FPU opens road to Congo
Installation revs up president
Track takes off
Being the new president of Fresno Pacific University calls me to play a speaking part in the unfolding of an exciting drama—the realization of the Fresno Pacific Idea. Daily I am around bright, energized faculty and staff committed to mentoring the Christian life as well as pursuing academic excellence in many disciplines. Over and over I witness loving support for the university and its growing outreach to the entire Christian community as well as its Mennonite Brethren tradition.

There is particular joy and renewal for me in sharing in the growth of the young people who make FPU special. Our students had many academic options—the typical grade-point average of incoming freshmen is 3.56—but they chose us to nurture and guide them to their full potential as Christian disciples and community leaders.

Their callings will be many. Some will choose vocations within the church. Still more will pursue further academic study as doctors, lawyers and scientists. A growing number will immediately enter the working world as social workers, musicians, entrepreneurs and executives. I trust all will find FPU’s curriculum in the liberal arts, business and professions prepared them well to cultivate their careers.

While the breadth of our educational offerings grows, we do not lessen our traditional commitment to produce excellent educators. We live at a time when society finally recognizes it must devote considerably more resources to elementary and secondary education. Our graduate school and school of professional studies continue to give FPU a major role in today’s educational reform movement.

Permit me to close with a quote I cited to our new freshmen from Harold S. Bender, perhaps the foremost Mennonite educator and leader of the mid-20th century. Bender told his sister, Violet: “It would take much to move me. I consider the privilege of teaching in a small college with a culture and atmosphere of its own, based on a Christian philosophy, a privilege. The barren life of our modern educational factories does not attract any more than the thin thinking of our modern sophisticates. I might earn a living elsewhere. But it would not be living a life.”

—Harold Haak
WIDENING THE HORIZON

At FPU, being a university means reaching out from traditional strengths to grasp new ways to serve

3  International connection
   University builds relationship with colleagues in Congo

9  Face to face
   Adventures in corporate America

10  Around the green
    Community gathers to welcome new president

14  Building our future
    New scholarship honors former faculty

16  1717 South Chestnut Avenue
    A student and her grandma compare notes on their time at PBI and FPU

20  Sunbird Athletics
    Bill Cockerham Track open for business
Katalpa or Popsicle, both begin as piece of wood

I have a five-foot stick in my front yard. My friend Rod, who gave it to me, is sure it’s a katalpa tree. My son Joseph, ever the optimist, hopes it’s a Popsicle.

In either case, my stick has some growing to do. Meanwhile, the planting is done and the watering is ongoing, so all that’s left is to wait and watch for bugs.

The future depends largely on what has come before—somewhere in that stick is a creative energy that, going back to its first day as a seed, made it what it was and will make it what it will be.

There’s also a lot of creative energy on campus these days. Enrollment growth, a reorganized administration and progress on athletic and academic facilities make us optimistic about where we’re going. It’s all very exciting and, while we (may) have a little knowledge about our future than I do about the fate of my stick, the seed of the university’s future is also found in its history and purpose.

And there we’re on ground as solid as—and a lot more nourishing than—the Valley hardpan I turned to plant my tree. As our motto says, our foundation is Christ. As our mission states, our goal is service and scholarship. As our students and alumni show, our labors result in leaders.

In the 1940s, Pacific Bible Institute was planted to provide leaders for home and foreign missions. Students didn’t wait for graduation to begin their ministries. Joel Wiebe’s 50-year history, aptly titled Remembering...Reaching—A Vision of Service, describes how PBI students reached out to area children, taught Sunday school and even started churches.

In the 1960-70s, Fresno Pacific College cultivated a teacher education program. Today schools look first to graduates with our credentials and master’s degrees to lead classrooms, schools and districts as administrators, librarians, school psychologists and counselors as well as teachers of literacy, bilingual education, mathematics, science and special education.

As Fresno Pacific University blossoms into business, social work and other fields, we are thankful for the blessings that continue to spring from the stick, sowed on a city lot on Van Ness Avenue and transplanted to a former cotton field near the corner of Chestnut and Butler.
Recent meetings established a new level of cooperation between the university and a university in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Professor Kidinda, president of Université Chretienne de Kinshasa (Christian University of Kinshasa—UCKIN) and Professor M’buyamba, head of the university medical school, visited FPU the week of October 23. The meetings ended with an agreement “that shows the encouragement of the institutions to work together,” Kidinda said.

This encouragement will reach far beyond the campus of UCKIN to a country still wasted by war, Kidinda said. “To have people like us come here and build relationships gives hope for improvement. This will have an impact on people holding their faith—we don’t have reserves, we live by faith.”

The schools will work together on student and faculty exchanges, cooperative or joint programs and research projects, and consulting in areas such as Anabaptism, peace studies and conflict transformation, and the integration of faith and learning. FPU will also coordinate the efforts between UCKIN and other agencies such as Bethel (Kan.) College, Eastern Mennonite University, Goshen (Ind.) College, Hesston (Kan.) College, Mennonite Brethren Missions and Services (MBMS) and African Inter-Mennonite Missions (AIMM).

UCKIN and FPU share similar commitments and vision, said Howard Loewen, FPU provost. “The presence of Drs. Kidinda and M’buyamba increased significantly our awareness of UCKIN’s compelling educational mission, and how our two institutions can support each other in practical ways.”

FPU’s strong international background aids in cooperation, Kidinda added. “Most of your faculty have experience abroad, which is very unique. Not many U.S. schools have this.”

Begun by Mennonite and Baptist groups as a Bible school in Kinshasa, the capital and largest city in Congo, UCKIN now has almost 600 students studying theology, economics and business administration. The university includes a seminary and a medical school and is set to graduate its first class in 2004.

The working relationship between UCKIN and FPU began about two years ago and came out of the Mennonite Brethren Church’s long-standing mission in Congo, according to Kidinda. Representatives from FPU spent time at UCKIN in June 1999. The most recent visit was organized by FPU, Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary and MBMS.
Changing from Fresno Pacific College to Fresno Pacific University did not stop with a new sign on Chestnut Avenue. The spirit that brought that change—like the one that brought the change from Pacific Bible Institute to Fresno Pacific College—is an expansion of opportunity, outlook and outreach.

By Wayne Steffen

Fresno Pacific College built a tradition of educating educators—Fresno Pacific University must both continue that commitment and spread its mission of leadership to all professions.

The education emphasis began as an opportunity, not as a plan. “It’s a combination of mission, people and market;” said Provost Howard Loewen, “a way to combine the liberal arts and humanities in a professional program.”

