Series of Hate-Related Incidents in College Town Ignites Racial Debate

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

CLAREMON T, Calif.—It didn’t take long for the news to travel to Clark Lee’s ears. He was returning from work Mar. 9 to his home campus of Claremont McKenna when he heard that racial epithets were spray-painted on a professor’s car in the school’s parking lot. At first the reality was difficult for the senior to grasp, but soon the words “Shut Up,” hatefully spray-painted on the car, seemed to manifest on his doorstep. “These kinds of incidents happen everywhere. Folks think about it and generally talk about it, but it’s shocking, it’s saddening, and most of all, it’s scared when it happens to you,” said Lee. The upper middle class city of Claremont is not the typical breeding ground for crime, but the city’s idyllic atmosphere was shattered when a string of hate-related incidents was recently reported. The most serious incident, the car vandalism, is being investigated as a hate crime. Kerri Dunn, a visiting professor of psychology had just delivered a scathing speech against racism when she found her 1992 Honda Civic vandalized. The tires were slashed and the windows were smashed, but most offensive of all were the words “Kike” spray-painted on the car. “This wasn’t a random act,” said Dunn. “This was a well-planned out act of terrorism... and there’s a group here that perpetuates these crimes.”


By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Executive Editor

SAN FRANCISCO—The JACL national board announced a significant surplus in the organization’s 2003 budget but put off announcing figures for the 2004 budget until the May board meeting. At a quarterly meeting Mar. 5-6, John Tateishi, JACL executive director, reported a surplus of $344,991 for the 2003 budget. The surplus was due largely to continued cutbacks in expenses including a freeze on hiring and travel. Successful fundraising initiatives, including the JACL Gala Dinner, the national membership drive, and the Annual Giving Campaign, also contributed to last year’s surplus.

“The membership really came through,” said Tateishi, who noted that JACL saw a significant increase in its membership numbers in 2003 due to the efforts of the various chapters and the JACL staff. “We live and die by our membership does,” he said.

With the unexpected surplus the JACL has paid chapter rebates for 2003, district allocation payments, and has paid back the $75,000 loan taken out of the Life Trust Fund including interest. Even with these See FINANCES/ page 6

Lawmakers’ Attempt to Remove ‘Racist’ Land Law Clause Passes First Hurdle

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

The continual effort to remove what one Florida lawmaker calls “a stain in the state Constitution” won its first victory on March 11 by unanimously passing through the House Judiciary Committee.

If passed, the bill titled, “The Rights of Non-Citizens to Own Real Property,” would allow voters to amend the part of the Constitution that bars “aliens ineligible for citizenship” from purchasing land. The law, passed by Florida in 1926, is unenforceable today because of federal anti-discrimination laws. “[The Alien Land Law clause] does not affect the day-to-day lives of people — it’s more of a symbolic issue,” said Rep. Phillip Brutus, D-108, cosponsor of the bill. “But anytime I see anything that singles out aliens and foreigners, it gets personal for me. As a person of Haitian origin, I can’t sit by and remain idle.”

JACL Weighs In on Same-Sex Marriage Debate

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Executive Editor

SAN FRANCISCO—As cities and states across the country continue to debate the pros and cons of same-sex marriage, including a proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the issue has inevitably resurfaced in the JACL, prompting similar discussions throughout the organization.

At a March 6 national board meeting, board members expressed rethinking in taking an official board position on the issue, but reaffirmed support for a 1994 JACL national council resolution in support of same-sex marriage. The JACL also announced that it has signed on to a letter by the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR), officially opposing a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

"This was not an easy issue back in 1994 and it is certainly not an easy issue today," said John Tateishi, JACL executive director. "The board is trying to deal very delicately with this issue."

In regards to the LCCR letter, he added, “people may be upset about it, but I think they’ll be as upset as they were when the resolution was passed in 1994.” JACL is currently the only Asian Pacific American organization to sign on to the letter.

"As an organization, I think our duty is to implement what the national council has dictated us to do," said Floyd Mori, JACL national chair. "This is a civil rights issue. We need to continue to protect civil rights, we shouldn’t discriminate against gay people." The debate on same-sex marriage has hit at the core of American values and beliefs, especially in cities and states like San Francisco, Portland, New York, and Massachusetts where the issue has caused a huge divide among its constituents.

Same-sex marriage ceremonies being conducted in San Francisco, Portland, and New Paltz, New York have led to efforts in both the House (HR 56) and the Senate (SJR 26) to amend the U.S. constitution in an effort to ban same-sex marriage. The issue is sure to play a huge role in the upcoming presidential election with President Bush already giving his support to a constitutional amendment.

The issue has also played a divisive role in JACL. The 1994 resolution in support of same-sex marriage passed by only a small margin, even after an emotional speech on the floor by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta in support of same-sex marriage.

The 1994 resolution states in part that JACL “clarifies its position on
SPRING CAMPAIGN (Continued from page 1)

Sure, there are a handful of small, struggling "vernacular" newspapers — publications that usually are biling- gual, and serve specific Japanese or Japanese American communities, such as the Radio Shimpo in Los Angeles, the Nichi Bei Times and the many issues that face the JACL as we evolve into the new millennium. But it's a struggle.

The P.C. is a significant part of the national JACL budget. It's expensive to publish and mail a newspaper. But it also regularly exceeds its budget expectations. It pulls its share, and gives back mightily to the national JACL. And it gives back in ways other than just bringing dollars through the annual Holiday Issue or this Spring Campaign.

The P.C. is like a rock that supports the foundation of the three priorities that currently drive the JACL during these times of econom­ ic stress. The P.C. is inextricably linked to the JACL's efforts in Education, Mem­ bership, and Fund­ raising.

