

In a game featuring the best two teams in the state, the Citrus College Owls outlasted the Fullerton College Hornets, 72-67, in the championship game of the California Community College Men's Basketball Championship at the Spanos Center on the University of the Pacific campus in Stockton.

Citrus (35-1, South No. 1 seed), which won its first state title and was in only its second championship-game appearance (the other was in 1962), had tremendous depth and timely big plays that were the difference. The Owls had five players in double figures, led by sophomore guard-forward Buchi Awaji and his 14 points and team-high 11 rebounds (all defensive). Sophomore guard Virgil Buensuceso (three three-pointers) and sophomore center Richard Frohlich added 13 points. Darren Moore and A.J. Gasparro (three three-pointers) chipped in with 11 points.

The Owls led the entire first half until Fullerton took a 40-39 lead on a layin by guard Justin Carter, who finished with 16 points. The Hornets led 48-46 with 15:59 left and then went scoreless for the next 7:54. By that time, Citrus built an insurmountable 63-48 lead with 8:17 left.

Wayne Andrews had a team-high 22 points and game-high 12 rebounds for Fullerton which was making its sixth championship game appearance after winning it all in 1954, 1961, and 2006.

MVP-Buchi Awaji, Citrus  
Virgil Buensuceso, Citrus  
Darren Moore, Citrus  
Justin Carter, Fullerton  
Mike Cox, Fullerton  
James Lewis, LA Trade Tech  
Bobby Fisher, Bakersfield