

THE RIDER

MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2017



WWW.UTRGVRIDER.COM



VOL. 3, ISSUE 1

WELCOME BACK, VAQUEROS!



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Ever
Schedule**

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The
Freshman 15**

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The Original

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The Showdown

B- clubhouse Pool 8/27

E- Troxel Lawn 8/27

5:00pm - 8:00pm

THE STOMP

B- Student Union Lawn 8/29

E- UREC 8/30

5:00pm - 7:00pm

CPB Bash

E- Troxel Lawn 9/5

B- Library Lawn 9/6

6:00pm - 9:00pm

Info Depot

B- Student Union Lawn 8/28

E- Library 8/28

7:30am - 10:30am

Student Org. Fair


E- UC Ballroom 8/30


12:15pm - 1:15pm


Late Nite at the REC

E- 9/7 9:00pm - 12:00am

B- 9/14 8:00pm - 11:00pm







FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT GREEKS@UTRGV.EDU OR FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM: GREEKS AT UTRGV.

UTRioGrandeValley

BEST WEEK EVER

signature Events

MONDAY, AUGUST 28

Brownsville & Edinburg

• Toss for Luck

• First Day of Class Photos

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

Brownsville

• Picnic with the President –11:30 a.m.

• The Stomp –5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

Brownsville & Edinburg

• UTRGV Day

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

Edinburg

• Picnic with the President –11:30 a.m.

• The Stomp –5 p.m.

• UTRGV Women's Soccer vs Stetson –7 p.m.

For more information or special accommodations, call (956) 882-5111 or (956) 665-2660.

THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM

University leaders set goals for Fall 2017

Jesus Sanchez
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Despite UTRGV being placed on accreditation probation and receiving a \$24 million reduction in state appropriations, President Guy Bailey is confident the university will continue to grow and succeed.

In its second year, UTRGV also faced major transportation concerns from students, faculty and staff, as well as budget issues with its School of Medicine.

However, things are looking hopeful for the university's third year as its enrollment and retention rates have increased, Bailey said. The president said he is proud of everything UTRGV accomplished in its second year.

"We had a good year," he said. "We had very good student retention rates, about 80 percent, and it looks like going into year three, we'll be above 80 percent. Even better, our second- and third-year retention rates are above 70 percent, and that's really good. Our students are being successful and that's the single most important thing."

Bailey also said the university had a good fundraising year as it racked up about \$33 million. UTRGV was prepared for the reduction in its budget, according to Bailey.

"We kind of saw this coming," he said. "We put a soft hiring freeze on, and that helped us prepare to deal with this without having to make too many big cuts."

Most of the budget reductions were in special items, Bailey said.

Last spring, Bailey said in a March 22 Staff Senate meeting that the university can partially offset the reductions in state appropriations by increasing its enrollment.

In Fall 2016, UTRGV's enrollment reports showed 27,560. This fall, that number has increased to 28,588, preliminary figures show.

"That enrollment growth is partly better retention



Albert Monrroy/THE RIDER

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley's enrollment saw a 1,000-student increase from Fall 2016. This semester, preliminary figures show 28,588 students attending UTRGV.

rates," Bailey said. "We're very pleased with that. ... That enrollment growth will partially offset state budget cuts as well."

The president said he believes UTRGV's Fall 2017 enrollment will remain at a 1,000-student increase.

Additionally, UTRGV is expecting to receive five new shuttle buses with a 40-seat capacity in November.

Bailey said he was aware of the situation students, faculty and staff faced and is focused on resolving the issue.

"The ridership on the buses

was much higher last year than we anticipated," Bailey said. "We think we're now ahead of it, but that is one [issue] that

we'll continuously reassess. Our first concern is student success."

Student Government Association President Alondra Galvan said the SGA met with university officials last spring to address the transportation issue.

"We were not ready in the fact that we did not have the required amount of seats for the people who used the shuttle," Galvan said. "I think that was the biggest [issue] we did face."

Galvan and Bailey are hopeful transportation won't be as big an issue this semester.



About UTRGV

UTRGV was created by the Texas Legislature in 2013 as the first major public university of the 21st century in the state.

Transportation

A recurring issue several university leaders mentioned was transportation between campuses.

As previously reported by *The Rider*, many students have been left behind on both campuses because there are not enough seats on the Vaquero Express Campus Connector.

To address this problem, Parking and Transportation Services Director Rodney Gomez said his department increased the seating capacity by 70 percent after obtaining two large shuttle buses with 56 seats each.



THE RIDER FILE PHOTO

Probation

Bailey also told *The Rider* university officials are working closely with representatives of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to resolve the school's probationary status.

In October, a SACSCOC special committee will visit the UTRGV campuses. In the meantime, the university is finalizing some of the communication issues, most of which had to do with the website.

Faculty Senate President Dora Saavedra told *The Rider* Bailey and UTRGV administration have updated the senate on the school's probationary status.

"[SACSCOC] accreditation and the [Liaison Committee on Medical Education] accreditation for the medical school are a goal that we need to reach this coming year so that we can be fully up and running," Saavedra said.

Staff Senate President Lisa

Smith said the group invited Deputy Provost Cynthia Brown to speak during a recent meeting about the school's probationary status.

"[Brown], basically, said that everything is looking great," Smith said. "They're working on the final report and that our responses to the findings that were cited were all great. ... Everything was pretty much addressed."

Staff Senate

Smith said a topic the senate wants to address this fall is recognition of staff.

"One of the items that occurred due to the transition was years of service," she said. "The previous years of service at legacy institutions are going to be included and HR had to approve the years of service from all the legacy institutions. So, it was a complex process for them to figure out."

The Staff Senate is working with Human Resources to

arrange an Employee Years of Service Award ceremony for both staff and faculty.

Smith said she hopes to celebrate employee service with a unified institutionwide ceremony and, eventually, make a consistent plan for an annual service award ceremony. The Staff Senate hopes to have the first award ceremony in October or November.

On Wednesday, the Staff Senate will launch its inaugural strategic plan. The launch will take place during the UTRGV Day celebration scheduled at 10 a.m. in the University Ballroom on the Edinburg campus and at 2 p.m. in El Gran Salón on the Brownsville campus.

"You're basically going to get an overview booklet and that's going to have all of the different areas," Smith said.

Asked if she had a message for the campus community, Smith replied that the core



THE RIDER FILE PHOTO

See UTRGV, Page 9

THE RIDER

The Rider is the official, award-winning student newspaper of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. The newspaper is widely distributed on and off campus in Brownsville and Edinburg, Texas. Views presented are those of the writers and do not reflect those of the newspaper or university.

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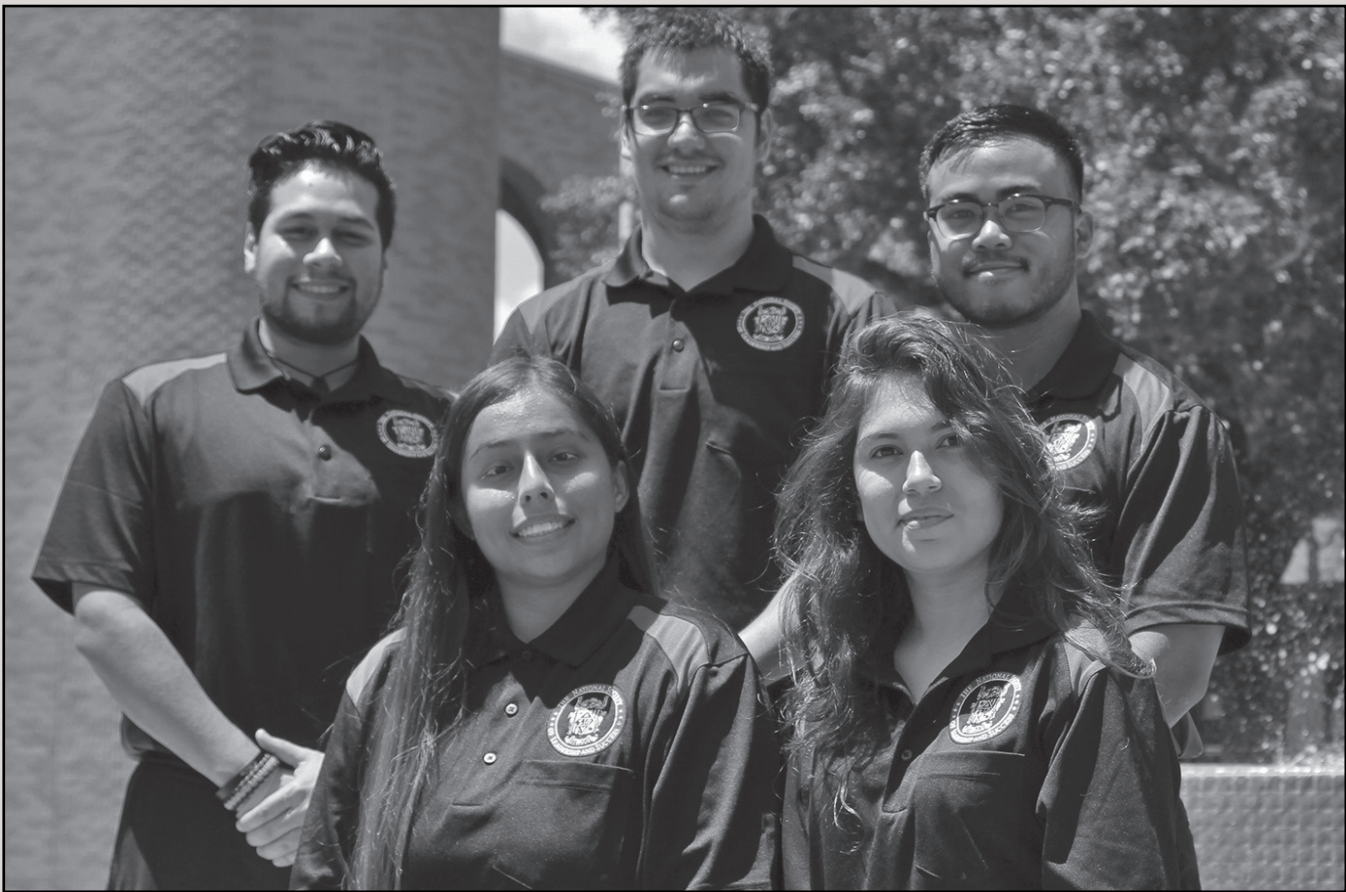
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CLUB SPOTLIGHT



Lesley Robles/THE RIDER

Executive board members of the National Society of Leadership and Success are (front row, from left) President Denise Hernandez and Success Networking Team Coordinator Esmeralda Gonzalez. Back row: Vice President Peter Averack, Co-Adviser Edgar Padilla and Secretary Lawrence Earl Pabalinas.

