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Welcome to the State Championships



On behalf of the Arizona Interscholastic Association, I would like to welcome all the participants, coaches, family and friends to our state championship. It is our pleasure to be able to bring you a fantastic event.

It took a great deal of hard work to reach this point. The AIA recognizes the strength it took to get here, as well as the sacrifices made along the way. And for that, we say thank you. The student-athletes, administrators, coaches and families have all earned our gratitude.

While attending this championship, we hope that it is an enjoyable experience for all. The lessons learned regarding sportsmanship and fair play are elevated here. Athletics are an extension of the classroom, which is why we accentuate

the "student" in student-athlete. State championships are just a springboard to the success these student-athletes will achieve when the competition is over. In the process of deriving enjoyment from participation in athletics, our student-athletes are learning lifelong skills that will help them develop into healthy adults and productive citizens. National research continues to validate that students involved in extracurricular activities attend more days of school, perform better in the classroom and have less behavioral issues. This also includes lower dropout, alcohol and drug abuse rates as compared to those who do not participate. The benefits of participation are extensive.

The AIA began in 1913 and has grown by leaps and bounds over the years. Along with the Executive Board, the AIA vigorously defends and promotes the positive developments of athletics, creates a culture that fosters self-governance and ethical behavior, and teaches, enforces, advocates and models the principles of the Arizona Accord and "Pursuing Victory With Honor." Today, nearly 125,000 student-athletes statewide benefit from the leadership of our Board, administrators and hard-working coaches on an annual basis.

As you enjoy all the championship contests, please show respect to those around you. Displays of good sportsmanship will place you in high regard along with your school and your community, and remind us all that, sports are meant to be fun and enjoyed by not only those participating, but those in attendance. The AIA hopes this championship, as well as any others you may attend, achieves the level of excellence our student-athletes deserve. Remember that these are "our students, our teams ... our future."

DAVID HINES

AIA Executive Director

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Liberty

Marcos de Niza Maricopa Marvvale McClintock Mesa

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2 Alchesay 3 Antelope

Ash Fork Baboquivari Bagdad

8 Benson 9 Bisbee Blue Ridge 10

11 **Bowie**

Bradshaw Mountain

Buena 14 Camp Verde 15 Casa Grande 16 Chinle 17 Chino Valley

18 Cibecue 20 Coolidge

21 Douglas Duncan El Capitan

96 East Fork Lutheran

24 Florence 25 Fort Thomas Fredonia 26 Ganado 27 29 Globe

Grand Canyon 31 **Greyhills Academy**

32 Havden

33 Holbrook

Holbrook Indian School 97

34 Hopi 35

Joseph City Kingman 36

Kingman Academy 37 Lake Havasu

88 Lee Williams 38 Lourdes Catholic

39 Many Farms 40 Mayer

41 Miami Minaus 42

Mingus Mountain Academy

43 Mogollon 44 Mohave

49 Mohave Accelerated

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46 Morenci 48 Nogales 50 Page 51 Parker 52 Patagonia

53 Payson Pima 54 Piñon 55 56 Prescott

57 Rav Red Mesa 58 47 Red Valley-Cove

59 Rio Rico River Valley 60 Rock Point 61 62 Rough Rock

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69 San Simon 70 Santa Cruz

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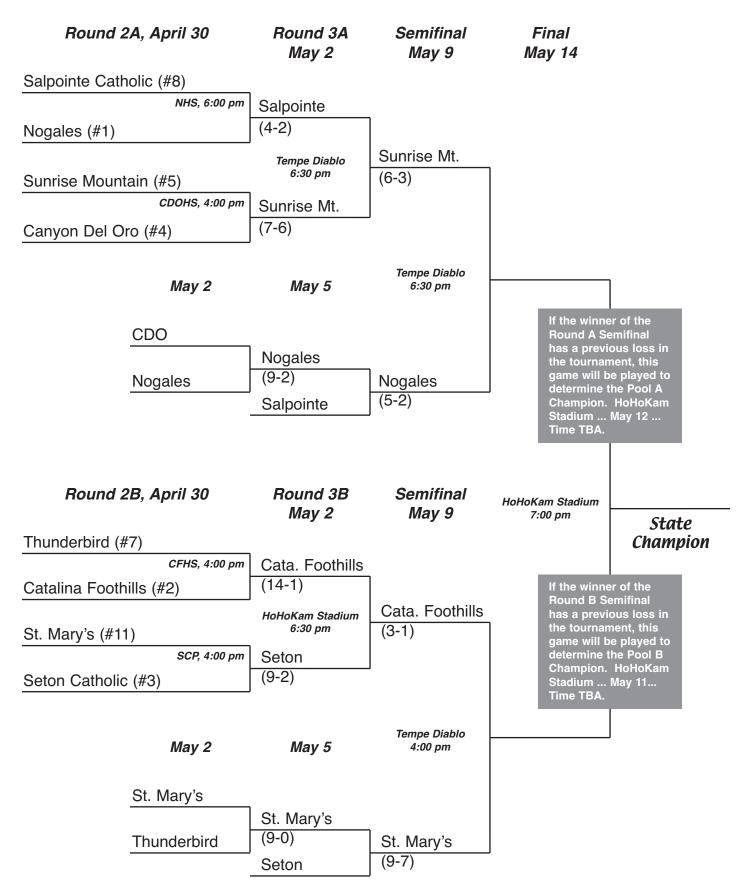
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4A BB State Championship Bracket





Plenty of Big Story Lines With Semifinalists



Catalina Foothills' Chris Kowalcek (photo by Chris Hook of maxpreps.com)

By Jose Garcia azpreps365.com

There are plenty of important storylines to follow heading into the 4A Conference baseball semifinals.

We'll begin with the defending champ and No. 1 seed, Nogales, which isn't playing just for itself. The day before its first playoff game, Nogales lost one of its biggest fans, Nogales police officer Jesus Cordova.

Cordova was shot and killed by a carjacker, leaving behind three children and Cordova's pregnant wife. Nogales is dedicating its playoff run to Cordova and his family.

Cordova would at times stop by Nogales' games while on duty, according to the tucson.com. Nogales has to defeat Sunrise Mountain twice in the semifinals to get to the 4A final for the second straight year.

Sunrise Mountain coach Eric Gardner is in his 21st

season and back in a familiar spot. This is his fifth time in the semifinals with Sunrise Mountain, which is 0-3 in championship games.

Also seeking their first championship are semifinal opponents St. Mary's and Nogales' Kino Region mate, Catalina Foothills.

Catalina Foothills just needs one more win to earn the program's third title game appearance. St. Mary's has produced its share of Major League players but has never reached a final.

The school opened its doors in 1917.

4A SEMIFINAL PREVIEW GAMES AT TEMPE DIABLO STADIUM MAY 9

No. 5 Sunrise Mountain (27-3) vs. No. 1 Nogales (27-5), 4 p.m.: "This year's (Sunrise Mountain) team plays with a lot of energy every day," Gardner said.

