

FRESNO STATE

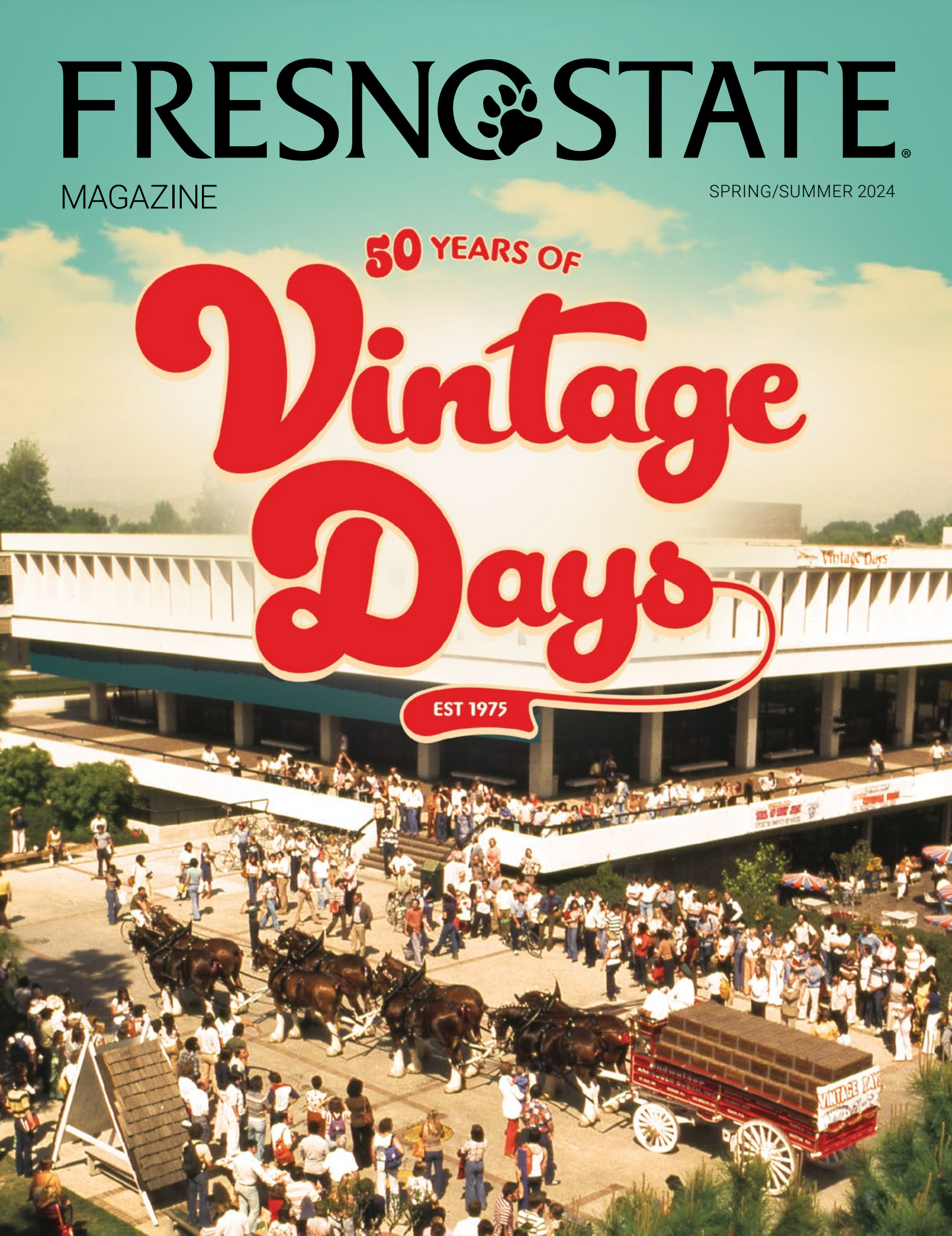
MAGAZINE

SPRING/SUMMER 2024

50 YEARS OF






Vintage Days

EST 1975





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Cover: Established in 1975, this year marked the 50th Vintage Days spring festival on the Fresno State campus. A photo from the early years shows the Budweiser Clydesdales trotting through campus.

Left: Vintage Days has remained a fun, engaging way to welcome students, alumni and the community to campus with a vendor fair, food, drinks, games and other unique attractions.

Photos in this issue courtesy of Special Collections Research Center, Fresno State Library.

Cary Edmondson



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Building on Campus Traditions

This edition of Fresno State Magazine holds particular significance as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of Vintage Days, a beloved and fun tradition that embodies the very essence of our campus community and Valley. Over the past five decades, this event has served as a vital fundraising platform for our student clubs and organizations and as a key driver in fostering a sense of unity and camaraderie that defines our institution and the community.

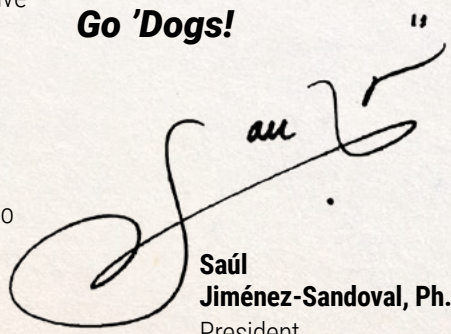
As we reflect on the rich tapestry of our university's history, it is essential to recognize the invaluable contributions

of those who came before us. Their dedication and resilience have paved the way for the remarkable achievements and impact on our communities we celebrate today.

Now more than ever, it is imperative that we become aware of the critical role that Fresno State serves to produce leaders who elevate the region, and contribute to the overall quality of life in our Valley. By embracing the pivotal role that Fresno State plays in inspiring a sense of community, we can build upon the foundation laid by our predecessors and propel our university to even greater heights.

Together, we will write the next chapter in our university's storied and impactful history, as we collectively advocate for all that is possible in Fresno State's future.

Go 'Dogs!



Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval, Ph.D.
President

SPRING/SUMMER 2024

- Senior Editor
Eddie Hughes ('05)
- Senior Graphic Designer
Todd Graves ('03)
- University Photographer
Cary Edmondson ('03)
- Web Coordinator
Adriana Etchart Knutsen ('99)
- Contributors
Victoria Cisneros ('19, '21), **Lisa Bell** ('95), **Isabel Dieppa**, **Benjamin Kirk** ('22), **Angel Langridge** ('20), **BoNhia Lee**, **Matt Mealer** ('12), **Olivia Pape** ('19), **Jessica Piffero** ('09), **Melissa Tav**,
Students: **Daisy Thao** and **Katie Xiong**

- President
Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval
- Associate Vice President for University Marketing and Communications
Lauren Nickerson ('10)
- Senior Director of Marketing and Communications
Ashley Ilic
- Director of Strategic Communications
Esra Hashem ('13, '16, '21)

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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.

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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/givenow to make your contribution. Thank you!

Fresno State Magazine
California State University, Fresno
5200 N. Barton Ave., UL49
Fresno, CA 93740-8023

Phone: 559.278.2795

For change of name or address contact: advhelp@csufresno.edu or 559.278.4036.

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Going Viral

Photo by Cary Edmondson

Fresno State's 48th annual Chicano/Latino Commencement went viral on May 18 when numerous videos of a grad dance party were posted to social media, including a TikTok video from alumnus Dr. Saul Salinas, Clovis Unified School District's community relations coordinator. Salinas' video generated over 5.5 million views, and gained national headlines from ABC, Telemundo, Univision and CNN. The video shows graduates, faculty and Fresno State President Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval dancing on the floor of a packed Save Mart Center at the nation's largest commencement ceremony of its kind. The U.S. Marine Band from San Diego was playing "Toro Mambo."

Scan the QR code to watch a video highlighting Fresno State's class of 2024.



City to State Pathway

Fresno City College students will soon be able to transfer more easily to Fresno State to continue their higher education journey with the launch of the City-to-State Transfer Program. The presidents of Fresno State and Fresno City College signed a memorandum of understanding, committing to increasing the number of transfer students.

"Fresno City College is a key educational partner in elevating the quality of life in our region; I am very pleased to partner with President Robert Pimentel on this significant collaboration," says Fresno State President Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval. "This MOU will streamline the transfer process between Fresno City and Fresno State, helping remove barriers to Fresno State – a clear choice for our talented Fresno City College students, as we are a university with unparalleled value, rankings and a supportive community."



Through this partnership, the two institutions seek to accomplish the following:

- Reduce matriculation barriers.
- Hire a jointly-funded, dedicated Fresno City College transfer counselor who will focus on this pathway.
- Create a summer transfer experience event, including undergraduate research projects, to take place at Fresno State.
- Continue strategic outreach programs.

900

Fresno City College students transfer to Fresno State each year with plans to increase that number to

1,200+

"In partnership with Fresno City College, we look forward to designing programs that cater to the needs of future transfer students," says Phong Yang, associate vice president for strategic enrollment management. "The City-To-State pathway increases access for future Fresno State transfer students to advising and support at a convenient location for them. We look forward to creating a more seamless transfer experience to the university."

On average, about 900 Fresno City College students transfer to Fresno State each academic year. Leaders from both institutions hope to increase that number to more than 1,200.

– Lisa Bell

A Boost to Mobile Health

The College of Health and Human Services at Fresno State unveiled two new, state-of-the-art mobile health units on April 5.

From previously having one mobile unit to now having two, the expansion of the new, larger units mean students and faculty now have the capacity to serve even more Valley patients.

The new mobile health units were made possible by \$4 million in state funds secured by Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula. The Fresno State mobile health unit is run by Fresno State nursing faculty and students to provide free health care services and screenings to underserved communities in Fresno County.

Over 60 students have volunteered on the new mobile unit this semester. Second-semester nursing student Trevor MacDonald says one of the best parts about the new mobile units is the added space.

"The new mobile units have larger, more functional exam rooms and the capacity for more nursing students to volunteer at once, which means we are able to see even more patients," MacDonald says. "Providing this patient education is a huge part of nursing and is helping to improve health literacy of our communities."

Since the original mobile health unit rolled out in fall 2015, nearly 18,000 patients have received health care services, with an additional 382 served since the introduction of the new unit.

– Melissa Tav



Scan the QR code to watch a video featuring the Mobile Health Unit.



Fresno State Profs on Netflix

A nine-episode docuseries, "Turning Point: The Bomb and The Cold War," premiered on March 12 on Netflix, featuring two Fresno State faculty members.



Dr. Lori Clune



Hanayo Oya

History professor Dr. Lori Clune is featured as a historian and expert on the Cold War.

"As a historian of modern U.S. history, I firmly believe that there are many lessons we can learn from the fascinating and disturbing history of the Cold War. I was proud to be interviewed for this thought-provoking documentary," Clune says.

Hanayo Oya from Fresno State's Department of Media, Communications and Journalism worked as a co-producer



on the documentary, developing content and structure, researching, securing interviews, coordinating filming schedules and overseeing editing and post-production.

From Luminant Media and director Brian Knappenberger, "Turning Point: The Bomb and the Cold War" features interviews with over 100 people in seven different countries, interweaving their stories to show the rippling effects of the Cold War.

"Journalism is aligned with my values. It serves as a powerful tool

for holding those in positions of power accountable for their actions and shedding light on injustices," Oya said. "I consider journalism and documentary filmmaking to be two of the most exciting professions on this planet, and I feel so fortunate to be able to pursue both as my career. In the same vein, I feel grateful to help aspiring journalists and storytellers [at Fresno State] find their voices through my teaching."

– Isabel Dieppa

DONOR IMPACT



Seta and Greg Tcherkoyan

\$500,000 Gift Supports Transfer Students

Greg Tcherkoyan grew up in Fresno where he attended Roosevelt High School and Fresno City College with hopes of finishing his degree at Fresno State.

But he met his wife, Seta, who was a student at the University of California, Berkeley, and their love story led them to marriage at an early age and the start of their life in Oakland. Largely self-educated, Tcherkoyan earned certificates in real estate and securities law and led a successful career in the industry.

Neither finished their undergraduate degree.

“That is something they both regretted their whole lives,” says Kathleen McShane, the oldest of their three daughters. “They really believed in the power of education to help make a good life, and they were very intentional about wanting a college education for each of their three daughters.”

McShane earned a degree in political science, went on to get a law degree and earned a master’s in divinity. Her sister, Patti Jamgotchian, earned a degree in consumer textiles while youngest sister, Kirsti Tcherkoyan, got her degree in psychology.

