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THE USD VISTA

Veterans Day not acknowledged on USD's academic calendar

This federal holiday hasn't been recognized in 35 years at USD

RACHEL CEPE
CONTRIBUTOR

Every year on Nov. 11, a majority of schools and work industries take the day off to recognize Veterans Day – a federal holiday that remembers the sacrifices of countless soldiers. However, USD has not recognized this day in over 35 years; the main reason as to why is simply because of planning problems.

Dr. Roger Pace Ph.D, who serves as both the Interim Vice Provost and the Chair of the University calendar, explained the challenges that come with recognizing Veterans Day on the calendar.

"It is an incredibly difficult holiday to take off. It moves around in the week," Pace said. "Veterans Day can be any day of the week from Sunday to Saturday. It makes it difficult to schedule and it comes just before Thanksgiving."

Trying to fit this holiday within the school calendar means that everything has to change as a result. This is because of the credit

hour policy, which sets the amount of minutes students should be in a classroom. Essentially, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday classes have to meet 41 times; while Tuesday and Thursday classes have to meet 28 times during a roughly 14 week semester.

Dr. Pace explained some of the ways Veterans Day could be integrated into the calendar.

"We could put Veterans Day in, but it would mean starting earlier in the summer and making people's summer vacations shorter," Pace said.

There's also an option that can include Veterans Day, however, by making the school year end later. The University Senate, which is made up of faculty and administrators mandated that the school year goes no longer than Dec. 20, which poses a huge scheduling concern for students who plan on going home and buying plane tickets for the winter holiday season. Trying to fit the federal holiday into the academic calendar means there would have to be some tradeoffs.

Despite the challenges, there



USD does not give students a day off for Veterans Day due to scheduling conflicts.

Photo courtesy of Brandon Day/Unsplash

is still a considerable amount of interest on campus to put the holiday on the calendar. Two years ago, the Student Senate passed a resolution asking to observe Veterans Day, but due to COVID-19, the process slowed down and shifted the calendars majorly. Since calendars for the school year are planned out three years in advance, students and the USD community will not see Veteran's Day marked on the calendar until 2023 at the earliest.

Another option would be to excuse Veterans from attending classes. This would allow for Veterans to attend celebrations and memorials with family while everyone else is required to attend class.

Although the day is not marked on USD's academic calendar, it still does not change the fact that it is a federal holiday. First-year, Sofia Cacho, does not have any close ties with the military, but expressed how shocked she was from observing Veterans Day for 12 years of schooling to being a freshman

See Veterans Day, Page 2

USD's first border fellowship

A new program designed to put projects that help border issues into action

YANA KOURETAS
FEATURE EDITOR

Over the years, USD, and particularly the Joan B. Kroc Institute of Peace and Justice (KIPJ), increased its presence in supporting the youth, women, and populations who need access to medical care, education, and other resources, from across the US-Mexico border and other similar areas susceptible to violence or crises. Although the university has a history of maintaining connections and facilitating community engagement in cross-border collaboration, the KIPJ



Each fellow received resources to manage common problems in the border region.

Photo courtesy of Guillermo Arias

launched a new program. The program intends to provide more space for local and cross-border

individuals to initiate plans and projects toward increasing peace, justice, and education about migration challenges.

Instituted in June 2021, the program, called "Border Fellows Program," will take place with one set of fellows for 12 months. Out of the competitive applicant pool of nearly 500 candidates, only

seven were chosen. Under this program, the fellows are given the agency and support to expand their ideas and initiatives geared towards tackling a particular issue in the border region.

The program distinguishes its selections between "young fellows" who are typically students or those who have newly entered the workforce, or have just launched their projects. The remaining individuals are classified just as border fellows. These are those who are already immersed in their professional lives, where they are working on their projects full time or have an established career.

Each month over the course of the fellowship, the young fellows receive a stipend of \$250, whereas the remaining individuals receive \$850 because their projects are likely already established, **See Fellowship, Page 8**

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NEWS

Scheduling conflicts do not allow for a day off on Veterans Day

Academic demands make it implausible to mark Veterans Day on the academic calendar

Veterans Day from Pg 1
in college and not having it off.

“I didn’t even know that we don’t get Veterans Day off. That’s usually a holiday every school observes, so it was shocking to me,” Cacho noted. “I do think that they (veterans) go through a lot and put a lot on the line so it’s honestly pretty important to acknowledge.”

Similarly, Jeremy Box, a current senior who served in the Marine Corps from 2010-2018 as an E5 sergeant and motor vehicle operator, was concerned about the absence of Veterans Day on the calendar.

“It’s the sacrifice that shouldn’t be taken for granted. I think a lot of veterans would appreciate having this day to relax, unwind, and reflect,” Box said. “It would be nice to have the university’s acknowledgement.”

There is no doubt that veterans sacrifice an incredible amount of time and even their lives to serve the United States. With some even pursuing a



It is important to remember and honor veterans on this federal holiday.

Photo courtesy of Thomas Loizeau/Unsplash

higher education like Box. Justin Henderson, a senior and also a veteran, expressed the value of Veterans Day and some of the goals entailed within the day;

it’s more than just a free day off. “We are considered a minority on campus, and a lot of it is because we are older adults that are coming through a private school

system,” Henderson stated. “The ultimate goal is to be accepted as veterans and seen as people, not on a pedestal or anything like that, not that we think we do. It’s

more of a recognition of who we are and what we bring to campus and bring to our student body. I think we do have a lot of value to add to the student body, which is why we go to school here.”

According to the Military and Veterans Program and Dr. Pace, 10 percent of USD’s population is military connected, which is a significant amount. These students bring in so many different stories and backgrounds with them that contribute to building community at USD.

The program is also hosting a ceremony and reception on Nov. 11. Not only does this event allow participants to recognize Veterans day, but it also connects Veterans with each other and with other students.

As Nov. 11 approaches, USD students are reminded of the significance of Veterans Day. Despite not having the day off, it is still important to respect veterans, as some of them are students here at USD.

On-campus heaters: keeping students warm?

As the weather becomes colder, USD students criticize their broken heaters

ABIGAIL CAVIZO
ASST. SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Many USD students who live in on-campus housing with no air conditioning such as the Vistas and San Antonio de Padua (SAPS), purchased fans to deal with the Southern California heat. Even those who did not have fans opened their windows for a nice breeze. However, as the end of the year approaches, the typical ‘Sunny San Diego’ weather changes. Currently, broken and barely functioning heaters leave USD students shivering in their dorm rooms. Blankets and puffy jackets can help, but it is merely a temporary solution. The scary truth is that with an influx of chilly weather, USD students have concerns about the temperatures of their dorms. USD students weigh in on how they’re dealing with Mother Nature’s cursed cold.

For sophomore Natalie Wright, the switch from living with a working heater in San Antonio de Padua as a freshman to living in the Vistas without heat has not been ideal.

“Last year I would leave the windows open so it would get airflow on the third floor, but when it would get cold in my apartment in SAPS, I could turn on the heater. In Cuyamaca when I go to do that, the heaters don’t turn on,” Wright expressed.

The change of weather usually brings about inevitable sicknesses, and Wright believes a freezing apartment isn’t helping that.



Outdated heating systems in the Alcalá Vistas apartments create confusion among students.

“There’s obviously many factors that contribute to people being sick right now, but I think it definitely could have something to do with the fact that our rooms never stay warm,” Wright said. “We keep the windows open for air circulation, but when we don’t have access to some kind of heating, it’s not good.”

Even on the off chance that the heater does work, they are confusing to turn on. USD sophomore, Taylor Morgan Longo, also lives in the Vistas. Similar to Wright, his apartment gets cold, especially at night. He stated that because the heating system is so outdated, he and his roommates wouldn’t know if the heater is broken or if they are using it wrong.

“First off, it’s old. I don’t know how to work it. Second, it might actually be broken. The knob was

ripped off and we had to put it back on,” Morgan Longo explained. “Maybe the knob we put back on could be messed up because now, we don’t know if it’s on or off.”

