

PACIFIC

**Volleyball team
NAIA champions**

Soccer squad makes nationals

**John Wooden /
brings message of character**

**Justice conference
attracts national audience**

BACK TO THE FUTURE

**THE HISTORY OF THE
NEXT 60 YEARS AT FPU**



EXCELLENCE IS A COMBINATION OF CHARACTER, DISCIPLINE AND EXPECTATION

FPU will become what it chooses to be

The president of an international relief and development organization shocked me with his question during an interview 25 years ago: “What do you want it to say on your tombstone?” As I later reflected on his question (and my answer), I understood for the first time that we craft our own legacy—by the visions we hold, the priorities we set, the decisions we make, the actions we take and the people with whom we surround ourselves. We become what we choose to be.

Fresno Pacific University’s vision statement calls for us to become a premier Christian university that has a growing national reputation, a commitment to academic excellence and is characterized by spiritual vitality. In 2064 when people look back at the preceding six decades, I hope they will celebrate a legacy of excellence; that they will see fidelity to the vision and mission and conclude that we made good decisions that continued the trajectory that led to even greater success.

Last October, FPU hosted legendary UCLA basketball coach John Wooden, who led his teams to 10 national championships and set a standard for excellence that will probably remain unmatched. Greatness, he explained to his audience, is not primarily due to the genetic accidents that bestow physical gifts. Outstanding skills contribute to achievement but are not the central cause. Instead, Coach Wooden suggested, excellence is grounded in core values, led by vision, shaped by skill and fueled by effort. Together, they lead to the development of poise, confidence and ultimately competitive greatness.

FPU’s athletic teams displayed excellence during the fall season. First, our men’s soccer team won the conference title and National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics

(NAIA) regional championship. From there, they went on to the national tournament and ended the season as the runner-up for the NAIA title. A week later our volleyball team won the NAIA national championship. We’re enormously proud of our athletes, but please note that these accomplishments were not accidents. Their success was grounded in our core values, led by a vision for excellence and accomplished through discipline and hard work.

The combination of character, discipline and the expectation of excellence will generate excellence. In the second game (in a best-of-five series) of a match at the national volleyball tournament, I saw it in the eyes of the opposing team. You could tell; they knew that although the score was still close, they had just met a better team. They knew our Sunbirds were going to win. So did we. It wasn’t arrogance or bravado. Our players were well-trained, solidly prepared, well-coached and quietly confident that they would excel.

That’s Fresno Pacific University today. The first 60 years have established a wonderful foundation, firmly grounded in our core values. We have a vision for what it means to be a Christian university, for learning together as a community, for speaking transformatively to our culture and for excellence—in our teaching, scholarship and service to the church and society. We are growing in numbers, building our infrastructure and strengthening our systems. We are strategic in our decisions and disciplined in our actions.

In 2064, I hope people will note that we were faithful to the calling that God entrusted to us; that the decisions we made, the directions we set, the actions we took and the people we brought to the university shaped a legacy for future generations.

Fresno Pacific University exists to prepare students for faithful and wise service through excellence in Christian higher education, and to strengthen the church and improve society through scholarship and service.

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To predict is futile, to dream divine

*“Dreams are the touchstones
of our characters.”*

—Henry David Thoreau

In fourth grade my *Weekly Reader* predicted that by 1980 I would be bopping back and forth to the mall through the air thanks to the jet pack on my back. I’m waiting.

We should always predict the future with a grin. Why? Because despite our best intentions, our most cogent analysis and our biggest stack of statistics, we’re going to get it wrong.

Over the years, recognized leaders in their fields have assured us that automobiles would never go faster than 60 miles per hour, movies would replace the written word and no one would need more than 25K of memory on his or her personal computer. The refusal of present trends to continue, the law of unintended consequences and just the desire to see the future go our way all conspire to keep us humble.

Praise God! If we could really figure the future, we’d no doubt really foul it up.

Instead of trying to divine what will happen, let’s do something important: let’s dream about what could happen.

Dreaming is different than predicting. Dreaming has nothing to do with comforting our friends and foiling our foes with research, learned opinion and other modern crystal balls. Dreaming is an expression of faith—and faith is the flesh of the future.

So dream with us, and dream in the certainty that, while we don’t know what is to come, we are in loving hands.

I’ll keep one light burning for that jet pack.

—Wayne Steffen

PACIFIC standard time

This calendar is designed to present an overall view of activities at Fresno Pacific University. Individual events may be aimed at a specific audience, carry a fee and require advance registration. All events are subject to change. For the latest information, contact the sponsoring university department or check the FPU website at www.fresno.edu.

FEBRUARY

- 26-28 Drama One-Act Festival, Theater lab, Kriegbaum Hall.
- 27 Pacific Artist Series: Vocal recital by soprano Barbara Vlymen, McDonald Hall Atrium.

MARCH

- 2 Musica Pacifica Baroque Orchestra winter concert, McDonald Hall
- 4 Women’s Basketball GSAC quarterfinal
- 6 Women’s Basketball GSAC semifinal
- 9 Women’s Basketball GSAC final
- 11 Men’s Basketball GSAC quarterfinal
- 13 Men’s Basketball GSAC semifinal
- 16 Men’s Basketball GSAC final
- 17-23 Women’s Basketball NAIA Championship
- 20 Pacific Artist Series: Erickson, Porter and Blomster trio, McDonald Hall
- 24-30 Men’s Basketball NAIA National Championship, Kansas City, Missouri

APRIL

- 2-3 MCC Relief Sale
- 6 Pacific Artist Series: Piano recital by Marvin Blickenstaff, McDonald Hall
- 7 Women’s Chorale Concert, McDonald Hall Atrium
- 13 Community Concert Band, Location TBA
- 14 Flautas Pacifica and Pacific Brass Spring Concert, McDonald Hall
- 15-17 Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged), Theater
- 20 Pacific Chamber Singers and Musica Pacifica Baroque Orchestra, Fresno Art Museum
- 22 Central Valley Ministry Forum
- 22 Pacific Bronze Concert, Westminster Presbyterian Church
- 22-24 Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged), Theater Lab.
- 23-24 Track and Field GSAC Championship, Cockerham Track, FPU
- 25 Concert Choir Home Concert, First Congregational Church

MAY

- 8 Commencement

Sunbirds win NAIA national volleyball championship



Gao named MVP

Duley steps in, Gao steps up

by Ken Isaak

It has become difficult not to expect the Sunbirds to make a serious run at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) championship every year. After all, the Sunbirds had made 12 national appearances, 10 of them consecutive, with seven final four finishes. But after winning the championship on their first trip in 1989

the Sunbirds never managed a second banner.

So what to expect for 2003? Seeded No.2 in the 20-team national championship field with a sparkling 35-2 record, the title was a realistic goal for this experienced squad. The four seniors and four juniors had been there before. The banner was theirs for the taking.

Then junior all-conference setter Lisa Enns got the flu. Enns gave a gritty effort on the opening day of the tournament as FPU swept St. Thomas of Florida and Olivet Nazarene of Illinois, but was banished to her San Diego hotel bed for much of the rest of the tournament.

Head coach Dennis Janzen called on senior Chelsey Duley

to move from opposite hitter to setter. No problem—it had only been two seasons since Duley had been the team's part-time starting setter. Janzen picked Erin Mazmanian to fill Duley's hitting position.

Call it brilliant coaching or just a make-shift desperate-times-call-for-desperate-measures move. It doesn't matter. The Sunbirds blew away their competition. On Day 2, with Duley directing the offense, FPU dismissed No. 10 Lee of Tennessee in 70 minutes. On Friday morning, in their final pool play match, they dispatched 2000 champion Dickinson State of North Dakota 30-25, 30-11, 30-7.

That set up a quarterfinal date with 2002 national champion National American of South Dakota Friday evening. No problem. The inspired Sunbirds dominated every aspect of the game. The 30-25, 30-25, 30-19 sweep was sweet revenge for the previous year's semifinal season-ending loss to the Mavericks.

Saturday morning FPU ended Dordt of Iowa's season with a 3-0 sweep in the semifinals. That left Columbia of Missouri, the 1999 and 2001 champion, as the only obstacle between the Sunbirds and their second NAIA title. The old nemesis, had ended FPU's season in the title match in 1999, and in a controversial semifinal in 2001.

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BACK TO THE FUTURE

To honor the 60th anniversary of the school now known as Fresno Pacific University, a baker's dozen of brave souls shared their dreams for the next 60 years. Do they represent a scientific sample? Perish the thought. They do, in a few broad strokes, describe the hope and faith of those who serve today to enrich tomorrow.

We join the story during the 120th anniversary in 2064 . . .

Living the legacy, building the future 1944-2004-2064

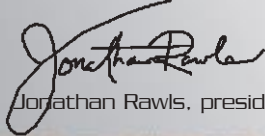
Few recall that, as part of the 60th anniversary of Fresno Pacific University, a time capsule was buried near what today is the site of the Internet Fine Arts Center. Records of the ceremony were wiped out a few decades later during the worldwide attack of the Smelly Carp virus. The cure of that virus by an interdisciplinary team of FPU faculty and students, of course, led to the making of our international reputation.

I recall the day my parents, Richard and Janita Rawls, for whom the doctorates in philosophy and business are named, took me to where the capsule was buried. They made me promise to make sure it was opened on time in 2064, and today I am honored to do so.

Among these relics of another time are statements from faculty and staff in 2004. While we may find the clothes and hair styles in the photographs dated and even amusing—did people still wear glasses?—their words hold the power to move us.

Here is a mosaic of the hopes, the wishes, the challenges and even the warnings of those who loved FPU with the faith to look forward. If our ancestors were here today they would be marvel at much of that they see, and might smile at some of our own fashions, but I truly believe they would also nod their approval at how we have multiplied the benefits of their legacy for the good of the Kingdom.

With Christ as the foundation for the next 60 years,



Jonathan Rawls, president

AN INSHORE LIGHTHOUSE

Jeffrey Jones (BA '01)

assistant registrar/tech specialist

We will balance a good mix of breadth and depth in academic and cocurricular programs with a focused vision of what FPU is. We need to have it be clear as to what we are committed to.

A Christian, liberal arts education will still be our specialty. In-N-Out Burgers has the smallest menu in fast food. They make a few things really well.

There will be strong majors in areas that enhance people's lives, such as business and education. Everyone has teachers in their lives, and everyone will have business dealings. There will be an art department and a performance hall. That's a manifestation of our commitment.

An eventual enrollment maximum will assure quality is not sacrificed for expansion. I wanted to come to college here because of the small community feel.