The P.C.'s coverage of political issues, and situations where the specter of racism and hate raises its head, keeps us up-to-date and educated about the world around us. With its letters and columnists and cartoons, the P.C. gets us to think about our identity as JAs and to pax­ isionate about our place in the world. As the "crown jewel of JACL," as national president Floyd Mori has called the P.C., this newspaper is one of the most important privileges of membership in the JACL. It's your passport into Washington, D.C. (or the coverage of legislation about the PATRIOT Act and other issues). Philadelphia (the recent flap over a diners menu of "Chink's Steaks" comes to mind) and anywhere else that issues affecting JAs and Asas pop up.

And the P.C. is unique in its role as the publication of the JACL. It reports on the activities of JACL and back to JACL, in those letters to the editor. And whether it's for promoting or covering events such as last fall's very successful Gala Dinner in Angles or this summer's 75th Anniversary Convention in Honolulu, the P.C. helps get the word out so that JACL members can do so.

It's your newspaper — one of the major assets of JACL membership. And the writers. (Subject to change without notice.) Periodicals postage paid at publisher. Copying for other than the implicit endorsement of the products advertised in the P.C. is strictly prohibited. Except once in January and December by the Japanese American Citizens League, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755. OFFICE HOURS - Pacific Time. ©2004.


JACL President: Floyd Mori National Director: John Tateishi Pacific Citizen Editor: Carol Sugita National Directors: Gil Asakawa, chair­ person; Roger Ozaki, EDC; Non Kobayashi, MDC; Grace Kinoto, CDDC; Valerie Yasukuchi, NDC; Alpha Chi, PNDWC; Larry Grant, IDC; Andrea Parker, MPDC; Alyson Yonemoto, PSWDC; Maya Yamazaki, Youth.

NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY, THREE WEEKS BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.

Editorials, news and the opinions expressed by col­ umnists other than the national director or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The products advertised in the P.C. do not necessarily reflect the expressed or implied endorsement of the three organizations that support the P.C. We reserve the right to edit articles.

PACIFIC CITIZEN (ISSN: 0030-059X). Published monthly except once in January and December by the Japanese American Citizens League, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755. OFFICE HOURS — Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Pacific Time.

Annual subscription rates: NON-MEMBERS: 1 year—$35; payable in advance. Additional postage per year — Foreign periodic rate $25; First Class for U.S., Canada, Mexico, $30; Airmail to Japan/Europe $60. (Subject to change without notice.) Periodicals postage paid at Monterey Park, Calif., and at additional mailing offices.

Permission: No part of this publica­tion may be reproduced with­ out written permission of the publisher. Copying or other than personal use of this publication is illegal without the express permis­sion of the P.C. is prohibited.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Pacific Citizen, c/o JACL, National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

JACL MEMBERS Change of Address If you have moved, please send information to: National JACL 1765 Sutter St. San Francisco, CA 94115

Allow 6 weeks for address change.

To avoid interruption in receiving your P.C., please notify your post­ master to include periodicity in your change of address (CPS Form 3576)

SPRING CAMPAIGN
Your donation will go towards the continuous operation of the Pacific Citizen.

$50 $100 $200 $Other

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City: ___________________________ State: __________ Zip: _______

CREATOR: Mail to Pacific Citizen, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST! For donations of $100 or more, you will receive a copy of Pete Hironaka's "Nisei" poster; Joe Hirohata's "Nisei Voices". For donations of $200 or more, you will receive an autographed copy of Pete's "Nisei" poster.

A symbol of trust.
Just as people would gather at a village square to bond with neighbors, Union Bank of California's square logo represents a similar relationship that we develop with our customers, a rela­tionship based on trust.

Backed by Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi, one of the world's largest enterprises, Union Bank of California takes pride in consistently delivering high quality service. And we will continue to serve every day to be our customers' bank of choice.


So far $28 million has been added to the 2004 Selective Service Program and the National Guard has quietly begun a public campaign to fill all 10,350 draft board positions and the remaining 1,700 appeals board slots nationwide.

The Bush administration is quiet­ ly trying to get these bills passed without quotation marks. But they can be in­ stalled in the Bush administration is quiet­ ly trying to get these bills passed without quotation marks. But they can be an­ nounced after the November elections. At this point, John Kerry also supports this action. Those who oppose the draft might consider contacting their representa­ tives in Congress or even writing in a candidate number of San Franciscans who would stop the draft dead in its tracks, such as Dennis Kucinich or Ralph Nader.

For more information, you can go to www.commondreams.org and type in "military draft" in the search.
Congress Unanimously Names Feb. 19 as Day of Remembrance, Including Howard Coble

By Pacific Citizen Staff

WASHINGTON — A year after making statements on a radio program justifying the World War II internment of Japanese Americans, Rep. Howard Coble, R-N.C., along with other members of the U.S. House of Representatives, unanimously voted in favor of naming Feb. 19 the National Day of Remembrance.

The House’s decision to recognize the wrongful internment of JAs, German Americans and Italian Americans come as long-awaited good news for many ethnic communities.

"By admitting that the government wrongfully treated its own citizens and legal residents as potential enemies during World War II, the U.S. Congress has again affirmed our nation’s devotion to the principles of fairness and equal protection," said Rep. Michael Honda, D-Calif., who spear-headed the measure.

In a radio interview last February, Coble was quoted as saying that the WWII internment of JAs was justified. "It wasn’t safe for them to be on the street," he said.

