

The Poly Optimist

John H. Francis Polytechnic High School

VOL. XXI

12431 ROSCOE BLVD. SUN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, 91352

MID-FEBRUARY 2009

Klinker Art At Poly

By Angel Silva
Staff Writer

[This is the second part of a four-part series on Poly's art collection. Part 1. ran in the February edition, currently online at poly-high.org]

Two works by renowned California illustrator and painter Orpha Mae Klinker, "Commercial High, Poly's Second Home" (1935) and "Original Campus" (1936), were recently uncovered among a group of valuable paintings long in storage at Poly.

In late 2008, LAUSD Curatorial and Collections Management Consultant Leslie Fischer cataloged and appraised Poly's art as part of a larger project for LAUSD. The two Klinker works, valued at around \$3,500 each, were among the art works Fischer researched.

An oil painting by California watercolorist Lee Blair entitled "The Ranch Horses" and valued at \$15,000 was also among the paintings Fischer documented. (See part one of this series.)



Photo by Karina Muniz

OIL ON CANVAS: Prominent artist and Parrot grad Orpha Klinker's "Original Campus" (1936) shows the L.A location.

Klinker attended Poly when it was known as Commercial High School and apparently donated the two works to her alma mater some years later.

The two Klinker oils depict the original vocational high school in Los Angeles before it was renamed John H. Francis Polytechnic High School in 1935 and eventually relocated to Sun Valley in 1957.

Klinker also painted a portrait of Francis, the founder and first principal of Poly, but its whereabouts are unknown.

"She was very attached to the school," said author Phyllis Hansen, who is currently writing a biography of Klinker.

Born in 1891 in Fairfield, Iowa, Klinker was a child when her family moved to northern California and later Los Angeles, where her father invested in real estate.

After graduation from Poly, Klinker was working as a sales clerk in a department store when her employer noticed [See Klinker, pg 5]

Former OPTIMIST Lands Interview

By Karinina Cruz
Staff Writer

A recent OPTIMIST editor and Poly grad sold two stories to the New York Post in January. Pedro Oliveira Jr., 21, currently news editor of the "Badger Herald" at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, interviewed Jeffrey Skiles, copilot of the US Airways jet that crash-landed in New York's Hudson River on January 15. At that time, no one from the flight crew had spoken to the press because the incident was under investigation.

Skiles is a resident of nearby Oregon, Wisconsin. Oliveira drove to Skiles' residence and convinced the copilot to give

an interview concerning the crash. The "Post" ran the interview and a follow-up story January 23.

Skiles and pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger have been in the news daily since January 15, when their plane, US Airways Flight 1549, made a forced landing in the Hudson River after both engines stopped. All 155 people aboard were saved. The crew later received a special invitation to President Obama's inauguration, appeared at the Superbowl and was interviewed by Katy Couric on "60 Minutes" on CBS.

Oliveira Jr. spoke with the OPTIMIST last week about the Skiles interview.

Q. Who first contacted you about doing a Skiles interview?

I was contacted by an assignment editor from the "New York Post's" city desk. I am not quite sure why the "Post" called us. Our editor in chief, Tom Schalmo, passed the call on to me. I remember him saying, "sounds like a job for Pedro."

They wanted to get anything from Mr. Skiles' personal life, what he was like, family, flying history. They didn't give me specifics because there wasn't a lot of information on him. The story developed on the spot. That happens quite frequently in this profession.

[See Ex., pg 4]

Poly Scores Highest Ever

By Jason Castro
Editor In-Chief

Poly's Academic Decathlon team scored a total of 35,542 points at Saturday's "Super Quiz," an increase of almost 5,500 over last year, and the highest score in Poly history by over 4,000 points. The event was part of Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) 2009 Academic De-

cathlon competition and was held last Saturday at UCLA's John Wooden Center in Westwood.



Photo by Karina Muniz

COACH: Brian Block.

The Parrots also earned a Most Improved in Conference Award.

The Academic Decathlon competition awards medals for the overall competition as well as certificates for achievement in conference. Poly students earned six medals and six certificates.

Junior Karinina Cruz's score of 6,924 was the highest total score in Poly history. Cruz had a perfect gold medal score of 1000 for her speech, a silver medal for her interview,

[See Poly, pg 3]

Politics '09

GM's Rocky Road

By Angel Silva
Staff Writer

General Motors may still be on the road to ruin.

A week before the Detroit auto maker presents a plan to Congress, vice chairman Bob Lutz stated that he would step down to become a senior advisor for GM.

Lutz was the figurehead in the development of the hyped Chevy Volt, which has been seen as the solution to many of the company's problems. His

departure raises several issues concerning the plan in question.

"It is a little unusual, frankly, to see this kind of a transition at this time," said Aaron Bragman, an industry analyst at IHS Global Insight. "He had said that he wanted to stick around to see the Volt land."

Lutz's exit was one of many by top GM executives, including two directors, as the company scurries to ready its economic turnaround plan for a skeptical Congress amidst a

crippled auto market and steep losses.

GM and competitor Chrysler are both under a Feb. 17 deadline to submit plans to the Treasury Department or risk losing their \$17.4 billion in federal loans. To meet bailout requirements, GM has been trying to reduce its debt by reducing pay and laying off workers.

GM lost \$23 billion through the first nine months of last year, and its U.S. sales volume declined 23% in 2008.



