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Lubbock/Midland-Odessa Region

Hispanic Voting Strength in Lubbock County Increases

Obama insta al Congreso a reducir el déficit

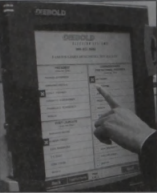
Since the last US Census, the Hispanic population has increased significantly in Lubbock County, but in 2010, as the population grows, Hispanics are moved into all sections of the county. As Hispanics progress economically, start their own businesses or achieve higher levels of education, they are no longer concentrated in "Barrios." Consequently, there is only one precinct that remains predominantly minority in Lubbock County. Precinct 3 covers the Northeast quadrant of the county and includes the City of Idalou and most of New Deal. Within the City of Lubbock, the Precinct includes the traditionally minority areas of East Lubbock, the Arnett Benson, Jackson, and Guadalupe neighborhoods and the housing areas that lie

between them. According to the 2010 Census, these areas are 62% minority of which 47% are African American and 15% are African American. About 38% are Anglo. These numbers are reflected in the two redistricting plans proposed by Mr. Charles Kimbrough, an Austin attorney hired by the Commissioners. At a public hearing on

Monday, Mr. Kimbrough introduced two redistricting plans. The two plans vary only slightly but, both comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act regarding redistricting. Neither plan elicited support or opposition at the public hearing. The silence from the 40 or so present at the meeting prompted County Judge Tom Head to ask for comments and questions at least six times. But, none were forthcoming, until one person responding to repeated pleas for comments, walked up to a microphone set up and lamented over the provision of the law that prohibits reducing minority voting strength. The speaker's objection prompt-

ed the only Hispanic member of the Commissioners Court to say, "The 1965 law guarantees minority representation." The simplicity of both plans is certain to avoid involvement by the Courts and will not likely draw the criticism normally seen in State and City Redistricting. Under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, the Attorney General of the United States must clear the plan before they may be implemented. The Attorney General must determine that Redistricting does not discriminate in its purpose or effect upon the rights of minorities to vote. Although public input has been minimal, this does not

limit a citizen's right to draw a plan of their own and submit it for consideration. The Commissioners will review all plans, but each plan must comply with all provisions of the law. If a citizen decides to do so, the plan must be "Complete" showing the whole county and must include a numerical breakdown for each Precinct. The two plans proposed by Mr. Charles Kimbrough increase the number of Hispanics in Precinct 3 although the increase is small. The current Precinct is comprised of about 45% voting age Hispanics. Both proposed plans increase the percentage of voting age Hispanics in Precinct 3 by about 2 percent.



El presidente Barack Obama instó hoy al Congreso a actuar para llegar a un acuerdo sobre la reducción del déficit que pase por un incremento de impuestos para los ricos e insistió en que nadie quiere una moratoria en Estados Unidos. "Nadie quiere poner la calidad del crédito de EE.UU. en riesgo. Nadie quiere ver una moratoria en Estados Unidos", afirmó Obama durante una rueda de prensa en la que propuso aumentar los impuestos a los millonarios y las empresas petrolíferas. "No creo que sea una idea radical. Creo que todo el mundo está de acuerdo con esto", afirmó Obama. Su preocupación ante la prensa coincide con un punto muerto en las conversaciones para la reducción del déficit que permita a su vez aumentar el techo de la deuda en el país fijado en \$14.29 billones. La Casa Blanca ha advertido que de no llegar a un acuerdo para extender el límite de endeudamiento, plazo que se vence el 2 de agosto, el Gobierno no podrá pagar sus facturas. El presidente insistió en que una de las medidas "más importantes y urgentes" que necesita adoptar ahora mismo Estados Unidos es reducir el déficit. Mencionó en ese sentido, que las conversaciones lideradas por el vicepresidente de EE.UU., Joseph Biden, con líderes del Congreso se han traducido en un "progreso real" a la hora de aproximar posturas pero insistió en que es preciso "hacer más". Obama afirmó que es necesario tomar algunas "decisiones difíciles", como recortar el presupuesto de defensa. Hizo hincapié, por lo demás, en que EE.UU. no puede permitirse mantener las ventajas fiscales para los millonarios, las compañías petrolíferas y los ejecutivos que viajan en aviones privados. De optar por esa vía, EE.UU. tendrá que recortar la investigación médica o las becas para estudiantes, entre otras partidas sociales. "Antes de recortar la educación de nuestros niños (...) me parece justo que pidamos a una compañía petrolífera o al propietario de un avión corporativo que renuncie a su recorte fiscal", indicó el presidente. Su rueda de prensa coincidió con la publicación de un informe por parte del Fondo Monetario Internacional (FMI) en el que advirtió que si EE.UU. no llega a un acuerdo para aumentar el límite de la deuda lo antes posible se arriesga a una "travesía" consecuencias mundiales.

| Plan 1 In Terms of Voting Age Population | Plan 2 In Terms of Voting Age Population |
|--|--|
| Hispanic - 47.31% | Hispanic - 47.26% |
| African American - 14.87% | African American - 14.84% |
| Anglo - 23.79% | Anglo - 33.88% |

The 14th Amendment to the US Constitution requires under the principle of "One-Person-One-Vote" that all districts have essentially the same number of people. Therefore, Redistricting is based on the TOTAL Population per Precinct as determined by the 2010 US Census. The ideal number of people per Precinct for Lubbock County is 68,708; but in considering VOTING STRENGTH this chart illustrates Voting Age Population

DREAM Act Would Boost U.S. Security, Napolitano Tells Senate

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano told a Senate hearing Tuesday that the DREAM Act, a bill to normalize the immigration status of some undocumented young people, would improve the work of her department because it would allow her personnel to focus more fully on foreigners who may constitute a threat. Security, the economy and education are the central elements of arguments advanced by the Democrats who on Tuesday lobbied for the bill before the Senate Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees, and Border Security. The measure would normalize the immigration status of tens of thousands of undocumented young people—who arrived in the United States as children—if they enlist in the Armed Forces or complete at least two years of college. Illinois Democrat Dick Durbin, who chaired the hearing, has been fighting tirelessly for a decade to move forward with the bill, which was reintroduced in the Senate last month. The historic hearing included the testimony of Cabinet heavyweights Napolitano and Education Secretary Arne Duncan,

something designed to demonstrate that the bill is a priority for Barack Obama's administration. Napolitano said, in contrast to what

"It simply doesn't make sense from a law enforcement perspective to expend limited law enforcement resources on young people who pose no threat to pub-

and lacks sufficient safeguards to weed out potentially dangerous people." That was one argument that Duncan resoundingly refuted by

proper behavior. "Also, the young people must have come to the United States while under age 16 and so have resided in this country continuously for the past five years. The requirements of the DREAM Act are much more stringent than those of other naturalization processes, according to Under Secretary of Defense Clifford Stanley. Napolitano and Duncan defended the government's commitment not only to the bill but also to immigration reform, although they had to weather the harsh criticism of Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas), who attacked what he called the bill's "defects."



its detractors claim, would improve national security by permitting her department to concentrate its resources on undocumented immigrants who may represent a threat.

lic safety, have grown up here and want to contribute to our country by serving in the military or going to college," she said. The critics of the bill argue that it constitutes an amnesty measure

explaining that the DREAM Act demands an analysis of the complete record of the young people who would benefit under it, requiring that they give evidence of "good moral character" and

