PASADENA MAYOR BOGAARD SELECTED FOR COMMENCEMENT

The senior class cabinet has secured Bill Bogaard, the mayor of Pasadena, as this year’s Upper School commencement speaker.

By ELLIE MALCHIONE

PASADENA Mayor Bill Bogaard has been selected to speak at this year’s Upper School Commencement ceremony on June 10.

Commencement speakers are traditionally chosen by the senior class cabinet in conjunction with Head of School Debbie Reed. This year’s senior cabinet tried to incorporate the opinions of senior class parents in their decision. The cabinet asked for parent suggestions at the “College Counseling Kick-Off” event in September, but received little feedback. Senior class president Molly Thornton admitted, “Although this meant that the process would be a little more difficult, it presented [the cabinet] with the opportunity to consider what we were looking for in a speaker.”

The cabinet members discussed what qualities they should look for and eventually “agreed that our ideal speaker would be someone who shares the commitment to community and service that we feel our class possesses,” Thornton described. “Additionally, we hoped to find someone who would be familiar with Pol and care as deeply about the school as we do.”

When Thornton met with Reed to talk about potential speakers, Bogaard emerged as the best pick to fill both conditions.

Bogaard was first elected as the mayor of Pasadena in 1999 and has since served three consecutive terms. He is the longest serving mayor in Pasadena history and has been widely popular throughout his term. The mayor’s “commitment to community and service” is manifested in the accomplishments of his term, which include “the arrival of the Gold Line light rail system with six stations in Pasadena; new housing construction; strengthening of cultural institutions; improvement of public schools; and enhancement of the City’s neighborhoods,” according to the city of Pasadena website. Bogaard is particularly recognized for his efforts in development and historic preservation.

The candidates for ASB President (from left) Aubrey Walker, Ed Ryan, Nicole Dezzatti and Olivia Russak pose together on Arden Lawn. Their candidate statements are published on page 10. All candidates will deliver their speeches on April 22; students will vote later that day.

ROGER IPSWITCH LEAVES TREMENDOUS LEGACY WITH RETIREMENT AFTER 40 YEARS IN UPPER SCHOOL

Roger Ipswitch, after 40 years of dedication to Pol, will retire at the end of this year. Ipswitch leaves a tremendous legacy as a consummate teacher, an educational visionary, a dedicated supporter of Poly athletics and an all-around genuine individual. While teaching 12 different courses over the course of his tenure, Ipswitch managed to spearhead efforts to create a Global Initiatives Program to invigorate history students by revamping course offerings and to incorporate Ipswich to Poly in 1969. At the time, the Upper School was only eight years old. Headmaster William Shoff was working to improve the quality of the education and transform Poly into a school of national repute. Shoff hired Ipswich at the age of 24 to teach history.

Early days and family

Ipswich, a fourth generation Californian, was born to a working class family in Ventura County. Upon graduating from high school he enrolled at the University of San Francisco; he was the first in his family to attend college. Seeing the Vietnam War unfold, Ipswich decided to transfer to Whittier College, a Quaker school. Attending a Quaker college allowed him to register as a conscientious objector and avoid the draft. Not knowing exactly what he wanted to do with his life, Ipswich accepted what he thought would be a one year job at Poly. “At the end of my first year, I thought to myself this is a great place...I could stay here for a long time,” Ipswich recalled with a chuckle. Indeed, he did stay a long time.

Ipswich’s job at Poly also introduced him to his future wife, Con- dace. Condace Ipswich, who was a member of the Upper School’s first graduating class, taught math at the same time as Ipswich. The two have been married for 39 years and share many of the same passions.

Involvement in student life

While Ipswich had never been an athlete, he always loved sports and offered to announce athletic events in lieu of coaching. Ipswich’s enthusiasm and dedication made him an instant favorite among students. According to Coach Brad Hall, who was a freshman at Poly the year Ipswich first joined the faculty, in Ipswich’s first years he was the “cool young teacher.” Hall continues, “Back then he ate lunch with his students, he took his ad- visors groups to the Athenaearm for dinner, he even invited students to his wedding.”

In the 1980’s, the faculty was ready to abandon the Rivalry Day tradition when Ipswich stepped in to support it. He single-handedly revived the event.

Roger Ipswich leaves tremendous legacy with retirement after 40 years in Upper School.

Roger Ipswich will retire at the end of this year after 40 years at Poly. His dedication to students and his reputation of sincerity and professionalism have struck those who have encountered him.

By JUSTIN WORLAND

Editor-in-chief

Sports

The varsity baseball team has dominated pre-league opposition in the first weeks of season play.

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Polytechnic School :: Pasadena, California

National Poetry Month celebrated in Upper School

In recognition of National Poetry Month, Latinos Unidos and Upper School students welcomed slam-poet Maya del Valle.

By ANNA WOHLEN

Assistant news editor

Since its initiation by the Academy of American Poets in 1996, National Poetry Month has been acknowledged annually by schools, libraries, publishers and organizations across the nation. The event aims to increase the accessibility of poetry and celebrate its role in American culture.

To celebrate Poetry Month, the Academy of American Poets offers a wide range of events, poetry readings and access to resources to increase awareness of poetry’s influence in America.

On a smaller scale, Poly also makes an effort to encourage appreciation of the art of poetry.

Upper School English teacher and head of the Writing Center Grace Hampton runs the Poetry Month at Poly. Hampton, who teaches a poetry elective course, commented, “Many people feel like they don’t understand poetry, that it’s too difficult or not accessible. Poetry does not have to be some esoteric, distant thing—it is a form of expression that can transform us.”

As a way of celebrating National Poetry Month, the Latinos Unidos club and the ASB cabinet welcomed Maya del Valle, a poet and actress with a unique talent, as a guest performer in early April. Del Valle, who is Puerto Rican, was born in Chicago and later attended Williams College. She broke into the poetry scene in 2001, when she became the youngest and first Latina poet to win the Individual National Poetry Slam Championship. Since her major accomplishment, del Valle has been featured in four seasons of the HBO series “Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry” and has performed at colleges and universities across the country. In addition, del Valle showcased her work at the 2004 New York City’s Third Annual Downtown Urban Theater Festival, winning an Audience Favorite Award. In 2008, President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama invited del Valle to perform at the White House. The Latinos Unidos President Zoe Muñoz, along with other Poly students and faculty, first met del Valle

See IPSWITCH, page 12

See POETRY, page 8

See BOGAARD, page 2

The Opinion

Section reviews
Tina Fey and
Steve Carell in
"Date Night.

Check out the
candidate statements for this year’s ASB elections.

See full coverage of Roger Ipswich’s
football career including student and faculty contributions.

ASB

Ipswich
Musical preparations approach finish-line

Students prepare for the opening night of the spring musical, “How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.”

By JANE DAVIDSON
Staff writer

The Performing Arts Department has spent this semester exploring the 1960s business world in preparation for the spring musical “How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.”

Shawshay), love interest Rosemary Pilkington (Elora Casados/ Paulina Pinsky), and Rosemary’s best friend Snitty (Jane Davidson/Olivia Crawford). The company president, J.P. Biggley (Alex Ostroff/Will Thompson) runs the building with the help of his secretary, Ms. Jones (Allison Falzetta/Olivia Russak) and juggles his work with his affair with popular new secretary Hayley LaRue (Zoe Muñoz/Caroline Lisi).

AsB revises Upper School Constitution

The ASB has changed the long-standing Constitution to a more relevant and appropriate “Student Body Compact.”

By CAROLINE NUTT
Staff writer

The Polytechnic student body has, over the years, become a diverse group of students with multifaceted talents and abilities. The school offers an opportunity for an incredible education, and thus, the students leave the school well rounded and ready to step out into the world on their own. An interesting aspect to the community at Poly, however, is the student government, which is run very similarly to the typical American democratic system. This year’s ASB has taken the term “constitution” and turned it into a more compact “compact.”

The term “constitution” seemed to mimic the United States constitution too closely in an almost absurd way, in that it implied that the students had too many rights, while in reality, the school’s administration held the power in.”

According to the ASB treasurer, Aiden Heschburg, the ASB decided to change the title of the constitution to the Student Body Compact in order to ensure that students respect the position of the Administration and do not attempt to challenge the Administration’s authority in any way.

Bogard

Continued from page 1 preservation.

In addition to his community service work, as mentioned, Bogard also serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Pasadena Educational Foundation and of the Pasadena YMCA. In 1997 the City of Pasadena honored him with the Arthur Noble Award for his civic contributions.

As a Poly grandparent of Elisabeth Bogard ’20, Bogard has developed a close understanding and appreciation for the school, which he will share in his commencement speech.

The diverse background that extends beyond his political work, Bogard will be able to speak as an authority on a broad range of topics and appeal to a multitude of senior class interests.

In the Air: A visit to a real-life Silicon Valley

The Air: A visit to a real-life Silicon Valley

Carlos Ochoa, Business Manager for Intel’s sales development group visits upper school students.

In September, 17 upper school students participated in a trip to Intel’s campus in Santa Clara, CA, to meet with Carlos Ochoa, Business Manager for Intel’s sales development group.

Ochoa addressed the students on the importance of marketing and how it impacts the business side of a company. He shared some of the experiences he has had over the years in the tech business and the companies he has worked for. He also talked about the daily responsibilities of a Business Manager and what it takes to be successful in the tech industry.

As a Poly alumnus, Ochoa shared some personal stories about his time at Poly and the impact it had on his career. He encouraged the students to be open-minded and flexible in their careers and to always be willing to learn and adapt.

Ochoa also talked about the importance of education and the role of Poly in preparing students for success. He shared some personal anecdotes about the students he worked with and how they excelled in their careers.

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**Memoirs: my term in office**

By SURJAN SINGH

ASB President

Now that I’m practically out of here, I can honestly say that being on the ASB was like a soap opera, if soap operas were mundane meetings where stuff got done. How was that for a hook? Anyway, the ASB has been a really fun and worthwhile experience.

Before running for president, I had no experience in student government and, during my term, was surprised to find that student leadership at Poly is a very independent endeavor. By independent, I mean to say that there is no teacher standing over you, telling you that you should probably get started on this or do that. The ASB can do as much or as little as it feels like doing, and one of the responsibilities of the president is to set the tone for the year.

This past year, our group set some lofty goals for ourselves and it looks as though we will complete everything that we set out to do; we have rewritten the constitution (although it is still being polished), hosted two dances and put on a successful Rivalry Week/year. There is definitely still room for improvement, and I hope that future ASB cabinets will continue to do more rather than less.

I’ll admit that there was some tension within the ASB. There were some people who contributed immense amounts of time and one or two who devoted almost none. This led to some frustration, but, despite this, we pulled it all together. I would have hoped that because everyone had run for office (knowing that they would be serving the entire school), they would have known that they wouldn’t be able to get away with not showing up for anything.

The more committed members of the ASB had a blast though. We were always coming up with crazy ideas and testing them out, sometimes by making short films. It was a great group of people to work with, and each one of the epic eight-hour filming sessions for the two-minute videos always had memorable moments.

Probably the biggest misconception about the ASB is that we are always at war with the administration and that we somehow use the constitution as a shield against the evil creature known as “Neilson” who attempts to infringe on helpless students’ rights. In reality, Dr. Neilson and I worked extremely well together, and, although naturally there were some differences in opinions, I never felt as though I was trying to wrest any privileges for students from him.

