Memoir and Social Change
Class confronts food waste

The senior English class chose to fight wastefulness by encouraging Trader Joe’s to donate more surplus food products to food banks.

By ALLY ARRIETA
News editor

In the past semester, English teacher Julia Davis and nine seniors have taken their studies in English to the next level—using their linguistic and analytical skills to tackle a real world issue that matters to them. The Memoir and Social Change class (MSC) is offered to seniors as an alternative to the AP English Literature class. After spending the first semester exploring their individual identities through reflective writing, during the second semester the students change their focus to the issues that shape their world, becoming activists through a project they organize themselves.

Earlier this year, Davis decided to show the students “Dive! Living off America’s Food Waste,” a documentary directed by Jeremy Seifert. The film traces the causes, perpetrators and effects of food waste in the United States, a country in which 96 billion pounds of food are thrown away every year. Seifert and his friends had obtained their groceries through dumpster diving for years, but they soon realized that the presence of perfectly edible food in the dumpsters of their local supermarkets revealed a true societal issue.

Throughout the film, the group works to confront the wastefulness of our society by pressuring grocery store chains such as Trader Joe’s to direct more of their surplus to food banks. Seifert describes the problem of food waste as not only detrimental to the environment but also unacceptable in a world in which millions of people live in hunger. The students in MSC knew that they had found the social issue they wanted to address.

They decided to present the film to the Upper School in an assembly to encourage students to support the EAT TRASH campaign to end food waste. Following the assembly, more than 100 students sent letters to Trader Joe’s CEO Dan Bane to express concern. After the influx of student input, Matt Sloan, the Vice President of marketing at Trader Joe’s, agreed to participate in a discussion with the members of MSC on Wednesday, April 6. “I wanted to better understand the class’ goals and the way this project fit into the curriculum,” said Sloan, when asked about his purpose for visiting the class. “I also wanted to see the degree to which we could answer students’ questions and understand their ideas.”

The students’ main goal was to request that Trader Joe’s adopt a corporate-wide policy for directing extra products to food banks. Currently, individual stores make their own decisions about whether or not to donate and need to make their own connections with local food banks. This absence of accountabil-

sold goods. Senior Daniel Lizardo stressed, “Individual stores are not handling food waste to the extent they should be. A corporate-wide policy will be much more effective than a store-by-store memo.”

Sloan explained that the desire at Trader Joe’s headquarters is not to tell their branches what to do in regards to handling surplus goods. Referring to the phrase “zero food waste” used by many supporters of the EAT TRASH campaign, Sloan noted, “The word ‘zero’ is absolute, whereas the elimination of food waste should be a goal. I’m not here to say that we’re doing everything perfectly, but we do have stores working with food rescue organiza-

tions.”

According to Sloan, Trader Joe’s works primarily in conjunction with Feeding America, a national network of local food banks, in order to handle its extra food. He explained that each of the 353 stores has a local Feeding America contact but the organization currently does not have the resources to pick up all the surplus food.

Sloan noted that Feeding America is one of the few food rescue organizations that Trader Joe’s can trust because it can adjust to prob-

April Fool’s Day Assembly features hypnotist

The ASB surprised the Upper School by bringing in hypnotist March Bachrach to host a fun Friday Assembly.

By ANNA WOHL
News editor

As an April Fools’ Day surprise, the ASB cabinet hosted stage hypnotist Marc Bachrach for the second consecutive year, eliciting much excitement and enthusiasm from the student body. Mark Bachrach, who is a full-time professional hypnotist and hypnotherapist, contacted faculty member Laurianne Williams earlier this year to find out if the Upper School would be interested in hosting him for a special assembly. Although the ASB has traditionally hosted a hypnotist every other year, Williams and the ASB cabinet members recalled the positive response to last year’s hypnotism assembly and decided to incorporate it into an April Fools’ joke.

Initially, ASB cabinet members planned to have Bachrach interrupt a “serious announcement” from Upper School Head Jamie Nielsen.

Unlike many professional hypn-otists, Bachrach conducted a “crucify-free” hypnotism show that was enjoyable for members of the Upper School. Instead they told students and faculty members to expect an assembly dedicated to registering for Advanced Placement Exams.

See HYPNOTIST, page 12

The Associated Student Body Cabinet was elected on Friday, April 8. After a week of campaigning with posters, food, videos and Facebook groups, each candidate gave a speech summarizing goals for the upcoming school year. For election results, see page 2.

See MSC, page 2

Julia Davis and her senior English class worked throughout this semester to find solutions for the issue of food waste, which affects both the environment and people living in hunger throughout the world.

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Life discusses the Japan earthquake relief in the Upper School.

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Lemons like unalbeled allergens on donated products, which other organizations may not be able to do.

Although Sloan claimed to care about food waste, students felt that he was emotionally disconnected from the issue. Senior Stephanie Tercero elaborated: "Speaking with Matt Sloan was such a frustrating experience. He kept repeating that a corporate policy isn't in their 'business model.' Sure, their 'business model' is that individual stores work independently, but how can helping local communities not be part of their plan?"

Proud of the conduct of her students during the discussion, Davis commented, "Mr. Sloan was expecting a pliable audience and he got a Poly audience—rigorous critical thinkers who pushed back and were not swayed by easy answers. In terms of moving forward, I suspect that visit emboldened us." Through their efforts to redeem a wasteful, extravagant society, the students in MSC are bridging the gap between classroom knowledge and real-world application.

They hope to gain support from the Poly community as they work to confront this issue through volunteerism and by pressuring the Trader Joe's corporation to develop a corporate policy for handling food waste at all their stores.

The students' passion and determination is inspirational," commented Seifert. "They asked hard questions, pushing for real change at the corporate level. In my mind, I think their efforts with Trader Joe's and the larger issue of food waste have just begun."
Ed Ryan signs off as features editor with “On Empathy”

By Eddie Ryan
Features editor

A few weeks ago, I had to stop at Target on my way to Sunday Mass. As I left the store, a man approached me with an eight-year-old daughter. Would I help him with some change? I had a $5 bill in my pocket, which I was going to put in the church offering plate. They needed my money too.

The church financed schools and hospitals. There are also poverty relief efforts and efforts to fight starvation. From its beginning, the Church has looked after the widow and the orphan, the prisoner and the stranger from a foreign land. Meanwhile, the man was gaunt and the girl looked shell-shocked. I had to choose.

There is no guarantee that human beings will be empathetic to the plight of others. And before we worry about whether men have the will or courage to act on their empathy, or in some deeper sense, their hope, we should be clear about what empathy does.

Empathy creates, for lack of a better term, civilization. That is not small potatoes. We tend to forget that the civilized order is fragile and precious. A cornerstone of our rhetoric is that there is a kind of civil behavior that emerges spontaneously, naturally, even effortlessly, through the striving of mankind.

When we think about it, we realize that it is not true, but this anachronistic conceit permeates our moral narrative. We think that it is witty and even heroic to disparage public institutions.

We believe that government is a nuisance at best and more likely a dangerous beast. We act as though we deserve a gold star for noticing that civic life is inefficient and sometimes corrupt.

Our worldview seems to build from the assumption that the civilized order needs no safeguards, or modest ones at best, and that the greater risk, where civilization is concerned, are the oppressions arising from officialdom (and maybe foreign terrorists).

No doubt, governance has an ugly record, but creating civilization is not automatic. In fact, government plays more of a role in creating it.

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“Empathy is not a soft-headed notion. It is not vague and intangible. It is the basis from which objective reasoning by human beings about human beings can proceed. If anything, empathy provides the quantitative foundation for thinking about humanity and the events flowing through our lives. In the absence of empathy, men cannot take themselves out of the equation.”

Centuries of work can be lost in years and even months. Fortunately, we are also guided by “the better angels of our nature,” by a rational soul prompting us towards a moral universe that binds and obliges all men. But that side of us is a tender blossom, requiring all our energy and discipline. It demands that we set aside our appetites, our desires, even our instincts, for the bigger picture.

Such demands are not easily met. By definition, our instincts and appetites have power. The imperatives of a moral universe that binds and obliges can only be recognized through human attributes that are pieced together, bit by bit, over the decades and generations.

The precepts must be embedded in the civic heritage, passed down from teacher to student, and taught with abiding respect. Chief among these is empathy—the ability, as Atticus Finch said, to climb into the skin of someone else and walk around in it.

Earlier in his term, President Obama caught some flack for citing “empathy” as an important judicial requisite. He was right and his critics were wrong.

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“Without empathy, men are condemned to lives... separate and alone.

With empathy, men make tentative steps towards principle and objective moral truth.”

vital problems facing humanity. Empathy understands the moral relevance of particular inequities and hardships even if they have not been personally endured. This is not a trifling capacity. It opens the door to our very decency.