"We have had very consistent pitching throughout the year with a team ERA below two (1.36). I think we have one of the more complete and balanced teams, offensively and defensively, in years." Contributing heavily at the plate and in the field is UNLV-signee Troy Balko. The senior has allowed three earned runs in a game only once this year and is 8-0 on the mound. Of the Sunrise Mountain players who have played 25 or more games, Balko's .430 batting average ranks third. The other senior leader on the team is INF Tyler Pruitt, whose fraternal twin brother, Trevor (.408 ave.), is also on the team. Their mom, Jody, is Sunrise Mountain's softball coach. Tyler is batting .465, the highest average among the regular starters. Tyler also leads the team with 35 stolen bases. Sr. EJ Sua was leading the team with 26 RBIs.

Nogales avenged its only loss -4-2 to Salpointe - of the postseason with the help of German Fajardo. The 8-1 pitcher struck out eight in six inning in his team's 5-2 win over Salpointe, which Nogales defeated three times this season, to advance to play Sunrise Mountain. Nogales is loaded with pitching depth. The staff's ERA was 2.03 after 203 1/3 innings. If ace Fajardo doesn't pitch, there's still So. Gerardo Martinez (6-0, 2.16 ERA), Sr. Markie Lopez (5-1, 1.83 ERA, New Mexico St.) and Sr. Alex Acevedo (4-1, 2.45 ERA). Jr. Ricky Maytorena has walked 23 times. Jr. Mario Duarte's fielding percentage is .974 after 190 total chances. Sr. Kevin Jimenez (.452 ave, team high 21 stoles bases in 31 attempts), Jr. Jorge Bojorquez (.410), Sr. Kenneth Jimenez (.444 ave., 38 RBI's) and Jr. Luis Rodriguez (.412) are the team's .400-plus batting average hitters. Sr. Marcel Bacehelier was second on the team with 35 RBI's. Jiminez (New Mexico State) and Bacehelier (University of Arizona) are the captains. "The team has had a successful season because players worked hard in the off season to prepare for the long season," 14-year coach Oscar Favela said. "We have a solid lineup that can get on base and bring runs in from top to bottom. The pitchers have done a great job of throwing strikes and have avoided giving up the big innings. We are five deep on the mound, which has made the many three-game weeks easier to manage. The team has a great chemistry and really play hard for each other." The team also sports a cumulative 3.88 GPA and 10 of the 18 have 4.0 or above GPAs. Sr. OF/INF Diego Favela has accepted a United States Air Force Academy appointment.

No. 11 St. Mary's (21-11) vs. No. 2 Catalina Foothills (23-7) 6:30 p.m.: Catalina Foothills was 12-14 last year (Only the second losing season in its past 14

years). "The senior class has been the most enjoyable group of kids I have ever coached," said sixth-year Catalina Foothills coach Jim Baldwin. "They define what a team is about." The overall team leader is Sr. OF Chris Kowalcek (.409 ave.). Sr. C/OF/P Dante Deniro, the best catcher in the state, according to Baldwin, is also a closer and "best pure clutch hitter on the team." Sr. P/INF Cole Altherr (5-0, 2.87 ERA) is the team's big-game pitcher. He is 2-0 with 12 strikeouts and two earned runs in 10 innings in the playoffs. P/DH Will Saul (5-1, 2.35 ERA) "has pitched solid all year long." RF Matt Cullen is the team's most improved player. "All of these guys have stepped up for us in the playoffs," Baldwin said. The team's GPA is 3.51. Five players have stolen at least 12 bases or more this season. Catalina Foothills has outscored its playoff opponents 20-4.

St. Mary's: Sr. P/INF Thaddeus Tanner is 9 for 17 in the playoffs. St. Mary's dresses 11 seniors and seven returners from last year's team. "This group plays well together and is very tight," St. Mary's coach Joseph Ponce said. "Also, we do a lot of work in-season and out of season in the weight room, which I believe has made an impact. Lastly, we play in a lot of fall and winter tournaments to prepare ourselves for our seasons." The last time St. Mary's was in the playoffs was in 2012. The program was 5-22-1 two years ago and 11-11 last year. From 2014-16, Ponce, originally from Fresno, was an assistant varsity baseball and football coach at Deer Valley High. St. Mary's batting average (.313) and ERA (3.64) aren't that impressive, but the team continues to find ways to win in the playoffs. "I will tell you it's been a different guy each game," Ponce said. "We've had five playoffs games, and it seems like we've had a different two guys step up every game. "I love my kids, and I think we have overachieved in some situations." Sr. Joey Zubio has pitched, caught and played first base in the last four games. Jr. Carlos Jasso has also come up big in key situations during the playoffs. Six of Ponce's assistants in the program are St. Mary's alums, including pitching coach Michael Nunez and catcher coach Cody Berumen.



4A Baseball State Semifinalists

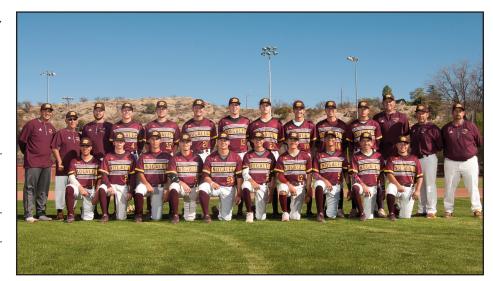
Catalina Foothills Falcons



No. Player/Pos.	Yr.
1Logan Sanders, OF/SS	Jr.
2Chris Kowalcek, OF	Sr.
3Joel Collier, C/P	
4Matthew Cullen, OF	
5Alec Larson, IF	Jr.
6Chet Dwyer, OF	
7Noah Cullen, 2B	Sr.
8Christian Rodriguez, 1B/P	So
10Will Saul, P/OF	Sr.
11Sam Gustafson, IF	Jr.
13Cole Altherr, P/3B	
16Jack Reynolds	
18Logan Buick	
19Daniel Enriquez, P	Jr.
22Tyler Thomas, P/3B	Sr.
23Will Parker, P/OF	So
24Dante DeNiro, C/OF	Sr.
27Patrick McMahon, P	Jr.
28Noah Rojas, P	Jr.
31Gabe Soto	
32Chase Goorman, 1B/C	So
33Ruben Enriquez	
35Tate Jernigan, OF	Sr.

