Club promoters target specific Fresno State students

By Morgan Dickson
The Collegian

Trajuan Henderson, a club promoter, encouraged students he thinks are interested to pay $20 to $40 to enter nightclubs in Fresno which can add up to hundreds of dollars per semester. Students spending large amounts of money on entertainment during a recession is not uncommon.

“Let’s face it, college campuses are filled with young and attractive people,” Henderson said. “Through my interactions with students, I have found a lot of them come to school just so they can party.”

Henderson is a club promoter for many clubs in Fresno and Clovis who frequent the campus on a weekly basis. Each time he visits campus he carries a handful of fliers.

While some students are shying away from spending large sums of money on entertainment, others prioritize it.

Matthew Jendian, the chair of the sociology department at Fresno State, believes that economic strife may be the cause for student spending on entertainment.

“Today, many people attempt to escape the pressures of the current recession and unemployment and turn to the likes of entertainment as a means of relief from the hardships and realities of an unrelenting economic hardship being felt,” Jendian said.

Fresno State student Briania Waggoner, entertainment is a form of escapism. She is able to throw her cares away and relax when she’s having fun.

Waggoner, who is unemployed, always manages to go to at least six parties each semester. For her a $40 party admission fee is no big deal.

“I honestly know I can’t afford to go but I do it anyway because it makes me feel good,” Waggoner said. “If I don’t go to a party I feel like I’m missing my chance to have fun and I think I owe it to myself to go out and have a good time no matter what the cost is.”

Last semester, Waggoner spent almost $250 on parties off campus and doesn’t see herself stopping any time soon.

“Being able to hang out with friends at a club and partying all night makes me happy. I don’t know anyone who wouldn’t want to spend money on things that make them happy,” Waggoner added.

Jendian believes that behavior like Waggoner’s helps tighten the hold entertainment has on our society.

“The public is oppressed by its addiction to amusement. The result is that we are people on the verge of amusing ourselves to death,” Jendian added.

While Waggoner and other students love being handed party fliers on campus, some students think it’s a nuisance.

For sophomore Rebecca Gordo, each time a party fliers passes through her hand, she thinks of the price of admission.

“We only have a few hundred dollars left to get us through the semester and we spend it on parties,” Gordo said.

Fresno State student entrepreneur invited to the White House

Fresno State student and CEO of Pronovost Technologies, Mike Pronovost, gives speech at White House

Fresno State business student Mike Pronovost received an award and gave a speech at the President’s Executive Office earlier this month.

By Johnathan Wilbanks
The Collegian

Fresno State business student and CEO of Pronovost Technologies, Mike Pronovost, was invited to the White House last week to give a speech along with 100 other young entrepreneurs that were invited to meet President Barack Obama.

“To be among the 100 young entrepreneurs in the country, a company must generate $100,000 or more in annual revenue according to ABC News.

Pronovost developed Powerband, a program that uses files stored in a virtual desktop to speed up Internet access. He developed the program, working odd hours out of a room in his parent’s house.

“What inspired me to start a business in the first place was that I’ve always been encouraged to be an entrepreneur,” Pronovost said. “I was really always into computers, and so it was one of those things where I had worked with computers for a long time.”

Pronovost said that when he was 17, he worked at Dan Gamel’s RV Centers as its network administrator where he learned about computer networks.

“I didn’t really think of it becoming a business, I was just trying to find a new way of creating a network that was faster,” Pronovost said.

“From there I programed the first small prototype of [Powerband]. I kind of threw it out there to a few of the companies I was interested in partnering with,” Pronovost added. “At that point I hired some other programmers to help me put it together and from there it turned into a pretty big network.”

Powerband has big implications with slow Internet connections, as it speeds up the connection by compressing the data which is being transferred.

“It puts you onto a hosted cloud desktop. It compresses a lot of the data,” Pronovost said.

