



# COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY RODEO CLUB NEWSLETTER



*The 2022 – 2023 Colorado State Rodeo Team*



**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**

[www.colostaterodeo.com](http://www.colostaterodeo.com)

Head coach Seth Peterson: [seth.c.peterson3@gmail.com](mailto:seth.c.peterson3@gmail.com)



# A Note from Bruce & Nikki

We are very proud to see the CSU Rodeo's program grow. Our enthusiasm was cemented since our daughter Lake Mehalic (barrel racer) qualified for the CNFR several years in a row. While the program is still moving in the right direction,

we are determined to reach our \$2MM Rodeo Endowment goal. This endowment was established to bolster a healthy Rodeo program and aid student scholarships, a coaching staff and be one of the best Rodeo Teams in the country.

With your help, each year we are gaining traction towards this goal. Thank you to all that have helped us along the way.

*- Bruce & Nikki Halle*

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# This Year's Officers

## 2022-2023 CSU Rodeo President

### MURPHY BOHLMANN

*Steamboat Springs, CO*  
*Communications Studies*

• Murphy Bohlmann is a 4th year student at CSU who came to the rodeo team in 2022. Murphy is new to the rodeo world, but he took to the sport like a natural and quickly became one of the most prominent members of the team. At the end of the 2021-22 season, Murphy was elected President for the following year and received an award for 2022 Top Member of the Year. He wants to be a

rodeo announcer one day, if sports broadcasting doesn't work out.

• When Murphy is not learning how to rope, ride, or steer wrestle, he spends his time in the woods. He is an avid big game and waterfowl hunter. In the winter time he also competes in ice fishing competitions.

• Murphy has taken his role as the new team President to heart, and it is his goal to make our Skyline Stampede rodeo the Rodeo of the Year in 2023.



*[murphy.bohlmann@colostate.edu](mailto:murphy.bohlmann@colostate.edu)*

## 2022-2023 CSU Rodeo Vice President

### WALKER POLHAMUS

*Sparta, WI*  
*Construction Management*

• Walker is a Junior at CSU and is a Steer Wrestler. He hopes to begin Calf Roping in the fall of 2023 as well. He put his rodeo career on hold to serve in the United States Marine Corps, but now is back in the sport.

• Walker grew up riding at local gymkhanas as a kid before his parents finally let him rodeo. His fam-

ily rodeod as well, and after he won his first rodeo he knew he could never give it up.

• When he graduates he plans to become a Construction Project Engineer and start a real estate and property management company. He also dreams of becoming a World Champion Steer Wrestler in the near future.

• Walker is not in the arena he enjoys archery large game hunting



and backpacking. He also enjoys traveling.

• He has a dog named Max and enjoys listening to Drayton Farley and Cross Canadian Ragweed.

*[walker@polhamus.net](mailto:walker@polhamus.net)*



# This Year's Officers

## 2022-2023 CSU Rodeo Treasurer

### RYLEY HASENACK

*Hoback, WY*  
*Equine Science*

formance Horse Rehabilitation Facility.

- Ryley Hasenack is a Junior at CSU who competes in Breakaway and Barrel Racing. She developed a love for horses at an early age when her neighbor would take her for rides around the pasture when she was a toddler. Being from Wyoming, rodeo was just a way of life and culture for her, and she was soon hooked.

- When Ryley finishes her B.S., she will pursue a Master's in her field and use her talents to specialize in Equine Sports Medicine. One day she is going to open her own Per-

- Ryley is a serious competitor, and she is chasing the CNFR this year. However, she continues her performance in the local jackpots and pro rodeos. She is hoping to make Circuit Finals next year. But one day she will be competing in Las Vegas.

- Ryley is all cowgirl, but outside of the arena she has plenty of other talents. She raced snowmobiles professionally on the national level, and plays soccer and surfs.

- She is an avid Jordan Davis fan, but please do not let her dance. She will try....

[ryley.hasenack@colostate.edu](mailto:ryley.hasenack@colostate.edu)



## 2022-2023 CSU Rodeo Secretary

### KAIA PETRONE

*Redding, CT*  
*Equine Science, ASL Minor*

tic riding instructor.

- Kaia Petrone is a Junior at CSU with the goal of competing in Barrel Racing in the fall of 2023. She entered the horse/rodeo scene by going to local gymkhanas and jackpots in her hometown of Connecticut. She is transitioning into rodeo at the collegiate level and wants to pro rodeo after college.

- After college, Kaia also wants to become a therapeu-

- When Kaia is not involved in rodeo she does photography and snowmobiling.

- Kaia has a pet parrot named Turkey. Yes, you read that right.