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Commentaries - Opinions

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Sanctuary Cities Doomed For Failure Again !! - Texas Is No Arizona..... Says Rep. Alonzo OPINION EDITORIAL

by
District Representative Roberto R. Alonzo
Disruptive Bill - Dallas

The end of the 82nd Regular Session of the Texas Legislature is barely less than 1 month off the 2nd Called Special Session in less than 24 hours away from ending in the second time, and once again, Texas lawmakers are right on track - saying NO to SB 9, or the so-called sanctuary cities measure. Also referred to as the abolishment of sanctuary cities bill, the measure would in essence have forced local law enforcement officers to become overnight Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) experts with at least 3 strikes working against them: (1) the lack of training on the complex ways of immigration law; (2) an inflated mandate that failed to provide additional funding to already financially-strapped local law enforcement agencies; and, finally, but most importantly, (3) the unnecessary and discriminatory racial profiling practice that is certain to have come in its wake, just because of the lack of training and overzealousness on the part of many ill-informed law enforcement authorities. Keep in mind that the measure failed in the Senate for the first time around during the regular session, so obviously it was not the will of lawmakers to pass such a measure back then. And once again, the measure seems doomed to failure in the GOP-controlled House this time around, as SB 9 sits stuck and idle in a GOP-controlled State Affairs Committee for over a week, nowhere. What does that tell us? Once again, members of the GOP are thinking twice before they give their day on a so-called emergency measure added by the state government to the legislative agenda. It is not a law in six months. Don't certain members of the legislature get it? How many times can such a measure have to be debated before our Legislature gets it? The name-calling and finger-pointing between some lawmakers continues; the Senate blaming the House, and vice versa, and in the end, SB 9 must have gone nowhere, and that is the way it should be. Texas is NOT and must NOT mirror Arizona's style politics. Texas policymakers are general, Democratic and Republican alike - are we to address the most basic needs and necessities of all hard-working Texans and average families by the various cuts they made in the end of the state's 2012-2013 biennial appropriation budget? And passing a sanctuary cities measure never was or should never have been a priority to begin with; it was just a waste of time, energy, and effort on the part of Texas lawmakers to even debate an issue that belongs in the hands of our federal government to address, defend and foremost, shut down and stop.

Considering the historically challenging budget facing our state, I found it rather astonishing that on opening day of the 82nd legislative session and once again as we moved through the 2nd session, our longtime governor chose to add the so-called sanctuary cities measure as a matter of legislative emergency a second time around. In 2009, even upon this discussion as a national agenda, one must move beyond the fact that there remains no clarification of what constitutes a sanctuary city. One must also draw an imaginary distinction between the policies of our various municipal and local police forces and those of our Department of Public Safety, which rightly enforces immigration policies where they belong - at this federal government level. These glaring legalities aside, for the governor to once again choose this matter as an emergency issue is simply laughable in just two months. It is in the face of that duty and mission to Texans and needless to state, that the Legislature forms its most important goal and priority of policymaking for the benefit of all hard-working Texans.

As I have said repeatedly in the past, I am of the firm belief that as we state lawmakers cannot and should not insist that our city, county, and state law enforcement agencies simply become immigration experts. These agencies are already stretched near full, operating with limited and previous funding for their primary objectives - which is protecting our citizens and neighborhoods. Law enforcement officers across the state have consistently more than what they don't need, so do they have the resources and manpower to enforce immigration laws or lack of immigration status, in part to encourage people to report crimes and work the police in reducing crime, keeping our neighborhoods safe and providing the public safety they are trained to do for all communities in large. As the governor may or may not be aware, there is absolutely no extra funding available for our local police agencies. To add immigration enforcement once again to the regular session call agenda, against the will of lawmakers that refuse to pass it during the special session, coupled with state and national politics among citizens that do not think it is the business of local government to address, is a slap in the face of all policymakers - regardless of party line, sending a clear message to the general public that this Arizona-style measure is not right for Texas. Even the governor himself has been quoted extensively in the past, along with the Texas Association of Business (TAB) that this is a public policy for the state. Most importantly, this unnecessary measure adds to the already long list of unnecessary agencies assigned to our state's police agencies, thus putting all Texans at risk, even more so when the law responsibility comes with zero financial support.

Session after session, some of my colleagues insist in taking all items at immigration reform issues that I believe can be better addressed if left primarily at the hands of our federal government. As we policymakers must do our part to provide the necessary support to reform immigration once and for all. Antagonizing the federal government and alienating entire segments of our state's population is ultimately counterproductive to the state, especially for the sake of term political gain, so our governor appears to remain in campaign mode presumably in pursuit of a higher office he so publicly continues to deny.

I cannot put it into much simpler terms, but to continue to remind some of my colleagues that immigration reform is and should continue to be a federal issue - not a local issue, and asking our city, county, and even state law enforcement agencies to become federal immigration officers is simply asking too much of them. We have much more important state business to take care of if we are to be competitive with other states nationally and the international market globally. Texas has some incredible businesses when it comes to such important issues as adequate teacher pay, world high school and college graduation rates, adequate health care coverage for children, financial aid for our students, and an economy that remains on the edge.

To do a controlled and politically charged ceremony like 'sanctuary cities' this is list of legislative issues will irreparably compromise this and my colleagues' efforts to pass a generalization budget while still offering those services that ALL Texans rely on.

We must continue to be vigilant, want to participate in the electoral process, in order to defeat this sort of legislation that can only give away. We must not give up. We must continue to fight the fight. Too many people want to migrate; the scapegoat, the "quarry", the "boogymen." We must not let that happen. President Obama has already killed the "quarry", and that was Osama Bin Laden.

Editor

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By FA Cerant and Sergio Jara Arroyo Husband and Wife

A trio of world-class Triple Crown Latino Triple Crown jockeys, each three-year-old mounts to victory this spring in the three legs of the thoroughbred racing classic Triple Crown - the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont Stakes.

About the winners were John Velázquez of Puerto Rico, Jesús López Castañeda of Mexico and José Valdivia Jr. of Peru.

Velázquez, 40, rode Antelar Kingdom, a 20-40-year-old in the mid-and-a-quarter Derby at 136-year-old Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky.

López Castañeda, 38, brought home Shuckford at 120-one in the mid-and-a-half Belmont Stakes at the historic Belmont race course on Long Island, N.Y.

"Their victories mark only the second time - the other was in 2006 - when all of the Triple Crown winners had Latinos astride them. The victory that year went to American Pharoah, who won the 136th Kentucky Derby of Puerto Abad, Bernardini in the Preakness, and rider Vincent

can Javier Castellano, and finally in the Belmont, guided by Panama native Fernando Jara.

Six of the last 10 Belmont and Preakness Stakes winners and five of the last 10 Kentucky Derby champions were brought home by Latino jockeys. The United States has provided a seemingly endless supply of superb, slight-stature indigenous athletes whose natural weights are under the top jockey range of 115 pounds. With 9,530 victories, Panama-born Laffit Pincay Jr. is the winnigest jockey in horse racing history.

Several Latinos have become millionaires riding on the U.S. circuit. The five top U.S. earners are all Latino, according to the online data source Equibase. It reports that John Velázquez (Puerto Rico) earned \$12 million in 2010, José Valdivia (Peru) \$10 million, Rafael Bejarro (Spain) \$9 million, Víctor Espinoza (Venezuela) \$8 million and Javier Castellano (Venezuela) \$6 million.

The jockey admits he won't receive a minimum of 10 percent of what his mount earns a race, while other who finish "in the money" receive 5 percent of their mounts' purses.

