

FRESNO@STATE

MAGAZINE

FALL/WINTER 2017



A FRESNO STATE OF MIND
KNOWS NO LIMITS

JUDGE | CARR | GEORGE



Rising Rankings, National Spotlight

Thanks to our University and community working together, we were elated this fall to learn that Fresno State moved up to No. 17 on Washington’s Monthly’s list of the top 30 national universities.

The work Fresno State does every day to support the social mobility of our students, their research and their service in the community — the three pillars measured by Washington Monthly — has been built on a foundation of our core campus values of discovery, diversity and distinction.


At the same time we celebrate these academic accomplishments, we can all be proud of the way some of our most prominent Bulldogs have propelled themselves into the national spotlight. Paul George, Derek Carr and Aaron Judge are showing the world what people from Fresno State are capable of achieving, and they’re inspiring thousands of young people to dream big.

These three athletes and our many other current professional athletes possess an extremely rare blend of talent and character, and we celebrate them for that. At the same time, we realize almost all of our 25,000 students will go pro in something other than sports — and 80 percent of graduates will stay and work in the Valley.

At Fresno State, we recognize that talent exists in every household and in families of all income levels. Our University is a place of opportunity for people from all walks of life, and our successful alumni represent what happens when one works hard and reaches for the stars.

Trailblazers like our star athletes and our 14 recently honored Top Dogs remind us that achieving excellence is a “**Fresno State of mind**,” and our alumni know no limits.

Enjoy the wonderful stories in this issue of Fresno State Magazine and thank you for helping the University continue its bold upward trajectory.


Dr. Joseph I. Castro
President, Fresno State

FRESNO STATE Magazine is published by the office of University Communications at California State University, Fresno.

FALL/WINTER 2017

Fresno State Magazine Senior Editor
Eddie Hughes

Senior Graphic Designer
Todd Graves

University Photographer
Cary Edmondson

Illustrator
Joel Beery

Videographers
Randy Haar, Domenick Satterberg

Contributing Writers
Kim Ruiz Beck, Lisa Maria Boyles, Esra Hashem

Editorial Team
Angel Langridge, Adriana MacDonald, Bruce Whitworth

President
Joseph I. Castro

Vice President for University Advancement
Paula Castadio

Vol. XXVI, Issue 2, Published Nov. 9, 2017.

Fresno State Magazine publishes twice annually (spring and fall). Opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect official University policy. Letters to the editor and contributions to Class Notes are welcome; they may be edited for clarity and length. Unless otherwise noted, articles may be reprinted as long as credit is given. Copyrighted photos may not be reprinted without express written consent of the photographer or the office of University Communications. Clippings and other editorial contributions are appreciated. All inquiries and comments, including requests for faculty contact information, should be sent to Editor, **Fresno State Magazine**, 5200 N. Barton Ave., ML49, Fresno, CA 93740-8023.

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Cover digital illustration by Todd Graves.
Fresno State alumni Aaron Judge, Derek Carr and Paul George are among the biggest stars in professional sports, and they are inspiring the region. See story on Page 10.

Inside photo by Cary Edmondson.
Ananya Vinay, a Fugman Elementary student who won the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee, joined University President Joesph I. Castro, Paul George and TimeOut for an on-field ceremony at the football home opener.

Fresno State serves the richly diverse region of Central California. We are proud to have the U.S. Department of Education designate our University as both a Hispanic-Serving Institution and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution.

Stay in touch!
We welcome your comments about **Fresno State Magazine** at magazine@csufresno.edu. If you receive more than one copy, please pass it along to a friend of Fresno State. If you would like to support the University, visit fresnostate.edu/giving to make your contribution. Thank you.

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A Crowd Pleaser

Homecoming Week was refreshed and reimagined this year, uniting Fresno State traditions with new ideas to ignite student pride while welcoming alumni back to campus.

The campus was chock full of activities throughout the week, including the new Homecoming Big Show, featuring comedians Adam Devine (Pitch Perfect and Workaholics), Fortune Feimster (The Mindy Project) and Adam Ray (Spy). DJ Kay Rich (*pictured*) fired up the crowd before the show.

"For years, students have expressed interest in having a large-scale performance on campus," says Shawna Blair, program and events coordinator in Student Involvement and adviser of the homecoming committee. "We worked hard to make this year's homecoming one of the biggest, boldest yet."

The week also featured a viewing party for the movie "Spiderman" inside Bulldog Stadium, where students and community members could bring blankets and eat popcorn while relaxing on the football turf. The evening before the homecoming football game included a pep rally with a fire dancer and a magician show.

The week culminated with Fresno State's 38-0 shutout win over New Mexico in front of nearly 30,000 fans in Bulldog Stadium.

Igniting Bulldog Spirit

Alumni and friends share their homecoming feelings on social media

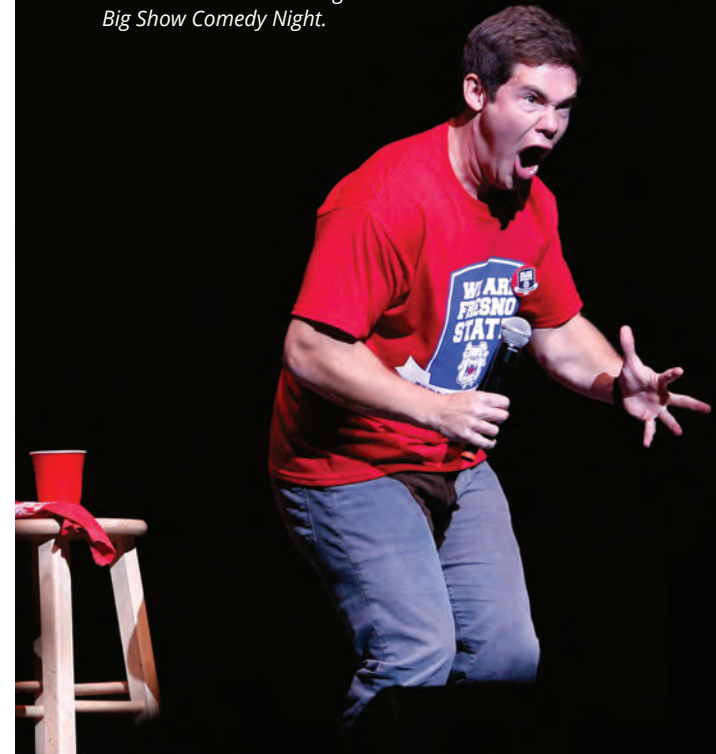
Photos by Cary Edmondson



facebook.com/fresnostate | facebook.com/fresnostateathletics

Sequoia Jennifer Dawn of Sacred Fire Dance performs during the finale of this year's homecoming pep rally.

Adam Devine performs at the Fresno State Homecoming Big Show Comedy Night.



Students are entertained by DJ Kay Rich before the start of the Big Show Comedy Night at the Save Mart Center.



GET SOCIAL

Nyxy Nicole Imes

Fresno State is special to me because I grew up at Fresno State. It's home, it's familiar and it's my safe place. Since I was 6 years old I was part of the Fresno State family. My dad worked in the mechanical engineering dept. for about 20 years. He brought me to work, and I watched him work and I was inspired. All I want to do is serve students. All because of him. I am proud to say I am an employee for over 12 years, an alumni and now finishing my grad degree! Thank you Fresno State!

Aimee Mitchell McFarland

Fresno State is where I got 2 degrees, my confidence and found my passion for teaching. I am very thankful to the instructors, administrators and students. Gooooooo Dogs!

Juan Alamilla

Starting a new tradition with the family! I have a freshman attending Fresno [State]! Go Bulldogs!

Richard A. Donati

I love homecoming because as a player I loved looking in the stands and seeing all the students roaring and showing support for their school. That made me realize that not only are Fresno State athletes Bulldog Born and Bred, but the students are Bulldog Born and Bred! No Dogs Down!

Mary Coveney Benotti

This year homecoming is especially sweet; I'm moving back to Fresno after many years. When I graduated, I always thought I'd like to come back to the area and now we are.

Bob Koury

Homecoming is a family gathering! For the seniors, their family and friends and for the Fresno State fans! A celebration of Bulldog history, football over several years and all Bulldog followers, supporters, players and coaches! GO DOGS! From a 1975 alumni.

Gabriela Vega won the hula hoop contest during National Student Day.



Nany Vang attempts to throw a ball through the hole of a game board during an activity at National Student Day.



Mike Munoz

Homecoming reminds me of when my dad used to take me to see football games back in the '80s when there used to be grass at each end of the stadium bowl and kids would play football or sit and watch the games. Watched my Raisin Bowl from the grass.

Karen Fale

When you travel over 10 hours in one day to see the Fresno State Bulldogs hit the gridiron that's true love, that's spirit, that's straight Bulldog Pride that's what homecoming means. To the HOUSE!

Victor E. III with Iron Man and Spider-Man at the outdoor movie at Bulldog Stadium.



by Eddie Hughes

Cary Edmondson

► Hundreds of research projects are underway across campus, such as the Alzheimer's studies led by Dr. Santanu Maitra and his chemistry students.



Prestigious U

Fresno State's approach to student success was again ranked among the nation's best at combining academic excellence with economic opportunity. Washington Monthly, a D.C.-based magazine known for its annual rankings of colleges and universities, placed Fresno State No. 17 on its list of the top universities in the United States.

Fresno State was selected alongside six Ivy League institutions, six University of California campuses, MIT and top-ranked Stanford University on the list.

Washington Monthly has been ranking colleges and universities for 12 years with what it calls "a different kind of college ranking," focusing on three pillars: social mobility, research and service. The rankings measure "what colleges do for their country," recognizing universities that "produce research, train the next generation of scientists and Ph.D. [candidates] and instill graduates with an ethos of public service."

Fresno State was also the No. 1 school in the national university category in commitment to spending federal work-study funds on public service.

Fresno State, as a University that enrolls many first-generation college students and helps them graduate, was cited for its "stellar graduation rate relative to other colleges with a similar admissions profile." The magazine also says Fresno State's "net price of attendance (what students pay after scholarships are deducted from tuition) is among the very lowest nationwide."