One problem with empathy, though, is that it has many worthy objects. After all, this is a world, as Cassius said, where children are tortured, to say nothing of abandoned children, homeless children, hungry children. Nor are children the only ones suffering. In fact, all humanity suffers. Not all suffering has the same moral content, nor all people equally aggrieved, but all suffer—children and adults alike.

To my thinking, the hard part is finding a balance between the finitude of our being and the moral demands placed upon it, keeping in mind that a key part of the moral problem is our own imperfection, the trespasses we create as well as the trespasses we endure.

As I stood in the parking lot at Target, I had to decide who got my five dollars. A willingness to act here meant a failure to act there and vice versa. It was not about summing the courage to act, it was about figuring out how to act.

But more elemental than that decision, even, is the matter of empathy itself. We may be tired of the word. We may believe empathy is reckless and insipid. For my money, though, and whatever you call it, empathy is the ground for the most important and sacred strength we have—the civilized order and all its blessings.
Why I’m a quitter: a personal burnout story

By Olivia Russak

I quit water polo.

The thing is, you don’t think I’ve ever written a sentence that sounded so weird. But I came to a conclusion about a month ago that I had moved on, that a part of me had been used, or was being used to be a large aspect of my personal identity no longer would hold the same weight. Perhaps it has to do with that certain nostalgia so common to older generation’s seniors. One that, like it or not, a senior can’t really help feeling, even momentarily. For me, it happened daily. Or maybe it had to do with the opposites of that–frustration, boredom, or just the need to move on to new things.

Regardless of why I came to this conclusion, the fact is I did. And while I knew it was a big step for me, I was surprised by how much I enjoyed getting used to the newfound freedom. It’s easy to see how some people might think of me as a quitter, but I’ve seen that there’s a lot more behind that. I’m simply learning new skills.

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Student Leadership: sincere or selfish?

By Sarah Patterson
Managing editor

Becoming a senior is a point that every Poly student looks forward to throughout high school, and the ability to make a true impact on the Upper School through such leadership roles is certainly part of that allure.

Between the Associated Student Body (ASB) and Girls Service League (GSL) elections, applications for Peer Mentors, Paw Print staff, and the newly created Athletic Council and the transition of leadership roles in various clubs and student groups from older to younger students, the complex face of the Upper School quickly adopts an entirely new appearance as members of the junior class begin to take the reins.

In an effort to make these leadership positions more accessible to a larger group of upperclassmen, the administration has chosen to implement a two-office maximum per student starting next year.

The administration also hopes that inserting this policy will allow student leaders to focus more on fewer positions and, as a result, act more effectively in these roles.

Furthermore, it is no secret that many universities seek students that have separated themselves from their classmates by taking on leadership roles and using them to make positive changes in their communities. The result of this suggestion is an increase in the number of students vying for such positions, as well as the number of posts for which they compete.

However, with the recent increase in difficulty of admission at colleges across the country, many students feel obligated to start constructing well-rounded (though not necessarily sincere) resumes in their sophomore, junior and senior years.

When I first heard about the new leader- ship policy, it immediately struck me as a necessary and appropriate measure for the Upper School community to take. In my four years of high school, there has been an obvious and consistent trend in the profiles of those heavily involved in student leader-

ship. This year, for example, four out of six members of this year’s ASB are active or future peer mentors. Of those four, two are club presidents. The GSL cabinet demonstrates a similar trend; out of the eight-person cabinet, four students are captains of varsity athletic teams, two are peer mentors (which prevent them from attending the GSL’s TuesdayThursday arts/labs meetings) and one is a member of the Ambassador Council. The Paw Print Staff is certainly guilty of the same overarching trend; next year, five out of seven senior staff members will also be peer mentors, and two of those same students will be captains of varsity athletic teams. Another two are club presidents.

Before I go on to make one clarification. I understand that leadership is something that comes more naturally to some than it does to others. Running or applying for an office can be intimidating, not to mention time consuming, and it is therefore not a huge surprise that many of the same students are involved in some of the most important leadership roles on campus.

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I understand that for many of these students, playing multiple leadership roles on campus was a sincere and natural step to take as they became more involved in the Poly community, and in that vein, I do not believe the two-position maximum is an appropriate solution. However, we as students have to ensure that our interest and involvement in these leadership roles is just that: sincere.

This question of sincerity, the question of whether we as students are legitimately interested in the things we pursue, is an issue in other areas of Poly life. Year after year, the college counseling department impresses each senior to be considerate when forming their college list. “Trophy collecting,” the term used to describe when students apply to schools that they have no interest in actually attending just so they can say that they were offered admission there, is a constant issue here at Poly. The same problem often arises during ASB elections: while certain students run for positions due to legitimate interest, some campaign for random positions simply to gain a spot in the cabinet. These trends mirror the one surrounding leadership. If students try to fill positions on campus that they are not sincerely interested in or not legitimately passionate about, they end up hurting their classmates and the wider Poly community simultaneously.

I have immense respect for my classmates who fill Poly’s primary leadership positions. For example, the peer mentors for the class of 2011 have done an amazing job supporting the freshmen and making their transition to upper school smooth and comfortable. However, in the future, students interested in these roles need to consider their time, schedules, interest, and ability to commit to something before they sign up. Just because student leaders this year are well qualified does not mean that someone else could have done their job just as well, or perhaps better than they did.

It is also important to remember that having more students involved in leadership is something that would only enhance and strengthen our day-to-day life here at school by bringing a wider variety of ideas and opinions to the table.

To implement a hard and fast rule for how many positions each student can hold is silly and could be, in some cases, completely counter-productive. However, students should take this measure as a reminder that it is important to focus on pursuing what you yourself are good at and what you are person- ally interested in. So with all that said, here is my plea: students, don’t take opportunities away from other people to pad your already impressive resumes. If you’ve already found your leadership niche, don’t stand in the way of your classmates as they try to find theirs.

I held two leadership positions this year... and they overlapped a lot because both were meetings that I didn’t even attend. I do believe in “sharing the wealth” especial- ly at a school like Poly where there are a lot of students who are qualified to be the leader in every situation.

- Jade Richard-Craven ’11

I think that if the person is capable enough and manages to get themselves into multiple positions, there’s no reason that the administration should take that away from someone who deserves to have them.

- Justin Cheng ’13

The Panther’s Jar

What do you think about the administration’s decision to limit the number of leadership roles a student can hold?

Compiled by Hayden Betts and Mark Loyola

I think it seems like [the administration] is trying to make it so more people can participate, but it would probably end up limiting people and not let them pursue multiple activities when they would be able to explore a lot of different activities and leadership roles.

- Brett Ludeman ’14

Those that are going to want to take leadership in the community are going to do it anyways. By limiting the number of leadership positions one can hold a situation is created whereby the administration is indirectly pushing others who don’t want leadership to take leadership. Besides, there are better things to do than to take leadership.

- Sahil Shah ’12

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- Brett Ludeman ’14
By Jane Rem
Student contributor

The crisis in Japan is already affecting the world as a whole. Although it is difficult to estimate exactly how everyday life will change in the future, everything from tourism to small businesses to seafood is floundering. Japan has become an integral part of the global economy, and the repercussions vary in seriousness from Toyota's decision to suspend all production to worries about Apple's component supplies and how it will affect sales and pricing.

Numbers are constantly changing and new concerns arise every day. The statistics as of now are as follows: approximately 12,000 deaths, 15,000 still missing, 209,000 homeless, and $122 billion dollars in damages. Even with exhaustive research of the literature online about the Japanese crisis, it is difficult to parse together exactly what has happened in Japan because there are just too many aspects.

The most recent news on the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant is the latest attempt to bring the plant under control by injecting nitrogen into a reactor containment vessel. They are hoping that the nitrogen will prevent the hydrogen from exploding in the plant's number one reactor.

In addition, TEPCO, the Tokyo Electric Power Co., recently began dumping approximately three million gallons of low-level radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean. Although the radiation will be diluted, it is another harrowing example of the difficult choices that the company is forced to make to prevent even more radioactive material from being released into the ocean. The impact on the fish in the ocean will be enormous even if the radiation is diluted. How huge? Nobody is quite sure yet.

The big picture on Japan's nuclear crisis is very grim. The situation at the Fukushima plant is now rated as a Level 7 on the International Nuclear Event Scale. What does this mean? To put things in perspective, the Chernobyl disaster of 1986, the worst nuclear power plant accident in history, was also rated at a 7.

Immediately, one's mind travels to the horrific mutations, both human and animal, that resulted from exposure to radioactive waste. Overblown heads coupled with underdeveloped bodies, deformed babies, and abnormal growths had me checking sources to make sure that the pictures were not Photoshopped; they seemed too gruesome to be real.