Nogales Apaches

No. Player/Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
1Diego Favela, OF/IF	5-10	Sr.
2German Fajardo, P/C	6-0	Jr.
3Ricky Maytorena, OF/IF	5-8	Jr.
4Marcel Bachelier, OF/P		
5Kevin Jimenez, IF		
7Alex Ramos, C/OF		
8Mario Duarte, C		
9Brayan Espinoza, IF		
9Aaron Solis, P/OF		
10Jorge Bojorquez, IF		
11Fernie Rodriguez, IF/OF		
12Jesus Lopez, IF		
13Gerardo Martinez, P		
14Alec Acevedo, IF/P		
15Kenneth Jimenez, IF/C		
16Miguel Vega, P/IF		
21Danny Moreno, IF		
23Matt Bachelier, P/IF		
25Luis Rodriguez, OF		
31Mikey Gerardo, OF/P		
33Sammy Legleu, IF/OF		
55Markie Lopez, P		





4A Baseball State Semifinalists

St. Mary's Knights



No. Player/Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
1Thaddeus Tanner, IF	5-10	Sr.
2Jose Olivas, CF/P		
3Dominik Zubia, OF		
4Gino Caperon, CF/2B		
6Joey Zubia, C/P		
7Alex Smith-Amaya, P/3B		
8Adam Baratta, OF		
9Josh Avila, RF/1B		
10Andrew Suarez, 3B/LF		
12Carlos Jasso, C/P		
13Tony Hernandez, 2B		
15Frank Palacio, 1B/DH		
16Angel Montoya, P/1B	5-10	Sr.
18Chris Quick, IF		
19Ben Sanford, 3B/OF		
20Aidan Sanford, 3B/OF	5-10	Jr.
21Adrian Bustillos, P/3B		
22Antonio Flores, P/CF		
23Damon cacho, C/P		
24Matt Armendariz, P/SS		
25Matt Medina, P/2B		
26Jose Pacheco, P/1B		

Sunrise Mountain Mustangs

No. Flayer	11
2Andy Moreno	Fr.
3Jarrett Kellerhals	Jr.
4Joey Agate	Jr.
5Caden Albertson	
6Tyler Pruitt	Sr.
7Caleb Thomason	
8Jacob Stockton	So
9Carter Krosky	
10EJ Sua	
11Trevor Pruitt	
12Troy Balko	
13Ethan Snodgrass	
16Tyler Davis	
17Garrett Moltz	
19Noah Thompson	
20Austin Thomason	
21Tanner Burton	So
23David Norman	
24Justin Welborn	Jr.
33Kai Hedrick	
44Troy Rasmussen	
55Alec Myers	
J	

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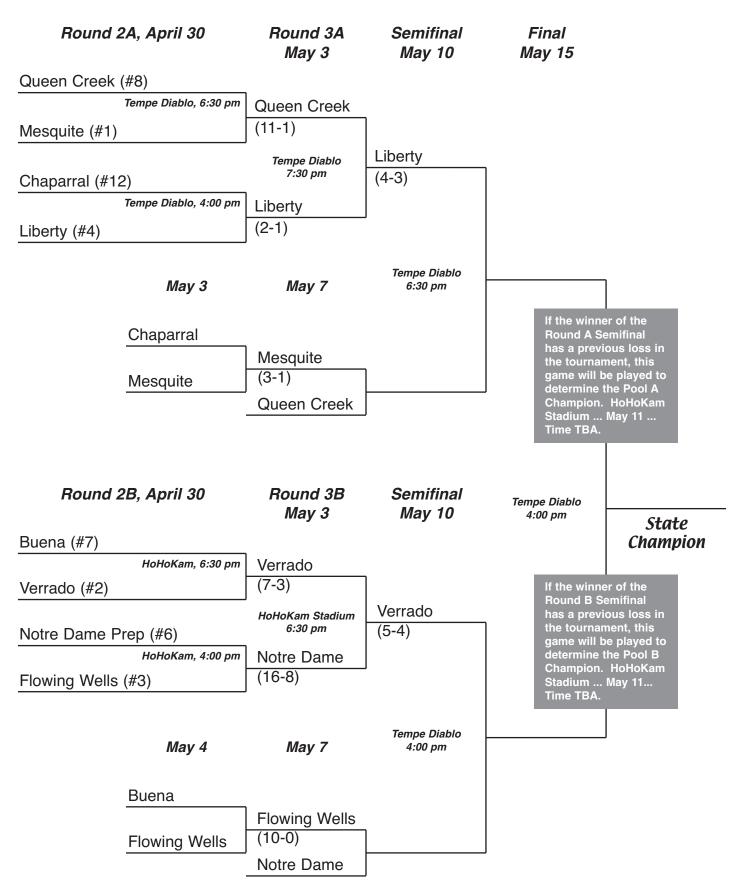
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5A BB State Championship Bracket



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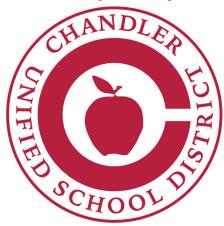
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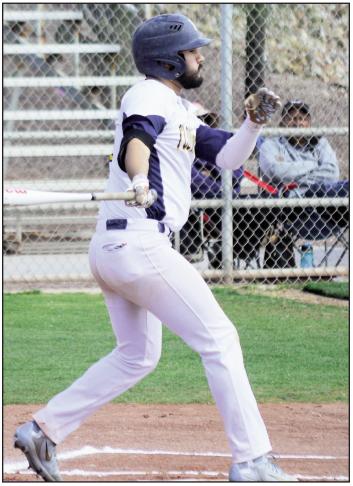
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5A Baseball Semifinal Preview



Flowing Wells standout Juan Pablo Ruedaflores (photo by Andy Morales of azpreps365.com)

By Andy Morales azpreps365.com

Unlike the 5A softball playoffs, the 5A baseball conference run to the semifinals has gone off almost as expected according to seeding. Top-seeded Mesquite is still alive in the elimination bracket, No. 2 Verrado is still undefeated, No. 3 Flowing Wells is still in action, No. 4 Liberty is winning and No. 6 Notre Dame Prep is still fighting. No. 8 Queen Creek is the only team to break into the third round after No. 5 Lake Havasu failed to advance past the first round. So here we are, with five of the top six teams holding firm.

Mesquite (27-5) came up one game short of the semifinal round last year and the Wildcats are right back in the same position with an elimination game scheduled against Queen Creek (21-8) in a winner-take-all shot at the semifinals against Liberty (21-8). The Wildcats run-ruled No. 16 Apollo 17-2 in the first round but Queen Creek returned the favor in the second round, sending Mesquite down to the elimination bracket with an 11-1 victory. The Wildcats will need to focus on revenge during the rematch.

Jeffrey Holland has been the only coach Mesquite has known since he took charge of the program in 1998. He led the

Wildcats to a state championship in 2015 and finished runner-up in 2008 and 2014 and he is knocking at the door of his eighth semifinal appearance.

"A huge reason why I think this year has been successful is being able to build off the success that the current juniors and seniors accomplished last year," Holland said. "Having last year under their belt and understanding how the game is played at the varsity level has been pivotal this year. Last year we lost many games by just one run, so I think that has helped prepared this year's team to play with a little pressure. It definitely has helped to understand what it takes to win a close ball game."

