Smoking policy gets cleared up

By Elizabeth Thomasian
The Collegian

While Fresno State policy limits the smoking population to designated smoking areas, not all students are aware they exist.

There are currently 25 selected areas for students, staff, faculty and guests of the university to use while they are smoking. These areas are located across the campus, and are marked with benches and a specific ashbin to discard the remnants of their cigarette.

In 2001, the Smoke-Free Campus Policy was established to help provide a “healthy, comfortable, and productive environment for the students, faculty and staff of this campus.” The policy does not ban people from smoking on campus, but only limits the use to specific locations.

The policy also restricts tobacco related products from being sold or distributed on campus through the use of venues such as vending machines, and the Kennel Bookstore.

These designated smoking areas have been assigned to areas of the campus within a reasonable distance of each other and are evenly spread around the campus.

While the smoking community is asked to use these designated areas instead of other common areas, or smoking and walking around campus.

I would rather see people use the smoking areas instead of walk throughout the campus and smoke,” Anthony Kupina, a mechanical engineer major said. “If there is a policy they should do the responsible thing and go to the smoking area.

Amy Armstrong, the public information officer for the University Police Department discussed the role the university police officers participate in to uphold this policy:

“If an officer sees someone smoking where they are not supposed to, the officer will approach them and educate them on the policy,” Armstrong said.

Armstrong explained that if the person does not follow the orders of the officer or if someone has repeat offenses Risk Management will join forces with the University Police Department to help enforce the situation. Officers around campus are there to help promote and educate people about this smoking policy.

“Since I have been working here at Fresno State I have not seen any paper-work of someone not complying with an officer regarding the smoking policy,” Armstrong said.

While the police department is not seeing many problems with people resisting the policy, many students are completely unaware of the policy during their years at Fresno State.

“I never knew there is a smoking policy that limits where I can smoke,” Gilbert Felix, a third year political science major said. “I wish there were better signs around campus that indicate where specifically we can smoke. If I was better educated of this policy I would have never broken it.”

While this policy has been in place for many years now, the university has found problems in promoting it.

Armstrong explained that the entire campus has a responsibility in promoting and educating people about this policy. She explained that college is like a revolving door, and the university continuously has to promote this policy in order for everyone to be educated about it every single year.

“We must have a joint effort in order to take care of our campus community,” Armstrong said.

The student was lucky to recognize the change in their behavior and was able to quit, they said, but for some users the drug can be very addictive.

Gish said, much like other stimulants, Adderall and Ritalin can be very hard to quit.

The student also said it’s not the work knowing the punishment “A few pills isn’t worth the time I would lose if I went to jail,” he said. “I figured if they sold it, then maybe we both could get in trouble.”

Besides the physical side effects of the drug, students who illegally use Adderall or Ritalin can face legal ramifications as well.

Because the Federal Drug Administration lists Adderall and Ritalin as a schedule II controlled substance it is illegal for anyone without a prescription to possess let alone use the drugs.

Possessing the drugs is considered a class C felony and is punishable by 30 days in jail and up to 18 months of probation whereas the sale of the drugs is a class B felony punishable to 24 months of probation and up to 60 days in jail.

The student above didn’t know possessing Adderall or Ritalin without a prescription was considered a felony. “When I got the pills from my friends at first I thought there was nothing wrong sharing it with me,” he said. “I figured they sold it, then maybe we both could get in trouble.”

‘Smart drugs’ carry dangerous side effects

By Leonard Valerio
The Collegian

It may be tempting for some students to resort to drugs to stay alert during the final weeks of class. But when it comes to cognitive drugs, overusing them can cause serious side effects for the users.

Ritalin and Adderall have gained mainstream attention on college campuses as smart drugs, helping students focus and study for long periods of time without fatigue.

Fresno State Health Center Psychiatrist Scott Ahles said that not used to treat attention deficit disorder, taking Ritalin or Adderall is similar to taking speed.

“They cause people to be irritable, anxious and if they take too much they can actually become psychotic,” Ahles said.

Much like speed, Ritalin and Adderall can have severe side effects. Public Health Professor Peggy Gish said side effects include, but are not limited to, anxiety, high blood pressure, insomnia and loss of appetite.

A Fresno State student said he had previously got a prescription for Adderall after trying it a few times, but stopped taking it when he noticed the side effects were progressively getting worse.

“I found that I would get mad a lot easier than I had before and I’m a pretty relaxed guy and never get mad,” he said. “I also had a hard time sleeping. There were times when I would close my eyes and after 15 to 20 minutes I was just as awake as I had been when trying to go to sleep.”