Responding to student concerns, Executive Assistant, Veronica Zavala, was the point of contact for Facilities Management and offered a comment on the matter.

“For standard (non-emergency) requests, the average response time is approximately one to three days,” Zavala confirmed.

However, both Wright and Morgan Longo believe that if there was any type of work order placed concerning the barely-working or broken heaters, it would not be prioritized.

“I’ve submitted a few work orders. Typically, they do it in somewhat of a timely manner. With something like this, I would

consider it somewhat of an emergency since it’s happening in basically every dorm,” Wright said.

Based on his own experience with USD work orders, Morgan Longo concluded, “I don’t think they would come to fix all the heaters.”

USD facilities addressed these student concerns. They confirmed that all buildings on campus are equipped with heating, but they switch the systems from cooling to heating modes across campus based on outside temperatures. Due to past experiences, facilities typically do not turn heating on in the residence halls until early to mid Nov. because of heat resurgences in late Oct.; but, this year, the cooler temperatures in Oct. caused them to activate the heat earlier.

A few students ordered work requests to USD Facilities

regarding the lack of heat in their residence halls. In response, USD Facilities has a temporary solution.

“In some cases we have issued portable heaters; in Camino/Founders, which was just recently renovated and the systems are new and still under warranty, we are working with the contractor to remedy the issue,” Zavala said.

In addition to the changing weather, USD Facilities established that COVID-19 also impacts their decision about the heating this year.

“In accordance with both the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) recommendations and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, we have been asked to ‘maximize fresh outside air’ in our building ventilation systems (which everyone has wanted, and what we have been doing),” Zavala said.

However, the fresh air circulating throughout the building brings a cold front inside, thereby negating the heaters. Even though they made the switch to turn on the heating system, USD Facilities wants to maximize fresh outside air, sacrificing indoor temperatures for those living in the residence halls.

As it gets closer to the coldest parts of winter, students can have hope that USD Facilities follows on their word to ensure that all the heaters work. On colder November nights, make sure to close windows and wear warm clothes to remain comfortable and healthy.

Pro-life demonstration on campus sparks debate

Controversy brews ahead of pro-life speaker's visit to USD

COLIN MULLANEY
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

As the bells of the Immaculata chimed noon on Oct. 21, several members of the USD Republicans Club and its subsidiary, Toreros 4 Life, gathered outside of Maher Hall for an opportunity to table and spread awareness about one of their primary issues of focus: abortion and the pro-life movement. Before their signs and banners were fully set up on display, members of the organization were being heckled and jeered. Many students passing by on their way to class decided to give demonstrators the finger, some taking pictures, and others shouting counter messages and obscenities.

With messages like “Pro-life = True Feminism,” it is easy to understand how the club’s activities might elicit strong reactions. Although abortion has been widely legal in the United States since 1973, when the Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade*, recent legislation like the Texas Heartbeat Act, combined with a majority conservative Supreme Court bench, have called its perpetuity into question.

According to CNBC, the U.S Supreme Court denied petitions by several abortion providers to block enactment of the Texas bill, leading some to fear that *Roe v. Wade* could be on shaky ground, should another abortion-related case appear before the same Court.

Perceptions that *Roe v. Wade* is in a precarious state might explain the pro-life movement’s increased activity, as well as heightened reactions by pro-choice students.



The Toreros 4 Life club tabling outside of Maher Hall ahead of pro-life speaker coming to campus on Nov. 11.

Photo courtesy of Alyssa Jackson

USD sophomore, Alyssa Jackson, the Human Dignity Chair for Toreros 4 Life, describes herself as a staunch proponent of the pro-life cause, and says she is all too familiar with negative reactions from those who disagree with her. In some sense, however, Jackson believes that stirring people up is an essential component of starting difficult conversations.

“Growing up conservative in a Democrat state, I constantly had to consider the other side’s opinions as I formulated my own opinions. Many students here [in California] have only been exposed to one side and have never had to consider the other side’s opinions,” Jackson stated. “So that is our main goal today: to get others to

consider the other side, the pro-life side of the abortion issue”

Jackson is mindful of the intensity surrounding the issue of abortion and the reasons why others might lean pro-choice. Even if she cannot change their minds, Jackson primarily hopes to ignite thought and discussion through her involvement in the pro-life movement.

“The best question to ask [pro-choice students] would be when life begins, in their opinion. Pro-choice individuals are very divided about this. They often have to think more about the issue when confronted with this question, which is important,” Jackson said.

One such pro-choice student is Jackson’s own roommate, USD sophomore, Kaelyn Faull. Faull is aware and

accepting of her roommate’s involvement in the pro-life movement, but respectfully disagrees, citing concerns for the autonomy of women.

“It should be the choice of every individual woman to decide what she wants to do with her body and what would be best for her life, and I don’t think that anybody else should get to make that decision but her,” Faull stated.

Faull also recognized the significance of this pinnacle moment in history, regarding the current state of the abortion debate and *Roe v. Wade*.

“I am definitely concerned that *Roe v. Wade* will be overturned, because I think that court case was a monumental moment for women’s rights and having it taken away seems like a huge

step backwards. Also, outlawing abortions will not make them stop, it will just make them so much more dangerous for the woman who still decides to go through with that,” Faull expressed.

In addition to demonstrations like last Thursday, Toreros 4 Life has plans for more events and opportunities for discussion. On Nov. 11, USD Republicans will be hosting speaker, Kristan Hawkins, founder and director of Students for Life.

Although Faull does not align herself with the message, she recognizes the value of engaging in an open dialogue.

“I personally don’t see any problem with having a pro-life speaker on campus. I feel like an important part of a healthy campus environment is being able to have these conversations with people you might not necessarily agree with, as long as we are able to be respectful and understanding of the other person. Although I am sure there are many people who will be very upset to see that we are having a pro-life speaker here, which is really the only thing that worries me about it,” Faull said.

USD, like any other community, contains a wide variety of thoughts and opinions regarding current issues and their implications. Despite these differences, it remains possible for students to engage in dialogue and compromise, as demonstrated by Jackson and Faull.

Although conflicts will inevitably arise over values and public policy, methods of engaging the other side, such as the Toreros 4 Life tabling, do not inherently have to take on an uncivil form of discourse.

San Diego Press Club releases winners for Excellence in Journalism Awards

Many members of USD Student Media are recognized for their work

KARISA KAMPBELL
NEWS EDITOR

The San Diego Press Club released their list of winners for their 48th annual Excellence in Journalism Awards and the University of San Diego’s very own student media placed across the board. The awards

are determined and judged by working professionals in the real world of print and broadcasting.

In order to decide the winners, members of 15 journalism professional organizations from around the country came together from places such as San Francisco and New York.

Many students in USD’s student media won Excellence in

Journalism Awards at this year’s event. Taylor DeGuzman, won third-place for a news article titled, “California Legislature Grants 1.4 Million Dollars Towards Tracking Asian American Hate Crimes.” In addition, Baylynn Brunetti received first-place for her opinion writing in her piece, “The Newfound Elitism Surrounding COVID-19 Vaccines.”

USDtv also received several awards. Alexandra Karos won first-place for TV General News in her piece, “Public Safety Sexual Assault Rhetoric.” Aidan Jacobs Walker received first-place in TV Sports Reporting for his profile of USD basketball player, Yavuz Gultekin. And finally, Eli Roberts won second-place in TV Feature for his coverage on

the musical artist, “keni can fly.”

The Excellence in Journalism Awards have a good reputation and honest track record making them a reliable source when it comes to judging quality journalism.

Congratulations to the Toreros recognized by the San Diego Press Club for their hard work and dedication. It is an honor to be recognized by the SDPC.

The USD Vista

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EDITORIAL

Abolishing Greek life becomes more realistic

Fraternities continue to come under fire for sexual assault allegations

MEGAN VALADEZ
ASST. OPINION EDITOR

Content warning: the following mentions incidents of sexual assault.

Violence against women is a men’s issue.

