

[Skip to Content](#) ?[my CalPoly login](#)

News

University News & Information

[Admissions & Aid](#)[Majors & Colleges](#)[Research](#)[Alumni Community](#)[Campus Life](#)[Athletics](#)[About](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 1, 2014

Contact: Haley Marconett

805-203-5297; hmarcone@calpoly.edu

Cal Poly Rodeo Team Advances to National Finals

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Cal Poly's Rodeo Team won big April 26-27) at the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association's West Coast Regional Finals Rodeo held in Las Vegas, qualifying for the College National Finals Rodeo in June.

"We have amazing talent on the team this year, and I couldn't be more proud of the hard work and dedication they've demonstrated throughout the season," said Cal Poly Rodeo Coach Ben Londo.

The men's team is in first place in the West Coast Region, and the women's team is in second place. Cal Poly brothers Taylor Santos-Karney and Lane Santos-Karney are in first and second place, respectively, in the men's all-around division. Brooke Hirschy is in second place in the women's all-around division. Numerous student-athletes are also ranked in individual events.

Five male and four female Cal Poly student-athletes will compete at the College National Finals Rodeo on June 15-21 in Casper, Wyo.

Londo, a Cal Poly graduate, was also named Coach of the Year for the West Coast Region. Londo is in his first year as the Cal Poly Rodeo coach but has a long background in competitive rodeo. As a Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association rider since 2003, Londo has amassed numerous awards, including three-time saddle bronc champion for the Columbia River Circuit. As a member of Cal Poly's Rodeo Team from 2003-05, he earned bareback riding and all-around champion titles for two years running at the College National Finals Rodeo.

About the College National Finals Rodeo

The College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR), known as the Rose Bowl of national rodeo, is where the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) crowns individual event champions in saddle bronc riding, bareback riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, bullriding, team roping, barrel racing, breakaway roping, and goat tying. National team championships are also awarded to men's and women's teams. More than 400 cowboys and cowgirls from more than 100 universities and colleges compete in Casper each year. Contestants compete all year in one of the NIRA's 11 regions for a chance to rope or ride at the CNFR. The top three students in each event and top two men's and women's teams from the NIRA's 11 regions will qualify for the CNFR.

#



