

Aptos man's frog wins jumping contest

Three-legged entry takes Calaveras title

The Associated Press

ANGELS CAMP — The name of Calaveras County's newest celebrated frog says it all — "Three Legs Are Better Than None."

The three-legged amphibian won first place Sunday at the Calaveras County Fair and Jumping Frog Jubilee. Brian Cummings of Aptos found the frog in

a canal near Sacramento last week and won the top prize of \$750.

Fifty frogs survived preliminaries to advance to the finals at the annual event, which grew out of a humorous Mark Twain story.

The winning jump was 20 feet, 11 inches on three hops. That's nearly seven inches shy of the record set by "Rosie the Riveter" in 1986.

One frog jumped 21 feet, 11 inches, but the record didn't

count because it occurred during a qualifying round. A record jump would have been worth \$5,000 to the winning owner.

Cummings said his frog probably lost a front leg while being attacked by a muskrat or bat. But he theorized that having only three legs helped the frog develop stronger hind legs.

"He's a pretty beat-up frog," said Cummings, who won his first frog-jumping contest after 17 tries. "He's going to have some flies for dinner tonight."