The Fresno campus will remain the center of the FPU experience as, an inshore lighthouse. We're a beacon in the center of the state, the center of the Valley.



STUDENTS AS GLOBAL CITIZENS

Patricia Anderson

academic vice president and provost

FPU will build on the strengths of 2004—a Christ-centered foundation, faculty who help students achieve through mentoring and teaching, an interdisciplinary work and intercultural emphases, innovative teacher and adult education—and realize them in new ways.

All our students will have to be global citizens. Intercultural education, either overseas or around the corner, will be the norm. Fresno is an intercultural city. Employers from agribusiness to banking will demand employees who work across cultures. If you can't fit into an international experience you won't be able to get a good job.

Technology will make for a mix of online and classroom experiences. Interactive networks will allow our students take courses at Tabor College and other schools, and their students to take courses at FPU. This way we can expand our offerings without expanding size, so our students get only the best.

The student body will be diverse ethnically, with a non-European population of 50 percent, and denominationally. To me that's an opportunity, not a challenge. Students and faculty will work together across the disciplines. This is absolutely where people are going. FPU is out front in thinking interdisciplinarily.

Faculty will continue to have many of the same characteristics of current teachers. They'll be the guides by the side rather than the lecturer in front. Class will still be the interaction between the faculty and students.

Classes will be small to maintain that personal attention. That will be our coin of the realm in the future.

Faith and service will always be the center. I can't imagine us losing that.



CONTINUOUS LOOP OF RELATIONSHIP

Linda Hoff

teacher education chair

What I would dream is that the teacher education program would continually redefine itself.

Teacher education will continue its strong reputation in the Valley, but expand into the mission field. Study abroad will be almost required. I hope this would be the teacher education program that Christians come to...as well as those who are attracted by the ethical and moral foundation.

As undergraduates, future teachers will enter a seamless program from credential to master's degree and beyond. FPU will be a center for teaching renewal, offering continuing education for those already teaching. Practicing teachers will also come to teach at FPU during sabbaticals. To create a continuous loop of relationship," between students, faculty and practitioners.

I would like teachers in the Valley who think, 'I'm an idealist about teaching and consider teaching a calling.' to say 'I want to be at FPU.'



GRADUATES WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Rod Reed

campus pastor

Parents and families will send their children to this university because they will learn how to make a difference in the world and put their faith into action. They'll say, 'I'll go to Fresno because they're offering what nobody else offers, or they're offering it better than anybody else.'

Mentoring will be seen as everyone's role. Each employee sees it as their responsibility to invest in the lives of students. It's not just helping students choose classes, it's the head groundskeeper working with his student workers and athletic coaches helping their students be more than great athletes.

More students will live on campus and spend more time together. There will be a building large enough to hold everyone for worship, plays, concerts and other campus activities. I'd like a big place on campus where we could meet together for a variety of things.

Students from all classes will eat together. Patterns in 2004 demonstrated that as juniors and seniors moved into residences with kitchens, this left freshmen and sophomores in the dining hall. Peer mentorship decreased since upper-level students were less available to share their expertise. Figuring out a way to recreate or create a new way to encourage interaction between classes is important.



A STATELY CAMPUS

Mark Deffenbacher

vice president for advancement and university relations

We need a sound financial structure, including an endowment that allows us to keep FPU up-to-date and affordable. What I'm dreaming of is a stately campus of 100 years ago.

New buildings provided for every academic area on a 100-acre campus. There will be an athletic center adequate for multiple indoor sporting events, as well as a health and wellness center for all ages featuring exercise, gerontology, an indoor swimming pool and a walking track.

Partnerships with businesses and community agencies would connect FPU to Fresno. For example, senior citizens would have access to academic classrooms and passes to the fitness center. Gold's Gym could run the weight room and exercise facilities. In return, FPU would use its expertise in systems, analysis and education to help Fresno and the area reach its next level.

Technology would join students, alumni and the community to the university. So that from home people can connect to ball games, dramas and musical events and almost interactively relate to those events.

Centralized entrances, parking and exits will allow the lots of 2004 to become green spaces and high-rise buildings soaring above southeast Fresno. Among these a library/learning center covering three to four times the area of Hiebert Library. I'm seeing a more visible presence of the academy to passersby.

TECHNOLOGY ENHANCES INTERACTION

Consuelo Meux

business faculty

You know I'll bet there will be lots of technology, but we'll have to have some form of interaction with people, that's just part of being human. This connection is also part of Christian community. We're still going to have a lot of human touch.

The importance of science and technology will increase throughout education. Students will come more technologically savvy. That's just because they'll have it at home.

As California changes, students will come from different places. We are absolutely going to be a diverse campus.

Intercultural and multicultural studies and communication will be crucial. The world is going to shrink. We're going to have to be multicentric.

The Christian commitment will remain our identity and purpose. Because if not we just become another school. That's what makes people want to be here.



A HEART FOR FACULTY

Luetta Reimer (BA '66)

emerita English faculty

Faculty will continue to be at the center of the success of the university. It's the people who have been the heart of the university.

New faculty will be faithful Christians and dedicated teachers whose spiritual life and experience are important to them. New faculty will clearly be good teachers. I think that teaching should take priority over scholarship and research, even though those are important.

The university will continue to allow its faculty to experiment. I always loved the way when I was there that there was an attitude that if you want to try something new, we'll support you. And if you don't succeed we'll still support you.

Students will learn in a safe, structured environment where they are encouraged to serve while they're still students. Then they can feel the rewards and satisfaction that come from service.



NOT ANOTHER HARVARD

James Slentz

director of facilities and services

My great-grandchildren will go to FPU and still find Christ as the foundation. I want to know that we won't become another Harvard—a place that started out as a church institution but now you can't tell. To do this the university will continue to ensure that all who influence students are Bible-believing Christians.

Students will benefit from a greater variety of majors, such as pre-med and doctoral programs, as well as a greater variety of people. I would hope by that time we have diversified more in our student body and especially in our faculty and staff.

Improved facilities will complement expanded programs. I'd like to see us with a performing arts building as state-of-the-art as the AIMS Hall of Mathematics and Science is for math and science. I'd like to see that in the next six years, not 60.

To handle the housing challenge, the university will own more of Ranchwood Condominiums, and will incorporate them into the campus. A multistory parking garage will also be open.

Fans will enjoy baseball and tennis teams and everyone will benefit from a health building. I would like to see us have a full-blown fitness center and a geriatrics teaching program in cooperation with Twilight Haven.



NO ACADEMIC LIMITS

John Navarro (BA '76, '77, MA '83)

director of work study and service learning

The service and outreach program will offer programs to the community as well as the campus. This is a way to live our lives as Christians.

All students will have one semester of service work that ties directly into their major. It's not busywork. We will build on strong partnerships with Fresno Unified School District, Cornerstone Foundation, Fresno County Office of Education and other non-profit and faith-based centers.

The physical campus will be improved in many ways. The fine arts building will be open to community music and drama as well as touring groups. The library/media resource center will offer information in many forms. You'll have your traditional area for books, but people also can do research online from across the world.

The athletics building will be a multiuse facility where basketball seating can be converted into lecture space. A "small sports" area will serve programs such as gymnastics, self-defense and wrestling.

A pre-med major will be offered in cooperation with the University of California and local hospitals. One of the dreams would be to create apartments or condominiums where people would live while finishing their residencies. Students could then stay with spouses and children and not have to leave the Valley to study.

There's no limit to what can happen. If you dream you have a sense of what could become possible.



FLEXIBLE AND INNOVATIVE

Esther Klassen-Isaak (BA '77)

director of the counseling office

FPU will carry forward its core values while adapting to cultural shifts. We'll be nimble, flexible and innovative without losing sight of the center. That's our call, that's our task for the future.

Governance will balance accountability and empowerment in order to nosh the pioneer spirit that makes us strong. I really believe in the power of individual creativity, and we certainly have the work ethic.

Students will require more from student life, and the program will become more comprehensive. I would like us to be more responsive to our student needs. Our students are consumers, they have expectations. All of our services at their core speak to the Fresno Pacific Idea.

All members of the community will enjoy the appreciation of the university. Realizing that we are an academic institution [and] that's primarily what we do.

There is room for the university to grow. I would hope that it's a thriving, innovative institution that has a broader reach than the Valley.



NEW PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

Kathryn Hitchcox

associate dean of the school of professional studies

I envision the university still being shaped by the Fresno Pacific Idea, because I think that idea is timeless. I foresee that the university will continue to emphasize the liberal arts within a Christian context and continue to emphasize learning as a community enterprise.

FPU will build more professional education upon its liberal arts core. We will introduce majors that are designed to prepare our students to meet the needs of both our region and the world. More than half those students will be adults.

New programs will begin in healthcare, business and education. I would be ambitious enough to hope that in 60 years we can offer pre-med, nursing, nurse practitioner and case management programs. Information technology and services education will grow. All signs indicate we will be more and more dependent on technology as a means to manage.

Technology will be crucial to education, but will not replace the classroom. We can offer online programs that could be taken by anyone, particularly international students. I think that fits into the prophetic strand of the Fresno Pacific Idea.

Satellite centers around the world will connect students to one another and FPU. I think we'll become both a residential and virtual campus, so we have a community in every sense of the word.

The university will continue its legacy as a Christian learning community that seeks to serve the larger community in order to realize the teachings of Christ and the Kingdom of God. That will continue to be who we are.

FAITH FORWARD

Edmund Janzen

emeritus biblical and religious studies faculty

A new generation will claim the FPU vision for itself. The Fresno Pacific Idea will have to be revisited, and should be.

Vision involves all levels, from the denomination to the board to the campus. The university will still be a Mennonite Brethren institution. There should be an Anabaptist vortex and nexus to the place. Board members and processes must be reflective. I'm not pushing them to have the right answers; I just hope they ask the right questions.

In hiring, the challenge will be to balance disciplinary competence with theological orientation. While debate and diversity are healthy, common ground is necessary.

The variety of graduate degrees will expand and include at least one doctorate. Academics will also have a stronger international face. I suspect we will need to become more global and we will become increasingly so.

There will be more students and expanded facilities, including a new library. Professional development and degree completion programs will continue to be important.

Despite changes in society, the high demand for Christian higher education will continue. I don't think there will be any retrenchment on that.

The university's stature in Fresno and the Central Valley will grow. My sense is anywhere you go we get high accolades. People either know us and love us or they don't know us.

In the end, prospects are good because the community likes our values and our product. I faith forward.