Could this be Japan's future? The only answer, however unsatisfying, is maybe. It will still be months before the true extent of radiation released will be known.

To date, 190 Fukushima workers have been listed as victims of radiation sickness. 50 of these workers are expected to perish in the coming weeks. The possible results of this form of radiation exposure includes damage to multiple organ systems, skin burns, and usually a slow deterioration and death. Before writing this article, I had not realized the full extent of the crisis in Japan. Already, it is the second worst nuclear crisis in history.

Mercifully, the radiation in Japan will not come close to that of the Chernobyl disaster. Chernobyl was a 3,200 mW reactor that exploded during peak capacity, whereas Japan had three reactors at approximately 500 mW each and were immediately turned off. Most importantly, the Japanese were quick to evacuate.

At Chernobyl, the area had not begun to evacuate until a full 24 hours after the explosion, resulting in 54 dead and 4,000 more suffering with radiation-related sickness. In Japan, 200,000 people were evacuated within hours of an alert. Thankfully, the world had learned its lesson from Chernobyl, and despite some serious blunders, the Japanese have been effective in controlling the situation.

Although the side effects of the nuclear crisis in Japan are not as serious as those at Chernobyl, a Level 7 is not something one can ignore. I have heard many people say that all nuclear power plants should be closed; they are not worth the risk. I agreed with this argument until I started researching....

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Paw Prints After Effects

Paws to Mr. Strom for making B Period weekly Bacon Period.
- Jeffrey Chau

Paws to Gandalph.
-Pete Sanders

Paws to Ginobli and the Spurs.
- Marcos Stubrin

Paws to protein.
- Jordan Pinksy

Paws to the illustrious beauty of the Spring season. Nature’s minerals, pollen grains, being carried by the soft yet decisive wind creating blooming happiness.
- Sahil Shah

Paw to Eric Yin for making students happy, fun and laughter (sic).
- Daniel Leon

Paw to the new ASB cabinet!!
- Sita Hirji

Paws to The Paw Print staff 2010-2011. Stay gold, pony boy.
- Eddie Ryan

Paws to the cast, directors, orchestra, tech, and all others involved with Beauty and the Beast! Everyone needs to see it!
- Francesca Jimenez

Paws to ASB election campaign food!
- Victoria Morgan

Paws to ASB election campaign food!
- Ellen Gilmore

Paws to Mr. Fletcher.
- Sam McCarthy

Paws to Garrison Hunt for saying “deuces” to Blake Edwards.
- Olivia Russak

Paws to Awesome costumes for the Musical.
- Alexis Genske

Paws to my modesty.
- Sam McCarthy

Paws to Eddie Ryan for consistently giving us material for Paws and Claws. You’re gonna go far, kid.
- The Opinion Staff

Paws to the college counselors and senior class cabinet for giving us presents all week!
- Cate Carlson

Claws to the Common Apps expecting people to have twelve activities.
- Alexis Genske

Claws to all of the candidates who ran for office!
- Aubrey Walker

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Artist of the Issue: The stars behind the curtain

By VERONICA WICKLINE
Assistant life editor

The quotation which lends itself to the title of this article comes from Tim Miller, who, along with Richard Sherrill, rules the tech kingdom that bolsters the many performances of Poly. Not every day do quick changes need multiple helpers or does a castle need to suddenly appear onstage. Creative problem-solving is necessary in meeting Poly’s demands, and in the words of senior Christine Seto, “granting wish after wish after wish.” The wizards are none other than the tight-knit techie family.

And it is a family, as all of the techies were jumping to share. Senior Chris Nguyen began with, “I think that tech is great because of the camaraderie. Everyone here is like a family, and we better be because we spend so much time together during the weeks leading up to a show.”

Senior Laurel German agreed: “As much as I love the actual building and designing of a show, my favorite part is definitely the tech crew. Techies are without question the most awesome group of people I’ve ever met. I am so lucky to be a part of such an amazing crew, and to hang out with such fun, individual, crazy people every day.”

Senior Chris Marks also eagerly commented with, “This place has become my second home, and the techies my second, somewhat bizarre, family. Spending so much time together, we have learned almost everything about each other, and we see each other at our best and at our worst; at 11 AM on a Saturday filled with energy and at 11PM on a Wednesday suffering from major sleep deprivation.”

The seniors did not hesitate to share the work with each other. German outlines the interpersonal work that must be accomplished: “Being responsible for a production where so many people are relying on you really teaches you how to handle difficult situations and deal with colorful personalities.” There are also long hours to put in, to which Nguyen and Marks alluded in their statements.

Then, show night. “I have often invoked the gods of the stage in the midst of a show,” Seto recalled. “Whenever the energy flows and the audience is mesmerized, I reaffirm my belief in the mystical power of theater.”

But from where does this divine, eternally palpable ether drift? Is it source the eerie glow of the ghost light or the musky curtain lips that bless every soul with woe and only two kisses? Yes; and how do you think those things got there? Tech.

Marks elaborates: “In our control booth, we have a plank of wood with the phrase ‘Role #1: You do not exist’ written on it in black paint. While seemingly callous and demeaning at first glance, it actually reflects the most important part of technical theater—we [make] the world tick, without any hint of our presence at all.”

German affirmed, “We don’t get the limelight; but we do what we do because we love it.”

At least for Beauty and the Beast, the running black is hereby colorized for an ephemeral article to commend and thank the tech crew for their eternal presence and ability to nurture the breath of our Garland Stage.

The Kicker: a crossword by Brian Holman

Across

1. Edison’s rival
6. Actor Gyllenhaal
10. Goddess of women
14. “Thrown for _____” (2 words)
15. Mass declaration?
16. God of warfare
17. God of the underworld
18. Raced
19. Exhustion cure
20. Labor Day mo.
21. Zodiac’s fifth
23. Stick type
25. Word before “wolf” or “Rang-”
27. Angry
31. Underworld ferryman
35. Flower grave?
38. Water cooler
39. Flight prefix
40. Trojan beauty
41. Chatter
42. Greek nymph
43. Box opener
47. Italian three
48. He who holds the world up
50. Day, for wine
51. SEALS’ org.
52. Used the courts
53. Gliding dance step
55. Dozes through
57. Sock cover
59. Electric animals
62. “Easy as ______”
63. Yale Supporter
66. God of thunder
69. Lamented
71. Eagle’s weapon
73. “___ thin air”
74. Shortened round
75. Starry hunter
77. Means justifyer?
78. Leases
80. Displayed
81. Bloody combat
90. Battle of
96. Organic material
97. De facto termination
98. Character 0
100. Exmouth

Down

1. Certain dance shoes
2. Woods of “Legally Blond”
3. Salad’s pair
4. Real estate unit
5. God of the sun
6. Argonaut leader
7. Current measure
8. Fortress
9. “Ecto” opposite
10. Vietnamese capital
11. Napoleon, for one
13. Beast of burden
22. Geologic period
24. Ultracconservative Beck
26. The 24th, for one
28. Survival qualities
29. Crete would-be escapee
30. Formal argument
31. Prickly plant
32. Procession leader, at times
33. Garfield’s mate
34. Cowboy Rogers
37. Black, Red, or Dead
40. Boring result?
43. Dated
44. Disco ____ of “The Simpsons”
46. Corporate alias abbr.
49. Paid programs
53. Corn site
54. Trojan War hero
56. Mexican capital
58. Also known as 17-across
60. Rural road
61. Commentary bias
63. Tiger’s ex
64. Pumper
65. Lodges
66. Off-popped spot
67. Pt. opposite WS&W
68. Colorado tribe
70. Cancel
72. Exist

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Across:

1. Edison’s rival
6. Actor Gyllenhaal
10. Goddess of women
14. “Thrown for _____” (2 words)
15. Mass declaration?
16. God of warfare
17. God of the underworld
18. Raced
19. Exhustion cure
20. Labor Day mo.
21. Zodiac’s fifth
23. Stick type
25. Word before “wolf” or “Rang-”
27. Angry
31. Underworld ferryman
35. Flower grave?
38. Water cooler
39. Flight prefix
40. Trojan beauty
41. Chatter
42. Greek nymph
43. Box opener
47. Italian three
48. He who holds the world up
50. Day, for wine
51. SEALS’ org.
52. Used the courts
53. Gliding dance step
55. Dozes through
57. Sock cover
59. Electric animals
62. “Easy as ______”
63. Yale Supporter
66. God of thunder
69. Lamented
71. Eagle’s weapon
73. “___ thin air”
74. Shortened round
75. Starry hunter
77. Means justifyer?
78. Leases

Down:

1. Certain dance shoes
2. Woods of “Legally Blond”
3. Salad’s pair
4. Real estate unit
5. God of the sun
6. Argonaut leader
7. Current measure
8. Fortress
9. “Ecto” opposite
10. Vietnamese capital
11. Napoleon, for one
13. Beast of burden
22. Geologic period
24. Ultracconservative Beck
26. The 24th, for one
28. Survival qualities
29. Crete would-be escapee
30. Formal argument
31. Prickly plant
32. Procession leader, at times
33. Garfield’s mate
34. Cowboy Rogers
37. Black, Red, or Dead
40. Boring result?
43. Dated
44. Disco ____ of “The Simpsons”
46. Corporate alias abbr.
49. Paid programs
53. Corn site
54. Trojan War hero
56. Mexican capital
58. Also known as 17-across
60. Rural road
61. Commentary bias
63. Tiger’s ex
64. Pumper
65. Lodges
66. Off-popped spot
67. Pt. opposite WS&W
68. Colorado tribe
70. Cancel
72. Exist

The Paw Print

April 14, 2011

7
Movie Review: Source Code falls short

By NOAH KIM
Student contributor

There’s not much bad about Source Code, but there’s not that much good about it either. The beginning holds promise, but like many other science fiction movies, its allure decreases as it goes on, and it eventually becomes so caught up in false logic that it begins to defy its own rules and raise more questions than answers.

In addition, it simply isn’t as shocking or thrilling as it thinks it is. Its plot twists and turns only to seemingly arrive at a dead end. Compared to last year’s Inception, it just isn’t enough.

That said, this is a well-made film. Lake Bellenhalh carries the film on a human level and is able to make the viewer genuinely feel sorry for her ordeals.

In the end, it is his charm and the touching human story that the screenplay manages to weave that allows the movie to succeed. The plot concerns a man named Coker Stevens, a captain in the U.S. Army, who suddenly awakens onboard a crowded train without memory of how he got there, talking to a woman named Christina whom he’s never met. When he catches a glimpse of himself in a mirror, the face he sees is not his own. As he tries to figure out what is going on, the train explodes, and Stevens awakens in an army lab talking to Colleen Goodwin, a military scientist.

We, the audience, share in his confusion. As part of the film’s control of a man’s consciousness for the last eight minutes of his life. The train that Stevens was on was destroyed by a terrorist. The terrorist plans to detonate a nuclear bomb in the center of Chicago later that day.

Stevens figures out the identity of the bomber so the government can arrest him and prevent him from carrying out the nuclear attack. Whenever Stevens dies, he will awaken unhurt back at the army lab. In addition, Stevens will only have eight minutes before the train explodes, and he will have to start again at the beginning.

I admired the adept way that Gyllenhall and his fellow actors managed to craft believable eight-minute variations. Like Harold Ramis’s Groundhog Day, the movie is faced with the daunting task of making an uninterrupted number of alternate realities, and the film does this flawlessly.

However, Source Code has little logic to its construction and tends to get bogged down with paradoxes. As always, I felt skeptical when Goodwin explained that the terrorist unstess destroyed the train before proceeding on to his primary target. Criminals and terrorists in the movies always seem delighted to pass out clues and alerts before carrying out their diabolical schemes.

In addition, the movie never does explain how the terrorist managed to find and plant a nuclear explosive, which, in my opinion, would probably be relatively difficult to do, especially with all the international restrictions.

It seems harsh to call Source Code’s director, Duncan Jones, a lesser version of Christopher Nolan, but that’s exactly what it seems to be.

The two directors seem to favor the same cerebral plots, quick and choppy editing style, and in 2009, he made a movie called Moon about a man who is seemingly nearing the end of a three-year service on the moon. That same year, Christopher Nolan came out with a movie called The Dark Knight, which is now widely regarded as the best superhero movie ever made. Nolan was similar to Source Code in its direction, its editing, and its theme of mistaken identity. It was good in almost every respect but never came close to reaching the same class of movie as The Dark Knight.

When I watched last year’s Inception, a similar but far superior film, I was convinced that it was good. It took several more views before I knew it was indispensible—great. I doubt I’ll have the same experience with Source Code.

It’s a perfectly watchable film, and I’m glad that I watched it, but I’m also sure that I wouldn’t want to watch it again.

Days Away from Doo Dah

By MICHAEL LIBUCA
Student contributor

We are just two weeks away from Doo Dah, an annual farcical parade containing a variety of musical and artistic acts. Bringing its usual crowd of weirdos and oddballs coupled with its unique satire and off-the-wall humor, it will make its next appearance throughout the streets of Pasadena on April 30, and relocate from Old Town just two years ago, this year will be the only second run through East Pasadena. The move from Old to East Pasadena adds a homely feel to the parade, supporting and building off the atmosphere the many local mom and pop stores create. Owner of the local store Poo Dah records, Ron Sivers, states that the relocation “feels right, it’s like the Old, Old Town.”

The event, often noted as the wacky counterpart of the Rose Parade, demonstrates its trademark brand of eccentricity, creativity and nonconformity each year with its allotment of floats, cars and, most importantly, its band of loyal followers.

Last Saturday the infamous Doo Dah Queen tryouts took place at the American Legion Hall and Bar. Tryouts were open to any woman (or man) wild enough to wow the board of judges, comprised of the parade organizers, former queens and a select few individuals that radiated the aura that is the Doo Dah spirit. Each contestant first performed on stage, with acts ranging anywhere from karaoke to spoken word, to stand-up comedy. Following the performances, contestants were grilled with a less-than-rigorou Q&A session, in which judges asked seemingly random questions attempting to uncover the Doo Dah spirit within each potential queen. While it was a competition, the sentiment of the event was anything but competitive, rather it was an afternoon of colorful individuality, personal expression, and drunken amusement.

Although the parade is free, any and all money the parade earns is donated to the Light Bringer Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to building communities throughout the power of the arts. The Project has been studying and promoting art, architecture, and craftsmanship throughout Pasadena since 1990 and often holds events or programs utilizing community-wide support.

At first glance, the parade may appear to be a random assortment of colors, costumes and signs, but to the participants, it is truly an expression of individuality and personal freedom, something always encouraged but often forgotten in the upright, stressed-out community we know as the Polytechnic Upper School. Still you may be saying, “I get what the parade is, but why?” And as Doo Dah Judge Ann Erdman so eloquently put it, “If there was a purpose, just wouldn’t be Doo Dah.”

Towards the end of the night the crowd gathered around the decision, but not before one more yearly ritual, the Doo Dah Queen Dance. Queens from the past 30 years congregated on stage not only to celebrate the history of what is now becoming a nationally-recognized event but also the surviving legacy of the parade and its cohorts. Finally, queens from the past couple years, such as Queen Skittles and Tequila Mockingbird, passed on the Doo Dah Queen crown to this year’s deserving recipient, Red Rosie who will be leading the parade, as well as Ron Sivers of Poo Dah records, this year’s Grand Marshal.

This year, Doo Dah has reached its all time high of over 1200 participants, which continues to grow. The parade rolls around at the end of the month on Colorado Boulevard between Sierra Madre and San Gabriel, so check it out, and when you do, keep in mind: this isn’t your average parade.
Lost and Found in the Mojave Desert

By SAM PULLIFOTO
Student contributor

Through the Owens Valley stretches US Route 395. For some-one driving south from the town of Big Pine on the 395, a glance to the right shows the tremendous peaks of the Sierra Nevada, to the left, the Sierra’s smaller cousins, the Inyo. Although the Inyo is fastward, over the Inyo Mountains, is the northern tip of Death Valley National Park and the northern terminus of the Mojave desert. Out of the Owens Valley, along the 395, one passes two military installations, China Lake U.S. Naval Weapons Testing Center and Edwards Air Force Base; and large amounts of land oc-cupied by what seems like nothing more than the ground, the sky and the Joshua Tree, spreading its arms toward Heaven.

The Mojave is bordered by ex-tremes. In the north, Death Valley is the apex of aridity and inhospitable desert possessing the lowest and hottest spot in the United States. To the west, the tentacles of the con-urbation of Los Angeles flow out-ward. The southern border marks the beginning of vast agricultural developments in the Imperial Val-ley, a unique world of its own. The two fastest growing cities in the United States, St. George and Las Vegas, present themselves to the east.

Within this border, the Mojave has been, for the most part, undis-turbed. With the exception of the small towns that have sprung up, the mining claims for gold and bo-rax, the installations that the mili-tary seems wont to place in the des-ert, and the tourists who come with their off-road vehicles, the land has been left alone from most of civi-lization and any sort of normalcy.