With equines commonly throughout the Americas as animals of utility, the "Sport of Kings" has been a part of the culture for over 5,000 years. The early Spanish conquistadors, including Christopher Columbus, brought the bullfighting, and "charro" and rodeo practices

emerged in the culture.

Mexico City's hipodromo track has been guided by aficionados since 1943. The Agua Caliente racetrack in Tijuana, south of San Diego, launched top racing stock, trainers, jockeys, and blood-bred winners from the United States in 1929 during the Prohibition era for more than half a century.

Coming into this year's Kentucky Derby, John Velázquez had more than 4,500 lifetime wins on U.S. tracks. In 2007 he captured the Belmont Stakes aboard Pags to Riches. Born in Caracas, Puerto Rico, he resides in West Hempstead, N.Y., where he and his wife Leonora O'Brien raise their two children.

Rafael Castañeda won his first race in 1989 at Agua Caliente. Castellano has more than 2,000 career wins. Born in Mexico City, he lives in Connecticut.

Valdivia gained his big break in 2001 when he

won the Breeders Cup Mile aboard Val Joe. Racing nuts in his family, his father José Valdivia is a successful Latino American jockey and his uncle is a retired jockey.

The sport is not without its dangers. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health reports the deaths of 20 jockeys during the United States between 1992 and 2006. A four-year study concluding Dec. 31, 1996, reported 6,545 rider-injuries. Nearly one in five was to the head or neck and two out of five result of being thrown from their mounts. Other injuries include leg (65.5%), back (10.7%) and arm/hand (11.0%).

Musculoskeletal disorders and weight management can lead to disorders resulting from crash diets, weight loss pills, vomiting and use of laxatives, to name a few.

(FA Cerant and Sergio Jara Arroyo are reporters with Hispanic Link News Service in Washington, D.C.) C2011

LAS CONFESIONES DE UN GUERRERO CONTRA LAS DROGAS

por José de la Haza. Hispanic Link News Service

CUADRO DE MÉXICO, D.F. - Hace cuatro décadas, yo fui guerrero contra las drogas. Me retiré en 1972, pero cuando era de la división de investigaciones del Drug Abuse Council (Consejo sobre el Abuso de Drogas).

El consumo adictivo de drogas (heroína y cocaína) ha incrementado. El consumo "recreativo" de la marihuana, el hashish y otras sustancias ha aumentado. Un público alarmado percibía el abuso de las drogas como la causa principal de los delitos contra la propiedad.

Se consideraba que los viciados y las actividades de la criminalidad estaban contrarias a como la protesta y la resistencia al crimen de Richard Nixon de la guerra en Vietnam. Sin embargo, en el consumo, comenzamos a entender dentro de muy poco tiempo que la marihuana y el hashish podían originar en muchos lugares y que la marihuana era el opio de Afganistán y la cocaína de Saldamiera no se combatían con la fuerza. Se podía crear otros trabajos con un buen pago para policia experimentados. Se hacía evidente que "el espíritu de independencia", con muchos millones, copias, armas, métodos de inteligencia sofisticados y enormes plantillas, era el fundamento de una nueva industria.

Para entender de lo que ocurría, algunos servicios secretos se van de "boom". Wesley Posner, titular de seguridad en el congreso de Woodstock y luego jefe de policía en Berkeley, ofreció una perspectiva penetrante del buen funcionamiento de las fuerzas del orden. La sociología y la psicología de Jerry Mandel y Harvey Feldman eran de vanguardia. David Most completó su libro clásico "An American Disease" (Una enfermedad estadounidense), que traza el origen de las leyes contra la marihuana.

Piquieta ingeniera, Margret Pitt, hizo una comparación de la mancha en los tintos que enfrentaban los mismos temas. Carl Atkins ofreció los primeros análisis del presupuesto federal en cuanto al monto que gastaba en la medida de gobierno en el control del abuso de drogas. Muñoz Falco es hijo de abogados con fundamento investigativo a favor de las familias y los niños.

Ryder Lindgren inventó un modelo para comprender cómo la producción legal de drogas y su consumo opera como cualquier otra empresa. Las rutas comerciales - si bien de la era de oro a cosechas de marihuana - atravesaban lugares como El Chaco (El Paso, Texas) llevadas por "mulas" o pequeños pequeños, a las regiones de la frontera y después a cualquier puerto de entrada. La competencia entre los narcotraficantes podía reducir el precio real, y podían cobrar gastos de proceso ilegal.

tando en violencia localizada en lo que creaban los números de productores y consumidores.

Los estragos gubernamentales interrumpan las cadenas de suministro, sin eliminarlos. Los estragos gubernamentales interrumpan las cadenas de suministro, sin eliminarlos.

Lo más chocante de esto es la probabilidad que las cadenas de suministro fueran utilizadas por unidades para-gubernamentales que la leyendación de fondos adicionales y para comprar apoyo para varios grupos.

Hace cuarenta años esto ya lo podíamos predecir, lo cual llevó a que algunos buscaran por la desmilitarización y reformar en el tratamiento en la revista Social Policy. La propuesta controvertida de ayer es hoy la más sensata.

Recientemente el ex presidente Jimmy Carter, laureado con el Premio Nobel, respaldó el halago de otros ex presidentes y destacados dirigentes mundiales que la guerra contra las drogas, como se presenta hoy, es un fracaso y tiene que acabar.

El control es una responsabilidad que controla el movimiento legal de miles de millones de dólares anuales, reduce el número mediano de encadenados por una infracción, y eliminar el elemento de puerta guardiana de los adictos y la burbuja contra las fuerzas del orden.

Es igual de responsable que no adoptar un nuevo curso después de lo que hemos aprendido en estos 40 años sobre las drogas psicótropas; de la diferencia entre las promesas y las acciones; cómo afectan al cerebro humano. Abolir la narcotráfica puede sustituir a la fobia, los registros de marihuana, y la política pública para orientar nuestras políticas públicas.

Hay muchas sensaciones que pueden traer los que quieren reanudar el presupuesto, si quisiera reducir tanto el gobierno como el gasto. Se puede comenzar con revisar la política de aplicación global, de mano dura y militarizada, de las leyes.

Las protestas populares referentes a lo que es la creencia a los niños y el tratamiento y la desmilitarización de las drogas es un imperio urgente. Una política que ofrece cuidados médicos es la influencia que se considera en un momento como éste. Me parece que habría que animar al nuevo Drug Abuse Council a participar en la formulación de políticas. Podría ofrecer ayuda en la manera que habría que demostrar el aparato creado hace tanto tiempo y deshacer aquello que no funciona. De aquí a cuarenta años, las aborrida el trabajo a los futuros guerreros contra las drogas, tener que volver la mirada al pasado y hablar de lo que tendré que haberse hecho.

What Did He Expect?

Gov. Rick Perry's lukewarm reception at the annual National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials reflects his dismal record on issues that matter to Hispanic communities

(SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS) - It was an awkward afternoon for Gov. Rick Perry Thursday as his jocks fell flat and his pauses for applause were met with silence at the NALEO conference in San Antonio. Perry welcomed the organization, the largest gathering of Latino elected officials in San Antonio for their annual conference. Too bad for Perry that his record hasn't been as welcoming to the millions of Hispanics in Texas.

What did the governor expect? The anti-Hispanic agenda, embodied in "sanctuary cities" bills SB 9 and HB 9, is still being pushed by Gov. Perry and his Republican cohorts in Austin. The House committee on State Affairs is scheduled to meet Monday to act on these pending bills. But Perry neglected to mention this legislation, in fact, he carefully avoided the word "immigration" all together. These bills and their predecessors illustrate Perry's dismal record on issues that matter to Hispanics.