REMAIN ANABAPTIST

Sue Kliever (BA '91, MA '98)

human resources director

FPU will maintain its Anabaptist foundation of peace and reconciliation, service and discipleship. When my grandchildren come here I don't want them to just come to a place that's decidedly Christian, but one that continues to teach Anabaptist ideals. It's very important that we don't just become another evangelical Christian university.

People will want to work at the university. In addition to strides in salaries, benefits and faculty and staff development, FPU will be known as a place where people's voices are heard. To me this is one of the distinctives we've had over the years—we don't pay as much as some places but you can be involved here.

At the same time the university will become more diverse denominationally and culturally. I would like to see us...have the voices at the table represent different perceptions.

We will be celebrating our fine arts building. I don't think you leave a legacy by building buildings, but we really need a fine arts facility.





Wilma Derksen

Victim, offender share their JOURNEYS toward HOPE

by Kristen Kleyn

10TH ANNUAL RESTORATIVE JUSTICE CONFERENCE

*The Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies at Fresno Pacific University
"Violence and the Journey Towards Resolution"
November 14-15, 2003
Mennonite Brethren
Biblical Seminary.*

An estimated 108 people from the criminal justice, education, church and social service fields from Fresno County, the rest of California and outside the state attended the event. The conference was co-sponsored by Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) of the Central Valley, West Coast Mennonite Central Committee, Prison Fellowship/Justice Fellowship, Home Town Buffet, Fresno County Probation Department and Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR), Central California Chapter.



Joe Avila

Tragedies give lives new direction

On November 30, 1984, Wilma Derksen's 13-year-old daughter Candace didn't come home from school. Her body was found January 17, hands and feet tied.

Every day as Joe Avila drives home on Highway 99, he sees a blue sign a mile and a half from his house: "Please don't drink and drive. In memory of Amy Wall." On September 18, 1992, Avila was the drunk driver that hit 17-year-old Wall.

Wilma Derksen and Joe Avila told their stories at the Restorative Justice Conference. Speaking with serious eagerness and occasional tears, Avila attributed his healing to restorative justice. "I don't think anyone without restoration can pass by that sign every day without a negative impact," he said.

Derksen's voice was soft-spoken but firm as she explained the extreme upheaval victims experience. Griev-

ing people are often unable to work, and must change careers or move. The Derksen family moved two years after Candace's death because they couldn't bear to live in a house full of memories.

A chaplain visited Avila in prison and told him about a forgiving God. "For me that opened up an amazing hope," he said. He read Scripture, books and literature from the Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies (CPACS).

PHONATHON SETS RECORD

The annual Alumni Scholarship Phonathon raised a record \$47,609 in 18 nights October 20 through December 4. Students made 15,681 calls and welcomed 234 new donors. Some 274 alumni increased pledges by \$10 or more over last year, and 461 renewed previous pledges. Top callers will receive pizza with president D. Merrill Ewert. Among the top callers, Shondra Davison got the most new donors and increased pledges with 68, Dayshia Boykins got 74 new or updated e-mail addresses and Laurel Oswald raised more than \$9,000. Other callers were Sara Clark, Charliisa Cullen, Diana Dersch, Ellen Gill, Javon Morris, Robyn Nachtigall, Kelli Plotner, AnneMarie Richardt, Andrea Rodriguez, Deborah Ruiter, Amanda Rye, Kim Urguhart and Heather Verhoeven. Ashley Bergman was student supervisor.



Derksen, who lives in Winnepeg, claims the current justice system has sterilized the process of grieving. Chaos is good, she said, and the fainting and screaming might need to happen before justice and closure. “Victims want a good process to deal with all the trauma,” she said.

Avila’s lawyer stalled the process in hopes of a shorter sentence, but Avila decided he didn’t want the Wall family to make them endure a longer trial. He pled guilty, apologized to the family in court and received six and a half years.

Restorative justice can give people healing by understanding the victims and listening to their stories. “Justice making is about truth and accountability, telling your story and being vindicated,” Derksen said.

Avila felt he deserved his sentence. In prison, he continued to meet with CPACS staff, and the news of restorative justice spread among the prisoners. “We saw people grow in their want for justice—not for themselves but for their victims,” Avila said.

January 6, 1999, Avila walked out of prison and was restored to society. “But the other restoration that

I learned was that peace I had with God, with my victims,” he said.

Victims develop a bond with their offender, who becomes part of their lives, Derksen said. They keep track of what happens almost like family. Restorative justice can address that unhealthy bond. “To come to peace with the offender is really what restorative justice has to offer,” she said.

Two years after leaving prison, Avila sat at his kitchen table with his wife and Debbie, the mother of Amy Wall’s best friend. Debbie told Avila of her pain and grief, and Avila told Debbie of his. Then Avila asked Debbie to forgive him.

After his apology, he said, Debbie felt 10 years of pain released from her shoulders. Avila is willing to meet with the Walls, but has not yet had the opportunity.

While the police never found Candace Derksen’s killer, her mother’s moment of restoration came 12 years later when Wilma met with 10 prisoners serving life sentences. “My husband would say that’s when I changed. I went from finding my own healing to helping victims find theirs,” she said in an interview before

the conference.

Six years ago, Derksen founded Victim’s Voice, an organization that speaks for victims of serious crimes. Derksen has spoken in churches, prisons and even provincial ministries of justice. “I am the victim’s arm of the restorative justice movement,” she said.

One year after leaving prison, Avila began working for Prison Fellowship, an organization that helps churches minister to prisoners. Now executive director of the Central and Northern California/Nevada Area, Avila shares restorative justice with inmates. “I want people to realize that restoration does work, that reconciliation does work,” he said.

As Avila finished speaking and stepped away from the podium, Derksen stood up. Avila walked toward her and they embraced.

Kristen Kleyn is a senior majoring in English.

Criminal justice officials support expanding restorative justice in Fresno County

Local system could be nationwide pilot program

by Wayne Steffen

Making Fresno County a leader in revolutionizing criminal justice is not a question of “if” but “how,” according to state and county court and prison officials at the Restorative Justice Conference.

A panel discussed making Fresno County a pilot program for California and the nation by instituting a large-scale restorative justice program. “In conventional punitive justice the crime is defined not against the person but against the law, and punishment is doled out accordingly,” said Ron Claassen, director of the Fresno Pacific University Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies (CPACS). “Restorative justice emphasizes the harm to people and relationships. Restorative justice focuses on making things as right as possible for the victim, offender and community.”

Panelists agreed simply putting more people behind bars for more time does not work. Today California has a \$5 billion criminal justice budget, while 80,000 prisoners sit idle, gangs expand and their members get younger, said Jim Rowland, former director of the California State Department of Corrections. “We’ve proven we can be tough. ... This would be smart,” he said.

Restorative justice came to Fresno County in 1982 with the founding of Victim Offender Reconciliation (VORP) of the Central Valley. More than 6,000 cases, mostly juvenile crimes involving property damage, have gone to the independent, non-profit agency. Meetings took place in about half the cases, said Claassen, who was the first VORP director.

Restitution agreements were reached in 98 percent of the cases where there was a meeting and 90 percent of those agreements were completed. “Our satisfaction rates are over 90 percent for both victim and offender,” Claassen said.

The proposed legislation was written by Douglas Noll, an attorney/peacemaker who earned a master’s from FPU in peacemaking and conflict studies. Themes emerged from discussions by county criminal justice and community leaders facilitated by CPACS.

The draft would open nearly all types of crimes to restorative justice. It also calls for:

- the consent of victims and offenders
- restorative justice to occur at any time in the criminal process, from before a plea is made to after someone is incarcerated
- offenders to take responsibility and liability
- cases to return to restorative justice if the supervising court doesn’t like the outcome
- training deputy probation officers as restorative justice coordinators
- funding for five years
- decisions by consensus rather than majority vote
- recognition of the legal rights of both the victim and offender

Legislation has already been attempted once. Though Governor Pete Wilson vetoed a bill to fund VORPs, he did ask the California Judicial Council to study existing programs, Noll told the panel.



Ron Claassen, at microphone, director of the FPU Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies, speaks to a panel discussing expanding restorative justice in Fresno County. Panelists are, from left: Jim Rowland, former director of the California State Department of Corrections; Pat Nolan, president of Justice Fellowship; Wilma Derksen, founder of Victim’s Voice; Joe Avila, executive director for Prison Fellowship for the Central & Northern California/Nevada Area; Arthur Wint, coordinator of the peace and justice program at California State University, Fresno; Larry Price, chief probation officer of Fresno County; Worthington Vogel, assistant district attorney of Fresno County; and Brad Hill, presiding superior court judge of Fresno County.

The council looked at similar cases handled through VORP and through the traditional criminal justice system and found that with VORP victims received 158 percent to 1,000 percent more restitution, recidivism (repeat offenses) was 21 percent to 105 percent lower, agreements were reached in all cases and kept in 70 percent to 93 percent of them, and victim and offender satisfaction was over 90 percent.

In 1989 an entire country took the step toward restorative justice when New Zealand combined its child welfare and juvenile justice systems. As of 1995, 90 percent of cases went through the system, resulting in a 75 percent decrease in court hearings, two-thirds fewer youth in custody and reduced recidivism, according to a summary of a report by F.W.M. McElrea, a New Zealand judge, to the 1996 Restorative Justice Conference.



STUDENTS LIVE WITH DISABILITIES

Members of the "Health Education and the Exceptional Child" class at Fresno Pacific University spent time living as their disabled students do during a simulation on the Fresno campus and the Visalia Center. About 175 students in the teacher education and special education programs alternated between disabilities including blindness, deafness and the need for a wheelchair during the four-hour exercise. The annual event helps participants understand what some students go through now and perhaps prepare for their own future, said Peter Kopriva, special education faculty. "Most of us don't die in good health," he pointed out. Above, from left, Veronica Villalobos, Suzie Azevedo and Jim Covington experience blindness. (FPU photo by Wayne Steffen)



STUDENTS NAMED TO HONOR BAND

A trio of FPU students joined others from Christian colleges and universities across the United States and Canada in an honor band at the 10th Annual Christian Instrumentalists and Directors Association. The conference was February 12-14 at Lee University School of Music, Cleveland, Tennessee. The students are (from left): Tiffany Weller, flute; Jimmy Loomis, trumpet; and Angela Easu, flute. Music faculty Wayne Huber, far left, accompanied them. CIDA, with 272 members, is the only active professional organization concerned with meeting the needs of Christian directors of grade school, university and church instrumental groups.

Board member Ted Thiesen dies after illness



Theodore J. Thiesen died January 11, 2004, after a brief illness. He had been a member of the Fresno Pacific University Board of Trustees since 1983. He was also on the FPU Foundation Board since 1991 and secretary since 1993.