Instead, the strange and fantastic have come to populate the Mojave. In Zzyzx, Curtis Howe Springer started a pseudo-religious health spa on land owned by the Bureau of Land Management. In Death Valley, French photographer Michel Foucault took LSD, forcing him to completely reconsider and alter his three-volume work, The History of Sexuality. In Baker Ranch in Death Valley, the Manson Family found a poetic ending to their trail of death when they were captured in October 1969.

Some of the most frightening stories originating from the Mojave are courtesy of the United States Military. In 1951, at the Nevada Proving Grounds, the military per-formed nuclear weapons testing on human beings, having soldiers, with no protective clothing, “positioned as close as two thousand yards to a forty-three kiloton explosion.” During such explosions, “soldiers were singed by flame-like heat and whipped by hurricane-force winds laden with radioactive de-bris; having been warned to cover their eyes, they beheld their finger bones through their closed eyes-lids.” 60,000 soldiers participated in these exercises. But that number pales in comparison to the one mil-lion troops who were the subjects of war games at General George Patton’s Desert Training Center. In the eyes of many soldiers, the DTC was the seventh circle of Hell and cloud-obscured moon peaked over the mountains. With its appear-ance, howling from the attenders emanated from every corner of the property.

I headed down to the area where the party was going to be held. I walked around trying to see what people were up to. There was a small congregation around the bonfire, drinking and focusing on a woman playing the guitar and shout-ing whatever came to her mind. She fin-ished up, and there was a brief applause before she started into another song. I went back to my tent for dinner and did not catch it.

I ate and rested before heading back down. I wandered down to the domed building, where the music had yet to start. Inside, the wood-en interior was covered in spray paint and writing. Most people sat piled on couches flung around in different spots. As the music be-gan, the attendees began to dance. The crowd swayed back and forth faster and faster as the music sped up. The tremendous volume of the music shook the building. “When your ears are ringing for, like, 17 minutes after, you know it’s good. It has to be,” one attendee told me later. The lineup consisted of bands with names like Insects vs. Robots; Bacteria Earth; and A Human Ex-pressing Experience, whose web-site describes the artist as being the product of “Alien entities from our space." I was a statement that summarized the cor-dial and welcoming atmosphere of Frydome-try. The party continued in intensity as the flow of guests continued. I turned in at 12:45 am, dur-ing the set of a band with three guitar-ists that played what seemed to be an end-less drone. The music continued through the early morning, disrupting me from my sleep three or four times. According to one person, the music lasted until 5:30 am, falling short of the organizers’ intended goal of music for 24 hours.

When I woke up at seven, I headed down to the lot with the cars and watched some fire spinners. I was tired, and there were only a few people around, some who had slept for a few brief hours, others for no time at all. The fire from the night before was still lit, though small-er, the sun was rising, everything seemed burnt out. Rain was on its way, so I departed at nine, hoping to stay clear of its path.

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IMPACT: community unites for Japan earthquake relief

By LINA VADALAMANI
Life editor

On March 11, an earthquake of magnitude 9.0 on the Richter scale hit northeastern Japan, trigger-
ging a tsunami with ten-meter-high waves. Both disasters, each formidable on its own, caused devastat-
ing problems including thousands of deaths, destruction of infrastructure and radioactive leaks at nuclear reactors.

Coverage of the recent disaster at Japan has shocked the world and mobilized numerous charitable organizations and people to raise funds to help in any way possible. Poly’s upper school also responded to the need, using a combination of innovative drives and fundraisers to help as much as possible.

Having long recognized that the best way to raise money at Poly is to appeal to students’ stomachs, a combination of concerned citizens and Community Outreach Representatives pooled together to host food sales over the course of the past couple weeks.

Andrea Kasimian and Lauriane Williams, along with ASB Vice President Mackenzie Lee and ASB Community Outreach Representative Isabel Sunshine, organized In-n-Out, ice cream and baked goods sales to raise money.

Representative Sunshine, which sold bacon quesadillas and grilled cheese sandwiches. The proceeds from all of the food sales, estimated $2300, will go to the Red Cross.

Freshman Community Outreach representative Victoria Peng worked with the Starbucks on Lake Street, which agreed to donate 9 cups of coffee to help the cause, to organize a Starbucks coffee sale for the morning of April 15. Peng noted, “I chose to reach out to the student body and fac-
sibly with Starbucks on Lake Street, which agreed to donate 9 pairs of shoes. Said Cole, “I think that when you donate items instead of money, your donation seems solid and imagina-
ble. We can all understand the value of a pair of shoes or a can of food. This partic-
ular drive seemed a beneficial and extremely doable fundraiser.”

Senior Community Outreach representative Jane Davidson orga-

ized a joint fundraiser involving "crane-making. Architecture for Hu-
manity, which will help rebuild in Japan, and Students Rebuild, which

According to its website “mobilizes young people to connect, learn and take action on critical global is-

sues,” have both created initiatives linking these cranes to financial contributions. Davidson remarked, “Making cranes is so easy. It’s a great way to get students involved when we only have so much mon-

ey we can personally donate.” The materials to make cranes will be available in the Student Activities Center until April 14.

Also active was the Men’s Ser-

vice League (MSL), a fledgling ser-

vice club at Poly seeking to make its mark. For every MSL t-shirt ordered, $1 was donated to earth-
quake relief. Along with the pro-
ceds from other events it has held throughout the year, the MSL do-

Nated $200 to Japan earthquake re-

Lief. Said MSL founder sophomore William Debure, “The MSL is a se-

rious organization, and we have set high goals for ourselves to improve both Poly and other communities.

When we heard the call for support from people in Japan affected by the earthquake, we responded im-

ediately by donating the money we have made so far. We believe that everyone has a common goal – to unite and to serve others.”

Other efforts included donation boxes around the campus and the ASB dance, where half the proceeds were donated to the Red Cross. The dance alone raised $1015.

Strom summarized Poly’s earth-

quake relief efforts the best, “I think that Poly responded like Poly responds to every major disaster that happens in the world – very generously and quickly. I’m not surprised by the outsourcing of gen-

erosity because this is what we do.”

ASB Dance review: “Outer Space Cowboy Rave”

By AUDREY CHAI
Life editor

It was another successful event put on by the ASB.

To start off the fourth quarter, one of the busiest and most work-

heavy periods of the year, the ASB put on a second dance for the entire student body, allowing students to come out and enjoy a night of danc-

ing, music and funny photo-booth sessions.

The theme for the dance, “Outer Space Cowboy Rave” was inspired by the infamously “Cowboy versus Aliens” movie. The scene at the dance was like the merging of two universes. Students who chose to come as aliens dressed up in me-
tallic leggings and highlighter col-

ored shirts and topped it off with glitte-r-hall antennas. The cowboys and cowgirls of the night could be seen in classic denim, flannel shirts, leather vests and cowboy hats. With DJ Quabe Nache providing the music throughout the night, Gosney was filled with an eclectic group of dancing creatures.

One of the most exciting aspects of dances that has really taken off this year—the student-run photo booth—was this time organized by junior Chris Terrile. With lights, a background and a photographer in place, the photo booth was one of the greatest features of the night as students took a break from dancing and jumped in line to take numerous photos with friends. Terrile’s photos have since been uploaded onto Flickr and provide an acces-
sible way for people to remember the event.

Besides the dancing and photos, perhaps the highlight of this ASB Dance was its purpose: to raise money for the Japan earthquake re-
lief fund.

The ASB decided to put on an-

other dance this year not only be-
cause the student body had “really enjoyed the first ASB dance in the fall,” but also because, “we saw a great opportunity to help out those in need in Japan,” commented Community Outreach Representa-
tive, Isabel Sunshine. “It was great that we were able to fundraise for future ASB events, but we were more pleased with finding a big way in which we could continue to help the earthquake victims.”

Raising over $1000 from the night, the ASB certainly did well in meeting its goal. With the rest of the money raised from this dance, the ASB plans on continuing its traditions of food in the Student Commons along with new exciting plans soon to come in the future. Overall, the night was nothing but a huge success for both the student body and the greater community.
Students get a taste of life in New York City during spring break

By LILLIAN MECUM
Assistant news editor

Twenty-two students traveled to New York City for a five-day cultural immersion trip over spring break. Trip coordinators Tina Cocumelli and Greg Feldmeth wanted to offer an affordable trip that would expose stu-
dents to the cultural treasures of New York City.

Unlike many other Poly-spon-
ored trips offered over spring
and summer break, the New York City trip had no curricular ties and was available to students on a first-come-first-serve system. The cost was also significantly smaller than those of other immersion trips.

After settling into their Brook-
lyn Heights hotel on the first
morning, the group set out on their first adventure by walking to the Brooklyn Bridge Promenade for their first view of Manhattan.

