Celebrating African peoples’ history

By Joe Bailey

African Peoples’ History Month, also known as Black History Month, kicked off Monday with poetry, guest speakers, and a dance performance.

The celebration will continue throughout the month with music events and activities to come.

Dr. Malik Simba, an Africana and American Indian studies professor at Fresno State, said “Negro History Week,” as it was originally called, was started by Dr. Carter G. Woodson in the 1920s, but is now celebrated throughout the month of February Woodson was the second African-American to ever receive a doctorate from Harvard.

“Black History Month was started in order to reclaim African-Americans made to make this country better,” Simba said.

Woodson believed history was written in a way that was defending racism, Simba said.

“There is one thing about him (Woodson) that is very unique,” Simba said. “He believed that a racist history produced a racist people and a racist nation. For this nation to become nonracist the

Fresno State students sing during African Peoples’ History Month Celebration.

By Mike Boylan

The California State University system is utilizing the growing popularity of blogging to allow people to share their stories and experiences.

The 23 CSU campuses have invited students, faculty, alumni, employees and friends to become bloggers on a Web site called “First Generation,” geared at allowing first-generation success stories to reach a larger audience.

“First Generation is a whole new experience,” Welty said. “I invite you to contribute to the First Generation Stories Project – a project designed to provide inspiration and role models for our first generation students.”

Welty also noted that 35 percent of Fresno State students are the first in their family to attend college, while 15 percent have parents who started college but dropped out.

Welty, who is also a first generation college student, hopes that the blog will provide role models for many other aspiring college graduates.

“The purpose of the First Generation Stories project is to make first generation faculty and staff visible and to let them know that many of their professors, counselors and others have faced obstacles and challenges similar to the ones they are experiencing,” Welty added.

“I am a first generation college graduate and intend to submit my story. I invite you to join me.”

Project organizers will collect various stories and use them for student support programs, classrooms and other venues. Also, all authors will retain final approval for their story before it is added to the collection.

By Thaddeus Miller

Sharing college experiences

The Collegian

Attending high school in Mendota, Calif., with a mother at work in the fields, Arcadia Nunez was behind in school.

“A counselor told her about the University Migrant Services (UMS) program at Fresno State,” Nunez said. “It was a whole new experience.”

Nunez attributes UMS with getting her caught up.

She will be graduating in December with a communicative disorders degree.

Last semester, 76 students who come from migrant, farming/working families took classes on campus.

Maxine McDonald, assistant vice president for student success services, said the UMS program is unique in that it caters to students of farmworker families and coordinates with the migrant community.

McDonald said students who come from migrant families don’t have an experience parent at home to tell them how college works.

The UMS program provides with that guidance and mentors them through the system.

McDonald said UMS serves an important purpose.

“Whenever students are involved in their community and campus, it persists that they’ll stay in the community,” McDonald said.

UMS coordinator Raul Moreno facilitates for the students even before they are enrolled at Fresno State.

The majority of the students in the program are Latino, with a smaller population of Southeast Asian and Punjabi students.

Because most of them speak English as a second language, Moreno said the earlier the students can be identified, the better.

“By the time we get them, they’re already behind,” Moreno said. “That’s the urgency for finding them early.”

If the student can be discovered in middle school or early high school, he or she has the chance to make up some academic ground through summer school.

High schools throughout the Central Valley have a counselor designated to identify the children of farmworkers, and get them on track to attend college.

Before a student can catch up, often he or she needs to be encouraged.

“The first challenge is the motivation part,” Moreno said. “The students need to understand that they actually have an opportunity.”

Once a student has cleared both the educational and academic hurdles, he or she has to figure out how to afford tuition.

In October 2001, California Assembly bill 540 made it legal for the children of farmworkers to pay in-state tuition, assuming that they fit the criteria: the student must have attended high school in California for at least three years, graduated from high school or received the general education diploma (GED), register or be enrolled in a California college and sign a statement that he or she will apply for financial aid as soon as eligible.

Each student will have a different path, Moreno said. The students born in the United States, about 70 percent, will likely qualify for financial aid, internships and scholarships. However, foreign-born students can’t receive federal or state financial aid.

Moreno said few scholarships exist for those immigrating students, so they must rely on community service.

“If you do community service for an agency, chances are, that agency is going to help you out [with a scholarship],” Moreno said.

The agencies are not bound to any contracts. However, Moreno acts on the student’s behalf as, in a sense, a lawyer, he said.

