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Immigration effort lacks backbone from GOP

As President Obama and Senate Democrats push to pass an immigration bill this year, one key ingredient is still conspicuously missing: a second Republican to co-sponsor the legislation.

Most Republicans considered unlikely to join Sen. Charles E. Schumer, New York Democrat, and Lindsey Graham, South Carolina Republican, in writing a bill either have taken a pass or are still on the fence. Key figures say the country does not have the kind of consensus needed to tackle the issue.

"It just doesn't exist anymore," said Sen. Jon Kyl, the Arizona Republican who in 2007 took the lead on writing a bill with Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, Massachusetts Democrat, only to see it fail when a bipartisan majority of senators joined a filibuster against it.

Mr. Schumer and Mr. Graham are pushing ahead with a bill that would legalize illegal immigrants, establish a new system for allowing in foreign workers, and tighten controls on employment, including requiring the use of biometric identification Social Security cards.

Mr. Schumer sees a path for a bill. Mr. Graham sounds uncertain, and both of them are looking to Mr. Obama to help.

"I urge the president to write a bill and see if he can get another Republican, see if he can convince the 16 Democrats who voted no the last time," Mr. Graham said on a "Meet the Press" appearance with Mr. Schumer last month. "Let him do some heavy lifting here on immigration."

"To that comment, Mr. Schumer responded: "He will."

Majority Leader Harry Reid, Nevada Democrat, has indicated that he wants the Senate to act on the immigration issue this year. Although solid bipartisan sponsorship is not required, it has been the goal for every other immigration bill.

Mr. Schumer said that if backers can find a second Republican, the

other pieces of the puzzle will fall into place.

"If we can get that second Republican, we have business and labor ready to sign on, we have all

"We all have to be open. It's a problem, a multifaceted problem, and that's why we are here: to solve problems," he said.

The 2006 and 2007 efforts

Schumer is hoping that Sen. John Cornyn, Texas Republican, would be willing to join forces.

Mr. Cornyn is the ranking Republican on the immigration subcommittee on which Mr. Schumer serves as chairman.

Mr. Cornyn wrote his own immigration proposal along with Mr. Kyl several years ago but did not join the 2007 efforts. Mr. Cornyn, who as a Texas has a close view of border issues, is also chairman of Senate Republicans' campaign committee, and signing on to an immigration bill could hurt his efforts there.

"I'm interested in trying to find a middle ground but I don't think we're anywhere near close," Mr. Cornyn said. He also said he's been asking to see exactly what

Mr. Schumer and Mr. Graham have in mind but that they haven't shown him anything.

"I don't know if that exists," he said.

Mr. Schumer said in a statement that he is still trying to get Republicans to help write the agreement, so there is no final bill to shop to senators such as Mr. Cornyn.

"We have a framework, but not a final bill yet, although we are close. So we are not approaching Republicans with a 'take-it-or-leave-it' mentality," he said. "What we are really looking for is someone who'd like to flesh out the remaining details of our framework and really help us shape the bill so it can receive broad, bipartisan support."

Texas' other Republican senator, Kay Bailey Hutchison, is also not co-sponsoring the legislative advice.

It likely will be easier for Mr. Schumer to find a Democrat to co-sponsor his legislation. Sen. Mark Warner, Virginia Democrat, has been mentioned.



the religious community, not just the liberals but the evangelicals, we even have Lou Dobbs and Bill O'Reilly saying positive things about our proposal," he said.

Sen. Richard G. Lugar, an Indiana Republican who supported immigration bills in 2006 and 2007, was an early foe for Democrats. He said Mr. Schumer approached him last year to ask him if he was interested in joining forces, but Mr. Lugar declined.

"I indicated I was not prepared to co-sponsor or work with him on that," Mr. Lugar said.

Former Sen. Mel Martínez, Florida Republican, would have been an obvious choice. As a Cuban immigrant, he was outspoken in calling on his party to embrace legalization and was a key author of the 2006 bill.

But Mr. Martínez retired last year and now Democrats are looking to Sen. George LeMieux, a Republican tapped by Florida Gov. Charlie Crist to fill the seat, for support. Mr. LeMieux said he's not ruling out a role in the new effort.

show just how elusive an immigration deal can be.

In 2006, the key bargain was to grant a path to citizenship only to illegal immigrants who had been in the country the longest. That bill passed the Senate but was never taken up by the House, which instead pushed through immigration enforcement measures.

The next year, President Bush, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Kyl led a bipartisan group that reworked the entire immigration system, granting legalization to nearly all illegal immigrants and introducing a point system to determine how future legal immigrants would be selected. That bill was blocked on a bipartisan majority filibuster.

Mr. Kyl, who is now the No. 2 ranking Senate Republican, said the consensus that appeared to exist in 2007 is gone, and he said the big items he fought and won in that bill "are just not in the proposal" that Mr. Schumer and Mr. Graham released last month.

Several news reports said Mr.

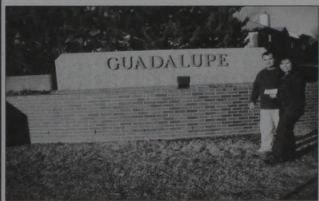
OPIC Recommends Highland Concrete Company Issue Re-Notice in Spanish

Guadalupe Neighborhood Association (GNA) announced today that The Office of Public Interest Counsel (OPIC) is recommending to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality that it grant the Movable's (Guadalupe Neighborhood Association's) request and: 1) order that the application of Highland Concrete Company be re-noticed in conformance with alternative language publication requirements; and 2) that all affected persons be permitted the opportunity to request a contested case hearing.

Carlos Quirino, President of GNA, stated, "We are extremely pleased that The Office of Public Interest Counsel is supporting our position that the original notice should have been provided in an alternative language. Specifically, it should have been provided in Spanish."

Victor Hernandez, local attorney for Guadalupe Neighborhood Association, stated, "Texas state law requires that concrete plants applying to operate under a standard permit comply with the notice and opportunity for a hearing provisions of both Texas Health and Safety Code Section 382.056 and Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC). I am extremely grateful to The Office of Public Interest Counsel for the stand they have taken in helping Guadalupe neighborhood on this issue. I continue to be cautiously optimistic that TCEQ will heed this recommendation and order that the application of Highland Concrete Company be re-noticed and that all affected persons be permitted the opportunity to request a contested case hearing."

For additional information, contact Carlos Quirino at 806-765-7940 or Victor Hernandez at 806-765-5481.



Guadalupe homeowners Johnny and Diana Vasquez demonstrate a copy of the restraint fee that was initially sent to attorneys in Austin, Texas to represent the Guadalupe Neighborhood Association against the Highland Concrete Company who set up their operations at I-10, Avenue K. Mr. Vasquez currently serves as Treasurer for the association. GNA would like to express their gratitude all the support they have received. They also would like the community to know they still expecting donation that will contribute in future fees associated with the suit. Please call Carlos at 806-765-7940 for more information.

House creates task force to increase number of minorities on Capitol Hill

House Democratic and Republican leaders established a diversity task force Tuesday that will sponsor training courses, build a résumé bank of potential job candidates and publish regular reports on diversity efforts, following a recent study that found a lack of Latinos on Capitol Hill payrolls.

The Committee on House Administration will lead the new efforts along with the House Chiefs of Staff Association and the congressional Asian Pacific, black and Hispanic caucuses, collectively known as the Congressional Tri-Caucus. Leaders of the Tri-Caucus called Tuesday's announcement an "important first step."

The February report, "Unrepresented: A Blueprint for Solving the Diversity Crisis on Capitol Hill," found that the Senate has one Latino chief of staff and one Latino committee staff director and that Latinos make up 5.6 percent of House staff members.

Latinos also are more likely to serve in lower-level positions, including schedulers and staff assistants, rather than more senior posts, according to the report by the Congressional Hispanic Staff Association and backed by other congressional minority staff associations. The report calls for congressional staffers to better reflect the nation's Latino population by 2020. It also recommended that House and Senate leaders establish diversity task forces and consider adopting something similar to the National Football League's Rooney Rule, which requires teams to interview at least one minority for head coaching positions.

In a statement, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) said that "diversity is one of America's fundamental strengths, and all of our na-

tion's communities are a rich source of exceptional talent. Drawing from this diverse pool of talent will ensure that the House of Representatives benefits from new and innovative solutions to our complex national challenges."

Pelosi's staff includes Deputy communications director Nadeem Eshwari, who is Arab American, and Jaime Lizarraga, her director of member services. In 2007, Pelosi also appointed the first House clerk, Lorraine C. Miller, an African American.