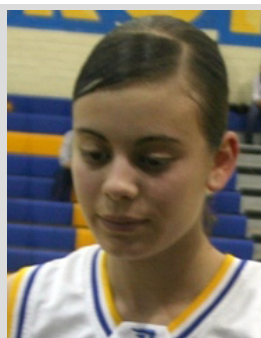
Glory to Poly

See Comics Page 6



Kickin' It Old School

See Soccer Girls Page 7



League Leader

See Hurt Page 8

EDITORIAL

Love and Money

This month is supposed to be the month of love and friendship, where you show how you truly feel for that one special person.

Instead, we get the usual yearly mass fabricated junk in stores around the country. It's sickening to see that today's society sees love as a measurable substance-something you can pick up at the local 99-cent store.

Love is defined as a profoundly tender, passionate affection for another person, not a box of fattening chocolates or a group of dying flowers wrapped in plastic. It's not what you give a person that defines what you feel for him or her, it's what you do together.

The time spent with another person is something that cannot be quantified. Our time on this earth is limited, and to spend it with someone you care about is the true expression of love, not a corny red card with a fat winged baby on the front.

Spending time with those you care about is the best ex-

VALENTINE'S DAY



BECAUSE LOVE ISN'T QUITE COMPLICATED ENOUGH AS IT IS.

pression of love you can give a person. It doesn't have to be on a date or something-just being together doing schoolwork or at lunch is enough.

This month show how much you care for your loved one, not necessarily by showering them with material gifts, but by sharing something intangible, something that can't be tasted or touched-time. Give them your love, your undying care, and most importantly, spend time with them - for tomorrow you might not be together.

THE OPTIMIST

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The OPTIMIST is the voice of the Poly community and accepts the responsibilities of a free press. The OPTIMIST follows the Code of Ethics for the Society of Professional Journalists. Editorials are the opinions of the staff writers.

LETTERS

Letters to the Editor must be typed or neatly printed in ink and include the writer's signature. The OPTIMIST reserves the right to edit submissions. Send letters to Rm.14 or Mr. Blau's box.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



The OPTIMIST talked to Parrots about what they're reading, Here's what they told us:

"The Killer Angels" (1974)

- Michael Shaara

"It's about the Civil War."

"My teacher introduced it to the class."

"It has the story of men who fought and died for a cause they believed in."

Isaac Aleman, 12

"Secret Life of Bees" (2002)

- Sue Monk Kidd

"My friend Helen told me it was a good book."

"I saw the movie and the book is always better than the movie. If you liked the movie, you'll love the book."

Joe Martinez, 12

"Invisible Man" (1952)

- Ralph Ellison

"It gives you a whole new view of racial segregation and discrimination in the lives of blacks and whites.

"It's an enjoyable book with complex characters and situations."

Alexandra Garcia, 11

"Catcher in the Rye" (1951)

- J.D Salinger

"The way Holden (The main character) looks at life teaches you that anyone can overcome any obstacle, no matter how hard life is."

Brianda Lopez, 11

"Twilight" (2005)

- Stephanie Meyer

"I just love vampires and werewolves. I also love the action and the never ending love between characters."

Evelyn Velazquez, 12

"The Hours" (1999)

- Michael Cunningham

"I liked it because it's about three different women in different time periods and the author somehow connects their lives."

"I found it in Ms. Elam's class for silent reading."

Glendy Lopez, 11

"Always Running" (1993)

- Luis Rodriguez

"I think that people would like it because right now we are living in a world that everyone is fearing."

Marielena Villatoro, 11

"Communion: The Female Search For Love" (2002)

- Bell Hooks

"It's about a female finding love in the feminist movement and the stages of loving."

"My cousin gave it to me. She had a class at UCLA and was assigned to read it."

"I think girls would like it because they could relate."

Isabel Sandoval, 11

"The Rogue Hunter" (2008)

- Lynsay Sands

"It's about vampires who are hunting criminals who are vampires."

"I was looking through the book section at Target and the book triggered my interest."

Sylvatte Rodriguez, 11

"Anything Can Happen in High School (and it usually does)" (1993)

- William D. McCants

"It has interesting things for example: A guy named T.J was dumped by a girl named Janet and attempts to get her back. "

Andrea Sanchez, 12

"Girl Hearts" (2001)

- Norma Fox Mazer

"I didn't like it, I loved it. The best part is how the brave that lost her mom fights to be stronger."

Liliana Benavidez, 12

"A Clockwork Orange" (1962)

- Anthony Burgess

"I like this book because I have seen the movie and it was awesome."

"Anyone would like this book because it is about a gang leader who thinks he is all that."

Jenny Valles, 12

Poly Scores Big In Super Quiz

[Poly, from pg 1]

and conference certificates in music and essay.

Senior Belle Tadena won a silver medal for her speech, and a bronze medal for her essay.

Junior Angel Silva was one of only three students in the entire district to earn a gold medal for essay and also earned a conference certificate for this honor. Junior Alexander Lee won a silver medal for speech, and conference certificates for essay and music. Junior Tam Luu earned a conference certificate for music.

While not finishing in the top nine schools that qualify for the state competition, the Parrot team finished fourth out of 64 teams for the essay event. El Camino finished fifth in this category and second place North Hollywood finished third.

Marshall High School won the "Super Quiz" competition with a final, unofficial score of 53 points out of 60. El Camino Real and Palisades Charter High School tied for second place, scoring 52 points each.

Official winners were announced Thursday at the LAUSD Academic Decathlon awards ceremony at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

The winning school/team and wild card teams will go on to compete in the 2009 California Academic Decathlon, scheduled March 13-16, in Sacramento.

