Students rally at Capitol for higher education funding

By Carlos Perez
The Collegian

SACRAMENTO — The weather was rainy and cloudy, but the message was loud and clear: Students want legislators to stop budget cuts against higher public education funding.

On Monday, thousands of California college students, faculty and staff marched to the state Capitol to demand that the legislature listen to their voices. Their demand: No more budget cuts.

The three candidates running for Associated Students, San Jose State University’s student government, face off in Monday’s debate at the speech arts building.

Students want better state funding for their education, and they want the legislature to consider how cuts will affect them. The students want higher education a greater priority when finalizing the state’s budget.

Many students arrived by bus from all parts of California at the California Automobile Museum in Sacramento, where a pre-march rally began. Some wore T-shirts that bore their school name, others arrived with their faces painted and a few students were dressed in full costumes. Together, however, everybody exhibited the same message: Students want better state funding for their education.

“The march means everything to us,” California State University, Los Angeles student Quiana Zermeno said. “With all the cuts that are happening, the lawmakers are cutting our classes, professors and some of our most important educational programs.”

Currently, the proposed budget for the 2011 fiscal year will cut more than $4 billion to higher education — community colleges will see a $400 million cut, University of California and California State University schools will experience a proposed $500 million cut.

“I’m also an AB 540 student,” Zermeno said, “and paying tuition is already hard enough as it is. If tuition rates increase again, it will become nearly impossible for many of us to afford college or any type of higher education.”

Ironically enough, the downfall of effects that students will face due to cuts against education funding seemed to materialize as rain began to literally pour on students just as the march itself began. The weather didn’t stop the students, however, as they marched toward the capitol. Together, they chanted, “They say cut, we say no.”

See RALLY, Page 3

ASI candidates face off in Monday’s debate

By Michael Kinchelow
The Collegian

The three candidates running for Associated Students, Inc. president faced off Monday evening in a formal debate held in the Speech Arts building.

Candidates Selena Farnesi, Daniel J. Harrison and Cesar Sanchez used this opportunity to present their platforms while answering a variety of questions covering several topics.

Questions were put forward to the candidates by The Collegian editor-in-chief Tony Petersen, who served as moderator, as well as by several members of the audience.

Harrison claimed that him being a newcomer to the ASI gave him an advantage.

“I’m the only one that doesn’t have the ASI burden on myself,” he said. “Students are frustrated with ASI right now; they’re frustrated with the current administration and the scandals that have gone on during their watch.”

Sanchez, the current ASI vice president of finance, said he felt that he was the better candidate because he had more experience interacting with students.

“I’ll have an easier time relating to the average student,” Sanchez said.

ASI Vice President Farnesi said that one reason she saw herself as the top candidate is that she would not make promises she couldn’t keep, and that experience would be paramount in helping her accomplish her goals.

“I know that I can do a good job because of the experience that I have within the organization,” Farnesi said. “I feel I can represent the average student because I’m currently an undergraduate, and because I’m really involved on this campus.”

The issue of pay cuts for ASI members elicited a variety of responses from the candidates. Harrison said that he only needed about $500 a month to pay his bills, and would be willing to take a pay cut.

“I would approve a pay cut to around $500 if that is what is necessary to cut the ASI budget,” Harrison said.

Sanchez said that he, too, was open to the idea of taking a pay cut, and would take the issue a step further if necessary.

“If my stipend was stopping an essential ASI program that provides a large benefit to students, then I would actually take no pay,” Sanchez said.

Farnesi said that she would not take a pay cut.

See DEBATE, Page 3
Here are some random thoughts about Monday night’s Associated Students, Inc. presidential debate. 

First of all, the crew at The Collegian was awesome. A lot of people worked a lot of hours to put the whole production together, and it was a success. I was even able to watch the video online the same night. Students are a lot of who the candidates are and now have a fuller understanding about who they think is the best candidate for ASI president.** Warning: shameless plug ahead***

Visit The Collegian’s website and go to the “Multimedia” section to watch the debate. It’ll take only a half hour out of your day and will help you decide who you want to vote for. I thought the candidates, Selena Farnesi, Daniel Harrison and Cesar Sanchez, were extremely well prepared for the debate. Their answers were succinct and precise, and they were ready for any question. This was made all the more impressive considering they did not know the questions beforehand. The candidates seemed very polished and professional.

