Passing on the challenge

Princeton tradition enters third generation

Baseball and tennis coming!

FPU rises in *U.S. News* ranking
THE PAST IS OUR FOUNDATION, 
THE FUTURE IS OUR OPPORTUNITY

ty they sometimes reinvent themselves. Blanchard pointed to the example of The March of Dimes, which was formed to help eradicate polio. When that disease was brought largely under control, the organization adapted and now leads the charge against birth defects. While my generation remembers the agency's work with vaccination campaigns and iron lungs, FPU students today associate it with a whole new set of health issues.

As the university has confronted new challenges, it too has evolved, remaining true to its basic values, but transforming itself in response to new needs and opportunities. Like other healthy and vibrant organizations, FPU understands its core business, holds a clear vision for the future and is passionately committed to making a difference in its community and around the world. Our mission calls us to prepare students for faithful and wise service through excellence in higher education. That’s our core business. Our vision? Transforming lives for leadership and service.

Resilient organizations honor and build upon the past, but address the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. They find hope and inspiration in their histories, but remain focused on the future. Strong and vibrant organizations are careful, but not paralyzed by the fear of making mistakes; reflective, but prepared to respond quickly to a rapidly changing environment. FPU has thrived because it has remained firmly grounded in its core values, focused on its mission, but light on its feet.

We have embarked on what we call the “reconstruction” of Alumni Hall. This wonderful building has served as a cafeteria, classroom, theater, meeting room, chapel, music practice room and much more. Now it is being transformed into a bookstore, coffee shop and lounge. Built through the gifts of alumni and supporters, soon new generations will browse through racks of books, savor a hot cappuccino and enjoy friends. This renewal of an old and cherished building provides a wonderful metaphor for the transformation of the Pacific Bible Institute into Fresno Pacific University. The past is our foundation; the future is our opportunity. Join us as we celebrate God’s faithfulness during these first 60 years, and as we look forward to the next 60!
Passing on the Challenge

FPU shares its academic gifts

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   “Ben-men” bring home national track championships
Deciding what to keep so we can pass it on

“Happy 60th anniversary!”
Say that to a husband and wife and forgive them if they swell with pride. What they have achieved through love, respect, faith, humor and hard work is rare and wonderful and worthy of a monument.

It is customary to equate wedding anniversaries with some material, usually precious. The traditional list calls the 60th a diamond anniversary, along with the 75th. The modern list calls the 60th a golden anniversary, along with the 50th.

Time moves differently through the halls of academe. I was in a graduate class at the University of Notre Dame when the professor pointed out that NDU had recently celebrated its 150th year. University employees in the room congratulated themselves until the professor added, “A friend of mine was at Harvard when it celebrated its tri-centennial.”

Then there’s Oxford where, the story goes, a visitor asked a faculty member how they got the grass so neat. “Well,” the don replied, “it’s been mowed every Tuesday for 500 years.”

However time is measured, change is constant, bringing cost as well as gain. Fresno Pacific University carries much from Fresno Pacific College, Pacific College and Pacific Bible Institute. The vital questions about what must carry over are asked every day, in formal meetings and chats on the Green. But they take on a new intensity during anniversary years, especially those ending in zero.

In the end it’s not how much time we have, but what we learn in that time and what we pass on that counts. What diamonds and gold do we have to lay in the hands of the next generation of students, faculty and staff?

—Wayne Steffen
TENNIS AND BASEBALL are coming back to Fresno Pacific University.
FPU plans to implement men’s and women’s tennis and men’s baseball in time for the 2005-2006 season. “We have been working on this for quite some time,” said Athletic Director Dennis Janzen. “It is the right move.”

The final step in the process was to gain faculty approval. “The faculty session voted overwhelmingly to affirm the recommendation of the athletic department,” Janzen said.

“Tennis and baseball are a natural fit,” said President D. Merrill Ewert. “We have many students who love these sports. The San Joaquin Valley boasts fantastic weather, passionate fans, wonderful facilities and a deep pool of potential players. These new teams will offer our students an opportunity to compete and generate greater visibility for the university. What an exciting time for FPU!”

The Harold and Betty Haak Tennis Complex, comprising seven lighted courts, is currently under construction and scheduled to be dedicated the first weekend in April. It will serve as home for FPU tennis teams and also provide recreational opportunities for students, faculty and staff.

The baseball team will practice and play at local area fields until a campus baseball diamond is built. FPU plans to move women’s and men’s soccer from its current venue, Steinert Field, to Ramirez Field, located within Cockerham Track. Steinert Field will then be converted into a baseball facility. The transition will not occur until the stadium that houses both Cockerham Track and Ramirez Field is completed.

“We are fund-raise aggressively for each of these projects,” Janzen said. “The first priority is to complete the track and soccer stadium. There will be no on-campus baseball facility until that gets done.”

It has been over 30 years since FPU fielded a tennis team. In the late 1960s and early 1970s FPU teams competed against local area community colleges and National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) schools in the Los Angeles area as well as California State University, Fresno, and California State University, Stanislaus.

FPU’s first baseball club team emerged in the mid-1960s. A second attempt at baseball occurred in the 1980s. FPU’s current baseball club started four years ago and has played a 15-to-20 game schedule against such teams as University of California Santa Cruz, Humboldt State University and California State University, Monterey Bay.

The 2005-2006 schedules for both sports will include a full complement of Golden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) contests. FPU’s tennis and baseball teams will also be eligible to compete in the GSAC and NAIA championships.
Student selected for California Senate Fellows program

by David Bacci

Most university students spend the day before graduation trying on caps and gowns and planning parties. Linda Montemayor was being grilled by the selection committee for a prestigious fellowship. That sacrifice paid off as she was among 18 students selected from around the nation to participate in the California Senate Fellows program.

In May, Montemayor graduated summa cum laude with a degree in liberal studies. Montemayor originally planned to begin the teacher credentialing process in the fall. Her plans changed, however, after she took a course on California history and politics.

“My California history class got me interested in California politics,” Montemayor said.

Established in 1973, the California Senate Fellows program provides college graduates with the opportunity to work as a full-time professional legislative staff members. Participants register as graduate students at California State University, Sacramento, and receive 12 units toward a master’s degree through the university’s government department.

A Visalia native, Montemayor is living and working in Sacramento from October 2004 to September 2005. Fellows work closely with legislators on bills, speeches, press releases and meetings.

“The application process is very competitive,” said Montemayor, the first FPU grad to be accepted into the fellows program. “There were nearly 500 applicants from all over the country.” The 18 fellows are selected based on academic achievement, past employment, community and campus involvement and interest in public policy.

“It’s a great honor to be chosen,” said Richard Unruh, chair of the social sciences division. “Linda is a thoughtful person, with a true interest in issues with political dimensions.”

