**PROPOSITION 19**

Marijuana would be legalized under California law but not under federal law. It permits local governments to regulate and tax commercial production, distribution and sale of marijuana to those above 21 years of age.

Fiscal Impact:
Potential increased tax and fee revenues in the hundreds of millions of dollars annually could be generated as well as potential correctional savings of several tens of millions of dollars annually.

Yes vote/Pro: Legalizing would save taxpayer dollars on failed marijuana prohibition and would generate billions in revenue.

No vote/Con: Legalizing marijuana endangers public safety, federal contracts, jobs and jeopardizes billions in school funding.

**PROPOSITION 21**

A yes vote establishes an $18 annual vehicle license surcharge to help fund state parks and wildlife programs, thus allowing registered vehicles free admission to all state parks.

Fiscal Impact:
An annual increase to state revenues of $590 million from surcharge on vehicle registrations would result. After offsetting some existing funding sources, these revenues would provide at least $250 million more annually for state parks and wildlife conservation.

Yes vote/Pro: Prop 21 establishes a vitally-needed trust fund to keep parks open, maintained and safe. Protects economic benefits for California from parks-related tourism.

No vote/Con: Prop 21 is a cynical plan to bring back the car tax.

**PROPOSITION 22**

Prohibits the state from borrowing or taking funds used for transportation, redevelopment or local government projects and services.

Fiscal Impact:
A yes vote will decrease state General Fund spending and/or increase state revenues, probably in the range of $1 billion to several billions of dollars annually.

Yes vote/Pro: This stops state politicians from taking local government funds.

No vote/Con: If passed, public schools stand to lose billions of dollars and will also take money away from firefighters used to fight fires and natural disasters.

**PROPOSITION 23**

Suspends implementation of air pollution control law (AB 32) requiring major sources of emissions to report and reduce greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming until unemployment drops to 5.5 percent or less for a full year.

Fiscal Impact:
Likely modest net increase in overall economic activity in the state from suspension of greenhouse gases regulatory activity, resulting in a potentially significant net increase in state and local revenues.

Yes vote/Pro: Legalizing would save taxpay-

Yes vote/Con: 23 jobs, prevents energy tax increases and helps families while preserving California’s clean air and water laws.

No vote/Con: 23 threatens public health with more pollution, increases dependence on oil and kills competition from job-creating wind and solar companies.

**PROPOSITION 24**

Repeals recent legislation that would allow businesses to lower their tax liability.

Fiscal Impact:
Increased state revenues of about $1.3 billion each year by 2012–13 from higher taxes paid by some businesses.

Yes vote/Pro: Prop 24 stops $1.7 billion in new special tax breaks for wealthy, multi-state corporations.

No vote/Con: Prop 24 reduces long-term revenues for schools and vital services. It would hurt small businesses, tax job creation and send jobs out of California.

**PROPOSITION 25**

Peculiar of the bill changes legislative vote requirements to pass budget and budget-related legislation from two-thirds to a simple majority. It would retain the two-thirds vote requirement for taxes.

Fiscal Impact:
State budgets may be passed faster, resulting in no delay of payments to state workers or projects.

Yes vote/Pro: Prop 25 makes it easier for politicians to raise taxes and restrict our constitutional right to reject bad laws.

No vote/Con: Proposition 25 it is easier for politicians to raise taxes and restrict our constitutional right to reject bad laws.

**PROPOSITION 26**

Requires that certain state and local fees be approved by two-thirds vote. Fees include those that address adverse impacts on society or the environment caused by the fee-payer’s business.

Fiscal Impact:
Depending on decisions by governing bodies, tax and benefit effects by allowing a majority of legislators to pass the budget.

Yes vote/Pro: Prop 26 was written behind closed doors and without public input.

No vote/Con: Big oil, tobacco and alcohol corporations want you to pay for the damages they cause. Prop 26 was written behind closed doors and without public input.

