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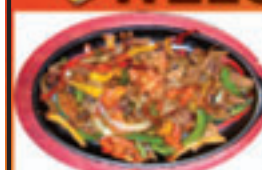
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5 de octubre, 2007 Spanglish Lazo Cultural Edition Vol. 2, No. 9 (LP1)

Special Edition of **La Prensa** for **Lazo Cultural**

Wayne State University hosts *The Coming Pandemic: A Conference for Business and Health Professionals*

As the annual flu season approaches, there is another more serious threat to public health in the U.S. and internationally. The danger of a pandemic developing from the H5N1 avian influenza virus, or "bird flu," has loomed for some time, according to global public health experts.

Since 2003, the number of human H5N1 cases has been increasing in Asia, Europe and Africa, and more than half the people infected have died. No sustained human-to-human transmission has occurred so far, but most health professionals anticipate H5N1 may develop and spread in this way.

The Coming Pandemic: A Conference for Business and Health Professionals, hosted by Wayne State University on Oct. 5, 2007, assembles a world-class group of thought leaders and experts who will provide cutting-edge information and practical guidance for what many epidemiologists say is an inevitable bird flu pandemic.

Timing of the conference coincides with the traditional beginning of the winter flu season; common strains of influenza, which are cousins to bird flu, account for the deaths of nearly 40,000 U.S.-Americans each year. Estimates of human mortality during an avian influenza pandemic vary widely, but many predict it will reach into the millions.

"As a major university with thousands of students, faculty and staff, we are obligated to

prepare for the possibility of a pandemic reaching our campus," said Wayne State University President **Dr. Irvin D. Reid**. "Our first concern is for the well-being and safety of everyone at the university, and we have planned accordingly."

"This conference assembles nationally-recognized experts from across the country. We hope to assist people in a variety of influential professions to understand what a pandemic might mean to them and the communities they serve, and to give them basic tools for planning to meet the threat."

Dr. Lauren Barton, chief of staff for Medical Operations at Chrysler Corporation; **Dr. Gregory Poland**, director of the Mayo Clinic's Vaccine Research Group; **Dr. David Siegel**, senior medical director of Health Services Operations and Programs at General Motors Corporation; **Lorine M. Spencer**, public affairs specialist and community outreach liaison for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other experts will explore the characteristics of pandemic influenza, examining its medical and social implications and possible ways to minimize

(Continued on LP4)



Carla Soto

Carla's Corner

Por Carla Soto-Cruz
La Prensa Entertainment Editor
www.laprensa1.com
Los mejor de la farándula

• El vocalista de la banda **Good Charlotte**, Joel Madden, logró convencer a su amada **Nicole Richie** y la pareja se casará antes de que nazca el bebé.

Según la prensa estadounidense los dos se casarán el próximo 13 de octubre en Laguna Beach, California, en una ceremonia exclusiva, donde estarán rodeados por sus parientes y amigos más cercanos. Hace unas semanas se comentó que Nicole no quería casarse embarazada por eso esperaba el nacimiento de su bebé para entonces subir al altar con Joel al parecer cambio de opinion.

• La cantante colombiana **Shakira** ya eligió sus padrinos de matrimonio, según informó la prensa argentina.

Aunque ha negado que se casará dentro de un mes con el abogado **Antonio de la Rúa**, la artista ya habría elegido quienes la acompañarán en su día especial.

Una de las parejas de padrinos que más darán de que hablar seguramente serán Alejandro Sanz y Penelope Cruz:

"Ella quiere que ellos sean testigos de su unión, porque los estima mucho y son grandes amigos", reveló una fuente.

(Continúa en la p. LP3)

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