As Greece woes, other eurozone problems surface

While storm clouds in Greece appeared to lift Thursday with political compromise, the broader European Union still faces numerous threats as other struggling economies remain in danger.

“The big question really is what happens to the rest of the area,” said Diego Iscario, a senior economist in London for forecaster IHS Global Insight. Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou appeared to have negotiated a political deal that won the opposition party’s commitment to back a government austerity program that was key to a debt relief accord reached with EU leaders last week.

The deal was an important symbol that Europe was working through its problems, though with Greece accounting for only 3 percent of the European Union economy, its problems pose only a small threat.

The real risks come from larger troubled economies such as Spain and Italy.

As was the case in the 2008 U.S. financial crisis, investors quickly identify who they think is the next weak link, and in Europe that’s Italy. It faces enormous financing needs and its embattled prime minister, Silvio Berlusconi, is fighting for political survival.

“This Italian government will have to get its act together and really put a credible reform program in place. And without these factors, the picture looks quite gloomy,” Iscario said.

Italy is in the crosshairs because Berlusconi has failed to deliver on promised economic reforms. He was forced to make new promises at last week’s “summit to end all summits,” yet after a Cabinet session Wednesday he arrived mostly empty-handed Thursday at the G-20 meeting of industrialized leaders.

The official weight of the fruit salad was 16,440 pounds. The fruit was mixed with 80, 32-ounce containers of lemon juice. Two forklifts were used to carry the fruit to the refrigerator where the juice was stored until Friday morning.

On Friday morning some of the fruit salad will be donated to Poverello House, Fresno Rescue Mission and other local charities.

In the afternoon Fresno State student community members can get their share of the fruit salad.

“We will have a drive through where people can get a bag of fruit,” Fresno State student Nick Morales said. Fresno State student and active participant Sam Mabanta calculates there were about 100 volunteers that helped cut and prepare the fruit. The large number of volunteers began early by cutting about 1,000 pounds of fruit an hour.

“We thought we were going to finish by noon,” Mabanta said. By the afternoon volunteers began to decrease which slowed down the preparation process.

Morales said he was very happy with the results of the event and he would do it again. “On behalf of the group, we would do it again.”

Fresno State Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) cadets spent last weekend at Camp San Luis Obispo for a three-day training exercise. The training focused on bonding and essential Army skills.

The Army ROTC provides elective courses for Fresno State students who are pursuing a commissioned officer career in the Army. Scholarships are provided to students who make a commitment to serve after graduation. Deployment to various parts of the world depends on the unit officers are assigned to.

“As part of the program, about 60 cadets who participated in the training were taught basic rifle marksmanship, day and night land navigation exercises and repelling.

“Being an Army officer, you can’t be afraid of anything. You have to step up and be willing to do something even if you are not comfortable,” Fresno State student Chris Cooper of ROTC said. “A lot of cadets are learning to do this and be willing to do it without being afraid. You have to step up to do stuff they have never done before.”

“Cadets are learning to have faith in their equipment and their instructors,” Cooper added.

The Army employs diverse personnel, such as health professionals, but trains each cadet as a soldier with their specialization being secondary to their status as a soldier.

“I am a nurse in the Army, but they train me as an infantry officer. Just because I am a nurse doesn’t mean I don’t have to learn how to use a gun,” Fresno State nursing student Angelia DeBenedetti said.

“I am a nurse and I can’t be afraid of any gun, but I have never experienced any serious emergencies,” DeBenedetti said. “They don’t go easy on us, but I have never experienced any poor attitudes because I am a female.”

“They expected us to help the fresh men along, we had to exercise some leadership roles to take care of the people,” DeBenedetti said.

“We have about 15-20 percent females in the program, and it can be challenging but we keep up with the males,” DeBenedetti said. “They don’t go easy on us, but I have never experienced any poor attitudes because I am a female.”

“We are assigned to a company that deals with female officers, but there are a lot of challenges we have to overcome. We have to get the females to work with the males,” DeBenedetti said.

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The ‘green’ free market

I really don’t think a majority of Americans are buying into the whole green movement anyway, and the majority won’t unless they see some blatantly conclusive proof that there is a global climate crisis that will affect them within their lifetime. With our current financial struggles, the only way to get Americans to buy into it is to stress the areas where going green saves money.