Event tries to disintegrate STD stigmas

Campus addresses county-wide problem

By Johnathan Wilbanks
The Collegian

Fresno County has the second highest rate of chlamydia and approximately the seventh highest rate of gonorrhea in the state of California, according to the Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH). To address this and the stigma associated with getting tested, the Test Yourself Before You Wreck Yourself event held in the Free Speech Area on Nov. 21 provided free on site HIV/AIDS testing for Fresno state students.

“Our main reason to be out here today is to provide health education to students and to get students tested,” Gina Adams of the Fresno County Department of Public Health said.

“Hopefully more women will get into the habit of getting checked as they start new relationships and end old ones.”

By Johnathan Wilbanks
The Collegian

Most people affected by STDs are between the ages 15 and 24, and do not know they are infected. Statistics show that one in two sexually active Americans will get an STD by the time they turn 25.

“Getting tested is easy and painless. Some STD tests are as simple as a urine test or a cheek swab.”

— Dr. William Thatcher, Event coordinator

There has been an increase in positively tested recently in Fresno County. Those who are testing positive are predominately male, in the 18 to 25
E veryone is buzzing about the Academic Affairs Budget Advisory Task Force’s proposal to cut $2 million from our university’s budget. From Facebook pages to morning meetings, students and faculty are sharing their opinion on parts of the proposal.

As a student government, we are always happy to see students speak up, share their opinions and lobby the university. We are committed to breaking through some of the misconceptions that are floating around regarding the proposal, so you can make helpful suggestions for improving feedback to our university’s leaders.

Myth No. 1: Students can’t be involved.

This is not the case. There are many forums available for students to access information on task questions, make suggestions and get involved.

You can find the entire proposal on the Academic Senate’s website at www.csufresno.edu/senate. When you go to the website, you’ll find two links: the first is to read the proposal and the second is to leave anonymous feedback regarding the suggestions made. Students can use this website to share their thoughts on various alternative suggestions. There will also be a student-wide forum, hosted by Associated Students, Inc., regarding the proposal on Friday, Dec. 2, from 3-5 p.m. The forum will be held at the Satellite Student Union. Everyone is welcome and members of the task force will be available to answer questions and hear suggestions.

Myth No. 2: Even if we give feedback, it’s too late, the decision has already been made.

The task force proposal is in no way final, it is just a draft. It is being circulated for the purposes of collecting feedback from faculty and students. The task force will review the feedback and potentially make adjustments to the proposal before it is passed. The administration has indicated it expects to reach a final decision next semester, in March.

Myth No. 3: The proposal gets rid of science and math.

While the proposal suggests eliminating the overhead cost of the College of Math and Science, the idea that the proposal gets rid of science and math altogether is a misconception. The proposal suggests removing the organizational infrastructure of the college by shifting departments into new colleges, but retains all of the faculty members, class sections, majors and departments.

Additionally, the departments are shifted into merged colleges. So, for example, biology wouldn’t be housed in the Jordan College of Agriculture but rather in the Jordan College of Agriculture and Sciences. Plus, there is no suggestion of reducing or removing classes from buildings, so the biology department and chemistry department would still be found where they currently reside.

Myth No. 4: The proposal attacks the College of Science and Mathematics.

The proposal makes six major suggestions in areas where the task force thinks money could be saved. Two of the suggestions don’t focus on colleges at all but instead focus on low-funded programs or more efficient funding methodologies. While the College of Sciences and Mathematics is included in the proposal’s suggestions, so are all of the other colleges on campus. The reason the proposal suggests that the colleges of Agriculture, Engineering and Education merge with other colleges, adopt additional departments or some combination of the two. Additionally, the proposal suggests merging between the College of Social Science and the College of Arts and Humanities.

Myth No. 5: If we don’t accept the proposal, nothing changes.

It seems to be this idea that simply refusing the proposal will preserve Fresno State as we know it. That is not the case. The state budget has reduced funding for higher education, and Fresno State must find a way to keep its doors open with $2 million less than we’ve had in previous years as a result of the state’s budget decision.

