Obstacles Don’t Stop JA Diver From Reaching the Top

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

K rimiko Hirai Soldati is used to beating the odds. Currently the top female diver in the United States, the petite, yet steely former gymnast has dealt with almost every conceivable obstacle from a late start in the sport to persistent injuries to a devastating family tragedy. Not to mention the fact that, at age 28, she is the oldest member of the U.S. women’s national diving team. Out of 21 members, in fact, she is the only one over the age of 23.

“This seems to be a bigger issue for other people than it is to me,” said Soldati, who lives and trains in Texas and works for a real estate investor. “I started diving so late compared to most divers, but I feel this is advantageous because I am so hungry and determined to reach my goals. I have no inklings of being burned out.”

If anything, the 5-foot-2 dynamo is on a roll. In May, she captured three medals at the 2002 Speedo FINA/JISA Diving Grand Prix in Coral Springs, Fla., and in April she swept the 3 and 10-meter events at the U.S. World Cup trials in Cleveland, beating 2000 Olympians Michelle Davison and Sara Rilling in the springboard by 83 and 95 points respectively.

Last July, competing in her first international meet, she placed an impressive sixth and seventh in the synchronized 3- and 10-meter springboard finals at the 2001 world championships in Fukuoka, Japan, where she was chosen to carry the U.S. flag during the opening ceremonies. She then went on in September to claim the bronze for Team USA at the 2001 Goodwill Games in Brisbane, Australia, behind two of China’s top divers, Guo Jingjing and Wu Minxia.

As far as Soldati’s concerned, it’s all preparation for the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece.

“These meets are just steps along the way and a great way to gain experience. I’m actually still learning some new dives,” she said.

For the past year and a half, she’s been honing her skills at The Woodlands diving club with Olympic coach Kenny Armstrong and teammate Laura Wilkinson, a gold medalist at the 2000 Sydney Games.

With their help, she said she’s

Pomp and Circumstance After 60 Years

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

This June, four high schools invited back former Nisei students to join commencement ceremonies with the graduating class of 2002.

Three of the high schools are in California — Mark Keppel High in Alhambra, Oxnard High in Oxnard and Castlemont High in Oakland. The fourth, Fife High School, is in Washington.

Similar graduation ceremonies have been occurring since the late 1960s, following the successful redress movement, which publicized the plight of the Nisei. Over the years, various West Coast high schools from Washington to California have been contacting Nisei who were deprived of donning cap and gown to participate in their own high school graduations back in the 1940s after Executive Order 9066 removed them from the West Coast and incarcerated them in U.S. concentration camps during World War II.

Bette Nakashima, Nakatomi, my spirit in the years that fol-

wowed," said Nakatomi. "I espe-

ically recall Mr. Rawson, the reg-

istrar, for his kindness and care in

sending the school newspaper for

three years while in camp in Gila

River, Arizona. In the months that

followed, friends from high school

visited me at the Tulare Center,

bringing school newspapers and

my yearbook, signed by my class-

mates."

It was Nakatomi’s daughter, Judy, who first approached Mark Keppel High Principal Frederick Navarro with her mother’s story. Judy said she and her sister,

Navarro, who was able to get all the necessary school board approvals within three weeks, said he was honored to have Nakatomi participate.

"Bette’s return to our school marks an important milestone — for our students and faculty in honoring our alumni while learning from the history that interrupted the lives of thou-

sands of people in our communi-

ty," said Navarro.

Of the estimated three Nisei students who attended Mark

See GRADUATION/page 5

Only Florida Missing From Bandwagon to Eliminate Racist Alien Land Laws

By CAROLINE AYOGI
Executive Editor

The state of Florida is famous for a lot of things: Mickey Mouse, Disney World, South Beach. It also has the distinction of being the only state that has taken no action to eliminate racist, decades-old Alien Land Laws.

Wyoming and Kansas took immediate action recently when they discovered they still had statutes designed in the early 1900s to prevent Asians, particularly Japanese Americans, from legally owning land and property. Legislators in New Mexico will allow voters to decide on a constitutional amendment this November.

But so far Florida has made little move to eliminate the Alien Land Law that still exists in its state constitution.

“They (Wyoming, Kansas, and New Mexico) said yes and did it. Florida doesn’t seem to see so clearly that racially discriminatory laws are not desirable,” said Prof. Jack Chin, editor of the University of Cincinnati’s Immigration and Nationality Law Review, the group spearheading efforts to eliminate all of these Alien Land Laws. “I can’t believe that Florida would want to be the only state to keep these laws on the books.”

Elizabeth Hirst, press secretary for Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, said the governor would support amending the constitution but that the legislature would first have to take up the issue.

“Governor Bush would support a proposal by the Legislature repealing this constitutional amendment. This law is past its time and needs to be removed,” she said. “Since this measure is a part of the Florida Constitution, it would require action by the Legislature to remove it.”

But so far, the only Florida legislator to show any interest in pursuing legislation to eliminate the state’s Alien Land Law is Rep.
Mori Memo
Floyd Mori, JACL National President

A Commitment Towards Our Future

Thank you to all the members of JACL for your support of our organization. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as national JACL president for the past two years. It has been a privilege to be a part of JACL and to meet so many wonderful members from across the United States and from other parts of the world.

