Candidates chase Latino vote
By Maddie Shannon
The Collegian

Saturday’s historic gubernatorial debate, the first in California to be broadcast in Spanish, only furthered the tension in the race between Republican nominee Meg Whitman and Democratic pick Jerry Brown, a race already riddled with hostility.

The debate, hosted in the Satellite Student Union on the Fresno State campus, aired Saturday at 4 p.m. after the candidate’s answers were translated into Spanish. It was broadcast exclusively by Spanish-language news channel Univision, targeting California’s Latino vote.

“The Latino vote is important,” Whitman said. “I cannot win without the Latino vote.”

Latino voters, however, didn’t seem to support Whitman’s traditionally conservative stances. Brown, at the time of the debate, was up three percent in the polls.

During the debate, Whitman accused Brown of defaming the character of her former housekeeper Nicky Diaz, an undocumented employee from Mexico. The news that the former eBay executive hired an illegal immigrant caused a stir among Whitman’s campaign and her supporters when they caught wind of it early last week.

Whitman retorted that Brown was to blame for the situation. “Jerry Brown, you should be ashamed for sacrificing Nicky Diaz on the altar of your political ambitions,” Whitman said.

Whitman’s housekeeper was one of many issues covered at the debate, as well as education. While both candidates expressed their stances on restoring funding to public education, many students felt neither candidate took a strong enough stand.

“They need to make their plans more specific. There needs to be more details for how they would invest in higher education.”

— Stephanie Romero, Student protestor

Agriculture panel causes conflict
By Ana Mendoza
The Collegian

“Eco-Friendly Farming” was a topic discussed Thursday as part of the Build a Culture of Peace Week at Fresno State. However, all was not peaceful with the audience.

The focus of the event was to show how sustainable agriculture contributes to healthy, stable communities in the San Joaquin Valley. Disagreement began when an audience member talked about the negative effect of subsidized, mass-produced food reaching other countries such as Mexico and Haiti.

“It’s so ironic that Mexico has so much diversity of corn and yet we are exporting cheap, modified corn,” said an unidentified man in the audience. “A million [Mexican] workers lost their jobs and they have to cross the border. They risk their lives and then we have no political power and no jobs.”

According to Farm Subsidy Database, $31.2 billion in subsidies was given to farmers in California from 1995 to 2009. In 2009, $411 million was given to farmers in California. Ninety-one percent of farmers did not collect subsidies, while ten percent of these farmers received 71 percent of all subsidies.

Anderson said there should be more restrictions on subsidies to prevent farmer’s greed, but that the subsidies themselves are still needed.

Tom Willey, owner of T&D Willey Farms and Paul Buxman, a sustainable agriculture farmer and owner of Sweet Home Ranch, were

See PEACE, Page 3
The government citizens deserve

**The government citizens deserve**

The government citizens deserve political debates that are not reactionary. Rather, they need debates that are suggestive of a discerning electorate wearing their partisan gear, are playing to be said for “you get what you vote.” It is intertwined with this year’sLatino vote.

Whitman lost Latino vote in Fresno. This act would give undocumented students for Quality Education.

That so long as the best private fund raisers gain access to the ballot, we will continue to have a choice between two presidential candidates who are devoid of any ideological or character-based value.

The electorate is befuddled as to why candidates don’t talk about the “issues,” when it should be apparent that this is their only opportunity. At the same time, they often have no clue. And if they do, they are too politically naive to formulate a comprehensive implementation of such ideas because it requires navigating through the wilderness of the American political system that is built to maintain an insurmountable avarice to any fundamental and tangible change.

The electorate who attended the debate, I wonder if they were more than trite, contrived, theatrical displays gnazed as an invaluable method of informing the public. Considering the defect by which this debate was organized, it should have been clear this was never intended to be an informative debate, but rather a play to the majority points with the millions of Hispanic voters (more specifically, the English illiterate kind) that are concentrated in the valley and the state at large.

In an effort to distort the narrative, the Fresno Bee’s glamorization of this unpalatable political, social and economic conditions most certainly is. As demonstrated in Saturday’s pseudo-event, The Fresno Bee’s editors, along with the current culture of U.S. media and its journalistic priorities, are in no hurry to end their complacent relations with a defunct political process and an inept electorate, and thus are no small problem for this discerning democracy. The debate was useless indeed, but the American people get the government they deserve, by and large. And so long as we want to focus on cacophonous political forums like the one many regrettably witnessed on Saturday, the hope of an astute democracy dies, letting the race toward insanity continue.

