

NEWS RELEASE

IKON TO BE PRESENTING SPONSOR TICKETS ON SALE NOW

PHOENIX, AZ (August 8, 2008) – The Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) is pleased to announce that IKON Office Solutions will be the presenting sponsor of the 2008 Sollenberger Classic

The Sollenberger Classic presented by IKON will be held at University of Phoenix Stadium on Saturday, August 23 at 7 p.m. The Sollenberger Classic will feature the AIA's Class 5A Division I defending state champion Phoenix Brophy College Preparatory, and the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association's (NIAA) Class 4A defending state champion Las Vegas Bishop Gorman High School.

Tickets on Sale Now

Tickets for the 2008 Sollenberger Classic presented by IKON are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased at the AIA (cash only basis), the University of Phoenix Stadium Box Office and online at <u>www.ticketmaster.com</u>.

Tickets for the Sollenberger Classic are \$10.00 for adults and students, \$5.00 for children age 6 to 14, and children 5 and younger will be admitted free. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the AIA Scholarship Fund in honor of Barry Sollenberger and the AIA Academy Foundation's educational outreach initiatives.

Ticket Locations

Cash Only **Arizona Interscholastic Association** 7007 N. 18th St. Phoenix, AZ 85020 Credit Card and Cash University of Phoenix Stadium 1 Cardinals Drive Glendale, AZ 85305

Ticketmaster.com

http://www.ticketmaster.com/event/1E004101BD6C4ADA?artistid=1244143&majorcatid=10004&minorcatid=8

Tailgate Party at Westgate

Beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 23, 2008, the AIA will host a tailgate party to kickoff the 2008 sports season as part of the Sollenberger Classic.

In addition to the tailgate party, all AIA member high school football teams and their coaches are invited to attend the game and will be admitted free. Team members will be required to wear their game jersey and coaches will be required to wear their team shirts to gain free admission. Schools wanting to attend both events with their football team must RSVP to the AIA no later than Friday, August 15. For more information, please contact the AIA at 602.385.3810.

The Competitors

Representing Arizona the Brophy College Prep Broncos, coached by Scooter Molander, won its second championship in three years by defeating Tempe Desert Vista 34-21 on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2007 at University of Phoenix Stadium. The Broncos finished the 2007 campaign with 12 wins

and two losses. Brophy College Prep's first championship was celebrated on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005 when they upset No. 1 Chandler Hamilton 15-14.

Representing Nevada and led by Head Coach Bob Altshuler, Bishop Gorman won the NIAA Class 4A championship defeating Reno McQueen 38-17 on Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007 at Sam Boyd Stadium on the campus of UNLV. Bishop Gorman, nicknamed the Gaels, finished the 2007 season with an unblemished record at 14 wins and zero losses. Class 4A is the NIAA's highest classification.

Save the Date - Press Conference

The AIA will hold a press conference on Friday, August 22 at University of Phoenix Stadium with representation from both participating schools in the Sollenberger Classic presented by IKON. The press conference will take place at 10 a.m. sharp in the Arizona Cardinals Press Conference Room. More information will be sent out to the media in the coming week.

Sollenberger Classic History

The Sollenberger Classic presented by IKON honors the late Barry Sollenberger, a former AIA employee. As a sports historian, Sollenberger was devoted to the task of documenting the achievements of high school athletes in the state of Arizona. His passion for this task was evident by his award winning high school sports magazine, including the 35th Annual Edition of the 2005 Phoenix Metro Football Magazine, and the voluminous archives stored at the AIA office.

The first game honoring Barry was held at Sun Devil Stadium on the campus of Arizona State University. Hamilton, the 2005 AIA 5A Division I state runner-ups, defeated Mesa Red Mountain 21-7 on Friday, August 25, 2006.

In its second year, the Brophy Prep Broncos hosted Tucson Salpointe Catholic at Phoenix College on Thursday, August 23, 2007. The Broncos defeated Salpointe Catholic 33-17 to take hold of the Sollenberger Classic Trophy.

In its first two years the Sollenberger Classic champion went on to win their respective state championship. Hamilton defeated Mesa Mountain View 34-15 on Saturday, Dec. 9, 2006 to claim the 5A Division I championship, also at University of Phoenix Stadium.

About IKON Office Solutions

IKON Office Solutions is the world's largest independent channel for document management systems and services, enabling customers worldwide to improve document workflow and increase efficiency. IKON Office Solutions is online at: <u>www.ikon.com</u>

Media Contact: Brian Bolitho; AIA Director of Media Marketing; <u>bbolitho@aiaonline.org</u>; 602-385-3822