The past biennium has not been without its problems (particularly financial with the economy and the stock market reversals), but JACL remains a vital force in the fight for justice and civil rights. Sept. 11 was a terrible event, but some good came from it as people banded together with more patriotism and support than the world has seen for some time.

It has been and should remain involved in working with and building our communities as well. We have common goals with other civil rights groups and especially Asian American groups. We will continue to join with the AA community in working the political process for the benefit of all.

Membership is vital to JACL. It is only through increasing our membership to increase our membership as some of our new and dedicated older members age and pass on. We can all help the organization maintain stability and grow by asking and encouraging our friends and family to join JACL. Our main focus during the next biennium should be broadening our member base.

Our young people will be our future leaders. Scholarships are given to many, many high school seniors, college undergraduates and graduate students each year by JACL, both at the local level and by national JACL. These scholarships help our young future to further their education and become productive members of society. We urge our scholarship recipients will feel some commitment to be involved with JACL throughout their lives and become some of the leaders in JACL’s future. JACL needs you now and in the years to come.

The social and cultural aspects of JACL, especially at the chapter level, are very important and valuable to members of our community. As people become more involved with JACL activities and decisions, they become more aware and appreciative of the value of the cultural heritage that binds us. It doesn’t appear that participation and commitment come from the more casual observer. (May I encourage all chapters to reach out to include as many people as possible from all walks (old and non-members alike) so that more people may benefit from the activities of the chapter.)

As we now enter a new biennium, may we all commit ourselves to continue our support and building JACL. Although we may feel comfortable in our station in life today, JACL remains a V.I.P. of the American structure. David Kawamoto has often said, an insurance policy that the racial demeans of the past remain in check.

addicted Mulalley. "It’s really important to rid the laws of all vestiges of racism.

Although these Alien Laws are largely unenforceable today in fact, they are constitutional under federal legislation, proponents believe they are a reflection of this type of policy and need to be eliminated. "Alien Laws" are part of the American historical heritage. The people of Florida do not accept this idea any longer," said one of the Alien Laws (and their constitution) that supports racial segregation. The message is that the time has come. It is not important enough to disprove — I hope that’s not the message [Florida] wishes to send.

Prof. Christine Zuni Cruz at the University of New Mexico was invited to the state in 2000 to take action to rid New Mexico of their Alien Law. She sees no need at the state of Florida can’t do the same.

"It represents a racist period in the state’s history and [Florida] needs to take care of it," she said. "It needs to be the concern of our legislators. They should “not want to keep it on the books ... especially in the constitution.”

Correction
In the June 7-20 Pacific Citizen article "Alien Law: A Fundamental Concern Over Shensiaki Replacement," we have read that Gen. Eric Shonsuki supports the Crusader system because he believes that the system prevented American casualties in the war. In fact, Gen. Tommies Franklin disagrees with this assessment.

PACIFIC CITIZEN, June 23-24, 2000
Rep. Honda and Mori to Keynote WWII Salute Dinner; Mineta Unable to Attend

The California Senate-Assembly Budget Conference Committee has allocated $750,000 for an innovative state program that promotes education about the exclusion and internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

The May revision of the state budget included a proposal to cut $750,000 from the "California Civil Liberties Restoration Education Program (CCLPER)" because of the state's $23.6 billion budget deficit. The funding was restored by the Legislative Leadership because they feared that fundings that were found elsewhere to keep the program intact. In the letter the legislators argued that the program was critical so that "instincts of this and similar events may be illuminated and understood by future generations." The letter was signed by Assemblymember George Avalos and the California Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus, chair, and signed by State Sen. Daniel S. Pinkwater, D-Chico, and Judy Chu and Carol Liu.

"This program is an important tool for teaching tolerance," said Assembly Majority Whip Wilma Chan. Chan, a member of the Assembly Budget Committee, worked with fellow Budget Committee members Nakano and Chiu to bring the funding back. Chan said that despite the victory June 13, the fight was far from over. "We won a two-thirds vote in the Legislature and the Governor's signature," said Chan who is guardedly optimistic about chances for final success. "The Legislature has supported the program so that "instincts of this and similar events may be illuminated and understood by future generations." The letter was signed by Assemblymember George Avalos and the California Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus, chair, and signed by State Sen. Daniel S. Pinkwater, D-Chico, and Judy Chu and Carol Liu.

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AAPCHO Looks to Double Number of AAPls
Seen at Community Health Centers

As plans to implement the Resolution to Ensure Access to Community Health (REACH) Initiative get underway, the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) is seeking to double the number of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) seen in community health centers (CHCs).

The announcement, which comes during APA Heritage Month, is in response to the initiative, which doubles the number of CHCs and patients served at these sites, which would create 1,200 new or expanded CHC sites, and serve an additional 6 million new patients by 2026. CHCs currently serve over 300,000 AAPI patients. AAPCHO hopes that figure will increase to 600,000 under the initiative.

"So many AAPIs do not have access to health care," said Jeffrey Caballero, executive director of AAPCHO. "By attempting to double the number of AAPIs seen at CHCs, we believe it will require us to get all AAPIs that typically fall through the cracks — those that are not from a racial/ethnic minority, uninsured and unsecured — get access to health care.