In addition, the constitution was never intended to provide rights to students, because after all, schools are not democracies. Student leaders can bring up concerns and, as far as I can tell, the administration does a great job in trying to address them.

You’re still slogging through this article? I feel like I should give you a reward. How about I talk about the judiciary committee? People tend to get excited about that. Sorry to be a buzz kill, but the judiciary committee is a lot more boring than most people think. When I went to my first meeting, I half expected Wesley to whip out a powdered wig and a long, black robe, but I was sorely disappointed.

When we see students, they have already admitted to whatever they have done, so we’re not trying to force the truth out of them or anything like that. The proceedings are solely to decide an appropriate consequence to a student’s action. You might be wondering why the student is there then. Basically, the student is there to ensure that the correct version of the story is being told and to answer any clarifying questions that the committee might have. The committee then talks it over and discusses any extenuating circumstances or precedents. The proceedings are explained in detail in the new constitution, so that there will be no mystery in the future about what happens in that room. If only someone would read the darn thing…

For anyone thinking of running for ASB, a few pieces of advice. Firstly, running for ASB is absolutely not worth it if you are doing it merely for college purposes. I was able to put up with the boring and monotonous parts of my job because I actually enjoyed what I was doing.

Someone who is on the ASB just for the transcript would not stay an extra hour on the field to make sure that all of the little water balloon fragments were picked up. They certainly would not put up with all of the complaints and the largely thankless nature of the job. I ran because I thought that I could improve the school and make school more fun than it had been for my first three years.

Secondly, you really don’t have to be a “leadership type” to be on the ASB. As I mentioned before, I had no experience with student government prior to the ASB. All you need is the belief that you could make Poly better and the will to make that come true. I know I haven’t been the perfect president. Back in September, my public speaking skills were the worst anyone has ever seen in a long time. Now, you can all hear but you just choose to tune me out. In all seriousness, this office has changed me as a person, and I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president.

**The 2009-2010 ASB cabinet poses at the Junior Dance.**

I would like to see more experience in the incoming ASB. I think that it should enter the school year with a plan of how it is going to operate and what it wants to accomplish. - Yusef Burpee ’12

Next year’s ASB should focus on improving communication between the faculty and students and organizing Morning Meeting so that it runs efficiently. - Alysa Paul ’13

I hope that next year’s ASB has a variety of assemblies that range from dancers to poets. Also, it would good if it kept the student body more aware of what’s going on. - Sara Flanagan ’11

**Rivalry Year**

What do you think next year’s ASB needs to improve on the most?

Role as liaison between students & administration

52% of students don’t understand the ASB Constitution

**ASB Survey**

How satisfied are you with this year’s ASB?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Ambivalent</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In which area do you think this year’s ASB has done a good job?

- Sterling Hedges ’10

ASB next year should improve the overall quality of dances. It could hire professional DJs and come up with creative themes that are cooler to dress up for.

**The Panther’s Lair**

What do you hope to see in next year’s ASB?

Compiled by Regina Zmudzinias and Alison Sonnenchein

About 50-75 members of the ASB surveyed. The numbers above are percentages of total respondents.

- Alysa Paul ’13

Next year’s ASB should improve the overall quality of dances. It could hire professional DJs and come up with creative themes that are cooler to dress up for.

- Sterling Hedges ’10
Great personalities equals ugly faces

By MADISON SCHEDEL
Senior staff writer

There are pressing matters at hand. Do you remember when Hilary Duff was dating Aaron Carter? And when Lindsay Lohan tried to steal him from her?

That actually has nothing to do with what we’ll be discussing today, but I just thought that I’d bring that to your attention. Like, I said, pressing matters.

Another couple I’d like to bring to your attention: Megan Fox and Brian Austin Green. The former, the hottest lack of sex bomb in America, and the latter, a male. This is a prime example of what is scientifically known as “selective blindness” or, as I refer to it, the “He-Has-A-Great-Personality” syndrome.

It is quickly becoming more and more contagious. However, it has not yet reached the critical danger of pink eye, which can practically spread by the sick glancing at others.

Everyone’s thinking it, everyone’s saying it — it could do so much better. Unless of course both parties are inflexed with selective blindness and then there isn’t it, the blind making out with the blind.

However, for scientific purposes (I am a highly scientific person, note the lack of Physics (or my ex-scientific), we shall eliminate unnecessary variables and say that only the female party is inflected. This leaves the male with the ability to see clearly, to see her high cheekbones, her fabulous set of curves, her “great personality.” We’ve all watched the MTV show “Is she really out with him?” and sung Joe Jackson’s hit song into our shower heads—or maybe that’s just me. But the answer to the question is yes, she really is going out with him.

So now that we know that they are, in fact, going out, going steady, doing the hip-hop-dippy, if you will, the question that arises is, “Why?”. I’ve conducted a bit of research around town and have interviewed several couples. I will allow you to see the transcripts of what was shared with one. A disclaimer before we begin: All photos have been removed. It is up to you, the reader, to decide whether his personality is truly “great”.

JACOB, 17 AND EMMA, 16
DATING SINCE: MARCH 23, 2010
Jacob is a young man who looks like what would happen if someone crossed a panda and a carrot Top had a child. There’s actually a frequent extra on That’s So Raven that looks quite like him. Emma, on the other hand, is a tall, healthy, bruntette who looks like she belongs in a Garnier commercial.

Madison: So how did you two meet?
Jacob: I had actually dated about five of her friends and closer relatives, so we’re kind of known each other for a while.

M: Yes. Right. Tell me a little bit about yourself, Jacob, what your dream is, your hopes, goals you seek to achieve.
J: I just want to enjoy being a teenager, do teenage things, you know? Like have a party with those plastic cups, go to school in my pajamas, play in a battle of the bands on a rooftop, I guess.
I saw that in a movie.
M: Did you just say “loll”?
J: Anyway, I just want to have some sort of real fun doing something I love, you know?
M: Which is…
J: You know, bonfires on the beach, pretending to be artistic –
M: Please stop talking.
M: [At this point, I turn to Emma since I can no longer stand the sight of Jacob’s face.]
M: So obviously, he’s obnoxious. Why are you still with this guy?
Emma: He makes me happy. A lot. All the time. I mean, he’s so funny, right?
M: Yeah, I guess. If you enjoy bang- ing your head on the TV while Disney Channel’s playing a Hannah Montana marathon.
I swear, that’s what talking to this guy is like.
E: I’ve never done that so-
M: No, of course you haven’t. That was a joke.
E: Oh… it didn’t really make sense.
M: Yeah, none of my articles do. Sorry I’m not as funny as this guy.
([I motion to Jacob, who is now wrinkling his oversized plaid shirt flannel.])
J: Does this look like just bought it or like I’ve had it for years and have never shown it to anyone because I ex- erct effort to be secretive thus making me appear effortlessly indie and endearing-ly charming?"

Claws to women that don’t exist.
- Francesca Jimenez

Paws and Claws to things that don’t exist for not existing.
- Francesca Jimenez

Paws to the senior class for being so well behaved at the class bonfire.
- Molly Thornton

Claws to the junior boys for dressing up and being so annoying.
- Jack Porter

Paws to the ASB for the best dance theme in a long time.
- Javier Cienfuegos

Paws to the senior class for being so well behaved at the class bonfire.
- Molly Thornton

Paws to off-campus privileges for ju- niors.
- Brian Holman

Claws to Graham Nesbit’s mustache.
- Henry Pray

Paws to Thanksgiving.
- Nick Grover

Claws to Graham Nesbit’s inevitable return.
- Eddie Ryan

Paws to Facebook in English ( Pirate).
- Oliva Russak

Reflections of a past editor-in-chief

By JEANNETTE PARK
Editor-in-chief emeritus

Working on The Paw Print definitely had an impact on me both profession- ally and personally. My brother (Bry- ant Park, Class of 1995) was Editor-in- Chief before me, and it inspired me to pursue writing for the paper when I was a Sophomore. I never thought I would actually end up running the paper with my co-EIC Alex Gray, and what a team we made. I was the more whip cracker, but no one could compare to Alex’s wit and design talents. It really taught me lessons on how to lead a team, be a stickler for grammar and it gave me the confidence to write for my college papers year later and. As seeing and as I ended up getting my masters in jour- nalism, I guess you could say it inspired my career as well.

But most importantly, it was the fi- duciation from our faculty advisor, Roger Ipswich, that helped me through the year at The Paw Print. Teachers like that don’t come around very often, and Mr. Ipswich would be there every Sat- urday before a deadline helping us line edit and coaching us to make the calls we needed to make. It was his dedication and interest in our success that made us produce such solid features and editorials. He pushed us to think outside our limits as 17 and 18 year olds, and I thank him for so many lessons I still use today.

Some general memories I had from my time on The Paw Print: our little dingy computer room that barely had enough desk space for us to lay out our issues. I remember having to work around all the students wanting to use the computers, but we doggedly got the job done. More impor- tantly, we were a mixed bag of students who didn’t necessarily hang out on the day-to-day, but when we got together to work on the paper, we had a great time laughing into the late hours about silly things (and perhaps from serious de- lirium).

But probably the most memorable issue I have was when one of our first few issues had to be sent to the printers by a certain time. We were pretty much set, but as things go we ended up rewriting, new edits and some computer failures. Our deadline of 6pm turned into 9pm, which then got pushed to 11pm. The next thing I remember is that it was close to 2am and we still didn’t have the final proofs ready. But with the help of our parents, Mr. Ipswich and all the staff, I remember driving to the printers was into the night to make sure we had the proofs copied ready to hand out the next day.

The details might be fuzzy now, but I still remember how proud I was to get to school the next morning and see our completed work. It was moments like that made all the effort worth it.
In my final editorial, rather than questioning another practice at Poly or pointing out some obvious flaws, I instead asked for different advice. What advice would I give incoming freshmen? Upon further reflection, I came up with a dozen pieces of advice to Poly students (and Poly parents) alike. Some of the ideas are accurate, some are inane, and others are probably just wrong.

1. Take art classes even if you aren’t particularly interested or don’t need them.

There is a reason that art classes are placed in the middle of the day: they break up the academic day. It is extremely helpful to exercise a different part of the brain. Arts and Labs periods are great, and giving one up for an art I understand can be difficult. But not thinking about the brain is not so different from doing something completely different can do a world of good.

2. Do not want to park “illegally” (“I mean legally by Poly’s definition), don’t have a vanity plate.

My illegal parking life expectancy was drastically shortened because my car has a very noticeable vanity plate: WSLCARD (“I’m a St. Louis Cardinals fan”). As a result, I was quickly apprehended and my days of illegal parking were over. It turns out that you can only do as much as I did, so I didn’t have lunch today either. Mom (somewhow it’s not my fault that I didn’t have lunch that day).

3. If I want some sort of stay.

“By team” I don’t just mean sports. Rather, do activities that involve working with other people, be it plays or Poly or sports. They are generally more fun, and doing something to be on a team is invaluable, and a group accomplishment can often be more rewarding than an individual one.