I walk to my car with my keys between my fingers, my pepper spray ready, and my full Hydro Flask in hand. I look under my car before entering and lock the doors right away. I look over my shoulder every 40 seconds when I am walking alone. I always hold my own drinks and never leave them unattended. I refuse to join a sorority because I cannot stand Greek life and the negativity it perpetuates, such as exclusivity, racism, sexism, and sexual violence. I refuse to go to events or places where there are large groups of men, specifically college men, because I am scared that something sinister will happen to me.

I am not the only one that thinks like this. Women are seen as second-class citizens. Women are constantly seen as sexual objects for men. Women are not safe walking alone. Women are not safe on college campuses.

All over the nation, reports of sexual violence pile up every day, but now, college students are organizing protests that can not be ignored. National surveys have shown that one in four undergraduate women are sexually assaulted during their college years, although some believe those numbers are underreported.

On Oct. 21, USC’s Sigma Nu fraternity was identified as the perpetrator of sexual assault and drugging other students on campus. The main orchestrator? The president of the chapter. How can women feel safe when a fraternity’s leader is drugging and assaulting women?

On Sept. 27, six women filed reports of being drugged at Sigma Nu to campus Public Safety which prompted the alleged suspension of an individual and the identification of another suspect: Ryan Schiffilea.

Not surprisingly, USC found it appropriate to send out mass emails informing women on how to prevent being assaulted, as if it is that easy.

“If a sexual assault occurs at USC, a critical service we provide is the confidential advocacy and counseling through Relationship & Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP). It allows for individuals who have experienced harm or who have seen harm committed



USC students protest at the Sigma Nu house after drug and assault cases.

to seek confidential support and assistance,” USC wrote.

It seems that USC is placing the burden of preventing rape on the survivor, not the rapist. We saw this last spring on our very own campus when a student came forward about being sexually assaulted by a fraternity member.

On Mar. 29, 2021, USD’s Gender Equity and Sex Positivity Club (GESP) called Public Safety out on their website that included victim-blaming language in relation to sexual assault.

“Watch your drinks and don’t give anyone an opportunity to spike them,” the USD email read. “Don’t go out under the influence of alcohol or drugs,” PSafe advised.

The website had not been updated in ten years and included information regarding how not to be raped.

In response, PSafe removed victim-blaming language from their website by replacing the “Rape Prevention” section with a link to USD’s on-campus resources. It’s no shock that this was changed only after they were called out for using this language.

USD students responded by holding a protest, planned by GESP, on campus with requests to expel the rapist, introduce new policies, such as Zero-Tolerance Policies, remove the fraternity from campus, and to implement an in-person consent education program. Huge numbers of students turned out

Photo courtesy of @polinapastt/Instagram for this protest, which included many people who had been sexually assaulted themselves.

Similarly, USC students gathered together to protest in front of the Sigma Nu fraternity house, where they taped posters to the walls outside with phrases such as “#MeToo,” “Silence is Violence,” “Justice for all women,” “Expel rapists,” “End victim blaming” and so many more.

Campus sexual assault survivors and their allies are speaking out in growing numbers because the crime appears to be as pervasive as ever and the climate to fight it is getting worse. Those who report sexual misconduct face retaliation for doing so because it “ruins the image” of assaulters, as well as Greek organizations.

Many other women came forward on social media to discuss how their sexual assaults were disregarded by school officials, and how they still carry the trauma with them every day.

It’s funny how universities such as USD and USC, pride themselves on being progressive institutions of change, yet no change occurs when it comes to sexual assault. Women still fear being taken advantage of by their male classmates, they still cover their drinks or worry if they’re showing too much skin at a party, and they still have to deal with the pervasive rape culture that exists at these universities.

Sure, USD is trying to do



USD students gathered together last semester to protest against rape culture.

better, but the key word there is “trying.” From what I have seen, there have been no drastic changes or tangible efforts from USD this semester. We need more than trying, we need change.

I am tired of students having to take on the responsibility of telling their institutions that they are not doing enough. I am tired of school administrators placing the responsibility of preventing rape onto women instead of holding the rapists accountable. It’s not fair that women have to walk around campus with the possibility that they might have to face their assaulter.

I want abolition. Institutions thinking they are “reforming” their policies and procedures is not enough. These two instances are just a few of the millions of sexual assaults that happen every day all around the world on college campuses, most of which go unnoticed or unreported.

I don’t want to feel scared walking around campus at night, or even during the day. I don’t want to miss out on events or get-togethers because I fear men. USD is not doing enough to eradicate “rape culture” on campus. The “training” we have to do every year is easily skippable and tells women “here’s how not to get raped.”

Instead, in-person training would also force men to listen instead of skip through lazily put together PowerPoint slides. I think the biggest call for action would be to believe survivors

Marissa Esteban/The USD Vista and take all cases seriously. Once we stop second guessing victims and start believing that they did not “deserve it” or “ask for it,” we can start making our campuses safer.

When universities do not punish men for their actions, it shows others that there are no consequences, therefore they are free to do as they please. Maybe, if USD and other institutions held men accountable for their actions, people would see how damaging it can be to their lives, and would tell men “Hey, there are real consequences for my actions.”

Instead of universities being “disgusted by the violence that took place” they need to realize that there is no place for abhorrent misconduct, nor a culture that supports it on campuses. They need to take action instead of releasing statements that mean nothing.

Whether a woman, a man, or a person of different identity, sexual assault should never be tolerated. Not on a college campus, not anywhere.

Violence against women is a men’s issue. Gender-based violence is upheld by every man who fails to intervene. It is upheld by every man who chooses to protect a rapist. It is upheld by every man who chooses to look the other way. It is upheld by the institutions that protect our abusers and rapists. Stop protecting rapists and hold men accountable for their actions.

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.

OP-ED

A warmer planet is not a happy planet

Going green is in – sustainable living as a college student

JESSICA MILLS
CONTRIBUTOR

From the unrelenting hurricanes hitting the U.S. coastline to wildfires spreading around the world, the effects of climate change are becoming more and more concerning. Our new reality consists of species dying off, drought, temperature increases, and a rise in hunger and poverty.

As we shift our focus towards the hope of ending covid, it's also important to acknowledge the necessity of taking action against climate change. Many sustainability movements were put on hold because of the increasing popularity of single use products during the pandemic. As restrictions continue to lift and we begin living our "new normal," pay attention to your daily habits and ask yourself: "How can I do better?"

According to un.org, we have "11 years left to prevent irreversible damage from climate change." Ignoring choices surrounding sustainability is no longer a luxury we can afford. There's no "Planet B" and no backup option if life is not

survivable on Earth. The next 11 years will require vigilant change in daily habits, but as college students, we have the means to ensure a survivable future exists.

Ditch the red solo cup!

I know, red solo cups are typically a given in party scenes, especially in college. They're convenient for various games – they avoid the breaking of glass, and make it easy to refill your beverage of choice. But these cups are no friend to the environment. According to supcups.com, a supplier of reusable cups, "plastic cups take 450-1000 years to break down in landfill or the ocean." So, one fun night out can affect our world up to 1000 years later. Scary!

Instead, opt for bringing a reusable cup for your party, game day, or whatever celebration you engage in with your drink. The USD Torero Store offers great options for reusable cups, many coming in sets so you can share with friends and family. Not only do you help cut down on litter, you also increase your school spirit. What an effective solution for yourself and Mother Nature!

Wear a reusable mask!

Whether you hate them or love them, let's face it: masks are a part of our lives, especially on campus. The CDC recommends changing your mask daily, but that's 365 masks to go through per year. After those masks are thrown away, they too end up in the overflowing landfills and water sources where animals mistake them for food.

Save the surgical masks for the healthcare workers, who have the proper protocols to dispose of them safely. Switching to a reusable mask cuts down on the cost of rebuying the same product, as well as the added materials needed for transportation and packaging. Best of all, there's no need to dispose of the masks after they're worn; throw them in the wash and they're good as new!

I can admit I've been a victim of buying things I truthfully did not need in the past. Now those items sit at the back of my closet, waiting to be worn. So, when it comes to any purchase, it's important to ask yourself: "Will I actually wear this?" Because many reusable masks don't offer the filter that surgical

masks have, it's critical to also do your research before making a purchase. The filters help filter out bacteria and potential viruses. So, when you're browsing through the thousands of reusable mask options now offered, read the fine print to make sure the mask contains a filter. Remember, we're trying to avoid any unneeded waste.

