



# THE PAISANO

Independent Student Newspaper for the University of Texas at San Antonio Community

/PaisanoOnline

/ThePaisano

@PaisanoMedia

@ThePaisano

www.Paisano-Online.com

## Students make claims on sexual assault

By Alejandro (AJ) Lopez  
Co-News Editor

The flyers posted on campus last week regarding sexual assault have a poignant message: “We, the women of UTSA, are choosing to take a stand against the rampant sexual assault and abuse on campus and in the world.”

“To see the flyer hung up on campus was revolutionary. As someone who has personally encountered instances dealing with rape, I believe this dialogue is worth having. Men and women need to congregate and talk about this topic that is so often overlooked,” said a member of the group posting the flyers. The Paisano is not identifying the source because she has been a victim of sexual assault.

President Taylor Eighmy sent two emails to the university community on Nov. 15 and Nov. 20 regarding the flyers posted in campus bathrooms.

“Sexual misconduct of any kind is unacceptable, and UTSA must be an institution of zero tolerance,” said Eighmy in one of his emails. Eighmy also stated that the university is conducting a Title IX investigation.

The member stated the reason the movement has taken matters into their own hands is due to the lack of support victims receive from universities.

“Colleges typically don’t report the accurate amount of rapes that happen on campus ... [Universities] are not taking care of their students. If no one is going to take care of them, then we need to take care of ourselves,” she said.

The movement wants to provide the resources universities are not providing, such as security and adequate counseling.

“If the school doesn’t want to provide those resources, then I don’t see why we can’t do it instead of sitting and complaining.”

The flyers were posted in UTSA bathrooms for a specific reason.

“I feel like one of the safest places for a woman to be, is in a restroom that is solely for women. You’re not going to be shamed for reading a flyer that’s on a stall or on the mirror.”

Eighmy stated in the email that the safety and the well-being of students and the entire UTSA community is a top priority.

“I am committed to tackling this situation head-on as well as advancing our work to cultivate a campus environment of zero-tolerance,” Eighmy said.

## Survey opposes new college of business building

By Alejandro (AJ) Lopez  
Co-News Editor

In a survey conducted among the faculty in the college of business (COB), 62 percent of participants opposed moving the COB to the Downtown Campus. Fifty-six full-time faculty and nine part-time faculty participated in the survey, which was sent to all faculty in the COB.

UTSA announced a new COB building in September after receiving several grants to expand the Downtown Campus. Currently, 6,700 students are enrolled in the COB at the Main Campus, and lack of space is a growing issue. Construction of the new building is set for 2020.

Out of the full-time faculty who participated, 35 opposed the new building and 12 supported it, while four part-time faculty opposed it and five supported it. Additionally, the survey asked faculty to list perceived advantages and disadvantages for students, faculty and the COB itself.

The perceived advantages and disadvantages for students that faculty voted for involved were difficulty in moving students back-and-forth between campuses (especially for non-business classes), parking and traffic

issues downtown, UTSA’s identity as a commuter university, decreased enrollment and potential partnerships with downtown San Antonio.

For perceived advantages and disadvantages, faculty listed a worse commute, loss of research productivity and research environment, parking issues, potential downtown partnerships and safety.

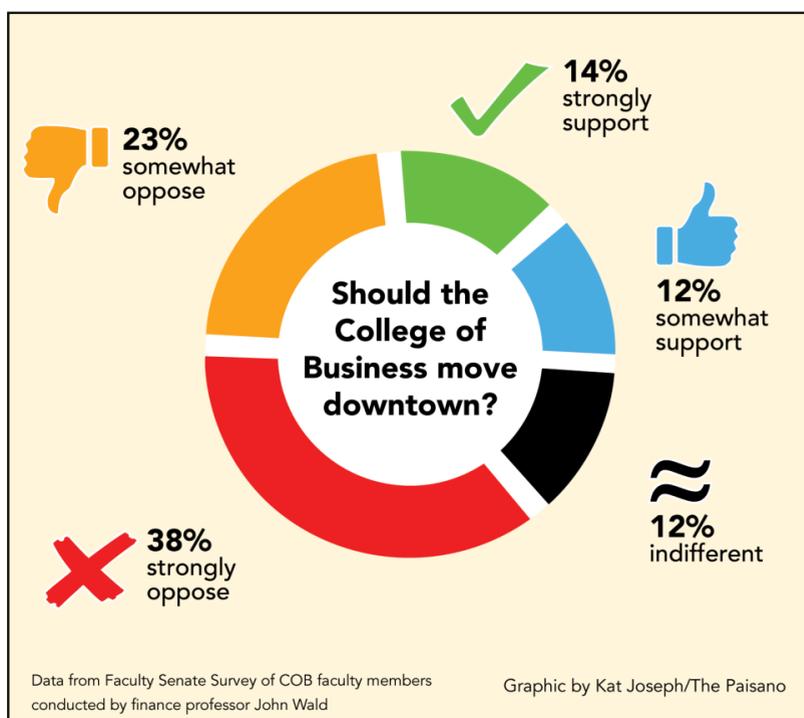
For the COB, they listed potential partnerships with businesses located down-

town, negative impact on research productivity and reputation, declining enrollment, increased visibility for the COB and the claim that the downtown area is not a business hub and that there are more businesses located near the Main Campus.

With major opposition from the faculty in this survey, junior cyber security major Johnny Guerrero gave his input on the new business building being built at the Downtown Campus.

“I think it would be kinda dumb because [UTSA] already has a business building here on the Main Campus,” Guerrero said. “So, having the main courses be [located] downtown but then having the [cyber security] lab on Main Campus seems like splitting it up for no reason.”

Since completing the survey, faculty suggested obtaining students’ input on the new COB building and taking their opinions into consideration.



## Research improves plastic and petroleum production

By Carlos Prado  
Contributing Writer

UTSA’s chemistry department has made discoveries that could potentially change manufacturers’ production of plastics and petroleum.

Over 90 percent of the everyday products people use have a form of plastic in them. Plastic is made from oil deep underground that has been sitting for billions of years. The oil must be extracted, changed and formed to make petroleum-based products like plastic. Crude oil is transported by trucks or tankers to a refinery where the oil is then broken down into a variety of components like liquids and gas.

In addition to oil, plastic requires natural resources like water and energy. The water produces steam, which is needed to break apart the molecules used to form plastic. This way of separating is very expensive and requires a lot of energy.

UTSA’s chemistry department discovered a way to change the plastic production process. Lead researchers and post-doctoral students Libo Li and Rubibiano Lin expressed that they have always had a passion for chemistry.

“Ever since I was in middle

school I always had a passion for chemistry and was fascinated seeing crystals under microscopes,” Li said. “During high school, my curiosity in seeing the structures of atoms got me interested in my current career,” Lin said.

Both of these students were under the guidance of professor Banglin Chen, dean’s distinguished chair professor of chemistry, had a hand in discovering a filtering material that may reduce the environmental cost of manufacturing plastic.

