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News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Cal Poly's Concrete Canoe Team Paddles to Second in Nation

SAN LUIS OBISPO - A team of Cal Poly Engineers took second place in "The America's Cup of Civil Engineering" over the weekend -- a contest involving 500 students from 23 universities.

The event was the National Concrete Canoe Competition, sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) June 15-17 at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Okla.

The Cal Poly team and its entry, the Katana, bested Clemson, UC Berkeley and other entrants to take the silver medal finish, behind only the University of Wisconsin-Madison in first.



The annual contest begins with hundreds of civil engineering students from over 200 engineering schools across the country. The top 23 teams are selected to compete in the national finals. Their objective: to design, build and race canoes made of concrete. The competing students are scored on categories including the aesthetics and structural integrity of their canoe, a technical design paper, an academic presentation, and the ultimate test: the concrete canoe race.



This year's Cal Poly entry was judged "Best Overall Product." The Katana is an elegant white, 250-pound, 21.25-foot-long canoe, according to civil engineering professors Garrett Hall and Eric Kasper, the team advisors.

Cal Poly also took third in Women's Endurance Race, fifth in Men's Endurance, third in Women's Sprint, fourth in Men's Sprint, and eighth in Co-ed Sprint.

The victorious civil engineering team members are Travis Anderson from Valley Springs, Kathleen Allwine from Duncan Hills, Kira Bulger from Napa, Kevin Dupuis from Auburn, and Jennifer Totten from Walnut Creek. They were assisted by numerous volunteers as well as concrete canoe race paddlers James Elsberry from Willits, John

Layouts from King City, Skye Orvis and Sierra Orvis from Livermore, and Kevin O'Sullivan from Novato, all Cal Poly engineering students.

For details on the contest, visit <http://www.asce.org/inside/nccc2006/index.cfm>.

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*Editors: photos of the Katana at rest and in action in the concrete canoe race are available. For jpgs, contact Teresa Hendrix at [thendrix@calpoly.edu](mailto:thendrix@calpoly.edu).*

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