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Romney, Obama immigration showdown



Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice Presumptive Republican nominee, Mitt Romney, at NALEO.

Presidential hopefuls make White House bid at conference for Latino leaders organization

By Marianella Zapata-Noriega mzapatanoriega@valenciavoice.com

Mitt Romney and Barack Obama made highly anticipated addresses at the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials conference.

After a high-profiled primary season for Romney, as he fought to claim the Republican presidential nomination, many awaited to hear the presumptive nominee's stance on immigration and whether it would change from the strictly conservative views he expressed in the primaries.

"Hispanic officials are eager to hear more about the Governor's plans for the country and his thoughts on the Hispanic community's aspirations and concerns," said Juan C. Zapata, chairman of the NALEO Educational Fund.

Building up to Romney's speech many expected to hear specifics about his plan on immigration but were left disappointed, as he focused on the economy and Obama.

"Almost four years ago the American people did something that is very much the sort of thing Americans like to do, we gave someone new a chance to lead, someone . . . who didn't have much of a record, but promised to lead us to a better place," said Romey.

Officials like City of Orlando Commissioner Tony Ortiz and Orange County state committee member for the Democratic Party James Auffant both expressed a feeling of frustration on behalf of those present at Romney's address and its lack of details.

Even Obama took notice of Romney's lack of details during his NALEO address and even brought back Romney's views during the primaries.

In his speech, Obama managed to talk about topics like the economy and education while still making immigration a major topic, pointing out that we are a land of immigrants.

"Whether our ancestors arrived here on the mayflower or were brought here on slave ships. Whether they signed in at Ellis island or crossed the Rio Grande, their diversity has not only enriched this country, it helped build the greatest economic engine the world has ever know," Obama said.

Also giving their opinion on Latino issues at the NALEO conference where Senator Marco Rubio and Florida governor Rick Scott. Magic introduce new GM Hennigan fils open position in front office Page 12



June 27, 2012



Bryan levine / Valencia Voice Barack Obama became the 1st sitting president to attend NALEO.



Respect shown for presidential hopeful

By Marianella Zapata Noriega mzapatanoriega@valenciavoice.com

After Mitt Romney's address to Latino officials at the NALEO conference on Thursday, June 21, some were left wanting more.

"Enough is enough," said City of Orlando Commissioner Tony Ortiz. "Enough of those days when someone could just come over and say 'Yes, I'm going to fix the problem,' but don't tell you how."

"The middle class under President Obama has been crushed" *— Mitt Romney,* presumptive Republican presidential nomine

While at the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials' annual conference, it was expected that Romney would make his case to Latino voters on why he is the best candidate for the White House.

"Today, I'm asking you to join me," said Romney. "Because while we may not agree on everything, we have the same goal, the same vision, and the same belief in American greatness that draws so many people to our shores."

The former governor of Massachu-

setts and presumptive Republican presidential nominee talked about the economy and its effect on Hispanics, giving statistics that proved his point while using them to criticize President Barack Obama's first term.

"As you know, Hispanics have been hit disproportionately hard. While national unemployment is still above eight percent, and has been for 40 straight months, Hispanic unemployment is 11 percent," said Romney. "The middle class under President Obama has been crushed."

With the economy as the main topic, Romney eventually moved on to issues like education, leaving immigration for the end. Before moving on, however, he closed the economic based portion of his speech by making another run at proving he is the right choice to be made.

"[President Obama] will imply that you don't really have an alternative. I believe he is taking your vote for granted,' said Romney. "I've come today with a very simple message. You do have an alternative. Your vote should be respected and your voice is more important now than ever."

As for education, Romney promised to give low income parents the right to choose which schools their children attend, saying that the parents' choice will mean more chances for children.

When talking about immigration he addressed the President's executive order, saying he would replace it with a



Romney changes his stance on immigration during NALEO speech on Thursday, June 22nd.

long-term bipartisan solution.

"Liberty torch can burn as brightly for future generations of immigrants as it has burned for immigrants of the past," said Romney.

NEWS

He talked about making legal immigration easier, securing the border and keeping families together, but avoided mentioning any action that would impact immigrants already in the United States.