"These national rankings are further proof that Fresno State's commitment to boldly educate and empower our students for success is taking the University's academic profile to new heights," University President Joseph I. Castro says. "Our faculty and staff are supporting and engaging students in exciting new ways, and the University is working as one with the community to develop partnerships that can be transformational for our region, where more than 80 percent of our alumni choose to stay and work."

Washington Monthly 2017 Top 30 National Universities:

1. Stanford University
2. Harvard University
3. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
4. Texas A&M University
5. Georgetown University
6. University of California, San Diego
7. University of Pennsylvania
8. University of Washington
9. University of California, Davis
10. Yale University
11. Princeton University
12. Duke University
13. Utah State University
14. University of California, Berkeley
15. University of California, Los Angeles
16. Columbia University
17. **California State University, Fresno**
18. University of Florida
19. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
20. University of California, Irvine
21. University of California, Riverside
22. University of Notre Dame
23. University of North Carolina
24. Washington State University
25. Purdue University
26. University of Wisconsin
27. Dartmouth College
28. Syracuse University
29. Brigham Young University
30. Illinois Institute of Technology

The Future of Transportation

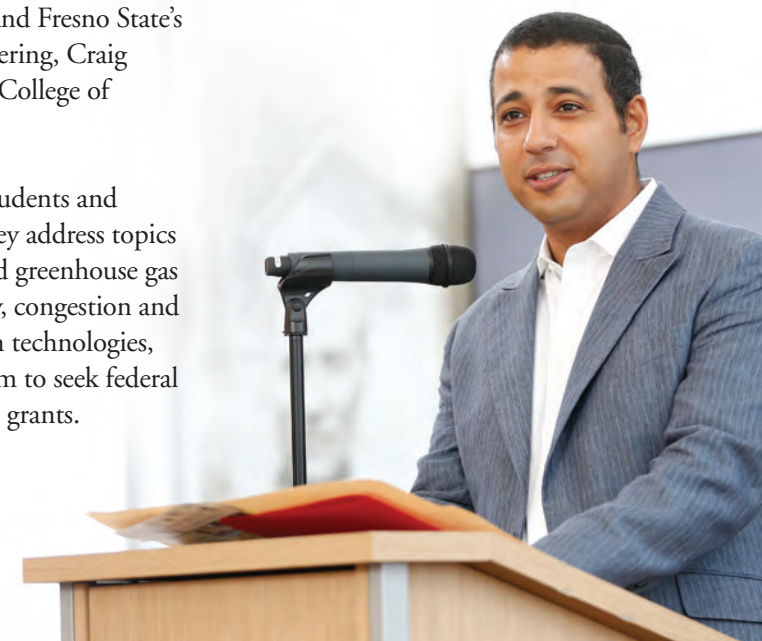
Fresno State announced the opening of its new Transportation Institute one year after the Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board approved the use of nearly \$3 million in Measure C New Technology Reserve funds. The institute opened this fall in a temporary space adjacent to the Engineering East building.

The Fresno State Transportation Institute is a collaboration between the 15 cities within Fresno County and Fresno State's Lyles College of Engineering, Craig School of Business and College of Social Sciences.

Funding will support students and faculty researchers as they address topics such as air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, safety, energy, congestion and advanced transportation technologies, and also will enable them to seek federal and state transportation grants.

"The Fresno County Transportation Authority is excited about the research and educational opportunities that will be provided to students at Fresno State to explore the challenges that face our Valley, state and nation as new technology is introduced to change the way we move people and goods throughout the world," says Lynne Ashbeck, Fresno County Transportation Authority board member.

Dr. Aly Tawfik, assistant professor of civil engineering at Fresno State (pictured below), will serve as the institute's founding director.



'Help Clear the Air'

Fresno State and the other 22 California State University campuses are now tobacco, smoke and vapor free. The University's "Help Clear the Air" campaign is educating students, employees and campus visitors about the new CSU systemwide policy.

State law already bans smoking from workplaces and all buildings accessible to the general public throughout the state as well as within 20 feet of buildings.

The new CSU policy, which will be in effect at all times, applies to all University

property, including buildings, athletic venues, residence halls, parking lots, vehicles and grounds.

"We are sensitive to what this change will mean for our campus community, so we want to do as much as we can through educational programs, communication and resources," says Debbie Adishian-Astone, Fresno State's vice president for administration. "To support this goal, the 'Help Clear the Air' educational campaign will create awareness of the change and invite cooperation as we move toward creating a healthier campus environment."

For help with smoking and tobacco cessation, visit fresnostate.edu/smokefree.

Partnering for City Planning

Fresno State students can now earn a degree in city and regional planning thanks to a partnership with McCaffrey Homes to provide students with hands-on experience in design and infrastructure through a case study class on the Tesoro Viejo development, a 1,600-acre site at the foot of Little Table Mountain.

Jointly owned by the McCaffrey and Lyles families, the new Tesoro Viejo community is located off Highway 41 in Madera County's designated growth area, Rio Mesa.

Students will learn broad planning skills and gain specialized knowledge pertaining to Valley issues such as transportation and water resource planning. They will also have access to a wide range of internships and experiences through on-site visits and guest lectures that will make them optimal candidates for jobs in our growing region.

"We commend the efforts of Fresno State to deliver a city and regional planning degree program that will go far in serving the needs of our region," says Brent McCaffrey, president of McCaffrey Homes. "We are thrilled to invest in the higher education of students in an area that is of critical importance for the future of our community."

The University received support from corporations like PG&E, as well as scholarship funds donated by McCaffrey Homes, Bonadelle Homes, Granville Homes, Penstar Group and Silkwood Ventures.

A Legacy of Caring

Doris Sullenger cared for others her whole life.

One of seven children, and the daughter of Chinese immigrants, she became a caretaker for her younger siblings at age 9.

By the time she was college-aged, Mrs. Sullenger (*pictured*) helped at her parents' restaurant, earning little more than a dollar an hour to put herself through Fresno State. Though her parents didn't want her to pursue an education, she persevered, earning bachelor's degrees in both chemistry and microbiology in 1976 — joining the small but increasing population of women pursuing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers at that time.

For 39 years, Mrs. Sullenger continued caring for those around her. As a clinical

laboratory scientist at Community Medical Centers, she supported health and wellness in the Central Valley.

"My wife loved to give back what she got," says Matt Sullenger, Doris' husband. "I remember twice a year, she would give her whole paycheck to charity."

"She wanted to make it easier for the next generation."

MATT SULLENGER

Now, even after her untimely death in March, Mrs. Sullenger continues her legacy of caring.

She left \$200,000 in her will to provide scholarships to students in the College of Science and Mathematics at Fresno State who are studying microbiology, chemistry or mathematics. Such a gift is especially critical at a time when 80 percent of Fresno State students

need financial assistance, and women continue to be underrepresented in STEM fields.

"She wanted to make it easier for the next generation," Matt says. "You can't take [the money] with you when you go, so why not give it back?"

Inspired by his wife's caring nature, Matt, a retired contractor, also left funds in his will to support vocational education in the Central Valley.

"I'd give all my money back to have another day with her," Matt says tearfully. "But I can't — and there are a lot of people working, trying to get their degrees. Our goal was to make each generation easier and better."

To leave a legacy and enhance the education of students for generations to come, contact the office of Planned Giving at 559.278.4038.



"I think it is important to be good stewards of the land and our natural resources, which is why I am passionate about learning about conservation biology."

SHELBY PAIGE MOSHIER

CSU Outstanding Student Scholar

Shelby Paige Moshier, a Fresno State senior biology student from Tollhouse, was one of 23 students chosen by the California State University to receive the 2017 CSU Trustees' Award for Outstanding Achievement.

Moshier (*pictured*) is a member of the Smittcamp Family Honors College and the Fresno State chapter of Phi Kappa Phi. She also works as a lab manager and conducts research on Californian birds in a conservation biology lab.

The scholarship program was established in 1984 by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation, which partnered with the CSU Board of Trustees to supplement the endowment with contributions from CSU Trustees, CSU Foundation Board of Governors and private donors.

The awardees, one from each of the 23 CSU campuses, receive donor-funded scholarships for their superior academic performance, personal accomplishments, community service and financial need.

Bilingual Speech Clinic

The Fresno State Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic launched a new bilingual clinic for clients age 3 and up who have difficulty in their primary and/or secondary language. With meetings twice a week throughout the academic year, clients will receive comprehensive evaluations and individual treatment designed to be culturally and linguistically reliable. Graduate students facilitate the clinic, which is under the supervision of a licensed speech-language pathologist and includes 22 to 24 sessions (35 minutes each) for \$250. Call 559.278.2422 for more information.



Terry-ific

Fresno State men's basketball coach Rodney Terry (*pictured above, center*) is now the Mountain West representative on the National Association of Basketball Coaches Division I Congress. The position was previously held by San Diego State's Steve Fisher, who retired in April. "I have so much respect for Coach Fisher, and I'll do my best to advocate for our coaches, student-athletes and sport in this role." Terry, who has led the Bulldogs to back-to-back postseason appearances, is in his seventh season as Fresno State's head coach. The congress meets monthly via conference call in addition to an annual in-person meeting.

Water, Ag, Energy Start-ups

The Valley Ventures Accelerator at Fresno State announced 11 start-up companies will receive venture capital direction and support in the water, agriculture and energy technology industries. The three-month program will provide professional guidance on growing sales, company value and profitability for the emerging companies from primarily California, as well as Brazil, Chile and Malaysia. Companies accepted into the program demonstrated the potential to have an economic impact in the region and the ability to improve the efficient use of scarce resources.

National Trademark Licensing Award

The Fresno State Trademark Licensing Program, under the leadership of Clarence Chiong, was recognized as the national collegiate licensing program of the year, earning the 2017 Synergy Award from the International Collegiate Licensing Association. The Synergy Award is given annually to a university or other collegiate organization that demonstrated extraordinary commitment to collegiate licensing and contributed to the betterment of the industry and the institution or organization. Fresno State receives royalties from the sale of officially licensed merchandise produced by licensed vendors. The royalties from about \$12 million in retail sales of officially licensed Fresno State merchandise last year was used to support various student programs on campus.



Quite the View

Physics professor Dr. Frederick Ringwald traveled to Metolius, Oregon, to get the full experience of the total solar eclipse on Aug. 21. The town was near the path of totality for the eclipse, meaning the duration lasted more than 2 minutes. Ringwald snapped plenty of photos on his trip, including the above.