Other initiatives have had varied levels of success. The conflict studies program is an example, said John Yoder, dean of the graduate school. “If there hadn’t been a Dalton Reimer to lead that, it wouldn’t have happened.” Likewise, without David and Yvonne Freeman there would be no teaching English as a second language program, he added.

Social work and nursing are also natural fits for meshing university mission and vocational demand. Today social work is growing, though it remains smaller than education. Proposed in the 1980s, the expense of faculty and facilities and the proximity of similar programs grounded the proposed nursing program.

Throughout this section we profile a selection of the university’s larger and expanding programs not directly involved in preparing teachers. These stories illustrate the variety of fields of study available at FPU; unfortunately, space precludes us from offering a comprehensive list.
Though not all efforts bear fruit, FPU continues to seek new ways to expand its outreach. Too close an identification with any single program is limiting, said Steve Varvis, dean of the undergraduate college. "That means you're only serving one population. This school can train leaders in all areas and be an influence all over the United States and the world."

Whatever its reputation, the university has never been "only" a teachers' college, Loewen said. Several strands run through all three schools: Biblical theology, education, business, international studies and peace and conflict studies. "They don't just run parallel, they weave together and bind into a rope that strengthens the whole institution," he said.

Leadership is another strand. "We may not have been as conscious of that in the past," Loewen said. "It's always been there, but only in the last few years have we begun to think about it." This may be due to society's recent attention to the leadership "crisis," he added, which creates a market for our mission.

There is a place for the kind of leaders the university produces: leaders

continued on page 6

business

"Business is applicable to all organizations: for-profit, non-profit and public," according to Janita Rawls, business program director. Churches also benefit from its principles. "You need to know accounting, how to market and how to structure and design an organization."

With about 80 majors and minors, business is second in size only to liberal studies, usually pursued by students interested in teaching, in the traditional program. Add the management and organizational development major in the Center for Degree Completion, part of the Fresno Pacific School of Professional Studies, and business is the biggest fish in the undergraduate bowl.

Students may specialize in accounting, information systems, finance, international business, management/organizational studies, marketing and non-profit administration, but cross training is essential, Rawls said. "For example, marketers need to know how to read financial data."

Faith and morality light each professional path. "We examine the theories and formulas, but we also ask what is the right thing. In class I say 'this is how the world perceives this situation, but what should Christians do?'" Rawls said.

Like other students at the university, business majors are exposed to a broad educational experience. "Slightly more than half their courses are still in the liberal arts," Rawls said. "This makes them better writers and thinkers when they go into business."

Though business has been a major for many years, a recent reorganization has contributed to a new popularity. Classes have been altered to deepen existing emphases and create new ones, such as information systems and non-profit administration. Rawls has also worked closely with admissions staff to get the message to prospective students.

What has not changed is the care faculty have for students. "I want students in the program, but I want students who know business is right for them," Rawls said.
who use an examined faith and a well-rounded education to work with others to manage the change that seems society’s only constant. “We use the language of producing change agents,” Yoder said.

But the university mission is not simply to change, but to “strengthen the church and improve society.” So change must be for a reason. That reason is transformation—of people, corporations and communities, according to Wendy Wakeman, dean of the school of professional studies. That transformation can spread very wide from this spot in southeast Fresno. “Not only are we transforming the lives of people taking courses, but also the lives of the people they affect,” she said.

Here’s how each school addresses the move into non-education programs:

**Fresno Pacific College**

Professional programs are growth areas, according to Steve Varvis, college dean. About half of college students are interested in education careers. “As we grow I’d like to keep that number the same and add in other areas. We need to add to our investment portfolio, as the business people say,” he said.

Several majors are already strong, such as business, contemporary Christian ministries, psychology and social work. Some other programs are being reorganized, he added. “We’re improving majors to make them more up to date.” Assessment lets faculty know they are on the right track. “We’re testing with employers to see that we’re doing what we said we were going to do,” he said. Alumni are also surveyed on their success in employment and graduate studies.

A multi-million dollar gift from the Activities Integrating Mathematics and Science (AIMS) Education Foundation will help build mathematics, science and technology. Math has long been strong, with enrollment several times that of similar schools, and the addition of two new faculty will keep that going, according to Varvis. Biology enrollment is up, and pre-health is targeted for growth.

Varvis plans for 950 students and 60 full-time faculty positions, up from the current 821 students and about 50 faculty. This would allow more specialized classes and give faculty greater opportunities to enrich their teaching through scholarship, he said. “Changing the reputation of a place takes a decade or so. We’re asking where do we want to be in 10 years and how do we get there?”

**Ministries**

The contemporary Christian ministries (CCM) major seeks to put feet on faith by giving graduates immediate entry into ministry. While the biblical and religious studies major prepares students for seminary and graduate school, CCM majors are more likely to begin work in churches as youth or Christian education pastors or in agencies such as Youth for Christ. “We focus on praxis, or practical theology,” said Tim Neufeld, CCM program director.

Begun in the 1970s by Edmund Janzen, faculty and former president, as the first major of its kind in the West, CCM has since inspired other colleges and universities in the region, Neufeld said. The program is among the more popular at FPU, with about 45 majors and minors.

The major focuses on theology, personal nurture and skills. Theology includes traditional courses on books and themes of the Bible as well as mission, Neufeld said. “That side does look like a biblical and religious studies major.” In personal nurture, “we look at spiritual formation, helping the student develop a personal relationship with Christ,” he added. There are courses on classic faith disciplines such as prayer, meditation and Bible study, and new to the program is a discernment process where students work closely with faculty to determine their gifts for and call to ministry.

Skills are taught in class and out, according to Neufeld. “The really premiere piece is the six units of practicum.” Students work in a church or agency to apply what they learn in class to the real world of ministry. They also study ministry, youth ministry, preaching, counseling, communication, discipleship and evangelism and there are new courses in pastoral and campus ministry.

CCM is looking for students who have faith, the desire to spread it and ways to share it, he added. “There’s a passion, there’s a call and there’s a giftedness.”
SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Wendy Wakeman, dean of the school of professional studies, feels her school is on the verge of great things. “You never know what the day will bring.”

Many days bring new projects with businesses and agencies in areas such as budgeting and human resources. “We’re very involved in staff development for businesspeople,” she said. “People are coming to us and it’s very exciting.”

The school becomes partners with firms and agencies. “We don’t have a set group of courses. We work with the company to customize the approach,” she added. Participants may come to campus for classes, or receive instruction at their workplace. Whatever the subject, the goal is to fill a need, Wakeman said. “We’re providing a service.”

