Fresno State will elect a new ASI president this week

Who will you choose?

Information compiled by Dana Hull
The Collegian

**MAIN GOALS:**

Selena Farnesi
Anthropology and Philosophy
Senator of Students Affairs and Executive Vice President

**MAIN GOALS:**

- Involvement in legislation
  "I’d love to work with the Legislative Committee and ASI’s Lobby Corps to increase advocacy for legislation that affects students."
- Increasing graduation rates
  "The university is currently trying to increase graduation rates by six percent, and a student-to-student effort consistent with this goal— including supporting student-lead projects and programs focused on graduation—is something I’d like to accomplish."
- Community service
  "I’d love to see an increase in community service and student involvement in the university as well as increased communication between the student government and the student body."
- Dealing with budget cuts
  "Lobbying for students is an important way to raise awareness of the issue and the needs of the California State University, but it’s also important to mediate the effects of these unavoidable cuts on our campus through laptop loans, research funding and library support programs."
- Improving transportation and parking problems
  "Due to being a largely commuter campus, our students face transportation and disconnect issues. Associated Students Inc. can work to improve these by expounding on the parking and activities positions in its senate."

Daniel J. Harrison
Economics, Political Science and Philosophy
Vice President for the Fresno State Economics Student Association

**MAIN GOALS:**

- The budget
  "I have created a budget for the state of California that eliminates the current deficit crisis, but more importantly, does so without touching education. In fact, my budget puts $1 billion into the California State University system, which the CSU Chancellor stated would prevent tuition from increasing. I am the only candidate with a specific plan who will pursue what is necessary to leave a positive mark on the budget for education."
- The Greek community
  "Giving Greek programs additional funding as a reward for not having alcohol or drug-related incidences can serve as a key tool to increase the quality of the student experience."
- Supporting athletics
  "With me as your president, you can count on more prizes and incentives to the student sections at all sporting events to get our student support of our athletes up. A team that cheers together, wins together, and we need to support our athletes."
- Alleviating education restrictions
  "I will work on funding a portion of the library to be open 24 hours a day so students are not restricted in their education."
- Students with disabilities
  "Students with disabilities pay $300 a semester for the program. Students should not be penalized with an additional fee just for having a disability."

Cesar X. Sanchez
MBA in Business Administration
Vice President of Finance and ASI senator for the Sid Craig School of Business

**MAIN GOALS:**

- Revamping lobbying efforts
  "Students deserve representation that will organize a continuous and effective lobby effort to counter the negative effects of higher tuition fees exacerbated by lower quality education. Passing resolutions have been the norm for past Associated Students Inc. presidents, but I believe true lobbying cannot exist without face-to-face interaction with state legislators."
- Spending only for students
  "The ASI budget is comprised overwhelmingly by student fee revenue. Because of this, I will work to ensure that student revenue is only spent on programs that fulfill specific student needs. As ASI VP of Finance, I have battled hard against frivolous spending."
- Greater transparency
  "As ASI president I will ensure that all ASI meetings required to follow public proceeding laws are compliant. ASI meetings are charged with governing the hard earned money that students pay to ASI every semester. Shouldn’t students know the details of every ASI meeting?"
- Increased ASI outreach
  "As ASI president I will increase the level of outreach ASI engages in. As it currently stands, only 10 percent or less of the Fresno State student body actually votes in ASI elections. For ASI to accurately describe itself as the voice of the students, a much higher percentage of student body involvement in ASI elections is required."

Source: http://forstudentsnow.com
Source: www.danieljharrison.com
Source: www.facebook.com/cesarxs

Fresno State’s ASI election will be held from Tuesday, March 22 at 9 a.m. through Thursday, March 24 at noon. Students can place their votes online only at https://eballot4.votenet.com/csufresno. The university will be sending login information to every student’s e-mail today. Results are scheduled to be announced Friday, March 25 at 9 a.m. in the USU Pavilion.

