By Kaley Delarosa
The Collegian

One million books and counting—the entire Henry Madden Library collection will be on the shelves and ready for checkout at the grand opening on Feb. 20. When the library remodel project began in 2005, the collection was moved to a warehouse in south Fresno and the online reserve system was put into place.

This arrangement allowed students, faculty and staff to research online and reserve the books they wanted through ALIS, the library’s search engine. Librarians then pulled the requested items from the warehouse and transported them to campus to be picked up.

According to David Tyckoson, associate dean for the Library, it took two and a half months to move the collection out of the library, but only 19.5 days to move them back in during this past summer. “You can move them fast, but keeping them in order makes it challenging.”

— David Tyckoson, Associate Dean for the Library

By Melissa Knopp
The Collegian

After almost 20 years on campus, Fresno State’s famous Peace Garden has had a face lift. The garden was originally planned around the statue of Mahatma Gandhi, a prophet of nonviolence and father of the Human Rights movement in the 20th century, which was dedicated to Fresno State in 1990.

The idea of a Peace Garden came about originally as a place on campus that could be used to visually promote peace in a “serene environment.” Soon after the statue was dedicated, the Peace Garden Advisory Committee was formed to pursue this idea. This is how the garden made its first debut on campus.

Since then, three other statues—of Martin Luther King, Jr., César Chávez and Jane Addams—have joined Gandhi in Fresno State’s Peace Garden. The addition of the Addams statue, which was unveiled in April 2006, marked the last major change to the garden before construction on the renovated Peace Garden began in June 2008.

After being closed last semester, the Peace Garden is open again to students. According to Ryan McCaughey, manager of Grounds and Arboretum, plans to spruce up the dated garden have been in the works for a while, but the actual transformation only gained headway after the start of the library renovation.

“It’s been in design for a while,” McCaughey said. “But I think redoing the library was what got the project actually moving.”

With its new, sleek design, the hopes for the Peace Garden are simple: for students to enjoy it.

“McCaughhey said that parts of the new layout were specifically designed for students and to make the space more inviting.”

“The mounds were created for students to sit and study outdoors,” McCaughey said. “In the summer especially it’s going to be a nice, quiet and contemplative place.”

Along with the addition of grassy mounds, more benches were added for those who prefer not to sit on the grass. Paved bike paths and walking paths were also added. “The paving strips were designed to make it easier to cut across campus through the garden,” McCaughey said.

“There is a new cart and bike path on the west end of the garden, by the Family Food and Science building and a new walkway on the west end by the Psychology building.”

While the staff at Fresno

The university hopes the renovations to the Peace Garden will bring more students out to study. The renovations were partly financed by a $10 million donation from Table Mountain Rancheria.
BOOKS: Reserve system to continue after library opens

"I will go straight to the library to get my books now that I finally can."

— Jennifer Phillips, Senior, Nursing

CONTINUED from page 1

manager and also oversaw the move. Now, he will work to maintain the collection in the new library. He said keeping the books organized is a matter of training the library staff and informing users on the correct checkout, pulling and re-shelving processes. "As long as you keep it up, it is pretty self-sustaining," Ebert said.

Tyckoson said people wanting to check out books now have two options. "We're not going to take the request system away," he said. "[People] can continue to use the reserve system or they can come directly to the library and get their books immediately."

Jennifer Phillips, who began attending Fresno State in 2005, has not had a library for most of the time she has been in college. "I will go straight to the library to get my books now that I finally can," she said.

Tyckoson said he expects undergraduate students to come directly to the library to get their books, but faculty and graduate students to continue to use the reserve system. "Some faculty like the ability to reserve. Others are dying to get into the library to browse for books," Tyckoson said.

He said that the reserve system offers convenience for graduate students who are only on campus a couple days a week because they can do research from home and pick up the books at their convenience. Even though all the books will be on campus now, the one day turnaround time will stay the same. "The only difference is that books will be now be available seven days a week. "If you don’t want to worry about finding the book yourself, you can still reserve it online and pick it up the next day," Tyckoson said.

