

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

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site: <http://www.calottery.com>



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

SAMOH — 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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HOROSCOPE

Chill out tonight, Scorpio

Santa Monica Daily Press



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS The stars show the kind of day you'll Have:
★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★★★-Average ★★-So-so ★-Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Use your detachment; still, don't be surprised when everything gets mixed up. Listen rather than talk. You will gather much more key information that way. Keeping others' minds straight could take a lot. Tonight: Where the crowds are, but make sure that if meeting someone, you are both carrying cell phones!



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Although you might have the final word, you do need to encourage teamwork. A sense of mutuality produces better results, be it professionally or personally. Your ability to sort through a problem could be called upon. Tonight: Forget an early bedtime.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Don't buck the trend. You will find that others want and will demand that they have the final say. Don't even try to interfere with associates and friends. You might be more out of sync than you realize. Tonight: Confirm a get-together before heading out. Confusion lurks.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ A particular associate might be demanding in his or her own special style. But together, the product you create could be very impressive. Carefully work through an issue that surrounds a love relationship. Tonight: Work with someone you care about to eliminate a touch of chaos.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Others knock on your door. You have an opportunity to understand some of the key people in your life. Misunderstandings are likely, especially on the home front. Be careful that your humor doesn't hurt someone. Tonight: Go along with plans.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★ Tension rises, especially as you see someone very differently. Pace yourself, as you might have a lot of ground to cover. Relax with someone you trust and understand. You also might need some help and support. Tonight: Whatever you choose, make it relaxing.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ A money hassle could prove to be far more upsetting than you'd anticipated. Your creativity, humor and risk-taking abilities merge and might be the source of a problem. Speak your mind and share yourself with others. Tonight: Observe a financial red light.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Add confusion to the list of what might be going on. Might you not be getting the whole story? Security and finances need to become your highest priorities. Honor them accordingly. Tonight: Chill out.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Speak to others rather than question or wonder. The clearer you are, the better the results that will come forward. You could easily get your feelings hurt, or perhaps a problem evolves with someone else. Tonight: Hang out.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ A friend might disappoint you. You find that you can work around a problem. Listen well to someone's suggestions. You still might want to think through what is happening around you. Co-workers could be feisty. Tonight: Be sensitive to expenses.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You're full of fun and life. Others focus on what you want. Listen to your sixth sense with a friend. Review an important matter. Consider what you need to do to make an authority figure more comfortable. Tonight: Don't take any flak.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ More is going on behind the scenes than you realize. How you deal with someone could be quite different from before. Follow your instinctive reactions. You might want to be more in tune with others. Slow down. Tonight: Try to stay out of a confusing situation.



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Making the scene, caroling in holiday season

By Daily Press staff

Christmas is almost here and to help celebrate the holiday, a group of churches, businesses and private citizens have banded together to organize a program to celebrate traditions.

The program will start on Sunday, Dec. 11, at 3 p.m. with a caroling procession beginning on the Third Street Promenade at Broadway, continuing down the Promenade to Wilshire Boulevard and ending at Palisades Park for the opening ceremony. All ages are invited to gather by 3 p.m. and participate in singing various Christmas carols.

The opening ceremony of Santa Monica’s nativity scene will take place at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, in Palisades Park at Ocean and Arizona avenues.

Master of ceremonies Bob Gabriel will introduce choirs from Santa Monica as the program focuses on the telling of the Christmas story with Christmas carols and music. Participating groups include: Calvary Baptist Church Choir, Lighthouse Church School Choir (Kari Czer, leader), Lighthouse Christian Academy (Michael Shaughnessy, leader) with others pending.

There also will be a number of nativity scenes on display sponsored by various businesses, churches and organizations.

Santa Monica’s history on display

By Daily Press staff

You could have purchased the lot on the corner of Ocean Avenue and Broadway for only \$500. That is, if you were in Santa Monica in 1875.

On July 15, 1875, Santa Monica co-founders John P. Jones and Robert S. Baker held Santa Monica’s first land auction that included lots for businesses, residents and villa farms. By the end of the day, \$40,000 worth of land was sold, and \$43,000 the next day. Auctioneer Fitch described Santa Monica that day as, “a western sky of scarlet and gold. We will sell a bay filled with white-winged ships, we will sell a southern horizon rimmed with a choice collection of purple mountains, carved in castles, turrets, and domes, we will sell a frostless, bracing, warm yet un languid air, braided with sunshine and odored with the breath of flowers.”

Since the first land auction, Santa Monica has become filled with railroads, street cars and major routes such as the Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica Freeway and Route 66; a diverse working industry sparked by Donald Douglas Aircraft Company; and home to celebrities such as Shirley Temple, Marion Davies and Douglas Fairbanks.

Much of Santa Monica’s history can be found at the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum, which is celebrating their 30th anniversary this year.

The museum’s atmosphere sets the stage for a journey into Santa Monica’s eccentric, yet rich history. The story-telling exhibits are filled with artifacts and historic images capturing the diverse culture and history of Santa Monica Bay. The museum will open a new exhibit about the Marion Davies Estate on Dec. 11, featuring historic photos from the Bison Archives. Visitors can research the history of businesses, land development, recreation, piers, buildings and even daily life of Santa Monicans with the museum’s research library that holds early telephone directories, Santa Monica and California history books, documents, newspapers and maps. The museum’s images archives of more than 700,000 images is one of the largest collections of Santa Monica Bay images from collections such as the Outlook Newspaper, John P. Jones, Ricardo Johnson, Bill Beebe, Bob Smith, the Chamber of Commerce, Santa Monica Symphony, Franklin Parent Teachers Association and many other organizations and individuals.

Look for the museum’s new home in 2006 at the newly built Santa Monica Main Public Library on Seventh Street. The new 5,000-square-foot museum will have state-of-the-art interactive exhibits, research library and expanded educational programs. To contribute to the new museum’s capital campaign, call (310) 395-2290. The museum is currently located at 1539 Euclid St., and is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the second and fourth Sundays each month from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH 12"-12"	CONDITIONS Thin Cover	RUNS OPEN 2	LIFTS OPEN 2
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MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH 24"-36"	CONDITIONS Packed Powder Machine Groomed Obstacles	RUNS OPEN 45	LIFTS OPEN 16
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MOUNTAIN HIGH

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH 12"-18"	CONDITIONS Machine Made Hard Packed	RUNS OPEN 6	LIFTS OPEN 3
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MT. BALDY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH 0"-1"	CONDITIONS N/A	RUNS OPEN 0	LIFTS OPEN 0
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SNOW SUMMIT

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH 12"-12"	CONDITIONS Powder Packed Machine Made Machine Groomed Hard Packed	RUNS OPEN 3	LIFTS OPEN 2
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JUNE MOUNTAIN

CLOSED

SNOW VALLEY

CLOSED

CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 59°

DATA PROVIDED BY WETSAND.COM

SWELL FORECAST (1-2FT)

We're in for some minor VNW swell from recent activity in the mid northern Pacific region, but as with recent activity we've been tracking in this region recently, it will be adversely affected by the unusual, east-west mean wave direction, thus greatly increasing the angular spreading decay. We will be seeing some surf with 14-second periods from 280-290 degrees, but break out a loooong board, as size will be only ankle to knee high, waist high on the better set waves when the tide is right.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

NW swell hits NCal Wednesday, SoCal Thursday...

Tracking significant NW swell to hit during the weekend...

Wind events on tap this week...

TIDE FORECAST FOR SANTA MONICA

MONDAY	LOW TIDE:	N/A	1.6FT	1:29PM	0.3FT
	HIGH TIDE:	6:33AM	5.7FT	7:35PM	3.8FT

TUESDAY	LOW TIDE:	12:34AM	1.8FT	2:05	-0.3
	HIGH TIDE:	6:59AM	6.1FT	8:21	3.8

WEDNESDAY	LOW TIDE:	1:02AM	1.4FT	2:31	0.0
	HIGH TIDE:	7:28AM	5.4FT	9:15	3.2

THURSDAY	LOW TIDE:	1:37AM	1.2FT	3:04	-0.1
	HIGH TIDE:	8:07AM	4.9FT	9:40	3.0

FRIDAY	LOW TIDE:	2:06AM	1.1FT	3:41	0.3
	HIGH TIDE:	8:41AM	4.3FT	10:09	2.9

SURF AND SNOW QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? EMAIL ALEX@SMSP.COM



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The QLine

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The City Council has named Lamont Ewell as Santa Monica's new city manager. Since the appointment was announced, some people have expressed concern over an ongoing controversy over finances that surrounded Ewell during his time as city manager of San Diego. Council members say they are confident in their choice and that Ewell, who is not accused of any wrong doing, is not linked to the problems in San Diego.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, “Do you support the City Council's choice for city manager? Why or why not?”

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Whose voice is it anyway?

Editor:

In the past year, a woman murdered two of her children and almost killed the third. When asked why she did it, she said God told her to do it.

The former dictator of Myanmar (Burma), unable to get the ear of Buddha himself, found his own Rasputin who claimed to be able to do so. Among many ridiculous orders that promised to protect the dictator was one to have different time from any other country. This was accomplished by turning clocks a half hour ahead, in spite of the country obeying every order, a coup kicked the dictator off his throne and out of Myanmar.

And now we have Bush.

Cecilia Rosenthal
Santa Monica

Waxman, others failing California

Editor:

Regarding "Red Line to Santa Monica could lose strongest opponent" (SMDP, Nov. 30, page 1). The total failure for decades to address the issue of a westside subway by a host of political changelings who come and go without as much as a peep or some others like Henry Waxman, who managed to hold on to their elected employment borders on the absurd. Because Los Angeles is America's major trading conduit with Asia, the importance of its transportation network is principal not just to California, but to the whole country. Our local government leaders are failing us because they refuse to take on projects which enhance the region's infrastructure. Important leaders accomplish and finish important projects. Average or below average politicians do average things or they do nothing at all. Los Angeles is not getting its proper share of the nation's wealth that could be used to develop critical projects such as the westside subway. Sadly, a subway line is also needed under other crucial transportation routes such as under Lincoln Boulevard from Montana Boulevard in Santa Monica to LAX, and perhaps beyond. Decades of weak, politically impoverished leaders who carry no heft on a national level have left Los Angeles with little to show in the way of transportation improvements. A subway could be just as transformative and revitalizing for the future of our city as the freeways where to mid-19th century Los Angeles. Huge vital and aesthetic infrastructure projects are embraced in China's great cities whose leaders have a keen eye on the future. Here, most of our local politicians seem to have to apologize before even broaching the subject of even a simple lane addition on the 405 — much less a westside subway. With the cost of gasoline to only continue to increase over the coming years wouldn't it be smart to get going with some of these projects before the weight of these problems are too much upon us?