Turn off that engine!

It's no secret that cars contribute to the majority of air pollution, which is why sitting in your car before class, letting your engine run is not a good idea. As someone who knows very little about cars, I do know this also adds unnecessary wear and tear to the engine, which then adds wear and tear to your wallet with extra trips to the mechanic and gas station. By shutting off the engine, you cut down on toxins released into the atmosphere and that are eventually inhaled in your lungs. Want to take it one step farther? Riding your bike to campus prevents adding any pollutants to the environment.

I like listening to music in my car before class as much as the next person, but adding more

toxins to the air is not worth it.

Say bye to fast fashion!

Interested in decreasing your consumer footprint? Choosing to shop secondhand is a great way to be kind to the environment and your wallet. Along with decreasing consumption in unnecessary items, thrifting minimizes the materials used in the transportation and packaging process.

Facebook Marketplace, local thrift stores, and Etsy are among the numerous outlets that provide access to secondhand furniture and clothing. These options cut down on the textile waste and pollutants the fashion industry contributes to. Places like Facebook Marketplace and Craigslist also offer the option to negotiate pricing, which is exciting for most college students.

So, not only do you and your fabulously furnished home get to look great with unique finds, you get to help save the world too. As the leaders of the future, it is up to us to work together to ensure our planet exists for generations to come.

Taking your own path

Your journey is unique and should not be compared to others

MARIA SIMPSON
ASST. OPINION EDITOR

Congratulations Toreros! You've made it more than halfway through the semester. As the end of the fall semester draws near, we are all facing heavy work loads and momentous occasions: grades are coming out, class registration for next semester has begun, sports teams are reaching the end of their seasons, and students are working hard on their midterms. This is an incredibly important time in the school year, but it is also a time that can have a huge mental impact on people in a number of ways. One of these impacts which affects many students is comparing oneself to those around them.

At times like this, when academic success is being heavily measured and discussed, it is so easy to compare your own grades and achievements to those around you. I know that I often do. GPAs, grades, and test scores can become one's whole world sometimes. It is only natural to want to see how you stand compared to your friends and peers, but taking

that observation and elevating it to become a totally unachievable standard is unhealthy. We see the success of others and decide that if we are not at that same level at that exact same point in time, that is failure.

I fell into this trap for such a long time. I always strived for the highest grades on tests, the best GPA, and I tried to be the most involved and hardworking person so that I was not sinking below the standard that I had built up in my head. At times, I still fall back into this mindset. But when I take a step back and remind myself that I am a unique individual, going on my own path, it seems ridiculous to base my success on people who are different from me in so many ways.

Every single person is on their own unique individual path in life. Because we are all so different in so many wonderful ways, it is impossible to adequately compare one to another.

It is so important for everyone to take their journey at their own pace, and not worry about if they might seem like a late bloomer next to others. Sometimes, it takes longer for

that internship to happen, for that job opportunity to open up, or to finally land that research position, and there is nothing wrong with that. In fact, there are many examples of celebrities who finally found success in their fields much later in life than what we tend to think is typical.

Stan Lee did not make it big as a comic book author until he created Fantastic Four when he was 39 years old, opening what would be a huge

Because we are all so different in so many wonderful ways, it is impossible to adequately compare one to another.

window of opportunity for him.

Vera Wang did not begin pursuing a full-time career as a designer until later in life and was 40 when she launched her hit bridal collection that brought her to fame.

Leslie Jones of SNL fame was a fairly unknown stand-up comedian for years and was not hired as a cast member of Saturday Night Live until she was 47; just a few years later, she received an Emmy Award.

Our culture and the media tend to celebrate young success, which is no doubt impressive,

but perhaps the people who have the courage to pursue such success later in life, by following the path that is best suited for them, should be more recognized for their perseverance. As these examples and many others like them show, you never know what life has in store for you or what great destinations your path will take you on, so it is best to take the ride and enjoy it, rather than thinking only how quickly other people are moving along

and their accomplishments in that moment.

Comparing yourself to others can hinder your own journey. Sometimes we tend to drive ourselves crazy attempting to measure up to others. We begin to slowly tumble downhill when our thoughts become invaded with how our grades, extracurricular achievements, appearance, social life, and more compared to those around us. These thoughts can turn into self-deprecating and even hateful attitudes towards ourselves. But this comparison is unfair.

It is completely normal to feel pressured by others to mirror their steps in life or to feel like you are falling behind. Just remember, that even if that pressure is coming from someone with the same major or career path, your journey to that destination is always going to be different from theirs and whether you arrive before or after them, your achievements still hold worth. Every person is beautiful just as they are and we all have potential. It may just take longer to unlock it for some than others.

Life is a journey for every one of us. And no one is doing it perfectly. But by having the courage to take the path that works best for you, you are doing it right. As you look at grades this semester and consider your involvement and achievements, remember that as long as you worked your hardest and you are doing what you love, that is enough.

Never be afraid to follow your own path, even if it looks different from someone else's. We have so much time ahead of us to discover where our passions lie and what that final destination looks like.

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.

LET'S ALL JUST CHILL

This is the time of year when everyone gets stressed. With midterms just finishing up, and finals right around the corner, sometimes it can all be a bit overwhelming. Thankfully there are many ways to find relaxation in the little things, especially in San Diego. Look into some places to help you find your chill.

If being active helps you blow off steam...

Located on Mission Beach, The Plunge San Diego is a public swimming pool that offers not only a lap pool, but a floating obstacle course (perfect for racing friends and bringing back a little childhood nostalgia), a sauna and a gym area. Swimming laps for the day costs \$15, but to just use the sauna and gym area is \$5.

Hiking is a popular activity in San Diego and can really help to take your mind off of work and school when necessary. Ho Chi Minh Trail hike is a steep hike leading down to a La Jolla beach, but offers great views and is not too long. Two hour parking can be found along the road.



Marissa Esteban/ The USD Vista



Olivia Synek/ The USD Vista



Charlotte Ferguson /The USD Vista

If a road trip puts you at ease...

For a scenic drive, take the Pacific Coast Highway up to Laguna for the day. Blast some music or roll the windows down for the sea breeze. With lots of shops, cafes, and beaches, the hour drive to Laguna is well worth it.

If fall has you wishing for a change of colors and colder weather a trip to Julian is a must. This road trip is about an hour and fifteen minutes up into the inland mountains of San Diego. The quaint town is known for its pies and crisp weather this time of year.

The Algodones Dunes are sand dunes just a two and a half hour drive away, for an instagram worthy experience. Grab some friends for some early morning bonding and to catch the sunrise for those pictures or just to experience the magical, vast dunes.



Olivia Synek/ The USD Vista

If the sunset helps you to feel calm...

The classic sunset spot, and rather obvious choice, is Sunset Cliffs in Point Loma. It is one of the best places to watch the sunset and catch a glimpse of some late afternoon surfers. Make sure to bring chairs if you plan to sit for the sunset as it is a bit rocky, or just walk along the bluffs for a scenic stroll.

A lesser known spot for some sunset appreciation is the national veteran's memorial, Mount Soledad. Located on top of a hill in La Jolla, Mount Soledad overlooks the ocean and is a great vantage point for the best sunset views.

If you want a little bit more entertainment while you watch the sunset, Torrey Pines Gliderport in La Jolla gives not only a great view of the ocean, but also the new or rather experienced hand-gliders. The fun colors of the gliders fly through the air as golden hour peaks.



Charlotte Ferguson /The USD Vista

If curling up with a book takes your mind off things...

Reading a good book can be a great way to de-stress. The Garden of the Sea is located behind the Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (KIPJ) building, where it overlooks Mission Beach and Mission Bay. There are benches as well as grassy spaces to lay blankets and dive into your favorite book.

