

# THE PAISANO

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## R. Kelly survivors speak at conference

By Alejandro (AJ) Lopez  
Co-News Editor

Tears filled the auditorium as Faith Rogers, Dominique Gardner and her mother, Michelle Kramer, shared their stories about their encounters with famous R&B singer, R. Kelly. #ChangeRapeCulture and Students United for Planned Parenthood (SUPP) hosted "Conversations About Sexual Trauma and Assault Conference" on April 20 at the Buena Vista building located at the UTSA Downtown Campus. The event was sponsored by the Bethal Prevention Coalition, Westcare's Bexar County ReCAST Project, Chaudhry Consulting, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and University Health System.

"I love you, and I will fight for you every single day of my life," Kimiya Factory, junior political science major and co-founder of #ChangeRapeCulture,



#ChangeRapeCulture organizer asks survivors questions.

Alex Hanks/The Paisano

said when addressing sexual assault victims. "You are all my calling and nothing is going to stop that as long as I live."

The conference featured organizations such as MOVE Texas and Planned Parenthood tabling before and after the conference. Other guests included Dr.

Keely Petty, an aunt of Rogers and representative of the Bethal Prevention Coalition and Sound Mind Strategies, and K.C. Fox, a crisis strategist who worked with the women of the "Surviving R. Kelly" docuseries.

The documentary "Surviving R. Kelly" premiered

on Lifetime from Jan. 3 to Jan. 5 in a six-part series discussing the controversial past of R. Kelly. Women from the documentary shared their stories of being the victims of sexual abuse, predatory behavior and pedophilic acts.

"Today will be a day of awareness, information, hope, resiliency and

we thank you for taking time out of your schedule to be here with us," Petty said, addressing audience members at the opening ceremony.

The conference opened with Factory and Katerina Tsvetkova, co-organizer of #ChangeRapeCulture and an administrative chair

person of SUPP, in a video discussing the aspects of the #ChangeRapeCulture movement. Both defined rape culture and discussed the impact the movement has had on the UTSA community.

"I find rape culture to be very normalized," Factory said in the video. "Changing rape culture creates that safe space for people to not have to be asked what they are wearing or to not to be asked how much they have had to drink. [And] simply just be asked about how they feel, [asked] about what they had courage to talk about what happened to them."

Participants attended breakout sessions before the Q&A panel with the survivors. Sessions included: "#ChangeRapeCulture Activism" presented by Factory, Tsvetkova and Fox; "Emotional Care" pre-

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See "Event educates on sexual assault awareness"*

## University seeks to address classroom civility

By Heather Montoya  
Co-News Editor

UTSA has created the 21st Century Learning Environment task group that is charged with providing recommendations to improve the learning environment at UTSA to Dr. Kimberly Andrews Espy, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

"The task group will consider what is needed to create a learning environment that encourages critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity and acknowledges the social and cultural changes that have occurred from the 20th to 21st century and the readiness of faculty and students to negotiate adapting to these changes," Heather Shipley, senior vice provost for academic affairs, said.

Espy put Shipley in charge of leading the task group as a result of the investigation into Anita Moss, a human anatomy and physiology professor, and her classroom management. The task group plans on holding their first meeting this semester.

"The provost established a 'Tiger Team' at the start of the Spring semester to discuss and create open dialogue among faculty, students and staff about the classroom environment at UTSA," Shipley said. "This team ended at the end of March; however, many of these people will be a part of the task group that has been formed to continue the conversation and develop expectations in the classroom environment."

The task group consists of Myron Anderson, vice president of inclusive excellence; LT Robinson, interim dean of students; Emily Bonner, chair faculty senate and associate professor of interdisciplinary learning; Dean Hendrix, dean of libraries; Suzanne Partick, director of Equal Opportunity Services; Thomas Calucci, captain of UTSA police; and Rosanne McSweeney, behavioral intervention specialist.

Professors from various departments and students, including former Student Government President Brittany Garcia, are also in the task group. The task group is still in the process of recruiting additional students.

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See "UTSA establishes new task group"*

## Two generations, two anniversaries

By Brehna Luera  
Staff Writer

Graduation is just around the corner, and many students are filled with excitement as they plan to walk across the stage in May and begin their new lives. Father and son duo Mark Bishop and Josiah Bishop, a senior public administration major, are especially excited for this graduation season. They will be graduates of two milestone anniversaries for UTSA: M. Bishop graduated on the 25th anniversary and J. Bishop is graduating on the 50th anniversary.

M. Bishop grew up in Corpus Christi and joined the Air Force right after his high school graduation. While he was on active duty at the former Brooks

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See "Father and son receive class rings"*



Father and son receive rings at the same ceremony.

Photo courtesy of Mark Bishop

## UTSA partners with NASA

By Brehna Luera  
Staff Writer

On April 10, UTSA, along with Harvard, Purdue and the University of Connecticut, announced their partnership with NASA to begin building space habitats that can sustain human life on the moon and Mars. The four schools responded to a solicitation from NASA asking for help from multi-disciplinary universities that could develop technologies to create these habitats. Dr. Arturo Montoya, an associate professor in the Department of Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, will lead UTSA in their portion of the project.

Montoya will join NASA's Resilient ExtraTerrestrial Habitats institute (RETHi) and recruit graduate and undergraduate engineering students to assist him with the research tasks of the project.

"Engineering students will participate in a multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional research environment that will allow them to gain knowledge in fields other than their major," Montoya said.

The five-year-long mission will consist of testing and building processes to ensure that they can create the most optimal habitats possible for human life on places other than Earth.

