Science and math teachers needed

By Joe Bailey
The Collegian

Fresno State President John D. Welty committed to at least double the number of math and science teachers that the university produces.

Welty signed a letter Jan. 6, along with 39 other university presidents, sent to President Barack Obama pledging to double the number of science and math teachers by 2015.

As part of the national Science and Mathematics Teacher Imperative (SMTI), Fresno State has a plan in place that will generate substantially more, high-quality science and math teachers.

Dr. David Andrews, director of the Science and Math Education Center, said the shortage of math and science teachers will be a problem in the immediate future if the right actions are not taken.

“There is what we call a pipeline crisis developing,” Andrews said. “There is great need for math and science teachers. It is a very serious situation.”

Andrews said that current math and science teachers will retire in the near future creating an even greater need for teachers in these fields. But Fresno State is doing what it can to limit the discrepancy in the supply of teachers through the Mathematics and Science Teacher Initiative (MSTI).

“The [MSTI] program puts a carrot out there to attract new teachers into these fields,” Andrews said. “We have seen a significant increase in the number of students in the programs.”

Fresno State has many programs that are aimed to draw in more teachers.

Andrews said that the programs place students in classes where they will gain field experience. Some students can earn a stipend while in school for up to $10,000. Students are then required to teach at high-need Central Valley schools.

“The efforts and the support programs are making a difference,” Andrews said. “The numbers are going up.”

Fresno State is committed to add an additional 7,500 math and science teachers over the next five years. Carol Fry Bohlin, the director of Fresno State’s MSTI, said the university is offering courses and workshops at a nominal fee to generate more interest.

“Fresno State has a strong cadre of teachers who want to specialize in physics and chemistry. MSTI has sponsored a year-long lab-based ChemTeach and PhysTeach experience designed for prospective middle and high school teachers,” Bohlin said.

“The instructors are talented teachers from University High School,” Bohlin said.

Associated dean of the college of science and mathematics, Dr. Fraka Harmsen said the school has taken numerous steps in order to prepare high-quality teachers in math and science.

“We’ve actually ramped up our efforts,” Harmsen said. “We understand that physics and chemistry are areas of the greatest need, there is a shortage.”

Harmsen said that the state and federal governments have aided Fresno State by creating programs that not only help to prepare new teachers but also improve the ability of current teachers.

“These programs help to provide opportunities for practicing teachers to enhance their skills,” Harmsen said.

“And also help future teachers pass the credential requirements.”

By Brian Maxey
The Collegian

The California State University system has been mired in a state of push and pull, where deep cuts and rapid restorations have become routine. Yet, as the litany of cuts continues, there is a growing concern that students will not receive a quality education.

With reductions at Fresno State already at historic proportions and cost-cutting measures at a premium, the university has considered eliminating one of its stand-alone upper division courses to meet students’ needs.

Last month, The Collegian reported that Fresno States Academic Senate met to reconsider whether the university’s general education (GE) requirements reflected the mandate handed down by CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed last spring in Executive Order 1031. At that point, nothing had been voted on.

In a pre-emptive move, the Associated Students, Inc. voted last week to adopt a resolution calling for the university to seek alternatives to eliminating the multicultural/international (MI) general education requirement.

The resolution contained propositions for amending the MI, which included: “California State University, Fresno should continue to offer and encourage students to take courses with a MI and cultural emphasis,” and “The GE committee should consider a GE unit reduction.”

ASI presented the resolution Friday to the university’s Academic Senate’s subcommittee on general education requirements.

“The chair of the Academic Senate’s GE committee, Andrew Lawson, said there was a “lot of talk about eliminating the MI,” but he said the discussion was never part of the actual proposal.

“At the system level, [the CSU] only requires nine units of upper division, we have 12 units,” Lawson said. “So, what the committee was discussing was how we could achieve our objectives within the 48 units.”

One of the alternatives Lawson proposed was modeling Fresno State’s GE package after other universities where the university considers areas of study like MI a “topic” and incorporates it into a multitude of disciplines within the required 48-unit GE package.

Lawson said MI courses are important to the campus and the committee does not wish to get rid of them; rather, the committee is looking for ways to teach students to live in a multicultural/international world with less required GE units.

“We now have to decide if this is something we would like to pursue, in terms of reducing the number of units or if it’s worth the political fight to try and do that,” Lawson said. “And there are probably strong opinions on either side of that.”

