Planning for our future

We have embarked on one of our campus’ most exciting ventures in decades: putting our Comprehensive Campus Master Plan into action while gearing up for our university Centennial celebration beginning in just two years. Enrollment growth is projected to continue for many decades. Our campus must be ready to accommodate more students, faculty and staff, while following through on our environmental sustainability initiatives and our engagement with the region we serve.

We have involved a broad spectrum of the campus community in Master Plan drafts and expect that collaborative effort to result in approval by California State University Trustees late in 2008. Our plan is bold and broad. Over the next 20 years, we will see new academic buildings, a permanent University High School campus, comprehensive athletic facilities, multilevel parking structures, improved traffic and pedestrian circulation and recognition of our agricultural mission. The most visible change will be a dramatic entrance boulevard off Shaw Avenue. I encourage you to read the special report on the Master Plan that begins on Page 2. I also invite you to visit our Master Plan Web site www.csufresno.edu/masterplan to learn more about how Fresno State will be shaped for the future so we can carry out our mission to power the New California.

John D. Welty
President

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Stay in touch!

We welcome your letters. Please send them to Editor, FresnoState Magazine, 2444 N. Jackson Ave., M/S KC45, Fresno, CA 93740-8237 or e-mail them to magazine@csufresno.edu.

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From our readers

Benefits of the Lab School

Your article on Page 5 in the fall 2007 issue of the FresnoState magazine indicated that [teacher in space] Barbara Morgan attended Kindergarten at the old Lab School. Actually, Barbara and her four brothers, Brooks, Robert, Jefry and Howard, all had all of their elementary schooling at the old Lab School. They had a great education and encouragement from a wonderful group of teachers led by the principal, Dr. David Haimbach. We didn’t think that primary education in any other school in Fresno could have offered them as much.

We will always have fond memories of this experience.

Jerome Bading, M.D., FAOC, FACC

Laguna Woods

Mistakes noted

Don’t mean to take a shot at either this publication or its editors, however, the name of the person in a photo caption (page 11) was noted as “Mike” instead of “John.” Even Upon re-reading the article, the name was “Tim.” Not trying to be negative but feel the article could have been handled better. Would it be a bit presumptuous to use the picture?

As an Asian American of Chinese descent, I was most proud of my high school education and quality of education were the main goal of this particular campus. We graduated at a time when Fresno State learning also happens until late night at the farm, athletic fields, arena, library, day-care program, laboratories and permission venues, before the next dawn and a new busy day.

We regret both errors.

We’d like to hear your comments about FresnoState Magazine, 5244 N. Jackson Ave., M/S KC45, Fresno, CA 93740-8237 or e-mail them to magazine@csufresno.edu.

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Front and back cover photos: Michael Karibian

On our cover

The Smittcamp Alumni House, the unofficial “front door” of Fresno State, is silhouetted as the sun rises over the Sierra, signaling another busy campus day.

12 Fresno State 24/7

Darkness and natural sounds at dawn are an overture to an energetic symphony based on the 25,000 students, faculty, staff and community members who play their parts in Fresno State’s educational mission each day. Cooking bacon (photo above) for the breakfast rush of student athletes and dormitory residents is just part of the routine. The classroom is vital, but at Fresno State learning also happens until late night at the farm, athletic fields, arena, library, day-care program, laboratories and performance venues, before the next dawn and a new busy day.

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Special Report

Fresno State’s new Campus Master Plan charts big changes

By Chuck Radke

Not since 1963 have administrators at Fresno State taken such a thorough look at the campus and how it can best provide for future growth.

Nearly half a century ago, planners mapped a footprint to meet the needs of 20,000 students. It included 10,000 parking spaces on 90 acres, an east-west pedestrian mall, a formal entrance to the campus and a provision to exclude traffic from the campus core.

Now, after two years of scrutiny and 80 meetings with various constituencies, university officials have drafted a new plan to take Fresno State through the next 20 years and beyond. The Comprehensive Campus Master Plan, scheduled for California State University Trustees’ approval late in 2008, echoes some familiar objectives: increased parking, an east-west walkway, a dramatic new entrance and a traffic plan that will keep cars and pedestrians out of conflict.

But the similarities may end there. Some of today’s challenges – traffic congestion, air and water quality, equitable access – were of little concern 45 years ago. Today’s plan for an anticipated enrollment of 30,000 has two planning horizons – 10 and 20 years – and four overarching goals:

• Optimize campus facilities and provide for growth
• Improve circulation for pedestrians
• Respect the university’s agricultural heritage yet be responsive to changing activities and architecture
• Accommodate diversity

But beneath that umbrella are subplans nested within the Master Plan that combine to make this one of the most ambitious undertakings in the university’s nearly 100-year history.

Cynthia Teniente-Matson, the university’s vice president for Administration and chief financial officer, says crafting the Master Plan has been an extensive collaborative process.

“We wanted to make sure we interviewed all the different constituent groups about what Fresno State means today and what it will mean in 20 years to be an engaged university,” Matson says, referring to the way a campus connects with its community.

The plan must integrate the university’s strategic, enrollment and academic plans with its research goals for the next 20 years. And it does so with an eye toward preserving Fresno State’s cultural heritage.
The drafting process was characterized by its intensive analysis. Parking, for example, was subject to density studies focusing on all lots, entrances to campus and arrival and departure times. That data was overlaid with class schedules and building-use studies to pinpoint where and when people are moving now and will move in the future.

Those efforts have yielded a plan for as many as as five multilevel parking structures to replace surface parking in the next two decades. The decision to build up instead of out also honors the university’s agricultural heritage and preserves farm land, Matson says.

Robert Boyd, associate vice president for facilities management, says the first parking structure is slated for east of the Peters Building. The recent addition of the Science II Building has shifted the student population to the northeast side of campus, where parking demands now are the greatest.

A second structure near Peters is planned over the course of 20 years, with others rising near the Madden Library, Kremen School of Education and Human Development and south of Barstow Avenue from Lot Q. That would relieve a situation, Boyd says, where “every hour on the hour” officers usher more than 2,000 students safely across the street while getting long lines of cars onto and off of campus. Lot Q eventually would become green space as planners implement the vision for infill over sprawl.

“Everything is going up,” Boyd says. “No more single-story structures. It’s going to become more of an urban environment versus a semi-suburban environment.”

The Master Plan doesn’t sacrifice aesthetics, either, calling for comfortable outdoor spaces, enhanced topography, a fusion of arboretum, agriculture and architecture, and “meet-and-greet” areas for all seasons. An improved east-west spine called “Bulldog Walk” will bisect the university. It will connect the Campus Pointe residential, hotel, retail, commercial, office and cultural development with Bulldog Stadium on the opposite side of campus. Boyd says the walkway will mitigate congestion and provide for “unified and delineated walkways.”

The planning team’s building inventory study was part of its effort to create more usable, unified space within the campus setting. Buildings considered “functionally obsolete” will be replaced by three-story buildings designed to incorporate environmental sustainability principles.

“We asked which buildings were at the end of useful life and which would be wise to invest in,” Matson says. The result is a footprint that reveals open expanses and opportunities for development, which makes the current plan much more flexible than its predecessor.

“You’re always going to have projects pop up,” Matson says. “A donor comes in, a bond passes, roadway improvements cut through campus, things you don’t expect.”

Matson says the Master Plan remains firm and comprehensive, while not assuming that at some point the campus will be complete. “Having this level of comprehensive review gives you the maximum flexibility,” she says.

Athletics also is a major component of the plan. North of Bullard Avenue on the east side of campus, a new equine center will combine equine science,
academic programs, student horse boarding and intercollegiate equestrian and rodeo competition venues with seating for 1,000. Spectator facilities improvements are planned at Bulldog Diamond, Warmerdam Field and the Wathen Tennis Center.

West of Cedar Avenue, the soccer/lacrosse facility will begin taking shape in fall 2008, Boyd says, with development of an enhanced grass field and Berm seating he calls “a small step, not a final solution” leading to “a true-life stadium.”

Also planned west of Cedar are an administration building, a Bulldog “Walk of Fame,” student-athlete village and improved access and spectator seating at Beiden Field. The Bulldog Stadium field will be lowered and resurfaced, Boyd says, and its west side will be sheltered by a roof.

The new grand entrance off Shaw Avenue will welcome the community to the dramatic heart of the campus – the new Henry Madden Library and the University Student Union.

“One of the things we determined in the Master Plan is that we never really had a front door,” Boyd says. To make way for that, the Lab School, Keats Building, University High School and University Center will be razed. Auxiliary plans are under way that would relocate staff and services operating in those spaces to planned remodels of the North Gym and Satellite Student Union.

A plan for a bus transit center is included in the entry design, Boyd says, which is part of the university’s effort to encourage alternative transportation.

Boyd concedes that the current economic climate may be challenging to some facets of the Master Plan, but that doesn’t dim the vision, which is to provide a clear direction for the campus as a social and cultural destination as well as a center of learning.

“It’s pretty exciting,” he says. “This is a document we’ll use as our framework for the next 20 years.”