The San Diego Central library is a beautiful spot with impressive architecture which offers spaces for settling in with a good read or finding new ones. Located downtown, the library has a few different rooms with comfy lounge chairs and large desks. Study rooms are available with a San Diego Central Library Card (which is free with your student ID, make sure you get one online before you go) on a first come first serve basis. The building is eight stories and the higher you go the quieter it gets, and the eight floor has three-story windows allowing for lots of light and great views. Underground parking is free for the first two hours and \$1.25 for every fifteen minutes after that.

Special tip: Check out page 10 for The Vista's fantasy book recommendations!

FEATURE

How to make your bank *Personal finance basics for college students*

ANNA VALAIK
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

There’s no denying that college students may not be the smartest with their money, or at least have not been budgeting it correctly. From one too many overpriced coffees or excursions to the mall, many students spend too much on frivolous things.

However, college is also a time where most people learn how to be responsible with money, set up bank accounts, and open up credit cards. During these learning experiences, people might fail to understand the importance of personal finance.

So, if you’re dying to learn more or just want to stop staring at your bank statements in utter confusion, listen up.

Dr. Priya Garg, Ph.D., from USD’s finance department, offered professional advice about managing one’s own personal finance.

Keep reading to learn everything you need to know about credit cards and the importance of one’s credit score from Dr. Garg.

What is a credit card?

A credit card allows you to borrow funds from a bank for your own spending. You owe money and will have to pay back what you borrowed each month. When paying each month, there

is a minimum balance that you must pay if you don’t want to get charged interest. If you don’t pay before the due date, you can expect to have to pay late fees, have interest compiling on your bill, and possibly do damage to your credit score. Late fees and interest charges slowly add up over time, and there’s no reason to pay them if you don’t have to.

A credit card differs from a debit card because you use your own money when paying with a debit card. A credit card’s funds are not your own personal funds; they are the bank’s funds, which they are lending to you.

Although this may sound daunting, there are some advantages to opening a credit card. You will build your credit score and possibly get cashback to make other purchases. Your credit score is vital because it can bring you good opportunities in the future, like taking out loans and letting banks know you are a trustworthy spender.

How to be smart with a credit card

Your credit score measures your creditworthiness. Essentially, it’s a numerical expression of how good of a borrower you are. Your credit score is based on your credit history, which notes your repayment history, levels of debt, and the number of open accounts. Your credit score will become

extremely important as you get older and want to take out a loan; it will determine what loans you can get and the interest rates you will pay. Opening up a credit card and using it responsibly will help increase your credit score.

Check out free websites online like Chase and Credit Karma to see where your score stands. **Learn when your due date is for paying your credit card**

There’s nothing worse than forgetting about paying your monthly bank statement. The days get away from you, and this one task can easily slip your mind. One way to avoid this awful feeling is to put calendar reminders 2-3 days before the actual due date. This way, you will pay it off on time and avoid all those crazy late fees or interest charges. Autopay is also another option for those who tend to be especially forgetful. However, just make sure to link this payment option to a card with enough money on it. You don’t want to link it to a card that could have insufficient funds.

Keep your total credit card balance 5-7% off your credit card limits

Credit cards come with a spending limit, which you cannot exceed. At the end of the month, you don’t necessarily want to have spent 99% of all your spending money. Instead, aim to spend about 5-7% of your limit to

secure you will be able to pay it off. Also, it’s better to minimize your spending because these statements are sent to those who determine your credit score. If you constantly reach your limit every month, this may indicate that you are a big spender and struggle to budget your money.

Pay off your credit card in smaller increments

To avoid having a giant bill to pay off each month, try paying throughout the month. This way, you know you will always have the funds to pay your bills. Also, it takes the weight and stress off that monthly due date.

Always pay the full credit card balance

There’s no need to wait it out and constantly only pay your minimum balance. You will incur interest, and the bill will just keep increasing as time goes on. Only paying \$30 of the \$200 spent in November will mean you have that much more to pay on December’s bill. Although it’s easy to pay the minimum and just try to forget about the rest, this isn’t recommended. This is not a good habit to fall into because it signals to the credit card company that you may not be responsible with your money.

Understand your minimum payment

Paying less than the minimum is considered a missed payment, which is not good. Also, budgeting

to stay at your minimum amount will only garner you more interest. Instead, think of your minimum payment as guidance rather than the absolute rule.

Why understanding your credit card is important

Credit cards have lifelong implications. Although they may seem like a free-pass to spend money, they can also lead to people spending money they don’t have. Because credit scores don’t affect many college students in their daily lives, they can be forgotten about. However, working on your credit score right now will pay off in the end. It’s hard to bring up a credit score, but it’s easy to destroy it.

So, learn the basics of credit, apply these small tips to your financial life, and you will already be ten steps ahead of your peers.

If you want to learn more about personal finance, there will be a workshop on Nov. 11 surrounding the psychology behind how we view money. The Money & Me workshop will be held by Dr. Garg from 12:30 - 2 p.m. at Mother Rosalie Hill Hall room 131. Food is provided, and it’s Passport/Compass approved. If this isn’t enough on finance, register for Dr. Roccató’s Financial Literacy class (FINA-294) in the spring. It’s geared towards non-Business majors, so it’s perfect for those looking to get to know their money better.

USD fellows break barriers near the border

USD’s first cross-border fellowship program to combat border region issues

YANA KOURETAS
FEATURE EDITOR

Fellowship from Page 1

established, meaning that they work on their ideas, daily, in their full time jobs.

Additionally, a group of 10 other individuals were selected as border allies, in recognition that they also had notable ideas for cross-border work, but did not make the selective group of the seven fellows. USD and the Border fellows program will continue to offer them encouragement and support in hopes that, down the line, they can be instated in another class of fellows.

Melissa Floca, program officer for cross-border initiatives, and the organizer for this program, started at USD in 2020. Floca emphasized that it was important to the program that a diverse range of individuals were chosen because of the vast set of problems that need to be addressed around and at the border regions of the U.S.

“We wanted to build a network for Kroc IPJ of people who are working in this space

and to think about how we can use that network to create more capacity in the cross-border region to respond to moments of crisis, to reduce vulnerability, and to build an evidence base in terms of what does and doesn’t work,” Floca said.

The problems that any region may typically encounter are exacerbated in the border areas at the moment, due to migration conflicts and the border’s closure for extended periods of time, among other things. Yet the fellows emulate hope and ambition as they kindle their unique projects in this region.

“There are so many serious challenges that the border region is faced with at the moment,” Floca said. “It has really been a bright spot for me to see how each one of our border fellows uses their own passions and talents from whatever space they are working in – whether it’s a factory, an academic institution, or an NGO – they find a way to contribute something to our community.”

Three of the fellows, Floca notes, are working towards supplying job opportunities for the populations who



Bretón makes the reusable bags.

Photo courtesy of Alina Bretón

reside in the border regions.

Alina Bretón, one of the young fellows, is among this group. She instituted an on-the-job training site for migrants who come to her factory looking for a means of employment. Bretón helps oversee and train a different group of workers every two months, building sustainable work practices with each set of workers. In the factory, Bretón trains the workers to sew reusable bags for businesses to purchase and give to clients. When distributed, the bags include information about migration challenges in the region. During her program, the migrants have access to legal and

health services resources - that are lacking in most occupations in the border regions.

Bretón relayed her source of inspiration as creating a service that would act as a stop on the journey towards employment and acquiring new skills.

“Everything started because I was thinking of how I can make a difference or how I can help others. I thought, ‘what if I can do training and teach these people how to use the machines and sew?’” Bretón said. “Then they can work here or maybe get employed in another place.”

Bretón has remained stationed across the border throughout the duration of the fellowship program and expressed her initial feelings of disconnection to the other border fellows and USD. However, the people that she trains and sees everyday radiate contentment in a situation that might outwardly be viewed as a hardship.

“They come here and they are dancing, and also when they are leaving they are dancing and happy,” Bretón said. “When the first person made the first bag, everyone was like ‘YEAH!’”

Aside from Bretón’s work, others funnel resources and direction to helping young people – that don’t have careers or are not in school – receive guidance to get back on their feet towards adulthood. One of the projects focuses on educating and training health professionals, nurses, doctors, and nutritionists to gain the skills to provide trauma-informed care for health and mental health issues.

