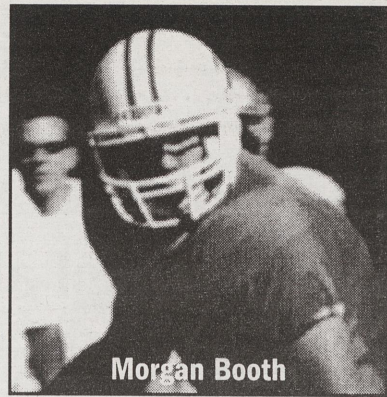


**2 Homosexual marriages**  
Should gay marriages be illegal? A reaction to the Knight Initiative.

**5 The best bets online**  
Do your Christmas shopping online and see what sites top our list.

**8 Football CIF champions**  
Panthers defeat Arrowhead Christian 21-14 in CIF finals to win first title.



# the Paw Print

www.polytechnic.org/thepawprint

## Garland gets internet to finish network

■ Installation of internet wiring on south campus completes five year master plan for technology.

By JESSICA PARK  
Staff writer

With the wiring this summer of the Garland Arts Center and its offices, the school's plan to have internet and e-mail access for every office and classroom is nearing completion.

This project is part of the school's long-range, plan for technology that was outlined five years ago by the Technology Committee. It has been headed by Board of Trustee member Greg Stone, Assistant Head of School Greg Feldmeth, Director of Technology Mark McKee, along with technology technicians Ryan Katsuyama and Patrick Carpenter.

Administrators hope that networked computers will make teachers more efficient and assist students in research.

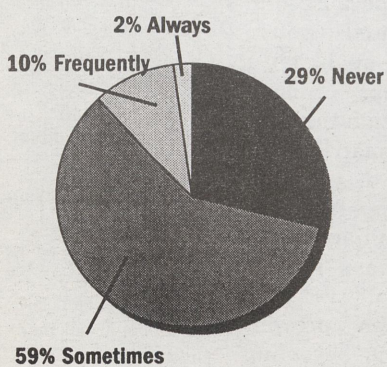
"I hope students realize how lucky they are to have an administration that supports the use of technology on campus. The school has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars to wire the entire campus, purchase the equipment, pay for the internet services and hire the support staff...when I was a student ten years ago, there were probably 30 computers available for student use on both campuses," Katsuyama noted.

A Paw Print poll showed that 71% of students use the internet at school at least on an occasional basis.

Internet access, Feldmeth said, is a valuable resource for the students and teachers and Poly subscribes to news services such as Newsbank, SIRS and the Los Angeles Times. Teachers are also encouraged to integrate the computer into the classroom and to tap into the resources of the World Wide Web.

Computer resources are already being used in the digital video area to make videos ranging from the student soap opera "Seniors" to an admissions department video.

### How often do you use the internet at school?



poll of 40 Upper School students  
compiled by BRIAN HIRSCHMANN

## Y2K: preparation, not celebration

■ Millennium is slated to pass quietly on campus as school focuses on the threat of the possible computer bug.

By ADELE BERGSTROM  
Assistant sports editor

Because of winter vacation the school has no special celebrations or observances to mark the millennium, but precautions for the Y2K computer bug such as computer tests and an additional school holiday are being taken.

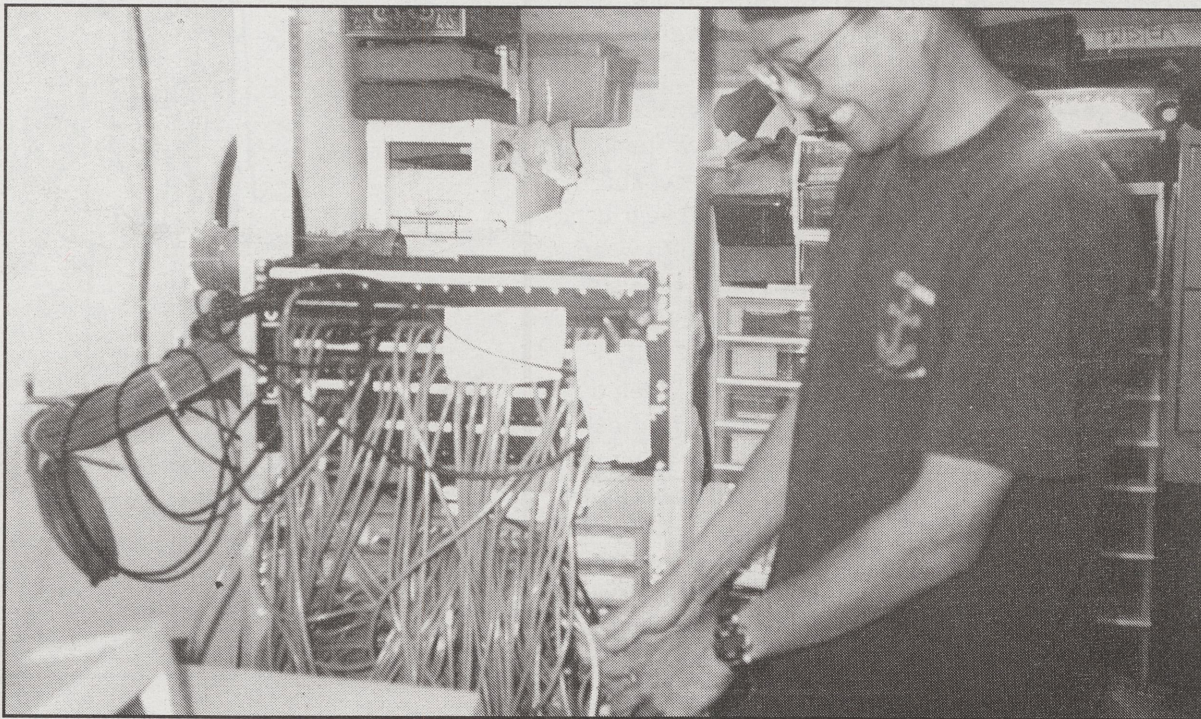
Of the 315 computers on campus, 161 of them had to be tested for Y2K compliance by the school's technology department.

While administrators indicated neither they nor the ASB had made plans to mark the end of the 1900s, they have been preparing for months in case of any problems with electricity or other services from the "millennium bug."

The school's Y2K efforts began in the summer and computer tests started in November. The test is a program which changes the date from 12/31/99 to 1/1/2000 by tinkering with the BIOS chip, which runs the computer's internal clock.

Each test takes five minutes and was conducted on all PCs on campus, including laptops and computers in classrooms and teachers' offices. Technology Assistant Ryan Katsuyama found 15% were not compliant. He downloaded free software from the internet to upgrade the computers and eliminate the problem. "We don't think we'll have any problems," he said.

