

# The Poly Optimist

John H. Francis Polytechnic High School

VOL. XCVII, No. 11

SERVING THE POLY COMMUNITY SINCE 1913

MID-JUNE 2012

## Where is the paper?

Students complain about understocked restrooms, but admin has explanations.

By Jessica Flores  
Staff Writer

Poly's 3000-student campus has 18 restrooms for Parrots, but that doesn't mean you'll find one open and stocked when you get there. Many students have complained that some restrooms get closed during the day. Others may be without tissue or hand towels.

Instructional Specialist Brad Katz said safety is one reason some student restrooms are closed.

"We don't have enough people to have all the bathrooms open and make sure someone is monitoring them," Katz said. "During passing periods, we need to monitor where kids are going."

"And they are closed for cleaning and any emergency, such as a toilet or sink overflowing."

### Two fulltime employees clean each student restroom twice daily.

Two fulltime employees clean each student restroom twice daily, said Assistant Principal Lourdes De Santiago.

"Poly had three people to clean restrooms but now we only have two," said De Santiago. "And one of them is frequently ill."

De Santiago said the employee has missed a lot of days.

"So that puts more pressure on the other person that is here on the daily basis," de Santiago said, "because he has double work on the days she is not here."

"If she was to resign due to her illness, then we will be hiring," said De Santiago.

Plant manager Derick Taylor says the custodial staff is responsible for 87 restrooms.

"We try to keep restrooms open that are near the supervision area," said De Santiago. "We focus on the ones that are often used."

Some Parrots have complained that student restrooms are frequently without toilet paper or towels.

"The bathrooms are being stocked up to three times a day," said De Santiago. "The problem is that the school is short on staff. And students misuse the materials and make the job difficult."

"We can't be in the bathrooms 24 hours a day," Katz said. "If the bathroom is out of tissue, a student just needs to let somebody know."



Photo by Alma Bravo

ROYALTY: Seniors Zuky Guillen and Anthony Mandujano at the Biltmore.

## Queen, King Crowned

By Julie Ruiz  
Staff Writer

The Legacies have spoken. Parrot seniors Anthony Mandujano and Zuky Guillen were crowned prom king and queen for the class of 2012 at the Biltmore in Los Angeles.

"My friends kept insisting that I run, so I decided to give it a shot," said Mandujano.

Guillen had a similar story.

"My friend told me it was something big and memorable," Guillen said, "so I took her advice and decided to run."

Guillen and her friends made posters, handed out lollipops, sent text messages and used Facebook as campaign media.

Mandujano took a different approach.

"I actually didn't campaign," said Mandujano. "I figured if it was meant to be, it would happen."

Both candidates were surprised they won.

"I was really anxious and nervous," Mandujano said.

"It was a shock," Guillen said.

Both said they learned from the experience.

"I learned that you don't have to be popular to win," said Mandujano.

[ See Prom, next page ]

## Former Parrot Playing Pro

Former Poly point guard phenom DJ Gay Is back in the USA.

By Jose Hernandez  
Staff Writer

Former Poly playmaker guard DJ Gay, who was on campus Thursday to speak at the Ice Cream Social for Athletes, has just returned from a year with the Slovenia Helios, a European pro team.

"I had a great experience," Gay said. "There were a lot of ups, a lot of downs."

Living and working in a foreign environment was an eye-opener for Gay.

"I saw a whole new aspect of life, a whole different way of living," Gay said. "Over there, it's less about

who has the most material things and more about just enjoying life. I appreciate all the things that I learned over there."

But there was also a down side to life in Slovenia.

"I had no microwave. I had to drive a stick and I didn't know how. It was hard talking to people who don't know English," Gay said. "That was probably the hardest thing."

Most Slovenians he met or worked with spoke elementary-level English.

"You can't really have a conversation for more than five

[ See DJ, next page ]

## Legacies Leave the Nest Behind

Poly's former principal is among the guests imparting words of wisdom to the grads.

By Yenifer Rodriguez  
Staff Writer

Poly will graduate 650 seniors on Friday, including 100 Magnet students. The senior class totals 707 students.

"I'm excited," said Poly principal Ari Bennett. "It's my first time giving a speech as the principal," said Bennett. "I'll be using the characteristics of the graduating class of 2012 to give my speech."

Bennett said his talk will be 5 - 7 minutes.

"Graduation is a celebration of accomplishment," Bennett said, "to let kids know it's only the beginning and they will succeed."

Former Poly principal Gerardo Loera and District 6 Board member Nury Martinez will also talk at the ceremony.

Poly Idol winner Abdi Lozano will sing "Hail Polytechnic High" with the Poly marching band.

Valedictorian Doo-Ree Kim will present an address entitled "Resilience." Seniors Nataly Ochoa and Alice J. Montes will also give short addresses. Ochoa will welcome participants with "Nothing to Fear" and Montes will discuss "A New Journey."

"Strive for what you want, keep your head up, and never give up because who knows, in this audience we could have the future Olympian, the next president, the new quarterback for the next NFL champs, or even the person who will cure cancer," Montes will tell the

Legacies.

Singer/guitarist Jesusa Carvajal will sing a mash up and senior Jose Reyes will play a trumpet solo in "Las Virgen de la Macarena."

Bennett admits he may get emotional during the ceremony.

"I know most people at graduation get emotional, but I can't say I will," Bennett said. "It's in the moment."

## Ice cream for athletes

By Celene Cantabrana  
Staff Writer

Poly athletes were rewarded for their participation in Poly sports with an ice cream social hosted by athletic director Kim McEwen.

"We made this celebration to recognize what you guys have done on the field and in the classrooms," McEwen said.

Pia Damonte's sister started the tradition six years ago, according to McEwen.

The ice cream social was held during fourth period on Friday June 1 in the cafeteria.

"There are about 3,000 kids in this school," said Bennett. "Less than 10% are you amazing people that are in athletic activities."

Bennett also spoke about the coaches.

"Your coaches are here to help you improve," Bennett said. "They don't do it for the money."

Former varsity basketball head coach Brad Katz introduced former Poly basketball player DJ Gay.

"Ever since I was 4 or 5 I wanted to be in the NBA," said Gay. "I have been setting goals for myself since I was young."

Gay spoke about his life, from his childhood to his life as a basketball player in a professional team in Slovenia. Gay said he has worked hard to get where he is.

"For every goal something good will happen," said Gay.

After the speeches, coaches from all of Poly's sports presented the "Everything" awards, given to an athlete by his coach for outstanding achievement and motivation.

Coaches giving awards included Joseph Pierro (football), Mario Rivera (cross country), Gaby Gallardo and Melissa Gillard (girls volleyball), Evan Rabins

[ See Athletes, next page ]



Photo By Diane Alvarado

## Permanent Vacation

Five Parrot faculty retire.

MEDIA - page 5



Photos by Diane Alvarado

## Athletes Advance

Poly seniors will move on.

SPORTS - page 8

## NEWS &amp; OPINION

## EDITORIAL

## Prom Smash

Last month's editorial in the May OPTIMIST ("Prom Bash") took a negative view of prom that probably upset some seniors, especially some Lady Parrots. With that in mind, I thought pro-prom Parrots should also have a few words on the subject.

Let's start with the dress. Sure the dresses can be a little pricey and are worn only once, but prom is only once. The dress is more than just a chance to be glamorous, it's a chance to express who you are, who you've become, and who you're going to be. With that in mind, saving money isn't the first thing on anyone's prom list.

Lady Parrots attending senior prom want to celebrate their four years of hard work while looking their best, something that can be expensive. Not every Lady Parrot feels this way, but those who do know that senior prom is a once-in-a-lifetime event.

Not all Lady Parrots will wear prom dresses that are skin-tight and super revealing. Poly fems have dignity. They don't

want to be remembered as the girl who revealed everything to our graduating class.

Stilettos aren't four inch killer heels. They are appropriate lady-like shoe that have been around for years and are the appropriate finishing touch to any dress.

Transportation isn't going to empty anyone's wallet. In our age group, friends mean a group of people. Everyone can pitch in and save.

Poly girls may have similar tastes, but who doesn't? Similar styles don't mean clones on prom night. Sure there are very similarly-dressed girls at school, but it's an average school day. At prom, girls have hours in advance to prepare and look their best. After all, every girl wants to be remembered individually and stand out from all the other polished Parrots.