Solar power is a perfect example of the American mentality toward the green movement. If solar power were a household would be much less expensive, a massive majority of Americans would jump on the opportunity because they hate power bills. The fact that it’s environmentally friendly is a second thought for most.

Fortunately, in some cases, creating a green product can be a win-win situation for producers and consumers. Producers are beginning to use less material in products, which in some cases is a good thing.

Take plastic water bottles, for example. Producers are using less plastic and using more recyclable material rather than ever. That makes production costs decline, which trickles down to consumers who pay less for the product, all good things.

One thing I have a serious beef with is hybrid cars such as the Prius. This car has become a status symbol, say for example, “I care about the environment.” This is hybrid cars such as the Prius. This car has become a status symbol, saying in effect, “I care about the environment so much that I’m willing to drive harder.” I think people would be trying a lot harder.

Jay Leno said it best referring to the Prius: “In America, we like everyone to know about the good work we are doing anonymously.”

The problem with the Prius and other hybrid electric cars is that they are marketed as green vehicles, but that could be far from the truth. Some reports show that between the environmentally hazardous production of batteries in North America, shipment of those batteries to Asia for assembly, then shipment to the final destination, a Prius has created more pollution than a normal vehicle in two lifetimes.

Not to mention the hazard related to disposing of the massive batteries in electric cars.

I don’t understand why there isn’t a bigger push for hydrogen-powered cars that are already in production. These are the only truly zero-emission vehicles around today. They still use electric motors, but that motor is powered by a hydrogen fuel cell rather than batteries and the only emission from the vehicle is water.

If there is an expectation of citizens to be green then there will have to be more affordable options. I’m beginning to believe that the entire green movement is more about a lot of people making a lot of money than it is about some supposed global crisis. If we are legitimately looking down the gun barrel toward the “end of our planet,” I think people would be trying a lot harder.

Response:

‘Branda Hardin’: “Prescription drugs have robbed far too many people of their dignity and lives. Big Pharma is the REAL drug cartel in North America. Their over-medication of the American public through obsolete, advertised, 100,000 deaths per year! Prescription drugs are more dangerous than any felony drug substance in the world including heroin, cocaine and even alcohol combined.”

Response:

‘Rahul’: “I personally strolled around Tripoli in 1990 during my employment aboard a ship that docked at that port. I was highly impressed by that city — neat, clean and spacious, even visiting the local museum and having snacks with some locals at the local cafe. Today, in 2011, seeing the bizarre chain of events and the brutal death of one of the world’s oldest ruling dictators makes me wonder as to the reasons for sudden political revolutions. One thing is obvious that most ‘Islamic countries’ have been ruled by dictators and, hence, the sudden revolt, an inspiration from Western governments and the revolution of ‘social media’ on the ‘Internet’, the most famous being Facebook.”

Response:

‘Race for the cure 2011’

Sharon Johnson: “Great job! Thanks so much for featuring us on The Collegian. We love working with Fresno State as it allows us to make younger people aware that early detection is key to surviving this disease. Thank you Fresno State for all you do for Komen Central Valley! Go ‘Dogs!’

Response:

‘Brock Tatum’: “I Props to The Collegian and Tony Petersen. Solid journalism efforts! Can’t say that for the ‘professionals’ in this town...”
GREECE: Spain and Italy are seen as the next real risks

CONTINUED from page 1

triaлизed countries, held in the French
sea Bay of  Calvi.

The fact that they haven’t been able to
reach consensus to put this pack-
age in place is quite worrying and
illustrates political problems in Italy,”
said Iscaro, pointing to rising borrow-
ing costs for the Italian government.

“You’re in a vicious cycle of  contract-
ing activity that pays public finances
under more stress.”

Among the promises Berlusconi
made to EU partners but has failed to
keep is selling off state companies, undertaking
to spend on public transport and
creating new jobs, and reducing Italy’s
notorious government bureaucracy to
make it businesses more competitive.

Separate from the EU promises, Italy
is sinking under an aging population
with costly government pensions and
outdated labor laws.

Italy also has debts of about $2.6
trillion. The ratio of Italy’s debt to its
overall economy is around 120 percent. That
debt ratio is what European lead-
ers are trying to bring Greece down to
by 2020, and it undercuts the euro.

Greece and Italy face similar challenges.