The office of House Minority Leader John A. Boehner (R-Ohio) includes several women, including Deputy Chief of Staff Amy Lozonpe, chief counsel Jo-Marie St. Martin and Republican Law Supervisor Peggy Longtime, who is black. Boehner's longtime chief of staff, Paula Nowakowski, died earlier this year.

The Congressional Hispanic Staff Association and its partner groups applauded Tuesday's announcement and pledged to continue working with Senate Majority Leader Harry M. Reid (D-Nev.) on his diversity efforts. Reid established a two-person office in 2007 that has helped place about 170 people on the staffs of Senate Democrats in entry and mid-level positions and as communications directors, said David McCallum, Reid's deputy chief of staff.

"We know it's an issue. We've been impressed upon our caucus that it's an issue, and we've established this resource," McCallum said. Reid's office includes senior aide Darrel Thompson and communications staff director Rodell Mollina, who are African American. The office of Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) did not respond to requests for comment.

"Sí, se puede": Michelle Obama a los jóvenes

"Sí, se puede", así, en español, y luego en inglés: "Yes, we can". Michelle Obama enfocó su mensaje en México a levantar el ánimo a los jóvenes "en tiempos de dificultades económicas".

"Ahora, mi esposo y el presidente Calderón trabajan duro para reconstruir nuestros sistemas educativos, revivir nuestras economías y crear nuevas oportunidades en ambos países... Pero necesitamos de todos los ciudadanos", dijo durante su primer discurso público en México frente a jóvenes de diez instituciones de educación superior públicas y privadas reunidas en la Universidad Iberoamericana.

La primera dama estadounidense y su homóloga mexicana, Margarita Zavala habían coincidido previamente durante una reunión en privado y durante la visita al Museo Nacional de Antropología e Historia, en la urgencia de combatir problemas sociales como la obesidad y la drogadicción, así como el tráfico de migrantes no acompañados.

No obstante, en uno de los discursos de la Universidad Iberoamericana, el rector solicitó el apoyo de Michelle Obama para

tomar en esperanza la incertidumbre de la población en el país, compuesta en una mitad por jóvenes menores de 25 años.

"Su visita, usted sabe, se da en un contexto complejo y delicado para nuestro país, en el que la violencia y la inseguridad se han vuelto una dolorosa realidad", precisó el académico, quien prestó a la educación para cambiar la situación.

Dicho plantamiento fue el eje del discurso de Obama, quien se puso a ella misma y a su esposo, el presidente de EEUU, como ejemplos de cambio de la realidad, si se tiene confianza en sí mismos.

"Ambos venimos de familias modestas, mis padres nunca fueron al colegio y mi esposo nunca conoció realmente a su padre y fue criado por su madre soltera que trabajó duro para poder pagar los gastos", puntualizó.

Y fue más lejos en los ejemplos de éxito, en su afán de motivación. Citó a Benito Juárez, el primer presidente indígena de México, que transformó a México en un estado laico en el siglo XIX; al norteamericano Abraham Lincoln; y a Juana de Arco, Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson



Mandela y la madre Teresa de Calcuta.

"Todos ellos fueron exitosos, no por su condición social, económica o de raza, sino porque cambiaron su mentalidad, creyeron en ellos mismos y hubo alguien que los apoyó", señaló la primera dama para claridad solidaria con quienes no tienen las mismas oportunidades.

Y volvió a los ejemplos de los que se quedan "para echar adelante a sus países".

"Como Alberto Salvador, de Guanajuato, quien nació sordo pero logró apoyo para terminar la preparatoria en Estados Unidos y regresó a su tierra para

fundar una escuela para gente con problemas de audición, ¡Si queremos un mundo más seguro, saludable y próspero necesitamos más pasión, coraje y creatividad!", dijo a los estudiantes.

Ana Gabriela Valdés, una indígena mazahua, alumna de un colegio de lenguas en el céntrico Estado de México, aplaudió el discurso y hasta se sintió identificada con Michelle, en su condición de minoría racial, pero tiene sus reservas.

"Hay mucha palabrería y poca acción en estos eventos", consideró en entrevista. "Después todo sigue igual, si no hay apoyo real".

Commentaries - Opiniones

Election Editorial

Well, it's over...it's finished for now. The run-off elections are over and the winners will take their positions. We can now enjoy some peace and quite without the constant phone calls soliciting for your support!

This election may be over, but the city elections are just around the corner. I hope everyone will continue to be approached by the different candidates that will be running in the city elections. It is good when the voters are given a variety of information that will aid their decision on election day.

Charles Perry ended 30 years of Texas Legislation for Delwin Jones at the end of Tuesday's election results. Perry had 58% of the vote in Jones' 42% which was good enough for a victory. Perry will not have to be in the November ballot because there was not a Democrat candidate for this position, so officially Charles Perry is the next State Rep. for District 83.

El Editor would like to take this opportunity in thanking Mr. Delwin Jones for all his dedication and service that he provided during his commitment seen as State Rep. for District 83. [Mi Gracias, For Su Servicio!]

John Frullo who has been his opponent with 6 percentage points during March's primary election took the victory over Mark Griffin by his own 6 point margin during the party runoff election on Tuesday. Frullo ended with 53.19% of the vote compared to Griffin's 46.8% of the vote, which was approximately 500 votes.

Frullo will face Democrat Carl Jordan in the November election. So in closing, I leave you with this to think about. Did endorsements or campaigning win this election? This election was influenced by local endorsements, commercials, news coverage, and all our door-to-door campaigning and walking the streets. Was the influence the constant commercials during your favorite tv show or was the influence more personal? Or was the old school thought of knocking on barn doors and asking for your vote your influence? In Frullo's case the numbers demonstrated more liking on the terms show still works! Frullo's camp ventured out and met his district that evidently made the lasting difference in this election.

El Editor congratulates the candidates in this election and welcomes them to utilize El Editor to reach out and keep in touch with the Hispanic community in particular but also everyone in Lubbock as a whole.

Also, job well done for those that came out and voted in the run off election on Tuesday.

¡Su Voto Es Su Voz!

A second chance at being counted

by Gregory Tejeda

The Census Bureau is trying to get an accurate population count while spending as little as possible. Which is why some people who didn't bother to fill out their first Census form will soon be getting a second form.

Somehow, it strikes me as a waste of paper and postage - since I would think that the people who didn't bother for whatever reason to fill out the first form probably aren't going to care about getting a second chance.

BUT THE CENSUS Bureau insists that for every 1 percent that they can increase the national participation rate without having to resort to a physical canvasser, they save the federal government \$85 million.

I honestly believe that the only way to get through to those people is going to be the physical canvasser - which is time-intensive and costly, but ultimately the best way to figure out how many people actually live in the neighborhoods across the nation.

For the record, the Census Bureau said Thursday that everybody who lives in a Census tract where fewer than 59 percent of people filled out their forms will get a new form - even if they already filled one out.

If one lives in a tract that had between 59 percent and 67 percent, then people who did not return their form will get a replacement.

THAT FIGURE was picked because the national average for a return rate is 67 percent. So two-thirds of the people are accounted for, and now the federal government is trying to figure out how to get through to the remaining one-third.

The Census Bureau estimates that about 40 million households did not bother to return their Census form. How many people live there exactly has yet to be determined.

Of course, sending out a second round of forms presumes that people will promptly respond to something they ignored previously, since federal officials aren't going to wait too long before the physical canvasser begins.

Mid-April is when we will start seeing the sight of people with those big bags bearing the Census Bureau logo going door-to-door to people. "How many people live here?"

AND FOR WHAT? It is worth the states with the lowest return rates for the Census form include California, Texas and New Mexico - which makes me wonder how successful the Census Bureau has been when it comes to persuading Latinos to take the effort seriously.

Even in other places, it seems that the Spanish-speaking enclaves have lower return rates than Anglo-oriented neighborhoods.

Which is why it wasn't a total surprise to learn of the Pew Hispanic Center study that came out last week that said U.S.-born people of Latino ethnic origins were taking the Census less seriously than the immigrants from Latin American nations.

For the record, 17 percent of the immigrant Latinos think complying with the Census Bureau count will make no difference in their lives, compared to the 33 percent of native-born Latinos who think it doesn't make a difference - and 4 percent who think it will harm their lives.

I KNOW THAT some pundits have had fun with this statistic by saying they are further evidence of the assimilation of Latinos - we Latinos with U.S. citizenship are now as apathetic about the Census as everybody else in this country.

Which is why I'm looking forward to the sight of those canvassers knocking on people's doors. I'd like to see how diligent they're going to be venturing into strange neighborhoods to ask people who might be mistrustful "How many people live here?"

