Infant and Toddler Center at Fresno State three days every week while their mother is in class. This is one of three childcare centers on campus. Lucimar Myers says her goodbyes to her daughter, Brooke, before heading to class at Fresno State. Brooke and her brother, Helam, stay at the Center helps student parents

By Lacey Solis

For college students, time management can be a juggling act, trying to balance school, work and studies, while also trying to maintain a social life. For student parents, that juggling act can seem almost impossible.

The Campus Children’s Center at California State University, Fresno hopes to relieve some of the stress student parents face when trying to keep up their dual roles as a parent and a college student.

Site supervisor for the Infant and Toddler Center, Kirsten Lange, has worked for children’s programs at Fresno State for four years. She said one of the main functions of the different on-campus child care facilities is to provide support and information for student parents.

Lange also said they offer housing and community resources.

“We have partnerships with other departments on campus. We have family functions so they’re able to socialize with other students that are going through the same thing. They have children, many are working and going to school with one to six children in a family, so they’re able to talk with one another about their issues,” Lange said.

Lange said there are three sites on campus that provide child care for parents, from infants to age 6. The Campus Children’s Center’s two programs, the Infant and Toddler Center and the Preschool Center, and the Joyce Huggins Early Childhood Center.

She said all three programs serve students, faculty and staff and is scheduled for Nov. 3 in the Peace Garden.

A meeting between California State University, Fresno President John D. Welty and students, faculty and staff is scheduled for Nov. 3 in the Peace Garden.

Vice president of student affairs, Dr. Paul Oliaro, said that the meeting is not intended to be a series of speeches, but rather an open discussion.

“I think we want to try to set up a format and an opportunity where there can be a free exchange of ideas,” Oliaro said. “That’s what a university’s all about.”

The meeting is a result of last week’s walkout on the Fresno State campus.

Around 2 p.m. on Oct. 21, more than 80 students participated in a sit-in protest in the Haak Center, just outside the elevators on the fourth floor of the Henry Madden Library. The Haak Center is home to the office of President John D. Welty, who agreed to meet with the campus community to begin a dialogue.

In an e-mail interview with The Collegian, Welty addressed the walkout.

“I appreciate [the student’s] commitment to improve support for higher education,” Welty said. “I, too, have a deep concern about the impact of fee increases and fewer class offerings at our campus and other state-supported institutions of higher education.”

Oliaro said that issues tied to higher-education cuts expand farther than just Fresno State. “One of the solutions to the long-term economic growth of the state is to have a more educated citizenry,” Oliaro said.

“And that’s what we’re trying to provide, and [the state] is making it much more difficult.”

Oliaro said that the target of the university community’s frustration ends up being the campus’ administration, but that it should be Sacramento.

Fresno State receives record number of applications

By Kristin Benquist

With the Nov. 30 deadline approaching, the admissions office at California State University, Fresno is swamped with record number first-time freshman applications for fall 2010.

Within the first three weeks of accepting applications, Fresno State received 4,226 first-time freshman applications. This is an 80 percent increase from last year, according to Bernard Vinovrski, associate vice president for enrollment services.

Although Fresno State is not accepting new transfer students in January 2010, transfer applications for next fall are up 381 percent, Vinovrski said. This gives Fresno State the highest percentage increase for transfer student applications and the second highest percentage increase for first-time freshman applications in the entire CSU system.

“It defies logic that these huge percentage increases will persist through Nov. 30 in both categories,” Vinovrski said. “Still the percentage increases are staggering and especially significant for Fresno.”

Admissions processing specialist, Bernardette Nelson, said the applications came flooding in during the first week of the filing period, which began Oct. 1.

She now sees a steady flow of about 250 to 300 applications per day, which she downloads and posts to a database. Applications are submitted online, using Fresno State’s automated program, AutoAdmit. The program processes the applications and determines which students meet eligibility requirements. Some applications are flagged

Welty to hold open meeting with Fresno State community

By Thaddeus Miller

A meeting between California State University, Fresno President John D. Welty and students, faculty and staff is scheduled for Nov. 3 in the Peace Garden.

