DAY OF THE DEAD LIVES
Student prepares for Día de los Muertos, a cultural celebration of life and death

Orange Marigolds and colorful skulls are often part of an altar. Día de los Muertos is a spiritual holiday and known for its vibrance and artistry.

Remembering breast cancer awareness month

CHAMPAIGN WILLIAMS
LIVE NEWS EDITOR

More than 1 million people contract cancer in the United States every year. Of those 1 million people, nearly 300,000 get breast cancer every year, and of those 300,000 people, 232,490 are women.

According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), breast cancer is still the second leading form of cancer among women. Following are three stories from people who have been affected by this disease.

CLOSE TO HOME
Penelope Lopez, 21-year-old junior public relations major, said she was 10-years-old when she learned that her 70-year-old grandmother was suffering from breast cancer.

Her grandmother, Penelope Lopez, whom she is named after, was known as the “backbone” of the family. Hers was the house that everyone went to for holidays and special family dinners. It was because of this close relationship that Lopez’s parents felt it was necessary for her to visit her grandparents the summer of her 10th birthday.

“That year she was going through chemo and radiation,” Lopez said. “They (my parents) thought it would be a good idea for me to go and...
Activists talk immigration policy

ROY AZOULAY
DAILY SUNDAI

Dial immigration rights activists ed the work done so far by undocumented immigrants. It can be changed to help why it needs reform and how on the recent developments journalism department and which was hosted by the CSUN on Tuesday morning, sion about immigration at ed Rivera, held a discus-

17, who was one of those 30. border,” said Luis Rivera, when we were crossing the There was a powerful vibe really do anything to you.

“I am from Mexico to visit their families. after voluntarily crossing into to the place they grew up Texas, determined to return to a legal port of entry in Mexican. “The hunger strike is a very powerful action,” Rivera said. “They were going to force feed them through a tube if they didn’t eat for a certain number of days. When it gets to the point where they start worrying about your health it’s powerful.”

Rivera returned home to Los Angeles after he was released from a juvenile detention center in San Antonio on Oct. 14. But not everyone has been fortunate enough to return back to the U.S. Rocio Her-

Franco, a member of the Dream 30, was deported to Mexico City on Oct. 20. “You should care because we’re thinking about human beings,” said Jose Rosas, a member of the group Dreams to be Heard at CSUN, an orga-

nization advocating for immi-

grant rights. “We’re talking about basic human rights.” Rosas also said immigration policies are more than politics. This is about people’s life as well as their experience and this is why we need to listen. “Their lives and experi-

ences are on the line and that’s why you should care.” Rosas said. “They’re yelling at you, we are here, we live in this community amongst you guys. It’s the reality.”

Eileen Trux, a Spanish-language media journalist and author of a book entitled “Dreamers,” discussed the importance of capturing immigration and the Dream Act through the eyes of the immigrant youth. “I wanted to show immigration through the eyes of our youth who are fighting to stay in this country,” Eileen said. “They love this country and I can’t think of anything more American than that.”

Such as Dream 30, which is organized by the National Immigrant Youth Alliance (NIYA).

The group, ranging from ages 13 to 30, hopes to defy current immigration laws while challenging restric-

tions created by borders. “You have the power,” Rivera said. “When you have the support of 30 dreamers behind you, you don’t worry what [border patrol] is going to do to you.”

According to panelist and NIYA representative Alma De Jesus Ramirez, more than 1,000 people are deported from the U.S. everyday under Obama’s immigration policy.

“You have to think of the generations coming behind you. You can’t just think about how this is going to affect you individually, this is something that affects our communities and our country as a whole,” said Ramirez. The Dream 30 are cur-

rently on their eighth day of a hunger strike while being detained by U.S. officials for attempting to cross into Mexico with the intention of returning through a legal port of entry in Laredo, Texas, and declaring their undocumented immigration status to officials.

“The hunger strike is a very powerful action,” Rivera said. “They were going to force feed them through a tube if they didn’t eat for a certain number of days. When it gets to the point where they start worrying about your health it’s powerful.”

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ences are on the line and that’s why you should care.” Rosas said. “They’re yelling at you, we are here, we live in this community amongst you guys. It’s the reality.”

Day of the Dead events at CSUN

Me.E.Ch.A de CSUN and the Chicano studies de-

partment will have their annual Dia de los Muertos celebration on Thursday and Friday.