Overdraft Fees Put Latino Families Further in the Red

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Hispanic Link News Service) - For many Latino families living paycheck to paycheck, the average overdraft fee of \$34 can amount to much more than a mere inconvenience. All too often it leads them further and further into debt.

In fact, billions of needed dollars are drained every year from working families.

Banks and credit unions often describe their overdraft fees programs as a convenience for their customers. In reality overdraft fees are another form of abusive lending bundling working families.

According to the Center for Responsible Lending's research, banks and credit unions collected more than \$23.7 billion in overdraft fees in 2008 alone, a 35-percent increase from the nearly \$18 billion they collected two years earlier. When the final tally comes in, 2009 surely will prove to be another record-setting year, with bankers expected to collect nearly \$27 billion in overdraft fees.

This explosion in overdraft fees has been particularly damaging for Latino families. More often than not, these working families are new to the banking system and not fully aware of all the hidden practices designed to trigger overdraft fees in their accounts. In many cases they don't realize that they've agreed to an overdraft program and don't realize that an overdraft fee has been collected until it is too late.

Banking was not always so dangerous. Just a few years ago, banks would simply deny a debit or ATM transaction if the account was overdrawn, a practice our survey shows most bank account holders would prefer.

Back then, banks didn't purposely trigger overdrafts by rearranging transactions from big-

gest to smallest to trigger as many overdrafts as possible, or by unnecessarily delaying a deposit. But as the use of debit cards has increased, so has the likelihood that Latino families will find their accounts in the red from overdraft charges.

Just recently, the Federal Reserve announced a new rule that requires banks to ask and get an explicit "yes" from customers before signing them up for these high-cost overdraft programs.

When it takes effect July 1, it will hardly be enough. Regulators still will have failed to address the high cost of such fees and the way and order such overdrafts are processed, all of which ultimately hurt working families the most.

What this paltry new rule does do is highlight the dismal state of our current financial regulatory system and the need for better consumer protections. Federal bank regulators have known for years about abusive overdraft practices and about their proliferation. Yet they have been slow to do anything that would safeguard consumers from these practices.

Overdraft abuses, just like unfair credit card practices and deceptive subprime mortgages, vividly underscore why Congress needs to reinvigorate oversight by creating the Consumer Financial Protection Agency. This agency, as envisioned by the White House and now passed by the House, would be dedicated to safeguarding consumers.

Now it's up to the Senate. Latino families should support Senate action by contacting their elected officials. But until Congress acts, consumers should ask their bank for a lower-cost overdraft protection program or even think about switching to a bank that offers a better alternative.

Everyone else is tightening their belts, why can't Rick Perry?

\$9,000 monthly rent extravagant, unwarranted use of taxpayer dollars

By the end of Governor Rick Perry's term, he will have drained Texas taxpayers, \$9,000 a month, of more than \$360,000 in pay for the rental mansion he has been living in while the historic Governor's Mansion is repaired and renovated.

New plans for the landmark are expected to be unveiled and voted upon today.

During a two and a half year renovation, Perry has been living large in a \$1.85 million rental mansion with a heated pool, outdoor kitchen, cabana and guesthouse. Regardless of today's vote, construction will continue for many months as Perry enjoys his luxurious accommodations.

"While Texas families tighten their belts, Rick Perry is living off of taxpayers in an extravagant mansion," said Katy Bacon, campaign spokesperson. "Rick Perry needs to set a budget-cutting example for other state employees

and move out."

The state faces a budget shortfall estimated as high as \$17 billion. In 2000, Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee and his wife lived in a donated mobile home on the governor's residence grounds while the Arkansas Governor's Mansion underwent maintenance.

Governor Bill Clements was the last Texas governor to live elsewhere during repair of the Governor's Mansion. He stayed at the Cambridge Apartments north of the Capitol for \$1,500 a month.

Public outcry greeted the previous renovation plan due to both the design and the lack of public input in the process. Former Governors Dolph Briscoe and Mark White both opposed the plan, which was scrapped in January.

The State Preservation Board, headed by Governor Perry, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst and House Speaker Joe Straus, is responsible for renovation plans.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send Mail to: editor@sbcglobal.net

Dear Editor:

A vicious anti-Mexican racist won the Republican nomination in Lubbock for the office of state representative.

This is not the time to use words that hide the evil that stares us in the face. We have to be willing to call things what they are, and to stand up to the blow back we will get for telling the truth, and sticking by the truth, no matter what.

So let's see it in black and white one more time. The Republican candidate for State Representative, District 84, Charles Perry, is a disgusting racist, and promotes hatred against Hispanics.

Charles Perry and his supporters will tell us that there's this "little law passed sometime back that wastes your money on people from other countries who live among us illegally, and that all they want to do is to get rid of that law.

And that much may or may not be true. But it is completely NOT the point.

The point is the "anti-illegal alien" hate propaganda put out by Perry has one goal, and one goal only: to pump up Anglo voters with hatred of "Mexicans", to find among the Anglos those ones who already hate "Mexicans", to get all those people to the polls to elect Perry, who pledges to do something to protect us from "Mexicans."

Do we want such a man to be the face of Lubbock in Austin? Do we want such a man to be the one we have to go to when we need services from a state representative.

Do we want such a man making laws that make it harder for Hispanics to register, to vote, to even be considered "American?"

Do we want a man in office who wants to force our kids to study from textbooks that prohibit even the MENTION of Hispanic heroes in American history?

Do we want to let him try to take away the right of our children to see a doctor and get treatment, the right to equality in education, to take away who-knows-what other rights?

We have to ask ourselves: what is the final goal of Mexican haters like Charles Perry?

Does he just want to take scholarships away from people born elsewhere?

Or is he already dreaming of lining up the box cars to deport the 18 million men, women and children that people like him believe should be torn from among us and sent somewhere else?

He may not be dreaming that dream, but I can tell you with complete certainty that many of the people he inflames with his anti "Mexican" rhetoric are already watching the train tracks closely to catch sight of those box cars. Believe me, I've heard many, many people say they are dreaming of the day the box cars are loaded and headed south.

The point is: what could possibly be the ultimate goal of people who use hatred for "Mexicans" as political tools? What do they want to end up with?

What indeed. Thinking such as Charles Perry's thinking, movements like his, based on hatred, always end up having NO END POINT. It is just keeping on keeping on until you end up in the gas ovens.

Every person in Lubbock with one grain of morality and decency owes it to him or herself to get registered to vote NOW, and to do everything on earth necessary to prevent the violent racist Charles Perry from taking Lubbock's seat in the State House of Representatives.

We are many. And we have an advantage: We're right and they are wrong. C James

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¿Que Pasa?

Councilmember Klein Hosting a Coffee with Citizens

District 3 City Councilmember Todd Klein will be hosting a Coffee with Citizens on Saturday, April 17, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the United Market Street, located at 50th Street & Indiana Avenue. All members of the public are invited to attend.

Water Restrictions Begin

Water restrictions went into effect Thursday, April 1, in order to minimize water lost to evaporation during the warmer and windier times of the year. The City continues to allow watering between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. Water use between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. is restricted in order to minimize evaporation. The restrictions are part of the City's irrigation ordinance, which applies from April 1 to September 30th each year, and are designed to minimize water lost to evaporation during the warmer and windier times of year. Exemptions are allowed for newly planted grass or landscaping, soaker hoses, and watering by hand. The City continues to allow watering two days a week with up to one and a half inches of water for each area of the yard. Citizens can help stop the waste of water by eliminating significant runoff while watering lawns and gardens. To report vio-lations, please call the Water Hotline at 775-7952.

LULAC Annual Robert Logo Scholarship Golf Tournament

The LULAC Annual Robert Logo Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Sunday, May 30 at the Stone Gate Golf Course. It will be a two-person scramble and the entry fee is \$55.00 per player. Shotgun start will be at 8 a.m. There will be different flights cash prizes. Food and beverages will be at the LULAC Hall which is located at 13th & Ave. O, right after the golf tournament.

For more information call Robert Narvaiz at 781-6277 or Daniel Castro at 688-8577. Your support is appreciated for a good cause.

Office of Student Financial Aid to Become an In-House Call Center

The Office of Student Financial Aid (SFA) and Student Financial Services will transfer its outsourced call center back to an in-house call center on the Texas Tech campus beginning May 17. The call center will take all incoming calls to Student Financial Aid, as well as Student Business Services. The SFA has been outsourced for the past few years. The in-house service will be a extension of the Student Financial Center, which offers a "one-stop shop" opportunity for students to gather more information concerning billing, payments, financial aid and refunds. The in-house call center will generate improved customer service to students and families with a team of fully trained staff handling questions concerning financial aid.