Another locally impactful project is one that helps a community park rehabilitation plan. Finally, one of the fellows also created a pop-up educational exhibit that travels to different middle schools in Tijuana.

In just a few short months, the fellows have already made regional impacts. This initiative presents itself at an opportunistic time where border issues are heightened, and will set an example for others who are eager to delve into projects that will support vulnerable populations.

The application for those who want to apply will come out early in Spring 2022. It will be available on the website, sandiego.edu/peace/border.

ARTS & CULTURE

The Adele addiction

USD students discuss her new single, upcoming album, and massive influence



Adele's cover art for her new single titled, "Easy On Me" (left) beside her 2015 GRAMMY award-winning "Album of the Year" cover, "25" (right).

Photos courtesy of @Adele/Instagram

ISABELLA SANCHEZ
ASST. A&C EDITOR

Almost everyone has belted the song "Rolling In The Deep" whenever it plays. It's a song that people can't help but sing along to. Adele's powerhouse voice and powerful ballads that navigate complex, emotional terrain make the artist one-of-a-kind in the industry.

She completely deviated from the typical pop-centric music being made at the rise of her popularity in 2010 and carved her own mark on music.

Adele's influence stretches over millions of people, which is all due to her emotional tracks. For some USD students, Adele's influence can be seen in blasting "Someone Like You" after a breakup or just simply the emotional journey they embark on when listening to one of her

albums.

For these reasons, fans were anxiously awaiting Adele's comeback for six years, which she kicked off with her newest single "Easy On Me."

For USD sophomore, Emma Shea, Adele's massive fanbase can be attributed to the fact that her music stands out from other artists.

"Her music is very honest and relatable because she puts out anthems that people can relate to," Shea said. "It is personable to her yet everyone can relate to it, and I think that is why she has such a big fan base."

Her hits like "Hello" and "Turning Tables" explore deep themes, ranging from relationships with others, relationship with oneself, and of course the topic that Adele is a master at unpacking – heartbreak.

These themes are universal: almost everyone has had their fair share of messy breakups and struggles within their own relationships.

Adele's recent release, "Easy On Me," touches upon divorce, an extremely personal topic to the singer.

USD first-year, Isaac Soto, weighs in on if the icon's newest single is a hit or miss.

"I love her new song," Soto shared. "Even though some might not like it, we have seen this stripped back, mellow sound in other artists such as Taylor Swift, Lorde, and Lana Del Rey."

Soto shared how he believes this music genre has evolved.

"This style emerged post-covid, kind of representing a simplistic culmination of intense emotion based on the grueling time we all had alone with our own thoughts," he said.

In true Adele fashion, "Easy On Me" got students in their feels and was on repeat, especially for Shea.

"Every time I listened to it, it just kept getting better and better," Shea said. "I loved how raw and emotional the song was and I feel like everyone can relate to the whole concept which is about basically giving people the benefit of the doubt and giving them a chance."

Shea appreciated Adele touching on such significant themes throughout this song.

"This is such an important message at a time when people are always at each other's throats for the smallest things," Shea said. "The song encourages people to go easy on each other."

For Soto, the emotional ballad resonated with him on a personal level.

"As I was closeted in a small, conservative town for most of my life, the line 'I was still a child, I didn't get the chance to feel the world around me,' struck something vulnerable in me," Soto admitted.

"I feel like it represented so much of the sadness and frustration I felt, not feeling like I could be myself as a kid, or have that story book love story I saw in the media."

Adele's comeback not only involves this new single but also an entire album release on Nov. 19 titled 30.

This means it's time to stock up on tissues sooner rather than later. Soto knows the emotional rollercoaster that comes with listening to Adele's albums.

"Historically, a lot of Adele's music rocked the world emotionally, and I'm not trying to be in a depressed state right

before the holidays, so I'm in a conflicted state," Soto said. "Regardless, I am eager and excited to see what Adele releases and how it will impact the music industry."

Soto also noted how long it's been since Adele has been in the music scene.

"It feels like a resurgence of our childhood as she is finally coming back after what feels like a decade," Soto said. "Overall, it's very nostalgic, but in a good way."

But for a lot of her fans, the upcoming album will be good no matter what, since the wait for new music has been too long.

"I've been waiting forever," Shea said. "The whole time during quarantine everyone was coming out with new music and she never did."

The time couldn't come soon enough for Shea.

"I love how she did it on her own time, but at the same time, I was anxiously awaiting her return," Shea said. "I already know it is going to be better than all her previous music."

It is no secret that the Adele addiction is real. With her emotionally-charged music and its ability to connect on a personal level with so many people, Adele is one of the biggest musical influences of our generation. USD students can always count on Adele to bring them on an emotional rollercoaster.

So, no matter what the album entails, it is certain that students are going to have to emotionally prepare and brace themselves for the singer's devastating heartbreak anthems.

However, that's not always a bad thing.



Adele sings out passionately on stage for all her fans during her last tour.

Photo courtesy of @Adele/Instagram

Fantasy novels: the ultimate escape

What should you read next? A curated guide of fantasy book favorites

JESSICA MILLS
CONTRIBUTOR

The immersive new worlds that are embedded in fantasy novels allow for an engaging break between classes, homework assignments, and countless hours of studying. While cult classics like “Harry Potter,” “Twilight,” “Game of Thrones,” and “Narnia” will always be cherished, fantasy is an ever-evolving genre, with new concepts on magic, politics, love, and even free-will. It offers a deep dive into the unthinkable for day-dreamers and creative minds alike. Fantasy authors continuously turn up the heat, providing incredible titles for a whimsical break in dense textbook reading. So, if you’re looking for the ultimate escape from reality, here is a guide to navigate the fantasy reading world.

“A Court of Thorns and Roses” by Sarah J. Maas

A page-turner full of intricate world-building, dark romance, plot twists, and characters you can’t help but fall in love with, this unfinished series follows Feyre Archeron, a young huntress



“A Court of Thorns and Roses” series.
Jessica Mills/The USD Vista

and her journey through love, politics, and adventure in the faerie world of Pyrrhian. Sarah J. Maas’ characters are able to do the unthinkable, from manipulating the elements, shapeshifting, healing, and even flying. This is a passionate story for the hopeless romantic who can’t help but fall for the morally dark villain.

“Bone Shard Daughter” by Andrea Stewart

Andrea Stewart’s chilling unfinished trilogy follows five different points of view in an empire drowning from an emperor full of secrets. Opening with the line, “father told me I’m broken,” readers are introduced

to Lin, daughter of the emperor, who vows to master the forbidden art of bone shard magic to save herself and her kingdom. The bold storylines are intricately set up through layered world-building, unique backstories, and a balance between the known and unknown. Readers are pulled into a world where animal-like creatures are brought to life through ancient bone-shard magic, sourced from the empire’s citizens. Andrea Stewart creates an unfinished puzzle with plot twists, an introspective look at one’s self, and a valuable lesson in the distrust of power. The second book, “The Drowning Emperor,” is set to come out Nov. 23.

“The Cruel Prince” by Holly Black

“The Cruel Prince” series follows Jude Durate, a girl who despises her mortality and lack of power. The story is packed with betrayal, rising and falling of political stations, and a look into the cruel romance between Jude and the prince of Elfame. Each page is written as if the reader can taste the richness of faerie fruit, see the array of glamorous fabrics, and feel

the overwhelming thirst for revenge. Holly Black provides a diverse pool of creatures while exploring different identities and sexualities. For readers who enjoy a plot with less romance and more politics, “The Cruel Prince” will not be a letdown.