Ken C. Arnold
Santa Monica

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

Schwarzenegger scores points even with death



WHAT'S THE POINT?

BY DAVID PISARRA

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Thursday has the opportunity to hear the argument from a killer's defense team on why clemency is justified in the case of convicted killer Stanley "Tookie" Williams. Clemency is the reduction in penalty for a crime, without forgiving the actual crime. It is the state's version of "hate the sin, love the sinner."

As usual, I have conflicting opinions on the issue. Longtime readers know that my emotional reaction to the death penalty is that I am in favor of it, but that logistically and financially I am against it. I think that someone who has done the crimes that Mr. Williams has been convicted of certainly deserves to die. I just lack the faith in our system to always get the right person, and thus, it is illogical to condemn someone to death, and execute them, when there is doubt as to their guilt.

I also don't think it makes financial sense to have the death penalty. It costs us too much money to have someone like Mr. Williams on Death Row, and to fund his extensive appeals and then fight against them. Fiscally, life without parole is a much more cost effective penalty. And quite frankly, in a state that has the financial problems we do, and the prison population, we should be cutting costs wherever we can. The prisons are a great place to start.

I know reducing the prison budget will not sit well with the governor given his close ties to the prison industry and its millions of dollars of fundraising capabilities, but that is where he also should take a look in the mirror, and delve deeper than his tan.

Mr. Williams was convicted of four murders. All four were at close range with a sawed off shotgun. One of the victims had the wadding from the shotgun shell found in her. That means that the gun was just inches from her. He is reputed to have uttered various racial slurs about his victims. The murders were heinous, cold blooded killings. He maintains he is innocent and that he was wrongly convicted. It is the usual litany of prosecutorial misconduct, incompetence of counsel (what losing client doesn't claim that one?), lack of evidence and racially biased jury.

The pro-life lobby, I mean the anti-death penalty camp, is fighting hard to get the governor to grant clemency. They are pointing to a string of good deeds that Mr. Williams has done since his incarceration. His authoring several children books, his new role as a spokesperson against gang violence, and his letter from President George W. Bush commending him for social activism are all being used. The fact that Mr. Williams has been nominated every year since 2001 for a Nobel Peace Prize is trotted out as if it were proof of his conversion to elder statesman and respectable humanitarian.

On his web page, www.tookie.com, he pleads his case. He has his public service

announcements available for listening. They use gunshots and the flatline sound of a heart monitor to convey to young children that the gang life is not all Cadillac Escalades and Spinners. At the end of the PSAs, the voice over says that Mr. Williams has "turned my life around, and you can too." That's a great sentiment. I love redemption stories.

The problem for me is that Albert Owens, Tsai-Shai Yang, Yen-I Yang, and Yee Chen Lin don't have the opportunity to turn their lives around. They were killed. Believe who you want, the reality is that Mr. Williams is definitely one of the co-founders of the Crips, and not a very nice man, at least he wasn't. He's had the chance to change, the victims didn't.

According to a judge, a jury and an appellate process that is designed to put in safeguards, Mr. Williams is the murderer of four people. The state of California, "da peeples" as the governor would say, have spoken. They want him dead.

The governor describes the decision as "the toughest thing when you are governor, dealing with someone's life." Funny, he didn't say that when he was denying marriage rights to about 3.7 million Californians. But I guess one convicted felon, so long as he is straight, even if he can't vote, has more value to Governor Schwarzenegger than the millions of tax paying, voting, socially conscious "girlie-men" and dykes the governor so likes to denigrate and demean.

The governor said that the courts should decide the gay marriage issue because the legislature passed a bill that he didn't like. Yet now, he is conveniently, stepping into the death penalty debate and possibly using his executive privilege to override the court system. One could ask how is this governor a "law and order" kind of guy since he seems to ignore the other branches of government and their roles. One might also ask why this "law and order" Republican would entertain such a possibility as clemency for a convicted four time killer?

Re-election. After his last bruising special election, the governor is making a run to the left, probably on the recommendation of his wife, but a hard left is what this governor is doing.

Whether he grants clemency or not, the fact that he held a hearing with the condemned man's legal defense team makes him seem more open-minded. A tad bit more liberal. It will allow him to do nothing, which will appease the right wing Republicans who didn't show up for him in the last election, and he can say that he "thoughtfully considered" all the options and pick up some left-wing credentials by saying how tough this decision was.

It is one more reason why the death penalty, though attractive, makes for bad policy. Here is a media savvy governor, using the life of a killer, to pick up political points on both sides of the aisle.

Sickening, but not surprising.

(David Pizarra is a lawyer in the Santa Monica firm of Pizarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpizarra@pizarra.com or (310) 664-9969.)



Tsang emerges after nationwide search

SMC PRESIDENT, from page 1

Resources Development Center in San Francisco, specializing in providing job training to refugees, immigrants and the unemployed. He also served as dean of the School of Applied Science and Technology at City College of San Francisco for five years.

He became president of San José City College, which has an enrollment of more than 10,000 students, back in 1997, remaining at the post for the past nine years.

While at San Jose, Tsang led the college on a \$200 million-plus construction boom, funded primarily by voter-approved bonds in 1998 and 2004, that includes a new parking structure, library, tech center, student center and science complex, according to a SMC press release. Under his leadership, a strategic planning model was developed through which the faculty continuously updates the college priorities and academic disciplines to reflect the changing needs of students and shifting economic trends.

In May 2004, Tsang was honored as a "Local Hero" by the Asian Pacific American Heritage for his commitment and contributions to the Bay Area through business, community activism, education and social services.

"We know the entire SMC community and the cities of Santa Monica, Malibu and Los Angeles will welcome Dr. Tsang to the Santa Monica College family," said Currey on Monday.

The naming of Tsang comes after nearly a year-long search for Robertson's successor. SMC's Presidential Search Committee — comprised of SMC employees, students and Santa Monica community members — screened applications and interviewed semi-finalists for the president's position.

The committee then forwarded to SMC's Board of Trustees the names of three candidates — Dr. Deborah Blue, vice president of policy and research for the Accrediting Commission for Community & Junior Colleges (ACCJC) in Novato, Calif.; Dr. G. Jeremiah Ryan, president of Raritan Valley Community College in New Jersey; and Dr. Tsang — for consideration as finalists for the SMC presidential post.

SMC undertook a national search that included mailings, use of e-mail lists, and advertising in a variety of publications, including the Chronicle of Higher Education, Women in Higher Education, Asian Week, Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education and Black Careers.

Each of the finalists spent a full day at SMC's main campus for interviews with the Board of Trustees. They also appeared at public forums to speak and answer questions. The forums were held for two hours for each candidate and ran from Nov. 14-16.

Tom Donner — who has served as SMC's interim president since last December when Robertson announced her retirement — said he was impressed by the finalists, believing the search committee did an excellent job providing diverse candidates to choose from.

"These weren't cookie-cutter finalists," Donner said. "The board has been presented with three candidates who have very distinct management styles, and it's been the board of trustees' job to figure out which one's best for the college."

On Monday, the answer was revealed to be Dr. Tsang.

Tsang has two children, Richard, 20, a junior at UC Berkeley majoring in political science and history, and Kathryn, 19, a sophomore at UC Davis majoring in biology.

Victim stabbed outside home en route to work

MURDER, from page 1

vived, but her unborn daughter did not, Det. Morris said.

The victim was leaving her home to go to work when Caldwell-Later allegedly approached her and stabbed her, Morris said. The two women are believed to

know one another.

LAPD detectives also served a search warrant at a home in the 1100 block of Ozone Street, where several items were seized as evidence. Morris declined to discuss the nature of the evidence, including whether or not the murder weapon was recovered.

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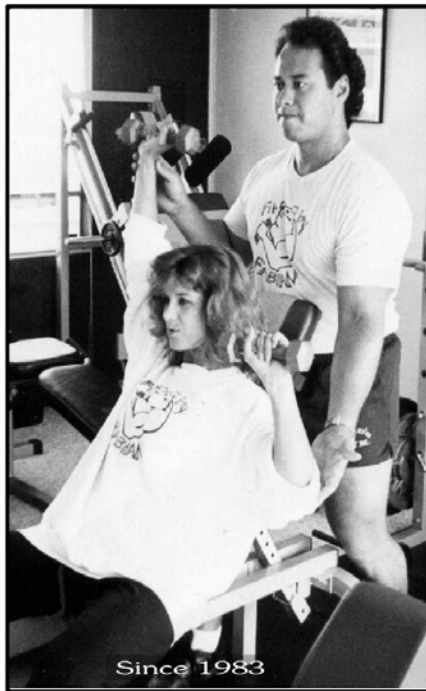
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The Q Line



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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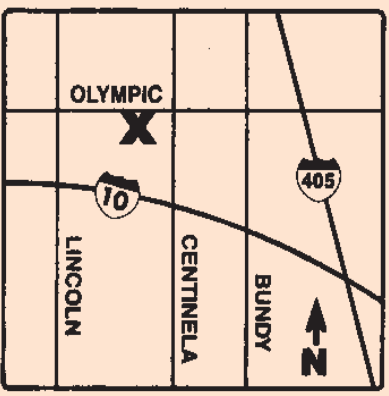
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Immigration reform putting GOP at odds

(Editor's note: They are not supposed to be here. But they are, almost everywhere, as many as 20 million strong. Illegal immigrants harvest our groceries, build our houses, make our beds and do our dishes. They are spreading beyond traditional immigrant states like California and Texas, moving wherever there is growth, affordable housing and family networks. They are increasingly found in states like Utah, Washington, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Georgia and the Dakotas. They form an underground economy that, by one estimate, produces \$970 billion in goods and services, or nearly 9 percent of the overall U.S. economy. AP reporters have been examining the phenomenon of this underground economy. This is part three in a multi-part series.)

