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El Editor

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Lic Benito Juarez

Democrats work to scare up Hispanic vote

Multiple Democratic pundits are making a coordinated allegation that the popular immigration enforcement policies embraced by Republican presidential candidates...

ning margin in several critical states, including Florida, Colorado, North Carolina and Virginia.

The United States now hosts an illegal immigrant population of roughly 11 million Hispanics. The population of non-Hispanic illegal immigrants is smaller.

"The strongly held views of all the Republicans are against everything that matters in the Hispanic community when it comes to domestic issues," was Sherman Schultz told reporters at a Dec. 3, press conference in Des Moines, Iowa. Hispanics would have felt "revulsion ... from the commentary and violence" during the GOP debates, she said.

"Republican candidates have managed to do permanent damage to their general election prospects [by embracing] a divisive and unworkable immigration policy," Barton wrote, adding that former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney "savaged [Speaker of the House Newt] Gingrich and [Texas

Gov. Rick] Perry for advocating anything less than a draconian, systematic deportation of all un-

40 percent of Americans supported the act, while roughly 55 percent opposed it. A month later, a more

country, that enforcement policy is popular among white working-class Americans, who provide a

The low approval is based on Hispanics' desire for a strong economy, rather than Obama's failure to push for an amnesty

The Pew poll, for example, said 33 percent of Hispanics rated immigration as an "extremely important" issue.

But jobs scored at 50 percent, followed by education, at 49 percent, and health care, at 45 percent. Taxes scored at 34 percent, as did the federal budget deficit, putting them above immigration's score of 33 percent.

Democrats and their allied ethnic lobbies, however, continue to use the issue of immigration to rally Hispanic voters around the Democratic Party, said Poblete.

"They create this black bogeyman and use it around election time," he said.

"To win this battle in the long term, they have to restate the urge" to treat Hispanics as single-issue voters obsessed with immigration, he told TheDC. GOP candidates should avoid ethnic pandering, and can successfully woo mainstream Hispanics as they would other voters, with pro-growth, pro-education and pro-family policies, he continued.

Still, he warned the GOP can't win a majority of Hispanics when running against a tax-and-spend Democratic candidate. "Immigrants are rational, and because they're poorer than the average American, they seek large government programs," which the Democrats are eager to provide, he concluded.



Democrats are working to scare up Hispanic votes by attacking the immigration policies of Republican presidential candidates.

documented immigrants." Democrats' criticism was chiefly aimed at Romney, who announced his opposition to the DREAM Act, which would provide a partial amnesty for many younger illegal immigrants.

"If Romney becomes the Republican nominee, his position on immigration would be the most extreme of any presidential nominee of our time," the DNC alleged in a Jan. 4 press release.

However, a November 2010 poll of 1,000 likely voters by Stein's organization showed that roughly

favorable set of questions in a Gallup poll yielded only 54 percent support and 42 percent opposition for the act.

"If Romney were calling for mass round-ups and deportations, that would be a minority position, but he doesn't call for that — he's for attrition through enforcement and E-Verify, which polls show has 80 percent support," Stein told TheE-Verify. It is a computer system that companies can use to verify prospective employees' work eligibility.

Partly because of the stalled

other potentially winnable states like Nevada and Arizona.

Obama's support among Hispanics reached 68 percent in 2008, but has since fallen in various polls to near 50 percent.

A December poll by the Pew Hispanic Center, however, showed that 68 percent of registered Latino voters prefer Obama to Romney, despite Obama's 49 percent approval among Hispanics.

But that low approval rate may sharply reduce Hispanic turnout in November. (RELATED: Registration race for 2012 underway)

Where Rick Perry Stands on Issues of Import to Latino Voters

Texas governor Rick Perry was once considered a front-runner in the race for the Republican Presidential nomination. But Perry recorded just 10.3 percent of the votes in the Iowa Caucus for a distant fifth place. It's been a rough campaign road thus far for Perry, with media coverage dominated by his gaffes — an embarrassing Joe Cuervo joke told to a national Latino political convention and his infamous debate performances where he spaced the name of a federal agency he said he'd abolish — rather than his policy proposals. Despite it all, the Fightin' Texas is moving onward continuing his campaign to South Carolina.

Voter ID Act despite outspoken opposition by Latino advocacy groups that denounced it as a law that attempts to disenfranchise minority voters upon

of unmaned aerial assets to gather reliable, real-time intelligence that law enforcement can immediately act upon.

of all new jobs in the U.S. have been created in Texas.

Opponents claim that Perry is exaggerating Texas' economic success.

Texas has the 24th highest unemployment in the nation at 9.5 percent. The national average is 9.1 percent.

His campaign said that his "Cut, Balance, and Grow" economic plan calls for fixing the tax code, balancing the budget by 2020, and creating more jobs. Perry pledges to institute a flat income tax rate of 20 percent while eliminating taxes on Social Security Benefits, Dividends and Capital Gains, and the Death Tax. He also wants to cut the corporate tax rate from 35 to 20 percent.

Healthcare

Repeat, Repeat.

That's the message from Perry and the other Republican candidates regarding overhauling the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, also referred to as Obamacare. The beginning of his plan calls for the repeal of President Obama's health care reform law that Perry calls a massive overreach into the lives of every American.

Perry wants states to be given flexibility on how to deal with healthcare for their own citizenry. He believes that states can come up with viable ways to increase competition in the insurance market, deal effectively with patients with pre-existing conditions, implement medical malpractice reform, as well as lower costs for small businesses. Experts expect Perry to shift more Medicaid responsibilities to the states and away from the federal government.

The Texas governor has been criticized by conservatives for his efforts to mandate vaccination for the human papilloma virus for school-age girls, according to the Texas Tribune. Because the virus can transmit sexually some conservatives fear that the vaccine encourages promiscuity, but Perry has retorted that his priority was to protect women from cervical cancer.



Perry still supports the Texas DREAM Act but maintains that he opposes the bill on the federal level. In a defining moment of his campaign Perry, the perceived front-runner at the time, called the opponents of the DREAM Act heartless during a September 2011 Fox News Debate — a comment that drew outrage from his Republican competitors.

"If you say that we should not educate children who have come into our state for no other reason than they've been brought here by no fault of their own, I don't think you have a heart," Perry said. "We need to be educating these children, because they will be a drag on our society."

Border Security

Rick Perry, who is often ridiculed by the right for his relatively compassionate stance on immigration, still digs his boots on the ground border security policy. In October, the governor said he would even consider sending U.S. troops into Mexico to fight drug cartels if it meant to keep the violence from spreading into the United States. Perry says he will deploy thousands of National Guardsmen to the border until a sufficient number of border patrol agents can be hired and trained. He also wants to make greater use

Perry, however, is adamantly opposed to building a border fence along the entirety of the Mexican border — but is for "strategic fencing, especially in high traffic areas." According to his campaign website, Perry has directed nearly \$400 million in state tax dollars "to do the federal government's job of securing the border."

Perry recently received the endorsement from controversial Arizona sheriff Jeff Joe Arpaio of Maricopa County. The self-titled America's Toughest Sheriff, who famously re-instituted chain gangs in 1995 and has also been a major supporter of his state's controversial SB 1070 immigration law, said that Perry has done more to combat illegal immigration along the U.S. border than any of the other candidates.

Economy

Rick Perry's strongest point in his campaign is his record of job creation in Texas as the often touted the Lone Star state's top performer ahead of the rest of the country. In general, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Texas experienced a net growth of 12 million jobs from January 2001 through September 2011, while the U.S. lost 1.1 million jobs during the same time period. His campaign trumpets that since 2009, 40 percent

Inmigración: la lucha que no cesa

Si a nivel nacional tanto el presidente Barack Obama como el Partido Demócrata no han estado a la altura de lo que prometeron en este tema, a nivel estatal el gobernador Andrew Cuomo y localmente el alcalde Michael Bloomberg trataron de paliar la tragedia inmigratoria.

Aunque el gobernador anunció en junio que el estado suspenderá su participación en el programa de Comunidades Seguras, esto no impidió que siguieran participando las decenas de localidades que ya estaban registradas en el mismo. El Departamento de Seguridad Interna (DHS) respondió en agosto que el estado no tiene capacidad legal para suspender esa participación.