“Berlusconi is likely to go the same
way as Papandreou,” said Jacob
Kirkegaard, a research fellow at
the Peterson Institute for International Economics, a free-mar-
ket Washington think tank. “I think
the Berlusconi leaving has gone up a lot.”

Spain, another large and troubled
European economy, already has
imposed tough austerity measures and
is lumbering through a recession so severe that one in four Spaniards is
unemployed. There has been political
buy-in for austerity measures, but elec-
tions on Nov. 20 are set to completely
shift power in Spain.

Opinion polls suggest the conser-
vote-controlled People’s Party, which ruled from 1996 to 2004, will gain the largest parlia-
mentary majority in decades. Its lead-
ers have vowed to take austerity even
further, promising to restructure the
way government taxes and spends and
revamp the relationship between the
central and provincial governments.

That could put Spain on better foot-
ing, or it could create political strife that gets people out on the streets.

Portugal and Ireland, two other weak
links in Europe, each have adopted
severe austerity measures. Their risks
are a weakening European economy that
in the long-run analysts think is certain to enter at least a mild to moderate recess-
ion. If Europe’s economic struggles, it
could lead to pressure on global banks
do as they did with Greece and agree
to take a 50 percent loss on the bonds
they hold in exchange for the issuance
of new bonds with handsomer returns.

Charles Diarra, the head of the
Institute of International Finance, the
implied French government bailout,
the group for institutional financi-
al institutions, doesn’t think a Greek-
like deal will be offered to anyone else.

“I don’t see any point that suggests to
us that there should be any extension
of this unique approach that we have
with Greece,” he said Wednesday in a
conference call with reporters, for-
cuing that many European lenders are
too exposed to Greece and its debt.

“I have every rea-
son to believe new leadership in Spain will be able to build on the progress that has been made,
particu-
larly over the last year or so.”

Applications Deadline: November 18, 2011

Interest rate

The European Central Bank, which
sets rates for the 16 euro nations,
lowered its key rate.

ECB rate

1.25%

5%

4%

3%

2%

1%

0%

Source: ECB

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Anti-US politicians on the rise as
Pakistan ponders elections

By Saeed Shah

McClatchy-Tribune

With expectations rising in Pakistan
of an election being called within
months, anti-American politicians are
in the ascendency, leaving the current
pro-U.S. government facing defeat.

Imran Khan, a charismatic former
flying ace turned politician who is
perceived as anti-American, has grabbed
the popular imagination recently. But
it’s another critic of the U.S., former
Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who’s
more likely to rise to the top.

Sharif’s party, which is the official
opposition and rules the provin-
cial government in the all-important
Punjab region, this year stopped
accepting U.S. aid money as funds from
an “enemy.” Khan promises to tear up
Islamabad’s alliance with Washington,
and he’s made resistance to U.S. drone
missions against suspected mili-
tants in Pakistan’s tribal areas one of
the cornerstones of his politics.

The government of President Asif
Ali Zardari, whose party was helped
to power in 2008 under a deal with
Pakistan’s military that was brokered
in part by Washington, is sinking in
popularity, mired in corruption scan-
dals and tarnished by poor perfor-
mance in office.

The Obama administration is press-
uring Pakistan to help it in Afghanistan
by cutting off insurgent sanctuaries
on its territory and bringing “reconcil-
able” Taliban to the negotiating table.

But in a country of soaring anti-
Americanism, the coming to power of
Sharif or Khan could sink whatever remains
of the troubled Washington-Islamabad
partnership.

A survey in June by Pew Research
Center, a Washington-based pollster,
found that 73 percent of Pakistanis
have an unfavorable view of the United
States, while just 14 percent believed
that it’s a good thing that Osama bin
Laden was killed.

Khan, who entered politics 15 years
ago but has struggled to gain trac-
 tion until now, staged a massive rally
Sunday in Lahore, the provincial capi-
tal of Punjab, where he proclaimed that an electoral “tsunami” would sweep him to power.

He has a reputation for being favored
by Pakistan’s powerful military, which
controls the country’s foreign and
security policies and shapes the rela-
tionship with the United States.

“Our leaders owned this war on ter-
tor for the sake of dollars,” Khan told
the crowd in Lahore, Sharif’s home-
town, urging Pakistanis to “sell out the blood of inno-
cent people.”