Since the 154 Macintoshes on campus were already Y2K compliant, the PCs were the focus of the tests. The concern is mainly for the PC systems in the Stork Administration Building which keep track of the payroll, adminis-



KATHERINE KIDDE/The Paw Print

Computer technician Ryan Katsuyama checks the file server in the Language Arts building.

tration, business and development finances.

Director of Technology Mark McKee, technology technicians Patrick Carpenter and Katsuyama are leading the ongoing effort to make sure the PCs will function.

Plant manager Roger Hunt confirmed that there no problems are anticipated with elevators, sprinklers, thermostats and security systems because they are on a clock system, not a calendar. "The security system couldn't care less what the year is, it only keeps track of the time of day," he said.

At the request of an auditor and insurance agent, the school is undergoing what Assistant Head of School Greg Feldmeth calls a "comprehensive Y2K survey."

It focuses not only on machinery here but the school as well as the preparedness of outside vendors

like banks and the City of Pasadena which provides the school's power. "The auditors were satisfied with our level of preparation," McKee noted.

Although the city is working to

networks. "We'll have to wait until then to see what happens, but Poly has taken precautions," said Feldmeth. "We have all of our business and financial records backed up."

Nationally, a recently proposed bill would change the New Year's Day holiday for federal workers from Friday, Dec. 31, 1999, to Monday, Jan. 3, 2000. The idea is to give government agencies at least one more day to recover from possible Y2K glitches before the federal workers return to work.

Similarly, Poly is taking precautions by making January 3, a school holiday.

"Just in case any Y2K related problems arise, we will have an extra day to work on them," Feldmeth noted.

See Y2K READY page 6

### The Y2K scare is driven by the media. It is not founded in reality.

Mark McKee,  
Director of Technology

ensure that its systems are not affected, a spokesman said there are still possibilities of problems with power, traffic congestion, delivery of products and services and communications devices and



JONATHAN ESENSTEN/The Paw Print

Dawn Cobb has directed college counseling at Poly for 23 years.

## Dawn Cobb will retire in June after 40 years of service to Poly

By JONATHAN ESENSTEN  
Editor-in-chief

College counselor Dawn Cobb has announced that she will retire this June after 40 years at the school. Cobb, who has been at the school longer than any other employee, has helped generations of seniors through the college selection and application process.

According to a letter written to parents from Head of School Sarah Levine, the school is beginning to search for a replacement and hopes to make a final selection by the end of the school year. Cobb says she will continue to be involved in helping juniors this spring and hopes to be involved in the training of her replacement.

In her letter Levine said that Cobb, "will be sorely missed and fondly remembered."

Cobb said she will not miss the long hours and writing scores of college recommendation essays every year. Nevertheless, she said the most enjoyable part of her job as the college counselor is, "working with motivated students and the parents who are so supportive of them."

With her free time, Cobb plans to remodel her home and spend more time working in her garden.

Cobb began her career as a receptionist on the north campus and came to the Upper School as the registrar in 1963. In the early 1970s, Cobb was the Dean of Girls, a position created to promote activities such as sports for girls on campus. She became the director of college counseling in 1976. Cobb's daughter, Candace Andrews, '65, joined Cobb in the counseling office in 1992.



Editorials

Sock color rules and the Upper School at 40

Zero can be a troublesome number. The three zeros that will trail the date come New Year's morning may cause computers to crash, terrorists to strike and cult leaders to declare the end of the world imminent.

Nevertheless, many people sensibly think this New Year's eve will be similar to last. Even if those three zeros are little more than a natural quirk in how we measure time, the millennium has given everyone a good excuse to reflect upon the past.

Forty years ago, the first graduating class of the high school came to the south campus. Back then, the Upper School was a much different place. The Student Handbook from the 1965-66 school year lists what sorts of clothes students were allowed to wear to school. It says, "Regular dress [for boys] consists of slacks and a shirt," and goes on to list the acceptable colors and materials.

When discussing girls' dress, the 1965 handbook includes the proviso that only senior girls are permitted to wear patterned sweaters.

When discussing girls' dress, it includes the proviso that only senior girls are permitted to wear patterned sweaters. The 1999-2000 Student-Parent Handbook, by contrast, reminds students that shoes are

required, T-shirts should not promote sex, drugs or violence and "all clothes should be clean and in good condition."

In the early years of the Upper School, the day opened at 8:15 a.m. with Chapel, a time which typically consisted of a Bible reading and the recitation of the Lord's Prayer. Such an all-school activity is unthinkable now because of the school's ethnic and religious diversity.

Nevertheless, some aspects of student life do not seem to have changed. The seniors were provided a senior room to be used as the seniors' "headquarters and lounge." The privilege of using the room, however, was contingent upon seniors "keeping the room clean, neat, and in good taste [and] maintaining quiet and proper conduct." Thirty-five years later, the senior room has been closed by administrators many time since September because it is messy. Last Friday, for example, the couches were overturned, a full-sized Christmas tree was thrown into the smashed screen of the big-screen television and half-eaten burritos and canisters of chewing tobacco were strewn about.

What will the school be like 40 years from now? No one can know for sure, but if the last 40 years are any indication, some things will be the same and others little changed and a few of our practices will likely be as strange to our counterparts in 2040 as rules about sock color.

Our holiday wish list

With the holiday season upon us, The Paw Print has composed a student wish list. We hope to find in our stockings:

- A recipe for the chocolate chip cookies made by the Trojan Condom Company.
- Water ballooning for unruly freshmen.
- The towing of sophomore cars in the parking lot.
- Shipping in a mountain covered with snow for skiing during free periods.
- A transformation of the south campus into a winter village complete with Santa's toyshop and gingerbread houses.
- The football team wished for a CIF banner to fly in the boy's gym that sported a date later than 1980. Some wishes do come true!



Proposition banning same-sex marriages will result in discrimination

By CYNTHIA PEARSON

Next March, Californians will have to vote on the Knight Initiative, which, as its supporters love to point out, would add "just 14 words to the California Family Code."

But those 14 words are mighty controversial.

Consider: "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."

At the moment, the Code already defines marriage as a male-female union, but does not specify what to do if a gay couple were to be married in Hawaii, a state where same-sex marriage has sometimes been recognized.

Should the marriage be valid in California, i.e., should the couple get all the benefits and entitlements under the community-property law?

The question of same-sex marriage is very hot right now, but that is not the sole issue that the Knight Initiative addresses. It is an attempt to discriminate against homosexuals.

The Knight Initiative is also called the "Protection of Marriage Initiative."

The word "protection" implies that if the common definition of marriage were to be expanded to include homosexuals, somehow the concept of marriage would be tainted.

How does it hurt anyone to let all those who love each other get married legally?

A website in support of the Knight Initiative mentions several times, the fact that the proposition would "merely [affirm] the irreplaceable role of marriage between men and women in our society."

Irreplaceable role?

Almost half of these sacred unions end in divorce. Real "irreplaceable."

