New Girls’ Service League Cabinet installed
The newly elected 2010-2011 Girls’ Service League Cabinet prepares for the upcoming year.

By ALLY ARRIETA

As the school year comes to a close, the Girls’ Service League looks to build its program next year with the installation of a new cabinet. Next year, juniors Lili Liu and Paulina Pinsky will be the group composed of juniors Jade Richard-Craven, Emily Letts, and Katie Gancedo and sophomores Rachapala Bustamante and Tessa Loera.

Lili Liu and Paulina Pinsky, who served on this year’s cabinet as junior representatives, are excited about the new members of GSL. Expressing her enthusiasm about the unique qualities of each new member of the cabinet, Lili Liu said, “We are so excited about our new cabinet. From what we know and what we’ve heard, they are all uniquely strong girls who are different and who will be bringing new ideas to the table. They will really be taking on some important roles this year and leading their own committees, and Paulina and I are really looking forward to working with them.”

Reflecting on the diversity of the cabinet, Richard-Craven said, “I hope to add my own leadership and experience to the cabinet. I am not your typical girl, and I hope that with the diverse personalities and talents of our cabinet members, we can change the stereotypical view of GSL.”

A next year’s junior representatives, Bustamante and Loera are excited about this chance to develop their leadership skills and learn from the new co-presidents. Tessas Loera expressed her particular excitement about leading Big Sister, Little Sister activities next year. “I look forward to working with the GSL Cabinet. Since next year everyone is going to bring new ideas to the table, I am planning to contribute ideas such as making fun big sister and little sister activities and choosing a service activity that we will focus on during the year.”

The group decided to start their work right away, eager to start implementing their new ideas. At their first meeting last Thursday, the cabinet discussed some of their

See GSL page 2

Opinion

Olivea Rus-sak ponders the “point of Poly”

Seniors

The Pay Print staff presents the anticipated college list and senior predictions.

Life

The Life section reviews this year’s Prom.

Sports

Sports previews the upcoming CIF World Cup.

New award to honor Poly alum
The family of Jesse Thyne (*95) and the administration will present an award to a member of the senior class dedicated to service.

By LILLIAN MECUM
Assistant news editor

A new award will be presented to a member of this year’s graduating class of 2013 at the Senior Class dinner. The honor is sponsored by the family of Jesse Thyne (*94), a Poly alum who died in a tragic car accident in Guatemala while working in the Peace Corps after graduating from UC Santa Cruz in 1998.

During his stay in Dountou, Guatemala, Thyne befriended a family whose son, Amadou Diallo, had died in New York City eleven months after the murder of his brother, Ibrahima Diallo. One night, the police arrived at Diallo’s apartment to check his I.D. When he reached in his purse for his wallet, the police mistook it for a gun, and shot him on the spot.

Jesse’s and Amadou’s deaths have been intertwined as they both served as an inspirational cry against many endemic issues. While staying with Diallo’s family, Thyne worked to debunk the negative ideas and beliefs that his host family believed were inherently “American.”

Soon after arriving in Guatemala and developing a relationship with Diallo’s family, Thyne died in a tragic car accident. Thousands of Guineans came together to show support for road-safety in Guatemala while thousands of Americans were inspired to protect police brutality and racial profiling. Jesse’s legacy will continue forever in Dountou where a library and memorial have been dedicated in his honor.

The Jesse Thyne Award is special for a variety of reasons, most notably because the students of the Senior Class will nominate the recipient. The “class award” will be given to the person who, as Dr. Neilson describes it, “most likely do good in the world.” The award will recognize admirable traits of Thyne and his host family, such as selflessness and compassion, as well as the spirit that the graduates believe they embody as a group. The activity will be presented on May 27 and the award and submit nominations on Tuesday, May 25. Then Mrs. Reed and Dr. Neilson will determine the recipient of the award and present it at the Senior Dinner on May 26. The recipient will also be recognized on Honors Day.

by Bob Forrest

Members of the junior and senior classes gathered at “Loft Seven” in downtown Los Angeles for this year’s Prom, themed “Through the Looking Glass.” The evening, organized and funded by the junior class and Prom Committee, featured dinner, dancing and a photo booth for students and faculty chaperones. For the full story see page 11.

Speaker discusses consequences of drugs and alcohol
Bob Forrest spoke in front of the entire Upper School in preparation for the junior and senior Prom.

By KELSEY KAWANA
Assistant news editor

Students gathered in the Gar-land auditorium to hear guest speaker Bob Forrest on the Friday morning preceding Poly’s 2010 Prom. He is a successful musician, a part of the “treatment team” on VH1’s Celebrity Rehab, a dependency program director working with Dr. Drew, a member of the Board for the Musicians Assistance Program (MAP) and a prior alcoholic.

During the assem- bly, Forrest spoke candidly and elo- quently of his child- hood and high-school years—the beginnings of his addiction—and the long, eventual road to his sobriety in 1996. The rousing ap- plause from students at the closing of this assembly reflected the tacit effectiveness of Forrest’s presen-tation. Dean of Stu-dents Brendan Mc-Grail mentioned that student feedback was generally positive, and that one stu- dent pegged this assembly as the best one Poly has had thus far. Forrest’s decision to ask the fac- ulty to leave for the duration of the hour allowed the conversation to be less strained and more open to questions and concerns. Sopho- more Cameron Rho remarked, “I thought Mr. Forrest was very effec-tive because I felt that he actually knew what he was talking about. He had made some mistakes, lived through the consequences, and was now telling us about his experi- ences so that we wouldn’t make the same mistakes that he did. Having listened to someone who re- ally understood the penalties for his choices, I feel much less inclined to make the same choices.”

Forrest bluntly began his pre- sentation. “Hi, I’m Bob and I’m an alcoholic,” after which he proceed-ed to delve deeper into the story of his own life. As a returning Poly guest speaker, Forrest has a certain familiarity with the school, but this was the first time the administra-tion brought him in to speak about prom. Upper School Director Jamie Neilson commented that these kinds of gatherings are meant to help students make decisions, as [adults] are not going to be with [them] all the time. It’s another way to help students see real life conse- quences.

In the past, pre-Prom speak- ers have shared a number of other interesting stories. As McGrail recalls, one was college student Mark Sterner, who was involved in a drunk driving accident while on Spring Break, in which several friends died; he sub- sequently spent time in prison. During the assembly, Sterner had several powerful visua- l views, including a video shot just hours before the car crash—the last few moments in the lives of his friends and peers.

It seems the mes-sage that the Poly ad- ministration has been sending students is preemptive, but not overbearing; it is an attempt to send an impression far more positive than pure tec- turing would allow. Forrest accom- plished this task exceedingly well, and students look forward to see- ing what speakers and stories await them next year.
Music groups perform as year concludes

Poly instrumental and vocal groups held performances to showcase their talents and wrap up the academic year.

By KEVIN CHU
Staff writer

The Poly community had the opportunity to indulge in the musical and artistic talents of students in a variety of performances held earlier this month. The first performance exhibited the talents of Upper School singers and songwriters, while the all-school Instrumental Spring Concert demonstrated the musical abilities of the orchestra and Jazz Bands of the lower, middle and upper school divisions.

The first performance, held during an Upper School Assembly, showcased the work of the Vocal Ensemble and Songwriters’ Club. Freshmen Jackie Olive and Ryan Schilling opened the show with a duet from Phantom of the Opera. Other ensemble members performed pieces from musicals such as Oklahoma, while some opted to perform songs written for classical voice. All members of the Vocal Ensemble met once a week throughout the year to work on individual solos, duets or ensemble numbers.

The Songwriter’s Club contributed to the second part of the performance. Founded by junior Ally Arrieta, the group has weekly lunch meetings to share ideas for new song ideas, express opinions on each other’s work, and analyze music by professional teachers. Alan Geier, a performing arts teacher and the club’s faculty sponsor, commented, “Ally has done a great job spearheading and organizing the group—she’s even brought in great artists.”

The final part of the show consisted of additional performances by the Vocal Ensemble, including songs by Joanie Mitchell, Lady Gaga and Stevie Wonder. For the finale, both the Vocal Ensemble and Songwriter’s Club joined together to sing the Glee cast version of “Leaves on Me.”