The student was lucky to recognize the change in their behavior and was able to quit, they said, but for some users the drug can be very addictive.

The student also said it’s not the work knowing the punishment “A few pills isn’t worth the time I would lose if I went to jail,” he said. “I rather lose a few weekends because I’m studying than lose a few months because I was lazy and took the easy way out.”

The University of Delaware reported that a study of lab rats in January 2002 Ritalin was proven to have a high addictive nature similar to that of cocaine. Researchers found that previous humans and animals could not tell the difference between cocaine and Ritalin when administered in similar doses.
EDITORIAL

Attendance points mask poor teaching

Most students want an education worth their time and tuition more than they want participation points. However, some professors’ use of attendance points doesn’t aid quality education, it hinders it.

Many classes are taught by professors who offer points for attending class. Attendance may seem like a reasonable thing to be graded on, but all too often offering points simply for taking up a seat in the classroom is really a mask for lazy teaching.

If a professor makes attendance a part of a student’s participation grade, it forces students to come to class and sit through what often proves to be a poorly planned lecture. This poses a problem for students who actually want to learn something. Classes that are taught in an unchallenging manner don’t benefit students.

Lazy professors, instead of improving their teaching methods and devoting their efforts to preparing innovative, thought-provoking lectures, resign their students to attending classes that are integral to success in the class, rather than rely on attendance points to fill the classroom.

Students who work hard to get into Fresno State should receive a quality education as their reward. If professors continue to seek out ways to cover up bad teaching it will force students to come to class and sit through lectures that are usually dull class.

This campus should not be filled with students who go to class only to get attendance points in order to raise their mediocre performance to a passing grade.

While professors who offer attendance points might be trying to help students, they really hinder quality education by wasting class time on attendance when they could be covering important subject material. In an economic crisis where classes are cut, enrollment reduction looms and there’s a tuition increase every semester, students at state universities are paying more for less. There’s not much that professors can do about university policies, but they can give students what they pay for and teach classes that are integral to success in the class, rather than rely on attendance points to fill the classroom.

Students who work hard to get into Fresno State should receive a quality education as their reward.

Philosophy

Opinion

Letter to the Editor

Education isn’t a business

I am disappointed at how the Fresno State administration is dealing with the budget crisis. The price of tuition is continually rising and at the same time the selection and quality of classes is going down.

This semester I had a hard time getting enough units to become a full-time student. When I did, most of my classes were crowded. I am in a critical thinking class with nearly fifty students, and the professor told us that an effective critical thinking class should have about fifteen students. This seems to be a bit out of hand if the professor is not able to educate us because of the class size.

When I registered for the spring 2011 semester I was glad that I easily signed up for a full load of classes, but none of my required science courses were available when it was time for me to register. I will either have to be enrolled at Fresno City College and Fresno State this semester, or just Fresno State and risk having to spend an extra semester trying to get a degree.

With the quality of education going down and the prices going up, it seems to me that education is being treated more like a business than a way to improve our society.

Peter Harmon

Pre-nursing
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Holiday cheer grows on campus

By Janessa Tyler
The Collegian

The Fresno State Floral Laboratory is decked the halls and walls of homes this holiday season with more than just flowers.

Whimsical! Wednesday started last week in the spirit of Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Customers receive different discounts each Wednesday until Christmas on both holiday decor workshop series and all available holiday items. Customers must become Fresno State Floral’s friend on Facebook or follow them on Twitter to receive the discounts.

The two remaining workshops are Thursday Dec. 9 and Wednesday Dec. 22 and are hosted by Elisa Castro-Valdez, floral technician and manager.

Silk arrangements that can be used year after year will be at the hands-on activity for Dec. 9. “It may even touch on how to make paper flowers,” Castro-Valdez said. The Dec. 22 workshop will give customers a chance to create a fresh centerpiece right before Christmas.

Castro-Valdez said they create hand-made boxes for every-thing and that’s one thing that sets them apart from other local florals.

A gift wrapping service was started two years ago at the floral lab as a way to have all aspects of the floral industry. Castro-Valdez said they wrapped around 60 gifts the first year, but didn’t offer the service the second year.

Although the holiday season keeps the workers at floral labs on their toes, it isn’t the busiest time of the year. “It’s a toss-up between Valentine’s Day and weddings in October,” Castro-Valdez said.

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USU Productions celebrates diversity

By Reganie Smith-Love
The Collegian

Students at Fresno State are beginning to dream of the holidays ahead, but finals week is one bump in the road keeping students from starting their vacation early.