But that is not the main issue. This initiative is discriminatory, no matter how hard the supporters try to say it is not.

By rigidly defining marriage as a bond between a man and a woman, and not two men or two women, a whole class of people are put at a disadvantage in terms of inheritance, tax and family laws.

No matter which side of the fence you may be on, whether you believe gay couples should have full license to marry and thus reap all the benefits asso-

By rigidly defining marriage as a bond between a man and a woman, and not two men or two women, a whole class of people are put at a disadvantage in terms of inheritance, tax and family laws.

ciated with marriage, or if you think that all gay people are sinners, you should be able to see that the Knight Initiative is a bad thing.

What possible motive could Ted Knight and his right-wing cohorts have in creating this other than to have government-sponsored discrimination?

The law would dictate what acceptable in one's personal and private decisions.

If a Senator tried to get voters to pass a proposition in which marriage was defined as a union between a white man and a white woman, citizens would be up in arms. There would be no question in anyone's mind today that this would be discrimination.

And yet the Knight Initiative, which does basically the same thing, is gaining tremendous support.

The initiative seems to have no other basis than a religious one.

It is a common argument among certain religious groups to denounce homosexuality as wrong because "the Bible says so."

Everyone is entitled to their own opinion. One can't, however, impose their religious beliefs on others, especially as a legal fact.

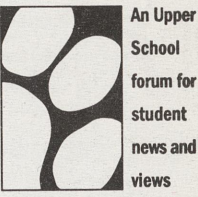
Proposition 22 (yet another name for the Knight Initiative) would let this happen. It would allow those who believe in the Bible to take control.

If the state allows conservative Christians and right-wingers to define marriage, the separation of church and state would be violated.

The Supreme Court is asked to decide issues regarding the appropriateness of student-run prayers at school, because others feel discriminated against, and yet California might let a belief of some groups become a law that would decide the very personal matter of marriage.

I encourage all of you who can legally vote to carefully consider the Knight Initiative, and the unfair conditions that it would impose.

I hope we can prevent Proposition 22 from becoming law.



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Letters to the editor

If you would like to write a letter to the editor, please contact the opinion editor. Anonymous submissions will not be published, but names may be withheld upon request.



# Countdown to Armageddon: 17 days left

By BECKY FARBSTAIN

Movies like "End of Days" boast violent, glorified Judgment Days, where rampaging fires burn the earth to its core, ordinary citizens die in the streets and heroic role models save us all from a disastrous end. I recognize that these movies are fictional, and born in a writer's mind, but I also imagine that there is some factual basis for these extravagant ideas.

With all of the well publicized hoopla about Y2K and the end of the world, some of us have begun to wonder whether something disastrous might occur when the clock strikes 12.

The plethora of disastrous possibilities has made some of us a little bit worried that this New Year's Eve might end with a terrible casualty, rather than a celebration.

Although I doubt that another big bang might occur, I do anticipate a variety of possible glitches, both technical and otherwise, which might damper New Year's festivities.

By now, everyone knows about the Y2K bug, and all the computer problems it might cause. One can only imagine the panic that

might break out if airlines are shut down or computers and the stock market are stalled. Certainly, many people would be more than a little worried if they realized all their savings and property were jeopardized because of a computer glitch, or if they are unable to return home from holiday vacations. If this occurs, I predict massive global panic attacks.

Next, the issue of bombs. Most nuclear

**One can only imagine the panic that might break out if airlines are shut down or bank computers and the stock market are stalled.**

weapons are controlled by a computer, somewhere. Suppose a computer malfunctions and these nuclear bombs explode, killing millions of innocent people. The proverb "A nuclear bomb can ruin your

whole day" certainly applies to New Year's Eve as well.

Cities like Los Angeles, New York and Paris will be jammed with people from all over the globe, hoping to celebrate the new millennium with millions of their "closest friends." These massive gatherings are invitations to terrorist attacks.

I can't imagine a more opportune time or place for a terrorist to strike fear into the hearts of people around the globe.

Although it is highly unlikely that a man-made disaster or another big bang powerful enough to annihilate the world as we know it will occur, I do believe that this New Year's Eve might play host to a variety of problems which could make the celebrations a little less merry and a wee bit more panicked.

I'm not proposing that we all hide in a bomb shelter in Nebraska, or start saving food in a silo, but I do think that a little more caution and preparation will make for a less disastrous and a much smoother New Year's Eve.

## Heard in the Panther's Lair

*What are your plans to celebrate the new millennium?*



I don't know yet. I'll probably just kick it with my friends.

Kyle Peterson, freshman



It depends on if I pass my driver's test. If I do, I'll probably go out somewhere. Otherwise, I'll probably just stay home.

Tim Hahn, sophomore



I wish I knew! I'll probably find myself wandering the Rose Parade route, and hopefully I'll find a house to sleep at.

Blythe Haaga, junior



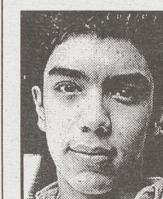
I'm going to New York to my grandmother's house; we always do that. I'm going to go to her New Year's party.

Vicky Albin, senior



I'll probably go to a party somewhere with my friends to celebrate the new millennium.

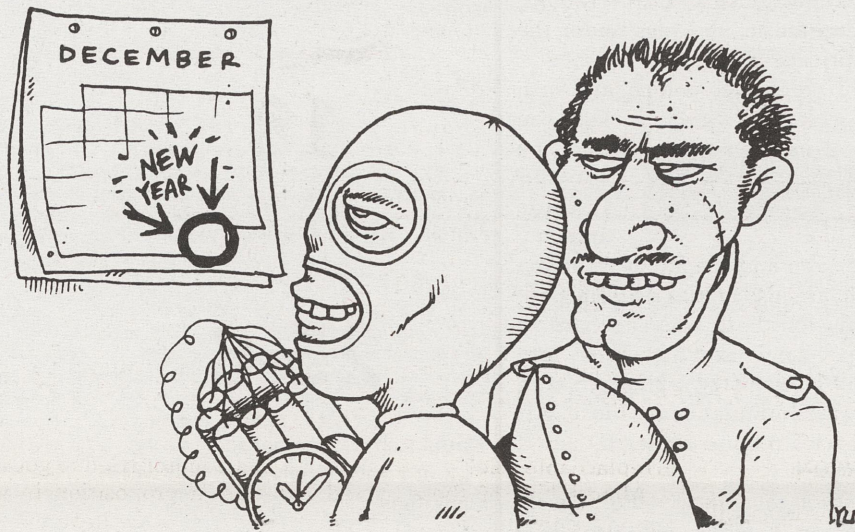
Katherine Toland, sophomore



Just like any other year, I'll do the basic New Year's thing. I'll celebrate with my family. Maybe we'll do something a little different since it's 2000.