"El DHS no ha presentado ninguna base legal para su afirmación y han seguido utilizando el programa [en las localidades que lo tenían] lo que no está de acuerdo con el deseo del gobernador", indicó Jackie Esposito, directora de Inmigración de la New York Immigration Coalition.

Tanto Esposito como Javier Valdés, vicedirector de Se. Haces Camino NY coincidieron en señalar que a pesar de ello la decisión de Cuomo ha tenido un impacto nacional al sumarse a las decisiones en esa misma línea de los gobernadores de Illinois y Massachusetts. Aunque el DHS ha seguido operando el programa la decisión puso presión al presidente Barack Obama que organizó un Comité para que revisaran el mismo confir-

mando que éste ha tenido un impacto desfavorable en la seguridad pública. "Poco después, el presidente anunció una nueva política de inmigración para deportación que puede ayudar a salvar miles de familias", señaló Valdés.

Al cierre de esta edición la oficina del gobernador no había respondido a nuestras preguntas. A nivel local, Bloomberg firmó la ley que limita la colaboración entre la ciudad y la migración (ICE) en la cárcel de Rikers Island. A partir de ahora, los datos de los presos no se comparten automáticamente con el ICE "salvo en los casos de delitos graves o si los detenidos figuran en la base de datos de terroristas o pandillas", indicó Valdés.

"La ley impone limitaciones perentorias y no se aplica para aquellos que ya tienen orden de deportación, pero es un buen comienzo, aunque nos gustaría ver algo más", señaló Esposito.

Al cierre de esta edición, el Departamento de Instituciones Penitenciarias no había respondido a nuestras llamadas.

Valdés destacó como logros para los inmigrantes la orden ejecutiva estableciendo interpretación y traducción en todas las agencias estatales y la implementación de la Ley del robo de salarios. "Antes era más fácil pagar la multa que pagar a los trabajadores y es muy importante que ahora con el incremento de las multas se lo van a pensar dos veces", señaló Valdés.

# Columnaries Opinions

# Letters to the Editor

Send Mail to: [eleditor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eleditor@sbcglobal.net)

By José de la Hita - Hispanic Link News Service

**MEXICO CITY**—A couple of opinion pieces appeared in two of this city's dailies that did not normally reach U.S. audiences and are worthy of mention.

The one by Luis Gutiérrez Espaza, appearing Dec. 28 in Excelsior, recalls discussions that have been tricking out about U.S. military policy since last year. Gutiérrez Espaza reminds readers that the Washington Post had disclosed during 2011 that the Obama government identified a secret war on hostile countries and organizations.

With a considerable budget, the U.S. is today active in more than 75 countries, 15 greater than in 2009. Investigative reporter Jorge Sañudo had disclosed that the Obama administration has sent special-forces units to Iran, Georgia, Ukraine, Bolivia, Paraguay, Ecuador, Peru, Yemen, Pakistan, the Philippines, and since 2006 to Venezuela, Colombia and Mexico.

We have, of course, already been massaged into understanding our military policy by

gearing for new kinds of engagements, should they become necessary. The new policy is asymmetric, which means confronting the adversary on the same basis it operates. Who or what comprises the opposition, and the method of engagement is situational. In this world, the military can do police actions and police military war. And workers (like USAID, National Endowment for Democracy, Freedom House) serve as leverage.

Back in May of last year, Gutiérrez Espaza, who heads the think-tank Latin America Center of International Studies (CLAEI), his Spanish initials, said a German analyst had revealed that in 2011 Latin America military budgets exceeded that of the U.S. Texas, to Tom de Fuego, just above Afghanistan.

Ten of these bases are reportedly secret, details even kept from some national congresses. Sixteen of the 29 are U.S. The number of U.S. soldiers deployed is three.

The U.S. maintains three bases in the Falklands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. The U.S. air base in Palangeny, Cuba, is a point of departure to Africa. Colombia, is a point of departure to Africa.

# LA GUERRA Y LA PAZ LA ARROGANCIA

Por José de la Hita - Hispanic Link News Service

**CIUDAD DE MÉXICO**—Salieron un par de ensayos de comentaristas en los días de esta ciudad, los cuales normalmente no llegarían al público estadounidense, y son dignos de atención.

Uno, por Luis Gutiérrez Espaza, salió en El Excelsior del 28 de diciembre, haciendo resumen de las revelaciones que han ido colándose sobre las políticas militares de EE.UU. desde el pasado. Gutiérrez Espaza recuerda a los lectores que el periódico The Washington Post, que ha revelado durante mediados del 2011 que el gobierno de Obama había identificado una guerra secreta contra países y organizaciones hostiles.

Con un presupuesto considerable, hoy los EE.UU. están activos en más de 75 países, 15 más que en 2009. Reportero de investigación, Jorge Sañudo, había revelado que el gobierno de Obama había enviado unidades de fuerzas especiales a Irán, Georgia, Ucrania, Bolivia, Paraguay, Ecuador, Perú, Yemen, Pakistán, las Filipinas, y desde el 2006, a Venezuela, Colombia y México.

Por supuesto que ya nos han manipulado para dar a entender que nuestra política militar se está preparando para entrar en nuevas tácticas, pero si realmente se necesitan. La nueva política es asimétrica, lo cual significa enfrentar al adversario en su mismo terreno de operación. Es que el o quién constituye la oposición, y el método de combate dependen de la situación que se presente. Dentro de este mundo, las fuerzas militares pueden hacer de policía, y la policía puede hacer de fuerza militar. Los trabajadores de asistencia (como el USAID, National Endowment for Democracy, Freedom House) sirven de material de presión.

En mayo del año pasado, Gutiérrez Espaza, quien dirige el Círculo Latinoamericano de Estudios Internacionales (CLAEI), dijo que una autoridad alemana había revelado que la OTAN cuenta con 29 bases militares en América Latina, que van desde El Paso, Texas, hasta Tien de Pao, justo encima de la Américas.

Se informa que diez de estas bases son secretas, incluso sus detalles hasta de algunos congresos nacionales. Diecisiete de las 29 bases son estadounidenses. El número de tropas estadounidenses allí es secreto.

El Reino Unido mantiene tres bases en las islas Malvinas, Georgia del Sur y Sandwich del Sur. La base aérea de EE.UU. en Palangeny, Colombia, es punto de partida hacia África. También hay bases Honduras, Panamá y El Salvador.

Por todo esta preparación bélica, es como ensillar un caballo de guerra. Así se llega a México. Lo cual trae a colación la nota mediática de Firdi Kabhat del 31 de diciembre,

Honduras, Panamá y El Salvador also have bases.

But all this preparation for war is like saddling a horse backwards. You can't get to where you're going that way. Which brings me to the "asymmetric" strategy in Reforms Day Dec. 21 edition, mostly looking at interventions by great powers.

In fact, war is actually diminishing, he says, due to UN peace missions. In a cost-benefit calculation, the average intervention costing \$8.5 billion allows as \$18-35 billion when the mission loses is nation-building.

It notes a RAND Corporation study shows that eight superpowers, UN missions attained a hit rate in seven. Meanwhile, of the 14 UN led interventions only four led to a sustainable peace. The entire cost of UN peace missions since the end of the Cold War in 2005 came to the equivalent of one month's cost of the Iraq occupation.

The reasons causing conflict need to factor in that include poverty, economic and social inequality, and changes in regimes give rise to "anocracies," countries where central authority (or lack of it) cause a power vacuum taken by competing elites, warlords, pirates and criminals.

The announced strategy and budget changes in military policy by President Obama De-

partmentary Leon Panetta are driven by the need both see to save about \$450 billion over ten years and the ending of the U.S. interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan. Still, even with a "asymmetric" strategy and new sights out on the Pacific and Asia, there are limits to what violence accomplishes. Sometimes it's strategic in purpose, economics and most of all, takes intelligence — not breaking the bank — to accomplish what it believed only a John Wayne could do.