In a bold display of political pandering, Perry declared the ban on municipal "sanctuary cities" an emergency in the regular session. When he rightfully didn't, he brought it back to life in the special session, leaving many made and outside of the Capitol to take note of Perry's ambitions. The fact that these bills are an attack on Hispanics and all of the diverse immigrant communities across Texas.

Even Republicans admitted that "sanctuary cities" do not exist and that all of the bills are merely a weak and to-act, fringe activists in his base. But Perry cannot hide from the fact that his push for anti-immigrant bills has galvanized anti-Hispanic groups in Texas. Texas Tea Party activist Robert Flores of the extremist anti-immigrant group, (RCOT), was caught on video giving a quote to Tea Parties in Austin where she said the problem with Texas was that too many Hispanics were in office. Perry's irresponsible game-playing with families and communities has created the environment where such comments are welcomed and cheered by extremist anti-immigrant groups.

And yesterday at NALEO, the governor got a chilly reminder of what happened when you play politics with immigrant and Hispanic communities. Because like all Texans, the convention delegates took the truth about Perry's anti-Hispanic agenda. Before long, voters around country will know, too. Reform Immigration for Texas Alliance is a multi-sector state-wide network dedicated to building support for comprehensive immigration reform. RITA's goal is to present a common, pro-federal reform voice and educate Texas lawmakers about the need to fix America's broken immigration system with fair, humane and sensible policies that foster America's strength, security and prosperity.

Vote on School Funding Culminates Historic Session for Education Cuts

Yesterday, the Texas House of Representatives passed legislation to establish a \$4 billion reduction for public education and eliminate the state's commitment to fully funding Texas schools, culminating an extended legislative session that will be remembered as one of the darkest ever for public schools in the state.

"This legislation will go down in the history books as the worst for public education in a generation," said Rep. Villarreal. "Now it's time for legislators to go home and explain to their communities why they voted for or against these historic education cuts. I imagine there will be a few uncomfortable town hall meetings for those legislators who decided to slash education funding as part of a portion of the Rainey Day Fund or fixing the natural gas industry's tax break."

In passing SB 11 today, the House finished work on the state budget for 2012-2013. While the budget passed during the regular legislative session that ended May 30th, the House passed SB 11 during the special session to distribute the \$4 billion public education cut among school districts and codify the accounting rules used to balance the budget.

Those in control of the legislature also included a provision in SB 11 to eliminate the state's commitment to fully fund Texas public schools beyond the 2012-2013 budget. The provision allows budget voters in the 2013 legislative session to reduce public education funding below the amount set in state law. The provision establishes a dangerous precedent for abandoning the state's obligation to fully fund public schools.

SB 11 passed on a vote of 80 to 57, with nearly all Republicans voting for it and nearly all Democrats voting against it. Rep. Villarreal voted against the bill.

"With passage of this bill, those in control of the legislature have put at final nail in the coffin for public education this session," said Rep. Villarreal.

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Debt-Limit Impasse Puts Social Programs at Risk

Social Security payments to millions of retirees and people with disabilities could be threatened if President Obama and Congress can't agree to increase the government's debt limit by Aug. 2, a new analysis shows.

Although the Treasury Department likely could avoid delaying Social Security checks, the analysis by the Bipartisan Policy Center points up the depth of the cuts that would be needed if the \$14.3 trillion debt ceiling isn't raised.

It shows that in August, the government could not afford to meet 44 percent of its obligations. Since the \$134 billion deficit for that month could be covered with more borrowing, programs would have to be cut.

If Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, unemployment benefits, payments to defense contractors and interest payments on Treasury bonds were exempt, that would be all the government could afford for the month. No

money for troops or veterans. No tax refunds. No food stamps or welfare. No federal salaries or benefits.

Want to protect the social safety net? That would be possible — but only if Treasury stopped paying defense contractors, jeopardizing national security. Plus virtually every federal agency and employee.

"We should be honest with ourselves what this would be like, and the answer is it would be chaotic," said Jay Powell, a former top Treasury official in President George H.W. Bush's administration. "There is no way to avoid really serious pain."

The Bipartisan Policy Center studied Treasury Department receipts and spending for August 2009 and 2010 and found that the government likely would not have enough revenue to make the full \$23 billion payment to Social Security recipients due Aug. 3. That's the first Wednesday of the

month, when a majority of Social Security and Supplemental Security Income checks go out.

Things would not improve much as the days pass. The first major interest payment to creditors would be due Aug. 15 — \$29 billion, more than the \$22 billion due to arrive in revenue.

On that day, the Treasury Department would have to roll over nearly \$500 billion in maturing debt — necessitating an auction which, by that time, might have fewer takers than usual. If demand declines, interest rates would rise.

As the center foresees it, the picture would get worse: layoffs and lawsuits. Global market reaction and media glare. A possible downgrade in the U.S. credit rating, perhaps followed by the loss of market access.

The effect on the country, said former Republican senator Pete Domenici of New Mexico, would be "irreversible."

Napolitano: Dream Act mejoraría la seguridad nacional

La secretaria de Seguridad Nacional, Janet Napolitano, defendió hoy que el Dream Act, el proyecto que pretende regularizar el estatus de los jóvenes indocumentados, mejoraría la labor de su departamento, porque le permitiría concentrarse en los que suponen una amenaza y no en estudiantes promedios.

La seguridad, la economía y la educación contaron la argumentación de los demócratas que hoy abogaron por esta ley en la primera audiencia que el Senado celebra sobre la norma.

El proyecto de ley del Dream Act regularizará el estatus migratorio de decenas de miles de jóvenes indocumentados que llegaron a EE.UU. siendo niños, si se inscriben en las Fuerzas Armadas o completan al menos dos años de universidad en el país.

El senador demócrata por Illinois Dick Durbin, que presidió la audiencia, batalla sin éxito desde hace una década por sacar adelante esta iniciativa, cuyo proyecto de ley fue reintroducido en la Cámara por un grupo de legisladores demócratas el pasado 11 de mayo.

La histórica audiencia contó con el testimonio de Napolitano y el secretario de Educación, Arne Duncan, dos pesos importantes del gabinete del presidente Barack Obama, algo que responde a la intención de mostrar que la ley es una prioridad para la actual Administración.

Napolitano esgrimió que el "Dream Act", al contrario de lo que opinan sus detractores, mejoraría la seguridad nacional al permitir a su departamento concentrar sus recursos en los indocumentados que representan una amenaza "y no en estudiantes brillantes que lo único que quieren es trabajar duro".

Los críticos de la ley argumentan que se trata de una amnistía y que no garantiza que los individuos

que obtengan la residencia no sean peligrosos para el país.

Un argumento que Duncan rebató con contundencia al explicar que el Dream Act exige un análisis del historial completo del joven, que debe acreditar un "buen carácter moral" y un comportamiento correcto.

Asimismo, los jóvenes deben haber llegado a EE.UU. antes de los 15 años y haber resido de manera continua en el país durante los últimos cinco.

"Los requisitos del Dream Act son mucho más duros que los de otros procesos de naturalización", apuntó a este respecto el subsecretario de Personal y Preparación del Pentágono, Clifford Stanley.

