Fresno State aims to raise awareness of sustainability

By Michael Hamlin Jr.
The Collegian

California State University, Fresno held its inaugural Sustainability Day on Wednesday in an effort to raise awareness about environmental responsibility, according to an official from the department of risk management and sustainability.

The event took place on the balcony of the University Student Union. Fourteen booths were made available for students and faculty to visit and learn from.

Alaia Howell, student assistant for the department of risk management and sustainability, said the department wanted to inform students about what the university is doing in regards to sustainability. They also wanted to show who the university partners with, and what those partners do for the school.

The Green Issue, a new environmental special interest organization, used their booth to bring awareness to Fresno State students about sustainability and being “green.”

“We wanted to educate the students about sustainability,” said Green Issue President, Tonya Bojorquez. “We want to bring motivation to the students to participate in sustainable practices. We want students to get involved.”

Alicia Real, a member of the City of Fresno Recycling Program, agreed that the goal of the event was education.

“All we want to do today is bring education to the students,” Real said. “We want to go to people’s message across that sustainability is very important. It will take individual efforts to make a change.”

Although Real was happy about participating in the event, she also said that she observed only one on-campus recycling bin.

“I was wondering where the other recycling bins we donated are,” Real said. “I understand why they may have been removed, but the fact is that if you walk on campus and only see one recycling bin, the green image that Fresno State is trying to convey is not really received all too well.”

Recycling coordinator for Sunset Waste Systems, Inc., Sonja Lara Tyler, had suggestions about improving sustainability at Fresno State.

“I believe that bringing awareness about sustainability and recycling will allow the recycling bins to come back. If people are educated in how to use them, maybe we could bring the bins back,” Tyler said.

“Maybe the school can place regular trash bins next to those recycling bins so you show students that one bin is for trash and one is for recycling,” Tyler said.

Tyler also said that a lot of outreach will need to be done in order to make a positive change to sustainability efforts at Fresno State. She said individual effort is key in allowing sustainability to succeed.

Employers utilize social media

Students forced to re-evaluate their online practices

By Anjuli Hollman
The Collegian

In today’s competitive business world, students are encouraged to engage in social media not only to network with prospective employers and coworkers, but to establish an online presence. This may be the key to getting recognized for necessary internship experience and clinching an interview for a dream career.

If students are not utilizing social media they may not be aware of certain positions that are available. Some companies are not using job boards anymore, but instead using social media to find candidates for their positions,” said California State University, Fresno career services director Rita Bocchinfuso-Cohen.

She predicts that this is only going to become more popular in cutting-edge businesses. Fresno State is utilizing social media as well.

According to Fresno State director of social media relations Katie Johnson, Fresno State has a “friend list” that she believes to be more than 2,000 students on Facebook and 300 followers on Twitter. And before the end of this year, Fresno State will have a YouTube site.

Johnson also said many of the departments at Fresno State have social media involvement on Facebook and Twitter.

“We are [using social media] to connect alum with students,” Johnson said. “They are able to ask them questions for the purpose of establishing a job.”

The Fresno State alumni Twitter page has over 600 followers. Another element of social media for students to consider is Skype, a software application that allows users to make phone calls over the Internet. In a recent article, “How Skype is changing the job interview,” published by Time, online interviews are becoming popular. This saves employers time and money. Students should be prepared for an employer to request an interview on Skype.

Bocchinfuso-Cohen stated Fresno State students have the opportunity to make an appointment with career services for a mock interview anytime.

“We receive feedback from employers that come to the campus to conduct interviews,” she said. “Some students are doing fine, but there is a huge percentage of them that aren’t and they could use a practice interview.”

Precautions must also be taken when using social media. Students who are involved in social media and do not filter the content on their sites can make them lose a potential job.

“A lot of students don’t realize it, but it is a public display about them and many employers consider that fair game,” Bocchinfuso-Cohen said.

Students set themselves up for rejection when they monitor their content, meaning no beer pong videos, profanity, and actively posting irrelevant content.

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To stay active on social media, students may also use sites like Ping.fm, which will update all of a user’s social media sites at once with a message, picture or status change. This application may also be used from a mobile phone.
An inspiration
Gypsy Life
LACEE SOLIS

F

or the first time I was moved to be on a college campus where voicing one's opinion was not merely a suggestion but an actual event.

The Collegian is a student-run publication that serves the Fresno State community Monday through Thursday. Views expressed in The Collegian do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff or university. Letters to the Editor may be submitted to the Collegian. Subscriptions are available for $25, on a semester basis. Staff positions at The Collegian are open to students of all backgrounds. All content is updated daily. 