What the opinion pieces seem to urge is the comprehension of the limits of power. There is another arguing like that which one-time ranking American U.S. center and Foreign Policy Committee chairman J. William Fulbright wrote about in 1967 and yet he called his book "The Ambiguity of Power."

[José de la Hita, a nationally syndicated columnist for Hispanic Link and Scripps Howard news services, has been recognized for two consecutive years by his commentators by News America. His forthcoming book "Our Man at the Night: Death Books include "DAILY NIGHT LIFE DEATH HOPE" (2009) and "The Rise of Hispanic Political Power" (2003). Reach him at [josedeh@yaho.com](mailto:josedeh@yaho.com).]

See this column and more at [www.HispanicLink.org](http://www.HispanicLink.org). ©2012

# TDP Launches Innovative Latino Outreach Project

Based on Extensive Research and Integrating Latest Online Tools - The Promesa Project - <http://promesaproject.com>

The Promesa Project will utilize online and grassroots techniques to reach out to young Latinos and ask them to give their promise: "My immigration project will give your promise" or "your promise," that they will use their Democratic sentiments to their families and social networks.

"I'm excited to be a part of this project," added TDP spokesperson Rebecca Acuña. "Los Latinos are tired of the constant hostiles and hateful rhetoric coming from the Republican Party. We know that based on simple measures, Texas will inevitably turn blue. We're trying to make that happen as quickly as possible."

The project will combine outreach with tried and true grassroots techniques like organizing college campuses, utilizing young Party Leaders and elected officials integrating all data gathered into our voter file for use in Get-Out-The-Vote efforts. Layered on top of those grassroots components, we'll be integrating the very latest in online tools and techniques, including:

- A wide array of web videos produced in-house which are shareable and optimized for mobile devices.
- Talking points on various issues and topics which are shareable so they can be used in discussions at the kitchen table or on social media sites.
- Social media strategy on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Google+ and Vimeo.

Finally, we'll take advantage of advertising opportunities that have only just become available for political entities to place online ads on social media sites.

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# Partido Demócrata de Texas lanza Proyecto Innovador para el Alcance Latino

Basado en una extensa investigación e integración de las últimas herramientas en línea - El Proyecto de Promesa

(Austin) Dos tercios del crecimiento de la población de Texas durante la última década vienen de estos inmigrantes. Se espera que estos inmigrantes, los cuales continúan cambiando rápidamente, resulten finalmente en una mayoría demócrata en Texas. Concretados que se "finalmente" no pueden llegar al sufragio pronto para las elecciones de Texas, el partido demócrata de Texas emprendió un proyecto para aumentar la participación política de los Latinos. Este programa se llama el "Proyecto de Promesa" o el "Proyecto de Políticos de los Latinos."

"La participación de la comunidad Latina puede ser la clave para construir una mayoría demócrata en Texas," dijo el portavoz Antonio Gutiérrez por el Partido Demócrata de Texas. "Vamos a dirigir muy clara a los latinos que los demócratas están ofreciendo soluciones y la inclusión, mientras que los republicanos les siguen fustigando el respeto y siguen siendo abiertamente hostiles hacia ellos."

El Proyecto de Promesa tiene un enfoque totalmente nuevo que se basa en una investigación extensa. En particular, construyamos este programa alrededor de dos importantes conclusiones: Los jóvenes Latinos de hoy, muchos de quienes son los primeros en sus familias en asistir a la universidad, son cada vez más las fuentes confiables de información política en sus familias y círculos sociales.

"Un estudio de este año encontró que el Internet había superado a la televisión como la principal fuente de información política para los jóvenes menores de 30 años."

El Proyecto Promesa utilizará técnicas en línea y de base para conectar con los jóvenes Latinos. También los pediremos que nos den su promesa que serán nuestros miembros. Demócratas a sus familias y redes sociales.

"Estoy emocionado de ser parte de este proyecto," agregó la portavoz del TDP Rebecca Acuña. "Los latinos están cansados de la constante retórica hostil y del odio que viene del Partido Republicano. Sabemos que sobre la base de datos demográficos, Texas inevitablemente se convertirá en un estado demócrata. Estamos tratando de hacer que eso suceda lo más pronto posible."

El proyecto combinará comunicación en línea y métodos de prueba como la organización en las universidades que informan a los jóvenes líderes del partido y funcionarios locales. También integrará a toda la información recolectada de los votantes para ser un nuestros esfuerzos de movilizar el voto.

Además de los componentes de base, vamos a integrar lo último en comunicación en línea, incluyendo:

- Un amplia selección de videos por internet que se pueden compartir y ver usando aparatos móviles.
- Puntos a enfatizar sobre diversos asuntos y temas
- Identidades sociales en los métodos de comunicación como Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Google+ y Vimeo.
- Colocando anuncios en línea en sitios de medios sociales.

January 6, 2012  
Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
U.S. White House  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear President Obama:

I commend you on your administration on your latest proposal regarding the green card system that attempts to fix a notorious and long-standing immigration problem that has decades kept many families separated and broken unnecessarily and inhumanely. There is no doubt in my mind that making this revised green card system part of your comprehensive immigration reform policy will benefit thousands of families and their children, particularly those that for years have been broken families that have had to go through some of the most grueling, time-consuming, and costly process that often times hurts more than it helps them.

Furthermore, through an enhanced green card system and related policies, I am also confident that this would also have a positive impact on a much-needed comprehensive immigration reform policy that will keep families united, rather than separated because of misinterpretations of the law by certain local governments and other entities. Most importantly, I am confident that a revised green card system will help affected families, particularly our immigrant population that has their children, gain back their human rights and dignity as they should.

Additionally, a green card system as proposed would also expedite the pathway to citizenship and cut down on the bureaucratic, lengthy and costly process that we currently have in place which often makes it very difficult for many families to be able to stay together in one home — something which should be the goal of immigration reform. I am further convinced that this system will help the most injustices, including costly legal expenses and the substance discriminatory practices that many of these families often have to incur at the workplace and schools alike, doing nothing more than dividing many of our innocent families and their children. That I believe, is the deeper root and more serious problem we must be addressing, first and foremost, rather than taking more bureaucratic red tape and financial burdens on our already financially-strapped families and local communities. Your proposed green card system revisions would help address that important goal. Moreover, as it is right now, and the data will clearly show, we already have enough broken families as a result of divorce, child and spousal abuse, child abductions and narcotics, bullying, and teen suicide. We certainly do not need to add another dimension or bureaucratic layer to that problem. Many immigrant families will tell you how stressful it is, morally and financially alike, when they are separated because of our current broken immigration system.

Like so many other policymakers all over the state and nation, I also urge you to continue to do all you can as our president to fight for the rights of our immigrants and continue to continue working together on all fronts to achieve the legislation of the millions of undocumented immigrants and their families that currently reside in the U.S. and keep them together as families.

As a Texas legislator I will continue my fight alongside your administration and urge you to implement a viable green card system and other comprehensive immigration reforms and policies that will benefit all families and keep them together, once and for all, while at the same time encourage our immigration families and their children to not give up hope.

Sincerely,  
Robert R. Alonzo, Texas State Representative  
Dist. 104-Dallas, TX

# LULAC Supports Immigration Proposal by the Obama Administration that Will Have a Significant Impact on Countless of American Families

Washington, DC— Today, the Citizenship and Immigration Services will publish a formal notice in the Federal Register of a new regulation that would allow for undocumented immigrants to obtain a provisional waiver in the U.S. before they leave for their country of origin to pick up their green cards. The waiver will allow the undocumented immigrant to have certainty that they will be allowed to return to the U.S. for a short period of time. Under the law, an undocumented immigrant who is married to an American citizen or is a child of an American citizen, is eligible to become a permanent resident but a hurdle in the law required that they first return to their country of origin to pick up their green card and wait until their waiver to return to the U.S. is approved.

"For thousands of American families returning to their country of origin meant leaving the family apart for an undetermined amount of time because once they left the U.S., they were barred from returning for at least three years with little certainty that they would be granted at all," said LULAC National President Margaret Moran. "We thank the Obama Administration for a remedy that we have long advocated for that will have a positive impact for undocumented immigrants that are completely eligible to have legal status."

