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JACL seeks investigation into murder—p.3
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Second-degree murder verdict found in death of Vietnamese

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla.—In a packed Broward County, Fla., courtroom, after four hours of deliberation, the jury announced Oct. 21 a verdict of second-degree murder for 19-year-old Bradley Mills in the death of 19-year-old pre-med student Luyen Phan Nguyen. Mills is one of seven men charged in the death of a Vietnamese American boy and the first to be tried for murder. The other six defendants are scheduled to be tried in January.

Nguyen was chased, beaten, and kicked to death by a mob of young men outside a south Florida apartment building on Aug. 15 after being called "chink," "Vietcong," and "santonara" at a nearby party. One of the defendants allegedly yelled, "I hate Vietnamese" during the attack.

Dr. and Mrs. Nguyen and their remaining son were present in the courtroom. Attending the trial on behalf of their respective organizations and for the National Network Against Anti-Asian Violence were Dennis Hayashi, JACL national director; See VERDICT/page 4



STEREOTYPING—Fuji is the character on the "Super Dave" cartoon show.

Group protests TV cartoon character

LOS ANGELES—Protesting a cartoon character on Saturday morning television, the Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA) recently complained to the Fox Broadcasting Co. and the cartoon's producer, DIC.

The character in question is "Fuji," which appears on the cartoon spinoff of the Showtime cable channel's comedy, "The Super Dave Show." Based directly on a character on the live action comedy, the cartoon "Fuji" wears a baseball cap and is an inventor.

Protesting on behalf of MANAA, board member Tony Osumi said, "Although we acknowledge that 'The Super Dave Show' relies on farce and exaggeration for its humor, we find the character to be culturally insensitive."

"Relying on stereotypical features—such as a heavy accent, buck teeth, and oversized glasses which emphasize his slanted eyes"—Fuji represents to many Asian Pacific Americans a character that is offensive in the same manner as the "Black Sambo" character is to African Americans," said Osumi.

Antonia Kaufman, a representative of Fox children's television, said she was surprised at the complaint about the children's show, but said she would look into the matter. "We certainly take these matters seriously," said Kaufman.

Osumi said the cartoon depiction is especially troubling because it is aimed at children. "We find 'The Super Dave Show' especially troubling because of the impressions it can leave on its young target audience. While MANAA applauds and encourages the depiction of Asian American characters as part of mainstream America, we do so only if they are balanced and accurate," said Osumi.

—GWEN MURANAKA

JACL national board meeting—Oct. 24-25, 1992

Kimura administration begins to shape course of organization

Board meets to discuss, review and 'brainstorm'

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

SAN FRANCISCO—New faces, new positions—the first meeting of the new national board Oct. 24 following the national convention was a friendly, relaxed affair as new and old board members felt out their responsibilities and grew into the management style of Lillian Kimura, JACL national president.



KIMURA

In a break from typical board meetings, during the afternoon session, Kimura had the national council and observers split up into small groups and brainstorm on ways to deal with civil rights, increasing JACL membership, and encouraging new leaders. Prior to the exercise, Karen Narasaki, Washington D.C. JACL representative and Dennis Hayashi, JACL national director, gave their estimations of the political and social scenes for Japanese Americans during the coming biennium.

Narasaki said that whatever happens in the presidential election, there will be some major changes in the coming administration.

"Regardless of who wins, heads

Reviewing redress

SAN FRANCISCO—Karen Narasaki, Washington D.C., representative, at the JACL national board meeting Oct. 24 gave a status report on what has been a successful year for the redress movement.

"We got everything we asked for," said Narasaki, who noted everyone except for special cases should be paid by next October. The Office of Redress Administration has indicated that it will be shutting down its toll free number since 90% of redress recipients have been paid. The representative suggested that people write letters to an address she will provide later if they have questions.

Although redress appropriation was successful this year, Narasaki said there are still issues yet unresolved.

● Non-Japanese spouses interned in the camps are among the oldest internees who are still waiting for redress, according to Narasaki.

● ORA is beginning to send out rejection notices on redress claims. Most poignant among these cases are the children of mothers who left camp, but returned to give birth. ORA is claiming that these women returned to the camp voluntarily and thus their children are not eligible for redress. Narasaki indicated that there



NARASAKI

See REDRESS/page 4

are going to roll," said Narasaki. "If Clinton wins, there will of course be a massive changeover in administration."

Narasaki said JACL needs to prepare for what is expected to be a "storm" of legislation in the first months of the new administration.

