

Haaga House undergoes summer renovations

■ *Previously known as the Yellow House, the centerpiece of the South Campus receives a name change as the 2009-2010 school year commences.*

By ELLIE MALCHIONE
News editor

The former Yellow House, now referred to as the Haaga House, underwent many renovations this summer, including a new coat of paint, several functional improvements and a name change. The house had been subject to years of weathering and exposure before the Board of Trustees chose to include its remodeling in Poly's Next 100 Years Campaign.

The Haaga House, originally known as the Cornett Mansion, was a residence designed in 1907 for William H. Cornett. The house passed through numerous owners from 1910 until 1950, culminating with the Erdman family. In 1958, Poly trustee and parent Eleanor Donnelly Erdman donated the house to be used as part of Poly's then-new Upper School. By the time the Upper School opened in September of 1959, the residence had been remodeled to accommodate classrooms and administrative offices. For many years, the Haaga House was referred to as the administration building or the Gates House.

Poly recognized the need to restore the house several years ago and decided to include its refurbishment in the capital campaign. Improving the physical structure and the aesthetic appeal of the exterior of the house was this summer's priority; the roof had already been replaced.

The house's old yellow paint had been its most defining feature for decades. Alumnus and trustee Peter Boyle '83 noted that he too called the house the "Yellow House" while attending Upper School in the 1980s. Boyle added, "I am sure the yellow paint that was removed was the same paint which was on the house when I was at Poly. That said, both the paint underneath as well as historical photographs confirm yellow hadn't been the house's only color."

Settling on a color scheme that was appropriate for the house was a top priority for the committee. Conscious that the house was known as the "Yellow House," the com-

See HAAGA, page 12



Courtesy of Polytechnic School Archives

The Haaga House receives a coat of yellow paint in 1960s. Along with an extensive renovation, the house has been painted sage in order to mesh with the other buildings on the South Campus.

Upper School celebrates 50 years

■ *Since its founding in 1959, Poly's Upper School has grown significantly and has blossomed into a respected institution.*

By DOUGLAS CLEARY
Assistant news editor

Just on the heels of its centennial celebrations, Poly has reached a new milestone. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the addition of grades ten through twelve to the already existing Lower School and Middle School. Opened in 1959, Headmaster Willis Stork oversaw the development of the Upper School and its integration with the rest of the Poly community. Varsity sports were introduced a year later.

Jamie Neilson began the Golden Anniversary celebration with a slideshow during upper school morning meeting, including photos from the past 50 years as well as facts about the school's history. Particularly notable is the significant growth in Poly's student body. Currently the high school includes 372 students while in its first year it had only 30 sophomores. The tuition in Poly's first

years was also only \$850, a number that has grown exponentially.

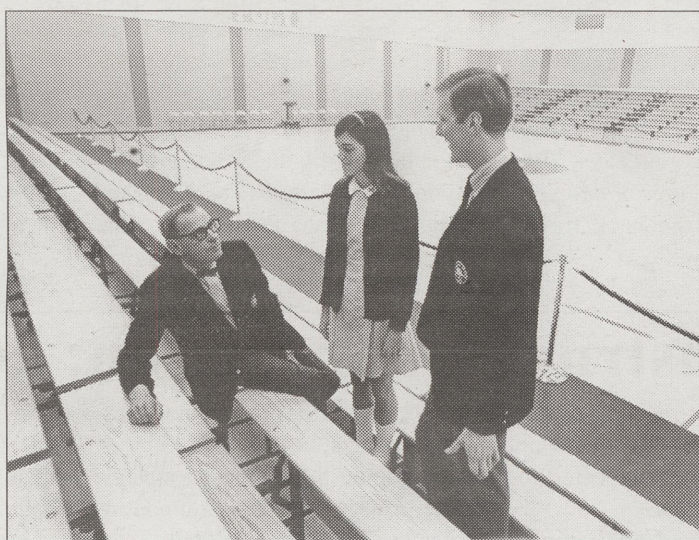
In addition to the slide show, the ASB hosted trivia about the school in honor of its birthday. It pitted class against class and also contributed to Rivalry Year, an ongoing competition among grades. As a special treat to students, a Poly-

2012.

Because of the school's relatively long existence, many current students are the children of Poly upper-school graduates. Sophomore Henry Pray, son of Poly graduate Max Pray, commented, "I think it's cool that I get to the same high school as my dad." Along with

the different generations of students, many structural changes have been made to the south campus. Originally, there were very few buildings in the upper school, the oldest of which is the Haaga House. Newer buildings include Fullerton, Hixon, Boswell, Mudd and the Language Arts Building.

Academics have always been the core focus of the school, though the different pro-



Courtesy of Polytechnic School Archives

The picture above, which was published in the *Los Angeles Times*, depicts headmaster Willis Stork speaking to students before the dedication of the Gamble Gymnasium.

colored birthday cake was served at lunch. A special celebration is being planned for the first graduating class of Poly high school ('62) in

ways been the core focus of the school, though the different pro-

See 50 YEARS, page 2

Bischoff to leave; Ventura hired as replacement

■ *Renee Bischoff plans to move to Ohio following three years at Poly. Stanford's Assistant Director of Admissions Gloria Diaz Ventura set to begin November 1, prior to Bischoff's departure.*

By JENNA LOMELI and JUSTIN WORLAND

Student contributor and Editor-in-Chief

This past August, College Counselor Renée Bischoff announced her intention to leave Poly for Cleveland, Ohio. Bischoff will depart in January with her son Kirby, a current Poly second grader, and her husband Rick, who has been hired as Vice-President of Enrollment at Case Western Reserve University.

The Upper School administration has worked rapidly to find a counselor to fill Bischoff's position. Although it has been only one month since the announcement, Poly has hired Gloria Diaz Ventura, an Assistant Director of Admissions at Stanford University. While not taking on the full role of a counselor until after Bischoff's departure, Ventura will begin working on Poly's campus full-time on November 1.

Hired in 2006, Renée Bischoff has become an important advisor to many juniors and seniors. Working with both Garine Zetlian and Alice Cotti, she has helped to make the college application process—a period of time when emotions run high—a smoother and less stressful experience for many Poly students and families.

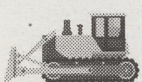
Of the move, Bischoff said, "It will be hard to leave Pasadena. The resources in the community have been terrific for me and my family. It's been very easy to raise a child in a town where there are plenty of things to do and lots of great families." Bischoff will be working closely with her current seniors even after moving to Ohio. Most of this communication will be through email and Skype current senior Regina Zmuidzinas appreciates her time with Bischoff: "I love working with [her] because I feel like she knows and understands who I am and what I'm looking for in a school." She added, "It's reassuring to talk to someone who I can trust and depend on when there are so

See BISCHOFF, page 13

INSIDE

NEWS

Due to the economy, delays on South Campus construction persist.



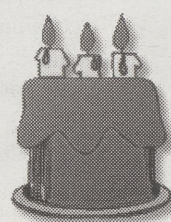
OPINION

The Opinion section evaluates the current health care crisis and urges a speedy resolution.



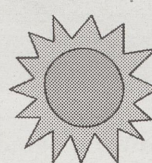
50 YEARS

The Paw Print looks back at the founding of the Upper School.



LIFE

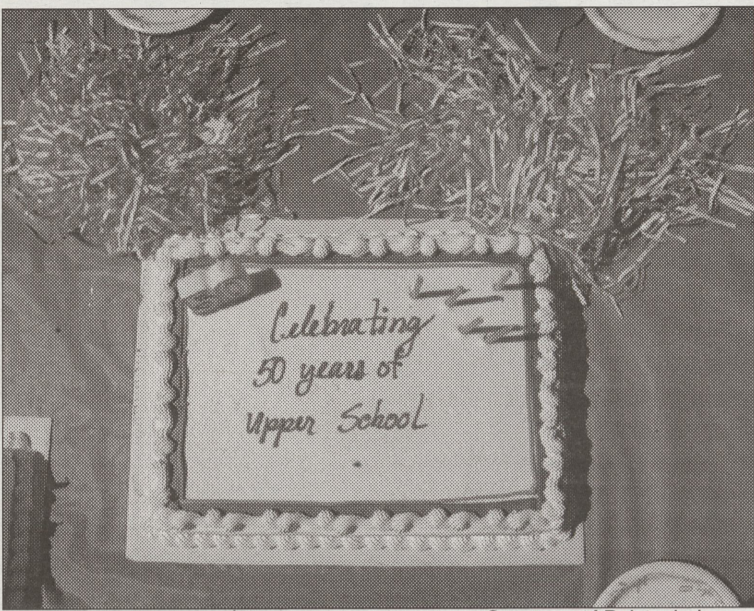
The Life section examines students' various summer time activities.



SPORTS

The Sports section discusses the dilemma concerning Michael Vick's reinstatement into the NFL.





Courtesy of Polytechnic.org

The Upper School community's festivities included a cake for students and faculty members. Other activities included a Poly trivia contest and a special morning meeting.

50 Years

Continued from page 1

grams have changed drastically over the years. Today, four years of lab science are offered along with thirteen Advanced Placement courses. At its founding, the program focused much more on English and history. The high school has also seen rapid changes in technology and curriculum; students now have a much more diverse and complicated selection of classes from which to choose. Poly's arts program was strengthened by the construction of Garland Theater and Fine Arts Center in 1984, and has since expanded and diversified its arts offerings.

The athletic program were introduced in the Upper School in 1960, when the first boys varsity teams were created. At the time, the teams typically only had five to ten participants, and the range of sports was not nearly as wide as it is today. Assistant Head of School Greg Feldmeth feels that one of the biggest improvements to Poly from that time period was the development of female sports teams. Today girls can participate

in any sport Poly offers, ranging from cross-country to football. The teams established in 1960 have helped set up a strong tradition of support and participation for Poly teams; as varsity boys soccer player Matt Diephuis noted, "I love how we have such a great tradition of support and participation for the sport teams." Currently 80 percent of students participate on at least one Poly sports team.

Poly's history is still very present in the Upper School environment. Most recently, the ASB held a "Dress from the Decades Day," where students wore outfits from the 1950's-1980's. In addition, banners from championship teams adorn the gyms, buildings are often named for former members of the school, be it an administrator or a board member, and a school holiday is even named for a beloved former Poly teacher. In addition, much of the original architectural layout of the high school has remained the same. As Junior Robert Osen says, "Looking back at pictures, it's fun to see how things from back then are still here today."

Summer retreat for Upper School student leaders fosters student growth

■ The annual retreat marks the beginning of the new year and prepares a new group of students to be leaders in the Upper School.

By SARAH PATTERSON
News editor

Forty Upper School students participated in Poly's annual leadership retreat at the end of August. A more-than-twenty-year tradition, the retreat is designed to encourage discussions among students about what it means to be a good leader and to allow officers to adjust to their new roles in the student body.

The retreat returned to Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center in Sierra Madre after last year's on-campus event. Many faculty participants believe that leaving the campus and allowing students to experience a brief "getaway" proved more successful and enjoyable than being on-campus. "The retreat always gives everyone a chance to spend time together and 'catch up,' but going away helps everyone really focus on the task at hand," stated Student Activities Director Laurianne Williams.

Students in a variety of different leadership roles participated in the retreat this year, including members of the Associated Student Body (ASB), Girls Service League (GSL), and Judiciary Committee, as well as all class officers and The Paw Print and Oakleaves editors-in-chief. In addition to teaching leadership skills, the retreat gave these groups an opportunity to meet separately and discuss their plans and goals for the school year. "The retreat gives the students a chance to discuss things without the homework and academic burden that usually exists, and gives them a chance to discover what leadership really means," noted

Williams. "The kids are expected to have an impact on the community and are able to think about how to step up and do that."

Students were given this opportunity through participation in various discussion groups, activities and games. While some of these activities were faculty-directed, most were completely student-run. The activities included discussing what kind of qualities leaders should have and explaining why they should have those qualities to a larger group. Students also did various kinds of role-playing, where they imagined a situation either inside or

school year and bond. However, in terms of 'leadership skills,' I didn't learn too much."

Sophomore class officer Isabel Sunshine had different feelings about her experience. She says, "I thought that the student-led games were really fun. I met and become closer to some of the juniors and seniors, and hopefully this will make communication between grades easier and more successful."

Though the main focus of the retreat was preparing these new leaders for the year ahead of them, members of the Upper School faculty play a large role in facilitating the program. Attending faculty members included all grade level deans, Dean of Students Brendan McGrail, and class advisors. Other administrators attended the event as well, including Assistant Head of School Greg Feldmeth, Upper School

"The kids are expected to have an impact on the community and are able to think about how to step up and do that."

-Laurianne Williams

outside of school and chose how to react in the situation given their status as a leader of the Upper School. Although some of these activities were presentation-oriented, most provided a chance for student contact and communication. "The retreat provides a chance for interaction, not just listening," reported Williams. "We're not just throwing speakers up there and saying, 'listen.' We're having kids actually think about and discuss the issues they could encounter."

Students expressed mixed feelings about the impact that these activities had on the development of their leadership abilities. ASB vice president Eddie Ryan felt "the case studies and lectures seemed very broad and didn't seem to apply particularly to us on the retreat. That is not to say the retreat was not productive; we were able to look ahead for the

Director Jamie Neilson, English Department Chair Julia Davis, Director of Student Activities Laurianne Williams and Head of School Debbie Reed. The faculty members in attendance did not simply direct and supervise the students in their activities. Faculty-members, particularly Neilson and McGrail, led planning sessions with the students to develop a basic timeline for the year. The adults on the trip also lead small groups where the aforementioned situational role-play occurred, and helped students work productively to define some of the unique challenges of being a student leader. Says McGrail, "I thought this year's retreat went very well. The students who attended brought great enthusiasm and a number of creative ideas. As an administrator I look forward to working closely with this year's student leaders."

North Campus construction presses on; delays on South Campus

■ Financial considerations lead Board of Trustees to postpone South Campus projects.

By VERONICA WICKLINE
Assistant news editor

While the North Campus portion of Poly's Master Plan is moving full speed ahead, the start of

originally slated to be completed by fall 2011, only the North Campus portion is now expected to be ready by that time.

As a result of the economic downturn, the Board of Trustees decided to proceed more slowly with construction than it had originally anticipated. According

\$93 million that the capital campaign seeks.

Despite the proposed delays, the project's construction continues to affect students' daily lives on the North and South Campus by reducing parking spaces and increasing traffic congestion. Morley Construction Company, in coordination with Director of Building and Grounds Dale Rasmussen, is currently working on the parking structure on the northeast corner of Wilson Avenue and California Boulevard.

In an effort to complete as much construction as possible before the rainy season, the workers maintain an ambitious agenda. At one point, trucks arrived at Poly every two minutes to carry away the dirt, filling 240 trucks a day. The project has been fortunate to experience no major delays. One of the contributors to the success and speed of the current construction efforts is the sequestration of the work site. The area where

most of the potentially hazardous efforts occur has been fenced off allowing the project to move faster.

impact the neighborhood.

Project design and feasibility issues are dealt with in meetings with the architects and the con-



Courtesy of Polytechnic.org

The northeast corner of Poly during demolition. The site is the former location of the Willis Stork Administration building.

major construction on the South Campus has been postponed. Although the entire project was

to the Poly website, as of the third quarter of 2009 the school raised approximately \$56 million of the

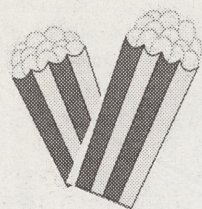


Courtesy of Polytechnic.org

The site of Poly's future underground parking garage hums with activity each week.

Rasmussen and his team continue to involve the surrounding community during this process. Neighborhood meetings are held during which residents of the area can express their concerns. In addition, Rasmussen fields phone calls and makes sure construction work and traffic do not negatively

tractor. In addition, Rasmussen coordinates the internal building modifications, such as the new drama, choral and instrumental music rooms in Garland, along with the remodeling of the ceramics studio into the Garland Conference Room.



By ALISON FALZETTA
Assistant opinion editor

Don't be put off by the name. Though the spelling is all wrong, Quentin Tarantino's *Inglourious Basterds* is anything but. Both the name and the movie have one thing in common, however: they are equally unorthodox.

Tarantino's newest film rewrites history in a gory and enormously satisfying way. *Basterds* features a band of Jewish Americans that work their way through World War II France, leaving a wide trail of scalped Nazis in their wake. The story of the Basterds, as this ragtag yet effective (at killing Nazis, that is) group of soldiers is called, is intertwined with that of a French Jewish girl who hides her identity while running a movie theater for Nazi soldiers. Though both plots were equally intriguing, the movie could have benefited from more scenes with Brad

Pitt's Aldo Raine and his unconventional team.