I was extremely interested in Farnesi’s response to reader Manny’s question asking whether the next ASI president would take a pay cut from their stipend. Harrison responded that he would cut his monthly pay to $500 per month and Sanchez said he would be willing to take no pay. Farnesi, however, said, and it’s worth quoting in full, “I do not intend to take a pay cut. I believe that the work I do is worth being paid [for]: I do a good job, I serve students, I work more than 20 hours a week, more than what is required for ASI. I’m the first one in and the last one out, and if elected I intend to quit my second job so that I can focus completely on what this school and what the student government needs. So I do intend to do a good job and to be conscious of student dollars, but I don’t intend to take a pay cut. It was a very honest answer; we’ll see if that honesty works in her favor.”

I was impressed with the amount of students who attended the debate. There were about 40 students in the studio, which was near full capacity. The students were all respectful, and all were able to ask three students even asked questions, and more would have asked, but we ran out of time. This bores well for the voter turnout of this year’s election.

Speaking of which, students should vote in the upcoming ASI elections. The elections will be held Tuesday, March 22, Wednesday, March 23 and Thursday, March 24. This isn’t like a nationwide election, or even a statewide or local election. Here, your vote will make a big difference. Literally, every vote matters. If you care about student government at Fresno State, you need to vote next week.

Seriously, voting is important. It will be interesting to see how the fallout of current ASI President Pedro Ramirez’s disclosure to The Collegian that he was an undocumented immigrant plays out in the current election. Sanchez, the most identifiable candidate with Ramirez, may win many votes because of support for the embattled president or he may lose votes over the uproar over that news and Ramirez’s car accident.

Keep reading The Collegian for more ASI election coverage.

Thoughts on ASI Q & A

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Response:

‘dumbassidiot’: “If Pence is a psycho, then I guess you’re calling 240 other representatives psychos. And since the American people voted them to office I guess you could call them psychos too. And yes I do believe this was the right decision to cut the funding to Title X, because we, the American taxpayers, shouldn’t have to pay for others to get tested for STD’s and pay for condoms, plan B, birth control and all the other bogus they get for free. If you don’t want to have a kid then you could have decided before you get in bed with someone and two, you should probably know them first so you don’t get an STI. If you want the government to provide everything for you then go to a socialist country. I also believe they should drop welfare while they’re at it.”

Response:

‘mariansfarrell14’: “Companies will be barred from instituting caps on coverage when your costs for treatments goes up due to sickness. You can now get insurance with out caps on coverage at ‘Health Insurance Wise’ or health insur- ance facts. Search them online.”

Response:

‘yanlen28’: “I don’t know how you became aware of this information, but this is a news article that is an example of something that is newsworthy and it is important to not only crim majors, but other students who need to be more cautious when paying to programs at Fresno State.”

Response:

‘student1001’; “I would like to see The Collegian do a story on the variety of classes offered in the University Catalog, and the actual variety of classes that are available to take every semester.”

THAT’S WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING...

“At the end of the day, it comes down to one thing: if Pence is a psycho, then...”

Sarah Palin, possible candidate in the 2012 presidential election

"The Collegian is a student-run publication that serves the Fresno State community at Montage, Wednesdays and Fridays. Views expressed in the Collegian do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff or university."
RALLY: Thousands gather in Sacramento to protest budget cuts

CONTINUED from page 1

WE are not fighting for a change that will happen in five or 10 years — we’re fighting for a change that will happen now.

Lillian Taiz, California Faculty Association President

budget continues to be flushed down the drain,”

As students arrived at the west steps of the Capitol, they listened as officials spoke and rallied for students against budget cuts. Among the official present, California Faculty Association President Lillian Taiz addressed the crowd.