Moreno, a Fresno State graduate, was once in the same place as the students he works with. He dropped out of high school to work in the fields.

“A project within the migrant education program reached out to me, and helped me get out of the fields and get back on track,” Moreno said.

From farmworkers to students

One program on campus aids students from farming/working families as they become the first generation of university students.

By Thaddeus Miller
Time to walk the walk

The debt and deficit seem to become hot topics for the Obama administration. Indeed, according to The New York Times, he used some combination of those words 18 times in his State of the Union address, words that were trumped only by those of jobs, 29 times, and 28 times.

Thus, we know what the president’s overriding goals are. But what is the citizen liberal agenda (health care, cap-and-tax) has been at the very least staled in the Congress: the economy. And the president’s rhetoric, at least, has been consistent. 

He announced the beginning of a bipartisan commission whose sole focus would be on increasing the deficit. He announced that a spending freeze on domestic spending would be enacted for three years. And, undeniably, he does propose freezeing and even eliminating entitlements to programs from his newest budget proposal.

Mr. Obama himself acknowledges that this cliche, has been talking the walk

Without explanation on some discretionary spending is only a symbolic gesture, much talk of limiting earmarks is. It will have basically no discernable impact on the budget. According to the New York Times, only seven percent of the $3.8 trillion budget the president is proposing, $2 trillion on is discretionary spending, such as Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and interest on the national debt. One can not seriously talk of lowering the debt without doing something of impact that relates to the behemoths that are Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

As well as not dealing with the problems that these programs pose, he has also lived by the politician’s credo—if a government program does not work, subsidize it.

It is this budget, education, through the massive failure that is No Child Left Behind, will receive $3.5 billion more than it did last year. These massive deficits will continue into the near future, and into the rat so near future. President Obama admits as much in his budget projections. He predicts budget deficits even into 2020.

Is this really that big of a deal, some might ask?

In short, yes. If we continue down this unsustainable course, our future will be filled with significant doom. For we will have only two courses of action: one, we experience the massive inflation that would make Weimar Germany look like a beacon of fiscal sanity; and two, suffer a Greater Depression that would cripple our economy for years to come.

The proof lies in the numbers.

Whether anyone is as moved by the mainstream media followed their reporting of the Special Olympics, as political commentator and New York carpetbagger Harold Ford, Jr. is known for slips of the tongue, but he may even be a safer foreign policy.

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ACROSS
1 Cribbage pieces
5 Shaving gel alternative
9 More than disliked
14 Power co. product
15 “Tickle me” doll
16 Texas mission to remember
17 Volcano feature
18 Equestrian’s control
19 Organizes alphabetically, say
20 Broadway premiere
23 _card stud
24 Corp. honcho
25 Natural spring
28 Making lots of noise
33 Genealogist’s chart
34 No-treat consequence?
35 Speech impediment
39 Arises (from)
42 Till bills
43 Like draft beer
45 1492 Atlantic crosser
47 Start of a wide-area police radio alert
53 Artist Yoko
54 By way of
55 Athletic shoe’s turf grabber
57 Seating for extra guests, maybe
61 Yell
64 __ club: singing group
65 Decisive victory

DOWN
1 __ Bill: legendary cowboy
2 Romeo or Juliet, marriage-wise
3 Swiss city on the Rhone
4 First part of an act
5 Plant with fronds
6 Designer Cassini
7 Ugandan dictator
8 Seles of tennis
9 Discuss thoroughly
10 Often
11 La Brea stuff
12 CPR giver, often
13 Hair styles
21 MIT, for one. Abbrev.
22 Berlin’s land; Abbrev.
25 Porous organ
26 Brownish purple
27 Inquires
29 Tax-auditing org.
30 Keep after taxes
31 Davis who played Thelma
32 ___Magnon
35 Bonkers
36 Words before instant or emergency
37 WWII invasion city
38 Good bud
40 Wire diameter measure
41 NBC weekend hit, briefly
44 One doing a pirouette, e.g.
46 Brokerage cust.
48 It’s nothing
49 Thingamajig
50 Security devices
51 Start again, as after a computer system crash
52 Military greeting
56 Wyoming’s __ Range
57 Firecracker cord
58 Hip bones
59 Socially inept type
60 Thousands, in a heist
61 Maple syrup base
62 “True Blood” network
63 Acrom’s destiny

Evasive mumbling
Mumbling the answer to a question in hopes that the questioner won’t hear or understand an answer that may get you in trouble.

