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July 2013



The administration has not decided when the United States will officially remove its remaining troops from Afghanistan, hours after a [report](#) stated the president was considering a "zero option" that would remove all troops from the

Off to the Races

[Ready for Hillary](#) is picking up steam and organizing throughout the nation. In an effort to draft Hillary Rodham Clinton and (possibly) preempt others from joining the field, the organization, headed by Allida Black, is pushing forward full steam. In addition to James Carville, Harold Ickes, Jennifer Granholm and Under Secretary of State Ellen Tauscher, the group just added [270 Strategies](#), the former Obama grassroots organizers to the growing army.

Texas, Texas... [Wendy Davis](#) has been catapulted to the national stage for her stand (in Mizuno running shoes) on stopping an abortion bill. With Rick Perry announcing he will not seek another term, rumors are Texas could go BLUE.

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Drawing the Line on Government Surveillance

By James Scott

President Obama pretty well summed it up last month when [he said](#): "You can't have 100 percent security and also then have 100 percent privacy and zero inconvenience."



The question is, where do you draw the line between keeping Americans safe while at the same time protecting their civil liberties and privacy.

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Turning the Corner on Gay Rights

By James Scott

country by the end of 2014.

House Republicans are criticizing the Obama administration for delaying implementation of the Affordable Care Act's employer mandate but still maintaining the deadline for the individual mandate. [Click here to view the letter.](#)

The AFL-CIO is blanketing Senate offices with a [list of demands](#) for the Gang of Eight immigration bill.

The Supreme Court's decision striking down the Defense of Marriage Act last month was a resounding victory for marriage equity, but it also was a signal that the nation may have turned a corner in the way it treats gay Americans.



It was a big step, certainly, in expanding gay rights, but it is still only the first step. This corner turning business means a lot, but once it is turned America needs to keep moving forward along the road to genuine equality.

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Revisiting the Voting Rights Act

By James Scott

Here we go again. The Supreme Court issues a controversial decision, but it's Congress that is going to have clean up the mess.

This time we're talking about the court's gutting of the Voting Rights Act of 1964. The court, essentially, said there's not that much voter discrimination any more, so the federal government no longer needs to oversee state voting laws.



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