

**California Community Colleges  
Commission on Athletics  
Men's Basketball Championship  
Presented by Magali Farms**

**March 13-16, 2003  
USD Jenny Craig Pavilion  
San Diego, Calif.**

|                      |                 |    |
|----------------------|-----------------|----|
| Men's Final, Game 7: | #1N Fresno City | 82 |
|                      | #1S L.A. City   | 90 |

**Notes**

Los Angeles City (36-2) captures the 2003 men's state championship ... all five LAC starters scored in double figures, including tournament MVP Jerel Blassingame (12 pts, 4 asts) ... LAC's 43-39 halftime lead was trimmed to 51-50 with 16:11 remaining; then the Cubs went on a 13-2 run for a 64-52 cushion with 13:41 left ... LAC took its biggest lead of the game (13 pts) at 75-62 following a Wilbur Williams lay-up with 6:36 to play ... FCC pulled within 7 points at 82-75 (1:55, Tyrone Jackson 3FG) ... Jackson and Jason Walberg, FCC's top two season scorers, combined for 8 of 35 shooting ... LAC had 34 FGs in the game, 25 coming on lay-ups (3 dunks); the Cubs also outscored FCC 26-6 on fast-break points... LAC wins its second state championship (1997) and becomes the fifth South Coast Conference team to win the title in the last seven years ... LAC ends the season with a 23-game winning streak, while FCC (38-2) has its 14-game win streak snapped.

1<sup>st</sup> Half: LAC 43, FCC 39

LAC started fast, jumping out to an 8-0 lead in the first 3 minutes ... the Cubs also led 12-4 after a Romel Beck jumper in the paint, where LAC had early success ... FCC finally got on track, making an 11-2 run to take its first lead at 15-14 (13:30) on a steal and lay-in by Tyson Parker ... LAC regained the lead for good in the first half, 18-17, with 10 minutes left ... after 3 ties, the last at 28-28 (4:43), LAC took a 43-37 lead with :34 left ... LAC finished the half shooting 56% (18-32), 12 of 18 FGs were lay-ups (2 dunks) ... FCC shot 41% from the floor (13-32), including 2-10 from 3-point land ... LAC was able to break FCC's press for 16 fast-break points to only 2 for the Rams.

**Coach's Quotes**

LAC Coach Mike Miller: "We played well and played hard – we had to in order to beat them. (Fresno) is a very determined and well-coached team. I'm still worried about them, and we just won. It's been a long road back since we lost at the buzzer in last year's final. Sometimes things don't always go your way, but it did this time."

MVP Jerel Blassingame: "We controlled the game from the start. It feels great; this is what we worked hard for all season since Day One, Now, it's complete."

**All-Tournament Team:** LA City, Jerel Blassingame (MVP), Romel Beck, Tyrone Riley ... Fresno, Tyrone Jackson, Jason Walberg ... San Bernardino, Blake Walker

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