Montemayor looks forward to working in the State Capitol building where she hopes to combine her interest in politics with teaching. “I hope to work in an area that allows me to look into the ways that legislation affects the education system,” she said.

U.S. NEWS RANKS FPU AT TOP OF THE CLASS

U.S. News & World Report has again named Fresno Pacific University to the top level of its category in the magazine’s annual rankings. FPU is in the top quarter among Western universities, master’s in the 2005 edition of America’s Best Colleges. There are 124 schools in the regional category, and 68 were ranked.

“This honor affirms the quality of our academic programs and career preparation as well as the ethical grounding so crucial to an FPU education,” said President D. Merrill Ewert. “In particular, I want to recognize the work of our outstanding faculty and staff, which brought us to this point.”

U.S. News placed FPU in its top tier of regional universities in 1998. The university has also been included in the magazine’s best buy and diversity rankings. Universities—master’s are similar to national doctoral universities, according to U.S. News, in that they provide a full range of undergraduate and master’s-level programs. Schools are ranked by the geographic area their students usually come from.

The 2005 ranking is equivalent to the top tier terminology formerly used by U.S. News. The magazine changed its ratings system this year. Placement in the rankings is based on factors including graduation and student retention rates, academic preparedness of incoming students, average class size and a school’s reputation among its peers.

MISAKIAN BOOK CLARIFIES LIBRARY LANGUAGE

What do librarians do when they find themselves at a loss for words? They turn to the experts.

The Essential School Library Glossary by Jo Ellen Priest Misakian, library media program director, was released in fall 2004 by Linworth Publishing. Misakian wrote the book with other librarians in mind.

The glossary focuses on the words that help define the mission and purpose of the library program. Included are fundamental terms and acronyms, as well as terms pertinent to other segments of the educational arena, such as literature and technology.

“(The book) will be of particular interest to those entering the profession who may be grappling with an array of new concepts and ideas, but should also prove to be useful to those long-standing members of the profession who may need to update their understanding of definitions for new idioms,” Misakian said.
FPU, Fresno and Tulare school districts join to improve math education

UNIVERSITY INVOLVED WITH THE ONLY VALLEY PROJECTS FUNDED

Two Valley school districts won competitive grants from the California Department of Education, and Fresno Pacific University is involved in both of them.

The Tulare County Office of Education and Fresno Unified School District are among 17 districts statewide to receive funds from the California Mathematics and Science Partnership (CaMSP) program to aid at-risk students. Applicants were required to work with a college or university and several districts approached FPU.

Tulare County chose FPU because of its reputation and experience with the district. “We have worked with FPU in the past and have been pleased with the kind of professional development they offer,” said Julie Joseph, instructional consultant in mathematics for Tulare County Office of Education.

The Tulare County grant will pay half tuition for 25-30 teachers in grades 4-9 to earn master’s degrees in education with an emphasis in mathematics through FPU. Teachers who do not wish to earn an M.A. may participate in staff development also financed by the grant. The award is for $812,598 over three years.

A unique feature of this program is that it includes court and community schools as well as public schools. Court schools are usually for students in juvenile hall, while community school students often have behavior problems that keep them out of public schools.

The $940,464 FUSD award is shared between FPU and California State University, Fresno. FPU will host an algebra seminar for teachers and assist with lesson study. Work on the Tulare County project began in June and FUSD training in August.

Faculty member’s work performed at Carnegie Hall

Want to know how to get to Carnegie Hall? Ask Walter Saul.

Chair of the FPU music department, Saul had two compositions performed at Carnegie Hall, one of the top music venues in the world.

His “Prelude and Fugue in A-flat Major” and “Prelude and Fugue in G-sharp Minor” were performed by pianist Walter Cosand June 14, 2004. The works are part of Saul’s 2001 composition, From Alpha to Omega, a cycle of 24 preludes and fugues in each of the major and minor keys modeled after J. S. Bach’s Well-tempered Clavier.

Saul joined the university in 2003 and teaches piano, theory and composition. He has a doctorate of music arts and a master’s in music from Eastman School of Music as well as a bachelor’s from Duke University. He has won 14 American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) awards, two Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI) Student Composers Awards and several National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC) honors.

Walter Cosand is professor of piano at Arizona State University. He has recorded music by several composers. In addition to solo tours throughout the United States, he has performed in Russia, Korea and Europe.
Student overcomes adversity and excels academically

by David Bacci

In May 2003, Nayely Arreola and her family faced deportation from the United States. One year later, she received a full-tuition scholarship to FPU.

The family’s story began in the late 1990s. Acting under the advice of their attorney, the Arreolas provided untrue information to immigration officials in an attempt to gain American citizenship. When the truth was found out, the family was ordered to leave the U.S. In May 2003, the Arreolas packed their bags and were ready to move to Tijuana when Sen. Dianne Feinstein intervened. With her aid, the Arreolas have been able to remain in the U.S. Nayely’s citizenship application is currently before Congress.

Nayely earned a 3.91 grade-point average at Granite Hills High School, Porterville, and was ranked fifth in her class of 229 students. Her goal was to attend FPU, but because of her citizenship status she was ineligible for any government financial aid.

She is a perfect candidate for the Samaritan Scholarship, which each year goes to one Central Valley high school graduate who demonstrates perseverance and triumph over adversity as well as academic achievement. “The idea of the scholarship is to provide an opportunity for a student whose legal status has not been granted,” said Dina Gonzalez-Pina, admissions director.

The Samaritan Scholarship was presented on May 26 to Nayely at the high school’s annual Scholarship Night event. Nayely, who was unaware she was receiving the award, wiped away tears as she stood to accept the scholarship. “This scholarship is a lot of answered prayer,” she said.

Nayely said she chose FPU because of its strong academics and personal atmosphere. “You walk on campus and see so many smiling faces, even though they don’t know you,” she said.

Nayely hasn’t decided what she will study, but her desire is to follow God and His plan for her life. “I want to bless people the way I’ve been blessed,” Nayely said.

“Nayely has a committed heart for giving back” said Jane Rumolo, coordinator of Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) at GHS.
NEW FACES ON CAMPUS

Serving is Barry Lockton’s goal as director of facilities and services. “I refer to everybody here as our customers,” he said. Lockton began work April 1. The facilities and services director is involved in planning and construction of buildings and other projects, and supervises maintenance, security, custodial and other services. Before coming to FPU, Lockton was director of maintenance, operations and transportation at Chowchilla Union High School District and facilities manager for the City of Fresno Department of Administrative Services.

Cosette Choeiri joined the psychology faculty August 1. She has a B. Sc. in biology as well as a B.A. and Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Ottawa, where she also served as a part-time faculty and had assistantships in teaching and research.

Jonathan Maher began work October 1 as assistant director of admissions and church relations. This new position will strengthen relationships between the university and churches, Christian schools and parachurch organizations, consolidating duties formerly divided between existing admissions staff as well as incorporating new activities. Maher is a 2003 FPU graduate. As a senior, he served as president of Associated Students of Fresno Pacific College, the undergraduate student government. After graduation, he worked full time for Anchor Lighting and the Bank of America before returning to campus.