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The new reformation

On Sunday, three local Presbyterian churches completed a split from the nation’s largest Presbyterian denomination.

Last week, the Vatican announced it would make it easier for Anglicans to convert to the Catholic faith. And on Oct. 12 of this year, Gov. Schwarzenegger signed a bill that approved the designation of May 22 as “Harvey Milk Day” in California.

These three recent events have one obvious thing in common: the issue of homosexuality in society.

When Prop 8 was all the rage last year, many people (myself included) saw it as a black and white issue. Those who were less religious supported gay marriage, while the more religious types were against it.

It is now apparent that it is much more complex. Presbyterians and Episcopalians have already come to a realization that “moral issues” tend to move only in one direction. When my dad started high school, being gay was listed as a mental illness. It is safe to assume that when my children do the same, it will not have found its way back on the list.

The Bible does contain passages condemning homosexuality. It also contains many rather gruesome passages that support slavery (conducting a Google search will yield many of these very quickly, though I advise doing so at your own risk).

I have attended Methodist churches my entire life, and it pains me to say that my ancestors were on the pro-slavery side of the 1844 Methodist split. However, that denomination reunited in 1939, this time with everyone agreeing that slavery was unacceptable.

I am certain these new schisms will end in a similar fashion. I realize that this is an extremely sensitive issue, and I was quite nervous about writing a column of this nature. But, in the end, we are talking about the private acts of consenting adults involving no one but themselves. It probably will make its way into history books one day, but I honestly wonder why it counts as an issue at all.

“Don’t use the word ‘gay’ unless it’s an acronym for ‘Get AIDS yet?’”

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When researching the shape of American women for a new line, Kathryn McKechnie discovered that a mere 4 percent of women have the slim hips to fit high-fashion designs. “Two out of three women are shaped just like her: small waists, full hips and narrow arms,” McKechnie said. “It’s the other 64 percent who are left out of designer clothing.”

McKechnie left her career as a financial analyst and set to work building a line of upscale clothing that fits women with ample hips and narrow waists. The line, called Crescendo Apparel, debuted this fall with a 14-piece collection of pants, skirts and wraps designed to put to rest the days of buying oversized pants and skirts, then paying a tailor to take them in at the waist.

“Tight-fitting dress pants and skirts lack femininity and don’t make the body look its best,” said McKechnie, who was impressed by the fit of clothing worn by Hollywood celebrities Katie Holmes and Sandra Bullock.

McKechnie began to think about changing careers after a decade poring over numbers at Andersen Consulting (now Accenture), LaSalle Bank and aerospace manufacturer MPC Products Corp. Her final push came after she spent a year working to get a nonprofit organization off the ground.

“I’m surprised that people haven’t latched on to it more often,” said McKechnie, who has avoided pouring resources into advertising.”

Women is the marketing challenge, said Simonton said. The industry is so wed to waiflike models, that talk of ample hips is often misrepresented as plus-size, he said.

Indeed, even though Crescendo clothing is produced in sizes 2 to 20, McKechnie worries that the line will be pigeonholed as plus-size. As her business grows, she intends to have the collection photographed on a size 6 model and a size 12 model, so a wide array of women can identify with the clothing. (The debut “look book” was photographed on a size 12 model.)

Starting a clothing business in one of the worst retail environments in decades isn’t for the faint of heart. But Crescendo has some famous role models to hold up as fashion icons. First Lady Michelle Obama (for whom McKechnie named a tuxedo trouser in pear-shaped), so are Hollywood celebrities Katie Holmes and Sandra Bullock, she said.

McKechnie began to think about changing careers after a decade poring over numbers at Andersen Consulting (now Accenture), LaSalle Bank and aerospace manufacturer MPC Products Corp. Her final push came after she spent a year working to get a nonprofit organization’s financial house in order. At her annual review, her new boss gave her a “meets expectations.”

