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Life or death on the ballot

Outcome of Proposition 34 decides fate of prisoners, looks at safety and cost

MONA ADEM

ome might call him a dead man walking, or even a ghost. If things had gone as planned for the state of Florida, Juan Roberto Melendez would most certainly be dead.

Melendez spent 17 years, eight months and one day on Florida's death row for a crime he didn't commit.

"It was hell and I wanted to get out of there," Melendez said.

He lived in a 6-by-9 cell infested with rats and roaches. Melendez would often have fleeting thoughts of suicide, but never succumbed.

"Every time I wanted to commit suicide, our creator, God, would send me an awesome dream, a dream of happier times, a dream of my childhood, a dream of hope - hope that one day I would be free," he said.

On May 2, 1984, Melendez was arrested by the FBI for the 1983 murder of Delbert Baker, a man Melendez claimed he had never met. Even though Melendez was scared, he thought that everything was just a mistake and he would soon go back to his life as a migrant farmer.

But it took the Florida court one week to sentence Melendez to death for first-degree murder and armed robbery. During his interrogation and trial, Melendez never received an interpreter. At the time, he only spoke Spanish and could neither read nor write in English

of Wrongful Incarceration Act' states that wrongfully incarcerated people are not eligible for compensation if the defendant had a prior record, which Melendez had.

But Melendez' story is not unique.

A 2012 report by Death Penalty Information Center said 141 death row inmates nationwide have been exonerated since 1973. In California, three people have proven their innocence.

"We can always release an innocent man from prison, but we can never release an innocent man from the grave," Melendez said.

In November, California voters will be asked if they want to abolish the death penalty, which currently affects 724 inmates the highest in the nation.

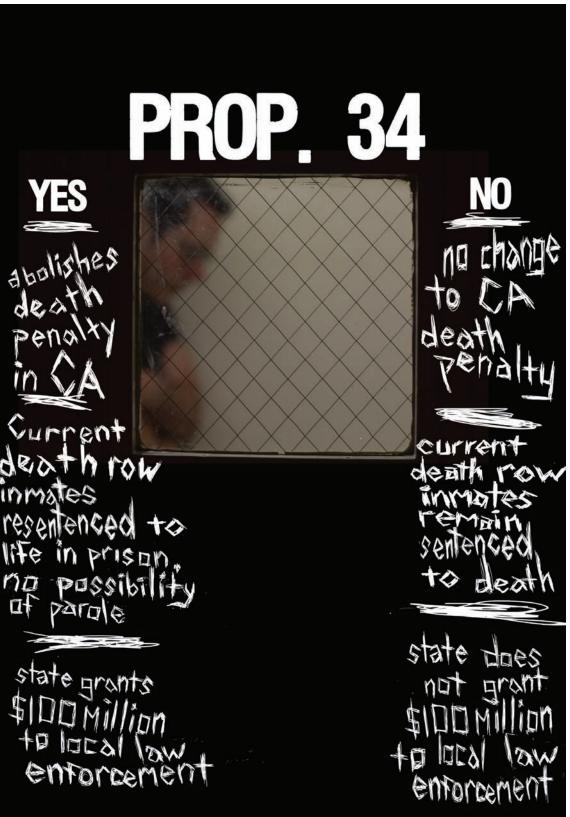
If voters say yes to Proposition 34, the initiative will abolish capital punishment and impose a new sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole for previously condemned inmates.

Opponents of Proposition 34 say Californians should not throw away a useful tool, but should fix and improve the death penalty. They believe that the state should modify and limit the time for filings certain types of appeals and house death row inmates in other prisoners.

Jonny Bridge, a sociology major at CSUN, attended one of Melendez' lectures when he shared his story. After the lecture, Bridge changed his view of the death penalty.

"Unless there is 100 percent DNA evidence, there shouldn't be death penalty," Bridge said.

Bridge still believes that the



"I was naïve to the language and I was naïve to the law," Melendez said.

In 2002, Melendez was exonerated from Florida's death row after a taped confession by the real killer was discovered. After three appeals, more than 13 attorneys and faith, Melendez was finally a free man.

Upon his release, he received \$100 compensation from the state of Florida for transportation and food. Florida's 'Victims

death penalty should exist, but said California needs to either redraft their system or abolish it.

