

EXPOSURE



FAN FAVORITE

A student's quest to attend 350 Athletics games

Story by [Fresno State](#)

March 4th, 2020

Elliot Meme is on a quest to attend 350 Fresno State Athletics games. Why? Because he says attending games is a way to show his appreciation for student-athletes.

“They work 40 to 60 hours a week practicing and meeting,” he says.
“The least I can do is show up for two hours and show my support.”

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Fresno State has over 450 student-athletes representing 21 varsity teams. Elliot transferred to Fresno State as an undergraduate student because of the University's title as an NCAA Division I school, a signature of the highest level of intercollegiate athletics. Although he did not come to Fresno State to play sports himself, he came to support from the sidelines.

Elliot is now a graduate student earning his MBA at Fresno State in May 2020. Throughout his four years, he has attended hundreds of games representing nearly every sport. His ultimate goal is to support all Athletics teams on campus.

He starts each week by checking the Athletics schedule. Between graduate courses, studying and working 20 hours a week, Elliot tries to fit in as many games as possible.

Recalling a particularly stressful time during finals week, Elliot says:

"I remember one time there were no home games of any kind for like 12 days. I was miserable. I was hating life. And then there was a Wednesday night softball game that I got to go to and everything was good. I got to watch the team that I love play. That means everything to me."