The group also visited the Museum of Modern Art, more commonly known as MoMA, where stu-
dents had the opportunity to see pieces by Jackson Pollock, Frida Kahlo, Andy Warhol and other sig-
nificant artists. Several

students expressed their regret for not designating more time to MoMA and exploring
more exhibitions.

After a busy day of traveling to different parts of the city, the students made their way to Rickshaw Dumpling, a restaurant owned by Poly alumna Kenny Lao. They were joined by a group of eight other Poly alumni, who gathered for a small reunion to swap stories and interact with the current Upper School students while sharing a meal.

The following day, the group visited the Guggenheim Mu-
seum, famous for its contempo-
rary and impressionist art. Later, the students also toured Grand Central Station and the United Nations Headquarters. After eat-
ing dinner, the group went to the St. James Theatre to see their first Broadway show: American Idiot. The group then visited the Rockefeller Center and enjoyed the famous view of Manhattan from the top of the Rock Obser-
vation Deck. Junior Jeffrey Chau recalled, “Once you get up there, you feel on top of the world with the entire city laid out at your fin-
gertips. It’s definitely a sight to behold.”

On Wednesday, they visited the American Museum of Natural History, where they also watched a planetarium show. The students spent the afternoon shop-
ing and regrouped for dinner, after which they enjoyed their sec-
ond Broadway show, Memphis, at the Shub-
bert Theatre.

On the final day of their trip, the group visited the 9/11 Me-
orial Site before de-
parting New York City and returning to Pasa-
dena. “I thought the trip was very successful,” Feld-
meth reflected. “We wanted to have a variety of activities so ev-
everyone would enjoy something”. When asked what her favorite part of the trip was, sophomore Lacey Minot replied, “I loved ev-
ery part of it. I had never been to [New York City] before, and even walking down the streets was ex-
citing.”

Judging from the success of this year’s trip, the chaperones hope to offer another trip next year.

Global Initiatives Program sponsors trip to China

For the third time, Upper School students traveled to Beijing, China to sight-see and community service.

By RYAN HYON
Student contributor

Rather than sunbathing at the local beach or catching up on their sleep, fifteen Poly students and one student from Blair High School traveled to China during spring break. Sponsored by the Global Initiatives Program, this annual trip included a visit to PS 161, Poly’s Chinese sister school that vis-
ed their Upper School in February.

Upper School his-
tory teacher and Global Initiatives Program Co-
ocordinator Rick Cara-
gher explained, “This trip emphasizes social and cultural interaction and service: we visited students at four high school levels, two cochlear implant schools and the English Corner, a free English tutoring program available to all citizens at the public library.”

Additionally, the group visited famous national land-
marks, such as the Capi-

tal Museum, the Musaeum of Modern Art and the Forbidden City.

Caragher, accompanied by Upper School Spanish teacher Laura Cid and Middle School Mandarin instructor Minhua Gu, led the trip, during which both teachers and the students were immersed in China’s rich and unique culture.

The students, ranging from freshmen to seniors, traveled to China not only as tourists, but as Polytechnic School ambas-
sadors, attempting to strengthen Poly’s bonds with its respective sister schools in China and perform community service at two Cochlear Implant Schools. At the schools, the group interacted with Chinese students and attended their classes, where they learned how the academic environment compares with Poly’s educational program. In comparing Chinese

my parents’ lives, is completely different than that of my own in the United States.

In addition to their interaction with the Chinese students, Poly students had the opportunity to taste genuine Peking Duck, inter-

mingle with residents in Hutong and learn Tai Chi from the locals.

When asked why they enjoyed the trip, the students were able to describe memorable experiences. Caragher explained, “Each day was really a highlight. On a scale of 1-10, I gave the trip a 9.7 - that is pretty awesome.”

In addition to learning the massive cultural differences and contrasts in lifestyle, the group also gained ap-
preciation for the copious number of similarities that Americans share with the Chinese.

Caragher also noted, “The China trip, to be per-
fectly honest, was one of those experiences that does not rival any others;” re-
called junior Connor McK-

ight. “To be in a country so different from the United States, to interact with students my age in a completely different schooling system, to eat the best Chinese food of my life, it was just surreal. It epitomizes everything the Global Initiatives Program stands for. International relations, community service, friendships across seas - it was just incredible.”

Cranes for Japan

For the past two weeks, Upper School students have been folding origami cranes to aid the Japan relief effort. Students Rebuild, the Bezco Family Foundation and DoSomething.org teamed up and are donating two dollars towards Architecture for Humanity, a non-profit organization dedicated to using architec-
ture to seek solutions for global crisis, for every paper crane sent in.

The worldwide project ends on April 15 and will hopefully have reached its goal of 100,000 cranes.

"Making cranes is so easy," says senior Jane Davidson. “It’s a great way to get students involved when we only have so much money we can personally donate.

Poly students are certainly no strangers to making cranes, hav-
ing done so in the past as a symbol of healing for junior Jackson Allain. Spanish teacher Clara Cid and freshman Gabe Lizardo, in fact, has kindly donated all of his unmarked cranes to the cause.

Over 600 cranes have been made so far. Throughout the school day, students can be seen at the Student Activities Center bend-
ing over squares of colored paper. Some even bring in bags full of cranes folded at home. Evident in the growing pile of cranes in the Commons, more and more students are taking the time to make cranes to donate money to Japan without paying a single cent.

Sophomore Sarah Anderson comments, “I felt empathy for the people in Japan, and I didn’t know what I could do. Folding cranes is such a great way to help.”

-Rachel Hoang

Besides developing Poly’s relationship with its Chi-

nese sister school PS 161, the group also visited sev-

eral famous tourist destinations.

By Jackie Olive

Junior Connor McKnight plays with children at a Cochlear Implant School, located in the outer rings of Beijing, China.
Upcoming at Poly

Visual Arts “Why Not?” Exhibition (Garland Lobby)
Opening reception Thursday April 14, 6 PM
Exhibition runs April 14 - May 24

Poetry Slam Competition (Gosney Auditorium)
Thursday April 14, 7 PM

Beauty and the Beast Musical (Garland Theater)
Friday April 15, 7:30 PM
Saturday April 16, 7:30 PM
Sunday April 17, 2 PM
Thursday April 21, 7:30 PM
Saturday April 23, 1 PM and 7:30 PM

Upper School Parent Information Session for New Schedule (Boswell Library)
Tuesday April 19, 7 PM
Thursday April 28, 7 PM
Tuesday May 3, 7 PM

Case Studies Night for Juniors and Junior Parents (Westridge School)
Tuesday April 26, 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Pet and Hobby Show (Babcock Field and Scott Gym)
Friday April 29

Francis Wass Day - School Holiday
Monday May 2

AP Examinations
Monday May 2 - Friday May 13

Dodge Night (Dodge Stadium)
Friday May 13, 7 PM

Junior-Junior Prom (location TBA)
Saturday May 14, 7:30 PM

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Students experience Italian culture

The group had the opportunity to visit historical sites, view legendary artworks and immerse themselves in the Italian lifestyle during spring break.

By KELSEY KAWANA
Assistant news editor

Traditionally, spring break is a time of college hunting, studying and researching for most Poly upperclassmen. But for the sophomores and freshmen, several weekend trip options are offered for those interested in pursuing global studies with an emphasis on art and culture. This year, the five students who signed up for the trip visited the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the Sistine Chapel and the Vatican Museum. The Poly group explored more offbeat wonders and locations, like the ruins of Pompeii. Sophomore Aria Griffin noted that the Pantheon was one of the most memorable moments of the trip. She said, “You read about these places in textbooks, but you can’t really feel the impact of the building until you’re standing inside of it.”

The group was also exposed to another major cultural difference: European transportation. Although cars and highways remain prominent features of Los Angeles, Italy instead relies heavily on bullet trains for mobility. Of the trek from Rome to Florence, Schaefer recalled, “The countryside was turning emerald green and the fruit trees were flowering in bursts of color. Passing random forests.”

In addition to enjoying the breathtaking scenery, great food and even better company, students also studied some of the greatest historical European painters and sculptors history such as Michelangelo, Rafael, Leonardo and Botticelli. Schaefer recalled that the essence of the Renaissance spirit seemed to flow right through Florence, with the close attention to detail present in many edifices, fountain statues and stone workings of the city. On the last night, as the group returned to Rome, a young man plunged into the Trevi Fountain and proposed to his girlfriend amidst the rowdy cheers of good fortune from a crowd of passersby. The immediacy of such vibrant culture and inspiration immersed students in the quiet beauty of deep reflection and unique culture of Italy.
Golf beats Webb, looks to challenge Viewpoint

By IAN MCKNIGHT
Student contributor

As the Poly varsity golf team ventures further into the season, it maintains a record of 9-2. With the contributions from freshman Willy Moffly and seniors Kevin Fohrer and Croix Griffin, the team continues to drive past opponents. Moffly commented, “So far, we are off to a great start this season, and it is great to be contributing in our victories. Hopefully we can convert this start into a great finish in upcoming post-season matches.”

