**Rideshare**

One company offers a bike sharing program to colleges

By Mike Hamlin Jr.

A bicycle-sharing program aims to aid students while reducing carbon emissions. The Collegiate Bicycle Company (CBC) offers customizable bike-sharing programs to colleges and universities across the nation. According to Jonathan Sobin, director of product marketing for the CBC, the automated ridesharing programs do not involve renting or owning a specific bicycle. The bicycles are shared among all participants.

"For every mile traveled on one of our bikes, a pound of carbon emissions is saved from the atmosphere," Sobin said. "The program also allows for less traffic on or around campus and allows for more parking spaces to be available because less people will be driving to their classes."

As part of the program, stations would be erected around campus to hold bicycles. Participants would swipe ID cards to check out a bicycle for an alloted amount of time before returning it to one of the stations.

Sobin said the cost of the program for students is customizable and varies according to the university. He also said that the automated ridesharing program would cost the university $1,500 per bicycle and the university can choose how many bicycles to purchase for their campus.

Sobin also said the program offers many benefits to the students and the university.

Recently, University of California, Irvine adopted the ridesharing program. ZotWheels is an automated bike-sharing program with four on-campus bicycle stations. There are a total of 30 bikes at UC Irvine and membership costs $40 per year. If the bike is severely damaged or not returned within 24 hours, the user must pay a replacement fee of $250.

Lynn Harris, the program manager for ZotWheels at UC Irvine, said the university adopted the program because it was a great addition to their other sustainable means of transportation. "We wanted to give the students an alternate form of transportation while reducing our GHG [green house gas] emissions," Harris said in an e-mail interview. "In addition, it is a health benefit to the users."

Harris said the program would benefit the students, faculty, university and environment, no matter the size of the university. She also said the program has experienced great success since its inception in November 2009. "We already have 50 members and that number is still growing," Harris said. "We expect the number to dramati-


dy increase once we actually advertise the program and the weather improves. All in all, the program has been an incredible success and our members are very happy."

Amy Armstrong, public information officer for the University Police Department, said that Fresno State has looked into ridesharing programs in the recent past.

"We have looked at a lot of different companies," Armstrong said. "CBC offers a really good program, but it is just too costly right now, especially with the budget cuts and all. Right now we are working with [Associated Students Inc.] to figure out what students really want."

Sobin said that a ridesharing program would be financially beneficial in the long run.

"The program is very cost efficient," Sobin said. Sobin said the average cost for one new parking space is $15,000 to $20,000 a year. "Plus the users will pay their yearly fees and this can also allow a university to not have to build, say, a new parking structure or lot if they are low on on-campus parking spaces," Sobin said.
Respect for others religions?

The 20th century journalist and social critic H.L. Menken once said, “We must respect the other fellow’s religion, but only in the sense and to the extent that we respect his theory that his wife is beautiful and his children are smart.”

As you may have been asked by a professor to respect classmate’s opinions, beliefs and suggestions, it is equally true when taking a course on religion, you certainly have. If at any point you questioned why it is always appropriate for this to be asked of you, you are not alone.

The realm of immutability from rational and reasonable criticisms society affords to religious belief, its dogmas, its leaders and institutions is rather peculiar; and if you push me hard enough, I would argue it is both ill-advised and unconsiderable. So, allow me to object to these societal mores, with all due respect.

Religious belief is not simply belief in a creator; it makes much greater and more ambitious claims than this. It makes unquestionable claims through quotations that God has illuminated his omnipotence and omnipotence capabilities, while making moral prescriptions on matters including what we may eat, how we should treat our enemies, how and who we should have sex with and what we can and cannot believe, as if they are not in fact equal and some are fit to be my slave, or that women as anything but obedient homemakers is an abomination, and attributed divine warrant for this declaration as a specially chosen prophet, NOBODY would be hurried with the obligation to respect.

A last ditch rebuttal to those who will inevitably say that I cannot evaluate all religious persons and beliefs based on a very small sect that evoke heinous acts, I will simply say that I do not do this. I do not need to. All I can do is judge these doctrines on the meres of pretensions; it is inadvisable that I hold religion accountable. If we were free to call a spade a spade, we can easily conclude that those who presuppose theological prescriptions pertaining to morality and the human condition as eternal paragons belong at the margins of our society. This would be no different than how we appropriately dismiss claims that the alignment of certain planets has direct implications in the outcomes of interactions between human beings.