However, supporters of the measure argue that the death penalty is not only broken, but it is also expensive.

In 2011, a judge and Loyola Law School professor conducted research showing that California taxpayers spend more than \$170 million per year confining death row inmates-the costliest death penalty system in the country -

compared to inmates that serve life without possibility of parole. But as the research illustrates, the tax money has not been financing the execution itself.

Only 13 death row prisoners have been executed since 1978 in California. But while the state has ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIEL IVAN ORENDAIN-NECOCHEA / VISUAL EDIT

spent \$4 billion trying to enforce capital punishment, \$3 billion has been spent on trial costs and petitions.

Proposition 34 would also reinvest \$100 million that will be saved from abolishing the death penalty to fund law enforcement

agencies and require inmates to work while in prison so their wages can be applied to any victim restitution fines.

Kevin Riggs, spokesman for

See **DEATH ROW**, page 3



Calendar of Events october/november 2012

29

A.S. Finance Meeting WHEN: 1-4 p.m. WHERE: Grand Salon (USU) DESCRIPTION: The A.S. Finance meeting to discuss current budget requests.

USU Monday Night Football WHEN: 5:30-9:30 p.m. WHERE: Pub Sports Grill, USU **DESCRIPTION:** Come watch the San Francisco 49s take on the Arizona Cardinals at the Pub Sports Grill.

30

An Evening of Small Group Jazz WHEN: 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. WHERE: Cypress Hall **DESCRIPTION:** Tickets available for \$10 General admission, \$7 seniors and \$5 students

31

Men's Soccer vs Cal State Fullerton WHEN: 7-9 p.m. WHERE: Soccer Field (SO)

DESCRIPTION: It's Trick or Treat Night and all youth 13 and under wearing a costume receive free admission. They can also trick at halftime. CSUN students get a free ticket with ID.

31 (CONT.)

Faculty of Color: Benefits, Challenges, and Future Directions

WHEN: 12-1 p.m. WHERE: Whitsett Room, Sierra Hall 451 **DESCRIPTION:** A presentation featuring Luke Wood, Ph.d., an assistant professor at San Diego State University, who will discuss research on faculty of color in academia and the benefits of faculty of color to students and the community.

Pride Center LGBTQ Coffee Nights WHEN: 5-7 p.m.

WHERE: Pride Center, USU **DESCRIPTION:** Socialize and connect at the coffee nights at the Pride Center.

How Castles work Lecture WHEN: 4-5:30 p.m. WHERE: Whitsett Room, Sierra Hall 451

DESCRIPTION: A lecture by Northwestern University Archaeologist Matthew Johnson about "How Castles Work" is open to the public.

Women's Volleyball vs. Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

WHEN: 7-9 p.m. WHERE: Matadome (MA) DESCRIPTION: Show your support for the Women's Volleyball team! CSUN students with ID receive free admission.

2

A.S. Senate Meeting

WHEN: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. WHERE: A.S. Conference Room (USU 100) **DESCRIPTION:** Come see your representatives in action. Join us for the open forum to let us know how you are doing and to be heard!

Day of the Dead Celebration

WHEN: 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. WHERE: Chicano House (CH) across the street from the art department **DESCRIPTION:** Celebrating Dia de los Muertos with an art exhibit, performances and vendors.

2012 Psychology Department Brown **Bag Series**

WHEN: 12-1 p.m. WHERE: Sierra Hall 322 DESCRIPTION: CSUN Alumnus, Chaya Greisman, will discuss how her education in the General Experimental program at CSUN prepared her for business and marketing research career.

3

Joan Osborne's Love and Hate WHEN: 8-10 p.m. WHERE: Great Hall, VPAC DESCRIPTION: Eight-time Grammy nominee Joan Osborne performs from "Love

and Hate" at the VPAC. Tickets available at the ticket office for \$70 / \$55 / \$40 / \$25 (Discounts available for students, faculty, staff, groups).

3 (CONT.)

Men's Soccer vs. UC Irvine

WHEN: 7-9 p.m. WHERE: Soccer Field (SO) **DESCRIPTION:** It's Senior Night & Alumni Night! Alumni Association Night offers free admission with Alumni Association ID. For Fan Appreciation Night, fans wearing CSUN gear get \$3 admission.