Layout designed by Michael Urbeis / The Collegian
I am the best candidate for president because I have new ideas supported by experience and a track-record students can trust. My experience allows me to be certain of what I am capable of, and my history in Associated Students, Inc. demonstrates I know how to get things done which is why I am confident in saying that my slate, For Students Now, doesn’t make promises we can’t keep.

My opponents may represent new ideas or experience respectively but it is the combination of the two that makes me the more effective candidate. For example, Harrison intends to provide students with scooters as a method of alternative transportation, and says he’ll cut an advertising deal with athletics to make his plan possible.

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If he had my experience he would be aware of the transportation survey that indicates students prefer to skateboard, bike, and walk before they choose to scooter. He’d know that the athletics department doesn’t provide free advertising space to the university, let alone off-campus companies. And lastly, he’d know that we have a free transportation program already in place — the Red Bike Program.

Harrison, on the other hand, claims to have experience. But what has he accomplished in his last two years of service? He didn’t complete a single project as a senator, while I passed a multicultural education resolution, created a budget for the state of California that ends the deficit and increases funding to the California State University and even enough to prevent tuition hikes. Many people have claimed this is an impossible task. One of my opponents even fired back saying she does not make promises she cannot keep.

I am not guaranteeing success with this plan, but what I am guaranteeing is this: I am willing to do whatever it takes to fight against tuition hikes. I will not give up on this beginning, like my opponent. My solutions to this issue and all the other issues are specific, not vague. I make promises I can be held accountable for. My opponent makes promises that are vague so she has no specific agenda to accomplish.

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My top goals as ASI President are the following: 1. Spending only for student benefit: The ASI budget is comprised overwhelmingly by student fee revenue. Because of this, I will work to ensure that student revenue is only spent on programs that fulfill specific student needs.

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By Steven Redgrave
The Collegian

Last week the world wit-
nessed a devastating event
when Japan was hit not only
by massive and powerful
earthquakes, but also by a tu-
sunami that created more dam-
age.

Fresno State sees dis-
tant from the effects of
this disaster, but some students at
Fresno State are not be more
hit by the disaster in Japan.

Katsuyuko K. Howard, a coun-
selor in the International
Student Services and
Programs department, com-
unicates with all of
the international students from
Japan that attend school at
Fresno State.

“Everybody I speak with is
connected to a family in Japan
and everybody is affected by
the disaster,” Howard said.

“We want to do something
together; it is a common feel-
ing.”

The ISSP department has
reached out to all interna-
tional students with concerns
or questions regarding the events in Japan.

Gena Gechter, the coor-
dinator in the Health and
Psychological services of
the health center, has been wel-
coming any students who may
need to talk about the disaster
in Japan.

Chris Fiorintini, director
for the Jan and Bud Richter
Center for Community
Engagement and Service
Learning, has also been work-
ing closely with Howard to
coordinate relief efforts with
the Japanese Red Cross.

“He is coordinating a lot of
efforts to help and to volun-
teerism, to share limited resour-
ces with everyone,” Howard said.

“The survival spirit,
when everybody is hungry,
cold, and tired. With these
basic needs, still everybody
is willing to share. It is amaz-
ing.”

Howard added, “People are willing to sac-
rifice themselves in suicide
missions for other people to
prevent these leaks,” Howard
said.

As of now, websites are
being used to directly connect
with the Japanese Red Cross
in an effort to help the many
people affected by this disas-
ter that affects more than just
the country of Japan.

With the help of depart-
ments at Fresno State, stu-
dents and faculty are hoping
to have some form of a com-
mon event and ask for oth-
ers to join in the efforts to help
a country in need.
**Fresno State student by day, soldier everyday**

By Karlena Franz

**The Collegian**

College can be tough, but getting deployed twice in the middle of the semester is even tougher. Sam Mabanta knows all too well the sacrifices made when serving his country, and trying to get an education simultaneously.

Mabanta joined the United States Army National Guard in 2003, and began attending Fresno State in 2005. One of the decisions to join the military for Mabanta was to pay for college.

Mabanta started out as music major and even was a member of the Fresno State marching band, but changed his major for emphasis in marketing.

By Vicki T. Hurwitz from school mid-semester and sent to fulfill his military duty.