“We are not fighting for a change that will happen in five or 10 years — we’re fighting for a change that will happen now,” Taiz said. “Raise your voices and let these lawmakers hear the change you want.”

The crowd chanted: “Less fees, more degrees! Let us vote! Let us vote!”

Following the rally, some students entered the Capitol itself to perform a short sit-in while others attempted to talk with their specific legislators. Overall, attendees were left with mixed emotions of hope and doubt.

Trisha Rodriguez, a Fresno City College student, said that she believes the state legislature heard students but isn’t sure how they’re going to respond.

I saw a few of [the legislators] peering out of windows from the Capitol, and I know they heard our voices loud and clear,” Rodriguez said. “We’ve been saying it all morning and we’ll continue to let the legislature know that the education isn’t a cost to California — it’s an investment.”

San Francisco to protest budget cuts

RALLY:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2011

It’s so hard to do this, however, when our students build the skills they need to blossom into the future of students. “No cuts, no fees! Education must be free!”

If cuts continue against higher education funding, colleges could soon see a decrease in the amount of classes offered in California and an increase in students voting for a limited amount of seats.

“Students are our future,” Olgalilia Ramirez, California State Student Association director of government relations, said. “We cannot provide them with any less of an opportunity than they deserve.”

CSSA organized the march, along with the Student Senate for California Community Colleges in hopes to get the focus of lawmakers aimed toward the future of students.

“We want to help our students

PG&E missing 8 percent of gas line safety records

By Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A California utility under fire for a deadly natural gas explosion near San Francisco is missing 8 percent of key safety records required for high-pressure lines running through the state’s most densely populated areas, the company said Tuesday after an exhaustive document search.

California regulators immediately asked Pacific Gas & Electric Co. to provide detailed safety updates, including information about whether the utility was prioritizing work on high-risk lines during the next three years. The California Public Utilities Commission also was expected to decide late Tuesday if PG&E should be forced to conduct expensive, time-consuming tests on lines for which records could not be found.

The testing could be required unless PG&E can otherwise prove pressure levels were safe.

The results were released after PG&E staged a massive operation during the past two months I have spoken to various students. “However, in recent months I have spoken to various students who have disabilities and they have informed me of the current treatment they are subjected to.”

Sanchez said that a disabled student had to pay $100 just to register as a student with a disability, and that he would work to see if that fee could be cut.

Farnesi also pulled for students with disabilities.

“I took a social work class two semesters ago in which we were challenged to step into the shoes of someone with disabilities, and I spent the entire day in the shoes of a wheelchair,” Farnesi said. “It was hard to have affiliation with MECHA whatsoever, and that he was unable to define the term “Aztlan.”

Sanchez said that he had been involved in MECHA, and that the term “Aztlan” was “a way for Chicanos in the United States to identify with each other.”

Political science and public administration major Manny Monroy asked about accessibility for students with disabilities, and what the candidates would do to improve matters.

Harrison said that he would contact those students and to ask them what their concerns are, and would look at each concerns individually to see what ASI could do to make the campus accessible as possible.

Sanchez said that while he had no past experience on issues concerning disabled students. “However, in recent months I have spoken to various students who have disabilities and they have informed me of the current treatment they are subjected to.”

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Sanchez said that she would pull with a university to house association to provide access of disabled students in campus residence halls, which currently does not have access facilities.

After the debate, students had their own opinions about the candidates.

“It was good,” public health major Tiffany Jeppson said. “I liked Cesar.” Jeppson said that she didn’t care for Harrison, however. “He just seemed too young.”

Sanchez said that he enjoyed the debate.

“I’m actually a little surprised with the answer that Cesar gave,” O’Brien said. “I’ve been doing a little research about what Aztlan means when it comes to being a member of MECHA, the idea that the southwestern United States are land stolen from the Mexican.”

Approximately 40 students attended the debate. ASI voting is March 22-24.

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

DEBATE: Students are offered a chance to ask questions before next week’s election

CONTINUED from page 1

“I believe that the work I do is worth being paid,” Farnesi said. “I do a good job. I serve students. I work more than 20 hours a week — more than what is required for ASI. I’m the first one in, and the last one out.”