4. Play hard, but work harder.

I can’t overstress the importance of hard work. To achieve success in any endeavor, be it academics or basketball, you have to put in the requisite time and effort.

6. Take risks.

Some risks pay off and others don’t, but I will never know until you try. For instance, my freshman year I had the crazy idea to play soccer. I hadn’t played since I was nine, but I think the entire season I played a grand total of 25 minutes. I was pretty awful. In fact, the only game I started was in the only game you had who had hurled a ball as hard as he could as the coach practiced the practice. The other player replaced me five minutes later, and I saw no action for the rest of the game. Despite the failure in that sense, I did get into the best shape I’ve ever been in. I could walk up stairs without having to stop to catch my breath.

7. The Fullerton Bathroom is by far the nastiest; avoid it.

I really don’t understand this one, and I don’t know if it’s for the girls. It has nothing to do with the maintenance crew (who, by the way, is Poly’s offensive line: they don’t get a lot of recognition, but without them the school wouldn’t function). For some reason I don’t understand, it’s always just nasty in there. Personally, I am a fan of the Garland one. If you are into natural lighting, go to the pretzels’ bathroom (in the dorm, it’s right off the end of the dorm, floor 2). It’s really nice. It’s also more calm.

8. Nothing is worse than a speech that tries to be funny but isn’t.

They start off badly and just get worse. Everyone tries to disguise and turn funny into the mental image of a speech. If you’re not sure whether or not your speech is funny, air on the side of genuine. You can’t go wrong if you do.

9. If you found a school, don’t name a major hall after a euchre and/or Nazi sympathizer.

This one may be a tough one to wrap your head around.

10. Don’t be an idiot on Facebook.

On Facebook, people can see your every move, every nasty comment and every picture where you are exercising your soon-to-be 21 amendment rights. Don’t think that people won’t see; they will. This is part of a larger lesson; if you have an urge to do something questionable, don’t write it down. Leaving a paper trail is never a good idea.

11. You want to leave high school with no regrets.

If there is something that you have always wanted to try, high school is the time to try it. The stakes are relatively low, and the community (for the most part) is very supportive. Poly offers a lot of opportunities; take most of them.

12. Get to know your teachers.

When I have a free period, many times I will plop myself down in a teacher’s office and just chat. Teachers are here because they want to be and want to help. Seek them out, ask them questions and get to know them. It will make your Upper School experience that much more rewarding.
LIFE
APRIL 15, 2010

ASB Dance: too good to be true?

The ASB “Things That Don’t Exist” dance on April 9 in McMillian Court was a unique and creative spring event. After leaking a fake theme, “Your Favorite ASB Member,” the ASB revealed the real theme in a video which they showed in morning meeting. Although the video, which involved the Scooby Doo theme song and the members of the ASB chasing a ghost confused students at first, the ASB resolved students’ questions when they an- nounced that the theme would be “Things That Don’t Exist,” which meant that the students could dress up as any imaginary characters.

Cameron Henneberg, the ASB Treasurer, elaborates, “We had a total blast filming, as we always do. The video was a little hurried, but as you can probably tell, given that it didn’t make perfect sense, but Wesley, Surjan, Michelle, and I had a blast searching ‘Things That Don’t Exist’ on YouTube to scrounge up some ideas. A lot of our videos contain ASB inside jokes, so I think in that general we enjoy them signifi- cantly more than the general public does.”

The ASB wanted to create a theme that would be easy to dress for and would give students a lot of freedom with their costumes. According to Henneberg, “Our first dance had a relatively directed theme - everything under the sea - and students were only given a few days to think of a costume due to scheduling constraints.”

Henneberg comments, “We de- cided to do the opposite for this one: provide a very open-ended theme with lots of really funny possi- bilities, and give people a couple weeks to ponder over their cos- tumes.” The theme also gave the ASB liberties with their selection of decorations.

The interesting theme started a spurt of creativity in the student body as the students were excited about potential costume ideas. Se- nior Molly Thornton expressed her satisfaction with the concept, stat- ing, “I loved the theme. I thought it provided students with an opportu- nity to be as creative as they wanted to be. Additionally, outfits didn’t require too much planning and ap- peared to be made up of clothing kids already had in their closets.”

Sophomore Carlin Burns, who dressed up as a fairy, explained how she put together her outfit, “I used a lot of things that I already owned for my costume. I wore a tutu that I found in my attic with my old dress on top and a pair of wings from my mom’s kindergarten class.”

With a smile on his face, Hen- neberg described his favorite cos- tumes that he saw, “I loved Car- line’s ‘A Prosperous Economy’ and Regina’s ‘Sorcerers’ License’ costumes. I also loved the Oompa Loompas, though I still contend they exist!”

Many students also enjoyed having the dance in McWilliams courtyard, although the open na- ture of our campus did create more work for the chaperons. According to Thornton, “It made me realize how truly beautiful our campus is. I especially loved the lighting. I felt bad for the teachers who were forced to guard the entrances to the courtyard. It was clear they missed socializing with students and walk- ing around the dance floor.”

Students also appreciated some new additions that this dance had to offer. Junior Zibby Boyer ex- plained, “I thought it was really cool that we could take pictures at the dance, because we usually only have photographers at formal. For the first time, we got to be cool, and we’re awesome, and I know everyone en- joyed the music.”

All in all, the members of the ASB were pleased with the out- come of the dance. “I think it was a total success. Most people were dancing, as far as I could tell, which is a great indicator of the DJ’s skill and the overall atmosphere,” Hen- neberg comments.

The ASB had put a considerable about of effort into planning this second dance. According to Hen- neberg, “People had been buzzing around the idea of a second ASB dance for quite a while. Our main reasons for putting it on were to pro- vide one last non-formal, costume dance for everyone, and to give the undergrad class another one event to participate in before prom.”

The ASB also largely collabor- ated with faculty in order to ensure that the dance would work out suc- cessfully. “Our main job is to serve the students,” explains Ed Ryan, Vice President of the ASB. “As a result of our hard work and fund- raising, the administration okayed a second ASB dance. ASB dances are cheaper and more laid back than formals. However, the second ASB dance did not fall into our laps. It was a product of a lot of hard work and discussion with school offi- cials. We would like to thank all the faculty members who came to chaperon and help clean up. We could not have done it without their help.”

This dance gave students the op- portunity to relax and enjoy them- selves during a busy part of the school year, and it is one of the biggest achievements of the 2009- 2010 ASB.

Artistic of the Issue: Alice Readick

Alice Readick, a talented writer and a junior at Poly, has consis- tently demonstrated a mastery of writing skills in her English classes. She has gained considerable recogni- tion from the English Department who has observed her progress since she was a freshman. Readick began writing serious pieces when she was a sophomore in Grace Hamilton’s creative writing class. She plans to help Hamilton as a teacher assistant next fall as a se- nior after “actively” writing in both sophomore creative writing classes.

“As a TA with Ms. Hamilton next year I hope that I can help at least one person figure out how they are different from the Almighty Analytical Essay,” Readick states. However, this may not be a simple task since “you can’t teach people how to write. You can give them grammar and a list of vocabulary words and a big list of literary de- vices but this isn’t what writing is about,” Readick explains.

Hamilton also looks forward to working with Readick next year and was greatly impressed by her rapid improvement and fantastic skill in this endeavor. When asked to describe her as a writer, Hamil- ton notes, “Alice is one of the most extraordinary writers I have taught in 20+ years of teaching. While- she is crafting a poem, creating a nonfiction piece or writing a short story, Alice has an uncanny (I say uncanny because she is such a young writer with such a mature ear/talent) ability to craft an image or describe an experience with just the right--and moving--language.”

Readick’s skill in writing truly stood out when she read her graphic yet perspicuous piece about her in- teres- thship that involved the practice of mutilating lab rats in the entire Upper School during an as- sem- bly. However, her skill in writing did not stop there; Readick’s short story, “And They Were Never My Hands,” was a finalist for the Eliza- beth Bishop Prize in fiction last year. This particular piece of writ- ing introduced Readick to a new writing style, as she took a very graphic approach to a fairly strik- ing story about a boy’s preoccupa- tion with his grandmother’s death.

From this experience, Readick learned that “making her audience uncomfortable is a really important part of writing.”

After almost winning a signifi- cant writer’s award, Readick was invited to a student advisee com- mittee by Dana Goodyear, a full- time writer for the famous The New Yorker. Readick plans to work with her peers at Poly, Teo Rive- ra-Dundas, Margaret Borchez as well as other student writers from the LA area with Dana Goodyear on a new website for young writ- ers. Not only will they help write on her website, but Readick will also give suggestions and advise Goodyear during the project. How- ever, Readick could only reach this prestigious position by encounter- ing conflicts and frustration while writing. “Writing continues to be something I struggle with pretty much every time I sit down. I get frustrated all the time... Getting the nar- row is part of writing, I think,” she clarifies. Even after throwing away countless amounts of pieces and constantly banting with her- self, Readick consistently creates remarkable pieces by learning from her mistakes. Nevertheless, role models such as Vladimir Nabakov, one of Readick’s favorite short story writers, Gabriel Garcia Mar- quez and Isabel Allende inspired her to create beautiful, spiritual and magical language in her writing. Readick’s fearless style of writing makes her an outstanding writer, as taking risks and new approaches to different styles of writing conveys her ability to try out new concepts and methods while also “giving color and abstraction to things that are so very numerical and earthly,” she explains.

Although Readick does not know if she will pursue this career of writ- ing as a full-time job, she does plan to write regularly throughout her life since “writing does not have to be a career to be important.” From writing short stories to crafting po- ems and nonfiction pieces, Readick continues to amaze the Poly com- munity with her astonishing writ- ing skills and cannot wait to work with prominent, professional writ- ers such as Dana Goodyear, and she looks forward to assisting Hamilton in her creative writing class next year.

Ryan Hison

A group of juniors pose for a picture in senior Evan Robinson’s “Photobooth.”

Evans Robinson/The Paw Print
Eddie Ryan on the British in American reality television

As red-blooded Americans we love our TV, the warmth of its flicker is second only to a mother’s embrace. As children, some of us may have been chided for watching too much TV. Being told what to do isn’t always fun, especially when we are told to do so by the same person or group of people again and again. Similar to overbearing parents in the real world, there exists a similar state of entity in TV Land: the British. First the Brits invaded our nation in the 18th century, our music scene in the 20th and now reality TV in the 21st. Before I go into what may be considered by some as a xenophobic rant, let me add that I love our allies on the other side of the pond just as much as the next guy.

Let’s consider some today’s most popular TV shows: “Americana Idol,” “Nanny 911” and “Jamie Oliver’s Food Revolution.” What do all these three top shows have in common? Overbearing British people telling Americans in “dire need of assistance” what to do. Sure Simon Cowell has some music experience and Jamie Oliver knows a thing or two about cooking-diverse and talented nation we are more than capable of producing our own reality shows judges. Still, Reid, one of the main nannies from “Nanny 911” has lived in America for almost half of her life. However, the show has been axed.

Analogously, Jamie Oliver, the man who is supposed to fix our eating habits, is on the PETA watch list for slaughtering a lamb on TV to “scare” meat eaters into becoming vegetarian. Furthermore, he believes the government should buy back farms to save small farming and is criticized by fellow Englishmen as having a “mockney” (mock cockney) accent. Not only is this gay decadent and cruel, but fellow British people are also disillusioned with his defrauding of the American television audience.

