Rylan Dean

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PERSONAL SUMMARY

Senior in Cyber Security with a year of research assistant and tutoring experience. Lab manager and member of the UTSA Cyber Competitions team, placed first in the SWCCDC regional competition. Security+ certified

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Proficient in C and C++ with focus on systems programming and reverse engineering
- Hands-on experience in networking, operating systems, and cybersecurity labs
- Skilled at tutoring and simplifying technical concepts
- Strong knowledge of computer hardware and troubleshooting

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at San Antonio - San Antonio, TX
BS in Cyber Security | GPA: 3.69 overall | Expected May 2027

CERTIFICATIONS

- CompTIA Security+ (May 2024, Expires 2027)
- TestOut CyberDefense Pro (July 2023)
- TestOut Ethical Hacker Pro (July 2023)

PROJECTS

- Windows USN Journal Tracker - C tool for logging NTFS file events with whitelist/blacklist filtering for intrusion detection
- ESP32 Input Blocker - C program blocking keyboard/mouse via Windows Interception library to enforce kernel-level computer lockouts; ESP32 device signals to unlock over Wi-Fi
- Serial File Transfer (Windows to DOS) - Cross-platform C programs enabling wired file transfer over serial without removable media

WORK EXPERIENCE

Cyber Defense Intern - MITRE, San Antonio, TX
May 2026 - Present

- Under the classified MINDS program: MITRE Interns for National Defense & Security
- Conducted research and supported cybersecurity defense operations within national defense and security initiatives.

Undergraduate Research Assistant - UTSA IoT Research Lab, San Antonio, TX
November 2025 - Present

- Reverse engineered embedded networking devices to analyze internal communications between router and modem systems
- Developed and maintained a locally hosted Ghidra AI plugin accelerate reverse engineering workflows
- Collaborated with external partners to support applied research in IoT security and device-level analysis

ORGANIZATIONS & LEADERSHIP

- UTSA Cyber Competitions Infrastructure - Member (September 2024 - Present)
    - Maintain Linux/Windows servers for competition labs
    - Configure and secure VMs for Red/Blue Team exercises

COMPETITIONS & AWARDS

- 1st Place - Southwest Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (SWCCDC), 2026
- 5th Place - National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (NCCDC), 2026