NOTHING TO CLOWN AROUND ABOUT

As Halloween nears, the creepy clown epidemic becomes all too real

PG. 5
By Eric Vasquez

It started with a sniff. A whiff of a department store candle sometime between my search for a pea-coat and a beanie that wouldn’t look like an old-timey burglar or an elf really into Fleet Foxes.

It was different, a scent of something else that at once reminded me of everything autumn. I knew it wasn’t cinnamon; the cinnamon candle was in plain sight. It couldn’t have just been ginger, or ginger and honey, or ginger and sea salt, or ginger and lime or even ginger and sandalwood, they were all bottled up and placed to the side.

What I smelled was the olfactory embodiment of the entire fall season. I tracked the scent right to the cash-ier. She herself was wafting it into her own nose.

“Give me that!” I took the candle from her. She did not deserve to smell that smell. “What is this?” I asked, jamming my finger into the wax. She replied with massive irreverence, a droopy answer that told me she didn’t own a single pair of Uggs: “Uh... pumpkin spice?”

Pumpkin spice. The spice of pumpkin. Aromatique cincruma. A smell like a warm oven and coffee mugs, like knit scarves, like red leaves and “Gingham Girls.” I was hooked. I burned that candle in every room of the house. I petitioned for my church to trade it out with the incense. I made it my cologne. I got the toilet paper, the lotion and several tubes of pumpkin-spiced chapstick.

It was a revelation the day I found out it was more than a smell. Kylie Miller, the human embodiment of a Dillard’s magazine, was late to class one day. Thank God for whatever made her wake up late that day because she came into the classroom, Starbucks in hand. By this time myattrophy was so pronounced that the barista knew I was serious. She looked me over, squinted her eyes a bit. I thought I was found out, but something about me checked out and she deemed me worthy, asked what size I wanted. “Vent!” I took my drink to a table and stared at it, already drunk on the smell. I didn’t know what to expect, so I called in sick to work just in case I got too high or knocked out from ecstasy.

It was beautiful, the swirl of whipped cream and the crushed pumpkin sprinkled on top and the thick, first gulp that warmed my throat on the way down. If God farted, he would fart pumpkin spice. If God cried, he would cry pumpkin spice lattes.

After a week I swore I needed it to start the day. My mind just wasn’t right without a PSL in the morning. On PSLs, I was lightning quick. My speech became precise. Sentences like “I can’t even” confused the uninitiated, but my sisters and brothers in PSL knew exactly what I meant.

Before my first PSL, I worried about things like the exploitation of children in other countries in order to maintain America’s sugar de-mand. The scientific studies behind sugar intake linking to cancer and Alzheimers’? Please, you just don’t forget your first PSL. Ever. Like, ever. I’m going to tell you a secret. There’s a reason why pumpkin spice is so popular. There’s a reason why it’s in Oreos, ice cream and even some tampon brands. There’s something about it that strikes the soul this time of year. Some say our souls smell like pumpkin spice. I don’t know much about souls, but if I did, I would give up mine to have a pumpkin spice soul. Why? Because PSL means more than wanting a pumpkin spice latte, it means wanting a pumpkin spice life.

I watched her take a drink of the smell I worshiped for weeks. I asked if it tasted like pumpkin spice. She LORED: “Dude, this is the only thing that truly is pumpkin spiced.”

I wanted to ask her for a taste, but my shame in thinking pumpkin spice was just a smell kept me slouched in my seat. I skipped my next class and went straight to Starbucks. I practiced saying my order in line, going for a rhythm that would sound like I had ordered a thousand of these. I even brought my MacBook to make sure the barista knew I was serious. When I got to the counter I said my order with force, as if it wasn’t cinnamon; the cinnamon candle was in plain sight. It couldn’t have just been ginger, or ginger and honey, or ginger and sea salt, or ginger and lime or even ginger and sandalwood, they were all bottled up and placed to the side. I thought I was found out, but something about me checked out and she deemed me worthy, asked what size I wanted. “Vent!” I took my drink to a table and stared at it, already drunk on the smell. I didn’t know what to expect, so I called in sick to work just in case I got too high or knocked out from ecstasy.

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Increíbles reacciones hacia disfraces mexicanos

Disfraces catalogados como mexicanos se venden en tiendas como Party City.

BY GREGA SÁNCHEZ
The Prospector

Diferencia en Halloween ha llegado a ser más que tradición. Este año repre- senta una oportunidad para disfrazarse de superhéroes futuristas o de grandes pesca- dillas. Sin embargo, algunos disfraces se enquician menos en la feria y más en personificar estereotipos.

Tiendas como Spirit y the Tenda en líneas Aramex han agregado el "traje mexica- no" a su colección de mercancía para la feriabilidad de Halloween. Walmart encabeza la lista de las tiendas principales que, entre otras cosas, se dedican a la manufactura y producción de disfraces estilo mexicano. En su página web, se encuentran diferentes opciones de disfraces que van desde un samurái a un león completo de cuidado.