As for undocumented students, he

"Immigrants founded or co-founded

promised to "attach a green card" to the diplomas of any immigrants getting an advanced degree in the United States. He reinforced his stance by giving examples of Latino influence in the economy. nearly half of our top 50 companies in this country," he said. "They are 30 percent more likely to start a business, and that kind of risk-taking is something we need more than ever."

- See "Romney" on Page 5







Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice Rubio leans toward left during NALEO speech at Disney's Contemporary Resort, June 22nd.

Florida senator has liberal idea

Marco Rubio demands reform on immigration

By Marianella Zapata Noriega mzapatanoriega@valenciavoice.com

Marco Rubio charmed the NALEO crowd on Friday, June 22 at their 29th Annual Conference in Orlando.

Opening his speech by welcoming the attendees in Spanish and inserting a few jokes, Rubio's speech quickly got serious as he tackled his views on illegal immigration and immigration reform.

Using his family's experience, Rubio explained the impact his family's move to the United States had on him and what he has accomplished, and stressed the importance of dealing with immigration not only as a law enforcement issue, but also a human issue.



NEWS

President makes case for Latino, center vote

By Marianella Zapata Noriega mzapatanoriega@valenciavoice.com

President Barack Obama spoke in Spanish to thank those in attendance during his address at the 29th annual NALEO conference in Disney. The President opened up his speech by recognizing those in attendance, like Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis, and recently confirmed Ambassador to the Republic of El Salvador Mari Carmen Aponte.

Obama also made a general acknowledgment of everyone in attendance by recognizing their impact across the country and how they have "dedicated themselves to make people's lives a little better."

"[Romney] has promised to veto the Dream act and we should take him at his word... I'm just saying." - President Obama

He also acknowledged the growing "frustration and hardships that are taking place" within the Latino community, and agreed with Romney's comment on Thursday that these elections are about the future of America.

Without getting too far into immigration at the beginning of his speech, Obama talked about families coming

to America for a better life, emphasizing how it didn't matter where or when one's family immigrated into this country, that America is a land of dreamers and risk takers.

"People don't come here looking for handouts," said Obama. "We are a nation of strivers and climbers and entrepreneurs, the hardest working people on earth. And nobody personifies these American values, these American traits more than the Latino community. That is the essence of who you are."

President Obama presented the idea of a country where responsibility and hard work can still be rewarded and lead to a better life; where parents can send their kids to college, save money for retirement and not go bankrupt when they get sick.

"Of course the economy is not where it needs to be; of course there are still too many who struggle," said Obama, telling people to ask the right questions, like, "How do we make the economy grow faster? What vision are we going to stand for? Who are we going to fight for? And what version of America do we believe in?"

For these reasons, Obama said his administration expanded pell grants, which will give over 150,000 Latinos the chance to go to college, and invested in community colleges that are a gateway to better jobs for Americans.

He also mentioned the schools across the United States that have vowed to raise standards by extending creativity

Barack Obama smiles at Latino leaders during the opening of his speech at the NALEO conference.

and giving every child a chance, as well as the tax cuts he has made to small businesses (as most small business now are opened by Latinos) and his health insurance policy, which he called "the right thing to do."

"We are not done yet, we have more to do," said Obama. "We need to put more good teachers in our classrooms. We need to get colleges and universities to bring down the cost of tuition to make it more affordable for more young people. We need to invest in new research

and innovation, especially new sources of energy."

President Obama talked about the different views between Democrats and Republicans and how it can slow down progress in congress. He spoke of strengthening the middle class in order to help the American economy.

This lead as a gateway to immigration, as he talked about not only his DREAM act, but also the need for a permanent solution to immigration through congress. - See "Obama" on Page 5





Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice







The Latino vote in America

	Ethnic composition of population						
	Latino	White	Black	Native American	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Other	
Nation	16.3%	63.7%	12.2%	0.7%	4.9%	2.1	
Florida	22.5%	57.9%	15.2%	0.3%	2.4%	1.8	

Nation profile

Latinos are the fastest-growing and second largest population group in the United States. Census 2010 revealed that the Latino population grew dramatically over the last decade, reaching 50.5 million, and comprising 16.3% of the nation's population. The NALEO Educational Fund projects that more than 12.2 million Latinos will vote in the 2012 presidential elections.