"We want to give people the option to get it immediately or reserve it the way they are used to."
PEACE: Students not as enthusiastic as university

CONTINUED from page 1

State’s Plant Operations may be excited about the new garden renovations, some Fresno State students are not so certain they will be using the garden for the sort of studying the planners suggest.

Aubrey Northern, who transferred from California State University, Chico three years ago, said that if it was a nice day and a bench was available, she might consider studying out in the garden area.

“I’m not usually an outdoor person and I’m not going to chill on the grass,” Northern said.

“But it’s pretty and I would sit on a bench out there if there was one available.”

And while the garden has been under various degrees of construction since the start of the 2008-2009 school year, Northern said the renovations didn’t make much of an impression on her.

“I didn’t really notice that they had changed it,” she said.

Other students were also unaware of the changes.

“What’s a Peace Garden?” asked Everet Leyendekker, a freshman studying Dairy Science.

Leyendekker said he does not plan on using the Peace Garden as a study area.

“I live in a house a few minutes from campus and never study on campus,” Leyendekker said.

Leyendekker was joined by Eddie Dejager, also a freshman, and a student in the Agricultural Business program.

Dejager also said that he does not see himself spending hours outside studying.

Even if students don’t regularly use the space, the new design will at the very least encourage students to be more aware of the Peace Garden.

Both Leyendekker and Dejager think the new renovation fits the new look of the library next door, and both agree that the Peace Garden will be a nice place to wander around between classes.

“It probably wouldn’t study out there, but I would go around and look at the statues,” Dejager said.

“It complements the library pretty well.”

California Senate stalls on budget, standoff continues

By Edwin Garcia

A frustrated California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, unable to persuade just one more Republican to vote on a budget-saving $14 billion tax increase, followed through Tuesday on his threat to send 20,000 layoff notices to state workers.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, meanwhile, remained poised to order a lockdown, which would prevent senators from leaving the Capitol building until the tax legislation passes.

That prompted legislators to stock sleeping bags and toothbrushes in the state Senate chambers.

If the lockdown threat wasn’t enough to force action on a plan to close the state’s $40 billion budget hole, administration officials reminded lawmakers that, as of Thursday, 270 state-funded transportation projects will come to an abrupt halt, leaving thousands of road and construction workers in the state unemployed.

“It is clear that there is going to be catastrophic consequences for California if we don’t get this done today,” Steinberg told reporters Tuesday.

The Senate finally debated the tax legislation later in the day, but leaders repeatedly held off on calling for a vote, due to lack of Republican support.

With the budget resolution stalled, the Republican governor moved forward on his pledge to cut the state’s payroll by 10 percent, or 10,000 positions.

Preliminary layoff notices went out to some 20,000 employees who face the prospect of losing their jobs this spring.

Lynelle Jolley of the Department of Personnel and Administration said an unknown fraction of those workers will actually be laid off once the budget comes into better focus.

Jolley said 54 departments funded by the state’s general fund were asked to rank their employees by seniority and then submit a list of the bottom 20 percent. Seniority is calculated by a person’s total service with the state, Jolley said, not within each department.

The fourth day of the budget-vote standoff brought a somewhat surreal atmosphere to the Senate chamber, where lawmakers and staffers running on little sleep after marathon sessions had a hard time remembering what day of the week it was.

All eyes continued to focus on Sen. Abel Maldonado, R-Santa Maria. He has suggested he could be the third and final Republican needed to support taxes if the Legislature would adopt three controversial reforms he is seeking, including withholding legislators’ pay when budgets run late.

Sen. Dave Cox, R-Roseville, is the only other GOP member high on the list of potential lawmakers who may eventually side with the Democrats.

Meet Dr. I-Still-Get-Chills-When-They-Call-Me-Doc Johnson

Kahil Johnson, M.D.