José Ordóñez, gerente principal del departamento de tiendas en Walmart, es el encargado de poner toda la atención, mercancía, y adorno en los estantes correspondientes en la sección de "Holi- day" de Walmart. De él depende colocar cada mercancía conforme a la tempo- rada en la que se encuentre, incluyendo los diferentes tipos de disfraces.

"Por lo general, los disfraces mexicanos, nos llega lo que es típico del estereotipo mexicano que aquí se tiene. Sapos, buenas, bonitos, grandes, etc.

"No llega normalmente para adultos ya que para los niños lo único que tenemos para ellos son los típicos de super- héroes, princesas, brujas, y monos."

Ordóñez mencionó que los disfraces mexicanos no llegaron este año a su local, el Walmart ubicado en la calle North Mesa. Sin embargo, el empleado dijo los disfraces mexicanos habían estado llegando desde que él empezó a trabajar formalmente como gerente, hace seis años. El gerente explica esto es debido a que la corporación rastrea la cantidad de disfraz que se deben de llevar a ciertos lugares, ya que no todos los locales de Walmart pueden tener la misma centi- dad de mercancía.

"Depende de la oficina principal, el gerente, ellos deciden cuántos compran y se reparten al Walmart de Coronado y la cantidad de disfraces aquí, es escaso," Ordóñez mencionó. "No podemos competir entre nosotros. Si por ejemplo, un Walmart tiene mucha mercancía de disfraces, otro Walmart tiene que tener más de dulces. En la misma lógica con los precios."

Ordóñez afirma que estos disfrazos están al alcance de todos y que están disponibles en línea por medio de la página de Walmart.

El gerente aclara que los disfraces en estas temporadas tienen marcas de alta gama. Rinden un tiempo más largo y se venden a un precio de todos las garantías del res.

"Si esta oferta de disfraces es para radicalizar la cultura no de acuerdo con lo que se venden, lo que venden en el estereotipo, es muy vieja esa forma de ver a los mexicanos. Todavía hay gente que se ve con sombrero, y buenas, incluso en los días pero en general, nos solamente nos vestimos así," Ordóñez opina.

Por el contrario, Manuel Sapien, estu- dante latino de tercer año en biología de UTEP, asegura no comprender la venta de disfraces mexicanos visto como una ofensa.

"El futuro que vendrán los mercados? Están provocando la cultura mexicana y la preservación bien, está bien repre- sentado," Sapien dijo. "No pienso que se estén buscando de nosotros."

María Bracho, empleada en el depar- tamento de descuento en Walmart y madre, está de acuerdo con la venta de disfraces mexicanos, sugiere pro- mover la cultura mexicana y había de su experiencia personal al momento que ella disfrutara a su propio hijo de entre 5 años.

"Aquí tenemos la cultura cerca, me parece bien usarla y no que digan que no me respeto. Sólo vendemos la mano de derecho cuando tenía 5 años y la gente me pregunta siempre "¿Qué es lo que ves, mejor que lo que tengo de Hallowen y para mí es como el mis de que la cultura mexicana no corresponde a la visibilidad de Hallowen", Bracho asegura.

Linda Lomino, estudiante de licen- cia en UTEP, desconocía la tendencia mexicana en Halloween y dio una opinió al respecto.

"En marketing, no creo que no hace- ría. Si ve que ofrecen a algunas personas o no, es algo que parte de la perspectiva de cada quien," Lomino dijo. "Siempre y cuando no estén violando ninguna norma, me parece bien que se estén vendiendo disfraces mexicanos.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What are you dressing up as this Halloween?

ALEXA SERVIN
Sophomore linguistics major
“I am going to be Ariana Grande because she’s at the top right now. I respect where she’s at as an artist. It’s going to be cool to be her for a night.”

AZALEA RAMIREZ
Freshman international business major
“I plan on being Malificent; I like the way she is dressed and her overall look, so it’ll be fun to dress up as her for Halloween.”

LESLIE REYNOSO
Junior criminal justice major
“I am going to dress up as Blair Waldorf from ‘Gossip Girl’, because I am obsessed with the show and my friends call me Blair because we have a similar personality.”

DENNY GARCIA
Sophomore mechanical engineering major
“For Halloween, I’m going to be Anubis, the Egyptian god. I want to be something original and different.”

HANNA FLORES
Sophomore kinesiology major
“My boyfriend and I are planning to dress up as a movie or a TV series couple characters.”

VICTORIA ALEMAN
Sophomore human resource management major
“My family has a theme every year, and this year’s theme is super villains. So I’m going to be Jessie from Team Rocket.”