Selaena Farnesi, ASI senator, said during the Feb. 10 ASI senate meeting that she was asked by the chair of the committee to informally collect the opinions of students and to draft a resolution.

In order to gauge student perception of the MI requirements, ASI distributed a survey and conducted two subse- quent focus groups, which involved an anonymous questionnaire, was drafted by the ASI staff. The qua- si-overs were made available online, sent through several different list- serves, and were also distributed in physical form across campus by ASI senators, Farnesi said.

Fresno, the verdict of that the resolution supports the information that we

See SURVEY, Page 6
Free speech is for everyone

We take freedom of speech for granted in this country. My ’97 Ford Ranger with its “Don’t blame me, I voted Westboro Paul” bumper sticker can park next to a Prius with a “Change We Can Believe In” bumper sticker without fear. It’s a fun ride to think “Wow, this person really has no idea what they’re doing with their life” masquerading as a show of compassion of what you’re doing with your life. It’s a fun ride to think “Wow, this person really has no idea what to do now, preparing for the “sessions.” While everyone is innocent until proven guilty, this man’s text messages may have doomed his case. Here’s a taste: “I feel there were, I would rub you and kiss you all over.” As they say, case closed.

After four years of a college education and taking courses from basic English to chemistry, one would assume in the last semester before graduating to more advanced classes, to get to the result of all that infiltrative knowledge. It seems logical. Go to college right after high school to “find yourself” and surely try a wide variety of instruction from an array of courses and studies, the mastering of understanding of what this world could provide a more defined idea of what direction to take in life. Yet, I find myself and many other Americans agree on. Even on speech that reasonable people would deem offensive (racial speech, sexist speech, etc.), most Americans agree with the question “When does freedom of speech end?”

There are reasonable exceptions to our right to speak, and Americans agree on. Even on speech that reasonable people would deem offensive (racial speech, sexist speech, etc.), most Americans agree with the question “When does freedom of speech end?”

The Supreme Court has ruled several different kinds of speech as unprotected: Speech that incites people to violence (libel and slander, obscene speech, threatening speech, speech supporting a criminal activity, trespass on property, and commercial advertising). These are reasonable exceptions to our right to speak, and Americans agree on.

In January, the Supreme Court, in a 5-4 decision, decided that this was unreasonable, and that free speech is an essential mechanism of democracy—“it is the means to hold officials accountable to the people—political speech must prevail against laws that would suppress it by design or inadvertence.” And that is precisely what McCain-Feingold prohibited.

This decision caused much controversy. It was “a blow to democracy,” the New York Times said. It showed insufficient “respect for precedent,” cried the Washington Post.

I think if the limit had been placed on two of these publications to support candidates for office they were now singing a different tune.

How could I be so foolish as to worry about now is the appearance of corporate buildings? My Ron Paul bumper sticker as per sticker sure as hell would not look good plastered on the walls of Pelco.

I am at the burnout point which I think every hard working student gets to after completing the appropriate amount of units while maintaining an exceptional GPA for four years. My college transcripts are respectable and are truly an indicator of the lack of social life I replaced with school work and studying years ago. I’m positive there is more life than campus activities, school provides a comforting status seems to point any new graduate is the plan after graduation? That disturbing accomplishment of a rewarding accomplishment of a political campaign was left unchanged by this ruling. Only now, corporations can perform the “essential mechanism of democracy”—free speech.

The only thing we need to worry about now is the appearance of corporate buildings. My Ron Paul bumper sticker as per sticker sure as hell would not look good plastered on the walls of Pelco.

Where did all the time go?

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The daily crossword

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis
Los Angeles Times

Puzzle by Pete Mitchell

ACROSS
1 Whack, biblically
6 Condescending sort
10 Kodak rival
14 Brightly colored tropical fish
15 Chaplin's last wife
16 Road for Pilate
17 "That's... trick!"
18 Cutting-edge Motorola phone?
19 Statistician's input
20 How some scary things go
23 Nous minus moi?
24 "The terrified number," in a 1969 hit
25 Wasted, as a chance
29 Not subject to change
35 "I wish!"
37 On the calmer side
38 Floors, briefly
39 Wolfgang Puck's restaurant
40 Third qtr. start
41 Talons
43 Male in an alley
44 Cognac initials
46 More work
47 Some stilettos
50 Not easy to see
51 Crimson opponent
52 Not quite oneself
54 Activity that involves the first words of 20-, 29- and 47-Across
62 Perfume holder
63 Tobacco unit