WHEN STARS ALIGN

A trio of alumni rise to the highest levels of pro sports while giving an entire region reason to believe

by Eddie Hughes

Somewhere along the way, while pages fell off the calendar and hopes began anew, the little University that could became the major University that will. A blossoming community at the heart of the Central Valley grew in aspiration as quickly as it grew in size. And it didn't take long for that University and that community to come together as one — producing an educated workforce to drive the economy while unifying residents behind the excitement of Fresno State. The Red Wave was born.

A fan base with a game day wardrobe featuring only one color and traveling from city to city to cheer on its Bulldogs soon spawned a new generation of believers and raised them to ask “why not us?” while daring to dream instead of settling for average.

It's the Fresno State of mind. It means not settling for average but striving to measure yourself against the best. It sounds like a bold way of thinking, and that's exactly the way University President Joseph I. Castro likes it.

Don't tell Fresno State students or alumni they're not supposed to be great. They've probably heard it all their lives while taking the brunt of jokes from Hollywood or fighting to overcome the true challenges that exist in the Central Valley. But overcoming those challenges makes the reward that much sweeter.

This is what it means to be Fresno State material. It's a fabric that never fades under the scorching sun while working in the fields or training on them. It's made of threads that bind together in good times and bad, each one relying on the other to prevent the whole thing from unraveling. And it's a fabric that comes in many colors, shapes and sizes.

It's the Fresno State of mind. It means not settling for average but striving to measure yourself against the best.

Feeling pride for the hometown school yet?

As the New York Times said this past September, Fresno has been described as the state's truest college town. The Valley loves its University and it loves its stars. They serve as points of pride for a region long determined to get the chip off its shoulder and show the world it's willing to settle things on the field. Just give 'em the opportunity. Remember the mantra “anyone, anytime, anywhere?”

Right now, because of a handful of superstar alumni athletes, the Fresno State brand is flashing in front of everyone, all the time, everywhere.

It's nothing new for Fresno State to have alumni playing pro ball, but never before in its history has Fresno State had three stars who are this super all at once in each of the three most major professional sports.

continued

Other 'Dogs in the Pros

Active

National Basketball Association

Tyler Johnson (2010-14), guard,
Miami Heat

National Football League

Davante Adams (2011-13), wide receiver,
Green Bay Packers

Chris Carter (2007-10), linebacker,
Washington Redskins

Tyler Davison (2010-14), defensive line,
New Orleans Saints

Bryce Harris (2007-11), offensive line,
New Orleans Saints

Ben Jacobs (2006-10), linebacker,
Carolina Panthers

Curtis Riley (2013-14), cornerback,
Tennessee Titans

Derron Smith (2010-14), safety,
Cincinnati Bengals

Charles Washington (2011-15), safety,
Detroit Lions

Kenny Wiggins (2006-10), offensive line,
Los Angeles Chargers

National Pro Fastpitch

Jill Compton (2013-16), pitcher,
Texas Charge

Brenna Moss (2012-15), outfield,
Chicago Bandits

Major League Baseball

Doug Fister (2005-06), pitcher,
Boston Red Sox

Matt Garza (2003-05), pitcher,
Milwaukee Brewers

Jordan Luplow (2012-14), outfielder,
Pittsburgh Pirates

Justin Wilson (2006-08), pitcher,
Chicago Cubs

Professional Golf Association

Nick Watney (2000-03)



◀ NFL quarterback Derek Carr is joined by his family and nearly 40,000 supporters as his jersey No. 4 is retired at Bulldog Stadium on Sept. 2.

Paul George

Cary Edmondson

New York Yankees. All rights reserved.

Aaron Judge

PAUL GEORGE. DEREK CARR. AARON JUDGE.

In the past year alone, Paul George, 27, won an Olympic gold medal with the USA basketball team, made his fourth straight NBA all-star appearance, graced the cover of the NBA's most popular video game and released his own signature New Era Bulldogs cap and Nike shoe (including the "PG1 University" option in Bulldog red). This past offseason, George was traded to the Oklahoma City Thunder in a blockbuster deal with the Indiana Pacers.

At the same time, Derek Carr, 26, signed a five-year, \$125 million deal with the Oakland Raiders, becoming the NFL's highest-paid player ever at the time while coming off his second straight NFL Pro Bowl selection,

leading the Raiders to a 12-win season for the first time since 2000 and being featured with his brother, David, on ESPN's E:60. At Fresno State's 2017 season opener, Carr's jersey No. 4 was retired at a packed Bulldog Stadium.

Then there's Aaron Judge, 25, the New York Yankees' 6-foot-7, 280-pound rookie outfielder who burst into stardom by hitting home runs at a pace only the greats like Babe Ruth and Roger Maris could contend with. Judge starred in a viral skit on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, landed on the cover of Sports Illustrated, won his first Major League Home Run Derby en route to breaking Mark McGwire's all-time rookie record for home runs and was named American League Rookie of the Year.

There is likely not another university in America with three active superstars as high profile as these in the three sports.



"All three of them are really genuine people who had great parents, and I don't think that's an accident."

PAUL LOEFFLER
940 ESPN RADIO

And making it even more special, according to popular opinion, they are all-around good people — exactly the type of alumni who make a university proud.

"All three of them are really genuine people who had great parents, and I don't think that's an accident," says Paul Loeffler, the voice of the Bulldogs for 940 ESPN radio. "All three had people who were very involved in their lives."

continued



**PG1
UNIVERSITY
RED**





BY GEORGE, HE'S DONE IT

When George signed with Fresno State in 2009 out of Knight High School in Palmdale, his parents, Paul and Paulette, moved to Kingsburg so they'd be close enough to watch his games. "You saw the kind of person he was, the perspective he had and how he treated other people," Loeffler says.

By George's sophomore year, he had grown to 6-foot-9, led the team in scoring and was drafted 10th overall by the Pacers — the highest a Bulldogs basketball player had ever been chosen. The Bulldogs finished just 15-18 that season under former coach Steve Cleveland, but the bevy of NBA scouts showing up to the Save Mart Center each game was a surefire sign that George was a special prospect. It didn't take long for Pacers general manager Larry Bird to find out he had made a great pick.

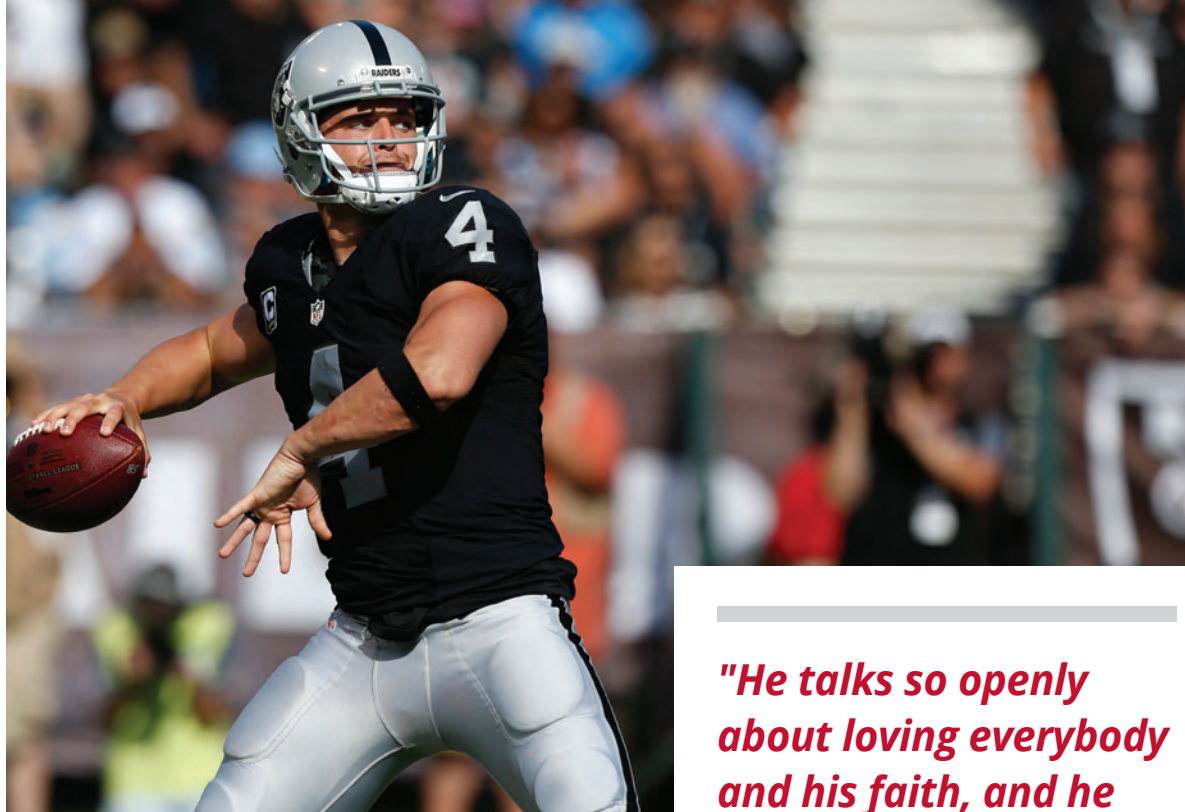
George's NBA scoring totals climbed each year, except for 2014-15 when he was recovering from a broken leg, and plateaued this past season when he averaged 23.7 points before being traded

"He's working, he's trying to get better, he's trying to continue to be one of the best players in the world."

COACH RODNEY TERRY
FRESNO STATE MEN'S BASKETBALL

to the Thunder in the offseason with one year left on his contract. George, who has become known for his work ethic and choosing one area of his game to improve each offseason, has fans in Oklahoma City so excited that hundreds showed up to greet him at the airport the day he joined the team.

"Paul has always stayed humble, he's understood what it's taken for him to get to the point he's at right now, and he's never forgotten that," says Fresno State basketball coach Rodney Terry. "I saw him early in the summer, and there were no days off for him. He's working, he's trying to get better, he's trying to continue to be one of the best players in the world."



A FABULOUS NEW CARR

The Carr family has been Fresno famous since 2001, when David Carr led the Bulldogs as high as No. 8 in the national rankings and became the No. 1 overall pick in the 2002 NFL draft.

