



**California Community College Athletic Association
Men's Golf Championship**

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CANYONS WINS STATE GOLF TITLE

MURRIETA - College of the Canyons captured its fifth state title and the second of the past three years as the Cougars slid by defending state champion Saddleback College to win by eight strokes.

Canyons shot a team score of 366 during the morning round to trail both Moorpark (365) and Saddleback (364) heading into the afternoon round. With the first four golfers in the clubhouse it appeared that Saddleback would hold onto its narrow lead, but Canyons' Casey Piper carded a 6-under-par 66 and Andrew Ok added a 2-under-par 70 to help the Cougars to a 361 afternoon round and the state title with a 36-hole team total of 727. Saddleback finished second with a team total of 735 while Fresno City College (739) placed third.

The afternoon heroics of Piper and Ok were nearly matched by the Cypress duo of David Min and John San Juan. Min shot a 5-under-par 67 in the afternoon and San Juan added a 2-under-par 70 to help the Chargers to a 363 afternoon score (second best team score in the afternoon), but the morning round of 378 was too high to get Cypress into the top three and the Chargers settled for fourth place at 741.

Min earned individual medalist honors with a 36-hole score of 3-under-par 141 (74-67) with Ok finishing as the individual runner-up at 2-under-par 142 (72-70). Saddleback's Nick Ellis (71-72) won a playoff to finish third while Raj Samra of Cypress (70-73) ended up fourth and Matt Garcia of Foothill (73-70) was fifth. All three golfers had 143 totals. Piper (78-66) defeated Santa Ana's Daren Johnson (71-73) in a playoff for sixth place at 144. The top six golfers earned all-state honors.

The morning scores were very close as Saddleback, Moorpark, and Canyons were only separated by two strokes. Fresno City was within striking distance at 371.

Canyons' Justin Renaux turned in the lowest score of the morning round, a 3-under-par 69, and was one of only eight sub-par rounds in the field of 60 golfers. Nine players finished below par in the afternoon. Weather during the entire day was in the low 60's with a cool breeze and a light drizzle early.