One thing is clear: If I am wrong about this, I am bound for the gates of hell. I admit this without recourse. However, my inclination to publicly espouse these concerns in the wake of possible eternal damnation, demonstrate just how inadequate I find reasons for being religious are.

In the same manner in which Mr. Menken suggests, I will gladly allow the religious person to speak and make their point known, while also standing by their side in support of everyone’s freedom to believe and worship anything that they may suit their fancy. But as far as “respecting” their religion’s intolerance and immoral claims, well, I suppose society will have to wait until I am provided with good reasons.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

One of the great things about our university is its openness to new ideas and free speech. However, accuracy is also important, especially if we are to have a fair discussion of serious issues.

Let me clarify one major point which was incorrectly reported in the article recently published by The Collegian: students have a meaningful and substantial role on the CSU Board of Trustees. Two seats on the board are reserved for students. As a second-year student trustee, I have full rights and powers of all appointed trustees, including a vote. Students are at the table when fee increases, academic policy changes, personnel decisions or other initiatives are considered. This shared governance also extends down from the board to Fresno State, where President Welty has time and again invited students to the table through student appointments to boards throughout the campus. These appointments are made by the elected leaders of the Associated Students, Inc. Instead of symbolically “declaring independence,” I invite students to participate in shared governance. We should make the most of the voice we have on this campus and in our system in order to make a truly positive change from within.

Kaelan Statham
Student Trustee

To the editor:

In the article, “Academic Independence” published by this paper on Jan. 27, 2010, I read about a group of students who are unhappy accepting things as they are – a group of people dedicated to questioning authority and increasing student involvement. As an Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) senator and as a student, I could not be happier that my peers take their education seriously and want to make a change! Any inspired student interested in making a difference on this campus and in the world (and should) come to their student government, ASI, and ask to be placed on a campus wide committee.

You can fill the application out online at asi.csufresno.edu or come into the ASI office, University Student Union (USU) 201 and ASI appoints to six committees and over 85 campus-wide committees including University Budget Committee, the Academic Senate and the Student Success Task Force. What’s more, students who sit on these committees VOTE!

This is not only as an ASI senator, but also as a concerned student that I ask all students interested in making Fresno State a better university to continue speaking out, but also to consider speaking up by putting a vote to your voice in a campus-wide committee.

Selena Farnesi
Student Affairs Senator
**ACROSS**

1 Poet Edward and a king  
6 "Like Mike" actress  
11 Make on the job  
15 When Polonius says "brevity is the soul of wit"  
16 Outdoor seating area  
21 Notable period  
22 Scrooge's visitors  
23 Frequent Pro Bowl site  
24 "Ta-ta!"  
25 "L.A. Law" extras  
27 City near Provo  
28 Chaos  
29 Swipe again?  
31 Found, as tabloid fodder  
33 Rec. label across the pond  
34 The duck, in "Peter and the Wolf"  
36 Liver oil source  
37 Home of the Big 12's Cyclones  
38 French card game similar to whist  
39 College choice  
40 "You __ what you eat"  
41 Like candied fruits  
42 Bambi relative  
43 Thought patterns, briefly?  
44 Latin I word  
45 Play to __  
46 It's not on the level  
47 __ Paradise, "On the Road" narrator  
48 Parimutuel bet  
49 Oceanic phenomenon that affects weather  
50 Mishandling  
51 Shrugger's comment  
52 Respected one  
53 Baroque composer Jean-Philippe  
54 Show up  
55 Jump in a rink  
56 Ever  
57 Unbalanced  
58 lens holders  
59 Like canned fruits  
60 Erosive force  
61 Back talk  
62 Bearded butter  
63 Exceptional  
64 Revolutionary Chopin piece?  
65 Play to  
66 Dull  
67 Where gobos go  
68 Wine industry reference point  
69 Where gobs go  
70 Tough test metaphor  
71 Promise  
72 Thought patterns, briefly?  
73 Like candied fruits  
74 Enter, briefly?  
75 As a first name  
76 Necktie  
77 Bearded butter  
78 Like some football jerseys  
79 Iron ore  
80 Home of the Big 12's Cyclones  
81 Mexican revolutionary  
82 Near Las Vegas  
83 Blackberrys  
84 Macintosh computer inserts  
85 Dorian Gray's flaw  
86 Slogan: "Sure, it's__
87 Word of the Day: iPhone effect