MANUEL ROCHA
Sophomore mechanical engineering major
“I plan to be a golf player because I don’t think it’ll be common and I want to do something different.”

OMID KEYVAN
Sophomore psychology major
“I was going to be a ninja turtle with my friends but they changed their minds, so I’m undecided.”

PETER GONZALES
Freshman criminal justice major
“I am going to be Captain America for this Halloween, because he is my favorite superhero.”

JORDAN COX
Graduate student in software engineering
“I think I’m going to be the character called Agent Cooper because he’s a fun character and the costume doesn’t seem too difficult.”

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CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ, GABY VELASQUEZ, NINA TITOVETS / THE PROSPECTOR
Clowns creep into local and national headlines

BY MARIANA RODRIGUEZ
The Prospector

Halloween is fast approaching and the clowns have come out to play.

At least that is what headlines have been warning readers since late August when the first clown sighting occurred in Greenville, South Carolina. The Greenville County sheriff’s office received a call from a concerned mother reporting a person dressed in clown attire trying to lure children into the woods.

"We have taken on some calls, especially in the evening, with kids coming out to try and find these clowns, but as of yet we have not had any criminal incidents," said Lt. Joe Castorena of the Socorro Independent School District Police Services in an interview with the El Paso Times.

Although the El Paso Police Department has not received any reports, officials are warning people against dressing like clowns or making fake calls to the police. Law enforcement officials have been advising against using clown costumes this Halloween.

But those who wear clown apparel are a living, following the police department's advice is not so easy.

"My fear is that when we travel from one destination to another, drivers may mistake us as some of those creepy clowns while we're driving," Alfredo Zamora, an El Paso-based clown said. He performs under the name ZZ the Clown, along with his wife and son. "I don't want to encourage a road rage of any kind.

The violence accredited to this panic has not stopped nationwide, real-life clowns and entertainers are attempting to take back their image and movie based on a clown protagonist, is fed up with the image.

"It’s time to cool the clown hysteria,

Stephen King tweeted out on Oct. 3.

What was once just an incident in one U.S. city has spread to become an international scare. The terror has spread over to the United Kingdom, where a man dressed as a clown was seen on video wielding a chain saw against a group of people.

"My hate goes off to any party clown out there right now," Daisy the Clown said.

With Halloween fast approaching and clown sightings spreading overseas, the killer clown scare doesn’t seem to be winding down anytime soon.
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Green Party candidate Jill Stein makes a stop in El Paso

Jill Stein, Green Party presidential candidate, campaigned at Café Mayapan on Oct. 14 in front of a crowd of more than 200.

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ
The Prospector

Green Party presidential candidate Jill Stein visited El Paso Friday, Oct. 14, along with other Texas Green Party candidates while touring across the state as part of a final effort to get their names out.

Stein, a Сан francisco native, is a professional filmmaker, environmental activist and medical doctor who has focused on alternative health care. She has previously run for president as the Green Party candidate.

At a packed Café Mayapan, Stein rallied against the idea of voting for the lesser evil, militarism in the Middle East and advocated for a “Green New Deal.”

“Is this what democracy looks like, and are there what democracy sounds like, and are we what democracy acts like?” Stein said as she entered the stage to a crowd of hundreds.

The cheering crowd was a mix of Green Party supporters, undecided voters and people simply curious about the Green Party. Before Stein took the stage, Ranee Karboji, a sophomore pre-nursing major, was curious about the policies Stein represented.

“I just wanted to see what Jill Stein had to say about some current issues,” Karboji said. “I’m looking into it right now and I’m still undecided.”

Others, frustrated with the mainstream candidates, heard about Stein and the Green Party, but did not know their exact policies. Rene Matos, a UTEP alumni who got her degree in marketing, said she heard about the event from a friend.

“I was going to vote for Bernie (Sanders), but he left the race and I was pretty sad when he did,” Matos said. “I see Trump and Hillary and I always thought the same: Hillary is a liar and I don’t trust her. Trump—he’s just for himself.”

Stein blamed the mainstream media for her absence in the national presidential discussion.

“The media does not want this on the airwaves, obviously, because it threatens their whole monopoly on things,” Stein said. “The American people not only have a right to vote, we have a right to know who we can vote for.”

Stein advocated for a complete reform of the education system. This included getting rid of charter schools and standardized testing, which she compared to a test of income levels.

“The American people not only have a right to vote; we have a right to know who we can vote for.”

-Jill Stein, Green Party presidential candidate

The most widely recognized part of Stein’s education platform is to abolish student debt and to create tuition-free higher education. She said that the number of people who have student debt is enough to win a three-way presidential race.