As a result of his comments, civil rights organizations, including the JACL and the NAACP, called for his resignation. The Democratic National Committee also called for his resignation as the chair of the House subcommittee on crime terrorism and homeland security, a position he still currently holds.

Coble could not be reached for comment.

"As a teacher and public official, Rep. Honda has been steadfast in his efforts to educate the public about this issue," said JACL National President Floyd Mori. "February 19 is an important day in American history, and we believe this resolution to be a valuable tool to further heal the wounds of those interned during World War II and to educate the public about injustices that must never be repeated."

The Day of Remembrance is now observed with educational programs on or around Feb. 19, the anniversary of the day President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066.

Under the executive order, 120,000 JAs, 10,005 German Americans and 3,278 Italians were incarcerated, and an additional 10,000 Italian Americans were relocated away from coastal zones.

"Particularly now, as certain ethnic minorities face heightened scrutiny due to their race or heritage, our nation must remember what happened to the so-called 'enemy aliens' during World War II," said Lawan Sato, director of the San Francisco-based Japanese American National Historical Association. "So many Americans who were rounded up were innocent, not just to the Japanese, the German, and Italian communities, and it is important for a nation to know its history."

According to Honda, the primary value of the Day of Remembrance will be instructional, serving as a resource tool to instill the lessons from the WWII internment experience.

"There will be healing for those who were incarcerated, as well as for those indirectly victimized by the misdeeds of our government," Honda said. "When we talk about the Day of Remembrance, communities will get to reflect upon their own experience and project into the future to ensure such events do not happen again."

Sen. Spark Matsunaga Induced Into Human Rights Hall of Fame

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Sen. Spark Matsunaga was posthumously inducted into the Montgomery County, Maryland Human Rights Hall of Fame on March 11. The Human Rights Commission honored Matsunaga for his years of service in the U.S. Congress. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1962 and in 1976 he was elected to the Senate.

Born on the Island of Kauai, Hawaii, Matsunaga served in the famed 100th Infantry Battalion during World War II, receiving a Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts. Matsunaga was a key player in the fight to win reparations and apologize for Japanese American internment in concentration camps during WWII. He passed away in 1990. Matsunaga and his family lived in Montgomery County, which was voted into Congress from 1962-1990.

Inductees into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame were nominated by the community and selected by a panel of judges, based on their exemplary leadership, achievements in housing, public accommodations and employment policies, as well as their impact on the social climate in Montgomery County’s human rights movement.

Joining Matsunaga in the Hall of Fame are: Mary Y. Betters, Blanca Kling, James G. Macdonell, Janet Z. McCabe, Margit Meissner, Leroy W. Warren, Jr., Christine Clarke, Lawrence Distasi, project director for Una Storia Segreta and president of the National Committee also called for efforts to educate the public about internment. They said: "By admitting that the government wrongfully treated its own citizens and legal residents as potential enemies during World War II, the U.S. Congress has again affirmed our nation’s devotion to the principles of fairness and equal protection."
By Paul M. IGASAKI

Once even talking about valuing a mixture of races, religions, sexual orientations, ages or persons with disabilities was considered problematic. Being blind to difference was considered ideal. Times have certainly changed, and the business world and in government, including even the U.S. Supreme Court, the concept of diversity has received explicit recognition and acceptance. We now see diversity positions, even departments, in most major companies, as well as consult- ants like myself or publications that explore the methods involved in fostering workplace diversity. This is a good thing and I hope it continues. It is certain, however, that many fail to understand that this is a complicated challenge. The first and most obvious challenge with diversity is to believe that it is a beneficial thing to pursue in your institution, whether it is a workplace, a school or media outlet. But that is merely the starting point. In my previous position as vice chair of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, I helped enforce the nation’s laws against job discrimination. This is only a portion of the diversity reality, but it is an important one. Like so many other diversity issues, it is about balancing ratios and considering what one needs to do to be effective, fair and within the law. It is about finding and promoting good employees from diverse backgrounds, about maintaining an environment not only accommodating difference, but thriving because of it. Positive values, yes, but not complicated than one would think.

A colleague once said that complying with discrimination laws was no rocket science. While that may be true, I definitely don’t want folks to think that there is nothing to it. It is more than merely not wanting to discriminate or wishing for a diverse workforce. No “Safe Harbor” or Quick Fixes. One of the most frequent questions I received from managers as I traveled nationwide and even abroad for the EEOC was what employment practices were “safe harbor” from a legal point of view. I understand why they asked that; running an organization requires avoiding activities that might cause monetary or restrictions from the organization. From a management point of view, clear and unambiguous guidance helps. That is no guarantees and what does not. Managers want to know in advance what specific diversity efforts will not risk legal liability. It would be nice if it were simple. But, for the most part, it is not. It is a subjective area requiring an understanding of diversity, how different people will react to different situations, and all of the factors at play in a particular decision.

Wanting diversity is not enough to actually achieve it. Figuring out why you don’t have a diverse workforce, for example, should be the first step. For your recruitment campaign focused on publications and events of interest to certain communities and to people with certain backgrounds? Is recruiting done locally only or nationally? Utilizing headhunters that have connections to particular minority groups makes a difference. How are hiring and advancement decisions made by the company? Is there affirmative action plan that is taken seriously? The upper echelons of the organization diverse as opposed to the ulti- mate workforce? If so, the problem could be in the advancement policies or in recruiting competitive diversity recruits. Do the job descriptions seek the characteristics that are truly neces- sary for the job, or are there factors that are not necessary that limit who would be hired? Detailed Analysis, Objective Investigation Clearly, diversity and compliance require careful analysis, and these analyses will be ongoing. Not only on your. When I worked with local gov- ernment, I heard someone sought a promotion was told that he did not have enough experience to be minority for the position. I was very concerned, of course. If true, it would’ve been discriminatory. However, the manager who said this to the applicant responded when they were the minority person chosen for the promotion. Theformance with the precise diversity level that was expected. The manager suggested to the applicant that he was being discriminated against be preferable to being told that he was less qualified for the job.