**DOWN**

1 Shoe co. founded in Venice  
2 French card game similar to whist  
3 Casey's turns  
4 Ipanema's city  
5 Do a number  
6 College choice  
7 Undid  
8 Adequate, and then some  
9 CD... computer inserts  
10 "FG... what you eat"  
11 Blue book entry  
12 Object of loathing  
13 Mahdi, in Islam  
14 Close one  
15 Frequent Pro Bowl site  
16 Sitter's offer to a tot  
17 Old knife  
18 Equatorial African country  
19 Lindsay's "Bionic Woman" role  
20 Thompson in the Theater Hall of Fame  
21 Notable period  
22 Scrooge's visitors  
23 Frequent Pro Bowl site  
24 Sitter's offer to a tot  
25 "L.A. Law" extras  
26 Garbage haulers  
27 City near Provo  
28 Chaos  
29 Swipe again?  
30 Rec. label across the pond  
31 Found, as tabloid fodder  
32 Bearded butter  
33 Like candied fruits  
34 The duck, in "Peter and the Wolf"  
35 Nevada city on I-80  
36 Liver oil source  
37 Home of the Big 12's Cyclones  
38 French card game similar to whist  
39 College choice  
40 "You __ what you eat"  
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42 Bambi relative  
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44 Latin I word  
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46 Play to __  
47 __ Paradise, "On the Road" narrator  
48 Parimutuel bet  
49 Oceanic phenomenon that affects weather  
50 Mishandling  
51 Shrugger's comment  
52 Respected one  
53 Baroque composer Jean-Philippe  
54 Show up  
55 Do a number  
56 College choice  
57 Unbalanced  
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59 Like candied fruits  
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68 Wine industry reference point  
69 Where gobs go  
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73 Like candied fruits  
74 Enter, briefly?  
75 As a first name  
76 Necktie  
77 Bearded butter  
78 Like some football jerseys  
79 Iron ore  
80 Home of the Big 12's Cyclones  
81 Mexican revolutionary  
82 Near Las Vegas  
83 Blackberrys  
84 Macintosh computer inserts  
85 Dorian Gray's flaw  
86 Slogan: "Sure, it's__

**SUDOKU**

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

**PUZZLE SOLUTION:** http://collegian.csufresno.edu

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**Word of the Day**

**iPhone effect**

Shortly after one person in the group brings out their iPhone, the rest follow suit, ultimately ending all conversation and eye contact.

Source: UrbanDictionary.com
Kings of Leon

By Ann Powers

McClatchy Tribune

Caleb Followill will be trembling in his black leather ankle boots when the Band of the Year Prize is announced Sunday night at the Grammy Awards. “Use Somebody,” the big pop power ballad by Kings of Leon, is nominated in that category and three others. That gives the 29-year-old singer, songwriter and guitarist four chances to get up on stage and choke.

“Our family gets to see it. That’s the only reason I go to the Grammys,” said Followill during a wine-soaked ceremony. “Our family gets to see it. That’s the only thing. That and ‘ shoot myself in the head’ — Caleb Followill, Kings of Leon

“W hen you write the number one song, you’re not just ‘Where do we want to go with our instruments.’

“I was survival of the fittest for the first two records. Now we’re a lot more comfortable with our instruments,” said Followill.

“Those moments when you need someone to help you out.”

“Use Somebody” is with its churchy chorus and what Caleb calls its “double meaning” of mercenary lust melting into loneliness and soul hunger, was a big hit and Caleb Calls it a ‘God’s own song.’

Kings of Leon are the emblematic band of the new decade by the mainstream and alternative to top four Billboard charts at once, of only four rock songs in recent history to top four Billboard charts at once, including the mainstream rock chart. A perfect anthem for a troubled year like 2008.

