NEWS
USD hits over 100 COVID-19 cases . . . . . 1

OPINION
Op-Ed: Students are overwhelmed . . . . . 5

FEATURE
Uniting math and storytelling . . . . . . . 9

Spread: Filipinx Heritage Month . . . . . 11

ARTS & CULTURE
Fall TV and movie picks . . . . . . . . . . . 13

SPORTS
This week in history: a pair of upsets . . . . 17

“Experience fall in San Diego,” Arts & Culture, page 15
Taylor DeGuzman/The USD Vista

THE USD VISTA STAFF
Celina Tébor - Editor in Chief
Jennifer Mossuto - Associate Editor
Catherine Silvey - Managing Editor
Mikaela Foehr - Copy Editor
Tori Tanigawa - Art Director
Tyler Pugmire - News Editor

Alena Botros - Opinion Editor
Brittany Lang - Feature Editor
Taylor DeGuzman - Arts & Culture Editor
Eric Boose - Sports Editor
Regan Ferrari - Social Media Manager

Gina Lew - Student Media Advisor
Marie Minnick - Operations Advisor

www.uofsdmmedia.com
@TheUSDVista
@USDVista
USD exceeds 100 COVID-19 cases since school began

Detailing what isolation looks like for those on campus

TYLER PUGMIRE
NEWS EDITOR

The University of San Diego has been updating and sharing their COVID-19 Dashboard and has now seen a total of 126 confirmed cases, as well as 16 probable cases. These include self-reported, off-campus cases, on-campus student and employee cases, and employees working remotely.

While there is no information available to the public on contact tracing, there have been 126 cases from students living on campus. This comes two weeks after moving 500 students onto campus.

After a student tests positive, they are sent to quarantine on a certain floor in Maher Hall, where some students are assigned to live in a single-occupancy bedroom, according to the Student Guide for Fall 2020. If a student tests positive, their meals are left in the coffee shop on campus, Aromas, for pickup.

First-year student Jennifer McDonald tested positive twice for COVID-19 on Oct. 3 and 4, which led to an email from administration asking her to meet in the Valley circle to be picked up.

“They put me in a golf cart limo and told me to pack for ten days. I could bring whatever I wanted as long as I could take it with me in that one trip,” McDonald said.

The school has now put her in isolation in Maher Hall for ten days and has limited her social contact to no one else except for the person that knocks on her door to tell her that her meal has arrived. McDonald said that they bring three meals a day on weekdays, but only bring two during the weekends. She noted that it is nice how many snacks are provided in the meal bags.

McDonald said that they are not asking her to be tested throughout her isolation, but her temperature is checked daily. She also said that her professors have been fairly cooperative when she asks for extensions or dealing with studying during midterm season.

“The main problem is that they need a better way to check and see if we are alive,” McDonald said. “If I were to collapse, I wouldn’t be able to have anyone check in on me unless they were bringing me a meal, especially because a symptom for some people is nausea, it is not unlikely that someone could collapse and not be found for hours.”

McDonald said she has experienced severe fatigue and nausea herself.

The university is providing isolation housing for up to forty people, and all of them are in Maher Hall.

San Diego County is currently in the red tier meaning that indoor operations of some businesses can open.

Con’t on Page 2
while enforcing social distancing: this includes restaurants, gyms, and places of worship. The county has become close to heading back into the purple tier, which would virtually eliminate all indoor operations, but a low positive test rate (3.5%) has kept the area functioning with more relaxed guidelines.

SDSU cases have been decreasing. Although they reached over 1,000 cases in September, they have now had less than 100 in the month of October. After their campus had its first outbreak, the campus shut down and begin to patrol all surrounding areas to enforce social distancing. During the peak of its cases, SDSU was responsible for more than 10% of the entire case count for all of San Diego County.

UCSD has had 15 cases in the month of October. As they have started to begin their move-in process, they have been able to curtail any major outbreak, as their first year students were able to move on to campus.

For USD, they have had the majority of cases coming from non-residential students. 12 residential students have tested positive.

As it stands, 6.5 per 100,000 San Diegans have the virus. If that number exceeds seven, there could be stronger enforcement of social distancing. Surrounding private schools, such as Francis Parker School, a high school in Linda Vista, have returned to campus, and USD has allowed a portion of classes to return, depending on the subject matter and preference of the professor.
2020 Vice Presidential debate: 
A discussion worth the buzz

Vice President Mike Pence and Senator Kamala Harris went at each other at the University of Utah on Oct. 7

EMMA VALDISERRI
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Time is flying as the election is just less than a month away. The first and only vice presidential debate of the 2020 election season happened last week between Senator Kamala Harris and Vice President, Mike Pence. Unlike the previous presidential debate between Joe Biden and President Trump, it’s safe to say these 90 minutes followed a more traditional route, giving the American people the discussion of policy they’ve anxiously been waiting for.