Source: UrbanDictionary.com

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
2009-2010 PROVOST’S AWARDS

Nominations are now being accepted for the Provost’s Awards for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Please visit our website for the guidelines and nomination from at http://www.csufresno.edu/academics/faculty_staff/opportunities_awards/provost_award.shtml

Copies are also available in the Office of Provost, Henry Madden Library 4116. All nominations should be submitted in the Office of The Provost on or before Thursday, March 4, 2010.

Nominations may be made in any of the following areas:

- Excellent in Teaching
- Technology in Education
- Faculty Service
- Graduate Teaching and Mentoring
- Distinguished Achievement in Research, Scholarship or Creative Activities
- Promising New Faculty Award
- New Award for 2009-2010 Distinguished Achievement in Assessment of Learning
Neighborhood bar transports patrons to Boston and back for a wicked price.

By Danielle Gilbert
The Collegian

Rarely do you find a relaxed bar and restaurant in Fresno that does not house extras from the “Jersey Shore” or seating that only appeared practical on its blueprints. However, if you do find such a place that has two happy hour specials and serves food until last call, it is an exception.

That exception: The Mad Duck Neighborhood Grill and Taphouse. Although the name is a mouthful, the men that oversee the operation, Dustin Llanes, Alex Costa and head chef Kevin Keogh, seek to create the perfect brewhouse atmosphere.

The Mad Duck, a loose anagram of the managing partners initials, launched after a group of long-time restaurant owners and start working for patrons. “We had literally spent years, and thousands and thousands of hours working to fulfill the visions of private owners dreams,” Costa said.

Fast forward one year later: the concept, which formulated around the simplicities that local watering holes lack, hatched. One of the formulas making high-end eats for low-end fare: “We want the menu to be really affordable,” Llanes said. “The most expensive thing on our menu is $11.”

Not only is the farm-to-table style bar and grill reasonably priced, but the kitchen will serve food until midnight to go along with the bar’s two happy hour drink specials from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and again at 10 p.m. to midnight, seven days a week.

“Chef Keogh has a deep-seeded belief that it is just as difficult to make bad food as it is to make good food,” Costa said. “The difference is pride.”

The tap house, the owners said, was inspired by an old Boston pub motif. “The floor to ceiling distressed brick found inside the tap house was laid by the owners themselves. Costa, Keogh and Llanes not only designed and built the restaurant but also work at The Mad Duck.”

“It is one reason it’s taking longer to open, because we have amateurs doing everything,” Llanes said lightheartedly.

Nick Potter, a Fresno State art and design professor, lent a hand and his vision to the project.

“Less beer on tap will be from the states,” Llanes said. “We are focusing on micro brews, a lot of your Sierra Nevada’s and Blue Moons.” He said the draft beers will be periodically rotated in order to feature as many “good ol’ American beers as possible.”

What started as an investment, putting money into a preexisting bar, evolved into a place of their own. Fueled by family, friends and Fresno, The Duck is a clean and casual place where everyone can hang out, Llanes said.

“Whether you roll out of bed or roll in off the job, you’re in college or you’re 50 years old, as long as you feel comfortable and have a good time,” Llanes said.

The owners agreed. There will be no pretensions, no $$ and no dress code when The Mad Duck opens its doors to the public mid-February.

“We take our jobs really seriously, but we’re not serious people,” Costa said.

The soon-to-open speakeasy is sure to be one of Fresno’s best-kept secrets – if you’re in college or you’re 50 years old, as long as you feel comfortable and have a good time,” Llanes said.

Game developers see potential, not gold rush in Apple’s iPad.

By Brian Crecente
 McClatchy Tribune

On its surface, Apple’s iPad may seem like a glorified e-book reader, but developers working on games for the system say they see within its extra-large screen and faster processor, great gaming potential.

The iPad is essentially an over sized iPod Touch. The device features a 9.7-inch re-engineered multi-touch screen, a 1GHz processor and 16GB to 64GB of storage. The device will be available either with WiFi only support or with the ability to connect to the Internet through a 3G AT&T cell service. The iPad, which hits this March, will sell for $599 to $829.