So, looked at in a different light, you might ask yourself this question instead - if prom isn't the big night, what is?

## Former Parrot DJ Gay Returns to US

[ From DJ Gay, front page ]

minutes," Gay said, "and that was pretty tough."

Gay, who says he won't be returning to Slovenia next year, is currently looking for a new team to join.

The recent NBA lockout might have hurt his chances of playing here, Gay said, but he felt the Slovenia experience was a positive one.

"I got to travel the world and see something different," Gay said, "and I got another year of experience under my belt."

The Helios play in two different leagues, Gay said, including the Adriatic League, the third toughest in Europe.

"I wanted to play at the highest competition I could," Gay said, "so that's why I went with the Helios."

## Prom Queen &amp; King

[ From Queen, front page ]

"Just have the confidence in yourself that you have potential to win."

"I learned that you never know unless you try," Guillen said. "Never sell yourself short. There's no could of, would of, or should of."

Mandujano did have some goals as a senior.

"It sure wasn't winning prom king," Mandujano said, "but just to make this year memorable, get accepted to the college of my choice and attend all the senior events."

Mandujano will major in engineering at UCSB and Guillen will take poli sci at CSUN.

Both candidates took something away from the recognition.

"People that didn't even know my name will now remember me as Anthony the prom king," said Mandujano.

"I feel the same," said Guillen, "but it's just still hard to believe I won."

Karina Garcia, Magaly Jimenez and Gabriel Ramirez were also candidates.

## McEwen's Party

[ From Athletes, front page ]

(girls tennis), Brad Katz (boys basketball), Tremeka Batiste (girls basketball), Rafael Loza (boys soccer), Gabriel Cerna (baseball), Manny Peralta and Jose Campos (softball), Brian Block (boys tennis) and Alberto Flores (Aa track).

Students who won the "Everything" award, for Football: Senior Jason De Guzman, Sophomore Isaiah Solorzano; Cross Country Boys: Senior Marcos Romero; Cross Country Girls: Senior Graciela Vargas; Volleyball Girls: Senior Magaly Jimenez, Junior Ashley Tinoco, Freshman Jessica Lopez; Tennis Girls: Senior Diana Melendez; Basketball Boys: Senior Oscar Zelaya, Sophomore Nicolas Buen, Sophomore Robert Gonzalez; Basketball Girls: Freshman Isabella Lopez, Rania Hernandez; Soccer Guys: Senior Ivan Delgado, Sophomore Luis Silva; Soccer Girls: Senior Alice Montez, Junior Linda Gonzalez; Baseball: Senior Daniel Acosta, Junior Oscar Romo; Softball: Senior Eliana Castaneda, Sophomore Melissa Sanchez; Track Boys: Senior Alejandro Chavez; Track Girls: Freshman Isabella Lopez; Tennis Boys: Andy Choi; Volleyball Boys: Senior Eugenio Moreno, Junior Victor Sanchez; Track AA: Ignacio Castro.



the OPTIMIST  
VOL XCVII No. 11

## MID-JUNE

3

## THE MUSIC MAN

Senior Jose Reyes is a four-year man in band and winner of the 2011 Las Vegas Maestro Award.  
By Jasmine Aquino

4

## WHO'S GOING WHERE

Plenty of Parrots got their names in the OPTIMIST this month in this list of colleges acceptances.  
Compiled By the College Office

5

## SUITS vs. ALIENS

Josh Brolin plays a younger Tommy Lee Jones in the latest MIB. Will Smith and Jones return.  
By Joel Garcia

5

## THOU SHALT NOT CENSOR

RATM takes offense when radio giant Clear Channel communications suggest leaving the band off playlists.  
By Jasmine Aquino

5

## THANKS FOR THE LESSON PLANS

Five Parrot faculty will strike out for greener pastures as they seek the pleasure of retirement.  
By Lisa Guardado

6

## THEIR PLAYING WAS HEAVENLY

Music Lovers paid some heavy dues so far in 2012 losing great musicians like Etta James and Davy Jones  
By Gabriela Melendez

7

## SCREEN RAVERS

These TV picks to click will keep viewers glued to the couch on hot summer nights. Find the remote.  
By Shean Santy

8

## SENIOR ATHLETES

Ten Parrots who wore the Poly blue and gold with pride talked to the OPTIMIST about 2012.  
By Sandy Barba & Alex Kang

## CORRECTIONS

In the June issue, the OPTIMIST identified Karina Yopez as a senior. Yopez is a junior. The OPTIMIST regrets the error.

In the June issue, the OPTIMIST reported the cafeteria serving 16,000 meals a day. The cafeteria serves 1,600 meals a day. The OPTIMIST regrets the error.



John H. Francis Polytechnic High School  
12431 Roscoe Blvd, Sun Valley, CA, 91352  
<http://polyhigh.org>

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor must be typed or 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.

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Yenifer Rodriguez

## SPORTS EDITOR

Alex Kang

## PHOTO EDITOR

Diane Alvarado

## WRITERS

Jasmine Aquino  
Sandy Barba  
Celene Cantabrana  
Jessica Flores  
Joel Garcia  
Lisa Guardado

Jose Hernandez  
Alex Kang  
Gabriela Melendez  
Nicolette Reneau  
Julie Ruiz  
Shean Santy

## OPTIMIST ADVISOR

John Blau

## EDITORIAL POLICY

The OPTIMIST is the voice of the Poly community, and follows the Code of Ethics for the Society of Professional Journalists. Editorials are the opinions of the staff.

Be an  
OPTIMIST



## INTERVIEW

# Come Blow Your Horn

Senior Jose Reyes passes the audition that gets him into the School of Music at the University of Utah.



By Jasmine Aquino  
Staff Writer

Poly senior and marching band co-drum major José Daniel Reyes will attend the University of Utah School of Music in the fall of 2012.

"I was actually accepted into the school of music before the university itself," said Reyes.

Reyes, who was co-drum major for this year's Poly marching band, auditioned for enrollment and a scholarship mid-February.

The scholarship will only cover \$2,000 his first year, but the amount of money will increase after his freshman year if Reyes applies for Utah residency. The rest will be covered by money from Reyes' FAFSA application.

Reyes began playing the trumpet in seventh grade with Byrd's beginning band.

"Honestly," Reyes admitted, "at the time, I didn't know what a trumpet was. When Mr. Blanchard—Byrd's music director—offered me the trumpet, I answered 'Okay, cool.'"

Reyes' seventh-grade self-esteem was lower than low, and names such as "band geek" didn't help.

"I guess deep down inside, I started playing as a way to escape the trash-talking and into a world where I could truly be happy," said Reyes. "Over time, it was just something I became good at, I guess."

The trumpet player was enrolled in Byrd's Advanced Band by the second semester of his seventh-grade year and kept his

first-chair title until he graduated.

Before his junior year and the college applications came, Reyes never seriously considered attending the University of Utah School of Music—or any music school for that matter.

"I knew the school existed, as well as other music schools, but I never really pictured myself there because I didn't know where I wanted to go or even what I wanted to do with my life."

Reyes, who has been in Poly's marching, concert, and jazz bands for the last four years, was recognized at last year's concert band competition in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Reyes won the 2011 Las Vegas Heritage Festival Maestro Award, one of only two given out of 300 competing musicians. Reyes did not have a solo in that year's show.

"I played in the concert like we would any other concert. During the clinic, all the judge said was that I played really good," recalled Reyes. "Afterwards, he spoke to me privately about attending the University of Utah, where he taught. I had never really been recognized before and I will forever be thankful to him."

Reyes applied to the University of Utah that same year, just like any other student, but because he intended to major in music, he was required to take an audition.

His parents encouraged him to go, especially his dad, who offered to drive him the 700 miles to audition.

"As soon as we parked outside the school, it occurred to me that I traveled 703 miles to a place I had never been to. I realized at that point it was something really big because it was more than talk now. I was actually there and I was to be judged on something that would reflect my entire life," said Reyes.

The audition required two pieces, one at a slow tempo and another at a faster tempo.

"The slow piece is so the judges can determine how much emotion you could evoke to an audience. The faster piece is to show virtuosity—how fast you can play at a controlled level," he said.

Brian Sproul, the Las Vegas judge who recognized and asked Reyes to audition the previous year, met up with Reyes before the audition. He was not a part of the panel who would judge Reyes' performance, but he was able to offer some words of encouragement.