The debate took place at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, and USA Today’s Susan Page moderated it. The discussion consisted of nine separate segments, each lasting between eight to 10 minutes. Each candidate was allowed two minutes to discuss each topic, with the rest of the segment followed by open discussion. Harris and Pence were seated and separated by plexiglass as they made their debuts to the nation.

Once again, USD Votes in collaboration with the university’s political science department held a discussion board on Discord, a messaging platform where faculty and students were able to share and discuss their thoughts and questions about the debate. Several news publications like The New York Times had a running fact checker during the debate, classifying many of the candidates' claims as either lacking evidence, misleading, or false.

In regards to the debate and expectations going into it, senior Ashley Raines expressed her opinion about the discussion.

“The debate couldn’t really go anywhere but up from the first one,” Raines said. “I definitely thought it would be more tame, but I was also expecting it to be a little tense, which it was at certain points.”

The segments covered many of the similar topics discussed in the first presidential debate, including COVID-19, the recent SCOTUS nomination, the economy, healthcare, racial justice, and climate change. Another one of the segments was dedicated to a discussion about China and asked Harris or Pence to define the relationship between China and the U.S.

When discussing COVID-19 and how each candidate’s administration would approach the pandemic in the coming months, Harris claimed the way the Trump administration had handled the virus was “the greatest failure of any presidential administration in the history of our country.” Pence, in retaliation, claimed President Trump

Con’t on Page 4
Pence, in retaliation, claimed President Trump had saved the nation by suspending travel from China and that Biden had said this was both “xenophobic and hysterical.” According to The New York Times fact checking system, President Trump did not ban all travel from China and Biden is not recorded to have called Trump’s decision xenophobic.

Another major topic centered around the economy; an opportunity for the Trump campaign to convince voters concerned about taxes to support the President’s re-election. Pence repeatedly stated Biden and Harris would raise taxes immediately. In rebuttal, Harris said taxes would only be raised for individuals making over $400,000 a year, claiming Biden would use the tax money as an investment in the American people.

Harris claimed the tax bill signed by Trump in 2017 was only beneficial to large corporations and the top one percent of the nation. If elected, Harris said, “On day one, Joe Biden will repeal that bill.” According to the New York Times, this statement was proven false, indicating that Biden’s campaign had stated it would only repeal some of tax cuts and the process to do so would take much longer than a day.

Throughout the debate, many questions asked were left unanswered. When the candidates were asked about the discussion of the safeguards and procedures of presidential disability, Harris answered more to why Biden had selected her as his running mate, stating her accomplishments as a senator and her shared values with Biden. On the other hand, Pence avoided the question and spent most of his two minutes defending Trump about how the administration handled the virus.

During the open discussion about the SCOTUS nomination, Pence repeatedly asked Harris why she and Joe Biden have refused to answer whether or not they plan to pack the court if they become elected. The New York Times fact checker stated this to be true on Pence’s behalf. While Harris did not get around to answering the question, she turned it around on Pence and retaliated with the notion that not a single one of the judges the Trump administration has nominated to courts is Black.

Toward the end of the debate, the candidates were asked to tackle an eighth grader’s question that asked how it would be possible for the American people to get along if the country’s political leaders are unable to.

“I think the candidates finally realized they needed to act like grownups, especially if an eighth grader could,” Raines said. “So that was somewhat refreshing.”

Despite there being a lot of tip-toeing around questions, the debate was incomparably better than the first presidential debate in terms of discussing policy and leaving space for both candidates to speak their truths with fewer instances of interruption.

“After this, I feel like Trump supporters will see Pence as a good substitute in case anything were to happen to Trump,” Raines said. “But I also think Kamala did a really great job connecting to moderates and progressives.”

The next presidential debate has been canceled after President Trump, who has recently contracted COVID-19, refused to participate in a virtual discussion, claiming it as a waste of time. Therefore, the third and final debate is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 22nd at 6 p.m. (PT).
Students are overwhelmed

Students are struggling as they adjust to the completely virtual semester. Professors and administrators should do more to help.

HALLIE WILTSHEIRE
ASST. OPINION EDITOR

As with most aspects of our new pandemic-addled world, no one in Fall 2019 would have believed you if you described our current Fall 2020 semester — yet here we are. The transition certainly hasn’t been easy and many students say they are feeling more overwhelmed and stressed than ever. Are USD faculty and administration giving students enough leeway, considering the novel learning experience, global pandemic, nationwide social justice movement, and general messiness of 2020?

Short answer: no. Long answer: Everyone is going through something and life remains atypical despite encouragement to accept this “new normal.” It is unrealistic to expect students to be able to complete assignments at the conventional pace of previous semesters and to remain productive throughout a condensed 14-week semester with no break.

Some students are working to help provide for their families. Others are caring for younger siblings who are also struggling to adjust to remote learning. Just online school itself can be challenging. Not everyone has a quiet space to attend classes or study.

