HOUSTON—Last June Betty Waki, a Sesei artist teacher with 11 years experience at Sharpstown High School here, nearly fell victim to the staunchest efforts and turns of Houston Independent School District’s administra-
tion policy.

Despite an excellent record and a career of dedication to her students and the profession, the normally unflappable Sharpstown principal William Jackson attended to her credentials, but said his decision was based on a personal decision which entitled the “Singleton Ratio.”

The Ratio determines the racial composition of HISD school faculties by use of percentages. Categories: white, Hispanic and black. Waki, being neither of the ‘white’, so her job’s uncertain,

Jackson in assessing lower enrollment projections for the fall, wanted to “alter” (drop) one art teacher who he had to be “white” to conform with the prescribed ratios.

Absent Paul Shimunen, past president and board member of the Houston JACL, notified HISD superintendent Billy Reagan that he would attempt to have an interested party intervene in the pending litigation with the Department of Justice with the objective of modifying the Ratio to include Asian Americans.

When received support from a group of Asian Americans who attended a June meeting of the HISD Board of Education to express their concerns over Waki’s ruling. HISD superintendent Billy Reagan re-

marked that it was not his job to make him to be the American voices on their concerns on the district’s policies. HISD later told Waki she would return.

Faced with the decidedly uncertain status, does not include Asian Americans.

JACL National Director Ron Watabayashi also expressed his concern about Waki’s decision and to this effect, chapter president Daniel Wata-

nake notified Watabayashi that an hoc: “task force” had been formed, consisting of Sharpstown students and several Asian American organizations.

The task force started a grassroots campaign to have Waki retained and called for a change of policy to indicate his office would be in modifying the Ratio, at least on a “long-term” basis.

Meanwhile, Waki’s status is still tenuous, noted Watabayashi, because no word of information was given to her about lay-off or reinstatement.

She also faces the possibility of being transferred to another school, if that can be arranged, and that eventuality will also be the subject of a several art education projects in HISD and was a key influence on many of the estimated 36,000 Asian students who make up the largest minority (8%) at Sharpstown.

Seattle JAs riled by column espousing anti-Japan ideas

SEATTLE—A recent Seattle Times column warning readers to “be wary” of the “resurrection of Japanese nationalism” brought an angry response from Seattle JACL and a Mill Hill High School graduate.

Citing a page 13 column by staffer Erick Lactis noted that the column had now the task of the change of the car, a quartet of the TV sets, half of the cameras and nine of 10 motorcycles we bought last year are "Made in Japan" stickers.

"But you might be of the age to remember what you were doing on that fateful day of Dec. 7, 1941, when the first of the baby-boom kids, or younger, having learned your history from watching the fascination on the World War II talk shows, which, however forfetted, still reminds us of that.

Lactis pointed out recent "examples" of "Japan's "new nationalism" on the revision of the World War II history in Japan school textbooks; a best selling book in Japan entitled "Japan as Number One"; a recent study claiming that Japanese Americans seemed as superior to Westerners. Now, in the first place.

Seattle Times Column on Page 8

Nagasaki survivor seeking last hope

LA. Times poll shows Japan cited for U.S. economic ills

LOS ANGELES—A recent public opinion poll conducted by the Los Angeles Times shows that a significant number of Americans blame foreign prices and Japanese business competition for the nation’s economic difficulties.

The telephone poll’s results were published Aug. 29 and noted that of the 1,038 persons interviewed nationwide, 36% cited foreign oil prices and 46% cited Japanese competition among those factors which were regarded as “almost completely” or “very much” to blame for the nation’s current recession.

The Times also noted that Congress was pointed out by 46% of the respondents as another one of the “most popular villains” causing the nation’s woes.

However, only 21% of the respondents felt that President Reagan was to blame for the nation’s current recession.

According to Times’ pollster I.A. Lewis, there is a 96% probability that the poll results are within three percentage points of reflecting opinions of all Americans.

Mixed ancestry of Nisei Wk. queens is a topic of concern

LOS ANGELES—The recent Nisei Week Coronation Ball and its results prompted a reader of the Rafu Shimpo to express his disappointment over the selection of the queen (Janet Mekori Barnes) and some of the candi-
dates—because they were of mixed ancestry.