State profile

Latinos are the second largest population group in Florida. In 2010, they comprised 23% of total population and 16% of the adult U.S. citizen population. NALEO Educational Fund estimates that the Latino vote for 2012 will be nearly 1.7 million.

Registered Voters 2012

Total registered voters: 12,165,122 Latino registered voters: 1,686,929 Latino share of registered voters: 13.9%

Latino party affiliation 2012

Democrat: 644,846 (38.2%) Republican: 494,797 (29.3%) Other: 547,286 (32.4%)

Latino vote throughout the U.S.

	Projected Latino Voters	Increase from 2008	Projected share of
NATIONAL	12,237,000	25.6%	8.7%
Arizona	359,000	23.2%	12.0%
California	3,911,000	32.1%	26.3%
Colorado	224,000	15.0%	8.7%
Florida	1,650,000	34.5%	18.3%
Illinois	433,000	37.8%	7.6%
New Jersey	392,000	16.2%	10.4%
New Mexico	329,000	14.0%	35.0 ² /
New York	845,000	13.7%	10.87
Texas	1,987,000	17.1%	21.3%



The information used for this page was provited by the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund. Graphic: Marianella Zapata Noriega











STITCHES PROVIDE A MONTH OF PREPARED MEALS FOR ONE ATHLETE

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NEWS

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Romney

— Continued from page 2

Another top immigration issue was that of undocumented veterans and active military personnel; for those individuals he promised guaranteed citizenship.

"As President I would stand for a path to legal status for anyone who is willing to stand up and defend this great nation through military service," said Romney. "Those who risk their lives in defense of America have earned the right to make their life in America."

did not include any steps, or a specific plan, as to how this promises and statements will come to be. For NALEO members, like state committee member from the Orange County Democratic Party James Auffant and Commissioner Ortiz, it was not enough.

His stance on all of the issues

"Why didn't he answer the question? He talked about Obama and the DREAM act and the fact that he plans to do something permanent, but what is he going to do and how is it going to be permanent?" said Auffant.

"We are here to see the candidates and to see what they have



Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice Presumptive Republican nominee, Mitt Romney at NALEO conference.

to offer," said Ortiz. "We come with open minds and to see both ends of the spectrum, but as we have both said, give us details."

Obama

— Continued from Page 3 "What is also needed is immigration reform that finally lives up to our heritage as a nation of laws and as a nation of immigrants and continues the American story of renewal and energy and dynamism that's made us who we are," he said.

On immigration, President Obama talked about young illegals that consider themselves Americans but have to leave in fear of deportation, a problem he says he addressed with the DREAM act, which congress has not passed.

In his speech he also made it

clear he will use any means and powers he possess to help immigrants in America.

"This makes no sense, this is not good for America, and as long as I'm President of the United States, I will not give up the fight," said Obama. "In the face of a congress that refuses to do anything on immigration, I've said that I'll take action wherever I can."

Obama closed his speech by bringing the issues home, using himself as an example.

"Every single day I walk into the Oval Office, everyday that I have this extraordinary privilege of being your President, I will always remember that in no other nation in the world could my story even by possible. That



Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice President Obama received a warm welcome from Latino leaders, Friday.

is something I celebrate. That is what drives me in every decision I make. To try to widen the circle of opportunity, to fight for that big and generous and optimistic country we inherit, to carry that dream forward for generations to come."



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Homeless man sues Valencia, Full Sail

Obscure law designed to help draws attention

By Bryan Levine blevine@valenciavoice.com

In many ways James Ross is very similar to most students who attend Valencia.

The halls of this college are filled with students, of all ages, who didn't necessarily take the most conventional path to pursuing a higher education. It's filled with students who feel, with the proper instruction, the world is theirs to conquer.

Ross shares the ambitious qualities that fill any university, but what separates him from most, is that he lives in a tent in the woods. While most students may just settle for their third favorite school after being turned away from their top two choices, Ross took a different approach - with a lawsuit.