Just online school itself can be challenging. Not everyone has a quiet space to attend classes or study.

Online schooling has taken a toll on some students because school and home life now happens in the same place. As a result, some students take advantage of the empty campus for more focused studying.

Con’t on Page 6
The pandemic continues to affect millions of people across the United States and it is unlikely to disappear soon.

During these new responsibilities to juggle, it is no surprise that students are overwhelmed.

The pandemic continues to affect millions of people across the United States and it is unlikely to disappear soon. A vaccine remains far off on the horizon, with 11 potential vaccines only just having reached phase 3 of clinical trials. When President Harris announced the mandatory shift to campus-wide remote teaching on March 12, there were only 50 COVID-19 cases in San Diego. On October 13, there were 2,883 cases. This is a 5,666% increase from the case numbers in March that prompted the campus to initially close. If students were offered the latitude of pass/fail classes and extended deadlines then, why not now as well?

Some professors seem to be operating under the assumption that since students are always home, they must have more free time to do work. This is not the case. One of my professors continually falls behind on their syllabus and rather than adjusting it, they record and upload supplemental lectures to Blackboard as well as assign additional readings to accompany those lectures. Taking classes remotely allows professors to do this easily and creates an expectation for students to accommodate the extra workload with no issues.

There are some weeks where I don’t leave my apartment for five days straight because I have so many assignments. I feel pressure to produce the same quality of work as I did in an in-person class, and it’s simply impossible.

While deadlines should be encouraged to keep students up to date with their work, professors should also be willing to accommodate students if something comes up.

Activities are limited to grocery shopping and meandering around Target trying to smell candles through my face mask. I struggle to separate my “school” brain from my “relax” brain, and quickly become drained as a result. Staring at my laptop screen for more than 12 hours a day doesn’t help either. Between class and homework, escaping technology is unfeasible. Eye fatigue, headaches, and pain from sitting at my desk all day are now a normal part of my life. These issues contribute to my diminished ability to concentrate.

Not all hope is lost, however. Professors can help students get through the semester and end on a strong note. On a foundational level, professors need to demonstrate compassion and flexibility with students. While deadlines should be encouraged to keep students up to date with their work, professors should also be willing to accommodate students if something comes up. Students should also have the option to take any of their classes pass/fail if they so desire, as was offered last semester. This would relieve pressure and assist in the transition to a full semester online.

I urge all USD faculty to consider the stress that students are currently under. Thinking about something as normal as school during a pandemic is hard, and extra work does not make it easier. If you are a student who is feeling overwhelmed, consider reaching out to the Counseling Center on campus. They are offering telehealth assessment, consultation, and support services during business hours. A Mental Health Counselor is also available 24/7 for urgent mental health concerns. Times are tough, but we will all get through this together.

The views expressed in the editorial and op-ed sections are not necessarily those of The USD Vista staff, the University of San Diego, or its student body.
The real cost of being a “Boss Babe”

Why MLMs are horrible for everyone, but especially women

OLIVIA HUNT
ASST. A&C EDITOR

Are you ready to become a #BossBabe? Want to work from wifi? Do you want to buy yourself a Mercedes Benz? Then this pyramid scheme, I mean, business opportunity — is for you!

In all seriousness, multi-level marketing companies (MLMs) are an ever-growing industry around the world, and have rightfully attracted criticism for their questionable business practices. Many opponents of MLMs accuse them of being dangerous pyramid schemes. Others, including the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), advise people to, at the very least, be wary of MLMs. So, what kind of businesses are they really?

At face value, MLMs constitute a very complex referral system. This alone isn’t usually cause for alarm, as positive word of mouth is the best type of marketing that a business can receive. If you and your friend both enjoy a product, then taking advantage of a referral incentive can be great. What MLMs have successfully done, however, is stretched this business strategy to its absolute limits.

Most MLMs — such as Arbonne, Beachbody, and Monat — work by giving referral incentives (mostly in the form of cash) to members who successfully get other people to purchase products from the business. They then go one step further to give referral incentives to those referred by the people that a given person signed up. But for MLMs, referring (or rather recruiting) people to join the company isn’t simply a marketing exercise — it’s the business itself. This kind of referral program, when laid out, does tend to make an interesting shape.

The basic idea behind someone joining an MLM is that they will buy the company’s products at a wholesale rate, and sell them to friends and family. This simply means that a member is a commission-only salesperson or an individual retailer for a very specific set of products. To be clear, there is nothing morally wrong with the direct sales and retailing aspect of an MLM — problems arise from the other side of the business. The most lucrative business opportunity in these companies is by building your own sales teams. This translates to convincing your friends and family to also sign up for the company and purchase products that they will hopefully go out and sell (whether in-person or through social media).