The researchers used a new framework to harvest the major form of ingredients that help form plastic. This new style of harvesting the chemical bonds cuts down on a lot of time and energy that is usually consumed in the process. The material used is a metal-organic framework (MOF), a class of substances used to separate individual hydrocarbons from organic molecules that are produced during the oil refining process. The chemistry team showed that a modification to a well-studied MOF enables it to separate purified ethylene out of a mixture with ethane.

Polyethylene – the most widely used form of plastic – is created from ethylene, one of the

many hydrocarbon molecules found in crude oil. Ethylene must be highly purified. If it is not purified it will not work. The current available technology for purifying ethylene from all the other chemical bonds is a highly taxing process that requires cooling down the crude oil to less than 100 degrees below zero Celsius.

The team believed that to break the bonds in the molecule, the compound would have to first attract the molecule. The team used a MOF labeled under MOF-74 to test their studies on. When they modified MOF-74’s shell to contain a structure that resembled the compound, it turned out the molecule it attracted from their mixture was ethane.

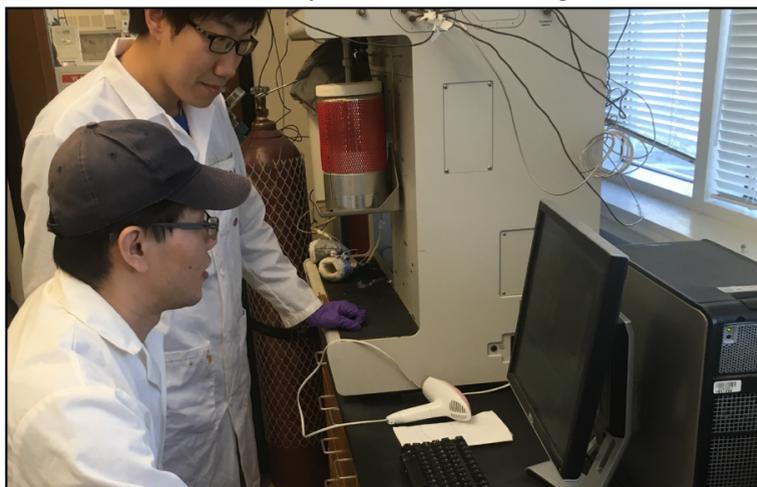
“Once we got the organic compounds of the MOF we can use it as a starting point, mix it with certain metals to get the product of MOF,” Li said.

These products would form crystal-like structures which create new

materials. One can now extract the structure information from these crystals that are produced.

The team would later use a technique called neutron diffraction. Neutron diffraction is a form of elastic scattering where the neutrons exiting the experiment have more or less the same energy as the incident neutrons. The sample to be examined is placed in a beam of thermal or cold neutrons and the intensity pattern around the sample gives information about the structure of the material. This technique showed that the modifications were a success.

Li, Lin and many researchers



Libo Li and Rubibiano Lun are researchers in this project.

Carlos Prado/The Paisano

# Alpin Park Apartments

**The Most Spacious and Most Affordable  
Apartments Near Campus!!!**

**Located just 1 block from UTSA & La Cantera Mall**

**Special Student Pricing!!!**

**Lease by December and pay**

**\$0 leasing Fees / \$0 Deposit**

**\*SHUTTLE SERVICE AVAILABLE ON CHASE HILL**

Visit [www.Alpinparksa.com](http://www.Alpinparksa.com) or stop by

15726 Chase Hill Blvd San Antonio, TX 78256

**210.691.5746**

# OPINION

## The journey to graduation

Editorial

Sunday, Dec. 16 may not be an important date to many of you, but to this semester's graduating seniors, it is of the highest significance. Commencement is a celebratory milestone, the beginning of a new chapter and the distancing of another. Your time, experiences and knowledge gained at UTSA are memories that should be cherished, good or bad.

Your first moments on the UTSA campus were met with excitement and anticipation about where this new chapter would take you. You received your free "Class of 20--" shirt and decided whether it was still cool to wear after the end of your freshman year. You tried out different campus organizations, made and lost friends

and hopefully found a career aspiration.

You've faced rain storms, hail storms – and because of the growing parking shortage – the terror-filled shuttle rides. No two UTSA students have the same experiences or share the same sentiments, as not all graduates are excited for commencement and only participate in the spectacle for their family. For many college graduates, this isn't the end, and they don't find the four-year bachelor's degree ceremony to be a necessary event as they begin a new degree plan. Those returning students may be attending law school, medical school or returning in the spring to start their master's or doctoral degrees.

Excitement has grown as we close up our last semester of the

college chapter. Some of our chapters may not be finished, but for many of us, they are. Every good thing comes to an end, but a new beginning is on the horizon. While this chapter ends, we start to scratch the surface of what awaits the next one.

Many of us express deep sadness and fear as commencement grows near. We've been told our whole lives that college is the "best time of your life," so as that time ends, are we approaching the worst time of our lives? After the time of joyful, stress-free childhoods and the stressful-yet-electrifying college years, what adjectives await us next?

For many of us, school-life is all we have ever known. We wake up, go to class, come home, do our homework, wake

up and repeat for an average of 18 school years. Saying it's finally over is overwhelmingly hard to accept. How can it be over? We only just started.

These feelings are normal, and as we feel sad, we must remember what joys proper adulthood will bring. Soon enough our depression and anxiety will decrease, we'll have time for self-love and we'll be earning the money we've only dreamt about.

If you've played your cards right in your college years, you've hopefully added at least one internship to your resume or garnered enough experience to earn a full-time job right out of college. Never settle for anything you aren't passionate about, and never allow the opinions of others take your dreams away.

So, as you move your tassel on Dec. 16 – either in-person or on your own – acknowledge what it represents. It represents your academic achievements, conquered hurdles and vanquished growing pains. We are turning the page, or tassel if you will, as we enter and approach adulthood.

**HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?**

**WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR!**

Send your letters to [Manager@paisano-online.com](mailto:Manager@paisano-online.com)

## Editorial Cartoon



## Democratic threat: warnings from ancient philosophers

Commentary



By Chase Parsons  
Assistant Managing Editor

Through my study of American politics, I have come to the conclusion that our political climate today is as divisive as the outbreak of the Civil War. There are many factors which plague our political system today, but the one which I feel is most dangerous to democracy is tribalism.

It is surprising how similar our situation is to the democratic systems of ancient Athens and Rome when they started to unravel. While thousands of years separate our governments, the same enemies of democracy exist in the hearts of men. While there are great examples from men like Plato, Aristotle and Socrates, one need look

no further than the stasis at Corcyra, book three, to see how dangerous tribalism can be. In the Athenian assembly, words lost their meaning, and people like the Sophists would make appeals based on emotion rather than logic. Those who were politically prudent and took time to consider the facts were labeled cowards. Political tensions spilled over into civil war as a result of tribalism. We as a people must be sure to take heed of the threats of tribalism so such a thing doesn't happen in America.