Rodriguez said the school is very flexible on helping those who are going in and out of their military duty:

"There are some cases like with Sam, where he had to go for three weeks of training," Gutierrez said about Mabanta. "He had to make it up with his teachers.

"When students like Mabanta are called up, their student status will stay the same. But if pulled in the middle of a semester, those credits will have to be retaken.

Mabanta has a lot of inspiration to finish school, but he said his main source today is his children. He said he wants them to go to college someday.

"It is up to you how far you go, you don't try, you'll never know," Mabanta quoted his mother. "I want to be able to tell my grandkids, I did it all."
Young poets take over campus

By Karlena Franz
The Collegian

The Peach Blossom Oral Interpretation Festival, an annual occurrence at Fresno State since 1948, gives local elementary school students a chance to not only appreciate poetry and public speaking, but also visit Fresno State.

Peach Blossom Festival brings elementary school students to college

By Jessica Martin
The Collegian

Swarms of children buzzed around Fresno State on March 17 and 18 for the annual Peach Blossom Festival, an oral interpretation festival held every year by the communications department.

Many Valley natives may remember competing at their elementary school, hoping to get the chance to recite a poem in order to attend the festival. For those who missed out on it as a child, the festival’s purpose is to give children the chance to speak in front of others, practice memorization, and presentation quality.

“Each judge gives an opinion on the performance, but they are different and always positive,” Martin said. “This is about gaining confidence, fluidity, their ability to focus and presentation quality.”

After performing, the children receive positive feedback from the judges. Each judge gives an opinion on the performance, but they are different and always positive,” Martin said. This is about gaining confidence, not fearing it down.

“Kids get a signature from a football player just for being the coolest thing to them,” Shapiro said. “That’s a memory they’ll keep all of their lives and tell their parents they want to go to the John Wright Theatre.”

Andrew Shapiro, head of athletic publicity and a presenter on the Fresno State football team, was in charge of getting student athletes to sign autographs both days of the event. There were members from all kinds of Bulldog sports, including the equestrian, lacrosse and football teams to inspire the incoming children.

The student-athletes brought a sense of awe to the children, who have seen some of the athletes on TV. They learned that it’s possible to be a student and an athlete at the same time.

“Poetry is kind of unheard of. Most kids are more into popular music,” Martin said. “Poetry today is kind of unheard of. Kids are more into popular music.”

It all started 53 years ago when the Speech Communications and Theatre Arts departments ran the festival. Now the Communications department has taken the reins. More than 6,000 children walked through the halls of the various locations on campus where the readings were held, from rooms in the Kremen Education building to the John Wright Theatre.

Around 130 schools visited Fresno State from as far north as Livingston and as far south as Delano. The Peach Blossom isn’t only selective of students from just public schools. Even those who are homeschooled can attend.

Martin said some students at Fresno State find the chance on campus a nuisance when trying to get to class, but these children could be future Fresno State students.

“They are just so darn cute,” Martin said. “Their excitement about everything reminds you of when you were that age.”

Poems can be recited in a solo, a duo, a trio, a small group and a large group. Judges look for confidence, fluidity, their ability to focus and presentation quality.

After performing, the children receive positive feedback from the judges.

“Everyone is a winner at the Peach Blossom Festival. Students receive either an excellent or superior stamp along with a certificate,” Shapiro said. “It goes to show that the university campus doesn’t just benefit Fresno State students but also benefits the community.”

Andrew Shapiro, head of athletic publicity and a presenter on the Fresno State football team, was in charge of getting student athletes to sign autographs both days of the event. There were members from all kinds of Bulldog sports, including the equestrian, lacrosse and football teams to inspire the incoming children.

