ASI funding still available for organizations

By Carlos Perez
The Collegian

Despite tough economic times, Associated Students, Inc. has more than $15,000 available in its budget to fund activities of student-run clubs and organizations. As of Feb. 7, ASI allocated $43,625.85 to student-run clubs and organizations at Fresno State, leaving $56,374.15 in its budget. For the 2010-11 school year, ASI has funded 65 on-campus events that were hosted by student organizations and clubs.

Students might assume that due to constant budget cuts and a national economy that is in a recession, ASI would be suffering from low funds as well. The ASI budget for complementary financial support to student clubs and organizations, however, has increased since the 2009-10 school year. For three of the past four years, ASI has spent more than was in its budget. In 2007-08, ASI spent $91,412 on club funding, with a budget of $85,000. The following year, 2008-09, ASI had a budget of $80,000 but allotted $141,771 to student organizational activities. Last year, however, ASI spent $40,940 with a budget of $57,729.

While the budget for club financial support is still lower than in 2007, this year’s budget increased to $80,000, and a higher enrollment rate was anticipated.

“If there’s a positive correlation between student enrollment and funding,” ASI Office Manager Cynthia Dolan said, “Since we expected a higher enrollment rate for spring, a budget increase was proposed and approved.”

According to the ASI office, students were coming in during the week, assuming that there were no opportunities left to apply for funding.

In order for an organization to be eligible for ASI funding, it must first be recognized by Fresno State as an official student club. The organization must then submit a signature agreement to ASI, providing up-to-date records of club officers. Once the organization is officially recognized and accepted by the university, the club must submit a completed funding application to the ASI office.

Student clubs can request up to $2,000 in funding from ASI for one academic year. Applications requesting more than $1,000 must be submitted five weeks prior to the event date, or three weeks prior if the amount is less than $1,000. Approval of funds is at the discretion of the ASI Finance Committee.

Organizations and clubs are required to submit receipts and invoices for all money spent on the event. If these documents are submitted to ASI within 45 days after the event, the expenses will not be covered and funds will not be granted.

Clubs and organizations are able to use the money they receive from ASI, if it fits into five criteria: performance fees, facility charges, promotion and publicity, supplies needed for the event, and another category that primarily pertains to registration fees for sports clubs.

“We want to enhance campus culture and provide students the opportunity to experience a wide range of activities,” ASI Vice President of Finance Cesar Sanchez said. “Without ASI funding, many of the clubs on campus wouldn’t be able to hold events.”

Most student organizations are dependent on ASI funding. While funds can be brought in through student dues and club fundraising, ASI funding can play a large factor in the
Celebrate V-Day a new way

By Oscar Perez
The Collegian

What is love? According to my understanding, love is when we share compassion, affection and thoughtfulness to another human being. And this Valentine’s Day, I think we should all acknowledge this insightful question: What is love?

It is not that I’m a miserable or unromantic person, but rather I am a very caring person and loving human being.

Furthermore, I am glad to say I hate Valentine’s Day. The Day and everything associated with it, especially the amount of money connected to it. But, I decided to put a spin on this year’s Valentine’s Day and make it about extending a loving hand to those who need one.

After all, Valentine’s Day is about love, supposedly. When we think of Valentine’s Day, we usually think of roses, heart-shaped boxes of chocolates, love cards and Cupid. Well, let’s leave Cupid out of this, I think he’s adorable.

Anyways, what if we decided to make Valentine’s Day more than flowers, candy and bent paper? What if we decided to make it about extending a loving and caring hand to those who are going through adversity, hardship or have lost all hope in life? We have too many homeless, hungry and underprivileged people living within the United States. The National Geographic reported that in 2009 Americans spent nearly $15 billion on Valentine’s Day. And the National Center for Homeless Youth expects that this amount will increase by 7 percent with the average consumer spending $180 on this “special” day.

Here comes my spin: Why do we spend money on the money on an important person, such as donating to the Marjaree Mason Center, the Community Food Bank, Catholic Charities, Poverello House or an organization that is near your heart? So, instead of wasting money on flowers that will be long gone before you realize it, donate it and make a difference in someone’s life.

Make an impact on someone’s living condition, an impact on an abused woman or an impact on an underprivileged child.