The two-day celebration is based on tradition, beginning with the Noche de Ofrenda on Thursday night. Those who made altars to remember those they have lost will be able to share their story in an intimate setting.

“All the Mechistas have been working hard plan-

ning the event, making ‘papel picado,’ piñatas, and dolls that are modeled after the dolls in Xochimilco,” said Joanna “Zoe” Villegas, event coordinator.

There will be a craft corner that allows children to decorate traditional sugar skulls at no price. There will also be face painting done by volunteers for no fee, but tips are encouraged.

CSUN’s Sustainable Greens will also attend to teach people about create their own gardens and how to origami plant pots.

“There will also be a raffle throughout the night of items donated by the vendors,” Villegas said. “The ticket to enter the raffle is only a dollar, but you could win an item that is clearly worth more than a dollar.”

Besides artwork and altars, there will also be music and dancing with performances by Tree Com-

mons and Los Arambula.

Noche de Ofrenda takes place place Thursday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Miccailhuitl: Dia de los Muertos will be held on Friday from 6 p.m. to midnight. Both celebra-

tions will be located at the Chicano House.

For more information, visit the M.E.Ch.A de CSUN’s website.

—CLARISSA CORONA
CONTRIBUTOR
Artistic attack on education

The film ‘For Profit’ unravels many issues facing both students and faculty

ANDREW MARTINEZ

STUDENTS GOT an eye-opening look at the for-profit college system and its impact on higher education Wednesday as they filled the Kurland Lecture Hall of the Valley Performing Arts Center to see “For Profit.” The film was presented for the inaugural Campus Equity Week at CSUN.

“For Profit” is a film version of a one-man play by Aaron Calafato, a former admissions counselor at an unnamed for-profit college in the Midwest. In it he breaks down the for-profit college system and explains the $1.4 trillion student debt problem in America. Calafato describes how he admitted unprepared students to expensive degree programs to help pay for his own personal student loan debts. The movie and following Q&A, hosted by the California Faculty Association, evoked strong reactions from the students.

“To hear a story like that, that’s very personal and very moving” said Edgar Ramos, a 22-year-old animation major and CFA student representative. “It makes a difference,” he said.

Ramos felt the presentation was an effective way to raise awareness and to get students to think about the conditions faculty have to deal with when it comes to issues such as class size and salary.

“We have the highest enrollment we’ve ever had at this institution; this fall and we have less faculty than we did five years ago,” Ballard said. “We’re hiring new faculty now that are making more than faculty who have been here ten, fifteen, or twenty years.”

Andrew Griffith, a 19-year-old sociology major, felt it was a great experience to get exposed to the different methods of recruitment and enrollment in the higher educational system nationwide.

Griffith also felt the information was especially informative because he is a high school tutor who helps students prepare for college.

“It’s scary because later on, your kids want to go to college and just because I’m in college right now, for all I know, they will not get financial aid as I am receiving now, so it’s an eye opener,” he said.

During the lecture, Ballard said the presentation was not trying to convince students to take a certain position on the issues. “Let’s be critical of the place that we’re learning critical thinking. We are the two most important people in higher education, and we are the two least heard across campus.”

Brown Center to celebrate 10th anniversary

The Brown Center for Adaptive Aquatic Therapy will be celebrating its 10 year anniversary on Saturday.

The 18,400-square-foot center opened its doors in 2003 with the expectation of helping people with physical challenges. It began as just an addition to the Center of Achievement (COA) through Adaptive Physical Therapy, which has been open since 1971.

And now, 10 years later, the facility provides water-based exercise programs that give, even those with serious or chronic physical challenges, freedom of movement with little or no pain, as stated in CSUN Today’s report.

Carol Bennett, operations manager of CSUN’s Center of Achievement through Adapted Physical Activity, said the center receives praise on a daily basis for individuals who participate in the aquatic programs.

“The addition of the Brown Center has had a huge impact on our clients and students,” Bennett told CSUN Today. “People are excited and motivated with the increased flexibility and endurance they have while in the pool.”

The university will be celebrating the anniversary of the Brown Center on Nov. 2 at 10 a.m. There will be a reception, as well as tours of the facilities.

The anniversary celebration will be open to the public, however coordinators are requesting all who want to attend to email becky.obrien@csun.edu to RSVP.

—CHAMPAIGN WILLIAMS, LIVE NEWS EDITOR

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Everyone loves a good ghost story.  