A more concrete terminology for the MLM “Boss Babe” phenomenon is simply “lifestyle marketing.” Basically, it’s selling the ‘American Dream’ of freedom—both financially and time-wise. Boss Babes, or MLM distributors, tend to ‘sell’ the prospect of living a luxury lifestyle … far more often than their actual products. The reason for this is because it’s much more time effective to recruit someone else to join your business than to make one sale. By promoting images of their “luxury lifestyle” and designer products, MLM distributors sell the false promise that, not only is it easy to make money from participating in an MLM.

MLMs advertise a life of luxury for their members, but in many cases this could not be farther from the truth.

Photo courtesy of Foto Miki/flickr

Con’t on Page 8
From Page 7

as a "side hustle," but that it's able to fund an upper-middle-class lifestyle. It's important to note that it's extremely difficult to make money in an MLM unless you are a celebrity, or at least an influencer with a large following. There is absolutely no guaranteed income.

A common rebuttal from MLM members is that when you go into business, there is always risk involved. They also note that the price of buying inventory to sell for the company (which can range from $50-$300) is far less than the amount it would cost to start one's own business. On paper, this actually sounds pretty reasonable. Even the most expensive MLM company represents a much smaller investment upfront.

However, this all starts to fall apart when you consider that, first off, not everyone wants to go into business for themselves. Even if they did, it's likely that they wouldn't want to go into business selling whichever specific product it is that they will be forced to sell — from essential oil and vitamins to shampoo and skincare.

Yet most businesses fail. A discouraging statistic of the business world is that only about 40% of new businesses ever end up making any money, according to Forbes. This statistic is even worse for people starting a business for the first time.

In the world of MLMs, however, it gets even more grim. MLM companies are obligated to release income disclosure statements every year, which details the payment of bonuses, and how much is paid to specific groups of people. The average from the top 10 MLM companies reveals that only about 30% of active members get paid anything at all. Of these members, only about 12% make more than $1,000 a year. Two percent make more than a minimum-full time wage, and only a few dozen people make more than $100,000 in annual income.

Spotting an MLM isn't always easy, and conducting thorough research to avoid false opportunities is often entirely up to an individual. In the Fall of 2019, even USD allowed MLMs to partake in the Alcala Bazaar. Vector Marketing, for instance, (an MLM that sells Cutco knives) operated its own booth and tried to rope students into joining. This was a negligent move on part of USD. The school either did not do its due diligence, or doesn't care about students' financial wellbeing. In the future, hopefully USD can take some of the burden off of students by blocking MLMs from recruiting on campus and spotlighting deceptive advertising practices.

To help their recruiting efforts, MLMs often use what business.com calls the "language of success." They may call recruits ‘entrepreneurs" or “small business owners,” and encourage members to think of themselves in that way. I’m sure that many female USD students have witnessed their more nuanced tactics for recruiting women through social media.

For example, many MLMs use hashtags such as "#thefutureisfemale" or "#momboss" to position themselves as professionals aiming to empower women and facilitate their financial freedom. But, in actuality, they’re doing the opposite. Women who get deceived into joining MLMs aren't CEOs at all; they can't establish their own business practices or create their own products, and are forced to answer the demands of those above them (called uplines). Oh yeah, and they happen to be the only ones benefiting from all their labor. MLMs that stress the whole “Boss Babe” idea capitalize on the double standard that women must first acknowledge their weakness before celebrating their accomplishments.

When you hear about people not making money from MLMs, many MLM distributors are quick to say, ‘well they just didn't work hard enough.’ The “Boss Babe” mentality is that people should be working 24/7, and if they don’t, then they aren’t working hard enough. At the same time, they should view their MLM as a source of “side income,” not necessarily one’s full-time job.

But being a part of an MLM isn't a job — it's a business. Any “Boss Babe” or MLM rep promising actual “employment” is being deceptive and is certainly someone you wouldn't want to go into business with. Women are strong, capable, and powerful. Our time and labor isn't free. So no thanks, I’ll pass on your “opportunity.”
Mathematician and author, Satyan Devadoss, Ph.D., combined the stories of Camelot and Merlin with sixteen unsolved equations in a book titled “Mage Merlin's Unsolved Mathematical Mysteries.” He has been teaching for 25 years and joined the USD faculty as a professor of applied mathematics and computer science in 2016. His book focuses on the exciting and puzzling world of unanswered equations.

Devadoss wanted to spread his love of the field to everyone who picks up the book. The text is written for three types of people: for those who struggle with math, for those who love it, and for everyone who wants to challenge their mind. It is aimed to inspire readers to learn more about the complex yet fascinating field of arithmetic.

“I just want them to think, just like every other cool field that is out there, that math is also cool,” he explained. “I want them to think that there are a lot of cool things people don't know.”

By combining the talents of storytelling with the abilities to explain unsolved questions, the book travels across the fantasy tale of Camelot. Merlin, a wizard, is tasked with solving problems presented by King Arthur. Devadoss wanted to imagine a world of extravagance, strangeness, and knowledge.

