

THE RIDER

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017



WWW.UTRGVRIDER.COM



VOL. 3, ISSUE 4

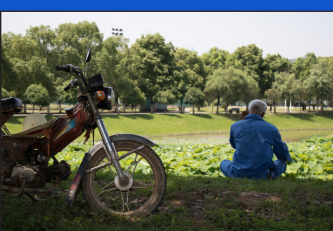
SPORTS



Cross-country adjusts to new Head Coach Darren Flowers

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ON CAMPUS



City of Edinburg celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

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CROSSWORD

Can you correctly identify '90s Animated TV show characters?

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Get wRECKed!



Robert Benavidez Jr./THE RIDER

Mathematics sophomore José Luis Galván III slides down the Adrenaline Rush II inflatable obstacle course last Thursday during the Late Nite at the REC event. Hundreds of UTRGV and Texas Southmost College students attended the event. Late Nite offered various activities for students, such as laser tag, billiard soccer and a photo booth. Attendees were given a stamp card as they walked in and those who visited at least eight stations received a free T-shirt. Visit utrgvrider.com for an audio slideshow of the event or scan the QR code on the right.



Offering a clean slate

Recovery program hosts open houses

Zugay Treviño
THE RIDER

The UTRGV Collegiate Recovery Program is reaching out to as many people as possible, offering trainings and meetings, as well as hosting events in observance of National Recovery Month.

On Tuesday in Edinburg and Wednesday in Brownsville, the program hosted open houses, with representatives from the department giving information about their services, along with soft drinks and doughnuts. Flyers listed trainings, meetings and upcoming events.

Paola Rivas, an intern for the program, said they offer weekly meetings, which take place at the University Center on the Edinburg campus.

Additionally, the program offers the campus community personal screenings if they think they may have a problem. It also provides free Naloxone training. If administered properly, Naloxone works as an overdose reversal agent. The drug can potentially save someone's life. It is free to those who have insurance.

"We also find certain facilities, like if someone needs to be hospitalized, if someone needs inpatient treatment, or outpatient treatment. We also

See RECOVERY, Page 2

Getting your foot in the door



Albert Monrroy/THE RIDER

Katia Perez-Flores, a marketing and management senior, uses social media to promote Los Cedros Apartments in Brownsville, where she is a marketing intern/leasing agent as part of the All In Internship program. "Now that I've been working with them for three months, they believe I have enough experience to be by myself in the office while they're out working on other things," Perez-Flores said.

Steven Hughes

THE RIDER

UTRGV marketing and management senior Katia Perez-Flores is interning at Los Cedros Apartments in Brownsville, where she helps promote the complex via social media.

Perez-Flores earned her internship with the help of the Career Center's All In Internship program.

"When I [started], I knew nothing about leasing and just a little of marketing [from] what I learned in the classroom," she said. "Once I got there, I started working with the numbers, with the data [and] with the people."

She realized that she can improve marketing efforts by utilizing social media, in addition to advertising in traditional newspapers.

The Career Center will host Internship Week, which will consist of several sessions aimed at bridging the gap between students and employers.

Internship Program 101 will kick off the week of events, taking place from

12:15 to 1 p.m. today in STAC 1.101 on the Edinburg campus.

In Brownsville, it will be hosted from 10 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m. today in Salón Cassia. Workforce Solutions Cameron will provide a Soft Skills/Interviewing Techniques session from 2 to 3 p.m. at the same location.

Career Center Director Juan Andres Rodriguez-Nieto said the purpose of the events is to promote internships and emphasize why participating in the program is critical for life after college.

"[Students should] go to any sessions that they are interested in," Rodriguez-Nieto said. "Don't worry, right now, attire is not an issue. It's not like a career fair, where you are going to be meeting with employers. If you're looking for employment, then you'll definitely dress in business-casual attire, at least. Go to those sessions, talk to the employers, be open to learning more."

All In Internship Coordinator Andrea Torres said her job is to assist

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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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MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Magic: The Gathering Tourney
The **Student Union** will host a **Magic: The Gathering Tournament** in the Student Union Game Room on the Edinburg campus from noon to 3 p.m. For more information, call 665-7989.

Tuesday

Student Involvement Fair
The **UTRGV Office of Student Involvement** will host an **Involvement Fair** from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom on the Edinburg campus. In Brownsville, the event will be held from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday on the Student Union lawn. For more information, call 665-2660 or 882-5111.

NBA 2K18 Game Release

The **Student Union** will host a free event to try the new **NBA 2K18** video game from noon to 3 p.m. in the Student Union Game Room on the Edinburg campus. For more information, call 665-7989.

Air Hockey Tournament

The **Student Union** will host an **air hockey tournament** from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Student Union Game Room on the Edinburg campus. For more information, call 665-7989.

Free Lunch on Campus

The **Baptist Student Ministry** will

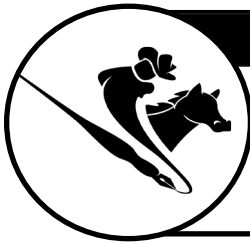
serve a **free lunch** to students from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Edinburg Chapel. For more information, call 383-7491.

Wednesday

Breakfast2GO

The **Baptist Student Ministry** will serve **free food, water and coffee** to students from 8:30 to 10 a.m. on the Main East lawn in Brownsville. For more information, call 383-7491.

Sex-Ed Tablings



Have an announcement?

Email us at
TheRider@utrgv.edu

Access For Sex-Education will host a **tabling event** from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Academic Center on the Edinburg campus to inform students on the importance of sex education. For more information, email accessforsexed.utrgv@gmail.com.

‘Wonder Woman’

The **Campus Programming Board** will show “**Wonder Woman**” from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Student Union Theater on the Edinburg campus. For more

information, call 665-2660.