Eight years later, along came the youngest Carr brother, Derek, one of the highest rated quarterback prospects in the nation out of Bakersfield Christian High School. And he only wanted to play for one school — the school he'd been rooting for since he was 5 years old watching his big brother play alongside his parents, Rodger and Sheryl, and middle brother, Darren.

"You see that same enthusiasm and hopefulness now that he had as a kid," Loeffler says. "He talks so openly about loving everybody and his faith, and he never has a critical word to say about anyone. He shows great leadership."

Then-coach Pat Hill was ecstatic to have this new Carr. But he didn't start Carr right away. Carr redshirted and developed (just like David). And when his turn came, it was a full-time job for someone to update the record books.

"He talks so openly about loving everybody and his faith, and he never has a critical word to say about anyone. He shows great leadership."

PAUL LOEFFLER
940 ESPN RADIO

In three years as the starter, including his final two seasons under former coach Tim DeRuyter, Carr became an All-American, athletically and academically, and earned two straight Mountain West Offensive Player of the Year honors. He set new records for the most passing yards (12,842) and touchdowns (113) in school history.

He was drafted in the second round by the Oakland Raiders and earned the starting job before the opening game of his rookie season, leading a franchise turnaround in the process.

"I've known him since he was 5 years old. He was built to be a quarterback," Fresno State coach Jeff Tedford says. "He's amazing, really. He's got it all going for him. He can throw every ball on the field. He's so prepared and so smart about what he's doing. He's at a different level."



A FRESNO STATE OF MIND
KNOWS NO LIMITS

ALL RISE FOR THE HONORABLE JUDGE

Fresno State baseball coach Mike Batesole grins as wide as the brim of his cap when telling the story of how Judge, a Linden High School product, ended up on campus. Judge's parents, recently retired school teachers Wayne and Patty, both Fresno State alumni themselves, reached out to get him into Fresno State's select prospect camp. Each year, a few of the standouts at the camp receive scholarship offers to join the program. "It didn't take 10 minutes, and I said, 'OK, let's go into my office and talk a little bit,'" Batesole says of his first glimpse of Judge on the field.

"His character off the field is as good as it is on the field."

JOE GIRARDI
FORMER YANKEES MANAGER

Judge went on to an All-American career at Fresno State, helping the Bulldogs to two conference championships. As a junior, he was drafted in the first round, 32nd overall, by the New York Yankees. Known for his infectious smile and fierce loyalty to his teammates while playing in the biggest media market in the world, Judge appears almost shy when it comes to talking about his own accomplishments — however historic they are.

"His character off the field is as good as it is on the field," says former Yankees manager Joe Girardi. "He really understands what you need to do when you're in the spotlight. You always know he's going to act the right way and do the right thing. I give his family a lot of credit for the way he's been raised. He just does things the right way."

In April 1992, the day after he was born, Judge was adopted by Wayne and Patty. He credits them for putting him in position to be where he's at now — and after he broke the all-time Major League Baseball rookie home run record, he said he would give the game ball to his parents.

"You could see physically how gifted he was," Loeffler says. "He was destined for greatness, and he had the discipline to stay humble."

continued

FUTURE OF FRESNO STATE

Turn on the TV, open a newspaper or click on a sports website, and there's a strong chance a story about Carr, Judge or George will be featured. But what does it all mean for their alma mater, Fresno State?

There are obvious recruiting benefits — showing future Bulldogs what's possible when they attend Fresno State. And University President Castro, who has been preaching academics and athletics rising together since his first day on the job, believes the excitement generated by these three could impact student applications as well. But the real opportunity for Fresno State — the one that could pay dividends in the coming years — is how the stature and visibility of celebrity alumni like these translate into building their former programs and others at the University?

“This is a very special time when all three of these Bulldogs are playing at the highest levels in their sports, and it exemplifies what's possible here at Fresno State. Most of our students are going to be great leaders outside of sports and this level of distinction inspires them to reach for excellence.”

JOSEPH I. CASTRO
PRESIDENT, FRESNO STATE

“For an athletic department like Fresno State, having three guys like that could be a game changer if they're able to parlay that into recruiting,” says ESPN reporter Arash Markazi, who also teaches journalism at the University of Southern California. “I've noticed a lot of kids aren't into history. If a school's last championship was in the 1980s, that doesn't hold a lot of weight with them. But these three are young players in the prime of their careers playing for signature teams. It changes things.”

Batesole, Terry and Tedford are all leveraging their notable alumni in recruiting. Other sports are too, men's and women's. Batesole said he's already seeing youngsters wearing jersey No. 99 like Judge. Terry is seeing youngsters wearing George's Nike shoes. And Carr's Raiders jersey is one of the top sellers in the NFL.

“We're living in the moment right now with these guys,” Terry says. “These guys are current superstars in each of their fields. You always talk about staying relevant — Fresno State is as relevant as you can get right now with those guys performing on the main stage.”

The fact these alumni are also fan favorites for what they do off the field and court provides teaching material for Fresno State coaches.

“I tell our players, ‘You always have little ears, you have little eyes always watching. You guys are role models,’”

Terry says. “People are always watching you and everything you do and the way you carry yourself. Those guys have done a great job of doing that, not only in their collegiate careers, but they're doing it at the professional level as well in terms of the way they carry themselves.”

So where will Fresno State athletics be positioned five years from now? And beyond that, what does it mean for the University and community as a whole?

“We've had talented student-athletes in all different sports forever, men and women distinguishing themselves,” Castro says. “This is a very special time when all three of these Bulldogs are playing at the highest levels in their sports, and it exemplifies what's possible here at Fresno State. Most of our students are going to be great leaders outside of sports and this level of distinction inspires them to reach for excellence.”

George posted a photo of himself in the first row at Yankee Stadium this summer, wearing a Judge jersey and cheering his fellow Bulldog. George also returned to campus Sept. 2 to see his buddy Carr have his jersey retired.

“We were the only school to have a Pro Bowler, an all-star in baseball and an all-star in basketball in one season this past year,” Carr says as if he rattles off those talking points each day. “If you ask any of my Raiders teammates, they know that stat. Fresno State is a special place with special people. The same things that are said about David and myself can be said about Paul George and Aaron Judge. They are good people. We're not just all right at what we do, these are good people, and they come from a great place.”

It's a place that will forever be proud of them and inspired by them. And, perhaps, somewhere in the Valley right now, there's a kid dreaming about becoming an astronaut or doctor or playing pro sports. And maybe others are telling that kid to be more realistic. But that child can point to at least three reasons why dreaming big dreams and working hard make anything possible. Sometimes, the stars align. That inspiration is a piece of the legacy these alumni left behind.

“It's incredible, it's an honor, I'm proud to be a former Bulldog,” Judge says, breaking into his trademark smile. “All of us, we're just a big family. Bulldog born, Bulldog bred.”



— Eddie Hughes is senior editor for Fresno State Magazine.

“Fresno State is a special place with special people. The same things that are said about David and myself can be said about Paul George and Aaron Judge. They are good people. We're not just all right at what we do, these are good people, and they come from a great place.”

DEREK CARR
RAIDERS QUARTERBACK

A FRESNO STATE OF MIND
KNOWS NO LIMITS

▼ Paul George and Derek Carr, whose Bulldog careers overlapped, greeted each other when George's Pacers visited the Golden State Warriors in 2016.



ONLINE EXTRA — Visit fresnostatemagazine.com to see an exclusive video and a photo gallery.

Kyle Terada-USA TODAY Sports

Pros

In Something Other Than Sports

There are more than 480,000 NCAA student-athletes — and less than 1 percent go on to play professional sports. Many more move on to successful professional careers in other industries such as government, health care, education and public safety. In the NCAA, 86 percent of Division I student-athletes earn a degree. While Fresno State has many inspiring examples of successful alumni, here are just a few prime examples for young student-athletes to look up to.

Chantea (Fleming) McIntyre '04, '16

Job: Owner of McIntyre Model Management; Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Manager for Fresno Unified School District

Fresno State Degrees: Business Administration, Educational Leadership

Sport: Basketball

How did being a student-athlete prepare you for a successful career?

Still, nothing has been harder than being a student-athlete. Nothing! People ask me how I balance being a wife, a mom to four, a business owner and a full-time educator, and my answer is that I was once a student-athlete.



Kerri Donis '91

Job: Fresno Fire Chief

Fresno State Degree: Physical Education

Sport: Softball

How did being a student-athlete prepare you for a successful career?

Being a student-athlete provided a fantastic foundation of work ethic, discipline, organizational skills, teamwork and mental toughness one needs in the business world.

Best advice from a coach:

Don't you quit! (Coach Margie Wright)



Dr. Juan Bautista '03

Job: Physician

Fresno State Degree: Health Science

Sport: Football

How did being a student-athlete prepare you for a successful career?

Being a student-athlete helped to teach the importance of both physical and mental health. Handling failure is also important. During my career we lost games, I've been injured, etc. Learning to get up from defeat or adapt is a lesson that is constantly exemplified in sports.

Best advice from a coach: If you do everything you are supposed to do (go to class, practice, lift weights and eat well) you will just be average. It's the extra things you do that will make you great. (J.D. Williams)



Deborah A. "Debbie" Poochigian '74

Job: Fresno County Supervisor (retired)

Degree: Physical Education, elementary and secondary teaching credentials

Sport: Tennis

How did being a student-athlete prepare you for a successful career?

Participating in athletics during college helped me focus on my career goals and gain confidence while developing appreciation for hard work, preparation, teamwork and competitiveness.

Best advice from a coach: Coach Elaine Mason emphasized hard work, consistency and setting lofty goals. I learned that success in the classroom can only be achieved with lots of preparation and attention to every detail — big or small.



How the Red Wave was Born

You may know the Fresno State fan base is nicknamed the Red Wave, but do you know the name's origin?

Fresno State supporters have fondly been known as the Red Wave for 35 years now. It's an identity for the University's fan base that is both nostalgic and inspiring. And it's a tradition that Fresno State credits to Ron Orozco, a longtime journalist for The Fresno Bee who now teaches in the Media, Communications and Journalism Department at Fresno State.

As Orozco recalls, there was a growing fan base for the athletics program just starting to realize its potential in the late 1970s.

The men's basketball team was thriving under then coach Boyd Grant. And the fans wouldn't settle for watching their Bulldogs only at Selland Arena — they followed them on the road in droves.

