Ana Acosta on 2014 Rose Court
By JULIA WOHL
News editor

For the first time since 2005, a Poly student, senior Ana Acosta, has been selected as a member of the Rose Court.

Over the course of the next three months, Acosta will attend over 100 community service events and media functions as an ambassador for the Tournament of Roses. Other Rose Princesses were selected from Pasadena High School, San Marino High School and La Canada High School.

Acosta will serve as a Rose Princess until the 100th Rose Bowl Game and the 125th Rose Parade on New Year’s Day.

“IT is a very fun and exciting organization to be a part of, but it takes a lot of time managing skills because every day I am at the Tournament House for five or more hours after school,” Acosta said. “The court goes through different kinds of training such as media, etiquette and speech during the first few weeks to prepare us for over one hundred events we will be attending between now and New Year’s Day.”

The selection process for the Tournament of Roses Royal Rose Court begins in September with a pool of almost 1,000 girls from schools in the Pasadena area. By October, seven girls are chosen from the 30 finalists.

“You’re standing up there waiting, crossing your fingers,” said Acosta. “Just to be called is such a relief. I feel like the next few weeks and the next few months are going to be so much fun.”

The Tournament of Roses cites “poise, speaking ability, academic achievement and community and school involvement” as factors in the committee’s decision process.

At Poly, Acosta is a cabinet member of the Girls Service League, a member of Poly’s Ambassadors Council, a participant in the National Charity League, the captain of the school equestrian team, a Girl Scout and a member of the United States Hunter Jumper Association’s 2013 Emerging Athletes Program.

“I chose to try out for the Rose Court because I had always dreamed of riding that float down Colorado Boulevard and being a role model for young girls in the community because the girls on the court have always been role models of mine as I grew up in Pasadena.”

Acosta continues, “It feels great to be a Poly representative on the Royal Court because we have not had a Princess or Queen in a very long time. Poly has been so supportive of me throughout this whole process, so I hope it encourages more Poly students to try out for the Court in the future!”

The 2014 Rose Queen will be announced on October 24 at a ceremony conducted by the Tournament of Roses at the First Church of Nazarene.

Government shutdown impacts Outdoor Ed week
By NATALIA SANCHEZ-NIGOLIAN
Life editor

Poly students and faculty experienced first-hand the immediate consequences of the government shutdown that hit America on October 1st during the annual Outdoor Education trips.

The Poly community was directly affected by the lapse in funding for the National Park Service, as several trips encountered difficulties due to the closing of parks.

Juniors rafting on the Klamath River arrived at a government-run campsite on the fourth night. Guides were acutely aware of the group’s reliance on the campsite, as only two of the four campers had running water. Students and faculty were immediately concerned after being informed by a park employee that the water had been cut off as a result of the shutdown.

Tom Moore, Sierra South owner and trip guide, eventually convinced the employee to restore running water temporarily for the first group. However, juniors who camped at the site the following night were not so lucky and endured the last three days without running water.

Tina Cocumelli, faculty leader for the trip, says, “For juniors on the Klamath River trip, it was an eye-opening experience to arrive at Sarah Totten campground, the last source of water for the final three days of the trip, to discover that the U.S. Government had been ‘shut down,’ which included turning off the water pump at the campground. Experiencing the trickle-down effect of current political wrangling first-hand was quite stunning for all of us.”

“I was moved by the reactions of Poly juniors, who were far more concerned about the fact that one of our guides would be furloughed from his job as a trail maintenance worker, causing significant financial issues for him and his family, than they were about our water issue.”

Other trips were also affected, such as sophomore trips to Zion National Park and the Channel Islands. Sophomores on the Sra Kayaking trip were forced to seek an alternate camping location at El Capitan State Park, after being kicked off the Channel Islands National Reserve. Park rangers informed the group that it would have to move campsites.

See Outdoor Ed, page 3
Trips week in photos

Courtesy of John Rodgers, Anna Lamb, Kelsey Logan, Claire Russi, Julianna Lai, Jun Wong, Nora Johnson, Robyn Lee, Rebecca Tokofsky and Laura Fraber
says Senior Matt Carter. “Although we were all disappointed to have our trip cut short, we came away with a better appreciation of what we learned this year.”

Continued from page 1

for a second night, so the trip came home a day early.

The Administration is implementing warnings on the senior patio to provide shade for the senior class. “For the time being, our patio is a nice place to chill except for when it rains or is really hot. The video games and music provide a nice relaxed feel to a potentially stressful semester of college applications. I think it’s so nice that Poly is trying to make our lives as comfortable as possible in times of high stress,” says Senior Matt Carter.

More construction on senior patio

By JULIA WOHL and CELINE VENDLER
News editor and staff writer

The Upper School welcomes incoming faculty members Danielle Pigneri and Koko Archibong

Danielle Pigneri is the new dance instructor of the Lower, Middle and Upper schools. After starting jazz classes at the age of eight, Pigneri began ballet at age 12. With hard work and determination, Pigneri quickly became a talented and dedicated dancer.

Pigneri received a scholarship to a prestigious dance school after graduating high school. She decided to pursue dance while studying at Chapman University, where she graduated in 2009.

Pigneri then taught at schools in Orange County, where she also started a dance program. Afterwards, she danced professionally with Lineage Dance Company in Pasadena.

Pigneri believes that high school kids are a fulfilling age group to teach. She says, “You are able to give them ideas and they can just run with them, putting their own ideas in and making the piece better than imagined.”

When not teaching Poly students or dancing professionally, Pigneri enjoys doing yoga, spending time with her two-year-old daughter, going to the beach and shopping at her favorite stores such as Lululemon and Nordstrom’s.

The winter dance concert on December 6-8 will feature choreography created by both Pigneri and her students.

- Stephanie Chai

Koko Archibong (Poly ’99), the new Assistant Athletic Director, is also helping teach freshman Conceptual Physics classes. Archibong noted that his passions of basketball and science are related because both require a relentless approach to learning and skill development.

Born in New York City and raised in southern California, Archibong attended Poly’s Upper School. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, he went on to play basketball professionally in France, Germany and Poland.

He also competed in the 2012 Summer Olympics on the Nigerian basketball team, noting that the Opening Ceremonies were his favorite part. During his career, Archibong spoke at schools and taught children the importance of good health, athletics and exercise.

Archibong says, “I decided to work at Poly this year because I saw it as a great chance to try and give back to a school and community that gave me so much over the years while also getting the chance to learn about ins and outs of athletic administration and a bit about the teaching world as well. I like working with kids because they really are our future, and I just hope to make a positive impact on the lives of the kids that I am fortunate enough to work with.”

- Andrew Mecum

New members join Judiciary Committee

By NATHAN LEE
News editor

Junior and sophomore representatives have been selected to serve on the 2013-2014 Judiciary Committee.