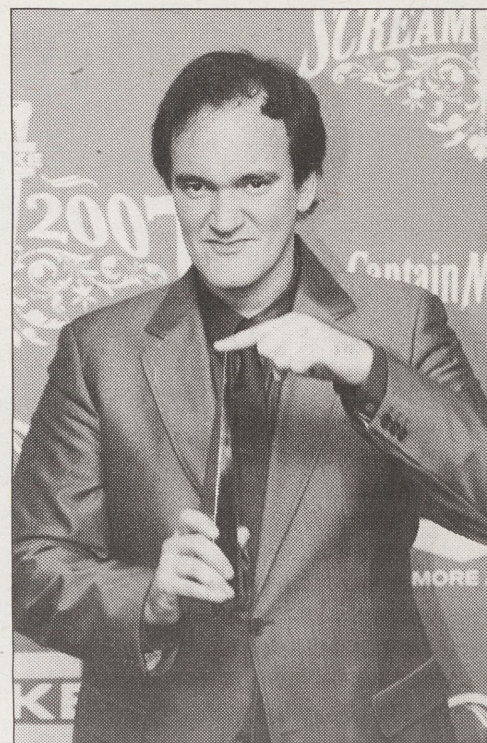
Pitt's Raine is engaging, though completely overshadowed by the spectacular performance of Austrian actor Christoph Waltz as Colonel Hans Landa. Waltz's voice and subtle movements perfectly embody those of an incredibly smart and brutally practical Nazi official. His smallest gestures can strike fear into the heart. And Tarantino's timing does a good job of underscoring Waltz's amazing depiction of Landa.

The timing of the film is not particularly slow, though it is steady in a way that Tarantino's other films have a hint of but never quite reach. In the beginning scene, where Landa is conducting what seems like a friendly interrogation with a French dairy farmer, the quiet and stillness of the actors set up a mood of mounting tension that makes it one of the best scenes in the movie. This is one of those prime examples of genius directing: so natu-

ral it goes almost unnoticed.

The language issue is also handled well. In many movies, English acts as the primary language when the setting is some non-English speaking country. In this film, the problem is fielded with grace, and one does not find his or her mind wandering during the movie thinking about someone's random American accent or why so many people sound strangely British. In short, *Basterds* is, thankfully, nothing like *Valkyrie*. Hours of one's life are not wasted watching Tom Cruise speak American English in tight pants and an eye patch surrounded by British men and the occasional German-sounding fellow, all of whom are supposed to be Nazis. But that is another story for another time.

To say it succinctly, *Inglourious Basterds* is awesome. The performances, directing, and screenwriting complete and complement each other in a harmony rarely seen in movies these days.



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons



The growth of intelligence

By AMIR MOSALLAIE
Assistant opinion editor

On the first day of D Period English IV, Cotter Donnell, a new teacher at Poly, handed out an article to our class, entitled "The Secret to Raising Smart Kids." The article was written by Carol Dweck, a professor of psychology at Stanford University who also wrote *Mindset*, read by the Poly faculty this summer. Her article revolves around different types of learners and how different types of learners grow in very different ways.

She begins her article by claiming that our society worships talent, which, for the most part, is true. Society – and students at Poly are a prime example – labels people as "smart," as individuals possessing intelligence or ability superior to others. What society fails to equally recognize is effort, potential and growth. And with good reason. When discussing a similar topic, Donnell asked our class whether we would rather get an A in English without working very hard or try our very best, learning at the same time, and earn a B. Of course, when asked that way, one may think twice, but we all know what the majority would choose. Why? Be-

cause our transcripts only reflect our final grade at the end of the class, not how much we learned during it. A single letter, not our entire growth. And the fact is that hard work does not always lead to an A, and an A is not always a result of hard work.

This trend perfectly parallels Dweck's argument that innate abilities are rewarded more often than hard work. She states that those who are naturally smart and those who need to work harder represent two groups – two types of learners, either with a growth mind-set or a fixed mind-set. A growth mind-set "encourages a focus on effort rather than on intelligence or talent," Dweck writes. A fixed mind-set, on the other hand, focuses on fixed ability and intelligence and, in Dweck's opinion, can prevent individuals from living up to their maximum potential.

To better define the two terms, Dweck introduces an anecdote involving a brilliant student named Jonathan. Through grade school, he easily completed assignments and routinely earned A's. His parents told him he had a special gift, thus communicating to Jonathan that his intelligence and ability were fixed traits. Halfway through middle school, Jonathan suddenly lost interest in schoolwork, refusing to complete assignments or study for

tests. By labeling their son as innately smart and talented, Jonathan's parents made being smart seem far more important than actually striving to learn. And once school started becoming challenging, Jonathan preferred to give up than to work, clearly a consequence of his fixed mind-set.

Dweck also calls those with a growth mind-set "mastery-oriented." These people believe "intelligence is malleable and can be developed through education and hard work. They want to learn above all else." Mastery-oriented individuals can be encouraged to do better. In a study published in 2007, Dweck monitored a group of 373 students as they made their transition to junior high school, when hard work usually becomes necessary. At the beginning of seventh grade, Dweck, along with other professors from Columbia and Stanford Universities, asked students to agree or disagree with statements such as "Your intelligence is something very basic about you that you can't really change." The students were then split into two different groups – those with a fixed mind-set and those with a growth mind-set – depending on the answer they gave.

It soon became evident that students with a growth mind-set were determined to work

harder or try a different strategy when confronted by a disappointing test grade or other challenge, while those with a fixed mind-set were concerned with looking smart and had a negative view of effort. They believed that effort was a sign of low ability or intelligence. As the work in junior high became more and more difficult, the students with a growth mind-set displayed greater diligence. By the end of the first semester, their math grades exceeded the grades of the students with fixed mind-sets.

Dweck introduces an interesting point – pieces of which certainly are true. Our society certainly reveres those who are deemed "smart." But instead of solely praising innate ability and intelligence, we need to learn to award effort and hard work as well. We need to attempt to influence those with fixed-mind-sets to be more open to learning, instead of focusing completely on appearing smart. We need to learn that the basis of our society is hard work, not inherent talent. We need to drop all inhibitions and face the truth that the only thing that truly matters is doing our honest best. Sure, colleges see the grade, not the effort. But in the long run, it is effort that will help you succeed, not a single letter.

STEPPING STONES



LEARNING ENRICHMENT CENTER

- Individual Tutoring (K-12)
- Study Skills
- Writing Workshop
- PSAT Preparation
- SAT Reasoning & Subject Tests
- Reading Comprehension
- Diagnostic Testing
- ELL
- Foreign Languages
- Math (all levels)
- Science (all subjects)

Visit us on the web at www.steppingstones.net,
or phone us at (626) 449-5986.

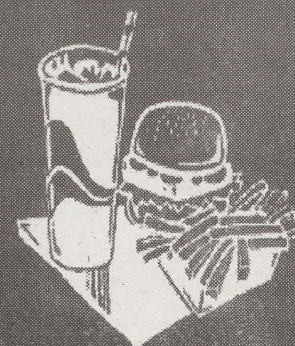
2233 Huntington Drive, San Marino 91108

Burger Continental

Poly Special Only \$1.99

Quarter Pound Hamburger, French Fries & Soda

20% Discount
for faculty and staff
off regular menu



535 So. Lake Ave.
Pasadena

1/2 Mile South of 210 Pwy. on Lake Exit
(Corner of California and Lake)

626-792-6634



An Upper School
publication of
student news
and views.

The Paw Print
Polytechnic School
1030 E. California Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91106

Editors-in-chief
Bobby Samuels
Justin Worland

News editors
Ellie Malchione
Sarah Patterson
Assistants:
Doug Cleary
Veronica Wickline

Opinion editors
Olivia Russak
Alison Sonnenschien
Assistants:
Alison Falzetta
Amir Mosallaie

Life editors
Sasha Bassi
Monica Bouyea
Assistants:
Hayden Betts
Brooke Mulligan
Eddie Ryan

Sports editors
Mimi Bea
Daniel Wohl
Assistants:
Julia Brown
Brian Holman
Connor McKnight

Copy editors
Marta Stevanovic
Lina Vadlamari
Sabrina Wu

Story editors
Ali Binney
Katie Miller

Photography editors
Regina Zmuidzinas
Evan Robinson
Soo In Yoon
Assistant:
Taani Ahluwalia

Chief financial officer
Matt Chou

Buiness Managers
Audrey Chai
Matthew Chou
Matthew Diephuis
Mary D'Onofrio

Art editors
Logan Criley
Sitara Hirji

Web design
Yansa Design

Online Manager
Eric Lifland

Faculty advisor
Greg Feldmeth

General info
Staff members can be telephoned at (626) 396-6698, visited in the South campus Publications Room or emailed to the email address thepawprint@polytechnic.org. The advisor can be reached at (626) 396-6653.

Newspaper policies
The ideas expressed in the articles reflect the views of the writers and are not necessarily the views of the newspaper, the editorial board, or Polytechnic School. Initialed editorials are the opinions of the Editors-in-Chief. If you would like to write a letter of no more than 300 words to the editor, please send an e-mail or place the letter in the box of the opinion editors. Anonymous submissions will not be published, and names will not be withheld.

JCW

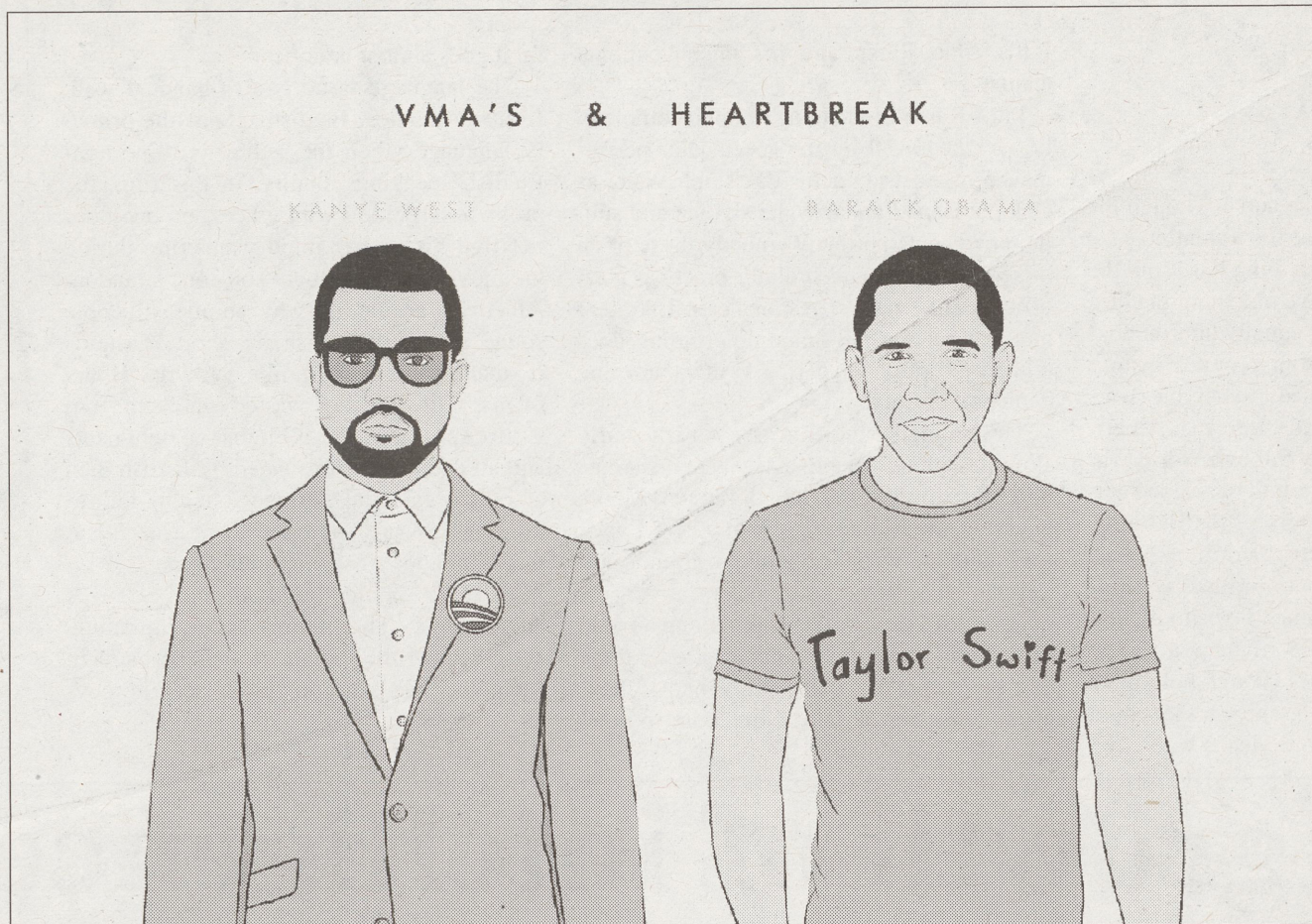
Off the record is passé

By DAVID RODGERS
Student contributor

In this day and age of Twitter, Facebook and MySpace, news travels faster than it has ever traveled before. With instantaneous information in constant demand, these social networking sites provide quick news flashes that have the capability to promote and spread news as well as mere hearsay worldwide, like an out-of-control wildfire during the Santa Ana winds. Consequently, the adages “think before you speak” and “the world is watching” suddenly have new meanings. No longer can a famous athlete, musician or politician nonchalantly speak in public and assume that their comments will be overlooked. With the demand for news, reporters will go to any length to satisfy the common lust for the latest information.

Twitter is fast becoming one of best sources of rapid-fire news developments. A primary demonstration of this was during the Iranian elections this year. An unbelievable number of people used this micro-blogging service from the front lines of the riots in Tehran. Ordinary citizens were reporting their observations. Those in power were unprepared to deal with a global audience witnessing this moment in their nation’s history. For the citizens of a country accustomed to censorship, Twitter provided instant empowerment to the people.

However, oftentimes what appears to be a good thing at first glance actually turns out to be a double-edged sword. Prior to a press interview this past week, President Barack Obama was chatting with a news reporter about Kanye West’s controversial appearance at the VMA awards. When asked why West would interfere with Taylor Swift’s acceptance speech, Obama offhandedly responded with “He’s just a jackass,” which triggered laughter from those who were present in the room. Immediately realizing his mistake, Obama quickly tried to cover up what he had said by asking the re-



Courtesy of Sooraj Krishnan

porter to “cut the President some slack.” What was a blunder by our President immediately became news. A journalist present—Terry Morgan from ABC News—tweeted: “Pres. Obama just called Kanye West a ‘jackass’ for his outburst at VMAs when Taylor Swift won. Now THAT’s presidential.”

We cannot blame journalists for reporting these types of incidents. They are just doing their job. Every day, journalists use their gut instincts to decide whether something is going to be the next big story. If they don’t report it first, it is very likely that someone else will. As the saying goes, “You snooze, you lose.” There’s no doubt that this phrase was the driving force behind the Tweet from Mr. Morgan.

The days of casually speaking off the record are gone. If words come out of the mouth of a public figure, they will be heard. Whether or not President Obama was correct in calling Kanye West a

“jackass” is beside the point. Those in the public eye just have to accept the fact that people pay attention to their actions and opinions, and they need to hold themselves accountable for what they do and say. When a person chooses an occupation that thrusts him or her into the spotlight, that person will undoubtedly be constantly hampered with questions about the latest issues, no longer having the luxury of saying anything off the record, especially since “news” is just a Tweet away.

Today’s technologies are here to stay. In fact, they will only continue to progress and get faster. Just think: ten years ago, the Internet was only beginning to affect the lives of billions. Now, a decade later, we have opened the doors to online services that have revolutionized our entire world – a world where news is delivered with a click of a button. In this fast-paced life we lead, it is becoming even more im-

portant for people to monitor what they say. The days when one could get away with saying something controversial are over. With such drastic technological improvements, adjustments in living styles must also be made.

For those of us who are not constantly in the public eye, we may think this has nothing to do with us. But we are the Twitter, Facebook and MySpace generation. Expressing one’s opinion is something we endorse and glorify. What we need to realize is that the Iran incident and the President’s gaffe have more in common than how fast news travels. The common thread is that national leaders were embarrassed. The lesson here is this: When you post something online, think twice about what you say. You, too, need to be accountable for your words – maybe not to a whole nation, but certainly to all your “friends” and “followers.”

Editorial: Scrap the ASB Constitution

As Poly’s Upper School celebrates 50 years, it is important for the community to evaluate the school’s traditions that have endured the test of time. Among these institutions is the Associated Student Body Constitution. Students first created the document in the 1960s and it went through a complete overhaul in 2001. Unfortunately, the constitution has lost validity as a guiding document for student participation in the governing of the Upper School. It’s time to discard the document and write a new one from scratch.

The main flaw with the Constitution is its lack of legitimacy. Many of the procedures and policies that it articulates have been ignored in recent years. For instance, when students stand before the Judiciary Committee, they do not have access to a faculty advocate as the Constitution prescribes; student council meetings are not held once a month and each class has both a treasurer and a secretary rather than one person filling both roles. The discrepancy between the constitution and actual practices is not surprising – a student wrote the latest revisions by himself with little consultation with the school’s faculty and administration.

Throughout my time on *The Paw Print*, I have spoken with a number of different Upper School administrators about the disparity between the document and the reality. I was always hoping to understand the purpose and role of this document. Administrators are all quick to note that the school’s administration is the ultimate authority in school life and is not bound by any student document. Obviously, they are right. We often take for granted the privileges that we are given as students at Poly and forget that, like it or not, no school is a democracy. This does not mean, however, that our privileges should be eliminated or that we do not deserve to know what they are. Our constitution needs to convey these rights and clarify the relationship between the faculty, administration and students.

In order to create an effectual constitution, we need an entirely new document that is the product of collaboration between students, the administration and the faculty. While the final document will obviously need to be approved and validated by the administration, the process should be undertaken with the hope that a true consensus will be reached.

There are a number of ideas that I believe should be incorporated into any future constitution:

- The constitution should be loose and open to some interpretation and modification. Rigid guidelines such as the mandatory monthly meetings are unrealistic and will detract from the legitimacy of the document when they are not followed.

