Students wary of scam job opportunities

By Leonard Valerio
The Collegian

As semesters come and go, some things always seem to stay the same — long lines in the bookstore, lack of parking, shortage of classes and, more recently, false job postings.

On campus billboards and all through the free speech area there are numerous job postings advertising student work, often with high pay and the flexibility of working from home.

While not all of these job postings are fake, many of them are, and more often than not they are marketed toward students.

Rita Bocchinfuso-Cohen, director of career services at Fresno State, said that ever since the economy experienced a downturn there has been an increase in job postings that are certainly questionable.

Students may not have a lot of experience as employees, and many have limited exposure to the work world and the rules and regulations regarding pay and the labor laws that exist out there,” she said. “In some ways students can be easier to lure into questionable positions.”

Sheryl Williamson, 23, said she was looking for a second job when she came across several of the work for students flyers around campus.

“When some of them sounded too good to be true,” she said, “but as a struggling student I still wanted to check them out because some employers aren’t very flexible with student schedules, especially if they already have a job.”

Williamson said that several of the postings asked for start-up fees that would be reimbursed once work was completed.

“I had a bad feeling when some of the companies asked me to pay for materials upfront,” she said. “After doing a little more research online, I found out that some of these companies were fake.”

By Dana Hull
The Collegian

Fresno State’s University Dining Hall has been serving up $5 Fridays for more than four years now. Despite the apparent value they offer on Fridays, it’s still their slowest day of the week.

“It got more popular when the centennial celebration happened in October and we really promoted it,” she said. “It’s been very successful and we’ve gotten a lot of positive feedback about it.”

According to Guill, approximately 300 students and staff visit the dining hall during breakfast, 600 visit during lunch and 700 visit during dinner on weekdays. However, on Friday business slows down.

“Unlike the outside world where typically Friday and Saturday in the restaurant business is very busy — here it is the opposite,” she said. “Students are going home or they’re going out to eat because it’s Friday.”

Guill said that other reasons students and staff don’t want to visit the dining hall is because of location and perception. The dining hall is on one end of campus, and to some students and staff it can be an inconvenience to make the trip down to the dining hall.

“I have the challenge of changing the perception of what goes along with dining hall food,” she said. “Every year I have 1,200 new students walking up that ramp going ‘This is going to be gross because it’s dining hall food.’”

But UDH doesn’t serve mystery meat and flimsy mashed potatoes that many experience with a high school cafeteria. In fact, the dining hall menu changes daily, and they have an executive chef and sous chef, along with many cooks. Entrees and meals are cooked everyday from fresh ingredients.

“Unlike the outside world where you would use at your home,” Guill said, “we can’t,” she said, “because it’s dining hall food.”

Students may not have a lot of experience as employees, and many have limited exposure to the work world and the rules and regulations regarding pay and the labor laws that exist out there.”

“Any of the processed food is not in UDH’s vocabulary,” Guill said. “Any of the processed food that we are using would be the same you would use at your house,” Guill said. “Yes we can

See WORK, Page 3
Roethlisberger deserves same treatment as Bryant

A trend is starting to brew in major American sports, and it's forcing loyal fans to question how they view athletes that get hit with sex-assault allegations.

In 2009, Vick plead guilty to dogfighting charges. His situation was different. Vick, who was 28 at the time, was pronounced as a convicted athlete, then suspended to start this season, but Bryant stood a taller task of juggling sexual assault allegations with a prolific NFL quarterback. But that's exactly what Bryant had to do.

After allegations of sexual misconduct in 2009 plagued the 28-year-old, the two-time Super Bowl champion had to serve a four-game suspension to start this season, but was never actually charged with a criminal offense. Still, the severity of the alleged crime was enough for fans and even non-fans across America to turn the clock back to the wild-child quarterback.

Roethlisberger is just one in an increasingly long line of professional athletes who have been in trouble with the law, and the line between which crime is acceptable and unacceptable to forgive continues to blur.

Kobe Bryant, arguably the most prolific NBA player in the history of the game, actually stood trial in an alleged rape case involving an Eagle, Colo., woman in the summer of 2003. No charges were ever filed, and everything was filed outside of court, but Bryant stood a taller task than any NBA Finals — restoring his public image.