Hit the lights, lock the doors and fire up the Xbox.
Web weird spots in LA

Colorado State Bridge

Where: Colorado Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91105

First stop is the Colorado State Bridge, located in Pasadena. Its nickname is “Suicide Bridge,” which somewhat applies the following: it’s haunted. With dead people come ghosts, and ghosts equal spooky nights. It’s said that several spirits haunt the bridge, including a woman with a long robe who is seen walking on top of the bridge before she throws herself into the river. There are also reports of strange sounds and witnessing ghostly figures. Are you brave enough to check it out?

Roosevelt Hotel

Where: 7000 Hollywood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90038

If you love Marilyn Monroe, then taking a trip to the Roosevelt Hotel in LA might be the perfect outing for you on Halloween. Apparently, Marilyn’s ghost still hangs around the hotel but she isn’t alone. She shares the hotel with another celebrity ghost, Montgomery Cliff. Guests have reported seeing Marilyn’s reflection hovering next to them in a full-length mirror located in the lobby, which was actually originally located in Marilyn’s poolside suite. Montgomery Cliff haunts the hotel a little differently. Guests claim they hear someone playing the trumpet in suite number 106, yet that room stays vacant.

Griffith Park

Where: 4050 N. Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles, CA 90027

There are many legends that come with Griffith Park. The legend that is the most notorious is “the curse” that a distressed woman named Diana Petrelli placed on the entire area in 1863. She cursed the land saying all the cattle and livestock from the land would die and that no one would profit from the land. Hence, the field was known as Diana’s Field, haunts the hotel also. There are several stories of people who went into the woods and did not return, some even claim to see a ghost in the Crystal Springs Ranger Headquarters wearing a white dress and sometimes riding a white horse, which many people believe is the infamous Dona Petronella.

HE SAID, SHE SAID

A good old ghost story

LOREN TOWNSLEY

EDITOR IN CHIEF

It was dark. The only light that illuminated the street was a single light coming from a school. I always felt a weird feeling about this place at night. The street had two lanes, one going in each direction, a school was one side and an abandoned property on the other. No other cars around. No other people.

Driving home from work, making the turn onto this street I saw from a distance a dark figure standing on the other side of the road. At first, I felt like I wasn’t seeing this right. Why would someone be there at this time of night? My heart raced, and I still saw the dark figure in the street. I could only see the outline of his body; his face was silhouetted making it impossible for me to identify him.

Getting closer, I realized it was the sidewalk where the figure was. It was clear to me that I might run this person over so I started driving into the other lane. When I got to the spot where the figure was he was gone. As if nobody was ever there.

LUIS RIVAS

OPINIONS EDITOR

My family, both my mom and dad’s side, is from the state of Zacatecas in north central Mexico. My grandmother had a terrible childhood. My grandfather was physically and emotionally abusive toward her and their kids (my aunts and uncles). Unfortunately, he concentrated his beatings on my mom. A culture of terror and fear haunted that old single-story Spanish colonial house for the majority of my grandmother’s life and my mom and her brother’s and sister’s childhood.

One deathly quiet night, suddenly interrupted by the recurring sound of crickets, my grandfather and grandpa were lying down in separate beds with their bedroom doors open to the patio. The normal way of sleeping. My grandfather’s eyes shot open with a sense of a presence in the room. His eyes slowly looked down to the foot of his bed. There he saw the dark, nearly silhouetted figure of a giant owl. Its eyes glowed red. He tried to scream or move but was paralyzed by his fear, feeling an invisible weight holding him down on his chest. He told my grandmother about the owl. She said, in her cathartic interpretation, that it wasn’t an owl but only the physical form of an evil – taken on by the devil. The presence of the owl that night was seen as an omen. If he didn’t stop abusing his wife and their kids, it would come back and take his life.

The abuse stopped after that. But years later his health began failing and he slowly began to lose his mind. My grandmother found him a couple of times complete naked, babbling to himself. He was eventually diagnosed with dementia and died shortly after. You are told to treat your loved ones with compassion and care. If you break that sacred bond, the evil, in whatever form he chooses to take, will find you. It’s only a matter of time.