Pakistanis are deeply disillusioned
with both Zardari’s Pakistan Peoples
Party and Sharif’s Pakistan Muslim
League-N, which have alternated in
power but are accused of corrup-
tion and incompetence. Many see the
united Khan as a savior, a country
heading toward collapse under exter-
me violence and an economy in free
fall.

But Pakistan doesn’t have a presi-
dential election system, meaning that
Khan stands a chance only if there is a
sea-change in voting behavior and mil-
lions break out of the established sys-
tem of political party loyalty.

In Pakistan, voters elect local can-
didates, and the party with the most
elected candidates gets to form the
government. It chooses strong local
candidates and party machinery, com-
pared to the two big political parties
that gives an important advantage
to Zardari, who’s proved adept at build-
ing political coalitions, an art that
has eluded Khan and Sharif. Zardari’s gov-
ernment is a coalition of four political
parties.

But Zardari is wildly unpopular, even
within his own party. The Pew survey
found, with just 11 percent of those
surveyed saying they held a favorable
view of him.
Fresno State students to participate in the Central Valley Dance Festival

By Suzanna Gutierrez
The Collegian

Fresno State dance students will be participating in the dance show of the year this weekend, Nov. 5. The Central Valley Dance Festival will be happening this weekend. This is the sixth year for the festival and many dance groups from around Fresno will be participating, including Fresno State’s very own contemporary dance ensemble.

CDE is a course offered at Fresno State for dance majors and minors. It’s not meant for a few people, it’s meant for everybody,” Balint said. Balint said anyone who has interest in dance should attend. “It’s not like it’s going to be a ballet concert, or a modern concert or a jazz concert,” Balint said. “It’s really a little bit of everything.” Katherine Dorn, a dance major at Fresno State, has been dancing since the age of 3. Dorn will be participating in the dance festival with CDE. She took part in the festival the last year as well. Dorn said she enjoyed it last year. “There was a lot of variety in the types of dance,” Dorn said.

“The dancers enrolled in the course are required to obtain a course number in order to be part of the class. Associate professor Kenneth Balint, whose title for the course is artistic director, said the dance festival is in line with what the class is about. “The idea of the class is to train and rehearse and perform.” Balint said.

A lot of people think that being a [recreation] major is easy, but there’s more than meets the eye. It’s more real-world knowledge that is utilized in doing this type of thing.”

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Students in the RA150 course will visit the Rose Bowl to advise the UCLA athletic department and Rose Bowl officials on what they can do to improve game day experience at the stadium.

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Brian Wilson discusses his new ‘In the Key of Disney’
Rock and Roll Hall of Famer says new album has humor to it

By Randy Lewis
McClatchy-Tribune

LOS ANGELES — Brian Wilson’s music has consistently acknowledged his inner child, sometimes to the extent of obscuring his outer adult. So there’s a certain logic to the former Beach Boy putting his spin on songs from the Disney archives with his latest album, “In the Key of Disney,” which came out last week.

“The album has humor in it, it has sweetness in it and a little uptempo music in it,” Wilson, 69, said while seated on a sofa in the living room of his Beverly Hills home last week. “All the Disney lyrics are good, every single one of those lyrics is good.”

It’s the sound of the other shoe dropping on the two-album deal he signed with the Disney Pearl label, the first of which, “Brian Wilson Reimagines Gershwin,” surfaced last year, and included his completion of two song fragments George Gershwin left behind when he died in 1937 at age 38.

Wilson didn’t have to finish any uncompleted work this time, but he applied his signature arranging, orchestration and vocal harmonies to a dozen songs from recent-vintage Disney films including “Toy Story 3” (“We Belong Together”) and “The Lion King” (“Can You Feel the Love Tonight”) back to such quintessential Disney films including “Toy Story” (“We Belong Together”) and “Pinocchio” (“When You Wish Upon a Star”).

The latter song was the first thing that sprang to mind for Wilson when Disney Pearl execs broached the idea of him singing an album’s worth of Disney songs.

“I knew right away I wanted to do that one,” Wilson said, “because I’d heard Rosemary Clooney sing it. It’s a wonderful tune.” To illustrate the mystery Wilson said, “I’ve only played a couple characters like that in my life,” Hawkins said in a recent phone interview. “I’ve been in a hundred movies and television shows, so I’m not worried about being typecast.”