"Mr. Sproul was very delighted to see me because he didn't think I'd be able to make it. He told me there was a great group of judges and wished me luck before I went in," said Reyes.

After practicing with his piano accompanist for a few minutes, Reyes auditioned.

The judges thanked Reyes for his performance, saying "we would love to have you as a part of our music program."

"The main thing I learned, and the main thing I want everybody to know, is that you can do anything. I want people to know that no matter what anybody says, or no matter how much praise you receive, you have to keep working hard and success will definitely arrive at your doorstep in the end."

Reyes will perform in the School of Music's marching band (with Sproul as music director), wind ensembles, pep bands and philharmonic this fall.

Reyes arranged the pep song "Take on Me" for Poly's marching band and was the only AP Music Theory student to pass the AP test.

# COLLEGE



## Grads College Acceptances

Some stay close to home.



### Boston University

Kathy Silva

### Columbia University

Rafael Rubio

### Cornell

David Lee

### Dartmouth

David Lee

### Duke

David Lee

### Johns Hopkins University

Rafael Rubio

### Wellesley College

Kathy Silva

### University of Southern California(USC)

Nataly Ochoa

### University of Pennsylvania

David Lee

### Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Cathy Capalla

Javier Castillo Jr.

Fernando Juarez

### Mount Saint Mary's College

Jaqueline Chan

Mitzy Ramirez

Erika Dorado

Alice J. Montes

Alba Tejada

Evelin Cifuentes

Andrea Herrera

### San Diego State University

Regina Martinez

Erik Gramajo

Mayra Soto

Nataly Ochoa

Perla Flores

Cindy Berumen

Jorge Valle

Xavier Montalvan

Mary Figueroa

Juan Augusto

### San Francisco State University

Mariana Santos

Evelin Cifuentes

Kayle Sicairos

Oscar Zelaya

Diane Scarlett Alvarado

Lizbeth Cruz

### California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Fernando Juarez

Sandy Barba

Yashika Patel

Andrea Menjivar

Nicole Willkomm

Mariana Santos

Erik Gramajo

Alice J. Montes

Dayana Rojas

Diana Melendez

Evelyn Cifuentes

Cindy Berumen

Leslie Perez

Patrick Johnson

Marlyn Casillas

Anthony Mandujano

Kelly Doung

Roman Meza

Jennifer Grijalva

Araceli Santana

Monica Rios

Eddie Ortega

Luis E Cruz

Kathy Silva

Xavier Montalvan

Crystal Cardenas

Tomas Cubias

### University of California, San Diego (UCSD)

Fernando Juarez

Kathy Silva

Shean Santy

Cathy Capalla

Nataly Ochoa

Regina Martinez

Erik Gramajo

Mayra Soto

Scott Sadeghian

Perla Flores

Rafael Rubio

Gustavo Garibay

Diana Melendez

David Lee

Anthony Mandujano

Katherine Catalan

Gerardo Sanchez

Javier Castillo Jr.

Mary Figueroa

Jose Montano

Davia Galdamez

### University of California, Berkeley

Fernando Juarez

Cathy Capalla

Regina Martinez

Scott Sadeghian

Mayra Soto

Alex Kang

Rafael Rubio

David Lee

Gustavo Garibay

Erik Gramajo

Mary Figueroa

Jose Montano

Ruben Rodriguez

Juan Augusto

### University of California, Irvine

Kathy Silva

Regina Martinez

Nicole Willkomm

Kevin Contreras

Mayra Soto

Eve Huerta

Dayana Rojas  
Liliana Barba  
Mayra Soto  
Yashika Patel  
Cindy Berumen  
Katherine Catalan  
Karina Perez  
Crystal Cardenas  
Priya Chamber  
Kelly Doung  
Juan Augusto

### University of California, Davis

Shean Santy  
Sandy Barba  
Kevin Contreras  
Alice J. Montes  
Scott Sadeghian  
Liliana Barba  
Tomas Cubias  
Yenitzel Bautista  
Crystal Cardenas  
Xitlalit Figueroa  
David Galdamez  
Jennifer Grijalva  
Gabriela Ibarra  
Ruben Jimenez  
Alex Kang  
David Lee  
Angel Luna  
Francisco Montalvan  
Jose Montano  
Karen Montoya  
Ruben Rodriguez  
Crystal Cardenas  
Mary Figueroa  
Alejandra Oliveros  
Jose Montano  
Juan Rojas  
Victor Vela

### University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Fernando Juarez  
Kevin Contreras  
Kathy Silva  
Liliana Barba  
Cathy Capalla  
Javier Castillo Jr.  
Mayra Soto  
Nataly Ochoa  
Scott Sadeghian  
Juan Carlos Augusto  
Crystal Cardenas  
Katherine Catalan  
Josefina Flores  
Gustavo Garibay  
Mary Figueroa  
Erik Gramajo  
Jennifer Grijalva  
David Lee  
Angel Luna  
Rafael A. Rubio  
Cindy Berumen  
Katherine Catalan

### Humboldt State University

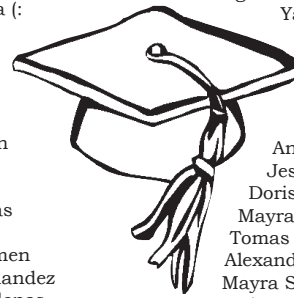
Mariana Santos  
Alice J. Monte  
Gabriela Pelayo  
Charles Hollowell  
Nicole Moreira  
Jesus Lara  
Andrea Menjivar  
Brian Xochilate  
Rosa Martinez  
Tomas Cubias  
Bryan Hernandez  
Mayra Soto  
Alexandra Perez  
Katherine Catalan  
Ashley Ortiz  
Kayle Sicairos  
Julia Ruiz :)  
Jesusa Jean Carvajal  
Luis Bautista  
Maria Grimaldo  
Juan Lupian  
Crystal Cardenas  
Claudia Morales  
Marlyn Casillas  
Isela Lopez  
Cynthia Jimenez  
Alan Sanchez  
Melissa Rivera  
Diana Guerrero  
Lyzette Hernandez

### University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC)

Yesenia Villa  
Alba Tejada  
Jesus Lara  
Evelin Cifuentes  
Gustavo Garibay  
Andrea Herrera  
Juan Lupian  
Kayle Sicairos  
Mary Figueroa  
Abby Urias  
Isela Lopez  
Jose Daniel Reyes  
Anthony Mandujano  
Eddie Ortega  
Leandro Garcia

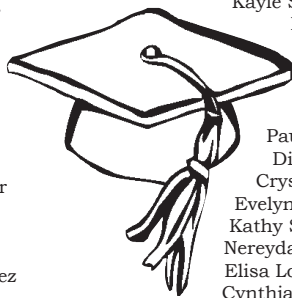
### University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)

Shean Santy  
Sandy Barba (:  
Arturo Garcia  
Brian Xochicale  
Eve Huerta  
Ketsia Duran  
Anthony Mandujano  
Dayana Rojas  
Alex Kang  
Cindy Berumen  
Janeth Hernandez  
Crystal Cardenas  
Erik Gramajo  
Diana Melendez  
Mary Figueroa  
Alejandra Oliveros  
Jose Montano  
Katherine Catalan  
Ruben Rodriguez



### California State University, Northridge(CSUN)

Fernando Juarez  
Adriana Avila  
Sandy Barba  
Alba Tejada  
Steven Diaz  
Karla Fajardo  
Graciela Vargas  
Mariana Santos  
Gabriela Pelayo  
Andrea Menjivar  
Nicole Moreira  
Carlos Navia  
Vanessa Ochoa  
Adrian Espinoza  
Regina Martinez  
Rosa Hernandez  
Nicole Willkomm  
Mayra Cano  
Rosa Martinez  
Maricela Amador  
Kevin Contreras  
Charles Hollowell  
Alice J. Montes  
Eve Huerta  
Brian Xochilate  
Abel Paniagua  
Jesus Lara  
Anthony Mandujano  
Perla Flores  
Anna Cruz  
Ryan Chan  
Alexandra Perez  
Cindy Berumen  
Yesenia Herrera  
Katherine Catalan  
Patrick Johnson  
Briahna C. Angulo  
Kayle Sicairos