Led on Monterey Park wrote in a letter to the Rafu Aug. 27; "...it seems to me that for a Nisei population of 361,224 in California alone, the vast majority of whom have full Japanese ancestry, a mixed representative group of beauties could easily have been selected.

Nishinaka noted that only three of the nine queen candidates in the 1982 pageant were of mixed parentage, and this included both the winner (Barnes) and the runner-up (Deena Lynn Aoki High). He also noted that in 1981, another candidate of mixed parentage (Holly Powny) was selected as well. He added.

This disproportionate selection and seeming infatuation with the Eurasian looks not only turns counter to what I consider pride in our Asian ancestry but also to the very idea of the Nisei Week tradition itself.

"Besides, who can really say that Eurasian women are necessarily better looking than full Japanese women?" Nishinaka, a name who said he has lived both here and in Japan, noted that “this kind of shallow thinking is not only questionable but not true. For there are just as many.

Directors of the Webers and other survivors can be made to say, "Friends of the Hibakusha (Travel Fund)," (c/o Fine Methodist Church, 43 Bird Ave, San Francisco, California 94122).
Jpn. banks extend credit to Michigan

LANING, Mich. — Five banks here plan to help finance Michigan's credit bid for the $1 billion in state aid that will enable the state to make school aid and revenue sharing payments on time in the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, 1 Million said.

The credit will mean that the Japanese banks will pay off the $600 million in one-year notes if Michigan can't do it by June 30.

That will enable the state to seek the $2 billion in credit rating of "MGL I" and "AAA" Wall St.'s Moody's Investors Service lowered Michigan's credit rating to the lowest of the 50 states late last week, and Moody's and Michigan banks officials feared an even darker future.

With such a low credit rating, fiscal experts feared the state would not be able to borrow the $600 million needed early in the 1985-86 fiscal year and would have to scramble for cash school and government-aid programs.

Such action could have created chaos in state and local budgets and threatened school closings and payroll payments, officials said.

The Japanese banks and Michigan were represented by Mitsubishi Bank Ltd. and Merrill Lynch White Capital Markets Group, Minneapolis.

He said it is the first time that a group of foreign banks, through their New York branches, will provide credit support services to the American municipal short-term market.

He said Mitsubishi has previously provided credit support services to the states in Australia and previous countries.

Japanese youngsters, they may score

The magazine, intrigued by a British psychologist's report that the Japanese national mean IQ score ranks third in the world and is the highest in the world, examined various Japanese test results and decided that simple brain power was too simple an explanation.

Indeed, the science magazine said, "Japanese scholars tend to agree that the national IQ is related to 'shiken jigoku' or 'testing hell' inflicted on Japanese students who are being forced to take exams to enter college and vocational schools.

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CSULA’s Asian American theater project slates 1st play
LOS ANGELES—Actors Noli McCarthy will headline the play, “The Music Lessons,” the first production of the innovative Asian American Theatre Arts Project at Cal State Los Angeles, beginning Oct. 1 at CSULA’s Musical Hall.

The project, which was launched last June, was the first of its kind in the nation, according to Prof. Bob Suzuki, dean of graduate studies and research at CSULA. Ms. McCarthy, serving as an assistant professor and artist-in-residence, taught Asian American play production to the cast and crew of “Lessons” and will continue to teach additional courses in the fall quarter, which begins Sept. 25.

“Lessons” will be written by Wakako Yatsuhashi, author of the award winning “And the Soul Shall Dance.” Her new play is a love story set in the Depression-era Imperial Valley of California, where a transient jazz musician, a former violinist, meets a widowed mother (McCarthy) and her children on the farm. The wandering musician falls in love with the widow, and his presence brings change as well.

“Lessons” will be directed by veteran stage and film actor Sab Shimono, a Dramalogue Award recipient.

McCarthy, who will perform six evening performances, believes the new AATAP will “show the non-believers, the skeptics, that Asian performers are strong, talented, creative, that all Asian writers and directors are good and can write deeply moving work, and that the technical professional people need not racialize the performance.”