Women's Volleyball vs. UC Santa Barbara WHEN: 7-9 p.m.

WHERE: Matadome (MA) **DESCRIPTION**: Come out and support the women's volleyball team! CSUN students receive free admission with ID.

4

Men's Basketball vs. Cal State Bakersfield WHEN: 4-6 p.m. WHERE: Matadome (MA) **DESCRIPTION:** Free admission for CSUN

students with ID and entertainment by DJ Mal-Ski! Arrive early, tickets are available on a limited basis.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

Go online to DAILYSUNDIAL.COM to add your club or organization's upcoming event to the calendar for free.

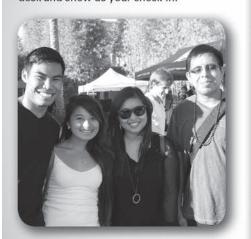
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This week at the USU

MONDAY

Monday Night Football 5:30 p.m. Pub Sports Grill, USU

TUESDAY **Table Tennis Tournament**

4 p.m. Games Room, USU

Billiards Tournament 4 p.m. Games Room, USU

Craft Corner 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Plaza del Sol, USU



Noontime Concert Plaza del Sol, USU

Poker Tournament 4 p.m. Games Room, USU

LGBTQ Coffee Nights 5 p.m. Pride Center, USU

Neon Nights 7 p.m. Games Room, USU

Tech Series: Microsoft Word 3 p.m. Computer Lab, USU

Soulful Saturdays 7 p.m. Pub Sports Grill, USU

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A.S. discusses a camp for incoming freshman

AGNES CONSTANTE SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

he Associated Students (A.S.) discussed implementing a freshmen camp to supplement new student orientation during its Friday meeting at the Grand Salon.

The proposed location for the camp would be Castaic Lake, where CSUN has ties, said A.S. President Sydni Powell.

The purpose of the camp is to get students more involved prior to them actually stepping onto campus, said Tim Szczepanski, outdoor adventures coordinator.

"We'd do this through a three-day camp that we would take students out and basically teach them a little bit about the campus but basically build relationships so when they come here that first day they know somebody already, they feel comfortable," he said.

Further discussion on this item will be pursued in subsequent meetings.

Another discussion item involved granting voting privileges to members-at-large of standing committees. There are five committees outlined in the code on standing committees.



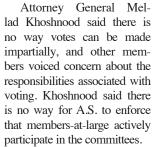
FREDY TLATENCHI / SENIOR STAFF

Tim Szczepanski, Outdoor Adventures Program coordinator and SRC staff member, believes that a camping program could prove beneficial to CSUN in terms of easing freshman into the university setting.

Members-at-large are granted an unofficial vote, which lad Khoshnood said there is allows them to voice their opinions to voting senators.

Marquise Foster-Johnson, senator for the College of Humanities, said allowing this would improve the perception that A.S. may be one-sided.

"That goes against what we stand for," he said. "We have to be aware of what this might look like to someone who doesn't understand how A.S. works.'



On another note, A.S. Chief of Staff Paige Andrews reported that there were more than 13,000 Big Show tickets sold.

DEATH ROW From page 1

the No on 34 campaign, said that the cost-saving numbers for abolishing death penalty are greatly exaggerated and biased.

"They are going to have continuing court costs no matter what kind of case it is," Riggs said. "Because the judge and lawyers are still going to the courthouse whether it is a

death penalty or not." But it is not only the cost of the death penalty that is raisquestions ing - eliminating it could save \$183 million for Cali-

fornians. Some also argue that death row prisoners are receiving two

distinct punishments: the death sentence and years living in conditions equivalent to solitary confinement.

From 1978 until 2011, more than 78 death row inmates have died of natural causes or by suicide in California. The long wait for execution, which in this state can take more than 20 years, inspires some inmates to take their own life.

"You might be dead, but you will be free," Melendez said, who had friends that committed suicide.

Opponents of Proposition 34 also believe that the death penalty gives family of the

victims a sense of justice. Melanie Shaw, 21, an English major at CSUN, said she supports the death penalty because of the "eye for an eye" concept.

"You took away all possibilities for that person to have a life so why should you deserve to live," Shaw said.

"We can always release an innocent man from prison, but we can never release an innocent man from the grave."