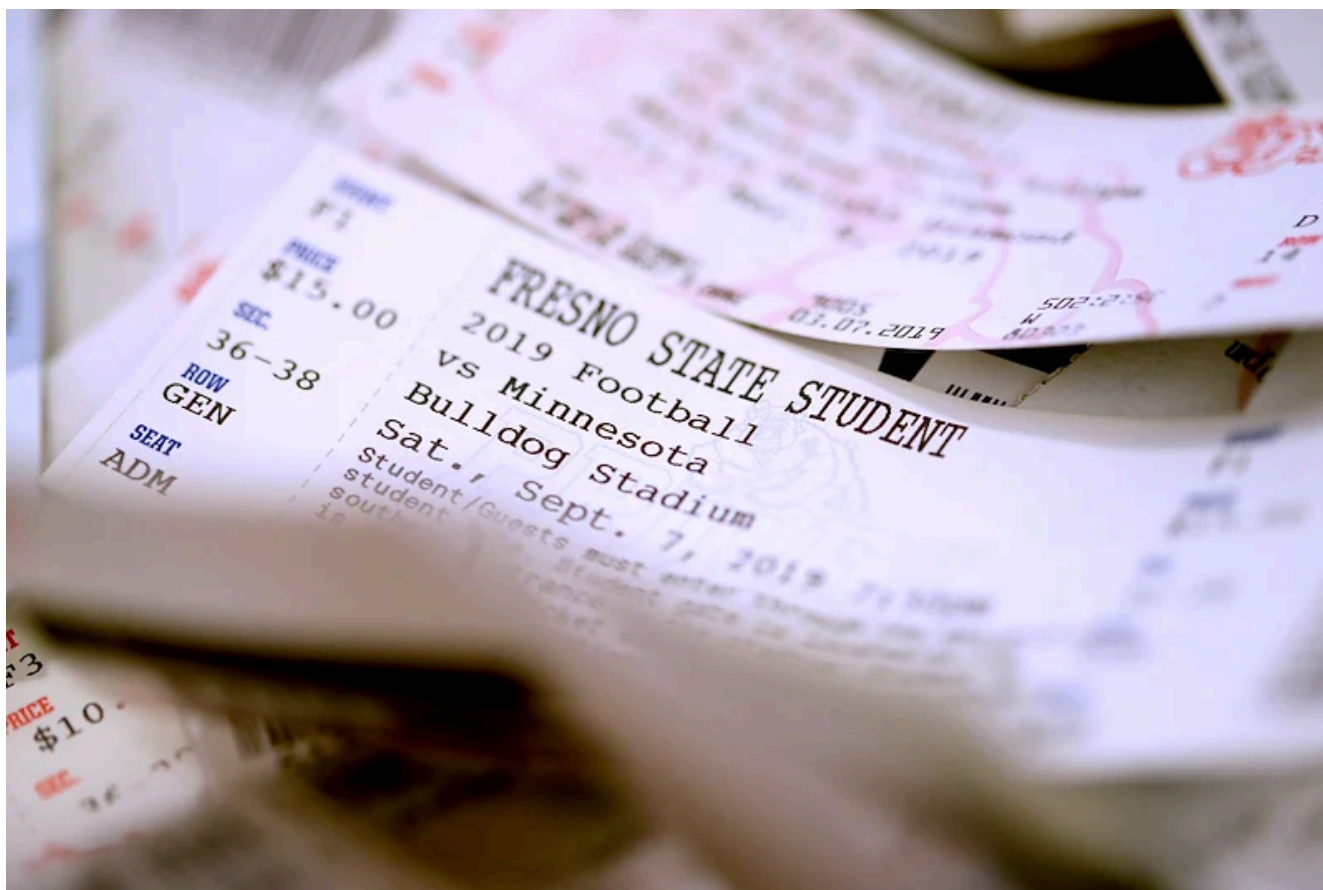


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My name is Elliot Meme. I am a student
State. Over the past four years, I have never
game and have followed the team on the road
your #1 student fan. I want to thank you
Coaches, staff, and the entire network. What you
State enhances the value of the university more
recognize. Your hard work and sacrifices on a
from people all around



<https://fresnostate.exposure.co/fan-favorite?slow=1>



Fan favorite: A student's quest to attend 350 Athletics games



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BULLDOG ENTHUSIASM

Elliot's most memorable experience at an Athletics event was when the Fresno State football team earned their 12th win in a single season, capturing the trophy at the 2018 Mitsubishi Motors Las Vegas Bowl.

The game was a family affair for Elliot, who attended with his father, alumnus Ken Meme.

"Being able to share that with my dad really, really meant a lot to me. That's something that I'll carry with me for forever," he says.

Elliot attended 290 games by the end of the fall 2019 semester. On his quest to attend 350 Athletics games before graduation, he is hoping to inspire his fellow students to join him at a game — especially for sports that traditionally have lower attendance. Elliot realizes that Athletics games are pivotal to the college student experience.

"It's just heartbreaking for me to go to all these games and I'm the only person in the student section," Elliot says. "I go to shake hands and make eye contact with every single player and say, 'Look, I'm your biggest fan. I'm at every game I can get to. I just want you guys to know that there are students out there, that you're not playing for nothing.'"

In the 2018-19 year, Fresno State had a record-breaking 84 student-athletes earn Mountain West Scholar-Athlete honors, one of the highest academic honors bestowed by the conference for students who maintain a GPA of 3.5 or better. The highest represented sports were women's track and field along with swimming and diving.

To show his appreciation for student-athletes, Elliot is sending handwritten letters to Fresno State teams, personally thanking them for representing the University.

"It is because of Bulldogs like you that I am proud to call myself a Bulldog as well," he writes in a letter to the volleyball team. "Thank you so much for the fantastic memories."