Monica Rios  
Zelma Reyes  
Jorge Valle  
Ana Coronel  
Maria Grimaldo  
Paula Orozco  
Diana Guerrero  
Crystal Cardenas  
Evelyn Sanchez  
Kathy Silva  
Nereyda Marquez  
Elisa Lopez  
Cynthia Jimenez  
Gloria Morales  
Charles Hollowell  
Abdi Lozano  
Xavier Montalvan  
Oscar Zelaya  
Roman Meza  
Jessica Flores :)  
Jessenia Palacios  
Eugenio Moreno  
Anjanette Dominguez  
Araceli Santana  
Luis Gutierrez  
Isela Lopez  
Netnapha Srisangngan  
Lizbeth Cruz  
Luis E. Cruz  
Byron Mungia  
Kelly Duong  
Guadalupe Ramos  
Marlyn Casillas  
Luis Bautista  
Angelica Campa  
Jesusa Jean Carvajal  
Lyzette Hernandez  
Omar Reyes-Lopez  
Viviana Hernandez  
Myrna Compean  
Gabriela Castro

### California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA)

Fernando Juarez  
Jaqueline Chan  
Sandy Barba  
Alba Tejada  
Graciela Vargas  
Andrea Menjivar  
Erika Dorado  
Adrian Espinoza

Maricela Amador  
Perla Flores  
Karla Fajardo  
Regina Martinez

Yaritza Renteria  
Ryan Chan  
Nicole Willkomm  
Rosa Martinez  
Eve Huerta  
Abel Paniagua  
Anna Cruz  
Jesus Lara  
Doris Avalos  
Mayra Cano  
Tomas Cubias  
Alexandra Perez  
Mayra Soto  
Andrea Herrera  
Kassaundra Ramirez  
Yesenia Herrera  
Katherine Catalan  
Leslie Perez  
Patrick Johnson  
Kayle Sicairos  
Marlyn Casillas  
Alejandra Oliveros  
Kathy Silva  
Isela Lopez  
Cynthia Jimenez  
Diana Guerrero  
Michelle Bautista  
Gabriela Castro  
Araceli Santana  
Luis E. Cruz  
Lizbeth Cruz  
Jesusa Jean Carvajal  
Jessica Jimenez



Elisa Lopez  
Netnapha Srisangngan  
Lyzette Hernandez  
Viviana Hernandez  
Myrna Compean  
Paula Orozco  
Daniel Acosta  
Roman Meza  
Jennifer Grijalva  
David Zamora  
Monica Rios  
Isela Lopez  
Abdi Lozano  
Andrea Roman  
Juan Augusto

### Los Angeles Valley College

Ashley Anguiano  
Paola Ambriz  
Annel Apodaca  
Carol Arellano  
Kaesorn Atthajaroon  
Maria Avina  
Alejandro Barcenas  
Gabriela Caballero  
Jennifer Cortez  
Jessica Diaz  
Carlos Flores  
Celeste Flores  
Elizabeth Flores  
Jessica Flores  
Billy Galicia  
Janni Elizabeth Starz  
Carlos Mujica  
Bryon Ospidia  
Angela Gomez  
Ana Gonzalez  
Jonathan Gonzalez  
Stephanie Guevara  
Alvaro Hernandez  
Sonia Ledesma  
Robert Lopez  
Axel Madrid  
Deante Malone  
Jose Marroquin  
Maria Martinez  
Carlos Mendez  
Araceli Mendoza  
Victor Palacios  
Griselda Pasillas  
Hector Guzman  
Christopher Arreaga  
Valeria Dominguez  
Yury Paz  
Dennis Pelayo  
Teera Pontepsiripong  
Emmanuel Porfirio  
Eva Ramirez  
Nayeli Ramos  
Isabel Reyes  
Mayra Rodriguez  
Angel Ruiz  
Maria Solorio  
Vanessa Tejada  
Richard Velasquez

Yennifer Vicencio  
Alexander Rene Dimas  
Emaly Cruz Valles  
Juan Carlos Tapia  
Diana Barragan  
Gabriel Ramirez  
Charles Hollowell  
Clarrisa Lainez  
Stefany Garcia  
Stephanie Guevara  
Cynthia Zamora  
Paula Orocco  
Jessica Flores  
Omar Sanchez  
Nayeli Ramos  
Jessie Berzoza

### Mission Community College

Kathleen Argueta  
Adrian Espinoza  
Juan Moron  
Francisco Ayala  
Arlene Arroyo  
Ruben Novoa  
Katherine Ramirez  
Jennie Alvarez  
Kenia Lopez  
Cody Gingerella  
Angel Gastelum  
Francisco Medina  
Stephen Castaneda  
Byanka Ordonez  
Vito Sinisgalli  
Rosa Espinoza  
Jason Pineda  
Jose Saldívar  
Christian Medina  
Jennifer Zavala  
Luis Aguilar  
Cynthia Zamora  
Victor Palacios  
Janet Zapien  
Akaravin Luanotow  
Mareli Vargas  
Angelo Cruz  
Jessica Cardoza  
Perla Guerrero  
Deleyna Flores  
Jeremy Quezada  
Arnold Figueroa  
Agustin Perez  
Jonathan Gonzalez  
Paula Orozco  
Jose Ceja  
Julian Diaz  
Justin Sunga  
Byron Munguia  
Maria Avina  
Cindy Cebreros  
Maria Martinez  
Jessica Flores  
Carlos Valle  
Axel Madrid  
Edgar Diaz  
Jose Esparza  
Eleazar Hernandez  
Juan Almaraz  
Alan Aguilar  
Ledin Aguilar  
Flor Santos  
Jesus Mejia  
Luis Hernandez  
Charlie Rojas  
Yennifer Vicencio  
Billy Galicia  
Manuel Cruz Jr.  
Mara Calderon  
Mayra Rodriguez  
Daniel Gonzalez  
Dilan Carrera  
Eduardo Contreras  
Alvaro Hernandez  
Stefany Garcia  
Raquel Mojica  
Nayeli Ramos  
Daisy Segura  
Vanessa Rodriguez  
Juan Tapia  
Marcos Romero  
Iliana Barrios  
Elizabeth Aguilar  
Cynthia Zamora  
Cassandra Gonzalez  
Mayra Lara  
Stefany Garcia  
Nayeli Ramos  
Omar Sanchez  
Cynthia Jimenez  
Angelica Diaz  
Jessica Flores  
Clifton Chacon Jr.  
David Marquez



MEDIA



Google Photo

**K, BUT YOUNGER:** Josh Brolin co-stars in Barry Sonnenfeld's MIB3.

# Lost In Time with MIB3

By Joel Garcia  
Staff Writer

Agent J and K are back for a third time to defeat more alien scumbags but they're not just back, they're back in time.

Some have dismissed this new "Men in Black" for its time machine plot and I was one of them. I mean, after that awful sequel, I didn't think any of us would want to watch Will Smith (Agent J) and Robert Lee (Agent K) team up and fight more aliens?

But I was wrong because this movie is AWESOME. The film is the third MIB directed by Barry Sonnenfeld, who was also a consultant for the animated 1999 Men in Black TV series.

Along to join Agents K and J on their newest adventure are Agent O, played by Emma Thompson, a young Agent K (Josh Brolin), Michael Chernus as Jeffy Price, a time lord, and the fifth-dimensional Griffin (Michael Stuhlbarg).

For those of you not familiar with "Men in Black," it goes like this:

Big bad evil aliens like to come to earth in search of food or something to rule to the world with and the secret alien police force simply known as the "Men in Black" must stop them.

But this film does something a little different. We do get our big bad evil alien named Borris the Animal (Jemaine Clement) and what he wants is revenge. Borris finds a way to go back in time and kill Agent K, but horribly alters time in the process. Agent J and a young Agent K must stop this mad man and fix the time flux.

Brolin does a great job as a young Tommy Lee Jones. The likeness is uncanny and even a little scary because the chemistry between Will and Lee (K and J) is still present throughout the film.

The time machine is a very clever contraption and eventually becomes a character in its own right surrounding itself with funny but mysterious lore.

MIB3's sense of humor is the best part of this installment in the franchise, unlike the sequel. Inside jokes from the first film abound, so definitely pay attention to posters and other objects in the background.

The film is full of creativity, humor, atmosphere, and wit, all the reasons an MIB movie should be great fun, but there's a problem, a big problem.

I'm talking about the time flux and the changes it causes. I can't say more without spoiling the movie, but watch carefully for the time changes. If you're familiar with the first film, the paradox created will become apparent.