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Letters to the Editor (collegian@csufresno.edu)
Steve Martin understands that the path has been made difficult for movie stars who would moonlight as musicians.

“I think I know the kind of thing you’re talking about,” he says. “What they really want to be is a rock star rather than a rock musician.” He’s too gracious to name names (Jim Belushi), but plenty a mediocre band has found itself thrust before audiences it hasn’t earned thanks to a celebrity frontman (Dared Leto, Billy Bob Thornton …). “There probably is a prejudice against celebrities doing music if they didn’t come up that way,” Martin says. “But the banjo has Martin’s playing, which dates back to his earliest days onstage and was used, as magic was, to give his comedy act a little something extra.

“It was important to the show because the comedy act looks so ad-libbed,” he says. “I felt I needed something to show that I could actually do (something) that was hard.”

Fans of Martin’s 1970s comedy albums will recall the banjo being integral. He would riff, for instance, on the banjo licks with the lyric, “Oh, death and grief and sorrow and murder.”

“I always thought his banjo playing was pretty great,” says Chris Walz, program manager for bluegrass, old-time and Americana at Chicago’s Old Town School of Folk Music. “This is somebody who’s really been deep into the instrument being almost impervious to dark emotions, juxtaposing banjo licks with the lyric, “Oh, death and grief and sorrow and murder.”

He was getting back up to speed again.”

Steve Martin says he would love to do that because they had a prejudice against celebrities doing music if they didn’t come up that way, aided by a touchstone to him, not just in his comedy act but also as a means of relaxation before shows.

The passion to play it more seriously, he says, reignited slowly, aided by a luxury not every musician gets. “About 10 years ago I did something: I put a banjo in every room.”

“So wherever I was, it was there. I didn’t have to be in the mood to play the banjo and say, ‘Oh, who wants to go back to the bedroom to pick it up?’”

“I thought, ‘Oh, I’ve got to get up to speed again.’”

The best thing about it is that his music’s really good,” says Woody Platt, the 32-year-old frontman for Steep Canyon Rangers.

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A film full of giant-sized imagination

Director Spike Jonze transforms Maurice Sendak’s classic picture book for children into a motion picture.

Movie review

With monsters that crack jokes and feel sadness to a little boy who’s trapped between reality and his own imagination, “Where the Wild Things Are” brings a classic children’s book to life.

Spike Jonze, the man behind such eccentric films as “Being John Malkovich” and “Adaptation,” directed and co-wrote “Where the Wild Things Are,” based on the children’s book.

Converting a beloved picture book from 1963 with only 10 sentences into a feature-length film seems like an insurmountable task, but Jonze handles it seamlessly.

Full of idiosyncrasies and imagination, Max, played by 12-year-old Max Records, is a good but difficult kid.

Max is a lonely boy. With no father in his life, a sister who ignores him and a working, single mom, he spends most of his time wearing a worn-out wolf suit and residing in an alternate world of monsters.

Once Max escapes from his humdrum home, the film becomes a fantasy. No time or energy is spent explaining the monster’s origins, where they learned to speak or how Max was able to locate such a secluded locale.

After convincing the gullible monsters he is a king with powers from another land, Max feels right at home with his crown and scepter, issuing the decree to “let the wild rumpus start.”

The film is full of kooky humor and adorable dialogue. Interactions between Max and the monsters are almost sickeningly sweet as a favorite pastime is wishing each other good night while sleeping in one big pile.

Once convinced Max is a great king, Carol, the wannebe leader of the monsters innocently looks down at the boy and utters, “Will you keep out all of the sadness?”

Eerie undertones linger, though, suggesting that Max’s dream may soon become a nightmare.

His closest friend among the monsters, Carol, often seems on the verge of a breakdown as he attempts to keep the often at odds group intact.

Likewise, the fun Max and his followers have often borderlines danger: Whether cud-dling or in dirt clod fights, the difference in size between the boy and the giants inevitably becomes a threat.

The film offers a unique look at the monsters. Terrible eyes and terrible teeth describe the wild things of the book. Surprisingly, however, the monsters of the film have many human-like characteristics: Jealousy, loneliness and insecurity all impact the actions of the creatures.

In the end, Max decides his life is not to be spent with the wild things and sets sail for home. Though the adventure lasts only slightly more than an hour and a half, the imagination and above all the heart of “Where the Wild Things Are” leaves quite an impression.