RETHi plans to create a cyber-physical prototype testbed of physical and virtual models to develop, deploy and validate different capabilities during the testing process. These plans will ensure human survival in these habitats.

Dr. JoAnn Browning, dean of the College of Engineering, expressed that UTSA's involvement in this project is valuable to President Taylor Eighmy's plans to expand UTSA's presence beyond San Antonio.

"Our participation in efforts to map a reality of extraterrestrial habitation as part of this initiative helps to support President Eighmy's vision for UTSA

as a great multicultural discovery enterprise and being world-engaged," Browning said.

UTSA and its STEM programs will receive a grant for their involvement in this project that will launch them into an atmosphere with more resources for research and professional networking for future projects.

"This grant will allow UTSA and its students to play a key role in solving the challenge of deep space habitation while building partnerships with NASA facilities, universities and industries," Montoya said.

## UTSA

UTSA is a designated early voting site for the May 4 Joint, General and Special Election. Early voters can cast a ballot from April 22 to April 30 in the HEB Student Union Bexar Room (HSU 1.102) at the Main Campus. Voters at the Downtown Campus can vote early at the Bexar County Elections Department at 1103 S. Frio St. The polls will be closed on April 26 and April 28.

## Texas

Temporary immigration detention centers are scheduled to open in El Paso and the Rio Grande Valley in less than two weeks. These facilities, also known as “tent cities,” are capable of housing up to 500 migrants each. The two facilities will cost \$37.2 million throughout the year, and aim to provide housing as well as additional processing space for migrants who have crossed the border seeking asylum.

## U.S.

Protests have erupted for four nights straight in New Haven, Connecticut, after police opened fire on a car near Yale University. 22-year-old, Stephanie Washington, was hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries following the shooting; police have not said why the officers at the scene opened fire. Washington and the driver, identified by NMC Connecticut as Paul Witherspoon, are both black. Black Lives Matter of New Haven planned another demonstration on April 21.

## World

A series of bombings across Sri Lanka have killed 290 people and left over 500 injured. The bombings began around 9 a.m. on April 21 and targeted three Roman Catholic churches holding Easter Sunday mass along with three luxury hotels. 13 suspects are being held in connection with the bombings and the government has issued a temporary block on social media and messaging services to prevent misinformation. A curfew has also been imposed for citizens.

## Business

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## Science

Scientists have restored cellular activity to pigs’ brains four hours after their death. The results, reported in the April 17 edition of the science journal Nature, may lead to better treatments for brain damage caused by a stroke or other injuries that deprive brain tissue of oxygen. In the study, the brains showed no signs of widespread neural activity thought to be required for consciousness, but individual nerve cells were still functioning. This achievement raises ethical questions on research on brains that are not alive but not completely dead either.

# Event educates on sexual assault awareness

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sented by Petty; “Understanding Sexual Trauma/Survivor Sensitivity” presented by Kimberly Berry from the Rape Crisis Center; “Rape Culture and Consent” presented by Ethel-Magna Lopez from the Rape Crisis Center; “Repro Justice: Rape Culture, Abortion Access and Community Organizing” presented by Barbie Hurtado from Planned Parenthood; and “Trauma Informed Care” presented by representatives from University Hospital and St. Mary’s University.

“I was watching [the video from the opening session] and [Factory] was talking about how she was carrying other people’s demons—it’s very real,” Fox said in the “#ChangeRapeCulture Activism” presentation. “So, if you know an activist or if you are an activist, don’t forget that you need to be filled and refueled... activists are human beings too and they take on a lot, so don’t forget about them.”

The Q&A panel discussion began after the sessions concluded. Participants attending the event



Panelists answer questions at press conference.

Alex Hanks/The Paisano

had the option to send in questions to ask survivors. The panel included Petty, Rogers, Kramer and Fox; Gardner did not participate due to the crucial topics that were going to be discussed. The panelists were open to talking about their experience with R. Kelly and gave advice to other sexual assault survivors.

When asked what motivates the panelists to keep fighting in their day-to-day lives, Rogers stated that she was her own motivation.

“Coming [out with my story], it made [me] have an inspiration for something,” said Rogers. “When

I came out public[ly], I didn’t come out public[ly] because I wanted to, I did it for other people thinking [I was going to help others] but that didn’t happen. It turned into another catastrophe. I found myself, it’s me and you at the end of the day. Not the media, not family—it’s me and you.”

Throughout the session, many participants spoke out and told their own stories about sexual abuse and trauma. After every emotional story told, audience members and panelists clapped for bravely sharing their own accounts. The conference ended

with a prayer from Dr. Petty’s husband, Sr. Pastor Lee Petty.

For more information about #ChangeRapeCulture follow their social media @chngrpecultr on Twitter and changerapeculture210 on Instagram. The movement is in the works of creating a website.

“If you want to be a part of the movement, stop the perpetuation of rape culture,” Factory said. “It all happens with you. And I know that sounds cliché, but goddamnit, we have to start somewhere.”

# UTSA establishes new task group

*Continued from Page 1*

“I hope to be an honest voice in the room, one that will speak based off of the student concerns I have received and the many things I have witnessed during my four years as an undergraduate here at UTSA,” Garcia said. “Being a part of Tiger Team, I was able to understand different

points of view and to learn that faculty and staff also believe our school needs to change; it’s a team effort and I hope to remind the committee of that every step of the way.”

Garcia believes that having classroom management trainings should be an ongoing requirement.