“Fledgling” by Octavia Butler

Octavia Butler fuses together a fantasy and science fiction take on vampires in “Fledgling.” Unlike “Twilight,” these vampires do not turn humans into vampires, nor are they portrayed as ruthless and intimidating predators. Shori Matthews is a genetically modified vampire, whose dark skin allows her to survive in daylight. She belongs

“The House in the Cerulean Sea” by TJ Klune

A stand-alone about the enchanting experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place. Linus Baker is a caseworker for a government organization that manages orphanages with magical children. Baker is sent to assess a special orphanage on the island of Marsyas, where six dangerous children reside. Through this assignment, Baker’s strict daily routine unravels while his comfort zone is continuously tested. “The House in the Cerulean Sea” is a warm story with lively and compelling characters readers can’t help but root for. Whether you’re already a lover of fantasy novels or new to the genre entirely, there’s a story here for everyone. Through plots that illustrate the unthinkable, these new worlds create an infinite potential for any needed escape from reality.



“The Cruel Prince” series.
Jessica Mills/The USD Vista

Daniel Craig says goodbye to 007

The iconic actor’s final film in the James Bond franchise

ANNA VALAIK
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

As the saying goes, “All good things must come to an end” – so, too, did Daniel Craig’s reign as James Bond. Craig is not the first actor to exit this franchise, but he represents, arguably, the hardest goodbye. 15 years and five movies later, Craig elevated this iconic character to a whole new level, one that made him more human to a modern audience. His final movie, “No Time to Die,” was released in theaters on Oct. 8. This notorious role was played by multiple other actors such as Sean Connery, Pierce Brosnen, and Timothy Dalton, and each added their own unique flair to the character. When Craig took over in 2006, he had some big shoes to fill, because the pressure that was on to meet the expectations of this story’s massive following. For example, it’s because of James Bond that some people prefer their martinis shaken, not stirred. Also, everyone knows how he introduces himself to others; “My name is Bond. James Bond.” His clothing within the movies has also affected sales within multiple companies, boosting their followings and cult status. Tom Ford, who has dressed James Bond in the past few movies, has previously come out with full collections for the public inspired by this character. James Bond no longer just exists on the big screen, and instead, has found a way into multiple societal norms.



Bond and a new “No Time to Die” spy.
Photo courtesy of @007/Instagram

Considering many James Bond fans are fanatics – reading all the Ian Fleming books cover-to-cover and never missing a movie – each of these actors are famously held to a high standard. If these standards aren’t met, then, you would be letting down millions. However, fans did not have to worry because they would later realize that Craig was about to change what it means to be James Bond in the 21st century forever. Six decades of the James Bond franchise had a clear and important impact on the way people interact with action movies, and more specifically, action characters. Although this franchise is truly a relic of the past, something our parents or even grandparents went to the theaters to see, this story is still very much in the present. James Bond has grown with the generations: trying on new personas, outfits, and gadgets with every film. However, his evolution as a character was crucial for multiple reasons. He was forced to evolve, moving away from some questionably sexist and racist beginnings,

and into a new life, one that holds him to a higher standard. In many ways, Craig was the impetus for this necessary transformation. Bond became more than an emotionless, “licensed-to-kill” spy; he was human now, someone who had real feelings, reactions, and experiences. Audiences could see into this character, past all those bloody fights, expensive cars, and beautiful sceneries, and understand him on a deeper level. The toxic masculinity clouding the earlier versions of Bond were somewhat lifted, revealing a man who didn’t always have to be so “manly.” From the first movie, “Casino Royale,” Craig made something loud and clear: he was his own version of James Bond, and he didn’t want to be anything but himself. This authenticity carried on to his character and is what carried him through five movies with such grace. “No Time to Die,” Craig’s final Bond movie, does not lack action or drama. Chock-full of everything that makes these movies so iconic, “No Time to Die” also introduces some new quirks to the narrative that audiences have never seen before. There are new spies, ones that may threaten James Bond’s role in the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) in Britain. Old characters come back as well; in many ways, these people help pay homage to Daniel Craig’s legacy in the franchise. Similarly, other callbacks include personalized Aston Martin cars, fancy Tom Ford suits, and the

typical gadgets from Q, the head of the research and development division of the British Secret Service. Old romantic flings come out to play, as well. All in all, James Bond seems to be fighting crime just as much as he is fighting the past. “James Bond,” as in both the film and the novel, was and is a once-in-a-lifetime role because these movies have informed countless other characters and movies we know and love. For this reason, when a James Bond actor makes his exit from the franchise, the directors and writers don’t give him some small goodbye. Instead, and especially for an actor like Craig, it’s grandiose. In “No Time to Die,” he went out with explosions, a few car chases, and, of course, a complicated love life. It was the most on-brand goodbye of all James Bond movies, and it was well-deserved. Although it’s sad to see Craig go, it also means there is now space for a new 007, one that might also, have a profound impact on the future of these movies. Even though it’s uncertain who will be chosen, one thing is for certain: James Bond isn’t

going anywhere. Even if he looks different, he will still find a way to evolve with the times and delight audience members no matter what. When asked about 007’s future, Daniel Craig was asked by Radio Times what he thought about a female James Bond, to which he had a thought-provoking answer. “There should simply be better parts for women and actors of color,” Craig told Radio Times. “Why should a woman play James Bond when there should be a part just as good as James Bond, but for a woman?” Craig makes a fair point, arguing that changing the character entirely wouldn’t necessarily make the role more modern or progressive; instead, there could be a brand-new character, made to perfectly showcase the future of females in action movies. However, the entrance of a female lead in “No Time to Die” does make audience members wonder if 007 may look a little different in the next film. No matter what happens, this franchise has and will continue to make a difference in the movie industry, and the legacy Daniel Craig left will live on.



Daniel Craig in his final James Bond film.
Photo courtesy of @gregwilliamsphotography/Instagram

SPORTS

Weekly Recap

Men’s soccer wins first conference game; swim & dive beats Lions

MARI OLSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Winning was the trend this weekend as men’s soccer found their first conference win and the golf team won their first tournament of the fall season. Swim & dive put on a first-place performance and football extended their winning streak to five games. Keep reading for updates on how it all happened.

Men’s soccer

With four games to go in the West Coast Conference (WCC) men’s soccer season, the University of San Diego Toreros faced off against the Loyola Marymount University (LMU) Lions on Wednesday, Oct. 27.

The Toreros were defeated by two goals to one at Torero Stadium.

USD’s all-time record against LMU is 15-12-3, but the Toreros are on a three-game losing streak against the Lions, with their last win coming in the fall of 2019.

LMU scored in the 19th minute to put the Toreros down 0-1, but they answered quickly with an equalizing goal scored by sophomore forward, Nicklas Clausen, in the 27th minute. The goal puts Clausen tied for first with Santa Clara University’s senior forward, Oladayo Thomas, for the most goals scored in the WCC this season at seven.

The game went into halftime tied at one, but the Toreros couldn’t find the win in the second half. LMU scored the game-winning goal in the 67th minute to hand USD their fourth conference loss of the season. USD’s conference record fell to 0-4 with the loss.

Junior forward, Mason Tunbridge, was given a red card in the 86th minute. Tunbridge had to serve a one-game suspension, meaning he was not available in their next game against the University of San Francisco (USF) on Sunday, Oct 31.

The Toreros finally found their first conference win of the season against USF, beating the Dons 2-1 after coming back from behind in the first half.

USF scored in the 15th minute, putting the Toreros behind 0-1. USD fought hard and found an equalizer before the half was over, when sophomore midfielder, Ross Johnstone, scored in the 40th minute.

First-year defender, Dylan Thompson, put the Toreros ahead in the 61st minute to complete the comeback and make the score 2-1. The goal was Thompson’s first of the season.

The Toreros defended well through the game, confining the



First-year defender, Dylan Thompson, scored his first goal this season to give USD their first conference win of Fall 2021. Photo courtesy of USD Athletics Communications

Dons to just two shots on target.

USD looks to continue the winning momentum in their final home game of the season on Friday, Nov. 5 against the University of the Pacific at 7 p.m.

Golf

USD golf won its first tournament of the season last week, taking first out of 15 in the Hoakalei Country Club Invitational, hosted by the University of Hawaii, Manoa.

The Toreros posted scores of 287, 288, and 282 in the three rounds of the tournament. After the second round, the team was in third, behind Loyola Marymount University in second and the University of Louisiana in first.

USD played an excellent third round of golf and overcame both teams ahead of them to take first place with a final score of 857, seven under par.