Thiesen was born in Fresno to Herman and Elizabeth Thiesen. Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Marylene (Leppke) of Bakersfield; daughter Janet and her husband Garth Ediger, of Overland Park, Kansas; sons David and his wife Brenda and Daryl and his wife Connie, all of Bakersfield; and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and his younger brother, Jim.

A volunteer in church missions throughout his life, Thiesen framed dorm rooms at the Lithuanian Christian College in Klaipeda, Lithuania, coordinated the building of three churches in Mexico and helped build churches in Dresden and Reichenhall, Germany. He also coordinated church building projects with USERV and Global Missions International. He served on the board of Mennonite Brethren Missions/Services International from 1975-83 and the Pacific District Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches Board of Trustees from 1968-74.

Starting with Pacific Bell immediately out of school, Thiesen held a wide variety of technical and management positions. He retired in 1991 after 35 years and launched Thiesen Consulting.

Community service activities include work with SCORE (Service Core of Retired Executives), where he was chapter president in 1998, 1999, 2001 and 2002. He was chairman of the Bakersfield Small Business Center board and taught at Bakersfield College.

Graveside services were January 15 at Shafter Memorial Park, followed by a memorial at Rosedale Bible Church in Bakersfield. The family requests memorial contributions to the FPU Ted and Marylene Thiesen Scholarship Fund.



John Wooden brought his blend of character and success to two events hosted by FPU.

John Wooden can define success any way he wants to:

- 10 national basketball championships
- the Presidential Medal of Freedom
- author and speaker
- husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather

The definition Wooden brought to two events hosted by FPU was more personal and completely intertwined with character. “Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming,” he said. “Reputation is what people think you are. You’re character is what you really are, and you’re the only one who knows that.”

Wooden, former UCLA basketball coach, spoke October 7-8. On Tuesday Wooden appeared at the Character in High School Activities Conference, hosted by FPU’s Bartsch Institute of Character and Civic

Sports legend links success with character for high school students, business leaders

Education, with the assistance of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. On Wednesday he addressed the FPU Business Forum Breakfast.

Over 1,000 people attended each sold-out event. The character conference attracted athletes, coaches and cheer squads from more than 40 high schools to the university Special Events Center. The business forum drew community leaders from many fields to the Fresno Convention Center.

In both presentations, Wooden spoke for more than 30 minutes without notes, answered questions from the audience and signed books and autographs. His only concession to his 92 years was to keep a cane by his side and to sit when he spoke.

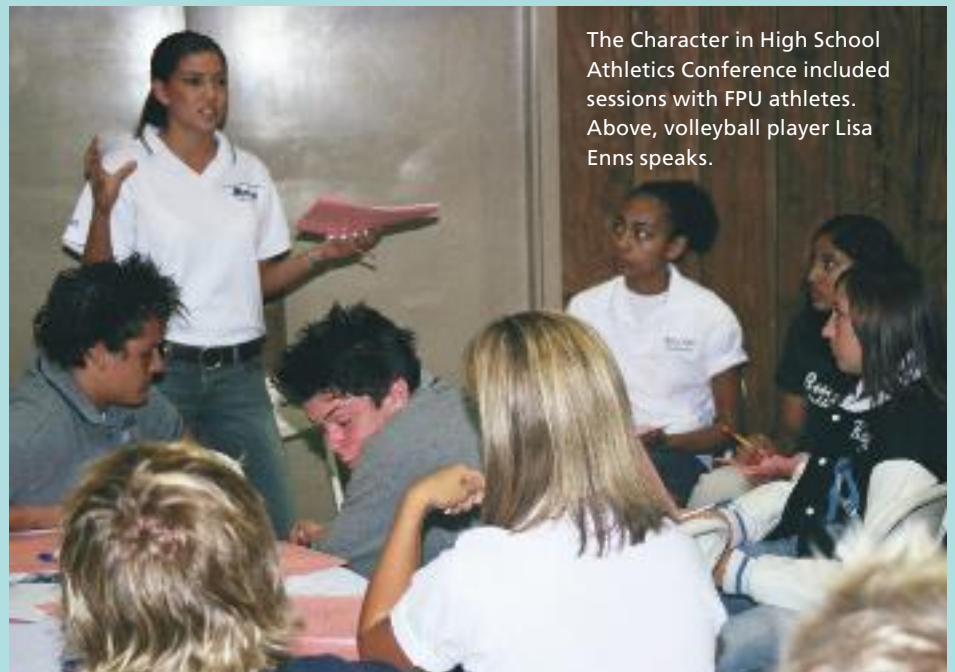
Wooden’s spirit remains generous and his outlook optimistic. Asked if young people have changed, Wooden said: “No, they’ll never be different. They’re good. They’re born good.”

The prepared remarks were based on Wooden’s Pyramid of Success, whose blocks are more about personal character than professional expertise.

The foundation is industriousness, friendship, loyalty, cooperation and enthusiasm. They support self-control, alertness, initiative, intentness, condition, skill, team spirit, poise, confidence and competitive greatness.

Competition is important, but the point is not to outshine others. Instead, as Wooden quoted his father, “never cease to be the best you can be.”

As a player and coach, Wooden is among the most honored athletic figures in American history. In a 40-year coaching career ending in 1975, Wooden’s teams won more than 80 percent of the time. He received the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Reagan Distinguished American Award. He is the only person inducted into the national basketball hall of fame in more than one category (player and coach). He was college basketball coach of the year seven times. His records include consecutive college coaching victories (88), NCAA championships (10), consecutive NCAA championships (7), and consecutive NCAA tournament victories (38).



The Character in High School Athletics Conference included sessions with FPU athletes. Above, volleyball player Lisa Enns speaks.

University joins effort to put American history online

A dozen or so teachers gather in a computer lab at FPU. Working in pairs, surfing the Internet, they debate the quality of various sites: design, video, links and navigability.

This is teaching history? Where are the wall maps? The timelines? The portraits of Washington and Lincoln? This was the paraphernalia that for generations inspired an enlightened few to illuminate textbooks with Hi-liters and drove a drowsy multitude to deface margins with doodles.

The Teaching American History Grant is an effort to demystify and demystify the many stories that make up the making of a nation. The idea is to demonstrate how the World Wide Web can transmit not only the promise of the future, but also the wisdom of the ages. "The purpose of this project is to raise student achievement in American history by improving their teachers' knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of American history," grant documents state.

"High school kids today are the first generation to grow up on the Internet. It's important to meet kids

where they are with the technology they use," said Rob Darrow, project director. An FPU alumnus and adjunct faculty member, Darrow serves as library media teacher on special assignment/online learning specialist at Clovis Unified School District.

"In the Central Valley and other places the access to documents is limited. This will change that," said Scott Key, FPU education and history faculty. Other participating faculty are Richard Unruh, political science, and Kevin Enns-Rempel, history and archives, and Rod Janzen, senior scholar.

The grant is financed by \$996,000 in federal funds shared by FPU, Clovis Unified School District (CUSD), Fresno County Office of Education (FCOE), the California Department of Education, Microsoft and the Library of Congress. Year one of the three-year project brings together 40 eighth- and 11th-grade teachers from 32 schools in 18 districts. In the second year 20 fifth-grade teachers will be added.

Darrow invited FPU to be part of the project because he felt it fit the university's strength in develop-



Rob Darrow talks to teachers about using the Internet to teach history.

ing curriculum and reputation for service. "The willingness of people at this university to work with the community is very positive," he said.

The project is important for FPU as well as for participating schools. "One, it shows people respect the faculty here and believe we have expertise to offer," Key said. "Second, it allows us to do something of significance for the Central Valley."

LEARN MORE at
www.cusd.com/calonline/tah

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE HONORS

This year's Lifetime President's Circle and Heritage Society Concert took place November 21 in the Larry A. Shehadey Dining Room of Steinert Campus Center. New Lifetime members for the year 2002 were Tom and Linda Collins, Bob and Carol Friesen, Walter and Dolly Friesen, Lorin and Karen Neufeld and Nick and Lydia Reimer. Dale and Eleanor Boese were named to the Lifetime Round Table and Glen and Helene Blue to the Heritage Society. Lifetime Cornerstone recognition went to Wes and Ann Heinrichs, Cecil and Janet Hill and Robert and Patricia Krause. Paul and Peggi Davis were recognized as 10-year members. The university jazz ensemble and several student vocalists performed. The jazz band was directed by Patricia DeBenedetto. The vocalists: Mike Haynes, Hanna Nielsen, Henry Vasquez and Carolyn Damschen, were directed by Deborah Sauer-Ferrand, music faculty, and accompanied by student Doug Sumi. At right, Edmund Janzen (center), president emeritus, and Karl Avakian (right), board member, chat. Former President Richard Kriegbaum is at left.





ZORILLA FACES THE STRUGGLES OF telling the eternal truth in new ways

*“The idea is to be a translator,
not a traitor.”*

Hugo Zorrilla, a member of the biblical and religious studies and Spanish faculties, took that charge seriously while translating a manual for translators and parts of the Bible into Spanish. Seriously enough, that is, to devote years of evenings and weekends to sentence-by-sentence, verse-by-verse and sometimes word-by-word study. “It’s a schooling for me,” he said. “It gets me in touch with the reality of Latin America.”

Zorrilla recently completed two years of work on *A Translator’s Handbook Gospel of John*, a guide for people translating the Bible into the indigenous languages of Latin America. This 300-page book is for the United Bible Society, based in Miami. The manual is awaiting publication.

Before that Zorrilla translated the Gospel of John, Revelations, the

Epistles of John, Acts, First Peter, the Psalms, Micah and part of Isaiah for Nueva Biblia Internacional, the first new edition of the Bible in Spanish since the 1500s. He was one of 16 scholars from the U.S., Mexico, Ecuador, Peru, Chili, Columbia and other parts of Central and South America. More than two million copies of this Bible have been published since its release in 1998-1999 by the International Bible Society, Colorado Springs.

A native of Colombia, Zorrilla came to FPU in 1989. His undergraduate degrees are from Seminario Biblico Latinamericano and Universidad de Costa Rica. His master’s degree is from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and his doctorate is from Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca.

With snowy hair and a ready smile, Zorrilla shakes his head at the problems translators have in telling the Bible stories in a way Latin Amer-

icans can understand. Talk of plows and shepherds, for example, mean nothing to people who have never seen them. “What does it mean to be a pastor in a country that doesn’t have a flock?” Zorrilla asks.