“We know that it pays for itself. There is no excuse not to be offering free college or community college or technical school, we know that for every dollar that we as taxpayers put into free college that we as taxpayers get back $7 in return,” Stein said. “And if we’re smart, we know that we’re smart, too, that the way we grow young people who are locked into student loan debt. Well, if you bail out the frugal bankers who crushed the economy, it’s time to bail out their victims.”

While Stein did not mention it at Friday’s speech, she has also previously said she would use grants to desegregate schools that have been segregated by class and lack of funding.

When talking about the presidential debates, Stein brought up a statement by Clinton during the second debate-calling for a no-fly zone over Syria. Pundits and political junkies alike stress that Clinton’s no-fly zone will inevitably increase tensions with Russia and might lead to armed conflict. Stein expressed a similar, albeit exaggerated, case.

“A no-fly zone means that we are declaring war on Russia. We are two nuclear-armed powers and we have 2,000 nuclear missiles on hair-trigger alert,” Stein said. “The former head of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, just stated last week that we are at the most dangerous moment ever in the history of the planet!”

On the environmental issues, the Green Party advocates for what they call a “Green New Deal,” which calls for 100 percent renewable energy in the U.S. by 2030.
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Our View

Art, Music and chalk come together once again for Chalk the Block
Hueco Tanks Interpretive Fair offers a chance to educate on nature

By Eric Vasquez
The Prospector
Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site opened its grounds Oct. 15 and 16 for its 22nd annual Interpretive Fair, which was a weekend of fine lake, wing and exhibitions on the native people, wildlife and natural landscape.

Hueco Tanks stands as a geological formation of natural magnesia exposed by wind and erosion over millions of years. These massive mounds of great rock hollow out areas with less density, which creates small bowls or reservoirs that collect moisture.

Rick Quezada is the director of cultural preservation for Ysleta del Sur Pueblo. During the fair he lead a discussion on the native people, including his own, that chose to settle there. According to Quezada, these reservoirs were one of the few sources of water.

"There are these huge pockets in the rock where moisture would fall, and what my people did is dam it up and keep the water from flushing out. So when it would rain it would catch and then fill up. Quezada said. "Geologists have taken dimensions of the tanks my people used to use and say the bigger ones could hold up to 50,000 gallons of water."

From 50,000 gallons to small levels of water; these reservoirs have been the catalysts that bring life to Hueco Tanks.

"Where there is water there is wildlife," Quezada said. It is a simple fact that life cannot thrive without water; so simple that it might come off as cliché, but the change of vegetation as you get closer to the Tanks reinforces this fact. As Quezada explained, the early Tiwanaku settled at Hueco Tanks because of the moisture of plants the area had to offer.

"This was our grocery store, our pharmacy," Quezada said. "They turned into our plants here that have medicinal properties. People catch cold and they head to Walmart for cough medicines. When we have them without water, so simple that it might come off as cliché, but the change of vegetation as you get closer to the Tanks reinforces this fact."

Rick Quezada said that he will have coffee and it really helps with allergies.

Along with Quezada, Ysleta del Sur’s tempcodes, the Diana Apache Ju-Jes Tadco, the Mesacan Apache Youth Dancers and the Diana Azteca--Chihuahua--Theolcata exhibited their cultural traditional dances performed in preparation for harvest, rain or planting.

Knowledge about the native landscapes seemed to be the main theme of the fair. The weekend was a blend of geology, birding and rare plant hiking tours and trips to nearby caves with tribal pictographs still visible on the cave walls. The tours were led by scientists or enthusiasts, who were more than willing to spout any knowledge on their area of study.

What may seem like a well-known fact actually be a common misconception.

An advocate for the resurgence of the Mexican wolf is Nancy Bilu who explained that their disappearance can lead to a chain reaction that may even harm humans.

Geologists have taken dimensions of the tanks we used to use and say the bigger ones could hold up to 50,000 gallons of water.

- Rick Quezada, Director of Cultural Preservation

"Elks have a disease called chronic wasting disease that takes years to develop and rots the brain," Bane said. "Although the Mexican wolf may prey on deer and elk, it only five to six times a year so it doesn’t affect them. So the wolf makes the best healthier by keeping the disease from spreading, which in turn keeps the hunter from eating infected meat."

Hidden gems of information like this were rampant throughout the fair. Clubs by the faith-based home, park rangers scattered throughout the area were involved in conversations about the state local wildlife while others showed children which plants make the best bow or which ones are edible. These rangers contributed to the atmosphere of the fair, one of reverence and admiration for all aspects of nature.

Park ranger Gina Hernandez said that although she herself was not looking closely enough when she first joined the park rangers, her time in national state parks has taught her about our connection with nature.

"The desert is not majestic like big redwood trees, but the more you stay there and you see the cycle of seasons and the small differences in plants, it has its own subtle beauty that you that have to know," Hernandez said. "So as I learned about it, I appreciated more. That’s what I’m trying to do, help people connect to those things and appreciate the resources at the 413 parks in the country."