Ally Annick and Daniel Zhu will be members on the committee for the sophomore class while juniors Maya Omori and Nathan Lee will serve on the committee for the second consecutive year. Class representatives are chosen by their respective grades and participate in judicial cases for the rest of the year.

Junior Erica Goodwin says, “Having students on the judiciary committee makes facing the disciplinary process a less scary prospect for students because the student knows that the student representatives will perhaps understand them better than the adult representatives.”

Director of Upper School Jamie Neilson has also selected Upper School teacher Dominika Watson to join Cotter Donnell on the committee. Doug Jolly, the new Dean of Student Life, is heading the committee, following the departure of Brendan Omori and Nathan Lee will serve on the committee for the second consecutive year. Class representatives are chosen by their respective grades and participate in judicial cases for the rest of the year.

Junior Judiciary Committee member Morgan notes, “Since Mr. Watson is a teacher as well as past coach, she knows the Poly community well. Her unique life experiences give her a perspective that will benefit Poly students and help us gain a better understanding of each situation. She is the perfect addition to the committee this year.”

The Judiciary Committee meets in case of repeated violations of school expectations and convenes at the discretion of the Dean of Student Life and the Upper School Director. First, the committee hears the facts of the case, which are presented first by the Dean of Student Life and then by the student him/herself. After questions are posed to the student, the committee discusses appropriate actions to be taken. Subsequently, punitive decisions are recommended to the Upper School Director, who either approves the recommendation or suggests further review by the committee.

One of the most important aspects of the Judiciary Committee is its confidentiality. Although the student at fault is not bound to confidentiality, the members of the Judiciary Committee are strictly forbidden from discussing the case outside of meetings. Any member who violates this policy is subject to consequences, including potential dismissal from the committee.

The policy of confidentiality further encourages a safe environment for students where actions can be taken without the added prospect of outside pressures.

The Committee also stresses the importance of honesty and integrity. The committee offers a chance for the student to add or amend any portion of the account previously given to the Dean of Student Life, Jolly, as well as present a statement to defend himself or herself. Afterwards, the student is dismissed and the committee discusses potential consequences.

Once the consequences suggested by the committee and approved by the Upper School Director are finalized, the student meets with the Dean of Student Life and the Upper School Director to discuss the decision.

According to the Poly Community Handbook, “The school reserves the right to bypass judiciary procedures and apply consequences, including dismissal for cause, or where a student may pose a threat to himself or herself, another student or faculty or staff member.”

- Michelle Chen

Outdoor Ed

New Faculty

NEWS

October 24, 2013

NEWS

The Administration is implementing warnings on the senior patio to provide shade for the senior class. “For the time being, our patio is a nice place to chill except for when it rains or is really hot. The video games and music provide a nice relaxed feel to a potentially stressful semester of college applications. I think it’s so nice that Poly is trying to make our lives as comfortable as possible in times of high stress,” says Senior Matt Carter.

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The decline of American individualism: why we’ve drifted from our founding principles

By BRETT LAUDEMAN

Our great nation was founded explicitly and exceptionally upon the concrete principle that people are endowed with natural rights and freedoms. Our government was formed exclusively to protect those rights. Thus, in the socio-political spectrum, the American is superior to his government. Americans were forced to be self-reliant, driving a mentality of personal liberty and independence from any government or external institution. Motivated by the natural drive to gain power and control, over time, the established American government deteriorated and shifted into having a more active role in the lives of Americans. The Constitution, the declaration of independence and the pursuit of happiness would allow free and self-reliant individuals to thrive. Seeking freedom from an oppressive government, the American settler would be able to feel the fruits of his labor and pursue his life as he wished. The people created government to safeguard these private interests and initiatives. According to Crevecoeur, an average pre-revolutionary American farmer, “[Americans were] a people of cultivators… united by the silken bands of mild government, all respecting the laws, without dreadin[gh] their power, because they are equitable.” This was exceptionally different from Europe because of the socio-political relationship between man and his government. In Europe, men were subjects of other families, while in America the government was an instrument of the people. With government’s very small role in private business and affairs, citizens like Crevecoeur were gladly independent.

Constructor of the Declaration of Independence Thomas Jefferson best understood the role that government should have in society so that the efforts of the individual are undeterred. Jefferson felt there was not a need for the government to create excessive policies because “the policy of the American government is to leave their citizens free, neither restraining nor aiding them in their pursuits.”

A government must remain indifferent towards its peoples’ initiatives because the government is not capable of directly assisting its people since it was not created to do so. People must be self-reliant because everyone is responsible for himself/herself and his/her own actions, and thus people cannot be dependent on someone or anything else like the government.

Our culture of government entitlement programs in America has made people less inclined to be self-reliant. Before the 20th century, the American government’s role in society was very small; people were much more motivated and determined to work hard since doing so was the only way to survive. During the turn of the 20th century, our nation progressed and the government expanded. After the Great Depression of the 1930s, President Roosevelt was elected to convince the American people that the government was the answer to struggle and hardship and that it was the government’s job to intervene during times of suffering. Having legitimized this notion that the government knew best, the public’s opinion of the government shifted. Roosevelt was successful in convincing America that it was his job to provide security and support for America. Some people liked this idea because it gave them a false sense of security that they were not alone and the government could save them. As the century progressed, more and more entitlement programs were introduced, programs like welfare, Medicare, food stamps, government housing and now Obamacare. Although the government means well in helping the poor, the reality is that doing so requires government revenue. To generate this revenue, the government started taxing the hardworking and self-reliant Americans.

Through the introduction of the income tax, property tax and several others, the government began to take money from Americans and redistribute it through entitlement programs. These taxes made the successful and hardworking American less motivated to continue to work hard. Since Roosevelt’s New Deal, this practice was declared necessary to preserve a prosperous nation. The expanded role of government has created the notion for some that the government is our caregiver and is responsible for our welfare, creating a perception that the government can legitimately support the people. The birth of this ideology marked the death throes of rugged individualism in America. Self-reliant and free individuals can only thrive when the government has as minimal of a role as possible in the lives of its citizens. However the American government has begun to reach even further for control. Although many think the constitution and our legislative process makes domestic tyranny impossible, the communist regimes dictatorates that rose during the 20th century prove that as the government expands and takes control of society, the power and rights of the individual drastically decline.

This process has begun in America because many choose to trust the government, which is inherently power-hungry, as a source of aid and support. This perception has detracted from the American vision of independence and has empowered our government too much. Little by little, governments will usurp the power of the people.

The American government is only as powerful as we allow it to be. We, the people, grant the government its power and control the destiny of our lives. By restoring our autonomous power through active protest and voicing our opinion, we can restore the true ideals behind American exceptionalism.

**Gun control: why America should act now**

By TEDDY DEBREU

Assistant News Editor

Pul alum Max Harmon ‘13 lost his uncle, Martin Bodrog, in the Washington Navy Yard shooting spree that occurred on September 16 of this year. Mr. Bodrog is survived by his wife and three children. His family is one of many that must now live with the consequences of gun violence.