Marc Mares, junior

compiled by Becky Farbstain  
and Trevor Garlock



Derek Yu/The Paw Print

## Two views: Fall-out from the flag controversy

### *The ASB needs a constitution*

By JONATHAN ESENSTEN

I and many others were disappointed two weeks ago when the administration handed down its decision that the American flag has no place in our classrooms. What was even more disturbing, however, was the revelation that our ASB government was excluded when the final decision was made.

The Paw Print reported that the process of making a decision on flags was "confusing and lengthy from the start."

The process was confusing because the administration attempted to have a dialog on the issues without first establishing what precisely those issues were. Also, how the dialog would be used to make a decision was never clear. The final decision was left to a vague "consensus."

As a result, we all endured an unpleasant charade where the point was to express our feelings so that it would appear as if we participated in a democratic process. A simple "no" in September would have been more satisfying.

To prevent the kind of confusion that plagued the flag-process, I urge the administration and ASB to write and adopt a "constitution" or a set of by-laws to describe precisely the powers and responsibilities of the student government in rela-

tion to the administration. At one time, the ASB had a formal constitution. I obtained a copy of the 1965 edition from Dawn Cobb's archives.

No government should be asked to function without a charter specifying its powers. (The Student-Parent Handbook is exceedingly vague on the powers of the ASB.)

If the school is serious about giving students real responsibility, it should start by adopting a document detailing the ASB's roles and powers.

If the administration is unwilling to be bound by student-government by laws, I hope they will tell all of us from the start. Please, let's not have another dialog unless the discussion is linked clearly and directly to action and a democratic decision.

The administrative reshuffling that occurred at the end of last year has put us at a crossroads: we can fundamentally change the way the administration and our student government interact or we can succumb to inertia and inaction.

The furor over the flags was a symptom of a larger lack of structure. I hope one of the legacies of this ASB cabinet will be a set of by-laws and a renewed commitment to serious student government.

### *ASB has power on campus*

By JOANNA MAMEY

The debate over the flags and the Pledge of Allegiance has raised some important questions.

How much power does the ASB cabinet really have in decision-making?

Why isn't there a concrete process for issues such as these? Addressing the second question first, the fact of the matter is we went through a process.

The Eagle Scouts brought the

**The ASB is involved in just about every aspect of the school life.**

issue to the ASB who in turn took it to the faculty and administration. The ASB met with the administration in private meetings and with the Eagle Scouts.

After discussions had taken place, the administration held discussions with the faculty to get their viewpoints, while the ASB conversed with students. Lunch forums were held where the administration, the ASB, the faculty and students were all in attendance.

I would call that a process, wouldn't you?

The reason why the Eagle

Scouts are still not satisfied with our process is that it took a relatively long time.

But really, what does one expect?

The flag and Pledge issues concern the entire school community and certainly deserve careful deliberation. They are also matters that affect the daily schedule of the Upper School.

I'm sorry, but matters of such grave importance are not decided within a day.

As for the power of the ASB, we are involved in just about every aspect of the school life, from amusement to discipline.

The ASB government has weekly meetings with the administration and, YES!, our voices and opinions do count. What we say does make a significant difference in administrative decisions.

Some may be wondering why the ASB representatives were not part of the final decision for the Pledge and the flags. The reason: we asked to be left out.

After the Morning Meeting fiasco with the Eagle Scouts, the members of the ASB decided we wanted to take a backseat.

What does this all amount to?

Poly does have a process for all issues and the ASB cabinet does have real power in this community.



# Online shopping: replacing malls?

Web stores make buying easy for shoppers this Christmas

By EUNICE KOO

Life editor

During this holiday season, online shopping will be bigger than ever as an increasing number of consumers turn to the internet to meet their purchasing needs.

Many sites offer enticing incentives, such as free shipping or a discount rate to encourage hesitant buyers.

People who enjoy online shopping claim it's convenient and fast both for gifts as well as items for themselves.

With so many choices to pick from, how do you figure out which sites to look at?

Although men currently buy 52% of online products, female

**Many sites offer enticing incentives such as free shipping or a discount rate.**

shoppers are increasing. Many sites reflect this increase with flashy pictures of clothes, make-up, and accessories.

A recent creation to help holiday shoppers are online malls, which are search engines that look through several stores at once, saving time and producing more choices. Some sites are [www.shopping.yahoo.com](http://www.shopping.yahoo.com), [www.1onlinemall.com](http://www.1onlinemall.com), and [www.eshop.msn.com](http://www.eshop.msn.com).

On these sites, you can choose your price range, which automatically narrows down the number of products.

For example, type in "t-shirt" on Yahoo's mall and you'll end up with 8,316 products that come from 850 different stores.

At [www.eshop.msn.com](http://www.eshop.msn.com), you can also bid on auctions, and find items as regular as khakis or the newest cashmere craze, pashmina.

Sometimes online malls are too general, so visiting specific sites is sometimes a better idea when you have a defined product in mind. Almost every well-known store has an online site.

Some staple sites for clothes are [www.eddiebauer.com](http://www.eddiebauer.com), [www.gap.com](http://www.gap.com), [www.jcrew.com](http://www.jcrew.com), and [www.abercrombie.com](http://www.abercrombie.com).

Sites that are geared towards teenage girls are [www.delias.com](http://www.delias.com) and [www.moxiegirl.com](http://www.moxiegirl.com). Also, the site [www.blueasphalt.com](http://www.blueasphalt.com) offers a great selection of clothing.

Make-up and beauty product sites are also on the rise. Some interesting sites are [www.eve.com](http://www.eve.com) and [www.gloss.com](http://www.gloss.com). The latter carries the latest lip products from companies such as Tony & Tina.

Also, [www.sephora.com](http://www.sephora.com) offers products such as violet-scented body wash in unique shaped problems. A wide range of items such as those from Urban Decay and Three Custom Colors. They can be purchased [www.beautyjungle.com](http://www.beautyjungle.com).

Many online sites offer good deals for the latest CDs. At <http://cheap-cds.com/surf/home>, their pitch is that almost every CD is \$11.99 and under.

Just type in a log-in name, a password, and full name (you don't need to put in any billing information) and you can browse, listen to clips, and buy a CD.

Note, however, the site has only the Billboard Top 100 with music ranging from Korn to Mariah Carey to Santana.

At [www.thecdexchange.com](http://www.thecdexchange.com), you can swap CDs and buy new ones. At [www.cdnow.com](http://www.cdnow.com), the

prices aren't the cheapest, but the variety of music is astounding.

If you have adults on your gift list, there are sites with more refined gifts. For example, [www.hammacher.com](http://www.hammacher.com) sports some expensive but quirky gifts such as a 50th Anniversary Electronic Football Game or a Heated Towel Stand for \$150. Also, for more humorous or obscure gifts, [www.lighterside.com](http://www.lighterside.com) and [www.sharperimage.com](http://www.sharperimage.com) are great sites.