"It's not about the money for me," Ross said. "The money is not the issue. It could have been just \$100. The \$100 million is basically me screaming, without screaming. It's me saying, 'hey, you did me wrong.'"

Ross is suing both Valencia College and Full Sail University for \$100 million, citing a Florida state statute that allows anyone who is homeless to be exempt from tuition in public schools.

Born in Pennsylvania, Ross ran away from home at a young age, and has struggled to live a stable life. He has traveled to every state in the country, including Alaska and Hawaii, and to dozens of countries across the world.

After living in Central Florida for about 15 years (a term Ross uses

loosely, because according to him, homeless people don't actually live anywhere), Ross has decided to pursue his passion in film making.

"I went to Los Angeles when I was a kid in

my 20's. I worked for a little while as an extra in a few films," said Ross. "I feel my experience with this can help me become a successful filmmaker."

With his brief stint in the entertainment business many years ago, Ross says he possesses the raw talent of being a successful movie maker, but requires proper education to refine his talents into what he thinks can he eventually develop into the skills of an experienced director.

Ross decided in March that he was going to turn his life around and attend college. Upon speaking with someone at a shelter in Tallahassee, Ross learned that he may be exempt from paying application fees due to his homelessness. As it turns out, he is entitled to much more, and that's when he contacted Rep. Geraldine Thompson.

"I did not know about the law," said Thompson, a state representative. "I thought it made sense to try to pull people up and help - Continued on next page

Where has this law been implemented in FL?

By Fred Lambert flambert@valenciavoice.com

Even though most have not heard about the Florida statute allowing homeless students to attend college for free, that doesn't mean it hasn't occurred across the state.

Valencia has confirmed allowing over 150 homeless students to attend the school with fees waived, while other public colleges in Central Florida admit granting similar accommodations.

"Yes we are aware of the law and we do use it," said Donald Payton, legal counsel for Seminole State College.

According to Payton, four students have had their fees waived under the law between the fall of 2010 and the summer of 2012. The total cost that was waived through a variety of fees between the four

homeless students amounts to \$70,932.76.

The University of Central Florida was less specific, but confirmed that homeless students had utilized the statute.

"We have indeed had students come to UCF and have their fees waived," said Courtney Gilmartin, of the Media Relations Department at UCF. "What I can also tell you as part of the General Councel's office is that we have not necessarily tracked that number."

1009.25

(f) A student who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence or whose primary nighttime residence is a public or private shelter designed to provide temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

6



Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice James Ross is suing Full Sail University and Valencia College for \$100 million.

Title XLVIII K-20 Education Code

Fee exemptions —



James Ross

- *Continued from previous page* them succeed." Together, the two searched through old legal books and stumbled across a law that shocked them both.

Deep in the educational code of the Florida state statute lies Chapter 1009, Section 25, Sub-section F, which states that any student who lacks a fixed or adequate nighttime residence, or someone who lives in a public/private place not designed for regular sleeping accommodations for human beings, is exempt from the payment of tuition and fees at community colleges and state universities.

Upon learning this fortunate news, Ross applied to Full Sail and Valencia, assuming he would easily be admitted to either institution without any hassle. He was wrong. Full Sail, a private university, is not required by Florida law to abide by the same regulations as a public college like Valencia would.

Things weren't any easier for Ross in

his dealings with Valencia. Ross says he was constantly turned away by people who did not take his claims seriously. After multiple attempts at trying to get answers from the college, Ross took the necessary steps to file a lawsuit against the institution for violating the law.

"No other state has anything like this law," said Eric Tars from the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty. Tars says that the law creates the right to assistance, but Valencia is creating regulations that take away from a majority of students.

Valencia staff members offered minimal comment on the case, as it is the school's policy not to comment on ongoing legal matters, but the college did release the following statement:

"Valencia College is committed to helping all students—including those who may be homeless— pursue an education and have every opportunity to succeed in life. The Florida legislature authorizes us to provide tuition waivers to homeless students. Over the last two years, 154 homeless students have attend-



Courtesy of Florida House of Representatives website Thompson helped James Ross figure out the law which states that he's entitled to free tuition.

ed Valencia for free through the waivers. As part of the enrollment process, we do require that students provide reasonable evidence of their status through a letter from a homeless service agency, a necessary step to prevent fraud and abuse. There are many such agencies locally and we can help students identify them.