In today's society, much like in the days of Thucydides, politics has become static and unmoving. It has long been seen as difficult to go out and fight with political enemies and thereby become champions of one's faction. This is absurd. It is much more difficult to agree on something when both sides get something they want. The currency of politics on concession, meaning that one must give up something the other side wants in order to get something else in return. Sadly this is being forgotten in the halls of

government today.

It is up to us, as citizens, to have our own mind about politics. Don't be sheep who are easily duped by hollow promises and enticing rhetoric. A person's vote is their voice in politics, and one should be informed about what they are voting on. It will soon be our generation who leads this great nation of ours, and whoever is in the White House or whichever party controls Congress, it is up to us to come together as citizens and make a difference.

We must be ever watchful of our language to make sure that the meaning of words are not corrupted. Tribalism spells the death of democracy, and populism leads to mob rule. It is up to us to see that our democracy continues. As I graduate in December, I'm handing the baton off to those of you who are reading this. This being my final article, I will use the same sign off as the great Walter Cronkite did in his last anchor broadcast: "And that's the way it is."

## Black and queer in America: the double negative

Commentary



By Ryan Thompson  
Staff Writer

Black and queer in America: the double negative. To grow up a black male in America is to grow up confused and uncertain of your place. You are constantly made aware of your larger features and your color. One could argue that growing up a queer male is a traumatic experience on its own. You

must be aware of who's around and how they might respond to your queerness. The combination of these two worlds – a black man and a queer – can be seen as a double negative. Coming to terms with my identity as a black queer male was one of the hardest things I've ever had to do.

This journey left me lost and broken. I had no place in the black community because I was gay – I was condemned. Black, gay males are chastised, speaking against homosexuality in church and even calling for their persecution in hip-hop music and culture. No black parents' fathers especially – want a gay son or daughter. If you are a

gay son, you are a threat to the hypermasculine ideology of the black male; it is a scenario in which your family subconsciously recognizes your queerness, but it is never openly discussed. But, just as I was unwelcome in the black community, I was even more so in the gay community.

I had no place as an LG-BTQ+ because I was black. Racism, often disguised as "preference," is alive in the LGBTQ+ community. Blackness is like the equivalent of wearing the scarlet letter. The ideal of the European white male with light eyes and blonde hair stood to remind me how far from the standard of beauty I really was. I was reminded

every time I looked into the mirror that I would never be desired, as long as my hair was rough, my nose was big and my lips poked out a little more than the "ideal" gay male. Every time I turned on the TV and saw some representation of the gay male – it was one that I couldn't identify with.

I spent years running from my blackness using countless chemicals on my hair to achieve a silky standard. I was slowly chipping away at my identity. And what pierced me even more was the disdain towards black men. I remember scrolling through dating apps and seeing bios that read, "not into blacks."

You are constantly made

aware that you are lumped together as one and erased from the equation. And, at the other end of the spectrum lies the fetishization of the black male. You are left feeling like some African safari adventure that gay men go on once just for the thrill. So, what do you do when you're caught between two communities and feel insecure in both?

It took me a while to confront my own self-loathing, but once I did, I was able to overcome it. I have come to know I am not beautiful despite my blackness, but I am beautiful because of it – my big nose, large lips and bold features included.

So, I write this to create a space for the next black

queer adolescent who may be facing this same identity crisis. Little black queer boy, you are important and valuable. You aren't a disappointment to your family, and you aren't something to be coped with. One day you will see that you deserve to be celebrated just like every other queer male. There is a place in this world for you, and if you feel like there isn't, you must create one, one in which your brownness and queerness can live in perfect harmony and you don't have to seek heterosexual validation. And, if you can't seem to find the courage to create this space of your own, you can come join me in mine.

# Zach's declassified finals survival guide

Commentary



By Zach Truesdale  
Staff Writer

Grab your cloak and pencil — fall finals are coming. That being said, there are ways to come out on top and succeed through this hectic time of year. With this survival guide, I hope to help all students thrive and survive this upcoming grading period.

## Clean!

Cleaning your room, area of study or just your

backpack will help clear clutter — both physically and mentally. A clean space is a healthy space.

## Hit Up Your Classmates

Meeting up to work with classmates is crucial to understanding the content for class. Supplemental Instruction (SI) Sessions, when available, are another alternative to making the most of a class. When it comes to studying and preparation, strength comes in numbers. Collaborating with your peers is a great way of increasing your chances for an A. Don't be afraid to hit up the professor as well, if something is not explained thoroughly enough. At the end of the day, everyone is there to succeed and get better.

## Create a To-Do List

I know it sounds cliché, but a to-do list keeps you on a path and mentally in check. It is perfectly fine to start small and work your way up to more challenging tasks. Stay at a comfortable pace. As long as you stay productive, you feel good, which will lead to more productivity. As Deion Sanders said, "If you look good, you feel good. If you feel good, you play good. If you play good, they pay good." You may not be getting paid, per se, but you will be rewarded by achieving your goals and obtaining a sense of accomplishment. Plus, once finals are finished, you will have all the time to do whatever it is you please.

## Workout

Referring back to the quote above, feeling good is arguably the biggest aspect of success for finals. One of the best ways to feel empowered is through working out. Cardio or lifting weights can suffice. Post-workout you will feel as if you can take on the world!

## Find Your Comfort Zone

Some people study in the comfort of their own home. Some like coffee shops or libraries — the list goes on. Find your element and get to work. Being in a comfortable environment can go a long way when studying. Just don't get too comfortable and fall asleep.

## Start Early

It is easier said than done. The smallest push of productivity will create a domino effect and you will begin to finish things left and right. Prioritizing assignments first is crucial for getting work done. There is no better feeling than watching Netflix or hanging out with friends, knowing you do not have to worry about turning in any assignments. The earlier the better, so you have the rest of the day to enjoy your hobbies.

## Don't Forget to Relax

This is probably the most important aspect of this guide. Relaxation reduces stress and leads to a calmer mind. Whether it be spending time with friends and family, watching something

or just taking a fat nap, you've got to treat yourself after working hard. There are a plethora of events around San Antonio that can entertain you in the midst of study days and finals week. One fan favorite is the annual lighting of the River Walk, which occurs the day after Thanksgiving.

It can be hard, but just remember, it will be worth it once the grind is over. It helps being surrounded by friendly faces with similar goals. These tips are here to help fellow students make the most of their limited time frames and utilize their resources under pressure.

# Preparing for finals with drugs

Commentary



By Lauren Donecker  
Staff Writer

You are startled awake as your head hits your textbook. Finals are coming up, and you have basically been living at the library for the past week. This is your last chance to save your grades and it is so overwhelming. Your eyes flutter each time you attempt to focus on the text. You need sleep, but you don't have the time. Studying is the top priority.