In his assessment of the social scene for Nikkei, Hayashi said that Asian Americans are becoming more politically involved and it is important for JACL to foster Asian American leadership.

"It's important for us, in looking at the program for

action, to take into account how we help develop leadership in the Asian Pacific American community," said Hayashi.

The national director said that many Asian American groups have looked to JACL as a model for structuring their organizations.

After hearing forecasts for the next two years, the groups got together and came up with suggestions how JACL should deal with the problems and possibilities facing the Nikkei community.

Some of the suggestions included:

● Increasing membership by highlighting membership services such as health insurance.

● Foster leadership by adopting a mentor program where potential JACL leaders are paired up with a JACL veteran who can teach and encourage greater participation in the organization.

● Educate the membership about racism and sexism within JACL through workshops at upcoming bi-district, tri-district meetings.

Committees: who's in charge

The JACL national board approved the following committee chair assignments:

- LEGAL COUNSEL: Alan Kato
- LEGACY FUND COMMITTEE: Grayce Uyehara and Cressey Nakagawa
- ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE: Lillian Kimura and Hank Tanaka
- JA OF THE BIENNIAL: Ray Uno
- AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS: Randy Shibata
- RESOLUTIONS: Dale Ikeda
- NOMINATIONS: Ken Yokota and Hisami Yoshida.

See COMMITTEES/page 4

Shinkawa heads PC board

Paul Shinkawa of the Houston Chapter, JACL, was confirmed as chairman of the Pacific Citizen board of directors at the Oct. 24 national board meeting in San Francisco.

Shinkawa, a resident of Austin, Texas, is general counsel to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. He is a charter member of the Houston Chapter and was its president in 1981. He also served as governor of the Mountain-Plains District Council, 1982-84, was district representative, National Redress Committee, 1982-84, and was chairman of the 1992 National Convention Credentials Committee.

See SHINKAWA/page 4

Board highlights

Other highlights of the JACL national board meeting included:

● Bill Kaneko, vice president of public affairs, announced plans to conduct a public affairs training seminar at one of the tri-district, bi-district meetings next year. The goal of the seminar is to teach chapter presidents how to deal with the media and advocate issues important to JACL. Eventually, Kaneko said he hoped more seminars could be conducted across the country.

● Alan Nishi, vice president of membership, gave a status report on the automated membership program. Nishi said that he hopes to double the number of chapters participating in the program, to the sum of five more per district by Jan. 93.

● Hisami Yoshida, Pacific Northwest governor, told the board of organizing efforts and an upcoming rally following the recent murder of a Thai American by a group of skin heads in Olympia, Wash.

● Kim Nakahara, national youth chair, presented a new membership brochure encouraging young people to join JACL. The chair announced plans for a youth column in the Pacific Citizen starting in the Holiday Issue and noted that one of the main goals for youth is establishing a fully functional national youth council.

● After some disagreement and discussion, the board decided to give the Salt Lake City convention committee \$2,500 cash advance, half of what the initial \$5,000 requested now and then send the remaining \$2,500 or whatever portion was necessary after the committee sent a proposed budget for expenses.

● Trisha Murakawa, vice president of planning and development, presented to the board estimates on the cost of producing new chapter president manuals. PSW recently produced their own manuals. The proposed manuals would

See BOARD/page 4

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Calendar

Pennsylvania Philadelphia

Friday, Nov. 6—Philadelphia Folklore Project presents a Cambodian music concert, Fleisher Art Memorial, 719 Catharine St., Phila., 7 p.m. Free. Information: 215/238-0096.
Ongoing—National Archives-Mid Atlantic Region's "The Internment of Japanese Americans." Photographs by Dorothea Lange, Lobby Library Penn Post Office Annex, 9th and Market Streets, Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Information: 215/597-3000.

Michigan Detroit

Sunday, Nov. 8—Detroit Chapter, JACL's fall general meeting, Cherry Blossom restaurant, 43588 W. Oaks Dr. in Novi, west of Twelve Oaks Mall, 4 p.m. Information: Toshi Shimura, 313/356-3089; Mary Kamidoi, 313/522-7917; or Ernie Otani, 313/852-1221.

Nevada Reno

Sunday, Nov. 22—Reno Chapter, JACL's potluck and mochi making, Knights of Pythias Hall, 980 Nevada St., Reno, noon. Items to bring: 3 lbs. mochi (soaked overnight and drained with cold water), corn starch and wax paper, and rags, mop, and broom. Information: June Sun, 702/857-3388.