Short courses and on-site training are handled through the Center for Professional Development (CPD), which enrolls 12,000 each year. The other component of SPS is the Center for Degree Completion (CDC), which offers bachelor’s degree programs in organizational management, Christian ministries and liberal studies to working adults with previous college credit. Some 90-120 people take classes at any given time throughout the year.

Rooted in the early 1970s in-service program for educators and still heavily committed to the field, the vision for CPD has grown in the three years since Wakeman came. “We’re very open to ideas and projects as long as I feel the goal is in harmony with our mission,” she said.

Among the new clients are Kings View Mental Health System, the California Department of Corrections, Fresno Interfaith Refugee Ministries, the Ministry of Education in Singapore and Poltava Institute of Post Diploma Education in Ukraine.

FRESNO PACIFIC

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Although most graduate programs still center on education, all students are taught the larger lesson of leadership. Whether in a classroom or corporation, leaders work to change systems, said John Yoder, dean of the graduate school. “The popular notion is that you change the world one person at a time, which of course you do, but there’s more to it than that.”

Though change may seem continual, good leaders know it is always the means, never the end. “A leader is one who is able to understand a system and understand how to change that system to make it perform better,” according to Yoder.

A number of graduate programs are not aimed at educators and administrators in public and private schools. Teaching English as a second language (TESOL) deals with teaching in

social work

Today’s 29 majors and seven minors is a record. “We have tripled since I came here two and one-half years ago,” said Donna Callahan, social work program director. “Our goal is to triple again in three years.”

In advocating for social work, Callahan points out that the traditional roles and perceptions of social workers fail to reflect the breadth of skills the discipline requires and the dozens of career paths it offers. The stereotype that social workers only work in welfare and child protection offices, where stress is high and burnout a given, is false. About 25-30 percent of social workers follow this path, she said, and while some do leave, “what usually happens is that social workers use some of their cross training to get into something else.”

School social work, gerontology, probation and corrections, political lobbying, adoptions and foster care, non-profit management and community development are among the areas where graduates can put their skills to use. Students considering the ministry may also consider a social work major, Callahan said. “It’s very good for students wishing to go on to seminary study because it gives them a skill base.”

Those skills include the ability to assess a situation and write an effective action plan. Talents developed in the classroom get a practical polish during the field experience required of all majors during the spring semester of their senior year. In 448 hours of supervised work in a non-profit agency, plus follow-up work with faculty and the placement supervisor, students explore their attitudes as well as their actions. “We try to develop a critical thinking and problem-solving approach,” Callahan said.

In addition to a compassionate heart, students must develop a head for helping people become independent, which is the soul of social work, according to Callahan. “Social work is an empowering profession.”
different settings; administrative leadership attracts people, mostly working adults, from many occupations; conflict management and peacemaking offers a degree, several certificates and numerous seminars and workshops to help people reap the benefits of conflict and deal with its dangers; and the individual master’s can be tailored to fit each student.

All these programs share education’s interest in producing leaders. Yoder said. Administrative leadership and conflict management both focus on systems, and peacemaking in particular looks at ways systems go wrong.

A recent individual master’s student worked on a book on urban studies in a program that combined leadership and sociology and brought in faculty from Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary. “It’s really fun to do those things,” Yoder said. “You get someone who comes in and stretches everyone and blurs the line between faculty and students.”

**Blending past and future**

Two facts point to the possibility that future and past could complement rather than collide. First, all three schools remain deeply involved in preparing teachers, with no thought of abandoning that tradition. In addition to an estimated half of college students planning to enter the classroom, the bulk of graduate students are either preparing to teach or are seeking advancement within the profession. In addition, most CPD students use the short courses to keep their teaching current. Even the newest CDC major is directed largely at people hoping to complete their bachelor’s degree, then continue for a credential.

There is also evidence that non-education programs and students benefit those in education. An academically varied student body broadens the campus conversation on politics, society, theory and practice, to the benefit of all participants, according to Steve Varvis, college dean. “You need that give and take for teachers to be sophisticated and theoreticians to be practical.” This well-rounded education is the heart of the liberal arts. Graduate education programs have been stretched by adding other fields of study, Yoder said. “That’s been good for everyone.”

No matter how natural the direction of change may seem, or how bright the future of expansion appears, the challenge is to maintain a reputation for quality, and balance what students want with what they need. “We don’t want to just train, we want to educate in the deepest sense,” Varvis said. ✭
Tafolla spends summer in the soda business

by Jaime Huss

STRETCH — Janie Tafolla rose, stood before a sea of faces and cameras.

STRETCH — Hands sweating, Tafolla clenched the brief talk she was told to write in five minutes, then began speaking to the audience of a couple hundred Coca-Cola Company and United Negro College Fund elites and media personnel.

STRETCH — Though this speech seemed like the longest three minutes of her 21 years, it was just one in a series of stretching exercises Tafolla performed during her summer internship. The senior business administration and Spanish major was one of 14 winners nationwide of a $10,000 scholarship/internship created by the United Negro College Fund and Coca-Cola.

Her ability to stretch has been tested often. As a child Tafolla spent 13 years shuttling between California, Mexico and Arizona, and is the first in her family to pursue a university degree.

Stretching student experiences helped Tafolla prepare for her internship. “I was excited to see that some of the things we’re learning actually applied to the real world,” she said. From marketing strategies to lessons in holding eye contact with audience members, the skills Tafolla gained in the classroom were tested in the office.

At Coca-Cola Tafolla spent time in human resources, creating a four-hour orientation for high-school interns. Switching to sales, she researched turnover among merchandisers.

Summer’s end may not be the sunset of Tafolla’s relationship with Coca-Cola. Some of her final presentation findings are under serious consideration, and she has been offered a position after graduation.

Tafolla is quick to acknowledge the university’s role as a spiritual bedrock. “FPU has given me the determination to say I am a strong Christian and I’m going to stick to my values,” she said. The summer also touched her life as a student. “This experience has helped me understand the value of people.”

Tafolla’s life has been one stretch after another. But exercises are rewarding—as Tafolla says, “They make you a better person.”

Jaime Huss is a senior English major from Fresno.

“FPU has given me the determination to say I am a strong Christian and I’m going to stick to my values.”
Haak recalls Sermon on the Mount during installation ceremonies

Harold Haak made the Sermon on the Mount the center of his installation remarks during ceremonies October 27 in the campus Special Events Center. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in which he was brought up, Haak said he learned the fifth chapter of Matthew, the heart of Jesus’ great sermon. “It is memory work that often stands me in good stead among Mennonites,” he joked, “although they sometimes look puzzled by my proclivity to cite the King James Version.”

