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PEGA to Promote Climate Awareness

SHANNON LI
News Editor

On Feb. 9, a representative from the Alliance for Climate Education (ACE) visited AHS and formed a new group on campus called Planetary Enforced Green Awareness (PEGA).

ACE's mission statement, according to its website www.acespace.org, is to "educate high school students on the science behind climate change and inspire them to take action to curb the causes of global warming."

"We are working with ACE to prevent more global warming than there already is," said sophomore Alex Padilla, who acts as an ambassador between PEGA and ACE.

ACE sponsors other schools across the nation by encouraging students to reduce and recycle. PEGA was started after ACE gave a presentation to Green Construction Academy members. PEGA holds its meetings in IT-2 on Thursdays during lunch.

"We're trying to reduce the

school's carbon footprint. This is more of a student effort than administrative. We want to promote awareness that people should be concerned with the earth and they should know what happens to our trash," said adviser Oscar Motta.

Among PEGA's planned activities are a Lights Out Day on Apr. 22, which is Earth Day. PEGA is hoping that teachers will turn off their lights and unplug devices during classes.

"Our main goal is to get the school to get solar panels. Reducing paper waste is another goal of ours. We also want to go to individual classrooms and get teachers to recycle more," said Motta. "There's a lot of information gathering we have to do, like 'where does trash go?' and 'what happens to the recycled paper we collect in boxes?'"

Despite the challenges PEGA faces, Motta is optimistic.

"We have to prove that what we're doing will be a great benefit to the school," said Motta. "It's going to take a lot of effort."



MOOR photo by ALAN TAM

PREPARING FOR THE DEPRESSION Members of AcaDec assemble history flash cards in preparation for their state tournament in Sacramento, which was held from March 11-13.

AcaDec Takes Third at L.A. Decathlon

ALAN TAM
News Editor

AHS' Academic Decathlon (AcaDec) team took part in the Los Angeles Unified School District Annual Academic Decathlon (LACAD), which was held on Feb. 10.

Of the 45 schools competing in the event, the team managed to take third place in the overall standings, scoring 41,495 points out of 60,000.

AHS senior Bob Qian earned the most individual points at the decathlon: 8,514 out of 10,000. He also took home 12 out of a possible 13 medals in specific events.

First, second and third place medals were awarded for each subject, which include Math, Science, Music, Art, Social Science, Economics, Language and Literature, Essay, Interview and Speech. Every member of AHS' team earned at least one event medal at LACAD.

"This year has been our strongest showing at the competition, and we have scored the highest ever," said senior Clinton Tran. "Our Academic Decathlon team is highly competitive, and we have earned a significant amount of medals every year we have compet-

ed." AcaDec's performance at the competition qualified the team to attend the California Academic Decathlon, which was held in Sacramento from March 11-13.

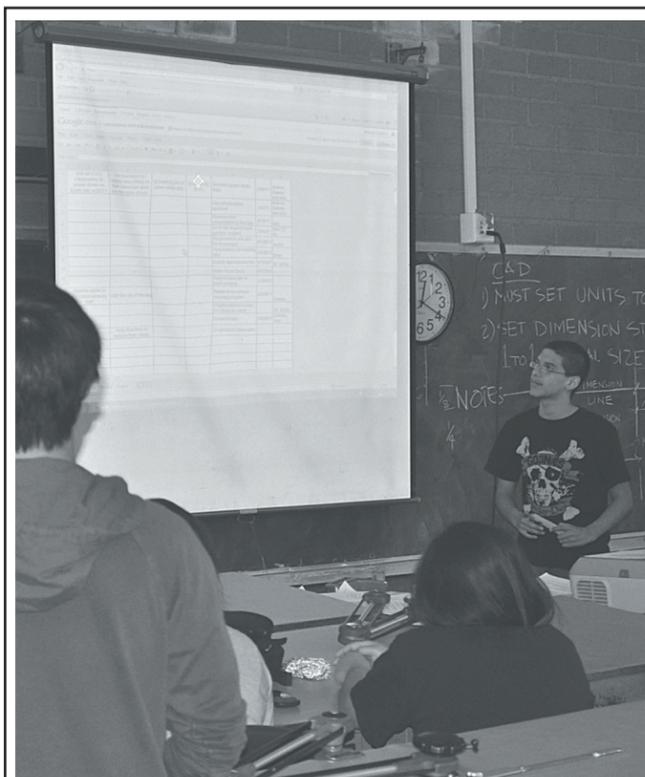
They are currently ranked as a Division II team, just barely missing the cutoff points necessary to enter Division I.

