, 190) is the center. Jeff Stanley (6-2, 204) is the tight end. Colby Cordova, Kevin McGaun, Chris Williams, Mike Kelso and Adam Schmidt are defensive starters.

Solid skill players, more experience, and a good senior class paint a bright picture for **Prescott** fans. Coach Bill White returns 16 players from a 5-5 squad, including defensive stalwarts Eddie Pena (6-2, 190), a deep back, and Mike Marioni (6--0, 195), a linebacker. Center Andy Andrist (6-0, 235) goes both ways. Marioni recorded eight sacks. Junior Layne Campbell (6-2, 205) should start at quarterback. If halfback Justin Davis (584 yards) moves back from Tennessee, the Badgers' stock will rise.

Cortez missed the playoffs by one game, but a 6-4 finish was the school's best in 10 years. "We had a great season and it caused excitement and interest on our campus," claims Rob Roberson. The senior class looks sound, but the key player is a junior, halfback Travis Gammage (5-11, 175, 4.6). Last year he gained 750 yards on 80 carries, a 9.4 average, and scored 11 touchdowns. He also caught 11 passes for 207 yards. Quarterback Jason Lunsford (6-1, 175) and kicker J.C. Rodosta (6-1, 185) are also keys. Lunsford starts in the secondary and Rodosta is the Colts' tight end. Senior Kenny Gammage (6-1, 170) can also play quarterback, but might be more dangerous at wideout. Joe Green (6-1, 195) is another good receiver. Guards Alex Jordan (6-2, 185) and Aaron Burke (5-9, 205) play on the depth-thin line.

The coaching staff isn't saying, but everybody else likes the backfield at **Moon Valley**. The Rockets played 23 underclassmen, including nine sophomores, but the key parts belong to quarterback Kerry Hodges (6-1, 175) and running back Chasda Martin (6-0, 185). Halfback Phil Johnson (5-11, 180) adds ammo to the backfield, while Jim Garber (6-0, 185) and Dale Rubenstein (5-10, 215) are solid two-way linemen. Justin

Watkins (6-4, 199) is an impressive-looking linebacker. Martin, Johnson, Garber, Rubenstein and Watkins all lettered as sophomores.

Skill players, always a strength at **Bradshaw Mountain**, will have to carry the Bears, which move into 4A warfare. Junior quarterback Bill Eckle (6-5, 205) is at center-stage. He completed 38 of 78 passes for 659 yards and seven TDs. Back Seth McKinnon (6-0, 185) rushed for 901 yards and eight TDs. Junior Joe Rosenblatt (6-2, 210) might be the Bears' best lineman. Classmate Sean Gatke (6-1, 270) is the biggest.

It doesn't get easy for **Independence**, which scored only 89 points last year, second fewest in 4A (Apache Junction scored 79). Still, coach Bill House is positive, and several key players are three-year lettermen. Halfback Dale Stuckey (5-11, 165), deep back Mike Izdepski (5-10, 155), guard Brent Benjamin (5-11, 190) and punter Justin Jackson (6-0, 175) have been through the wars. Jackson also starts in the secondary. Junior Gabe Flores (5-10, 160) gets the nod at quarterback. Nolan Taylor (6-0,160) is a capable split receiver.

4A EAST SKY REGION

1. Scottsdale Chaparral (5-5)
2. Scottsdale Coronado (9-3)
3. Scottsdale Arcadia (5-5)
4. Scottsdale Saguaro (3-7)
5. Tempe Union (14-0)
6. Apache Junction (0-10)

They're optimistic at **Chaparral**, and for good reason. Third-year coach Ron Estabrook returns 20 players from a team which lost four games by less than nine points. All of those teams went to the playoffs. Most important, one of Firebirds' returning players is running back Jerry Schwartzberg (5-11, 195), probably the best back in the league. With a year to go, Schwartzberg is already the school's all-time rushing leader. Last year he gained 1,520 yards on 181 carries and scored 16 touchdowns. And with 4.7 speed, the 'Birds use him at strong safety. Quarterback Scott Johnson (6-3, 185), one of the East Sky's two best signal callers, threw for 1,484 yards and 17 scoring strikes. Tight end Adam Goodworth (6-2, 225), a good target, caught 16 passes for 198 yards. Two-way back Jess Morton (6-0, 205) has 4.7 speed. Ryan Cobb (5-11, 180) moves from the backfield to split receiver. Tackles Clay Muschinski (6-2, 240) and Chris Dobbins (6-0, 225) are all-region candidates. Guard Matt Way (6-2, 235) is a solid player. Defensive end Matt Kelley (5-11, 185), junior safety Zach Bies (6-2, 200), and linebackers Jake Ireland (5-10, 210) and David Williams (6-0, 190) are returning starters. Ireland made 58 tackles. Sophomore Josh Griffin (5-10, 175, 4.6) scored 22 TDs for the JV team.

Recently, the most consistent program resides at **Coronado**, where veteran coach Joe Corte enters his 16th season at the Scottsdale school. In Joel Huerta (5-10, 175, 4.6), Corte has one of the best backs in the East Sky. Career-wise, he's over 2,500 yards, with 1,118 last year. Quarterback Nick Poole (6-0, 195) completed 34 of 86 passes for 562 yards. Guard Nick Olson (6-0, 210) also plays linebacker. In fact, it will be Olson and teammates Brad Donn (6-2, 195), Ryan Kardell (6-2, 190), Jason Lester (6-0, 225) and Steve Schoch (6-1, 215) who make or break the Dons' season. The backfield is set. It's the guys in the trenches who hold the key. Three skill players, Josh Blocher, Brian Rait and Justin Peterson rotate from receiver to the secondary. Depth is a weakness, so most players go both ways.

Arcadia started five sophomores and went 5-5 with them. The Titans still look young, although QB Matt Cooley (6-0, 185) is back for his senior year. Jason Shepard (5-9, 170) doubles at halfback/safety. Cooley also plays in the secondary. Guard James Parks (6-2, 225) is another good senior. But juniors dominate the line, starting with center Chris Lundin (6-2, 220), and tackles John Harvey (6-5, 240), Rob Pfister (6-4, 215), Mario Canas (6-4, 255) and Cody Goodell (6-4, 255). "We will be very competitive," warns head coach Ron Vick. "Although we start so many juniors, we have our quarterback back for his third year. That helps."

In one quick year, **Saguaro** went from the penthouse (13-1) to the outhouse (3-7). Graduation and the opening of nearby Desert Mountain High cut into the Sabercats' enrollment. Still, second-year coach Walt Sword is optimistic. And who wouldn't be, with all-region picks Andrew Brigham (6-3, 210) and Brad Selby (6-5, 255) back. Both are excellent two-way players. Their strength is defense, and so is the whole club's, starting with down lineman Alex Willeford (6-4, 210), and defensive backs Ryan Dobson, Jon Rentschler, Conrad Loney and Andrew Turner. Dobson is the Cats' quarterback. Two-way linemen Josh Rebholz (6-4, 230) and Andrew Seiferth (6-6, 220) represent the junior class.

Tempe fans won't recognize this year's squad. Only 14 players from last year's state championship club return. Graduation all but cleaned them out. Just four starters return: guard A.J. Tucker (5-10, 215), tackle Bert Munoz (5-10, 305), flanker Matt Morris (5-8, 240), and the team's kicker, little Stephen Thompson (5-8, 140). Thompson was 47/47 on extra points. Coach Tim McBurney and his staff got a break when two linebackers, all-region pick Josh McBurney (5-10, 205), the coach's nephew, and Phillip Cassalia (5-10, 185) transferred from Mesa Dobson.

First-year coach Steve Neal has his hands full at **Apache Junction**, where stopping a 26-game losing streak is top priority. Tailback Dan Wilson (6-0, 190) managed 662 yards on 158 attempts. Quarterback Clayton Bried (5-11, 175) also returns. Safety Jack Douglas (6-0, 170) doubles at wide receiver. Jesse Rice (6-4, 230) is a good looking two-way end. Tony Damiani (6-3, 240), Rob Kingman (6-1, 225) and James Earles (6-5, 265) are the biggest Prospectors in camp.

ALL-TIME ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL VICTORIES



Wins	School	Years
557	Mesa	1920-96
491	Tucson	1912-96
461	Safford	1925-96
423	Winslow	1915-96
422	Phoenix St. Mary's	1938-96
403	Round Valley	1921-96
398	Gilbert	1923-96
394	Douglas	1906-96
383	Flagstaff	1923-96
381	Snowflake	1929-96
364	Tempe	1924-96
363	Miami	1923-96
362	Tucson Amphi	1939-96
353	Phoenix Union	1913-81
349	Peoria	1933-96

Scottsdale Quarterback Club

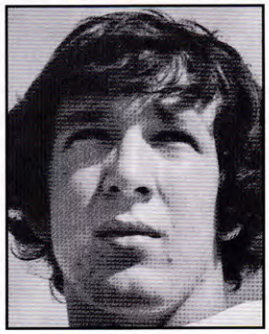
SALUTING OUR CITY PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

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
1973 ... Rob Wilson, Coronado, QB/DB
1972 ... Keith Sobraski, Coronado, DT
1971 ... Gil Gillenwater, Arcadia, RB
1970 ... Jim Cedarstrom, Saguaro, DE



Coronado running back Paul Fichera.

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
1961 ... Don Lewis, Arcadia, HB
1960 ... Gary Deak, Arcadia, QB



Greg Brady
Coronado

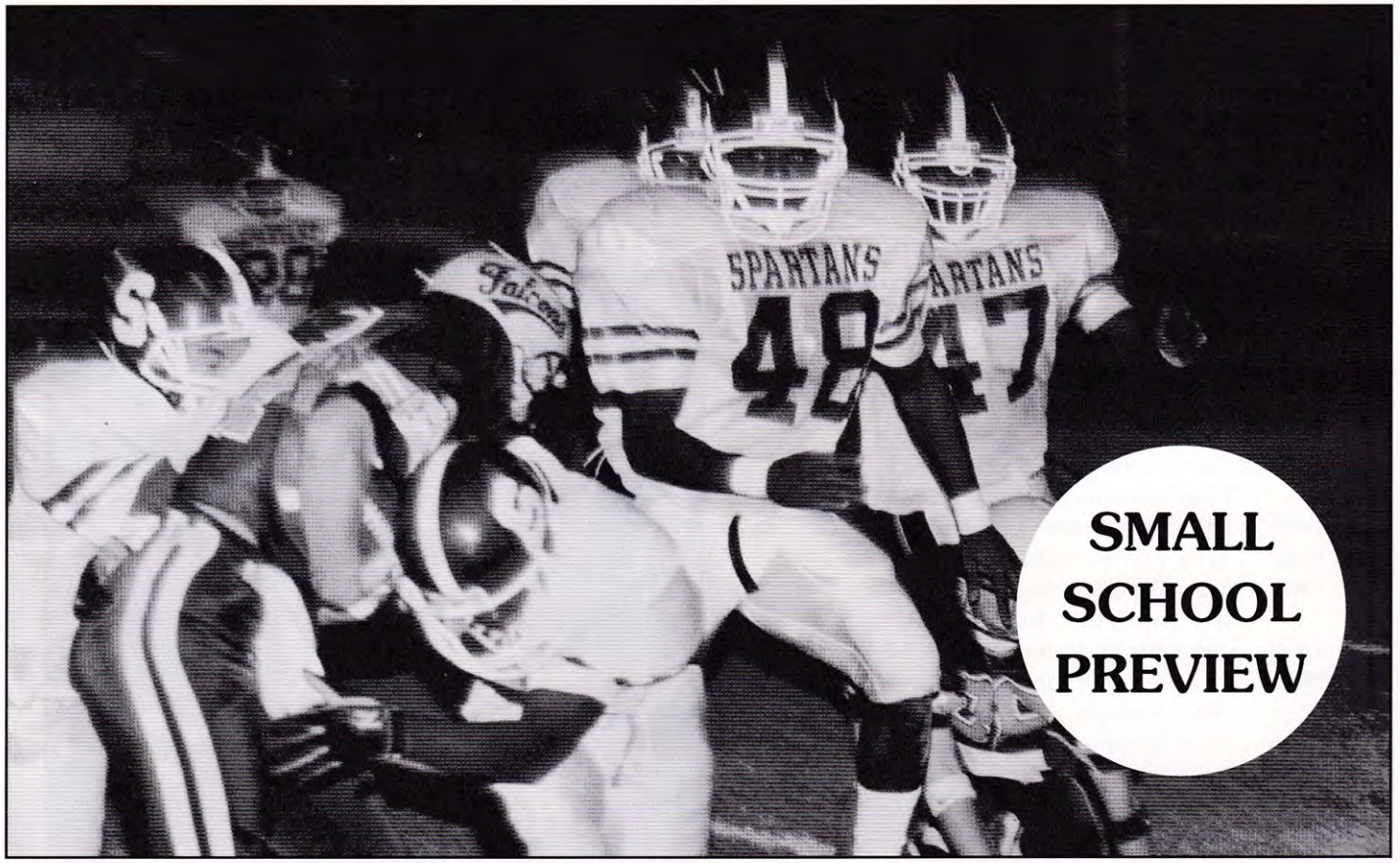


Jim Cedarstrom
Saguaro

For membership information
and weekly luncheon schedule,
Call Dave Berman at (602) 949-6666

"Serving the Young Athletes of Scottsdale Since 1963!"

CO-SPONSORED BY VALLEY EVENTS, INC.



Boys Ranch defenders, including all-state linebacker Mike Miller (47), swarm a Cactus Shadows ball carrier.

Ever So Close For The Ranch

CLASS 3A

You can't get any closer. For the second consecutive year, **Arizona Boys Ranch**, located south of Gilbert in Queen Creek, reached the 3A finals. And for the second straight year the Spartans (10-3) lost to Blue Ridge. But that's no disgrace. Everybody loses to the Yellowjackets. At least for the past three years. Last fall's classic was a heartbreaker. The Ranch lost on the last play of the game, beaten 22-20 on a field goal. Coach Richard Gray has since left and the school hired Gary Galante, a former assistant at Scottsdale Community College and Mesa Mountain View. Galante has a talented group to work with, starting with all-state linebacker Mike Miller (6-2, 215), an outstanding athlete who stars on the track team. One dozen starters return, including defensive backs Ed Williams (5-11, 175) and Khalid Meals (6-2, 180), miniback Richard Zuniga (5-8, 155), two-way tackle Reginald Miles (6-1, 225) and linebacker Lee Carrier (6-1, 200). Quarterback Todd Harris (5-10, 160), halfback Daryl Thomas (5-8, 150), receiver Ivan Robinson (5-11, 150), guard Faolima Pule (5-10, 205), and junior tackle Billy Burton (6-3, 245) all started.

Cactus Shadows, located in Cave Creek, joins Boys Ranch to help form the new 3A Central Conference. Coach Gerry LaBelle's forces won back-to-back league championships, finishing 9-2 last fall. They beat Coolidge 33-7 in a rematch, avenging a season-opening defeat, but were knocked out by Boys Ranch one week later, 44-0. Few lettermen return. Juniors and sophomores dominate. Still, seniors like James Ferguson (6-2, 220) and Axel Trainer (6-3, 205) are key players. Ferguson could be the school's best lineman ever. Trainer, a two-way back, could be the best punter in the league. "He'll earn a college scholarship as a punter, he's that good," claims LaBelle, 73-45-2 at the school. Junior Joe Faraj (5-11, 170) gets the nod at quarterback. Eric Kraetz, Ryan Miller and Trainer form the Falcons' receiving corps. Josh Petrucci, David Anspach and Nathan Snell are two-way linemen. "Depth will be a problem because of our light turnout of seniors," adds LaBelle.

For the third straight year, **Fountain Hills** reached the playoffs. Last year's trip (5-5) was short. State champ Blue Ridge blasted the Falcons, 62-0. Eleven underclassmen started, including Ryan Niesz (5-10, 160), Matt Butcher (6-1, 205) and Mike Pamiditis (5-11, 195), who went both ways. Josh Holexa, Chaz Larned, Ed Dawydiuk, Tony Wozniak, Lenny Young, Justin MacDonald, Brian Griffith, Alex Johnson, Marty McGarry and Dan Moloney are playoff tested. Johnson is an excellent kicker. At 6-3, 245-pounds, Moloney is the biggest Falcon in camp.

