The University Lecture Series (ULS), which brought the likes of Harvard University professor Cornel West and film director Spike Lee to speak at California State University, Fresno, has been suspended until at least January of 2010, according to administrators.

"I understand why it has to be canceled, but man, I just think the college campus is a different place without folks of that stature," said James E. Walton, Ph.D.

The dean of undergraduate studies Dennis Nef, Ph.D., was the acting Provost at the time the decision was made to suspend the program for a year. He said, in an e-mail interview, the $80,000 that the ULS was budgeted was needed elsewhere this year.

"We can provide as many as eight courses for that amount of money," Nef said.

The $44 million cut to Fresno State this year meant that the administration had to evaluate trade-offs, Nef said. The priorities were to serve the students, maintain employment and ensure public safety.

"The university lecture series is one of the things that makes the university an institution of higher education," Nef said. "It strengthens the things going on in the classroom, the laboratories and lecture halls."

Nef said Fresno State will miss out on well-attended discussions with past guests Bernard Kouchner, the founder of Doctors Without Borders, and Jean-Michel Cousteau, the president of the Ocean Futures Society. The current Provost and vice president of academic affairs William A. Covino, Ph.D., said that the ULS was a great series and he would like to bring it back.

"We’re considering it now, and are waiting to see where this year. We’re missing out on those kinds of giants," Walton said. He said it’s unfortunate that the series couldn’t have just cut the number of speakers and still brought some “giants” to the community.

"That’s the kind of education that you just don’t get in the classroom," Walton said.

Critics say printed version is outdated, unnecessary

As students hammer out their class schedules for the spring semester, those using the online schedule will have access to the most recent updates while students relying solely on the printed version will not be aware of scheduling changes.

Kennel Bookstore assistant manager Jack Gartner said the shift from printed to online schedules is happening gradually as less and less students choose to purchase the booklets, which sell for $1.85 plus tax.

According to Gartner, the sales of printed schedules have dropped from 14,231 in spring 2000 to 6,329 in spring 2009. So far this semester, the book store has sold about 3,200 spring schedules, Gartner said.

Some people feel that the print version of the course schedule is unnecessary.

"It is outdated the minute I send it to the printer," said academic scheduling coordinator Anne Burkholder of the printed schedule.

"In my opinion we shouldn’t be printing (the schedule) anymore, I think the staff likes it because it’s something easy to look at," Burkholder said. "I think students could care less. They want the accurate schedule."

The scheduling process is decentralized as each department is in charge of deciding which classes to offer and for creating class sections, Burkholder explained. Once the schedule is prepared by the departments, Burkholder opens it up to students online in the My Fresno State portal.

The online schedule was made available on Oct. 12, Burkholder said. The scheduling office and registrar collaborate to create the printed version, which went on sale at the Kennel Bookstore Oct. 26.

The departments can make changes to the online schedule leading up to the first day of class in January, Burkholder said. However, the printed schedule is not revised.

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D id that headline get your attention? It sure got mine when I first read it. In Tuesday in the Chronicle of Higher Education, one of my esteemed colleagues, Tony Petersen, made me a thief twice in the span of one paragraph. What a strange idea. The Chronicle does this then and then some, with too much world peace or too few people watching dirty movies. Imagine the counterpoint to the wacko’scries for fee cuts. “Hike ‘em up! Charge us more! Get these losers out the door!”

Despite the counterintuitive sound of the idea, it stems from a simple premise. There are only so many skilled jobs out there that require degrees, and college becomes a waste mathematically when the lost wages and long-term debt incurred become a greater number than the dollars accrued as a result of the degree. The corollary is horrifically depressing: sorry guys, but the world still runs on delivery men, trash guys and waiters. And many of you want to spend your lives working jobs you are academically overqualified for in spite of your realized ambitions. Happy Friday the Thirteenth. President McVay has had a hand as much, albeit in a roundabout way. He is currently spending public money for community colleges and trade schools, the places where you learn a skill and get out rather than spending countless hours listening to boring general education professors and picking up bad habits from your peers.