Simon Cowell? A one-time viewer, with only a shred of rationality, can realize the shock value of statements such as “This is a dairy farmer dressed as a woman” and “You’re useless and I’m bored” show no constructive criticism.

Why must we constantly look to the British for advice? I believe that the plethora of British judges in reality TV shows is not some mere coincidence. Rather, it is some sick realization by television producers that a British accent, patronizing behavior and snide, witty comments bring ratings.

This must end. We as a people are by no means perfect and can use outside help at times. Using British people because they excite some natural authority may foil some of us, but not this American.

Eddie Ryan

Community service spotlight: Sophomore Class Cabin

The sophomore class this year has been actively focusing on the community and trying to make a difference. While helping students fulfill their community service requirement is always a bonus, the class officers believe that Poly students have an obligation to help others in need. Sophomore class advisor, Mr. Enzo, states in his entire Enzo Notes, “This year our entire cabinet has really emphasized fundraising for causes other than raising money for a dance at the end of our junior year.”

The class cabinet, especially the Community Service Representative, Isabel Sunshine, has provided a myriad of opportunities for students to help the community. For instance, slides in morning meetings informed students of events such as the Wiggle-Waggle Walk, held by the Pasadena Humane Society to raise awareness and also the Homeless Pet Project and the Homeless Dog and the Wine Home designed to bring attention to the plight of the homeless in the greater Los Angeles area.

In the wake of the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the class immediately collected money for help. The cabinet also conducted a bake sale during lunch. In addition, Sunshine advertised to students to donate cupcakes to help the injured victims of the earthquake. Since the beginning of this school year, the Sophomore class has been implementing “Challenge 59,” a program that encourages sophomores to donate one dollar each month, which is donated to a pre-selected charity. This year, donations are going to the Children and are also being used to sponsor a child in an orphanage in India. The Children is a charitable organization which, for 59 dollars, donates two goats to a family living in poverty. This type of donation is often more valuable than cash, since it is an investment that can be of use for their entire life. The money sent to the orphanage in India paid for the school tuition and care for a girl in the eighth grade who has a keen interest in continuing her studies and would otherwise have been unable to do so. Sophomore Victoria Morgan says of the Challenge 59 program: “I think it’s a great way of reaching out to the community and making a difference. Everyone has some spare change lying around, especially at Poly. One dollar a month might be a small amount, but when everyone gets together, it can really make a difference.”

The cabinet emphasizes that all of their efforts, whether bringing classes together while benefiting others at the same time. It’s a win-win situation for everyone involved.”

Luna Vadlamani

Who am I? I am Jordan. SHARK ATTACK!! ((((((. Do you may be wondering why I’m running for Vice President. Well, it all began in Biology class when I was forced to watch a woman give birth. As the child emerged from the Virginia, I thought to myself, “Being Vice President would be SICK!”

Now I know what you’re thinking. You’re thinking, “Wow! What is wrong with this kid? Virginia’s a state?” Now you’re thinking, “How did he read my mind?” Well, I’m telepathic, psychic, telepathic and a genius. I can also fly. Now, why would you vote for me? (4) You can stop a goats heart with my mind!! As Joe Esposito once told me, “You’re the best! Around! Nothing’s ever gonna keep you down!” I then assumed the Crane Kick stance and delivered a blow to Johnny’s chin, thus winning the karate tournament. FAT MEN UNITED! Vote Jordan for VP.

As reported in The Paw Print’s April 1 edition, the sophomore class’s financial condition remains strong and steady under my leadership as class president with assets totaling $377.8 million. Yeah right. But seriously, it truly has been an honor and a pleasure to lead this class this school year, and I will say that we are pretty good at making decisions.

As a lifer at Poly, being involved in my community has always been important. I have served in the past as an elected official and have been involved in numerous school activities and organizations. I like to believe that the continued support of my peers indicates their confidence in my ability to serve. As your current ASB Vice President, acting upon the duties of my peers, making myself available to listen to students’ concerns, thoughts and ideas.

And now, answering the simple question: “Who is Mackenzie Lee?” My appearance won’t help you; although I am small in stature, I have always been big on ideas. Perhaps my two hobbies, soccer and dance, will best answer the question, showing you that I am a team player, I am flexible, I am a hard worker and I like to have fun. Alas, of all of you present, Justin Bieber is the only one that can speak of much of my talents. “I know you know me, I shout whenever, and I’ll be there” followed by a series of obscenities ohhh, nooo’s, and baby’s baby’s that we can just ignore (no offense to all you hardcore Bieberst’s out there.)

Keeping this in mind, I am running for ASB Vice President and ask for your support and support.

Robert Owen, Junior

also promise to take new risks for the ASB. I served on ASB this year, and I know what’s worked and what hasn’t. I, elect me. I know my knowledge and experience to help me work our work this year. I have a great view of these different groups in the school want. I won’t be afraid to speak for you, no matter who you are.
Filmaker's Evening

Upper School students enjoyed an evening seminar and film screening with prominent director John Lee Hancock.

BY RYAN KIDMAN
Staff writer

The Alumni Association hosted its annual Filmmaker's Eve-
ning on March 12. In the event, acclaimed director John Lee Han-cock spoke about his experiences as director of an Academy Award winning film and showed one of his favorite films, The Verdict.

Hancock, a Polya parent of two fourth graders, has been in the entertainment business for two decades, with a career that began with directing Hard Time Romance in 1991. He has since directed The Rookie, The Alamo and, most recently, The Blind Side, for which he also wrote the screenplay.

Hancock shared his experi-
ence writing and directing The Blind Side, which he described as "amazing." The Blind Side has been his most successful work thus far, receivingnumer-
ous Academy Award nominations and leading to Sandra Bullock's award for best actress.

The evening continued with a screening of The Verdict, a film directed by Sidney Lumet. Lumet is Hancock's favorite di-
rector whom he has tried to emu-
late throughout his career. Just before starting the film, Hancock, who has seen The Verdict over twenty times, stated the he was jealous of those members of the audience who had never seen the film before because "[he] could never see it for the first time again.

The Verdict is a story of personal redemption that follows an alcoholic attorney, played by Paul Newman, who takes an ambitious medical malpractice case initially motivated by the possibility of winning large sums of money through a settlement. As the film unfolds, Newman has a change of heart and takes the case to trial, with hopes of finally do-
going some good as a lawyer.

After the screening, Hancock discussed The Verdict and took questions from the audience. Hancock observed that "a film like this couldn't be made today" due to its slow yet gripping pace, because people today want raw and fast pacing.

Hancock also offered unique insights into the acting, dialogue and cinematography from his perspective as a veteran director and writer. The evening was par-
ticularly enlightening for the film history students, providing the opportunity to connect classroom material to its real world applica-
tion.

Poetry
Continued from page 1

saw del Valle perform at the Student Diversity Conference in New Orleans during the winter of 2008. Munoz recalled, "We were so blown away by her talent and power as a performer that we knew she could really be an effective guest speaker." Munoz contacted del Valle in the fall of 2009, and she agreed to do an assembly at Polye. The morning of the assembly, del Valle met for breakfast with the members of Latinos Unidos, including Polye faculty members Jose Melgoza and Cindy Montoya. At breakfast, del Valle discussed her career and asked about the role of students of color at a school like Polye.

During the assembly, del Valle's cultural experiences, passion and values intertwined in a powerful message, which she delivered with incredible energy and rhythm. In between, spectacular poems about her

culture, faith and family members, del Valle relaxed the atmosphere with casual stories and questions. In addition, del Valle offered advice, reminding both students and faculty members of the limitless possibilities in life. "I hope the students took away an understanding that poetry is not just a genre to be studied in a classroom," Hamilton noted. "It is a very powerful and real way of communicating. I think Maya del Valle showed us that." To further Polye’s involvement in National Poetry Month, Hamilton plans on having different faculty members read poems during Morning Meeting throughout this month. Also, Hamilton has organized a student poetry contest in which students are encouraged to write in one or all of the four themes and submit their entries for a panel of faculty members to judge. Hamilton remarked, "I know students are very busy, but I would love to see a student turn out for the poetry contest!"

Latinas poet Maya del Valle entertained students with her contemporary poetry style. Del Valle has performed her one woman show on HBO and at the White House in recent years.

Beam ceremony marks completion of parking garage construction

Moryl Construction Company, the general contractor responsible for the major construction projects on Polye’s North Campus, held a beam-signing ceremony and tour on March 30 for a large group as a celebration of the work completed to date.

Representatives from Moryl, HMC Architects, the Board of Trustees and Poly’s administration signed a steel I-beam, which was then hoisted in place by a crane on top of the elevator shaft structure, the tallest portion of the project.

Following the brief ceremony, Moryl’s Project Manager Carlos Orozco and Project Superintendent Randy Hauser led a tour of the underground parking structure, which comprises two stories and is nearing completion.

Above-ground work was also highlighted, including the two parking lots that have been moved into place and the stem walls of the new Munger-Booth building which serve as home for administrative offices as well as lower and middle school classrooms.

The entire North Campus project is on schedule to be completed in time for the opening of school in September 2011.

Competition draws to a close for debate team

Poly’s debate team wrapped up an accomplished season that featured top finishes from many young and experienced debaters.

By SARAH PATTISON
News editor

The Upper School debate team concluded a successful year this March. The team competes in approximately fifteen tournaments annually. While most tournaments take place in California, individual debaters have traveled to other locations such as Alabama, Nevada and Missouri to partake in higher-
level competitions.

The final invitational tournament of the year took place at Santa Clara University in late March. Most debaters finished the tournament with winning records. Due to an unfortunate tabulation error, however, some members of the team were not able to advance through the elimination rounds.

When asked about the success of the team in tournament competition throughout the year, junior Chris Nguyen commented, “We’ve had great results all year, and the people who keep going to tournaments have gotten a lot better since the beginning of the year.”

Poly’s debate team participates in three different styles of debate: Lincoln-Douglas, Policy and Parliamentary. Said Nguyen, “Policy is a two versus two debate team that is very fast-paced and heavily evidenced based.” Since the Policy debate topic remains chosen based on which side upholds its value best. The topics for Lincoln-Douglas change every two to three months, and the majority of all debates compete in this style. This is the pilot season for Polye’s Parliamentary team. A two versus two debate style similar to Policy, Parliamentary or “Parli” resembles the debate style used in middle school competitions. Competitors receive their topic twenty minutes before the debate begins and have to construct their argument in that timeframe.

The Poly Parliamentary team is primarily composed of underclassmen, but hopes to include more students in higher grades as the program progresses.

Junior Jane Davidson, a three-
year member of the debate team, said, “Our parliamentary program got off to a great start as our teams consistently placed well at league and invitational tournaments.”

Student debaters feel that participating in the debate program helps them in many ways outside of competition. Students benefit from public speaking skills, knowledge of current events, and writing.

If you enjoy history and English classes, you can apply a lot of what you learn in those classes to your debate rounds.” She added, “It’s also fun to travel to tournaments with the rest of the team!”

Nguyen also advocated participation in the debate program, claiming, “I think that the topics are relevant to modern society and can open your eyes to what is really going on in the world. [Debate] is really fun, and you can learn so much more about the world you live in.”