Since moving into the 3A West, **Wickenburg** has found the sailing rough. Only 14 lettermen return from a 3-6 club, but Jon Hill is optimistic. Still, the key player is a senior, two-way back Nate Brink (5-11, 150, 4.6). Last year he rushed for 510 yards, scored six TDs,

completed 50% of his passes, recorded 28 solo tackles and 61 assists. Junior Calvin McArthur (6-2, 215) starts at center. Young Dennis Neely (6-0, 175) gets the nod at quarterback. Linebackers Eddie Dickinson (6-0, 180) and Sal Formica (6-0, 180) have two years to improve their skills.

At **Dysart**, the Demons biggest demon is the voters, who failed a recent bond issue. Funding athletics has become a problem. It reflects on the field. Coach Phill Wooley resigned. Only 11 players return. But four key seniors are back, including safety Andy Ramirez (6-0, 150), who intercepted a school record 10 passes. Fullback Kory Hunt (6-3, 235), along with linemen Chris Garcia (6-4, 205) and Pete Renteria (6-5, 230) form a strong nucleus. Hunt, in only six games, rushed for 782 yards.

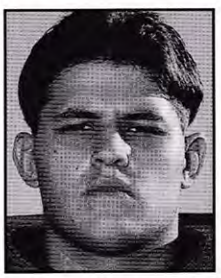
CLASS 2A

The newly formed 2A Metro looks like the strongest region in the state. Defending champ **Phoenix Christian**, with several key players returning, shoots for a repeat. They just might get it. Coach Keith Brown, 45-9-0 (.833) in four years at the private school, beat Tempe Valley Christian 28-6 in the 2A finals. His 13-0 squad lost heavily to graduation, but five key players return. All-state kicker Josh Lane (6-0, 195) is a real weapon. Last year he was 58/58 on extra points, 6/9 on field goals. A guard/linebacker, he never leaves the field. Running back Andrew Ward (5-10, 170) managed 608 yards rushing, 188 receiving. Linebacker Aaron Huisman (6-3, 215) recorded 21 sacks! 'Backer Camron Hulbert (5-10, 215) logged eight. All-state center Anthony Stannard (6-4, 250) is a great blocker. Junior Mark Ortman (6-0, 190) gets the nod at quarterback. Phillip Warbington (6-2, 195) starts at tight end. Just a sophomore, tackle Austin Fletcher (6-2, 240) is the second biggest Cougar on campus. "It was a dream season," claims Brown. "We couldn't be prouder of the kids and the hard work they put in."

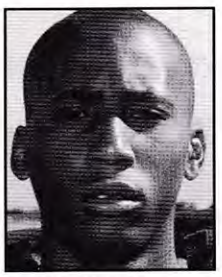
Waiting in the wings to knock off the champs is **Seton Catholic**, coached by Joe Timpani. His 7-3 Sentinels were one play from the final four, losing 31-24 to Thatcher in the quarterfinals. Twentyfour players return - most in the region - including two-year quarterback B.R. Koehneman (6-0, 170), one of the state's best. A good athlete, Koehneman also plays safety. Fullback Raja Audi (5-10, 180), a real workhorse, averaged 6.2 yards per carry. Tailback Mike Ballinger (6-0, 180) averaged 7.6 yards, with back-to-back 250-yard games. Center B.J. Young (6-1, 195) lines up at defensive end. In fact, all of Seton's key players go both ways, including tackle Jesse McDonald, a 6-1, 240-pound junior.

Valley Christian, coached by Bernon Benson, advanced to the 2A finals, only to fall to powerful Phoenix. The former Tempe school moves to its new Chandler campus, but don't expect much change. The Trojans look tough again. Although 13 starters departed, several key players return. The kicking game, with Travis Schugg in the lineup, is sound. The 5-11, 185-pound senior also plays guard and linebacker. Bill Arterberry (6-1, 210) is the Trojans' center. He also plays defensive tackle. Safety Mike Garrett (5-9, 150), a 13-6 pole vaulter, starts at quarterback. On defense he intercepted seven passes. Gregg Hogeness (6-0, 180) is an experienced two-way tackle. Last year he blocked two punts. Guards Matt Jones (6-0, 155), Gabe Lieber (5-11, 150) and Andy Warren (5-9, 180) join Hogeness in the trenches. Defensive backs Ryan McMahan (6-0, 140) and Marshall Tague (5-10, 140) were members of the school's state championship track team. Tague, just a junior, ran 400 meters in 50.2 seconds. Benson, the Trojans' popular mentor, is 180-133-6 coaching football.

A young, inexperienced team resulted in a 2-7 season at **Bourgade Catholic**, where the Eagles played 15 sophomores and a freshman. It showed. "We basically played a varsity schedule with JV players," said head coach Gary Thompson. The best athlete starts at quarterback, so that will help. Senior Marcos Herrera (5-9, 170), with 4.7 speed, also plays in the secondary. Junior Eli Milstead (5-9, 174) is a two-way back.Tackles Carlos Dominguez (5-11, 273) and Andrew May (6-4, 282), another junior, will start. That lone freshman who played last year was 6-0, 184-pound lineman Paul Jajou.



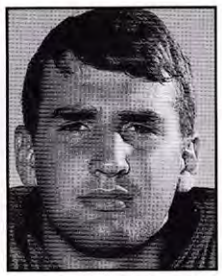
Tony Stannard
Phoenix Christian



Khalid Meals
Boys Ranch



Ed Williams
Boys Ranch



Andrew Ward
Phoenix Christian

Last year, **Northwest Community Christian** beat Scottsdale Christian 48-6 in the state 8-man finals. This year both schools move up to the stronger, more competitive 2A Metro Region. Graduation was kinder to the Crusaders, which return four all-state players, including junior QB Jake Wright (5-10, 170), MVP in the state finals. Split receiver Philip Hilliker (6-1, 165), cornerback Mike Harper (5-6, 146), deep back Jon Thompson (6-0, 166) and linebacker Ryan Kittle (6-4, 210) face 11-man ball with 16 classmates who lost only once in 11 games. Two-way back Nathan Tucker (5-9, 149) played as a freshman.

At **Scottsdale Christian Academy**, the Eagles crashed into NWCC, finishing 7-3 on the season. Three all-state candidates return, with two-way tackle B.J. Richardson (6-3, 190) an important clog if SCA is to be competitive. Running back Jeremy Chantry (6-0, 160) and linebacker Josh Glennie (5-11, 190), both juniors, are key skill players. Each go both ways. Senior Mitch Stravitz (6-0, 162) gets the nod at quarterback, with sophomore Brett Harper (5-10, 142) waiting in the wings. Still, underclassmen will play important roles, with young linemen like Ryan Whitcomb (6-1, 207), Aaron Hubbard (6-4, 210) and Justin Whittenton (5-11, 200) the biggest of the lot.

Gila Bend started fast but finished slow. "We peaked too early," claimed Terry Nodlinski, whose club finished 6-4 in the 2A West. Pima eliminated the Gila Monsters in the playoff's first round. Junior Eddie Leon (5-9, 170), an all-region pick, plays running back or wide receiver. Another junior, Dallas Jacobson (6-3, 175), starts at quarterback. Senior Brian Birchfield (5-11, 165) joins them in the backfield. All three star on defense, too. Luis Ochoa (5-10, 190) is the club's center; Ryan Mendoza (6-0, 170) its tight end. Raul Garcia (6-1, 185) is a two-way tackle.

Young **Maricopa** took its lumps, but should improve, with seven starters back.

C.A.F.O.A.

The Central Arizona Football Officials Association proudly supports Pop Warner, High School and College Football

Anyone interested in joining our association and officiating high school football, please contact Nick D'Arcangelo, President, at (602) 956-1393

CENTRAL ARIZONA FOOTBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

Ticket Travel
7034 E. Osborn
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Call Jan Ross
at (602) 946-9410

Good Luck Scottsdale Teams!

CACTUS SPORTS
ASU's Headquarters

Official Fitted ASU Hat
Only $18.99!

COME VISIT US AT OUR TWO LOCATIONS
7116 E. Fifth Avenue (Fifth Avenue Shops) • 945-3370
401 S. Mill (Downtown Tempe) • 921-1ASU

John Heun (6-1, 220), a two-way tackle, is the Rams' key senior. His younger brother, sophomore K.C. Heun, starts at quarterback and plays in the secondary. Junior Jerry Smith (5-11, 205) plays guard and defensive end. Junior Tim Campbell (5-10, 160) doubles at end and linebacker. Sophomores Mike Wagner and Tommy May, two wide receivers, also roam the secondary. The Rams suffered a blow when young Rick Gardner, a promising two-way back, decided to concentrate on basketball.

Just like Maricopa, **Queen Creek** was winless in eight games. But seven of those teams went to the playoffs. Two key seniors, linebacker Evan Cluff (5-11, 190) and halfback Jose Fernandez (5-10, 155) have to carry the load. Center Andy Pace (5-11, 190) and tackle Tim Jones (5-9, 235), both juniors, bolster the line. "It was a very tough year," said second-year coach Duane Madsen. "But today we are light years ahead of where we were last year."

CLASS 1A

Unfortunately for fans of 8-man football, the ranks have become more and more depleted. Last year's state finalists, Northwest Community Christian and Scottsdale Christian, experienced enrollment increases and moved up to 2A competition. Today, only one Phoenix area school plays 8-man ball.

At **Arizona Lutheran**, coach Doug Meyer needs to hire a full-time bus driver. The Coyotes, state champs in 1992, face a brutal traveling schedule, with games in the White Mountains, at Clifton and St. David. At least they play Patagonia in Phoenix. The Coyotes won the 1A Central crown with a 30-26 victory over Scottsdale Christian. But in the process they lost three starters. "We lost some speed, but are switching to a more balanced offense," says Doug Meyer. "Our quarterback can throw the ball well." That would be junior John Halvarson (6-1, 180), who also plays defensive end. Senior Colter Whillock (6-0, 205) holds down the other end position. In fact, most starting positions will be manned by seniors: Fullback Tom Reynolds (5-11, 185), guard Aaron Gunn (5-11, 170), receiver Joe Bands (5-11, 175), defensive end Ryan Leek (5-10, 170) and safety Jeremy Dittrich (5-9, 150). The Coyotes, which once competed in the 2A ranks, scrimmage always tough Orme School in August.

PHOENIX CHRISTIAN



Saluting Arizona's Class 2A Champions!

With Head Coach Keith Brown and First Team All-Staters Micah Barton (RB),Anthony Stannard (C), Matt Grantham (OL), Aaron Huisman (DL), Chris Guess (DB) and Nathan Main (DB), the Cougars outscored their opponents 421 points to 64, and finished undefeated for the first time since 1959!

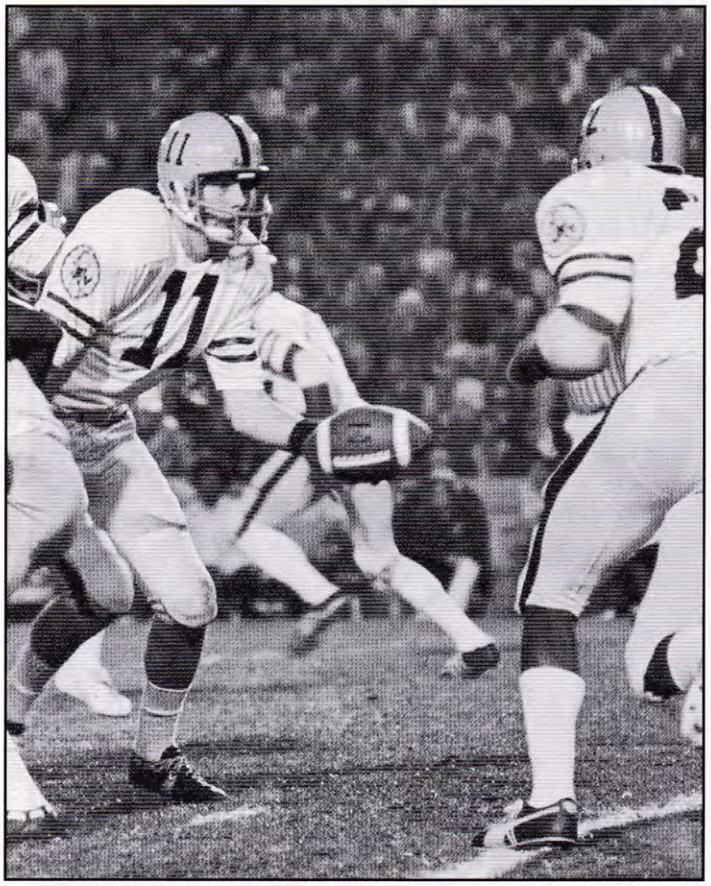
Sponsored By

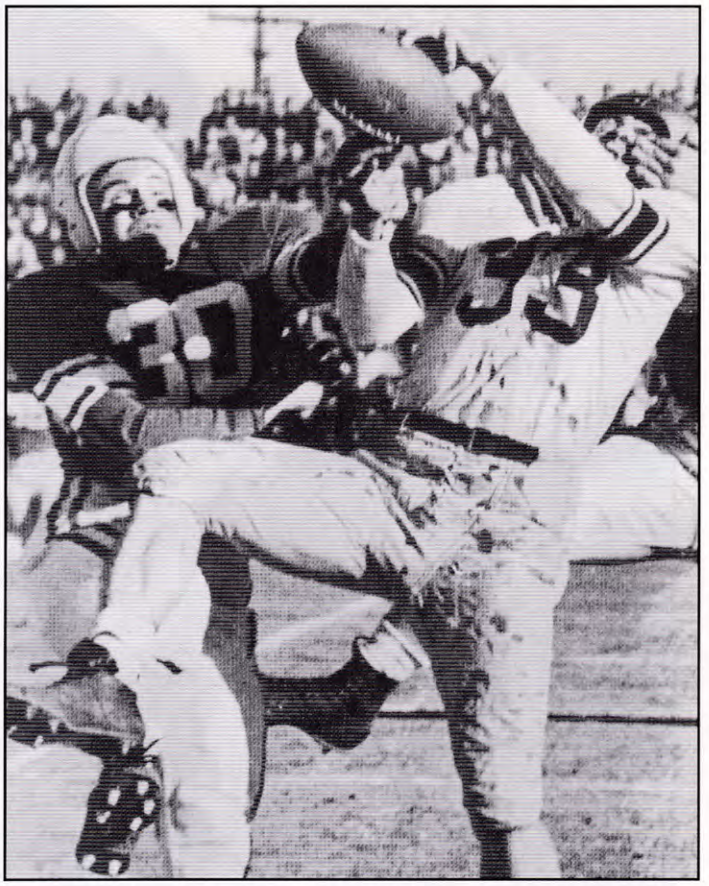
Bell Honda

701 W. Bell Road, Phoenix
(602) 789-9771
&
Riley Strength & Motivation
P.O. Box 15950, Phoenix, 85060
(602) 214-1865

1996 RESULTS (13-0-0)

Cougars 25	Tempe Valley Christian 0
Cougars 28	Superior 6
Cougars 35	San Pasqual, Ca. 8
Cougars 42	Maricopa 0
Cougars 35	Wellton Antelope 6
Cougars 38	Queen Creek 0
*Cougars 1	Baboquivari 0 (forfeit)
Cougars 55	Gila Bend 12
Cougars 49	Phoenix Bourgade 0
Cougars 35	Duncan 13
Cougars 14	Superior 13
Cougars 37	Thatcher 0
Cougars 28	Tempe Valley Christian 6





Quarterback Danny White (11) hands the ball to Woody Green during Arizona State's win over Pitt in the 1973 Fiesta Bowl. At right, father Wilford "Whizzer" White (33) is mugged by Miami of Ohio players in the 1950 Salad Bowl.

White's Family Legacy Grows

By Bob Snider

Danny White, perhaps the most decorated of the 129 players who played for Frank Kush at Arizona State and played professionally, is enjoying his own success as a coach.

Today, White is the head coach and general manager of the Arizona Rattlers of the Arena Football League. In 1994, White led the Rattlers to the Arena championship, the first world title for an Arizona professional team.

The former Mesa Westwood, ASU and Dallas Cowboy quarterback will soon join his former college coach, Frank Kush, in the National Football Foundation's College Hall of Fame, making him the first former Sun Devil player to be honored.

White credits his former mentors - Kush and Tom Landry of the Dallas Cowboys - for helping him develop leadership and savvy. "More than anything else, Frank Kush taught me the value of the coaching position and what you're capable of doing as a coach," White says. "He taught me about pushing players to their potential and beyond.

"We saw that with the Rattlers, winning a championship with guys who weren't the most talented in the league. Frank did that with us at ASU. He took guys who were too small or too slow to play major college football and we went 32-4 and won three Fiesta Bowls."