Enamored with the idea, I called up a buddy who goes to Georgia Tech for a quick poll: “Hey man, I just read that there are too many college degrees saturating the market, would you be willing to drop out of college to study?” Yes, that would be the nice thing to do, but I’m a freshman. Get somebody else to drop out. Crap. Also, he said this from his couch as he was playing some sort of zombie drinking game with three of his roommates. On a Tuesday afternoon.

Which brings me to my point even the Chronicle fails to make it clear. For the people who move away for school and come of age in some distant college town where everyone is very single and everyone has money but no work, the college the can really feel like The End.

I, along with many of my buddies who went to good ol’ Georgia Southern University with me, am experiencing this right now. I received a text message from another recent graduate last week that read, “I should’ve never gone to college. Everything after college is a reminder of how awesome college is.”

Secondly, for the commuters who may feel they’re missing out because they live at home and work part time, stop feeling that way. The term for your college experience is “realistic.”

Enthusiastic, I’m staying home. Maybe I’ll end up a trash man, but I’ll write the best damn trash blog around!

O utlook for California’s higher education budget continues to fluctuate. And state legislators have been blasted recently for trying to bridge a multi-million dollar budget deficit. According to the latest polls, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the state legislature have received an approval rating for their handling of the state’s infrastructure in a state of flux, and state legislature has been and continues to be a multi-million dollar education issue. The Master Plan was framed upon this concept. By 2025, the state will fall 1 million college graduates short of its needs, according to recent estimates from the Public Policy Institute of California. In the past seven years, funds have been cut from the CSU’s portion of the state budget as well as admission freezes, furloughs, a reduction in class sections and ultimately delayed graduations all in efforts to reduce costs. A billion-dollar boost from the bill has the potential to finance thousands of students.

The state is a long way from solving its financial and funding obstacles for higher education, so any reasonable measure that can be taken should be implemented. AB 656 is not a perfect solution—but it is a start.

Too many students going to college!

The Upper Upper Deck
HASTEN WILLLS

AB 656 right for California

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

WEB-SPE@K

Called each week from discussion on The Collegian Online.

Response: @issue: Stay or leave Fresno?

‘afrensiative’...I think everyone who grows up in small towns wants to leave the small town they grew up in. But they want to and probably do go back. I never left, although I have contemplated leaving. But now that I have a family there is no place I’d rather be than the No-Town.”

“Wunderful!”, “The weather is depressing. Cold and gray in the winter (but not too cold for snow). Dusty and harmful particle-filled air even in the spring. Hotter than the seventh later of Hell in the summer. Sometimes the autumn is nice with its color, but realistically, it’s all bad. I put in my six years and departed eight days for better opportunities after my commencement in 2008.”

Response: Study session at Welty’s house.

“Pez Faz!” The library may be closed on Saturdays, but the USU is open until midnight everyday.”

“Wiltman”, “Why the hell are you all studying on a Saturday, go out and enjoy your youth. That’s why there is Sunday.”

“David”, “Is everyone forgetting that, up until this year, we didn’t even have a library to study in? So what if it’s closed one day out of seven? We lived without it for a long time, and we can learn to do it again for one day per week.”

“How old are we?”. “Hash comments. It takes a lot of courage for those kids to do what they did. The rest of you write these comments online but would more than likely be too afraid to take a stand for the same thing you just wrote online.”

“WTF?”, “I can say that these people deserve to be #1 on the list of those individuals who get out when the university runs its funds out. That’ll teach you to be anti-fare increase. Take your liberalism and entitlement and go somewhere else.”

“To Collegial staff”, “Take down the comments on this site that are not “opinions” but are simply hate speech. They are not comments on this site and should not be considered as such.”

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

REPORTER: 559-278-2486
Booty-shaking brass music and psychedelic trans-punk are two descriptions that members of the Fresno-based band Yesterday’s Chonies use to describe their music. Those elusive sounds and unconventional tunes are played by the seven-member group, or as tuba player Glenn Tozier puts it, “band nerds who have said #1’s the world.

In combination with Tozier, Yesterday’s Chonies is comprised of washboard player Becky Asami, tambourine player, vocalist and dancer Amber Fargano, baritone horn player David Gomez, bass drum and cymbal player Pierre Jauretche, baritone sax player Aron Obiath and the newest member Gino Hernandez on alto saxophone.