The Washington Navy Yard shooting is not an isolated event. Last year, Morgan Boken, a 23-year-old who had just graduated from Washington University of St. Louis, was killed by an armed assailant on her way to a volleyball game in downtown Los Angeles. Her family was devastated.

From Columbine, Colorado to Newtown, Connecticut, America has witnessed repeated incidents of gun-related violence across the country. Children and parents alike have had to witness and live through the dangers of school shootings and street violence.

When the Founding Fathers created the Second Amendment, they intended to preserve the individual right of Americans to defend themselves against an oppressive government. Undoubtedly, our Founding Fathers would be appalled to know that people are abusing their right to bear arms to kill innocent people at work, school and en route to volleyball games. Rhetoric surrounding gun-related violence has become muddled. Some argue that gun ownership is a right similar to voting – in that it cannot be restricted – while others argue the opposite. However, neither side sufficiently addresses the central issue at hand; we as a society accept violence as a means to solve problems, and tend not to think twice about its overwhelming presence.

Our video games and movies portray violence, but often without consequences – a dangerous message that is accepted all too often without question. This is not to say that violent video games and movies cause violence but rather that they reflect the ways in which our culture already views violence.

In addition, one need only look at organizations like the National Rifle Association and the National Shooting Sports Foundation to see that firearms play huge roles in the everyday lives of many Americans. These groups are not inherently bad because of their support of the use of weapons, but they are nonetheless an indicator of the huge role that guns play in American culture.

Thus, the debate about implementing specific gun control laws does not deal with the issue at hand. Instead, we must address the spread of violence in our culture and figure out how we can deconstruct its widespread acceptance.
The government shutdown: were the Democrats only postponing the inevitable?

By HENRY BROOKS
Opinion editor

The congressional gridlock match between Republicans and Democrats came to an end this week when the two parties struck a deal on the federal budget. The deal, which finalized the sixteen-day government shutdown, included a minor concession on Obamacare by Democrats in exchange for Republican cooperation in the House. The bill raises America’s borrowing limit for the next three months, narrowly avoiding an American default. But with another fiscal deadline on the horizon, the question looms: will negotiations in January be any smoother than they were this time around?

The short answer is ‘no,’ and there’s a simple reason why. Democrats in Congress have held fast to two misconceptions about Obamacare that make them less inclined to seek compromise with their right-wing counterparts, even in the face of an American debt default.

The first of these misconceptions is that Obamacare has support from the majority of Americans. This notion is based on the fact that Mr. Obama won reelection in 2012. Because Democrats kept control of the presidency, Democrats in Congress came to assume that most Americans were in support of the Affordable Care Act. In actuality, American response to the ACA has been much more tepid.

Obamacare became law in 2009, when Democrats had majorities in both Houses of Congress. In the election that followed – the 2010 congressional election – Americans voted unprecedented numbers of Republicans into office, giving Republicans a majority in the House and a close minority in the Senate. Additionally, Republicans swept in state elections that year while Democrats suffered substantial setbacks. In essence, if you assume that the 2010 election cycle – and not the 2012 elections – was a referendum on the ACA, then American voters expressed strong reservations about Obamacare.

The second misconception held by congressional Democrats is that Obamacare has no clear answer, and that’s the trouble. Should the Affordable Care Act be exempt from scrutiny? Administration. Why, then, is Obamacare different? Why is it, if the proof of the pudding is in the eating, then Americans are already rejecting the Affordable Care Act.

Finally, it is worth noting that if the proof of the pudding is in the eating, then Americans are already rejecting the Affordable Care Act.

The government shutdown: why Republicans have only themselves to blame

Nicky Strelit
Opinion editor

As a few diligent congressmen drafted a bill to resume government funding, Congressional Republicans took on legislation aimed at delaying the implementation the Affordable Care Act for one year’s time, a move that could have denied millions of people access to healthcare. Republican opposition to Obamacare is not at all new, as they have tried to repeal it through standard legislative processes no less than 42 times, according to CNN.

However, the addition of the Obamacare clause to the US budget bill was unprecedented and resulted in intense congressional gridlock. Oddly enough, Republicans chose to threaten a shutdown of the government over the Affordable Care Act, despite the fact that Democrats in the House were willing to implement the majority of Republican-devised sequestration cuts.

So, why did Republicans choose to go to such drastic lengths to try to delay the implementation of Obamacare? Although Democrats have recently made a series of concessions to the right, they refused to budge on the issue of the budget; they were not going to allow a bill that had been signed into law to be manipulated through unfair means, especially not after 42 failed attempts to repeal it. Republicans aggressively attempted to force their agenda through Congress undemocratically.

Any finger-pointing that Republicans have tried to do has been invalidated by the simple fact that they themselves shrugged off Democrats’ major concessions on the House spending bill in favor of trying to force their own political agenda. Democrats, prior to the shutdown, had been willing to pass the sequestration cuts detailed in Paul Ryan’s budget. The shutdown that resulted was economically destructive and utterly unnecessary. Standard & Poor’s estimates that the shutdown took $24 billion out of the economy and deflated US fourth quarter GDP from 3 per cent to 2.4 per cent.

Many Republicans soon began to realize their massive political blunder, but had already dug themselves into a deep hole – very early on in the shutdown. The House Rules Committee amended the rules of the House of Representatives so that only House Majority Leader Eric Cantor could vote for the Senate’s already-passed clean funding bill. Normally, any representative can call a vote to amend or approve a Senate bill; however, in another shortsighted manipulation of the democratic process, Republicans rendered even Speaker of the House John Boehner unable to call the vote to end the shutdown. Thus, through their manipulation of House rules, the Tea Party minority frustrated even moderate Republicans, who along with Democrats began to call for the quick passage of the Senate’s proposed clean spending bill in the House.

With the deadline for the United States’ loan default looming in the distance, the House finally passed the Senate’s clean funding bill with little time to spare on 16 October. However, the economic damage has been done, and an uneasy peace has settled over Washington. This latest funding bill only provides for the government until 15 January, and Tea Party Republicans have set a dangerous new precedent for minority groups holding the government hostage with agenda-based demands.

Approval ratings of the Republican Party are at an all-time low, and the rapidly emerging divisiveness among Republicans does not bode well for their party. The right on the whole must seriously reevaluate their strategy if it is willing to be controlled by fringe elements, lest it be led into similar political blunders. The Republican Party must change their ways or risk becoming even more alienated from the American people.