And now you might be thinking, “How do I make my couple happy?”

As far as I know, money doesn’t buy genuine feelings, and therefore I can guarantee that that special person in your life will love simply being with you on this special day, with or without gifts.

Pop some popcorn and watch a romantic comedy. Make a “mixed-tape” and listen to it while laying down next to each other. Take a walk in the park and stop by the playground. Write a love letter and read it to one another. Search for the brightest star and make it yours. Make a coupon book of favors. Have a cup of coffee while sharing why you still love each other. Dance with one another and have the last dance. But above all, love each other for who you are and not for what you give each other. For the best gift of all is love itself.

And if you donate that money to an organization, the one that you would have wasted on a gift, the feeling of knowing you did something good is worth it. You and your couple can feel good about each other, especially knowing that you made someone’s life a lot easier.

I mean, if those billions of dollars could be donated to an agency imagine how many people would be helped, just immediately.

Let an underprivileged child, a survivor of domestic violence, or a homeless man be your valentine this year.

Einstein is famous to those who really need it because the truth is that that special person in your life knows you love them. So, before you go buying a last minute gift for that special person think. And if you already bought them something, return it and donate the money to an important cause.

I’m pretty sure that your couple will not mind not receiving a gift after you explain the purpose behind you being commerce-less.

Let your gift to that special someone be love while helping those in dire need of a helping and loving hand.

Letters to the Editor
The Collegian

The Collegian is a student-run publication that serves the Fresno State community on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Views expressed in The Collegian do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff or university.
FUNDING: ASI retains funds despite university budget cuts

CONTINUED from page 1

overall financial success of the organization.

ASI allocated more than $1,000 this year to the Fresno State Poetry Jam Club. The funding allowed the club to put on their monthly Poetry Jam session that brought together students, poets, performing artists and musicians to present and express themselves. “The funding source is really for the students,” Marie Davis, president of Poetry Jam Club, said. “We use the money from ASI to pay for our venue, which becomes an area to allow like-minded students to network and connect.”

Initially, ASI funding covered the entire cost of renting the venue for the Poetry Jam Club, but due to budget cuts, the club now pays for the venue for each hour it is used. Davis believes, however, that the Poetry Jam Club wouldn’t have nearly as much success, if it wasn’t for the money ASI has provided.

Without assistance from ASI, we wouldn’t be able to provide students with such an amazing social outlet,” Davis said.

Any student club or organization seeking additional information and the forms needed for funding, is encouraged to call ASI at (559) 278-3656 or visit the website at www.asi.csufresno.edu.

PROTEST: Couples will demonstrate in front of county clerk’s office

CONTINUED from page 1

their request.

“When the law permits same-sex marriages we will perform the marriage,” county clerk Victor Salazar said. “Currently the law does not permit it.”

After the couples are denied licenses, they are welcomed to participate in a commitment ceremony performed by a clergy member.

“Last year there were tears,” Jason Scott said. “It’s upsetting for people to be told they are less than somebody else.”

Julia Scott and her girlfriend, Christina Rea, plan to attend the event to show their support for same-sex couples.

“If Christina and I were ready to get married on Valentine’s Day, we couldn’t file the same report and get the same treatment as a straight couple,” Julia Scott said.

Although Julia Scott is attending the protest, she doesn’t believe that it is the best way to show the effect that Prop. 8 has on same-sex couples.

I appreciate it that’s a peaceful demonstration that’s meant to draw attention to the disparity between straight couples and gay couples, but I’m not really for protest- ing because I’d rather set an example everyday by showing who it’s affecting,” Julia Scott said. “I’d rather promote what I’m for.”

Rea, who is also a Fresno State student and member of the United Students Pride club, hopes the protest will affect the community in a pos- itive way.

“Hopefully people will be able to think about it and maybe consider how it’s differ- ent for other people,” Rea said. “And for gay people to aspire to something and stand up for what they believe in.”

Spanish-language radio drama tackles gay issues

By Gosia Wozniacka

Associated Press

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — A Spanish-language radio drama in Fresno is aiming to break the silence surrounding homosex- uality and its acceptance in California’s rural communi- ties, where thousands of agri- cultural workers toil in fields while listening to the radio.