He lists Hunter Holland and Willie Cano as his team leaders. Senior David Watson is 7-1 from the circle as is Chase Webster. Cano has 34 RBI, 14 doubles, three triples and four home runs and Davis Heller has five home runs.

Verrado (26-4) lost in the first round last year as a No. 4 seed but the Vipers have made the best of their high seeding this year, knocking off No. 15 Ironwood Ridge 4-0, No. 7 Buena 7-3 and Notre Dame Prep 5-4 to advance to the semifinal round from Pool B.

Mike Ward is in his first year with the Vipers and he gives his senior class most of the credit for getting this far.

"We can attribute a big chunk of our success to the senior class we have," Ward explained. "We have a 10-player senior class this year. They have really led by example and bought into the changes made this year with the program and are playing well as a team, taking the season one game at a time."

Flowing Wells (19-9-1) is having one of the best seasons in school history and the Caballeros have had success mostly under the radar. Erick Estrella is one game away from the semifinals but he will have to get past Notre Dame Prep to get there. The Saints beat Flowing Wells 16-8 in the second round to send the Caballeros down to the elimination bracket.

Senior Juan Pablo Ruedaflores is batting .495 with 13 doubles, three triples and a pair of home runs and Caleb Raney, Noah Estrella and Simon Boggie have all won three games.

"We have had a great season this year due to these guys coming in as freshman, now seniors, wanting to make a difference and to help change the culture," Estrella said. "It was committing to off season workouts and summer/fall programs and plus they have great chemistry."

Liberty finished in the semifinal round last year as the top seed and the Lions are right back, knocking at the door again under second-year coach Christopher Raymond.

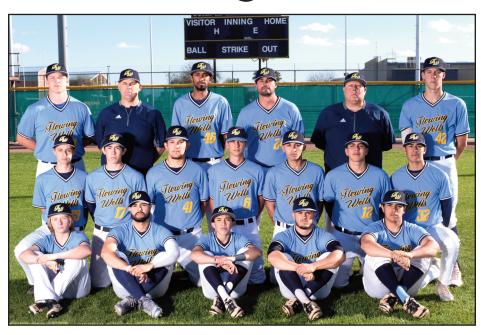
"Our players have worked hard on a daily basis to earn opportunities and are constantly competing within practice," Raymond said. "The players have matured significantly throughout the season. The players trust each other and respect the process that has been created.

Chandler Murphy (Arizona) and Isaiah Montoya (UNLV) are two of his standouts.

Queen Creek came up with the upset of the tournament by knocking off Mesquite and the Bulldogs will have to do it once more to advance under second-year coach Mikel Moreno. Moreno lists the lack of consistency and leadership as two of his obstacles this year but his coaching staff is leading his team by example.



Flowing Wells Caballeros



2Derek Villegas	Jr.
3Chad Deitering	Sr.
4Ruben Gamez	So
5Juan Pablo Ruedaflores	Sr.
6Noah Estrella	Sr.
7Elias Avenente	Sr.
12Andres Holguin	Sr.
17Jacob Armenta	Sr.
19Cory Vanderkolk	Sr.
20Zack Fitzgerald	
21Caleb Raney	
25Elian Quintana	
27Shelby Sanders	So
28Ernie Armenta	
30Louie Padilla	So
41Simon Boggie	
42 Brock Barkhurst	

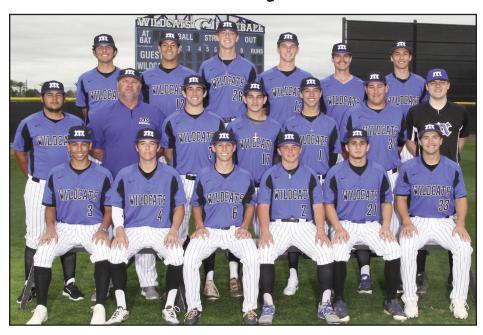
Liberty Lions

No. Player/Pos.	Ht.	Yı
1Mitchell Schooler, P	6-1	So
2Jake Kelley, 3B/OF	6-0	Sr
3Dallin Montez, SS	5-9	Sr
4Davidson Tyler, P		
5Isaiah Montoya, 1B/P	6-0	Sr
6Jeremy Davidson, SS/C		
7Kyle Roop, P		
8J.D. Wadleigh, OF/P		
9Paul Kelley, IF		
10Kai Tuita, OF		
11Kyle Owens, 2B		
12Cameron Bracke, 3B/P		
13Hunter Cobasky, 2B		
14Trevor Felan, OF/P		
15Aaron Limon, SS/P		
16Tyler Durelle, 1B/OF		
17Brady Welch, C		
18Luke Pauga, IF		
19Kyle Lewis, C/1B		
21Jace Johnson, 2B/OF		
22Chandler Murphy, P/1B		
23Christian Contreras, OF		
24Noah Ackman, IF		
25Alex Yamauchi, IF		





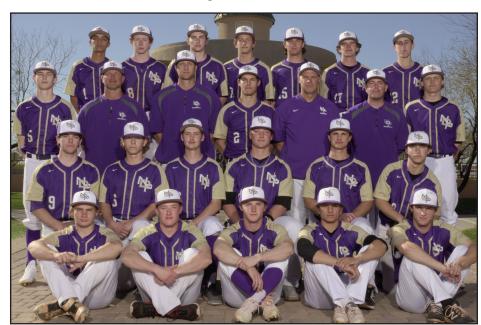
Mesquite Wildcats



No. Player/Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
1Hunter Holland, P/DH	6-2	Sr.
2Grant Gorrell, IF	5-9	Jr.
3Clay Thompson, P/OF		
4Holden Breeze, 3B/P	5-10	Jr.
5Willie Cano, SS/OF	6-2	Sr.
6Travis Warren, UT	5-9	Sr.
7Jacob Henderson, OF/P	6-1	Jr.
11Cayden Rana, P/OF	6-1	Jr.
12Chase Webster, P/DH		
13TJ Clarkson, 1B/P	6-4	Jr.
14David Exline, OF	6-3	Sr.
17Daniel Johnson, C	6-0	Jr.
20Kai Taylor		
21Jayden Orozco, OF/3B		
22David Watson, OF/P		
23Holden Owen		
26Davis Heller, P/1B		
33Cole Westerlund, DH/C		-