Source: Official Voter Information Guide
Parents TV Council right about ‘Glee’ photos

The Right Tone
TONY PETERSEN

Parents everywhere are up in arms that The Parents Television Council called, “near-pornographic pedophilia.” I have to say I agree with them, but not for the same reasons.

Parents everywhere are up in arms about the sexy ‘Glee’ photos because all three stars play high school students on a popular television show. That’s how they earn their living, and that’s how much of America sees them. Most supporters of the photo shoot say the stars are in their twenties and have the right to take sexy pictures if they want.

The problem with the photos isn’t that Monteith, Agron and Michele play high school kids on television. The problem is that they portray childlike innocence in a sexual way in the photo shoot. One photo published in GQ’s latest issue displays a picture of Michele in a baseball-style t-shirt and panties sucking on a lollipop. GQ’s website features more photos of Agron and Michele scantily clad, while Monteith is pictured fully clothed. One of the pictures features Monteith and Agron depict Aaron in a sexy-yet-sweet outfit, giving even more fodder to an otherwise sexual depiction of childhood.

The difference between how Monteith is portrayed and how Agron and Michele are portrayed brings light to a key issue: that Monteith is made to look like they are dependent on him, while Agron and Michele look like they are independent on him. The cover photo alone says that. He’s got a handful of each of them, but he’s clinging to him like weak, pathetic corpses.

In response to the criticism, Agron apologized for the racy pictures and said on her blog, “Nobody ever thought these photos would ever be published. And if these photos do not represent who I am.” Be that as it may, the decision to pose for this photo shoot without thought about the repercussions makes her look like the mindless flabby she’s portrayed as in these pictures.

Aron and Michele are both adults, and if they want to pose for sexy photo shoots for the fun of it, they should be allowed to. Sexy pictures for adult women, are simply a part of adult life. But sexualizing something that should be regarded as innocent isn’t cool to a lot of people, parents or not.

GQ is obviously a men’s magazine and will continue to publish racy pictures of almost naked women as long as there are women willing to take their clothes off. And as long as publications like GQ want to feature pictures sexualizing something that should be innocent, there will be women as dumb as Agron and Michele to supply the demand.

Favre trips on his own ego

Goings Madd
MADIE SHANNON

Favre didn’t even have a welcome home to go back to—his reported infidelities have put a strain on his relationship with his family, with his wife Deanna explaining that faith “will get me through this.”

Brett Favre has been one of the best quarterbacks of all time, his career, his reputation and, perhaps, his future in the NFL or in his personal life. But he didn’t. And now this tragic type.

The problem is, he is a hero of the tragic type, one of the all-time greats, started. It is undeniable that he is an historic player, one of the all-time greats, with most passing yards, career wins as a starting quarterback, championship and holds NFL records for career touchdown passes, career interceptions, most completions in a career and most pass attempts in a career.

But he didn’t. And now this tragic hero must trudge on, not knowing his future in the NFL or in his personal life.

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TONY PETERSEN

Parents everywhere are up in arms that The Parents Television Council called, “near-pornographic pedophilia.” I have to say I agree with them, but not for the same reasons.

Parents everywhere are up in arms about the sexy ‘Glee’ photos because all three stars play high school students on a popular television show. That’s how they earn their living, and that’s how much of America sees them. Most supporters of the photo shoot say the stars are in their twenties and have the right to take sexy pictures if they want.

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The difference between how Monteith is portrayed and how Agron and Michele are portrayed brings light to a key issue: that Monteith is made to look like a stud, while Agron and Michele are portrait women, are simply a part of adult life. But sexualizing something that should be regarded as innocent isn’t cool to a lot of people, parents or not.