If you really want to make a difference in people’s lives, consider a career in medicine. The rewards of being a physician far outweigh the challenges of becoming one. Log on to AspiringDocs.org to learn more.
I am sure you’ve seen the headlines and the CNN specials regarding the amazing birth of eight babies to Nadya Suleman, 33, a single mother of six children. Before the captivating story was first told, people “oooh” and “aah” from coast to coast. It wasn’t until the story was told in all of its brutal truth that the questions began.

The woman is unemployed and receiving disability for three of her children. Before the eight new babies, she required $500 in food stamps to feed her family in a given month. Nadya Suleman owes $90,000 in student loan debts, and is now collecting donations via the family’s new Web site. She currently resides with her mother, who fed for bankruptcy herself last year.

Who needed in vitro fertilization involving multiple embryos? Proponents say it’s nobody’s business but hers concerning how many children she has. Tax money is being used to support eight more children. Nadya Suleman knew she couldn’t afford instead of going towards important public works projects in this waning economy. If this isn’t my business, whose business is it?

After I read the article explaining the background of the single mother of 14, I was left with a sour taste in my mouth. It was the same disgusting tang I experience when reading about bailout recipient business executives gifted with bonuses equaling what a blue-collar worker makes in five years. In a way, Suleman’s story echoes the problems that the economic crisis the U.S. is still battling today.

What I see in all of these instances is ignorance and irresponsibility run amok... all seem to be cut from the same cloth. An impetuous cloth flushed with callousness, clogging the plumbing of post-millennium America.

For example, buying a $250,000 home when someone works at a job that pays $25,000 a year. The consumer seems to understand that most of the money they will pay in mortgage will go towards interest, yet pay it anyway. Do they realize how difficult it will be to pay off — if not impossible? Naturally, I ask myself what this common denominator between these seemingly different moral failures actually is. Who is responsible for detailing irresponsible people to signal their morality by unethical means?

Do we look to the asinine doctor who implanted six embryos into Nadya Suleman knowing full well how dangerous it could have been? How about the “devil-may-care” loan officer who drew up the 40-year mortgage to a family that the “devil-may-care” loan officer who drew up the 40-year mortgage to a family of 14, left with a sour taste in my mouth. It was the same disgusting tang I experience when reading about ‘Ask Her’ involving multiple embryos.

What disturbs me most in all of these situations is the logic behind the decisions made by legally sane people. It is obvious that a large number of Americans need to be watched closely; not by those who would stand to make profit off of their decision. To those who are intelligent enough to say, “that’s stupid, maybe you shouldn’t do it.”

Joshua Cranston
Senior Sociology

COMMENT: The Collegian is a forum for student expression.
http://scollegian.csufresno.edu

The Collegian is a student-run
state newspaper of the Fresno State college that
Newspaper is not necessarily reflect the views of
the staff or university.
Never in my life have I been able to resist Shake ‘N Bake. When mama pulled that pan of crispy golden turkey cutlets out of the oven, my heart just about melted. I hesitated only a few brief seconds before inhaling two of them, then scraping the fried crispies off the bottom of the pan. You see, she had mixed the Shake ‘N Bake with parmesan cheese, and that is precisely what weakened my knees—and my resolve. The next morning I was back to being a vegetarian. Or a pescatarian, as we’re actually called, because we eat fish. I’ve been a fish-eating herbivore since Christmas Eve 2004, and it was hard at first, because I loved meat, but loved animals more.

The first year, I did go on these meat binges, only to return to Veggieland after a couple of days. By 2006, however, I had turned my back on eating all meat, after a couple of days. By 2006, however, I had turned my back on eating all meat, after I had turned my back on eating all meat, after I had turned my back on eating all meat, after I had turned my back on eating all meat, after I had turned my back on eating all meat...

I’ve leapt off the veggie wagon twice by morphing fish into cuddly whiskered kittens. PETA was forcing me to consider the ethical implications of my shrimp addiction. It was around this time that several other things became clear. On my last date with my dude, before he switched jobs and zip codes, he took me to Famous Dave’s, where I was instantly intrigued by the pangs of guilt every time I sank my teeth into a fish taco. The slabs of beef smothered in barbecue sauce no longer held me in their sway, as they once had. I even gave it a try again for the heck of it, forking a big bite of brisket into my mouth. But alas, the thrill was gone. But turkey, that’s another story.