— Chuck Radke is the thesis consultant in the Division of Graduate Studies.

A study in pink

A pink bicycle is parked before a blooming tree next to a complementary red bike near the Kennel Bookstore.

The Comprehensive Campus Master Plan encourages alternative transportation as part of the university’s sustainability commitment.

Special Report
Campus & Beyond

One of the largest solar paneled parking structure projects on a U.S. university campus is a cornerstone of Fresno State’s commitment to sustainability. The $11.9 million project, a partnership with Chevron Energy Solutions, provides the only sheltered parking on campus for more than 700 student vehicles and generates 20 percent of campus power needs. Over 30 years, Fresno State will save a projected $13 million in utility costs.

“This project is just one of the university’s ‘green campus’ initiatives,” says President John D. Welty, who signed the Talloires Declaration the day the solar-power project was dedicated.

The declaration – signed by hundreds of universities around the world – commits Fresno State to a 10-point action plan incorporating sustainability and environmental literacy programs.

Community service from campus is recognized

Fresno State received a national Special Achievement Award for its Mediator Mentors Program that helps future teachers, counselors and school psychologists teach school children in the region hands-on conflict resolution skills.

The award was presented at the American Council of Education conference by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Grad student’s meditation sessions help redirect juvenile offenders

Although the campus is the hub of Fresno State activity most days, for Mark Jackson, service in the community is a labor of love that’s working to redirect the lives of juvenile offenders.

Jackson, a native of Michigan, began his work in the central San Joaquin Valley as a 19-year-old Spanish-speaking Mormon missionary and, 15 years later, is on track to receive his master’s degree in social work from Fresno State in spring 2008.

Jackson characterizes himself as deeply spiritual. His life philosophy was established on his grandfather’s farm in State College, Pa., where he learned as a boy “to never take more than what you give, and always give more than what you take.”

It was the theme in everything his family did, Jackson says.

He applies that ethic and others at the Fresno County Juvenile Justice Campus, where some days there are more than 300 youth incarcerated. They struggle to overcome gang and family violence, drug and alcohol abuse, academic failure and broken social circles.

Jackson says, ‘Meditation classes helped calm the youth.’

‘Meditation classes helped calm the youth.’

By Chuck Radke

His work with them began in summer 2006 as part of the launch of Fresno’s MOSAIC (Mentoring to Overcome Struggles and Inspire Courage) project. The program is a partnership between the Fresno State Department of Social Work, the Fresno County Probation Department and Focus Forward, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping underserved youth in the juvenile justice system.

At the time, Jackson says, the youth were receiving limited services – a Bible study and a yoga class.

He devised a plan to provide meditation classes. He believes that physical relaxation, deep breathing and positive mental imagery better equip young people to deal with anxiety about the future and enable them to more successfully handle the here-and-now.

The Probation Department and Focus Forward responded positively, says Dr. Mitzi Lowe, an associate professor in the Department of Social Work Education. Jackson was asked for a written proposal that wound up being used initially as the “high-risk pod in the institution,” Lowe says.

Jackson’s proposal was a curriculum based on Transcendental Meditation (TM), introduced to the United States in the 1960s. Jackson says TM examines a “cycle of emotions, thoughts, behaviors, actions and consequences, then combines that with an understanding of personal responsibility.”

Jackson’s curriculum provides youth with a general idea of where thoughts come from and helps them “come up with different alternatives so they can, in turn, come up with different consequences.”

Jackson offers an example one youth who began his meditation class thinking life after incarceration would mean a return to his former ways. After the class, that youth was talking about college and has since enrolled in classes, and secured housing and funding along the way.

Jackson says that of the 1,447 youth to complete an eight-week meditation class, 144 have not returned to the Juvenile Justice Campus on an additional charge.

Many are “amazed at what they have seen meditation do” at the Juvenile Justice Campus, Jackson says.

“The youth exhibited fewer behavioral problems,” says Lowe.

It was so valuable, Lowe says, that Jackson was hired after his internship to continue the work. “That’s the kind of impact Fresno MOSAIC has.”

The next step for Jackson is to document stories of the youth who completed a meditation class between December 2006 and 2007 and compare them to a control group yet to take meditation classes.

In doing so, Jackson says, he’ll be inspiring a more current body of research on meditation and its effects on incarcerated youth, which has gone largely unstudied since the mid-1980s.

“I want this project to continue,” he says. “We don’t want to deny this intervention to anybody.”

To share your news and comments, e-mail magazine@csufresno.edu.
Grants will help build biomedical facility

A five-year, $4.5-million grant from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities will be used by Fresno State to create more opportunities for students of color to study medicine through a state-of-the-art biomedical facility.

Students and faculty will be able to use the latest technology to study health issues critical to the region served by Fresno State. The proposed center will support the research of several Fresno State faculty into such concerns as asthma, the effect of pesticides on health outcomes, and Alzheimer’s patients.

The proposed center will support the research of several Fresno State faculty into such concerns as asthma, the effect of pesticides on health outcomes, and Alzheimer’s patients. The Fresno State-based San Joaquin Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan has been formed to ensure that the region obtains its share of dwindling water supplies.

Valley state and federal water program leaders formed the plan because ongoing population growth in California, multiple drought years and an antiquated water delivery system have placed unprecedented strain on California water resources.

Kathy Wood, a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation water specialist whose office is at Fresno State, says it’s critical that the plan serve as a single voice for the Valley to accommodate the broadest spectrum of need. She adds, “If you say that the system is crashing, it is not an overstatement.”

University takes lead on critical water issues

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Centennial leaders already making plans

By Michelle Fontani

Fresno State is on the brink of celebrating its 100th anniversary.

A Centennial Leadership Committee is in place and plans already are being made for activities beginning around Vintage Days in spring 2010 and ending with the university’s 2011 commencement.

Centennial events will be designed to enhance pride in the university for everyone associated with Fresno State and provide an opportunity to promote the accomplishments throughout the New California and beyond.

Fresno State was established as a normal school by the Legislature on April 10, 1910, to educate teachers and farmers in the San Joaquin Valley. The first class met Sept. 11, 1911, and Fresno State was the region’s only four-year public college until the late 1950s.

Our university has touched literally thousands of people. I’m excited — and so are the other committee members — to help share our story and motivate people to join us for Centennial events.

The committee will plan and execute events for alumni and the community to celebrate our past and showcase our university. It also will create a logo and Web site.

Michelle Fontani, President’s Office

Fresno State’s Department of Nursing will celebrate its golden anniversary in late 2008, recognizing the university’s long commitment to meeting the health-care needs of the San Joaquin Valley.

“The 50th anniversary will allow us to share our legacy of nursing success with the Central California community,” says Pam Loewen, a 1966 nursing graduate. She also is alumni liaison and historian for the Fresno State Legacy of Nursing Education and Leadership Project.

The Nursing Legacy Project was established by Loewen and a group of emeriti faculty, staff and alumni to preserve and document the impact of nursing education and leadership at Fresno State. The first phase was unveiled in 2007 and is housed in Fresno State’s Central California Center for Excellence in Nursing.

The Department of Nursing, which opened in 1968 and graduated 32 students in 1968, now graduates more than 110 registered nurses per year, helping meet a regionwide need for more nurses.

Dr. Michael Russelk, the department chair, says the anniversary “is a special time to recognize how our nurses have … really touched lives all over the nation.”

Winery builds careers bearing fruit worldwide

In 10 short years, Fresno State has proven itself again and again as a serious contender in the winemaking industry and in producing the next generation of winemakers.

In 1997, Fresno State became the first university to bottle, label and market its own wine commercially, providing students a unique opportunity to see the entire winemaking process from the vine to customer satisfaction. Graduates have taken what they’ve learned on campus throughout the world and won numerous awards in the process.

Each year, the university enters its wines in competition against others from around the world, frequently winning awards. In 2007 alone, Fresno State wines won 32 prizes at eight competitions, including Best of Class for its 2006 Pinot Gris and double gold for its 2003 Solarix-style dessert wine and 2004 Syrah.
At 6 a.m., pale predawn light pushes its way through a grove of pine trees at Fresno State, where it’s quiet and the air is still. It’s the start of another spring semester day on campus, where so much goes on that your mind sees each thing much like the individual tiles in a mosaic. The memorial fountain isn’t yet gushing. Birds chirp gently in the Peace Garden trees amid the larger-than-life statues of peace visionaries Mahatma Gandhi, César Chávez, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Jane Addams.

A groundskeeper gets out of a golf cart near the Kennel Bookstore, starts a back-mounted blower and clears leaves and twigs from the sidewalk. Construction workers in neon-orange vests and yellow hard hats arrive at the site of the $105 million Henry Madden Library expansion and quickly fire up bulldozers, backhoes and lifts.

A day in the life of the campus

By Lisa Lieberman

Sunlight chases the night as traffic builds around the campus and staff, faculty and students arrive by private vehicle or bus.