In short, if you're not planning a second or third go at "The Avengers," check out MIB3. It's definitely worth a look.

# The Clear Channel Memo

Did America's largest radio station owner ban certain artists the monopoly considered offensive?

By Jasmine Aquino  
Staff Writer

While rescue workers searched tirelessly through the remnants of the devastating September 11 terror attacks, one American casualty went unnoticed: freedom of speech.

Days after the attacks, Clear Channel Communications, owner and operator for nearly 1200 radio stations in the U.S., distributed to their broadcasters a list of 165 songs containing "questionable lyrics" that the media giant recommended not playing.

Was Clear Channel being sensitive to listeners during trying times—or was this a case of subtle censorship?

The blacklist of individual titles included "all songs" by Rage Against the Machine, a funk metal band known for their fierce rants against corporate America, cultural imperialism, and government oppression.

The list also included pro-peace songs like John Lennon's "Imagine," Bruce Springsteen's "War" and Cat Stevens' "Peace Train."

"There's only been a few times in my history as a musician and an activist where I've ever felt 'the Man' push back," said Grammy-award winning Rage Against the Machine guitarist Thomas Morello. "... [The moment I read] the only artist whose entire catalog was singled out [in the Memorandum] was Rage Against the Machine."

Below are a few of the "lyrically inappropriate" songs included in the Memorandum:

1. Rage Against The Machine –



Google Photo

**LOW NOTE:** Rage Against the Machine bassist Tim Commerford on stage.

"Some of those that work forces, are the same that burn crosses"

"Killing In The Name"

"Some of those who work forces, Are the same that burn crosses"

The song was written about a revolution against racism in security agencies—cross burning is a practice commonly affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan.

RATM performed the song at the 1999 Woodstock festival in which frontman Zach de la Rocha changed the lyrics to "Some of those that burn crosses, Are the same that burn churches." The band also burned the American flag during the song.

2. Louis Armstrong – "What a Wonderful World"

"I see trees of green, red roses, too, I see them bloom, for me and you, And I think to myself, What a wonderful world"

The song's inclusion into this list of "lyrically inappropriate" songs is a shocker, but the fact that it was featured in the 1968 film "Good Morning, Vietnam" may clarify some of the confusion.

However, the song is truly about looking on the bright side of life and all the little things that make people smile despite hardship. The opposite should be done: the song should be played over and over again in order to remind people to smile.

3. Megadeth – "Sweating Bullets"

"Feeling paranoid, True enemy or false friends? Anxiety's attacking me and, My air is getting thin"

Front man Dave Mustaine addressed the song's lyrics in the media in 1992, "I think all of us are sweating bullets all the time. Society's a joke right now, and people are getting more and more hostile."

4. System of a Down – "Chop Suey!"

"Chop Suey!" is the first single from SOAD's album "Toxicity," which was number one on the charts during the week of the September 11 attacks. The controversy surrounding the song led Clear Channel to add it to the Memorandum.

5. The Rolling Stones' "Ruby Tuesday" and Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Tuesday's Gone"

The September 11 attacks occurred on a Tuesday. That statement is the justification of Clear Channel's inclusion of the songs into the blacklist.

6. Frank Sinatra – "New York, New York"

This song is probably the most absurd song on the list. "New York, New York" is a golden treasure belonging to the city. The Mets even played the song when they once again took the field.

"New York, New York" is a tribute to the people of the city who don't associate the song with the tragic events that occurred on the same grounds. These people associate the song with innate pride, especially coming together post-tragedy.

7. Zager and Evans – "In the Year 2525"

The song opens with lines "In the year 2525/ If man is still alive/ If woman can survive, they may find..." The following verses—the song has no chorus—explain a story in 1010-year intervals from 2525 to 6565. Each year mentioned contains disturbing predictions.

The final dated verse is: "In the year 9595, I'm kinda wonderin' if, Man is gonna be alive, He's taken everything this old Earth can give, and he ain't put back nothing in, whoa-whoa."

The primary theme—a world doomed to and dependent on amoral technologies—sent a resonant chill down the backs of millions of people worldwide in the late 1960s.

The song was featured in the Vietnam War movie "1968 Tunnel Rats" and was covered by Slovenian industrial group Laibach in their album NATO (named after the North Atlantic Treaty Organization), which is a selection of cover songs with a war theme.

Clear Channel denied the list's existence in a press release to a radio industry trade publication, Snopes.com. A website that discusses urban legends and internet rumors later confirmed the list did, in fact, exist.

Clear Channel later admitted the existence of the memo but said it was simply an advisory.

# Retirement Party for Five

Five Parrot retirees end their careers with nearly eight decades of combined service to the Poly community.

By Lisa Guardado  
Staff Writer

Five Poly faculty members will turn in their chalk and erasers this year. The five have a combined 79 years at Poly.

Retiring are Jesus De Leon (Special Ed aide, 2002, 10 yrs), Robert Ramsey-McNeil (Special Ed teacher, 2001, 11 yrs), Francisca Reynoso (ESL teacher, 1997, 15 yrs), John Butow (Math teacher, 1992, 20 yrs) and Mary Newcomb (English, 1989, 23 yrs).

Poly Principal Ari Bennett, athletic director Kim McEwen and about 30 faculty members were on hand to celebrate the occasion.

For their eight decades of service to Poly and LAUSD, the five Parrots each received a \$30 Macy's gift card. The cards were purchased with donations from Poly's faculty.

No LAUSD money was spent on the celebration.

Refreshments included Gatorade, bottled water and banana splits.

"My goal was to help Special Ed students go to college," De Leon said,

"and I did with one student who got accepted to Mission College."

De Leon told the OPTIMIST he has been teaching since he was 16. He plans to go into business for himself now that he has retired from teaching.

"It's the end and it's the beginning," said Newcomb. "I'm happy to be going because it's the end of a long career. I'm really going to miss everybody I was attached to."

Ramsey-McNeil, who has been teaching math and English for 47 years, plans to tour on his yellow 2001 six-cylinder Honda GL1800 and make some music too.

"I want to thank you all. I'm going to miss all you people," Ramsey-McNeil said.

Ramsey-McNeil has five children and two grandchildren he will travel to Canada to visit.

Retired Parrot Gigi Slezak was on hand to introduce Reynoso.

"Thank you for coming," Reynoso said, "and anytime you guys have ice cream, just call me."

Butow did not attend.



Photo by Diane Alvarado

**RETIRED:** clockwise from left, Robert Ramsey-McNeil, Francisca Reynoso, Mary Newcomb and Jesus De Leon at their retirement party.



## MUSIC

## Heaven Has a Helluva Band

## JANUARY

Blues and R&amp;B singer

**Etta James**, 73.

- 1961 hit "At Last," written in 1941, recorded originally by Glenn Miller, in Grammy Hall of Fame  
 - four Grammy Awards, including Lifetime Achievement (2003)  
 - Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Blues Hall of Fame.  
 - "Something's Gotta Hold on Me"  
 Cause of death - leukemia

"She had one of the great voices in American popular music," said the Times' Jon Pareles, "with a huge range, a multiplicity of tones and vast reserves of volume."

James made her name in the 1950s with records like "Good Rockin' Daddy."

"A lot of people think the blues is depressing," James said, "but that's not the blues I'm singing. When I'm singing blues, I'm singing life."

James developed a heroin habit in the 1960s and found cocaine in the 1970s, all described in her 1995 autobiography, "Rage to Survive."

Born Jamesetta Hawkins in Los Angeles in 1938 to 14-year old Dorothy Hawkins, James began singing at the St. Paul Baptist Church in Los Angeles. At 15, she recorded "Roll With Me Henry," which rose to No. 2 on the rhythm-and-blues charts in 1954.

James had a string of hits on Chess Records in the 1960s and opened for the Rolling Stones in the late '70s and early '80s. Beyoncé played James in the 2008's "Cadillac Records," a

With just half a year completed, these famous musicians joined the heavenly chorus in 2012.



fictionalized account of the rise and fall of Chess.

"Etta James was a pioneer," said Terry Stewart, president of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. "Her ever-changing sound has influenced rock 'n' roll, rhythm and blues, pop, soul and jazz artists, marking her place as one of the most important female artists of our time."