Sarah Peterson is a post-baccalaureate student at Fresno State. She holds a BA in English and is returning for a degree in mass communication and journalism, with an emphasis in print journalism. She likes oats.

COMMENT: The Collegian is a forum for student expression. http://collegian.csufresno.edu
Raiderette McNiff cheers for a new team

Tiphanie McNiff comes to Fresno State to coach new dance team

By Erin O'Brien
The Collegian

As the director of the marching band, Timothy Anderson sat at the 2008 bowl game and marveled at the production Colorado State University put on. As their marching band performed, the band was flanked by a colorful and enticing dance team.

“Colorado State had 20 girls on the team and it added a whole lot of flair to what they were doing,” Anderson said. “They really stood out.”

Anderson said he had been looking to improve the Fresno State marching band halftime shows, but didn’t know exactly what to do, but that when he saw this he knew it was the perfect option.

“It [the dance team] just added so much to their show,” Anderson said. “We wanted to make it more entertaining and with this addition, if it goes well, we’d like to add more entertainment every year.”

Once the idea was in place, Anderson got in contact with Raiders cheerleader Tiphanie McNiff, a Fresno native and offered her the job as the dance team head coach.

“Tim contacted me and I was very excited about the idea of coaching again,” McNiff said. “Our ultimate goal is to eventually establish a dance team that can compete in college dance competitions.”

According to Anderson, the dance team will be offered as a one-unit class and will go under the marching band umbrella. Auditions are open to all Fresno State students, as well as students from other institutions like Fresno City College and Reedley College. All non-Fresno State students will have to enroll at the university through the Continuing and Global Education extension program.

Aside from cheering for the Raiders for the past year, McNiff said she is a San Jose State University student and has competed in dance competitions for 16 years. She has also been a coach for the last five years at various Fresno dance studios and schools.

McNiff said that it’s very important to get this new dance team off to a great start and has specific ideas about what she is looking for as far as team members.

“I’m looking for talent-ed, hard working women,” McNiff said. “I need girls that show spirit, have class and are a good representation for Fresno State.”

Dancers with experience and the ability to learn routines quickly are also essential. I want dancers to show versatility, meaning they have training in things like hip-hop, jazz and lyrical,” McNiff said. Depending on the size of the turnout at the auditions, McNiff said she is going to take somewhere between 13 and 25 dancers. These dancers will be performing along with the marching band at all Fresno State home football games, the Sierra Cup Classic, and men’s and women’s basketball games.

The new dance team already has a sponsor, D.A. Designs, a local dance and professional cheer uniform company. Because of this sponsor, all uniforms will be provided, but each dancer will have to purchase their own shoes.

Auditions for the team

An open clinic and information session will be held Saturday, Feb. 28 in the South Gym from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. An audition application, including two letters of recommendation and a recent individual photo is requested to be turned in to the band office, room 138 in the music building, prior to the clinic.

• The clinic is mandatory for all applicants and dance material for the next week’s auditions will be learned during this session.
• Applicants will have the opportunity to have all their questions answered at this clinic.
• Applicants are asked to wear something comfortable to dance in.
### Thirsty?

How much for a drink?

With different sizes and different prices in and around the University Student Union, choosing a drink can be confusing for Fresno State students. An analysis by The Collegian of drinks at the food court shows price discrepancies as large as 80 cents for beverages of comparable size.

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<th>Drink Type</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<td>Medium, 15.3 oz</td>
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<td>Aquafina</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pepsi</td>
<td>Large, 32 oz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Medium, 21 oz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naked Juice</td>
<td>Large, 32 oz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Medium, 21 oz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sobe</td>
<td>Large, 32 oz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Medium, 21 oz</td>
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<td>Dole fruit juice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gatorade</td>
<td>Small, 16 oz</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquafina</td>
<td>Small, 20 oz</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How to: Refresh for less

#### By Adam Criswell

**The Collegian**

When students pick up a drink at the campus food court, they have options. Some drinks are from the fountain. Some drinks are prepared on the spot. Other drinks are bottled.