Overall, the team is happy with its performances this year, and looks forward to successful seasons in upcoming years. Davidson said, “We lost some of our top debaters last year so the junior debaters stepped up to a leadership role. This year was successful, but with only two graduating seniors on the team, next year should be even better.”

A group of debaters prepares for an upcoming round of debate at a recent tournament.
Hi, I’m Sam and I’m running for the position of ASB Treasurer. I think I’m qualified for this job because I have excellent communications skills. I can take a long time right away from my position as well as the ASB as a whole. Hard work is something I’m not afraid of. I’m ready to do anything to make next year’s ASB a really great ASB. I would also like to help make the ASB a liaison between the students and the Administration. I’m a team player and I know that I could work well with anyone elected to the 2010-2011 ASB.

Nikita Kitaev, Junior

The job of treasurer is much more than counting dollar bills. It involves knowing how to run fundraisers and spend money efficiently. But the job also demands a knowledge of mathematics. When working on group projects, I always remind people if we veer off track. And, above all, I am willing to dedicate my time to all aspects of the ASB, be it financial or otherwise. I would be greatly honored if you elected me, Nikita Kitaev, as your ASB Treasurer.

Isabel Sunshine, Sophomore

As the wise Paris Hilton once said, “Every woman should have four pets in her life. A mink in her closet, a jaguar in her garage, a tiger in her bed, and a jackass who pays for everything.” As ASB Treasurer, I can be that jackass. For in my years at Poly, I’ve learned that possibly the most important job of the ASB is to pay for everything.” The ASB funds clubs, buys schoolwide lunches and advice, pays for decorations at dances and sponsors activities such as rivalry week. To keep this river of golden honey flowing, the school needs a talented and dedicated treasurer, which I can be. If elected, I will ensure that money is distributed evenly and fairly to ensure that creativity and fun will never be stifled by lack of FUNdS. (I’m on Paw Print. We love bad puns.) I also work baseball. Therefore, by definition, I’m awesome, super cool, devastatingly handsome and not cocky at all. So vote for me, and I’ll be your Holmdog Millionaire.

Jane Davidson, Junior

The position of Chief Justice is a unique one because of its duality. On the one hand there is the opportunity to help the rest of the ASB cabinet make the school year full of fun and exciting activities. On the other hand, there is the responsibility and weight that comes with being a member of the Judiciary Committee. I feel that I am the best candidate for this position because of my ability to meet the demands of both these aspects of the job. Being a valuable member of the ASB cabinet as a whole requires creativity, teamwork and a good deal of thick skinnedness. Contrary to popular belief, Ms. Williams does not pass her time coming up with rivalry year events or ASB dance themes. And this year, the ASB has done an admirable job of organizing activities, competitions and community service events for the rest of the student body to participate in. The Judiciary Committee, of which both Blake and I have been members for two years, carries with it a more serious tone, however. The Chief Justice presides over the cases that come before the committee, deliberates with the committee after cases are heard and announces the final results of these cases to the greater community. Chief Justices should be thoughtful, trustworthy and fair. Although it is not an easy task, it is one that provides learning opportunities for everyone involved.

I firmly believe that I am in possession of the types of traits that would allow me to thrive and contribute valuably in both of the facets of this job. It would be an honor to be able to help the Poly community in this manner, and I would really appreciate your vote.

Blake Edwards, Junior

Every Morning Meeting features at least one announcement and/or slide about a new community outreach opportunity, yet many students still have trouble finishing their hours. We have many service clubs that provide amazing opportunities, but many times only the members of each club actually participate. As ASB community outreach rep, I would feature a club every two weeks around the time they are working on a big project. As President of Green Dream, I know how much work goes into organizing these events, and, as a Poly student, I know how supportive the community can be. By combining the hard work of our service clubs with the manpower and skills of our school, participation in club events will increase, students will earn hours quicker and Poly will make a greater impact on the community. In addition to fostering support of Poly’s service clubs, I would provide access to long-term volunteer opportunities for interested students. Throughout my high school years, I have done hundreds of hours of volunteer work at Pasadena Humane Society, Mother’s Club, Huntington Hospital, Ronald McDonald House and Hillslides. These experiences, as well as my leadership in my NCL class, have helped me build relationships with these organizations, and I would help Poly volunteers get more information about these opportunities. A vote for me is a vote for easier access to outreach opportunities and stronger service clubs.

Blake Edwards, Junior

My name is Isabel Sunshine, and I am running for the position ASB Community Service Representative. For the last two years, I have been community service representative for my class, which I definitely believe that I am qualified to do. As next year’s ASB Community Service Representative, I love helping make our community and our world a better place and community service truly makes me happy. My goal as a Community Service Representative has always been to help the rest of the student body at Poly to enjoy obtaining the required community service hours. I hope to make community service fun and enjoyable by offering opportunities both at school and outside of school. I think Michelle Tanner did an excellent job as the ASB representative this year, and I want to continue the traditions of donating Yoplait lids for cancer research, making cards for the Holocaust Memorial Museum, and visiting senior citizens. This year I am going to hand out envelopes to everybody, giving them the opportunity to help those in need.

Isabel Sunshine, Sophomore

Every Morning Meeting features at least one announcement and/or slide about a new community outreach opportunity, yet many students still have trouble finishing their hours. We have many service clubs that provide amazing opportunities, but many times only the members of each club actually participate. As ASB community outreach rep, I would feature a club every two weeks around the time they are working on a big project. As President of Green Dream, I know how much work goes into organizing these events, and, as a Poly student, I know how supportive the community can be. By combining the hard work of our service clubs with the manpower and skills of our school, participation in club events will increase, students will earn hours quicker and Poly will make a greater impact on the community. In addition to fostering support of Poly’s service clubs, I would provide access to long-term volunteer opportunities for interested students. Throughout my high school years, I have done hundreds of hours of volunteer work at Pasadena Humane Society, Mother’s Club, Huntington Hospital, Ronald McDonald House and Hillslides. These experiences, as well as my leadership in my NCL class, have helped me build relationships with these organizations, and I would help Poly volunteers get more information about these opportunities. A vote for me is a vote for easier access to outreach opportunities and stronger service clubs.

Isabel Sunshine, Sophomore

Chief Justice
After having attended Poly for almost two years I have found a sense of belonging to the community. As soon as I stepped on campus for my first day of school here, I was greeted by warm and enthusiastic students and faculty who made me feel at home. This is one of the reasons why I love Poly and why I want to be the ASB President for the 2010-2011 school year. I want to continue Poly’s tradition of being an open-minded and welcoming place and help make this school even more enjoyable for the students. I believe that for all of the hard work that Poly students do inside the classroom, they should be rewarded for their efforts outside of the classroom - the help of the ASB. I want to make Poly a more spirited and united environment where students work together to support each other in athletic events, performances, community service projects and other social events. I am committed to getting involved throughout the year in the Poly community and hope to be able to make a difference in the Poly community.

Along with my enthusiasm for making Poly a more spirited community, I also have many qualifications that will be useful if I am elected as your president. I’ve held numerous leadership positions in which I have been Student Body President of grades K-8 at Holy Family School, was elected class president at Westbridge before I came to Poly and currently serve as the junior class president. I’ve held many other offices including the 2009-2010 Junior Dance where we raised approximately $8,000. I am accustomed to speaking in front of large groups of people due to my leadership roles and from my performance experience as a dancer. I am very active in the Poly community through my involvement in leadership, the Spirit Squad, Peer Mentors, Poly Ambassadors and Advanced Dance. The school you will most likely see me making a fool of myself on the junior patio or you will hear my loud, distinctive laugh, which comes to show that I am very down-to-earth and approachable. If I am elected as your president, I can assure you that I will reach out to students of all grades and will always be open to your thoughts and opinions.

If you want to find out more about my ideas to make the 2010-2011 school year the most spirited and memorable year yet, be sure to listen to my speech on April 22 and to vote for Nicole Dezuttzi for your ASB president!!

Nicole Dezuttzi, Junior

We can all admit to having problems with Poly, those little things that drive us crazy each day. We all have that little something that makes us a little bit more stressed, a little more annoyed and a little bit more confused. And that’s valid. For a student body as a whole to want to change their community is not only commendable, but achievable. But when was the last time that one of your complaints was answered by someone? Can you think of a time you had a problem with a teacher and a fellow student was able to solve that problem without going to an adult? Now, I do understand that there are some aspects of Poly life that are beyond the realm of student control. But that doesn’t mean students should lose their voices. That doesn’t mean the ASB becomes a means of entertainment, not a source of advice.

To make it right that from a student’s point of view, this year’s ASB has planned some amazing events. From different assemblies, to multiple successful ASB dances, to the first Rivalry Year culminating in a great Rivalry Week, the ASB of 2009-2010 has been hard at work. And it would be tough to top us up to, but I already have ideas for dance themes, rivalry events, and the list goes on and on. But what if that wasn’t all the ASB was? I want to change something next year. I’m not saying that planning events is an unimportant aspect of the ASB’s work, because clearly this year it has made the year a little bit more fun all around. I want next year to be the year of student involvement. I want to make us a little more critical of the community around us, but never pejorative. I want to be someone who anyone feels comfortable approaching, regardless of the issue they face.

Take the test and paper calendar. All too often, we find a teacher using a cheap loophole for a test or assignment to be due. Of course teachers aren’t trying to sabotage the students, but one of my goals as ASB president would be to develop a candid dialogue with the faculty so that a mutual respect between students and teachers can be established. I will speak up. I know how to work well with groups, I can approach others with civility and respect, and most importantly, I know when I am wrong. I think if the ASB takes a more proactive role in not only making the year fun in terms of events, but also in terms of truly giving students the role that they deserve by demanding respect from teachers and peers, we can have an amazing year. And I think I am more than qualified to establish that.

Eddie Ryan, Junior

My cohort and I have been asked to cobble together 450 words describing our candidacy and why you, a voter, should cast your vote for one of us. However, I could not hope to earn your vote with words alone. You deserve more. A quick look back at my time here at Poly is enough to confirm why I am the most qualified for the job. From a run in with the Judiciary Committee to constructive meetings with the heads of school, I have experienced and gained wisdom from many situations. As ASB Vice President I played a critical role in organizing assemblies and ASB events, including visits from a hypnotist, a poet and readings from our own Poly writers. At the same time I also made sure that each Friday before a break was a short assembly so that we could quickly begin our vacation.

A year on the ASB has allowed me to learn the nuances and intricacies of Poly’s student government. I am distinguished from the field of my qualified opponents in that I will be able to utilize my experience gained from my time on ASB to hit the ground running, wasting no time while in the service of our student body. However, my experience on the ASB does not mean that an Ed Ryan Presidency would be business as usual. I will work to bring a new level of student-administration relations. Currently, the Senior Class President, ASB President and the Chief Justice meet with the Chair of the Upper School and other key faculty members to discuss matters involving the student body. As an approachable person, I would listen to all questions and concerns that students bring to me and in turn bring them to such aforementioned meetings. A debriefing could be given at the Morning Meeting following such a get-together, much like the Judiciary Committee does, in order to keep the student body aware of current happenings and so that our concerns are openly and definitively addressed by the administration.