Four NBA titles later, Bryant’s fan base is as large as ever, supporters come from far and wide and very few critics hinge their feelings on the Los Angeles superstar on his moral blunders.

Bryant shook off the temporary setback, and now is vowed more for his actions on the court than in any scandal off of it. Roethlisberger, however, still can’t seem to shake off naysayers no matter how much he wins.

Bryant was able to escape a public death sentence by how the NBA league officials treated his situation. Bryant was never suspended during that season’s NBA playoffs, in which his Lakers reached the NBA Finals.

But because Roethlisberger, and convicted dogfighter Michael Vick, belong to the most nationally-renowned sports in not only the country, but also perhaps the world, their public image may never be restored the way Bryant’s was. Some choose not to cheer for Vick for moral reasons, and that is.

OK. He was convicted of a crime and was sentenced to 23 months in federal prison for murdering and torturing animals that he knew he should not keep his standards in a fighting ring.

Roethlisberger’s situation is different. It is true, he has been accused of making ill-advised decisions and being immature, indeed he really is, but he has never crossed any line that Bryant did not do.

The accusations against him are serious, there’s no doubt about that. But if a court of law does not see his situation as a criminal offense, then why should we?

Active sports viewers have to make decisions on who they support and what jersey apparel they may make decisions on who they support and what jersey apparel they may wear based on an extremely blurred line. Which criminal offense is gentle enough to accept, and what must a convicted athlete do to restore his or her image?

Roethlisberger needs no additional supporters to be honest, because he just so happens to belong to the NFL franchise with one of the largest fan bases in history. But to sneer at the quarterback for allegations that we never actually proven isn’t acceptable.

So whether Roethlisberger throws three interceptions in a losing effort or three touchdowns in a victorious outing, the Super Bowl audience needs to make a decision of how blurry its criminal offense acceptance line actually is.
Student Recreation Center Turns Five

By Dana Hull
The Collegian

Fresno State’s two-story fitness and education center celebrates five years of being open.

Fresno State’s Student Recreation Center will celebrate its five-year anniversary. The SRC, which not only provides students with workout equipment, basketball and racquetball courts, also houses the university’s Leon and Pete Peters Educational Center and The Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Students and faculty are invited to attend their anniversary celebration free of charge on Thursday, Feb. 3 from 5 to 8 p.m.

The celebration will include music, prizes and information tables. Product samples and refreshments will also be provided.

Regular student prices for UDH are $6 for breakfast, $8.25 for lunch and $9.50 for dinner.

Regular student prices for UDH are $6 for breakfast, $8.25 for lunch and $9.50 for dinner. From soups and salads to onion rings and ice cream, healthy eaters or those wanting to splurge can all leave here extremely full and happy," Guill said.

 UDH: Gains popularity with $5 Fridays

By Dana Hull
The Collegian

CONTINUED from page 1

make thousand island from scratch, and you could, too. But are you going to take the time to do it? No.

Guill says that they do sometimes use food that was prepared the day before, but only if it’s stored at the right temperature and never if it’s already been served to the students.

“You just need to hold it properly and reheat it properly,” Guill said. “If the food has been on the line, it goes in the trash can.”

Food prepared the previous day will usually go in UDH’s “features station,” where the cook will be able to get creative with the leftovers and use their own recipes to make something that’s not on the menu. If there is still food left over after that, it goes in the trash as well.

“We don’t keep it for multiple days,” she said. “We’re not going to serve something more than once.”

The celebration will include music, prizes and information tables. Product samples and refreshments will also be provided.

Regular student prices for UDH are $6 for breakfast, $8.25 for lunch and $9.50 for dinner.

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Missing boy not found

By Terry Collins
Associated Press

CONTINUED from page 1

and had lured people into their scheme all across the country.

Bocchinfuso-Cohen said the career services department does do some screening on job postings, but because they are a small office it is hard to do thorough screenings on all job postings.

“Sometimes when students are using the career services system they assume that the job has been thoroughly checked out, and that’s not always the case,” she said. “We encourage students to take the same caution as responding to an ad.”