“Personally, I believe UTSA

needs a stricter policy on trainings for both faculty and staff when it comes to classroom management. There are so many resources that I recently learned we have, however, there is not, to my knowledge, a way to force our faculty to stay up to date with trainings dealing with classroom management,” Garcia said.

The 21st Century Learning

Environment task group has not set a date for their first meeting yet, but they are expected to work on developing their recommendations throughout the remainder of the Spring 2019 semester and into the Fall 2019 semester.

# Father and son receive class rings

*Continued from Page 1*

Air Force Base as an environmental specialist, he decided he wanted to get his degree in a related field: environmental science. He attended night classes at UTSA from 1992 to 1994 until he received his masters in environmental science.

“I enjoyed [the master’s program] so much,” M. Bishop said. “I got to be around like-minded people.”

Upon his graduation, M. Bishop felt pride in being a Roadrunner.

“I am very grateful to have been able to graduate from UTSA,” M. Bishop said. “It shaped me into the person I am today.”

Following in his father’s footsteps, J. Bishop, who grew up in Boerne, decided to attend UTSA after graduation due to the proximity to his family. He joined the Phi Delta Theta fraternity in 2015 and held the positions of chaplain and recruitment chair.

“Coming here turned my expectations around,” J. Bishop said. “In my mind I think of college as much more of a grind, and I didn’t know how well I would do, but what I take most from [UTSA] is the sense of accomplishment knowing I can get my degree on my own.”

J. Bishop is double minoring in business administration and nonprofit management. His dream job would be fundraising for a nonprofit organization.

“Hearing ‘nonprofit fundraising’ doesn’t sound that interesting, but the whole process is pretty engaging,” J. Bishop said.

M. Bishop will also be a part of the ring ceremony this spring, so he and his son will be recognized together; their rings will also be included in the UTSA tradition where rings are housed in the Alamo overnight. He feels that the connection with his son has strengthened through their bond of attending UTSA.

“I feel a tremendous amount of love,” M. Bishop said.

“[Following my dad’s footsteps] was one of those things I didn’t really think about,” J. Bishop said. “But now that I think about it, it’s kinda cool.”

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# OPINION

## A picture is worth a thousand words: Remove President Romo’s artwork

Editorial

UTSA has made ample efforts to promote a safe and comfortable campus environment for all students and faculty. In response to recent events, President Eighmy and his administration have created resources for supporting victims of sexual misconduct and discrimination. These efforts are in the form of a zero-tolerance policy accompanied with increased compliance training for faculty, the launch of a campus safety website, the hiring of a new Title IX Coordinator and more.

UTSA is no stranger to sexual misconduct issues. In 2017, the UT system launched an investigation into former UTSA President Dr. Ricardo Romo’s conduct in response to multiple sexual harassment allegations. According to the results of the probe, the information “supports the conclusion President Romo engaged in sexual harassment and sexual misconduct against the victims.”

Dr. Romo’s legacy, while filled with accomplishments and contributions made for UTSA students, is overshadowed by his controversial exit—a dark time in our university’s history.

Unfortunately, UTSA students are constantly reminded of Dr. Romo’s controversial legacy via his photography that is still displayed in buildings around campus.

The university should remove Dr. Romo’s photography. However, this is not to say we should remove Dr. Romo from UTSA’s history books.

In fact, forgetting history is out of the question; the victims of Dr. Romo’s sexual harassment will never forget his unsettling behavior. Similarly, other victims of sexual misconduct attending UTSA cannot forget their experiences, especially when they are reminded of Dr. Romo’s legacy through his artwork.

Still, more than two years since the UT system’s investigation, why have Dr. Romo’s photographs not been taken down?

While the university cannot erase the past, it’s time to move on. There is no reason to continue displaying Dr. Romo’s artwork on campus. One recommendation—remove the photographs and utilize the space to showcase artwork created by our own students.

If the university truly wishes to create a comfortable and safe environment for UTSA students and faculty, then the display of Dr. Romo’s photography seems to contradict this mission.

## HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

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14526 Roadrunner Way

## On the outside looking in

Commentary



By Alex Hanks  
Assistant to the Editor in Chief

Last week, I was watching the news and saw a viral video of a 15-year-old African-American high school student being detained by police in Broward County, Florida. The officers on the scene took the teen and pepper-sprayed, punched and slammed his face into the ground repeatedly.

At this point, none of us shy away from these types of occurrences. It seems like every other day we see another Trayvon, another Sandra Bland, another Philando.

But this one resonated differently with me.

Why did it make me feel so uneasy when police brutality

happens every day? Why was my stomach turning as I scrolled through my social media apps?

It’s because people aren’t pissed off anymore.

There aren’t the same calls to action, the outrage and pleas for justice like there used to be.

We as a society have become complacent with injustice. The U.S. is content with marginalization. More specifically, white America is content with marginalization.

So if you saw that video of the 15-year-old teen being brutally beat down and slammed to the ground by Broward County police officers, and weren’t pissed off, your privilege is showing.

I can openly admit I myself am a carrier of privilege.

“But wait, just because I’m white does not mean I should be responsible for what my ancestors did.”

No one is responsible for their ancestors’ actions, but we are hardly better than our ances-

tors if we continue to perpetuate a culture that enables racial oppression. Privilege is something that is not going away so long as we continue to uphold the values that are representative of the systemic oppression that continues to take place in our society.

I know that as a straight, white man, my thoughts and feelings will always be validated and heard. If I were on the news for committing a crime, I would be portrayed as the troubled kid who needed help. I can walk through a Walmart and not be followed by an employee due to suspicions of shoplifting. If I ever get pulled over by the police, the odds of facing intimidation or my car being wrongfully searched are slim to none.