“I’m like — ‘Really?’” said McKechnie, with a laugh, believing she deserved better.

So she got a degree in fashion marketing and management from the Illinois Institute of Art and hired designer Kristen Burger. Then, McKechnie threw a fit party. The pair made margaritas and sangria, invited friends and friends of friends of friends over and tried on “everything we possibly could” to hone the fit and sizing, she said.

The entrepreneur said she intends to open doors for women who have been left out of fashion trends. “I have a pair of skinny jeans, for example, in lightweight stretch denim that flares slightly at the knee and keeps the derriere in line with faux back pockets.”

“Women who have long arms and show off a slim waist. Wideleg trousers mask bulges. Kick-pleat skirts contain the derriere. Cone-heel shoes balance the bottom half. Vertical darts and angled faux pockets do the slimming work.”

Prices range from $850 to $1,600. Wraps are $150 to $225. The collection is sold by selling the line in boutiques. By fall 2010, McKechnie aims to begin selling the line in boutiques.

“When women come in and try on the clothes and are so happy the clothes actually fit,” she said, “it’s the thing that keeps me going.”

Style celebrities Trinny Woodall and Susannah Constantine break out different types of pear shapes in their book “The Body Shape Bible,” traditional pear (Katie Holmes), bell (Hillary Clinton) and skirtie, or bowling pin (Meryl Streep). They recommend styles for each.

TRADITIONAL PEARS: Shrug broader shoulders and balance out thighs. Wideleg trousers with a flat front skirt over any bulges. A line skirt is best. Try chunky, straight heels and platform shoes. BELLs: Cowler-neck sweaters broaden shoulders. Flowing, side-fastening trousers mask bulges. Kick-pleat skirts contain the derriere. Cone-heel shoes balance the bottom half. SKITTLIES: Body-hugging sparkly tops with draping sleeves slim the arms and show off a slim waist. Vertically paneled skirts in a stiff fabric hold everything in around the hips. Cropped jackets with broad lapels balance out the bottom half.

Word of the Day
Cocktail weenie

A person obsessed with the minutiae of bartending practices and traditions, especially regarding the preparation of mixed drinks.
Buckle up for a ‘freaky’ flight

Review by Angelica Cano

Flight of the Conchords’ get raunchy on latest album, “I Told You I Was Freaky,” and soar to comic heights.

The band’s second full-length album, “I Told You I Was Freaky,” released Oct. 20 on Sub Pop Records is a compiliation of songs featured in the second season of the Emmy-nominated series. 

As the name of the album suggests, it’s anything but G-rated. With songs titled “Sugalumps” and “You Don’t Have to Be a Prostitute,” the two-man band isn’t concerned with politeness. That fearlessness paired with absurd and hilarious lyrics makes “I Told You I Was Freaky” a treat to listen to.

The dirtier the songs get, the louder the laughs elicited. The synthesizer-heavy “Sugalumps” proclaims the attractiveness of a certain part of the male body to members of the opposite sex. “You’d probably think that my pants had the manliest Clement sings. “They look so good, that’s why we keep them in the front.” Vocal distortions and electronic beats pulsate through “Too Many D**ks (On the Dance Floor),” fueled by complaints of the lack of women at a nightclub, or as it’s described in the song “the dance floor/bro ratio,” clarifying that “Five to one is a broede.”

The backbone of the album is the ability of “Flight of the Conchords” to write a witty song about almost anything. From the sexual escapades of angels to cannibalism, the band runs the gamut of uncomfortable topics, not shying away from any of them. “You Don’t Have to Be a Prostitute,” channeling The Police’s “Roxanne,” finds Clement so deep in money problems that he resorts to selling his body. McKenzie pleads with him to stop, asking “Do you have any other skills, like typing?”

When detached from the episodes of the show, many of the album’s songs lose their full comedic impact, but still manage to amuse.

