



2001 HYUNDAI-COMMISSION ON ATHLETICS MEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

May 14th at Northridge Country Club
Sacramento, CA

Team Competition: College of the Canyons will be shooting for its second consecutive golf championship Monday when the Cougars tee off at Corral de Tierra Country Club. However, Canyons figures to be heavily challenged by the likes of Chabot College, the 2001 Northern California Champion; Monterey Peninsula College, the 2000 Northern California Champion; as well as Long Beach City College, the 2001 Southern California Champion.

Chabot edged Monterey Peninsula by a stroke at the Northern California Championships. The Gladiators were led by Josh Williams, who shot 145 over the 36-hole championships. In all Chabot had four golfers shoot 150 or lower last Monday. Monterey Peninsula countered with two players under 150.

Meanwhile, in Southern California, Long Beach City College posted a 17-stroke victory over Canyons, 36 over Desert and Palomar colleges. The Vikings were paced by sophomore Brad Oh, the Regional medalist, who shot 68-70-138. His brother Alex shot 70-74-144, while Billy Sutt shot 146 (72-74), Scott Osterhout 150 (76-74), Tye Alexander 160 (80-80), and Brett Thurston 161 (80-81) rounded out the Long Beach City contingent.

Perhaps the biggest name in golf is missing in Saddleback College. The Gauchos, the Orange Empire Conference Champion and winner of five state championships in the last 18 years failed to qualify for the state tournament after shooting a disappointing 767, which placed them sixth overall.

Individual Competition: Long Beach City College sophomore Brad Oh, the Southern California Regional Champion and Justin Madison of San Jose City College, the Northern California Regional Champion are expected to be among the contenders for the state individual champion. Madison shot and 3-under-par 141 (70-71).

The Course: Built in 1954 by William Francis Bell, who is also known for designing and building Sandpiper CC, Northridge CC is not particularly long at 6,553 yards, however, head pro Ed Leinenkugel said players on Monday will be faced with a golf course that is tight, well bunkered and lined with lots of trees. Northridge CC features 5, par 5s and 5 par 3s with rolling terrain, which Leinenkugel said will make the course play longer than its listed yardage. He also said the players will be welcomed by large greens, some which will have difficult pin placement. "The greens are large," Leinenkugel said, "and the slope severe at times, especially the back nine. If they get the above the hole will be tough. Getting the ball from the tee to the green here isn't tough, but getting it in the hole is. If the players are consistently above the hole they will be in for a long day. The key to this course is making sure the ball is below the hole."