Now, Greg and Seta are making sure that dream of getting an education will be in reach for many more students with a \$500,000 gift to establish the Tcherkoyan Family Trust Scholarship at Fresno State. The scholarship, which supports transfer students who begin their higher education journey at a community college, honors the lives and commitment of Greg Tcherkoyan, who died in October 2022, and Seta, who died this past October.

This gift is a full circle moment, a completion of what they have wanted their lives to be about, which is helping other people, McShane says. The first scholarship is expected to be awarded during the 2025-26 academic year.

The Tcherkoyans, whose families moved to California in the 1940s, were generous donors to the Armenian Church, to disaster relief funds and to an orphanage in Armenia. Fresno and Fresno State have always been close to the family’s heart because it’s where they grew up, McShane and Jamgotchian say. Many family members still live in Fresno and extended family members graduated from the university.

Jamgotchian says, “Fresno State is very near and dear to our family and our family especially wants to give this gift to enrich the lives of future generations.”

– BoNhia Lee

AROUND THE FOUNTAIN

Research Political Polarization

Fresno State political science professor Dr. Lisa Bryant (right) is one of 28 Andrew Carnegie Fellows who will receive stipends of \$200,000 each for research related to political polarization. Bryant’s research seeks to understand how and why society has become so polarized, and how strengthened cohesion can fortify democracy. Bryant’s winning project is titled “Polarizing the Process: Partisan Effects on Election Officials and Trust in Elections.”



New Minor Makes Waves

Fresno State is introducing a new minor, in collaboration with the California Water Institute, focusing on multiple facets of the water industry. This new water minor is designed for students who want to learn more about water systems in California, as well as those interested in water-related careers after graduation. The minor is open to all disciplines at Fresno State and allows students of any study background to learn more about the water management challenges that impact a reliable water supply.



1 million visits

For the first time since the pandemic, the Fresno State Library welcomed more than 1 million patrons during the 2023-24 academic year. In the fall 2023 semester, there were 512,948 visits, surpassing the number of visits for all of the 2021-22 academic year (443,606). Before 2020, the Fresno State Library gate counts were routinely over 1 million for each academic year.

'DOG BYTES



Retired Jerseys and Coaching Honors

Amanda Scott

Four-time All-American pitcher Amanda Scott had her No. 36 jersey retired on March 23 at Margie Wright Diamond. Scott was named the Most Outstanding Player after leading Fresno State to a 1998 national championship at the Women’s College World Series. She was three-time WAC Pitcher of the Year with a career record of 106-18 in the pitching circle from 1997-2000. The Bulldogs were 226-49 with four NCAA tournament berths, three WCWS appearances and three WAC championships in that span.



Donna Pickel

Donna Pickel, the inaugural coach of Fresno State softball who led the program to its first eight NCAA tournament appearances and two Women’s College World Series, was honored with her name displayed alongside the retired jerseys at Margie Wright Diamond on March 24. Pickel led the Bulldogs to a national runner-up finish in 1982 and a record of 306-146-7 in her eight seasons. She earned five conference Coach of the Year honors and also served as the women’s basketball coach.



Rod Higgins

Rod Higgins, the only Fresno State men’s basketball player to twice be recognized as an Associated Press All-American, had his No. 22 jersey retired on Feb. 24 at the Save Mart Center. He led the Bulldogs to back to back NCAA Tournament appearances in 1981 and 1982 under coach Boyd Grant, including a Sweet 16 appearance in 1982 when Fresno State ranked No. 11 in the nation. Higgins was selected No. 31 overall by the Chicago Bulls in the 1982 NBA Draft and enjoyed a 13-year NBA career with seven franchises, including the Bulls and Golden State Warriors. He has worked as an NBA executive for 20-plus years, most recently as vice president of basketball operations for the Atlanta Hawks.



Mike Batesole

Mike Batesole, who led Fresno State to its first College World Series championship in 2008, had his No. 44 jersey retired in ceremonies on Nov. 18 and 19. Batesole was the third consecutive Bulldogs coach to surpass 600 wins – following Bob Bennett and Pete Beiden – a feat no other college baseball program has ever accomplished. The two-time National Coach of the Year coached 89 Bulldogs who were selected in the MLB Draft in his 20 years, including five first-round picks. His Diamond ‘Dogs won seven straight conference titles from 2006-12 and made six NCAA tournament appearances.



Aaron Judge

New York Yankees star Aaron Judge, the 2022 American League MVP who broke the all-time single-season AL home run record with 62, had his No. 29 Fresno State jersey retired in ceremonies on Nov. 18 and 19. Judge, who made the No. 99 famous in pinstripes, starred for the Bulldogs from 2011-13 before being drafted in the first round by the Yankees. He went on to win AL Rookie of the Year and became the first rookie to win the Home Run Derby in 2017. At Fresno State, Judge owned a .345 career batting average with 18 home runs and 109 RBI.

Scan the QR code or visit fresnostate.edu/magazine for a behind-the-scenes, documentary-style video on Aaron Judge and Mike Batesole.





50 YEARS OF Vintage Days

EST 1975

From dance parties and air guitar to family-friendly attractions, spring festival connects campus and community

By Eddie Hughes ('05)



Grab the keys to your '75 Mercury Cougar convertible, start the engine, pop in that Doobie Brothers 8-track and get ready to cruise down Memory Lane while taking a swig of nostalgia.

It was spring of 1975. Gerald Ford was the United States president, and the country was entangled in the Vietnam War. Minimum wage in California was \$2. A tank of gas was about 53 cents per gallon, a loaf of bread just 38 cents and — perhaps of interest to college students at the time — a six-pack of beer averaged \$2.55.

The modern Fresno State campus that we know today, located at Cedar and Shaw avenues in Fresno, wasn't quite 20 years old (though the university dates back to 1911 at its original location). In 1975, Dr. Norman A. Baxter was the university president and the campus was a hotbed of political activity.

Fresno's population was 297,000 and Fresno State had an enrollment of 15,000 — about 63% of what it is today. And despite all the challenges of the times, some visionary staff and students came up with an idea and executed it — leading to 50 years of springtime memories and traditions that have helped define student life at the university.

That vision in 1975 became known as Vintage Days, a name paying homage to the lush vineyards on a campus known for its Viticulture and Enology Department. This past April, the university welcomed about 50,000 people to campus for the 50th edition of the springtime festival.

What a Vintage Idea

The man largely credited for creating Vintage Days is Gary Bongiovanni, who was hired as the assistant program director of the

College Union at Fresno State in the mid-1970s after graduating from Chico State. It was there he became intimately familiar with Pioneer Days, a celebration for Chico State students, and he envisioned creating a similar vibe on Fresno State's campus.

"I thought we should do something to liven up the social image of the school," said Bongiovanni in a 2013 issue of *The Collegian* student newspaper. "I managed to talk the university into holding an open house. The combination of open house and a variety of activities ended up being called Vintage Days."

Those early years of Vintage Days were a true party atmosphere, including concerts and movies in the amphitheater, food, drinks, games and quirky competitions amongst students — the type of things college traditions are made of.



▲ Colorful balloons and banners added a festive feel to the Fresno State campus during the Vintage Days spring festival, as shown above outside the University Student Union.

◀ In the early years, the beginning of Vintage Days was marked by a ceremonial parade in which students from various clubs and organizations made shirts showing off silly team names (such as the "V.D. Crabs") and were judged for creativity.

"Our campus sometimes gets segmented by your college, school or major," says Peter Robertson, director of alumni connections for the Fresno State Alumni Association. "When you go to Vintage Days, it's more about student life. Those walls or categories disappear, and we're all Fresno State Bulldogs for a weekend. Vintage Days is a place to embrace the student body outside of the classroom. Those are the memories — beyond dissecting a frog."

Bongiovanni hired Riverside native Reggie Rush to work on lighting and sound for Vintage Days events. Soon after, they met another person who would become instrumental in the success of Vintage Days — student musician Mike King, then a drummer in a band called Union Pacific.

King says he was working at a local music store in 1975 when he met with Bongiovanni and tried to sell sound equipment to Fresno State. "I didn't sell the equipment, but they booked my band to play a noon job," King recalls. "We played real well, and they liked us so they hired us for Vintage Days. I played the first Vintage Days."

Rush set up the sound and lights for King's band, and "we really hit it off and he invited me to the Residence Dining Hall," King says. "I stuck around, and we became friends and the next thing you know I was out there running sound."

Rush and King created the College Union Sound System (CUSS), and went on to coordinate staging, lighting and sound for decades — an entrepreneurial effort that eventually led to their careers.



From tug-of-war to arm wrestling, tricycle races and frog jumping contests, Vintage Days has been beloved for unique and quirky traditions over the years.

All three men — Bongiovanni, Rush and King — went on to run successful businesses that tied into their Vintage Days experience. Bongiovanni co-founded Pollstar with the late Gary Smith; Rush founded Live Light, Inc.; and King founded Speeda Sound, a sound company he ran for 43 years until selling it to PCE shortly after the COVID pandemic.

King recalls some big acts performing at Vintage Days over the years. “Papa Doo Run Run packed the amphitheater on a Sunday,” King says. “Everyone was out there in bikinis and swim trunks, all the girls on the guys’ shoulders, and it was just jamming.”

Other acts from those early days of the event included Jan and Dean, the Go-Gos and Tom Petty.

“For the students, it’s just a big release of pressure from going to classes and studying all the time and

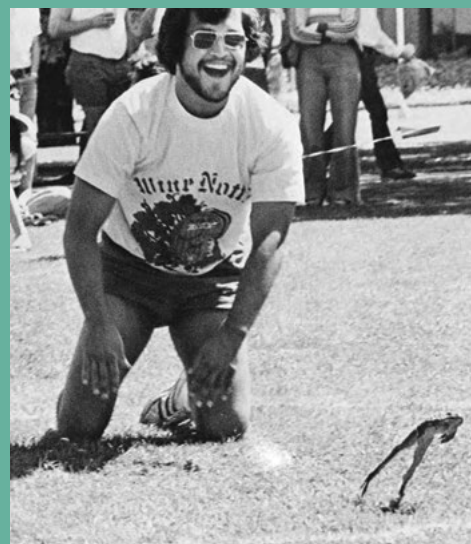
hard work,” King says. “It was a big release for them, so they were ready for it.”

Vintage Traditions

Another popular event was the street dance that once reportedly drew up to 20,000 people on Maple Avenue, just north of Shaw Avenue, near where the Kremen Education building stands today.

Students and attendees also competed in tricycle races, inner tube water polo, cow chip tosses, frog jumping, a massive tarp slip-n-slide, casino nights and root beer chugging.

“There were concerts in the amphitheater, games and competitions between fraternities and sororities and parties at night,” says alumnus Chris Miller, who first got involved with Vintage Days as a student in 1989 and



now works as marketing director for Cumulus Media, which has sponsored the event for 30 years. “There was something going on every day. You would sign up for competitions almost like you were in the Olympics.”

In the early years, the beginning of Vintage Days was marked by a ceremonial parade where students from different clubs and organizations such as fraternities and sororities, made shirts showing off silly team names (such as the “V.D. Crabs”) and were judged for creativity.

But perhaps the most well-known Vintage Days tradition of all — the one so many alumni from the ‘80s and ‘90s share memories of — is the air guitar competition, where people would come on stage and strum their hands and rock out as if they were actually playing an instrument.

A tradition so legendary (and so entertaining) that it was brought up by every alum interviewed for this story.

Julie Logan Lindahl, the general manager for Fresno State’s broadcast radio station 90.7 KFSR, says Vintage Days is responsible for the direction of her career.

As a student in the mid-1980s, Logan was involved with a student team competing in the air guitar competition. Popular local rock station KKDJ helped run and promote the event, and Logan’s personality caught the attention of the station program director.

“He told me I should be on air and offered me a job,” Logan says. “My career plans were to work behind the scenes, so I told him I would practice at the on-campus station and then get back to him.”

Logan went on to work for KKDJ and other local radio stations for more than 25 years as an on-air personality.

Robertson, a four-time Fresno State graduate who most recently earned

his doctoral degree in educational leadership in 2022, fondly remembers “Rocky Horror Picture Show” viewings in the amphitheater when he was a student in the 1990s helping to plan and coordinate Vintage Days.

“We didn’t have performers ready, people just came dressed up as characters and would go on stage and perform. It was very organic. It was a lot of fun,” he says.

Robertson is quick to point out that, in a day and age where seemingly everything is expensive, Vintage Days is a free, family-friendly event that students, alumni and the community at-large are welcome to enjoy. “It’s one of the largest free events still in Fresno,” Robertson says.