A stormy day’s clouds cast an overcast glow over Fresno State near dawn (opposite page), before traffic begins building on campus streets (upper left, below). Sara Poodry and Amanda Schott hone their culinary skills in a Culinology class (upper right). Outside the Thomas Administration building, gardener Armando Llamas displays a poppy (lower right), while Dr. Stuart K. McFeeters teaches a GIS (Geographical Information Systems) class.

By Lisa Lieberman

Photos by Michael Karibian
Cooks in the University Courtyard Dining Hall began chopping, frying, boiling and baking nearly two hours before freshly showered football players arrive,avenous after a practice that began when Bulldog Stadium cast no shadows. As the players leave, more food goes out for residence hall students. Access campus, animals are fed, cows are milked and enclosures are cleaned by students on the 1,100-acre Agricultural Laboratory, one of the most diversified farms in the nation’s richest agricultural area.

Sunlight chases the night as traffic builds around the campus and staff, faculty and students arrive by private vehicle or bus. Students trickling into the academic heart of campus walk, ride bicycles and skateboard. Some gather in the University Student Union to study and get a wake-up jolt of caffeine before their first morning class.

Conversations and study are accompanied by the smell of coffee brewing at the USU Snack Bar. Nearby, the odor of freshly churned earth at the Madden Library construction site is displaced by the perfume of newly blooming flowers. In the rose garden, where Fresno State World War II veterans are remembered, just-grilled bushes show signs of new growth above fresh mulch in three large beds.

Throughout the morning, the pace quickens as students go to classes, meetings of faculty and staff are convened and myriad other tasks are performed by 2,300 people to keep this small “city” of about 25,000 running smoothly. Somehow it’s always a surprise that activity accelerates again with the extended lunch “hour” – more like two hours – as students pour out of classrooms with serious purpose and not much time.

Some spread backpacks in a circle on a sunny patch of grass outside the Student Union. Others line up at fast-food restaurants while friends stake out tables to study, talk and eat. Espresso fans push armfuls of pizza, fried chicken and hot frying oil into the noontime air. The ear is caught by voices of students from some of the more than 90 ethnic groups on campus speaking Spanish, Lao, Farsi, Hindi, Arabic, Tagalog or Chinese. A band plays in the Pit – its amplified music audible from the library to the bookstores. Students clued in to the speakers, though, don’t miss a beat in conversations, phone calls, study or lunch.

On a clear, sunny afternoon, snowy Sierras peak glister along the eastern horizon, promising water to irrigate hundreds of thousands of acres in the San Joaquin Valley. Research by Fresno State and community partners develops water resources and finds new ways to conserve whatever water there is.

Fresno State’s farm is home to a dairy, vineyards, a winery, orchards, vegetable and row crops, food-processing units, a floral lab and a market where students learn by doing and conduct research with worldwide application. Revenue from student food products and wine is plowed back into the operation.

The farm is an example of how the educational mission is blended with the university’s commitment to community engagement and leadership.

The state-of-the-art 15,000-seat Save Mart Center attracts major musical concerts to Fresno and hosts Bulldog and pro sports and other events. It’s also a training ground for students planning to manage event centers and organize big events.

In criminology classes and laboratories, faculty and students investigate evidence from government and law enforcement agencies. Art and design students hone their creativity, enhancing community cultural enrichment. Labs teach engineering students construction management skills, how waves flow and the impact of earthquakes on various structures.

Activity ebbs in late afternoon, but the Fresno State softball team is gearing up for the 10th anniversary season of a 1998 NCAA championship with a preseason game. An Air Force ROTC student, decked out in military camouflage, directs traffic on the grass by Bulldog Diamond loudspeakers, but the “party’s” not over with the softball game on a typical campus day.

Most daytime students, faculty and staff are gone by 6 p.m. as people arrive for night classes, sports events, concerts, lectures or to use the Madden Library, the only California State University library with a reference librarian on duty during all open hours.

Camp residents study, shoot pool or watch TV during the evening. Some bowl at the USU or work out at the Student Recreation Center. With faculty and staff away, the janitorial team makes classrooms and offices tidy for the day ahead.

By 9 p.m., it’s quiet again on campus and dark, except for the orange glow of sidewalk lighting and the bright blue strobes atop emergency phones. Few cars and trucks roll through campus and fewer people walk or jog on walkways.

Patrolling University Police officers and their dispatchers – aided by TV cameras, radios and computers – keep watch over the sleeping campus, ready to take action, but hopeful it won’t be necessary.

In the Peace Garden, it is peaceful again at Fresno State.

Lisa Lierberman is a freelance writer.

Lanny Larson, editor of FresnoState Magazine, contributed to this article.

Only the earliest, most exercise-conscious students are at the Student Recreation Center when it opens at 6 a.m. before left. A man keeps a wary eye on her recently-dropped foal as Danielle Golden offers a treat at the Agricultural Laboratory, better known as the University Farm.

Gretchen Wilson’s “I’m Here for the Party” starts playing on the Bulldog Diamond loudspeakers, but the “party’s” not over with the softball game on a typical campus day.

Most daytime students, faculty and staff are gone by 6 p.m. as people arrive for night classes, sports events, concerts, lectures or to use the Madden Library, the only California State University library with a reference librarian on duty during all open hours.

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Lanny Larson, editor of FresnoState Magazine, contributed to this article.
One-year-old Ena Yunouye started college early.

Her parents, Paul and Moon-ja Yunouye, both work at Fresno State, where little Ena has been a regular on campus since she was born in February 2007. Paul is a student adviser for International Student Services and Programs and Moon-ja is a development coordinator for the College of Arts & Humanities.

For the Yunouyes, each day is a new challenge as they integrate their family and professional lives.

Mondays are special days, though, because the Yunouyes have been allowed to adjust their work schedules to spend time at home with Ena.

On Mondays, Moon-ja Yunouye is quickly awakened by her husband so as not to disturb Ena, who sleeps with her parents. Moon-ja Yunouye dresses and makes breakfast for her family—usually an Asian rice porridge loaded with vegetables and fish. Then, she heads out on her 10-minute commute from their northeast Fresno home to campus, while her husband and Ena begin their time together.

Moon-ja Yunouye is highly committed to breastfeed Ena. At times, though, she’s cut her work hours to accommodate the needs of her family.

Her parents, Paul and Moon-ja Yunouye, both work at Fresno State, where little Ena has been a regular on campus since she was born in February 2007. Paul is a student adviser for International Student Services and Programs and Moon-ja is a development coordinator for the College of Arts & Humanities.

She recalls when Yunouye was trying to figure out why she had been craving pizza for two weeks straight, then found out she was pregnant. Jansen says the staff laughed with Yunouye as her belly grew bigger and knocked over a coffee cup on the desk. They celebrated the birth of Ena and have witnessed close-up the first year of her life.

Moon-ja Yunouye says she and her husband are looking forward to returning to their traditional work hours so they don’t have to juggle schedules and can carpool to campus.

In her mother’s Fresno State office, Ena claps her tiny hands and lets out a squeal. Her pigtails bounce and her dark eyes dance as she spins on her mother’s office chair. If she could form the words, Ena Yunouye might call Fresno State her home away from home.

Dorina Lazo Gilmore is a freelance writer, children’s book author and journalism instructor in Fresno.

The Yunouyes will try again during the summer when Ena is 18 months old. They hope her development and “play dates” with her parents at the Huggins Center until then, will help Ena get used to the new environment. “We’ll see how it goes,” says Moon-ja Yunouye.

“Hopefully, she will adjust better,” says Paul Yunouye.

The Yunouyes toured various facilities around Fresno and settled on the Huggins Center located at the Kremen Education and Human Development Building. “We feel the Huggins Center has the most staff support,” explains Paul Yunouye.

“It’s very spacious,” adds his wife, who also was impressed by the different learning environments available for the children.

“It’s a lot more expensive than other day cares around, but you can’t beat the proximity,” says Paul Yunouye. “The best thing for Ena is to be on campus.”

Catherine Mathis, the director of Fresno State Programs for Children, says, “Once the child begins the program, parents are invited to stay with or visit their child to whatever extent is comfortable for the family. Parents are always welcome to make unannounced visits at the child’s center and to discuss any concerns.”

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Moon-ja and Paul Yunouye work at Fresno State, where they’re helping their year-old daughter Ena make the adjustment from home care to day care at the Huggins Early Education Center on campus.
One of the busiest places on campus also is one of the most beautiful buildings in the San Joaquin Valley – the Smittcamp Alumni House. It’s Fresno State’s unofficial front door, where students warmly welcome visitors and direct them wherever they want to go on campus.

With its leaded, stained and etched glass front door and Southern mansion-inspired architecture, the Smittcamp Alumni House practically begs visitors to invoke a line from movie memory: “Fiddle dee dee” or “Frankly, my dear …”

In charge of the comings and goings of this picture-book house is Lois May, the manager since the beginning and the person who sets the hospitable tone.

In 1985, she started at Fresno State in the Institutional Research Department. She joined the Fresno State Alumni Association team two years later. In the mid-1990s when the house was on the drawing board, Alumni Association Executive Director Jacquelyn Glassner (retired) designated May the house manager.