Geier said of the experience, “I actually liked this as part of an assembly so that the entire student body could listen to and appreciate some of our talented singers and songwriters in the Upper School.”

The Performing Arts Department also organized the more recent, all-school Instrumental Spring School and Upper School Jazz Bands (directed by Rob Hayes). The Lower School students offered classical pieces such as “Ode to Joy,” “Fiddle Tune Medley” and “Ludwig’s Tango.” The Middle School Orchestra followed these pieces with songs from West Side Story and included various violin, viola, cello and bass solos.

The second half of the show focused on the Middle and Upper School Jazz Bands, which offered pieces from a variety of artists including Marvin Gaye and Jimi Hendrix. When asked about the preparation leading up to the performances, Kabota noted, “The musicians for each of these ensembles began preparing for the performance at the beginning of the year. All groups focused on technique and ensemble skill.”

Ultimately, the two performances were enjoyed by participants and audience members alike. Said Geier, “Overall, I feel the assembly was a huge success.”

_Students attend annual Dodger Night_

Students and faculty had the opportunity to enjoy a night at Dodger Stadium during the annual Poly Dodger Night on May 7. Dodger Night began in 2006, when Assistant Head of School Greg Feldmeth invited his advisors to see a game. The event steadily grew in popularity, and in 2007 the advisors invited friends for a total of 36. Since then, the event has been extended to include the entire Upper School, and an astonishing 220 students and faculty attended the game this year.

One of the highlights of the game this year was the seating arrangement. Poly had the opportunity to sit in the coveted “all-you-can-eat” bleachers section. In this section, students enjoyed an unlimited supply of popcorn, nachos, drinks and Dodger Dogs, holding contests to see who could eat the most. Sophomore Sahil Shah exclaimed, “One of the biggest pluses of the night was the unlimited food. I love Dodger Dogs but I hate paying a lot for them. It made the night a lot more fun to be able to eat as much as I wanted and not worry about spending too much.”

To facilitate transportation for the evening, a large group of students and faculty took the Gold Line Metro to Union Station. From there, a free bus took students to the stadium This arrangement proved a huge help to many of the younger underclassmen and their parents.

Many students, especially seniors, appreciate Poly Dodger Night, as it is a fun event at the end of the school year. Senior Wesley Devoll commented, “Poly Dodger Night was a lot of fun and a great way to get so many seniors together, especially toward the end of the year of our last year together.”

The game also provided a great way for students to relax before AP exams and enjoy a night with their friends. Sophomore Lars Acosta indicated the success of the night when he noted, “I can’t wait to come back next year!” To top off a great night, Matt Kemp hit the go-ahead triple in the bottom of the sixth inning to secure a Dodger victory.

-Douglas Cleary

![Members of the Upper School Vocal Ensemble and Songwriter’s club closed the Upper School Arts Assembly by singing “Lean on Me.”](Image)

![Students attend annual Dodger Night](Image)

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### 2010-2011 ASB Cabinet

**President: Aubrey Walker**

“I have thought of and have heard ideas that I will be able to implement, building upon the successes of this year’s ASB.”

**Vice President: Mackenzie Lee**

“I will, as ASB Vice President, act upon my duty to my peers, making myself available to listen to students’ concerns, thoughts and ideas.”

**Chief Justice: Jenna Lameli**

“Chief Justice should be thoughtful, trustworthy and fair. I firmly believe that I am in possession of the type of character that would allow me to thrive and contribute valuably in all facets of this job.”

**Treasurer: Nikita Kitaev**

“The job of treasurer…involves knowing how to run fundraisers and spend money efficiently, and also demands the ability to stay organized and follow through with plans.”

**Secretary: Sam McCarthy**

“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.”

**Community Outreach: Isabel Sunshine**

“My goal as Community Service Rep has always been to help the rest of the student body enjoy obtaining the required community service hours.”

**GSL Continued from page 1**

Major objectives for next year: extending GSL’s impact to girls at Poly’s lower school; and making a more global impact by reaching out to women in different parts of the world.

The cabinet believes that they can make the larger impact that they are striving for if they get more of the students at Poly involved in the initiatives of GSL. The representatives of the cabinet want to focus on strengthening female representation and leadership. However, they believe that they cannot accomplish this task without increased participation in GSL. According to Paulina Pinky, “We’re trying to get the girls of the high school to collaborate and work for girls that need our help. We want GSL to be not only the work of the cabinet, but the work of all of the girls in the high school!”

One of the ways that the members of GSL want to get more girls involved is by giving the opportunities to serve on committees, which can be rotated among the cabinet will lead. The cabinet hopes that every girl will get involved in GSL in some way, whether it be by helping to lead an event or by volunteering at a charity that GSL supports.

The cabinet also plans to build on the past success of GSL’s two major events, the dance show and the GSL show. One way that the cabinet hopes to accomplish this goal is by adding another night to the dance show.

In addition to these larger, traditional events that GSL hosts every year, the cabinet hopes to introduce many new events, such as a Big Sister Little Sister Sleepover, a powderpuff football game, and a movie night. By adding these new events, the cabinet hopes to give female students more service and bonding opportunities. Liu and Pinky also want to give the newer members opportunities to implement the ideas that they described in their speeches.

The group realizes that they have a lot of work to do in order to accomplish all of these goals, but they seem ready for the challenge. Looking eagerly to next year, Liu stated, “We have some great ideas right now, and we can’t wait to start planning and putting our goals into action.”

The recently elected cabinet eagerly prepares to put their new ideas into effect during the upcoming school year.
**Crime and punishment**

By JANE DAVIDSON
Assistant opinion editor

Everyone knows you can be suspended for cheating, consuming illegal substances, or fighting in class. A classmate. The judiciary committee handles these cases with fairness, clarity and respect. So let me begin by clarifying that I hold the judiciary committee in the highest esteem: an article in this vein way pertains to that system. I do, however, believe that our disciplinary system for more minor offenses has serious problems. This year, pretty greenery arose as the ASB decided to rewrite what they saw as a flawed student council. Controversy arose because many students were not aware we even had a constitution, let alone were familiar with its content. As a community we stood up for our rights to review the text of a document that potentially affected our lives. Most students, however, ignore a critical page in a book that they may not even know exists.

This page is part of a book called the “Community Handbook,” which I read for the first time when a teacher loaned it to me after class on a recent Friday. In this article. I asked a sophomore, a junior, and an alum if they had ever even heard of this book, and none of them had. My parents claim that we have it somewhere but it is not accessible, at least to most students.

The “Community Handbook” is available for the Poly community to read online but only if you are logged in as a parent. Considering that the contents of this text apply mostly to the students, perhaps the administration should consider relocating it to a different page. Throughout our years in high school, we all have been reeling by knowl-
edge of school rules by word of mouth. Poly’s “Community Handbook” features a page that outlines our disciplinary system in- cluding a vague column about the “rules” and “punishments.” I highlight these terms with a certain sarcasm because this section just does not describe anything that, to me, fits the defini- tion of these words.

Our school rules mention illegal parking, but I think that they should be more off-campus parking without the same level of stare. The problem with this system is that all of these potential crimes receive detention as their punishment. This places parking in a “Poly illegal” zone not because they are ditching a class and groups any sophomore who leaves campus with an unfortunate student who utters a curse word in front of the Dean of Students. While some of these of- fenses pose serious threats to safety or issues in the event of an emergency, others receive the same punishment simply for the sake of punishment.

I am not claiming that students should not be punished for these less dangerous offenses. I simply do not understand why they are treated as though they are of the same caliber as the others. It’s as if all of the crimes punish- able by detention are misdemeanors and those that receive meetings with the judiciary committee are felonies. Student offenders do receive different amounts of detention, but punishments are barely differentiated be- tween the transgressions.

Detention itself at Poly is inherently flawed. Even many faculty members rec- ognize that this punishment really isn’t a big deal. I won’t try to change the adminis- tration’s view on detention. The Paw Print editor-in-chief emeritus Bobby Samuels al- ways said that people who are in detention this year, yet his logic caused no change. If these school rules are so important, why are we being punished in a way that won’t actu- ally punish students.