Students in the audience were given the opportunity to ask questions. Recreation major Neil O’Brien asked if any of the candidates had an affiliation with the student group MECHA, and, if so, what the word “Aztlan” meant.

Farnesi said that it was not a member of the group. “I don’t have any affiliation with MECHA,” she said. “That said, I believe the tag line Aztlan refers to looking back at what those individuals believe was, including this country, this land, this state.”

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Approximately 40 students attended the debate. ASI voting is March 22-24.
Entrepreneurs find a way through the tough economy

By Michael Robles
The Collegian

The videos are uploaded and the contestants await the judges’ decision.

Many students who participated in the Lyles Center Student Venture Challenge wait to hear whether or not they’ve made the final cut. The idea was to create a video, also known as an elevator pitch, which is a short description explaining what the business is and why an investor should fund the plan.

The deadline to submit a video was Feb. 15 at 11:59 p.m. Students were required to submit a 90-second video to YouTube explaining their idea and its money-making potential. With so many schools competing, the competition was stiff.

“We got 175 submissions which is just leaps and bounds over what we’ve ever gotten before,” Associate Director Genelle Taylor from the Lyles Center for Leadership and Entrepreneurship said.

Students from colleges such as Fresno City College, Porterville, Madera Center, Merced and a few others were allowed to compete. The challenge pays $5,000 for the first place winner, $2,500 for second and $1,000 for third.

The Lyles Center Student Venture Challenge was created to inspire and assist entrepreneurs to take the steps needed to begin a business. Those that already have an operating business are happy to compete for free money.

Business entrepreneur major Lyle Quillin is the operations manager for Cal Services. Cal Services started last April with the purpose to simplify the lives of people by taking care of the most important household services. “I’d really like to invest in the field and marketing efforts as well as supplies and equipment to really bring the business to the next level,” Quillin said.

Cal Services specializes in cleaning cars, windows, pools and rain gutters. Pressure washing and lawn services are also available.

“I entered the challenge to win the $6,000 to expand my company,” Quillin said. “I need to buy another truck and equipment for expansion, and also I need cash for sales and marketing efforts.”

The top 20 contestants were announced March 1 on the website www.lyleschallenge.com. 16 of the 20 semifinalists are Fresno State students.

Quillin is one of the 16 semifinalists from Fresno State to make the top 20 contestants.

“I’m totally stoked that I made it into the top 20,” Quillin said.

The 20 finalists will move onto the next round in which they will participate in three workshops this month and prepare a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation. The judges will select five students who will submit a 15-minute presentation to compete for the grand prize, which shall be awarded on Saturday, April 30 to one lucky person.

While the semifinalist portion is over, the public can still cast their vote for “People’s Choice” award until Friday, April 29 at noon. The results will be named the following day.

The winner for “People’s Choice” award will win $1,000 cash prize.

Contestants had the option to upload their video to YouTube and list it as public or unlisted.

Fresno City College student Rick Castaneda is an inventor and didn’t disclose the product information fearing he would give somebody a head start as he is in the process of patenting his idea.

Castaneda is one of two semifinalists from Fresno City College to land a top 20 spot. Two semifinalists are students at the College of Sequoias.

“I really don’t want to get into specifics, that’s why I listed it as unlisted,” Castaneda said.

The challenge is to make it sound interesting with only 90-seconds time and convince the investor that the idea will generate big returns on their investment. According to the Entrepreneur Daily Dose, President Barack Obama said that the United States will overcome the economic adversity and entrepreneurs will be a major factor.

The Lyles Center helps develop business owners and will provide mentoring for elementary school children to college students.

“Anybody within our student hatchery or a student that wants to start a business has a good idea and is coachable,” Taylor said.

Students are welcome to stop by the Lyles Center to fill out an application, take part in a workshop or apply for an internship.

“People’s Choice” award will win $1,000 cash prize.

“I’d really like to invest in the field and marketing efforts as well as supplies and equipment to really bring the business to the next level,” Quillin said.