“One day, Jacqui said, ‘You’re going to be running the Smittcamp House, OK?’ I told her ‘sure,’ but didn’t have any idea what Jacqui meant when she said that,” May says, laughing.

Chairing the committee to build an alumni house was William Forbes, a long-time friend and fellow alumnus of Earl and Muriel Smittcamp. (Mr. Forbes died Feb. 19, 2008.) The Smittcamp family donated $1 million to begin the project and donations followed from businesses and individuals. It’s the only facility in the entire California State University built specifically for alumni. May sat in on committee discussions, met with decorators, took notes, erased notes and made new notes. “We went through five color schemes,” she remembers. “Once I went on vacation and when I got back the color plan had been changed again.”

She’s happy with the result, saying, “The colors are classic and won’t ever be dated.”

The centerpiece of the foyer is an enormous, exquisite crystal and brass chandelier. “When it was delivered, the box was taller than I am, and I’m 5 foot 9,” May says. “It hangs from a jeep winch hidden in the ceiling and is lowered twice a year for cleaning the crystal and replacing the light bulbs.”

Since it opened, May has led the house’s hectic schedule of university, business, community and private meetings.

People learn about the house by attending a function or by word of mouth. “We have never advertised,” May says. “One look at the Smittcamp Alumni House and it sells itself.”

Leslie Cunning is a freelance writer in Fresno.
A passion for learning and enterprise

By Adrian Rodriguez

Stephanie Reilly is a busy one because she's not doing all her studying in Fresno State classrooms.

When she's not hitting the books, she's balancing them as a 19-year-old entrepreneur running her own start-up company, POParazzi Jewelry. The fashion brand of rare and vintage soda pop bottle caps opened on her first day as a university student from an office made available by the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

"The best place you can be to start a business is on a college campus," Reilly says. "There is a whole microcosm of society. It's a really good place to incubate." As a student entrepreneur, Reilly may be as rare as some of her jewelry, but that's changing at Fresno State. Reilly was selected in 2007 by the Lyles Center, a business "hatchery" on campus, to run her business from an office there. The Lyles Center, which spreads over 10,000 square feet on the second floor of the Student Recreation Center, supports student entrepreneurs by providing research and networking opportunities and office space. Dr. Timothy Stearns, who directs the Lyles Center, said the POParazzi startup was an obvious pick because of Reilly's passion for learning and enterprise.

Midway through her first year at Fresno State, Reilly's GPA was a perfect 4.0, her business was growing and she was helping other budding entrepreneurs. Her message is that business and education complement, they don't conflict.

"Stephanie supports Fresno State because she exemplifies the qualities of a student entrepreneur and gives other students an understanding of how they can use their education to be a successful entrepreneur," Stearns says. "Most students believe that they must wait until they graduate to begin their career path. Stephanie shows that the interplay between business and education is organic." Adrian Rodriguez is a writer and owner of LateUpdate.com, a news site based in Fresno.

Silent Garden Dream coming true

By Brandie Campbell

Gardening isn’t the exclusive province of groundskeepers at Fresno State. For Dr. Paul Ogden, it’s cultivating sponsors to make his dream of a Silent Garden come true.

Three years ago, Dr. Benjamin Cuellar, dean of the College of Health and Human Services, asked Ogden, a deaf studies professor at Fresno State, what he really wanted to pursue at the university. “He asked me to dream big,” says Ogden.

After several nights tossing and turning, Ogden awoke from a dream and says, “At that moment, I knew I wanted a community-oriented endowed chair.” His Silent Garden Endowed Chair proposal was inspired by his own experiences assisting families meet challenges in raising deaf and hard-of-hearing children.

Ogden has watched his dream progress toward reality as local and statewide donors contributed toward a full-funding goal of $2.5 million for a visiting professional each year. A focus area will be outlined annually in which the visitor will teach and spend significant time in the community facilitating workshops and seminars.

“It’s important to bring the best visiting professionals to the Valley to work with those who will profit most from the specific help and inspiration,” he says.

Ogden, who was born deaf, explains, “It takes a while for people to understand how difficult it is to be deaf or hard of hearing or to raise or teach a child with significant hearing loss. There are both subtle and obvious needs that can be addressed quite successfully.”

Ogden has spent more than three decades teaching, speaking publicly, conducting training and writing about raising deaf children. His most recent books have centered around the theme title, “Silent Garden,” indicating a serene place for communication, learning and growth. It also inspired the name Ogden gave his project.

“The Silent Garden Endowed Chair will be a lasting tribute to Paul Ogden’s influence and presence in the college and the community,” says Dr. Don Fried, chair of the Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies Department at Fresno State.

Fresno State’s Advancement Division, the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies and the College of Health and Human Services have helped Ogden secure donor funding from multiple donors.

“I was never a fundraiser, I always had a difficult time asking people for money,” Ogden says. “Then I realized that the money is going directly and effectively toward a cause that will bear immediate fruit. That made it easier for me to ask people to become gardeners for our campaign.”

Brandie Campbell is an information specialist for the Fresno State College of Health and Human Services.
The humble classroom sometimes gets forgotten when people think about higher education. But whether it’s a large auditorium filled with students jostling to be in the back or a small room with just enough seating for everyone, the classroom is central to the academic mission of the university.

Many factors go into the making a good classroom at Fresno State. What counts more than just the space and multimedia capabilities is how a classroom is used.

Take, for example, Room 108 in Science II, the newest classroom building, opened in 2006. Science II was built to meet existing needs, anticipate enrollment increases and take advantage of current presentation technologies.

Ensuring that a classroom functions as intended is the behind-the-scenes task of Academic Scheduling Coordinator Anne Burkholder and her assistant, Diana Elledge, who plan each classroom’s part in Fresno State’s academic delivery system.

Their work is why Room 108 doesn’t sit empty very long, beginning a typical week at 8 a.m. on a foggy Monday when students waft in like wisps of smoke for Dr. John Constable’s Botany 130 class.

Room 108 is a “smart” classroom, with a ceiling projector focused on a screen in one corner and whiteboards on two walls. A professor can have a PowerPoint presentation going and write on a board at the same time.

Bekahi Volakis, a senior studying biology, says it’s awkward having the screen where it is: “You have to keep turning to look at it.” And noise from above can be distracting. But Michael Ruiz, another senior biology major, counters, “I like the modern feel and the lighting.”

One student, wearing fuzzy leopard print bedroom slippers and striped socks, works on a laptop, while another student wearing black boots sips an iced coffee. Some students shuffle through their notes, some yawn and stretch.

Constable arrives wide awake and ready to answer students’ questions about numerators and denominators before he begins lectures on physiological and structural controls over evaporative water loss in plants. “Leaves are not just simple structures that absorb sunlight and make carbohydrates,” he says.

Constable uses the projector while drawing diagrams on the whiteboard and explaining tissue types and environmental factors that affect plants. “You have to understand your plant,” he says. Students take notes as Constable talks about how the fog droplets in the morning air re-evaporate, causing plants to respond accordingly.

After the fast-paced 50-minute class, students quickly file out, after hearing about leaf trichomes, stomatal crypts, stomatal density and photosynthesis. The unsipped coffee is 50 minutes colder.

Even before the last would-be botanist leaves, Psychology 144 students arrive and Dr. Paul Price distributes folders and writes instructions on the board.

There’s plenty of school spirit showing: students wear a bright red Bulldogs sweatshirt with matching baseball cap; a black Fresno State sweatshirt; a pink t-shirt; or other university logo apparel.

The students are divided into about 10 groups of four, organizing themselves as they come in. They begin work on a practice test and Price checks with each group, answering questions. At 9:45 a.m., students rearrange their chairs from circular groupings into traditional rows to hear Price lecture until 10:20 a.m.

He makes announcements, explains tricky concepts, gives examples and answers questions. Students who did well on a previous activity are rewarded with Snickers bars.

“If there anyone else who scored 25 or above?” he asks, then tosses a Snickers toward a raised hand. The smiling student deftly catches it.

Quickly the candy bag is emptied. “That seems like too many Snickers,” Price jokes. “I think I got ripped off here.”

The students laugh, then begin to a review session on the practice test. One student thinks question 16 was tricky, “I like that question,” Price quips. “Every once in a while, I write a test question that I really think is good. And this one? Hey, it’s good.”
As Americans enjoy more leisure time than they did years ago, students in Fresno State's sports and entertainment facility management specialty are learning how to run events and venues that host dazzling and entertaining shows and sports events.

The program, offered as a specialty or certificate option – was established in 2006 to help prepare Fresno State students to manage arenas, amphitheaters, convention centers, theaters, race tracks and stadiums.

Students expand upon their classroom learning by completing field experiences or formal internships at the Save Mart Center on campus and at other facilities nationwide.

"Students are prepared to critically analyze and resolve the many challenges industry professionals encounter while coordinating live events at public assembly facilities," says Dr. Michael Mahoney, assistant professor for the new discipline.

The program led by Dr. Mahoney is housed under the Recreation Administration and Leisure Studies Program within the College of Health and Human Services. Dr. Mahoney brings more than 20 years of experience in entertainment, athletics and administration throughout the world.