Name: The National Society of Leadership and Success

Purpose: The mission of the National Society of Leadership and Success chapter is to build leaders to make a better world.

President: Denise Hernandez

Vice President: Peter Averack

Secretary: Lawrence Earl Pabalinas

Success Networking Team Coordinator: Esmeralda Gonzalez

Member Outreach Coordinator: Jose B. Balanza

Adviser: Raul Leal, program coordinator for Leadership and Mentoring

Co-Adviser: Edgar Padilla

Activities: Orientation, Leadership Training Day, Success Networking Team meetings, speaker broadcast, induction, socials and volunteer opportunities.

Membership requirements: Students are selected based on academic standing and leadership potential. If students are not selected, they may nominate themselves on the NSLS website, <https://www.societyleadership.org/>, to join the society.

For more information, email: NSLS@utrgv.edu

--Compiled by Lesley Robles

*Want your club featured? Email us
at TheRider@utrgv.edu or call us at 882-5143
in Brownsville and 665-2541 in Edinburg!*

POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between Aug. 15 and 18.



Aug. 15

12:48 p.m.: A staff member reported that the department was charged a high amount by an independent copier provider for an excess number of printed copies made between June and July. The case is under investigation.

4:20 p.m.: A suspicious male was seen parked in Lot E-26 on the Edinburg campus. A record check revealed that he was a registered sex offender residing in Kingsville. A joint investigation between UTRGV Police and the Edinburg Police Department led to the arrest of the man for failure to comply with registration requirements, a third-degree felony. Edinburg police served the man with a felony warrant and UTRGV Police issued him a criminal trespass warning.

4:56 p.m.: A faculty member reported that the wooden steps of a university

portable building at the UTRGV Port Isabel Coastal Studies site were damaged. A work order was requested in order to make the repairs.

Aug. 16

11:30 a.m.: A student reported losing her university-issued USB device sometime during June. The device did

and Physical Education Building in Edinburg asked her for a ride. An officer arrived on the scene and noticed the man displayed signs of intoxication by alcohol. The individual was arrested on a charge of public intoxication, was issued a criminal trespass warning and was transported to the Edinburg Municipal Jail for booking.

12:06 p.m.: A man reported falling down in the H5 parking lot on the Harlingen campus, resulting in a scratch to his right arm. The man was treated at the Veterans Affairs hospital.

9:24 p.m.: An officer discovered that the door to the laundry room in the soccer complex was open. He encountered a male student inside and confirmed that everything was OK.

Aug. 18
2:22 p.m.: A female reported printing out her personal information, but when she went to pick up her copies, they were not found.

--Compiled by Britney Valdez



University Police

**Brownsville
Dispatch**
882-8232

**Edinburg
Dispatch**
665-7151

Email: Police@utrgv.edu
Campus Emergency: 882-2222

not contain any sensitive or personally identifiable information.

3:09 p.m.: A staff member using a grass trimmer near the Research Education Building in Edinburg reported accidentally shattering the window of a parked vehicle.

Aug. 17

5:27 a.m.: A student reported that an unknown man at the Health

Need a lift?

UTRGV adds two shuttles and five more on the way

Nubia Reyna
THE RIDER

Ever since UT Pan American and UT Brownsville merged, one of the main issues has been commuting from one campus to another. Several students have complained about how hard it is to get a shuttle seat to get to class on time.

However, it seems like things are going to change this semester for those who are looking to ride the shuttles. With two new shuttles, the fleet totals 13.

“We increased our capacity by about 70 percent, so that should be able to handle the demand,” said Rodney Gomez, UTRGV director of Parking and Transportation Services. “We have gotten two large shuttle buses, like the huge ones we use to go to Houston and Dallas, and those are 56-seaters.”

In addition, a new departure time has been added for both campuses at 12:15 p.m.

“[The schedule] is the official one, but of course, we will see how it’s working and if they need a different schedule, we can take a look at that depending on how many, but for now that is the schedule that we expect for the fall,” Gomez said.

UTRGV Parking and Transportation Services expects to receive five more shuttles in November.

“Those will be brand-new. ... [They] will be 40-seaters [each],” Gomez said. “We’ll have enough capacity for spring as well.”

Asked when the shuttles are most used, Gomez replied it varies

depending on the semester.

“We don’t know how it’s going to be in the fall, but in the spring, the busiest were 7:30 a.m. and then 9 a.m., and then in the afternoon, 1:30 and 3 o’clock,” he said.

Gomez recommends students get to the shuttle pickup as early as possible in order to grab a seat of their choice.

“We also have a Twitter account where we post updates,” Gomez said. “They should follow our Twitter account to make sure that if there’s any update or the bus is running late, we’ll send a tweet out, so they know what’s going on.”

The official Twitter for Parking and Transportation Services is @utrgv_pts.

Gomez said the department is looking to hire student drivers.

“If anyone is interested in that, they can go to the Career Connection online and we have a position open for student drivers,” he said. “We’ll be happy to look at students.”

The director said even if students don’t have the special license and training for bus driving, the department trains and helps them earn the license.

“We help students out,” Gomez said. “We’ve already done that.”

Students said they like the convenience of the shuttle, because they can focus on doing other things while commuting.

“I like the convenience of the shuttle because I can read instead of having to focus on driving,” said biology senior Javier Parra.

However, even though he likes the shuttle, Parra said he would also change a few things to make it more



THE RIDER FILE PHOTO

Last spring, many students were left behind on both campuses because there were not enough seats on the Vaquero Express Campus Connector. To address this problem, Parking and Transportation Services Director Rodney Gomez said his department increased the seating capacity by 70 percent after obtaining two large shuttle buses with 56 seats each.

suitable for students.

“What I would change are the seats and capacity,” he said. “The seats are not comfortable, and the shuttles can fill up fast, leaving students behind. I would appreciate if the driver would wait a minute for a student that is running towards the shuttle. I

understand that they have to stay on schedule, but so do we, and if we miss the shuttle, we are stuck there for an hour and a half.”

For more information about the shuttles, visit <http://www.utrgv.edu/en-us/student-experience/parking/transportation/index.htm>.

UTRGV student enrollment increases



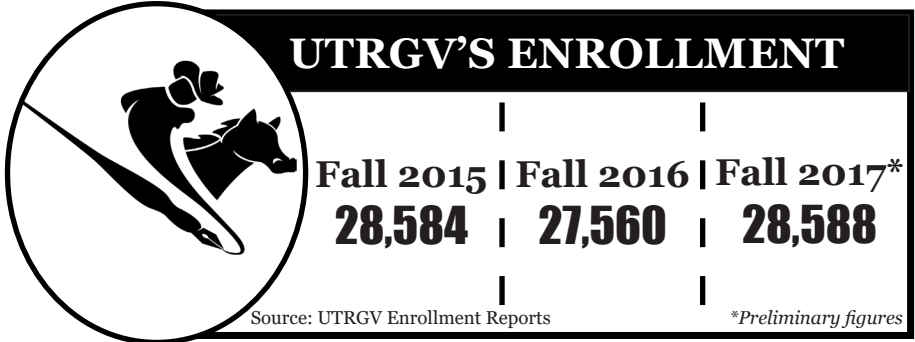
THE RIDER FILE PHOTO

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley’s student enrollment has increased about 3.6 percent from the 2016-17 academic term. Last year, the university had a retention rate of 80 percent. This year, the rate is trending at 81.6 percent.

Zugay Treviño
THE RIDER

Preliminary numbers show 28,588 students are expected to attend classes this fall at UTRGV, an increase over last fall, officials say.

The university’s latest student population numbers show 25,416 undergraduates, 3,071 graduate students and 101 students enrolled in UTRGV’s School of Medicine. An additional 350 students are part of the university through programs such as the Mathematics and Science Academy, Brownsville Early College



High School and high school dual-enrollment courses.

The 25,000 undergraduate students

can be broken down in several ways. It is especially true for incoming freshmen.

“The entering freshman class is a variety of students,” said Maggie Hinojosa, the university’s vice president for Strategic Enrollment. “They can be a freshman, a sophomore or a junior depending on how many hours they come in with.”

It complicates the process of counting freshmen.

“We expect to have our largest freshman class for UTRGV,” Hinojosa said. “So, right now our entering freshman class is at 4,547.”

The undergraduate enrollment rate is up by 4 percent. Similarly, freshman admissions are up by 8 percent. So far, the most popular freshman class major is nursing, followed by biology. Out of the undergraduate population, 5,176 are sophomores, 6,273 students are juniors and 8,071 are seniors.

Student enrollment increased about 3.6 percent from the 2016-17 academic year. Around 17,000 are taking classes in Edinburg and online. About 5,000 are in Brownsville and online. However, an estimated 1,000 students will take only online courses to get their undergraduate degrees.

The university’s retention rate is also improving. Last year, the university was at 80 percent. This year, the rate is trending at 81.6 percent.

By comparison, legacy campuses University of Texas-Pan American and University of Texas at Brownsville had second-year retention rates in the 60s.

“This is going to be the first time that we have a second-year retention rate ‘cause we’re starting our third year. Right now, we’re at 71.4 percent,” Hinojosa said.

Student housing numbers also remain stable. The preliminary number for the dorms this year is around 900. An estimated 300 will reside in Brownsville on-campus housing and 600 will reside in Edinburg this fall semester.

CAMPUS Q&A

What are your goals for Fall 2017?



"To not, like, have everything stressed out, [because] like, I'm a freshman and people say really bad stories about freshmen. Like, Freshman 15 and stuff, so I don't want that to psych me out. Well, and to have my classes for sure. Like, I want my schedule to be good for at least the first two weeks, [because] it's gonna be crazy."

Cristina Robles
Music education freshman



"Well, for one, it's to be more involved in the student body. Hopefully, I'm willing to join the honor society if possible. Also, I really hope to bring my grades up, hopefully all A's in all my classes, I'd like to bring my GPA up."