The squad emerged victorious in its last three matches with strong all-around performances. On March 31, the team outplayed Hillcrest Christian, beating its opponent by a mammoth 51 points. The team then faced its crosstown foe, the Maranatha Minutemen. Similar to the match against Hillcrest Christian, this match resulted in another Panther victory, this time by a score of 205-224.

Holding their heads high, the Panthers went into their most recent match with high expectations. These expectations were met by clutch putting, leading to a final score of 226-242 against La Salle.

Freshman Willy Moffly watches his drive from the tee spot in a recent matchup against Hillcrest Christian at the Brookside Golf Course. The Panthers were victorious 230-281.

High School.

With some important matches looming ahead on the schedule, it is vital that the team scores well against Viewpoint and rival Flintridge Prep. Niblick, the annual award given to the overall winner in the matches between Poly and Flintridge Prep, this year’s team. Since his freshman year, Fohrer has proved to be one of Poly’s best golfers. Fohrer commented, “So far this year we’ve been doing really well, the best in memory. If we beat Prep again we’ll take the Mystic Niblick back from them. Furthermore, if we beat Viewpoint on both occasions, which will be incredibly difficult as they’re a golf powerhouse, we’ll win league for the first time for Poly.” Fohrer’s development, along with the consistent play of senior Croix Griffin, puts the Panthers in prime position for the League playoffs.

A surprising success story of the team this year has been Moffly. Making the team as a freshman, Moffly has assumed the role as one of the key players, sometimes even recording the lowest score on the team.

With the help of Fohrer, Griffin and Moffly, the team sits in a great position for the rest of the year. With the league prelims and finals coming up, the team hopes to maintain its successful season.

Golf spotlight: contending for a Prep League title

Croix Griffin
Senior (4 year starter)
1) Top Score of the Season: 39 at Eaton Canyon
2) Driving Range: 265 Yards
3) Club of Choice: Putter
4) Strengths: Course Management
5) Season Highlight: Beating Webb and Milken

David Hong
Sophomore (2 year starter)
1) Top Score of the Season: 39 at Brookside
2) Driving Range: 280 Yards
3) Club of Choice: 4 Hybrid
4) Strengths: Iron Shots
5) Season Highlight: Gain 20 yards on my drives from last year

Kevin Fohrer
Senior (2 year starter)
1) Top Score of the Season: 41 at Woodley
2) Driving Range: 260 Yards
3) Club of Choice: 60 degree lob wedge
4) Strengths: Iron and Wedge Shots
5) Season Highlight: Beating Webb and Milken

Willy Moffly
Freshman (1 year starter)
1) Top Score of the Season: 37 at Brookside
2) Driving Range: 275 Yards
3) Club of Choice: Drive
4) Strengths: Chipping and Driving
5) Season Highlight: Draining a 45 yard putt for birdie

Victoria Morgan
Junior (2 year starter)
1) Top Score of the Season: 41 at Brookside
2) Driving Range: 250 Yards
3) Club of Choice: Driver
4) Strengths: Chipping and Compouse
5) Season Highlight: 170-yard drive for birdie
**BOYER LEADS TRACK TEAM TO NEW HEIGHTS**

By BRIAN HOLMAN  
Sports editor

The bar was set to 5’6”. Senior Elizabeth Boyer took her stride, catapaulted off one foot, arched her back and collapsed on the other side, the bar still resting atop the metal standards.

In that moment, she not only won the high jump event at the Covina Invitational, but also broke her personal and school records and tied for the highest jump by any female high school athlete in California this year.

As if this was not enough, Boyer again excelled one week later at the Arcadia Invitational, commonly known to be the second-most prestigious high school meet in the season. Held at Arcadia High School, the meet features some of the top high-school competition nationally and even internationally.

The meet featured athletes from 23 states this year, is the site of 24 national records and has produced 124 U.S. Olympians in its 43-year history.

Boyer won the event.

“I didn’t expect to win,” said a humble Boyer. “I was honored just to have the chance to compete in the event, as I didn’t make the invitational finals last year.”

But when her 5’6” jump beat all others, the victory was hers. Boyer added, “I was really excited to only be the latest in a string of victories for her and her team mates this season. Boyer has dominated in girls high jump, winning every event she has participated in league. The latest victory for the boys came in the Flintridge meet, held at La Canada. For field events, senior Daniel Wohl secured the top spot in high jump. Wohl also placed second in the triple jump, despite competing in the event for the first time, and third in the long jump. Junior Nathan Hamming won the shot-put competition. Senior Chris Levin and junior Yusef Burpee both cleared 10’6” in pole vault, which tied them for first in the meet and an equal share of the school record.

Poly also has an impressive sta ble of sprinters. Senior Alden Hig gins ran an 11.2 to win the 100m, while senior Blake Edwards placed second in the 100m as well as the long jump. Last year’s League MVP Jack Porter won both the 400m and 200m events with times of 51.2 and 22.8 seconds. Porter, Higgins and Edwards, along with junior Harrison Hodgkins form the 4x100m relay team. Although they dropped the baton in this particular event, the team is one of the best the school has had and looks to both win league and potentially break a school record this year.

For the girls, both the 4x400m and 4x100m teams won, though the latter team ran unopposed. Freshman Evan Guncedo won the 800m, while senior Jake Richard-Craven won the shot put.

The team looks to continue its success in meets hosted by Webb and Chadwick before competing in League Prelims on April 29.

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**VOLLEYBALL LOOKS STRONG IN LEAGUE**

By CHARLES PATTERSON  
Student contributor

The boys varsity volleyball team, currently ranked number four in CIF Division V, swept Flintridge Prep in three games in a critical Prep League match and is currently undefeated in league play with an overall 8-3 record.

While in the midst of a great run, it has not been an easy season for the Panthers. Senior Matt Capheart, a team leader, tore his second ACL tendon of the year on a rough landing playing after also tearing an ACL playing summer basketball. Trainer and co-captain Michael Saeta commented, “Our team has been plagued with injuries. It is hard to have a team with practice with less than ten able players, but we make do. With that said, I do not believe that we have had a bad start at all.”

The squad is now on a three-game winning streak due to the fact that it beat San Gabriel Christian, Rialto Hondo and Flintridge. Although Flintridge is still considered stiff competition, Saeta believes that there are better teams to come in the future. “Our best test, coming this next week, is Chadwick. They are a good team with height and athleticism, but on the other hand, so are we,” [Junior] Colin [Woolway] and I have more experience than any of the players on their team, and we hope that our experience will pay off.”

The height and athleticism on the Poly squad comes not only from the experienced upperclassmen, but also from two freshmen that start for the team. Will Genske and Dennis Grover, both sophomores, are key to Poly this year. Genske and Grover, along with Capheart, were injured earlier in the season weakening the team even more. Has returned to play, however, and helped the team to win against Prep this past Friday.

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**SOFTBALL SWINGS FOR HIGHER FUNES**

After a crushing defeat against Mayfield last Thursday, the Panthers stand at 3-5,(1-4 in Prep League). With their only league win against Chadwick, a 6,0 win, the squad hopes to turn things around as it approaches the halfway mark in Prep League play. Led by senior pitcher Stephe Ter cero and junior third baseman Ju lisa Tosi, Poly looks toward games against Webb and Westridge this week.

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Evident by the Cate match, the contributions of freshmen Puri, John son and Andrew Reyes de Perez cannot go overlooked. While the pro gram struggles to make a strong presence in league play, the strength of the underclassmen shows promise for the near future. “Our freshmen members are performing well above what was expected of them,” said Whitaker-Morrow.

As Prep League play starts up, the squad is looking forward to show its improvement from last year and to surprise its competitors. Under the direction of captains Rossi, Shah and senior G.R. Stov, the Panthers hope to continue what Shah called “cohesive play” against league opp onents.

-Connor McKnight

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**TENNIS FALLS TO PREP**

After a rough start to the season and a record of 4-7, the boys varsity tennis team opened league play against Flintridge Prep with a 12-6 loss. In spite of losing their top singles players from last year, Wesley DeVoll and Matthew Dephius, the Panthers plan on redeeming last season’s winless run in the Prep League.

Heading into spring break with three victories out of five matches at the expense of La Salle, Pasadena High School and Oakwood, the squad started the fourth quarter with an 18-0 loss at La Cañada. From there, Poly matched last year’s win total with a crushing 13-5 win against Ramon, led by junior captains Matthew Rossi and Sahul Shah.