Marginalized groups are being silenced, and concerns being raised by communities of color are being suppressed and deemed as overreactions. The foundations of my privilege

start with having people who look like me, creating laws that benefit people who look like me.

So rather than use your privilege to oppress, use your privilege to be an ally and magnify the voices that deserve to be heard. Rally alongside them and be the one who ensures the police don’t lay a hand on them. Validate their thoughts and feelings. By having privilege, we are and always will be on the outside looking in, so it is crucial to have empathy for their experiences. Make an effort to educate yourself and embrace the beauty of advocacy and activism. Be on the right side of history.

Take time to take part in activist rallies, political advocacy events and promote policies that will create equity in society. Advocate for laws that would ensure women have access to safe and affordable healthcare. Plead to your senators for more laws that protect the LGBTQ+

community, laws that would protect undocumented immigrants and bills that would ensure African-Americans don’t die at the hands of the police. It’s not a black issue. It’s not a LGBTQ+ issue. It’s not a Latinx issue. It’s a human issue.

Being an ally means knowing where your lane is at and providing unconditional support to the movement without overstepping your boundaries. You have to accept the fact that you will always be on the outside looking in.

If you want to be an ally, hear the voices of the oppressed and make them louder.

Oppressed groups are being so loud right now because they have to magnify their voice for it to be heard. So be an ally and listen up.

# “This is the end of my presidency.”

Commentary



By Josh Peck  
Staff Writer

“This is the end of my presidency. I’m f—d.” This is what President Donald Trump said after he learned that Special Counsel Robert Mueller III had been appointed to conduct the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.

This quote was unearthed in the report of that very same investigation, a report full of new information about unethical, and at times, potentially criminal acts. The report paints a picture of a man who had much to hide from the American people despite his insistence that it was

a “witch hunt” all along.

The part of the investigation dedicated to possible conspiracy between the Trump campaign and Russia shed light on a multitude of shady interactions; however, the report established that no criminal conspiracy had occurred. This conclusion was made in part because Mueller believed the government could not prove beyond a reasonable doubt that “these individuals acted...with general knowledge of the illegality of their conduct.” It’s significant to note that not being charged with a crime for legal reasons does not necessarily mean you are actually innocent of that crime.

In regard to the obstruction of justice portion of the investigation, the report details various actions taken by Trump, many of which could warrant impeachment hearings on their

own. Those actions include Trump’s firing of then-FBI Director James Comey, repeated attempts to fire Mueller and directing members of his administration to falsely dispute press reports to the public about those attempts, among other potentially criminal acts.

These string of actions show a pattern of repeated abuse of power by President Trump and make clear that Trump is not worthy of the office he holds. Importantly, Mueller states, “If we had confidence after a thorough investigation of the facts that the President clearly did not commit obstruction of justice, we would so state.”

This remark gives a clear sign to Congress that what comes next is up to them. Mueller also states, “The conclusion that Congress may apply the obstruction laws to the President’s

corrupt exercise of the powers of office accords with our constitutional system of checks and balances.” Over the course of two years, Mueller gathered evidence and built a case that the president of the United States committed the crime of obstruction of justice, not once, but repeatedly. It would not only be unwise for Congress to ignore the facts laid out, it would also be an affront to the Constitution itself.

Yet, given all of this damning evidence, congressional Republicans still continue to attack the investigation, and the president himself has cried “treason” against Democrats. Republicans are showing their hand, that the rule of law and the Constitution mean nothing to them. Republicans care so much about projecting strength that they are fighting to keep Trump in

office, a man wrapped in one of the biggest political scandals in American history and whose actions will embarrass the country in history textbooks for decades.

If Congress does not check the executive branch, the corrupt efforts of President Trump will not only be a scourge on American politics and governance for the duration of his term, but will provide a precedent for what Congress will allow corrupt presidents to get away with in the future.

If this report was not a directive for Congress, it provides them a roadmap at the very least. Congress has a constitutional duty to be a check on the executive branch. To uphold that duty there is one thing that they should do, one thing that they must do. Impeach President Donald J. Trump.

## Size does matter?

Point



By Adrienne Kristianto  
Social Media Coordinator

Yes, what’s inside matters the most when it comes to finding a partner; however, I believe that this saying is easier said than done. Before you get in your feelings, let me clarify that there is absolutely nothing wrong with being under 6’0” as a man – love yourself, love your height. There are five-foot-something men out there who are beautiful inside and out, and honestly, I wouldn’t mind getting to know them romantically. But get this though: there’s also nothing wrong with finding a man’s height swoon-worthy.

When interviewing candidates for the boyfriend position, I can be very meticulous – one small flaw can play a big factor in the hiring process. Setting high qualifications is very crucial so that the candidate knows what he signed up for and the company won’t be let down in the long run. And being over 6’0”, or at least taller than me, is one of the qualifications for this position. Humor and intelligence might be the top two common things that women look for in a guy, but some people tend to be not so receptive when discussing height – the physical appeal.

Physical attractiveness plays a more important part in our dating deci-

sions than traits because we associate other positive qualities with a pleasing appearance – and these are fax, no printer (Dion et al., 1972; Griffin and Langlois, 2006) We tend to pursue relationships with those who we think are good looking, and different people have different views on what they think is “attractive” or “unattractive”. For some, it might be the color of their eyes, their feet or even their hairline. For me, I would find it attractive if he could get me something on top of the fridge without using a stool – it all boils down to our own romantic preferences. And yes, ladies, weight can be one of the qualifications that he has when it comes to looking for a partner, so don’t bash them for this. But don’t stop reading just yet.