- Juan Melendez, former death row inmate

But Karren Baird-Olson. а sociology professor at CSUN, disagrees. In spite of her 3-year-old granddaughter being murdered in 1985, Baird-Olson says that the "eye for an eye" concept eventually makes us all blind. somebody "Killing doesn't bring back the person you lost," Baird-Olson said.

Baird-Olson said that revenge and retribution are not qualities a civilized societv should advocate.

"Why should I want the defendants' family to go through what I went through," Baird-Olson said.

Carl Adams, president of the California District Attorneys Association, said people should not oppose Proposition 34 for philosophical or moral reason.

"The existence of death penalty is a political factor that keeps the public safe and deters crime," Adams said.

However, a 2011 report

by the U.S. Census Bureau shows that the murder rate is usually higher in states with the death penalty compared to states without it.

In 2009, California's murder rate was 5.9 per 100,000 populations. This was more than two times higher than

Vermont-a state without death penalty-that had 1.3 per 100,000 populations.

But Melendez said that death penalty should not only be abolished because of deterrence or the cost of maintaining it, but also because it is a cruel system that legitimizes killing of another human being.

"The United States is the only country in the Western industrialized world that has the death penalty," said Melendez. "California has an opportunity now to be on right side of history."

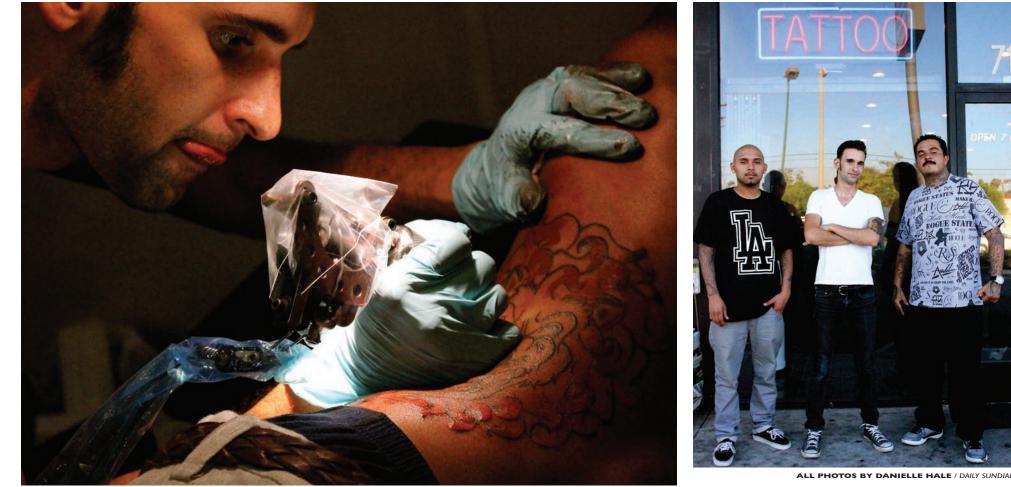
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Inked inspiration

CSUN art major uses his passion as a tattoo artist

DANIELLE HALE DAILY SUNDIAL

here is a stigma that comes along with tattoos. But it is slowly fading in today's society. While some previous generations still might not readily accept and understand today's cultural fascination with "getting ink," it remains that tattoos are slowly becoming more socially accepted.

Getting a tattoo is a way to express to the world who you are and what you like. Tattooing is an artistic form that is able to showcase the talent and passion that so many tattoo artists have.

Talent and passion are two things that Weston Imhoff, senior art major, with an emphasis on illustration, definitely has.

"I've been doing art, pretty much my entire life," Imhoff said. "It was something my parents really supported me doing, and I kind of found that it was something that came natural to me and that I really enjoyed. bly fit perfectly into the world of tattooing. Tattoos, much like illustrations, are art, for they are a permanent way of displaying something for the world to see.

Outside of war tattoos, most previous generations look at tattoos as part of a degenerate culture. While tattoos have slowly become more socially accepted in the last decade or so, it seems as though they will hardly raise any controversy at all in the not so distant future.

"My favorite part of tattooing is that I can share my art with so many people on a really personal level," Imhoff said. "If you have a piece that you do for a gallery, it's going to hang there and people can see pictures of it, but if you don't have money to buy it, then you might not ever be able to see it again."