- She is a country music fan as well, and listens to Jason Aldean, Corey Kent, and Cody Johnson.

[kaia.petrone@colostate.edu](mailto:kaia.petrone@colostate.edu)



# This Year's Seniors

## JARED SINCLAIR

*Alamosa, CO*  
*Agricultural Business*

• Jared Sinclair is a Senior at CSU and graduates in fall of 2022. He has been a valuable member of the rodeo team during his time here, and has always been supportive to all the members. He is the perfect example of the type of student-athlete the team produces.

• Jared has been roping and riding his whole life. He comes from a rodeo and ranching family, so he grew up with a rope in his hand. Although he is gradu-

ating, he will continue to rope at local jackpots and PRCAs. His goal is to make it to Mountain States Circuit Finals and the WSTR finals in Las Vegas.

• When he graduates, he is going to have his hands full. He wants to become a Certified General Appraiser, run cows for a cow-calf operation, train horses, and take over the family farm.

• Jared is an avid hunter and fisherman. He also hangs up his cowboy hat in the winter months to enjoy skiing and snowmobiling.



• He has a pet mini-Ausie named Rex and enjoys listening to Tyler Childers and Pecos & The Roof-tops.

## ALEXIS SCHNURPFEIL

*San Rafael, CA*  
*HDFS Pre-Health*

• Lexi Schnurpfeil (Sh-nerp-file) is a Senior at CSU and graduates fall of 2022. Lexi has been a prominent rodeo team member and has always been an exciting face to see. She competes in Barrel Racing and travels with her teammate, Dani.

• She grew up going to her Grandma's ranch in Northern California and attended lots of peewee play days and gymkhanas. In middle school, she joined 4H and started competing at jackpots in Barrel Racing. In high school, she competed in D2 California



High School Rodeo.

• Lexi rides a 6 year old AQHA named Tina and has a dog named Roo who, quite hilariously, howls along in tune to Colter Wall's cover of Cowpoke.

• After school Lexi plans to pursue a career in medical health-care and plans to learn how to rope. When not horseback, she coaches volleyball, antiquing/thrifting, concerts, and exploring new places with her dogs and fiancé Lucas.

• She enjoys listening to Colter Wall, Mac Miller, or Charley Crockett.



# Coaches Press Release

## *Peterson and Docheff Take the Reins of the CSU Rodeo Team*

Colorado State University is pleased to announce Seth Peterson and Chisum Docheff as the new coaches for the historic Colorado State University Rodeo Team. These two rodeo professionals are stalwart competitors on the Pro Rodeo Cowboys Association circuit and have agreed to recruit, teach, and train Colorado State University student athletes with a goal to inspire a competitive rodeo spirit.

Seth Peterson, the new CSU Rodeo Team Head Coach, is a resident of Wellington, Colorado, and a 2021 graduate of the University of Wyoming. Peterson is a three-time Collegiate National Final Qualifier and the 2021 Reserve Champion All-Around Cowboy at the Collegiate National Finals held in Casper, Wyoming. Peterson extended his rodeo success to the pro ranks where he is a two-time PRCA

Mountain State Circuit Finalist. In 2021, Peterson was the Champion Steer Wrestler for the region. When he is not on the road riding and competing at PRCA events, Peterson is a professional horseman training performance horses.

Assistant Coach Chisum Docheff competed collegiately at Northwestern Colorado Junior College. Docheff graduated in 2012 before turning professional where he has been a five-time PRCA Mountain State Circuit Finals qualifier in steer wrestling. In 2019, Docheff was named the Mountain State Circuit Final Champion. Docheff was honored to receive the award for Steer Wrestling Horse of the Year for the Mountain States Circuit in 2019 and 2021. In between his rodeo seasons, Docheff is a fifth-generation dairyman and has returned to the family dairy, Blue Sky Dairy, located in Mead, Colorado.

“Growing up on a dairy farm has been my number one teacher on the meaning of true work ethic,” says Docheff. “Commitment, hard work and a competitive positive attitude is what drives success. That is what I hope Seth and I can bring to CSU Rodeo Team.”

“Both Seth and Chisum are outstanding horsemen and young men of high character,” says Craig Huffhines, Colorado State University Director of Equine Sciences Programs. “Bringing two professional athletes on board is a gamechanger for the

*Below: Seth Peterson*

*Bottom left: Chisum Docheff*



CSU Rodeo Team. These coaches will be outstanding role models for our student athletes. They possess a keen understanding of the challenges of academic life where the classroom comes first. In addition, they understand that hard work and a focus on personal wellness and fitness is key to being successful for both the contestants and their horses.”