Thursday

New Game Releases

The **Student Union** will host an event for students to try the new **NBA 2K18** and **Madden NFL 18** video games from noon to 2 p.m. in PlainsCapital Bank El Comedor in Brownsville. For more information, call 882-5111.

Auditions for ‘St. Nicholas’

Auditions will be held for the play, “**St. Nicholas**,” written by

Conor McPherson, at 7 p.m. in the Albert L. Jeffers Theatre in ELABS on the Edinburg campus. The play requires an actor between the age of 20 and 60. However, all college and community members are welcome to audition.

Those with a résumé and prepared monologue will audition first. For more information, email director **Peter Mikolasky** at peter.mikolasky@utrgv.edu.

Friday

Smile Doll

Operation Smile will hold its bi-annual **Smile Doll** event, where they will make plush dolls for children overseas who will undergo surgical procedures, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom on the Edinburg campus.

--Compiled by Sergio Garcia

POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between Aug. 31 and Sept. 1.



Aug. 31

2:55 p.m.: A staff member at Texas State Technical College reported that her university laptop computer was stolen. She reported that she had lent the laptop to a student through the UTRGV Veterans Upward Bound program and it had not been returned. The laptop was located in a San Benito pawn shop by the TSTC Police Department. An investigation is being conducted by TSTC with support from UTRGV Police.

3:03 p.m.: A staff member reported losing a university-issued key about two years ago.

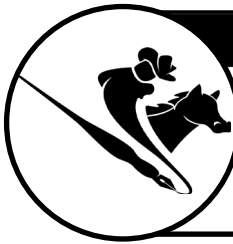
5:20 p.m.: A staff member reported a student who threw his personal belongings on the ground and yelled when he found out about his outstanding balance with the Bursar’s Office. He calmed down when officers arrived. Two other involved parties reported that he did not harm anyone and no property damage was done. The incident was forwarded to Student Rights and Responsibilities for further review.

Sept. 1

1:12 p.m.: A staff member reported losing a university-issued key on the Edinburg campus.

1:27 p.m.: A staff member reported that university-owned speakers, valued at \$1,000, were stolen from the Performing Arts Complex in Edinburg. The case is under investigation.

3:19 p.m.: A student and faculty



University Police

Brownsville

Dispatch

882-8232

Edinburg

Dispatch

665-7151

Email: Police@utrgv.edu

Campus Emergency: 882-2222

member were involved in a traffic collision in Lot E10. No injuries were reported.

3:22 p.m.: The U.S. Border Patrol requested assistance in stopping a vehicle that had loaded bundles of marijuana near the Texas Southmost College Recreation Center and was headed east on University Boulevard. Agents stopped the vehicle, which the passenger exited and fled toward the Casa Bella student housing complex. An emergency notification was

distributed to the campus community. The individual was apprehended. The suspects were taken into custody, and the vehicle and contraband were seized.

4:38 p.m.: A suspect in a burglary at the Fort Brown Villas fled the scene, armed with a large knife. The suspect was last seen on foot heading in the direction of the Texas Southmost College Arts Center, and he was found hiding outside by a security officer. He was taken into custody by the Brownsville Police Department. The weapon was recovered outside the center.

Sept. 3

2:24 a.m.: A burglary was reported in The Village Apartments on the Edinburg campus. The suspect left the scene before the officer’s arrival. A resident reported that the person who entered his apartment was his ex-girlfriend who is a current student. He stated that he did not give her permission to enter his unlocked apartment. She attempted to force her way into his bedroom and struck him on the chest with an open hand while in the apartment. The case is under investigation.

--Compiled by Britney Valdez

INTERNSHIP

Continued from Page 1

students who are interested in an internship. Torres and John Kaufold, Career Center internship coordinator on the Edinburg campus, will help students during next week’s events.

“One essential thing is, obviously, have a résumé ready, because a résumé will get you a long way and you never know if you might have an interview that same day or [an employer] might

want to schedule an interview,” Torres said.

Ronnie Garcia, assistant director of Employer Relations, said he hopes students who participate in the event will have a better understanding of how to become an intern.

“[We] really want students to know that it’s important to start thinking about careers early on in their college experience, and internships provide a step in the right direction to get their foot in the door with the company that

RECOVERY

Continued from Page 1

get them connected to other people in recovery as well,” Rivas said.

Raymond J. Salas, the part-time program coordinator, said, “I’m a recovering addict, and I was given the opportunity to get a job here. That’s why I’m very passionate about this. Saving lives is something very important to me now.”

Salas said the program can help students even if they might not be addicts. Psychology or criminal justice majors can benefit from the services.

“We offer students in recovery from addiction a chance to feel at home on campus,” said full-time program coordinator Kristina Canfield.

She explained college can sometimes be a difficult environment for someone who is trying to stay clean and sober.

“I love that we can offer them a place

that is safe and comfortable for them,” Canfield said.

The program’s services are available to the general public and not just UTRGV students.

The open houses are the first of several upcoming events in observance of National Recovery Month.

For more information, visit UTRGV Counseling Services in University Center 102 or Cortez Hall 220 on the Brownsville campus.

Proud to be Hispanic

Nubia Reyna
THE RIDER

The City of Edinburg is celebrating Hispanic roots at the Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library through Oct. 15.

“We’ve been doing this for at least 15 years, if not longer,” said Letty Leija, director of Library and Cultural Arts. “It’s a whole month that we celebrate.”

Throughout the month, the city will host events such as Adult Craft Night: Guatemalan Worry Doll & *Ojos de Dios*, Poetry Night and *lotería*, among other events that are yet to be announced.

“We have a lot of things going on,” Leija said. “Our events are usually on Thursday.”

On Thursday, the library will host Adult Craft Night from 6 to 8 p.m.

“We are going to be making Guatemalan worry dolls and *ojos de Dios*,” she said. “The worry dolls are for people to stop worrying, because one puts all their worries in their worry dolls and they worry for you. Then, you can sleep well at night.”

