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JUNE 30-JULY 6, 2000

Rochelle Ouchi Kicking Her Way to Success Ex-Rep. Mineta May Succeed Daley

By LYNDSEY SHINODA
Writer/Reporter

Rochelle Beth Keiko Ouchi came kicking into the world on March 29, 1978, and hasn't stopped since. The 22-year-old Hapa kicked her way to the UCLA women's soccer team, playing with and against some of the best talent in the nation.

Growing up in San Jose, Calif., Ouchi started playing soccer at the age of 8. She also played basketball, competing several years on JA teams, including the San Jose CYS and San Jose Ninjas. She realized as she got older that she had a knack for soccer, eventually quitting the Ninjas and concentrating on soccer.

"When I got to high school, I thought, I can do this, but I never thought I would use it to go to college," said Ouchi.

Ouchi was a key player on the varsity soccer squad all of her four years at Leigh High School in San Jose. She led her team to the CIF CCS championship for three consecutive seasons, from 1994-96. Outside of high school, Ouchi played club soccer for the Central Valley Express. She and the Express captured the 1995 under-17 national championship title.

When the time came for Ouchi to go to college, she was recruited by Santa Clara University, San Jose State, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and UCLA. The decision to be a Bruin was not a difficult one, she said. Both of her parents, Glenn, a



Rochelle Ouchi shows her stuff at UCLA.

JA chemist, and Gail, a Jewish homemaker, are UCLA alumni. Her younger brother, Beinett, recently graduated from high school and will also be heading southward, to San Diego State.

Her freshman year was one full of new experiences. She trained among the best of the best. Ouchi worked hard, earning herself a starting midfield position towards the end of her freshman year, and a full-time starting position at the beginning of her sophomore year.

"Competitiveness is the best aspect of soccer," said Ouchi. "Playing with such great players is a challenge, and when surrounded by players like that, it makes you

want to get better."

The position of center midfielder is one that controls the pace of the game. Everything goes through that person. Though Ouchi stands at a petite 5-foot-4, she uses her quickness and speed to get around the much larger players that she must defend.

"My sophomore year was my best season," said Ouchi. "We made it to the NCAA quarterfinals and we were undefeated in the PAC-10. The team chemistry was there, so we did well."

She counts her family among her biggest supporters. Her father at-

See OUCHI/page 8

By Pacific Citizen Staff
and Associated Press

WASHINGTON—A former California congressman has joined the White House's short list of contenders to succeed William Daley as commerce secretary.

Former Democratic Rep. Norman Mineta, 68, is being strongly considered for the post, according to a White House official who spoke on June 23 on condition of anonymity. If chosen, Mineta would be the first Asian American Cabinet secretary.



The announcement has sparked a flurry of activity among Asian Pacific Americans hoping to witness a historic first.

National JACL, along with the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans, the Committee of 100, the Organization of Chinese Americans and the 80/20 political action committee have all launched letter writing campaigns backing Mineta.

But some APAs wonder whether Mineta, if offered the position, would leave his current position with Lockheed Martin Corp. to accept a job he would vacate in a matter of months once a new president is elected in November.

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The following letter in support of Norman Mineta's appointment to the position of secretary of commerce was sent by JACL National President Helen Kawagoe to the White House.

"Dear President Clinton:
"On behalf of the 24,000 members of the Japanese American Citizens League, I would like to express our complete and unreserved support of the Honorable Norman Mineta for the position of Secretary of Commerce. Not only is Mr. Mineta exceptionally well-qualified for the position with his almost forty years of dedicated service as an elected official and political appointee, but he is held in high regard by the Asian Pacific American (APA) community as a well-respected and capable leader.

"As you know, Mr. Mineta has served in all realms of the political arena — on the local and national level, as an elected official and as an appointee. Mr. Mineta first began his career in the public service in 1962 when he was appointed to the Human Relations Commission for the city of San Jose, CA. Subsequently, Mr. Mineta ran for a seat on and was elected to the San Jose City Council, later serving as the first APA mayor of a major city.

"Mr. Mineta continued to break new political ground for APAs with his election to Congress in 1974. Representing a district that was 80% white, Mr. Mineta demonstrated that APAs

See JACL/page 8

Orange County Nikkei Pioneers

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

When Orange County resident Clarence Iwao Nishizu, 89, was born on Dec. 9, 1910, William Taft was president of the United States, the horse and buggy was still the norm, electricity was a foreign concept, refrigerators had yet to be invented and the Nikkei community was just settling into Orange County.

Since then, the OC Japanese American community has expanded and prospered, a legacy which will be recorded in the proposed Orange County Agricultural and Nikkei Heritage Museum at Fullerton.

The Nishizu family moved from Los Angeles County to OC in 1916, the same year the Garden Grove Japanese school was built. At that time, this Japanese language school was the first of its kind in the OC area, and Nishizu was one of the first students to attend. Among the 12 enrolled students,

four were Caucasians whose parents did business with the Nikkei community, recalled Nishizu.

Like other OC Nikkei, the Nishizu family made a living farming. They raised everything from pimento chilies, California and Mexican chilies, sugar beets, Spanish onions, tomatoes, carrots, spinach and turnips.

But the first Issei settlers, who are thought to have come to OC in 1900, were known for growing celery. For close to a decade, the Smeltzer celery from OC dominated the American celery market, and Issei Toichi Kodama is credited with introducing a celery cultivation innovation that required wrapping each celery plant with paper to promote growth.

It comes as no surprise then that an early Nikkei enclave was the Smeltzer district, later referred to as Wintersburg, which became the city of Huntington Beach. It was here that the Nikkei built their first Buddhist and Christian churches. The Orange County Buddhist Church, now located in Anaheim, got its start here, as well as the Wintersburg Presbyterian Church.

Henry Kanegae, 83, whose family like Nishizu's was among the

early Nikkei settlers in OC and is current trustee at the Wintersburg church, said the original Wintersburg wooden structure was built on the Furuta family property in 1910. Around 1914, a little manse was added, and in 1934, a bigger facility with stucco walls was constructed, he said. Later, as the Nikkei congregation grew, the church purchased a new building on its current site at Santa Ana.

As for the Smeltzer celery boom, it was shortlived. In 1907, the area was flooded over, and the following year, a celery blight epidemic wiped out what was left of the celery industry.

Both Nishizu and Kanegae recalled a tofu business run by the Ida family in the early OC days.

See PIONEERS/page 6

OC Agricultural and Nikkei Heritage Seeks Community Support

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

Fund-raising efforts for the proposed Orange County Agricultural and Nikkei Heritage Museum has kicked into high gear.

The museum will be located in the Fullerton Arboretum, a 26-acre botanical garden located on the grounds of California State University, Fullerton, and is part of the \$2.9 million "New Gateway to the Fullerton Arboretum" project that includes a museum exhibit hall, gift shop, reception area, garden center and courtyard.

Plans for the museum structure call for a 2,500-square-foot exhibit hall with permanent and rotating displays and a hands-on interactive component; a 700-

See SUPPORT/page 6

22 APA WWII Veterans Awarded Congressional Medals of Honor

By Pacific Citizen Staff
and Associated Press

WASHINGTON—Some 55 years after World War II ended, 22 Asian Pacific American veterans belatedly received the nation's top military honor for bravery on the battlefield.

About 300 Cabinet, Pentagon and congressional leaders as well as family and friends gathered at the White House on June 21, to watch President Clinton bestow the Congressional Medal of Honor upon 20 Japanese Americans, one Chinese American and one Filipino American.

"They risked their lives above and beyond the call of duty and in doing so, they did more than defend America," Clinton said. "In the face of painful prejudice, they helped define America at its best."

Seven honorees were present to accept the award, including Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii. Surviving relatives of those 15 honored posthumously received framed medallions.

All but two of the 22 veterans were members of the 100th Infantry Battalion or 442nd Regimental Combat Team, volunteer units that saw fierce combat and were among the most decorated units in U.S. military history. Members of those units received more than 15,000 individual decorations, but only one received the Medal of Honor.

The Medal of Honor is normally granted within three years of service, but in 1996 Congress authorized the Army to review the records of the 104 APA WWII veterans who had already received the Distinguished Service Cross, the second highest military award, to determine if some deserved to be upgraded to Medals of Honor.

A prevailing climate of racial prejudice against APAs during WWII prevented them from being awarded the military's top honor then, said Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, who has worked for years to get them recognized.

The following evening, the APA community paid tribute to the 22 recipients at a special reception which featured guest speakers, Akaka and former Congressman Norman Mineta. Actor George Takei served as master of ceremonies.

APA organizations which sponsored the event included Go For Broke National Veterans Association, JACL, Japanese American National Museum, Japanese American Veterans Association, National Council of AJA Veterans, National Federation of Filipino American Associations, National Japanese American Historical Society, National Japanese American Memorial Foundation and the Organization of Chinese Americans.

Medal of Honor recipients:

- Rudolph B. Davila, SSgt. (later 2nd Lt.), 7th Infantry, for actions on May 28, 1944, at Ardena, Italy

- Barney F. Hajiro, Pvt., 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for actions in October 1944 at Bruyeres and Biffontaine, France

- Mikko Hasegawa, Pvt., 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), for actions on November 29, 1943, at Cerasuolo, Italy (posthumous)

- Joe Hayashi, Pvt., 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for actions in April 1945 at Tondola, Italy

- Shizuya J. Hayashi, Pvt., 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), for actions on November 29, 1943, at Cerasuolo, Italy

- Daniel K. Inouye, 2nd Lt.