The radionovela, “Bienvenidos a Casa,” or “Welcome Home,” which premiered Friday across the Central Valley, tells the story of Vicente, a Latino teenager who is rejected by his friends and family for being gay then finds acceptance with his mother and neighbors.

The show will air for nearly two months on Radio Bilingue, a national Spanish-language radio network headquartered in Fresno. A gay-rights group is working to air the series nationally.

Activists say it’s the first time information about lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans- gender issues is reaching rural Latino farmworker communi- ties in a language and format that’s accessible.

The three-episode radionovela, developed in collaboration with San Francisco State University and California Rural Legal Assistance, was based on input from community focus groups and performed by com- munity volunteers.

Many Latinos grew up listening to radionovelas, which in some parts of Latin America are more popular than television and have inspired the creation of tele- novelas — TV soap operas.

The radio dramas depict life’s struggles through recurring characters and themes. In recent years, short radionovel- as have become increasingly popular ways to raise aware- ness of various issues among “characters” such as the same-sex rights of Vicente.

“People identify with the characters,” said Delia Saldivar, the Radio Bilingue station manager who helped develop the program about gay Latinos.

Some mainstream Latino media ridicule people with different sexual orientations, Saldivar said, creating a need for positive stories.

Saldivar teamed up with California Rural Legal Assistance’s Proyecto Poderoso, or Project Powerful, to engage California’s hard- to-reach rural Latinos. For the past three years, Proyecto Poderoso has provided legal services to gay, bisexual and transgender individuals in farmworker communities.

Program manager Dan Torres said the project has helped Latinos who were ridic- uled, beaten or even fired from their jobs because of their sexual orientation.

It also has shown the lack of resources, information and awareness about such issues.

The Henry Madden Library is hosting an open house this week, geared toward introduc- ing new or transfer students to campus.

The librarians are host- ing the open house Feb. 14-18 to introduce new students to the library’s services and give tips for being successful at Fresno State.

Snacks will be provided during the event times and students can enter to win a Starbucks gift card.

Library to host open house

By Dana Hull

The Collegian

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Where is this CSUF graduate now? In law school!

“Out of all the options I had when I graduated, law school felt like my future.”

-Karen Siddhu
BA, Psychology, CSU, Fresno Class of 2008

You’re invited to an Informational Law Forum on Wed., Feb. 16 from 7-9pm

In the first hour we will introduce you to law school, from courses offered to bar exam requirements. Then you will have the opportunity to ask questions to a panel of currently enrolled students.

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Don't be a stupid Cupid, use protection

Valentine’s Day is a day that’s widely celebrated, but some people consider the day as a time to express love and affection for each other — by having sex. According to A. B. Freeman in “Interesting Valentine’s Day Facts,” Feb. 14 is the highest day for condom sales.アルバムの販売はこれに遅れていたことへの対策として、彼女は自身が3年間で長く続いたという。「もし彼女に会いたいなら、是非ぜひこの日を利用して」と彼女は言った。「私が家族のPACTプログラムに参加する場合、家族のPACTプログラムが性病検査、妊娠検査、予防接種、予防・治療を行うためのプログラムである。」

February is National Condom Awareness Month and condom sales increase on National Condom Awareness Day, which is Valentine’s Day.

By Danielle Fontana
The Collegian

PJact? Day said “Like for example, Planned Parenthood is one of them.”

The eligibility requirements include a California address, capable of becoming pregnant or causing a pregnancy under 55 years of age for women and 60 years of age for men and an income at or below 200 percent of the Federal poverty level.

Yarmo said that even if a student has insurance through their parents, but wants their information kept confidential, the student could apply and be eligible for the Family PACT Program if they meet the requirements.

Along with a green card that proves your Family PACT Program eligibility, students receive 36 condoms of various types.

National Condom Awareness Month is February and National Condom Awareness Day is coincidentally Valentine’s Day.

The Student Health Center celebrates condom awareness all year by selling Trojan Her Pleasure, Trojan Magnum and Trojan lubricated condoms at the pharmacy. Students can purchase five condoms for $1. Trojan condoms sell in a box of three for $5.90 at Walgreens and Durex condoms go for $6.50.