Arizona Phoenix

Saturday, Nov. 7—Phoenix Japanese Free Methodist Church's fall golf tournament, Thunderbird Country Club, 11/4 miles south of Baseline off 7th St., 7

a.m. Fee: \$40. Information: 602/278-0917.

Scottsdale

Monday, Nov. 9—Japan America Society of Phoenix presents Ondekoza, Japanese devil drummers, Scottsdale Center for the Arts, 7383 Scottsdale Mall, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$18 and \$20, at Ticketmaster locations and Scottsdale Center. Information: 602/893-0599.

Washington Bellevue

Friday, Nov. 13—Lake Washington Chapter, JACL's art sale for scholarship fund, Bellevue Conference Center, Exhibition North, Main Level, 505 106th Ave., N.E., 6 p.m. Artists include: Hisashi Otsuka, Caroline Young and Tatsuo Ito. Information: Shox or Elsie Tokita, 206/461-6512; James or Rose Norah, 206/455-8379; and Jason or Ellen Mochizuki, 206/747-6361.

Seattle

Through Sun., Nov. 1—Northwest Asian American Theatre presents David Henry Hwang's "The Dance and the Railroad," Theatre Off Jackson, 409 7th Ave. S. Thurs., 8 p.m.; Sun., 4 p.m. Tickets: \$6-12. Information: 206/340-1049.

Through Sun., Nov. 22—Seattle Art Museum's "Views from a Paper Window," Japanese Art of the Edo and Meiji Periods, 100 University St., Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thurs. 9 p.m.; Sun., noon to 5 p.m. Information: 206/654-3100.

Through Sunday, Dec. 13—Wing Luke Asian Museum presents works by local Asian American artists, 407 7th Ave. Artists include: Silk designer Lailong Tran and graphic designer Frank Fuji.

Information: 206/623-5124.

Idaho Lewiston

Through Wed., Nov. 25—"An Artists View the Japanese American Internment," by Kenjiro Nomura, Lewis Clark. See CALENDAR/page 7

Upcoming . . .

● "Erasing the Lines that Divide Us: Inter-Ethnic Coalition Building," seminar sponsored by Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP) and the Gas Company Forum, Saturday, Nov. 14, 12:30 to 5 p.m., Hyatt Regency Los Angeles at Broadway Plaza, 711 S. Hope St., Los Angeles. Event is free. Information: LEAP, 213/485-1422.

● The Central California District Council, JACL, will hold its 43rd annual installation banquet Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Belmont Country Club, 8523 East Belmont Ave., Fresno. Social hour: 6 p.m., dinner, 7 p.m.; Keynote speaker: Rudy Tokiwa, 442 member; cost: \$25 per person. Information: Larry Ishimoto, 209/627-0442.

● The West Los Angeles Chapter, the Southern California American Nikkei (SCAN) and the Asian Pacific American Network (APAN) Chapters, JACL, will hold a joint installation luncheon Sunday, Nov. 15.

The event will feature Lillian Kimura, JACL national president, who will deliver the keynote address.

The luncheon will be held at the Yes Restaurant, 11620 Wilshire Blvd., West Los Angeles, 12:30 p.m. Donation: \$15.

Information: Kim-Tachiki, 310/822-5780. Reservations: Johnny Gushken, 310/398-6986 (by Nov. 8).

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JACL seeks investigation into murder of Japanese

JACL has written to officials in Louisiana expressing its concerns on the shooting death of Yoshiro Hattori in Baton Rouge Oct. 17.

In light of the increase in anti-Asian assaults and murders across the country, JACL asked both Louisiana Gov. Edwin Edwards and Baton Rouge Sheriff Elmer Litchfield to fully examine possible racial motivation in the case.

Hattori, a Japanese exchange student who arrived in the U.S. two months ago, was shot and killed by Rodney Peairs when he and a friend mistakenly went to Peairs' house in search of a Halloween party.

Hattori was dressed in a white tuxedo jacket as part of a John Travolta costume, and his friend was in street clothes, according to reports. Neither of them was wearing a mask.

While there are conflicting stories about the exact circumstances surrounding the killing, some details have come to light, according

to JACL. Hattori was shot once in the chest with a .44 caliber Magnum when he moved following Peairs' order to "freeze."

"Newspaper reports indicate that Mr. Hattori was unarmed at the time that he was shot and there is no indication that he posed any threat to the Peairs," said Dennis Hayashi, JACL national director.

"More significantly, the accounts state that Webb Haymaker, who was with Hattori at the time, stated that they were walking away from the house when confronted by Rodney Peairs."

