One year ago, Fresno State students voted on a fee referendum that would significantly hike Instructionally Related Activity (IRA) fees. Students answered with 65 percent rejecting the proposal. But their wishes were denied when the Campus Fee Advisory Committee came together and recommended an amended increase anyway. University President John D. Welty approved a $52 IRA fee increase, making the total fee $62 for 2008-09.

Welty told The Collegian in May 2008 that the increase was necessary because several programs would be in serious jeopardy if they didn’t get additional revenue. He named music and theatre arts, specifically, as two of the programs in need. Also, the new women’s lacrosse team and swimming and diving team needed student fee support, so the university could comply with federal gender equity rules.

Dean of Student Affairs Paul Oliaro, Ph.D. was also interviewed in the May 2008 article and said that the fee hike was necessary. “We tried to do what was in the best interest of the whole university,” Oliaro said.

One year later, The Collegian has now gathered and analyzed the last three years of IRA allocations. The Collegian elected to only examine allocations on the academic and extracurricular side, which takes about half of a student’s IRA fee.

In tough economic times like the present, students should know where their money is going and why. Who is handling these funds? Who is reaping the benefits and who is not?

President Welty and the sitting ASI president hand-pick the IRA Advisory Board that make the tough allocation decisions. This board is made up of three Fresno State students and three faculty/administrators.

In a special report today and Friday, The Collegian scrutinizes the last three years of IRA allocations, conducts interviews and breaks down the disbursement of $1.2 million in IRA money.
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Sprucing up the USU with student art

From handwritten art to photography, six student artists showcase their unique artwork.

By Victoria L. Jones
The Collegian

The first ever University Student Union (USU) Student Art Exhibition featured six pieces: three paintings, two photographs and one word art picture.

The theme-less exhibition displayed several different styles and each piece had a statement from the artist next to it to better explain his or her intent.

The two smaller paintings were situated side-by-side and were starkly different from each other.

The pink rose titled “Rose on Concrete,” by Maria D. Bravo was used by the artist as a symbol of beauty and bounced from its neutral gray background.

The earthy colored combination of three women titled “Tres Mujeres,” by Cresencia Cruz sank into its darker gray background.

When asked what inspired her art Cruz said, “Everything. The world, people, my family, emotions, my never ending thoughts, nature, the social and political problems that arise, my heritage, the list goes on and on.”

The photographs were placed next to each other. Each photo featured an outdoor scene.

“Knowledge & Involvement: Self-reflection of a Fresno State Student,” by Soua Xiong was a photograph of the reflection of the Peace Garden and its immediate surroundings mirrored in the side of the Henry Madden Library.

“In my pictures, I want people to see life and its surroundings from a different point of view,” Xiong said.

The other photo, “Into the Quietness,” by Elena J. Polanco was a picture of the artist’s “quiet place,” situated in front of a setting sun.

The largest piece in the display filled the corner of the USU building with its staring eyes. The colors evoked the two forms, struggling for visual representation, the butterfly losing little ground against the blank stare.

“Nature serves as a great basis for my work, along with the human connection that one has with the earth,” said artist Mauro Carrera of his large “Untitled” painting.

The word art used a combination of light ink, dark ink and a bit of red ink to outline the face of President Obama in his own words, his acceptance speech.

“In lieu of the new president being our first African-American president, it was the best I could do to commemorate his election,” Nicholas Montgomery said. His piece titled “Change,” is the eighth piece of its kind. Montgomery previously did the Twin Towers with the names of the victims and a portrait of Martin Luther King Jr., using his speech “I Have a Dream.”

The deadline for submissions was April 20 and the six pieces were on display for three days in the study area of the USU building.

During the exhibition, students were offered the opportunity to vote for their favorite piece. The top voted piece was then recommended for purchase by the board of directors.

Participating artists said they were pleased with their experience and hoped the USU would continue to do similar artist involved events.

Coordinators of the event said that money had been put in the budget to do the art exhibit and will possibly purchase more student art next year.
Full of tulle

Alumnus Adam Albrecht’s designs focus on tutu material

By Victoria L. Jones
The Collegian

Designer Adam Albrecht has found a tool in tulle.

After graduating from Fresno State in the summer of 2007, with a degree in mass communication and journalism, with an option in electronic media production and a minor in fashion merchandising, Albrecht moved to Los Angeles to attend the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM).

“I had been bit by the fashion bug,” Albrecht said.