"The college remains open to welcoming James Ross as a student upon his completion of our enrollment processes."

Ross, who does not currently stay in a homeless shelter, refuses to accept Valencia's policy. "The law is just. The law is right. The law is correct," said Ross. "It's been through a lot of changes, but we need to embrace the law."

While 154 students have taken advantage of this law in the past, Ross has been unwilling or unable to submit the required documentation.

Both schools have filed motions to dismiss the case, as expected. According to Tars, it does not seem as if the case against Full Sail will hold up in court, but Valencia may be in violation of the law.

What started out as a man who wanted to attend college has grown into something much bigger, with civil-right implications that can completely change a Florida law.

"I've received some good reaction from people in the community," said Ross. "I met a man who didn't necessarily want to go to school, but he was glad for the opportunity that I was pursuing and the possibility to open up doors for him in the future."

Provided this case doesn't work itself out within the next two months, both Full Sail and Valencia will have to defend themselves in court during a hearing on August 28.



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OPINION







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Fine art photography dives into digital

After 30 years of work, Silvia Lizama brings her refined technical style to a new frontier

By James Tutten jtutten@valenciavoice.com

Silvia Lizama's fine art photography uniquely captures the hidden beauty of unfinished or abandoned structures. For the first time her internationally renowned style is applied to digital photography with her newest exhibition series, "Sights of Construction."

"For me it's all about the visual, and I'm comfortable in those spaces I select," said

Lizama, a professor of photography at Barry University in Miami. She has found most of the locations for her photos by driving around her home and looking for the hidden artistic potential in everyday life.

Originally born in Cuba, Lizama immigrated with her family to South Florida when she was three years old. She became interested in photography while attending college, and after 30 years her award-winning work has gone on to receive international attention.

Throughout her distinguished career she has photographed many historic areas like Stonehenge, ancient Roman ruins, temples of South America and many other unique locations. But she feels most comfortable developing pictures of unknown places to create an original image that is uniquely her own.

Her newest series displays strikingly barren landscapes of rock, metal and concrete, highlighted by a brilliant kaleidoscope of colors. She transforms unexceptional areas into something far richer with her refined, hyper-realistic coloring style.

Lizama takes a black and white image, then manually adds unique colors



Lizama describes her relationship with digital photography as a love-hate situation. "I'm doing digital because I have to learn it for my students," she said. She stresses the importance of learning updated techniques, and keeping up with the latest developments in technology in the modern digital age.

The ease of use and high output of digital photography are strong beneficial factors favoring the use of digital, but she fears a digital image lacks the personal refinement and beauty of conventionally printed photos developed in a darkroom. To ensure a personal connection, Lizama adds a fingerprint next to her signature with every one of the photos. She wants to fight the notion that an artistic photographer just sends an image to a print lab and

never sees their work before it's framed.

Her acclaim came from photos of the desolate interiors of unfinished buildings, with natural light mixing with customized colors. She intentionally leaves people out of the image, because the person's look and style may limit the artworks timelessness.

The stark and hauntingly beautiful images convey ambiguous emotions that are open to interpenetration. On top of the prolific use of color is the masterful utilization of natural lighting to create an im-



Silvia Lizama's "Sights of Construction" series features desolate landscapes of earth and stone brilliantly complemented by a majestic skylines.



James Tutten / Valencia Voice Silvia Lizama (right) talks with attendees at the opening of her fine art photo exhibition.

age that looks otherworldly.

"I do photography myself, and I love finding inspiration in other peoples work," said Valencia film student Tomoko Goddard.

Lizama walked around construction areas near Valencia College's East Campus where her current exhibition is being displayed, as she gathered more shots for her next exhibition in about a year. She spends a year working on each new series and feels a drive to continue looking for unique locations for her art.