Cal Services was one business that was entered in the Lyles Center Student Venture Challenge in February. The winner will be announced April 30.

Genelle Taylor
Associate Director at the Lyles Center for Leadership and Entrepreneurship

Photos courtesy of Lyle Quillin

State to make the top 20 contestants.

“We got 175 submissions, which is just leaps and bounds over what we’ve ever gotten before.”

— Genelle Taylor
Associate Director at the Lyles Center for Leadership and Entrepreneurship
March 17 of every year is dedicated to a religious holiday where people across the world wear shamrock accessories and green attire in fear of getting pinched by peers. But the elementary tradition is now old news, and the showcasing of green attire has a whole new meaning. St. Patrick’s Day 2011 follows Mardi Gras and Ash Wednesday. Easter Sunday follows St. Patrick’s Day on April 24, closing the 40 days and 40 nights of the Catholic tradition, Lent.

Mardi Gras, also known as Fat Tuesday, precedes Ash Wednesday — the last day to indulge before Lent takes effect until Easter. I turned 21 years old in 2008, and I participated in my first St. Patrick’s Day outing last year. My boyfriend at the time took the day off from work, and being the nice girlfriend that I am, I volunteered to stay sober and be the designated driver for the evening. This was the first year that I decided to celebrate Mardi Gras, and I quickly regretted my decision soon after arriving at the Tower District.

My jaw dropped after arriving at Grogg’s Traditional Irish Pub at the early evening hours on March 17 last year. The line to enter the establishment was at least an hour wait. It wasn’t even considered the appropriate time to drink yet, the sun was still out and mothers picking up their children from school were still in route. There was no way that I was going to wait in the huge line. Kody Cole has been working at Grogg’s for four years under numerous positions. His current position is a cook. That’s four St. Patrick’s Days to be working at the only Irish pub on the northside of Clovis!

Cole said the establishment reached capacity, approximately 500 people indoor and outdoors in the beer garden, by 6 p.m. last St. Patrick’s Day. Cole said Grogg’s is expected to accommodate more people for Thursday. Instead of waiting in the three-hour line at Grogg’s, my boyfriend and I went to Red Wave Inn. The line to enter Red Wave Inn was long, but not too bad considering it was St. Patrick’s Day and just about everyone I knew was going out to get a cold glass of green beer.

Girls were dressed in green knee-high socks, glow-in-the-dark shamrock antenna headbands and homemade shirts. I observed men and women chugging beer and taking shots of hard alcohol. Since I was sober, I couldn’t help but look and observe the crowd goers.

Similar to Mardi Gras, St. Patrick’s Day is commonly used as a day for some people to partake in drinking alcoholic beverages and having fun with others with the same idea. It seems that nowadays people are using religious holidays and seasons, like Mardi Gras and St. Patrick’s Day, as an excuse to go out and get drunk. I’ll be sure to wear my annual green shirt tomorrow in honor of St. Patrick’s Day, but only so I don’t get pinched.

Party-goers find a new meaning to wear green this St. Patrick's Day
## The Collegian

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Fresno, CA. 93711

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By appointment only

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- Affordable rates

By appointment only

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- Walking distance to Fresno State
- New carpet, new paint, new appliances
- Quiet and friendly
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Royal wedding business boom or drag?

By Jane Wardell
Associated Press

NORTHAMPTON, England (AP) — Surrounded by boxes in a rickety old warehouse above the family shop, Joe Church hurries to wrap plates adorned with the faces of Prince William and his bride Kate Middleton for a customer in Australia.

The Church’s business, a 152-year-old china and ornament seller specializing in memorabilia, has plenty of reason to celebrate the upcoming royal nuptials as its cash register chimes with the wedding bells.

“It’s good for the royal couple, it’s good for everyone in the U.K. and it’s certainly good for business,” beams Joe’s Dad, Stephen Church, in front of a display of goods ranging from heart pillows to lookalike William teddy bears.

But just an hour down the road on a rainy building site outside Cambridge, it’s a different story.