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7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755
Tel: 323/725-0083, 800/966-6157, Fax: 323/725-0064
E-mail: Paccit@aol.com

Executive Editor: Caroline Y. Aoyagi
Assistant Editor: Martha Nakagawa
Editor Emeritus/Archivist: Harry K. Honda
Office Manager: Brian Tanaka
Production Assistant: Margot Brunswick
Writer/Reporter: Tracy Uba, Lyndsey Shinoda
Circulation: Eva Lau-Ting

Special contributors: Patricia Arra, Allan Beekman, Toko Fujii, S. Ruth Y. Hashimoto, Bob Hirata, Ada Honda, Mas Imon, Mike Iseri, Naomi Kashiwabara, Bill Kashiwagi, William Marumoto, Etsu Masasoka, Bill Matsumoto, Fred Oshima, Ed Suguro, Mika Tanner, George Wakiji, Jem Lew

Publisher: Japanese American Citizens League (founded 1929) 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115, tel: 415/821-5225 fax: 415/931-4671
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JACL Calendar

Eastern

DISTRICT COUNCIL
EDC meeting to be held during national convention.

NEW YORK

Sun, July 30—JACL outing to studio of award-winning potter Toshiko Takezu and Hunterdon Museum of Art; 9 a.m. pick-up. \$25 includes lunch. **RSVP by July 15:** Lillian Kimura, 973/680-1441.

PHILADELPHIA

Sun, July 30—JACL chapter baseball outing, Phillies vs. Dodgers; 1:30 p.m., Veterans Stadium. **RSVP by July 10:** Mary Burke, 215/487-1678.

Midwest

CINCINNATI

Sat, July 1—Ceremony to honor Medal of Honor recipients; 11 a.m. at the Medal of Honor Memorial. Info: Frances Tojo, e-mail: francesetojo@aol.com.

Sun, Aug. 13—Annual Potluck Dinner; 1:30 p.m. board meeting, 4 p.m.

COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Sat, July 8—Slide Lecture by artist Roger Shimomura; 4 p.m., Carmichael Auditorium, National Museum of American History, 12th & Constitution NW; reception to follow; in conjunction with exhibit, "An American Diary and Memories of Childhood"; exhibit runs through Sept. 4. Info: 202/557-2700.
Thurs-Sat., Nov. 9-11—National Memorial to Patriotism Dedication Ceremony. Pre-registration required: NJAMF, 800/607-8550. (Hotel reservations accepted up to Oct. 15.)

The Midwest

CINCINNATI

Sat, July 1—Ceremony to honor Medal of Honor recipients; 11 a.m. at the Medal of Honor Memorial. Info: www.medalofhonor Memorial.com, or Frances Tojo, e-mail: francesetojo@aol.com.

MILWAUKEE

Through July 30—Exhibit, "Currents 28: Hiroshi Sugimoto"; Milwaukee Art Museum, 750 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr. Info: 414/224-3200, <www.mam.org>.

The Northwest

PORTLAND

Sat, Aug. 5—"Obonfest 2000: A Gathering of Joy"; 2-9 p.m.; Oregon Buddhist Temple; 3720 SE 34th Avenue and Powell; Info: 503/234-9456.
Fri-Sun, Aug. 11-13—Greater Portland Reunion, "Nikkei Futures 2000; Doubletree Lloyd Center Hotel; mixer, banquet, tours, golf tournament, picnic, etc. Info: Kennie Namba, 503/253-0848; Kurtis Inouye 503/682-3238.

Northern California

BAY AREA

Sun, July 9—Nikkei Widowed Group Meeting; men and women both welcome. For time and place call: M. Kusaba, 415/333-5190, Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.

SACRAMENTO

Sun, Sept. 10—Greater Sacramento Valley Region-wide Reunion; Doubletree Hotel; 11 a.m. fellowship/mixer, 1 p.m. buffet lunch; keynote speaker Cherry Tsutsumida of the NJAMF; the historical book of the Sacramento region will be available. Info: Toko Fujii, 916/421-6968.

SAN JOSE

Sun, July 2—WWII veterans to be

social hour, silent auction, 5 p.m. potluck dinner, 6 p.m. entertainment; Hyde Park Bethlehem United Methodist Church, Madison Rd. and Hyde Park Ave.

CLEVELAND

Sun, July 16—Scholarship Luncheon; 2-4 p.m., Bo Loong Restaurant, 3922 St. Clair Ave.; **RSVP:** Susanne Hamblin, 216/731-5418 or 216/556-2277.

DAYTON

Sun, July 23—Annual Chapter Picnic, Potluck/Cookout; 2-6 p.m., Shelter #1, Wilson Park West, Carrollton; hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, watermelon, tableware provided by chapter.

ST. LOUIS

Tues., July 4—July 4th Picnic; 12 noon, Eden Theological Seminary, 475 E. Lockwood, Webster Groves.

TWIN CITIES

Sun, July 16—Annual JACL Picnic; noon-5 p.m., Rosland (Lake Cornelia) Park Pavilion, Edina. Info: Gloria Kumagai, 763/377-5602.

Intermountain

SALT LAKE CITY

Mon, July 24—Matsumoto Sister City

honored at a concert; 10:30 a.m., Bethel Church, 1201 S. Winchester Blvd. Info: 408/246-6790; fax 408 243-7837; www.bethel.org.

SAN MATEO

Sat, July 29—Community Potluck; 5-8 p.m., San Mateo Senior Center, 2645 Alameda de las Pulgas; food, games prizes, door prizes, song fest, raffles; scholarship winners will be introduced. **RSVP by July 21:** JACL Community Center, 343-2793.

Central California

DELANO

Sat-Sun, July 15-16—10th Delano Nisei Reunion; Delano Elks Lodge. Info: Toshi Katano, 661/725-8660.

FRESNO

Fri-Sat, Oct. 13-14—Fifth Jerome Reunion; bus available to Los Angeles. Info: Hiro Isogawa, 559/222-7083, Shig. Rosie Okajima 559/875-3878.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES

Sat, July 1—Exhibit Opening, "Contemporary Japanese Architecture: 1985-1996"; George Doizaki Gallery, Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/628-2725.

Thurs., July 6—Book discussion series, "From Harsh Winters to Bountiful Harvests: The Journey of Japanese Americans" with Professor Mitch Maki; "The Issai" by Yugi Ichioka and "Through Harsh Winters" by Akemi Kikumura-Yano; 12 noon-2 p.m.; bring your lunch; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Books available on loan. Info: 213/625-0414.

Sat, July 8—Book discussion, "From Harsh Winters to Bountiful Harvests: The Journey of Japanese Americans"; 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Katy Geissert Civic Center Library, Torrance. **RSVP:** Paula Weiner, 310/618-5950.

Sat, July 8—"Up Close and Personal: Inside L.A.'s Locker Rooms" panel discussion and Q & A for the "More Than a Game Exhibition"; 1-3 p.m.; Featuring Tim Kawakami and Rob Fukuzaki; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Free admission to the museum, no reservations necessary. Info: 213/625-0414.

Sun, July 9—Nisei Week Choral Festival; 1 p.m., Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Info: Nisei Week office, 213/687-7193.

Sat-Sun, July 8-9—Nishi Hongwanji Obon Festival; obon dancing, food, produce, plants, games, karaoke contest, exhibits, taiko, judo, kendo demonstrations. Info: 213/680-9130.

Picnic; 12 noon-5 p.m., Jordan Park, 1000 S 900 W. Lunch, dance, races, games, etc. **RSVP: Larry Grant, 544-7975, Jeff Itami, 583-6789, Alice Kasai, 589-2902.**

NC-WN-Pacific

CONTRA COSTA

Tues., July 4—Chapter fund raiser: teriyaki beef and rice booth at El Cerrito Community Center.

SAN MATEO

Sat, July 29—Community Potluck; see Community Calendar.

Pacific Southwest

SAN DIEGO

Sun, July 9—Annual San Diego JACL Picnic; 11 a.m.-dusk, Crown Point Shores in Mission Bay Park. Info: 619/230-0314, e-mail: sdjacl@juno.com. ■

DEADLINE for Calendar is the Friday before date of issue, on a space-available basis.

Please provide the time and place of the event, and name and phone number (including area code) of a contact person.

Sat-Sun, July 8-9—Zenshujii Soto Mission Obon Festival; noon-8 p.m., 123 S. Hewitt St., Little Tokyo; food, tea ceremony, flower arrangement, doll display, traditional dance, karate, zendoko, taiko, etc. Info: 213/624-8658.

Thurs., July 13—Seminar, "Resistance in Paradise: One Hundred Years of U.S. Involvement in the Caribbean and the Pacific"; 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., UCLA. Registration Info: Marta Vizueta, 800/763-9131, Debbie Guinta, 213/477-2533, <www.teachingforchange.org>.

Through July 16—Exhibit, "Diamonds in the Rough: Japanese Americans in Baseball"; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 415/921-5007.

Mon-Wed, Sept. 25-27—Manzanar H.S. Reunion; Fremont Hotel, downtown Las Vegas. Info, schedules: Sam Ono, 310/327-5568, Ray Onodera, 626/573-5279; Arnold Maeda, 310/398-5157; Kurio Maeda, 562/493-1838; Kazie Nagai, 213/360-2611.

Fri-Sat, Oct. 13-14—Fifth Jerome Reunion; New Otani Hotel, Los Angeles. Info: Helen Yoshimura Takata, 626/968-2966; Miyo Kunitake Kawamura, 714/961-1249; Dottie Nagai Fukawa, 310/323-9615; Rose Masuda Okajima, 559/875-3878.