Notre Dame Prep Saints

1Ben Nemivant, OF/1B 2Joseph Terlizzi, C	6-1	
2 Joseph Terlizzi C	6-1	0
ZJO3CPII ICIIIZZI, C		5r.
3Tyler Cranston, CF	5-9	Sr.
4Tag Bross, OF	5-11	So
5Alex Nyberg, OF	6-1	Sr.
6Jared Farquhar, 2B/P	5-11	Sr.
7Cole Schipansky, OF		
8Mason Stuart, 2B/OF	5-11	Jr.
9Andrew Pierce, P		
10Griffen Chewing, IF	5-10	So
11Blaze Borowski, 3B		
12Paul Marsillo, IF		
13John Byrne, LF		
15Zach Zdimal, P/3B		
16Jacob Emerson, P		
17Tommy Roskos, 1B	6-0	Sr.
18Connor Markl, P		
19Taylor Cipriano, P		
20Spencer Taylor, P/3B	6-1	Sr.
21Clayton Osmussen, C/3B.		
22Jarrett Pille, OF/P	6-3	…Jr.
23Elmer Dessens, P	6-0	So
24James Rosenhagen, 1B		
25Michael Piazza, P		
28Jackson Stuart, OF		





Queen Creek Bulldogs



No. Player/Pos.	Yr.
1Kevon Jackson, OF	Sr.
2Stetson Denning, IF	Sr.
3Brendon Rogers, UT	
4Nomar Bustamonte	
5Brendon Blakeman, IF	
6Spencer Lynn, IF/P	
8Bryce Sisk, P	
9Ryan Dobbs, OF	
11Jacob Alexander, IF	
12Colton Cassinelli, C/UT	
13Carson Bemridge, OF	
15Trey Reynolds, 2B/UT	
20Mikel Rameriz, P	
21Danny Marshall, LF/1B	
22Jacob Berry, IF	
23Donovan Lopez, 1B/P	
25Gabe Heitz, C/OF	
32Kyle Alexander, OF/IF	
33Carter Schmitt, P	Sr.
Jake Tyler, OF/IF	

Verrado Vipers

No. Player/Pos.	Yr
1Easton Babe, LF/IF	Sr.
2Brady Bulger, IF	
3Chad Berger, IF	
4Breckyn Montano, RF/P	Sr.
5Tyler Shelton, C/1B	Sr.
6Bryan McKinsey, P	Jr.
7Jake Occhipinti, P	
8Rocky King, RF/1B	
10Cole Bornfleth, P/3B	
11Tanner Spallina, C	
12Andrew Coleman, IF	
13Marcus Rivera, OF	
14Dominick Cassell	So
15Colten Keith, 3B/P	So
16Kyle Wellman, P	Sr.
17Cameron Hodd	
17Calvin Solie	So
18Hayden Brown, CF/P	Sr.
19Dominic Demarbiex, 1B/DH	
20Jake King	
21Gillis Champagne	
21 Noah Olson, P/OF	



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Mt. Ridge, SD O'Connor Sitting Pretty in Semis

By Les Willsey azpreps365.com

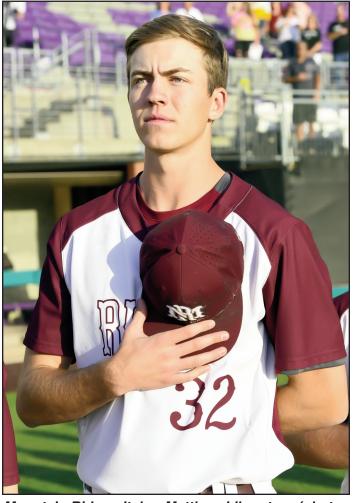
The 6A Desert Valley Region was a tight race to the finish. So tight in fact that Mountain Ridge and Sandra Day O'Connor finished with identical records in region (8-2) vs. conference opponents (13-5) and overall (13-5) in their 18 power-ranking games. The only thing separating them was their final power ranking -- #5 for Mountain Ridge and #7 for Sandra Day O'Connor.

Well, as the 6A state tournament whittles the competitors down, both are on equal footing heading to the final week of the season. Mountain Ridge is in the semis of the top bracket and unbeaten in the tourney. Ditto Sandra Day O'Connor in the bottom half. Mountain Ridge has defeated Perrry, Red Mountain and Hamilton. O'Connor has topped Desert Vista, Westwood and Skyline.

The other four remaining teams are #1 Mountain View, Hamilton, #11 Skyline and #14 Brophy Prep. On Tuesday May 8 Hamilton and Mountain View meet for the second time in the tourney for the right to play and beat twice, Mountain Ridge to reach the final. Also on Tuesday May 8 Skyline and Brophy meet a second time to get a shot or two at Sandra Day O'Connor.

Here's a brief look at the six teams remaining in the title chase:

#1 Mountain View: The Toros and head coach Mike Thiel (21st year as head coach) garnered the top seed for the second time in 10 years. The last time that happened Mountain View reached the final six. That's been their best finish since. Mountain View is the last Mesa school to win a state title and that was in Thiel's first year as head coach in 1998. A roster of 10 seniors and 10 juniors have produced a bounce-back campaign from last year's 13-15 record. The Toros did not qualify for postseason in 2017. They are balanced with three capable starters, three relievers and an offense with five players contributing 20 RBI or more. Leaders are senior Joe Georgini, a three-year starter (third base and closer



Mountain Ridge pitcher Matthew Liberatore (photo by xxx of maxpreps.com)

this year). Senior John Neeley leads the pitching staff and thrives on getting the ball for big games. Catcher Brandon Todd has embodied the leadership at the position that every coach desires, according to Thiel. Junior Sean Rimmer (outfielder-pitcher), junior McKay Barney (centerfield) and Georgini have been on each of the last three varsity teams. Mountain View, however, lost in the first round of double elimination to Hamilton, but stayed alive by beating and eliminating Brown road-rival Red Mountain on May 4.

#5 Mountain Ridge: The Mountain Lionsobviously have made waves under first-year head coach Artie Cox after he served four years as the team's pitching coach. Pitching is a forte and has been all year led by superb left-hander Matthew Liberatore, a projected first-round, major league pick by many in June. Picking up as a quality No. 2 is transfer Jake Martinez, who has been solid especially the second half of the season. He tossed a one-hitter in blanking Red Mountain to open the double-elimination portion of state. Along with pitching, Cox praises the defense and continued improvement offensively. Mountain Ridge was knocked out last year in two games of double elimination after taking runner-up honors in 2016 and taking third in 2015.

#7 Sandra Day O'Connor: Coach Jeff Baumgartner has manned the deck for 16 seasons. The Eagles have come around of late so much so they battled Mountain Ridge tooth and nail to the end for the tough aforementioned Desert Valley Region title. "We developed a competitiveness towards the end of the year," Baumgartner said. "We took our lumps at the beginning of the year. Our pitching has come around to give us competitive innings and keep us in ballgames." Team leaders on offense are leadoff hitter Jayce Easley and potential early-round pro draft pick Nolan Gorman and his prestigious power. Catcher Jacob Vesecky has controlled the defense. Developing the pitching staff as players learned and adapted to roles has been huge. O'Connor has made the playoffs in 15 of 16 seasons, been to the final four four times and were runner-up in 5A-2 in 2008.