Even if all of these injustices were correct- ed, the main problem with our disciplinary system is inconsistency. I respect the author- ity of teachers and students, but if not more than any other student, but even the police cannot arrest perpetrators for laws that are not on the book.

The “Community Handbook” grants teachers power to enforce school rules as they see fit. This extension of power makes sense, since without it, the deans would es- sentially become the school police. With this responsibility, however, teachers that try to be sure rules are upheld are labeled as “bad cops” and students are warned to stay on their good side.

Any rule that leaves room for varied interpretation is a bad rule. I think that we must all be held to the same standards. Fur- thermore, as a school we need to clarify the specific of our rules. I know firsthand the punishment system. When I found out that I got a detention on my third day of school at Poly, I pulled out my mum’s diary from 1978, when she was 13 years old, and did a bit of research on the woman I call my mother. It doesn’t get much more journalistic than that. I found out that on July 22nd at the pool, she met a “to- tal fox” and that on March 1st 1979, she was introduced to a boy named Johnny by a new friend, Angie. “Well, we all met at the mall and I remember, Angie and I were about half an hour late. Well Johnny cussed Angie out really strongly. And from that moment on I was in love. He found out ‘cause Angie told him. I should mention that what I am hold- ing in my hands is a vintage Hello Kitty Di- ary. She starts off every entry with “Dear Kitty,” or “Hello Kitty.” And of course there is the strange suspension of disbelief in the way that girls can write stories about real life and never be caught up for real life. And of course my friends will not believe him.”

The Paw Print: The vessel for my nonsense

By MADISON SCHECKEL
Senior staff writer

So here we are. My last article for The Paw Print. It seems like just yesterday I was in- coherently stringing words together to create my first article, and now I am doing it for the last time ever. They say you never forget your first time, so make it special. I say, who cares about your first time as long as you do it a lot after that. And I did it a lot. I wrote a lot of articles. Ok, I think I only wrote about eight but still. At least I did it. Here’s the thing though. I don’t really want to stop. The Paw Print staff is like my family. Even though I’ve never spoken to them, I’ve never been alone, have never gone into the pub on weekends and have only spoken to the Opinion Editors when they’ve told me I can’t say [edited for content] if I figured I’d submit my application, see if they notice it’s mine and hopefully it’ll be so stunning, they won’t even remem- ber that I don’t even go here anymore. Here it is, tell me what you think. I’ve never had to submit one of these before:

Application due Monday, May 3 - Wednesday, May 5

Please email your responses to Bobby Samuels (m6602@pasch.net) and Justin Mortland (jpm5808@pasch.net) or turn in hard copy to the main office.

Submission Deadline: May 5, 2010

Punishments for smaller things, like park- ing on Arden, are ridiculous. Parking lo- gically and receiving a detention just makes Poly seem like a pushover. The neighbors know what they were getting into when they lived here. The school’s been around for 105 years.

Matthew Gumport ’10

Compiled by Alison Falsetta and Mark Loyola

The Panther’s Lair

What do you think about the punishments for more minor offenses at Poly?

I feel like Poly has a really laid back ap- proach to a lot of things, including punish- ment, but I think that they should be more lenient in terms of car parking.

- Catherine Lehman ’13

I’m not really sure what the punishment system is for minor offenses. I’ve heard of people getting detention for stuff like skipping class or parking illegally and then other people getting off for doing exactly the same thing, so if anything, the system is inconsistent.

- Hassaan Shahawy ’12

I don’t really know much about the pun- ishments. If it were more talked about, I’d probably know more. All I know about is the judiciary committee and their deci- sions.

- Lauren Teague ’11

I don’t really know what a detention is. If it were more talked about, I’d probably know more. All I know about is the judiciary committee and their deci- sions.

- Lauren Teague ’11

The Paw Print: The vessel for my nonsense

It was published in my mind. I believed it was fifth grade. Yes. I was quite the literacy prod-igy.

There once was a mom named Benita. She are round falafel and pitu.

When the dish, she was set, she was quite Jewish.

And her name wasn’t Annie or Rita. I can hear your applause from here.

My name isn’t you. I pulled out my mum’s diary from 1978, when she was 13 years old, and did a bit of research on the woman I call my mother. It doesn’t get much more journalistic than that. I found out that on July 22nd at the pool, she met a “to- tal fox” and that on March 1st 1979, she was introduced to a boy named Johnny by a new friend, Angie. “Well, we all met at the mall and I remember, Angie and I were about half an hour late. Well Johnny cussed Angie out really strongly. And from that moment on I was in love. He found out ‘cause Angie told him. I should mention that what I am hold- ing in my hands is a vintage Hello Kitty Di- ary. She starts off every entry with “Dear Kitty,” or “Hello Kitty.” And of course there is the strange suspension of disbelief in the way that girls can write stories about real life and never be caught up for real life. And of course my friends will not believe him.”

So that shows the tip of the moderately sized iceberg that is my journalistic skill. Not remotely that enough to out of American’s love for them, let alone the rest of your lives. If not. you can check me out at madisonsharke1.tumblr.com. But I’m guessing you’ve had enough of my tomfool- er and so here I am, signing out, for the last time.

Don’t cry for me, Argentina,

Madison Conception Scheckel
Once upon a time, there was a really awesome movie. It was beloved by audiences of all ages and genres. The film was changed by this movie into something more real, something finally interesting, not just for fanboys and fangirls. The reviewer was left feeling emotional and engaged, and the hero dauntingly neurotic. That movie was Iron Man.

Two years and five days later, Iron Man returned with the intent of charming us all again. But he didn’t exactly succeed. To preface I must say that I love Iron Man, which you can take to mean exactly what you like: the character, the movie, the franchise. Therefore there is a part of me that loves Iron Man 2 and thinks it, while flawed, is utterly awesome that I forgive it for the annoying stuff. However, this is a review. So let’s focus on the annoying stuff.

When something got this superpowered gold, as Iron Man director Jon Favreau did, his plans are clear: make a sequel. Sequels are the obvious movie for practically every successful movie in Hollywood. I know this idea is not new, but it will always be depressing. People no longer want to see the power of one really good movie.

Sequels are just always degraded forms of the original, and Iron Man 2 is no exception. The thing I missed the most: the smart, snarky dialogue. One of the most enjoyable parts of watching Iron Man was listening to Robert Downey Jr.’s Tony Stark sputter forth witty commentary and banter lightly.

In response to a drinking incident at last year’s Junior Dance, the administration has assumed a more adamantine stance against drinking at school functions. This year, as well as last year, students were selected randomly upon entry to the prom and tested for their toxicity levels. To make selections by an unbiased process, each student was asked to draw a card from a deck; students were given a “chub” suit were asked to perform a breathalyzer test to be administered by police officers.

Furthermore, two undercover police officers patrolled the prom, scanning for students who were believed to be intoxicated “beyond reasonable doubt.” Officers were given the prerogative to breathalyze students fitting this description.

Clearly, these measures were effective. No students were found to be intoxicated, and prom proceeded without any major incidents. But do these measures truly reflect the values that Poly strives to instill?

The promulation statement says that the school sets out to create a community that “fosters personal responsibility.” In our time here, we have found that Poly prides itself on treating its students with respect and upholds this virtue in many aspects of daily life. The multitude of privileges students are granted reflects the administration’s hope that the students use these freedoms appropriately and, thus, effectively harness a sense of “personal responsibility.” Students are grateful for the school’s dedication to its goal of developing its students into adults.

The measures taken by the administration to curtail drinking at prom strayed from this Poly tradition. Rather than foster a sense of personal responsibility, random breathtesting testing pro-

heartedly with his romantic interest Pepper Potts, played by a strangely shrewdly-grown Gwyneth Paltrow.

There was a bit of back-and-forth between Tony and Pepper Potts in Iron Man 2, but it was more of the barbed, old-married-couple kind than the cute, secretively-like-each-other kind. Also, the very character of Tony Stark underwent a transformation, changing from the likeable yet eccentric tycoon to a moody, snappish figure that seemed more intent on living it up than trying to help people.

The addition of two new subplots concerning out-of-field-super villain Ivan Vanko (Mickey Rourke) and weapons manufacturer rival Justin Hammer (Sam Rockwell) further lessen the idea that students will inevitably act irresponsibly. Students were not regarded as capable of making personal decisions, but were scared into making the right choice.