After 15 months majoring in fashion design at FIDM, Albrecht moved back to the valley to freelance and search for his next inspiration.

In March Albrecht had the second show of his fashion career at the Reedley Country Inn.

The show titled “Tulle to Fame,” featured 22 dresses, each representing a separate country.

Albrecht said he enjoyed the 5 month process of designing the dresses and the final show experience. Construction is a huge part of it he said, “It’s like a one man band to prove yourself.”

Model Martha Scott said she thought the show was a success based on the size of the venue and the amount of attendees.

“It was definitely something that you wouldn’t wear out in public,” Scott said of the dresses she wore, “but it was high fashion.”

Tulle netting is a textile made from silk, rayon, nylon, or sometimes cotton. It is commonly used for veils, gowns, and ballet tutus.

Albrecht used tulle as a filler, a liner, a top, a fringed bottom and a full garment. Using the tulle in a different manner each time was not just about placement but also about color.

Some tulle was fully draped over the dress, some tulle was made into sleeves and one outfit was topped with a tulle flower headpiece.

Model Kaci Raven said she was impressed with Albrecht’s use of different colors of tulle.

Her favorite gown was the one she modeled that was inspired by Russia.

“I really liked the Russia dress, the train of tulle was definitely different,” Raven said.

Albrecht auditioned for the show Project Runway, but didn’t make the cut. He is working on freelance projects now and is open to new requests.

If you are interested in hiring Albrecht he can be reached at (559) 906-1530.

By Victoria L. Jones
The Collegian

ABOVE: Martha Scott models a Dutch inspired outfit. BELOW: Kaci Raven poses in an Italian inspired outfit.
The skinny on skinny jeans

The Upper Upper Deck

Haisten Willis

You may not always think so, but we really do appreciate getting feedback from our readers via online comments and letters to the editor. Monday’s most intriguing letter, by sophomore Nursing major Amanda Tang, brought up a valid point about the skinny jeans article which ran a few weeks ago.

Miss Tang took strong offense to the word “home” being used in the slang sense because it’s degrading to homosexuals.

“This is true, though I don’t think words shouldn’t run in a newspaper just because they aren’t politically correct. But the fact is, many men refuse to wear skinny or even medium-sized jeans for the very reason that they are homophobic and see the jeans as a threat to their manhood. Jay-Z gave a good example in last year’s hit song, ‘Swagga Like Us.’ In it he boasts, ‘Can’t wear skinny jeans cuz my knots don’t fit.’ How charming.”

“Jay-Z gave a good example in last year’s hit song, ‘Swagga Like Us.’ In it he boasts, ‘Can’t wear skinny jeans cuz my knots don’t fit.’ How charming.”

—Jay Leno, The Tonight Show

The stress of saying something

Victoria L. Jones

The pressure of having an opinion is an enormous burden. It’s important, though, that we stick to it, even when we’re wrong. I just don’t think people understand that.

Curiously though, opinions typically wane if they don’t pass off enough to keep reading. Shared experiences are preferred over shared opinions. And not just any experience will do, that too must be unique and justly written.

The stress is relentless. Having random thoughts of greatness being unappreciated, I decided to write this down. And what better place to do so than the Collegian?

“Curiously though, opinions typically wane if they don’t pass off enough to keep reading.”

“Curiously though, opinions typically wane if they don’t pass off enough to keep reading.”

“I’ve got a lot of random opinions floating around in my head, but they could all be considered well thought out complaints, not 400 words of genius, unfortunately.

For instance there is my current situation involving my Honda passing smog. I haven’t had to smog the vehicle since I bought it. When I took it to the mechanic I had little worries, it passed once and I had maintained well enough, or so I thought.

The car failed smog and it cost me $30 to find that out. The mechanic called me with a diagnosis he said, “How many hundreds of dollars are you willing to spend to fix it?” I’m just a poor student; hundreds of dollars is not really part of my financial vocabulary.

I spend $60 to get my car up to smog standards and guess what, it didn’t pass again! The car is sitting down at the shop right now and I feel obligated to fix it before the added expense. It would be silly to spend over $700 and just give up.

I am eagerly awaiting the call from the mechanic they were better than that of a made for TV drama. The car has taken precedence over the dryer that eats zippers. Luckily the weather is warming up and I don’t have too many zipperred sweaters to wash and dry.

I’ll spend my summer free of the worries of opinion writing, but I’m afraid it will require me to find another outlet for my frustrations.