This year, one dollar, like reserve funds, were used to supplement the state’s funding. One time dollars do not provide a steady source of income for the university, so by another route or another method we must account for the money we will no longer be receiving from the state. The proposal’s goal was to suggest ways to save $2 million with out decreasing tuition or cutting the amount of courses, number of majors or programs offered to students. However, these are viable alternatives. Suggesting ways to cut or save dollars where classes are already being held will likely impact students will be more helpful to the task force than simply opposing the proposal.

There are some of the major misconceptions regarding the proposal that ASI has become aware of, but there may be others to please make sure you read the proposal and get your questions answered.

Recently you are informed, ASI will be sending out low-funded use of the student forums for feedback and encouraging you to share your opinion with the task force. We also encourage you to join Associated Students’ effort to lobby the Malibu Legislature. Let’s show our legislators what universities have to do in order to run on a severely reduced budget and the impact that it is having on our education.

Selena Farnesi is the Associated Students, Inc. president. She writes a semi-weekly column for The Collegian.

To the editor:

Well our tuition is going up again! By now it may seem as if there is no increase in tuition each year. But how many times more can they increase our tuition? At what point do they realize enough is enough? But at the rate they are increasing our tuition, college will be just a dream to complete my major. How can I justify the tuition increase when I do not see any good uses with the money. Why not cut the budget and recent protests’ budget and recent protests’ budget concerns. He’s slapping the hands of both students and faculty who are protesting unfair practices at the university. It is disgusting how out of touch he is (or who ever actually wrote this letter) with students and faculty because he hasn’t even had to feel the effects of the budget himself. He gives himself a raise, then denies assistance to those actually responsible for the ongoing protests on campuses. What’s obvious from this message is that we all need to be even more ‘disrespectful’ in showing Reed that we’ve had it. Enough is enough.”

“Brandy Hardin’s: ‘Incidents like this the past few weeks are exposing the Police State we are being subjected to. Evicting protesters is unconstitutional and endangers the basic rights of every American. Is this the country we were raised in, where men and women have the right to protest, pepper-sprayed and arrested for their disapproval of the government? We have to be careful to protect our Constitutional rights’!”

To the editor:

These are some of the major misconceptions regarding the proposal that ASI has become aware of, but there may be others to please make sure you read the proposal and get your questions answered. Once you are informed, ASI will be sending out low-funded use of the student forums for feedback and encouraging you to share your opinion with the task force. We also encourage you to join Associated Students’ effort to lobby the Malibu Legislature. Let’s show our legislators what universities have to do in order to run on a severely reduced budget and the impact that it is having on our education.

Selena Farnesi is the Associated Students, Inc. president. She writes a semi-weekly column for The Collegian.
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STD: Event offers free HIV/AIDS testing

Fresno State student Elissa Gill, who also worked at the event, said it was successful since 28 people were going to be tested and the spots filled within one-and-a-half hours.

“We want to eliminate the stigma of HIV testing,” Gill said.

Having certain STDs can also make you more susceptible to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS. One in five Americans living with HIV does not know they are infected.

Women who are testing positive are performing here today,” event coordinator Dr. William Thatcher said.

“Getting tested is easy and painless. Some STD tests are as simple as a urine test or a cheek swab which is what we are performing here today,” event coordinator Dr. William Thatcher said.

That it should be discussed at every opportunity. Test Yourself Before You Wreck Yourself is based on the national ‘GYT’ campaign by the CDC and MTV, which encourages testing and promotes an open dialogue about STDs,” Dr. Thatcher said.

June 5 marked the 30-year anniversary of live reports of HIV/AIDS by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Myself and three other people from the community that will speak on different parts of these 30 years,” Adams added.

The Department of Public Health will also be holding a World AIDS Day event at the Tower Theater on Thursday, Dec. 1st at 5:30 p.m. The event will have local entertainment, including a gospel band and will feature a presentation of quilts which were presented to the project from people who have passed away from AIDS in the Central Valley.