Napolitano y Duncan defendieron el compromiso del Gobierno tanto con esta ley como con la reforma migratoria, aunque tuvieron que capear las duras críticas del senador republicano por Texas, John Cornyn, quien arremetió contra los "defectos" de la norma, pero, sobre todo, contra la Administración demócrata por "no cumplir su promesa de una reforma migratoria integral".

"Estoy decepcionado, si realmente la inmigración era una prioridad para el presidente tendría que haber abordado el asunto cuando tenía el control de ambas Cámaras. El Dream

Act no repara nuestro roto sistema de inmigración", sostuvo Cornyn.

En este sentido, Napolitano subrayó que el Gobierno sigue trabajando en el área de la reforma migratoria y urgió al Congreso a que, mientras esa ley se hace realidad, apruebe el Dream Act.

"Es la acción correcta e inteligente como país. No hay ninguna razón para no aprobar esta ley", sentenció Napolitano.

Cornyn, que fue el más combativo del subcomité del Senado sobre Inmigración, Refugiados y Seguridad Fronteriza, señaló que "el mayor obstáculo para que esta ley se apruebe no son los fallos que tiene sino el fracaso del Gobierno federal que no cumplió su promesa de reforma migratoria".

Entre los puntos débiles de la norma, Cornyn destacó el efecto laminado que, a su juicio, podría desencadenar. "Qué pasaría si una mujer veniera a EE.UU. si sabe con certeza que su hijo recibirá el regalo de la ciudadanía estadounidense?", dijo.

Por su parte, asociaciones promiigrantes celebraron hoy que el Dream Act haya sido discutido por primera vez en audiencia en el Senado y reiteraron su petición al Congreso para que de la ley quede una ley que consideran imprescindible.

¿Que Pasa?

PATRIOTIC PICNIC

Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus will host an all-day July 4th picnic at Council #8997 home, 1619 E. Erskine. Bands, food, fun. It will be begin after the City of Lubbock July 4th parade. Proceeds benefit the Catholic Renewal Project gazo fund. For more information: Bill Younggren-806-778-9004 or Joe Martinez-806-778-7789.

TEXAS TECH REGENTS APPROVE TUITION, FEE INCREASES

Texas Tech University System Board of Regents approved a 5.9 percent increase in tuition and fees Thursday (June 23) in a specially called board meeting in Dallas. The meeting was scheduled under the state legislature appropriated funds for education earlier this month.

"The increase in tuition and fees will enable us to offset a portion of the deficit we've incurred due to state budget cuts," said Guy Bailey, Texas Tech president. "What we have maintained, however, is one of the best values in the state of Texas. In terms of costs, we remain second lowest among our peers in the Big 12 Conference and in the bottom quintile of our national peer institutions."

The estimated increase of \$252 per semester will take effect for the upcoming fall semester and reflect an estimated \$9,065 annually for 30 semester credit hours. The increase will generate approximately \$8.6 million in net revenue for the university, which will help offset significant budget cuts from the state.

As state appropriations for fiscal years 2012 and 2013 have been reduced 7.7 percent or \$29.1 million, those figures have overshadowed the university's gains in efficiency. Since 2008, Texas Tech has experienced a 17 percent reduction in instructional costs, while weighted student credit hours increased by 10.95 percent. Space utilization, an area monitored closely by The Higher Education Coordinating Board, jumped to 92 percent from 75 percent and the ratio of students to instructor increased from 19-to-1 to 23-to-1.

ARE YOU PREPARED WHEN DISASTER HITS

For my troop a few weeks ago we talked about being prepared when disaster hits. Hopefully by now they have all discussed with their families what to do in case of an emergency. Remember a Girl Scout is always prepared. With all of the crazy weather we have been seeing on TV, I would like to remind you about the CERT program and training currently available, that I usually refer too to some of you. There will be a free training workshop during the weekend this summer. You need to take advantage of this weekend offer as it is usually is offered during the week.

My goal is to begin training girls and leaders in this program but the more community individuals we have trained the better Lubbock will be prepared... please check your calendars and let me know if you are available to attend the training so we can sign you up! If you can't say yes or no within the next few days, don't worry I'm being told you can register the day of.

CERT 619's! Don't wait until disaster strikes to get training in emergency response. There is free training through Homeland Security's Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT). CERT is a critical program in the effort to engage everyone in America in making their communities safer, more prepared & more resilient when incidents occur. In the 20-30 hour class will include: Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety & Utility Controls, Disaster Medical Operations – Part 1, Disaster Medical Operations – Part 2, Light Search & Rescue, Disaster Psychology, Terrorism & CERT & a Disaster Simulation at the end of the course to practice new skills. A free uniform & backpack filled with emergency response items will be issued to all student who complete the course. Training will be held at the Lubbock Fire Academy on 1515 E. Ursuline St (off MLK) in Lubbock on Fri., July 8, 6p-9p; Sat., Sun., July 9 & 10, 9a-5p.

BEAT THE HEAT AT THE CITY OF LUBBOCK SENIOR CENTERS

Seniors can beat the summer heat at Parks and Recreation's July senior centers! Seniors of all ages can enjoy fun and fellowship in air-conditioned comfort as they participate in our daily recreation activities, fitness programs and even enjoy a nutritious lunch! For older Lubbock seniors (age 60 and over), we provide transportation to and from their homes to one of our centers! With the temperatures this summer already heating up, these are great service for those seniors that do not have adequate cooling in their homes.

Each senior center offers many free or low fee activities geared for Lubbock's active adults ages 50 and above including arts and crafts, sewing, games, ceramics, yoga, seated yoga, cooking, computer classes, day trips for shopping or to visit area attractions, dance socials, and much more.

The transportation service and hot lunch program are offered Monday through Friday at the senior centers listed below for anyone age 60 and over. There are suggested donations for each program, but no one is turned away for inability to pay. Suggested donations are \$1 per one-way trip and \$2 for lunch. The lunch program allows anyone age 59 and under to purchase a meal for \$5. Lunch is served weekdays at noon. To register for the transportation program, call the Lubbock Senior Center at 767-2710.

- Lubbock Senior Center, 2001 19th Street, 767-2710 Open MWTFH F 8 am-5 pm, Tuesday 8 am-8 pm, Saturdays 9 am.-1 p.m.
- Mac Simmons Senior Center, East 23rd and Oak Avenue, 767-2708 Open M-F 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Maagie Tejer Supercenter, 3200 Amberst, 767-2705 Open M-F 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Copper Rawlins Community and Senior Center, 213 40th Street, 767-2704 Open M-F 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Homestead Senior Program, 5401 56th Street, 687-7898 Open M-F 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (inside Homestead Apartments' offices)

REGISTER FOR SWIMMING LESSONS

For the first time in a number of years, Lubbock's four municipal pools will be offering swimming lessons for area children! All sessions consist of eight 45-minute lessons and cost \$35 per session. For our youngest swimmers we have Beginner Swims for preschool children ages 3-5 years old. Youth ages 6-12 have two levels available. Level 1 (Guppies) is for youth with little or no water experience, and Level II (Minnows) is for intermediate swimmers. For more information or to register for lessons call the Parks and Recreation Office at 775-2673. The Parks and Recreation Office is located at 4010 9th Street (two blocks east of Mahon Library) and is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Lubbock's four municipal pools include Clapp Pool, 46th Street and Avenue U; Mac Simmons Pool, 24th Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.; Maxey Pool, 4007 30th Street, and Montelongo Pool, 3200 Bates Street.

Information on all of our swimming lessons plus over 600 other summer activities is available on our 28-page Recreation and Leisure Services Summer Activity Guide, which can be viewed and downloaded online at www.playlubbock.com. To have a free copy mailed to you, call 775-2685.

