

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## Summer Programs Delight Crowds



The Oregon Zoo's on-grounds programs are more popular than ever this summer.

Since their June 19 start, the African pygmy goat kraal, insect zoo and "Wild Life Live!" shows all have drawn huge crowds, with overall zoo attendance up by more than 40,000 visitors over last year, zoo officials said.

"These on-grounds programs, which are free with zoo admis-

sion, are a great way to see and feel animals up close and on a more personal level," said Kim Smith, zoo director. "When a bald eagle flies a few feet overhead, or pygmy goats relax while you brush their coats, you really feel a connection to these animals."

The new "Jungle Journey" show introduces animals from the tropical rain forest. Visitors get to search for elusive parrots, see a prehensile-tailed porcupine, and learn about important conservation measures to save our diminishing rain forests.

The show takes place daily (except on concert days) on the concert lawn at 12:30 p.m. through Labor Day.

◀ Bree Boothe shows off Nilda the prehensile-tailed porcupine, one of the stars of "Jungle Journey," a popular new addition to the Oregon Zoo's "Wild Life Live!" show.

### Year after Diss, West to Return Performing at MTV music awards

(AP) -- Kanye West will perform live at the MTV video music awards next month, a year after causing a media and fan firestorm by insulting country singer Taylor Swift in front of millions of TV viewers.

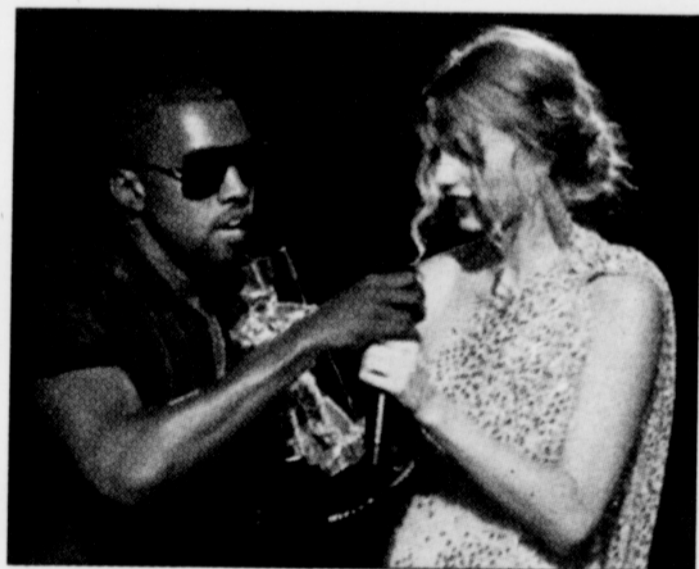
Eminem on the "Forever" hip-hop music video. Swift has a single nomination for best female video for "Fifteen," but MTV has not yet said whether she will also be singing at the September 12 show. Drake will perform at the VMAs

MTV on Thursday said West, who is releasing a new album in the fall, would take the stage at the annual awards show "and fans will be glued to the screen to see what the rapper has in store for the audience."

West became the most talked about artist at the 2009 MTV Video Music Awards when he interrupted Swift's best female pop video acceptance speech and said the trophy should have gone to Beyonce.

He later apologized publicly to Swift, but music websites have been teeming with speculation in recent weeks about whether MTV would have him back on the live awards show.

West has one nomination this year for his collaboration with newcomer Drake, Li'l Wayne and



Singer and rap star Kanye West takes the microphone from singer Taylor Swift as she accepts the 'Best Female Video' award during last year's MTV Video Music Awards in New York.

and British indie favorite Florence and the Machine also will take the stage, MTV said.

Lady Gaga has a record 13 nominations, and rapper Eminem is the most-nominated male artist this year with eight nods. The 2010 MTV Video Music Awards will be broadcast live from Los Angeles on Sept. 12.

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