

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO
12 19 26 30 45
Meganumber: 6
Jackpot: \$24 Million

FANTASY 5
12 17 18 24 39
DAILY 3
Daytime: 8 7 4
Evening: 2 0 4

DAILY DERBY
1st: 06 Whirl Win
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1:42.70

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

In October in Evansville, Ind., Terrence L. Mackey, 63, was sentenced to 29 years in prison for a May 2005 bank robbery, but not before he tried to defend his behavior to Federal Judge Richard L. Young, blaming the robbery on federal corrections officials. He would have turned his life around before now, Mackey said, if officials had just sent him to a prison close to his mother's home in Florida when he was locked up for a 1982 crime. And as to the charge that he shot at police as he fled the bank robbery, he claimed self-defense: "The police were shooting at me."

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 340th day of 2005. There are 25 days left in the year.

On Dec. 6, 1889, Jefferson Davis, the first and only president of the Confederate States of America, died in New Orleans.

In 1947, Everglades National Park in Florida was dedicated by President Truman.

In 1884, Army engineers completed construction of the Washington Monument.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Marriage is a lottery in which men stake their liberty and women their happiness."
MADAME VIRGINIE DE RIEUX
16TH-CENTURY FRENCH WRITER

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SMC taps Tsang as next president

BY RYAN HYATT
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMC — Elected officials on Monday announced that Dr. Chui L. Tsang will become the new president of Santa Monica College early next year.

Tsang, who currently serves as president for San José City College, was one of three finalists referred from an SMC search committee and chosen by the board of trustees after a public forum held in November, during which the candidates answered a slew of questions before students, school employees and community mem-

bers regarding their administrative styles.

The 54-year-old Tsang, a first-generation Californian who was born and raised in China, is expected to take the reins at SMC on Feb. 27, 2006. He will earn an annual salary of \$175,000.

"We believe that Dr. Tsang will be an outstanding president, and will help us move ahead in exciting and challenging times for Santa Monica College," said Carole Currey, the board of trustees chair. "We were particularly impressed with Dr. Tsang's perspicacity and sense of humor."

Tsang will succeed Dr. Piedad



DR. CHUI TSANG

Robertson, who left the college in January to become president of the Denver-based Education Commis-

sion of the States.

According to a biographical profile, Dr. Tsang came to the United States via Hong Kong in 1971 at the age of 19. He received his start in education as a student at Contra Costa Community College in San Pablo. After graduating with a bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley, Tsang earned his doctorate in linguistics at Stanford University, where he taught for several years.

Dr. Tsang soon left his teaching career behind to work full-time as the director of the Career

See SMC PRESIDENT, page 5



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Recording artist Kanye West performs in front of thousands of students at the Santa Monica High School Greek Amphitheatre on Monday as part of a promotion that, in part, raises money for high schools.

Woman charged in murder of unborn fetus

By Daily Press staff

DOWNTOWN LA — The Santa Monica woman arrested last week for allegedly killing a 23-week-old fetus has been charged with one count of murder and one count of attempted murder, the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office said Monday.

Victoria Nadine Caldwell-

Later, 35, was charged with the felony counts on Monday. If convicted, she faces between 25 years and life in prison, according to DA spokeswoman Jane Robison.

Caldwell-Later is being held on \$1 million bail at the Los Angeles Police Department's 77th Street women's detention center.

Police arrested Caldwell-Later on Thursday in the 1800 block of

18th Street, where she had been living for several weeks, said P.J. Morris, homicide coordinator for LAPD's northeast division.

Caldwell-Later was taken into custody after allegedly stabbing a 32-year-old pregnant woman outside of her home in the Los Feliz area on Oct. 13. The woman sur-

See MURDER, page 5

Samohi kids care about Kanye West

BY RYAN HYATT
Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI — A "Dropout" was welcomed to Santa Monica High School with open arms on Monday, as students beat out other area schools to lure a performance by Kanye West, a Grammy-award winning hip-hop recording artist and budding superstar.

More than 3,500 students bopped their heads and clapped along to West's music on Monday, after garnering more than one million votes in an online radio contest sponsored by KPRW 105.9 FM.

The hour-long concert, treated as a pep rally, was staged at 2 p.m. at the Santa Monica High School amphitheater, and featured songs from West's most recent album, *Late Registration*, which has sold in upwards of 2 million copies.

The event was organized by 105.9's "Big Boy in the Morning," a local radio personality who invited Los Angeles schools to register online to win a private event with West.

The contest drew more than 5 million votes from some 100 schools in the metropolitan area that participated during the two-week window. Samohi students

See KANYE WEST, page 6

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How West was won: Students revel in free show

KANYE WEST, from page 1

contributed 20 percent of the vote — many of them voting multiple times, they said. The event was organized, in part, to provide \$150,000 in college scholarship money to high school students.

Santa Monica police officers worked with campus administrators to beef up school security in anticipation of the event. Sidewalks around Samohi were taped off, and entry on campus was restricted to event organizers and members of the media. National news stations were present, including NBC, ABC and CBS.

West — who's known for his critical political message and clean-cut presentation — recently landed on the cover of Time Magazine. The article describes how West, winner of three Grammys, was once a college dropout who had his first success playing with popular R&B artists on their albums.

Due to his appearance and overall style, West struggled to find a way to get his own voice on record. Multiple record companies put him aside due to the fact that West is not a former 'street hustler', and does not wear the orthodox hip-hop apparel and would, therefore, not be as marketable as an artist portraying the "typical rapper image," according to the article.

West has accused American politicians of insensitivity, claiming they "[ride] home in their Benzs and Bentleys while poor Africans starve."

On Aug. 22, the MTV special "All Eyes on Kanye West" aired, during which West said that the term "gay" is the exact opposite word of hip-hop to many. He said that hip-hop always focused on "speaking your mind and about breaking down barriers, but everyone in hip-hop discriminates against gay people." West then reflected on a personal experience.

He said that he had ... "a turning point" when he realized that his cousin was gay. He said, regarding this experience, "Yo, this is my cousin. I love him and I've been discriminating against gays." He further said that, "not just hip-hop, but America just discriminates" against gay people. He concluded by saying "... And I wanna just, to come on TV and just tell my rappers, just tell my friends, 'Yo, stop it.'"

He also drew comparisons between the struggle of African-Americans for civil rights and today's gay rights movement.

On Monday, introductory remarks celebrating Samohi's student body diversity were made by Principal Ilene Straus, City Councilman Richard Bloom and Big Boy.

"There were lots of schools who wanted Kanye West, but one of them worked harder than the others to get him," Big Boy said. "Lots of times you hear reports in the media about what's wrong with our schools, but you don't always hear what's right."

"We don't think there's a better school that deserves something like this."

Straus said all periods were held on Monday. The campus was on a pep rally schedule, which meant some periods were shortened.

Matt Wizan, a Samohi freshman, clapped loudly during Big Boy's remarks and shouted "yeah, Samohi" as the event began.

Wizan said he's a fan of West and is especially fond of "Gold Digger," a hit single which organizers said lasted on the Billboard Hot 100 for 10 weeks.

Wizan said he is proud to attend Samohi and likes the fact there are non-traditional pep rallies on campus, such as the one held on Monday.

"It's pep rallies like this, when Kanye West comes, which make them a good time," Wizan said. "It's the kind of thing that happens only at Samohi, which is one of the reasons why I like going to school here."



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