White was especially pleased with Kush's recent selection into the College Hall of Fame. "Just knowing what he did for the ASU program, the Western Athletic Conference, the number of players he put into the pros and the lives he changed truly took care of some unfinished business."

"Right now I enjoy coaching Arena football. It's a great product, and I'm the head coach and general manager. I call the shots."

White said Landry's winning Dallas teams of the late '70s were also made up of overachievers. "I played with some Cowboy teams that had players who, on strength and speed, had no right to play in the NFL. Guys like Leroy Jordan, Drew Pearson, Cliff Harris and Charlie Waters. The whole team was made up of guys like that.

"Landry taught me there's a right way and a wrong way to do everything. The right way will always pay dividends, although it may take awhile. But the right mindset will eventually make a difference in winning and losing. The way you treat players is more important that the results themselves."

At Dallas, White enjoyed the highest

"Danny was a creative and highly productive player. He made things happen. He had great rapport with his teammates and had their unqualified respect."

and lowest moments as an NFL quarterback. As the player who followed Roger Staubach, he often faced criticism from Cowboys fans. But he also erased many of Staubach's records. White still holds Cowboy career marks for completions and touchdown passes. When Dallas selected its 25th Anniversary Team, White was the punter.

At Arizona State, White-led Sun Devil teams dominated the up-and-coming Western Athletic Conference and set the stage for the school's move into the Pac-10. Recruited originally as a baseball player, hereditary may partly account for his athletic success.

Danny's father Wilford was an All-America high school back at Mesa High, an outstanding basketball player, and a state champion sprinter and long jumper. At Arizona State "Whizzer" earned All-America honors again, notched 16 different 100-yard rushing games, and is still listed 40 times in the ASU record book - 45 years later. He also played professionally, with the Chicago Bears.

Danny may have been the best quarterback ever to play in talent-rich Mesa. In 1969, the slick Westwood signal caller passed for 1,365 yards for the near-perfect Warriors (9-1), considered by many the best team in Arizona. The Dave Gates-coached club averaged 37.6 points, most ever by a Mesa school. They beat one team, Yuma Kofa, 100-6. White also played safety, and was selected MVP of the 1970 North-South all-star game in Flagstaff. A basketball-baseball-track star, he also broke the Westwood school record in the long jump, and earned 11 varsity letters before graduating.

"Danny was a creative and highly productive player," said Kush recently. "He made things happen. He had great rapport with his teammates and had their unqualified respect. I have had the privilege of coaching some great athletes, in college and the pros. Danny has always been extra special in my mind, as an exceptional athlete and a super person."

Danny set more than 30 offensive records at ASU, including most career TD passes (64) and yards passing (6,717). He was named first team All-America by the *Football Writers* and two other associations after the 1973 season, and finished ninth in the Heisman Trophy voting. He might have finished higher had he not shared the spotlight with teammate Woody Green, a running back who finished eighth. Upon graduation, White held seven NCAA passing and total offense records.

In 1971, *Sports Illustrated* rated White the second most productive college quarterback of all-time, behind former Brigham Young star Steve Young.

White's college career never produced the national championships he enjoyed with the Cowboys or the Rattlers. That's partly because ASU, even with four consecutive WAC titles, could never impress national pollsters enough. The Sun Devils' highest ranking during Whites' three-year run (1971-73) was No. 6.

"We won everything we could win. We had great players, but I don't think anyone wanted to play us in a major bowl," he noted.

But as a three-year starter, White's ASU teams played in three Fiesta Bowls, beating Florida State 45-38, Missouri 49-35, and Pittsburgh 28-7, in that order. Freshman didn't play varsity football at the time. In 1970, his first year on the college campus, the Sun Devils beat North Carolina 48-26 in the Peach Bowl.

But college football, White says, will always secure a special place in his heart. "The whole mentality was different from the pro game. As an amateur player, the fans and everyone involved had more respect for you. You were perceived as a hero, whereas in the pro ranks you were paid a lot of money to do it.

"I really enjoyed the atmosphere. We weren't being paid anything to do what we were doing, and guys played more for the love of the game than anything else. To see guys come together and pull together and win championships for just the love of playing was a great experience."

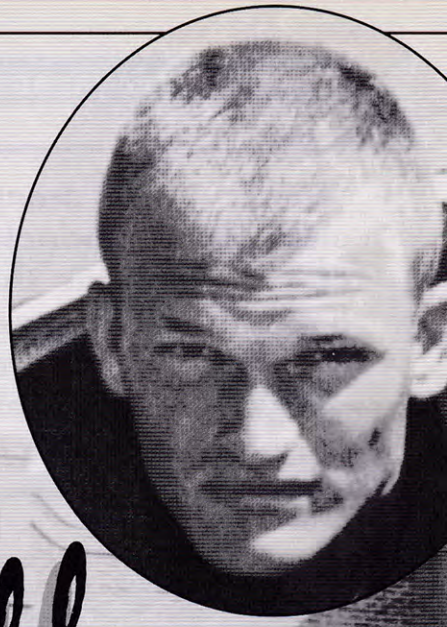
White's attitude about football and his success today is no surprise to his old college coach. "Danny was a team player in every sense of the term," adds Kush. "He developed great interpersonal relationships and always had a positive outlook. He was a true leader and the epitome of what people expect of an outstanding athlete."

"I love living in the Phoenix area," says White, married 25 years and the father of four. "I don't want to get stuck in a profession where nine out of 10 people are unemployed, and you have to hunt jobs all over the country. Right now I enjoy coaching Arena football. It's a great product, and I'm the head coach and general manager. I call the shots. And it's only a full-time job about five months of the year."



In a 1968 game at Westwood, White (right), as a defensive back, chases down Scottsdale Coronado quarterback Jim Brady.

TEMPE UNION
Fifty Years of Buffalo Football



Karl Kiefer

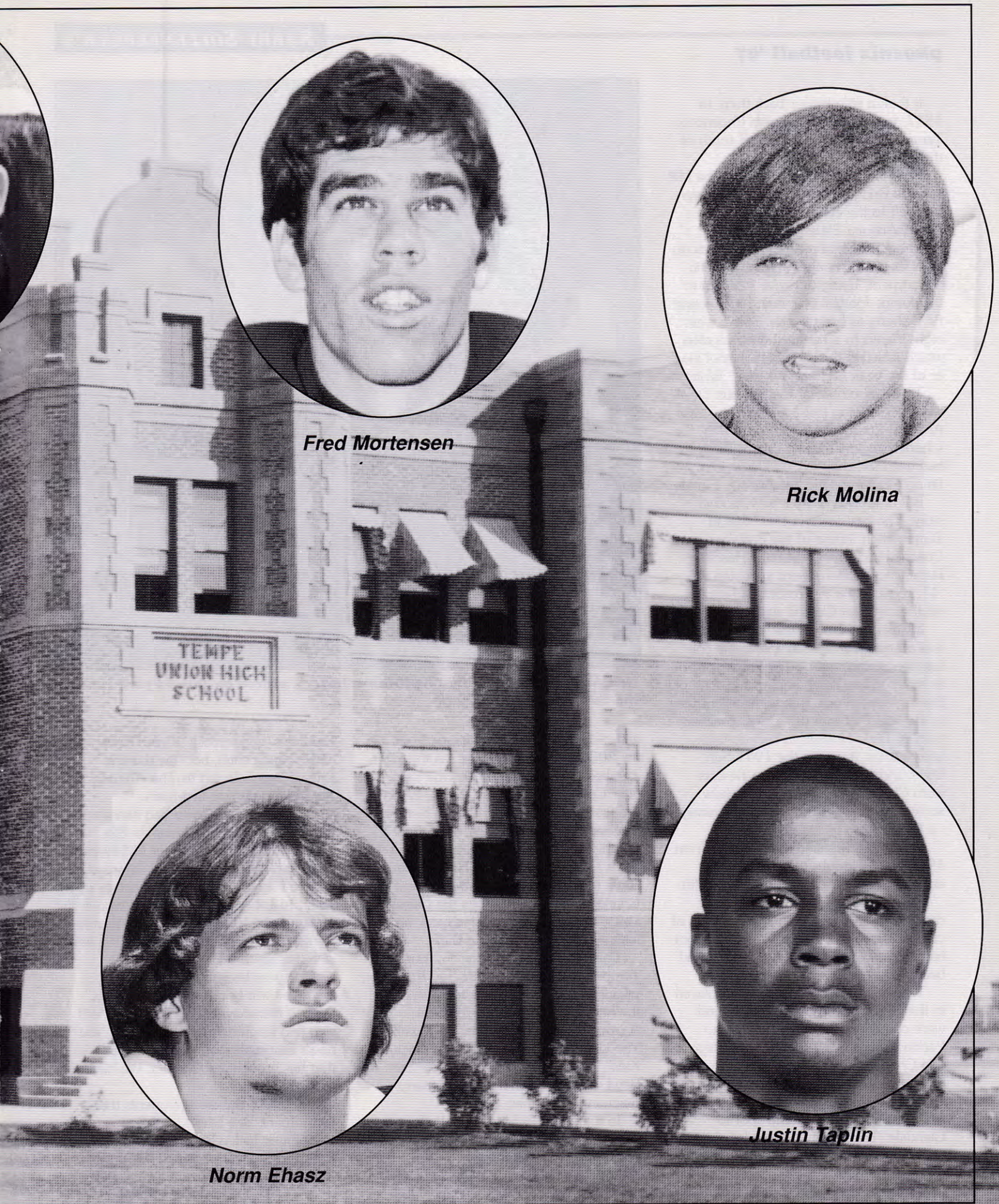
A lot has happened in Tempe since that Hascall Henshaw-coached Buffalo squad went undefeated 50 years ago. The school burned down. The country, with Tempe High grads on all fronts, has fought several wars. The local college, Arizona State University, has become the second largest west of the Mississippi. And the Blue & White Buffs went undefeated again.

By Barry Sollenberger



David Kush

(Tempe Historical Society photo)



Fred Mortensen

Rick Molina

Norm Ehasz

Justin Taplin

It took a little longer back then, in 1947, to get from downtown Phoenix to Tempe. That little college town south of the Salt River.

Fans took Van Buren Street to the Mill Avenue Bridge, past the Hayden Flower Mill, left to the campus. Home of the "new" Arizona State Sun Devils.

The school had recently gone through another name change, and the athletic department, trying to revive its down-in-the-dumps football program, hired young Ed Doherty as head coach. Spirits were high, thanks to a banner freshmen class which included the state high school player of the year, Wilford "Whizzer" White.

Three months later the '47 Sun Devils were 4-7, having lost again to bitter rival Arizona, 26-13. Earlier in the spring, the school's original mascot - the Bulldog - had been switched to Sun Devils, a more fitting mascot for the hot Arizona climate.

But one block away it was another story. The best team in town was at Tempe High, home of the Buffaloes. Coached by former ASU star Hascall Henshaw, the Buffs went unbeaten in '47, compiling a 9-0 record and carting off the mythical Class B state crown.

It wasn't as though the local college was always in a funk. In 1931, the college team, coached by Ted Shipley, won its first conference championship. The old Border Conference, that is. Excellent play in the late '30s sent the 'Dogs, coached then by Dixie Howell, to back-to-back bowl games. It was at the 1941 Sun Bowl, a close loss to Western Reserve from Cleveland, Ohio, that Henshaw scored on a 94-yard run from scrimmage - a bowl record to this day.

World War II halted the program from 1943-45, as various team members enlisted to fight. In 1946 it got a facelift.

But at Tempe High, located in the shadows of the college, one block west of campus, it was a different story. The football program was on solid ground. It had been for years.

Teams coached by Leo Faunce played in the "Little Seven" Conference, and were competitive. Tempe, Glendale, Peoria, Gilbert, Casa Grande, Buckeye and Chandler formed the league. In 1935 they were near-perfect. Coach Ben "King" Cole guided the Buffs through an 8-1 season and a runnerup spot to Glendale. The mighty Cardinals, which out gained Tempe 22 first downs to one, crushed the Buffs, 58-8.

Two years later, the Colemen were off and running. In a close opening day game with Scottsdale, Johnny Ellingson rushed for 200 yards on 20 carries, as the Buffs skunked the Beavers, 14-0. One week later Cole's crew shutout Miami, 12-0 in the first night game in Tempe's history. Sophomore Bobby James, the school's first high-profile back, returned a punt 45 yards to beat Yuma, 6-0. The season came to a climax with a 12-0 shutout of Chandler, landing the Buffs the Class B Valley championship. Only Globe, a non-league opponent, beat the Buffs.



Henshaw, nicknamed the "Tombstone Terror", scored on this 94-yard run in the Sun Bowl.

Following the 1937 season, four Tempe players, Ray Green, Ted Kortsen, Ellingson and James were members of the first all-star squad to represent Arizona in an intersectional bowl game. The Chicago All-Stars beat the "Cactus Kids" 9-6 in the first Valley of the Sun Bowl, played at historic Montgomery Stadium in Phoenix.

In a fitting conclusion to a brilliant career, James finished off the 1939 campaign with a 92-yard kickoff return against Glendale. In that contest, won by the Buffaloes, THS was slapped with six 15-yard infractions for mugging the Cardinals' quarterback. James Potter, a 195-pound center, became the first Buffalo ever selected to *The Arizona Republic's* all-state first-team.

By this time the town had two good football teams, the Bulldogs on 8th Street, and the Buffaloes on Mill Ave. But as Arizona State's fortunates improved, Tempe High's went south. Between 1940 and 1943, Cole-coached teams won only eight games. When Henshaw arrived in 1946, the Buffs fared no better. His first club finished 2-5-2.

One year later they were perfect.

"They win because they're happy," insisted Henshaw in 1947. "These kids sing and laugh before every game. You never saw such morale. It's real team play that has brought us together. We have no individual stars."

Try telling Buffalo opponents that quarterback Ben Elkins, end Roy Coppinger, tackle Bob Fram or fullback Bobby Wood weren't stars. All four landed spots on *The Arizona Times* all-state squad, picked by popular sports editor Bill Nixon.

Prior to a season-ending clash with Coolidge, Tempe had an added incentive. This game was for Jimmy Sparks, who didn't live to see his teammates roll through their best season ever. Jimmy, injured in a scrimmage, died on the day the Coolidge game was originally scheduled. When it was rearranged for the end of the season, Tempe officials made it a benefit game, in tribute to Jimmy and his family.

Before 3,000 fans at old Goodwin Stadium, on Arizona State's campus, the Buffs rolled, 25-6. Elkins' last quarter touchdown pass to Coppinger ended a perfect season.

The 30-year-old Henshaw refused to take all the credit. Most of it, he claimed, went to assistant Bill Boyle, one of Arizona State's all-time greatest linemen. Like Henshaw, Boyle would later finish his career in administrative work in the Tempe District. But not before replacing Henshaw in 1951.

Boyle-coached teams were also competitive. His 7-1-1 squad in '51 lost only to Coolidge, 19-0. During a 54-7 win over Florence in '52, the Buffs' ground out 644 yards total offense. Danny Arredondo scored four touchdowns, including a 98-yard run from scrimmage.

By then the school board had made the decision to relocate the school south of town on Broadway, across the street from the old Tempe Airpark. It was after the move that the old two-story brick school burned, and Tempe lost one of its oldest and most recognizable landmarks.

After the Korean War, the Buffalo football fortunates were passed to another former A-State player, John Zucco. The former guard, a member of two Salad Bowl teams, strung together the best three-year run in Tempe history. His '54 Buffs recorded six shutouts and gave up just 36 points. They closed out the campaign with a 6-0 "blood bath" with Chandler, won on a touchdown pass from Clem Acedo to Karl Kiefer. A 20-6 loss to Glendale spoiled a near-perfect season.

Shutouts were the rule under Zucco. Six were recorded again, in 1955. Kenny Rivers opened the season with a 97-yard sprint against Scottsdale. Ray Aguilar followed with a 70-yard pass interception and THS won their opener, 39-0. Only Winslow, Sunnyslope and league champ Glendale scored on the Buffs. Kiefer, a rangy 6-1, 165-pound senior, was a first team all-state pick.

"Those were good times, and we played on good teams," says Kiefer, currently the head coach at Mountain Pointe. "Looking back, everybody ran a similar offense and we played mostly town teams. We were the only (high) school in town. We were in the new buildings then. The old school burned after we moved."

To this date, few people have had the impact on Tempe football as Kiefer. He played first at Tempe High, and was later a team captain at ASU. In college he played under two coaches who are today in the College Football Hall of Fame, Dan Devine and Frank Kush.