Tickets for the Oct. 1 opening night gala, which includes an after-theater reception, are $25 each. For regular matinee and evening performances (Oct. 2, 3, 9 and 10) tickets will be $8, with part of the proceeds benefitting AATAP. (Some matinee tickets will be available for $5.)

AATAP is offering community organizations (such as JACL chapters) an opportunity to sell tickets and split the profits. Organizations selling a minimum of 50 tickets will be able to keep 1/5 the price ($2.50 per ticket) to CSULA, with the remaining 1/5 going to AATAP and whatever organization participates. For more information, call Agen Suzuki (213) 283-1961 or Kay Kornai (213) 224-2196.

Amerasia Bookstore slates jazz festival
LOS ANGELES—Amerasia Bookstore in Little Tokyo will hold its First Annual Amerasia Bookstore Jazz Festival” on the weekend of Sept. 11 and 12, with sounds of a performance at Southland and Bay Area talent. On Sept. 10, the festival kicks off with Arco Iris, South American fusion band, the Luso Joe Quartet performing Claude Bolling’s “Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano,” and the Paul Yamasaki Quartet and their hot rhythm section from San Francisco.

The Sept. 11 show features the group, Visions, with vocalist, Marsha Furutani; the Moonlight Orchestra with their combination of vibes, shakuhachi and cello; jazz vocalist Shirley Roberts; and once again, the Paul Yamasaki Quartet.

The Sept. 12 show will have a special guest performance with the group, Hiromitsu Caguma; featuring his 7-piece group, the Hiroshima Photo class offered by USC
LOS ANGELES—“Basic Photography” will be taught by Joan Watanabe at the Japanese American National Museum Community Center, 245 S. 5th Street. For more information call the USC Extension office at (213) 743-4060 ext. 669.

The Photography Class offered by the University of Southern California will have an introductory class for basic photography. The class will be held on weekends, beginning September 11 and continuing through October 30. The course will meet on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost is $250 per person, which includes all materials.

For more information, please contact the Photography Department at (213) 743-4060 ext. 669.

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Woodland, Ca.
The Japanese American community in Woodland, Ca. has many good friends in the California Legislature. However, two of them—Assemblyman Patrick Johnston (Stockton) and Senator Ralph Dills (Los Angeles) deserve special recognition for the extraordinary effort which they put into the enactment of AB2716.
This bill was signed into law by Governor Brown on August 17, 1982 and provides up to $5,000 in compensation ($1,250 per vote) to Japanese Americans victimized by U.S. internments.

An Outstanding Sansei

By HARRY KAJDARA
President, Ventura County JACL

Priscilla Ouchida is nominated for the “1982 Outstanding Exemplar Sansei-of-the-Year.” At 17, she set her mind on doing something for her parents and many others who were interned during World War II. Priscilla's desire was to get the facts of history, so upon hearing the humiliation and anguish suffered by Mrs. Janet Masuda when she was fired from her clerical position with the Department of Motor Vehicles in 1942 because of her Japanese ancestry.

So four years ago, Ms. Ouchida formed a one-person-action-committee and wrote letters to every Japanese American. She then traveled throughout the United States to get data for preparation of a legislative bill to seek compensation for Japanese Americans fired from their California State jobs, like Mrs. Masuda. With the aid of historian Eugene Iwagawa, Ms. Ouchida combed the State records and the newspaper archives for four years. She assembled these three large binders full of factual data and information. Assemblyman Patrick Johnston (D-Stockton), read Ms. Ouchida's voluminous notebooks and fully endorsed her goal. He authored AB2710.

Assembliesman Johnston's legislative aide, Ms. Ouchida did a superb job of "greasing the-skids", contacting and convincing key members of the state department offices including Personnel, Department of State and others whose support was vital for the passage of AB2716. Ms. Ouchida also contacted community organizations, including JACL, National Council for Redress and Reparations, the District Governor, the Employees Association, Asian Pacific Bar Association, and others to marshal grassroot community support.