- The document should take specific measures to encourage communication between students and administrators. For example, when the leaders of the student government sit down with the Upper School Director for “power lunches” they convey the students’ concerns to the administration. But no one informs the students about the response.

- The Judiciary Committee’s procedure should be explained in detail to give students an understanding of what it does. This does not mean that students will get to dictate how the committee operates, only that they will understand the procedure that has already been laid out.

- The constitution should go beyond dealing with how the students interact with the faculty and administration. It should also provide general guidelines

for how students interact with one another.

- The document should include a provision regarding renewal. Just because the current school community accepts it, there is no guarantee that it will be viewed the same way five years down the line. In order to ensure that it is followed, there should be a set period after which it must be renewed. It should also undergo a revision process when there is a change of school leadership.

These suggestions are only my own feelings about this issue. I hope that if the school proceeds with the drafting of a new constitution, other students will contribute their own thoughts.

I know that to many the constitution may seem like a frivolous issue. The administration is and always will be free to do as it pleases. But the issue at hand is more important. As a community we should aspire to have a school where students are both trusted and heard. If the administration promises rights through a constitution, it should be willing to honor that promise. I know that the administration will be willing to do so as long as the guidelines are both fair and reasonable.

Special interests fuel health care fire

By OLIVIA RUSSAK
Opinion editor

January 20, 2009 marked a shift in American history. After electing Barack Obama widely based on the idea of “change” and “progress,” the people of the United States, whether or not in favor of Obama, knew that a change really had occurred. Not only was the first African-American president sworn in, but also many firmly believed that a new era had begun. Almost eight months later, after a passing a controversial stimulus plan, giving a “socialist” speech to school children and being subjected to constant opposition in most issues, President Obama addressed a joint session of Congress regarding the issue of health care reform. An event that was all too similar to the raucous House of Commons in England, the health care debate exploded. I watched in awe, yelling at the hecklers on the television, applauding Obama when he made a fine point and laughing almost every time Nancy Pelosi flew out of her seat. Like most of his speeches, he closed with the typical “Thank you, God bless you, and may God bless the United States of America.” Nancy

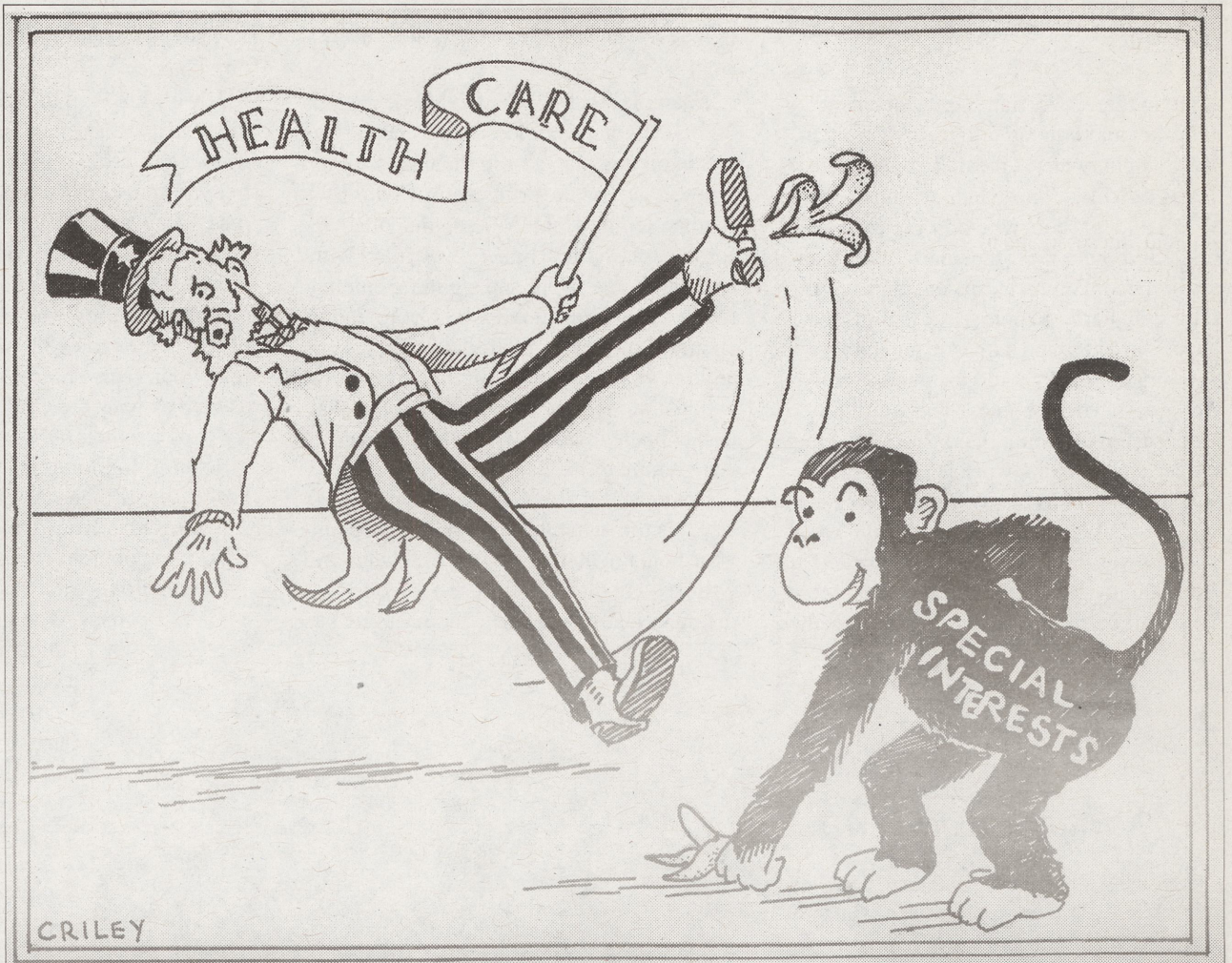
I can say one thing with confidence. The system is broken. It needs to be fixed.

Pelosi just about flung herself from her seat like her son had just scored the winning goal in a soccer tournament. The TV went black and I begrudgingly walked to my desk to begin my homework. I started working on an essay for English that would answer the question “Is Capitalism or Communism more American?” when something struck me. I realized that the entire health care debate is like a circus. Sarah Palin claimed it would create “death panels” that would decide whether or not her “Down Syndrome Baby” would be allowed to live. Representative Charles Boustany essentially listed Obama’s main points immediately following the address to congress and preceded to say, “unfortunately, the President disagrees.” Fierce opposition

has brought out the worst in many, as seen in the protests in Washington where posters of the President read “undocumented worker.” Others read “socialist” on one side and, ironically, “Hitler was a good speaker, too,” on the other. Politicians on the right spread myths that the bill will grant illegal immigrants health care, that citizens will have no choice in which benefits they receive and that health care will be “rationed” for the elderly.

We’ve seen attitudes like this during the thirties and forties, when the American people feared not just fear itself, but a broken economy, war and an inefficient health care system that left far too many, according to FDR, “ill-clothed, ill-housed, and ill-nourished.” After exploring the subject more, I became certain that the whole issue was not simply “like” a circus, but that it was in fact just that. Politicians and reporters instill fear into the minds of an uninformed populous, and while many do not understand the details of the bill. What I don’t understand is how there could be any doubt that the country needs it. Of course it’s frightening to have a system that controls one sixth of our economy tampered with, but last time I checked, the economy wasn’t so great as it is.

Perhaps I am naïve. Perhaps I don’t truly understand the complexities of the American health care system, but I can say one thing

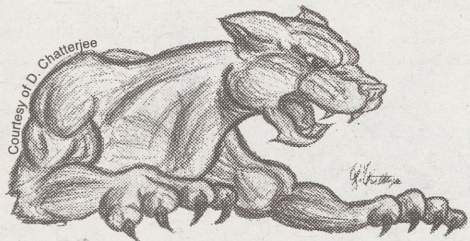


Logan Criley/The Paw Print

with confidence. The system is broken. It needs to be fixed. Democracy is based off of the assumption that the public is allowed to challenge the government, but in what way does the fear-mongering of politicians with hidden agendas and special interests promote this? How can anyone support a system that allows insurance companies to have virtual monopolies in some states? How can anyone support a health care system that Harvard Medical Researchers say is responsible for 45,000 deaths a year due to lack of coverage? How can we ensure every American life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness if life can’t even be insured? If that is what we claim makes an American, haven’t we lost our national identity? What makes the idea of the United States so unique, so powerful, and so

brilliant is that the people have a say. So I plead to the few who may read this to be an individual. Do not be swayed by the rhetoric of the power-hungry but by your own deductions from research. It is vital for youth to be informed of the issues that plague our time in order to live a productive adulthood, so don’t give in to just one opinion.

We elected Barack Obama. Of course I did not vote as I am a minor, but I support him because of his enduring vision that we will live to see a better America.* As he said on November 4, 2008, “It’s been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on this day, in this election, at this defining moment, change has come to America.” Don’t let his words go in vain.



The Panther's Lair

What are your views on health care reform and the debate surrounding it?

Compiled by Evan Robinson, Olivia Russak and Alison Sonnenschein



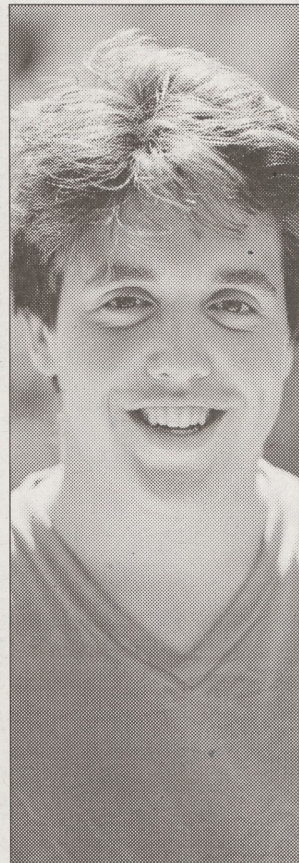
I believe that we should go through health care reform because it's a basic human right in this country. The debate has turned into political mudflinging and politics has gotten in the way of the real issue at hand.

-Rita Grossbard '13



I think it's gotten a little hectic, and out of hand at times, but that its important people understand the benefits of the proposed healthcare plan. People have a tendency to get caught up in minor details and it prevents them from seeing that the healthcare plan is really going to help a lot of struggling people.

- Grant Fega '12



I support Obama's health care reform because I think we need a public option so that insurance companies are more honest.

- Robert Osen '11



I don't quite see how some could refute a plan that will provide security to those already insured and coverage to those lacking insurance and lower the general cost of healthcare for families, corporations, and our own government. Knowing how much of a difference insurance makes in one's life personally, I fully support Obama's proposal.

- Caroline Nutt '10

Ima let you finish but...

By MADISON SCHECKEL
Staff writer

Hello there. My name is Madison Scheckel and I am an opinionated woman, and by opinionated I mean there are a lot of things I dislike. These include mushrooms, STD's and teachers who don't erase every single Expo mark off the board. Being an opinionated woman in this day and age is extremely hard. People think that just because I'm bitter and sarcastic and happen to be a female that I should be taken seriously. Well guess what, people? That couldn't be further from the truth. Don't take anything I say seriously. Not a word.

Why am I telling you all this? Because I will be speaking to you every month, week or whenever this little paper gets printed and subsequently left on the ground. So before we set off on this beautiful journey together,

I support whole-heartedly. Before you start to disagree, let's take a look at the evidence shall we?

Example #1: MTV Video Music Awards 2009. Anyone who doesn't permanently reside on this planet or in the near vicinity knows that you never interrupt Taylor Swift. It's like telling Heidi Montag the video for her smash hit "Higher" was filled with overwhelming talent and stunning cinematography. It's just not done. Not to mention an attack on Taylor Swift is an attack on anyone who believes in all that is beautiful and just in this world. Kanye West, if that is in fact his real name, would know this if he were a human.

Example #2: 808's & Heartbreak. Really? Is this what you call a hit record on your home planet? Go back to Uranus and write a song that doesn't use a vocoder as the main instrument. Oh, and try to make

ior.

Thus, the result is clear. Kanye West is not a human.

If we were then to weed out the other alien infiltrators on our planet I'm sure we'd need a spaceship bigger than Octomom's belly to transport them all. Don't believe me? They're everywhere. It's like the Bodysnatchers except obnoxious.

Miley Cyrus – You know you're doing something wrong when the sentence "Out of the Trailer and Onto the Pole" describes both your Teen Choice Awards performance as well as your life.

Jonas Brothers – I don't care how many girls think Joe Jonas is attractive, his eyebrows are still the size of a 4-lane freeway.

Vanessa Hudgens – No one accidentally leaks nude photos. Twice.

Megan Fox – She was in Jennifer's Body.

Chris Brown – Who knew punching Rihanna in the face was such a career-killer?

Aly & A.J. – Because Paris and Nicky Hilton can't sing.

Pauly Shore – He's really just a sketchy guy.

Lindsay Lohan – God, could you imagine if Lindsay actually was a twin in "The Parent Trap"? There would have been twice as many DUI's issued this year.

Ali Lohan – Sister of Lindsay Lohan.

All of Miami – After Kourtney and Khloe took over, I think it'd be safe to just eliminate it all.

Tom Cruise – In all seriousness, I think he's really an alien.

Despite the seeming horror of this situation, there are still those humans with the money and power to install bars in their jacuzzis, jacuzzis in their Hummers, and Hummers in their limos. These elite beings are few in number, yet they hold the key to counteracting the negative threat that the previously mentioned aliens pose against our race. These are the defenders of our planet:

Taylor Swift – By the time she turns 20, she will have been the first country artist ever to top the Mainstream Top 40 chart, she will have had the largest opening U.S. sales week in 2008 by a female artist, one Grammy nomination, five CMT awards, three Teen Choice Awards and her own headlining tour. By the time I'm 20, I will have completed my P.E. requirements.

Megan Fox – She was in Jennifer's Body.

Lady Gaga – Feel free to love her music but I'm still waiting for the rest of the world to realize how clinically insane this woman is.

Beyoncé – Every YouTube comment concerning Beyoncé uses the word "classy." I couldn't agree more.

Zac Efron – I'll forgive you for all your acting if you just please take your shirt off in another movie.

Kristen Stewart – One flick of an eyebrow and breathy delivery of a line will send anyone running.

Blair Waldorf – Because let's face it, every other character is really annoying.

Spice Girls – What do you get when you combine a ginger, a man, a different race, a blonde and a stick? GIRL POWER.

Zooey Deschanel – The indie version of Katy Perry, perfectly tailored for every Death-Cab-Loving-Polaroid-Snapping-American-Apparel-Wearing hipster.

So there you have it. Pick a team. Are you with me or against me? I'd really prefer if you were with me because then I might be able to call you my friends and on Friday nights maybe we could go to movies together instead of spending them by myself wondering who is TiVo-ing every single episode of Even Stevens and why I'm watching all of them. I suppose that's just the life of a child genius/loser.

If you agree with any of my opinions, you can send positive, encouraging feedback to mad4mcfly@hotmail.com. If you find that you disagree with anything I have ever said, am saying or will say, you can send your thoughts straight to the trashcan because chances are, I don't want to read them anyway.

For as long as Audrina Patridge is an Oscar-worthy actress a.k.a. forever and always,

Madison Scheckel



Celebrity photos courtesy of Wikimedia Commons/Madison Scheckel photo by Evan Robinson

would like you to know where I stand on the current situation of our nation, and by nation I mean E!

So without any further adieu, here are my thoughts, feelings, opinions and thoroughly supported/made-up facts:

Kanye West is an alien. This is a theory

a video that doesn't look like "Enchanted" and Grand Theft Auto had a love child. If I see one more animated floozy with a boa standing in front of a Bentley, I swear I'll go Lady Gaga (See: naked and hanged or Performance Art).

Example #3: General conduct and behavior

PAWS and CLAWS



Paws to Joe Wilson for making me laugh.

- Jenna Lomeli



Paws Ms. Williams for taking care of all the cats that show up on the Poly campus.

- Julia Brown



Paws to farmville.

- Sarah Weinstein



Paws to ELIAS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- Nathan Min and Yannick Hogarth



Paws to Ms. Cotti for getting me into the right school.

- Justin Magsarili



Claws to painting the Yellow House green.

-The Paw Print Staff



Paws to Ms. Marion for learning how to skateboard.

- Olivia Russak



Claws to the not having a free period.

- Caitlin Burns



Paws to Mr. Strom for having popsicles.

- Francesca Jimenez



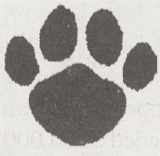
Claws to to being sick.

- Jade Richard-Craven



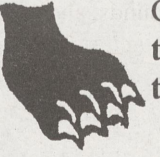
Claws to homework over trips week.

- Zibby Boyer



Paws to Matt Morrish for his grand debut in this issue's life section.

- Eddie Ryan



Claws to people who are too afraid to find out the truth.

- Audrey Xu



Paws to Trips Week.

- Paulina Pinsky



Paws to rivalry year.

- Jane Davidson



Paws to Maggie and Jordan for supporting the varsity volleyball team.

- Varsity volleyball Team



Claws to Poly not having Francis Wass Day on Yom Kippur.

- Daniel Wohl, Bobby Samuels and Eddie Ryan



Claws to the puddle of water in Tina's room with the tissue on it.