Between laughs, Leija said this will be especially good for students because they tend to worry a lot.

At the same time Sept. 28, the library will host Poetry Night.

“We will have several poets that will be here and we usually have an open-mic night,” she said. “We usually have a good turnout.”

For this event, the library will have several poets reading their work to the audience and at the end of the night there will be an open-mic opportunity for everyone who wants to share their poems.

“We encourage everyone to come and, you know, just read their poetry and share that with the community,” Leija said.

On Oct. 5, the library will host *Noche Bohemia* from 7 to 9 p.m.

“We have music, traditionally songs in Spanish, we have *trovadores* that come and sing,” Leija said. “It is very romantic, but you don’t have to come as a couple. You can always come and enjoy.”

For Oct. 12, the city will host a book presentation by international award-winning poet and linguist, Rossy Evelin Lima, who will read from her new book, “*Migrare Mutare*” (Artepoética Press Inc., June 2017).

“Everything at the library is free and open to the public,” Leija said. “All of these flyers can be found on our Facebook page, Edinburg Arts.”

Leija recommends attendees arrive on time to receive refreshments and a seat.

“It can get a little packed,” she said. “Arrive early, get a seat and maybe they can get their refreshments, so they can be ready for the presentation.”

For more information about the events, call 383-6246.



Proper attire for when you perspire

UREC strengthens dress code



Joahana Segundo/THE RIDER

The UREC’s dress code has been clarified and a marketing and education campaign is underway to inform students about the changes.

Gabriel Galvan
THE RIDER

The UREC at Edinburg is now more proactive in enforcing its dress code policies to create a healthier environment for users.

University Recreation Director Kimberly Rottet said she wanted to clarify the dress code for the staff at the UREC and for the student body.

“The language [for the dress code] used to be ‘appropriate attire is required for each area,’ Rottet said. “What does that really mean? That’s very subjective, it’s vague even. We had a lot of questions from patrons, as well as staff during our formal staff trainings at the beginning of each semester. ‘Well, what about this? What about that?’ It became clear that our staff were seeing some things and they wanted to be sure that they’re being consistent. [The dress code] was being enforced, there were just questions about it because it was so vague.”

Rottet wanted to make the dress code for patrons at the UREC simpler and easier to understand.

“We took it upon ourselves to say, ‘How can we make this education, a little bit easier for everyone?’ Pictorial representation,” she said.

Rottet said there are three main reasons for the dress code, one of them being health.

“There wasn’t a situation that happened in the facility that was bacterial infection-related, that’s not the case,” she said. “We’re just being preventative. We’re just trying to do some risk management and risk mitigation.”

She said the second reason is inappropriate workout attire poses a risk on the equipment.

“When people wear jeans that have little metal rivets on them, those poke holes in the padding on our equipment,” Rottet said. “Those are \$100 a pop to replace at minimum.”

The last reason is physical safety.

“It was already being enforced. [One example is] the really low-cut tank tops,” she said. “So, if

they’re playing flag football, and you’re going to grab somebody’s flag and somebody’s fingers are getting caught in a shirt, and we’re having finger and hand injuries because of it.”

UTRGV Health and Human Performance Lecturer Gabriel Morales said, “I do think [sweat poses a health risk]. Speaking in regards to the equipment alone, I do think so. Sweat obviously, it’s a mixture, it is strong, even if you notice on your T-shirt.

“If you just finished a high intensity workout, your T-shirt is drenched. You visit that T-shirt the next day and it is kinda hard, it’s kinda rough. So, imagine the equipment going through that daily, multiple times throughout the day. It’s a strong wear and tear on the equipment.”

He is concerned about the implementation of more policies.

“Adding more policies can put a little damper on your workout, and we don’t want protocol to get in the way of the overall goal, to encourage exercise,” Morales said.

Electrical engineering senior Christian Cano said he believes the policy is too strict.

“We are all adults here, so we should be able to wear what we’re comfortable with,” Cano said.

Rottet said she and the UREC staff are willing to listen and work with the students.

“They can email me, they can email the general recreation email. Either myself, [Associate Director] Annette [Livas], or [Assistant Director of Facilities and Services] Carlos [Garcia],” she said. “We are the ones who comprise the leadership team in this department. One of the three of us will respond to each of those emails. I already started doing that for a couple that I have received, inviting them to come and sit down and chat.”

While the recreation center in Brownsville is part of Texas Southmost College, its dress code is roughly the same as the UREC, according to Rottet.

For more information about the dress code policy, email urec@utrgv.edu.

Have a story idea?

Let us know at

882-5143 or 665-2541

VAQUERO VOICE

Message to Congress



“Well, I think, well, we should keep DACA, you know, the program, because it’s a really--it helps a lot in the economy. Every student, you know, with, like, going to school and all. Plus, we get new careers and new people and need more jobs and stuff like that. I don’t really know much about that topic, but it really does help the economy by kids going to college, buying books and stuff like that.”

Alejandra Guerra
History freshman

“One of the things I would tell Congress would be in regards to DACA. I do believe that it’s not fair for those who were brought here without any regards of what they were doing, such as children, to ... have taken away their rights in order [for them to stay] here. I believe that anyone that’s been on the DACA program should not be victimized or turned into targets just because of their status socially. They should all be able to attend school and be good American citizens. So, what makes this country so great is how diverse we are.”



Virginia Miller
Nursing sophomore



“Oh, man. Basically, for DACA, I would say, I mean these are students that are coming internationally. ... They’re here to try and look for the American Dream, you know? ... I think it’s wrong to limit people, to stop people from coming over. I think that the United States is a real diverse culture, it’s a real diverse country. We were founded on immigrants by immigrants, you know? ... It’s our duty as well and as Americans, just as a country, to accept people, you know? Who are we to reject people from other cultures, from different races? What I would tell Congress is, like, I honestly think that it’s wrong. I think that we should let these people stay. They’re just regular people just like you and me, just trying to live our everyday lives [and] support our families.”