Several hundred students, faculty and community members attended. Then-Fresno Mayor Jim Patterson and James Pankratz, academic dean of Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, each brought greetings. The presidential medal was presented by Henry Dick, district minister of Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, and Peter Klassen, chair of the university board of trustees. Everyone participated in a litany of dedication.

Haak began his duties in June after 38 years in public higher education, including 11 years as president of California State University, Fresno. Admitting it may seem strange for a man with such a background to lead FPU, Haak said the opportunity is a challenge and calling. “For me it is a new adventure and lifelong learning opportunity. It is a revving up of the engine and a lubricating of the joints.”

Academic achievement, diversity undergird enrollment growth

The traditional undergraduate program continues to attract larger numbers of academically well-prepared students from diverse ethnic backgrounds, contributing to strong enrollment throughout the university’s three schools.

Total enrollment was 1,705 students as of September 18, compared to 1,699 for the same date in 1999. This year there are 821 in Fresno Pacific College, which serves mainly traditional-age college students, 808 in Fresno Pacific Graduate School’s first fall term and 76 in the Center for Degree Completion, part of Fresno Pacific School of Professional Studies. September 18 is the official date for undergraduate college enrollment but only a “snapshot” for the graduate school and CDC, which operate on different calendars.

The growth in the college from 602 students in fall 1997 to 830 in fall 2000 is a 38 percent increase. Academic standards remain strong as the average grade-point average this fall was 3.56 for new freshmen and 3.15 for transfers.

At the same time, racial and ethnic diversity has increased among college students. The percentage of students of color (not including international students) in each incoming class went from 22 percent in fall 1995 to 30 percent in fall 2000.

FPU posts strong budget, adopts long-term goals

No change was good news for the Fresno Pacific University Board of Trustees.

The administration requested no revision in the 2000-2001 budget during board meetings October 27-28. Spending last year had to be cut $1.1 million in response to overly optimistic revenue projections.

The university finished the 1999-2000 fiscal year with a $183,000 surplus and Vice President for Business Affairs Larry Perryman said he expects revenues will exceed estimates in 2000-2001.

The board adopted strategic goals for the next three to five years, including:

• a comprehensive information system,
• a faculty and staff orientation, development and mentoring program centered on the Fresno Pacific Idea and university goals and procedures,
• fiscal stability and flexibility as well as increased investment in compensation, operating budgets, equipment and deferred maintenance,
• an infrastructure to manage enrollment growth,
• an environment of cultural and racial diversity.

In other financial matters, the board approved a 3 percent salary increase for faculty and staff effective January 1, and raised graduate fees from $290 per credit hour to $320, and teacher education to $390 per credit hour from $370. In June the board set 2001-2002 undergraduate tuition at $14,900, a 6.8 percent increase. Average room rates went up 3.6 percent and meal plans an average 2.8 percent.

Board members also elected John Thiesen vice chair, Velma Dyck secretary, Pat Evans assistant secretary, David Beckenhauer treasurer and Max Steinert assistant treasurer.
From left, Peter Klassen, Eugene Enns and Wes Braun were honored by the board. Klassen and Braun each served 20 years on the panel and Enns was chair for 10 years. Each received an original watercolor of McDonald Hall by Janice Leppke.

Dean Gray, business faculty, in June was named a Sam M. Walton Free Enterprise Fellow for the campus chapter of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE). Under Gray’s direction, the FPU student team was named first runner-up and rookie of the year at the 2000 SIFE Regional Exposition and Career Opportunity Fair in Long Beach. SIFE is a non-profit organization that connects business and higher education to help students. Nationwide more than 300 Walton fellows work with SIFE participants. The fellowship was created in 1990 by the Wal-Mart Foundation to honor Samuel Walton, founder and chairman of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Robin Dolarian, art faculty, judged a competition of student art from Fresno, Clovis, Kern County and Bakersfield schools. The contest was sponsored by California State University, Fresno (CSUF) and took place there. This was Dolarian’s sixth year as a judge.

Roslyn Hamman, international counselor, was selected as a Rotary Club GSE team member. She and four other professionals from the district traveled to Bolivia as part of the annual exchange program.

Ron Claassen, co-director of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, and wife Roxanne conducted a workshop on conflict resolution and restorative justice in Hanoi, Vietnam. The training, arranged by Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), was for non-governmental organization (NGO) administrators, both Vietnamese and expatriate. The Claassens also participated with MCC in a one-day dialog on conflict and peacemaking.

Three piano solos by Larry Warkentin, music faculty, have been published by Herald Press. They are No. 1 “Lovelle,” No. 2 “Ryan,” and No. 3 “Micah.” They are available as supplementary music for Hymnal: A Worship Book, used in most Mennonite and Church of the Brethren congregations. Warkentin served as an adjudicator for the Phillip Lorenz Memorial Piano Scholarship competition at CSUF.

John Warkentin and Alden Poetker, of the Multimedia Arts Center, won two Central Valley regional ADDY advertising awards. The staff was honored for work on the NAIA national women’s volleyball tournament and for an alumni spot. They also received an Award of Distinction at the Communicator Awards 2000 Video Competition.

Bill Cockerham, biology faculty, and Bob Jost, school of professional studies, gave presentations at the Central Valley CUE (Computer Using Educators) Conference. Cockerham’s presentation was titled “On-line Teaching Tools” and Jost’s was “Classroom Web Publishing.”

Consuelo Meux, business faculty, presented “God’s Makeover” at the Kingsburg Mennonite Brethren Church women’s retreat. Meux was also the speaker for the Alabaster Box Ministries of St. Rest Baptist Church.

Isolina Sands, Spanish faculty, was named an outstanding volunteer mentor in the CARE (Caring Adults Reinforcing Education) mentoring program at Fresno’s Hoover High School.

Volunteers get children to new school

While welcoming their own students to a new semester, staff and faculty are helping get the neighbor kids to school.

Employees act as crossing guards at the corner of Kings Canyon Road and Willow Avenue to help children safely reach Greenburg Elementary School, which opened in August. About 90 percent of Greenburg’s nearly 1,100 kindergarten-sixth-graders must cross Kings Canyon’s four lanes, according to Vice Principal Bill Serns. Caltrans, the state highway agency, reports 4,050 vehicles per hour in the area during peak times.

Wendy Wakeman, dean of the school of professional studies, read an article on the problem in The Fresno Bee and saw helping out as a way to fulfill the university mission. “We thought we could do this to welcome Greenburg Elementary to the neighborhood,” she said.

Though many parents drive their children to and from school, guards are necessary since Caltrans sets Kings Canyon green lights for no longer than 23 seconds, Serns said. Adults need 21 seconds to cross, “if kids drop a pencil or something, there’s no way they could make it,” he added.