Martens brings faculty, administrative experience to board chairmanship

The new chair of the FPU Board of Trustees has seen all sides of university leadership.

Larry Martens was president and faculty member of Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary between 1982 and 1992, joining the FPU board in 2000. “I think it’s helpful for me as chairman of the board. It gives me a feel for what it’s like from all three perspectives,” Martens said.

Those perspectives are different, according to Martens. “We don’t micro-manage as a board. Administrators are hired to oversee the work of the institution,” he said. “[The faculty’s] main overriding concern is education. Administration’s overriding concern is to facilitate that.”

Disagreements are inevitable, but can be helpful. “I think tension can be an opportunity for discussion,” Martens said.

FPU is fortunate to have Martens, said President D. Merrill Ewert. “The breadth of experience and wisdom he has gained in his 42-year career will serve this university well.”

“He’s a person who brings both academic perspectives and pastoral perspectives, and he’s very good at both,” said Michael Kunz, faculty board representative. “He is someone who listens well.”

Jim Holm, MBBS president, said Martens cares for faculty, students and staff. “That was a spirit that was really appreciated here,” he said.

Martens began his duties as chair following commencement in May, succeeding Peter Klassen, who served four years and remains on the board. From 1992 to 2004 Martens was pastor of North Fresno Mennonite Brethren Church. He has also pastored Koerner Heights Church of the Mennonite Brethren, served as minister of music at Reedley Mennonite Brethren Church and taught music at Immanuel Christian High School and in public schools. He has a bachelor’s degree from Tabor College, a master’s degree from the University of Kansas, a master’s in divinity from MBBS and a doctorate from Southwestern Theological Seminary.

Planning for the future and improving the board are major issues, Martens said. The board must think about optimal enrollment size and the balance between the off-campus centers and the traditional undergraduate program, which Martens called the center of the university.

Martens is excited about the challenge. “I see this as an opportunity to facilitate the board with its work.”
Robin Dolarian, art faculty, donated a painting to Children’s Hospital Central California for its Harvest Ball fund-raising event in September. Activities included a meal, dancing and live and silent auctions. The painting, titled “La Faunduh,” was valued at $1,500. Dolarian’s work is on display at Hemisphere Collection and Furniture, 5045 N. Palm.


Kathy Hitchcox, 46, died July 5, 2004. She joined the faculty in 2002, becoming associate dean of the Fresno Pacific School of Professional Studies and Fresno Pacific Graduate School. She was also active at Hope Lutheran Church. Survivors include husband Larry Langford, stepson David Langford, parents Eugene and Phyllis Hitchcox, sister Jennifer Hitchcox and brothers Robert and Jeffrey Hitchcox. Services were July 21, 2004. Her bachelor’s degree was from California Lutheran College and her master’s and doctorate were from Rice University. Remembrances may be made to the Hope Lutheran Church Refurbishing Fund.

Dennis Janzen, athletic director, was among 11 people honored in July 2004 by the Fresno Convention & Visitors Bureau for attracting amateur athletic championship events to Fresno. Janzen was included because of his work to bring the 1999 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Women’s National Volleyball Championships to the city.

Walter Saul, music faculty, received an ASCAPUS Award from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP). The cash prize was for his work in composing. The program is for many active writers in the early stages of their careers and established writers whose main activity is not in the broadcast media. Awards are determined annually by a panel of music professionals.

D. Merrill Ewert, President, has an essay in a new book titled, College Faith: 150 Christian Leaders and Educators Share Faith Stories from Their Student Days, published by Andrews University Press. Ewert’s contribution, “From Defeat to Debate,” describes a conversation Ewert had with his advisor that changed the course of his college career. Entering the meeting fearing he would fail two classes, Ewert came out a member of the debate team sure he would make the dean’s list (he did). “Over the years, when students have come to me with their struggles in my courses, I’ve been guided by the memory of my conversation with Professor (Kenneth) Kornelson,” Ewert wrote. “I’ve looked for the God-given potential that Professor Kornelson saw in me.”

Larry Warkentin, music faculty emeritus, received a 2004 American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) Award for his work as a composer. Winners are selected by an independent panel of writers and critics from around the nation. Selections are based on the “unique prestige value of each writer’s catalog of original compositions,” according to ASCAP.

Rod Janzen, senior scholar, presented a paper at the August 6 meeting of the American Historical Association in San Jose. The session dealt with the issue of religions and ‘cults’ in America. While on sabbatical during the spring semester Janzen made the presentations: “The Hutterites and the Bruderhof: The Relationship Between an Old Order Anabaptist Group and a Modern Religious Society;” as part of the annual lecture series at the Young Center for the Study of Anabaptism and Pietism, Elizabethtown, Penn., and “Communal Expressions of Christianity,” as part of the monthly lecture series for the Inter-religious Student Forum at Brown University.

Stacy Hammons, sociology faculty, has had an article accepted for publication. “Family Violence: The Language of Legitimacy,” will be published in Afilia.

Jim Ave, trainer and physical education faculty, conducted a poster presentation at the Far West Athletic Trainers’ Association’s Annual Clinical Symposia in Honolulu in July. His title was “Reliability and validity of the athletic training professional socialization inventory.”

Julia Reimer, theater faculty, performed in the play Morning’s at Seven, by Paul Osborne, June 24-August 15 at Second Space theater, Fresno.

Breck A. Harris, business faculty, gave a presentation, “The Importance of Creating a Sense of Community Within an Adult Student Cohort,” at the 2004 Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching at California State University, Pomona, on March 20, 2004. He also gave a poster presentation “Implementing Information Technology Learning Approaches into a Degree Completion Program” at the 2004 Syllabus-Technology for Higher Education Conference in San Francisco on July 20, 2004. A paper based on this presentation was also published as part of the proceedings.

How many tourists does it take to buy a ticket for the German subway system? Six—plus one friendly local.

How do I know? I was one of the six.

The “expert” who writes books about traveling in Europe said not to worry, ticket machines always have directions in English. That expert had never attempted to board the subway in Munich. We stood dumbfounded, staring at the screen. Karen Klassen (Feil, BA ’91) tried to use her knowledge of German to translate, but it was no use. It was time for Plan B.

As another traveler approached, we stepped aside and let her use the machine. Obviously she had done this before, and we hoped to figure out how to get tickets by watching her. In a matter of seconds, before we could realize what was happening, she had her ticket in hand and began her descent to the platform.

We continued looking at the subway map next to the machine. We knew where we were—Munich—and we knew where we were trying to go—Dachau. But it was obvious we were six Americans with no clue. After 15 minutes of fumbling our way around, Liz Salisbury (Hansen, BA ’83) walked into a nearby shop and asked the clerk for assistance. Help finally arrived. Halfway through our lesson, though, customers walked into his shop, and he left us alone.