“Collegiate rodeo shaped my life,” says Peterson. “We hope to instill in our student athletes an understanding of what it means to be excellent at everything we do - from providing great care of our horses and making sure our trucks and trailers are clean and operative to being a good roommate and prioritizing great study habits. Attention to every detail helps students become better rodeo athletes and better future professionals regardless of what career journey they pursue. Under this type of mindset and commitment, the Colorado State University Rodeo Team can be competitive at the Collegiate National Finals level.”

*Seth Peterson: 701-833-7091*

*seth.c.peterson3@gmail.com*

*Chisum Docheff: 970-443-7760*



# Meet the Inductees

## Jim Quick

**J**im Quick grew up on a farm in Niwot, Colorado, where he began trimming horses at the age of seven and shoeing horses at 14.

Horseshoeing helped put Jim through college at Colorado State University, where he earned a degree in Animal Science in 1991.

As an American Farriers Association Certified Journeyman Farrier, Jim won many horseshoeing competitions throughout the United States, including the North American Challenge Cup in 2003 and the National Championship in 2005. Fourteen times he was a Top Ten Finalist at the World Championship



Blacksmiths Competition in Calgary. He has also been a member of the American Farriers Team and

the World Championship Blacksmiths team several times.

Jim considers it an honor to be appointed by his peers as a judge for the World Championship Blacksmiths Competition in Calgary, The International Team Horseshoeing Championships in Stoneleigh, England, the American Farriers Association National Championship, and The World Horseshoeing Classic competition, along with several State Competitions across the US and abroad.

While maintaining a full-time farrier practice, Jim travels the world promoting farrier education as a clinician for the state, regional, and national farrier associations, as well as universities and nationally recognized educational institutes.

## Don Ray Yates

**D**on Ray Yates attended CSU aka Colorado State A&M from 1952-1957. His col-

orful stories of how they were able to make events are movie worthy and hilarious. Don competed in Bull Riding, Bareback Riding, Calf Roping, & Saddle Bronc Riding.

Don entered Colorado State as a Vocational Agriculture Major. In his freshman year, he won the Bull Riding at the Annual College Days Rodeo in Ft. Collins. In 1954 in Ames, IW, Don won the Calf Roping, Bull Riding, and second in the Bareback Riding. Teammates Bob Sheild won the bareback riding and John Gee won the steer wrestling, both former inductees. They were a force to be reckoned with.

In 1954, Don qualified for the College Finals in Bull Riding. He was a member of the 1954 Colorado A&M Rodeo Team that won

the National Championship in Lake Charles, LA. This was the

*continued...*





# Meet the Inductees



...continued

first time a Non-Texas school took the championship scoring a total

of 3,506 points. This was a coop for the university and celebrated by all. In his Senior Year, 1956, Don was elected President of the Colorado A&M Rodeo Club. That year he won the National Intercollegiate Championship in Bareback Riding, which included 52 colleges and universities.

While attending Colorado A&M, Don was a member of the Rodeo Club, Livestock Club, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. Don graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Colorado A & M (CSU) in 1957. He is a proud veteran and served our country in Korea. Don accepted a position with Farm Bureau Financial Service where he worked until his retirement in 2013. He received the Silver Spurs Award for 25 years & The Crystal Bowl Award

for 35 years of dedicated service from the Farm Bureau. His accomplishments are many and to us....He truly is one of CSU's ALL AROUND COWBOYS!



## Merlue Frasier Davies

**M**erlue Frasier Davies has been a long-time champion in supporting the CSU Rodeo Team and Club. After graduating high school at 16, she attended Arizona State University. Plaque with asthma, she conquered rodeo events with grit and desire. She transferred to CSU in 1960 to study Business Law and Agriculture. She made great grades and overcame more than the average competitor.

Merlue competed in the Goat Tying and Barrel Racing events. She was also very instrumental in community outreach and fundraising for the team during her time at CSU from 1960-1963.

In 1963 Merlue organized the Barrel Racing clinic & BBQ which

was a huge success and included the students, public & alumni. This event helped galvanize the deep-rooted legacy and commitment of the CSU Rodeo. She continued to lead the way with Jackpots, Western Fashion Shows, and famous guest speakers...she was a renaissance cowgirl with a desire to share her evangelical passion for Rodeo.

Merlue often took her father's roping horses and trained them to be competitive barrel racing horses. She also founded the Nebraska Cowgirl Association at the ripe age of 18.

Merlue resides on a

ranch in Wellington, CO, and continues to be a huge supporter of CSU Rodeo. She is a breast cancer survivor. She is a true champion on many levels!