Serns has worked at schools where children where injured by vehicles. “It sounds melodramatic, but it’s a matter of life and death,” he said. “You guys are setting an example of what community service can look like.”

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Faculty added in math, information services

The university welcomes full-time faculty in mathematics faculty and information services.

Christopher Brownell taught mathematics full-time at Fresno's Central High School from 1987 and part-time at Fresno City College (FCC) from 1986. In addition to teaching all levels of math, he has been a master teacher to student teachers, a technology trainer and member of numerous school and community committees. He has an associate degree from FCC, a B.A. from California State University, Fresno (CSUF), and an M.A. from FPU.

Bringing international and engineering experience to his math classroom, Ronald Pratt was assistant professor at the National University of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur. He also taught at University of Petroleum, Beijing, and the Colorado School of Mines, Golden. In addition, he was a process engineer at Caltex Petroleum Corporation and Bahrain (Caltex) Petroleum Corporation and did mission work in India, Japan, Singapore and China. He has bachelor’s degrees and a doctorate from the Colorado School of Mines and a master’s degree from Fuxin Institute of Mining and Technology, China.

Information Services Director Robert Sharpton worked in aerospace and agriculture, most recently at Richland Sales. He earned a bachelor’s degree in construction engineering from Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo and a master’s in computer science from the University of Southern California. A Reedley resident since 1991, Sharpton, wife Lynnde and their four children attend Reformed Presbyterian Church, Fresno, where he has been a youth leader and head of the Christian education committee.

New directors have all the right stuff

Strong community connections, well-rounded experience, commitment to Christian principles and unprecedented energy and enthusiasm are some of the attributes Linda M. Calandra and Diana Bates Mock bring to the table as the newest members of the Advancement Division.

“Bringing Linda and Diana on board, especially at the same time, is an accomplishment that holds great promise for the university,” says Mark Deffenbacher, vice president of advancement and university relations. “These two are highly regarded in the community for their professional expertise as well as their involvement in public service. They bring experience in areas that will substantially benefit our image and our operation, and have reputations that prove they know how to get the job done.”

Calandra, a former Fresno City Councilwoman, is the new director of annual giving and donor relations. Her wealth of leadership experience is evidenced by her most recent role as director of development for Fresno Christian Schools. Other past and current community affiliations include the Fresno Philharmonic Association, Downtown Association, Friends of the Library, Leave a Legacy and Leadership Fresno.

Mock, the new director of media and community relations, came to the university from the private sector. Formerly the director of public relations for Thielen & Associates, a regional advertising/public relations firm based in Fresno, she also owned a writing/consulting business for a number of years, and taught in the mass communications department at California State University, Fresno.

Students have a new space for study and recreation in the basement of Strasbourg Hall. The site of the original Bird Feeder, where students sold refreshments during athletic events, the space had been neglected in recent years. Then-alumni Director Bruce Porter designed the mural—featuring a view of Yosemite’s Half Dome as well as a few surprises for the careful viewer—and students did the painting. Facilities management handled the remodeling.

“Sonata for Flute and Piano,” a new composition by music faculty Larry Warkentin, highlighted October’s Candlelight Concert. Jannette Erickson, university faculty and principal flutist with the Fresno Philharmonic, and Warkentin performed the piece, which contains three contrasting movements.

The trials of looking for love while pleasing the parents were explored in Beau Jest, the fall play. The production took place November 2-5 and 10-12 in Ashley Auditorium. Above, from left are castmembers Jeffrey Jones, Jonathan Maher, Aimee Wolkow, Erica Mardirosian, Zac Perryman and Monica Ramos.
For two weeks in May, 20 of us praised God in the United Kingdom and Ireland. We arrived unknowns, but left impressions of Christ on many foreign hearts.

Our first concert was at the Church of the Assumption in Dalkey, Ireland. The priest told us “we gave the angels voices.” Our courier told Roy Klassen, our director, it was like we really believed what we were singing. At that moment we realized we weren’t in Great Britain to sightsee, or even perform—we were there to speak for the angels and God.

Edinburgh Castle in Scotland was the site of another amazing concert. It was surreal to sing in the great hall where ceremonies for King James IV took place in the 1500s. We left a part of ourselves in the songs that echoed through the halls and, I hope, in the hearts of the audience.

Between concerts we bonded over huge English breakfasts, laughed at the lack of ice in drinks and weren’t surprised when someone—OK, when I—got lost in almost every city. One highlight was the Welsh countryside. After a five-hour coach ride a few of us were tired of sitting and felt adventurous. We climbed a hill to the remains of a Roman fort. After an hour hiking through fields of sheep and scrambling over fences, we reached the ruins. The beauty we saw that night was spiritual.

The memories we made are too many to count. There were the swans in the Lake District, the yellow-painted man in Dublin, the all-night Italian restaurant in Scotland and the dinner that took four hours in Wales.

Each concert was blessed, and the smiles and tears of the audience made even the smallest performance worth the work. I know we will carry a piece of this trip in our hearts forever because we went and sang to the Lord.

Brandi Rose is a senior writing/communications major from Visalia.
Arthur McDonald lived life of service

The university lost a strong supporter January 4 with the death of Art McDonald.

McDonald, 58, was a member of the FPU Foundation board since 1994, and contributor to many projects. He and his wife, Barbara, served as co-chairs of the Building Our Community capital campaign and were instrumental in the building of McDonald Hall, the administration, office and classroom building that bears their name.

The entire McDonald family were alumni, with Art graduating in 1972, daughter Deborah (McDonald) Elrich in 1988, Barbara in 1992 and son John in 1993. Art studied social science, Barbara management and human resources and both children social work. Art also earned a master’s in social work from California State University, Fresno, and eventually earned credentials as a licensed clinical social worker and marriage, family, child counselor.

Many benefited from Art’s desire to serve. After working as a youth pastor, in 1977 he founded his first halfway house for community corrections. By the time of his 1994 retirement he had started 17 such facilities throughout the United States for adults and juveniles. He began both Eclectic Communications and International Self-Help Services.

Art’s efforts to help others didn’t stop with his employment. He chaired the University of Sioux Falls (S.D.) University board and belonged to the school’s foundation board. In addition, he served on the boards of North American Baptist Seminary Leadership Foundation and Carroll Institute and was past president of the International Halfway House Association.

Barbara serves on the FPU Board of Trustees and the USF Foundation Board. She and son John operate a real estate business. Born in Visalia to Fay and Myrtle (Stewart) McDonald, Art is survived by his wife and children, one daughter-in-law, one son-in-law, five grandchildren and two sisters.