On the track “We’re both in Love With a ‘Sexy Lady’ both men argue over which of the two a so-called sexy lady was checking out. Without the companion visuals, the back and forth between McKenzie and Clement is almost more confusing than funny. But, when it’s established the woman has a lazy eye, lyrics such as “She’s smokin’ with the eye that’s broken, I think it’s hot / The way she looks left a lot,” leave the listener chuckling.

There is no cohesion to “I Told You I Was Freaky,” but it’s the album’s spontaneity that keeps it entertaining. While not all of the songs are outstanding, there is enough creativity and humor to make it a good album and a great laugh.

Music review

“Flight of the Conchords,” Bret McKenzie and Jemaine Clement

Photo courtesy of www.HBO.com/Conchords

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The Collegian • Arts & Entertainment

Bryce Earp (Donald) and Kelsoy Oliver (Jenny Sutter) prepare for rehearsal in the Dennis & Cheryl Wood Theatre.

By Bethany Rangel

‘Welcome Home Jenny Sutter’ finds home at Fresno State

The Collegian

“Welcome Home Jenny Sutter” is all about the Iraq war. “It’s a very relevant piece to our time because it’s about the Iraq war,” Oliver said. “It’s a very involved story about a 30-year-old woman, she’s a war veteran,” Earp added. “She’s very involved in each other’s lives much like the cast itself while working on the play.”

“Welcome Home Jenny Sutter” is the lead role of 30-year-old Marine Jenny Sutter. As a single mother of two daughters, Sutter is ashamed to see her young girls face to face due to vivid memories and a limb lost from war. Sutter accompanies Lou to a California bus station, she encounters a strange woman named Lou. Not quite sure what to make of Lou, she decided to return to reality or her family, but to see her young girls face to face due to vivid memories and a limb lost from war.

Theatre arts major, Kelsey Oliver portrays the lead role of 30-year-old Marine Jenny Sutter. As a single mother of two daughters, Sutter is ashamed to see her young girls face to face due to vivid memories and a limb lost from war. “The story is dealing with Sutter’s struggle as she tries to reintegrate into society,” Oliver said. “It’s a very relevant piece to our time because it’s about the Iraq war.”


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R.A.D. teaches defensive strategies to women

By Sara Almario
The Collegian

A recent survey concluded that during a four-year span in college, one out of every four female students gets sexually assaulted. This is the reason California State University, Fresno continues to hold its Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) classes for women around the Central Valley.

This year’s R.A.D. class, held last weekend, experienced its biggest turnout ever. The three-day class was attended by more than 20 students, two of which were only 12 years old.

One of the instructors, Sgt. Jennifer Curwick, said most of the students that registered for the class heard of it through the university police department’s advertisement at the Women’s Resource Center.

“Through the Women’s Resource Center, we have a community thing called the Violence Prevention Project,” Curwick said. “We start talking about community stuff on sexual assault and violence, so we spread the word to them and it spreads through word of mouth.”

The class is dedicated to educating women on prevention of any sexual assaults and how to defend themselves against violent attacks.

Reasons for enrolling in the class vary among the students. For Maribel Martinez, her reason for joining the class was for teaching purposes.

Martinez is an educator for the Resource Center for Survivors (RCS) in Fresno, which deals with educating high school students around the Central Valley about being aware of sexual aggression around the Central Valley.

“It was a wonderful class. It’s not martial arts. It’s more of striking, kicking, knowing how to get out of a chokehold or ground defenses when someone’s on top of you,” Curwick said.

During the last sessions, the students got to participate in realistic scenarios orchestrated by Manucharyan.

While doing the simulated scenarios, Manucharyan wore a heavily padded bodysuit so the students could fully practice their defensive moves on different parts of the body.

When asked what the most interesting technique they learned in R.A.D. was, both Martinez and Vasquez replied, “Kicking.”

“My favorite part was the knee strike,” Vasquez said. “We got to kick [Manucharyan] in the groin and shoulder area.”

For more information on R.A.D. classes or rape prevention instructors, contact University Police or Sgt. Jennifer Curwick at jcurwick@csufresno.edu

Pharmacy closed, but other options available

By Bertha Gil
The Collegian

The lack of a full-time staff pharmacist at California State University, Fresno has forced the on-campus pharmacy to close.

