

District Recognitions

February 26, 2019

Tonight we have our Middle School City Championship winners! These teams worked hard all year, and it showed. I will call each winning team up one by one...

First up we have the **Roskruge K-8 School Boys Basketball team**. Roskruge won the Championship for the second straight year going undefeated winning 14 games! Over the last two seasons, they have won 27 games and lost just one, what a fantastic record. **Coach Dale Lopez** is proud of the team's excellent teamwork, which led them to victory. They are heading to a second statewide tournament in March, good luck to them! Roskruge Team please come on up for a picture!

Next up is the **Mansfeld Middle School Girls Basketball team**. This team has won four straight Championships! Two of their returning players, **Jordyn Okougbo** and **Gabriella Sanchez** from last year's team showed great leadership and contributed to this championship. All of these student athletes worked hard to maintain academic standards and are true examples of why Mansfeld was recognized as an A+ School of Excellence. Mansfeld Team please come on up!

Now we have the **C.E. Rose Elementary School Boys Volleyball team**. The team was led by 8th graders: **Adrian Gonzales**, **Aristeo Ruelas**, **German Estrada**, and **Victor Quevedo**. They exemplified great leadership skills on and off the court. The team finished the season with a nearly perfect record and won their first district championship in school history. **Coach Angel Sobrino** says, "I was blessed to work with such an amazing group of men that will provide a positive impact in the years to come in sports and academics." What a great year, C.E. Rose team please come on up!

Next up we have **Gridley Middle School**. Gridley has three teams that are Middle School Champs. First we have the **Girls Volleyball team**, a 24 person team who played with unity and sportsmanship. This was **Coach Sonia Sikes** first year coaching at Gridley but she has coached for more than 15 years at other middle schools. Gridley Team please come on up for a picture!

Now we have **Gridley Middle School Cross-Country** teams. Coach Tim Watson volunteered as the coach for two years before Tucson Unified had established cross-country for middle schools. He has coached the track teams to four back-to-back city championships. Both teams appreciated the dedication and contributions of their Gridley parents. **Boys team** please come on up!

Next, **Girls team** please come on up.

Now we move on to high schools. Our next recognition is the **Sahuaro High School Girls Golf team**. They had an amazing year and earned the title of 2018 4A Conference Champions. Team captains **Halley Hughes** and **Serenity Guerrero** also did a fantastic job placing individually at several invitationals during the season. **Sahuaro team**, please come on up!

NEXT RECOGNITION

Up next, we have another Champion! **Project MORE** 12th grader **Damond Lujan**. He is the 2019 AIA State Champion Wrestler 120lb. Damond, please come on up!

NEXT RECOGNITION

Our next few recognitions are student-athletes who have reached certain milestones in their sports careers. We felt it was important they received recognition for their hard work and dedication.

First up we have **Alyssa Brown**, a 6'1" sophomore at **Sahuaro High School**. She is a team captain and averages 24 points and 7 rebounds per game for the 23-3 Cougars who were recently crowned the 4A Kino Champions. Currently she has scored 1080 points for her career. On top of her basketball skills, Alyssa is very involved in Student Council and is sophomore Class President. Alyssa please come on up for a picture!

NEXT RECOGNITION

Next up we have **Palo Verde High Magnet School** senior, **Aaliyah Ortiz**. Aaliyah has eclipsed 1500 points and was closing in on 400 assists and 500 steals. A quote from Principal Eric Brock, "Aaliyah has outstanding athletic ability, is supremely unselfish and has a court awareness that is beyond her years." Not only is Ms. Ortiz an athlete, she has earned all A's and one B this semester. As a senior, she is leaning towards Pima Community College but has gotten interest from many D3 and NAIA schools. Come on up, Aaliyah!

NEXT RECOGNITION

Our last recognition tonight is for two students who applied to be **Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year** for the 18-19 school year. This is an extensive process and is awarded to amazing youth who demonstrate leadership and dedication to their community.

First up we have Pueblo High School 12th Grader **Elodia Baltazar**- Runner up to Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year for 18-19. Elodia has been a part of the Boys and Girls Club Organization since her freshman year. She is an extremely motivated young woman who has worked hard in her high school years. Elodia has been inspired by her mother to be the best person she can be. This shows in her hard work at Pueblo! She has been a top contributor in all four years of her Piano and Theory class, completing all four years is a challenging task that approximately 4 students have ever accomplished. A quote from one of Elodia's teachers, Mr. Hill, "Elodia has an exceedingly bright future ahead of her. Her abilities and determined focus will guide her to a successful destination." What an amazing student, Elodia please come on up.

Our last recognition tonight is **Rincon High School** 11th Grader **Erika Luna Calixtro**. Erika is a Finalist for the Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year for 18-19. Here is some information from Rincon administration about Erika:

Erika is an extremely respectful young lady who takes pride in herself, representing TUSD and Ranger Nation with pride and dignity in and out of the classroom. Her teachers use the words honest, cooperative, polite, dependable, respectful, mature and humble to describe Erika as both a student and a person. She is noted as being someone who is often encouraging her peers, using her good sense of humor and strong critical thinking skills to lead other students in a positive direction. Teachers have also shared that she is an extremely talented artist, expressing herself in very creative and imaginative ways. Erika goes above and beyond to challenge herself by taking a dual enrollment level course while maintaining academic standards within the top 20% of her class. She is an ambitious student who has a bright future ahead of her. Erika please come on up!

END OF REPORT