Mohammed Hussien
Biomedical science sophomore



"Mis metas para el semestre ... son tener un GPA de 4.0. Me gustaría poder tener una A en todas mis clases y me gustaría avanzar mucho, porque yo quiero ser programadora cuando crezca. Me gustaría aprender todo lo que pueda ahorita, lo más pronto posible, para poder graduarme temprano, empezar mi carrera temprano, y terminar temprano".

Grecia Garaté
Estudiante de primer año en estudios multidisciplinarios



"Really, just this year, I want to be able to focus more on my classes and also participate more in Student Involvement, because the last two years I didn't involve myself with organizations, but I really want to be able to do that this year. Also, just to focus more and be more determined in my classes, so that I can increase my GPA and get all A's in my classes and that's really my goal for this fall semester."

Marla Orozco
Communication studies junior

--Compiled by Joahana Segundo and Albert Monrroy



8/28/17

Letter from the Editor

Jesus Sanchez
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's that time of the year again when we are either excited for a new beginning or dreading the fact that we must readjust our sleeping schedules. Whatever your case may be, welcome to the third year of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

On that note, I would like to introduce or reintroduce you to the official, award-winning UTRGV student newspaper, *The Rider*.

The Rider is a student-run newspaper that publishes every Monday and is available on all UTRGV campuses. You may also visit us online at our redesigned-and-improved website, utrgvrider.com.

Most important, we consider ourselves to be the student voice of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Our mission is to be the most accurate, thorough and interesting source of news, sports and entertainment.

In the past two years, we have proved to not only be a voice for students, but for the entire campus community; that includes you, faculty and staff.

The range of topics we have covered include the university's probationary status, faculty salary adjustments, student success stories and crime on campus, among others.

Our team is dedicated to bring you the most up-to-date UTRGV news and shed light on issues that impact the campus community.

This year, we are incorporating video packages in some of our articles to provide a different platform for our readers to view our content.

In our first Fall 2017 issue, we are focused on providing useful information to the campus community, such as the types of services provided by University Police, updates on the Vaquero Express Campus Connector and local places to grab a bite to eat (Edinburg and Brownsville).

Maybe you are wondering where your classes are at or what there is to do on campus. We provided Edinburg and Brownsville campus maps, and Page 2 contains a Best Week Ever schedule of events.

I encourage you to participate in campus events and get involved with school clubs to obtain the full college experience that is often talked about. Before you know it, your time will come and you will walk across the stage and receive your diploma.

We live on borrowed time. You are at, perhaps, the most important period of your life. This is the time to take advantage and excuse the cliché, live life to the fullest.

Get involved. Let your voice be heard. If there is a story

out there that you believe needs to be told, whether it is controversial or not, we are here to help.

If you have an opinion on or strong belief in a certain topic and want to share it, I encourage you to submit a letter to the editor.

We are here for you. We are here to provide our services to the campus community. This is a thankless job and many times, it is a difficult one. However, it is our job to report the truth, and we will do so to the best of our abilities.

Our team at *The Rider* is made up of some of the most talented students at UTRGV and each one is determined to complete our mission.

On a more personal note, this will be my final year with *The Rider* since I am scheduled to graduate next spring. I have been here since before the merger of UTRGV.

I have witnessed this university go through all its ups and downs. I have reported on nearly all of them. And even though I may be on my way out, I still have a couple of good stories left in me.

I hope you enjoy your time here at UTRGV as much as I have enjoyed mine. This is a great university and there are endless possibilities; you just need to go out there and find them.

We are starting a brand-new academic year. Let's make it the best one yet.

Submit a Letter to the Editor

The Rider encourages letters but does not guarantee publication. We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar and content. Letters for *The Rider* may be sent to therider@utrgv.edu. All letters must be typed and no longer than 400 words. Letters must include the name, classification and phone number of letter's author or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in *The Rider* are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Rider* or UTRGV administrators.

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In helping hands

What Health Services and University Police offer



Ana Cahuiche/The Rider Photos

University Police, a division of the University of Texas System Police, provides the campus community protection and also offers police escort and vehicle assistance services. The station is located at 2671 FJRM Ave. on the Brownsville campus and at the Academic Services Facility Building on the Edinburg campus.

Steven Hughes

THE RIDER

Feeling sick or accidentally locked yourself out of your car? UTRGV Health Services and University Police are here to help.

The departments offer many services, from getting your flu shot to recovering lost items.

Steve Machner, a physician assistant at the Health Services clinic in Brownsville, said it offers a variety of services for students.

“We see students for physical exams, chronic medical illness or address acute care problems,” Machner said. “If a student happens to be working out at the Rec or playing basketball and turns their ankle or has an injury that needs to be evaluated, they can

come see us and for chronic care, if there’s a patient that has problems with cholesterol, thyroid, we can help manage the chronic course of that illness.”

The clinic also provides routine checkups.

“We offer immunizations, we just got our new vaccines and we’ll be pushing those really hard to students,” Machner said. “Vaccines are free, they are a first-come, first-serve basis and you can’t beat free. We also provide laboratory services for students who need their cholesterol checked, want to have diabetes screening performed, as well as STD testings on Wednesday, from 9 to 4, with a short break for lunch. We have free HIV testing.”

UTRGV offers a health insurance plan to students. Beverly Estrada, an



Health Services offices are available for all students from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Medical Service Fee gives students access to office visits as often as needed. UTRGV Health Services is accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care Inc. and offers general medical care services, as well as specialty clinics in women’s wellness, skin care and STD screenings at little to no cost.

office assistant in Brownsville, helps students who are interested in buying the insurance.

“It covers ER visits, if you need to see a specialist that [is] part of the network,” Estrada said. “There might be some services [that] may not be offered here at the clinic, so having an insurance can help them cover those fees.”

Students who already have insurance can use it to help cover the cost of services the clinic offers. They can either call to set up an appointment or walk in.

“We realize that some things can’t be scheduled,” Machner said. “If you sprain your ankle at the gym and you can’t put weight on your foot and you need to be seen right away, we’ll look at you. Appointments are nice, but we

know that not everyone can take the time to get scheduled and come in.”

Health Services has physician assistants and nurse practitioners on both campuses. They are able to prescribe medication to students.

“We do prescribe medication, but we are bound by certain limitations,” Machner said. “There are some controlled medications that we cannot write for. It’s beyond our prescriptive authority, but all routine medication like antibiotics, itch creams, rash creams, most all of that we can write for. In Edinburg, they actually have a pharmacy in-house at their clinic, but we work with discount drug lists from the local pharmacies here.”

University Police keeps students and

See SERVICES, Page 10

Chasing dreams

Thriller filmed in the Valley

Gabriel Galvan

THE RIDER

Many people say they want to make a movie or write a book. Now, imagine actually doing it. Rodrigo Moreno, a film director based in Brownsville, has done something few accomplish.

Moreno invested his life savings in making a film. He is the director, producer and executive producer of “The Whole,” as well as the co-writer of the script, along with his brother, Joel Moreno.

“We wanted to do it here in the Valley,” Moreno said. “All of this concept of a necessity expressing yourself, that rage that you have inside, that’s my motivation to make a film like this.”

“The Whole” is a psychological thriller that is centered on Peter Ramsey, played by Javier Andy Zavala Jr., a university professor with problems of self-acceptance and self-actualization. The movie has philosophical elements behind it, particularly in regard to existentialism and the concept of essence and what makes you who you are. The movie is suspenseful

with relatable characters and compelling writing. Peter finds a hole in his wall. He discovers that this hole has metaphysical properties and that everything that he puts into this hole becomes salient in history. Through the course of the movie, Peter changes as he decides how to use this newly found power.

“He does discover something in the movie that can help him get there, but in the process, he loses his own identity,” UTRGV Communication Professor Sharaf Rehman said in describing the lead character.

Rehman plays the president of the university where Peter works.

The majority of the cast is Latino. Some people who are part of stage support are from UTRGV.

“It is a local production, made by a Hispanic-American person, featuring Hispanic-American characters, involved in front of the camera and behind the camera,” Rehman said. “Yet, it is not a movie that feeds the sensationalist issues of drug trafficking and violence and cartels and human trafficking and that

kind of stuff. It is an honest-to-goodness psychological thriller. So, instead of cashing in on the cheap thrill, where one could have made it a popular commercial film, he chose to do something really sincere and serious, and to make a movie that really makes people want to think. It is a movie for a thinking person, rather than bubble gum for the eyes.”

Much of the filming took place at Texas Southmost College between January and April, with post-production being finished in June.

Moreno did not want to make a regional film about drug trafficking, border violence or immigration.

“We wanted to do a project that is not the common project for that region,” he said in an interview Aug. 19 at his Pink Ape Media office in north Brownsville. “People talk about drug cartels and violence, which is a perfectly legitimate topic, but we wanted to do a more universal film, a film that can be watched in Timbuktu or Paris and you can still enjoy it.”

Victoria Mendez, a UTRGV communication freshman,

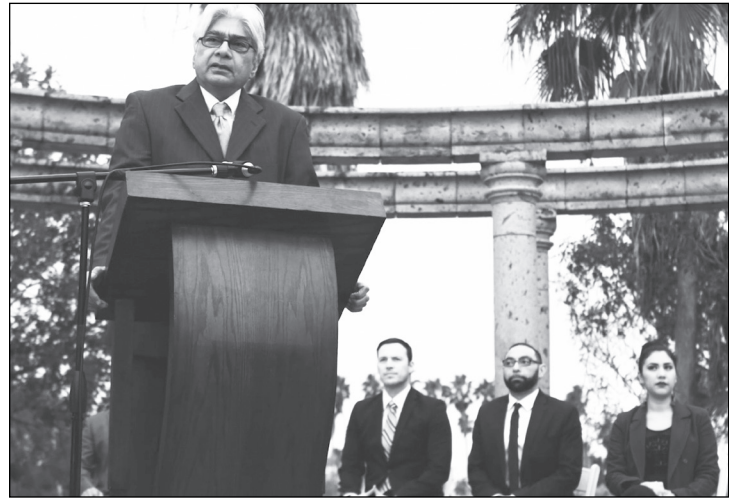


PHOTO COURTESY RODRIGO MORENO

Communication Professor Sharif Rehman plays the role of the university president in “The Whole.”

served as a production assistant on the film.