Lubbock City Council District I Political Forum

The Arnet Benson Neighborhood Association and Guadalupe Neighborhood Association will host a Political Forum for the candidates that are running for the city council district I position. The event will be Tuesday, April 20th starting at 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm, forum begins at 7:00 pm at Central Middle School which is located at 201 N. University. This is a great opportunity to meet the candidates personally and to listen to their positions on the issues which affect our communities. The candidates are Rafael Gutierrez II, Victor Hernandez and Glen Robertson.

Former Judge to Speak at Annual Mentor Tech Banquet

Glenida Hatcher, former juvenile court judge and expert on youth and social issues, is this year's guest speaker at the eighth annual Mentor Tech Youth Banquet. The banquet will be held at 7 p.m. April 23 at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Banquet Hall.

This event is open to the public. Hatcher is renowned in the legal community for her innovative courtroom style. Best known for her revolutionary "interventions," she is widely respected for her work with youth and justice, which establishes her as a leader in the justice system nationally. Hatcher is also the author of the national bestseller "Say What You Mean and Mean What You Say," based on her professional experience as a jurist and her own personal experience as a mother of two boys. She also serves as national spokesperson for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), a non-profit volunteer organization that trains volunteers to represent abused and neglected children and help them navigate the court system. After her first year on the bench, the local chapter of the National Bar Association recognized her for her leadership in revitalizing the Fulton County Juvenile Court, one of the largest juvenile court systems in the country, selecting her as Outstanding Jurist of the Year. Mentor Tech enhances the educational experience of students from underserved populations by pairing each student with a faculty or staff member. To qualify for the program, a student must be a freshman, first-year transfer or first-year graduate student at Texas Tech. The students must commit to the program for one year, but may be substituted before that point. Mentor Tech's formal name is the Lavin Cavazos and Ophelia Powell-Malone Mentoring Program. Cavazos was the first Texas Tech graduate to serve as the university's president and Powell-Malone was the first African-American undergraduate to enroll at Texas Tech. Mentor Tech is part of the Division of Institutional Diversity and Community Engagement. The program began in 2002 with 45 students and more than 100 mentors from the university faculty and staff. Mentor Tech has grown to more than 400 participants today. Tickets are \$45 each. Tables of eight can be purchased for \$450. Tables of 800 include tickets to a VIP reception with Hatcher. Proceeds benefit the Mentor Tech Powell, associate director of Mentor Tech, (806) 742-6692 or cory.powell@ttu.edu

Conference Discusses Issues Related to Mexican-American Families

A national, multidisciplinary state of scholars will convene in Lubbock April 15-16 to discuss issues related to child development in Mexican-American families. The conference, titled Understanding Mexican American Children and Families: Multi-disciplinary Perspectives, is sponsored by the Texas Tech University Department of Human Development and Family Studies and the Society for Research in Child Development. Guest speakers from 10 universities including the University of Texas at Austin, Arizona State University and the University of Wisconsin - Madison will discuss topics such as nutrition and health, education and family dynamics in Mexican-American households. For a copy of the agenda, visit <http://www.dfps.ttu.edu/docs/TTU-ERCD-Conf-Program-Schedule.pdf>

Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp Taking Applications

Texas Tech will host middle school students in STEM activities. With the help of an \$80,000 grant associated earlier this year by Texas Tech University, around 50 middle school students will be able to participate in the ExcoMobiil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp in July on the Texas Tech campus. Applications are being accepted until May 1 for LAUNCH 2010 - Discovering Me in STEM. This innovative summer camp will encourage leadership, academics, understanding, nurturing, critical thinking, communication, creativity, and horizons through a variety of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities. The two-week camp offers underserved middle school students opportunities to engage in classroom study, experiments, individual and team projects, field excursions and guest speakers. Male and female students entering the 6th, 7th and 8th grades during the fall 2010 semester in Lubbock, Crosby, Floyd, Hula, Hockley, Garza, Lamy, Lynn and Terry counties are eligible. Texas Tech is one of 30 universities in the nation offering the camp this year. More information and the application are available at http://www.theharrisfoundation.org/programs/summersciencecamp_tx_10.html. Camp directors are also looking for volunteers who will be interviewed in May. High school students may apply to be junior counselors. Texas Tech students serve as senior counselors and mentors. The camp will provide hands-on activities with a focus on space science. This includes learning physics with rockets, as well as the science of space. Also, the camp will focus on forensic science and biological engineering topics. Students must have an overall GPA of 3.0 in math and science, and they must score at the median to superior level in standardized math and science tests to qualify. Bernard Harris Jr., the first African-American to walk in space, a former Texas Tech University system regent and a Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center graduate, announced the camp at the 2010 T-STEM Best Practices Conference, hosted by the Texas Tech T-STEM Center in February. The ExcoMobiil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp is a program by the Harris Foundation, founded by Harris in 1998 to support community growth by focusing on the education, health and wealth of our communities. Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu

Miliones en Texas y miles en Dallas no están recibiendo las estampillas de comida

Miliones de niños de Dallas y todo el estado texano están sufriendo de hambre y su situación podría agravarse más aún en verano debido a los recortes presupuestales y de empleos que ha sufrido el Programa de Estampillas en los últimos años, denunciaron el diputado estatal Roberto Alonzo y la abogada Gina Hinojosa, de la organización Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid.

Tan sólo en Dallas, enfatizaron, 112 mil 997 niños están inscritos para recibir este tipo de ayuda alimenticia, pero "sabemos que esa cantidad se ha incrementado considerablemente sin recibir la debida atención", recalcaron. Ambos reconocidos también activistas defensores de los derechos civiles denunciaron que ante tales deficiencias del mencionado programa, millones de aplicaciones para recibir este tipo de asistencia pública gubernamental se mantienen rezagadas por meses en las oficinas de estadía dependencia. "La ley del estado de Texas exige que sólo se dilate un máximo de 30 días para rechazar o aprobar estas aplicaciones, pero debido a la falta de empleados, y con experiencia, ahora dichas autoridades se tardan meses para decidir si aprobar o no esta ayuda", aseveró la legista Gina Hinojosa. Hinojosa afirmó que la organización que representa tiene datos comprobables que en la actualidad millones de esas solicitudes de ayuda alimenticia se encuentran rezagadas por meses, dañando considerablemente la salud y alimentación de varios millones de niños en Texas. Según la popular abogada de Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, la crisis en este momento del Programa de Estampillas es peor

de la sufrida en 2003. Luego de esa fecha, este plan de ayuda social para familias de bajos recursos económicos ha continuado sufriendo graves recortes en su presupuesto y han sido despedidos unos 2 mil empleados con experiencia, aseveró. Cabe recordar que en los últimos años republicanos que han gobernado Texas al menos durante la última década.

Ante tal crisis, agregó Hinojosa, el gobierno texano decidió entregar el control de este programa a una empresa privada. Los resultados fueron "tan malos" que el gobierno estatal tuvo que retornar de nuevo el control, "pero desafortunadamente causando mayores problemas y deficiencias en este plan de ayuda", enfatizó. "Como buho recorte en el presupuesto para el Programa de Estampillas, empezaron a dilatarse por meses las aprobaciones de las nuevas aplicaciones y 2 mil empleados con bastante experiencia fueron despedidos", acusó Gina Hinojosa. Tanto la abogada Hinojosa como el diputado Alonzo se enfrentan al Programa de Estampillas "es demasiado alarmante", si se toma en consideración que antes del 2003 este programa de asistencia social era uno de los más exitosos de los Estados Unidos, ya que en 30 días o menos se procesaba el 97 por ciento de todas las aplicaciones para recibir este beneficio gubernamental. Ahora, en contraste, "millones de niños en Texas - una gran mayoría latinos - han dejado y están dejando de recibir esa ayuda por la inoperancia e ineficacia del programa", acusaron. Según la organización Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid esta crisis afecta en su mayor parte a la niñez hispanoparlante, ya que en

la actualidad "al menos el 20 por ciento de los infantes que recibe esta asistencia tienen inseguridad de que recibirán alimentos". De no ser una pronta solución al problema, esta "dramática situación" podría agravarse en las vacaciones de verano entrante ya que la mayor parte de los niños que requieren dicho servicio, principalmente niños, "no tendrán ni almuerzo ni comida durante sus vacaciones escolares". Gina Hinojosa advirtió que este panorama es cada vez más turbio si también se toma en consideración la información que la institución que representa mantiene del 2007, la cual indica que el 20.5 por ciento de los niños en Texas reciben estampillas de alimentos. "Ahora, en el 2009, uno de cada cinco de estos menores de edad no saben si van a comer o no, por eso es tan importante que esos niños reciban los beneficios del Programa Estampillas", manifestó el diputado Roberto Alonzo. Gina Hinojosa destacó que para frenar esta situación e informar a la comunidad latina sobre este grave problema, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid y otras instituciones han pedido la ayuda del diputado estatal Roberto Alonzo. "Programa Estampillas", manifestó el diputado Roberto Alonzo en la comunidad que tiene el representante Alonzo y la gran cantidad de personas y organizaciones que conoce en Dallas y Houston, la segunda ciudad texana más afectada por este mal, para transmitir esta información", enfatizó. Hinojosa indicó que todas las familias que han sido dañadas por la demora en meses de sus aplicaciones para recibir este programa, pueden comunicarse a la Hot Line de esta institución 1-866-757-1570

