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UNLV and Utah are co-champs in uniquely dramatic finish of Burns

Runnin' Rebels' Little and Utes' Palacios also share individual title on Kaua'i

KAUA'I, Hawai'i – In a uniquely dramatic ending, UNLV and Utah were crowned as co-champions of both the team *and* individual competitions in the 2025 John A. Burns Intercollegiate on Kaua'i. The Runnin' Rebels erased a six-shot deficit ahead of the final round. Their comeback tied the Utes at 22-under on the longest continuous stretch of oceanfront holes in Hawai'i.



UNLV celebrates their fifth John A. Burns Intercollegiate team title on Kaua'i.

"This tournament's thrilling finish exemplifies why we all love and play college athletics," said UNLV men's golf coach, Jean-Paul Hebert, who played on Texas' 1994 NCAA Championship

runner-up team. Hebert's father, Jay, was the 1960 PGA Champion and 1971 Ryder Cup Captain. "We led our last event (Southwestern Invitational) before having a bad final day. Today, we came out with determination and focus. That's what all five guys did. I'm proud and happy for UNLV, our fan base, alumni, players and especially co-individual winner, Zach Little."

UNLV moves to second all-time in Burns' team titles with five (1991, 1998, 1999, 2010, 2025), tying California and trailing only Oklahoma State with six.

Utah's win was equally as impressive. The Utes' victory on the Ocean Course at Hōkūala was their third team win in their last five stroke-play tournaments.



Utah enjoys their John A. Burns Intercollegiate team title on Kaua'i.

"After leading both days, it felt like everything had slipped away. All of a sudden, we made four birdies at the very end to regain a share of the lead," recalled Utah men's golf coach and program alumnus, Garrett Clegg. "It's a testament to our player's resilience. The Burns was a remarkable win for our program at Hōkūala. I'm so impressed and proud of our guy's accomplishments."

Other programs under par included third-place Santa Clara (-10) and four-place Long Beach State (-5). A three-way tie for fifth-place comprised of San Diego State, Illinois and Texas A&M (-3).



Utah's Gabriel Palacios (left) and UNLV's Zach Little (right) are co-individual champions of the 2025 John A. Burns Intercollegiate.

In the individual competition, UNLV's Zach Little and Utah's Gabriel Palacios finished the three-day, 54-hole tournament tied at 11-under (199). They were named co-individual champions. Both players shot 65 in the final round.



UNLV's Zach Little tees off on hole 11, a 443-yard par 4 on the Ocean Course at Hōkūala.

"I felt a sense of calm going into the final round. Growing up in England where the wind affects every shot, I was comfortable playing in the trades. I'll forever cherish this great week at Hōkūala."

The UNLV sophomore was all smiles after his first collegiate win. In Friday's second round, Little's 7-under 63 broke the Ocean Course at Hōkūala par-70 course record by one shot.

Joining Little on the first-place podium was Palacios. The Utah sophomore and former No. 1 junior golfer from Guatemala was the Utes' highest finisher at the 2024 NCAA Regionals.



Utah's Gabriel Palacios eyes his tee shot on the Ocean Course at Hōkūala's iconic 14th hole.

Utah's Sergio Jimenez, the Spanish sophomore who began the final round with a two-shot lead, finished one stroke behind his teammate and Little in second-place (-10).

Long Beach State's Jack Cantlay, the 2023 Big West Freshman of the Year and brother of 2021 FedEx Champion and eight-time PGA TOUR winner, Patrick Cantlay, finished in solo fourth (-8).



Long Beach State's Jack Cantlay is dialed in on the 14th tee on the Ocean Course at Hōkūala.

Justin Hastings, the 2025 Latin American Amateur Champion (LAAC) and San Diego State senior from the Cayman Islands, finished T8. He will compete in the Masters Tournament in April.



San Diego State's Justin Hastings observes his tee shot on the par 5 10th hole.

Statistically, the 473-yard par 4 15th was the most difficult hole. 83 bogeys and 44 doubles (or worse) were recorded with a 4.55 scoring average. Hole 10, a 571-yard par 5, produced a 4.5 scoring average, with 147 birdies and 11 eagles. The field comprised of 102 players.



Hawai'i head coach Scott Simpson speaks to his players on the par 4 16th hole.

The host Rainbow Warriors were led by sophomore Dane Watanabe (T51). The 2023 Hawai'i High School Athletic Association (HHSAA) Individual State Champion finished at six-over.

Next on Hawai'i's schedule, they travel to San Diego to play in the Lamkin Invitational.

All team and individual scores can be found here: [SCOREBOARD](#)

Team Leaderboard

Place	School	To Par	Rd. 1	Rd. 2	Rd. 3	Total
T1	Utah	-22	-7	-8	-7	818
T1	UNLV	-22	E	-8	-14	818
3	Santa Clara	-10	+3	-10	-3	830
4	Long Beach State	-5	+6	-15	+4	835
T5	San Diego State	-3	+14	-7	-10	837
T5	Illinois	-3	E	+2	-5	837
T5	Texas A&M	-3	+6	-5	-4	837
8	BYU	E	+1	-1	E	840
9	Grand Canyon	+8	+14	-6	E	848
10	Fresno State	+13	+11	-8	+10	853
T11	Missouri	+14	+6	+6	+2	854
T11	New Mexico	+14	+2	+3	+9	854
13	California	+17	+17	-7	+7	857
14	St. Mary's (CA)	+25	+9	+11	+5	865
15	Washington State	+26	+14	+2	+10	866
16	Hawai'i	+31	+19	+1	+11	871
17	UTEP	+33	+19	+12	+2	873

Top Individuals

Place	Player	School	To Par	Rd. 1	Rd. 2	Rd. 3	Total
T1	Gabriel Palacios	Utah	-11	-2	-4	-5	199
T1	Zach Little	UNLV	-11	+1	-7	-5	199
3	Sergio Jimenez	Utah	-10	-3	-5	-2	200
4	Jack Cantlay	Long Beach State	-8	-2	-3	-3	202
5	Max Herendeen	Illinois	-6	E	+1	-7	204
T6	Trevor Lewis	UNLV	-5	E	-2	-3	205
T6	Wyatt Plattner	UNLV	-5	-1	-2	-2	205
T8	Phichaksn Maichon	Texas A&M	-4	+4	-4	-4	206
T8	Mesa Falleur	New Mexico	-4	-2	+1	-3	206
T8	Jackson Buchanan	Illinois	-4	-4	E	E	206
T8	*Ethan Wilson	Illinois	-4	E	-3	-1	206
T8	Justin Hastings	San Diego State	-4	+4	-3	-5	206
T8	Matt Robles	Santa Clara	-4	+2	-2	-4	206

*Competing as Individual

TOURNAMENT FACTS

Dates: Feb. 13–15, 2025

Venue: [Ocean Course at Hōkūala](#)

Location: Lihu'e, Kaua'i

Yardage (Par): 7,156 (70)

Format: 54 holes; 18 holes each day; 5-count-4

Tee Times: 9:00 a.m. HST shotgun each day

Host: Hawai'i

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About Ocean Course at Hōkūala

Home to the longest continuous stretch of oceanfront holes in the state of Hawai'i, the Ocean Course was named one of the "World's Most Beautiful Golf Courses" by MSN Travel. The 18-hole golf course is part of [Timbers Kaua'i Ocean Club & Residences](#), a private residential club which opened in 2018 on the island's southeast coast. Timbers Kaua'i sits on a 450-acre natural amphitheater and offers unobstructed views of the Pacific Ocean, Kalapaki Bay and Hā'upu Mountain Range. [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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