## Dino Loukas

*Chicago Cowboy*

**D**ino's love for bulldogging (steer wrestling) and cowboy lifestyle developed from 1998 to 2000 after joining the CSU Rodeo Team. Dino worked hard at perfecting his techniques and displayed his dedication as the club President.

After graduating with a business degree in 2000, Loukas returned to Chicago to work in his father's real estate development company, but he missed the rodeo arena and the camaraderie of the "bulldoggers". He rounded up some cowboys to travel with to compete in Rodeos in the Midwest.

Dino Loukas, Greek - American

raised in the city of Chicago, was a member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA). Dino competed in Steer Wrestling in the Great Lakes Circuit of the PRCA from 2000 to 2006.

In Pocatello, Idaho, Louka's 2006 PRCA season got rolling with a tie for the win at Millington, TN. In May he was ranked eighth in his circuit. Dino's rodeo career ended abruptly on June 2, 2006, when he suffered a severe brain injury at a Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association Rodeo. The horse he was riding kicked him in his head during the steer wrestling in Medford, WI. However traumatic, Dino applied the values he was raised on to triumphantly overcome his injury.

Dino continues to be a CSU Rodeo hero. His firsthand perspective



of a man who rose through the rodeo ranks and then had the life as he knew it stripped from him and then worked his way back to conquer new challenges is Herculean. His steadfast drive and dedication to the sport, work, family, health, and rodeo are the many reasons why he is one of our 2023 CSU Rodeo Wall of Fame Inductees.

*Distinguished Alumni:*

## Roy W. Lilley

**A**s a Larimer County native, Roy W. Lilley graduated from Cache la Poudre High School in LaPorte, Colorado in 1948. After graduating from high school, Roy began attending Colorado A&M (now Colorado State University) and joined the Rodeo Club as a competing member. During Roy's time at Colorado State University, he was a College National Finals Qualifier for Saddle Bronc Riding in 1951. In 1952, he proved his worth as an all-around cowboy by qualifying for the CNFR in all three rough stock events: saddle

bronc riding, bareback riding, and bull riding. After graduation, Roy made his mark in the beef cattle industry in a big way. Throughout his career, Roy served as the Assistant Executive Secretary of the American National Cattleman's As-



sociation, Executive Vice President of the International Brangus Association, and Executive Vice President of the Nebraska Stock Grower's Association/Nebraska Livestock Feeders Association. In recent years, Roy has become a published author for his book "Just As I am" in 2018. Roy was honored at the 2019 Wall of Fame Inductee Banquet and continues to support CSU Rodeo. This past summer in Casper, WY at the CNFR, Roy received the trophy for the 1952 CSU Champion team from NIRA. He is graciously gifting it to our CSU Rodeo archives and being honored with the "Distinguished Alumni" award this year.

*Additional 2023 Inductee:*

## Butch Meyers



# Update from the College of Agricultural Sciences

**H**ello CSU Rodeo Family, As we start a new semester and calendar year, we proudly reflect on a successful fall semester in the College of Agricultural Sciences, and all the ways we were able to affirm our commitment to doing more of the important work that agriculture is known for.

In alignment with the University's record high enrollment numbers, the College of Agricultural Sciences also saw an increase in students enrolled in the college's five departments last fall. Our incoming class joined an extraordinary group of returning students who collectively represent a bright future for agriculture, and we are committed to ensuring that they all succeed.

The fall semester provided the opportunity to convene in our new home for agriculture – the Nutrien Agricultural Sciences Building – to learn, discover, collaborate and work together



on some of the most pressing challenges facing our industry and the world, today and in the future. If you haven't had a chance to visit yet, we hope to see you soon.

We also celebrated Ag Day on campus for the 41st time, with a week of celebrations leading up to the Nutrien Ag Day BBQ, which provided a chance for us to come to the table to share a meal and our gratitude for all involved in Colorado agriculture. With strong ticket sales of more than 3,500, we are extremely thankful for the impact that goes directly to support students

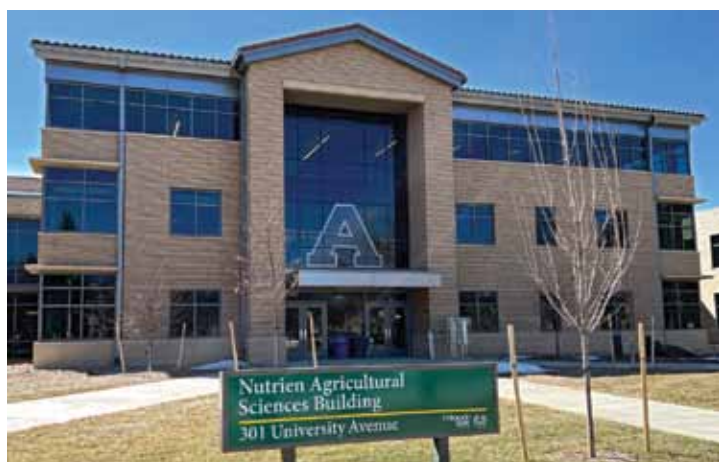
through the Ag Day Scholarship.