"AAPCHO, the fastest growing racial/ethnic population in the United States, are expected to reach 66 million by 2050. Some AAPI ethnic groups have uninsured rates of up to 34 percent, face language barriers that prohibit them from accessing health care services and are disproportionately affected by certain diseases such as tuberculosis and diabetes."

AAPCHO, a nonprofit association of community health centers primarily serving AAPIs, views the initiative as one way of addressing access barriers and health disparities and hopes the White House Commission on AAPIs will support this goal. Caballero said, "REACH" provides us with an opportunity to ensure that AAPIs are not left behind, and that they have the same access to health care as everyone else."

To speak with a community health center representative in your area, contact Stacy Cavallina at 510-272-9383 ext. 110 or e-mail: slavilla@apacho.org.

Summer Tour Schedule Set for Manzanar National Historic Site

The National Park Service is currently offering guided tours of the Manzanar National Historic Site during the summer. The tours run Thursdays through Mondays from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., starting at 8:15 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. for the 90-minute visits. The tours leave from the Manzanar National Historic Site Visitor Center and are free and open to the public.

"Tule Lake Pilgrimage: Revisiting ‘Patriotism’ Post-Sept. 11" in light of the tragic events of Sept. 11 and the subsequent racial attacks on Arab, Muslim and South Asian communities throughout the United States, this year's Tule Lake Pilgrimage, "Patriotism and Peace," will focus on the current political climate and its connection to the World War II experience of the Japanese American community.

Tule Lake's history as a detention center for those considered disloyal to the U.S. government highlights the painful experiences of what qualifies as "patriotism" meant to JAs who were interned during WWII. For 26 years the pilgrimage has brought former internees, families, friends and a diverse community of people together to remember the injustice of internment and racism.

This year's Tule Lake pilgrimage will take place July 4-7 at the site of the Tule Lake Detention Center in California, near Klamath Falls.

Scheduled speakers include: Yuki Kochiyama, longtime social justice activist; poet Hiroshi Kaschigawa and Muslim community leader Amad Abdeel. Cultural performances will include Union City Taiko, storyteller Megumi, and Elaine Sayoko Yoneoka's "The Heart No Longer Silent."

The program will also include a tour of the site led by former internees, JAs, intergenerational discussions and other educational programs and dialogues.

For additional information visit the website: www.tulelake.org or contact Brian Ellis in the South Bay area, 408/730-9974; Stan Shimizu in the Washington area, 206/721-1128; or Hiroshi Shimizu in the San Francisco Bay Area, 415/566-2279.

JACL Jr. Olympics Celebrates 50 Years

The 50th Anniversary of the JACL Jr. Olympics was held at Cal State Fullerton in Costa Mesa, Calif., June 2, where former athletes and record holders as well as the original event organizer, Hank Obayashi, were recognized. Jay Sasegawa, an original participant, Kaitlin Heick, head of the Nisei Relays (Southern California's counterpart to the Jr. Olympics) and Thomas Kim, longtime organizer and advisor who announced his retirement this year, were all honored for their contributions.

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COMMENTS
Santa Fe Internment Camp Marker — Symbol of Past Strife, Present Healing
By GAYL Y. OKAWA

More than 250 people from diverse backgrounds and as far away as Alaska, Hawaii, and Washington, D.C., came to Santa Fe, N.M., recently to dedicate a stone marker at Frank S. Otta Park.

The event marked the historical fact that during World War II more than 4,000 people of Japanese ancestry had been unjustly incarcerated in the U.S. Justice Department internment camp on the current site of the Casa Solana neighborhood site. The marker, a six-ton granite boulder with a bronze plaque reads: "At this site, due east and below the hill, 4,555 men of Japanese ancestry were incarcerated in a Department of Justice Internment Camp from March 1942 to April 1946. Most were excluded by law from becoming United States citizens and were removed primarily from the west coast and Hawaii. During World War II, they layover in the United States was questioned. Many of the men held here without due process were long term residents of religious leaders, businessmen, teachers, fishermen, farmers, and others. No person of Japanese ancestry in the U.S. was ever charged or convicted of espionage throughout the course of the war. Many of the internees had relatives who served with distinction in the American Armed Forces in Europe and in the Pacific. This marker is placed in memory of the occasion, Japanese history is a valuable teacher only if we do not forget our past."

Larv Delgado, who broke the tie vote on the city council in favor of erecting the marker, said: "We are here not to celebrate an event about which none of us is proud," said Chavez. "We are here to commemorate an event that happened. It is our history."

Bill Nishimura, 82, was 24 when he arrived from the Tate-Lake concentration camp in 1944 and recalled that the wind and dust were just as harsh back then, but quipped, the internees "stayed in the barracks under those conditions!"

Rita Okawa, of Albuquerque, USAF, and husband Millie have worked over many years to educate the public about the existence of camps like Santa Fe, where Ando's father was interned. The Santa Fe camp was one of four Department of Justice camps run by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

"In many Japanese American families across this country, our fathers never spoke to their children about their experiences in the camps," said Ando, committee co-chair. "It was a shameful, it was a painful experience. These internees basically chose to remain silent."

Due to misunderstandings, vehe- mence protests against the marker by some WWII veterans, particularly those who survived the brutal Bataan Death March by the Japanese, caused an uproar after City Councilwoman Pam Buseh introduced a resolution proposing the marker.