Review by Angelica Cano
The Collegian

Congratualtions to the Fall 2009 New Member Class of Delta Gamma!
Students help tsunami victims

By Ashlee Garcia
The Collegian

California State University, Fresno students want to help those who survived the tsunami in the South Pacific islands through a donation drive on campus. Fresno State has eight donation boxes throughout campus that will be available from Oct. 21 to Oct. 29. Students, with help from the Magkaisa Filipino club, are collecting clothing, non-perishable goods, medical supplies and toiletries to be sent to the islands via the San Francisco Association of the Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa.

The church will send any donations made.

An organizer of the donation drive, senior Jubilee Fano, has family in Samoa. Even though her family was not extremely affected by the tsunami, Fano said that the cause hit close to home, Fano said.

“I have a lot of friends whose houses were wiped away,” Fano said. “They’re homeless and seeking shelter in their churches.”

Disaster struck the Samoa and American Samoa islands with a tsunami that killed 180 people and left many still missing.

The deadly tsunami was triggered by a magnitude 8.0 earthquake at 6:48 a.m., according to MSNBC.

The “plate flexure” earthquake located that caused the tsunami about 120 miles south of the Samoa islands, according to a geophysicist at the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, Gerard Fryer.

There were a total of four waves that rushed onto American Samoa that reached upwards of a mile once they reached inland, according to a Fox News report.

Because of the shortage of medical personnel, the islands need support in aiding the hundreds of injured people. Casualties are still being found as police search different areas through the widespread wreckage.

The alert from the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center gave residents about 10 to 15 minutes to flee to higher land before their homes and belongings were washed away.

Residents found themselves with no homes, clothes, food or personal belongings. Instead, a swamp of mud and sludge crept through the devastated villages that faced the roaring waves hours earlier.

“It’s important for students to get involved with things like this,” said communication health major, Diana Suliman.

Someone has to go out there for the cause and grab the attention of others until it gets the help it deserves, which is exactly what these donation boxes are doing, Suliman said.

Donation boxes can be found at:

• The Jan and Bud Richter Center- Thomas Administration room 107
• Social Science room 108
• The Collegian- Speech Arts 42
• University Student Union (The Pavilion)
• University Student Union room 106
• Henry Madden Library on the first floor
• Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology- Agricultural Science room 102
• College of Arts and Humanities- Music room 186

By Ashlee Garcia
The Collegian

Donation boxes are located all over campus and people are encouraged to donate anything from food to clothes to toiletries. These donations will go to those affected by the tsunami.

Matt Weir / The Collegian

SEE RYAN MATHEWS DO A LITTLE TRICK OR TREATING ON THE AGGIES!!!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31
VS. UTAH STATE
AT 2 PM

$15 FOR STUDENTS
$20 FOR STUDENT GUESTS
(2 GUESTS PER STUDENT)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29
VS. #3 HAWAII
AT 6:30 PM

FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL FRESNO STATE STUDENTS

• 42” FLAT-SCREEN TV
• 100 PAIRS OF FLIPP’N COOL FLIP-FLOPS
• 20 PIZZAS PROVIDED BY ME-N-ED’S

WE ARE YOUR TEAM!
FRESNO STATE BULLDOGS

GIVEAWAY GALORE AT VOLLEYBALL

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Matt Weir / The Collegian
Amnesiac found in New York City identified

SEATTLE — A teenager who two weeks ago turned up in New York City without remembering her name where she lives has been identified as a resident of Washington state.

Detective Brian Sessa, a spokesman with the New York City Police Department (NYPD), confirmed late Saturday the 18-year-old is from Washington.

Sessa said the teen is in good health but still hasn’t regained her memory. He declined to provide further details about where she’s from in Washington or what happened.

The New York Post reported late Saturday that the break in the case came in a call to the NYPD tip hotline from an as-yet-unidentified caller.

Authorities were able to use that tip to figure out who the teen was and reach her family.

According to the New York City Administration for Children’s Services and the Post, police picked up the teen after she was found outside the Covenant House shelter near Times Square.

She wasn’t wearing a tattered clothing and didn’t have identification.

A Covenant House spokesman told the Post the girl was a resident at the shelter and workers didn’t recognize her.

“I just want to know who I am,” Children’s Services quoted the teen as saying last week. “I want to know who I am and what happened to me.”

Authorities said the teen told them she had no memory of her name or family. Police experts and psychiatrists didn’t believe she was faking.