December offered a time to celebrate our outstanding graduates and newest alumni who are going on to pursue advanced

education opportunities and careers in agriculture. It also marked the completion of the final building at CSU's Spur Campus at the National Western Center in Denver. Agriculture is well represented in all three buildings – Vida, Terra, and now Hydro – and we invite you to visit and engage. Learn more at [csuspur.org](http://csuspur.org).

With the start of a new year, we remain grateful for your engagement and for the opportunities that lie ahead. Please keep us updated with any changes to your contact information or life events by emailing us at [cas\\_vip@mail.colostate.edu](mailto:cas_vip@mail.colostate.edu) or completing an online update at [advancing.colostate.edu/AGUPDATE](http://advancing.colostate.edu/AGUPDATE).

We look forward to the opportunity to continue sharing great news from CSU Rodeo as well as other activities in the College of Agricultural Sciences. On behalf of Dean Pritchett and the entire College, we wish you a happy new year and will see you at the Skyline Stampede.





# CSU Rodeo

## Growing Competitiveness

*Keith E. Belk*

*Professor & Head – Department of Animal Sciences*

Welcome to the 2022/2023 academic year at CSU, and a renewed commitment to our Rodeo programming. I would like to start this update with a welcome and big thankyou to Craig Huffhines, Director of Equine Sciences & Elite Genetics and Holder of the Wagonhound Chair. Since beginning at CSU in August of 2021, Craig has worked tirelessly to improve our equine programming and, in particular, to strengthen our rodeo opportunities. He comes to us after serving as the senior executive officer for the American Quarter Horse Association and we are glad that he is now on our team helping to provide better education and industry service options for our stakeholders.

Please watch for several efforts to improve our rodeo programming in 2022/2023. I think that you will be pleased! Our goal is to provide broader and more sophisticated instruction and opportunities for students, and we feel that we will become more attractive to those with interests in rodeo and event planning. Our basis

for wanting to improve our competitiveness and scope relates to the effort that existing students in the program and sponsors have shown—the passion and effort put forth by these groups is an endeavor worth nurturing.

We are looking forward to hosting the 2023 Skyline Stampede, the oldest college intercollegiate rodeo on record. Although plans for the rodeo are still evolving, we expect to host another outstanding event at our Equine Teaching and Research Center on the Foothills Campus. I again here express my gratitude to our many sponsors, and especially those that are helping us to revamp our rodeo programming. In addition, my sincere thanks again go out to Nikke Halle for remaining steadfast in her support for the program and for helping us to think about a new future for rodeo at CSU moving forward.

I want to thank Branden Ferguson for serving as coach for the team for the past several years. Branden just recently made the decision to step down, and we look forward to what comes next. In addition, Whit-



ney Simmons of the Agricultural Experiment Station's AR-DEC facility continues to serve as faculty advisor to the Club, and thanks for her service cannot be adequately expressed—but we are grateful!

We are now back to 99% F2F curriculum and continue to endeavor to provide students with the very best in animal and equine sciences education. I wish everyone associated with our rodeo program my best regards for the 2022/2023 academic year and here's to continued growth in our impact and competitiveness!

# *Gone But Not Forgotten* **Ronald Ericsson**

*July 17, 1935 – Dec 22, 2022*

**R**onald James Ericsson, age 87 of Belle Fourche, passed away Thursday, December 22, 2022 on his ranch in Wyoming. He was a scientist, rancher, businessman, father and grandfather, brother, and husband to his beloved wife Jean (deceased). No service will be held.

Ronald was born July 17, 1935 in Belle Fourche, SD. He was the son of Virginia Yvonne (Clarkson) and Arnold Ericsson, and one of six children. He grew up in western South Dakota in a family of homesteaders that were Swedish and English. He would describe his upbringing as “today they talk about work ethic, but back then you just worked. You had chores, you milked the cows and fed the chickens. You did what you had to do; you grew up”. Ron had a job at age 13 working with his grandparents, who had a 50,000 acre ranch. Neither of his grandparents drove vehicles, because they had horses. One pasture was 5,000 acres, and Ron’s job was to ride on the cattle.