GQ is obviously a men’s magazine and will continue to publish racy pictures of almost naked women as long as there are women willing to take their clothes off. And as long as publications like GQ want to feature pictures sexualizing something that should be innocent, there will be women as dumb as Agron and Michele to supply the demand.
Apartments, absence of fire extinguishers

By Ana Mendoza  
The Collegian

Fire extinguishers, fire alarms and all fire prevention devices are designed to prevent and minimize fires. Most residents, however, are unaware of these devices and do not have them. About one out of every two homes are not required to have any fire safety inspections or fire extinguishers. The fire department has no authority to implement safety regulations in these buildings. According to the California Fire Code, all buildings should have working fire alarms, but fire extinguishers are only required for businesses, office buildings, medical offices, public buildings, apartments and other similar buildings.

The distance between fire extinguishers and individual occupants do have a concern. The city of Fresno published on their website that the Fresno Fire Department Prevention and Investigation Division inspects over 18,000 commercial and/or multifamily occupancies and receive inspection either annually or biannually. All new construction in the city is also inspected.

Because of budget cuts to the Fresno Fire Department, the department only do one inspection per year. Apartment owners also have to hire a private fire safety contractor to inspect all fire extinguishers, emergency exits and other safety devices at least once a year. According to Soto, the travel distance for occupants (door to an extinguisher) is not exceed 75 feet. The CFC also requires building inspections. The apartment complied with these regulations, because according to Soto, “[the fire department] can do whatever they want.”

Soto said that if the apartment management did not comply with these regulations, they could get a fine or be shut down. According to Solis, Fresno County Senior Fire Prevention Inspector, that because of budget cuts, the department decided to do only one inspection per year and if an apartment complex did not pass, it is up to the owner to fix the problems.

The Fire Department no longer has the authority to shut down an apartment complex for not following fire safety laws. Solis said that if a fire was to happen in these locations, the owner of the apartment complex would be responsible for all costs related to the fire.

According to the California Code of Regulations, “At least one fire extinguisher shall be provided on each floor. In multi-story buildings, at least one fire extinguisher shall be located adjacent to the stairway at each floor level.” Because the fire extinguishers are so far apart; however, they are sometimes hard to find. Amanda Marks, a communications disorder student from Fresno State said she has not seen one, she knows where the fire extinguishers are located in her apartment complex.

“We have a lot of fire detectors. There are usually sprinklers in our apartment but there are no fire extinguishers,” said Marks.

Solis said that all apartment buildings, even if they have sprinklers, must have fire extinguishers. The California State Marshal, 2007 California Fire Code Section 967.4.1 “requires manual fire alarm boxes to be located within five feet from the entrance to each exit.” According to Solis, if a tenant suspects that an apartment complex is not following proper fire safety laws, the tenants has to talk to the building manager, if there is no response they should contact the Fire Department. The Fire Department will send a note to the owner, but they will not inspect the building until the facility is due for their annual review. This is due to budget cuts, according to Solis. At the moment they don’t have enough personnel to do follow-up inspections.

The kitchen, however, seems to be where most fires begin. In 2004 the U.S. Fire Administration/ National Fire Data Center found that most home fires occur in the kitchen.

In 2002 the U.S. Fire Administration/ National Fire Data Center found that there were 369,500 reported home fires in the U.S., which killed 331 people and caused 4,814 injuries and $786 million in property damage. According to this report, smoke alarms were present and operational in 45 percent of these kitchen fires. The California Fire Code has more than 300 codes and standards whose main focus is to prevent fires and injuries. The National Fire Protection Association found that there were 969,500 reported fires in 2009, causing 2,565 deaths, 12,650 injuries and $7.6 billion in property damage. Data from the NFPA show, however, that deaths and injuries caused by fires are decreasing every year. In 2008 NFPA responded to 386,500 home fire cases. This was 24,000 more cases than in 2009. These 386,500 fire incidents resulted in 2,755 deaths and 13,160 injuries.

To prevent such incidents, the Fresno Fire Department does not only inspect fire alarms and fire extinguishers, they also check if all exits are clear and ready to use in case of an emergency. They inspect all electrical usage and maintenance, propane appliances and mechanical devices, storage of combustible material and the visibility of street address numbers.