Formed in August 2008, Yesterday’s Chonies began playing behind art galleries and in alleys around Fresno, embracing instruments more fit for a marching band (four of the group’s members met in the Fresno State Bulldog Marching Band).

Now performing at the likes of the Fresno Metropolitan Museum of Art & Science and heading to Seattle next year for the radical marching band festival Honk! Fest West, the band still cites their ArtHop performances at Studio 62 as some of their favorites. The well-known group is supported by what Asami describes as their Fresno niche of artists, activists and musicians. In a recent meeting with six of the bandmates at Café Revue in the Tower District, three separate customers greeted the band, often with the affectionate “What up Chonies?”

From left to right: David Gomez, Glenn Tozier, Pierre Jauretche, Amber Fargano, Becky Asami, Gino Hernandez and Aron Obiath.

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

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Q&A: CONTINUED from page 3

Gomez: That’s how the band started, we were guerilla like that. We never really booked shows, we just sort of showed up at different places. Because we were on our bikes, we could disperse if we needed to.

Fargano: Lyric-wise, it’s just mouth diarrhea. Usually they put the song together and then I listen to it and I say, “OK, I’ll sing this.”

Asami: Gogol Bordello.

Tozier: We’ve had a much different experience than most bands in Fresno. Other bands have to book gigs and venues. We don’t. We can just go out and play on the street.

What’s it like to be a band in Fresno?

Gomez: Hot.

Tozier: We have had a much different experience than most bands in Fresno. Other bands have to book gigs and venues. We don’t. We can just go out and play on the street.

Is this group something you’d like to pursue as a career?

Tozier: That’s so not likely. All of us are pretty much pursuing other things.

Asami: We are, but I am always trying to convince them to quit their day jobs.

Aron: I’d like to, if it happened. I wouldn’t mind playing music forever.

Asami: Personally, I think we could. I think this band could do almost anything it wanted to, but it’s hard to get seven people to collaborate. I was in a band that was successful enough that there were a lot of doors open to us and I think, honestly, this band is a thousand times better than that band.

Why do you say that?

Asami: This band is so unique and so much fun. There’s so much life. My personal dream for this band is to go on a bike tour, where we play all the way up to the northwest and never drive a car.

What is the most surprising aspect of being in a band?

Oblath: It’s more exciting to think that you might get smacked by a horn player when you’re sitting and watching it on your computer.

Lastly, are you wearing yesterday’s chonies today?

Collectively: Yes.

Hernandez: and they stink so badly.
Friday the 13th brings superstitions
Where they originated from and how many people affects it

By Michelle Furnier
The Collegian

Avoid walking under ladders, don't cross a black cat, don't open an umbrella inside, don't spill salt, and don't break a mirror.

Because it's Friday the Thirteenth, and to some, it's the unluckiest day of the year.

According to Donald Dossey, founder of the Stress Management Center and a therapist, people will not fly or do business in the United States, they would nor usually do.

Dossey estimates that the global stock market affects 17 to 21 million people in the U.S.

False. Hexakiodichotomous people are who are irrational afraid of these things.

Superstitions don't seem to affect students on campus. They still follow their daily routines when Friday the 13th occurs.

Health and rehabilitation sciences major Becky Williams said she doesn't believe in superstitions.

"I recognize it's Friday the Thirteenth but I still go out," Williams said. One of the reasons people believe the number 13 is to be unlucky dates back to the Last Supper where Judas, the one who betrayed Jesus, was the 13th guest.

During the time of the Last Supper, witches in Rome were said to have gathered in groups of 12 and the 13th was considered the devil.

Another explanation of the significance of the number 13 derives from a Norse myth about 12 gods who held a dinner party in their heaven, Valhalla. The uninvited mischievous Loki was the 13th guest to walk in the room and he had arranged for the blind god Hati to, in the end, kill the god of joy and gladness, Balder, with a mistletoe-tipped arrow.

When Balder died the entire Norse realm became dark and the whole Earth mourned. Since then, the number has become threatening.

According to Dossey, the majority of high-rises don’t have a thirteenth floor, many airports don’t have a thirteenth gate, and it isn’t uncommon for such businesses to not have a room 13.