For Dick Searle, the owner of a small eponymous diner rental service, the royal wedding — and an extra public holiday — couldn’t come at a worse time. As Britain struggles to pull out of an economic downturn that has crippled the building industry, the last thing Searle needs to pay his staff for a day with no work and leave expensive equipment idle.

“They didn’t ask us about it, did they, and we are having it hard,” says Searle as he puts the finishing touches on two plates for the couple. “Good luck to people selling rubbish plates, but for us it’s no different story.”

Prime Minister David Cameron made the day a national holiday to allow everyone in the country an opportunity to celebrate. But the union of the photogenic young couple is proving a boon only for some British businesses — the cold statistics suggest it is actually a drag on the rest of the economy.

Analysts predict the April 29 wedding will provide a boost of up to 1 billion pounds ($1.6 billion) to the economy, largely through retail sales, hotel room bookings and the hospitality trade.

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History of Fresno State in Pictures
In honor of Fresno State’s Centennial

ACROSS
1 Father Time’sarb
5 Symphony venue
9 Young chap
14 Narrative poetry
15 Bay ___ (San Francisco’s locale)
16 Opposite of cool
17 Tableland
18 Bottle or guitar feature
19 They often feast on wilde-beest
20 Continuously
23 Jim’s wife on “The Office”
24 Yell for a toreador
25 “And ___ what happened?”
26 Charades “little word”
27 Fingertipboard feature
28 Dastardly dude
31 Japanese immigrant to the U.S.
34 Lotion additive
35 Chip’s chum, in cartoons
36 Continuously
39 Cooking grease
40 “Whole” attachment
41 Valuable possession
42 Caustic agent
43 Campaigner’s stand
44 Calligrapher’s purchase
45 Social misfit
46 Little red soldier
47 More, south of the border
50 Continuously

DOWN
1 Draw new borders
2 What the fat lady sings?
3 Kind of buddy
4 Twin to Jacob
5 Take care of
6 Alpine crest
7 Poland’s Walesa
8 Superior catch?
9 Ammo unit
10 ___ Jack (Bngle-wocky)
11 Popular ice cream flavor, for short
12 Twisted, as in a hose
13 Cover ___ (army assignment)
14 Pitcher’s favorite kind of game
22 “Huzzah!” or “Hurray!”
26 Man the bar
27 Dental care item
28 Cleveland hoopsters, informally
29 “Hard ___!” (captain’s order)
30 Bit of hail damage
31 “___ put hair on your chest”
32 Dance movement
33 Desertlike
34 What a B!er
35 Classroom furniture
37 Be filled with longing
38 He gets the sack in December
43 Social page fodder
44 Word of agreement
45 Subsidizing (“down”)
46 Madison Avenue workers
47 Tropical eel
48 Soothsayer
49 Piñata
50 Aspiring musician’s hand-out
51 Mary Kay rival
52 Back of the neck
53 Vault cracker
54 Long, crossing

54 “Rosemary’s Baby” author Irfa
55 Dub
56 Logician’s word
57 Mixed with
58 Tool for fencing
59 France, formerly
60 Barbecue tool
61 Divide by tearing
62 “Did ___ and gamble in the water” (“Jabber-wocky”)

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 exactly.

SUDOKU

48 17 5 9 3 6 1 2 7
6 2 9 3 1 7 5 8 4
8 7 4 5 2 3 1 9 6
5 1 6 7 4 8 9 2 3
3 5 7 8 1 6 4 9 2
9 6 4 2 3 5 7 1 8
2 3 9 4 5 7 8 6 1
1 4 8 6 7 9 2 3 5
7 8 2 3 6 4 5 1 9

St. Patrick’s Day
The one day of the year when it is socially acceptable to be sh** faced during the day, whether you’re at school, work, etc.

Source: urbanDictionary.com

CONTINUED from page 8

for Retail Research forecast the wedding to provide a $30 million pound ($856 million) boost to British retailers as around 4 million locals join the celebration in some way.

Many retailers have been quick to spot the opportunity in the biggest royal event since William’s dad Charles married Diana in 1981.