LOS ANGELES

Sun, Sept. 24—63rd L.A. Roosevelt High School Class of 1937-38 Reunion; Montebello Country Club, 901 Via San Clemente; music by "The Time Machine," mariachis, Aztec dancers, TV coverage; cost \$50; send checks to Dave Brenner, 1700 Bagley, Los Angeles, CA 90035. Reserve early: 310/837-6582.

Arizona - Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Through July 9—Exhibit, "Asian Art Now"; Las Vegas Art Museum, 9600 W. Sahara Ave. Schedules, info: 496-3763.

Mon, Aug. 28—Memorial Service at the Poston Relocation Camp by Nichiren Buddhist priests from Japan; 11 a.m. Info: Nichiren Buddhist Temple, 323/262-7886.

Mon-Wed, Sept. 25-27—Manzanar H.S. Reunion; Fremont Hotel; see Southern California.

2001: Wed-Thurs, April 4-5—Minidoka Reunion; Caesars Palace. Info: Tak (Yokoyama) Todo, 15537 - 32nd Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98155 6530; e-mail: kmkavachi@hotmail.com.

RENO

Sun, July 9—Obon Festival; 3 p.m.; Knights of Pythias Hall, 980 Nevada Street. ■

JACL CHAPTERS!

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Assemblyman Nakano Secures Funding for JA Community Projects

Assemblyman George Nakano, D-Torrance, announced on June 16 funding for key Japanese American community projects in this year's state budget.

The budget has passed the state Senate and is currently under consideration in the Assembly. Once both houses of the legislature approve the measure, it will then go to the governor's desk for final approval.

The 100th/442nd/MIS WWII Memorial Foundation is set to receive \$500,000 to expand upon an educational program created through a state grant in 1997. The foundation's goal is to build an atmosphere of trust, mutual respect and productivity through teaching about the role of JA soldiers in the U.S. military during World War II, JA internment and civil liberty issues to children in grades K-12.

"The memorial foundation is creating new and innovative ways to teach about events in our nation's history that many students simply don't know about," said Nakano. "I'm happy that we were able to fund these projects."

The Manzanar Park Foundation will receive \$150,000 to fund restoration efforts and exhibits at the former Manzanar campsite in Inyo County. The funds will match a one-time grant from the federal government.



"We're very pleased that the state came through to help us," said Sue Embrey, chair of the Manzanar Committee. "This will be a great partnership between the National Park Service and the state of California. Many thanks are due to George Nakano who requested the funds, and to all of the legislators who supported the request." Manzanar is registered as both a national and state historic landmark.

Also included on Nakano's list is funding for construction of a sign at the Sadao Munemori Memorial Interchange along the 405 freeway in Los Angeles. The interchange is already named in honor of Munemori, the first JA to win the Medal of Honor, but according to Nakano, many people are unaware of his brave and heroic story.

Nakano was approached by members of the American Legion after the close of budget discussions last year to create the signage, and added that his own experience told of the need for the sign.

"My wife and I were driving to the airport for vacation one year, and the taxi driver wondered aloud who Sadao Munemori is," said Nakano. "Sadly, he figured he was just another politician."

Assemblyman Nakano is one of two Asian Americans in the state legislature. He represents California's 53rd Assembly district, which stretches from Venice in the north, southward along the coast to the cities of Torrance and Palos Verdes Estates. ■

Hatamiya to Appear at Monterey

Lon S. Hatamiya, secretary of Trade and Commerce for the state of California, will speak at the National JAACL Convention's Sayonara Banquet in Monterey and will introduce the evening's keynote speaker.

A member of Gov. Gray Davis' cabinet, Hatamiya is the state's highest ranking Asian American constitutional officer. He was sworn in by Davis on Jan. 5, 1999.

Prior to his appointment as secretary, Hatamiya was the administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where he oversaw various programs that foster exports of American agricultural, fish and forest products. He first joined USDA in 1993, when he was appointed by President Clinton as administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

Hatamiya was born and raised

in Marysville, Calif., where his family has been farming for over 90 years. He graduated with honors from Harvard University, with a bachelor's degree in economics. He earned his master's degree in entrepreneurial studies and international business from the Anderson Graduate School of Management at UCLA, and his juris doctorate from the UCLA School of Law.

His involvement with JAACL began in 1979, when he served as an intern at JAACL headquarters between his junior and senior years at Harvard. He was part of the redress staff in the critical early days of JAACL's redress campaign, and played a pivotal role in lobbying members of the House of Representatives in the final drive to get passage of the bill, which created the federal commission that investigated the internment and set the stage for monetary redress.

He later served on the Marysville JAACL board and was the past president of the Sacramento JAACL, where he was recognized for his longtime work on the redress effort. ■



Senate to Take New Vote on Hate Crimes Measure

With fresh prodding from President Clinton, the Senate is having another go at expanding the list of hate crimes and giving federal prosecutors more leeway in bringing hate crime charges.

While an almost identical bill was passed overwhelmingly by the Senate last year, this one, sponsored by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), has touched off a heated debate over whether the measure infringes on state and local law enforcement authorities.

Supporters cited the cases of James Byrd, a 49-year-old black man who was dragged behind a pickup truck by three white men in Jasper, Texas, and Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old University of Wyoming student who was beaten and tied to a fence because he was gay. Neither state had a hate crimes statute.

A 1968 federal law currently defines hate crimes as assaults motivated by the victim's race, color, religion or national origin. Kennedy's measure would add offenses motivated by sexual orientation, sex or disability. The legislation would also give federal prosecutors the option of pursuing a hate crime case if local authorities refused to press charges.

Meanwhile, Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) was pressing a rival approach that would set up a \$5 million-a-year fund at the Justice Department to help state and local authorities investigate and prosecute hate crimes. It would also authorize a federal study to see whether hate crimes are being prosecuted by state and local authorities. ■

Clinton Nominates Lim to Federal Bench

President Clinton has nominated state Intermediate Court of Appeals Judge John Lim to serve as a federal judge in Hawaii.

Lim would succeed U.S. District Judge, Alan Kay, who assumed senior status Jan. 2.

Lim, a graduate of Farrington High School, Harvard University and Stanford Law School, became an appellate court judge in May 1995 after his appointment by Hawaii Gov. Ben

Cayetano was approved by the state Senate.

"The president indeed made an excellent choice," Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, said June 8. "I am confident Judge Lim will serve the state of Hawaii and our nation with reason, balance and integrity."

Lim currently earns an annual salary of about \$90,000. If his nomination is approved by the Senate, he will make nearly \$140,000 per year. ■

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Berkeley Chapter Awards Scholarships

The Berkeley chapter held its 2000 scholarship awards banquet on May 21 at the Silver Dragon Restaurant in Oakland. Four scholarships were awarded to high school students in the East Bay area.

Scholarship recipients were: Scott Kagawa of Albany High School, who received \$1,000. Scott will attend Northwestern University in the fall and plans to major in music. Erin Tomine of Compolindo High School in Moraga was awarded \$750. Tomine will attend UC Davis; her major is undecided.

Satomi Fujikawa of Skyline High School in Oakland won a \$500 scholarship. Fujikawa will attend UC Davis with a major in teaching/English. Pamela Lu, also of Skyline High School in Oakland was awarded \$500. Lu will attend Chabot College in Hayward and plans to transfer later to UC Berkeley to study biology.

Guest speaker at the banquet was Lindsay Kagawa, the setter on Stanford University's women's volleyball team. Currently a junior, Kagawa spoke of her background and her academic and



(l-r) Scholarship co-chair Ron Tanaka, George Yasukochi, Pamela Lu, Satomi Fujikawa, Terry Yamashita, Erin Tomine, Bea Kono, guest speaker Lindsay Kagawa, Scott Kagawa, Grace Tsujimoto and Scholarship co-chair Kelly Shintani.

athletic career, and provided tips to the scholarship recipients for adjusting to the academic and athletic challenges of college life.

The chapter also honored Grace Tsujimoto as its "Pioneer Award" recipient for 2000 to recognize her long history of distinguished and dedicated service to the Berkeley chapter and the community. Prior years' Pioneer award recipients Terry Yamashita (1999), Bea Kono (1998) and George Ya-

sukochi (1997) joined in honoring Tsujimoto.

The scholarship committee acknowledged major contributions to the club's scholarship program from Union Bank in Oakland, Albany Ford, Wells Fargo Bank in Berkeley and Horizon Beverage.

Members of the scholarship committee were co-chairs Kelly Shintani and Ron Tanaka, Neal Ouye, Al Satake and DeAnn Tabuchi. ■

"Press & WWII Camps" to be Offered at SJSU

This fall, a new course at San Jose State University (SJSU) will focus on American media's role during World War II in covering the internment camps and relocation centers for Japanese Americans here in the United States, and the Holocaust and the concentration camps in Europe.

"Press & WWII Camps" will provide students with an inside and insightful look at what American media reported (and did not report) about these important and tumultuous events that still make the headlines today.

First-person historical accounts will be presented by JA and Jewish survivors who lived through their personal ordeals. Prominent journalists will be brought in to describe the media's role, and exceptional videos

will be shown and discussed.

The class meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. in room 348 of Sweeney Hall on the SJSU campus. Registration is now open for the fall semester which begins on Aug. 28. The course is taught through the School of Journalism and Mass Communications and is listed in the Schedule of Classes as: MCOM 96C, Section 1, Code No. 20445.

People from the community are invited to attend sessions and those not currently enrolled at San Jose State can take the course through Continuing Education. Call for enrollment forms at 408/924-2670.