Letters to the Editor (collegian@csufresno.edu)

All letters submitted to The Collegian must not exceed 500 words in length, must be typed, and must be accompanied by a full name and phone number to verify contact. The Collegian reserves the right to edit all material for length, content and grammar as well as the right to refuse publication of any material. All material submitted becomes the property of The Collegian.

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How ’bout we just take the walk?

In my four years at Fresno State, it’s has been a rare occasion when I’ve been paired with the task of finding parking.

Living across the street from campus places me within walking distance of almost every “Fresno State.” It’s almost like living on campus, just without residence halls, laundry, roommates and those freshmen still talking about their senior prom.

As by taking daily shortcuts through the parking lots, I’ve become acquainted with the scavenging nature of many students parking on campus. They seek for the closest spots or follow me around hoping to score a parking space close to their class. I won’t go as far as calling it harassment; it’s slightly annoying at worst, mildly amusing at best.

After followers around for way too long, many people finally give up and park in Timbuktu, aka the parking spaces close to the Save Mart Center, and proceed to curse their luck all the way to class.

But, surprisingly, a couple of weeks ago, instead of being amused by these parksters, I actually became one.

Coming straight to campus from my job at a local spa, I was in full work mode to get up, meaning heels and a dress. Now I can handle the heels, three years of working at a spa, and random nights of being out and about, have forced me to get used to the four-inchers. It’s my clumsiness that I always have to keep in mind. With the endless supply of uneven pavement and cracks in the sidewalk, the entire campus turns to an obstacle course to any chick in heels, more so to one that would be accident prone even if given flat terrain and hiking boots.

So in trying to keep the walking distance to a minimum, I circled the parking lot for what seemed like an eternity—or rather five minutes, if we place impatience aside. Finally, I rapidly pulled into a space as the car barely finished pulling out, only to realize someone else was ready to take that space, had I been seconds slower.

I didn’t follow anyone around but I did commit one of the most hated parking offenses: spot stealing. With my quick transformation into one of the people I usually judged for their incessant parking complaints, I began to think about the necessity of the proposed parking structure.

Usually a pedestrian to school, it’s easy for me to say that I’d much rather take a 10 minute walk over the convenience of increased parking and its hefty $150 plus semester fee.

But when experiencing the plight of those that park, the reasoning behind the demand for closer parking became clear; it’s simply a matter of convenience.

And it didn’t take long to realize that this continuous and ardent fight for the convenient is constantly placing us further out of luck, and even out of cash.

“...and it didn’t take long to realize that this continuous and ardent fight for the convenient is constantly placing us further out of luck, and even out of cash.”

Be a regular at the drive-thrus and watch the scale slowly but surely rise those 10-20 pounds, just as your wallet shrinks as the cost of eating out adds up. Just the same, demand more parking spaces closer to buildings on campus in the name of convenience and get used to the high potential for fees.

You see, the actual walk from those far off parking spaces is not really what bugs most people. It’s knowing that they would be able to park conveniently closer if it wasn’t for those early birds that swiped all of the closest parking spaces when going to their God forsaken 8 a.m. classes.

Taking that along with innumerable factors of inconvenience, like walking in uncomfortable shoes or clothing, can make for a high percentage of students that would rather go without the walk.

But when faced with the reality of much higher fees versus the continued inconvenience of carrying flip flops or a change of clothes, having an umbrella in the car for rain or sun, or even being the dunce with a fan mister on a hot day, I’ll still gladly take my 10 minute walk instead of dishing out more money. I’ll mist till my heart’s content if it means saving myself from yet another questionable fee hike. Does our convenience merit higher fees?

Not so much.

As attractive as more parking may seem, holding on to as much cash as I can throughout my college years is far more appealing. And besides, we constantly hear Americans are getting fatter by the second—OK exaggeration, by the minute—so it wouldn’t be farfetched to deem that 10 minute walk far from an inconvenience. It may actually be so far from it, that it could even be called a necessity.
**Students’ IRA fees climbed over last 10 years**

By Unaymah A. Rashid  
The Collegian

In fewer than 10 years, total registration fees at Fresno State have more than doubled. Overall, there has been a 94 percent increase in tuition at California State Universities in the past 6 years, while inflation has risen by only 7 percent over the past decade. These figures are according to Tuition Relief Now, an organization of concerned students, parents and California residents who are working together to make education affordable.