I trust that such incidents are infre- quent these days. This illustrates how critical it is to have a good, professional, informed understanding of the specific details and context of diversity and discrimination con- cerns in an organization. It also reminds us that people do not always do what seems the right thing. For example, the fact that it is not easy does not detract from its importance. America is not defined by its race, religion or ethnicity as so many other countries are. In a very real sense, these differ- ences are what makes this country great. This allows us to grow and change.

Paul M. Igasaki served as the 17th chair and later as acting chair of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission from 1994 to 2002.

Richard D. Weller, the 13th chair of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, is a law scholar and was a co-founder and first president of the National Conference of Civil Rights Attorneys in the United States. He now practices law in Washington, D.C.

EYEBAY HALTS AUCTION OF VIETNAMESE GIRLS

SOUTH JULIANA, Calif.—Ebay Inc. halted an auction and suspended a Taiwanese company that allegedly tried to sell three Vietnamese girls for a starting bid of $5,400.
The company, which began Mar. 2 on Ebay’s Taiwan site, did not include a detailed description of the goods for sale but said the “items” were young girls and would be shipped to Taiwan only.
The site included five photos of three people. One dark-haired woman, who appears to be the seller, stands next to the two girls, who are dressed in pink outfits. The 10-day auction had a starting price of 180,000 Taiwanese dollars, or $5,411.88.
Vietnamese activists groups in Australia and the United States notified the listing as early as Mar. 12, and began sending e-mails to women’s rights and immigration advocates around the world. Many of them contacted eBay, and customer service representatives pulled the listing, which was listed as “invalid item.”

Japanese Academy in Southern U.S. Hopes to Stay Open With American Students

SWEETWATER, Texas—Japan’s first accredited high school in the United States is considering accepting American students in order to stay financially viable, administrators said.

Teiichi Meiji Gakuen, a three-year private academy that teaches a Japanese curriculum with an empha- sis on English language instruction, was founded in November 2006. University officials posted the closing date until March 2007 after administrators, teachers and students said the school was in dire need for more time to raise enrollment.

The boarding school was founded by Japanese industry executives who moved to the United States. Enrolment has slipped significantly during the past year. The school’s revenue in 1995 to about 80 when the new academic year starts in April. The school has never recovered since closing down after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Tennessee Meiji Gakuen relies mostly on remittance of foreign teachers, salaries and maintenance. It has been financially inde- pendent from its parent school, Meiji Gakuen University, in Tokyo since 1995.

Tennessee Meiji Gakuen will start offering three-week sessions this summer for American students ages 15 to 19 to study Japanese.

COMMUNITY-CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED National Scholarship Program for APIAs

National Asian and Pacific Islander American leaders are cele- brating several unique national scholarship programs that support API scholars or through usual techniques. Is enrollment has slipped significantly during the past year. The school’s revenue in 1995 to about 80 when the new academic year starts in April. The school has never recovered since closing down after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Tennessee Meiji Gakuen relies mostly on remittance of foreign teachers, salaries and maintenance. It has been financially inde- pendent from its parent school, Meiji Gakuen University, in Tokyo since 1995.

Tennessee Meiji Gakuen will start offering three-week sessions this summer for American students ages 15 to 19 to study Japanese.

National Scholarship Program for APIAs

National Asian and Pacific Islander American leaders are cele- brating several unique national scholarship programs that support API scholars or through usual techniques. Is enrollment has slipped significantly during the past year. The school’s revenue in 1995 to about 80 when the new academic year starts in April. The school has never recovered since closing down after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Tennessee Meiji Gakuen relies mostly on remittance of foreign teachers, salaries and maintenance. It has been financially inde- pendent from its parent school, Meiji Gakuen University, in Tokyo since 1995.

Tennessee Meiji Gakuen will start offering three-week sessions this summer for American students ages 15 to 19 to study Japanese.
YOUTH FORUM
A Category Uniquely My Own

By PAUL GOSHI

I'm a mixed Yonsei. My back­ground is white, Japanese, Hawaiian, and Blackfeet Native American, in roughly that order. Hawaiian locals like my grandparents would use the much simpler description of Japa or Hawai.-house. Being Japanese American by way of Hawaii is very common, though growing up I always felt at arm's length from a confident claim to any ethnic identity because of the seemingly relative lack of mixed Japanese east of Hawaii.

Growing up, I never learned to speak anything other than English in my family home, aside from a few Hawaiian pidgin words which used filtered Japanese. I didn't attend Cherry Blossom Festivals or any cultural events really. The few words and phrases and written characters I picked up from my grandparents were to newer arrivals, incomprehensible or undecipherable, being a quaint outdated Kyushu dialect just a few years short of a century old, handed down from my great-grandparents who came to Hawaii before 1910. I knew little about who I was, no family history, or the history of Japanese Americans. We didn't have a family tree, but we were aware of what happened in the history of the Japanese Americans. We don't want it to ever happen again to any group of people solely because of their ethnic or cultural background," said Co-Chairperson Mary Higashi.

The public is also invited to attend this reunion. Those interested in participating must contact Aki Amano at 310-541-4648 or EA. Amano@ aol.com; Mary Higashi 310/923-6303; Sets Kobata Shimo 323/712-1887 or Bob Wada 714/992-5461.