The superstition of walking under ladders has been considered blasphemous since the early 20th century. The number three was seen as holy by ancient cultures (the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit), therefore the triangle was also seen as holy. A ladder leaning up against a wall looked like a triangle, and therefore resembled the Trinity. Walking underneath the ladder would break the Trinity, which could invite unwanted hangings in the future.

A black cat crossing one's path can be unlucky, however it's a mystery exactly where the superstition originated. Black cats were known to hang around with witches, so some cats just cats just stick around it on edge because they're very quiet and sneaky.

A breaking of a mirror could damage a soul. The mirror represents the mirror of appearance but one's soul.

The mirror will talk, the mirror will tell the breaker’s negligence and the mirror breaker will get seven years bad luck.

Criminology major Charlie Naurath also said he’s always aware of the Thirteenth. "Superstitions, the thirteenth happens on a month that starts with the number 13."

Naurath said.

In 2009, the month of February, March and November began on a Sunday.

Naurath gives some Friday the thirteenth advice, "watch out for guys with chainsaws."

Obama schedules forum to discuss economic growth

By Robert Schroeder
 McClatchy

WASHINGTON, President Barack Obama in December will host a White House forum on creating jobs and growing the economy, he said Thursday, amid signs that the economy is improving but job growth is lagging.

Five years ago the university did away with the printed spring 2004 schedule, said Kennel Bookstore director Ron Durham. Many students were upset by the decision and the printed schedule was returned the following semester.

It was a pretty good idea but was probably premature," Durham said of the abrupt switch to online scheduling in 2004. This spring, the university ordered 7,200 copies of the schedule, Beddall said. Roughly 1,200 copies are for campus distribution and the remaining inventory goes to the bookstore for sale.

With the uncertain budget, departments had a difficult time planning the spring 2019 semester, Beddall said.

"Once word of the additional stimulus money became available, the departments were able to restore class sections," Beddall said. Unfortunately, this was done after we went to print.

As reported by The Collegian, a one-time federal allocation of $1.4 million will allow Fresno State to add over 200 course sections and retain approximately 90 lecturers next semester. Although Burkholder has not yet seen a large increase in class sections added to the schedule, she said departments are monitoring enrollment and making changes accordingly.

Because many initial changes were made to the spring schedule, Burkholder said she delayed releasing the printed version. I didn’t see the point in printing something that was completely obsolete," she said. So we went to print three weeks later; and it went to the bookstore three weeks later. I don’t think anybody noticed.

Burkholder said she sees no benefit of having the printed schedule and has encouraged the university to provide the schedule exclusively online. But Beddall said that the university continues to provide the printed version because students still want it. I believe we will certainly review the demand of the printed class schedule and I anticipate sometime in the future we will stop the print version," Beddall said.

"But for now, as long as we see the desire for a printed version, we will continue to offer it."

Obama spoke after the Labor Department reported that initial jobless claims dropped by 12,000 in the last week to 502,000, the fewest initial claims since early January. He called the report a "hopeful sign," but said it’s not enough.

"The economic growth that we’ve seen has not yet translated into the job growth that we desperately need," Obama said.

Obama said his eight-day trip to Asia will take him to Tokyo, Beijing, Shanghali and Seoul, as well as to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Singapore. There, he is slated to meet with 18 fellow world leaders.

The Wellness Lounge opened in the bottom floor of the University Student Union on Tuesday, Nov. 10 with a Seasonal Flu Shot Clinic. They provided shots for students for $10 with a student ID card. Students, such as nursing majors Timothy Nguyen and Tessa Patton, serve students at the lounge weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tina Beddall said that the printed class schedule can be a very useful tool to have each semester.

The booklet includes, in detail, procedures for registration such as obtaining permission numbers, add- ing lecture/lab, waits lists and grading options, as well as a calendar for deadlines. Since classes are frequently added, cancelled or modified, Beddall said it is best for students to use the online search when building their class schedule and have the printed version handy for referring procedures.

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Both teams open up regular seasons tonight

By Sara Almarino
The Collegian

Fresno State’s men’s basketball team will face an opponent they’ve played in 10 years as they begin the season against the San Francisco State Gators tonight at the Save Mart Center.