In addition to the team win, redshirt junior, Charlie Reiter, took first place individually with scores of 70, 69, 69 to finish at 208, eight under par.

Redshirt senior, Harrison Kingsley, tied for sixth individually at three under par,

and sophomore, Andi Xu, tied for eighth at two under to put three Toreros in the top 10.

Next up for the Torero golf team is the Saint Mary’s Invitational hosted by Saint Mary’s University in the Bay Area, starting Monday, Nov. 8 and concluding on Wednesday, Nov. 10.

Football

USD football pulled off a comeback win on Saturday afternoon against Valparaiso University. The game ended in favor of the Toreros with a final score of 21-14.

Valparaiso scored twice in the first quarter to give themselves a 14-point lead over USD.

In the second quarter, senior running back, Emilio Martinez scored on a 15-yard pass from graduate quarterback, Mason Randall. Junior kicker, Brandon Eickert, converted the extra point kick to bring the Toreros to 7-14.

Eickert also scored two field goals to make the score 13-14 to Valparaiso at halftime.

The score remained unchanged through the third quarter and most of the fourth.



Graduate quarterback, Mason Randall, was key to his team’s success. Jaden Hauptman/The USD Vista

with a time of 2:27.20, beating the second place finisher from LMU by over 10 seconds.

Junior, Sam Eason, put on an impressive performance in the 200 yard freestyle, posting a time of 1:58.61 to take first. First-year, Gigi Zinis, took second and senior, Haley Ohlson, took third to round out the top three for the Toreros.

The USD diving team competed in the one meter and three meter diving events against themselves since LMU does not have divers. First-year diver, Jane Riehs, took first in both events, scoring 265.43 in the one meter and 244.58 in the three meter.

USD swim & dive will compete next in the East Los Angeles College Invite Nov. 18 through Nov. 20.

Cross Country

Both men’s and women’s cross country competed in Concord, California on Friday, Oct. 29 in the WCC Championship race.

The women’s team ran a six kilometer race and finished eighth out of 10 teams on Friday, with a total time of 1:56:46.

Junior, Gianna Sbarbaro, placed the highest for Toreros, finishing 36th overall out of 94 athletes with a time of 22:20.0. First-year, Maddie Heller, was second for USD in 61st, running the six kilometers in 23:21.2.

The men’s team placed ninth out of nine teams for the eight kilometer distance. The team’s total time was 2:10:32.

Senior, Ethan Steiner, finished at 39th overall with a time of 25:07.3, leading the way for the Toreros. First-year, Walter Coleman, and sophomore, Will Stefanou, rounded out USD’s top three.

The Toreros will race next at the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) West Regionals on Nov. 12 in Sacramento, CA.



Senior, Ethan Steiner, led the way for the Toreros at the WCC championships. Photo courtesy of USD Athletics Communications

Women’s soccer celebrates Senior Night

Toreros vs. Tigers ends in a tie; all four seniors play against Pacific

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The University of San Diego women’s soccer team celebrated their Senior Night at Torero Stadium on Friday, Oct. 29, shining a spotlight on the players who will be graduating from the program this year.

The Toreros played to a zero-zero tie with the University of the Pacific (UOP) Tigers after the celebration. The Toreros have never lost to UOP, with last night’s draw bringing their record against the Tigers to two wins and two ties.

The game was open and fast-paced, with both teams playing a possession game and finding ways to break through each other’s defenses to take shots.

The Toreros outshot the Tigers, taking 20 total shots over the full 90 minutes of regular time and two 10-minute halves of overtime. The Toreros had seven shots on target during the game, coming from junior forward, Bekah Valdez, first-year midfielder, Bella Piette, and sophomore midfielder, Aryssa Mahrt.

All seven of USD’s shots on goal were saved by the Pacific goalkeeper, junior Brenna Crump.

Senior goalkeeper, Judith Sorribes, made four important saves to keep the Tigers out of USD’s goal. Two saves were especially key during the 20 minutes of golden goal overtime, when one goal by the Tigers would have ended the Toreros’ night in defeat.

The game ended in a tie after a total of 110 minutes of intense soccer.

Head coach, Louise Lieberman, wished the Toreros found a different result.

“[It’s] disappointing. I



USD women’s soccer’s seniors were celebrated by their parents, coaches, teammates, and fans before Friday night’s game against the University of the Pacific. Photo courtesy of Thomas Christensen/USD Athletics

thought we were the better team tonight, and so it’s hard when the scoreboard doesn’t show that. But if you don’t put the ball in the net, then you can’t win the game,” Lieberman said.

Lieberman did, however, think that the team put in the work to try and find a goal.

“I’m proud of their effort though, that’s always a good feeling. I’m proud of the work they did, I’m proud of being good tonight, but I just know that to be super successful we gotta score,” Lieberman emphasized.

Redshirt junior defender and captain, Michaela Foster, agreed with Lieberman that a win would have been ideal.

“Yeah, we’ll take [a tie]. Obviously it’s not exactly what we wanted, especially on Senior Night, but it was good, the girls fought hard the whole 110 minutes, whatever it was. Tough game but you can’t fault our

work effort,” Foster said.

Senior forward, Madison Louderback, was happy with how the team played as well.

“I do wish we could have gotten a different result of a win, we definitely played a better game than them and the results just didn’t show that,” Louderback said. “I think we did a really good job playing around them, tiring them out, we kept the ball really well and they definitely couldn’t keep up with us.”

Foster and Louderback both emphasized areas that they are looking to improve upon in the last few games of the season.

“Obviously I think when we do take our chances on goal we need to finish them, find the net instead of the keeper,” Louderback said. “But I mean, taking shots in the place to start and we definitely did that tonight.”

Foster talked about the team’s ability to think through situations quickly on the field.

“I think in some moments, we kind of rushed it, but when we slowed it down and made them work, we looked really good, and I think we dominated that part of the game, which was really cool to see,” Foster said.

Lieberman agreed with both players that putting balls in the back of the net is the most important thing for the soccer team going forward.

“We want to accomplish everything we did tonight and more. They gave a consistent effort tonight that I’m really proud of. The only difference is trying to put some balls in and enjoy those moments,” Lieberman explained. “It’s really just doing what we did tonight, and then some, and having that killer instinct in front of the net.”

Louderback and Foster were

both recognized as part of the Senior Night celebrations before the game, along with Sorribes and midfielder, Michayla Herr. Louderback’s parents presented her to the crowd, while Foster, who is from New Zealand, was presented by Lieberman and her assistant coach.

After thinking it over a little bit, Louderback gave one word to describe her experience in the past four years on USD soccer: family.

“This is my family. I’ll never find anything like this again. I’ll never experience this at a job or workplace so, I guess family is one word I can think of,” Louderback said.

Foster talked about what the team has given her.

“I’ve loved it, it’s been very special. I’ve definitely grown as a soccer player. That’s what I wanted to do, it was my goal coming here to San Diego, and USD specifically,” Foster said. “I’ve loved it, the coaching staff have been super supportive and yeah, I think just my growth has been the main thing for me here.”

Lieberman expressed her gratitude for what all of the seniors bring to the team.

“I just love that they’re on this journey with me, that they’ve trusted this journey with us, to come in and make an impact on it the way that they did individually in a unique way. I’m proud of their effort and the footprint that they’ve left here,” Lieberman said.

Women’s soccer’s final home game was on Nov. 3. Their last game of the regular season will be on Saturday, Nov. 6 at the University of San Francisco.



Senior goalkeeper, Judith Sorribes, made four important saves in the shutout. Photo courtesy of Thomas Christensen/USD Athletics



Senior forward, Madison Louderback, takes on a UOP forward on Friday. Photo courtesy of Thomas Christensen/USD Athletics

COMING UP
THIS WEEK

USD MSOC v. UOP
Friday, Nov. 5
7 p.m.
Torero Stadium

USD FB v. Morehead
Saturday, Nov. 6
1 p.m.
Torero Stadium

USD VB @ Gonzaga
Saturday, Nov. 6
12 p.m.

Watch: WCC Network
Mari Olson/The USD Vista