This legislative bill on monetary compensation for Japanese Americans was not exactly overwhelmingly welcomed legistally. It required patient, tactful, persistent discussions by Ms. Ouchida to obtain support. On August 17, 1982, Governor Brown signed AB 2710. This is the very first legislation supported by SAF-ERRA for the Japanese Americans living in the United States that provides monetary compensation for Japanese Americans victimized by U.S. wartime actions. Please contact Ms. Priscilla Ouchida, c/o Assemblyman Johnston, State Capitol, Room 410, Sacramento, Ca., 95814 or phone (916) 445-7831 with any information on persons that may qualify for compensation under this bill.

Ashley Phillips

For the Record

The PC recently received a letter from playwright Morikazu Ito, who wrote that his play, "Flowers and Household Gods" will not be a part of East West Players' 1982-83 season (PC Sept. 3).

JACL's Anniversary Membership

How does JACL's Anniversary Membership system, recently implemented (May 29, 1982) by the National Board work?

"It means that whenever a person joins, their membership begins from the date of the first payment. Thus, the 'Pacific Citizen', Vernon Yohshka, National Vice President for 100 Club Membership Services, pointed out. "And membership is then valid for a full 12-month period."

Under the previous calendar system, membership expired on Dec. 31 irrespective of when a person joined. Under the present Anniversary system (as in California with its auto license plates, which are renewed in 12 months), and in Guemes for dual cards, JACL membership will cover a full 12-month period.

The expiration date will coincide with the expiration date appearing on the PC label (except in certain cases where a non-member subscriber whose PC subscription is still active has the unused portion of the subscription mailed to him). This is consistent with the JACL membership period.-Ed.) Record of the actual membership expiration date on file at Headquarters and not the date appearing on the PC label will prevail if validity of membership is challenged, Yohoska added.

The "anniversary system" for renewals was incorporated, at a Jan. 1, 1982, Chapters at recent Convention also received a computer printout indicating PC expiration dates as of Aug. 9, 1982. These are being reviewed by chapters for possible duplications, corrections, etc. (East Los Angeles JACL was the first to turn in the report this past week... -Ed.) We need to reach out to member subs and bring in all who are interested in our goals and purposes. "Yohoska noted in conclusion. "I hope the Chapters will initiate a Fall Season membership campaign."
Conventions, Honors, But One Hardly Known

Los Angeles

Not nearly enough has appeared in the public prints about three Nisei whose achievements were honored by their peers in an annual presentation here. The three were Shig Wakahatsu of Chicago who guided the Japanese American Research Project to a successful near-completion; Mineta, for his leadership of the Biennium for his dedicated leadership as chairman of the Redress Committee; and Prof. Harry Kitano, UCLA sociologist, Nisei of the Biennium.

Wakahatsu was honored at an elaborate pre-planned function at which he was presented with a check for $10,000 made up of contributions from hundreds of donors from all parts of the country. Substantial as it was, the gift would not begin to pay for the time and effort Wakahatsu has put into the project over the decades. It was a gesture of gratitude offered with the understanding he and his wife, Toshi, would use it to take their first vacation trip to Japan.

More than once has Wakahatsu’s recognition been marked by a sincere outpouring of affection toward an individual who gave so much of himself to an important cause without thought of reward. Some of his Chicago friends—and his family—have been known to express fear of overlooking many wonderful things, they include Jack Nakagawa, Nobie Honda, Shun Shimizu, Kunee Yohi­ni, Frank Sakamoto—felt something meaningful should be done to honor Wakahatsu. An Ad Hoc Committee, solicited support, and sponsored part of the luncheon at which various JACL’s were recognized for their good works.

The third honor, Nisei of the Biennium, should have received the most attention. Unfortunately it was all but ignored. It was presented to Yasui, who was Nisei of the Biennium 30 years earlier, epitomizes the abiding dedication of those men and women who believed in the Nisei and Sansei era.

There’s little doubt that Yasui’s fiery personal commitment to the Redress program has been more than a little responsible in maintaining enthusiasm for it. No doubt he and his wife, Toshi, would use the gift to further the cause. No doubt that Yasui was preceded in the honor by John Tateishi, who also was Redress Committee chair before he joined the paid staff to push the program.