His students have brainstormed marketing and promotional ideas for shows at the Save Mart Center, the region’s premier events venue, playing significant roles in coordinating shows such as Hannah Montana and the Trans-Siberian Orchestra.

Stephen Tadlock, general manager of the Save Mart Center, underscores the importance of having a state-of-the-art sports and entertainment venue to support Fresno State’s program. “The students we’ve worked with have displayed great attitude, work ethic and desire to learn,” Tadlock says. “I really see our participation as a win-win situation.”

Chad Collin, a recent Fresno State graduate from the program, was an event services intern for the University of Phoenix Stadium during the 2008 Super Bowl, then was hired to work at the stadium.

“I was very fortunate about how things fell into place,” Collin says. His Fresno State training “helped me to understand the process of compiling an event from start to finish as well as how to face common challenges in facility management.”

Sports and entertainment and facility management is one of four specializations in the recreation administration and leisure studies major committed to educating students and the community about improving the quality of life through recreation. In 2009, the program will celebrate 50 years of service to Fresno State and the community.
Love of education lives in Brooks Scholarship

By Andrew Faught

For Kirstie Hettinga, winning a Verna Mae Brooks Scholarship didn’t just cover the entire cost of earning dual degrees in mass communication and journalism and theatre arts at Fresno State. The fund also gave her an additional year-and-a-half of financial support to pursue her master’s in mass communication.

“I didn’t have to think of factors such as how am I going to be able to pay for this,” says Hettinga, who teaches media ethics as a lecturer in the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism. “By knowing my tuition was covered, I was able to focus exclusively on my studies – and excel in them.”

The scholarship is named in memory of the wife of Wayne Brooks, professor emeritus of business law in the Craig School of Business. He endowed the fund in 1997 to celebrate the legacy of Verna Mae, a community volunteer to whom he was married for 40 years. Brooks has given more than $1.3 million for scholarships and to establish the Verna Mae and Wayne A. Brooks Professorship in Business Law.

Fifteen students have received Verna Mae Brooks scholarships that can last in excess of five years. The award is the highest paying nonathletic, four-year scholarship available to Fresno State students in any academic field.

“I would not have graduated as quickly as I did had it not been for the financial support of Dr. Brooks,” says Hettinga, who plans to enroll in a doctoral program at the University of Iowa or Penn State.

“He streamlined the entire degree process. So often, we’re seeing students take five years or longer to graduate because they’re forced...
Love of education lives in Brooks Scholarship

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At an annual holiday party, Carol Wenzel, a close friend of Verna Mae Brooks, and Dr Wayne Brooks welcome students who received help from the scholarship program he named for his wife.

This isn’t just a scholarship program. We’re more like a family. Wayne is genuinely interested in what’s going on and how I’m doing.’’

Students staff new call center

Fresno State has a new way of engaging and connecting with alumni and other potential financial supporters. The university call center, open since September 2007, employs 22 students who solicit donations, answer questions and share updates on campus activities – from the completion of the solar parking project to progress reports on Henry Madden Library construction. Students make hundreds of contacts every week and report growing success.

to work. Getting money together to go to school and support yourself is amazingly difficult. The students who have received Verna Mae Brooks scholarships have been incredibly lucky.’’

Recipients are required to maintain a 3.0 grade point average and perform community service. The award is very much in keeping with the sensibilities of Verna Mae Brooks, a strong education proponent who received a four-year scholarship at the University of Iowa, says her husband.

“It is Verna Mae’s love of and dedication to learning that is one reason for the scholarships,’’ adds Wayne Brooks. “Her impact is carried on through this scholarship. I hope it will lead students to impact society as this wonderful woman did.’’

The five 2007-08 scholarship winners include Travis Melton of Bakersfield, a plant science major, who halfway through his college.’’

At an annual holiday party, Carol Wenzel, a close friend of Verna Mae Brooks, and Dr Wayne Brooks welcome students who received help from the scholarship program he named for his wife.

It’s a meaningful way for Wayne to look at his wife’s legacy and keep up with the people in the program,’’ Scott said. “This isn’t just a scholarship program. We’re more like a family. Wayne is genuinely interested in what’s going on and how I’m doing.’’

—Andrew Faught is a senior writer in the Office of University Communications at Fresno State.

Establishing a charitable gift annuity sounds complicated and daunting to many people. But it’s not, and anyone can enjoy the rewards and satisfaction: a reliable, fixed income and reduced taxes that also benefits the university during the donor’s lifetime.

A charitable gift annuity with Fresno State enables the irrevocable transfer of cash or marketable securities to the university in exchange for a current income tax deduction and annual payments for life. When the donor or donor’s beneficiary passes on, the remaining funds in the annuity will be used by Fresno State as the donor directed when the annuity was established.

Colette and Richard Murray established an annuity to support the Smittcamp Family Honors College. Richard played basketball and football at Fresno State, where he was a member of the Bulldogs’ undefeated 1961 Mercy Bowl football squad. He was tennis coach in 1968, when Fresno State, then a Division II school, won the first NCAA championship in school history.

He retired from the University of California, Santa Cruz as a professor in physical education. He also coached a national championship college sailing team (a first for UC Santa Cruz). He was chosen for the 1980 U.S. Olympic sailing team, but didn’t compete because of the U.S. boycott of those games in Moscow.

Colette Murray, an alumna of the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Santa Clara School of Law, worked in higher education and the health care industry. The Murrays traditionally gave to Cal but in the past decade, Richard Murray says, “We decided that we would support Fresno State as we felt our gift would mean a lot more and make more of an impact than we could possibly make at Cal.’’

Charitable gift annuities are in reach of nearly anyone. “Since we are basically working folks with limited wealth and zero ‘family fortune,’’ the only way we could make a measurable impact was through a planned gift in the form of a charitable gift annuity,’’ Murray says. “There are few people wealthy enough to make a pure cash contribution of $100,000 or more to anyone. Through a carefully designed structured gift, though, nearly anyone can be a significant philanthropist.’’

The annuity pays the donor now, and the core gift helps university programs identified by the donor. Murray explains, “We chose to make a pledge of $25,000 each year for four years. Each of these gifts has an immediate tax deduction. During our retirement years, Colette and I get to enjoy a quarterly paycheck. The principal remains in the account until Colette and I pass away. At that time, the $100,000 goes completely to the Smittcamp Family Honors College.’’

In addition to supporting Fresno State while earning interest in their retirement, there’s a bigger reason that the Murrays selected a charitable gift annuity. “We get all the benefits of being a ‘major donor’ to the university during our lifetime,’ says Richard Murray. “To us, it is more fun to give while we are living.’’

Fresno State was the catalyst for a lifetime of my personal success, and I am deeply grateful,’’ he says. “Giving back in this way is the least we can do, if it can help others. I benefited from an athletic scholarship.’’

Murray adds, “If Fresno State did not come to my aid, I would not have been able to make it through school. Making an investment in supporting the university not only feels good, but will make a continued return to you and others for generations to come.’’

For information on charitable gift annuities, contact Carol Widmer, CPF, at 559.278.8337 or cwidmer@csufresno.edu.

Colette and Richard Murray, shown at their daughter’s conducting debut at Lincoln Center in 2006, have invested in a Fresno State charitable gift annuity.

—Jill Wagner is director of communications for the Campaign for Fresno State.

Charitable gift annuity offers donors many rewards and satisfaction

— Andrew Faught is a senior writer in the Office of University Communications at Fresno State.

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Colette and Richard Murray, shown at their daughter’s conducting debut at Lincoln Center in 2006, have invested in a Fresno State charitable gift annuity.

— Andrew Faught is a senior writer in the Office of University Communications at Fresno State.
As Fresno State's first campaign director, Mary Anna Dunn's goals are clear: “We’re working to build a culture of philanthropy. I think we’re all willing to invest in something that we care about and respect.”

The university expects to go public with the Campaign for Fresno State by mid-2009. When it does, Fresno State will be well-served by Dunn's expertise, which ranges from teaching English to strategic leadership of a billion-dollar campaign for the four-campus University of Colorado.

Dunn’s numerous awards for her educational and collegiate fundraising include the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education's highly regarded National Circle of Excellence Award for Overall Performance in 2002.

With those successes in her background, Fresno State and new challenges beckoned. She arrived on campus in February 2004. "I was looking for an opportunity to make a difference somewhere new," Dunn says. "Fresno State wanted to know how to campaign, and I'm pleased to be here. It's a great community, a great campus, and there are really wonderful volunteers involved." The current campaign is the largest in Fresno State history and will require extensive private support, Dunn says, to ensure that vibrant scholarship continues for future generations of students. The campuswide initiative culminates in 2011 – the university's centennial – and is projected to raise funds that will support the innovation, ideas, education and research that are hallmarks of the Fresno State experience.

Spurring private giving, Dunn adds, happens through nurturing ownership in the university across the community. "Our job is to bring people into the life of Fresno State. Sometimes it’s about being a guest speaker in a class. It’s joining the Friends of the Library. It’s buying season tickets to the theater. It’s about getting involved," she says.