Here to help minimize stress and increase excitement for the holidays is University Student Union Productions. USU Productions hosted an event called Christma-Hanuka-Kwanzika on the USU Balcony Wednesday, Dec. 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Christmas-Hanuka-Kwanzaik focused on the three winter holidays: Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

“We wanted to encourage diversity on the campus with Christmas-Hanuka-Kwanzaik, that’s why we incorporated all the different winter holidays,” Whitney Jenkins, festivals and celebrations coordinator for USU Productions, said. “We hope that students experience cultures other than their own.”

There were many booths at this event, including one for each holiday featured. At the Hanukkah booth there were dreidel games and build-it-yourself dreidel packets for students to pick up to use later. There were also “Happy Hanukkah” buttons and a handout entitled “The Story of Hanukkah.”

At the Christmas booth students found red and green bracelets with the words “Noel” and “Hope” on them. “Merry Christmas” buttons were passed out along with a handout entitled “History of Christmas.”

USU Productions hoped that visitors would pick up the handout and learn more about Christmas, regardless if they celebrated it or not.

At the Kwanzaa booth there was a number game, displays, “Happy Kwanzaa” buttons and a handout entitled “Kwanzaa.” This handout listed the seven principles of Kwanzaa, facts and the symbols. Members of USU Productions were present at each booth to assist students who stopped by and to encourage others passing by to learn about the three winter holidays.

Pre-nursing major Belinda Her was one student that took advantage of this once-a-year event. Most of her time was spent making a card for her boyfriend, setting up her holiday table.

“I met some nice people while I was here,” Her said. “It was a nice event.”

Pre-nursing major Victoria Jackson participated in the gift wrapping contest. Students were given scissors, tape, wrapping paper and two boxes. The first person to wrap both their boxes won a gingerbread house.

“The event was nice, but I expected more,” Jackson said. “I think maybe if more people were here it would have been nice.”

USU Productions is a student-based program and their goal is to provide entertainment, social interaction and leadership. They have multiple committees to provide entertainment to students.

“I’ve seen students stop and pick up the handouts we’ve had,” Jenkins said. “I think the event was pretty successful and we had a nice turn out.”
The Fresno State Jazz Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble took on a challenging show Thursday night during their last concert performance of the year.

The jazz bands attempted a show that was much tougher than their previous Jazz-O-Ween show on Halloween weekend. Despite the increased difficulty in the show and less time to practice, director Dr. Alan Durst was pleased with their performance.

“It was an incredible improvement, because I would say their show was twice as difficult and learned in half as much time,” Durst said. “A lot of this music they’ve only had for three weeks and they were able to put together fairly difficult music in three to four weeks, versus the beginning concert where we had maybe two months.”

The musicians agreed. Mickey Murray is a music education major that plays trumpet in the Jazz Ensemble. “It was great,” Mickey Murray, who played trumpet in the band, said. “I couldn’t have been happier. The ensemble sounded really good.”

Aaron Sorenson, a Jazz performance major and baritone saxophone player for the Jazz Orchestra, was proud of what the band was able to accomplish. “It was the hardest set we’ve ever done and we rocked the house tonight,” he said.

The Jazz Ensemble started the night off with tunes like Wind Machine by Sammy Nestico and the Maynard Ferguson song Gospel John. “This was probably the most challenging Jazz Orchestra concert I’ve ever played,” Kyle Wheeler, a trumpet player in Jazz Orchestra said. “The music was challenging, the length was challenging. It was really kind of epic for the band regardless of whether the audience was there or not. I thought we did really well and we really rose to the occasion.”

The second band of the night, the Jazz Orchestra, provided many standout moments in the show as they tried a very challenging set. They attempted a 13 and a half-minute piece called Liferaft Earth by Marius Nordal that according to Dr. Durst and the musicians is the hardest song they have performed in the time that Durst has led the band.

“Our most challenging song was Liferaft Earth, because it’s a 13 and a half-minue song with a million and one transitions and time changes,” Durst said. “That was the one we’ve really been honing in on and it came off better than I expected it would go. I was really happy with it.”

Another standout moment came during the final song of the night, Sunshine Swing by Bill Holman with a unique solo by Wheeler. He played a trumpet solo through a Marshall half stack guitar amp and a silent brass trumpet pickup mute, mimicking something that might be heard from a lead guitarist at a rock concert.