She had no problem doing the things she needed to study, such as making coffee, studying or working on her phone. The teen was later able to remember her name. Authorities said it was her own volition.

Obama declares swine flu breakout a national emergency

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Saturday declared the swine flu outbreak a national emergency, a procedural step designed to allow health care providers to speed treatment and slow the spread of the disease.

The action gives Kathleen Sebelius, Health and Human Services Secretary and the federal authority to grant waivers that would expedite steps such as picking up patients in emergency rooms to treat potential flu cases without prior authorization.

Administration officials said the move was not made because of any particularly troubling outbreak, but as a pre-emptive measure to ensure that the tools for the purpose of selling it.

Jackson fans organize to join worldwide “Thriller” dance

MIAMI — Zombies are notoriously flatfooted — cadavers trudging after victims, arms extended forward, mouths hideously agape.

That’s not Aaron Bowling of Miami, though. For starters, he’s alive. And come Halloween, Bowling will don costume and make-up, and join an estimated 50 others at the University of Miami in a performance of the plodding dance of the undead immortalized in the 1983 music video for Michael Jackson’s “Thriller.”

A combination fundraiser and Halloween dance party, Thrill Miami is one of more than 370 such events worldwide.

All events are scheduled for the same exact time on Saturday, part of Thrill the World, an international attempt to set a world record for the most people performing the “Thriller” dance at the same time.

The number to beat is 4,179 zombies, set during the last Thrill the World effort in October 2008. Anyone can participate, but everyone must register. Registration is free. 

Claudia Osorio, organized Thrill Miami over the summer in part as a tribute to the King of Pop — but also to scratch an old itch to dress like a zombie and dance.

“I remember seeing the zombies in ‘Thriller’ and I thought it was the coolest thing ever,” Osorio said. “And ever since then I’ve wanted to do that.”

At a University of Miami rehearsal, 40 dancers stomped, jumped, swayed their hips, and shrugged their shoulders to the rhythmic thud and throb of the performance with claps, snaps, and eerie stares.

Whether or not Thrill Miami helps set a new record, Osorio said it is a great way to have fun. She gets to live out a cherished childhood desire of becoming the King of Pop — but also to scratch an old itch to dress like a zombie and dance.

The construction zone, roughly extending from Freeway 168 to Freeway 41, consists of a project where the City of Fresno is making segmented repairs to damages along Shaw avenue. The project received a notice to proceed on Oct. 7. 

“I didn’t get to do [my PowerPoint] because I was late.”

— Michael Williams, Fresno State Student

By Leah Bigham

The Collegian

The lanes of Shaw avenue were congested this week after the City of Fresno began a construction project in front of California State University, Fresno.

The construction zone, roughly extending from Freeway 168 to Freeway 41, consists of a project where the City of Fresno is making segmented repairs to damages along Shaw avenue. The project received a notice to proceed on Oct. 7. Dec. 4 marks the end of the contract all repairs should be complete, according to City of Fresno construction manager, Jim Sullivan.

The construction crew works on the grinding of old pavement at night and replaces new pavement during the day. Sullivan said.

Although paving in front of the campus was expected to be finished no later than Oct. 25, stripping will still need to be painted.

Laneway closures and delays vary throughout the construction zone. But the effort to make up for delays in the original plan will not continue to disrupt the class schedule.

“The construction is part of a plan the city had for several years,” Sullivan said.

The crew is constantly moving lanes and open and close as necessary to make the repairs. Sometimes single lanes are closed for five minutes before they’re opened back up, officials said. During heavy traffic times, such as the lunch hour, Sullivan predicted these closures would cause delays of up to 10 minutes.

Fresno State student Michael Williams was supposed to deliver a Power Point presentation earlier this week.

“I didn’t get to do it because I was late,” Williams said. He said that the traffic delayed him 30 minutes of his presentation and he was unable to attend class. Although his instructor is allowing him to give the presentation on another day, he will lose points off of his grade.

Other students just showed up late to class, after being unprepared for the stop-and-go traffic on their way to class. Pictures of the construction were taken from cell phones and posted on social media Web sites Twitter, Facebook and MySpace.

Liberals studies major, Angela Her, was spared from delays on her way to class after heeding to these warnings.

“I heard people were getting to class late because of the construction, so I took a different route,” Her said.
Bullards split weekend games

The Fresno State’s women’s soccer team played two home games this weekend against two teams from the state of Idaho, taking on the Idaho Vandals and the Boise State Broncos for Western Athletic Conference (WAC) games.