As associate vice president for development, Dunn works within the Division of University Advancement, which oversees all of the university's fundraising, communications, alumni programs and advancement programs, such as data management and donor accounting.

"Mary Anna is one of the most highly regarded fundraising professionals in the United States," says Dr. Peter Smith, vice president of University Advancement. "Most important, she understands Fresno State’s role as a regional university that is helping to lead Central California's economic and cultural development while providing needed support for our students and the work of our faculty."

Today's financial realities are forcing colleges and universities across the United States to raise private funds to ensure academic quality. Fresno State's success over the past 15 years has been notable. Private support has funded the Save Mart Center, Smittcamp Alumni House, Smittcamp Family Honors College, Kremen School of Education and Human Development, Craig School of Business, the Downing Planetarium and numerous other projects.

For the campaign, faculty members have identified major academic goals and university administrators have met with community leaders to rally support for the effort. “Fresno State is a fine university with worthy aspirations,” Dunn says. “It’s an institution poised to realize its potential. Ahead of us, we have challenge, fun, hard work and excitement. And success.”

The campuswide initiative culminates in 2011 – the university’s centennial – and is projected to raise funds that will support the innovation, ideas, education and research that are hallmarks of the Fresno State experience.
Engineering alumni challenge themselves to help even more

By Andrew Faught

It began with a phone conversation between a pair of Fresno business leaders who got their starts in the College of Engineering. Robert “Mike” Patton, president of Patton Air Conditioning, called longtime friend Jim Boone, president and CEO of New England Sheet Metal Works, to discuss the future of the college and some of its challenges.

“I’ve been involved in the Mechanical Engineering Advisory Board for several years, and we’ve been hearing year after year how hard it is to recruit engineering Ph.D.s,” says Patton, who received his bachelor’s degree from Fresno State in 1967 and master’s in 1972. “Basically, the faculty has been begging for some kind of program that would offer initiatives for professors to come to Fresno State.”

Patton decided earlier this year to make a $130,000 gift to the college to be used for such strategic initiatives as increasing faculty salaries, helping recruit and retain students and sponsoring research and development. Of the total, $85,000 will go to the college’s new endowment; the remaining $45,000 is payable over three years and benefits the Community Partners Program. The program allows the college to offer Industry Faculty Fellowships to boost base salaries.

Patton’s altruism proved contagious. Inspired by his friend, Boone, a 1974 grad, made an identical gift. Though both men’s businesses compete for the same Fresno State engineering graduates, Boone said the contributions are critical for the future of Fresno State and the region.

“People in the community need to invest in the university,” Boone says. “This is the place where we’re going to train young intellectuals for our industry, whether it’s my business or anyone else’s.

Engineering dean Michael Jenkins lauds the pair’s “generosity, vision and commitment.”

“The College of Engineering is rapidly responding to the call for more and different types of engineers and technology managers in the 21st century,” he says. “Part of this response is a renewed focus on academic excellence, professional leadership and engaged service.”

With state finances in flux, Jenkins says the university must find more ways to pay for experienced, expert faculty which Patton and Boone say was a benefit of attending Fresno State.

“The No. 1 reason I made the gift is to give back to the university. I owe my education to Fresno State,” Patton says. “To make a difference in anything is so rare. Most people never get to say that.”

Boone adds, “I had been talking to Fresno State and knew how important it is to do something right now. At some point in time, everybody has to be pulling on the same end of the rope. That is one of those times.”

Boone wants to help keep graduates in the area. “Fresno State allowed me to gain confidence and knowledge in the business world. I’m very loyal because of that,” he says.

“My company needs the young and bright mechanical engineers coming out of the school. I put a preference on local people, but I’ve had to look to Cal Poly for employees. I felt it was worth my financial investment to help reverse that trend.”

Adds Patton: “If we ever want to have technology manufacturing in Fresno, the first thing that businesses are going to ask is: ‘Where is the source of our employees?’ They’re going to look at Fresno State and the College of Engineering.”
It’s more than six months before the kickoff of the 2008 Fresno State football season and the sun hasn’t risen near Bulldog Stadium.

Most Fresno State students are still in bed where it’s toasty. But the student-athletes on Coach Pat Hill’s team don’t let the 40-degree temperatures on a winter’s morning keep them away from the practice field. It will take the same commitment in August when the team practices in the searing Valley heat.

Hill doesn’t want any complacency to creep in following a strong rebound season in 2007, capped by victories over Kansas State and at Boise’s Humanitarian Bowl against Georgia Tech.

He knows physical exertion, repetition and determination in both winter and summer will be needed starting Sept. 1, when Fresno State travels to New Jersey for an inaugural meeting with Rutgers of the Big East.
Mackin blogging her way to Beijing

Robin Mackin, the star pitcher of the 2007 Fresno State softball team, is taking time off but she’s staying in touch with Bulldog fans via www.gobulldogs.com as a member of the Canadian National Team preparing for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

In 55 appearances, she won 36 times, struck out 369 batters, had 38 complete games and won national, conference and school honors for athletic and academic achievements.

After the Fresno State season ended, she worked to make the Canadian National Team, playing a rigorous international schedule that was a foretaste of the 2008 pre-Olympics plan. That plan was knocked off kilter when Mackin hurt her leg, giving her an unanticipated opportunity to be in Fresno for treatment before rejoining her team.

Although her schedule is packed, Mackin has made time to write regularly about what’s happening in her quest for a gold medal, posting a blog on www.gobulldogs.com.

Her initial post indicates a less-than-smooth start: “We arrived in [Las] Vegas, although barely. I say barely because I had a rather interesting plane ride. A couple of oxygen masks fell down as we were about to take off, and we experienced a missed approach on our landing, which resulted in screaming men and women.”

By Week 2, with the team in Las Vegas, things were smoother: “The highlight of the week … was the team martial arts session. Instead of doing our regular conditioning, the team met at a local karate school. We were encouraged to explore the power of our mind, as well as become aware of our chi. It was an eye-opening experience, and it will be interesting to try and incorporate those concepts in the softball environment. My roommates were so fascinated with the idea, that once we arrived home we did our own rendition of practicing our chi. Needless to say, we shared a lot of good laughs.”

Mackin missed a training trip to Australia and had to wait a month to reconnect with her teammates in Nebraska. “From an individual standpoint, although I am very upset about the fact that I cannot be with the team in Australia, I have greatly enjoyed being back in Fresno. [A] perk to being a spectator, is getting the opportunity to meet some of our loyal and supportive fans. It would be nice to be able to take you all along to Beijing!”

That’s not possible, of course, so Mackin will stay in touch electronically and rejoin Coach Margie Wright’s team in 2009.

In Beijing, though, she may find Team Canada’s path is blocked by three-time defending gold medalist Team USA and two ex-Bulldogs, Laura Berg and Lovieann Jung.

Berg has been a U.S. softball team member since 1994, which is when she began playing at Fresno State. Her Bulldog career was capped with the NCAA Championship in 1998. Berg won gold medals in the 1996, 2000 and 2004 Olympics.

Jung played at Arizona after a season at Fresno State in 2000, where she was on the All-District and All-Western Athletic Conference first teams. She has been on the national team since 2002 and won a gold medal at the Athens Olympics in 2004.

Dedication recalled in ’98 softball champs’ 10-year reunion

Members of the 1998 Fresno State softball team joined their coach, Margie Wright, and her 2008 Bulldog softball team when they gathered at Bulldog Diamond on March 9, 2008 to remember when the 1998 team won the university’s only NCAA Division I Championship.

Joining Coach Wright from the championship team were Nina Lindenberg, Candice Beanin Reneau, Jamie Massey, Jennifer Wall, Lindsay Parker Peters, Angeline Cervantes, Carolyn Wilson, Alicia Dowland, Daviana Wisener, Becky Witt Llabadiera and Amanda Scott. The players presented Wright, the winningest softball coach in NCAA history, with an autographed team picture.

It was Softball National Championship Day in Fresno and a big and appreciative crowd turned out for the occasion, which was preceded by an autograph session for the fans and followed by a nonconference game against nationally ranked Houston.

The Bulldogs beat Arizona 1-0 to win the ’98 championship behind sophomore Scott’s three-hit, shutout pitching and senior Lindenberg’s sixth-inning home run, snapping a streak of 52 innings in which the Wildcats had not allowed a run.

The team had its share of comeback performances and overcame injuries, but what stood out was the players’ composure and belief in themselves and the need for teamwork.
Netherby-Sewell starts fast on volleyball changes

Fresno State's new coach hits the ground running.

First was the introductory news conference in February, with media gathered in the Josephine Theatre. Director of Athletics Thomas Boech announced that Lauren Netherby-Sewell had just received a phone call about a family emergency that required her attention. The next morning, Netherby-Sewell met the media, sped to the airport and jetted away to wrap things up at Hofstra University in New York.

A month later, Netherby-Sewell had just arrived at Fresno State to begin working on the 2008 volleyball season, but an Athletics Department colleague couldn't make a long-scheduled service-club appearance.

