Proposed fee to pay for state parks

The effects of Proposition 21

Proposition 21 will increase funding towards state parks by increasing annual vehicle registration fees by $18 and would permit all California vehicles free entry and parking to all 278 state parks, 16 of which are located in the Central Valley.

Proposition 21 is seen by many as the way to save our state parks from underfunding. Some however, think it is just a new scam to increase taxes. According to the California Department of Parks and Recreation, parks in California not only conserve 625 miles of lakes and rivers, it also preserves 280 miles of coastlines, fragile deserts, underwater reserves and other nature focused parks.

These parks not only conserve nature, they also protect ancient Native American sites, historic structures and artifacts. The CDPR also said that California holds “the largest and most diverse natural and cultural heritage holdings of any state agency in the nation.”

Dr. Stephen Lewis, faculty chair of the earth and environmental sciences department at Fresno State, predicts some adverse effects on state parks if Prop 21 does not pass. “They would reduce staffing, which means maintenance and care taking would be reduced,” said Lewis. “The state park system will continue its decline.”

Lewis emphasized that state parks in California are very beautiful and unique. “This is why they are selected as state parks—they are special regions and if they are lost, they are lost forever.”

According to the Official Voter Information Guide, if Proposition 21 is passed, the state will receive an estimated $250 million more in annual revenues. The parks currently use $400 million a year to keep the parks maintained. The money that is left over will be used to increase nature conservation, such as marine life.

Because the money used by state parks is currently taken from California’s General Fund, if the proposition passes $200 million would be saved from the general fund, which will then be used to support other state programs.

Some students believe that during the current economic situation, it might not be a good idea to increase vehicle registration fees.

“It might not be good for people that are struggling and some students believe that during the current economic situation, it might not be a good idea to increase vehicle registration fees. “It might not be good for people that are struggling and some students believe that during the current economic situation, it might not be a good idea to increase vehicle registration fees. “It might not be good for people that are struggling and some students believe that during the current economic situation, it might not be a good idea to increase vehicle registration fees.

By Ana Mendoza
The Collegian

See PARKS, Page 3

Without a home

Student lives on the streets

By Megan Morales
The Collegian

On an average day in Fresno it is not uncommon to come by a handful of homeless people panhandling on the medians of the city’s busy streets and to disregard their plight. But for former Fresno State graduate Chris Ballard, experienced the unthinkable—he willingly became temporarily homeless so that he could fully experience and comprehend the problem.

For lack of a better word, there are plenty of “normal” homeless people, he said. “Due to the recent economic downturns spurred by the sub-prime lending crisis, everyday average Americans, who were one paycheck away from going homeless, found themselves living on the streets,” Ballard said.

Many homeless people may not have roofs over their heads, Ballard said, but it doesn’t necessarily rule out the prospects of them having money in their pockets. Some of the people living on the streets have discretionary funds, but not enough to pay rent or mortgage.

By Megan Morales
The Collegian

See STREETS, Page 3
Education is a right

My parents were born in Mexico and recently became U.S. citizens. Their transition wasn’t easy. Their struggles and hardships were my driving agents from an early age, we would not be facing the same economic and social challenges if we weren’t taught tolerance and acceptance from an early age, we would not be faced with the same. We would not be fighting for our rights as Americans who value education need to be able to meet with our class members to get the money they deserve. There’s pros and cons to this approach, but I believe that it’s important to have the conversation and work towards a solution that benefits both the students and the university.

Estela Acebedo Sociology

Smoke-free casinos

Smoke-free casinos are a controversial topic among the general public. Some people want casinos to be smoke-free, while others believe that smoking should be allowed. The debate surrounding this issue is complex, and it is important to consider the opinions of all parties involved.

Smoke-free casinos can provide a healthier environment for players and casino staff. Non-smokers are more likely to feel comfortable in a smoke-free casino, which can attract more customers. Additionally, casinos that ban smoking may be able to charge higher admission fees or offer more amenities to compensate for the loss of revenue.