Bocchinfuso-Cohen said that the screening does catch job postings that may not be legitimate.

“There are postings that raise red flags and we certainly look into those,” she said. “We have a list of items that are red flags for us, and those include jobs that are advertised with generic e-mail addresses, jobs that may be commission only, and jobs that ask for a lot of personal information.”

Bocchinfuso-Cohen warned that one of the big red flags is when companies ask for money up front.

“There are positions where they will say we need this deposit or this money up front, and I would be very cautious with that,” she said. “Students need to do research and many want to check with the Better Business Bureau to see if the company had any recent complaints against it.”

Bocchinfuso-Cohen welcomes students to come by career services for more information regarding job postings and tips on what to avoid.

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Slippery when wet

Students, faculty and staff take precautions when commuting to campus

By Julie Bounchareune
The Collegian

With the slippery roads and low visibility caused by the rain and fog, many drivers can argue that driving in the winter weather conditions can increase the likelihood of a car accident.

However, California Highway Patrol Officer Kirk Arnold disagrees.

“The thing is the fog does not cause traffic collisions, just like the rain does not cause traffic collisions,” Arnold said. “Weather does not and cannot cause traffic collisions. What does is human error — that would be primary unsafe speed for the conditions.”

Arnold said these conditions are, when it’s foggy, limited visibility and slippery and wet roadways.

To avoid a traffic collision in the foggy conditions, Arnold said one of the main precautions that drivers need to do is to reduce their speed, and increase the following distance behind another vehicle.

“You want to obviously drive with your low beam headlights on,” Arnold said. “If you drive with your high beam headlights in the fog, it’s going to actually reduce your visibility.”

Within the past week, the dense fog in the early mornings and the late nights has sometimes caused the visibility level to be extremely low.

Arnold said that there are three levels of fog that CHP officers watch for. Level one is a visibility of 600 feet or greater, level two is 200-500 feet and level three, which is considered critical fog, is 200 feet or less.

With visibility levels of less than 200 feet, Fresno State students still witness drivers driving recklessly behind the wheel.

Kinesiology major Zack Groothuyzen said he has seen drivers swerve back and forth, because they can’t see the traffic lines in the fog.

“You just wonder if they’re going to clip someone or if they’re going to lose control,” Groothuyzen said. “I’ve seen some people ride someone’s tail, you know, tailgate, all the way through the fog.”

Groothuyzen recalls driving to school, off of Highway 99, late one night when there was dense fog.

“I was going about the speed limit, maybe a little over, and this car came up speeding, swerving in and out of lanes and I could barely see taillights in front of me,” Groothuyzen said. “Pretty scary stuff.”

Regardless of other drivers, Groothuyzen said he feels comfortable driving in the fog.

“As long as you don’t drive 80 mph when you can’t see 10 feet in front of you, it’s not that big a deal,” Groothuyzen said.

Linguistics and speech pathology major Pedro Lopez agrees that there are reckless drivers, especially on the freeways.

Lopez said he’s a very cautious driver. On the freeways, he drives the speed limit and stays in the slow lane.

“I’m also really careful at intersections, even if the light is green,” Lopez said.

Lopez said he recalls a couple of times when he had to drive when it was really foggy.

“I could hardly see 20 yards ahead of me,” Lopez said. “So I had to go really slow and one time I had to turn my emergency lights on just in case.”

The most important thing that Arnold and the CHP recommends to the motorists is if it’s foggy, don’t drive if you don’t have to.

“Best thing to do is just stay put until the fog is dissipated,” — Kirk Arnold, California Highway Patrol Officer

Early morning showers yesterday caused motorists to drive at a safe and reasonable speed. Shaw Avenue is known for heavy traffic, especially when classes are in session.

Matt Weir / The Collegian

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A backstage look at Theater Arts

By Karlena Franz
The Collegian

Each year, the theater arts department puts on productions to give students a broad range of theatrical experiences. The department’s next play, “Servant of Two Masters,” is making its debut at Fresno State on March 25.

Dozens of people participate in the process, including cast, crew, costume designers, a light and sound crew and set builders. A cast can be as large as 25 for a Shakespeare production or as small as two people.

