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Since 1929

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

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P.C. FEATURE

Family Portraits

In the heated debate over gay rights, LGBT APAs caught in a 'social twilight' are defining their own meaning of love and family.

By **LYNDA LIN**
Assistant Editor

When Vega Subramaniam first met Mala Nagarajan she was thrilled to just find another South Asian woman in Bellingham, Washington. Like many other second-generation Asian Pacific Americans looking to connect with their communities, Vega and Mala were initially just happy in their familiar backgrounds, but their relationship continued to develop until Vega asked Mala for her hand in marriage. When her proposal was accepted, Vega says she "felt her soul sing."

But their June 2002 wedding day not only signified the beginning of the rest of their lives together, but also the beginning of their own personal battle in the war for same-sex marriage recognition and equality.

Among other rights denied because they are a same-sex couple,

Mala and Vega can face legal complications when filing income tax returns, establishing hospital visitation rights for each other or even renting a car. But in addition to these struggles that all same-sex couples in the United States still face, Mala and Vega also had to find acceptance within their ethnic communities.

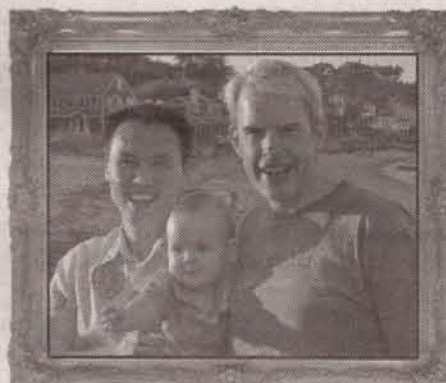
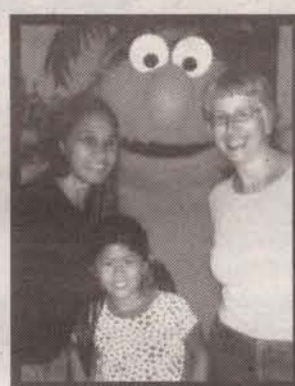
"Anyone who seemed comfortable with [his/her] sexuality was 'not like me' and anyone whom I could identify with culturally did not make me feel safer," said Vega, about growing up in the Seattle area.

And she is not alone. Generations of APA same-sex couples share similar experiences — in addition to reconciling their racial identities, they also had to fuse their sexual identities into generally intolerant ethnic cultures. Because of this, many lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) APAs often find themselves having to choose between their ethnic and sexual identities.

In order to participate in the more active mainstream LGBT organizations, Mala said that her South Asian-ness was invisible or deleted. And when Kim Swindle-Bautista decided to come out at the age of 22,



A Thousand Words: APA families captured in every day moments. (Clockwise) Vega Subramaniam and Mala Nagarajan at their Hindu wedding; Angeline Acain with partner Susan Eisenberg and daughter Jiana; Lance and Stuart Chen-Hayes with 14-month-old son.



she said she had to uproot from her home state of Indiana and move to more diverse California because she did not want to "throw sexuality into the minority mix."

"Ethnicity does complicate being LGBT because we face multiple bases of discrimination," said Doreena Wong, a Chinese American attorney who has shared her life with partner, Jenny Pizer, for

the past 20 years. "I have experienced the constant questioning of why people have treated me a certain way. Is it because I am Asian ... a woman ... [or] a lesbian?"

Rev. Patrick S. Cheng, an ordained priest who is also gay, has researched and written extensively on the spiritual lives of LGBT

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JACL Solidifies Stance Supporting Same-sex Marriage

In a bold move, JACL signs on as amicus curiae to ACLU lawsuit defending same-sex marriage in Oregon.

By **CAROLINE AOYAGI**
Executive Editor

The issue of same-sex marriage has long been a point of contention amongst its ranks, but JACL is standing firm in its support of same-sex marriage.

In a move that is sure to anger some while garnering praise from others, the JACL has signed on as amicus curiae to an ACLU lawsuit supporting same-sex marriage that is currently before the Oregon Supreme Court.

"I strongly believe that if we stand for civil rights and commit ourselves to ensuring equal treatment for all people in this country, we should live by that principle, no matter how hard it is for us at times," said John Tateishi, JACL executive director. "This is not an easy issue for us, by any means, but it's important that we support it

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With Little Debate, Fort Bend County, Texas Quickly Votes to Rename 'Jap Road'

By **CAROLINE AOYAGI**
Executive Editor

Two down, one more to go.

In a move that was surprising in its swiftness and lack of controversy, the Fort Bend County, Texas Commissioners unanimously approved the renaming of "Jap Road" at a public hearing Sept. 28.

"Jap Road" near the City of Orchard will now be known as

"Moore Ranch Road."

Texan Sandra Tanamachi, head of the Committee to Change Jap Road (CCJR), attended the recent Fort Bend County hearing and was delighted with the swiftness of the vote to rename the road.

"I honestly thought that it was going to be that simple and quick in Jefferson County when I initially

out how offensive the word 'Jap' was to Japanese Americans, that they would understand and change the name of the road," she added. "I never thought it would end up being a 12-year battle"

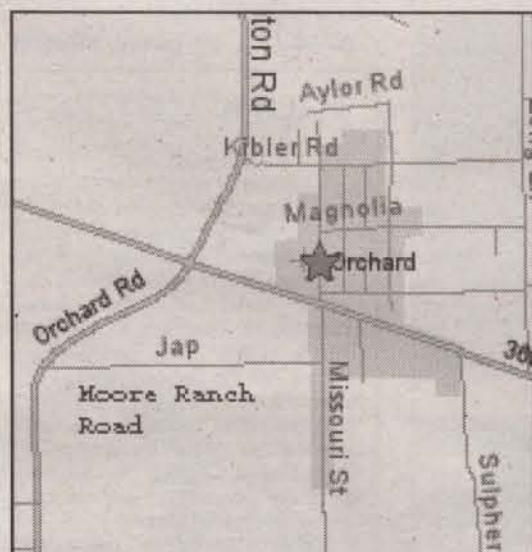
The Fort Bend County vote comes just a little over two months after Tanamachi wrote a letter to Judge Robert Hebert and the other County Commissioners alerting them to the fact that "Jap Road" still existed in their county. The commissioners immediately agreed that the road name needed to be changed and the issue was placed on the agenda.

"Fort Bend County Judge Robert Hebert and Commissioners wanted to do the right thing," said Tanamachi. They "did not want to be caught up in the same type of

controversy or have the bad press that Jefferson County had," she added.

The Fort Bend County decision

See TEXAS ROAD/ Page 12



approached them in 1992," said Tanamachi, referring to her more than 10-year campaign to have Jefferson County, Texas rename a similar road.

"I thought that once they found



Meditation: Yuk Kwan, a long-time member of Yuan Yung Buddhist Temple in Southern California chants a sutra during morning service. The temple is expanding to larger facilities, but residents near the new site want to keep them out.

PHOTO: LYNDA LIN

Buddhists and Local Residents at Odds Over Proposed Temple

By **LYNDA LIN**
Assistant Editor

MONTEBELLO, Calif.—Eyes softly shut, Shih Di Guan leads the chant of Buddhist sutra. The cadence of her poetry rises and falls in unison with a dozen other devout voices gathered in the worship room of the California Yuan Yung Buddhist Temple for morning service.

Most of the worshippers pray for enlightenment, peace and protection. Their rhythmic murmuring occasionally mixes with the bleating of street traffic outside — a modern signifier of the religion's perseverance through time and dislocation from its birth land to its current home in a modest cement and brick

building.

This morning, they also pray for protection from enemies — the ones who vocally oppose the temple's move onto a plot of land in their residential neighborhood. Fourteen years after it was established, the temple is looking to build much larger facilities 16 miles away in the hills of Rowland Heights, an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County. But instead of being welcomed by the predominantly Asian residents, the temple is being protested.

"Until we have serious, serious wrecks and some people are killed, then the county will react. We're trying to be proactive," said

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COMMENTARY

A Referendum on American Liberty

By STEWART DAVID IKEDA

Lessons learned from the 2000 election debacle were powerfully refreshed for me at a recent rally in my battle-ground state of Wisconsin. Asians, Blacks, Jews, Lutherans, Latinos, Russians, gay and straight, elderly and collegian, even Independents and Republicans — a crowd as diverse as I've ever seen in my infamously segregated city — met to hear from our maverick Senator, who stood against the Patriot Act.