Smoke-free casinos can also be beneficial for the casino staff. They are exposed to harmful smoke all day, and it is important to take care of their health.

Gay females overlooked

Gay females are often overlooked in society. They face discrimination and prejudice due to their sexual orientation. It is important to recognize the contributions and experiences of these individuals.

Gay females have faced significant challenges in their lives. They have had to navigate a world that is often intolerant of their identity. They have had to struggle to find acceptance and understanding from others.

Gay females have made many important contributions to society. They have worked to fight for their rights and to create a more inclusive world for all.

Bullying starts early

Bullying starts early in life. It is important to address this issue from an early age, so that children can develop healthy social skills and learn to respect and accept others.

Bullying can have a negative impact on children’s self-esteem and well-being. It can lead to depression, anxiety, and other mental health problems.

Bullying can also have a negative impact on a child’s academic performance. It can be difficult for a child to focus on their studies when they are being bullied.

Let’s do better together.

We should all work together to create a safer, more supportive environment for all children. This will require a commitment from parents, teachers, and the community as a whole. It is important to provide children with the tools they need to succeed and to encourage them to be kind to one another.

We all have a role to play in stopping bullying. Let’s make sure that we are doing our part to create a better future for all children.

Letters to the Editor

Editor in Chief: 559-495-1620

Letters to the Editor (collegian@csufresno.edu) Staff positions at The Collegian are open to students of all backgrounds. All content Copyright © 2010 The Collegian.
PARKS: Maintenance through vehicle fees

CONTINUED from page 1

might not have the money [to pay the increased fee]," said Christol Cooper, a sophomore psychology major at Fresno State.

The voter’s guide also said opponents of Prop 21 say it’s an undervaluing agenda that is meant to misguided voters into thinking state parks will be saved with an increase in vehicle registration, but is simply an opportunity for politicians to steer the money toward wasteful spending.

It is not clear where excess funds will be used.

The voters’ guide claims Proposition 21 is supported by California Federation of Teachers, California League of Conservation Voters, California Nurses Association, California State Lifeguards Association, League of California Afterschool Providers and Local chambers of commerce.

The California Taxpayers Association and The Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Association oppose Proposition 21 and are against all tax increases, including this proposition, which they claim is a tax mis- takably referred to as a fee.

Amanda Rivera, a pre-

classifieds

Hearing that miner Edison Pena had been found alive, Bolivian Carlos Mamani, a member of the search group, and Juan Illanes, also the only foreigner among the 33, were hoisted from 2,000 feet underground, the men posed for a photo with President Sebastian Pinera.

People who had urged the men to stay for a week instead of leaving when no one knew whether they would survive for long now set a date: “If God and the Virgin desire it, we’ll get married on Nov. 7,” Pinera said. “I thought I would never marry,” said Classen, “I thought I would never have children.”

But the moment they walk out of the hospital doors — a Cold Warrior’s new life as national heroes Thursday and nominate. List a taste of what awaits them outside the hospital doors — a swarm of reporters, TV pro-

saw, publicists and great agents. It’s even soccer teams all desper-ately for a piece of their story.

After their epic res-
cue, still wearing the oddly fashioned, long nappies that protected them from the bright light when they were hoisted from 2,000 feet underground, the men posed in front of a photography-stuffed stadium for the group photo with President Sebastian Pinera.

Unidad helped the men, known as “los 33,” survive for 69 days underground, includ- ing more than two weeks when no one knew whether they were alive.

But the moment they walk out of the hospital doors, they’ll go beyond the reach of a gov-

ernment operation that has cared for, fed and protected them in a carefully coordinat-
ed place as long as they remained there. The rescue team even asked them to see where their marks would leave in top condi-
tion.

“They’re going to have to find their equilibrium and take care of themselves,” the hospital chaplain, Luis Lopez, told The Associated Press.

They got quite the preview Thursday of what lies ahead. In their first full day of fresh air, the miners were probably the 33 most in-demand people on the planet. A sunny Aegean islands, com-

peting with rainy Chile, in the country’s southern archi-

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Hearing that miner Edison Pena jogged regularly in the tunnels below the collapsed rock, the New York City mara-

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cate in next month’s race.

