The Bucket dumps hours

By Melissa Knopp
The Collegian

The Bucket has once again shifted its hours, for the second time in four months, and now doesn’t open until 11 a.m. In October of 2008, The Bucket decided to change its closing hours to 3 p.m., leaving few options for dinner on campus, but still leaving breakfast and coffee menus available.

Debbie Adishian-Astone, associate vice president for auxiliary operations, said that because so few people were purchasing food in the evenings, it didn’t make sense to keep The Bucket open.

“We didn’t get enough sales during the evenings to cover our labor costs,” Adishian-Astone said. “We sometimes have to really look at our hours...and make sure that we’re being efficient with our resources.”

Adishian-Astone associated part of the low customer flow to the renovation of the library.

“We had a number of students, because the library was closed, who just came in and used The Bucket to sit and study, and didn’t order food,” Adishian-Astone said. “We just couldn’t justify keeping it open if we weren’t getting the sales,” she said.

This semester, with the addition of the new Starbucks in the library, Adishian-Astone said that it seemed most logical to keep The Bucket open as a lunch option only.

“The reason that the morning hours shifted as well is because we have the new Starbucks opening on campus. Starbucks will have all the coffee, pastry and low sales, Starbucks force pub to cut hours

Low sales, Starbucks force pub to cut hours

By Mathew Gomes
The Collegian

Fresno State’s newest coffee destination, The Bucket, will close its doors at 3 p.m. instead of 8 a.m., as it gained three senators and lost one more.

Maddie Shannon now holds the position of senator at large for activities after the resignation of James Pierce. Shannon had previously been on ASI’s personnel committee.

Before Pierce, Beatriz Campuzano had held the seat. Campuzano left the seat after the ASI Senate elected her to the position of Executive Vice President (EVP) last semester.

Campuzano resigned the position of EVP at the beginning of the Spring 2009 semester. The current EVP is Jessica Sweeten, who was also elected to the position by the senate at a Jan. 21 senate meeting.

Sweeten’s former senate seat had also been vacant since she became EVP. This seat was also filled at Wednesday’s meeting, with Bri Witt now representing the college of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

The third new ASI senate member is Brett Sodini, who now holds the seat of senator at large for academics. Sodini, a member of ASI’s legal committee, replaces Jorge Hernandez, who resigned his seat last week.

“I think that it is in the best interest of ASI and the students at CSU Fresno that this position be held by a person who is going to have the time to commit to the Senate and ASI activities,” said Hernandez in his resignation letter.

Paul Herrera, who had been the senator representing the college of Arts and Humanities, submitted his own letter of resignation, which was effective Thursday. The seat for this position is currently vacant, and ASI is accepting applicants for the position.

Students interested in applying for vacant senate seats must fill out an application, which is available on ASI’s Web site. Once applicants turn in their applications, they go to the personnel committee for review. The committee reviews the applications and makes a recommendation to the ASI senate.

The senate then votes on these recommendations and can confirm candidates with a simple majority. In order to be eligible, students must be a member of the college they are applying for, and must also have a 2.0 GPA and carry at least six units.

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS INC.

3 in, 1 out after ASI senate meeting

By Mathew Gomes
The Collegian

Wednesday’s meeting of the Associated Students Inc. (ASI) senate was marked by change, as it gained three senators and lost one more.

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BUCKET: Other food options keep the same hours of operation

CONTINUED from page 1

breakfast items over there,” Adishian-Astone said.

“Many students will still have the morning coffee and breakfast options, but really try and drive most of the traffic to Starbucks and really leave The Bucket as more of a grill option for lunch.”

The Bucket’s new hours are from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Fridays. The Bucket is closed on the weekends.

Although there won’t be a grill menu on campus during the evening hours, Fresno State still has a few dinner options downstairs in the University Student Union.

Panda Express, Chico’s Cafe and Subway will all be open until 7 p.m. on the weekdays, except for Friday, when the food court will close at 5 p.m.