The agency proposes to grant a provisional waiver in the U.S. before the undocumented person leaves the U.S. to pick up their green cards and thus avoid a prolonged and unnecessary separation from their loved ones. The regulatory process calls for a comment period before the agency can publish the rule.

"While this is no substitute for comprehensive immigration reform, it's a step in the right direction and we encourage the Obama Administration to grant relief to other undocumented immigrants who are also eligible for legal status," said LULAC Executive Director, Brent Wilkes. "We have a long sought relief for immigrants who have legal avenues to become legal residents of the U.S. and while we applaud the Administration we also hope for immigrants that are not married to an American citizen, or are not children of American citizens to be granted eligibility in the near term as well."

## El Editor

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# Encouraging Innovation to Make U.S. Economy More Competitive



Every politician running for office has been singing the praises of innovation, that force on which the future of America itself depends. If only we could unleash innovation, they say, jobs and prosperity would gush forth. If only it were as easy as it was to make it sound.

Eastman Kodak Co. was plenty innovative in its day, but it's what the iconic company did (or didn't do) with those great ideas that have brought it to its current cash-poor state.

In fact, encouraging innovation and making the U.S. economy more competitive is quite complicated and "does not lend itself to sound bites," said Stephen S. Tang, president and chief executive officer of the University City Science Center in West Philadelphia.

I talked with Tang as he drove back Friday afternoon from Washington, following the release of a 160-page report by the U.S. Department of Commerce about the nation's "innovative capacity." He was one of 15 members of an "Innovation Advisory Board" that met twice last year to supply input for a policy paper that offers no new ideas to reversing the United States' slide among global rankings of competitiveness.

Here's just one of the 10

policy proposals: Enhance and extend the R&D tax credit. Haven't heard that one before, right?

Asked what he learned from the process, Tang said: "The line between policy and politics is very fine."

During a streaming video conference about what backers call the "competes" report, senior Commerce Department officials were asked a couple of questions about U.S. immigration policy -- a topic not covered in the report.

Tang said that many great American entrepreneurs were immigrants, but that U.S. immigration policy has become such a polarizing issue. Industry and academia face real problems attracting and retaining the world's best scientists and engineers.

Natalia Olson-Urtecho, president and CEO of the clean-tech consulting firm EG L.L.C., was a second Philadelphia member on the advisory board. Whose members also included Irwin Mark Jacobs, cofounder of Qualcomm Inc., and Arthur D. Levinson, chairman of Genentech Inc. and Apple Inc.

Olson-Urtecho said the panel visited federal labs in Boulder, Colo., and she was struck by the frustration expressed by government scientists "doing amazing

things" who found it "really hard to take them to market."

Tang agreed and said he believed it spoke to a misconception about innovation. There is quite a bit of "supply" of research and ideas in federal labs, on college campuses, and in private-sector R&D centers. That supply isn't being converted into products that might meet demand in the commercial marketplace, he said.

"That brings me to the more significant announcement about innovation Friday, Ford Motor Co. said it would set up its first R&D office in Silicon Valley.

Sorry, Dearborn, Mich., but your most famous corporate citizen must go where the technology and talent are to improve its cars, which are, after all, computers with four wheels and air bags.

The 107-year-old Ford is far from a small business, but the automaker said it intended to run the West Coast R&D operations like a start-up.

While Ford is trailing earlier movers to Silicon Valley made by other automakers, such as General Motors Co., its announcement says more about the state of innovation in the United States than yet another government report that called for the nation to "coordinate federal support for manufacturing."

# Republicans Say Texas May Need To Hold Two Primaries

A day after the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments over which political maps to use for this year's Texas elections, the date of the state's primary remained a moving target, with one Republican leader arguing that the chance of splitting the primary into two elections was growing more likely.

Plans for the Texas primary to stay on March 6 fell through late last year after the Supreme Court blocked plans for Texas to use court-drawn congressional and legislative maps for 2012, ensuring that the matter would be settled in time for election officials to get ballots out in time.

The state's Republican and Democratic parties agreed to move the primaries to April 3.

At Monday's hearing, several Supreme Court justices expressed a willingness to push back the date of this year's primaries to late June if needed in order to give federal courts more time to resolve issues regarding redistricting maps.

"Texas has a very early primary," Justice Samuel Alito Jr. said. "Some states have them for congressional races in...the fall, and the latest presidential primary I think is at the end of June. So why can't this all be pushed back, and wouldn't that eliminate a lot of the problems that we are grappling with in this case?"

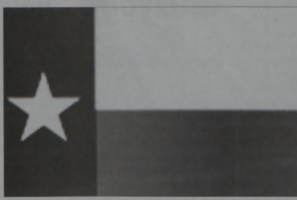
One tricky problem with June primary is that both the Texas Republican and Democratic parties have scheduled their state conventions for early June. Republicans are holding their

convention in downtown Fort Worth. Democrats have planned their convention for Houston.

Even a May primary would be unworkable, GOP Chairman

that will be impacted by the outcome of redistricting legislation would be held later in the year.

Texas Democratic Party officials did not respond to a request for comment



Steve Munisteri told party members in an email Tuesday.

"It is the Republican Party of Texas' position that a single unified primary in May makes it impossible for the State Party to hold its state convention in June -- there simply is not enough time," Munisteri said.

The Texas Election Code requires that the parties hold state conventions.

Rescheduling the state conventions is not an option because "the already incurred contractual obligations of the parties would jeopardize the financial health of both parties," Munisteri said. The Texas GOP has signed contracts for its convention with the Fort Worth Convention Center and local hotels, he said.

Munisteri also noted that the GOP needs to "pick delegates to the Republican National Convention that we can have an impact on the presidential race."

Splitting the primary into two elections with the presidential primaries and a few other races handled in April may be the only solution, Munisteri said. Congressional and legislative races

Tuesday.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott's office originally proposed holding two primaries in a legal filing last year.

Cost issues

Holding two primaries would likely double the costs to Texas taxpayers, election officials have said. The Texas secretary of state's office reimburses Republican and Democratic parties around the state for much of the expenses related to hosting the primaries. In 2010, the state paid party organizations \$13.9 million for primary elections and runoffs, state records show.

Locally, the final election schedule is likely to create logistical and financial issues for the Tarrant County Elections Office. Elections Administrator Steve Raborn has said hosting two primaries could end costing Tarrant County more than \$700,000.

Delaying the primaries until June could also pose problems. Raborn noted that many schools that serve as polling places are likely to be closed for ongoing construction or maintenance over the summer.

Other concerns include finding enough election workers over the summer and potential overlap from the local city and school district elections scheduled for May. Runoffs for those elections are currently scheduled for June.

# Rechazan 20 estados leyes antiinmigrantes

Un total de 20 asambleas legislativas, incluyendo 10 controladas por mayorías republicanas, descartaron durante 2011 aprobar leyes estatales migratorias inspiradas en la que instauró Arizona, según un informe del Consejo Nacional de la Raza difundido el martes.

El documento titulado "La Estrategia Equivocada: Leyes Estatales Anti-Inmigrantes en el 2011" explicó que desde la aprobación de la ley de

Arizona, 36 estados consideraron adoptar medidas similares, pero temores relacionados al costo de implementación, las amenazas de demandas y pérdidas comerciales provocaron que apenas lo hicieran Utah, Indiana, Georgia, Alabama y Carolina del Sur.

Las seis leyes estatales enfrentan demandas ante los tribunales, por lo que no han podido ser aplicadas de manera plena.

"Pese a que la legislación antiinmigrante fue promovida principalmente por miembros del partido republicano, la mitad de los estados que rechazarón tales legislaciones eran controlados por republicanos, incluyendo dos tercios donde tienen supermayoría legislativa, señala el informe.

"Esto indica que si bien el movimiento antiinmigrante ha logrado avances dentro del partido republicano, los

republicanos están divididos sobre las implicaciones de leyes antiinmigrante del estilo de Arizona."