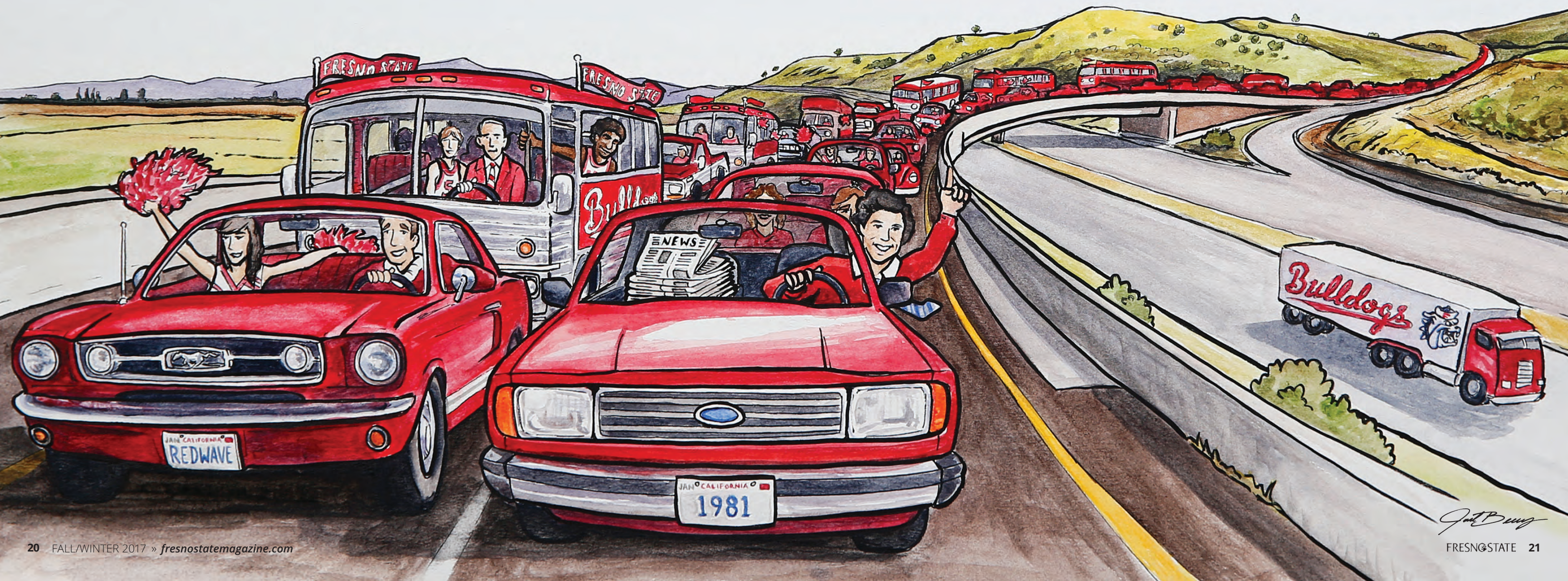
On Jan. 17, 1981, Fresno State visited San Jose State, and Orozco's game story in The Bee focused on the hundreds of Bulldogs fans who made the trip over Pacheco Pass in busses and cars, so many wearing red that he nicknamed them the Red Wave.

"And now there's another generation — including my grandchildren Benjamin and Alexandra — who are learning about and joining the Red Wave," Orozco says.

"It makes me happy for the community. I am grateful that I was The Bee beat writer for Fresno State sports at that time. Journalists are trained to be the eyes and ears for readers; it was easy for me to write about what I was seeing and feeling."



Ron Orozco



Learning by Serving

Research links service-learning to higher graduation rates

by Lisa Maria Boyles

Fresno State has cemented itself as a service-oriented university with students, faculty and staff providing more than 10 million hours of service to the community over the past 10 years. The concept of volunteerism has become part of the campus culture — and it's not going unnoticed nationally.

Service, along with social mobility and research, was among the three pillars factored in when Fresno State ranked No. 17 on Washington Monthly's list of the top national universities in August.

Now, a new study conducted by two Fresno State researchers — Hongtao Yue and Steven Hart — is further demonstrating the impact of service-learning on campus. The research found students who took at least one service-learning course were 25 percent more likely to graduate than those who did not take any service-learning courses.

Service-learning courses enhance students' civic understanding through participation in meaningful service linked to academic study or coursework, says Chris Fiorentino, the director of the University's Jan and Bud Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning.

"What they have found, using statistical analysis, is really the most powerful testament to one pedagogical approach having an impact on graduation rates," Fiorentino says. "Even when you control for things like a student's GPA, the number of units they've taken at the time they take a service-learning class, their socio-economic status — even when you control for those variables, service-learning is shown to be extremely influential in positively impacting students' graduation rates."

Yue, a research analyst in Fresno State's Office of Institutional Effectiveness, has worked in the field for 10 years. Hart is an associate professor in the Department of Literacy, Early, Bilingual and Special Education. He is coordinator of the urban civic education program, and he teaches courses on literacy foundations, literacy assessment and service-learning pedagogy.

Their study, published in the spring 2017 issue of the Michigan Journal of Community Service Learning, analyzed 31,074 undergraduate students who enrolled at Fresno State from fall 2002 to fall 2009.

In addition to the finding that one service-learning course increased

students' likelihood of graduating, their research also found that taking additional service-learning courses increased the likelihood of graduation. Also, participation in service-learning coursework at the upper-division level had larger correlations with graduation than it did in lower-division courses.

Regarding the findings for upper-division courses, Yue and Hart said it makes sense because upper-division courses are more aligned with students' majors, which increased motivation and enhanced relevance.

"The results of this study suggest that service-learning is a high-impact practice that increased the likelihood of student graduation," Yue says. "The University should have strong commitment to service-learning programs, including increased offerings of upper-division service-learning courses, increased training of faculty in service-learning and developing initiatives that promote student participation in service-learning courses across their academic experiences."

Dr. Matthew Ari Jendian, chair of the Department of Sociology and director of the Humanics program at Fresno State, has incorporated service-learning into his courses for 20 years.

continued



Cary Edmondson

"Even when you control for things like a student's GPA, the number of units they've taken at the time they take a service-learning class, their socio-economic status — even when you control for those variables, service-learning is shown to be extremely influential in positively impacting students' graduation rates."

CHRIS FIORENTINO
DIRECTOR OF THE
RICHTER CENTER FOR
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
AND SERVICE-LEARNING

**1 SERVICE
LEARNING
COURSE**
25%
**MORE LIKELY
TO GRADUATE**

◀ Student Magaly Acevedo helped paint the Nature's Kid building at the Discovery Center as part of the Alternative Spring Break program.



Cary Edmondson

“The findings of this study resonate with my experience, and the positive impact of service-learning extends beyond retention and graduation,” Jendian says. “There are positive impacts on students’ self-efficacy and sense of their own ability to act and make a difference, long-term positive impacts on the civic engagement of alumni and positive impacts on faculty.”

Music composition and theory professor Dr. Benjamin Boone started teaching at Fresno State in 2000, but didn’t discover what service-learning really meant until he attended a workshop on the subject five years later.

“I was shocked to learn that what I had thought was service-learning was in fact community engagement, or volunteering,” Boone says. “What distinguishes service-learning from volunteering and other types of service is that it is intimately tied to the curriculum of a particular course. A high-quality service-learning project not only provides meaningful service, but it enhances academic learning, and it consciously teaches civic learning.”

**2016-17
ACADEMIC YEAR**

14,565

**FRESNO STATE
VOLUNTEERS**

**1.3M
HOURS OF SERVICE
VALUED AT
\$40M**

◀ Student John Richardson volunteers to work with children at Stone Soup Fresno.

Fresno State students have engaged in various service-learning projects in recent years, including working with youth at Stone Soup Fresno, helping to revitalize the El Dorado Park neighborhood near campus and opting to serve others as part of the Alternative Spring Break program.

During the 2016-17 academic year alone, 14,565 Fresno State volunteers contributed more than 1.3 million hours of service, valued at more than \$40 million in time.

“Students find the hands-on experiences invaluable,” says Kim Morin, a professor in the Department of Theatre Arts who incorporates service-learning into her classes on children’s theatre and puppetry. “Most of my students are graduating seniors, and many comment that they want to incorporate the lessons they have learned from their service-learning experiences directly into their future careers as teachers. Students comment about service-learning helping them become better collaborators and making them more aware of the world around them. Many say that they plan to continue to volunteer in the community in some way.”

Betsy A. Hays, a media, communications and journalism professor, was named the University’s Faculty Service-Learning Scholar for 2017-18.

“Service-learning makes everything better,” Hays says. “The students care more, work harder, find personal and professional meaning, and we all get to make the world a better place to some degree. By making assignments ‘real,’ the standard is elevated — both from a faculty and student perspective.”



— Lisa Maria Boyles is a communications specialist for the College of Arts and Humanities at Fresno State.



Visitation Day at CHSU College of Pharmacy

**Saturday, January 13, 2018
10:00am - 12:00pm**

Ready to Help People Live Healthier Lives?

Bring your family and friends for a 2 hour visit at the CHSU Campus from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturday, January 13th, to discover if the CHSU College of Pharmacy program is right for you.

You’ll learn about our Curriculum, obtain important Admissions, Scholarship and Financial Aid information, meet our faculty, hear about student life from our students, and take a tour!

CHSU College of Pharmacy Visitation Day Agenda:

- Welcome Refreshments
- Curriculum Overview
- Admissions Requirements
- Financial Aid/Scholarships Available
- Student Panel/Meet the Faculty
- Campus Tour

RSVP:

Please arrive at 9:45 am for check in

rsvp@chsu.org or call (559) 573-8124

Hope Lemons, Outreach & Admissions Advisor

CHSU COLLEGE OF
PHARMACY

120 N. Clovis Avenue • Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 325-3600 • CHSU.org



DAY of GIVING



How 25,000 students were supported in 24 hours

by Esra Hashem

Daniel Loera grew up knowing the meaning of hard work. He spent his days laboring at a farm, out before the sun came up and only making his way back home after the sun went down.

The son of migrant farm workers, he was the first in his family to pursue higher education. Now, Loera is in his final semester at Fresno State, studying plant science and planning to use his knowledge to improve California agriculture and to create a more sustainable environment.

Time to feed the D.O.G.!