What about a reality show? Some other kind of TV work? Why not, said television writer-producer and Oscar nominee Larry Charles, who said he expected projects being pitched around the rescue.

“Television is a quick-

responder,” he said, joking: “In fact, I think I’ll call my agent when we get off the phone.”

Three of the men were dis-

charged from the hospital Thursday evening and others were expected to follow on Friday and over the weekend. Chilean state television showed the men leaving Copiapo’s regional hospital by a side exit and getting into a white van.

Among the three was Pena. State TV showed him enthusiastically greeted by applauding neighbors as he arrived at his home.

“I thought I would never mar-

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By Michael Warren

Associated Press

The Chilean miners began their unfamiliar new lives as national heroes Thursday and nominate. List a taste of what awaits them outside the hospital doors — a swarm of reporters, TV pro-

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Students help plan Homecoming Parade

By Jhaton Robinson
The Collegian

The Recreation Administration Department offers a class for students who have a passion for planning events on campus and in the community.

The special event planning class, commonly known as RA 117, helps organize and conduct large community functions. The class helps organize street fairs, community festivals, corporate events, major fundraisers, convention center events and joint sponsorship events.

Professor Michael Mahoney has organized events for celebrities, actors and current and retired professional athletes. He’s even traveled overseas to help manage projects with entertainers and professional athletes who went to visit troops in Iraq, Germany, Afghanistan and several other places.

“My classes are an active learning environment,” Mahoney said. “I will go through lecture, but I’ll stop specifically on certain points to bring real world industry examples to the content.”

A regular day in RA 117 consists of discussions about special events of the past and present. After discussion, Mahoney shares digital videos and assigns the students to bring in news-worthy events that are taking place on campus, in the Fresno or Clovis area, statewide, in the country or internationally.

The students enrolled in the class are working at full speed this fall semester. The class meets every Monday from 6-8:50 p.m., but that doesn’t stop students from working outside the classroom as they prepare for a huge upcoming event.

“The best part in preparing for the parade has been watching it all come together.”
— Sara Cerkueira, Recreation administration major

The students in RA 117 are planning the upcoming Centennial Homecoming Parade which will start before the football game tomorrow in the Peace Garden. Tailgating immediately follows the parade, and the game starts at 7:30 p.m.

Four committees are helping put together the Centennial Parade: marketing, logistics, staffing and stewardship. There are approximately eight people in each committee including an assigned leader that reports to the chair of the Homecoming Centennial Parade on their status.

Recreation administration major Sara Cerkueira is the leader of the logistics committee, which takes care of the resources needed to operate the parade such as ordering and renting tents, chairs, tables, trash and recycle bins, bullhorns and more.

“The best part in preparing for the parade so far has been watching it all come together,” Cerkueira said. “I don’t think people realize how much time and effort goes into special event planning, but you can’t fault them because you probably wouldn’t know unless you’ve done it before.”

Communications major Karissa Aston is a member of the marketing committee, which is responsible for getting entries to be in the parade like school clubs and organizations, Miss Fresno County and the Mayor of Fresno.

Aston is taking RA 117 to receive a certificate in event planning because she hopes to have her own event planning business one day. She currently plans local, low-budget parties and baby showers.

“You can either take the class as an elective or you can take the class to receive the certificate,” Aston said. “If you’re taking the class for a certificate, then you also have to take two other classes, which includes 72 hours of community service that needs to be completed in order to receive the certificate.”

Each committee is set for the Centennial Homecoming Parade tomorrow at 3 p.m. The Centennial Homecoming Parade will help give fans an opportunity to celebrate this milestone while creating another hundred years of memories.
Graduate forum seeks to recruit prospective students

By Antonio Figueroa
The Collegian

The annual California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education that aims to increase and encourage students from underrepresented groups to enter advanced-level degree programs takes place tomorrow at California State University, Sacramento.