“The Bucket’s hours are the only ones that we adjusted,” Adishian-Astone said. “All of our other operations hours stayed consistent.”

While these options seem fairly reasonable, some students say they will miss the healthier options that The Bucket provided.

Michelle McWilliams, a senior, interned last year at The Bucket, said that she misses the morning coffee and breakfast option on campus, but The Bucket was just convenient and it was always nice to have to get fast food.”

Although Fresno State still has The Vintage Room, which is a sit-down restaurant that serves Italian food, and another fast food option with Taco Bell, the removal of the UC building, because of the budget crisis, those plans won’t happen for at least another year, Adishian-Astone said.

While more and more changes are planned for Fresno State, she said she is certain that with these changes, students and their opinions are always the main priority.

“I did get some negative feedback on the new Bucket hours from students,” Adishian-Astone said.

“One example I can tell you is a professor who was teaching a class that we knew was coming in the library that was due that day,” McWilliams said. “We’re getting lots of practice and are going to be ready for all the students.”

By Brian Maxey and Christy Collet
The Collegian

Fresno State students and staff expressed frustration Thursday, as California’s indefinite halt on state income tax refunds left workers counting on a little extra money to get them through the spring.

Student Andre Tolmachoff said that he was excited for the new Starbucks, she used The Bucket as more of a dinner option and said that she liked the healthy variety she could get there.

“I still live at home, so it’s not like I really need a lot of money,” Brennan explained. “I work two jobs and am still out there being a consumer.”

Health and Human Services administrative assistant Janice Rutherford offered a simple solution to the state’s current economic situation, saying that state lawmakers need to take responsibility.

“We should cut their pay and put them in an IOU system,” Rutherford said.

Additional reporting by Brienne Dixon, Mallory Frost, Donna Johnson and Danielle Villalobos.

THE STRENGTH TO HEAL
and learn lessons in courage

The pride you’ll feel in being a doctor increases dramatically when you care for our Soldiers and their Families. Courage is contagious. Our Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP) helps you reach your goal by providing full tuition, money towards books and lab fees, a $20,000 sign-on bonus, plus a monthly stipend of more than $3,900.

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Braving cold for free food and good times

Haisten Willis

I t's tough to get up at 5 a.m. when you have nowhere to be until six. Especially when the six is followed by the seven. It’s not like I had a part-time job to wake up for, not in the valley.

But I did it. I got up bright and early Tuesday morning, because all my poor friends and I were trying to beat the crowd at Denny’s. Now, before you say “heard it before,” and flip over to the sports page, consider this: the Denny’s story beat out 12 homicides, potentially deadly for everybody in the area.

Anyway, we didn’t beat the crowd. The line was out the door and around the corner when we got there. And there was a shadily-looking homeless guy standing next to us. We considered leaving, but decided to let him in. The food in our apartment isn’t free.

After 15 minutes in line and with 30 more to go, something happened. We were still cold, still hungry and were surrounded by other strangers in the same circumstance; but it happened nonetheless—we got to eat. We started making jokes about telling our grandkids in 2060.

“Washaaahaaa... in the recession of 2009 I stood outside a Denny’s for two hours in the freezing cold!”

“Gramps, what’s Denny’s?”

“They did a commercial for the Super Bowl and gave out free breakfast once I got home I realized that, regardless of my mood, I got the most for my money. After 15 minutes in line and 30 more to go, something happened. We were still cold, still hungry and were surrounded by other strangers in the same circumstance; but it happened nonetheless: it started to get fun. Everyone there came cold and hungry, some were obviously from the streets, and many said it was the only opportunity to eat in the last three months. Regardless, we were all there together, and everyone made the most of it. As more people are feeling the effects of the recession, hopefully we’ll get more chances like this one to appreciate what we’ve got and actually enjoy ourselves.

As more people are feeling the effects of the recession, hopefully we’ll get more chances like this one to appreciate what we’ve got and actually enjoy ourselves.