The increase in fees at CSU campuses may seem extreme, but according to the vice president of student affairs at Fresno State, Paul Oliaro, Ph.D., the jump in fees has become necessary. “The reality is that the costs for higher education in California have been unrealistically low for a long time,” Oliaro said. “Those things are starting to shift.”

In 2001, the university collected $10 for the IRA fee and $714 for the state university fee. Registration fees for the semester totaled $821. That means that IRA was less than 1 percent of total registrations.

IRA money funds activities that are in some way sponsored by an academic discipline or department and can be proven to be integrally related to instruction. In 2004, the university still collected $10 for the IRA fee while the state university fee rose to $1,117. Total registration fees for the semester were $1,218. The IRA then dropped to 0.7 percent of total registrations.

In 2007, the IRA fee again remained $10 and the state university fee went up to $1,365. Total registration fees for the semester totaled $1,469.50. The IRA ticked down to 0.6 percent of total registration fees.

Currently, $32 of a student’s IRA fee goes toward athletics. The other $9 pays for many important academic and extracurricular programs.

The Collegian compiled the IRA funding award allocations from 2006 to 2009 and analyzed them for patterns.

The Collegian elected to only examine allocations on the academic and extracurricular side, which takes about half of a student’s IRA fee.

For the past three years, the top five academic awardees are: the Bulldog Marching Band, the Theatre Arts department, the campus radio station, KFPR, the London Semester program; and a culmination of music-related projects like the flute ensemble. The marching band alone earned $130,000 through IRA funds for the 2008-09 school year.

According to the analysis, all five of the highest-funded groups fall within the College of Arts and Humanities. That $322,255 chunk equates to about one-quarter of the $1.3 million total.

While some colleges or departments simply need more to get by, requests for funding are ultimately at the mercy of a six-member committee. University President John D. Welty, who appoints the faculty members to the IRA Advisory Board, said he looks at prior service and past committee representation when deciding on potential candidates.

“I try to identify faculty who are not from the same school or college,” Welty told The Collegian.

But two of the six members of the IRA board — professors Betsy Hays and James E. Walton — both teach in the College of Arts & Humanities. Welty appointed both.

Two more of the six board members — students Graham Wahlberg and Mathew Todd — are both from the College of Engineering. Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) appoints student members to the IRA board; not Welty.

A 'fair and reasonable' process

There are two rounds of IRA awards every school year: the “primary” fall term and the “late” spring term. Typically, the committee awards between $250,000 and $500,000 more in the fall than in the spring. The fall deadline for 2009-10 was March 20 and the reviewing process started April 20.

John Waayers, the university’s budget officer and one of the six IRA board members, said the board hopes to get the fall award letters out by June 19.

“The committee reviews those requests and awards what they feel is fair and reasonable,” Waayers said. “For example, IRA funds can be used for travel but not for food. IRA funds are also intended to augment instruction rather than replace funds provided by the state for instructional purposes.”

The trick is for applicants to be as specific as possible in the request, which must fall inside the IRA guidelines. The proposals are then looked over by the IRA Advisory Board, which then has to power to award or deny.

“We really don’t have a formula other than for travel to conferences,” Waayers said. “I should point out that we have almost $2 million in requests and only $950,000 to allocate this [fall] round.”

Therefore, not everyone who applies is granted their request.

Hope not lost after denial

Out of the 207 groups in 2008-09 that received any amount, 21 were denied. According to The Collegian’s analysis, departments were rejected equally.

Although most of the denied parties respect the way the decisions are made, they are still frustrated and disappointed with the outcome. Todd Westervelt, a music psychologist, was turned down on a proposal for new technology in a classroom and for music research.

“I’ve found that Fresno State is not a research institution, it’s a learning institution,” Westervelt said. “I plan to re-apply for next year and we’ll see what happens.”

Westervelt applied for the first time this past year, asking for $4,000 to $6,000. His intention was for the money to be used on new technology in the classroom, as well as for music research. According to his calculations, the tech-
A CLOSER LOOK AT THE STUDENTS ON THE IRA COMMITTEE

By Heather Billings

At 8 a.m. on a recent Monday, the large conference room that Associated Students, Inc. meets in was almost empty—except for a folding table, convened in quiet tones, as if the largeness of the room was too much for their voices to fill.

The sixth rolled into the room a few minutes later, looking like the cold morning didn't mess with his weekend.

“Let’s do this,” he said.