It’s open to California State University, University of California and private school students who are in sophomore, junior and senior class standing who want to pursue a post-baccalaureate degree by entering a master’s or PhD program.

“There are many underrepresented students who are first generation students who don’t know the steps they need to take, and the forum helps them maneuver through the system, getting the application done and breaking it down into small pieces and making them think it’s not that bad,” said Student Support Services Program Counselor Joe Guerra.

While attending the forum, students will have an opportunity to interact with college recruitment personnel from a variety of graduate programs across the country. In addition, students will be able to obtain valuable information and resources by attending workshops conducted throughout the day.

Some of the workshops include: How to Select the Right Graduate School; How to Write a Winning Statement of Purpose; and How to Prepare for the GRE (Graduate Record Exam). The forum program includes discipline workshops as well. Education, Humanities and Fine and Performing Arts are only a few of the many workshops.

“Deciding if and where you want to attend graduate school, as well as finding and applying to specific programs, can be difficult,” said Career Development Counselor Adrian Ramirez.

“Therefore, the Diversity Forum in Graduate Education is a worthwhile day to gather information on whether graduate school is your best choice, how to find your desired programs, and tips for the graduate school application process.”

Ramirez said that many students are not well informed about attending grad school, and some are not aware of its requirements.

“Succeeding in graduate school takes more than being able to move and adjust to a new university, managing a busy schedule and keeping up with assignments and projects. The forum will have guest keynote speakers to share their experiences, motivate students and give tips and advice.”

Business administration management major Rocio Andrade attended the forum last fall and said the workshops were very helpful.

“I’m a first generation college student and I’m really thankful that I had the opportunity to attend the forum,” Andrade said. “I learned about the many requirements to attend grad school and now I know what I must do before I apply.”

Students who qualify to attend the forums are those with a good GPA and a recommendation from a faculty member also increases the opportunity to attend.

“As the coordinator for this school, I get to select the required GPA,” Guerra said. “I set a minimum requirement of 2.75, thinking that students below that may not be interested.”

Students who don’t make the 2.75 GPA requirement still have an opportunity to attend the forum by signing up with other programs on campus.

“If a program coordinator/director refers a student to us who has a GPA of less than 2.75, then they will be able to attend the forum,” Guerra said. “These students display the motivation and the work ethic to successfully complete a master’s degree, but they may not have had the GPA prior to applying to a master’s program.”

Guerra said the forum’s speakers and workshops might motivate the student to bring up their GPA.

Guerra said over 1,700 students from all participating universities have signed up for the Forum tomorrow. This event is completely free to students; they only have to pay a $10 deposit that’s refunded to them the day of the trip.
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October 18 – 22 at Fresno State

Just as there are things you do, there are things you donate.

Sincerely,
MAGALI DE ANGELIS, President
Since Halloween is right around the corner, it seems appropriate that Edgar Allan Poe’s books live on. And with the help of the Big Read and the Fresno County Library, the ghouls, ghosts, ravens and specters will come alive once again through the end of the month.

Some of Poe’s most popular stories, including “The Raven” and “The Pit and The Pendulum” along with other works that ran shivers up our spines, will be honored and brought to life in vivid detail. The Fresno County Public Library, along with sponsors such as The Fresno Bee and Arte Americas, are paying tribute to Edgar Allan Poe, the longtime master of macabre and horror as part of the Big Read symposium. A number of special events are scheduled at different locations throughout the San Joaquin Valley during the months of October and November. They are designed to raise appreciation for Poe’s works, and they also tie in with the themes of his stories.

Roberta Barton, the public information officer for the Fresno County Library, said that is one of the main goals of the Big Read. “One of the things we try to do is tie in to the theme of the book,” she said. “We thought this would offer a lot of creative opportunities.”

One of the signature events that is sure to tantalize is the Poe Read-A-Thon. For 13 hours local celebrities and volunteers will take turns reading some of his most popular works.