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Republican leadership doesn’t need to address funding high school education, which Whitman did not do properly. Whitman tried to persuade Latinos, yet she turned her back on them by not supporting the California Work Act. This act would give undocumented students a pathway to citizenship. There are millions of Latino workers who love, care and support their unqualified to Latino friends and family. Whitman will not get the Latino vote if she can’t support Latino’s disenfranchised loved ones with the Brown Act.

Whitman said that day her at the U.S. Mexico border lead her to believe that La Migra does not have funding for technology to secure the border. What border is she talking about? I spent a week at the U.S. Mexican Border. I saw X-ray-type stuff on flatbed trailers, a military machine-sized washer, closed circuit video systems, a two-way radio clock tower and gadgets all over the place. That technology took a lot of funding.

Whitman's story of tax breaks to the small cafes would make any artisan owning a pizza shop is misinformation. If she is talking about more, she is deluding herself. I can prove her wrong. I have a great friend who owns a pizza shop. He will forever be ineligible for capital gains tax breaks because he owns only one shop with a handful of employees. As I receive no benefits. He does not make enough to be considered a small business with “capital” since he pays his taxes. Most small business owners will always go under with Whitman’s ideas because they have to reach corporate level “capital gains.” Most small businesses owned by Latinos in our valley reflect the same dilemma I just mentioned. Whitman misled the people, which is why I will not vote for her. If there is such thing as a Latino vote, it lost here in Fresno.

Whitman and Brown both seemed obsessed with making promises to create jobs, and thus are no small problem for this discerning democracy. The debate was useless indeed, but the American people get the government they deserve, by and large. And so long as we want to focus on cacophonous political forums like the one many regrettably witnessed on Saturday, the hope of an astute democracy dies, letting the race toward insanity continue.

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DEBATE: Brown and Whitman showdown on campus

CONTINUED from page 1

with a lack of public funding, provided more reasons for Romero’s group to protest.

“If the state’s higher education system doesn’t graduate one million new students by 2025, our state will basically fall apart,” said Jay Cordero, associate students organization president at Los Angeles City College. “[That statement] is pretty shocking, but if we want solidarity, then we’re going to need to invest more in education.”

Inside the debate, both candidates were asked tough questions from students and community members about two of the Central Valley’s most pressing issues, immigration and water.

Latino voters consider such issues to be the most important this election season. During one particularly tense part of the debate, Fresno State student Adriana Sanchez asked Whitman about her stance on the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. The Act would allow foreign-born students like Sanchez to stay in the United States if they completed two years of college or served in the military for two years.

“Jerry Brown said that it was not up to him to pass it, but he supported the DREAM Act, which was vetoed yesterday by Governor Schwarzenegger,” said Sanchez. “Meg Whitman said she does not support the DREAM Act and does not support students like me even though we are ready to join the labor force here in California.”

Brown’s stance on immigration met with better reception among the debate’s Hispanic viewers.

“The federal government needs to strengthen its borders and provide a path to citizenship,” said Brown.

Another issue of similar importance was restoring water to the Central Valley.

“The Central Valley is in a chronic water shortage,” said Whitman. “It’s important for the state to be conserving water, so that we can pump more water through the delta for ecological purposes as well as provide water to the farmers in the delta.”

While Whitman’s solution focused on state control, Brown set his sights on creating water-oriented jobs.

“We need to invest more in the water infrastructure, where we can put people to work,” he said.

Despite mudslinging and tough questions from students, the debate met with approval in the eyes of school administrators.

“I thought it was an excellent debate,” said John Welty, president of Fresno State. “I thought the responses were clear and did articulate the difference between the candidates.”

Some students, however, just heard inadequate responses.

“In a way I was very disappointed to feel the future of the state could be in [Whitman’s] hands because just like other students, I want the chance to fully be a part of our state,” said Sanchez. “We have educated ourselves to be professionals, and even though we get the grades, we have the restriction of not being documented. I was expecting her to say she did not support the DREAM act, but I think showing more support for students in my situation would’ve been better.”