His custom tattoos, however, stay with you forever. But Imhoff didn't always

want to be a tattoo artist.

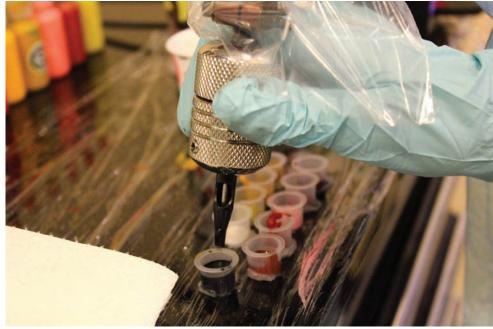
"I actually began as a CTVA major, but switched to illustration because it was something I kept coming back to," Imhoff said. After meeting a fellow artist in a class at CSUN, Imhoff was introduced to the world of tattooing. He has slowly been stepping into the tattoo world ever since, beginning first with an apprenticeship and working up to where he is now, an artist at Wildlife Tattoos in the San Fernando Valley.

Drawing inspiration from classic tattoo artists like "Sailor Jerry" Collins and Ed Hardy, Imhoff likes to combine bold and fun tattoos with his own style.

"I've loved being able to make pieces and make my art more beautiful while learning knowledge and new techniques from my professors and other peers here at CSUN," said Imhoff. "Tattooing has allowed me to become more inspired by the things and people around me, and I love that I can share that with everyone... and it (a tattoo) is always there with you," said Imhoff.

As a tattoo artist, Imhoff has been able to blend his illustration and love for art and combine that into a paying career. After he graduates, Imhoff plans to continue making art, "as long as I can maintain my own personal sense of fine art and combine that with tattooing, I don't see any end to creating art."





I decided that when I came to CSUN, it was something I wanted to make a career out of."

Illustration and art indubita-



Scan QR code to see video of Weston Imhoff in action:



Acasola croons to Halloween theme

A capella club teams up with USC group to sing hit songs in costume at Lost Sols backyard concert

CHRISTINA COCCA DAILY SUNDIAL

SUN's first coed a cappella group, Acasola, had its fifth annual Halloween concert Saturday.

The Lost Sols concert took place at The Acasola House and featured performances by Acasola, as well as USC's Overflow.

The performers kept the show festive by dressing in coordinated costumes. Acasola members dressed as superheroes, while Overflow members wore Hogwarts uniforms from the "Harry Potter" series.

"It's exciting to establish a new connection with another group," said Acasola member Samantha Johnson, 19-year-old film major.

Acasola performed a Halloween-themed set for students, friends and family members.

The line-up included "Walking With a Ghost" by Tegan and Sara, "Zombie" by the Cranberries, and a group favorite, "Everybody (Backstreet's Back)" by the Backstreet Boys. The group gave "Everybody" an Acasola twist, with the lyrics, "Acasola's back, all right!"

Overflow's Hannah Nachef, a sophomore journalism major at USC, said she thought the



Samantha Johnson, sophomore film major, leads Acasola in singing "Zombie" by the Cranberries outside the Acasola House. CSUN's first coed a cappella group, Acasola, had its fifth annual Halloween concert Saturday.

concert was amazing and loved Acasola's sound.

"Acasola was very welcoming to us, and we would love to have the opportunity to perform alongside them again," said Nachef, 19.

Overflow, USC's Christian a cappella group, sang four songs, including Switchfoot's "Dare

You to Move" and Worth Dying For's "Savior."

Acasola president, Michael Arceneaux, 19, said the group likes to expand its connections with other groups as much as possible and wants to remain innovative and fresh with the groups they invite.

"We always want to bring

something new and entertaining," said Arceneaux, junior theater major.

One resident of the Acasola house was drawn to the concert after listening to many rehearsals take place within the walls of his home.

Wayne Borromeo, 21, said he wished the concert was lonsurprised and impressed with the level of talent at the concert.

"It wasn't what I thought it would be," said Breanna Nichols, 22. "I thought it was just singing, but they added music and melody to it, and I loved that."

Nichols, a student at Moorpark College, came because her cousin Kyrsten Williams is a member of Acasola. Nichols also added she especially loved the beatboxing during some songs.