BY PETER PRENGAMAN
Associated Press Writer

OXNARD, Calif. — With only 28 of the 70 workers he needs, foreman Francisco Barragan is worried that Deardorff-Jackson farm won't be able to harvest 800 acres of celery before it rots.

"A few years ago we could get people consistently," said Barragan, 50, a Mexico native who has overseen Hispanic farm crews in California for 15 years. "Now we might lose some crops because we don't have people."

Several things are changing the market for immigrant labor. Some workers opt for higher paying construction jobs, while both the government and civilian patrol groups such as the Minutemen have redoubled efforts to secure the still-porous southern border.

While farmers and allied business groups lobby for a guest worker program to regulate the millions of undocumented Hispanic workers already here or wanting to come, hard-line restrictionists push for law enforcement solutions to illegal immigration. That dynamic is dividing Republicans.

The result, immigration policy analysts agree: Don't bet that Congress will pass comprehensive reform proposals, some of which have languished for several years after President Bush jump-started the issue nearly two years ago.

With national elections in 2006 and a politically weakened president, even a promise to debate guest worker proposals early next year in the Senate may not amount to much.

"The president's political capital is so low right now. Is he going to use what little he has left on immigration reform?" asked Jaime Regalado, director of the Pat Brown Institute of Public Affairs at California State University, Los Angeles. "Maybe, but I don't think so."

Bush renewed his push for a guest worker plan on a post-Thanksgiving trip to Arizona and Texas.

"There's a lot of opinions on this proposal," Bush said. "I understand that. But people in this debate must recognize that we will not be able to effectively enforce our immigration laws until we create a temporary worker program."

The several major reform proposals differ in their details, but one thing all sides agree on is that the current situation urgently needs attention.

Bush's proposal would give undocumented workers three-year work visas that could be extended for another three years, though workers would then have to leave for a year before applying again. Beyond the nod to businesses, it was aimed at wooing Hispanic voters for last year's presidential elections.

Still, many Republicans rejected it as unrealistic and criticized the president for not focusing more on border security. Bush alienated many conservatives by

calling the Arizona-based Minutemen "vigilantes" when they began patrolling the U.S.-Mexico border more than a year ago, said Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Study, which favors less immigration and stricter enforcement.

"The chief obstacle to reform is the president," said Krikorian.

Most of the viable reform proposals are Republican-led.

— GOP Sens. John Cornyn of Texas and Jon Kyl of Arizona propose letting immigrant workers enter the country for two years, followed by a one-year break. Workers could repeat that pattern two more times, but then have to return home.

— Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., back legislation that would let illegal aliens work in the U.S. for up to six years. After that, they would have to be on track to obtaining legal residency or leave.

— Nebraska Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel has proposed giving undocumented workers legal status if they pass criminal background checks, have lived in the U.S. for at least five years, have paid taxes, can demonstrate a knowledge of English and pay a \$2,000 fine.

But Hagel believes border security must be strengthened before a guest worker program can succeed.

Conservatives take that a step further, saying talk of reform is meaningless until immigration officials are more aggressive.

"Guest worker programs are worthless," said Minutemen President Chris Simcox. "We can't even talk about that until there is real government enforcement on the border."

Immigration officials say they are focused on terrorist threats, that it would be impossible to send home the entire illegal population — estimates suggest there are more than 10 million — in one swoop.

The government knows businesses are dependent on foreign labor, said Tamar Jacoby, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute who advocates both a guest worker program and resolving the immigration status of illegals currently in the country.

Most Americans are unwilling to do hard labor or farm jobs, she said, while many immigrants do them cheaply.

"Farming, construction, food processing, those businesses can't stay afloat without those workers," said Jacoby.

Barragan, the foreman, likes to tell the story of the last non-Hispanic who worked on the farm. It was 16 years ago that a Japanese immigrant came, cut cauliflower for two hours and quit.

"You never see any blacks or whites out here," said Maria Hurtado, 34, a Mexican who sorts tomatoes at the Deardorff-Jackson farm. "We are the ones who do this work."

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■ "Braceros program" and "Illegals spreading out"

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STATE

San Diego not so 'fine', strips own title amid corruption

BY ELLIOT SPAGAT

Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO — America's Finest City? Not any more.

One of its congressmen admitted taking \$2.4 million in bribes, the FBI has investigated City Hall, the mayor resigned, a \$1.37 billion pension shortfall damaged the city's credit rating and fueled talk of bankruptcy, and two councilmen were convicted of taking bribes from a strip club owner.

Faced with all that ill repute, the city has quietly dethroned itself and dropped the self-proclaimed title "America's Finest City" from its official Web site.

"We couldn't stake that claim anymore," said Gina Lew, the city's director of public and media affairs. "We

were taking too many hits."

The San Diego Union-Tribune recently asked readers to coin a new slogan, saying "America's Finest" had turned "creaky." Among the nearly 500 responses: "Scandalicious," "An Eruption of Corruption," "All Major Unmarked Bills Accepted Here," and "Bunglers by the Bay."

Headline writers have weighed in with "Enron-by-the-Sea" (The New York Times) and "Paradise Insolvent" (Governing Magazine).

Lew said the title was erased from the Web site in August — leaving a blank blue space next to a photo of the downtown skyline — in response to the federal investigation of the city's troubled finances.

The investigation led to the resignation of Mayor Dick

Murphy in April, followed days later by the councilmen's conviction for taking bribes in exchange for efforts to allow touching at nude bars.

And just one week ago, Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham resigned from Congress after pleading guilty to pocketing bribes that helped pay for a Rolls-Royce, a yacht named the "Duke-Stir" and antique furniture.

San Diego dubbed itself "America's Finest City" in 1972 — ironically, to get through another rough patch.

The Republican Party had moved its national convention from San Diego to Miami Beach with less than three months notice. There were allegations that the Justice Department dropped an antitrust suit against International Telephone & Telegraph Co. after it pledged \$400,000 to the convention.

Then-mayor Pete Wilson ordered an "America's Finest City" week of festivals during the Miami convention, complete with boat races and concerts. The festival lasted several years and the slogan survived even longer.

"One scandal gave rise to the slogan and another, even deeper scandal has erased it," said Carl Luna, a political scientist at San Diego's Mesa College.

Other branding efforts — "The First Great City of the 21st Century" — never caught fire.

Wilson, who later served as a U.S. senator and California governor, said dropping the title was "too defensive" and "very shortsighted." San Diego, he said, should fix itself and "get on with living."

Most San Diegans agree. A KPBS/Competitive Edge poll last year found 57 percent of residents believed the city was still the country's finest. But that was mostly because of the postcard-perfect beaches and nearly endless string of sunny, 72-degree days.

"America's Finest City" still remains popular among weather forecasters and talk radio hosts. But others say it only makes San Diego the butt of jokes.

"Even the Chamber of Commerce shies away from it," said Steve Erie, a political scientist at University of California, San Diego. "This is a city that has run away from its slogan."

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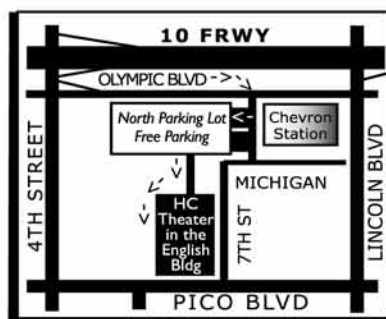
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STATE



And cut! Turmoil in actors' union could lead to split

BY GARY GENTILE

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES — The largest union representing actors has promised a new, tougher stance in contract talks with powerful media conglomerates.

But the Screen Actors Guild may self-destruct before it ever gets the chance.

The labor union's long-running infighting has escalated into what could become a mutiny after the election in September of SAG President Alan Rosenberg.

Rosenberg and his allies gained a majority on the national board by pledging to squeeze more money from the studios from the sale of DVDs and new technologies, including downloading of films and TV shows. He also pledged to unite SAG's feuding factions.

Instead, Rosenberg, 55, divided the union even more by almost immediately firing popular SAG national executive director Greg Hessinger. He had been hired by the previous leadership, which Rosenberg accused of surrendering too easily on key economic issues in contract talks last year.

Many union members see the firing as an arrogant display of power by Rosenberg that could finally split the union into two groups — one that represents film and TV actors, primarily based in Hollywood, and another mostly comprised of members in New York, Chicago and elsewhere who do commercials and voiceovers.

Paul Christie, president of SAG's New York branch, said talk of a split has heated up since the election of Rosenberg, who was a regular on the TV series "LA Law" and "The Guardian," and is married to "CSI" star Marg Helgenberger.

"I think he's capable of better things," Christie said.

With 120,000 members, SAG has always been a fragmented labor union, representing both multimillionaire superstars and rank-and-file membership with an unemployment rate of more than 80 percent.

Membership in the union is all but required to work in films, television and commercials. Many SAG members also belong to the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, which has jurisdiction over the prime-time schedule of major networks, among other areas.

Rosenberg's agenda mirrors that of the newly elected president of the Writers Guild of America, west. Patric Verrone also ran on a promise to get tougher with studios and also fired his executive director soon after taking office.

Both men justified the firings by saying they needed staff who would push their agendas of increasing membership, fighting the rise of reality TV shows and gaining more economic concessions from studios.

Rosenberg's action deepened the geographic rift that already existed in the union.

Actors outside Hollywood are not as reliant on residuals from DVDs and other technology and are less inclined to endure a lengthy, costly strike over the issue. Those actors also fear Los Angeles-based members, who control the guild because of their numbers, will abuse their power and push through an agenda that ignores

the needs of actors in other regions.

Rosenberg acknowledges that bridging these differences is his most pressing challenge.

"You have people living in all different areas of the country who feel like they're muzzled and don't have a voice or are afraid they're going to be muzzled," he said.