And while much has changed over the decades, that fact has not.

Evolution of Vintage Days

While Vintage Days began as a student-centered event, it has evolved over time to attract families and children from all over the Central Valley. On average, 30,000 to 50,000 people attend the event over three days each year.

In the early 2000s, several world-record attempts were made, including the largest water balloon fight, the largest game of musical statues, the largest world map made of shoes and the largest video game controller.

Fresno State’s Student Involvement team, led by Dr. Amy Allen, Shawna Blair, Eddie Dominguez and a team of students, work year-round to plan Vintage Days. Their goal is to keep Vintage Days traditions alive while also mixing in some fun, modern wrinkles.

“It’s important to remember that Vintage Days is largely a student-planned event,” says Shawna Blair,

► Perhaps the most talked about Vintage Days tradition of all-time, students lived out their rock-n-roll dreams in the air guitar competitions that have made for legendary stories and memories.





◀ In a modern twist of the times, the 50th Vintage Days was highlighted by a drone show filled with visuals and music that creatively tapped into Bulldog spirit and many of the unique traditions that have marked the festival over the decades.

Cary Edmondson



◀ Vintage Days has long served as a fundraiser for campus clubs and Greek organizations, many of which host food booths selling things like pineapple treats, tri-tip, chicken kabobs, lumpia and elote.



coordinator for major events and staff development at the Student Involvement Center. “For decades, students have gained valuable, hands-on experience in helping to plan and execute this large, community event, and our team is intentional about including students in every phase of planning.”

To celebrate the 50th birthday of the campus festival from April 19 through 21, Fresno State’s Student Involvement team planned a birthday block party featuring concerts and the first-ever campus drone show, in which dozens of drones are choreographed to display colorful imagery and words in a nighttime celebration.

Think of it as a modern fireworks show, but with neon-lit drones flying in formation, rather than pyrotechnics.

Today’s Vintage Days also features a kids’ zone with inflatables and pony rides, a large craft fair with vendors offering everything from temporary tattoo art to jewelry, food and drink

vendors and a beer and wine garden.

One longstanding tradition is the food booths to raise money for campus clubs and Greek organizations. “I was in Sigma Nu and we had a food booth, a tri-tip booth,” says Miller, the Cumulus Media marketing director who has been involved with Vintage Days in some capacity since he was a student in 1989. “We had a line at our booth for days. We made so much money. We couldn’t buy enough tri-tip – we were running out of meat.”

Concerts remain a main attraction at Vintage Days, though they are no longer held in the amphitheater, a space that had not been utilized for decades and was reimagined as part of the new Lynda and Stewart Resnick Student Union constructed in 2022 to serve a growing student population. The building’s architecture incorporates elements of the old amphitheater in an outdoor space that is used to host university events.

In 2023 and 2024, with major infrastructure projects underway across campus on the lawn where Vintage Days is normally held, the festival has taken place on the lawn and parking lots surrounding the new Resnick Student Union.

In 2020, an unparalleled time in history when students, faculty and staff were studying and working remotely because of the pandemic, the Student Involvement team pivoted to plan a virtual Vintage Days – keeping the tradition alive as best they could under the circumstances.

For alumni like Miller, who have seen firsthand how Vintage Days has evolved over time, the possibilities are limitless to what can be accomplished with the festival – whether that means re-embracing past traditions or coming up with innovative new ideas.

“I always tell the kids, the more you put into it, the more you’ll get out of it,” Miller says. “I say that about going to school and getting an education,

and I say that about being involved on campus. The more you’re engaged in school, the more you’ll get out of it.”

It’s been 50 years since Bongiovanni and others brought that innovative idea for Vintage Days to the Fresno State campus. The event created the types of memories that have become legendary among alumni and community members alike – whether they were part of the raucous party crowd from the early years or the wholesome family entertainment of recent times.

“As long as you’re having fun, it’s a great opportunity and a great way for the school to showcase itself to the community,” Miller says. “There are not a lot of campuses still doing these types of celebrations. To have it last for 50 years, still going strong, something good is happening here.”

– Eddie Hughes is senior editor for Fresno State Magazine.



Visit fresnostate.edu/magazine or scan the QR code to see a video featuring the 50th Vintage Days.



Where Business Dreams Became a Reality

Student entrepreneurs get support to launch their businesses, connect with mentors

By BoNhia Lee

Janel Haas always wanted to work for herself.

She was into floral design as a high schooler, so she thought she might want to be a florist. But she left that idea behind and considered opening a bar since she enjoyed her time working at Red Robin. But bars are hard and there's the liability thing, she says, so she abandoned that idea, too.

The Craig School of Business alumna decided ice cream was her happy place — and Jay's Specialty Ice Cream truck was born.

"Everyone likes ice cream. Who doesn't like ice cream? It makes people happy," Haas says.

Smiles abound with her gourmet, handcrafted ice cream flavors like Ba-Nilla-Fer, Nutter Chip-A-Roo and Coconut Almond Joy, though Jay's most popular flavor is good ol' Oreo Delight, described on its website as being "spun with every Oreo addict in mind."

For Fresno State fans, there's the Red Wave, strawberry ice cream mixed with blueberries and white chocolate chips. Or try saucy scoops like Triple Crown Plus, vanilla ice cream with Whoppers, Twix, Butterfinger and a little bit of Crown Royal liquor.

Jay's blue truck or trailer is a familiar sight at Fresno State, where the alumna has scooped ice cream since 2015 when she first started participating in Vintage Days, then at other events and student activities in the years that followed.

The trailer was parked by the Resnick Student Union during the 50th Vintage Days, where ice cream flights, shakes, cones and cups were served over the annual three-day festival. Other community vendors included the always popular Country Faire Cinnamon Rolls, Dutch Bros coffee and drinks, FURY Hot Chicken food truck, and Loving Seed, a vintage trailer that serves healthy food options like acai bowls and juices.

Student organizations also sell food every year as a major fundraiser. The Magkaisa Filipino Club sold pancit and lumpia, Sigma Phi Epsilon sold tri-tip sandwiches and Cru sold chicken kabobs.

Jay's, Janel's nickname, has been at Vintage Days every year except



▶ What started as Janel Haas's business plan for a senior project, turned into the Jay's Specialty Ice Cream truck that has been a hit at Vintage Days in recent years. Creative flavors include Ba-Nilla-Fer, Nutter Chip-A-Roo and, for Fresno State fans, there's the Red Wave (strawberry ice cream mixed with blueberries and white chocolate chips).



Cary Edmondson



“The goal is to help students advance their ideas as fast as possible with the right support to make sure no stone is left unturned.”



Dr. Emil Milevoj
Executive director,
The Lyles Center
for Innovation and
Entrepreneurship



Cary Edmondson

during COVID when Vintage Days went virtual for two years. She recalls one year when she didn't get her vendor confirmation and says she was "crushed." A quick phone call revealed that it was a mistake and Jay's was indeed a vendor.

"I'm very thankful to Fresno State for calling me out to cater things. It's fantastic when people reach out and say 'I hear you're an alum,' and they are intrigued about my business," Haas says. "I enjoy that they like learning where I started and where I am at now. I only spent two years at Fresno State. I got a lot out of my business classes. They were the best two years of college for me."

Haas went to Central High School, then to Fresno City College before transferring to Fresno State where she majored in business administration with an option in entrepreneurship. Her class project during junior year centered on creating a business. She had to write a business plan for her

final senior project, and she started with an idea for an ice cream store before changing it to a food truck.

Why ice cream? In addition to the frozen dessert making people happy, Haas' love of ice cream came from a family tradition of making homemade ice cream for family events the old school way with rock salt in the hand-churned maker.

"I'm appreciative of a lot of the professors who would just let me talk about ice cream. I was like, 'I really like ice cream.' They were like, 'That's an intriguing idea,'" Haas says. "Sometimes they looked at me like I was crazy. Food trucks weren't a thing then. It wasn't a big thing so there were a few people who were skeptical of what I wanted to do."

But she did her research, networked with local business owners through the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and got valuable mentorship from Dr. Timothy Stearns, the center's director at the time. She



▲ Alumna Janel Haas' (right) love for ice cream came from her family tradition of making homemade ice cream for special occasions – the old school way with rock salt in the hand-churned maker. Her blue trailer has become a popular stop for Vintage Days visitors in recent years.

says her business courses taught her what she needed to know, the focus of her idea and marketing, advertising and sales.

The Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Fresno State helps students from all majors develop their business ideas into reality.

Students can work on their business ideas to see who their potential customers can be and how they can source their product, says Dr. Emil Milevoj, the Lyles Center's executive director. They figure out how to price their product, test out their marketing strategies by engaging with potential customers and work with mentors who can help them advance their ideas or answer questions as they further develop their business concepts, he says.

The center has a Student Hatchery that offers students office space, including meeting rooms and classroom space and the use of technology and office equipment

as they operate and grow their businesses. They also get one-on-one coaching and mentoring support.

"The goal is to help students advance their ideas as fast as possible with the right support to make sure no stone is left unturned," Milevoj says.

Haas graduated in 2012 and bought her first commercial ice cream making machine and started experimenting with flavors. She shared creations with her taste testers – family and friends. It comes down to experimentation and modifying the recipe, Haas says. You basically throw everything in there that you want to eat until eventually you figure out, for example, how many nuts you should add to a three gallon bucket of ice cream so that you get a nut in almost every bite of pistachio ice cream, she says.

A year later, she started selling ice cream, then, in 2014, she participated in her first food truck event at Central

High. Since then, she's added a trailer so she and her handful of employees can sell at multiple events over a weekend. She added a push cart for easy access to indoor events just before the COVID-19 pandemic shut everything down. And now, a decade after starting her business, Haas plans to finally open that store in northwest Fresno.

"I don't know what I was for sure expecting things to look like after 10 years," Haas says. "I was like let's just get through this week and let's get through this month. OK, we've made it past year one and year two ... it's so much more and it's rewarding, and I'm really glad I went this route to be a business major and make my own path."

– BoNhia Lee is a communications specialist at Fresno State.

The Soundtrack of Campus

From local acts to mega stars, the campus music scene has boosted student life for decades

By Benjamin Kirk ('22)

The lights go down, and immediately there is a palpable shift in the atmosphere. The chatter and laughter quiets and is replaced by building anticipation, clapping and cheers. Electricity dances over the skin as expectation sweeps the crowd in mass camaraderie.

"I feel like fluttering is the right word," says Alexandra Cota, a music performance major, about what it's like to be on stage. "I have to go into a different mental place and take a really deep breath."

In this moment, the mundane fades away, and the extraordinary is about to unfold.

For Sean McElhinney, assistant general manager and director of booking at the Save Mart Center, it's a moment he tries to catch at every concert.

"I'm out there when the lights go out for the headliner. You know, that's just magical," McElhinney says.



◀ The 200-seat Wahlberg Recital Hall and 270-seat Concert Hall host over 150 events per year, ranging from senior recitals to large festivals and productions, such as the recent "Carmina Burana" by Carl Orff, which included a full orchestra, two pianos, combined choirs and several soloists.

Benjamin Kirk

Music has been part of academics and campus life since the Fresno State Normal School first opened its doors in 1911. Faculty member Arthur G. Wahlberg organized the Glee Club, a female choral group that performed for the first time in the spring of 1912. In 1935, Fresno State awarded its first bachelor's degree in music.

When Fresno State moved from its original campus in 1954, where Fresno City College now sits, a music building was one of the first buildings constructed and included the Wahlberg Recital Hall, paying tribute to founding faculty.

In 1991, the new Music Building opened and featured a rehearsal hall large enough for a full orchestra and choir to practice together. A short time later, permanent seats and a pipe organ were added to create an intimate 270-seat concert hall, which still serves as the department's main venue today. In spring 2024, Fresno State revealed plans for a new 1,000-seat concert hall that is currently in the architectural design phase.

Jose ElaGarza, the performing arts technician for the Department of Music, said there are 150 to 185

public concerts in the Wahlberg Recital Hall and the Concert Hall every year. These events range from solo senior recitals for students to large festivals that invite local K-12 students to major collaborative productions, such as the recent "Carmina Burana" by Carl Orff, which included a full orchestra, two pianos, combined choirs and several soloists to perform the powerful piece in a relatively small concert hall.

"You're talking one-third of the capacity of the seating was on stage, which is unusual for a venue," ElaGarza says.

The Music Department's faculty is well-connected and often brings

top-level guest artists to perform for students – and sometimes alongside them – including the Grammy-nominated jazz quartet "Kneebody" and Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Dan Rosenboom and bass-baritone Gerald Finley.