Eventually, he did return. And without further incident we bought tickets and boarded the train.

This is only one of the many experiences we shared on the FPU Choir Alumni Europe Trip. From June 15-29, a group of 28 current students, alumni and friends of FPU traveled across Europe. Our destinations included Germany, Austria, Hungary and Italy.

“Going over, we started as strangers,” said Walter Wall (BA ’69) of the travelers. “Now we’re friends.”

Within our group wasn’t the only place relationships were formed. In Vienna, we joined the Vienna Mennonite Church for a Sunday worship service. Asia Smith (BA ’01), who was traveling with us, sang two gospel songs. After the service, the congregation gave us lunch. We sat with them and shared stories about our families and our cultures—members of the same body joining together in fellowship.

I took more from this trip than the memories of the subway and the joy of new friendship. This trip gave me the opportunity to see and touch what I could only read about in school. In Rome. I touched the Colosseum and I saw the ancient Roman Forum. The forum was particularly interesting to me. In spring 2004 I was in the play The Complete Works of William Shakespeare [abridged], and one of my 15 characters was Julius Caesar. At the Forum, where he was killed, I connected the role with the history.

In Germany we visited the medieval town of Rothenburg. There I experienced the medieval world that Stephen Varvis described in Medieval and Early Modern History class. In Vienna, we visited St. Michael’s Church. It was there, in 1791, that Mozart’s Requiem was performed for the first time. Those of us who had been in the 2003-2004 Concert Choir felt a special tie with St. Michael’s because we had performed the requiem in October 2003 with the Fresno Philharmonic.

On our final night in Rome, we sat in the back room of a restaurant, taking turns sharing about our experiences and thanking Roy Klassen, music faculty, and Larry Warkentin, music faculty emeritus, for all their hard work in putting this trip together. We also sang.

Twenty-eight voices—some from the current Concert Choir, some from choirs that existed long before I was born—joined together in four-part harmony to sing “The Lord Bless You and Keep You.” We were 28 strangers who are now friends.

David Bacci is a senior communication major from Hanford.
Throughout its 60-year history, Fresno Pacific University has never stood still. Leaders with vision have found ways to connect the school’s strengths with the needs of its students, community and churches. From graduate and adult education programs to professional forums and off-site centers, FPU continues to apply academics in ways that make a difference in daily life.

Three Generations to Princeton
FPU classics program paves way to top graduate schools

Three men sit in Steve Brandt’s office in Hiebert Library at Fresno Pacific University. To call the walls book lined ignores the documents piled on Brandt’s desk, on the large meeting table and on the floor. Dressed for summer in open-necked shirts and khaki slacks, Brandt, Richard Rawls and Gustavo Maya chat and tease and laugh, clearly at home in this environment and in one another’s company.

That Brandt and Rawls are friends is unremarkable. Brandt is well established at the university as director of library services and a member of the history faculty. Rawls, who teaches history and philosophy, is building a reputation as a scholar and won the university’s first Nickel Excellence in Teaching Award. Their closeness grows out of the days when Rawls was an FPU freshman and Brandt his mentor. But the ink is hardly dry on Maya’s B.A.—yet his teachers consider him a colleague.
CLASSICS MAJORS ARE MAKING THEIR MARK IN GRADUATE STUDIES:

Michelle Burton (BA '04) attends the University of Arizona

Audrey Hindes (BA '01) earned a master's degree from Graduate Theological Union

Gustavo Maya (BA '04) attends Princeton Theological Seminary

Denise Rempel (BA '99) was accepted at Trinity College, Dublin

The trio has a lot in common: first-in-their-family college graduates who used FPU as a springboard to advanced studies, a love of the classics and, now, Princeton Theological Seminary.

In just a few years, FPU's classics program has produced more than its share of graduate students, but Maya has a further distinction. The first-generation college graduate is the third generation of mentors and students to attend Princeton. Just as Brandt mentored Rawls, Rawls mentored Maya.

The classics program was created for students like Maya, and it was the students who asked for it. “That was partly the idea, to give people a language background, to prepare them for further study,” Rawls said.

Students started pushing for more Greek and Latin in the late 1990s and demand outstripped FPU’s arrangement with Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary to allow university students to take seminary language classes. “It was one thing when you had two or three college students in a class of 20, then it became 10-12 students in a class of 20,” Rawls said.

Enter Rawls in 1997. “It got started when I taught a Rome class and a couple of students wanted to learn Latin,” he said. One student asked for more and Rawls told her he’d teach it if she found one more student. “She scrounged up four or five more.”

What was happening turned out to be part of a larger trend. “Unbeknownst to us there’s a huge resurgence in classics on campuses across the nation,” Rawls said. After building a curriculum from independent studies courses, classics became a minor in 2001. Brandt gives Rawls the credit: “If Richard hadn’t come, this wouldn’t have happened.”

Knowing classical Greek and Latin is important to those who wish to study early Western civilization in its own language, the language of Homer, Cicero, Socrates and Augustine. “You’re reading Plato’s writing rather than someone writing on Plato’s writings,” Brandt said. Greek taught in biblical and religious studies is the simpler form that the Bible was written in. “It would have been the working class Greek,” Rawls said.

Classics is an interdisciplinary program where students choose either the Greek emphasis, located in the biblical and religious studies department and directed by Greg Camp, or the Latin emphasis, linked with the history department and directed by Rawls. Some, like Maya, learn so much they make it a major.

Maya added classics after taking Greek as part of his biblical and religious studies major. Later he also took Latin.

Brandt and Rawls deny they played matchmaker between Maya and their alma mater. “If anything we went the other way,” Rawls says with a laugh of his and Brandt’s efforts to help Maya make his choice.
Imagine a congregation united with its community rather than arguing with itself—a church reaching non-Christians daily rather than counting noses among the faithful on Sunday.

This is the vision of the FPU Ministry Forum. Pastors and lay leaders join nationally known speakers to look at ways to write a new Book of Acts for postmodern culture.

“Some are calling (postmodern culture) pre-Christian because it looks a lot like what the early church faced,” said Tim Neufeld, FPU biblical and religious studies faculty and forum organizer. In the first century, Rome was a city of many languages, values and objects of worship as well as the world’s wealthiest nation and most advanced military power. The United States is such a place in the 21st century.

The first Ministry Forum in 2004 surpassed expectations, attracting 350 pastors and lay leaders and 250 youth and youth leaders. The 2005 forum will be sponsored by FPU, Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary and the Presbytery of San Joaquin. On February 24, Brian McLaren and Alan Roxburgh will speak in the Special Events Center. The two will deepen and broaden the work begun by 2004 speaker Leonard Sweet. On February 25, Roxburgh will use workshops at the seminary to examine how Christians can understand and speak to the cultures and people of the Central Valley. All activities are open to the public. For more information, call 559-453-2058.