WATER RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

Water restrictions went into effect April 1st in order to minimize water loss 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 1st to September 30th each year, and are designed to minimize water lost to evaporation during the warmer and windier times of year.

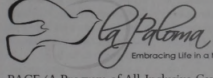
Exceptions are allowed for newly planted grass or landscaping, soaker hoses, and watering by hand. The City continues to allow watering two days per week with up to one and a half inches of water for each area of the yard. Citizens can help stop the waste of water by eliminating significant runoff while watering lawns and gardens.

Questions? Comments?

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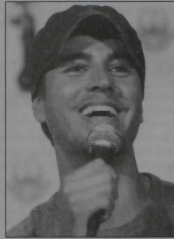
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Enrique Iglesias, Pitbull y Prince Royce anuncian gira por EE.UU

Desde la azotea de un lujoso hotel, no muy lejos de Hollywood, Enrique Iglesias, Pitbull y Prince Royce anuncian el jueves su próxima gira por Estados Unidos. La serie de conciertos incluirá 16 ciudades estadounidenses y Toronto, Canadá. Para Iglesias es una oportunidad más para colaborar con Pitbull, pero es la primera vez que trabaja con el bachatero Prince Royce.



El cantante puso la botella en piso y contó

para recordarle: "¡La marca, la marca!", pues Iglesias no debía mostrar la marca ante las cámaras de AP.

entro al estudio y grabó, ¡I Like It! y le dio su cosa e hizo que la canción fuera de 9 a 10".

Iglesias también ha grabó con el grupo Aventura el tema



"Lloro por ti".

que no escogió a sus colegas. "Yo no los invité. Fue algo orgánico", dijo el cantante, quien lució un pantalón militar, camiseta gris de mangas tres cuartos y su característica gorra de beisbol.

Pitbull, intérprete del éxito "I Know You Want Me", trató de reiterar lo anterior pero se cortó con las palabras. Iglesias lo interrumpió y dijo bromando: "No orgánico, orgánico".

"Es un honor trabajar con Enrique. He aprendido mucho de él. Me ha ayudado a tener un oído diferente para la música", dijo luego Pitbull, quien lució un pantalón amarillo canario y una camisa corta roja.

El cantante español explicó que la idea de ofrecer espectáculos con artistas de otros géneros surgió a partir de su disco, "Euphoria", del 2010, en el que colaboró con Pitbull ("I Like It"), Juan Luis Guerra ("Cuando me enamoro") y Wisin y Yandel ("Lloro por ti").

"Espero que llegue el momento para ir a todas las admiradoras de Enrique. Las fans de Enrique están sueltas y sin vacunar. ¡Dale!", bromó Pitbull.

Bella Bride: America Ferrera Weds Longtime Beau

America Ferrera and her longtime boyfriend Ryan Piers Williams tied the knot this week in a star-packed bash.

The 27-year-old Ugly Betty star and Ryan were married in an elegant and intimate setting amongst close friends and family. The bride and groom exchanged vows at the stunning Chappqua, New York home of her Ugly Betty costar Vanessa Williams. Also in attendance included Hollywood stars: Blake Lively and Amber Tamblyn (her Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants cohorts) plus such Ugly Betty costars as Rebecca Black (with hubby Jerry O'Connell), Mark Indelicato and Judith Light who officiated the ceremony!

stunning dress by Ansa's "Chrissos" label and accessorized with Fred Leighton jewelry.

Williams proposed to the 27-year-old actress in June 2010 with a 4-carat round cut diamond worth about \$70,000. Ferrera won an Emmy, a Golden Globe and a Screen Actors Guild Award for her portrayal of Betty Suarez on ABC's Ugly Betty. ¡Que Viva La Novia!



A Rousing Finale on "The Voice"

It was one action packed finale on the "The Voice" as Vici Martinez and Javier Colon went head-to-head with Dia Frampton and Beverly McClellan, this time singing original songs, in the hopes of proving to America they deserve to win \$100,000 and a recording contract with Universal Records.

Carson Daly will announce the winner Wednesday night.

The evening kicked off with a performance of Billy Joel's 1981 classic "Under Pressure." Colon, then took the stage and performed "Stitch by Stitch"—a song he wrote and dedicated to his wife and children.

"This is last performance," Colon said in the finale Tuesday night before taking the stage. "It's all or nothing. It will have to be my final performance. It's going to be for my family. The moment I waited for."

With confidence, the family man—as he is referred to on the show—brought out his guitar as he began his solo. Like a pro, he

also shook hands on stage. "Your execution was really

well." Christina Aguilera told

Colon after ending his performance. "You sounded really well."

Colon also took the stage with his voice coach, Maroon 5's lead singer Adam Levine.

Together they sang Michael Jackson's "Man in the Mirror." "You finally did it," Levine told Colon. "You're such an amazing guy. I'm so excited for you and the amazing things you are going to do in your career."

Following Colon was the "warrior," Vici Martinez, who gave a forceful performance singing her own song, titled "Afraid to

Sleep." She then rocked out the stage with her voice coach

Lo Green. The two put on a full production of Pat Benatar's "Love is a Battlefield" which included costumes, make-up and children as back-up dancers.

"She's going to be a force to be reckoned with," Green told Martinez. "Inspirational not only in the Latino community, but with women in general... and I love you."

Other show-stopping perfor-



mances included Mr. Worldwide himself Pitbull, who got hearts racing and bodies moving as he and Ne-Yo sung their latest hit "Give me Everything." Aguilera and McClellan performed a new rendition of Aguilera's award winning song "Beautiful," a song that Aguilera called "near and dear to my heart."

Solo unas semanas después de que terminara la nueva

temporada de American Idol —que resultó un éxito, contra

el pronóstico de algunos especialistas— y antes de emprender su viaje internacional en busca de nuevas estrellas del espectáculo en su nuevo reality show musical, ¡Q' Viva! The Chosen, Jennifer López desea dejar lista su agenda artística para los próximos meses. Según informó el miércoles la página en Internet Deadline.com, la esposa de Marc Anthony está negociando su contrato en dos filmes. El primero de ellos es Parker, adaptación de una de las novelas de Donald Westlake —y que forma parte de una colección de libros de misterio y suspenso— que la unirá

profesionalmente con Jason Statham (Transporter) bajo la dirección del veterano Taylor Hackford (An Officer and a Gentleman, Proof of Life). En la cinta, López, que en unas semanas cumplirá 42 años, dará vida a la mujer que mantiene una relación sentimental con Parker, el personaje al que encarnará Statham, un ladrón de guante blanco. Parker fue ya interpretado en la gran pantalla en dos ocasiones previas por Lee Marvin y Mel

Gibson en Point Blank y Payback, respectivamente. El otro largometraje en el que se podría ver a la intérprete de Mad in Manhattan es What To Expect When You're Expecting, comedia que realizará Kirk Jones (Nanny McPhee) y que se basa en un libro-guía acerca de cómo lidiar con el nacimiento de un bebé. La estrella de la cinta no será aquella, sino Cameron Diaz. López es tentada con un papel secundario, siempre según

Deadline.com. En solo unos días, esta, Marc Anthony y el productor Jaime King iniciarán su recorrido por diversos países latinoamericanos en busca de un puñado de candidatas a convertirse en la nueva estrella latina del mundo del entretenimiento. El programa, ¡Q' Viva! The Chosen, cuenta con el controvertido Simon Cowell —creador de American Idol— en la faceta de coproductor.