Game developers looking to support the new device have two ways of doing so. Because the iPad will run the same sort of operating system as the iPhone and iPod Touch, it can also run the same apps built for those devices. But those apps either have to be run at their original, smaller size, or lose a bit of fidelity when they are artificially enlarged. Developers could also decide to develop games specifically for the device or to develop a higher-resolution version of their iPhone or iPod Touch games for the iPad.

PopCap, despite its exuberance for the iPad and successes with the iPhone and iPod Touch, hasn’t yet announced any games for Apple’s latest bit of gadgetry. While more processing and screen space could mean more complex games, the feature developers seem most excited about is the iPad’s ability to allow the portable device to become a platform for multiplayer gaming.

"I just as difficult to make bad food as it is to make good food. The difference is pride."
— Alex Costa, The Mad Duck

"Whether you roll out of bed or roll in off the job, you’re in college or you’re 50 years old, as long as you feel comfortable and have a good time."
— Dustin Llanes, The Mad Duck
Freshman Levy Randolph, 19, has become the second Fresno State student in three years to be elected as the national Future Farmers of America president (FFA).

Randolph was elected as the 2009-2010 president on Oct. 24, 2009 after months of preparation.

“It took me four months of preparation to run for president which included keynote speeches, student workshops, and studying about FFA and current agriculture,” Randolph said.

“After the preparation there is a test, two essays and a week of interviews with the nominations committee who elect you into your specific positions.”

Randolph, an ag business major, fulfills the duties of president which are workshops and keynote speaking. He also has meetings with leaders in education, government officials, ag industry leaders, and corporate sponsors.

“We are on the road 300 days a year and the other 65 days we have ‘off’ are not always at home because some are rest days when we are not traveling or have work,” Randolph said. The constant travel and work for the position led Randolph to take this year off of school.

Over the course of his presidency Randolph will travel 100,000 miles. Randolph said that as a team they go to 40 states in one year and they have a two-week international trip. This year they are traveling to Japan for their international trip.

“In Japan we are spending four days in Tokyo, visiting Toyota, spend four days in rural Japan, visit the U.S. embassy, and meet with Japanese agricultural leaders,” Randolph said. Randolph will also lead his team in meeting with the Future Farmers of Japan. The program is to help students come together and have better relations.

Though Randolph, a Hemet native, is the current president of the FFA he just stumbled into an ag class in high school.

“I grew up in a military family and was really interested in playing sports,” Randolph said. “As a freshman, a friend convinced me to sign up for the ag class so we could just relax and hang out.”

Randolph’s teacher offered the class a chance to get an ‘A’ in the course.

“We had to present the FFA creed to the class for the ‘A,’ I thought why not I could please my football coach and relax the rest of the semester,” Randolph said. “My teacher liked my presentation so much they drug me to the FFA competition and I ended up being the runner up at the state level.”

From then on Randolph became more active in FFA raising animals for show, prepared public speaking, and managed his school’s garden. When it was time to pick a college he narrowed it down to Chico State, Cal Poly, and Fresno State.

“I picked Fresno State because the faculty was the best there and it fit my major,” Randolph said. “The faculty is very accommodating and they actually give you the time of day.”

Dr. Charles Boyer, Dean of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, believes that Fresno State is lucky to get a student like Randolph.

“He is a mature, bright, young man. He is going to be very successful,” Boyer said. “Levy being elected shows how good our students are at Fresno State and I am excited to have this high caliber student at the university, who will enrich the environment for not only the students but the faculty.”

Randolph plans to work toward owning his own youth leadership and curriculum development company after Fresno State.

“My advice is to be passionate about what you do, to keep an open mind, and take an ag class,” Randolph said.
people to become nonracist, the mis-education must stop.”

“What he dedicated his entire life to, obsessively, was research. “By locating the facts that were left out or denied in history by the white supremacist school of histori- cal writing.”

Simba said that Woodson was relentless in his mission to right the wrongs that were written in those books. “He felt that if he could research and publish all the accurate facts and contributions to the growth of civi- lization made by black men and women that it would set this country free,” Simba said. “This is an accomplishment of rejection of racist history.”

Woodson is now known as the “Father of Black History” and created the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which chronic- led achievements made by African-Americans when it published “The Journal of Negro History.”

Simba said these contribu- tions to history must contin- ue and Black History Month must be used to inspire more African-Americans today.

“There is a class dimension to the African-American com- munity,” Simba said. “The ones left behind by the civil rights movement and affirma- tive action in the inner-cities need inspiration and hope.”