The Student Health Center pharmacy also sells Next Choice contraceptive option that’s similar to Plan B. The faculty and staff at the Student Health Center will be around to promote Valentine’s Day on Feb. 14 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Free Speech Area. Students will have a chance to grab condom roses and heart-shaped notes with how-to make love to your partner without having sex.

Some ideas include playing footsie, going to the park, sharing an ice cream cone and doing things for each other without being asked.

They’re also planning to do a fun event in March at the University Student Union called “Speed Friending,” a new twist to the classic speed-dating model. The difference is that the pressure isn’t too great to make a connection.

“Say there is a romantic connection, who knows?” Day said. “It could happen.”

Despite your views about Valentine’s Day, take extra time to be safe by taking precautions. The Student Health Center opens at 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. today for all you last-minute planners.

Love is in the air, and so are iPhones

By Matt Weir
The Collegian

Verizon Wireless launched its newest Apple product, the iPhone 4, on Feb. 10, allowing couples to throw the idea of chocolates, a teddy bear and a bunch of flowers, heart-shaped notes with how-to make love to your partner without having sex. Some ideas include playing footsie, going to the park, sharing an ice cream cone and doing things for each other without being asked.

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Some students deem completely indifferent about Valentine’s Day and feel uncomfortable about the notion of giving and receiving gifts as a way to express love.

“I would never expect my boyfriend to buy me a new phone for this holiday,” pre-
The power of flowers

By Sarah Thomas

The Collegian

The month of February and spirit for Valentine’s Day often reminds us of our love and fascination for flowers.

In grade school, Valentine’s Day always presented the opportunity to buy valentine cards for all of your classmates with your favorite new character on it. As we outgrow the messages on a simple card, the interest in flowers has become more prominent, especially around this time of year.

When preparing a gift for a special valentine, you might consider the original red rose or possibly be interested in something different. When deliberating what flowers could be desirable, it’s often nice to see flowers in your surroundings.

The Fresno State campus displays several types of gardens and a beautiful array of plants and flowers. One exclusive feature on campus is the rose garden, located in a high-traffic area of campus near the Keenel Bookstore and the University Student Union.

Mike Frick, an employee with the grounds department in plant operations for Fresno State said that there are 114 different varieties of roses in the rose garden. These varieties include hybrid tea roses, floribunda roses, miniature roses, old-fashioned and shrub roses.

The rose garden is well maintained and displays a beautiful mixture of these varieties. It draws much attraction from passers-by, and for students interested in this type of plant production there are ways to get involved.

The Floral Laboratory at Fresno State is a student-run operation, which creates flower arrangements for special occasions. There is one full-time manager with the remaining employees being student assistants.

Fresno State student Lynn Trentham works at the floral lab and said that the lab creates a lot of arrangements for campus organizations and events. As an agriculture education major, Trentham is developing skills she will need to teach floral classes in a high-school agriculture program.

“The experience that she is receiving for her four months and said that there are 114 different varieties of roses to familiarize a great deal with flowers and plants, and care. When working as a student assistant at the lab presents a large amount of exposure to different floral operations for Fresno State said.”

Money for Valentine’s Day — whether it’s to buy valentine cards for all of your classmates with your favorite new character on it or to purchase flowers for the special valentine in your life — can be expensive. Although this time of year expresses a strong appreciation for flowers, it doesn’t have to be so spendy — just take Amtrak! With our 20% Off California Colleges Student discount, traveling all over Cal is way thrifter than driving. Just be sure to book your trip 3 days in advance and present your current Student ID.

Amtrak San Joaquin can take you to some pretty awesome places. Get wild in Yosemite or enjoy more civilized activities in San Francisco. Of course making tracks throughout the Central Valley from the Bay Area to Bakersfield, all the way to Sacramento is doable too. When you feel the need to feed, you can partake of some serious smacks, mashes and beverages in the Café Car. We think you’ll agree it gives “joy ride” a whole new meaning.

To receive your discount, visit AmtrakCalifornia.com/StudentDiscount.

iPHONE: Release date

CONTINUED from page 4

nursing major Lauren Ebner said.

Ebner has been with her boyfriend for four months and said that Valentine’s Day is “oversated and pointless.”

While some consumers may feel somewhat skeptical about Valentine’s Day and the meaning of its celebration, Verizon Wireless has covertly given its customers another reason to splurge on the newest expansion in technology.

