

30 different ranches, 6 years of schooling, 1 Bodie Lloyd

Bodie Robert Francis Lloyd said, “My favorite part about the agriculture industry is that it’s not just an industry, it is a way of life.” The 25-year-old transfer student from Cuesta College studies Agricultural Communication. His educational journey may be longer than most, but Lloyd’s passion for agriculture kept him going. He will soon pursue his own career in the agriculture world himself, as he graduates in 2019.

Bodie grew up in Bishop, California with one older sister, Karlee, and his Mom and Dad on a Commercial Beef Ranch called Yribarren. Bishop’s remote area calls farming its biggest employer. The family company name comes from Bask ancestors six generations before him. They also owned a fertilizer company and grew alfalfa and grain. His dad influenced him the most, always pushing him to go further. Growing up Bodie learned both the family businesses. Through this he gains skills such as hard work, determination, and management; therefore began to love the industry.

Lloyd’s passion for the agriculture industry continues to grow. Now his passion for the agriculture industry continues growing. He loved growing up and spending time in the mountains. Along with this he would hunt, fish, and skii. Every summer his Dad took him on a three-day drive to the mountains, where they pushed 400 cattle through the mountain sides. Doing this required him learning how to ride horses; thus, this became a influence in his life.

Bodie said, “Riding horses was fun, because it challenged me to always be learning. I learned more from the horse’s themselves than the people trying to teach me.” Lloyd’s horseback skills take him from ranch to ranch with ease. As an active 4-H, and Future Farmers of America member, he raised hogs, beef cattle, sheep and lambs to show at the Tri-County Fair. At the fair he also participated in the livestock judging contest, where he learned how to know different animals strengths and weaknesses. His agriculture teacher also made a big impact on his life, because she was “cool, fun, and relatable.” Along with his father who would drive him twice a day to the school farm to feed his animals. Overall, everyone of these pieces fit into the puzzle of Bodie Lloyd and contributed to him majoring in Agricultural Communication.

After graduating from high school, Bodie decided to travel and do what he loves, work on the ranch; however, he didn’t just work on his hometown ranch, he went to over 30 different ranches around the United States. Starting off at home in Bishop, then he went to Oxyn Ranch where he gathered stock cattle in the desert. Continuing his journey in Dallion, Montana where he did custom farming for nine months. After that it was off to Seligman, Arizona on a million-acre cattle ranch for six months. Other various jobs on ranches, but in Seligman, Arizona, living in a teepee, with a salary of \$1,200 a month, Lloyd called his dad one night and said “I

don't like this place. I want to go to college." With all his belongings wet from rain, he picked it all up and went home. Sitting at home, one of his buddies said, "Hey going to SLO, want to come?" Saying yes, Bodie came to SLO and took classes at Cuesta while working full time at an oil company. Enjoying life, he decided to apply for Agriculture Communication, because he had the prerequisites, along with talent for writing, and a passion for the agriculture industry. Coming to Cal Poly one of his favorite classes he took with Dr. Vernon, Agriculture Leadership 404. In this class he didn't just learn leadership, but also a fresh new perspective of being a leader, and how to get your point across without stepping on anyone's toes. Upon graduation, Bodie gained all the experience he needs to write about agriculture for a career, but had fun while doing it. Once he graduates he plans to go home, and run the family business with all the knowledge gained at Cal Poly.

Bodie Lloyd will be needed in the agriculture communication world, because he knows the hard work it takes to get food on the table. The agriculture needs advocates who are going to publish the truth. As Bodie said as his life motto, "Get rich or die trying."