“Basically, I got tired of backing up guitar players and watching them go out front and play awesome rock solos,” Wheeler said. “I thought, ‘Well, maybe I can do that.’ So I envisioned this rig and I came up with it and so far, so good.”

Both bands stepped up to the challenge of their difficult show and delivered an impressive and memorable night of jazz that showed the talent within the Fresno State music department.

By Zack Edwards

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Weekly Events

Monday, Dec. 6
Ragabop Trio featuring former Journey drummer Steve Smith in Music Building Concert Hall @ 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 8
2010 Student Art Exhibition in Conley Art Building @ 5 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 9 - Friday, Dec. 10
Dead Days
**The daily crossword**

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

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

**ACROSS**
1. Hardwood source
2. authors of Two Cities
3. love for your family, normally on a credit card.
4. End of a well-known list
5. Rogue
6. Book full of legends?
7. Trailblazing Daniel
8. Erelong
9. The problem with this clue
10. Con man’s excuses
11. Associated with the moon
12. “I give up!”
13. Daily sustenance
14. Waste at a treatment plant
15. Muscle weakness
16. Clair de ___ (porcelain glaze)
17. The Bounty’s men
18. Cuzco inhabitant
19. Carried water
20. Mortarboard accessory
21. Fully engrossed
22. Civil Rights org.
23. nestled in a gavel rack
24. “Million” ending
25. Type of bag or board
26. Hangs on the line
27. Word accompanying a word
28. Word of the Day
29. Round dessert
30. Sty cry
31. Geologic time before life
32. Eponymous hero of the novel
33. “Don’t change it”
34. Golden Rule preposition
35. “Don’t change it”
36. Circus attraction
37. Large musical combo
38. Geological span
39. Recession victim?
40. More than mere intuition
41. Seeped slowly
42. Starter chips
43. Renter’s agreement
44. Keg feature
45. Black-eyed item
46. Not perfectly upright
47. Japanese immigrant’s follower?
48. Peeping Tom, for one
49. Cuddle, in a way
50. Gull-like birds
51. Intrigued by
52. Book full of legends?
53. Nursery-rhyme baddie
54. Leg joint
55. Academic paper abbr.
56. Goes to the dogs
57. Tract surrounded by water
58. Differentiate with Jonathan Franzen will
59. Athenian marketplace
60. Stare at heavenly bodies?
61. Fork part
62. Unlike many a dorm room
63. Potential swing
64. Not at all relaxed
65. Stark’s supper, sometimes

**DOWN**
1. Georgia or Louisiana follower?
2. Raw silk hue
3. “I’m waiting!”
4. Stanley in “A Streetcar Named Desire”
5. Rogue
7. Treatment centers
8. “Don’t change it”
9. Messages left for Winfrey’s Harpo Productions in Chicago weren’t immediately returned.
11. Associated with the moon
12. “I give up!”
13. Daily sustenance
14. Waste at a treatment plant
15. Muscle weakness
16. Clair de ___ (porcelain glaze)
17. The Bounty’s men
18. Cuzco inhabitant
19. Carried water
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55. Academic paper abbr.
56. Goes to the dogs

**History of Fresno State in Pictures**

This picture of Ratcliffe Stadium, Fresno State’s old home football venue, ran alongside an article about the new Bulldog Stadium. The picture ran in the Dec. 6, 1972 issue of The Collegian.

**Christmas Buzz**

A feeling common during the month of December. It is the need to buy many overpriced gifts for your family, normally on a credit card. The buyer feels no feelings of regret for the rest of the month, as he/she feels they are being a good person.

Source: UrbanDictionary.com

**News Briefs**

**NEW YORK (AP) — Better set some time aside for Oprah Winfrey’s latest book club pick.**

The talk show host has selected a pair of Dickens classics, “A Tale of Two Cities” and “Great Expectations.” The two novels are being issued in a pair of Dickens classics, “A Tale of Two Cities” and “Great Expectations.”

**The Bounty’s men**

nine years after his ambivalence over her selection of his novel “The Corrections” led her to withdraw his invitation to appear on her show. Franzen has written extensively of Dickens’ time, when new literary release “was anticipated with the kind of fever that a late-December film release inspires today.”

On Sunday, The Associated Press purchased a copy of the new Dickens volume, which has the book club logo on the cover.

Messages left for Winfrey’s Harpo Productions in Chicago weren’t immediately returned.

Winfrey has chosen older works before, including Leo Tolstoy’s “Anna Karenina” and John Steinbeck’s “East of Eden.” Her website recommends Dickens’ “David Copperfield,” noting it was a favorite of Tolstoy’s.

