



CACTUS COURIER

coupons and bracelets like cash.
They cannot be replaced if they are lost.

December 26 & 27, 2009

The Daily Newsletter of the Phoenix Cactus Jam Tournament

WELCOME TO PHOENIX!

We hope your flights and drives went well and that you're excited to be in Arizona! We have done everything possible to make sure this tournament is a success. Everything you need to know for the first two days is included in this newsletter. Now sit back, relax, and get ready for some hoops!



Daily Schedule

Sunday Dec. 27

- 9:00a Tournament Booth opens
- 9:30a Tempe Marketplace shuttle begins
- 10:25a Calvin practice bus
- 12:20p Lewis and Clark bus
- 2:00p Tournament Booth closes
- 9:30p Last Tempe Marketplace shuttle departs hotel

TEMPE MARKETPLACE SHUTTLE:

Tempe Marketplace is a HUGE shopping mall with stores, restaurants and movies, etc. The shuttle leaves from the Main Entrance to the hotel every hour from 9:30a to 9:30p. The last bus returns at 10:00p from the Mall. **After 6pm: under 16 must have an adult with them to board the shuttle!!!**



Meeting Rooms will be available for checkout at the information booth (in half hour increments). Xavier for team meetings, Dolores for film review (TV/DVD/VCR available).

BUSES: The schedule is designed to get you to your game one hour before tip-off. If you miss the bus to your game, you are responsible for your own transport. The schedule can be confusing, so if you don't understand how to read the schedule, ask at the tournament information desk. **The bus schedule is the same each day.** Check with the bus driver when boarding to make sure you get on the right bus.



ORIENTATION: The Tempe Mission Palms is situated in an exciting part of Tempe, and Mill Avenue is right in the middle of it all! Dozens of restaurants, movie theaters, and shops are within 4 blocks of the hotel. The tournament information booth has maps of the area. Be sure to get out and enjoy the holiday decorations, great food, and sizzling post-Christmas sales!

FOOD AT THE HOTEL:

- A full breakfast buffet (\$12.50 - incl. tax and tip) will be available from 6:15am -10:30am at Mission Grille. *Each person traveling on the package will receive three (3) breakfast coupons to be used at your discretion.*
- **Mission Grille** will also have ala carte menu.
- **Harry's Place**, in the lobby, serves sandwiches.



Team Packets - Upon arrival, coaches received a packet with breakfast coupons, tournament bracelets for game site access and tourney transportation, and t-shirts for everyone traveling on the package. *Treat these*

CACTUS JAM TOURNAMENT INFORMATION BOOTH: If you have any questions or problems, the tournament information booth will be staffed from morning to evening (7:30am to 5:30pm, except on Sunday) to help you. It is located in the main lobby. Bus schedules, tournament T-shirts, and other information on the local area will be available there.



VERSE FOR TODAY:

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses ... let us run with perseverance the race set out for us." **Hebrews 12:1**

Local Site of the day: ASU Gammage Auditorium -- Located on the Tempe campus of Arizona State University, ASU Gammage is among the largest university-based presenters of performing arts in the world. ASU Gammage is the home theater of M&I Bank Broadway Across America - Arizona and the ASU Gammage *Beyond* series. Its mission is to connect communities through artistic excellence and educational outreach. ASU Gammage is an historic hall designed by internationally renowned architect, Frank Lloyd Wright.

Basketball Trivia:

From which college did ASU Men's coach Herb Sendak graduate, earning summa cum laude honors?

- a) Carnegie-Mellon
 - b) North Carolina State
 - c) Miami (OH)
 - d) Syracuse
- (Answer on 2nd page)



CURFEW: To ensure a positive experience for all participants (and other hotel guests), there will be an **11:00pm** curfew (except for college division). Players should be in their rooms and relatively quiet by that time and we ask everyone, especially coaches, for their assistance in helping to enforce this.

GAME TICKETS: Players, coaches, parents are admitted free to all games **with your bracelet**. All others please pay admission at the door. All proceeds from ticket sales go to the athletic programs at the schools.

TOURNAMENT SOUVENIRS

The Cactus Jam tournament information booth in the lobby has items commemorating the event.