The instructor is Dr. Harvey Gotliffe and he can be reached for further information at 408/924-3246. ■

San Fernando Valley JACL-JACC Awards Scholarships

The San Fernando Valley chapter of JACL and the San Fernando Community Center on June 4 presented its scholarship awards at a program held at the Nikkei Village Dining Hall in Pacoima, California. Eight JACL-JACC scholarships and one Merio Mizutani scholar-athlete award were awarded to valley seniors who excelled in academics and school and community involvement.

Receiving the JACL-JACC scholarships were:

Kate Rita Beckler of Alameda High School who plans to attend Rice University with a pre-med major.

Miyoko Stephanie Green of Paraclete High School who has not decided whether to attend USC, New York University or UC Santa Barbara but plans to major in film/video production.

Anne Yuri Masuda who will graduate from the Sherman Oaks Center for Enriched Studies, plans to attend Woodbury College and major in communications.

Nicole Mariko Measles, a senior from Cleveland High School, has been accepted to CSUN, UC Riverside and UC Irvine but has not yet declared a major.

Marianna Fishbeck Miyazaki from Granada Hills High School/CSUN Science Magnet has been accepted to New York University and Georgetown University and plans on a pre-med major.



San Fernando Valley JACL-JACC scholarship winners (from left, back row): Joshua Shibata, Daniel Nagasawa, Marianna Miyazaki; (front row): Leslie Mui, Jennifer Muranaka, Anne Masuda, Miyoko Green. Missing are Kate Beckler and Nicole Measles.

Jennifer Akemi Muranaka, graduating from Granada High School, has been accepted at UC San Diego and UC Irvine but is undecided as to a major.

Daniel Tetsuji Nagasawa, also, graduating from Granada Hills High School, has been accepted to CSUN, UC Berkeley and UC San Diego and plans a major in psychology.

Joshua Hideaki Shibata from the Van Nuys High School Medical Magnet plans to attend USC or Pepperdine University and major in communications.

Leslie Miyoko Mui, recipient of the Merio Mizutani Memorial Scholar-Athlete Award, will grad-

uate from Ulysses S. Grant High School. She has been accepted to UC San Diego and UC Santa Barbara and is undecided as to a major.

Tak Yamamoto, SFVJACL president, was the Master of Ceremonies as well as a presenter with SFVJACC President Kenneth Mui. Keynote speaker was Susan Hirasuna, KTTV Channel 11 weekend news anchor.

Members of the scholarship committee were Sumi Yamaguchi, chair; Wendy Hirota, Doreen Kawamoto, Betty Kobata, Pat Kubota and Geri Shiraki. The official photographer was Sam Ueyehara. ■

West Los Angeles JACL/Auxiliary Honors Scholars

The West Los Angeles JACL and the WLA JACL Auxiliary honored five high school graduates at a dinner held May 15 at the San Gennaro Cafe. They received congratulations in the form of monetary scholarships to assist them in their college careers.

The honored students were: Kyle Shinichi Yang, Venice High School; Trevor Kenji Oelrich, Venice High School Foreign Language/International Studies Magnet School; Rick Jason Kotani, Santa Monica High School; Allison Akiko Reston, Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies; and Jill Yuriko Nishida, Hamilton High School, Music Academy.

The audience of 65 listened to keynote speaker Gerald Kato, youth coordinator of the JACL Pacific Southwest District. Also attending was Miss



WLA JACL/Auxiliary Scholars (from left): Kyle Shinichi Yang, Trevor Kenji Oelrich, Rick Jason Kotani, WLA JACL president Jean Shigematsu, Allison Akiko Reston and Jill Yuriko Nishida.

Western Los Angeles 2000, Ma'lene Akiko Toyama. The president of the WLA JACL is Jean Shigematsu, and the chair of the WLA JACL Aux-

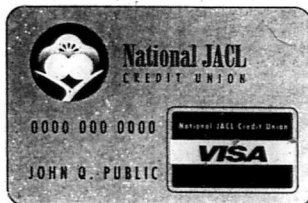
iliary is Jean Ushijima. The scholarship committee consisted of co-chairs Satoshi Nitta and Shigematsu, Terry Ito and Ushijima. ■

Union Bank of Bank of California Donates \$5,000 to JACL Convention



Robert Shintaku (right), manager of the Salinas office of Union Bank of California and president of the Salinas Valley chapter, presents a \$5,000 donation from Union Bank of California to Larry Oda, co-chair of the 2000 JACL National Convention. ■

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Philip Kan Gotanda Play Deals With Impact on and Rebuilding of Life After the Camps

The following is an article submitted by one of the 27 grant recipients of the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP).

CCLPEP is a three-year grant program created in 1998 to provide the California community with information and education on the Japanese American experience before, during and immediately after World War II.

Information concerning CCLPEP or any of the specific grant programs funded by CCLPEP can be obtained by contacting Diane Matsuda, program director, CCLPEP, 900 N. St., #300, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916/653-9404, dmatsuda@library.ca.gov.

Philip Kan Gotanda and joint project director, Diane Emiko Takei, continue their work on Gotanda's newest play dealing with the internment's impact on Japanese American life in the early 1950s.

They are presently in the process of doing research and gathering information from various resource institutions, including JA libraries and museums as well as university and on-line information centers. The play development is funded by the California State Library's California Civil Liberties Public Education Program.

Gotanda's early work, "Sisters Matsumoto," dealt with life immediately following release from the

camp, as families dealt with the initial impact of being released, and how the camp experience affected them emotionally, financially and spiritually. This newest work, tentatively titled "Bola and Chiz: After the Camps," deals with the experience of rebuilding lives when evacuees return to the towns and cities that they once called home. The play deals with the shock of returning home and the practical realities of re-establishing oneself, and the rebuilding of a once cohesive community—in this case, San Francisco's Japantown.

The play tells the story of a boarding house in Japantown that has been taken over by a young couple. It is inhabited by a variety of individuals who have been displaced during the war and are still unable to rebuild their lives since the camps. It explores the simple relationships of loneliness, love and isolation that make up the complex drama of being human and the need to rebuild and survive in America.

Gotanda's favorite form of research is the one-on-one interview. He finds it the most effective way to learn about people and their lives in the most intimate and emotionally revealing manner. This allows for him to begin to build story and plot in a fictional manner yet drawn from a point of human truth. Gotanda and Takei are in the process of conducting interviews with various individuals around the state. ■



D.C. Direct

By Kristine Minami
JA CL Wash., D.C. Rep.

We Haven't Come a Long Way, Baby!

As you may know, Mattel recently announced its new line, "Barbie for President 2000," which seemed to be an attempt at propelling Barbie's image into a new era by promoting a progressive and politically correct icon for girls with multi-ethnic versions of the doll as candidates for the Oval Office. Conspicuously missing, however, was an Asian face.

Now, I don't know that I want to offer up Barbie as a barometer of political and social acceptance in the United States, but this seems to me to be yet another case of corporate America marginalizing the Asian Pacific American community.

To be fair, Mattel did do better than either the Democratic or the Republican party by extolling African American and Latina candidates, but they missed the big picture and a golden opportunity to be inclusive, to encourage by positive role model that all American girls can strive to be president. Mattel delivered the message that women and women of color—African Americans and Latinas—can and should aspire to leadership roles. Apparently, Mattel decided that APA girls did not need to hear this message, that they should be perfectly comfortable with being excluded and having their ethnic identity ignored.

So maybe Mattel—headquartered in El Segundo, Calif.—is

n't aware of the Asian American consumer market? Could be. Or perhaps nobody suggested including Asians, the fastest growing ethnic group in the United States? Nope, not according to The White House Project and Girls, Inc., both of which recommended that Mattel include an APA and Native American version in the "Barbie for President 2000" line.

So what is it? Maybe the African American and Latin American groups were more successful at lobbying Mattel to expand their Barbie line?

Nope. Maybe Mattel didn't think it important.

Bingo. According to articles written on the issue (in the *Boston Globe* and for A Online), Mattel spokesperson Julia Jensen indicated that the reason Mattel did not produce an APA Barbie is because Mattel believes that APA girls tend to choose white dolls instead of Asian ones. "That particular community has not expressed interest in a doll that reflects their ethnicity," she said.

If never presented with the option, how can APA girls choose a doll of their ethnicity?

Jensen further acknowledged that the African American and Latin American communities never lobbied for presidential Barbies to reflect their appearances either, but rather Mattel

chose to be "pro-active" about it. Apparently, it was selective pro-activity.

This omission has garnered international attention and has turned a spotlight on the entire Barbie toy line, in which there are only two APA models: Kira, Barbie's "Oriental" friend, and the "Fantasy Goddess of Asia."

In this day and age? It is intolerable that Mattel's only APA dolls perpetuate the stereotype of foreign and exotic while omitting an APA version from the "Barbie for President" line. This decision delivers a message of exclusion to APA consumers, belying Mattel's attempts to promote a modern and progressive image for Barbie.

APAs need to make their voices heard and let Mattel know that they cannot continue implementing these exclusionary decisions without backlash by consumers. Young APA girls should have dolls that look like them. We should not only express interest in a more colorful Barbie line, but also voice disgust that their two APA dolls buy into such ridiculous stereotypes and outrage that we should have to take the effort to complain.

Please express your opinion in correspondence to: Robert A. Eckert, president, Mattel Inc., 333 Continental Boulevard, El Segundo, CA 90245.

I think we owe it to Kira, Barbie's "Oriental" friend. ■



Award-winning playwright Philip Kan Gotanda (left) and Diane Emiko Takei (right) go over their script-in-progress.