With different sizes and different prices choosing a drink can still be confusing. An analysis by The Collegian of drinks at the food court shows price discrepancies as large as 80 cents for beverages of comparable size.

At the drink fountain, Chick-fil-A has a unique setup. It offers only one drink, its fresh-squeezed lemonade. The lemonade, which must be purchased in a Chick-fil-A Styrofoam cup, costs more than any other fountain drink in the food court. The lemonade costs 80 cents to 85 cents more than comparable-sized drinks sold at Subway and Taco Bell Express.

Subway and Taco Bell sell the lowest-priced fountain drinks, which are all Pepsi products and sold in Pepsi paper cups. A 16-oz. small costs $1.30 and a 16-oz. medium costs $1.40. In comparison, the Chick-fil-A lemonade presents the biggest cost difference. A 15-oz. medium lemonade is sold for $1.75, and a 22-oz. large lemonade is sold for $2.20.

Panda Express sells its own branded cups with the same Pepsi-branded fountain drinks. Panda Express' cups, though, are more expensive than the Pepsi cups. Panda Express also offers the largest drink option at the food court, a 44-oz. large Panda cup.

In an e-mail interview, Debbie Adishian-Astone, director of Auxiliary Services at Fresno State, said that Panda Express sets its own prices. She said Panda’s highest price may be due to the fact that Panda is required to pay Dining Services a percentage of its sales. Chick-fil-A lemonade is made through a specific agreement with the Auxiliary, Adishian-Astone said, but she didn’t say why the price was so much higher.

For bottled drinks, the cost discrepancy is anywhere from 10 to 50 cents. The vending machines outside, near the USI west patio, offer the same bottled water and Gatorade that students can buy in the “grab-n-go” cases inside. Students who choose to buy a bottle rather than getting the vending machine will pay 50 cents more to get it. Gatorade costs 10 cents more.

Students like Cristina Regalado, a criminology major, question the reason for the vending machine price discrepancy. The Collegian has been contacted by Fresno State, said that Panda Express is required to price discrepancies as large as 80 cents for beverages of comparable size.
**Quote of the Day**

“I’ve always believed that if you put in the work, the results will come.”

— Michael Jordan

**Athlete**

From BrainyQuote.com

**Calendar**

Compiled by Valerie Nevens

**February 19**—Music and Nonfictional lecture with guest speaker Dr. John Karr from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Alice Peters Auditorium

**February 19**—Fresno State Men’s Basketball vs. Hawaii game from 8 p.m. – 10 p.m. at the Save Mart Center. Admission is free for students with I.D.

**February 19**—Local rock band TripleVega performs at Babylon nightclub located on Fulton Street at 8 p.m.

Events are listed as space allows. Please e-mail calendar information to the features editor at vnevens@csufresno.edu, with the subject line: features calendar.

**The Wrestler** is not for the faint-hearted. More than just a behind-the-scenes look into the world of professional wrestling, it goes above and beyond the call of duty.

We first see Randy “The Ram” Robinson (Mickey Rourke in an Oscar-nominated and Golden Globe winning performance) alone in a locker room, cooling down after a match. With a bad bleach job and weather-beaten face, he is almost too painful to watch, throwing down the end of a celebrated twenty-year wrestling career.

The matches (one in particular involving shattered glass and a staple gun) are hard to watch, violent beyond any WWE Smackdown, as Randy pumps his way to victory again and again.

But after a heart attack sidelines him indefinitely, “The Ram” is forced to take a step back and examine the life he’s been living.

He finds solace in the friendship of a stripper named Pam, aka “Cassidy” (Marisa Tomei, also an Oscar nominee), which spurs him on to reconnect with his estranged daughter Stephanie ( Evan Rachel Wood). There are tender moments in this often brutal film, when Randy waltzes his daughter across an empty ballroom, or leans in to give Pam a kiss.