Though Loera continues to work his way through school, his education is in part made possible through scholarships.

“Getting help, even if it’s a little — it’s so much less stress on me and my family,” he says. “The students who apply for scholarships really do need it.”

Loera is one of an all-time record 25,000 students at Fresno State, 80 percent of whom need financial assistance to pursue their education. It took the support of donors who believed in Loera’s success to change the trajectory of his life.

That’s why hundreds of community members came together in support of students like Loera during Fresno State’s inaugural Day of Giving (D.O.G.) fundraiser. Starting at midnight on Nov. 2, and ending at 11:59 p.m. that evening, Day of Giving rallied hundreds of Fresno State supporters from across the world.

The inaugural online fundraiser was a non-stop, 24-hour opportunity for alumni, faculty, staff, parents, friends and students to make a gift to the campus program or activity for which they were most passionate. Donors were encouraged by emails, matching challenges and social media posts, using hashtags like [#FresnoStateDOG](#) and [#FeedTheDOG](#).

“We’re in this game together,” says Rod Coburn, a 1964 College of Science and Mathematics graduate and Fresno State supporter. “Universities are an intellectual component of the community and need to be acknowledged and supported in that way.”

This was the first year Fresno State conducted Day of Giving, though examples of giving days among universities across the nation are plentiful. The model can be traced back to the Case Foundation’s America’s Giving

15 giving opportunities

- Fresno State Central Funds
- College of Science and Mathematics
- Kremen School of Education and Human Development
- Alumni Association
- Division of Research and Graduate Studies
- College of Arts and Humanities
- College of Social Sciences
- Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology
- Athletics
- Henry Madden Library
- College of Health and Human Services
- Craig School of Business
- Lyles College of Engineering
- Division of Continuing and Global Education
- Student Affairs

Challenge in 2007, which encouraged people to rally their online networks to make giving easier and a part of their daily lives. Giving days have since been used with notable success by higher education institutions and community foundations, sometimes raising millions of dollars in a 24-hour period.

Fresno State Day of Giving aimed to represent as many facets of the University as possible, with options to donate to eight colleges, the Henry Madden Library, the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, athletics and dozens of additional programs.

Though the fundraising marathon existed primarily online, faculty, staff, students and alumni gathered together to create an undeniably festive campus environment in support of a single cause: student success.

“It’s critical that we as alumni stay connected to Fresno State,” says Jamin Brazil, who earned his master’s in business administration from Fresno State in 2015. “The next generation is going to

stand on our shoulders, and we have to make sure that they have the opportunity to learn from the mistakes and successes that we have experienced. The more that we as alumni are investing our time and resources into Fresno State, the more we are going to improve our local economy and, ultimately, our lives.”

As donations continued to pour in from across the world, students like Loera expressed thanks.

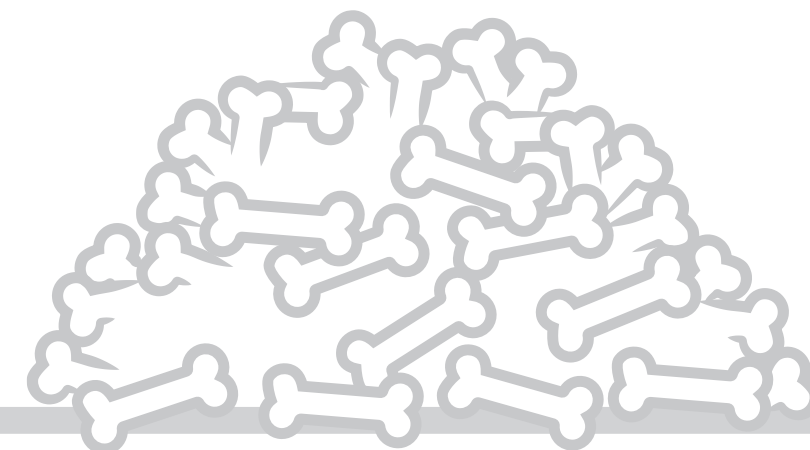
“There are people in life who help you succeed,” he says. “These donors play a big part in that success. It helps change who you are.”

— Esra Hashem is a marketing specialist at Fresno State.

ONLINE EXTRA
Discover the final amount raised in support of student success at dayofgiving.fresnostate.edu

Alumni and friends showed support, staff/faculty spread pride, students expressed gratitude

THANK YOU!



THIS IS 'JEOPARDY!'

Fresno State alum wins big on popular TV game show

by Lisa Maria Boyles

Peter Guekguezian, 31, appeared on four episodes of the popular ABC game show in June, racking up \$46,800 in winnings. He was the champion on June 16, 19 and 20, losing on June 21 to challenger Lisa Evans of Easthampton, Massachusetts.

Since the episodes aired, Guekguezian, his wife and their 2-year-old son, Zekiel, moved to New York, where he is pursuing post-doctoral work. The couple met while they were both graduate students at Fresno State, and Marilyn taught at Fresno State's American English Institute. Guekguezian earned his master's degree in linguistics in 2011 and was part of the first graduating class at University High School, a charter school on campus.

"I really appreciated the support of my community," Guekguezian says. "People seemed really proud and supportive of me being on the show and representing Fresno. That made me happy. A lot of times we can feel down on ourselves about Fresno, especially people my age. There's a lot of good stuff going on there, a lot of potential."

Fresno State Magazine asked Guekguezian about his experiences and how he reached his potential on the show.



Jeopardy! Productions, Inc.

ANSWER:

HE SPENT FOUR DAYS
COMPETING ON A NATIONAL
TV TRIVIA SHOW AND WON
ENOUGH MONEY TO TAKE A
EUROPEAN VACATION AND
GIVE BACK TO SEVERAL
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS.

QUESTION:

WHO IS
"JEOPARDY!" WINNER
PETER GUEKGUEZIAN
OF FRESNO?

Fresno State Magazine:
**HOW DID YOU PREPARE TO BE A
CONTESTANT ON "JEOPARDY!"?**

Guekguezian: It's hard to prepare because the questions can literally be about anything.

I decided the best strategy was to focus on things that are easily memorized and are over-represented in "Jeopardy!" categories like Nobel Peace Prize winners, Oscar winners, that sort of thing.

The most important thing was studying how to wager. Most games are won or lost in Final Jeopardy, and it comes down to whether or not you wager correctly. I have a friend, Jesse Thoren, also from University High, who is a complete math genius, and he broke down how I should bet in every situation.

**WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO COMPETE
ON THE SHOW?**

It's a fun break from real life. To be living your real, everyday life knowing in a few days you're going to be transported to this completely different experience — you just can't wait for it to start.

But then you're also a little nervous because you want to win, you don't want

to make a fool of yourself on national TV. I was able to do both at the same time. That [second show] was a train wreck.

There was one where I got the answer right, but I didn't put it in the form of a question, and I realized it too late. That's the cardinal sin of "Jeopardy!"

**WHAT WAS THE HARDEST
QUESTION?**

That was the train wreck game. I missed all three Daily Doubles. But I was still able to win because I answered Final Jeopardy correctly. The question was, "On June 17, 1929, this airline's first passenger flight left Dallas, making stops at Shreveport, Monroe and Jackson." And you're supposed to name the airline. That doesn't give you a lot to work with.

My first instinct was Southwest because they are based in Dallas, but then I realized they weren't around in the '20s.

I thought about the cities, and they are all around the Mississippi Delta region, near the border of Louisiana and Mississippi. I thought maybe that's the clue, maybe they're telling me it's Delta. That was right, and no one else was able to figure it out. I wouldn't have won if I hadn't gotten that question right.

**DID YOU RECORD THE
PROGRAMS YOU APPEARED ON
TO SHARE WITH YOUR SON
WHEN HE IS OLDER?**

Yes, we did. I think it would be pretty cool for him to know that his dad was on "Jeopardy!" and I'd love to watch with him when he gets more interested.

**WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO
WITH YOUR WINNINGS?**

I hope to take my family on a trip to Europe. My son is obsessed with Disneyland, so I would love to take him to Disneyland Paris, and then to see the rest of Paris and other parts of Europe.

I'd also like to do something related to Armenian causes. There are some foundations that are doing excellent work in that area, like the Armenian Missionary Association of America. I'd really like to give some money to some LGBT organizations in Fresno. I'd also like to help out the Chukchansi language preservation project at Fresno State. The Linguistics Department really does a lot of good work on endangered languages.



Celebrating Successes

Fresno State Alumni Association honors 2017 Top Dogs



The Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala recognizes some of the University's most accomplished graduates with the highest honor presented by the Fresno State Alumni Association.

Each year one alumnus from each of the University's eight academic schools and colleges, as well as the Department of Athletics, the Henry Madden Library, the Division of Student Affairs and the Division of Graduate Studies, is chosen to be honored with an Outstanding Alumni Award.

On Oct. 13 at the Save Mart Center, during homecoming week, this year's group of awardees gathered in front of a crowd of about 1,000 Fresno State supporters for an inspirational evening filled with bold stories of achievement and service.

Kim Ruiz Beck, chairman of Ruiz Foods, earned the Distinguished Alumna Award, the top honor of the night. Ruiz Foods' El Monterey brand is the No. 1 selling frozen Mexican food in the U.S. and its Tornados brand is a leader on convenience store roller grills. Fresno State Magazine asked Ruiz Beck, a 1988 graduate, to write a first-hand account of her journey and what the award means to her.



The Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala recognized 14 of Fresno State's most accomplished alumni. See page 32 for the distinguished honorees.



ONLINE EXTRA — Visit fresnostatemagazine.com to see videos and photos of our Top Dogs.

A Proud Bulldog Moment

by Kim Ruiz Beck, Top Dog Distinguished Alumna

It is an incredible honor to receive the Top Dog Award, and I have never been prouder to be a Bulldog!

My years at Fresno State were, indeed, an important part of my life and solidified my desire to be part of our family business. In fact, when I look back at my years at Fresno State, I recall how much of my class work related directly to some of the challenges we were facing at Ruiz Foods. For example, I recall how my market research project was a taste test of our mini chimichangas, and how our company philosophy developed from one of my management classes.

After college, I joined our company's marketing team, spent time in sales, managed product development, became the interim CEO and, now, chairman. But I could not have accomplished any of this without the love and support of my husband, Tom, and my sons Tyler, Travis and Trent.