At prom the administration took what should have been the students’ “personal responsibility” and transformed it into a standard that was not the students’ own. We are now accepted for students to arrive intoxicated to school functions. What we are asserting is that the enforcement by breathalyzers is a means contradictory to the values described in the mission statement.

Additionally, administering random breathalyzer tests is an grueling collective inconvenience. By subjecting each person to an equal probability of being selected, the school renders suspicion to all students for an error committed only by a few. This again is contradictory to the mission statement, which “values the dignity of each member.” In trying to preach personal accountability to its each of its students, the policy exercised at prom is flawed; few were accountable for the drinking problems that occurred at last year’s Junior Dance. The administration should not be suspicious of those who do not warrant suspicion.

Alternatively, we propose that breathalyzer tests be administered solely to students whose actions do warrant suspicion. This way, each student is held accountable for him or herself and given the opportunity to make the right decision.

So what is Poly’s ultimate goal? Is it to ensure sobriety on prom night? Or is it to cultivate responsible students? In administering preemptive breathalyzer tests, the administration has signaled to the students that it anticipates errors in students’ judgment. And this signal is one of myopia.

Despite the fact that I had fun watching Vanko’s malicious schemes and nasty teeth, the whole saper villain thing added to this movie’s disappointment. The first Iron Man seems to set in our world, with Tony Stark facing the problems we have now. His enemy was not only his greedy mentor, but also war itself. In this film he has seemingly secured world peace with his Iron Man suit, making the world of Iron Man 2 irrevocably different from our own. Instead of social commentary, we get fake Russian accents.

Then of course there’s the addition of Scarlett Johansson and Samuel L. Jackson. I know what you’re thinking. He, man Sam L. Jackson is awesome! Well yes, but honestly, he is now just kind of a back. He was in the movie solely to drum up excitement for the upcoming Avengers movie. And what about Scarlett Johansson? What is her purpose in the movie? Well I won’t give that away. I will say, however, that with all fifty stories keep track of keys to keep off the, the director got what a little strapped in terms of time and decided if he had to leave something out, it should be romance. And, of course, wit and heart.

While it may not seem like it, I did enjoy this movie. A lot. One just can’t set aside the promises that Jon Favreau set for himself in making the first movie. Sit back and enjoy a very standard super hero movie, with more explosions than words, and then again, who needs words? Just give me some action and some Robert Downey and I’m good to go.

Paws to the school year for ending. - Brian Holman

Paws to the seniors in Spanish V AP: Sra. and I will miss you! - Sara Flanagan

Claws to the music assembly. - Hayden Betts

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

By ALISON FALZETTA
Opinion editor

"In Review: Iron Man 2, just not as good"
Students and sleep
By HAYDEN BETTS
Opinion editor

Poly students have a problem with sleep. It is widely recognized and scientifically proven that less sleep leads to less focus, making it ironic that students who attend an institution like Poly that prides itself on academics have this problem. While the issue of sleep in Poly is certainly partly due to procrastination and time misused at night, it is important to look at the situation as whole. Sleep, after all, is dictated both by the time one goes to bed and by the time that they get up. As an article by Valerie Strauss in the Washington Post points out, teenagers are biologically inclined to stay up later and wake up later than adults. When this fact is combined with homework and early school start times, the logical result is a group of students who are sleep-deprived.

It is difficult to establish whether these sleep habits are unique to the academic stress as otherwise, it is coping delirium from your fingertips. It’s like grasping for air. It’s futile. It’s exhausting. The end of each grade mark requires my thirteenth at year this school. Unlike most other students who have a Junior year has been a year of compromises, a year of sacrificing club sports, fall plays, once a lifetime leadership conferences, family trips – all for the ethical power that is the College Admissions Office. Of course I dramatize and over-complicate these days – the “one of the worst years” – but now these days have turned into weeks. And weeks to months, to semesters, to years and here I am.

It’s been one of those years. I wonder, looking back, when I became so defeated, so jaded by the school which once forced me to fight for something – but now it is just a known force that quells all the things I used to need to survive. I breathed it. It pumped through my veins, making the world bigger, my priorities larger, my needs stronger. It was, in its most elemental form, optimism. In the span of one year, my outlook changed from the present to the future, because this is also because I don’t like science” to “But do I need more APs?”

And I never really understood what was missing until this year until my organizing began to falter – staggeringly so – during a college counseling class. The class was comparing the mock application of a student who attended a private school to a similar one who attended a public school. I couldn’t help stop my jaw from dropping. My whole life I had been told that all my hard work, all the sacriﬁced sports, plays, conferences and more would all be worth it because “Poly gets you into college.” I sat confused and wondered why everyone “lied” to me. Over and over again I asked myself “What’s the point?”

Weeks later, one of the college counselors spoke of an unnamed student who lamented his or her experience at Poly. The student re marked that if he or she had gone to another school, he or she would have gotten into a better college. “Is that really what all of this is about for you guys? Do you all actually think this way?” Our counselor smiled. All I could think of was “...duh.” But then she asked, “Don’t you want to look back on high school as a time of growth? Don’t you want this all to be meaningful?”

This was when it all began again. My re jevunation, my spark back to life. Without knowing it, the college counseling class that sent me into a fit of grief had awakened me back to my former self. Honestly, if my life was a movie, this was the beginning of a montage in which I fumble with tears at night in a library (didn’t happen) and spend countless hours taking notes and interviewing people from all over the world (didn’t happen). Great songs, too: “Barracuda,” by Heart. Classic. But let’s not get carried away.

What did happen, though, was that question. I asked myself in delirium just weeks before into insomniac wonder again: what is the point of Poly? Is it to prepare and admit students to college, or to provide a nur turing education? I spoke with a few teachers to get their perspectives, and one remarked that her expectations for a non-traditional school were not met by any means. “We don’t take advantage of our freedom in being an independent school,” she said.

This led me to ask: are we an independent school or a college prep school? The two are very different, naturally, so in order to get some insight on this subject I conducted a survey of current high school students and in college alumni. Different people had different things to say, of course. When asked if Poly has more of a nurturing versus competitive environment, responses ranged from a current high school junior “I know everyone on such a personal level that I could never think of them as my ‘competition’” to a current college junior “I think it tends to stem from your parents, ultimately to: ‘absolutely nurtur ing’ to a current college freshman: “I guess I would say that Poly’s attitude is either com pective or apathetic, but hardly ever both.” Across the board, there was hardly any consensus on the questions I asked but for one thing. The proverbial heros of this story are the teachers. The villains? Students. It is the ultimate irony of our time at Poly. Everything we find wrong within our community can be changed by the way we see ourselves and each other. Almost every response I received had some mention of what I should study or get involved in, meaning that either students or their parents’ roles in making our lives as hectic as they are, in one way or another.

Current sophomore: “Between students I always sense more coping or the ‘lets just get this done feel.’” Current junior: “I would say that Poly is generally a very nurturing environment; it is the parents and students that choose to place themselves under the un remitting pressure of college.” Current col lege sophomore: “I feel the competition was largely in people’s heads rather than out in the open.” Current college sophomore: “I felt like the teachers, for the most part, were very nurturing. On the other hand, I felt like my fellow students were unhealthy competi tively.”

But who are we competing against? Poly doesn’t rank, they offer peer tutors and other aids to help with academic difficulties, and as a current junior describes it “The administration makes an effort to reduce all the possible sources of competition… but at the same time, there is inherent competition between students, especially regarding grades.”

The culture of success – be it academic, artistic, athletic or otherwise – is what defines Poly. I have noticed that often if someone is struggling in the classroom, we as a group of students validate that struggle with some success as an artist or athlete, often conceding that some other talent will “get them into college.” Mediocrity does not exist here. So I’m back to the beginning. Without an answer, without a clue as to what the point really is, It’s this frustration I’m experiencing even unique to Poly? What if, in the end, this massive let down, the idea that I can’t pur sue that which I love, but rather that which is necessary is just life? This tension is that the very base of Poly’s culture, the tension between competition and nurture has sent me to a place where I criticize and analyze every thing about this community.

