



COLBERT GETS FRAMED
PEOPLE IN THE NEWS P21

WEEKEND EDITION



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Santa Monica Daily Press

December 2-3, 2006

Since 2001: A news odyssey

Volume 6 Issue 17

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
16 22 23 37 53
Meganumber: 35
Jackpot: \$40M

Super LOTTO PLUS
11 12 21 30 40
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: \$13M

Fantasy 5 3 4 20 25 39

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 2 0 9
EVENING: 3 1 7

DAILY DERBY
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:47.50

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 at <http://www.calottery.com>

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

ASIA'S GAME: According to an October report in the Asian Wall Street Journal, golf camps in China, Japan, South Korea and Singapore teach kids as young as 2, in many cases merely because parents are awed by the financially successful pro golfer Michelle Wie, who started at age 4. Some adult golfers in Thailand understand the obsession, such as those who play the Kantarat course in Bangkok, whose fairways are between active runways of Don Muang airport, with the "smell of kerosene on the first tee" and the occasional need to dodge planes to play a tough lie. And China's Xiamen University recently began requiring that students majoring in management, law and software engineering take a course in golf, to round out a "socially elite" education.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 336th day of 2006.
There are 29 days left in the year.

1804 Napoleon was crowned emperor of France.

WORD UP!

debouch \dih-BOWCH; -BOOSH
1. To march out (as from a wood, defile, or other narrow or confined spot) into the open. 2. To emerge; to issue. *transitive verb:* 1. To cause to emerge or issue; to discharge.

INDEX

Inside Scoop	
High Court takes 'Bong Hits'	3
Travel	
Miami slice	16-17
Surf Report	
Water temperature: 61°	19
Horoscopes	
Keep playing, Cap	20
MOVIE TIMES	
Celluloid heroes	21
Comics & Stuff	
Strips tease	22-23
Classifieds	
A place in the sun	25-27



Fabian Lewkowicz fabian@smdp.com

SUB-WOOFER: Sammy, a 7-year-old golden retriever, waits for his owner to return from the Brentwood Country Mart earlier this week. Less attention around the holidays, according to some experts, can leave dogs in the throes of depression.

Keep your muzzle up, Buddy

For canines, it's often a blue Christmas

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

The furry canines, man's best friend, have been known to howl the holiday blues this time of year.

CITYWIDE — It's the most wonderful time of the year, unless you're a dog.

Call it depression or call it anxiety, but a dog's mood can change in the

final weeks of the year, when the home environment is altered with large Christmas trees, blinking lights and an

See DEPRESSED DOGS, page 15

SEE RELATED STORY

■ Dog park could be tainted Page 3

Code crack

Sandwich board signs are illegal, but still standing

BY MAYA MEINERT

Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN — All across the city, businesses continue to prop up and put out sandwich board signs, defying a municipal code that bans their use on city sidewalks.

The collapsible, free-standing billboards are utilized by merchants and restaurant owners alike in efforts to corral the passing foot traffic to stop in and spend their money.

However, city officials aren't sold.

According to the Santa Monica Sign Code, the so-called "sandwich boards," as well as others like animated signs, rooftop signs and free-standing pole signs, are deemed

See SANDWICH SIGNS, page 13

Sonic youth: Grammys give Samohi some soul

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI — With wide smiles on their faces, roughly 30 music students were treated to a special live performance here on Friday by one of the industry's leading female vocalists as part of the Grammy Foundation's SoundChecks series, where youth are allowed to get up close and personal with their favorite artists.

Neo-soul chanteuse Corinne

Bailey-Rae, a native of Leeds, England, whose self-titled debut premiered at the top of the charts in February, grabbed her acoustic guitar, and with the help of a bandmate, serenaded the crowd of starstruck teens for more than an hour, playing her hits "Like A Star" and "Put Your Records On" — the two songs she performed recently on "Saturday Night Live."

But the best part, for many stu-

See SOUNDCHECKS, page 14



Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

'STAR' TURN: Singer Corinne Bailey-Rae, accompanied by a bandmate, sings for Santa Monica High School students on Friday as part of the SoundChecks series.