Simba said this year’s celebra- tion held extra importance with Barack Obama marking his first year as President of the United States.

“This is a one year celebra- tion of a great achievement,” Simba said. “This is a time to think about the past and influence the future.”

The potential for electronic defects in Toyota vehicles to cause sudden acceler- ation came under close scrutiny Tuesday as both fed- eral and state regulators and con- gressional leaders said they had begun new probes of the issue.

Toyota has blamed more than 2,000 reported cases of sudden acceleration in its vehicles over the last decade on floor mats and sticky gas pedals, triggering massive recalls worldwide. The automaker has insisted that it knows of no electronic defect that could cause drivers to lose control of its vehicles.

But federal safety regulators disclosed Tuesday that they had begun a “fresh review” of the electronic throttle system in Toyota and Lexus vehicles, which connect a driver’s foot to the engine through sens- ors, computers and wires, rather than a mechanical link. Regulators are also consid- ering civil fines against the automaker for its handling of the recall, an official said.

The move came after a growing number of inde- pendent experts have voiced doubt about Toyota’s explana- tion, saying it cannot account for all the reports of sudden acceleration and that part of the blame may rest with the electronic throttle system. The Los Angeles Times report- ed last fall that complaints of sudden acceleration in Toyota vehicles skyrocketed with the introduction of electronic throttles.

Although Toyota has denied that electronics are to blame, those statements came under sharp attack Tuesday by Rep. Henry A. Waxman, D-Calif., and Rep. Bart Stupak, D-Mich., whose staffs are investigating the company.

In a letter to Toyota, they accused the automaker of tell- ing the public one story about its engine electronics and a dif- ferent one to committee inves- tigators in recent meetings.

Toyota representatives acknowledged to the automaker that a sticky pedal might remain in a slightly depressed position, the letter said, but “they said that this would not lead to full-throttle acceler- ation.” The letter also quotes Toyota representatives as acknowledging that it is “very hard to identify” the causes of sudden acceler- ation.

In a media blitz this week aimed at reassuring the public, Toyota executives have insist- ed that electronic problems are not behind the reports of sudden acceleration.

The letter raises ques- tions about when Toyota knew that it had a defect in its acceler- ator pedals. Although it has publicly said that it became aware of the problems in late October, it told the committee staff that it first learned of the issue in April or May.

Toyota spokesman Brian Lyons said the company would “continue to cooperate” with federal regulators. He did not comment on the congressional investigation.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, meanwhile, said in a state- ment that it would meet for the first time with outside safety experts, as well as manufac- turers and suppliers, to review the possibility that electronic defects are part of the problem.

“Toyota’s unintended accel- eration is going to be a water- shed,” Dullea said.

Toyota probes take a new turn

African Peoples’ History Month

CONTINUED from page 1

MONTH:

African Peoples’ History Month 2010 Schedule of Events

Week One

Poetry Jam
February 3 at 7 p.m. – The Bucket

New and established poets are welcome. Open Mic.

Grading and Evaluating President Obama
February 4 at 6 p.m. – Peter’s Ed. Center

A lively panel discussion with African Studies faculty

Rion “Chicago” Spears performed a poem that was inspired by Black History Month.

“It’s basically a way to cele- brate the good, the bad, and the ugly,” Spears said. “It’s a way to show appreciation to those who have given me an opportunity to come to this university for an educa- tion, to ride anywhere on a bus, to celebrate everything that was given to me. Celebrate those who fought through a time when people of my color weren’t able to do anything.”

Even though February is designated as Black History Month Spears said, he cele- brates all year.

“I like to celebrate being a descendent of Africa every day of the year because it’s a very proud culture,” Spears said. “When this month comes around it makes me feel even more special because we have this time to celebrate and come together as a culture.”

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The 2010 model of the Toyota Prius has not been identified in the probe.

The Los Angeles Times report- ed last fall that complaints of sudden acceleration in Toyota vehicles skyrocketed with the introduction of electronic throttles.

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The letter raises ques- tions about when Toyota knew that it had a defect in its acceler- or pedals. Although it has
Colts’ Freeney not sure his ankle will let him play in Super Bowl

By Sam Farmer McClatchy Tribune

Will he or won’t he? Can he or can’t he?

It was only fitting that Dwight Freeney, mystery man for the Indianapolis Colts, showed up to Super Bowl media day Tuesday wearing flip flops on his severely sprained ankle, his status for Sunday’s game seems to be flip flopping.