“Hopefully more women will get into the habit of getting checked as they start new relationships and end old ones.” — Gina Adams, Fresno County Department of Public Health

CONTINUED from page 1

CLUBS: Entertainment seen by many as an expensive necessity

“Today many people attempt to escape the pressures of the current recession and unemployment and turn to the likes of entertainment as a means of relief from the hardships and realities of an unrelenting economic hardship being felt.” — Matthew Jendian, chair of the sociology department

PRONOVOST: Student gives speech at the White House

Students walked by the mobile STD testing unit. Test results were provided in as little as 20 minutes.

Johnathan Wilbanks / The Collegian

Students walked by the mobile STD testing unit. Test results were provided in as little as 20 minutes.
With finals coming up, staying focused and taking advantage of campus services is key.

**Thomas Pearson**

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**By Ashley Alba**

The Collegian

The Fresno State cycling club received official club status in the fall and will begin the Collegiate Road Series in April 2012. The cycling club developed in time for a full season this year with the help of its president, William Foster. Kristi Easton is the faculty advisor for the club and anticpates coaching also. The club is geared toward all aspects of cycling including road, mountain bike and cyclocross racing.

"The club will enter the Western Collegiate Cycling Conference this spring." — Kristi Easton, faculty advisor

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":Breaking Dawn' a snore

At the movies with **Dylan Patton**

Like many out there, I am not a fan of the "Twilight" series. I didn’t read the books, but have seen most of the movies. I tried to give it a chance, but just couldn’t get into it. I went into the latest installment, "Breaking Dawn" with an open mind. After the first half hour, I was bored. I can safely say that "Breaking Dawn" is a snore.

The movie opens with the Cullen family scrambling to prepare for the wedding between Edward (Robert Pattinson) and Bella (Kristen Stewart). It’s clear that both parties are nervous and excited.

The wedding ceremony goes off with a hitch, and the reception has some humorous moments as many guests make awkward, yet funny, toasts. Soon, the happy couple are off to their honeymoon. Bella’s dream of marrying her beloved has finally come true.

The happy couple’s wedding bliss is thrown off when Bella becomes pregnant during the honeymoon. Alarmed, they head back home. Edward’s father, Dr. Carlisle Cullen (Peter Facinelli), examines Bella and realizes Bella isn’t carrying a normal child. This child is actually a half-human, half-vampire hybrid that is putting Bella’s life in danger.

Bella’s best friend, Jacob Black (Taylor Lautner), is worried for her safety, as he is in love with her. Bella’s life is placed in further jeopardy when a werewolf packs a treat to her pregnant daughter. The werewolves had a treaty with the Cullens. But, the wolves see Bella’s unborn baby as a threat and decide it must be killed. So Jacob enters a shaky alliance with Edward to protect Bella. Will Bella be spared? And what will happen to Bella’s child?

This movie was so boring. This Easton centerfolds the love story of Bella and Edward. But, the movie doesn’t seem interested in exploring the side stories. It was made clear that the last “Twilight” movie would be split into two separate movies. That seems like an odd choice seeing how dull this first installment was. I understand that the wedding ceremony was an event, but that the fans were looking forward to since the movies first came out. But, the wedding ceremony could’ve easily been shortened.

The movie, which was close to two hours, has nothing that would justify splitting it into two parts. From what I’ve heard there is supposed to be a lot of action in the second installment. But, seeing as how boring the first installment is, I might not want to run the risk of being bored again. Yes, I’m a guy and not a Twilight fan, so that may be why I didn’t enjoy this movie, but come on, even Twilight fans can admit they got bored.

The director, Bill Condon, seemed to be as bored as the audience. The wedding and the honeymoon ate up much of the screen time. I mean, for crying out loud, they actually played chess! Who plays chess further into their honeymoon? True to the novel or not, it couldn’t be skipped. And the soundtrack was so annoying. Every two minutes another shrill pop song would play. And half the time, the volume of the song was so loud you couldn’t hear the dialogue between the characters. If Condon is going to direct the second installment, he needs to work over time to make it worth while. Like the saying goes, “Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice shame on me.” I tried to care about Bella and Edward this time. If something cool doesn’t happen in the second part, I’m going to be annoyed and angry.