All this being said, although House Republicans were largely responsible for the latest Congressional catastrophe, events such as the shutdown are also indicative of a larger problem plaguing our legislative branch. Instead of valuing compromise, both parties perceive negotiation as weakness, pontificating on the other side when it seems that it is willing to make concessions. Although the Republicans were more guilty of this than the Democrats in the recent shutdown, Congressional gridlock is, overall, the fault of both parties.
Artist of the Issue: Caroline Iaffaldano

By NATALIA SANCHEZ-NIGOLIAN and MEGAN TCHENG
Life editor and assistant life editor

Amid the whirlwind of life, junior Caroline Iaffaldano finds release in artistic expression, choosing to explore the fields of drawing, painting and fashion design. Her preferred mediums vary from more traditional oil painting and charcoal drawing, to loose sketches using pen or white pencil on gray paper. “I'm kind of slow and a perfectionist with my artwork, so acrylics are impossible for me to work with because they dry so quickly. I prefer oil that blend well and are more flexible to constant adjustments.”

Iaffaldano’s passion for art developed at a young age when she began taking art classes at Mission Renaissance. She quickly completed the children's course and by age 12, she had moved up to the adult course. Despite the intensity of junior year, Iaffaldano now channels her artistic efforts through Poly's AP Studio Art course. Iaffaldano admires the work of Impressionist artists, and finds herself frequently drawn to the works of Degas and Monet. She pays specific attention to detail in her approach. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches. “I'm intrigued by drawing people, and focusing on individual parts of the body. One of my favorite approaches.

Examination of Caroline’s more casual sketches provides insight into her fashion sense. She plans on applying her sense of style and love of art towards a future career in fashion journalism and blogging. Alexander Wang and Hussein Chalayan, amongst Iaffaldano’s numerous fashion idols, have helped to harbor her interest in design and admiration for visual harmony. Last summer, Iaffaldano took a month-long course on fashion culture, taught by model Marie Genevieve, at Parsons’ School of Design in Paris. Genevieve, who also starred on Project Runway, lectured the class on the history of artistic movements in fashion, specifically the vocal control system of songbirds. He examined the role that neurons born in the brains of adult songbirds play in the birds’ ability to learn and acquire new songs. Kiely also completed graduate level coursework in cross-country and track during the five years he spent as a student. In his free time, Mr. Kiely is a dedicated runner. Earlier this year, he competed in the Boston Marathon, in which he placed 60th out of a total of 26,839 participants. Mr. Kiely experienced firsthand the shock that ensued from the Boston bombing. “The marathon was a celebration for the community, and the highlight of my run was handing out high fives to so many little kids. The saddest part of the bombing was knowing an eight year old was involved, since there were kids all over the course.”

In 2012, Mr. Kiely placed 16th in the Los Angeles Marathon out of 22,597 runners, finishing the 26.2 miles in just over two and a half hours. He plans on competing in the 2014 Boston Marathon again this spring. The origin of Kiely’s love for running dates back to his childhood. “I won a few races in middle school, and I kind of got addicted to the feeling of accomplishment that comes with winning races. Running just lets me silence the noise and stress from my daily life.”

As a current graduate student in the Global Field Program through the University of Miami, Kiely continues to immerse himself in scientific endeavors. The Global Field Program allows for educators and field biologists to work together in completing conservation research work. A major portion of the program consists of three summer-time expeditions to different “biological hotspots,” portions of the globe in need of conservation as a result of various threats.

This past summer, Mr. Kiely traveled to Baja California and spent several weeks studying whale sharks in the Sea of Cortez. “I swam with five or six whale sharks and snorkled alongside them. There was one thirty-foot whale shark that I got to swim with for an hour.”

As part of his graduate level work, Mr. Kiely has initiated several projects on campus that aim to connect students with conservation issues. Recently, he started a club that plans on working with the Arroyo Seco Foundation, a non-profit group interested in having students use the Arroyo as a laboratory for science experiments. Mr. Kiely’s club plans on organizing a water quality assessment as a local model for how to get kids more involved.

In addition, Mr. Kiely is also working on determining the financial value of environmental resources. “Using the age of a tree and its species, we can measure its ecosystem value, which is a direct measure of the benefits of the tree’s existence and allows us to assign it a monetary value.”

Mr. Kiely’s ambition and dedication towards his scientific endeavors is apparent, and we cannot wait to see what he accomplishes in the near future.
Apple’s iOS 7 and iPhone 5s review: is it still an iPhone?

By SHUCHI SEHGAL
Assistant life editor

Apple recently released a new operating system compatible with the iPhone 4, 4s, 5, 5s and 5c. iOS 7 gives the iPhone a look similar to that of the Android operating system with a 3D background. iOS 7 encompasses a new range of features that aim to make the phone’s navigation simpler. AirDrop is a new feature that allows users to transfer files wirelessly with Bluetooth. Users can easily share photos, videos and documents with anyone nearby using a supported device. Another updated feature is the camera, which now includes multiple options for effects and filters, much like Instagram. The new Control Center menu, found by swiping up from any screen, allows users to turn Wi-Fi on or off, adjust brightness, use AirDrop and access the flashlight, timer, calculator and camera. In addition, many built-in apps have been adjusted and updated, including the music app. iTunes Radio is now accessible from the music app, allowing users to easily stream radio stations.

The new system has received an outbreak of mixed reviews. Most fans of the latest operating system are owners of an iPhone 5 or a newer model. Many laud the iOS 7 as a refreshing change to Apple’s old aesthetic. Aaron Lew, sophomore and owner of the newest iTouch, appreciates the new improvements in the iOS because it allows his device to run faster and more efficiently. Others praised the iOS 7’s smooth interface, with faster downloading on Safari and cleaner text. iOS 7 is known to drain the battery life, quit out of the apps and freeze randomly, particularly in older iPhone models. Freshman Autumn Lundy, owner of an iPhone 4, never updated her phone due to her friends’ repeated complaints about the new, over-hyped system. Lundy also argues that Apple’s new “improvements” make the iPhone less unique and more like another Windows phone. Senior Adrian Loera commented, “The aesthetic of the iOS 7 looks childish. The bright colors and bubbly design of the app icons and text messages look far from sophisticated.” However, many, like freshman Makena Stintzler, love the new updates despite its numerous downsides. Turning off features to save battery can solve some issues encountered with iOS 7. Turning off the 3-D screen option, turning off AirDrop, disabling “App Background Refresh,” turning off Wi-Fi searching and dimming the screen will give at least a 10 percent boost in battery life. On the other hand, the new iPhones coupled with iOS 7 have received increasingly positive reviews. The new 5s unlocks with a built-in fingerprint scanner on the home button, a fool-proof way to ensure privacy for someone’s phone. Sophomore Himmat Saha maintains, “The fingerprint technology is one of the coolest updates. It’s less tedious than typing in your password every time and the whole concept is really amazing.” He adds, “The new phone paired with iOS 7 makes the 5s the best thing that’s happened to Apple. Frankly, the old system was getting old fast.”

Pasadena Hot Spots

By CAROLINE IAFFALDANO
Assistant Life Editor

Los Angeles has always been known for its plethora of cafes and restaurants, but only recently has our small town of Pasadena become a mecca of cute eateries.