The family hosted a “Going Home” celebration January 9 in Sioux Falls, where Art and Barbara moved in 1992. The couple attended Oak Hills Baptist Church.

Federal education grants fund computer initiatives

Part of $2 million in federal education grants will benefit new graduate school programs.

The university will receive $258,930 this year to help train teachers in five school districts in the integration of computers with classroom instruction. The grant is expected to be renewed for an additional two years for a total of $733,806 and was awarded through the U.S. Department of Education’s Teachers Technology Program.

The grant is called “Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers to Use Technology.” The university will work with school districts in Fresno, Clovis, Sanger, Selma and Visalia to:

• Integrate new state technology standards into teacher-education.
• Develop a comprehensive professional development plan for faculty.
• Extend technology-integrated learning to student teachers and interns.

“This grant will provide important assistance for us in helping to work toward our goal of integrating the use of technology into the curriculum for the preparation of teachers,” said John Yoder, dean of the graduate school, which will oversee the project. “I think it is especially significant that the grant enables us to work closely with a number of school district partners and corporate sponsors to help bring this about.”

Congressman Cal Dooley (D-Hanford) announced the grants, aimed at strengthening bilingual education, high school equivalency instruction for farm workers and technology training for teachers. “These funds will help educators better prepare our students for the future by strengthening computer instruction and use in the classroom, providing limited English proficient students with intensive bilingual instruction and ensuring that all the Valley’s residents have access to a basic education,” Dooley said.

“These grants will help students compete successfully in the future.”

Apple Computer, IBM, Teacher Universe and Educational System Planning are the corporate sponsors for the grant. Sponsors will provide technical assistance to implement the project and some degree of training for faculty, teachers and teacher candidates.

Foundation board adds member and reports assets

Reports on charitable trusts and scholarship endowments highlighted meetings of the Fresno Pacific University Foundation Board of Trustees.

The foundation currently manages and is named beneficiary of 45 trusts with assets totaling more than $13 million, according to Mark Deffenbacher, foundation executive director. The $3,362,918 in permanently and temporarily restricted endowments overseen by the foundation include about 54 scholarship funds.

Board members added Jon Hillen, a member of the board at the Activities Integrating Mathematics and Science (AIMS) Educational Foundation, to the panel. The group also reappointed Ted Thiesen, Tim Franz and Waymon Watts.
New scholarship fund honors long-time educator

By Jo Ellen Misakian

The purpose of the Norma P. Dick Scholarship Fund, established in 1999, is to honor the former library media teacher program director and benefit students pursuing a credential. The fund is in the process of garnering the necessary base amount to allow awarding scholarships without depleting the principle.

The library media community has long been the fortunate recipient of Dick’s passion and knowledge of the field. She was a teacher and administrator in the Clovis Unified School District for a number of years. Following her retirement, she came to the library media teacher credential program in 1991, building it into a highly heralded program before retiring from the university in 1999. Drawing students from throughout the state, the unique curriculum offers teachers the flexibility of attending class on Saturdays while teaching in the classroom full-time. Her contributions are deeply appreciated by school administrators and a large number of library media teachers whose lives have been touched and enriched.

The scholarship fund is designed to assist students enrolled or enrolling in the library media program. Students in the program normally take 6-9 units per year, which precludes traditional financial aid and student loans. The scholarship will help fill this gap. Requirements for the scholarship are:

- Students must enroll or be enrolled in the library media credential program.
- Students should display an understanding of the role of the library media teacher and a strong commitment to promoting the goals and objectives of the program.
- Consideration will be given to students experiencing the greatest need.

Contributions are gratefully accepted. For more information call the Fresno Pacific University Advancement Office at 559-453-2237. Indicate your donation is to be deposited in the Norma P. Dick Scholarship Fund.

Jo Ellen Misakian directs the library media teacher program.
Alumnae connection builds bonds between student, grandmother

by Kerrie McPherson

"Ann is a member of Pacific’s first freshman class of the new millennium, while Dorothy was a member of the first freshman class ever, back when the school was Pacific Bible Institute."

Besides their grandmother-granddaughter relationship, Ann Kauffman and Dorothy Kauffman share a special connection through Fresno Pacific University.

Ann is a member of Pacific’s first freshman class of the new millennium, while Dorothy was a member of the first freshman class ever, back when the school was Pacific Bible Institute.

Ann feels that attending the same college has been special for her and her grandmother. Her parents have been missionaries in Spain for most of her life, giving her little opportunity as a child to spend time with her grandparents. Now she is able to frequently visit and get to know Dorothy and Howard, who live in Fresno.

“I feel like there’s a common bond now. We talk about school and she knows about almost everyone I talk about, the professors, the students and their families, most people. She’s pretty much been here her whole life,” Ann said. For instance, Dorothy mentioned that they had a Bible emphasis week every year and guest preachers were invited to speak to the students. One speaker was history faculty Paul Toews’ father, J.B. Toews.

Although many of the same families are still around, there have been many changes over the years as well, Dorothy said. The student rules and regulations, for instance. Dorothy recalled her first day at PBI, September 18, 1944, when the entire enrollment amounted to 28 people.

“We were the first students to attend, so everything was decided as the year went on,” Dorothy said. “The rules were formed around my beginning class and how we behaved.” In fact, Dorothy was a part of the group who chose the school logo of a burning oil lamp and an open Bible that evolved into the current logo of an open Bible and flame. Ann, on the other hand, was a part of an incoming freshman class of 170 and one of 780 undergraduate students. For her, the rules had been established for a long time.

The school has changed tremendously since Dorothy attended. She spoke of the stringent dress codes and curfews as well as class and participation requirements. One particular change Dorothy noticed is the number of students going into ministry. When she graduated, almost everyone was going into full-time Christian service. Now there are around 40 possible areas of study, as well as personalized majors.

Although she knows change is necessary, Dorothy feels that the original intents of the founding fathers of the school are also important. “When I hear of changes, I think of the founders of the school. They worked hard to make the school what it is. I hope the students remember them.”

Ann has a slightly different view, “I think that changes come with the generations. When [Dorothy] hears we have a jazz band, she is shocked. So, I think there are inevitable changes that have to take place. How you view [the changes] depends on the standards of your generation.”

Changes or not, both women are glad they chose FPU. Ann always felt that the university would be a part of her future and is now glad that she made the choice to attend. Dorothy is also happy that many years ago she made the same choice and was delighted to hear her granddaughter following in her footsteps.
Marc Nikkel ends journey where he began

A journey that stretched from the Central Valley to Africa and Great Britain returned to Reedley September 3 with the passing of Marc Randall Nikkel.