“Well Merlin can solve a whole bunch of these things because … he's amazing, he's cool, but there's a handful of things he just can't solve,” Devadoss voiced. “So he keeps a journal of a bunch of problems he can't solve and this book is that journal.”

In Devadoss's book, he includes a strong female presence to honor the first and only female recipient of the Fields Award in Mathematics, Maryam Mirzakhani. He recognizes that many girls and women are discouraged from the field. For this reason, the main character is named Maryam whose
grandmother gives her Merlin's original journal. She then discovers that she is a descendant of the wizard. All 16 puzzles are introduced by Maryam, then it dives into Merlin's journal, and finishes with Maryam explaining what people are doing today to solve the mysteries.

Though the puzzles are unresolved, that does not deter Devadoss from wanting people to attempt the material. Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division are all that is needed for this book. The activities are interactive and focus on making the audience excited about the field of mathematics. They range from cutting a pie into pieces, covering a square, rearranging boats, and much more to entertain readers.

There are hundreds and thousands of unanswered mathematical questions. He wanted to work on a project that allowed for some of those equations to be explored by everyday people, not just experts. “How do you take someone who you are sitting next to on the subway, taking a Lyft ride with, and bring them to the edge of knowledge without having them get a Ph.D.?” Devadoss asked. Devadoss explained that for every new finding published, that paper will result in more questions. Devadoss hopes everyone who wants to challenge their mind, look away from the computer, or find a new interest will read “Mage Merlin’s Unsolved Mathematical Mysteries.” There are only physical copies of his work as he wanted people to take a break from the screen and physically interact with the puzzles.

“How do you take someone who you are sitting next to on the subway, taking a Lyft ride with, and bring them to the edge of knowledge without having them get a Ph.D.?”

- Satyan Devadoss

Devadoss hopes everyone who wants to challenge their mind, look away from the computer, or find a new interest will read “Mage Merlin’s Unsolved Mathematical Mysteries.” There are only physical copies of his work as he wanted people to take a break from the screen and physically interact with the puzzles.

Devadoss’ new book can be found for purchase both in bookstores and online.
Celebrating Filipinx Heritage Month
Honoring Filipinx-Americans and their contribution to the United States

To commemorate the many contributions of the Filipinx community in the United States, the month of October has been dedicated to celebrating Filipinx Heritage Month. "Filipinx" is an inclusive term for those who may identify outside of the male/female binary within the Filipinx community.

On Oct. 18, 1587, the "Luzones Indios," or Filipinx sailors, first arrived in what is now Morro Bay, California. This date is the first recorded presence of Filipinx in the modern-day United States. For this reason, the U.S. Congress recognized October as Filipinx Heritage Month in 2009.

As the third-largest ethnic group in California and the second-largest Asian-American group in the nation, this month honors the hard work of the community, the history of their contribution, and the beautiful culture they celebrate.

Every year, The Filipino American National History Society (FANHS) decides on a theme for the month of October. In 2018, to mark the events that changed the lives of Filipinx and Filipinx-Americans forever, the theme was “Turning Points.” October 2019 was dedicated to “Pinay Visionaries: Celebrating Filipina American Women.” It acknowledged the many Pinay contributions to history; Pinay/Pinoy is another word for Filipino/a. This year the theme is “The History of Filipino American Activism.” It highlights the many ways in which the Filipinx community has participated in social justice movements.

- 50th Anniversary of the Filipino American Far West Convention in Seattle
- 75th anniversary of The Battle of Luzon in World War II
- 90th anniversary of the Watsonville Riots of 1930

"I think with this month, it’s kind of recognizing that being a Filipino-American comes with all your experiences, all your stories, and it doesn’t really matter that you don’t fit into a certain category of being Filipino or a certain category of being an American because all those together make who you are.”

- Lord Mark Bautista, FUSO President

These clubs and associations are meant to serve the Filipinx community; however, those who are willing to listen to the stories and perspectives of others are welcome to participate.

Filipinx Heritage Month is a time of celebration and honor. It is a month dedicated to the many and continuing contributions of the Filipinx community to American culture and democracy. It is important to recognize the enrichment that the community has brought, as they are a vital part of the growth and development of the United States.

FUSO is an organization that focuses on two concepts in their meetings: building community and social justice. The members share their experiences with one another to highlight the similarities and differences of being Filipinx-American. FUSO holds events in which the organization’s participants discuss identity and celebrate their history.

- Donation drives for various BLM organizations and COVID relief in the Philippines
- Friendship Games
- Palarong Pinoy
- Kamayan Night

Spread by Tori Tanigawa/ The USD Vista; Content by Dominic Urquidez/ The USD Vista
Fallin’ for fall-inspired TV shows and movies
Get in the holiday mood with these picks from The USD Vista

ANNA VALAIK
ASST. A&C EDITOR

When thinking about the season of fall, many distinct images come to mind: pumpkin patches, orange and yellow leaves, warm apple cider, football games, and chilly days. Most of these pictures exist in places that undergo the changing of seasons. Sadly, for San Diegans, no such summer-to-fall transition happens, unless people count the introduction of pumpkin spice lattes at Starbucks as the beginning of fall. It’s hard to prepare for the new season in such a sunny surf town.