Andre Torroco
Marine biology junior

“Yo les diría que pelearan por el futuro del país y por el futuro de las personas. Este país fue hecho por inmigrantes y personas de diferentes culturas. Peleen por los fundamentos del país y no por las ideas de solamente una persona que sería el presidente. Que vean que no solamente están sacando a las malas personas del país con lo de DACA, sino son las personas importantes que atribuyen al país. Peleen por su gente, sus ciudadanos”.



Brenda Martinez
Estudiante de primer año de administración

--Compiled by Valeria Alanis and Albert Monrroy



Making this world a better place



Nubia Reyna
THE RIDER

To be honest with you, this is the hardest article/column I’ve ever written. Not because I ran out of ideas. Actually, it’s quite the opposite.

With so many things going on in this world and in our country, I could not decide whether to write about DACA, Trump, women’s rights or Hurricane Harvey. But, there is one thing they all have in common, us.

It is easier to think, “I am just a college student, I cannot

change this world even if I wanted to,” but there is one truth.

We can all change the world. It all starts with an idea.

For example, if you are outraged and disappointed about Trump’s decision to end DACA and want to do something to support it, you can call your representatives at (202) 224-3121, or visit weareheretostay.org or whoismyrepresentative.com.

You are only one person, but this university has more than 27,000 students. Imagine if at least 20,000 of us would do something about the things we should all stand for?

I’ve been living in this country for only five years,

and of the dozens of friends I thought I had in my hometown, I only have two. My entire life is here. My jobs, apartment, car, friends, everything. Even though I was lucky enough to enter this country legally, I am still a dreamer, because I dream that this country will give immigrants the same opportunities I’ve been granted.

I dream that immigrants can have the opportunity to achieve their dreams, just like I am working to achieve mine.

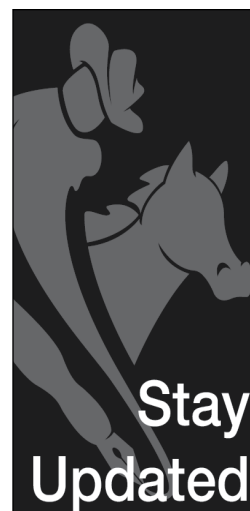
Let’s not take for granted the rights we have today.

I stand with them and so should you. You have a voice. Use it to make this world a better place.

Visit us online at **utrgvrider.com**

Submit a Letter to the Editor

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EXPRESSIONS OF THE WANDERING ARTIST

Sydni Salinas
A&E EDITOR

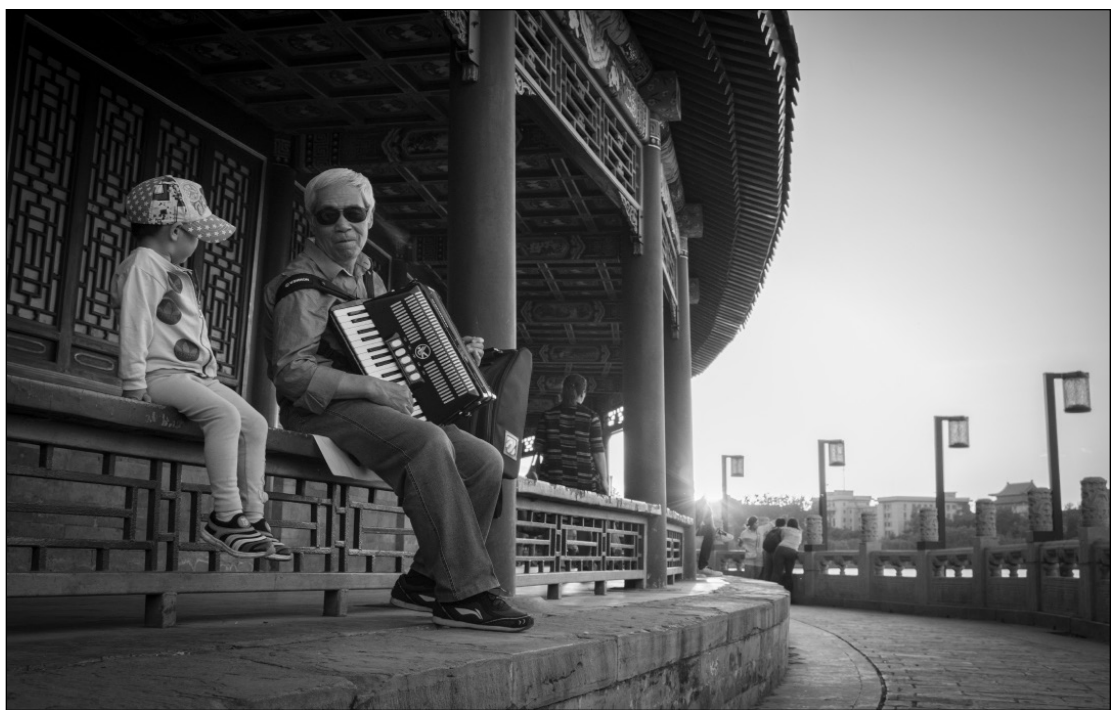
Art comes in many forms and mediums. Whether it be on a canvas with oils and paints, or on the street corner garage decorated with graffiti, art is a story of someone's unique imagination and perception coming to life.

UTRGV graphic design senior Arael Meza lives his life creating art wherever he goes, and finds the beauty in the mundane everyday life.

Meza chose graphic design as his medium of expression because of its flexibility in visual communication. "Art is really complex. I'm trying to know art better," he said.

However, for Meza, "art is freedom" over anything else, freedom of expression, thought and soul.