Michelle Obama inicia su gira en México

MÉXICO, D.F. - De colores! Rompieron las voces de un centenar de niños cantores para recibir a la primera dama estadounidense, Michelle Obama, en su primer acto público en México. De colores era el vestido que portó Michelle Obama para pasar con su homologa mexicana, Margarita Zavala, por el Museo Nacional de Antropología e Historia, donde posó frente al Calendario Azteca, una de las joyas del arte prehispánico que guarda el país. La esposa del mandatario norteamericano arribó la noche

de ayer para una gira de trabajo de 36 horas enfocada en los jóvenes, mujeres empresarias y en su apoyo a un programa internacional contra el tráfico humano ilegal, temas de alta prioridad en ambos países. A primera hora, la primera dama de Estados Unidos posó con el presidente Felipe Calderón y Margarita Zavala antes de su visita al Museo, donde fueron recibidas con palabras de bienvenida. "Escucha, hermano, la función de la alegría! corearon en el patio central un centenar de infantes de escuelas especiales

para niños discapacitados. Ciegos, sordos, minusválidos cantaron dirigidos por Enrique Barrios, de la Orquesta Carlos Chávez del Centro Nacional de las Artes, en saludos a la visita de las primeras damas. Diez minutos y tres melodías después se despidieron para continuar la agenda: una visita a la escuela primaria 7 de enero de 1907 y a la Universidad Iberoamericana, un evento en apoyo a un programa de la ONU contra el tráfico de personas y un encuentro con mujeres, para finalizar la visita con una cena orgánica por el Ejecutivo.

Aviso legal

Si usted compró una cortadora de césped con un motor impulsado por gasolina de hasta 30 caballos de fuerza entre 1994 y el 12 de abril de 2010, podría recibir beneficios de los Acuerdos de Demanda Colectiva.

Se incluyen tractores de jardín para cortar el césped y cortadoras de césped, máquinas (lista parcial): Yard-Man, Cub Cadet, Honda, Bolens, Exmark, Deere, Sabre, Scotts, Toro, Yard Machines, Craftsman, Troy-Bilt, Husqvarna, Poulan, Poulon, Lawn-Boy, Weed Eater, White Outdoor, Sunoper, Simplicity, Brute, Murray, y otras marcas con motores fabricados por Briggs & Stratton, Tecumseh, Kawasaki, Honda o Kohler.

Se ha alcanzado varios Acuerdos en un mandato judicial colectivo concerniente a cortadoras de césped impulsadas a gasolina. La demanda judicial no involucra la seguridad de estas cortadoras de césped. ¿De qué se trata la demanda? La demanda judicial exige 17 demandados (la lista se encuentra disponible en www.LawMoverClass.com o 1-877-773-8196) tergiversaron y exageraron los caballos de fuerza de sus cortadoras de césped y de los motores de las cortadoras de césped. Los Demandados niegan haber actuado en forma inerciente. Todos los partes han convenido en llegar a un acuerdo.

¿Estoy incluido? Usted está incluido si compró una cortadora de césped con un motor a combustible de gasolina de hasta 30 caballos de fuerza para su uso personal (para la revisión entre el 1 de enero de 1994 y el 12 de abril de 2010). La cortadora de césped o el motor deben haber sido fabricados o vendidos por uno de los Demandados.

¿Qué establecen los Acuerdos? Los Acuerdos varían en sus términos los detalles se encuentran en el sitio web. Si se aprueban, los Acuerdos combinados proporcionarían \$65 millones en Beneficios en Efectivo y:

para ciertos motores, considerables Beneficios de Garantía. Ciertos Demandados también han acordado un nuevo "Estándar de clasificación de potencia". El derecho para el beneficio independiente de las cortadoras de césped (específicas) que usted posea. Los Miembros del Grupo Demandante tienen derecho a recibir hasta \$35 por cortadoras de césped miniales, hasta \$75 por tractores de jardín para cortar el césped y un año de garantía extendida para motores de cortadoras de césped. Los Demandados participantes. Si las reclamaciones excedieran la cantidad disponible por beneficio en Efectivo, los pagos en efectivo se reducirán. ¿Cómo obligo beneficios? Necesita enviar un Formulario de Reclamación para obtener un pago en efectivo o para extender su garantía. La fecha límite para presentar un formulario de reclamación para un beneficio en efectivo es el 31 de agosto de 2010. Tiene hasta un año después para que los Acuerdos sean aplicados en defectivos para enviar una reclamación por el Beneficio de Garantía por correo en línea. ¿Cuáles son mis otros derechos? Permanecer en sus Acuerdos: Por cada Acuerdo que usted permanezca, estará obligado por el 2309, Fairhull, MN 55123-9029.

términos de ese Acuerdo y renunciar a su derecho de entablar demanda individual (excluye Demandados). Salir de los Acuerdos: Si desea conservar su derecho a entablar demanda judicial (excluye Demandados que alcanzaron estos Acuerdos, debe exhibirse a más tardar el 4 de junio de 2010. Puede exhibirse de manera o a todos los Acuerdos. Permanecer en los Acuerdos y Objeto: Si permanece en los Acuerdos, puede obtener cualquiera de ellos a más tardar el 4 de junio de 2010. El Tribunal llevará a cabo una audiencia en el caso, conocida como el caso *Lawson*. El abogado *Lawson* Marketing and Sales Practice Litigation, MDL No. 1999, el 22 de junio de 2010. Usted puede optar por aprobar los Acuerdos, y una solicitud por el Abogado del Grupo Demandante de los beneficios de abogados de no más de una tercera parte del valor de los Beneficios en Efectivo, más intereses, no más de \$14 millones por el valor de los Beneficios de Garantía, más gastos. Usted y su propio abogado pueden pedir compensación y hablar en la audiencia a su propio costo. Para obtener más detalles sobre la audiencia, visite el sitio web que se muestra abajo, o escriba Law Lawson Marketing and Sales Practice Litigation, MDL No. 1999, Fairhull, MN 55123-9029.

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George Lopez: Speedy Gonzalez Re-Dux



for bringing back "racist" cartoon after a two year absence.

George and Anne Lopez are producing along with Lynette Ramirez for their George Lopez Presents along with New Line Cinema and

Ocean's Eleven producer Jerry Weintraub, Tracy Ryerson and Jill Arthur, New Line execs are Michele Weiss and Sam Brown.

All the producers are clear that an update to the brand, with the sensibility that the George Lopez Presents banner brings, will allow for audiences to embrace Speedy Gonzales once again.

"We wanted to make sure that it was not the Speedy of the 1950s -- the racist Speedy," Anne Lopez told the Hollywood Reporter. "Speedy's going to be a misundrstood boy who comes from a family that works in a very meticulous setting, and he's a little too fast for what they do. He makes a mess of that. So he has to go out in the world to find what he's good at." That path becomes clearer once Speedy befriends a

gun-shy race-car driver.

Alec Sokolow (Cardinal and Joel Cohen will adapt the classic animated Looney Tunes character into a live-action/CG hybrid feature.

George Lopez is repped by CAA, and hosts Lopez Tonight currently airing on CBS. George recently appeared in the Spy Next Door and can be currently seen in New Line's Valentine's Day.

Yes, it's a done deal. George Lopez will be the voice of the controversial Warner Bros. cartoon character, Speedy Gonzales. Lopez's wife Anne, one of the producers of the film told Hollywood Reporter that the film will be a modernized take on the sly mouse who outsmarted the "GREEN-GO Pussycat" Sylvester every chance he got. Most importantly, this new updated version will bank heavily on the George Lopez "Latino seal of approval," as Anne put it, to steer the story in the right direction.