A friend scored someone's prescription medication and he has aced all of his exams so far and doesn't feel like a zombie after taking them. Maybe you could try it too. It can't hurt, right?

Many students fall into the temptation and pressure of taking drastic measures to prepare for finals week. Prescription psychoactive medications — such as Adderall — act primarily on the central nervous system where they alter brain function, resulting in temporary changes

in perception, mood, consciousness and behavior.

This type of drug is rising in popularity among students and young adults, aged 18 to 25, to aid in concentration (NIDA). According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), this abuse of prescription psychoactive medications among students is on the rise due to increased academic pressures. Consequently, those students who rely on these drugs will become dependent on them to succeed. Abuse of prescription drugs in this manner is second only to marijuana use and is incredibly dangerous.

While students who choose to self-medicate with these drugs focus on the supposed benefits of increased concentration and lowered stress level, they neglect to consider the serious negative side effects. Since the students abusing these drugs do not actually need them, you never know how their body will react.

According to the American Addiction Center, common symptoms of Adderall misuse include: sleep difficulties (falling asleep or staying asleep), headaches, shaking uncontrollably in an area of

the body, feeling faint, dizziness, changes in vision and seizures. Not to mention, it is illegal to possess prescription drugs that are not prescribed to you by a doctor. Even worse, some of these medications are quite addictive; therefore, it becomes increasingly difficult to study without the use of these prescription drugs, despite the serious risk. The best way to address this rising trend is to raise awareness of the severity of drug abuse. Regardless of the alleged benefits, the consequences are not worth it.

A few healthy ways to increase your concentration while studying include: snacking on light, healthy foods, removing distractions (including irrelevant electronics, people, and excessive noise), giving yourself checkpoints to accomplish with short breaks in between as a reward and last, but most importantly, getting plenty of sleep. You will not retain the information if your brain is tired, so an all-nighter is actually detrimental to your studying.

With this information in mind, stay safe, and best of luck on your upcoming finals!

# Our thirst for bottled water

Commentary



By Robert Gibbons'  
AIS Class  
Guest Writer

We don't know how Dr. Robert Gibbons, M.D., survived past 20-years-old. Gibbons stated that while he was in college, he never carried a water bottle to class. He noticed that many of us had plastic water bottles and questioned why we brought them to class. Students said bottled water is cleaner, tastes better and is convenient. He encouraged us to research these reasons and consider the real cost of bottled water besides the price we pay for it; he helped us plan a way to estimate the purchase price of bottled water versus other beverages at UTSA.

While various numbers can be found, the general facts are sound: Americans spend \$16 billion a year on bottled water. Bottled water consumption increases by approximately 10 percent each year. The manufacturing, processing, transportation and cooling of America's 50 billion water bottles per year requires 30 to 50 million barrels of oil each year. Bottled water actually requires two to three times

more water to produce than what ends up in the bottle. Only 25 percent of water bottles are recycled, sending 38 billion bottles to landfills, and the recycling process requires further use of energy and water.

Most bottled water initially comes from the local municipal water supply. This may be a good thing. Tap water is tested multiple times a day by the EPA, and the FDA tests bottled water weekly. After bottled water is "purified," some trace minerals are added back because people find pure water can taste flat. As a side note, tap water has more trace minerals that are beneficial for us.

Bottled water is outrageously expensive. A 20-ounce bottle of Aquafina at UTSA costs \$1.79. The hottest seller, LIFEWTR, costs \$2.50 a liter. Of course, with this purchase you also get "premium bottled water" and spotlights of emerging artists — the most important things for your water needs. Keeping track of how much you spend on bottled water may be illuminating. Depending on how bottled water is purchased (bulk or single purchase) its dollar-cost ratio to tap water runs from 400-4000 (single purchase at UTSA is probably greater than 4000).

Part of the bottled water craze is probably related to the erroneous concept

that you need eight glasses of water a day. There is no scientific evidence for this; obviously this would vary by body size and activities being done. Websites encouraging this are often ultimately supported by bottled water manufacturers.

We discovered that several taste tests have been done. Tap water often scored very well, even being preferred over bottled water. Convenience could be an issue, and drinking fountains are becoming less common (not surprising given the rise of bottled water consumption).

In our bottled water survey conducted at UTSA, we divided our four classes to cover different zones of the Main Campus. We assessed what percentage of the available beverages were bottled water. In seven PODS we found 20 percent to be bottled water. And in 67 vending machines, we found 22 percent of the offered beverages to be bottled water.

Unfortunately, as Gibbons taught us, facts rarely change behavior or opinions. Persuasion and a change in mindset tend to require an emotional response. It's interesting that costs and concerns for the environment have not slowed or stopped the use of bottled water.

# THE PAISANO

**Kenyatta Battle** | Managing Editor  
*Manager@paisano-online.com*

**Chase Parsons** | Assistant Managing Editor  
**David Crawford** | Assistant Managing Editor

## News

**Heather Montoya** | Co-News Editor  
*News@paisano-online.com*

**Alejandro "AJ" Lopez** | Co-News Editor  
*News@paisano-online.com*

**Kimiya Factory** | Assistant News Editor  
**Arnulfo Caballero** | Assistant News Editor

## Arts & Life

**Katrina Clements** | Arts & Life Editor  
*Arts@paisano-online.com*  
**Kirkland Luther** | Assistant Arts & Life Editor

## Photo

**Ricky Galindo** | Photography Editor  
*Photo@paisano-online.com*  
**Ellyson Ortega** | Assistant Photography Editor

## Sports

**Ryan Garza** | Sports Editor  
*Sports@paisano-online.com*

**Lindsey Thomas** | Assistant Sports Editor  
Online

**Kat Joseph** | Multimedia Editor  
*Multimedia@paisano-online.com*

**Maha Qadri** | Assistant Multimedia Editor

**Brandon Armstead** | Web Editor  
*Web@paisano-online.com*

**Jose Chapal** | Assistant Web Editor  
**Michael Ontiveros** | Assistant Web Editor

## Staff

**Natalie Hollenbeck** | Senior Copy Editor  
**Josh Benavides** | Assistant Copy Editor  
**Josh Levario** | Assistant Copy Editor  
**Ryan Thompson** | Staff  
**Amber Chin** | Staff  
**Zachary Truesdale** | Staff  
**Rebecca Saenz** | Staff  
**Roman Felan** | Staff  
**Kaylee Boggan** | Staff  
**Jack Myer** | Staff  
**Iliana Sanchez** | Staff  
**Brent Davis** | Staff  
**Caleb Neasman** | Staff  
**Lauren Donecker** | Staff  
**Nisa Rodriguez** | Staff  
**Adrienne Kristianto** | Staff