Within the last few months, the highly anticipated Urth Caffe has opened and is booming with business. Urth, located in the Playhouse District, is jam-packed with people enjoying baked goods, salads and sandwiches and their famous blended green tea boba. In addition to award-winning coffee, Urth uses locally sourced, organic ingredients. Junior Allison Woo, a frequent Urth customer, said, “I love Urth because it has delicious drinks and a lively vibe. Urth is perfect to grab a drink and a dessert or pastry. The lava, coconut cake, cheesecakes and chocolate muffins are all amazing. It never fails to brighten my day!” Poly students find that Urth’s artistic and laid back atmosphere make it the ideal place to unwind after a stressful day of school.

The “Cronut” is the latest big thing to hit the food industry since the cupcake craze. The Cronut, a cross between a croissant and a doughnut, has created a cult following. People wait in line for three hours, starting as early as 5:30 in the morning, to get their hands on the famous Cronut. Confexion Cupcakes, a Pasadena based cupcakery, has jumped on the Cronut bandwagon and is now selling a similar product, the Brioughnut: a hybrid of the beloved American doughnut and flaky European brioche. These delicious treats are available Saturday and Sunday, without the three-hour wait.

A new coffee shop has emerged in Old Town Pasadena. Copa Vida, an artisan coffee shop that serves variety of coffees and teas. The coffee shop features extensive room for seating, a cold brew coffee bar, teas available on tap and an array of sandwiches and salads to eat. Copa Vida uses both traditional and modern methods when it comes to serving coffee. Their traditional espresso bar is lined with tall bar stools but they also keep it fresh—literally— with nitrogen available on tap to chill their coffee perfectly. This trendy coffee shop opens at 6 a.m. on weekdays and is the perfect alternative to morning Starbucks before school. All three of these eateries are less than two miles away from Poly, making them perfect to stop by, grab a snack or coffee and go. Europeans’ scrumptious egg salad sandwich is among the many must-have dishes, and Hook Burger, true to its name, hooks customers with decadent confections elaborating on the American classic hamburger. Pasadena has rapidly developed into a hub for hip cafes and restaurants and will continue to evolve in the next few years as new eateries
**Relationships at Poly**

Ever-changing circumstances and unstable emotions significantly affect teen relationships. 175 student responses to the Paw Print’s high school relationship survey revealed the accuracy of some stereotypes and dispelled others.

14% of Poly high school students are in relationships. 53% expressed a desire to be committed to a single partner, the majority of these respondents being female.

**Physical aspects of relationships**
74% of boys but only 26% of girls said that their motivation for being in a relationship was either explicit or partially physical. This discrepancy highlights the inevitable conflict between the interests of partners of opposing genders. Male students often view being in a relationship as a way to engage in consistent sexual activity rather than engage emotionally with another.

**Age differences**
Many students find significant age differences between partners concerning, particularly with consideration to the physical aspect of a relationship. Distinct variations in maturity and sexual experience caused by an age gap may cause rifts in a relationship. A significant age difference could also render an emotional connection more difficult to achieve.

Students begin focusing less on the superficial aspects of relationships as they grow older. Upperclassmen were also more decisive in their convictions, while underclassmen were less likely to hold strong opinions.

**Relationships with students outside of Poly**
Poly students have less time to dedicate to relationships than peers at less rigorous schools. In addition, the especially tight-knit nature of the “Poly bubble” keeps many Poly students from socializing with members of other schools and renders it difficult for one to simultaneously maintain relationships with both his or her significant other and his or her school friends.

Male students generally believe that dating students from different schools is an advantage because not seeing one’s partner every day reduces drama. Female students consider it a disadvantage because limited time together limits opportunities to bond. Both male and female students consider the “Poly bubble” a driving factor in the high failure rate of relationships.

**Social networking and relationships**
78% of students consider social networking and media portrayal to be harmful to relationships. They foster jealousy, perpetuate rumors, reduce personal connection and create unrealistic expectations. 10% deny any evidence of social media’s effect on relationships. Yet, social media’s influence continues to grow exponentially with each new generation. 9th and 10th graders emphasize the importance of a relationship over their education; 11th and 12th graders, however, consider it a disadvantage because limited time together limits opportunities to bond.

**Parental involvement**
54% of students decisively denounced parental involvement in relationships, while 20% believe that parental involvement helps foster healthy high school relationships. Parents protect their children by encouraging balance and healthy communication between partners. Older students tended to be more receptive to the idea of parental guidance and support than younger students.

*Facebook official is an outward way of permanently answering questions rather than an inward affirmation of the seriousness of a relationship.*

*9th grade male*

*I want a man who sweeps me off my feet and takes long walks and quotes poetry and brings me huge bouquets of roses in class and sings me love songs and tells me I’m pretty when I don’t feel pretty and getaway.*

*12th grade female*

*I don’t think parents should get involved right now, just because we’re all trying to figure out what we’re doing in high school, so parents just add pressure and, frankly, embarrassment and possible humiliation. Also, my parents give me horrible advice.*

*12th grade female*

*I believe that relationships are either purely physical or very emotional. I have nothing in between.*

*9th grade female*

*Most teens seem to want a relationship because they want to feel loved. However, when they get in one, they start thinking more about just a platonically love.*

*11th grade male*

*I think relationships tend to be based more on peer pressure but not necessarily because of physical looks. Peer pressure usually pulls people within the same social group.*

*10th grade female*

*Social media informs high school relationships through its censorship of what people in relationships post about, take pictures of, etc. Also, in some instances, the underlying suspicion people in a relationship have that they are being cheated on.*

*12th grade female*

*Going to different schools is an advantage because you will always meet new people.*

*12th grade female*

*I was a year and a half long relationship and now I am in the high school.*

*12th grade female*

*High school is a time for trying new things. High school sweeties don’t have much experience with themselves and don’t know much about what they want in life, or what they want in a partner. I think first few relationships are experiments.*

*12th grade male*

*Relationships end because people change and high schoolers are generally immature and don’t think things through.*

*9th grade female*

*Parents don’t want their kids in a relationship at Poly because of the already immense pressures of school, so even if they’re even mildly supporting on the outside, they can be annoying to know they actually don’t approve.*

*11th grade female*

*I think there’s a pretty broad spectrum. One thing that is that there really isn’t even casual dating. You’re either in a committed relationship for a week or a few months and then you determine it isn’t right, or you’re in it for a few years. I think high schoolers should be more open to casual dating to see if there’s a connection before committing to a relationship.*

*12th grade female*

*I am looking for someone to spend time with. I am looking for someone to cuddle with, talk about my day with, and laugh with. Someone who’s quirky and makes me smile. I am looking for love.*

*12th grade male*

*Parents play an irreplaceable role in the lives of their children. A good relationship positively impacts a child’s physical, mental and emotional well-being. This right of parents to maintain a strong involvement in their child’s life has been recognized by the Supreme Court doctrine. It is deeply valued by millions of American families.*