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The daily crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker
Universal Press Syndicate

PUZZLE SOLUTION: http://collegian.csufresno.edu

ACROSS
1 “I’m such a klutz!”
2 “Purple” writing
3 Canaanite deity
4 “That was close!”
5 Glove material
6 Otherwise
7 “The Auld Sod”
8 Lit
9 A bit more than a trot
10 Otherwise
11 “The Aud”
12 Sport to graze
13 Bit of gym attire
14 Otherwise
15 Glove material
16 Otherwise
17 “The Auld Sod”
18 Lit
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21 “The Auld Sod”
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DOWN
1 Oil gp.
2 Akron’s home
3 South American nation
4 Peachy
5 Two-dimensional
6 Floation device
7 Suffix with “narc”
8 Bay’s “will be”
9 Elbow grease
10 The beauty of “Beauty and the Beast”
11 Skin-lotion additive
12 Krafft’s cousins

History of Fresno State in Pictures

In honor of Fresno State’s Centennial

Tony Atencio, Dwight Pantor and Dirk VanGelder, shown at swim practice, represented Fresno State College in the State College Swimming Championship in spring 1962. All three were breaststrokers. The competition that year took place at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 4, 1962, at Bulldog Pool, at the old campus. This uncredited photo ran in the Thursday, May 3, 1962, issue of The Collegian.

Word of the Day

Beardo

A weirdo with a beard.

Source: UrbanDictionary.com
New college baseball rule shows up in Fresno State stat sheets

Bat rule change helping Diamond ‘Dog pitchers open season at 14-2

By Vongni Yang
The Collegian

Fresno State knows the dangers of a baseball making contact with a pitcher all too well.

In June 2007, Tanner Scheppers, then Bulldogs ace, was struck in the head by a baseball on a line drive during an NCAA regional game in San Diego. Reports said that Scheppers was on the ground for nearly 10 minutes, and he was rushed to a hospital shortly after being carried off the pitcher’s mound on a stretcher wearing a neck brace.

It was a scary scene, but with the new NCAA-mandated rule on college bats, the potential risk of pitchers being struck by a ball is likely to be reduced.

“I would definitely say that before, there was a definite possibility of getting hurt by the ball,” Bulldogs pitcher Greg Gonzalez said. “You could still get hurt by these, but I mean it was definitely a lot more dangerous before.”

The switch from composite barrelled bats to aluminum bats ensures the safety of players and evens a playing field for the offense and defense. College baseball has seen an explosion of offensive output, and to counter this, new bats must meet the newly introduced Ball-Bat Coefficient of Restitution standard.

According to the NCAA, over the past four years per-game average of home runs have steadily risen from 0.68 in 2007 to 0.94 last season, and so have runs per game from 6.10 to 6.98.

A lot of times last year, the bats were so powerful that if we make a good pitch, we do exactly what we wanted with the ball, [batters] wouldn’t get it all the way square or anything, and it would still go,” Gonzalez said.

But no more. Bulldog pitchers are seeing much more success on the mound this season. The team’s earned run average has dropped from a staggering 6.05 last year to 2.70 this season.

Gonzalez is currently 4-0 and has given up only four earned runs in five starts. The strong pitching has led to a program-best 14-2 start.

“From a pitching standpoint, I guess we’re in favor of them,” Gonzalez said of the new bats.

But as predicted, the Bulldogs batting numbers have decreased a bit because of the new bats. Through the 2010 season, head coach Mike Batesole’s squad batted .322 and though 16 games are batting .295 as a team.

No Fresno State player has struggled more than Bulldog first baseman Jordan Ribera, last season’s national home run leader with 27. Ribera has only one home run through 16 games and is batting .203 from the plate. About this same time last year, Ribera blasted eight home runs and had three alone in a four-game series against Nebraska.

Ribera said the new bats have posed a challenge for him, but he isn’t blaming the bats for his recent funk.

“They challenge you a little bit more as a hitter to barrel it up,” Ribera said.

“You don’t get away with as many things this year as you would last year. You can’t let the bat affect you or your swing,” he added. “That’s when you start creating problems.”

Although the new bats have dipped into players’ batting averages and have improved pitcher’s ERA, the preparation and experience gained from these bats are valuable for their future careers in the majors.

“I think it definitely prepares you better,” Ribera said. “It’s got a little bit more of a wood feel. It’s a lot closer to wood than last year’s bats are, but at the same time it’s still metal. So, if you start using wood, it’s going to shock you a little bit too if you don’t use wood as often. They’re closer to wood than the bats were last year.”