Taylor Swift, Beyonce and Lady Gaga might wind up trumping the Kings for Grammy trophies, but “Use Somebody” stands as a song that’s crossed borders and made many unlikely fans. It’s one of only four rock songs in recent history to top four Billboard charts at once, including the mainstream rock chart and Top 40 tallies.

Artists can’t stop covering “Use Somebody” Nick Jonas and Nickelback both perform it in concert; English soul singer Pixie Lott, German pop gehren Natasha Khan (Bat for Lashes) and Jay Z protege Bridgette Kelly have recorded it; Nashville emo band Paramore scored a YouTube hit after performing it live for the BBC.

“It was a perfect song for us to cover because I enjoy singing anything that’s soulful,” said Paramore’s lead singer, Hayley Williams. “All Caleb’s vocal lines are extremely soulful. It could almost be any genre. And that versat- ility really shined when we were able to strip the song down to its essentials. It didn’t affect the power of the lyrics or any- thing because good art is art no matter how many words you alter, or how many translators it has.

All the praise makes Caleb Followill uncomfortable. He’s recently taken to telling journal- ists that he wants to “shoot himself in the head” when he hears “Use Somebody.” Caleb is sick of it and prefers to listen to late night Texas troubadours such as Townes Van Zandt and Blaze Foley who claim as a current main influence. Yet he admits that he hit on something spe- cial when he followed through on the phrase he first uttered to his siblings on a desolate night during a long tour. “It’s a kind of a book,” he said. “When you listen to it on your own, you think. Kings of Leon, he’s going to be talking about some one-night thing. But really it’s just the opposite of that. At the end of the day no matter who you are, you’re gonna have those moments when you need someone to help you out.”

Kings of Leon had a story before they were a band, and it took some time for the group to make music that lived up to it. Raised on the road by a traveling Pentecostal preacher and his home-schooling wife, Caleb and his older brother Nathan, 31, were allowed to indulge in much popular culture as kids only the occasional Stones or Neil Young cassette that their dad played while driving. “When you grow up in the back seat of a car, the window is your television,” said Caleb. “It was just about, ‘Where do you want to go with your mind?’

The land of pretend gave way to musical collaboration when the Followill’s parents divorced and the family settled down outside of Nashville. Nathan Followill, who spoke in a separate interview at his home nestled in the trees above the Music City said that the road seemed obvious then. “Caleb and I were working in the mall, and this guy came in talking about how he had just got a publishing deal for $15,000. We were making $5.50 an hour, and we thought, we could live for a year off of that! And that would play us his music, and it was horrible! We used to sing in church, and... so we just started writing. I was in college. Caleb and them were across town in another town, and I would go home on the weekends and we would write just silly, bubblegum stuff.”

Being in Nashville seemed like fate to the older Followill. “It’s the center of the world, the center of the world, so we were like, ‘It’s a sign,’” continued Nathan, who’s as frank and enthusiastic as his brother is emotional. “This is our sign. We’re gonna go out there and we’re just gonna get a record deal, you know. We’re going to get like the biggest publishing deal ever.

Instead, the Followills met the pow- erhouse manager Ken Levitan, who helped convince them that rock, not country or pop songwriting, was their best natural fit. They also started work- ing with songwriter Angelo Petraglia, who’d spent time in Boston’s lively New Wave scene in the 1980s before relocat- ing to Nashville. He became a mentor. “Caleb and Nathan were doing a much different thing when I met them,” said Petraglia on the phone interview. “I was hearing them as this Southern soul Every Brothers. They shared a lead vocal. They had the same rhythm section, and it wasn’t a rock band. It was a duet, and they just know how to sing together. Caleb didn’t just tell it like it is, he turned them to ‘Exile on Main Street’ and the Velvet Underground and the Clash, and they were like, ‘Wow!’ The two twen- ty-somethings Followills enlisted their teen kin, assign- ing Jared the bass and kidnap- ping Matthew on their first tour to play guitar. From those early days onward, Kings of Leon grew up in pub- lic, developing their style in front of an audience especially in England, where the four handsome boys were quickly labeled the “Southern Sons” and became a sensation.

“It was survival of the fittest for the first two records,” said Nathan. “Now, we’re the point where we’re a lot more comfortable with our instruments. We kind of feed off of each other, so I think that for every bit of nervousness we have, we’ve got twice as much excitement, just because we’re honing our skills, we’re better musi- cians. We’re in the best musical shape of our lives right now.