The Chrish Boy Scout

HEATHER BILLINGS

P resident Barack Obama wobbled three of his little words sooner than even I expected.

When Tom Daschle beat out his nomination for secretary of health and human services on Tuesday due to owing thousands of back taxes, the president told media, “I screwed up.”

It was one of those people, either, and not just because Canada is the wrong place to go long term. No, I don’t agree with Obama. I do not support most of his policies. I question whether or not he has the grace to heart.

That’s what the people are saying

That’s what the people are saying. Chief regrets any loss of trust from community as consequence of recent arrests of two officers on auto theft charges

“Tolapologize to this community for those indivi-
duals who have lost confidence or trust in this organization. I want you to assure that we have a fine organization.”

—Fresno Police Chief Jerry Dyer

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“Tolapologize to this community for those indivi-
From Biology Professor to Artist

By Victoria L. Jones

The Collegian

If you are looking for an inspiring place to study alive with the natural wonders of the world, past and present, you should check out the lobby of the Science II building. "The Column," a hollow bronze sculpture depicting a myriad of major themes in biological science was unveiled late January and serves as a striking centerpiece in the quiet study room.

Dr. Richard Haas, professor emeritus at Fresno State, donated the idea to the university. The university paid to have the sculpture made. "Something like 40 years of experience in the classroom," Haas said, inspired him to create the sculpture.

From conception to actualization, it took four years to create. Haas made the original 3-foot scale model in his studio. He said the title has no other meaning it simply is what it is. "I hope science students would look at it different than art students," Haas said. He hoped that students would look at the sculpture, wonder why he chose certain things, then go and answer their curiosity with research.

Haas eloquently explained every one of his choices, from the feathered dinosaur to the flying fish. Hass said, though, that uncovering his thought behind each detail would threaten the hopes that he has each person to make their own connections to the piece. Hass did say that he carefully selected each individual piece and feels he left nothing out. One side of the column is dedicated to the evolution of flight and another to reproduction and superior body type.

Sierra Vista store now features ‘Cosmic Show’

By Erin O'Brien

The Collegian

It's the music that first catches your attention with its sweetness reminiscent of the show Star Trek - the original Shatner version. Then you see the flashing neon lights and curiosity lures you in.

HEAVENS, a celestial experience like none other in Fresno, opened its doors for the first time seven months ago. The 3,500 square-foot space is called a "mini complex" by its owner Harvey Campbell.

"It’s both entertaining and educational," Ballardarez said. The gift shop sells items that the owners say are hard to find like solar system models, glass spheres, sculptures and one-of-a-kind handmade art by store owner, Sade.

Recently the store opened up it’s "Cosmic Lounge," a dark room set up like a theater, that promotes a relaxation experience. Soft music and images from space fill the room and customers have been known to fall asleep in the relaxing setting.

It also opened its long-awaited 24-seat space theatre, which projects the "Cosmic Show," an imaginary universe in a realistic surrounding.

"The Cosmic Show is not outlandish and it’s a science show," Sullivan said. "It’s purely for entertainment purposes, for people of all ages."

So far the shop has given four sneak previews of the "Cosmic Show" which has received mixed reviews.

Carlos Alcala, a former Fresno State student used to work at the mall and was curious to see what the show was about. He found that the show didn’t meet his expectations and left within the first five minutes.

"I thought it was going to be different," said Alcala. "There was smoke in the effects and just made me want to leave; But the store has pretty cool items that I’ve never seen before."

Most people who saw last Saturday’s show disagreed with Alcala and thought it was entertaining.

Jose Martinez (63) and his wife, Chasida Gonzales (42) enjoyed both the shop and the show.

"It looks like a good beginning," Martinez said. "They said they will be adding to it through time and I think it will just get better and better."

Harvey Campbell (59), a self-proclaimed space enthusiast, said he thoroughly enjoyed himself.

"I thought it was fantastic," said Campbell. "The lights, the effects, I just love stuff like this. I would definitely recommend it to a friend."