In the last full test of the year, I looked through the pages of the PolyCentennial Book. Within these pages, next to images of posters reading “Give 100% all of the time!” and the, quite frankly, to chilling image of Ezra Gosney (thank you, Samuels brothers), emerged a few quotes that led me to my answer. “The experiment is… unique. It hopes that its products will… bear the label of traditional private schools. It does not hope to warrant its existence in the turning out of young boys and girls… who will carry… not an average rating in courtesy, but one of excellence.” - Grace Henley, Circa 1930

“The individual, not the class, is the unit of the teacher’s interest, and the development of the child’s power to think and do, rather than the following of a certain course of instruction, is the direct aim of every teacher and the excuse of every lesson.” - Virginia Peabody, Circa 1910

“Above all, Polytechnic wants to develop worthwhile human beings.” - 1908 school catalogue

And now, I have my answer. The point of Poly, boiled down and simplified, is really whatever you want it to be. Instead of looking at ourselves as victims of administrative control, we should see ourselves as leaders of a changing Poly moving in the right di rection; because no matter how many tests we take or how many essays we write, we don’t have to be a student body defined by competition. We don’t have to be stressed or angry, although at times it seems like there really isn’t anything else to do. We could be a student body that lives in the moment. A student body that prioritizes, and realizes that no matter where we come from, we are all privileged to be here. I have one year left in this place. I don’t want it to be “one of those years” ever again. We need to do something. We need to change ourselves. If we don’t, that’s when we really should ask ourselves “what’s the point?”

What’s the actual point of Poly?
By OLIVIA RUSSAK
Opinion editor

Sleep survey

Average hours of Sleep

| 1st | 7.30 hours |
| 10th | 6.90 hours |
| 11th | 6.75 hours |
| 2nd | 6.60 hours |

Satisfied with sleep habits

| 9th | 24% |
| 10th | 21% |
| 11th | 29% |
| 12th | 18% |

Sleep lost to home-work

| 9th | 1.68 hours |
| 10th | 1.91 hours |
| 11th | 1.90 hours |
| 12th | 1.93 hours |

Sleep lost to procrastination

| 9th | 1.36 hours |
| 10th | 1.33 hours |
| 11th | 1.98 hours |
| 12th | 1.80 hours |

Student sleep average: 6.90 hours
Senior Katie Miller shares her experiences with the American Red Cross and the Poly’s Global Initiatives Program.

By KATIE MILLER

“Haba na haba bujaba kibiba.” This Swahili proverb, translated to “A little and a little, fills the pot,” aptly describes the profound impact individuals working together can have on health challenges facing coun-
tries in Africa and around the globe.

Through my experiences with the Global Initiatives Program, along with the Red Cross and other activities, I have been privi-
eged to gain insight on global health issues from different perspectives and personal perspec-
tives.

Before I walk off campus as a graduat-
ing student, I thought I’d share my sugges-
tions on how to make the most of what Poly has to offer.

First, join a local community program and step up to a leadership role.

As a freshman, I joined the local American Red Cross, and began ac-
tively canvassing for its Measles Initiative, a movement dedicated to

Students line up outside the village school in Odedalani, a small town in Tanzania.

inoculating children against mea-
sles worldwide, starting in Africa, for only $1 per vaccine.

Not only did I become passion-
ate about the issue, the Red Cross
opened many doors for me, provid-
ing lots of leadership opportunities along the way. Before long, I was serving as the National Spokesper-
son for Red Cross Youth, speaking at national conventions, local fund-
raising events and even in public

Finally, travel. Sure, travel abroad is required to earn you Global Studies Certificate, but for me, it was the capstone of my high school experience. In a leap of faith, I joined up with other teenag-
ers traveling to Africa one summer to vol-
unteer at a vil-
lage school.

Once we landed in Af-
rica, we would not have cell phone service or any other contact with our parents the entire time.

Our destination was Odedalani, a remote encamp-
ment in the shadow of the Ngorgoro crater. This was only the second year the villagers had received foreign visitors.

I put on a brave front while we traveled more than six hours — by bus, then car, then on foot — to the village, but when we arrived, I was terrified. Strangers surrounded us, lions roared in the distance, and tall Masai warriors with spears — spears! — stood watch outside our hut.

As the days passed, I began to let down my guard and absorb the culture and people around me.

The senior class officers brought a bounce house to McWilliams Courtyard as one of several planned senior week events.

Senior Ava Kariuki
gave me a tour of their enclosure.

Over 200 children were brought in from local schools to take part in the activities.

More than 600 of whom attended the local school. Ostracized, they had nothing. They lived in dirt huts and had few possessions other than their school uniforms. Yet I found myself surrounded every day by a sea of smiling faces.

They taught us Swahili phrases, while we rebuilt their school li-
brary and taught them anatomy with rounds of “head shoulders knees and toes” and the Hokey Pokey. Well before the trip ended, I was more than ready to return home.

The Global Initiatives Program encouraged me to push my bound-
aries, and set up what seems to be the perfect route in life for me to pursue all of my interests. Through this program, I gained invaluable experience abroad, in extracur-
ricular activities, on campus, and around my community.

So now when I hear about thou-
dands of people dying daily of measles or another disease, it is not, for me, some faraway sta-
tistic. Each number represents a mother, a child, a family facing un-
imaginable suffering and loss.

Step by step, bit by bit, Haba na haba, the health and lives of com-
munities in Africa are improving, but so much more is needed. It just takes a commitment to change. Epi-
demiologists predict that if we con-
tinue at our present rate, measles can be entirely eradicated world-
wide by 2020. By then, maybe we also will have strong inroads against other global diseases such as AIDS, malaria, and cancer.

As they say in Swahili, “Bora maisha: mengine ni majalwa.”

“Life is the best gift; the rest is ex-
tra.”

Taking advantage of Poly’s Global Initiatives Program

Senior Katie Miller participated in a two-week

service trip to a small village in Tanzania this summer.

By ANNA WOHL

With only a couple weeks left of school, the senior class officers have been hard at work to ensure that their last memorable last week at Poly and end our amazing year together on a high note.”

Beginning on May 17 with an “East Coast versus West Coast” dodge ball game, several events

have been held throughout the week to provide fun bonding oppor
tunities for the senior class.

The class cabinet also brought a bounce house to Erdman Courtyard to bring a little bit of a childhood feeling to the campus during the seniors’ last week.

Originally, the class cabinet planned to have a slip and slide on Arden Lawn available to only seniors; however, with the ASB bringing snow during the same week, the grass would have been destroyed.

To close the week, the class officers aimed to restore the senior tradition of pulling a prank at the end of the year. Although the seniors always have a noticeable presence on campus, they especially stood out on Friday May 21, when they filled the patios and driveways with their painted cars.

In addition, a “No Parking” sign was placed outside of Upper School Dean Brendan McGrail’s office and senior Bobby

service radio spots.

I cannot emphasize enough how this experience empowered me to grow as a leader and advocate. Most local philanthropies are more

villagers were humble and kind, even inviting us into their churches, a rare opportunity for for-
eigners.

Best of all were the children,

The senior class officers brought a bounce house to McWilliams Courtyard as one of several planned senior week events.
A committee pursuing change: the new Upper School schedule

By LINA VADLAMANI

Many students also desire an extended lunch period because they do not think the 25-minute lunch period currently gives students enough time to eat lunch and spend time with friends. In addition, students prefer a rotating schedule so that periods A and B are not always in the mornings. Students have spoken to express concern about the possibility of longer class periods, which is another change being considered. This summer, the committee will look over the opinions from the survey and schedules from other schools to come up with certain recommendations. In the fall, the committee will meet with groups of students to ascertain the students’ responses to the new ideas. They encourage any student with ideas to come forward and let them know. Then, the committee hopes to try out the schedule for a month to see how well it fits the school.

"I think that it’s good to change up the schedule, and I think, by incorporating students into the decision, the future schedule will have benefits that our current schedule does not have."
- Logan Beerman ’12

"I think that students are accustomed to and comfortable with the current schedule. It would be difficult for students to have longer class periods and the placement of the arts and labs period in the middle of the day is a convenient break from the academic schedule."
- Sarah Patterson ’11

"I really don’t have an opinion about the schedule change right now. I think I’m just going to have to wait and see because I really have no idea about their plans and what the new schedule is going to look like."
- Sam Paltusio ’12

IMPACT: community outreach of Jaclyn Cole

As a new feature to the Life Section, IMPACT focuses on one person that makes a difference not only within the Poly community, but in the outside community as well.