He has visited the New York and Miami branches in recent weeks and plans on visiting other locals in the hope of creating a more unified front for upcoming contract talks.

"It doesn't serve us well at all for our employers to know that our union is basically split down the middle," Rosenberg said. "That gives them a lot of leverage."

Uniting the union will be critical for Rosenberg, who faces his first big test next year when SAG's contract with advertising agencies expires. The guild's pact with studios expires two years later.

"If we don't strengthen the core of our union, we're going to be fighting a losing battle," said Kathy Christopherson, a Los Angeles actress, writer and producer.

In the latest sign of dissension, three SAG members last week asked the U.S. Department of Labor to void Rosenberg's election, alleging illegal campaign tactics by Rosenberg's Membership First party.

Based on new, tough talk from SAG and the Writers Guild of America, media companies have developed contingency plans that would include stockpiling scripts and productions in anticipation of a strike. That move could lead to a "de facto" strike, similar to the one that led to an industry slowdown in 2001 that put thousands of entertainment industry employees out of work.

Rosenberg's election underscored dissatisfaction with last year's contract talks, which won higher wages but failed to budge the studios on paying a bigger share of the lucrative DVD market.

"I think we just walked away too soon and too easily without fighting," Rosenberg said. "We sent a message of weakness."

Now, studios are also experimenting with new sources of revenue, offering TV shows on demand over the Web, without explaining how they intend to pay actors and writers.

Rosenberg's views, especially on the challenges of new technology, aren't that different from those of Christie or others in the union. But guild members differ over whether they should strike to win concessions.

"It's not going to be the toughest guy at the table, it's going to be the smartest guy at the table," Christie said.

Fighting over DVD revenue may be a waste of time, Christie said, as the industry looks at new ways to distribute content, including sending movies and TV shows to cell phones, iPods and other devices.

Christie pledged to work with Rosenberg and expressed his support during a testy meeting between Rosenberg and members of the New York branch.

Rosenberg's actions in the next year will have a major impact on the future of the guild. He could try to force through his agenda with the slim majority he has on the national board room, Christie said.

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— Lens Liable

Dear Liable,

My 8-year-old just got her first pair of glasses so I can relate to the price tag trauma. I think my jaw was on the floor for a good 10 minutes when they told me the total — our health insurance covers eye exams only.

With your 4-year-old, start with the truth and keep it simple. Something along the lines of, "These are your glasses. They cost a lot of money to make. Mommy and Daddy need you to take extra special care of them." Pick up a pair of toy glasses to give her favorite stuffed animal and have her "teach" her animal how to care for them as well. Establish an easily accessible location at home for their storage and help her keep them safe at all times when she is not wearing them.

Finally, it is inevitable that your little one is going to lose or break these glasses. Handle it with calm and grace and, while your thinking about it, start putting some pennies aside for the replacements. Good luck.

— Dorie

(Dorie Meek is director of the Infant & Family Support Program, provided by Saint John's Health Center in partnership with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. Meek answers questions concerning children ages birth to 5 years old. Submit your questions to "Dear Dorie" at meek@smmusd.org, or call (310) 452-6132; fax (310) 452-6392).

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Rule No. 1: Make rules understandable



How Much Is Enough?

By Jean Illsley Clarke Ph.D.

"If your children aren't following your rules, try posting them," I suggested.

"I did post the rules, but it hasn't made any difference. My daughter Cellie still doesn't follow them," the mom complained.

"How old is your daughter?" I asked.

"Three," the mother sighed. "They are really good rules. They're all things I want her to learn."

"Like?" I questioned.

"Like, always be kind, keep your room clean and neat at all time, and be polite."

"These are admirable rules, indeed. But ..."

Yes, but, but, but.

Rules only work when they are attuned not only to the needs of the family, but also to the age and capabilities of the child. Cellie, at 3 years old, is just starting to learn socially appropriate behavior. She probably started learning "please" and "thank you" when she was 2, but that skill may not be solid yet, and "be polite" is too complicated and too abstract for the 3-year-old brain. The other two rules are even more daunting — standards that many adults can't meet all of the time.

Clearly this mom has worthwhile goals for her little girl, but this mom needs help.

Tips for rule setting:

■ Rules are expectations and guidelines so avoid global words like always and never.

■ Rules are goals to be achieved. For a young child, the rules should be as behavioral and specific as possible so her achievements can be observed and affirmed.

■ Young brains are largely underdeveloped but growing fast, so keep the rules simple.

■ Young brains handle a few things better than a lot of things so limit the number of rules. As the child achieves some degree of behavioral mastery, add another rule.

■ Think about what each rule teaches.

Look at the following rules for 3-year-old Maya

whose baby brother Jack is creeping.

1. No hitting.
2. Say "please" and "thank you."
3. Put crayons and markers away so the baby can't get them.
4. Brush teeth and wash face before bed.

Although these rules are about very simple behaviors, each is like the tip of an iceberg. Each is a manifestation of a family value or an important life skill.

1. No hitting is about safety and personal boundaries. It also puts the child in a position of needing to learn conflict resolution skills. Of course a not hitting rule means parents can't hit either. If they do hit, the teaching is that you can't hit until you are big.

2. Say "please" and "thank you." 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds are busy with the identity questions: Who am I? Who are you? What do I do about that? How do I get along with others? "Please" and "thank you" are basic units of social manners, and a firm grasp of the importance of social manners, grounded in childhood, will help Maya in school, at work and in adult relationships. Of course, her parents are careful to model good manners toward Maya and others.

3. Put crayons and markers away so the baby can't get them is the tip of the safety, personal responsibility, and care of property iceberg. It also teaches about caring for others and helps Maya move out of her earlier position as the center of the universe.

4. Brush teeth and wash face before bed. These are early lessons about health, cleanliness, appearance, and responsibility for self-care. Very important life skills.

Having good family rules is worth the effort. Lack of rules or not having to follow rules during childhood was identified by adults in the research studies as one of the aspects of overindulgence that causes difficulties in their adult lives.

To participate in a new study on overindulgence and relationships log onto www.overindulgence.info.

(Jean Illsley Clarke Ph.D., Connie Dawson Ph.D., and David J. Bredehoft Ph.D. are co-authors of "How Much is Enough? Everything You Need to Know to Steer Clear of Overindulgence and Raise Likeable, Responsible, and Respectful Children." Illsley Clarke can be reached at jiconsults@aol.com. To read more about overindulgence go to www.overindulgence.info.)

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Also Dec. 20 & 22 at 2:00 p.m.

DOWNTOWN ON ICE – NOV. 17 – JAN. 16

Don't miss your chance to glide at this outdoor skating rink located at Pershing Square. \$6 per session, \$2 skate rental, 532 Olive St., 213-847-4970, www.laparks.org.
Mon. – Thurs., noon to 9:00 p.m.; Fri. – Sun., 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

HOLIDAY LIGHT FESTIVAL – NOV. 23 – DEC. 30

5:00 – 10:00 p.m. This annual tradition features 500,000 lights in festive displays show-casing LA locales. Shuttle service available on select weekends from LA Zoo. Crystal Springs Dr., Griffith Park, 888-LA-PARKS, FREE!

TUESDAY

Movies for Moms! 11:00 a.m., Loews Cineplex Broadway Theatre, 1441 3rd St. Promenade – for Moms and babies newborn – 1 year old. Doors open early for socializing and getting comfortable. Visit www.enjoytheshow.com/reelmoms for details.

Storytelling

Main Library – held at Reed Park, corner of 7th and Wilshire.

Toddler Storytime; 10:00 a.m. For 2 year olds with adult.

Preschool Story Time; 10:30 a.m.; for ages 3-5.

Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.

Cuentos Para Pequenos – 10:00 a.m., six-week series in Spanish for 24 – 36 month olds. **Lap Time** – 11:00 a.m., six-week series for babies 0-24 months, co-sponsored by the SMMUSD Infant & Family Support Program. Current session Nov. 1 – Dec. 6.

Twilight Story Time -7pm – an ongoing program for 3-5 year olds.

Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.

Family Story Time – 7:00 p.m., all ages.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.

Toddler Storytime, 10:00 and 10:30. Music, rhymes and stories for 2 to 3 year olds. Current session Nov. 8 – Dec. 13. Registration required.

Tiny Tuesday Storytime at Storyopolis

For ages infant to 3. 11:00 a.m. 116 North Robertson, Plaza A, L.A. 310-358-2500, www.storyopolis.com

Barnes and Noble at the Grove
Storytime for ages 2 – 6. 10:00 a.m. 189 Grove Drive, LA, 323-525-0270

Classes

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – 12 to 36 months; Infant & Me Class – 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., 0 – 12 months; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

YMCA – Attachment Parenting Classes - 2:00 – 3:30 p.m., 1332 Sixth St., 393-2721 (ask for Shelana Philip-Guide or Audrey Meyer). This new class for mothers/dads and babies up to 12 months is presented by Karol Darsa, PsyD, a licensed psychologist with extensive experience working with children and families. Fees: Members – 1 class - \$40, 5 class pass - \$180; Non-members - \$50, 5 class pass - \$200. BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES – 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.

An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise

Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA

10:00 – 11:00 a.m and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Thursdays nights 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Mommy Care – at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)
Itsy Bitsy Yoga – Baby IBY (6 weeks to pre-crawling) – 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. With Khefri Riley at Ocean Oasis, 1333 Ocean Ave. Register at www.khefri.net or call 323-549-5383.

Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

MOMS Club of SM South Playgroups – 4:30 p.m., separate groups for children born in 2000 and 2001. Call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Storytelling

The Talking Stick Coffee Lounge – 1630 Ocean Park Blvd., 450-6052

10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4 at this neighborhood coffee shop.

Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.

Toddler Story Time – 9:30 a.m., for two year olds with adult.

Preschool Story Time – 10:30 a.m.; for 3-5 year olds with adult.

Current session Nov. 2 – Dec. 7.

Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.

Lap Time - 10:15 & 11:15 a.m., ages 0-2. Current session Oct. 26 – Dec. 14.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 392-3804.