On the red carpet at this year’s Academy Awards, where Hawkins was nominated as best supporting actor for “Winter’s Bone,” he was grinning like a giddy kid.

At 52, Hawkins has taken flight from the flock of anonymous actors who subsist on leftover roles. He’s co-starring in the biopic “Lincoln” for Steven Spielberg. Yet Hawkins says success has been a mixed blessing.

On some levels, my life is better, and the Oscar nomination made my family proud,” he said. “But on some levels, it’s a hassle. I don’t want to sell myself out to the highest bidder and just make studio movies. I’ve done a few big-budget movies, like ‘The Perfect Storm’ and ‘American Gangster.’ But for the past 15 years, I’ve mostly chosen to do independent films, and that’s what I will continue to do.”

Between movies, the Minnesota native has had recurring roles in the acclaimed television series “Deadwood,” in which he played a frontier merchant, and “Eastbound and Down,” in which he plays the brother of a misbehaving baseball coach.

Hawkins, whose road to Hollywood took him through Austin, Texas, is also a musician who has a roots-rock band called King Straggler.

“I’m not interested in a life of fame or being a movie star,” he said. “That’s not sour grapes — it’s just the truth. I want to have a normal life and do my work, and I can’t do that if I’m insulated in some mansion somewhere. I’m a private person who doesn’t want to be famous. I’m willing to do publicity for films I believe in, but I’m not interested in yammering about myself. And I don’t think I can do effective work if people know too much about me. I’m trying to be a mystery.”

The album contains a little bit of everything, Wilson said.
The Collegian  •  A&E

PLAY REVIEW: “FOR COLored GIRLS WHO HAVE CONsidered SUICIDE WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENFUE

By Ezra Romero

The Collegian

Director Thomas-Whit Ellis made a brilliant move when he decided to stage Ntozake Shange’s “For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf” in the arena-style theatre at Fresno State.

The 20-poem choropoem, originally written by Shange in 1976, tells the story of seven African-American women and what it is like to be a colored woman in modern America. Each of the women is embodied by a different color and is known by that color for play’s entirety. The play deals with a wide range of issues including rape, abortion, breakup, murder and domestic violence. Each issue is told through the women’s stories.

The high level of acting brought by the local actresses personally floored me. In just two hours of the audience and I were in tumultuous laughter and were brought to the point of fighting tears.

The play flowed with eloquent words, humor and dancing, taking the audience through the lives of these seven women beginning in childhood. Because of the arena-style seating in the Dennis and Cheryl Woods Theatre, “For Colored Girls” places the audience in the living room of a woman who has been date-raped, the backseat of a Buick where a girl loses her virginity, the scene of a crime where a woman plagued by domestic violence witnesses her children’s murders, the streets of Harlem where a woman is taunted into the imagination of an African-American 8-year-old girls and others.

The costume design was simple, but lacked the flair to embody the suitor’s presence in the women in the play. The costumes could have been a little more elaborate. I felt they were slapped together a bit. Throughout the play the acting is what really blew me away. These women owned the four corners of the stage and even ventured into the crowd. They brought such ferocity to the stage that I dare say University Theatre has not felt in years. Near the beginning of the play the women discuss how they lost their virginity. Lady in Yellow confesses to the others that she lost her virginity in the back of a Buick on prom night. After her confession a sea of hands turned as all the other women in turn repeated something in unison like, “You gave it up in the back of a Buick!” After that line the audience was hooked.

The play continues as each woman takes turns acting out scenarios as herself or that of a male lover. It was interesting and amusing as an audience member to look into the life of each woman through the filter of an African-American woman, especially when it came to viewing the African-American man.

Despite the vibrancy of speech the dancing lacked motivation. The group choreography could have been stronger, but the individual choreography was phenomenal. Especially when it came to Lady in Blues last big number. Her performance had notes of Africana in it. The vigor and tenacity of her lines within the number pulled the audience engulfing the viewers into the story wholeheartedly. Lady in Blue, hands down, stole the show.

The naked eye the production may seem like it has a man hanging side to side, as long as women are plagued with issues that many times men load onto women, its messages remain relevant.

“For Colored Girls” concludes with the story of a tragic domestic violence dispute, which leads to the uniting of the women. This production is well worth seeing and I would consider it to be the gem of the season for University Theatre at Fresno State.