Lake Washington Chapter Shares Award for History Exhibit

The Lake Washington JA CL chapter was recognized at a ceremony on May 30, at Seattle's Museum of History and Industry, for its role in initiating a panel exhibit illustrating the pioneering role of Japanese American families in clearing the land in what is now downtown Bellevue, Wash.

The exhibit, titled "Eastside History: a Japanese American Story," also covers the forced wartime evacuation and postwar return of Nikkei families to the area, which is situated across Lake Washington from Seattle.

The chapter shared honors with the Bellevue Historical Society, which helped to raise funds for the exhibit and joins the chapter in setting up and dismantling the exhibit for frequent showings in the region. The awards were presented by the Association of King County Historical Organizations.

At the awards ceremony, special recognition was given to Alice Ito, a pioneer family descendant, from the Densho Project, Mayumi

mi Tsutakawa of Seattle's Wing Luke Asian Museum, and to Lake Washington chapter President James Arima, who sparked the idea for the project.

Seed money for the project from JACL's Legacy Fund was supplemented by support from the Washington State Humanities Commission, the King County Arts Commission and US-Bank. Individuals who donated include members of the Bellevue Nisei Club, Glen and Mayumi Yonezawa of YUDESIGN Seattle provided technical design work, including the concept of printing on cloth panels that roll up for easy portability. ■



Alice Ito (left), co-producer of the exhibit "Eastside History: a Japanese American Story," and Mitzie Hashiguchi (today, and as a child in the center of the exhibit's title panel). Both are from pioneer Nikkei Bellevue, Wash., families.

2000-2001 National APA Political Almanac Now Available

The 2000-2001 edition of the National Asian Pacific American Political Almanac is now available to the public. UCLA's Asian American Studies announced.

The edition lists over 2,200 Asian Pacific American elected and major appointed officials for 31 different states, the federal government, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands.

It also contains exit poll data on APA voters, current population information, projections of Congressional districts with high concentrations of APAs, a guide to how APA communities can participate in upcoming redistricting hearings, and a directory of national and state APA political and civil rights groups.

Co-edited by Don Nakanishi, director and professor of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center,

and James Lai, who was recently appointed as an assistant professor in political science at Santa Clara University, the 230-page almanac also spotlights two APAs who have gained national prominence in American politics: Angela Oh, a Los Angeles attorney who was a member of President Clinton's Advisory Board on his Initiative on Race Relations, and Congressman David Wu from Oregon, the first Chinese American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the continental states.

The ninth edition of the almanac, which was first launched in 1978, also features commentaries on the future of APAs political participation and influence in the new century from a cross-section of national recognized leaders and writers: Abe Bautista, Catalina Camia, J.D. Hokoyama, Phil Tajitsu Nash, William Wong,

Michael Woo and Helen Zia. Essays by Nakanishi and Lai are also included.

The national political almanac was sponsored by a major grant from Pacific Bell/SBC.

The 2000-2001 edition of the National Asian Pacific American Political Almanac is available by mail for \$15 plus shipping, and handling of \$4.00 for the first copy, and \$1 for each additional copy plus sales tax (8.25% Los Angeles County residents; 7.75% for California residents).

Special bulk order prices also available. Make checks payable to "U.C. Regents," and mail to the UCLA Asian American Studies Center Press, 3230 Campbell Hall, Box 951546, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1546. For more information, please call (310) 825-2968 or 825-2974, or e-mail <ku@ucla.edu>. ■



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How a Death Threat Became an Opportunity to Connect With My Students

The following article was originally published in "The Chronicle of Higher Education."

By LANE R. HIRABAYASHI

Last spring, I received an anonymous death threat on my campus voice mail. "F---g your mother f---g ass," the caller bellowed, in a young man's screaming voice, "you're dead meat." The caller told me that he was going to "trigger your mother f---g ass." I knew that the threat was for me, because I say my name in the recording that comes on when I can't answer the phone.

By way of background, I am in the department of ethnic studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder. I'd been working very hard—teaching an extra class, and so I was especially upset by the call.

The threat was phoned in at around 3 a.m., about 12 hours after I had finished giving the midterm exam in my "Introduction to Asian American Studies" course. More than 100 students were taking the course, and I hadn't had much of an opportunity to get to know them individually. But I did know that they were mostly freshmen and sophomores, and I guessed that quite a few had assumed that the course was going to be a breeze. In fact, many of them did badly on the midterm—I ended up giving about a sixth of them D's and F's.

The menacing call was filled with curses and threats. The speaker expressed great hatred for me. The call also involved racism: the speaker told me, among other things, that "white people rule."

Now that I think about it, given the emphasis on human rights and racial equality in my courses, I am surprised that in my almost 20 years in the classroom I had never before received a threat along those lines. Initially, after I got over the shock, I felt a combination of sadness and outrage—increased by the fact that I could hear other people laughing in the background as the caller threatened me.

I felt sad, because the call made

me feel like a failure. I am not a natural teacher, if such a thing exists. I have to work very hard to prepare myself intellectually, psychologically, and emotionally to teach, especially when I am trying to hold the attention of a large audience of undergraduates in a lecture hall. I also felt sad because someone apparently hated me, my message, or my class enough to threaten to kill me.



HIRABAYASHI

I felt outrage because I had only been doing my job. Some students may think of me as tough—

I demand that they come to class, do the assigned reading, and prepare for tests—but that is what I get paid for.

Never having faced such a challenge before, I felt a visceral need to reach out to my family, friends, and colleagues. Their feedback, support, and encouragement helped me to transform a negative experience into something positive. Contacting people on and off campus gave me a range of responses that helped me to deal more effectively with the situation.

When I got the threatening call, my wife's niece was due to arrive for a visit. I felt obligated to tell my wife, because I wanted her to be forewarned. She was inclined as a result to accompany me everywhere—but to watch my back—but that wasn't practical or desirable. She could hardly play bodyguard for the rest of my life.

Next, I consulted with the chair of my department, Evelyn Hu-DeHart. I forwarded a copy of the death threat to her voice mail, to put it on the record. She advised me to consult with the campus police immediately.

The first person assigned to handle my case at the campus police

department was a new member of the staff, who wanted to treat the incident as a prank call. When I tried to explain how I felt, and why I thought the threat should be treated as a hate crime, he didn't understand. I was frustrated: I found myself having to explain to him what hate violence was, just as if he was one of my lower-division students. It seemed awkward and silly to me.

I then asked a couple of my colleagues if they had ever had similar experiences. The ones who had gave me a range of suggestions, from "tell the campus police" to "watch out in the parking lot." "You are most vulnerable when you're getting in and out of your car," said a friend from political science, who had been harassed by a student who hadn't liked his grade.

One professor told me the story of a student who was so angry at another colleague—a distinguished and respected member of

COMMENTARY

the faculty—that the student made up defamatory fliers claiming the colleague had been convicted of molesting children. The disgruntled student posted the fliers all over the university, as well as in neighborhoods around the campus, before being caught. That was one of the more extreme cases that I heard about, but I learned that today, anything is possible.

I also contacted my colleagues in the university's counseling department. They were very supportive and gave me what turned out to be good advice. They know a lot about students' perspectives, and some of them recommended that I not take the threat too seriously. Students get pretty stressed out around exam time; most likely it was just a prank, they said, and I should take it in stride. Other counselors understood and sympathized with the

emotions that the threat had stirred up in me. By that time, I was feeling great anger, even hatred, and a burning desire to bring the person or persons involved to justice.

Within a week, my case was assigned to a more senior member of the campus police department. That detective was a person of color, whom I instinctively felt could understand my feelings. I was relieved that he took my concerns seriously.

He told me that the campus police lend a surprisingly large number of beepers to professors and others on the campus who feel that they might find themselves in physical jeopardy. I was dismayed at how many other people seemed to have received threats, but I decided not to accept a beeper.

Within the same week, three colleagues, from campuses in California, Washington, D.C., and Wyoming, whom I had contacted for advice, sent me very supportive, helpful e-mails. One wrote about death threats that he had endured, and how he had dealt with them. The two others advised me to inform the FBI, which is obliged to keep statistics on hate crimes.

Then Evelyn Hu-DeHart gave me what turned out to be a wonderful suggestion: "Lane, you're a teacher," she said. "Make this an educational experience."

At first, I wasn't sure what she meant. She told me that she thought I should take the whole incident into the classroom, expose the students to it, and have them think about it, critically. I was taken aback, because my inclination was to hide, not publicize, what had happened. The more I thought about it, though, the more I realized that it was a brilliant idea.

It took me a couple of days, with her help and support, to prepare my lecture about the death threat. I carefully transcribed the call and put the words onto an overhead transparency that I could project

for the class to read. I copied the call onto a tape recorder and borrowed a boom box, so that I could play it loudly. Then, in each of my classes, I explained what had happened, apologized in advance for the foul language, and played the tape four or five times while I let the students read the transcription.

Next, I wrote a series of questions on the board, and had students answer them—first in writing, then in open-ended discussions. The questions included: What was the caller trying to accomplish? What are the different ways to complain about injustice within the university system, if in fact the caller felt that I had been unfair? What could, or should, I do about the anonymous threat? What did the call say about current tensions on campuses? Was there anything else that anyone would like to add or to bring up?

The shock and concern that my students expressed were proof that whoever had been involved in the incident must have represented only a tiny minority.