There’s free mediation instruction available on campus for students looking to reduce stress. Instruction is offered every Monday in the silence room in the Thomas Administration Building.

Dr. Leslie Weiser, a psychologist at the Health Center, is in charge of the mediation instruction. The focus of the class is mindfulness meditation, she said.

“Being aware of what’s happening with your mind helps to relax your mind and body,” Weiser said.

The class begins with instruction on how to meditate. Weiser teaches students how to breathe properly.

“You have to breathe from your belly,” Weiser said, “and never stop focusing on your breath. If you feel yourself getting lost in the chatter of your mind, you have to come back to your breathing and focus.”

Weiser said Meditating takes prac- tice and people may find it difficult to block out the chatter of your mind and focus on the now.

“The first time I came to the meditating class it was harder than I thought it would be to focus on breathing and blocking out the thoughts in my mind,” said Fresno State senior Luis Belman said. “It has helped me a lot,” Belman said. “I’ve learned how I can control my thoughts, and it’s helped me reduce stress.”

Weiser said she has noticed an increase in the number of students she sees because of stress related issues. “I think people are more stressed this year with financial troubles and academic worries,” Weiser said.

By Leanna Sems

In the silence room, there is an hour of the service before.

Fresno State senior Marisa Wheelock said she had never heard of the service before. “I’m going to check it out with my roommate because I know she could use all the stress reduction she can get,” said senior Marisa Wheelock.
Scientists work to decode the genetics of chocolate

By Marciel E. Presilla McClatchy Tribune

No one who loves chocolate needs to be told that it is experiencing a golden age. The very fact that the names of illustrious cacao types like Venezuelan Porcelana have made their way onto chocolate-bar labels shows a deepening hunger for vivid cacao character and careful artisanship.

On the scientific front, biochemists are unraveling chocolate’s heart-healthfulness and archaeologists are gaining insight into its ancient rituals, but plant geneticists are engaged in the most exciting research. Their project to decode the cacao genome holds promise for farmers, manufactur- ers and chocolate lovers alike.

Florida scientists are playing a vital role, and the geneticist who leads their efforts, Dr. Raymond Schnell, spoke Saturday at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden’s International Chocolate Festival.

At Chapman Field, the Subtropical Horticultural Research Station of the USDA Agricultural Research Service, Schnell coordinates two programs aimed at constructing an overall genetic picture of Theobroma cacao: the International Marker System Selection Program and the Genome Sequencing Program. Funded by Mars, the project also involves scientists at five other sites.

South Florida’s role in chocolate research dates to the 1950s, when the USDA established a quarantine station here to stop the movement of cacao diseases among the Americas, Asia and Africa.

After disease decimated the cacao crop in Bahia, Brazil, in 1998, threatening Mars’ supply, the company offered to fund USDA efforts to develop disease-resistant plants to broaden the world’s largest producer. This program gave rise to far-reaching efforts to collect and just as accurately identify cacao specimens. As Schnell told me when I visited his research station last year, this is no mere academic exercise.

DNA testing has revealed that some of the world’s great germplasm banks are full of mislabeled specimens—a hindrance to any breeding program meant to exploit a particular cultivar’s qualities, from subtle flavor nuances to disease or pest resistance. For the past decade, Schnell’s team has been systematically examining germplasm from many collections, trying to set the record straight.

The Coral Gables research station sits on property that once belonged to horticulturalist and tropical plant explorer David Fairchild. Looking at the weathered gray stone walls that span collections, I felt transported to a Maya temple ruin. My tour guide, agricultural research technician Mike Winterstein, told me that he had been just what Fairchild wanted. In 1908 he had the garden enlarged as part of a Civilian Conservation Corps project, cannibalizing paving stones from a military airstrip to construct the thick walls. Fairchild knew that unimpeded Gulf Stream breezes made the spot several degrees warmer than surrounding areas. This slight boost plus the absorbed heat the walls radiate back at night raises the temperature in the shaded garden by 5 to 7 degrees enough for cacao and other tender tropical plants to survive this far north.