Word of the Day

Bale out

When someone’s stress level explodes to an epic proportion, and a 5-minute F-bomb-laden tirade unleashed on the unlucky soul who was in the wrong place at the wrong time; much like Christian Bale on the T4 set.

Sierra Vista store now features ‘Cosmic Show’

By Erin O'Brien

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The Collegian
“Taken” is the first great action film of 2009, with enough car chases, bullets, and hand-to-hand combat to keep you revved ‘til summer.

Liam Neeson takes center stage as Bryan Mills, a former assassin, is really good at what it does. Director Pierre Morel has crafted a brutal film that never lets up, as Mills hunts down the national prostitution ring.

His worst fears are realized when Kim and her friend, his daughter into an international stage as Bryan Mills, a government agent who has retired in order to spend more time with his teen-aged daughter Kim (Lost’s Emilie de Ravin).

“Taken” is a refreshingly adrenaline rush in the midst of all these preternaturally art films and sappy Oscar contenders. It is not a meditation on vigilant justice, nor does it stop to ponder the morality of its hero’s choices. What it does is offer up some expertly choreographed fight and chase scenes, and prove that the morality of its hero’s choices.

Over the next 4 days expect minor social discussions and deeply felt social jealousies will now require patience. Relationships will require detailed information to fully explain your goals: to your advantage. Attention to detail is now vital to the advancement and success of key projects: stay focused.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Job stability will soon increase. Over the next few days expect minor social discussions and deeply felt social jealousies will now require patience. Relationships will require detailed information to fully explain your goals: to your advantage. Attention to detail is now vital to the advancement and success of key projects: stay focused.

CANCER (June 22-July 23) Business methods, teams and goals will be evaluated and the world requires this week will demand careful planning. New employees may complicate progress or stall key negotiations. Refuse to be derailed by minor mistakes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Loved ones may now wish to expand their daily activities or adopt a more outgoing social attitude. Expect meaningful change to take longer than anticipated: at present friends and lovers may require extra time for private reflection.

VIOLINO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Close relatives, friends and lovers this week will provide subtle indications of their long-term expectations. Areas affected are family participation, group acceptance and active home expansion. Underlying concerns may involve feelings of isolation or past disappointments.

ARIES (March 21-April 20) Family discussions this week will reveal the underlying motives of loved ones. Private social fears, a compelling need for group approval or lagging confidence may be a key concern. Observe and remain calm.

TAURUS (April 21-May 20) Early this week a friend or close work companion may issue an unexpected group proposal or family invitation. Although energy may be low, accept all social attention as a compliment and watch for others to be highly sensitive to feelings of isolation or loneliness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) For many Geminis love affairs and minor social interactions will now intensify. Over the next 4 days watch for sudden proposals, increased intimacy or serious discussions. Trust your instincts: at present others may be highly expressive but privately withdrawn. Stay calm.

Cancer surgeon makes it possible to see the underlying skin damage done by the sun. And since 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime, what better reason to always use sunscreen, wear protective clothing and use common sense.
No time for excuses

With only one day before its first game, the women’s lacrosse team prepares for the Cal Bears.

By Lorenzo Reyna
The Collegian

After spending several months teaching a brand new sport on campus, first-year coach, Sue Behme, will get to see how much the new Fresno State women’s lacrosse team has learned, when they take the field for the first time at Bulldog Stadium on Feb. 7.

Behme has her team going through long practice sessions before their first regular season game this week.

“We’re just trying to get through practice today,” Behme said. “It’s been a long week for us because we’re out here four hours a day, but that’s the only way we can get better.”

Fresno State’s first opponent is the University of California-Berkeley, who last season finished with a 4-1 record in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation (MPSF), which is the same conference the Bulldogs will play in.

Cal comes into Bulldog Stadium with 2008 MPSF Coach of the Year Theresa Sherry leading the Golden Bears. Sherry has 2008 All-MPSF selection Alyse Kennedy going against a young and inexperienced Fresno State squad.