- Amir Mosallaie

Paws and Claws is a forum for students, teachers and interested readers to briefly express their satisfaction or dissatisfaction with any issue concerning the Poly community. Submissions may be placed in the senior box of opinion editor Alison Sonnenchein, emailed to thepawprint@polytechnic.org or posted online through the Paws and Claws Facebook group. Anonymous contributions are not accepted.

The founding of the Polytechnic High School

■ *Though the idea of the creation of a high school had been briefly considered before, it took an outsider to make that idea a reality.*

By BOBBY SAMUELS
Editor-in-chief

In 1906, the Throop Institute, which later changed its name to the California Institute of Technology, decided to discontinue its modern-day equivalents of lower, middle, and upper schools. In a gesture that is well known within the Poly community, Ezra Gosney and twelve others gave \$12,500 to found the Poly Grammar School in 1907, which had grades Kindergarten through eighth. And for over fifty years, it remained roughly the same; the Kindergarten was removed and re-added twice, and the ninth grade was added, but until 1959 there remained a lower school and a middle school.

However, as the school approached its Golden Anniversary, there were rumblings of the founding of a high school. The Board of Trustees considered the idea before sending a letter to the parents detailing its decision not to add a tenth grade. Dated November of 1955, it begins, "To Poly Parents: A number of parents have recently asked some of the school's trustees to have Poly start a tenth grade next fall. It has also been requested that Poly continue on as a co-educational high school beginning next fall... It has been decided that no tenth grade will be started at Poly next fall. Whether a full four-year high school can be established at some later date will depend on many things. At the present time it appears that no four-year high school at Poly is probable in the next few years."

It seems that the driving force to found the high school came not from within the school itself but from an outsider. In the 1954-1955 school year, Head of School Appleton Mason decided he would step down because, as he said, "My ties back east were pretty strong." As a result, the Board of Trustees began the search for the next Headmaster.

On November 30, 1954, the Stork family received a letter from Foster Rhodes, a Poly board member, stating that Polytechnic Elementary School was looking for a new Headmaster. As Helen Stork, Willis Stork's widow recalled, "Foster Rhodes said that [the Board of Trustees] had written heads of schools and had gotten back a reply, 'Get Willis Stork!'"

But Stork had no inclination to leave his current position. Stork was the President-elect of the Heads of Schools in the Midwest, and Stork's school, the Maumee Valley Country Day School, located in Toledo, Ohio, was in the

middle of a construction project. Nevertheless, he accepted an invitation from Shirley Ward, the President of the Board of Trustees, under the conditions that he had no obligations. "My idea of California was blond furniture and movie stars on the corners," commented Helen Stork. "So I wasn't too excited about it. But Willis said that he was sure that I would fit in fine. But he still was not enthused on making a move because Poly ended at the ninth grade... and he said people could not be loyal to a ninth grade - they could to a high school, or they could to a college. And the only way he would come would be if they had a high school."

The trustees and members of the Poly community who had gotten a glimpse of Willis Stork on that visit must have been very impressed, especially Eleanor Erdman, for whom the Erdman Courtyard on the South Campus is named. After Stork explained to Erdman that he could not lead a school that did not have a high school as well, Erdman allegedly told him, as quoted by Helen Stork, "Willis, if you come, I promise you if any property adjacent to the present property comes on the market, I will buy it."

Despite Erdman's promise, Willis Stork was still reluctant to move halfway across the country for Poly. What changed his mind is unclear, though Helen Stork seemed to believe that the Ohio winter weather may have helped push him westward. When Stork announced to the trustees that he was leaving at the end of the school year, "They sat up until one o'clock one night trying to talk Willis out of coming, but we did come," said Helen Stork.

The afternoon of their arrival, the Storks came to view Poly. Willis was already "anxious to get going," said Helen. "Yes, to see what it was all about because he had things to do."

Two years went by, and no prog-



Courtesy of Polytechnic School Archives

The high school originally enforced a dress code in which the girls were required to wear white dresses, as pictured above.

ress was made on the founding of a high school, namely because there was no space to do so. That changed when in 1957 a property adjacent to Poly came on the market, and true to her word, Eleanor Erdman purchased the plot, which includes the present-day Haaga House. Earlier, former trustee

Morgan Adams had donated land which, when combined with Erdman's property, gave Polytechnic Elementary School four acres for



Courtesy of Polytechnic School Archives

Dr. Lee A. DuBridge, the president of Caltech, spoke at the opening of Poly's high school. He stood in front of the current Haaga House, the exterior of which is largely unchanged.

the founding of its high school. Though on a technicality Erdman was forced to live in the newly purchased home before she could donate it to Poly, shortly after her acquisition, preparations were nevertheless made for the opening of the high school.

And so, on October 20, 1958, the Polytechnic Board of Trustees, in a unanimous vote, decided to add the tenth grade in September 1959 with grades eleven and twelve added in 1960 and 1961, respectively.

Despite the gifts, Poly still needed to raise \$200,000 for the founding of its high school. In a pamphlet detailing its high school's creation and soliciting donations from the Poly community, Stork wrote, "Some alumni have felt an academic letdown or lack of challenge upon leaving Poly. A high school at Polytechnic would maintain a level of instruction in keeping with the standards of the present school. The rising cost of boarding schools is a burden for many families. A high school at Polytechnic would cut that cost by approximately half. It would also provide the opportunity to keep children at home during the critical, still-formative teen-age years."

Though Poly had a "head start" on the creation of the high school through gifts and previously held property and buildings, it still needed \$200,000 for construction projects, improvement of the grounds, and to "insure the launching and stabilization of the high school," the pamphlet read.

A number of board members and long-time givers to the school helped meet the challenge. "There were a lot of things that had to be to have an Upper School and I will say that Poly has always had very strong Boards of Trustees," said Helen Stork. "And Willis would just explain to people the need. He went to Alex Hixon '30, and the Hixon family gave that science building. Now, if they hadn't done

that, we probably couldn't have an Upper School because you do need a science building so the Hixon family gave that building."

for the Boswell Library. And finally, John McWilliams helped endow the McWilliams Building. Interestingly, McWilliams had been originally opposed to the idea of building a high school, citing the fact that "nobody would send their children from kindergarten through twelfth grade, it would be a little boring," as Helen Stork recalled. Nevertheless, after McWilliams passed away, he left money in his will for the building of the McWilliams Building. "He came around, too," added Stork.

Though the Hixon and McWilliams Buildings and the Boswell Library would not be ready for the opening of the high school (in fact Boswell would not be finished until 1967), Poly, as Stork promised, was ready to open the tenth grade in 1959. And on September 21, 1959, Polytechnic School officially opened the High School. Caltech's president at the time, Dr. Lee A. DuBridge, spoke at the dedication of the new campus. DuBridge noted that, once again, a student could receive education from the Pre-K level to the Ph.D. level without leaving a few square acres.

In addition to Hixon's gift, Poly received funds from Ruth Boswell

(Sources: Polytechnic School Archives, archives@polytechnic.org)

Fun Facts about Polytechnic High School

- * At one time, Poly had a radio program on KUNF FM 88.3.
- * In 1957, Willis Stork advocated vacating Cornell Road because, as he wrote, "This block is now used as a 'lovers' lane," as attested to by the beer cans, whiskey bottles, and other memorabilia which strewn the curbs."
- * In 1959, the high school offered \$13,000 in scholarship money to 23 students. In addition, as written in the general faculty minutes, "Negro applicants will not be barred."
- * The Haaga House, originally known as the Cornett Mansion, was designed by J.J. Blick in 1907 and built at a cost of \$17,000. There were six different owners of the house (including the Williamson family from 1934-1947) before the Erdman family donated the house to Poly in 1958.
- * As Dick Nevins said, "When the high school started Willis Stork was looking for students. As I recall, I met him at a cocktail party and he said, 'Don't you have two boys?'"
- * In 1955, Polytechnic Elementary School attempted to change its name to Polytechnic School. The State of California denied the request, citing that the name was too close to another business, the Polytechnic Beauty School, located in Los Angeles. Stork wrote to the beauty school to gain their permission, and the name change was granted.

Courtesy of Barbara Bishop, Polytechnic School Collections Manager

From the Polytechnic School Archives

■ For its first ten years, Poly's high school had a school newspaper entitled The Downbeat. Typically, The Downbeat would publish one paper a month. For its first few years, the publication consisted of a four page, glossy pamphlet. Later, the paper degenerated into a packet of 8.5"x11" papers. Below are four articles reprinted from various issues of The Downbeat. These articles do not represent the views of The Paw Print or its staff.

Miss Moffit comes to Polytechnic

Volume 3, No.7
April 9, 1965

Billy Jean Moffitt who is rated the number two women's tennis player in the United States, recently gave an exhibition of her playing at Poly. She started playing tennis when she was eleven, after giving up softball as her favorite sport. She practiced four or five hours a day, striving to perfect an aggressive style, modeled somewhat after that of Darleen Hard. Although she was ready to compete in the World Championships at Wimbledon when she was sixteen, Miss Moffitt waited and entered the competition when she was eighteen. She then won the world championships in doubles for two successive years. The second time she defeated Margaret Smith, the number one player in the world, which was the first time that the top-rated player had been beaten by a challenger.

Billy Jean currently attends L.A. State College. She recently returned from Australia where she has spent six months in perfecting her doubles for the Wimbledon tournaments. Miss Moffitt leaves for a world tour in May during which she will again compete in the Wimbledon tournaments which take place in July. She plans to be married when she returns in August.

While visiting Poly, Miss Moffit played several demonstration games and also took time out to play a special practice session with members of the tennis team. She demonstrated the proper techniques for serving the flat, slice, and American Twist serves and also showed various other strokes such as the ground, backhand, and volley shots.

College pressure? - life's pressure

Volume 6, No.3
January 26, 1968

This is an abridged version of the full article.

Like it or not, Americans live in a competitive, pressured society. The job of education is to prepare students to live in American society. The phrase which best describes Poly's educational program is "college preparatory." And Poly is recognized as one of the finest, independent, college preparatory schools in the country. The Poly graduate is well-prepared to cope with the tremendous pressures and responsibilities of college.

Thus, from the student's point of view, the pressures and keen competition encountered at Poly prepare him for the most intense competition in college. What chance has the kid brought up in the pass-fail, no-pressure school have of surviving in the viciously competitive, realistic world which will suddenly be thrust upon him? And from the college admissions officer's view-point, the A-B-C-D grading system of the competition-oriented school is all-important. He must make a selection from thousands of applications, and must have some basis for measuring a student's performance.

For both the student and his future college, then, competition is important. But how is this system of pressures working at Poly? Will there be mental breakdowns in this year's senior class? How many suicides will there be among Poly's "intellectually gifted" students pressured into "mental-emotional havoc?" In the next five years, will our mental asylums overflow with students whose senior slumps drive them schizo or paranoid?

Item: One half of this year's seniors are on the honor roll for the first quarter.

Item: The average senior's study hall is a time for such strenuous activities as playing bridge, or sleeping. In fact, the courtyard was closed to seniors because of general fooling around.

Facts such as these, coupled with the fine performances in college of Poly's graduates, indicate at least a few positive aspects of Poly's pressure-system. The few students who cannot survive under the pressure do not belong at Poly, and should drop out.

Vietnam War poll results

Volume 6, No.1
November 3, 1967

The Downbeat staff recently conducted an opinion poll of the students concerning the war in Vietnam. The results follow:

1. Are you satisfied with the President's handling of the war?
Yes. 12% No. 78%

2. Escalation-deescalation.
Except for the Junior Class, the students favor escalation as an alternative by a sizable majority. The ratio for escalation to deescalation in the classes is Fr. 55%-35%, So.

75%-14%, Ju. 37%-58%, Se. 45%-35% a tie.

3. However, bombing of China was not accepted by more than 15%.

4. Are we justified in being in Vietnam? Yes-No. Fr. 49-37%, So. 78-16%, Ju. 44-46%, Se. 41-44%.

5. Would you, if drafted, fight in Vietnam? Fr. 67-20%, So. 62-21%, Ju. 58-30%, Se. 52-29%. The figures in the upper two classes are substantially higher. The national figure for high school juniors and seniors in a Gallup Poll is about 5%. This is interesting.



Courtesy of Polytechnic School Archives

Upper left: The students of the class of 1962 pictured after their ninth grade commencement. This was Poly's first class to graduate from the Upper School. Upper right: Students gather for music outside the current Haaga House. Lower left: The Boswell Library, shortly after its opening in 1967. Lower right: High school students gather for morning meeting.

Editorial: Downbeat for Nixon

Volume 8, No. 5
November 4, 1968

America has caught a cold. She is feverish, congested, ill-humored, uncomfortable, and unpleasant. Her students riot, and her work-

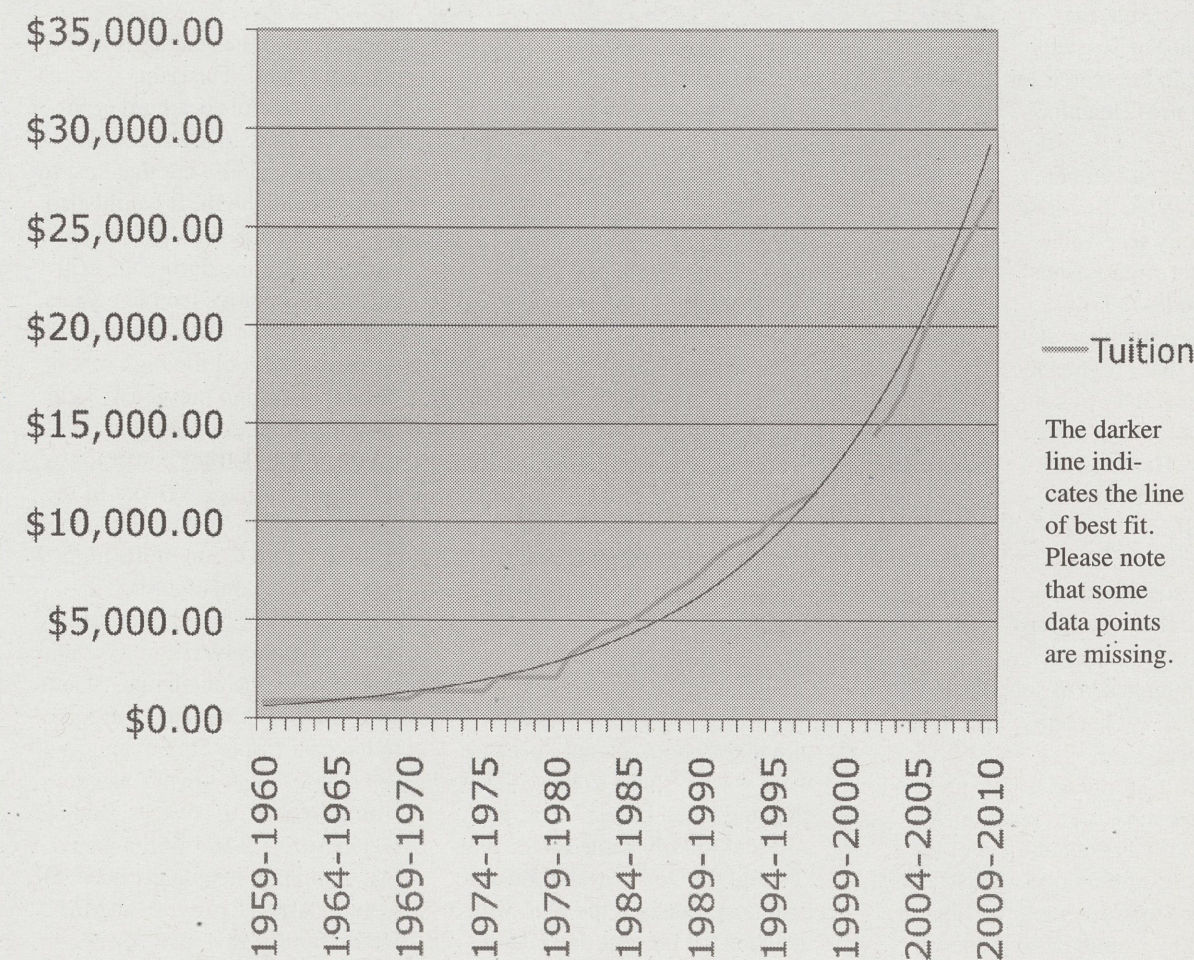
men scream for Wallace. Her minority races make intolerable threats of revolution, and her policemen deport themselves like storm troopers. Her left wingers are acting up, and now and then the Birch Society crowd seems about ready to do the same.