Speedy Gonzales, known to cartoon lovers, as the fastest mouse of all of Mexico was taken off the Cartoon Network in 2002. A Cartoon Network spokesperson back then conceded, that part of the problem was the cartoons' negative stereotypes -- like Speedy's lazy cousin, Slowlpoke Rodriguez -- and the drinking and smoking that went on in the sleep town setting. But, as it turned out, the bottom line was that the ratings were just not there.

In a unusual turn of events it was LULAC -- the League of United Latin American Citizens -- the US' oldest Hispanic American rights group which publicly advocated and petitioned

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Clifton Collins Jr. feels safe at home with his Mexican heritage in 'The Perfect Game'

Clifton Collins Jr. didn't want to play another Latino. Even though he liked the part -- a coach who, in real life, guided a group of kids from Monterrey, Mexico, to the championship of the Little League World Series -- he'd taken several Latino roles in -- red, and didn't want to be typecast.

So Collins passed on "The Perfect Game." But months later, after the producers had hired another actor, became dissatisfied with him, then shut down production for a while, they approached Collins again. He had played non-Hispanics in "Sunshine Cleaning" and other films since his first conversation with the producers, so he accepted the part. Now, nearly two years after the film's initial release was postponed for financial reasons, "The Perfect Game" is finally opening Friday.

"It's a real heartfelt tale," says Collins, 39, referring to the true conversation with the producers, who, in 1957, reached the pinnacle of Little League baseball.

"Anytime I can do a film about an underdog, I want to take it. Maybe it's because I see myself



as an underdog."

Collins is a direct descendant of Mexican-American showbiz royalty. His maternal grandfather, Pedro Gonzalez-Gonzalez, who helped to raise him, was a colorful character actor who appeared with John Wayne, Glenn Ford and many other stars in numerous films and TV shows.

It was abuelo who sparked his grandson's interest in acting: "He said always be confident, never stop believing in yourself," says Collins -- and at one point during his career, Collins even took his granddad's last name as his stage name.

"My Latino friends told me

not to do it," says Collins, whose father is of German extraction, "because I would never play white again. And there was a stigma that came with the name. [Casting directors] heard me say Gonzalez-Gonzalez, but they didn't hear the name, they heard 'Mexican-Mexican,' right in their face. I didn't understand the racism of the Latino thing which was big as it was until I changed my name."

Collins reverted back to his birth name about 10 years ago and has been working steadily ever since. His big breakthrough came in 2005, with his acclaimed performance as killer Perry Smith

in "Capote."

He has also become possibly the only Hispanic-American award-winning, country music video director, thanks to the work he's done for the Zac Brown Band on a tune called "Chicken Fried."

"The thing about country music, and people like Zac Brown," says Collins, "is they tell stories, they have a sentiment and a tradition -- all the things I really value."

"The Perfect Game" also stars Cheech Marin as a baseball-loving Catholic priest, and Mexican actress and pop singer Patricia Matherola as Collins' love interest, along with a bunch of adorable young actors including Jake T. Austin ("Wizards of Waverly Place"), Mo'Nique Arias ("Hannah Montana") and Jansen Panettiere ("The Last Day of Summer").

The film shows how a group of Mexican street kids overcome doubts about their abilities, cultural and racial prejudice, immigration issues and money problems to become world champions.

The point of the movie, says Collins, is "just to have dreams and go after them, and don't let anything stop you... [And] I think we can all identify with that."

Lo que vi en Haití: Shakira

Este fin de semana visité Haití.

Nunca antes había visto un lugar en tal grado de destrucción. He recordo un país en donde no quedó ningún tipo de infraestructura; agua, sanidad, electricidad, escuelas u hospitales, con el 86 por ciento de la población desempleada y un millón 800 mil desplazados.

Vi madres que perdieron a sus hijos, hijos que perdieron a sus padres, mujeres que han perdido para siempre a sus familias enteras. Vi un país que perdió todo o casi todo, pero que aún le queda su fortaleza.

Me llevo en mis ojos estampada la mirada de hombres y mujeres que aún no se sienten derrotados, ni vencidos. Jóvenes haitianos listos para reconstruir, esperanzados. Niños que aún sorprende y sueñan con una mejor vida.

Esa fuerza, es la oportunidad de

embargo, haberme encontrado

en el país, vive desde hace casi

tres meses en uno de aquellos campamentos.

Duerme dentro de una pequeña carpita precaria nada distinta a las de los 60 mil desplazados que allí viven mientras él logra reubicarse.

Ha conseguido gran cantidad de ayuda internacional y sigue inspirando con su trabajo, diariamente, a tanta gente que como él se ha entregado a brindar la ayuda necesaria: marinos estadounidenses, filipinos e hindúes y tantos jóvenes voluntarios que se han movilizad



esa nación que hoy espera toda la ayuda internacional posible. Una nación que depende de nuestras promesas y también de nuestra buena memoria, porque más grave que la misma catástrofe, sería para Haití sufrir el olvido.

Me llena de optimismo, sin

con personas de distintos lugares, estudiantes y profesionales, anónimos o famosos, que han decidido donar su tiempo y esfuerzos para instalarse en Haití y ayudar.

Sean Penn, por ejemplo, conduce personalmente, uno de los mayores campos de refugiados

hasta la zona para unir fuerzas.

Cada vez en el mundo existen más y más personas que se conectan con las necesidades de los que menos tienen. Y es allí hacia donde nos dirigimos. Las generaciones más nuevas absorben estos ejemplos y saben que en el mundo de hoy los problemas de un solo pueblo son los problemas del mundo entero.

Mi esperanza es que a través de la educación y de las comunicaciones ese mensaje se difunda y sea el legado que dejemos a nuestros hijos y a los hijos de sus hijos.

Ayer conocí de cerca las necesidades del pueblo haitiano. En mis encuentros del día entendí aún más que sólo construyendo escuelas y hospitales, la sociedad haitiana podrá recuperar su dignidad y salir adelante.

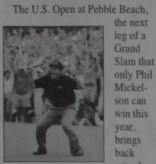
Hemos recorrido posibles lugares donde levantar una escuela "Pies Descalzados", donde los niños pueden recibir alimentación y educación adecuada. Nos reunimos con algunos ONG's y posibles socios estratégicos para poder echar manos a la obra en los próximos meses. Empezaremos una escuela en Haití que si tenemos suerte podría estar terminada a fin de este año.

Pronto vendrá la temporada de huracanes y sólo espero que el pueblo de Haití pueda encontrar refugio ante las inclemencias del clima en los próximos meses y que estemos ahí para ellos. Quise compartir mi experiencia con todo el que quiera saber de ella porque se que hay mucho por hacer. Individualmente podemos ser gotas de agua, pero juntos somos un océano. Eso me lo enseñó ayer un niño de 11 años que ha visto poco, pero que ya sabe tanto.

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A Phil-good Masters for Mickelson

NFC East Draft needs: Dallas Cowboys



The U.S. Open at Pebble Beach, the next leg of a Grand Slam that only Phil Mickelson can win this year, brings back memories.

In his professional debut there in 1992, Mickelson opened with a 68 and was only two shots out of the lead.

The next day, he shot 81 and missed the cut.

That seemed to set the tone for his roller coaster of a career, good times and bad, rarely a dull moment. No one should ever question the greatness of Mickelson. He was the last amateur to win on the PGA Tour. Only 10 other players have won more than his 38 titles on the PGA Tour. And his Masters victory Sunday made him the first player to win three straight tournaments against a field that included Tiger Woods, the previous two coming at the Tour Championships and HSBC Champions in Shanghai.

While Woods has had a revolving door of rivals, Mickelson has passed through the most times.

The question is how long Mickelson will last.

No one bothered to ask him Sunday about his chances for the Grand Slam, perhaps because so many other tournaments were still fresh.

The signature shot of this Masters was his 6-iron off the pine straw, through a gap in the Georgia pines, over Rae's Creek to the 13th hole on the 13th hole. The figure on me was his emotional embrace behind the 18th green with his wife, Amy, on the golf course for the first time since being diagnosed with breast cancer. It tied a pink ribbon around, a Masters like no other.

Now, looking ahead, a green jacket usually bodes well for Mickelson.

When he won his first major in

the 2004 Masters, he gave himself a chance to win them all. Mickelson had the U.S. Open won until a double bogey from the bunker on the 71st hole, and Retief Goosen had a putting performance that ranks among the best. Lefty finished one shot out of a playoff in the British Open at Royal Troon. And he was in contention late Sunday afternoon at Whistling Straits until finishing two shots out of the playoff at the PGA Championship.

After winning his second Masters in 2006, Mickelson was on the cusp of capturing the U.S. Open - and a third straight major - until he unwisely chose to hit 3-iron that clattered off a tee and led to double bogey on the final hole at Winged Foot.

