First Steps
with new President
Dr. Hamid Shirvani
Recently, the University’s former residence hall was demolished. The first students moved in during 1966. For nearly 30 years, memories were made at Yosemite Hall. (New, on-campus dorms started serving students in 1993.) In September, a group of alumni and former students gathered at the site, which is now populated by only an open dirt lot and trees.

This event may not seem terribly momentous to those who never called the place home, but it has added significance in its symbolism for where we are now.

We are at an important juncture. We need to both celebrate the past and band together to help realize the future.

With a dynamic new leader, President Hamid Shirvani, at the helm, California State University, Stanislaus continues to grow and improve. We have some absolutely spectacular programs and facilities for current students and we continue to build for the students of tomorrow.

If you have not been back to campus in a while, come back and take a walk around. You will encounter many new buildings, lush grounds and an active campus life. As we speak, the new Science II building is taking shape.

Investigate the Alumni Association and you will also find a group of dedicated, engaged alumni and community supporters on the move.

Our current initiatives include:

- Reaching out to all of our alumni and conducting a full scale membership drive.

- Engaging our alumni-owned businesses with our new Alumni Advantage program.

- Changing our look and implementing a philosophy that looks to engage and awaken our alumni. We truly believe our motto: “Once a Warrior, Always a Warrior.”

- Working with on-campus groups to capitalize on our collegiate spirit. This December 2 and 3 we will have a special package of alternatives for Homecoming events that all alumni should check out. We are building on Warrior traditions such as the Athletic Hall of Fame and bonfire rally and adding new options such as the pre-homecoming game tailgate party.

- Developing new events and re-vamping favorites. Expect our traditional events, including the Wine, Cheese and Jazz event this spring, to take on new twists and be even bigger and better than before. Watch for new events, like our participation in the Fat Classics “Bach to Hendrix” concert in January.

I encourage you to find out about all the events the University offers and participate. World-recognized leaders and entertainers have been presented in years past and more are sure to follow. Warrior teams offer exciting sports competition for fans of all types, and the School of Fine and Performing Arts puts on a wealth of performances and presentations.

We are going places. Both the University and the Alumni Association are on the move. As members of the University family, we hope that you will be a part of the journey.

Please consider joining the Alumni Association. We have many opportunities for alumni, former students and community members who want to be a part of the fun and the camaraderie.

You are not only our history, but a vital part of our future — if you get involved.

— Todd Barton
President, ’05-’06 Alumni Association Board of Directors
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About the University Seal

Our new University Seal makes its debut in this issue of Stanislaus Magazine. The Book of Knowledge and Lamp of Learning are classic academic icons that share a long history with many of the world’s most recognized university seal designs. The tree icon represents the rich agricultural heritage of California’s Central Valley. The Latin phrase “Vox Veritas Vita” (translation: “Voice – Truth – Life”) comes from the official seal of The California State University system. The date 1960 (in Roman numerals) refers to the year California State University, Stanislaus opened its doors to students. The seal’s colors are comprised of the official school colors of California State University, Stanislaus.

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California State University, Stanislaus President Dr. Hamid Shirvani with students Bridgett Gyori and Fue Vue.

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**Scholarship Program Strengthens Friendship Bond On Path To CSU Stanislaus**

“Every good friend was once a stranger” is how the saying goes. California State University, Stanislaus freshmen Marisol Ruiz and Andrea Resendiz can testify to that.

Before they met as eighth-graders, the two were complete strangers. But now, after getting on track together in preparation for their higher education pursuits, they are not only college roommates and co-workers, but best friends.

It all began in Mr. Perez’s class at Hamilton Junior High School in Stockton when the two were signed up to participate in the Stockton Eighth Grade Initiative (SEGI) scholarship program. Ruiz and Resendiz had been part of the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program in junior high school and were encouraged to sign up for SEGI because it would provide them with an opportunity to attend college after they graduated from Franklin High School in Stockton.

SEGI was originally designed to provide eligible students from Stockton’s middle schools who might not otherwise have the opportunity a pathway to attend college. Students like Ruiz and Resendiz were required to meet challenging CSU academic requirements during their four years of high school and maintain a minimum 2.5 grade point average. In addition to meeting college requirements, they also had to fulfill other terms of a contract that included academic and career achievement requirements. Only students who fulfilled their contracts qualified for SEGI scholarships, which cover major educational expenses not covered by financial aid.

Ruiz and Resendiz recall their senior year when they both faced the challenge of filling out applications and other paperwork such as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

“We received help with our FAFSA,” said Ruiz. “At home, nobody went to college, so I was so confused. Steven Graham (a CSU Stanislaus Outreach Coordinator) answered our questions and offered us additional help.”

Ruiz and Resendiz said the assistance they received with their paperwork during the application period was one of the benefits of SEGI.

“People get discouraged by the paperwork,” said Ruiz. “Some people don’t go to college because they don’t want to fill it out.”

After four years of intensive work in college preparatory courses and active participation in other SEGI activities, Ruiz and Resendiz graduated and joined the first students from the program to attend CSU Stanislaus. They are currently among six students who received SEGI scholarships and are enrolled at CSU Stanislaus.

Today, Ruiz and Resendiz share an on-campus apartment and work in Student Outreach. Ruiz has always wanted to become a lawyer. Resendiz is in the Liberal Studies program to fulfill her dream to teach and help children.

Ruiz and Resendiz are excited to be at CSU Stanislaus and attribute where they are today to their SEGI scholarship.

“We appreciate programs like SEGI because some students really need them,” Ruiz said.

“People should take advantage of a wonderful program like this,” Resendiz added.

**Student Who Overcame Many Challenges Named CSU Hearst Scholar Recipient**

California State University, Stanislaus student Pamela McElhaney of Denair recalls there was a day in her life six years ago when she was not sure if she would survive the weekend.

Having been diagnosed with the end stage of renal failure and struggled through 10 years of kidney dialysis, McElhaney remembers vividly that “things were at their worst.” Fortunately, a successful life-saving kidney transplant soon after that gave her the opportunity to make the most of her recovery. McElhaney decided then that she would pursue what she describes as a lifelong calling to become a teacher.
Six years later, after completing her bachelor’s degree in Liberal Studies at CSU Stanislaus as a re-entry student and enrolling in the teacher credential program, McElhaney has reached a distinguished pinnacle toward making that dream come true. She is one of only 12 recipients of the 2005-06 William R. Hearst/CSU Trustees’ Award for Outstanding Achievement. The $3,000 scholarships were presented to the recipients at the September 20 session of the CSU Trustees in Long Beach.

The scholarships go to financially needy students who demonstrate superior academic performance and outstanding volunteer community service. All have overcome profound personal challenges to achieve academic success.

McElhaney said that a teacher who took a personal interest in her as a fourth-grader while she was experiencing a hostile home environment as a youngster growing up in Fresno nurtured creativity in her and left a lasting impression.

After dealing with what seemed like overwhelming challenges for many years, the 50-year-old grandmother has a new outlook on life. McElhaney, who has excelled as a CSU Stanislaus honors student as well as at Modesto Junior College, said she wants to teach at an elementary school where students cope with the challenges of poverty and other difficulties in their lives.

“It is my hope to encourage each student to be a fearless learner – to see the learning experience as a wonderful, engaging adventure that can lead to many exciting opportunities in life,” she said. “I truly believe that teaching is a sacred calling – a journey of the heart. I am so blessed, and appreciative, to be able to answer that call.”

McElhaney has volunteered her services as a tutor in a prison outreach program that focuses on youngsters in the juvenile hall system as well as adult prisoners. She also teaches English as a second language to elementary and college-level students and is currently working at a local church facility that provides temporary housing for displaced children to create an educational program.

**University Accepts Students Affected By Hurricane Katrina**

California State University, Stanislaus reached out this fall to students from Gulf Coast area colleges displaced by Hurricane Katrina in September.

They are Harpreet Samra of Tulane University, Kimberly Mitchell of Xavier University and Jim McCoin of the University of New Orleans.

“We are pleased that these students have accepted our sincere invitation to come to California State University, Stanislaus,” President Shirvani said. “We welcome them with open arms and are committed to helping them with their transition.”

All three of the students accepted at CSU Stanislaus were able to escape New Orleans before the hurricane hit. Samra, who is from Modesto, is enrolled in the Master’s of Social Work program at CSU Stanislaus and hopes to return to Tulane for the spring semester. She is highly appreciative that the University allowed her late admission into the MSW program.

“It’s been very humbling, because I showed up with no information,” Samra said. “The University has been so welcoming; there was no hesitation.”

Samra had only been at Tulane for a few days when students were told to evacuate immediately. She and a student from California that she met in the dormitory complex where she lived made the traffic-jammed drive to Houston, Texas, before flying back to their home state a few days later.

Mitchell, a biology major from Ripon, was able to evacuate with her father from Xavier University before the hurricane struck New Orleans and put the campus underwater. Her roommates in the dormitory where she lived who stayed behind to ride out the storm experienced the terror of windows blowing out in the facility and ended up having to be rescued during the flooding. Mitchell is determined to continue her education and said she was impressed with the way CSU Stanislaus was able to accommodate her.

“Even though I have a lot on my mind, I didn’t want to put my education on hold,” Mitchell said.

McCoin, a business administration major and native of New Orleans, was moving his wife, Kimberly, to LaGrange, CA at the time Hurricane Katrina blew into Louisiana. He has since joined his wife in LaGrange where she has established a business and plans to complete his senior year at CSU Stanislaus. They had recently sold their home in New Orleans (which was destroyed by the storm) and McCoin had planned to stay behind for his final year at the University of New Orleans. He returned to Louisiana to rescue his belongings before getting a late start on classes at CSU Stanislaus.

University officials said community members have stepped forward with financial assistance for the three students and even free housing for one of them.
First Generation Students Share Their Stories

Fraternities, sororities, midterms and finals are just a few things representative of “college culture.” As familiar as it may be to some, there are many whose families have never experienced college life and others who thought they never would.

At California State University, Stanislaus, more than half of the students come from families where neither parent has a college degree. Many of these students encounter a variety of hardships as they struggle to adapt and conform to college life.

One of the greatest challenges facing first-generation students in pursuit of a college education is their position on the margin of two cultures -- that of their friends and family and that of their college community. What is it like to straddle this line and be the first in your family to go to college?

CSU Stanislaus alumni Isaias Rumayor and Elia Vazquez have experienced it as the first in their families to attend college. With plenty of encouragement and support from their family and friends, they were able to overcome many obstacles that come with being a first-generation college student.

As the eldest sibling in his family, Rumayor served as a role model by earning a bachelor’s degree in Social Science. He has gone on to earn three credentials -- in secondary education, counseling and administration.

Now the Dean of Discipline at Turlock High School, Rumayor recalls learning early on that he was on his own in college with many new responsibilities.

“It was very difficult,” said Rumayor. “Although my parents encouraged school, I went in blind.”

His difficulties, however, did not stop Rumayor from excelling intellectually and professionally. While in school, Rumayor did well in his studies, joined a fraternity, worked on campus in Financial Aid and eventually became a full-time counselor in Student Outreach.

Rumayor’s brothers Julio, Cesar and Miguel have followed in his footsteps at CSU Stanislaus. Julio just started a graduate program in counseling and Cesar, who served as Associated Students President for three years, is enrolled in the Master’s in Public Administration program and works in the ASI office. Their brother Miguel is currently an undergraduate student.