Simply translating to Spanish isn’t the answer, since not everyone in Latin America speaks it. Mexico has about 200 ethnic groups, many with their own language. In Guatemala, 75 percent of the people do not use Spanish as their first language. Even among those who do speak Spanish, words have different meanings and connotations in different countries, Zorrilla said.

A change in imagery leads quickly to theological questions, so Zorrilla and other translators must struggle to find alternate but accurate language. “We want to honor the Bible writer, but there’s so much that doesn’t make sense,” he said.

faculty & staff FOCUS

Ron Claassen, Center for Peace and Conflict Studies director, and wife Roxanne presented a workshop at the Association for Conflict Resolution National Conference in Florida, October 15-18. Their presentation was on discipline that restores with a special emphasis on creating and using respect agreements in the classroom. Ron did another workshop at the same conference on restorative justice models.

Melinda Gunning, writing center director, was awarded certificates this summer from the National Tutoring Association. She was also appointed president-elect of the California chapter of the College Reading and Learning Association.

Tim Neufeld, contemporary Christian ministries faculty, had an article in the September *Christian Leader* titled: "Family Feud: How to handle conflict in the family."

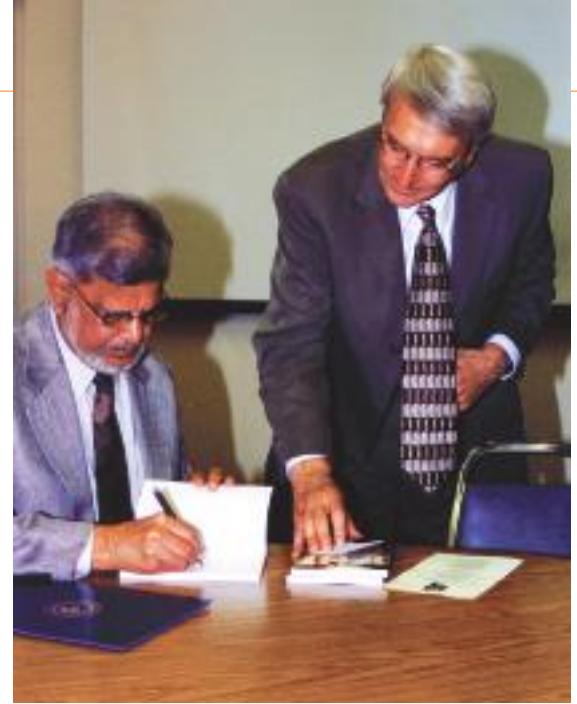
Laura Roberts, biblical and religious studies faculty, was the focus of an article in the spring issue of *GTU Currents*, a publication of the Graduate Theological Union. "Tradition and Change Laura Roberts Investigates Mennonite Identity" looked at Roberts' work on the role of community in interpreting religious tradition, part of her dissertation.

Rod Reed, campus pastor, had an article in the August *Christian Leader*. "Big Questions, Bigger Faith" examines ways mentoring ministries can help young adults (those who have recently graduated high school) grow in their faith.

Jean Janzen, English faculty, was chosen as the 2003 Menno Simons Scholar at Bethel College, Newton, Kansas. The series, celebrating its 50th year, was November 2-4. The title for Janzen's program was "Elements of Faithful Writing." Some of Janzen's poems were performed to music by J. Harold Moyer, retired Bethel music faculty.

FPU BRINGS GANDHI

TO FRESNO—Ways to bring peace to a world at war and communities in conflict were explored during "Building a Culture of Peace," a week of activities hosted by FPU and California State University, Fresno (CSUF), September 29-October 3. Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, was the special guest during the event, speaking at Veteran's Memorial Auditorium and on both campuses. As a boy, Arun Gandhi saw and participated in Mahatma Gandhi's nonviolent revolution for independence. After leading successful projects of his own for reform in India, Arun Gandhi came to the U.S. in 1988. In 1991, he and wife Sunanda founded the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence at Christian Brothers University, Memphis. Arun Gandhi has spoken at hundreds of locations in several countries. Other "Build a Culture of Peace" events included cultural festivals, a documentary on Mahatma Gandhi, dramatic readings, music and a prayer vigil. Additional sponsors were the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, Interfaith Alliance, the FPU Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies, the Central California Cultural Society of India and the city of Fresno.



FPU attracts record incoming class

Enrollment news remains good at FPU.

University enrollment in September was 1,991. There were 965 students in the traditional undergraduate program and 785 in the graduate school, while 241 working adults studied for their bachelor's degrees in the Center for Degree Completion (CDC).

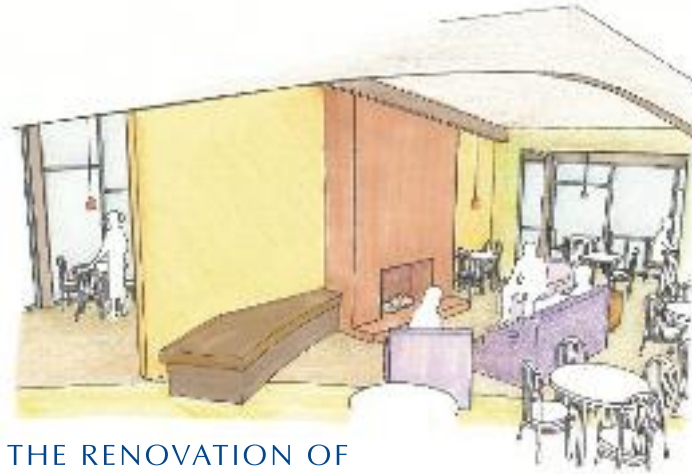
During the fall semester official figures are available only for the college, and are based on the 16-day census. Graduate school and CDC enrollment is considered a "snapshot" due to the differing academic schedules of those schools.

Traditional undergraduate enrollment is up from 936 in 2002, boosted by the largest incoming class in university history. In all, 361 freshman and transfers entered FPU, compared to 341 in 2002. This is the third consecutive year freshman enrollment has topped 200.

The freshman class is again well-prepared academically. The average student grade-point average is 3.57, and SAT scores for the top 25 percent averaged 1,244.

FPU also offers a rich mix of ethnic heritages and denominational affiliations. Students represent 46 countries and many churches, the largest groups being from Baptist, Mennonite Brethren (the university's sponsoring denomination), non-denominational and Catholic congregations. About 33 percent of incoming freshmen are students of color.

The last few years have been busy ones at Fresno Pacific University, and the excitement shows no signs of letting up. Growth in enrollment, growth in academic rigor and growth in opportunities for spiritual development help students live out their potential in all phases of life. But expansion in these areas brings with it the need to enhance our facilities. We are pleased to announce two projects that will help us continue to succeed in our mission to prepare students for faithful and wise service to the church and world.



THE FUTURE OF SUNBIRD ATHLETICS

BASEBALL FIELD

The Great American pastime is in Fresno Pacific University's near future. With lights already in place, we can almost hear the call of "play ball!"



THE HAROLD AND BETTY HAAK TENNIS COMPLEX

These competition-level courts will herald the return of the Sunbird tennis teams as well as provide recreational benefits for all students, faculty and staff.



THE PLAZA

The plaza will serve as the hub for the entire athletic complex. Here fans can relax, enjoy a snack and discuss the game. Athletes will have access to new locker rooms. Public restrooms will be centrally located.



THE COCKERHAM TRACK/ THE RAMIREZ SOCCER FIELD

The Cockerham Track and The Ramirez Soccer Field are two of the premier facilities in the Golden State Athletic Conference. The press box, 1500-seat bleachers and lights will increase comfort for the fans and expand scheduling into the cool of the evening.



THE RENOVATION OF ALUMNI HALL

Alumni Hall has served up community like no other building on campus. Thousands of meals have fed bodies. Thousands of conversations have nourished deeper needs: the visit with friends to plan the weekend, the impromptu conference with a faculty member to answer that nagging question for the final exam, the game of chess with the campus pastor to explore directions for life.

Rarely at rest, Alumni Hall has often risen from its workaday role as cafeteria and kitchen to become a chapel, concert hall and theater. The conference room has provided space to conduct campus business and welcome honored guests.

From its opening in May of 1964, Alumni Hall was meant to bring people together. Funding construction mainly through alumni and students made clear who the building was created to serve.

Alumni Hall will realize that role in new ways as it enters its fifth decade. Mixing a modernized décor with minimal structural changes, the building will be home to new and expanded services:

- Larger book store space
- Coffee bar
- Convenience store
- Campus mail center
- Two-sided fireplace lounge

The renovation of Alumni Hall will open more spaces for students to build the relationships that are the heart of the Fresno Pacific University education. These human relationships form the foundation of Christian community.



FPU board acts to set tuition, increase outreach

Setting tuition and building relationships were on the agenda when the Fresno Pacific University Board of Trustees met October 24-25.

Tuition for the 2004-2005 academic year was set at \$17,930. Room costs were consolidated into two rates, \$1,250 and \$1,400 per semester. Board rates range from \$600 to \$1,650 per semester, depending on the number of meals in the plan.

Advancement staff reported on efforts to strengthen relationships with donors and the world at large. FPU is working with Stamats Communications, Inc., a nationwide company specializing in higher education, to interview and survey faculty, staff, students, alumni and potential students.

A group of volunteers is being organized to personally thank donors for their gifts. Linda Calandra, director of annual giving and donor relations, leads the project. Eight board members agreed to participate.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a slate of nominations for the Pacific District Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches to consider to represent the conference on the board. The nominees—Dale Boese, Dick Falls, Kathy Gray, John Thiessen and Sally Uhl—are all current board members.
- Approved the reappointment of Deb Elrich, Pat Evans and Ken Fransen to the board.
- Approved sabbaticals for Peng Wen, economics faculty, and Billie Jean Wiebe, communication and English faculty. A sabbatical for Diana Taylor-Gillham, special education faculty, is pending.
- Accepted the university audit by Bowman and Company, Stockton.
- Instructed its finance committee to draw up guidelines and advise university staff in the investment of short-term funds.

Death of former President Harold Haak stirs friends to admiration, fond memories



Fresno Pacific University lost a leader, a scholar and a friend when former President Harold Haak died December 26, 2003. Death followed an apparent allergic reaction to medication.

During his presidency from 2000-2002, Haak raised the university's community profile and reinvigorated its financial future. His nearly 40 years as a university faculty member and administrator, coupled with his humility, humor and sense of fun, won him affection as well as respect.

Haak considered FPU "the Mennonite Brethren Church's gift to the Valley," said D. Merrill Ewert, who succeeded him as president. "It was obvious that he not only had great respect and appreciation for Fresno Pacific University, he had personally come to love the institution. He talked passionately about the fact that FPU was the only Christian university in the Valley, a place with a unique role and a special opportunity to bring faith-based higher education to a region with limited options," Ewert said.