But not all WWII veterans were opposed. Vicente Ojigama, a Bataan Death March survivor, has publicly supported the marker and attended the dedication with his wife Cecilia.

Others who were instrumental in making this marker a reality included: Koichiro Okada, Susan Randorom, Alice Parrot, Gus

COMMENTS
Keep Those Reparations Records Handy
By KARL KIM

If you or a family member have received a redress payment, it may be prudent to keep a copy of the check in a safe place, making sure that your family knows where those records are kept. The first and second generations get older, more and more are requiring long-term care, so finding and keeping around-the-clock care and utilizing family plans is often necessary.

Long-term care costs are not cheap and assets can be rapidly depleted, putting stress on the spouse at home (also called the well spouse) or family. Applying for Medicaid, Civil Service Retirement, VA or for those long-term care costs is frequently the answer.

"In fact, if a well spouse is allowed to keep $89,280 in liquid assets such as savings and checking accounts, mutual funds, etc. The sick spouse (the one applying for Medi-Cal benefits) is allowed to keep only $2,000. The maximum that a single person is allowed to hold is $30,000."

If you received a redress payment, each person is allowed to keep $20,000. It is allowed to keep only $20,000. The maximum that a single person is allowed to hold is $30,000.

A suggested wording for the letter is: "Please provide proof that you received redress payment for internment during World War II. My name is (blank). My date of birth is (blank). My social security number is (blank). My current mailing address is (blank)."

Sign the letter. It is suggested that couples submit separate letters. It has been taken up to 10 years for the proof of redress letter to arrive. Once you have this letter, make sure that your family knows where to find it, and keep it in a safe place because you may not need it for your family members.

The regulations regarding the treatment of redress payments were amended effective Jan. 1, 2000, by the All County Welfare Dependency Letter (ACWDL) 14. (Applies to California only."

The law was changed on the federal level and how each state handles this will vary."

Prior to this amendment, if you received a redress payment, you had to show which account the money was deposited into and prove that you hadn't spent the money. This was very difficult for most people.

Today, thanks to this amendment, in order for you to except an additional $20,000 in assets, you all have to do is prove that you received $20,000 in redress payments. No longer do you have to go through the notarial process, and as almost impossible task of showing where the original redress payment went.

Many people spent the funds and then lost out on this much-needed money. Now, if even if you haven't spent the funds, Medi-Cal will allow you to keep an additional $20,000 of funds if you can prove receipt.

Another little-known fact is that the exemption protects your assets from recovery by Medi-Cal after you are deceased.

With budget cuts and the ever-changing political climate, the offices that approve the transfers for these letters may close. Therefore, I would recommend that you obtain this letter as quickly as possible. Any delays could cost you and your family a tidy sum. "

Karl Kim, CLTC, is president of Retirement Planning Advisors Inc. and is a certified financial planning specialist, focusing in Medi-Cal qualification and long-term care planning. He can be reached at Medcaladvisors.com. Calif., at 310/769-5909.

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BASKETBALL

Yamashaki Back on Injured List
MIAMI—Lindsey Yamashaki, the 6-foot-tall rookie out of Stanford, was put back on Miami’s reserve list because of an ankle injury. Yamashaki, 20, led the ladies in the Sol’s 74-65 victory over the Cleveland Rockers.

VOLLEYBALL

Tom, U.S. Team to Take on Italy in Utah
Six-foot-11 outside hitter Logan Tannahill, who played for Coral Reef Club in the USA, announced on Monday that he would be leaving for a four-week trip to Italy.

PRO BASEBALL

Fans Learn About LA Legacy in Baseball
SAN FRANCISCO—Baseball fans who arrived early June 2 for the opening of the Giants stadium had a chance to learn about the Japanese American legacy to the sport.

The event included a traveling photographic exhibit that narrates the history of Japanese American internment and the role they played in baseball during the internment period of the 1940s.

The exhibits, featuring photos of Japanese American players and their families, are on display at the stadium through the end of the month.

Chen Hopes to Get Started in Cincinnati
CINCINNATI—Atlanta, Philadelphia, New York, Montreal, and Boston have all been mentioned as possible destinations for Chen Ming, but the most likely is Cincinnati.

En route to Cincinnati

Chen has played for the New York Mets and the Boston Red Sox, but he is not sure where he will end up.

He plans to visit several teams before making a decision.

㏊is and ‘Virtue’ Producers Seek Donations and Extras for New Film

Cedar Grove Productions, the Oceano-based company behind “Visas and Virtue,” is seeking monetary support and all types of in-kind donations to support the production of its new dramatic short Film, “Visas and Virtue.”

“The film is currently in pre-production, and the eight-day shoot is scheduled to take place in August near Stockton, California.”

Visas and ‘Virtue’ could have been made without the support of our community,” Tashima said. “However, we believe it is important that people helped us in any way they could. This film has taken on a life of its own, and we want to make sure that carried us throughout the entire project, and its that same spirit we need again for our future work.”

In addition to financial contributions, producers are seeking comments and ideas that will make the film more interesting.

Any donations or ideas can be sent to Cedar Grove Productions, P.O. Box 8079, Los Angeles, CA 90029.

For more information or to volunteer as an extra, call 323-636-1018 or e-mail cedarfilm@att.net.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Huskies Eliminated From College World Series
OMAHA—Shane Komin, the University of Nebraska’s catcher, attended a season-ending 10-8 loss to South Carolina in a College World Series elimination game June 16.