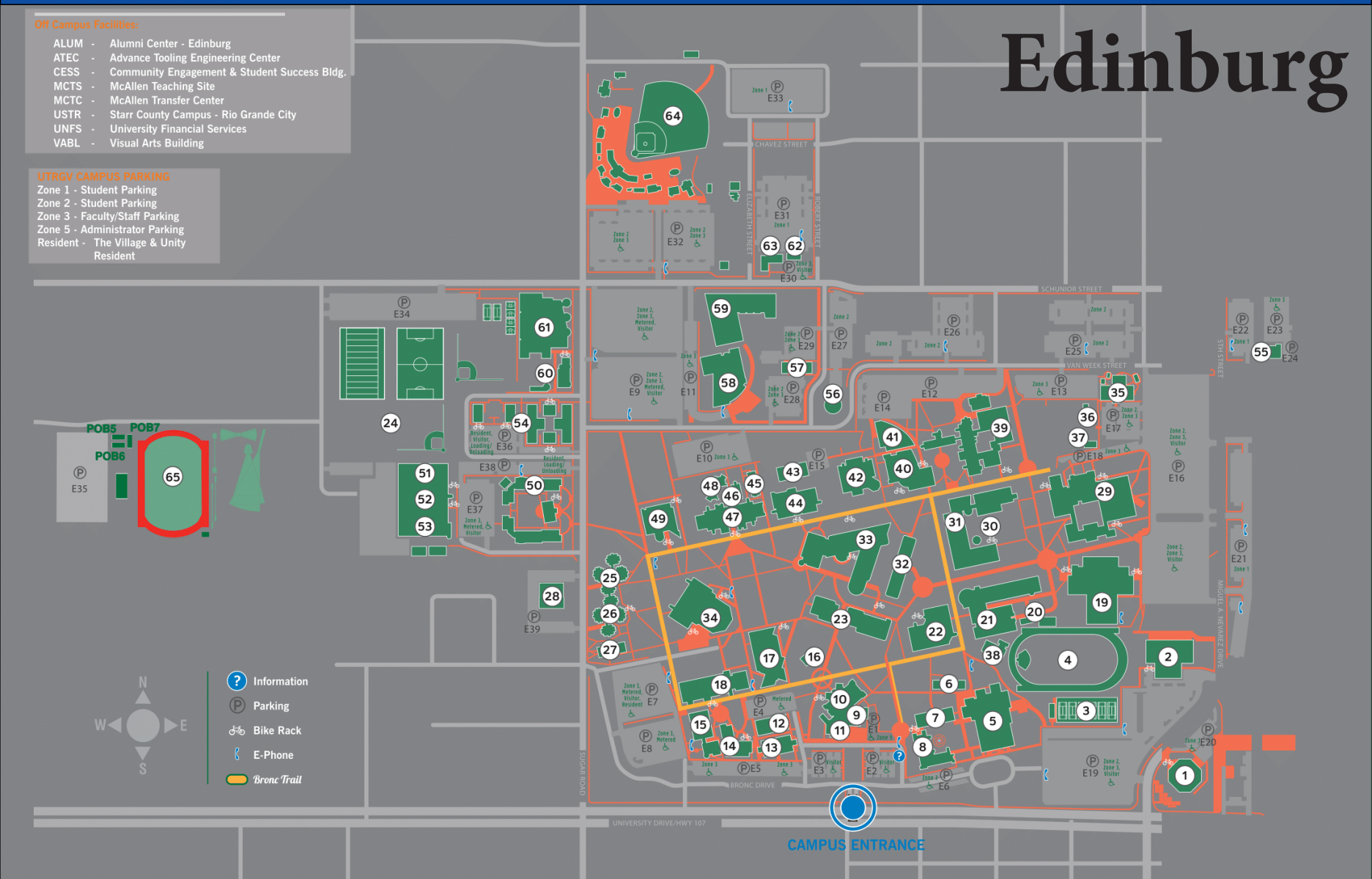
“Going in, I thought I knew a lot about film, but this whole experience showed me that I didn’t, but it taught me a lot as well,” Mendez said in regard to working on the movie.

“The Whole” was screened at the San Antonio Film

Festival and the Sunrise 45 Film Festival in Michigan. It will open the South Texas International Film Festival at 6 p.m. Sept. 7 in the UTRGV Performing Arts Center on the Edinburg campus.

For more information about the event, contact Soledad Nuñez at 383-6246.

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1. ESWOT - Social Work and Occupational Therapy	17. ESTUN - Student Union	33. ELIBR - University Library	46. EHABW - Health Affairs Building West (HSHW - Health Science and Human Services West)	57. ELAMR - Lamar E
2. EITTB - International Trade & Technology	18. EDBCX - Dining & Ballroom Complex	34. ELABS - Liberal Arts Building South (ARHU - Arts and Humanities)	47. EHABW - Health Affairs Building West Classroom A	58. EREBL - Research Education-(School of Medicine)
3. ECOXT - Orville Cox Tennis Center	19. EHPE2 - Health & Physical Education II	35. ECDCR - Child Development Center	48. EHABW - Health Affairs Building West Auditorium	59. EMEBL - Medical Education-(School of Medicine)
4. ETRAK - Track & Soccer Field	20. EPOB4 - Engineering Portable	36. EARGC - Agroecology Research Community Garden Greenhouse	49. ELABN - Liberal Arts Building North (SBSC - Social and Behavior Science)	60. ESTHC - Student Health Center
5. EPACA - Performing Arts Complex A (PACA - Fine Arts Building A)	21. EENGR - Engineering	37. EGRNH - Education Complex	50. EUNTY - Unity Hall	61. EUREC - University Recreation (WRSC - Wellness & Recreation Sports Complex)
6. ESWKH - Southwick Hall	22. EACSB - Academic Services	38. EPOB9-13 - Portable Buildings 9, 10, 11, 12, 13	51. EASF - Rio Grande Center for Manufacturing	62. EPOB8 - ROTC Storage
7. EPACC - Performing Arts Complex C (PACC - Fine Arts Building C)	23. EPHYS - Physical Science	39. EEDUC - Mathematics & General Classrooms	52. EASF - Police and Parking & Transportation Offices	63. EROTC - ROTC
8. EPACB - Performing Arts Complex B (PACB - Fine Arts Building B)	24. EIMFD - Intramural Fields	40. EMAGC - Computer Center	53. EASF - Academic Support Facility	64. EBSBL - Baseball Stadium
9. ESSBL - Executive Tower	25. ETROX - Troxel Hall	41. ECCTR - New Computer Center (CCTR - Computer Center)	54. EVLGA - The Village A	65. ESOC - Soccer and Track & Field Complex
10. ESSBL - Student Services Building	26. EHRTG - Heritage Hall	42. ECOBE - Robert C. Vackar College of Business and Entrepreneurship (BUSA - Business Administration Building)	55. EVLGB - The Village B	
11. ESSBL - Visitors Center	27. EEMLH - Emilia Schunior Ramirez Hall	43. ECULP - Central Utility Plant	56. EVLBC - The Village C	
12. EMSAC - Mathematics & Science Academy	28. ESRAX - Sugar Road Annex (CHUR - Church of Christ)	44. EHABE - Health Affairs Building East (HSHE - Health Science and Human Services East)	57. EVLBD - The Village D	
13. EMASS - Marialice Shary Shivers	29. EHPE1 - Health & Physical Education Complex Fieldhouse	45. EBNSB - Behavioral Neurosciences	58. EVLBE - The Village E	
14. ESTAC - Student Academic Center	30. EPLAN - H.E.B. Planetarium		59. EVLGF - The Village F	
15. EUCTR - University Center	31. ESCNE - Science		60. EEHSB - Environmental Health & Safety (VWOF - Van Week Building)	
16. ECHAP - Chapel	32. ELCTR - The Learning Center (LEAC - Learning Assistance Center)		61. ETHER - Thermal Storage Tank	

NOTE: Previous Building Names are in RED



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1. Main Building	BMAIN	11. Vocation Trades Shops	BVOTS	22. Research Office Building	BROBL
2. Sabal Hall	BSABH	12. Cortez Hall	BCRTZ	23. The Arts Center	BTACB
3. University Library	BLIBR	13. Cavalry Hall	BCAVL	24. University Police	BUNPB
4. Biomedical Research & Health	BBRHB	14. Rusteberg Hall	BRUST	25. Recreation, Education and Kinesiology Center	BREKC
5. Biomedical Research II	BBRII	15. Bookstore	BSTOR	26. Portable Buildings	BPOB1
6. Life & Health Sciences Biology Wing	BLHSB	16. American Legion Hall – Adult Education	BALEG		BPOB2
7. Life & Health Sciences	BLHSB	17. Eidman Hall	BEIDM	27. Regional Academic Health Center	BRAHC
8. Student Union	BSTUN	18. Facilities Services	BFSVS	28. East Office Building	BEOBL
9. Casa Bella	BCASA	19. Gymnasium Annex	BGYMA		
10. Science, Engineering & Technology	BSETB	20. Garza Gymnasium	BGYMN		
		21. Music Building	BMUSI		

Radio station seeks hosts

UTRGV Radio will hold informational sessions from noon to 1 p.m. on both campuses for students, faculty and staff interested in hosting or co-hosting a radio program.

The station will offer training in radio writing and announcing. No previous experience is required.

In Brownsville, the session will take place Wednesday in Rusteberg Hall 205. In Edinburg, it will take place Sept. 6 in ESTAC 1.102. For more information, call 882-5143.



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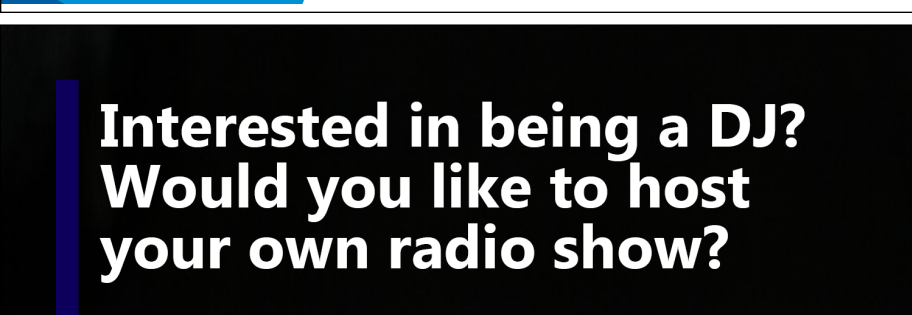
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DJs are not employees of UTRGV Student Media. The position is an unpaid involvement opportunity. DJs are allowed a one-hour-per-week time slot.

