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*For immediate release:*

### **ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS PLACE 1ST IN LINEMAN RODEO**

**ALPENA, MICH.** – Alpena Community College Utility Tech students performed well at the Mitchell Technical Institute Annual College Lineman Rodeo on April 5, 2019, in Mitchell, South Dakota. ACC's Team 1, 45 North, won the Team Overall Champion award as well as three events: Team C1 Framing, Team Written Exam, and Team Obstacle Climb.

The ACC students also did well individually, pulling in seven personal awards including:

#### Overall Lineman

Hunter Miller, Champion  
Joshua Gildner, 4<sup>th</sup> place

#### Obstacle Climb

Hunter Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> place

#### C1 Framing

Daniel Ayling, 1<sup>st</sup> place  
Hunter Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Shane Peterson, 3<sup>rd</sup> place

#### Written Exam

Hunter Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> place

This year, the College Lineman Rodeo at Mitchell Technical Institute hosted 10 participating schools which brought a total of 34 four-person teams. Those schools were:

- Alpena Community College, Michigan
- Missouri State Technical College, Missouri
- Minnesota State Wadena, Minnesota
- Mitchell Technical Institute, South Dakota
- Metropolitan Community College, Omaha, Nebraska
- Metropolitan Community College, Kansas City, Missouri
- Northeast Community College, Nebraska
- Western Nebraska Community College, Nebraska
- Chandler Gilbert Community College, Arizona
- Moraine Park Community College, Wisconsin

A lineman rodeo is a competition that has teams from across the country compete in events based on traditional lineman tasks and skills.

Participants work in four-member teams, competing in a series of four events; Cross Arm Change Out, Obstacle Climb, Framing a C-1 Structure, and a Lineman Knowledge Exam. Awards are given in each of the following categories:

- Individual Events
- Individual All-Around
- Combined Team Events
- Combined All-Around

ACC offers a one-year vocational certificate and a two-year Associate in Applied Science degree in Utility Technology. Both programs provide training to work as an entry-level line installer and repairer. ACC teams have competed in lineman rodeos every year since 2008, garnering a number of team and personal awards.

Members of ACC's two teams and alternates were:

Team 1, 45 North

Hunter Miller  
Daniel Ayling  
Shane Peterson  
Joshua Gildner

Team 2, Lumberjacks

Colby Culhane  
Jacob Marsh  
Collin Spies  
Joseph Weber

Alternates

Tanner Klein  
Keanan Anderson



ACC UTT student Hunter Miller poses with the four awards including Overall Lineman Champion he won at the 2019 Mitchell Technology Institute College Lineman Rodeo in Mitchell, South Dakota.



ACC students Hunter Miller (far left), Shane Peterson (third from left), Daniel Ayling (third from right), Joshua Gildner (second from right), and Utility Tech instructors Mark Swanson (second from left) and Roy Smith (far right) celebrate the 4-man team's winning the Team Overall Champion award at the 2019 Mitchell Technology Institute College Lineman Rodeo in Mitchell, South Dakota.

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