The Bulldogs only scored two goals in two games, but were still able to split the two weekend games.

Boise State beat the Bulldogs 2-1 on Friday night and Idaho won 1-0 on Sunday afternoon.

The first goal by Boise State came in the 21st minute on a free kick and the second goal came early in play. The ‘Dogs, after those two drives, had only one shot on goal. Boise State, on ten of those attempts, had five of them on target. According to Head Coach Brian Zwaschka, Boise State “hit it clear,” Zwaschka said.

“We fell asleep for two seconds in that game,” said Goalkeeper Kaitlyn Revel. “We got a little over zealous of trying to win the ball and hit it clear,” Zwaschka said.

“With the ten goal shots, we probably would have gotten momentum and we could’ve switched momentum and we probably would have gotten more in,” Cardenas said.

Friday was a bust for the Bulldogs, only one shot on goal. With the ten goal attempts for the Bulldogs, only one made it into the net.

Claudia Cardenas had the lone standing goal with an assist from Nicole Huff. The score did not come until the final minute of play on Friday night.

Cardenas, who only played for 64 minutes, said it was great to score, but the timing of the goal could have been better.

“I wish it had been earlier in the game. It would’ve switched momentum and we probably would have gotten more in,” Cardenas said.

Forward Claudia Cardenas only played 64 minutes in Friday night’s game, but still managed to score the ‘Dogs’ only goal against Boise State.

The only goal of the game came early in play. ‘The Dogs, for a second game in a row, had 16 shots. The score was a deflected shot from Bradlee DeShane to Bianca Lopez. It was the first goal of the season for Lopez.

“I’ve had shots before but it was my time it went in,” Lopez said.

The Bulldogs will conclude their season next weekend at San Jose State on Friday afternoon.

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HOPKINS: Two drives scared ’Dog fans

By Mallory Plant
The Collegian

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Friday was a bust for the ‘Dogs, but Sunday offered a chance for Fresno State to get at least one weekend victory.

The Bulldogs got the victory against the Vandals with a score of 1-0. Fresno State’s overall record improved to 6-11 (4-3 in the WAC).

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Bulldogs are on a roll

Mathevs could be the 2009 BCS Buster

Saturday night’s football game was a new experience for me. Yes, I have seen Fresno State win a football game before. And yes, I have seen Pat Hill call the same zone-blocking running play 17 times in a row before. Nothing noteworthy there. But I have never before seen it with three generations of Fresno State Bulldogs. Let me explain. I watched Saturday night’s matchup between Fresno State and New Mexico State with my grandma (Nana) and my parents — all three are Fresno State alums. You see, the game was only televised on ESPNU, a rather obscure television channel that about 103 people between Bakersfield and Sacramento actually pay for every month. One of those people is my (grand) Pa Hoppy. When the Fresno State game was switched over a few weeks ago to the channel that I don’t get through my cable service provider, I called my go-to guy. Pa Hoppy has more than 900 channels and a 65-inch high definition projection screen that will probably be outlawed when 2011 rolls around. It’s pure, beautiful, televised sports heaven in all its glory. He could have charged admission. Instead of just going over to watch the game, my Nana decided it could be a family get-together and we could break bread and enjoy some old stories before the football game. Nana took the breaking bread part very seriously and bought 14 loaves of bread for seven people. I have never gone hungry in a Hopkins’ house before. After dinner it was business time. It was time for the ‘Dogs to go to work and the nation’s leading rusher, tailback Ryan Mathews, to wow three generations of fans.

Offense: The play of the game might have been tailback Ryan Mathews’ 68-yard run in the fourth quarter to seal the game, but the run would not have been possible without the block of left tackle Kenny Wiggins. The pancake block sprung Mathews to the end zone and preserved his Heisman hopes. Defense: Middle linebacker Ben Jacobs was tenacious on defense, totaling 13 tackles, two of them for loss. He also had a field goal block for the second time in three weeks. Special Teams: Punt returner Chastin West had an untouched, 88-yard punt return for a touchdown in the third quarter. The punt return was West’s first special teams touchdown since the Bulldogs’ game at San Jose State in 2008.

Coming up next ...

The bulldogs will look to continue their winning ways when conference opponent Utah State comes to town on Saturday afternoon. The Halloween game will be a rematch of last season’s dramatic finish that ended with a 57-yard Kevin Greshing field goal in Logan, Utah. The Aggies enter the game with a 2-5 record, but beat Louisiana Tech 23-21 on Saturday.