"wanted to be part of the cycling club mostly because I want the opportunity to race the collegiate races."

— Syd Newsom, vice president of cycling club

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**By Ashley Alba**

The Collegian

The club is a co-ed sport that can be competed in as an individual or a team. Any Fresno State student can join. The cycling club will include beginners, novices and experts and includes categories for both men and women.

Points are scored by each of the categories and are totaled for an overall team score. The club is currently at 50 members and is open to any students interested in riding bikes. The club intends to encourage students and faculty to commute by bicycle as well.

"For those who do not know about racing and you have an interest in bicycles and riding, the collegiate cycling is an introduction to bicycle racing." Easton said. "If you want to learn more about bicycles, this is the place to do it.

The club’s goal is to develop the culture of the cycling around campus. Foster is in his senior year at Fresno State and is majoring in mechanical engineering. He transferred here last January and immediately began his involvement with the club.

"Collegiate cycling is a very unique sport and is huge in our area," Foster said.

The club has things to offer commuters and people who like to ride for fun or for exercise. This club was started in order to help students discover all that cycling has to offer, and we love helping anyone out who is interested in getting started," Foster said.

Twenty-four-year-old Syd Newsom is the club’s vice president. He is a junior studies majoring in exercise science. He was also one of the club’s founders and has been vice president since then.

"I wanted to be part of the cycling club mostly because I want the opportunity to race the collegiate races." Newsom said. He added that their intentions are to help more people become active in their cycling community and experiencing the many benefits of cycling.

Fresno State students interested email the bulldogcyclingclub@gmail.com. The club is welcoming new members and anyone interested in bicycling. Also be on the lookout for the club’s conference races in spring.

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**Keywords:**collegiate, cycling, Spring 2012, campus
The Legend of Zelda: Skyward Sword

By Billy O’Keefe
McClatchy-Tribune

No matter which door you walked through to get here, “The Legend of Zelda: Skyward Sword” likely is the game you want or do not want it to be. If you think the series is staler than moldy croutons, this is the validation you’ve been waiting five years to play. It is in the area of combat — a weak spot in every “Zelda” game released in three dimensions — where “Sword” unquestionably wants to and does leave its mark. In contrast to the Wii’s first “Zelda” game, where simply shaking the Wii remote any old way produced one of a handful of proportionally generic sword strikes, “Sword” accurately matches your remote (MotionPlus attachment or Wii Remote Plus required) to the sword. Hold the remote awkwardly over your head and Link does the very same, leaving him vulnerable to attack from enemies who not only take advantage of your openings but also punish you for telegraphing and repeating attacks. Enemies naturally exhibit weaknesses and tell of their own, and it’s on you to exploit them while keeping them guessing and keeping your shield up. (The shield, mapped to the considerably less capable nun- chuck attachment, doesn’t control as flexibly, but it handles basic blocking perfectly.)

In typical Nintendo style, “Sword” devises myriad ways to capitalize on its enhanced range of motion, and not merely with regard to swordplay. For series custom, “Sword” provides bombs for purposes of environmental manipulation as well as combat, but now you can bowl them as well as throw them simply by doing so with the remote. Items you take for granted like the boomerang, meanwhile, are outright replaced by (unspoiled) merang, meanwhile, are out of the way. New gadgets that function similarly but better take advantage of motion controls. That, in turn, feeds into puzzles and stages of environmental manipulation. That, in turn, feeds into puzzles and stages of environmental manipulation. That, in turn, feeds into puzzles and stages of environmental manipulation. That, in turn, feeds into puzzles and stages of environmental manipulation.