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Students set sail for a grade

By Jason Baltis
The Collegian

To reach former Fresno State student Jay Yoder, you need to adjust for a nine hour time delay. Yoder currently resides in the Netherlands and was bit by a travel bug after an experience on a floating university.

Yoder heard about the Semester at Sea program while watching MTV’s Road Rules. After a few Internet searches and some encouragement he received in a business entrepreneurship class, he decided that life is too short and booked a voyage in the spring of 2010.

“I had two roommates in a room the size of a closet,” Yoder said.

Yoder paid the cheapest option on the ship, but admitted that it made no difference due to the experience that awaited him. During this journey, Yoder visited 10 countries with two full weeks in China and India.

The Semester at Sea program started back in 1983, and since its inception it has had four academic sponsors; its current one is the University of Virginia. This sponsorship allows for fully accredited classes that could land four to 15 credits on a student’s transcript depending on the journey chosen.

“Semester at Sea definitely sparked off my addiction to travel.”

— Jay Yoder
Former Fresno State student

“College can be a transforming experience, but the experience at Semester at Sea is a mind blower,” said Michael Zoll, vice president of enrollment and student affairs at the Institute for Shipboard Education.

Each student has the choice of taking a full semester, summer semester or short-term semester on the ship. The full semester price tag peaks at more than $31,000 and the short-term program begins at $3,475. The full semester lasts 100 to 110 days and the short-term program visits seven countries in 26 days.

Zoll said that the hefty price tag shouldn’t scare students—more than 50 percent of those on the boat received financial aid last year. The Semester at Sea financial aid comes directly from its own budget and goes on top of any other state or federal aid.

“Don’t think just because you got $2,000 from your home school that you will get the same amount from us, you might be surprised,” Zoll said.

On average there are 280 students represented on each voyage and Zoll had a lot to say about the 50 people that make up the Institute for Shipboard Education, which is the non-profit side of Semester at Sea.

“Most of us are here purely out of passion and the magic of this program is that it has all the right elements,” Zoll said.

One of the larger concerns is the safety of the students.

“We work with various risk assessment agencies to monitor what is going on around the world at all times,” Vice President of Communications, Marketing and Public Affairs Laura Heinz said.

The Overseas Security Advisory Council and the ASI Group are two risk assessment agencies that help administrators decide where to plan the next trip. Heinz says that while these agencies are important, the process begins internally by looking at the academic value of the region.

The fall 2011 itinerary includes 12 locations ranging from Cape Town, South Africa to Chennai, India. Music professor Laxmi Tewari, who is attending his third semester at sea, has had great experiences in India.

“I had my Indian singing ensemble class give a performance in Chennai,” Tewari said. “It was very well attended by the local people.”

Tewari said that 20 percent of the learning experience has to come from port locations and offers students a chance to interact with the culture they have been learning about. His students learn nine classical Indian compositions by the end of the semester.

Tewari went on to say that he really likes being able to rub shoulders with students 24 hours a day. Students have the opportunity to ask questions both inside and outside of class. When the ship is at sea, students have to attend class every day and when the ship is at port they get Sunday, Monday and Tuesday off.

Fresno State graduate Jay Yoder said that there negative aspects of being trapped on a ship with your professors.

“Say you were sick one day and didn’t want to go to class, the professors would see you eventually and realize if you were sick or not,” Yoder said.

Yoder said that going on the Semester at Sea trip helped him directly apply what he was learning and break through some stereotypes that he may have had growing up. Vietnam ended up being his favorite country on the trip.

“It’s dirty, it’s poor, it’s hot, but everyone is so happy and positive living in the poorest conditions,” Yoder said. “The people really made it for me.”

According to data from Semester at Sea graduates, 97 percent of students say that going on this program was their most significant college experience.