Preschool Twilight Story Time – 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Parents/children ages 3-5.

Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion – 2 pm – ages 2-5 – 310-475-4144

Border's, Westwood – 11a.m. – 310-475-3444.

Classes

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 10:45 – 11:45 a.m., 7 to 36 months; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Rhythm Child Parent & Me Rhythms, Santa Monica Studios, 3025 Olympic Blvd., 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. Children explore rhythms through drum play. For toddlers. \$100 for 8 weeks. Call 204-5466 or visit www.rhythmhchild.net for more info and session dates.

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.
Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre at Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St., 394-9779 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. For ages 3 – 5 with parents. This theatrical adventure includes story time, theatre games, crafts, play building and lunch. Reservations required 24 hours in advance, \$19.50 includes lunch for child and lunch.

Yoga & Exercise

Kids' Yoga Circle, 1814 14th St., 260-2736 – Yoga and more for ages 4 – 7, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. 8 week session \$125/Drop-in \$18

Yoga Works, 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150 Pre/Postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45pm, \$15
Fitness for Moms – Babies Welcome! Step Aerobics, 10:30 a.m. at the YMCA, 393-2721,

ext. 117 for more info. Free for members, non-members pay \$90 for 10 classes.

Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981, drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Other

Puppetolio – 1:00 p.m., 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

THURSDAY

MOMS Club of SM South Playgroup – 3:30 p.m., for children born 3/03 – 12/03, Call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Storytelling

Babystyle, 1324 Montana Avenue, 434-9590 10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4.

Main Library – held at Reed Park, corner of 7th and Wilshire.

Toddler Storytime; 10:00 a.m.; for 2 year olds with adult.

Preschool Story Time; 10:30 a.m.; for ages 3-5.

Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.

La Hora Del Cuento – 7:00 p.m. Spanish stories, songs and rhymes for all ages.

Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.

Toddler Story Time – 10:15 a.m., for 2 year olds, current session thru Dec. 15.

Preschool Story Time – 11:15 a.m.; for 3-5 year olds.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.

Lap Time – 9:20 & 10:20 a.m., for babies up to age 2. Current session thru Nov. 17.

Classes

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m and 10:45 – 11:45 a.m., 12 to 36 months; Parent Support Group – 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., age 3 – 5 years; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES – 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise

Kids' Yoga Circle, 1814 14th St., 260-2736 – Yoga and more for ages 8 – 11, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.; ages 12 – 15, 5:15 – 6:30 p.m. 8 week session \$125/Drop-in \$18

Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA

7:30 – 8:30 p.m; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Tuesdays at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

MOMS Club of SM South Playgroups

11:00 a.m. - playgroup for children born 10/04 – 5/05. Call or e-mail Alison at 393-4481, riversalison@hotmail.com for more info.

Parent's Night Out at Child's Play, 2299 Westwood Blvd., 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Kids get a night of supervised fun with pizza, games and more while parents go out. Ages 3-10, \$9 per hour, \$7 siblings, 3 hour minimum. Reservations required, 470-4997. www.child-splayonline.net

La Leche League of LA/Mar Vista – meets the 2nd Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call 310-390-2529 for info.

Planetarium Show at SMC's John Drescher Planetarium, 7:00 p.m. - Night Sky Show, 8:00 p.m. - featured program. \$5 adults, \$4 children. Pico and 17th St., 434-3000.

Classes

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – 12 – 36 mos.; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise

Fitness for Moms – Babies Welcome! Indoor Cycling, 10:30 a.m. at the YMCA, 393-2721, ext. 117 for more info. Free for members, non-members pay \$90 for 10 classes.

Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45 p.m., \$15. Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Other

Baby Attuned - Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., A new program promoting sensitive parenting and developmental awareness. Eileen Escarce, PhD, MSN. (PSY 18819). Introductory fee: \$15 per screening with feedback. 1137 2nd Ave, Suite 213. By appointment only 310-367-1155.

SATURDAY

Storytelling

Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Kid's Story Time – 10am, 310-260-9110

Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion –

10:30am – ages 2-5, 310-475-4144.

Children's Book World, 10580 1/2 Pico Blvd, LA - 10:30 a.m., 310-559-BOOK.

Village Books, 1049 SwarthmoreAve, Pacific Palisades – 10:30 a.m., 454-4063.

826LA, 685 Venice Blvd, 2nd Floor, Venice – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., ages 3-6, RSVP to info @825LA.com or 310-314-8418. (826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write).

Classes

YWCA – Toddler & Me every other Sat., 9:45 – 10:45 a.m., \$15 per class; Parent Enrichment once per month , 11:00 a.m. – noon, \$15 per class, \$25 per couple.

Yoga & Exercise

Santa Monica Yoga – Pre- & Post-Natal Yoga, Saturdays – 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

1640 Ocean Park Blvd, 396-4040, www.santamonica-yoga.com

Mommy Care – at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.(babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)
Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:00 a.m., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Other

All About Santa at the Santa Monica Playhouse

Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m. thru Dec. 18th , \$12.50 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, www.santamonicaplayhouse.com

Puppetolio – 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

Magicopolis – 2 and 8 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$20 for evening, \$15 for matinee. Call 310-451-2241 for info.

Precious Prints – Ceramic Heirlooms for a Lifetime

Second Saturday every month at The Pump Station, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Contact Kristan Ritchie at 310-802-8013 or visit www.preciousprintsstudios.com for more info.

Lakeshore Learning Stores "Free Crafts for Kids" – Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., 8888 Venice Blvd., 559-9630.

"A Faery Hunt" – 10:30 a.m., every Saturday at Franklin Canyon Park. An interactive children's show, searching for fairies and other enchanted creatures in the magical canyon and finding them! \$10, call for reservations – 818-324-6802. www.faeryhunt.com. Meet in the parking lot of the Sooky Goldman Nature Center, 2600 Franklin Canyon Dr., Beverly Hills.

SUNDAY

All About Santa at the Santa Monica Playhouse

Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m. thru

Dec. 18th , \$12.50 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, www.santamonicaplayhouse.com

Also Dec. 20 & 22 at 2:00 p.m.

Main Street Farmer's Market – 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., corner of Main St. and Ocean Park Blvd. Pony rides, live music, lots of vendors and great family socializing.

Puppetolio – 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

Magicopolis – 2 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$15. Call 310-451-2241 for info.

Breastfeeding

Working Mother's Support Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd. - Call 998-1981 for more info.

MONDAY

MOMS Club of SM South Playgroups

Noon – 2:00 p.m., for children born 1/02 – 2/03; 9:30 a.m. – for children born 1/04 – 9/04; call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Storytelling

Main Library – Lap Time at Joslyn Park – 9:30 a.m. Current session thru Dec. 12.

"Family Connections" – 10:00 a.m., immediately following Lap Time - a series of discussions related to early childhood development and growth. Children welcome, free.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main Street, 310-392-3804.

"Spanish for Little Ones" - 11:15 a.m., for ages 2 – 5.

Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Toddler Story Time – 10am – 310-260-9110

Classes

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – 12 – 36 mos.; "Playtime – A combination play time and parent support time", 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Yoga & Exercise

Yoga Works, 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150 Pre/Postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45pm, \$15

Itsy Bitsy Yoga – TOT IBY (crawling – 2/3 years) – 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. With Khefri Riley at TURNOUT Performing Arts Center, 12113 Santa Monica Bl., St. 201. Register at www.khefri.net or call 323-549-5383.

Yoga Garden, - Restorative yoga for pre/post-natal – 6:30 p.m., 310-450-0133. www.yoga-gardenstudios.com

Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

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NATIONAL

Bird flu hype infects the biotech industry

BY PAUL ELIAS
AP Biotechnology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Two years ago, as fears of a SARS pandemic spread, a San Diego biotech company aided by federal dollars speeded a promising vaccine out of the lab and into human testing.

But when Vical Inc. and the government wrap up the 15-person test next year, the drug is expected to end up on the shelf because the dreaded global epidemic never panned out. Bird flu has now overtaken SARS as the No. 1 feared global death threat.

As biotechnology companies suddenly refocus their profit mission to the new threat — and investors drive stock prices to new highs — some analysts wonder if these endeavors could face the same fate Vical met with its rapid response to severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS.

“There are so many unknowables and a lot of hype,” said AG Edwards analyst Al Goldman. “The avian flu potential is something that you can’t get your arms around because no one knows if — or when — a pandemic is going to happen.”

The particular bird flu strain that now worries health officials has been around since 1997 and has killed 62 people worldwide since 2003, yet it hasn’t acquired the genetic changes it needs to start spreading easily from person to person.

What’s more, leading scientists now discount the notion that flu pandemics happen in regular intervals and that the world is overdue for a new one.

They don’t even agree on how bad it is that bird flu has spread to more types of birds. Instead of an appetite for people, the germ is showing a growing fondness for birds, some say.

Still, there is scientific consensus that vaccine and drug stockpiles should be created in the United States just in case.

To that end, the Bush administration wants \$7.1 billion in emergency spending to improve vaccine production systems and to detect and contain a potential pandemic flu strain before it reaches the United States.

So far, the U.S. government has awarded a little more than \$162 million this year to drug companies developing bird flu vaccines.

The promise of billions more in government support and continued fears that the country is ill-equipped to deal with an impending pandemic have a slew of biotechnology companies jumping into the flu business.

Vical chief executive officer Vijay Samant says his company is among those pursuing a novel flu vaccine despite its SARS experience, which he said has yielded some benefit.

Samant said federal regulators are now better prepared to handle new viral threats like SARS and that Vical has the ability to restart the SARS project almost immediately if that bug emerges again. Most of the SARS vaccine research costs at Vical were covered by the National Institutes of Health, which reported in September that the experimental vaccine appeared safe — but little other data about its effectiveness has been produced.

“Don’t underestimate the value of learning how to deal with that emerging threat,” Samant said.

Still, Samant did joke that the “first slide of everybody’s” Powerpoint presentation to investors promises to profit from flu fears.