The introduction of the iPhone to Verizon Wireless has also come in the midst of tax season, when employees are collecting their annual checks from their employers.

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FTD, Groupon get complaints, offer flower refunds

By Tom Krishner
Associated Press

The online coupon site Groupon.com and flower company FTD Group Inc. are offering refunds after getting complaints that a Valentine’s Day flower deal wasn’t so sweet.

Both companies said they didn’t do anything wrong, but they responded to Internet complaints that FTD inflated prices for some Groupon customers who used a coupon for $20 off an FTD flower purchase of $40 or more.

The problem surfaced when several Groupon customers found the flowers they bought were priced lower as sale items on FTD’s own website. They complained on the Groupon site, and the Internet that FTD was making up for the Groupon site, but Solomon said. He called the FTD case a rare exception.

The problem is the second time in a week in which Internet complaints forced Groupon to change course. The company pulled television ads less than a week after they first aired during the Super Bowl when they were criticized on Facebook and Twitter.

In one of the commercials, actor Timothy Hutton says “the people in Tibet are in trouble, their culture is in jeopardy,” as pictures of Tibet are shown on the screen. The punchline? It turns out he’s talking about a fish curry deal Groupon offered.

“We hate that we offended people, and we’re very sorry that we did — it’s the last thing we wanted,” co-founder Andrew Mason said in a posting on the company’s site.

Groupon.com, a popular coupon sales site, was locked in a business skirmish last week with flower company FTD Group Inc. over inflated prices for Groupon customers.

Both companies said they didn’t apply to sale items.

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The problem surfaced when several Groupon customers found the flowers they bought were priced lower as sale items on FTD’s own website. They complained on the Groupon site, and the Internet that FTD was making up for the Groupon discount by jacking up the prices.

But FTD Group Inc. President Rob Apatoff said in an interview on Sunday that wasn’t the case. He said it was clear on the sites that the coupon didn’t apply to sale items.

Still, Apatoff said the Downers Grove, Ill. company will credit the customers’ accounts to give them the sale price, even if they don’t ask for it. Both companies also say they will make full refunds if people aren’t satisfied.

“At no time did we inflate any prices. Absolutely not,” Apatoff said. “Because there was some confusion with a few, we decided to step up and do the right thing to make sure everybody was happy.”

Even with the higher price on the Groupon site, Groupon customers always got a better deal with the $20 coupon than buying from the FTD site, Apatoff said. Discounts on the FTD site were $5 to $10 lower than the price on the Groupon site, he said.

Groupon Inc. officials started seeing the complaints on Thursday and contacted FTD about the problem. Groupon.com President Rob Solomon said on Sunday. Together, they decided to credit the accounts of people who bought the sale items through Groupon, giving them the difference between the sale price and the price that was on the Groupon site, he said. The companies also put the FTD sale prices on the Groupon site, he said.

“To make this right, we’ve worked with FTD to make sure that your Groupon can be used on any item with the sale price,” said. Solomon.

Both companies said they saw differences in most cases, and they catch discrepancies in most cases, Solomon said. He called the FTD case a rare exception.

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“To make this right, we’ve worked with FTD to make sure that your Groupon can be used on any item with the sale price,” said. Solomon.

Both companies said they saw differences in most cases, and they catch discrepancies in most cases, Solomon said. He called the FTD case a rare exception.

The problem is the second time in a week in which Internet complaints forced Groupon to change course. The company pulled television ads less than a week after they first aired during the Super Bowl when they were criticized on Facebook and Twitter.

In one of the commercials, actor Timothy Hutton says “the people in Tibet are in trouble, their culture is in jeopardy,” as pictures of Tibet are shown on the screen. The punchline? It turns out he’s talking about a fish curry deal Groupon offered.

“We hate that we offended people, and we’re very sorry that we did — it’s the last thing we wanted,” co-founder Andrew Mason said in a posting on the company’s site.

Best-selling author Terry McMillan spoke at the Satellite Student Union Saturday night about her latest book “Getting to Happy,” the long awaited sequel to “Waiting to Exhale.”

The production was funded by the Instructionally Related Activities Board and hosted by the Martin Luther King Jr. Visiting Scholars Committee.