Between 1965 and 1990, Kiefer won 218 games, lost 73 and tied three as the head coach at the city's newest school, McClintock. Ironically, he was hired by Bill Boyle. After five seasons at The Pointe, Kiefer's 256-94-3 overall mark is the best in Arizona history.

In 1956, under Zucco, the Buffs were perfect. Tackle James Shumway, end Don Jeisy, guard Dave Ragsdale and halfback Larry Royse led the Buffs through a 10-0 campaign. Offensively, this Tempe team was the school's best. Zucco was the state coach of the year.

Royse was a kick returner deluxe. His 70-yard punt return helped beat Phoenix St. Mary's, and his 84-yard kick return broke Flagstaff's back. He started a 33-0 rout of Sunnyslope with a 96-yard punt return. Jeisy, an all-state end, later became a Border Conference pole vault champ at Arizona State.

By 1959, major changes were made by the state's governing body, the Arizona Interscholastic Association. Most significant: football playoffs.

By then, the Blue & White was coached by Eddie Mitchell, another former ASU star out of Phoenix North High. It didn't take Tempe long to make its mark. In Mitchell's second season, the Buffs were playoff bound, playing in the state's largest conference, Class AA.

The key player was a junior, halfback Everett "Moose" Rollins, along with quarterback John Vincent. The Buffs finished 8-3 after falling to eventual state champ Pueblo, 20-13, in the state semifinals in Tucson.

Mitchell's tenure lasted just four season. Sticking with former A-State players, the school kept that pipeline open and hired Paul Widmer and Allen Benedict, former Pennsylvania transplants, to guide the THS football fortunates. When Widmer left to take the head job at Mesa Community College, Benedict moved up. It was Benedict who not only coached the school's best ever quarterback, but played in one of the best state final games ever.

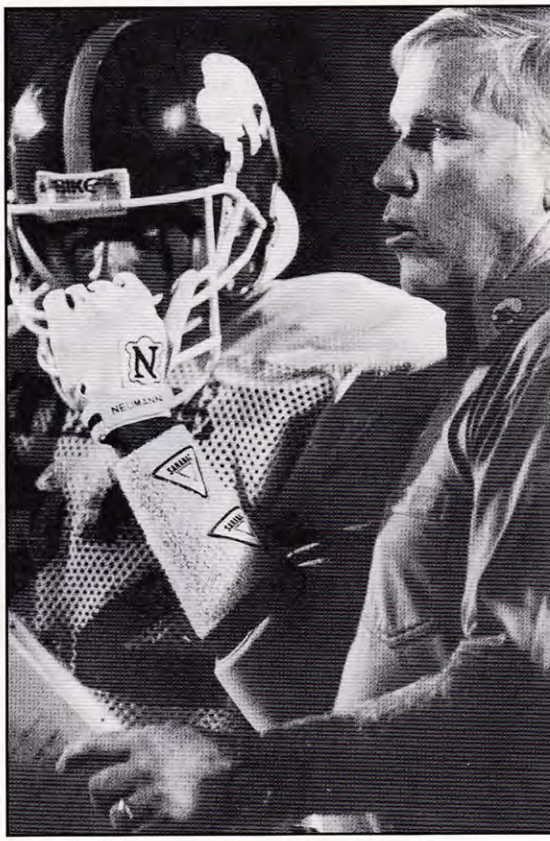
In 1972, when ASU signed Tempe quarterback Fred Mortensen, Sun Devil head coach Frank Kush told the media, "Fred is the best high school quarterback we've signed since I've been here."

That's saying a lot. But Mortensen, the state player of the year, was the whole package. In 1970 Tempe was in the hunt for a playoff spot. But a heart-breaking loss to Scottsdale Saguaro, played at old Scottsdale Beaver Stadium, ended the season early.

In the fall of 1971 it was a different story. With an arsenal of weapons, including wide receivers Rick Molina and Rex Shumway, Tempe lit it up. Without Fred, who was hurt on the last play of the game against rival McClintock, Tempe dropped an October contest to Maryvale. During the McClintock contest, a 19-14 Tempe win, the announced crowd of 15,000 at Sun Devil Stadium was the largest to ever watch THS play.

Two weeks later Mortensen was 10 for 16 for 349 yards and five scores during a 42-14 rout of Mesa. Shumway caught scoring strikes covering 41 and 47 yards against the porous Jackrabbit secondary. Molina scored from 78 and 40 yards.

In the first round of the playoffs, a rematch with McClintock, 11,000 fans at

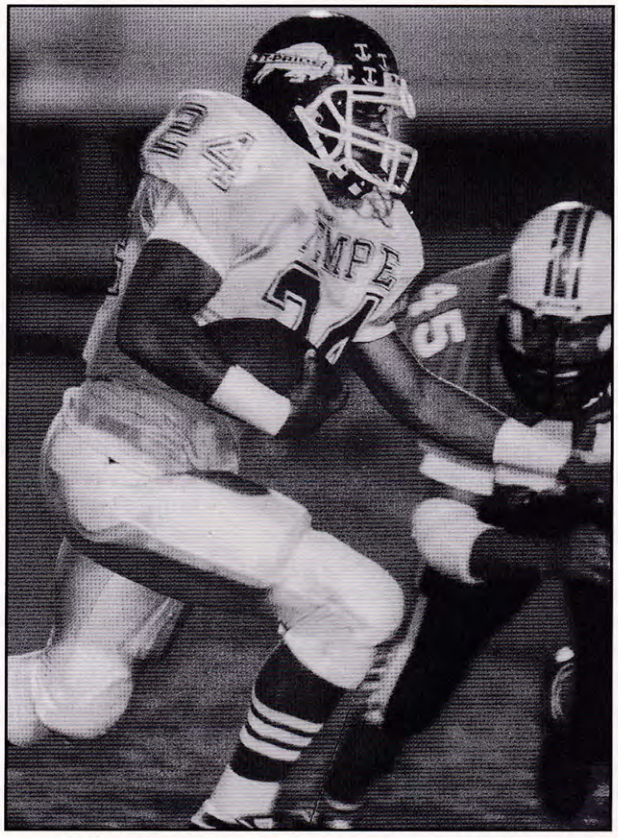


Murphy, one of nine Tempe head coaches who played at Arizona State, instructs Ty Armstead in 1988.

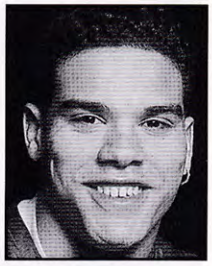
Heritage Bank
1333 West Broadway Road
Tempe -85282-
(602) 894-1291
A Subsidiary of Upbancorp, Inc.
Chicago, Illinois

We Salute The Tempe City High School Players of the Year

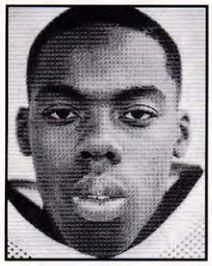
1996 ..... Justin Taplin, Tempe, WR
1995 ..... Keith Brown, Mountain Pointe, RB
1994 ..... Skeeter Brown, Mountain Pointe, RB
1993 ..... Darnell Autry, Tempe, RB/DB
1992 ..... Kenny Wheaton, McClintock, DB
1991 ..... Armon Williams, Valley Christian, QB/DB
1990 ..... Andrew McCormick, McClintock, RB/DB
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
1972 ..... Herbie Ramirez, McClintock, WR
1971 ..... Fred Mortensen, Tempe, QB
1970 ..... Bill Crowe, McClintock, LB
1969 ..... Ed Gaicki, McClintock, RB
1968 ..... Jay Hills, McClintock, T
1967 ..... Sam Garcia, McClintock, DE



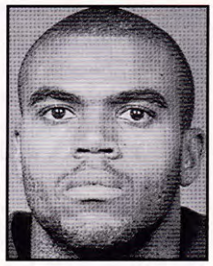
In 1993, Darnell Autry rushed for 1,812 yards and scored 20 touchdowns.



Darnell Autry
Tempe



Kenny Wheaton
McClintock



Armon Williams
Valley Christian



Preston Dennard
Marcos de Niza

"Good luck Sun Devils, Cardinals, Rattlers and All local high schools in 1997!"

ASU watched Fred hit 14 of 23 passes for 244 yards in a 20-0 shutout. One week later, before 15,000 on the same turf, Tempe knocked out Brophy Prep, 21-12. It set the stage for the finals against mighty Tucson High, at the University of Arizona.

Before 15,000 fans in Tucson, in a classic error-free game, the top-ranked Badgers handed Tempe a 20-14 defeat. Arguably it was one of the best "large school" title games in Arizona history. Tucson quarterback Frank Castro, who also played cornerback, was nine of 14 for 188 yards and two touchdowns. Mortensen went 15 for 33 for 229 yards, two scores and three interceptions.

Tempe struck early; Tucson late. Although Tucson halfback Kelly Langford (who was blind in one eye) swept left end for a first period score, Tempe linebacker Mike Longman blocked the extra point. Mortensen hit halfback Richard Aguayo for 22 yards and a second period touchdown to take a 7-6 lead at the half.

Throughout the second half, Tempe controlled field position, thanks to booming punts (47, 60 & 57) by Mortensen. But after his 57-yard punt to the end zone, Castro threw an 80-yard strike to Jinx Johnson, who tight-roped down the sidelines to score.

Then Fred struck again, this time hitting Rick Molina from 50 yards out. Molina was Mortensen's favorite receiver, hauling in seven receptions for 143 yards. It looked like a Tempe victory, even though the Badgers were able to move to the Tempe 39 with two minutes left. But on third-and-11, with only one timeout remaining, Castro found Lonnie Williams open at the goal line for the winning score.

"There were more tears flowing than shower water in the Buffalo dressing room," said *Phoenix Gazette* sports writer Sam Payne. "But Tempe has no reason to be ashamed of losing such a close game to a much bigger and stronger foe."

"There were more tears flowing than shower water in the Buffalo dressing room. But Tempe has no reason to be ashamed of losing such a close game to a much bigger and stronger foe."

"In all my years of coaching, that Tempe club was one of the finest coached teams we ever faced," winning coach Ollie Mayfield later said.

It was the last high school game coached by Benedict, who turned the reins over to another former Sun Devil, Jim Lambeth, and joined Paul Widmer's staff at Mesa Community. In fact, for nearly half-a-century, every head coach at Tempe High, starting with Ben Cole in 1935, through Jim Murphy's tenure, played college football at ASU.

As the city grew and new high schools were built, enrollment boundaries decreased. So did the school's strength on the football field. Consistency has never been a strength of the Buffalo football system, but outstanding individual stars have. Jim Denton, David Kush, Norm Ehasz, Jimmy Williams, Joe Campbell, Jim Warne, Dan-iel Taplin, Jerome Moss and Darnell Autry are just several of many outstanding individuals to wear the Blue & White.

In 1989 Tempe, coached by Murphy, and rival McClintock were almost perfect. Late in the season, Karl Kiefer's Chargers looked like one of the best teams in the country. But in September, Kiefer's forces dropped a 25-24 thriller to Tempe. The game made history. Never before had state champions from different enrollment classes met in the same year. Tempe won in spite of the losers Brian Drew, who returned the opening kickoff 94 yards. Actually, McClintock returned two kickoffs for scores, and cashed in on a fumble for another. Then the Chargers, error free for three quarters, fell apart. Tempe's Jeff McDonald kicked two field goals and the game's only extra point. Three months later, McClintock blitzed Mesa Westwood, 42-14 in the 5A finals. Earlier, Tempe tied Agua Fria 10-10 in the 4A clash.

"Tempe's win over McClintock that year was the best high school game played in this side of town in years," claimed *Phoenix Gazette* writer Skip Bryant, who covered the preps for more than 40 years.

Today, the Buffaloes continue their athletic endeavors in Class 4A competition. Changing neighborhoods, open school boundaries and other factors have affected the entire district. Good and bad. But 1996 belonged to the Buffs.

With quarterback Todd Mortensen, Fred's talented young son, wide receiver Justin Taplin and fullback Mike Washington leading the way, Tim McBurney's forces logged an undefeated, thrill-a-minute campaign, climaxed with a 20-17 overtime victory against Ironwood of Glendale, in the 4A finals, played at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe.

Home of the Buffaloes for more than 50 years.

Big days

TOUCHDOWNS:
5 - Marvin Williams vs Glendale, 1949
4 - Bobby James vs Florence, 1938
4 - Marvin Williams vs Ajo, 1949
4 - Dan Arredondo vs Ajo, 1950
4 - Dan Arredondo vs Florence, 1952
4 - Dennis James vs Westwood, 1982
4 - Shawn Harris vs Gilbert, 1988
4 - Darnell Autry vs Washington, 1993

RUSHING YARDS:
331 - Darnell Autry vs Chaparral, 1993
265 - Dennis James vs Westwood, '82
238 - T. Greathouse vs CGHS, 1991
235 - Jimmy Williams vs Arcadia, 1979
227 - Darnell Autry vs Washington, '93
225 - Darnell Autry vs Highland, 1993

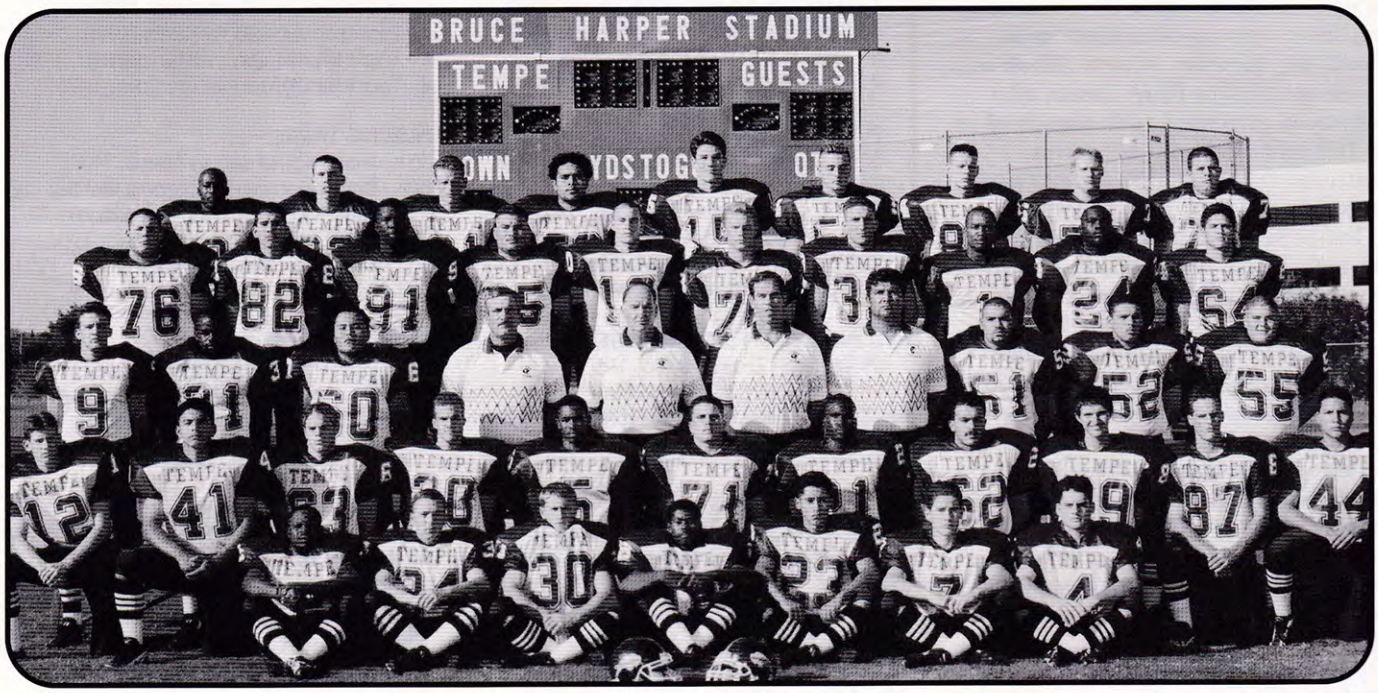
LONGEST RUN (SCRIMMAGE)
98 - Marvin Davis vs Ajo, 1950
98 - Jim Rollins vs Ajo, 1950
98 - Dan Arredondo vs Florence, 1952
97 - Kenny Rivers vs Scottsdale, 1955
95 - Craig Amack vs Chaparral, 1975
90 - Marvin Williams vs Glendale, 1949
90 - Ray Aguilar vs Scottsdale, 1957

TOUCHDOWN PASSES:
5 - Fred Mortensen vs Mesa, 1971
5 - Lee Schrack vs Gilbert, 1988
4 - Ty Holland vs Westwood, 1984
4 - Brandon Acedo vs North, 1990
4 - Todd Mortensen vs Thunderbird, 1995
4 - Todd Mortensen vs Arcadia, 1996

PASSING YARDS:
351 - Fred Mortensen vs Mesa, 1971
303 - Dave Robson vs Corona del Sol, '85
293 - Fred Mortensen vs McClintock, 1970
286 - Todd Mortensen vs Sabino, 1996
257 - Fred Mortensen vs Westwood, 1971
254 - Todd Mortensen vs Chaparral,

RECEIVING YARDS:
203 - Justin Taplin vs Sabino, 1996
182 - Tyler Breskin vs Chaparral, 1995
151 - Justin Taplin vs Sahuaro, 1995

TEMPE HIGH SCHOOL



Saluting The '96 Class 4A State Champions!