Among the scientists working on the mapping project is Venezuelan-born geneticist Juan Carlos Motamayor, who has shed light on the complexity of genetic types within the species Theobroma cacao. There are 10 known genetic clusters, all native to South America, and the number may grow as Motamayor examines cacao samples gathered in Bolivia and Peru. When the project is complete in two or three years, it will help clarify the genetic origins of cacao and the relationships among its types. It will also allow scientists to select cultivars for farmers that are smaller, faster-growing, easier to prune and more resistant to pests and disease.

In the end, more accurate knowledge of genetics will turn cacao into a modern crop. The payoff for chocolate lovers will be a secure source for their favorite food and, perhaps, an even richer flavor palette.
GRADUATES: Board of trustees calls for more graduates

CONTINUED from page 1

an initiative Wednesday that would increase the percentage of students who complete four-year degrees.

Trustees stated during their meeting at the University Beach that the long-term initiative would boost the rate of graduates throughout the 23 CSU campuses by eight percent by 2016. At present, approximately 46 percent of graduates graduate within six years of entering college. The goal, according to CSU officials, is to increase the graduation rate overall by 54 percent.

“The goal of this initiative is to not only increase the number of students who complete their degree, but also help those from traditionally underrepresented communities who may need additional support to finish,” CSU Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer Jerri Echeverria said in a press release.

The initiative also outlines plans for how the CSU will improve graduation rates for traditionally underrepresented ethnic groups.

In an e-mailed response to the initiative, University President John D. Welty said that Fresno State plans to increase the six-year graduate rate for first-time freshmen and transfer students by six percentage points within the next six years.

“Our official goal is 51 percent, but we’re working to exceed that,” Welty said. “An additional goal is to reduce the graduation rate gap between traditionally represented and underrepresented groups by half.”

Several programs will be implemented to reach this goal, according to Associate Students Inc. president, Jessica Sweeten.

The graduation initiative at Fresno State, Sweeten said, will include efforts such as implementing a student success plan, restoring one-on-one mentoring between faculty and students; mandatory academic advising for students whose grade point averages fall below 2.0; and faculty-student collaboration on research projects.

The Student Success Task Force, a student committee co-chaired by Provost William A. Covino and Vice President of Academic Affairs Paul Oliaro, will develop the plan for the campus and focus their attention on this year’s entering freshman.

Board of Trustees member Russel Statham said that the initiative is still in the decision making phase, but he is hopeful that the final proposal will help students graduate.

“I am pleased with [the CSU] progress,” Statham said. “A number of proven techniques have been explored in a comprehensive fashion and can be a part of the larger solution.”

The initiative to graduate more students corresponds with President Barack Obama’s call for an overhaul of the educational system in the United States in order to remain competitive in the global economy.

Corrections:

• In a front-page story that ran on Monday, Jan.25 of The Collegian, it was incorrectly referenced the department responsible for distributing yellow parking passes. As of November 2009, the Office of Student Involvement and the Office of the Vice President for Administration approves the list of eligible students. Parking permits have also been restored to several student groups.

• In a front-page story that ran on Wednesday of The Collegian, the role of a Board of Trustees member was incorrectly stated. Two student board members are appointed with one assuming full rights, including the power to vote.

• In an article that ran Wednesday, Jan.27 on page 9 of The Collegian, a quote was incorrectly attributed. The correct attribution should have read: “on behalf of the university.”

ASI: Tensions run high

CONTINUED from page 1

issue at this time, we should probably move the discussion along and maybe take the next couple of weeks to talk to the people we represent and come back informed on the issue,” Parra tried.

Senators also voiced differing opinions about the merits of proposing a policy that will explicitly declare on senate and committee applications that senators must be available during a specific time. Some senators took the stance of supporting the policy because there had been instances concerning the availability of certain committee members that made it difficult for committees to arrange meetings.

Senator Mathew Todd stated that specified days and times would be convenient for the senators, but may put committee members in a bind.

“Speaking for my college, we have a majority of our labs held from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays,” Todd said. “For example, I had to drop a class in order to be here, and these labs are offered maybe once a year, or sometimes once every two years. We’d lose out on a lot of applicants. I understand that leaving the whole week open is too broad, but allowing an entire day will be able to meet people’s needs.”

In response to the senator San Andres, a couple of senators were empathetic to her situation.