The others pulled out binders, approximately six inches thick and began flipping through them page by page. Each page brought scrutiny, debate and sometimes disagreement.

“At 8 a.m. on a recent Monday,” the Collegian • Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Lauren Johnson

Janice Lauren Johnson is no stranger to dealing with money. As a vice-president of finance, she has a business accounting major, manages a budget of more than $700,000 and sits on ASI’s Finance Committee. As a voting member of the Instructionally Related Activities (IRA) Advisory Board, she helps decide the allocation of class-related funds.

Now in her second semester sitting on the six-member IRA board, she will be helping white-building nearly $400,000 worth of requests down to $200,000.

“There are a lot of programs on campus and all they serve all really important purposes,” she said. “The faculty and staff are really in tune to student needs. It has given me a little bit of faith in the faculty on campus.”

Wahlberg told The Collegian that the committee’s goal being the first one to say no, the first one to say yes, how to say no when you don’t mean to.

Johnson fell into the position last semester when she ran for ASI’s vice president and lost. Johnson is now carrying out her responsibilities, but Johnson’s responsibilities have only piled up since she got on the IRA board.

“Lauren understands that difficult decisions reflect the value of the organization until that’s what budgets are supposed to do,” Glissar said. “She’s a good learner. She listens and she has student interests in mind.”

Even her dad, David Johnson, VP/Controller of The Wood Group, praised her financial acumen. Unlike many children, Johnson did not receive an allowance growing up. She instead decided to save her own money, managing a budget for a three-to-three tie, that tells me we need to discuss the constitution law and court cases.

Johnson keeps a law degree in her list of possible future interests in mind. In spare moments, she likes to follow up on media when needed.

“But Johnson's responsibilities have only piled up since beginning her stint as student government member. "I spend so much time on school and work, it's like I eat all the tomatoes I ever had," she said. Aside from compiling an extensive budget for ASI and reviewing applications for media when needed.

In a moment's notice, school, work and time consuming Johnson also fills the role of unofficial ASI spokesperson for media when needed.

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“Despite the amount of responsibilities, she's always been really active in different things,” he said. “She's always been really active in different things." "I then take that information back to my clubs and plan the funds can be used for ." Todd said.

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## IRA: Not all applicants receive the money they request

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Welty’s decision came after students defeated a fee referendum to raise the fee by $72 and the Campus Fee Advisory Committee proposed a $32 freeway compromise. University President John D. Welty told The Collegian that even with the increases in total registration fees, Fresno State is and has been one of the most affordable universities in the CSU system and that California has enjoyed low-cost higher education for a long time. “California has been very inexpensive compared to most institutions,” Welty said.

“Our IRA fees have been among the lowest for many years.” In addition to the IRA fee, total registration fees consist of a facility fee, health services fee, student academic service fee, student body fee, Bulldog Card fee, university student union fee and a state university fee — which is equivalent to student tuition. “The facility fee is related to the maintenance of the property and buildings. The health services fee covers basic health insurance for all students at Fresno State, which can be redeemed in the Health Center. The student academic service fee and student body fee fund instructional and non-instructional programs and activities and supplement the academic curriculum. The Bulldog Card fee provides all students with a Fresno State identification card that can be used as a pre-paid debit card for dining on campus as well as other services like printing and checking out library materials.”

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**Continued from page 7**

## IRA: Not all applicants receive the money they request

For 2008-09, their trip was $35,000 in the IRA pot for other activities. With a limited amount of money available and more requests pouring in, the decisions made by the IRA board will continue to be hard. Without a curriculum, for example, the College of Arts & Humanities will cut the London Semester program in 2009-10. This move is expected to help support other applicants by leaving $35,000 in the IRA pot for other activities. The College of Arts & Humanities is expected to host the largest number of majors on campus, but it does host the largest number of programs and projects. With nine departments in Arts & Humanities all applying for IRA funding, the number of requests would also appear disproportionate. “It’s not the college itself applying,” Diaz said. “There are a lot of very active programs within those departments. It’s the reality of the numbers.”

But as active as a group proves itself to be, there still may not be enough money to go around. Due to the economic climate, for example, the College of Arts & Humanities will cut the London Semester program in 2009-10. This move is expected to help support other applicants by leaving $35,000 in the IRA pot for other activities. With a limited amount of money available and more requests pouring in, the decisions made by the IRA board will continue to be hard.