Today, I am so very proud of all that our 3,600 team members have accomplished. Each team member is the story of an American dream come true, and I am honored they believe in the Ruiz family and our leadership team. I also believe we have the best management team in the food industry led by our CEO, Rachel Cullen. Together, they inspire me every day.

With the success of our family-owned business, we have the opportunity to invest back into our community. We are passionate about children and education, and I am pleased to say that our Ruiz 4 Kids scholarship program has helped to support many, many Bulldogs.

As I have become more involved with the University through the Board of Governors, I have developed a greater awareness and appreciation for the importance of Fresno State in our community's future. After all, it is where our future leaders will come from, and I believe our recent gift to the Craig School of Business reflects our commitment.

Finally, I am excited to have the time to become more involved in what Fresno State brings to the community, and I firmly believe in President Joseph Castro's leadership and vision for the University.

— Kim Ruiz Beck, a 1988 graduate, earned Fresno State's 2017 Top Dog Distinguished Alumna Award.





Distinguished Alumna
Kim Ruiz Beck
 (1988) Ruiz Foods, Chairperson

THE TOP DOG
 ALUMNI AWARDS
GALA
 FRESNO STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Arthur Safstrom Service Award
William Lyles
 (2001) Honorary Doctorate
 Lyles Diversified Inc., President and CEO



One Night. 14 Bold Stories. Endless Inspiration.



Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology
Lynne Ashbeck
 (1976, '77) Valley Children's Healthcare, SVP of Community Engagement and Population Wellness



Kremen School of Education and Human Development
Janet Young
 (1977, '88) former Clovis Unified Superintendent



Henry Madden Library
Paul E. Pierce (1970)
 Paul E. Pierce: Organizational Design and Development



College of Arts and Humanities
Warren R. Paboojian (1980)
 Baradat & Paboojian, Inc., Attorney



Lyles College of Engineering
Mike Leonardo
 (1981) Fresno County Transportation Authority, Executive Director



College of Science and Mathematics
Rauden (Rod) Coburn III DDS
 (1964) Retired Dentist



Department of Athletics
David Carr
 NFL Network Analyst, former NFL Quarterback



Division of Research and Graduate Studies
Jamin Brazil (2015)
 Vine Venture Capital, Managing Partner



College of Social Sciences
Lee Ann Eager (2002)
 Fresno County Economic Development Corporation, President and CEO



Craig School of Business
Katherine Horstmann Huebert (1984)
 Horstmann Financial and Insurance Services, VP of Employee Benefits



College of Health and Human Services
Nancy Grosz Sager
 (1977) California Department of Education, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program Consultant



Division of Student Affairs
Chris Roggenstein
 (1984) Forward Advantage, Inc. and Physician Network Advantage, President and CEO



Valley Children's Hospital

NATIONALLY

RANKED AND RANKED AND RANKED

We cared for children from one end of the Valley to the other—and from the Central Coast to the Sierra and beyond—420,000 times last year alone. The trust placed in us by children and their families inspires us to set higher standards, break barriers and exceed expectations.

We are honored to be recognized as one of the best children's hospitals in the nation by U.S. News & World Report in orthopaedics, gastroenterology & gastrointestinal surgery, and diabetes & endocrinology.

And while awards are nice, getting kids back to being kids - that's what we live for.

valleychildrens.org/USNews

Thank you to our generous 2017 Top Dog sponsors

PLATINUM



PREMIER ON-CAMPUS



GOLD



MEDIA



Thank you to those who have donated to the scholarship endowment!

The Fresno State Alumni Association honored the 2017-18 student scholarship recipients at the Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala. This year, the Alumni Association awarded more than \$146,000 in scholarships, a leading figure amongst the 23 alumni associations in the California State University system.



Diving in for the 'Dogs

Gary Castro came up with a fun idea a few years ago when he and his wife, Sue (a 1986 Fresno State alumna), decided to resurface their back yard swimming pool. "I said, 'Hey, we've got to put the Bulldog in there,'" Gary recalls. The family already had a pickup truck decked out with Bulldog décor, and they are ardent supporters of everything Fresno State, so why not? The pool has been the centerpiece for plenty of summer family memories ever since.

"For my family and our business, Bulldog spirit is totally about the Fresno State students. It's about seeing them graduate and cheering for the spectacular athletics teams. The students give us the spirit. We have students from the Craig School of Business tour our company every year, we go to all the games and we tailgate. We feel like we're participating in it."

GARY CASTRO
PRESIDENT OF KRC SAFETY CO., INC. IN VISALIA

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CLASS NOTES

1960s

Paulette Janian (1968) received the Bernard Witkin Lifetime Achievement Award presented June 23 by the Fresno County Bar Association.

Michael Lingo (1967), who served the Bakersfield City School District for 41 years and retired as superintendent in 2011, was inducted into the East Bakersfield High School Hall of Fame.

1970s

Shirley Melikian Armbruster (1973) retired as associate vice president for University Communications after 17 years at Fresno State.

Lynne Ashbeck (1977) has been reappointed as a Board Member to the San Joaquin Valley California Partnership.

David Ayers (1979) started his second term serving on the Hanford City Council.

Anne (Richards) Da Vigo (1972) published her debut novel, "Thread of Gold," with launch parties in Davis and Sacramento. She was a panelist at the Other Words Literary Conference in Tampa, Florida, on the topic, "Fact To Fiction: Making Story from Real Events."

Rick Elkins (1975) retired as editor and publisher of the Porterville Recorder after a 40-year journalism career.

Thomas Montgomery (1979) is the new winemaker for the Fresno State Winery.

Douglas Sloan (1979) is now director of waste management and recycling in Sacramento County.

Maxine Madden Spencer (1970) is performing with the Friday Philharmonic Orchestra as well as the Tulare County Symphony.

1980s

Stan Adams (1985) is now vice president and chief financial officer for Dignity Health Mercy Hospitals of Bakersfield after 17 years in health care.

Douglas Britton (1982), owner of Britton Trucking Co. Inc., became president of the California Trucking Association.

Bob Cabral (1984), director of winemaking at Three Sticks Winery in Sonoma, made three official "Game of Thrones" wines in partnership with HBO.

Miguel A. Castellanos (1988), who works at the Mogadishu International Airport compound, was promoted to brigadier general in the U.S. Army.

Michael Coburn, a retired educator, is now a volunteer in policing for the Selma Police Department.

Rick Haydon (1984) announced his retirement as Santa Maria city manager after 20 years with the city and more than 30 years in local government.

George Hernandez (1987) is retiring after 29 years with the Hanford Police Department.

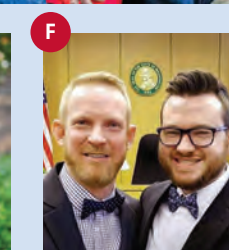
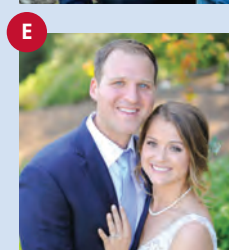
Nicole Linder (1988), executive director for the Marjaree Mason Center, was appointed to Fresno State's University Advisory Board.

Monica Nadon (1982) served as director for Tehachapi Community Theatre's Drama Day Camp Fun in July.

Don Parreira (1980), co-owner of Ultra Gro Plant Food based in Madera, was appointed president of the Ag One Foundation at Fresno State.

Richard Sepulveda (1982, '00), retired as chief operations officer after 30 years in the Sanger Unified School District.

Emily + Steven Photography



Do you have news to share?

Submit an alumni Class Note and high-resolution photo to:

magazine@csufresno.edu

A Briana Aaronian (2013) married **Haeden Schneider** (2017) on June 2 in Fresno.

B Lindsay (Neal) Huang (2007, '09) and **Andrew Huang** (2008) welcomed their first child, Harper Quinn on Sept. 1.

C Daniel Silva (1983) released his new book, "House of Spies."

D Ryan Jacobsen (2002, '04) and **Ashley Jacobsen** (2003) welcomed their third child, Trooper.

E Kasandra Martinson (2011, '13) married Adam Brooks (staff) on May 27 in Ukiah. *Larsen's Photography*

F Jason Mayfield (2009) and **David Reitz** (2011) were married on March 17 in Seattle.



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1990s

Fred Cogan (1995), former principal at Kingsburg High School, is now with the Madera County Office of Education.

Alma Colado (1998) is now city finance director for Kingsburg.

Todd Henderson (1993), director of CBRE commercial real estate Valuation and Advisory Services, received the Management Team of the Year on behalf of his team and was also named Volunteer of Distinction in June by the Appraisal Institute.

Scott Howell (1995) is now chief medical officer for Tenet Diagnostics, a provider of laboratory and genomic testing and evidence-based research to direct patient care.

Todd Lile (1996) is now superintendent for Madera Unified School District.

Don Lopez (1994) is now vice president of instruction for Fresno City College after previously serving in the interim role.

Emil Milevoj (1998) is now director of the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Fresno State as well as assistant professor of management in the Craig School of Business.

Marshall D. Moushigian (1993) is in his sixth year (fifth as chairman) on the board of the Charlie Keyan Armenian Community School in Fresno. He previously was commander of the Knights of Vartan, an Armenian social and service fraternity, and he sat on the Armenian Genocide Centennial Committee.

Bob Nelson (1992) is now superintendent for Fresno Unified School District.

Frank M. Nunez (1996) celebrates the 10th anniversary of his law office, which focuses on personal injury, agriculture and business law.

Rich Parducci (1992) crafted the McNab 2013 Family Reserve Mendocino Old Vine Zinfandel that won the Wine of the Week from The Press Democrat newspaper in Santa Rosa.

Tim Ryan (1998) was one of 60 selected for the Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs leadership program that trains the next generation of change makers.

Ricky L. White (1997) is now strength and conditioning coach for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Jeffrey Wurm (1994) is now assistant director of the Investment Division of the California State Treasurer's Office.

2000s

John M. Alcorn (2005) joined Suncrest Bank to lead its Agribusiness Division in Fresno.

Daniela Benavidez (2004, '07) earned her doctorate in education in sports management and a minor in health and fitness from the United States Sports Academy.

Linda Carvalho Cooley (2004) earned her doctorate in organizational leadership from Brandman University. Her dissertation was titled "The role of communication in strategic planning at California Community Colleges."