“What you don’t see when watching a production is the crew backstage,” Gibson said. There are always more people backstage than there are on stage.

It takes months to prepare for a show. Meetings for “Servant Of Two Masters” were held as early as December.

“We have several factors that we consider,” Gibson said. “The whole point of our production is to be entertaining for the community and provide plays that people want to see.

“But we’re an educational institution, so we are trying to train students,” she added. “One of the key things that we think about when we do our plays is to give theater that means experience. They need a certain variety of experience to go out there and say, Oh, yes, I have done that.”

Gibson says every other year the department produces classics like Shakespeare or Greek dramas, a contemporary piece and a musical to give students experience.

Another factor in choosing plays, Gibson said, is how many characters are involved. “You can’t just have two-person plays,” Gibson said. “Most plays hold more roles for men, so it is important to find plays that give equal opportunities for both genders.”

Auditions for the semester are as early as the first week. Once school and productions can lead up into the last weeks of school.

Three shows are produced in a semester, one of which is a student directed recital, all of which are directed by the faculty. Those productions, however, do not include student-directed plays and recitals.

“Students also participate in working on the lighting and sound, works five days a week on lighting and sound design,” Gibson said.

“In tech week you spend five or six days of working on the actual cues, setting levels, doing all that stuff,” Einsidler said. “That takes up all week before production and then we open.”

“Students also participate in working on the lighting and sound used in the production. ‘You find a prize today, that’s fantastic. Congratulations. But if you don’t persevere because if you have made it this far, trust me, your film will find a home.’ This is the 30th Anniversary of the Sundance Film Festival, which was founded by actor Robert Redford to promote independent filmmaking.

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Comedian Charlie Callas, a versatile comedian whose zany faces and antics made him a regular for more than four decades on television and casino stages, has died in Las Vegas.

He was 83.

Callas died Thursday at a hospice, according to his sons Mark Callas and Larry Callas.

Callas was a rubber-faced, wiry frame comic whose rapid fire delivery drew laughs and made him a frequent guest on variety and comedy shows.

The body that showed up at the funeral home was the left them with a smile, ‘Mark Callas.

Colleagues

For years, Charlie Callas made Carson laugh on the “Tonight Show.” But Carson banned him from returning to make shows because Carson off his chair in a bid for attention.

Carson told his son that Callas knew every member of the Rat Pack, a group of actors that included Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Joey Bishop and Peter Lawford.

Callas toured with Sinatra and Tom Jones and had a role with Jerry Lewis in the movie “The Big Mouth” in 1967, and was a guest star in the variety show hosted by Jackie Gleason, Ed Sullivan and Jack Paar.

He also played restaurant owner Malcolmo Argos in the 1970s TV series “Switch” with Robert Wagner and Eddie Albert, and had roles in Merl Brooks’ films “High Anxiety” and “History of the World, Part I.”

Callas grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y., and served in the U.S. Army in Germany during World War II before beginning a career as a drummer with big bands starring Tommy Dorsey and Buddy Rich.

He was a natural comic, and it wasn’t long before he gave up drumming for standup routines. He dropped a vowel from his legal name, Callias, when he took to the stage.

“He was just messing around with the guys and it worked, I guess,” Mark Callas said.

He was Charlie Callas when he made his first television appearance in 1962 on the “Hollywood Palace” variety show.

Mark Callas, who produces the “American Superstars” celebrity impersonators show in Las Vegas, said he encouraged his parents to move to Las Vegas from New York.

Larry Callas said the death of his mother, Evelyn Callas, in July at age 80, broke his father’s heart.

Funeral arrangements were being made at Palm Mortuary in Las Vegas.

CONTINUED from page 6

BRIEFS: Brief news for the brief attention span

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Celebrities with young lovers in a long-distance relationship called “Like Crazy” produced a domestic violence counseling program required as part of the singer’s guilty plea to assaulting then-girlfriend Rihanna nearly two years ago.

On Friday, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Patricia Schnegg congratulated Brown for finishing the yearlong program.

As a result of completing the required counseling, Brown will no longer have to appear in court every three months for progress report hearings.

Brown is serving five years of probation after pleading guilty last year to assaulting pop star Rihanna in a rented sports car after a pre-Grammy Awards party.

