

HIGH SCHOOL

The Republic's 2024 All-Arizona high school football team



Richard Obert Arizona Republic

Published 7:00 a.m. MT Dec. 21, 2024 Updated 8:45 a.m. MT Dec. 21, 2024

This is The Arizona Republic's All-Arizona High School Football Team for the 2024-25 school year. It is broken down with a first-team offense and first-team defense with honorable mentions. The Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year will be announced at the Arizona Sports Awards Show at the end of the school year.

All-Arizona First-Team Offense

Quarterback: Jaxon Knutson, Tempe McClintock, 6-3, 200, Sr. He was second in the state in passing yards with 3,796, leading the Chargers to the 5A playoffs.

Quarterback: Brady Goodman, Mesa Mountain View, 6-4, 210, Jr. Passed for more than 250 yards and three TDs in a 28-27 6A semifinal win over Brophy Prep. Threw for 3,087 yards and 43 TDs in 14 games.

Quarterback: Tait Reynolds, Queen Creek, 6-3, 200, Jr. The Clemson commit passed for 2,238 yards and 22 TDs and ran for 1,426 yards and 19 TDs.

Quarterback: Wyatt Horton, Phoenix Pinnacle, 6-0, 175, Sr. He passed for 2,929 yards and 36 TDs with seven interceptions, completing 65% of his passes, and ran for seven TDs.

Running back: Elijah Little, Phoenix Thunderbird, 5-8, 175, Sr. He led the state with 2,346 rushing yards and had 35 scoring TDs to lead 4A team into the playoffs.

Running back: Dylan Hayhurst, Phoenix Barry Goldwater, 5-6, 180, Sr. He was second in the state in rushing yards with 2,304 yards and had 35 rushing TDs.

Running back: Noah Roberts, Chandler Basha, 6-1, 195, So. He was the 6A Premier Region Offensive Player of the Year, leading team to Open state final.

Center: Anderson Kopp, Phoenix Brophy Prep, 6-3, 275, Sr. He has signed to play college football at Kansas, anchored a great offensive line.

Offensive line: Logan Powell, Brophy Prep, 6-5, 285, Sr. Signed with Wisconsin, has NFL in his future.

Offensive line: Jake Hildebrand, Basha, 6-6, 285, So. Maybe the most sought-after 2028 recruit in Arizona.

Offensive line: Tucker Smith, Phoenix Sandra Day O'Connor, 6-5, 285, Jr. One of the most dominant offensive linemen that Brian Cole ever coached.

Offensive line: Ronan Saloman, Chandler Arizona College Prep, 6-2, 285, Sr. He paved the way for more than 2,000 rushing yards for a school that reached the 4A final.

Offensive line: Nick Spence, Peoria Liberty, 6-6, 285, Sr. He anchored the state championship line that amassed nearly 2,000 rushing yards and 3,500 passing yards.

Tight end: Aveon Williams, Casa Grande, 6-7, 260, Jr. He had 42 catches for 840 yards and 11 TDs and was instrumental in the run game with his blocking abilities.

Wide receiver: Gio Richardson, Basha, Sr. The Arizona signee was the 6A Premier Region Player of the Year, catching 53 passes for 929 yards and eight TDs.

Wide receiver: Kemon Jackson, McClintock, 5-11, 175, Sr. He led the state in receiving yards with 1,330 and had 66 catches, 21 for TDs.

Wide receiver: Talan Arnett, Mountain View, Jr. He set a 6A single-game state record with 24 TD catches. He averaged 21.2 yards on 58 catches, finishing with 1,230 receiving yards.

Wide receiver: Braxton Huynh, Liberty, 5-11, 175, So. He led the Lions with 65 catches for 1,094 yards and 11 TDs.

All purpose: Dezmen Roebuck, Marana, 5-11, 185, Sr. The Washington signee became only the second player in Arizona high school history to have 4,000 receiving yards.

All Purpose: Cooper Perry, Scottsdale Notre Dame, 6-2, 195, Sr. Oregon signee caught 44 passes for 707 yards and 11 TDs. He had a total of 17 TDs. He ran for 231 yards and four TDs.