At his installation ceremony, Haak called his appointment an opportunity for service. "I feel a strong empathy with the mission of this university. Its commitment to academic excellence and Christian character development allows students to cultivate to the fullest all their gifts," he said.

Before coming to FPU, Haak served as president of California State University, Fresno, from 1980-91. Other CSUF positions included interim senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, academic vice president and professor in the joint doctoral program in educational leadership with the University of California, Davis (based at CSUF). He was also chancellor and professor of public affairs at the University of Colorado at Denver and dean of the college of professional studies at San Diego State University. Haak earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Wisconsin as well as a Ph. D from Princeton University.

At CSUF Haak took on challenges in finances and morale that could have been overwhelming, according to Peter Klassen, chair of the FPU Board of Trustees who was a faculty member at CSUF. "Harold invited extensive university involvement," Klassen said. "Many who came as critics left as friends."

Broad knowledge, talent for making friends and enthusiasm for music were among Haak's hallmarks. "Once while gazing at the Rhine, and chatting about castles on the river, suddenly he began singing a song about the legend of the Lorelei. Others nearby were surprised and pleased to see an American singing a German folk song. Once again, he made some instant friends," Klassen said at Haak's memorial service January 3, 2004, at St. Anthony of Padua Church.

Those gifts came to the fore again at FPU. "He enthusiastically responded to the new challenge, and very quickly earned the admiration, respect and, yes, the love of students, faculty and staff," Klassen said.

Born in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1935, Haak and wife Betty married in 1955. She survives, along with two daughters, six grandchildren, one brother and one sister. The Haaks belonged to Trinity Lutheran Church, Fresno. Remembrances may be made to the church, The Chaffee Zoological Society and The Leukemia Lymphoma Society, all in Fresno.

FPU also honors Harold through the Harold and Bety Haak Tennis complex.

TOSH YOSHIDA/ JAPAN/ BA 2003

Tosh Yoshida reflects Christ's love with a volunteer's heart

by Kristen Kleyn

Tosh Yoshida's backpack is cluttered with colorful patches from Children's Hospital Central California. In a prominent position near the top rests a button with the smiling face of a boy named Mitchell.

"My buddy Mitchell had cancer," Yoshida said. "At first it was hard to see the sadness. We had to develop the friendship. Now the cancer is in remission."

The sadness did not keep Yoshida away. For four and a half years, Yoshida, a 2002 graduate of Fresno Pacific University with a bachelor's degree in social work, found time to volunteer at Children's Hospital in Madera. His years of rocking babies, playing games with small children and dressing up as hospital mascot George the Giraffe earned him the 2002 Volunteer of the Year Award.

Winning the award placed him in the running for the Fresno County Volunteer of the Year Award. Out of 53 nominees, Yoshida was one of five finalists.

Yoshida spoke earnestly about the children who were always excited to see him. Words rushed to get out and fill the air with descriptions of the times he dressed up as mascot George, or played with small children on an indoor playground. With a wide smile, he pulled a large, colorful scrapbook from his backpack and held it out in quiet enthusiasm. "This is one of my earthly treasures," he said, opening to pages with pictures that matched his words.

Yoshida came to the United States from Japan in 1994 and plunged into Buchanan High School with little knowledge of English. The Christian

students on campus befriended him and helped him learn English. His new friends, however, taught him more than another language. "I became a Christian after friends showed Christ-like compassion in the foreign lands of high school," Yoshida said.

For Yoshida, volunteering was a privilege and a chance to show the love of God he discovered in high school. "I see it as God's placing," he said. "When I give, He just blesses me abundantly. Patients become more than patients to me, and I become more than a volunteer to them." Yoshida remembered one young patient who was especially difficult for staff and volunteers. Yoshida worked hard to earn his trust, and his efforts broke through. When the child was readmitted two years later, he asked for Yoshida.

Monica Whitaker, child life department aide at Children's Hospital, worked with Yoshida for two years and was involved in his nomination for the volunteer award. "Whenever he came in, he always had a cheerful personality, a smile on his face," she said. "You could tell he had the joy of the Lord in him."

This joy was not confined to Children's Hospital. While at FPU, Yoshida also joined Youth for Christ to volunteer at juvenile hall for three years, working with boys ages 8-13. At first, Yoshida was nervous about what the other volunteers might think of him because he did not have a church background. Then he remembered he got involved because he saw it as God's call. He faced his jitters and adopted the motto, "Don't be successful, but be faithful."

Yoshida's professors noticed his love for volunteering. "It was just part of his whole investment in his education and in learning about American cul-



ture," said Donna Callahan, social work department chair. According to Callahan, Yoshida also did part of his field placement requirement for his major at Children's Hospital, stepping out of the volunteer role to be a social work intern.

Yoshida went home to Japan in September, and planned to return to Fresno in January to attend Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary. Eventually, he wants to open a youth ministry and work with kids. "I want to assist kids to grab some spiritual food," he said. "It breaks my heart to see the kids in juvenile hall."

Monica Whitaker watched the assistance Yoshida gave as a volunteer. According to her, his enthusiastic presence can light up a room. "Tosh is like the sunshine," she said. "It was an honor working with him."

Kristen Kleyn is a senior majoring in English.

DON'T MISS

MCC Sale at FPU

April 2 from 4-8 p.m.

April 3 from 8-4 p.m.

Come enjoy good food, friends and fundraising for world relief. Remember to purchase a cup of gourmet coffee from the FPU Alumni Café.

Choir Alumni Reunion

April 3 from 10 a.m. to noon in the AIMS Hall foyer. Reconnect with old friends and sing with the current FPU Concert Choir as part of the MCC Sale entertainment. The performance will be at 11:30 a.m.

Central Valley Ministry Forum

Are you in church ministry and wanting to be charged? On April 22, Fresno Pacific University and the Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches will host the first Central Valley Ministry Forum with national speaker Leonard Sweet. Sweet is the author of more than 100 articles, over 400 published sermons and 20 books including: *Jesus Drives Me Crazy*, *Postmodern Pilgrims*, *Soul Tsunami* and *A is for Abductive*. Don't miss this energizing conference as Sweet deals with leading the church and emerging generations in this postmodern culture. Tickets are \$29. Call 559-453-2058 for conference information or to reserve your spot.

ALUMNI DIRECTORIES available through publisher

Thank you to all who updated their information for the Fresno Pacific University Alumni Directory. The book is scheduled to be available in June of 2004. The publication may be purchased exclusively through Harris Publishing Company.

**PLEASE CALL 1-866-485-8252
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

Homecoming welcomed old friends and a new building

Some traditions were honored and others begun during 2003 Homecoming festivities October 10-11. Highlights included the dedication of Steinert Campus Center, the newest campus building, Friday morning. That evening Edmund Janzen's 35 years as a faculty member and administrator were celebrated in the center. Saturday saw reunions of the classes of 1953 (Pacific Bible Institute), 1993 (Fresno Pacific College) and a faculty-alumni lunch. Among the regular features were alumni-student basketball, flag football and soccer as well as a kid's carnival, tailgate dinner and varsity soccer and volleyball games.



Edmund Janzen, biblical and religious studies faculty and former president, welcomed colleagues, former students and many, many friends to a dinner commemorating his 35 years of service.



Children were often at the center of attention as the Class of 1993 gathered in Steinert Campus Center for its 10th reunion. Alumni also enjoyed looking through print yearbooks and watching their video yearbook.



Seth Yates, president of Associated Students of Fresno Pacific College, described the pleasures of eating and relaxing in Steinert Campus Center. The \$5 million project includes the Larry A. Shehadey Dining Room, the Johanson and Pioneer Catering dining rooms, conference rooms and offices for the student life division. Seated behind Yates are, from left, June Shehadey; Larry A. Shehadey; D. Merrill Ewert, FPU president; Peter Klassen, FPU board chair; Al and Dotty Warkentine; and Nadene and Marvin Steinert, lead donors for the building.

GENERAL NEWS

Ron Adams (BA '69) and Leah Ogden (BA '76) moved to Deerfield, Illinois, where Ron took a job with the Chicago Bulls.

Vic (BA '80) and Marty (Wagner BA '80) Wiens continue to serve in Brazil as missionaries with MBMS International. Vic graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary with a Ph.D. in intercultural studies in June 2002. His dissertation is titled "From Refugees to Ambassadors: Mennonite Missions in Brazil, 1930-2000."

Melanie (Birchall BA '80) Shelton is a lecturer at South Nottingham College in the United Kingdom.

Cynthis (Siemens BA '83) Willman opened a book gift basket business out of her home in Los Angeles. You may view her products at www.bookbaskets.net.

Brian Henderer (BA '92) is enrolled in the doctorate of ministry: youth, family and culture emphasis at Fuller Theological Seminary.

Bruce (BA '93) and Terri (McCarron BA '93) Evans and Mikhayla, 6, and Chandler, 3, moved from Dallas to Waco, Texas, where Bruce works at Baylor University as music and fine arts catalog librarian and unit leader of bibliographic access unit.

Linda Howard (BA '94) moved to South Carolina where she works as a human resources manager and plans to begin her master's degree in human resources.

Jony Charles (BA '95) is the author of *The Long Lost Garden of Eden* a tribute to the fruit growers, farm workers and food producers of the Central Valley. Check his homepage at <http://bookstore.shopnowshop.com>. Jony and wife Katrina live in Fresno with their three children, Cassandra, 8; Caleb, 4; and Colby, 8 months.

Benjamin Kirk (BA '97) works for Clear Channel Radio in Fresno.

Jerry Silva (BA '98) will complete a master's degree in social work in the spring of 2004 from California State University, Stanislaus. He works as a mental health case manager for San Joaquin County.

Chris Souza (BA '99) opened a State Farm Insurance agency at the corner of Cedar and Bullard in Fresno.

Benjamin (BA '00) and Michelle (Miller BA '99) Higgins married on August 10, 2000, and reside in Anchorage, Alaska. Ben teaches third grade for the Anchorage School District and Michelle is an occupational therapist for the Anchorage School District. Michelle completed her master's in occupational therapy from the University of Southern California in 2001.

David Rodriguez (BA '00) was elected chairperson of the Latino Social Work Network Tulare County Chapter.

Doug Noll (MA '01) was featured in the July 14, 2003 edition of *The (Fresno) Business Journal*. In a section on legal affairs called "The Focus," Noll is the author of "Negotiation helps maintain family ties" and is quoted in "Central Valley Law: where is the legal profession headed?"

