

High school star to defend his title in 77th Santa Clara County Golf Championship

For Immediate Release

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SAN JOSE (May 12, 2005) – The list of winners of the Ernie Pieper Santa Clara County Golf Championship includes some of the memorable names of Northern California golf: former touring pros Ron Cerrudo and Forrest Fezler; Casey Boyns, twice winner of the California Amateur; Nathaniel Crosby, Bing's son and former U.S. Amateur champion; San Jose State All-American Joe Tamburino, and the event's namesake, 14-time champion Ernie Pieper.

But that list of winners is no more distinguished than the list of close-but-no-cigars: PGA stars Bob Rosburg, Ken Venturi and George Archer, NCAA champion Terry Small of San Jose State and ex-49er quarterback John Brodie.

This year's 77th County – to be contested over San Jose Country Club's 6,201-yard course Saturday and Sunday, June 4-5 – will feature a two-time defending champion whose career may land him among the first group.

Joseph Bramlett, a Saint Francis High School junior who in 2002 at age 14 became the youngest golfer ever to qualify for the U.S. Amateur, will be swinging for his third consecutive County title. He became the County's youngest winner in 2003 with a 54-hole total of 214, 4 over par, then returned last year to shoot a 6-under 204 to win again.

The tournament format at the club, located at 15571 Alum Rock Drive, calls for one round on the opening Saturday beginning at 9:30 a.m., after which the field will be cut to the low 40 and ties. Following Sunday's first round, which begins at 6:30 a.m., the field will be cut again to the low 18 and ties who will play for the title in a round beginning at 1:30 p.m.

County championship host San Jose Country Club is a sponsor of the The First Tee® of San Jose, a program of the San Jose Sports Authority, which provides golf and character education for boys and girls of all backgrounds. The Sports Authority is the non-profit sports marketing arm of the San Jose, which brings premier sports events to the city as well as actively supporting youth and amateur athletics. Visit our website at www.sjsa.org.

Golf's big names in the Ernie Pieper Santa Clara County Golf Championship

1951 – Eli Bariteau, a U.S. Army private, shoots a 65 in the final round to overtake future U.S. Open champion Ken Venturi. Still, Venturi became just the second player in tournament history to shoot all three rounds in the 60s.

1963 – Dick Lotz shoots a tournament-record 59 in the final round to win while future pro George Archer of Gilroy skies to a 77.

1964 – Ron Cerrudo, an All-American at San Jose State and future touring pro, wins the first of his two County titles with a 3-under 207.

1966 – Cerrudo repeats with a 7-under 203.

1969 – Forrest Fezler shoots a 5-under 205 to beat a field including two-time U.S. Amateur champion Harvey Ward.

1972 – John Brodie, then San Francisco 49ers quarterback, finishes 54 holes tied with Hank Lucente at 216. Lucente was 50 at the time, 14 years older than Brodie. On the first playoff hole, Lucente was lying two about 15 feet from the hole when Brodie, lying five and still in the fairway, picked up.

1980 – Nathaniel Crosby wins his only County title with a 1-under 209 by holing a 75-foot chip shot on No.12. He won the U.S. Amateur the next year.

1985 – San Jose State All-American Joe Tamburino wins with a 3-over 213.