So, does that mean if you’re under 6’0” (or a certain weight) you’re not attractive? Hell naw. Just not to some, which is absolutely more than fine because to someone who you haven’t met yet (or have), you are as attractive as Trevante Rhodes. To someone, you are their Noah, Jr. in that raining scene. To someone, you are their Dr. McDreamy. To someone, you are way more than enough. Hence, don’t look at your height, weight or whatever you think is a flaw as a flaw. Look at them as the ideal qualifications that someone who you just haven’t seen romantically has. If it is meant to be, it’s meant to be. The right person will come at the right time when you’re not looking for one. In the meantime, work on your own qualifications, you heard?



By Maha Qadri  
Magazine Editor

Too many times, I’ve found myself in this situation: My friend is showing me a picture of their latest hook up or date, and I am giving my approval after hearing about his behavior. But sometimes, no matter how gentlemanly the boy is, I hear my friend say, “But I’m not gonna see him again... He’s not six-foot.” Even if the male in question is five-foot-eleven he is cut out, Bachelorette style, sent home without a rose.

Height. To some people it’s a deal breaker, and to others it’s a matter of preference. I’m five-foot-two, and I prefer my significant other to be taller than I am, but that doesn’t stop me from dating people who are the same height or shorter than I am. While being physically attracted to my significant other is important to me, height is not the end-all-be-all of any relationship I consider.

The “he’s not six-foot” mantra runs deeper than just a preference. Every time I hear that excuse, it makes me seethe. If someone outright refuses to go out with someone simply because they are not six-feet tall, that falls onto the spectrum of discrimination.

On the lower end of the spectrum there are height and hair color; but on the other end there is race, sexuality and ethnicity. At

Counterpoint

the end of the day, it’s all some form of discrimination. Discriminatory behaviors start small, so one day you could be ghosting someone because of their height and the next day it could be because of their race.

Judging someone based on something they were born with or cannot change about themselves is wrong. No one should have to change anything about themselves to please you.

A person’s height will not tell you if they’ll respect you as an equal. A person’s height won’t tell you if they’ll stick with you through tough times. A person’s height will definitely not tell you whether that person will love and support you for all the time that you share.

Next time you are on a date, put away the measuring tape and the judgment. He may be five-foot-eight, but he might have the heart of a giant.

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# ARTS & LIFE

## A welcoming atmosphere in the SU Paseo

Students for Justice in Palestine host open mic for final Israeli Apartheid Week event

By Josh Peck  
Staff Writer



Photo courtesy of Pixabay

**W**elcoming is the first word that comes to mind when I think about the open mic night that Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) hosted on April 18 in the Student Union Paseo. Attendees were greeted with kindness, and the sense of community that SJP had could not have been more apparent. Members talked among each other and made every effort to bring new faces into the conversations. The stage was adorned with multicolored keffiyehs, the name for a patterned cloth worn around the face that has become a symbol of Palestinian resistance and solidarity, and a Palestinian flag that blew in the wind, leaving green, black, red and white streaks in its path.

The open mic night was the final event in SJP's Israeli Apartheid Week, a week that SJP co-founder Moureen Kaki, senior anthropology major, said was meant to "discuss the ways in which Israel practices apartheid." SJP argues that in Israel, Palestinians are treated as second-class citizens and do not have equal rights. SJP wants to educate people on what is a very important issue to them and one that hits close to home for many SJP members. Kaki said that by advocating for justice for Palestinians, SJP is advocating for justice for all; justice is not justice unless everyone has it.

Even though the event was hosted by SJP, they were open to anyone coming on to the stage to perform music, poetry or spoken word. The event started off with some covers by Ponciano Seoane, a UTSA alumnus and SJP co-founder, who has also appeared on the NBC talent show, the Voice. Seoane's talent was immediately recognizable, and it would not be the last time he took the stage that night. Seoane was followed by UTSA student Maram Al-Hakeem who read an impassioned poem about her Syrian identity and the ways that people, even from her home country of Syria, have attacked it. Especially powerful were the lines "thinking that you're

somehow qualified to cut the strings of my bloodline," and "I remember the day I took back what was mine." On stage, Al-Hakeem's voice and Syrian pride rang out and the crowd resonated with her passion. Al-Hakeem explained that even the seemingly simple decision of picking a popsocket with the Syrian flag on it was filled with tension because of the two flags of Syria and what each is connotated with.

As the night went on, the crowd gathering around became larger and students seemed eager to listen to the stories and voices of one another on the stage. The welcoming atmosphere that was initially present held throughout the entire event as SJP hosts invited onlookers to come up to the stage and even let some borrow guitars to perform. One UTSA student, Forrest Wilkinson, performed two songs with the support of the crowd and walked down from the stage to a round of applause. Even younger kids were given an opportunity to speak, as the 13-year old brother of Al-Hakeem delivered his own poetry about being bullied in school and finding ways to secure his freedom from the kids who picked on him.

As the sign-up sheet dwindled, Palestinian music thrust through the speakers and SJP members performed what is called dabke, a dance that comes from the Levantine region, an area that encompasses Syria, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon and Iraq. The SJP members encouraged others to join in and taught them the steps of the traditional dance.

At the end of the event, Kaki once again thanked everyone for coming to take part in the open mic night and congratulated her fellow SJP members on successfully ending their first Israeli Apartheid Week. Kaki will graduate at the end of the semester, but she hopes that SJP continues to push forward its message of justice for all people, a message that anyone would be proud to have as their legacy.