## MARCH

Bluegrass pioneer

**Earl Scruggs**, 88.

January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1924 – March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
 - Perfected the three finger banjo picking style, aka Scruggs style  
 - Defined bluegrass  
 Cause of Death: old age

Bluegrass banjo player Earl Scruggs' hard-driving picking style influenced generations of musicians and helped shape the sound of 20th-century country music with his guitar-strumming partner, Lester Flatt.

Flatt and Scruggs signature songs were "Foggy Mountain Breakdown," recorded in 1949 with their group the Foggy Mountain Boys and used as the getaway music in 1967's "Bonnie and Clyde" and "The Ballad of Jed Clampett," the theme song of the 1960s TV sitcom "The Beverly Hillbillies."

Scruggs pioneered modern banjo playing. His innovative use of three fingers in an up-picking style, rather than the mostly two-fingered claw-hammer down-picking technique, elevated the five-string banjo to a lead or solo instrument. What became known as the syncopated Scruggs picking style helped popularize the banjo in almost every genre of music.

North Carolina-born Scruggs, a banjo player since he was 4, got his big break when he joined Bill Monroe's band, the Blue Grass Boys, in 1945. The band included Monroe, who sang and played the mandolin, Flatt on guitar, Howard Watts on bass and Chubby Wise on fiddle.

Early in 1948 Scruggs and Flatt left to form the Foggy Mountain Boys. Monroe refused to speak to the pair for the next 20 years, a feud that became famous in country-music history.

Flatt and Scruggs broke up in 1969 and Scruggs, with his sons, formed the Earl Scruggs Revue, a mostly acoustic group with drums and electric bass. The group played with pop and rock acts, sometimes before audiences of 40,000.

At an 80th birthday party for Mr. Scruggs in 2004, the country singer Porter Wagoner said, "Earl was to the five-string banjo what Babe Ruth was to baseball."

"He is the best there ever was," Mr. Wagoner said, "and the best there ever will be."

Monkees frontman and vocalist **Davy Jones**, 66.

- born in Manchester, England.  
 - "Daydream Believer," written by Jon Stewart, was a #1 single  
 - "I'm a Believer," written by Neil Diamond, was a #1 single.  
 - Cause of death: heart attack

The Monkees charted nearly two dozen singles between 1966 and 1970 and became the first, and only, act to score four No. 1 albums on the Billboard chart in the same calendar year.

Created in 1966, the group was a look-alike, sound-alike of the mop-topped Beatles, created for an NBC sitcom. "The Monkees" lasted just two seasons, from September 1966 to March 1968.

The show won an Emmy in 1967 for outstanding comedy series and director James Frawley won for outstanding directorial achievement in comedy.

The four did much of their own singing but studio musicians did most of the instrumentals.

Critics found the band unacceptable.

At a Forest Hills Stadium concert in Queens, New York, The Times said:

"Frequently during the performance, sound that resembled the howling of a sick cow hovered over the stadium. This turned out to be one of those horns often heard at Shea Stadium during baseball games. It didn't seem to hurt the musical evening."

But Monkee fans, young, female and shrieking, couldn't get enough.

Jones, slight of build and 5 feet tall, began as a child actor, but quit in his teens and began to train as a jockey.

The other three Monkees are still living.



## APRIL

Drummer and vocalist

**Levon Helm**, 71

- member of the Band, Dylan backup band in the 1970s  
 - "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down"  
 - "The Weight"  
 Cause of death: cancer

Helm was the only American in the otherwise Canadian group that became Bob Dylan's backup band and then the Band. Its own songs, largely written by the Band's guitarist, Jaime Robbie Robertson, and pianist, Richard Manuel, are rock-ribbed with history and tradition yet hauntingly surreal.

Helm gave his drums a muffled, bottom-heavy sound that placed them in the foundation of the arrangements, and his tom-toms were tuned so that their pitch would bend downward as the tone faded. Mr. Helm didn't call attention to himself. Three bass-drum thumps at the start of one of the Band's anthems, "The Weight," were all that he needed to establish the song's gravity.

In the Band, lead vocals changed from song to song and sometimes within songs, and harmonies were elaborately communal. But particularly when lyrics turned to myths and tall tales of the American South — like "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down," "Ophelia" and "Rag Mama Rag" — the lead went to Helm, with his Arkansas twang and a voice that could sound desperate, ornery and amused at the same time.



The Band's first album, "Music From Big Pink," was released in 1968. Stately and homespun, with a deliberately old-time tone behind the enigmatic lyrics, the album's influence was huge, leading musicians like Eric Clapton and the Grateful Dead back toward concision. The Band was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1994.

In 1969, the Band recorded its second album, simply titled "The Band," which would include the group's only Top 30 single, "Up on Cripple Creek." The album was universally hailed, and the Band played a summer of huge pop festivals, backing Mr. Dylan at the Isle of Wight and performing in August at Woodstock.

The Band would never match its two initial masterpieces. By the time the group started recording its 1970 album, "Stage Fright," members were drinking heavily and using heroin, and there were disputes over songwriting credits and publishing royalties.

## FEBRUARY

1980s R&amp;B singer

**Whitney Houston**, 48.

- 2009 Guinness World Records most awarded female of all time  
 - Sold over 100 million albums  
 - "How Will I Know"  
 - "I Will Always Love You," her signature song, written by Dolly Parton  
 - Only artist ever to chart seven consecutive in #1 billboard's hot 100

"Whitney Houston," released in 1985, featured polished, catchy pop and R&B songs, including three No. 1 singles: "Saving All My Love for You," "How Will I Know" and "The Greatest Love of All."

"Saving All My Love for You," won Houston her first of three Grammys for best female pop vocal performance.

Houston's second album, "Whitney," (1987), became the first album by a woman to enter the Billboard charts at No. 1, and contained four No. 1 singles. Third album "I'm Your Baby Tonight" (1990) had two more No. 1 singles.

She played a pop diva in "The Bodyguard," and its soundtrack album — including the hits "I Will Always Love You," "I'm Every Woman," "I Have Nothing" and "Run to



You" — went on to sell 17 million copies in the United States. It won the Grammy for album of the year, and "I Will Always Love You" won record of the year (for a single).

Houston married Bobby Brown in 1992. Their turbulent marriage ended in 2007.

"One of the world's greatest pop singers of all time, who leaves behind a robust musical soundtrack," said Neil R. Portnow, president of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

## MAY

Folk/bluegrass guitarist and singer **Doc Watson**, 89

- Recorded more than 50 albums  
 - Won Grammy Awards for the albums "Then and Now" in 1974, "Two Days in November" in 1975 and "Big Sandy/Leather Britches" in 1980, "Riding the Midnight Train" in 1987, "On Praying Ground" in 1991 and "Legacy" in 2003.

"With his natural ease as a storyteller, his heartfelt baritone singing, his repository of material and his facility on guitar, Watson was a rare combination of authenticity and artistry."

Folk audiences saw Watson as a direct conduit to the roots music of Appalachia, which he played with conviction.

"To me the old-time fiddling, the old-time ballads — there never was anything prettier and there never will be," Watson said.

During the folk music revival of the early 1960s, Watson sang old hymns, ballads and country blues he had learned growing up in the northwestern corner of North Carolina, which has produced fiddlers, banjo pickers and folk singers for generations.

His mountain music came as a revelation to the folk audience, as did his virtuoso guitar playing. Watson executed flashy, rapid-fire lead lines normally played by a fiddle or a banjo. His style influenced a generation of young musicians learning to play the guitar as folk music achieved national popularity.

"He is single-handedly responsible for the extraordinary increase in acoustic flat-picking and fingerpicking guitar performance," said folklorist Ralph Rinzler. "His flat-picking style has no precedent in earlier country music history."

Watson initially employed a thumb-picking style, in which the thumb establishes a bass line on the lower strings while the rest of the fingers pick out a melody or chords. That soon changed.

"I began listening to Jimmie Rodgers recordings seriously and I figured, 'Hey, he must be doing that with one of them straight picks.'" Watson said. "So I got me one and began to work at it."



Bee Gees vocalist

**Robin Gibb**, 62.

- "Staying Alive," "Night Fever."  
 - nine No. 1 U.S. singles in the 1970s,  
 - won six Grammy Awards  
 - inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997.  
 Cause of death: colon cancer

Bee Gee brother Robin Gibb achieved worldwide fame with Anglo-Australian pop group the Bee Gees, first with a series of Beatlesque albums and a string of hit singles in the Sixties, then with a number of hook-laden disco dance tunes in the Seventies.