“My single-minded focus is to drive the vaccine program for bird flu,” Novavax Inc. chief executive Rahul Singhvi said during a conference call with analysts in November discussing the Malvern, Pa.-based company’s new aim at influenza.

The company, like many of its competitors in the new flu market, is developing a faster and less expensive way to manufacture flu vaccine than current methods by using pieces of the flu’s genetic material rather than the entire virus to provoke an immune response in people.

But the company is at least two years, and probably even more, from getting its experimental vaccine on the market.

In the meantime, the lion’s share of government funding has flowed to the established vaccine makers Sanofi-Aventis and Chiron Corp. The government awarded Sanofi \$100 million contract to crank out a bird flu vaccine and Chiron received \$62.5 million, even as the

“There are so many unknowables and a lot of hype. The avian flu potential is something that you can’t get your arms around because no one knows if — or when — a pandemic is going to happen.”

AL GOLDMAN
AG Edwards analyst

Emeryville-based Chiron attempts to overcome manufacturing woes.

Still, Novavax’s stock, which dropped below \$1 a share in August, soared to a 52-week high of \$6.01 a share in October immediately following reports that birds infected with the bird flu were found in Turkey, Romania and Russia and a dead parrot exported from South America was found in Britain with the virus.

Novavax’s stock has fallen off nearly 50 percent in the last month, but other companies pursuing novel flu remedies are enjoying heady days on Wall Street.

BioCryst Pharmaceuticals of Birmingham, Ala., soared to a five-year high of \$18.42 a share in October on the same news that drove up Novavax’s stock. BioCryst is developing a drug that slows the replication of the flu virus, but showed such poor results in human trials that one-time partner Johnson & Johnson abandoned the project and left BioCryst (whose stock was trading around \$15 on Friday) to go it alone.

“Whether this is a real market is hard to know,” said Ken Trbovich, an analyst with RBC Capital Markets. “There is potential, but it’s like holding a lottery ticket right now.”



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Rice defends terrorism policy en route to Europe

BY ANNE GEARAN
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice turned the tables on European critics of tough U.S. tactics in the war on terror Monday, maintaining that intelligence gathered by the CIA has saved European lives.

Responding for the first time in detail to the outcry over reports of secret CIA-run prisons in European democracies, Rice said the United States "will use every lawful weapon to defeat these terrorists."

In remarks delivered as she got ready to leave on a trip to Europe, she steadfastly refused to answer the underlying question of whether the United States had CIA-operated secret prisons there.

"We cannot discuss information that would compromise the success of intelligence, law enforcement, and military operations. We expect other nations share this view," Rice said in a statement at suburban Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

The secretary said that information gathered by U.S. intelligence agencies from a "very small number of extremely dangerous detainees," has helped prevent terrorist attacks and saved lives "in Europe as well as in the United States and other countries."

Reports of the existence of the secret prisons has caused a trans-Atlantic uproar. The European Union has asked the Bush administration about these reports.

Britain sent a two-paragraph letter to Washington late last month embodying the request. That came after weeks of increasing concern in Europe over reports that the CIA has detained and interrogated terrorism prisoners in Soviet-era compounds in Eastern Europe.

Rice said the United States does not permit or tolerate torture under any circumstances. "The United States does not use the air space or airport of any country for the pur-

pose of transporting a detainee when we believe he or she will be tortured," she said. "With respect to detainees, the United States government complies with its laws, its Constitution and its treaty obligations," she added. "It is the policy of the United States that this questioning is to be conducted ... without torture," Rice said.

"The United States has fully respected the sovereignty of other countries that have cooperated in these matters," the secretary said. "The United States is a country of laws. My colleagues and I have been sworn to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. ... The United States must protect its citizens."

"So now before the next attack," Rice said, "we should all face the hard choices that democratic governments face."

"The United States does not transport, and has not transported detainees from one country to another for the purpose of interrogation using torture," the secretary stressed.

Human rights organizations and legal groups, both in the U.S. and abroad, have accused the United States of allowing a practice known as "rendition to torture," in which suspects are taken to countries such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia where harsh interrogation methods are used.

Rice did say the United States has long participated in the movement of terror suspects between countries.

The reference to sovereignty implies that any European democracies that may have provided secret prisons did so willingly.

European governments have expressed outrage over reports of a network of secret Soviet-era prisons in Eastern Europe where detainees may have been harshly treated and that flights carrying al-Qaida prisoners went through European airports.

In Berlin, a government spokesman said Monday that

Germany has a list of more than 400 overflights and landings by planes suspected of being used by the CIA that it plans to ask Rice about during her visit to the German capital.

Several countries have denied they provided prison sites. If the United States did operate them, or is still doing so, the information would be classified.

Rice's five-day itinerary includes a stop in Romania, a country identified as a likely site of a secret U.S.-run detention site. Romania denies it.

The general issue of U.S. treatment of detainees in the war on terror has been an irritant in relations with Europe and other parts of the world since shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

It gained new immediacy last month with a Washington Post report about a network of CIA prisons overseas, including some in Europe, and claims by the advocacy group Human Rights Watch that it had tracked CIA flights into Eastern Europe.

The European Union's justice commissioner said such prisons and detainee mistreatment would violate European human rights law, and he warned last week that any host countries could lose voting rights in the powerful 25-nation bloc.

Secret prisons and many harsh methods of interrogation would be illegal on U.S. soil. It has been long assumed that the United States holds some of its more valuable and potentially dangerous captives — such as alleged terror mastermind Khalid Shaikh Mohammed — outside the country and beyond the jurisdiction of U.S. courts.

Rice's trip to Germany, Romania, Ukraine and Belgium is meant to build on generally improved relations between Europe and the United States after a period of strain over the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. The war remains widely unpopular in Europe, as does Bush.

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Saddam tells judge: ‘I am not afraid of execution’

BY HAMZA HENDAWI
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Saddam Hussein told the judge at his trial Monday that “I am not afraid of execution” during an unruly court session in which the first witness took the stand and testified that the former president’s agents carried out random arrests, torture and killings.

The outburst was one of several by Saddam or his co-defendants at the trial that also saw a brief walkout by his defense lawyers.

At one point, Saddam appeared to threaten the judge, saying: “When the revolution of the heroic Iraq arrives, you will be held accountable.”

Chief Judge Rizgar Mohammed Amin replied: “This is an insult to the court. We are searching for the truth.”

Earlier Saddam told the court he understood the pressures upon the judges and defended his actions. He and his seven co-defendants could be executed if convicted on the charges stemming from the deaths of more than 140 Shiites in 1982.

Before the trial adjourned until Tuesday, Saddam repeatedly interrupted testimony and appeared to try to rally Iraqis against the U.S. occupation.

“This game must not continue, if you want Saddam Hussein’s neck, you can have it!” Saddam said. “I have exercised my constitutional prerogatives after I had been the target of an armed attack.

“I am not afraid of execution,” said Saddam, who then addressed the judge, saying, “I realize there is pressure on you and I regret that I have to confront one of my sons. But I’m not doing it for myself. I’m doing it for Iraq. I’m not defending myself. But I am defending you.”

When the first witness Ahmed Hassan Mohammed spoke, Saddam told him: “Do not interrupt me, son.”

“If it’s ever established that Saddam Hussein laid a hand on any Iraqi, then everything that witness said is correct,” he said.

He also told the court that he “would like (the witness) to be examined by an independent medical institution.”

Amin had a difficult time keeping order during several clashes between the witnesses and the accused, with Saddam and his co-defendant and half brother, Barazan Ibrahim, gesturing and shouting together. In one instance, Saddam pointed to the sky with his right hand while he held Islam’s holy book, the Quran, in his left.

“Everyone must remain calm and be civil,” he said repeatedly.

At one point, Saddam and Ibrahim became so angry

while Saddam sparred verbally with the judge and a second witness, Jawad Abdul-Azziz Jawad, that guards tried to calm them. Ibrahim smacked them on the hands with a notebook.

Saddam himself became so angry that he threw some papers he was holding, and they eventually landed on the floor.

Earlier, former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who is helping represent Saddam, sought to address the court, touching off an argument that led to the walkout by the defense team.

Amin at first said only Saddam’s chief lawyer, Khalil al-Dulaimi, could speak. Amin said the defense should submit its motion in writing and warned that if the defense walked out then the court would appoint replacement lawyers.

After the defense lawyers left, Saddam, shaking his right hand, told the judge: “You are imposing lawyers on us. They are imposed lawyers. The court is imposed by itself. We reject that.”

Saddam and Ibrahim then chanted “Long live Iraq, long live the Arab state.”

Ibrahim stood up and shouted: “Why don’t you just execute us and get rid of all of this!”

When the judge explained that he was ruling in accordance with the law, Saddam replied: “This is a law made by America and does not reflect Iraqi sovereignty.”

It was the third court session in the trial of Saddam and seven co-defendants _ accused in the 1982 killings after an assassination attempt against the president in Dujail _ where Saddam at times appeared to be in control of the court as much as the presiding judge.

After the lawyers spoke, Mohammed began his emotional but often rambling testimony. He said that after an assassination attempt on Saddam, security agencies took people of all ages from age 14 to over age 70. They were tortured for 70 days at the intelligence headquarters in Baghdad before being moved to Abu Ghraib prison where the abuse continued, he said.

“There were mass arrests. Women and men. Even if a child was 1-day-old they used to tell his parents, ‘Bring him with you,’” Mohammed said. He said he was taken to a security center where “I saw bodies of people from Dujail.”

“They were martyrs I knew,” Mohammed said, giving the name of the nine whose bodies were there.

After the walkout and a 90-minute recess to resolve the issue, the court reconvened and Amin allowed Clark and ex-Qatari Justice Minister Najib al-Nueimi to speak

on the questions of the legitimacy of the tribunal and safety of the lawyers.

“Reconciliation is essential,” Clark told the court. “This trial can either divide or heal. And unless it is seen as absolutely fair, and as absolutely fair in fact, it will irreconcilably divide the people of Iraq.”

At that point, the judge reminded Clark that he was to speak only about the security guarantees for the defense lawyers.

Clark then said all parties were entitled to protection, and the measures offered to protect the defense and their families were “absurd.” Clark said that without such protection, the judicial system would collapse.