Taking the opportunity to travel abroad this summer with the university's study abroad program, he was able to experience China and Taiwan in all their glory alongside professors and other students studying digital photography at Hengyang



PHOTOS COURTESY ARAEL MEZA

A grandfather and grandson spend quality time together, catching graphic design senior Arael Meza's eye for a shot. Meza studied digital photography this summer at Hengyang Normal University in China.

Normal University in Hengyang, Hunan Province, China.

Meza applied for five scholarships, and received four. Mostly covering his entire trip with the scholarships, all he had to pay for was airfare, making the

trip somewhat affordable for a university student.

He found similarities between his culture and China's.

"I categorize myself as Mexican, then Mexican-American," he said. "Even though I was born in the U.S., like, all my life I have been in Mexico. My parents are Mexican, so everything I mostly know culturally is Mexican. ... I find very strong similarities with the people. They are warm people."

The only negative experience Meza had while traveling abroad was the lack of personal space, but recovered quite quickly because of its reminiscence of home.

"I kinda had that experience in Mexico, Mexico City. I grew up there, so whenever you go to the subway, it's kind of the same," he said.

Students traveled to major historical sites such as the Forbidden City and the Great Wall of China, capturing shots at all times due to having their cameras in their hands throughout the trip.

Working with street life and landscapes, they were also given models to practice portrait shots with.

Nonetheless, with all the beauty and surrealism of the experience, Meza said that sometimes, "I just left the camera there. I'm not going to miss this live just to take

a picture," trying to fully embrace the opportunity.

The power of photography capitalizes on being able to capture those live moments.

"Even if it doesn't look amazing in aesthetics, I appreciate it," he said.

For his focus on the trip, he tried to keep his attention on street photography more than anything else.

"I like to see and capture, like, how it's happening," he said.

Aside from studying abroad, Meza is always on the road when not busy.

Having gone state-to-state growing up due to his father being a pastor, traveling was no new song and dance for him, but recently, he said, "We have been traveling very hippie style, you know just go. You don't need too much money to travel. I am from where I am sharing life with other people."

One thing he would like for students to know about traveling abroad during college is its ability to mature the traveler, along with giving inspiration.

"You have to get different experiences with different people," he said.

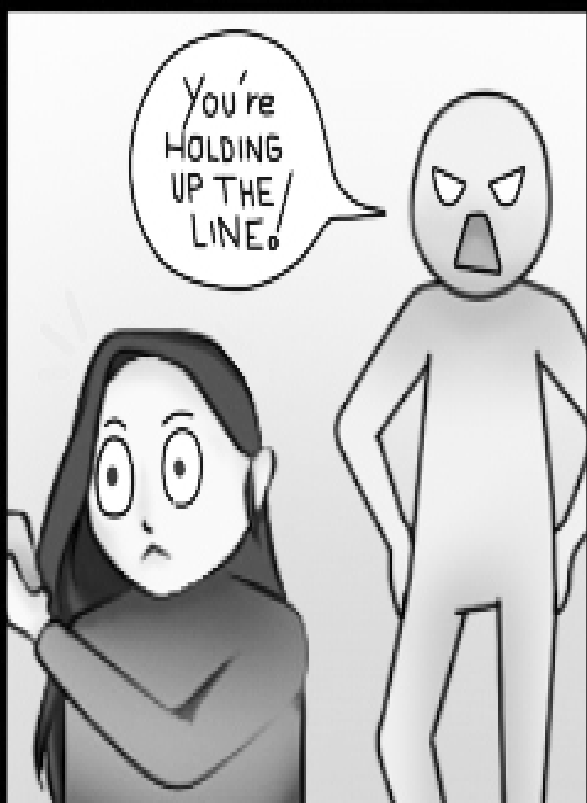
Meza aspires to be an artist and a citizen of the world, exploring art in its formats throughout the journey.

Happy travels, young Vaquero.



Graphic design senior Arael Meza captures a candid moment among friends in China. Meza aspires to be an artist and a citizen of the world, exploring art in its formats throughout the journey.

Scribbles & Thoughts by Laia Vite



Well played

Chess team conquers the boards

Britney Valdez
THE RIDER

The UTRGV chess team has won two of three major tournaments this summer. Chess players Vladimir Belous, Kamil Dragun, Joshua Ruiz and their coach, Bartek Macieja, described their experiences, preparation and the team’s upcoming plans. Belous and Dragun are Grandmasters, which is the highest rank achievable in chess. Ruiz is an International Master, which is the second-highest title a chess player can attain.

Belous is a sophomore finance major from Russia. Last month, he won the 2017 U.S. Masters tournament in Greensboro, N.C. The competition is a strong, traditionally structured tournament that covers most of the participants’ expenses, which makes it popular. Before competing, Belous was on vacation in Russia. He had taken a break after two months of vigorous chess training. He said the rest helped him de-stress and

contributed to his victory. “[He] trained a lot in May and June. He won not only the U.S. Masters in August, but also he won five out of eight tournaments throughout May and June,” Macieja said. For now, Belous plans to focus on school and later on, analyze the mistakes he made in his past games to improve his strategy. “First, my goal is school,” he said. “Right now, I want to focus on school instead of tournaments, because I have important exams and tests. Then, I will resume the chess training, and work on improving my chess skills.”

Dragun is a freshman finance major from Poland. Earlier this month, he won the 2017 Southwest Open, which took place in the Dallas suburb of Irving. Although he won, he faced cultural differences that challenged him. “The tournaments here are much different than those in Europe,” he said. “[In the U.S.] they have more rounds that are faster and my opponents were already adapted to this situation.”



Ana Cahuiche/THE RIDER

Chess Grandmaster Vladimir Belous (left) plays against fellow team member and Grandmaster Kamil Dragun last Tuesday in UTRGV’s Chess Team office on the Brownsville campus.