In an e-mail interview after the meeting, senator Pedro Ramirez praised San Andrews.

“Not many people have the backbone to stand up to a board in which they serve. Her sentiment reveals the sentiment of the student body. Students are frustrated with the way the ASI and the administration run the university and that is why it is important to voice your opinions and vote during elections.”

In an e-mail interview after the meeting, senator Farnesi said, “ASI is made up of many unique individuals that bring different perspectives to the table. We value the diversity of the ASI senators in their respective opinions.”

Career Opportunities at the USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

Sponsored by ASI, HSONA, HBSA, USDA-FAS, and the USDA-HSI National Program

Monday - Feb. 1, 2010
5:45 to 6:45 p.m.
Fresno State - Kremen School of Education Building: Room 140

Linking U.S. Agriculture to the World

USDA - FAS works to improve foreign market access for U.S. products, build new markets, improve the competitive position of U.S. agriculture in the global marketplace, and provide food aid and technical assistance to foreign countries.

Information Session: A representative for Washington, D.C. is visiting with Central Valley students for the first time and will present on USDA-FAS career opportunities. The USDA-FAS is looking for undergraduate and graduate students majoring in a Business Administration or a science-related agricultural field—such as Agricultural Business Economics, Accounting, Finance, Management, Marketing, or International Business. Also, students majoring in an international studies/relations program, public affairs, law school, or in a biotechnology program.

Pizza and Refreshments will be provided!
The Bulldogs get ready to start the season

By Ben Ingresol
The Collegian

Baseball

Baseball season is now less than a month away, and the Diamond ‘Dogs are looking to extend their Western Athletic Conference tournament championship streaks to three straight and once again enter national title contention.

With stars such as slugger Tom Mendonca and ace Holden Sprague now out of Bulldog uniforms, head coach Peter Krumeich will have to turn to his young, but tested squad.

Preseason All-American selections Danny Muno, junior, and Dusty Robinson, sophomore, will lead a team looking to improve on a 12-20 2009 campaign. Fresno State will begin its 2010 season on Feb. 28 at home with a four-game series against Nebraska. The Bulldogs will also host a four-game series against Oregon beginning on March 5. In all, the ‘Dogs will host 35 home games with KMJ Radio airing 42 games total.

Softball

Bulldog softball still has more than two weeks until the season opens, but that is not stopping the team from grasping national recognition. Fresno State’s preseason top-25 national ranking has generated plenty of hype and well-deserved recognition on campus.

Leading the way in 2010 will be pitcher Morgan Melloh who has already collected an abundance of recognition on campus. The junior lefty is on the 2010 National Collegiate Player of the Year award. This is Melloh who has already collected an abundance of recognition in her career. The junior lefty is on the 2010 preseason watch list for the 9th Annual USA Softball awards in her career. The junior lefty is on the 2010 preseason watch list for the 9th Annual USA Softball awards in her career.

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Fresno State’s preseason top-25 national ranking has generated plenty of hype and well-deserved recognition on campus.

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Lady Hoops Midterm Exam

Bulldogs continue to dominate in the WAC conference play

By Chris Aguirre The Collegian

The Fresno State women’s basketball team is once again dominating the Western Athletic Conference (WAC). In the pursuit of their third straight title, the Bulldogs have had a great season thus far.

The Bulldogs have all the gears running as they have won eight games in a row and 14 of their last 16 games.

With Head Coach Adrian Wiggins at the helm, the Dogs are in position to win their third straight conference title and make their third trip to the NCAA tournament in as many years.

Junior Jaleesa Ross, who is the back-to-back WAC tournament MVP, is the first person to ever garner that accomplishment twice and is one of many reasons that the bulldogs are the team to beat in the WAC.

Now that Fresno State 16-5, (7-0 in the WAC) are through more than half of their season it’s time to give the team its midterm exam.

Bulldog rackets reign supreme

Men’s Tennis continue the season dominating in doubles and singles

By Sara Almario The Collegian

Currently ranked in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) as no. 46, the Fresno State men’s tennis team defeated the No. 71 Pacific Tigers on Thursday.

The Bulldogs were 3-0 in doubles competition and 5-1 in singles.

Tennis Coach Jay Udawadia said, “Pacific is a very solid team, so we started well with the doubles and we carried it all the way through the singles.”

