



# The JTAC

A PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAN NEWS SERVICE

COMPOSITION BOOK

Welcome Back Texans!

16 PAGES  
ONE SECTION

## CAMPUS

# Texan News Service, JTAC newspaper combine under one roof

### STAFF REPORT

*Texan News Service*

The Texan News Service (TNS) at Tarleton State University has assumed management of The JTAC, according to faculty adviser Austin Lewter.

Effective fall 2024, students will be served by one printed newspaper.

“This change will benefit our readers and journalists greatly,” Lewter said. “A university having two student newspapers is fairly uncommon and has been confusing here at times.”

Lewter said an agreement was reached earlier this spring whereby the 105-year-old JTAC will replace the print edition of the TNS.

As such, The JTAC has been moved out of the Office of Student Media.

Being published by the TNS means The JTAC will be housed within the Department of Communication Studies, Lewter said.

“This is ideal,” Lewter said. “We have an amazing faculty in Comms Studies and a great support staff for our students. We are thrilled to bring The JTAC staffers into the fold.”

“The Grassburr” and “The Source” will stay with Student Media, Lewter said.

“This means that Tarleton will now have one printed newspaper going forward,” Lewter said. “That printed newspaper will be ‘The JTAC- a publication of the Texan News Service.’ All the existing multi-media channels at the TNS will remain intact. In fact, we plan to expand our news and storytelling capabilities in months to come. We are eyeing email newsletters, more rack locations, growing our audio journalism and podcasts, expanding our publication schedule and a lot more. Stay tuned for more announcements.”



TexanTV will continue to serve the area with quality news broadcast.

TexanNews.net will remain the organization’s online news platform.

“We are also merging social media platforms,” Lewter said. “The goal is not to contract news coverage. In fact, we are confident this merger will do the opposite— our students’ storytelling capabilities will expand.”

Founded in 1919, The JTAC is the legacy, official newspaper of Tarleton State University. It has been student-run since day-one and boasts a rich history of award-winning journalism.

“We are humbled to embrace such a rich history and legacy,” Lewter said. “The longevity of The JTAC is not lost on us. We are excited about the next 105 years.”

Founded in 2007, the Texan News Service was born out of the Department of Communications with the goal of offering a multi-media convergence lab for Tarleton students.

“The goal of the TNS has always been to offer our students more than just a printed newspaper,” said Chris Gearhart, Department Head in Communication Studies. “Our

television studio, podcast lab and news website are all cutting edge. We are thrilled to bring all of Tarleton’s student news in under one roof. The result will be a world class experience for our students.”

Work is ongoing merging the two staffs and streamlining the two newsrooms into one.

The newsroom is located in Room 396 of the OA Grant Humanities Building.

All inquiries about The JTAC and/or Texan News Service can be directed to Lewter at [alewter@tarleton.edu](mailto:alewter@tarleton.edu).



# Soundtrack to summer

BY ASHTYN HANSARD

*Executive Producer*

In the past few months, many artists released albums and projects that caught traction, becoming viral on many social media platforms such as TikTok and Instagram. When exposed to these platforms, the streams grow exponentially, making them songs of the summer. Listed here, in no particular order, are the top 10 songs played in the summer of 2024.

**“Espresso” by Sabrina Carpenter.**

“Espresso,” the lead single on Carpenter’s upcoming album “Short n’ Sweet”, was released on April 12, 2024. Although it quickly gained some traction among her fans, Carpenter’s performance of “Espresso” at Coachella caused a new influx of streams from fans and casual listeners.

The song’s enjoyable tune and catchy lyrics makes it an easy listen, catapulting it up the stream charts. As of August 7, 2024, the song has over 1 billion streams, making it one of the biggest songs of the summer, if not the year.

**“Hot To Go!” by Chappell Roan.**

“Hot To Go!” was released on August 11, 2023. However, Roan was not a well known artist until she became an opener for Olivia Rodrigo’s “Spill Your Guts” tour. “Hot To Go!” became an instant classic for Roan.

The song has an upbeat sound and a catchy dance to go along with the chorus, making it easy for listeners to enjoy. Many fans have recreated the “Hot To Go!” dance on TikTok, making it a summer bop.

**“Good Luck, Babe” by Chappell Roan.**

“Good Luck, Babe,” a single that has yet to be attached to another project, was released on April 5, 2024. With her maximalist costumes and catchy performances, she quickly captured the attention of many people, managing to get over 34 million followers on Spotify alone roughly within a month.

“Good Luck, Babe,” has been covered by several big artists, including Sabrina Carpenter, The Jonas Brothers, Wallows, and Girl In Red.

Roan performed at Lollapalooza this summer, and with hits like “Hot To Go” and “Good Luck, Babe,” she attracted the largest crowd the festival has ever seen.