Support the P.C. Spring Campaign
For donations of $100-$199 you will receive Pete Hiroshaka's "Nisei Poster" or Joyce Hiroshita's "Nisei Voices" book. See coupon on page 2.

We Can Make A Difference In Your Life

Announcing our Home Banking... you can now manage your account and pay bills using the internet. With the click of a mouse you can access all your accounts... open new accounts... check balances... pay bills... transfer funds... order statements, checks etc., etc.

State-of-the-art security features will keep all of your account information secure. So enjoy the convenience of banking from your home or office and discover the difference that Home Banking can make. Log on and join in.

The Internet...not just for e-mail anymore

www.jaclcu.com
ON-LINE BANKING

National JACL Credit Union

242 South 400 East • Salt Lake City • UT 84110 • Phone: 800-544-8828

We Can Make A Difference In Your Life

Council (CRIT). The CRIT has been the force behind the maintenance and care of the Poston Monument and the remains of the elementary school area. Among the topics to be considered for discussion during the visit with the CRIT is the current camp restoration project and repair of the auditorium.

For teenagers and younger children, there is a surplus of entertainment such as the game room at the Ramingo Hilton Hotel, movie theater and outlet mall across the street.

"It is vital for all internees, regardless of which camp, to make sure our children and grandchildren are aware of what happened in the history of the Japanese Americans. We don't want it to ever happen again to any group of people solely because of their ethnic or cultural background," said Co-Chairperson Mary Higashi.

The public is also invited to attend this reunion. Those interested in participating must contact Aki Amano at 310-541-4648 or EA.Amano@ aol.com; Mary Higashi 310/923-6303; Sets Kobata Shimo 323/712-1887 or Bob Wada 714/992-5461.
Tell us about the burning cross that occurred at the Claremont Colleges, the investigation of which was led byee and the importance of this incident in the context of hate crimes in the United States.

In February, a phone caller using a scavenger hunt lead by a campus organization called for its members to take a "photo of a hate symbol or more Arthus.

When that happened, Lee said that some of the Asian American students were being followed around.

"That was not cool," said Lee, who added that one of his friends logged onto the school's interactive online system to report the threats in response.

It's not the first time that the 2002 Hate Crime Statistics Report, a total of 7,462 hate crime incidents were reported nationwide last year, a decrease from last year's numbers because of the increase in public focus to the discussion of race relations, not only on school campuses but across the nation as well.

According to Claremont Police Lt. Stan Van Horn, in the last five years, 1,146 hate crimes have been reported in Claremont — relatively low in comparison to other cities across the United States where hate crimes seem to make the national news with more frequency.

In the FBI's official 2002 Hate Crime Statistics Report, a total of 7,462 hate crime incidents were reported nationwide last year, a decrease from last year's numbers that had many residents and local government officials breathing easier for awhile. However, some are saying that this is a four-related incidents at the Claremont Colleges since the beginning of the year are a clear indication that more of these incidents need to be made into investigating hate crimes.

"What happens here in our city is just a snapshot of similar incidents in the country, and cannot be ignored," said Van Horn.

"Every single day, when you walk somewhere, sometimes you're conscious of this kind of stuff happening, sometimes you're not," said Lee. After "9/11," I was boarding a plane to go out of state, and got pulled out of my line four times to get searched. Sometimes the nation becomes racists, but hopefully, we don't lose sight of what the country is all about — tolerance."

### FINANCES

(Continued from page 1)

payments JACL still has a surplus of approximately $220,000.

"We're moving in a positive direction, but not in every area of all your efforts," said Tateishi.

But he also emphasized that JACL must continue to raise membership and fund contributions on various fundraising efforts in order to ensure that JACL does not enter into a financial crisis in 2004. "By no means is it over yet," said Tateishi, who said he would continue to cut back expenses and monitor spending carefully.

Investment Policy Committee Chair Ted Tsukahara reported that as of Dec. 31, 2003, JACL's total investments were $7,310,745, an increase of $337,641 over a three-month period. As of Feb. 29, the Legacy Fund sits at $5.57 million, slightly above the $5.5 million benchmark set for any withdrawal of funds.

But although the Legacy Fund has passed this established threshold, funds still cannot be withdrawn until operations in 2005-2006 budget year is produced. A downward trend must first be observed. Tsukahara believes money from the Legacy Fund will be available in 2007 for payout of the Legacy Fund grants.

JACL's fundraising "investments are doing quite well," said Tsukahara, "but the markets are still volatile.

A subcommittee of the national board of directors has been reviewing the budget and was unable to report any numbers due to a lack of information, said Bob Taniguchi, CCOC governance chair.

"We didn't have enough information," said Taniguchi, who plans to send the budget back to Tateishi to look over. More efforts will be foreseen in future generations to continue fighting for equality in both the API and queer communities.

### Nation's First Leadership Institute for API Lesbian and Gay Youth

Now Accepting Applications

Recognizing the need to train the next generation of leaders, the Asian Pacific Islanders for Human Rights (APIHR) recently introduced the nation's first youth institute geared toward the education of future young leaders of the Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (LGBTIQ) communities.

"This institute will train the future leaders of our community, something that is desperately needed given the current climate of intolerance and fear," said Patrick Mangusto, executive director of APIHR. "With the knowledge and experience provided through this institute, we hope to inspire a new generation for future careers and queer communities." API LGBTIQ youth now live in their communities and have a wide range of activities to choose from. Applicants are encouraged to apply. Participants will be selected on the basis of demonstrated community interest and involvement, leadership potential, and ability to commit to attend the training and participate in all activities. Applications are due by April 16.