The pharmacy located in the Student Health Center has been closed on and off throughout the semester.

Administrative associate director of health, Dirk Ruthrauff, said that the pharmacist converted to part time and has been unavailable to work this month. Therefore, the pharmacy has been closed since Oct. 2.

Just because the pharmacy is closed on campus doesn’t mean students without insurance don’t have an option. Many chain pharmacies offer discount programs for uninsured customers.

“The health center offers the government funded Family PACT program. It is completely free to sign up for the program,” Ruthrauff said.

“Family PACT is a good program. A lot of students are enrolled in it,” Ruthrauff said.

With this program, students get their prescriptions filled at the programs expense.

“Family PACT is a good program, but other programs expense,” Ruthrauff said.

Ruthrauff said that the pharmacy has been closed all the time.

Jessen explained that when a student is given a prescription, they are told that they’ll have to take it to an outside pharmacy.

“I would say about 90 percent of students here qualify for patient assistance programs,” Jackson said.

“We have selected a new pharmacist that will start on Nov. 2. We should be open that afternoon,” Ruthrauff said.

For more information, visit the program’s Web site at www.parc.org. Once there, the student types in the name of the prescribed drug. An immediate response is received if there is a free program for that particular medication. The application is then downloaded.

The student fills out his or her part and the health center fills out its part. If the student is qualified, they’ll get their medications shipped for free for up to a year.

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Brianne Campbell The Collegian
**CONTINUED from page 1**

by the system if certain criteria are missing, such as test scores or residency documentation, Nelson explained. As lead admissions technician, Linda Morales oversees seven staff members that review the flagged applications daily and follow up directly with students to obtain the missing information or documents. In a phone interview with The Collegian, Morales said she double checks up to 30 applications per day.

The admissions staff has streamlined the review process, learning from previous years to create a better organized system to handle the large number of applications, Morales said.

“We have a lot of meetings. There’s a lot of communication, so I think that really helps everyone to understand what’s going on,” Morales said of coping with the increased number of applications.

The admissions office has received more incoming calls this year from anxious parents, high school counselors and students concerned about the application process, Morales said. E-mails come pouring in every day from high school students worried about how a “D” from the ninth grade will impact their eligibility to come to Fresno State.

Enrollment will be competitive for fall 2010 since Fresno State is now “impact ed” for first-time freshmen.

Impaction means that there are more applications received in the initial filing period between Oct. 1 to Nov. 30, than the school is able to accommodate, Vinovrski explained.

“Given our application increases in the last several years, but more importantly, because we have to cut enrollment by 9.5 percent, it means that we will not be able to accommodate about 400 first-time freshmen,” Vinovrski said.

Priorities will be given to students within the CSU Fresno defined local area, which includes all high schools in Fresno, Kings, Madera and Tulare counties as well as 36 other school districts from surrounding counties.

Students outside of the primary service areas will be ranked in descending order according to an eligibility index, determined by GPA and test scores, and admitted as space is available, Vinovrski said.

For now, the admissions staff continues to work at processing the high number of applications pouring in each day. Students typically wait until the last minute, Morales said, and she expects this year to be no different. With less than five weeks remaining before the application deadline, Morales anticipates that her office will be extremely busy at the end of November.

“That’s when it’s going to be crunch time. I think that’s when we’re going to really feel a stress and the pressure,” Morales said.

**CONTINUED from page 1**

around 200 children. For parents to get into the subsidized child care programs they must be put on a waiting list which is prioritized by need.

“They’re this bridge that connects the possibilities for a mom to get an education.”

— Lucimar Myers, Fresno State Student

Mathematics major Lucimar Myers said she applied for the waiting list when she was expecting her daughter and wasn’t notified of an opening until two years later, after giving birth to her son.

“It’s funny because two and a half years later when they called, I was coming back from the hospital with my second one,” Myers said.