Beyond any partisanship, Japanese Americans must appreciate how courageous, lonely and thankless a path Russ Feingold took in his early opposition to the Act's blanket undermining of civil liberties. Some have impugned his loyalty for defending civil liberties; derided his position against racial profiling as "pandering to minority interests"; attacked his bipartisan championship, with John McCain, of campaign finance reform. However, my neighbors of all parties and ethnicities are proud of this principled independence — a notable virtue in what my cousins see as my "quirky little Cheesehead state."

The Senator rebutted the attacks by passionately detailing his commitment to combating terrorism, the need to pursue and "destroy" bin Laden, and efforts he's spearheaded to track Al Qaeda cells proliferating outside the Middle East. And it is equally important, he insisted, to defend Americans' civil liberties, economic well-being, health, and position on the world stage.

Gwen Moore, an inspiring candidate to become Wisconsin's first African American U.S. Rep., also spoke about civil liberties with the

no-nonsense toughness of a mom who pulled herself up from welfare. "If we had the Patriot Act in the 60s and 70s, we'd all be in jail," she observed sternly to fellow baby boomers, referring to historic demonstrations for civil rights, women's equality and against war policies in Southeast Asia.

Hearing them moved me, not only because of my family's internment, but because JAs have long seemed out of synch with our countrymen, as we all often fail to grasp an obvious point. Wrong-headed folk discount the civil rights act as "a Black thing" or civil liberties as "a Japanese or immigrant thing." But the fundamental principle underlying both is: We are all Americans and we have inalienable rights if we assert and defend them. When Feingold memorably observed, "It's called the Bill of Rights, not the Bill of Suggestions," I thought, *Finally, everyone gets it.*

Or do we? I learned in childhood to respect and not question elders. In my family, generations avoid politics at the kitchen table; nobody knows who the other is voting for. But sometimes, discussing other issues, I hear some Nisei say they "haven't followed the Patriot Act," feel "it doesn't affect us," or may not vote.

Of the hundreds of Nisei I've met nationwide, many have asked why someone like me — a monolingual, Hapa Yonsei raised in White East Coast suburbs — spent years learning about our community's past, published a book about our American journey, discussed civil liberties and diversity in interviews and lectures, taught Asian American studies, and worked in ethnic media. The answer: *Giri, on*, and the value of American freedom were lessons I learned from my family.

The FBI jailed my Issei great-grandmother for teaching the Japanese language to schoolchildren. My Nisei grandfather's college

barred him as a student of Japanese ancestry. My Sansei aunt was born in a ramshackle desert prison hospital because nobody cared about her innocence. Although they never complained about it, I learned that "serious injustices were done to them," as President's Bush's father said in his reparations letter. That letter promised commitment to freedom, equality and justice, but the lessons of the Nisei are already being willfully forgotten. Malkin's "Defense of Internment," Coble's justification of camps for *own our good*, bans on "Snow Falling on Cedars," attacks on Norm Mineta's patriotism or Dan Inouye's heroic sacrifices — we're going backward fast.

This election is a referendum on American liberty, but this isn't as "partisan" as it sounds. However the parties spin it, commitment to our freedoms is no more exclusive to Democrats than concern for security is to the GOP. Many Republicans worry about the Federal government's unchecked power over our

Local Elections — Make Your Vote Count

The late speaker of the house, Thomas "Tip" O'Neal once said that "all politics is local." It is very true. Most everything that we do — the food we eat, the houses we live in, the schools our children attend — all are brought to us through political decisions, mostly at the local level.

This November, we will elect a president based on an unprecedented amount of information. Yet, what will we know about our local city council and school board candidates? These people make decisions that have a profound effect on our daily lives, and therefore we should be as concerned about who represents us in local offices as we should about who occupies the White House.

In an increasingly complex, multi-layered, diverse society, we must support leaders who are skilled in building bridges rather than erecting walls. To guide us into the 21st century, we must demand that city council members, school board trustees and county supervisors be able bring people together and build a collaborative vision based on trust and shared commitment. This has been a guiding principle of a man I consider a mentor and good friend — our very own Ken Inouye.

As citizens, we cannot afford to

freedoms. At the farthest tip of the right wing, the religious Constitution Party denounced the Act as "one of the worst usurpations of Americans' basic rights" in history. Indeed, every candidate from the six parties seeking the Presidency opposes the Patriot Act — from Greens to Nader to Libertarians. Every candidate, that is, except one.

"Nations, like individuals, make mistakes," FDR himself finally admitted. "We must be big enough to acknowledge our mistakes of the past and correct them."

The sad fact is, this is the last election for many of our aging Nisei — a final opportunity to correct a tragic mistake. Whichever candidates or party Nisei pull the lever for, it *must* be clear that preserving civil liberties, civil rights and fairness are our mandate to them. As internment's "last witnesses," Nisei hold the power — the obligation — to ensure we *never* forget the lessons they taught us. Anything less will be to the lasting shame of us all.

Stewart David Ikeda is author of "What the Scarecrow Said" and is the vice president of IMDiversity.com.

ignore what is happening at the local level. With all the attention on the presidential race, remember that neither John Kerry nor George Bush will be greeting your child everyday at school. They will not be writing your traffic ticket. Nor will they be determining whether your business permit gets approved or who gets emergency healthcare.

We JAs know the value of citizenship perhaps more than any other API group. Let's make sure our vote counts!

Michael Matsuda
Yorba Linda, CA

Remembering Congressman Horton

On Aug. 30 former Congressman Frank Horton, R-NY, died from a stroke at the age of 84. Unfortunately, a *Washington Post* obituary failed to mention that Congressman Horton was the lead sponsor for the congressional joint resolution that resulted in President Carter designating the first week in May 1979 as the first National Asian Pacific American Heritage Week. Today, the contributions and achievements made by APAs are recognized during the entire month of May of each year which is now permanently designated as National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Horton grew up in Texas and had a connection with the Lost Battalion. He mentioned his gratitude to the 442nd RCT as one of the reasons why he sponsored the joint resolution. The Asian Pacific American Heritage Council for several years has honored Congressman Horton's leadership by awarding an annual scholarship in his name.

I did not want his passing to go without acknowledging that the designation of the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and all the associated activities started with Congressman Horton's leadership and friendship to APAs. He was a friend, and he will be missed.

Gerald H. Yamada
Washington, D.C.



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

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

MANAA Blasts Racial Slurs By Pulitzer Prize Winning Author

Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA) is criticizing Pulitzer Prize-winning author Seymour Hersh for saying "the nips" in a recent radio interview.

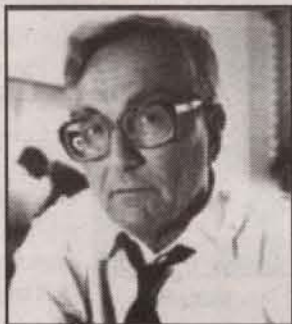
On Sept. 14 Hersh was on National Public Radio's "Fresh Air" with Terry Gross promoting his latest book, "Chain Of Command: The Road to Abu Ghraib," which criticizes the Bush administration's handling of the Iraqi prisoner abuse scandal. Gross asked the author to compare the reaction he was getting to this book with his investigation of the My Lai massacre in Vietnam (for which he won the Pulitzer Prize) and the secret bombing of Cambodia.

In rambling fashion, Hersh recalled going to Saturday afternoon movies toward the end of World War II: "We were fighting the nips, and it was always — the Americans were John Wayne and Van Johnson and Robert Mitchum were always fellow fighters, you know, against the nips, and they would be — one night they'd all be carousing and fighting over a nurse, and the next day they were up in the air and they're up against the nips. And there would be a scene — and the nips always flew with their canopies closed and squinting and these little leather hats that were tied under — you know, little bows

under their chin."

Hersh referred to the Japanese enemy as "the nips" a total of seven times.

