

# GATOR NEWS

## GATOR HOOPSTERS VOLUNTEER AT JANET POMEROY CENTER

SF State Gators' men's basketball team spent Thursday afternoon, Sept. 27, at The Janet Pomeroy Center giving back to the community in an example of good citizenship and serving as role models to a group of young athletes who played a spirited game against them.

The Pomeroy Center is a nonprofit organization founded in 1952 in San Francisco that provides therapeutic recreation, vocational rehabilitation, child and adult development, and respite care programs for children and adults with disabilities. The mission of the center is to provide recreation and vocational opportunities for people with disabilities through programs and services that encourage self-expression, promote personal achievement, and lead to greater independence.

"SF State provides volunteers to us year round and this is another way that the University is involved in the community," said Pomeroy Center Director of Development Patrick Sayres. "Coach Bill Treseler approached me about this idea of the Gators coming over for an afternoon of basketball and I thought it was a great idea."

All of SF State's assistant basketball coaches also attended the event and helped out with the game.

The Gators, under the direction of head coach Bill Treseler, spent the afternoon playing games, interacting, and generally having fun with the members of the Center. "Sharing basketball within our community is always exciting, but going over to the Pomeroy Center was a great experience for us," said Treseler. "We are always learning, and the athletes we competed against today taught us a lot."

"Over here, it's not about winning or losing, it's about having fun at the great game of basketball," Sayres said. He described the game as one of the most exciting that the Pomeroy Wildcats have played. The Wildcats won, 127-126.

"This was a very positive moment for me and for all of the team," said SF State junior guard **Alex Thomas**. "It's important to interact with groups from the community and I am looking forward to doing more events like this."

SF State freshman guard **Phoenix O'Rourke** said, "This was a valuable experience for us all as a team. It was a great bonding session not only for us, but for the members of the Pomeroy Center, as well."

Added Gator senior guard/forward **David Van Someren**, "I really enjoyed this afternoon. We were able to give something back to the community. It shows us how we should not take things for granted and that it's important to try to enjoy every minute of our lives."

"We will always remember how much fun everyone had," Sayres wrote in his letter of thanks to SF State Athletic Director Mike Simpson.





**SF State Men's Basketball Team with members of the Pomerey Center**



**SF State sophomore Roman Nahal dancing with a member of the Center**