



## News

University News & Information

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California

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# Cal Poly and San Luis Obispo Welcome the STIHL® TIMBERSPORTS® Series,

## The Nation's Top Lumberjack Competition, to the Golden State

*Pro and Collegiate Lumberjacks Compete for Championship Spots in  
Front of ESPN Cameras*

*at Western Qualifiers Hosted by Cal Poly*

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly will host on its beautiful campus the nation's premier lumberjack competition, the [STIHL® TIMBERSPORTS® Series](#) presented by the Ram Truck Brand, as part of the 72nd annual Association of Western Forestry Clubs conclave March 23-25. The three-day forestry conclave will feature the region's top collegiate and professional lumberjacks in a variety of technical and physical lumberjack disciplines. The competition heats up Friday at 1 p.m. PDT with the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Series Western Collegiate and Professional Qualifiers, a one-on-one, winner-take-all chopping and sawing competition held at Cal Poly Rodeo Arena (Highland Drive and Mount Bishop Road). ESPN2 and ESPNU cameras will be onsite to capture the wood-chopping action. The top collegiate and professional lumberjacks will advance to the STIHL

TIMBERSPORTS Collegiate and Professional U.S. Championships at the Oregon State Fair Aug. 26-28. The event is free and open to the public.

"We're excited to bring the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Series Western Qualifiers and the ESPN cameras to Cal Poly," said Roger Phelps, promotional communications manager, STIHL Inc. "Many of our top collegiate and professional competitors like Mike Forrester, David Green, Rob Waibel and Branden Sirguy hail from the western region. The competition is sure to be close and a true test of precision, power and speed."

More than 250 students from 10 regional colleges and universities including Colorado State University, Humboldt State University, Modesto Junior College, University of California-Berkeley, University of Idaho and University of Nevada-Reno will converge on the Cal Poly campus. Athletes will compete in four professional lumberjack disciplines: the single buck, standing block chop, stock saw and underhand chop in the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Western Collegiate Qualifier. The winner will earn a \$1,000 scholarship from STIHL and advance to the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Collegiate Championship. Not only will ESPNU cameras document the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Western Challenge, they will showcase the Cal Poly Natural Resources Management Department, the Cal Poly campus and San Luis Obispo in front of a national audience. The 2011 Collegiate Series will be televised on ESPNU later this year.

"We are so pleased to host the 2011 Western Qualifier competition here at Cal Poly," said Dr. Doug Piirto, Natural Resources Management Department Head. "The Cal Poly Logging Team students, faculty and staff have worked tirelessly to prepare for this high-profile event. I am very proud of the leadership skills that our students have demonstrated in the process. The team has done a superb job in preparing to compete and to showcase logging sports, their competitive club, and their university."

Long-time STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Series competitor Mike Forrester from Idleyld, Ore., who was featured on Comedy Central's *The Colbert Report* in 2008, will be among 10 of the area's top professional lumberjacks to compete in the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Western Professional Qualifier. Contending for one of four U.S. Championship slots, the pros will race the clock and each other through six lumberjack disciplines, the hot saw, single buck, springboard chop, standing block chop, stock saw and underhand chop. Former collegiate competitor David Green from Sisters, Ore. captured the 2009 and 2010 Western Collegiate Qualifier titles, advancing to the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Collegiate Championship for two consecutive years. He will return to compete at the Western Qualifier, for the first time as a pro.

The Collegiate and Professional Series air on ESPNU and ESPN2, respectively. In addition to the Western Qualifier, the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Series consists of four other regional Collegiate and Professional Series Qualifiers and the U.S. Championships:

- Southern Qualifier hosted by the University of Georgia in Athens, Ga. March 18
- Western Qualifier hosted at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, Calif. March 25
- Midwest Qualifier hosted at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind. April 9
- Mid-Atlantic Qualifier hosted at Penn State-Mont Alto in Mont Alto, Pa. April 17
- Northeast Qualifier hosted at SUNY-Cobleskill in Cobleskill, NY April 30
- Collegiate and U.S. Championship at the Oregon State Fair in Salem, Ore. Aug. 26-28

For the second consecutive year, the Oregon State Fair will host the Collegiate and Professional Championships. In the

Collegiate Series, the five regional competitors and one wildcard pick face off in the single buck, standing block chop, stock saw and underhand chop to determine the nation's top collegiate lumberjack. The collegiate champion wins a buy in to the 2012 Professional Series.

In the Professional Series, the top four pros from each Qualifier advance to the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS U.S. Championship, where they will compete for a slice of the coveted U.S. title and the opportunity to advance to the World Championship in Holland Sept. 3-4. Additional pros will be selected by officials to represent the U.S. in the World Championship Relay Competition.

Established in 1985 by STIHL, the number-one selling brand of outdoor power equipment in America\*, the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Series, billed as the Original Extreme Sport, attracts the world's top lumberjack athletes in a competition based on historic logging techniques. The Series is seen by more than 20 million viewers annually in more than 62 countries on networks such as Eurosport and ESPN, where it is one of the longest running shows.

Since 2003, the Collegiate Series has traveled to college campuses across the country to seek out the best amateur athletes and give them the opportunity to advance in the sport. More than 50 universities and colleges presently compete in the Series. The STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Collegiate Series grooms student athletes to one day take their place among the professional elite. Additionally, ESPNU provides a national platform to not only highlight the competition and the sport, but also spotlight the hosting schools and their forestry programs in the Collegiate Series competition shows.