Although Hernandez spends time at Hueco Tanks, her specific park assignment is the Chamanal National Memorial. Like the natural landscape of Hueco Tanks, Chamanal’s history is a reason why Hernandez advises people to explore national parks.

"Chamanal is a monument to two countries (US and Mexico) solving their issues diplomatically," Hernandez said. "Especially with this election, it’s nice to know that solving problems through diplomacy can still be done."

The Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site holds the Interpretive Fair once a year in the third week of October, but their willingness to share information and bikes occurs year-round.

For more information on Hueco Tanks and a calendar of future hikes and tours, visit txparks.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/hueco-tanks.

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The weekend's newest albums reviewed: Kings of Leon, The Game and more

BY ERIC VASQUEZ AND ADRIAN BROADDUS

BY ERIC VASQUEZ AND ADRIAN BROADDUS

The Prospector
One-hit wonders like The Naked and Famous and Two Door Cinema Club, big-name rappers Gucci Mane and The Game, even Cherub all released new albums this weekend. Here's the good, the bad and the pathetic from all their new music. Agree, disagree or think we're downright morons? Email us at theprospec-tordaily.enti@gmail.com to send us feedback.

Other albums and singles out this week:

**Kings of Leon**

Walls

Eric:

One of the draws to Kings of Leon is their layered but clean tracks. The two guitars, bass and drums each have their own busy riffs, but each can be distinctly heard, so props to their producers. All of this is contrasted to Caleb Followill’s slurred vocals. For the early Kings of Leon fans, “WALLS” is a return to that sound heard in “Use Somebody” and “Sex on Fire.” Check out “Eyes on You,” “Waste a Moment” and “Around the World” for that old school dose of Kings of Leon.

Adrian:

There really aren’t many Kings of Leon albums that are under par, and, “WALLS” does not disappoint. They consistently restate their sound album after album, which is respectable. Indie fans may not appreciate the album, but true rock fans should welcome the project. Songs like “Waste a Moment,” “Find Me” and “Over” are instant hits in the long history of Kings of Leon tracks.

**Gucci Mane**

Woptober

Eric:

Gucci’s rap rhythm is steady, if not boring, but his discipline to keep with the music is admirable. “Woptober” is a good album to work out to because the tracks blend together and don’t require a close listen. The bass is the busiest piece of any track. “Wop” and “Out The Zoo” are probably the biggest bangers on the album; although I’m sure with a loud enough system the entire album can disrupt any heartbeat.

Adrian:

Ever since he was released from prison this summer, Gucci Mane has been spitting out projects, features and tracks like none other. Backed up by masterful beats, “Woptober” is not a disappoint-ment and adds more depth to the return of Gucci. He has minimal features on the tape, including Rick Ross and Young Dolph, and the album transitions smoothly with back-to-back hits, “Dirty Lil Nigga,” “Wop” and “Right on Time.” Overall, the album is compiled with bangers.

**Cherub**

Bleed Gold, Piss Excellence

Eric:

Although there isn’t a standout track on the album with a slamming chorus like “Does and Mimosas,” every song has a good pop line. I’m sure this one won’t miss the mark. Their active bass lines and snapping snare drums are rampant in the album, but instead of a modern EDM feel, “Bleed Gold, Piss Excellence” takes from classic ’80s synth rhythms and thumping rap beats, the time when people were really starting to figure out what a synthesizer is capable of. “Outside Myself,” “Life” and the title track are the standouts.

Adrian:

Maybe the most prophetic, fine-tuned album of the weekend hands down. Cherub is known for exploring ’80s electronic sounds and fusing them with indie-pop and distorted vocals and this album keeps the pattern. While the album may not feel like a risk, Cherub delivers consistency and wraps together another hit to add to their collection. Check out tracks such as “Dedicated to the Bubble” but the title track is the standout.

**The Naked and Famous**

Simple Forms

Eric:

I’m always hesitant to give bands with a mega-hit like “Young Blood” a full listen. The stuff that comes after usually is an imitation of that one song. The first track “Higher” proves my point. The Naked and Famous will not be remembered for their lyrics if at all. “The Water Beneath You” is a jam for sure, but the lyrics go for easy rhymes and are so cliché it’s off-putting. That little raindrop sound effect you hear in “Young Blood” is hidden amongst the collection, and it is by far the band’s worst attempt yet. What happened to their chimes in “Tourist History”?

Adrian:

This was probably the least anticipated album of the weekend because it felt like any other early 2010 indie band trying to scrape another project together. However, “Simple Forms” was entirely a surprise and a treat. It was not a risky album, but overall a solid collection of tracks. Most tracks can translate very easily to a concert stage, which will add to their show.