On Sept. 30, MANAA founding President Guy Aoki wrote an e-mail to Hersh's publicist at Harper Collins, Jennifer Swihart: "We were shocked that such a reputable and progressive journalist would use a racial slur so casually, inferring that



SEYMOUR HERSH

it was all right. We believe Mr. Hersh should clarify his comments publicly and set the record straight about such terms, which have been used to dehumanize a group of people (i.e. Japanese Americans — who had nothing to do with bombing Pearl

Harbor — were called 'Japs' and 'nips' so much that the general public supported 120,000 of them being put in internment camps for the duration of the war.)"

"Surely Mr. Hersh cannot use the excuse that he was using terminology deemed permissible at the time (when talking about the period when blacks were slaves, would he be comfortable referring to them as 'Niggers?') We look forward to his prompt response on this matter."

Swihart responded that she would forward Aoki's e-mail to the author, but MANAA has yet to hear from Hersh. ■

Gov. Signs Kenny's Law, Legislation That Provides New Hate Crime Protections

A hate crimes bill providing new protections for victims was signed into law by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger Sept. 28 and will go into effect Jan. 1, 2005.

AB 2428, also known as Kenny's Law, will provide hate crime victims with an automatic protective order once their perpetrator is released on probation, parole or conditional release from a state hospital. Additionally, it will give courts and relevant agencies the authority to order anti-bias or sensitivity training for a hate crime perpetrator.

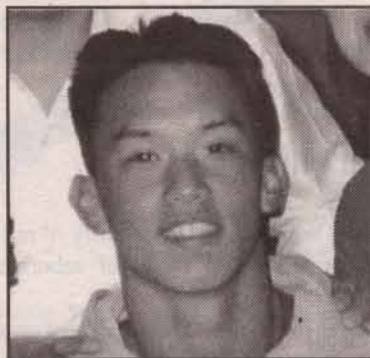
"Hate crimes are unique in that perpetrators often target the same individual over and over again with escalating violence," said Assembly Member Judy Chu, author of the bill. "That is why it is crucial for us to provide victims and their families with protective orders once a perpetrator is back out on the street."

AB 2428 is named after Kenneth Chiu, a 17-year-old Taiwanese American who was murdered in Laguna Hills on June 30, 2001, by his next-door neighbor, Christopher Hearn.

Hearn stabbed Chiu over 25 times in the driveway of his own home.

After the murder, Hearn expressed that he "left proud that [he] acted like a Marine, like a KKK [Ku Klux Klan] person." He also expressed hatred for Asians and other minorities.

Despite being found guilty of first-degree murder with special



KENNY CHIU

enhancement for lying in wait and hate animus, Hearn was ultimately found not guilty by reason of insanity and was sent to a state mental institution instead of prison.

After Hearn's trial, Chu convened a public hearing on the case. Information presented at the hearing led to the introduction of Kenny's Law.

"I am glad that we were able to do something to help other families and victims of hate crimes," said Christopher Chiu, Kenny's father. "I think that Kenny would want to make sure that this doesn't happen to anybody else."

The Chiu family played a key role in advocating for the passage of Kenny's Law. Christopher Chiu traveled to Sacramento twice to testify before the Assembly and Senate Public Safety committee.

"Kenny was not only a victim of Christopher Hearn's violence, he was also a victim of our societal failure to meaningfully address hatred and to prevent such horrible crimes," said Stewart Kwok, president and executive director of The Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), one of three co-sponsors for Kenny's Law.

"Kenny's Law brings us much closer towards meaningfully addressing these dangers while improving our ability to protect victims."

The other co-sponsors of the bill were Chinese for Affirmative Action and Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality. ■

APAs Are Concerned About Congressional Action on the 9/11 Commission Recommendations

The Asian Pacific American community expressed grave concerns that majority leaders in the House of Representatives are using the implementation of the 9/11 Commission recommendations to promote unrelated policies harmful to APAs.

The "9/11 Recommendations Implementation Act" (HR 10), introduced Sept. 24 in the House, includes a number of sweeping provisions that are unrelated to the content of the Commission's report, and actually run counter to some of the Commission's most serious and important recommendations.

"I am concerned that section 3009 of HR 10 will negatively impact members of our immigrant communities, including members of the Asian Pacific Islander American community, and will significantly restrict immigrants' rights by under-

mining basic due process protection," said U.S. Rep. Mike Honda, chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC).

HR 10's Section 3009 would

HR 10 also directly conflicts with important commission recommendations concerning the need to protect civil liberties and to institute checks and balances ensuring new anti-terrorism policies are effective and just.

'Americans have the insight, capacity and fortitude to develop national security policies that are effective, humane and sensible.'

Karen K. Narasaki, NAPALC

expand certain USA Patriot Act provisions, undermining due process by prohibiting habeas corpus review of most immigration decisions. Section 3009 also precludes federal courts from granting stays while deportation cases are pending. Finally, the provision authorizes the government to deport foreign nationals to countries that lack a functioning government.

The commission also stressed a need for America to "offer an example of moral leadership in the world, commit to treating people humanely, abide by the rule of law, and be

generous and caring to our neighbors," a goal contradicted by many of HR 10's provisions.

"Americans have the insight, capacity and fortitude to develop national security policies that are effective, humane and sensible," said Karen K. Narasaki, president and executive director of NAPALC (National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium.) ■

University of Michigan's Admissions Policy Still an Issue in Upcoming Elections

By JAMES PRICHARD
Associated Press Writer

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — More than a year has passed since the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the University of Michigan's undergraduate admissions policy as too formulaic because it awarded points based on race.

But the decision remains an important issue to several people running in the Nov. 2 election for two seats coming open on the school's Board of Regents.

Two seats each also are opening on the Michigan State University Board of Trustees and the Wayne State University Board of Governors.

The top two vote-getters in each of the three races will win. Each term runs eight years.

Michigan State's is the only board

controlled by Republicans, who outnumber Democrats 5-3. Democrats hold a 5-3 edge over Republicans on the other two boards.

On the University of Michigan board, the two seats up for election are held by Democrats Olivia Maynard and S. Martin Taylor. Both are seeking re-election and hoping to fend off eight other candidates.


Maynard, 68, of Goodrich says the two Republicans "have platforms that are against affirmative action."

"Now that the court has affirmed diversity in terms of education, it's really important that we make that decision work," says Maynard, president of The Michigan Prospect for Renewed Citizenship, a Flint-based think tank. "We don't want to look back 25 years from now and say that we had this decision and then we just sort of let it sit there."


The high court in June 2003 upheld a general affirmative action policy in place at the university's law school while declaring its undergraduate formula to be too rigid. In response, the University of Michigan adopted a new undergraduate application that still considers race, but does not award points.

"The platform we're on, where we actually have a statement, is that we are for accountability," says Republican candidate Patrick Anderson. "We'll insist on a vote on the admissions policy, which the incumbents did not have during the entire debacle of the losing Supreme Court cases."

Anderson, 45, lives in Clinton County's Bath Township and is founder and principal of East Lansing-based Anderson Economic Group, LLC. ■





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National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Matsunaka Fears Voter Backlash After Ads Attack Opponent

DENVER—Democrat Stan Matsunaka, currently challenging Republican Rep. Marilyn Musgrave in the upcoming elections, fears a voter backlash against his campaign after negative ads appeared attacking his opponent.



Matsunaka has long denied any connection to the group behind the ads showing an actress portraying Musgrave picking the pockets of U.S. soldiers and accusing the Republican of voting to cut \$1.5 billion in veterans' benefits.

The ads are by the group Colorado Families First.

California's Quintessential White Suburbia Now Has Minority

GARDEN GROVE, Calif.—Minorities now make up a majority of residents in Orange County, California's quintessential swath of suburbia, according to census data released recently.

One city that illustrates the rapid changes in Orange County, an area once known across the country as white, conservative and Republican, is Garden Grove, a city that now celebrates a Korean Festival, a Tet Festival and an Arab Festival.

Overall, 55 percent of California's 35.5 million residents are minorities, compared with 53 percent of 34 million residents in 2000, the data shows.

Fargo Mosque Vandalized

FARGO, N.D.—The Washington-based Council on American-Islamic Relations is calling for increased police protection at mosques in the United States after recent reports of vandalism, including one in this city.

Fargo police say feces was smeared on a door and tobacco juice was spit on the doorknob. Authorities say they do not know if the crime was hate-motivated.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations, an Islamic civil rights and advocacy group, said Islamic centers in Minnesota also were vandalized recently. The vandalism included paintballs splattered on a building, fire damage to a storage shed and a bottle of rotten eggs thrown at worshippers.