Raised in Reedley Mennonite Brethren Church, Nikkel, 50, became an Episcopal priest who lived and served in Great Britain and East Africa. He attended the university in 1969 before studying art at California State University, Long Beach, and the School of Visual Arts in New York. He later earned a master’s of divinity from Fuller Theological Seminary and a doctorate from the University of Edinburgh.

The art and liturgy of the Episcopal Church attracted Nikkel at a time when he was “floundering in his walk with the Lord,” according to his sister, Marvis Bergen. “He wasn’t sure he could be an artist and a Christian.”

A visit to the Congo to see Marvis and her husband, Sam, then MB missionaries, gave Nikkel new direction. “He went on village trips and this ignited a new spirit in his heart,” she said.

Upon his return, Nikkel began his studies at Fuller, where he was invited to an Episcopalian service. “His heart was just drawn there,” Bergen said. His heart was also drawn back to Africa, and he left for service in Sudan shortly after graduating from Fuller.

Over the next 18 years, Nikkel went back and forth between Britain and East Africa, working with refugees, teaching at a university and helping build a church. “He designed windows and doors and just made an art piece there in the desert,” Bergen said. He built relationships as well as buildings. When few were ministering to Africans in their own languages, “he spoke dialects so well that co-workers said that if they couldn’t see him they didn’t know he wasn’t black,” Bergen said.

It was in Africa that he was ordained an Episcopal priest, it was in Africa that he was taken prisoner for several weeks by Sudanese rebels and it was in Africa that he was diagnosed with cancer in 1998. When Immanuel High School classmates asked how they could help, Nikkel asked them to build a simple wood casket. They did, and though Nikkel would be buried in that casket and the builders would serve as pallbearers, it was two years before it was used.

Those two years included four more trips to Africa, twice to negotiate between tribes. “The Lord just gave him windows to do tasks,” Bergen said.

Nikkel’s intent was to die in either Africa or Scotland, but a stop in Reedley enroute to a conference in Denver told Nikkel his pilgrimage was at an end. “He had always bounced back, but this time he didn’t,” Marvis said. The Bergens cared for their brother in the Nikkel family home.

The seven weeks in Reedley were filled with long walks and good talk. Bergen said. Gary Nachtigall, FPU athletic director, was one of those he talked with. “Edmund Janzen and I had a chance to visit him a few weeks before his death and were reminded small places produced great people. Even in his dying he allowed us to learn lessons we probably would not have learned.”

Reunion at the beach

About 18 alumni and spouses of Pacific Bible Institute met July 22 in Ferndale, Washington. Events included hot dogs and s’mores at Birch Bay Beach as well as dinner and raspberry and cherry picking at the home of Bob and Mary Eytzen, who organized this first reunion of a group who attended PBI between 1954-58. Mark Deffenbacher, vice president for advancement and university relations, and Bud Dickerson, major gifts director, gave a presentation on the university today. Those in attendance included J.C. and Susan Baker, Ferndale, Wash.; Vern and Josie Doerksen, Globe, Ariz.; Ken and Priscilla Eirich, Fresno; Leonard and Sydney Hays, Olympia, Wash.; Jack and Lee Hiebert, Pinedale, Calif.; Adonijah and Eva Pauls, Fresno; Pete and Janis Wiebe, Otis, Ore.; and Ray and Gladys Wiebe, Grants Pass, Ore.
Dear alumni,

I can hardly believe I’ve been working for FPU for more than eight years. They have been wonderful years of getting to know many alumni and students. During that time Fresno Pacific College became Fresno Pacific University; 1717 evolved from an alumni newsletter into a magazine, then became part of Pacific magazine; we began a Student Alumni Association; alumni participation in annual giving increased 240 percent from 509 donors to 1,224; and the alumni endowment for student scholarships attained its $100,000 goal.

Many new campus facilities and improvements were also completed, like: McDonald Hall, the facilities management building, East Hall, dorm renovations, Alumni Hall renovation, Steinert field improvements and the new Bill Cockerham Track. And on a personal note, both of my children graduated from FPU. It almost makes me dizzy just to think about it!

By the time you read this I will have left the university as director of alumni relations. I have been called back into the pastorate as senior pastor of the Hillsboro Mennonite Brethren Church in Hillsboro, Kansas. My wife, Janice, and I are excited about the work God has set before us. Although we leave the Fresno Pacific family geographically, we plan to keep in touch and continue to support the university as loyal alumni. I know that we leave FPU in good hands. Great things are still in store for the future.

Thanks to all of you alumni who volunteered countless hours, donated funds (which were all counted), prayed often for support and gave so many words of encouragement. You helped make the last eight years enjoyable and fulfilling.

Bruce Porter
Director of Alumni Relations

FPU BECOMES HOMECOMING PARADISE

Under the theme of “Sunbirds of Paradise” a flock of graduates, students and friends perched at one of the sporting events, concerts and other activities, or just roosted on the Green October 6-7. The event ended with Saturday evening’s traditional student skits (above) in the amphitheater.

GENERAL NEWS

Wilfred Derksen M.D. (BA ’66) moved into a full-time teaching position as clinical instructor and assistant professor in the pediatric residency training program at University Medical Center and Valley Children’s Hospital in Fresno. He had served in West Africa as a physician for three years, emergency medicine for three years and private practice for 21 years.

Gail Pauls (BA ’80) serves as a missionary in Santiago, Chile.

Suzette (Kessler) (BA ’84) and Attlee Benally and family moved to Pittsburg, Calif., so Attlee could attend the California School of Podiatric Medicine.

Dave Trouten (BA ’86) was appointed chairman of the general studies department at Bethany Bible College of Sussex, New Brunswick.

Cindy (Jones) (BA ’88) and Kyon Yi moved from North Dakota back to California. Cindy spent the last year as an Herbalife distributor building a health and nutrition business from home. Kyon is enjoying his assignment at Vandenberg Air Force Base just north of Santa Barbara.

Phillip Gonzales (MA ’90) was named to the University of California Community College Advisory Council for 2000-2001. The council helps the university president stay abreast of trends and issues in state community colleges.

Marietta (Perkins) (BA ’96) Dalpez has accepted a position as human resources assistant with The Fresno Bee. She went to The Bee from Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, where she was assistant to the president.

Brenda (Davis) (BA ’96) Round received her M.A. in social work from California State University, Fresno in May. She moved to the central coast with her husband Doug, who is pursuing his M.A. in mathematics at Cal Poly.

MARRIAGES

Anita (Gonzales) (BA ’98) married Matthew Cockrum January 22, 2000. In June she began work at FPU as advancement services assistant in the Advancement Office.