**LOS ANGELES (AP) — A reality TV star who pleaded no contest to burglary charges and who’s home is being held without bail in Los Angeles for allegedly violating probation.**

A judge on Friday issued the order for 19-year-old Alexis Neiers after the star of the E! reality series “Pretty Wild” was arrested on suspicion of possessing black tar heroin. The judge scheduled a hearing Thursday.

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

http://collegian.csufresno.edu

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Post-season awards

Team Most Valuable Player

Senior
6-3, 245

#43

Chris Carter, DE

The senior sack master stormed onto the scene early and often this season. Carter finished the regular season leading the WAC in sacks with 11. Carter anchored a stellar defensive line that tallied 37 sacks on the season.

Most Valuable O-lineman
Senior
6-6, 360

#79

Devan Cunningham, LG

Cunningham may be remembered most for his improbable two-point conversion to win a thriller over Illinois in 2009. The senior’s consistency won him best lineman after not missing a start all year.

Overachiever Award

Senior
5-9, 190

#24

Dunn walked on to the team in 2000, redshirted and eventually developed into a lockdown corner for Fresno State. The senior has two interceptions on the season and had three in his career.

Most Valuable Back

Senior
6-3, 225

#54

Ben Jacobs, LB

Jacobs, a four-year starter, finished the regular season leading the team in tackles with 80. He is the only player to start every game of his career in Fresno State football history.

Most Inspirational Player

Senior
5-10, 200

#20

Lonnie Bell, SS

Bell suffered a horrific knee injury in 2007, an injury that made doctors wonder if he would ever walk correctly again. Bell rehabilitated and returned as the most feared hitter in the Fresno State secondary the last few seasons.

Most Valuable Back

Sophomore
5-7, 185

#8

Robbie Rouse, RB

The sophomore speedster was Fresno State’s best back this season: replacing Ryan Mathews. Rouse tallied back-to-back 200 yard games, a Bulldog first, en route to 1,135 rushing yards on the season.

COLBURN: Quarterback rallies troops late on senior night, earns respect.

CONTINUED from page 8

averaging 294 yards per game, he had Fresno State sitting at 6-1 and talks of him having the best start by a Bulldog quarterback ever.

But following the Oct. 9 home loss to Hawaii, grumblings about the quarterback’s competence to lead the program spread across campus. Colburn threw three interceptions against Hawaii and both he and the rest of the offense had looked the same in the earlier game. Following the two wins over New Mexico State and San Jose State, Colburn committed nine turnovers over the last four games as Fresno State slipped to 6-4.

“Ryan Colburn had been struggling a little bit only because our timing wasn’t as good,” Hill said. “We weren’t doing a very good job of getting our kids all together, and tonight they really came together.

And for Colburn, a two-year starting career under center for Fresno State came together for an emotional finale in Fresno.

“I was pretty emotional and I couldn’t really control it,” Colburn said. “I felt like my heart was just jumping the whole game. I could just feel it beating in my chest.”

‘DOGS: Late sack seals eighth win

CONTINUED from page 8

encouragement from players, Hill decided to take the gamble, sending the Fresno State offense back onto the field with 1:17 to play.

“That’s one of the things we love about coach Hill,” Colburn said. “When the chips are on the line, he wants to go after things, to go for it.”

On fourth down, Ellis took the handoff and lopped over a blocker, and after an official measurement, the Bulldogs were just inches past the first-down line.

“We live by tough, hard-nose, aggressive fundamental football and that was just living,” defensive end Chris Carter said of the fourth down call.

“You can’t go soft, you can’t run it, you got to go for it.”

Fresno State grinded out nearly two more minutes to give Illinois the ball back with 18 seconds. Backup quarterback Eddie McGee threw an incomplete pass on first down at the Illinois 9 and defensive lineman Anthony Williams sealed the game when he sacked McGee onto the turf on the very next play.

Colburn capped off his Fresno State career throwing for 304 yards and three touchdowns.

“It was just a great way to end the game,” Colburn said. “We believed in ourselves, we got it done when we had to get it done.”

‘Dogs go bowling

By Ben Ingersoll
The Collegian

For the second time this season, Fresno State will be playing in Boise.

This time, however, the ‘Dogs will be trying to bury the demons of a 51-0 beatdown on the blue turf in the U-Dome Humanitarian Bowl. On Sunday Fresno State accepted its bid to play in the bowl game and will face Northern Illinois. The Huskies finished the regular season 10-3 but fell to Miami (OH) in the Mid-American Conference Championship game on Friday. They were undefeated in regular-season conference play before the Redhawks snatched the Huskies’ nine-game winning streak.