Joshua Long (BA '01) opened a new company called FUZE Data Solutions. The company, which is currently in beta-testing, will replace the paperwork normally required to keep track of patient's records by inputting the data on a handheld PC. FUZE Data Solutions is located in the Central Valley Business Incubator, Clovis.

Andrea Domingo (BA '02) is a sixth-grade teacher at Webster Elementary School, Fresno.

Sarah Bergen (BA '02) is a tenth-grade English teacher at Grant Union High School in Sacramento. She is working on her master's in education with the University of California, Davis.

Kim Johnson (BA '02) is a full-time youth pastor at Mountain View Community Church, Clovis.

Evie (Rempel '02) Lowry and husband Brandon moved to Stanislaus County where Brandon was hired by the sheriff's department as a deputy coroner.

MARRIAGES

Donald Goertzen (BA '76) married Cyra Michelle T. Bullecer of Quezon City and Cagayan de Oro City, the Philippines, on May 10, 2003. Donald is director of the University of California Education Abroad Program in the Philippines. He is also completing his Ph.D. from the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley.

Julie Cripe (AA '86) married Steve Jessup on March 15, 2003 in Modesto.

Sharlene Hilliard (BA '96) married Dee Eldredge on July 12, 2003. Sharlene teaches ninth-grade math for Antioch Unified School District.

Christine Fridolfs (BA '97) married Christopher Johnson on December 28, 2002. Christopher is completing a degree in contemporary Christian ministries at Fresno Pacific University and Christine teaches at Dinuba High School.

Lucio Ternieden (BA '98) married Wendy Wirfel on April 26, 2003, in Elkhart, Indiana. Wendy, a graduate of Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania, is pursuing a master's in counseling at Indiana University South Bend (Ind.). Lucio works with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management as a drinking water field inspector.

Lisa Huang (Ayars MA '98) married Raymond Brock on January 18, 2003. Raymond, a physician assistant, donated his library to FPU. Lisa's daughter, Di Li, 22, graduated from the University of California, Davis, in June of 2003 with a degree in economics and international relations.

Ben Porter (BA '00) married Allison Shepard on July 5, 2003. They reside in Fresno.

JoAnn Loo (BA '02) married Hec Jacobson on July 19, 2003. The couple resides in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Nathan Miller (BA '02) and Theresa Clemente married on May 16, 2003. Nathan is currently in law school and the couple resides in Fresno.

Jeff Brannan (BA '02) and Jenny Doswald (BA '02) married on June 7, 2003. They reside in Clovis.

BIRTHS

Carol (Harrison BA '88) Schmidt and husband Dan announce the birth of Michael Edward on April 3, 2003. Michael weighed 6 pounds 7 ½ ounces and was 18 ¾ inches long.

Carmen (Klassen BA '89) Andres and husband Richard announce the birth of Richard Brian Jr. on May 5, 2003. Richard Sr. has accepted a position as professor at the School for Advanced Air and Space Studies at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and Carmen recently resigned her position as editor of the *Christian Leader* in order to spend more

time with their children and pursue writing.

Kevin (BA '91) and Rhonda (Lautt BA '89) Dueck announce a new addition to their family. Grace HaNeul Kay Dueck was born in South Korea on August 24, 2002, and joined the family on February 26, 2003. She joins Justin, 8; David, 6; and Adam, 4.

Stacy (Eskes BA '91) Hipwood and husband Terry announce the birth of Maria Nicole on July 25, 2003. She joins Daniel, 2.

Ken (BA '93) and Cheryl (Brandt BA '93) Clyburne announce the birth of James Roy and Victoria Elizabeth on March 5, 2003. James weighed 3 pounds, 11 ounces and was 16 inches long and Victoria weighed 3 pounds and 10 ounces and was 16 ½ inches long.

Tracy (Meadors BA '93) Merickel and husband TR announce the birth of Grace on April 3, 2003. Tracy works as an educational diagnostician for the Kern County Superintendent of Schools.

Cheryl (Dueck BA '93) Smith and husband Peter announce the birth of Jason Andrew on April 15, 2003. He joins Brendan James, 3.

Lowell (BA '93) and Melissa (Krause BA '94) Ens announce the birth of Tobiah on August 1, 2003. He joins Mikaela, 3.

Paul Meadors (BA '94) and wife Lori announce the birth of Georgie Lynn on May 22, 2003. Georgie weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces and was 22 inches long. Paul is currently in his seventh year teaching third grade at Traver Elementary School, Fresno.

Cory (BA '94) and Kimberly (Johns BA '94) Bell announce the birth of Landon James on December 20, 2002. Landon joins Kylie, 5, and Braden, 2. Cory is a CPA and Kimberly is a stay-at-home mom.

Shelly (Lindley BA '94) Coleman and husband Bryan announce the birth of Leslie on April 13, 2003. Shelly works as a teacher with the Fresno School of Music.

Christopher Schultz (BA '95) and family have moved from Fresno, where Christopher worked as the head basketball coach at Fresno Christian High School, to Santa Barbara. Christopher is an assistant coach at Westmont College while working on his master's degree in

Christian leadership from Fuller Theological Seminary. He and wife Jennifer also announce the birth of Addison Corin on August 2, 2003. She joins Kamryn Elizabeth, 2.

Jim (BA '01) and Becky (Bernardasci BA '95) Allen announce the birth of Sydney Joann on July 27, 2003. She joins Thomas.

Michelle (Guffy BA '96) Hardy and husband Randy announce the birth of Emily Michelle on March 10, 2003.

Nicole (White BA '97) Allen and husband Justin announce the birth of Elijah Roy on August 26, 2003. Elijah weighed 9 pounds, 4 ounces and was 22 inches long.

Amy (DeGroot BA '98) Deffenbacher and husband Brent announce the birth of Blake Edwin on July 23, 2002. Blake was 6 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19 inches long. Amy teaches at El Capitan Middle School in Central Unified School District and Brent is associate pastor at NorthPointe Community Church.

Barbara (Cackler BA '98) Holm and husband Mike announce the birth of Julianna Michelle on May 20, 2003.

Jamie (Porter BA '98) Mack and husband Randy announce the birth of Isaac Christopher on May 12, 2003. He joins, Audrey, 2.

Katie (Pannarale BA '00) Fries and husband Eric announce the birth of Matthew Connor on June 24, 2003. Katie is a freelance writer and editor in Bartlett, Illinois, near Chicago.

PRaises AND PRAYERS

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

Makenna Mayumi McCorvey was born on September 4, 2002, to **Carlie (Herrick BA '98) McCorvey** and husband Johnnie. Makenna weighed 8 pounds 7 ounces and was 21 inches long. She joined Zachariah Kiyoshi, 3. Soon after Makenna was born it was discovered she suffers from complex congenital heart defects. She underwent her first heart surgery when she was two days old at Children's Hospital Central California. At three months she had a heart catheterization and at five months her second heart surgery, with another open-heart surgery on September 29, 2003. The family asks everyone to keep Makenna in their prayers.

DEATHS

Edna (Dunham) Ralston (PBI '50) died October 20, 2003. Survivors include daughters Debbie Burns and husband Mike of Fresno and Patricia Rosenberger and husband Rodney of Fresno; sons Daniel and his wife Lynn of Arizona and Douglas and his wife Rebekah of Madera; sisters Roberta, Betty and Doris; brother Howard; and 11 grandchildren. Graveside services were October 23, 2003, at Clovis District Cemetery and a memorial service followed at The People's Church.

Jana (Davidson BA '89) Unruh died on November 12, 2003. She was 37. Survivors include husband Vic and mother Rena.

IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI 1717

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WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?
Information for Pacific Magazine: _____

Three juniors take soccer team to championship match

Codeceira named NAIA player of the year

by Ken Isaak

Who knew? Who knew an early season loss to an unheralded opponent and a skipped meal would lead to such success? Answer—no one, including the coach.

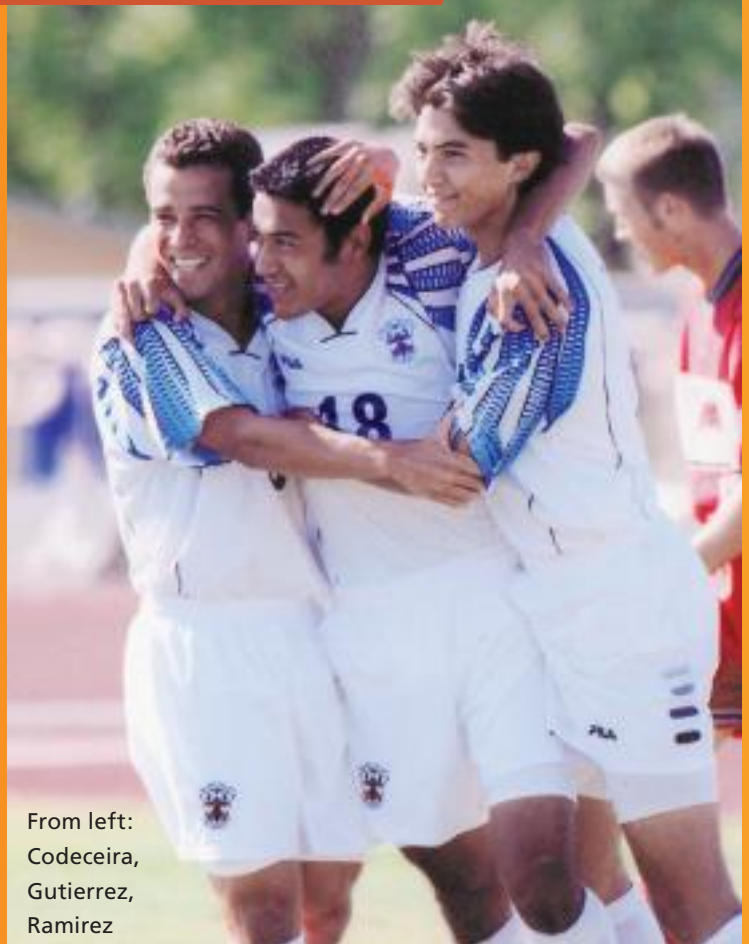
On September 6, an uninspired effort resulted in a 3-1 loss to the Cal State Stanislaus Warriors, a team that hasn't had a .500 season in 10 years. Jaime Ramirez wasn't happy and just wanted to get his team home, opting to skip the traditional after-game meal.

"It was more of a statement," said Ramirez reflecting on the trip from Turlock. "I was disappointed in our effort and I wanted the guys to think about it."