Netherby-Sewell stepped in with a few hours' notice and told Athletics Department colleague that it made her husband and me want to talk about.
**Sports News**

'Dogs host inaugural Big 10 opponent

Fresno State fans will have five opportunities to cheer for their favorite team in Bulldog Stadium during 2008, beginning Sept. 13 with the game against Wisconsin – the first time a Big 10 school has visited Fresno.

The other home games – all Western Athletic Conference contests – are Oct. 4 against Hawaii-Oct. 1 vs. Idaho, which is Homecoming; Nov. 7 against Nevada; and Nov. 15 vs. New Mexico State.

At least four Fresno State games will get national TV exposure, which Coach Pat Hill says is a key to recruiting and exposure, which Coach Pat Hill says is a key to recruiting and exposure.

Western Open in Chicago.

Heard owns a golf course in Brookville, Fla.

**Beiden Field upgrade includes new seats**

All 3,572 seats at Beiden Field were replaced and painted Bulldog red before the Bulldogs opened the 2008 baseball season and their quest for a third straight Western Athletic Conference championship.

Over the years, minor repairs were made to the stadium, but the seats had been in place more than 20 years. With good weather, the new seats went in at the rate of about 200 a day during fall and early winter.

"We had to make some facility upgrades if this program was going to move further ahead," says Coach Mike Batesole, referring to other improvements made during the off-season.

"When you get the Dugout Club, the administration, the alumni and our community all pulling together, we can do things like this." ☛

**Athletics adds two women’s sports**

Fresno State plans to add two women’s sports – introducing lacrosse and bringing back swimming and diving – to the university’s intercollegiate athletics schedule beginning in 2008-09.

Swimming and diving returns after being cut in 2004 for budget reasons.

The additions underscore the university’s commitment to Title IX’s gender-equity objectives. Objectives. Senior Associate Athletics Director Betsy Mosher says, “We needed to add the teams to help add more scholarships” (for women). Swimming and diving programs are already a fixture in California high schools, from which Fresno State recruits most of its student-athletes. The Clovis Unified School District, in particular, has a reputation for competitive success in aquatics and has constructed premier competitive facilities.

Women’s lacrosse is established in the East, on the rise in the Midwest and just beginning in the West. It is a part of athletic programs at 120 California high schools and is a club sport at a growing number of schools in Northern and Southern California, Mosher says.

In the Central Valley, Mosher adds, “the area high schools have discussed adding it in the very near future. Now, that’s exciting.”

Fresno State likely would compete in the Mountain Pacific Lacrosse Federation, whose members now are Cal, UC Davis, Stanford, University of Denver and St. Mary’s.

“Our anticipation is that we will be competitive in about four to five years in their league,” says Mosher of Bulldogs lacrosse and swimming and diving.

Coaches will be asked to build their programs from the ground up, “do it the right way, and give them a solid base to be competitive,” adds Mosher.

Lacrosse will practice west of Bulldog Stadium, where it will compete until completion of the planned soccer/lacrosse competitive venue that will be directly east of Bulldog Stadium. Also planned is phased construction of an aquatics competition center. Until then, Bulldog swimmers and divers will practice and compete in off-campus venues.

Says Mosher, “I’m totally excited to bring in sports that will help stabilize our program and can be a good fit to our community.” ☛

**Bulldog women’s basketball makes history**

The 2007-08 Bulldog women’s basketball team was the first in the program’s 43 seasons to win the Western Athletic Conference regular-season and tournament championships and advance to the NCAA Tournament.

Although Coach Adrian Wiggins’ team started out slowly with six straight losses, they turned their year around with 22 victories in their next 26 games, before losing to powerhouse Baylor in a first-round NCAA game in Albuquerque, N.M.

Even in the moments after the deep disappointment of defeat, Wiggins was recalling the season as a winning one: “We have a lot of things to celebrate. We’ve been playing at a high level and getting it done in the classroom.”

And having had a taste of the highest-level of collegiate basketball competition, Wiggins says his student-athletes have seen what they need to do. He’s confident that time is on the Bulldogs’ side, saying, “We’re a young team and have an opportunity to get better.” ☛

**Heard joins California golf hall**

Jerry Heard, an All-America golfer at Fresno State in the late 1960s, was inducted into the California Golf Hall of Fame.

Heard came to Fresno State as a promising junior golfer from Visalia and continued his accomplishments as a collegian, then turned pro in 1969. In 14 years on the PGA Tour, Heard won five tournaments before retiring with back injuries.

He was also a footnote in history: struck by lightning with Lee Trevino and Bobby Nichols during a thunderstorm that interrupted the 1975 Western Open in Chicago.

**Full details on football, including ticket info, are available at www.gobulldogs.com.**

**Sports News**

In other football news:

• Former Fresno State stars Lorenzo Neal and Logan Mankins were elected as American Football Conference offensive starters at the 2008 Pro Bowl in Hawaii from the San Diego Chargers and New England Patriots, respectively.

• Fresno State sophomore A.J. Jefferson was chosen by www.Collegefootballnews.com to its All-America team for the 2007 season after leading the NCAA in kickoff return average (a Bulldog record 35.8 yards). He scored on two returns and on a blocked field goal, winning WAC Special Teams Player of the Week three times.

• The Bulldogs’ success as bowlers, even before the 2007 Humanitarian Bowl football victory over Georgia Tech, was determined by how many bowling pins were toppled by the Bulldogs. It was good for more than 1,500 hamburgers to feed Fresno’s bigger bowling teams.

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• Resident student-athlete Wiggins is a key to recruiting and exposure, which Coach Pat Hill says is a key to recruiting and exposure.
*98 softball champs meet FSA & Life members
Life members of the Fresno State Alumni Association were treated to a private reception with members of the Bulldogs 1998 NCAA Championship softball team before the former players were introduced at halftime of the '98 softball champs meet the Fresno State Alumni Association football game against Utah State, was by B-1Bs from Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. Dr. Michael Jenkins, the College of Engineering dean, and engineering students before a flyover of the San Joaquin County Courthouse was named for Joe Cook fundraiser.

Class Notes

50s
Fresno's $141 million new federal courthouse was dedicated by U.S. District Court Judge Robert E. Copley (1952, LIF) in 2008. It is named after a Fresno State alum, who was elected judge in 1969.

1960s
Roy Christopher (1967, LIT) LIF was the set designer of the Academy Awards program for the 118th time. He also designed the set for the revival of the Cole Porter hit musical "Can-Can" at the Pasadena Playhouse.

James Hallowell (1969) participated in the Fresno Am Men's Golf 50th annual Men's Tourist Milk fundraiser.

Kenneth Vogel (1967) was elected chair of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors. He retired in 2004 from the Los Linda School District and farms walnuts and cherries.

1970s
Jeryl Duman (1976) was appointed dean of counseling services and special programs at Sacramento College in Mission Viejo, where she has worked since 1979.

Turlock High School returned to renovated aquatic center for Steve Sherman (1979), who coached school water polo and swimming teams to numerous championships.

Kenneth Fugelsang (1969, LIT) LIF received an award from the International Office of Vine and Wine in Paris for co-authoring a text on wine microbiology.

Wendy (Suzuki) Hirshon (1977) co-authored "Toolmaker's A Revolutionary Approach for Trainers and Managers.

1980s
Bill L. Jones (1971) LIF was awarded the L. Peter Skelly Award, which honors business leaders for their contributions to the region.

Glen Jaiyama (1977) was named federal security director at Hialeah International Airport.

Gretchen (von Schleimer) Olsen (1979) was appointed solid waste manager for the Venturesure Community Public Works Department.

A fundraiser at the New City North Educational Center was named for Daniel Possano (1964, LIT), managing director of the Good Company Players in Fresno.

Linda (Lloyd) Pitts (1973), despite being part of her voice, has continued painting and exhibited at the Margaret Hudson Gallery in Fresno.

Gary Soto (1974) hosted a reading of his poetry at California State University, Channel Islands.

Robert A. Vartabedian (1974) was chief executive officer of Missouri Western State University after serving three years as vice president of academic affairs at Eastern New Mexico University.

1990s
Kiff Andrews (1986), the Nevada department director of Paradise Horses, is overseeing construction and sale of new homes throughout the Las Vegas, Nv, area.

Darrell Capobianco (1986) was appointed as assistant vice president at Central Valley Community Bank.

Janet Elaine Davis (1967) is CEO of her husband, Brian Davis, who is overseeing construction and sale of new homes throughout the Lodi Unified School District and farms walnuts and cherries.

Sam Jacobson (1983) inaugurated in production of the Fox Film 81-'14 comedy team, with Dr. Michael Jordin, Fox College of Engineering team, and engineering students before a flower of Bulldog fans by tee of the year of the film. The finished production Fresno State in Nov. 2, 2009. "11th" finished game against Utah State, was by B-1Bs from Elizabeth Retirement Home. S.S.