Vandalism targeted at Muslims also has been reported recently in Texas, Arizona, New York, Virginia, New Jersey and Washington, D.C., the council said. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

UC Berkeley Names Residence Hall in Honor of Yori Wada



UC Berkeley recently honored the late Yori Wada by naming one of its residence halls the Yori Wada Apartments.

A former regent of the University of California, Wada passed away on Thanksgiving Day 1997 at the age of 80. A respected civil rights advocate in the Bay Area, Wada is remembered for his years of dedication to the Asian Pacific American community.

The Yori Wada Apartments are located on Dwight Way west of College Avenue, just four blocks to the UC Berkeley campus.

NAPALC Presents American Courage Award to MIS

The National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC) awarded its American Courage Award to the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) who served during World War II.

The Courage Award honored the 6,000 Japanese American vets who served in the MIS both during WWII and during the Occupation of Japan.

U.S. Rep. Mike Honda presented the award to Colonel Harry K. Fukuhara, who accepted the award on behalf of the MIS at NAPALC's annual dinner Oct. 7.

Murase Named New Dept. Director

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom has appointed Emily Murase as director for the Department on the Status of Women.

The department fosters the advancement of women and girls in the public and private sector.

Murase served as director for International Economic Affairs under the Clinton Administration, where she prepared policy recommendations on Japan and China.

Citigroup Hires Miyamoto to Head FX Products, Services Unit

Arnold Miyamoto is the new global head of Citigroup's New York-based FX business.

The former head of Bank of America risk management group will now be overseeing Citigroup Products and Services unit to provide solution-driven products. ■

Last Chance to Purchase Tickets to Honor the Generations

Time is running out to purchase tickets for the Pacific Southwest District's "Celebrating Our 75th Anniversary" fundraising dinner Oct. 23. Four generations of Japanese Americans — the Issei, Nisei, Sansei, and future generations — will be honored at this annual event.

"We are very excited to be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the JACL and honoring those who had the courage and passion to pave the way for our future," said Hiromi Ueha, PSWD governor. "We must never forget our past, and must always strive in our future."

Representing the various generations will be speakers: Akemi Kikumura-Yano, Warren Furutani, Alayne Yonemoto, and Eric Nakano.

Kikumura-Yano, author of "Through Harsh Winters: The Life of a Japanese Immigrant Woman," will speak about the Issei and their

pioneering spirit that laid the foundation for the community. Warren Furutani, L.A. Community College Board of Trustees, will talk about



KIKUMURA-YANO



FURUTANI



YONEMOTO



NAKANO

the Nisei, the generation that endured the hardships of World War II but whose courage led them to

build new communities post-war.

Alayne Yonemoto, PSW district vice-governor, will speak about the Sansei, whose determination to seek social justice spearheaded the historic redress movement. And finally, Eric Nakano, former PSWD intern and recent national JACL scholarship winner, will represent the future generations that include the Yonsei, Gosei, and Hapa.

Funds raised at the annual PSWD dinner will go towards the district's youth programs.

The PSWD dinner will take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Commerce Casino, 6121 East Telegraph Road, Commerce, California 90040. There will be a no-host cocktail at 6:00 p.m. and dinner will follow at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$100 per person. For tickets, contact the PSWD office at 213/626-4471, psw@jACL.org. ■

Inouye Challenger Cavasso Faces Big Task

By B.J. REYES
Associated Press Writer

HONOLULU—Republican Cam Cavasso may as well be trying to surf 30-foot waves on the North Shore, or stepping into the ring against recently retired sumo grand champion Musashimaru.

Neither task is impossible, just very intimidating.

It's a lot like his campaign for the U.S. Senate.

Cavasso is facing seven-term Democratic Sen. Daniel Inouye who has been in Congress for all of Hawaii's 45 years of statehood.

Not only is Cavasso, 53, challenging a popular Democrat in a traditionally Democratic state — Inouye, 80, won his last term in 1998 with 76 percent of the vote —

he's doing it with roughly \$1 for every \$500 in Inouye's campaign war chest.

Cavasso, a state House member



from 1984 to 1990 who lost a bid for lieutenant governor two years ago, has relied mostly on grass-roots campaigning, having spent just \$2,875, with \$3,564 left on hand at the end of August.

At last report, Inouye had spent about \$844,000 on his campaign, and still had about \$1.8 million on hand. That covers spending reported up to Aug. 29 to the Federal Election Commission.

Cavasso, however, points to Gov.

Linda Lingle's victory in 2002 — the first by a Republican in 40 years — as evidence that his is not an impossible dream.

"Linda Lingle's victory two years ago says that Hawaii is ready for change from top to bottom," said Cavasso. "It is time for change and Hawaii is ready for change."

"Dan Inouye no longer represents the hearts and families of Hawaii."

But Inouye also recognizes the significance of Lingle's historic victory.

"I never take things for granted," he said in a recent telephone interview from Washington.

In recent weeks, he's taken out a series of television commercials touting his accomplishments during more than four decades in Washington. ■

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JACL Diablo Valley Chapter Names Scholarship Recipients



The chapter recognized the following recipients: Quyen Troung, left, (George S. Fujioka Memorial Scholarship), Eduard J. Flores, right, (Dr. Yoshiye Togasaki Scholarship Endowment Fund) and Marcy Ronneburg (Dr. Togasaki Special Awardee).

JACL Eden Township Chapter Awards High School Seniors



The annual Eden JACL Scholarship Awards Potluck Dinner was held at the Eden Community Center to award four recipients selected on academics and extracurricular activities. This year's recipients are (from left): Brandon Tanizawa, Ken Watanabe, Tyler Hirabayashi, and Steve Kawabata. ■

Chinese Historical Society of America Receives National Trust National Preservation Honor Award

The National Trust for Historic Preservation presented the Chinese Historical Society of America (CHSA) of San Francisco with its prestigious National Preservation Honor Award Sept. 30.

CHSA was one of 22 national award winners honored by the National Trust at its weeklong 2004 National Preservation Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

Known as the "Lantern on the Hill," the new Chinese Historical Society of America Museum & Learning Center is a San Francisco hub where Chinese American culture and history comes alive.

In 1932, with the intention of integrating Chinese motifs and Western architecture, Julia Morgan designed the Chinatown YWCA. In 1996, after moving from one temporary location to another, CHSA purchased the YWCA building to accommodate expanding programs and exhibitions.

After an earthquake left the building sitting dormant for 14 years, the landmark was transformed into a museum and learning center for the Chinese American community as well as visitors from across the globe.

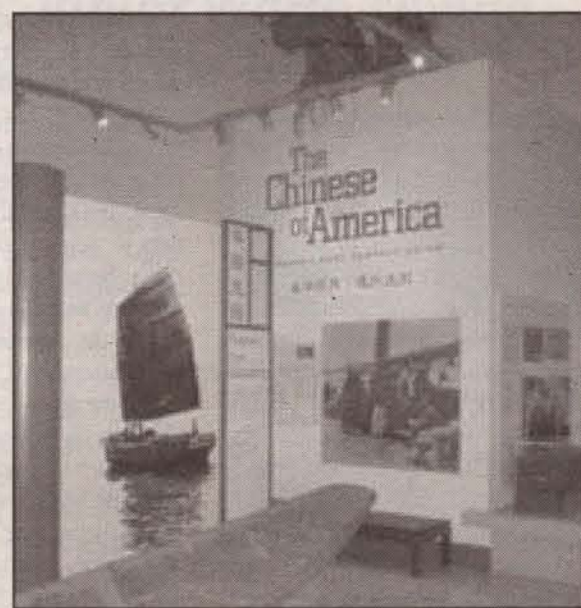
In order to maintain the original architect's designs, the CHSA commissioned Barcelon & Jang Architects to begin a restoration,

reuse and preservation plan.

Completed in 2001, the new museum and learning center incorporates much of the original historic structure and interiors with contemporary utilities. From restoring the three Chinese towers with wooden spires to meticulously matching original paint stains, the new museum is an elegant tribute to the building's original design.

