Tucsonans take to the streets to commemorate dead, celebrate life

By Lisa Rich
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Dressed in brightly colored costumes and waving black and white face paint, Tucson residents paraded downtown in last night’s 150th annual All Souls’ Procession, a festival meant to celebrate life while honoring the dead.

Beginning at 7:30 p.m. on the corner of North Fourth Avenue and East University Boulevard, more than 4,000 participants and spectators occupied the streets until the parade ended after 9 p.m. at East Toole Avenue and North Stone Avenue, said Officer Mario Porrillo of the Tucson Police Department.

Before the event started, Porrillo said he expected a large turnout despite the rainy weather because of the procession’s growing popularity.

“It’s been getting bigger and bigger each year,” Porrillo said. “It’s not just thousands of people on the street, but also hundreds of participants.”

“Thriving on the spirit of the Mexican holiday Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, the procession combines cultural rituals with personal exploration as a way to remember the dead while celebrating the living, according to the All Souls’ Procession Web site.

Although Día de los Muertos is traditionally celebrated Oct. 31 to Nov. 2, the ASP Web site said the event was chosen for this weekend to avoid conflicts with Halloween.

Some participants dressed in black, carrying pictures of deceased loved ones above their heads while burning incense.

See PROCESSION8

College of Law begins fund-raising campaign

By Georgianne Barrett
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The James E. Rogers College of Law has announced its campaign to raise money for a new building and renovation project to help expand the school.

The $50 million renovation project for the College of Law will be called the Law Commons and will include a new building, new Law Library and additional computer and multimedia space.

The campaign for the Law Commons has already raised $12 million, and the remaining $6 million is expected to come from private donors.

Nancy Stanley, assistant director of development and public relations for the College of Law, said the college has considered the overhauling renovation for a long time.

See LAW8

Magazine scam targets students

By Holly Wells
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Magazine vendors on campus are trying to scam students by getting them to buy subscriptions that they’ll never see, according to a UA official.

The vendors committing the scam usually tell students they are trying to win a trip and have to sell a certain number of magazines. The vendors then get students to buy magazine subscriptions that are never delivered, said Dino Newman, Mail coordinator.

Newman said the magazine vendors usually look like they could be college students and are very charming, targeting mostly female students.

“I’ve seen it happen: the students hand them cash or a check, the cash goes into the guy’s pocket and they immediately go to the bank to cash the check,” Newman said. “Students never see their subscriptions.”

The scam has been going on for years and Newman said a recent group of the scammers has recently been on campus. It’s not just one person doing the scam, there’s a group of them all over campus, she said.

“They’re so hard to catch. They’ve been warned by police and keep coming back,” Newman said. “We’ve handed out warning letters and it doesn’t faze them.”

Newman said they’ve been targeting students off campus. Emily Buckwalter, an accounting graduate student, said vendors recently showed up at her apartment after she had seen them all over campus earlier that day.

Buckwalter first saw pictures of magazines coming to her.