Yoder falls into the 42 percent of students that spend time living and studying in other countries after the semester ends.

“Semester at Sea definitely sparked off my addiction to travel.”

Don’t think just because you got $2,000 from your home school that you will get the same amount from us, you might be surprised.” Zoll said.
Fun films to watch on Halloween

Good movies to watch for kids of all ages

By Maddie Shannon

This Halloween, there are plenty of scary, bloody movies coming out to celebrate the scariest season of the year. However, none of those movies are in this lineup. Here is a rundown of some fun movies to watch with friends, none of which involve evil corpses, ax murderers or buckets of blood.

It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown

What it’s about: For those who haven’t seen this Peanuts classic, 25 minutes of good, clean Halloween fun awaits. Charlie Brown and his buddies gear up to celebrate Halloween once again by trick-or-treating, having a Halloween party and waiting all night in a pumpkin patch for “The Great Pumpkin.”

Familiar situations like Snoopy’s flight on his doghouse and Charlie Brown falling flat on his back when he tries to kick the football pop up in this classic Halloween favorite.

Why you should watch it: While it might not be a typical Halloween movie most college students look for, it’s good for little kids and it’s good for college kids too. The good, clean fun in “It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown” never gets old.

Funny movie moment: When the kids compare what they got after trick-or-treating and Charlie Brown announces, “I got a rock.”

Hocus Pocus

What it’s about: Another Halloween favorite, three witches come back to life 300 years after their deaths. In their quest to live forever they come across brother and sister Max and Dani Dennison and Max’s crush, Allison. Their attempts to send the witches back whence they came makes for some hilariously situations.

Why you should watch: Some of the funniest scenes involve Max and Allison, and the awkward jokes that come out of Max’s feelings for Allison.

Learn more: "Hocus Pocus" (1993)

Light-hearted Halloween films such as “It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown” and “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” are easier to watch for the weak-stomached.

By Anna Jacobsen

“Death to False Metal” releases less than two months on the heels of Weezer’s “Hurley” and establishes the geek-rock band as an overachiever in the alternative music scene. The band has kept fans guessing with a history of side projects, near breakups and quirky unpredictability. With “Hurley” and the upcoming Nov 2 release “Death to False Metal,” Weezer embarks on a new chapter, switching from their old label, Universal, to their new label, Epitaph. “False Metal” is a 10-track reflection of Weezer’s colorful past with unreleased songs that span the band’s history. Songs range from hook-laden tunes with radio potential to aggressive hard rock departures from the trademark Weezer sound.

Lyrical, lead singer and songwriter Rivers Cuomo presents equal parts genius and innocence in a cocktail of pomp and introspection. In “Odd Couple,” the joy and pain of divergent interests in romance takes center stage in a song that boasts the album’s best showing of hooks and songwriting.

“I Don’t Want Your Loving,” an assertion of independence from meek and needy lovers, has complaints like “every word that you know gets caught up in your throat” and “I have way too much pride to go for this.”

The most obvious blemish on the album’s face is “Blowin’ My Stack,” a throwaway track trying to kick the football pop up in this classic Halloween favorite.

News Briefs

Brief news for the brief attention span

Los Angeles (ap) — the man in black will be bringing in some green when johnny cash’s guitars, costumes, handwritten lyrics and personal belongings go on the auction block. the embroidered blue jump-suit cash wore to rehearse for his infamous performance at san quentin state prison is expected to fetch $3,000 to $5,000. also up for sale are vintage guitars, a harmonica, cash’s passport and brief-case, and pages and pages of handwritten lyrics, notes and poems.

Los Angeles (ap) — the spirit awards honoring independent film are going back to the beach.

Organizers said tuesday that the honors will once again be handed out an aftermath ceremony at the beach in santa monica.

The academy said that the 79-year-old director would not attend the governor’s awards on nov. 13, when honorary oscars are presented.