UTRGV

Continued from Page 3

priority of UTRGV is student success, but staff success plays a big role as well.

"I want to encourage [the UTRGV campus community to have] active participation and to reach out to us," she said. "We're so large that it's hard to address those areas we need to address and investigate. So, they can email us to our email address. We also have a feedback submission tab on our website and they can do that anonymously."

The Staff Senate's email is staffsenate@utrgv.edu. To submit comments, visit utrgv.edu/staffsenate/feedback.

Faculty Senate

In Faculty Senate news, Saavedra said the senate will talk with new Interim Provost Patricia McHatton to find out how UTRGV is handling the issue of better communication that was presented in its White Paper.

Last fall, *The Rider* obtained a copy of a 23-page study dated July 10 that identifies "issues/concerns and recommendations regarding processes that impact teaching, research/scholarship and/or service" at UTRGV. The senate submitted the White Paper to Bailey at his request.

The document states that communication with faculty, staff and students is "not ideal."

Saavedra said Bailey has committed to meet with the Faculty Senate at least twice a semester and McHatton committed to meet with the group on a regular basis.

"We wanted improved communication, more transparency and we want to implement shared governance across the institution," Saavedra said.

One of her main goals for the fall semester is to push the idea of shared governance.

Saavedra was elected Faculty Senate president for the first time in November 2015 and has had the

shared governance initiative in mind since then.

"It's been a little bit of an uphill struggle, but I think now there are enough people who are on board with that idea, who want to work on it and I think we'll be able to get that at least started," the Faculty Senate president said.

She also said the senate will work on administrator evaluations this fall.

"If you have a happy faculty and a happy staff, you're going to have happy students and more productive people," Saavedra said. "We just want to make this the best climate that we can make at UTRGV."

SGA

This fall, the Student Government Association hopes to be more active with the student body to help address issues affecting the university.

Galvan said instead of waiting for students to come to them, the SGA will go out and attempt to find those in need.

"We're not a club for political science majors," she said. "SGA is the official representation of the student body. A lot of students tend to say, 'Oh! It's like you guys are the lawyers or the U.S. government but on a university scale.' ... We want to ensure that the student voices are being heard."

Galvan encourages students to come to the SGA with any concerns they may have so the association can speak with the appropriate administrators or departments to resolve the issues effectively and efficiently.

"I'm excited for this year," she said. "We have a great team, a great group of students. ... We have students from different backgrounds, from different experiences and that has allowed us to have a more diverse SGA membership."

... We do have a lot of ideas we would like to implement this year. Our main goal is to make our UTRGV experience better for everyone. We want to make positive changes, not only to our current UTRGV students, but for the future generations that do come."



WE'RE BACK!

THE RIDER

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Hungry for a change?

Eat and relax at popular student hangouts



Albert Monrroy/THE RIDER

El Hueso de Fraile, located at 837 E. Elizabeth St. in Brownsville, is a family owned and operated coffee shop. Its candle-lit atmosphere, live local music, free Wi-Fi and proximity to the university makes this a hotspot for students. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., but you'll find the most people here on Friday and Saturday nights.

Nubia Reyna

THE RIDER

If you are like me, chances are, you are a broke college student trying to save money while still going out to eat in nice places, or maybe, you are just someone who already got tired of eating the same food over and over again.

That is why *The Rider* reporters and photographers asked students where they eat and relax while not breaking the budget (and staying close to campus).

Brownsville: English Education major Monika Martinez was one of the students who recommended El Hueso de Fraile, or as Brownsville residents like to call it, El Hueso. Located at 837 E. Elizabeth St., Suite D, the coffee shop is a 10-minute walk from campus.

"I like to order a sandwich called *El Mestizo*, with chips and the white tea," Martinez said. "They have a really good iced coffee that I recommend everyone tries at least once."

Martinez said she likes the coffee named *El Beso Rosa*, which tastes like strawberry coffee.

"I like the vibe of El Hueso," she said. "It's a family-run business and the owners are very kind and also very talented. They have live music almost every evening."

El Hueso has a bohemian vibe that makes everyone feel at home. They display art pieces such as paintings, drawings, photographs, handmade jewelry, among other unique things.

"Our main purpose is to promote culture, music and what better way to do it than with the students," Laura Foncerrada, owner of El Hueso de Fraile, said in Spanish.



Albert Monrroy/THE RIDER

El Hueso de Fraile offers coffee, organic tea, over 70 different craft beers, locally baked bread and pastries and sandwiches made from scratch. The shop has live music which features a variety of genres such as reggae and jazz.



Valeria Alanis/THE RIDER

Snack Shack is located at 1621 W. University Dr., Suite C. The establishment is walking distance from the Edinburg campus. Its menu offers different options for its customers, from healthy choices to junk food cravings. For more information about Snack Shack, call owner Lysette Resendez at 475-8555.

Foncerrada said she likes to make students feel at home. She supports, advises and sometimes she even "scolds" them when they don't behave.

Internet that students can use to watch Netflix or listen to music.

"The TV is [there for] whatever the students want to do," Resendez said.



Valeria Alanis/THE RIDER

Porky's, a best-seller at Snack Shack, is prepared with pork skin, white corn, mayonnaise, sour cream and Valentina Salsa Picante.

"It is so funny because a lot of them call me '*mamá*,'" Foncerrada said.

El Hueso offers a variety of unique sandwiches, coffees, teas and craft beer.

"We have more than 100 different beers," Foncerrada said.

Edinburg: For this campus, students selected a newly opened restaurant named "Snack Shack."

"The best-sellers are the natural juices, the Homer, the Kount, the Goonie and *el chicharron preparado*, strawberry and chocolate smoothies and the prepared apple," owner Lysette Resendez said in Spanish.

The restaurant has a television and

"That's why I put it there, so they can enjoy it while they're here."

She said students like to go there and enjoy the white corn she prepares because it has a different taste than what Edinburg residents are used to.

"The *chamoy* we use, we make it here. It's a homemade recipe," Resendez said. "Our prices are affordable for students."

Prices range from \$1 to \$8.50.

"If a student comes with their ID or if they have a red shirt, they'll get a 10 percent discount," Resendez said.

If you would like to see one of your favorite restaurants featured in our next issue, email therider@utrgv.edu.

SERVICES

Continued from Page 7

campus facilities safe 24/7. They provide services such as training civilians how to be safe during emergencies and host interactive events with the community.

"Here in the UT System, we have police officers on both campuses and our response time is very quick," Police Chief Raul Munguia said.

Their authority is not limited to the campuses.

"We are a full-service police department," he said. "A lot of

people don't realize that, they think we're a campus [department] but we have jurisdiction in 48 counties in Texas, anywhere that is in the UT System, we have jurisdiction."

Criminal justice junior Nancy Lopez found her missing laptop with the help of the police department.

"I went to my classroom and checked if it was there and someone told me it would be at the police department," Lopez said. "I get there and they told me no one has turned it in yet. They told me leave my number with them and other information, and they were able to get back to me to pick up my laptop."

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De alrededor del globo

Departamento provee servicios para estudiantes internacionales

Eric Montoya

EDITOR DE ESPAÑOL

La Oficina de Compromiso Global, o OGE por sus siglas en inglés, es un departamento dedicado a ayudar a estudiantes internacionales para que puedan tener éxito en su nuevo entorno.

Este departamento ha ayudado a estudiantes como Chelsea López Loya, estudiante de UTRGV cursando su último año en educación bilingüe, proveniente de Matamoros, Tamaulipas, México.

“[Ellos] me han ayudado con lo de la visa para tramitarla y también con lo del trabajo”, dijo López. “La oficina me ayuda para que cada semestre se renueve mi contrato para trabajar”.

La OGE está dividida en tres diferentes unidades, las cuales son el Instituto de Idiomas, Programas Internacionales y Asociaciones, y Servicios para Estudiantes y Admisiones Internacionales.

“La meta principal de la Oficina de Compromiso Global es aumentar la internacionalización en el campus”, dijo Alan Earhart, director de Programas Internacionales y Asociaciones.

Su unidad está a cargo de los programas de estudio en el extranjero, organizar “nuevos acuerdos de cooperación... con instituciones asociadas en el extranjero,” y del J-1 Exchange Visitors Program, que es “un programa de intercambio cultural con países extranjeros”, explicó Earhart.

Los costos de los programas de estudio en el extranjero “son diferentes para cada programa dependiendo en la localización, y la duración y lo que este incluye”, dijo Earhart.

“En el 2017, UTRGV envió cerca de 220 estudiantes a estudiar en el extranjero durante el verano y distribuyó \$250,000 en becas”, él dijo. “Eso no cubre el costo entero de los programas, pero pienso que es muy bueno. Yo pienso que esto muestra la importancia de la institución”.

El Instituto de Idiomas ofrece dos programas de Inglés como Segundo Idioma, que son el programa intensivo y un programa durante los sábados. Con el fin de inscribirse en estos programas, los estudiantes internacionales necesitan pagar una colegiatura y están obligados a tener una visa tipo F-1 o F-3, dependiendo en el programa al que se inscriban.

“Cada estudiante es asignado una prueba de nivel y ofrecemos 10 niveles y después de que ellos hayan sido puestos en uno de los niveles, ellos se quedan en ese nivel por el resto de las ocho semanas”, dijo Norma L. Ramos, directora del Instituto de Idiomas.



Ana Cahuiche/THE RIDER

La oficina de Global Engagement está situada en cuarto 1.308 de Main Building en el campus de Brownsville. Esta oficina ofrece información a los estudiantes internacionales acerca de papeleo y trámites legales para su ingreso. El Instituto de Idiomas también forma parte de esta oficina y ofrece cursos de inglés. También cuenta con servicios de intercambios para estudiar en otros países formando parte de la Universidad de Texas Rio Grande Valley.