Roxburgh is president of the Missional Leadership Institute and a faculty member at Fuller Theological Seminary. McLaren is founding pastor of Cedar Ridge Community Church, a nondenominational congregation with a special mission to unchurched people. He is also on the international steering team and board of directors for emergent, a group of missional Christian leaders.

Ministry Forum explores ways to reach the unchurched

Next event February 24-25, 2005

Though they guided Maya, Brandt and Rawls never had to spark the Delano native’s fire to achieve. Maya planned on graduate school from his freshman year. “I never thought I would go to Harvard or Princeton. I was aiming low—like Duke,” he said.

The three generations huddled for two and one-half hours over sweet baklava, homemade rolls and strong coffee at IZI’s, an Armenian deli across from campus where as many academic decisions are made as in many classrooms.

Accepted at Harvard, Emory, Vanderbilt and the University of Chicago as well as Princeton, Maya preferred the New Jersey ivy’s university-town atmosphere. “Princeton suited me the most,” he said. The school wanted him enough to offer generous scholarships and expedited admissions.

After earning a master’s of divinity, he hopes to enter Princeton’s public policy program. “Possibly I’d work in social justice and religion and society,” Maya said.

Steve Brandt died before this story went to press. See his death notice on page 18.
Neufeld said modern thought uses science to define Truth as measurable and predictable. Communication means print. Experts rule. Mottos include “change is progress,” “bigger is better” and “one size fits all.”

Postmoderns, on the other hand, use experience to create individual truths. Communication is accomplished either face to face or through a computerized mix of sights and sounds. Participants rule. The motto: “Just do it.”

The result has been “churched culture,” where modern Christians assume the world has a Judeo-Christian view. Unchurched, postmodern culture views all institutions—government, corporations and the church—with equal distrust.

“The church believes we still live in a churched culture and still acts that way,” Neufeld said. “Matthew 28 says to go to all the nations. We still want people to come to us.”

Enter the missional church, which says Christians must work people where they are. “What does it mean to us to speak the language, eat the food and wear the clothes of the culture?” Neufeld asked.

In answer, Neufeld described one church that provided oil changes to single mothers who couldn’t afford them. Another based a service on the Matrix films, complete with decorations and skits. It worked, Neufeld said, because “95 percent of the people in that service had seen all three of those R-rated movies.”

The first step is to listen. “Church and modern culture keep answering ‘how’ questions,” Neufeld said. “These kids that I’m working with, these postmodern college students, are not asking ‘how,’ they’re asking ‘why.’ Why am I here? Why should I believe?”

Ken Blanchard, author of The One Minute Manager, spoke to more than 1,000 business leaders.
Joe Prince set the soles of his Pumas to the starting blocks and the tips of fingers to the track at the Southern California Indoor Games in Anaheim. He needed to focus on the next 100 yards, the next nine seconds. It was February 1975—his first meet for a new school and maybe his final start for a dash to the Olympics.

Prince wouldn't think about the doctor's office three days before. But he couldn't forget the Achilles tendon that wouldn't heal. “Joey, I want you in the hospital now,” Dr. Robert Kammen had said. Thank goodness coach Bill Cockerham begged the doctor to let him run.

In two days this athlete would begin watching his 6-foot 3-inch frame fade from a sculpted 201 pounds to a scrawny 135. This runner would need a walker. Hardest of all, this loner who fled others in anger would need friends and faith to survive.

Prince was raised by his grandparents in the Bayshore neighborhood of East Palo Alto. Years later he saw his street on the television show “Unsolved Mysteries.” “Some kids were selling drugs and they shot up a lady’s house because she reported them,” he said.

While Mary and Chester Prince, Sr., couldn’t read or write, Prince counted his grandparents among the smartest people he ever met. “They had wisdom,” he said, “God’s wisdom.” They also had faith, helping start a church in their garage. The congregation, St. John Baptist Church, would become one of the city’s largest.

Still, something was missing. His father saw him daily but barely spoke. Nobody mentioned his mother. “I would fantasize that leaders of the church were my Mom,” Prince said.

School was a struggle. Prince was placed in special education in elementary school. In junior high he was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome, a mild autism, but received no help.

Life improved at Ravenswood High School. “I had a pair of legs so people started looking at me,” he said. While Ravenswood was a place where young men could show cool by packing pistols in their gym bags, it was also the alma mater of heroes like Harlem Globetrotter Nate Branch. “It was the most beautiful place in the world,” Prince said.

Running at Ravenswood had one lasting benefit. In June 1971 Prince was in Los Angeles for the state track championships. He knew his maternal grandparents lived in the city, so he opened the telephone book as soon as he dropped his bag at the Travel Lodge. When Prince identified himself over the line, his grandmother Lois said, “Honey, did you run away?”

Next day he met his mother, Mildred, his three brothers and his uncle, James. Mildred would be with her son in all that was to come.

Because most of his credits were in special education, Prince’s only chance at college was a special Cal Poly program where he would not be a regular student. Prince impressed the track coach and joined the team his second year. He anchored the All-American 440-
relay squad and was named 1974 California Collegiate Athletic Association champion in the 220-yard dash, but his grades could not keep up. In May of 1974 Prince was on a bus to Arizona State University. “I was hoping to hide out one more year at a big school before they kicked me out,” he said.

Also riding was Fresno Pacific College student David Salcido. “If you go to ASU you have to sit out a year,” Prince remembers Salcido saying. “We’re NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics), and you only have to sit out 18 weeks.”

FPC had 400 students, few blacks and a dirt track. “The thing that sold me was coach Cockerham saying, ‘If you apply yourself you’ll graduate,’” Prince said. Coach and teammates found the new guy talented but distant. Ken Isaak (BA ’76), who also roomed with Prince, called him the best athlete ever at the school. “The big bag of rocks he carried around is that he never reached that potential,” said Isaak, now campus sports information director.

“He was hard to live with for some people. Growing up he fell behind and was left behind,” Cockerham said. “You think we all have little hardships,” said Don Gregory (BA ’75), who rose from one of Fresno’s poorest neighborhoods to be a cardiologist. “But you go down the list and he has them all.”

Not quite all. Not yet.

Prince checked into Sierra Hospital the day after his first meet. His mother and Cockerham were at his side. A biopsy showed testicular cancer, and Kammen gave Prince six to nine months to live without surgery.

Unable to run, Prince fought. “I got really depressed and confused. I was real bitter against the Lord,” he said.

Cockerham told the team. “I went to Joe’s room and sat on the bed. I didn’t say anything,” Isaak said. “Finally, I said to him ‘I don’t know why this is happening to you’.”

Prince sat quietly. “Then he said a muffled thank you,” Isaak said. Later Prince told Isaak his comment was refreshing because all he had heard up until then was that his illness was God’s will. “That two-hour span of time, when we just sat there, that cemented us as friends,” Isaak said.