Ana Mendoza contributed to this report.

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PEACE WEEK: Causing conflict with agriculture ethics

CONTINUED from page 1

invited to share their experience during the event.

“Just because something is legal, doesn’t mean it is right,” said Buxman. “When we subsidize corn, we are turning that into a weapon to put other countries out of business.”

Buxman also said America should get out of the “global food wars” that NAFTA has fueled.

The North American Free Trade Agreement between the United States, Canada and Mexico removed most barriers of trade between all three countries. To many, NAFTA has been the cause for the current immigration situation in the United States.

“When we have this immigration problem, we shouldn’t say the problem is ‘they are coming across the border, let’s build a wall.’ Why don’t we ask the environmentalists: Should we be angry and rail against the evil empire? Yes, but then how did he bring around change? You be the change that you want to see in the world,” said Paul Buxman.

A slogan used during the event to promote sustainable agriculture was, “Live simply, so that others can simply live,” a famous quote from Mohandas K. Gandhi.

Build a Culture of Peace Week will conclude on Saturday, Oct. 2 at 8:30 at the Peace Garden. The event will be held to celebrate Gandhi’s 141 birthday.

The Collegian is a forum for student expression. http://collegian.csufresno.edu
Students receive support through early alert program

By Mia Munoz

Time management is one problem that can infringe on a college student’s academic success, but here are several organizations available on campus that can help students manage their time more wisely.

SupportNet is one organization on campus that strives to help students through the difficult times of their college career.

SupportNet falls under the same umbrella as the Learning Center, but its name is not as well known. The goal of SupportNet is to help students make the transition to a university. They focus mainly on incoming freshmen and transfer students, but all students are welcome.

SupportNet adviser Janene Avedisian describes SupportNet as an “early alert program” that helps students in developing healthy study habits that will stay with them the rest of their academic career.

“We start by assessing the [student’s] situation and go from there,” Avedisian said. “We want to help students study smarter, not harder.”

English major Casey MacDonald is always busy with one of her many commitments. She is vice president of both her Delta Zeta sorority and the Fine Arts Club on campus. She is also a member of Fresno State’s equestrian team.

“It feels like there isn’t enough time in the day for everything,” MacDonald said.

“SupportNet also puts on presentations for students who are struggling with a specific problem. One themed presentation is time management, which Avedisian is in charge of.

Public health major Edith Diaz attended the time management presentation a few weeks ago.

“SupportNet can be used as a referral program by professors for their students if they see that they’re struggling. There has been an increase in both self-referrals and in the number of students participating in the program this semester. Avedisian also said that they have seen students who seek help from programs like SupportNet end up with a higher GPA than those who don’t.”

SupportNet is located downstairs in the Collection level of the Henry Madden Library. Students can go online at www.csufresno.edu/supportnet to view a full schedule of workshops or call SupportNet at (559) 278-8370 for additional questions.

Angela Salinas / The Collegian
Clubs and student organizations are a staple of many students’ collegiate experiences. Members of Frente, a colorguard group based on campus, put their own spin on extracurricular activities.

A traditional colorguard group performs with a marching band, commonly during halftime at football games. Frente takes that to the next level, developing technical and artistic performances to compete against other colorguard teams. Most use flags, rifles, sabers and dance moves in their routines. Each group has a different style, ranging from ballet to modern.

Samantha Carter, a Frente dancer, describes Frente as a program that brings a visual element to music. “You bring something you can actually see,” said Carter. “When you watch a guard show you don’t really listen to the music. You’re watching a story unfold through music.”

Though most members of Frente have busy schedules, they will take time every weekend for practice. Their first practice of the season was Sunday.

Carter said the most challenging aspect of Frente is the stress. “Sometimes it gets stressful when you’re cramped for a show,” said Carter.

She teaches another colorguard class, which keeps her weekend schedule packed. “I don’t get as long of a warm up as everyone else,” she said. “The most stressful time is right before we perform.”

Heather Martin, who started performing with Frente in 2005, laughs when she says Frente monopolizes her weekend. “I have no life except for color guard,” said Martin. Oliver Bullock, Frente’s director, recognizes the difficulty students have in juggling schedules.

“The kind of member we want is a student at Fresno State that’s hard working and responsible, but those two things take a lot of time and energy,” Bullock said.