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EAST WIND: by Bill Marutani

Philadelphia

EVEN SO OFTEN a movement will begin with a small faction, one that before all else controls the contents of this weekly newspaper. This has been so in the past and there is no reason to believe that such will not be the case in the future. In a way, this is a healthy sign. Of course, those behind such a movement will not admit to attempted censorship; rather, they inevitably clothe their self-interests and readers have to and in JACL.

For the overwhelming vast majority of us, it is only through these pages that we learn what is transpiring, what some concerns are, what the future may hold. And particularly for those who reside outside the West Coast states, it is often the only source of news of the Nikkei community, be it good or, at times, negative.

In PAST YEARS, having served on the JACL National Board for a number of years (much longer than I had wished, and perhaps far too long than others may have wished), I was unaware that every so often, somebody, from some source, sought to remodel the newspaper. This was never as transparent as it might have been. The reason: the gift would not begin to pay for the time and effort Wakahatsu has put into the project over the decades. It was a gesture of gratitude offered with the understanding he and his wife, Toshi, would use it to take their first vacation trip to Japan.

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Mineta honored by JA groups for his community efforts

SANC FRANCISCO—Some 60 persons representing the Japanese American Democratic Club, the Committee for Integration of the Nikkei, and the Japanese American Postal Employees Group at a recent meeting of the National JACL Headquarters here to honor Rep. Norman Mineta (San Jose, Calif.) for his continued and beneficial efforts on behalf of the Nisei.

Mineta was the author of HR 90 (signed into law) that established a civil service retirement credit for time served to those Japanese Americans who served during World War II, pursued careers with the federal government, and were not given credit for their service signed into law in 1978 by President Jimmy Carter.

During a calligraphy session honoring the congressmen were Paul Nakamoto of CIC and Melvin Shikuma of the postal organization. Nakamoto, now a retired federal employee, expressed his appreciation for Mineta for his efforts and said that his president's work was "a debt of gratitude" from himself and others who benefited from the legislation.

In his remarks Mineta touched upon the difficulties faced in the U.S. in the 1950s and 1960s. He mentioned several congressional bills that affected the Nikkei community and Congress in general. He also mentioned his efforts in ensuring that more Nikkei were represented in the government and that their voices were heard.

ROALD JELLY

WASHINGTON ASIAN COMMISSION facing termination, seeks help

WASHINGTON—Washington's Commission on Asian American Affairs faces termination on June 30, 1982, as a result of legislation passed by the state legislature and signed by Governor Education. The bill was introduced by Rep. Alan T. Nakatani of CIC and Melvin Shikuma, chairman of the postal organization.

The state budget committee felt that the CAA's services were of value to the state in the past but were not truly needed. CAA, however, feels that their services—advocacy, lobbying, networking and informational services—are both valuable and necessary in complying with federal and state mandates. They believe the commission was created in the 1970s.

The state committee also perceived CAA's services as simply "an added layer of services." But CAA noted that no other agency provides technical assistance and services which involve the coordination in the refugee and APA communities—refugee resettlement, community education, business development, and job training programs, for example.

In the past, the CAA has attempted to address major issues of concern at the legislative, administrative and community levels. These issues included growth in the various fields of education, employment, public relations, and APA statistical data.

And while the budget committee felt that the CAA services were transfered to other groups as a result of the legislation, they said that the state Office of Minority Affairs or the Employment Security Division was a replacement for the CAA's community service.

"The CAA's services are not in jeopardy," they added. "We will attempt to address major issues of concern at the legislative, administrative and community levels. These issues included growth in the various fields of education, employment, public relations, and APA statistical data.

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PC's Calendar of Events

• SEPTEMBER 3 (Friday)
  Social Dance—California movie. Price’s. 10:30pm.

• SEPTEMBER 3 (Saturday)
  NAT JACL—Exhibition, Natl. Lib.

• SEPTEMBER 4 (Sunday)
  Castro Costa—BBQ event.

• SEPTEMBER 5 (Monday)
  Sacramento—Bar Assoc for APA/Pac Bar Assoc.