“The Legend of Zelda: Skyward Sword” likely is the validation you’ve been waiting five years to play. But for those who were, “Sword” also offers a free app for TuneIn (www.tunein.com) exists to remind us of the way it used to be by combining old-fashioned radio with our thirst for information overload. The free service catalogs more than 50,000 AM, FM and Internet-only radio stations, all available for online streaming. You can choose among local radio, talk, sports and music stations from all over the world — in a testament to TuneIn’s worldliness, the website can be translated into 22 languages — and you also can find your destination of choice by browsing genres. TuneIn also offers a free app for various mobile devices, including iPhones, iPads and Android devices. Like the site, the app is completely free, although the enviable ability to rewind, pause and record the station you’re listening to will cost a flat fee of $0.99 via an upgrade to the pro version of the app.

However, it might be hard to anticipate the scope and intricacies for which “Zelda” dungeons are revered. Better late than never, “Sword” seals Nintendo’s case for motion controls as a way to significantly enhance a traditional game at no cost to tradition. At the same time, “Sword” is swimming in idiosyncrasies that very, very arguably have overstayed their welcome. This is the most ambitious and moving story the series has ever told, but it’s one that undergoes nearly five hours of exposition, hand-holding and fetch questing before it starts getting interesting, and it’ll be a few dungeons after that before it really gets good. If you don’t like that early going, you won’t love the collect-a-thons and fetch quests that needlessly pad the time between dungeons, either. Fortunately, the unfortunate lack of a passable interface for tracking optional quests makes it easy to just forget about them and power forward.

“Sword’s” orchestral score and watercolor-esque visual style are series high-water marks in both respects, but the continued omission of voice acting — whether you find that charming or archaic sticks out more awkwardly than ever. Link’s platforming abilities, meanwhile, are that much clumsier thanks to an awkward dash mechanic that gets more use than it deserves. And that obscenely binaural brand of “Zelda” stealth, where simply getting spotted means immediately starting a segment over? It’s back in its brief but recurring role. Stuff like this — and sometimes hours of it — are the price paid for the stuff in between, which finds “Zelda” in as fine a form as it’s ever been in the 3D age. This is the most ambitious game Nintendo has ever made, and if you come into it already bearing strong feelings — whether favorable or not — this one likely will cement them.

And if you believe in motion controls like Nintendo does, this is the validation you’ve been waiting five years to play.

— Billy O’Keefe

By Jon Wolper
McClatchy-Tribune

TuneIn provides a bank of radio stations more exhaustive than anywhere else. There’s a lot to like with TuneIn, but it’ll only be good for you if you know you’ll like it before logging on.
By Chris Riemenschneider
McClatchy-Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS — His dad has been in the news lately for saying crazy things, but Hank Williams III is really the one going off on a wild tangent these days.

The son of recently ejected “Monday Night Football” theme song singer Hank Jr. — and obviously the grandson of country music’s greatest icon — Hank III just issued four albums in one bold swoop that takes on unreleased Hank lyrics and infuses country songs and twangier side, with Cajun-infused ranch songs and guests such as Tom Waits and Kristofferson and David Allan Coe.

In a phone call from Nashville last month, Williams talked about all this.

On “The Lost Notebooks of Hank Williams” the son had “I don’t see any money from the Hank estate. I really had nothing to do with it. I personally will never listen to it. I don’t see any money from the Hank estate, so I really had nothing to do with it. I personally will never listen to it.”

— Hank Williams,

Hank Williams III gets cranking

By Kim MacCuish
Chicago Tribune

The son of recently ejected “Monday Night Football” theme song singer Hank Jr. — and obviously the grandson of country music’s greatest icon — Hank Williams III just issued four albums in one bold swoop that takes on unreleased Hank lyrics and infuses country songs and twangier side, with Cajun-infused ranch songs and guests such as Tom Waits and Kristofferson and David Allan Coe.

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— Hank Williams,
Perhaps UCLA deserves an asterisk

By Randy Youngman
McClatchy Tribune

LOS ANGELES — Congratulations, UCLA Bruins. You are the inaugural champions of the Pac-12 South.

Take a bow, Rick Neuheisel. Never mind that 50-0 loss to USC on Saturday night at the sold-out Coliseum. How could you get your Bruins motivated for a game against a team on probation on the night after you clinched the division without playing? We know it had to be anticlimactic.