The youth leadership institute is comprised of an intensive retreat held in June followed by an eight-week internship with API LGBTIQ community-based organizations and elected officials' offices. Participants will be held to stringent skills.

For more information on the Youth Leadership Institute, contact Sumiko Braun, youth program coordinator, at 322/960-0676 or sbraun@apiala.org.
OLYMPICS

Yamaguchi Among Finalists for USOC Hall of Fame

CHICAGO — Kristi Yamaguchi, Michael Jordan and the original Dream Team, Dan Jansen, Jackie Joyner-Kersee, sugar Milliner and Janet Evans are among the finalists for this year’s U.S. Olympic Committee Hall of Fame class, the first since 1992.

Six individual athletes, one team and one paralympian will be inducted into the Hall. The inductions will be voted on by Olympians, U.S. Olympic officials and media representatives.

Members of the public also can vote on the Internet until April 14.

A veteran representative — someone who competed at the 1960 Olympics or before — and a special contributor already have been selected by a nomination committee. Their names will be announced in May.

The finalists for individual athletes are speedskater Tom Blazer (speedskating); Evans, Matt Bondi, Rowdy Gaines and Mary T. Meagher (swimming); Tracie Ruiz and Greg Bartone (boxing); and Greg Bartone (track and field).

The Hall of Fame was established in 1991. Kristi Yamaguchi, Mark Spitz, Jim Thorpe, Wilma Rudolph, Peggy Fleming and the 1980 hockey team were among the first class, and additional inductions continued through 1992 before inductions were halted.

The Hall of Fame currently has 151 members, including 68 individual athletes and five teams.

FIGURE SKATING

Ando Wins Women’s Free Skating Program at Junior Worlds

THBE HAGUE, Netherlands — Miki Ando of Japan won the Junior World Figure Skating Championships, beating Kimie Misuon and Katry Taylor of the United States.

Ando also won the short program, and was overall champion for the first time, finishing third in 2002 and second in 2003. The Japanese junior champion skated to Igor Stravinsky’s “Fire Bird.”

Mizuhiro finished second overall, ahead of Taylor in third.

National business and Professional Directory

Your business card in each issue for 22 issues is $15 per line, three-line minimum. Larger type (12) counts as two lines. Logo same as line rate. Return form to: Pacific Citizen Publishing Co., 425 E. 6th St., Suite A, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Great Los Angeles

ASASHI TRAVEL

Brettnich & Lerner Tours, Inc.
1408 E. 6th St., Suite A
Los Angeles, CA
(213) 487-6876

Howard Igasaki, D.D.S., Inc.
Alan Igasaki, D.D.S.
Implants / General / Periodontics
22850 & 22860 Crenshaw Blvd., Ste. 102
Torrance, CA 90505
(310) 534-8282

Howard Igasaki, D.D.S., Inc.
Alan Igasaki, D.D.S.
Implants / General / Periodontics
22850 Crenshaw Blvd., Ste. 102
Torrance, CA 90505
(310) 534-8282

Cambridge Dental Care
Scott Nishizaka D.D.S., F.A.C.D.
2466 E. 6th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90021
(213) 586-2811

A Professional Corporation
11450 E. Smith Blvd., Cerritos, CA 90703

Melbourne, Australia — Almost a full season out of Formula One racing didn’t dull Takuma Sato’s appetite for the sport, or his sense of adventure.

The Japanese driver had a wild spin in the second free practice session Friday at the Australian Grand Prix, but ended the day feeling confident for 2004.

Sato, 27, who has replaced former world champion Jacques Villeneuve at BAR Honda, was 12th quickest after opening sessions March 5.

He clocked one minute 26.967 seconds around the 3.295-mile Albert Park circuit, more than two seconds behind pole winner Michael Schumacher and Ferrari.

“It’s great to be back competing in a grand prix again but it is quite a challenge to adapt to the new format,” said Sato, who made his debut in 2002 driving for Jordan, but was a test driver for BAR last year before replacing Villeneuve.

“It’s a little bit difficult for me to have the feel of the car... to come back to the grand prix races,” added Sato.

Sato’s BAR teammate, Jenson Button, was fourth quickest in 1:25.786. Both drivers completed 21 laps.

Sato drove for BAR in the final race of last season — the Japanese Grand Prix — when Canadian Villeneuve pulled out after being dropped for 2004. The Japanese driver collected three points for a sixth-place finish.

Sato had said during pre-season testing when he spun out on turn 12 after going into the trusside grass, but managed to get the BAR06 into the pits under control without any damage.

“I’ve had very little track time so it is difficult to choose the right tire in such a short space of time,” he said.

“The team is working very well and our team atmosphere is very high. It’s fantastic. To compete, I am very, very glad. The experience is going to benefit me for the future.”

Sato said the Melbourne circuit was “the perfect race to start the season.”

“I have raced at Melbourne once before — it was my debut race — but I had a technical problem in qualifying,” he said.

“So many things can happen in Melbourne, and everyone has a chance. Hopefully, we will be strong straight away. I am certainly confident and optimistic. Looking at the test results and progress we have made, I am sure we are in a much better position than before,” said Sato.

SPEEDSKATING

Ohno, Hallisy Repeat as U.S. Short Track Champions

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, Ohio — Apollo Anton Ohno won the 1,000 and 1,500-meter races Feb. 29 to complete a sweep at the U.S. Short Track speedskating championships and capture his fourth straight title.

Ohno, of Seattle, won all six races to become the first American short track skater to win for the sixth time. He finished with 170 points, double the total of runner-up Rusty Smith, of Long Beach, Calif.