“We just knew if he (Isaias) did it, we were all going to do it,” said Cesar. “He laid the foundation for us and we all took advantage of it.”

Elia Vazquez, born in Mexico, has a different story, but a similar experience to that of the Rumayors. She moved with her family to the United States at the age of six. They spent years traveling back and forth between the two countries.

“I had to play catchup every time we came back to the U.S.,” Vazquez said.

In May of this year, Vazquez was the first in her family to earn a degree when she walked the stage at the CSU Stanislaus amphitheater and received her bachelor’s degree in Liberal Studies.

Vazquez, planning a move to Florida, is currently working at the University Student Activity Center and aspires to work for any kind of organization geared toward serving the community. She plans to return to...
First-generation students at California State University, Stanislaus (left to right): Isaias Rumayor, Melissa Munoz, Julio Rumayor, Cesar Rumayor, Elia Vazquez, Fue Vue and Miguel Rumayor.

school to work on her master’s degree in Public Administration.

“At the beginning it was hard, but there are a lot of programs at the University that are really good at reaching out to students,” Vazquez said.

Many others are following in their footsteps. Fue Vue is a first generation student majoring in Sociology with a Criminal Delinquency concentration. He is currently a junior and plans to be the first member of his family to graduate come 2008.

Vue, from Fresno, is thankful to be the first in his family to have the opportunity to earn a college degree.

“My parents didn’t have the opportunity to go to college because they weren’t born here,” said Vue. “They were born in Laos. There was no education system; you had to work in the field to feed your family.”

College has transformed Vue and inspired his family members, including his four younger siblings. Vue’s younger brother is currently a student at Fresno State.

“Education has done a good thing because I learn things and bring them into the home and teach my parents,” Vue said.

CSU Stanislaus student Edgar Garibay, a sophomore majoring in Biology, is another first-generation student with big dreams and aspirations. He was born in Mexico and moved to the United States at the age of 12.

Garibay’s goal is to graduate in 2009 and apply to medical school. He hopes to someday open his own family practice that caters to those without insurance.

As the first in his family to attend college, Garibay believes it’s important for all first-generation students to aim high and be results-oriented.

“Keep fighting because everything has a purpose. If you want something you can get it,” said Garibay. “You have to go through the struggles because nothing is perfect in this world. Everyone is a dreamer, but those who get it are those who actually go for it.”

First-generation student Melissa Munoz has just started her journey as the college pioneer in her family. A freshman majoring in chemistry, she hopes to earn a doctorate in forensic science.

“My mom talked me into eventually going for my doctorate,” Munoz said.

Munoz became acquainted with CSU Stanislaus this past summer when she joined the Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (AMP). The organization is designed to increase the numbers of under-represented minorities who enter successful careers in those fields.

After successfully completing the AMP program and making new friends on campus, Munoz now feels CSU Stanislaus is her home away from home.

Being on the margin of two cultures can be both a difficult and rewarding experience. Many first-generation college students face more challenges than their peers, yet they learn to excel intellectually, emotionally and psychologically. Most importantly, they inspire other first generation students to do what no one in their family has done -- go to college and earn a degree.

Editor’s Note: Nabrin Mirzazadeh, ’04, was the first in her family to receive a bachelor’s degree. Currently she is a graduate student in English at CSU Stanislaus.

New Students Find Support Networks at University

For more than 40 years, California State University, Stanislaus has provided exceptional higher education support programs and services for students attending the University. The University has focused on serving students from diverse backgrounds, many of whom are first-generation students. Some of the programs CSU Stanislaus offers that help meet the needs of first generation students are:

• First-Year Programs: The first-year program is designed to introduce all incoming freshmen to the CSU Stanislaus campus and assist students with their academic plan. The program also helps first-generation students succeed in their educational endeavors by monitoring their progress and assisting them with daily needs.

• Student Support Services: The objective of Student Support Services is to serve low-income, first-generation, undergraduate students by providing extra tutorial assistance, scholarship awards, academic advising and curriculum planning, internship opportunities, information and more.

• Educational Opportunity Program (EOP): EOP has served low-income, educationally disadvantaged and first-generation undergraduate students for more than 30 years. The program assists students with admission, offers them the opportunity to participate in the annual Summer Bridge Program and provides academic advising.

• Summer Bridge Program: Now in its 20th year, the Summer Bridge Program is designed to give first-generation, low-income high school students a head start in college. Every summer, 50 students live on-campus for three weeks, take mathematics and English courses and participate in other helpful activities to prepare them for college.

• Faculty Mentor Program: This program provides educational and recreational support to first-generation and educationally, environmentally or economically disadvantaged students. Trained faculty mentors are matched with student protégés to encourage one-on-one interaction aimed at improving academic achievement, increasing retention and graduation rates of underrepresented minority students and developing a better faculty understanding of minority students.
Meet the President

H
e’s an architect who has arrived with big plans in hand and a strong reputation as a builder, and he has hit the ground running as the new President of California State University, Stanislaus.

Dr. Hamid Shirvani, who succeeded Dr. Marvalene Hughes in July, is approaching his new job with the same kind of fast-paced enthusiasm that he applies to his architectural projects. He continually expresses excitement about the prospects for raising the bar of excellence at CSU Stanislaus, sizing up the challenge in architectural terms.

“We have a great foundation to build on at this University,” President Shirvani said. “During my career as a faculty and academic leader, I have always applied the principle of architecture to my every day work.”

“My desired outcome is to take the institution to the next level, to make it a better place for everyone – for faculty, staff, students and the community at large,” President Shirvani said. “When you create a building that is both beautiful and functional, you have great architecture. The same is true of a university. It must have form and substance, and be reflective of a broad constituency of participants.”

That approach is what energizes Shirvani to deal with the demands of the presidency at a university that was recently ranked one of the best public comprehensive Master’s universities in the West by U.S. News & World Report.
President Shirvani Uses Architecture Expertise to Set University Sights High

“I consider it a moving architecture that constantly engages me in the joy of designing and implementing,” he said.

Shirvani recalls that he had “builder” tendencies as a child with good painting and sketching talents that foretold of his future architectural pursuits. Born in Tehran, Iran, he moved to England as a youngster and earned college degrees in architecture. He continued his education by earning a second master’s degree at Harvard University and then his Ph.D. at Princeton University.

After starting his career in teaching and research at Penn State University, Shirvani said he “just accidentally” became involved in administration and “liked it.” He worked as a faculty member and administrator at six other universities prior to being named to the CSU Stanislaus presidency. Most recently, he served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Chapman University in southern California, where he was also the Martha Masters Professor of Art and Architecture. He is eager to formulate success strategies as he did at those other universities.

Along with Shirvani’s architectural mind come natural people skills that he demonstrates daily with his friendly greetings. Ask him what his priorities are, and he will tell you that “students are priority number one, students are priority number two, and students are priority number three.”

Shirvani has jumped right into the process of learning about CSU Stanislaus in every detail and determining goals for the University. He works long hours, walks the campus introducing himself and meeting people along the way and often eats lunch in the Main Dining Hall with students, faculty and staff. In addition, he has been making speaking appearances all over the region, talking up California State University, Stanislaus and what he describes as “its incredible story” as a fine university with a potential for greatness.

Although he is forming goals for himself as University President, Shirvani notes that the bottom line will be the results he is able to produce. Labeling himself as “a person of action, not rhetoric,” the new President is a no-nonsense leader who admits he has little tolerance or patience for bureaucracy. Even before he started his job, Shirvani was researching the University and has since been asking tough questions and taking action.

One of his first steps was to add faculty, staff and student representatives to his executive cabinet, along with the University’s deans and Chief Information Technology administrator. He has strive to streamline the teacher credential application process for students, vowed to improve salaries for many faculty and staff that are at the lower pay levels and taken steps to reorganize some divisions as the University prepares to establish its budget priorities.

Some topics that Shirvani has placed a strong emphasis on include increasing enrollment growth, raising more scholarship dollars to attract top high school and community college students, establishing a strong bond with the Turlock community as a university town, getting budget priorities in order and making an all-out effort to be a strong competitor with other four-year colleges by offering more fields of study at different times of the day and on Fridays and Saturdays.

Indications are that Shirvani has set out on the right path with his plans for the University. Faculty and staff have applauded his approach to a number of issues, and The Modesto Bee praised his efforts with “An A for effort and energy” in a September 22 editorial that evaluated his first 90 days on the job.

In the meantime, Shirvani wonders if he will be able to find time to indulge himself in some favorite hobbies. He admits having a strong passion for cars and model cars, particularly Ferraris and Porsches and classic Fords from the 1960’s such as Mustangs and GTO’s. Competing in rally races is one of his favorite hobbies.

“I love the aesthetics and mechanics of cars, and love to drive them and fix them,” Shirvani said.

The President said he loves the landscape of Turlock where he and his wife, Fathy, are having a home built. He mentions that gardening and cooking are also on his list of hobbies, noting that they tie in with his reverence for family.

“It’s important for me to spend time with family – my mother, brother, my wife’s family, and nieces and nephews,” Shirvani said.

He also has become family at California State University, Stanislaus.
The riches of California’s Central Valley are unparalleled, and in many ways untapped. One of the greatest resources we share is California State University, Stanislaus — a university that is destined to make ever greater contributions to our community, our state and our nation.

The future of California State University, Stanislaus depends on its partnership with our home community. My chief commitment to strengthening that partnership is to focus on service: to explore how we serve our communities as we continue to look how best to serve our students. In the coming months, I look forward to meeting personally with as many community constituents as I can to find out about their perceptions of our University and to hear their ideas on community needs. I intend to supplement these meetings with regular community surveys to find out how what we are doing meets the needs of the community.

We begin from a position of strength. California State University, Stanislaus has excellent academics, a dedicated and inspirational faculty, an incredible campus, outstanding programs that create partnerships with the communities of the Central Valley, and almost unparalleled student success. When I see an institution that has one of the highest retention rates in the California State University system, I know that the faculty and programs here are highly effective in meeting student needs. In addition, California State University, Stanislaus has enjoyed unprecedented growth in enrollments as well as the construction of new facilities. And, the university has had great success in fund-raising and in winning grants and awards for faculty research—further indication of the fact that the quality of this institution is recognized by both public and private support.

This is a promising foundation upon which to build. We are fortunate to enjoy these many strengths, as higher education today faces a complex and often confusing array of public expectations and governmental demands. Let’s take a look at the context within which we must work.

The traditional view of higher education as a public good has been systematically eroded over the last few decades. Economic pressures and a consumer-driven society have placed greater emphasis on the private benefits of higher education than on the larger view that education should be a preparation for life rather than preparation for a lifestyle. Yet at no time in our history has the traditional role of education for the public good been more vital to the future of our nation and our world. At the same time, higher education faces an incredible array of challenges which will threaten the survival of some colleges and universities, large and small, public and private.

As human beings, we seek meaning in our common experience in a world tied ever-closer by the continuing globalization of our economic, transportation and telecommunications systems, yet divided by unending conflict. Higher education continues to be one important pathway in that search for meaning. Yet how well higher education can meet that demand will depend on how higher education itself responds to the forces driving globalization as well as to a wide range of economic, social and technology-driven questions.