Isaak became “Bucket Man,” fetching Prince wastebaskets to throw up in. Gregory spent nights on the floor by Prince’s hospital bed. “If I was at any other school, I wouldn’t be alive today,” Prince said.

Surgeries took parts of Prince’s intestine and stomach and chemotherapy his hair and strength. Still, he competed—even when he shouldn’t. “I wanted to run and I wanted to honor my scholarship,” he said. Prince’s last race was in 1976 against Santa Clara University. After winning the 200 meters, he sat shivering below the bleachers until a teammate found him, wrapped him in a blanket and called an ambulance.

Athletics passed, but academics remained. Prince had to retake some courses and often needed tutoring. The race for a bachelor’s degree ended in victory in June of 1977. Prince didn’t mind not graduating summa cum laude, magna cum laude or cum laude. “I graduated Thank you, Lawdy,” he said.

In the next few years Prince’s track career even got a restart. He set records for the 400- and 1600-meter relays with Athletes in Action, a branch of Campus Crusade for Christ. With an independent squad, he toured Europe in the summer of 1978, anchoring the U.S. 400-meter relay team against the Czech national team.

In December of 1980 Prince finished that bus trip to Arizona. The former special education student now teaches special education and coaches cross country and track at Sahuarita (Arizona) High School.

The effects of Asperger’s and cancer linger—Prince’s system does not fight infection well. But his running has mellowed from a fierce charge to healthy jog. He shares his life with his students, audiences at speaking engagements and in his book Liberation Saturday. There’s also eight-year-old Diamond, a distant relative he raises as his daughter.

His old coach and teammates say Prince would have made a lonely Olympian. “At Fresno Pacific he saw the goodness of people and that he needed people. Now he’s one of those same kinds of people—he’ll do anything for anybody,” Cockerham said.

Prince agrees. “At Fresno Pacific I saw the real meaning of Christianity. I’m still trying to say thank you.”

“ If I was at any other school, I wouldn’t be alive today. ”

Read the book
Joe Prince thought he came to Fresno Pacific College to rewrite the record books. He did write one book. Liberation Saturday was published in 2003 by Dushman Everman Publishing. It is available at Pacific Book Shop on the FPU campus and through www.liberation-saturday.com.
GENERAL NEWS

Carol (Becker AA ’62) Friesen retired after 37 years of teaching consumer family studies in high school and middle school and now spends most of her time traveling with husband Bob and enjoying time with their grandson.

Bob Friesen (AA ’63) retired after 32 years of working in non-profit and government agencies to provide affordable housing for low-income households. He now devotes much of his time to fine art photography and traveling to take pictures. He also enjoys being entertained by his grandson.

Leona (Unruh FS ’65) Welch announces that at the recent marriage of her daughter she welcomed not only a new son-in-law but also two instant granddaughters.

Debbie Williams (BA ’74) after more than 20 years of working in public child welfare services, is now working at a Christian adoption agency that focuses on matching children from the California adoption foster care system and from orphanages throughout the world.

Doug (BA ’80) and Rachel (Schellenberg FS ’80) Harrison reside in Fresno. Doug is attending his second year of law school and Rachel now proctors new RNs at the neonatal intensive care unit of Children’s Hospital of Central California.

Derek Boucher (BA ’89, ’94 MA ’01) received the 2003 excellence award from the California Professors of Reading and Language Arts. The award was presented at the California Reading Association conference in November of 2003. Boucher teaches at Roosevelt High School in Fresno, where he works with many students for whom English is not their native language. He has also served as adjunct faculty in Fresno Pacific Graduate School.

Nathan (FS ’89) and Julie (Reese BA ’91, MA ’95) Suderman moved to Oregon in August of 2003. Julie teaches mathematics at West Salem High School and coaches freshman volleyball and junior varsity softball. Nathan is building a house.

Rosie Arenas (MA ’92) received her Ed. D. in international and multicultural education with an emphasis on children’s literature from the University of San Francisco in May 2004. The title of her dissertation was “Reflections of the Spirit: Voices of Children’s Book Illustrators of Mexican Descent, A Participatory Study with George Ancona and Felipe Dávalos.” She is an assistant professor in the department of literacy and early education at California State University, Fresno, beginning in the fall of 2004.

Xavier (BA ’93) and Marda (McGahan BA ’86) Magdaleno have been teaching in Center, Colo., for the past four years. Xavier is a computer teacher and Marda teaches kindergarten. Xavier will receive a master’s degree in ESL in December of 2004. Marda has a reading specialist certificate from the Collaborative Literacy Intervention Program. They have two children, Marisa Marlaine, 10, and Nicolaus Skywalker, 8.

Irene (Douglas BA ’93) McCray Onciano is president/founder of Performance Plus! The human resource and training consulting firm received a three-year contract from the State of California Training Center to deliver Seven Habits of Highly Effective People training to government employees. Visit her website at www.training-pro.net.
Michael (BA ’94) and Cheryl (Dueck BA ’93) Smith moved to the Czech Republic in August of 2004. Peter is pursuing a Ph.D. in applied theology at the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague. Cheryl is a marriage and family therapist who is currently at home with their two boys, Brendan, 3½, and Jason, 1.

Saray (Gomez FS ’96) Castro and husband Paul run their own accounting firm in their home town of Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico. Saray was a Mexican exchange student in the fall of 1996.

Michael (BA ’98) and Amy (Penner BA ’00) Burton live in Fresno where Michael provides financial and insurance planning with Mennonite Mutual Aid to clients in California and Alaska. Amy teaches Spanish and theater at Central High School West Campus.

Caty Massey (BA ’99) was awarded the 2004 Woman of the Year title from the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Man and Woman of the Year competition. She is also pursuing her master’s degree in educational leadership at California State University, Fresno.

Robert (BA ’00) Hamilton finished his fourth year at the College of the Redwoods in Eureka and heads the Police Academy and Public Safety Center.

Travis Sheridan (BA’00) was appointed enrollment services director for San Joaquin Valley College in Visalia. He will manage the admissions department.

Michelle (Carl BA ’01) Warnock and husband Aaron bought a house in Auburn, Washington, where Aaron works at Highline Community College and Michelle teaches private voice lessons.

Elizabeth Renee Goularte (BA ’03) won second place in the 2004 William Saroyan Story Writing Contest with her story, “The Most Interesting Person I Never Met.” Goularte also received second in 1997, 1999 and 2002 and third in 1996. The contest is part of the annual William Saroyan Festival, which honors the author, who spent his life in Fresno and used the city and the surrounding Central Valley in many of his works.

Marriages

David Orosco (BA ’94) married Patricia Contini on April 24, 2002. The couple now lives in Dinuba, where David teaches sixth grade in the Riverdale Unified School District.