"Our super quiz placement was about five places higher than our highest team 2 years ago," said Parrot Acadeca coach Brian Block, "and if we are just a little lucky with the seven multiple choice, we might crack the top 20 overall."

Poly's highest finish previously was 28, according to Block.

"What makes it more amazing for me is that only one student had been in Acadeca before and only one was a senior," said Block.

Five hundred eighty high school students in sixty-four teams of decathletes competed in the event, along with parents, friends and well-wishers. The testing covered seven subjects including art, economics, language/litera-



Photo courtesy of Brian Block

TEAM: (from left) Junior Karinina Cruz, junior Tam Luu, junior Angel Silva, senior Belle Tadena, junior Cris Vergara, junior Steve Miranda, freshman Cathy Capalla, junior Alexander Lee, and junior Freddy Palominos at the Super Quiz.

Six Medals Won

Six Division Certificates won

Four Writing Certificates

ture, math, music, science, and social science before the written Super Quiz relay.

Participating high schools are allowed to send a maximum of nine students for the school's team.

The team must have three A grade average students for the Honors level, three B grade average students Scholastic level and three C or below grade average students Varsity level.

Poly's Decathletes at the Super Quiz were: Honors Level: Karinina Cruz (11), Tam Luu (11) and Cathy Capalla (9). Scholastic Level: Belle Tadena (12), Angel Silva (11) and Christopher Miranda (11). Varsity Level: Chris Vergara (11), Alexander Lee (11) and

Freddy Palominos (11).

This year's study topic was "Latin America with a Focus on Mexico."

"It was a great experience learning about the different aspects of Latin American culture," said Miranda.

Competition day began at nine in the morning with a math test, followed by tests in Economics, Social Science, Language and Literature.

After lunch, students took written tests in Art and Music.

Then came the written portion of the Super Quiz. This year's topic concentrated on Evolutionary Biology.

The Super Quiz relay was the final event of the day.

All the teams marched with their

school name held up high at the start of the relay.

Competitors had seven minutes to answer ten questions.

The questions were divided into the three levels, Honors, Scholastic and Varsity.

Despite the pressure, Poly Acadeca team said they enjoyed the experience.

"It was a great learning experience," said freshman Capalla, "and although my individual super quiz score wasn't high, it inspired me to do better next year. Everyone in the Acadeca team was an inspiration to me."

Capalla said being a freshman gave her a great opportunity to interact with juniors and seniors, who give her tips on how to handle the academic rigor of Acadeca.

The Relay was broadcast live on KLCS channel 58. There will be replay telecasts also on KLCS on February 10 at 10:30 AM, February 15 at 2:00 PM and February 24 at 10:30 AM.

College Journal

As a service to our readers, the OPTIMIST asked one Poly senior to tell us about her senior year. Below is the ninth installment of her story.

By Belle Tadena
Staff Writer

Only five more months until the Zodiacs graduate.

Seven or eight more months until the start of my college life.

For a sophomore or a junior, graduation is still a lifetime away. This is more than enough time to plan for the future and plenty of time to procrastinate.

On the other hand, for a senior like me, it feels like there is not enough time to do anything.

Seniors only have one more month to finish and submit the FAFSA application to be eligible for college financial aid.

However, that is not the only issue in store for seniors.

It is mind-boggling to think that there is a whole new life waiting for us on the

other side of the door and to realize that college life is just around the corner.

Some of us decided to stay at home with our parents in order to save housing money. Some decided to leave the nest to find themselves a place to stay.

Dorms, apartments, studios.

For those who chose the latter, we question whether we are prepared for this independence or not.

What happens after high school? What am I going to major in and pursue? How positive am I that this major will get me somewhere? Am I going to get a job?

Perhaps these thoughts do not plague your mind like they do mine, or maybe you are already settled on your future, your major, your career, your life.

If you are, you're lucky.

If you're not, then know that to ponder these issues is normal.

As English teacher Ethel Matlen said, "Don't kill yourself over it. You have your first two years in college to explore and decide what path you want to pursue."

Despite all these thoughts in your head seniors, you still have five more months to go before you don your togas.

You still have five more months of classes to pass.

Do yourselves a favor and leap over one hurdle at a time. Don't worry about the next one. You'll get there sooner or later.

Ex-Optimist Reporter's Story In New York Post

[Former, from pg 1]

Q. How much time did you have to prepare for the interview?

It depends on how you look at it. I was working at my desk when I received a call from the "Post," and after explaining what the story entailed, the editor asked, "What's the earliest you can be there by?" My response was "about 20 minutes," and without hesitating, I simply got up and drove as fast as I could to Oregon, a city about 20 minutes outside of Madison, Wis. The story didn't turn out as we expected at first because Mr. Skiles' family would not talk to reporters, so I actually spent a total of three days working to get the Skiles interview and prepared over the course of those days.

Q. Who made the arrangements and where did the interview take place?

There were no arrangements, and that's what was the most interesting about this story. I simply drove out to Mr. Skiles' house, put on a nice smile and knocked on his door. At first I talked to his wife, Barbara, who was very nice but was starting to get tired of speaking with reporters. She must have had at least 10 different business cards from area media outlets in her kitchen. That was Friday.

The following Monday, I came back to Mr. Skiles' residence in hopes of speaking with him. After some good six to eight hours, my photographer and I found out he had left to the presidential inauguration in Washington, D.C. We had not left the area yet because nobody would answer the door, though there were cars parked in the driveway. At one point in the afternoon, one of his sons answered the door and told us Mr. and Mrs. Skiles wouldn't be home until the following day. That was day 2.