Freeney, a defensive end who finished tied for third in the league with 20 sacks, didn’t have a noticeable limp as he made his way to his interview table at the event, and though he said the swelling had been bad, his ankles appeared to be roughly the same size. “I don’t know exactly what’s going to happen,” he said. “Obviously, the competitor in me says, ‘Nothing’s going to happen,'” he said. “Obviously, the competitor in me says, ‘Nothing’s going to happen,'” he said. But the more you tape up and bulk up, the less dexterity he’s going to have.”

Freeney said he has never taken a shot of painkiller before a game, but said, “that’s a conversation me and the docs are going to have to have on Saturday if it’s even safe to do such a thing.”

Manning up

Saints safety Darren Sharper has 63 interceptions in his career, nine of them coming against the New York Jets, and has had some big games against Giants quarterback Eli Manning.

He doesn’t expect to have quite as much success anticipating what Eli’s going to give me some opportunities because of our defense, some opportunities to make plays. He’s just such a technician with the football. "Earlier on, I got Eli when he was younger. Peyton is a little bit older, so I think he has seen a lot of things that defenses can throw at you. So it might be a little bit of a tougher challenge to get him than it was compared to his brother.”

Quite a life

Peyton Manning was asked whether it was a pain or strange coming down to South Florida early with some teammates to attend the Pro Bowl. "I got to fly on a private plane with six of my best friends and teammates,” he said. "We’d had Ruth’s Chris Steak House food on the plane. The private escort to Miami. Shook a few hands, had to wave. Did one interview and made $40,000.

Brees carries hopes of a city

By Mark Craig McClatchy Tribune

When you have overcome as much as Drew Brees has in his life, enduring 60 minutes of Super Bowl media day isn’t so bad after all.

Whether it was his parents divorcing when he was in grade school, riding the bench early on at Westlake High near Dallas or never quite reaching 6 feet tall, Brees has always found a way to finish on top.

And whether it was falling to the second round of the 2001 draft, having his right throwing shoulder dislocated two quarters from free agency in 2005 or coping with the suicide death of his mother, Mina, in August, Brees never seems to stop bouncing back.

“He’s like a machine,” Saints guard Carl Nicks said.

Is there a better person that Brees to carry the hopes of “Who Dat?” Nation, a Saints team making the first Super Bowl in its 43-year history and a city of New Orleans that’s still recovering from Hurricane Katrina 4 years later?

To finish on top this time, Brees must keep Peyton Manning and the Colts from winning their second Super Bowl in four seasons when the two teams meet Sunday in Super Bowl XLIV.

It’s hard to bet against Manning. Then again, people have been betting against and losing to Brees his whole life.

He wanted to go to the University of Texas. The Longhorns didn’t want him. Brees turned the Boilermakers into Rose Bowl champions while shattering most Big Ten passing records.

The Saints didn’t want him. Why? Because Brees went to the scouting combine and was measured a tad under 6 feet instead of his listed height of 6-1.

The Chargers got a bargain with Brees in the second round. Brees didn’t have a contract for 2006. The Saints gave him a six-year, $60 million contract with $10 million guaranteed. But it was more than the money that attracted Brees to New Orleans. It was the need to help the city recover from Katrina.

A wrong turn by Saints coach Sean Payton probably helped turn the Saints in the right direction. Payton had just been hired by the Saints and didn’t know his way around town. It was six months post-Katrina, and he was trying to avoid showing Brees some of the worst parts of the city.

He ended up showing Brees the worst as they wandered lost for almost an hour.

“That’s why I say it was a calling for me,” said Brees, whose foundation has raised or committed $1 million to rebuilding the community. “An opportunity that I have to not only come to a city and be a part of the rebuilding of the organization, but the city, community and region as well. There’s no city that deserves a champion more.”
Men’s Golf team places 3rd in the Ping Arizona Intercollegiate

While playing in the toughest tournament field of the season, the Fresno State men’s golf team finished third Tuesday in the 2010 Ping Arizona Intercollegiate Tournament with a three-day total of 14-under par.

The Bulldogs took on major challenges facing several high caliber teams, including defending National Collegiate Athletic Association champion Texas A&M, along with No. 3 Florida, No. 15 UNLV and three other ranked teams.

Sophomore Bhavik Patel posted six birdies, three of which were in the final four holes. Patel tied for second place at 10-under par, three strokes behind University of Arizona’s Rich Saferian. 