Gibb, along with older brother Barry and twin Maurice, figured prominently in the group's signature falsettos and carefully constructed harmonies. Robin was the lead singer on many of the early hits, including "I Started a Joke," "I've Gotta Get a Message to You" and "Massachusetts."

The group, whose first record came out in 1963, had a second career between 1977-1979, selling well over 100 million albums and notching six consecutive No. 1 singles. They wrote and sang much of the soundtrack for the disco era's defining movie, "Saturday



Night Fever," including the hit "Stayin' Alive," forever linked with the film's star, John Travolta.

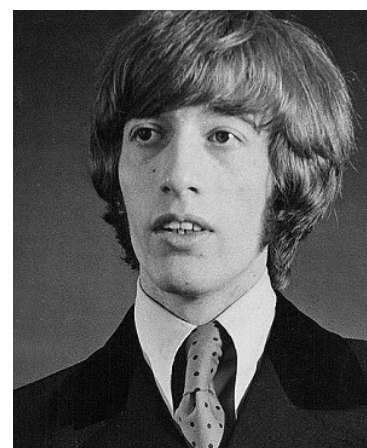
The band's first single in Britain, "New York Mining Disaster 1941," was released in April 1967 and reached the Top 20.

Robin briefly left the group in 1969 and tried out a solo career but returned in 1971, the year the band scored their first No. 1 in the United States with "How Can You Mend a Broken Heart." But their popularity faded and in 1974 the Bee Gees were forced to play a series of supper-club gigs in England to pay off tax debts.

A trip to Miami in 1975 produced "Main Course" and a new sound — Latin and funk rhythms, electronic keyboards and vocals the critics called Philadelphia soul. Singles "Nights on Broadway" and "Jive Talkin'" went to No. 1. The Bee Gees were back.

Then came the "Saturday Night Fever" soundtrack in 1977, with "You Should Be Dancing," "How Deep Is Your Love?," "Stayin' Alive" and "Night Fever," all No. 1's. "Fever" was the biggest-selling album ever until Michael Jackson's "Thriller" in 1984.

The Bee Gees were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997. With his brothers, Gibb won six Grammys.



By Gabriela Melendez  
 Staff Writer

## MEDIA

## Small Screen Summer

Summer's hot nights promise plenty of TV shows to delight audiences. MTV and ABC Family will bring back teenage-centric shows while the local networks repeat an old formula: nightly reality television. Add basic and premiere cable channels to the mix and you'll never have to leave the couch.

By Shean Santy  
Staff Writer

JUNE

## The Newsroom (HBO)

Sunday, June 24, 10 p.m.

Producer Aaron Sorkin of "The West Wing" and Facebook drama "The Social Network" returns to the small screen to tackle the behind-the-scenes drama of a newsroom. The series concerns fictional news channel ACN, with veteran Jeff Daniels as the lead anchor, Will Mackenzie McHale (Emily Mortimer) plays the new executive producer. Allison Pill as Maggie, John Gallagher Jr. as Jim, Dev Patel as Neal and Olivia Munn as Sloan all offer fine support for this high-tension, smart new drama series.



## True Blood (HBO)

Sunday, June 10, 9 p.m.

"Waiting Sucks," but Sookie (Anna Paquin), Bill (Stephen Moyer) and Eric (Alexander Skarsgard) are back for the show's fifth season. After last year's shocking finale, tribulations track the trio again as the Louisiana town of Bon Temps undergoes another crazy-filled paranormal affair. The new season also takes on the history of Eric Northman and side stories of supporting characters. The 12-episode arc is loosely based on the fifth book of "The Southern Vampires Mysteries" series but will incorporate more of the literature than the previous seasons.



## Wilfred (FX)

Thursday, June 28, 10 p.m.

Based on the critically-acclaimed Australian series, the FX hit returns for its second summer season. Ryan (Elijah Wood) and Wilfred (Jason Gann), a dog that belongs to Ryan's female neighbor, supply the comedy. The joke being everyone sees Wilfred as a dog except Ryan, who sees an Australian dude in a dog costume. "Wilfred" is part of a FX stud comedic lineup that includes "Archer," "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" and "Louie."



## Suits (USA)

Thursday, June 14, 10 p.m.

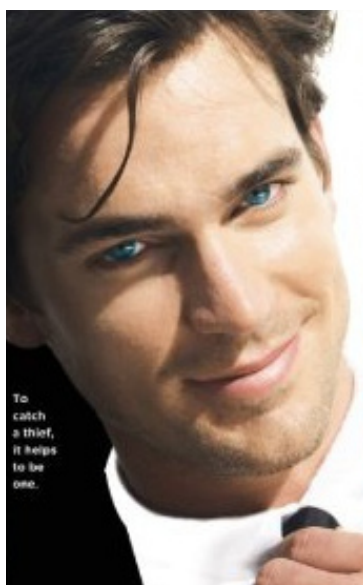
A surprise hit last summer and an audience pleaser, "Suits" stars top New York attorney Harvey Specter (Gabriel Macht) and associate Mike Ross (Patrick J. Adams) as a dynamic Pearson Hardman law firm duo who tackle tough cases and personal conflicts. Ross's photographic memory and Specter's charisma contrast effectively with their unconventional takes on the real world. "Suits" is an enjoyable show with an addicting plot.

JULY

## White Collar (USA)

Tuesday, July 10, 9 p.m.

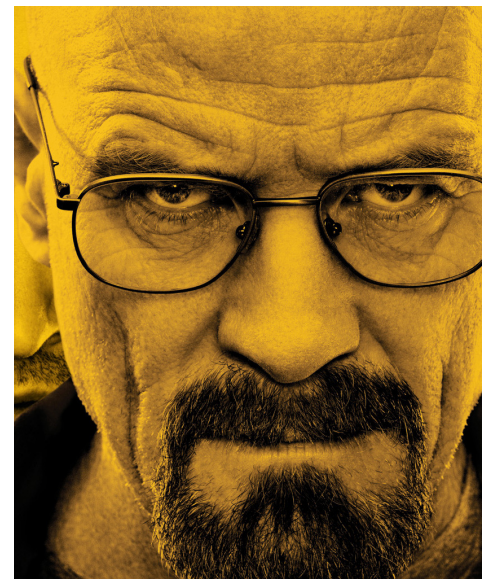
"White Collar" premiered in 2009 and has since gained millions of fans and strong support. The storyline follows a former prisoner (thief and forger) who joined the FBI to catch criminals within his specialty. On the season 3 finale, Neal Caffrey (Matt Bomer) left the country and ditched Special Agent Peter Burke (Tim DeKay). Not surprisingly, Caffrey is on the run again for the new season. The gritty streets of Manhattan add to the exciting in this slick criminal/good guy-centric series.



## Breaking Bad (AMC)

Sunday, July 15, 10 p.m.

The most anticipated show of the summer is back for a fifth and final season, one that will be divided into two parts. Protagonist Walter White (Bryan Cranston) and Jesse Pinkman (Aaron Paul) will provide the action in another drama-filled season. Critics so far have liked Cranston and Giancarlo Esposito (Gus Fring) and awards may be in the offing.



## SPORTS

**Alejandro Chavez - Track****WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING?**

I joined track as a sophomore and began as a froshoph, and then the coach told me that for my junior year he wanted me as varsity and I've been varsity ever since then.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

My greatest accomplishment ever was finishing 1st place in league finals in the 800M and then later going to City Finals which was the farthest the boys' varsity reached this year.

**WILL YOU PLAY IN COLLEGE?**

Yes, after I graduate I plan on running for Glendale College then transfer to another college and continue running there as well.

**WHAT POSITION DID YOU PLAY?**

I don't know about playing positions but I ran the 800M, the 1600M, and the 4x400M and was the fastest in all 3.

**WHAT DID YOU LEARN?**

I learned that the only true obstacle in life is yourself, you set your own limits, if you are truly determined to do something in life then nothing can stand in your way. The skys the limit.

**Sang Lee - Tennis****WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING?**

Because I was transferred to Poly during my junior year, I joined tennis as a senior. I started off as a Varsity Doubles 1 player, and ended as a Varsity Doubles 1 player.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

My greatest achievement was nothing worth mentioning. Our team got to the semi finals of playoffs

**WILL YOU PLAY IN COLLEGE?**

I plan on continuing to play tennis after high school, but only as a hobby.