The pressures higher education faces are enormous. The public and state governments expect accountability, productivity and cost-cutting measures. Public institutions in many states are strangled by regulation, pressed by growing demands for access and service and taxed by the changing nature of the student populations they are expected to serve. Growing competition from proprietary institutions — whose success in attracting a higher percentage of minority students provides evidence that they are at least giving students what they want at a price they can afford — is threatening to put inefficient institutions out of business. At the same time, institutions that are prepared to fill the needs of niche markets and to create specialized research centers of excellence will be stronger than those that stretch themselves thin to compete beyond the capacity of their financial and intellectual resources.

Seven critical challenges will demand that we fundamentally rethink how we operate, if we are to continue to fulfill both our vital historic role in serving the public good as well as meeting public expectations as to how a university should function in the world today. They are 1) declining public funding, 2) the changing nature of our student populations, 3) the rise of for-profit institutions, 4) the technology revolution, 5) the desperate need for interdisciplinary approaches to highly complex problems, 6) the need for (and potential conflicts of interests raised by) the transfer of technology, and 7) the need to address character development as a fundamental...
Built on Service by Dr. Hamid Shirvani, President, California State University, Stanislaus

purpose of education. Although there are many other important issues higher education must face, these will be among the top problems California State University, Stanislaus must engage.

From the community perspective, a key priority must be how we identify and serve the needs of this community. We are blessed in several ways.

California State University, Stanislaus has already taken a leadership role in several important arenas.

First, we are leading the way in addressing a highly diverse student population, one of the most important challenges facing higher education today. This campus enjoys an incredibly diverse student population, one that mirrors one of the most ethnically diverse regions in the nation. I believe this is one of the most important qualities of this university. As a nation, we are moving to an increasingly diverse population.

Globally, other nations are facing the same challenges as immigration and global interdependence bring historically segregated communities into increasing and often fractious contact. In many ways, we are prepared for this as well. While other colleges and universities find that the goal of creating a diverse student population on campus eludes them, we already enjoy the many benefits of such a community.

Second, we are also meeting this country’s increasing need for a well-trained workforce. With more than half of our students being the first in their families to attend college, California State University, Stanislaus is addressing a critical need of an under served population — creating a new class of college-educated students who will play a major role in keeping America’s workforce competitive.

Third, this University offers programs that are vital to this country’s future, in fields that will see increased demand in this century.

- We are preparing the business leaders of the future.
- We are preparing tomorrow’s teachers.
- We offer an outstanding education in agriculture, taking advantage of our location in one of the richest agricultural areas in the world, an area which is also home to some of the country’s top food products companies. As the world’s population increases at an alarming rate, our students will be among those who help create improved agricultural methods to feed the world’s hungry.
- We are training tomorrow’s experts in information technology — again, a discipline that has transformed, and will continue to transform, our world.
- And, we offer a wide range of courses in the health sciences, which are critical to meeting the needs of an aging population. Graduates from California State University, Stanislaus will be prepared to serve these growing needs in social work, nursing, psychology and related fields.

Looking at these three key characteristics of this University, it is clear that we already have in place key components to meet the needs of the world as it is becoming and we are ready to do this now.

Yet we still have much to do. We need to continue to focus on enrollments, particularly with UC Merced rising just down the road. Even though we have met our enrollment targets, that is not enough. In many ways, targets such as these are artificial. We need to expand and to attract the students that we deserve.

We continued our efforts through a variety of other means and we have seen the results of these efforts in recent months.

As part of this focus on enrollment, I believe that we need to sharpen our marketing and communications efforts. California State University, Stanislaus has an incredible story to tell, but its many strengths are not widely known. Within the California State University system, this campus has not communicated a distinctive identity. When more people — prospective students, faculty, community leaders, foundations and private donors — know more about the levels of excellence this institution has already achieved, we will enjoy even greater support. This will help us to continue to build enrollments and lay the groundwork for increased fund-raising and monetary support for faculty research, which are also among my priorities for this University.

I am not suggesting that California State University, Stanislaus does not have a distinctive identity, but rather that we need to tell our story. We need to define, articulate and share what makes this university unique.

Similarly, I believe we need to ask how we can best serve our students through all aspects of their educational experience. We need to make all the classes that students want available. We need to assess how well we succeed in offering the classes and programs that the community wants and needs.

I am so happy to be a part of this wonderful community. My wife, Fathy, and I find great delight in the beauty of our campus and in the many opportunities for leading a rich and satisfying life here in the Central Valley. We are fortunate to live in an area that offers both tranquility and productivity. We look forward to getting to know many of our community leaders personally in the months ahead.

I truly believe that at California State University, Stanislaus we are the future. I look forward to partnering with the community to help this University realize its tremendous potential as we expand our service to our students and our home community as well.
For the first time, California State University, Stanislaus broke into the Top 10 in the category of “Top Public Universities- Master’s (West)” in “America’s Best Colleges,” published by U.S. News & World Report, moving into the tenth spot. The University also advanced to 46th overall in the broader “Best Universities-Master’s (West)” category which rated 123 private and public institutions in the magazine’s 2006 edition.

The report, released in the national magazine’s annual August issue, is popular with students and their parents who are sizing up prospective colleges and universities.

“While the numbers are impressive and lend distinction to our fine institution, it is the facts behind the figures that are a testament to the substance of California State University, Stanislaus,” President Hamid Shirvani said. “Our University continues to be a leader in providing educational access to a diverse population of learners, many of whom are first-generation students.”

President Shirvani credited the faculty and staff for keeping the University in the national spotlight. He expressed his conviction that along with showing continued progress in the rankings, CSU Stanislaus would in years to come grow to serve and enrich the learning community in innovative ways.

U.S. News & World Report generates its rankings and scores for “America’s Best Colleges” by assessing a variety of criteria including peer assessment, graduation rate, student-to-faculty ratio and freshman retention rate.

According to U.S. News & World Report’s website, the higher the proportion of freshmen who return to campus after their first year and eventually graduate, the better a school is at offering the classes and services students need to succeed. The freshman retention rate for CSU Stanislaus is currently 82%.

Other categories the University fared well in include graduation rate and ethnic diversity. CSU Stanislaus has been recognized nationally for its 27% Hispanic student population and has a record freshmen class this fall of nearly 900 students, of which 37% are Hispanic.

In the category of economic diversity, the University achieved a strong score for its percentage of undergraduates receiving federal Pell Grants, which are typically awarded to undergraduates with family incomes less than $40,000.
University Rates High for Student Success, Graduation Rates

California State University, Stanislaus is one of 12 campuses cited in a national study for creating a campus culture that has improved student success and produced higher than predicted graduation rates.

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), working with the National Association of System Heads and the Education Trust, identified key aspects of campus culture and leadership that resulted in CSU Stanislaus and 11 other universities having success in these areas.

“This peer-review assessment speaks to the high quality of our educational offerings,” said President Hamid Shirvani. “Retention and graduation rates are key elements of success for a university committed to teaching and learning. This is the result of our committed faculty and staff.”

The Graduation Rate Outcomes Project study found that what sets these campuses apart is the presence of a campus culture and leadership that values student success. According to the report, campus culture at these universities reinforces the belief that students can and should succeed and projects a prevailing attitude that what is now being done can be done better. It also conveys mutually high expectations for students as well as faculty and staff, the report noted.

“The Graduation Rate Outcomes Project adds significant new insight and understanding about student success,” said Constantine W. (Deno) Curris, President of AASCU. “Improved graduation rates are possible when there is strong academic leadership and a commitment to student success integrated into the campus culture.”

Successful student retention factors noted in the study include residence life, frequent student-faculty contact and a rich range of extracurricular activities. Faculty-supported initiatives designed to create a “learning community” atmosphere and the University’s ability to provide mentoring and support were singled out for contributing to student success at CSU Stanislaus.

“California State University, Stanislaus is honored to have been recognized by our peers nationwide for our work on student success,” President Shirvani said. “We pride ourselves on our commitment to helping all students achieve, for our co-curricular efforts to engage students on campus and strong links between students and faculty.”

Stacey Morgan-Foster, Vice President for Student Affairs, said the University enjoys a culture that encourages communication and joint problem solving in the area of student success.

“Faculty and staff genuinely care about students,” she said. “Development of lifelong learners is a core value that permeates all levels of the University.”

In its report, the nine-person AASCU study team described CSU Stanislaus faculty and staff as highly motivated and determined to “do what it takes” to succeed. Commitment to access, especially for first-generation students at the culturally diverse university, contact with faculty and student connection to the campus through organizations and activities were cited as major components of the success at CSU Stanislaus.

“The result of campus culture, leadership initiative and organizational focus is that CSU Stanislaus has been well-positioned to respond to system incentives to improve graduate rates and retention in ways that reinforced its mission,” the report noted.

The six-year graduation rate for CSU Stanislaus students entering in 1996 (which was the year selected for study for all cohorts) was 51%, the third highest in the CSU system. The system-wide average that year was 41.6%. Furthermore, the campus recorded one of the highest graduation rates in the CSU for students receiving Pell Grants, typically indicative of the most financially needy students, with 51.9% graduating within six years for the 1996 cohort.

Overall, CSU Stanislaus consistently has placed in the top half of all CSUs in terms of freshmen graduation rates and overall retention rates. In 2004-05, the six-year graduation rate for students entering in 1999 was 51.1%; the freshmen-to-sophomore retention rate was 80%.

The Graduation Rate Outcomes Project was designed to determine why the 12 selected institutions were successful, and to help other campus leaders develop formulas for improved student success based on this information. The study was conducted by teams representing more than 90 state colleges and universities.

AASCU is a higher education association that includes more than 430 colleges, universities and systems of public higher education throughout the United States and its territories.
Bill Mattos Named 2005-06 University Foundation Board President

Bill Mattos, President of the California Poultry Industry Federation, newspaper publisher, former Stanislaus County Supervisor and an involved citizen at many levels, is leading the support charge for California State University, Stanislaus in 2005-06. He took over as president of the University’s Foundation Board of Trustees in July.

“Bill Mattos will be a fantastic president of the Foundation board,” said Bill Ruud, Vice President of Development and University Relations. “He has a long and successful relationship with California State University, Stanislaus and is well respected throughout the agricultural business and political community in California.”

The CSU Stanislaus Foundation is a fundraising and support organization dedicated to the pursuit of private and public resources. Trustees also serve as legislative and public advocates to increase awareness of CSU Stanislaus. Board members volunteer their time to help the University achieve its goals of excellence.

Mattos is a native of the Newman area where he grew up on a farm. He has been an active community leader at the county, community, state and national levels for many years.

“I’m excited about the opportunity to work with so many dedicated board members and to take over at a time when California State University, Stanislaus is excelling in this valley and offering students outstanding educational opportunities,” Mattos said. “This year, we will concentrate on building the Foundation so that we can offer more scholarships and opportunities for students in every school. The leadership on the Foundation Board is as good as it gets, and I’ve been impressed by not only the vision inspired by University staff, but the intellect and knowledge of the Foundation Board members.”

Mattos graduated with honors from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, where he was named the Outstanding Graduate in Journalism. He earned a master’s degree in agricultural journalism from the University of Wisconsin.

Mattos has served as Poultry Federation President since 1991 and is acknowledged as one of the country’s leading agriculture spokespersons. He worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture under former Secretary Earl Butz and served as a White House intern during the Nixon administration after earning his college degree.

Mattos is also president and founder of Mattos Newspapers, a newspaper and printing company based in Newman.