By Vongni Yang
The Collegian

With barrel bats out of hitters’ hands, Fresno State pitchers like Derek Benny have a team-combined season ERA of 2.70, almost four runs improved from last year.

Matt Weir / Collegian File Photo

Oregon Shakespeare Festival: Repertory Theatre for Actors and Directors

JULY 10 - JULY 23

Student actors and directors will work closely with professional actors and directors from Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the largest repertory theatre company in the United States.

Master classes plus a festival in the Visual, Literary, and Performing Arts. Work one-on-one with world-renowned artists. Hosted by College of Arts and Humanities, Fresno State.
THIS WEEK
The Fresno State baseball team hosts a two-game series against Ohio State on Tuesday and Wednesday, and the softball team hosts a Tuesday double header against UC Santa Barbara.

THE COLLEGIAN
SPORTS

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MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011

‘Dogs no match for Tar Heels at NCAA Tournament

NORTH CAROLINA 82, FRESNO STATE 68

By Jerry Huerta
The Collegian

On Saturday, the Fresno State women’s basketball team had two things on its mind: win its first NCAA Tournament game in school history and continue the legacy of its seniors.

To accomplish both feats, the Bulldogs would have to get past No. 5 seed North Carolina in Albuquerque, N.M. After Saturday’s game, the careers for the five seniors were over and so was the latest shot at a first NCAA Tournament win as the Tar Heels pulled away down the stretch to win 82-68.

The game began with a lot of promise as the Bulldogs started off fast with an early 14-5 lead, but North Carolina fired back taking a four-point lead going into halftime, 40-36. This would be the closest Fresno State would get for the remainder of the contest.

“Dogs no match for Tar Heels at NCAA Tournament

One factor that was significant was the Tar Heels’ dominance on the boards. They out-rebounded the Bulldogs 63-49. The Tar Heels came into the game with a significant height advantage and it made a difference in the Bulldogs’ game plan. Fresno State fired up a school record 50 shots from beyond the arc, but only made 14 on 28-percent shooting.

“It made us look for more outside shots,” coach Adrian Wiggins said in a phone interview. “When we say they’re long, we’re talking 6-foot-6 and 7-foot wingspans. They’re very long players. They’re one of the top field goal percentage teams in the country. They definitely held us to a low percentage tonight. It made a difference in the ball game I think.”

As Wiggins described it, the amount of length the Tar Heels possessed caused the Bulldogs to shoot more outside shots than normal. Fresno State came into the contest leading the country in three-point attempts, and its 50 three-pointers were the second most attempted in a NCAA Tournament game.

Despite the poor shooting efforts by the team, the seniors still led the way with Hayley Munro scoring a team high 15 points and Jaleesa Ross chipping in with 14 points in their Fresno State finales.

“We want to keep playing in the NCAA Tournament and win it ... At the same time, it’s most important for us to do well in our league.”

— Adrian Wiggins, head coach

NCAA Tournament appearances. With the seniors now depart ed, it starts a new chapter in this program’s history. One thing that will need to be accomplished is getting that first NCAA Tournament win, and Wiggins explained what the program will need to do to get it.

“We need to improve our seed,” Wiggins said. “I think we need to get a little bigger inside. That might help as far as our interior play and rebounding. I think we’re taking steps in that direction. It’s just a matter of being patient and working hard.”

The foundation has been set by the graduating seniors, and Wiggins is looking forward to the opportunity of repeating as Western Athletic Conference Tournament champions.

“We want to keep playing in the NCAA Tournament and win it,” Wiggins said. “Those are goals. At the same time, it’s most important for us to do well in our league. We’ve been proud of the fact that we’ve been WAC champions whether it’s league champion or tournament champion so we want to keep that going. Hopefully, we can just keep building on it next year and come back and compete for another WAC championship.”

Three Bulldog newcomers watch as Fresno State’s bid to advance in the NCAA Tournament was dashed by North Carolina on Saturday. The game marked the finale for the Bulldogs’ five seniors.