Myers said her daughter, Brooke, and 7-month-old son, Helam, attend the Infant and Toddler Center for First-Time Freshmen.

**MEETING:** Follow-up to walkout

He said that there are no simple solutions, and that the university welcomes the exchange of ideas on Nov. 3.

One of the walkout’s organizers, Jamie San Andres, was happy with the student turnout on Oct. 21, but said she would not be satisfied until all of the students’ demands were addressed.

San Andres, a senior anthropology and political science double major, disagreed with Oliaro and Welty’s interpretation of the situation.

“This is not just a state issue,” San Andres said.

And she said that the real problem is in the California State University (CSU) system and Fresno State itself. She cited the perks and privileges of the administrators, such as Welty’s $1,000 monthly vehicle allowance, and the university’s lack of transparency.

“Transparency must come first,” San Andres said.

Earlier this month, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed SB 218, which would have given greater transparency into auxiliary organizations that perform government functions by updating the California Public Records Act (CPRA).

San Andres said that Fresno State should allow for greater transparency into such auxiliary organizations, and for the university as a whole.

San Andres also said that the first half of the meeting will be used to discuss the list of student’s demands, and the second half will be open for students to address Welty.

According to San Andres, similar meetings could be scheduled in the future depending on the outcome of the initial meeting.

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VOLEK: Going ten years strong in the league

CONTINUED from page 8

is what I want.

Q: You run the scout team offense in practice. You have to know both the opponent’s offense and the Chagers’ playbook. How difficult is that?

A: It is really not that difficult. It’s a job and that is what they ask me to do and that’s what I need to do to get this team ready. Being the scout team quarterback, you have to play like the opposing team’s quarterback. When I am playing as Peyton Manning, I am doing all the high foot, shotgun snaps and redirecting the line before the snap.

Q: Who is your favorite quarterback to mimic on the scout team?

A: Peyton, hands down. He’s the best quarterback in the NFL.

Q: Is it fun to copy his mannerisms?

A: It is, as long as you don’t pull a muscle (laughs).

Q: What is it like to be the scout team’s quarterback for a mobile quarterback, like Donovan McNabb?

A: Oh yeah, man (laughs). I bring out my truck shoes and try to run around.

Q: You’ve had success in the league when your number has been called. Is it frustrating that you don’t have a starting position?

A: I really don’t feel like I have hit my peak yet, even though I am in year ten, I feel like I continue to get better. There is still a chance for me to go out there and be the captain of a football team and lead that team. I am excited for that opportunity when it comes.

Q: Are you preparing every week to start? Could you start Sunday?

A: I prepare each game like I am going to be a starter. It’s weird because in the back of my mind I know that I am not going to start, but still, each week I prepare to go through a four-quarter game. It’s how I’ve always prepared, even at Clovis West and at Fresno State, and now in the NFL.

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

Getting to know the Utah State Aggies ...

Record: 2-5 overall (1-3 in Western Athletic Conference [WAC])

Story so far: The Aggies just picked up their second win of the season against a WAC opponent, beating Louisiana Tech, 23-21.

Impact Players: Offense — Quarterback Diondre Borel (Lfelt) was one of the seven quarterbacks in college football that led the team in rushing and is getting stronger as the season goes on.

The Buzz: Despite rolling over Hawaii this past weekend, the Broncos fell to No. 7 in the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) standings and were jumped by fellow non-automatic qualifier Texas Christian. If Boise State is going to play the role of BCS buster once again, they will need to win, and win big the rest of the way.

Why No. 1: Quarterback Kellen Moore leads the nation in quarterback rating. The Broncos haven’t lost a conference game since 2007 and are the class of the league until proven otherwise.

Next opponent: San Jose State

Why No. 2: Nevada Wolf Pack

Next opponent: Idaho Vandals (6-2)

The Buzz: The ‘Dogs have too much talent to be an Idaho State. Look for the Bulldogs to score early and often, setting up a key conference game at Idaho.