Fresno State venues have also rented to other organizations for community concerts. In 1972, Fresno State music professor Philip Lorenz created a keyboard concert series in Fresno. After the Concert Hall opened in 1992, the Philip Lorenz International Keyboard Concerts used it as its primary venue. It's not unusual for these artists to play a date in Fresno in between major international venues.



▲ Arthur G. Wahlberg, middle row far right, with 1913 Glee Club.

There is also a thriving music scene beyond Fresno State's Music Department. For many students, music is a hobby, something they do for fun in their free time.

Vintage Days Music Scene

Alex Cha is a chemistry major who is part of the local band "Rock On!" which performs classic rock cover tunes along with a few original songs. He played his first Vintage Days concert in 2019, then returned after the pandemic to play in 2022, 2023 and this year during the 50th anniversary of the springtime campus festival.

"Compared to other stages, Vintage Days is a pretty big stage. Both physically, it's a big stage, and also just performing to a wide amount of people. It's pretty big because it's a public event," Cha says.

"It is sometimes a little intimidating just seeing how many people there are, but it's fun regardless."

In addition to performing during Vintage Days, Cha is one of the concert coordinators this year. Working through the Student Involvement Center, Cha manages the bands before and during the festival. He said Fresno State students are in many of the 33 bands that performed this year during Vintage Days, including local bands "Iwanaga," "Dying Suns" and "Near Avenue."

Looking back over the 50 years of Vintage Days, many reflect on a time when the Fresno State campus looked different. Over the years, the large outdoor amphitheater where the Resnick Student Union now sits hosted many popular bands. But it was the air guitar contest that became one of the most memorable annual events at Vintage Days.

"It was a huge event, and student 'bands' would have to audition to be part of the competition," said Julie Logan Lindahl, Fresno State Radio general manager. "It was treated like a live concert, and the crowd would pick the winner of the competition. It was crazy-popular and absolutely hilarious to watch."

Logan Lindahl, who earned her chops on 90.7 KFSR, Fresno State Radio, went to work for KKDJ, the local rock station at the time, while she was still a student at Fresno State. The station was one of the driving forces behind the air guitar competition, which allowed anyone to get that rock star feeling as long as they passed the audition.

Being part of KFSR on campus and the KKDJ off campus while she was a student, Logan Lindahl was often promoting music events across Fresno State. The amphitheater hosted many

big-name acts over the years, including Tom Petty, Los Lobos, Radiohead, Soul Asylum, Tool, Hootie and the Blowfish, The Offspring, Bush, Incubus, Green Day, NOFX and Weezer.

"It really was a wonderful place to see a concert, and just about every adult in Central California has a story about a show they saw at the amphitheater," Logan Lindahl says.

The final concert at the amphitheater was country star Travis Tritt in 2002.

Logan Lindahl also recalls concerts at another venue still operating on campus, the Satellite Student Union. As a smaller venue that holds about 800 people without chairs, it hosted bands such as Sublime, the Replacements, School of Fish, the Del Fuegos and Beck.

Micheal Bonner, program production supervisor for the student unions and a Fresno State music alumnus (2012), runs the Satellite Student Union and is also involved with The Pit, the Leon S. Peters Event Plaza mini amphitheater and The Ruiz hall at the Resnick Student Union. These areas regularly host musical performances during homecoming week and throughout the academic year. Bonner says his favorite event is the live band karaoke.

"They know about 200 charts and you just flip through it like you were a regular person going to sing at the bar. But you're singing now with the band," Bonner says. "If you think karaoke is fun, it is more fun with a live band."

"They no longer had to travel if they wanted to go see their favorite artists. They didn't have to go to LA. They didn't have to go to Sacramento. We were bringing the artist to them so that they didn't have to get a hotel room," says McElhinney, who started at the Save Mart Center in 2006.

Attracting the Biggest Acts to Campus

Campus life got a boost beginning Nov. 7, 2003, when opera tenor Andrea Bocelli took the stage at the Save Mart Center, marking a major shift in the music scene on the Fresno State campus and the community beyond.

Fresno State students get a unique opportunity to see some of the world's major acts with a large, on-campus arena hosting performers like Madonna (pictured), Elton John, Metallica, Garth Brooks, Drake, Jay-Z, Britney Spears and many more.



Joey McCoy

With the Save Mart Center and a seating capacity of up to 16,000, the campus now enjoys more concerts and even bigger bands and tours than ever before.

"Paul McCartney has been the top," McElhinney says. "We were in a freeze frame because the crowd got to their seats, and they didn't leave their seats, so the staff got to watch it. We still talk about that one. It was magical."

From local acts to mega stars to quirky competitions like air guitar, these types of magical moments have helped shape the on-campus music scene for generations of Fresno State alumni and students.

Latino community has come out in droves to see artists such as Grupo Firme, Luis Miguel, Pepe Aguilar and Christian Nodal.

– Benjamin Kirk is a communications specialist in the College of Arts and Humanities at Fresno State.

Chemistry major Alex Cha is part of local band "Rock On!" which has performed classic rock covers at Vintage Days since 2019. He also serves as a concert coordinator for the festival, working through the Student Involvement Center at Fresno State. This year, 33 bands performed.

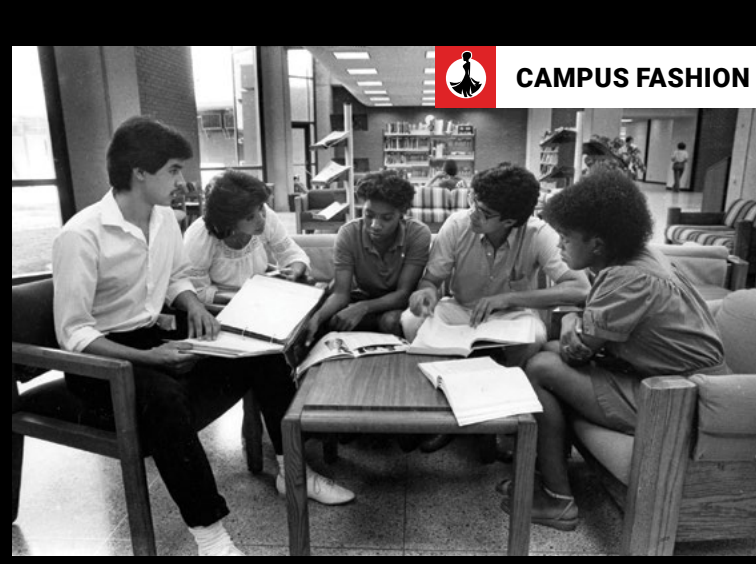


Cary Edmondson

It's a Vibe

Campus fashion trends by the decade

A look through the Special Collections photo archives in the Fresno State Library is like opening up a time capsule. Decade by decade, the evolving fashion and hair trends are sure to stir up feelings of nostalgia or joy. To gain insight on the popular trends of the times, Fresno State Magazine reached out to alumnus Jesus Luviano (right), fashion show production director for Metropolitan Fashion Week. Luviano shares his thoughts on the following pages.

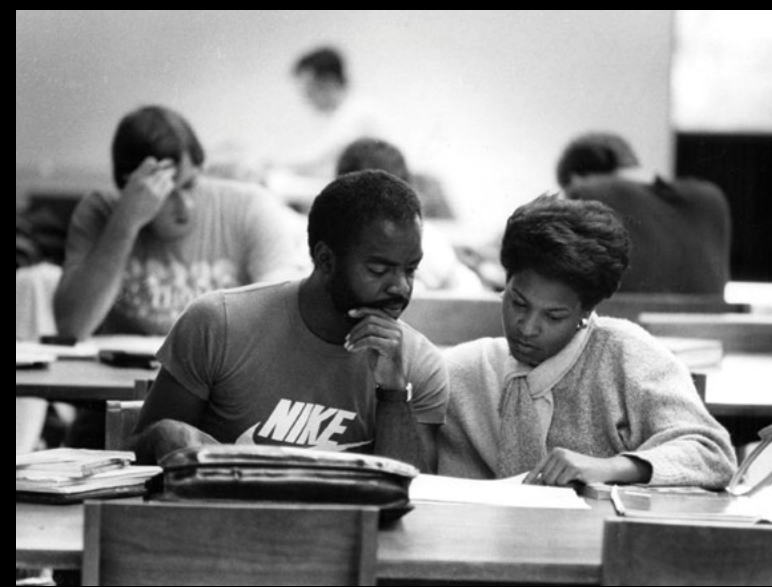


1970s

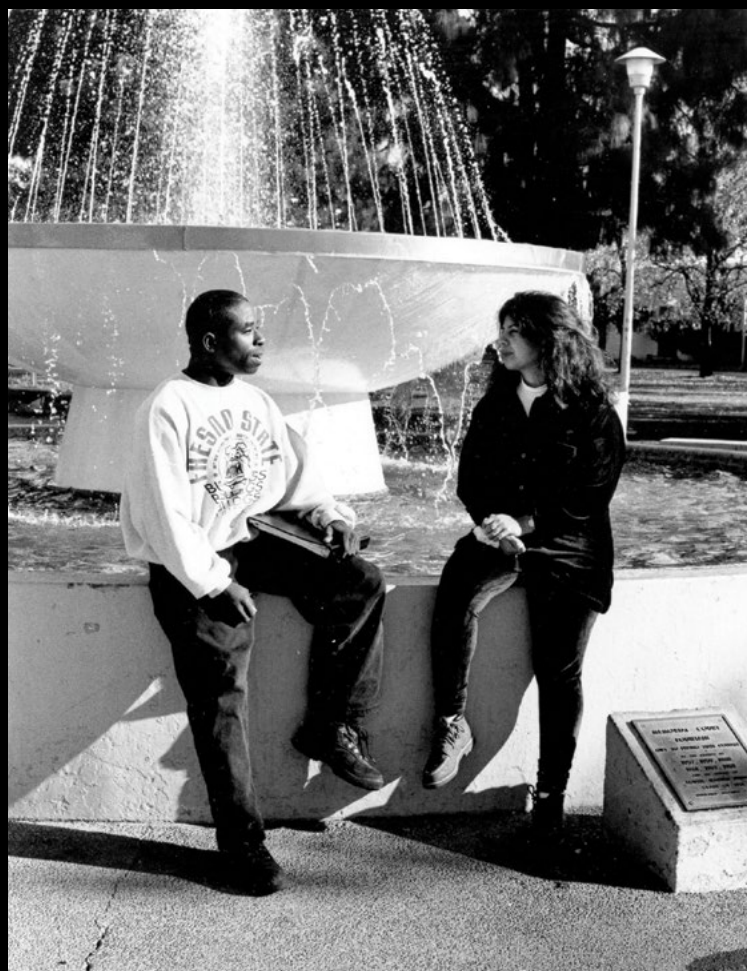
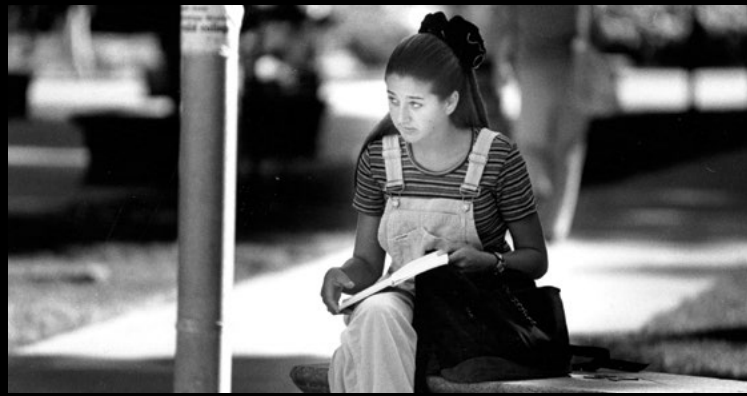
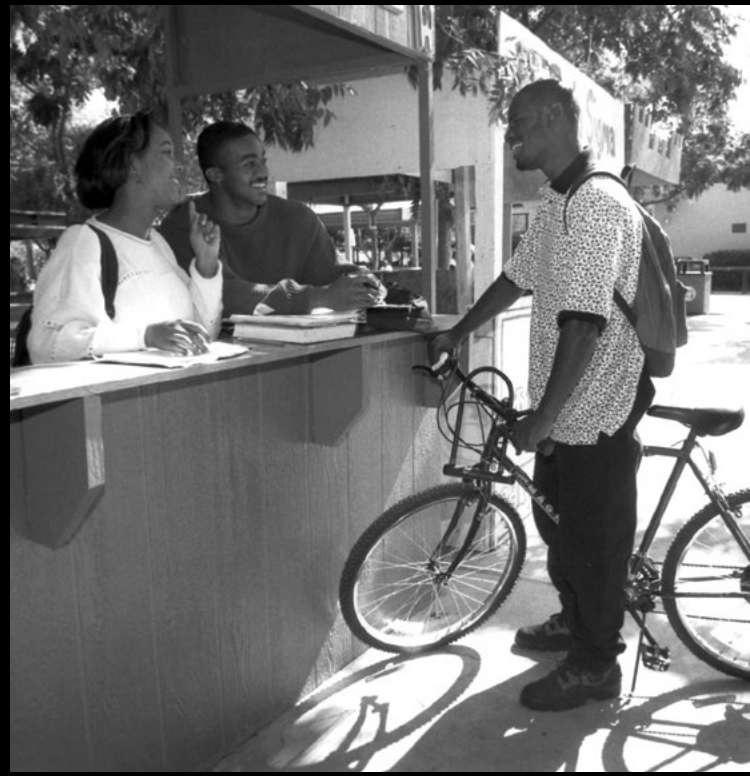
The 1970s ushered in an era of fearless experimentation and individuality in fashion, symbolizing a time of dynamic self-expression. Whether it was the spirited cheerleaders of the Bulldog squad or the everyday student, fashion choices epitomized a sense of freedom and creativity. Luxurious textures like corduroy, suede, crocheted, paired with crisp button-down shirts or kaleidoscopic prints allowed individuals to showcase their unique personalities. Hairstyles reflected this spirit of self-expression, with lush, voluminous hair and natural curls celebrated alongside afros, and distinctive facial hair styles such as the thick sideburns for men. Bell-bottom jeans, platform shoes, sleek blazers, and floppy hats or head wraps were indispensable elements of the '70s wardrobe, symbolizing the vibrant Bulldog community's style and embracing the carefree ethos of the era.