Ohno finished the 1,000 in 1:29.558 seconds, barely besting Smith’s time of 1:29.822. The 3,000 also was close, with Ohno (4:54.419) besting Shani Davis, of Chicago (4:55.889).

Ohno won the four-lap and nine-lap time trials, took first in the 1,500 and won the 500.

Davis finished third in the standings with 65.5 points and qualified for the U.S. World Short Track team that will compete in Gothenburg, Sweden, Mar. 19-21. He is the first U.S. male skater to make the short track and long track world teams in the same season.

The only other U.S. skater to accomplish the feat was Bonnie Blair, who made both teams in 1986 and won the World Short Track championship.

Curtiss Hallisy, of Narick, Mass., won her second straight women’s national title despite finishing second in the 1,000 and 3,000 and overall runner-up Hyo-Jung Kim, of Fullerton, Calif.

Hallisy finished with 123 points, five more than the 15-year-old Kim.

Allison Biever, of Sinking Spring, Pa., was third with 65.5 points.
COMMENTARY
Utah Fails to Pass Hate Crimes Bill, Again
By JEFF ITAMI

Once again, we in Utah are fac­ ing another frustrated attempt to pass a workable (i.e. "prose­ cutable") Hate Crimes Bill in the current legisla­ ture.

In an obvious attempt to thwart Rep. David Litvack, Utah State Sen. James Evans is promoting his version of a Hate Crimes Bill which fails to protect those people persecuted by a hate crime for race, color, dis­ ability, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, age, or gender.

Why? Because Sen. Evans wants to "include everyone," so his bill uses language that is so vague as to be constitutionally unenforceable, which is his goal. Rep. Litvack attempted to include the listed groups in his version of the hate crimes legis­ lation. Unfortunately, HB 68 failed, again, in spite of efforts by Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson and invited guest, Ms. Judy Shepard, whose son was murdered for being gay in Wyoming. Ms. Shepard's pleas to support Rep. Litvack's bill, which was made during her appearance before the Utah State Legislative session, made little headway in swaying them again. This is Rep. Litvack's third attempt to pass an enforceable Hate Crimes Bill. On Jun. 18, Ms. Shepard, Mayor Anderson, Dr. Forrest Crawford, assistant to the president for Institutional Diversity, Weber State University, and Rep. Litvack spoke in a panel discussion in the City-County Building with guests from the affected community in attendance. At that time, Rep. Litvack stated he hoped that Ms. Shepard's sup­ port for his version of the Hate Crimes Bill would help move it out of committee where it was being held up.

According to a Salt Lake Tribune article, “Rival Hate Crime Bills Near Peace (Feb. 4, 2004),” Rep. Litvack wanted the bill to include the list of specific groups but Sen. Evans claims that such a list is discriminatory as it doesn’t include everyone. Their attempts to find compromise language failed and Sen. Evans’ bill is now safely locked in committee, as is Rep. Litvack’s version.

This has had the effect of suc­ cessfully killing the bill for this year. This happened in spite of the fact that recently on a KUED Radio program a Texas Congressional member stated his version of a bill before the U.S. Congress was very specific on the listing of “the seven words you cannot use in public communica­ tions” plus eight other phrases, “because in order to avoid constitu­ tional challenges, you must be specific” to get the bill passed. It seems not all Republican politi­ cians fail to recognize specifics when it comes to an issue near and dear to their hearts!

The Salt Lake chapter of JACL supported a coalition of minority groups coordinating their efforts with Rep. Litvack. Now, Utah prosecutors, police and minorities will have to wait until 2005 to make another attempt to include “everyone” victimized by a hate crime. What Sen. Evans will not recognize is that “everyone” is a member of an ethnic, racial, reli­ gious, gender, age, sexual orienta­ tion, or national origin group when it comes to hate crimes against them and “their kind.”

Jeff Haniu is the Salt Lake City chapter Hate Crimes Committee chair.

Gala to Recognize Vietnamese Americans
As a part of Asian Pacific American Month, hundreds of prominent Vietnamese Americans will gather in the nation’s capital in May to celebrate their achievements, to thank their adopted homeland and to join other API communities in the celebration of their heritage.

The Vietnamese American National Gala (VANG) black-tie dinner will take place May 10 at the Capitol Hilton. The gala will be hosted by the Viet Heritage Society, a non-profit organization based in California.

The event will commemorate three decades of Vietnamese American progress and achievement and honor distinguished individuals for their contributions to America.

In addition, VANG will also honor a select group of non-Vietnamese individuals and organizations for their work in helping to enhance the quali­ ty of life for Vietnamese people in America.

Secretary of State Colin Powell has been invited to deliver the keynote address. Special guests include Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao and Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta.

“Vietnam is not just a distant place or a not-so-distant war, but a heritage for millions of Americans,” said Georgetown law professor and former U.S. Assistant Attorney General Viet D. Dinh. “Their achievements are a cause for celebration, and also a reminder of the opportunities afforded by America and the generosity of her people.”

For additional information on the gala, please visit www.vangusa.com or contact Ryan Habers, executive director, at info@vangusa.com.

Borrow Up to $4,000 On Your Looks Alone?