Get the latest information and up-to-date news and video on all the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Series competitions by going to STIHLTIMBERSPORTS.US. Access behind-the-scenes photos and video on www.Facebook.com/STIHLTIMBERSPORTS and http://www.youtube.com/STIHLTIMBERSPORTSfan.

### **STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Series Western Qualifier**

#### **Professional Competitors**

TJ Bexten	Hoquiam, Wash.
Mike Forrester	Idleyld Park, Ore.
David Green	Sisters, Ore.
James Hartley	Colbert, Wash.
Tom Martin	Bend, Ore.

David Moses	Snoqualmie, Wash.
Derek Pouchnik	Viola, Idaho
Branden Sirguy	Port Angeles, Wash.
Jeff Skirvin	Clatskanie, Ore.
Rob Waibel	West Linn, Ore.

**STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Collegiate Series Western  
Qualifier**

**Participating Schools**

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Central Oregon Community College, Bend, Ore.

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colo.

Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell, Mont.

Humboldt State University, Arcata, Calif.

Modesto Junior College, Modesto, Calif.

Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Ariz.

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Ore.

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, Calif.

University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho

University of Montana, Missoula, Mont.

University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, Nev.

**About STIHL Inc.**

STIHL Inc. manufactures the world's largest selling brand of chain saws and produces a full line of powerful, lightweight, and versatile handheld outdoor power equipment for homeowners and professional users. STIHL products are sold through independent servicing power equipment retailers from coast to coast – not mass merchants. STIHL products sold through U.S. STIHL dealers are for distribution in the United States only. For more information or for the name of the closest STIHL retailer call toll free 1-800-GO STIHL (1-800-467-8445) or visit STIHL's website at [www.stihlusa.com](http://www.stihlusa.com).

*"Number one selling brand" is based on syndicated Irwin Broh Research (commercial landscapers) as well as independent consumer research of 2010 U.S. sales and market share data for the gasoline-powered handheld outdoor power equipment category combined sales to consumers and commercial landscapers.*

STIHL Inc. is the official underwriting sponsor of the STIHL® TIMBERSPORTS® Series. The series airs throughout the year on the ESPN2 cable network, and the STIHL® TIMBERSPORTS® Collegiate Series airs on ESPNU. The STIHL® TIMBERSPORTS® SERIES is the pinnacle event in lumberjack sports. Since 1985 the Series has grown to become the premier showcase of the decades old sport of lumberjacking with competitions held around the world.

The term TIMBERSPORTS® is a registered trademark owned by ANDREAS STIHL AG & Co. KG. and refers to the series of disciplines and competitions that are part of the STIHL® TIMBERSPORTS® Series. As such, it should not be used as a generic description of the overall sport of lumberjack sports. This trademark refers to all modifications of the term TIMBERSPORTS such as timber sports, or timbersport. The term TIMBERSPORTS should always appear in conjunction with "STIHL."

### **About Ram Truck Brand**

With a work-hard, play-hard attitude, the Ram Truck brand offers the boldest, most powerful and capable pickup truck lineup on the planet.

Introduced in 2008, the Ram 1500 is a game changer in terms of its ability to "outsmart" and "out-tough" the competition with its bold exterior design, crafted and refined interior, engineering excellence, superb innovation and best-in-class features and amenities.

The Ram Truck brand added to its award-winning truck lineup with the introduction of the 2010 Ram 2500 and 3500 Heavy Duty trucks. Ram heavy-duty trucks provide customers with first-time innovations and features along with new standards of strength, utility and driveability, building on the Ram's leadership in the heavy-duty pickup segment.

The Ram Truck brand is further enhancing its commercial vehicle presence with a "new crew" of commercial-grade work trucks: the new 2011 Ram 3500, 4500 and 5500 Chassis Cabs. Led by an all-new crew cab, the new 2011 Ram Chassis Cabs are built on a proven frame and chassis, and engineered for maximum uptime, optimum performance and enhanced commercial capability.

### **About California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo**

Cal Poly is a public university, part of the 23-campus California State University system. With a student body of about 19,000, Cal Poly ranks among the nation's top 10 universities for producing graduates in engineering, architecture and agriculture – graduates crucial to America's most critical industries. Cal Poly is known for its small classes and expert faculty who take pride in their ability to transform academically motivated students into innovative professional leaders.

Founded in 1901, Cal Poly has earned national distinction for its hands-on Learn by Doing teaching approach and, among other accolades, has been named the best public master's university in the West for 18 consecutive years by U.S. News & World Report. Cal Poly's students enjoy access to state-of-the-art laboratories as well as the university's 10,000 acres of

ranchland, orchards, vineyards and forests – Cal Poly’s “living laboratories.”

The College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences includes 3,700 students in ten departments. The Natural Resource Management Department, which oversees the Cal Poly Forestry Club and Logging Team, celebrates its 40th anniversary this month.

Nestled between the Pacific Ocean and Edna Valley’s world-class vineyards, Cal Poly’s campus is located in the central coast town of San Luis Obispo, consistently rated as one of America’s best places to live. For more information about Cal Poly, visit [www.calpoly.edu](http://www.calpoly.edu).

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