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The items will be on view in Los Angeles before the Dec. 5 sale, administered by julien’s auctions. a portion of the proceeds will benefit MusiCares, the recording academy’s charity for musicians in need.

Movies: light-hearted movies to enjoy on halloween

Continued from page 5

Funny movie moment: Max’s attempted pick-up line when the three kids are trying to protect themselves from the witches.

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

What it’s about: Disney’s retelling of another favorite halloween story, the legend of sleepy hollow is another short but fun halloween film that’s good to watch for kids of all ages. the music features Bing Crosby’s unmistakable voice, and gives the cartoon an even more charming feel of a time gone by.

Why you should watch it: if you like the legend of sleepy hollow, but don’t want to watch Tim Burton’s bloody version, this is a good way to go.

Funny movie moment: Ichabod Crane’s funny walk as he enters town at the beginning of the movie.

Halloweentown

What it’s about: Marnie is a Halloween-obsessed teenager, runs away with her siblings to Halloweentown, where their grandma lives. The ensuing adventures are silly and weird, but fun nevertheless.

Why you should watch it: Another fun Disney movie, this one is a classic that celebrates halloween better than most Hollywood movies out there.

Funny movie moment: When the kids’ grandma, Aggie, gets off the bus and has to call to her bag to follow her.

Los Angeles (ap) — the Spirit Awards honoring independent film are going back to the beach.

Organizers said tuesday that the honors will once again be handed out an aftermath ceremony at the beach in santa monica.

The Spirit Awards had moved to an evening event in downtown Los Angeles last winter to mark its 10th anniversary. The honors were for films made outside the Hollywood studio system, such as 2009’s big winner: “Precious.”

The Feb. 26 ceremony will air later that night on IFC.

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Los Angeles (ap) — The man in black will be bringing in some green when Johnny Cash’s guitars, costumes, handwritten lyrics and personal belongings go on the auction block. the embroidered blue jump-suit cash wore to rehearse for his infamous performance at san quentin state prison is expected to fetch $3,000 to $5,000. also up for sale are vintage guitars, a harmonica, cash’s passport and brief-case, and pages and pages of handwritten lyrics, notes and poems.

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Lee, Lincecum face off

By Ben Walker
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Buster Posey, Pablo Sandoval and the rest of the San Francisco Giants can daily read the scouting reports and videotape all they want, trying to find the secret to getting a hit against Cliff Lee.

Or, they can just ask Cody Ross.

Because many years ago, before he blossomed into the MVP of the NL championship series, Ross was a struggling rookie with the Detroit Tigers. Who happened to him his first major league home run on Lee. A grand slam, at that.

Of course, Lee was early in his career, too. He hardly had become Mr. Perfect in the postseason, the left-hander who will pose a giant challenge for San Francisco when it faces the Texas Rangers in Game 1 of the World Series on Wednesday night.

Cliff Lee, superbino, summed up Sandoval.

Watch Lee from the center-field camera and it’s difficult to tell exactly what makes him so dominant.

David Price brings more heat. Andy Pettitte brought more October experience. But Lee beat them in the playoffs.

Maybe it’s the way he can throw all of his pitches for strikes on any count. At any speed, too. A real-life version of a video game — try to duplicate that in “Major League Baseball 2K10.”

“Confidence, relying on my routine,” Lee said. “People love to talk about Cliff Lee. I don’t really look at it like that. It’s weather and clubhouse and the bullpens are different, he said. “Once you throw your routine, you can let the rest work out. “Going out there and expecting to be successful.”

Lee is 7-0 with a 2.16 ERA in eight life-time postseason starts heading into his matchup with two-time NL Cy Young winner Tim Lincecum in the opener. Lee went 3-0 this year in the AL playoffs, striking out 34 and walking just one.

Lincecum and Lee pose an intriguing matchup of opposite artisans. The Giants’ lanky ace’s pitches are dizzying movement, while Lee is able to adjust his pinpoint control for an unassailable edge.