No other major means as much to him as the U.S. Open, at least for now. Mickelson already holds the record with five runner-up finishes, including last year at Bethpage Black when a slab of mud on his ball and three putts on the 15th hole derailed his inspirational run.

Mickelson is a three-time winner at Pebble Beach, although the course is perceived as Woods' playground. It was at Pebble Beach in 2000 that Woods set a record that might never be broken, winning a U.S. Open by 15 shots.

Such dominance, however, might have had more to do with Woods' game than the course.

Augusta National, meanwhile, might have been more responsible for Mickelson winning the Masters than his game. It is the one course that puts Mickelson at ease, knowing that no matter where he hits a shot, he'll usually have a chance at the next one.

"I'm relaxed when I drive down Magnolia Lane because I know that I don't have to play perfect," Mickelson said, alluding to his three par saves - Nos. 9, 10, 11 - as evidence.

What made him a Masters champion for the third time - he now is closer to Woods' four green jackets than Woods is to the six won by Jack Nicklaus - is the very style that has caused so many to question

Mickelson. "Phil won this tournament because he was such an aggressive player," caddie Jim "Bones" Mackay said Sunday. "He's talked about in the past how it's a big part of how he plays and why he feels like he has so many wins. There were so many times this week when he had the choice of taking the aggressive approach or the conservative approach."

One of those came at the par-5 13th hole on Saturday.

Mickelson was five shots behind in the third round when he took his tee shot down the trees and along Rae's Creek, leaving him only a 7-iron to a pin tucked on a shelf in the back right corner of the green. Mickelson hit his approach to 8 feet for eagle to begin an amazing run of eagle-eagle-birdie that made up the deficit and sent him on his way.

"I think the 7-iron that he hit on Saturday was the shot that in a sense, got him on a roll to winning this tournament," Mackay said.

What made Sunday's shot on the 13th so spectacular was more about the decision than the swing. The lie was clean. The trees were close enough that the ball wouldn't stay in the air very long before getting past it. It was a 6-iron. And it was this Phil Mickelson, one of the best players in the world.

He had a one-shot lead over Anthony Kim, who was nearly done with his round, and was two clear of Lee Westwood, the greater threat.

Mackay, as he has done so often, tried to persuade Mickelson to lay up. Mickelson, as he has done so often, ignored Sunday's shot on the 13th.

"I've heard him hit the best shot I've ever seen him hit," Mackay said.

Mackay could barely speak when it was over as he tried to control his emotions, a losing battle. When someone asked how this compared with his other majors, the caddie replied, "Twenty years from now, nothing will compare to it. I can guarantee you that."

Emotionally, probably not. But there are still three majors left this year.

The Dallas Cowboys were a Super Bowl contender with few draft needs who may have had the luxury of selecting some instant impact players before making roster changes in early April that are sure to guide the team's draft strategy.

On April 2, Dallas released longtime left tackle Flozell Adams, creating further need at an already thin position. Adams, a second-round draft choice in 1998, had spent his entire 12-year career with the Cowboys and was one of their most effective linemen. The only offensive tackle in team history to earn more Pro Bowl honors than Adams' five selections is Hall of Famer Rayfield Wright, who participated in the all-star game on six occasions.

Adams signed a six-year, \$43 million deal before the 2008 season, but saw a drop in effectiveness as he allowed a career-high eight sacks in 2009. He's also been one of the league's most highly penalized players over the last three seasons, drawing 39 flags.

On the same day, the team parted ways with starting free safety Ken Hamlin.

Tony Romo is talented, but he's going to struggle if the Cowboys can't improve his protection.

Like Adams, Hamlin signed a six-year contract worth \$39 million prior to the 2008 season. The safety was coming off his first Pro Bowl selection in 2007, but has disappointed the last two seasons and was always a liability in coverage.

Dallas offered one-year tenders to its restricted free agents, including wide receiver Miles Austin, who earned his first trip to the Pro Bowl in 2009 and was offered the highest tender possible.

The Cowboys have picks in every round of the draft except the fifth. They hold picks at 27, 59, 90, 125, 196 and 234.

Offensive line should be the top draft priority for the Cowboys, specifically filling the voids at left tackle. Even before releasing Adams, the team wanted to add youth to a group that features three starters who will be 32 years old at some point in the 2010 season and another who is already at that age. The only exception is at left tackle, where 27-year-old Pat McQuistan is the immediate replacement.

McQuistan spent his first four seasons as a reserve and has never started an NFL game. Reserve right tackle Doug Free played well last season and should be in the mix for the left tackle job. The team has met with Vladimir Ducasse of Massachusetts, John Jerry of Ole Miss, who is strictly a right tackle or guard, and Maurice Pouncey of Florida, who can play any of the interior line positions.

Dallas should also be looking to fill the free safety spot vacated by Hamlin early. Reports are that they are very interested in Texas' Earl Thomas and have already met with him. The Cowboys reportedly have also met with Morgan Burnett of Georgia Tech, Chad Jones of LSU and Nate Allen of South Florida. They would likely have to use a first- or second-round selection to secure any of the above safeties.

Miles Austin had a breakout season at receiver, but Roy Williams has been a disappointment. Dallas gave Detroit multiple draft picks to acquire Williams and signed him to a five-year, \$45 million deal to serve as the replacement for Terrell Owens. But Williams has failed to live



up to expectations, catching just 38 passes for 596 yards and seven touchdowns last season. Jerry Jones had dinner with Dez Bryant of Oklahoma State, the top-rated wide receiver in this year's class. The team has also met with Arelouis Benn of Illinois, Brandon LaFell of LSU and Taylor Price of Ohio.

Another area of concern on defense is inside linebacker. Bradie James led the team in tackles for the fifth straight season and is locked in at one spot, but Keith Brooking will be 35 in October and isn't the future. Bobby Carpenter hasn't developed into the player they thought he would be when they picked him in the first round of the 2006 draft, and is nothing more than a nickel package player. Dallas has met with Penn State's Sean Lee and Arizona State's Travis Goethel, a college strong-side linebacker who projects inside in the Cowboys' 3-4 scheme.

Other players Dallas is said to have met with include Kentucky fullback John Connor, Missouri State tight end Clay Harkin, Penn State defensive end Jay Odrick, Cal defensive end Tyrion Alualu, Indiana (Pa.) cornerback Akwasi Owusu-Ansah, Rutgers cornerback Devin McCortay, Wake Forest cornerback Brandon Ghee and Penn State outside linebacker Navarro Bowman.

Game Warden probe nets guilty plea in bass tournament cheating trial

USA Triathlon National Collegiate Championship Returns to Lubbock

A Garland man has pleaded guilty to stuffing a lead weight into a bass during a fishing tournament last fall, the outcome of an investigation by a Dallas-based Texas Parks and Wildlife Department game warden.

Forty-five-year-old Robby Rose, a competitive bass fisherman, entered a guilty plea in 362nd State District Court April 13 to the state jail felony offense of attempted theft over \$20,000 but less than \$100,000. Judge Brett Hall sentenced Rose to five years probation, 15 days in jail and loss of his fishing license for the duration of his probation.

The charge stems from an incident that occurred during the 2009 Bud Light Trail Boss Big Bass Tournament on Lake Ray Hubbard last October 24. The

grand prize at the tournament was a \$55,000 bass boat for the angler who caught the biggest fish by weight.



"We took this case very seriously," said Rockwall County Criminal District Attorney Kendra Culpepper. "As far as we were concerned, the case was about a \$55,000 bass boat, not a ten-pound fish."

Halfway through the competition, Rose turned in a fish. While

Rose went to the polygraph area, weigh-in officials noticed that the bass had settled near the bottom of the tank it had been placed in.

After examining the fish and finding a lump in its belly, they located Rose and told him they intended to cut it open.

At that point, Rose took the fish, massaged its belly, and removed a one-pound lead weight from its gut. Game Warden Tom Carbone investigated the incident and turned his findings over to the Rockwall County Criminal District Attorney's Office, which filed the attempted felony theft charge against Rose April 9.

"Cheating is cheating," said lead prosecutor Alex Imgrund, "and neither the fishing community, nor this office, will tolerate it."

LUBBOCK, Texas (April 12, 2010) - The USA Triathlon National Collegiate Championship will be held in Lubbock for the second year on April 17, 2010, at Buffalo Springs Lake. This event will bring in close to 900 competitors representing more than 100 colleges for a competition in the Olympic distance race featuring a 1,500-meter lake swim, 40-kilometer bike ride, and 10-kilometer run.