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JOYLAND

AMUSEMENT PARK

Tsonga stuns Federer in quarters; Djokovic, Murray, Nadal win

Roger Federer was eliminated in the Wimbledon quarterfinals for the second straight year Wednesday, squandering a two-set lead for the first time at a Grand Slam tournament and losing to Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 3-6, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-4.

The six-time Wimbledon champion barely looked challenged while winning the first two sets against the 12th-seeded Frenchman. But Federer, who had been 178-0 in matches in which he had won the opening two sets at a major tournament, was broken one time in each of the last three sets.

Tsonga records 63 winners en route to stunning the six-time Wimbledon champ (Getty Images). "It's kind of hard going out of the tournament that way, but unfortunately it does happen sometimes," said Federer, who was playing in his 29th straight major quarterfinal. "At least it took him sort of a special performance to beat me, which is somewhat nice."

Federer may be right. The 16-time Grand Slam champion finished the match with only 11 unforced errors, half as many as Tsonga, but it didn't help him get close to breaking Tsonga's serve when he needed it.

"I was two sets down and I break. I did a good game of return and after that it was just amazing," said Tsonga, who had 63 winners, five more than Federer. "I just played unbelievable, served unbelievable and now I'm here. I'm in semifinals and I can't believe it."

Tsonga will face second-

seeded Novak Djokovic, who defeated 18-year-old Australian qualifier Bernard Tomic 6-2, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5. Defending champion Rafael Nadal also advanced, beating Marley Fish 6-3, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4. The two-time champion will face fourth-seeded Andy Murray, who defeated Feliciano Lopez 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Federer was seeking to equal Pete Sampras' record of seven Wimbledon singles titles. He breezed through his opening four matches, losing only one set, and played his usual elegant game against Tsonga.

In the first set, Federer earned his one and only break point of the match in Tsonga's first service game, and converted it. He held the rest of the way, and then won the second set in the tiebreaker.

But Tsonga finally got his first break in the third set, and another in the fourth and another in the fifth.

"He can come up with some good stuff and some poor things at times," Federer said. "He had basically good return games along the way in the third, fourth, and fifth. I think especially the third set, the break I get is very unusual. He chips back a couple, they stay in."

Those were the Frenchman's only three breaks, and they were just enough to send Federer home early again.

Federer has won six titles at the All England Club, including five in a row from 2003-07. He lost to Nadal in the 2008 final in

what is considered by many to

"It's the biggest champion in



be one of the greatest matches ever, and then beat Andy Roddick for the championship a year later, winning 16-14 in the fifth set.

Last year, he lost to eventual number-one Tom Berdych in the quarterfinals.

my sport," Tsonga said. "He achieved a lot of things and he's just the best player in the world and I'm just so happy to win against him, especially on grass because it's maybe one of his favorite surfaces and I'm just so happy today."

On Court 1, Djokovic overcame a tough match against his protege, holding on to reach the semifinals for the third time in his career.

Djokovic has been practicing with Tomic on-and-off since the two became friends last year in Australia, but this was the first meeting between the two in a competitive match.

After Tomic put a forehead into the net on match point, the pair had a brief chat at the net. Then, with the crowd applauding, Djokovic did the same while motoring toward Tomic.

"It was a very even match. In the first set I felt I played quite well," said Djokovic, who finished the match with fewer winners than Tomic, 43-39. "Then I played one really bad service game and he got back into the match. And from that moment on, he was the better player."

At the start, Djokovic appeared to have little to worry about, rolling through the first set and on his way to a fifth straight major semifinal. But Tomic didn't quit, instead breaking Djokovic to take a 3-1 lead in the second set and eventually evening the match.

"He is such an unpredictable player. He's very young, and obviously, first quarterfinals of a Grand Slam for him means a lot," Djokovic said. "But he didn't have anything to lose, so he was hitting a lot of winners today."

Tomic again went up a break in the third, but that's when Djokovic got going. The two-time Grand Slam champion won

five straight games to take the third set, and then won the first two games in the fourth. Although Tomic got back on serve at 2-2 and was two points from winning the set at 4-6, Djokovic soon broke to take a 6-5 lead and held for victory.

"It was really hard to predict where he's going to go. He was not making a lot of unforced errors from the baseline, and that made my life really difficult," Djokovic said. "I tried to change the pace, but he was better at that. We were playing cat and mouse. I think. But in the end, I'm just happy to get through."

Djokovic started the 2011 season by winning 41 straight matches, but that came to an end with a loss to Federer in the French Open semifinals. If the Serb reaches the final at the All England Club for the first time this year, he will guarantee himself the No. 1 ranking. He can also claim the top ranking if Nadal fails to defend his title.

Tomic was the youngest man to start in the men's draw this year, and is the youngest to reach the Wimbledon quarterfinals since Boris Becker defended his title in 1986.

Murray is trying to become the first British man to win the Wimbledon title since Fred Perry in 1936. And against Lopez, he was never really bothered.

He saved the two break points he faced, both in the third set, and finished off the match by winning the final game at love. "I want to go further," said Murray, who is in the semifinals for the third straight year.

Mayweather returns to ring, controversy follows

It seems Floyd Mayweather is forever linked, regardless of whether they ever face each other in the ring.

The two have danced around the richest fight in boxing for several years, unable to come to terms. Meanwhile, their animosity has grown to the point that Pacquiao has a pending defamation lawsuit alleging Mayweather unfairly accused him of using performance-enhancing drugs.

So it's not surprising that Mayweather spent just as much time answering questions about Pacquiao on Tuesday as he did about Victor Ortiz, the welterweight champion whom he'll face in his next fight on Sept. 17 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"I've never said that Manny Pacquiao was taking steroids. I never said he was taking enhancement drugs," said Mayweather, who failed to turn up for a court-ordered deposition in Las Vegas earlier this month involving the defamation suit.

"I want to fight the best they got out there, not just him, but the best they got out there," Mayweather said, "and if he's on the list as one

of the best guys, then absolutely."

Mayweather said he's willing to fight Pacquiao if there is random blood and urine testing, which is more stringent than the protocol used by most state athletic associations. Mayweather said Pacquiao's team would only agree to blood and urine testing at certain times.

"It's not just Pacquiao, it's sports, period," Mayweather said. "If you look at sports in the Olympics, they're cheating. Everyone is cheating. And I never once said Manny Pacquiao was cheating, only thing I said was this: Me and any other opponent I face must take the test."

Mayweather will be returning to the ring for the first time since defeating Shane Mosley in May 2010, though the undefeated former champion has made plenty of news since then.

Last Friday, 21-year-old Anthony Clifton filed a lawsuit accusing Mayweather of ordering his bodyguards to attack the man outside the Palms Casino Resort on March 27, 2010.

The lawsuit accuses Mayweather of assault and battery, intentional infliction of emotional

distress and negligent hiring, training, supervision and retention of employees.

Mayweather also faces felony charges stemming from a domestic argument and misdemeanor harassment and battery charges in separate cases.

"When you're young, black and rich, you go through things in life," Mayweather said. "But I'm a strong individual. I can survive through anything."

Mayweather's adviser, Leonard Ellerbe, declined to discuss the litigation.

"We focus on the business part and the boxing part," Ellerbe said. "We let the attorneys handle the legal stuff."

Mayweather and Ellerbe joined several hundred fans inside the Hudson Theater in New York City to kick off a promotional tour for the fight against Ortiz, who is coming off a career-defining victory over Andre Berto that made him the WBC welterweight champion.