And never mind that 49-19 loss to Stanford, either. Or that 48-12 loss to Arizona. Or that 31-6 loss to Utah, the team that lost to last-place Colorado on Friday night to usher you in through the back door into this week’s Pac-12 Championship Game at Arizona.

Who cares that you finished 5-4 in the South, two games behind 7-2 USC, in the division? The Trojans aren’t eligible for postseason play because of NCAA sanctions, so you are the division champion, honest.

The Pac-12 even released a statement this week to verify that there is no asterisk involved, that USC is not allowed to call itself the South champion. This is what Dave Hirsch of the Pac-12 office said in the official statement: “USC cannot own that title. USC can take that away from them. Our division champions participate in the championship game, so UCLA will be considered champion.

Thanks for clearing that up, Dave.

And now UCLA can boast that it is the worst team to ever win the Pac-12 title.

This is the first Pac-12 championship game, so UCLA (6-6) obviously will be the worst team to play for the title and Oregon (10-2, 8-1) obviously will be the best after clinching the Pac-12 North on Saturday by pounding Oregon State.

And now the Bruins get a chance to play for more history.

If the Bruins lose again, they will be 6-7 and likely will become the first team in conference history (Pac-8, Pac-10 and Pac-12 included) to play in a bowl game with a losing record. They’ll have to petition the NCAA to go to a bowl, but there aren’t enough eligible conference teams to fill all the bowl slots with Pac-12 ties-ins.

Or the Bruins can make history by upsetting Oregon — OK, it was difficult keeping a straight face typing those words — to earn a berth in the Rose Bowl on New Year’s Day against the winner of the Big Ten championship game played between Michigan State and Wisconsin.

But even if they lose the inaugural Pac-12 title game, the Bruins still might have a chance to go to the Las Vegas Bowl on Dec. 22 or the Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl (formerly the Emerald Bowl) in San Francisco on New Year’s Eve.

I’m sure there has to be a player somewhere who dreamed of someday playing in the Fight Hunger Bowl.

Oh, by the way, the last time UCLA played at Oregon, the Bruins lost a 60-13 squeaker on Oct. 22, 2009.

Oddsbark.com has already installed the Ducks as a 24-point favorite for Friday’s title game.

That’s OK. The 2011 UCLA Bruins are Pac-12 South champions, and nobody can ever take that away from them. It remains to be seen, however, if Athletic Director Dan Guerrero is impressed.

Ulterior motive? Why did UCLA wear all white uniforms from helmet to jersey to pants to socks to spikes — against USC? To try to symbolize the alleged purity of its program, in contrast to the probation-saddled Trojans, and make it appear like it was a battle between good and evil?

Not very smart. It made the blood immediately visible.

One more year? That was the chant that broke out in the USC student section for the first time, during a timeout with 5:51 left in the first quarter, to let Barkley know that Trojans fans are not ready for him to leave for the NFL with a year of eligibility left.

The chant got progressively louder, so there was no way Barkley could say he didn’t hear it.

If this game does turn out to be Barkley’s final game at USC, he has at least earned an invitation to New York for the Heisman ceremony.

Upon further review: By the way, if UCLA has “closed the gap” on USC, as Neuheisel insisted earlier this week, the chasm must have been the size of the Grand Canyon before now.

Precedent: In case you were wondering, the last time UCLA knocked off USC at the Coliseum was 1997, when Bob Toledo’s Bruins defeated John Robinson’s Trojans, 31-24.

No wonder it was Robinson’s last game as USC coach.

Parting shot: This fun fact was in UCLA’s game notes:

“Neuheisel earned his law school degree at USC in 1990. To paraphrase Bill Murray in “Caddyshack,” ‘Well, he’s got that going for him… which is nice.’

And a career to fall back on, if this coaching thing doesn’t work out.

UCLA is the Pac-12 South champion and will face the Pac-12 North champion Oregon in the inaugural conference championship game.
Fresno State loses another close one to WAC rival

With the loss, the ‘Dogs will finish the season with their worst record since 2006 and will look to end the season with a win against future Mountain West Conference foe San Diego State next Saturday.