Según el informe, los estados que rechazaron ese tipo de leyes durante 2011 incluyen a los que tienen supermayoría legislativa republicana (Florida, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Hampshire, Dakota del Sur, Texas y Wyoming) y estados con mayoría simple republicana como Maine, Carolina del

Norte y Tennesi.

Otros estados que rechazaron esas leyes tuvieron mayoría democrática (California, Nevada y Washington) o control compartido por ambos partidos (Colorado, Iowa, Kentucky, Luisiana, Mississippi y Virginia).

Wisconsin y Ohio aún consideraban tales legislaciones al fin del 2011, mientras que Illinois, Michigan y Pennsylvania la habían rechazado en 2010.

# La 'economía de los EEUU mejorará', según pronósticos

La economía de Estados Unidos crecerá más rápidamente en 2012, siempre y cuando no sea descarrilada por nuevos trastornos en Europa, según una encuesta de The Associated Press entre economistas importantes.

El desempleo apenas bajará de la actual tasa de 8.6% para cuando el presidente Barack Obama busque la reelección en noviembre próximo, agregaron. La Associated Press consultó a unas tres decenas de economistas privados, empresariales y académicos entre el 14 y el 20 de diciembre.

Según un promedio, dijeron esperar que la economía estadounidense crezca un 2.4% el año próximo. Es probable que Estados Unidos cierre este año con un crecimiento inferior al 2%.

Este año al menos, está concluyendo en alza. La economía ha generado unos 100 mil nuevos

puestos de trabajo mensuales durante cinco meses consecutivos: la más larga desde 2006. El número de personas que



solicitan subsidios por desempleo ha caído a su menor nivel desde abril de 2008. La tendencia indica que los despedidos se han detenido y que la contratación podría repuntar.

La economía evitó un revés luego de que el presidente Barack Obama firmó un proyecto de ley el viernes para prolongar un alivio fiscal que debía expirar a finales

de año, pero el Congreso sólo le dio un respiro temporal: una prórroga de dos meses.

Los economistas dijeron esperar que Estados Unidos habrá creado 177 mil empleos para el 6 de noviembre de 2012, el día de las elecciones presidenciales. La cifra superará el promedio de 132 mil empleos mensuales en lo que va de 2011.

Dean Maki, economista jefe para Estados Unidos de Barclays Capital, dice que la economía norteamericana sigue siendo vulnerable a un choque externo. Una amenaza importante es la posibilidad de que la crisis de la deuda europea detonará una congelación del crédito en todo el mundo, como la que afectó a Wall Street a finales de 2008.

Dijo que un impacto de ese tipo no sería tan peligroso si la economía de Estados Unidos creciera a un ritmo saludable del 4% al 5% anual. Sin embargo, como el crecimiento se ha quedado atascado entre el 2% y el 3%, una crisis mundial grande podría paralizar la creación de empleo y hacer que el desempleo vuelva a aumentar.

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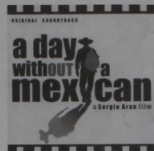
# Mexican Filmmaker Keeps Fighting for Immigrants

Mexican director Sergio Arau and his wife, actress Yareli Arizmendi, are working on a sequel to the film "A Day Without Mexicans" to keep the subject of immigrants in the public eye. "It's going to be called 'Another Day Without Mexicans,' and of course we're a little scared because 'Part 2' of anything is rarely good, but we think we have to keep the public focused on this subject," the filmmaker told Ede in an interview.

While the original film got moviegoers thinking about what would happen to the city of Los Angeles if someday all its Hispanics disappeared, the sequel will address the harsh immigration law Arizona adopted in 2010, SB 1070, and copycat measures in states such as Alabama and Utah, Arau said.

"I see it as similar to when Robert Rodriguez made 'El Mariachi' and later made 'Desper-

ado' - it's really the same movie but done bigger, with more



investment and a much wider distribution, because what really excites us is getting the message to more people," he said.

"A Day Without Mexicans," which came out in 2004, was the second biggest box-office hit in the history of Mexican movies, but in the United States it was basically seen only in California, Arau said.

The fact of having made it

with a Mexican studio put some limitations on its distribution, so this time he's going at it with more financing as well as a more complete, more up-to-date screenplay, but always keeping Arau's characteristic sense of humor and critical thinking.

If all goes as planned, "Another Day Without Mexicans" will be in movie theaters by late 2012. "We hope to be in theaters before the Mayan prophecy comes true," he laughed.

At 60, Arau also plans to assemble an integrated collection of his work as painter, musician and caricaturist, passions he has indulged simultaneously since he was a teenager.

"I've been very critical with my caricatures and drawings, a defender of Mexican identity with my paintings, and created with my buddies in the Botellita de Jerez group our own version of Mexican rock, full of satire and humor," he said.

# Sofía Vergara: Contenta como nadie

Con que la inviten a las entregas de premios, Sofía Vergara ya se siente ganadora.

La actriz colombiana se mostró emocionada con las dos nominaciones que tiene en los Globos de Oro, ceremonia que tendrá lugar este domingo y que entrega la Asociación de Prensa Extranjera de Hollywood (HFPA, por sus iniciales en inglés), así como su doble postulación en los los Premios SAG, el Sindicato de Actores de la Pantalla.

"¡Inagotable! Para mí, mi premio es ser nominada. Para mí es una sorpresa. Yo siento que no le he ganado nada más cuando me avisan que voy a ir a un evento. No me lo puedo creer pero estoy súper contenta", dijo vía telefónica a 'hola LA.' en una breve entrevista.

Ella está postulada en las categorías de Mejor Actriz de Reparto en Serie, Miniserie o Película de Televisión y por Mejor Serie de Comedia en los Globos de Oro. Y dos semanas después conocerá su suerte en los Premios SAG, que entrega el Sindicato de Actores de la Pantalla, al competir en los rubros como Mejor Actriz de Televisión en Serie de Comedia y Mejor Reparto en Serie de Comedia.

Pero comentó que no se preocupa por ganar en ninguna de las dos ceremonias. "Ni siquiera pienso en eso porque para mí, mi premio es estar nominada y que me consideren para

estar ahí en ese evento y con tan poca experiencia", dijo en referencia a su corta carrera.

Su salto a la actuación, después de haber conducido el programa Fuera de serie en Univision, fue con la película Chasing Papi en 2003. Pero su personaje como Giona Delgado-Pritchett en Modern Family es lo que la ha logrado que en los últimos dos años, su nombre sea parte de la cultura popular de todo el país.

"Es increíble, un sueño. Uno cuando comienza una serie nunca sabe a lo que va a pasar... Nosotros, desde el primer episodio, la gente se enamoró del show. Ha sido una sorpresa para todos. Es un placer ir al trabajo cuando uno sabe que la gente le está gustando tanto el show", comentó.

Por el momento, no ha hablado con sus compañeros sobre los posibles premios que se pueden llevar a casa. De ganar en los Globos de Oro, este sería el primer premio concedido por la HFPA para el show que ya cuenta con varias estatuillas de SAG. El domingo, día de los Globos de Oro, Vergara también estrenará un nuevo comercial con la misma empresa de bebidas gaseosas, Diet Pepsi, con la que inició su carrera de modelo a los 17 años en su país natal.

Del contenido de los próximos episodios de Modern Family -en la que ella es mamá de Manny (Rico Rodríguez), un adolescente, y está

casada con Jay Pritchett (Ed O'Neill), un hombre mucho mayor que ella, comentó no saber mucho.

"De cada episodio nos llega el libreto una semana antes. No sabemos lo que va a pasar en un mes o dos meses: solo la semana que viene. Para Giona lo que viene es mucho de lo mismo: celos con el perro, por las novias de Manny", adelantó la actriz.

En esta tercera temporada de la serie, Vergara no tiene que explicar tanto su cultura como lo hizo en el principio para que los escritores desarrollaran su personaje siguiendo las costumbres latinas.

Agregó que en su vida personal también está muy contenta porque su hijo recibió buenas calificaciones en su primer semestre en una universidad en Boston. De su novio, Nick Loeb no comentó nada.