But like a hero in a Greek tragedy, “The Ram” seems destined to fall; he just cannot shake that yearning for the glory of former days. Throwaway sex, drugs and rejection by the women he loves are what ultimately lead Randy to his final bout in the ring, sealing his fate even as he goes out on top. Early on in “The Wrestler,” Pam jokingly compares Randy to Jesus in “The Passion of the Christ,” hitting the nail on the head. Both willingly hurt themselves from the frying pan into the fire, destroying their bodies in exchange for one last shot at glory.

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

**Movie review**

**By Sarah A. Peterson**

The Collegian

“**The Wrestler**”

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

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Puzzle by Josiah Breward, Scranton, PA

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

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams Tribune Media Services, Inc.
February 18, 1978
The Hawaiian Islands hosted the first Iron Man Triathlon in Kona, Hawaii. Only 15 athletes competed and taxi cab driver Gordon Haller was the first to finish.
The ’Dogs’ Top 25 opponents

Like the saying goes, ‘You have to beat the best to be the best.’ Here is a peak at the competition the No. 14 Bulldogs will face in the Cathedral City Classic.

Team: Florida Gators
Coach: Tim Walton
2008 Record: 49-19-1 in Southeastern Conference
Series record: Fresno State leads the series 2-1.
Key batter: Francesca Enea – the junior is one of four Gators batting over .500. Her average is currently .542.
Ace Pitcher: Stacey Nelson – the senior, recorded 47 wins last season to lead the nation. Bulldog pitcher Morgan Melloh was behind her with 42 wins in the circle in 2008.

Team: No. 12 Northwestern Wildcats
Coach: Kate Drohan
2008 Record: 46-16, 18-2 in Big Ten Conference
Series record: The Bulldogs lead the series 5-4, but Northwestern has won the last two meetings in 2006 and 2007.
Key batter: Tammy Williams – the senior leads the team with a batting average of .467.
Ace Pitcher: Lauren Delaney – she has an ERA of 2.71 and a 5-3 overall record.

Team: No. 21 North Carolina Tar Heels
2008 Record: 50-12-1, 18-2 in Atlantic Coast Conference
Coach: Donna J. Papa (23rd season, 95-29-0)
Key batter: Christine Knauer – she leads the Tar Heels with a .364 average.
Ace Pitcher: Danielle Spaulding – she has 67 strikeouts and a perfect 4-0 record so far and is batting .333.
Series record: Fresno State is 3-0 all time against UNC.

Team: No. 6 UCLA Bruins
2008 Record: 51-9, 17-4 in Pac-10
Coach: Kelly Inouye-Perez (Third season, 18-20)
Key batter: Katie Schroeder – the sophomore has six home runs so far this year and a batting average of .464.
Ace Pitcher: Donna Kerr – she led the Bruins last season with an earned run average (ERA) of 0.93. She currently has 36 strikeouts and a 4-2 record.
Series record: UCLA leads the series 17-10. The Bruins are also 10-3 versus the Bulldogs in postseason play.

Bulldogs prepare for biggest tourney of ’09

Head coach Margie Wright will try to keep her team focused against the nation’s top teams

By Haisten Willis
The Collegian

Most sports’ seasons start out in familiar fashion, with sleepy, out-of-conference games that generally have little bearing on the season at hand. These eventually give way to meaningful conference games, then to crucial playoff games and finally come to a dramatic climax, or sometimes an anti-climax, in a final series or a championship game.

NASCAR’s Daytona 500, which took place last Sunday, is a famous exception to this rule. The stock-car racing season begins with a bang every year and, even if it disappoints, is quickly resuscitated by the promise of a new race the next week. This week, the Fresno State softball team will begin, what is for them, a similar exception to this trend: The Cathedral City Classic (CCC).

No. 14 Fresno State, will take on four other nationally-ranked programs in five games, over the course of three days in Palm Springs. The CCC is an annual event which typically features several of the nation’s best collegiate softball teams, competing against one another. The tournament is hosted by Oregon State.