Alexis Valos (BA ’97) married James Deal on April 17, 2004, in Bakersfield.

Katalla Congdon (AA ’97) married Mark Fairbanks on June 12, 2004. She inherited two children and lives with her family in College Station, Texas.

Suzana Dobric (BA ’99, MA ‘02) and Victor Veiss (MA ‘04) married December 27, 2003. Suzana is associate director of college admissions at FPU and Victor is a school psychologist in Porterville School District. The couple lives in Visalia.

Rebecca Rahne (BA ’01) married Adam Wong of Fresno on September 14, 2004.

Amanda Childers (BA ’03) married Jorge Rodriguez on May 22, 2004. The couple will continue to live in Fresno where both work at FPU, Amanda is grants and research analyst in the Advancement Office and Jorge is on the Information Technology Services staff. Jorge is scheduled to graduate from FPU in 2005.

Births

Ken (BA ’75) and Evelyn Wiens announce the birth of their first grandson, James Vestal. He was born June 15, 2003.

Jennifer (Roberts BA ’90) and Matthew Hutchinson announce the birth of their second child, Paige Faith, on December 16, 2003. She arrived exactly 14 months after sister Megan Grace. Megan was born after years of infertility and loss and Paige was an amazing surprise.

Todd (BA ’92) and Sandra Arndt announce the birth of Natalie Joy on July 18, 2003. Todd is a dentist in Clovis.

Jeffrey (BA ’94) and Lisa (Childress BA ’94) Becker announce the birth of Katarina Ruth on March 2, 2004. She weighed 9 pounds and was 21¼ inches long. She joins sister Brooking, 2.

Arthur (BA ’95) and Melissa (Liddle BA ’93) Stewart announce the birth of Mairin Ella on April 28, 2004. They are working with NieuCommunities in South Africa developing young leaders to guide the next generation of the church.
IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI

CALLING ALL ALUMNI
Between now and December 7 an FPU student will telephone and ask you to support this year’s annual Alumni Scholarship Phonathon. Last year, alumni gave a record $50,000.

Please respond as generously as you can. Also take time to share career updates and news about marriages and children.

Here is what alumni scholarship recipient Jennifer Bailey has to say about FPU:

“I cannot imagine where I would be without the experiences I have had at Fresno Pacific University—experiences that are continuously molding me into a more intellectual, professional and discerning individual. Faculty build students up and encourage them in their individual pursuit toward enrichment. Students not only receive an education toward their career, they receive lessons in life. Students are stretching their abilities and changing lives by participating in organizations in the city of Fresno, and by experiencing different cultures across the globe. The diploma students receive does not fully capture the quality of university.”

Your gift to the Alumni Scholarship Fund makes a difference to students at FPU, many of whom depend on scholarships to make their dreams of a Christian education possible, just as you may have. Remember, every gift counts!

BIRTHS (CONTINUED)

Joseph (BA ’96) and Noelle (Schwartz FS ’96) Coppola announce the birth of Caleb on October 7, 2004. He weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces. He joins brother Jared, 4. Joseph is a dean at Heald College in Fresno. He and Noelle will both graduate with M.A.’s (in theology and marriage and family therapy, respectively) from Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary in May 2005.

Koby (BA ’97) and Stacy (Kaufmann BA ’96) Johns announce the birth of Isabelle Moriah on February 3, 2004. She weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 20 inches long. Koby attends Fuller Theological Seminary and works part time as a youth pastor. Stacy is team teaching this year in third grade at Hamilton Elementary School and start a new career as a stay-at-home mom.

Ryan (BA ’97) and Angela (Whittlesey BA ’00, MA ’02) Tos announce the birth of Zachary Robert on January 20, 2004. Ryan is a high school teacher and Angela is a high school counselor. They live in Kingsburg.

Josh (BA ’97) and Maren (Hvass BA ’96) Johns announce the birth of Kyle Logan on May 18, 2004. He weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. Both Josh and Maren taught English in China during the summer of 2002 and Josh led a team of teachers to Beibei, Chong Qing, this summer. They serve as members of the Travel China Roads team.

PRAISES & PRAYERS

This category of alumni notes invites items of celebration and concern from our alumni.

Brian (FS ’93) and Jen (Hatch BA ’95) Foster moved to Brian’s childhood home, Maui, Hawaii, this fall to plant a church. Please join them in praying for Paniana Church as the Lord leads their family in this ministry.

DEATHS

Richard Igo (PBI ’54) died March 22, 2004 from a severe stroke. He is survived by wife Delores and their two sons. Richard retired from the ministry in 1996 and he and his wife moved to Montgomery, Alabama, to be closer to their sons.

Chester Lee Jost died May 20, 2004. He is survived by wife Clella; sons David (BA ’68) and wife Carol, Duane (attended 1967) and wife Cher and daughter Diane David (attended 1973), along with many grandchildren. Members of the Jost family are longtime residents of Bakersfield and supporters of FPU.

Steven Brandt, 55, died August 25, 2004. He was director of library services at Hiebert Library. Brandt joined the faculty in 1980 as collection development librarian and became library director in 1982. He also taught in the history department. He was active in College Community Mennonite Brethren Church and California Mennonite Historical Society. Survivors include daughter Hannah and sons Peter and Edward. Services were August 30, 2004. He earned a B.A. from FPU, a master’s in divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and an M.L.I.S. and doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley. Remembrances may be sent to the Memorial Fund for Steven Brandt, Fresno Pacific University.

Dan W. Jantz died October 12, 2004. He was a longtime supporter of FPU and served on its board of trustees from 1990-2000. He was also owner of Fresno Bible House bookstore. Survivors include wife Erna; son Stan and his wife, Karin; granddaughter Hillary and her husband, Peter; and grandson Scott and his wife, Erin; brothers Milton and Allan; sisters Ruth Moyer and Luella Wiens. Services were October 18, 2004. Donations may be made to the Link Care Center in Fresno.
Fresno Pacific University family and friends join to provide security

All gifts are cause for thanks—but gifts from family and friends are special. This spring the Fresno Pacific University family completed a four-year effort to raise $1 million to provide long-term security for the university.

The agreement was completed in April. “The university can now celebrate the end of the loan and the beginning of the reserve,” said Mark Deffenbacher, vice president for advancement and university relations.

In all 89 families, faculty, staff, administrators and friends, contributed to a match fund set up by longtime supporter Arthur Wiebe and the AIMS Foundation. Members of the Fresno Pacific University Board of Trustees, FPU Foundation Board and the AIMS Board were instrumental in the endeavor. “They gave generously and even sacrificially to meet this challenge,” said Deffenbacher, who is also executive director of the university foundation.