Was it an inspired coaching move? Hardly, but who can argue with the success that followed? The Sunbirds soon figured things out. They rolled to the Golden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) title with a perfect 10-0 record, through the Region 2 championship to the NAIA championship game.

Ramirez will be the first to tell you that the Sunbirds' success was a total team effort. Three names, however, were conspicuously present in the box scores and the headlines: Fabricio Codeciera, Eddie Gutierrez and Orlando Ramirez. This talented trio accounted for 61 of the team's 97 goals and 60 of 89 assists. Codeciera scored 15 goals, but shattered the FPU (13) and GSAC (20) assists record with 31. Ramirez was equally effective, breaking the university and conference scoring records (both 26) with 31. Gutierrez ended the season with 44 points.

Their efforts did not go unnoticed. All three were named to the GSAC, Region 2 teams, as well as the national championship all-tourna-



From left:
Codeceira,
Gutierrez,
Ramirez

ment team. The recognition did not stop there as Codeciera and Ramirez were also named to the NAIA All-American first team, and Gutierrez to the second team.

Codeceira, who earlier in the season was named the GSAC and Region 2 player of the year, was named most outstanding offensive player at the national championship. He capped the season by being named NAIA national player of the year, the first such honor in FPU soccer history.

But after 19 consecutive wins, the Sunbirds finally fell 1-0 to Rio Grande of Ohio in the championship. It was the third time in five trips to the championship tournament that the Sunbirds ended their season as national runners-up.

"I'm proud to be recognized," Codeceira said. "But soccer is a team sport and it is hard to show your skills without good players around you. I would happily trade this trophy for the other one (the NAIA championship trophy). Hopefully this will be a team celebration next year."

That team celebration is possible—as juniors, Codeciera, Gutierrez and Ramirez have one more shot at that NAIA national championship banner.



Tracy Schulte, Dennis Janzen named to NAIA Hall of Fame

First for FPU

Dennis Janzen, head volleyball coach, and Tracy (Ainger) Schulte (BA '97) were inducted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Hall of Fame December 2. They are the first from FPU to be so honored.

"I have been privileged to have had some very talented student-athletes that allowed me to coach them," Janzen said. "I am so grateful to them and the people who believed in me along the way—the people who gave me an opportunity to do what I love to do."

Janzen guided each of his last 13 teams to the NAIA national tournament, where they compiled a 60-18 record. In addition to the 1989 and 2003 national championships, Janzen's teams reached the final four on six other occasions. In 19 seasons at FPU, his teams posted a 582-157 record that includes 10 GSAC, eight NAIA regional and two NAIA national championships. Janzen's athletes earned 36 NAIA All-American honors and 10 NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete awards. He was named NAIA coach of the year in 1989 and 1994 and 2003 national championship tournament coach of the year. Janzen grew up in Reedley and graduated from Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas.

"I am speechless," said a teary-eyed Schulte when she learned of the announcement. "I love volleyball. I had a terrific experience here at FPU. I'm surprised and humbled that people remembered me."

Schulte's teams posted a 96-19 record over three seasons that included three Golden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) and two NAIA region championships. In three trips to the NAIA national tournament, Schulte's teams finished fourth (1994), third (1995) and fifth (1996). As a sophomore in 1994, Schulte broke the NAIA national record with an average of 7.22 digs per game.

At the time of her graduation, Schulte owned numerous FPU, GSAC and NAIA national records and was one of only a handful who had been named to the NAIA All-American first team three times. In 1996 she was named the NAIA national player of the year.



VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"We had no trouble motivating the team," Janzen said. "It was an easy match to prepare for."

In the championship, FPU picked up wins in Games 1 and 2 (30-28, 30-25), but stalled in Game 3 (25-30). It was time for a rare and impromptu Lin Gao speech.

"I have never seen her that intense," Duley said of the senior from Shen Yang, China. "I don't even remember what she said, but she got us going again!"

"We had just lost our first game (of the tournament) and I was scared," Gao said. "I didn't want to lose Game 4 and have to play Game 5. I just told everybody to play harder! We can do this! Then Kara (Verwey) put down those two balls at the start—I knew we would be okay."

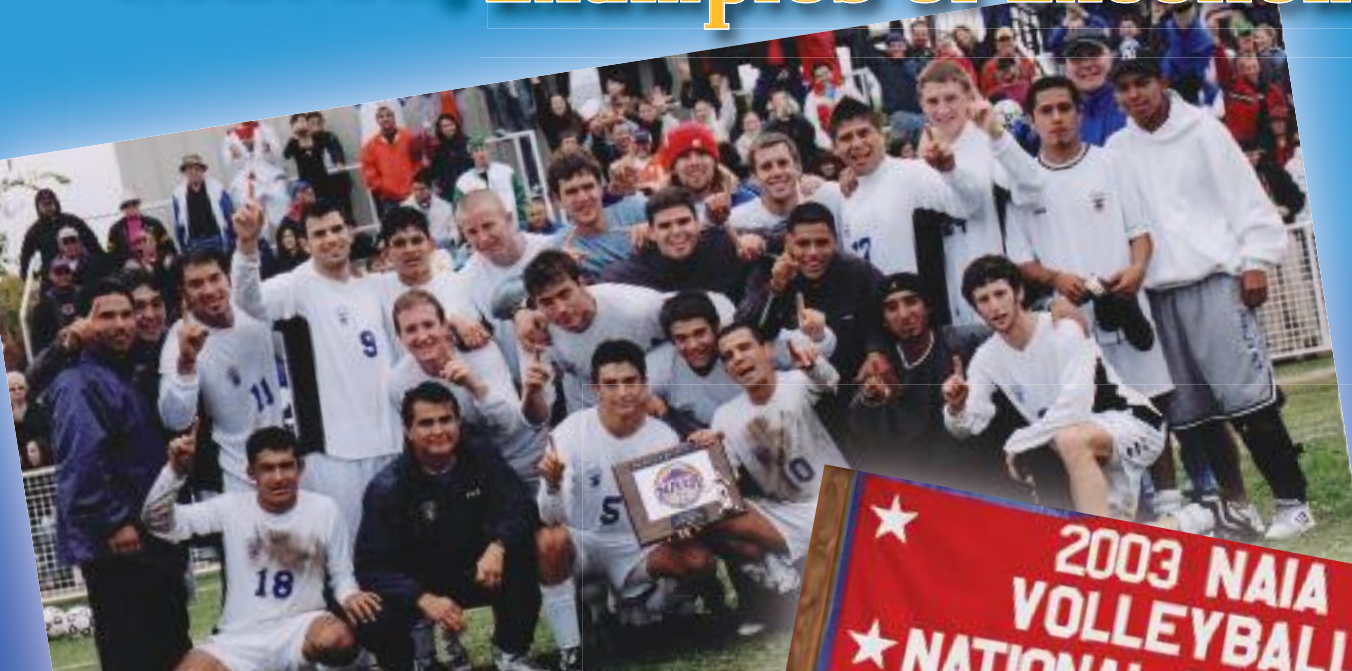
Not okay; brilliant. Dominating the net with the block of Lorena Zuleta and Mesha Wimer, FPU pushed their Game 4 lead to 11 points (21-10), then cruised to a 30-20 win and their second NAIA national championship banner.

"We were given one more opportunity to see how special she is," Janzen said of Gao. "She stepped up big time. She elevated every aspect of her game, and she took everybody with her on those creaky old knees. She was magnificent!"

Zuleta and Wimer were named to the all-championship tournament team. Janzen was named the championship coach of the year. Gao capped her outstanding career by being named the NAIA national championship tournament's most valuable player.

"This (winning the national championship) is a bigger thrill for me than when I was picked for the (Chinese) national team," said Gao. "I am very happy!" And after a short pause she said with a big smile, "I am also retired!"

You are truly **Examples of Excellence!**

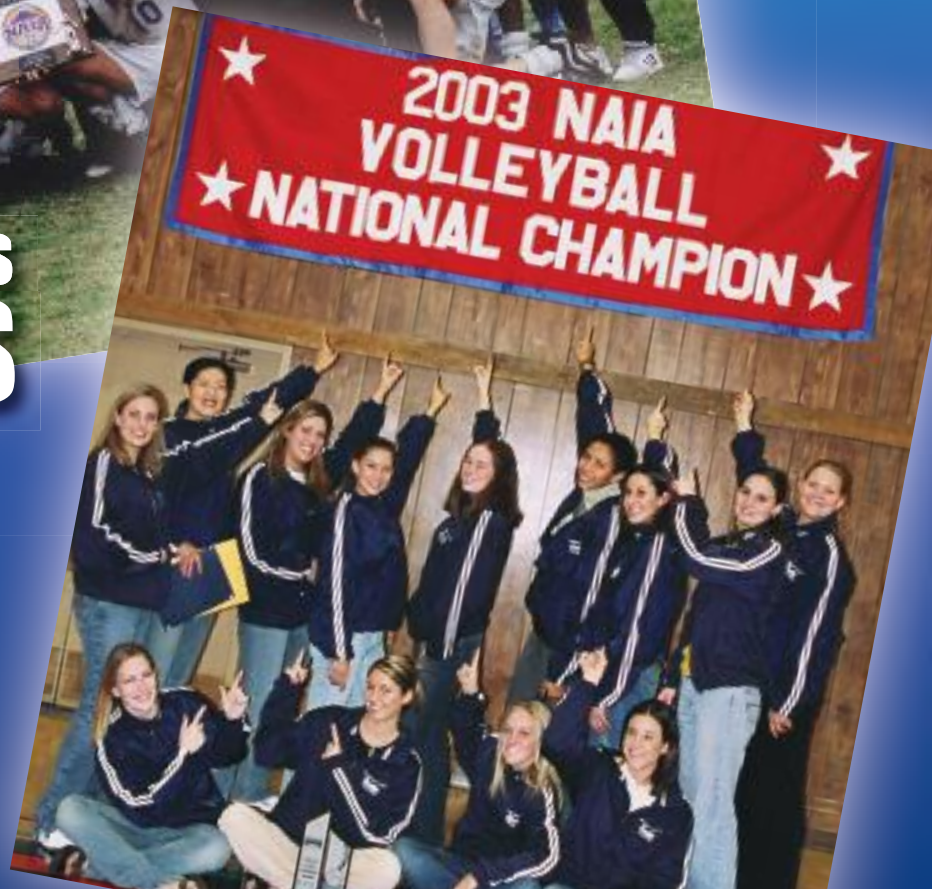


Congratulations **SUNBIRDS**

**On success in the NAIA
In 2003**

**Women's volleyball—
national champions**

**Men's soccer—
national finalists**



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