It was the Huskers’ second straight trip to the series as they finished the 2002 season with a 47-21 record. It was also the fourth time Nebraska lost two runs or less in a CWS.

Komin, a Big 12 Conference second-team pick this year, did not play in the game.

He recovered from tendinitis in his throwing elbow earlier in May, and he was ready to go the distance in the spot-on finish in the Big 12. Komin, a former Kalani High School star, pitched a complete game with 40 strikeouts in 42 innings pitched. His 1.93 ERA was fifth best in the conference.
THE TRILOGY: Part Two

Self Marutani

The U.S. Victory at Midway Didn’t Deter E.O. 9066 Generals

Harry K. Honda

 Stout You Truly Harry K. Honda

We cannot override the military action of the federal district court orders, it seems to me necessary to concede that the army had the war powers — and that it is, indeed, a matter of importance to the people on a group basis.”

(320 US at 107, emphasis added.)

From this a suitable inferences to citizens Nisei as “these people,” he appears willing to accommodate limited clinging (“temporarily”) of the rights of “these people.” Whatever he does, however, has been substantiated experienced over this judicial stance, his concurrence was not statement Justice Stone’s opinion for the court. Opening his endorsement with “I...in this concurs in the result and agree substantively with the opinion of the Court...” (emphasis added), his concurrence did not disclaim or express doubt about the guilt-by-association foroku employed by the chief justice.

EIGHTEEN MONTHS LATER, the decision in Matsuho Endo, 323 US 283 (Dec. 18, 1944), was handed down by the Supreme Court. Endo, an internee confined at Tule Lake in July, 1942, filed his suits for habeas corpus seeking her release from confinement and restoration of her liberty. The action of the federal district court orders, it seems to me necessary to concede that the army had the war powers — and that it is, indeed, a matter of importance to the people on a group basis.”

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From this a suitable inferences to citizens Nisei as “these people,” he appears willing to accommodate limited clinging (“temporarily”) of the rights of “these people.” However, whatever he does, has been substantiated experienced over this judicial stance, his concurrence was not substantial in the case of Justice Stone’s opinion for the court. Opening his endorsement with “I...in this concurs in the result and agree substantively with the opinion of the Court...” (emphasis added), his concurrence did not disclaim or express doubt about the guilt-by-association foroku employed by the chief justice.

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SOLDATI (Continued from page 1)

learning to take a more "balletic" approach to driving on such mental components as timing and patience. She began to average of eight to nine hours a day.

"Every dive, every workout, every exercise, every time I trained, my training, so I try and get the most out of each one I can and enjoy the process while I'm doing it," she said.

Fourteen years old, Soldati switched to driving at the suggestion of her father, Gary, after he observed her latent ability in her gymastics. The transition wasn't easy at the start.

"It's difficult going from landing on your feet to landing on your head in the water," Soldati said. "When I began diving, I didn't have a technically solid coach like I have now with Kenny, so I developed some really bad habits which are still working on breaking down.

"I look back on diving tapes from when I first started. They are very comical and embarrassing, for me. But at the time, I was enjoying what I was doing, it was basically a gymnast on the boards," she said.

During the early junior introduction, she showed early signs of promise, eventually getting recruited by Colorado State University. She spent her freshman and sophomore years learning from the three-time world champion transferred to Indiana University in 1994 after coach Jeff Oberhufer offered a scholarship.

She redoubled her efforts, and in the spring of 1996 she won the one
career event, 3-meter platform,

SOLDATI: leaping off the
career event, 3-meter platform,

But a right shoulder injury she's sustained in 1995 flared up and persisted for three training years as she underwent surgery and rehabilitation.

"I never would have recovered from my surgeries and get back on the boards. But I wasn't ready to stop, to go down for the fight," she said. "And when I was able to get back up, I went all the way up, and then some; I really kicked off diving and started diving that three years ago.

And in 1999, the year after graduating from Valdosta Institute from Indiana's school of kinesiology, she became the first female in U.S. diving history to qualify for all five events at the national championships.

"The first time I swam, I overcame so many obstacles, and it's how you use and learn from them that will determine if you let them be a stepping block or a stepping stone," she said.

It's a lesson I've learned from my mother, Judy, who battled breast cancer for eight years before succumbing to the disease in the summer before Soldati's senior year in high school.

"One thing I learned from my mom is how to live life and live it with a passion," Soldati said. "I think that's what I'm doing. I'm doing everything I can do right now, and I think that's something that really is a role model for me, even today.

"Even though she also credits the rest of her family — her father, born in the Jerome internment camp, to World War II, her brother Chris and her husband Adam Soldati, a former diving teammate at Indiana — for spurring her to go on, the support has been grounded, it's her fierce determination and perseverance that have kept her going," she said. "It was right, particularly for Asian Americans.

"I went to the principal at the possibility that my success in diving will allow me to reach out to minorities and encourage them to participate in diving," she said.

After all, she remembers the moment she first visited the pool as a young athlete. "My cousin won the world championships in jump rope. I was a little bit jealous, I wanted to watch him win. That was an inspiration for me. I thought, 'I want to do that too. I want to be a world champion. If he can do it, so can I.'"