Sites for sporting wear and shoes include [www.eastbay.com](http://www.eastbay.com) and [www.andiesgifts.com](http://www.andiesgifts.com) for sports memorabilia. A good site to find discounts from stores ranging from Prada to Polo is [www.bluefly.com](http://www.bluefly.com).

The site [www.allegrogifts.com](http://www.allegrogifts.com) has notecards, frames for photographs, and candles. Barnes & Noble's site [www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com) has bargains for books. For more variety, [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) offers books, videos, music, and toys under the list prices.

Gift registries, which are wish lists you create so your friends and family can go and check out what you want, are also on the rise. They are handy for those who are hard to shop for; some sites are <http://giftregistry.yahoo.com> and [www.wishminder.com](http://www.wishminder.com). Most gift registries require a user ID and a password.

Although online shopping is booming compared to previous years, some consumers are still hesitant. Many still want to visit the real store to try on clothes or see actual products rather than pictures.

Still, it is convenient to surf the web at 3 a.m. in your pajamas to finish your Christmas shopping.

*Christmas  
Guess what?*

**566**

Dollars for the average Australian consumer to spend this holiday season.

**900**

Amount of money expected for the average American consumer to spend this holiday season.

**12 billion**

Dollars spent world-wide on credit cards during the Christmas season.

**18**

Number of people that one acre of Christmas trees provides oxygen for.

**25-6**

Dates from December to January that are traditionally the 12 Days of Christmas.

**1-12**

Dates in December that CBS ran its 12 Days of Christmas specials as it hyped the pre-holidays.

#%&\*! (Expletive deleted)

## In your dreams: columnists list fantasies for the new millennium

By JAY HARDER and

JOANNA MAMEY

Assistant life editors

With the potential threat of Y2K coming soon, it's not just our computer nerds (you know who you are) who are taking precautions.

For starters, several teachers have agreed to camp out in a communal bunker over the holidays. Mr. Fletcher will head the endeavor.

Concidentally, the bunker will be adorned with bear skin rugs, and the shelves will be stocked with tofu fruitcakes.

Señora Mair will be guarding the teacher's hideout bunker and her stockpile of Lucky Charms with the M-16s that she has saved for the mass panic.

Other teachers will also be moved underground for their own safety. It is in their own interest that they will be placed underground. It has nothing to do with us never wanting to see them again.

The administration was worried about the minor dangers of Y2K and the effects that it will have on

the emotions of the weak students here. For this reason they have hired several student support ethical scholars who are experts in the field of Y2K stress management.

They will head up committees and subcommittees and hold drawn-out discussions during morning meeting. Classes will get out at 5:30 p.m.

Frank "White Eagle" Valenzuela will be using his executive Indian privilege to run a casino with open bar for Poly students on New Year's Eve. Frank blamed Y2K for any immoral activities that he might be participating in.

Since all records of any neighbors' petitions and city zoning will be erased after the New Year, the school will have lights installed on the football field and a multi-level parking garage built.

Mrs. Grether has requested a salary increase. Forseeing the downfall of the lunch truck upon the crash of the computerized roach coach, she has volunteered to use the pig feti to feed students.

Perhaps the wariness of some seems like paranoia, but we can all look forward to the millennium.



JENNIFER RHO/The Paw Print

Swedish children celebrate Santa Lucia Day with candles and song.

## Swedish AFS student describes St. Lucia holiday

By SANDRA EKLUND

Student contributor

According to legend, Santa Lucia came with light and warmed the people when everything was dark and cold. Santa Lucia was in reality an Italian Saint and Italy

also celebrates the festival. No other country does though, and it is a mystery how the festival came to Sweden and became one of the most celebrated holidays.

Preparations for the Lucia festival in Sweden go on for weeks before the actual Lucia day on the

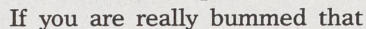
Thirteenth of December. Everyone decorates their house, bakes saffron buns and buys ginger cookies.

Parents try to find white dresses and red belts for their kids' school celebration in the lower school. The parents come to watch their kids sing the traditional Lucia



Approximate number of requests for trademarks on goods and services bearing the word "millennium."

The film, which is set to famous classical pieces by composers such as Beethoven, Shostakovich and Gershwin, will be accompanied by



The Tournament of Roses has created a Holiday Hotline for information. The number is (626) 793-9911.

The result is that everybody is very tired and people are sleeping in the classrooms. Not much gets done in school the day after Lucia.

The next time that you are hungry at lunch, try Euro Pane  
Euro Pane is open until 2:00 p.m. on Sundays and 5:00 p.m. on all other days.



Q: Four people are standing on one side of a bridge and need to get across. They must cross in 17 minutes. A flashlight is needed to get across. It must be brought back and forth for anybody to cross. The bridge can only hold the weight of two people at a time. The first person can cross the bridge in one-

A: First, the one- and two-minute go across (two minutes). The one-minute person comes back (three). The five- and ten-minute people go across (thirteen). The two-minute person comes back (fifteen). The one- and two-minute people go back across (seventeen).



## News briefs

### School nixes flags, Pledge proposals

Responding to a recent proposal by Eagle Scouts, Upper School Director Grace Hamilton announced that American flags would not be put in classrooms and students would not be required to say the Pledge of Allegiance during Morning Meeting.

An alternate plan suggested by the administration was to have students independently raise and salute the flag in the courtyard in the morning. Senior Jonathan Esensten, one of the scouts who made the proposal was not satisfied by the suggestion.

"The point of our asking for this proposal was to present values that the flag represents for the entire community, and not just for a group of students or a club," said Esensten. "I'm disappointed that the administration made the decision that the American flag had no place in our classrooms."

Joanna Mamey, the ASB President, felt that the decision reflected the prevailing attitude of the student body about the issue.

"If not enough people will care or respect something as important as a pledge or having flags in class then it is probably better not to have it at our school in order to preserve the importance of it," said Mamey.

A poll taken by The Paw Print in which 92% of students and 85% of faculty responded found 70% opposed both proposals.

Andrew Huskey

### Choirs and orchestra to perform tonight

Upper School musicians and vocalists will present their annual holiday concert tonight at 7:00 p.m. Performances will include the Treble Chorus, Madrigals and the Upper School Orchestra.

Directed by Alan Geier, the singers will perform holiday tunes ranging from classic Christmas carols to Spanish and Hebrew songs. Vocalists will be joined by the orchestra, faculty and staff to perform "For Unto Us a Child is Born," from Handel's "Messiah."

The Orchestra, directed by Reid Blickenstaff, will also participate. "It's an important night for us," said Blickenstaff, "our musicians are talented and work hard."

Juniors Rachel Dunham and Andy Stout will perform a cello duet, senior Sean Barela will present a bassoon concerto, freshmen Paul Karayan and Keegan de

Lancie will reprise a duet, and senior Erica McNeill will be performing on the bass.