Junior Bryan Hogan completed the tournament with a 2-under Par score of 68, making 11 birdies in his final two rounds. Followed by teammate Grand Doverspike, finishing at 2-under par, landing a tie in 39th place.

Head coach Mike Watney said the team had a lot of unfortunate things happen early on, but fought through each obstacle, according to gobulldogs.com.

Watney said he is satisfied with the way his team finished, and is happy about the strong start.

The Bulldogs are anxious about the remaining season, but have not over looked what it takes to get to the NCAA tournament. Last year, the ‘Dogs had to look what it takes to get to the NCAA tournament and make it into the top eight for the College World Series," said Melloh.

Dogs defeat nationally ranked teams

‘Dogs defeat nationally ranked teams

The Bulldogs defeat nationally ranked teams. Florida, No. 15 UNLV, and three other nationally ranked teams.

The team is ranked in both the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) and the ESPN.com/USA Softball Collegiate Top 25 rankings.

The team believes being ranked is an honor but they know it still takes hard work to accomplish its goal.

"Throughout the year, we really need to take care of business and work our way up to the Top 10," said junior short-stop and team captain Haley Gillegald.

The ‘Dogs are ranked No. 25 in the NFCA pre-season poll receiving a total of 75 points.

"It’s amazing. It’s really exciting," senior outfielder and team captain Brooke Phipps said about being ranked.

In the ESPN.com/USA Softball Collegiate pre-season poll, the ‘Dogs defeated nationally ranked teams.

The team was selected by Western Athletic Conference (WAC) softball coaches to repeat as WAC Champions after winning both the regular season and tournament titles in 2009.

The softball team received six first place votes and tallied up a total of 48 points.

"It’s nice being ranked No. 1 and knowing that all those teams have that much respect for us," Phipps said.

But Phipps and her teammates believe that being favored before stepping onto the field doesn’t mean much.

"We have a lot to prove still; it doesn’t mean anything right now," Phipps said.

"We still have to go out there and beat everybody." 

Haley Gillegland and junior pitcher Morgan Melloh were both selected by the coaches to repeat as WAC Champions and receive the 2009 professional honor but they know it still takes hard work to accomplish its goal.

The Collegian Sports is a forum for student expression. http://collegian.csufresno.edu

Expectations set high for softball team

The Bulldogs receive numerous pre-season accolades

Softball team ranked in two pre-season polls

The Fresno State softball team has already garnered national recognition and accolades before even stepping onto the softball diamond.

The team is ranked in both the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) and the ESPN.com/USA Softball Collegiate Top 25 rankings.

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"We still have to go out there and beat everybody." 

Haley Gillegland and junior pitcher Morgan Melloh were both selected by the coaches to the 2010 pre-season All-WAC team.

Melloh was also named as the pre-season WAC pitcher of the year.

Pitcher Named to Top 50 Watch List

Junior pitcher Morgan Melloh was one of 50 collegiate softball players selected by the Amateur Softball Association (ASA). She’s up for the USA Softball National Collegiate Player of the Year Award.

Melloh won 30 games as a sophomore while appearing in 53 games in 2009.

She pitched 131.3 innings and struck out 450 batters. Opponent’s batting average against Melloh was 176.

Melloh was a first-team All-WAC selection in 2009 and captured MVP honors in the WAC Tournament.

As a freshman in 2008, Melloh earned WAC Pitcher of the Year as well as being named the top freshmen in the WAC.


This is the second consecutive year that Melloh has been on the ASA Top 50 Watch List.

All-Decade team voting open

By Brianna Campbell

The Bulldogs have the chance to vote for their favorite student-athletes of Fresno State from the last decade.

Voting currently involves fall sports from 2000-2009: football, soccer and volleyball. Voting is open from Jan. 25-Feb. 7 and the results will be released on Feb. 9.

The only guideline for voting is that the student-athlete must have competed for least two year’s in the decade.

This is a great way to be involved with Fresno State Athletics and get your opinion and vote!

Voting will be open for the All-Decade team for men’s and women’s basketball from Feb. 15-28 and baseball and softball from March 8-March 21. Men’s and women’s golf, men’s and women’s tennis, men’s and women’s cross country, men’s and women’s track and field and equestrian will be open for voting from March 26-April 4.

To vote log-on to: http://www.gobulldogs.com/ot/fres-all-decade.html.