DOWN
1 Rough guess
2 See 3-Down
3 Unit on a 2-Down
4 Ambush
5 Weid Al Yankovic spoof of a Michael Jackson hit
6 Airman's assignment
7 Early boat builder
8 Quatre + sept
9 With no exceptions
10 Act nervously
11 Home to Zion National Park
12 Rocker Joan
13 Brokerage statement subj., perhaps
21 Overly curious
22 Bat's prey
25 Leans, as a ship
26 King ___ (Michael Jackson)
27 "Ditto"
28 "Star Trek" sequel, for short
30 Brownish gray
31 Under the weather
32 Giraffe cousin
33 Hopeless
34 Exam type you can't guess on
36 Apollo 13 commander Jim
40 Average guy?
42 Auction unit
45 "Star Trek" defenses
46 Defunct gridiron org.
48 Sullivan's change in "The Miracle Worker"
49 Emulated a couch potato
53 Canine woes
54 Guilty pleasure
55 Iolani Palace site
56 "Uh-huh"
57 In one's birthday suit
58 "The Wizard of Oz" family name
59 Sullivan's charge in "The Miracle Worker"
60 Clothing store department
61 Fringe
62 U-Haul rental

Verbal handcuffs

When someone won't stop talking (usually about a subject you have no interest in). The talker has verbally forced you to stand there and listen, even though you have given many clues that you have checked out. Examples: vacant stares, looking at your watch, checking your phone, answering in short, one-word phrases.

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Within the last few months, there has been a lot to talk about regarding Fresno art. The controversial murals painted on the side of Neighborhood thrift store located on Olive Avenue at Wilson Avenue in the Tower District.

The Fresno Art Museum partnering with Fresno State in an effort to keep its doors open. However, the announcement that seemed to shock residents the most — the closure of the Fresno Metropolitan Museum.

The familiar site that many Valley students recall from weekend visits and elementary school field trips ended on Jan. 5, 2010. The sudden closure of The Met came only one year after a $28 million renovation, which included a new garden, sign and interior design. Today, beginning at 9 a.m., The Met will be auctioning away everything from the two dog sculptures that graced the entrance to office supplies. All proceeds from the auction will go toward the $4 million debt stemming from the 2008 renovations. The auction items are projected to have a high value and all bidders are expected to leave a $100 deposit.

While people are quick to point out derogatory titles Fresno has earned (drunkest, dirtiest, dumbest, etc.) the closure of The Met is a much larger blow. The answer to the question, "What could have been done?" is not as simple as it may seem. Even though locals are affected by The Met’s demise, few changes were made to save the quarter of a century old museum, excluding the renovations, which backfired. Therefore, let’s forget what Men’s Health magazine and TheDailyBeast.com concluded and focus on what contribution can be made to support the arts, such as: appreciating Fresno artists and their work or else they too will join the likes of The Met, Kern Street Coffee, Cabo Wabo, Gottschalks and Circuit City.

Go beyond the concept of interpreting a canvas on a wall and immerse yourself in the music, the architecture and the various cultural expressions that Fresno has to offer.

Yes, there are things going on at this campus (art display and gallery in the Conley Art Building, USU productions, and plays in the John Wright Theater) and there are tons of things going on off campus (various open mic and poetry readings throughout town, Rogue Festival, Art Hop, Club Retro, and Saroyan Theatre.)

Students are given another chance to support the arts with the merge of Fresno State and the Fresno Art Museum. It wouldn’t hurt to stop in and check out what is going on over at the Fresno Art Museum. In fact, there are numerous places around town to scope out for inspiration such as the African American Historical & Cultural Museum, Artes America, Kearney Mansion Museum and Forestiere Underground Gardens. There is even room for those who wish to show off their own creative expressions. Now more than ever, there is a call for student involvement. Yes, there is room for students at various venues such as the Nihon Gallery, Broadway Studios, KJWL Studios and Starline as well as Full Circle Brewery that allow artists to showcase their work, perform and read poetry. While a disadvantage may be the downtown locations, the advantage of a smaller gallery is showing your work without showing up for mandatory meetings.