The Bulldogs previously played against Cal as part of four 25-minute scrimmage games along with Stanford, UC Santa Barbara and UC Davis.

“They’re not going to be the same team that we saw last weekend, and we’re not going to be the same team they saw,” Behme said. “I coach my team like I would coach an elite team, and that’s what we are building here.”

One player that Behme is building her team around is sophomore Heather Jack, who was the former Lacrosse Club president while attending the University of Nevada during the 2006-07 season.

Jack also lettered in lacrosse and was a two time Texas state lacrosse team member while in high school.

Behme has been very impressed with her work ethic and attitude.

“Jack’s enthusiasm is contagious,” Behme said. “I think her positive energy has helped lead us and keep us focused on the right things.”

Even though she’s only a sophomore, Jack’s lacrosse experience will have to play a significant role this weekend.

“17 of our girls, it’s their first game,” Jack said. “Leadership wise, I have taken that role, but its just being someone who helps out and gives guidance when they need it. I think a lot of what’s happened this week has been people being nervous about this game. But I’m calming them and reminding them that they’re there to win the game.”

Jack has already been pleased with the effort of her teammates after the scrimmages last week.

“We learned a lot from last weekend and it was a great help for us,” Jack said. “We did film this week and we watched our scrimmages; we basically know what we have to look for.”

Fresno State’s match against Cal will be one of three home games for the Bulldogs. Their next one won’t be until April 4, when they face the Saint Mary’s Gaels. Then they finish their home matches with the University of Denver on April 11.

Freshman Michelle Rose however is excited about running on the Bulldog Stadium field tomorrow.

“We did pretty good the first time, but we want to show Cal that we’re not an average team,” Rose said. “We’ve had some great coaches who tell us everything we need to know.”

Rose has also received some great support before her first collegiate lacrosse game.

“Even people I don’t know tell me ‘yeah lacrosse, let’s go!’ and I’m glad they’re as much into it as we are,” Rose said.

Rose’s head coach is just excited to see her team take the field for the first time inside Bulldog Stadium, with a fan base that will now have a new sport to cheer for.

“I’m just so excited to see these girls come out of the tunnel and say ‘Wow, I’m at Bulldog stadium and this is the first game ever.’ And they’ll never forget that,” Behme said.

The women’s lacrosse team, led by captain Heather Jack in the far right photo, will take the field at Bulldog Stadium for the first time tomorrow at 1 p.m. against Bay-area power Cal Berkeley.

Correction

In the Feb. 4 edition of The Collegian, there was an error in the sports section.

In the opinion piece about the basketball team’s off the court issues, the date of an issued warrant was incorrect.

The warrant for the arrest was originally issued in November 2008.
Landing top recruits

College football powers battle rival schools for recruits and build for future success

By Rivals.com

Clay Travis Tribute

1. Alabama

Head of the class: OT D.J. Fluker, RB Trent Richardson

Buzz: This has been an unbelievable class with in-state stars such as Davenport, running back MichaelFord, Barkevious Mingo and offensive line- men Chris Faulk and out-of-staters such as Sheldon Gustin Smith, athlete Drayton Calhoun, and safety Craig Lotson. The Tigers jumped on top.

Big fish that got away: OL Bobby Massie (to Ole Miss).

2. LSU

Head of the class: QB Russell R redund, RB De'veon Kennard

Buzz: Another year, another elite class for the Trojans. USC once again has the best class in the Pac 10, and this year's group has plenty of stars other than Barkley and Kennard. Patrick Hall is one of the nation's best athletes, and the five-star-prospect should start at safety in the future. Kennard might have been a better prospect than Barkley 1 year ago, but the former Bulldog already scored in Fresno.

Big fish that got away: WR Andre Debose (to Florida).