## Business

**Will Stransky** | Business Manager  
*Business@paisano-online.com*

**Valery Assad** | Marketing Manager  
*Marketing@paisano-online.com*

**Jenelle Duff** | Advertising Liaison  
*Ads@paisano-online.com*

**Kristy Olson** | Social Media Coordinator  
**Amanda Avalos** | Marketing Staff

## Advisory Board

**Diane Abdo** | Advisor  
*Diane.Abdo@utsa.edu*

**Steven Kellman** | Advisor  
**Jack Himelblau** | Advisor  
**Stefanie Arias** | Advisor  
**Sandy Norman** | Advisor  
**Red Madden** | Advisor

The Paisano is published by the Paisano Educational Trust, a non-profit, tax exempt, educational organization. The Paisano is operated by members of the Student Newspaper Association, a registered student organization. The Paisano is NOT sponsored, financed or endorsed by UTSA. New issues are published every Tuesday during the fall and spring semesters, excluding holidays and exam periods. The Paisano is distributed on all three UTSA campuses — Main, Downtown and the Institute of Texan Cultures. Additionally, Paisano publications are distributed at a variety of off-campus locations, including Tri-point and a variety of apartment complexes near the UTSA Main Campus. All revenues are generated through advertising and donations. Advertising inquiries and donations should be directed to: 14526 Roadrunner Way Suite 101 San Antonio, TX 78249 Phone: (210)-690-9301

© 2018, The Paisano

The University of Texas at San Antonio's Handbook of Operating Procedures states in 5.03 that: The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) will not exercise control over the format or content of Student Publications, but will regulate distribution on campus. Student Publications will be free of censorship and advance approval of copy, and their editors and managers are solely responsible for editorial and content policies and decisions. Editors and managers of Student Publications will not be subject to arbitrary suspension/expulsion or removal from their positions within a Registered or Sponsored Student Organization (Student Organization) by the University because of student, faculty, administrative, or public disapproval of editorial policy or content. Student Organizations that distribute Student Publications are afforded the same rights and privileges as Student Organizations that do not distribute Student Publications.

# ARTS & LIFE

## Getting intimate with Eden Collins

UTSA graduate student explores the art of play, sexuality and the self



By Katrina Clements  
Arts & Life Editor

In her studio at the Sculpture and Ceramics Graduate Studio building, Eden Collins sits at her desk which is covered in molds of butt plugs and vibrators for a series in progress. Her studio, filled with works from her recent exhibit, current projects and yards of colorful furry fabrics, reflect how fun and imaginative her work is. Collins is a graduate student at UTSA who teaches 3D Foundations, Sculpture for Non-Majors and Introduction to Art. After recently closing her MFA thesis exhibit "Sometimes I Play With Myself," Collins is creating new works as she approaches graduation.

As a child, Collins knew she was meant to create. In kindergarten, people always ask what you want to be when you grow up; "I remember going between a ballerina and an artist, but one day someone asked me, and I just said 'I'm going to be an artist,'" Collins remembers. After attending veterinary school for two years, Collins switched to majoring in art for her undergrad. "In all of my math and science classes, I never felt like I could think for myself. Here's the problem and here's the solution. But with art it was like, here are all of these problems, now find every way possible to solve it," Collins said. Entering her major as a sopho-



more, Collins felt behind compared to her peers who had been studying art throughout their adolescence. However, Collins kept pushing as she was determined to pursue her passion.

To further her education and her art experience, Collins, originally from West Branch MI, moved to San Antonio for a change of pace. "The whole reason I came here is because I wanted to experience a different culture. There's a stigma about Texas up north, but then I came down here and people were so kind and accepting. People were hugging me and interested in what I was doing," Collins explained. Having almost completed her time at UTSA, Collins reflects on her experience as a graduate student as "so many feelings all at once. I went from moments of 'this is incredible, I love it, I'm so happy,' to 'I'm a failure, I'm an imposter, I don't belong here,'" she said. Imposter syndrome is something many creative students experience, but Collins recognized that she was here for a reason; she was accepted at UTSA for a reason.

As an artist, student and educator, Collins sympathizes with those working through some of the most stressful times of their college careers. She advises UTSA art students to "Listen to the feedback. Listen to it and start to develop your own sieve. Figure out what feedback is productive for you and what feedback is useful only so far as to what information it gives you." She stressed the importance of being open to feedback that you might not agree with, as it is sometimes the most helpful. "The feedback that



sometimes stings, or leaves you licking your wounds later, often makes you grow more than the feedback that makes you feel warm and fuzzy," she said.

Producing work continuously for classes or for pleasure can be challenging when thinking of new concepts or ideas for these works. As Collins described, art is problem solving, whether it might be a problem that you create or is already present. When in a lull, Collins said she creates a problem for herself, "If I know I want to use this material, I ask myself what is it about this material that is interesting to me and how can I go from there?"

In her MFA thesis "Sometimes I Play With Myself," Collins featured a set of characters that embody pieces of herself. These characters are not featured in all of her works, but they play a significant role. "If my art was a tree, the characters are one of the larger branches at the bottom, but they are not one of the only branches," she said. Her works all stem from the same root system, and these characters will continue to grow and develop, eventually making their exit or joining forces with other characters. Currently, Collins is in the process of creating a new character or collection, which will be centered around textures and touch. "They are super touch oriented, and they just want to touch everything. I feel like they embody that part of everyone that wants to touch; as humans, we understand through touch," she said.

In her work, Collins connects things materially, so the pieces communicate



visually with each other and then people start to connect them contextually. When choosing materials for these works, Collins goes visual shopping. "I often will go shopping in stores that I have no intention of buying things from and take visual pictures and stick them somewhere in my subconscious for it to surface later," she explained. Collins loves walking down the rope and cabinet aisles of hardware stores and noticing what things exist that she could potentially use for building her works. "Each idea surfaces when it's ready," she said while pulling a roll of glittery purple table vinyl material. "Like this was supposed to be in my thesis, but I wasn't happy with it. But it's so delightfully tacky that it will surely make an appearance at some point," she said. She keeps these unused materials or objects that she finds hung around her studio, so when the time is right, they can strike inspiration.

As Collins makes plans for her future as an artist, she will continue to teach at UTSA next semester. She has loved her experience so far at UTSA and is excited to continue as an educator. For her performances and future exhibits, information can be found on her Instagram: @edencollins\_art.

Left photo: Courtesy of Jessica Just  
Right three photos: Katrina Clements/The Paisano

## The Lonesome Rose

Opening night of the oldest honky tonk on the St. Mary's strip



By Kirkland Luther

Assistant Arts & Life Editor

On Nov. 16, 2016, an electrical fire burned down the beloved San Antonio bar and nightclub The Phantom Room. The building was considered a total loss and despite reopening a year later, the owners decided to shut its doors on Aug. 11, 2018.

There is a new watering hole in its place. Pasadena had Gilley's, Austin has The White Horse and now San Antonio has the Lonesome Rose. The honky-tonk and backyard officially opened its doors on the St. Mary's Strip Thursday Nov. 15, and had a three-day grand opening celebration full of libations and live music including DT Buffkin, Mark Weber and even co-owner Garrett T. Capps.