1980s

During the 1980s, Fresno State showcased a vibrant blend of fashion and music in an era highly influenced by iconic pop culture figures such as Madonna and Michael Jackson. Students embraced extravagant styles and statement accessories, blending preppy elements like polo shirts, Oxford shirts, 501 Levi blue jeans and boat shoes with classic sweaters tied around the shoulders for a refined aesthetic. Flashdance-inspired "off the shoulder" sweaters were a trendy choice for girls, infusing a retro flair into their looks. Sportswear from brands like Adidas and Nike became must-have staples for everyday wear, with tracksuits and sneakers dominating the casual attire of Fresno State students.



Visit fresnostate.edu/magazine to learn more about Fresno State's unique fashion merchandising program in the Craig School of Business.



1990s

In the early 1990s, style took a turn towards low maintenance after the extravagance of the 1980s. While platform sneakers stood out, minimalist fashion gained popularity among Bulldog college students. Clean lines, neutral colors and simple silhouettes became the go-to, reflecting an understated and refined approach to dressing. Hip-hop culture heavily influenced fashion with baggy jeans, oversized hoodies, and statement accessories like baseball caps and bucket hats. The loose overall became a signature piece, embodying minimalist simplicity with its effortless silhouette, a stark departure from the frills of the '80s.

2000s

The shift from the 1990s to the early 2000s marked an evolution in fashion, with many trends seamlessly transitioning. However, pivotal events such as 9/11 ushered in a more conservative style, leaving a lasting impact. Concurrently, the rise of the Internet, propelled by platforms like MySpace and YouTube, redefined how celebrities influenced trends. Notable trends included ubiquitous low-rise jeans paired with crop tops or layered tank tops, dominated by brands like Abercrombie & Fitch and Hollister. Cargo pants, graphic tees, chunky sneakers, velour tracksuits, halter tops, and mini skirts were among the essentials on campus. Subcultures like emo and urban streetwear, inspired by music and hip-hop culture, gained significant traction.

2010s - present

Fashion at Fresno State campus in the 2010's reflected a blend of cultural, technological, and social influences. Notable trends included the hipster style, characterized by vintage clothing and thrift finds, alongside the rise of athleisure wear, normcore, streetwear and minimalist fashion. Boho-chic remained popular, while techwear emerged for those interested in functional and futuristic attire. Sustainable fashion gained traction due to environmental awareness, and gender-neutral clothing styles became increasingly embraced. Social media platforms like Instagram and Pinterest played a significant role in shaping fashion trends, with influencers and bloggers impacting style. These fashion trends highlighted the diverse and evolving nature of the Bulldog campus, influenced by cultural movements and individual expression.

– Katie Xiong, Esra Hashem and Eddie Hughes contributed to this story.

Echoes of Change

A glimpse at Bulldog cultural activism across the years

By Esra Hashem ('13, '16, '21)

On the fourth floor of the Fresno State library, tucked away in the Special Collections Research Center, lies a box with the label "Campus Unrest." It documents the years leading up to the first Vintage Days at Fresno State in 1975.

"Unrest" is a common word to describe the significant cultural, social and political turmoil at that time. The 1960s were characterized by anti-war protests and the Civil Rights Movement, and Fresno State students and faculty joined college campuses around the world in taking part in widespread political and social activism.

"A lot of modern day activism was born at institutions of higher learning," says Varselles Cummings, director of the Cross Cultural and Gender Center at Fresno State. "If we think about the Civil Rights Movement, for example, much of that movement and push was from college students. Activism is bred here."

At Fresno State, students protested in the thousands against the Vietnam War, which ended one week before the start of the inaugural Vintage Days. Also in the

1960s and 1970s, they activated along with the United Farm Workers movement to advocate for the rights of Central Valley farm laborers. Historical newspaper clippings showcase the controversy that ensued when students attended a rally in support of a Black Panthers spokesperson. Students and faculty also protested about personnel issues and for programs for ethnic minorities.

What did the campus look like then? Different than it does today. Of the 14,846 students enrolled in fall 1971, 80% were white. Today, Fresno State is a designated Hispanic-Serving Institution and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution, with a population of nearly 24,000 students, 15.8% of whom are white.

Activist voices

As the years progressed, student demographics shifted and diversified. Manuel Olgin recalls arriving at Fresno State in spring 1971. He was part of the growing Chicano movement on campus.

Olgin says the 1970s were a time of adjustment for society – for families to adjust to their children becoming first-generation college students, for high school teachers to encourage Chicanos to further their education, for college faculty to accept a more diverse student body, and for the launch of new programs and organizations.

"What our community needed here is pride in ourselves," he says. "It's not always easy, but if you have something that reflects and celebrates where you came from, who you are and where you're going, that's a Fresno State success model."

In an effort to increase representation on campus, Olgin and fellow graduate student Tony Garduque launched the Chicano/Latino Commencement Celebration in 1977 as a part of their master's theses. Today, the tradition brings thousands to campus annually.

"I'm astounded by our growth," Olgin says. He remained involved on campus as an employee for years, and is still involved as a founding member and president of the Chicano Alumni Club, which also launched in 1977. What he hopes for Fresno State is continued representation of Chicanos among administration and faculty.

"I think there is vast room for improvement. You can't ever say we're done; we have to keep improving," he says. "But I'm proud of Fresno State, and I always will be. I'm a Bulldog for life."

The late 1970s and 1980s saw an influx of Southeast Asian immigrants to the Valley. Dr. Katsuyo Howard, who arrived at Fresno State in 1972 from Japan, knew what it was like to be a foreigner in an American university. She advocated for the creation of Southeast Asian Student



The Fresno Bee



▲ Cesar Chavez sits with Fresno State students during a Nov. 3, 1972 rally against Proposition 22, an initiative that would have guaranteed the right of workers to organize but placed heavy restrictions on the right to strike, boycott and picket.

◀ Manuel Olgin receives a certificate at the Chicano/Latino Commencement Celebration in 1978. He founded the celebration along with fellow graduate student Tony Garduque.





▲ Dr. Katsuyo Howard poses with students in a photo from the Southeast Asian Student Newsletter in 1989.



“If I didn't have my background, I wouldn't have been able to advocate for different approaches to teaching and counseling. I used my learned knowledge to advocate for change.”

Dr. Katsuyo Howard
Professor and counselor emerita

Services to help better serve students of these backgrounds.

“If I didn't have my background, I wouldn't have been able to advocate for different approaches to teaching and counseling,” she says. “I used my learned knowledge to advocate for change. I wasn't a refugee like many of these students were, but being a foreigner is applicable and helped me connect to them. And I immersed myself as much as I could – I even visited refugee camps, so I could better learn.”

Today, there are over 2,700 Asian students enrolled at Fresno State. The Valley has one of the largest Hmong populations in the country. The university's Hmong minor was the first of its kind on the West Coast, and, recently, the university library entered a partnership to host a digital repository of historical Hmong stories.

“Systemwide change did not occur right away, but minorities became more involved as students, staff and faculty, and the representation began a slow change,” Howard says.

In the late 1980s, 14 students formed the Gay Lesbian Student Alliance (now called United Student Pride). They established a booth on campus, which was burned down by vandals shortly thereafter. A few years later, in 1991, Fresno hosted its first Pride parade, which lasted 10 minutes before ending in a brawl with the Ku Klux Klan. Dr. Peter Robertson, who was a student at the time and one of the founding members of the club, recalls the events.

“It was an interesting time to be out and proud on campus. We had a lot of support from our allies, but also a lot of pushback,” says Robertson, who is now the director of alumni connections at Fresno State. “While it was traumatic, we would not be where we are today if we had not done that then.”

Some of the recent progress Robertson is proud of includes witnessing the Pride flag being raised in June 2021 – now a yearly tradition – and the annual Rainbow Graduation Celebration, which was established in 2014.

“Looking back, I am so grateful for my lived experiences because it's made me the person I am today,” Robertson says. “I would not be so passionate about helping students if my life at Fresno State as a student had been easy.”

Centering diverse programming

Throughout the years, Fresno State has developed programs and services to advance its commitment to equity. In 1990, the Women's Resource Center was established as a designated space for women and women's issues. The late Dr. Francine Oputa, who was known for her extensive work in social justice, was its founding director.

“The establishment of these programs and centers were a response to what was happening nationally and globally, as well as here in Fresno,” says Dr. Rashanda Booker, university diversity officer.

Since 1993, there were formal efforts to establish a cross-cultural center. A hate crime against Malcolm

Boyd, a Black student, by the Ku Klux Klan in 1997 intensified this need, and serious conversations about what the center would look like occurred. Those conversations led to the development of what is now called the Cross Cultural and Gender Center. It was led by Oputa, and is now overseen by Cummings.

The center's vision is to create and maintain a campus of respect, inclusion and equal opportunity. It has programs and services for African American, Native American, Asian and Pacific Islander, Latino/a and LGBTQ+ populations. The center is housed under the Division of Equity and Engagement, led by the university's first-ever diversity officer, Booker.

“We understand the trajectory that higher education has gone through in the last century. It was very monolithic, created for and by a certain, particular type of individuals, which were white, cisgender, Christian men,” Booker says. “And so over the last century or so, access has begun to allow

different people from different types of backgrounds and beliefs to start coming in. The university diversity officer position is really a response to that. It's about helping individuals feel like they belong in a place that was historically not for them, but today, it is for them.”

The ongoing work

Fresno is nestled in one of the most culturally diverse regions in the nation, and Fresno State history consists of countless significant cultural moments – ones that have challenged, enriched and transformed us.

Booker acknowledges that sometimes higher education is slow to respond to the demands of activists – but that their activism is never in vain.

“Higher education is a system that was created to maintain itself and continue to reproduce the same thing over and over. And that's why change is slow,” she says. “That is across the globe, not just Fresno State.

But change has happened and is still happening.”

A look at Fresno State's history showcases its rich diversity. The Collegian's first ethnic supplements, for example, were launched 55 years ago. The annual affinity celebrations for cultural groups during graduation began in 1977 with the first Chicano/Latino Commencement, founded by Olgin and Garduque. The Peace Garden (comprised of monuments of social justice leaders) was established in the 1990s, and is still growing today. And most recently, for the 10th consecutive year, Fresno State was awarded the INSIGHT into Diversity Higher Education in Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award.

But the work is ongoing, and fostering an inclusive and equitable campus requires critical thought and community collaboration. Cummings himself, a Black man, recalls growing up in Fresno being unsure if Fresno State was the right place for him. His own experience highlights the need to continue fostering an inclusive environment.