Walton has noticed a change. He said that some of those requesting from the IRA fund have not yet gone on a trip, while others have become dependent upon the award. “With the economy turned down, it’s getting crazy now,” Walton said. “I mean, word is getting out.”

**Continued from page 7**

## FEE: 2008 brought changes in IRA fees for students

### The Expense of Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Tuition and Fees ($1,847.50)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition ($1,524)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>USU Fee ($108)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Health Service Fee ($93)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>IRA Fee ($62)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Student Body Fee ($34.50)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Service Fee ($18)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em><em>Other</em> ($8)</em>*</td>
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*University Keycard and facility fees

Illustration by Heather Billings / The Collegian

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

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ACROSS
1 Hardly Ph.D. material
2 Of equal size
10 Gangies access
14 “… what ___ lurks in the hearts of men?”
15 Lorna of literature
16 Partner of every
17 Dracula portrayer Lugosi
18 Run circles around
19 Vulcanized product
20 Tailor’s chalk ingredient
21 Cranial mass
23 “Get Smart” bad guys
25 Madame Bovary’s problem
26 Ballet dancer Nureyev
28 Insignificant speck
31 “Don’t tell ___!”
32 Clue, e.g.
37 Upper-rank NCO
38 Disagreeable
39 Very funny one
40 Places for wildlife
42 Screw tape, for one
43 They may be caught
44 Rest of the day?
45 Reason to get some ice
49 Trumpeting bird
50 Bechamel, e.g.
53 Ballet finale, e.g.
54 Eclectic assortment
55 Hill partner
57 Freedom from hardship
58 Pondered
59 Trans___ Range
60 Lost
61 Lead Belly classic
62 Lunar valley
63 Glossary entry
64 Some pastries
65 Weaning females?
66 Lunar valley
67 Glossary entry
68 Some pastries
69 Weaning females?

DOWN
1 Chapter 11 issue
2 Pigmented peeper part
3 Steelworker’s place
4 Reasons to use flashlights
5 Title words with “Flanders”
6 Worsens, as relations
7 Leather wine bottle
8 Ark finder, familiarly
9 Certain math class
10 Affect emotionally
11 Country with a palm tree on its flag
12 Property measurement units
13 1,000 large calories
14 Rest of the day?
15 Reason to get some ice
16 Lunar valley
17 Glossary entry
18 Some pastries
19 Weaning females?

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Division of Graduate Studies

California State University, Fresno

OPEN LETTER TO ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

In celebration of Graduate Student Recognition Week, I am pleased to express my appreciation for the many contributions to the university and the community that you—our graduate students—make as you strive towards your academic goals. As graduate students, you are actively involved in pursuing new avenues of knowledge in all disciplines. The following examples illustrate a few of the ways you are directly contributing to our university’s mission and to our community. To read even more about our graduate students, please see the Division of Graduate Studies Web site: http://www.csufresno.edu/gradstudies/

An Exploratory Analysis of Access to Care and Health Status among Undocumented Latinos in Fresno County
Alicia Gonzalez

Use of the Nintendo Wii Fit and Outdoor Challenge for Rehabilitation of an Elderly Female Patient with Age-related Balance Impairments
Benjamin Nichols

Influence of Sedimentation on the Distribution of Stream Macroinvertebrates in the Upper Fresno River
Brett Moore

Women in School Psychology: Publication Rates
Cheryl Gibson

Effects of Anonymity on Aggressive Behavioral Responses to Anger-Provoking Driving Situations - Coleman Tuttle Scimitar Cats (Homootherium) from Irvington and Fairmead Landfill in California
Danny Tovar

How Texting is Improving Language Skills and Communication
Lauren Bradley

Last Night a Rave Saved My Life: On Illumin Industries’ Audible Shock
Nathan Franklin

Educational Technology Use and Student Academic Motivation: A Correlation Analysis
Ralph Vasquez

Myspace, Facebook, YouTube and the 2008 Presidential Election
Sara Zakarian

My congratulations to these scholars, as well as the many others of you who help keep our university at the forefront of achievement in higher education. I encourage you to join us at the Graduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium Thursday, May 7, 2009, starting at 1 p.m. in the Satellite Student Union with keynote speaker Nicholas Aretakis, author of No More Ramen, and continuing from 2 – 8 p.m. at the Henry Madden Library where you will see more excellent examples of graduate student work.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. Karen T., Carey, Dean
Division of Graduate Studies

Graduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium
Thursday, May 7, 2009
1 – 8 p.m. at the Henry Madden Library
Keynote Speaker: Nicholas Aretakis (No More Ramen) in the Satellite Student Union from 1-2 p.m.
GLORIA: Senior tennis star has four straight WAC titles

CONTINUED from page 16

Year in 2006 and an NCAA singles participant. She finished the year ranked No.43 that season.