The judge said she would consider lifting the protective order against Brown at a later date.

The order requires Brown to stay at least 100 yards away from Rihanna.

LONDON (AP) — Opera star Dame Margaret Price, considered one of the world’s leading sopranos, has died at her home in Wales. She was 69.

Funeral director Paul Jenkins told The Associated Press Saturday that her funeral is expected to be held next week but had no further details.

The famed soprano, known for her emotional renditions of Mozart’s complicated music, died of heart failure Friday, British press reports said.

Price, who rose to prominence after her debut as Cherubino in Mozart’s “ Marriage of Figaro” at the Welsh National Opera in 1962, had performed in most of the world’s great opera houses by the time she retired in 1999.

She was known for the striking purity and beauty of her voice.

After her debut in Wales, Price went on to play Cherubino at the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden, London’s glittering showcase for world-class talent.

An early triumph in the United States was in Mozart’s “Magic Flute” in San Francisco, which she followed with stunning performances of other Mozart works in Germany.

Over the course of her career, Price was honored in many countries, received honorary degrees from top universities and was made a Dame Commander of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II in 1991.
News Briefs

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — "Lord of the Rings" director Sir Peter Jackson is in stable condition in the intensive care unit of Wellington Hospital after surgery for a perforated ulcer.

Publicist Melissa Booth said Monday that Jackson was admitted to Wellington Hospital after surgery for a perforated ulcer.

Jackson is in stable condition in the intensive care unit of Wellington Hospital. The information was released by Dr. Melissa Booth, who said the 48-year-old filmmaker is "doing well" but will be in the hospital for at least a few more days. She said doctors expect Jackson to make a full recovery.

Jackson, who directed "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy and "The Hobbit," had previously been troubled by financial issues and the departure of its initial director, Guillermo del Toro.

NEW YORK (AP) — British actor Henry Cavill is going up and up. Cavill will star as Superman (and, obviously, Clark Kent) in the next installment of the movie franchise. Warner Bros. Pictures announced the casting Sunday.

The film is to be directed by "300" director Zack Snyder, who says in a statement Cavill is "the perfect choice to don the cape and 'S' shield."

No title has been announced for the film, which is intended to reboot the franchise after its latest incarnation fizzled.

The 2006 movie "Superman Returns" was directed by Bryan Singer and starred Brandon Routh as the Man of Steel.

Cavill is relatively unknown. He had been considered for the blockbuster roles of Batman, James Bond and even the pre-vious version of Superman.

60 Variable stars
70 Flying solo
71 Bow wood
72 Nail-file material
73 Postulates or functions
DOWN
5 Metal in girders
6 Switch word
7 Film, in Variety
8 Vote into law
9 Diaper, as a hat's angle
10 Stein fillers
11 Cliff-base debacle
12 Retail post parking
13 Songs like "Amazing Grace"
18 Prayer

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

The daily crossword

47 Will Ferrell
46 Rajah's wife
45 Blarney Stone land
44 Jeopardy
41 Substantial meal
37 Spicy game dish
35 Olive and others
34 "At Last" singer James
32 Shade
31 Bring action against
27 Hinged metal fastener
26 Pianist Myra
23 Traffic signals
21 Rain storage tank
20 Post office machine
19 Pina colada ingredient
17 An easy crossword, e.g.
16 Opposite of brazen
15 Comprehensive test
11 "Quiet, please!"
9 Dapper, as a hat's angle
8 Retail post parking
7 Film, in Variety
6 Switch word
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1 Semisolid foods
10 Stein fillers
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3 __-do-well
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Puzzle by Ellsworth Parks

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History of Fresno State in Pictures

Fresno State President John Welty gives blood during a school blood drive in honor of Chad Hathaway, a Fresno State student who was diagnosed with leukemia in November of 1998. This picture ran in the Friday, Feb. 19, 1999, issue of The Collegian.

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Brief news for the brief attention span

C Pistol Smith

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Men, women on different paths

Recent road games have the women soaring into more conference play, and the men struggling down the stretch

By Ben Ingersoll
The Collegian

Head women’s basketball coach Adrian Wiggins didn’t see this past weekend’s road contest as a telling point on how this season will ultimately play out. Men’s coach Steve Cleveland thought otherwise. One coach’s outlook worked while the other’s fell painfully short.