Soldati will soon get her chance. She is currently in Seville, Spain, getting ready to compete in both the 3-meter and 10-meter events at the World Cup Championships from June 25-29.

As far as the future, that's still up in the air. "I really don't know when I will retire from diving," she said. "I feel I have a lot of potential, so I will have to gauge how I feel after 2004 to see if I still feel like I want to have more diving in me."

Mink Leads Congressional Delegation in Asia

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Financial disclosure reports show that Rep. Patricia Mink, D-Hawaii, has the lead in Hawaii congressional delegation in assets.

Mink reported for 2001 shows she held between $562,000 and $1.35 million dollars, mostly in retirement accounts.

Her assets include $15,000 to $50,000 in Alexander & Baldwin stock, which accounts for about $250,000 and $500,000, and $1.4 million to $2 million in Central Pacific Bank worth about the same amount.

Sen. Daniel Akaka held between $417,000 and $1.1 million in real estate and federal credit union accounts. His assets included $124,420 in 2001, mostly in a credit union in the Department of Edification.

Mink said Abercrombie had lit-
tin the way of investments or retirement assets. His credit union accounts are worth between $1,000 and $15,000, down from the previous year. He also owns a stock in the Hawaii Telephone Co. worth between $250,000 to $520,000, and has a legislative pension of less than $25,000.

Sen. Daniel Inouye reported assets of $760,000 in addition to their congressional salaries of $145,000 in 2001, which increased to $150,000 this year.

Members of Congress report their assets, income and debts in broad ranges and can exclude the value of primary residences, furniture and other valuable items.

EAST WIND

(Continued from page 8)

ment announcement of the withdrawal order shortly after the storm hit the Pacific in late October 1944. Why wait another six months while thousands of civilians, including many well-armed American troops already confined in barbed-wire camps? The answer appears in the report, which says that the decision in May was one in which Roosevelt was seeking his fourth term in office, but the order really went into effect on the polls of Nov. 4, 1944. So if the announcement of the withdrawal of the evacuation order was delayed until after election day, it's politically calculated move.

With the 21-page report, President Wilson's Dec. 17, 1914, the announcement must be made before that date — even though the Act of Dec. 17 is just one day before.

Some folks may view this as another example of them I can't say I disagree. I do suggest, however, that you keep your eyes open. And keep your eyes on the ball. Bill Miller's column appears regularly in the Pacific Citizen.
Obituaries