Prior to Fresno State, she was a four-time Canadian junior champion in both singles and doubles.

With all the accomplishments on the tennis court, Gloria actually doesn’t have one moment that stands out to her. If anything, it was what she experienced her freshman year.

“I’m sure every moment [sticks out for me],” Gloria said. “For sure, going to Sweet Sixteen was a great experience, especially as a freshman. We were hosting [the NCAA tournament] and we played Cal-Berkeley. We won and they were ranked 11th.”

Gloria spends her time at the Spalding G. Wathen Tennis Center playing close to the net, chasing down tennis balls, and ensuring that she’s in a good position to score on her team. But it’s really an individual game. You really need to be focused and have one moment that sticks out to you. If anything, it was what she experienced her freshman year.

She’ll admit that there is really no special dish, especially as a freshman. She feels that consistency has played a strong role in Gloria’s play.

“She’s been pretty consistent for all four years,” Thibodeau said. “She’s had four solid years. She has improved a lot of her doubles skills, she’s always been a strong singles player. I think she’s playing a little bit more smarter but she has a good work ethic. She works hard and we know what to expect out of her.”

Most recently, Gloria helped guide her team to an astonishing eighth straight WAC title.

“It was awesome,” Gloria said. “It was just really fun especially this year, because we were pretty close with Boise State in the final and we weren’t really expecting that. But I think we’re just really happy that we made the tournament and won.”

The conference title has now given Gloria more goals to achieve, as she continues to build her tennis resume.

“Win NCAA’s,” Gloria said. “It’s my last year. I’m a senior and as a team, I think we can go farther than Sweet Sixteen this year. Probably go Elite Eight, or Final Four and even farther if we’re really lucky.”

She’s had four solid years. She has all four years,” Thibodeau said. “She worked hard and I think she’s really had some great years. I think she’s really had a good work ethic. She works hard and we know what to expect out of her.”

Most recently, Gloria helped guide her team to an astonishing eighth straight WAC title.

“This year’s winning horse was Mine That Bird, this year’s winner, horse, cost 9,500 bucks. Some of the losing horses cost more than two million. The poor man’s equivalent of Millionaire’s Row is the infield of the track. Infield ticket holders have almost no shot or intention of actually seeing the race. Instead, it’s where ordinary patrons go to drink themselves silly and party with abandon.

As the horses are paraded around the track before the race, the University of Louisville band plays the state song, “My Old Kentucky Home.” Written in 1853, it describes life on a slave plantation. Luckily in 1986 the Kentucky General Assembly changed some of the lyrics from “darkies” to “people.”

But like many great sports, the athletic contest is a very small part of the attraction, an excuse to engage in questionable and reckless behavior that would otherwise be improper. The Kentucky Derby itself is actually the culmination of the two-week long Kentucky Derby Festival. The festival includes the largest fireworks show in the United States, concerts, fashion shows and private parties. Waiters carry glasses of wine through an obstacle course in something called the Run for the Rose. In terms of pageantry, The Derby makes college football look like a courthouse wedding.

Hunters S. Thompson, of Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas fame, got his big break by writing about the Kentucky Derby. He slammed it as overtly racist and politically incorrect behavior left him in America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades. I would never defend the going’s questionable and politically incorrect behavior left America. And the millions spent by Mohammad and the mob will keep it going for decades.
As the Bulldogs’ softball team enters the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Tournament as the No. 1 seed, players and coach Margie Wright said they do not feel any pressure and are confident they will do well in the tournament.

“We all know you got to play the game, so I don’t think there’s any pressure,” Wright said.

Earning their 10th WAC regular season title, the ‘Dogs are preparing themselves to face the tough competition ahead of them.

Wright said that all the teams competing in the tournament pose a threat to Fresno State, but she expects all the players will play a vital role in all the games and will come out on top when the tournament is over.

“Whoever’s in the game and whoever we’ll call upon will play a significant role,” Wright said. “Whether it is a runner or a hitter, it doesn’t matter. They all will play a huge role.”