One way to get in the fall and Halloween mood, no matter where you are, is through TV shows and movies that highlight the season and holiday. Here is a list of various autumnal viewings that will satisfy anyone’s fall dreams.

If you are in the mood to laugh…

“Halloween” — The Office: Season 2, Episode 5

“The Office” never lacks in crazy antics, so this episode most definitely will have you giggling. Expect some practical jokes by Jim, Michael struggling to make a big office decision, and even a scene where someone smashes a pumpkin. This entire episode is set on Halloween day, and all the characters celebrate in different ways.

“Trick or Treat” — Curb Your Enthusiasm: Season 2, Episode 3

Larry David, the star of this comedy show and overall ridiculous human being, deals with a major Halloween issue in this particular episode of “Curb Your Enthusiasm.” He refuses to give Halloween candy to two girls without Halloween costumes, which results in disaster for him. David never backs down from expressing his emotions, so prepare for his funny rebuttals and constant frustrations with basic social conventions.

If you are in the mood to smile…

“Halloween Surprise” — Parks and Recreation: Season 5, Episode 5

If you are a fan of Leslie Knope and Ben Wyatt, this “Parks and Recreation” episode is for you. Leslie, the perkier, most fun-loving individual, enjoys the Halloween costume party until she learns that her boyfriend Ben may have a job offer outside of Pawnee. But, just as the title says, there is a lovely surprise at the end for this fan-favorite couple. Prepare for many laughs, but don’t be surprised if some tears and “aws!” come out, too.

“When Harry Met Sally”

Although not a Halloween movie, this film tells a beautiful love story that is set during fall. From friendship to a possible romance, viewers are taken along the progression of the title couple’s relationship.
in both Chicago and New York City. The iconic Central Park scene, where the grounds are covered in yellow, orange, and red leaves, is sure to transport you directly into autumn. It’s the perfect mix of love and laughter, and the charming setting makes it just that much better. Go meet Harry and Sally on the big screen; you won’t be disappointed.

If you are in the mood for a classic…

“Hocus Pocus”

No Halloween season is complete without the viewing of this comedy-fantasy film. “Hocus Pocus” revolves around three hilarious witches who were resurrected by a teenage boy in Salem, Massachusetts. Set on Halloween night, these witches are up to pure chaos and fun, casting spells and encountering a multitude of odd characters. Made in 1993, this film will take you on a journey back in time to the world of witchery.

“It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown” truly feels like a classic entertainment experience. This animated TV special is full of all your favorite characters: Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Sally, Linus, and Lucy. In this particular episode, we see the “Peanuts” gang doing all the typical Halloween festivities, but what is most important to them is discovering if the Great Pumpkin exists or not. It doesn’t get more festive than watching Charlie Brown celebrate Halloween.

If you are in the mood to scream…

“Trick of Treat, Freak” — Stranger Things: Season 2, Episode 2

This entire show is focused on freaky occurrences and thrilling characters, so it makes sense their Halloween episode would be even more eerie and mysterious. Set during the 1980s in Indiana, “Stranger Things” deals with the disappearance of a young boy and the supernatural events that occur after. In this particular episode, the boys dress up as the Ghostbusters and encounter the Upside Down, the Demogorgon, and other strange thrills.

“Halloween Part 1 and 2” — American Horror Story: Season 1, Episode 4

The Harmons, a family of three, move from Boston to Los Angeles, but they didn’t realize they moved into a haunted house. In this two-part episode, the Murder House’s spirits come out to play. The characters are seen carving pumpkins, discussing the origins of the holiday, and preparing for their Halloween party, but it’s not as uneventful as it sounds: murder, mystery, deceit, and crazy characters make these episodes extra spooky and terrifying. Be sure to have a blanket to cover your eyes because there will be some things you just may not want to see.

Prepare for some strange things in this TV show.

Photo courtesy of Stock Catalog/flickr.
Experience fall in San Diego

Get in the fall mood and the Halloween spirit with Carlsbad’s Instagram-worthy pumpkin patch and terrifying haunted corn maze

TAYLOR DEGUZMAN
A&C EDITOR

Fall in San Diego is nothing short of scorching hot weather, sunshine days, and the occasional switching from Converse to combat boots and crop tops to crop sweaters — the opposite of a traditional fall. Some stock up on Trader Joe’s seasonal treats while others drink all of the pumpkin spice lattes they can get their hands on. It appears that a trip to the Carlsbad pumpkin patch can put nearly anyone in the fall, Halloween spirit, especially if they are ready for one of the spookiest experiences of a lifetime.