With head coach Tim McBurney and assistants Carl Harris, Manny Acosta & Fred Mortensen

Advertisement Sponsored By

The Tempe High School Coaches Association & The Buffaloes Alumni Association

1730 S. Mill Avenue
Tempe, -85281-
Phone: (602) 967-1661
James Randall, Athletic Director

"Thank You Tempe Diablos!"

THE PERFECT SEASON

Buffaloes 20	Washington 7
Buffaloes 28	Saguaro 16
Buffaloes 41	Thunderbird 7
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)

HONEY BEAR'S BBQ

5012 E. Van Buren, Phoenix, AZ – 273-9148



HONEY BEAR'S BBQ

Catering Specials

Sandwiches

Side Orders

Dinners

Desserts

Free Delivery

You don't need no teeth to eat our meat!

WAREHOUSE SPORTS



located one block south of McClintock High School at 3415 S. McClintock in Tempe

(602) 820-8533

STOP BY & CHECK OUT OUR SHOWROOM!

Sunvalco ATHLETIC SUPPLY COMPANY

"SERVING ARIZONA SINCE 1958!"

3811 W. INDIAN SCHOOL ROAD
(LOCATED JUST WEST OF GRAND AVE.)

(602) 269-7833

Mesa Public Schools

DEDICATED TO THE
PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

LEADING THE VALLEY IN
ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS
SINCE 1920

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 37 5A State Championships in

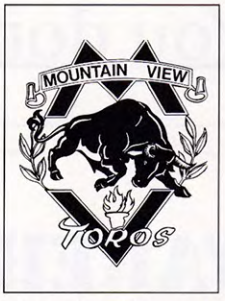
- Baseball – Boys
- Basketball – Boys
- Cross Country – Boys and Girls
- Football – Boys
- Golf – Boys
- Softball – Girls
- Speech and Theatre – Boys and Girls
- Track and Field – Boys and Girls
- Volleyball – Girls
- Wrestling – Boys
- Tennis – Boys



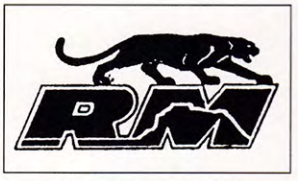
Dobson HS



Mesa HS



Mountain View HS



Red Mountain HS

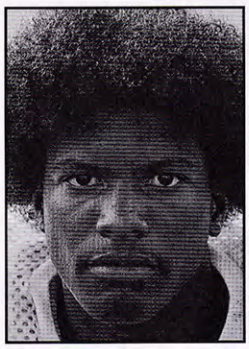
DR. JAMES K. ZAHARIS
Superintendent

DICK ANDERSON
Athletic Director

549 NORTH STAPLEY, MESA, ARIZONA 85213
(602) 898-7885


Westwood HS

Farmers Insurance Group of Companies
Salute the
FRED ENKE AWARD WINNERS



Rodney Peete
Sahuaro



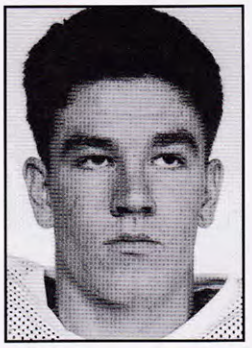
Ryan Kealy
St. Mary's



Fred Enke, Jr.
Tucson



Grady Benton
Mesa



Todd Mortensen
Tempe

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL QUARTERBACK

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 ..... Timmy 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
1947 ..... Dan Russell, Mesa
1946 ..... Gus Headington, Yuma
1945 ..... Manuel Aja, Glendale
1944 ..... Charles Beall, Mesa

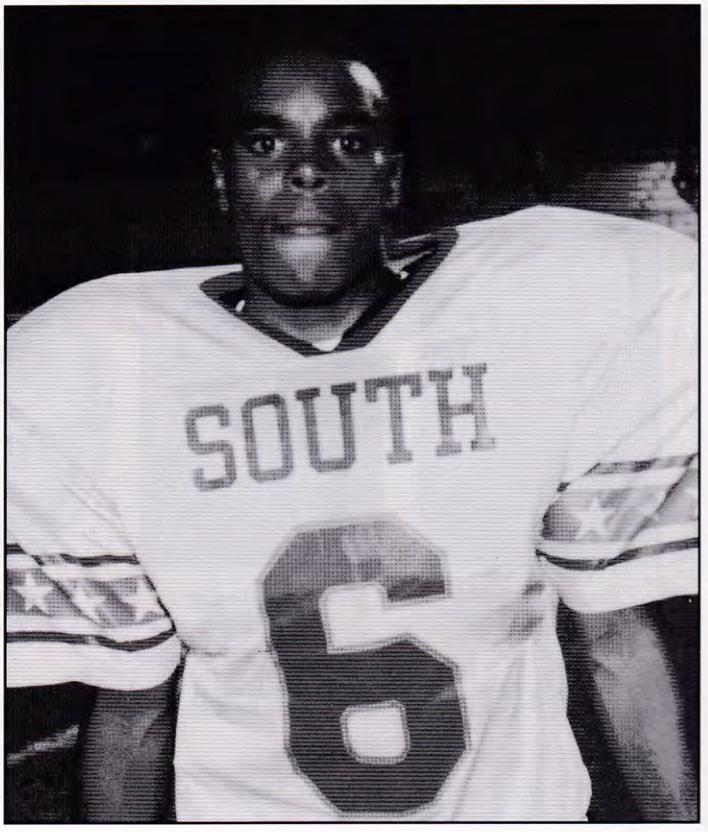
FRED ENKE, JR., *a three-sport star at Tucson High and the University of Arizona, was the first Arizona schoolboy to start at quarterback in the NFL. He played with Detroit (1948-51), Philadelphia (1952) and Baltimore (1953-54).*

Farmers Insurance Group of Companies

Dennis D. Smith, District Manager, 655 N. Alvernon, Suite 219, Tucson, -85711- Phone: (520) 881-0333

"Introducing auto loan and new index annuity."





Bullhead City's Moses Love (40) rushed for 2,089 yards and scored scored 27 touchdowns. South Mountain's Rashad Bauman (6), the 5A player of the year, scored 28 tochdowns (Arizona Informant).

'96 Super All-State Team Big, Fast

By JEFF KRIDER

The beat goes on. It was another banner year for schoolboy football in the Grand Canyon State.

Talent-wise, it just gets better.

An All-American receiver from Tempe, a record-breaking running back from Peoria, and the best all-around player in 5A football highlighted another outstanding year.

Justin Taplin, the player of the year, caught 75 passes for 1,295 yards and 16 touchdowns for 4A state champ Tempe. Coached by **Tim McBurney**, the Buffaloes nipped Glendale Ironwood 20-17 in overtime at the state finals at Sun Devil Stadium. Taplin's teammate, quarterback **Todd Mortensen**, a late BYU signee, passed for a school record 2,442 yards and 32 touchdowns. He connected with Taplin for the winning score in the overtime clash with Ironwood.

Phoenix Carl Hayden's **Ty-Juan Swasey**, a member of the Falcon's state championship basketball squad, averaged 28.8 yards per catch, best in the school's 38-year-history. Swasey plans to attend Scottsdale Community College.

At Peoria, tailback **Kyran Jones** rushed for 2,094 yards and scored 32 touchdowns - a 4A state record for a junior. Jones (see cover) bacame the first underclassman since Tucson Sunnyside's Fred Sims (Oklahoma) to win the "Whizzer White Award," given annually to the state's best running back. In Bullhead City, big **Moses Love** (6-3, 255) rushed for 2,089 yards and scored 27 touchdowns for the 5-5 Thunderbirds. Word has it that Arizona Western plans to play him at defensive end.

At South Mountain, Rashad Bauman, the state's 5A scoring champion, was an easy pick as the 5A Player of the Year.

At South Mountain, two-way back **Rashad Bauman**, the state's 5A scoring champion, was an easy pick as the 5A Player of the Year. The University of Oregon signee scored touchdowns from everywhere on the field: 18 by rushing, five receiving, two on punt returns, two pass interceptions and one fumble return. He won the "Tyrone Byrd Award," given annually to the state's best defensive back, by a landslide.

Byrd was a three-sport star at Chandler High between 1985-87, and a star defensive back at the University of Nebraska. He was projected as a high NFL draft pick, but his career was halted by an automobile accident in 1993.

Tucson Amphi halfback **Antrel Bates** (no relation to Marion, Michael or Mario) rushed for 1,812 yards, most ever by a Tucson junior, while Sabino safety **Aaron Smith** led his city with 14 interceptions, returning six for touchdowns. He picked off five, returning three for scores, in a

playoff win over Tucson Desert View.

For the first time in 34 years, two linemen shared honors in the trenches. Tucson's **Ralph Zarate** and Brophy Prep's **Bryan Kula**, both preseason-prep All-Americans, tied for the "Brian Murray Award," given to the state's premier interior lineman.

The award is named after the late Salpointe High grad, a three-year starter at the University of Arizona - also projected as a high NFL pick - who was killed in a fall at Redington Pass. In 1962, tackles **Gary Swift** (Oregon State) and **Bob Bertelsen** (Kansas) of nationally ranked Scottsdale Arcadia won the award, the last such time it was shared.

Kingman's **Trevor Mote**, the Northern Arizona Player of the Year, passed for 984 yards, rushed for 1,032, scored 24 touchdowns, kicked eight field goals and 29 extra points, returned five kickoffs for touchdowns and intercepted six passes. Possibly the state's best all-around athlete, Mote also stared on the Bulldogs' basketball team, and won all-state honors in baseball at shortstop.

Lakeside Blue Ridge, coached by **Paul Moro**, has won three consecutive 3A championships and 39 games in a row, moving close to the state's unbeaten slate of 43. In 11 years with the Yellowjackets, Moro has won six state championships and 80% of his games. In the 3A finals, Blue Ridge overcame Tylon Law's fourth quarter heroics to nip the Boys Ranch 22-20 on a last second field goal.

In the Class 5A finals, Mesa Mountain View, led by second-year coach **Bernie Buskin**, stuffed Brophy Prep 17-3, also at Sun Devil Stadium. Brophy had scored a school record 504 points before the meeting. But the Broncos, who dropped an earlier game to Mountain View in September, met the same fate in the finals. For the winning Toros, kicker **Jeremy Kelley** was terrific, pinning Brophy's back to the wall all night.

In the field goal department, Kelley booted a state record five against Tempe Marcos de Niza, and finished with 30 in his three-year career, second on the all-time state list.

In Class 2A, **Keith Brown's** high scoring Cougars at Phoenix Christian rolled over 13 opponents. Sort of. They won from Baboquivari by forfeit, when the Warriors dropped the sport. While winning it all, PC played two opponents twice: Superior, which they beat 28-6 and 14-13, and Tempe Valley Christian, 25-0 and 28-6 victories. The later came in the 2A title game.

In Class 1A, **Northwest Community Christian** went out with a bang, routing Scottsdale Christian 48-6 in the last 8-man game played by the two schools. Next up is 2A competition. Both school's have witnessed an enrollment jump. Sophomore quarterback Jake Wright tied a 1A title game record by scoring five touchdowns.

Coaching-wise, Mountain Pointe's **Karl Kiefer** finished the '96 campaign with an 8-5 slate, extending his state leading mark to 256-94-3, one of the best in the country.

At Tucson Amphi, **Vern Friedli's** near-perfect Panthers finished 12-1, extending his career record to 237-90-2. If they stay in the profession, three additional coaches, **Pat Farrell** (St. Mary's), **Bill Mitton** (Trevor Bowne) and **Bernon Benson** (Valley Christian) should reach the magic 200-win plateau soon.

Team-wise, **Mesa** continues its climb to 600 wins. Coached by **Bill McKane**, the Jackrabbits finished 8-4 last year, giving the school 557 wins since 1920. Mesa is one of the few high schools in the western United States with 500-plus wins in football and 1,000-plus in basketball.

'96 Super All-State

OFFENSE

Pos.	Player/High School/Size	College Choice
QB	Todd Mortensen, Tempe Union, 6-4, 204	BYU
RB	Kyran Jones, Peoria, 6-1, 172 (jr)	Peoria H.S.
RB	Antrel Bates, Tucson Amphi, 6-0, 170 (jr)	Amphi H.S.
RB	Moses Love, Bullhead City Mohave, 6-3, 255	Arizona Western
OL	Ralph Zarate, Tucson, 6-5, 285	Arizona State
OL	Erin Huizingh, Tempe McClintock, 6-7, 247	Colorado
OL	Kenny Hale, Phoenix South Mountain, 6-3, 260	Northern Arizona
OL	David McKane, Mesa, 6-2, 220	Utah
OL	Chris Hann, Glendale Cactus, 6-4, 251	Northern Arizona
TE	Todd Heap, Mesa Mountain View, 6-4, 210 (jr)	M.V.H.S.
WR	Justin Taplin, Tempe Union, 6-0, 175	Arizona State
WR	Ty-Juan Swasey, Phoenix Carl Hayden, 6-0, 190	Scottsdale CC
WR	Brian Poli-Dixon, Tucson Sabino, 6-3, 190	UCLA
PK	Jeremy Kelley, Mesa Mountain View, 6-1, 160	Mesa C.C.
P	Quin Davis, Tucson Rincon, 6-0, 185	Arizona Western

DEFENSE

DL	Bryan Kula, Phoenix Brophy Prep, 6-3, 275	Arizona
DL	John Westra, Mesa Red Mountain, 6-5, 240	Washington
DL	Ryan Duncan, Tempe Mountain Pointe, 6-3, 215	Utah State
DL	Eli Wnek, Glendale Ironwood, 6-4, 225	Arizona
DL	Nick Bogle, Mesa Mountain View, 6-3, 245	Mesa Community
LB	Cody Price, Mesa Westwood, 6-3, 205	Arizona State
LB	Kyle Kosier, Glendale Cactus, 6-5, 225	Arizona State
LB	Raymond Perryman, South Mountain, 6-2, 202	Northern Arizona
DB	Rashad Bauman, South Mountain, 5-9, 165	Oregon
DB	Aaron Smith, Tucson Sabino, 6-0, 190	Southwest Missouri
DB	Mike Mantle, Scottsdale Coronado, 5-10, 180	Scottsdale C.C.
DB	Trevor Mote, Kingman, 6-0, 180	Yavapai Junior College
RS	Rashad Bauman, South Mountain	

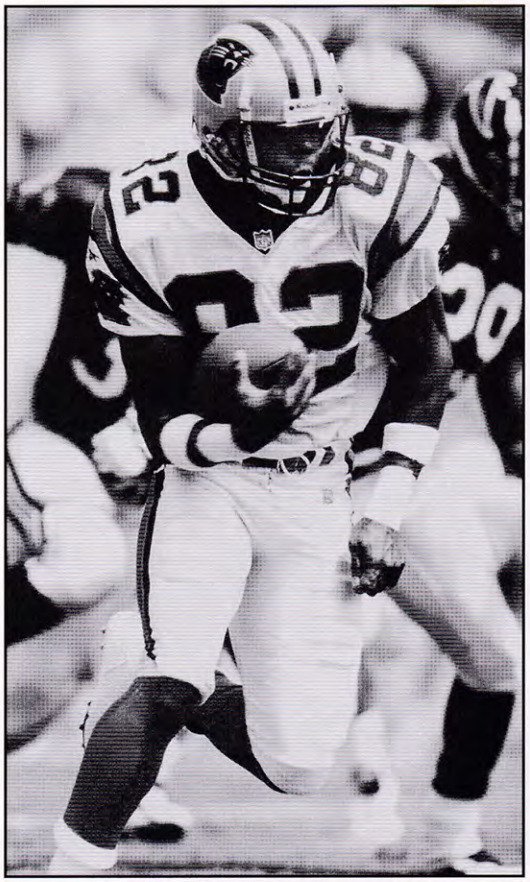
'96 Awards:

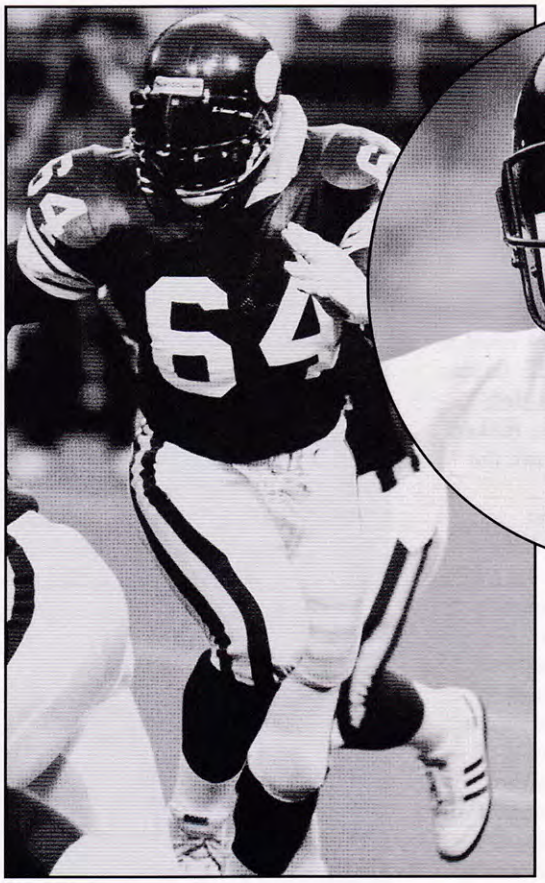
5A Player of the Year
Rashad Bauman, South Mountain

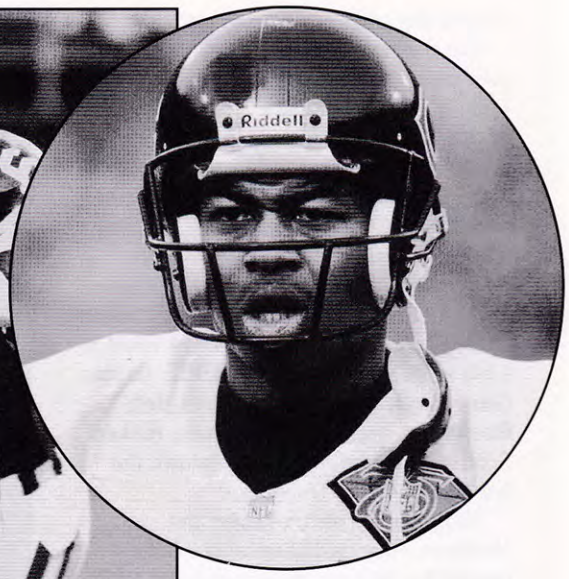
4A Player of the Year
Justin Taplin, Tempe Union

3A Player of the Year
Tylon Law, Arizona Boys Ranch

2A Player of the Year
Micah Barton, Phoenix Christian







Former Arizona schoolboy stars Michael Bates (81) and Randall McDaniel (64), all-pro picks in '96, and Kevin Miniefield of the Chicago Bears.

Bates, McDaniel '96 All-Pro Picks

By BARRY SOLLENBERGER

According to Census Bureau estimates, Arizona's population growth dropped off last year. But it still climbed enough to be the second fastest growing state in the country.

Arizona added 123,000 new residents last year, hiking the state's population closer to five-million. The 2.9 percent increase was second only to Nevada's 4.5.

By the turn of the century, for the first time ever, Arizona could have 200 high schools. This growth is reflected in it's sports programs. As more and more athletes compete, more and more reach the pro ranks.

But good high school football is nothing new to the Grand Canyon State. Last year, only two states west of the Mississippi River, Texas and California, had more former schoolboy stars on NFL rosters than Arizona.

Football and track, a happy marriage at most schools, has always been Arizona's premier sports. It was no surprise that one of Arizona's all-time greatest high school stars, Tucson's Michael Bates, landed a spot on the 1996 *Associated Press* All-Pro team, as the league's premier kick returner. Joining Bates was another former schoolboy star from Arizona, Randall McDaniel, a guard for the Minnesota Vikings. Bates is a receiver for the Carolina Panthers.

There have been many two-sport stars, but none recently with the speed of Michael Bates, whose brother Mario plays for the New Orleans Saints.

"The older Bates (Michael) was without a doubt the best two-sport star from Arizona since Tucson High's legendary Joe Batiste," claims Tempe sports writer Skip Bryant, who has covered the preps for 40 years.

"Bates was without a doubt the best two-sport star from Arizona since Tucson High's legendary Joe Batiste."

There are similarities. Batiste, a member of the United State's mythical 1940 Olympic team, was an all-state back in football and a world class high hurdler.

At Tucson Amphitheater, between 1985-88, Bates scored 53 touchdowns, 318 points and rushed for 3,803 yards. In track & field, the future Olympian was a schoolboy phenom. In 1987, he set national age group records for sophomores with times of 10.34 for 100 meters, 20.90 at 200 meters and 13.84 for the 110 meter high hurdles.

His 20.68 time at 200 meters in 1988, his junior year, is today the second fastest in state history, behind another Arizona Olympian, South Mountain's Dwayne Evans. Bates ran 100 meters in 10.39 that year, and zipped over the high hurdles in 13.70.

Sadly, because of a coaching conflict, Bates did not compete in high school track his senior year. He attended the University of Arizona, and after an average football career - but a terrific track career - landed in the National Football League with the Seattle Seahawks.

McDaniel, himself a multiple sports star at Agua Fria High in Avondale, has

"The best thing that ever happened to him was they switched him to guard. That move made him a millionaire."

been one of the NFL's premier lineman for years. In high school he earned all-state honors as a tight end/defensive end, playing for head coach Pat Lavin. McDaniel starred in the 1983 Arizona North-South All-Star Game, catching three touchdown passes. In basketball, he once grabbed 31 rebounds in a single game, and threw the shot put and discus in track. Before graduating from college, McDaniel was a member of Arizona State's 1987 Rose Bowl team.

"When he started out at Arizona State, he was a tight end," says Lavin. "The best thing that ever happened to him was they switched him to guard. That move made him a millionaire."

Last year, 29 former Arizona schoolboy products dotted NFL rosters (see chart), down from 32 the previous year. This summer, with the addition of 10 new draft picks and free agents, the state creeps closer to 40, an amazing number for a region with less than five-million population.

Since the New York Giants picked Phoenix Union's Cecil Mulleneaux in 1932, over 200 Arizona high school products have played professional football in the United States (NFL) and Canada (CFL).

When it comes to athletic ability, St. Louis Ram defensive back Anthony Parker takes a back seat to nobody. The former Tempe McClintock football and baseball star, also a member of the Sun Devils' '87 Rose Bowl team, still stars in the secondary.

When scoring defensive touchdowns, the slowest player in the Rams' secondary is Deion Sanders' equal. Last year, Parker's 92-yard interception return during a 17-14 win over the Jacksonville Jaguars was his seventh career defensive score - four on interceptions and three on fumbles. That matches Sanders, the Dallas Cowboys high-profile back, for the lead among active players, and is only three shy of the NFL career mark set by former Houston all-pro Kenny Houston.

"Anthony Parker is the thief," said Todd Lyght, the Rams' other cornerback. "He steals the goods and gets away scot-free. He's the classic bad guy."

"I've been fortunate, I guess," Parker told *The Associated Press*. "I just have that mentality when I get the ball I've got to score. It's just the way I've always been."

In high school Parker played for Arizona's all-time winningest coach, Karl Kiefer, and was a running back and state scoring champion. He finished his prep career with 54 touchdowns, 29 during his senior year.

He was converted to defensive back at Arizona State, where he started for four years, touted by assistant coach Willie Shaw, now the Rams' defensive coordinator. In 1991, Parker led the World Football League with 11 interceptions, two for touchdowns.

Playing for Minnesota in 1992, Parker scored his first NFL touchdown on a 58-yard fumble return. In 1994, he returned two interceptions and a fumble for scores.

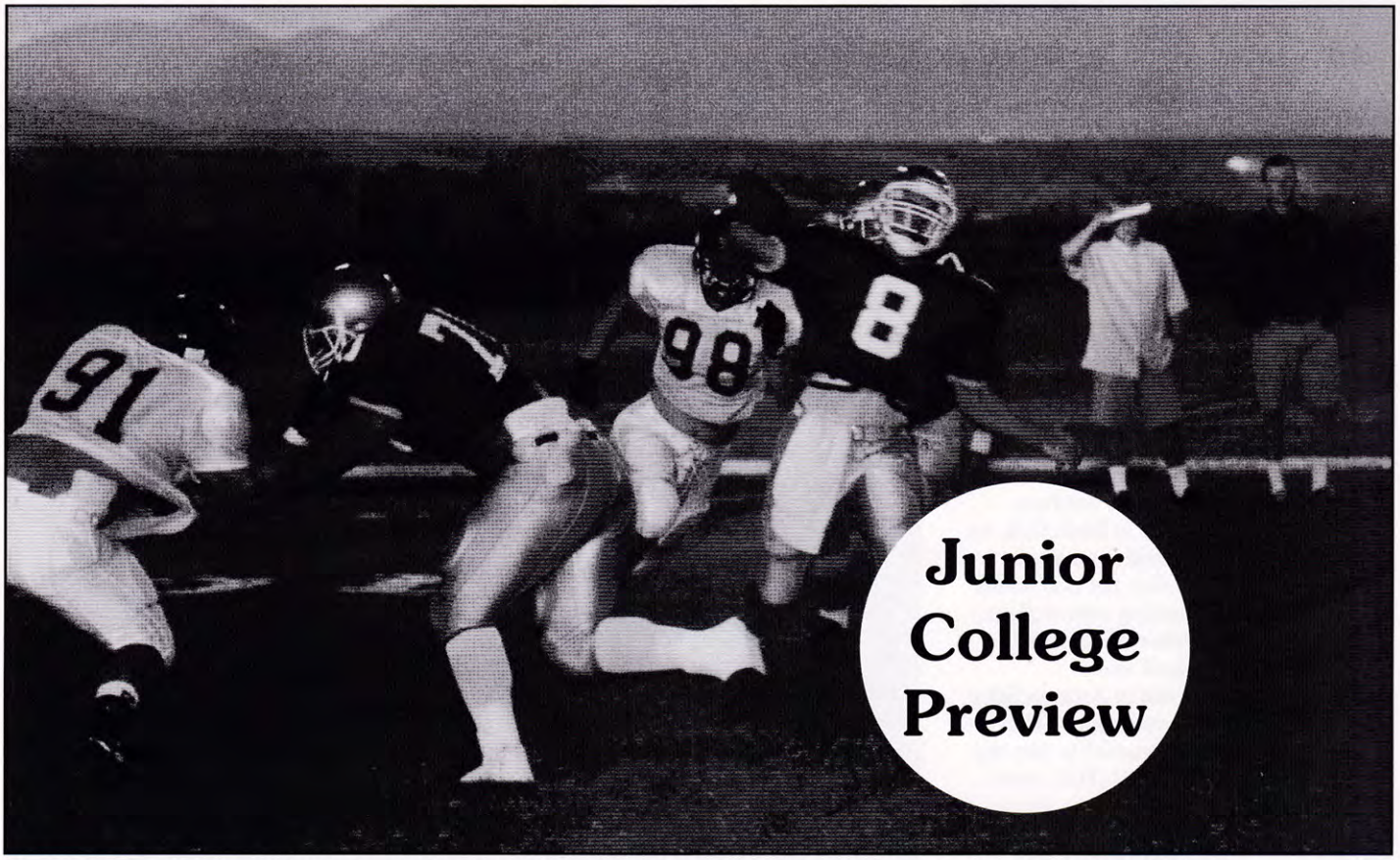
"I've always felt like I was an offensive player," Parker adds. "When I get the ball I've got to score."

"Anthony Parker is the thief. He steals the goods and gets away scot-free. He's the classic bad guy."

PRO PARADE

The 29 Arizona schoolboy products in the NFL in 1996.

Position/Player/Pro Team/High School	College
OFFENSE	
QB Rodney Peete, Philadelphia Eagles (Tucson Sahuaro)	USC
QB Jeff Lewis, Denver Broncos (Scottsdale Horizon)	Northern Arizona
RB Mario Bates, New Orleans Saints (Tucson Amphi)	ASU
RB Ryan Christopherson, Arizona Cardinals (Cactus)	Wyoming
WR Michael Bates, Carolina Panthers (Tempe Amphi)	Arizona
WR Anthony Edwards, Arizona Cardinals (Casa Grande)	N.M. Highlands
WR Kevin Alexander, New York Giants (Phoenix Goldwater)	Utah State
WR Damon Mays, Washington Redskins (Phoenix Central)	Missouri
TE Derek Price, Detroit Lions (Tempe Marcos de Niza)	Iowa
TE Richard Griffith, Jacksonville Jaguars (Tucson Catalina)	Arizona
OL Randall McDaniel, Minnesota Vikings (Agua Fria)	ASU
OL John Fina, Buffalo Bills (Tucson Salpointe)	Arizona
OL Danny Villa, Kansas City Chiefs (Nogales)	ASU
OL Frank Pollack, San Francisco 49ers (Phoenix Greenway)	NAU
OL Dale Hellestrae, Dallas Cowboys (Scottsdale Saguaro)	SMU
OL Frank Garcia, Carolina Panthers (Phoenix Maryvale)	Washington
PK Cole Ford, Oakland Raiders (Tucson Sabino)	USC
P Jeff Feagles, Arizona Cardinals (Phoenix Gerard)	Miami (Fla.)
DEFENSE	
DB Darren Woodson, Dallas Cowboys (Phoenix Maryvale)	ASU
DB Anthony Parker, St. Louis Rams (Tempe McClintock)	ASU
DB Phillippi Sparks, New York Giants (Phoenix Maryvale)	ASU
DB Muhammad Oliver, Washington Redskins (Phoenix North)	Oregon
DB Kevin Miniefield, Chicago Bears (Phoenix Camelback)	ASU
DB Toby Wright, St. Louis Rams (Mesa Dobson)	Nebraska
DB Darryl Morrison, Washington Redskins (Phoenix Camelback)	Arizona
DB Mike Scurlock, St. Louis Rams (Tucson Cholla)	Arizona
DB Eddie Cade, Kansas City Chiefs (Eloy Santa Cruz)	ASU
LB Sean Harris, Chicago Bears (Tucson)	Arizona
LB Jason Kyle, Seattle Seahawks (Tempe McClintock)	ASU
DRAFTED NEWCOMERS	
RB Darnell Autry, Chicago Bears (Tempe Union)	Northwestern
DE Shawn Swayda, Chicago Bears (Phoenix Brophy Prep)	ASU
DB Armon Williams, Houston Oilers (Tempe Valley Christian)	Arizona
DB Kenny Wheaton, Dallas Cowboys (Tempe McClintock)	Oregon



Eastern Arizona quarterback Jacob Brann (8) gets off a pass against Snow College. Dave Busch (71) blocks. (Courier photo)

Mesa, Glendale Still Teams To Beat

By BART CONLEY

Like always, the annual Valley of the Sun Bowl, pitting the county's best junior college club against an out-of-state opponent, produced more fireworks than a July holiday.

In December, running back Anthony Dileso, the ACCAC Player of the Year, rushed for 175 yards, scored three touchdowns, returned a kickoff 46 yards and threw a touchdown pass, as host Glendale College (8-3) sprinted past Butler County, Kansas, 46-25.

It was head coach Jack Kersting's last game with the Gauchos. He then headed north, joining the staff at Northern Arizona University. It was Glendale's sixth state crown in seven years, and avenged a 26-24 loss to Kansas foe Garden City in the '95 contest.

The Grizzlies (7-4) managed 173 yards on the ground and 299 through the air, with the pitch-and-catch combination of quarterback Craig Strickland to Ricky Hall causing the most damage. Both earned JC All-America status.

Besides Dileso's heroics, Glendale back Jay Hinton, a University of Arizona signee out of Phoenix Maryvale, added 137 yards and one score on 14 carries. Dileso carried the ball 24 times as the Gaucho running game amassed 403 yards.

"They had a good, balanced offense," said Kersting, who will coach NAU's defensive backs and special teams. "We concentrated on stopping the run. That was a big part of their offense. Our goal line stand with 14 minutes left probably sealed it for us."

Glendale finished the season No. 8 in the final NJCAA poll. It was the 10th postseason appearance in 15 years for Butler, a Kansas power.