My presidency will be imbued with distinctive creativity. The slip and slide relay race is just one of many examples of Ed Ryan creativ- ity hard at work. My ideas are fun, but more importantly realistic. Ask any current member of the ASB and he or she would tell you that I am always among the first to volunteer my time and effort for any job. My willingness to contribute hours, power through late night meetings and be wholeheartedly involved in all other tasks the ASB took on has yielded unprecedented results such as Rivalry Year (an Ed Ryan creation) and a second ASB dance. Most importantly, I love everyone here. Freshman or senior, you have always had a friend in me. I am approachable and listen to your thoughts. An Ed Ryan Presidency will be Your Presidency.

Livie Russak, Junior

STOP IT! ATTENTION! This is not just another ASB presidential statement! Well... it is. But I, Aubry Walker, am different than others. I am running because in hallways, patios and classrooms, I have thought of and have heard ideas that I will be able to imple- ment, building upon the successes of our current ASB. Needless to say, holding the office of ASB President is a HUGE time commit- ment, but I want to ensure you that I am completely dedicated to the position, and would be honored to be elected.

Who is Aubry Walker? Why is he writing about himself in third person? Is he crazy? The short answer is no. But as for the first question, you may have seen me around campus: whether that be on the junior patio, at school dances jekirin’ (a style of dance), in the library studying, in the Facebook assembly commenting on the particular attractiveness of girl named “Caroline,” on the Garland stage eating thespians, at football games supporting our panthers or “on” the basketball court “playing” basketball. All jokes aside, my involvement in the Poly community serves as an indicator of my character, personality and individuality.

As my competency, I’ll try not to bore you with your qualifications because at Polytechnic, WE ARE ALL LEADERS! We are the elite whose accomplishments make us the most sought after in the nation. For those of you skeptical or unaware of my ac- complishments in particular, I will state that I have been ASB President of the RSU, worked almost every Saturday at the local barber shop, have attended the National Student Diversity Leadership Conference and am an active Life Scout in my Boy Scout troop. I have experienced the difficulties and have completed hard work contingent with being a leader and believe I am qualified for the position of ASB President.

I recognize our collective potential as an exceptional student body and the possibility for what we can work together. That is why as ASB president I will keep you, the student (but especially voter), informed of the ASB’s happenings with monthly updates and also set up a suggestion box in Ms. Williams’ office. I will READ and LISTEN to your ideas and will be able to facilitate con- versation with the administration. There is more to be realized and one of my biggest concerns is to improve the social atmosphere at school. If you want to know more or just talk with me, don’t hesitate to approach or contact me. You should have no trouble finding me.

Lots of people can talk the walk, but only one can walk the walk. Vote AUBRY WALKER for ASB President ‘10-‘11.

Aubry Walker, Junior
The situation with food at Poly

By SASHA BASSI and MONICA BOUYEA
Life editors

As Michelle Obama’s campaign against obesity leads people to reassess the food served at schools across the nation, the Poly community expresses its views on the food available on campus. High school students responded to a survey outlining the various food options on campus in order to provide insight into how the eating arrangements at Poly could be modified to better suit the needs of the community. Director of Student Activities Laurianne Williams plans to meet with the food committee to reflect on the findings of the survey and implement some of the comments and suggestions of the students.

54% of students would buy lunch at school more often if a greater variety of lunch options were available

How much money do students spend per week?
$25 or more-24%
$15-25-30%
$5-15-29%
$0-5-17%

What do you usually do for lunch each school day?

Don’t eat lunch 2%
Lunch truck 32%
From home 40%
Off-campus 6%
Fresh Gourmet 20%

How often do you purchase from the vending machine?

Never 15%
Everyday 14%
In frequently 38%
2-3 times/week 35%

85% of students purchase food from clubs
IPSWITCH

THE PAW PRINT
APRIL 15, 2010

Roger Ipswitch
By the Numbers

Years working at Poly:
40

Courses taught:
12

Sports announced:
3

Years announcing football:
5

Films:


Dawn Cobb, Bernice Easo, Dorothy Flint, Harry Rubart, Mary A. Schneible, Howie Farber

Ipswitch's continued from page 1

edly kept the tradition going for several years before eventually handing the reins over to the ASB cabinet. According to Assistant Head of School Greg Feldmuth, Ipswitch conducted Rivalry Day as he conducted everything else with which he was involved: fairly and conscientiously. His field trips and class projects were also indicative: “I don’t want to lose the noblest

Professor Ipswitch for the program to the board, Ipswitch explained how the program would differ from those of school such as Phil-

lips Academy, the alma mater of George W. Bush. Poly’s curricu-

lum would reflect the “commu-


nity around us” rather than teach students about foreign cultures with an air of superiority. Adding a light-hearted touch, Ipswich joked about Bush’s view of the world and hoped that the program would do a better job of educating students.

Ipswitch on Poly

This anecdote about the board presentation is just one of many stories that Ipswitch is ready to share. Given the length of his ten-

ure, it is no surprise that Ipswitch

know him well, Ipswitch leaves a tremendous legacy and schools that cannot easily be filled. Asked about the Ipswich impact on the Poly community, Hall was at a loss for words. “I don’t think people will understand [what we’re missing] until he’s not around here anymore,” Hall said. While struck by Ipswich’s contributions, Reed is equally in awe of his character: “He respects every human being and every ex-

change. He exemplifies the quali-

ty of leadership, leadership and sportsmanship.”

Always a modest gentleman, Ipswich responded to the ques-

Ipswitch has already left an credible imprint on the school and Poly is infinitely better for it.

Ipswitch’s favorite sports moments

Forty years of watching Poly sports has undoubtedly given Roger Ipswitch a number of memories. Below are some of his favorites.

• Traveling to Oakland to watch boys basketball team compete in State Finals.

• Watching girls soccer team win four consecutive CIF championships.

• Seeing senior Kevin Waite score a touchdown after picking off a pass at Webb. Waite was a defensive player who had never scored a touchdown.

• Watching Mark Takel, the number nine hitter, hit a homerun at La Canada to win the game.

• Seeing sophomore Johnny Harewood score the winning basket with an offensive putback against Flintridge Prep his sophomore year. The Rebels were heavily favored.

The faculty and administration on ROGER IPSWITCH

“He respects every human being and every ex-

change. He exemplifies the qualities of scholarship, leadership and sportsmanship.”

- Debbie Reed, Head of School

“I don’t think people will understand [what we’re missing] until he’s not around here anymore”

- Brad Hall, Basketball coach and former student

“Roger is a teacher who loves what he does and the community in which he works... He is passionate and centered.”

- Grace Hamilton, teacher and former Upper School Director

Cultural courses came into ex-

istence after Ipswitch took geog-

raphy courses at UCLA during a sabbatical. At the time such courses were unheard of at the high school level. Now, schools are eager to expose their students to such topics.

Global Initiatives Program

Perhaps Ipswitch’s greatest achievement with regard to vi-

sionary programs was his design and provision of the Global Initiatives Program. Ipswitch was first charged with creating such a program when the Board of Trust-

ees took an interest in global edu-

cation. As a world traveler with a keen academic interest in the world, he found, Ipswitch took the job enthusiastically. He trav-

eled the country looking at other schools’ programs. The final product, however, was tailored to Poly and differed significantly

from the other programs. Today, the Global Initiatives Program of-

fers students the chance to work towards a certificate of comple-

tion by taking a required number of “global” courses, traveling out of the country, attending cultural events sponsored by Poly, com-

pleting a service requirement, and completing a final project. The program, Ipswitch believes,

is important.

Watching girls soccer team win four consecutive CIF championships.

Years announcing CIF championships.

Years announcing Poly football.

Years announcing Poly basketball.

Years announcing Poly water polo.

Years announcing Poly’s polo program.

Years announcing Poly’s basketball program.

Years announcing Poly’s water polo program.

Years announcing Poly’s softball program.

Years announcing Poly’s soccer program.

Years announcing Poly’s tennis program.

Years announcing Poly’s wrestling program.

Years announcing Poly’s track and field program.

Years announcing Poly’s volleyball program.

Years announcing Poly’s softball program.

Years announcing Poly’s soccer program.

Years announcing Poly’s tennis program.

Years announcing Poly’s wrestling program.

Years announcing Poly’s track and field program.

Years announcing Poly’s volleyball program.

Years announcing Poly’s softball program.

Years announcing Poly’s soccer program.

Years announcing Poly’s tennis program.

Years announcing Poly’s wrestling program.

Years announcing Poly’s track and field program.

Years announcing Poly’s volleyball program.

Years announcing Poly’s softball program.

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Years announcing Poly’s volleyball program.

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Years announcing Poly’s track and field program.

Years announcing Poly’s volleyball program.

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Years announcing Poly’s track and field program.

Years announcing Poly’s volleyball program.

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Years announcing Poly’s soccer program.
Matt Morrish on Roger Ipswich

Senior Matt Morrish has attended Poly since sixth grade. He has often said how much he loves Poly and is a three-sport varsity athlete.

As I approached the end of my senior year – and the end of my time here at Poly – I am reminded every so often to look back and think about what I have enjoyed about my time at this wonderful school. I’ve loved my classes, my schoolmates, my teachers – sometimes even the homework. But what I have loved the most throughout my seven years here (and it was only magnified during my time in the Upper School) has been the community. Poly is a great place, but the best part about it is that everyone wants to share it and be a part of it. Not single person better embodies this Poly philosophy than Roger Ipswich.

I first met Mr. Ipswich when he taught my World Cultures: Pacific Rim class just after the semester break of my freshman year. I was worn out; I had just been bombarded with my English final and never wanted to think about school again. Mr. Ipswich, however, was a breath of fresh air. He had the knowledge and experience of an educated, tenured professor, the genuine interest and love of a go-get-’em twentysomething teacher and the cool demeanor and biting sense of humor of a teacher who has been in the game for some time. I remember starting the year with an itch to teach the decibel level needed to stifle eighteen immature ninth graders. In so many of my other freshman classes I was kept on the edge of my seat by the clock more so than the subject at hand; Mr. Ipswich would not let that be true.

But unlike the stereotypical lecture-based teachers, Mr. Ipswich did not end the teacher-student relationship after the bell rang. From my freshman year onwards, I never passed Mr. Ipswich in the halls or on the patio without a “hi” or “hey.” We have had conversations about the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, a favorite baseball team that we share. I have talked to him about where he grew up, at a high school not far from the one I had attended.

We’ve talked about Global Initiatives, a passion of his, and Poly Ambassadors and Admissions, yours. His passion mine. It would be so easy for a teacher to let the bond formed in just one semester of just one student’s freshman year slip away, but Mr. Ipswich is not that kind of man. When Mr. Ipswich starts something he has learned, he commits to it to the fullest. Take the aforementioned Global Initiatives Program, for instance. Mr. Ipswich had the motivating factor in bringing more global awareness, trips abroad and community service opportunities to Poly.