While world-renowned artists may bring a crowd, the idea of pleasing an audience is nerve racking regardless of national or local status. "I think no matter what, you can’t please everybody. It’s impossible. And for the most part, Fresno is very uncultured and conservative, other than the Tower District, which is why it was such a shock that people complained about the mural being put there," said local muralist Robert Amador.

Therefore, students don’t just sit there and wish there was something you could have done, when there is always something you can do. For those of you who are sad to see The Met go, this questions for you: when was the last time you paid a visit to the museum?"
For Karina Harris, the Emerging Leaders Retreat is how she learned to be an effective leader, equipping her with the necessary skills to serve as the assistant director of University Student Union (USU) Productions and the president of her sorority.

“I’ve been to quite a few leadership trainings, but this is the one that I feel helped me the most and is the most comprehensive,” Harris said.

Harris attended the retreat as a freshman, taking part in the various workshops and the team-building activities offered.

“There was a lot that we did that really helped me,” she said. “There were a lot of techniques and something different for everybody.”

Now a junior, Harris said she uses some techniques that she learned at the retreat as a leader in USU Productions. She said the team-building activities have been particularly helpful in creating a cohesive team.

“They get you out of your comfort zone, so you are forced to interact with people that you probably wouldn’t interact with otherwise,” Harris said. “It helps break down the walls and break down the barriers of forming cliques.”

The Emerging Leaders Retreat is a free, two-day training seminar for Fresno State students, and is put on by the Leadership Council at Fresno State. The retreat provides students with leadership training through workshops, team-building activities, a two-hour ropes course session and presentations.

“It is an introductory leadership retreat for students that are wanting to get involved or want to learn more about leadership,” Soua Xiong, a Leadership Council member said.

The retreat has been offered once a semester for the past 10 years. This semester will have training sessions for students to learn communication skills, diversity awareness, how to make a good first impression and to understand their leadership style.

“Our hope is that we can provide the students with the skills that they need whether it be in their academic lives, in the workplace or in the community,” Melissa Watkins, the director of the Leadership Council, said. “Whatever role

Participants from the 2008 Emerging Leaders Retreat participated in several leadership-building activities. This semester’s retreat will provide students with the opportunity to apply their skills to community service projects.
SURVEY: ASI voted to recommend no cuts from the MI, GE requirement

CONTINUED from page 1
gained from students," Farnesi said during the meeting. “I also think that it supports the interest of students and I think it will be very effective in guiding the GE committee’s decision.”

Farnesi said that the survey was conducted to get a feel for the student perspective before ASI presented the resolution to the GE committee. The focus group, she said, was an additional measure. “I wanted to conduct focus groups in addition to a survey, because focus groups are discussion based, not just statistically quantitative,” Farnesi said. “I feel giving students the opportunity to have that discussion is important.”

However, several participants in the focus group conducted by ASI as well as students who attempted to take an online survey reported to university officials that they found instances of possible “compromised voting” and “ethical violations.”

Anthony Rispoli, a social work major, said he noticed what he considered improper practices being conducted during the focus group He said that he also noticed that all of the answers were being screened before they were recorded.

At one point, I made a statement that wasn’t very favorable about the way [Farnesi] was conducting the focus group. She said that she was going to have to change my words around before she presented them to everyone else. Rispoli said. “She also cut people off and gave feedback on what people were saying.”

Hector Cerda, a graduate student who participated in the focus group, said that he had an issue with the way it was being facilitated. “In my opinion, the focus group was very selective,” said Cerda who showed up to the focus group without prior notice of the event. This is a question of ethical research,” — Hector Cerda, post-graduate social work student

“Dr. Tammy Pierce, a media effects researcher at Fresno State, cautions against such oversights when conducting surveys. “We always have to use caution when doing online surveys and especially if there is a possibility of participants being able to take the survey multiple times as this can skew the results and weakens the validity of the study,” Pierce said. “If indeed many of the responses were a result of people taking the survey multiple times, it would be best to discard these online results and conduct new surveys in person to increase the validity of the study.”

The survey, which was hosted by Web-based survey service SurveyMonkey, allows users to limit a respondent to one response by enabling cookies, according to representatives with the company. Users may also use an e-mail invitation collector to send out a unique link to each respondent.

However, according to representatives, if a respondent’s browser is set to delete cookies each time it is closed, then the cookie will be refreshed and a blank survey will open the next time the link is accessed. The respondent will be able to take the survey again.