“Dentro de estas ocho semanas, se les enseña una hora de lectura, una hora de escritura”, explicó Ramos. “Tenemos dos horas de ortografía y una hora de laboratorio de audio. El programa del sábado es un programa de 12 semanas para aquellos estudiantes que viven a lo largo de la frontera y quieren estudiar Inglés como Segundo Idioma. Este programa es muy popular entre nuestros profesionistas a lo largo de la frontera, doctores, abogados, ingenieros que trabajan en maquiladoras”.

López dijo que la OGE conduce muchos eventos para que los estudiantes se puedan sentir motivados.

“Este departamento hace muchos eventos para recaudar fondos y poder irse de viaje o cosas así”, ella explicó.

Algunos eventos recomendados para estudiantes internacionales incluyen la OGE International: Greet and Meet, el cual promueve la internacionalización de UTRGV. Este evento tomará lugar a medio día

hasta la 1:30 p.m. el miércoles en el campus de Edinburg en UC Circle y el jueves en el Main Courtyard en el campus de Brownsville.

“El mejor consejo que puedo dar es involucrarse tanto como se pueda”, dijo Earhart.

Estudiantes internacionales como López han sido capaz de mejorar su educación gracias a la Oficina de Compromiso Global. Ella aconseja que los nuevos estudiantes internacionales consigan información sobre los servicios que este departamento ofrece.

Ramos sugiere que los estudiantes tomen la prueba de nivel tan pronto como sea posible para que puedan empezar a procesar su visa con tiempo suficiente.

OGE está localizado en el edificio STAC en el campus de Edinburg y en Main Building en el campus de Brownsville. La oficina está abierta de 8 a.m. a 5 p.m. de lunes a viernes.

Para más información, los estudiantes pueden llamar al 665-3572 para el campus de Edinburg y al 882-7092 para el campus de Brownsville.

Tomando un vistazo al eclipse

Artículo publicada de utrgvrider.com

Nubia Reyna

THE RIDER

Este lunes, más de 1,000 personas se juntaron para presenciar el eclipse solar a las afueras de Southmost Branch de la Biblioteca Pública de Brownsville.

Durante el evento, 1,000 lentes solares, hot dogs y bolsas de regalo fueron proporcionados conforme la gente llegaba. Adalberto Guzmán, el gerente de producción digital de la Ciudad de Brownsville, dijo que el evento tuvo dos propósitos.

“Uno de ellos es, por supuesto, que todos estén aquí para el eclipse solar”, Guzmán dijo. “La segunda porción es la inauguración de nuestra nueva institución, que es el Southmost Observatory. Nosotros lo acomodamos para que todos vieran el eclipse solar”.

El observatorio está diseñado para proveer una inmensa experiencia para los residentes de Brownsville. Enfocado en las familias, el observatorio traerá a las estrellas más cerca mediante programación y eventos de visualización celestial. El observatorio está destinado a inspirar a la siguiente generación de astrónomos, a involucrar a niños, jóvenes y sus familias a través de exploración espacial didáctica y a crear un profundo entendimiento de ciencia, matemáticas, y tecnología, de acuerdo con la Biblioteca Pública de Brownsville.



Ana Cahuiche/THE RIDER

Asistentes son mostrados después de haber dado un recorrido en el Southmost Observatory el lunes en la Southmost Branch en la Biblioteca Pública de Brownsville.

“Hay un evento astronómico que va a suceder”, agregó Guzmán.

La biblioteca organizará eventos, tales como la visualización nocturna de planetas.

“Es el comienzo de un nuevo servicio que vamos a empezar con la biblioteca”, dijo.

El invitado especial, Michael Fossum, ex astronauta de la NASA y coronel retirado de la U.S. Air Force, cortó el listón rojo para inaugurar el observatorio.

“Una de mis cosas favoritas para hacer mientras estaba ahí [en el transbordador espacial]... fue disfrutar por un

rato viendo por las ventanas y fue tan genial, especialmente durante la noche y déjame decirte, Brownsville sobresale como una luz muy brillante aquí en la esquina del Valle,” Fossum explicó. Fossum alienta a los estudiantes a trabajar duro para lograr sus sueños.



**An English version
of this story is available
at utrgvrider.com**

“El cielo no es el límite”, dijo Fossum. “Tú puedes hacer lo que creas”.

Fossum fue un ingeniero en sistemas en varios proyectos de la NASA antes de servir en la Oficina de Astronautas como subdirector para entrenamiento en 1998. Él estuvo 636 horas en el espacio, incluyendo 42 horas en seis caminatas espaciales. Fue premiado con la USAF Medalla de Servicio Meritorio con dos Hojas de Roble.

“Mi educación universitaria empezó [aquí] y luego salí y he hecho muchas cosas hasta ahora, pero esta se convirtió en mi plataforma de lanzamiento”, dijo Fossum.

Él dijo que UTRGV es una buena plataforma de lanzamiento para cualquier futuro que podamos soñar.

Miranda Gonzalez, residente de Brownsville, dijo que ella asistió al evento porque sabía que iba a ser una experiencia única.

“También me gustó que hubo un astronauta explicando y diciendo cosas sobre lo que iba a pasar”, Gonzalez dijo.

Para más información sobre futuros eventos en el observatorio, visita bpl.us.

Women's soccer bringing the heat

Bryan Ramos
SPORTS EDITOR

While another scorching South Texas summer may be coming to a close, the women's soccer team is turning the heat up with their play at the UTRGV Soccer and Track & Field Complex.

The team is fresh off posting UTRGV's first winning record (10-8-1) a year ago in just the third year of the program's existence. Now entering year four, Head Coach Glad Bugariu's squad is loaded with senior leadership and young talent that has been on display right out of the gates. Bugariu said the team wants to defend home field by making visitors uncomfortable in dealing with the South Texas climate, which UTRGV embraces and practices in daily.

"We want to make this place a fortress," Bugariu said. "If we can win our home games, we're guaranteed a good season. We're going to continue working hard and playing well at home, and if we keep doing that I think you'll see quite a difference."

Defend home field they did, as the team's hot start began by winning the UTRGV Tournament, the first time they've been crowned tourney champions.

Junior forward Diandra Aliaga matched a single-game high by scoring two goals against Sam Houston State University on Aug. 20 to win the UTRGV Tournament Championship in a 2-1 game. Aliaga accounted for eight of the team's 14 shots, including six on target. In the game prior against Prairie View A&M University, UTRGV took 19 shots and converted on three goals from forward Andreyra Barrera, forward Anna Hover and defender Tuva Rolstad Nilsen for a 3-1 win.



Bryan Ramos/THE RIDER

Freshman forward Anna Hover, a McAllen High graduate, sends a ball into the heart of the Prairie View A&M defense during UTRGV's 3-1 victory Aug. 18 at the UTRGV Soccer and Track & Field Complex. Hover scored one goal and recorded an assist on a score by junior defender Tuva Rolstad Nilsen.

After being crowned tourney champs, Aliaga said it's just the beginning of the goals UTRGV Women's Soccer Team hopes to accomplish in 2017.

"We have goals and this is just the beginning, so it was super important that we came out to a good start," Aliaga said. "We dominate because of the heat and other people can't handle that. Today, I feel like we played much better and this is our first chance to be tournament champions, and we knew the heat was our teammate, so we just went out and killed it."

Bugariu's 2-4-4 attack, which features multiple scoring threats, has been creating havoc for opposing defenses. Five different student-athletes have

recorded the team's seven goals in their first three games, including one exhibition match.

Barrera, a graduate student, and five seniors—midfielder Frida Farstad-Eriksson, goalkeeper Erica Gonzalez, defender Marcela Ramirez, midfielder Hanna Spets and forward Allyson Smith—return for their fourth and final year with the program. With their experience and leadership, the homegrown products will be depended upon in order to put together back-to-back winning seasons.

While heavy on experience, a few new additions have brought an energy and knack for putting the ball in the back of the net. The freshman pair of Hover and midfielder Gina

Steiner, along with sophomore forward Sarah Bonney, have provided a spark on the field with their ability to create attacks offensively and finding the open player. Bonney was named to the Preseason All-Western Athletic Conference Team.

While the team is focused on improving in every practice and match, the strong senior core combined with underclassmen contributors creates a blend of talent and experience that Bugariu is glad to see.

Spets, a team captain, said the competitive nature of the younger players and experience of third- and fourth-year players has given the team more depth and competition than in previous years.

Men's soccer ready to roll

Bryan Ramos
SPORTS EDITOR

The UTRGV Men's Soccer Team's start to the season may be delayed a week, but that doesn't mean the grind stops.

The Vaqueros were originally slated to start 2017 with the Houston Baptist University Invitational this past weekend, but Hurricane Harvey and the bad weather he brought with him quickly canceled those plans.

Now, UTRGV is set to open the season Friday night on their home field as part of the Rio Grande Valley Invitational, and Head Coach Paul Leese said his team is ready to officially kick off the new year.

"It's always a long time coming; in the summer, you sit around with all these plans and preparation, so when preseason finally rolls around and the boys arrive, it's great," Leese said. "The energy levels are high and everyone is excited to play again."

A year ago, the Vaqueros started clicking on the field in the middle of Western Athletic Conference play. Over their final five games of

the regular season, UTRGV won three, had one draw and one loss. Putting together a string of solid performances last season, along with the new additions to this year's squad, has Leese liking his team's chances of showing improvement from their 6-10-3 record.

"I think there was fluidity, you could see it was around halfway point through the conference season where we started to learn how to play with each other," he said. "We were a lot more familiar with our team shape and it showed with results. Our overall game intelligence was very strong; our overall familiarity of how we like to play was very strong last year. Now, the quicker we can get the new guys into that mentality, the better off we'll be."

Forward Jaakko Hietikko, a team captain, returns for his second year after starting eight games as a redshirt freshman a season ago. In 2016, Hietikko scored two goals on 19 shots with one assist, and while he is still getting into game condition after surgery, he is confident in what this team can do.

"I guess I'm the oldest player

now, so it's kind of my job to show some experience and maturity, just to be able to be calm and relaxed out there," Hietikko said. "[Compared to] during this time last year, right now we're in a better phase. Last year, we had some struggles with our tactics with the new guys, but this year, all the returning guys already know what we're trying to do here and I think we have really good new players. I think we're in better shape already than we were last year."

Key returners to this year's squad include junior forward/midfielder Isidro Martinez, sophomore midfielder Ilias Kosmidis and junior forward Isaiah Hines.