The two teams haven’t met since the 1974-75 season. The ‘Dogs won that matchup, 90-57, tying the series at 1-1.

The new generation Bulldogs have no experience against the Gators, so the players said they will have to prepare more extensively for tonight’s game.

Bulldog forward Paul George said that he and his teammates have only been able to watch some game film on the Gators.

“We haven’t had the chance to get a real good feel on them but we have to be prepared,” George said. “We can’t take them lightly.”

The Bulldogs are coming into this season a more experienced team. Bulldog guard Brandon Sperling said the team is now more confident in its potential.

“Everyone understands the game better,” Sperling said. “We’re more confident and we’re definitely an up-tempo team. Once you have a year playing under your belt, you become a more comfortable shooter, a more confident defender.

Experience will play a factor in the team’s success, since the players now have more knowledge on the pace and predictability of the game.

“We’ve definitely matured as a team and I do feel I’ve matured as a player,” George said. “One of the lessons I learned from last season is the difference between making a good decision and a bad decision on the court.”

One of the advantages of the Bulldogs this year is the return of one of their strongest players, Mychal Ladd. George described him as the determining factor of the team.

In their preseason game against Fresno Pacific, the sophomore guard scored 22 points and a block.

“Mike is a strong player,” George said. “He’s definitely the X factor in our team and his performance will determine how far we can go this season.”

Women’s team on the road

Tonight, the back-to-back Western Athletic Conference (WAC) champions will be taking on the back-to-back Big West champions to open up the 2009-10 season.

The Fresno State women’s basketball team will start off the season with an eight-game road trip, starting with their game at UC Santa Barbara tonight.

Assistant coach Brett Frank said since the Bulldogs won the WAC tournament last season, opponents will be putting in their best effort to bring tough competition.

“The Santa Barbara Gauchos won’t be any different,” Frank said. “People don’t boo nobodies. Frank said. “We have been the team that has great success and as such, all the other teams will be giving us their best shots.”

The Bulldogs lead the series against the Gauchos 19-8. The last time they faced each other was in 2006 and the Bulldogs won 71-45.

According to Frank, the team’s biggest strength this year is the return of all five starters.

Frank said there will be an advantage for the Bulldogs since the Gauchos are currently going through a transition phase with the departures of their five key players.

“The Gauchos’ current lineup consists mostly of freshmen, a disadvantage that will plague them when they face the seniors and juniors on the team.”

Bulldogs’ guard LaShay Fears said the team is confident going into this season as the WAC champions, but they still have to be fully prepared for their upcoming opponents.

“We have a lot of competition ahead of us because we know we’re the team to beat,” Fears said. “That is why we’ve got to come out hard and give it all we’ve got.”

Australian newcomer Rosie Moulm, who recently made her Bulldog debut in their game against Fresno Pacific, said she’s still adjusting to the fast pace of American basketball but she’s excited to be playing this season with a championship team.

“Everyone in the court is very competitive,” Moulm said. “There is pressure but just pushes me harder to play up to their expectations.”
Breakdown: Bulldogs

Last week at the Kibbie Dome, quarterback Ryan Colburn had a perfect night, going 14-for-14 for 159 yards and a touchdown. The game was clearly the lefty’s strongest game of the season.

His performance will again be key for the Bulldogs, especially against the Nevada pass defense.

Through the first nine games of the season, the Wolf Pack’s pass defense ranks No. 119 of the season, the Wolf Pack’s

si cially against the Nevada pass defense have such good stats?

But that stat may be skewed.

Nevada’s opponents are not

Airing 161 yards per game through eight games, The Wolf Pack’s rush defense only allows 104.9 yards per game, good enough for No. 25 in the entire country.

But that stat may be skewed. Nevada has won six games in a row, beating opponents by an average of 25 points. With such a wide margin of victory, Nevada’s opponents are not rushing the ball much in the second half.

On the defensive side, the Bulldogs will have too much to handle with the Pack’s potent rush attack.

Ultimately, the rush defense will be the downfall for the Bulldogs and the five-game winning streak will likely come to an end.

Firing on all cylinders ...

Wins against: UNLV, Louisiana Tech, Utah State, Idaho, Hawaii, San Jose State.