McMillan is the author of many popular books and is probably most recognizable as the author of “How Stella Got Her Groove Back,” which was later adapted as a hit movie.

McMillan was introduced by Dr. DeAnna Reese and received a warm welcome onto the stage as the audience stood up in applause and one member of the audience shouted out “Welcome to Fresno!”

McMillan read for about 30 minutes from the excerpts of “Getting to Happy.” Each of the excerpts focused on one of the book’s characters, Bernadine and Robin.

Whitney Jenkins, who helped coordinate an exclusive reception before the event, said though she hasn’t read “Getting to Happy” yet, she read some of McMillan’s books before. “It was cool to be able to get an idea of what the books were like,” Jenkins said.

“Hearing it read from the perspective of the author was way better.”

USU productions student director Dana Elkins said there was a lot of positive feedback regarding the reception. McMillan attended the reception and took pictures with those attending, including many student leaders.

After reading both excerpts there was a question and answer session, in which one audience member asked, “What about how McMillan goes about writing at her desk.”

“I immerse myself in these characters’ lives,” McMillan said. “I take whatever logistics they are having and whatever struggles they are facing and I take it very seriously.”

By John Quinlan
The Collegian

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54 Very proper sorts
56 Phone in an actor’s hand, e.g.
57 Choose’s Friday, e.g.
58 Valentine’s 2nd chat
64 Compete in a regatta
65 Form a concept
66 Caviar, literally
67 gin fizz
68 Machinist’s pin
69 Sign of a fish on the line

32 Stopover for the night
36 Kind of music?
38 School org.
39 Musical composition
40 Take out of the text
41 Little Miss Muffet
42 Sound of an epiphany
43 Tax, as one’s patience
44 Kind of surgery
45 Rooftop antenna
46 Place for shooting stars?
47 Word with “nouveau” or “deco”
48 Word with “musk et” or “party”
49 Oriental type of music?
50 What Valentines’ say, valentines may whisper
51 Phone in an actor’s hand, e.g.
52 Vocalist Rawls
53 Vessel for beer
54 Violin knob
55 Star Wars” prologue word
56 Vessel for beer
57 Take secrets
58 Kind of insurance
59 Spring fall
60 Be relevant (to)
61 Stopover for the night
62 Vocalist Rawls
63 Stopover for the night

SUDOKU

ACROSS
1 Loving touch
4 Little Miss Muffet frightener
10 Missile used in the Gulf War
14 Self-centeredness
15 Ragged character
16 Fine-tune
17 Valentines may make them
19 Table scraps
20 Annoying
21 Type of music?
22 Two make a diameter
23 Took a nibble
24 Uplifting poems
25 Seattle ___ (Triple Crown winner, 1977?)
26 On the way
27 Tell secrets
28 Kind of insurance
29 Stopover for the night
30 Word with “musk et” or “party”
31 Runs out of gear?
32 Nail polish
36 Be relevant (to)
37 Word with “musk et” or “party”
38 Suffix with “musk et” or “party”
39 Piano is an instrument
40 Train in a square ring
41 Take secrets
42 Word with “nouveau” or “deco”
43 Take secrets
44 Kind of surgery
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History of Fresno State In Pictures

In honor of Fresno State’s Centennial

LOUISIANA (AP) — Lindsay Lohan’s escalating legal woes have been accompanied by rumors about the future of her career.

But a spokeswoman for Fox’s upcoming “The X-Factor” says the talent show isn’t part of the equation.

Ann Marie Thomson said Thursday night: “Exciting news. My friends at CAA have been asking me for 7 years when they can take offers seriously. Gave them the green light today.”

Creative Artists Agency is a leading Hollywood talent agency.

Schwarzenegger’s personal aide, Daniel Ketchell, confirmed the tweet Friday morning.

Before leading the state of California from 2003 to 2010, the former body builder was the star of such blockbusters as the “Terminator” franchise, and “True Lies” and comedies like “Kindergarten Cop” and “Twins.”

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — So long, long distance. Newlyweds Carrie Underwood and NHL player Mike Fisher soon will be living together full time in Nashville.

The Ottawa Senators traded Fisher to the Nashville Predators for two draft picks.

Underwood tells The Associated Press in a statement that they will both miss Ottawa.