**“BIRDS OF A FEATHER” by Billie Eilish.**

Eilish released her third album, titled “HIT ME HARD AND SOFT,” on May 17, 2024, quickly becoming one of the most streamed albums of the year.

“BIRDS OF A FEATHER” almost instantly became popular on TikTok, being used in trends where users would display the things they love the most with Eilish’s song playing in the background.

The song currently has over 600 million streams, making it her most popular on the album.

**“Not Like Us” by Kendrick Lamar.**

Lamar and Drake, another popular rap artist, began to have a public feud with each other, releasing songs and calling out the other for their behavior and acts. Lamar released “Not Like Us” on May 4, 2024. It became one of his most popular songs, sitting with over 600 million streams.

**“Please, Please, Please” by Sabrina Carpenter.**

Carpenter once again makes the list, the second single of her upcoming album also gaining popularity. Part of the song’s popularity has to do with her current boyfriend, Barry Keoghan. Carpenter released her music video for the single, which features Keoghan, on June 6, 2024, making fans all around the world tune in. The song currently has over 500 million streams.

**“A Bar Song (Topsy)” by Shaboozey.**

The single was released on April 12, 2024. The song became a hit on TikTok, being used in almost 700 thousand posts on the platform. Although Shaboozey has been making music for a decade, this song quickly launched his career, making “A Bar Song (Topsy)” a hit this summer.

**“Apple” by Charli xcx.**

Charli xcx has been creating music for over a decade, having popular songs such as “Boom Clap” and “Boys,” in the past. However, on June 7, 2024, Charli released her album called “brat,” creating a phenomenon called “brat summer.”

This trend became big due to TikTok and became even bigger when a dance was made to her song, “Apple.” Many celebrities have participated in this trend, such as Glen Powell and Daisy-Edgar Jones while promoting their new movie, “Twisters.”

**“Ain’t No Love In Oklahoma” by Luke Combs.**

“Twisters,” a stand alone sequel to the original movie, was released on July 19, 2024. Combs wrote this song for the movie, gaining massive popularity as the movie became a hit around the world. It currently has over 83 million streams.

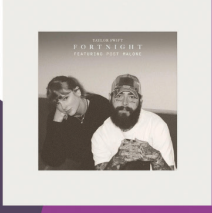
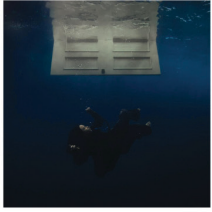
**“Fortnight” by Taylor Swift, featuring Post Malone.**

Taylor Swift released her 11th album, “The Tortured Poets Department,” on April 18, 2024. “Fortnight” is featured as the first song on the album and collaborates with Post Malone, a popular rapper and singer. The collaboration reigned at number one on the charts for two weeks straight, making it one of the most popular songs of the summer.

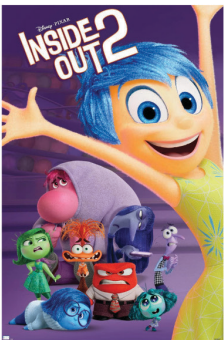


# 2024 SUMMER WRAPPED

## TOP 10 SONGS OF THE SUMMER



## TOP 10 MOVIES OF THE SUMMER





# 2024 SUMMER EVENTS







**TNS STAFF**

**Reese Keeling**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

**Haeley Carpenter**  
*Managing Editor*

**Ashtyn Hansard**  
*Executive Producer*

**Jaxon Hansard**  
*Sports Editor*

**Thomas Engelbert**  
*Multimedia Journalist*

**Austin Lewter**  
*Faculty Adviser*

**Contact US**

Mail: Box T-0230,  
Stephenville, TX 76402

(254) 968-0519  
editor@texannews.net



*Opinions expressed in Texan  
News are not necessarily those  
of Tarleton State University or  
the student body.*

# 2024 events of the summer

**BY REESE KEELING**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

The summer of 2024 was marked by a series of impactful events, some anticipated and others taking us by surprise. These moments, filled with both challenges and triumphs, played a significant role in shaping our nation’s identity and values.

**June 13-16**

The 2024 U.S. open Golf Championship was held and Bryson DeChambeau became the 23rd player to secure multiple U.S. Open titles, joining the ranks of the game’s legendary figures.

**July 5**

Amazon celebrated their 30th anniversary after being founded by Jeff Bezos in 1994 and went public in 1997.

**July 13**

On July 13, former president Donald Trump survived an assassination while at a rally in Pennsylvania. The shooter was a 20 year old named Thomas Matthew Crooks. He was armed with a AR-style rifle. The shooting left one member of the audience dead and two wounded.

**July 19**

Microsoft completely shut down and caused an outage

throughout the whole world. This outage effected way more then technology. Planes, hotels and even stores world wide were shut down due to the microsoft outage.

