



Athletics

Athletics Department

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Scott Johnson, *Athletics Director*

Athletics

Academic excellence and athletics accomplishment go hand-in-hand at Fresno State. Fresno State is a member of the Western Athletic Conference. The broad-based intercollegiate athletics program provides athletes with opportunities for high-level competition while they pursue a quality education.

To ensure academic development, California State University, Fresno — known in the athletics world as Fresno State — has instituted a counseling system designed specifically for student athletes. Services include academic advising, guidance and counseling, monitoring of progress, and daily study halls.

Facilities

Bulldog Stadium, home of the football team and men's and women's soccer teams, features a 41,031-seat capacity. Beiden Field, a 6,575-seat baseball stadium, is considered one of the finest collegiate complexes in the country. Bulldog Diamond, home of the 1998 NCAA champion Fresno State softball team, seats 5,767 and is the finest on-campus facility of its kind in the nation. Fresno State has track and field facilities, two gymnasiums, an indoor/outdoor swimming complex, six indoor/outdoor handball/racquetball courts, and putting greens and driving areas, complete with sand traps for golf. Fresno State also has new women's locker rooms, one of the best weight rooms on the West Coast with 10,800 square feet, and the resplendent Spalding G. Wathen Tennis Center.

In 2003, Fresno State opened the Save Mart Center, the largest on-campus arena on the West Coast.

Men's Intercollegiate Athletics

Baseball. The Bulldogs have advanced to NCAA tournament 12 of the last 16 years and 28 times overall,

including three College World Series appearances.

Basketball. Fresno State has advanced to post-season play in eight of the last nine seasons. Last year the Bulldogs won 20 games and the WAC title.

Track and Field. The track and field team won 10 straight league crowns from 1983-1992.

Football. The Bulldogs tied for the WAC championship in 1992, 1993, and 1999. Fresno State's 17-9 victory over UCLA in the 2003 Silicon Valley Football Classic was its second consecutive bowl win and the school's first win over the Bruins in seven games.

Golf. Fresno State finished in the top 25 nationally 13 times in the past 22 years. The team was ranked as high as number four in the nation in 1999-00.

Soccer. Highlights include the 1998 WAC championship, 14 NCAA tournament appearances since 1981, a number one ranking in 1987, and a 1986 Final Four showing.

Tennis. The Bulldogs have received an NCAA berth nine of the last 10 years. Fresno State reached the national quarterfinals in 1996 and

the Sweet 16 in 1995, 1997, and 1999. The team garnered five All-Americans in that span.

Wrestling. Fresno State finished in the top 25 nationally in nine of the last 11 seasons. In 1999-02, Stephen Abas won the national championships at 125 pounds.

Women's Intercollegiate Athletics

Basketball. In 2002-03, the Bulldogs advanced to the WNIT quarterfinals and finished 21-13 overall under the direction of first-year head coach Stacy Johnson-Klein.

Cross Country/Track and Field. The Bulldogs have built powerful track and field and cross country programs. In 1991 and 1992 the track team won consecutive conference crowns. It also won the 2002 outdoor WAC championship.

Equestrian. The Bulldog equestrian team had its first individual champion in 1998, with five individuals placing in the top nationally in their respective events.

Soccer. Fresno State ranks among the nation's top 10 in attendance. In 1999 the Bulldogs won the WAC regular season and received an NCAA tournament berth.

Softball. The Bulldogs won the 1998 National Championship. The team has received 22 consecutive NCAA berths, and is the only softball program in the nation to accomplish that feat.

Swimming and Diving. Fresno State earned an All-American for four of the last eight years and finished fifth in the WAC last season.

Tennis. The Bulldogs received an NCAA berth eight seasons in a row. They have won the WAC title in 1999, 2002, and 2003.

Volleyball. Fresno State won 21 or more matches in seven of the past 12 seasons, with six post-season appearances including three times to the NCAA tournament. ❖



David Hunter