The competition started with the doubles matches when the no. 36 ranked team in the country, Rikus de Villiers and Remi Boutillier, played against the Tigers’ Artem Gramma and Ivan Garcia-Castro. De Villiers and Boutillier won 8-4.

“They’re a good team, so we wanted to get out there and show them how we’re better than they are,” de Villiers said. “I think we did a good job of getting our offense out from the start.”

As the No. 36 doubles pair in the country, de Villiers and Boutillier said their focus is more on winning matches, not on the rankings.

“We don’t really like to look at that, we just keep playing and giving our best in every single match,” Boutillier said. “It’s good to be ranked, but it’s not the main thing. We want to go to every match, one-by-one, and take them as they come.”

In the other doubles matches, the no. 20 team in the ITA, Mirko Zapletal and Taylor Leiby, dominated Pacific’s Vegerd Veskimagi and Fernando Ristow 8-3, and Bulldogs Siddharth Alapati and Soumith Veerapalli defeated Karl-Erik Paaro and Renan Delsin 8-3.

“I was really happy to come out in doubles,” Udawadia said. “I thought all three teams played well.”

In the singles matches, all Bulldogs won against except for Zapletal who struggled against Pacific’s Artem Gramma 6-1, 6-0. In his singles match, de Villiers overpowered his opponent Garcia-Castro, but almost did not make a sweep when he was forced to a tiebreaker in the second set.

“[Garcia-Castro] was missing a lot of balls and I was missing a lot of balls, so I knew in order to win I have to hit my ball better than he does,” De Villiers said. “I think tactically, I played smarter than he did.”

The only ranked Bulldog in the singles division of the ITA is newcomer David Ayoun, who ranked no. 83. Ayoun came weeks before the fall season started and now has been recognized as one of the top singles players in the country.

“David has a good heart and is a good hard worker,” Udawadia said. “We really developed him as far as his volley game and serve, and we also let him do doubles play so he can be a well-rounded player. He’s done a good job of it and so far the results are showing.”

The Bulldogs’ next event will be at Texas A&M’s court, where they will be vying for a spot in the ITA’s National Team Indoors Championship.

Head coach Adrian Wiggins has led Bulldogs to the programs first two WAC championships, 2008–09, and his players have been recognized twice in the NCAA tournament. He is the only Fresno State coach in the 44 year history to not have a losing season and averaging 22 wins per season.

Midseason Report Card

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Coaching</td>
<td>Head coach Adrian Wiggins has led Bulldogs to the programs first two WAC championships, 2008–09, and first two appearances in the NCAA tournament. He is the only Fresno State coach in the 44 year history to not have a losing season and averaging 22 wins per season.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Returns</td>
<td>The Bulldogs have no problem when it comes to experience and leadership from returning players. With nearly the entire team returning from last season, senior Joh Teena Felipe is becoming a presence in the post. Hayley Munro is the second leading scorer, averaging 10 points per game.</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Rebounding</td>
<td>The Bulldogs are ranked in the middle of the pack in both offensive and defensive rebounding. Jaleesa Ross leads the team pulling down six rebounds a game. That proves that the Bulldogs are an average rebounding team when they have a guard leading the rebounding category.</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>Defense</td>
<td>The Dogs have the third ranked defense in the WAC, giving up 70.4 points per game. They are seventh in the conference, allowing the opposing teams to shoot almost 41 percent a game. They rank second in the league in steals, but last in blocked shots.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Offense</td>
<td>It seems the Bulldogs are able to score at will in the WAC. They are third in the conference in scoring averaging 77.1 points per game. The Bulldogs are led by Jaleesa Ross who is averaging 17.5 points per game. The only thing holding the Bulldogs back from an A+ is their free throw percentage, at just 64 percent.</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Newcomers</td>
<td>Fresno State has had many contributors to their wins this season, however, one newcomer has made an impact on the team this year. Rosie Moulit, a freshman from Australia, is averaging six points per game but contributes small stuff that goes unnoticed. She is second on the team with 3-point field goals made with 12.</td>
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— Jay Udawadia, Men’s Head Tennis Coach

— By Sara Almario The Collegian

THE COLLEGIAN
Page 8
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