"The schools you play in Arizona are damn good," first year coach James Shibest told *The Arizona Republic*. Shibest was an assistant at Garden City in 1995. "I told my athletic director, if we had a choice, that's where I'd like to go play."

Besides Dileso, three additional Gauchos landed berths on the Western States Football League all-star squad: offensive lineman Marty Jones, defensive back Askia Stewart and Hinton, as a return specialist.

In the state JC ranks, every school but **Arizona Western** looks improved. Even though they broke 11 offensive records, it was a disappointing season at **Mesa**, according to head coach David Rice. "We were very young and it showed. Our kicking game lost three games for us, but recruiting solved that problem."

Price didn't have far to go to solve it, landing all-state kicker Jeremy Kelley, a key member of Mountain View's 5A state championship squad. Kelley kicked 15 field goals last year, 30 during his varsity career. He set a state record with five in one game against Tempe Marcos de Niza.

Altogether, Mesa returns seven offensive starters and six defensive starters. A

"The schools you play in Arizona are damn good. I told my athletic director, if we had a choice, that's where I'd like to go play."

'97 Junior College Blue-Chippers

QB...Mark Brooks	6-3, 205	Glendale
RB...Gerald Green	5-9, 190	Mesa
RB...Steve Holmes	5-10, 185	Phoenix
WR..Jason Carr	5-10, 185	Phoenix
TE ...Randy Hakes	6-4, 240	Mesa
OT...Mike Wilhelms	6-8, 330	Glendale
DT...Gilbert Aldana	6-0, 275	Mesa
LB ...Dane Sorenson	6-2, 235	Glendale
DB...Isaac Banks	5-10, 175	Eastern Arizona
DB...Gavin Engle	6-3, 205	Mesa
PK...Mike Johnson	6-0, 225	Glendale
PK...Jeremy Kelley	6-0, 170	Mesa

good recruiting class gives the Thunderbirds an important two deep look, and should improve last year's 4-6 finish. Two key all-league players return: defensive back Gavin Engle (6-3, 205) and defensive tackle Gilbert Aldana (6-0, 275). Speedy Gerald Green (5-9, 190), a much traveled running back, should start, along with tight end Randy Hakes (6-4, 240), a big-time prospect who has returned from a Mormon Mission. Giant tackle Ford Poston (6-8, 300), wideout William Lloyd (6-1, 180) and linebacker Mike Pekrul (6-3, 220) give Mesa three more major college prospects.

Besides Kelley, T'Bird newcomers who could be impact players include tight end Ricky Prigge (6-3, 215), tackle Chris Van Gorder (6-3, 295), defensive back Yohance Scott (6-1, 180), and wideouts Eric Moody (6-2, 175) and Chris Little (6-4, 175). All are former East Valley schoolboy products.

This fall seven former T'Birds will be playing for Pac-10 schools: defensive end Jayson Brown (UCLA) out of Scottsdale Saguaro, defensive end Bob McKane (Oregon State) from Mesa Westwood, tackle Tony Marshall (Oregon State) from Marcos de Niza, center Rusty James (Arizona) and tackle Ryan Turley (Arizona), both of Mesa Mountain View, tight end Ashley Burrows (Arizona) out of Chandler, and defensive back Aundrae Harris (California), a Phoenix Camelback product.

Mike Grossner, who coached last year at Agua Fria High, replaces Joe Kersting at **Glendale**, where the Gauchos hope to defend their state crown with 25 lettermen and a solid recruiting class. Grossner is no stranger to Gaucho football, returning to the school where he served as offensive coordinator.

"This will be my seventh year here, and I think we can compete for another state championship," warns the new coach. "But we have a tough early schedule. We'll have to grow up early."

Watch for major college programs to pick up linebacker Dane Sorenson (6-2, 235), tackle Mike Wilhelms (6-8, 330) and kicker Mike Johnson (6-0, 225), an all-conference pick. Speedy defensive backs Herb Craft (5-9, 165, 4.4) and Troy Sheets (6-3, 210, 4.5) are tough. Guard Miguel Regalado (6-2, 260) and receiver Jess Castillo (5-9, 175) should start.

Several key newcomers could make a big difference, starting with gifted quarterback Mark Brooks (6-3, 205), a former Phoenix Greenway star; fullback James Mova (6-1, 205), who rushed for 1,885 yards and 31 touchdowns at Kingman; and tackle Marquise Muldrow (6-3, 305), two-time state shot put champ from Phoenix Maryvale. The quickest newcomer appears to be cornerback Carlos Harris (6-1, 175), a 4.4 cover guy, also from Maryvale.

If upstart **Eastern Arizona** learns to win the close games, watch out. The Gila Monsters, coached by Paul Tidwell, were competitive in every game, but still finished 4-6. "We're making progress," claims Tidwell. "But we still have a ways to go to build the program to where we have that winning tradition."

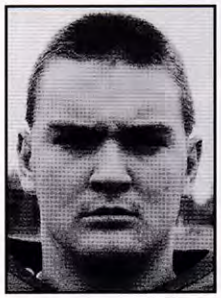
The line looks solid, with sophomores Ralph Frias (6-5, 315), Jon Mathis (6-3, 275), John Oddonetto (6-5, 283) and Sakalia Magalei (6-5, 235). Magalei, a redshirt freshman, starts at tight end.

Still, the marque player is free safety Isaac Banks (5-10, 175, 4.5), a second team all-Western State Football League pick. The former Tucson Sabino standout had four interceptions. In fact, the secondary is another EAJC strength, with safety Louison Paul (6-2, 215, 4.6) joining Banks to wreck havoc upon enemy receivers. Linebacker Orlando Huff (6-2, 225) backs up a solid front wall. The Gila Monsters signed 28 in-state players to football scholarships.

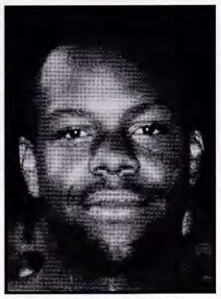
Phoenix College landed its strongest recruiting class in three years. They'll need it. John Allen's defense was much improved, but the Bears' offense finished last in the ACCAC. The school's lone win came against Scottsdale.

Still, quarterback is the big question. Whoever fills in will have a good running back for support, one of the best in the conference. Sophomore Steve Holmes (5-10, 185) runs 40 yards in 4.5 seconds. Wideouts Jason Carr (5-10, 185), an all-ACCAC pick, and Chris Gana (5-10, 185) give the Bears two speedy receivers. Tackle Ramon Lopez (6-3, 275) is a solid player. Defensively, linemen Steve Price (6-2, 230) and Wes Latecki (6-2, 235) return. Manuel Lopez (6-0, 230) and Steve Cota (5-11, 195) form a quick, tough linebacking corps. Cory Walker (5-10, 190, 4.5) returns in the secondary.

At **Scottsdale**, all three Artichokes named to the ACCAC all-star squad picked up diplomas: offensive lineman Shane Roberts, down lineman Tim Croft and linebacker Tony Becker. Croth also made the Western States Football League honor roll, including players from Snow, Dixie and Ricks College. He signed with the University of Utah.



Randy Hakes
Mesa



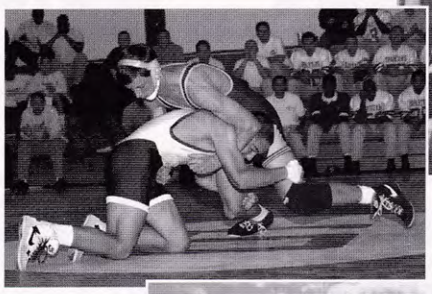
Marq Muldrow
Glendale



Champions Under Construction!



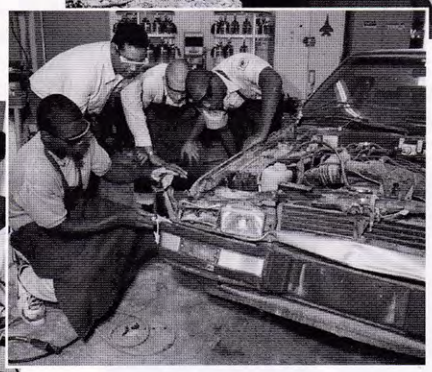


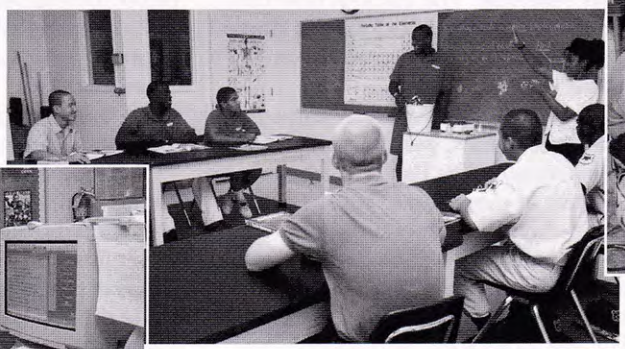


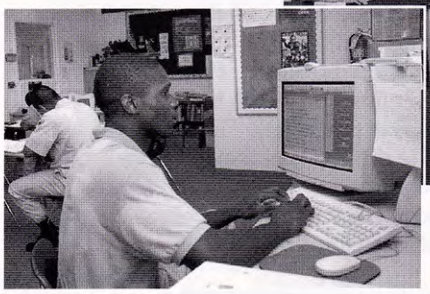
Arizona Boys Ranch

- A non-profit residential program providing at-risk youth with opportunities and support in school, work, social development and athletics
- Investing in youth today for a better tomorrow
- Tours available, call 987-9700









ARIZONA
Boys Ranch
Boys Ranch, AZ 85242-9715
(602) 987-9700

All gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

VALLEY CHRISTIAN TROJANS

"Builder of Champions Since 1982"

6900 W. Galveston, Chandler, 967-4196



Head coach Bernie Benson and Valley Christian's 1996 Central Region Champions and Class 2A State Runnerup.

Coach Bernie Benson has registered 180 football victories in three decades!

STATE CHAMPS: `89, `91, `97 Boys Track; '92, '93, '`94 ,`96, `97 Girls Track; '93, '94,`95 `96 Girls Volleyball; `97 Soccer

STATE RUNNERUP: '90, '93, '94,'95 `96 BoysTrack; '89 & 91 Girls Track 1992 Volleyball; `96 Football

REGION CHAMPS: '92, '93 '94 `95 `96 Volleyball '92, '93, '94 `96 `97 Girls Track '92, '93, '94, '95 `97 Boys Track '93, '94 Girls Basketball '93, '94, `96 Football

Myra Anglin 1A-3A Volleyball Player of Year; Misty Hawkinson won 11 Gold Medals in 2A state track career!

VALLEY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

New campus in Chandler at 56th Street and Galveston!

*Student Enrollment: 320 *Member of Class 2A Conference

*Non-denominational *NCA Approved *52% Students in Athletics in 1996-97!

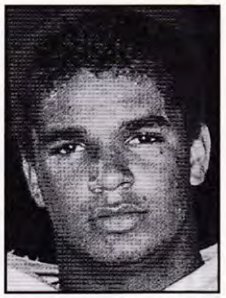
2A Conference 1994 Don F. Stone Overall Excellence Award Winner!



Keith Brown, Mountain Pointe

ALL-TIME PHOENIX METRO FOOTBALL RECORDS

Sponsored by BlueCross BlueShield



Jon Beasley Cactus

TOUCHDOWNS (GAME)
7 .....Coury Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
7 ... .Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
7 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)
6 .....Cotton Rieman, 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

TOUCHDOWNS (SEASON)
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
33 .....Coury Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
32 .....Danny Reynolds, VCHS, 1996
32 .....Kyran Jones, Peoria, 1996 (jr)
31 .....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1987 (jr)
31 .....Keith Huckaby, Agua Fria, 1989
31 .....Keith Brown, Mountain Pointe, 1995
30 .....Marvin Johnson, Peoria, 1987

TOUCHDOWNS (CAREER)
76 .....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1986-88
76 .....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990-92
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

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

POINTS (SEASON)
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
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
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)
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
2,230 ...Tim Vining, Cactus, 1994
2,224 ...Micah Barton, Phoenix Christian, 1996
2,201 ...Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1992
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
2,003 ...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
4,128 ...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

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

AVERAGE YARDS PER CARRY (CAREER)
12.3 .....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955-58

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN RUN
99 .....Sammy Johnson, Mesa, 1952
99 .....Craig Ponciak, Gerard, 1964
99 .....Wayne Jones, Dysart, 1972
99 .....Jerry Harper, Chaparral, 1980
99 .....Tom Collins, Apollo, 1985
99 .....Randy Carr, Central, 1986

What if?
What if you didn't have to worry about health care?
BlueCross BlueShield of Arizona
An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association



At two different high schools, Carver and Phoenix Union, George Greathouse rushed for 4,551 yards and scored 63 touchdowns.

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
404.....Mike Makings, Scottsdale, 1971
403.....Rick Johnson, Paradise Valley, 1983
396.....Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1994 (jr)
385.....Rick Savale, Arcadia, 1966
380.....Bob Pitre, Arcadia, 1975
375.....Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
374.....Jason McCullough, Arcadia, 1992
374.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
366.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
365.....Todd Sheridan, Arcadia, 1982
360.....Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994
358.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993

PASSING YARDS (SEASON)
3,462...Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
3,009...Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994
2,768...Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1995
2,683...Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1995
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
2,442...Todd Mortensen, Tempe, 1996
2,352...Brian Judd, Cactus, 1989
2,233...Steve Belles, St. Mary's, 1984
2,226...John Bonds, St. Mary's, 1987
2,170...Kent Kiefer, McClintock, 1983 (so)
2,107...Greg Abel, Horizon, 1995
2,102...Ryan Smith, Saguaro, 1995
2,081...Joe Germaine, Mountain View, 1993
2,037...Cleveland Dansby, South, 1993 (jr)
2,033...William Babb, Peoria, 1987
2,011...Cary Palmer, Mesa, 1974

PASSING YARDS (CAREER)
6,441...Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1993-95
6,350...Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1993-95
6,346...Kent Kiefer, McClintock, 1983-85
6,064...Marty Rincon, Westview, 1991-93
5,139...Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 193-95
4,954...Todd Mortensen, Tempe, 1994-96
4,916...Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1992-94
4,712...Scott Molander, CDS, 1982-84
4,596...Steve Belles, St. Mary's, 1982-84
4,394...Cleveland Dansby, South, 1992-94

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
5.....Gilbert Martinez, Chandler, 1958
5.....Ted Blake, Sunnyslope, 1965
5.....Pete Harter, Chandler, 1965
5.....Randy Holmes, Peoria, 1968
5.....Mike Makings, Scottsdale, 1971
5.....Fred Mortensen, Tempe, 1971
5.....Shawn Gilbert, Agua Fria, 1982
5.....Scooter Molander, CDS, 1982
5.....Jeff Zygmunt, Deer Valley, 1984
5.....Chuck Levinus, Cactus, 1984
5.....Lee Schrack, Tempe, 1988
5.....Cory Giles, Westwood, 1991
5.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
5.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
5.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
5.....Steve O'Hare, Brophy Prep, 1993
5.....Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
5.....Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
5.....Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
5. .....Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1995
5.....Tom Wurtz, Brophy Prep, 1996

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (SEASON)
41.....Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1995
40.....Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
37.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
32.....Todd Mortensen, Tempe, 1996
31.....Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1995
30.....Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994
28.....Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1994 (jr)

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (CAREER)
83.....Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1993-95
60.....Todd Mortensen, Tempe, 1994-96
58.....Marty Rincon, Westview, 1991-93
58.....Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1993-95
56.....Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1993-95
51.....Kent Kiefer, McClintock, 1983-85
51.....Cleveland Dansby, South, 1992-94

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)
16.....Mickey Hatcher, Mesa, 1973
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

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)
65.....Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
64.....Scott McLouth, Gilbert, 1985
64.....Mike Allen, Cactus, 1994

What if?
What if you didn't have to worry about health care?
BlueCross BlueShield of Arizona
An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

phoenix football '97

RECEPTIONS (CAREER)
166 .....Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1993-96
148 .....Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1988-90
138 .....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1993-95
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

RECEIVING YARDS (GAME)
302 .....Pete Klaass, Paradise Valley, 1983 (jr)
296 .....Larry Bandura, Scottsdale, 1971
260 .....Keith Rawls, CDS, 1982
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)
224 .....David Donahue, McClintock, 1982
220 .....Danny Starr, Maricopa, 1987
220 .....Todd Young, MDN, 1983 (jr)