"We were surprised to hear initially that no arrest was made but are encouraged that a grand jury will be convened to consider the case on Nov. 4."

Hayashi concluded his letter stating, "We urge you to do whatever is necessary to insure that a full investigation of possible racial motivation is conducted."

West L.A. Chapter hosts candidates

The West Los Angeles Chapter, JACL, hosted a candidate's night event Oct. 19. The event, hosted by Los Angeles City Councilman Marvin Braude, allowed the politicians or their representatives to expand on positions.

Attending were Alan Chou and Paul Lear representing the Clinton-Gore ticket; Ann Banning-Wright representing Mark Robbins, U.S. representative for the 29th District; Leonard McRoekey, 23rd State Senatorial District candidate; Robert Davis, candidate for the 42nd District State Assembly; and Yvonne Braithwaite Burke and Diane

Watson, running for the 2nd Los Angeles County Supervisorial District.

The speakers focused on the need to increase jobs in Los Angeles and California, and to improve the educational and health systems.

Because of the redistricting created by the census, all candidates for local races are from changed districts and have never represented the area before.

Chapter President Johnny Gushiken, Auxiliary President Jean Ushima, and Program Coordinator Karen Hirai Olen conducted the program.

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AFTER ALL IS SAID AND DONE, WHAT DO WE LEAVE BEHIND?

Through our twenty years of existence, over four hundred men and women contributed their energy and skill in making the Asian Law Caucus what it is today. From a storefront operation to a civil rights institution, hundreds of people worked directly with us either as staff, board members, law clerks, or undergraduate volunteers. Hundreds more participated through other types of volunteer work and personal contributions.

On our twentieth year, we look back.

We have changed through the times and with the times. The young activist lawyers who started the Caucus have become fathers and mothers. Many have formed their own law firms or have become public officials. Many have moved on to new challenges in their careers and continue their commitment to community in their own ways. And many continue to serve as active supporters and members of the Asian Law Caucus family.

Twenty years is a sliver on the tree of time, but for a civil rights organization it is a milestone. It is an accomplishment made possible by work, diligently and carefully built by committed individuals, passed on and built upon by subsequent generations of equally dedicated individuals.



Photo by Leon Sun

Into the 21st century, we at the Asian Law Caucus are as challenged as ever. As the Asian Pacific American family grows and becomes more diverse, we have yet to recover from the major erosion in civil rights which has occurred in the past decade.

Through the years we have taken on formidable cases and issues. We have not been known to hedge or waver in matters of principle. Perhaps, we understand too well that our common immigrant heritage and experience has both tales of hope and

promise as well as bitterness and injustice. Perhaps also, we are keenly aware that the communities we belong to are made up of family and friends who came to this country for the promise of a better life. Our mission at the Asian Law Caucus has been to make sure that the promise is kept.

To ensure that promise, the Asian Law Caucus and the Korematsu family established the Fred Korematsu Civil Right Fund. We invite you to be part of our family, with you we can continue to face the challenges ahead.

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SPECIAL TO THE PACIFIC CITIZEN

Good work

Placer County Chapter, JACL, recently held its 52nd annual Goodwill Dinner to honor the redress committee for its dedicated efforts. From left, Chapter President Chester Yamada presented plaques to Aster Kondo, Ellen Kubo, and Hiko Yego. Frank Kageta was not present to accept his award. Sacramento TV personality Gordon Tokumatsu was guest speaker. Robert Takemoto was general chairman and Rusty Uratsu was emcee for the event.

JACL national board meeting

COMMITTEES

(Continued from page 1)

- NATIONAL CREDENTIALS: Ron Yoshino
 - 1994 CONVENTION: Floyd Mori
 - PERSONNEL: Neal Taniguchi
 - EDUCATION: Cheryl Kagawa
 - MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: Kim Tachiki
 - 1000 CLUB/LIFE MEMBERSHIP: Mary Nishimoto
- Assignments for the following committees have not yet been confirmed: Redress; Civil Rights; Atomic Bomb Survivors; U.S./Japan; Scholarships/Freshmen; Scholarships/Student Aid; Leadership Development; National Endowment; JARP; Satow Memorial; Ways and Means; and Veterans Affairs Liaison.

SHINKAWA

(Continued from page 1)

The new PC board chairman

was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, and received his bachelor's degree in English from Rice University, Houston, and his J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law, San Antonio.

He and his wife Gloria Jean have two children, Tami Jean, 7, and Anna Mariko, 3.