LEGAN DISKIN

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

This may not be the creepiest thing you’ll read in this section, but it’s definitely worth mentioning. Back in high school, I went to my Dad’s house for the weekend and I was getting ready for bed. I just finished replacing a light bulb that had gone out in my bedroom and I turned on my television. That’s when I noticed that the purple lava lamp on my dresser had been moved from the left to the right. I just chalked it up to the housekeepers moving things around. I moved it back to its original spot. But suddenly, the lights started to flicker. It wasn’t just an electrical malfunction and the Santa Ana winds weren’t blowing around the electrical wires that run alongside our house either. These lights were turning off and on like a strobe light for about 30 seconds and it messed with my eyes. When they stopped flickering I noticed that a light bulb had gone out in the process. It was the same light bulb that I had just replaced. My television started flickering channels on its own and then it turned off by itself. Now here is the kicker, when I went into my closet to get some slippers so I could run out and tell my family about the freaky things going on in my room I found a picture of my step-sister and her ex-boyfriend.

There is no reason for that picture to be in my room let alone placed in my closet. I was not a fan of my sister’s boyfriend and I was happy to hear that she broke up with him two weeks prior to this supernatural event. The whole thing was odd. But who knows? Maybe he’s a witch who blamed me for their break-up and he decided to stick the spirits on me.

JOSH CARLTON

A&E EDITOR

I wouldn’t necessarily say I’m a believer, but there was a pretty eerie experience I had in Fall River, Massachusetts. To refresh your memory, Fall River is where the infamous Lizzie Borden case took an axe and wiped out their parents. At the time my band was touring but a show in Boston we were supposed to play ended up getting cancelled. We ended up staying with a friend in Fall River 30 minutes from the city. When we got to our friend’s house she immediately showed us her next door neighbor. The Lizzie Borden bed and breakfast. She then told us her house was haunted by the roaring ghosts of Lizzie’s parents. We all laughed and brushed off the idea, I think we were so tired at that point no amount of paranormal activity could have phased us. That is until six in the morning when all the pots and pans in the kitchen came flying out of the cabinets and it sounded like the house was being ransacked. We all woke up thinking we were going to have to fight off intruders, but the house was completely empty. Our friend had even gone to work by then and left us a note saying not to mind the inevitable ghostly encounter. Glad to know she was thinking of us.

MERRITTA LLARENA

CONTRIBUTOR

IT’S THAT TIME of year again! Dressing up, getting sick from too much candy and of course, getting scared from all the horror stories that come on and around Halloween. You may feel like you’re too old to go trick-or-treating but too young to be passing out candy, so what is a college-aged student to do on Halloween? Well the answer is simple! If you love horror stories and being spooked, this is the perfect thing for you to do on Halloween night. Happy ghost hunting!

Die Fledermaus

Sung in English. No supertitles.

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The Waltz Begins: Ode to Champagne

The Opera Buffa at CSUN Northridge

Mikael Almedal & the Opera Buffa Chamber Orchestra
in the game is a representation of the world they create. Everytime Isaac comes to a hallway there’s that inkling that something lurks around the corner, or that a monster will pop out of an air shaft. “Dead Space” is also a testament to the fact that sometimes silence can be the most powerful scare tactic of all. This game will guarantee a sleepless night and have you checking your socks long after the Xbox has been turned off.

TREVOR STAMP
REPORTER
Silent Hill 2
The worst version of hell can manifest from our own guilt. That’s the core takeaway from “Silent Hill 2,” a game that has frightened me ever since it was released in 2001. The game centers on James Sunderland, a widowed husband who receives a letter from his deceased wife. "Dead Space," a gripping tale of a 1980 underwater station gone horribly wrong. The game opens as the unidentified and extremely unfortunate character, crash land in the middle of the Atlantic. You take refuge in a lighthouse that just so happens to be in the ocean and find the entrance to Rapture, a city created to aid creative minds and free man from the shackles of morality. Not surprisingly, all that’s left are the remains of the ill-fated society. Half Human Junkies populate what’s left of the city, searching for adam, the genetic drug that gave the residents of Rapture supernatural powers, such as telekinesis or shooting bees out of their hands. Besides these, there’s the occasional “Big Daddy,” a giant killing machine built to protect “Little Sisters,” the mutated little girls that carry the highly sought-after drug. Players make their way through rusting buildings filled with corpus and monsters trying to slit your throat around every corner, but that’s not even the creepiest part. Tapes are scattered throughout the levels that show terrified people dealing with a crumbling society. Players can hear the confessions of a psychotic surgeon searching for the “perfect beauty” and the unfortunate patient who becomes his victim, or the rants of Andrew Ryan, the mastermind of Rapture who would do anything to protect his fantasy land. These candid recordings add a chilling factor to this creepy-ass narrative, ensuring a thrilling scare to any player. It’s okay, no one will judge you for keeping the lights on while playing.