**Two Door Cinema Club**

Gameshow

Eric:

What saves Two Door Cinema Club from getting washed away in the indie wave is guitarist Sam Halliday. As heard in the band’s biggest hit “What You Know,” “Tracks like “Are We Ready,” and “Gameshow,” the distinct guitar riffs drive the album, while Alex Trimble’s vocals like “Fever” into the disco genre. In the deluxe version of the album some songs are remixed by the band members, most likely to keep lock DJs.

Adrian:

Who replaced the storied indie-pop band of Two Door Cinema Club with a pop band that caters to 12-year-old Disney Channel fans? “Gameshow” is a commercialized snore that will be forgotten by anyone who stands in the alternative/indie realm. The album is a copy and paste from electronic music sounds with insignificant vocals. There was not a track that stood out amongst the collection, and it is by far the band’s worse attempt yet. What happened to their chimes in “Tourist History”?

**The Game**

1992

Eric:

No time wasted to warm up with this album. “Sav-age Lifestyle” sets the album in the midst of the gang violence and police brutality of 1992 Los Angeles. “True Colors/It’s On” is a must listen, as The Game samples a young black man finding the irony in gangs repping colors (red and blue) off the American flag to represent them. The album is a homage to the era’s hip-hop, sampling from classics like “The Message” by Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five.

Adrian:

Preceding some of the best albums out of Compton this year such as “Untitled Unmastered” by Hend- rick Lamar, The Game was plugged with living up to the high expectations. His first line, “It’s a trap/Why they ain’t tell us red and blue don’t matter when you black?” opens up the gang-violence concept. The effort on the unique twist and the vicious lyrics was a good start for some songs that drag on.
Downtown’s history as scary as the ghost tours

Located at 108 San Antonio Street, the Paso del Norte Paranormal Society specializes in researching and investigating paranormal activity in the El Paso area.

BY ANDRES GALLEGOS
The Prospector

This Halloween, the ghost tours by Paso Del Norte Paranormal Society will turn 10 years old. The society founded by Reverend Henry Flores after he went through paranormal and historical tours of other cities. Flores began investigating the haunted history of the Sun City.

Although the tours first began in Concordia Cemetery and acted as a fundraiser for the cemetery to help maintain the grounds, the ghost tours expanded toward downtown in order to meet the city’s demand for viewing ghosts. The paranormal society leads their ghost tours with research to back up the historic and paranormal references.

“[We] investigate, the (buildings) to see if it lends into any hauntings that are claimed to be there,” Flores said. “We interview people, we see if there’s any stories that are similar and go through historical documents, but mostly we want hardcore facts. Then we investigate to see if we can prove those facts.”

The ghost tours blend history with the paranormal in such a way that leaves the audience creeped out, maybe even scared, but fully educated. After a tour, one can look at downtown and see the business stores and parking lots and imagine where the brothels of Alice Abbot, Etta Clark, and Billy the Kid operated.

Telly Howard, May Palmer and Gypsy Davenport used to stand. Before the chic cocktail lounges and sports teams, El Paso was the Las Vegas of the West—a lawless land where native religions and wild cowboys coexisted.

“I’ve seen a lot of weird things, a lot of strange stuff that makes me test my faith.”

- Reverend Henry Flores, Founder

For the past 10 years, the Paso Del Norte Paranormal Society has guided El Pasoans through the basement cobwebs of old saloons, the unsuspecting buildings where brothels used to thrive and the rocky ground of Concordia Cemetery, where the dead lay sleeping. The downtown ghost tour focuses on Mesa Street, formerly known as Utah Street or the Tenderloin District, as it was unofficially known in the late 1800s. The street was a hive of activity during the time of spars, 10-gallon hats and revolvers because of the brothels, saloons and gambling houses that were in business.

But what about the ghosts? Well, these specters don’t get paid to make an appearance. At the time of the tour the electromagnetic field detector used by the paranormal society to detect ghosts didn’t go off. No entity touched the Raggedy Ann Doll set up to bait them. What ghosts tend to do, according to Flores, is to only exist in brief flashing moments.

Rev. Flores is a spiritual man before he decided to bring something new to El Paso. His mind was already set on the existence of the supernatural, but now after 10 years investigating El Paso’s restless dead, his belief has become more solid.

“The most haunted area of El Paso is Five Points and Concordia,” Flores said. “I’ve seen a lot of weird things, a lot of strange stuff that makes me test my faith.”

While the downtown ghost tours occur every Friday at 8 p.m., more information on upcoming ghost tours can be found at the Paso del Norte Paranormal Society’s Facebook page and their website, ghosts013.com.

Andrew Gallegos may be reached at andrew@theblue妖dian.com.
Miners desperate to end losing streak

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS
The Prospector

After a bye week, where the Miners finally got a chance to catch their breath, rest up, get healthy and work on fundamentals, head coach Sean Kugler and his squad will now travel to San Antonio to face the UTSA Roadrunners on Saturday, Oct. 22.