BOARD

(Continued from page 1)

incorporate material from the PSW manual and other material which isn't district-specific.

Grayce Ueyehara, Legacy Fund chairwoman, said that the fund's \$10 million goal was "double" and said the focus was now on the California chapters to come through. Ueyehara encouraged board members, if they haven't yet, to contribute to the fund.

Allan Hida, Midwest District Council governor, announced the completion of the Rohwer-Jerome project.

The board endorsed the Gor-

don Hirabayashi video, "A Personal Matter" and the curriculum guide. The board also endorsed "Probable Cause," an upcoming project by filmmaker Steven Okazaki dealing with anti-Asian violence.

REDRESS

(Continued from page 1)

are approximately 100 such cases, some who were actually originally cleared by ORA. The representative said these people may be calling for help in filing appeals to the ORA decisions.

The education fund has yet to be appropriated. Narasaki said Rep. Norman Mineta is working on strategies for getting the fund. She said that they will not be going after the entire \$50 million the first year. Parenthetically, Narasaki said that because of the emotion involved and disapproval from non-Japanese American constituents, some on Capitol Hill are growing tired of the redress issue, and are reluctant to have to deal with redress again.

VERDICT

(Continued from page 1)

Daphne Kwok, Organization of Chinese Americans executive director; Stan Mark, Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund attorney and member of the Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium; Karen Narasaki, JACL Washington, D.C., representative; and Ngoan Le, vice president of the National Congress of Vietnamese in America.

"The testimony clearly confirmed that the attack was racially motivated," said Hayashi. Luyen Phan Nguyen's death was a result of escalating anti-Asian sentiment, anti-immigrant feeling, and misdirected resentment from the Vietnam War."

Kwok lauded the jury for its verdict and said, "We are very pleased with the jury's verdict. It sends a resounding message to the nation that anyone who participates in acts of mob violence will be held culpable and subject to the full extent of the law."

"We praise the prosecution and hope that the subsequent trials for the remaining defendants are successful," said Mark.

The jury consisted of six men and two women. One of the men was Hispanic, originally from the Virgin Islands, and one of the women was Jamaican American. The judge ordered a pre-sentencing investigation. Sentencing is to take place on Nov. 24 at 1:30 p.m. Mills will be held in custody pending sentencing.

Said Narasaki, "We applaud the state's handling of the prosecution and commend the jury for insuring that justice was done."

"The Vietnamese American community is truly grateful that the justice system worked. As newcomers to this country, this verdict has affirmed our belief in the constitutional and democratic principles of this nation," said Le. "More importantly, this tragedy has taught us the need for each community's involvement in combatting hate crimes and in helping to build a successful multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society. We are also thankful for the leadership and support of the broader Asian American community in helping to bring about justice for Luyen Phan Nguyen and his family."

Small kid time

Gwen Muranaka





SPECIAL TO THE PACIFIC CITIZEN

Back to school

More than 260 graduates and friends of Davis High School, Kaysville, Utah, attended the Oct. 10 Nikkei alumni reunion held at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City. Among them were, from left, standing, John Imada and Floyd Tsujimoto of Salt Lake City, and Shizu Miya of Syracuse, Utah. Taxi Okawa, class of '42 was general chairman of the event.

Graduates from Florida, Texas, Illinois, Hawaii and other cities. The largest group in attendance was the class of '45 with 15 graduates attending.

Masaru Yamada, class of '44, served as emcee at the banquet. Speakers were George Tashima, class of '42, and Dr. Elsie Shramizu, class of '47. Among the earliest graduates were Tsujimoto, class of '32, Imada, class of '34, and Cecil Nakano, class of '34.

For the record

The videotape, "A Question of Loyalty," was incorrectly identified in connection with the Oct. 16 story of the Poston dedication. According to Chizu Omori, a videotape of the reunion trip and dedication ceremony will be available within four to six weeks to interested individuals. The video, produced by cinematographer Emiko Omori, will cost about \$35, including postage and handling.

"A Question of Loyalty," a separate project of Emiko Omori and Chizuko Omori, is a television documentary currently in production. The film will be a comprehensive look at the internment.

from many directions and levels. Inquiries, letters, diaries, journals, and other writings about the project are welcome. Contact Emiko Omori: 24 Bessie St., San Francisco, CA 94110; or Chizuko Omori, 2640 13th W., Seattle, WA, 98119.

In the Sept. 25 issue, in PC Personally Speaking column, the father of Catherine Ann Hida, M.D., Edward Hida of Milwaukee, was identified as Midwest District, JACL, governor. Allan Hida, his brother, currently serves in that position, says Jim J. Miyazaki, Wisconsin Chapter president.