That was not an easy lecture for me to prepare or to present. In fact, it was painful. I am glad that I did it, though, because the experience taught me that I had a lot of support. Giving the lecture was a catharsis for me, and I daresay my students found it both thought-provoking and informative.

But a couple of months later, when I was at home and happened to see the initial television coverage of the Columbine High School shootings, in Littleton, Colo., I put my head in my hands and wept. ■

Lane R. Hirabayashi is a professor of ethnic studies and a graduate faculty member in anthropology at the University of Colorado at Boulder. His most recent book is *The Politics of Fieldwork: Research in an American Concentration Camp*, published in 1999 by the University of Arizona Press.

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SUPPORT

(Continued from page 1)

square-foot library which will house information on Japanese Americans, regional history, botany and the environment; and a conference room.

"We want it to be a dynamic place," said Greg Dymont, Arboretum director.

Clarence Nishizu, museum committee and SELANOCO JACL chapter member, felt the museum was a great way to honor the contributions of the Issei. "This museum is dedicated to the Issei," said Nishizu. "Without them, we wouldn't be where we are."

At one time, the museum was to be named the Orange County Nikkei Heritage Museum, but at a June 14 meeting, committee members agreed to rename it the Orange County Agricultural and Nikkei Heritage Museum in an effort to recognize the agricultural roots of the area.

"There is no difference in the purpose of the museum," said Rev. Abraham Dohi, a committee member. "The name is inclusive of the whole project."

As the name indicates, half of the museum space will be devoted to the history of the Nikkei in Orange County which, for the most part, will parallel the other half devoted to the agricultural and urban development made by non-Nikkei, particularly by well-known families such as the Knotts, Chapmans, Phelps, Kramers and Cramers.

Dr. Arthur Hansen, CSUF director of the Oral History Program, said some of the items on exhibit will be farm equipment from different eras. He also foresees workshops being held at the museum on such topics as agricultural innovations made by Nikkei farmers, the effects of the World War II evacuation and detention of Nikkei in Orange County, resettlement and the rise of urban enclaves. Hansen even hopes there will be funds to relocate the original Wintersburg Presbyterian Church structure and

manse to the Arboretum grounds to be used as an interpretive tool.

As a tie-in to the Arboretum, Dymont said they could host bonsai and ikebana demonstrations and exhibits since Orange County currently lacks such a venue.

To fund the overall \$2.9 million "New Gateway" project, the City of Fullerton's Redevelopment Agency has committed \$500,000; the Weingart Foundation has approved a \$150,000 challenge grant contingent on the Arboretum raising \$550,000 to receive this grant; and more than \$1.5 million in private donations has poured in.

The museum and library component is expected to cost \$750,000, and the museum committee is asking the Nikkei community's help in raising this portion. To date, more than \$121,500 has been raised in two months to go towards the museum construction.

"This is a great opportunity," said committee member Hiroshi Kamei. "It'll be on campus and fully staffed by Cal State Fullerton. All we need to do is raise the funds to build the brick and mortar."

The genesis of the museum goes back to the late 1980s, according to Shawne Grabs, CSUF's director of development. It became obvious at the time that the Arboretum had outgrown its facilities, and there were discussions about building a larger visitors' center, which eventually expanded into the "New Gateway" concept.

But the project, which was spearheaded by Dr. David Walkington, a CSUF biology professor, came to a halt when Walkington passed away. It wasn't until Dymont joined the Arboretum as director that the project once again picked up momentum, according to Grabs, who has been involved with the project for the past four years.

To donate, contact Shawne Grabs at 714/278-7642 or Cecile Bartholomew at 714/278-4796. Make checks payable to Fullerton Arboretum and send to: OC Nikkei Heritage Museum Campaign, Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Rd, Fullerton, CA 92831. ■

PIONEERS

(Continued from page 1)

Nishizu believes that around 1913 or 1914, a bachelor by the name of Mr. Sasaki first started a tofu and konnyaku business in OC. But the business ended when Sasaki met an untimely death after being thrown off his horse-drawn buggy.

In 1914, Kikumatsu and Kumi Ida decided to take over Sasaki's tofu business. Nishizu recalled seeing the Ida's horse-drawn buggy loaded with tofu in cold water. Since there were no refrigerators in those days, any unsold tofu would go by the end of the day.

Kanegae added that no refrigeration meant all their food products spoiled easily. With meat, Kanegae said they used to lightly smoke it and hang it out in the porch so the breeze would keep it cool. This was referred to as bologna, a far cry from the refrigerated bologna products sold in supermarkets today.

During World War I (1914-1918), there was a high demand for sugar beets for sugar, but as the war ended many Nikkei farmers grew other products to make ends meet. This gave rise to the chili industry, which OC is now famous for.

Issei Masami Sasaki, an advisor to the OC Young Men's Association, became known as the "chili king." Next to the Sasaki farm, Nishizu said the Nagamatsu family, which introduced many chili cultivation innovations, had the largest chili farm. At one point, George Nagamatsu was the first Nisei to farm the largest acreage of chili in the entire state of California, and it was from Nagamatsu that Nishizu learned how to grow chili.

Nishizu said prior to the Nagamatsu family branching out on their own, they were part of the "Hellmanites," a group of Nikkei families that lived and farmed on the Hellman Company ranch where they mainly grew red chilies. The group disbanded around 1924.

At one point, the Kanegaes also farmed chili peppers in the Talbert

district, another area once heavily populated by Nikkei. During Kanegae's childhood, Talbert, like Garden Grove, formed its own Nihonjin-kai (Japanese Association) and Japanese language school. Today, the area is known as Fountain Valley.

As Nisei children grew older, the Issei began organizing sports and martial arts classes. In November 1928, Issei Yaju Yamada started holding judo classes in the home of a Mr. Tsuji, and Nishizu was one of the first students to enroll, said Nishizu. Kanegae also took judo but admitted it wasn't his sport. "I was too small, and I got thrown all over the place," he said.

As more Nisei students joined, Yamada moved his classes in February 1929 to a warehouse owned by kendo teacher Kamenosuke Aoki, who organized the first kendo class in OC, the Garden Grove Kendo Club, some time during the 1920s. Another martial art class offered was naginata by a Mrs. Suetatsu, recalled Nishizu. Naginata is a eight-foot-long weapon favored by samurai women.

Sumo was also popular during the 1920s and 1930s, said Nishizu. He recalled participating in sumo tournaments in Los Angeles where participants came from all over, ranging from Sacramento, San Jose, San Francisco, Fresno, San Pedro and Tijuana, Mexico.

But swimming was not a popular sport among the Nikkei, mainly because discrimination limited their access to the pools. In Anaheim, Nishizu said Asians and Latinos could only use the city plunge on Mondays because it was the day before workers changed the pool water. At the Huntington Beach City Plunge, Asians, with a few exceptions, were completely barred in the 1920s.

"Like the rest of America, OC had its share of Ku Klux Klan activity. Nishizu recounted the KKK harassment of the Iwano Aoki family who descended from his family when the family moved to Huntington Beach during the 1920s. One time, about six KKKs dressed in white sheets shot up the Aoki home and

yellowed racial epithets. Another time, the perpetrators went into the Aoki's barn and turned over the water trough used to provide water for their horses. Someone also left the faucet running, flooding the area, and opened the gates to release the horses. In addition, there was dirt in the gasoline tanks of their cars and trucks; vehicles' tires were slashed; and the picked chilis, which had been bagged into gunny sacks and were ready to be hauled away to the dehydration plant, were dumped all over the area.

To counter blatant discriminatory activities and laws such as the Alien Land laws, the Nikkei community formed the OC JACL chapter in 1930. Nishizu was a charter member, along with Kanegae's older brother Masami Roy, Frank Takenaga, Hatsumi Yamada, brothers George and Frank Nagata, Paul Nagamatsu, Harry Matsukane, Kiyoshi Higashi, Isamu Masuda, Kimio and Noboru Tamura, and Stephen Tamura.

"During the 1930s, JACL actively fought discrimination," said Nishizu.

Kanegae was president of the OC JACL chapter when President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. "We tried to help the people by providing information," recalled Kanegae.

Kanegae recalled an incident where two Caucasian women handed out coffee, sandwiches and candies to the Nikkei evacuees. The women were of the Baptist faith, and Kanegae today uses them as role models when he speaks before a Presbyterian congregation.

During World War II, Kanegae's family was sent to the Poston Relocation Center, and Nishizu's family to Heart Mountain. Both families resettled in Orange County. ■

(Resources for this article: *Historical & Cultural Foundations of OCIA JACL/CSUF Oral History Program JA Project, O.H. 5b, "Clarence Juwa Nishizu" by Dr. Arthur Hansen and "Planted in Good Soil" by Masakazu Iwata.*)

Letters to the Editor

Views Often Forgotten - Senior Veterans

In the autumn years of our lives, we World War II Nisei veterans, who were part of the scene in establishing a place in the sun for Japanese Americans in those difficult war years, view with some concern the direction of travel on a number of issues advocated today by JACL and elements of JA leadership.

We would be the first to acknowledge that with passing of time and changing circumstances the normal evolution processes do alter outlook and philosophies. We simply seek here to encourage our leaders to broaden horizons, and carefully explore the other side of the coin as well, in the decision process.

In a hostile atmosphere against all JAs at the outset of World War II, we Nisei peered from our incarceration to the world outside, and to our future, all of which looked so dimly bleak and threatened. The sudden realization that we were looked upon as the "enemy" was intolerable.

An undeniable task confronted us. We had to prove ourselves as loyal, trusted citizens in our birthright country. We were convinced that the well being and respect of our generation, as well as the generations to come, lie in the successes of our endeavors. The Nisei answered with vigor; we entered military service.