Cerda, however, said that at no point did he log off of his computer, clear his Web browser history or manipulate his IP address.

RETREAT: Focuses on how to work well in teams

CONTINUED from page 5
y they decide to take on as a leader, we want to make sure that we’re giving them those skills so that they can fulfill those duties.”

Watkins said that the retreat is both productive and fun, and really focuses on helping students get to know each other. “Any person who has gone through it has a good time and come out of it having met their expectations,” Watkins said.

The retreat is on Friday from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All materials, activities and food will be provided at no cost.

“One thing we try to avoid is charging, because we feel like this should be something students should be able to have free of cost,” Watkins said.

Student leaders from organizations on campus will be present to provide attendees with information about the many leadership opportunities on campus.

“We try to bring them in from all over campus so that students can really get a wide variety of examples of what they can do next,” Jerry Jack, the Emerging Leaders Retreat Program advisor, said.

Watkins said the panel of student leaders is a good way for students to learn about the organizations on campus they can get involved with. “A lot of the students are just now getting a feel for what this whole leadership thing is,” Watkins said. “We want to be sure that they have some where to go with that and that they have a place they can utilize those skills.”

The retreat will also place participants in groups of five or six to work on community service projects. Students will have a month to complete their community service project, and will come back with the rest of the retreat group in March to discuss how the projects turned out.

“A lot of the focus of the Emerging Leaders Retreat is learning how to work more successfully in teams,” Jack said. “One of the functions of this group community service project is that they will be able to take these skills that they learn during the retreat and put them to use during the community service project.”

Students must apply to participate in the retreat. Applications are available in USU 306, the USU Information Center or online at www.csufresno.edu/leadership. Applications are due by 5 p.m. Feb. 19. There will be room for 45 students to attend the retreat.

“We’re looking for the students who don’t have a lot of leadership experience or who are looking to broaden their horizons,” Jack said.
Day 1

Fresno State softball officially began last Friday as the Bulldog’s bats came alive against Santa Clara.

The Bulldogs defeated the visiting Broncos 10-1 and 12-1 in the evening’s doubleheader.

From start to finish in the opening game, the ‘Dogs proved to a full crowd and future opponents they come to play both offensively and defensively.

Freshman slugger Hannah Williams kicked off her Bulldog career in stellar fashion, drawing in two RBIs in her first at bat, then blasting a three-run home run in the third inning of a shortened run-rule game.

Morgan Melloh, who enters this season with high expectations, did not disappoint on opening night, pitching a shutout for the first four innings before giving up a solo home run to Santa Clara’s Briana Knight in the final inning of play.

Melloh tallied 13 strikeouts, did not disappoint on the mound, as Mackenzie Oakes delivered a first career no-hitter in a 1-0 win in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings.

“I think everybody was so ready to play,” Wright said.

“The win also marked head coach Margie Wright’s 600th career win at Bulldog Diamond under Wright during her collegiate playing days.”

Sophomores Jody Badorine and Michelle Moses also came up big at the plate, each hitting a perfect 3-for-3. Despite the shortened game, the ‘Dogs were ready to fight and win and take everyone,” Oakes said.

“I just think our team was in sync after his showing at the Ping Arizona Intercollegiate where he shot 10-under par (68-65-69-203) and tied for second place all-time on the Fresno State stolen bases list with 41.

Junior Morgan Melloh pitched her first career no-hitter against University of Pacific on Saturday.

“My mindset is just going out there and getting everyone out,” Melloh said.

“I haven’t been since 2000 that two diamond ‘Dogs have pitched no-hitters in the same game, giving Oakes confidence that the duo of herself and Melloh, along with the hot-horsho, are this year’s team to beat.”

“I just think our team was coming out here and we were ready to fight and win and take home run. Oakes said.

“We have something to prove this year.”

Haley Gillette also pitched herself in the Bulldog record books, moving into second place all-time on the Fresno State stolen bases list with

The ‘Dogs scored three runs in the first inning of play, and finished strong with solo runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings.

Day 3

The final day of the opening weekend began as exciting as the first two days as third baseman Nicole Angene hit an eighth inning walk-off solo home run to defeat Pacific 1-0.

Angene’s bomb bounced over the fence onto Cedar Avenue as she rounded the bases in what she said was her biggest moment thus far as a Bulldog.