Although the origins of the word are disputed, honky-tonk is the name given to both country music bars and the subgenre of music. These bars are typically found in the southern United States and are popular spots for musicians to showcase their talent. Guitar, fiddle, steel guitar, bass and piano encompass the usual honky-tonk sound. However, accordion and banjo are just a few of the other instruments that can make the musical landscape.

San Antonio musician Garrett T. Capps is co-owner

of the Lonesome Rose alongside Danny Delgado who owns Hi-Tones, Faust and Lowcountry. Delgado approached Capps based on his past booking experience for other venues like Paper Tiger. "Basically, my relationship to...the entire alternative country scene has resulted in me being the guy in San Antonio that can book bands because no one from San Antonio is playing this type of music," Capps explained.

The new establishment has an old sense of familiarity. The plain exterior with simple signage displaying "Lonesome Rose" contrasts the lively and mesmerizing interior. Wood panels line the walls from corner to corner. Patrons are immediately faced with an illuminated Pearl beer clock surrounded by countless photographs of famous faces and local hit-makers. The simple stage resides on the left side of the building with a wooden Native American chief standing guard.

The walls are decorated with vintage neon advertisements for beers like Schlitz, Budweiser, Carta Blanca and Miller High Life collectively buzzing along with the chatter of thirsty patrons. Over at the bar, folks lean over the counter to request their drink of choice. Every

kind of liquor imaginable lines the back of the bar and a hefty aluminum tub is home to a seemingly endless supply of ice-cold Lone Star beer. A circa 1960s John Wayne movie played on a TV in the right corner behind the bar while the iconic actor's larger than life frame consumed the screen and gazed down at the customers.

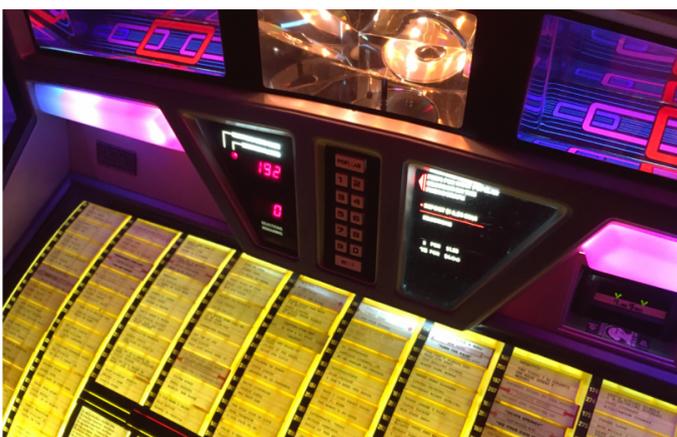
A door on the left side of the building leads to the backyard which houses an outside bar, plenty of seats, a food truck and various artwork including a stone Virgin Mary statue decorated with deer antlers and lights weathered away by years of display.

Back inside is arguably the crown jewel of the entire establishment, the juke box. It contains over 100 songs

ranging from classic alternative country greats like Waylon Jennings, George Jones, Loretta Lynn and Willie Nelson to Ramones, Elton John, and Ween. The warm glow of neon illuminates the faces of eager viewers in a soft mix of yellows, purples and reds.

The Lonesome Rose is an extremely important and impactful addition to the San Antonio music scene and overall culture. It is a place of authenticity where if you come as you are, you are welcome.

It's a meeting place for all sides of San Antonio and it doesn't matter if you own a cowboy hat or not. Lonesome Rose is only in its first weeks of establishment, yet it already feels familiar. Everyone inside breathes a collective sigh of relief for finally having a place they've wanted for so long or never knew they needed.



Kirkland Luther/The Paisano



Kirkland Luther/The Paisano

# Nothin' but a gouda time

## The Block hosts mac and cheese contest

By Lauren Donecker  
Staff Writer

The Block hosted a Macaroni and Cheese Throwdown event on Saturday Nov. 17. Tickets to the event cost \$15 to sample seven unique variations of macaroni offered (one from each food truck), and a token to vote for your favorite macaroni execution. The Block also sold a \$20 ticket that added mimosas to the experience. Eager attendees formed lines from the beginning of the event at 1 p.m. until closing at 6 p.m. While this wait seems like a downer, the Block staff and food trucks were prepared for the crowd and kept things moving quickly and smoothly.

Go Vegan San Antonio featured a vegan-friendly version of the traditional macaroni and cheese. The dish was made with egg-free elbow pasta and a sauce made with non-dairy Follow Your Heart shreds, non-dairy milk, carrots, onions, potatoes, cashews, hot sauce and spices. The cooks at Go Vegan really know what they are doing — you would never know that their macaroni and cheese doesn't actually contain cheese!

The Ronin Ramen food truck was next up on the list. Despite macaroni and cheese not being their specialty (judging from their truck name), they knew what they were doing. The taste testers raved about their combination of classic macaroni and cheese, because they switched it up by mixing in shredded brisket, a Texas favorite. But they didn't stop there; they daringly topped the perfect pair with cheesy Goldfish crackers.

Bob and Timmy's Grilled Pizza on Wheels decided to give the macaroni a sophisticated approach. They whipped up a beautiful lobster bisque macaroni and cheese. The dish was creamy and cheesy with a touch of lobster and spices. The cooks added garnishes that really brought the whole presentation together.

This next sample was a big shock. Twisted Traditions lived up to their name getting really creative with

their presentation. They created a fried egg roll with brisket and macaroni and cheese filling, topped with a tangy barbecue sauce and garlic aioli. There are no words for the flavor explosion of this bite. Who knew that such different types of food are able to come together so seamlessly?

The Bull Goji Boys food truck tried its luck at an underappreciated version of macaroni and cheese: the deep-fried macaroni bite. The combination of the crispy exterior with a cheesy center is any macaroni lover's dream — especially here in the south where the best foods are fried.

The most eye-catching presentation of macaroni and cheese came from SlimeDog food truck. The chefs served their take on pasta in a cone! They dipped the cone in melted queso and scooped macaroni and cheese inside. Lastly, they topped it with crumbled Hot Cheetos, feta and sprouts. Eager samplers lined up at the beautiful sight.

Last but not least, Chef Jose B, appealed to Texan's spicy side, by creating a white cheddar jalapeño macaroni and cheese paired with a crispy chicken wing. The pasta was incredibly creamy and had just enough spice for flavor, but not too much to leave tasters afraid of taking the next bite. The chef fried the wing perfectly and it had incredible flavor — a power duo that had me coming back for more!

Eager attendants voted for their favorite version of macaroni and cheese by placing their coin in the respective container. Then the wait began. The Block announced the winner of the Macaroni and Cheese Throwdown on Sunday afternoon on their Facebook page: "WINNER of the Mac & Cheese Throwdown is ...



Twisted Traditions-SA! Out of seven competing food trucks, a whopping 182 of 651 people chose the Cheesy Swine, a pulled pork and mac & cheese egg roll that left your taste buds dancing with flavor!"