En este 2012, también se estrenará en la película The Stooges, donde encarnó un personaje de villana, grabará la cuarta temporada de Modern Family y también sacará a la venta sus nuevas prendas de primavera para su línea de ropa en K-Mart.

"El 2011 fue uno de los mejores años de mi carrera. No me puedo quedar todo. Desde que empecé en Modern Family todo ha sido de maravilla, espero que este año sea igual", comentó agregando estar ocupada con su agenda laboral y buscando los vestidos que utilizará para las alfombras de esta temporada de premios.

# ¿Que Pasa?

## FREE SEMINAR PROVIDES TOOLS FOR PATIENTS & CAREGIVERS TO NAVIGATE BREAST CANCER JOURNEY

One in eight women or 12.6 percent of all women will get breast cancer in her lifetime according to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. In an effort to teach patients and caregivers how to navigate their life through the numerous changes they face, Covenant Joe Arrington Cancer Research and Treatment Center (JACC) will host a Breast Cancer Survivorship Seminar on Saturday, Jan. 14 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The seminar, located in the Arnett Room at Covenant Women's and Children's, 4000 24th Street, is free for anyone who wants to attend. To R.S.V.P., please call 806.725.8028 by Thursday, Jan. 12. The workshop is designed to focus on breast cancer survivors' ability to handle personal and emotional needs during changes brought on by diagnosis, treatment and recovery. Participants will learn how the brain processes change experiences, which fall under the six stages of the Change Cycle™. The six stages consist of loss, doubt, discomfort, discovery, understanding and integration. Because individuals react, respond and adjust to change in six different stages, the Change Cycle™ identifies the thoughts and behaviors associated with each stage to better assist people with adjustments in their lives. Sharon Feit, a facilitator and trainer for leadership strategies, will lead the Breast Cancer Survivorship Seminar. She has won various awards for her training and is currently an education and development consultant for non-profit and for-profit organizations. Funding for the seminar was made possible due to a grant awarded by Susan G. Komen to JACC.

### "PROJECT FOCUS"

Hospice of Lubbock "Project Focus!" Program Utilizes Movies to Help Children and Families with Grief Communication with your children, spouse or extended family following the loss of a loved one can be difficult. "Project Focus!", a new program offered by Hospice of Lubbock, utilizes movies to help families open the lines of communication to cope with the loss of a loved one. The first film featured by "Project Focus!" is Disney Pixar's "Up." The movie will be shown on Sunday, Jan. 22 at 2 p.m. at the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts (LHU-CA) Firehouse Theater located at 511 Ave. K. "Project Focus!" will take place quarterly. Each program will feature a different movie to help children and families effectively deal with the grief of losing a loved one. "Movies help connect us to not only our feelings but to others through shared experiences," Charles Lindsey, bereavement counselor for Hospice of Lubbock, said. "Our goal with this series is to help families find new ways to connect, talk and heal after the loss of a loved one." Following each movie, Hospice of Lubbock staff will offer an activity connected to the featured movie. The activity will focus on the celebration of life and teach families how to begin to communicate their feelings in a productive way. The deadline to register for the first program is Thursday, Jan. 19. To R.S.V.P., please call 806.795.2751

### PHONE BOOK RECYCLING

Beginning Tuesday, January 17, 2012, residents can drop-off phone books at the two permanent City drop-off locations: Northside, 208 Municipal Drive Southside, 1631 84th Street. Telephone books will be accepted January 17, 2012 through Thursday, March 1, 2012. Monday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

This project is a collaboration between the City of Lubbock Solid Waste Services department, Names and Numbers, and Jarvis Metals Recycling.

### UPCOMING NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

The Volunteer Center of Lubbock is inviting the Lubbock community to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service by participating on the "Pack Goodies for Fire Stations" project, Monday, January 16th, 2012. Project will start at 1:00 p.m. in the Volunteer Center's conference Room, 1706 23rd St.

Each year, Americans across the country come together on MLK Day to serve their neighbors and communities. This Day of Service empowers individuals, strengthens communities, and moves people closer to Dr. King's vision of a beloved community.

The Volunteer Center will be supplying volunteers with the materials to make packages for fire men and women, but people are encouraged to bring their own goodies to share. The Center welcomes families, student groups, and individuals to participate on this day of giving back. Contact Rachel Flores at (806) 747-0551 or rflores@volunteerlubbock.org to register.

### DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS AT SPC RESCHEDULED

South Plains College announces a change in the date of a spring photography class at SPC Plainview Center. The Digital Jump Start class originally slated for Jan. 14 has been rescheduled to Feb. 4. Digital Jump Start is a class designed for the person who has just started digital photography. This class can be taken with a point-and-shoot camera or a digital SLR camera. Students will get instruction on camera functions and shooting in the manual mode. Shooting will take place indoors and outdoors. The class will be presented from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Jan. 21 in Muleshoe, Jan. 28 in Crosbyton and Feb. 4 in Plainview. The class costs \$40.

For more information and to register for the class, contact Kasey Reyes at (806) 716-2341.

### ST MONICA MINISTRY WORKSHOPS:

Dr. Jack Buchner of Baltimore, founder of the ministry will speak and lead a healing, prayerful response for those who have friends and loved ones who have left the Church. Christ the King Cathedral will host a morning workshop in the Family Activity Center, 4011 54th Street, on January 14, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saint John Neumann Church, 22nd and Frankford, will host the workshop from 1:30-4 p.m. the same day. There is no charge, but Dr. Buchner's book will be available to buy for \$10. To register for one of the two workshops, contact Tricia Vowels, towels@stgbglub.net or 806-793-9283

### HELP! LOOKING FOR GIRL SCOUTS

GS DeColores Service Unit is looking for Girl Scouts who were part of a troop in the 79415 zip code area or any Troops in District 1. Whether you were a Girl Scout for one year or more, or maybe you were a leader, we are looking for you. Please contact Margie Olivaréz at oliv@stgbglub.net or 806-791-3040. A Girl Scout Reunion will take place in March and we would love for you to be a part of it.

Information we are needing: Name, Address, Phone, email, your Troop # if you remember, Troop leader, what grades you participated in Girl Scouting and favorite memory.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Catholic Family Services and AARP Tax-Aide® are partnering to provide free tax services, by appointment, during the 2012 tax season. We are looking for volunteers to assist in tax return preparation and other volunteer duties. Many kinds of volunteer opportunities are available from tax counselor to greeters to technology help. The schedule of services has not been confirmed but will be offered on select Saturdays and possibly some evenings between February 1st and April 15th.

Volunteers do not need to be an AARP member or retiree to participate. Tax-Aide volunteers receive free tax training and the only requirement is that a volunteer be computer literate to prepare returns. The 20-hour training sessions will be held in January on Saturdays or possibly evenings depending on the prospective volunteer's availability. If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity, please call 806-765-8475 at Catholic Family Service.

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# No. 10 Kansas shuts down Texas Tech

Kansas coach Bill Self walled his team to work the ball inside, and he made that clear at halftime.

"We got a lot of easy baskets because we didn't settle," Self said after the 10th-ranked Jayhawks beat Texas Tech 81-46 on Wednesday night. "First half I thought we settled a lot. In the second half I thought, you know we're so much better when we attack inside out, and we'll shoot it better when we attack inside out, and I thought we got the ball inside better in the second half either off the bounce or the pass."

Thomas Robinson had 19 points and 12 rebounds, and Tshawn Taylor scored 15 for the Jayhawks (13-3), who improved to 3-0 in Big 12 play for

our offense and we turned it up defensively a bit."

The Jayhawks made their first eight field goals inside after halftime and then Robinson sank a 3-pointer to put Kansas ahead 56-26 with 12:32 remaining.

Robinson is the only Big 12 player averaging a double-double.

Javaree Willis scored 12 to lead the Red Raiders. Their previous low this season was 49 points in a November loss to Indiana State.

Texas Tech coach Billy Gillispie dropped to 1-3 against his former boss. Gillispie, who beat Self only once when he coached at Texas A&M, was an assistant under Self from 1997-2000 at Tulsa and 2000-2002 at Illinois.