Yet he didn’t simply throw a kickoff fundraiser and then line up a few events to visit at Caltech. No, the Global Initiatives Program is now a major player on campus, from event evenings to after-school recycling to Beijing or Mexico City spring break trips. And Mr. Ipswich provides a friendly face to represent the whole program. Though I have so many memories of different experiences with Mr. Ipswich (sometimes quick and quirky chats, other times long and serious discussions), one of my favorites has to be his announcing of the sports games. Putting on my football pads, or stepping into goal for my senior game or digging my feet into the batter’s box are all special and eventual moments, especially as I wind down my final senior season. But when Mr. Ipswich announces my name right before kickoff, or before the start of the second half or just before the big pitch, it takes it to a whole new level. I am reminded of all the Poly students who have been in my place before me, and all that they added to our Poly community.

I am reminded of how many years, for so many people, have passed since sixth grade, and how the friendships formed then have sustained through thick and thin. So as I approach the end of my time here at Poly, I wish you the best of luck in whatever endeavor you choose to conquer next, and I am certain that you will go it at the same determination, kindness and respect that you displayed through all of your time here at Poly.

Ipswitch

April 15, 2010

Matt Morrish

THE PAW PRINT

Matt Morrish on Roger Ipswich

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Students visit Mexico City on GIP trip

The Global Initiatives Program sponsored Poly's first trip to Mexico City, one of many recently added travel options.

By LILLIAN MECUM and SARAH PATTERSON Staff writer and news editor

A group of eleven Upper School students led by Ann Diederich and José Melgoza traveled to Mexico City for a six-day language and cultural immersion experience. The group departed from Poly on the morning of March 19 and spent spring break traveling throughout the city, visiting historical museums and sites, and staying with Mexican host families.

The trip was perhaps the most controversial school sponsored trip in recent years. The debate stemmed from the fact that the trip took place in the midst of a cancer fueled violence that is arguably the worst Mexico has ever seen. Although the conflict occurred primarily in the border states and the trip was to the capital, which is near the center of the country, constant news updates regarding the drug issues fueled the fears of many parents and administrators.

As a result, Melgoza and Diederich advised all of the students to take precautions in what they brought and in their behavior when walking around the city.

After arriving in the city, students traveled to El Gran Hotel Ciudad de Mexico, the hotel which houses one of only two Tiffany glass ceilings in the world. After a refreshing night of sleep, students attended to the American School Foundation in Mexico City to meet their host students.

Later, the group visited famous sights such as the Catedral Metropolitano (the largest cathedral in the Western Hemisphere), and El Palacio de Bellas Artes, a theatre and fine arts museum, which houses many of Diego Rivera's murals.

In the following days, students also visited the ruins of El Templo Mayor (a prominent Aztec temple), Chapultepec Park, the Pyramid of the Sun at Teotihuacan, the Museum of Anthropology and even watched a soccer match between the home of their host families.

During the final days of the trip, the students traveled to Coyocacan where they visited the homes of Frida Kahlo and Leon Trotsky.

They also visited Xochimilco where they enjoyed a colorful boat ride on the remaining section of the salt lake upon which Mexico City was built. The students returned to Poly on March 27, thus completing their weeklong stay in Mexico.

Although this was the first Global Initiatives trip to Mexico City, it proved to be a well-organized and successful adventure. When asked how the trip might improve in the future, Diederich replied, “I probably would change the order of the activities, since we were slowed down by the altitude for the first few days.” She added, “I just can’t wait for next year to be over! I just can’t wait to go back!”

Sophomore Hayden Betts echoed Diederich’s desire for more time this time, saying, “I don’t see how much everybody could do there and the long days and the heat gave me a generally greater sense of urgency.”

When asked about their favorite parts of the trip, most students highlighted their participation in the home stays. The group also enjoyed getting to know each other. “We had people from all grades, interests, and sports groups, and this really brought the group of 11 together. Every day was so different, everyday had a highlight,” Diederich said.

For those interested in participating in a Global Initiative Program international trip next year, proposals for potential destinations are still being accepted until mid-April.

School in Niger fully operational after Poly gift

MESAA, an ecology and service club at Poly, chose to raise money to support a nomadic tribe in Niger as its first project after the club’s founding in 2006. Then senior and editor-in-chief of The Paw Print Leslie Brian suggested that MESA assist the Tuareg tribe after working in Niger with her mother through the Nomad Foundation International. That first year Poly sent goats and a donkey to replenish their drought-ravaged herds. Poly also supported a boy and girl by paying for their education—books, fees and tuition (one goat). The class of 2007 thought a fitting gift to the school would be to build a school in Niger. The group, with help from the ASB and MESA, raised $7000, which built the Doli School. Today, the Doli School is fully operational. This year, MESA will sponsor three children and send soccer equipment to the school.
Badminton battles tough competition in Division I

BY CONNOR MCKNIGHT

As the Pre League season begins to come to a close, the Panthers look towards playoffs with high hopes. They have outscored their Pre League opponents 47-3 and continue to look like a CIF favorite.

By SAHIL SHAH

Student contributor

The Poly boys varsity badminton team has recently faced Rio Hondo, Chadbald and La Puente, and triumped in all three games. In fact, the team has had to stop the last four games early due to the “curfew rule,” which takes effect when a team is winning by ten runs or more after five innings. The team currently leads all and league records have risen to 8-2 and 3-0, respectively.

To jumpstart their bid for a 16th consecutive league championship, the Panthers easily conquered three of the four Pre League competitors: Webb (12-0), Rio Hondo Prep (11-1) and Palos Verdes (2-2). The one challenger yet to come is Flintridge Prep, who is also 3-0 in league and looks to be Poly’s toughest league competitor.

The Panthers started the season with a momentous win over San Marino, which required coming back from a 4-2 deficit to win 7-4. The victory demonstrated the team’s overall potential and ability to win close games not just in league but also against the tougher opposition the team will face in CIF.

After the win over San Marino, the team continued to winning ways, edging past El Monte, La Cañada, and La Puente. The game against La Cañada, the final contest before spring break, once again exemplified the boys’ talent and capacity to outmatch schools with a much larger enrollment than Poly.

As soon as Spring Break ended, the team picked up right where it left off, winning a league game versus Rio Hondo to continue their previous two-win streak. The Panthers extended the streak by routing Chadbald and La Puente.

The success of the Poly baseball team starts with its pitching. Junior Jordan Kutzler pitched exceptionally against Rio Hondo and La Puente, allowing a combined total of only three runs. In addition, junior Matt Saeta had a strong pitching performance against Chadbald as he only let up only two runs. Their efforts were bolstered by great hitting. Saeta, Kutzer, junior Hunter Merrymen and senior Charlie Baxter have lead the team in average, but in reality the whole lineup has begun to rally and must have seen their averages skyrocket in recent games.

As the season progresses and inches nearer and nearer to the CIF playoffs, the team is confident about its sport and expectations for the playoffs. Currently, the Poly boys varsity baseball team holds a commendable fourth ranking out of the 71 teams competing in Division VI.

Sixteen spots behind Poly in the division is the closest competitor in the Pre League, Flintridge Prep. Although Poly is favored to win league in the 2010 season, CIF is a whole new ball game and the team must strengthen its pros and weed out all of its weaknesses.

The Poly baseball team, however, is set on a winning path as they have a very strong team this year. It is composed of three sophomores, six juniors and four seniors.

Hitting leaders on the team include Merrymen, who has the highest batting average of .567, and Jordan Kutzer, who holds the top spot for both on base percentage and slugging percentage at .611 and .813 respectively.

For pitching, the team has a miscellane team ERA of 1.98 and has held opponents to a .234 batting average.

In the upcoming weeks, the team will play several important games. They face Flintridge Prep on April 16 and Chadwick again on April 20. After playing Chadwick, the Panthers will have completed six out of a total of twelve league matches for the season. By that time, the team will have a good idea of whether the season will be another league success.
Softball swings past opponents with a 2-1 Prep League record

Despite lack of participation, the senior-laden team maintains a 2-1 record and looks to qualify for playoffs.

By JULIA BROWN
Assistant sports editor

After a disappointing loss against Mayfield, the girls varsity softball team rebounded with an impressive 13-2 victory over Chadbuck.

In their first game back from spring break, the Panthers faced off against num-

ber-one-ranked league opponent, Mayfield. The team committed numerous defensive errors and was plagued by an offensive drought, losing by a final score of 2-0. The Panthers failed to perform offensively and were unable to produce hits off of the Mayfield pitcher, causing the team to be shut out by the Cubs in a game played only four innings, otherwise “could have won.”

Thankfully, the team learned from its errors, beating non-league opponent Campbell Hall the following Tuesday in a powerful offensive display with a score of 10-1. Although the team had an impressive offensive game, it also played well defensively under the direction of Heathers Chi and Stephanie Terceiro put together a near perfect game, the team has been successful both on and off the field. Along with their success early in league, the Pan-

thers received the honor of the CIF academic team championship. In

schools with less than 1,500 people in the Southern Section of CIF, the Panthers had the highest cumulative GPA of 3.80. During the 2009-2010 school year, 1,451 teams entered. Along with a banner that will be on display in the Girls Gym, the team will attend an Angels game on April 27 and will receive its award in a pregame ceremony in front of a large crowd.

This team will join the other girls’ teams to have received the academic team championship. Of the honor, Latta says, “We are so excited that all our hard work academi-

cally has paid off. It’s nice to be as both a good athletic team and a group of hard working students.”

Since post-

ning a 2-1 record in league, the team has high hopes for the rest of the season. Dunham comments, “We hope to continue to dominate our league. Every win prepares us for our rematch with Mayfield and for postseason play. We’re ready to show Mayfield, and others, that we have the leader-

ship vision, that we’re a different team than the team they saw previously.”

While the Panthers lost to Vil-

lage Christian in the first round of the CIF playoffs last year, the Panthers have reason to believe that they will surpass the play of last year’s team. A new addition to the coaching staff, Santee Vallejo, may have something to do with the team’s success. Dunham notes that since her arrival “practices have been different. We now con-
motion more and are pushed harder in our practices, I’ve learned to afford great skill from all three years over var-

sity starter, team MVP and two-

year captain, Latta plays shortstop and bats cleanup for the varsity squad. Fellow senior Hannah Dun-

ham says of Latta: “Megan is a strong hitter and defensive play put us a step ahead of the competition. She consistently puts runs on the board and supports our teammates.” With such strong senior leadership, the
ters finished with a score of 212, more than enough to beat Milken’s score of 240. But Flintridge shot extremely well; two of their play-

ers finished under 40, with one score of 39 and another mind boggling course], it would have made the match closer.”

The next match for the Panthers was against Hillcrest Christian and Flintridge Prep, again. In this match, the team gave a more well-

rounded effort, with nobody shooting under 40, but several shooting below 45. The team finished with a score of 211, being held by Hillcrest Christian, but not enough to beat Flintridge. The Rebels turned in an unbelievable match, shooting 199, making the team first the Panthers have played this year to shoot sub-200. Samuels admission about scoring 199 was “more than we bargained for,” and the defeat was made more devas-
tating by the loss of the prestigious Mystic Nicklick award.

Each year, the Palo vs. Flin-

tridge golf rivalry is made even more serious by the awarding of the prestigious Mystic Nicklick trophy to the school that shot the lowest score between the team’s two matches. With the two losses to Flintridge this year, the Panthers relinquished their pos-
session of the Mystic Nicklick, a trophy that had been won in both of the past two years. Though the Panthers seem to have come in third in a mul-
titude of matches this year, their overall record still stands at 7-5, and 5-3 in league. This puts the team in prime position to make a run at second place in league. If the Panthers beat Webb and View-

point, tasks that Samuels says would take exceptional efforts, much like last time,” they could tie for second place in league.