In addition, Mattos serves as president of Doctor’s Medical Center and the Stanislaus County Fair Board, and is a member of the Agricultural Network in Sacramento, the College of Business Administration Advisory Board at CSU Stanislaus, the National Poultry Environmental Dialogue committee from California, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo’s Advisory Board of School and Ag Education, the UC Davis Advisory Board of School of Agriculture, the Advisory Board of the Great Valley Center, Stanislaus Area Friends of Extension and the Newman Rotary Club. He also serves as California State Chairman of the National Newspaper Association.

New Board Appointments

New appointments to the Foundation Board for 2005-06 are Dr. Moses D. Elam of Stockton, Emerson Johnson of Modesto and John Sigsbury of Turlock.

Moses Elam, currently physician-in-chief for the Kaiser Permanente Central Valley Service Area, oversees medical operations and physician strategy for nearly 400 physicians in Stockton, Manteca, Tracy and Modesto. Before joining Kaiser Permanente, he worked for a private dermatology practice in South Orange, New Jersey.

Elam is a graduate of Howard University in Washington, D.C., and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey at the New Jersey Medical School. He completed his internship at University Hospital in New Jersey and his resident studies at Cornell Medical Center in New York. He is board certified in dermatology by the American Board of Dermatology.

In addition to his leadership and physician duties, Elam also serves as a clinical instructor in the Family Practice and Internal Medicine Residency Program at San Joaquin County General Hospital and is the associate pastor at the Progressive Baptist Church in Stockton. Elam and his wife, Marcia, have four daughters.

John Sigsbury, President and CEO of Emanuel Medical Center since 2003, previously was the Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer of Frederick Memorial Healthcare System in Frederick, Maryland, for 15 years. Prior to that, Sigsbury held executive positions at Delnor Community Health System in Geneva, Illinois, and at St. Anthony’s Medical Center in St. Louis, Missouri. Sigsbury is an affiliate of the American College of Healthcare Executives and has a bachelor’s degree in biology from Wheaton College and an M.H.A. degree from St. Louis University.

Dr. Moses D. Elam

Emerson Johnson is operator and owner of five McDonald’s restaurants in Modesto and Riverbank. Johnson has received many community recognition awards and honors for his accomplishments as a McDonald’s franchise operator. He is also involved in the community as the Vice Chair and Marketing Director of the Modesto Chamber of Commerce, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Private Industry Council, the Modesto Junior College Business Advisory Group and CSU Stanislaus Professor Selection Committee.

Moses Elam

Emerson Johnson

John Sigsbury

Appointments for 2005-06 are

Emerson Johnson

John Sigsbury

Dr. Moses D. Elam

Bill Mattos
The Bank of America Foundation recently contributed $33,000 for the College of Education’s Abundant Books for Children Project (ABC).

David Yoonan, senior vice president at Bank of America and a California State University, Stanislaus alumnus, delivered a check to Development and University Relations for the ABC project on the evening of the March 23 Leadership Forum that featured keynote speaker Barbara Bush. The former First Lady complimented the ABC project during her keynote address and encouraged others to support efforts to create a literate citizenry.

“We’re very pleased Bank of America identified literacy as a priority in this region,” said Bill Ruud, Vice President for Development and University Relations.

Since then, Target and the Turlock Lions Club have come forward with donations to the program and ABC Project Coordinator Karen Barham hopes others will join them with support. The funds will be used to extend the program, which was founded in 2002 to provide free books to children in the Turlock community from birth to age five.

For more information on the ABC Project, contact Barham at (209) 664-6739.

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University Professors Publish Revealing Report on Autism

A California research team that includes a pair of California State University, Stanislaus psychology professors has taken a significant step in what most experts predict will be a long journey in developing effective treatment for autism. They were part of a team of psychologists who conducted a study that dispels some popular notions about how to treat autism.

The pioneering study was completed by CSU Stanislaus psychology faculty members Dr. Jane Howard and Dr. Harold Stanislaw and their colleagues Coleen Sparkman, Director of the Kendall School in Modesto; Dr. Howard Cohen, Clinical Director of Valley Mountain Regional Center in Stockton; and Dr. Gina Green of San Diego, a nationally known researcher and consultant in the field of autism.

Autism is a disorder of brain development characterized by deficits in language, learning and social interaction. It typically appears during the first three years of life and affects males about four times more often than females across all income strata and ethnic groups. Genetics seems to be a contributing factor, but the specific causes of autism have not yet been identified.

The National Institutes of Health note that prevalence studies have been done in several states and also in the United Kingdom, Europe, and Asia. Prevalence estimates range from 2 to 6 per 1,000 children. Most individuals with autism who do not receive effective treatment are unlikely to live independently as adults.

The California study found that intensive Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) was a substantially more effective treatment for a group of preschool children with autism than the mixture of methods that is provided in many education and treatment programs. ABA emphasizes breaking skills down into small parts and building them systematically through repetition and positive reinforcement. At the same time, behaviors that are harmful or that interfere with learning are analyzed carefully and are not reinforced.

The long-term goal is to help each child be as successful and independent as possible at school, at home and in the community.

“This study corroborates earlier studies showing the power of early intensive behavior analytic intervention,” said Howard, the study’s principal investigator. “It is important because it is one of only a few studies in which ABA intervention was delivered through a community-based, rather than a university-affiliated program. These results signal the potential for delivering effective intervention without the resources of a university-based clinic.”

Howard noted that this aspect is important because there are too few university-affiliated programs capable of providing ABA intervention for the growing number of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders.

The report indicates that most autism experts agree that the earlier the intervention is delivered, the better the outcomes. It also questions the suitability of treating children with autism using a variety of intervention methods.

“The study is also noteworthy because it is only the second one to compare the common practice of combining multiple treatment approaches (‘eclectic’ treatment) with a cohesive approach based on the science of applied behavior analysis,” Howard said.

Although it may seem reasonable to many parents and professionals to use a mixture of treatment methods, the researchers noted that this practice has not been carefully evaluated.

According to the authors, the eclectic or mixed-method treatment approach is often recommended for children with autism by consultants, educators and clinicians. It is widely used in both public and private schools. Eclectic treatment for children with autism often includes the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS), sensory integration therapy, speech and language therapy, discrete trial training, play therapy and techniques drawn from the Teaching and Education of Autism and related Communication handicapped Children (TEACCH) program developed in North Carolina.

Co-researcher Green noted that scientific studies of eclectic treatment are necessary because funding treatments that have not been scientifically validated wastes scarce resources and costs these children the opportunity to realize their full potential.

According to information provided by the California Department of Developmental Disabilities, the cost of providing basic services to adolescents and adults with autism throughout their lifespan is substantially more per person than the cost of comparable services for individuals with other developmental disabilities.

The study conducted by Howard and her colleagues titled “A comparison of intensive behavior analytic and eclectic treatments for young children with autism,” was published in the July/August issue of the Journal of Research and Developmental Disabilities. The article can be purchased online at: www.sciencedirect.com.

The study was partially supported by grants from CSU Stanislaus and Valley Mountain Regional Center.
Every year, more and more children are placed in foster care, increasing the demand for social work professionals who are able to help children and families in need. California State University, Stanislaus, with Social Work faculty member Paul Sivak leading the way, has gone into action with a special grant-funded program designed to meet the overwhelming need in this region.

In 1995, noting a lack of highly trained social workers in a region that has a high percentage of families living at the poverty level, CSU Stanislaus joined the California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC), a consortium of the state’s accredited social work graduate schools. As a member of CalSWEC, CSU Stanislaus became one of only 17 institutions in California participating in the Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Project.

Child welfare programs are vital community services designed to promote the well-being of children by ensuring safety, providing stability and strengthening families to successfully care for their children.

Employing a comprehensive competency-based curriculum, the Child Welfare Training Project provides graduate education to students preparing for careers in public child welfare. Participants in the program receive an annual stipend of $18,500 for two years that allows them to focus on their classroom studies and program field work. Upon completion of the program, graduates are expected to serve for at least two years in a child welfare program at any agency in California.

The training program, coordinated by Sivak, has had a tremendous impact on the community. “We’ve graduated 135 students from the Title IV-E program who are now working in departments of social work throughout the six-county region,” he said.

Sivak feels the federally funded program has helped to better the lives of children and their families while meeting the demand for more social work professionals. However, the program may be on the budget chopping block if current proposals before Congress become law. The 2006-07 requested budget for the project is $1.5 million.

Sivak’s other projects have included two presentations and training programs in Great Britain. He was a presenter at Winchester’s “Breaking Down the Barriers” conference in 2000. In 2003, Sivak traveled with South Hampton University colleagues to several counties in the southern parts of England to conduct workshops on Family Group Conferencing.

Dolores Covarrubias, a recipient of the training program stipend, graduated with her MSW degree in 1999 and considers herself fortunate to have received the support that enabled her to complete the programs.

Following graduation from the CSU Stanislaus program, Covarrubias spent two years working as a placement specialist with Child Protective Services ensuring children in foster care were properly taken care of.

“The program enhanced what I already possessed, which was my belief that families should be together,” said Covarrubias. “The Title IV-E program is a very important program and it gave me the opportunity to realize my passion for helping families.”

Covarrubias is currently a Preventive Service Social Worker at Turlock’s Community Service Agency, helping to meet the various needs of disadvantaged families.
California State University, Stanislaus Professor of History Samuel Regalado has found his niche as a national expert regarding the influence of Latino baseball players on professional baseball and American culture.

His many years of research and writing on the subject reached another pinnacle on September 23 when he was featured in a Spike TV feature documentary titled “Viva Baseball.” The film covers much of the story celebrating the trials and triumphs of Latinos in Major League Baseball and how they enthralled millions of fans. That subject was the theme of Regalado’s book titled “Viva Baseball: Latin Major Leaguers and their Special Hunger.”

Although he has been a baseball fan and played the sport for fun ever since he was a youngster growing up in Los Angeles idolizing some of the first Latino players in the Majors, Regalado admits that he initially had no intention to do research as a college history major on any aspect of America’s pastime.

After graduating from CSU Northridge in 1980, he headed to Washington State University to dig into “intellectual history” as a graduate student, specifically “The Impact of Social Darwinism and Positivism on the Philosophies of Western History.”

However, when one of his professors at Washington State started talking about baseball and its impact on American history, the curious baseball fan in Regalado emerged and he decided to look into the subject. He became aware that there were no publications at the time which told the story of the significance of Latinos in baseball to American society.

Regalado did his master’s degree thesis on Latin American history and Ph.D. dissertation on Latin American baseball players after conducting some detailed research. He had a good avenue to score interviews with Latino major leaguers along the way through his uncle, Rudy Regalado, who played for the Cleveland Indians. As he talked with players, he began to realize he had a story to tell. He decided to write a book about the struggles Latin American ballplayers faced both on and off the field in trying to adapt to American mainstream culture in a country where they did not speak the language.

“It blossomed into a book after I joined the faculty at CSU Stanislaus in 1987,” Regalado said.

Regalado’s book, published in 1998 after extensive travel to interview players and former players all over the country, received rave reviews from the media as well as many Latino ballplayers who were grateful that their story had been told.

“Orlando Cepeda (a Hall-of-Fame player for San Francisco Giants and St. Louis Cardinals) called me after the book came out and told me, ‘you got it right.’”

The book’s popularity also established the CSU Stanislaus faculty member as an acknowledged expert on the accomplishments and struggles of Latino ballplayers. A number of appearances on television and radio ensued and newspaper writers from all over the world still seek him out regularly as a source. Regalado is in regular demand as a speaker at universities and other scholarly programs all over the United States.