Within hours of the couple’s engagement announcement on Nov. 16, Wal-Mart Inc.-owned A&A supermarket was selling 5 pound commemorative mugs and Tesco PLC, the biggest retailer in the country, was selling versions of Middleton’s royal engagement dress.

You can buy anything from tea towels to bargain-base ment versions of Middleton’s sapphire and diamond ring — famously first worn by Diana.

The New West End Company, which represents 600 retailers in central London, expects an extra 500,000 tourists over the royal wedding weekend to add some 30 million pounds in both retail and accommodation. Many hotels in the capital are fully booked, leading enter- prise Londoners to offer pri vate rooms for rent, with some charging as much as $2,000 pounds ($3,200) for the week.

VisitBritain, the main inbound tourism association, launched a new “Royal Britain” website last week to cash in on the wedding, giving potential visitors tips about where to go, what to see and what to buy.

There’s also plenty of interest — and cash — coming in from overseas who can’t make it here for the first royal event of the internet era. Church’s online site, thesk giftcompany, has taken orders so far in excess of 100,000 pounds — 80 percent of those coming from the United States — and Stephen Church expects to hit seven figures before the big day.

“The level of interest from overseas has been quite staggering,” he says. “It’s really going to provide a bridge over the stormy waters that the recession is proving to be.”

Searle still isn’t convinced as he faces the likelihood of shutting down business for an extra week. He has a simple message for the happy couple: “Wills and Kate, I’m not against you, but you should have done what most people do and got married on a Saturday.”
Carolina will face off in Fresno State, North NCAA:

PAGE 10

over 6 feet tall who have recorded significant minutes this season in Hayley Munro and Rosie Moul, the two shooting threats with the best three-point percentages on the roster. But size disadvantages in the NCAA Tournament are nothing new to Fresno State in recent years. Last year No. 13 seed Fresno State was forced to game plan against No. 4 seed Baylor and its 6-foot-6 center Brittney Griner. The Bulldogs were down six at half, and eventually lost by 14, but held Griner to 18 points on 27-percent shooting despite rotating in 6-foot-tall Joh’Teena Filipe and 5-foot-11 Taja Edwards. Although North Carolina presents a noticeable size advantage on paper, the Tar Heels finished dead last in the ACC in three-point field goal percentage (25 percent) and the bottom half in turnover margin (-7.07). The winner of Saturday’s game will advance to Monday’s game and will play the winner of No. 4 Kentucky and No. 13 Hampton. If Fresno State is to advance to the Sweet 16, it will not only have to win its first NCAA Tournament game in school history, but will also have to win one more tournament game before the final 16 teams square up on March 26-27. The Tar Heels topped the ACC in three-point percentage and the bottom half in turnover margin (25 percent) and the bottom half in turnover margin (-7.07). The winner of Saturday’s game will advance to Monday’s game and will play the winner of No. 4 Kentucky and No. 13 Hampton. If Fresno State is to advance to the Sweet 16, it will not only have to win its first NCAA Tournament game in school history, but will also have to win one more tournament game before the final 16 teams square up on March 26-27.

CONTINUED from page 12
“You see these kids that trained super hard and all this and you beat them and you’re like, ‘Wow, I think this is pretty cool,’” McClintock said. “I competed against racer girls, like hard-core girls from the east coast that like do racing their entire lives. I’m racing in like park gear looking like a hoodlum, and they’re all out there serious: aerodynamic helmets and super cool poles. So, it was cool to beat them.”

Since the pair’s trip was funded completely out of their own pockets, they were not afforded the same luxuries as most of their fellow athletes. “Everybody out there was funded by their schools,” Alexander said. “Everybody had team jackets, matching jackets with their names and mascots on the back, paid coaches. We pretty much felt a little underprivileged. We felt like the stepchild.”

However, what Alexander, McClintock and their Fresno State teammates lack in funding they find in camaraderie from others schools. “You have a lot of interaction with other schools,” McClintock said. “The So Cal league stuck together and hung out with everybody all week.”

Alexander agreed stating, “It was pretty much So Cal versus the rest of the U.S. It was a lot of fun; we had a lot of camaraderie.”