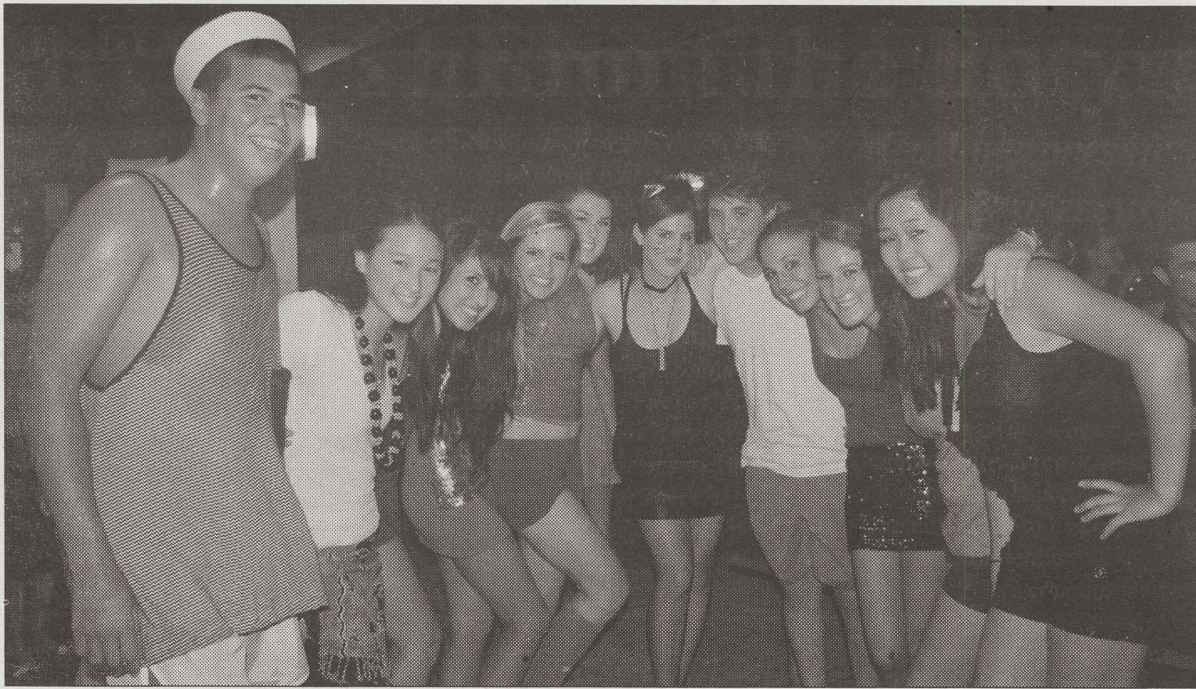
Our present leaders are about as tonic to all this as fog horns in the Sleep Center. They aggravate our frustrations with their silly Great Society and they incessantly impress us with the idiocy of our

foreign policy. We see them every night on television, hear them every morning on the radio; they never let things settle down.

Now we have a chance for change. Nice, modest Richard Milhouse Nixon is running for President. He would leave us alone. He would not rock the boat, or increase tensions. He would not lead us to war, or to anything else, for that matter. Therefore, "Downbeat" supports Nixon, America's warm milk and Dristan.

Poly's tuition has grown exponentially





Taani Ahluwalia/The Paw Print

Students dive into school year at ASB Dance

Poly students made their way to Gosney in bathing suits, swimming trunks and even floaties on the first Friday of the school year for the annual ASB dance. The "Aqua Camp" themed dance on September 4 boasted creative costumes including mermaids, human-sized kelp, scuba divers and sailors. Junior Sam McCarthy remarks, "I actually had a particular direction for my outfit. I was a sexy sailor."

Many students flocked to Forever 21, Urban Outfitters, American Apparel, Express and Aardvarks to purchase their outfits. However, since the ASB dance is meant to

be informal and fun, many students could find clothes to wear from their own closets. "Actually,



Taani Ahluwalia/The Paw Print

From left, Ryan Loui, Evan O'Malley, ASB Vice President Ed Ryan and Bret West DJed the year's first dance.

all I needed to go out and buy were floaties from the 99 Cent store."

comments junior Alex Hanel.

Now that Poly's former DJs Sarkis Terteryan and Blaine Ohigashi have graduated, Ed Ryan along with Loyola students Evan O'Malley and Bret West and Flintridge Prep student Ryan Loui kicked off the evening with their beats. "Although we were paid for our first event, we've always disc jockeyed for fun, and we're not really in it for money. That's why we were willing to offer our services to the ASB for free," states Ryan.

As a result, the ASB managed to keep the price of attendance low and could still distribute free glow sticks and snacks to attendees. Nonetheless, the new DJs felt that their work was somewhat limited because they could only use two speakers

Students pray for school

Led by junior Ally Arrieta, a group of about 20 Poly students gathered in the McWilliams courtyard last Wednesday for prayer before school as part of a nationwide "See You at the Pole" event. "The group did not recite any formal prayers, but did pray that God would bless our school, help the students and teachers throughout this year and use our club to be a positive influence on campus," according to Arrieta.

Senior Maggie Burdge led the prayers, junior Jane Davidson provided music with her guitar-playing and junior Grant Genske gave a short message of encouragement for the group.

Arrieta, a member of the Poly Christian Fellowship advised by history teacher Rick Caragher, be-

lieved that this event would unite people for one cause, the good of the school. "We wanted to have this event in order to show how much we care for and respect our school by praying for our teachers and fellow students."

Arrieta stresses that all students are welcome to participate in the event, not only those in the Christian Fellowship club. In fact, many of the twenty students that took part in the event are not club members. She looks forward to holding more events like this in the future, because "one of the most fundamental parts of Christianity is our desire to share God's love, so we will strive to do this more throughout the year."

Sasha Bassi

and were unable to use the fog and foam machines that they typically use at outdoor parties. Still, ex-

nally wanted Space Camp, but we decided that it was too close to the Future Rave theme from two years ago. A good portion of the ASB wanted "Aqua Camp", so we decided that this would be a good theme since we could make a cool movie and incorporate Aqua Man. Expect to see more members of the Justice League in the future."

Many students felt that the dance was a great way to kick off the school year. Sophomore Francesca Jimenez explains, "I thought that the dance's theme was really fun to dress up for. Although it was really hot inside Gosney, it was good to have the dance so close to the beginning of school because it still felt like summer."

Ally Arrieta



Courtesy of Maggie Burdge

Students, like these sophomore girls, dressed according to the "Aqua Camp" theme.

pressing his enthusiasm about the dance's success and the origin of the theme, Ryan explains, "Overall it was good. We kept the price of dance low and raised money for ASB community service. I origi-

Thoughts Around Town:

By: Matt Morrish and Eddie Ryan

Matt Morrish: I don't really know the guy, but John Stamos just seems like one cool dude.

Matt Morrish: Heard it through the grapevine yesterday that this Obama fella might be changin' up our health care. Hey I've got the fix! Let's all just keep it real.

Matt Morrish: GSL's coming up. Best way to get a date?
Throw a fishin' line off of the Fullerton balcony, ya dumb dumb!

Matt Morrish: Want that cupcake but keep your slim physique?
Give it a couple good licks and then pass it your friend. You'll have the taste!

Matt Morrish: Hey! Ever wanted to have your cake and eat it too?
Just keep it in the fridge until you want it next time.
Then just repeat step one.

Keep an eye out for more Thoughts Around Town in next month's issue. Don't let our section be your doormatt morrish!

Personality Profiles:

Matthew Morrish around town...

Favorite Movie: Brendan Frasier's Journey to the Center of the Earth 3D (being able to see Brendan in that one extra dimension made it so much better)

Favorite Musical Artist: Tie between Madonna

Favorite Van Gogh Painting: Die Hard 6

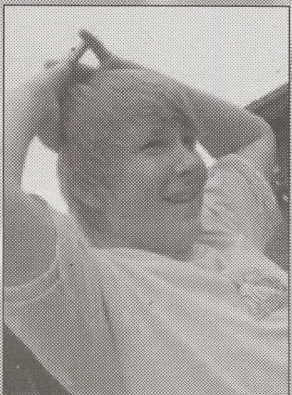
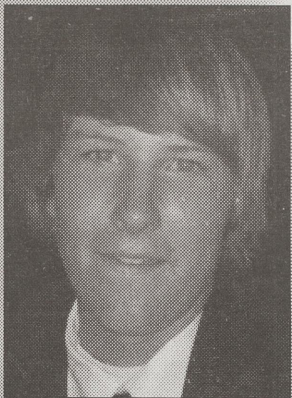
Favorite Restaurant: Dunkin' Donuts

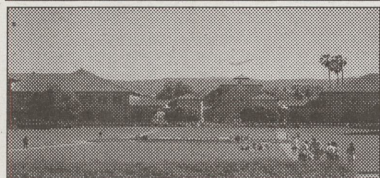
Favorite Founding Father: Duncan Donuts

Favorite Athletic Event: The San Diego Padres

Favorite Dog: chiwawawa

Please note that this section is intended to be comedic and does not represent the views of The Paw Print or its staff.





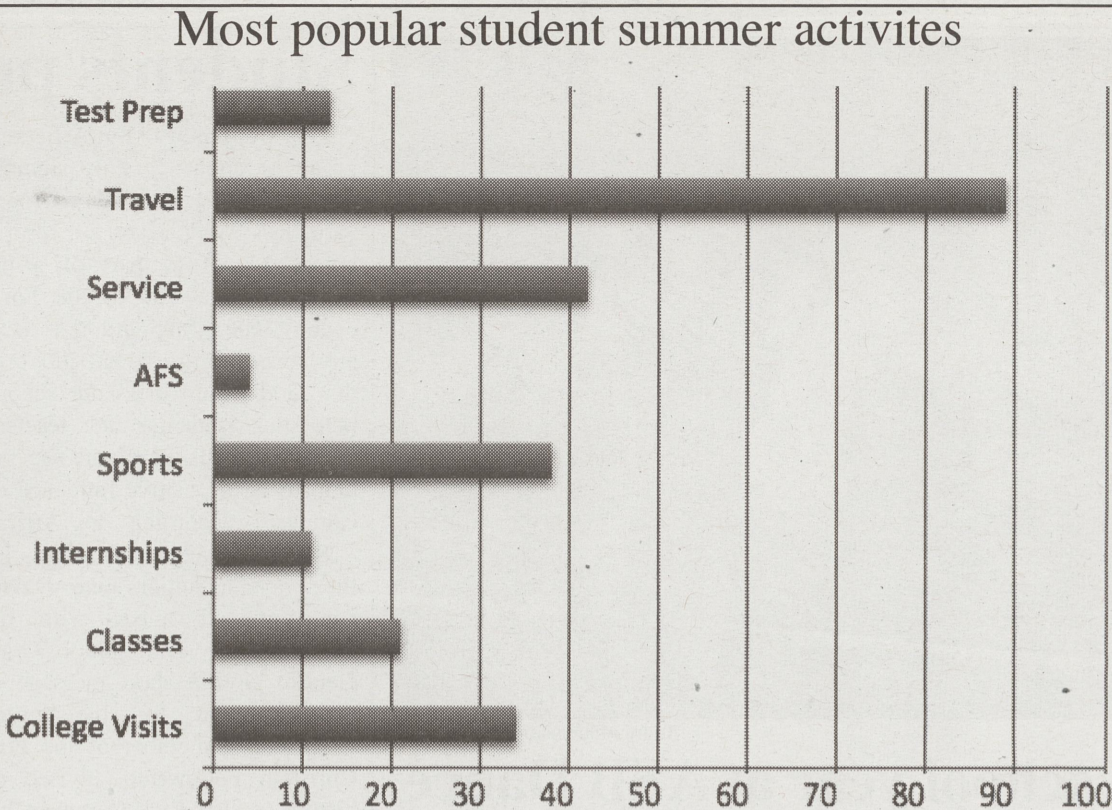
Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons
College Visits: 32%

- 1. Stanford
- 2. Princeton
- 3. Harvard



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons
Community Service: 42%

- 1. Hospitals
- 2. Habitat for Humanity
- 3. Camp Counselors



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons
Classes: 21%

- 1. Chinese/Japanese
 - 2. Math
 - 3. English
- Many classes were taken at PCC.



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons
Travel: 89%

- 1. East Coast
- 2. Europe
- 3. Hawaii

Where did students travel this summer?

Brittany Beljak and Mackenzie Marcotte

Sophomores Brittany Beljak and Mackenzie Marcotte went to Southeast Asia for three weeks this summer with Rustic Pathways, an organization dedicated to community service at a global level. The trip included both adventure and community service aspects, like the majority of Rustic Pathways trips. The two friends both loved visiting Laos where they had fun zip lining. Marcotte liked “meeting a 105 year old monk,” while Beljak enjoyed “handing out lollipops to children who had never seen lollipops before.” Both girls would recommend this trip for anyone. They say their experience allowed them to become “totally submerged in a completely different culture which was a very new and fun experience.”



Courtesy of Mackenize Marcotte

Cate Carlson

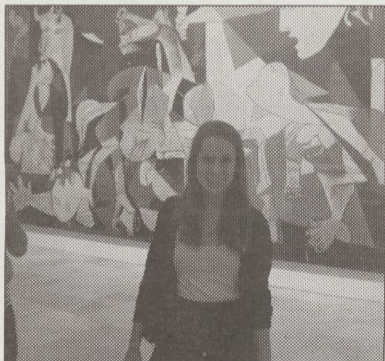


Courtesy of Cate Carlson

Junior Cate Carlson spent her summer in Järvenpää, Finland on two different home stays. During her stay, Carlson took a drawing class and Finnish language class in Helsinki. She especially enjoyed traveling to Northern Finland, where she and her Finnish family stayed in their summer cottage and on one night went to a music festival. Of her summer, Carlson says, “I will take away my friendships, the relationships I made with my families, and all of the experiences. Also my limited Finnish skills.... very limited.” Carlson recommends a home-stay trip because “you really get to meet people”.

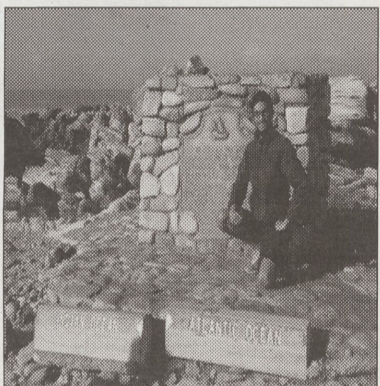
Ellie Malchione

Junior Ellie Malchione traveled to Spain during her summer break on a language immersion program for four weeks. One aspect of living in Spain that she found interesting was “navigating the local bus system with her friends one free afternoon to find a public pool while in Salamanca.” Malchione says that from her trip she will “take away a greater appreciation for and the understanding of Spanish culture.” She believes that “the best way to know something is to live it.”



Ellie Malchione/The Paw Print

Surjan Singh



Courtesy of Surjan Singh

Senior Surjan Singh went to Gansbaai, South Africa for six weeks on a volunteer program called White Shark Projects. He helped work on a shark conservation project by conducting research and assisting in data collection. Among his many adventurous moments was when he saw a baby seal escape death by a shark on his first day. Singh says that he is “never going to forget all the incredible experiences with the sharks.”



Community outreach updates

Bulletin from ASB's Michelle Tanner

Since students at Poly often-times have trouble completing community service hours, the Outreach Representatives have created a website, <http://sites.google.com/site/polyoutreach/>, that will make volunteering an easier process. It will allow students to easily access and look for volunteer opportunities, upcoming events, or clubs in which they can participate to receive credit. A calendar with events and a page just for community-based clubs have been included so that students can learn about whom they are supporting and why.

Michelle Tanner

The Disney Club

The new Happily Ever After club claims, in the words of Mulan, that it will "make a man out of you!" "I remember a few senior girls had a Disney Club going when Michelle Tanner and I were freshmen," remarks senior Dvisha Patel. "We both really wanted to bring it back since we love Disney movies so much, but we wanted it to be more than just watching movies." Thus, the community service aspect of this "magical" club surfaced. Members will sell baked goods, candies and drinks while watching movies, with all proceeds going to charity. Patel and Tanner selected three organizations to which they will donate all earnings: Mothers' Club, The Ronald McDonald House and Friends for Foster Children, all of which benefit children in some way. At the club fair, co-presidents Michelle Tanner and Patel attracted eighty members. Thirty students attended the showing of the club's first movie, Mulan. The Happily Ever After Club will feature classic Disney movies, but it is also strongly considering playing newer films, such as Finding Nemo. The club plans to meet during Tuesday and Thursday lunch periods in Hixon 503.

Monica Bouyea

The Great American Bakesale

The club kicked off the year with its first baked goods sale on Friday, September 25, displaying a wide array of treats. All of the club's proceeds go to ending hunger in our neighborhood, and with the soaring unemployment rates in the United States, childhood hunger is an increasing problem.