JOSH CARLTON
ART EDITOR
DEADSPACE
Yeah, I know, we’ve seen this one before, but that’s because it’s one of the best. While some say that “Dead Space” isn’t a true survival horror game by design, I have to disagree. Sure the sequels moved away from the notion even further, but the game sets up the character of Isaac in the same way any other unsuspecting horror story character makes their entrance. Isaac is thrust into a monumentally fucked up situation after he goes with a group to investigate a mining ship that his girlfriend happened to be on. Once they arrive, things go from creepy to downright deadly as the exterminated corpses of the crew (Macrocephs) sprout razor-like talons and attack Isaac’s team. From that point on, our hero must figure out what happened to the ship, while desperately trying to hold onto his sanity. “Dead Space” is a remarkable game not only because of the suspenseful gameplay or relentless tension, but because it fully immerses the player into the world it creates. Everytime Isaac comes to a hallway there’s that inkling that something lurks around the corner, or that a monster will pop out of an air shaft. “Dead Space” is also a testament to the fact that sometimes silence can be the most powerful scare tactic of all. This game will guarantee a sleepless night and have you checking your socks long after the Xbox has been turned off.

TAYLOR VILLESERAS
FEATURES EDITOR
BiSHock
Just because a game wasn’t intended for the horror genre, doesn’t mean it’s not as scary as hell. Enter “BioShock,” a gripping tale of a 1960 underwater station gone horrifyingly wrong. The game opens as the unnamed and extremely unfortunate character, crash land in the middle of the Atlantic. You take refuge in a lighthouse that just so happens to be in the ocean and find the entrance to Rapture, a city created to aid creative minds and free man from the shackles of morality. Not surprisingly, all that’s left are the remains of the ill-fated society. Half Human Junkies populate what’s left of the city, searching for adam, the genetic drug that gave the residents of Rapture supernatural powers, such as telekinesis or shooting bees out of their hands. Besides these, there’s the occasional “Big Daddy,” a giant killing machine built to protect “Little Sisters,” the mutated little girls that carry the highly sought-after drug. Players make their way through rusting buildings filled with corpus and monsters trying to slit your throat around every corner, but that’s not even the creepiest part. Tapes are scattered throughout the levels that show terrified people dealing with a crumbling society. Players can hear the confessions of a psychotic surgeon searching for the “perfect beauty” and the unfortunate patient who becomes his victim, or the rants of Andrew Ryan, the mastermind of Rapture who would do anything to protect his fantasy land. These candid recordings add a chilling factor to this creepy-ass narrative, ensuring a thrilling scare to any player. It’s okay, no one will judge you for keeping the lights on while playing.

Zombies! The heroes of “Left 4 Dead 2” fend off an undead horde.

HONORABLE MENTIONS
• Resident Evil 2
• Amnesia: The Dark Descent
• Outlast
• Lone Survivor
• Fatal Frame
• Slender: 8 Pages
• The Last Of Us
• Uncharted: Drakes Deception
• Left 4 Dead Series
• Don’t Starve
• Limbo

"Dead Space" blends sci-fi and horror for an interstellar screamfest.
10/31/13   2:41 PM

CALENDAR of EVENTS
FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 7

Sponsored by VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

8:00 p.m.
Night of the Living Dead
Cost: $20
Maverick Theatre, 110 E. Walnut Ave. Fullerton
If you’re a fan of zombies than this is the place for you. The Maverick Theatre presents an interactive version of the cult classic where real life zombies walk amongst audience members as they watch their beloved characters try to escape an infested farm house. Cheaper than a Universal Horror Nights ticket, this show will feed your urge for rotting, human flesh.

7:00 p.m.
Los Angeles Haunted Hayride
Griffith Park, 4730 Crystal Springs Drive, Los Angeles
Cost: $30 to $5 (Depending on type of pass)
The Los Angeles Haunted Hayride has been a much talked about maze in the city for quite some time. It is located in Griffith Park, which is said to actually be haunted, and features a couple different mazes for you and your friends to go through and get the hell scared out of you. This is the last night to experience the maze until it reopens next year, so don’t miss out!