Marianna (Santos) Gentert (2006) is now Tulare County deputy agricultural commissioner.

Sraeya Crowder-George (2005) is now assistant general manager at Gwinnett County Transit/Xpress Commuter Services, Transdev Inc. in Georgia.

Chris Giles (2004), the former vice president of sales and strategy for the San Francisco 49ers, is now chief operating officer of the Oakland Athletics.

Brenna Hughes (2006) organized the third bi-annual Central Valley Concussion Symposium in downtown Fresno and presented on brain injury at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention in Los Angeles.

Mike Jansen (2000) is now head PGA golf professional at San Juan Oaks Golf Club in Hollister.

Tomas Mundarain (2006) earned an alternate spot on the U.S. Olympic track cycling team.

Ryan Phelan (2001) is now principal at Kingsburg High School.

Matt Rogers (2009), of Selma, is the Central Valley district director for California Senator Kamala Harris' office.

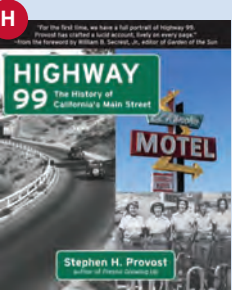
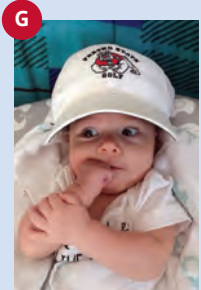
Matt Tobin is now special day class teacher at John Sutter Middle School and head varsity girls basketball coach at Fowler High School.

Miles Gaston Villanueva (2008) portrayed the eldest Menendez brother on the TV series "Law & Order True Crime: The Menendez Murders."

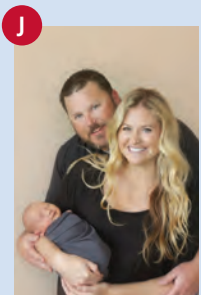


Paul Venosdel (1992) published baseball fiction book "Anger Throws a Curveball" about young baseball players challenged to live up to sometimes unrealistic expectations of coaches and parents.

ALUMNI NEWS



Crystal Lee Photography



G Michael McGuire (1999) and **Stacy (Sanchez) McGuire** (2003) welcomed their first child, Greyson Michael, on July 6.

H Stephen Provost (1986) published "Highway 99: The History of California's Main Street."

I Mark Niehoff (2012) and Carey (Wholaver) Niehoff welcomed their second child, Derek John Anthony, on July 24.

J Kyle Sweeney (2006) and **Anneka (Schuil) Sweeney** (2012) welcomed their first child, Kellan James Sweeney, on April 18, 2017.

K Nikko Motta (2014) married **Taylor Thompson** (2013) on July 29.

L Fresno State staff Allison (Slater) Thurner and Geoff Thurner welcome their first child, Waylon Cecil, on May 5.

2010s

Michael Anderson (2015) graduated from undergraduate combat systems officer training at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida.

Miguel A. Gastelum (2016) was in the production “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time” to raise funds for the Selma Arts Center.

Tyquwan Glass, defensive back, signed with the Los Angeles Rams.

Mitchell Lam Hau (2015) was in the production “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time” to raise funds for the Selma Arts Center.

Lehong Hong is now athletic trainer at Kingsburg High School.

Matt Jones opened Oak Strength Academy in Hanford to train high school student-athletes.

Navkiran Kaur Khalra and the Sikh community moved Fresno City councilmembers to rename Victoria West Park in honor of her father, Jaswant Singh Khalra.

Melissa (Mata) Mendes (2011) now works for Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board as a career technical education coordinator.

Esteban Miranda (2013), owner of Miranda’s Buy and Sell, has opened a Modesto location.

Lauren Oakley (2014) is now school psychologist in the Sonoma Valley School District.

Aaron Ordaz created Pops Emporium, a cart business that sells gourmet ice pops around Fresno and is available for special events.

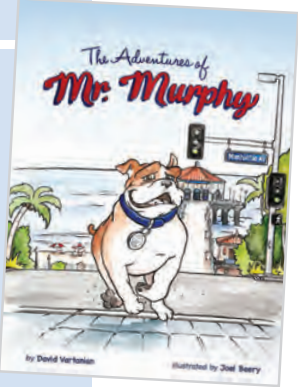
Madeline Pedro (2016) is now stadium operations assistant for the Denver Broncos.

Ruth Rangel (2016) became a Volunteer in Policing for the Selma Police Department and is serving as adviser for the Explorer Program.

Chad Saechao produced a short film titled “The Chase” that will premiere at Maya Cinemas.

Kathleen Rhodes Schock (2017), who earned her doctoral degree in education in May, is now adjunct faculty at Fresno City College.

David Vartanian (2007) authored "The Adventures of Mr. Murphy," illustrated by **Joel Beery** (2008). The children's book was created to help support pre-veterinary scholarships at Fresno State in memoriam of David's bulldog, Mr. Murphy.



IN MEMORIAM

‘For thee, our hopes and memories’

Barbara Allison (1976), June 10.

Betty M. Anthony (1974), July 3 in Visalia.

Robert Andrew Azzaro (1958), in Fresno.

Guy Badasci (1993), June 18 in Fresno.

Grady V. Berry (1963, ‘67), Aug. 29 in Visalia.

Herbert F. Bolz Jr. (1966), June 28 in Woodland.

Brant Keeley Bramer (1979), Sept. 28 in Fresno.

Jennings Brown (1958), in Fresno.

Clariss Cassin (1952), Feb. 5 in Fresno.

Barbara Jean Coddington (1961), June 13 in Dinuba.

Michelle Kay Daniels (2000, ‘02), June 28 in Fresno.

James Charles (Jim) Dirlam (1971), Aug. 21 in Fresno.

Willard Ray Engvall (1947), July 3 in Fresno.

Souren Sam Farsakian (1950), July 28.

Edward Hammon (1972), Aug. 30 in Hanford.

Jack Hergenrader (1974), Aug. 8.

Theresa Marie (Bingle) Higgins, Aug. 5 in York, Maine.

Troy Gene Huckabay (1961), July 9 in Kingsburg.

Loreen Lee Coulter

Huddleston (1972), June 30.

Richard Sutter Hull III (1977), in Fresno.

Jack Jensen (1978), June 5.

Matthew R. Jimenez (2014), July 4 in Fresno.

Bud Alan Jones (1974), June 10 in Fresno.

Curtis Charles Jones (1976), May 20 in San Jose.

Elmer Kaprielian (1942), May 27 in Walnut Creek.

Ronald L. Kucheran (1969), May 12 in Seattle.

Daniel H. Langpaap (1953), June 28.

Mark W. Lawsen (1973), Aug. 8 in Aptos.

Dan J. Leonardo (1950), May 29 in San Diego.

Elizabeth K. Mallory (1951), June 27 in Monterey.

Jack Emerson Mann (1969), Sept. 5 in Visalia.

Elliot Castro Martinez (1980), June 15 in Fresno.

Dale E. McNeil (1954), July 9 in Peoria, Arizona.

Jeffery Lynn Meeks (1963), Aug. 28 in Salinas.

Mattie Douglas Burton Meyers (1965), Aug. 16 in Fresno.

Karen Nielsen (1984), June 23 in Point Richmond.

Pauline F. Patterson (1964), July 6.

Anna Pieper (1960), July 14 in Fresno.

Geoffrey J. Pluto (1969), June 14.

George “Bud” William Pope (1952), July 14 in Fresno.

Geri (Blanken) Prys (1985), Sept. 1 in Lemoore.

Michael Emmett Purl (1967), Aug. 16.

Helen Esther Rasenti (1958), Sept. 11 in Tulare.

Gordon Douglass Riddle (1976), July 1 in Las Vegas.

Beverly Helen Cartwright Ruxton (1951), July 12 in Vallejo.

Joe Sandoval (1920), June 29 in Fresno.

Harold “Brooks” Schaffer (1954), July 9.

Roseann (Burkart) Serrano (1944), June 25 in Le Grand.

Wanda Jean Sortor (1954), June 10 in Fresno.

Phill Tong (1989), Sept. 25, 2016, in Santa Clara.

Andrew Knight Vanderford (1986), July 21.

David J. Viancourt (1976), June 19.

John Weidinger Jr. (1971), Aug. 10.

Ada Lum Wool (1944), May 30 in Fresno.

Emily Violet Wright, Aug. 27.

Martha Doonan Christine York (1960), July 1.

FACULTY/STAFF

Lester Pincu, Sept. 3 in Long Beach.

Ethel Luella Wessman, June 27 in Napa.

Kathleen Muccigrosso-White (1977), May 19.

FRIENDS

William Robert Appleby, June 13 in Visalia.

Delmar L. Ault, June 5 in Visalia.

Donald (Doc) Casperson, June 23 in Bellingham, Washington.

Julian Cerda Chapa, Aug. 5.

Michael Lee McGarvin, July 1 in Fresno.



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CAMP KESEM

Lasting Bond

In her third year as a volunteer counselor at Camp Kesem, a free, week-long camp for kids who have a parent affected by cancer, Hailee Ramont says the experience is indescribable.

“Kesem actually means magic, and that’s what I tell people right away. Camp Kesem is a place where I can go with my campers and they can open up and tell stories that they might not be able to share at home.”

Ramont’s father was diagnosed with cancer when she was young, and she didn’t have a support system like Camp Kesem. So when she learned about the camp as a Fresno State student, she jumped at the chance to volunteer. “In that moment I decided this is my chance to give back and be that person for a little kid when I didn’t have that person. So I joined Camp Kesem and was able to be that inspirational person — so I thought. But then in coming every year, I’m the one who is inspired.”

Campers are able to share stories and relate to each other in a safe environment, while playing games, singing and bonding with people who understand their challenges.

It takes about \$500 per camper to fund the week-long activities, and counselors work year-round to raise money so kids ages 6 to 16 can attend for free.

Ramont, who’s now pursuing her master’s in speech-language pathology at Fresno State, says the bonds created at camp are lasting. “This isn’t just a one-week experience.

Camp Kesem, once you’re involved, it is a family.” 🐾



Cary Edmondson

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Fresno State is first in the nation to receive four American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) awards, which recognize institutions for excellent and innovative approaches to student success. The University most recently earned the 2017 AASCU award for Student Success and College Completion.