"They were able to do what-

the first half and really the first 12 minutes or so of the second half I thought we didn't guard well. I thought our big guys' ball-screen defense was better," Self said. "It was ugly and muddy, and then we kind of made some shots."

Tech led 16-15, but Kansas ended the half on a 20-4 run to lead 35-20 going into the break.

Texas Tech's Terran Petteway was ejected in the first half after he was called for a flagrant foul on Conner Teahan. Petteway elbowed Teahan and was escorted off the floor.

About 3 minutes earlier, Petteway got hit with a technical foul as Travis Reelford tried to inbound the ball.



the sixth consecutive season.

Meanwhile, the Red Raiders (7-8, 0-3) have dropped their first three conference games for the third straight year.

Kansas' man-to-man defense shut down the passing lanes and the Jayhawks hammered the ball inside in the second half. The overmatched Red Raiders couldn't keep pace.

Taylor said the turnaround in the first half surprised him.

"I think this is one of the first times that we really did that," he said of Kansas' strong finish to the opening half. "We started off kind of slow and we just changed that. We kept running

ever they wanted to on both ends of the court, and we didn't give them any opposition at all," Gillispie said. "We played for about, I don't know, 10 or 12 minutes until it got to 20 (points), and after about 20 it seemed like we stayed there forever."

Red Raiders freshman Jordan Tolbert, ranked 10th nationally in field goal percentage (62.4 percent) and the team's leading scorer, had just four points.

The Jayhawks fell behind early but found their form as the first half wore on. Kansas finished with 38 points in the paint to 18 for Texas Tech.

"The last 7 or so minutes of

Texas Tech has the worst overall record in the Big 12 and hasn't won a game over a ranked opponent in 17 tries since December 2009, when the Red Raiders beat then-No. 12 Washington 99-92 in overtime under Pat Knight.

Unlike their previous two Big 12 games, the Red Raiders could not mount a comeback. Last week they cut a 13-point lead to two in the closing minutes of a 67-59 loss at Oklahoma State and pulled within four late in the second half against No. 4 Baylor, which won 73-60 on Saturday.

# Johnson finally healthy as Texans prep for Ravens



Andre Johnson missed several games this season dealing with injuries to both hamstrings.

The star receiver got healthy just in time to help Houston beat Cincinnati in the first round of the playoffs. He had 90 yards receiving, including a 40-yard touchdown - his first since Sept. 18 - in a 31-10 win over the Bengals.

Now he's feeling even better and hopes to do more on Sunday against the Baltimore Ravens and their stingy defense.

After playing for many years in relative obscurity on losing Texans teams, Johnson is excited to be part of a game garnering so much attention.

"It's a big platform," he said. "Everybody is watching... so I'm very thankful that I'm healthy and hopefully now I can go out and show people what type of player I am."

The 30-year-old Johnson had more than 1,200 yards receiving in each of the last three seasons, but finished with only 492 in the regular season after missing nine games, the most in his career.

The Ravens beat Houston 29-14 in Week 6 - a game Johnson missed. It was the second of six consecutive games he sat out after surgery to repair an injured right hamstring.

He missed three more games late in the season after an injury to his other hamstring and saw limited action in Houston's regular-season finale before returning to full speed last week.

Houston offensive coordinator Rick Dennison believes Johnson's presence will help the offense find more success this time around

against the Ravens.

"Andre helps us in so many ways," Dennison said. "It makes the defense have somebody else to concern themselves with (because of) his talent. We're hoping he'll go out there and make some plays like he did last weekend for us and keep us moving because we'll need them all."

The Texans say Johnson improves not only their passing game but also their ground attack because defenses have to account for him at all times. That point was illustrated on Saturday when Arian Foster ran for 153 yards after rushing for just 41 in Houston's first game against Cincinnati - another one that Johnson missed.

"He changes how we roll offensively," quarterback T.J. Yates said. "He adds a different element to our game and it opens up other aspects of our game for the running game, because a defensive play is different when he's on the field."

Yates was still a third-stringer before the depth chart behind Matt Schaub and Matt Leinart when Houston playing Baltimore the first time. He didn't get on the field until Nov. 27 when Leinart broke his left collarbone in his first game in place of Schaub (right foot, Lisfranc).

When Johnson wasn't healthy enough to practice during his first injury, he caught passes from Yates on a side field to stay in shape. The receiver believes that time together has helped their chemistry now that Yates is

starting.

"I didn't know that I'd be playing with him this season," Johnson said of their early-season workouts. "But it worked out that way. Maybe it was a blessing in disguise."

Yates and Foster said the offense felt different on Saturday with Johnson back in the lineup and that it gave the unit more confidence. For Yates, Johnson's return not only gave him an emotional boost, but made his job easier.

"Being able to throw to that guy on a daily basis now just gives you a lot more confidence knowing that if you happen to not put it on point as much as you want, he's going to go get it no matter what," Yates said. "He's one of those guys that if there's a kind of a 30-50 ball, he's going to go up and get it for you, and that's very comforting."

Johnson knows better than most the quality of the defense they will face on Sunday. He's followed free safety Ed Reed's career since the two were teammates at Miami and he's watched linebacker Ray Lewis, another former Hurricane, play for years. Johnson is close friends with Reed, but the notorious player against him because he cracks jokes constantly.

That defense is a big reason why the Ravens are favored by 7 1/2 points - and not too many people believe the Texans can win on Sunday - but Johnson isn't fazed by what people are saying.

"We don't care about being the underdog. I've been an underdog for years," Johnson said, referring to his career with the Texans. "So it really doesn't matter."

# Pacquiao camp: No fight with Mayweather on May 5

Manny Pacquiao's camp says there is no economic sense in setting up a bout with Floyd Mayweather on May 5 after the unbeaten American publicly challenged the Filipino champion via Twitter.

Pacquiao's financial advisor Michael Konecz told The Associated Press on Thursday that a 45,000-seat boxing arena being built in Las Vegas won't be finished

before the end of May and staging the Pacquiao-Mayweather fight in a smaller venue is "foolish from an economic standpoint."

Mayweather challenged and taunted Pacquiao to a May 5 bout in a tweet on Tuesday.

"Manny Pacquiao I'm calling you out let's fight May 5th and give the world what they want to see," he tweeted.

Mayweather is available for a fight in May at the MGM Grand Garden after a judge agreed last week to postpone his jail sentence for domestic violence until June. Mayweather was sentenced to 87 days in jail, but likely will serve less time.

The MGM Grand seats about 17,000, which could fetch around \$20 million in sales, but the larger

arena could raise an additional \$30 million, Konecz said.

"Why would I tell Manny to fight on the 5th and throw away a percentage of 30 million? That's crazy," he said.

Top Rank promoter Bob Arum has told the Philippines' GMA television the only reason the fight won't happen is if there is an "economic problem."

He said the fight "could happen very, very easily" at the end of May - enough time to build the outdoor arena "the fight so badly needs."

"I will also guarantee Manny's fight," he said. "In other words, Manny doesn't want to go into the ring and just fight out a percentage."

He said Mayweather is looking for "outside par-

ties to guarantee his end of the purse."

"So, until he finds the arena, there is no fight," Arum said.

In a separate interview with GMA, Pacquiao said that if Mayweather agrees to a "50-50 sharing, there will be no problem."

"The purse is not the issue right now, the date is," Konecz said. "But we don't have a problem splitting it 50-50."

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# SPC to allow conditional enrollment for students without meningitis vaccine

LEVELLAND – South Plains College has announced that students will be allowed to attend classes under conditional enrollment through Jan. 26. Students are urged to contact the Office of Admission to obtain the conditional enrollment status and get information on locations that will be providing the vaccine.

Approximately 400 students currently enrolled for the spring semester have not obtained the vaccine.

In accordance to SB 1107 recently enacted by the State of Texas, all entering students enrolling at South Plains College starting Spring 2012 must

provide proof that the meningitis vaccination was administered at least 10 days prior to the first day of the term. Vaccinations must have been received or renewed within the last five years.

The vaccine is available in Levelland at South Plains Rural Health for \$8, shipments are expected this week; Family Medicine East for \$204 (students must bring their shot records) and the Levelland Clinic for \$204 (students must bring their shot records).