In the United States, two games, which last about eight to 10 hours, are played, while in Europe they play one game per day, which lasts about six hours, Macieja said. This often makes U.S. tournaments exhausting to players who are unaccustomed with this structuring. The coach assures Dragun that once he gets adjusted

to this schedule, he will no longer face this obstacle. This month, Ruiz, a sophomore computer science major from Colombia, competed in the FIDE World Cup at Tbilisi, Georgia. The World Cup is an important chess tournament in which only the top 128 chess players in the world can compete. He played a match against

the second-best chess player in the world, Wesley So of the Philippines. Although he lost, Ruiz and his coach are proud of his momentous achievement. The chess organization at UTRGV is made up of two segments, the chess club and the chess team. The chess club is open to players of all varying experience. It is also open to the community.

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Name: RGV German Club
Purpose: To educate and inform members about the German language and culture. In addition, the organization hosts events and fundraisers in order to unite members and collect funds for scholarships to study abroad.
President: Natalia Davila
Vice President: Emily Jimenez
Secretary: Christopher Alanis
Treasurer: Adriana Castillo
Historian: Samantha Torres
General Officer: David Lopez
Adviser: Assistant Accounting Professor Arno Forst
Activities: The organization held a German music spring concert and is preparing to host its first Oktoberfest. Other activities include social gatherings and German movie showings.
Awards: Two study abroad scholarships for organization members.
Meetings: 12:15-1:30 p.m. Tuesdays in Sabal Hall 2.102 on the Brownsville campus
Membership requirements: Open to all majors.
For more information, email: Davila at natalia.davila01@utrgv.edu.

--Compiled by Ana Cahuiche

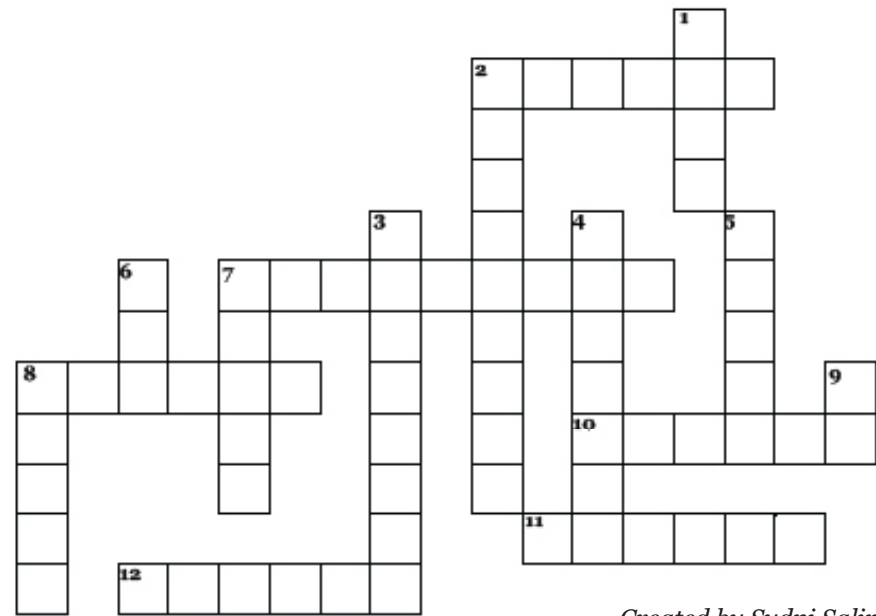


Ana Cahuiche/THE RIDER

Members of RGV German Club are (front row, from left) Writing and Languages Lecturer Jill Twark, Sabrina Graf, Adriana Saenz, Karen Cardenas, Stephania Montes de Oca, Emily Jimenez, Mariah Vergara, Natalia Davila, Valeria Jaramillo and Madison Burkott. Middle row: Ruth Aranda, Adriana Castillo, Keila Valdes, Eduardo López, Oscar Gonzalez, Juan N. Zamora, Aaron Mendoza, Julian Garcia and Franco Gonzalez. Back row: Accounting Professor Arno Forst, Kevin Martinez, Francisco Arozena, Sebastian Gawenda, Leonardo Sosa, Samantha Torres, Ezra Meza, David López, Samuel Molina and Christopher Alanis.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

'90S ANIMATED TV SHOW CHARACTERS



--Created by Sydni Salinas

ACROSS

- 2. Caped crusader
- 7. Lives in a pineapple under the sea
- 8. Known for sounding like Elvis Presley
- 10. Football head
- 11. Kept an entire laboratory secret from his parents
- 12. “In the name of the moon, I will punish you!”

DOWN

- 1. “Eat my shorts”

- 2. Fights crime alongside her two sisters
- 3. Best friend was a doll named Cynthia
- 4. Protected his owners from supernatural creatures
- 5. Lived a “modern life”
- 6. Still trying to catch them all
- 7. A blue spiky fellow who could outrun you
- 8. Spends most of his time playing pranks on a cat
- 9. One of three brothers with the same first letter in their name

The first three people from each campus who submit a completed and correct crossword puzzle by Wednesday will receive a prize!

Bring the completed puzzle to ELABS 170 on the Edinburg campus or to Student Union 1.16 on the Brownsville campus!

OFF AND RUNNING

Cross-country embracing change

Bryan Ramos
SPORTS EDITOR

Sometimes it takes change to rejuvenate a program, and first-year Head Coach Darren Flowers is mixing it up to move UTRGV cross-country in the right direction.

Hired in June, the former West Texas A&M University head coach recorded six Lone Star Conference cross-country championships and seven track & field LSC championships in his eight years in the North Texas city of Canyon. Since starting practice with his new group over the summer at UTRGV, the team has grown to like the changes and coaching methods Flowers has brought to the program.

"I think the adjustment has been pretty good," junior runner Alberto Herrera said. "He's a cool guy and his workouts are pretty tough, but I think we've been adjusting to it and I think we're benefiting pretty good from them."