RECEIVING YARDS (SEASON)
1,760 ...Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1995
1,298 ...Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1996
1,226 ...Mickey Hatcher, Mesa, 1973
1,201 ...Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1989
1,190 ...Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1995
1,188 ...Tony Vining, Cactus, 1991
1,180 ...Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
1,090 ...Larry Bandura, Scottsdale, 1971
1,090 ...Chris Baniszewski, McClintock, 1985
1,084 ...Mike Allen, Cactus, 1994
1,068 ...Travis Brun, Deer Valley, 1996
1,039 ...Jake Greene, Westview, 1993
1,038 ...Rick Molina, Tempe, 1971
1,014 ...Pat Schabel, Westwood, 1984

RECEIVING YARDS (CAREER)
3,333 ...Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1993-95
2,724 ...Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1993-96
2,508 ...Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1988-90
2,172 ...Speedy Hart, St. Mary's, 1973-75
2,165 ...Carlos Artis, Washington, 1988-90
2,011 ...Roger Aguilar, St. Mary's, 1992-94

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

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (SEASON)
21 .....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1995
20 .....Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1995
17 .....Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
16 .....Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1996
15 .....Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1989 (jr)
14 .....Speedy Hart, St. Mary's, 1974 (jr)
14 .....Dewey Horton, Gilbert, 1977
14 .....Craig Brown, Westview, 1993 (jr)
14 .....Mike Allen, Cactus, 1994
14 .....David Tefteller, Phoenix Christian, 1995
13 .....Murl Huff, Phoenix Union, 1924
13 .....Mike Bowling, Agua Fria, 1966
13 .....Rick Molina, Tempe, 1971
13 .....Mike Baker, Gerard, 1974
13 .....James Sosinski, McClintock, 1980
13 .....David Tefteller, Phx. Christian, 1994

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (CAREER)
35 .....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1993-95
32 .....David Tefteller, Phx. Christian, 1993-95
31 .....Justin Taplin, Tempe, 1993-96
29 .....Speedy Hart, St. Mary's, 1973-75
26 .....Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1988-90
26 .....Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1994-95

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)

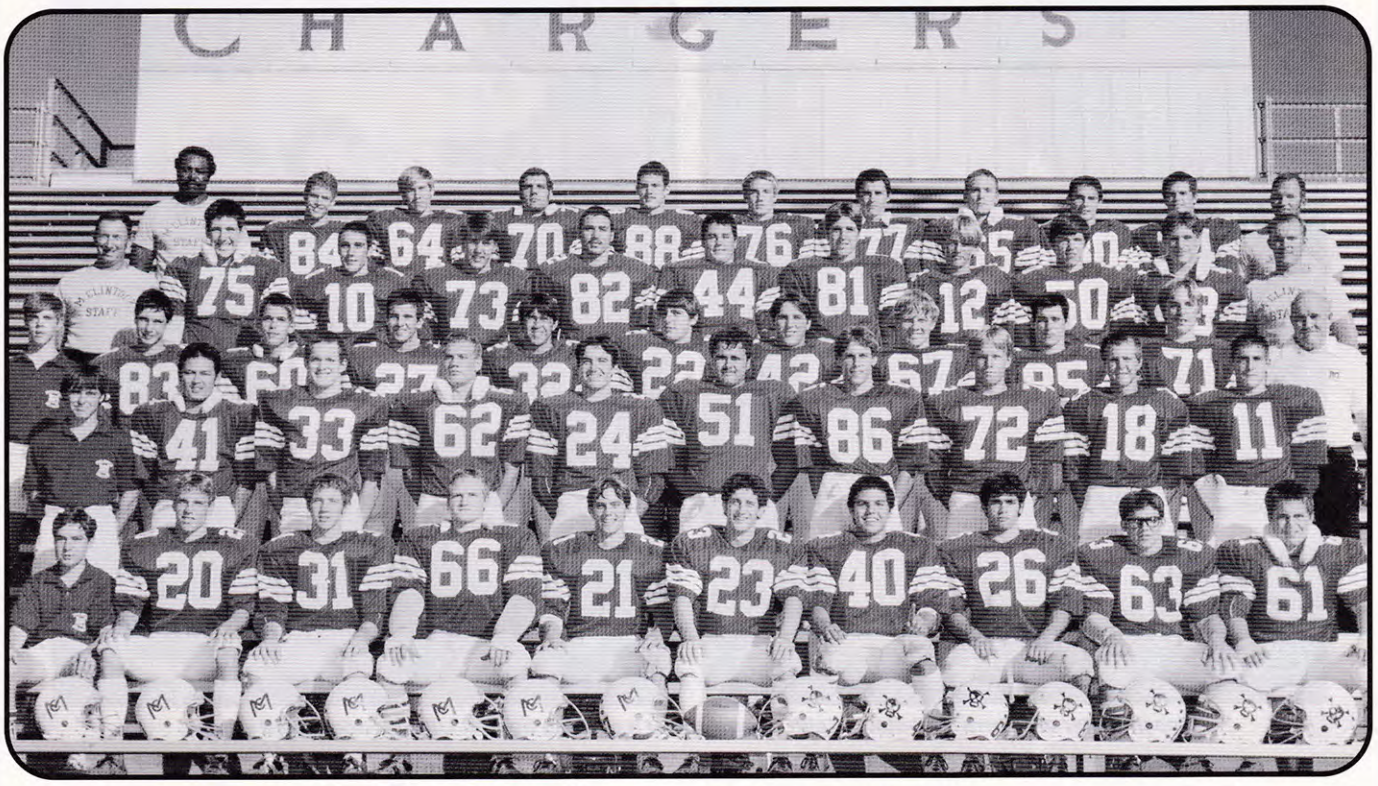
PATS (GAME)
11 .....Ed Brooks, Phoenix Union, 1914
10 .....Danny White, Westwood, 1969
10 .....Cleveland Colter, McClintock, 1985
10 .....Darin Madrigal, Mesa, 1993

PATS (SEASON)
70 .....Don Gallardo, Cactus, 1994 (jr)
69 .....Tony Camino, Peoria, 1987
66 .....Kyle Bell, McClintock, 1989
63 .....Frank Coen, McClintock, 1980
60 .....Steve Rausch, Dobson, 1987
60 .....Derek Lay, Maryvale, 1992 (jr)

PATS (CAREER)
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
119 .....Josh Lane, Phoenix Christian, "active"
115 .....Frank Coen, McClintock, 1979-80
115 .....Tony Camino, Peoria, 1985-87

What if?
What if you didn't have to worry about health care?
BlueCross BlueShield of Arizona
An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

McClintock High School



Saluting Our 1977 Class AAA State Champions!

Coach Karl Kiefer and assistants Dennis Johnson, Bill Crofford and Chuck McLeod guided the Chargers through a perfect 14-0 campaign!

Sponsored by The

McClintock
Football Club

McCLINTOCK HIGH SCHOOL
1830 E. Del Rio Drive, Tempe
(602) 839-4222

Dan Serrano, Athletic Director
Dennis Johnson, Football Coach

1977 RESULTS

CHARGERS 27	Tempe Union 0
CHARGERS 7	Mesa 0
CHARGERS 30	Scottsdale Saguaro 6
CHARGERS 28	Scottsdale Coronado 7
CHARGERS 10	Scottsdale 7
CHARGERS 43	Tempe Marcos de Niza 13
CHARGERS 45	Yuma Kofa 0
CHARGERS 56	Scottsdale Chaparral 0
CHARGERS 35	Mesa Westwood 2
CHARGERS 16	Chandler 14
CHARGERS 10	Casa Grande 7
CHARGERS 24	Phoenix St. Mary's 7
CHARGERS 7	Phoenix Maryvale 0
CHARGERS 14	Phoenix Washington 9

SALUTING ARIZONA'S WINNINGEST COACH
AND THE 1997 PLAYOFF-BOUND PRIDE!





Coach Kiefer and former all-stater Keith Brown, today a running back at UCLA (Todd Lillard photo).

Mountain Pointe's Karl Kiefer

THE ACTIVE LEADERS

256 ..Karl Kiefer, Mountain Pointe.....256-94-3
237 ..Vern Friedli, Tucson Amphi.....237-90-2
180 ..Pat Farrell, St. Mary's 180-52-2
178 ..Bill Mitton, Trevor Browne 178-102-2
180 ..Bernon Benson, Valley Christian 180-133-6
153 ..Jeff Scurran, Tucson Sabino 153-49-1
148 ..Mont Griffiths, Fredonia.....148-90-4
136 ..Joe Corte, Coronado 136-94-3
133 ..Tom Wheatley, North Canyon 133-70-3
123 ..Mike Clark, Dobson.....123-89-3

Records Are Prior to the 1997 Season

Sponsored by the Mountain Pointe High Football Booster Club

"We Salute Coach Kiefer and the Pride!"

FROM THE PUBLISHER

The Pointe's Pennsylvania Trip Old News



The criticism surrounding the announcement that **Tempe Mountain Pointe** will open its season August 29 against **Wilson High** in West Lawn, Pa., has gone from comical to ridiculous. But such is the case today, where - in some school districts - athletics are considered the evil Darth Vadar of the high school curriculum.

Unknown to most critics, and, unfortunately many sports writers, there have been hundreds of games played by Phoenix metropolitan schools against teams from outside the Grand Canyon State.

Between 1916 and 1969, the state's "Big Five," **Phoenix Union**, **Mesa**, **St. Mary's**, **Phoenix North** and **Tucson**, played 258 games against teams from Nebraska, Texas, California, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, Nevada and Mexico City, winning 60% of the time.

But when Mountain Pointe Principal Harold Slemmer, at the encouragement of head coach Karl Kiefer, arranges a home-and-away contest with his brother's school in Pa. (Slemmer's brother Gerald is the WHS head coach), you'd think the school system had lost its mind.

Forget the fact that hundreds of Arizona high school bands have marched across out-of-state soil, from Washington, D.C., to Miami, to Pasadena, and sometimes missed class doing so. "It's ridiculous to send a football team across the country to play a high school game," say critics. "Who's going to pay for this, the tax payers?"

Somebody actually asked that question.

Never mind the fact that the Pride's progressive booster club, which annually sells over $25,000 in advertising for its 116-page souvenir game program, has helped pick up the tab. Or that stops at historic **Gettysburg** are on the agenda. Or that **Wilson High** will return the favor next year.

In fact, as recent as 1995, one Arizona school, **Tucson Sabino**, traveled farther, when the Sabercats journeyed to Connecticut, and beat **New Canaan**, 28-21. Based on mileage, here are several of the more historic games played between Arizona schools on out-of-state soil:

In 1938, **Port Arthur, Texas**, one of the Lone Star State's all-time winningest programs, beat **Mesa High** 28-21, down by the Gulf. Three years later the Yellowjackets beat Mesa again, 13-6, also in Texas.

In 1949, **St. Mary's** hit the road, beating **Mexico City** 34-6 at the Olympic Stadium. Five years ago **Sabino** beat **Waianae** 31-12 in Hawaii, the same year national power **Honolulu St. Louis** beat **Mesa Mountain View**, 21-7. Last year **Sabino** beat **Chillicothe, Ohio** 49-12 in Ohio.

Today, horses train at **Turf Paradise** on better facilities and run on better tracks than many high school athletes in several of the school districts in Maricopa County. School districts which have scaled back athletic funding, dropped lower level programs, and often have head coaches who don't even teach on campus.

Tempe isn't one of them.

BARRY SOLLENBERGER

The Dirty Drummer

HOME OF THE UNBEATABLE BURGER & BIG SCREEN TELEVISION

2303 N. 44th St.
Phoenix
840-2726

1211N. Country Club
Mesa
834-6371

2747 W. Southern
Tempe
438-1627

3002 N. Arizona Ave.
Chandler
926-2843

SPORTS QUIZ

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW FOOTBALL ...

1) South Mountain High of Phoenix has sent more than its share of players into the pro ranks. One is in the photo at right. Who is this former Phoenix schoolboy star who became an all-pro with the Minnesota Vikings?



Who is this former Minnesota Viking, an all-pro receiver and a former Phoenix South Mountain alum?

2) Every one of these former Arizona schoolboy stars played for the Green Bay Packers except :

a) Gordon Rule, Chandler
b) Bill Lueck, Agua Fria
c) Fred Carr, Phoenix Union
d) Preston Dennard, Marcos de Niza
e) Vance Johnson, Tucson Cholla

3) Since this school now plays in the Arizona Class 5A ranks, it has a chance to win a state football championship in every classification, since it has already won titles in 1A thru 4A:

a) Paradise Valley
b) Tolleson Westview
c) Gilbert
d) Kingman
e) Casa Grande

4) Since 1992, this Arizona high school has played games against schools from Hawaii, Utah, California, Connecticut and Ohio:

a) Tucson Amphitheater
b) Yuma Cibola
c) Tucson Sabino
d) Tucson Sahuaro
e) Mesa Mountain View

5) In this century, at least one national publication or organization has selected each of these Arizona schoolboy stars as the "National High School Player of the Year" except:

a) Conrad Flippen, Phoenix Union
b) Wilford "Whizzer" White, Mesa
c) Darnell Autry, Tempe
d) Andy Livingston, Mesa

6) Every one of the following "closed" Arizona high schools is matched with its proper mascot except which one?

a) Phoenix Tech Hornets
b) Jerome Muckers
c) Phoenix Union Wolves
d) West Phoenix Thunderbirds
e) Scottsdale Beavers
f) Phoenix Indian Braves

ANSWERS

1) Steve Jordan.
2) Vance Johnson. 3) Gilbert.
4) Tucson Sabino. 5) Darnell Autry. 6) Phoenix Union Coyotes,

We're Worth Our Salt ...

And A Whole Lot More

The Freshest Seafood In Town

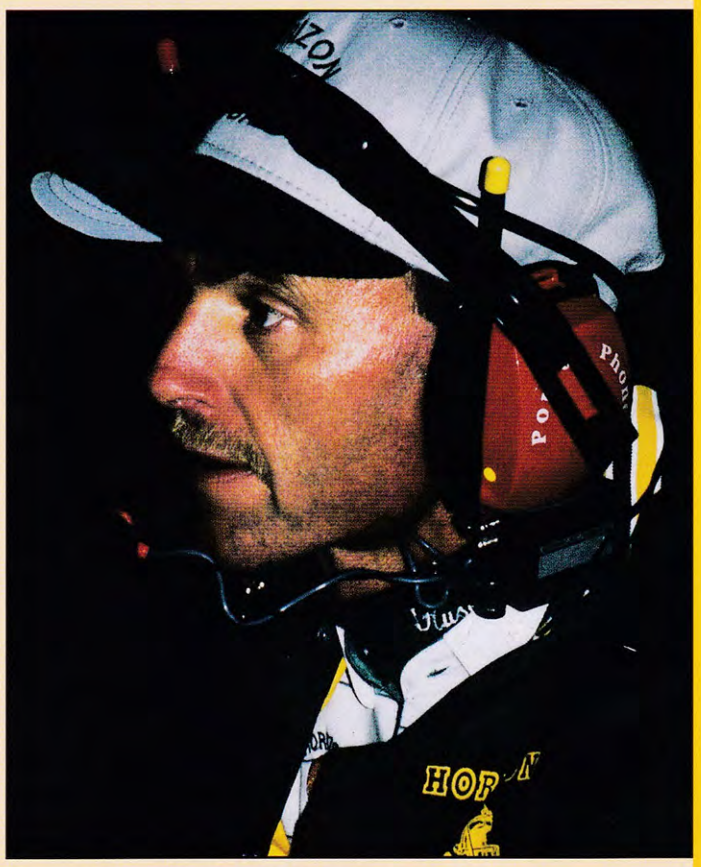
THE SALT CELLAR RESTAURANT

550 North Hayden, Scottsdale
(602) 947-1963

Arizona Coach of the Year

Sponsored by Associated Professional Investments

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
1967.....Ed Doherty, Phoenix St. Mary's
1966.....Lonnie Foster, Eloy Santa Cruz
1965 .....John Mallamo, Tucson



Coach Doug Shaffer, Scottsdale Horizon.

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
1957 .....Vern Braasch, Phoenix West
1956 .....John Zucco, Tempe

API

ASSOC. PROFESIONAL INVESTMENTS

A Registered Broker / Dealer Member, NASD & SiPC
Securities offered through Royal Alliance Associates, Inc.
20 South Power Road, Mesa, 85206, Phone (602) 981-0551

Registered Investment Advisor/Bill Bailey President

(Coaching Award selected annually by the editors of Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff Football Magazines)

EXPERIENCE

IT'S WHAT



Bruce Cooper Mark Lewis Bill Denney Mark Curtis

MAKES

12 NEWS...

12 NEWS

ARIZONA'S NEWS STATION