A search on YouTube for past Frente performances brings up their work from the past two seasons, including a routine called “Five Steps to a Successful Life” which samples audio from TV pop culture.

Two seasons ago, the club performed a darker routine that stretched the guard members emotionally. Martin recalls that performance as one that touched the members on a deep level. “We had to figure out what was constricting us in life,” Martin said. “We had to expose ourselves and it was hard.”

Carter says that particular routine made guard members emotional. “There were many practices where we would walk off the floor crying, because we put that emotion out there,” she said. “It felt like you went to a shrink.”

Because colorguard is physically demanding, it tells a story and it has an element of drama. Carter added that performing with Frente is much like theater. “You have to become something you’re not,” she said. The emotion pays off in the feeling she gets after a performance.

“Knowing that other people around you are enjoying it and you’re entertaining other people by doing what you love to do is a great feeling,” said Carter.

While colorguard programs are common in high schools, they are rare at the collegiate level. Bullock revived Fresno State’s program five years ago when Timothy Anderson, Fresno State’s marching band director, asked him to get involved.

Before working with Fresno State students, Bullock worked with a lot of high school groups. He wanted to see the kids he taught go on to college and continue with color guard after high school. “I was excited to get the opportunity to start a program that I was able to say to my high school kids, ‘Hey, come to Fresno State, get an education, and keep working on your skill set at another level’.”

The biggest takeaway, says Jennifer Gallardo, another Frente dancer, is the life skills that Bullock emphasizes. “It’s not about colorguard,” she said. “It’s about life and growing up. He wants us to take everything we get here and apply it to life.”
By David B. Caruso  
Staff Writer  The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Conceptual sketches of the Islamic center planned two blocks from ground zero envision a futuristic-looking building wrapped in a honeycomb of abstract shapes, with a core containing far more space for secular pursuits than religious worship.

"The renderings, some of which were posted on the project’s website this week, are preliminary, but they project the development team’s desire to build a building that is a political and fun on a site now known only for controversy. "I don’t think that once this thing gets built, anyone will be picketing," said Sharif El-Gamal, the project’s developer.

A groundbreaking for construction is probably two to three years away, "or hopefully sooner," El-Gamal told The Associated Press.

But he acknowledged that the site of the attacks and subsequent criticism that will happen are still not known, although the details of how the project is on the map. El-Gamal said he is optimistic another community center will be persuading enough New Yorkers that the project is just a campaign of deception and lies. "People have been calling this the ground zero mosque. It’s not a ground zero and it’s not a mosque," he said. "Some have it’s not seen from us. It has been stolen from us. It has been stolen by extremists.

Opponents have sought to link people involved in the project to Islamic militancy, partly by looking for past public statements in which they were critical of the U.S. or Israel.

El-Gamal, who spent his early childhood in New York with his Polish, Catholic mother, then moved abroad with his Egyptian father, a Chemical Bank executive, after his mother died, says those efforts are ridiculous. "We’re going to run this just like a political campaign," vetting every donated statement in which they were critical of the criticism was sparked by buying out the investment partnership is probably the first step, El-Gamal said, although the details of how that will happen are still not finalized. "I’m glad El-S.Clonezny, El-Gamal told The Associated Press that while he supports the idea of the center, he also needs his investment to turn a profit. He said El-S.Clonezny was a partner, and that "his consent and approval" were necessary to the project, but he didn’t foresee that as any obstacle. A bigger challenge could be persuading enough New Yorkers that the project is just another community center.

El-Gamal said he is optimistic his message will eventually break through.

He said the group is planning a series of town hall style meetings in which the relatives of 9/11 victims would be encouraged to voice their concerns.

At the very least, he said, the project is on the map. "From a publicity stand-point, I think we’ve gotten $50 million worth of press," El-Gamal said. "It was good people that came together with good intentions, and when that happens, good things usually come out of it."
**Saturday's Standouts**

**Game-changing moment:** Stopping the Mustangs on 4th down

**What we learned:**

- Fresno State's defense held Cal Poly scoreless in the last two quarters.
- Unsung hero: Travis Brown, linebacker
  - Everytime it looked like Cal Poly was in the right position to stop the play, Brown was relentless the entire night. The 'Dogs defense was more than capable of picking up the slack.
- Fresno State sealed the deal when...
  - Freshman A.J. Johnson caught his fourth and final pass of the game, an 11-yard strike from Ryan Colburn with 6:07 left to play.
- Offensive breakdown:
  - In its only game against a Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) school, the Fresno State offense racked up the most yards in a single game so far this season with 459.