The Orchestra will also be playing a piece by Bartok which has three violin solo sections that will be performed by senior Alison Lanski, and juniors Haley Anderson, and Erica Yen.

Meghan Woodsome

### 16 students attend JSA conference

Sixteen Upper School students attended the Junior Statesmen of America (JSA) convention during the weekend of Nov. 20-21. Held at the Los Angeles Sheraton Gateway Hotel, high school students from all over California had the opportunity to "band together with the common goals of improving their education, promoting democracy, and learning about government."

Participants were involved in impromptu speeches, problem solving activities and open forum discussions.

Several varsity debaters attended, including juniors Alexis Casillas, Stephanie Lowe and Jordan Segall.

Erica Yen

### Winter Formal raises \$4,000 for yearbook

The annual Winter Formal was held at the Quinn residence December 4, and made over \$4,000. All profits will benefit Oakleaves, the Upper School yearbook. Over 250 students attended and Junior Laura Waluch, dance co-chair said, "It was definitely a success. The location was great and we were really happy with the turnout and profits."

Amy Pomerantz

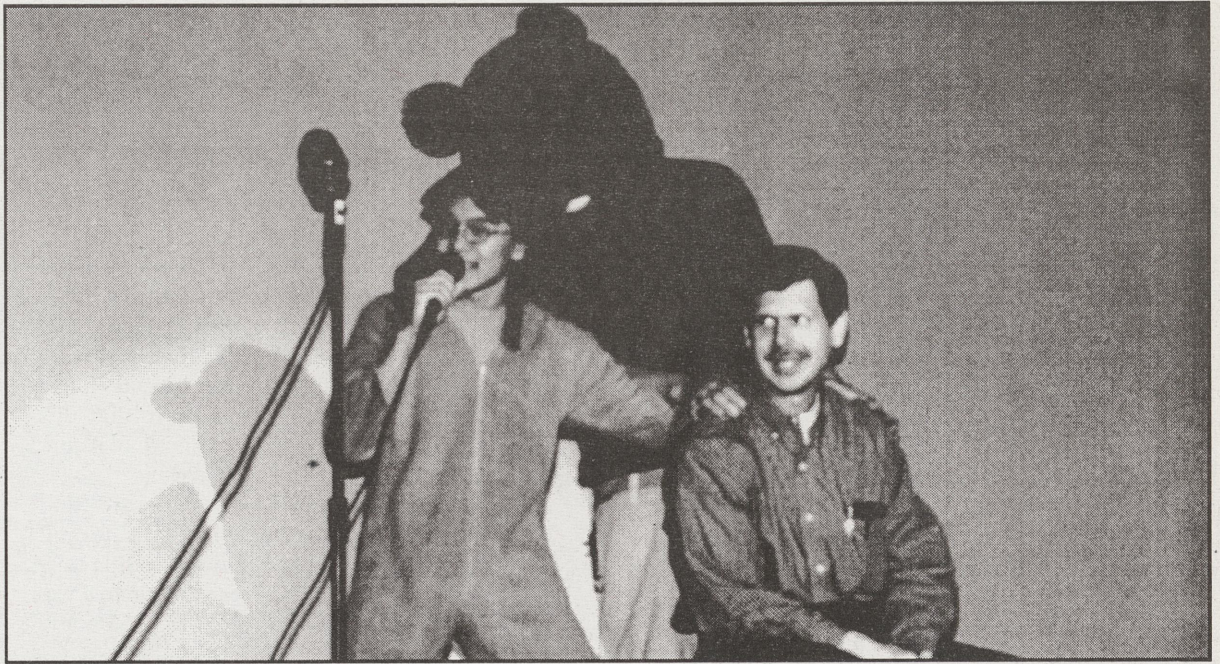
### Surveillance cameras considered after theft

Due to the theft of a vital computer circuit board two weeks ago, the administration has closed the Fullerton Macintosh lab to student use without adult supervision.

The lab has been closed frequently over the last two years due to vandalism and thefts. As a result the administration is considering installing video surveillance cameras to ensure greater security.

"It will be very costly to keep surveillance of the Macintosh labs at all times," said Director of Technology Mark McKee.

Stephanie Lowe



KATHERINE KIDDE/The Paw Print

Seniors Derek Yu and Oliver Rizk dressed as bears to serenade Upper School physics teacher Craig Fletcher with "I Can't Help Falling in Love with You" by Elvis during the karaoke assembly.

## Parking petition threatened

■ Neighbors file complaint with city over student parking on Catalina Avenue and Cornell Road.

By LAWRENCE ANG  
Business manager

Local residents have issued a formal complaint concerning parking practices at the Upper School.

Neighbors are petitioning the city to restrict parking along one side of Catalina Avenue, both sides of Cornell Road, and both sides of Mentor Avenue during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Student parking in spaces adjacent to houses along these streets breaks a longstanding agreement made between the school and neighbors.

Longtime neighbor Chrystal Balvin said "the school has three problems: parking, buses, and attitude."

Her solutions to the first two of these problems is to create a bus turnaround, build more parking, and have students carpool more.

According to Balvin the most significant of these problems "is with attitude."

"I have lived here a long time and students have no knowledge of the history here. They move our garbage cans to create parking spaces and park in front of fire hydrants."

She added, "When former head-

master Willis Stork came to us for permission to build the high school, we had the power to prevent its establishment. However, we allowed it. We don't know how to deal with the attitude. Whenever we talk to the school, they say that it's a problem because Caltech takes their spots. The truth is that Caltech is trying to work with us, building new lots and sending out letters to students telling them not to park in Poly spaces."

Pasadena Councilman Sid Tyler met with Head of School Dr. Sarah Levine, Director of Development and External Affairs Carol McCrary, Director of Student Activities Laurianne Williams, and Assistant Head of School Greg Feldmeth last Thursday to discuss traffic and parking issues in the neighborhood.

Tyler suggested that the administration and ASB work to communicate with the neighbors more openly.

Since then Upper School Director Grace Hamilton, Williams, and the ASB officers have sent letters throughout the neighborhood describing the school's parking policy, position on "illegal" parking and plans for trying to work with the community to solve the present problems.

Continued from page 1

## Y2K READY: preparations

McKee is also confident about campus readiness. "The Y2K scare is driven by the media. It is not founded in reality. It is unnecessary hype," he added.

Pavilions Market on South Lake Avenue has noted a slight but not significant increase in the purchase of emergency supplies such as water, batteries, flashlights and canned food. The American Red Cross, which has already distributed 20 million brochures nationwide, advocates "treating Y2K like an approaching storm," but recognizes that even though sporadic glitches are likely, there is little need to worry about widespread disruptions.

President Clinton's Y2K advisory council is distributing a 31-page pamphlet to help individuals prepare, and has a toll free information line (1-888-USA-4-Y2K) and a web site at [www.y2k.gov](http://www.y2k.gov).

