



**California Community College
Sports Information Association**



**CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
COMMISSION ON ATHLETICS
MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
*PRESENTED BY MAGALI FARMS***

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

	1	2	Final
American River College	38	39	77
Compton College	33	49	82

Game Summary: Overcoming a patient half-court game on the part of its opponents, the Compton College Tartars found a way to open up things in the second half and defeat the American River College Beavers, 82-77, in the state championship game at the Jenny Craig Pavilion on the campus of the University of San Diego.

Compton (17-8), a third-place finisher in the South Coast Conference (SCC)-North Division, became only the third team to win three regional playoff games on the road to advance to the state tournament, and the first of those to win the state championship. Compton also is the sixth SCC team to win the state championship in the last eight years.

In the second half, Compton broke a 71-71 tie with 3:41 left as sophomore guard Nick Porter tossed in five consecutive points to give the Tartars the lead they never would relinquish. ARC closed to within 76-74 with 41.3 seconds left on a three-point play by freshman forward Wolfgang Raffety, but Compton kept the Beavers at bay by making six consecutive free throws in the last half-minute.

American River (26-8) was making its second appearance in the state final and first since it was known as Grant Tech in 1954. The Beavers had four starters score in double figures led by sophomore center Joel Henning with 20 points and a game-high 11 rebounds.

Compton was making its sixth appearance in the state championship game and first since last winning the state title in 1998 under then first-year head coach Damaine Powell. Compton also won the 1970 and 1973 state titles before posting state runner-up finishes in 1976 and 1982.

Coach Comments: "We kept up a little bit of token pressure and other little things to get us going," said Compton head coach Damaine Powell. "The change finally kicked in."

2004 Men's all-Tournament Team

- # 0 Rinaldo Spotwood, So., G, American River College
- # 3 Kenneth Sims, So., G, American River College
- #44 Joel Henning, So., C, American River College
- #40 Gaston Essengue, Fr., F, Compton College
- #24 Nick Porter, So., G, Compton College
- MVP # 5 Kevin Lewis, So., F, Compton College