On day three, Thursday, I drove to his house with another area freelance photographer and we waited around his house for a bit. He, of course, wouldn't come out and talk to us, so I decided to employ a little journalistic trick (the kind you don't learn in journalism classes). I had researched a bit of Mr. Skiles' past and found out he attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, which is the same school I currently attend. So I wrote him a nice hand-written letter explaining who I was and how we had a few things in common. In the letter, I explained I would be quick and only ask him things he would be comfortable talking about. I also asked him to at least come out and let me know if he would talk, so I could know and not have to stay out there. Temperatures were nearing zero degrees and I was seriously starting to lose it.

He came out a few minutes later, and the interview began. It took place out-



WET LANDING: A ferryboat rescues passengers from the wings of U.S Airways flight 1549 after the plane was forced to crash-land in the Hudson River.

"I had no prepared set of questions. I knew where the story had to go and what kind of questions I had to ask..."

- Pedro Oliveira Jr.



side his house, near my car.

Q. Did you videotape or voice record the interview or rely on handwritten notes?

I was ready to go with my voice recorder, but did not do so at Mr. Skiles' request. Some people are a bit uneasy about being recorded and he was one of them. He's a pretty humble and shy guy and I figured that having an exclusive interview with him was already good enough. I wasn't going to push it too much.

Luckily, a bit of experience reporting gives you quick enough hand writing that you only need your voice recorder for accurately report long, elaborate quotes.

Q. Did you have a prepared set of questions?

I had no prepared set of questions. I knew where the story had to go and what kind of questions I had to ask, and since I had been looking forward to that moment for a while, I had a few questions in my head — but no official list or order written down.

Q. Did Skiles come alone?

He came alone. Funny thing is that I didn't even know it was an interview for the first five or so minutes there. He just came out and started chatting with my photographer and I. At some point I asked, "So, do you mind if I take some notes?" He joked back, "I thought we were almost done here." He was nice enough to repeat a few answers.

Q. We understand that Skiles revealed aspects of the story to you that had not previously been made public. Is that correct?

Mr. Skiles was unable to speak about the crash because of the ongoing investigation. However, he did reveal that he

had met with President Barack Obama during the inauguration. That ended up being my article's lead (first sentence).

Q. Do you have any idea why neither the pilot nor co-pilot offered this information to the media before?

From what I understand, the crew has a "we were just doing our jobs" approach to this incident. Nobody felt compelled to speak about it because they were pretty humble, shy guys who didn't feel like heroes.

Q. Did this information come as a result of a question of yours or was it volunteered by Skiles?

It was a question I asked. I asked him about the inauguration because of what his son had told me a few days before.

Q. How did you work out the freelance compensation with the "Post"?

There was a common understanding that I would go out and get the story for the Post and that I would receive an appropriate compensation.

Q. Did you sign away all rights to the "Post"?

Yes, as a freelancer, you grant all rights to the publication that contracts your work.

Q. Any future arrangement with the "Post" to provide other stories?

My name is in their files for future area freelance opportunities. They did mention I could do some work for them if I were ever to live in New York, so that could be a nice thing to follow up on in the future.

Q. Will you use this experience to negotiate the sale of your stories to other publications?

Absolutely. Anything you do works for

resume building at this stage in life.

Q. Did you use your scoop to do a story for the college paper?

I did not. My time was committed to the Post and it wouldn't be professional to use the information I collected during that time to write a story for a different publication. One of the articles was featured on CNN, though. That was fun.

Q. What is your background with the college paper? What year are you and what is your major?

I just ended a semester working as "The Badger Herald's" news editor. The "Herald" is divided in four major sections — News, Opinion, Sports and Arts, etc. — with News being the largest and more challenging one to lead. At the time, the department was comprised of 12 editors and something between 15 and 30 reporters. Before that, I had worked as a deputy news editor, campus editor, state reporter and page designer. I'm currently working as a senior news reporter.

I'm a junior majoring in Portuguese and journalism.

Q. Tell us about the school paper.

The "Herald" prints 15,000 copies daily, M-F. We run on broadsheet, color and the number of pages varies. The largest issue of the semester runs with about 60 pages and comes out on the first day of each semester. On a daily basis it could run anywhere from 12 to 20-some pages.

Q. Tell us about you.

I was born and raised in Belém, Brazil. At 17, I moved to the United States and attended Poly for a year and a half. I was awarded the Posse Foundation's full-tuition leadership scholarship, mostly for my work at the OPTIMIST.

Q. Was a journalism career always a goal of yours? Did someone inspire you to work for a paper?

No. Up until late high school, I thought I was going to become a professional musician because I spent about 12 years in music school studying piano.

My dad had done some work for a small newspaper when he was about my age and he battled the military dictatorship Brazil was under at the time. I started a newspaper in Brazil and that's how I became interested in journalism.

Q. Tell us about your work with the OPTIMIST?

I was there in 2005-06. The paper had actually been shut down for a few years so I was one of the people who

[See next page]

HOLLYWOOD

Nights

By Hazel Kasusky
Staff Writer

A night on the town leads to unexpected adventures.

Bummer.

The four of us, Karina, Elizabeth, Mari, and I, stood outside Amoeba Records in Hollywood. We had planned to watch Franz Ferdinand perform inside.