With the start of the season now just days away, Leese is confident in his returning players' experience and leadership, which could translate to successfully transitioning the team's 10 new additions to new roles.

"We have a lot of new players and we have to make sure they transition into new roles, we had one preseason game and that was really good to again let us know what we still need to work on," Leese said. "So, here we are ready



Lesley Robles/THE RIDER

Sophomore forward Juanito Ramirez attacks offensively in the exhibition match against St. Edward's University on Aug. 20 at the UTRGV Soccer and Track & Field Complex. The Vaqueros lost 2-0. UTRGV will play St. Bonaventure University Friday, when it hosts the UTRGV Invitational.

to compete for the first real game of the season, making sure they understand how we play and what we try and do."

The Rio Grande Valley Invitational action is set for a 4 p.m. start with Houston Baptist University versus the University of Nebraska Omaha, while UTRGV takes on St. Bonaventure University

"For them to come in with more speed and they're very athletic, it brings competition into the practice, which means we're stepping up our game, and obviously, you can see it on the field that it's noticeable that we push hard," Spets said.

UTRGV is right in the middle of a six-game home stand to begin the season, which the team sees as an opportunity to build momentum on and off the field.

Then, the women will be hitting the road for three games against Houston Baptist University, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for the second matchup of the South Texas Showdown, and the University of Texas at Austin.

"We're able to create lots of chances. ... We're really happy with what we're doing this year; we're trying to be more offensive than we have in years past and I think it showed today," Bugariu said after the team's tournament championship. "We'd like to make the WAC Tournament, that's very important for us. We just want to continue to improve. We have a much harder schedule this year and just go one game at a time and try to get some wins."

The women's soccer team is back in action Thursday as the team prepares for the second UTRGV Tournament. Arkansas-Pine Bluff University and Lamar University will kick off the tourney at 4 p.m., while UTRGV takes on Stetson University at 7 p.m. at the UTRGV Soccer and Track & Field Complex. The women's soccer team will play its second tournament game at 7 p.m. Saturday against Lamar University.

at 7 p.m. for Friday Night Fútbol and an Orange Out to recognize September as Hunger Action Month—fans are encouraged to donate five canned food items at the box office. The Vaqueros will play their second game and Orange Out at 7 p.m. Sunday against UNO.

Ready to Rec

Third annual Late Nite open to students



Lesley Robles/THE RIDER

The UTRGV recreation centers will host the third annual Late Nite event Sept. 7 in Edinburg and Sept. 14 in Brownsville. The event will include free food, activities and prizes.

Samantha Salazar THE RIDER

To kick off the start of the new school year, the UTRGV recreation centers are ready to welcome students with a bang.

University Recreation (UREC) and the Texas Southmost College Recreation Center will host their third annual Late Nite event that will feature a retro/techno theme. The event will start at 9 p.m. Sept. 7 on the Edinburg campus and 8 p.m. Sept. 14 on the Brownsville campus.

To enter, students will need a UTRGV student ID to participate in the event. Activities, such as dancing to live music from a DJ and a Basketball Hot Shot competition will be free to students, and food will be served. Stamps will be given out to students and those who cover their card from the different activities will receive prizes.

Annette Livas, associate director of the UREC in Edinburg, said they hope the campus community comes out to see the different opportunities the recreation centers provide students.

“We are really excited for Late Nite and our goal is to invite the entire campus community to come and check out our facilities, programs and services,” Livas said. “Let’s introduce you to what we are going to offer this semester.”

If you are competitive, active or just love playing sports, UTRGV’s recreation centers offer intramural sports that any student can play for fun. They are separated into two sessions—session one consists of 7-on-7 flag football, 4-on-4 beach volleyball, indoor soccer and spike ball. Session two consists of Ultimate Frisbee, 3-on-3 basketball and indoor volleyball. The centers also host tournaments throughout the year where tourney winners and league champions can win T-shirts.

If you are interested in a bigger challenge, another feature of the UREC is the Sport Clubs program. If you want to play softball, which the university does not have, the centers will help you build your own team

by providing you with bats and other equipment. The only difference between the Sport Clubs and Intramural Sports is the Sport Clubs can compete with other schools in the state, while intramurals compete against other teams at UTRGV.

If sports aren’t your thing, do not worry! The recreation centers offer a variety of different activities to stay active, such as the popular group exercise classes. The classes take place at the UREC from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Monday through Friday and resume from 5:30 to 9:20 p.m. on the same days. They also offer women’s classes every day from 1:30 to 5 p.m. The newest activity is Outdoor Adventures, which vary from a day at South Padre Island to a small getaway

See UREC, Page 14



University Recreation

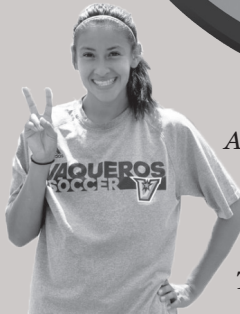
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Edinburg

EUREC 1.202
665-7808

Email: urec@utrgv.edu



Andrey Barrera, a psychology graduate student, is in her fourth year as a forward for the UTRGV Women’s Soccer Team.

If you had a plane ticket to anywhere in the world, where would you travel? “I would go to Spain. I’ve actually never been out of the country, so I’d probably go to Barcelona. I just think it’s really nice there.”

If you were an animal, what animal would you be and why? “Well, my favorite animal is a cougar. I don’t know why. I just think they’re different because everyone likes lions and tigers and cheetahs but nobody ever thinks of cougars, so I’ve liked cougars since I was little.”

If a song played every time you walked into a room, what song would that be? “I would say it would have to be ‘Forgot about Dre’ by Dr. Dre and Eminem.”

If you could be any character from any movie or TV show, what character would you be? “Honestly, I don’t know, I’ve never been asked that question. I mean, like, my favorite kid movie is ‘Lilo and Stitch,’ so I like Lilo. I mean, I like Stitch, too, either one.”

Who is the funniest person on the team? “I guess it would be Daniela Cantu; she’s pretty funny.”

Do you have any hidden talents? “No, I mean, I can make a heart with my lips, [laughter] really weird.”

If you weren’t playing soccer, what sport would you play? “I’d probably do track or cross-country. I don’t mind to run. A lot of people don’t like it but, I mean, I could do it.”

You can have one meal with one celebrity. What is your meal and who are you eating it with? “I would say it would be Lionel Messi, and it would be probably Mexican food. I love Mexican food, enchiladas preferably.”

Would you rather fight 100 duck-sized horses or one horse-sized duck? “I think I could do the horse-sized duck. It’s just one. Go big or go home, I guess.”

--Compiled by Bryan Ramos

■ COLUMN

The National Fascist League



Bryan Ramos SPORTS EDITOR

How did we get here? How did we let it get this far? There is currently a diabolical, dimwitted, egomaniacal, orange-haired dictator at the head of the greatest power in the world--and don’t even get me started on Donald Trump.

Roger Goodell, the drunk-with-power commissioner of the National Football League, is never far away from controversy, constantly inserting himself right in the middle of things like the Kool-Aid man busting through walls.

Watching humans wearing plastic helmets fight over a pigskin filled with air while running into each other at high rates of speed causing serious injury has become America’s greatest pastime.

Meanwhile, Goodell sees the dangers of brain trauma differently.

“The game of football has never been safer than it is today,” he said in 2014.

There were 261 concussions in the NFL in 2012. The NFL says reported concussions in regular-season games rose 58 percent from 2014-2015. Of 271 concussions in 2015, 234 occurred in games and 37 in practice, according to the league. Ninety-two

concussions came from contact with another helmet, 29 from contact with the playing surface and 23 from contact with a shoulder.

Are you an NFL player in pain? “Sorry, you can’t use nature’s own painkiller marijuana, but here, shove this bottle of pills down your throat and don’t say anything if you become addicted,” Roger Goodell, probably. Just some simple facts, but I’m sure Goodell isn’t a big fan of those.

Even worse is his complete ineptitude in handling incidents of domestic violence committed by his precious workers, excuse me, NFL athletes.

His inconsistency and willingness to sweep things under the rug in these situations is straight up mob-style stuff.

Ray Rice wasn’t truly punished until the elevator video came out; Josh Brown was suspended only one game after admitting to abusing his wife; Ezekiel Elliott, who burst onto the scene, was made an example of so Goodell could play the, “You see? I am a good guy with morals, and not a money grubbing robot” card.

These dudes are too entitled to not be punished to the fullest extent. If the NFL wants to be taken seriously on issues such as domestic violence, there shouldn’t be any room for guys like that in the league, no matter how good or how much money they can bring in to line Goodell’s pockets.

Speaking of room for guys in the league, the entire

NFL and about half of their fan base should be ashamed for the blackballing of Colin Kaepernick for voicing his opinion and speaking out against injustices. The good ol’ boy owners of the 32 NFL teams would rather not have somebody use their platform for a good cause, I get it.

All this goes on while NFL teams receive tax dollars to hold military tributes and dedicate the month of October to breast cancer awareness to try to cover up their domestic and sexual violence problems.

Even Ray Lewis, a man who was on trial for double homicide, has been critical of Colin Kaepernick. The holier-than-thou Lewis partly beat the case because his clothes from the night of the murders vanished, which I’m sure is just a coincidence.

Recently, a number of white football players have been standing by with their teammates who protest the national anthem, placing their arm around them to show support. Maybe now that some socially intelligent people have joined the movement, others can take notice of what’s really going on.

And while all this is happening, Roger Goodell is laughing to the bank. From 2006-2015, only two people in the four major professional sports made more money than Goodell—Alex Rodriguez with \$269 million, Kobe Bryant with \$233 million, and good ol’ Goodell with \$213 million, according to ESPN.

So, will I be watching every Sunday, Monday, Thursday and Saturday? You bet your ass I will.

Weighing the issue

Learning about the Freshman 15

Steven Hughes
THE RIDER

Many upperclassmen have fallen victim to the Freshman 15 during their early years of attending college. Senior Kevin Garza, a biomedical science major, recalls his Freshman 15 phase.

“It’s having those stress meals at 1 a.m. because finals are next week, to just stress eating in general,” Garza said. “It’s the Freshman 15 that can happen to anyone. I remember my first year as a freshman being able to decide when and where I could eat.”