Alumni News

Young Alumni mix it up
The Fresno State Alumni Association participated in January with Fresno Leading Professionals for its inaugural Young Alumni Wine Tasting, attracting some of the university's newest alumni to network and socialize.

Alumni Profile
Brad Fischer shares ‘wow’ with alumni
Alumnus Brad Fischer (Business Administration, Finance 1981) has deep local roots. The first Fischer family Fresno firm, Fischer Bros., dates back four generations.

Brad enrolled in Fresno State because of the "wow" factor. "In 1975, when I was a senior at Hoover High School, I visited Fresno State during Vintage Days," he remembers. "As I walked around campus, I kept thinking, 'Wow!' After that, I did not consider any other college."

His interest in business -- banking in particular -- came early. "I became very interested in business when I was in high school and worked at Harpain's Dairy. Walter Harpain taught his staff the basics of business and he was the first person I know who used cross-selling. A customer would be ready to buy milk and Walt had his employees say, 'Would you like eggs today? 'I love business.'"

While at Fresno State, Brad became a Fresno Historical Society docent. "I was out at Kearney Park and noticed a small building in bad shape. I walked into Kearney Mansion (pictured above) and asked if I could fix it. The lady said we would want to talk about it, but in the meantime maybe I would like to be a docent."

A year later he became the youngest Historical Society board member. "I was 20 and the rest of the group was close to twice my age and older."

Brad went to work for Bank of America before graduating from Fresno State and recently celebrated his 30th year with the bank. Not only did he finish his career with Bank of America, he met his wife, Linda, there. Daughter Julia made their family complete and now she's in Fresno State's nursing master's program.

Brad is a man of many commitments -- to Linda and his family, to his banking career and to helping others as a volunteer. His commitment was honored when he was presented the Bank of America 2007 Community Volunteer Award for the Fresno/Madera area. His most recent volunteer affiliation is serving on the Fresno State Alumni Association board of directors. "I couldn't turn it down, " said Brad.

"Dr. Welty asked me to serve on the board, and he is very convincing. The board works on behalf of the alumni, of course, but we also support our community's most valuable resource -- Fresno State. Part of that value comes from students volunteering in community service. It becomes the great thing about it." People don't normally ask, 'How can I help?' But if someone they respect asks them, 'Can you help?' people will jump on board. All you need to do is ask and if the cause is something they believe in, the answer will usually be "yes."

Besides his alumni work, Brad has been active in the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, Valley Business Conference and the alumni chapter of the Sigma Chi fraternity, among other organizations. A lot going on and all because a 20-year-old Fresno State student answered "Yes" when asked if he'd volunteer.

-- Leslie Cuming is a Fresno-based freelance writer.
Grads in the military
Fresno State has many grads in military service, including:
Daniel Astacio (2002), who graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.
Joe Gentry (2007), who received his commission as an Army second lieutenant, was stationed at Fort Rugby in Alabama to train as a helicopter pilot.

Joseph Lovelace (1997), commander of the California Army National Guard’s 113th Transportation Company, deployed to Iraq.
Jere Mathews (2005), who completed Navy basic training with honors at Recruit Training Command at Naval Training Center Great Lakes (Ill.).

Coaches Caravan planned for summer 2008
A repeat of the popular Coaches Caravan is planned for summer 2008. In 2007, the Fresno State Alumni Association took men’s basketball coach Steve Cleveland and football coach Pat Fredrick to San Diego, where they enjoyed an afternoon with several second-language students enrolled in his classes.

Fresno State grad continues to make their names in the wine industry, including:
Jan Atfeross (1999), who established the Flag Hill Cellars in a former auto-body shop in Sacramento.
Kevin Dillon (2001) is a co-founder and president of MyTuition.com, which helps students and families connect with college scholarships and other assistance.

Fresno State grads are successful winemakers
Fresno State alumni continue to make their names in the wine industry, including:
Bret Engelman (BS 1996), maker of award-winning wines in Paso Robles.
Laura Berg (1993), a clinician for Yamaha Corp., has been promoted to editor of the North Kitsap (Wash.) Herald.
Jace Mathews (1983), publisher of the American Society of Civil Engineers.
Jose Parham (BA 1971), faculty member of the Hanford Elementary School District.
Dr. Paul Terry (1975), the first woman to earn a doctorate at Fresno State.

Alumni in our schools
Many alumni are applying what they learned at Fresno State in K-12 classrooms throughout California. Among them are:
Terry (Kimber) Edwards (2003), appointed principal of Columbia Elementary School in Fresno.
Pat O’Brien (1965), who retired in 2005 as band teacher at Clovis High School, now teaches marimba and substitute teaches.
Galen Lemaire, Portuguese/Global School District director of curriculum and instruction.
Andrew Mansourian (1992), inaugural principal of Central Unified School District’s Harriet Elementary School, west of Fresno.
Kathleen McBlain, superintendent of Paso Robles Public Schools.
Jessica Mitchell (1988), president of the City College of San Diego.

Fresno State Alumni Association
Fresno State Alumni Association staff:
Kris Curran; Ondine Chattan; Brandon Lamonica; Michael McHatten; Matthew Loszina; and Peggy Ramos.

Fresno State-M_bb.png

By the numbers
2 Recent appointees to leadership positions with the city of Modesto: Michael McClinton (1988), director of administrative services, and Mary Anne Seay (1995), parks and community services director.
2 New leaders at California State University, Sacramento: Beth Merrill Miller (BA 1991), director of the Academic Advising Center at Sacramento State, and David Sutherland (BA 1991), a touring professional for several years, director of golf.

Fresno State Alumni Association
Board of Directors
Executive Board: President Michael McClinton (BA 1996), President Elect Laura Berg (BA 1993), Vice President Erich Richgels (BA 1987), Vice President of Development Tim Diblasi (BA 1995), Treasurer Rosann Agostini (BA 1983), Secretary Janice Mekeel (BA 2003). Office Manager Diana Johnson; Administrative Assistant Katie Johnson; Fax: 559.278.6790; Telephone: 559.278.2586; Smittcamp Alumni House 1243 University Ave., Fresno, CA 93740-8000.

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Bulldogs of tomorrow


Class Notes

Alumni News

Diesel, an influential, staunch Republican, knew Richard Nixon and was Ronald Reagan's Fresno County campaign manager. He was a successful attorney in Fresno who spent the last part of his life in Washington, with his daughter and son-in-law, Chris and Dr. Budge Smith. Mr. Forbes' greatest passion was fly-fishing for alumnus and friend of Fresno State and a generous donor who leaves a lasting legacy.

Mr. Forbes was a loyal and dedicated supporter of Fresno State. He gave to the university for more than 50 years, and his commitment has had a significant impact on the university's programs and facilities. His generosity has helped to create new opportunities for students and faculty alike. In recognition of his service and commitment, the university has named the Forbes Center for Business and Economics in his honor.

Mr. Forbes passed away on Aug. 12, 2007, at the age of 80. He is survived by his wife, Martha, and their three children: Amanda, Marisol, and Isabella. His presence will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

The Fresno State community mourns the loss of a long-time friend and alumni. Mr. Forbes made a meaningful contribution to the university and its students, and his legacy will live on through the continued support of future generations.
Japanese maple (Acer palmatum)

This Japanese maple is on the south side of the Engineering East Building. It is painted in opaque watercolor on colored mat board.

Homecoming scheduled Oct. 11

Fresno State’s homecoming tradition, which grew with a big pre-game rally and numerous other activities, continues Oct. 11, 2008.

That night the Bulldogs host the Idaho Vandals for a Western Athletic Conference football showdown at Bulldog Stadium.

Activities surrounding the game, including the usual alumni chapter gatherings and other homecoming events, will be announced at www.fresnostatealumni.com. Tickets to the game are available through www.gobulldogs.com.

Important privacy choice

You have the right to control whether we share your name, address and electronic mail address with our affinity partners (companies that we partner with to offer products or services to our alumni). Please read the following information carefully before you make your choice below:

Your choice

Restrict Information Sharing With Affinity Partners:

Unless you say “NO,” we may share your name, address and electronic mail address with our affinity partners. Our affinity partners may send you offers to purchase various products or services that we may have agreed they can offer in partnership with us.

Time-sensitive reply

You may decide at any time that you do not want us to share your information with our affinity partners. Your choice marked here will remain unless you state otherwise. However, if we do not hear from you, we may share your name, address and electronic mail address with our affinity partners.

If you decide that you do not want to receive information from our partners, you may do one of the following:

2. Fill out, sign and fax the form to 559.278.6790.
3. Call 559.278.ALUM or call toll-free 866.378.DOGS.
4. Fill out, sign and send back this form to us at the following address (you may want to make a copy for your records).

Fresno State Alumni Association
ATTN: SB 569
2625 E. Matoian Way SH124
Fresno, CA 93740-8000

Please print clearly and complete this information below to ensure accurate processing of your request.

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5. Restrict Information Sharing With Affinity Partners:

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Day becomes the night

A sunset illuminates clouds behind the Kremen School of Education and Human Development as Fresno State’s campus begins its nightly round of classes, meetings, study and more.