The play runs through Nov 5.

THE COLLEGIAN • A&E

No Shave November

The month of November in which you don’t shave any hair of your body but instead you grow more bestial, brutish and manly.
Fresno State’s soccer facility opens just in time for WAC Tournament

By Tim Salazar
The Collegian

Fresno State’s soccer team hosts the Western Athletic Conference Tournament, which began on Thursday on its new soccer facility. This is the final year that the Bulldogs will compete in the WAC, and they will make the move to the Mountain West Conference next season. The Bulldogs are the reigning WAC Tournament champions and are looking to recapture the magic they had last year when they defeated San Jose State 1-0, with a couple penalty kicks.

The penalty kick factor could also come into play again this postseason with the ‘Dogs having the ability to stretch games into overtime, something they did six times during the regular season. Five of the overtime games ended in ties after the games remained tied after double overtime. If a game goes that far in tournament play penalty kicks will decide the winner.

Head coach Sean Zwacka realizes that penalty kicks could decide Fresno State’s fate, but also recognizes the importance of having the home field advantage. "We love playing in front of our home crowd," Zwacka said. "The very idea of knowing the bulk of the fan support will be a tremendous lift for the team."

The Bulldogs will go into the tournament as the No. 2 seed behind only Utah State. With the second seed, Fresno State has a bye in the first round of the tournament. The ‘Dogs earned their seeding by going 3-1-1 in conference play and finishing the season 10-6-4 overall.

Having the WAC Tournament in the Bulldogs’ backyard this year means a number of differences compared to previous years, as senior Laura Dodd pointed out: “I think it’s huge,” Dodd said. “Usually this trip is so long. It’s nice to be more relaxed at home.”

The six-team tournament will be held at the new soccer and lacrosse facility near Bulldog Stadium. This will be the first event that will be held on the new field.

The ‘Dogs will find out if the new facility can provide the similar home field advantage that Bulldog Stadium has all season long. Fresno State went 4-0-2 at home.

With the WAC Tournament at home, it will be the final tournament for seniors Molly Gracioli, Kendal VanDine, Rachel Pickett and Dodd. “It’s exciting the tournament can be at our home field my last year,” Dodd said. “I’ll miss my teammates we built a pretty good friendship, with everyone.”

Their collegiate careers are not over yet and it might not be a quick exit in the tournament since no opponents have been able to play on the new surface before the tournament.

There are some differences between Bulldog Stadium and the soccer and lacrosse facility. The main difference is the field is on a completely different area to benefit the Bulldogs’ style of play.

This could come handy with first matches starting at noon between No. 4 San Jose State and No. 5 Idaho. Fresno State will play Idaho in the second game between No. 3 Hawaii and No. 6 New Mexico State with the winner moving on to face the ‘Dogs on Friday. Zwacka gave some thoughts on WAC Tournament’s play.

“It’s a great surface,” Zwacka said. “We’re really proud of it.”

The new soccer and lacrosse facility was finished just in time for this weekend’s Western Athletic Conference soccer tournament. Fresno State is the reigning WAC champion and now has a facility to help it defend its title.

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Louisiana Tech students or others interested in work or housing (including apartments, etc.) are invited to contact the Louisiana Tech Student Activities Office. This is their listing number 969.

A: Louisiana Tech run?
A: I’m not sure what kind of offense the Bulldogs will run, but junior quarterback Colby Cameron is expected to start. With Colby’s run, Nick Isham might appear more poised than Isham and is more comfortable with the receivers.

Q: What are your thoughts on punter Ryan Allen?
A: Head coach Sonny Dykes has been a good coach after having former head coach Derek Dooley leave. He’s not the perfect coach, but he’s worked hard with the team to make sure the only place they go is up.