Four of the six overall medalists from the 2009 Lubbock race, including the top three women's finishers, are scheduled to take the starting line. Highlighting the championship field will be defending women's champion Jessica Broderick of the University of Colorado Boulder, who won last year's title in 2:18:35. On the men's side, Colorado's Cedric Wane is the top returning finisher from 2009. He was third a year ago in 2:01:42 - just 29 seconds

out of first place.

The USA Triathlon (USAT) is the National Governing Body for triathlon, one of the fastest growing sports in the world as well as duathlon, aquathlon and winter triathlon in the United States.

USAT sanctions 3,100 races in the United States and connects with 130,000 annual members and 270,000 one-day members each year, making it the largest multi-sport organization in the world. In addition to its work with athletes, coaches, and race directors on the grassroots level, USAT provides leadership and support to elite athletes competing at international events, including World Championships, Pan American Games and the Summer Olympic Games.

"Excitement is an all-time high for this event," said Jeff Dyrek, USAT's national events director. "We have an extremely talented field of individuals and

teams that will make for yet another thrilling day of triathlon action in Lubbock."

The event will include a sprint race, consisting of a 500-meter swim, 17.6-mile bike ride, and 5-kilometer run. The U.S. Naval Academy, which claimed the overall team title in 2009, will return to defend their crown and will see strong competition from Texas Tech University, as well as other state universities such as Texas A&M, University of Texas-Austin, and Texas State University.

The schedule of events includes: 9:00 a.m. Olympic distance race, featuring a 1,500-meter lake swim, 40-kilometer bike ride, and 10-kilometer run. 12:30 p.m. Collegiate only, a sprint race, consisting of a 500-meter swim, 17.6-mile bike ride, and 5-kilometer run. The general public is invited to attend.

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The Authority of Jesus Questioned

By Sal Hernandez



Why do Christians worship on Sunday versus worshipping on the Sabbath?

First, I always like to look back at the beginning and move to the end by way of the Old Testament onto the New Testament for clarity. Since this does involve precisely that, a Sunday versus Saturday question is very good. I like to paint a picture with words so that we can see what it is that God is doing, for it is God that does everything and not man that does it as people seem to believe at times. Saturday is a day of worship in the Old Testament, first, because six is the number of imperfection. On the seventh day, God rested. The seventh day has so much importance in that Sunday is the first day of the week, which is the day of rest. Just as a Jew and they will say Sunday is the first day of the week. The seventh day is so important in that it is the day of the first covenant: the day in which all of creation rested in Him, through Him and for Him, which is Sunday. This is the very first of the Seven Covenants that God will make with us. As you might know that seven is a perfect number regarding God. This is why the Seventh Day is so important in the very beginning. As you know, the sixth day, Saturday, was good until the fall of man because of Adam and Eve's action in the garden bringing forth sin and death into the perfect world that God had created. Man took a step back in the sense that they fell into sin. We must see and understand how God put the universe together, for in the first day He made day and night; the second day He made the sky and sea; the third day He made the land and vegetation; the fourth day He made the sun and moon and stars; the fifth day He made the birds and the fish; the sixth day He made the beasts and man; and the seventh day, He rested. We see what takes place that everything He created in the first three days are empty. We see that in the next three days He fills in the void with the creation of all of creation. What takes place on the sixth day? He creates beasts and man. Man is His most important creation for He gives man dominion over it all. Man falls, thus sin, causing him to be among the beasts versus remaining in the state: full of grace. Now he is a disgrace or not filled with the grace of holiness that he possessed, because God created man perfect for Himself. Now that the first man is a part of the sixth day, he has disconnected himself from God by way of sin in which cost him heaven. Now he dwells among the beast and is not granted the true Sabbath of Sunday, which was, and is the seventh day.

Second, God said it in the beginning and said it again in the end, as Jesus rose from the dead on what day? Sunday! God connects humanity to Himself as it was in the very beginning. Now we can once again dwell in Him, through Him, and for Him. Now we can be full of grace as He intends it to be as long as we are obedient and come to Him via the Seven Sacraments. We see that God himself established the Sabbath from the very beginning in the Book of Genesis and we see God giving us the seventh day for Sabbath once He came, suffered, died and resurrected from the dead on Sunday. Everything is reconciled to Himself and it is the order that He wants and wanted from the very beginning. We see the gravest of sin, but we also see the great love and mercy of God, in which He wants us to obtain on a daily basis by way of the Sacraments.

Scriptures in the New Testament for Sunday worship to name a few are: Matthew 28: 1; Mark 16: 2; Mark 16: 9; John 20: 1; John 20: 19; Acts 20: 7; 2 Corinthians 3: 14; Hebrews 4: 8; and so many others.

May God bless us, and grant us a great day with Him today.

Anaya: A man who helped dreams come true

Eddie Anaya, Executive Director of LEARN Inc. and lifelong community leader, built a career around helping disadvantaged students and adults achieve goals that would better their lives through education.

A first generation college student himself, Eddie worked his way through college at South Plains College where he received an Associate in Applied Science in Mid-Management in 1975. He then transferred to Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Management in 1977. Eddie began his service to students at WBU while working as an Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Admissions and Registrar.

In 1979, Eddie began what was to be a 30-year career with LEARN Inc. He first worked as a counselor for Educational Talent Search and worked his way up to Assistant Director in 1985, Project Director in 1987, and in 1988 was named Executive Director of Talent Search and of Educational Opportunity Center in 1991. Under his leadership, both programs have been a voice for the disadvantaged at the local and national levels, enrolling over 47,000 area students and adults into programs of higher education and assisting over 68,000 with the federal student aid process. Eddie also extended his leadership and expertise to new programs by serving as a trainer for the Council of Opportunity in Education's New Talent Search/EOC Directors Institute.

Throughout his administration at LEARN Inc. Eddie was active in numerous civic organizations. In TRIO, he served as

president of the Texas Association of Student Special Services Programs (state), president of the Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs (regional), and board member on the Council for Opportunity in Education (national). Locally, Eddie was a member of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Lubbock Independent School District

Partners in Education, Texas Tech University's Chancellors Minority Council, Lubbock Hispanic Chamber, Hispanic Agenda Association, South Plains Tech Prep Board, and South Plains Closing the Gaps P-20 Council.

Mr. Anaya was also recognized for his notable achievements in education. He received awards from Outstanding Young Men of America, City of Lubbock Human Relations Commission, Texas Association of Student Special Services Programs, Louisiana Association of Student Assistance Programs, Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs, Student Assistance District Adopt-a-School. In 2008, Eddie was presented the prestigious Walter O. Mason

Lifetime Achievement Award by the Texas Association of Student Special Services Programs for his lifetime of public service in the federal TRIO programs. Upon his acceptance, Mr. Anaya stated, "Education is the key to improving individual lives and the community as a whole. LEARN and other TRIO programs offer a hand up, not a handout, and afford students and adults the opportunity to make their dreams of a college education a reality."

Quotes from Eddie Anaya's key LEARN Personnel...

"In the 18 years I have worked for LEARN, Eddie most impacted me by the way he aggressively and passionately provided a voice for area disadvantaged youth and adults wishing to pursue higher education. He tirelessly 'walked the Hill' and 'pounded the pavement' to ensure that their voices were heard by our elected politicians and community movers and shakers alike."

—Lee Ann Clark, Assistant Director, LEARN Educational Opportunity Center

"Eddie also maintained continuity and integrity by ensuring that our personnel at LEARN provided top-notch educational services to our students. We will miss him dearly." —Lee Ann Clark, Assistant Director,

LEARN Educational Opportunity Center

"I am saddened by the loss of a man who was not only a colleague but a true friend as well. In my book Eddie truly made a difference contributing to a better world that elevated a multitude of lives. He will be sorely missed." —Esmeralda Benitez, Assistant Director, LEARN Educational Talent Search

"I respected him and admired his commitment to help students. Eddie fought the great fight for our students during the time TRIO in the U.S. was not financially balanced in providing grants to service our 'disadvantaged students' in an equal manner. He fought to get more grants approved for disadvantaged students during the TRIO War on Poverty in the 1990's."

—Esmeralda Benitez, Assistant Director, LEARN Educational Talent Search

"I was Eddie's administrative assistant for 22 years. We started working together when our children were in elementary school. We saw our kids graduate, get married, and saw our first grandchild together. We even experienced the loss of a parent — we were family! Eddie always let us know that he had to be there for our family, and he did whatever he could to help us accomplish that. He was a caring person and cared so much about the goals of the LEARN organization. 'Education opens the door to everything,' and he believed it with a passion. My family and I will truly miss him, but I know he is in a better place without worry or pain."

—Delores Ramos, Executive Secretary, LEARN Inc.

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