After the singers took their final bow, Acasola offered a party to members and attendees in celebration of their hard work before Halloween.

"We put in so much work to put this concert on," Arceneaux said. "We want to be able to enjoy the fruits of our labor."

Scan QR Code to watch video



Another concertgoer was

ger and especially loved hearing

musical director Mike Elton's

solo during "Roxanne" by the

cert was longer," said Borromeo,

a sophomore business major

who has lived in the house for

"Honestly, I wished the con-

Police, an encore song.

seven months.



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October 29, 2012 October 29, 2012 Opinion@sundial.csun.edu

Breast Cancer Awareness Month: the forgotten victims

CHRISTINA PEMBLETON DAILY SUNDIAL

very year, my Facebook inbox starts overflowing with for-women-only messages.

I had nearly forgotten this yearly ritual when I recently opened my Facebook page to a new battle cry for women. The message read:

"Without replying to this message, put a heart on your wall; no comment, just a heart. Next, send this message to your women friends, only the women. Then post a heart on the wall of the person who sent you this message. If anyone asks why you have so many hearts on your wall, don't tell them. This is only for women, because this week is breast cancer research week. One small act of solidarity among women. Thank you."

This strategy of posting ambiguous status updates started in January 2010. Women were encouraged to post singleword statuses on their walls — the color of their bras. This unusual stream of colors sent men in droves to Yahoo! Answers trying to understand why their girlfriends posted new colors each day.

In October 2010, women were encouraged to post status updates about where they like it — on the coffee table, in the car, on the floor, and other places. Men thought their lady friends had all become sex-crazed oversharers, but women were actually posting where they like to put down their purses when they get home.

Pink bracelets with the quote "I like it on the floor" were sold as donations

men with breast cancer...

Nobody ever thinks about

BENJAMIN ANDREWS/ MARKETING MANAGER

going to breast cancer research.

Breast cancer is a big deal. The nonprofit website breastcancer.org, reported that 1-in-8 U.S. women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime.

Here's what else is a big deal: Men also get breast cancer, but they are often excluded from the October breast cancer awareness month festivities — especially on Facebook.

Messages that say, "This is for women only! Don't tell the men!" make me wonder why male breast cancer doesn't receive higher recognition in the month of breast cancer awareness. Men need to be aware that they are susceptible to breast cancer. An increased state of awareness for male breast cancer during October would cause men to look at the facts pertaining to their disease and illuminate the need for male breast cancer surveillance.

Granted, the chances of men getting breast cancer in their lifetimes are much smaller; while all men have breast tissue just like women, high levels of testosterone during puberty stops men from developing breasts, according to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation.

However, men are affected by breast cancer in higher numbers than most people realize. According to breastcancer. org, about 2,140 new cases of invasive breast cancer were diagnosed in U.S. men in 2011. A man's risk of getting breast cancer is one in 1,000, based on the same statistics. Komen for the Cure estimates that by the end of 2012, male breast cancer diagnoses will increase to 2,190 and over 400 male breast cancer related deaths will occur.

While these numbers seem small, the effect of unawareness for male breast cancer is huge. According to Komen for the Cure, men are less likely to report symptoms – making a likelihood of early detection slim. Like women, the risk of getting breast cancer increases with age. Detection at an early stage for men is crucial to prevent further spreading and damage. The National Cancer Institute reported that men and women have about the same survival rate when their cancer stage (stages I through IV) is the same upon diagnosis.

Men must take the opportunity to selfexamine their chest for lumps. If anything unusual is noticed, they should seek medical attention immediately to catch any early indications of cancer.

Marvel Comics produced eight comic book covers and an advertorial this month in conjunction with Komen for the Cure, in both print and online publications to raise awareness for male breast cancer.

Perhaps this real-world example of societal justice from fantasy characters will draw attention to a commonly overlooked disease.

While on Facebook people may not show the men the same kind of care and attention, there are many resources for male breast cancer, including the National Cancer Institute, Komen for the Cure and breastcancer.org.

Do you think that men got enough attention during this year's Breast Cancer Awareness Month?

Scan QR Code to go online and



6

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Whether you're a professor wanting to share an expert view or are a student who wants a venue in which to express your ideas, the Sundial

may be the place for you.

