

'Idol': Season 6

Style that sings: fashion highs and lows

Here are the memorable looks we saw from the Top 12 contestants this season on "American Idol":

Sanjaya Malakar's pony hawk: It has been the talk of the season. Enough said.

Jordin Sparks' pretty dresses: Girly frocks suited her statuesque physique.

Haley Scarnato's miniskirts: Hemlines ranged from short to shorter to actual short shorts.

Melinda Doolittle's random look: When she went funky (last week's "Death Cheater" logo), it appeared she was trying too hard.

Blake Lewis' tuxedo T-shirt: It's a classic that the finalist made his own.

Phil Stacey's hats: They added hat-itude, but everybody still knew he was bald.

Gina Glocksen's hair: A signature red streak played up her rocker girl image.

LaKisha Jones' makeover: Kiki went from frump to chic, learning how to dress to complement her voice and her cleavage.

— Sara Glassman,
McClatchy-Tribune



Take the good with the bad

As another season of "American Idol" draws to a close, here are five of the best and worst things this viewer will remember about the sixth go-round of the top-rated TV show.

1. The top 24 singers were a weak bunch overall.

But — the top three were arguably the best final trio ever.

2. Jennifer Lopez — surprisingly — provided a model of what a celebrity mentor should be: fanatical, supportive and helpful.



But — she can't erase the memory of a vacuous Diana Ross.

3. Once again, acerbic judge Simon Cowell usually ended up being right in his evaluations and predictions.

Jennifer Lopez But — the continual sniping among the judges and host Ryan Seacrest is beyond tedious.

4. The hoopla surrounding goofy, but lovable, contestant Sanjaya Malakar distracted from the show's musical mission.

But — even though his eventual ouster came a few weeks too late, he'll be popular on this summer's "American Idol" concert tour.

5. "Idol Gives Back" showed that a hit TV show can mobilize its audience and sponsors to raise millions for a worthy cause.

But — critics questioned whether Fox's huge moneymaking machine didn't give enough of itself financially.

— Randy A. Salas,
McClatchy-Tribune