The gig was full. We had come too late. Lesson learned: never go to a free concert.

Instead of sulking over the missed chance to meet Franz Ferdinand, we decided to hit the streets and explore a little. After a bite at Jack-In-the-Box, we headed for the famous Chinese Mann Theatre.

The night sky was dark. Neon lights illuminated the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Tourists' heads leaned over to look at each embedded star on the sidewalk. Every now and then, a passerby would offer a free something.

The smoke in the air made it difficult to breathe. At least two people on each block were smoking. Hollywood's years of promoting tobacco had paid off.

Store windows were filled with the stereotypical Hollywood stuff, including old movie posters and celebrity mannequins wearing feather boas. One display featured Elvis Presley in a white suit with a guitar.

Public restrooms were rare. We stepped into a McDonald's where a Michael Jackson impersonator went to the bathroom. People on Hollywood Boulevard are very...open.

On the street, a man with a cane sang

songs from various genres. He sang well and loud, but without any effort or emotion. A couple of college-looking kids ridiculed my sweater by singing Spongebob's "Striped Sweater" song.

As we neared the Chinese Mann Theatre, the crowds got bigger. I couldn't blame them. They were staring at people dressed up as Iron Man and Jigsaw's puppet from the "Saw" movies. To me, their costumes screamed "for a couple of bucks, I will sell my dignity."

Not all of the "entertainers" were dressed in costume. A break dancer stepped to the beat of his boom box.

Some of the "normal" people walking up and down the boulevard probably had hopes of being discovered one



"Public restrooms were rare. We stepped into a McDonald's where a Michael Jackson impersonator went to the bathroom. People on Hollywood Boulevard are very...open."

day by a famous producer. Hollywood's glamour has been the downfall of many a would-be star, but that doesn't seem to discourage the dreamers.

We were only yards away from the Chinese Mann Theatre when my cell phone rang. Our ride was ready to go. We had to bid farewell to the glitz and head back to the Valley. With heavy

hearts, we dragged ourselves to the corner of Sunset and Hollywood.

A vendor on the way was selling roses for three dollars. I decided to buy a white one for my mother. But I sure as heck wasn't going to pay three dollars for one flower. I haggled with the vendor until we settled for two dollars.

It was ten o'clock. The streets were crowded. We pushed through the blur



of people and bright lights, out of breath by the time we reached the car.

As we drove away, the smell of smoke and roses lingered on our clothes.

INTERVIEW

[continued from pg 4]

started it up again, along with Mrs. Ethel Matlen and later Mr. John Blau. I was the first editor in chief and design director.

Q. Comments on the OPTIMIST?

I like the number of features and how developed the stories have become. The OPTIMIST has also continued to attract extremely talented young reporters and won a few prizes, which makes me proud to have started the newspaper.

Poly Grad Klinker

[Klinker, from pg 1]

her artistic skills and asked her to do advertising illustration. During her twenties, Klinker did illustrations for a number of local department stores and her work appeared in the "Los Angeles Times" and other newspapers.

After a brief and failed marriage, Klinker and a girlfriend, also a Poly grad, traveled to Europe, where Klinker studied at the Académies Julian and Colarossi in Paris.

Homesick, she returned to the States and settled in New York, illustrating dress patterns for McCall's and later doing artwork for "The Ladies Homes Journal."

During the Depression,



Internet Photo

PORTRAIT: A young Ortha Klinker, shown here with her portrait of comedian Will Rogers and aviator Willy Post.

Klinker did a series of paintings of the adobes of the state called "The Landmarks of California," that were published in the "Los Angeles Times." Klinker later lectured with these paintings around the state.

She painted a number of famous and socially prominent people including Mrs. Alfonso E. Bell, founder with her husband of Bel Air, aviator Willy Post, humorist Will Rogers and comedian Edgar Bergen and his daughter Candice. She was widely exhibited and her paintings were in the collections of both Winston Churchill and Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Two of Klinker's works are currently on exhibit at the Long Beach Museum of Art and were the subject of a 2008 exhibition by Sullivan Goss of Santa Barbara.