Losses to: Notre Dame, Colorado State, Missouri.

Head coach: Chris Ault (25th season, 204-94-1)

Offense: Pistol

Defense: 4-3

Key players: RB Vai Taua, WR Chris Williams, DE Kevin Basped

Series record: Fresno State leads the series 24-14-1

Last meeting: Nevada won, 40-28, in 2008 (Bulldog Stadium)

Point spread: Nevada is favored by 7.5

Position matchups

When Fresno State runs:

Advantage Fresno State

The Wolf Pack has a solid rush defense (allowing only 104.9 yards per game), but tailback Ryan Mathews is just too good.

When Nevada runs:

Advantage Nevada

The Wolf Pack, led by quarterback Colin Kaepernick, averages 341 yards per game, No. 1 in the nation.

When Fresno State passes:

Advantage Fresno State

Fresno State’s pass offense will be going against the worst pass defense in college football. Nevada allows 301 passing yards per game.

When Nevada passes:

Advantage Nevada

Colin Kaepernick may only average 177 passing yards per game, but he will be dangerous outside of the pocket and will likely burn the Bulldog for one long play.

Special teams:

Advantage Nevada

With the temperature around 40 degrees, Fanninfield, at kickoff and possible snow tomorrow morning, special teams will go the way of the home team.

Breakdown: Wolf Pack

The Fresno State Bulldogs may be on a five-game winning streak and have Superman at tailback, but they will likely find their kryptonite tomorrow in Reno, Nev.

Nevada quarterback Colin Kaepernick is running the nation’s most potent rush attack, which averages 341 yards per game.

The Turlock-native is averaging 104 yards rushing per game himself.

Last year at Bulldog Stadium, Kaepernick and the Wolf Pack amassed exactly 600 yards of total offense - 472 of those yards on the ground.

The secret to the Wolf Pack’s success against the Bulldogs’ defense? The pistol offense.

The pistol offense is a variation of the spread-option offense which utilizes misdirection and mismatches to capitalize on defenses’ weaknesses.

And last year, it made Fresno State look silly.

Besides a gifted, dual-threat quarterback, the Pack’s offense also boasts a set of tailbacks that will challenge the ‘Dogs’ defense.

Tailbacks Luke Lippincott and Va’atau combine for 190 yards per game and will be key in the read-option plays.

The game might turn into a shootout with Nevada’s weak defenses.

The ‘Dogs should do the exact opposite of what everyone is expecting – start with the pass.

The secret to the Wolf Pack’s winning streak and have Superman at tailback, but they will likely find their kryptonite tomorrow in Reno, Nev.

Nevada quarterback Colin Kaepernick is running the nation’s most potent rush attack, which averages 341 yards per game. The Turlock-native is averaging 104 yards rushing per game himself.

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Hitting on all cylinders...

Wins against: UNLV, Louisiana Tech, Utah State, Idaho, Hawaii, San Jose State.

Losses to: Notre Dame, Colorado State, Missouri.

Head coach: Chris Ault (25th season, 204-94-1)

Offense: Pistol

Defense: 4-3

Key players: RB Vai Taua, WR Chris Williams, DE Kevin Basped

Series record: Fresno State leads the series 24-14-1

Last meeting: Nevada won, 40-28, in 2008 (Bulldog Stadium)

Point spread: Nevada is favored by 7.5

Position matchups

When Fresno State runs:

Advantage Fresno State

The Wolf Pack has a solid rush defense (allowing only 104.9 yards per game), but tailback Ryan Mathews is just too good.

When Nevada runs:

Advantage Nevada

The Wolf Pack, led by quarterback Colin Kaepernick, averages 341 yards per game, No. 1 in the nation.

When Fresno State passes:

Advantage Fresno State

Fresno State’s pass offense will be going against the worst pass defense in college football. Nevada allows 301 passing yards per game.

When Nevada passes:

Advantage Nevada

Colin Kaepernick may only average 177 passing yards per game, but he will be dangerous outside of the pocket and will likely burn the Bulldog for one long play.

Special teams:

Advantage Nevada

With the temperature around 40 degrees, Fanninfield, at kickoff and possible snow tomorrow morning, special teams will go the way of the home team.

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