By AUDREY CHAI

People identify her as the girl who comes to school dressed like many of the kids that Jaclyn curates, yet with a pink t-shirt underneath. But behind the colors, there is so much more to Jaclyn Cole than that. She states, “Spending time with those kids is what I love to do more than anything else.” When Jaclyn volunteers, she does it because she loves it. She doesn’t do it to get the recognition, or to make sure that she has the minimum number of community service hours for school. She does it because it is something she has found that she truly enjoys doing. Jaclyn makes a great impact on the world around her. With the way she hangs out with each kid at Danny’s Farm and Club 21, she brings smiles to their faces. Jaclyn has found the one thing that helps someone other than herself and the one thing that makes her happy to make a difference in the world.

"I think that’s it. Good to change up the schedule, and I think, by incorporating students into the decision, the future schedule will have benefits that our current schedule does not have."
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Jaclyn acts as a superhero to kids with disabilities. This interest was inspired by her cousin Molly, who, like many of the kids that Jaclyn currently helps, has Down syndrome.

"This summer, the committee plans to meet this summer to evaluate the current schedule and to determine which schedule would be the best for the Poly community. In the fall, the committee will create recommendations for schedules that will be up for discussion and feedback from faculty and students. According to current plans, the final schedule change will be implemented in the 2011-2012 school year.

Jaclyn is currently wrapping up her year as the Community Outreach Representative for her freshman class here at Poly. Her success comes from a schedule that requires over two thousand dollars for Club 21, a non-profit organization established to support children with Down syndrome and their families. She has also organized various drives this year, collecting items such as shoes for the relief effort in Haiti and pet food for the Humane Society.

Jaclyn’s intrinsic passion of giving back spreads past the boundaries of school and into the places of the outside world as well. She volunteers at numerous organizations, two of which have a special meaning to her, Danny’s Farm and Club 21, programs that help support kids with autism and down syndrome. Jaclyn has a love for all sorts of community service, but she has a special interest in helping kids with disabilities. This interest was inspired by her cousin Molly, who, like many of the kids that Jaclyn currently helps, has Down syndrome.

Jaclyn’s passion for helping kids inspired her to volunteer at Danny’s Farm and Club 21, two organizations that help support kids with disabilities. Club 21 and Danny’s Farm have personal meaning to her, spreading past the boundaries of intrinsic passion of giving back to the Poly community. Jaclyn’s also organized various drives this year to support children with Down syndrome.

Jaclyn’s Farm and Club 21, pro-

A new starting time for school is being discussed, as scientists have suggested that a later starting time might be more beneficial for high school students. With this in mind, the committee will make no final recommendations without student involvement. The committee considers student and faculty input an essential part of this process. The committee sent out a survey asking for students’ thoughts and concerns about the schedule. This is the first year that Poly has had the same schedule for over 25 years. A lot has changed since then. According to Feldmeth, head of the committee, the committee plans to meet this summer to evaluate the current schedule and to determine which schedule would be the best for the Poly community.

Jaclyn has found the one thing that helps someone other than herself and the one thing that makes her happy to make a difference in the world.

Jaclyn’s Farm is an Aludena-based volunteer organization that works with disabled children. Cole has worked closely with Danny’s Farm in recent years.

As a new feature to the Life Section, IMPACT focuses on one person that makes a difference not only within the Poly community, but in the outside community as well.

By AUDREY CHAI

People identify her as the girl who comes to school dressed like many of the kids that Jaclyn currently helps, has Down syndrome. After visiting her cousin’s school, Jaclyn realized that although these children are physically disabled, they are still full of potential; their circumstances prevent them from putting that potential to use. Jaclyn has made it her goal to help those students one day be able to reach a normal life and a normal environment.

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Recipe of the issue: a sweet summery salad

By VERONICA WICKLINE
Assistant life editor

Ingredients (Serves 4):
- Arugula (3/4 pound)
- Heirloom Tomatoes (1/2 cup)
- 2 Ears of Sweet Corn
- Strawberries (1 cup)
- Olive Oil
- Vinegar
- Ground Pepper

Preparation Instructions:
1. Fill a serving bowl about half full with Arugula.
2. Husk your corn. Next, you can boil the corn, steam the corn, or putting your boiled, steamed, or raw corn and slice the kernels away from your body and into a mixing bowl. If you choose to boil or steam the corn, take this opportunity to refrigerate it.
3. Slice heirloom tomatoes in half.
4. Remove the strawberry stems and slice the flesh of the strawberries into fourths.
5. In a small bowl, pour in 50% vinegar, 50% olive oil. Sprinkle in pepper as needed. Set this aside.
6. Put all of your sweet corn, heirloom tomatoes, and strawberries in with the bowl with the Arugula.
7. Whisk the oil and vinegar dressing rapidly. Immediately after doing so, pour the dressing onto the salad.
8. Take your boiled, steamed, or raw corn and slice the kernels away from your body and into a mixing bowl. If you choose to boil or steam the corn, take this opportunity to refrigerate it.
9. Steaming softens the corn and releases a lot of the flavor without losing as many vitamins boiling loses.
10. Put all of your sweet corn, heirloom tomatoes, and strawberries in with the bowl with the Arugula.
11. Mix the salad, serve, and enjoy!

APE holds evening benefit concert

By LOGAN CRILEY
Life editor

"We do it for the drums for the neighbors and the champs!" shouted Michael North, and Arroyo Pacific junior, as his band Jerry Wulf slammed and blistering beats generated electrically seemed to cater well to the event’s diverse audience. The fact that both freshman girls and pretentious seniors were enterained at the same event testifies to the concert’s high energy, broadly appealing energy. Each performance made a unique contribution, creating a memorable music experience.

APE concert at house of junior Julian Chaidez showcased various genres of avant-garde music.

This fresh salad is the perfect recipe when you want to try something light and new over the summer.

Horoscopes

GEMINI
May 21-June 20
This upcoming month will bring both excitement and opportunity for you, Gemini. If you have experienced any sort of downfall in the areas of friendship and love, know that there is no use in dwelling on the past. It is time for something new. Sudden changes such as new friendships or partnership opportunities are in the cards for you. Be adventurous and courageous. Get ready to explore and make plans to travel. Make sure to flourish in your new quests and be open to change.

CANCER
June 21-July 22
You will find yourself devoting your time to work and sorting out your thoughts this month. You will soon experience a significant high point in your career or at school, as you may finally discover your “true calling.” Be aware that your finances will be on the rise and you should focus on spending some time helping those around you that might not be experiencing this same luck. Work and think hard this summer, Cancer, but find time to be the support system for the loved one’s in your life.

LEO
July 23-August 22
It’s time for you to take a road trip. The air around you is getting thick and you need to get out. Take a time out. A road trip is the perfect solution. You will benefit from the freedom and it will be a great way for you to release your stress. Take a partner with you, a friend or even a possible romantic interest. Feel like going alone? It is very likely that someone single may come a long your path on the way to your unknown destination and considering the fact that you are a fire sign, sparks may fly. Have fun!

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“Through the looking glass” a success

By LOGAN CRILEY
Life editor

“Good kids, the lot of them,” stated the security guard. “They’re well behaved, so it’s easy to keep an eye on everything.” Standing next to him at the foot of the staircase to Loft Seven’s rooftop dining area, I looked across the mingling crowd of students and couldn’t help but agree. That mass of amiably friends and classmates made this year’s prom a night of cufflink rattling excitement. Being the junior that I am, it’s hard to compare this year’s prom, Alice in Wonderland themed, to those of previous years. I was, however, assured by several seniors that we “got lucky” because the efforts of this year’s prom committee set the event head and shoulders above standard prom fare.

The fact that students can deem one prom lesser than another reveals a slightly jaded attitude, the same attitude of a child who says candy is bad because ice cream is better; both are extravagances worthy of appreciation. Students did seem genuinely appreciative, however. Prom-goers recognized such a limo-laden, tuxedo-clad event as a luxury, especially in light of recent developments in the economy and the impact of drilling for limousine fuel in the Gulf of Mexico.