## Big Sis Advice: The world is your oyster

By Kimiya Factory  
Assistant News Editor



The closing of this semester means another chapter of life for the graduating Class of 2018. All of those long nights in the library and times you stood in line forever at the One Stop Enrollment office finally paid off. Wooh, right? Maybe not so much for some people.

The closer that graduation gets, the more I hear about my senior friends facing the reality of absolute adulthood. All of a sudden, the careless facade of college wears down into a valuable degree, what's next?

While I am asking myself what makes the word of a junior in college writing this advice even valid, I've observed friends who have dived head-first into this thing we call "the real world." My previous debate partner is in law school, traveling the country on a mock-trial team, while another just accepted a full-time job with PepsiCo before even walking the stage. And while I gloat, proud as a peacock watching my friends thrive in their everyday adult-lives on social media, I feel a rock at the pit of my stomach because I wonder how they make it look so easy. The fact of the matter is: it isn't easy.

To the graduating Class of 2018, as you leave behind the weird in-between of adulthood that we call college, don't let the world make you, you make it. Walk into that interview like you've already got the job, frame your degree and put it high on a wall; you've made it this far.

All of the skills that you need to make the world your oyster are already there, you just need to believe in them. You got this, and next year while holding my breath, I will too.

Thank you for joining me this semester.

For the Class of 2018,  
Xoxo,  
Big Sis

From top to bottom:

Bob and Timmy's Grilled Pizza on Wheels' lobster bisque mac and cheese.

Twisted Traditions' brisket mac and cheese egg roll.

SlimeDog's mac and cheese cone.

All photos courtesy of Lauren Donecker

Send your suggestions for Big Sis Advice to arts@paisano-online.com

## DESTINO SAN ANTONIO

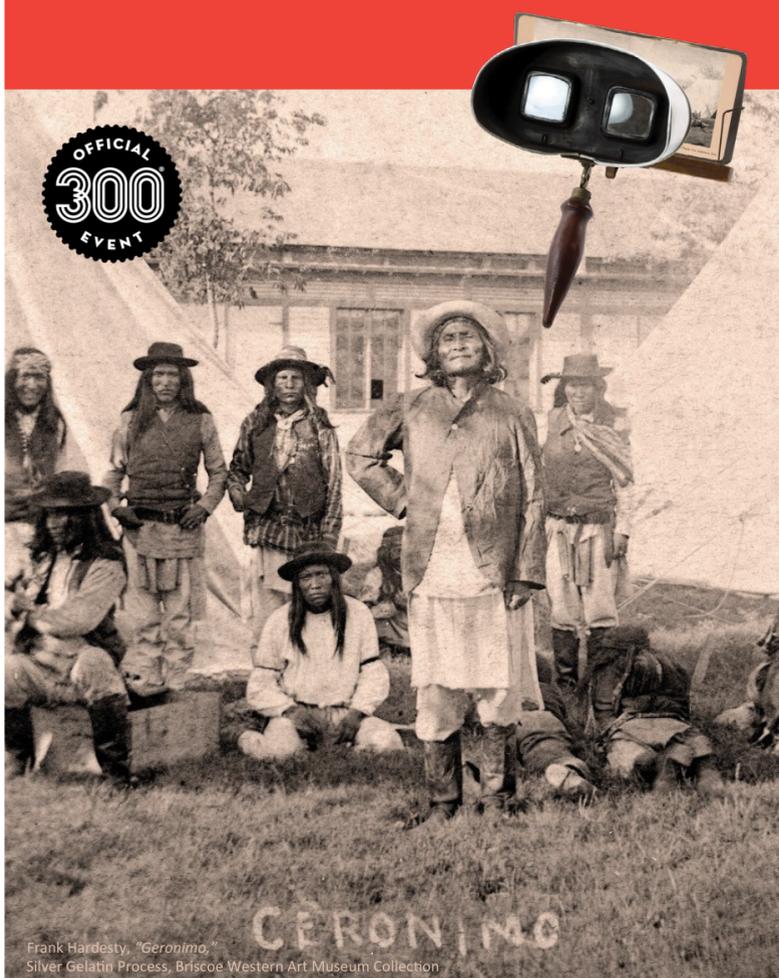
Briscoe Western Art Museum  
September 21, 2018 - January 21, 2019

An experiential exhibition featuring historical stereoscopes of events, people, and places that have shaped the destiny of our city.

Exhibition organized by the Briscoe Western Art Museum.



Major sponsors include the "Tex" Elliott Family and the Williams-Chadwick Family Charitable Fund of the San Antonio Area Foundation. Additional support provided by Humanities Texas, San Antonio Conservation Society, The Summerlee Foundation, and the Host Committee.



Frank Hardesty, "Geronimo," Silver Gelatin Process, Briscoe Western Art Museum Collection

210 W. Market Street  
On the River Walk

210.299.4499 | BriscoeMuseum.org

## The Weekend

**NOVEMBER 30 - The Studies of Rivers & Creeks / Free**  
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at Remax New Heights Real Estate of Alamo Heights

Artist Jesus Toro Martinez presents his collection which brings attention to the community's rivers and creeks in an effort to preserve them and not see them become havens for collecting trash.

**DECEMBER 1 - Museum Shop Holiday Fair / Free**

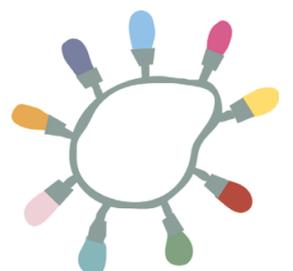
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the San Antonio Museum of Art  
Local artisans and over 30 Clay and Arts Festival vendors will showcase their goods including bowls, cups and ornaments.

**DECEMBER 1 - The Absurdity of the Fact of US / Free**

7 p.m. - 10 p.m. at Sala Diaz  
Artist Amanda Miller explores the concept of natural dye processes incorporating materials such as meteorites, clay and silk.

**DECEMBER 2 - Zoo Lights / \$19**

12 p.m. - 9 p.m. at San Antonio Zoo  
Walk through the zoo and gaze at the array of lights while sipping hot cocoa.



To feature your event in "The Weekend" email the arts editor at arts@paisano-online.com

Photo courtesy of Creative Commons

# SPORTS

## Athlete of the Week: Kourtney Kekec



Kourtney Kekec dribbles past a defender.

Lindsey Thomas/The Paisano

By Lindsey Thomas  
Sports Assistant

Senior forward Kourtney Kekec was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri before receiving her offer at UTSA to pursue her dream of playing college basketball. Prior to UTSA's offer, Kekec had never heard of the Roadrunners, but after visiting the campus she fell in love with the atmosphere, the Mexican food and UTSA's "at home" feel.

This holiday season, Kekec's family will fly down to cook for her and her roommates, which is something they have done for the last three years. For their Thanksgiving dinner, her family prepares green-bean casserole, sweet potato casserole, mash potatoes, mac and cheese and the turkey at home, then pack up the food into coolers and fly it down to UTSA.

