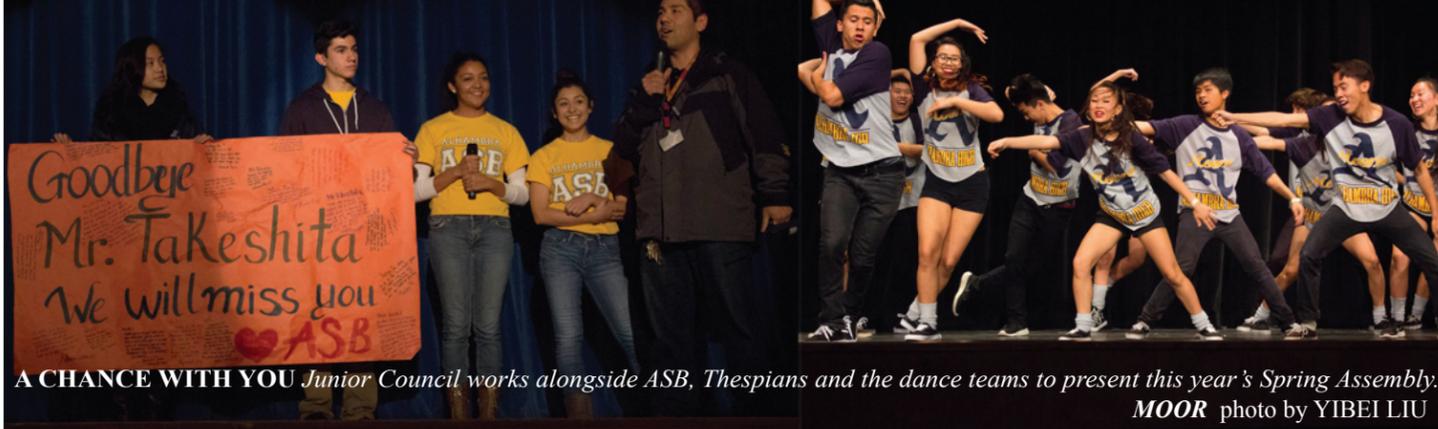




2014 SPRING ASSEMBLY



A CHANCE WITH YOU Junior Council works alongside ASB, Thespians and the dance teams to present this year's Spring Assembly. MOOR photo by YIBEI LIU

Tension Between Russia and Ukraine Intensifies

DIANA LI
News Editor

Protests in Ukraine began in November 2013 when Ukraine's president, Viktor Yanukovich, suspended talks with the European Union (EU). Had Yanukovich signed the Free Trade Agreement and Associate Agreement, Ukraine would have gained closer political ties to the EU as well as economic growth, according to CNN.

However, Russia threatened the neighboring country with trade sanctions and high gas bills if Ukraine signed the agreement. As another incentive, Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed to lend \$15 billion to near-bankrupt Ukraine and offered lower prices for natural gas. However, the deal has frozen during the current ordeal.

"I don't expect that the Russians will give up Crimea, [nor] that the EU or NATO will get involved militarily," Social Science Department Chair Javier Gutierrez said.

In addition, Russia's parliament voted unanimously to use military force in Ukraine. However, Russian military intervention would effectively start a civil war between Europe-oriented western Ukraine and Russia-oriented eastern Ukraine. Ukraine has accused Russia of sending thousands of additional troops, though Russia claimed that the forces were deployed to defend important Russian sites.

From the U.S., President Obama condemned Russia for violating Ukraine's sovereignty, but Putin defended his decision as protecting Russia's self-interest. Furthermore, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton compared Putin's actions to those of Nazi leader Adolf Hitler, according to Long Beach Press-Telegram.

According to Time magazine, neither the United States nor the EU is willing to gather money for an economic package to Ukraine, urging Ukraine to borrow from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) instead. Managing Director of IMF Christine Lagarde says that Ukraine must demonstrate reform of its economy with the offered funds.

AHS' Publications Compete at ELAJEA

SHELLEY LIN
Staff Writer

For six months, the Moor Weekly newspaper and the Alhambra Yearbook prepared for the Eastern Los Angeles County Journalism Education Association (ELAJEA) write-off competition on Feb. 22 at Schurr High School.

Other schools, including San Gabriel, Walnut, Wilson, Diamond Bar, Schurr, Glen, Bell Gardens and Temple City, also competed. The events in the competition for newspaper included editorial and news writing, sports writing, news and feature photography, editorial cartooning, layout design, features, critical review and novice news. For yearbook, it included feature photography, copywriting and design layout.

Among the winners of the newspaper competition were Caroline Ren, Susanna Aiga, Ol-

ivia Cheung, Genevieve Thipatima, Diana Li, Sylvia Winston, Kayiu Wong, Wesley Tsai, Elton Ho, Janet Guan, Cindy Luo and Angela

ing. Looking back, the competition was fun and memorable for everyone," Wong said.

The yearbook team's winners were Meghan Hui, Michael Yu, Audrey Chan Bowen Xie, Candice Romero, Ivan Tung, Bruce Wong, Steven Ton and Tevin Voong.

"The timed situation really forced me to be constantly thinking of how I could efficiently create something that I thought would not only satisfy the requirements of the judges, but also impress them," Voong said.

Only two students from each category who placed in the top ten will be able to continue to go to the

Southern California Journalism Education Association write-off competition, which will be on March 15 at Rancho Dominguez Preparatory School.



ALL SMILES AHS' newspaper and yearbook staff pose for a picture after completing the competition portion of ELAJEA on Feb. 22.

MOOR photo by SHANNON KHA

Kansas House Committee Slaps Down Spanking Bill

JACQUELYN LOI
Staff Writer

In 2007, a California bill that once sparked controversy was a proposal to ban spanking as a form of discipline. According to the New York Times, penalties could vary from taking child-rearing classes to serving a year in prison. Today, California law states that spanking is allowed only if it does not physically injure or impose cruel physical punishment on the child.

However, Kansas House Representative Gail Finney proposed

House Bill 2699 (HB 2699), which would permit parents, teachers and caretakers to spank a child hard enough to leave redness, marks or bruising, but prohibits hitting a child on the head or body with fists or a belt.

However, the bill drew an overwhelming number of responses, most of which were in its opposition.

"There are many more effective and better different ways to discipline your child [...] You can always [...] ground them and take away their privileges for certain things, but I don't believe spank-

ing is that effective," freshman Vicky Lam said.

Kansas currently allows spanking that does not leave visible marks, but has never defined corporal punishment, which leaves it up to interpretation by the administrative officials in the executive branch, judicial branch and law enforcement. HB 2699 defines corporal punishment as "up to ten forceful applications in succession of a bare, open-hand palm against the clothed buttocks of a child." HB 2699 also intends to ease some restrictions on spanking, help prevent child

abuse by defining corporal punishment and provide guidance to law enforcement.

Even though HB 2699 will not receive a hearing, Finney intends to reintroduce a similar proposal again at the next legislative session.

"This legislation is intended to provide guidance to state officials in the administrative and judicial branches, serve as a guideline to parents and protect Kansas children from abuse, [...] not [...] to legalize child abuse in Kansas," Finney said, according to Time magazine.

In Other News

75-year-old woman wins a \$2 million jackpot using numbers from a fortune cookie

Man wakes up in body bag at funeral home

Pope Francis drops the F-bomb

Michigan principal rides horse into gym for reading event

Snake devours crocodile after five-hour battle