## Big Sis Advice: Hey, it's me again

By: Kimiya Factory  
Assistant Co-News Editor



Kimiya Factory/The Paisano

We've been through a lot; both myself and the weekly readers of this column. Big sis advice is not your average column—I talk about things that most don't want to discuss. But as I sit here, typing the last article of the semester, feeling the emotional attachment I've developed for sharing my thoughts with you every week, it finally dawned on me that you don't "know-know" me. How ironic, huh? I've given you advice on how to stop the perpetuation of rape culture and how to approach the person you've had your eye on in class, but you don't even know my favorite color. Not that you knowing my favorite color matters or makes my advice substantiated; I think I owe it to everyone and myself that you remember Big Sis by who I really am.

I'm not a guru. I don't have all the answers. I'm human, and I want to remind you of that, so I think you should know:

I tend to bake and clean when I feel like there's something in my life beyond my control.

I always forget something on the way out the door; seriously, ask my friends.

Driving in the rain makes me nervous.

San Antonio has turned me into a street-taco and mangoñada connoisseur.

I hate giving up—whatever that means.

I took one botany class and became mildly obsessed with plants. I have also come to the conclusion that we don't deserve them.

It is hard for me to take 'no' for an answer.

I'm a hopeless romantic and admire the concept of love.

Some describe me as extra, I'd say I'm just enough.

I've never had a vocal-filter—ever.

Favorite colors are overrated—haha trick question.

There, now we're better acquainted. Thank you for reading my thoughts, thank you for following this column and thank you for giving a damn.

I'm out.

For my humans,

Xoxo,  
Big Sis.

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more.



## The Weekend

### April 26 - An Evening with Kali Fajardo-Anstine / Free

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Our Lady of the Lady University  
Chicana author Kali Fajardo-Anstine reads from new release "Sabrina & Corina."

### April 27 - Native Plant Society of Texas San Antonio Bexar Roots Spring Native Plant Sale/ Free

9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Phil Hardbeger Park East  
Features free native plant seeds. Proceeds fund grant projects to educate and beautify the San Antonio community.

### April 27 - The Drums/ \$22

9 p.m. at Paper Tiger  
Shimmery, sparkly and bright indie-pop act are back again in support of newly released record "Brutalism."

### April 28 - Para Los Animales/ Free

2 - 4 p.m. at Ranger Creek Brewing & Distilling  
Event will have vegan vendors like Cake Theives, Tomi Vegan, Plow Distribution and many more.



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

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

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# SPORTS

## Back-to-back women's golf champions Women's golf claims second consecutive C-USA title



'Runners after they won their championship. Photo courtesies of Conference USA

By Julia Maenius  
Staff Writer

The UTSA women's golf team traveled to Fort Myers, Florida, to compete in the Conference USA (C-USA) Championship from March 15 to 17. The team placed first overall, marking the Roadrunner's second C-USA title and fourth league championship.

Entering the final round, the 'Runners were trailing Old Dominion University by one shot. The 'Runners flew past the Old Dominion Monarchs, scoring 281 and shooting seven under par, which tied for the best round in school history. The 'Runners finished 10 under

par to set a new standard low 54-hole total by five shots.

Ana Gonzalez carded a nine under 207 to capture her sixth top-10 showing of the season. Gonzalez wrote down four birdies, finishing with a tournament-best 15, ending up five strokes in front of the runner-up. This win makes Gonzalez the fifth 'Runner to grasp a conference crown.

Julie Houston tied for eighth place with an even par 216. With a stretch of three birdies on the four holes on the back nine, Houston worked her way up from a tie for 38th to the top 10. Hannah Holzmann tied for 13th after posting a three over 219. Posting a two under 70 in the final round, Holzmann

captured her third top-20 of the season.

Finishing with a tie for 15th, Brooke Nolte rounded out the final day of the tournament with a three under 69 accompanied by five birdies. Madison Kidd rounded out the lineup with a tie for 33rd with a 225. Kidd posted a 77 and 79 over the final two days.

This win is the 'Runners third for the 2018-19 season, and it marks the 12th program victory. The 'Runners will be back in action in the NCAA Division 1 Women's Golf Selection Show Wednesday, April 24, on the Golf Channel.

## White team dominates spring game



Kirk Johnson Jr. runs around a defender.

Ellyson Ortega/The Paisano



Frank Harris runs the ball down the field.

Ellyson Ortega/The Paisano

By Jose Bouquett  
Staff Writer

The Roadrunners played in their annual spring game on April 18. The game divides offense versus defense and scoring is based upon plays being accurately articulated.

The White team dominated throughout the game and took home a 20-7 victory against the Blue team. Fans were greeted with the return of their starting quarterback, young playmakers to lookout for in the fall and a defense who can cause havoc for opposing offenses.

"I don't [think] that we can make that determination at this point," head coach Frank Wilson said.

It is clear that Frank Harris is the favorite to be the starting quarterback in the fall. Harris played the best during the game by going 8-12 in the air for 66 yards and led his team in rushing with 47 yards.

"I think he showed his elusiveness, escapability [and] the ability to extend a

play in the run game and the pass game," Wilson said. "He's just never down."

Harris returned to game action for the first time in almost two years after two separate ACL tears sidelined him. When Harris broke a long run, it had been the first time he had been in the open field during game action.

"I kind of got a little nervous there," Harris said. "Avery went kind of low and I didn't know what I wanted to do. I thought I was going to beat him to the pylon, but he ended up catching me."