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

Credit those onions

Last week's column was about the way Japanese Americans have helped make the Western Treasure Valley around Ontario, Ore., a prosperous onion-growing and shipping area. More onions reportedly are shipped out of Ontario than from any city in the nation.

Hardware merchant John Kirby and some of his friends figured something ought to be done to memorialize the Japanese Americans' contribution to the area's well-being. Eventually they agreed a community cultural center in their name would be fitting. It would encompass a performing arts center, auditorium and a museum depicting the story of the Japanese Americans, and a first-rate Japanese garden which would be a pleasant green attraction in what is primarily irrigated desert.

How to finance such a project? The redress bill to benefit victims of the Evacuation included a provision for funding educational programs. Certainly educating people about what Japanese Americans have done for the area around Ontario was a worthy objective.

A committee including Kirby and some

Nisei like George and Tom Iseri, Mam Wakasugi and others went to Washington to see if their idea would fly. There was a lot of smiling and hand-shaking but not much specific encouragement. Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield said he wasn't sure whether Congress would approve Redress, but promised to explore other avenues of funding. The committee went home wondering whether the trip had been in vain.

One day some time later a federal government check for \$4 million showed up unannounced in Ontario, earmarked for the Western Treasure Valley Cultural Center. The astounded recipients learned Senator Hatfield had attached the item to a military appropriations bill, a tactic not unknown in Washington, and it had slipped through along with other odds and ends.

With that kind of a boost the Cultural Center was off and running. After an extensive search John Carnahan, who among other things had helped Eskimo tribes build a museum with Alaska oil money to preserve their culture, was hired as executive director. Architects were asked to submit ideas. A search started for additional money;

\$4 million wouldn't go very far in building and operating a first class operation.

Somewhere along the line a snag developed. Japanese Americans, who as a group were to be commemorated in the museum, became uncomfortable. They pointed out that other ethnic groups—Indians, Basques, Hispanics in addition to the original fur traders, cattlemen and farmers—also had major roles in the area. Why not tell the entire story instead of just the Japanese American story?

A few weeks ago Carnahan assembled some outside specialists in Ontario to kick around ideas about what the museum should be, how it would fit in with the community and region, how it might boost the community as a tourist attraction. As expected, there were more ideas than decisions. There will be a good many more such discussion sessions: But one thing is certain. A very unusual and interesting program of undisputed merit and value is under way in a rather unlikely place.

You can give credit to the onions, and the people who grow and ship them. ☐

Voices

The sport of politics

By
GWEN
MURANAKA

It's down to the wire. Bottom of the ninth. Fourth down. Sudden death. Sports terms fit this last burst of frantic presidential election campaigning as well as they fit any athletic event. Let's face it, despite all the in-roads of women into politics—presidential politics is still a boy's game, replete with macho posturing, senseless commentators, and bad haircuts. Keep basking those cookies Barb and Hillary. In this yearly cosmic alignment of major sporting events (baseball, football, basketball, and hockey to name a few), the biggest game of all is politics. Forget Monday Night Football—it's Tuesday night tallies we're all interested in.

But what if women were in charge here? The Lifetime cable channel recently pondered this question and gave us Blair Brown as a former Army general, balancing a family and a run at the White House. Colorado Representative Pat Schroeder briefly dipped her foot into the 1988 presidential race.

Better yet, what if Asian American women were running things? Hey Pat, Elaine, and Pat, there's a thought for you. Not this time, but how about '96 or the year 2000? What a way to start a new millennium. If more women were involved in the presidential races, I think the campaigns and the presidency would be a lot different.

● We'd ditch the bad sports analogies. Were the debates "knockdown, drag-out fights"? No. It wasn't Evander Holyfield, it wasn't even Robin Givens or her mother or that guy in the Indiana prison. Why do journalists insist on using sports metaphors? You almost expect presidential running mates to give each other high fives or slap each other on the butt after every debate.

● Enough with the mud-slinging already. Maybe journalists use sports metaphors, because politicians, like athletes, sometimes act like overeggs, overpaid babies. They should all pay attention to that Nike saying and "just do it."

● Women would get things done. At least I hope they would. It's roll up the sleeves time now. Who knows more about that than women, who without fanfare have long been juggling family and career—a day job and a night job?

● No more Gennifer! Now she's posing for Penthouse? I think we've all heard enough about secret tawdry affairs and other sleazy headlines to last, well, at least another four years.