One of the biggest differences from a year ago is how Flowers has his team practicing and running at multiple locations, a drastic alteration from running the same route day after day like they had been used to.

"We get to run in different places, we're all over the place," said Herrera, a Weslaco East High School graduate. "Last year, we were kind of just in one route in Edinburg, but it's definitely fun, and a lot more volume I'd say, too."

If you spot the cross-country team out running one morning, you may see Flowers

joining in on the fun. While he joked his student-athletes leave him behind on the runs, it gives him a chance to utilize his hands-on approach, which gives him an up-close look at how the team handles and feels during and after workouts.

"They're killing me on a daily basis," Flowers joked. "The good part about me getting out and running with them is seeing how they're feeling, just talking to them. You just get a better vibe of how they're feeling coming off workouts and how they're feeling throughout the week. I feel like if I just send them out for a run and I only see them for five minutes here at the track, then I don't get the full picture. I don't get the full idea of how they're feeling week to week."

The team opened its season Sept. 1 at Texas A&M University's Aggie Opener, where the team finished in fourth place. Herrera led UTRGV with a 10th-place finish in the 6,000-meter race with a time of 18:40.7. Out front for the women was sophomore Krysta Martinez, an Edcouch-Elsa product, who finished in 19th place in the 4,100-meter race. Right behind Martinez was sophomore Ana Bautista who posted a 21st-place finish.

The youth on the women's team will have to learn quickly and become leaders with no seniors on the active team, as seniors Teresa Sova and Jennifer Zapata are redshirting this year.

"With us redshirting Jennifer and Terry this year, we don't have the depth

that we've had in the past," Flowers said. "But the girls that are stepping up, Thalia Polanco, she's stepping up big. I think she's going to be a big factor this year, and Krysta Martinez, she was a big impact last year. We have Kelly Aguinaga, who is young. She's a freshman, but we need her to step up and be a factor as well, but the girls are coming on great."

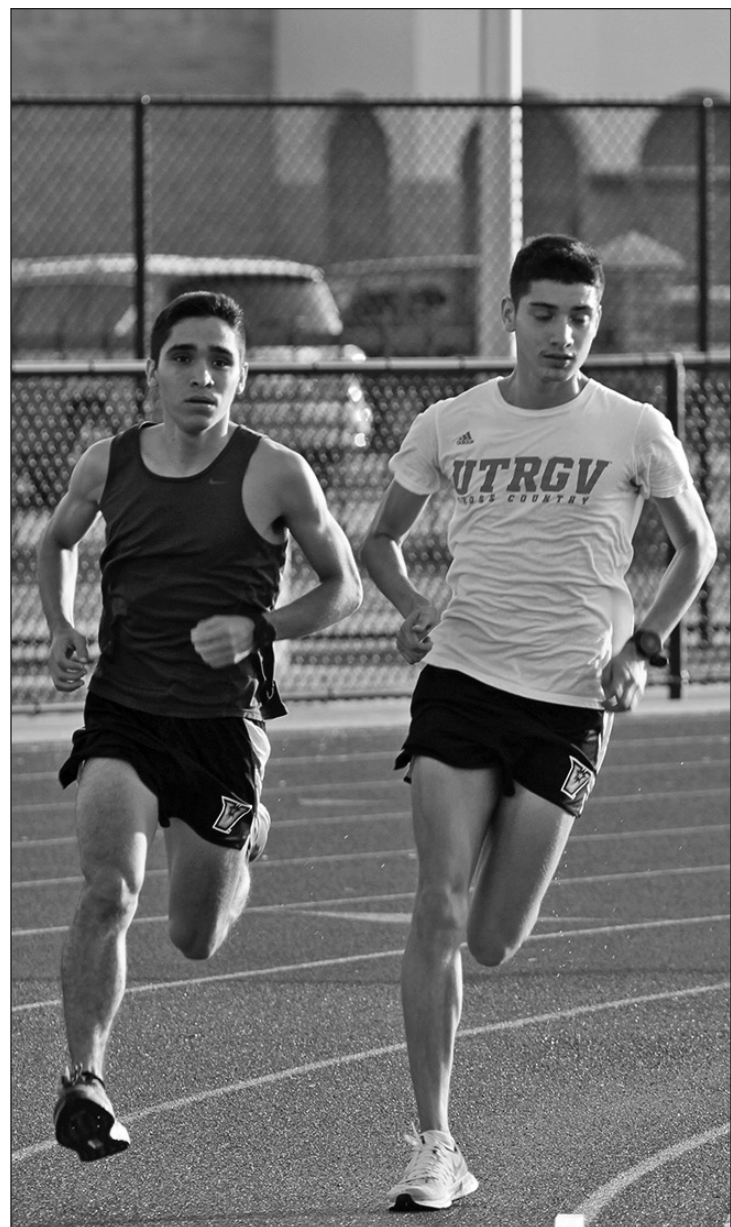
Over the next six weeks, the competition will ramp up for the men's and women's cross-country teams. First up is the Islander Splash in Corpus Christi on Saturday, followed by the Chile Pepper Festival in Fayetteville, Ark., Sept. 30 and the Crimson Classic Oct. 13 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Those three races will prepare UTRGV for the Western Athletic Conference Championships Oct. 28 in Las Cruces, N.M.

"This next four-week stretch is really important, and the way we race, the way we develop as a team," Flowers said. "I think our main goal is to figure out how we race as a team best. If we can do that in the next four weeks, I think it'll give us a really great game plan going into the WAC championships and going into the regional championships."

Herrera said the team is on the same page with its first-year head coach in terms of where they want to be at the end of the season.

"I'm super excited, especially for these upcoming meets," Herrera said. "We definitely want to finish top three as a team in the WAC championship and top 10 in the region."