Northern Illinois has a potent offensive attack, averaging 346 yards per game to go along with 28 points per game. “Last time we were able to go to the Humanitarian Bowl we were victorious,” Chris Carter said.

“We’re going to be playing a different team, we’re just not going to worry about the field, just the team.

Featureing Steve Smith on drums
Journey, Vital Information

George Brooks (Sax)
& Prosanna (guitars)

Raga Bop Trio in Concert

Monday, Dec. 6, 2010 at 8 p.m.
Fresno State Music Building Concert Hall Admission
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For more information contact Dr. Mathews Darling, Percussion Studies, California State University, Fresno (559) 278-2840.
http://www.csufresno.edu/music/concerts/index.shtml

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‘Dogs inch past Illini

Fresno State 25, Illinois 23

Milking out the win

By Vongni Yang
The Collegian

Fresno State’s most satisfying drive ended in a punt and zero points, but a tough nine minutes and 12 seconds off the clock in 15 plays in the fourth quarter was worthy of a celebration in the red-and-white checkered end zone.

Quarterback Ryan Colburn engineered a 20-yard drive that was aided by a crucial penalty on Illinois (6-6, 4-4 Big Ten), a big third-and-10 conversion and a gutsy fourth and one call as Fresno State (8-4, 5-3 Western Athletic Conference) held on late to defeat the visiting Fighting Illini, 25-23 at Bulldog Stadium.

“That was a heck of a win for this football team,” head coach Pat Hill said. “We had to fight through a lot of adversity.”

After trailing by as much as 16 points in the first quarter, Illinois overcame a jet-lagged start to cut the Bulldogs’ lead to two when quarterback Nathan Scheelhaase sliced through the middle for a 21-yard touchdown.

But on third down, Colburn over-threw receiver Jamel Hamler, and it seemed likely that the Bulldogs would be forced to punt. Then, an official threw a flag as Hamler was hit late after the ball had already hit the turf. An official ruled that an illegal hit was delivered to a defenseless receiver, giving Fresno State a fresh set of downs.

Fresno and the offense would go on to convert on a vital 3rd-and-10, when he connected with Hamler on a slant pass for 15 yards. “We hadn’t really used that play all year,” Colburn said. “We knew the coverage was going to be that deep and we found out that play was working all night.”

There were a few critical moments in the game, Hill said. “But on such a great note,” senior defensive end Chris Carter said. “He’s the heart and soul of our offense. He leads us on such a great note.”

Colburn finished the game throwing for more than 300 yards for just the third time in his career and completing 18 passes, but perhaps no completion was more important than the one that came with 6:30 remaining in the contest. Colburn faced a 3rd-and-19 situation but found Jamel Hamler on a 15-yard drag across the middle to move the chains and keep the ball away from a clicking Illinois offense.

Colburn’s play on senior night enabled Fresno State to finish the regular season with an 8-4 record for the third time in four years. His big game caught the attention of not only fans and coaches, but his defensive teammates as well.

“I’m just happy he was able to end on such a great note,” senior defensive end Chris Carter said. “He’s the heart and soul of our offense. He leads those guys. He’s had a couple of tough times this year and he’s always able to bounce back. I really admire that guy; he’s so resilient.”

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Ryan Colburn earns fitting finale

By Ben Ingersoll
The Collegian

Senior quarterback Ryan Colburn had nine minutes and 90 yards to leave one lasting impression on his doubters. Up until that drive in the fourth quarter, Colburn had compiled a 10-8 record as a starter at Fresno State, completing 63 percent of his throws with 17 touchdown passes. The problem is, even on his senior night, most fans remember number 15 for his 20 career interceptions, his numerous fumbles and his perceived inability to lead the ‘Dogs to big-time victories.

But for the 30,625 on hand Friday night Colburn had his shot to give fans at least one big-game memorable moment, and he delivered.

Clinging to a slim 25-23 lead on Big Ten foe Illinois with 9:31 left in the game, Colburn and the offense went to work starting at their own 10-yard line. The drive lasted 15 plays and netted just 50 yards, but chewed up 9:13 off the clock and sent the senior out the way he wanted to be remembered.

“We all kind of knew what that drive was,” Colburn said. “One thing I said to the guys in the huddle was that people are going to remember this drive, the way people remember the drive against UCLA a couple of years ago. I said let’s make sure we make people remember this drive.

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