



CACTUS COURIER

December 26 & 27, 2007

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're excited to have you here and we look



forward to a great tournament. Below are some initial things you should be aware of to help you settle in and plan for today and tomorrow.

Daily Schedule

Wednesday, Dec. 26

10-11a Carroll practice.
7:25p Last practice shuttle departs with Linfield.

Thursday, Dec. 27

7:30p Booth opens
8:00a First bus departs for High School site
8:30a First College bus departs
9:00a First High School game begins
10:00a First college games begin
4:00p Last college game starts
5:00p Last High School game begins
7:30p Booth closes

TEMPE MARKETPLACE SHUTTLE:

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 w/ them to board the shuttle!!!**



BUSES: The buses to the games and special events load from the back lobby. 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. Ask, at the tournament information desk, if you don't understand how to read the schedule. **The bus schedule is the same each day.**



Ask the bus driver 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.

Local Site of the day: The "A" **Mountain** behind our hotel is actually called Tempe Butte. It is 1,495 feet high and offers an impressive view of the area. It can be easily climbed by following the walkways. Those holiday decorations have been in place since the 1930s!

Coupons: breakfast buffet (3), Bracelets: game site access, and tourney transportation.

These are all in your coach's packet for anyone coming in on the "package." *Treat these coupons and bracelets like cash. They cannot be replaced if they are lost.*



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 7:30pm) 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.



FOOD AT THE HOTEL:

- A breakfast buffet (\$12.00) will be available from 6:15am – 10:30am. at Mission Grille. Three coupons per person come with the package.
- Mission Grille will also have ala carte menu.
- Harry's Place, in the lobby, serves sandwiches.



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

COACHES ROOM: 2 rooms for team meetings/film review will be available for checkout at the information booth (in half hour increments. It will contain a TV and VCR/DVD for reviewing game film.)

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 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 great clothing commemorating the event.



- T-shirts (long/short)
- Baseball hats

Mark Your Calendars:

Dec. 29: Awards ceremony (HS) and DJ'd social in the *Ballroom* from 8-10pm.

Dec. 27th:

- Roadrunners ECHL Hockey vs. Bakersfield
- NHL Coyotes vs. Minnesota Wild (7:00pm)

Dec 28th:

- Phoenix Suns vs. L.A. Clippers
- ASU Women vs. USC

Dec 29th:

- NHL Coyotes vs. Detroit Red Wings
- Roadrunners vs. Idaho
- ASU Men vs. Saint Francis

Dec 30th:

- ASU Women vs. UCLA
- Arizona Cardinals vs. St. Louis Rams
- Grand Canyon/Sedona Tour

ASU WOMEN'S PRACTICES (Team's Welcome!):

Dec 26th: W 2-4:30
Dec 27th: W 11-1:30
Dec 29th: W 10-12

ARIZONA TRIVIA!!!

What is the Arizona state flower???

The saguaro cactus blossom is the official state flower. The white flower blooms on the tips of the saguaro cactus during May and June. The saguaro is the largest American cactus.

Did you know that Arizona had a state mammal??? The ringtail is the official state mammal. The ringtail is a small fox-like animal about two and one-half feet long and is a shy, nocturnal creature.

COLLEGE PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Dec 26 – Bus departs 35 minutes prior to practice start time.

Carroll	10-11 am
Wartburg	11:05-12:05
Ramapo	3-4 pm
Wheaton	4:05-5:05pm
PLU	5:10-6:10pm
Clark	6:15-7:15 pm
Linfield	7:20-8:20 pm

FROM THE STAFF: *The staff of Basketball Travelers, Inc., Scottsdale Christian High School, and Phoenix College wish to extend to you our best wishes for a fun, exciting, and safe Cactus Jam Tournament. It is our 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.



DECEMBER 27 SCHEDULE:

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

At Scottsdale Christian

	<u>Court</u>	<u>Home (white)</u>	vs.	<u>Visitors</u>	<u>Time</u>
Girls Cactus	#1	Riverside (Canada)	vs.	West Linn (OR)	9:00a
	#1	Riverdale (TN)	vs.	Alameda (CA)	10:30a
Boys Cactus	#1	Newport (WA)	vs.	Sonoma Valley (CA)	12:15p
	#1	North Pole (AK)	vs.	Woodinville (WA)	2:00p
	#1	Lake Stevens (WA)	vs.	Fortuna (CA)	3:30p
	#1	Scottsdale Christian (AZ)	vs.	Lathrop (AK)	5:00p

At South Mountain CC

		<u>Home (white)</u>	vs.	<u>Visitors</u>	<u>Time</u>
Boys Jam	#1	Liberty (CA)	vs.	Mercyhurst (PA)	9:00a
	#1	Harker (CA)	vs.	St. Anne (Canada)	10:30a
	#1	Liberty (WA)	vs.	Horace Mann (NY)	12:15p
Girls Jam	#1	Horace Mann (NY)	vs.	Erie Central (PA)	2:00p
	#1	Cerritos (CA)	vs.	Lake Washington (WA)	3:45p

At Phoenix College

		<u>Home (white)</u>	vs.	<u>Visitors</u>	<u>Time</u>
Men's College (D III)		PLU (WA)	vs.	Wartburg (IA)	10:00a
		Ramapo (NJ)	vs.	Clark (MA)	12:00p
		Linfield (OR)	vs.	Kean (NJ)	2:00p
		Carroll (WI)	vs.	Wheaton (MA)	4:00p