A second edition that brought the book up to date at the time of the Sammy Sosa-Mark McGuire home run race was published in 1999. Regalado is wrapping up a third edition that will focus on Latino players born and raised in the United States that is scheduled to come out in 2006.

“Next to the Civil War, which has captured the interest of many, people are very much intrigued with the history of baseball,” said Regalado, who incorporates his research into courses he teaches on Mexico and Latin America. “I did not expect it to go over as big as it has, but the book has attracted attention from a number of different circles. It’s been a real nice ride.”
Director of Global Affairs
Linda Bunney-Sarhad Retires

Global Affairs Director Linda Bunney-Sarhad, ‘75 English, who brought the world to California State University, Stanislaus, has called it a career. One of the co-founders of the Institute for International Studies later institutionalized as Global Affairs, she officially concluded her 30-year CSU Stanislaus career at the end of May.

Bunney-Sarhad served as director for 17 years. Her duties included serving as chair of the American Council on Education for Global Learning and overseeing a number of projects and programs related to global learning. She worked with faculty to create new partnerships and grant-funded programs such as The Bridge in Modesto, which provides University students a cultural/linguistic immersion while providing service to Southeast Asian refugees.

The Office of Global Affairs, formed officially in 1998, has been dedicated to enhancing the curriculum and creating infrastructure for student and faculty opportunities to learn abroad. Under the leadership of Bunney-Sarhad, the Office of Global Affairs also garnered approximately $5 million in external funds for support of international education projects.

Bunney-Sarhad’s leadership played a vital role in the development of many international partnerships for CSU Stanislaus. Some of those projects and accomplishments included:

- The Fulbright Group Project to China’s Yunnan and Guizhou provinces called “China’s Cultural Diversity: the Hmong as a Case Point” for 12 teachers, faculty and teacher candidates led by Dr. Kou Yang.
- New exchange programs with the Universidad Regionmontana of Mexico, the Communications University of China in Beijing and the BioEconomy Association of Addis Ababa in Ethiopia.
- An initiation of a collaborative master’s degree program in Business Administration with an emphasis on International Finance with the Universite de Cergy-Pontouze, France.

Bunney-Sarhad, who began her career at CSU Stanislaus as a faculty member in English Composition and French in 1975 after earning her bachelor’s degree at the University, plans to focus on her family and writing projects. She intends to spend time with her husband, attorney Ron Sarhad, her three children, and two grandchildren, ages 5 and 2.

“My initial plan after retirement is to get a good rest,” she said. “Other plans will take some time to decide; they will involve family and writing.”

Bunney-Sarhad attributes part of her success at building the international program to her colleagues.

“What I’ve enjoyed the most have been the people I’ve been able to work with,” she said. “That’s why it’s hard to leave. I’ve enjoyed every day of work here. I’ve considered it a privilege, and I hope I’ve left something that can be built on.”

Amy Thomas Named to Public Safety Director Post

Amy Thomas, ’95 Liberal Studies, who has distinguished herself as a crime prevention and emergency resource officer at California State University, Stanislaus since 1996, has been named the Assistant Director for Environmental Health, Safety & Emergency Management in the University’s Department of Public Safety.

Thomas assumed the position formerly held by Ron Misaki, who retired in June. She joined the CSU Stanislaus Public Safety department as Crime Prevention and Emergency Resource Officer. Thomas earned her bachelor’s degree from CSU Stanislaus in 1995 and a multiple subject teaching credential in 1996, graduating summa cum laude.

In her new post, Thomas will focus on engaging the campus community regarding a variety of safety programs. Her responsibilities will include conducting environmental health programs on topics such as hazardous waste materials, waste regulatory issues and county health regulations, offering occupational safety training programs ranging from workplace violence to first aid and preparing emergency readiness and response programs such as building evacuation procedures.

Golf Magazine Names Jim Hanny One of Top Coaches of All Time

Legendary California State University, Stanislaus men’s golf coach Jim Hanny was named one of the “Top-5 All-Time” college coaches in the September issue of Golf Digest magazine.

The list, compiled by Jerry Tarde, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of Golf Digest, was part of an 18-page section on college golf in the magazine.

Hanny, who has been coaching sports at CSU Stanislaus since 1966, has served as Athletic Director and Chairman of Physical Education at the University. He has coached basketball, track & field, cross country and baseball and directed the golf team for more than 30 years.

From 1976-89, the Warrior golfers won 12 of 14 NCAA Division III titles. Under Hanny’s leadership, the Warriors have missed the NCAA tournament just twice since 1976. In both of those seasons, an individual CSU Stanislaus golfer advance to the NCAA tournament. Most recently, Hanny watched freshman Andy Moren advanced to the tournament earlier this year, where Moren earned the Phil Mickelson Award as the nation’s top freshman golfer.

Golf Digest’s “Top-5 All-Time” College Coaches:

1. Dave Williams, Houston (16 NCAA championships over 30 years)
2. Mike Holder, Oklahoma State (8 NCAA championships)
3. Linda Vollstedt, Arizona State (6 NCAA titles in the 1990s)
4. Jim Hanny, California State University, Stanislaus (12 of 14 NCAA Division III titles from 1976-89)
5. Jesse Haddock, Wake Forest (3 NCAA championships)
Jim Quinley, veterinarian

How do people decide on a lifelong profession?

For Jim Quinley, ’80 Science, the choice of a career leapt at his heart while earning a “Pets” merit badge for a Boy Scout project. As part of the project, he observed local veterinarian Dr. Ed Kearly for a day. Young Jimmy was hooked.

In high school, he volunteered for a local veterinary hospital, where he later worked for four years while attending California State University, Stanislaus. “It was a life-altering experience for me,” recalls Quinley of those days. Now, as owner of Veterinary Medical Center of Turlock, he relishes the variety and surprises that each day uncovers. “I may see anything from a pet rat with lice to a dog delivering puppies or a sick cat in the span of 30 minutes,” he says.

While at CSU Stanislaus, Quinley had the luxury of taking for granted the close-knit community formed by faculty, staff and students. “Although I didn’t realize it at the time, I was getting spoiled by the small class size,” he says. He found the professors approachable and much inclined to form close bonds with their students. When it came time to apply to veterinary school, one of them — Dr. Jim Hanson — even accompanied him to the UC Davis admissions office. “How’s that for service?” marvels Quinley.

There was stiff competition to get in — Quinley estimates one opening for every eight or nine applicants. Knowing he tended to score below his ability in standardized testing, he devoted an entire summer to prepping for the Graduate Record Exam. His high scores got him through the turnstile at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. His experience there gave him a fresh appreciation for his undergraduate alma mater. Where CSU Stanislaus had 20 students in his physiology class, UC Davis had 200. “There was no doubt in my mind that my education at CSU Stanislaus was on par with larger institutions such as UC Davis,” Quinley says.

Upon graduation, Quinley spent a year interning at a large, prestigious veterinary clinic in Los Angeles. He and his wife then decided to return home to Turlock to be closer to both their families and to outdoor recreational activities. He then opened his practice which involves small animal general medicine and surgery.

As for the Pets merit badge that got him started on his life’s work, Quinley’s pretty sure his Dad kept it. “Not a bad idea to frame it. I basically owe my adult life to that badge, don’t I?” he says.
If Richard Cano had listened to the naysayers, he might have believed that becoming a doctor was a pipe dream.

If he had accepted as destiny his comfortable life as an auto supply store manager, he would not now be putting in grueling hours as a surgical resident at Stanford University. Had the California State University, Stanislaus faculty not nurtured him during his undergraduate years, he would not have grown in confidence to press toward his goal of becoming an intensive care physician.

The dream took root early. Watching his father interact with patients, Cano was amazed at the potent intersection of lives.

“Touching somebody’s life comes in all forms. It’s not always about saving a life; it’s also about helping someone die with dignity. I want to be the guy who has the opportunity to return grandma to the family or help them through when return is not possible,” he says.

But when Cano told his dad he wanted to become a doctor, his father’s words cut through with surgical precision.

“He said, ‘You’d be a Volkswagen in a race with Ferraris,’ and I believed him,” Cano recalls. Cano flunked out of a local community college. He worked at a pizza restaurant and then attempted to restart his studies. His girlfriend gave birth when he was 21. His own experience as a child of divorce made him yearn for something better for his son. So he married his son’s mother, shelved college and took on a full-time job.

His 10-year stint at an auto supply store brought out his people skills, leadership qualities and business sense. He rose quickly through the ranks andopped two national awards for his sales records. But success only exposed a deeper discontent.

“Over six months I had so many conversations with myself. ‘You’re wasting your life. Try to be somebody,’ he says.

He finally begged the community college dean to take him back. It was midway through the academic year. The only open class was basketball.

“My dream of becoming a doctor felt like a long way off,” he says. But he earned an A and kept at it, eventually earning 56 units while working full-time. In between, his marriage fell apart; he withdrew for a semester, and then forced himself to return to school. An incident while at community college is burned into his memory.

“The counselor laughed when I talked about becoming a doctor,” he recalls. “I just raged. And then I became very focused.”

A second incident at the college yields gentler recollections. He met Sandy, and they’ve been married for nearly a decade.

Cano transferred to California State University, Stanislaus, where he was soon elected vice president of the Pre-Health Professions Club. His duties included organizing visits to health educational facilities and recruiting health care professionals as speakers. He tutored on campus, assisted his professor with research on how cigarette smoke damages DNA and researched wine carcinogens and microorganisms as an intern with E.&J. Gallo Winery. He also volunteered in the emergency room at Stanislaus County Medical Center. His unrestrained teen years were behind him.

In 1999, he graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in Biological Sciences, a minor in Chemistry and dual concentrations in Genetics and Microbiology. He applied to 32 medical schools, received invitations to interview with 30, and scraped together enough funds to fly to 10 of them across the country.

In 2000, he was accepted into Stanford University School of Medicine, where he earned his medical degree in 2005. He intends to serve as an anesthesiology resident for three years and then complete a fellowship in critical care. He feels well equipped to relate to the full range of humanity. For that, he credits his early struggles and the compassionate example of his grandfather, Trinidad Cano, a pastor at First Baptist in Gilroy.

“I can interact with the guy who has everything and the guy just waiting for his next drink,” he says.

Days before he graduated from Stanford, Cano e-mailed his former professors at CSU Stanislaus to share his relief and gratitude.

“Without a doubt, CSU Stanislaus prepared me well for medical school, as I consistently scored well on my exams. The faculty’s collective educational abilities, passion, character, compassion and support for students are something I will cherish always.”

Since 2000, Cano has actively participated in many community service groups that mentor high school and minority students, provide free health services to under served populations and health education for young children and foster interaction between Stanford’s undergraduate and medical students.

“It has always been my goal to show people that their dreams are possible, no matter what their parents or their communities say,” he says.
Amethyst Schlecht, dentist

The fact that some of Dr. Amethyst Schlecht's patients are her former professors at California State University, Stanislaus says a lot about patient trust.

“Life comes full circle. They helped me and now I can help them and their families,” she said.

Schlecht graduated with the Class of 2000 (Biological Sciences, minor in Chemistry) and completed her dental training at the University of Southern California in May 2004.

“Dental school is not easy. Four years of hard work and persistence do pay off in the end, but at the time you wonder if you are going to survive to make it to the finish line,” Schlecht said.

But finish she eventually did, after which she and her husband, Wayne, elected to move back to Turlock where they had both grown up.

“After living in the big city, we appreciated the smaller town life and wanted to raise our family here with our families close by,” she said.