The City of Pasadena published a Y2K preparedness checklist, advising residents to be careful about withdrawing large amounts of money from the bank, to limit use of telephones and the internet on January 1 and to beware of Y2K scams.



KATHERINE KIDDE/The Paw Print

Upper School students wrestled in sumo suits last Friday.

## Planned Parenthood

Wants to remind students to

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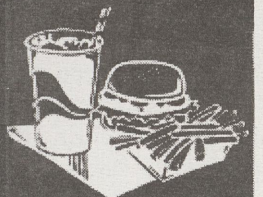
and  
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## Sports roundup

### Boys soccer team on four-game win streak

Boys varsity soccer is off to a fast start with a 4-1-1 record, including a 2-1 win over defending CIF Division IV finalist San Marino last Friday.

Coach Steve Freeburg attributes the team's success to an improved offense, as the team is averaging over two goals a game.

Senior Greg Freeburg has been the team's main source of offensive output, scoring eight of the team's 14 goals.

After losing 3-2 to La Cañada, the team has gone undefeated with shutout wins over Paraclete, Maranatha, Blair, and San Marino.

Freeburg noted the team is improving its ball handling and is much deeper than last year. "We have more skilled players for every position," he said.

### Boys soccer

**Record:** 4-1-1

**Last game:** Beat San Marino 2-1

**Next game:** Today at La Cañada

*Stewart Dorsey and Sean Howell*

### Boys basketball winless so far

Varsity boys basketball has a tough act to follow after last year's team reached the CIF Finals, and the delayed return of two key starters because of CIF football playoffs hasn't helped as the

Panthers started 0-5.

The team lost all five starters from graduation last year and has only two returning players, juniors Marshall Duncan and Kirk Herald.

The squad is also without head coach Brad Hall, who is on sabbatical.

His replacement is Eric Heger, '93, a former standout at Poly and Colorado College who brings a hard-working approach to the game.

"It is early in the year, and a lot is still up in the air. With Marshall and Kirk gone, it's too early to tell who is going to have what role on the team," he added.

So far, the Panthers' closest game was their opener, a 56-50 loss to Cantwell. Over the weekend they lost three games in the annual Poly Tournament.

### Boys basketball

**Record:** 0-5

**Last game:** Lost to Maranatha 72-45

**Next game:** Today at Calvary Chapel

*Matt Robbins and David Carlson*

### Girls water polo wins league opener

In only its second year of existence, girls water polo is swimming well, posting a 4-5 record and winning their Prep League opener over CAMS 13-6.

Led by seniors Katherine Kidde and Courtney Taylor, the Panthers have won three straight games. "All our starters are talented and we have a strong bench," co-cap-

tain Kidde said.

This year's squad is more balanced than last year's. The defense has stepped up their play, allowing fewer goals, according to Coach Ryan Katsuyama.

The team has had some trouble adjusting to the loss of graduating seniors, but sophomores Katrina Damasco, the team's goalie, and right wing defender Lucie Svitek are stepping up to fill in the missing spots.

The Panthers hope to compete for the league title, with Chadwick their strongest competition.

### Girls water polo

**Record:** 4-5

**Last game:** Beat CAMS 13-6

**Next game:** Today vs. Chadwick

*Terra Bennett and Natalie Kolawa*

### Girls basketball second in tourney

Girls varsity basketball has started strong, running their record to 4-1 and capturing second place in the Poly Invitational Tournament.

Wins over Flintridge Sacred Heart 56-21, Arcadia 53-45 highlighted last weekends' action.

The team dropped the final game to Maranatha 47-44.

Earlier in the week, the girls avenged last year's loss to San Marino with a 54-45 win over the Titans.

The team has a nucleus of six returning veterans including three starters, senior co-captain Kimberly Roberts, junior co-captain Ruth Bryson and sophomore Camille Nakamura.

Coach Chuck Ellis said "the girls will be a little short-handed for a while, with the injury to junior Adele Bergstrom, but they will be playing their best basketball in February."

### Girls basketball

**Record:** 4-1

**Last game:** Lost to Maranatha 47-44

**Next game:** Today vs. Mayfield

*Ruth Bryson*



## Brains and brawn, we've got it all

By KIMBERLY ROBERTS and AMIT SURYA

When most people think of Poly, academics come to mind. However, the school also has a long and distinguished sports tradition. Many teams and individuals have conquered CIF and now bask in the glory of having their names displayed on banners hanging from gym walls.

With all the excitement surrounding the millennium, a look back at 40 years of Upper School sports reveals many great moments and remarkable achievements.

•The girls softball team has won the Prep League seventeen years in a row.

•In the fall season of '97 all three girls teams (volleyball, cross country and tennis) won CIF championships within the span of three days.

•The girls soccer team had a four-year streak of winning CIF. Three of the girls from the team went on to play at UCSD, where they won two NCAA Div. III championships.

•Last year, athletic teams won twelve academic championships for having the highest average G.P.A. in the division.

•Robert Reeder, '97, is a starter for Navy's basketball team. Koko Archibong, '99, starts at Penn, while Ryan Nungesser, '98 and

Greg Dietrich, '96, both play Div. I football, at Vanderbilt and Dartmouth, respectively. Erin Sones, '97, won four consecutive CIF diving championships and now dives at Stanford.

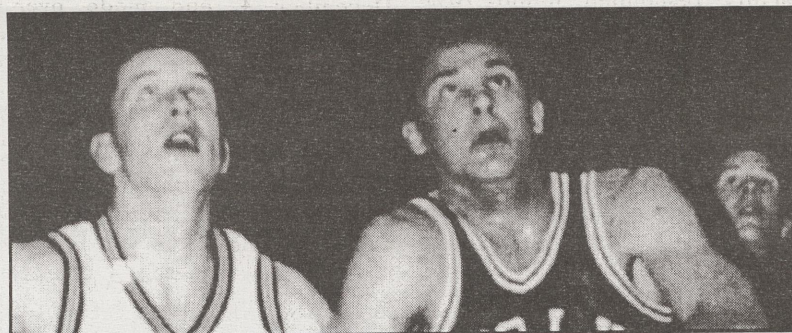
•Grant Cutler, '92, was a nationally-ranked mountain biker who won the state finals.

•Last Saturday Poly became the only football team in the San Gabriel Valley to win an 11-man CIF Championship this decade.

Some of the special moments didn't win trophies or weren't even seen by many fans.

•In a 1987 Poly-Webb baseball game, before the mercy rule, the Panthers led the Gauls by twenty, but the stands filled each inning as Webb students left dinner early to watch a hitting clinic by Mike Wegge and Bernard Clark, each of whom—like McGwire and Sosa—drove the ball further over the fence on successive at-bats. At the end of the game Webb fans gave them a standing ovation.