**July 21**

On July 21, president Joe Biden withdrew from his re-election and endorsed Kamala Harris as his chosen successor.

**July 24**

On July 24, “Inside Out 2” became the highest-grossing animated film ever, earning \$1.462 billion world wide. The film surpassed “Frozen II” which held the record before with \$1.453 billion.

**July 26**

July 26 marked the first day of the summer 2024 Olympics held in Paris. The olympic flame was launched into the sky from a cauldron attached to a hot air balloon. The olympics will come to an end on Aug. 11. 10,500 athletics are competing in 329 events.

**Aug. 6**

Kamala Harris official becomes the d\Democratic presidential nominee in the place of current president Joe Biden.



**FOLLOW US!**



# SUMMER WRAPPED

# Top 10 films of the summer

BY ASHTYN HANSARD  
Executive producer

With school done and kids having a few months to relax and hang out with friends, the summer offers many activities for friends and families. One of these activities is visiting a movie theater. Many new and exciting movies have been released this summer, gathering new fans and entertaining millions. Listed here, in no particular order, are the most popular movies of the summer of 2024.

**“Inside Out 2”** released in theaters everywhere on June 14, 2024. In this movie, the audience gets to experience Riley as a teenager dealing with new emotions that have appeared as she’s gotten older. The movie is currently the highest-grossing film of 2024, beating other popular contenders such as Deadpool and Wolverine, Challengers, and Dune: Part Two. With its recent success, Inside Out 2 has also become Pixar’s highest-grossing movie ever, currently sitting at approximately \$1.46 billion globally.

**“Deadpool and Wolverine”** was recently released in theaters on July 26, 2024. Although it was released quite late into the summer, the movie has already shown outstanding results, making it the second-highest-grossing movie of 2024 right behind Inside Out 2. The movie has also currently become the highest-grossing R-rated movie of all time. Ryan Reynolds’ witty sense of humor and fourth-wall breaking combined with Hugh Jackman’s reprise of his character Wolverine made Deadpool and Wolverine a highly anticipated film that did not leave fans disappointed.

**“Despicable Me 4”** was released on July 3, 2024. In the movie, families are able to see Gru balance being a father to a new child while also having to stop a new villain that has entered town. The latest installment of the Despicable Me series profited over \$800 million globally, making Despicable Me 4 currently the third-highest grossing movie of 2024.

**“Twisters”** captured the hearts over many movie fans during its release on July 19, 2024. The movie follows tornado chasers as they chase an EF1 tornado through Oklahoma. This standalone sequel gained much attention, partially because of the casting of Glenn Powell as one of the leading men. Powell’s rise to fame has also been credited to other movies, such as Top Gun: Maverick and Anyone But You.

**“Fall Guy”** was released on May 3, 2024. In Fall Guy, the audience follows stuntman Colt Seavers, played by Ryan Gosling, as he embarks on a journey to

find the male lead of the movie he’s filming in. Although the movie isn’t one of the highest-grossing, Fall Guy still received much praise, scoring an 82% on Rotten Tomatoes and an 86% audience score.

**“A Quiet Place: Day 1”** released in theaters on June 28, 2024. The prequel and spin-off to the A Quiet Place series follows different characters as the aliens attack earth. Some famous celebrities, such as Joseph Quinn and Lupita Nyong, star in the movie, displaying their true acting abilities as there is minimal dialogue within the series.

**“Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes,”** a sequel in the Planet of the Apes series, was released in theaters on May 10, 2024. The movie follows civilization after years of Caesar reigning as an emperor. The movie profited over double its budget, bringing in almost \$400 million globally. Although it’s not the most profitable movie of the series, Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes scored an 80% on Rotten Tomatoes.

**“Challengers”** was released to theaters everywhere on April 26, 2024, making it one of the earlier movies of the summer. Challengers grabbed the audience’s attention before the movie was officially released. Part of this reaction was due to the casting of Zendaya as one of the main characters. The audience is able to follow Art and Patrick, played by Mike Faist and Josh O’Connor respectively, as they advance in their tennis skills while also testing their friendship as Tashi, played by Zendaya, starts to come between them.

**“It Ends With Us”** was released recently on August 9, 2024. This movie follows the original storyline of the book It Ends With Us by Colleen Hoover. The movie already had a large fan base before it was ever released in theaters due to the book’s popularity on TikTok, bringing in a large audience on opening night.

**“Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga”** was released on May 24, 2024. This recent installment of the Mad Max Saga follows Furiosa, played by Anya-Taylor Joy, as she gets roped into a battle she never asked for and has to help end it before a war begins. The movie remains as one of the lesser profitable movies on the list, making over \$172 million globally. Despite the low profit, Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga scored rather high on Rotten Tomatoes with a 90% score and an audience score of 89%.