● A woman would resolve conflicts. Who better to get in there and bring together disparate factions, soothe egos, and come up with a solution? They say women are effective police officers because they are less likely to resort to force, and more likely to talk things out. What works on the street might work in the White House.

As we've heard over and over—it's time for a change. But even beyond change among Democrat, Republican or Independent, perhaps soon it will be a time for a change from a male president to female. Coming back to sports, I suppose we're in the fourth quarter now in the presidential race, it's the end of the game for another four years. But there's always next time or the time after that. So women, if you've been patiently sitting through NFL Football, Major League Baseball, NBA Basketball, and presidential politics it's time to get up and just do it. It's time to stand up, organize, grab the ball and run with it.

Muranaka is Pacific Citizen's assistant editor.

Chapter alert

All JACL chapters should have their Holiday Issue kits and be soliciting and preparing chapter and member greetings. Chapters should also be sending PC their news items for inclusion into the special year-end issue.

If you have not received your materials, or are in need of assistance, call us immediately at:

1-800-966-6157

IN-SIGHT

By
LILLIAN
C.
KIMURA
JACL
National
President

Down Arizona way

leg. We usually hold these events at the Japanese American United Church or at the Japanese American Association office. We are lucky to have these resources.)

There are about 300 members in the Arizona Chapter. I met a bunch of Tadanos and Tanitas on that Sunday. They are native Arizonians, their fathers and grandfathers having settled there primarily to farm. Marian Takano Shee, who attended the Denver Convention with her husband Jim and the Allmans, told me that her grandfather made and distributed shoyu during World War II since none could be imported from Japan.

While traveling about for JACL, you don't know who you might meet from your past. I was pleased to become reacquainted with Misako Okada Koch who came from my hometown of Glendale, Calif., and who also lived in the same block at Manzanar. We were school girls together along with Toby Ozone Kubota with whom I've had sporadic contact over the years. We had a nice visit remembering other friends and times of our youth.

There was Uta Eto, formerly of St. Louis, I stayed at her place once when we had a Midwest District Council meeting. Her daughter, Sandy, I knew in Chicago.

Others I met included Madeline Ong Sakata, director of the Chinese American

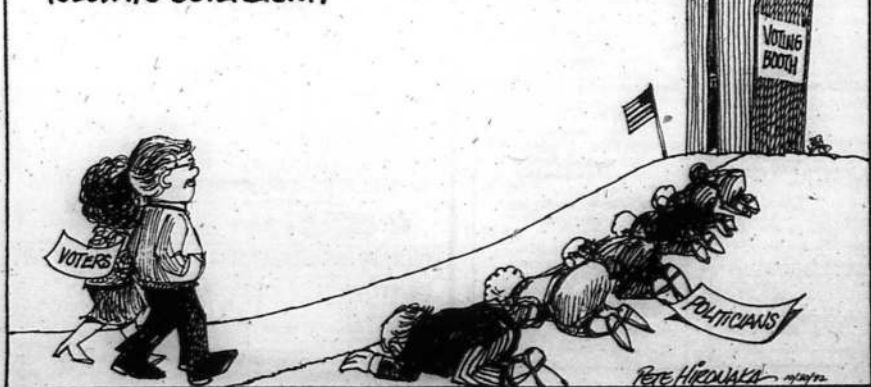
Citizens Alliance. She worked with Sen. Dennis DiConcini to open doors for our JACL leaders to meet with baseball commissioner Pay Vincent on the Seattle Mariners issue.

The chapter is doing some exciting things. Members are involved in looking into nominating the Gila River Relocation Center as a National Historic site. The Arizona State Parks office has already evaluated the archaeological remains of the camp and considers it eligible for placement on the National Register. (Several years ago, a YWCA colleague took me to Gila River where I saw the remnants of the cement foundations of the barracks, the frame of the monument to the servicemen and stone pathways made by the internees. I picked up artifacts including an old briefcase frame, shards of glass and pottery. A year or so later, some YWCA staff members went there to learn about the racism perpetrated on Japanese Americans and they brought back a jar, still intact. They encased it and presented it to me as a memento.)