*11th grade female*

*Public displays of affection bother me. Like, go ahead and kiss your girlfriend/boyfriend or whatever, but if you always go about it and it’s always in front of me, I’m gonna get really pissed off. I mean you can, go ahead and display your affection, just don’t do it constantly in front of me.*

*9th grade male*

*Age difference can be an issue solely because of the age gap when college comes into play. I think that if someone/someone is the largest age gap that is acceptable solely because thinking back to my freshman year, I was in such a different phase and really didn’t feel I would have been ready for a relationship with a senior, nor would I have thought I would have been appropriate.*

*12th grade female*

*PDAs is too often condemned by parents and other adults as rude and inappropriate, but it is a very necessary thing to keep a relationship going. It should not, however, be held up as a primary goal for couples, it comes when it comes.*

*11th grade male*
The Panther’s Lair

“On the Mammoth Mountain biking trip, not only did I become an expert mountain biker but also I strengthened relationships with people I would have never talked to normally. Also, the teachers taught the whole group to appreciate nature, which is something that will stick with me forever.”

– Brady Carter ’17

“I had such a tight group on Escalante—we all saw each other at our absolute worst and pleaded and bonded over totally random stuff. We learned the hard way that there is always an immense payoff in pushing yourself beyond your limits. Our naturalists amplified our opportunities to figure out our identities. Altogether, it was an invaluable experience that I’ll never forget.”

– Belen Cahill ’17

“The surfing trip taught me, somewhere between being pummeled by waves and paddling out to do it all over again, that one should give nature a healthy respect. I thought the ocean was a safe place, but a few close calls with big waves and sharp rocks at low tide reminded me that the sea was not always benign. We learned about the tides and different types of waves, the marine ecosystem (we also did a beach clean up) and various surfing techniques.”

– Sean McMahon ’16

Don Jon: Joseph Gordon-Levitt’s stereotypical and irritating directorial debut

By Maddy Mendell

Opinion editor

Joseph Gordon-Levitt, like many other child stars who did not fall into some sort of substance abuse or general weirdness, has hit the age for a comeback. After his role in (500) Days of Summer (2009), Gordon-Levitt became the attractive, young, independent, romantic male lead, and he has maintained that image in all his roles.

His production company, HitRECord, has utilized the Internet as a means of collaboration across the world, and through this company and his public image, JGL has certainly gained a fair amount of respect among fans. Because of this, the hype and excitement that met his new film Don Jon which came out late September, seemed appropriate.

Gordon-Levitt has talked about writing, directing and starring in his film to his fans for over a year now, and he assembled a great cast to help him along. Unfortunately, the writing was amateurish and riddled with underdeveloped characters and uninteresting backgrounds, the directing attempted to hold the audience’s attention and failed, and the acting was less than satisfactory.

In this humble reviewer’s opinion, Gordon-Levitt attempted to make an edgy film about porn addiction and relationships in the modern world, but instead, he ended up making a statement about the one-dimensionality of women, playing right into the Madonna-whore complex. His two leading ladies, Scarlett Johanson, who played Gordon-Levitt’s character’s girlfriend, Barbara, and Julianne Moore, who plays a classmate of Levitt’s, became just as insufferable as Gordon-Levitt.

Jon’s penchant for watching porn and breaks up with him, and Jon turns to Esther, a mysterious woman he first saw crying at his night school course. She teaches him that love is a two-way street and comforts him. Of course, we have no idea why she is all-knowing other than a slightly troubled past, and while Jon might show some development—incredibly obvious attempts at development, but still—Esther’s change is nonexistent. If you’re looking for a static film with static characters, this is it.

In Gordon-Levitt’s attempt to make an edgy film, he utilized some of the most tired, well-known directing tropes. Repetition, repetition and repetition. He used repetition so often in this film, that when he finally broke the repetition in order to prove his point, which was either nonexistent or that men base their lives off of porn and women base theirs off of Nicholas Sparks rom-coms, it was so incredibly expected, and the audience was already so bored of the repetition, that it had absolutely no effect.

Don Jon used every stereotype that could be thrown upon a woman, did absolutely nothing to twist those stereotypes or use them against the audience, barely examined porn addiction at all, and provided a poor look into an uninteresting, unappealing persona’s life. In fact the only appealing character, Jon’s sister, played by Brie Larson, had one line in the entire film, and that was a sarcastic, snide, witty comment thrown at her brother. The film lacked humor and gravitas, and the character development I was promised by Scarlett Johanson was absent. If you want to see a good movie about sex addiction that is edgy and has humor, I suggest you see Shame (2011), by Steven Spielberg. Don Jon just did not cut it. A poor directing and writing debut for Joseph Gordon-Levitt. Keep to acting.
Girls tennis loses to Westridge but defeats Chadwick, claims hold on second place in Prep League

By EVAN KIM
Assistant Sports Editor

Poly's girls varsity tennis team dropped a 10-8 match to Westridge in a recent meeting of undefeated Prep League teams.

The Panthers, supported by a large crowd of supporters, gave Westridge a strong challenge. Poly stacked its doubles team, but its lineup change backfired when the team found it difficult to win any singles matches. Senior Elissa Boghosian nearly beat Westridge's number two singles player, Erin McDonald, and junior Brooke Olson was able to remain undefeated in doubles play.

Following an important 10-8 victory against Prep League rival Chadwick, the varsity tennis team continues to bring solid performances to the court. With the help of new coaches Kim Webber Hall and Bayly Buck, the team has an 8-3 overall record (5-2 in league).

Senior Co-Captain Elissa Boghosian commented, “With new coaches again this year, I initially thought the transition would be difficult; however, our coaches are terrific additions to the team.”

With four more matches left in the season, the Panthers hope to defend their second-place league ranking. If Poly is able to win the upcoming match against Chadwick, they will be able to secure their position and will most likely advance to the first round of the CIF playoffs without needing to play a wildcard game.

Senior Erin Lee noted, “We had a huge win against Chadwick earlier in the season, and if we can do it again next week, we’ll have a great chance of making it to playoffs. Everyone has been working hard this season, and it’s showing.”

Senior Co-Captain Juliet Johnson added, “We’ve had a really strong team with underclassmen Sam Collins and Shalini Haupt really stepping up for us. We are hoping for a great end to the regular season and hopefully a long run in CIF.”

Poly prepares for their upcoming four-game home stand that includes key league matchups against Chadwick, Webb and Mayfield.

Junior Anna Lamb commented, “The upcoming matches will test the team both physically and mentally. The match against Chadwick is an opportunity to prove that we can maintain consistency and refrain from allowing thepressure to distract us.”

Football routs Flintridge Prep and Webb and holds onto undefeated record

By HUNTER WORLAND
Sports Editor

After crushing both Webb and league rival Flintridge Prep, the boys football team (7-0) remains one of 73 undefeated high school teams in California.