2
8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Urban Death: Tour of Terror Haunted Theatre
Cost: $12
Zombie Joe’s Underground Theatre Group at ZJU
4850 Lankershim Boulevard, North Hollywood
Even though Halloween is coming to a close, you can still get your scare fix by attending a truly horrific maze. Zombie Joe’s Underground Theatre transports guests into a terror filled play that incorporates every human fear imaginable like decapitations, bloody axes and mimes.

5
7:00 p.m.
Two Anxious Men
Cost: $26 - $125
Pasadena Playhouse, 39 S. El Molino Avenue, Pasadena
Two Anxious Men, a great American classic, is newly adapted by the Pasadena Playhouse. Six white and black men are tasked with deciding the verdict in a murder case, playing the role of executioner. If you are looking for drama and an occasional laugh of two then come see this modernized play which stars “Grey’s Anatomy’s” Jason George.

7
8:00 p.m.
The Groundskeepers
$20 students
Heidi Duckler Dance Theatre, Linda Vista Hospital
610 S. St. Louis Street Los Angeles
Dancers and non dancers alike will enjoy this artistic statement as interpretive dancers create a multimedia performance that will bring back to life an abandoned hospital by using lighting, music and graphic design. Make sure to bring comfortable shoes, clothes and a jacket as you’ll be walking around the hospitals multiple floors watching performers apply hip-hop, parkour and lyricism.

hungry?

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spend time with her because it was a really hard transition.” Lopez recalls her mother sitting her down and explaining to her what her grandmother was going through.

“For me at first it was a little weird,” Lopez remembered. “Going through chemo and radiation (my grandma) lost all of her hair, her eyebrows and her eyelashes. It was really hard seeing someone that was so strong, so sick.”

Lopez’s grandmother, now 84 had a mastectomy some time after and is now a 12-year survivor of breast cancer.

Since the recovery of her grandmother, Lopez has been a strong supporter and participant of ACS and events such as Relay for Life. Today Lopez is the vice president of CSUN’s Colleges Against Cancer (CAC) club.

With October being nationally recognized as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Lopez, along with members of the CSUN CAC club, set-up a table across from Sierra Hall to promote breast cancer awareness last week. The group handed out pamphlets with breast cancer statistics and facts to students as they passed by and demonstrated for both males and females how to conduct a breast exam.

“People shouldn’t have to cross continents to find someone that was so strong, so sick.” Lopez, who is originally from Peru, was 14-years-old. He left his mother and siblings in Peru and ventured to Los Angeles to reconnect with his father.

It was in the U.S. that Veliz got the medical attention he needed. Once settled with his father, the two went to see a physician.

“He didn’t just touch my pecs, I went through tests. The doctor told my dad that I needed to go through (similar) experiences with doctors not to think about them (breast cancer) because they are not people just men. And I don’t want this to happen to anyone else,” Veliz said.

“Today Veliz, a gay man, is a LGBTQ activist and immigrant organizer and completely cancer free. He had all seven tumors removed during his first year in America at St. Jude’s hospital in San Fernando Valley.”

“I am starting to tell my story because men go through (similar) experiences with doctors not wanting to check them for (breast cancer) because they are not men. And I don’t want this to happen to anyone else,” Veliz said.

SPIRITUAL HEALING

This semester Unified We Serve partnered with Matarad Athletics to host the third annual Zumbathon in an effort to raise money for breast cancer research. According to Unified We Serve volunteers, the money raised was used to fund mammograms for 20 women who were unable to afford the test themselves.

Diane Weisman, a 56-year-old motivational speaker, shared her story with zumba-thon attendees.

“It was my journey, and this is not for everyone,” Weisman said as a precaution. “My mom died of breast cancer at 54 and her twin at 53, so it was in my family on both sides. I was diagnosed August 2010 and I felt like I wanted to educate myself more before I made any decisions.”

Weisman made the decision to put off treatment. She gave herself six months to become as educated as she could about all things breast cancer related, despite the potential dangers that came with putting off treatment.

“I changed my way of eating. I started going to yoga and acupuncture and opened myself up to information that everyone had,” Weisman said.

When diagnosed in 2010, her physician found two lumps in her right breast and recommended she have a bilateral mastectomy, which meant to remove both of her breasts. He also suggested she remove her ovaries, and the hospital board fully supported his decision.

“For a reason unknown to her, this suggestion did not sit well with Weisman. Instead she opted to have a lumpectomy against her doctor’s recommendation, and had the two tumors and some surrounding tissue removed.