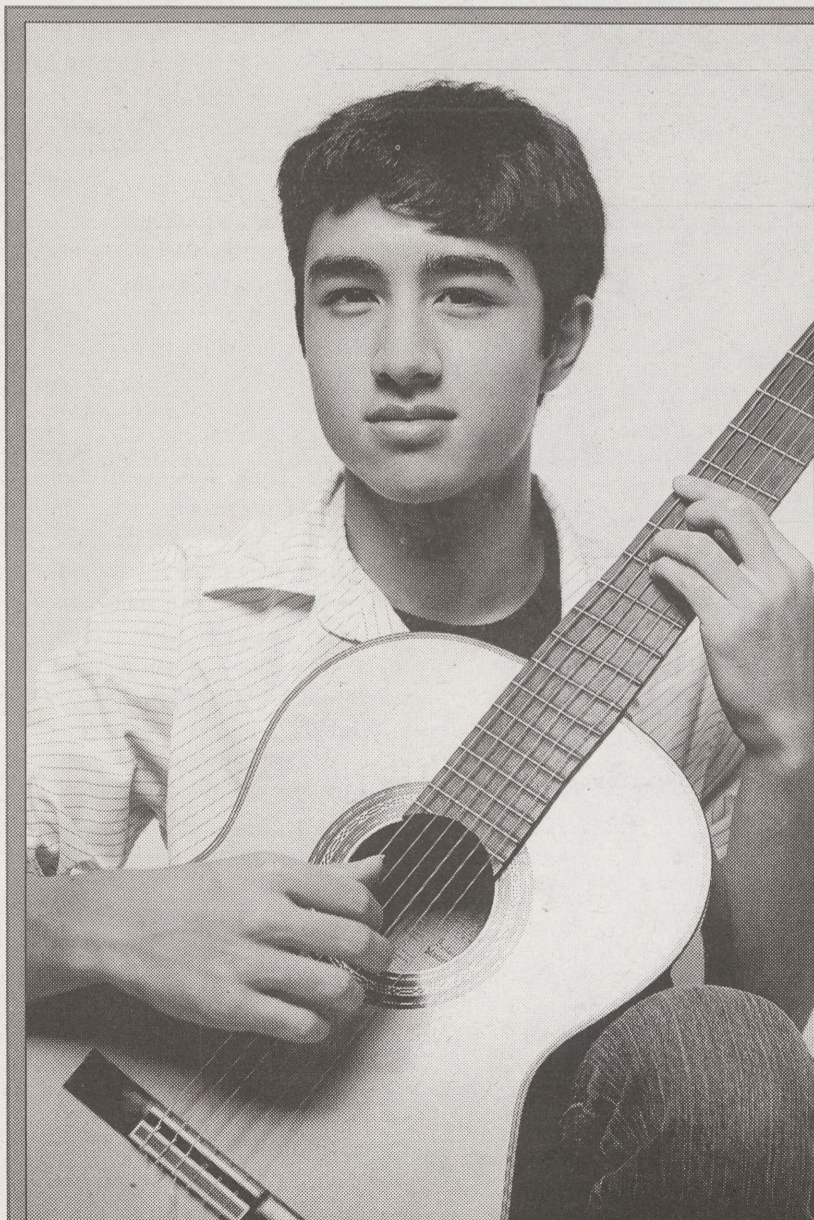
Burdge wants to get across that "this is a low stakes club. You don't have to come to tons of meetings or spend hours a week committed to it. Everything sold during Arts and Labs and Lunch, but according to Burdge, the club president, not as many people baked as she had hoped. Burdge states, "We got a great response from people buying treats, but now we just need the same from people baking them."

Bake sales will take place once a month, with all proceeds going to the charity Share Our Strength. "I decided on this club because I am a food-network addict," says Burdge, "and a lot of food network chefs participate in Share Our Strength's Great American Bakesale."

Monica Bouyea



Courtesy of Michelle Feynman



Evan Robinson/The Paw Print

Artist of the Issue: Tim Callobre

Having composed for the Los Angeles Philharmonic, played in the Walt Disney Concert Hall, and performed on both guitar and piano in Carnegie Hall, junior Tim Callobre has already enjoyed an incredible amount of success. Though stories of his seemingly prodigious talent and cache of honors for outstanding performance have become commonplace at Poly, one must remember that Callobre's musical prowess did not simply come to him. It has rather been the result of thousands of hours of practice and undying commitment.

Callobre's introduction to music came at age six when he began taking piano lessons. After an initial period of distaste for the piano, Callobre became acclimated to it and began to compose. As his interest in music began to burgeon, he took up guitar completely on his own accord. Next came a string of first-place victories in prestigious classical guitar, piano and composition competitions. In June of 2009 Callobre won the eighteen-and-under division of the Parkening International Guitar Competition, which attracted young guitarists from Italy to Korea.

The future is undoubtedly full of promise for Callobre. Though he will continue to perform frequently, his longterm ambitions now primarily lie in composition. "Composing," he says, "gives you something permanent, while practicing only results in temporary improvement." Callobre aspires to become a film composer. He has worked as an intern with prominent film composer James Newton Howard, and in doing so has learned the tools, primarily software, that are used in the industry. Callobre does not want to go into classical composition because he feels that current classical composers are held back by the expectation that each of their works will in some way redefine music, oftentimes forcing them to contrive innovations. Film music, in Callobre's eyes, is not subject to this affliction.

Callobre's comprehension and inherent feeling for the art form is obvious. As he says, "It is the thing I understand most completely." All of Callobre's acclaim, accomplishments and skill are only an indication of what is to come.

Hayden Betts



Evan Robinson/The Paw Print

Who is...

Cotter Donnell?

1) Where did you grow up?

I was born in Los Angeles and lived here until the end of third grade, when I moved to Tucson, Arizona. I lived there until I graduated from high school and went to college. When people ask me where I'm from, I say "Tucson," even though I have lived in Los Angeles longer.

2) Did anything/someone influence you to become interested in English in your earlier years?

The biggest influence was probably Ms. LaDue, my teacher in 11th grade. The class was Classics of Modern Literature, and we read some books that are still among my favorites. I wrote Ms. LaDue a letter during my sophomore year in college to tell her that I had become an English major because of her, and she was happy to hear it. I sometimes get those letters (emails) now, and they make me very happy too.

3) What made you decide to come to Poly to teach?

I interviewed at a handful of schools in Southern California, and I got the best feeling from Poly. I tend to follow my gut on decisions like this, and my gut defi-

nately told me that Poly was a good fit. I was especially impressed by the students I met during my visit.

4) How does Poly differ from other schools where you have taught?

Poly is actually pretty similar to both of the other schools at which I've taught. I guess it's unique (but refreshing) that Poly students don't bring their computers to class.

5) Did you enjoy English in high school? Why or why not?

I did, primarily because I really like books. I used to get in trouble in AP Biology because I would be reading novels in the back of the class during lessons (I don't know if that is a reflection of my fondness for literature or my feelings about Sister Diane, my Bio teacher).

6) What do you like to do in your spare time?

Grade papers, obviously.

7) Why did you decide to join the Cross Country team?

I have been a cross country coach almost as long as I've been a teacher, and I really like the sport. Cross country is unique because everyone practices together-- boys and girls, varsity and jv, even coaches-- and I really like the team ethos that results from that. Plus, as a league rival for so many years, I have grown to really respect Poly's terrific program. So, it's an honor to be on the team.

8) What is your favorite place you've traveled to?

This one is tough. I have been fortunate to go to a lot of interesting places, but I guess my favorite has been the Swiss Alps.

Sasha Bassi

Haaga

Continued from page 1

mittee considered repainting the house yellow; the committee ultimately decided against it. Board of Trustees member Ann Murphy described that in choosing a color, they considered "the surrounding buildings, the brick and doors of the Haaga House and landscaping. We wanted something that would blend with the campus, yet have its own identity. We considered many color schemes and decided on green." The house is now three different shades of green and a contrasting red brick color.

The name change from the Yel-

low House to the Haaga House honors the monetary contributions of the Haaga family to Poly. Former Poly parents and a trustee, Heather and Paul Haaga played a large role in financing the remodel by donating money that they requested to be used in the refurbishment of the house.

Murphy expressed her content with the final product and said, "I think the house looks great. The shingles have been repaired, the windows open and close, the downspouts work and other improvements were made. These functional things along with the paint help to restore the house to its original grandeur."

Boyle added, "I am thrilled with

the outcome both when viewed up close and also when viewed from a distance and including the new landscaping."

Remodeling of the house will continue in the interior, where Boyle noted that there is "a great deal of wonderful woodwork and detailing that has been either hidden by drop ceilings or painted over." While the plans for interior restoration are still in their early stages, Boyle stated that the goal of the restoration is "to refurbish as much as possible while importantly maintaining the functionality needed for our educational programming." This next phase of remodeling is planned for the summer of 2010.



Courtesy of Polytechnic.org

The newly named Haaga House, as seen from McWilliams Courtyard, underwent an extensive renovation this past summer.



PIE 'N BURGER

913 E. CALIFORNIA, PASADENA, CALIF., (626) 795-1123

After national search, Poly hires new Lower School Director

■ Poly introduces Paula Martin as she takes the helm in the Lower School.

By CAROLINE LEHMAN
Student contributor

Paula Martin moved from Minnesota in early July to join the Poly community as the new Lower School Director. Before moving to California, Martin resided in Minneapolis, Minnesota for 15 years with her husband, Gary Fishbeck, and her seven nieces and nephews.

Martin has held a wide array of jobs in the field of education, including the positions of classroom teacher, curriculum coordinator and school administrator. She has been a K-4 reading teacher as well as a K-12 math teacher and curriculum coordinator for the Orono School District in Minne-

sota. Martin also taught second, third and fourth grade in Wellesley, Massachusetts and began a teacher-licensing program for undergraduates in the education department at Wellesley College.

Martin graduated from the University of Maine summa cum laude and decided to continue her education at Framingham State College to pursue a master's degree in reading and language arts. In addition, Martin holds certifications as a math and reading specialist.

When asked what she most enjoys about California, Martin stated, "Everyone is so warm and welcoming...I am especially enjoying the California weather." Martin looks forward to taking advantage of the California outdoors with such activities as fly fishing with her husband and boating in Newport. However, she has yet to master the "terrifying freeways."

At her previous occupation as the elementary school principal of a K-12 school in Orono and Wayzata, Minnesota for 12 years, she had the job of calling no recess if the temperature was below 17 degrees. Martin has learned that at Poly, she will have the task of announcing the abandonment of recess if she feels a light drizzle outside.

Martin described that she is impressed with the Poly community, as the faculty are "extremely professional and committed to excellence; and of course, the children are just precious." Martin is also inspired by the Lower School faculty, who "work closely together to maintain a strong core curriculum that builds on students' skill sets as they progress through each grade, yet are also enthusiastic learners themselves who continually seek ways to enrich their single subject matter."

While looking for a new position in the field of education, Martin met a recruiter who turned out to be a former student of hers. The recruiter helped her find the open position because friends of his friends had gone to Poly. He even told Martin stories of how he still has a picture of them on the first day of school in a box in his closet. Martin stated, "I am a teacher because of these experiences; when we cross paths with former students and hear their stories, it lets us know that our work really does make a difference."



Courtesy of Polytechnic.org

NEWS IN BRIEF

Annual Club Fair kicks-off new school year

The club fair has remained a long-standing tradition at Poly that marks the end of summer vacation and the start of a busy school year. The barbeque lunch and fair combination serves as an opportunity for student club presidents to advertise their clubs and communicate their goals and plans for the year to the student body.

This year, the fair took place on Arden Lawn, a space that provided a spacious and unique setting. The semicircular formation of the club booths invited students to walk through and explore all of the clubs. Says ASB vice president Eddie Ryan, "The founding of new clubs, especially by underclassmen, is a strong sign of a new era of unity among the student body that we on the ASB cherish and shall cultivate in the year to come."

All Poly Upper School students are welcome to form their own club around any issue or interest that appeals to

them. To form a club, students must gain approval of the Upper School administration and find a faculty sponsor. This year, there are more than forty-two student-run clubs at Poly. New clubs this year include Book Club, DO IT LA (a dance outreach program), The Fishing Club and the Poly Prestidigitators (magic club). Longer-standing clubs include MESA (Poly's recycling group), Model United Nations and Speech and Debate. Other clubs, including the Disney Club and the Anime Club, serve a more entertaining and relaxing purpose.

This year's fair sported a wide variety of organizations that serve as a way for Poly students to balance academics with fun. Offering cultural, charitable, educational and leisure clubs, many students left the first day of school excited for the upcoming year and the opportunities they have to become involved in the community.

- Kelly McGee and Sarah Patterson



Courtesy of Michelle Feynman

Sophomores Tessa Loera and Anna Wohl promote their club, "Poly Dollies."



Courtesy of Michelle Feynman

Students in all grades roam Arden Lawn to see what each club has to offer.

Physics teacher Robin Barnes joins Upper School Science Department

By ALYSSA PAUL
Student contributor

A new addition to the science department, Robin Barnes joins the Poly faculty. Raised in North Carolina, she spent the past twelve years teaching chemistry and physics in North Carolina and New Jersey. Barnes moved to the West Coast when her husband, a movie editor, was offered a job in Southern California. A day of interviewing and visiting at Poly, followed by a dinner with the faculty, left Barnes feeling drawn to the friendliness of Poly faculty. When offered a position teaching conceptual physics, Barnes accepted.



Sooln Yoon/The Paw Print

Barnes has had an interest in science from a young age, but had never considered being a teacher. Barnes commented that as a child, "I knew I would do something with science, but teaching never

occurred to me."

This year, Barnes is teaching three sections of Conceptual Physics. In addition, she has already made a positive impression on the student body. "Ms. Barnes is very entertaining," says sophomore Connor McKnight, a member of Barnes' advisee. "She seems genuinely interested in students' lives, and clearly enjoys talking with us. I think it would be fun to have her as a teacher."

Aside from her love of teaching, Barnes enjoys doing yoga, watching the reality show *Wipeout*, and playing with her two Australian Shepherd dogs. On a quieter afternoon, Barnes settles in

with an epic novel. She has been working on *Gone with the Wind* for the last ten months. Other favorites of Barnes include thin-crust pizza, the color pink, the movie *Shakespeare in Love*, and the clothing store Anthropology.

Feynman serves as temporary replacement for Godwin-Minto

By SHANA SZETO
Student contributor

After fracturing both of her heels in June, Poly's resident photographer Jennifer Godwin-Minto spent this summer recovering. Michelle Feynman, an experienced photographer and mother of two Poly Lower School students, Marco and Ava Miralles '14, is serving as a long-term substitute for Godwin-Minto's photography classes. She is also assuming Godwin-Minto's job photographing school events.

Feynman is also a photographer for Curtis School, an elementary school in Los Angeles, where she helps produce the school's yearbook.



Sooln Yoon/The Paw Print

Godwin-Minto recommended Feynman for the substitute job to Upper School Director Jamie Neilson. "She is a friend and a Poly parent with an photography background. [She's] someone I trust to handle all aspect of my job," Godwin-Minto said.

It is not unusual for the administration to hire a long-term substitute when a teacher is unable to teach for a period of time. In 2008, Adam Feldmeth taught ceramics, architecture, and design classes during Stuart Freed's long-term absence.

Feynman works off of Godwin-Minto's curriculum and syllabi and talks to her daily.

One month into her Poly teaching career, Feynman has found it

to be a very rewarding experience. She described her new students as "motivated, interested, and responsible." "High school is an exciting part of campus—there's always something going on, and the students are very enthusiastic," Feynman said. "I look forward to seeing my own children experience high school at Poly one day."

Many students returned the compliment. "In just a few weeks,

I've learned a lot about photography," said Freshman Courtney Foster, a student in the beginning photography class. "I'm even taking much better pictures on my digital camera."

Feynman said she became interested in photography when her parents gave her

an old manual camera. She had to learn all the techniques involved in taking a photograph that have since become automated with modern cameras.

Feynman pursued her love of photography, studying at Occidental College and the Art Center College of Design where she earned her bachelors degree in fine arts.

"Michelle Feynman has done a fantastic job covering Jennifer Godwin-Minto's photography classes," said Armor Bielveldt, chair of the Visual Arts Department. "She is an excellent photographer and passionate teacher, and I was pleased that the school found such an accomplished substitute teacher."

MESA plants oak as part of Global Initiatives Program

Members of MESA planted an oak tree along with more than 2,000 other schools in over 100 countries as part of the United Nation's international day for peace and for ecological awareness through the Environmental Network online, based in Finland.

Trees were planted at noon in each of the earth's 24 time zones. The first to plant were schools in Tonga and New Zealand, and Poly was the school designated for the Pacific Coast time zone.



Courtesy of Martin Voss



Courtesy of Martin Voss

Bischoff

Continued from page 1

many things that I am unsure of and that are uncertain at the moment."

"Prior to coming to Poly, I had always loved working with high school students," Bischoff related. "What I didn't discover until working at Poly was that high school students would become my vocation rather than just my job. I can't tell you how rewarding and fun it is to see students start and finish their college search process feeling good about their choice and most importantly, themselves. In doing this job, I have never quite known what I will experience in a day... I wouldn't trade my time with the Poly students on their various patios for anything."

After the 2009-2010 school year, Bischoff hopes to work with high school students in Cleveland. "Poly has convinced me that

working in a school is my dream job," she said. "While the kids won't be the same, they are still kids, with hopes, dreams and interesting stories of their own."

One of Bischoff's past students, Chris Welch '09, said of his experience: "Ms. Bischoff was so much more than my college counselor... I'm never going to forget showing up in her office just to hang out, because she was someone who was friendly, caring and genuine; a kind of person you can never get enough of in

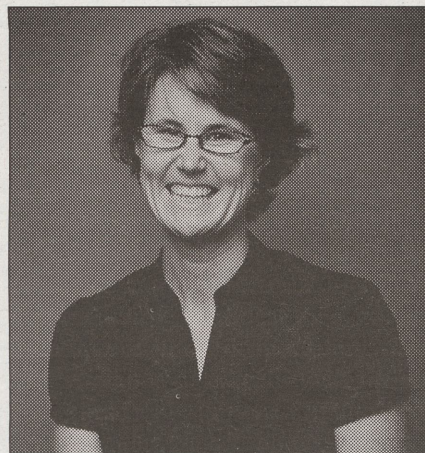
this world."

In a letter to families earlier this year, Upper School Director Jamie Neilson remarked that Poly "has benefited from [Bischoff's] energy, hard work, and pragmatic intelligence, but most memorably, [she] has contributed a frank and friendly curiosity about all of the many lives that have passed through her office."

Though many students have remarked that filling Bischoff's shoes will be a difficult task, Neilson is confident that Ventura

California, Berkeley. She worked briefly in asset management before joining the admissions staff at University of Southern California and, later, at Stanford. While her experience working in college admissions is an obvious asset for Poly, Neilson was also impressed by her founding of Accion, a non-profit organization that assists low-income Latino students with their preparations for college.