The women’s squad opened the weekend with a road dismantling of Western Athletic Conference foe Nevada on Saturday to open a nine-game win streak over the Wolf Pack. Fresno State made quick work of Nevada, darting out to a 41-27 halftime advantage en route to a 72-51 victory.

The women now are just one road win at New Mexico State away from setting up a Feb. 5 showdown at Louisiana Tech that should decide the regular-season WAC champion.

The men’s story is different—a whole lot different.

Cleveland and company got back on the winning track with an out-of-conference victory over newly Division I upgrade Seattle University a week ago, but dug themselves back in a deep hole with consecutive losses.

The first loss came via a heartbreaking three-point loss at Nevada, in which Fresno State put 26 points from Tim Steed, 19 points from Kevin Olekaibe and a double-double from center Greg Smith. Still, the Bulldogs’ second-half surge proved not to be enough and Fresno State lost its sixth straight conference game.

Consecutive WAC losses number seven came two days later when the ‘Dogs dropped to 8-12 overall, 3-6 in the WAC after losing 78-68 to lowly San Jose State (10-19, 2-7 WAC). Olekaibe once again had a career night, scoring 29 points off the bench. But Fresno State’s starters mustered just 25 points on 8-of-25 shooting.

With 10 games still remaining on the regular-season schedule, Cleveland’s team needs a drastic turnaround to come quick or it will face first-round elimination in the WAC Tournament for the fourth time in five years.

Fresno State’s men’s team plays just one more WAC contest against a team lower than it in the conference standings and still has a home game against New Mexico State and a road showdown with Utah State.

The women, however, are on a four-game win streak and are setting up much more meaningful future contests. Wiggins’ team travels to Las Cruces, N.M., Thursday to take on New Mexico State in the Bulldogs’ final tune up before the crucial game at Nevada.

Louisiana Tech

Unlike the men, the women close out the season with all-in-conference games. The men still have a home-and-away series with Cal State Bakersfield and will participate in the ESPN BracketBusters on Feb. 19.

But the final stretch of a season has been Cleveland’s M.O. since taking the program’s reins in the 2005-06 season. WAC BracketBusters on Feb. 19. But the final stretch of a season has been Cleveland’s M.O. since taking the program’s reins in the 2005-06 season.

Unlike the men, the women’s story is different—the team is young and having success.

Mike Howells / The Collegian
Hayley Munro had 19 points and eight rebounds against Nevada. She is averaging 13 points per game, second on the team.

GOLF: Arizona features stiff competition

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with the Bulldogs. Sunker, who had a career best fifth place finish in his last tournament, is a freshman.

“We got good players,” Patel said.

Being the first tournament of the spring season the team is looking to get off to a start that they can build on quickly. The momentum gained through this tournament could be enough of a springboard that carries the Bulldogs for the next few months.

The team comes into the tournament after having Patell and Sunker both finish in the top five the last time they played in a tournament together.

The remaining teams in the tournament are made up of two squads from Arizona, Brigham Young, Hartford, New Mexico, Pacific, Texas El Paso, UC Riverside, UC Irvine, UNLV, Utah and UTSA.

The two-day event will take place at Arizona National, located in Tucson, Ariz. The 6,785 yard course was designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr. in 1995. The Arizona course is a par-71.

The team has consistently been improving and working hard. Fresno State’s young team does have advantages over other teams. The fact that the team is young means that they are able to still improve their developing skills. With the amount of time that the team has put in during practice, it should show on the court when the season gets underway.

Having an early home schedu-ule can also help gain fan sup-port at an early stage in the season. Having the support of the fans is a major advantage in any sport, and if the Bulldogs are able to capitalize on their early home schedule, it would have a big impact down the stretch of the year.

The team will kickoff with a five-game home stand against Saint Mary’s on Thursday. The four remaining games consist of Arizona on Friday, Nevada on Sunday and a double-head-er against Sacramento and Paciﬁc on Saturday.

After the home stand, nine of the next 12 games are on the road.