•The '84 boys basketball team, which eventually won CIF and made it to the state finals, almost didn't get into the playoffs. They trailed Avalon by nine after three quarters in a wild-card game before coming back to win and running the table, going all the way to Oakland. The rest, as they say, was history...



Courtesy of Oakleaves

Robert Reeder, '97, right, muscles a defender in a CIF game enroute to the state playoffs.



JENNIFER RHO/The Paw Print

Katherine Kidde leads the water polo team with 27 goals.



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## Football powers way to CIF Division XIII championship

■ *Varsity comes from behind to win 21-14 in fifth appearance in title game.*

By JOEY GILL  
Staff writer

Coming from behind in last Saturday's Division XIII championship game, varsity football captured the school's first-ever CIF football title in a hard-fought 21-14 win over Arrowhead Christian.

It was Poly's first football championship after reaching the finals in 1979, '86, '88, and '89.

Coaches, players and what might be the school's largest football crowd on record celebrated on the field for nearly an hour afterward, savoring an 11-2 record, that concluded with a seven-game winning streak.

After the Eagles marched 73 yards for the opening score, the Panthers came back with their own drive, capping it off with a nine-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback Morgan Booth to junior end Kirk Herald.

With the score tied 8-8, the Panthers drove the length of the field again before coming up empty after a false start penalty on the one-foot line and a missed a field goal attempt. Arrowhead grabbed a 14-8 lead on a perfectly-executed hook-and-ladder play 29 seconds before halftime.

As they have in the last seven games, the defense took control in

the second half, shutting out the Eagles. Senior Brian Hirschmann helped shift the momentum with a key fumble recovery which led to a scoring drive featuring a 44-yard pass to junior Marshall Duncan and a 35-yard TD pass to Herald, giving the Panthers 15-14 lead.

Junior Ben Imhoff pulled in an 18-yard touchdown pass from Booth late in the game and the defense halted the Eagles' last drive when senior David Stone stopped the Arrowhead ball carrier on fourth and one to preserve the win.

Coach Grant Oldfield said of the win, "Its fantastic, I can't really describe the feeling, it's amazing!"

Co-coach Steve McDonald agreed. "This is the first team to treat the underclassmen with respect. Unity was the reason why we succeeded. Everyone wanted to play football," he noted.

Poly was led on offense throughout the game by senior running back Faisal Dittu, who capped off an already record-setting season with 173 yards on 23 carries. He had 18 touchdowns for the season.

On defense, the Panthers held Arrowhead's double wing offense to only 63 yards rushing in the second half, led by Hirschmann who finished with 18 tackles. He had 135 for the year.

"Our guys were mature and concentrated hard because they wanted to win so badly. Our seniors inspired the team, and everyone stood out," McDonald concluded.



JENNIFER GODWIN-MINTO/The Paw Print

**Senior Faisal Dittu, top, led the Panthers this season with a total of 1,702 yards on 212 rushes, for an average of eight yards per carry. Members of the team, left, accept their CIF championship patches after Saturday's game.**



### By the numbers: CIF football

3

Number of games the football team came from behind to win in four CIF playoff games.

7

Consecutive games won by the team during its title drive and in which it held its opponents scoreless in the second half.

170:18

Edge in passing yards over Arrowhead Christian in the championship game.

11

Consecutive CIF quarters that the Panther defense allowed no touchdowns.

1,300

Estimated attendance at Saturday's game held at South Pasadena, the largest crowd in recent memory.

## Girls soccer has plenty of everything

■ *21-member team blends experienced veterans with talented freshmen.*

By ADELE BERGSTROM  
Assistant sports editor

Girls soccer improved their record to 4-3 with two wins in the second weekend of the La Serna Tournament.

Earlier, the Panthers posted a 5-0 shutout over rival San Marino on Friday.

Against the Titans, freshman Jill Sharp scored two goals while freshman Michelle Mello, sophomore Lindsey Hunt and junior Marisa Broudy each added one.

After dropping their first three games of the season, Poly shut out San Marino, South Pasadena and Bishop.

In the third game of the La Serna Tournament, they beat Brea-Olinda on penalty kicks 4-3 by Mello, Sharp, freshman Molly Quinn and senior goalie Wendy Bingham.

With freshmen or sophomores making up seven of the 11 starters, the Panthers are a young but talented team.

"It has taken us a few games to get used to each other since we're such a new team," said Bingham. "We have really improved our teamwork from the first game, a

4-2 loss to Sacred Heart, to now."

Senior leadership comes from Bingham, Ashley Amato, Meridith Barker and Natalia Naish.

Of the 21 members of the squad, almost all have played club soccer.

Standout sophomore Hayley Hunt, who is recovering from a sprained ankle, participated in the Olympic Development Program Nationals over Thanksgiving break.

The ODP takes the top 18 girls in the country under age 16.

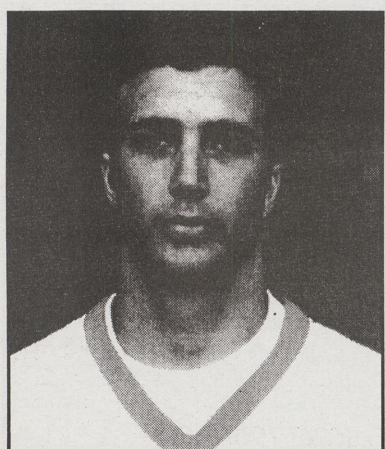
"We've got talent and control," said Coach Brett Freeburg. "We're going to do very well."



KATHERINE KIDDE/The Paw Print

**Freshman Molly Quinn plays halfback for the Panthers.**

## Athletes of the Issue



JENNIFER GODWIN-MINTO/The Paw Print  
**Quarterback Morgan Booth.**

### Morgan Booth

Leading the offense with 170 passing yards and three touchdowns in the title game, senior quarterback Morgan Booth helped the Panthers clinch their first CIF championship.

Completing 9 of 14 attempts, Booth successfully hit his receivers in the open field.

He was able to throw long or with pin-point accuracy in crossing patterns to junior wide-outs Marshall Duncan and Kirk Herald and junior tight end Ben Imhoff.

For the season, Booth's perfor-

mances improved steadily as he concluded the year with 74 completions in 142 attempts (52%), with 1,325 yards and 11 touchdowns.

David Stone

### Katherine Kidde

Only four weeks into the girls varsity water polo season, Katherine Kidde has set new single-game school records for goals scored (nine), and steals (ten).

Not only is Kidde a prolific scorer, she is also a team leader. Coach Ryan Katsuyama said, "KK has a strong understanding of the game and that helps come game-time, when we need a 'field general' out

there directing traffic."

Kidde has a special place in the second year team's origins, as she was one of the driving forces who helped make girls water polo an official varsity sport last year.

Lillian Lai



JENNIFER RHO/The Paw Print

**Senior Katherine Kidde.**