



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **QUALIFYING, PRO-JUNIOR AND MAGIC MOUNTAIN HIGHLIGHT TUESDAY ACTION AT AT&T CHAMPIONS CLASSIC**

VALENCIA – Eight professionals played their way into the AT&T Champions Classic today during qualifying at TPC Valencia, while Chip Beck teamed with three Junior partners to win the five-hole Pro-Junior Challenge. In addition, Mark McCumber and Andy Bean showed their shotmaking skills while hitting balls at Six Flags Magic Mountain.

Kirk Hanefeld and Tim Conley each shot 4-under 68 at TPC Valencia to lead the way. Hanefeld's round featured a 33 on the back nine. Fifty-nine players attempted to qualify for this weekend's AT&T Champions Classic at Valencia Country Club.

In the Pro-Junior, Beck's team carded a 3-under 17 to win top honors among the five teams, which featured three Junior players and one professional. Playing holes 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18, Beck's group of Nick Thomas, Lauren Diaz-Yi and Lori Harper birdied the par-3 16<sup>th</sup>, the par-5 18<sup>th</sup> and the par-4 11<sup>th</sup>. The juniors were all qualifiers from the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation Junior Golf Program.

"Our whole team contributed," said Beck. "These young players are very talented and good students of the game. They are also very disciplined and have a good spirit for the game, which I think is important. The Champions Tour is junior friendly, and doing something like this helps bring more people into the game."

Beck stated this was the first time he's done something like this on the Champions Tour, and he certainly impressed one of his young playing partners.

"It was a great honor to play with him, and we had a great time," Thomas said. "I didn't know who he was until today, but I'll be paying attention now and watching him. He gave us some good advice and talked to us about not only excelling in golf but in life."

Shotmaking skills are ultra-important at the difficult Valencia Country Club layout, so McCumber and Bean got an early start on their competition. Joining Magic Mountain characters Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and Sylvester, the Champions Tour professionals hit balls 75 feet high to the top of Lost Temple at Hurricane Harbor. That shot was followed by a difficult left to right cut shot around a building and through the loop of the park's famous Revolution rollercoaster. The players then took matters into their own hands taking aim at other parts of the park, including its newest rollercoaster Tatsu, trying to reach one of its highest peaks.

Wednesday's schedule features the first of back-to-back Pro-Am days, starting at 7:30 a.m. with groups going off the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> tees. The second session of the Wednesday Pro-Am starts at 11:45 a.m., again with the professionals and their playing partners teeing off on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> tees.

Tickets are available to purchase for Wednesday-Sunday play onsite at the Main Gate of the course for \$15.

Below are the eight qualifiers from today's qualifying tournament:

T1 Kirk Hanefeld	Acton, MA	35-33--68 -4
T1 Tim Conley	Braselton, GA	34-34--68 -4
3 Terry Dill	Austin, TX	34-35--69 -3
T4 James Chancey	Altamante Springs, FL	35-35--70 -2
T4 Hugh Baiocchi	Orlando, FL	36-34--70 -2
T4 Jon Fiedler	Camarillo, Ca	34-36--70 -2
T4 Tom McKnight	Bluffton, SC	35-35--70 -2
T4 Patrick McGowan	Southern Pines, NC	35-35--70 -2

Below are the Pro-Junior Results:

**Team Chip Beck 3-under 17**  
Nick Thomas Westlake Village  
Lauren Diaz-Yi Thousand Oaks  
Lori Harper Manhattan Beach

**Team Joe Inman 2-under 18**  
Alton Anderson Thousand Oaks  
Chia Jocelyn LaCrescenta  
Bobby Lange Sherman Oaks

**Team David Eger 2-under 18**  
Daniel Inocencio Baldwin Park  
Henry Sue South Pasadena  
Samantha Martin Los Angeles

**Team Vance Heafner 1-under 19**  
Demi Runas Torrance  
KaLong Lai Arcadia  
Troix Tonkham Arleta

**Team Bill Rogers 1-under 19**  
T.J. Kliebhipat Panorama City  
Jessica Vasilic Anaheim Hills  
Rito Armenta San Juan Capistrano

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