Long snapper: Mack Mulhern, Horizon, 6-2, 220, Sr. He is rated the No. 2 high school long snapper in the nation by Kohl's Kicking. He signed with Florida.

Kicker: James Dean, Gilbert Perry, 6-1, 170, Sr. He connected on a state-best 15 field goals on 22 tries. His longest was from 49 yards.

Kick returner: Bode Wagner, Mesa Red Mountain, 6-0, 170, Sr. He was a threat to take it all the way back every time he touched the ball. He averaged

All-Arizona First-Team Defense

Defensive line: Jimmy Leon, Tucson Mica Mountain, 6-3, 250, Sr. A top two-way player who had 14 TD catches at tight end, and accumulated 16 sacks and 32 solo tackles and 23 tackles for losses, along with a fumble return for a score.

Defensive line: Bleu Dantzler, Basha, 6-3, 230, Sr. He had 28 tackles for losses and 12.5 sacks on Open state runnerup team. Signed with Oregon State.

Defensive line: Jerry Washington, Goodyear Desert Edge, 6-2, 245, Sr. He had back-toback sacks to close out the 5A championship against Glendale Cactus. He finished with 14.5 sacks in nine games played.

Defensive line: Paz St. John, Liberty, 6-3, 260, Jr. He had 8.5 sacks, two caused fumbles and four recovered fumbles, and 13.5 tackles for losses.

Defensive line: Brock Haws, Pima, 6-1, 225, Sr. He led the Roughriders to the 2A championship game with 107 tackles, 37 tackles for losses, 17 sacks, two fumble recoveries.

Linebacker: Beckham Barney, Mesa Mountain View, 6-3, 210, Sr. The California signee had 85 tackles, seven QB hurries, and a caused fumble.

Linebacker: Hudson Dunn, Liberty, 6-1, 210, Jr. A tremendous outside linebacker, he had 57 tackles, 32 solo, 13.5 sacks, nine QB hurries and a caused fumble.

Linebacker: Rocky Stallworth, Yuma Catholic, 6-0, 180, Sr. He had 201 tackles, 117 solo, 18 sacks, two caused fumbles and an interception he returned 64 yards for a TD.

Linebacker: Eli Cramer-Cronin, Basha, 6-1, 205, Jr. He had 169 tackles, eight sacks, seven QB hurries, four pass deflections, and recovered two fumbles in the Open state championship game.

Linebacker: Bastian Vanden Bosch, Brophy Prep, 6-1, 190, Jr. He had 40 tackles, 12 for losses, 7.5 sacks, two caused fumbles, two fumble recoveries for 6A finalist.

Defensive back: Nathan Spivey, Tucson Salpointe Catholic, 6-0, 200, Sr. He registered 69 tackles, two sacks, and three interceptions at strong safety.

Defensive back: Rylon Dillard-Allen, Phoenix Mountain Pointe, 5-11, 175, Sr. Signed with Washington, he had 65 tackles, 50 solo, and intercepted seven passes for 99 yards in returns and returned a fumble 100 yards for a TD.

Defensive back: Zeth "Angel" Thues, Liberty, 6-0, 185, Jr. Committed to Arizona State. Had 68 tackles, 13.5 for losses, three sacks, four interceptions that covered 129 yards in returns, and five caused fumbles.

Defensive back: Cree Thomas, Brophy Prep, 6-1, 180, Sr. The Notre Dame signee had three interceptions, two caused fumbles and 40 tackles.

Defensive back: Eltorna Gant, Vista Grande, 5-10, 175, Sr. He had eight interceptions, and also played quarterback. He broke up nine passes and had 15 solo tackles.

Flex: J.J. Brutus, ALA West Foothills, 6-2, 210, Sr. Before getting injured in the 3A state semifinal win over Thatcher, he had 68 tackles, including 17.5 sacks. He also ran for 700 yards and 12 TDs on 74 carries.

Punter: Gehrig Heil, Phoenix Arcadia, 6-1, 200, Sr. He led the state in all conferences with 46.27 yards on 22 punts with a long of 66 yards.