Attendees carried their attitudes of appreciation and exhilaration throughout the night, from the moment the elevator operator gave a wink and an cloyingly sweet, “have a nice stay in wonderland” through the surreal moment that his identical answers to questions on the same topic seemed to make for an enjoyable evening.

The dinner, Loft Seven, offered a spectacular view of Los Angeles through floor to ceiling glass panes. On the roof, the glowing views of the downtown skyline glowed fuzzy through fog over the dining tables where girls wore their dates’ jackets to keep out the chilling air. “Batman” or “Gotham City” would also have made appropriate prom themes.

My opinion that the scenic, exotic venue was a tasteful, refreshing change of pace from a more typical prom setting was shared by many attendees.

Senior Caoimhe Hutson explained: “I’m really stressed and still have a considerable amount of work.” Although Roma recognized that APs do not matter as much to her or to colleges as do overall grades in classes, she had just completed the college application process, felt that APs do not matter as much to her or her classmates, and, depending on how one day went for a student, that student’s grade on the test can be higher or lower than it would be otherwise. However, a year-round grade measures a student’s progress over a whole school year. Therefore, Yoon argued, the year-round grade was a more accurate measurement than a single test.

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The atmosphere of the World Cup cannot be grasped from watching a television screen because the whole world literally prepares for this event. From the loud fans and the outstanding goals to the brutal fouls and red cards, the matches of the World Cup cannot be missed. As with a Los Angeles Gal- axy game or single match on the Spanish Channel where announcers talk about how their country won 100% of the games, they talk about soccer. From a more logistical standpoint, FIFA, the Federation Internationale de Football Association, has organized such an event dating back to 1930, where Uruguay defeated Ar- gentina 4-2 in the final. This event has happened every four years since then (with the exception of 1942 and 1946 due to World War II) and has caused all political tension in the world. Said to be called “Ivory” this event. For example, the World Cup has pre- viously been held in South Korea and Japan, the USSR from the RSS to the Russia of to- day and through the Ber- lin Wall tensions between West and East German squats. Now, political tensions fall aside as the teams prepare to compete for the most long-term tourna- ment, hoping to make a statement through the efforts of their national players.

This tournament is simply something that should not be missed. I personally recommend that every reader of this article sit down this summer, enjoy a match, and take in this prestigious event. Generally, this event is underpre- cipated in the United States and deserves more attention, consider- ing the impact it has on other coun- tries.

While the national squads prepare for their World Cup quests to glory, on display for the eyes of the world lie the greatest players in the world. Here are the top 5 to watch for in this year’s World Cup:

Lionel Messi headlines this list; as the year’s leading scorer with Argentina on his shoulders, his performance will dictate how the team performs.

Wayne Rooney is presumably the best airborne player in the tour- nament and will definitely contend for the Golden Boot of the tourna- ment.

Didier Drogba has promised to bring Ivory Coast a World Cup title. The recent winner of the Pre- mier League Scoring Title will lead the offense for the African nation.

Kaká, who performed so well in the 2006 World Cup, will lead a young Brazilian squad into the World Cup, hoping to take the run from Italy.

Cristiano Ronaldo, known as “the pretty boy” of soccer for his looks and ball work, will need to perform well if Portugal hopes to advance out of the group stages. Now, let’s look at the actual tournament games. The World Cup encompasses the best national teams in the world. There is a random draw, FIFA representa- tives create the groups A-H. These groups are four-power squads, usually European, and go down the FIFA rankings from there.

Certain low-ranked teams who have qualified are driven into com- petitive groups and are considered prac- tically eliminated before- the tournament even begins. This year, a seasoned team that fills this category. North Ko- rea is stuck in Group G with Japan, Brazil, and Portugal. Simply, they are out- matched by those more strong- ened opponents. The other potential sad spectau- les is New Zealand. The Kiwis surpassed all expectations in qualifying for this worldwide tournament. How- ever, they are not a seasoned team and will not be competitive with Italy, Paraguay, and Slovakia in Group E, more skillful opponents. One of the groups which carry less weight known as the “Group of Death,” a division where every one of the teams has the possibility to ad- vance. The group I feel best fits this description is this year’s Group D, consisting of Germany, Austra-

The 2010 World Cup Preview: A tournament to remember

The Top 10 players include:

1. Lionel Messi, Argentina
2. Cristiano Ronaldo, Portugal
3. Wayne Rooney, England
4. Zinedine Zidane, France
5. Didier Drogba, Ivory Coast
6. Ronaldinho, Brazil
7. Kaká, Brazil
8. Wesley Sneijder, Netherlands
9. Kaka, Italy
10. David Villa, Spain

African hopes for the World Cup title rest on the shoulders of Ivory Coast’s forward Didier Drogba.

South Africa’s 2010 World Cup will take place this June and will hope to put political tensions aside for the sake of the world’s favorite sport, soccer.

By CONNOR MCKIGHT
Sports editor
“ar one month every four years, we are united.” This simple line in one of ESPN’s World Cup 2010 promotions is the most important sporting event in the world. Held in South Africa, the tournament will bring countries together to enjoy the beauty and colors of their country and battle it out on the soccer field. Politics, religious differences, crumbling economies will all be pushed aside as every country watches their na- tional squads vie for glory.

Though soccer is not broadca- sated on any major television chan- nels in the US, the sport will be the subject of ESPN’s telecasts for a month, culminating in July 11’s World Cup Final. Countries in Af- rica, Asia, Europe, North America, Oceania and South America will send send teams to South Africa for this event.

South Africa, similar to many other African countries, has a strug- gling economy as it tries to focus on the future rather than dwell on its past apartheid days. With winning its bid for the World Cup 2010, South Africa construct- ed new stadiums to host the event. This religious event attracts thousands of tourists, exactly what a nation like South Africa needs for its economy. For years, the host nation has been preparing for this event and now hopes to show how the world its path towards western- ization.
Baseball claims their nineteenth straight Prep League Title

By CALEY LEE
Assistant sports editor

Polo’s varsity baseball team had been cruising entering the first-round playoff game, having won its last four of five games. Three of these games were won by Polo through the “run rule,” which occurs when one team goes up by ten runs or more after five innings. Even though they could have pointed to their undefeated league record or their recent play, the Polo squad took nothing for granted and came into Friday’s game determined and prepared.

Facing Polo was a resilient Nord- hoff High School squad which had drubbed opponent Sierra Cany- on 14-2 in a wild-card game to earn a playoff berth. Nordhoff had a decent year, going 4-4 in league play and 6-15 overall, which earned them the third seed in the Frontier League for the CIF playoffs.

Fresh off their victory earlier in the week, the Nordhoff Rangers stayed with the Panthers for the first five innings. With a 4-3 lead after the first inning, the Rangers loaded the bases with three consecutive hits off of Polo junior starting pitcher Jordan Kutzer. But Jordan masterfully managed to get his way out of the jam while only allowing one run and a walk. In the bottom of the 6th inning, Polo answered back with four runs as every batter hit in the inning. Polo’s early runs set the tone for the final game as Kutzer bounced back by striking out the side in the second inning, but gave up a solo home run to the pitcher in the process.

After early control, the Panthers went on (he walked five batters), Jordan settled down and eventually struck out batters while silen- cing the Ranger bat for the rest of his solid outing.

After letting the Rangers hang close early in the game, the Panthers erupted with two runs in the fourth. This allowed Jordan to use his own ability by launching a monster two-run home run over the fence to score two more runs in the fifth inning and four more in the sixth. With the help of Collins, who pitched two perfect innings in relief, resulting in a final score of 12-2.

All around the diamond the Pan- thers were superb, as all nine start- ers garnered hits. Charlie Baxter went two for three with a run and a walk, while senior Matt Monarch went one for two with two walks and two runs, and first baseman Hunter Merrymen went two for with two runs.

The Panthers also played out- stand defense throughout the game, committing no errors. The performance was highlighted by Baxter’s diving stop at shortstop in the third inning and sophomore Jocelyn Campbell’s diving catch on a sinking line drive in center field.