Wiebe proposed the program in 1999 as a remedy for cash-flow problems at FPU. AIMS Education Foundation would loan the University $500,000 with the understanding that the loan would be forgiven if the University raised $125,000 in new gifts each year for four years. The amount loaned would then be combined with the amount raised to create a $1 million cash reserve fund. “With this reserve we can keep the ebb and flow of cash flow stable,” Deffenbacher said.

Wiebe was president of FPU from 1960-1975 before forming AIMS with the late Larry Ecklund. The foundation produces classroom materials for math and science education. Board member Pat Evans was also instrumental in raising funds.

The gift was more than a check. Raising the money increased participation by board members and the reserve paves the way for a more secure and accountable budget process. “The miracle was last year…when we had 100 percent participation by the university board,” Deffenbacher said.

“Ghepardo in corsa”—Running Cheetah—was donated to FPU by Dan and Erna Jantz in February 2004. The Jantzes are Lifetime President’s Circle members and Dan served as a member of the board from 1998-2000. The piece was painted by Bruno Pegoretti of Bologna, Italy. The cheetah hangs in the main stairwell of McDonald Hall. (See Dan’s death notice on page 18.)
Shlomi Ben-Shushan & Ben Bogdanof

‘Ben-men’ LEAD FPU TO BEST NATIONAL TRACK FINISH

by Ken Isaak

Shlomi Ben-Shushan had never heard of Fresno Pacific University. Ben Bogdanof had, but hoped to do better. Together they generated 30 points and led the Sunbirds men’s team to a best-ever seventh place at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Track and Field Outdoor Championship in Louisville in May.

It is a long way from Naharia

The son of a Moroccan father and Polish mother, Shlomi Ben-Shushan was born in Naharia, Israel. He started competing in track as a high school student at 14. He is a four-time Israeli national champion in the hammer.

In the fall of 2000 Ben-Shushan enrolled at California State University, Fresno. He competed two seasons before exceeding the National Collegiate Athletic Association age limit. Ben-Shushan transferred to FPU.

“Tish is not what I expected,” Ben-Shushan said. “I didn’t have many choices but coach Schwab made it possible for me to be here.” Eric Schwab is the FPU head track and field coach.

Huntington Beach is closer

Ben Bogdanof was born in Huntington Beach, California, but has called the San Joaquin Valley home for 11 years. After playing soccer, baseball and football in high school, he got hooked on hurdles as a junior.

Bogdanof hoped to attract NCAA Division I interest and return to Southern California. But a fall while leading the 300 meter intermediate race in the Valley High School Championship and a first-round exit from the state championship in the 110 meter high hurdles changed all that. His high school career ended quietly with only one offer—FPU.

After spending his freshman season as a hurdler, Bogdanof completed his first decathlon as a sophomore. He finished fourth in his first trip to the NAIA nationals in 2002 and won the 2003 decathlon championship.

Low point—a Louisville sewer

In Louisville Ben-Shushan got the Sunbirds off to a great start by winning the hammer throw with a toss of 184-06. It was well off his season best, but enough for the win.

“I am not satisfied with my mark,” Ben-Shushan said, “but I’ll accept the result. I think the guy behind me was shaking a little bit, too.”

Weather halted competition later in the day and all athletes and coaches were ordered under a nearby overpass. “That was definitely the low point of my career,” said Bogdanof, whose javelin competition was halted after five throws. “We were huddled under a bridge for an hour as the sewer line below us overflowed.”

Another dramatic finish

In his one remaining chance the next day, Bogdanof unleashed a 204-foot throw for the open javelin win, but back and groin injuries held him at seventh place overall.

“I knew I couldn’t compete with the injuries I had. So I had a conversation with God and laid the whole situation at His feet. If I was unable to finish that would be OK. If I did well, I would give God all the glory,” he said.

Bogdanof pulled into second place with a 14-03 mark in pole vault, took a commanding lead in the javelin section, then held off his challengers in the 1500 meters to claim his second consecutive decathlon title.

“I was in shock when it was over,” Bogdanof recalled. “I could not have done it without the strength and peace the God provided. The glory is His!”

Best ever

For his efforts, Bogdanof was named the meet’s most outstanding male athlete. He is the first FPU track athlete to be so honored.

“Once in a great while we are blessed with student-athletes like Ben and Shlomi,” Schwab said. “They gave their best effort possible. I am so proud of them.”

Best team finishes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Eric Schwab</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Jerry Huhn</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Jerry Huhn</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10th</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Most All-America honors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben Bogdanof</td>
<td>2001-04 (decathlon, javelin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Hardison</td>
<td>1973-74 (pole vault)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Anderson</td>
<td>1970-73 (shot put)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shlomi Ben-Shushan</td>
<td>2004 (hammer, weight)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joey Ellis</td>
<td>1990-93 (400 meters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Farmer</td>
<td>1966-69 (200 meters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis McCave</td>
<td>1970-73 (hammer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goshu Tadese</td>
<td>1993-94 (marathon)</td>
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Most individual NAIA national championships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steve Hardison</td>
<td>1973-74</td>
<td>(pole vault)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Bogdanof</td>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>(decathlon, javelin)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
The title of Blanchard’s Business Forum talk was “Leading at a Higher Level.” Money should not be a leader’s bottom line. “Profit is the applause you get for taking care of your customers and your people,” said Blanchard, who has co-authored more than 30 books and heads an international consulting firm with offices worldwide.

To get that applause, leaders must focus their followers’ energy in ways that turn customers into fans. Johnny did that. So did the Nordstrom’s employee who left the store to buy a bottle of perfume for a customer because the company didn’t carry that brand. The worker gift wrapped the package, and charged the customer only what the perfume had cost at the other store. “Nordstrom’s didn’t make a profit that day. What did they make? A customer,” Blanchard said.

Leaders focus energy through values and vision. Values must be shared across the organization, so each person does not act only on personal beliefs.

More than a statement, vision tells leaders and followers what business they’re really in. “When Walt Disney started building theme parks, he didn’t say ‘we’re in the theme park business,’ he said ‘we’re in the happiness business,’” Blanchard said. “Disney wanted people to leave his parks with the same smile they wore when they came, Blanchard said. The question is: “How can you lift people up?”

Leaders lift customers and employees alike by serving them. Jesus was the ultimate leader—with vision, values and a servant’s heart. When confronted by the Pharisees on which commandment was the most important, Jesus boiled Jewish law down to two statements: love God and love your neighbor.

For workers Jesus gathered 12 men and no matter how incompetent they were, Blanchard said, he served them and ultimately sent them out to serve others. “You’re not going to create a great organization if you’re there for yourself,” Blanchard said.

There’s nothing wrong with accruing money and recognition. “What’s wrong is when think that’s who you are,” Blanchard said. In the end, all you take from life is your soul. “That’s where you store who you loved and who loved you,” he said.
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Wherever you are in the world. Whenever the mood strikes you. Our tour guides are happy to take you virtually anywhere you want to go on our 42-acre campus. You’ve never experienced a tour like this one.

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