• SEPTEMBER 6 (Tuesday)
  Salinas Valley—Bldg. Cal First Bank. 2-3pm.

• SEPTEMBER 7 (Wednesday)
  Little Tokyo—Calif. Bar Rm. 7:30pm.

• SEPTEMBER 8 (Thursday)
  West Valley—Jakarta. San Francisco—Cot for JA Studies. 7:30pm.

But Rafu editor Dwight Chuman put the whole concept of Nikkei "beauty" pages in a different perspective in his Aug. 31 column entitled "I and You.

...let us consider what a Japanese American beauty contest is. First, it is a devastating and intimidating ritual adopted from White America that even White America doesn’t take seriously anymore. Second, it is subjective and de-humanizing treatment of the young women of our community. Isn’t it about time Japanese Americans stop judging our women on the basis of their anatomy? Poise and speaking ability? C’mon, what a farce.

Now, not-so-subtle overtones of racism are emerging in the critiques of the running of the pageants. Why not ban Eurasian girls from entering our pageant? I find this kind of talk ironic and tragic. Others try to portray these beauty queens as important representatives of the community. This simply is inaccurate. No vacant-eyed flesh merchant could ever represent what Japanese America is today.

The importance placed on the pageants is inappropriate and it probably is the blame of newspapers like the (Rafu) for having over-emphasized this sacrifice of our community’s "vagaries" to the God of Assimilation all these years. (The Rafu has) relegated us to back pages, where I feel, they belong.

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1982-83 West L.A. JACL Travel Program

FOR JCAL Members and Families

TOUR DATES: GUIDES

1—Hokkaido-Honshu Tour . . . Sept. 25-Oct. 16; Steve Yagi
2—Autumn in S. Honshu/Kyushu Oct. 2-23; Veronica Ohara
3—Oriental Tour (+ Bangkok) Oct. 4-26; Jiro Mochida
4—Ura-Nihon Tour . . . Oct. 9-20; Bill Sakurai/Yuki Sato
5—Special Holiday Tour (Hong Kong) . . . Nov. 6-27

FOR INFORMATION, RESERVATIONS OR WRITE
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8-PACIFIC CITIZEN / Friday, September 10, 1982

QUEENS
Continued from Front Page

beautiful women of full Japanese ancestry (Sanoz or Yonez) as there are East Asian women.

Nishinaga noted, "But in order to appreciate the particular Japanese beauty one must look through a different set of glasses and discover the many other special qualities, features and mannerisms that are not normally written into our often superficial, commercialized, Holly- wood glamorized image of the Orient.

Nishinaga concluded, "So in all seriousness, since the Nisei Week Queen is supposed to represent our Nikkei community which is still large, viable and strongly identifiable, our beauty representatives should at least be representative. For how else are we ever going to stop playing games and start becoming truly proud of being just what we really are, Japanese Americans. And, may the people who run the queen contest take note.

U.S. officials try to placate Japanese

TOKYO—U.S. officials tried to wrap up two days of talks Aug. 25 with Japanese officials and said they assured Tokyo there was no government campaign to harm Japanese business in the United States.

The officials also seemed to indicate a joint venture in the United States between General Motors Corp. and Toyota Motor Corp. to produce small cars would not violate U.S. antitrust laws.

Leading the Tokyo mission were William Baxter, assistant attorney general in charge of antitrust matters, and James Miller, chairman of the Federal Trade Commission.

Their visit came after a spate of U.S. prosecutions and investigations of Japanese businesses, including the June indictment of Hitachi Ltd. and Mitsubishi Electric Co. on charges of buying computer secrets stolen from IBM.

"There was at least a popular theory in some quarters that those particular actions, (and) perhaps some other, represented a coordinated campaign to embarrass or get, in some sense, the Japanese," Baxter told a news conference.

"That is not true," he said. "We have assured the various officials with whom we have spoken today that it is not true. I hope you are reassured.

Miller agreed that "unfortunately there may have been a perception that there was an organized effort to single out Japanese firms for concerns by the American government. That is really not the case."