BIRTHS


Stephanie (Schwamb) (BA ’95) Wamhoff and husband Gary announce the birth of Emily Renee.

Carlie (BA ’98) and Johnnie McCarvey announce the birth of Zacharia Kiyoshi February 7, 2000. Carlie also received her teaching credential in December of 1999.
Alumni couple report on work in Vietnam

Alumni Ken (BA ’84) and Fran Martens-Friesen (attended ’79-81) presented a personal update and a history lesson during a June visit.

“It’s not a war there,” they said, referring to Vietnam, where they are country representatives for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), “it’s a country.” Far from experiencing anti-American feeling, they spoke of a young, vibrant nation eager to know the United States. “Seventy-five percent of the population has been born since the war,” they said.

MCC first brought food and other aid to Vietnam in 1954, returning shortly after the U.S. pullout in 1975 and the fall of Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) in 1979. While other countries still shunned the newly united nation, MCC served through its Thailand office and was among the first American non-governmental agencies invited to return to Vietnam in 1990.

Ken joined MCC after teaching social studies in Fresno. He worked in Lesotho for three years, teaching high school and participating in anti-apartheid activities. He then worked in the Washington office for eight years, focusing on Asia and Africa. He holds a doctorate from American University.

Fran graduated from Goshen (Ind.) College and taught at a junior high school in Boston before joining the China Educational Exchange program, where she taught English at a medical college. She earned a master’s at Georgetown University and was an instructor at the University of Maryland. They married in 1988 and went to Vietnam in 1998. The Martens-Friesens have three children, two boys and a girl.

Macklin credits university with helping him see the world, answer call to ministry

by Wayne Steffen

Jerry Macklin didn’t get a degree from FPU, but he answered a summons.

“I acknowledged my call to ministry at Pacific College,” said Macklin, a bishop in the Church of God in Christ. He attended from 1970-71 and served as president of his freshman class.

Luetta Reimer and Wilfred Martens, in the English department, and Edmund Janzen, in biblical and religious studies, are some of the faculty who stand out in Macklin’s memory. “They all were young professors when I was here,” he said.

These and other faculty and staff took a special interest in students, which helped Macklin expand his horizons. “It was very much like a small family,” he said. “It allowed me to be open to people from various religious backgrounds.”

Macklin has returned the favor by having FPU students visit his church (Glad Tidings Church, Hayward) and its extensive community revitalization program. South Hayward was engulfed in drugs and violence, he said. “Glad Tidings decided to build a church in the center of that neighborhood. Our theme was ‘The light shines brightest where it’s darkest.’”

The church bought crackhouses, converted apartments into condominiums, built new homes and became involved in community policing. “It’s important to see a church has linkage with the community and agencies,” Macklin said.

Since Macklin founded Glad Tidings in 1978, the congregation has grown to between 1,200 and 1,400 members and the staff to 10. “It started in our living room with my wife and I,” he recalled. He and his wife, Vanessa, have been married 27 years and have five children.

In addition to his work with the congregation, Macklin also serves at denominational headquarters in Memphis, where he is chairman of the national auxiliaries convention—covering Sunday school, youth activities, missions, evangelism and music—and president of the international Sunday school department.

Macklin’s strongest memory of FPU is how it opened his eyes. “All in all, it helped me be open to the future.”

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Information for Pacific Magazine:
A weekend of events will honor Bill Cockerham and introduce the track that bears his name on April 6-7.

Past meets future during ceremonies dedicating the Bill Cockerham Track

Alumni track greats from the 1960s and ’70s will be inducted into the Sunbird Hall of Fame during a dessert get-together Friday evening. These and other veteran athletes are also invited to participate in the first Menno Relays at 2 p.m. Saturday on the new track. Biola, Westmont and Vanguard universities have been invited to bring their squads for a meet.

A formal dedication of the track, featuring Cockerham, a pillar of Sunbirds track since 1971, will take place prior to the meet.

For more information, contact the Athletic Office at 559-453-2009.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Teresa Kamps (pictured below) leads the Sunbirds, currently 14-7 overall and 5-3 in Golden State Athletic Conference play, with marks of 16.4 points and 8.1 rebounds per game. The junior forward from Ripon (Ripon Christian High School) earned NAIA All-American honorable mention status last season and is on target to break the FPU career scoring record of 1,475 this season.

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Senior Charles Butcher (pictured below), a biblical and religious studies major from San Diego, leads the Sunbirds with a 13.2 points per game average. The versatile guard, who also averages 3.3 rebounds and 2.8 assists per game and has hit 85 percent of his free throws, is one of the few bright spots in a 6-14 (2-6 in GSAC) season.
The Sunbirds finished with an overall mark of 8-10-0, including a fifth-place 5-4-0 GSAC record. Senior striker Edgardo Contreras (pictured below) (Mexicali, Mexico) established new FPU and GSAC records for career goals (87) and points scored (201) in only 69 games played. He was named to the NAIA All-American team for the third consecutive season.

The men finished fourth in the GSAC championship with 100 points. Juniors Roberto Lopez (Sanger) and Matt Neufeld (Bakersfield) led the team all season. Lopez finished eighth (25:27) and Neufeld 13th (26:26) in the final.

The Sunbird women, ranked as high as 11th in the NAIA, were led by sophomores Jen-nifer Toler and Chrisie Gregory (pictured above) (both Fresno). They saved the best for last as the team finished fourth (91 points) in the GSAC championship that featured six NAIA top-30 teams. It marked the first time in university history all seven women broke 20 minutes, including three under 19 minutes, in one race.

The women’s club finished a 10-game exhibition schedule with a 4-5-1 record. The season was highlighted by a 7-0 win over Menlo College. The women’s team will gain varsity status and join GSAC next season.

**NAIA HONORS**

**WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL**
- **Kelly Watney, All-American first team** • Senior, setter, Fresno
- **Micheleen Issa, All-American third team** • Senior, middle blocker, Fresno
- **Becky Stiglich, All-American honorable mention** • Senior, outside hitter, Fresno
- **Kelly Watney, All-America Scholar Athlete** (3.60 GPA) • Senior, setter, Fresno
- **Allison Stewart, NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete** (3.57 GPA) • Senior, defensive specialist, Bellingham, Washington

**MEN’S SOCCER**
- **Edgardo Contreras, All-American third team** • Senior, striker, Mexicali, Mexico"
### February

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<td>6 Basketball GSAC championships</td>
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<td>Jazz Band Spring Concert</td>
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<td>1 Concert Choir fund-raising dinner 2-3 Basketball GSAC semifinal</td>
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**Fresno Pacific University**

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