Rangers pitching coach Mike Maddux said Lee reminds him of his own brother, four-time Cy Young winner Greg Maddux. A left-handed thrower, Lee has better control naturally.

“Can control your fastball and change speeds, you’re going to have to go out and perform,” Maddux said.

Lee’s 2.16 ERA, the second lowest out of 150 regular-season starts this season, has prompted many to suggest the best strategy against him is to watch the first strike be thrown, rather than risk falling behind in the count.

“People love to talk about Cliff throwing strikes but it’s not like he’s just going to go down the middle of the plate,” Texas third baseman Michael Young said.

“There’s a big difference between throwing strikes and throwing quality strike after quality strike.”

A win over the Giants will tie Lee for the best start in postseason history — Orlando “El Duque” Hernandez, with all his quirky gyrations and delivery, won his first eight decisions.

To Lee, it’s all rather routine. In fact, there was a neat picture of him during the playoffs, yawning in the dugout at Yankee Stadium.

“Everybody knows how good our staff is. But I think we prefer for everyone to talk about everybody else.” — Cody Ross

San Francisco’s Tim Lincecum has a 2-1 record this postseason with a 1.93 ERA, but will face Cliff Lee today, who is a perfect 3-0 in the playoffs.

Cliff Lee's severe strikeout-to-walk ratio has worked out. "Going out there and trusting his strengths to the degree that he doesn't think he has to do anything different from what he usually does," said Maddux.

Lee has been perfect against the Giants — three starts, three wins and a 1.13 ERA. He last faced them in 2009 in his first start after being traded from Cleveland to Philadelphia, and breezed at AT&T Park.

"Weather and clubhouse and the bullpens" are different, he said. "Once you get on the mound, it's 60 feet, 6 inches and you're still got a professional hitter in there trying to do damage off of you. As a pitcher that really doesn't matter much."
‘Hound’ assisting ‘Dogs

With injuries to the offensive line and backfield, the offense has incorporated more plays from the ‘Hound’ formation into its weekly game plan.

By Vongni Yang

The Collegian

Coming into the 2010 season there were many question marks surrounding the running back position, especially with Ryan Mathews leaving a year early for the NFL and the losses of Lonyae Miller and Anthony Harding to graduation.

But halfway through the season, the running game is starting to emerge after a slow start behind back-to-back 100-yard performances by running back Robbie Rouse.

“Rouse is really getting a good picture of it now and I just think he’ll keep improving,” Hill said. “I’d like to see A.J. Ellis get back into a groove, back like he was going into the Utah State game.”

Ellis returned after a four week absence against San Jose State last Saturday to record six carries for 10 yards after missing three games at Bulldog Stadium.

“Ellis made it through Saturday and wanted to work on it. Our regular run game was working OK, but the fly sweeps and stuff started spreading [the defense] out a little bit which opened it up for Robbie inside.”

— Pat Hill, Head coach

Sophomore Robbie Rouse (8) takes a snap from the “Hound” package in the season opener against Cincinnati on Sept. 4. Rouse currently leads the team in rushing with 441 yards and five touchdowns.

Sophomore Jalen Saunders (5) has shined on fly sweeps from the “Hound” package after gaining 59 yards on three carries against San Jose State.

“By running the ‘Hound’ package with A.J. Ellis, we want to take advantage of stuff that’s not in our game plan,” Hill said.

With nagging injuries to Ellis, Rouse and the running back corps, the offense has incorporated more of the “Hound” package into their weekly game plan to help generate yards through the ground. Hill said the team plans to expand on the package.

“In the ‘Hound,’ Rouse lines up behind the center in shotgun formation with an option to either take a direct snap right through the middle of the defense or to hand it off to a running Jalen Saunders on a fly sweep.

“It’s just something we needed to work on,” Hill said. “We’ve been working on it and wanted to work on it. Our regular run game was working OK, but the fly sweeps and stuff started spreading.”