Ventura is as excited to be coming to Poly as the administration is to have her. Upon ac-



Evan Robinson/The Paw Print



Courtesy of the College Counseling Office

College counselor Renee Bischoff will be leaving Poly to move to Cleveland.

Gloria Diaz Ventura will be joining Poly's college counseling office on November 1.

is the right person for the job. According to Neilson, the counselors have known Ventura through their dealings with Stanford and were glad to be able to offer her a position. Looking to the future, Ventura will spend her first few months on campus attending deans' meetings, learning about the curriculum and having what Neilson describes as a "crash course on Poly culture."

Ventura graduated from Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy and went on to attend University of

accepting her new position, Ventura wrote to Neilson: "[In the past], I have felt a connection to the values and social consciousness many of your applicants reflected. It's refreshing to have found an environment that fosters such a healthy intellectual vibrancy and to meet young people with a genuine level of interest toward the world around them."

She concluded, "To represent Poly within the college and university community will be an honor."

Football starts strong, but recent disappointment puts damper on season

■ *After two victories in which the Panthers went unchallenged, the football team has encountered a rough patch.*

By ANNA WOHL
Staff Writer

The Poly varsity football team will open its Prep League season against Webb this Friday following a disappointing 35-7 loss to Sierra Canyon.

In comparison to last year's team comprised of almost all seniors, this year's team is inexperienced. "We're young; we only have four seniors," Coach Brendan McGrail notes. "We are still trying to develop some continuity up front on the offensive line."

Captain and three-year varsity player Adam Burpee comments that despite the team's relative inexperience, this year's team has "a lot of focus and discipline and willingness to work hard."

In their first two non-league games, the team, led by captains Burpee, Matt Morrish, Byron Cheung, and Sheehan Hsu, faced weaker teams. In their opening contest against Rock Academy (San Diego), Poly led 21-0 at the end of the first quarter and went on to crush the Warriors 42-6. Continuing to put up a lot of points in their next game, Poly defeated Sherman Indian 56-0. "This group is easy to coach and they work very hard," McGrail observes. "We have experience and depth at tailback with Adam Burpee and Blake Edwards."

The victory at Rock Academy put some individual efforts into the spotlight. The formidable duo of Burpee and Edwards rushed a total of ten times for 99 yards and scored three touchdowns in just

the first half, running all over the Warriors' defense. As the game became more one-sided, sophomores Brad Olson and Jackson Allan were given a chance to run the ball. Brad Olson ran for a 45-yard touchdown in which he broke three tackles. Sophomore Jonah Campbell picked off and returned the ball 35-yard yards for a touchdown. Junior Kevin Capehart caught a 31-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Hunter Merryman, who finished his first varsity start with a 100% completion percentage.

Continuing the excitement of the

touchdowns to finish of the game with a 56-0 final score. Olson lead the team in rushing with 13 carries for 97 yards and a touchdown. Allan, Burpee, Douglas Pinsky, and Campbell all scored rushing touchdowns. Cheung was a defensive monster, finishing with five tackles, an interception, and two fumble recoveries. Merryman continued his 100% completion percentage as he threw three touchdowns, two to Edwards, including one where Edwards rocketed past the Sherman Indian defense for a 60-yard score.

The team had hoped to contin-

Burpee showed their leadership as they combined for 221 yards and fifteen tackles. Burpee forced the ball into the endzone for a touchdown as well and a two-point conversion, and Edwards had two interceptions and registered eight individual tackles.

Despite the individual efforts, it was not enough to defeat the Eagles, whose fans stormed the field after the game. McGrail remarks, "In our third game, against Marshall, we drove the ball up and down the field for a ton of yards, but we didn't finish drives and we didn't take care of the football."

After the Marshall loss, the Panthers faced a 2-0 Sierra Canyon squad coming off of wins over Viewpoint (45-7) and Webb (40-3). The team started off strong with 7-3 lead at halftime and controlled the ball throughout the first half, but missed an opportunity at the end of the second quarter. The Trailblazers scored almost immediately to begin the second half and continued to rack up points against a weary Panther defense. Sierra Canyon kept most of their starters on the field and ran up the score including a fake PAT when the game was already out of reach. Despite the loss, placekicker Brian Holman reflects, "I'm proud of how hard our guys played, especially Burpee, who played just about every single play. If we give the same effort in league, we'll have a lot of success."

In addition to struggling with consistency, the team has also experienced several injuries. Burpee comments that, because the team has "so few players, any injuries that occur really affect the team." Anticipating these injuries, which are an unavoidable part of football, the coaches have greatly emphasized position flexibility. In response, other players have stepped in to make plays.

McGrail recalls that one example was Holman, "who stepped in and made several nice plays; on defense he broke up a long pass on a fade route and on offense he made a diving catch and another tough catch in traffic."

Furthermore, senior leadership played a vital role in the team's success. Because there are only four seniors on the team, each senior has to work hard to assert his leadership on the field. To add to that challenge, one of the seniors, Sheehan Hsu, is out for the season with a torn ACL. Addressing the four seniors' influence on the teams performance, McGrail notes, "We need tremendous contributions from them and we need them to set a tone in practice for the other players to follow."

Despite the setback of the Marshall game, the Panthers have remained optimistic and are looking forward to a strong performance in the Prep League. "We've been working hard to develop a strong, united team," Burpee mentions. "We hope to win the Prep League title and go as far in the playoffs as we can."

Edwards anticipates that Rio Hondo will present the strongest competition in league, noting that they won CIF last year and graduated only 4 players. Rio has opened the season with a strong record of 3-0. Preparing to face many tough opponents, including Chadwick and Webb, sophomore Jackson Allan recognizes that "there isn't a single position on the field that can slack off at any given play."

Concerning the Prep League opener at South Pasadena high school on September 25th, McGrail comments, "It is a Friday night game under the lights, and it would be fun to see a lot of Poly students over there to support the team."



Evan Robinson/The Paw Print

Tailback Blake Edwards breaks a tackle on the way to one of his two long touchdown receptions against Sherman Indian.

season, the football team hosted Sherman Indian for the Fall Tailgate. As formidable and giant as their opponents seemed, the Panthers erupted with a 42-point first quarter as Sherman could not keep up with the Panthers speed. The varsity squad eased up on their opponent and only scored two more

ue their winning streak with their game against Marshall Fundamental. In contrast, the Eagles had endured a 31-game losing streak and hoped to end it against the Panthers. In a heartbreaker, the Panthers relinquished their lead and allowed the Eagles rallied back to take the game 36-24. Edwards and

Undefeated in Prep League, volleyball starts strong

■ *Volleyball, vying for the Prep League title, continues to excel as they improve their stellar 8-1 (3-0) record.*

By CONNOR MCKNIGHT
Assistant sports editor

With an eager team loaded with seniors, the girls varsity volleyball team has scorched through non-league play and continues to excel at the beginning of Prep League play. Though they suffered a disappointing loss in the finals of the Poly Invitational to St. Margaret's, the Panthers are now 8-1 (3-0 in league) and are ranked eighth in CIF Division III. The latest win came 3-1 over Chadwick, previously ranked second in CIF.

The Panthers surpassed last year's performance in the seven-team Poly Invitational. The team beat Ramona in three sets and then took three sets out of four over Windward. The only team separating the squad from the finals was archrival Flintridge Prep. The girls came up big against the Rebels defeating them 2-0 to claim a spot in the finals. Unfortunately, St. Margaret's stymied their attempt at the title of the Poly Invitational in a

2-0 loss. But the efforts of Alexis Genske and Hilary Bruegl did not go unnoticed, as they were rewarded by receiving all-tournament awards.

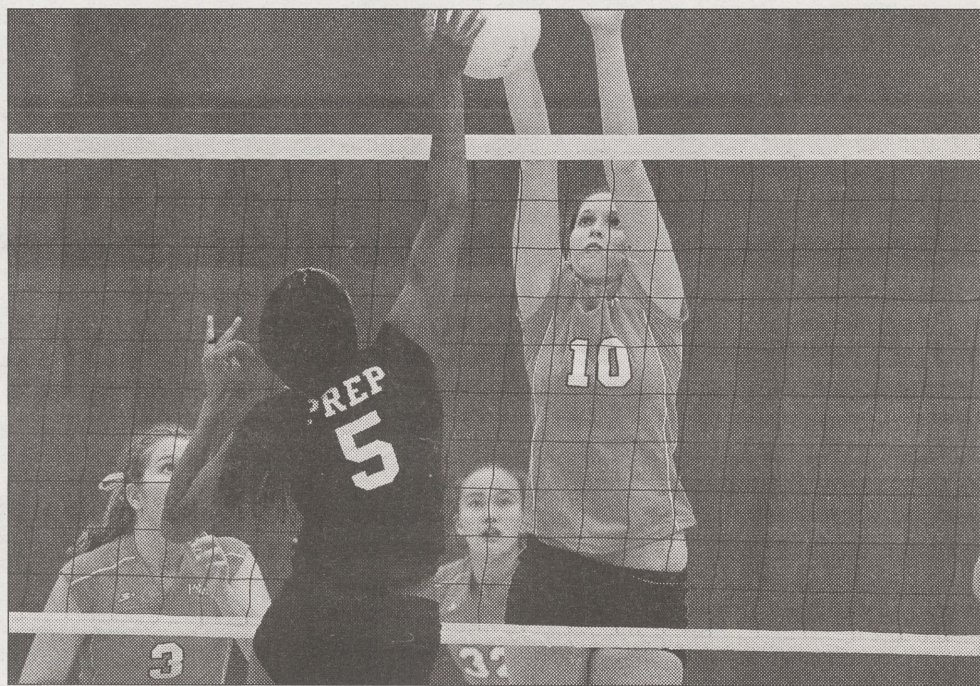
This disappointing loss proved motivating for the squad. The following week, the Panthers traveled to Temple City to face the Rams on their own court. An outstanding team effort resulted in a three-set victory for the team. Julia Brown led off the third and final set by serving eleven straight points. Bruegl also added seven kills, while Michelle Miller posted twenty-four assists. After the match, the team has posted three victories against Providence and Prep League opponents, Rio Hondo and Westridge.

After Chadwick beat the squad twice 3-1 last year, the team looked for revenge this past Friday against the Dolphins. After losing the first set 23-25, the team rallied to take the next three straight sets 25-19, 25-22, and a thrilling final set 26-24. Currently the girls' varsity team rests on top of the Prep League with a set record of 20-3.

The team currently has ten seniors on the roster and the experience has shown. The senior leaders are setting an example as the

contributions from each individual player have helped the Panthers strive for higher goals. Senior leader Rose Dicovitsky notes "I have been extremely proud of our performance so far and have high expectations for the year. While we have not faced any teams that have truly challenged us, I think that when the time comes to play the best teams in our league, we will step up our game."

According to Dicovitsky, some lineup changes have required adjustments, but she has even higher hopes for where the squad will be at the end of the season. The team has built on these changes and Dicovitsky sees them improving. She says, "Everyone has been very cooperative with the lineup changes and as we continue to practice, these positions



Evan Robinson/The Paw Print

Rose Dicovitsky blocks the ball for a decisive point in the semifinals of the Poly Invitational against the Flintridge Prep Rebels. Poly won the game 2-0.

will become more and more natural."

After last year's disappointing loss in the first round of CIF playoffs to San Gabriel 3-1, the Panthers are looking to surpass last year's finish. To accomplish this, the squad has focused on qualifying for playoffs.

This week Poly hosts Prep League opponents Webb on September 29 and Flintridge Prep on October 2. The Rebels look forward to avenge their loss to the Panthers during the Poly Invitational; however, the Panthers are prepared to extend their league leading record to 4-0.

Cross country hopes to stride to new heights

■ *The cross country squad continues where it left off last year and remains a Prep League powerhouse.*

By MIMI BEA
Sports editor

After placing fourth in Division IV State Finals last year, the boys varsity cross country team returns with a chance of exceeding last year's performance. However, with the loss of two key runners, it is uncertain whether their hopes will materialize.

Last year the varsity boys featured a solid lineup: Daniel Silver, Jeffrey Hemphill and Wesley DeVoll consistently led the pack while Gordon Algermissen, Anand Upadyaya, Chris Marks and Matthew Diephuis followed close behind. But with the loss of two of the team's top runners, Hemphill and Silver, returning to state finals will be much more difficult for this year's squad.

Hemphill and Silver were consistently among Poly's first five runners to cross the finish line. Although seven runners from each school race per event, the score is tallied based solely on the finish of the first five runners from each school. Points are tallied for the top five runners based on placement, (for example if runner 1 places first, Team X will receive one point, if runner 2 places fifteenth, then Team X will receive fifteen points etc) and whichever team has the lowest score at the end of the day wins the race.

Although their season is uncertain, freshman Michael Caughron has emerged as a strong runner. Caughron ran an impressive 17:40 at the Bosco Tech Invite, shattering the previous freshman record held by senior Anand Upadyaya by al-

most two minutes. Surjan Singh has also improved immensely over his four years on the cross-country team and has joined the varsity roster this year. Hopefully with the help of Caughron and Singh, the boys will achieve their goal of not only returning to state finals, but also earning a spot on the podium.



Courtesy of Robert Caughron

Gordon Algermissen placed second for Poly in the Bosco Tech meet with a time of 17:27.

"Our goal this year is to run well as a team so that we can place well at the Mt. SAC Invitational and hopefully make it to CIF," said senior and varsity girls co-captain, Molly Thornton. At the team's first league race at Pierce College, Thornton got off to an impressive start, breaking her previous personal record by twenty seconds, running 22:39. Though each girl raced well individually, their times were spaced out, in some cases almost a minute apart, making it difficult for them to place well as a

team. Thornton noted, "We aren't running in a pack yet because the team is still trying to figure out where our girls fall in terms of top five, but as the season progresses and we all get in better shape, I know we will be able to finish at closer intervals."

Recently the team headed to Stanford to compete where both the boys and girls teams ran fairly successful races. With all of the senior boys racing varsity, the team placed second, losing to Redwood Christian (ranked just ahead of Poly, second in the state for Division IV).

"According to DeVoll, "Because the course was a full 5K - 3.1 miles vs. 3.0 miles - some of our times were a little slower." DeVoll placed second overall and first for Poly with a time of 16:13. He was followed by Algermissen who placed 21st and ran 17:27. DeVoll and Algermissen were followed by Marks, Upadyaya, Diephuis, Tommy Hancock, and Singh, in that order. Thornton took the number one spot for the varsity

girls with a time of 23:49. DeVoll also noted, "The girls had a nice pack going throughout the race; Olivia [Hudnut], Erika [Nuetzel], Britt [Gates-Kayyem], Sydnee [Cua] all finished about a minute after [Thornton]."

While each team focuses on their own goals, Coach Rick Caragher hopes to see the entire team "improve as runners." Caragher stresses the importance of building a strong team and hopes to take this season "one day at a time."

Water polo struggles to match last year's success

■ *With the loss of record-breaking goal scorer Tommy Gilfillan, the boys varsity water polo team has found it difficult to replace his production.*

By BRIAN HOLMAN
Assistant sports editor

The boys water polo team faced a challenging start to the year, after graduating 11 of its 17 varsity players, including star player Tommy Gilfillan, and having many key practices cancelled due to smoke. The team opened with a tough non-league schedule, with opponents such as Long Beach Poly and Crescenta Valley, a defending CIF champion. The team has big shoes to fill, as Gilfillan scored 500 goals and close to 200 assists in four years at Poly and led the team to two consecutive CIF semifinals. Last year, "we relied on him to do everything," explains senior Tanner Johnson. But now, Gilfillan is gone and other players need to step up their performance.

Having lost so many key players, many expected the team to have a mediocre season, focused on rebuilding the team for the future. Poly, however, has shown it can continue to play at a high level, posting a 4-5 record that is impres-

sive given its strength of schedule. An important test for this year's team was their game against first-ranked Crescenta Valley, which beat the Panthers in the semifinals last year in addition to winning the title. Senior Will Thompson stated before the game, "If we can play with them, then we'll know we'll have the potential to be as good as last year." Poly did more than keep it close, battling to an early 5-1 lead before ultimately losing 13-11. While giving up the lead demonstrates the inexperience of the team, the closeness of the game is a symbol of hope for a successful season.

With Gilfillan gone, teamwork has been the key to success. Junior Graham Nesbit says, "Without Tommy, our team has become less one-dimensional, giving other younger players the ability to step up and become a bigger part of the team."

These players include the captains, Nick Grover and Richard Arnett.

According to Johnson "[They] have shown really strong leadership for our team. They keep us focused during practice and really work on making sure everyone knows their roles." Their key positions are displayed by their 20 and 11 assists, respectively, which put them second and third on the team in that category.