#8 Hamilton: The two-time defending champion Huskies have had better years and healthier ones, but they still managed a top-8 finish in the power rankings to earn a bye and have received stellar pitching in their first three state games this season. The first two were wins (3-2 over Desert Mountain and 8-1 over Mountain View). Hamilton lost threefifths of its starting infield to injury in preaseson and the first two weeks of play. Depth has played a huge factor in their continued success and ability to return and defend their titles. Top players this season are outfielder JD McLaughlin, catcher Britt Graham, corner infielder Hayden Baker and pitcher Shane Murphy. Murphy tamed Desert Mountain in the playoff opener and Dustin Bermudez stifled Mountain View in the first round of double elimination with an

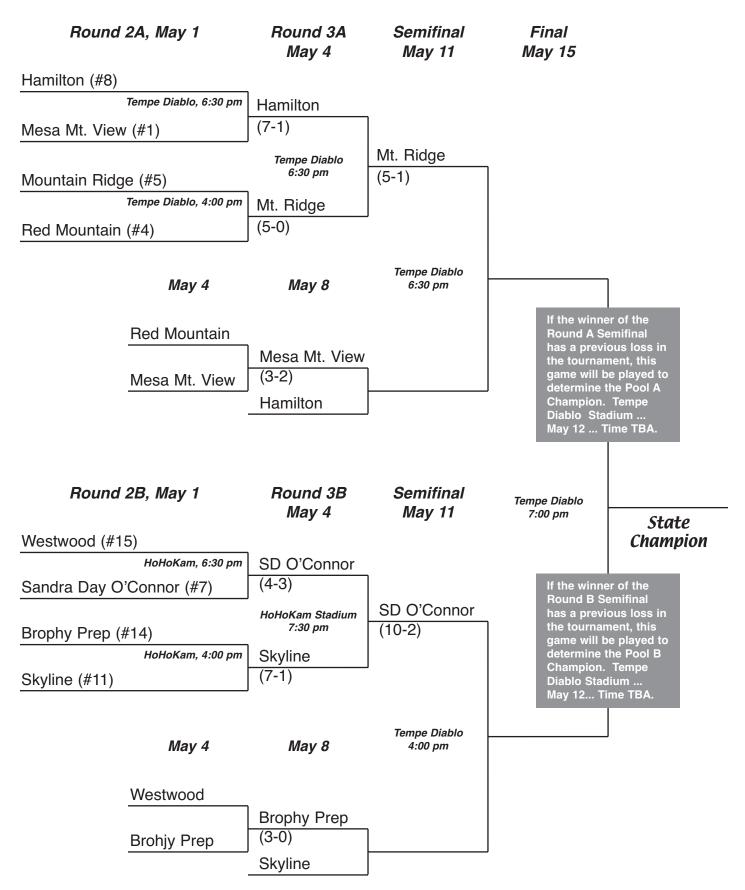
11-strikeout performance. Unfortunately for Hamilton, Bermudez tore an ACL playing the infield late in the win over Mountain View and is done for the playoffs.

#11 Skyline: The Coyotes have found themselves after a 4-0 start in the East Valley Region that was followed by a five-game skid in region play. They won their final regular-season game and have added three postseason wins in impressive fashion. They lost their first tournament game to Sandra Day O'Connor on May 4 sending them to the loser's bracket. Pitcher Cole Yocum has been a key to their surge, winning a couple of postseason games and supplying leadership and hitting from the leadoff spot. AJ Herrera, Jan Rollon and Tyler Jackson have swung hot bats of late in the top half of the order. Coach Pat Herrera is no stranger to going deep in postseason having done it at Desert Ridge, including winning two state titles (5A-II in 2009 and 5A-1 in 2010). This is Skyline's best run in postseason since Herrera took over in 2014. They've qualified for postseason the last four years.

#14 Brophy: The Broncos have hovered around .500 all season (currently 14-16) and did just enough to qualify for a play-in game under first-year head coach Josh Garcia, a former Brophy standout. They knocked off Horizon in the play-in game and upset Basha in the first round of state after losing three times to the Bears during the regular season. Brophy is young with an everyday lineup that features two to three seniors at best. Junior Cam Glosser is the top hitter at .400 and junior Johnny Dowse is tops in RBI with 20. Senior Stephen Buckel and junior Mason Kokodynski have done the bulk of the starting pitching. Kokodynski has won two of the three games the Broncos have claimed in postseason, including a one-hit, 3-0 shutout of Westwood in their first elimination game on May 4.



6A BB State Championship Bracket





Brophy Prep Broncos

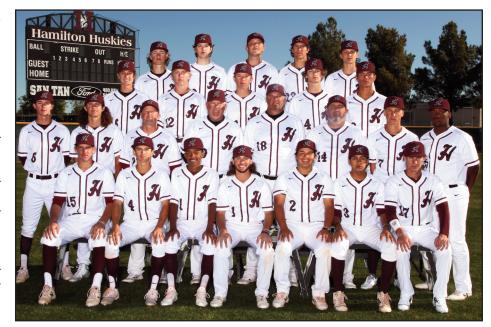


No. Player/Pos.	Yr.
1Che Rubalcava, IF	Jr.
2Lucas Grennan, IF	Sr.
3Cam Glosser, IF/OF	Jr.
4Alex Palacios, UT	Jr.
5Merrick Martin	Sr.
7Troy Weinstein, OF	Sr.
8Jacob Wickey, P/UT	
9Sean Cooper, OF	
10Nick Tiedemann, P/IF	
11 Andrew Talamante, OF	
12Johnny Dowse	
13Connor Park	
14Will Worthington, IF/P	Jr.
16Nick Stineman, OF	
18Michael Diaz, IF/P	So.
19Tommy Trudeau, P/1B	Sr.
21Bryce Michael, P/1B	
22Stephen Buckel	
23Mason Kokodynski, P/1B	
25Max McAndrews, P	
26Noah Koehler	
27Drew Dver	Sr.

Hamilton Huskies

No. Flayer	111.	11.
1Easton Erwin	5-7	Jr.
2Jose Valenzuela	5-7	Jr.
3Jorge Sobarzo	5-9	Sr.
4Dustin Bermudez		
5Brock Selvidge	6-2	Fr.
6Tyler Dubuque		
7Jacob Thiele	5-11	Sr.
8Tyler Wilson	6-1	So
9Hayden Baker	6-2	Sr.
10Trey Goodrich		
11Isaiah Adams		
12Dylan Bleskin		
13Kyle Ponzo	6-5	So
15Kyle Hasler		
16Britt Graham		
17Cody Hedalen		
20Will Maxey	6-2	So
22Michael Brueser		
23JD McGlaughlin	6-2	Jr.
24Shane Murphy		
25Tally Wright	5-11	Jr.
, 0		-