The team placed 27th at the State Decathlon. In order for them to compete at the national level, AcaDec had to defeat all of the teams at the state competition, including Division I teams.

AcaDec credits the dedica-

tion of volunteer teachers and faculty members for their high performance at the LACAD and State Decathlon.

"[We'd like to give] special thanks to Ms. Keenan, Mr. and Mrs. Sedano, Ms. Cardona, Ms. Cannon, Mr. Levie, Mr. Walsh and all of the other teachers and staff members that have provided support for our team," said senior Clarence Nguyen. "[We'd also like to give] a big thank you to Ms. Malonek for guiding us through the school year. We are going to put forth our best effort to try to make nationals."



MOOR photo by STEWART RYDMAN-ESPINOSA
PROJECTING THE FUTURE Members of PEGA discuss plans to reduce the school's carbon footprint.

Library Technician Returns to Work

JOYCE LAM
Editor in Chief

At the end of the '09-'10 school year, AHS library technician Terry Cannon was laid off due to budget cuts. After being given the Employee of the Year award, Cannon was told that he was being let go by the district.

However, despite the circumstances of his termination, he is employed once again.

Recently, he was hired by Pasadena's Allendale Branch Library as Staff Assistant and now works primarily at the

public service desk. Among the 660 applicants that applied for a job with the Pasadena Public Library, Cannon was one of seven people that secured a position.

"I definitely miss the students and my colleagues [from Alhambra]. The students at AHS were the best and it was my great pleasure to have worked closely with them in my first five years as a

library paraprofessional," said Cannon. "[One thing I really miss] are those library display cases [at our AHS library]. It was the most unique thing about the place that made it stand out from other libraries."

Although he said that he has had to transition from working in a high school environment, Cannon still enjoys his new job. "I really love this job, and I

always look forward to each day. The position helps me utilize all my multitasking abilities," said Cannon. "I am enjoying Allendale because you really get to know your patrons."

Before Cannon's layoff, Cathy Brooks was able to work with Cannon at AHS' library.

"Mr. Cannon [is] a wonderful person," said Brooks. "He is very creative, interesting and energetic; he did much of the cataloging in the library and he introduced the kids to the fine literature."

"I definitely miss the students and my colleagues."
- Terry Cannon

news briefs

'Our Town' Debuts in Little Theater

From March 16-18, the spring play, "Our Town," will be performed in the Little Theater. Adapted from Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Award-winning play, the story takes place in a small New England town during the twentieth century.

"Last year, The Fantasticks was very successful [because] there was a fun script and energetic performers. My favorite part about directing this play is working with talented and committed young actors," said Director Emily Coalson.

The actors, consisting of Dra-

ma students and individuals who made it in the audition, rehearse every day after school except Fridays. They are hoping to raise enough money to make costumes and the props for their performances.

"I feel excited and extremely energetic about being involved in the play," said senior Thespian Dominique Calderon. "I also get a chance to make quite a few new friends [with] the play's cast and tech crew. Having the chance to participate with others as a team is quite a refreshing experience."

Tickets are being sold for four dollars with ASB, five dollars for students without ASB and ten dollars for adults.

Eighth Graders Preview AHS

The annual eighth grade orientation was held in the auditorium on March 4 for incoming freshmen. Principal Brad Walsh, PE coaches, Band, Choir, Color Guard, All Male, Drill, and other dance teams were also present at the welcoming pep assembly.

Students from various service clubs also gave the eighth graders a tour around campus and discussed the clubs offered at our school, as well as sports and other extracurricular activities. There were shout outs to elementary schools, games and other fun events.

"As a senior, it feels like I'm maturing yet not wanting to let go. It makes me reflect because I was once the same age as them and was excited but scared for high school to begin," said senior Amy Luo.

When the ceremony came to a close, newspapers, gifts and informational packets were distributed to attending pupils.

"At the end, we saw a slide show of how much fun the 'high school experience' was. It gave me an example of how fun joining clubs and electives could be. It was also very entertaining and now I can't wait for AHS!" said eighth grader Felice Gonzales.

Dalla Wong, Staff Writer

In other news...

Over 1,000 people reported dead after three weeks of protests in Libya

The King's Speech nominated for 12 Oscars, wins four

Breast milk ice cream discontinued in Britain after safety concerns raised

Website created for a fictitious Redwood University scams applicants' money