Losing five in a row going into the midway point of the year is not the ideal way to start. But, if there were any chance to turn their struggling season around, the Miners need to improve and impress this week.

Kugler believes the much-needed days of rest allowed his group to recollect and get mentally straight for their upcoming games. “We utilized the bye week to the full extent,” Kugler said. “We are healthy—the healthiest we’ve felt all year. They want it—they want to compete. I don’t think we’ve done can’t go into games fearing (injuries). We need a more competitive nature in practice.”

Whether or not it is truly energy that is the staggering problem for UTEP, Kugler does label the offense as “not efficient” and “lack dimensional.” The Miners currently rank 127th in the nation for scoring (15.7 points per game) and rank 118th for total offense (322.2 yards per game). In addition, the Miners are among the worst in turnover margins (118th) with a -6 margin.

“Offensively, we have not been efficient,” Kugler said. “We are one-dimensional. I believe that we have to get our best five upfront, which will help the offense greatly.”

Offensively, quarterback Ryan Metz was sidelined following the last game after suffering a concussion during the LA Tech game on Oct. 1. This week, according to Kugler, Metz is back and ready to go. In his debut as starting quarterback, Metz completed 29 of 48 passes for 215 yards and a touchdown against the Bulldogs.

“Ryan Metz will be on the quarterback moving forward,” Kugler said. “He has developed as a quarterback. I don’t think you can draw up a better kid. He’s fearless—you need that from your quarterback.”

Mettz was not the only one who regained his health during the week, according to Kugler. Standout running back Aaron Jones and his twin brother defensive weapon, lineback Alvin Jones, are back to full health, as well as tight end Hayden Plunk, fullback Derrin Laufasa and corner back Karon Beverly.

Defensively, the Miners required Alvin Jones, who had a monster return to the gridiron. He recorded his career-high 16 tackles against FIU on Oct. 8, which was the most tackles by a Miner since Richard Spencer’s 17 tackles against LA Tech on Oct. 5, 2013.

Although Beverly is back to normal, freshmen Justin Rogers will continue to be the starter at the corner position. Rogers, who is a true freshman, is second on the team with four pass breakups and has recorded the team’s first interception.

“We (Rogers) is making big plays on defense,” Kugler said. “Both of those guys will get a chance to play, especially when we go to the nickel package, but he (Rogers) earned his playing time.”

UTSA U-3-2 (1-3 C-USA) has shown inconsistencies throughout their roller coaster season. They looked like a dominant threat through games such as their close loss to Arizona State (32-28) and win against Southern Mississippi (55-32)—a team the Miners lost to 34-7. However, they struggled in their loss to Colorado State (23-10), and barely squeaked out a win against the winless Rice Owls (14-13).

Last season, the Roadrunners embarrassed the Miners at home 25-6. In the game, Metz threw four interceptions against a hungry Roadrunner defense. This season, the same hungry Roadrunner defense is at issue. They rank at the top of the conference for points per game (24.3). Their defense ranks fourth in conference, allowing 406.2 yards per game. They are able to shut down the pass game effectively, also ranking fourth in C-USA with 222.7 yards per game.

“What we can’t do is go out there and get down early,” Kugler said. “Very UTSA jumps on teams feet and early with explosive plays.”

Kickoff is slated for 5 p.m. MT in the Alamodome.

WOMEN’S SOCCER STORMS BACK TO THE SCENE

After dropping two games last week, the Miners bounced back this week, beating UTSA (3-2) on Friday, Oct. 14, and Middle Tennessee (4-1) on Sunday, Oct. 16. UTEP improved to 11-4-2 and 4-3 on the season. The Miners will take on Marshall in Huntington, West Virginia, on Friday, Oct. 20, and then return home on Sunday, Oct. 23, against Florida Atlantic.

104 2nd 6th

Goalkeeper Alyssa Palacios leads all C-USA with 104 saves this season, and holds a .874 save percentage.

Aleah Davis is second in C-USA in both assists (7) and game-winning goals (4).

The Miners are currently sixth in conference, trailing Rice (5th) and North Texas (4th) by one game. They need to be in the top four to make it to postseason play.

Follow Adrian Broadus on twitter @Broadus_The_Local.
Miner hockey opens up home schedule

The Miner hockey club swept Grand Canyon University over the weekend, defeating them at home 7-3 and 4-2.

**BY JASON GREEN**

The UTEP hockey team opened their home schedule with two big wins over Grand Canyon University on Friday, Oct. 14, and Saturday, Oct. 15, at the El Paso County Coliseum Events Center.

They began the season with six road games, which included visits to TCU, North Texas and Texas A&M, the Miners’ club came into the weekend with only one loss to Texas A&M. With a strong record, they are near the top of the Southern Division of the Texas Collegiate Hockey Conference.