“My hope for the future of Fresno State is that we continue to grow and move the needle so that students who are currently enrolled here see this as a place that belongs to them, that they can be proud to say that they attended,” Cummings says. “And that new students and future students see this as a real contender, not just because of academic accolades or rankings, but because they feel like this is the place that will support and grow them holistically and embrace all of the identities and perspectives that they bring to campus.”

– Esra Hashem is the director of strategic communications for University Marketing and Communications at Fresno State.

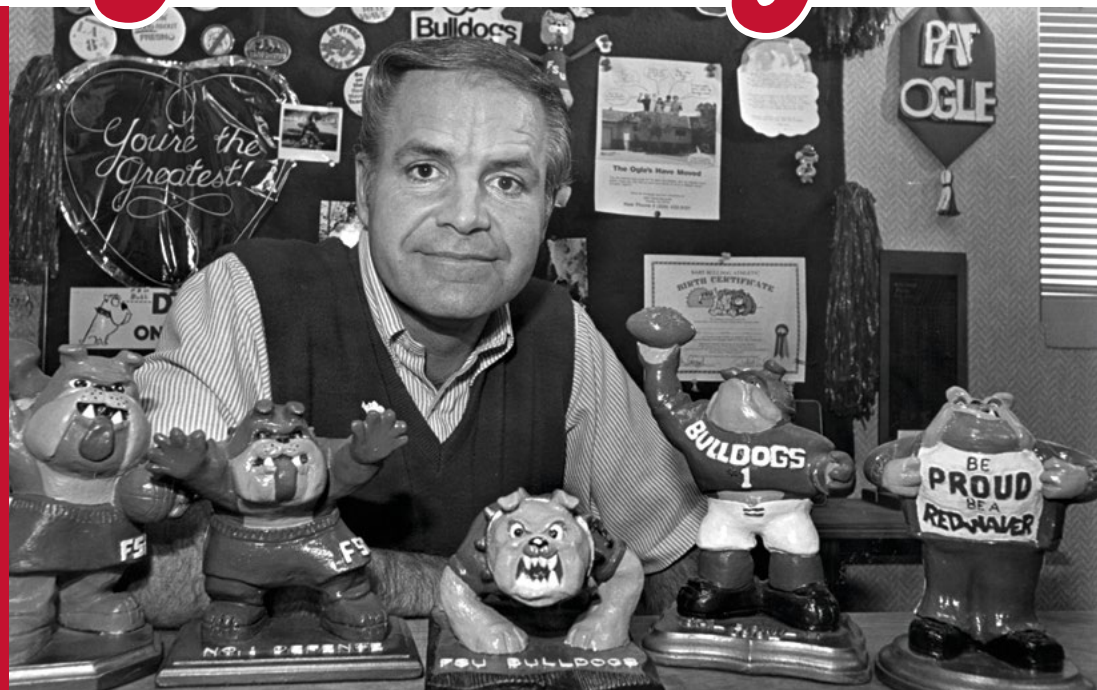


▲ As a student in 1987, Dr. Peter Robertson is quoted in the Fresno State Collegian telling onlookers: “The GLSA is not asking for your acceptance. We are demanding our civil rights. This is the United States of America. We demand our freedom. We demand our justice. We are entitled to our pursuit of happiness.”

A Courtside Seat for Bulldog History

For 60 years, Pat Ogle has witnessed the evolution of Fresno State athletics and what it means to students, alumni and the community

By Eddie Hughes ('05) and Victoria Cisneros ('19, '21)



▲ Pat Ogle poses with his Bulldog Foundation colleagues.



▲ Pat Ogle (left) is presented the National Association of Athletic Development Directors' Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007 by Jack Lengyel, former Fresno State director of athletics.



▲ Pat Ogle (left) is presented the 2009 Bulldog Foundation lifetime bronze Bulldog by Coleman Barnes, former assistant athletic director for advancement.

While music, food and fashion have helped shape student life on campus for decades, perhaps nothing has captured the hearts of students, alumni and the community quite like Fresno State athletics. For those who are Bulldog born, Bulldog bred, sports serve as the vehicle to keep people engaged with campus year in and year out.

To gain insight on the evolution of Fresno State sports, look no further than Pat Ogle, who served as executive director of the Bulldog Foundation's annual fund from 1982 to 2009 and continues to work part-time as a development officer to this day.

After graduating from Fresno State in 1965, Ogle worked in TV broadcasting for 17 years before returning to his alma mater as a

fundraiser for the athletic program. From emceeding donor events with his signature voice and unique ability to connect with the audience, to rallying the Red Wave each year during fund drives, Ogle has had a courtside seat to the rise of the Bulldogs, and helped the Bulldog Foundation grow into a multimillion dollar fundraising arm.

"I'm almost a lifelong resident of the San Joaquin Valley," Ogle says. "I have a 60-year association with Fresno State as a student, as a donor, as a volunteer and as an employee. I grew up like many people in the Valley do — with Fresno State as a real focus."

Fresno State Magazine caught up with Ogle to get insight into what it is about Fresno State athletics that creates such a palpable energy on campus and in the community.

Fresno State Magazine: With that 60-year viewpoint, you've seen a lot of milestones from this program. How has athletics evolved over the years?

Pat Ogle: At one point in the '70s, the community leaders said, 'We want Fresno State to be as good as it can be, and we think athletics is a front porch to the whole university.' And so the Bulldog Foundation started raising funds to pay for student-athlete scholarships and recruiting. That kicked off the interest, and it has continued to grow over the years. Most of our residents have that mentality of really wanting to get behind something. Fresno State is fortunate in that it's the only major, Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) football-playing institution in this huge area of Central California. People who enjoy athletics, who want to feel like they're supporting something, can attach themselves to Fresno State. And they certainly have over the last five generations.

FSMag: Can you tell me a little bit about how Fresno State athletics has changed over the years?

Ogle: Well, another wonderful fact about the people who support Fresno State athletics through donations or through just interest and being a fan and coming to an event, is that most of them have a real broad-based interest. And so, as they contributed dollars for scholarships or for recruiting or for special projects, most of the facilities around here have been built by donations.

▲ After graduating from Fresno State in 1965, Pat Ogle worked in TV broadcasting for 17 years before returning to raise funds for the athletic department at his alma mater.

◀ There are few people, if any, who have had a front-row seat for as many milestone moments in Fresno State athletics history as Pat Ogle, who served as executive director of the Bulldog Foundation's annual fund from 1982 to 2009 and continues to work part-time as a development officer.



Visit fresnostate.edu/magazine or scan the QR code to see a video highlighting Fresno State's impact on the Valley.



FSMag: What are some of the highlights across Fresno State athletics over the years?

Ogle: There are certainly legacy markers out there. You have the Freedom Bowl in football, the National Invitation Tournament in basketball in Madison Square Garden in New York, a national championship in softball, a national championship in baseball. Those are real high watermarks. And there are all the conference championships. Another key point is our student-athletes, just like most of our population on campus, stay in the Valley after their graduation. And so half the former student-athletes are out there coaching or being fans and helping organize. We talk about the pride of the Valley, we talk about the Green V Society of recognizing agriculture. All of those are marketed throughout this wide, wide area.



Cary Edmondson

FSMag: What do you think it says about the folks who are part of the Red Wave, who are willing to travel, who are committed to this university and to supporting the Bulldogs?

Ogle: The majority of Fresno State fans are definitely using their time, their treasure and their talents to support their Bulldogs, and they are willing to do the donations necessary. They are willing to go on the road to support away because they really enjoy it and they have the heart for it.

FSMag: What makes our region special in that sense?

Ogle: Maybe it's more about the uniqueness of these types of events in the Valley. We don't really have [major] professional teams. A football game in terms of the scale is pretty unique for this region. People who have an interest in athletics can look to Fresno State, and they know that's where they can enjoy that. Even if I didn't attend the school, I live in the Valley, I have pride in the Valley, and I'm going to support the Bulldogs.

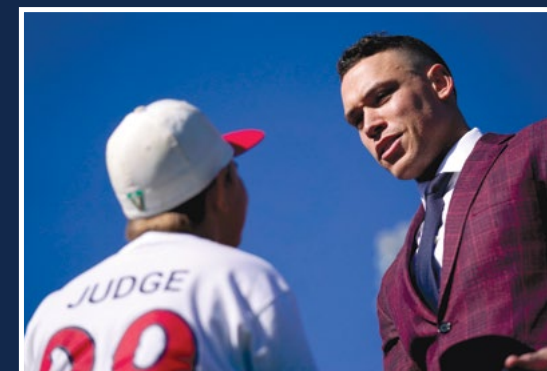
— Eddie Hughes is senior editor for Fresno State Magazine. Victoria Cisneros is a marketing and communications strategist. Matt Mealer, senior video producer, also contributed to this story.

FSMag: Tell me about the Red Wave and where that nickname for the fan base came from.

Ogle: When the program started to take off because of the support we had, many of our sports, including men's basketball, would have people travel, especially to other California destinations to attend games. And one of the big trips was going to San Jose to play the Spartans. We had busloads of people. We had more people at the San Jose State game than they did. One of [The Fresno Bee's] big writers at the time, Ron Orozco, in his story said it was like a Red Wave going over Pacheco Pass. That just took off. It's this wonderful representation of people not only donating and supporting, but going on the road to events.

FSMag: What does Fresno State athletics mean to this community?

Ogle: For most of us, we look for joy in our life. We look for fun in our life, and that's what Bulldog athletics can bring to an individual or a donor or their family. They can come to competitions, and they can know that when we have national success, 'Hey, I'm part of that success.' I think that's what drives most Bulldog fans. They're having fun, they're finding joy and they are supporting a wonderful university that is unique.



FSMag: What can someone expect in terms of atmosphere when they go to a Fresno State athletics event?

Ogle: Bulldog sports really is a special event no matter what sport you're talking about, because most of our sports are very well attended and the atmosphere is really special. Even if it's a crowd of 100, or it's a crowd of 10,000, or it's a crowd of 40,000, because everybody has that Bulldog spirit and they are really involved in being part of that particular game or match.



FSMag: What do those moments mean? How do they bring us together?

Ogle: Well, after the legacy moments, there have been parades, and you don't get parades at the college level very often. From the Fresno airport to the campus after the NIT championship in basketball in '83, after the softball championship in '98, after the baseball championship in '08, people lined the streets to welcome back their Bulldogs. That just shows, not only are they coming to games, not only are they watching, not only they're bringing their young children to games for them to become Bulldog fans, but they have a real heart for the program.



Perseverance with Purpose

Health challenge creates purpose for campus event coordinator

By BoNhia Lee

From the third-floor windows of the Resnick Student Union in April 2023, Shawna Blair caught a glimpse of the bustling Vintage Days celebration below.

In her five years as coordinator of major events and staff development for the Student Involvement Center, which includes leading students in the planning of Vintage Days, 2023 was her biggest challenge.

The three-day festival was relocated from the grassy area in front of the Satellite Student Union to the parking lots between student housing and the new Resnick Student Union because of construction on campus. Blair and the student planning committee didn't know what to expect.

And during much of the planning that year, Blair worked virtually from home and from the chair she sat in while receiving chemotherapy for breast cancer.

Still undergoing treatment until that June, Blair couldn't walk through

Vintage Days like she did every other year talking to vendors, colleagues and old students who worked for her. So, she mustered up what energy she had to take a peek at her team's hard work — from a safe distance high above.

Now cancer free, Blair had reconstruction surgery in February and returned to work just in time to finish planning and celebrating the 50th Vintage Days festival on campus.

"I'm always amazed every year of what we make happen," says Blair, a two-time alumna. "I was at home doing what I could, working remotely, but showing that things are still possible. I may have cancer. I am not cancer. It is a part of me now, but it is not me. It's not all of me."