Ron lived and attended elementary school in Belle Fourche, SD, and as a 10-year-old he lived on the same block as the girl he would later marry. Ron had several siblings - Donna Ericsson Freemole (deceased),



Lynn Ericsson (deceased); he is survived by his brothers Roland and Lee Ericsson, and his sister Beverly Keegan. While in school in Belle Fourche, Ron played the saxophone, was a calf-roper in the rodeo, and became an Eagle Scout.

Ron married his wife Jean on August 19, 1956. Both Jean and Ron went to college in Fort Collins, CO at Colorado A&M University (now Colorado State University) where Ron played polo; he also served as a Captain in the U.S. Army Reserve



from 1958-1968. Ron pursued his PhD and worked as a scientist, while Jean raised their two children, Julie Anderson (Gary) and Scott Ericsson (Patricia). Ron's career took Jean and their family all over the world for work assignments - living in Germany, Iran, Michigan, Marin County, CA, Wisconsin, Idaho and Kentucky.

From 1987 until his death, Ron served as President of Androscore Corporation and Gametrics Limited, which he headquartered in Alzada, MT, and operated from his ranch in the northeastern corner of WY. Earlier in his career, Ron founded Gametrics Limited in Sausalito, CA (1974-1985); was an Investigator at the Institute of Research in Human Reproduction in Tehran, Iran (1973-1974); a Special Consultant at Schering AG in Berlin, Germany (1971-1973); he taught as an Adjunct Associate Professor at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI (1964-1971); was a Senior Research Scientist at the Upjohn Company in Kalamazoo, MI (1964-1971); a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, WI (1963-1964); and a Research Assistant at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, KY (1960-1963).

Ron authored and contributed to more than 75 scientific publications in medical and biological journals, as well as textbooks, in the field of male reproduction. He co-authored

the book "Getting Pregnant in the 1980s" (1982) and was the subject of more than 1,000 interviews worldwide for television, radio, newspapers, magazines, and books. Ron held 10 patents, in methods for: preventing impregnation, rodent sterilization, determination of capacitation of sperm employing a fluorescent form of tetracycline, controlling fertility, fractionation of sperm, sperm fractionation and storage, increasing incidence of female offspring, increasing economic value of breeding stock semen, a method used in testing human males for fertility, and a kit for testing human males for fertility.

Additionally, Ron continued his father's and grandfather's legacy as a rancher and managed several ranches, including: Lonesome Country Limited Ranch (1969-2014); Lonesome Country Ranch (2014 - Present); Bull Pine Properties Limited Ranch (2002-2012); and Bull Pine Ranch (2012-Present). Eventually, Ron and his wife Jean settled on their Lonesome Country Ranch outside of Alzada, MT, in the northeastern corner of WY. At the WY ranch house, Ron and Jean would host their grandchildren Marie (Andres) Ericsson, Spencer (Brie) Ericsson, and William Anderson during summer vacations. Ron would teach his grandchildren range management, and foster values for being good stewards of the land. He took them on horseback cattle drives, told stories of his childhood and

attended rodeos and Clarkson and Ericsson family reunions.

Ron and Jean brought their grandchildren on many travels to national and state parks, historical sites and international trips - experiences which their grandchildren will always value. In later years, Ron and Jean began spending winters down in Alpine, TX where they were closer to their son Scott and his family. From the TX house, Ron would operate Gametrics and Androscore during winters, while seeing more of his grandchildren Spencer and Marie. Ron was an ambitious businessman with a passion for science, but he never hesitated to tell those who would listen of his humble beginnings in SD, and of the land and family life which inspired his work ethic.

Ron is survived by two great grandsons, Weston and Quentin, who he did not get to meet, but who will be raised with his stories, knowledge of land management, and legacy of ranching in WY. He will be remembered with steadfast respect for his drive to succeed, and the resilience that facilitated his accomplishments. When asked, he would attribute these qualities to his mother, who "told me the reason I am a success is that I did not quit. I said "sometimes one has to quit" and her reply was "you didn't"."

To order memorial trees or send flowers to the family in memory of Ronald Ericsson, please visit our flower store.

# Rodeo, A Yates Family Thing

*By Barb Freese Jolly*

*Information provided by Raeana Yates Wadhams*

**T**he Yates family is just one example of those who participated in rodeo for CSU as students, went on to form families that are now a great part of our present day rodeo scene.

Don, who is a 2023 CSU Rodeo Wall of fame inductee, is written about in that section. His sons Danny & Cam are both talented team ropers but neither joined the amateur or professional rodeo ranks.