Ortiz said he doesn't mind that people want to talk about Pacquiao - even if that person is Mayweather - because he's staring at the opportunity of a lifetime.

"I'm supposed to be a piece of nothing. I'm not supposed to be here, according to the statistics," said Ortiz, whose parents abandoned him when he was young, forcing him and his five siblings to live in foster care. "I'm tired of, 'You can do this, you can't do that.'"

Early in his career, Ortiz was named the next Mexican-American superstar by Oscar De La Hoya, whose company promotes him. But his meteoric rise met a wall when he fought Marcos Maidana two years ago. Ortiz was losing after six rounds and essentially quit in the ring, one boxing's cardinal sins, and fans and the media were quick to write him off.

Ortiz has been spectacular on the slow road to redemption, though, and in April climbed off the canvas twice to beat Berto as the heavy underdog and win the welterweight championship.

"I realize he's a great fighter, but since I was 9 years old, I always said I'd fight Mayweather one day as champion of the world, and check it out," Ortiz said. "It's crazy." Ortiz said he asked to fight

Mayweather or Pacquiao after his most recent fight, even though he heard whispers from people - including some in his own promotional company - who said he was overmatched or out of his mind. But he wanted to fight the best in the world, and depend-

ing who you ask, he may have achieved that by landing a shot at Mayweather.

As for Mayweather's plan to fight Pacquiao next?

"There's only one problem," Ortiz said. "I'm fighting Pacquiao next."

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Happy Birthday, America!

On July 4, 1776, we claimed our independence from Britain and Democracy was born. Every day thousands leave their homeland to come to the "land of the free and the home of the brave" so they can begin their American

Dream. The United States is truly a diverse nation made up of dynamic

people. Each year on July 4, Americans celebrate that freedom and independence with bar-

becues, picnics, and family gatherings. Through the Internet we are learning about and com-

municating with people of different nations, with different languages and different races throughout the world. Bringing the world closer with understanding and knowledge can only benefit all nations.

We invite all nations to celebrate with Americans online this Fourth of July.

Happy Birthday, America!

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."



Opciones para el asador

Llegó el momento de cocinar fuera. De disfrutar el calor, ese venticiento que de repente refresca, y dejar "descansar" por un momento la cocina dentro de casa.

El verano es la mejor invitación a cocinar en la parrilla, sobre todo este próximo 4 de Julio, que todo mundo está en casa. Pero ¿qué poner en la parrilla, además de carne y verduras?

La chef Ingrid Hoffmann sugiere nuevos ingredientes para llevar al asador.

"Lo que me encanta en este momento, es que estoy poniendo en la parrilla lo que nadie está haciendo", dice. "La opción es ensaladas, postres, frutas que casi nadie cree que puede asar".

La filosofía de la chef colombiana es simplificar la vida al momento de cocinar. Así que, la mayoría de sus propuestas son "simplemente



deliciosas", una frase que se ha convertido en su eslogan en varios programas de televisión en español por Univision y Galavisión y en inglés

por Cooking Channel.

Y esa facilidad, dice, está en recetas como la de la ensalada César a la parrilla.

"No saben la delicia de esta receta, toma, toma", expresa. "Todo mundo queda sorprendido de lo sencillo y deliciosa que es".

Explica que a la mitad de una cabeza de lechuga romana, se le una aderezo italiano, se deja un rato sobre la parrilla y al final se le unta queso parmesano.

"¡A la gente le encanta!", asegura. "Esta ensalada se puede acompañar con unos pinchos de piña con cerdo a la parrilla o pinchos de mango con camarones".

Otras delicias que se pueden cocinar en el asador son los postres, como una piña a la parrilla con crema de ron. "A lo común y corriente hay que darle nueva vida", comenta la chef. "Además cocinar a la parrilla es muy saludable".

Hoffmann explica que otra de las ventajas de cocinar a la parrilla, es que los alimentos adquieren tanto sabor que no necesitan de muchas especias

para lograr elevar su delicia. "Solo hay que añadirlos a resaltar [el sabor] un poco", argumenta.

Sin tantas vueltas En la parrilla lo que no debe faltar es un trozo de proteína, ya sea pescado, pollo, cerdo o res.

Aunque existen muchas maneras de preparar cualquiera de estos productos, hay quienes prefieren la receta fácil para un día cotidiano.

Uno de los errores más comunes, dice la chef, es que algunos cocineros no dejan darle el tiempo perfecto a la carne, sobre todo al pollo.

"Es un error común", afirma. "Como que les entra la impaciencia y le dan vuelta y vuelta en el asador y eso le cambia la cocción porque no lo dejas que se cocine bien ni de un lado ni del otro", argumenta.

"Al pollo hay que tenerle paciencia y ponerlo primero que todo a fuego muy lento". Lo que ella sugiere para evitar que quede crudo el pollo, sobre todo el que tiene hueso, es darle un hervor en la olla. Eso ayuda también a que la carne no quede seca.

Cuando se trata de carne de res, el mejor corte para asar es el churrasco. "Yo casi nunca marino la carne, porque hay que saborear su sabor, así que solo con sal queda riquísima", argumenta.

Hoffmann que además de chef es empresaria y está por sacar una nueva línea de cazuelas, dice que estos asados los puede combinar con ricas ensaladas como la de frijoles negros.

Firework ban will be enforced

The Lubbock Police, County Sheriff's Office and Lubbock Fire Department have teamed up in effort to keep you safe this July 4th weekend. According to Texas Interagency Coordination website, over three million acres and 1,399 structures have burned in Texas this year. Just in the last two weeks at least three homes within the city limits of Lubbock have burned as a result of grass fires. Two of those homes burned beyond repair. Fire suppression crews are always at risk of death or injury while fighting fires. With the temperatures in triple-digits over the last several days and projected through this holiday weekend, firefighters are at even greater risk of heat related injury.

While the possession and use of fireworks within the city limits of Lubbock has always been prohibited, this year possession or use of any fireworks within the county is outlawed as well. Fire Departments have been overwhelmed this season by a significant increase in the number of wildland and structure fires. We are asking everyone's cooperation and understanding of this year's fireworks ban through voluntary compliance. This season there are no safe fireworks. Even sparklers that ignite available fuels thus causing a catastrophic fire. In an effort to prevent such an event, our agencies have teamed up by adding additional patrol and fire response units throughout the holiday weekend. Lubbock Fire Marshal's will be riding along with several patrol units to assist with enforcement.

Penalties for possessing or using fireworks this season will begin with confiscation and fines and could end in arrest. It is our hope that for everyone's safety citizens will understand the dangers and no law intervention will be necessary. The potential costs of penalties are easily avoidable through voluntary compliance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goals for Federal Fiscal Year 2012-2014

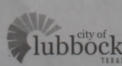
The Lubbock International Airport hereby announces its fiscal year 2012-2014 goal of 8.8% for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise airport construction projects.

The proposed goals and goal setting methodology is available for inspection between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday beginning July 1st and ending August 1st in the Office of the City Purchasing Manager, 1625 13th Street, Lubbock, Texas.

The Airport will accept comments on the DBE goals for 45 days beginning July 1st and ending August 15th. Comments can be sent to either of the following:

Purchasing Manager,
City Of Lubbock
Re: Airport DBE Goal-2012-2014
P.O. BOX 2000
Lubbock, TX 79457

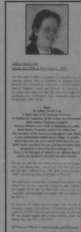
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