3. USC

Head of the class: QB Matt Barkley, DE Devon Kennard

Buzz: This year's class has an abundance of four-star offensive tackles and a dozen or so other key prospects. A late addition of four-star offensive tackle Marcus Hall will even boost such a group before National Signing Day.

Big fish that got away: CB Justin Green (to Illinois).

5. Texas

Head of the class: QB Garrett Gilbert, LB Antonio Jackson

Buzz: Texas landed three in-state five-star recruits in Gilbert, Okator and offensive lineman Mason Walters. Further bolstering that in-state domi- nance, the Longhorns landed one of the state's best defenders in Calvin Howell, a great possession receiver in Greg Timmons, a jumbo athlete in Chris Whaley and a shut-down corner in Marcus Denver. Texas also added more depth to the offensive line beyond Walters with Thomas Ashcroft, Garrett Porter and Paden Kelley and two of the nation's best tight ends in Barrett Matthews and Trey Graham. After Oklahoma snatched up some of the state's best in 2008, the Longhorns locked down the state in 2009.

Big fish that got away: LB/DE Jarvis Jones (to USC).

6. Florida State

Head of the class: DT Jacobi McDaniel, CB Greg Reid

Buzz: Florida State once again had another great recruiting year, but no one thing that could be clearer is that the Seminoles are ascending to the No. 1 ranking in the country. The Seminoles have a defense that is filled with speed, and the Heels now are consistently involved with top players up and down the East Coast. UNC nailed it at numer- ous key positions including along the defensive line, at linebacker and wide receiver. USC dominated its home state, pulling in seven of the top 10 players.

Big fish that got away: LB/LB Dequinta McDaniel (to Florida State).

7. Michigan

Head of the class: DT William Cross, LB Terry McDaniel

Buzz: While it was a disappointing season on the field for the Wolverines, there were only a few disappointments in the recruiting front. Rich Rodriguez was able to occur the nation for the type of offensive skill players, led by quarterback Tate Forcier and athlete Jeremy Gallon, that should help imme- diately.

Big fish that got away: DT DeQuinta McDaniel (to Arkansas).

8. North Carolina

Head of the class: WR Jermaine Boyd, DB Donte Moss

Buzz: North Carolina's recruiting class has filled since the season ended and the Heels now are consistently involved with top players up and down the country. The UNC coaching staff nailed it at numer- ous key positions including along the defensive line, at linebacker and wide receiver. USC dominated its home state, pulling in seven of the top 10 players.

Big fish that got away: LB DeQuinta McDaniel (to Florida State).

9. Georgia

Head of the class: QB Aaron Murray, OT Xavier Williams

Buzz: Georgia signed two big-time quarterback (both already enrolled), a touchdown machine in running back Washuan Ealey and play- makers at receiver in Marton Brown and Rantavious Wooten. There's a strong group of linemen headed to Athens. Smith is one of the nation's best cornerbacks.

Big fish that got away: LB/DE Jarvis Jones (to USC).

10. Florida

Head of the class: WR Andre Debose, LB Jonalen Jenkins

Buzz: This is another good class for Urban Meyer and his Gators, as the national champs loaded up on speed and athleticism with Debose, Josh Evans and Mike Gillislee. The Gators filled big needs on the offensive line and at linebacker. The one-prospect Gary Brown has a chance to be a big time defensive tackle.

Big fish that got away: LB Trent Richardson (to Alabama).

11. Miami

12. South Carolina

13. Oklahoma

14. Arkansas

15. Michigan State

16. UCLA

17. Ole Miss

18. Auburn

19. Stanford

20. Notre Dame

21. Texas A&M

22. Mississippi State

23. Oklahoma State

24. Virginia Tech

25. Penn State

RECRUITS: Carr will compete for starting role in 2009

Continued from page 8

Brown is a four-star recruit out of Clovis West High School with speed, a quality missing from the line-backing corps recently.

“4. I think that anyone who has watched high school football, and I have been around, will realize that he’s a good football player,” Travis Brown is as good as a line-backer that has played in Fresno in the last 10 years, Hill said.