**What we lost:**

- Defense allowed a season-low 221 yards of total offense.
- Hill added.

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**Interesting stat of the game:** A game of firsts.

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Bulldog sound byte of the week...

"Philip Thomas—he made some plays from safety that were just big time plays, just screaming."

On Thomas’ outstanding play in the Cal Poly game

'Dogs cruise to victory

Fresno State 38, Cal Poly 17

With leading rusher A.J. Ellis out for Saturday’s game, senior Tracy Slocum (22) took advantage of his opportunities, rushing for a team-high 71 yards on eight carries and a touchdown. Slocum brought a tough and aggressive running style to the Fresno State rushing attack.

Despite committing three turnovers in the first half, the Bulldogs were able to weather their early game mistakes to steam roll past Cal Poly.

By Vongni Yang
The Collegian

Bulldog Stadium was a bumpy ride for the Fresno State football team on Saturday night.

The Bulldogs overcame an up-and-down performance to cruise past the visiting Cal Poly Mustangs 38-17 in front of a home crowd of 37,069 fans.

“We were beating ourselves at the end of the half,” Bulldogs coach Pat Hill said. “Three turnovers in the first half and [we] let them back into the football game. I thought the second half we came out [and] controlled the tempo of the game.”

After allowing the Mustangs to score first with a 30-yard field goal by Jake West in the first quarter, Fresno State responded by reeling off two quick scoring drives on a total of five plays.

Quarterback Ryan Colburn flicked a quick pass on an out pattern to receiver Isaiah Burse for a 58-yard touchdown pass. On the play, Burse twisted away from an arm tackle and broke free before juking his way out of a tackle near the goal line for his first touchdown of his Bulldog career.

“That’s one of my things I like to do,” Burse said. “I like to juke a lot.”

After the Bulldogs’ defense forced a quick three-and-out, Colburn hit receiver Matt Lindsay in the middle of the field for a 44-yard pass. On the very next play, running back Tracy Slocum took the handoff and ran 14 yards for a touchdown to extend Fresno State’s lead to 14-3.

Poor execution stalled Fresno State’s next drive after the ‘Dogs committed two penalties and dropped a sure touchdown pass. Punter Andrew Shapiro boomed his second and final punt of the night for 32 yards to pin the Cal Poly offense at their own 4-yard line.

With the Mustangs playing on their heels, the Fresno State defense forced yet another three-and-out to put Cal Poly offense at their own 4-yard line.

With the Mustangs playing on their heels, the Fresno State defense forced yet another three-and-out to put Cal Poly offense at their own 4-yard line.

With Mustang punter Chris Pinto puntng out of his own end zone, Burse and linebacker Shawn Plummer flew past potential blockers to record the Bulldogs’ fourth blocked kick of the season. Cornerback Desia Dunn scooped up the football in the back of the end zone to increase the ‘Dogs lead, 21-3.

“It was a team effort,” Burse said of the blocked punt. “It was most definitely.”

Then the ‘Dogs started to shoot themselves in the foot.

Cal Poly and the triple option offense rebounded as quarterback Andre Broadus marched the Mustangs 73 yards downfield on 11 plays to score their first touchdown of the night, capped off by Broadsus’ 10-yard touchdown strike to former UCLA receiver Dominique Johnson.

On the ensuing kickoff return, Plummer was flagged for an illegal block in the back, setting up the Fresno State offense at their own 4-yard line. Slocum began the drive with a carry for a three-yard loss and then fumbled the football away on the very next play and it was recovered by the Mustangs at the 1-yard line in a prime position to score.

Two players later, Mark Rodgers would punch it in to the cut Fresno State’s lead, 21-17.

On the ‘Dogs next drive, Colburn would add to the 2nd quarter mistakes by fumbling the ball while getting sacked.

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In two home games this year, sophomore Travis Brown (9) and the Fresno State defense has allowed their opponent to score only 15.5 points per game.