With Flowers running



Bryan Ramos/THE RIDER

Junior Alberto Herrera (left) and sophomore Ricardo Mendoza run during Thursday morning practice at the UTRGV Soccer and Track & Field Complex. Herrera had a top 10 finish at the Texas A&M University Aggie Opener on Sept. 1 to lead both UTRGV cross-country teams.

things for the cross-country program at UTRGV, things are changing for the better.

"There's a learning curve involved, but I think the attitudes have been outstanding," he said. "The work ethic has been outstanding, so I'm really excited about this group and I'm really excited about the

steps we're going to take this year."

UTRGV cross-country is back in action for the Islander Splash at 7:40 a.m. Saturday in Corpus Christi as Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi hosts the South Texas Showdown.

WAC champions defend home court in opener

Reprinted from utrgvrider.com

Bryan Ramos
SPORTS EDITOR

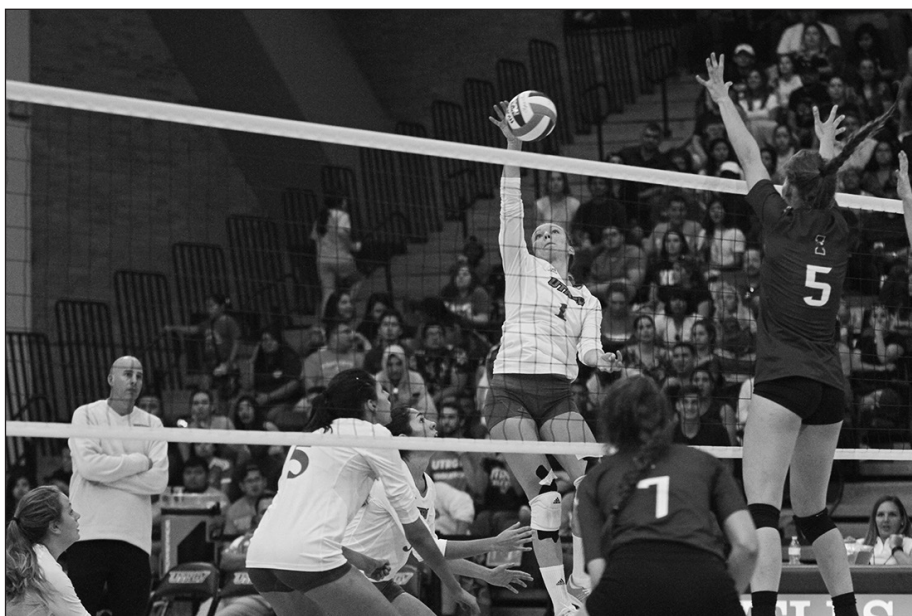
Eight days after dropping the first meeting of the South Texas Showdown against rival Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, UTRGV got its revenge on the Islanders by winning Wednesday's home opener in front of a record-breaking crowd 3-0 (25-19, 25-22, 25-19).

"It was awesome; we knew it was going to be a big crowd but we didn't know it was going to be this good," Head Coach Todd Lowery said. "I think the girls just fed off of it all night long and we were able to sustain the energy the whole night. We've kind of been up and down with that a little bit, but I think the crowd definitely helped tonight."

After last week's 3-1 loss to TAMU-CC, UTRGV played the best volleyball it has early this season, receiving contributions from starters and bench players, veterans and new faces alike.

"They knew they let one slip at their place and didn't play very well, so the goal tonight was to make sure we came out and played well the entire match," Lowery said.

The first set started off as a back-and-forth affair between the two rivals, but midway through the set, UTRGV took its game up a level and opened up an 18-11 lead on kills from Bojana Mitrovic, Ragni Steen Knudsen and Barbara Silva. UTRGV's 12-2 run eventually sealed the deal, winning the first



Lesley Robles/THE RIDER

Junior outside hitter Ragni Steen Knudsen strikes the ball against Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Wednesday in the South Texas Showdown and UTRGV's home opener. A record-breaking crowd of 1,529 campus community members attended Wednesday's game.

set 25-19.

In set two, the Islanders showed they weren't going to lie down without a fight. TAMU-CC tied the set at 19, but fell apart over the final six points by committing four errors. Knudsen ended the set by scoring the final two kills.

With momentum in hand, UTRGV jumped out to a commanding 18-12 lead in the final set, but allowed the Islanders to stick around. Leading 22-17, Knudsen scored UTRGV's next two points on a kill and ace, setting

up Mitrovic to put the exclamation mark on the match with a game-winning kill to win the third and final set 25-19.

Mitrovic finished with 11 kills, nine digs and one block while Knudsen had a double-double with 11 kills, 11 digs, one assist and two aces. Barbara Silva contributed six kills and four blocks, and team captain Alexandra Ecker had five kills and two blocks.

While the group of returning starters gave Lowery solid play throughout the

match, a trio of new faces had an effective night on the court, consistently making plays and setting teammates up.

Sophomore middle blocker Talita Oliveira, and the freshmen pair of Debora Nazario and Kellie Woodin stepped their game up in front of the home crowd to have impactful performances, leading to UTRGV's most complete match thus far.

"Overall, I think the packed gym helped us tonight to push through those moments where we struggled," said Mitrovic, the Preseason WAC Player of the Year. "We knew that people believed in us, that our coaches believed in us and that gave us trust in between each other on the court and I feel that's one of the things this team needs to build to be successful later on."

With the win, UTRGV improves to 4-7 on the season while the loss sends TAMU-CC to 3-8. UTRGV holds a 7.5-4.5 lead in the South Texas Showdown standings.

Last year's WAC Championship team was honored before the game with the unveiling of two banners for the conference tournament title and NCAA Tournament appearance.

The volleyball team is back in action at 7 p.m. Friday in the UTRGV Fieldhouse as it opens the UTRGV Tournament against the University of the Incarnate Word. It will close out the tournament at 4 p.m. Saturday against Texas Southern University.

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