E-mail us at opinion@sundial.csun.edu.

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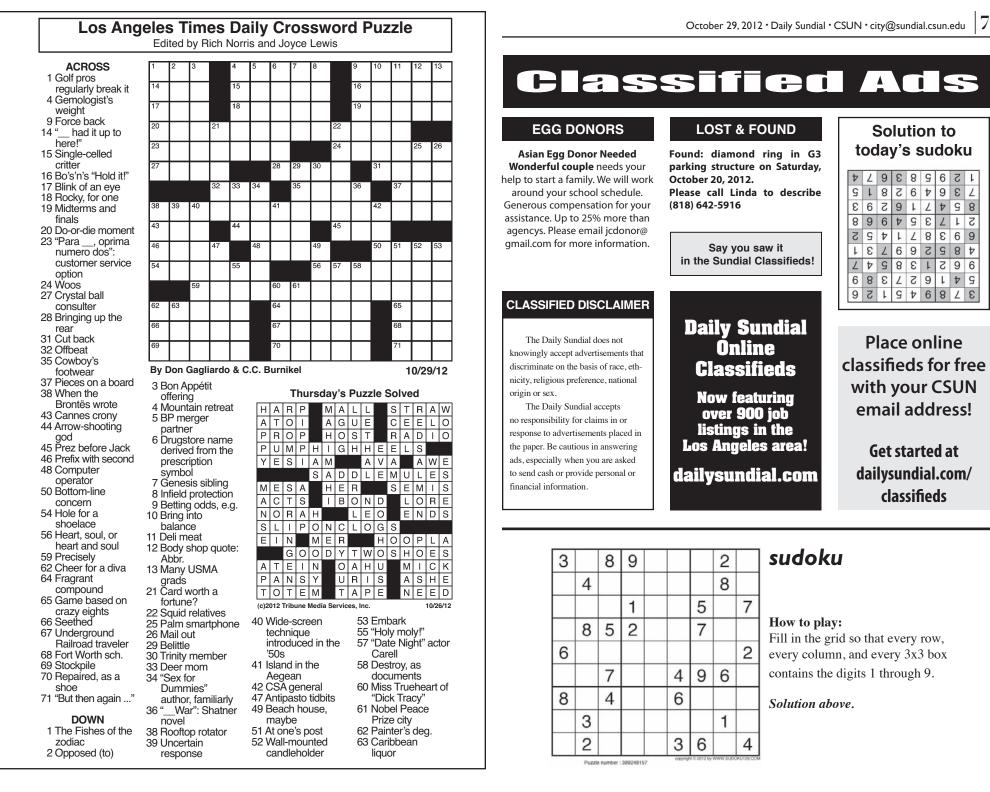
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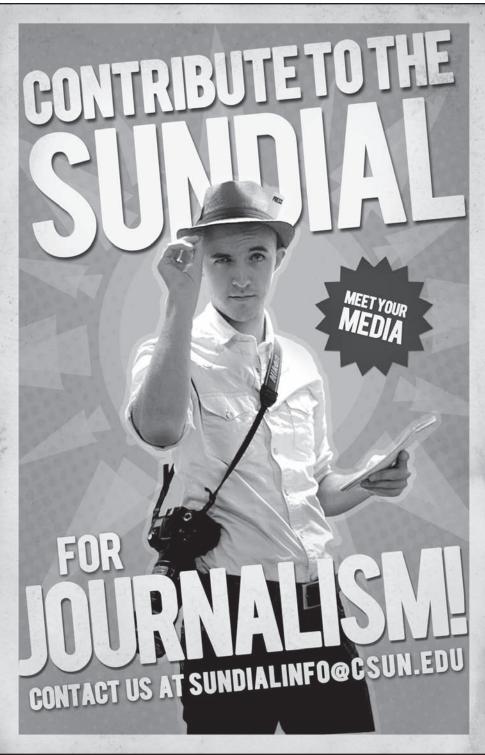
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WOMEN'S SOCCER **Matadors tie up Anteaters**



Matadors finished a double-overtime match in a scoreless draw Friday against the University of California, Irvine.

RON ROKHY ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

he Matadors once again finished in a scoreless draw in double overtime, their sixth tie of the season and most ever in a single year, as defense reigned supreme on the road against UC Irvine Friday night.