No Diarrow





Mountain Ridge Mt. Lions



No. Player/Pos.	Ht.	Yr
1Joseph Escontrias, IF	5-10	Ir.
2Jared Kampf, IF	5-8	…Śr.
3Zach Roth, OF	6-3	Sr.
4Travis Warinner, IF	5-7	So
5Jace Young, IF		Fr.
6Cayden Collins, P		Fr.
7Jason Harayda, IF	5-11	Sr.
8Brock Peery, IF	5-11	So
9Luke Blachut, 3B/UT	5-11S	r.
10Jacob Robson, OF/P		
11Ryan Ellis, C/2B	5-6	So
12Mason Piert, P	6-3	Ir.
13Brock Arnold, OF/P		
14Bryce Carpenter, P	6-2	Sr.
15Mitchael Dyer, OF/P	6-2	Sr.
16Zach Martinez, P/DH	5-8	Ir.
17Justin Espinoza, P	6-2	…Ir.
18Ryan Rezac, 1B/UT	6-0	…Ír.
19Jack Dieckman, C/1B	6-0	"Śr.
22Tate Childers, OF	6-2	Ir.
23Zach Rogers, P	6-0	So
24Gray Bailey, P/1B	5-8	Fr.
25Preston Godfrey, OF/3B	5-10	Sr.
27Oscar Mattox, P/UT	5-11	…Īr.
28Jacob Sumner, 1B	5-7	Śr.
32Matthew Liberatore, P	6-5	Sr.
22 Carrett Olson C		

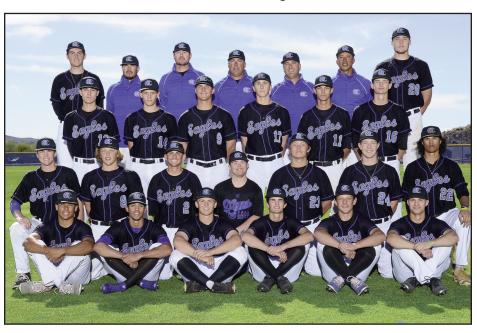
Mesa Mountain View Toros

Ht.	Yı
5-9	Sr
6-1	Jr.
6-2	Jr.
6-0	Sr
5-10	Sr
5-10	Sr
6-1	Sr
5-10	Sr
5-9	Jr.
6-1	Sr
6-3	Sr
6-1	Jr.
6-1	Sr
5-10	Jr.
5-10	Jr.
5-11	Jr.
6-1	
6-4	Sr
6-4	
	.6-1 .6-2 .6-0 .5-10 .5-10 .5-10 .5-10 .6-1 .6-1 .5-10 .5-10 .5-10 .5-10





Sandra Day O'Connor Eagles



No. Player/Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
2Noah Burgarelo, IF	5-10	Jr.
3Jayce Easley, IF/P		
4Zak Elms, C/OF		
5Barrett Skaugrud, P/IF	6-0	Fr.
6Colton Kucera, IF/OF		
7Noah Nithman, OF		
8Tyler DeJesus, 1B	6-0	Sr.
9Nolan Gorman, IF		
11Tucker Bates, P		
12Nicholas Schouten, P/DH.	6-3	Sr.
13Brayden Nichols, IF	6-0	Jr.
14Adam Koski, P		
15Tristen DeJesus, OF/C	6-0	Sr.
16Mason Skaugrud, 1B/C		
17Cal Lambert, P/1B		
18Mitchell DeCovich, P		
19Aiden Sullivan, P		
20Chase Valentine, IF		
21Chance Van Dyke, OF		
22Amari Bartee, OF		
23Greg Bozinovich, 3B/P		
24Jake Vesecky, C	6-0	Sr.
28 Connor Iones OF/1B		

Skyline Coyotes

No. Player	Yr.
1Bannon Delmar	So
3Cole Lopez	Sr.
6Hunter Martin	
7Adam Davidson	So
8Kade York	So
10Josh Gonzales	Sr.
12Brandon Melendez	
13Tyler Jackson	Sr.
14Patrick Herrera	
16Cole Yocum	Sr.
17Zach Wells	So
22Bryce Claxton	So
23AJ Herrera	
24JJ Rollon	Sr.
29Ryan Freudenthal	Jr.
44Eric Olson	









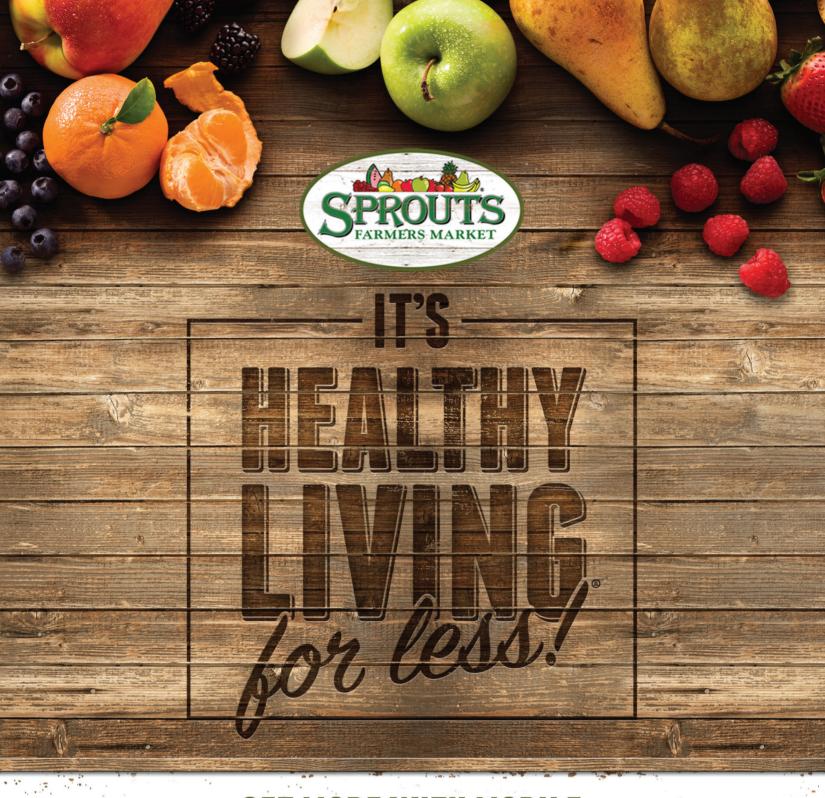
Baseball Championship Results (1998-2017)