"Sights of Construction" will be on display until Aug. 5 at the Anita S. Wooten Gallery, located in Building 3 at Valencia's East Campus. This free gallery is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Thursday, and from 8 a.m. to noon on Friday.



Professor addresses schizophrenia

Discussion at UCF on mental health

By Francesca Fey ffey@valenciavoice.com

Doctor Jeffrey Bedwell, Clinical Psychology professor at the University of Central Florida discussed all aspects of schizophrenia during his lecture, last Tuesday.

The auditorium seated many UCF psychology students, fellow professors, people who were merely curious and intrigued by the subject and a



Francesca Fey / Valencia Voice UCF professor Dr. Jeffrey Bedwell shares latest information and treatment options.

few who were diagnosed with schizophrenia themselves.

"Schizophrenia is one of the most severe psychiatric disorders- for most people it lasts a lifetime," said Dr. Bedwell. "But it only affects about one percent of the population world-wide."

This mysterious disorder of the brain is said to have been discovered in the year 1908 when Paul Eugen Bleuler, a Swiss psychiatrist whom was very influential in his time, compiled a set of abnormal symptoms and coined the term schizophrenia, a term roughly translated as, 'splitting of the mind' in Greek, as the cause.

However, there may be earlier reports of schizophrenia dating back further in 1797 as similar symptoms were reported in medical journals but were labeled as, Dementia Praecox.

Though reports of schizophrenic symptoms have been noted for over 100 years, there are still many unknowns about the illness.

"There is a clear genetic contribution to schizophrenia meaning you have a higher risk of having the illness if you have or had a family member who was diagnosed with the condition," Says Dr. Bedwell. "You have a 46 percent chance of having the disorder if both parents have schizophrenia while if only one parent has been diagnosed, only six percent."

Although the chances are a bit daunting, the chance of becoming a

schizophrenic is still rare. Still, no one truly knows the origin of the disorder or how it manifests itself in the brain.

Mary Scott, 23, and a student of UCF majoring in Biomedical Sciences, attended Dr. Bedwell's lecture hoping to find out more about her affliction. Scott was diagnosed with Paranoid schizophrenia in 2010.

Her symptoms first began in 2009 with paranoid delusions such as believing she worked for the FBI, had an implant in her ear and auditory hallucinations that fed her lies about her family. Though everyday is a constant struggle with her illness, Scott remains strong in her faith.

"I feel like I'm in God's hands and he wouldn't let me go through something I couldn't handle," said Scott.

When asked, what does the future hold, Scott answered, "Maybe I can help somebody and maybe I'm going to be lecturing like Dr. Bedwell."

This lecture, along with others starting again in September, is a part of the UCF's Psychology Department's, Minding Your Health series.

The lectures are scheduled to occur once a month and will analyze a variety of psychological health topics and how they might affect one's physical health.

For more information on the lectures or if you have questions for Dr. Bedwell, contact: jeffrey. bedwell@ucf.edu.

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'Abraham' disappoints

Historically incorrect, action, CGI dominated

By James Verniere Boston Herald

"Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter" is exactly what it sounds like: a CGIheavy, eye-watering slice of B-movie cheese for the least discerning, most credulous appetites.

Produced by Tim Burton and scripted by Seth Grahame-Smith, whose previous effort was Burton's recent, disappointing "Dark Shadows," this historical-vampirical hybrid started life as a novel. Unlike other genre movies featuring excessive CGI, "Abraham Lincoln" is predominantly red-brown instead of blue.

We meet Lincoln as a boy and learn why as an adult he hates vampires and has sworn vengeance against a bloodsucker by

the name of Mr. Bart. If you are the type to ask such questions even of this fanciful, history/horror mash-up, abandon all hope ye who enter the movie theater.

Walker, who was obviously cast because of his resemblance to Lincoln, if not Liam Neeson, does not disgrace himself. Nor does Anthony Mackie Abe's boyhood friend Will, who reportedly was a real-life inspiration for the Emancipation Proclamation.

The film's director Russian-Kazakh transplant Timur Bekmambetov continues to display his fondness for shooting characters in the head as he did in his horrible 2008 hit "Wanted," but this time he adds beheadings to the mix.