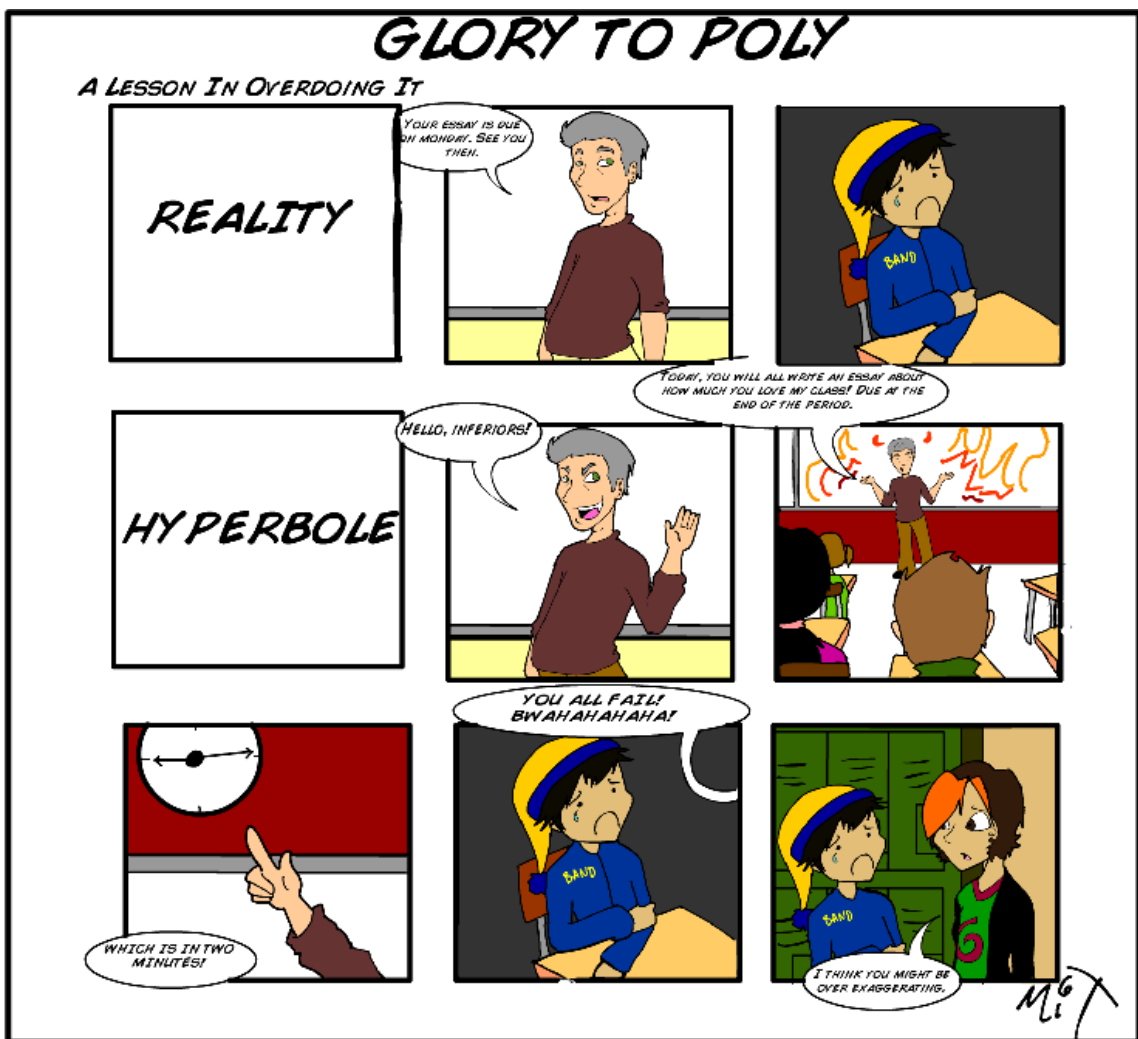
Klinker spent her later years in Hollywood, where she died in 1964 at age 73.

Sudoku

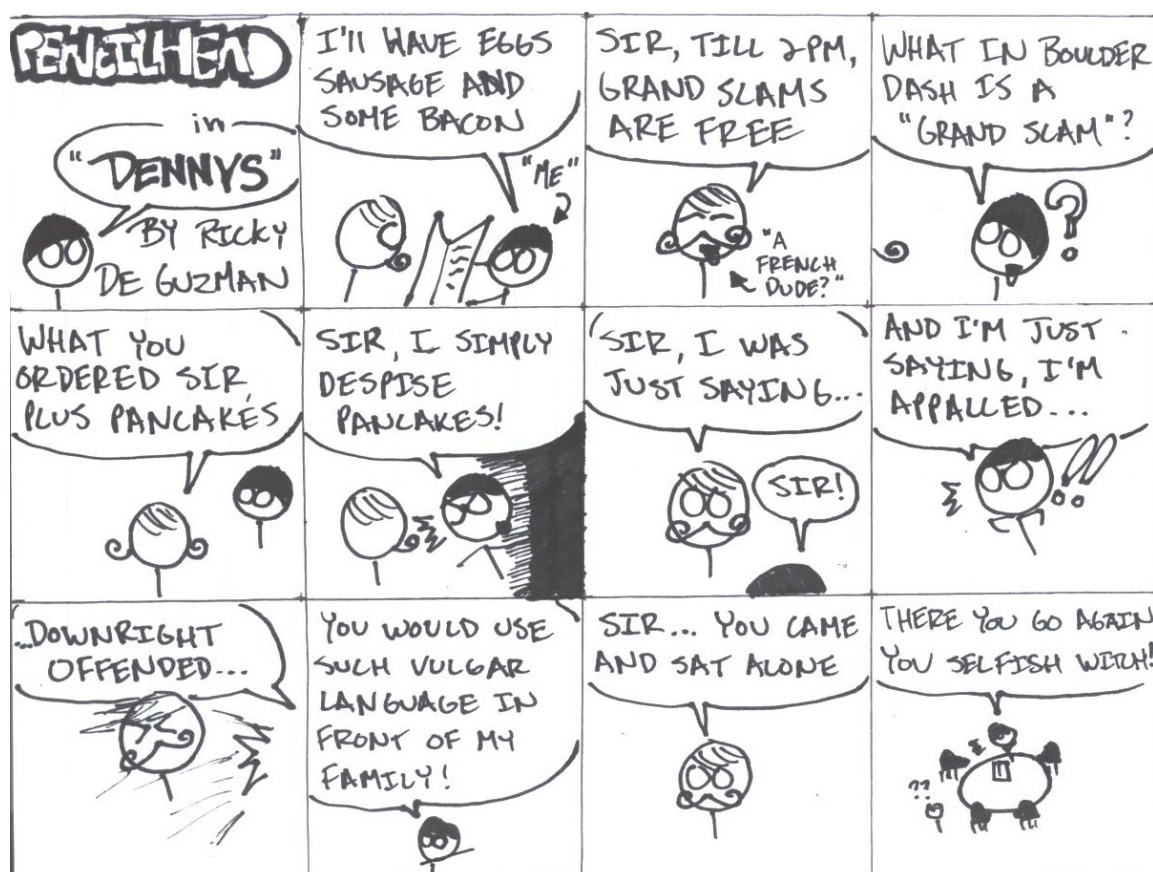
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9. Good luck!