Q: What will it take for Louisiana Tech to beat Fresno State on Saturday?
A: If Louisiana Tech just holds its ground and executes well, it’ll most likely beat Fresno State. The other key is playing all four quarters. The Bulldogs will play stellar the first half then give up in the second. Dykes has really been on his team about playing all four quarters, and the past few weeks have really shown that.
**Bulldog Game Day**

**LOUISIANA TECH BULLDOGS**

**2011 OVERALL RECORD**

4-4

**CONFERENCE RECORD**

3-1

**FRESNO STATE BULLDOGS**

**2011 OVERALL RECORD**

3-5

**CONFERENCE RECORD**

2-1

**Analysis by Jerry Huerta**

**TELEVISION:** ESPNU

**RADIO:** KMJ-AM 580 AND KGST-AM 1600 (ESPN DEPORTES)

**_WEEK 9 PREVIEW SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, AT 7:30 PM, BULLDOG STADIUM**

**LOUISIANA TECH BULLDOGS VS. FRESNO STATE BULLDOGS**

**Lennon Creer, running back**

**BREAKDOWN: LA. TECH**

Louisiana Tech has not only shared the same mascot as Fresno State this season, it has also shared the same level of inconsistency as the West Coast’s version of the canine. Louisiana Tech narrowly lost to two Conference USA teams in Houston and Southern Mississippi. The Bulldogs have also lost to Southeastern Conference member Mississippi State, 26-20.

The Bulldogs, like Nevada, employ a starting freshman quarterback, but he recently went down with an injury. Junior quarterback Colby Cameron will step in behind center for Louisiana Tech. Senior Lennon Creer will be in the backfield to help Cameron against the Fresno State defense. Creer has 411 yards on 98 carries and six touchdowns. He will give Fresno State a reason to respect the run. Helping out Cameron at wide receiver is junior Quinton Patton, who has 55 catches for 789 yards and seven touchdown receptions. He will keep the Fresno State secondary honest in the passing game.

On defense, Louisiana Tech has been playing better recently with the Bulldogs currently on a three-game winning streak. During the winning streak, Louisiana Tech has allowed 16.6 points per game, playing much stiffer defense than seen earlier in 2011.

**BREAKDOWN: FRESNO STATE**

Fresno State returns home for its second-to-last game in Bulldog Stadium in 2011. The ‘Dogs are coming off their bye week after playing eight straight weeks, allowing all the players to get back on the same page for final stretch through the WAC. The ‘Dogs have four remaining WAC games and will need to win four of the last five games to become bowl eligible.

On offense, Fresno State will need to utilize its weapons, starting with quarterback Derek Carr, who will maneuver the offense. Running back Robbie Rouse is closing in on his second consecutive 1,000-yard season. By the end of his collegiate career, he could be the all-time leading rusher in school history. The offense’s best weapon could be punt returner Devon Wylie, who has to rebound from a key lost fumble against Nevada. They say the best offense is a good defense, so if Fresno State limits the big plays and first downs to get the ball back to Carr and company, the ‘Dogs could be in good shape. Defensive lineman Logan Harrell has provided the leadership and nonstop motor the defense has needed all season long. Harrell and the rest of the defense will need to be on the same page this weekend.

If the ‘Dogs can control the line of scrimmage and play stout defense, Fresno State could get the big WAC win Saturday.

**Position matchups**

**When Louisiana State runs:**

*Advantage - Louisiana Tech*

RB Robby Rouse could finish the season in historic company with some of the best backs in Fresno State history. Rouse is currently eighth in country with 123 rushing yards per game.

**When Louisiana State passes:**

*Advantage - Fresno State*

QB Derek Carr continues to provide efficient efforts while limiting the amount of turnovers he gives up. Carr needs to continue to play turnover-free football.

**When Fresno State passes:**

*Advantage - Fresno State*

QB Derek Carr continues to provide efficient efforts while limiting the amount of turnovers he gives up. Carr needs to continue to play turnover-free football.

**Player to watch:**

Rashad Evans, wide receiver

**Keys to Victory**

1. Contain the Creer

Fresno State faces another stellar rushing attack with Louisiana Tech’s Lennon Creer coming to town. He has 411 yards on 98 carries and six touchdowns. Creer just ran for 119 yards against San Jose State. The Fresno State defense needs to keep contain if it hopes to stop Creer.

2. Limit the ‘Big Play’

The big play has hurt Fresno State all season long, so this is the perfect time for the ‘Dogs to finally limit these plays, especially if they want to stay in the conference title race and reach another bowl game.

3. Continue making plays

In the past two games, the ‘Dogs have continued to make plays in the run game and pass game. Fresno State will need to continue to utilize the deep ball and power runs to keep the Louisiana Tech defense honest.

**Player to watch:**

Lennon Creer, running back

**User interest:**

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