Unlike many museum projects, the \$1.4 million funding for this renovation was a community effort. Working on a budget, the architects found unconventional ways to adapt the original structure into galleries and a learning center with a library and seminar space. As a community heritage museum, the CHSA Museum & Learning Center tells the story of Chinese immigrants' journey to America.

"The success of this museum is a testament to the value of preserving



Chinese Historical Society of America's main gallery.

historic buildings," said Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "The preservation and reuse of this landmark is a great accomplishment for the Chinese American community."

The National Preservation Honor Awards are bestowed on distinguished individuals, nonprofit organizations, public agencies and corporations whose skill and determination have given new meaning to their communities through preservation of their architectural and cultural heritage. ■

TEMPLE

(Continued from page 1)

Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council (RHCCC) Vice President Ted Ebenkamp, at a Oct. 1 press conference where the war of words continued. Opponents of the temple wore red shirts with the word, "No" emblazoned across their chests and displayed a sign with images of a skull and a damaged car.

Citing traffic and safety concerns, the Rowland Heights Residents Coalition (RHRC) and members of RHCCC joined forces to keep the proposed Buddhist temple project from being built near the busy intersection of Fullerton and Pathfinder Roads, which already has a failing grade for its congested condition.

Since plans were first submitted to the county in 1981, opponents have actively protested and effectively put a hold on the proposed project, which consists of 15 buildings with a total floor area of 57,433 square feet on 7.5 acres of land. Despite their protest measures, the L.A. County Regional Planning Commission recently gave the project a green light.

The volume of traffic the Buddhist Temple is expected to bring was an initial concern, said County Regional Planner Kevin Johnson. But several traffic impact studies revealed that with the application of several mitigation measures including: a video detection sensor, a left-turn pocket, a right-turn lane and a deceleration lane — which will be paid for by the temple — the project's impact on traffic will be adequately alleviated.

"Everything that we were concerned with has been addressed," said Ken Pellman, county public information officer.

Temple opponents, however, are not convinced.

Rowland Heights resident Jessica Chen said that her roommate recently got into an accident while trying to make a left turn on Fullerton Road. "I hear about accidents every week," she said.

Calling the traffic epicenter "a death trap waiting to happen," RHCCC and RHRC representatives labeled the Planning Commission's decision misguided and accused traffic and environmental reports of leaning unfairly in favor of the project. They fear the proposed temple will become a tourist attraction like the famous Hsi Lai Buddhist Temple in nearby Hacienda Heights. They say such large facilities, which include dormitory units, would attract busloads of people for boisterous events and ruin the residents' quality of life.

But the chaotic picture illustrated by residents is in stark contrast to the Buddhist Temple's recent morning service at its current site where the fenced parking lot remains relatively bare. Inside, an ornate Buddhist statue sits in front of a wall of lights as members and nuns quietly busy themselves with pre-service chores. When service begins, the room is filled with less than 20 people.

Guan, a nun at the Yuan Yung Temple, said similar services are held twice a month while larger quarterly services and annual special events attract approximately 100 worshippers. The temple relied on member donations to fund the project.

"We want a very quiet place for us to meditate. We want to cater to needs of our members," she said, adding that only 18 percent of land will be used to erect buildings, the rest will be designated for a garden and parking.

Yuan Yung members liken the comparison between their temple and the Hsi Lai Buddhist Temple to a comparison between a small store

and a Costco warehouse retailer.

Vera Yeh, a 10-year Yuan Yung member and volunteer, describes her temple as a low-key retreat that does not have the capacity to accommodate tourists. In the past, she said temple members had invited the protesters to visit their current facilities to see how small they are, but no one came.

The long-standing battle has also ignited accusations of religious discrimination. Project Consultant Michael Lewis pointed out that there are already two religious facilities and another one is being proposed in the same area as the proposed Buddhist Temple site. In addition, Guan said members of Christian Zion Church in the area were allegedly praying for the project's failure because of its "devil worship."

But both the RHCCC and the RHRC say their protest is not grounded on religious reasons and vow to appeal the Planning Commission's decision to the L.A. Board of Supervisors and explore litigation options.

"Eighty percent of land in other parts of Rowland Heights is classified ... for churches or religious institutions," said Ebenkamp, adding, "The area where the Buddhist Temple is set to expand is designated for rural, single-family use ... to maintain the heritage of the land for agriculture or horse riding."

Lewis said that if residents do appeal, they will make the same case to the Board of Supervisors that were made to the Planning Commission.

Through it all, Guan said the experience has not embittered temple goers who just want a space to worship.

"Anything that happens, we'll take it. But also, every time we pray for them. I believe all our members pray for them," she said. ■

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LAWSUIT

(Continued from page 1)

because there's a class of people in Oregon who stand to be legally discriminated against if this case loses."

The ACLU lawsuit challenges an Oregon law currently in the books that denies marriage rights to same-sex couples. JACL's amicus brief in *Li vs. Oregon* states in part: "The issues presented in this case implicate the equality of individuals and their access to marriage ... affirming marriage as a fundamental human right that should not be barred to same-sex couples."

The ACLU lawsuit was filed in Multnomah County Circuit Court in March on behalf of nine same-sex couples and Basic Rights Oregon. In late September, the group filed its opening brief in the case before the Oregon Supreme Court and oral arguments are scheduled for Nov. 17.

"When we were asked by ACLU of Oregon to sign on with them as amicus curiae, on a case going before the Oregon Supreme Court, we quickly notified national headquarters that it would be our intent to partner with ACLU of Oregon," said Chip Larouche, JACL Portland chapter co-president. "The chapter was very pleased when national JACL quickly opted to partner with ACLU at the national level due to the importance of this issue to the entire organization."

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Membership Coordinator

The Japanese American Citizens League is seeking a Membership Coordinator at its national headquarters in San Francisco. Under the general supervision of the National Executive Director, the membership coordinator will be responsible for developing and maintaining membership, membership services, and membership-related matters for the national organization. The Membership Coordinator performs a wide variety of duties to ensure the maintenance and development of JACL's membership, as well as oversees the direct-mail fund raising efforts. Some travel and work on weekends and evenings required. College graduate with one to three years of progressively more responsible work experience in developing membership and membership services preferred. Must be experienced in the use of computer database technology and e-mail.

Position is full-time. Excellent fringe benefit package provided. Competitive salary commensurate with experience. Send resume and cover letter to: JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115. Attn: National Executive Director.

Rich Iwasaki, JACL Portland chapter co-president, also noted, "The Portland chapter has been very clear and careful about focusing on the civil rights aspect of the issues surrounding same-sex marriage, which is a multi-faceted issue."

The JACL has already gone on record in support of same-sex marriage. At a national convention in 1994, the council passed a resolution in support of same-sex marriage becoming only the second non-gay, national civil rights organization to support same-sex marriage, after the ACLU.

But the recent decision to support the Oregon lawsuit is sure to still raise debate and disagreement amongst JACL's ranks, as has happened in the past. In fact, the decision comes shortly after two same-sex resolutions at the JACL national convention in Hawaii in early August were rejected by committee and thus, never made it to the floor for debate.

"Our members must know that JACL will always stand up for justice, even when it may not be popular to do so," said Ken Inouye, JACL national president. "The realization of true social justice is not an easy task but it would never be achieved if individuals and organizations were not willing to stand up for what they believe is right."

The issue of same-sex marriage was raised several times during former national JACL president Floyd Mori's tenure. Although he favors equal rights for gays he has long been against same-sex marriage.

"The same sex marriage issue is a divisive issue that JACL should avoid," said Mori. "There are those who wish to make a statement, however, the same divisive impact upon JACL is not wise nor healthy at this time."

He added, "There are protections for domestic partners and we support such laws. In addition, I personally support fully the concept of equal rights under the law for gays but I do not accept the concept of same-sex marriage."

Tateishi expects there will be some unhappy members but believes it's important to continue educating JACLers about the issue.

"In general, for the Nisei and Sansei, gay rights is still a relatively new phenomenon, and for some or many, it's uncomfortable," he said. "There are those who oppose same-sex marriage on religious or ideological grounds, but for most, I think it's a question of understanding the issue and becoming comfortable with it."

Added Tateishi, "I suspect that at some point, years from now, the issue of gay rights will have evolved to the point that it's no longer a major social issue, just as mixed-marriage has evolved to the point of being a non-issue nowadays."