In a one-man show called an Evening With Edgar Allan Poe, actor Duffy Hudson will portray the life of the legendary author. This event is expected to be one of the most popular attractions.
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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

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Homecoming Game Day Activities

Saturday, October 16th

1:30 p.m.
Tailgate of the Century
Music, food, and games near the library

3:00 p.m.
Parade on Barstow

7:30 p.m.
Bulldog football game
v. New Mexico State
(ticket required)

www.FresnoState100.com

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Bulldog Game Day

Fresno State Bulldogs (3-2, 1-1 WAC) vs. New Mexico State Aggies (1-4, 0-1 WAC)

Analysis By Luke Shaffer
The Collegian

TELEVISION: ESPNU
RADIO: KMJ-AM 580 AND KGST-AM 1600 (ESPN DEPORTES)

Breakdown: Bulldogs

Coming off an embarrassing defeat to Hawaii, the Fresno State Bulldogs look to rebound this week as they face another Western Athletic Conference rival in New Mexico State. In order to bounce back this week, the Bulldogs must whip their defense back into shape and not allow big plays to happen through the air.

After scoring a season-low 27 points against Hawaii, the Dogs’ playmakers—quarterback Ryan Colburn, wide receiver Jamal Hamler and running back Robby Rouse—must find their offensive rhythm and regain their potent scoring touch if they have any hope of coming up victorious in their game again the Aggies.

Breakdown: Aggies

After beating in-state rival New Mexico 16-14 and collecting their first win of the season, New Mexico State will look to build on their success as they take on the Bulldogs this weekend at Bulldog Stadium.

New Mexico State opened the season on a four-game losing streak by a combined score of 125-47, but the Aggies will hope to improve on their offensive struggles and beat the ‘Dogs who are reeling from last week’s defeat.

New Mexico State will have to bring more firepower in both the ground and air game if they hope to keep up with Fresno State. Defensively, the Aggies’ defense is led by free safety Donyae Coleman who is third in the WAC in tackles.

Look for big plays to open in the middle of the field for the ground game as the ‘Dogs will be constantly attacking NMSU with short passing routes on the outside.

In addition, the Bulldogs defense will come out pumped up and ready to defend their home turf with a lot of intensity.

This Saturday’s game will be interesting to watch as New Mexico State has had decent success against heavily favored opponents in the past, and will look to ride the momentum of last week’s win to victory against Fresno State.

Keys to Victory

1. Create turnovers
On the season, the defense is last in the WAC in forcing turnovers with four. The ‘Dogs need to be able to create more takeaways.

2. Establish the run
Outside of the Utah State game, the ‘Dogs have failed to control the tempo of the game with their rushing attack. The ‘Dogs should have no trouble running the ball against New Mexico State’s weak defense.

3. Ryan Colburn needs to rebound
Colburn needs to put last week’s bad performance behind him and bounce back against the Aggies.

Position match-ups

Player to watch:
Michael Hamis, running back

When Fresno State runs:
Advantage - Fresno State
The ‘Dogs are coming off a mediocrate game on the ground in last week’s loss to Hawaii. Expect Hill to try and generate some production against New Mexico State’s run defense, which gives up an average of 228 yards rushing per game.

When New Mexico State runs:
Advantage - Even
Neither team has proven much of anything in this category this season. Both rank around the middle of the pack in run offense and run defense, respectively.

When Fresno State passes:
Advantage - Fresno State
Ryan Colburn was off last week, but the senior is still one of the most efficient quarterbacks in the WAC. With Rashad Evans and Jamel Hamler back at full speed, Colburn could return to his big numbers.

When New Mexico State passes:
Advantage - Fresno State
The Aggies have shuffled between three different quarterbacks this season, and Fresno State’s pass defense ranks in the top half in the WAC.

Special teams:
Advantage - Fresno State
Although the Aggies are ranked first in the conference in kickoff return average, Fresno State’s overall special teams unit is among the WAC’s best.