Schlecht now practices general dentistry in Turlock with her Dad, Timothy Schlecht.

“Being a general dentist allows for variation,” she said.

“No tooth nor patient is exactly the same.”

While getting an inside peek into wide-open mouths is all part of a day’s work, the best part for her is really the inside glimpses she gains into people’s lives. She enjoys connecting with her patients on a personal level.

“I see parents and their children, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. The family atmosphere is wonderful and it is great to keep up with people when they come in for their cleanings every six months,” Schlecht said.

Her preference for the personal touch was nurtured and indulged during her years at CSU Stanislaus.

“I really liked the atmosphere of a small school. I appreciated the opportunity to be able to ask my professors questions outside of class. They knew my name. I wasn’t just some number. I even invited some of my professors to my wedding,” she added.

Jorge Pantoja, dentist

Need is no stranger to Jorge Pantoja, a dentist in practice since 1983. His patients need him. They need him to understand them. They come in droves, grateful for someone who speaks their language on more than one level.

“I have a different reference point because I know firsthand what a lot of people in need go through,” he said. “I’ve been blessed with success and I’ve been able to see the fruits of hard work.”

Patients aren’t always patient, he’s found. They’re in pain, or they’re in denial, not ready to part with a tooth that cannot be saved. Some may not have the resources to pay for his services. Still, they come. And always, he tries to help each of them.

He could hire associates to alleviate the crunch, but he won’t.

“Ultimately people come to me to resolve the problem. I feel that keeping it simple has been the best way,” Pantoja said.

Born in Michoacan, Mexico, Pantoja was 10 years old when his family moved to Hughson. His parents were farmworkers in the local peach orchards and vineyards. Occasionally they harvested cherries in Oregon.

Many members of his extended family were either dentists or aspiring to be dentists. Young Jorge could see that the profession drew respect and afforded a comfortable lifestyle.

When it was time to attend college, a friend tried to persuade him to transfer to UC Davis from community college.

“Graduates from Davis would supposedly be perceived better,” Pantoja said. “Apparently this would increase their chances of being accepted into dental school.” He checked with UC San Francisco and found this untrue. He was told what really mattered was the applicant’s grade point average. “That gave me the confidence in CSU Stanislaus.”

Attending CSU Stanislaus saved him commute time and money, while satisfying the requirements for dental school. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Biological Sciences in 1979 and completed his professional training at UCSF in 1983.

He offers this advice to students with backgrounds similar to his: “Even though things may get tough, don’t give up. Do what you have to do to achieve your goal because once you reach it, it does get much better. It’s a much easier lifestyle than our parents had.”

Arby Hoobyar, optometrist

Maintaining focus was the key to Arby Hoobyar’s fruitful pursuit of a career in optometry. Clearly, the Turlock native and California State University, Stanislaus alumnus kept his eye on the goal.

He has been in practice since 2000. Last year, he set up his clinic at Costco in Turlock. He also writes a column for the Turlock Journal.

Hoobyar graduated magna cum laude in 1996 with a bachelor’s degree in Biological Sciences, minor in Chemistry) and completed his professional training at UCSF in 1983.

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“Dental school is not easy. Four years of hard work and persistence do pay off in the end, but at the time you wonder if you are going to survive to make it to the finish line,” Schlecht said.

But finish she eventually did, after which she and her husband, Wayne, elected to move back to Turlock where they had both grown up.

“After living in the big city, we appreciated the smaller town life and wanted to raise our family here with our families close by,” she said.

Schlecht now practices general dentistry in Turlock with her Dad, Timothy Schlecht.

“Being a general dentist allows for variation,” she said.

“No tooth nor patient is exactly the same.”

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“I see parents and their children, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. The family atmosphere is wonderful and it is great to keep up with people when they come in for their cleanings every six months,” Schlecht said.

Her preference for the personal touch was nurtured and indulged during her years at CSU Stanislaus.

“I really liked the atmosphere of a small school. I appreciated the opportunity to be able to ask my professors questions outside of class. They knew my name. I wasn’t just some number. I even invited some of my professors to my wedding,” she added.

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Former Residents Gather at Yosemite Hall Site for “Goodbye” Program

All that remains of the former Yosemite Hall residential complex across from California State University, Stanislaus are the memories.

On September 15, former residents of the University’s first campus housing gathered with friends and current students at the site to look at photos and exchange favorite stories about the recently dismantled facility as a part of a “Last Goodbye to Yosemite Hall.”

At the conclusion of the program, the former residents assembled for a group photo that will be displayed in the Village Café of the current on-campus residential village at CSU Stanislaus. Copies of the photo are available for purchase by contacting the Alumni Relations office at 667-3693. Or check out the University’s Alumni website at: www.csustanalumni.com.

CSU Stanislaus received funding from the California State University Chancellor’s Office earlier this year to demolish the buildings at the former housing complex. Demolition and clearing of the site was completed in August.

The building had been vacant and boarded up since 1993 due to its age, seismic conditions and the presence of hazardous materials. Opened in 1966 after CSU Stanislaus moved to its permanent Monte Vista Avenue site in 1965, the complex included rooms for 180 students, along with a cafeteria, study lounge and swimming pool. When the University opened the first phase of The Village housing on campus 12 years ago, the facility was closed.

A few of the Yosemite Hall residents who lived there in its first year nearly 40 years ago talked like pioneers about their experiences in the two-story residential complex.

“Everyone knew everyone and life was a lot simpler then. It’s the end of an era.”

Alumni Association Honors Polly Vasché and David Gomes

The California State University, Stanislaus Alumni Association honored popular choral instructor Polly Vasché of Modesto and “Mr. Warrior” David Gomes of Turlock with its 2005 alumni awards on May 28.

Vasché, who served as Choral Director for Thomas Downey High School in Modesto for 29 years, was named the Alumna of the Year. Gomes, who has worked in Financial Aid at the University since 1973 and been a sideline fixture at Warrior baseball and basketball games, received the Alumni Service Award.

Vasché earned a bachelor’s degree in Music from CSU Stanislaus in 1975 with an emphasis on piano and vocal performance. She entered CSU Stanislaus after a hiatus from her studies that followed a bachelor’s in History/Geerman and a master’s in Education, both from Stanford University. In the interim, she worked at The American School in Japan (Tokyo), San Diego State University and Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington.

Other awards she has earned include: 2005 Stanislaus County Woman of the Year, 2004 Educator of the Year (California League of High Schools, Region VI), 2003 Choral Educator of the Year (California Association for Music Education), 1995 Teacher of the Year (Modesto Rotary) and 1989 Teacher of Excellence (Thomas Downey High School).

Vasché has performed with numerous orchestras, choral companies and ensembles. Most recently, she performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City with singers from throughout the United States.

Vasché lives in Modesto with her husband of 28 years, Burt, who also retired in 2004 after 35 years as an English teacher at Downey High.

Gomes earned his bachelor’s degree in History from CSU Stanislaus in 1969 and his single subject credential in 1972. He was a member of the first class of freshmen at CSU Stanislaus after graduating from Los Banos High School. Before graduating from CSU Stanislaus, he served nearly three years as a student leader on Student Executive Council, which was the forerunner of the Associated Students. He was appointed the Interim Director of Financial Aid in 2003 after 30 years of service to the department.

Gomes was inducted into the Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame in 1999. He was also honored by the Athletic Department earlier this year with a baseball jersey retirement ceremony in recognition of his many years of service as official scorekeeper and announcer.

CSU Stanislaus is a family affair for Gomes. His wife, Miriam Ebner, ’81, graduated from the University as did his stepson, Mikel Gordon, ’98, and Mikel’s wife, Jennifer, ’94.

The Alumni Association awards the Alumnus/Alumna of the Year Award and the Alumni Service Award each year to recognize past graduates. Awards are made based upon distinct criteria for each, some of which include leadership, citizenship, service to the community and University, and an appreciation for learning.
Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Cinderella and Snow White, Fantasyland and Tomorrowland are everyday sights for 1991 California State University, Stanislaus graduate Chris McPherson. As Walt Disney’s Guest Talent Specialist and Stage Manager, every work day for McPherson is filled with Disney’s magic, adventure and excitement.

McPherson joined the Disney family in September 2004, managing guest talent performing groups throughout the Disneyland resort as well as other outside programs.

“Every cast member has the same job description,” said McPherson, “to create magic for our guests.”

McPherson helps create magic by booking, organizing and evaluating performing groups and overseeing a stage at Disneyland. McPherson works with dance groups, rock bands, choirs and jazz and marching bands of all ages. He also worked with the crew on Disneyland’s 50th Anniversary Celebration Parade Block Party and was part of the show with legends like Julie Andrews and Herbie The Love Bug.

McPherson’s quest to get where he is today began during the late 1980’s when he transferred to CSU Stanislaus as a theatre major with an emphasis in technical, scenic design and directing. Even before he was a student at CSU Stanislaus, McPherson worked alongside drama professor Noble Dinse organizing musicals.

Although the Modesto native had originally planned to attend CSU Northridge, he was impressed with the low faculty-student ratio at CSU Stanislaus and made it his home. As a student, McPherson was involved in the drama department and had many mentors who encouraged and inspired him.

“I have been fortunate to have many mentors,” McPherson said. “Marvin Jacobo, Kevin Friesen, Lin Sexton and Noble Dinse believed in me when I didn’t believe in myself. Marvin and Kevin helped mold my spiritual and personal side and Lin and Noble trained me in the Art of Theatre.”

Before joining Disneyland, McPherson held many positions dealing with choreography, scenic design, theatrical directing, coaching and stage managing. He was the Creative Arts Director at Modesto’s First Baptist Church for 13 years. Ten years ago, McPherson started a production company “Excellence in Arts,” which focuses on choreography. McPherson traveled nationwide with his production company teaching dance and choreography to dance teams, choirs, cheerleading squads and musical theatre groups at churches, schools, fairs and community organization events.

McPherson gained his current position at Disneyland through his production company.

“I heard about the Disney position through taking one of my performing groups from Modesto to Disneyland to perform,” McPherson said. “Through keeping in contact with Disney, I interviewed with the manager of entertainment and got the role of Guest Talent Specialist.”

One of his most recent projects, not related to Disneyland, was the 2005 Stanislaus County Fair Idol competition where he teamed up with a childhood friend and 1993 CSU Stanislaus graduate Janine Runnels. McPherson served as a judge and choreographer teaching a group of 12 talented locals to perform two group numbers at the Stanislaus County Fair.

“Chris has a heart of gold,” said Runnels. “He sets his standards very high and encourages all performers to reach for their best. His caring for them brings about passionate performances.”

“My education at CSU Stanislaus is one of the foundations I stand on at the Disneyland resort,” McPherson said. “To be trained, molded and shaped as an artist in theatre has enabled me to talk the many languages of the performing arts community.”

McPherson loves his career and said he hasn’t stopped dreaming about his future.

“I love being a cast member at Disney, but I also see myself having a studio of the arts or going back into full-time creative arts ministry in the church,” McPherson said.
60’s
Karlene Duckart. ’67 BA History, was acknowledged by the Modesto Bee in “Class Acts” for her contributions as a kindergarten teacher at Sonoma Elementary School.

70’s
Jan Gibson. ’72 BA Social Science. ’73 Elementary Education Credential, currently a teacher at Shiloh Elementary school in Modesto, has been teaching in the Central Valley for 32 years.