As JACL wades into the same-sex marriage debate, 11 states across the nation are preparing to vote on various ballot measures that seek a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. The issue is being debated amongst the states after both the Senate and House defeated a measure calling for a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

In addition to Measure 36 in Oregon, the states of Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Utah are looking at ballot measures that will be decided during the Nov. 2 elections. Ohio is currently working on a petition drive to get the issue on the ballot.

Already the states of Missouri and Louisiana have voted to ban same-

sex marriage. Currently, Massachusetts is the only state that allows same-sex marriages and performed its first ceremony in May.

The state of Oregon has in the past rejected several anti-gay measures and activists are hopeful Measure 36 will be defeated. In a recent independent poll, 51 percent of likely voters favored a constitutional amendment banning same-sex mar-

riage, 40 percent opposed it and the rest were still undecided.

We want to "inform voters that it is wrong to codify unequal treatment of any individuals in a document as important as the Oregon State Constitution," said Larouche. This "is clearly consistent with JACL's long standing opposition to any similar effort in the United States Constitution." ■



Jenny Pizer and Doreena Wong met in law school.

PORTRAITS

(Continued from page 1)

APAs. He finds that many LGBT APAs experience two different forms of exclusion.

"As a gay Asian man, I often experience feeling isolated or excluded from the mainstream gay community. I don't see my image in our newspapers, magazines, movies, TV shows or what is held up to be 'sexy,'" said Patrick. "In mainstream media, gay equals White."

Because of his own painful experiences, Patrick started www.queerasianspirit.org to give LGBT APAs a forum for spiritual counseling.

As the LGBT APA community continues to evolve, the struggle for cultural acceptance and visibility remains fresh. The 2000 census revealed that a total of 19,213 or 1.5 percent of APA households identified as being same-sex. Some say these statistics show that LGBT APAs are becoming more accepted. Regardless, many are defining their own meaning of family.

In June 2004, Mala and Vega successfully sued for gay and lesbian marriage rights in the state of Washington. A few years after their traditional Hindu wedding, the couple was tired of how their marriage was treated as a "non-marriage." They want to have children together one day, and want to do so in a legally recognized union.

Couples like Lance and Stuart Chen-Hayes, who have been together for almost a decade, are also redefining the idea of fatherhood in the mainstream and ethnic communities. They are registered as domestic partners in both New York City and New Jersey, and together, are raising a 14-month-old boy in a tolerant environment that they lacked growing up.

"We will teach him that he is the coolest kid in the neighborhood for being who he is ... multi-racial and having two dads," said Lance, who is Chinese American. "Being nurturing is not a biological trait assigned to only gender."

Recently, the American Psychological Association agreed and adopted a resolution in favor of same-sex marriage. They stated that the ability to raise well-adjusted children is unrelated to parental sex-

ual orientation. But despite this, loving same-sex couples continue to grapple with unfair adoption laws that do not recognize their union and persistent stereotypes.

Responding to the need for more same-sex friendly resources, Angeline Acain started "Gay Parent" magazine in September 1998 to dispel the negative stereotypes and empower LGBT couples and their children. Now the oldest, free and nationally distributed publication invites subscribing readers and visitors to its web site, www.gayparentmag.com, for much needed visibility and connection with other same-sex parents.

"When I started my publication, one of my goals was to dispel stereotypes of gay people including the myth of gay men being pedophiles, so they should not be permitted to be parents," said Angeline, a Filipino American who is raising her adopted eight-year-old daughter, Jiana Acain Eisenberg, with her partner Susan Eisenberg.

Like many other same-sex parents who want to start a family through adoption, Angeline and Susan could not adopt Jiana together from a foreign country. Susan filed the paperwork as a single parent and then Angeline did a "second parent" adoption in order to get around the restriction for same-sex couples. In their household, they teach Jiana to love and appreciate people of all colors and backgrounds.

In the last few months, the debate on gay rights has been fueled by the recent proposal for a federal ban against same-sex marriage and the upcoming presidential elections, but many say more work still needs to be done in order to stir discussion and awareness in the APA communities.

"We still don't have a place at the table," said Mala. "Unfortunately, the many white leaders in this [gay rights] movement feel the need to reach white, middle-America and the language the movement uses to characterize the fight only disengages people of color communities."

JACL Executive Director John Tateishi believes LGBT issues will find its place in the APA community. "We're in a kind of social twilight zone as Asians in the U.S. Like any kind of social issue that's difficult for many in society to accept, this issue will evolve only if people are educated." ■

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BASEBALL

Suzuki Finishes With 262 Hits as Mariners Lose Finale

By TIM KORTE
AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE—Ichiro Suzuki got two final hits and pushed his major league record for a season to 262 in the Seattle Mariners' 3-0 loss to the Texas Rangers Oct. 3.

Suzuki earned a single in the third inning off Chan Ho Park and in the eighth off Brian Shouse. Suzuki broke George Sisler's 1920 mark of 257 hits on Oct. 1.

"It's something I really can't think about right now," Suzuki said through an interpreter. "As time passes, I think I'll look back and say, 'Wow, that was a really great thing that happened.'"

Seattle manager Bob Melvin said: "It was an incredible year, a history-making year."

Suzuki won his second AL batting title and led the majors in hit-

ting at .372. He ended the season with a 13-game hitting streak.

The Seattle star also had 80 multi-hit games, passing the Yankees' Don Mattingly (79 in 1986) for the most since divisional play began in 1969, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Suzuki also set major league records for singles in a season (225) and hits in his first four major league seasons (924). He also set the AL record for plate appearances in a season (762) on Oct. 3, breaking the mark of 758 by Wade Boggs in 1985.

Suzuki led the AL with 19 intentional walks this season, the first leadoff hitter to lead the league since Boggs in 1991.

"There's a chance this is never going to happen again unless he does it," said Melvin, who didn't know whether the front office would bring him back after Seattle's dismal 63-99 season.

The game also marked the end for Seattle designated hitter Edgar Martínez, who is retiring at age 41, and went hitless in four at-bats.

Martínez hit .263 in his final season but finished with a .312 career average in 18 seasons, all with Seattle. He choked back tears when fans at Safeco Field summoned him for one last curtain call after the game ended.

"I was fighting it hard," Martínez said.

Park (407) pitched two-hit ball over seven innings and won for the first time since Aug. 26. He beat the Mariners 5-0 on April 16 at Safeco, pitching seven shutout innings with five strikeouts.

"It was a well-pitched game," Texas manager Buck Showalter said. "Doug came in and got some big outs in a tough place to pitch. Chan Ho pitched well. It was good to see him finish the season on that note."

Park walked three, struck out three and hit one batter with a pitch. His lifetime numbers at Safeco are 3-1 with a 0.79 ERA.

Seattle's Gil Meche (7-7) pitched six innings, allowing three runs on nine hits. ■

DIVING

Ishimatsu to Represent U.S. at 2004 Junior World Diving Championships in Brazil

Tory Ishimatsu, a sophomore at Los Alamitos High School, has been named to the U.S. Junior National Diving Team and will represent the United States at the FINA Junior World Diving Championships Oct. 25-31 in Belem, Brazil.

Ishimatsu, a Seal Beach, Calif. resident, was named to the National Team after her winning performance at this year's 2004 Speedo Junior National Diving Championships. Competing in the Girls' 14-15 age group she placed first on the 3-meter springboard, second on the 1-meter springboard, and third on the platform competitions.

Ishimatsu's outstanding performance at this year's Junior National Championships capped off a successful summer filled with competitions at both the junior and senior levels across the country. In late June, Ishimatsu performed a 'hat-trick' at the U.S. Diving - Region 5 Junior Championships (held in Brown Deer, Wisconsin) winning all three events (1 and 3-meter springboard and 10 meter platform).

One week later she competed in Rockville, Maryland at the U.S. Diving Senior Zone A Championships (qualifier for the 2004 Speedo Senior U.S. Diving Championships), where she placed second on the 3-meter springboard, and won the 1-meter springboard competition — thus qualifying her to the National Championships in both of these events.

"I really wanted to make the U.S. National Team and represent the U.S. in Brazil at the Jr. World Championships," said Ishimatsu. "Those goals were my motivation for training all those hours and traveling so much. It's been a good summer!"