Celebrating Sixty Years of Service

www.jaclcu.com Get current rates, check accounts online, transfer/withdraw money, frequently asked questions Auto Loans Low, 4.60% Apr. 100% financing, new or used, no hidden fees Signature Loans Unsecured loans 0% Co­signer Loans increase your borrowing power Bill Pay service Pay your bills online Insured savings to $100,000 by NCUA, an agency of the Federal Government Telephone Teller Check your account without a computer 24/7 Checking/SAV/checks accounts available Home Equity Loans 2nd mortgages, this member only Term Share Certificates 6 mos. to 4 years, competitive rates Money Market Accounts Competitive rates Direct Deposits sent directly to US by employers, SS, others Auto pricing & Kelley Blue Book, new or used IRA Retirement Accounts Trad to 1/4% below 7-Bill rates Notary Public Service /Travellers checks Western Union Service Wire cash to any WU office CO Service Centers: 5 Salt Lake City locations, available same nationwide Email: jaclcu@jaclcu.com, Credit Card Info www.excurvita.com Hours Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm, Sat 9am to 2pm ELIGIBILITY AND MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED

National JACL CREDIT UNION
PO Box 1721 SEC, UTAH 84110
Tel 800 544-8824 Local 801 355-8040
PO Box 1721 SEC, UTAH 84110
Tel 800 544-8824 Local 801 355-8040
Email: info@jaclcu.com
Website: www.jaclcu.com
ALIEN LAND LAW

(Continued from page 1)

some time to look at the impact of this," agreed Mori. "Particularly for the governors to be able to go back and let their chapters know what the issues are.

Although Mori stands by JACL's 1994 resolution, he personally is against same-sex marriage. "Personally I would be against same-sex marriage," he said. "Whether you're Buddhist or Christian, marriage has always been the union of a man and a woman.

Kent Inouye, vice president of public affairs, had pushed for an official national board stance on the issue of the debate should be on the proposed changes to the U.S. Constitution.

"I really believe that we need to make a statement about the constitu­
tional process and how it can be used to limit people's rights. We have to protect the rights of minori­ties," said Inouye, who noted that it was only a short while ago that intermarriage was banned in the United States. "I hope that our members understand that sometime we take positions because it's the right thing to do, not necessarily because we have great comfort in them.

Inouye proposes to motion a proposition opposing a constitutional amend­ment on the May 23-24 national meeting in San Francisco. But JACL, in essence, has already taken a position on the same-sex marriage issue with its support of the LCCR letter delivered to various members of Congress earlier this month.

It states in part that "The LCCR letter believes that this highly divisive amendment is a dangerous and unnecessary approach to reopen the ongoing debate over same-sex marriage, and it would turn 252 years of Constitutional history on its head by requiring that states actually restrict the civil rights of their own citizens."

The groups note that the "Federal Marriage Amendment" would pro­hibit states from providing equal marriage rights to same-sex couples and would also deprive same-sex couples of the many protections including hospital visitations, inheri­tance rights, and health care bene­fits.

The groups also state that same­
mariage is between two people of the opposite sex but leaves open the possibility for states to allow civil unions.

In more than 200 years the U.S. Constitution has only been amended 17 times. In addition, an effort to ban same-sex marriage will be easy, requiring two-thirds majority in both the House and Senate and ratification by 38 of 50 states.

Joining JACL in support of the LCCR letter are: the American Civil Liberties Union, NAACP, Jewish Labor Committee, American Federation of Government Employees and the Center for Women Policy Studies.

The American Civil Liberties Union issue of same-sex marriage is likely to continue as the national JACL board prepares to reevaluate its position once again at the May meeting.

"It's a really personal and emotional issue," said Tashiri. "I just hope people can think objectively as they debate this issue."

Sun.—Sun., March 28-31—Batchelors and Bachelorettes go to Japan; www.oizumi.com.

Sat., March 27—Mount Olympus Theater, George Mason University, JACL 75th Anniversary Convention: Jessica.Amtson @Colorado.edu.


Sat., March 20—South Orange County JACL; breakfast; 10-11 a.m.; confirmation of scholarship winners; Alumni Association; www.socjACL.org.

Fri., March 19—Center for Asian Pacific Culture, University of Southern California, 1390 Cesar Chaves St., behind the El Cerrito Library. Memorial, registration, info: Dean Suzuki, 213/825-1454.

Wed., March 24—Pacific Asian Museum, 600 De Lacey Ave., (look for sign at southern corner); exhibit, registration, info: Ms. Hirakawa, 847/262-0750.


Sun., March 28—Sunday Movie Night; 8 p.m.; Pacific Asia Museum, 244 S. San Pedro St., East L.A. Information, registration: 626/449-2742 ext. 19; www.pacificasianmuseum.org.

Mon., March 22—Public Lecture; “The New Asian American Environment for the Internet Era Learning”, 4:15-5:30 p.m.; Porona Elementary School, 5025 E. Diversey, Chicago, IL 60638; Free and open to the public; Info: 773/728-0770.

Sun., April 4—“Remembering,”; 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m.; JACL 75th Anniversary Convention, www.socaljACL.org.

Sun., March 28—Second Annual “Xenomancer” Invitational Basketball Tournament; 1-7 p.m. Saturday, noon-6 p.m. Sunday; 2841 Main St., Long Beach; To register, info: manzcomm@yahoo.com. To ride the light rail to the event, use the Friday before date of issue.
You can't always be there. But you can still be close. With the most wireless coverage in North America and great low international rates to over 220 countries, an AT&T Wireless phone is the only phone you'll ever need. attwireless.com. 1-866-reachout

©2004 AT&T Wireless. All Rights Reserved. Geographic restrictions, device compatibility and other charges, terms and restrictions apply. Special credit and billing requirements apply. Coverage is subject to transmission limitations and terrain, system, regulatory and other limitations, not all phones available with all offers. You will be bound by the Service Agreement and rate plan materials. Country list and rates subject to change without notice. See attwireless.com for details.