In Kekec's free time she enjoys playing the piano and watching sports. When she was younger, she played almost every

sport she could because of her father's coaching influence.

"Coming out of high school I was recruited for both basketball and volleyball," Kekec said. "I had more offers for volleyball, but I liked basketball so much more. I liked volleyball, don't get me wrong, but basketball was my first love and I wasn't ready to give it up."

When Kekec was young, she went to almost every game her father coached. He was the football and basketball coach for her school, North County High School, up until she started attending. Her father then became an administrator, and her mom was the volleyball coach of the high school.

"My mom did coach me in volleyball in high school," Kekec said. "So that was pretty fun, it was an experience that's for sure."

Kekec is majoring in public health with the hopes to further her education in medical school, and become either a

dermatologist or an orthopedic doctor. Her inspiration for the medical field came from her grandmother. She is a nurse and seeing her work hard in the medical field pushed Kekec towards medicine.

"I am thinking dermatology, but I also really like orthopedics because of the whole sports connection to it," Kekec said. "So we will see where I will end up, but those are my two options right now."

Kekec is happiest when she's somewhere surrounded by sports, whether she is playing the game or sitting sidelines. She was instilled with sporting environments since she was young, and she could not imagine herself anywhere away from a game.

"I just like sports environments a lot," Kekec said. "If I didn't want to do medicine, I'd want to be a sports broadcaster."

Back home in St. Louis, Kekec's favorite go-to restaurant is Imo's pizza, and here in San Antonio, she has fallen in love with Data Point Tacos. The biggest

plus on her pros list for San Antonio is all of the Mexican food.

Kekec is an extrovert. She loves meeting new people and going out of the house because she doesn't enjoy sitting around as much. When she is with her close friends back home, she enjoys watching a movie and catching up. Although she is a very outgoing person, lately she stays at home resting and watching movies with friends.

Growing up, Kekec's father would tell her "you can't control anything but your effort and your attitude." This motto stuck with her through almost everything she encountered in her life, but especially with basketball because she would find herself frustrated after games. Her father would remind her that she could only control her effort, her attitude and the way she would respond to things.

## Athlete of the Week: King Newton

By Zachary Truesdale  
Staff Writer

Since coming onto the scene in 2015, King Newton has been a key member of a very talented UTSA defensive line. Coming out of high school, the former Southlake Carroll Dragon was named to the 2014 Dave Campbell's Texas High School Football Top 300 List. He also was named District 7-6A Defensive Most Valuable Player along with honorable mentions as all-state and first team all-area player.

Football has always played a big role in Newton's life. Growing up, he was able to see his father Nate Newton win three championships as an offensive lineman with the Dallas Cowboys. His older brother Tre Newton was a three-peat champion running back in high school and went on to play at the University of Texas at Austin. King Newton has always had the hunger to be a playmaker, on choosing to become a defensive lineman he enjoys making plays and causing havoc. Newton has played football since peewee and was a ball boy for his brother in high school.

"I grew up in football, I don't remember a time I didn't play," Newton said. "I think my first steps were on a football field."

A Conference USA Commissioner's Honor Roll member in 2015, Newton has always taken pride in his academics as well as his hobbies. A double major in cybersecurity and international business, Newton is weighing his options for a post-football life. Whenever Newton gets some free time from football and academics, he likes



King Newton walks towards the line.

Ellyson Ortega/The Paisano

to produce beats. After graduating from UTSA, he plans to get some internships and decide which one he wants to do. As of right now, it looks like cybersecurity is the route he wants to take.

"It's been great. I feel like every year it gets better. I got one more year and it's gonna be the best one yet," Newton said. "I love it, UTSA is a great place. The coaches here give you a lot of chances to show who

you are, they say if you want to make a play, go out there and do it. A great campus and a great city."

Thus far, the junior defensive tackle has racked up a career total of seventy tackles, nine tackles for loss, two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries.

"[For pregame rituals] my brother wore the same shirt in every game. That stuck with me, I like to wear the same undershirt and same gear. I don't like switching up my gear."

"Football gives me a purpose and it's taught me a bunch of things outside of football," Newton said. "I feel like I have one of the best work ethics just because football has taught me that. Waking up early every morning, not getting bored, improving yourself, that's taught me a lot."

When it comes to his motivation for the rest of this season, he says his number one motivation for this last game is number 54, Kevin Strong. He has played with him since he was a freshman. The two of them want to finish strong and help send the seniors off the right way.

"Growing up I always had the best coaching," Newton said. "[My father] showed me some techniques to dominate. He really allowed me to just do what I want to do and grow as my own person."

Understanding the importance of family, Newton and the rest of the returning players wish to send the senior class off on a positive note for their last game as Roadrunners.

**WHO GOES TO BAT FOR YOU?**

TRAFFIC TICKETS  
DRUG CASES  
AUTO ACCIDENTS  
EXPUNCTIONS  
D.W.I.

LES LAW GROUP  
(210) 883-8565  
LES.LAW@hotmail.com

**HEY, SENIORS!**

**GRADUATE in STYLE.**

**CAP DECORATING EVENT**  
DEC 6 | 4PM to 8PM |  
ROWDY CAMPUS STORE

Snacks, drinks and decorations provided.  
BYOC (Bring your own cap!)

**RSVP BY DEC 5** [alumni.utsa.edu/capevent](http://alumni.utsa.edu/capevent)

SPONSORED BY: **UTSA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** **UTSA Rowdy Campus Store**



# NOW LEASING FOR FALL 2019

## 1-5 BEDROOM MODERN STUDENT APARTMENTS

### COMMUNITY FEATURES:

- On-site resident parking garage
- On-site management & maintenance team
- On UTSA's shuttle route
- Resident rideshare program
- Adjacent distance to Alamo Draft House
- Penthouse upgrades available
- #1 ranked student management company by online reputation in the U.S.



### RESIDENT AMENITIES:

- Resort-style pool with poolside cabanas & hot tub
- Poolside outdoor kitchen with BBQ grills
- Outdoor gaming courtyard & hammock grove
- Two-story fitness center with Peloton bikes, rowing machines & Gym Rax cross-training
- Library & 12 private study rooms
- Large fenced-in dog park



### APARTMENT FEATURES:

- Granite kitchen countertops & wood cabinets
  - Memory foam mattress & built-in USB outlets in all bedrooms
  - Wood-style flooring in kitchen, living & bath
  - 42" smart TV in each living room
  - Full-size washer & dryer in each apartment
  - Private patio or balcony\*
- \*available in select units*



**BRING IN THIS AD WHEN YOU SIGN A LEASE,  
& RECEIVE A \$150 GIFT CARD!**

210-610-0675  
STERLINGHEIGHTSSATX.COM

6851 NORTH LOOP 1604 WEST, #104  
SAN ANTONIO, TX 778249