Punt returner: Jamar Beal-Goines, Desert Edge, 6-1, 180, Sr. The Texas A&M signee who starred at cornerback for 5A championship team returned 11 punts for 292 yards (26.5 average), including one returned back 73 yards.

Honorable mention

Ryder Agne, ALA Queen Creek, LB, Sr.; Luc Aguilar, Seton Catholic, RB, Sr.; Ridge Allen, Benjamin Franklin Queen Creek, RB, Sr.; John-Alexander Lopez, Copper Canyon, OL, Sr.; Aaron Alvarez, Peoria Centennial, LB, Sr.; Matt Armenta, Hayden, DB, Sr.; Athiuan Arol, Vista Grande, DL, 6-4, 230, Sr.; David Baba, Ironwood Ridge, DL, Sr.; Tristan Bacon, Raymond S Kellis, LB, Sr.; Dre Bair, Northwest Christian, LB, Sr.; Timmy Bancroft, Skyline, WR/DB, Sr.; Sam Barnard, Fountain Hills, WR, Sr.; Khalil Bender, McClintock, WR, Jr.; Rico Blassingame, Tolleson, WR, Jr.; Andres Bonilla, Sierra Vista Buena, RB, Sr.; Shamar Berryhill, Centennial, WR/LB, Sr.; Nikko Boncore, Centennial, WR, Sr.; Nick Boschma, Northwest Christian, DL, Sr.; Justice Brathwaite, Gilbert Higley, DB, Jr.; Aiden Browder, Chandler, LB, Sr.; Deriece Brown, Buckeye Verrado, WR/DB, Sr.; Jackson Brown, Desert Ridge, DB, Sr.; Preston Brown, Paradise Honors, WR, Jr.; Kendale Cade, Casa Grande, WR, Sr.; Beau Caliendo, Horizon, LB, Sr.; Antonio Casias, Cactus, QB, Jr.; Aaron Crawford, Chandler Prep, WR, So.; Najea Cooper, Tonopah Valley, WR, Sr.; Aaden Coor, Snowflake, LB, Sr.; Bentley Corbin, Sandra Day O'Connor, RB, Sr.; Dylan Cruz, Scottsdale Coronado, LB, Sr.; Zayden Cundiff, Florence, LB, Jr.; Hayden Daugherty, Gilbert Highland, TE, Sr.; Kaleb Dekens, Bradshaw Mountain, LB, Sr.; Colton Dermer, Sandra Day O'Connor, LS, Jr.; Donivan Dixon, Cactus Shadows, QB, Jr.; Marques Dorsey, ALA Ironwood, DB, Sr.; Hayden Fletcher, Liberty, QB, Sr.; Devin Fitzgerald, Brophy Prep, WR, Jr.; Thomas Foilefutu, Tonophah Valley, Athlete, Jr.; Nick Formica, Wickenburg, RB, Sr.; Kyah Francone, Salpointe Catholic, K, Sr.; J.J. Francis, Notre Dame, DB, Sr.; Ngonkra