Morgan Melloh took the mound and followed up Saturday’s no-hitter with a nine-hit shutout.

In the evening’s doubleheader opened with another Bulldog milestone, as Mackenzie Oakes pitched the second no-hitter of the weekend in a 6-0 shutout over Sacramento State.

Melloh, however, was too focused on the game itself to realize her Sunday accomplishment.

“My mindset is just going out there and getting everyone out,” Melloh said.

“I haven’t been since 2000 that two diamond ‘Dogs have pitched no-hitters in the same game, giving Oakes confidence that the duo of herself and Melloh, along with the red-hot offense, are this year’s team to beat.”

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The ‘Dogs scored three runs in the first inning of play, and finished strong with solo runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings.

By Ben Ingersoll

The Collegian

Bulldog Diamond was home to nothing but wins over the weekend to kick off the season.

By Megan Morales

The Collegian

Fresno States men’s golf team standout Bhavik Patel won his second consecutive Verizon Wireless Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Golfer of the Week award.

Pete earned his first Verizon Wireless WAC award this season after his showing at the Ping Arizona Intercollegiate where he shot 10-under par (68-65-69-203) and tied for second place all-time on the Fresno State stolen bases list with 41.

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Back to back honor

Patel receives Athlete of the Week for two consecutive weeks

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In addition to his tournament best, 65 in the second round, his score also marked a tie for the best round of the 2009-10 season by a WAC player.

Patel followed the tournament with a win in San Diego to earn himself the same award just one week later.

Patel’s outstanding performance continues the rest of the competition at the Fourth Annual University of San Diego Callaway Invitation on Feb. 9. Posting six birdies over his final 13 holes, the sophomore phenomenon won the tournament by three strokes shooting 8-under par (69-70-69-208).

Breaking par in each of the three rounds, Patel’s superior outing pulled the ‘Dogs to a third-place team finish.

Patel has earned the honorable WAC Player of the Week award three times this season as a Bulldog, and was named the WAC Golfer of the Month this fall.

Fresno States men’s golf team standout Bhavik Patel won his second consecutive Verizon Wireless Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Golfer of the Week award.

Pete earned his first Verizon Wireless WAC award this season after his showing at the Ping Arizona Intercollegiate where he shot 10-under par (68-65-69-203) and tied for second place all-time on the Fresno State stolen bases list with 41.

In addition to his tournament best, 65 in the second round, his score also marked a tie for the best round of the 2009-10 season by a WAC player.

Patel followed the tournament with a win in San Diego to earn himself the same award just one week later.

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By Ben Ingersoll

The Collegian
A one-man team takes on the slopes

By Brianna Campbell
The Collegian

Growing up in the snow with his parents, Ty Alexander learned to ski and snowboard, leading him to his passion today as the sole representative of Fresno State at the USCSA Nationals.

Q & A

Q: What brought you to Fresno?

A: I am from Bakersfield. I graduated in 2003. Went to Bakersfield College for a couple years, got an associates degree and played football for a few years. I then transferred to Fresno State and I am studying Ag Business with one more year.

Q: Where do you go to snowboard?

A: I am lucky and my grandpa has a condo in Mammoth that I am fortunate to use. Whatever free time I get I go up and get as much time in on the slopes as possible. This season I have been there about a total of 32 days.

Q: What is your favorite competition to compete in?

A: Boarder-X for sure. You line up with five other people next to you in the gates and you race down the hill with everyone at the same time. As you race down the hill you’re making turns, throwing elbows and cutting people off just trying to get down the hill the fastest.

Q: What is something memorable that has happened to you while competing?

A: First heat, I waited an hour for my turn. I took first place in that competition and moved on to the next qualifier. I sat around and waited about an hour and a half sitting in the snow. I got first place again. I was pumped up. One more race and I was in the finals. I went down to the lodge and got a Gatorade instead of sitting around waiting. By the time I got back I missed my third heat and got disqualified. So, that was a bummer.

Q: What are your goals?

A: I am going to Nationals the first week of March. I hope to do the best I can. Maybe one day I will pick up a sponsor and may be in the X-Games some day, and race nationally.

Q: What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

A: I do a lot of duck and deer hunting, in the mountains around Bakersfield with my dad and a couple buddies. Hunting, snowboarding and drinking beer!