Year 2017	Winning Team Superior (25-3)	1A CONFE Head CoachManuel Ortega	RENCE Runnerup TeamElfrida Valley Union (17-7)	Head Coach	Score 12-8
		2A CONFE	RENCE		
2017	Phoenix Christian (25-5)		Willcox (18-5)	Clint Sanborn	9-2
2017	Phoenix Northwest Christian (22-9)	3A CONFE		Robert Abalos	6-2
2017	Nogales (28-4)	4A CONFE		Danny Preble	13-4
2017	Peoria Raymond Kellis (22-11)	5A CONFE	RENCEGilbert Campo Verde (20-15)	Shawn Dukes	10-5
2017	Chandler Hamilton (23-10)	6A CONFE		Roy Muller	6-4
2016	Pima (24-4)	DIVISIO Greg Cooper		Dalton Mille	2.0
2016	Pima (24-4)			Daiton Milis	2-0
2016	Apache Junction (28-6)	DIVISIO		Klant Carloy	0.6
	Tucson Desert Christian (31-1)				
2014	Tucson Desert Christian (29-2)	M. Grant Hopkins	Tucson Pusch Ridge (26-5)	Mark Frithsen	4-2
	Tucson Desert Christian (26-4)				
2012	St. David (19-3)	Ron Goodman	Yuma Catholic (18-3)	Curt Foppe	(6 inn.) 14-4
		DIVISIO	N III		
2016	Phoenix Alhambra (27-4-1)			Cesar Castillo	3-2
2015					
2014	Tucson Palo Verde	Jim Mentz	Phoenix Northwest Christian	Rod Bair	5-4
2013	Fountain Hills (18-5)River Valley (28-3)	Mike Briguglio	Vail Empire (18-5)	Tom Belter	5-4
2012	niver valley (20-3)	DIVISIO		Patrick McGubbilis	0-1
2016	Phoenix Greenway (23-9)			Occar Pamora	7.4
2015					
2014					
2013	Scottsdale Notre Dame Prep (30-7)	Brian Fischer	Phoenix Sunnyslope (28-5)	Jeff Shillington	2-1
2012	Phoenix Sunnyslope (21-2)	Jeff Shillington	Peoria Liberty (22-3)	Mark Ernster	6-5
		DIVISIO			
2016					
2015					
2014 2013					
2012					
		1A CONFE			
2011	Tucson Tanque Verde			Ron Goodman	18-6
2010					
	Tucson Tanque Verde				
	Elfrida Valley Union (23-6)				
	Superior		•		
	Duncan				
	Duncan (18-3)				
	Joseph City (18-8-2)				6-4
	St. David (18-3)				
	St. David (16-7)				
1000	St. David (17-4)	Jim Crawford	Patagonia (15-6)	Dahn Urias	
	Green Fields (22-7)				
		2A CONFE		3	
2011	Chandler Valley Christian		Scottsdale Christian	Bill Swift	8-7
2010	•		Camp Verde		
2009	-				
2008	Bisbee (27-4)	Mike Frosco	Phoenix Bourgade Catholic	Greg Henke	9-8
2007	St. Johns	Ray Davis	Winkelman Hayden	Bob Lorona	8-6



Baseball Championship Results (1998-2017)

		2A CONFER	ENCE (cont)		
Year	Winning Team	Head Coach	Runnerup Team	Head Coach	Score
2006	Yuma Catholic (27-4)	Tom Kandler	Scottsdale Christian (25-5)	Bill Swift	(8 inn.) 14-9
2005			Thatcher		
2004			Phoenix Christian (18-9)		
2003			Scottsdale Christian (21-7)		
2002			Thatcher (24-4)		
2001			Bisbee (23-4)		
2000			Thatcher (18-7)		
			Chandler Seton (23-11)		
1998	Phoenix Christian (25-7-1)		Elfrida Valley Union (18-8)	Calvin King	7-1
0044	Laborida Phys Bidge (04.0)		FERENCE	Detriel McCubbine	(0:) 0 (
2011			Goodyear Estrella Foothills (25-6) Tucson Empire		
			Wickenburg (19-10)		
			Chino Vallev		
			Holbrook		
2007 2006			Fountain Hills (30-2)		
2005 2005			Fountain Hills (30-2)		
2003 2004			Higley (23-9)		
2004 2003			Fountain Hills (27-3)		
			Chandler Seton (21-12)		
2002 2001			Globe (19-8)		
		. 0.0	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
2000 1999			Globe (23-4)		
			Cave Creek Cactus Shadows (27-1)		
1998	Cave Creek Cactus Shadows (26-5)		Chino Valley (25-4)	10m Pratt	8-
			FERENCE		
			Peoria Sunrise Mountain (26-6)		
2011 4A-2.			Phoenix Thunderbird (27-4)		
2010 4A-1			Tucson Catalina Foothills		
2010 4A-2	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		Phoenix Greenway (26-9)	•	
2009 4A-1			Glendale Cactus (26-6)		
2009 4A-2	2Cottonwood Mingus (29-5)	Bob Young	Scottsdale Notre Dame (30-2)	Guy Gianni	7-4
2008 4A-1			Phoenix SD O'Connor (25-7-1)		
2008 4A-2			Scottsdale Notre Dame (29-5)		
2007 4A-1			Tucson Sahuaro (16-13-1)		
2007 4A-2			Scottdale Notre Dame (28-6)		
2006 4A-1			Tucson Amphitheater (24-11)		
			Scottsdale Arcadia (22-9)		
2005			Tucson Catalina Foothills (33-3)		
2004			Tucson Catalina Foothills (26-5)		
2003			Scottsdale Coronado (24-6)		
			Tucson Catalina Foothills (27-4-1)		
			Tucson Sahuaro (18-15)		
			Tucson Santa Rita (24-11)		
			Scottsdale Coronado (24-7)		
1998	Phoenix Thunderbird (26-5)	Pat Higgins	Scottsdale Chaparral (25-5-2)	Jerry Dawson	10-2
			FERENCE		
	Tempe Mountain Pointe (28-5)				
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Gilbert Perry (21-13)		
2010 5A-1	Gilbert Desert Ridge	Patrick Herrera	Tempe Mountain Pointe	Brandon Buck	11-4
2010 5A-2	Scottsdale Horizon (21-10)	Eric Kibler	Scottsdale Desert Mountain (23-13)	Bryan Rice	11-9
2009 5A-1	Tempe Corona del Sol (25-7)	Dave Webb	Chandler Hamilton (23-12)	Mike Woods	(6 inn.) 11-
2009 5A-2	2Mesa Desert Ridge	Pat Herrera	Scottsdale Horizon	Eric Kibler	9-8
2008 5A-1	Chandler Hamilton (25-8)	Mike Woods	Gilbert Mesquite (19-16)	Jeff Holland	6-
2008 5A-2	2Scottsdale Horizon (24-9)	Eric Kibler	Peoria Sunrise Mountain (29-4-1)	Eric Gardner	2-
			Phoenix Brophy Prep (30-4)		
			Scottsdale Desert Mountain (26-9)		
			Scottsdale Horizon (25-10)	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
			Peoria Sunrise Mountain		
2005 OA 2		•			
2003 2004					
2004					
			Tucson (25-10)		
	•		Yuma Cibola (27-4)		
	•		Tempe Desert Vista (26-8)		
	•		Glendale Ironwood (28-7)		
			Tempe Marcos de Niza (23-13-1)		
			rempe maicus ue M24 (23°13°1)	I VIII HUDEL	0 11111.7 0 - /



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