Now that nationals are over, they have one more SCCSC competition in two weeks before knowing their final standing in the conference and both are shooting for a top five finish, or higher. Alexander also plans to continue his quest to encourage more students to join regardless of skill level and plans to work on getting some help in funding. “We want some support from Fresno State, something,” Alexander said. “When we’re out there we have Fresno State stickers on our helmets. We’re representing Fresno State, why can’t Fresno State represent us?”

Women’s golf returns from Dr. Donnis Thompson Invitational
The Fresno State women’s golf team finished ninth out of 19 teams at the Dr. Donnis Thompson Invitational in Kailua, Hawaii.

Senior Chelsea Crzinski tied for the tournament’s lowest final round shooting a one-over 73.

Thompson garners WAC honor
Sophomore sprinter Breeauna Thompson earned the Verizon Western Athletic Conference Women’s Outdoor Track Athlete of the Week for taking home first place in the 200-meter and 400-meter dash in Saturday’s dual with Cal Poly.
Women draw NCAA No. 12 seed

Snowboarding duo make impact at Nationals in Sun Valley, Idaho

By Ben Ingersoll
The Collegian

This time four months ago, women’s basketball all-time points leader Jaleesa Ross was adamant her senior-laden squad was Sweet 16 caliber. But it took every second of the 2010-11 season just to ensure Ross and the rest of the seniors wouldn’t miss out on an NCAA Tournament bid for the first time since arriving on campus in 2007.

In an effort to repeat a record-setting 27-win season just a year ago, a slow start and a pair of regular-season heartbreakers to conference rival Louisiana Tech hampered the Bulldogs’ season. But Fresno State’s 25th win on the season erased the memories of Louisiana Tech, hung another Western Athletic Conference Tournament championship banner and vaulted the Bulldogs into the Big Dance once again.

The road to Ross’ goal of a Sweet 16 berth begins this Saturday in Albuquerque, N.M., when the Bulldogs try to live up to their best seeding in Fresno State history against Atlantic Coast Conference runner-up North Carolina.

Fresno State’s automatic NCAA Tournament berth drew the No. 12 seed by Ben Ingersoll

The Collegian

Competing in whiteout weather, where athletes are unable to tell which way the snow is falling, Ty Alexander and Megan McClintock represented Fresno State at the United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association Nationals competition in Idaho last week with both placing in the top 15 based on overall scores in each of their respective sports.

“It was sunny the day we got there and sunny the day we left,” McClintock said. “Every day in-between wasn’t that good.”

The experience of competing and participating in Nationals intensified Alexander’s passion for the competitive aspect of his sport. When school started again in the fall of 2010 Alexander again sought to encourage and recruit more students to his team and one of those new members was competitive skier McClintock.

“He did a little presentation at the ski and snowboard club meetings,” McClintock said. “There’s a lot of kids there. I’m surprised more didn’t join.”

The duo and their nine teammates currently compete in the Southern California Collegiate Snowsports Conference with competitions mainly held at Mammoth Mountain. In a conference that currently has 11 teams with three additional schools soon to be added to its roster, the students representing Fresno State are currently the only ones not to be school-sponsored. However, Alexander is looking to change that in the next few years.

“We just want more members of the Fresno State Ski and Snowboarding club to compete with us, so we can have a bigger, established team,” Alexander said. “Half of the teams at nationals were varsity and backed by their schools.”

Based on their performances this season in the SCCSC competitions, Alexander and McClintock were qualified to participate in nationals this year and go up against athletes from more than 150 schools nationwide.

The week-long event took place March 8-12 in Sun Valley, Idaho where Alexander placed 15th in the overall snowboarding scores. That score was a compilation of four events: Cross, Halfpipe, Slopestyle and GS.

McClintock placed 5th in the overall Freestyle score which included: Skiercross, Slopestyle and Halfpipe.

By Brandy Flores
The Collegian

Don’t know the candidates?
Not sure who to vote for?
See the ASI Interviews/Debates on The Collegian Online
http://collegian.csufresno.edu/