By Jerry Huerta

Fresno State has had its ups and downs this season with such a young team, but it had a chance to send off 15 seniors with a win in front of the Bulldog faithful.

The ‘Dogs welcomed Western Athletic Conference rival San Jose State to Bulldog Stadium for the final game between the two schools for at least one season with the Spartans not currently on Fresno State’s 2012 nonconference schedule and the ‘Dogs making the jump to the Mountain West Conference next season.

The Fresno State defense did its part early off keeping senior quarterback Matt Faulkner and the San Jose State offense off the board.

Then, sophomore quarterback Derek Carr got the ball rolling, orchestrating the offense down the field. The ‘Dogs utilized Carr’s arm on the drive as he found his weapons. Running back Robbie Rouse finished off the drive with guard Matt Hunt leading the way for a two-yard touchdown to give Fresno State an early 7-0 lead.

The offense wasn’t done yet. Later in the quarter, Carr drove the ‘Dogs down the field with the help of a 27-yard strike to sophomore wide receiver Isaiah Burse.

Fresno State settled for a field goal and senior kicker Kevin Goessling nailed a 39-yarder to become Fresno State’s all-time leading scorer and gave the ‘Dogs a 10-0 lead. Goessling now has 371 points in his collegiate career.

The Spartans’ offense answered on the next drive with former Bulldog Faulkner connecting on a 37-yard pass to sophomore wide receiver Noel Grigsby. Grigsby finished the game with eight catches for 114 yards and one touchdown. Senior running back Brandon Rouse finished the game with 33 carries for 160 yards and two touchdowns.

In the beginning of the second half, San Jose State came out fast with a fumble recovery off the center-quarterback exchange from Fresno State. From there, the Spartans got tricky as they went with the flea flicker as Faulkner found freshman wide receiver Jabari Carr for a 38-yard touchdown, giving San Jose State a 20-17 lead.

San Jose State wouldn’t stop moving the ball there as Faulkner led his team down the field, utilizing his play-makers. Faulkner ended the drive by finding Grigsby again, but this time it was of the 18-yard variety to extend the lead to 27-17. Faulkner finished his first win against Fresno State going 27-of-42 for 363 yards and two touchdowns. Carr got the offense rolling again in the fourth quarter as he led the ‘Dogs down the field with his own variety of pass. Carr finished the drive off with a 24-yard touchdown pass to his top target, sophomore wide receiver Jalen Saunders, to cut the San Jose State lead to 27-24.

San Jose State would stop Fresno State’s comeback bid as it drove down the field to run out the clock to win 27-24 for the first Spartan victory over the ‘Dogs since 2006.

Fresno State’s defense resorted back to some bad habits, giving up 424 yards of total offense to the Spartans.

“The game, like I said, is a big picture of the way our season’s been.” — Pat Hill, head football coach

The Fresno State offense put up 449 total yards and was led by Carr, who finished the game going 19-of-28 for 276 yards and one touchdown. Carr recognizes it will take everybody wearing Bulldog red to contribute to be able to put a win together.

“All 11 guys that are on the field are trying to win every game,” Carr said during the postgame press conference. “And that’s when it’s tough, when you’re competing hard and you just come up short.”

The defense came up short on Saturday after only allowing 300 yards of total offense to the Warriors, the ‘Dogs let San Jose State pile up 434 total yards of offense.

With the loss against the Spartans, Fresno State will finish the season with its worst record since the 2006 season when it posted a 4-8 record. Head coach Pat Hill talked about how the outcome of the game hasn’t been anything new this season.

“I thought we competed hard for the ball, but Faulkner made some big throws,” Hill said. “Just like Derek [Carr] made some great throws. We didn’t do a good job on our third-down conversions. That game, like I said, a big picture of the way our season’s been.”

Now Fresno State will have an opportunity to finish its season against Mountain West Conference member San Diego State next Saturday where a win will help the ‘Dogs avoid ending the season with less than five wins.