Aoto, Alan Katsumu, 63, Foun-
tain Valley, May 26; Tokyo-born; sur-
vived by wife Yui Umemura-
Aoto; daughter Jennifer Koba; broth-
er John; and sisters-in-law Mari and
Kazuko; husband Masahiko and dau-
ghter Masako; and grandchildren.
Benjamin, Howard A., 69, Wil,
ington; Sept. 18; survived by wife
Mary, son Robert, and daughter
Terry; and grandchildren Benjamin,
Gail, and Karen.
Birch, Christopher J., 52, Los An-
egles; March 3; survived by wife
Dorothy, son Clay, and daughter
Erika; parents Mrs. James and Mrs.
Kathleen Birch; and sister.\nBobo, James Richard, 44, Full-
erton; Oct. 13; survived by wife
Stephanie, sons J. Marshall and
Michael; his parents; and brother.\nVern, 58, Fullerton; May 14; sur-
vived by wife Mary, daughters Jo-
anne and Jennifer; brothers Jack
and Merle; and nieces and nephews.\nBooth, Lee Joseph, 60, Fullerton;
Nov. 24; survived by wife Glenda,
son Robert; and sisters-in-law Joan
(aunt of James Booth) and Ann.
Bowers, James L., 62, Garden-
a Vista; Dec. 29; survived by wife
Phyllis, daughter Jennifer; son
Brian; and sisters Mary, Glenna,
and Janice.\nBullen, David, 55, Garden-
avista; April 15; survived by wife
Carla, children Robert, David
and Matthew; and brothers-
in-law Richard and Steven.\nBurns, Gary R., 70, La Habra;
May 2; survived by wife Karen;
brothers Thomas and David; and
nephews.\nCasaquilla, Alejandro, 82, Los
Angeles; Jan. 31; survived by wife
Fausta, sons Michael and Charles;
brothers-in-law Frank Zelayo and
Rafael Gaster; and nieces and nephews.
Chen, Fred C., 29, Fullerton;
March 2; survived by wife Kim, son
Charles; parents Dr. and Mrs.
Wah Ming Chen; and sister
Marjorie Chen.\nChen, Raymond, 86, Garden-
avista; Jan. 27; survived by wife
Marjorie, sons Thomas and
William; and daughters Patricia
Ochoa and Sharon Tu; nieces and
nephews.\nCortez, Daniel, 52, Fountain
Valley; May 25; survived by wife
Kathleen, children Tara and
Roman; by brothers Joseph and
Michael; by sisters Susan and
Delores; and by nieces and nephews.
Dolan, Lesley, 81, Garden-
avista; Aug. 24; survived by wife
Martha, daughters Karen and
Barbara; and grandchildren.
Foerster, Mary, 88, Santa
Ana; March 22; survived by wife
Louise, sons Donald and
david; and daughter Carol.
Gibson, Edith, 92, Fountain
Valley; July 28; survived by wife
Harriet, sons John and Jack;
brothers Donald and Lawrence; and
nieces and nephews.
Graf, Wallace, 80, fountain
Valley; Oct. 1; survived by wife
Coronado, daughter Julie; and
granddaughter.
Hachiya, Fujiko, 91, Fountain
Valley; March 9; survived by wife
Kosaburo; son and daughter
Sally and Edward; brothers and
sisters-in-law; and grandchildren.
Hamada, Soyo, 87, Garden-
avista; Jan. 26; survived by wife
Sakae, daughter Shirley; and
grandchildren.
Han, Toshio, 74, Fountain
Valley; May 28; survived by wife
Masa; daughter Nancy; sons
Lloyd, Timothy, and David; and
grandchildren.
Harada, Takeshi, 55, Garden-
avista; Nov. 26; survived by wife
Eiko; son and daughter
Takayoshi and Yoko; brothers
Isamu and Shigeo; and nieces and
nephews.\nHarada, Yutaka, 56, Garden-
avista; Oct. 24; survived by wife
Marie; daughter Linda; and
grandchildren.\nHattori, Tatsuro, 59, Fullerton;
April 1; survived by wife Mayumi;
son, and daughter
Yuri; and brothers and
sisters-in-law.\nHead, Edgar, 62, Garden-
avista; Jan. 7; survived by wife
Lawrence; sons and
daughter Gary, Michael, and
Kathleen; and grandchildren.
Hoffman, Robert H., 71, Full-
terton; Dec. 12; survived by wife
Shirley, sons Robert and
William; and grandchildren.
Holmes, Robert E., 77, Garden-
avista; Oct. 25; survived by wife
Shirley, daughter Mary; and
brothers and sisters-in-law.
Hori, Masahiko, 65, Santa
Ana; April 19; survived by wife
Shigemi; son and daughter
Michael and Karen; and
grandchildren.\nHorton, George, 78, Garden-
avista; Dec. 20; survived by wife
Lynne; daughter Melissa; and
brothers and sisters-in-law.
Huang, Siu-ling, 74, Garden-
avista; Dec. 19; survived by wife
Tom; daughter Susan; and
brothers and sisters.
Inouye, Michi, 97, Garden-
avista; Jan. 13; survived by wife
Tama; daughter Lee; and
brothers and sisters.
Ito, Hiroko, 85, San Francisco;
May 20; survived by wife
Masami; son and daughter
Masatoshi and Masako; and
grandchildren.\nIto, Kiyoshi, 81, Japan; June 3;
survived by wife Akiko; son and
daughter Shinji and Atsuko; and
brothers and sisters.
Ito, Norio, 81, Garden Ville-
ya; July 10; survived by wife
Mitsue; son and daughter
Masayoshi; and brothers and
sisters.
Ito, Toshiro, 77, Garden Ville-
ya; July 29; survived by wife
Kiyoko; son and daughter
Shigeru and Masa; and
brothers and sisters.
Ito, Yoko, 59, Japan; March 20;
survived by wife Naoko; daughter
Yumi; and brothers and
sisters.
Iwasaki, Yuriko, 88; Japan; Feb.
1; survived by husband; brothers
and sisters.
Kamber, David, 52, Garden-
avista; July 8; survived by wife
Sharon; daughters Marla and
Jenifer; and brothers and
sisters.
Kawazu, Minoru, 84, Garden-
avista; Jan. 1; survived by wife
Sada; daughter Mariko; and
brothers and sisters.
Kawazu, Minoru, 84, Garden-
avista; Jan. 1; survived by wife
Sada; daughter Mariko; and
brothers and sisters.
Kawano, Manako, 8, San
Francisco; May 19; survived by
brothers and sisters.
Kawashima, Hiroshi, 76, Full-
terton; Feb. 28; survived by wife
Noriko; sons and daughters
Tatsuya and Yuki; and
brothers and sisters.
Kawashima, Yuko; 90, San
Francisco; May 19; survived by
brother and sisters.
Kawamura, Hosuke, 86, Full-
terton; April 22; survived by wife
Edna; son and daughter
Hirotoshi; and brothers and
sisters.
Kawamura, Toshihiko, 77, Full-
terton; Jan. 27; survived by wife
Yoko; son and daughter
Kazuhiro; and brothers and
sisters.
Kawamura, Tsunehiko, 82, Full-
terton; Sept. 2; survived by wife
Sada; daughter Minoru; and
brothers and sisters.
Kawamura, Yoko, 59, Japan;
March 20; survived by wife
Naoko; daughter Yumi; and
brothers and sisters.
Kawasaki, Minoru, 84, Garden-
avista; Jan. 1; survived by wife
Sada; daughter Mariko; and
brothers and sisters.
Kimura, Ryo, 81, Japan; May 20;
survived by wife Tae; brothers
and sisters.
Kobayashi, Akiko, 88, Fullert-
ton; April 16; survived by husband
Shigeru; daughter and son
Sharon and Michael; and
brothers and sisters.
Kobayashi, Bunko, 81, Fullert-
ton; Aug. 1; survived by wife
Shirley; son and daughter
Thomas; and brothers and
sisters.
Kobayashi, Kazuhiko, 84, Full-
terton; Nov. 1; survived by wife
Edna; daughter and son
Sherry and Observation; and
brothers and sisters.
Kobayashi, Tomo, 85, Japan;
May 1; survived by wife
Yasuko; daughter and son
Lori and Howard; and
brothers and sisters.
Kobayashi, Yoko, 68, Fullert-
ton; May 31; survived by husband
Kazuo; children and
grandchildren.
Koh, Ryo, 82, Fountain Valley;
April 13; survived by wife
Shinobu; son and daughter
Masato; and brothers and
sisters.
Kokubun, Minoru, 84, Garden-
avista; June 2; survived by wife
Gail; daughter and son
Phillip; and brothers and
sisters.
Kono, Shigeyoshi, 91, Los
Angeles; March 28; survived by
wife Masako; daughter and son
Rene and Michael; and
brothers and sisters.
Koyama, Ray, 31, Japan; May
24; survived by parents
Koichi and Jun; and siblings
Yoko, Hitomi, and Scott.
Kuriyama, Kazuo, 76, Fullert-
ton; Aug. 19; survived by wife
Takako; daughter and son
Karin and Mark; and brothers and
sisters.
Kurosawa, Kiyotaka, 88, San
Francisco; Nov. 19; survived by
brother and sisters.
Kurosawa, Shigeo, 76, Fullert-
ton; Aug. 19; survived by wife
Katherine; daughter and son
Kari and Patrick; and
brothers and sisters.
Kurosawa, Toshiro, 78, San
Francisco; May 19; survived by wife
Martha; daughter and son
Brad and Tara; and brothers and
sisters.
Kurosawa, Yoko, 71, Fullert-
ton; May 1; survived by husband
Eugene; and brothers and
sisters.
Kurosawa, Yoko, 71, Fullert-
ton; May 1; survived by husband
Eugene; and brothers and
sisters.
Kurosawa, Yoko, 71, Fullert-
ton; May 1; survived by husband
Eugene; and brothers and
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Kurosawa, Yoko, 71, Fullert-
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Eugene; and brothers and
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Kurosawa, Yoko, 71, Fullert-
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Eugene; and brothers and
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Kurosawa, Yoko, 71, Fullert-
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Study of the Japanese in the Americas

