

Offers increase Derksen's motivation

Dutch Perryman
ArizonaVarsity.com Analyst

Junior **Tim Derksen** will be one of Tuscon (Ariz.) Amphitheater's talented players trying to lead his team towards a state championship.



Tim Derksen is already holding three offers.

Amphitheater lost in the 4A DII state title game last year by two points to Santa Rita, but they are returning with most of their squad.

Derksen said that their team is coming back really strong, and is going to work to secure the top seed of the tournament.

At 6-foot-3, 180 pounds Derksen has a complete game to contribute to his team. He has a great understanding of the game and is very disciplined and fundamental. Near the basket, his foot work and balance can get him an open look, even against some taller post players.

Derksen lead the team in scoring last year with 17 points a game, and also found his teammates for four assists a game.

He was very productive without the ball, as well. He was a top defender, leading the team in shot blocking. He also averaged two and a half steals per game. He even brought down the most boards on the team, with nearly nine rebounds a game.

Derksen's performance carried over in to the summer, where he played with the 2012 Arizona Magic, along with his high school team. The talent he displayed was enough to land him three scholarship offers over the course of the summer.

With two seasons still remaining in his high school career, Derksen has already reported offers from San Diego, Weber State, and Boise State.

"The summer went great with my school and club team. My offer from San Diego came during a team camp. I think a lot of other new schools got the chance to see me over the summer, also.

"It's great to have offers in. Knowing that you already have the opportunity to play college basketball can take some pressure off. Once that first offer comes in, it makes things easier. You can actually become more motivated and work even harder," Derksen said

Derksen said that he has had contact with and is interested in, UNLV, Pepperdine, San Francisco, Oregon State, Stanford, ASU, and Davidson.

"I have already taken unofficial visits to Pepperdine and San Francisco. I definitely want to take one to UNLV this fall and see some games," said Derksen.

Although college is a couple years off, and Derksen is focused on nothing else but winning a championship this season, he has areas he wants to improve before heading to the college stage.

"I want to become a more consistent shooter. I want a smoother release with my shot. I also want to tighten up my dribbling," he said.