4			9		2			
				6				
1			5			8	3	
		7	2					4
		1	6		3	7		
8					5	2		
5	6				4			7
			8					
		8		6				5

Glory to Poly



Pencilhead



HOROSCOPIA

By Lizette Lopez
Staff Writer

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)

The love bug is in the air and it has definitely gotten a hold of you. Nothing can stand in your way of finding true love.

Best Matches: Gemini, Leo, Sagittarius

Best Avoided: Cancer, Scorpio, Capricorn

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)

You'll grab your crush's attention with your brains and ambition. So on Friday, don't be surprised on who calls.

Best Matches: Virgo, Capricorn, Pisces

Best Avoided: Leo, Sagittarius, Aquarius

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)

You will spot someone special, someone that can be more than a "friend." Don't hold back. Remember cupid is on your side.

Best Matches: Leo, Libra, Aquarius

Best Avoided: Virgo, Scorpio, Pisces

Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)

You're a hopeless romantic and your sweet personality will capture many hearts. So don't let anybody take advantage of you.

Best Matches: Virgo, Scorpio, Pisces

Best Avoided: Libra, Sagittarius, Aries

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)

Someone is thinking of you and this could be the start of a love-roller coaster ride you won't want to end.

Best Matches: Aries, Gemini, Sagittarius

Best Avoided: Taurus, Capricorn, Pisces

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sept 22)

Your inner rebel is dying to come out. Don't be shy. Your one true love may be just around the corner.

Best Matches: Taurus, Cancer, Scorpio

Best Avoided: Gemini, Sagittarius, Aquarius

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)

You are usually carefree. You don't need anybody special. However, love can still be on your side. Give that lucky someone a chance.

Best Matches: Leo, Gemini, Aries

Best Avoided: Pisces, Taurus, Capricorn

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Get ready to explore a completely new chapter in your life. And you won't experience it alone; someone special will be by your side.

Best Matches: Capricorn, Cancer, Pisces

Best Avoided: Leo, Aquarius, Aries

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Don't make any plans this Valentine's Day. There's adventure ahead and you might even find a special someone on the way.

Best Matches: Aries, Gemini, Leo

Best Avoided: Taurus, Cancer, Pisces

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You've been dedicated to someone, but they haven't done the same. It's time to let go. You'll find someone new.

Best Matches: Taurus, Scorpio, Pisces,

Best Avoided: Aries, Leo, Libra

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You haven't been interested in anybody lately, but someone will and the feeling of butterflies in your stomach will take over.

Best Matches: Gemini, Libra, Sagittarius

Best Avoided: Taurus, Cancer, Scorpio

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

"There's something in the distance, a glorious existence"... That glorious existence is not as far as you may think.

Best Matches: Taurus, Cancer, Capricorn

Best Avoided: Gemini, Leo, Sagittarius

Soccer Girls



Photos by Karina Muniz

FOOTWORK: Parrot freshman Maria Grimaldo prepares to pass to a teammate in Friday's match with the visiting Wolves of Van Nuys, who won, 2-0. (Below) Lady Parrot soccer team members and head coach Ceil Miller leave the field after the Verdugo Hills match.

Junior Jessica Soto explains soccer to our OPTIMIST reporter.

By Marvin Martinez
Staff Writer

The Game

The whole idea is to get the ball into the goal on the opposite side of the field. Of all the players out on the field, defenders, offensive, half-backs, full backs, the forward line, the goalie is the most important. The goalie defends your goal. You'll lose without a goalie.

Soccer players run up and down the field for 45 minutes with little or no rest. Stamina is important to maintain. But they also need to have a strong mentality. You can think about it like a marathon runner. At some point, they hit 'the wall'. Their body is telling them 'I can't keep going' but you need to just keep pushing the limit. Your mental state directly affects your body and your game performance. It's important to think positive.

The mental aspect of the game is important. If we're in a bad mood, it affects our game. Once you step over the line and into the field, you can only have soccer on your mind. You leave everything else behind you.

Being an athlete means being fit, able to physically withstand obstacles, having a good mentality and sportsmanship.

A soccer player needs good ball control. Always keep your eye on the ball, always know where it is. Know where your own two feet are. Your feet are everything in soccer. You run, kick, receive and pass the ball with your feet.



The Captain

Since I'm a captain, Coach Miller expects me to lead this team as a family. A team reflects their leader, so if I'm happy, they're happy. If I'm in a bad mood, they'll also be in a bad mood and it affects our performance during a game. Win or lose, I need to hold this team together.

If the team sees me sad, they're sad. It can be compared to a mother and her kids. It's not so much giving orders. You need to let them know what needs to be done, how to do it and when it needs to be done.

Some of the girls that tried out for the team this year developed their talent in a short amount of time.

There isn't really a higher level of players, we're all just teammates. I'm just another player on the team with the responsibility to hold everyone else together.

The Teammate

I play full back or half back line.

If I'm playing defense, I take about a third of the field. If I'm playing half-back I stay up the field as much as possible, but I take the whole field. As a half-back, you need to try to be going for a goal at all times.