TENNIS: Ranked opponents on the horizon for Fresno State

CONTINUED from page 8

said. “We try to do more quali-ty practice, but we really should be sharp at each practice.”

The Bulldogs will have a dif-ﬁcult schedule to begin the year State Bakersﬁeld and will participate in the ESPN BracketBusters.

Unlike the men, the women’s story is different—the team is young and having success.

Mike Howells / The Collegian
Junior college transfer Tim Steed averaged 19 points per game in the Bulldogs’ recent back-to-back losses, including a game-high 26 points at Nevada.

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Men’s golf springs back into action at Arizona Intercollegiate

With the Arizona Intercollegiate opening the spring season, plenty of success is on the horizon for Fresno State golf.

By Tim Salazar
The Collegian

The Fresno State men’s golf team is set to open the season in Arizona. The Bulldogs are one of 16 teams who will participate in the Arizona Intercollegiate, which starts today.

The ‘Dogs will field a five-man team consisting of Bhavik Patel, Brian Sunker, Bryan Hogan, Nate Jessup and Michael Gideon. The squad will also include Adam Barkow who will compete individually. Teams that contain more than five players will be allowed to have its remaining players compete individually.

This is the first tournament for Fresno State in the 2011 spring season. The team faces stiff competition with No. 13 California and No. 20 San Diego State accord-
ing to Golfweek’s rankings. Pepperdine is ranked No. 37 as of Nov. 24.

Individually, Alex Kang of San Diego State is the highest ranked player at No. 19. Colin Featherstone of San Diego State No. 35 and Ben An from California at 47 are the highest rated players that are set to compete against Fresno State. The Bulldogs’ Patel is ranked No. 81 in the nation by Golfweek.

Patel had his most recent success with a top-20 finish in the Australian Master of the Amateurs golf tournament. The Australian tournament is one of the highest regarded amateur tournaments in the world.

With Patel currently at the top of his game, he won’t be refining his techniques for the season. “No new changes,” Patel said regarding his swing. The junior has had much success in his Fresno State career. Not since Nick Watney has a Fresno State golfer gained as much attention as Patel for the Bulldogs.

The team is showing signs of confidence and maturity that has come with their recent success. With the continued improvement of the team, the Bulldogs may have a chance to claim many accolades in the coming months with the Western Athletic Conference Championship a possibility. The site of this year’s WAC Championship is Rio Secco Golf Club in Las Vegas. Of the six Bulldogs who will participate in this week’s tournament, half are seniors. Hogan, Gideon and Barkow are all in their final seasons.

Injuries, tough schedule headline the start of women’s tennis spring season

Head coach Simon Thibodeau’s squad will host 12 home matches

By Tim Salazar
The Collegian

The start of the 2011 season brings new life to the women’s tennis team. The Bulldogs do not have youth on their side with six underclassmen on the seven-woman team. Coming off a tournament in Berkeley, the ‘Dogs will start the season at home.

“It was nice for me to evaluate where all the players are injury-wise as well as what kind of lineups we can do for singles and doubles,” head coach Simon Thibodeau said. The team has been working toward seeing which team members mesh the best with each other. By continually working on their team dynamic, the team has been working toward getting to the top of the standings.

“We have all been trying to stay positive, motivated and keep our heads in the game by keeping everyone healthy and fresh as possible,” Hayley said. “For the most part, we’re healthy we have a couple people struggling with injuries, but overall the team is really helping out.” Hayley

“This coming week... Both the men’s and women’s basketball teams face last year’s WAC tournament champions. The men host New Mexico State on Thursday and the women travel to Louisiana Tech on Saturday.

“W”HAT is the most important thing we have this season?“We have all been trying to stay positive every day,” sophomore Bianca Modoc said. Hayley believes that all the offseason workouts will pay dividends as the season wears on. “We have a hard schedule and we have our work cut out for us,” Hayley said. “But it all starts with practice and if we practice hard now it will pay off during the season.”

Currently there are no serious injuries on the team. Being a squad of only seven, the team has matured since last year and the consistent growth of the team will begin to shine once the season gets underway.

“We have all been trying to stay positive, motivated and have intense practices every day.” — Bianca Modoc, sophomore

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