Why No. 3: Fresno State has won three games in a row in convincing fashion. Junior tailback Ryan Mathews leads the nation in rushing yards and is the ‘Dogs’ catalyst on offense.

The Buzz: The ‘Dogs have too much talent to be an Idaho State. Look for the Bulldogs to score early and often, setting up a key conference game at Idaho.

Why No. 4: Despite their drubbing at the hands of the Wolf Pack, the Vandals sit in a tie for third place in the WAC and have a shot to contend for the conference title.

The Buzz: The Vandals are not as bad as they showing in Reno. They are led by a talented quarterback and should prevail against Louisiana Tech.

ONLINE: For the complete football power rankings visit http://collegian.csufresno.edu
Record-setting QB

Former Bulldog Billy Volek has spent 10 years in the NFL, setting a few records along the way

By Logan Hopkins
The Collegian


Former Fresno State quarterback Billy Volek has only started 10 games in his 10 years in the NFL, but holds the all-time record for most passing yards in a quarterback’s first ten starts (2,798).

Not only that, he became only the fourth signal-caller in NFL history to throw back-to-back 400-yard games in 2003, with the Tennessee Titans.

Volek spent the first seven years of his NFL career with the Titans, and then traded to the San Diego Chargers.

Before playing in the league, Volek was a three-year starter for the Fresno State Bulldogs. Volek and the ‘Dogs won the 1999 WAC championship, the last conference title for the football team.

The Collegian got the chance to catch up with the former Bulldog and discuss his path to the NFL, as well as life as a backup quarterback.

Q: Coach Jim Sweeney, the coach who recruited you, retired midway through your college career and current head coach Pat Hill was hired as his replacement. What was the transition like?
A: Change is good. Pat [Hill] came in and he had a lot of energy behind him, plus he still had [former offensive coordinator Jeff] Tedford, so I knew that I was OK. We had minor growing pains, but for the most part, winning that Western Athletic Conference (WAC) championship in 1999 was special. It was Pat’s only championship, and I still give him a bad time about that.

Q: What is it about Fresno State that prepares quarterbacks so well for the NFL?
A: I think it is the pro-style system and the offense. When they need to. Fresno State’s quarterbacks can throw the ball, pro scouts like to see that. I think it’s also mental toughness. You have to have that to play for Fresno State.

Q: After your career with the Dogs, you signed a free agent contract with the Tennessee Titans in 2000. Why did they take that chance on you?
A: Coming out of Fresno State, the word was that I didn’t have a strong arm. That was what the pro scouts heard. Going to Tennessee with Neil O’Donnell and Steve McNair, they were like, “Man, this guy has a strong arm.” They gave me a chance and I took advantage of it.

Q: How difficult was it to stick with an NFL team as a free agent?
A: I don’t think it was really that tough. I saw McNair throw the ball, and I knew I could throw the ball just as good as him, but I couldn’t run like he could. I had more zip on my ball than O’Donnell. All I needed was that opportunity and I got that.

Q: Did you have a backup plan if you didn’t stick with the Titans?
A: Not really. I kind of put all of my eggs into that basket. I really thought that I would succeed in the NFL and at least make the team that year. If anything, I wanted to coach. I think when I’m done, I want to come back and coach for Fresno State and help them win a few more WAC championships.

Q: As a backup with the Chargers, is it your main role to support Philip Rivers or to get ready as if you’re starting?
A: There is a lot more stress being a backup quarterback; you never know when your number is going to be called. On game day, I am telling Philip Rivers what I see from the sideline and, yes, I am supporting him 100 percent. If he is successful, then his team is going to be successful and that

FOOTBALL

Fresno State band plays theme songs for the Bulldogs’ heroes

By Chris Aguirre
The Collegian

College football is based on tradition. At Penn State, every one of the 103,000 fans in attendance wears white shirts proudly. Florida State is known for a tomahawk chop and USC has Tommy Trojan. When someone mentions ‘The Rivalry’ and someone suggests Superman because he was doing so well, so I thought that was a really good idea and will probably do that,” Anderson said.

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