I've been playing soccer for seven years now. I would always go to watch my dad play soccer. I taught myself how to play soccer. I started off practicing running with the ball and went from there.

I don't play any other sports, just soccer.

I practice four hours a day, not counting weekends. Twenty hours a week I'm either practicing or playing.



Photo by Karina Muniz

DRIVING: Senior playmaker Sara Villanueva spots an opening in the Hunter's defense during Poly's 61-21 win on Monday.

"Last year we were 9-1 in league. This year we're undefeated. Other teams and coaches . . . have noticed us. It's pretty neat"

- varsity head coach Tremeka Batiste

GIRLS SOCCER

LADY PARROTS GET DIRTY AT CANOGA

Heavy rain makes for muddy field as Poly slips and slides to victory.

By Marvin Martinez
Staff Writer

Mud was the order of the day after heavy rains soaked the Canoga Park playing field for Monday's soccer match with Poly. But the soggy conditions didn't stop the Lady Parrots.

Two goals by junior Violet Perez and one each by sophomore Susan Astorga, junior Candy Garcia and senior Sarah Pinelo gave Poly a 5-1 win over the Hunters in an East Valley League game.

After a scoreless first half, Perez got her first goal and Hunters' junior Jessica Magallanes answered to tie. From there, it was all Poly until the final whistle.

Poly senior goalie Kim Avalos had ten saves. Canoga Park

senior goalie Lillian Solano saved four shots.

The win left Poly (4-10-0, 4-7-0) in fourth place in league and dropped Canoga (3-7-3, 2-7-2) to sixth.

The Lady Parrots host Arleta Friday. The Mustangs handed Poly a 7-0 defeat earlier in the season.

"There are no words to describe losing to a last place team," said head coach Ceil Miller. "We need to erase that 7-0 loss Arleta gave us last time."

A win could mean a playoff slot.

"If we win against Arleta," Miller said, "we might move into third place and qualify for the playoffs."

Playoff teams will be announced February 14.



Photo by Karina Muniz

SOCCER: Lady Parrot junior Jessica Vega at practice.

Poly Puts the Hurt on the Hunters

Lady Parrots crush C-Park, remain undefeated in league.

By Marvin Martinez
Staff Writer

Poly handed visiting Canoga Park a 61-21 smackdown Monday for the Parrots' 11th league win in a row. Only Arleta can spoil a perfect season for head coach Tremeka Batiste's squad.

Making this season somewhat of a sleeper so far.

"I prefer the closer matched games," said Batiste, "where we come out on top, of course."

Despite a nine-point second quarter, Poly was up 24-9 at the half and then outscored the Hunters 24-4 in the third to seal the deal.

Senior guard Sara Villanueva led the Lady Parrots with 17 points, 10 steals and six free throws in as many attempts. Senior post player Christine Hernandez had a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds and senior Faby Romero scored eight. Senior Natalie Barrera made six steals.

The win ran the Lady Parrots' season to 19-6. Poly will travel to Arleta for Friday's closer. The Lady Parrots cruised to a 76-39 win over the Mustangs in January.

"Next week we'll start playoffs," said Batiste. "We'll know for sure where they've placed us and who we're going to play on Saturday. We'll



Photo by Karina Muniz

CONFERENCE: Senior Crystal Cristales and head coach Tremeka Batiste discuss tactics.

probably get a home game, since we're first in league."

"Last year we were 9-1 in league. This year we're undefeated. Other teams and coaches from other places have noticed us. It's pretty neat."

BOYS BASKETBALL

Parrot Offense Sinks Canoga

Poly picks up a rare road win against seventh-place Canoga Park

By Marvin Martinez
Staff Writer

Poly used its largest offensive output of the season to sweep its series with winless Canoga Park 73-59 on the road Monday. The victory was the Parrots' first of the year away from home.

"We finally put together a complete game on the offensive end of the floor," said head coach David Bonino. "We finally had a game with more assists than turnovers."

While the Hunters seem like easy pickins' with one league win in two years, Bonino was happy to take the victory, assuring the Parrots won't finish at the bottom of the East Valley League.

"We played good defense all season," Bonino said, "but did not have enough offense to offset our careless turnovers and lack of rebounding."

Poly came out strong and led 34-19 at the half. The Hunters managed a 20-point fourth, but by then the Parrots had put the game out of reach.



Photo by Karina Muniz

PASSER: Parrot senior Chris Zamudio looks to pass.

"We shared the ball on offense and rebounded at both ends of the court. Canoga lacked the offensive firepower to stay with us."

Parrot hot hands included Arthur Rivera, 16 points on 6

for 8 shooting, Erick Martinez, 14 points and 6 for 8 and Antonio Gutierrez, who had 14 points on 5 for 8 shooting. Ten Parrots got on the scoreboard.

"I always have high expectations each year. This year, I started out with 10 seniors and felt we would contend for a league championship. Due to both off court and on court problems, only five seniors remained for league."

"These seniors worked hard to overcome the problems faced with basically an entire new team filled with junior varsity players. I greatly appreciate all of the seniors and their hard work. I look forward to next year, the six returners and the challenges every season will bring."

Poly (5-24, 2-9), not eligible for the playoffs, will end its season at home against Arleta (4-15, 3-8) who beat the Parrots 60-43 in January. Canoga (2-14, 0-10) has games remaining against Arleta and Grant, both with wins over the Hunters this season.