Currently tied for first place in the Prep League, the team has earned a number two ranking in the CIF Southern Section coaches’ poll for its division.

Junior running back Griffin Carter noted, “While our rankings are a good sign, it does not mean too much to us. The team’s only focus right now is winning Prep League.”

The Panthers’ biggest win of the season came two weeks ago against Flintridge Prep at Occidental College. While both sides expected a close game, the Panthers created a defensive struggle for the Rebels within the first fifteen seconds of the game. On the first play from scrimmage, Carter tallied Poly’s first touchdown of the game on a 52-yard run.

Before the Rebels could answer, the Panthers recovered the kickoff, denying Flintridge any offensive opportunity. With 10 minutes left in the quarter, senior quarterback Michael Bowman snuck into the end zone, extending the lead to 14-0.

Less than three minutes later, Bowman shattered any hope of a Rebel comeback with a two-yard pass to senior Vincent Porter.

As Flintridge clambered to respond, Poly stretched its lead to 27-0 in the second half with another touchdown from Carter. Only minutes later, the junior running back found himself in familiar territory, pushing the score to 34-0 to close the half.

In the fourth quarter, Prep quarterback Andrew Tsiangos, tallied Prep’s first and only touchdown of the night on a four-yard run.

The Panthers responded on their next drive with a touchdown pass to junior Parker Mathews, sending the large crowd of orange and white into hysteria. The game ended 41-8, averting last year’s 46-33 defeat. Carter’s stats were the most impressive as he led the Panthers’ offense with 114 rushing yards.

Lineman Nick McConnell commented, “I really feel like we played a complete game on offense, defense and special teams. Coming into league, it was important to start off with a win and we did just that.”

Defensively, the most impressive on- tain Prep’s scoring sensation, Stefan Smith. The Panther defense kept Smith to 88 rushing yards.

Despite the win, a hit to the jaw side- lined senior running back Jack Kayyem, who will be out for several weeks. Poly carried its momentum in last week’s matchup against Webb, which is 5-2. The following week, the Panthers will face reigning CIF and Prep League champion Rio Hondo.

Girls tennis loses to Westridge but defeats Chadwick, claims hold on second place in Prep League

By ZACK BERN
Assistant Sports Editor

Coming off of successful seasons last year, both the boys and girls cross country teams look to pick up where they left off. Both teams are led by a strong junior and senior class.

Last league meet, the boys took 2nd overall. Will Hubsch, junior cross country star, took third overall, while other teammates as senior Lev Asimow, junior Manny Medrano and junior Richard Hathaway placed in the top fourteen.

Asimow commented, “The boys team is looking to take down Chadwick and Webb in league. At the same time, we look to hold on to our 6th place CIF ranking.” Recently, the Panthers have been plagued by injuries, but with their roster of competitive junior varsity runners, the varsity team continues to compete for league and CIF. The Panthers look to stay strong throughout the last two weeks of the season.

The boys team had mixed results in the past meets. At the Don Bosco Tech Invitational, juniors and seniors fell behind several opponents, including Prep League adversaries, Flintridge Prep. While Rebels runner, Alan Yoho, won the three mile small schools race, the best Panther runner at the meet, Jon Yen, finished 107th.

The underclassmen had a little more success, placing 6th overall. In the three mile small schools race for sophomores and freshmen, Poly runners Charles Thomas Mayne and Michael Yen finished 19th and 21st respectively.

At the Rosemead Invitational, Will Hubsch led the junior runners, earning 29th place among 251 juniors. Hubsch also earned 1st-place at the Santa Clarita Invitational.

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Meanwhile, the girls cross country team remains in contention for the Prep League crown. Senior Janna Wennberg touched on recent meets and the near future: “It’s always hard for our team to come off of Trips Week, but we’ve bounced back spectacularly. We had some great racing this morning at the Bell Gardens Invitational, and we look forward to taking on Mr. SAC this Friday. It’s a hilly course, but our incline practice paid off.”

The team is once again led by Senior Evan Gancedo. She won her second consecutive Prep League individual title last season. Gancedo then went on to take 27th in her division at State Championships.

Wennberg commented, “Evan has been having a spectacular season. She sets the standard for performance and work ethic for the rest of the team, and her results have shown that dedication is key to cross country.”

Gancedo recently earned 9th place among 175 senior runners in a 3 mile race at the Rosemead Invitational.

Although unranked, the girls team heads into the final meet looking to compete hard and make a final statement.

Defending champ heroes, the Mayfield Cubs, will be Poly’s most formidable opponent.
Mayfield stops Poly in five games, claims first in Prep League race

By CHARLIE RAMIREZ
Sports editor

With their play through the first half of the season, the Poly girls volleyball team has proven itself to be a top contender in both the Prep League and CIF division 2AA. Posting a 10-1 (6-1 in league) record, the Panthers find themselves in second place in league and ranked sixth in CIF.

“I think being ranked in the top 10 in CIF is a testament to the determination of our team this year. We have defied the fact that we were considered underdogs from the very beginning and worked hard for our ranking,” said Junior Deedre Logan. “I think that because our team is very young, people thought that the inexperience at the varsity level would hinder our playing, but being a young team has only made us work harder to ultimately do well.

After six straight wins to start off league play, Poly faced their toughest test against the number three ranked Mayfield. The Panthers came out strong in a playoff-like atmosphere with a standing-room-only gym.

The volleyball team celebrates after a kill against Chadwick. The team won 3-1.

Our play through the first half of the season propelled us to being a top contender in both league and CIF, but we are hoping to come out as a stronger team through it all. We are introducing a few new offensive weapons going into the second half of league that we are excited about.”

Poly has a much anticipated rematch at Mayfield this Thursday. “We cant wait to face Mayfield again. Coming out on the losing end of such a competitive game is tough,” said Olah, “but we are using the experience to drive us forward and hopefully enable us to have more success in the future.”

By CHARLIE RAMIREZ
Assistant Sports editor

Recent success from boys varsity water polo sparks high hopes for playoffs

The boys varsity water polo team takes first place in the Prep League standings with four consecutive wins over La Salle, Milken, Chadwick and Webb.

Solid preseason tournament play gave the Panthers a 10-4 record entering Prep League competition. “We’ve had some tough games early this season,” senior captain Dennis Grover comments, “we haven’t been playing all of our games at full strength recently due to some injuries and other commitments, which have had a big impact. Out of our four losses, three of them have come in tournaments against some pretty strong teams. We are trying to learn from our mistakes, and we will continue to improve during the rest of the season. Ideally, we will be playing our best water polo going into CIF.”