Though Harris shined, Cordale Grundy made his presence known by running for a touchdown during his time under center. Coach Wilson has underscored the importance of competition during spring practice giving Grundy a chance to win the job during the fall. It is unlikely that we will receive a definitive answer on who will lead the offense in their first game of the season against the University of the Incarnate Word.

Youth was a theme of the offense, be-

ginning with quarterback and continuing with the skill positions. Brendan Brady took control of the backfield and ran for 41 yards on six attempts. Brady led all running backs in yards and established himself as a bell cow back for coach Wilson.

Sheldon Jones stood out of the wide receiver group as the potential go-to target for Harris. Jones led all receivers in yards with 43 and has the trust of Harris.

"He's going to catch anything," Harris said. "Just throw it up for grabs and somehow number two is going to come down with it."

Jones' five-foot nine-inch stature and speed make him an excellent candidate to take the top off of a defense while his much larger counterpart, Tariq Woolen, can be an excellent possession receiver. Woolen stands at six feet five inches and can outmatch most corners for jump balls, which will help an offense ranked as one of the worst in the nation last season.

"This spring we've been fighting for sports and everybody has been competing and today we got to show everybody what we've been doing," Jones said.

The strength of the 'Runners defense was apparent to all that were in attendance just after one quarter. The pressure both teams applied on each quarterback affected every pass attempted. Defensive tackle Jaylon Haynes recorded a sack and two tackles for loss for the White team. Safety Kelechi Nwachuku gave the Blue team one of their loan bright spots of the afternoon by also recording a long sack on Harris inside the red zone.

The next time fans will be able to see the 'Runners will not be until August 31, when they take the field against the University of the Incarnate Word to open their 2019 season.

## Baseball claims series against Blazers

By Lindsey Thomas  
Sports Assistant

The Roadrunner baseball team (18-22, 8-10) traveled to Birmingham, Alabama, to face the University of Alabama at Birmingham on April 18 and 20.

On Thursday, the 'Runners kicked off their three-game series with a near shutout at 12-1. In the first inning, a throwing error resulted in Bryan Sturges and Dylan Rock running into home. Four runs were scored in the fourth inning by Rock, Ryan Stacy and Shane Sirdashney. Finishing out the game, the 'Runners ran in five more

runs by Garrett Moon, Sirdashney, Stacy and Sturges. In the end of the seventh inning, the Birmingham Blazers ran in their only run of the game.

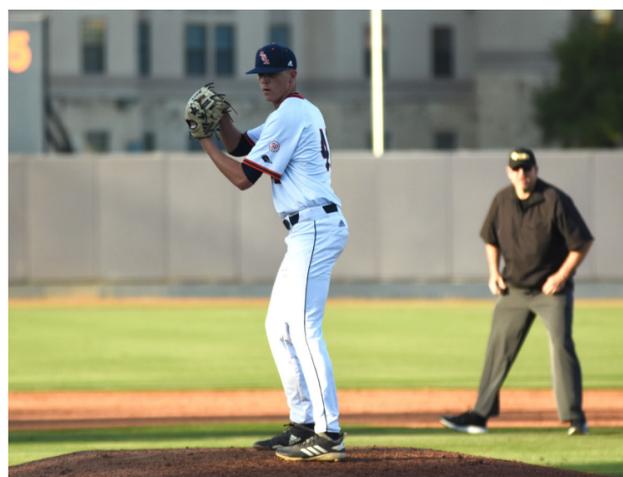
On Saturday, the 'Runners faced the Blazers in a double-header at 10 a.m. and again at 1 p.m. In the first game, the 'Runners fell 7-3. Slater Foust allowed a lead-off home run to Jeff Davis, but was able to retire 13 consecutive batters. All nine starters had at least one hit in the finale.

In game one on Saturday, Bradley Griggs allowed seven runs on six hits and two walks. In the second, third and fourth

innings the 'Runners loaded the bases, but the Blazer pitching staff prevented the 'Runners from scoring. In the top of the seventh inning, Bryan Arias and Griffin Paxton led with consecutive singles.

In game two on Saturday, the 'Runners regained their strength against the Blazers, winning 4-1. In the second inning, Paxton scored by a hit to outfield. In the second and sixth inning, the Blazers scored. No one scored in the seventh inning.

The 'Runners will be back on Tuesday, April 23, against Houston Baptist at 6 p.m.



A.G. Yowell pitches the ball.

Jack Myer/The Paisano



Davante Edwards leaps over the pole.

Jack Myer/The Paisano

## Multiple 'Runners finish in top-3

By Ryan Garza  
Sports Editor

The Roadrunners traveled to Houston from April 19 to 20 to participate in the 16th annual J. Fred Duckett Twilight meet, hosted by Rice University. The 'Runners had a very productive weekend, walking away with 15 top-three finishes between the men and women.

The men's 4x400-relay team, composed of Chris Rosales, Vasha Sheriff, Luca Chatham and Andrew Pirog combined for a total time of three minutes and 14.08 seconds, which was enough to help secure a first place finish by less than a second. Sheriff continued his success by clocking a 46.94 second finish in the 400-meter to win his second gold

medal of the meet.

Chatham raced in the 800-meter and was able to land a third-place finish with a time of 1:50.11, beating out Max Carmona from the University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley. Pirog raced in the 400-meter hurdles and claimed a silver medal with a time of 52.45 seconds, less than a second away from landing in second place.