From now until Nov. 8, The Carlsbad Pumpkin Patch, hosted by the infamous Carlsbad Strawberry Company, is hosting fall festivities to get everyone excited for the season and for Halloween. This is especially the place for those eager to take Instagrammable fall-themed pictures. The pumpkin patch is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. everyday, with their haunted corn maze open from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Upon entering the space, there is a big parking lot located to the right of the pumpkin patch, so no need to stress about finding parking. Signs are dispersed throughout the lot that read “Masks must be worn at all times.” There is a $5.00 admission fee for entrance; both cash and card are accepted. Immediately after entering, guests are met with all of the fall vibes one craves to experience in Southern California. Tents of pumpkins for sale, from small to medium and large sized pumpkins, occupy the beginning of the space. After passing through, one’s eyes are immediately drawn to the large pumpkin patch which seems to be the most popular attraction for photo ops.

The pumpkin patch is a wide space where one doesn’t have to worry about big crowds or worry about not having enough social distance. If one is looking for the perfect lighting and time to come and take pictures, come around 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. The sun is starting its descent around this time and lighting the sky with beautiful oranges and pinks that peek through the clouds and create a beautiful sight to enjoy, as well as a beautiful background for those Instagram-worthy pictures. The orange glow of the golden hour is key.

While walking around, some couples snag cute pictures sitting on the pumpkins growing from the ground. But beware, a few pumpkins that were growing appeared to be squashed after withstanding too many Instagram influencers sitting on them, trying to capture a photo that matched their pre-planned caption: “Will you be the pumpkin to my patch?” Nearing the back of the pumpkin patch are tall, bright sunflowers and a few haystacks that boast an aesthetic picture opportunity. Standing tall in the background of the sunflowers is the towering corn used for their infamous corn maze during the day, but haunted corn maze by night.

Located behind the entrance ticket booth are other booths to purchase tickets for the other activities located on the land. For $20.00, one

Con’t on Page 16
While waiting in line to get into the maze, one can hear the most horrifying shrieks and cries for help that add to the anxiety of waiting to go inside. The ambience of the waiting period before entering is sure to get one's adrenaline pumping.

There are signs that warn against the loud noises and strobe lights that occur in the maze, so if this is a main concern for someone, entry is not encouraged. Masks are absolutely mandatory during the entirety of the corn maze experience.

The attendant leads you into the entrance with a sign that says “Bates Motel,” and as one enters an immense eerie feeling enters the atmosphere: the corn maze is absolutely dark. The walkway isn't wide enough for a group of four to interlock arms and shield themselves from frights, so guests are forced to walk two by two.

What really sets the tone of what horror lies ahead is the red “IT” balloon floating in the middle of the walkway, signaling some frightening sights to come. Almost at every turn of the maze, someone in costume and a mask emerges from the corn, yielding the most terrifying screams one can muster. Unlike other haunted house experiences where one knows something could be hiding in corners of rooms or at the turn of walls, the corn maze allows for actors to jump and come out from anywhere there is corn, which is everywhere.

Running and chasing is a component of this maze that some individuals might not expect (wear comfortable shoes, preferably not white shoes since the floor is the kind of dirt that leaves shoes dusty, to avoid tripping and falling). It appears that when guests are moving slower than usual, actors will continue to follow the group and chase them in order to get them moving. One thing is for sure: individuals are sure to get their adrenaline and heart pumping with all that running and screaming at the same time. At one point in the maze, guests are cornered in by terrifying clowns; for those with a huge fear of clowns, this maze should not be taken lightly. Well thought out props and set pieces are dispersed all over the corn maze and bring forth a wide variety of spooky stories and experiences that guests experience at every twist and turn.

This experience is the most terrifying experience especially for the indecisive. Choosing one's own doom by picking between the left or right path is a difficult task. Go left and witness what looks like a crawling zombie baby on the floor because of the strobing, or go right and come wickedly close to Michael Myers.

The haunted corn maze is a drastic contrast from the sweet babies dressed up as pumpkins and cute families taking their annual fall family photos. One could describe the corn maze as “Children of the Corn” meets “Halloween” brought to life, yet more terrifying. The elements of a corn maze at night are eerie and haunting enough, but mixed with impressive props, actors in masks and horrifying costumes popping out of almost every inch of corn, is an experience sure to scare one right into the Halloween mood. If one is ready to star in their own real-life horror movie, this experience is made for them.

If the haunted corn maze seems too terrifying to conquer this season, the Carlsbad Pumpkin Patch offers the right environment and festivities to put guests in the perfect fall mood. Grab a group of friends, a significant other, or family, dress up in those oranges, reds, and browns, and take a few photos right before the sun goes down to fully immerse oneself in the fall season in San Diego.
Men’s Soccer blanks No. 2 Santa Clara in ‘04, Volleyball takes down No. 9 BYU in ‘14

**ERIC BOOSE
SPORTS EDITOR**

Toreros stun second-ranked Broncos, 2-0

In the early 2000s, the West Coast Conference (WCC) was somewhat of a men’s soccer powerhouse. The WCC had a whopping four representatives at the NCAA tournament in 2001, 2003, and 2004. And in that strong WCC, the University of San Diego had one of the stronger teams. The Toreros earned six straight NCAA tournament appearances between 1998 and 2003, winning the conference title in 1998, 1999, and 2000.