Getting Involved

Vintage Days was one of the campus events that Blair always wanted to help plan when she was a student in the early 2000s. Originally from Madera Ranchos, she sold corn



Cary Edmondson



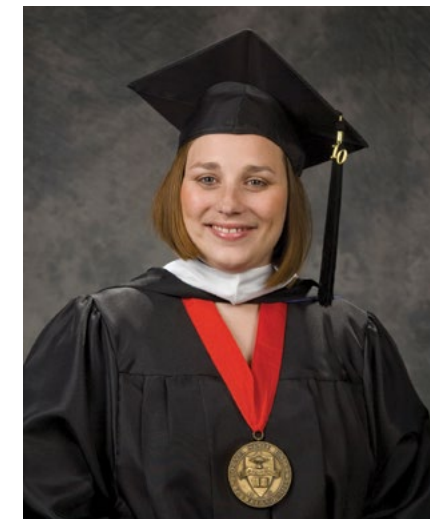
▲ *Now cancer free, Shawna Blair had surgery in February and returned to work just in time to finish planning and celebrating Fresno State's 50th Vintage Days festival on campus. As the coordinator for major events and staff development on campus, Vintage Days is one of Blair's biggest responsibilities each year.*

◀ *Unable to walk through Vintage Days like she did every other year because of ongoing breast cancer treatment in April 2023, Shawna Blair watched from the third-floor windows in the Resnick Student Union as thousands enjoyed the festival below.*

"Part of my goal is that [students] have the same experience that I had. That we can help them feel like Fresno State cares that they belong. Give them something fun and exciting to do and to really say that 'I love Fresno State' and 'why not Fresno State?'"

Shawna Blair

Coordinator, major events and staff development
Student Involvement Center



▲ *Shawna Blair was named the 2010 Graduate Dean's Medalist for the Division of Student Affairs.*

dogs as part of the Catholic Student Association, but didn't have time to do more. Blair was a student employee for the Student Union, worked in the old campus post office, was a senator for Associated Students, Inc. and a student coordinator for USU Productions on top of her studies as a recreation administration and leisure studies major.

She would later earn her master's degree from Fresno State in education administration and supervision and was named a Graduate Dean's Medalist upon graduation. She was hired by the Student Union in 2006, where she oversaw USU Productions, now known as Spotlight Events. In 2019, she became coordinator for major events: Welcome Week, homecoming, commencement and Vintage Days.

"Part of my goal is that [students] have the same experience that I had," Blair says. "That we can help them feel like Fresno State cares that they belong. Give them something fun and exciting to do and to really say that 'I love Fresno State' and 'why not Fresno State?'"

Health Challenge

Blair felt a sharp pain in her chest after finishing her lunch on campus one day in summer 2022. She thought it was a heart attack, but a visit to the emergency room ruled out any



problems. A follow up with her general practitioner uncovered a problem with her gallbladder, which would need to be removed.

But Blair soon noticed something else — a lump in her left breast. She had just turned 40 that summer. It was a two-month wait after her initial doctor's appointment for a mammogram. She knew she had to be seen, so Blair put herself on the waitlist and checked in with the medical office often to see if there were any cancellations. The call for a mammogram and ultrasound came in November. The results of the scans were not good, and she got in quickly for a biopsy.

"That day, they told me it might be cancer. I went out to the car, had a few tears and then was like, 'I've got

somewhere to be. Pick yourself up and go," Blair says.

One in eight women, or about 13% of the female population, in the United States, will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, according to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc. About 30% of all new female cancer diagnoses will be breast cancer and 9% of all new cases are diagnosed in women younger than 45 years old.

About a week later, she had her gallbladder removed and received the official confirmation of her breast cancer diagnosis. The following weeks were a whirlwind, she says. To keep her stress level down, her headspace in the right place and her body healing, Blair ordered a hat that said "breast cancer warrior" and T-shirts with positive sayings related to breast cancer.



▲ Alumna Shawna Blair wants to share her story and become a breast cancer educator. Her future goal includes bringing a breast cancer walk back to Fresno, potentially on campus.

She started a six-month chemotherapy treatment in January 2023 where she met her "breasties," new friends also undergoing treatment. They would schedule their appointments together as the weeks rolled by. And Blair kept working.

"I was immuno-compromised so I worked remotely. Last year, when I was in the thick of it — planning Vintage Days — I was able to Zoom in," Blair says. "The staff helped out when they could. I was texting them reminders and doing whatever I could to be supportive from home. They did a really amazing job."

Fresno State colleague and friend Patricia Benavidas had to remind Blair often to stop calling and to rest. Blair is of that era where you give 110% at work, maybe only 90% on your lowest days, Benavidas says.

"I have a lot of respect for her and her work ethic," Benavidas says. "She's dedicated a lot of herself to her work. I said let this be a lesson for you to put that same commitment into yourself."

Blair finished chemotherapy on June 22, 2023, and Benavidas was there to present her with a silver crown and pink feather boa. There were cookies and Blair handed gifts to her "breasties" and nurses.

One in



eight women, in the U.S., will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime

National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc.



Cary Edmondson

Benavidas handed pink ribbon stickers to the Student Involvement staff and encouraged them to send Blair photos of support.

"We made it a party for everybody," Benavides says. "We're event planners, our job is to make people feel welcome and to have a sense of belonging. We're always trying to celebrate."

Recovery

Blair walked the Christmas in July 5K in Fresno a month after she finished chemo. It was a goal she made when her breast cancer journey started six months before. Then she had a double

mastectomy. By early August, she was in remission and cancer free.

She has some lingering side effects from her illness and will remain on medication and treatment for some time.

"Right now you push through it and do what you can and try to stay positive," Blair says.

Now, she wants to share her story and become a breast cancer educator. She met a 26-year-old and a 24-year-old also undergoing chemotherapy at the same time she did. And Blair recognizes that she works with young people every day.

"[This disease] is hitting younger people," Blair says. "The one thing you can do for yourself is to do self checks and get yourself into a doctor."

"I hope to start doing presentations or workshops, not only about my story, but to provide information, to bring purpose to this," Blair says. "It helps me."

Her future goal includes bringing a breast cancer walk back to Fresno, maybe even to Fresno State.

– *BoNhia Lee is a communications specialist at Fresno State.*

CLASS NOTES

1940s

Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg (1944) was appointed to the California Community Colleges Board of Governors.

Rodger Jensen (1941), a World War II veteran and Central Valley native, spoke about his experience in combat for a segment titled "The Last Mission" that aired on KGPE (CBS 47).

1960s

Helen Davidson (1965) turned 100 years old while celebrating her 25th birthday on Leap Day.

Judy Sue Dixon (1966) was featured in the October/November 2023 issue of Forbes Magazine for being inducted into Marquis Who's Who.

Bob Smittcamp (1963), the former co-owner of Wawona Packing Company and chairman and CEO of Lyons Magnus food service company, was the first person to be honored posthumously with the Leon S. Peters Legacy Award.

Ross Spence (1965), the co-founder of Matua Wines in New Zealand, celebrated 50 years since the company planted its first vines.

1970s

Richard Aguirre (1978) was reelected as Goshen City clerk-treasurer in Goshen, Indiana.

Jay Fowler (1979) is the owner of Fowler's Construction Company in Clovis.

Akinsanya Kambon (1974, '76) received the \$100,000 Mohn Award for artistic excellence for his powerful ceramic sculptures, the Hammer Museum announced.

Carolyn Clark Loder (1975) was appointed to the K2 Gold Corporation Board of Directors.

Jim Schulte (1973) received the Eagles of Excellence Award from Woodland College for his work as an adjunct faculty member in environmental horticulture and plant propagation.

1980s

Randy Ataíde (1982), an entrepreneur and former professor at Point Loma Nazarene University, created the first scholarship fund through the Portuguese Beyond Borders Institute at Fresno State.

Brad Barker (1982) is now chief information officer at Fresno Pacific University.

Sam Cobb (1984) was interviewed by KESQ-TV in Palm Springs about his passion for growing dates and how he plans to pass on his knowledge of date farming to generations to come.

Valerie Davis (1983) is now board clerk for the Fresno Unified School District Board of Education.

Nick Dokoozlian (1980), vice president of winegrowing research at E. & J. Gallo Winery in Modesto, received the 2024 Rich Smith Award of Excellence for outstanding contributions to the American grape and wine industry.

Helder Domingos (1980), president and CEO of Westech & Sol-Tech Systems, was named Business Person of the Year by the Clovis Chamber of Commerce.

Kristy Farmer (1985) owns Central Coast Home Concierge in Carmel.

Brad S. Fischer (1981) retired from his position as senior vice president for operations area manager at Premier Valley Bank.

Mike Hamzy (1986), is celebrating 40 years as owner of Harbison International, Inc., a leading supplier of refractories products and services.

Jonathan Held (1980) has been appointed to the Missouri Wine and Grape Board.

Christine Ennis Jones (1985) received the statewide Technology Administrator of the Year award the Association of California School Administrators for her work in Palmdale School District.

Lesley Lang-Lopez (1989) is now senior vice president of Cen-Cal Business Finance in Santa Maria.

Ammar Shaikh Mahmood (1984) is now chairman of Oldtown White Coffee's Halal Committee in Malaysia.

Peter Orlando (1986) is now CEO of commercial real estate leader Pearson Companies.

Bret Rathwick (1988) is now vice president, relationship manager at Western Alliance Bank's Costa Mesa office.

Denise Skidmore (1989) is now a member of The Holstein Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Joe Wirt (1986) retired from California News Publishers Association Services, Inc.

Mike Wise (1988) was a senior writer for The Undeclared, a digital property of ESPN.

Christina Wyneken (1984), a certified public accountant, held a seminar on how to effectively manage regulatory compliance for small family businesses and optimize tax strategies.

1990s

Sonja M. Brown (1996) is now the associate vice chancellor for academic and faculty affairs at Fayetteville State University in North Carolina.

Matt Cholakian (1999) is now an account manager for business development with Prinova USA.

Karl Domm (1993) is a licensed financial adviser and president of Clovis Wealth Partners.

Lori Gambero (1994) is now principal at Arroyo Seco Junior High School in Santa Clarita.

Michael Hair, Jr. (1996) has been appointed to the board of directors for Mission Bank in Bakersfield.

Jill Maze (1999) is a mental health counselor at College of the Sequoias.

Matt J. Navo (1993) is executive director of the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence.

Gary Thiara (1990) was elected to the 2024-25 UnitedAg Board of Directors.

Phong Yang (1995) is now associate vice president for strategic enrollment management at Fresno State.

2000s

Justin Bruch (2007) is the president, chief operating officer and founder of Clear Frontier, an agricultural business in Omaha, Nebraska.

Giachino Chiaromonte (2001), a former standout linebacker on the Fresno State football team, was sworn in as the new chief of the Madera Police Department.

Nora Crow (2005) serves as the chief financial officer for Fresno's Chaffee Zoo.

Anissa De La Cruz (2002) is warden of Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla.

Geno Delerio (2007) is the president of DC Home Improvements in Fresno.

Sara Frauenheim (2009) is now chief development officer for Saint Agnes Medical Center.

Karen K. Gill (2008) is an attorney and owner of Gill Estate Law, PC in Fresno.

Sally Gomez (2001) is now head librarian of the Fresno County Public Library.

Bryan Harley (2007) is the executive director for Community Media Access Collaborative in Fresno.

Daniel Hartwig (2003) is now president for the California Fresh Fruit Association.

Brock Heasley (2004), director, was featured in the podcast "Aaron Unscripted" for his new sci-fi film "The Shift."

Tumani Heights (2005), a Fresno Unified School District liaison for foster and homeless students, received the Barnett Award for selfless service that enhances the community at the Fresno County 2023 Educator of the Year awards.

Stephanie Huddleston became the first female police chief in Hanford history.

Kevin Jordan (2001), a former Fresno State football standout, opened the Cookie Plug shop at Campus Pointe near Fresno State.

Jesse Katz (2007), of Aperture Cellars, was featured in the Forbes newsletter about his success as a winemaker in Sonoma. He broke the world record for the highest-priced wine ever sold at an auction with a \$1 million 6-liter bottle of Cabernet Sauvignon.

Ana Jovel Melendez (2005) is now deputy secretary of legislative affairs at the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Will Oliver (2009) is the president and CEO of Fresno County Economic Development Corporation.

Andre Pecina (2000) is now superintendent of Corcoran Unified School District.

Caty Perez (2005) is now senior philanthropy officer for the Central Valley Community Foundation.

Diane Phakonekham (2005), president and CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters

of Central California, was named the 2024 Woman of the Year for the 31st Assembly District.

Ashley Phillips (2005) is the new Dr. California America 2024. She will compete for the Dr. America title in October.

Susie Rico-Vasquez (2001), a health educator at Fresno County Department of Public Health, was recognized as a 2023 Health and Human Services Hero by Fresno State.

Megan Ruble (2009) is the president of California Applicants' Attorney Association in Sacramento.

Patrick Russell (2001) joined Mule-Hide Products Co. Inc. as a territory manager.

Gerardo Serrato (2006) is the new commander of the California Highway Patrol's Dublin office.