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Pop singer gives students something to think about

SOUNDCHECKS, from page 1

dents, was the time Bailey-Rae took to field questions about everything from her inspirations as a child and the challenges of being a female vocalist in a male-dominated industry, to how she spends her downtime and how the recent shift in America's political power has been perceived overseas.

"I was really excited to learn more about the music industry from someone who really knows what it's like as a female artist

time to record.

The 27 year-old Brit, who cited influences such as Led Zeppelin, Billy Holiday and Nirvana, told Samohi students to "play, play, play," and to never give up on their dreams. She warned them that hard work and perseverance are required to be an artist and said success is measured not by how lucrative a record contract one signs, but whether or not they are able to continue creating and performing for others.

"The most important thing is to have ideas," said Bailey-Rae, revealing a thick English accent. "You don't necessarily have to even execute them. It's like the whole punk idea that you don't have to be brilliant on an instrument, but you have to be creative enough to think of something new.

"Have you ever seen Paul McCartney play the piano?" Bailey-Rae posed, using her index fingers to strike imaginary keys reminiscent of a child playing with an old typewriter.

"Another thing that is important is to keep working at it," the bubbly singer/songwriter said. "Until recently, I really didn't know what my voice could do. You all prob-

"I learned from her that as long as you love what you're doing, stick with it."

NICOLE JELLEN
17-YEAR-OLD MEMBER OF SAMOHI CHOIR

because I am contemplating becoming a singer," said Erin Corrigan, an 18-year-old member of the Samohi choir. "It was so amazing to see her up close, to have her perform right here in our classroom. She showed so much control and was very at ease with everyone.

"That confidence is something I can take with me no matter what I end up doing."

The SoundChecks program, presented by Verizon, is one of a host of programs sponsored by the Grammy Foundation and the Recording Academy that encourage youth to pursue their dreams, whether they be performing before large crowds or working behind the scenes as a producer or publicist.

"Not everyone can be like Corinne," said Christina Cassidy, communications manager for the foundation. "We want (students) to know that there are an array of careers in music."

Throughout the year, Verizon is sponsoring a series of SoundChecks with a wide range of artists on tour across the country. Past SoundChecks have included the likes of Mariah Carey, Coldplay, Destiny's Child, No Doubt and the Dave Matthews Band.

The Grammy Foundation was established in 1989 by the Recording Academy to cultivate the understanding, appreciation and advancement of the contribution of recorded music to American culture, according to the foundation's Web site (www.grammyintheschools.com).

While school is an ideal place to foster a love of music, Bailey-Rae said she found herself learning more about the art outside of the classroom, as she and her indie-rock band entered "just about every competition" being held in England so that she could get experience, gather feedback and win studio



Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

TAKING NAMES: Corinne Bailey-Rae speaks with Samohi music students on Friday.

ably know more about singing than I do. I'm still working at it and I'm learning loads, improving every day."

Following the informal session, each student received an autograph and free copy of Bailey-Rae's CD, as well as the chance to take a picture with the songstress.

Even those who had no idea who Bailey-Rae was said they came away with something useful, and that didn't include the CD.

"She was just so inspiring," said Nicole Jellen, a 17-year-old alto/soprano in the choir. "She started off in a band and she worked hard to realize her dream. I learned from her that as long as you love what you're doing, stick with it."

KEVINH@SMDP.COM

Christmas at First Presbyterian Church

Children's Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 17 at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Come celebrate with us as children re-enact the first Christmas.

Family Caroling Party

Thursday, December 21 at 5:30 p.m.

Meet in the church lobby

Singing and bringing holiday joy to the Santa Monica community.

Christmas Eve Services

Communion Service at 8:45 a.m.

Traditional Service at 10 a.m.

Family Service at 5 p.m.

Candlelight Service at 7 and 9 p.m.

For more information on either of these events, please call the church office or e-mail info@fpcsantamonica.org.

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