Voltley shares a Prep League title, upset in CIF

By BRIAN HOLMAN
Sports editor

For the third annual spring edition of the Sportsman of the Season, Paw Print staff members from all sections were asked to select the five highest-achieving male and female athletes from any sport while rating their performances. A first-place vote was worth five points, a second- place vote four points, and so on so that a fifth-place ranking was worth one point. Whoever had the greatest total of votes would be crowned the Sportsman or Sports- woman of the Season. The boys’ winner is junior Jordan Kutzer, who has de veloped into a menacing pitcher and powerful hitter. He leads the Prep League in both strikeouts (72) and home runs (4). As an indication of the strength of the Polo baseball team, three of Kutzer’s teammates ranked in the top six: shortstop Charlie Bax ter, catcher Matt Saeta, and first baseman Hunter Merrymen.

Second place in the voting was Prep League Track MVP Jack Port er. Port earned his Prep League cham- pionship in the 200m, 400m, and the 4x400m and 4x100m relays. Fifth-place Matt Capeheart excelled in two varsity sports this season. In track, he won the Prep League Field MVP and won league in the high jump and long jump; in vol leyball, he is a developing hitter who helped the Panthers have a successful regular season.

The team celebrates after Jordan Kutzer’s home run against Webb. The varsity baseball team has overwhelmed Prep League opponents with a 12-0 league record for their 15th straight Prep League Title.

The team celebrates after Jordan Kutzer’s home run against Webb. The varsity baseball team has overwhelmed Prep League opponents with a 12-0 league record for their 15th straight Prep League Title.

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Voting Results for Sportsman of the Spring Season

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Another high jumper, Zibby Boyer, received first place for the Boys’ Prep League Field MVP, the league champions- hip, and then CIF with a school record-tying 5’ 6” leap. Another track star, Jade Richard-Craven, placed fifth thanks to her school records in shot put and discus. Senior Matt Monarch of the Lenz sisters, both talented divers. Senior Cosima Lenz will attend Northwestern University for her diving. Oklahoma State University Annika Lenz won a CIF champi- onship. Two softball players rounded out the top six: junior pitcher Stephanie Tercero and se- nior shortstop Megan Latta. Both helped the softball team’s solid de- fense throughout the season.
Softball earns 2nd place finish in League

By MATTHEW LIU
Assistant sports editor

Despite the loss of several key players over the past two years, the girls’ varsity softball team secured a 2nd place finish in CIF Division V Playoffs.

In the first round, the Panthers faced a talented San Dimas squad who had copped a successful season with a 13-2 league record. The Panthers fell behind early as the Saints rallied seven runs in the first four innings. With four errors and only one hit, the squad was overwhelmed and fell victim to their hefty opponents, 12-0.

This year, the Panthers struggled with a lack of participation. The Panthers had only eleven players on their roster and often had to play with only nine. The squad adapted and learned to play games with fewer players throughout the season. Furthermore, in the past couple of years, the softball team has lost key players like Kate Hale, Jordan Richard-Craven, and Alaya Latta. Junior pitcher Stephanie Tercero said, “The team has greatly improved. In the beginning we lost Aly Latta, we weren't sure how the season would turn out. Thankfully, as a team we learned to work together and try new things even if it sometimes meant changing positions.” This year, the Panthers were able to field a varsity team. The majority of the players were young, joined by seniors Brooke Mulligan, Megan Latta, Hannah Dunham, Lindsey Burn and Michelle Tanner. The next few years are expected to be rebuilding years, but as shown by this season’s respectable finish, the Panthers can still have the same success.

The softball team’s main priority this year was defense, which contributed greatly to their 8-4 league record. In a game against Preel League Champion Mayfield, the Panthers and Cubs were both held scoreless for nine innings with strong pitching and fielding. Mayfield edged out with a run in the tenth, taking the game 1-0. As illuminated by this result, the squad’s offense was relatively quiet this year. Stephanie Tercero admitted, “Our offense needs work. We had a hard time scoring because our hitting is pretty erratic, however, our bunting game really improved.”

When asked, Tercero attributed the unexpected success to the team’s seniors, most notably Dunham and Latta. Tercero noted that they really stepped up through leading by example, and offering constructive criticism. “Megan and Hannah both wanted the team to be better and do better, their guidance really helped,” said Tercero. Overall, the seniors along with coach Santee Vallejo were able to lead the young team into growing stronger throughout the season.

A quick peak at next season reveals a small, but strong team, which will be much better prepared. Although the loss of the seniors will be different, a benefit to the team's youth is that they have much room to grow. Returning key players are current juniors Tercero and Laurel German; next year the team will be in their able hands.

The batting average of Hunter Merryman in Prep League play. Merryman also has added three home runs and 34 runs batted in only twelve games.

The number of consecutive Prep League titles varsity baseball has won. The Panthers went an undefeated 12-0, improving on last year’s 10-2 league performance.

Although the Panthers are young and undermanned, effective defense and pitching have resulted in a commendable Prep League finish.

The number of years in a row that a Lenz sister has won the CIF diving title. Freshman Annika earned first place this year, with Cosima in a close second.

Athletes of the Issue

Stephanie Tercero
Stephanie Tercero led the girls varsity softball team to a second place finish in the Prep League. As a starting pitcher, Tercero kept the Panther’s opponents at bay to compensate for the struggling Poly offense. Nevertheless, when it comes to her batting, Tercero has been one of the most dominant hitters in the lineup, providing clutch RBIs in Prep League play against opponents such as Webb and Chadwick.

Dominant since her freshman year, Tercero has emerged as one of the premier starting pitchers on the squad. Freshman Katherin Ha-thaway comments, “Tercero has been a great leader for underclassmen. Even though she suffered an injury midway through the season, she showed up at practice and supported the team. On the mound, she has basically started or finished every single one of our games.”

Despite a loss to San Dimas in the first round of CIF, Tercero proved to be dominant in Prep League especially against weaker opponents. Capitalizing off of improved mechanics, Tercero proved to be of incredible value to the squad. Next year, her leadership will be tested as the Panthers are losing the graduating seniors, particularly Megan Latta. According to Hathaway, “Tercero will carry the load for us next year and hopefully under her leadership, we will contend for the Prep League title.”

Jordan Kutzer
As the boys’ varsity baseball team begins playoffs, the squad’s performance is epitomized by junior Jordan Kutzer. Senior Charlie Baxter summarized, “Jordan has been this huge year both on the mound and at the plate. In his third year on the team he has learned a lot and has grown into a mature leader.”

At the plate, Kutzer’s maturity has manifested itself in his .487 batting average. Armed with a high-80’s fastball, Kutzer has mastered his mechanics on the mound, which is reflected in his earned run average of 1.51. With a team high of 72 strikeouts and a record of 6-2, Kutzer has emerged as the ace of Poly’s very talented pitching staff. At one point, Kutzer was tasked with facing Maranatha’s Dylon Covey, currently projected to be a first round selection in the 2010 MLB draft. In front of dozens of MLB scouts, Kutzer showed his talent and emerged as a worthy opponent of Covey. Kutzer finished with a fantastic outing of five innings pitched, one earned run, and ten strikeouts. Sophomore Logan Beerman commented, “Going up against Covey really showed Jordan’s competitiveness.”

Such competitiveness allows Kutzer to be an effective team leader. This role will expand when Kutzer begins his senior year. His leadership and talents will be pivotal to the success of the team both in playoffs and next season.

The shortstop distance of Jade Richard-Craven at the Prep League Finals. With this throw, Richard-Craven broke the Poly school record and won the event.

By the Numbers

34’1”

The number of consecutive Prep League titles varsity baseball has won. The Panthers went an undefeated 12-0, improving on last year’s 10-2 league performance.

4

The number of years in a row that a Lenz sister has won the CIF diving title. Freshman Annika earned first place this year, with Cosima in a close second.

0.732

The batting average of Hunter Merryman in Prep League play. Merryman also has added three home runs and 34 runs batted in only twelve games.

4

Boys Baseball:
Poly vs. Nordhoff
12-2 (Poly)

15

Boys Volleyball:
Poly vs. Whitney
3-1 (Whitney)

Boys Volleyball:
Poly vs. Orangewood Academy
3-0 (Poly)

Boys Boys Basketball:
Poly vs. Flintridge Prep
16-1 (Poly)