Ishimatsu's quick rise to one of the best U.S. female divers has been accomplished in just over 2 1/2



Tory Ishimatsu of Seal Beach, Calif. holds up her medals from the 2004 Speedo Junior National Diving Championships.

years. After years of high-level gymnastics training she was forced to change sports due to an elbow injury.

After the Junior World Diving Championships, Ishimatsu and some of her Pacific Diving Academy teammates will travel to Montreal, Canada to compete at the CAMO Invitational where top divers from Canada, the United States, Mexico, and Great Britain will compete. ■

SUMO

Yokozuna Musashimaru Honored in Retirement Ceremony

TOKYO—Former grand champion Musashimaru was honored in a retirement ceremony Oct. 2 at Tokyo's Ryogoku Kokugikan.

Musashimaru had his topknot cut off by fellow wrestlers and friends in a traditional ceremony at the famed sumo arena.

Tears rolled down Musashimaru's face as the final cut was made by his stablemaster Musashigawa. Asashoryu, the sport's only current grand champion, also took part in the ceremony along with former rival Konishiki.

Born Fiamalu Penitani, Musashimaru joined sumo as a new wrestler at the age of 18 after growing up in Hawaii.

The Samoan-born yokozuna won 12 Emperor's Cups over his illustrious career and was the most successful foreign wrestler in Japan's ancient sport.

Along with Konishiki and fellow grand champion Akebono, Musashimaru was part of a Hawaiian wave that dominated sumo in the 1990's.

The title of yokozuna is more than a sports achievement — it is considered a mark of honor, and its holders are held up to very high standards.

Musashimaru attained the yokozuna rank after the Summer Grand Sumo Tournament in 1999. His 12 titles are sixth-best on the all-time list.

After breaking into sumo in 1991, Musashimaru made steady progress in moving up the ranks and was promoted to the second highest rank of ozeki in 1994.

The 237-kilogram (521-pound) Musashimaru dominated opponents with a thrusting style and a right-handed belt grip that he used to perfection.

Among his achievements was a string of 55 consecutive tournaments with eight or more wins. His last Emperor's Cup was at the 2002 Autumn Grand Sumo Tournament. ■

JACL Holds 1st Golf For Youth Tournament



PHOTO: BRIAN TANAKA

The first annual JACL Golf For Youth Tournament was held Oct. 9 at Strawberry Farms Golf Club in Irvine, Calif. (Bottom row, from left): Tom Tolan, Ju Lo, Sho Haga, Kei Yamane and Floyd Mori. (Top row, from left): JACL Executive Director John Tateishi, Robert Chang, Steve Hayashi, Stephen Nelson, Al Kusano (accepting for Hiro Tango), Wes Okuno and JACL National President Ken Inouye. Results from the three divisions were: Men's A Flight: 1st - Yamane, 2nd - Okuno, 3rd - Mori; Men's B Flight: 1st - Tolan, 2nd - Hayashi, 3rd - Tango; Callaway Flight: 1st - Lo, 2nd - Nelson, 3rd - Chang. The tournament's overall winner (low gross score) was Sho Haga with a round of 72.

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12/8-12/13	Yamato Branson Christmas Tour - Kansas City and Branson, featuring Shoji Tabuchi, Yakov Smirnov, Andy Williams and more.	Peggy Mikuni

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6/12-6/19	Yamato 7-Night Easter Caribbean Cruise aboard the Mariner of the Seas - Port Canaveral, Florida, Nassau, St. Thomas, St. Maarten.	Peggy Mikuni
6/30-7/12	Yamato Hokkaido Tour - Sapporo, Sounkyo, Kawayu Spa, Kushiro, Ikeda, Obihiro, Lake Toya, Hakodate.	Peggy Mikuni
Sept.	Yamato/Venice Pioneer Group Eastern Canada & Nova Scotia Tour - Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, overnight train to Moncton, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton, Halifax.	Lilly Nomura
10/15	Yamato Heritage of America Tour with Collette Vacations - New York, Philadelphia, Amish Country, Shenandoah Valley, Williamsburg, Washington, D.C.	Sharon Seto
10/17	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan	Peggy Mikuni
Oct-Nov	Yamato Okinawa & Kyushu Tour	Lilly Nomura
Nov.	Yamato Tour New Zealand	Grace Sakamoto

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'Greatest' Return of Nisei to Arkansas

AS I'VE TOLD friends since the end of September, "You all missed perhaps the most fabulous (if not the greatest) turnout of the Nisei in one place over one week in Little Rock, Arkansas."

Over 1,400 (Sansei and Yonsei included) came for the four-day gathering organized by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) and the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) with major funding (\$1.3 million) from the estate of the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation.

And imagine the line-up of 13 huge buses traveling Sunday morning on I-530 south to Pine Bluff and via two-lane roads to McGehee, 105 miles from Little Rock. It was stupendous. On our bus was Assemblyman George Nakano, who reminded us that the Jerome Monument was dedicated in 1991.

Greeting us were John Ellington at Jerome (now part of his farm) and Rosalie Gould at McGehee. As a child, John had visited Jerome with his father, who was a carpenter at the camp. Rosalie, longtime mayor of McGehee and recipient of the JACL-Edison Uno Civil Rights Award in 1992, began collecting camp artifacts in the 60s and maintained the cemetery at Rohwer with County Judge Mark McElroy.

During the two and half hour ride we viewed UALR's TV documentary, "Time of Fear," on the bus. There was fear in Arkansas over the coming of Japanese evacuees. The governor felt if the Army was kicking out the Japanese from California because of war, he saw no reason to accept them either until he was told the Japanese would be spending money in Arkansas. He agreed, but he insisted on conditions — that Japanese would be barred from buying land, etc., and segregation

VERY TRULY YOURS



Harry Honda

would continue. Of course, evacuees soon learned they were not "colored" when they were permitted to leave.

Faces I readily recognized in the documentary were Sen. Dan Inouye, George Takei, Sam Mibu of Gardena and Sam Ozaki of Chicago. Yes, Dan was in "camp," among the Camp Shelby rookies at a Rohwer USO party of sushi and musume, but who wondered how Nisei in the camp would volunteer to serve in the army?

What draws me to Rohwer are two monuments — one shaped as a military tank, at the cemetery erected by camp residents in 1944. My dad helped build them. These markers are cited in the Arkansas Tour Guide.

The heart of the conference was the 26 hour-long breakout meetings on Saturday (school teachers and students were thus able to attend) to meet and hear the best array of scholars and Nisei retirees of the Japanese American camp experience.

For instance, at the three sessions I attended were: MIS Linguists and 1800th Battalion Panelists Richard Kosaki, Harry Fukuhara (MIS), Cedrick Shimo (1800th General

Service Battalion based at Ft. McClellan, Alabama) and moderator Franklin Odo from the Smithsonian Institution and author of "No Sword to Bury," about JAs in wartime Hawaii.

Putting Out Camp Newspapers — Barry Saiki, Paul Yokota (both editors of the papers at Rohwer and Jerome, respectively), with moderator Jay Friedlander, who wrote in the Arkansas Historical Quarterly, "Freedom of the Press" on the camp newspaper at Jerome. Also in the crowded room was Bill Hosokawa, who had addressed the opening session on the trials and triumphs of JAs.

Postwar Black vs. Nikkei Relations — Jacalyn Harden, anthropologist-author of "Double Cross: Japanese American Relations

in Black and White Chicago," Gary Y. Okihiro, author of "Columbia Guide to Asian American History"; Setsuko Matsunaga Nishi, professor emerita in sociology at Brooklyn College and associated with Japanese American Life Project Course, CUNY-Tappan, covered the resettlement years. Art Hansen, professor emeritus in history at CSU-Fullerton, was moderator.