According to Hill, Brown is a player that could find his way onto the field in the future and may not redshirt.

Another Bulldog recruit that could make an instant impact with the team is tailback Rubble Roush, from Marana High School in San Diego. Hill compared Roush to former Bulldog RB Kevin Minor in his play-making ability, and his chance to be a “slash” player. Even though Fresno State seems to have a strong base of running backs already on the depth chart, Roush felt confident in his ability to be a lead-back. Roush said that Fresno State did a great job of running the ball in Fresno.

“Everybody that was recruiting against us said, ‘you know, you’ll be the first of those running backs,’” Hill said. “They put a list of six guys in front of (Roush) and it didn’t phase him. I like that kind of confidence.”

While the Bulldogs attempts to fill in need positions on their defense and find a spark in the game with the 2009 recruit- ing class, Hill feels that biggest line is already with the team.

Quarterback Derek Carr. Carr, a younger brother of former Bulldog David Carr, graduated from high school a semester early and is already preparing for the 2009 season.

Landing the four-star recruit was easier than expected for Hill. He said that Carr actually called him about playing for Fresno State.

“When Derek called me and said, ‘Coach, I’ve talked it over with my brother and we want to be a Bulldog,’ almost fell out of my chair,” Hill said. “Carr will be expected to com- pete for the vacant starting quarterback position in 2009, but according to Hill, there is no controversy.

“Don’t know if it’s quarter- back controversy, but there will be a lot of competition,” Hill said.

The coach felt that Derek was a calm and collect passer with good footwork. Carr has an accurate deep ball, very simi- lar to his older brother.

While Derek still has everything to prove under center, he is comfortable in his own skin and in being the second Carr to play for Hill.

“You can call me Dave’s little brother until I prove some- thing,” Derek Carr said. “I’m just glad to be his brother.”

Many will hesitate to crown Carr as the next starting quar- terback of the Bulldogs. The team currently has three sig- nal callers on the roster. Derek Carr felt like the competition will be healthy for his brother and he hopes will be up to the challenge.

“It took me three years to even start here, there is going to be a learning curve,” David Carr said. “If he physically can get his body there, I know mentally he’ll be fine.”

On top of the 14 recruits that signed on Wednesday and Carr, the Bulldogs already have eight players who have begun school and will be practicing with the team this spring. Hill felt like new blood in the program may be needed for a rebound. But his new class must be willing to put in the necessary work and mature from their high school days.

“You never know about a guy until he is in the heat of battle,” Hill said. “Gym shorts and Nike combines don’t make a player.”

And as for the coach, he feels ready and motivated to tackle the new season and the new start.

“The difference between me and (boxer Oscar) De La Hoya is, ‘I’m going to get up, off my stool, for 2009,’ Hill said. “We’re going to try to give this Valley the best football team it can have.”

Videoclip: Watch the recruiting click highlight video at http://collegian.csufresno.edu
Fresno State football signed a strong defensive class in 2009, but it is highlighted by a familiar, four-star quarterback of the future.

By Logan Hopkins

Even with a coaching staff with three empty positions, and a disappointing finish to the 2008 season, football coach Pat Hill was still able to reel in a strong 2009 recruiting class.

As recruits across the nation faxed letters to their school of choice, the Bulldog football program welcomed 14 high school players to the recruiting class of 2009, Wednesday on national signing day.

Although the class is highlighted with highly rated recruits and players who could have signed with other programs, Hill still refused to compare the recruiting class to previous years.

“I am not into two-stars, three-stars or four-stars,” Hill said. “I am into football players that fit his team’s pedigree: tough, hard nosed and aggressive.

The focus of the class this year was to improve the defensive side of the ball and add speed to a unit that struggled mightily in 2008. Of the 14 in the class, 11 are expected to play defense with the Dogs – most notably linebacker Travis Brown.

Brown, son of Bulldog defensive coordinator Dan Brown, son of Bulldog defensive coordinator Dan

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