She says Fisher has been a big part of the community, and she’ll never forget how they welcomed her with open arms.

The two have been splitting time between the two cities since they were married last July. Nashville is Underwood’s adopted hometown since winning “American Idol” in 2005 and launching her country music career.

She says they consider the trade an exciting opportunity for Fisher and that she supports him wherever he plays.  

Laura Siegel, staff writer for The Collegian,

http://collegian.csufresno.edu

Valentine’s Day Legs

When women take extra care and time to make sure their legs are silky smooth. Usually done for special events/days such as Valentine’s Day. Usually done when they are expected to be felt in an intimate fashion by another person.

Word of the Day

Source: UrbanDictionary.com

News Briefs

Brief news for the brief attention span

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COMMENT: News briefs courtesy of Associated Press.

http://collegian.csufresno.edu

Peter, Paul and Mary, a popular folk band in the early ’60s, performed at the Fresno Memorial Auditorium in February of 1963. This photo ran in the Friday, February 15, 1963 issue of The Collegian.
Men’s and women’s WAC Tournament nearing

Tournament seedings clearer after basketball matchups against Utah State over the weekend

By Ben Ingersoll
The Collegian

One Fresno State basketball team took a step forward in the Western Athletic Conference Tournament seedings — the other took a step back.

Both the men’s and women’s squads took on WAC rival Utah State, but only head coach Adrian Wiggins’ team made the most of the opportunity.

Playing at home Saturday, the women overcame a seven-point halftime deficit to both take out the Aggies and clinch a firm hold on the second seed in the recent conference standings. Coming into the contest, Fresno State was in danger of dropping to a tie with Utah State. The Bulldogs held a 7-2 record in conference play, while the Aggies were 7-3.

Since taking over as head coach in 2006, Wiggins’ teams have been lower than a No. 2 seed in the conference tournament just once in 2007.

The Bulldogs outscored Utah State 50-25 over the final 20 minutes, anchored by Taja Edwards and Rosie Moult’s 19 points apiece. Fresno State now has five conference games left on the schedule. The five remaining WAC teams have a combined record of 18-36 in conference play and 51-68 overall.

WAC Tournament play begins in a little more than three weeks and a Louisiana Tech-Fresno State finale is likely in the works. The Bulldogs have had little trouble with WAC foes outside the Lady Techsters, outscoring other conference opponents by an average of nearly 21 points, all double-digit victories.

Since taking over as head coach in 2006, Wiggins’ teams have been lower than a No. 2 seed in the conference tournament just once in 2007.

The Bulldogs have three WAC contenders remaining on the schedule in Boise State, Idaho and Hawaii.

The next two contests could serve as a way for the Bulldogs to right the ship with a pair of out-of-conference games. On Wednesday Fresno State travels to Cal State Bakersfield. The Bulldogs beat the Roadrunners 79-49 on Feb. 7. On Saturday the ‘Dogs participate in the ESPN BracketBusters with a home matchup against 9-14 UC Riverside.

Steven Shepp and company have struggled in their last two WAC matchups, going 0-2 by an average of 15 points per game.

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The men, however, are riding a very different path down the final stretch of the regular season.

Head coach Steve Cleveland’s team hung early with the 17th-ranked Aggies, knotting up the score at 13 about midway through the first half.

The Aggies then proved why they are easily the most dominant team in the WAC.

Utah State closed out the first half on a 27-6 run en route to a 40-19 halftime lead.

Fresno State eventually lost 71-55, dropping to 0-8 in conference play and 5-14 overall. Eight of the nine teams qualify for March’s WAC Tournament bracket, and the Bulldogs currently sit as the No. 6 seed.

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Keller to appear in court on Tuesday

CONTINUED from page 12

receives from television networks, apparel sales and other sources.

Keller was a highly sought recruit when he graduated from the Bay Area’s San Ramon Valley High School in 2003. He played for three years at Arizona St., garnering MVP honors for his performance as a sophomore in the Sun Bowl. After losing the starting job, he transferred to Nebraska in 2006 and sat out that season because of NCAA transfer rules. Keller started for the Cornhuskers in 2007 as a red-shirt senior before breaking his collar bone against Texas before breaking his collar bone against Texas in the ninth game of the season.