From the desert to the valley: Getting to know the Aggies

From San Diego State, Utah, Kansas, Boise State

Head coach: DeWayne Walker (second year, 4-14)
Offense: Multiple
Defense: 4-3

Key players: FS Donyae Coleman, WR Marcus Allen, WR Tavon Rogers

Series record: Fresno State leads 16-0

Last meeting: Fresno State won 14-3 in Las Cruces

Point Spread: Bulldogs favored by 31 points

Editor’s Prediction
Fresno State 41, New Mexico State 13

Follow Us on Twitter Saturday Night:
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VIDEO: Check out the Fresno State-New Mexico State preview.
http://collegian.csufresno.edu

Player to watch:
Donyae Coleman, free safety

Breakdown: Bulldogs

Breakdown: Aggies

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The Ex-Bulldog flourishes for WAC rival along with three touchdowns. New Mexico State squad in passing. So far this season, Christian has 633 passing yards to go along with three touchdowns.

After being buried on the depth chart at Fresno State in 2007, Christian is leading a struggling New Mexico State squad in passing. So far this season, Christian has 633 passing yards with 19 touchdowns and six interceptions. He guided his team to an 11-2 record en route to winning the 2005 CIF San Diego Section Division I Championship.

After high school Christian was offered a full-scholarship from Western Washington University, a Division II school, while also drawing interest from Louisiana Tech, but those two destinations did not intrigue Christian.

"Coming out of high school, I worked out with Palomar [junior college] and Coach Hill told me to come to Fresno State and grayshirt," Christian said. "It seemed like a good opportunity for me."

Despite receiving an athletic scholarship offer from a different school, Christian still decided to join the Fresno State football team as a walk-on.

Following his encounter with Hill, Christian enrolled at Fresno State in 2007. As promised, he grayshirted during his first year with the Bulldogs.

While at Fresno State, Christian spent some time with quarterback Ryan Colburn, who was in a similar position as a redshirt freshman at the time.

"I was pretty good friends with Ryan, going to meetings and working out," Christian said. "He kind of took me under his wing."

Despite only spending one year with the football program, Christian made a good impression on his teammates.

"My time with Matt was not a long time," Colburn said. "He’s definitely a competitive guy. He’s a hard working guy. I enjoyed my time with him when he was here. It was kind of a quick departure once fall camp hit if I remember correctly, but I wish him the best."

After one season at Fresno State, Christian left the university.

"[They’re] a lot of reasons [why I left], it just didn’t work out for me," Christian said. "The team wanted to go in a certain angle so the best option was for me to go back home."

Even though the Carlsbad High graduate left Fresno State, he has no lingering anger towards the program.

"I had a great time at Fresno State," Christian said. "I was there for a year and have no complaints."

Shortly after leaving Fresno State, Christian enrolled at Palomar Junior College in San Diego where he played two seasons.

In his first season at Palomar, Christian threw for 1,131 yards passing with 16 touchdowns and four interceptions in 11 games. He led his team to a win in the Golden Empire Bowl against Cerritos Junior College where he was named player of the game.

As a redshirt sophomore in his second season at Palomar, Christian was named to the Junior College Grid-Wire pre-season All-America honorable mention list.

But halfway through the season Christian broke his hand and did not play for the rest of the season. He appeared in just two games and amassed 309 yards passing with two touchdowns and zero interceptions.

After the season, he had scholarship offers from New Mexico State and Middle Tennessee State. He ultimately chose New Mexico State.

So far this year the redshirt junior has played in four games, passing for 633 yards with three touchdowns and a pair of interceptions.

Christian’s former teammate on the ‘Dogs has seen his progress from when he arrived at Fresno State to this year.

"The biggest thing with Matt is that I saw a lot of improvement," Colburn said. "When he came here he was a little raw. He’s a confident guy. He really made an effort to watch and get better. He did that and he’s gotten a lot better."

Colburn also gave his thoughts on facing Christian in his possible start tomorrow.

"I don’t really have a whole lot of expectations for what I’m going to see from him," Colburn said. "In terms of me, I just focus on their defense more than anything. As I said, I wish him the best and I hope he plays well every week but this one."