“Ultimately you do what’s right for you, and that was right for me,” Weisman said. “He took out the small node, made a small incision, and there is no difference in my body. We did it and it was very very successful.”

Weisman said she is grateful for all she had endured.

“The big thing is about living in gratitude,” Weisman added. “Be grateful for what you have. Be grateful for your friends and for hav- ing an education.”

“Many months later the lump had multiplied and five took its place. It was then that Veliz informed his mother about what was happening with my body,” Veliz said. “My mother took me to a doctor in Peru who said it was a part of adolescence.”

His mother adhered to the advice of the physician and nothing further was done to inquire about the lumps. However, sometime later when the five lumps spread to seven, Veliz knew that something was seriously wrong.

His mother took him to another physician who, like the first, poked at his right pectoral but did not examine him further with tests. When this physician told his mother that the lumps were merely “masses of fat that would disappear” he was not as easily convinced as she.

“It was really scary,” said Veliz. “And it shocked me that because I am a man they (the doctors) did not feel that I should take any tests.”

Having been raised under the Catholic faith and in a Catholic school, Veliz was not properly taught about breast cancer. At the time he did not know what symptoms to look for in women, let alone in men, and he describes his experience as having been very “awkward” and “scary”.

Veliz migrated to America when he was 17-years-old. He left his mother and siblings in Peru and ventured to Los Angeles to reconnect with his father.

Today is Winter at Glendale Community College, come and take a class you need! Winter session: January 6 through February 13

Take a picture in your costume while on campus on Halloween for your chance to win a spooktacular prize. Upload your photo via social media this Thursday and don’t forget to tag the Daily Sundial! DAILY SUNDAIL
Dia de los Muertos is an ancient holiday with indigenous roots celebrated by many in honor and respect for the dead. The origin of Halloween can be traced to the ancient Celtic celebration of Samhain where people would dress in costumes and light bonfires to chase off ghosts. Then, as cultural appropriation is not anything new, the Catholic Church turned it into the more Christian-friendly All Saints’ Day. The night before was called Hallows’ Eve and then eventually Halloween, according to history.com.

However, unlike the contemporary celebration of Halloween, Dia de los Muertos is alive and breathing and has thousands of years of Mesoamerican identity and culture attached to it. Dia de los Muertos traces its roots to the Aztec ritual in honor of the dead, Micahualtitlán (pronounced “mek-ka-il-wt”). According to Chican@ studies professor Dr. Feminim Herrera, it literally means day of the dead in the native language of Nahua spoken in the historic identities of real people. Each of these costumes carry an actual history, culture and meaning to their respective culture. These costumes were once the historic identities of real people. And Halloween has turned them into novelties to be used to make money in an empty holiday.

With ignorant costumes everywhere, and the complete erasure and appropriation of several cultures in one day, I can’t help but be pissed off. Here’s the takeaway message: If you have to think twice about a potentially offensive costume, it’s probably offensive. If you are interested in learning more about Dia de los Muertos, consider stopping by the Chican@ House Oct. 31 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Nov. 1 from 6 p.m. to midnight to celebrate Dia de los Muertos instead of spending your money on overpriced, holiday-themed drinks at a bar or restaurant. This year for Halloween, don’t be a racist.
Matthew photos and story by

known as Day of the Dead, is a remembrance of their indigenous roots.

As she strokes her brush to give life to her outlined mari - nos Mexican traditions and her reinterpretation of Xochitl's M.E. is already filled with “calaveras de azúcar,” or sugar skulls, that her students decorated, and pictures of loved ones.

Different people from different cultures and backgrounds are displaying altars to remember their loved ones, Martinez said.

Along with helping her students, she will also be honoring recently deceased CSUN student, Josephine Singh Sethi, during the celebration.

As the transition between seasons begins, and the cold weather settles in, Martinez awaits for Dia de los Muertos to not only celebrate past loved ones, but her culture too.
Budding stars on the waiver wire

With the playoffs rapidly approaching, these free agent studs can turn your sinking ship into a championship

KEVIN KIANI
SPORTS EDITOR

WITH SIX TEAMS on bye this week in the NFL and with playoffs rapidly approaching, week nine could make or break your fantasy season. The waiver wire has been littered with stars this year and this week is no different. Gems are aplenty so don’t bother engaging in regretful trades. With week eight thrusting unknown names into the fantasy spotlight, here are some budding stars to pick up in your league to lead you to victory this week.