Bob Endsley. ’74 BA Business Administration, was honored by the College of Business at CSU Stanislaus as the 2005 Outstanding Entrepreneur.

Paul Fanelli. ’79 BA Business Administration, was chosen as the chairman of the California League of Food Processors for 2005-06.

Steve Mort. ’75 BA Business Administration, was honored by the College of Business at CSU Stanislaus as the 2005 Outstanding Business Advisory Board Member.

Bill Parks. ’70 BA Anthropology, ’71 Credential, retired as principal at Turlock Junior High in June 2005, after 18 years of service.

Michael Pimentel. ’70 BA Business Administration, a Modesto business owner, was honored by the College of Business at CSU Stanislaus as the 2005 Outstanding Business Alumnus.

80’s
Elizabeth A. Anderson. ’83 BA Social Science, was selected Group Sales Manager of 2004 by Macy’s West.

Thomas Ankeney. ’81 BA Biological Science, a Respiratory Therapy Program Director at Maric College, was awarded an Asthmas Educator Certificate through the national Asthmas Certification Board. He also became a National Certified Phlebotomy Technician through the MultiSkilled Medical Certifications Institute.

Francisco Briones. ’88 BA Liberal Studies, ’93 Credential, is the co-founder of the Community Unity Group of Delhi, The Group provides constructive activities for children for the betterment of the community.

Michael D. Cooper. ’91 Master’s Public Administration, retired in August after a 32-year career in public service. He most recently had served as the Placer County Water Agency Director of Administrative Services and Assistant General Manager. He joined the agency as its first human resources director. Previously, he worked in a variety of jobs for the City of Merced and Kings, Butte and Santa Clara counties.

Susan Creedon. ’86 BS Business Administration, was acknowledged as a Woman in Business by the Riverbank News. She works as an accountant for Priest, Amstidi, & Hartley.

Barbara Cuppet. ’87 BA Liberal Studies, a teacher at Black Oak Elementary school in Twain Harte, is appealing to legislators to fund school art programs by holding a student art exhibit at the state capitol featuring her students’ artwork.

Victor Mow. ’85 MPA Public Administration, was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger September 7 to lead a task force called “California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.” The task force is charged with finding solutions to the region’s economic problems.

Linda Murphy. ’85 MA Education, is the Chair of the Board for Sierra Vista Child and Family Services.

Holly Page. ’81 BA Liberal Studies, was acknowledged as a Woman in Business by the Riverbank News. She co-owns Events to Remember, an event planning and party supply rental business.

James Polis. ’83 BA Business Administration, was promoted to executive vice president at Intralliance Systems.

Duncan Reno. ’86 BS Business Administration, general manager at Del Rio Country Club, has maintained his professional designation of Certified Club Manager with the Club Managers Association of America.

David R. Robbins. ’84 BA Business Administration, recently assumed the position of president and CEO of Northwest horticulture.

Debra Sidwell. ’84 Multiple Subject Credential, was acknowledged by The Modesto Bee in “Class Acts” for her contributions as a kindergarten teacher at Christine Sipherd Elementary School.

Eric Smith. ’88 Masters Public Administration, recently returned to the Berkeley Unified School District as deputy superintendent, with an emphasis on finances and operations. Smith had left to work for the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team, the legislature-created organization charged with overseeing a number of California public school systems. While with the Berkeley district, Smith was credited with helping to erase the Berkeley district’s $65 million deficit and getting the district out of the red for the first time in three years.

Tami Truax. ’85 Liberal Studies, is the new assistant principal at Brown Elementary School in Turlock. She was previously an assistant principal at Julian Elementary and taught at Osborn Elementary and Turlock High School.

90’s
Kim Alton. ’91 BS Business Administration, was acknowledged as a Woman in Business by the Riverbank News. She works as an accountant for Priest, Amstidi, & Hartley.

Elizabeth Barrera. ’92 Credential, was sworn in as a Wisconsin court certified interpreter by Sixth Judicial District.

Dawn Briggs. ’91 BA Child Development, was acknowledged as a Woman in Business by the Riverbank News. She co-owns Country Kids Child Development Center.

CLASS NOTES
Ralph Buchelli. ’91 BS Business Administration, a certified public accountant (CPA), was named a partner with the Modesto firm of Warmerdam CPA Group LLP.

Niles Carlin. ’96 BA Social Sciences, was selected by Toyota Motor Manufacturing North America, Inc. to attend the World’s Fair, Expo 2005, in Aichi, Japan.

Michael D. Cooper. ’91 MPA, has retired from a public service career that has spanned 32 years. He has served as a key member of the Placer County Water Agency for the past 14 years.

Kevin Crivelli. ’95 BA Liberal Studies, was acknowledged by The Modesto Bee in “Class Acts” for his contributions as a third grade teacher at Sacred Heart School.

Charles Grom. ’92 BA Criminal Justice, is the new Director at the Ray Simon Regional Criminal Justice Training Center.

Mary C. Jones. ’92 Credential, ’95 MA Education, Assistant Superintendent of Ceres Unified School District, recently earned her Doctorate Degree in Organization & Leadership from University of San Francisco.

Patricia Lingerfelt. ’91 Teaching Credential, was appointed principal of Fischer Elementary by Vallecito Union School District.

Julie Loudermilk. ’93 BA Liberal Studies, was acknowledged by The Modesto Bee in “Class Acts” for her contributions as a second grade teacher at Chrysler Elementary School.

Kathy L. Monday. ’97 BS Business Administration, was acknowledged as a Woman in Business by the Riverbank News. She is an attorney at Damrell, Nelson, Schrimp, Pallios, Pacher & Silva.

Ralph McKinnis. ’93 BS Business Administration, received a license in certified public accounting. He works for Blankenship and Schultz in Madera.

Craig Mello. ’96 BA Liberal Studies, is a visiting editor at The Modesto Bee.

Donna Munoz. ’93 BS Business Administration, is co-owner of Sweet Dreams. Her business, which carries a variety of furniture and baby accessories, was profiled in The Modesto Bee.

Bill Nunes. ’95 BS Business Administration, ’01 MBA Business Administration, has been appointed vice president, marketing manager at Oak Valley Community Bank.

Gabriel Ontiveros. ’96 BA Liberal Studies, was presented with the Middle School Teacher of the Year Award by the Stanislaus County Office of Education.

Eileen Pastenieks. ’93 BS Business Administration, a certified public accountant (CPA), was named partner to the Modesto firm of Warmerdam CPA Group LLP.

The Office of Alumni Relations makes every effort to ensure accuracy in our Class Notes section. To submit information for Class Notes or to report corrections, please call 667-3693 or e-mail alumni@csustan.edu
CLASS NOTES

Darlene Pierson, '97 BA Liberal Studies, was... for her contributions as a teacher of severely disabled children at Sherwood Elementary School.

Cheryl Rebsamen, '99 BA Organizational Communication, is the public relations manager at Hi-Tec Sports USA.

Kevin Richardson, '97 BA Liberal Studies, was... for his work as a math, science and social studies teacher at Ripon Elementary School.

Lisa Silva, '99 BS Business Administration, has been elected president of the San Joaquin Chapter of the California Society of Certified Public Accountants for 2005-06.

Scott Van Dyken, '99 BS Biological Science, has expanded his Oakdale business, Star Gymnastics, nearly doubling the size of the facility.

Diego Zarate, '98 BS Business Administration, is the co-owner of Juarez, Zarate & Co., an accounting firm in Modesto.

00's

Jason Anderson, '00 BA Biological Sciences, was recently named the new district ranger of Thorne Bay, a district of the Tongass National Forest. The district is on Prince of Wales Island in Alaska.

Jessica Bowman-Simmons, '04 Organizational Communications, is a marketing consultant for Clarke Broadcasting in Sonora. The former Miss Calaveras, now living in Murphys, was named CSU Stanislaus Department of Communication Studies Alumni Graduate of the Year in June.

Abby Souza, '02 BA Organizational Communication, was awarded the Association of California School Administrators Excellence in Covering Education Award while working as a reporter for the Union Democrat in Sonora. She recently became a reporter for the Turlock Journal.

Gregory Magni, '01 BA English, was named head coach of the Central Valley High baseball program in March.

David Vickerman, '02 BM Music, received the Gilbert T. Freitas Annual Memorial Award for his achievement in music education.

Marriages & Engagements

Keri Andrew, '03 BA Liberal Studies, was engaged to Marcus Wirowek, '04 BS Business Administration. They planned to wed July 2, 2005.

Libby Beaver, '99 BA Child Development, was engaged to Clint Holmes. They planned to wed July 16, 2005.

Emily C. Brinegar, '01 BA Liberal Studies, married Jerrod L. Driskill on July 30, 2005.

Wilma Candelario, '92 BA Liberal Studies, was engaged to Michael Richter, '88 BA Liberal Studies. They planned to wed June 25, 2005.

Christina Durso, '99 BA English, married Ryan J. Young. '03 MA History. on March 20, 2005.

Gina Franscella, '02 BA Economics, was engaged to Matthew Lorettelli. They planned to wed on October 22, 2005.

Kimberly B. Golding, '98 BS Business Administration, was engaged to Timothy Adam Murdough. They planned to wed on September 24, 2005.

Sally Grover, '01 BA Organizational Communication, married Ian Gerbo on June 11, 2005.

Maricela Guillen, '01 BS Business Administration, was engaged to Jose M. Lomeli. They planned to wed August 6, 2005.

Caroline Henn, '00 BA Liberal Studies, married Nathan Kutcher, '00 BA Criminal Justice.

Corrine Kushar, '03 BA English, was engaged to Todd Jolliff. They planned to wed October 1, 2005.

Randall Martin, '85 BS Business Administration, married Brenda Silveira on May 1, 2005.

Tiffani Mende, '05 BS Criminal Justice, married Issac Huntley on June 10, 2005.

Jennifer Perry, '01 BA Organizational Communication, married Brian Mathes on April 9, 2005.

Michelle Pimentel, '98 BS Business Administration, married Scott Montez on April 23, 2005.

Jana Rodriguez, '99 BA Liberal Studies, was engaged to Tyson Lee. They planned to wed August 6, 2005.

Carolyn A. Schneider, '85 CREDElementary Education, married George Plisko on June 18, 2005.

Mary Shaljean, '00 BA Liberal Studies, married A. Chad Toews on April 2, 2005.

Shiloh Sosa, '04 BA Liberal Studies, married Gail Ybanez on April 9, 2005.


Vanessa Steinbach, '05 BA Psychology, married Gregory Shuping on August 13, 2005.

Christopher Valdez, '00 BA Liberal Studies, was engaged to Melissa Schenxnder. They planned to wed July 30, 2005.

David Viss, '03 BA Liberal Studies, was engaged to Carl Grandstaff. They planned to wed July 9, 2005.

Rebecca Weaver, '03 BA Liberal Studies, was engaged to Greg Smit. They planned to wed on July 23, 2005.

In Memoriam


Dr. Barth Campbell, '75 BA English, April 26.


Anita M. Hatlen-Morell, '73 BA Social Sciences, April 29.


Esther L. Johnson, '66 BA Business Administration, April 18.

Renee M. Johnson, '81 BS Nursing, April 27.

Robert Gamboa, '99 MBA, August 8.


Marie Liner, '83 BA Social Science, July 9.

Doris Moore, '92 MA Education, May 23.

Sylvia B. Sateren, '82 MA Psychology, May 1.

Emily Silveira, '98 BA Physical Education, June 7.