In Lubbock, United Pharmacy at 82nd and Frankford for \$130; Wal Greens at Fourth Street and Slide Avenue for \$133.99; Wal

Greens at Indiana Avenue and 34th Street for \$133.99; Wal Greens at 50th Street and Avenue Q for \$134; Wal Greens at 82nd Street and University Avenue for \$140; Wal Greens at Slide Road and 50th Street for \$140; and Wal Greens at 98th Street for \$133.99. Each location is accepting cash only and students are urged to call ahead before stopping by for shots to make certain they are available.

Proof of vaccination must include the date of vaccination. Acceptable forms include an official immunization record, an official school record or a physician's note.

# Descubren una hormona que podría utilizarse para tratar la obesidad



Científicos estadounidenses han descubierto una hormona responsable de una parte de los beneficios del ejercicio físico para la salud y que, en un futuro, podría utilizarse para tratar problemas como la obesidad, según un estudio divulgado hoy por la revista Nature.

La investigación, llevada a cabo por científicos de la Facultad de Medicina de Harvard y del Instituto de Cáncer Dana-Farber de Boston (Estados Unidos), ha revelado que el ejercicio físico estimula la producción de una hormona denominada irisin, que actúa sobre las células blancas del tejido adiposo.

Un estudio efectuado en ratones ha demostrado que el aumento leve de los niveles de irisin en la sangre se traduce en un incremento del gasto enérgico total, sin modificar la cantidad de ejercicio o la ingesta de comida de estos mamíferos.

Los científicos detectaron los mismos efectos en varias muestras de músculo tomadas en humanos, antes y después de diez semanas de entrenamiento físico supervisado, tras las que los niveles de irisin en la sangre se duplicaron en comparación con los niveles de un sujeto no expuesto al ejercicio.

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El joven colombiano de 31 años y 260 kilos de peso Gustavo Moreno, posa en la clínica Teknon de Barcelona tras ser dado de alta después de una operación laparoscópica para ayudarle a perder 160 kilos en el plazo de un año y medio.

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# Voter Participation Seminar

A seminar on voter education and participation will be held January 14, 2012 from 9AM to 3PM at St Joseph's Catholic Church in Lubbock to involve voter turnout in Lubbock and West Texas.

Organizers stress that the seminar will not be solely an academic exercise but

Motivation, Education and Training, Inc., and former City Council member in Plainview, Texas.

The working conference will address the issue of Chicano/Mexican American/Hispanic voting trends in Lubbock and the West Texas area. Organizers see an urgent need to mobilize our community to face up to the challenge of getting the vote out, specifically to increase the low turnout in the our neighborhoods. Issues to be discussed include:

- Communication, Media, the Internet
- Education and youth
- Immigration
- The electoral process and statistics on Chicano turnout
- Establish a Chicano non-partisan voter turnout
- Leadership

Our community needs to be aware of the actions taken against us and develop a sense of anger followed by action.

Some (but not all) reasons for anger:

- The Jobs Act vote down by the US senate would have created 103,600 jobs for Texas, but voted against by Texas senators, Cornyn and Hutchinson.
- Terrible immigration laws

include work sessions on best practices to increase voter participation.

The seminar will include breakout sessions on topics important to Chicanos.

Session Leaders Guest include: Sam Guzman, former president of the Texas Association of Mexican-American Chambers of Commerce (TAMACC) and School Board member the Austin Independent School District.

Mario Compean, co-founder of La Raza Unida Party and Director of Academia America, Inc., a non-profit organization in San Antonio aimed at helping immigrants obtain U.S. citizenship.

Armando Villarreal, Phoenix Consultant Services and former Field Director for the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project

Irene Favila, Area Director;

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The Obama administration has deported more than other presidents.

- Voter suppression laws passed. In Texas, Gun permits are allowed, but not student IDs. According to a report only 80 out of 30,000,000 alleged voting violations were found in a study by the Bush administration, 2002-2007.
- MSNBC's Ed Shultz has shown in a graph that income for the ultra rich has increased 240% since 1979; the rest (99%) saw their income stay basically the same.
- As usual for our governor, Rick Perry stated that "the income gap since 1979 was Obama's fault". President Obama was probably in elementary school then.
- Chicano voter turnout in Lubbock remains basically lower than 40%.

In a statement or poster by Occupy Wall Street, "we'll believe that corporations are human when Texas executes one, or when they pay taxes.

A Free Speech TV program by a group called the Bioeners, they stated a very relevant slogan: "Privatize the Gain, Socialize the Pain"

# Desarrollan vacuna que reduce recurrencia del cáncer

El Centro Médico Militar de San Antonio (Texas) desarrolló una vacuna que reduce las tasas de recurrencia del cáncer de mama, informó hoy la Agencia de Prensa de las Fuerzas Armadas de Estados Unidos.

El director e investigador principal del Programa de Desarrollo de una Vacuna para el Cáncer, George Peoples, dijo que la vacuna, denominada E-75, "pasará pronto a la fase final de pruebas para obtener la aprobación de la Dirección de Alimentos y Medicamentos".

El cáncer de mama, explicó Peoples a la agencia, conocida por su sigla en inglés ADFS, es el tipo de cáncer más frecuente entre las personas que reciben servicios del hospital militar en San Antonio.

"Tenemos el compromiso de cuidar al personal en servicio activo, sus cónyuges y los retirados", añadió el coronel Peoples, subdirector del Instituto Militar del Cáncer

y jefe de cirugía oncológica en el centro médico.

La vacuna, según explicó Peoples, apunta a una proteína que aparece, comúnmente, expresada, en exceso en las células de cáncer de mama llamada "receptor 2 del factor de crecimiento epidérmico" (HER2/neu por su denominación en inglés).

Las vacunas contra el cáncer apuntan a una proteína o antígeno expresado en las células del cáncer, y Peoples explicó que "la idea es 'entrenar' al sistema inmunológico para que reconozca esa proteína, o porción de proteína, que aparece en

exceso en las células del cáncer, pero no en las células normales".

para matarlo".

Ese concepto de vacuna contra el cáncer se ha man-



"De esa forma el sistema inmunológico puede diferenciar lo normal de lo anormal", añadió, "Si el sistema de inmunidad puede reconocerlo, básicamente, lo marca

tenido por largo tiempo, pero el equipo de Peoples tomó una senda diferente.

La gran mayoría de las vacunas, en el pasado, se ha probado con pacientes cuyo

cáncer estaba en las etapas finales pero una vacuna tiene la intención de estimular el sistema de inmunidad, que es algo que no se encuentra habitualmente en las personas con cáncer terminal.

"No es para sorprenderse el hecho de que muchas de las vacunas probadas con pacientes en la etapa final del cáncer no tuvieran buen resultado", dijo Peoples.

El equipo en San Antonio decidió que probaría la vacuna entre pacientes con un sistema de inmunidad robusto, es decir sobrevivientes del cáncer que están libres del mal, pero con riesgo de una recurrencia.

Los investigadores prepararon la proteína HER2/neu, que se expresa en variados niveles de exceso en las mujeres con cáncer de mama, y se enfocaron en el 60 por ciento de esas mujeres en las cuales la proteína aparecía en niveles bajos o intermedios.

La vacuna consiste en una mezcla del péptido E-75

de la proteína HER2, y un estimulante del sistema inmunológico.

Las pruebas comenzaron en 2001 con 220 pacientes y los investigadores hicieron un seguimiento de las mujeres durante cinco años. La mitad de las mujeres recibieron la vacuna, que es una inyección mensual por seis meses, y la otra mitad fue el grupo de control.

El resultado fue muy prometedor, según Peoples. La tasa de recurrencia del cáncer fue del 20 por ciento entre el grupo de control y del 10 por ciento entre las mujeres que recibieron la vacuna.

Este éxito llevó a la nueva etapa de pruebas que comenzará este año e involucrará de 700 a 1,000 pacientes.

Pero, a diferencia de las etapas anteriores, esta fase la encarará la compañía comercial Galena Biopharma que buscará la aprobación del Gobierno para el uso público de la vacuna.

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