Terrelle Pryor, QB
Oakland Raiders

If you disregarded the fact that Pryor is a quarterback, you could make a strong case for him as a top running back in the league. Pryor is averaging 69.1 yards rushing per game and 7.4 yards per rush through six games. He is averaging 191.3 yards through the air, but look for that number to skyrocket this week against the leaky and horridous Philadelphia Eagles pass defense, that ranks 31st in the league. Go grab Pryor and expect a huge day.

Montee Ball, RB
Denver Broncos

Ball is back on the radar after being drafted and furious dropped and divorced by hopeful fantasy owners. With Ronnie Hillman disappointing in the running back depth chart and head coach John Fox recently stating that he wants to cut down on Moreno’s goal line work and worked his way into the mix. Although Ball won’t be a starter in your lineup for weeks to come, he is a worthy matchup dependent flex option and will be fantasy gold if Moreno goes down with an injury, which he often does.

Andre Ellington, RB
Arizona Cardinals

Ellington was thrown into the spotlight after starting running back Rashard Mendenhall went down with a toe injury and he did not disappoint. Running for 154 yards on 15 carries, Ellington was explosive and elusive which is something the Cards’ offense is seriously lacking. The health of Mendenhall has always been an issue and with his lack of production this season, Ellington may have just cemented himself as the starter going forward. Despite being in a division with behemoths such as the 49ers and Seahawks, Ellington will have a huge upside and will reward many fantasy owners who are in need of a workhorse running back.

Kenny Stills, WR
New Orleans Saints

It’s hard to count on anyone in the Saints’ offense considering the way quarterback Drew Brees spreads the ball around, but Stills is still the preferred home run threat. Over the past two weeks, he has amassed 193 yards and 3 touchdowns and looks to finally be in sync with Brees. With wide receiver Marques Colston struggling and tight end Jimmy Graham garnering double and triple coverage, look for Stills to monopolize the targets and burn any single coverage that opposing defenses, look for Jones to continue his success and emerge as an every week starter. This is not a fluke, pick up Jones, start him and enjoy the fireworks.

Marvin Jones, WR
Cincinnati Bengals

Jones was the primary beneficiary of the Andy Dalton show against the Jets last week. In one of the best individual fantasy performances of the decade, Jones hauled in eight passes for 122 yards and four touchdowns. With Dalton topping 300 passing yards in each of his last three games, Jones remains relevant in all fantasy formats, until he proves otherwise. With star receiver A.J. Green demanding all the attention from opposing defenses, look for Jones to continue his success and emerge as an every week starter. This is not a fluke, pick up Jones, start him and enjoy the fireworks.

Oakland Raiders quarterback Terrelle Pryor has emerged as a dual-threat quarterback this season. With some of the top quarterbacks on bye this week, Pryor is a viable option against a struggling Philadelphia Eagles defense.

GET TO KNOW
Carlos Benavides

Major: Psychology

FAVORITES
Food: Bolivian dish called salteñas, similar to empanadas but better
Band: The Beatles
Athlete: Zinedine Zidane
Sports Team: Real Madrid

LIFE
Hardest part about being a student-athlete: Managing your time to be successful both on and off the field
Greatest Accomplishment: Getting the opportunity to play soccer at a D1 university and study to get my degree at the same time
Hobbies: Soccer or occasionally some bike riding

SOCCER
Best part of my game: I think it’s my technique
Part of my game that needs improvement: Quicker player
Best player I’ve played against: Two center mids when I went to Spain and played against the Barcelona youth team

Player I model my game after: Zidane or Ozil
Pre-game rituals: Listen to music and visualize what I need to do to win
Difference between this year’s men’s soccer team and previous ones: We are more of a family and have great chemistry with one another. There’s also talent at every position whether you start or not and every player is willing to do whatever it takes.

GOALS
Team: Back to back Big West champs and winning the NCAA tournament
Personal: Same as above and hopefully getting a chance to play at next level professionally

EXTRAS
Other sports played: Volleyball, gymnastics
When I started playing soccer: My dad wanted me to do some outdoor activities and stay active, instead of staying inside and playing video games.
How I stay in shape during off-season: Find a team to train with and run at the hills or bike as often as I can
Where I imagine myself in 10 years: In a nice house with a family of two kids, maybe as a sports psychologist or something else related to psychology

ABIGAELLE LEVRAY/ DAILY SUNDIAL • CSUN

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