The Nisei soldiers established a phenomenal record of heroism in foreign battlefields. Indeed, the medals we paid also was high, as thousands of our prime Nisei youths lay dead or wounded in the battlefields. The number of medals for valor was unsurpassed by any other unit in U.S. military history. Of the JAs, there were 18,143 heroic combat medals including: 560 Silver Star medals; 52 Distinguished Service Crosses; 9,485 Purple Heart medals; and one Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor.

These American heroes unquestionably made a difference for JAs. We are grateful for the many monuments erected today in recognition, but they do not truly tell the story.

Though belated, the U.S. Congress has now acknowledged that 19 more JAs will be honored with the highest award a nation can bestow for battlefield heroism during WWII: the Medal of Honor. The JA society should take great pride in these recognitions.

After this historical congressional action and honoring, it has been a bewildering to many veterans as to the seemingly passive enthusiasm by JACL and the JA leadership, to properly bestow celebrated honors for these heroes. In its stead, our leadership has generated much effort and support to extend an official JACL apology to those Nisei who resisted and challenged military draft during WWII. Priorities?

Another unsung hero of those turbulent years was Mike Masaoka. JACL of that era, led by Mike, was the only beacon of communication and leadership on the horizon

for JAs. He showed tenacity and was undaunted by setbacks. From afar, we were there, we saw, we felt, and we appreciated. There existed many opposers and protesters in the camps against Masaoka, but there also were a large number who supported his philosophies. The outcome of his efforts, and the history of these past 50 postwar years, I believe, bear out the fact that Mike's philosophies were correct.

Why did the JA men and women in uniform subject themselves to such untold sacrifices? In addition to prayers in the foxhole, those who served so honorably in battle undoubtedly held in their hearts a basic creed and philosophy parallel to that spoken in words by Masaoka. How else could one continue and survive?

Therefore, for those who oppose the inscription of Masaoka's messages on the JA monument in Washington, D.C., we believe are doing a tragic disservice to an outstanding Nisei, as well as to those who gallantly served. We applaud the sound thinking of the U.S. government in their decision to inscript Masaoka's passage on the monument.

The numerical count of JA WWII veterans, as well as our senior citizens, are diminishing with the passing of time. The torch has long passed to today's JACL leadership. To our very capable leadership in JACL, we respectfully request only that level-headed, consensus sprinkled thinking pervade in the decision process. Your decisions will have far reaching impact upon our generations to come.

James Iso
Roseville, Cal.

Re: Wakamatsu Passing

As you know, Mr. Shigeo Wakamatsu, past national JACL president, passed away recently. Mr. Wakamatsu was one of the icons of JACL. His lifetime service to JACL was exemplary. The Pacific Citizen should have paid tribute to a JACLer with an article including all of his accomplishments for JACL throughout the years.

I believe it is incumbent on the part of the Pacific Citizen to be the vehicle to honor those who gave so much to the organization. Such an article would be inspirational to those who aspire to become leaders of JACL and at the same time expressing our gratitude and respect for a great leader.

I sincerely hope you keep the above comments in mind as an editorial guideline.

Mae Takahashi
Clovis Chapter

Japanese Americans of the Biennium Award

Once every two years, JACL selects three outstanding individuals worthy of recognition for the contributions they have made to society. Imagine my disappointment that the coverage of this year's selections was relegated to page 4 while on page 1 featured prominently was a story about a Stanford undergraduate volleyball player. Not to diminish her achievements, I nevertheless felt that the JA of the Biennium award winners warranted front-page coverage. This recognition transcends convention news.

Lillian Kimura
Past National JACL President

Re 'Gasa Gasa Principle'

The recent home-spun article, "Gasa Gasa Principle," written by Naomi Hirahara was really delightful! At your next family gathering or when Nisei company drops in, have a lively session by sharing experiences and meanings associated with the following expressions: "guzuguzu, burabura, batabata, busubusu, nebaneba, harikari, korokoro, gorogoro, pikapika, dandan, and oh yes, don't forget haha deserves a break shibashiba in gogo, and listen for —yareyare!"

Share the above with Issei and elderly Nisei, especially in nursing homes, and watch their eyes come alive and maybe, a tear or two.

Mary Jane Kobayashi
Seattle

Pacific Citizen

7 Cupan Circle
Monterey Park, CA 91755-7406
fax: 323/725-0064
e-mail: paccit@aol.com

* Except for the National Director's Report, news and the views expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The columns are the personal opinion of the writers.

* "Voices" reflect the active, public discussion within JACL of a wide range of ideas and issues, though they may not reflect the viewpoint of the editorial board of the Pacific Citizen.

* "Short expressions" on public issues, usually one or two paragraphs, should include signature, address and daytime phone number. Because of space limitations, letters are subject to abridgment. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.

OBITUARY

Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, 76, passes

Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, known as the last "shadow shogun" of Japanese politics, died of respiratory difficulties June 19 in Tokyo. He was 76.

Takeshita served as prime minister for less than 18 months from 1987-89 when he was forced to resign over a scandal in which he admitted accepting illicit stock and cash donations from Recruit, Co., a marketing and information firm. He was never charged.

His real power was behind the scenes, where he reigned over the largest faction of the Liberal Democratic Party. He collected and dispensed favors and advice, steered public works projects and appointed prime ministers.

Takeshita, whose political ca-

reer spanned more than four decades, included a stint as finance manager, as well as chief Cabinet secretary for Kakuei Tanaka, the father of pork-barrel politics.

Born Feb. 26, 1924, in the farm village of Kakeya in western Japan, Takeshita served in the Japanese army during World War II as an instructor. After the war, he managed a high school judo team before taking up politics.

In 1951, he was elected to the local assembly in his home prefecture of Shimane on the Sea of Japan. At age 34, he won a seat in parliament.

Survivors include his wife, Naoko, three daughters and several grandchildren. ■

Japan's Empress Dowager Nagako, 97, Dies

Empress Dowager Nagako, the elderly widow of Japan's late Emperor Hirohito, fell into a coma June 16 and died, the Imperial Household Agency said.

Toshio Yuasa, vice grand steward of the Imperial household, said Nagako, 97, fell into a coma shortly after 7 a.m., after her blood pressure dropped. She had been suffering breathing difficulties since early June 15 and was using an oxygen mask. Nagako was at a

medical facility on the Imperial Palace grounds.

Born March 6, 1903, Nagako was the eldest daughter and third child of Imperial Prince Kuniyoshi Kuni. She married Hirohito in 1924 and had seven children. Hirohito, who began his reign in 1926, died on January 7, 1989.

Nagako became Japan's longest-living empress dowager in 1995, surpassing Empress Kashi, who died in 1127. ■

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Harada, Hideko (Heda), 77, June 9; Haver, Mont.-born; survived by son Roy and wife Laurie (Meridian, Idaho); daughter Shirley Itano and husband John (Homedale, Idaho), 6 gc., 4 ggc.; predeceased by parents, husband Roy, sister Irene Gerstenberger.

Horiuchi, Maud (Mary), 75, Port Townsend, Wash., June 17; Suisun-born; survived by husband Kazuo, daughters Diane Holme, Barbara Horiuchi Lulu; 3 gc.; predeceased by parents Eiji and Kiyoe Suzuki, brother Walter, sister Teruko.

Ige, Hiroshi, Los Angeles, June 9; survived by son Dennis Takashi; daughter Jean Emiko Chogyo and husband Robert; 2 gc.; brothers Ken and wife Shirley, Tsutomu and wife Helen; predeceased by wife Yukiko.

Ito, Suye, 88, Alhambra, June 9; Jacksonville, Fla.-born; survived by brother Shigeo Takami and wife Alice; sister Shizu Omaye.

Katsumata, Henry Sataro, 65, Los Angeles, June 9; survived by wife Fumiko; son Roy Omer and wife April; daughter Sherri Funkhauser and husband Bryan; 6 gc.; 1 ggc.; brother John Katsumata.

Kiguchi, Shigehiko "Shig," 71, Los Angeles, June 6; survived by wife Setuko "Setz"; brothers Sam and wife Mary (Lake Arrowhead), Mark and wife Margie; sisters Masako Miyake and husband Shimpei, Fumi Nakamura and husband Ty.

Miyasako, Kathleen "Kathy," 71, Homedale, Idaho, June 11; Delta, Utah-born; survived by husband Tny; sons Kevin and wife Jean (Homedale), Randy and wife Chris (Homedale), Dan and wife Lynette (Caldwell, Idaho); daughter Kaylene Seito and husband Reid (Nyssa, Ore.); 8 gc.; brothers Ken Tsumura and wife Chris (Homedale), Ben (Nampa, Idaho); sisters Ruby Endo and husband Junior (Layton, Utah), Tomi Hisstake (Chandler, Ariz.).

Nagatomo, Masatoshi Shoshun, Cambridge, Mass., survived by wife Masumi Nagatomi (Kimura); sons Aki, Kyoji Y. Shimizu; daughter Aya C. Wandle (all of Calif.); 4 gc.; brother Hideko D. Ashworth; sisters Shirli S. Okabe, Jean S. Inoue (all of Calif.).

Reavey, Henry F., 64, Vienna, Va., June 13; survived by wife Jean Mitori; daughters April Nease, Laura Symanski, Kimberley Reavey; 3 gc.; brothers Edward, Robert; sister Marjorie Gallant.