Two books have been published as a result of the International Nikkei Research Project (INRP), which was coordinated by the Japanese American National Museum. Funded by The Nippon Foundation, the project was a three-year collaboration of over 100 scholars and 14 institutions located in 10 different countries. The INRP sought to explore the transformation of "being Japanese" and "becoming Nikkei." Ultimately, the project sought to increase knowledge of the different Nikkei communities while creating a greater connection between those communities and fostering greater community linkages and cross-cultural understanding.

New World, New Lives: Globalization and People of Japanese Descent in the Americas and From Latin America in Japan

By Ryo Hirabayashi, Akemi Kikumura-Yano and James A. Hirabayashi
Stanford University Press
$8.95, paper; $60.00 hardcover

This anthology contains 17 case studies involving the major emigration from Japan to countries such as Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Paraguay, Peru and the United States. Ninety percent of Japanese emigrants settled in the Americas in the last century but to wider-ranging experiences, depending on the country in which they built their lives. Some of the surprising findings include: Professor Audrey Kobayashi of Queen's University explains that two-thirds of the Japanese immigrants to Canada were women; at one point, there were approximately 1,000,000 Brazilians of Japanese descent, and over a quarter of a million Brazilian Japanese have recently settled in São Paulo, according to Masato Ninomiya of the University of São Paulo; between 1985 and 1999, Japanese Brazilians have been sent to Brazil by Japanese companies according to World Bank researcher Edison Mori. Larger questions are examined, including the definition of who or what is a "Nikkei," and whether the anthropological status of Nikkei communities in each of the seven countries studied and even provides improved evaluations of the future prospects for Nikkei communities in the Americas.

The Encyclopedia of Japanese Descendants in the Americas: An Annotated Historical Dictionary of the Nikkei
Edited by Akemi Kikumura-Yano
Rutgers University Press
$336.00, $49.95 hardback

This encyclopedia is the first comprehensive reference of the history of Japanese immigrants in the countries of the Western Hemisphere. For each country, there is an historical overview, bibliographical, annotated biographic and genealogical materials, demographic data and over 200 historical photographs. Research took place in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Spain, the United States and Japan. Each chapter was written in collaboration with scholars and participating institutions located in the different countries.

Video

Daughter of Taiwan: A Journey Home
By Audrey Wu
KLXV Communications Group & Information Division
Economic and Cultural Office San Francisco, 57 minutes

This documentary focuses on producer Jenying Wu's search for her identity in America. It plays a larger role in showing the cultural divide that usually develops between first-generation immigrants from any country and their second-generation children. Wu's parents came to America from Taiwan in search of a better future, and Wu grew up Americanized and unappreciative of her heritage. This spanned years of friction between Wu and her parents until she decided to return to her homeland in Taiwan for a search of her "missing" Chinese past. Through the process, she discovers that her parents are no longer one of being Chinese or America but one of being Chinese or Taiwanese.

The documentary was initially aired in 2001 on a PBS affiliate in Las Vegas and since then has aired in major cities around the United States. It is scheduled to air in Taiwan and/or China later this year. VHS copies are available from KLXV Communications Group for $20. Call Meir Mao Johnson at 702-799-1010 ext. 339.

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