After narrowly losing the Mystic Nicklick, golf seeks a playoff berth

With strong starts in the first two years of the Mystic Nicklick, a trophy awarded to the winner of the Flintridge Prep versus Poly match.

By DANIEL WOHL
Sports editor

Plagued by recent losses to Viewpoint and Flintridge Prep, the golf team looked to return to its ear-

ly season form to shore up a sec-

ond place finish in league.

The Panthers kicked off their league season in dual match against Webb and Viewpoint. Tradi-

tionally, Viewpoint has been the class of the Prep League, winning the title in each of the last five sea-

sons. Furthermore, the Panthers have never beaten them during this stretch. At the same time, Webb always presents a tough challenge; se-

ior captain Bobby Samuels says, “They [are] a very solid team.”

Still, the Panthers were just com-
ing off of a grind-it-out win against Bellarmine-Jefferson, a 254-237 victory, so they seemed primed to play well against Webb and Viewpoint.

That is exactly what the team did. Junior Croix Griffin, sopho-

more Victoria Morgan, and fresh-

man David Hong each shot ter-

rific scores of 40. Furthermore, the team finished with a score of 206, the best round of the season.

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lage Christian in the first round of the CIF playoffs last year, the Panthers have reason to believe that they will surpass the play of last year’s team. A new addition to the coaching staff, Santee Vallejo, may have something to do with the team’s success. Dunham notes that since her arrival “practices have been different. We now con-
motion more and are pushed harder in our practices, I’ve learned to afford great skill from all three years over var-

as seen through the multitude of blue banners in the boys and girls gym, Poly has a history in winning CIF academic awards.

By DANIEL WOHL
Sports Editor

Each year, at the end of the first semester, the California Interscholastic- 

astic Federation (CIF) chooses the recipients of the Southern Section Academic Award. The awards are made on un-weighted cumulative GPA and are awarded to two teams in each of the 22 CIF sanctioned sports—one award to a school with an enrollment above 1,500 and another to a school with an enrollment below 1,500. To even be considered for the award, a team must hold at least a 3.0 GPA. Additionally, each Southern Section school may award one se-

ior male and one senior female “Student Athlete of the Year.” The criteria associated with this award is that the athlete be a member of the team and meet the eligibility requirements. Last year, the “Student Athlete of the Year” winners

must have a GPA over 3.5, earn at least one varsity letter and partici-

pate in “extra curricular activities.”

This year, Poly’s two “Student Athletes of the Year” are Hannah Dunham and Wesley DeVoll. Dun-

ham has spent four years on varsity soccer and softball and two years on varsity tennis and cross country—indeed, this year, DeVoll was the cross coun-

try Division V state champion. Below are Poly’s academic team rankings for each sport that placed in the top of all Southern Section schools with enrollments below 1,500.

• Boys cross-country fifth
• Boys golf-fourth
• Softball-first
• Basketball-third
• Girls swimming-third
• Tennis-third
• Girls tennis-third
• Girls water-polo-second
• Boys water-polo-five
• Girls water-polo-fifth

Senior shortstop Megan Latta finishes a double play against Chadbuck. Although the Panthers lost scoreless for the first five innings, the Panthers went on to win the game 4-1.

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As the season comes to a close, the Panthers hope to continue their strong performance in the Prep League finals.

By DANIEL WOHL
Sports editor

With its success in early season meets in a multitude of events, the track team looks to be in good shape to perform its best at the all-important league finals.

The Panthers have had to re-group from the loss of last year’s strong senior class. Senior Graham Sadler was a spectacular high jumper—he won league and advanced through the CIF playoffs to the Masters and all the way to the State playoffs. In the process, he established a new school high jumping record of 6’7.” The team also lost Jordan Smith, Sean Dombrowski and Charlotte Clary—each of whom were All-League players.

To help compensate for these losses, Coach Chris Schmoke says, “We have had a young kids step up and many returners from last year continue to improve.”

Some of the team’s top players are in high jump, specifically junioirs Zibby Boyer and Matt Capehart.

Last year, Boyer won the CIF championship with a jump of 6’5” and this year, she has increased the height of her jumps. Schmoke believes Boyer’s success will allow her to advance even further than last year, saying “she continues to improve daily. She is eying jumps of 6’9”-6’10” and that is getting to be good on a state wide level… I am very confident she will continue to go higher.”

On the boys side, junior Matt Capehart is beginning to come into his own. Known as one of the most athletic players on the basketball team, Capehart has used this talent to be successful in high jump. As a freshman and a sophomore, Capehart jumped in the shadow of Sadler, but still managed to be the second best high jumper in the Prep League. Schmoke says of the boys throwers, “He’s the type of kid that we’ve been able to get a lot of success in the track and field.”

defending league shot put champion.

On the track itself, the Panthers are led by the speedy relay team of junior Jack Porter, junior Blake Edwards, junior Alden Higgins and senior Richard Arnett. Running in the 4x400 and 4x100, this group has been dominant thus far. They have won every race they have entered. Schmoke believes that their success can be attributed to their combination of natural talent and hard work ethic: “They are fast and they are competitive. They want to be good. They want to be the best and they prepare accordingly. There is no doubt about their natural abilities, but what will set them apart at the next level is their desire to be great.”

The girls relay teams are also good but are quite different. Unlike some of the boys that are just starting to get into their groove.” The team is peaking at the right time. Seven of the remaining nine games are league games, the results of which will define the Panther’s success in league.

Still, winning in league will be an uphill battle for the Panthers. New head coach Rebecca Willis has strived to make the Panthers ready for the challenge. As Capehart noted, “She really doesn’t want us to settle for mediocrity but for excellence.” As a result, the Panthers have been held to a higher standard in practice and have had to do more intensity drills and conditioning than in years past. Although some players dislike the change, the work could pay off by allowing the Panthers to reach their goals this season.

One of these goals, said Saeta, is to win league: “We have a very good chance to win league, that is, if we all play well and beat the two major teams standing in our way, Prep and Backyard.”

The following two hard fought games, the Panthers proceeded to breeze past Marshall Fundamental. Pacific Lutheran (Poly’s only league game so far),

courtesy of Jennifer Godsh-Meiro
Juniors reining CIF high jump champions Zibby Boyer clears the bar in a practice jump.

Boyer hopes to extend her reign by first winning another Prep League title.

With Sadler’s graduation, Capehart appears to be the favorite to win league.

In other field events, defending league champions have become more versatile players. Maggie Casey won long jump last year. This year, she has added the high jump to her repertoire, but long jumping remains her strength.

Richard-Craven is the two-time combination of natural talent and hard work ethic: “They are fast and they are competitive. They want to be good. They want to be the best and they prepare accordingly. There is no doubt about their natural abilities, but what will set them apart at the next level is their desire to be great.”

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Junior Kevin Capehart commented, “When the other team is on a roll and starting to gain some momentum, Colin or Evan will get a huge kill which will just get us right back into the game and motivate us.” Sure enough, the Panthers regained momentum and the next set 25-18 before edging out a victory in the fifth set tiebreaker, 17-15.

According to Kevin Capehart, “The secret to our success is really just coming to practice every day ready to work hard and get better as a team. Also, we are getting better every game because we have

Senior Evan Robinson (top left), sophomore Michael Saeta and junior Matt Capehart (bottom left) and sophomore Colin Woolway (right) counter hits from the Panthers’ opponent, the Viewpoint Patriots. The Panthers fell short against Viewpoint 3-1, but from that game onward have won seven straight, improving their overall record to 10-4.

Seven games, seven wins: volleyball triumphs over recent competition.
Swimming resurfaces despite lack of depth

With a smaller squad than seen in past years, swimming continues to have strong individual performances and an excellent diving program.

By MIMI BEA
Sports editor

Led by a talented group of underclassmen, last year’s swim team had its best season in several years. The boys team emerged as the Prep League champion and progressed to the CIF Division II Finals where Stanford recruit Andrew Saeta won the 200 freestyle (with a time of 1:36.99, breaking a 26-year-old CIF record), and the 100 backstroke. The team of Saeta, Nathan Min, Blaine Obiagwu and Tommy Gillillan won the boys 200 medley as well. The girls swam well and finished third at league finals. Coach Ryan Katuyama commented, “A year ago, we were the dominant team in our league.”

While the boys team the same talent and depth as last year’s, the three-time defending Prep League champions will still challenge for the league title. This year’s team has only seven players, down from eighteen last year. Senior four-year varsity swimmer Nick Grover comments, “The boys team can’t exactly shine a light to our team last year, not only did we lose two of the best boys to gradate this year, but we also graduated a bunch of seniors last year. Consequently, in the events that we normally would’ve been able to fill and score points in, we don’t even have people to swim this year.” Nevertheless, Katuyama says this allows the team to “focus on individual performance,” which was evident in the meet against Webb. Although only five members competed against Webb (which had ten swimmers), the Panthers lost only by a score of 69-62. Graham Nesbit and Henry Pray both had especially strong performances in the meet. Nesbit placed first in the 100 freestyle and 200 freestyle; Pray placed first in the 100 yard breaststroke. The Panthers hope to build endurance and speed in the upcoming weeks in order to contend for a fourth Prep League title. Katsuyama hopes that “the team challenge will push them to achieve great things.”

With a few club swimmers joining the girls squad, this year’s team hopes to contend for a league title as well. The team got off to a rough start this season, with losses against Pasadena High (108-51), La Salle (114-45) and Arcadia High School (118-40). The team then managed to pick up momentum and defeated Webb (97-79), Sierra Canyon (127-59) and St. Margaret’s (127-85). Recently the team faced off against defending Prep League champion, Westridge, a notoriously tough competitor (last year’s team lost 107-73), but this year, the team by a much smaller margin, 96-87. Ensign School. Katsuyama noted that the team’s success is due in large part to “a few really good club swimmers that have definitely strengthened our squad.”

Sophomore Michelle Miller and freshman Catherine Finney raced especially well against the Tigers. Miller placed first in the 100 yard freestyle while Finney placed second in the 500 yard freestyle and first in the 200 yard freestyle. Katsuyama commented, “Even though we didn’t win, it was a great team performance as the girls were very motivated and swam quite fast.” Although the girls team is working towards a league title, Burdge notes, “We have girls who are really strong at their particular events and win those events really well, but our weakness is that we still don’t have enough people to really compete with the other girls teams.”

Sophomore Isabel Sunshine affirmed, “We often struggle when we’re up against really large teams because we just don’t have enough people on the squad.” Still, with a team composed of mostly talented freshman and sophomores, including Finney and freshman Justin Cheng, this group has the potential to evolve into a dominant team in years to come.

Although the remaining competition is stiff, the Panthers have still managed to come out on top in the past few meets, despite the fact that they compete with very few swimmers. With only four meets remaining, Katsuyama hopes, “The momentum we gained from the past meets will push us to success in the next few meets and eventually the Prep League Championship at the end of the month.”

Northwestern-bound and two-time CIF Division II Diving Champion senior Cosima Lenz delivers another flawless dive.