Brother Dick was a member of the CSU rodeo team and qualified for College National Finals three years, working 5 events. He is currently a Gold Card Member of the PRCA. He qualified 13 times for the NFR in Team Roping with son JD. Dick served on the PRCA Board of Directors during the crucial time when NFR moved from Oklahoma City to Las Vegas. At age 82, with partner Guy Camstick, Dick won one of the large paying team ropings at the South Point in Las Vegas. Dick, with daughter Kelly and son JD, are the only father, daughter & son to ever compete at the NFR in the same year, 1984.

Dick's son JD made 21 trips to the NFR in team roping and 11 times in steer roping. He qualified for the CNFR four years and won the CNFR team roping championship in 1980 with partner Bret Trenary. JD



JD, Trey and Dick Yates after Trey, with partner Tyler Wade, win at the 2022 NFR.

has been inducted into the Cheyenne Frontier Days Hall of Fame and the Pendleton Roundup Hall of Fame. Both Dick and JD have recently been inducted into the Ellensburg Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame.

Dicks Grandson (JD's son) Trey Yates qualified for the CNFR 3 times & won the team roping championship in 2018 with partner Kellen Johnson. Trey made his 3rd appearance at the NFR this year (2022). He was the NFR Average Champion in 2018 with partner Aaron Tsinigine.

Don & Dick's sister Raeana Yates Wadhams son Jay qualified for CNFR 4 years at So. Co. State and qualified for the NFR

twice. Jay's son Bryer qualified for the CNFR & Reece hopes to this year.

Don & Dicks sister Sharon Yates Miller went to So. Co. State where she excelled in breakaway roping, goat typing & barrels.

(Barb's note: Only Don & Dick attended CSU. For the most part the other family chose colleges that supported rodeo with scholarships. Would CSU's rodeo history look different if we had offered good scholarships? Please consider supporting CSU's rodeo scholarship fund at: [colostaterodeo.com](http://colostaterodeo.com)



# A GRAND THANK YOU to Coach Branden Ferguson

**B**randen has been the head coach of the CSU Rodeo Club for the past 5 years. A position that started as a volunteer evolved into something greater: hard work, cultivating relationships, mentoring young athletes, and lots of time.

After 5 years, Branden decided in the fall semester to pass the reigns of coaching to launch the program to the next phase. During his tenure, Branden led the team closer to becoming one of the premier college rodeo

programs in the region! Branden has said, "It has been humbling to be a part

of this program and to see the growth in the team. It is every cowboy's dream to find a place in rodeo after competing where they can contribute and give back to a sport". Branden was a great coach and the support of his children Brody and KaDee and wife McKenna, made it that much better-it was a family affair. He is excited to continue seeing the doors that God opens for the future. Craig Huffines, Director of Equine Science Dept, "We commend volunteerism and appreciate ALL that coach Ferguson and his family did for CSU Rodeo."

Thankyou, Coach Branden!



## Seth's Spotlight

**I** am honored to have the opportunity to impact the lives of student athletes involved with the CSU Rodeo Team. The rich history of the program will help us understand the true meaning of success in and out of the arena. We choose to rely on our historic past to guide us as we achieve our goals for the future. College rodeo teaches young adults many life lessons that no other sport can duplicate. I hope to help each individual on their journey of truly getting to know themselves as they battle the ups and downs life will throw at them. I believe

one doesn't truly know the person they are until they are given the opportunity to be independent and make meaningful decisions. Our student athletes will decide who they truly want to be in life going through the hills and valleys of competing at the collegiate level. Finding ways to win, one day at a time, is an attribute I've found successful people to have. Remaining resilient will help define our students' propose in life, and will grow confidence in knowing that they did everything they could that day to be successful. Our goal is the pursuit



of excellence while living up to our full potential. These attributes, along with countless life lessons, will bring life long success to our student athletes.

# Thank You to Barb Freese Jolly

Barbara Freese Jolly graduated from Colorado A&M (now CSU) in 1956. During her time at CO A&M, she was very active in the Rodeo Club. She now deems herself the “unofficial historian of the CSU Rodeo Club.” Official or not, Barb is responsible for keeping the tradition of CSU Rodeo alive. She has put together an annual newsletter for all of the CSU Rodeo Alumni since the early 1970s. Barb has been instrumental in ensuring that the “Ol’ Gang”,

as she fondly refers to her fellow club members, stays and remains close to each other and their Alma Mater. Barb has also worked tirelessly to maintain the rodeo history in the CSU Archives. The Colorado State University Club is so thankful for all of the work that Barb has done. Barb is a CSU Rodeo “Wall of Fame Inductee” and recipient of our “Distinguished Alumni” award. We consider her the glue to keeping us all connected through the years.



