

California's First Delegates leave their mark at the 40th ACUI Intercollegiate Clay Target Competition

California's first delegates have arrived home from the ACUI's 40th Intercollegiate Clay Target Championship with smiles on their faces. Local Boys, Christopher Holmes of Folsom Lake College and Christopher Hubach of University of California, Merced competed in all five of the events. The disciplines were International Skeet and Trap, American Skeet and Trap and 5 stand sporting clays

Holmes and Hubach finished the events in the top 20% percent overall, a great finish for the young collegiates, who had never competed at this level and in the International disciplines. Both look forward to participating again next year. Christopher Holmes stated "It would be great to get more California college students continuing in Shooting Sports, we just don't know where they went when they graduated from high school and the shooting programs. We want all of the schools across the board to know that California has some great shooting sports athletes." Christopher and Chris say they plan on spreading the word to California's college athletes using popular sites like Facebook or MySpace and the California Collegiate Clay Target program site which is found at www.casctp.org . Unfortunately, most graduates of the Scholastic shooting programs look to out-of-state colleges because they typically are more supportive of shooting sports. Hubach said "It really is an honor to be the first from California to attend and compete; we are paving the way for next year, when hopefully we will bring a lot more collegiates with us." Chris Hubach also stated that he has had some interest in a starting shooting club at his campus.

Participation in this year's 40th ACUI Clay Target event was the highest ever in the history of the Collegiate shooting sports competition. The 4-day competition held at the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio, Texas, boasted more than 380 shooters and more than 34 schools from across the United States. Competing were top rated Lindenwood University, Texas A & M, Kansas State, Colorado State University and Purdue. Other Schools competing included Yale University, United States Military

Academy, and Trinity University. The top contenders were offered generous scholarships and an opportunity to attend the Junior Olympic Training Camp in Colorado Springs. Christopher Holmes, who is looking forward to the Junior World Skeet Competition, commented, "Through the generous support from the community at large enough financial support, was raised to send both of us to the national event. We also would not have attempted such a great fundraising without the support and help of our parents." Chris Hubach, an Eagle Scout, and Christopher Holmes a 4-H All Star, characterize the young California's Shooting Sports enthusiast, active throughout their lives in leadership, service and participation in their communities. They look forward to next year when California attends for the second time in history and ups their mark in one of the most challenging of the Olympic disciplines. The Intercollegiate Clay Target Championships sponsors include the Association of College Unions International, NSSF, Winchester, National Rifle Association, Amateur Trapshooting Association and Hall of Fame, USA Shooting and National Skeet Shooting Association/National Sporting Clays Association. . Watch for the upcoming broadcast on ESPN networks. Six airings are scheduled:

American Skeet - ESPNU scheduled to air June 13

American Skeet - ESPNU scheduled to air June 20

American Trap - ESPNU scheduled to air June 27

American Trap - ESPNU scheduled to air July 4

5-Stand Competition - ESPNU scheduled to air July 11

5-Stand Final - ESPN2 scheduled to air July 23