The chapter will also be involved in the 1993 Japanese American Week which was initiated to reduce racial misunderstanding by increasing awareness of Japanese cultural activities, traditional arts and sports. JACL

See IN-SIGHT/page 8

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Pete Hirakawa

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BEST OF SHIKOKU-KYUSHU (Inland Sea Bridge/Takamatsu/Kochi/Matsuyama/Bepo/Kagoshima/Kumamoto/Nagasaki/Hiroshima) (13 days) MAY 14
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CALENDAR

(Continued from page 7)

Granada Hills, 6:30 p.m. Cost: \$75. Information: 818/899-0992.
Tues., Nov. 10-Sun., Nov. 15—The UCLA Asian American Studies Center presents Wakaiko Yamaguchi's "12-1-A." UCLA's Ralph Freud Playhouse, 8 p.m., Sat. and Sun., 2 p.m. matinees. Tickets: \$13; students, \$9. Information: 310/825-2101.
Saturday, Nov. 14—The Japanese American National Museum's panel, "Growing Up Japanese American," JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo, 1:30 p.m. Cost: Free. Panelists include: Cynthia Kadohata, Phillip Kan Gotanda, and Mei Nakano. Information: 213/625-0414.
Sunday, Nov. 15—Downtown L.A. Chapter JACL presents "Into the Woods." East West Players Theater, 4424 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m. Cost: \$25. Reservations: Kitty Sankey, 213/625-6532 (w); or 213/638-8553 (h). Reservations must be received by Nov. 13. Proceeds go to Ninth Street Elementary School scholarship fund.
Sunday, Nov. 15—SFVJACC Nursery School presents Kano's fall and holiday fashion show, San Fernando Valley Community Center, 12953 Brantford St., Pacoima, noon. Information: 818/765-4473.

Saturday, Nov. 21—The Azuma Sumako Kotobuki Kai's 11th annual student recital, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 961 S. Mariposa Ave., Los Angeles, 6:30 p.m. Suggested donation: \$5. Information: 310/327-2431.
Through Sun., Nov. 22—East West Players' production of Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods," 4424 Santa Monica Blvd., Thurs., Fri., Sat. and Sun. Cost: \$20-\$22. Information: 213/660-0366.
Through Sun., Nov. 22—The George J. Doizaki Gallery of the JACCC's "Kiyoshi Awazu: Artist and Designer," 244 S. San Pedro St., Tues.-Fri., noon-5 p.m.; weekends, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed Mondays. Information: 213/628-2725.
Sunday, Nov. 22—1992 St. Mary's Youth People's Fellowship Christmas Bazaar, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 961 S. Mariposa Ave., Los Angeles, 11 a.m. Artwork, clothing, jewelry and Christmas decorations. Information: 213/387-1334.
Saturday, Nov. 28—Hawaiian Community Center Ass'n's 1st annual "Ho'opulu Lahui Festival," Carson Community Center, 801 E. Carson St., Carson, 10 a.m. Tickets: \$10. Information: Clarice W. Nuhli 310/549-5573 or Randy K. Chang 310/786-3032.
Through Saturday, Dec. 19—The SPARC Gallery presents "Confrontation 1992," an exhibit on race, color and

racism, 685 Venice Blvd. Artists include: video artist Alan Nakagawa and performer Amy Hill. Information: Eric Gordon or Lucia Aguayo 310/822-9550.

Riverside

Wed., Nov. 11-Sat., Jan. 30—The California Museum of Photography, presents "Bearing Witness: Memories of Japanese American Internment," 3824 Main St. on the Pedestrian Mall in downtown Riverside. Wed.-Sat., 11 a.m.-Sun. noon-5 p.m.; Mon. and Tues., closed. Admission: \$2. Information: 714/784-3586.

Ventura County

Saturday, Nov. 14—Ventura County Chapter, JACL's bus trip to the Japanese American National Museum, the bus will make stops in Oxnard, Camarillo, and Thousand Oaks. Guided tour, origami workshop (fee and advance reservation required), and an optional tree lecture, "Growing Up Japanese American." Cost: \$10. Bus will leave Little Tokyo between 3:30 p.m.-4 p.m. Information and reservations: Chuck or Jean Kuniyoshi, 805/484-0676; or Janet Kajihara, 805/965-2612. Please indicate where you want to catch the bus, whether you want to attend the lecture, and your telephone and address.

IN-SIGHT

(Continued from page 6)

Board member Masako Takaguchi is the honorary co-chair of that week which is expected to attract many visitors to Phoenix.

It is heartening to see JACL chapters actively involved in their communities to help promote understanding between peoples, to reduce racial tension, to make America a better place. Hate off to you!!

Finally, my thanks to the members of the Arizona Chapter, especially to Joe Allman and Marian Tadano Shue for their hospitality. That's thirty for now.

JACL National President Lillian Kimura's IN-SIGHT column appears regularly in Pacific Citizen.

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