Al-Nueimi then spoke about the legitimacy issue, arguing that court is not independent and was in fact set up under the U.S.-led occupation rather than by a legal Iraqi government. He said the language of the statute was unchanged from that promulgated by the former top U.S. administrator in Iraq, L. Paul Bremer, and was therefore “illegitimate.”

The first witness earlier exchanged insults with Saddam’s half brother, telling him “you killed a 14-year-old boy.”

“To hell,” the half brother, Ibrahim, replied.

“You and your children go to hell,” the witness replied.

The judge then asked them to avoid such exchanges.

As the testimony continued, Saddam’s lawyers objected that someone in the visitors’ gallery was making threatening gestures and should be removed. Ibrahim leapt to his feet, spat in the direction of the gallery, and shouted, “These are criminals.”

The judge ordered the person removed from the gallery and questioned.

“There was random arrests in the streets, all the forces of the (Baath) party, and Thursday became ‘Judgment Day’ and Dujail has become a battle front,” the witness said, sometime fighting back tears. “Shootings started and nobody could leave or enter Dujail. At night, intelligence agents arrived headed by Barazan” Ibrahim.

Ibrahim interrupted him at one point, saying: “I am a patriot and I was the head of the intelligence service of Iraq.”

At the start of Monday’s session, Saddam walked into the court with a smile, carrying a copy of the Quran and greeted everyone there.

Most of the defendants and several of the defense lawyers, including Clark, al-Dulaimi and al-Nueimi, stood up out of respect when Saddam walked in.

Pro-Chavez candidates sweep congressional vote in Venezuela

BY CHRISTOPHER TOOTHAKER
Associated Press Writer

CARACAS, Venezuela — President Hugo Chavez’s governing party won full control of the 167-National Assembly, claiming a sweeping victory in congressional elections boycotted by major opposition parties.

Official results of Sunday’s election were still being tallied Monday, but leading lawmaker Willian Lara said candidates of Chavez’s Fifth Republic Movement party had won 114 seats. Including allies from other parties, the entire 167-member chamber could be filled with pro-Chavez lawmakers, he said.

A two-thirds majority would allow pro-Chavez lawmakers to amend the constitution, and some lawmakers have said they would consider a reform to extend term limits for all offices, including the president. Chavez has already served nearly seven years.

Five major opposition parties pulled out of the race, complaining they did not trust the electoral system. Chavez dismissed the boycott as a failed ploy to sabotage legitimate elections and avoid defeat.

Polls indicated the ruling party would trounce the opposition.

“The whole world knows a true democracy is in motion here in Venezuela,” Chavez said.

The president has accused the United States., with which he often clashes, of being behind the boycott — a charge Washington has denied.

Caravans of Chavez supporters drove through the streets honking horns in celebration.

Officials said government foes tried to disrupt the vote by blowing up an oil pipeline. They called the pipeline explosion Saturday night a failed plot aimed at paralyzing supplies to Venezuela’s largest oil refinery and destabilizing the country.

Thousands of soldiers were deployed to keep order during the vote, and there were no major reports of violence.

Maria Corina Machado, who leads the U.S.-backed vote watchdog group Sumate, called the vote “illegitimate.”

“We are going to have a single party parliament that doesn’t represent ample sectors of society,” she said in a statement.

Government officials say the U.S. meddled in the elections through Sumate, which receives money from the Washington-based National Endowment for Democracy, a private group funded by the U.S. Congress.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Ali Rodriguez has called Sumate leaders “mercenaries of the U.S. government.”

Officials reported several disturbances leading up to

the vote, including blasts from small explosives that injured three in Caracas on Friday and the pipeline explosion Saturday in the western state of Zulia.

Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez blamed the opposition, saying those responsible for the pipeline attack were the same people behind a crippling two-month oil strike aimed at ousting Chavez that ended in 2003. Nobody was hurt in the explosion, and Ramirez said the refinery has enough inventories to cover supply needs.

“We already know who is behind this situation, and we have made some arrests,” Interior Minister Jesse Chacon said, saying authorities found traces of explosives on the pipeline.

The military said it stepped up security at oil installations in the country, the world’s No. 5 oil exporter.

Candidates allied with Chavez held 89 seats before the election in the 165-seat National Assembly, which is being expanded to 167 members.

The boycotting parties argue the National Electoral Council is pro-Chavez and expressed concerns about the voter registry and touchscreen voting machines. Elections officials denied any problems, saying they made many concessions for the opposition.

The Organization of American States had 60 observers monitoring the vote, while the European Union had 160 observers on hand.



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Braceros program of WWII gets fresh look

BY FELICIA FONSECA
AND SUE MAJOR HOLMES

Associated Press Writers

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — They were called braceros, young men from Mexico who came to the United States for two decades to help this country with the necessary work of its farms and railroads.

The bracero program — conceived by the U.S. government — brought the Mexicans in as temporary workers, mainly in agriculture, to fill a labor shortage created by World War II. The program continued for years afterward, as growers regularly petitioned Congress to extend it.

Now, more than 40 years later, the bracero program is being looked at again. With estimates that as many as 12 million to 15 million illegal immigrants hold jobs in the United States today, Congress is considering a complete overhaul of the immigration system — including the possibility of some form of guest-worker program.

The question is whether a new program can avoid some of the abuse and exploitation that characterized the original.

From 1942 until the program ended in the 1960s, up to 5 million temporary Mexican workers followed the promise of a steady job to the United States. Jorge Bustamante, a United Nations expert on human rights of migrants, said figures show 4,203 workers came the first year; the numbers peaked at 445,197 in 1956.

They were lured by wages far above what Mexicans were earning at home.

“It was very easy because Mexico was suffering rampant poverty and unemployment,” Bustamante said.

The bracero program was a full-service operation. Recruiters in Mexico found workers, and brought them to the U.S.-Mexico border. They came by the thousands; many traveled up to 17 hours on buses and trains from Chihuahua, Mexico, to the processing centers. From there, they were distributed to labor camps and farms. When the contracts ended, the process was reversed.

Bob Porter worked with the program in the mid-1950s as director of labor for the Dona Ana County Farm Bureau in Las Cruces, N.M. His group bused workers from the El Paso, Texas, area to Las Cruces. There, farm-

ers would apply for the number of workers they needed. On occasion, they’d request laborers by name.

“People could return to farmers they had previously worked for ... but it wasn’t widely available,” Porter said. “When it was allowed, it worked really well.”

The bracero agreement prohibited discrimination and stipulated that Mexican workers earn the same wages as U.S. farm workers in the same area. It required free, clean, adequate lodging, and medical and sanitary services identical to those furnished to other agricultural workers.

But as the years went by, the U.S. Labor Department became increasingly concerned about exploitation.

For example, although the agreement promised braceros the prevailing wage, their earnings in California never really caught up, the late Ernesto Galarza wrote in “The Merchants of Labor,” a study of the program there. Braceros in California’s Imperial Valley in 1958 often received 70 cents an hour compared to \$1 to \$1.25 an hour for other farm laborers.

University of New Mexico sociology professor Felipe Gonzales said there were other abuses — concerted attempts to subvert worker organizations, using the threat of deportation to intimidate, violating labor laws such as an eight-hour work day, or providing inadequate housing and food.

Eventually, more people were showing up at recruitment centers than needed, Gonzales said. Braceros often slept on the streets or the floors of recruitment centers for days or months with little or no food waiting to be selected. Some bribed recruiters, paying up to \$500, said Cris Luna, who worked as a bracero as a young man.

The possibility of a U.S. job led even more people to cross the border illegally. In addition, some workers stayed between jobs instead of returning to Mexico to await a new contract. By the early 1950s, the rise in illegal immigration prompted a major increase in the Border Patrol — and indirectly reinforced the clout of growers.

“The growers didn’t have to worry about maintaining control over their workers; they had Border Patrol officers,” Gonzales said. “If someone could be reported as a slacker, then they could be rounded up and sent back. That was a major intimidation factor.”

Not just the border — Illegals spreading out across the country

BY REBECCA BOONE

Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO — Three years ago, a tiny financial services office opened in Nampa, Idaho, with just a handful of employees and a focus on Spanish-speaking clientele.

But along with Idaho’s Latino population, the business is exploding — El Centro is opening a second office in Caldwell, with plans to expand to Denver and Chicago soon, said manager David Cahoon.

“We’re looking at hyper-growth areas. In Denver there’s a huge Latino market there, and the same with Chicago,” Cahoon said. “In Idaho, the Hispanic population is growing. It’s huge, and we don’t really have much competition.”

Most of the United States’ Spanish-speaking immigrants — both legal and illegal — are from Mexico. Statistics from several agencies suggest the number of illegal immigrants in the country is growing, with Bear Stearns in New York estimating between 12 million and 15 million of the nation’s jobs are held by illegal immigrants. About 95 percent of Cahoon’s clients speak only Spanish, he said, and at least 15 times a week he turns down a hopeful home loan applicant because they lack U.S.-issued identification.

Even as businesses such as Cahoon’s work to find ways to earn immigrant dollars, government officials in so-called new destination states are struggling to deal with the illegal immigrant population. Instead of staying in border states, said William Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution, new immigrants are heading to the suburbs of Tennessee, Mississippi, the Dakotas, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

“Illegal immigrants are not just randomly flowing into places. They’re following jobs,” said Gordon Hanson, an economics professor at the University of California-San Diego. “Look at where the growth in the illegal immigrant population is strongest: It’s in areas with growing

populations, where there are more restaurants, grocery stores, construction and retail outlets. And it’s in areas where the native U.S. manufacturing and labor force is aging and disappearing.”

Such as in North Carolina, where the number of illegal immigrants jumped from 26,000 in 1990 to 206,000 a decade later. Many of those undocumented workers have been drawn to jobs in the textile industry, Frey said.

Mike Hubbard, the vice president of the National Council of Textile Organizations, has seen his industry and his North Carolina city of Gastonia change with the influx of immigrants.