Fuangunyi, Tucson Empire, RB, Sr.; Tyler Garner, Hayden, RB/DB, Jr.; Evan Greer, Canyon del Oro, DL, Sr.; Harrison Gurash, Scottsdale Christian, Flex, Sr.; Taurean Hall, Centennial, DL, Sr.; Elijah Harris, Arizona Lutheran, RB/DB, Sr.; Evan Heinrich, Arizona College Prep, QB, Jr.; Devon Helmer, Northwest Christian, WR, Sr.; Bryce Herges, Desert Mountain, QB, Sr.; Jack Isidore, Verrado, RB, Sr.; Beau Jandreau, Hamilton, LB, Jr.; Nathan Johannes, Northwest Christian, RB, Jr.; Brody Johnson, Liberty, LB, Sr.; Brett Jones, Thatcher, LB, Sr.; Jake Jones, Campo Verde, DL, Jr.; Nate Jones, Notre Dame, DL, So.; Grant Jordan, Shadow Ridge, Flex, Jr.; Jacob LaDuke, Snowflake, QB, So.; Crew Leavitt, Queen Creek, AP, Sr.; Simon Lopez, Red Mountain, QB, Sr.; Kino Lorona, Winkelman Hayden, RB/DB, Jr.; Rich Lucero Jr., Hamilton, QB, Sr.; Alex Lugo, Pinnacle, KR, Jr.; Nicolas Manuel, Eloy Santa Cruz Valley, LB, Sr.; Jeremiah Martinez, Pima, RB, Sr.; Nick Martinez, Bagdad, DL, Sr.; Marco Minzt, Phoenix North, RB, Sr.; Dominic Mitchell, Brophy Prep, DB/LB, Sr.; Carlos Montoya Jr., Sahuarita Walden Grove, LB, Sr.; Arthur Murphy, Tempe, TE, Sr.; Jacob Newborn, Tucson Pusch Ridge, QB/LB, Sr.; KhaVontae Paul, Ironwood, QB, Jr.; Carter Ochoa, Chandler, WR, Sr.; Destry Owings, Bagdad, DB, So.; Charlie Parke, Shadow Mountain, K, Sr.; Jayden Plotkin, River Valley, RB, Sr.; Palmer Podwika, Horizon, K, Jr.; Brody Porter, Mogollon, RB, Jr.; Kaleb Porter, Mogollon, RB/LB, Jr.; Caleb Randall, Scottsdale Christian, LB/RB, Sr.; Evan Romero, Mesa, K, Jr.; Sir-izzik Sanchez Caldwell, Tonopah Valley, QB, Sr.; Dylan Sims, Queen Creek, TE, Sr.; Uriah Tenette, Prescott, QB, Sr.; Antonio Olguin, Cactus, OL, Sr.; Kingston McCabe, ALA Queen Creek, WR, Sr.; Colten Meyer, Marana, QB, Jr.; Brody Michael, ALA Queen Creek, LB, Sr.; Francisco Orduno, Mountain Pointe, K, Jr.; Tot Pacheco, St. David, DL, So.; Owen Pimbert, Pinnacle, LB, Sr.; Jayden Rhodes, Higley, DL, Jr.; Talon Roit, ALA Queen Creek, DL, Sr.; Keaton Potter, Payson, KR, Sr.; Isaac Price, Desert Vista, WR, Sr.; Xavier Sanders, Pinnacle, DB, Sr.; Domonick Ruiz, Tempe Corona del Sol, WR/Athlete, Sr.; Amari Scroggins, McClintock, WR, Sr.; Kamden Segall, Liberty, WR/TE, Jr.; Daylen Sharper, Brophy Prep, WR, Jr.; Gabriel Sotelo, Cactus, DB, Sr.; Boe Sparks, ALA Queen Creek, WR, Sr.; JuJu Stubblefield, Cactus, WR, Sr.; Sir Stokes, Yuma Catholic, WR, Sr.; Mikey Sumko, Mountain View, WR, Sr.; Trent Tall, Monument Valley, RB/LB, Sr.; Jaden Taylor, Higley, WR, Jr.; Kody Thorley, ALA Gilbert North, LB/RB, Sr.; Case Vanden Bosch, Brophy Prep, QB, Jr.; Brodie Vehrs, Basha, QB, Jr.; Dean Vincent, Pinnacle, DL,

Sr.; Laki Wallwork, Northwest Christian, QB, Jr.; Landon Ward, Willcox, RB, Sr.; Cody Wells, Notre Dame, LB, Sr.; Nate Wheeler, Perry, RB/Athlete, Sr.; Isaiah White, Apollo, WR, Sr.; Ayden Williams, ALA Ironwood, Sr.; Hayden Williams, Buckeye Youngker, OL, Sr.; M.J. Woodberry, Cesar Chavez, DB, Sr.; Emery Wright, Desert Ridge, OL, OL, Jr.

Richard Obert has been covering high school sports since the 1980s for The Arizona Republic. He also covers Grand Canyon University athletics and the Arizona Rattlers. To suggest human-interest story ideas and other news, reach Obert at richard.obert@arizonarepublic.com or 602-316-8827. Follow him on X, formerly Twitter:@azc_obert