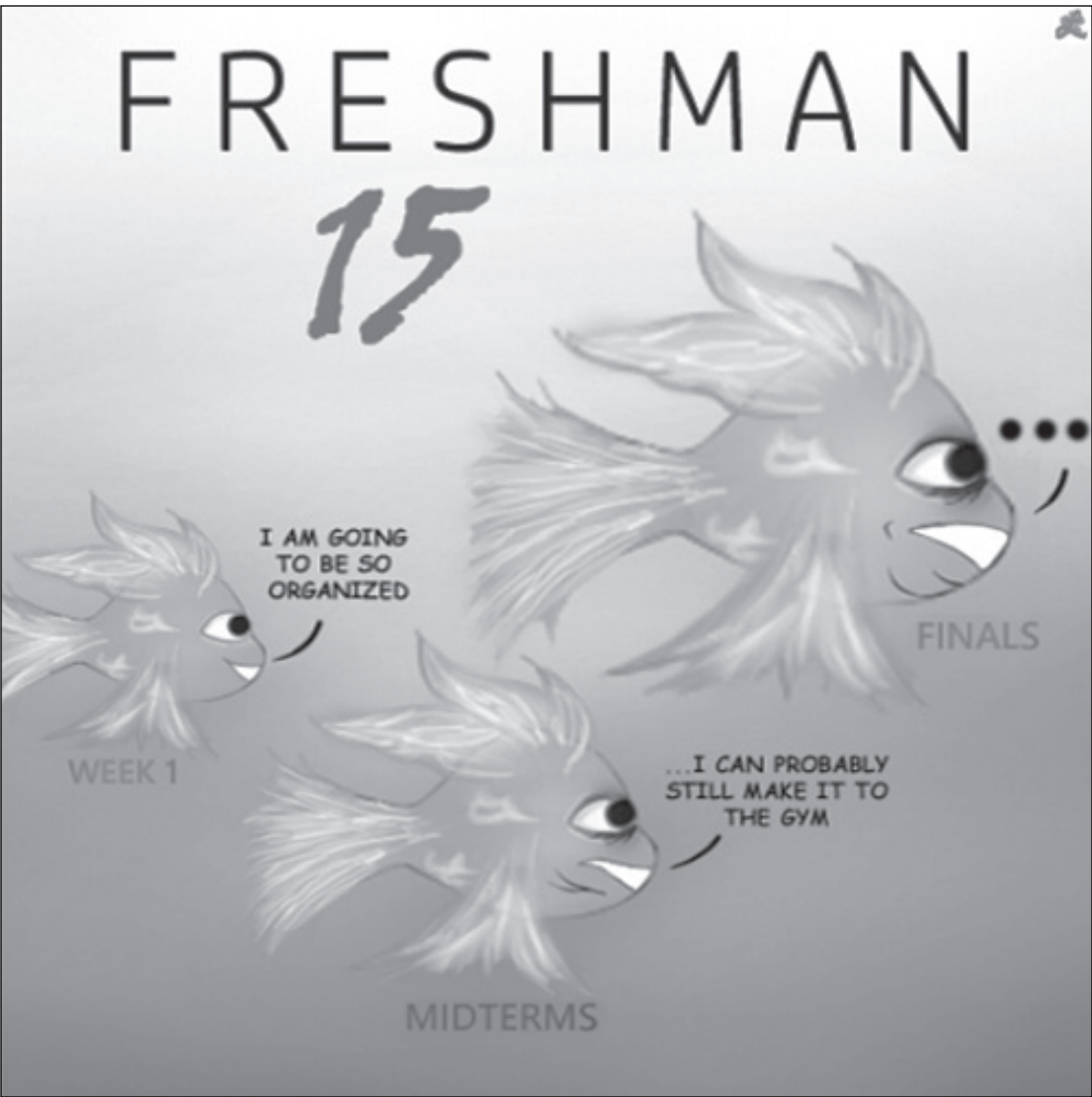
The new school year is here, the first week of the next four years, and with it, the dreaded Freshman 15, when some first-year students gain weight.

Students are living by themselves for the first time, and the stress of new responsibilities can lead some to neglect healthy eating habits.

Jameela Banu, an assistant professor for the Health and Biomedical Sciences department, has noticed this phenomenon.

“The major [factor] is, definitely, stress because they are out of their normal environment,” Banu said. “... The other thing is peer pressure and also the stress that deals with the coursework that they are supposed to be taking. And, it depends on, you know, whether they are comfortable in certain courses or not.”

Asked what happens if a student gains 15 pounds, she replied: “Obviously, it will be difficult for them to shed it off, so they’ll be adding to it. At the most, they can try to maintain it, but that is not going to be easy, either. So, if they keep



Laia Vite/THE RIDER GRAPHIC

adding to it, then it will lead to obesity and then, of course, all the complications related to that.”

Exercise is among the things students can do to prevent weight gain.

“Then, when it comes to eating, eat properly at a timely fashion and not miss breakfast,” Banu said. “It is [the] most important meal of the day. Students might be running late to class, rushing,

or to work, but breakfast is something that we should pay attention to.”

UTRGV offers physical fitness facilities such as University Recreation on the Edinburg campus, which gives students an opportunity to exercise and stay healthy.

Karehn Lozano, a sophomore who works at the Texas Southmost College Recreation Center on the Brownsville campus, said

there are different classes in which students can participate.

“We have classes, like group fitness class, that we have every semester, except for the summer,” Lozano said, adding that there are fitness employees who can suggest workout routines, as well as posters that provide workout information.

The recreation centers host many events that help

promote health and fitness.

“Every semester, we have a triathlon and other events [in which] you can win prizes and stay fit,” Lozano said. “We have Zumba, Aqua Zumba and sometimes we have Boot Camp. Each Wednesday, it’s ‘Wellness Wednesday,’ where students, staff and faculty can get their body fat checked and what’s going on with their bodies.”

Losing weight can be difficult for students. There are a few things students should be aware of during the process.

“To lose weight in a healthy fashion, and not to go for advertisements that say you’ll lose 10 pounds in a day or five days,” Banu said. “It’s not healthy to lose weight like that because you’ll just gain it back or more than what you wanted. The best thing to do is to watch your carbs, the fats you’re eating and make sure that you are exercising after whatever you have eaten.”

The UREC, located at West Schunior Street and North Sugar Road in Edinburg, is open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and noon to 7 p.m. Sunday. The Recreation Center, at 2000 W. University Blvd. in Brownsville, is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Mario Sandoval, a computer science freshman, hopes to stay healthy while away from home.

“I plan to always have a healthy lifestyle in college, to exercise daily or at the very least take a jog or a walk and to have a positive state of mind,” Sandoval said.

UREC

Continued from Page 13

weekend at any of the state parks.

If you have some free time on your hands and just feel like hanging out, the recreation centers could also be the place for you.

“It feels like home and it’s a good way to get away from your class and

release some stress,” said Bryan Avitia, a daily UREC user.


The UREC features four basketball courts, two inside and two outside, and a volleyball court. Treadmills and aquatics are also on the list of activities, in addition to weights and indoor track. Not only do they provide you with all the equipment you need to work out, they can also provide you

with a fitness assessment from their personal trainer for \$15.

Graduate student Laura Van Tilburg and sophomore kinesiology major Brianna Pitre, who are also members of the UTRGV Women’s Basketball Team, are frequent visitors to the UREC. Both said they enjoy going to the UREC to hoop in their free time since it’s in walking distance.

“It’s fun to just come and play a game of basketball on our free time,” Van Tilburg said. “We love that it’s walking distance from the campus and we love that they have activities like their annual Late Nite.”

If you have any questions about University Recreation or the TSC Recreation Center, follow their Facebook page @UTRGVUREC.



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Vaquero, Vaquero, where art thou?

Sydni Salinas
A&E EDITOR

Have UTRGV students become Juliet looking for our Vaquero Romeo? Look no further, Cindy Mata-Vasquez, director of Student Activities, says that students will soon have the arrival of the awaited mascot. “Our timeline that we are looking at is to release the rendering late October, early November, so late fall, then open up tryouts at the same time,” Mata-Vasquez said. “By mid-spring semester, hopefully we have our student selected and they get to come out in full costume.”

are working hard, it’s coming soon.” With eight renderings tossed around, it was decided that the Vaquero would indeed have a human appearance, attired in its newly formed UTRGV uniform. Spirit and Dance Coordinator Janet Peña confirmed that the process has been led by students who are a part of the design committee in creation of the costume. The mascot will be the first in UTRGV’s history. As for tryouts, there are no specifications, and are open to any student wanting to be the Vaquero. Male or female, the one



UTRGV Vaqueros

At a Nov. 6, 2014, meeting, the UT System board of regents approved “Vaqueros” as the new athletics nickname and mascot for the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Students can be assured that despite the wait, it was in order to create an authentic and celebrated look. “I personally want students to know that yes, it has taken us a while, but we want to make sure it is right, and it’s embodying the culture, region and ideas that our students have gotten,” she said. “We

qualification is to simply show spirit! Peña only asks that the student selected should be tough, friendly, approachable and the face of the university. Tryouts are this fall. For more information, contact Mata-Vasquez at cindy.mata@utrgv.edu or Peña at janet.pena@utrgv.edu.



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Back to school cheat sheet

Sydni Salinas
A&E EDITOR

The beginning of a new school year can be tough, exhausting, stressful and sometimes a little confusing. There are students rushing to get to their classes, unfamiliar buildings or surroundings, and a lot of

information being thrown at you to remember. To make things a little easier, here are some tips for your Fall 2017 semester. Tip No. 1: The heat can beat! Try to stay hydrated with a refillable water bottle that you can throw in your backpack. Tip No. 2: Screenshot the campus map to your cell

phone to make getting around easier and accessible. Tip No. 3: Arrive on campus at least an hour before your first class to ensure you will get parking and make it to class on time. Tip No. 4: Do not be afraid to ask questions if you are lost in a professor’s lecture or on campus. The bigger the net,

the more fish you catch. Tip No. 5: The syllabuses are your new best friends. Write down due dates for your coursework, put them in your calendar, set a reminder in your phone, place a stickie note on your bathroom mirror, or whatever works for you so that you do not fall behind!

Tip No. 6: Spend the first week getting to know the people around you. Make friends, so that if ever you miss a lecture, you have someone to communicate with regarding what you may have missed. As chaotic as it can be, it is important to keep your wits about you and endure!





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