“Companies are trying so very hard to make sure that they fully document the people who come into work, but sometimes you find out the documents are phony,” Hubbard said. “There’s been a lot of immigrant labor that’s taking the textile jobs.”

As a child in North Carolina, Hubbard rarely heard Spanish, he said. Now many textile managers are learning the language so they can talk to employees, and businesses are translating their safety materials. North Carolina neighborhoods have changed too, he said.

“Now there’s Spanish grocery stands on every corner, and the food’s getting a lot better,” he said. “So there have been changes. Maybe wages here would have gone up faster without the immigration, but I can’t say that for sure.”

In Colorado, where Cahoon hopes to open his next office, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement estimates that the number of illegal immigrants has jumped from 31,000 in 1990 to 144,000 in 2000. Elected officials are turning to the federal government for ways to deal with the influx.

Lindy Eichenbaum Lent, a spokeswoman for Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper, said the issue has become prominent across the state. Because illegal immigrants are generally poorer than the rest of the population, they tend to put a greater strain on indigent health care and

other social services, Frey said.

“We look with great interest to Washington and proposed legislation on guest worker programs that could underwrite services that we’re already providing,” she said. “Our recourses are getting stretched by a number of factors, and immigration is only one.”

Undocumented workers have become part of the local economy, she said.

“They’re helping to generate revenue, and paying taxes. Legislation could potentially move this shadow world into part of the system,” she said.

Some city governments are moving on their own to bring more Mexican nationals into the mainstream economy. Both Yakima and Seattle, Wash. — along with about 360 other cities nationwide — now accept ID cards issued by Mexican consulates as valid identification for obtaining library cards, help from community health centers or other services. The cards are commonly used by illegal immigrants who are not eligible for Social Security cards. About 1.8 million such cards are in use throughout the United States.

In Nampa, businesses like El Centro have considered accepting the ID cards for issuing loans, Cahoon said, but are holding off until big lenders make the switch. That’s because loans granted to illegal aliens based on alternate forms of identification are not yet salable on the secondary market, he said.

Many of the evolving economic advantages offered by illegal aliens are offset by social costs, said Hanson. Illegal immigrants tend to be poorer than their legal counterparts, are less likely to be insured and have larger families, he said. That all puts pressure on indigent health care costs and public schools.

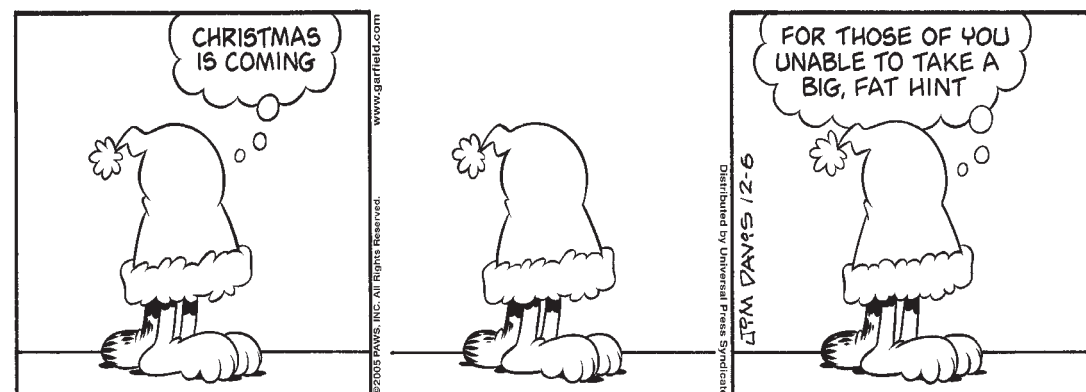
“Public education is by far and away the biggest expenditure,” Hanson said.

But ultimately, Cahoon believes, any negative impacts of immigration — illegal and otherwise — may be countered by the business opportunities immigrants offer.

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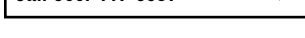
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Rapper has case adjourned; admits hearing loss

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Rapper Foxy Brown is almost totally deaf, her lawyer said Monday.

Attorney Joseph Tacopina disclosed Brown's hearing problem after a question about why they exchanged notes while waiting in Manhattan Criminal Court for her case to be called on an unresolved 2004 assault charge.

"She's pretty much totally deaf now," Tacopina said. "She can't hear me. We have to write things back and forth. Anything I have to communicate with her now has to be written."

Brown, 25, revealed during a court appearance in September that she would soon undergo surgery to try to correct her hearing. Obviously straining to hear questions, she refused to discuss the possible cause of the problem.

Tacopina said Monday the prognosis from that surgical procedure is still undetermined, but "hopefully it (the condition) is reversible. She has to undergo another surgery."

Meanwhile, Judge Melissa Jackson adjourned Brown's case until Dec. 23 when, Tacopina said, he expects it will be resolved. Brown, whose real name is Inga Marchand, is charged with misdemeanor assault, attempted assault and harassment.

Brown has rejected at least two misdemeanor plea deals that would have let her avoid any jail time for allegedly assaulting two nail salon workers on Aug. 29, 2004, in a fight over payment for a manicure at Bloomie Nails in Manhattan's Chelsea district.

Prosecutors alleged that Brown, with a cell phone clutched in her closed fist, attacked and kicked one worker, and hit a second worker in the face.

Brown would have pleaded guilty to misdemeanor assault and served 10 days of community service.

"I'm innocent," Brown said at the time. "I feel like I'm being railroaded."

Tacopina said they rejected the offer because he wanted Brown to plead guilty to a disorderly conduct violation, an offense less serious than a misdemeanor.

Tacopina said in September that the complainants in the case, the nail salon workers, "don't want to proceed. This is a waste of their time, her (Brown's) time, and the

public's time."

He said Monday that he also did not want to expose Brown to an easy civil lawsuit by allowing her to plead to assault. "We're concerned about the motives of others," he said. "She's been seen as a bull's-eye for a quick payday."

Brown's latest CD, "Black Rose," is expected to be released soon.

LOS ANGELES — "Dr. Phil" McGraw stated in e-mails that he had "no expertise" in making the diet pills he endorsed, according to court filings in a lawsuit alleging the TV psychologist made false statements about the products.

McGraw also insisted on "the STRONGEST of disclaimers" in the products' advertisements before putting his name on the now discontinued Shape Up! diet campaign, the New York Daily News reported Monday, citing e-mail printouts that are included in Los Angeles Superior Court filings.

"This fleshes out our position that Dr. Phil was in charge ... he was rewriting the commercials," said lawyer Henry Rossbacher, who filed the lawsuit against McGraw in 2004 on behalf of three unhappy customers.

McGraw, the TV show host and author of "The Ultimate Weight Solution: The 7 Keys to Weight Loss Freedom," has denied the allegations.

"It's a pretty silly claim," said his Dallas-based lawyer, Bill Dawson. "It's the kind of suit that makes people hate lawyers."

McGraw jumped into the lucrative weight-loss market in mid-2003 with a campaign that included advice books, a prime-time special with NBC's Katie Couric on obesity and dieting, and his Shape Up! With Dr. Phil McGraw products.

Shape Up! shakes, bars and multivitamins made by Irving, Texas-based CSA Nutraceuticals were sold in supermarkets, Target, Wal-Mart and elsewhere. The plan called for 22 pills daily at \$120 a month.

CSA Nutraceuticals agreed to stop making the supplements early last year as it faced a Federal Trade Commission investigation into false-advertising concerns.

According to the label, the pills "contain scientifically researched levels of ingredients that can help you change your behavior to take control of your weight."

McGraw wrote the e-mails to express concerns with the ad campaign for the diet products.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit are seeking class-action status to include thousands of potential plaintiffs.

A judge could rule on that request early next year.

HAVANA — With blaring horns and pounding African drums, Grammy-winning pianist Chucho Valdes and other Cuban performers wrapped up an international music festival with an Afro-Cuban tribute to Hurricane Katrina-ravaged New Orleans, birthplace of American jazz.

The Sunday night concert ended Cuba's annual international jazz festival, Jazz Plaza 2005, and featured a new Valdes composition called "Canto a Dios," which he dedicated to hurricane victims.

"This is a song of love, a song of peace, a song to humanity," Valdes told the largely Cuban audience at a local Havana theater. "It's a tribute to New Orleans, an homage to the history of music, of blues, of ragtime, of the history of jazz."

Valdes said the piece also honored American jazz musicians, including Louis Armstrong and brothers Wynton and Bradford Marsalis, who are New Orleans natives.

His huge hands leaping across the keyboard, he was accompanied by his quartet as well as Cuba's National Symphonic Orchestra and National Chorus.

The concert was a series of Afro-Cuban-tinged jazz suites with elements of classical music provided by the strings of the symphony orchestra.

The piece dedicated to New Orleans used more elements of classical symphonic music than the others, with lots of sweeping movements and the chorus providing background vocals.

Scores of musicians from countries including Argentina, Mexico, Canada, Brazil, Ecuador and the United States attended the four-day event.



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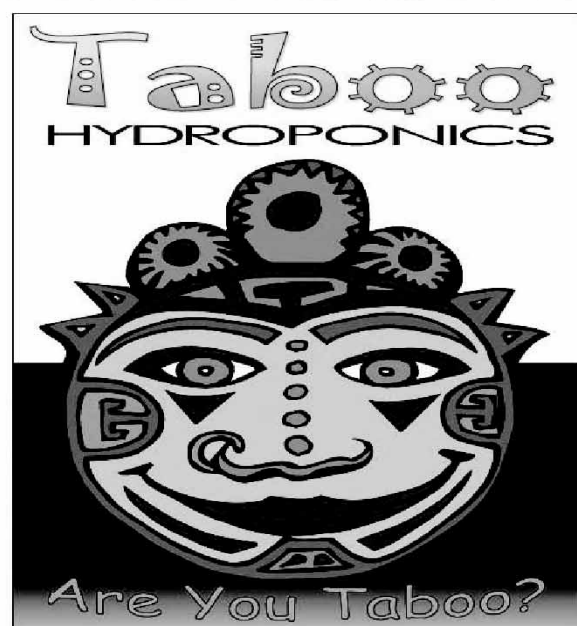
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