Susan Trimble, '97 BA Special Major, June 23.


'98 Grad Raymond Hill

Killed in Iraq

Army Capt. Raymond D. Hill, '98 Liberal Studies, was killed in action in Iraq on October 29 when an explosive device detonated near his armored vehicle south of Baghdad. He was one of three soldiers attached to the 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment who were killed over a three-day period.

Hill, 39, earned his bachelor’s degree at California State University, Stanislaus while advancing to the rank of captain in the Modesto-based California National Guard. An engineering technician with the Modesto Irrigation District for eight years, he previously worked as a drafting technician in Facilities Planning at CSU Stanislaus.

Before attending CSU Stanislaus, Hill attended Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Born in Pittsburg, he grew up in the Modesto-Ceres area and graduated from Ceres High School, joining the Army in 1986. He lived in Turlock with his wife, Dena, and two daughters, Alyssa and BreeAnna.
Women’s Soccer Team Visit to Sweden A 
Learning Experience 
On and Off the Field 
by Brian Blank

In what turned out to be a preview of a great 2005 season, the California State University, Stanislaus women’s soccer team players and coaches took a 12-day trip to Sweden to experience a new culture and hone their soccer skills. They played a pair of games against two of the top clubs in Sweden, but all agreed that the five days of training with some of the best coaches in the game was the biggest payoff of the trip.

“The reason I wanted to take this trip is two-fold,” said Warrior Head Coach Nicole Van Dyke. “Culturally, I knew it would be a great experience for the players to go to a different country and see and try new things. In addition, it was a great opportunity for the team to bond and to experience the highest level of soccer in another country.”

It was a homecoming of sorts for Van Dyke. After a standout performance as a player at CSU Bakersfield, she played with Mallbakens IF QBIK in Mallbaken, Sweden, during the 2002 season. Fourteen Warriors were able to make the trip that started in Stockholm, Sweden, before heading to Karlstad and Gothenberg. “Despite the fact that we did not win any games, I opponents on the schedule, including an exhibition

competed against during the trip was very high. They also had the opportunity to train in the mornings before going out and sightseeing.”

The most exciting part of the trip for Van Dyke was getting a preview of the kind of soccer the team would play this season. She thinks the experience was instrumental in the success the squad experienced this season. (The team finished 15-4-2 this year.)

“It was a lot of hard work to put this all together, but in the end it was a great experience and I think they all benefited,” she said. “I think more teams should do this. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I think it really helped the team become closer and stronger.”

The most exciting part of the trip for Van Dyke was getting a preview of the kind of soccer the team would play this season. She thinks the experience was instrumental in the success the team would play this season. She thinks the experience was instrumental in the success the squad experienced this season. The seniors have been with me my whole three years here and are very important to our success,” she said. “I wanted to do something special for them. I knew they probably wouldn’t have the opportunity to do something like this on their own.”

Is it any wonder Van Dyke is a popular coach with a winning team? ■

Warrior Men Prepare for Tough Schedule

With the 2005-06 California State University, Stanislaus Warriors basketball season having arrived, Men’s Basketball Head Coach Keith Larsen likes his team’s chances for the upcoming season as preparation continues for a rugged schedule.

“This is going to be a good team and I really like the energy they bring,” Larsen said. “We are going to be a more athletic team than we’ve been in the past, with more shooters. You’re going to see more three-point shots.”

Despite the loss of five seniors last season, including the team’s starting center, the Warriors bring back a talented core of guards and forwards who are expected to play an up tempo style that will feature full-court play and consistently press opponents’ offenses.

The Warriors will be tested with four NCAA Division I opponents on the schedule, including an exhibition contest at the University of the Pacific in Stockton. The competition does not get any easier coming into the California Collegiate Athletic Association schedule. The big three teams - CSU San Bernardino, CSU Bakersfield and Cal Poly Pomona - are expected to be tough to beat. Other tough challengers include Sonoma State, CSU Los Angeles and UC San Diego.

“We are looking to get better each game and compete at a higher level,” Larsen said. “We will always be challenging to our opponents and playing for a win. But luck will have a lot to do with it. We just hope we stay healthy and have things go our way.” ■

Women’s Basketball Team Fields Young Lineup

Once again, the Warrior women’s basketball team will be one of the youngest teams, not only in the California Collegiate Athletics Association, but in the Far West Region.

The team lost two seniors from last season and has five freshmen returning with a year of experience. “Last season we would look like a really good team for about 18-20 minutes of the game, but then disappear the second half,” said Head Coach Sharon Turner-Dean. “Physically we are in much better condition this year. So in that regard we are far ahead of where we were last year.”

The Warrior women’s basketball team also faces a tough schedule, starting out with a challenging tournament at defending NCAA Division II National Champion Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas. Also in the tournament is Emporia State, one of the nation’s top Division II teams. Things don’t get any easier at the conference level.

“It’s hard to say how the other teams are going to be this year,” Turner-Dean said. “Some schools have older teams that have a lot of experience, or teams that, despite having key losses, have plenty of depth to balance those losses. It’s just hard to say, but it will be tough as always.” ■
Coming Events

School of Fine and Performing Arts

For complete up-to-date listings, please call the ARTSPHONE at (209) 667-3875 or the School of Fine and Performing Arts at (209) 667-3959.

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The Miser
by Moliere, translated by Albert Bernel
Directed by Jere O'Donnell
Dec 1-3, 8-10 at 8:00 p.m., Dec 4 at 2:00 p.m.
University Union Stage Theatre
Information: (209) 667-3166

Lori Goodman - Repate
Marcia Trenaski - Dust in Sunlight: Paintings and Photographs of a Patrician Universe
January 4 - January 31, 2006
Reception: January 5, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Artist talk at 5:30 p.m., Art Gallery
Information: (209) 667-3166

The Emperor's New Clothes
A Performance for Children
Adapted and directed by M.B. Sahalman
Sat, Jan 21, 28 at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m.
Studio Theatre
Information: (209) 667-3166

Deborah Kassas, soprano
Featuring members of the San Francisco Symphony
December 6, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.
Bernell and Flora Smidt Music Recital Hall
Information: (209) 667-3421

Opera Scenes
Joseph/Wiggett, director
January 26 & 27, 7:30 p.m.
Bernell and Flora Smidt Music Recital Hall
Information: (209) 667-3421

Carolfest
Daniel H. Alonso, Jr., conductor
December 11, 2005 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.
Bernell and Flora Smidt Music Recital Hall
Information: (209) 667-3421

Junyao Peng, piano
Winner of the 2005 Chopin Piano Competition
January 28, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.
Bernell and Flora Smidt Music Recital Hall
Information: (209) 667-3421

Stanislaus Symphony Orchestra
Stuart Sims, conductor
December 2, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.
Bernell and Flora Smidt Music Recital Hall
Information: (209) 667-3421

For complete up-to-date listings, please call the ARTSPHONE at (209) 667-3875 or the School of Fine and Performing Arts at (209) 667-3959.

HOMECOMING 2005

Join your Alumni Association at the following Homecoming events!

Rally & Bonfire
Friday, December 2, Warrior Arena, 7:30 p.m.
Enjoy free food and giveaway items and take part in Warrior games. Meet the student athletes for all the teams and their coaches.

Athletic Hall of Fame
Saturday, December 3, Event Center, Noon
Honor past athletes, coaches and volunteers who are joining the prestigious Warrior Hall of Fame for 2005. Current Alumni Association members can purchase tickets for $35 each or a table of 10 for $300. General admission tickets are $40 each or $375 for a table of 10. Donations are also accepted and are tax deductible.

Warrior Tailgate Party
Saturday, December 3, in front of Warrior Arena, 4:30 p.m.
Watch for the Denis RV party trailer! Get into the team spirit before the games with free food, drinks and fun.

Homecoming Basketball Games vs. CSU Monterey Bay
Saturday, December 3, Warrior Arena
Women's game at 5:30 p.m., Men's at 7:30 p.m.
Alumni Association members enjoy a special Homecoming ticket price of $3 per ticket (half off!). Participate in special half-time activities for fun and prizes.

All events held at California State University, Stanislaus in Turlock. Additional information on these events is available online at: csustanalumni.com or by phone at (209) 667-3693.

MEN'S BASKETBALL '05-'06

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Sat.</td>
<td>University of San Francisco (Exhibition)</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Fri.</td>
<td>Pacific (Exhibition)</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Sat.</td>
<td>Santa Clara</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>25 Fri.</td>
<td>COUNTY BANK CLASSIC</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Sat.</td>
<td>BETHANY VS. LIFE PACIFIC</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>29 Tue.</td>
<td>UC Irvine</td>
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<td>DECEMBER</td>
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<td>3 Sat.</td>
<td>CSU MONTEREY BAY*</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>7 Wed.</td>
<td>Chico State*</td>
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<td>9 Fri.</td>
<td>Alaska Fairbanks Glacier Classic</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>10 Sat.</td>
<td>Alaska Fairbanks vs. BYU Hawaii</td>
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<td>16 Fri.</td>
<td>Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo</td>
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<td>JANUARY</td>
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<td>6 Fri.</td>
<td>UC San Diego*</td>
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<td>7 Sat.</td>
<td>Cal State San Bernardino*</td>
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<td>13 Fri.</td>
<td>Cal State Dominguez Hills*</td>
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<td>14 Sat.</td>
<td>Cal Poly Pomona*</td>
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<td>SAN FRANCISCO STATE*</td>
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<td>21 Sat.</td>
<td>SONOMA STATE*</td>
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<td>27 Fri.</td>
<td>Cal State Bakersfield*</td>
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<td>28 Sat.</td>
<td>Cal State L.A.*</td>
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<td>CSU Monterey Bay*</td>
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<td>UC SAN DIEGO*</td>
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<td>CAL POLY POMONA*</td>
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<td>CAL STATE DOMINGUEZ HILLS*</td>
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<td>24 Fri.</td>
<td>SONOMA STATE*</td>
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<td>25 Sat.</td>
<td>San Francisco State*</td>
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<td>CAL STATE L.A.*</td>
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<td>4 Sat.</td>
<td>CAL STATE BAKERSFIELD*</td>
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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL '05-'06

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<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Fri.</td>
<td>EVA SCHICK MEMORIAL CLASSIC PRESENTED BY STANISLAUS FARM SUPPLY</td>
<td>4:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Sat.</td>
<td>EVA SCHICK MEMORIAL CLASSIC PRESENTED BY STANISLAUS FARM SUPPLY ROCKHURST VS. DOMINICAN</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>24 Thu.</td>
<td>CSU MONTEREY BAY*</td>
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<td>25 Fri.</td>
<td>Chico State*</td>
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<td>16 Fri.</td>
<td>BELLARMINE</td>
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<td>19 Sat.</td>
<td>NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>4:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>20 Wed.</td>
<td>St. Martin’s CCAC/GNAC Challenge</td>
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<td>21 Thu.</td>
<td>CSU MONTEREY BAY*</td>
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<td>22 Fri.</td>
<td>Chico State vs. Western Oregon</td>
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<td>27 Fri.</td>
<td>WARRIORS vs. St. Martin’s</td>
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<td>San Francisco State*</td>
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BOLD DENOTES HOME CONTEST

* Denotes California Collegiate Athletic Association contest.

For complete Warrior Athletics coverage and information, visit www.warriorathletics.com

The complete Homecoming schedule is available at: csustanalumni.com or call the Alumni Office at (209) 667-3693.

Information: (209) 667-3166

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