Basketball Trivia:

Herb Sendak graduated from Carnegie-Mellon University in 1985.

VIDEO GAMES:

The Campanile room will have 3 TVs ready for video game console hookups!! Bring them if you wish but unfortunately, we can't be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Things To Do This Week:

Dec. 26
ASU Women Practice 2:00-5:30 pm at Wells Fargo Arena 480-965-6086

Dec. 27
Sedona and Grand Canyon Tours
ASU Women Practice 11:00-2:00

Dec. 28
ASU Women vs. Furman 6:30 pm
Phoenix Suns vs. LA Lakers 7:00 pm

Dec. 29
ASU Women Practice 12:30-3:30 pm
Phoenix Coyotes vs. Vanc. 7:00 pm

Dec. 30
ASU Women Practice 12:30-3:30 pm
Phoenix Suns vs. Boston 7:00 pm
High School Awards Ceremony 8-9pm (hotel ballroom)

Other sightseeing options: Golf, Horseback Riding, River Floating, Desert Safari Four Wheelin', Hot Air Balloon Rides, etc. These can be booked through the Mission Palms Concierge Desk. (480) 894 -1400

COLLEGE PRACTICE SCHEDULE (South Mtn. Community College)

Dec 26 – Bus departs 35 minutes prior to practice start time.
Calvin: 11:00am – 12:30pm
Lewis & Clark: 12:45pm – 2:15pm

LIGHT RAIL - Check out the newest form of public transportation: the Metro Valley Light Rail. The light rail stops just behind our hotel and can take you right into downtown Phoenix. Single fares start at \$1.75 with one- and three-day passes available. Ask at the tournament information booth for more details.

ASU Women's Game vs. Furman

Dec. 28, 6:30 pm - Wells Fargo Arena. Pass lists were sent to coaches. Players will need photo ID and will check in at the pass gate. Family and friends pay \$3 if their team is on the pass list.



Tempe Trivia: Tempe is Arizona's seventh largest city. It is adjacent to and just southeast of Phoenix, and is considered part of the metropolitan Phoenix area. As of the 2000 census, Tempe had over 158,000 residents.

FROM THE STAFF: *The staff of Basketball Travelers, Inc. extend to you our best wishes for a fun, exciting, and safe Cactus Jam Tournament. We desire that your experience here in Tempe/Phoenix be the best possible! If there is anything we can help you with please contact us at the information booth in the hotel lobby or at the game sites during game times. It is our goal to make the Cactus Jam the best high school and small college tournament in the country and any feedback we receive from you to achieve this goal is greatly appreciated.*

OUTDOOR COURT PRACTICE:

There will be two hoops set up on the outdoor tennis court at the hotel. **COACHES ONLY** may sign up for walkthrough times at the information desk. Balls will also be available.



Check back on the 28th for the next version of the Cactus Courier and updated game schedules!!!

DECEMBER 28 GAME SCHEDULE:

Double-check the home-away bracket to determine your uniform color!

At South Mountain Community College

| | <u>Home (light)</u> | | <u>Visitors</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----|----------------------|-------------|
| <i>Girls Cactus</i> | Wiregrass (FL) | vs. | Dorsey (CA) | 9:30a |
| | St. Thomas (Canada) | vs. | Redmond (WA) | 11:00a |
| <i>Girls Jam</i> | Chelan (WA) | vs. | Buckley (CA) | 12:30p |
| | Hayden (AZ) | vs. | Chestermere (Canada) | 2:15p |

At Scottsdale Christian

| | <u>Home (light)</u> | | <u>Visitors</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Boys Cactus</i> | Mercyhurst Prep (PA) | vs. | North Pointe Prep (AZ) | 10:00a |
| | Grant County (KY) | vs. | Valley (AZ) | 11:30a |
| | Scottsdale Christian (AZ) | vs. | Oak Bay (Canada) | 1:15p |
| | Woodinville (WA) | vs. | Precision (AZ) | 3:00p |

At Southwestern College

| | <u>Home (light)</u> | | <u>Visitors</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|-----------------|-------------|
| <i>Men's College</i> | Calvin College | vs. | Lewis and Clark | 3:00p |