In addition to the captains, Nesbit and sophomore Henry Pray

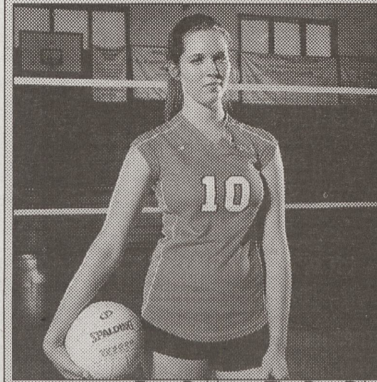


Evan Robinson/The Paw Print

Nick Grover prepares to shoot during a non-league match. Grover this year will help fill in the gap left by current Cal Bear Tommy Gilfillan '09.

have played vital roles thus far. "Nesbit," Grover states, "is a very good defender and has great aware-

Athletes of the Issue



Evan Robinson/The Paw Print

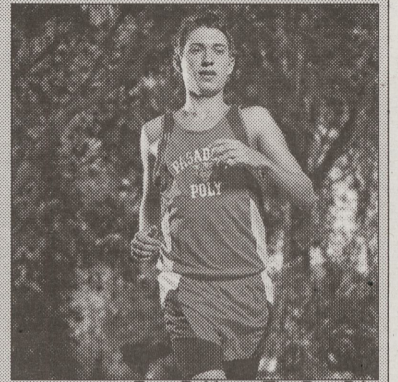
Rose Dicovitsky

Polytechnic's varsity volleyball team has been dominating the competition this season with a record of 8-1. Leading the team is senior Rose Dicovitsky, who has been a member of the varsity team all four years and captain for two. After a disappointing first-round playoff loss ending last season, Dicovitsky has helped the team rebuild and reestablish its chances of winning both Prep League and the Division III title. Dicovitsky, who has played right side for most of her career, has switched to middle hitter in an effort to have more hitters on the court at once. After Coach Steve Beerman made these changes to the starting lineup, Dicovitsky stepped up. Always consistent and poised, Dicovitsky is known for her clutch plays and positive attitude on the court. Her club experience has allowed her to develop her skills and her leadership is sure to be a key component to the team's success this year.

When asked about Dicovitsky's character and overall play, Sarah Patterson says, "Rose is a true captain. She always helps out the rest of the team and encourages us to keep our heads up when we get down. She is such an integral part of our team's success."

Brooke Mulligan calls Dicovitsky "an inspiration to the team and herself. When I see her on the court there is no doubt in my mind that she will carry us through anything." For Dicovitsky's last year on the team, a championship may be within reach.

Julia Brown and Brad Olson



Evan Robinson/The Paw Print

Wesley DeVoll

Featuring a senior-heavy squad, the boys cross-country team has the potential to once again place high in the Division IV CIF California State Championships. In each of the previous three years, senior Wesley DeVoll has played an instrumental role. DeVoll is the team captain and deservedly so. In fact, as Matthew Diephuis said, "Often times young runners ask him questions about certain runs and warm-ups. It's clear that he has earned the respect of all of his teammates, not only as a great captain but also as an amazing runner."

After finishing tenth individually in the state championship last fall, DeVoll has performed even better this year. He ran a personal record and set a Poly record at the Bosco Tech meet, running a time of 15:14, placing second overall. A year before, at the same meet, DeVoll ran 16:24.

This season, DeVoll won his first varsity race with a time of 16:20 at Pierce College. Though this time was slower than his time at the same course last year, where he ran 16:00, he still won by nearly a minute.

DeVoll is already off to a promising start this season. His race times this season are close to, if not better than many of the times he had at the end of last season, and with league races just around the corner, there is no doubt that the squad will benefit from his leadership.

Mimi Bea and Bobby Samuels

ness, which usually leads to him beating his defender on counter attacks." He leads the team with 23 steals and 23 assists.

Pray is the team's leading scorer, highlighted by his eight-goal performance in the 13-9 victory against

Pasadena High School. He has 46 goals, while the rest of the team combined has 52. Thanks to the contributions of veteran and new players alike, Johnson notes, "one of our big strengths this season is really working cohesively as a team both on offense and defense and utilizing each player's individual strengths to succeed against our tough opponents."

Unfortunately for the fourth-ranked Panthers, the season will not get much easier. The primary goal for the team is to win a third consecutive league title. In their way, however, stand several strong opponents, including Chadwick,

which is ranked sixth in the division, and La Salle, which returns five of seven starters on a team that reached the quarter-finals last year. "Chadwick and La Salle are two teams that we cannot afford to take lightly," Thompson says. The toughest obstacle by far, though, will be Webb, which is ranked third in the division, and didn't graduate a single starter from last year's team.

To win league and have a strong showing in CIF, Nesbit states, "We just need to put in the hours."

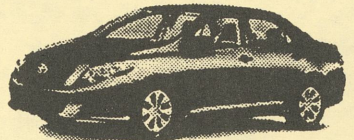
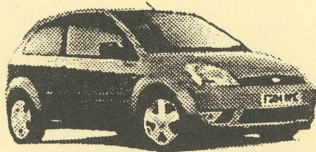
Grover adds, "With the graduation of quite a few varsity players from last years class, we aren't very deep into our bench; the program just does not have as many players this year. Thus, we are short on subs when we need them late in the game." As a result, Coaches Ryan Katsuyama and Robert Currier have made conditioning a primary focus of the team, and the players have been training harder than ever to make up for the lost time earlier in the season.

viva

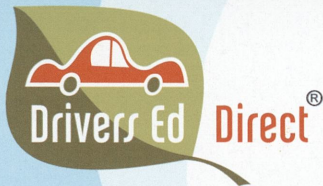
DRIVING SCHOOL

(626) 797-1686

- 2009 Vehicles
- Teen Specials
- Local
- 7 Days a Week
- Free Pick up & Drop off



www.vivadrivingschool.com



The Next Generation of Drivers Ed[®]

DMV Approved Online Course

Drivers Ed

DMV LIC
4141
Insured
Bonded

Need your PERMIT? Go to DriversEdDirect.com today!



Interactive
Flash Lessons



Unlimited DMV
Practice Tests



Official DMV
Certificate

**\$10
OFF**

USE CODE
GETPERMIT



Drivers Education
Completely Online

DriversEdDirect.com - more than just Drivers Ed:



**FREE
GAMES**



**MySpace
\$\$ Prizes**



**Win iTunes
with Free Trial**

Elite Educational Institute

9908 Las Tunas Drive #D, E, & F, Temple City, CA 91780
Tel 626.287.1245 Fax 626.287.1376

SAT CLASSES

Beginning the week of October 13th

Option I

Testing	See Options Below
Math	Wed 4:00 – 5:30 pm
Critical Reading	Thurs 4:00 – 5:30 pm
Writing	Thurs 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Option II

Testing	See Options Below
Writing	Fri 4:00 – 5:30 pm
Critical Reading	Fri 5:30 – 7:00 pm
Math	Fri 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Option III

Testing	See Options Below
Critical Reading	Sat 8:30 am–10:00 am
Writing	Sat 10:00 am–11:30 am
Math	Sat 11:30 am–1:00 pm

Option IV

Testing	See Options Below
Math	Sat 1:00 – 2:30 pm
Writing	Sat 2:30 – 4:00 pm
Critical Reading	Sat 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Testing Times

Tuesday	4:00 – 7:30 pm	Friday	4:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Wednesday	4:00 – 7:30 pm	Saturday	8:30 am – 12:00 pm
Thursday	4:00 – 7:30 pm	Saturday	1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

TUITION IS \$400 / 4 weeks

ALL CLASSES ARE ON-GOING AND NEW STUDENTS MAY ENROLL AT ANY TIME.


Junior High & High School Enrichment

Jr High Book Clubs			9 th /10 th Reading & Writing Enrichment		
Book Club 1	Tue & Thu	3:30 – 5:30pm	9 th Grade Class	Tue & Thu	3:30 – 5:30pm
Book Club 2	Tue & Thu	5:30 – 7:30pm	10 th Grade Class	Tue & Thu	5:30 – 7:30pm
Saturday Classes (5 th – 10 th Grades)			Math Enrichment		
7 th /8 th Book Club	Sat	9 am – 12 pm	Algebra II	Tue & Thu	3:30 – 5:30pm
9 th /10 th Reading/Writing	Sat	9 am – 12 pm	Geometry	Tue & Thu	5:30 – 7:30pm
7 th /8 th Book Club	Sat	1:00 – 4:00pm			
9 th /10 th Reading/Writing	Sat	1:00 – 4:00pm			

TUITION:

WEEKDAY BOOK CLUB \$300 / 4 weeks
SATURDAY CLASSES \$240 / 4 weeks

MATH ENRICHMENT: \$300 / 4 weeks
MATH + ENGLISH: \$500 / 4 weeks

 A \$50 NON-REFUNDABLE REGISTRATION FEE IS CHARGED FOR FIRST-TIME ENROLLMENT. ENROLLMENT IS ON A STRICT FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS.

Michael Vick: out of the pound, back to the NFL

■ *With his suspension served, Michael Vick joins the Philadelphia Eagles in Week Three. The real question is: was his punishment too harsh or did he get off easy?*

By DANIEL WOHL
Sports editor

Fast, strong, quick, wunderkind, exciting, revolutionary... and criminal? Michael Vick, the wildly entertaining quarterback from Virginia Tech, shocked the sports world in his dramatic fall from greatness when he was accused and ultimately convicted of dog-fighting, the practice of breeding dogs for fatal fighting. After a 23-month prison sentence, Vick was released earlier this summer, sparking the discussion and controversy about whether or not he could make a return to the NFL—or whether he should be allowed to return at all.

Vick arrived at Virginia Tech as a highly-touted recruit. Known as a dual-threat quarterback, he had equal prowess in throwing and running with the ball. As a red-shirt freshman, he led the nation in passer rating while earning a spot on the All-American team, one of the only freshmen in history to do so. Furthermore, in the same year, Vick carried his team to the BCS National Championship Game.

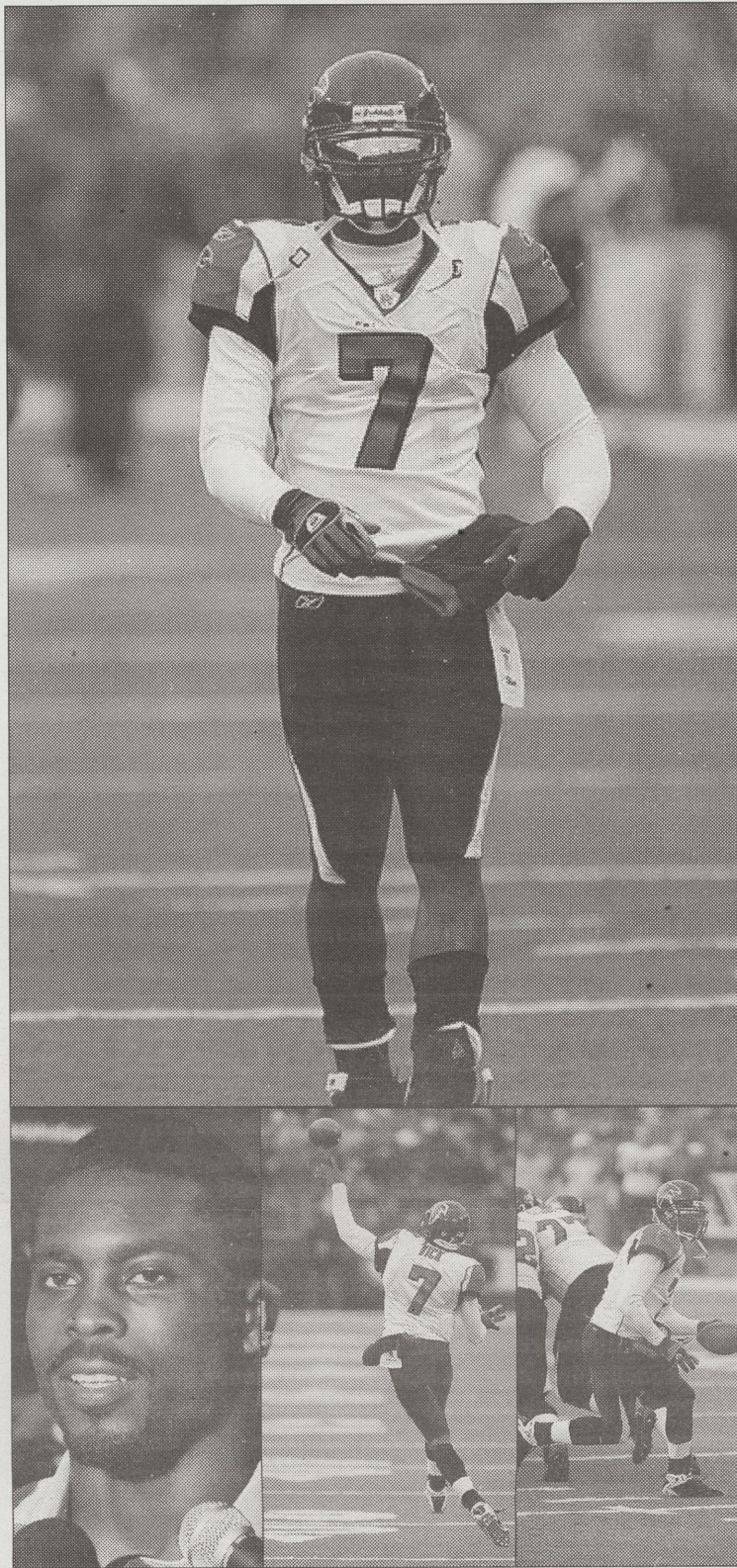
Declaring his draft eligibility after his sophomore season, the Atlanta Falcons selected Vick with the first overall pick. Vick became an immediate sensation. In his first six seasons, he made three Pro Bowls and had already run the third most yards in history by a quarterback. He revolutionized offense, as there had never been a player with the ability to gain yards in such a variety of ways. He had become a defensive coordinator's nightmare and one of the prominent faces of the

NFL.

Then, shock. One of Vick's homes had been raided and there was incriminating evidence that he had been running a dog-fighting organization known as Bad Newz Kennels. Vick denied the claims, but was found guilty and sentenced.

Upon his release, NFL gurus began to talk about his comeback. But the major question was if the NFL would permit his return. Recently, the NFL had appointed a new commissioner, Roger Goodell, to replace the retiring one, Paul Tagliabue. Goodell vowed to take a stronger stance on the players who had run afoul of the law, exhibiting his harsh punishment by suspending Vick indefinitely after his sentence. Now that Vick was free, the situation had become unclear. Ultimately, there seemed to be only two sides to the issue: let Vick play, or don't let him play.

Those in favor of Vick's



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Michael Vick, recently signed by the Philadelphia Eagles, has caused one of the biggest football controversies of the decade.

return argue that by restricting Vick from playing, the NFL would be handing out excessive punishment. In what many lawyers view as an uncommonly harsh sentence, not to mention losing two years in the prime of his career, Vick would now be the recipient of further punishment. That seems unfair; the man served his time and paid the price. He deserves to work, and to disallow him this opportunity would be denying Vick the right occupation. Also, Vick supporters argue that expelling Vick would be inconsistent with previous NFL policies. Leonard Little, a defensive end playing for the St. Louis Rams at the time, drove drunk and killed a man, yet he still made a return to the NFL. Finally, Vick has reformed and repented as his supporters claim. He has donated to the Humane Society, spoken to kids and paid for the care of the confiscated dogs. He is a changed man and deserves a second chance.

Those on the opposite side claim Vick is a monster. Torturing and killing animals for fun is savagery. His despicable acts can never be justified by change and he should still be in pris-

on. Vick opponents also argue the punishment does not end with the freedom. There is always a social penalty in addition to the legal one. Felons cannot waltz back into their previous jobs without the employer thinking twice. Lastly, many agree that the NFL is not any normal type of job. It is a spectacle in the public eye, where the star players serve as role models for children. The commissioner himself said that the NFL is a privilege, not a right. Letting a felon serve as one of these models is morally wrong.

All of this dissension and reasoning has fallen on the shoulders of Commissioner Goodell.

Each side has its reasons, but at the end of the day, one must remember that the NFL is a business. At the fundamental level, working for the NFL is these players' job, and these people are trying to make money. Thus, the publicity Vick has generated bolsters the fan base and viewership, and more viewers equals more money. In any business, the opportunity to make money is taken with open arms, and that is just what Goodell has done.

Goodell ingeniously navigated this storm with his final verdict: suspending Vick for the first two games of the preseason and the first two games of the regular season. Allowing Vick to participate in those last two preseason games gave the fans a preview of what is coming. Goodell used the preseason games as a director uses a trailer to attract viewers to a movie. However, by still choosing to suspend Vick for the first two games, the commissioner shows his position on Vick's actions. He is not letting Vick off clean. He has played to both sides of the argument by reaching a healthy medium. Now, when Vick takes the field, there will be more fans than ever—and that is profitable for everyone.

By the Numbers

24

The number of assists that Michelle Miller had against Temple City on September 15th. The Girls' Varsity Volleyball team beat Temple City in three sets.

15:14

Wesley DeVoll's winning time for the Cross Country team at the Bosco Tech meet. This was a personal best as the senior leader continues to lead a very talented squad of runners.

11.2

The yards senior leader Adam Burpee averaged per carry through the first three games. He has a total of 191 yards on just 17 carries, and 4 rushing touchdowns

62%

The percent of goals Henry Pray scored against Pasadena High School. Pray scored 8 goals in the teams' 13-9 victory over the Bulldogs.

the Panther Scoreboard

HOME	7019	GUESTS
55	H NEVER E	100

Football:
Poly vs. Sherman Indian
56-0 (Poly)

Boys Water Polo:
Poly vs. Cresenta Valley
11-9 (Cresenta Valley)

Girls Volleyball:
Poly vs. Chadwick
3-1 (Poly)

Girls Tennis:
Poly vs. Flintridge Prep
11-7 (Flintridge Prep)

Football:
Poly vs. Marshall
36-24 (Marshall)

Girls Volleyball:
Poly vs. Westridge
3-0 (Poly)