While momentum started to peak in a positive direction, the squad fell to Cate 11-7, but its improvements from last year were evident. Doubles partners Rossi and Shah and the freshmen duo of Matt Johnson and Sachin Puri both swept their competitors. Cate had a very strong group of singles players who won all nine sets in order. While momentum started to peak in a positive direction, the squad fell to Cate 11-7, but its improvements from last year were evident. Doubles partners Rossi and Sahul and the freshmen duo of Matt Johnson and Sachin Puri both swept their competitors. Despite the strong showing, the Panthers hope to continue what Shah called “cohesive play” against league opponents.

-Connor McKnight
Swimming dives headfirst into Prep League

By SAHIL SHAH
Assistant sports editor

Competing against rival Flintridge Prep, the Poly girls varsity swim team, pulled out a significant 109-61 victory on Friday April 8, putting it at a 4-3 overall record. While the girls celebrated their league opener, the boys varsity swim team suffered a 115-55 loss against Flintridge. The boys are now 1-5 overall.

The Panther girls won multiple events to secure their margin over the Rebels. Starting with the medley relay and 200 free relay, the team of juniors Hannah Grotzinger and Michelle Miller, freshman Caroline Harvey and sophomore Justine Cheng came first in both events with final times of 2:01.85 and 1:50.12, respectively.

In the 200 individual medley, Harvey was able to take first place with 2:29.72. Miller added twelve more points for the Panthers as she placed first in the 50 freestyle event with 26.07 as well as the 100 freestyle event with 57.31. Also coming in first in the 100 butterfly and 100 breaststroke was Cheng with times of 1:01.17 and 1:18.45. The 400 free relay team of junior co-captain Olivia Hudnut and sophomores Lauren Lantry, Jaclyn Cole and Catherine Finney took first with a time of 4:33.48.

In addition to all of these first place finishes, Poly has relied on third and fourth place swimmers, which significantly rounds out its score. On the squad of 20, the Poly girls have no seniors, yet Coach Lee. Of Holman, teammate Jack Birkenbeuel said, “Though he lacks the power to throw 90 miles per hour, his ability to consistently hit his spots when combined with his great change of pace” have made him invaluable.

Of Lee, Jonah Campbell simply stated that “he gets the job done,” a reference to Caleb’s stalwart performance in the double header versus Ontario Christian. In that two-game series he had to play twelve innings as a catcher and then pitch the final two innings of relief.

Some good news is that in the most recent games, senior Matthew Saeta has returned to action on the field and is able to begin catching again. Though not yet able to fully contribute on defense due to a shoulder injury, Saeta has been able to lead the team with his bat. Saeta currently leads the team with a .433 batting average, 10 RBIs, 14 runs and three home runs.

The team looks to senior leaders such as Hunter Merriman, who has a .357 batting average to go with nine RBIs, and Saeta to lead the charge offensively. Pitchers Kutzer, Holman and Feess hope to continue to turn in quality starts and take the pressure off the team. An all-around strong team, the Panthers comfortably lead the Prep League and hope to continue their strong play to high seed in the CIF playoffs.

Freshman Carolina Harvey swims the butterfly (left), freshman Hazen Breen competes in a free-style event (top right), and junior Hannah Grotzinger starts a backstroke event (bottom right) in a swim meet against Temple City High School. The girls are 4-3 this season, while the boys are 1-5.

Another important facet of the Poly girls swim team is sophomore Jessica Berger still describes the squad as having “a lot of depth, with girls that are versatile and extremely competitive.”

By MATT LIU
Assistant sports editor

With recent victories over Prep League opponents, the Panthers boast an undefeated record and are currently ranked #2 in CIF Division VI. With recent crushing victories over Rio Hondo Prep 14-2 and 14-0 respectively, the squad has consistently overwhelmed its opponents on the mound and at the plate. Matched up against Ontario Christian in a double header, the Panthers also cruised to two victories, 3-2 and 11-5.

As the Poly boys baseball team has officially reached the midseason mark, its record stands at 10-2-1. After a tough five-game opening at the Arcadia Elks Tournament, the team has bounced back on route to an eight-game winning streak. During a five-game stretch, the Panthers opposed tough competition in Arcadia, Monrovia and San Dimas, facing off against many college-bound seniors. Yet despite the skill of his higher-division opponents, the team was able to keep most of the games close and closed its opening series at 2-2-1.

A month later, the Panthers still continue their Prep League dominance and once again contend for a title. Recently, the squad made Poly athletic history following Coach Wayne Ellis’ 400th win as head of the Panther program. As junior Logan Beerman remarked, “This is an incredible feat when you consider that the baseball season used to be only 17 games long in comparison to the current 26-game season.” In the wake of such an accomplishment, the team continues to build on that momentum in hopes of winning a record 17th Prep League title.

After the loss of the last year’s Prep League MVP Charlie Baxter and a talented class of 2010, the squad has remained confident and its stellar performance made evident by its 10-2-1 record. The players attribute this success to their balanced lineup and unusual depth in their pitching rotation (Jordan Kutzer, Brian Holman and Davey Feess). Two players in particular were singled out for having played crucial roles, senior Brian Holman and sophomore Caleb Lee. Of Holman, teammate Jack Birkenbeuel said, “Though he lacks the power to throw 90 miles per hour, his ability to consistently hit his spots when combined with his great change of pace” have made him invaluable.

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Junior Jonah Campbell and senior Matthew Saeta take swings (left and top middle), while senior Jordan Kutzer fields a ground ball (bottom middle) and junior starter Davey Feess pitches from the mound (right). The varsity baseball team boasts a 10-2-1 record (4-0 in Prep League) and a #2 ranking in CIF Division VI.
By CALEB LEE 
Assistant sports editor

Keyed by experienced and relatively new fencers alike, the Poly fencing team has continued to compete at a high level in the spring season, placing well in the Southern California Scholastic League team finals. 

At Poly’s only-year-long high school competitive sport, the fencing program saw its numbers thin out significantly this spring. As opposed to the fall season, in which there were 22 athletes, there are ten fencers on the team this spring, with a few others who practice with a club but also represent the Panthers. At the same time, the decreasing numbers in hand enabled the coaches to focus more of their time on individual athletes who are athletes, most of whom have been fencing all year. Sophomore Michael Chen explained, “Both Coach Holmgren and Gin have worked tirelessly year-round to help the team improve through their consistent pushing, drills as well as through their analyses and feedback of each fencer during tournaments and practice.” 

Freshman Emily Gifford, who fences epee outside of Poly, won the individual league title based on her outstanding victories in the Scholastic League events. In the first tournament, Gifford went 4-1 in pool play, then scored four consecutive direct elimination victories to earn the top spot. Gifford continued her dominance in the other event of the year, this time going 5-0 in pool play and won five elimination bouts in a row, 15-10, 15-7, 15-5, 9-5 and 15-10. The fencing team will look to Gifford to keep up the pace as the only current women’s epee fencer at Poly. The Panthers had high hopes to duplicate last year’s strong performance at the Scholastic League Team-foil championship and did not disappoint. Although the Panthers only sent two teams to the tournament, both rose up to occasionally second place in their division. 

The two-person women’s team faced little resistance and cruised to win the league team championship. Sophomores Erynn Kim and Electra Lang dismantled the opposition by scores of 3-1, 6-0 and 6-0. This is another great example of how fencing as a year-round sport at Poly has benefited certain athletes. Both Kim and Lang have been fencing since freshman year and also fenced during the fall and winter seasons this year, gaining much-needed experience and skill by competing in numerous tournaments against strong opponents. 

All the fencers on the team stress the importance of having knowledgeable and experienced coaches invested in each fencer’s success. Kim commented, “In a sport based on the nuances of the techniques, the coaches face the essential but daunting task of finding every mistake. Coaches Holmgren and Gin manage to do this despite all the difficulties and have also taught almost everyone on the team since the day we picked up a fencing foil.” 

Hol elaborated, “Our coaches have relentlessly drilled us in order to improve our skills and stamina. I believe we can keep the pace up by learning from our defeats and polish our existing skills, and we should end the season with a bang.” 

Fencing continues to foil

By the Numbers

5’8’’

The height senior Elizabeth Boyer high jumped at the Covina Invitational, which won her the meet. This ties the highest mark for anyone in California this year.

6th

The final ranking of Northwestern freshman Cosima Lenz ’10 at the NCAA Division I Diving Championships.

1.50

The E.R.A. of senior pitcher Brian Holman. His complete-game performances contributed to one-run victories against Ontario Christian and La Canada and a 10-2-1 record overall for Poly.

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The 50-yard freestyle time of junior swimmer Michelle Miller against St. Margaret’s, almost breaking the Poly school record. The Panthers won 120-43.

2011 Panther Scoreboard

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