By 2004, San Diego was still a solid team, but their season was not off to the best start, and with only one win in their first four conference games by mid-October, they needed another one soon to stand a chance of making a seventh-straight postseason appearance. It was not the most ideal time to face off against the No. 2 team in the country.

Unlike the Toreros, the Santa Clara University Broncos were off to a great start to their 2004 season, winning 11 of their first 12 games, their only defeat coming at the hands of the fourth-ranked Cal Golden Bears.

In need of a win, and facing their toughest opponent of the season, the Toreros stepped up. San Diego continued to play solid defense, shutting out a Bronco attack that had scored 21 goals in its first 12 games. On the other hand, the Torero attackers did enough to get past a Bronco defense that had conceded only four goals. USD was the first team to put two past Bronco goalkeeper Kent Harkness in a single game that year.

The first half was largely a stalemate. Each team put a pair of shots on target, but both goalkeepers were up to the task and the game was scoreless after the first 45 minutes. The second half was a different story. Both the Broncos and Toreros created more scoring chances, and the Toreros capitalized on a pair of them. In the 66th minute, attacking midfielder Michael Caso pounced on a deflected shot in the penalty area, sloting it past Harkness to put the hosts ahead. A quarter of an hour later, the Toreros iced the game. Forward Scott Martin met Eric Pohl's delivery from a corner kick, heading the ball into the back of the net for San Diego's second. Torero goalkeeper Lance Friesz only ended up facing three shots all game, and he saved all three to record the shutout.

The victory, USD’s sixth ever against a top-five team, would end up being the high point of the 2004 season. The Toreros lost four of their next five games on their way to finishing the season with only seven wins, ten losses, and three draws. They missed the tournament for the first time since 1997, and would not make another postseason appearance until 2009.

**Con’t on Page 18**
And for the most part, 2004 was the beginning of the end of the WCC's time as a soccer powerhouse. After that year, 2009 was the only time four WCC teams have appeared in the same NCAA tournament. The only other time the WCC had three representatives at a tournament was 2018.

USD earns gutsy win over No. 9 BYU, 3 sets to 2

The University of San Diego rallied from a 2-1 deficit to win the final two sets and send No. 9 Brigham Young University back to Utah with their first loss in 2014 West Coast Conference play in a thrilling installment of a growing rivalry that has defined WCC volleyball for much of the last decade.

BYU joined the WCC in 2011, and either the Cougars or Toreros have claimed the conference title every year since 2012, even sharing the title in 2017. When these two teams meet on the court, there are almost always championship implications.

In 2014, San Diego was the defending champ, but BYU had the better record, entering the match with only two losses all year and riding an 11-game winning streak. But in front of the home crowd, the Toreros got off to the better start. A 7-2 scoring run midway through the first set put USD on the front foot, and despite a strong fightback from the Cougars, another strong scoring run led the Toreros to a 25-18 win.

The next two sets, the visiting team earned the results one would expect of the ninth-ranked team in the country. The Cougars held off USD in a closely contested second set, 25-22, to level the score before running away with a 25-17 win in the third set to grab a 2-1 lead.

But in 2014, the visitors from Utah had never beaten the Toreros in San Diego. And the Toreros had no intention of letting that change. The hosts flew out of the gates in the fourth set, earning a 7-4 lead and putting BYU on the back foot. And while the Cougars recovered to keep the set close, cutting San Diego's lead to as little as one point, the Toreros never lost the lead, earning a 25-20 win to set up a decisive fifth set.

With everything on the line and needing only 15 points to get it, the teams traded points early, before redshirt sophomore Lisa Kramer made a huge block to give the Toreros an 8-6 lead. That would be the turning point, as San Diego went on a 7-2 run to win the fifth set easily, and the match with it.

It was an impressive win, with seniors Alaysia Brown and Jayden Kennedy both recording career highs in kills — 22 and 16, respectively — and senior Jianna Bonomi putting up a double-double, with 26 assists and 14 digs. It also put the Toreros only one game on the way to a conference title.

For the most part, that has been the pattern of the rivalry between the two schools. BYU swept the Toreros in 2015, winning both matches 3-0 on the way to another title. USD finished second. Despite beating the then-No. 10 Cougars 3-0 in San Diego in 2016, the Toreros lost the rematch in Utah, and finished second behind BYU. The teams split the season series again in 2017, and that time split the title.

Last year, San Diego finally reclaimed sole possession of the WCC crown, and did so in style, earning their first season sweep of BYU since 2011 — the year the Cougars joined the conference.