**WHAT POSITION DID YOU PLAY?**

Varsity Doubles 1

**WHAT DID YOU LEARN?**

I learned that as you're playing tennis, you can't lose focus, and have to be confident in every shot. Every shot you hit, it has to be with confidence.

**Derik Molina - Cross****WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING?**

I joined track and field in my sophomore year, I started as a frosh/soph and then in my junior year I was moved to JV and became a varsity player as a senior.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

My greatest accomplishment was to discover that a person can reach their goals as long as they don't take their eyes from it. The furthest I got was league finals but my brother Alejandro took our team to city finals.

**WILL YOU PLAY IN COLLEGE?**

I do not plan to run in college at least for the first two years, I want to take break.

**WHAT POSITION DID YOU PLAY?**

My events in track and field were the 1600M and the 3200M

**WHAT DID YOU LEARN?**

I learned was that working and practicing as a team is always going to take you further than just running by yourself.

**Xavier Montalvan - Vball****WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING?**

I joined volleyball as a freshman and moved up to varsity as a sophomore.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

Last year was our best year because we had a solid team and were able to make it to semi finals.

**WILL YOU PLAY IN COLLEGE?**

I don't think there is an official Volleyball team in UC Davis but I do plan on playing for an intramural team.

**WHAT POSITION DID YOU PLAY?**

I'm currently a starting setter or opposite hitter. I was a defense specialist as a freshman, sophomore and junior.

**WHAT DID YOU LEARN?**

Communication is key.

**Edgar Diaz - Soccer****WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING?**

I joined the sport my freshman year at JV, but by half the season I was moved up to varsity.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

My greatest accomplishment was that I was able to play varsity my freshman year and help my team advance to the second round in playoffs.

**WILL YOU PLAY IN COLLEGE?**

During the summer, I will begin training with the Los Angeles Mission College soccer team. These two years at mission I plan to work my hardest academically and on the field so that I can transfer to a Division 1 university for my last two years.

**WHAT POSITION DID YOU PLAY?**

I have always played center midfield so that is where I feel most comfortable on the field.

**WHAT DID YOU LEARN?**

I learned that nothing is given to you in life. When you really want to accomplish something, you need to be willing to make sacrifices and work your hardest in order to be successful. You need to learn to ignore that inner voice telling you to stop, and show that motivation and inspiration that builds up deep inside your chest.

Ten Parrot seniors share some thoughts on Poly sports.

# SENIOR ATHLETES 2012

**Magaly Jimenez - Volleyball****WHEN DID YOU JOIN?**

Before I joined the team, I used to play just for fun with my family. When we would go to the beach or the park, it was casual. Then my cousin used to play, so he got me more into it. I would go to open gyms with him and I thought it was a lot of fun. So when I came to Poly, I tried out as a freshman and I made the team. Since then, I loved it. I pretty much live volleyball.

**WHY DID YOU JOIN?**

I come from a very athletic family, so they kind of pushed me to play a sport and I chose volleyball.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

Individually, I was kind of quiet, so I learned to be more vocal during the games. As a team, this year, we won most of our games and we made it to playoffs and a couple of tournaments. My junior year, we made it to the CIF championships. It was the highlight of my high school volleyball career.

**YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT?**

It was a game against Verdugo. Even though we lost, I was proud because I didn't let any balls drop. I also specifically loved the moment when a girl "shanked" the ball and it went off the court. But I ran and put it back into play. I ended up diving, doing a sort of 360 turn to put it back in. We won the point.

**WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED?**

It made me more organized. I had to plan my schedule and manage my time once I started having to balance practice and school work. I also learned that hard practice does pay off. All the work and extra hours that you put in on the court pay off once it's game time. Talent doesn't always win it all. Hard work and dedication does.

**WILL YOU PLAY IN COLLEGE?**

I've been in contact with the UC Santa Cruz volleyball coach and I plan on playing for their team hopefully this fall.

**Janet Zapien - Softball****WHEN DID YOU JOIN?**

I joined softball seven years ago, I was eleven. I started soft

**WHY DID YOU JOIN?**

I actually joined softball because of Arlene. We played together in the park. I also wanted to join softball because my brother was a baseball player and he was really good. For some reason, I thought that since he was really good, I should be good. So I tried it, and apparently I ended up being good enough to play for high school.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

Individually, I became so much better at hitting, I had five or six home runs this season. I've improved as a player, and I was moved up in the line up as a better hitter, I was very proud because I scored runs for my team. As a team, we have just kept improving year after year. Last year, we won the championship and this year we were moved up to division one. We are also now seeded number ten, the highest that Poly has been seeded. We're just taking it step by step. Next year it will be better too.

**WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED?**

I learned how to give respect and that there is really no "I" in team. You have to work together to achieve your goals.

**WILL YOU PLAY IN COLLEGE?**

I've been scouted by Valley College and I'm going to playing for them. I start practicing in July.

**Nataly Ochoa - Track****WHEN DID YOU JOIN?**

I joined track in ninth grade and I have been running all four years.

**WHY DID YOU JOIN?**

Initially, I joined track because I wanted to get better at soccer. But after my first season of track, I ended up loving running more than soccer and I just kind of stuck with it because I loved it more.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

When I started track, I was the slowest runner on the team. In my senior year, I was one of the top three varsity girls distance runners and the team captain. I made the league finals and got fourth in league for the two miles. As a team, we won almost all of our track meets. We had athletes at the city semi finals and a girl at state.

**YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT?**

Our track meet against Monroe because they are our biggest rivals and they only beat us by five points. We normally lost to them by a lot so it was a good thing to know that we had advanced and that we could actually pose some sort of competition for Monroe.

**WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED?**

Track sets you up with the mentality of don't quit, even when it's difficult. There are so many times when you finish practices crying and all you want to do is hurt your coach and quit. But the entire time, you learn to think, I have to finish this. And because you don't quit, you prove to yourself that you can do almost anything.

**Nicole Willkomm - B-ball****WHEN DID YOU JOIN?**

I've been playing for four years. I hadn't played basketball before I started.

**WHY DID YOU JOIN?**

This guy kept bugging every day in P.E. He would tell me every day to join basketball because I was tall. I told him I didn't like it because it gets your hands dirty. In the end he got me to try out and now I love the sport.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

I worked my way up to team captain. My offense also got a lot better this year. I became far more aggressive and I actually played like I wanted the ball and I wanted to score. As a team, every year we get new players. We even have freshman on the team. We have to be able to work together. The beginning was rough, but we practiced and we actually started to look like a team. Varsity made it to playoffs every year. Last year we made the second round.

**YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT?**

My Arleta game this year. I think it was my best. I was aggressive and went all out. They beat us at our house, which had never happened before, so it just made me want it more.

**WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED?**

I've learned to work with a team and that things aren't always perfect. For example, if you don't get along with somebody on the team, when you're on the court, it's an entirely different story. You have to put things aside.

**Alba Tejada - Soccer****WHEN DID YOU JOIN?**

I've been playing high school soccer since my freshman year. But I've been playing on outside teams since I was eight. My dad really loves soccer so he always motivated all of my family to play. I just learned to love the sport; I don't see myself doing anything else.

**WHY DID YOU JOIN?**

I joined high school soccer because for me playing on outside teams was a way to work up to playing at the high school level. My ninth grade year was my first time playing with the girls team and it was a new experience and I really liked it.

**WHAT DID YOU ACCOMPLISH?**

Individually, my passes and kicks got so much better this season. Last year, I really worked hard on my weak points because I wanted my last season to be my best. It paid off in the games. I'm proud of the way I played. As a team, we earned more respect because before, no one believed that we could even win a game. My junior year, we made it to playoffs. We also had two coaches in four years, so we had to adjust too.

**YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT?**

My most memorable moment was the Verdugo game when we played them away. We tied 0-0 but it was a big accomplishment for us as a team because we always lost to them. The tie showed that all our work paid off. I loved that moment because we proved to ourselves that we really can do it.

**WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED**

I learned that no matter what the score is or how things are going, you can't give up because the game doesn't end until the whistle blows. I also learned that your mentality determines how you play; you always have to think positive. Overall, soccer has taught me that if you want something, you have to work hard for it.