The 2016-17 season is the second for the UTEP hockey team, but the first for the conference—which is a part of the prestigious American Collegiate Hockey Association. The Antelopes arrived looking for their second win of the young season. However, the Miners played a determined brand of hockey in front of almost 1,000 fans each night. All weekend the Miners fans proved to be an asset at key times in the game for the young team and their enthusiasm did not go unnoticed by the young team or head coach Tom Herman.

“I thought it was a pretty solid crowd for mid-October and Friday night football. I was really happy with the turn out and the support for the team,” Herman said.

Comparing the crowd to what the team has seen on the road so far this season, Herman said, “we’ve beat their totals by two or three times.”

Miner forward Matt Sanca, freshman biology major, was very excited to be home wearing the orange and blue.

“The crowd is electric, this is the best place to play. It can’t get any better than that,” Sanca said. “The fans are so responsive—it’s freaking electric out there!”. Game one saw both teams open up at high speed with fresh legs after some time off, as the referees let play flow. Both goaltenders made fantastic saves at both ends, with Miner goalie Aleksandar Lazarski making time.’

After save after timely save that would begin a long weekend of frustration and stick slamming for numerous Antelope forwards. GCU opened the scoring on Friday, when forward Brenton Hill tipped in a rebound after timely save that would begin a long weekend of frustration and stick slamming for numerous Antelope forwards.

GCU opened the scoring on Friday, when forward Brenton Hill tipped in a rebound. The back-and-forth game saw a lot of open play with the Antelopes putting the pressure on the Miners to use their speed and superior game play to come back down to GCU home under no win. Several times in the period, a centering pass from behind the net found an open man in front of the net for a well-timed wrist shot and UTEP goal.

Last season, the story may have been different in a game that required defensive speed rather than just back-and-forth scoring. That may be the biggest difference in this year’s team for the Miners. Several freshmen defencemen have joined the team and immediately made a difference at the blue line.

“The freshmen have been great for us,” Head Coach Dalton Monaghan, (Kevin) Duncan, (Storm) Evans, (Mackenzie) Hollis and (Gabe) Gondrovi, ‘they’re really solidified our defense. It’s been great having those guys. It’s just been really nice to have depth,” Herman said.

On Saturday, the young defensemen not only solidified the defense, they also added to the scoresheet in the case of freshman business major Evans.

“It was great to finally get one, it’s been a few games since we had one, and scoring in front of that many fans is unreal,” Evans said. Evans’ wicked slap shot from the point on a Miners’ power play—UTEP’s third goal of the game—became the game winner when GCU added two late goals.

Herman was happy with his team’s performance over the weekend—going 2 for 2 against a very good opponent.

“It was a good weekend for us to open up at home. It was a good test,” Herman said. “I’m pretty happy with how it went.”

Friday night’s hero may have given fans even more reason to come out next weekend when he said—following Friday’s three goals—that the offense is just beginning to get going.

“We’re starting to get our skates under us now. We’re starting to feel it more,” Matt Sanca said.

The Miners welcome Northern Arizona University on Friday, Oct. 21, and Saturday, Oct. 22, as they try to snap a two-game losing skid in the Southern Texas Collegiate Hockey Conference championship.

**Basketball spotlight: Terry Winn takes the court**

The 6-foot-7 sophomore forward, Louisiana native Terry Lee Winn II, plans to add more to his game in the 2016-17 Miner basketball season.

Winn is looking to implement what the coaches are teaching the younger players as well as become more of a leader on the court as well as off the court.

“T. Winn” or “The Bull” is how his teammates refer to Winn. He gained the name “bull” because he dominates the paint, with a bully mentality.

Winn’s size and ability, in his position as power forward, challenges his opponents. With his ability to score and rebound, he also adds to the offense.

A total of 40 penalty minutes were logged in the game, mostly in a heated second period that ended with several roughing penalties followed by what amounted to a line brawl between both teams after the horn. Although bad blood could have spilled over into Saturday’s game, the referees managed to keep control without giving out many penalties.

Once again, on Saturday, goal-tending and defense frustrated the Antelopes as the Miners were able to only two goals in a 4-2 loss. The back-and-forth game saw a lot of open play with the Antelopes as the Miners were able to use their speed and superior game play to come back down to GCU home under no win. Several times in the period, a centering pass from behind the net found an open man in front of the net for a well-timed wrist shot and UTEP goal.

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By Sherika Lawrence

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Jennifer Han defends championship title against Martinez

BF world female featherweight champion Jennifer Han retained her title, defeating Lilian Martinez by unanimous decision (100-90, 96-94, and 98-92). The fight was seen by more than 2,000 cheering fans in the Don Haskins Center. Read more on the fight on theprospectordaily.com