Florida is ranked at No. 2, UCLA is No. 6 in the nation, and Northwestern is No. 12 in the nation. The Bulldogs are ranked No. 25, making these some of the toughest games of the year for the Bulldogs. Only one game is against an unranked opponent, Maryland (2-0).

Like the Dayton 500, a poor showing in this event will not eliminate the ’Dogs from contention for the WAC or the national championship, but will set the tone for the rest of the year. Picking up some wins will provide the team with crucial chemistry and momentum heading into the middle of the season; picking up losses may hurt the team’s psyche and confidence.

In fact, picking up results of either kind has been a problem so far this season for the Bulldogs. Out of seven scheduled games, Fresno State has already had three cancelled or rescheduled.

Haylee Perkins, one of the team’s only two seniors, says the team will not be intimidated by the high status of the competition at the tournament.

“This is nothing different for us,” Perkins said. “We’ve got to bring our ‘A’ game, but we can’t slack on any of the games.”

Despite being near the top of several categories for Fresno State career records, she seemed unworried about them and even about her status as a senior, saying simply, “it hasn’t sunk in yet.”

At practice, sophomore infielder Nicole Angene, was upbeat about how the team is performing.

“The chemistry is great, we just need to put it on the field… everyone’s out there to beat us,” Angene said.

Coach Margie Wright is no stranger to big games herself. She is the NCAA career leader in victories after all.

Wright knows that the other teams are prepared and are hoping for a hot start as well.

“Everybody gets up for us,” said Wright. “We’ve always had a target on our back.”

Clearly the stakes are unusually high for this point in the season.

“This weekend we’ll get a glimpse at whether or not they deserve it,” Wright said.

Coach Margie Wright and the No. 14 Bulldogs will play in the 32-team Cathedral City Classic tournament beginning on Thursday against Florida.
Bulldog Game Day

Fresno State Bulldogs (10-16, 2-9 WAC) vs. Hawaii Warriors (12-12, 4-8 WAC)

By Logan Hopkins and George Stepanoff Jr. The Collegian

TELEVISION: ESPN2 (COMCAST CHANNEL 33) RADIO: KMJ-AM 580

Breakdown: Bulldogs

The Bulldogs are coming off a deflating overtime road loss to the New Mexico State Aggies. Steve Cleveland’s team was leading by seven with less than two minutes remaining, but the Aggies rallied back to force overtime.

In the extra minutes, Fresno State fell apart and surrendered yet another conference loss down the stretch.

The loss was eerily similar to the ‘Dogs’ loss on the road against Utah State and has become a common theme – crumbling under pressure.

Cleveland’s group is full of talent, but the lack of experience and depth hurts them when the game is on the line late. If Fresno State is to have a chance against the Warriors, scorers must convert shots late and keep a comfortable lead in the second half.

Guard Mychal Ladd has been a reliable source of offense for the Bulldogs, but he and other scorers have been too quiet late in games. If Ladd and the Bulldogs can find a killer instinct and put the Warriors away early, they won’t have to worry about closing the game out. If scorers continue to disappear and over-pass the ball, Fresno State’s offense will become stagnant and will fail to progress.

Expect a large crowd to support the ‘Dogs on national TV and a high-scoring contest to keep fans interested.

Breakdown: Warriors

Hawaii enters the game in a similar situation to the Bulldogs.

The Warriors are coming off a heart-breaking 47-46 loss at home to the Nevada Wolf Pack.

The Warriors play much better at home, posting a 11-7 record at the Stan Sheriff Center and need to take advantage of games on the island.

Away from home, the Warriors have only one victory in six tries. For Hawaii to pick up its second road win of the season, juniors Roderick Flemmings and Bill Amis will need to keep the Save Mart Center quiet.

Flemmings and Amis are the only two Warriors averaging more than 10 points a game and are also the two leading rebounders on the team.

Rebounding will be a strength for the Warriors and will keep Fresno State from getting second-chance opportunities.

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