Keller’s lawsuit has also unexpectedly ballooned into a major First Amendment challenge, prompting Hollywood’s largest movie studios and dozens of other interests — from the estates of reggae legend Bob Marley and Nobel laureate John Steinbeck to ESPN and the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund — to weigh in on the case.

The hearing Tuesday in the historic Spanish Colonial Revival courthouse in Pasadena will focus on a February 2010 ruling by U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken refusing to grant EA’s free speech protection and dismiss the lawsuit. EA argues that it uses the players’ images to create works of art much in the same way authors, filmmakers and songwriters insert real people in novels, movies and songs.

Wilken ruled against EA, saying the company didn’t sufficiently “transform” the players’ images to qualify for First Amendment protection. She said EA’s argument that it removed the names of the players from the game wasn’t enough because it was obvious who the image representations were.

For example, the virtual player wears the same jersey number, is the same height and weight and hails from the same state, Wilken said.

EA and the NCAA appealed and are joined by the Hollywood studios, media companies and other organizations such as the Comic Book Defense Fund who fear that Wilken’s ruling, if allowed to stand, will severely stifle artistic expression.

EA’s lawyers, for instance, predict the demise of movies such as “Forest Gump” that rely heavily on the free use of celebrity images to further a narrative. “Documentarians, biographers, filmmakers, novelists, photographers, songwriters, and many others do exactly what the district court said is not protected: they create expressive works that realistically depict individuals and/or refer to them by their actual names,” EA’s lawyers wrote in their appeal.

Allowing the players’ law suit to go forward will threaten future movie productions, Motion Picture Association of America wrote in support of EA.

“For example, an unauthorized biography of Keller, which included photographs of him wearing his college football uniform or playing college football, would be strictly prohibited,” the MPAA’s attorneys wrote the appeals court. “So too would a motion picture about a fictional college football player that incorporated historical footage of actual college football games and named actual college football players.”

Keller’s attorney dismisses the threats of an artistic Armageddon if EA ends up owing the players for using their images.

“There is a big difference between those examples and a video game based in realism,” said Steve Berman, one of Keller’s attorneys. “They’re whole game is realism,” Berman said.

The hearing Tuesday in the historic Spanish Colonial Revival courthouse in Pasadena will focus on a February 2010 ruling by U.S. Supreme Court. Keller said in an interview Thursday in Scottsdale, Ariz. where he lives and manages a hotel bar that he never envisioned his complaint becoming so far reaching.

“The goal wasn’t for it to get so big.” Keller said. “The goal was to change what’s going on in college sports, to change the behavior of the NCAA.”
Former NCAA player’s suit threatens Hollywood

By Paul Elias
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — There was a time when Sam Keller and his teammates couldn’t wait to get their hands on Electronic Arts Inc.’s latest edition of NCAA Football, which included their team and images of their performances. Keller’s distinctive visor he wore while playing quarterback for the University of Nebraska in 2007. EA shares undisclosed royalties with the NCAA for use of college stadiums, team names and uniforms and the players’ images in a game that racks up hundreds of millions of dollars in annual sales. Because they are amateur athletes, the players don’t receive any direct benefit from the appearances of their nameless images in the game.

But Keller and an increasing number of players, such as former UCLA basketball star Ed O’Brien, think they should have and filed at least nine federal lawsuits against the NCAA and EA over the last two years.

On Tuesday, Keller will be in Pasadena to watch his team of lawyers urge the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to uphold a trial judge’s decision that EA and the NCAA appear to owe the former Cornhusker and — by the extension — thousands of other former players millions of dollars for using their images in the video game.

“When you are playing, you are kind of naive to the idea that you are being taken advantage of because you are so caught up in playing college football,” said Keller of his decision to sue long after his college career ended and he failed to make the Oakland Raiders 2008 regular season roster. “They are making billions off of our images.”

A Keller victory could dramatically reshape the commercial relationship between the NCAA and its athletes, which are prohibited from receiving compensation tied to their performances. Keller’s attorney and his supporters are floating the idea of setting up a trust fund with the billions in dollars it would award to former college football and basketball players.

Associated Press

Former Arizona State and Nebraska quarterback Sam Keller believes he and the numerous former players featured on EA’s NCAA Football video game deserve compensation for the use of their images.