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## *Gone but not forgotten*

Charles Kirk

Jack Laurence

Keith Perry

Tim Mantle

Tom Tuell

Jack Horn

Ron Ericsson, & Bill Ward

Marilyn Hansen

Polly Collins Johnson

Vicki Calnon Callicrate

Gary Deter

Joe Fisher Dixon

Ginny Holmes Forney

Tom Holtorf

Dick Fenwick

Ivo Lindauer

Ken Rowe.



**DISCOUNT  
TIRE**

AND THE COLORADO STATE RODEO TEAM PRESENT:

RN  
MARKETING

ART BY BRADLEY CHANCE HAYES



72ND ANNUAL



# *Skyline Stampede*

**MARCH 31 - APRIL 2, 2023**

MARCH 31 & APRIL 1 | 7PM START | APRIL 2 | 10AM START  
ADMISSION | \$10 ADULTS, \$5 FOR STUDENTS & CHILDREN (CASH ONLY)

BW PICKETT ARENA  
735 S. OVERLAND TRAIL  
FORT COLLINS, CO 80523





# Skyline Stampede

March 31 - April 2, 2023

B.W. Pickett Arena, Fort Collins, CO



Presented by



## SKYLINE STAMPEDE SPONSOR LEVELS

<input type="checkbox"/> Ram \$10,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Gold \$5,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Green \$2,500	<input type="checkbox"/> Silver \$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze \$500	<input type="checkbox"/> Orange \$250
------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------

	Ram	Gold	Green	Silver	Bronze	Orange
Opportunity to address the rodeo crowd from the microphone	X	X				
Recognition in radio announcements	X	X	X			
Opportunity to distribute company promotional item to attendees	X	X	X			
PA announcement at rodeo	X	X	X	X		
Banners at rodeo	Gate	Gate	Wall	Wall		
Recognized in Social Media posts	5 posts	3 posts	2 posts	1 post		
VIP Rodeo Seating	10	8	4	2	2	
Logo on select Club apparel	Logo	Logo	Name	Name	Name	
Color acknowledgement / mention in rodeo program	Full page - inside front cover	Full page - inside back cover	Half Page & in Event Description	1/2 Page	1/4 Page	Business Card

☐ I do not wish to receive sponsor benefits in exchange for my donation. Please designate 100% of this contribution to the CSU Rodeo Club.

## SPONSOR INFORMATION

Name

This gift is from ☐ Me ☐ My spouse/partner and me ☐ My organization

Spouse's/Partner's Full Name

Organization's Full Name

Address  City, State, Zip

Phone  E-mail

## GIFT INFORMATION

☐ Enclosed is my/our check, payable to the Colorado State University Foundation.

Mail checks to CSU Foundation's secure mailbox at: CSU Foundation, PO Box 1870, Fort Collins, CO 80522



☐ Charge this gift payment of \$  to my/our:

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Card #  Expires  Card Security Code

Name on Card  Signature

Consult your tax advisor to determine the tax-deductibility of your contribution.

A2305 / 66745

## \$25,000 - \$30,000 in scholarships available for the 2023/2024 academic year

CSU Rodeo 2022/2023 Scholarship Recipients: Walker Polhamus, Makenna Byrne, Ryley Hasenack, Murphy Bohlmann, Kaia Ppetrone, Mackenzie Widmer

# Rodeo Club Giving 2022 Snapshot

Whether it's in the arena or in the classroom, CSU Rodeo Club athletes are driven to win. Your support for these exceptional students gives them the necessary resources to thrive in all areas of their lives, and the lives they touch.

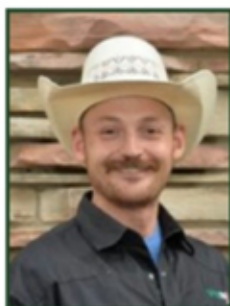


\$229,240.50 giving in 2022

236 donors

- 102 Friends
- 44 CSU Alumni
- 42 Businesses

23 Gifts-In-Kind



"Scholarships are more than just a check to a student, they are a demonstration of valuing education and the younger generation. Your philanthropy is directly linked with the success of young students today. Thank you!"

**Walker Polhamus**  
CSU Rodeo Team 22/23 Vice-President  
Rodeo Club Scholarship 22/23



"Being able to have the support to get me through four years of college to receive my degree, and have the option to go on to pursue my Master's is incredible."

**Ryley Hasenack**  
CSU Rodeo Team 22/23 Treasurer  
Mike Cervi, Jr. Memorial Scholarship 22/23



Visit <https://colostaterodeo.com> to learn how to give towards CSU Rodeo Team