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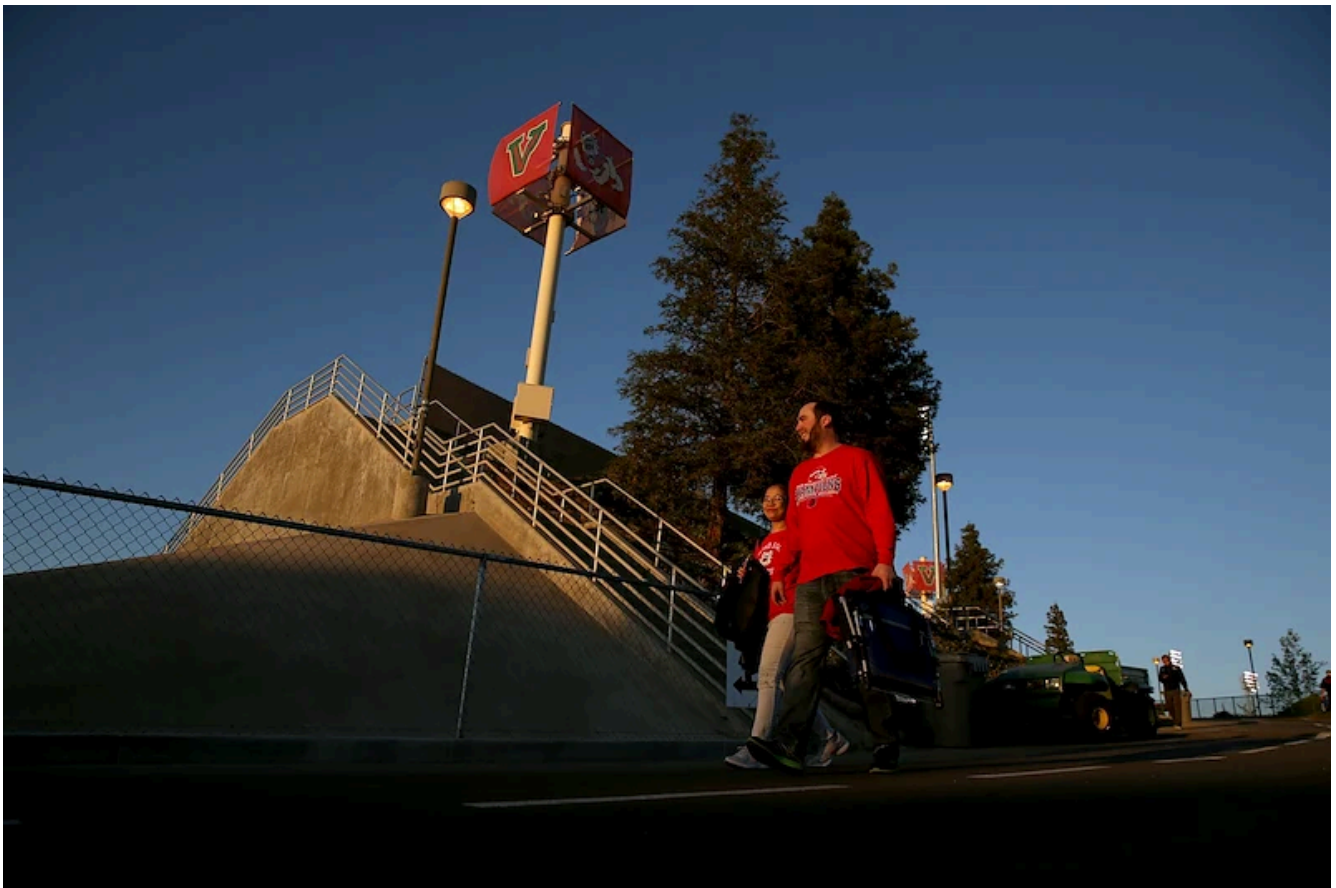


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→ Did you know? Student-athletes wear the “Green V” to show Fresno State’s pride in representing the hard-working leaders and innovators of the San Joaquin Valley.

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→ DID YOU KNOW? LAST YEAR, FRESNO STATE STUDENT-ATHLETES HAD A CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 3.13 AND VOLUNTEERED OVER 4,000 HOURS IN OUR COMMUNITY.



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JOIN ELLIOT IN SUPPORTING FRESNO STATE STUDENT-ATHLETES.

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Footnote: *Photos by Cary Edmondson, Story by Esra Hashem, Video by Domenick Satterberg —
University Brand Strategy and Marketing*

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