Some of the Bulldogs’ players did exceptional jobs this season, which were recognized by the WAC. One of them was the April 27th Hitter of the Week, centerfielder Brooke Phipps.

The junior earned the award after she hit a .692 (9-of-13) on their doubleheader against Boise State April 24-25, which included two homeruns and seven RBI. She was the only Bulldog to steal a base and she did not get a walk or a strike out in that series.

Phipps was excited, yet surprised to be named Hitter of the Week for the first time and said at the time, she was more focused on helping her team win against the Broncos.

“I was more happy that I could help out the team,” Phipps said. “We needed someone to step up and hit, so I was more than happy to help my team come through. Getting Hitter of the Week just made that win a whole lot better.”

Phipps said that the Bulldogs came out of the season strong, so she expects them to do well in the tournament.

“I think we’re going to do well; I expect us to,” Phipps said. “We’ve been a good team, we’ve been hitting the ball really good, plus we’re playing at home, so we’re playing in front of our fans.”

Although Phipps said she considers the other teams in the tournament as tough competition, she said their team will have no problem playing against them.

“All the other teams are threats, that’s why we have to play all of them in the same mindset,” Phipps said. Other WAC honoree is former Pitcher of the Week, sophomore Morgan Melloh. Melloh received her eighth Pitcher of the Week award on April 20 after throwing two complete shutouts against the Nevada Wolf Pack on April 17-18. Melloh ushered the Bulldogs to win the series 2-1. She finished the season with a 1.55 ERA and 387 strikeouts.

“It feels great that I did my best out there and it all paid off,” Melloh said. Melloh believes that they played good as a team throughout the season and despite WAC being considered a tough conference, she is confident that they will win the tournament.

“There’s pressure coming into this tournament as No. 1, but we just have to keep our cool and play the game,” Melloh said. “It just makes us know we need to come out in the tournament as strong as we were in the conference.”

The one thing Melloh is more excited about than entering the tournament is having a familiar face in the crowd acting as her personal cheerleader.

“My dad is coming down to watch me finally,” Melloh said. “He’s flying here from Indiana.”

Since they are the No. 1 seed, the Bulldogs will get a bye on the first round where according to Wright, the team will be using it to practice and focus on school.

They are expected to play against the winner of the game between San Jose State and Boise State on the second day of the tournament.

Last time Fresno State won the WAC Tournament was in 2007. This year, the Bulldogs expect they will win the entire tournament and make it all the way to the NCAA playoffs.

“I’m hoping we can come out on top, we have to play our very best,” Wright said. “It’s going to be a great tournament.”
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CONSUMER TIPS

Since 2005, senior Melanie Gloria has built an impressive resume with her work on the tennis court. The Montreal native has won conference titles, International Tennis Association (ITA) championships, has defeated nationally ranked opponents and is also an NCAA All-American.

At the beginning of this tennis season, Gloria was ranked No.1 in the doubles category along with Tinesta Rowe. She won the ITA Northwest Regional singles title with a 5-0 record. Gloria’s play earned her a selection to the ITA All-American tournament, where she reached the semifinals of the consolation bracket.

Gloria earned 11 wins in 2008, which improved her career total victories at Fresno State to 98. Her victories against ranked opponents include No.7 Marina Cossou of Cal-Berkeley in the Fall of 2008, No.4 Ani Mijacika of Clemson during the Spring of 2008, and No.1 Audra Cohen of Miami at the ITA All-American tournament in 2006. She is a two-time NCAA All-American. She also has won three WAC Player of the Year titles and earned All-WAC first team honors in singles and doubles.

She has helped her team reach the WAC team championships and NCAA team championships. In 2007-08, she reached the NCAA finals with Tinesta Rowe in the doubles bracket. Gloria began her Bulldog tennis career as the WAC Freshman of the Year.

In tennis, we’re playing as a team, but it’s really an individual game. You really need to work hard on the court.

— Melanie Gloria, Women’s tennis ace

Centerpiece of a Dynasty

By Lorenzo Reyna
The Collegian

Since 2005, senior Melanie Gloria has built an impressive resume with her work on the tennis court. The Montreal native has won conference titles, International Tennis Association (ITA) championships, has defeated nationally ranked opponents and is also an NCAA All-American.

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George Herman “Babe” Ruth made his debut on the mound for the Boston Red Sox and hit his first of 715 home runs. The Babe lost his first start to the Yankees in 15 innings. Not too long later, the curse of the Bambino would be on the Sox for 85 years.