Matilda Soria (2000), senior director of early care and education in the Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, was named Administrator of the Year at the Fresno County 2023 Educator of the Year awards.

Pamela L. Souders (2007), a manager and surgical critical care nurse practitioner for the Medical College of Wisconsin, was inducted into Marquis Who's Who.

Bret Swain (2008) is now public works director in Scotts Valley.

Theodore Taneleon Jr. (2006), band director at Parlier High School, was selected to perform in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

Sevag Tateosian (2004) is co-owner of Faceologic Spa in Clovis.

Stephanie Terrizzi (2005) is an owner of Giornata Il Campo Rosso, a winery based in Paso Robles.



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CLASS NOTES

Frank Wittwer (2005) was honored through a display of the F/A-18A Hornet outside the Main Gate and Gate 2 of Arnold Air Force Base.

Courtney Young (2001), a speech-language pathologist at Community Regional Medical Center, was presented the first TULIP award for going above and beyond for her patients and colleagues.

2010s

Chris Carter (2011), a Fresno State football standout and seven-year NFL veteran, is now assistant general manager for recruiting and personnel for UCLA football.

Robert DeSoto (2016) is now the general manager of Learfield's Wyoming Sports Properties.

Erika R. Gamez (2014) is the music director of the all-female musical "Lizzie" in Hartford, Connecticut.

Eric D. Hadden (2014) is now director for the Water, Energy, and Technology Center at Fresno State.

Cactus Sam Harris (2012), an organist and director of worship for University Presbyterian Church, was recognized as a 2023 Difference Maker by GV Wire.

Nathan Kandler (2016) is a winemaker at Thomas Fogarty Winery in Santa Cruz.

Andrea Kelly (2015) is co-executive director of FoodLink in Tulare County.

Nicolas Madrigal (2012) joined the City of Fresno's Office of Community Affairs as a liaison for the Latino community.

Jessica Morales-Cabrera (2014) is a senior program manager with Power California.

Lyn Myers (2014) is now chief operating officer for the Fresno Chaffee Zoo.

Elizabeth Ochoa (2011) was honored as the Region 7 California League of Schools Elementary Educator of the Year for 2023-24.

Constantine Pappas (2014) made his debut on Broadway in "Harmony" at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre in New York.

Thurabudeen Sahul (2016) is a power electronics mechanical engineer at MagniX in Seattle.

Alex Soto (2019) is the media education specialist for Community Media Access Collaborative.

Erica Stancliff (2010) is a winemaker for Trombetta Wines in Sonoma.

Dustin Thompson (2017) is the Veterans Resource Center student services coordinator at Merced College.

Malarie Thompson (2012) won the 2023 North Carolina Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Excellence in Ag Award.

Zachary Worden (2015) is the head of sales for Arable, a crop intelligence company in San Francisco.

2020s

Payton Allen (2023) is now head baseball coach at Mt. Whitney High School in Visalia.

DaRon Bland, former Fresno State cornerback, was selected to his first Pro Bowl with the Dallas Cowboys after leading the NFL with nine interceptions.

Oscar Duran (2022) is senior geomatics analyst for Towill, Inc. in Fresno.

Alex Garcia (2021) was elected as mayor of Wasco.

Anissa Martinez (2022) joined Great Day at KMPH 26 as a news reporter.

Kelsey McKenny (2023) is senior vice president at Newmark Pearson Commercial in Fresno.

Raymond Pun (2020) was elected 2024-25 president of the American Library Association.

Zaem Shaikh (2022) is a reporter covering breaking news for The Dallas Morning News.

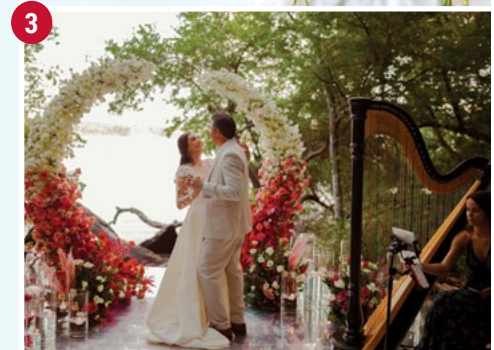
Mariela Vasquez Herrera (2023) is a field organizer with Project California.

Bulldog Born, Bulldog Wed

1 Madison (Casagrande) Ehresman (2015) and Tyler Ehresman welcomed their daughter, Elliot, on Nov. 10.

2 Taylor Westerman (2015) and **Dominic Breshears** (2016) welcomed their first child, Dempsey Devine Breshears, on March 14.

3 John Yergat (2003) and **Janet Yergat** (2017) were married on Aug. 8 in Peninsula Papagayo, Guanacaste, Costa Rica.



In Memoriam

'For thee, our hopes and memories'

Darla Jan Alejo (1995),
Dec. 12, Fresno.

Barbara Ann Aston
(1984), Dec. 24, Fresno.

Darrell Bacon (1981),
Nov. 2, Del Rey.

**Van Denniston
Baker** (1972), Dec. 2,
Sacramento.

Alberta Ann Beale
(1958), Feb. 11,
Portland, OR.

Marianne Beard (1966),
Dec. 13, Monument, CO.

Alice Berry (1956),
Sept. 27, Fresno.

**Richard John
Bettencourt Jr.** (1972),
March 21, Placerville.

Daisy Lee Bitter (1953),
Nov. 3, Anchorage, AK.

Anna Bonsignore (1949),
Oct. 9, Fresno.

Sonia Sue Borrowdale
(1961), Feb. 2022,
Sacramento.

Gary Lee Bruno (1969),
Nov. 9, Clovis.

Marilyn Buckner,
Oct. 22, Lake County.

Matthew Shawn Butler,
Jan. 16, Fresno.

**Michelle Jeanne
Butticci** (1973),
March 3, Merced.

Andrew John Camoroda
(1961), Feb. 18, Fresno.

A. Bryce Carey,
Feb. 4, Granite Bay.

Carolyn Carter (1984),
Nov. 6, Fresno.

William Sloan Coats
(1949), Oct. 25, 2022,
Antioch.

Lewis Ray Coles (1961),
Jan. 25, Fresno.

Butch Coley (1974),
Sept. 30, Central, OK.

Betty Anne Collins
(1968), Nov. 13, Visalia.

John "Steve" Copland
(1971), Jan. 7, Madera.

Jim Daggs (1969),
Nov. 9, Fresno.

Brent Dwayne Dame,
Oct. 23, Hansen, ID.

Donna Denham (1965),
Nov. 5, Visalia.

John Derby (1959),
Jan. 9, Bahia
Concepcion, Baja
California Sur.

Katherine Mae Dill
(1943), Jan. 24, Fresno.

Michael Dixon (1974),
Nov. 28, Monterey.

Naomi Jewel Dodson,
Feb. 25, Visalia.

Lee Bernard Duncan
(1970), Visalia.

Jamie Macias Estrada
(1971), June 18, 2023,
Reedley.

Brian Finnigan (1996),
Oct. 8, Fresno.

Jerry Fisher (1964),
Oct. 6, Visalia.

Kenneth Allen Foster
(1945), Reno, NV.

**James Arnold
Fredericks** (1964),
June 3, 2022, Crestline.

John Conrad Fuchs Jr.,
March 14, Oakhurst.

Loren Gaither (1953),
Oct. 10, Fresno.

Aram Garabedian (1951),
Oct. 30, Fresno.

Robin Joy Gates (1974),
Jan. 15, Fresno.

John Clark Gibson
(1964), Oct. 1, Cambria.

James Hallowell (1955),
Jan. 31, Fresno.

Kathleen Hamada
(1987), Sept. 18, Fresno.

Joel Scott Hawley
(1977), Jan. 24, Salinas.

Richard Heimforth
(1963), Dec. 24, Fresno.

Forrest Helmick (1990),
Dec. 29, Clovis.

Vera Elizabeth Hills,
March 19, Fresno.

Elaine Edith Holder,
Feb. 24, Atascadero.

Mary Jarrett (1950),
Oct. 5, Fresno.

Martin Jelacich (1971),
Oct. 25, Fresno.

Herbert M. Johnson III
(1964), Nov. 24, Fresno.

James Johnston (1948),
Oct. 30, Modesto.

**Douglas Walter
Jorgensen**, Nov. 21,
Fresno.

**Townsend Adair "Jerry"
Jury** (1948), Oct. 24,
Fresno.

Nancy Kemmer (1954),
Oct. 18, Boise, ID.

**Mary Ann Crowder
Kenney** (1956), April 21,
2021, Carmichael.

Warren D. Kilday (1959),
Oct. 9, Visalia.

Annette LaRue (1946),
Dec. 16, Fresno.

Lorena Ann Lauritzen
(1953), Feb. 20, Great
Falls, MT.

Paula Lung (1966),
Nov. 2, Richland, WA.

Lisa Martin (1979),
Dec. 24, San Francisco.

J. Malcolm Masten
(1941), March 26,
Fresno.

Katie C. Mayorga (1982),
Dec. 7, Corcoran.

**Brigitte Marie
McNealley**, Sept. 18,
Montesano.

Carol McNeil (1955),
Oct. 10, Fresno.

Dale Messer (1961),
Feb. 27, Fresno.

Kathleen Jean Miles
(1973), Oct. 20, Roseville.

Jo Ellen Moore (1962),
Dec. 20, Madera.

**Charles Thompson
Parker** (1930), Dec. 25,
2016, Merced.

Susan Philips (1945),
Jan. 15, Wichita Falls, TX.

Shiena Polehn (1969),
April 1, 2022,
Medford, OR.

Frank Quintana (1977),
Nov. 12, Fresno.

Randall Arthur Reinstedt
(1935),
July 27, Pacific Grove.

Benjamin Eugene Reitz,
Dec. 16, Fresno.

David Clair Rethwisch
(1961), Jan. 22, 2023,
Placerville.

George Rodriguez III
(1986), Jan. 8, Clovis.

Roy Wesley Rogers
(1980), Dec. 26, Wasco.

Steve Rontell (1979),
Nov. 11, Fresno.

Walter Russell (1966),
Oct. 15, Frederick, MD.

Helen A. Sahakian,
Dec. 14, Fresno.

Bernadine Ann Salazar
(1993), Oct. 7, Visalia.

David Serrano (1965),
Feb. 25, Le Grand.

Donna Mae Shebelut
(1972), Jan. 24, Fresno.

Frank Small (1983),
Oct. 1, Reedley.

Gary Smith (1969),
Jan. 20, Fresno.

Lawrence E. Smith,
July 1, 2023, Oakhurst.

Alan James Sodersten
(1984), Oct. 20, Visalia.

Chris Sorensen,
March 8, Fresno.

Dale Harry Sorensen
(1960), Feb. 9, Clovis.

Phyllis Ripley Stiles
(1948), Dec. 8, Cayucos.

Thomas Strentz
(1962), Sept. 15,
Fredericksburg, VA.

Edmond S. Strickland
(1995), Dec. 6,
Meridian, ID.

Dorothy Mae Stuart
(1960), Nov. 17, Fresno.

Lawrence Stumpf
(1955), Nov. 2, Riverside.



Veronica Thomas
(1972), Feb. 28,
Kingsburg.

Patricia A. Trombino,
Feb. 8, Wilsonville, OR.

Lawrence Turnquist
(1962), Jan. 17,
Mariposa.

Rachel Anne Underwood
(1990), Nov. 24, Reedley.

Julie Urrea, Nov. 28,
Fresno.

Alfred Valles (1999),
Oct. 13, Fresno.

Jimmy Williams, Jan. 26,
Tarpon Springs, FL.

Nikki Williamson (1974),
March 29, Fresno.

Jane Adams Worsley
(1977), March 5, Fresno.

Marjorie Nell Wulf
(1956), Dec. 6, Fresno.

Devon Wylie (2011),
Nov. 13.

**Joseph Christopher
Yocum** (1976), Nov. 24,
Fresno.

FACULTY/STAFF

John Hagen, July 14,
Fresno.

**Ernesto 'Ernie'
Palomino** (2017),
Oct. 24, Fresno.

Rebecca Mae Russler
(1975), Feb. 27, Fresno.

Sydney Rochelle Story,
Aug. 28, Fresno.

Louis Donovan Volpp,
May 4, Clovis.

FRIENDS

Sally Caglia, Dec. 10,
Fresno.

Eric Stephen Olsen,
Feb. 9, Paso Robles.

Bette Anne Poirier, Jan.
2, Los Angeles.

Ann Sadler, Nov. 10,
Fresno.

Alfred Sorondo, Oct. 5,
Fresno.



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