Davante Edwards, Mikael Dawkins, Kaleb Campbell and Jared Taylor competed in the men's 4x100-relay and placed second with a combined score of 40.67 seconds, outpacing the University of the Incarnate Word, Dallas Baptist and Rice.

On the women's side, Olivia Esemena ran in the 200-meter dash and was able

to place third after a total of six different heats raced with a time of 24.33 seconds. Darionne Gibson placed second in the 400-meter dash with a time of 55.16 seconds; Sierra Andres placed fifth with a time of 56.58 seconds.

Caroline Bellows was able to build off the success of her first place finish in the pole vault last week with another top-two finish. Bellows cleared 3.72-meter jump to land in second, .10 meters behind Rice's Kylie Swiekatowski who claimed first.

Chase Whiting placed third in the javelin throw with a best of 37.40 meters, nearly passing up Houston Baptist's Ana Kriletic.

Jamal Anderson and Edwards tied for second in the men's high jump with

a jump of 2.00 meters. The 'Runners had two top-three finishers in the shot put with Steven Thomas and Micheal Zungia claiming second and third, respectively.

In the men's javelin throw, Jacob McDaniel threw 53.25 meters to end the meet with a bronze medal finish.

The 'Runners season will begin to wind down as they compete in College Station for the Alumni Muster on April 27 and in Houston for the Tom Tellez Invitational on May 3, before finally reaching the Conference USA (C-USA) Outdoor Championships in Charlotte.

## Softball has rough weekend in Denton

By Jack Myer  
Distribution Manager/Photo Assistant

The UTSA women's softball team (17-26, 6-12) found themselves on the receiving end of a series sweep this weekend courtesy of the University of North Texas. The North Texas Mean Green defense stifled the Roadrunners' offense, allowing the 'Runners only four runs in the three-game series. Combined with last Wednesday's 1-0 loss to the Texas A&M Islanders, the four game skid sets the 'Runners record back to 17-26 (6-12). The 'Runners only have eight regular season games before the Conference-USA (C-USA) Championship tournament; they will need a strong finish if they want to be a part of it.

The 'Runners opened the series against the Mean Green on April 19, in Denton, Texas. Madison Nelson represented the 'Runners on the mound, allowing three runs and seven hits in six innings. Despite Nelson's solid

start, she got little run support, and the 'Runner offense only knocked four base hits and left nine runners on base. Bailee Baldwin went 4-2 with a double; Celeste Loughman and Kaitlin Lopez notched the other two singles that made up the 'Runners entire offensive performance during Friday's 3-0 loss.

The 'Runners hoped for more success in the second game of Friday's double-header. Clarissa Hernandez took the mound and allowed three runs on six hits in four innings. The Mean Green nabbed a quick pair in the first inning and another in the fourth, giving them a 3-0 lead. Junior Madison Washington responded for the 'Runners in the fifth with a two-run single, scoring Brysen Blinco and Lauren Coerver. The Mean Green tacked on another run in the bottom of the fifth, increasing their lead to 4-2, but in the top of the seventh Washington singled in Baldwin for her third run batted in (RBI) of the game. However,

the 'Runners were unable to keep the rally alive and were defeated 4-3. Although they showed that they can capitalize on scoring opportunities, the 'Runners weren't able to top the Mean Green bullpen.

The 'Runners hoped to finish the series in Denton on a high note, but the Mean Green had other plans. Nelson took the mound once again and gave up five runs and two home runs in 4.2 innings. Four defensive errors did not help the 'Runners tired pitcher and accounted for the unearned run. Washington put the 'Runners on the scoreboard first, scoring Loughman with an RBI single. The Mean Green evened the score in the third, and the game remained tied until the fifth inning, when the Mean Green broke the game open. Back to back four-run innings in the fifth and sixth secured the sweep for the Mean Green.

Come see the 'Runners in action at Roadrunner Field on Tuesday, April 23, at 6:00 p.m.

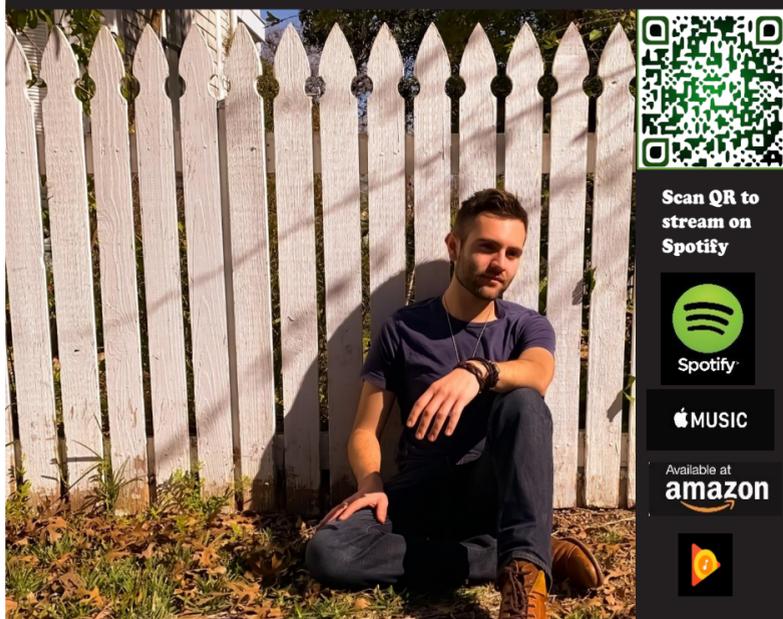


Celeste Loughman prepares to bat.

Heather Montoya/The Paisano

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From Noel Montenegro



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