Sasaki, Chris Kazuo, 79, Elk Grove, June 6; Sacramento-born JACLer, VFW Post 8986 member; survived by sons Jerry and wife Irene, Larry and wife Louise, Stanley and wife Suzie; daughters Sandra Karpala and husband Lauri, Priscilla; son-in-law Hermann Lum; 14 gc.; 6 ggc.

Takayama, Hanako, 89, Saratoga, June 4; survived by son Thomas Tomio (Honolulu); daughter Marian Fujiko Uenaka and husband Itsuo (Saratoga); 3 gc., 4 ggc.

Takehara, Tsutomu, 73, Gardena, June 8; Utah-born veteran of the Korean War; survived by brother Tomiji and wife Chieko; sisters Miyeko Sakahara, Kiyomi Ruyin and husband Lloyd (both of Utah); dearest companion Tomiko Shiba; predeceased by wife Sumiko "May" Takehara.

Umeda, Kiyoshi Kay, 78, Mountain View, June 6; Selma-born; survived by wife Chieko; son Dan and wife Pam (Mountain View); daughter Lynn Kawashima and husband David (San Jose); 4 gc.; brother Ben and wife Yoko (Watsonville); sisters Shizuye Asai and husband Kiyoshi (Turlock), Meri Misaki and husband Roy (Selma), Lily Omokawa and husband Kanji (Sunnyvale).

JANM Honors Outstanding Volunteers



Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Japanese American National Museum George Takei (left) and President and Executive Director Irene Hirano (right) were on hand to congratulate a group of national museum volunteers who received awards for their outstanding work at the 2000 Volunteer Recognition Dinner held recently.

Recognized were (l-r back) Catherine Mukai; Lois Padilla, Student Award; Buddy Takata, Program Award; Jogi Yamaguchi, Museum Family Spirit Award; May Fujino, Administrative Award; front, Ruth Hatchimori, Community Outreach Award; Helen Yasuda, Program Award; Mary Karatsu, Miki Tamamura, Outstanding Volunteer Award; and Jean Yamaguchi, Museum Family Spirit Award.

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H. Suzuki, VP/Gen. Mgr.

VETERANS

(Continued from page 1)

(later 1st Lt.), 442nd Infantry, for actions on April 21, 1945, at Sen Tereno, Italy

• **Yelki Kobashigawa**, Tech. Sgt., 100th Infantry Battalion, for actions on June 2, 1944, at Lanuvio, Italy

• **Robert T. Kuroda**, T1, SSgt., 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for actions on October 20, 1944, at Bruyeres, France (posthumous)

• **Daoru Moto**, Pfc., 100th Infantry Battalion, for actions on July 7, 1944, at Castellina, Italy (posthumous)

• **Kiyoshi K. Muranaga**, INOUYE Pfc., 442nd Infantry, for actions on June 26, 1944, at Survento, Italy (posthumous)

• **Masato Nakae**, Pvt., 100th/442nd Infantry, for actions on August 19, 1944, at Pisa, Italy (posthumous)

• **Shinpei Nakamine**, Pvt., 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), for actions on June 2, 1944, at La Torretto, Italy (posthumous)

• **William K. Nakamura**, Pfc., 442nd Infantry, for actions on July 4, 1944, at Castellina, Italy (posthumous)

• **Joe M. Nishimoto**, Pfc., 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for actions on November 7, 1944, at La Houssiere, France (posthumous)

• **Allan M. Ohata**, Sgt. (later SSgt.), 100th Infantry Battalion (Sep), for actions in November 1943 at Cerasuolo, Italy

• **James Okubo**, Tech./SSgt., 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for actions in rescuing and delivering aid

• **Yukio Okutsu**, Tech. Sgt., 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for actions on April 7, 1945, at Mount Belvedere, Italy

• **Frank H. Ono**, H1, Pfc., 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for actions on July 4, 1944, at Castellina, Italy (posthumous)

• **Kazuo Otani**, SSgt., 442nd Infantry, for actions on July 15, 1944, at Pieve di S. Luce, Italy (posthumous)

• **George T. Sakato**, Pvt., 442nd Regimental Combat Team, for actions on October 29, 1944, in Biffontaine, France

• **Ted T. Tanouye**, Tech. Sgt., 442nd Infantry, for actions on July 7, 1944, at Molina A Ventoabbto, Italy (posthumous)

• **Francis B. Wai**, Capt., 34th, for actions on October 20, 1944, at Leyte, Philippine Islands (posthumous) ■

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OUCHI

(Continued from page 1)

tended nearly all of her games, flying to UCLA just to see her play.

Ouchi was looking forward to an even more successful junior year when she ran into a roadblock. While on spring break in Cabo San Lucas, Ouchi was riding a 4-wheeler on the beach, and fell off, breaking her collarbone and getting badly burned on her legs. She missed not playing, but after much rehabilitation, she began playing again, a year later.

The time off helped her to concentrate on academics. Ouchi maintains a steady GPA of 3.0. She is majoring in sociology and minoring in business. When she graduates from UCLA this winter, she would like to have a job where she interacts with and learns about people.

"I kind of want to act, own a restaurant/bar, or run a business," she said.

When not playing soccer, Ouchi likes to enjoy all that Los Angeles has to offer, from cozy bars with unknown bands playing in them, to

JACL

(Continued from page 1)

were accepted by the white majority and were politically viable as elected leaders. Mr. Mineta's broad legislative and leadership experience in the House of Representatives earned him the trust and respect of his Democratic colleagues. During his twenty-one years in Congress, Mr. Mineta was the first APA to chair a major committee, the Committee on Public Works and Transportation, and he also served as the Deputy Whip for the House Democratic Leadership and on several other important committees. Mr. Mineta played a key leadership role in enacting important legislation including Voting Rights Act reauthorization bills, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, among others.

When the Republicans gained control of the House in 1994, Mr. Mineta was elected Ranking Democrat on the renamed House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. That year, he and nine colleagues from both chambers founded the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and he was also instrumental in es-

going to the beach with friends.

This summer, she will be attending summer school and is currently seeking employment, maybe as a waitress. She also helps out at a youth soccer camp at UCLA.

"I used to look up to Santa Clara (University) players when I was younger," said Ouchi. "I want to be someone these kids can look up to." After graduation, there may be opportunities for Ouchi to continue playing soccer. She said if she starts training hard now, she could be a part of the Women's United Soccer Association (WUSA), the professional league that will be debuting in the spring of 2001. Ouchi will be playing among the likes of the entire 1999 World Cup champion team, who were her heroes growing up, especially Mia Hamm.

"That's the scary thing, being in the pro league is actually a possibility," said Ouchi. "I can't even imagine getting paid to play soccer, that would be amazing."

Whether she continues playing soccer in the pro league or winds up being a business entrepreneur, one thing is clear: Ouchi will make an impact on all that surrounds her. ■

establishing the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Institute (later renamed the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies — APAICS), a non-profit organization dedicated to education and training for young APAs.

"Despite retiring from political office in 1995, Mr. Mineta has remained very engaged in issues on behalf of the APA community, as the chair of the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition (a group of nineteen APA organizations promoting diversity on primetime television) as chairman of APAICS and most recently as the chairman of your Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

"Over the years, Mr. Mineta has earned the trust and respect of a strong, diverse group of supporters nationwide. His many accomplishments and experiences clearly demonstrate that he is exceptionally well-qualified for and would bring much to the Department of Commerce, and if appointed, Mr. Mineta would be the first APA Cabinet Member.

"We cannot overstate our support for Mr. Mineta as Secretary of Commerce. However, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me through our Washington office at (202) 223-1240." ■

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JAPAN SPRING ADVENTURE (w/ Takayama Festival, 12 days)	APR 10
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MINETA

(Continued from page 1)

John Tateishi, JACL executive director, said he wouldn't be surprised if Mineta accepted. "Norm Mineta has always done things not for his own personal gains but in the interest of the Asian American community," said Tateishi. "This would be an important signal to the rest of the country about the political viability of Asian Americans in the United States, that we are an important segment of American society, which is why I think it is important for Norm to get appointed."

Tateishi added that it was especially important for JACLers to back Mineta. "He has been a long time JACL supporter, and it's important that the organiza-

tion get behind him on this," he said.

Mineta served 21 years in Congress. He quit in 1995 and became a senior vice president at Lockheed Martin.

Daley announced last week he would step down to manage Vice President Al Gore's presidential campaign. He is leaving July 15, and his deputy, Robert L. Mallett, will take over in an acting capacity.

Mallett is also under consideration for the job. Others said to be up for the post include President Clinton's chief economic adviser, Gene Sperling; deputy White House chief of staff Steve Ricchetti; Rep. Robert Matsui, D-Calif.; and James Blanchard, former governor of Michigan.

Clinton has not said when he would choose Daley's successor. ■

Colorado JA Community Graduation Program Honors H.S. Seniors

The 45th annual Japanese American Community Graduation Program (JACGP) was held on June 10, at the Mount Vernon Country Club in Golden, Colo.

The JACGP event recognizes and provides scholarships to Denver area high school seniors of Japanese descent and their families. This year 28 awards were presented to graduating seniors.

More than 24 community organizations and individuals pulled together to offer support, awards and scholarships to students from the area. Volunteers, who oversaw 13 planning

committees, worked from October through June to make this event a success.

The event, emceed by Leo Goto, featured the talents of the high school graduates. This year, Eizo Iwahashi performed a difficult classical piece on the violin, and Michael Hiraoka and his mother sang a duet.

After community awards were presented, two graduates gave their responses. Christina Matsumura spoke in English and Yuichi Usui in Japanese.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Dr. Michael Nakamura at 303/431-1338. ■

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