



CHALLENGE

The State of Illinois was chosen to host the 2000 National High School Rodeo Finals. A new facility was required for the competition. A nine-month construction schedule was essential to complete the project on time.

The Illinois Capital Development Board proceeded with a fast-track design schedule selecting not only an Architect, but the Structural Engineer as well.

HLR was asked by the contractor to redesign the original design concept to expedite construction.

HLR was asked by the Architect to oversee portions of the construction phase.

RESULTS

Construction of the Rodeo Arena began in the Fall of 1999 with completion in nine months, in time for the 2000 National High School Rodeo Finals and other scheduled events for the Illinois State Fair.

**2001 MADIGAN AWARD FOR
OUTSTANDING NEW CONSTRUCTION,
CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

CONSTRUCTION BUDGET

\$ 9.0 million

SOLUTION

HLR worked in several capacities during the construction phase of the project:

- HLR was retained by the contractor to redesign the rake beam support system in cast-in-place concrete to expedite the construction schedule.
- The fast-track schedule required that some days HLR designed members in the morning and formed them that afternoon.
- HLR was retained by the original Architect to provide daily inspections for the foundation system and the rake beam support system.
- HLR was retained by the original architect to redesign several of the foundation systems once a 20 foot deep ravine backfilled with horse manure was discovered within the footprint of the project.

Throughout the project, HLR coordinated with many entities involved with the project including:

- The Architect
- The Contractor and their Sub-Contractors
- The Capital Development Board
- The Illinois Department of Agriculture

Project highlights:

- A 20 acre complex
- A 5,000 seat outdoor grandstand
- Concrete caissons, spread footings and helical foundation systems
- A tension structure with a Teflon© coated membrane
- A fast-track (9-month) construction schedule



ILLINOIS STATE FAIRGROUNDS - RODEO ARENA