In the opening weeks of league play, the Panthers were quick to establish their dominance. Behind captains Spencer Rogers, Brock Hudnut and Dennis Grover, the Panthers easily past the Webb Gauls (26r-13), the Chadwick Dolphins (13-6), the Milken Wildcats (18-6) and the La Salle Lancers (17-2). As of yet, the Panthers have not been faced with tough competition in the Prep League, and they will look to continue this trend as CIF Playoffs approach.

The younger players find leadership in their captains as their exceptional play and work ethic push the team to the players’ limits. “Spencer, Dennis and Brock really go the extra mile as team captains,” junior Henry Brooks comments, “they believe the team on plays, give constructive criticism after games and push everyone to his physical limits. Their efforts as captains translate into strong results for the team.”

While the Panthers find leadership in their senior captains, junior Omar Dairi has established himself as a key component of both the offensive and defensive fronts. In 17 games, Dairi has contributed 29 goals, 20 assists and 58 steals.

“Our mentality going into each game progressively improves,” Dairi adds, “we are starting to recognize the habits and techniques of individual players so that we may work better as a whole. We have finished recovering from the loss of two key players from last year and are on track to a hopefully successful future.”

On Friday, the Panthers showed their versatility and depth as a team. In a 17-2 win at home against the La Salle Lancers, a number of players were able to contribute key roles in the match. Junior Turner Romney tallied two goals and three steals in the afternoon, senior Josh Ball added two assists, one steal and six saves in goal, and Brooks contributed one assist, one steal and seven saves in goal.

The Panthers will make their final adjustments against Prep League competition as the CIF Playoffs near.

Chadwick football breaches school policies

Chadwick’s varsity football team forfeited last week’s matchup against non-league adversary Firebaugh due to a violation of school rules by numerous players.

According to an email sent by Chadwick’s Head of School Ted Hill to players’ parents, the student athletes breached Chadwick’s Chemical Health Rule, which Chadwick prohibits student-athletes from drinking or consuming other illegal substances at any time or in any place, on or off campus.

While the school suspended individual players, the coaches and team captains made the ultimate decision to forfeit Saturday’s game. The matchup would have been the squad’s Senior and Spirit Game.

The forfeit slides the team to 5-2. The Dolphins host Poly this Saturday. Whether the suspended players will be present is unknown at this time.

The game is likely to be the Panther’s toughest opponent yet and crucial for a spot in playoffs.

The game is likely to be the Panther’s toughest opponent yet and crucial for a spot in playoffs.

SPENCER ROGERS
58 Goals
15 Assists
27 Steals

BROCK HUDNUT
37 Goals
57 Assists
30 Steals

Dennis Grover
45 Goals
36 Assists
22 Steals

Water Polo Scoring Leaders
**Athlete of the Issue**

**Michael Bowman**

When coaches or scouts examine a quarterback’s potential to be successful, they run down a checklist of physical, mental and personality traits that affect the quarterback’s ability to produce big plays on the field—and senior Michael Bowman meets every one of those criteria. Bowman’s arm strength, size, vision, mobility in the pocket, competitive nature, leadership and most importantly, football IQ all combine for a complete quarterback package that has led to Poly’s successful season thus far.

A three-year varsity letterman, Bowman has had ample time to develop into a game-changing quarterback. Senior tight end Will Genske adds, “Michael has become a great vocal leader in the locker room and on the field.” For the season thus far, Bowman has thrown 10 touchdown passes and passed for 581 yards, giving him a stance as one of the most effective quarterbacks in the Prep League. “He’s on fire right now. More importantly, his confidence is at the level we need it to be in order to beat the competitive teams in our league such as Rio Hondo and Chadwick,” says Genske.

The spark that Bowman provides the football team has been recognized by every one of his teammates. Junior Griffin Carter adds, “Michael has really come on as of late, as his superb passing is the ideal compliment to our running game. His athletic ability and demeanor have been vital to our team’s success so far.”

Junior Henry Brooks comments on the versatile ability of Bowman, “He’s on fire right now. More importantly, his confidence is at the level we need it to be in order to beat the competitive teams in our league such as Rio Hondo and Chadwick.”

Senior captain Dennis Grover comments, “Matt has improved a lot during the past few weeks, and I know that he will continue to improve. He has been working very hard and it has shown. He was moved up to varsity because he has shown enough to prove he can play at that level.”

In his four years on the varsity squad, Treister has contributed positively to the Panther’s successes, and this year, her contributions are needed more than ever. As the team’s setter, the Panther’s relies on Treister for her knowledge of the game and physical ability.

Junior Deedee Logan adds, “Natalie is a type of leader that everyone looks up to because she is so willing to take on different roles to help the team.”

With a 10-2 record, the girls varsity volleyball team is in the spotlight of Poly athletics. Having lost only one league game, the Panthers turn to senior Natalie Treister for her leadership and dominance on the court as the team vies for the Prep League crown.

Junior Alex Clark comments, “Natalie is a great leader on the team. She always pushes us to play up to our potential, no matter what the score is. She is not only a great leader but also a smart player. With her sets, she always puts our team in the best position to score.”

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**Athlete of the Future**

**Matt Arena**

At 6’0 feet tall and 200 pounds, freshman Matt Arena has transformed into a consistent force for Poly’s water polo program. Arena was brought up to the varsity level for a weekend tournament, Arena has solidified his permanent spot on the varsity squad. Senior captain Dennis Grover says, “Matt contributed quality playing time and established good positions.”

Although Arena is the backup two-meter player behind the talented senior, Spencer Rogers, he has improved significantly since he has been on the varsity squad and will be the much-needed player to fill the hole that Rogers will leave. Senior captain Dennis Grover comments, “Matt has improved a lot during the past few weeks, and I know that he will continue to improve. He has been working very hard and it has shown. He was moved up to varsity because he has a lot of potential. Given his size and club experience, we know that Matt will become a key player on the varsity in the coming years.”

Poly’s varsity water polo squad has greatly benefited from club play. Arena is yet another member of the team who has club experience. It is clearly evident that his experiences in club have fostered a drive to succeed. Arena pushes himself in order to improve his technique and earn the respect of his fellow teammates. Junior Henry Brooks comments, “everyone on the team values Arena’s contributions, and I am excited to see him flourish in years to come.”

- David Orndorff

**By The Numbers**

- Omar Dairi’s total steals in the season thus far.
- Number of seconds it took for the Panthers to score against rival, Flintridge Prep.
- Number of matches doubles team Brooke Olson and Shalini Haupt have lost in the season.
- Will Hubsch’s top mark of the season from Rosemead Invitational.

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**The Panther Scoreboard**

- Football Poly vs. Flintridge 41-8 (Poly)
- Girls Tennis Poly vs. Webb 14-4 (Poly)
- Boys Water Polo Poly vs. La Salle 17-2 (Poly)

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**Number of matches doubles team Brooke Olson and Shalini Haupt have lost in the season.**

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**Number of seconds it took for the Panthers to score against rival, Flintridge Prep.**

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**Omar Dairi’s total steals in the season thus far.**