Northridge (8-4-6) recorded its second 0-0 draw of the season as senior goalkeeper Cynthia Jacobo, coming fresh off a record-setting night where she earned her 30th career win in goal, let nothing slip by her, putting a stop four of the five shots on goal by the Anteaters (9-8-2). This game marks the third time out of the last six meetings between these two teams which resulted in a scoreless draw.

Though UCI outshot CSUN on offense 16-10 and had more corner kick opportunities (eight compared to Northridge's two), Jacobo's defensive prowess caused the eighth shutout of the year and 24th of her career. She now has 95 saves on the season with a .905 save percentage.

Both teams showed that ironclad defense comes with tough, physical play as 17 fouls were called throughout the course of the game (10

on CSUN and 7 on UCI). The lone yellow card of the game was handed to the Anteaters at the 100-minute mark of the first overtime.

Despite their strong defensive effort, the Matadors were unable to come away with a score as their offense was completely shut down by the Anteaters.

Senior forward Melissa Fernandez, who just won the Big West Offensive Player of the Week award, took two shots, one on goal, but was unable to find the back of the net. She had three goals in her previous two games and has six overall on the season shooting .120.

Redshirt sophomore Brittanie Sakajian and freshman midfielder Taylor Hobson were the only other Matadors who recorded shots on goal.

UCI dominated the ball most of the game on offense, taking nine shots in the second half, just one less than CSUN did the entire game. Forward Laura McGrail took a whopping six shots (one on goal) for the Anteaters.

The last scoreless game played by CSUN dates back to Sept. 7, where the Matadors faced Tennessee, who are currently ranked No. 23 in the nation in the coach's poll.

FILE PHOTO/DAILY SUNDIAL

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Roller coaster weekend for Northridge

ANDREW CLARK NEWS EDITOR

Senior libero Cindy Ortiz led the CSUN defensive effort in the loss. The weekend got better

Junior setter Sydney Gedryn jousted for two points to get with 15 digs and a service ace Northridge up 12-9 in the fifth set. After a Long Beach timeout, kills by Hinger and Gedryn led to the final attack, a kill by Haina to seal the victory for the Matadors.



he CSUN women's volleyball team had a roller coaster ride of a road trip weekend with a big loss at UC Irvine and a narrow victory at Long Beach State.

To start off the weekend, the Matadors were swept by the Anteaters in three sets Friday night. Sophomore middle blocker Casey Hinger and junior outside hitter Mahina Haina each had seven kills to lead Northridge. Junior outside hitter Britney Graff and freshman opposite hitter Cieana Stinson added six kills apiece.

Junior outside hitter Aly Squires led the Anteaters with a match-high 11 kills while freshman middle blocker Ella Rosenfeld had five blocks. Irvine out-blocked the Matadors 9.5-4.0, only the fourth time this season Northridge did not lead the game in blocks.

for the Matadors with a fiveset thrilling victory over rival Long Beach State on Saturday, resulting in the first-ever season sweep of the 49ers and first Northridge victory in The Pyramid in eight years.

Hinger led the CSUN offense with 17 kills, tying her season-high. Haina and Graff chipped in with 13 and 10 kills, respectively.

Senior outside hitter Janisa Johnson had a match-high 22 kills for the 49ers and teammate Chisom Okpala had 20 kills and led all players with six blocks.

Despite being out-blocked, having a lower hitting percentage and less digs than Long Beach, the Matadors fought their way to a 2-0 lead going into the third set. The 49ers then won the third and fourth sets 25-19, 25-15 to set up the decisive fifth set.

Gedryn finished with 47 assists, topping all Northridge players. She also had four blocks, nine kills and seven digs.

CSUN had six service aces in the match, led by sophomore middle blocker Sam Kaul with two. Ortiz had 15 digs for Northridge, her twentythird time the defensive ace recorded more than ten digs in a match.

The Matadors return home for five of their remaining seven matches, including a pair this weekend against Cal Poly and UC Santa Barbara. Northridge is currently third place in the Big West conference standings with a 16-8 overall record and 7-5 conference record, looking up at Hawaii and UCSB.

Setter Sydney Gedryn looks up as Cleana Stintson floats the ball over the net.