With so much stupidity, eye-gouging 3-D and weird, floating dust motes on the screen, it's hard to limit myself to only one or two examples of this film's awfulness. In one action sequence, Abraham and Barts chase each other by using the backs of



Alan Markfield / Twentieth Century Fox / MCT Benjamin Walker is the main character in the new movie 'Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter.'

stampeding CGI horses as stepping stones.

LIFESTYLE

Bekmambetov demonstrates yet again that his most formative movie--going experience was watching "The Matrix." In every ax-twirling fight sequence, Bekmambetov borrows liberally from that 1999 B-movie landmark. If you have the slightest regard for the afore-

mentioned logic, intelligence, physics, history or the English language for that matter, this movie is going to drive you crazy. Bekmambetov claims to have his sights set on a film version of Herman Melville's classic "Moby-Dick" next. Thar she blows!

—MCT Campus

Box Office



'Brave' Rated:

PG

This Weekend: \$ 66,739,000

Total Gross: \$66,739,000



'Madagascar 3'

Rated: PG

This Weekend: \$ 20,200,000

Total Gross: \$157,574,000



'Abraham Lincoln'

Rated: R

This Weekend: \$16,500,000

Total Gross: \$16,500,000

Opening June 29 'Ted'



Rated: R Running Time: 1 hrs. 46 min. **Genre:** Comedy **Director:** Seth MacFarlane Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Mila Kunis, Seth MacFarlane

'People Like Us'



Rated: PG-13 Running Time: 2 hrs. Genre: Comedy/Drama **Director:** Alex Kurtzman Starring: Chris Pine, Elizabeth Banks, Olivia Wilde



Orlando Magic introduce new GM

Hennigan fills open position in front office

By Juan Gutierrez jgutierrez@valenciavoice.com

After what seemed to be a long and extensive search in Orlando, the Magic have finally announced their new General Manager, Rob Hennigan, who seems to have quite the resume.

Hennigan has spent the past eight

seasons with two of the NBA's most successful franchises. He has spent the last four seasons with the Oklahoma City Thunder, who reached the NBA finals this year. The four years prior to that, Hennigan was with the San Antonio Spurs, where he played a key role in winning both the 2005 and 2007 NBA championships. Hennigan has been the Assistant General Manager and Director of Player Personnel for the past two seasons in Oklahoma City.

"As we were going through our

process, we were looking for an individual -- a leader -- who would bring championship organization experience, was a great strategist, and brought with him a sound system and approach to evaluating talent," said Magic chief executive officer Alex Martins. "While there were very many worthy candidates, Rob stood out to us for both his experience and what we feel is a strategic and systematic approach to building a basketball operation. Our goals have not changed;

SPORTS

we are focused on putting a winning product on the floor each and every year and sustaining it."

Hennigan will look to impact the Magic immediately as the NBA draft is next week in New York. He will also lead the way for Orlando in their search to hire a new coach for the 2012-13 season, although he said there is no timetable for when the new coach will be hired.

"It was clear to me in our first meeting and subsequent meetings how com-



Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice ith who was fired last month.

Orlando Magic executives answer questions for the media as they announce Rob Hennigan (center) as the new general manager of the organization, replacing for GM Otis Smith who was fired last month.



Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice At the age of 30, Rob Hennigan becomes the youngest current General Manager in the NBA.

mitted the organization is to winning. Not only winning, but doing things in a certain way," said Hennigan. "Our goal is to build an elite basketball operation, both on the court and off the court. That is our goal."

A huge part of the success in making the Magic an elite basketball team will be if Dwight Howard decides to return to Orlando next season and stay long-term. Hennigan does not have a relationship with Howard yet, but looks forward to sitting down and talking with the all-star center in the near future.

"Clearly Dwight is one of the best players in the NBA. His resume speaks for itself," Hennigan said. "I know personally, I'm looking forward to sitting down with him and sharing the vision and direction we're looking to go."

At 30 years old, Hennigan is the youngest general manager in the NBA, and replaces former Magic GM Otis Smith, who agreed to step down earlier this year in May after an unsuccessful run with the team.