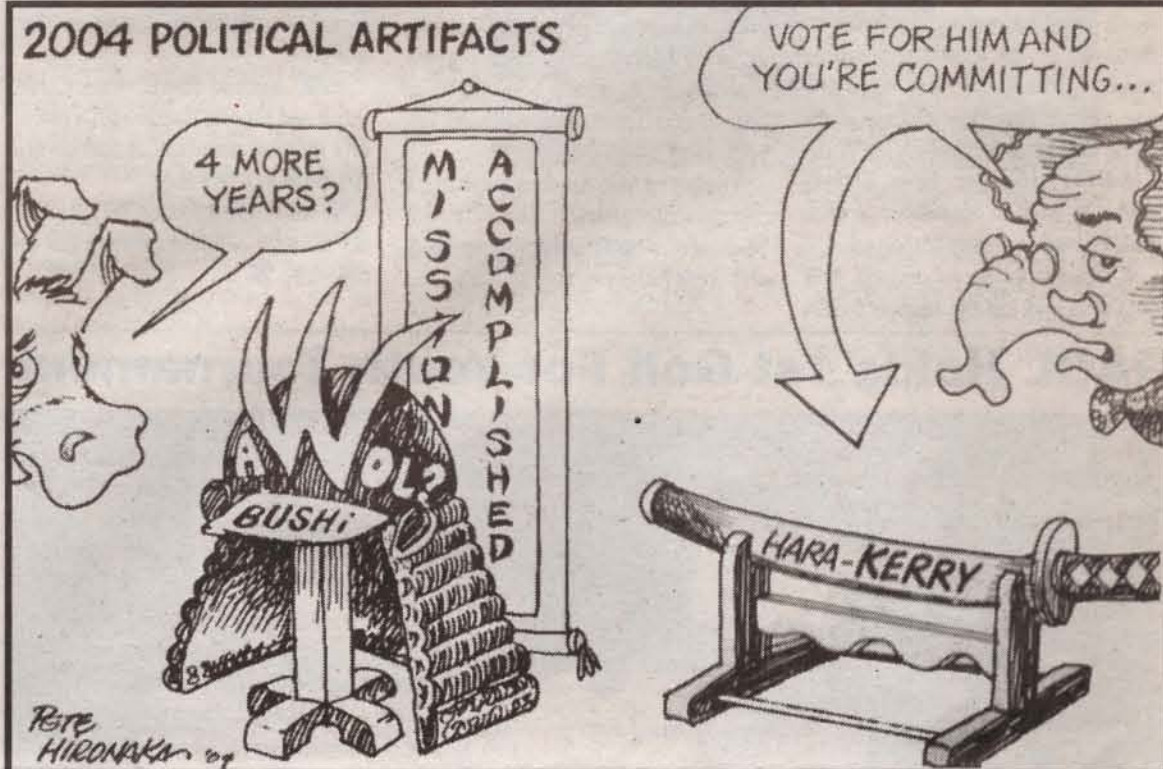
Scanning the conference program booklet for other names of panelists, we saw — Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and Lawson Inada discussing camp experiences and how that influenced their writing. Again, it was George Nakano who explained why "inmate" was used throughout the conference, reason being the term logically fits the concept of incarceration.

John Tateishi (JACL) and Alan Nishio (NCRR), both active with the redress hearings and campaign, were

panelists with moderator Roger Daniels, professor emeritus of history at Cincinnati and CWRIC consultant — a rare trio d'espirit, I might add.

Sus Ito (ex-522nd who won a battlefield commission prior to rescue of the Lost Battalion in France) from Harvard, Ron Oba (ex-Co. F-442nd) from Honolulu and Yuri Kochiyama (JA of the Biennium in 1996) from New York recalled what it was for families and soldiers at Jerome, Rohwer and Camp Shelby.

The eloquence of Mitchell Maki, acting dean at CSULA's college of health and human services, and chair at the opening and closing sessions, reminded some of us of those golden years of the late Mike Masaoka. He wanted to see my smiling face at these sessions — a political twist, if there ever was one. ■



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- 5. SAG/PALS for Health** provides bilingual cards that are convenient to carry with you and will help you request an interpreter from your health care provider. To request one, call 213-553-1876.

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Zhang Yimou Martial Arts MASTER



By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

Zhang Yimou has a way with women. Of course, the 53-year-old Chinese director favors beautiful women, but the kind of beautiful women with innocence that is almost canceled out by smoldering sensuality. He picks his muses carefully and then has an extended love affair with his muses by framing them exquisitely in all his films.

He immortalized Gong Li's pout to critical acclaim in "Raise the Red Lantern" and plucked a then unknown Zhang Ziyi out of a Chinese drama school to star in "The Road Home." Ziyi, later moved on to star in Ang Lee's groundbreaking "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon."

Perhaps, that is why Yimou is known as the "female director."

But in the United States, thanks to the friendly persuasion of fan Quentin Tarantino, Zimou may best be known as the skillful director of this summer break-through film, "Hero," starring international superstars like Jet Li, Maggie Cheung, Tony Leung and, of course, Ziyi.

The story about an invincible warrior's (Jet Li) attempt to assassinate a war-monger emperor, became a smash hit in its native China in 2002 and then subsequently in the United States when released by Miramax two years later.

Now, Zimou is not only a woman's man, but also Hollywood's latest darling director. In December, his second heart-pounding kung fu action film, "House of Flying Daggers" — which he wrote, directed and produced — is set to take over nationwide big screens just in time for the holidays, and as some film critics are predicting, set to capture an Oscar statuette.

But after spending some time speaking with the director (through a translator), you get the feeling that all this hoopla is the last thing on his list of priorities.

Yimou is part of China's famed "Fifth Generation" filmmakers, which included Chen Kaige and Zhang Junzhao, who began putting Chinese films on the world map after the Cultural Revolution. His 1994 film "To Live" starring Li was banned in China for its unflattering Communist portrayal.

"Twenty years ago, the environment of creation in China was different because we barely thought about making commercial films," said the director who reportedly sold his own blood to finance his first film. "In my opinion, the 1980s in China was a very durable time because people just made pure

art." "Almost every director in China now thinks about the marketing, the competition and the huge pressure of Hollywood films. So it's really complicated for people who make films," he laments.

At the Los Angeles press junket for "House of Flying Daggers," Zimou finds his seat without cracking a smile. His hair is shorn short revealing startling curves punctuated with an occasional furrow while he explains the method behind his art. And like every thing else he does, Zimou picks his words deliberately.

Returning to the discussion on his affinity to film women, he says: "I'm always interested in female stories. Maybe it's because it's very easy for me to capture female depression and how they fight adversity."

In "House of Flying Daggers," Zimou again relies on Ziyi to play Mei, a blind dancer who is irresistible, but as dangerous to undo as a Pandora's box. She becomes embroiled in a love affair between Japanese/Taiwanese star Takeshi Kaneshiro and Hong Kong pop idol Andy Lau. But their love story will be a byproduct for American moviegoers, who will more than likely flock to theaters to watch the breathtaking action sequences than watch Ziyi and Kaneshiro tussle like awkward lovers in a field of grass.

But Zimou insists that the love story is the main attraction.

"The scripts for 'Hero' and 'House of Flying Daggers' were written at the same time and address the same theme about sacrifice, but in different ways. For 'Hero,' it was a classical way — people's belief of sacrificing the individual for the bigger picture. For 'House of Flying Daggers' there's an emphasis on individual sacrifice for love," he said.

And because love makes everything grand, the action, special effects and scale of "House of Flying Daggers" is bigger and better. The production design and choice of color in "Hero," which made each shot look like artwork, is echoed in this film only with more earth tones.

Zimou says part of his filming technique is to surround himself with a talented crew.

"During the action scenes, I'm more of an assistant director ... I just sit in front of the monitor and allow the stunt director to work," he said.

The director is now busy getting ready to shoot his latest film next month, which will be a story about his original love — ordinary people living ordinary lives. He's mum about who is cast, but emphasizes one thing:

"No more fighting." ■

"House of Flying Daggers" opens Dec. 3.

Almost every director in China now thinks about the ... huge pressure of Hollywood films. So it's really complicated for people who make films'



Flying Daggers: Takeshi Kaneshiro takes a beating.

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- May 19 Japan's Ancient & Contemporary Highlights
- May 29 Williamsburg & Washington, D.C.
- June 30 Scandinavia - Denmark, Sweden & Norway
- July 18 Highlights of Japan for the whole family
- July 30 Princess Alaska - Cruise & Land Tour
- Aug. 13 Best of the Rhine River - Holland, Germany, France & Switzerland
- Aug. 23 Russia - "Waterways of the Czars"
- Sept. 12 Reflections of Italy
- Sept. 15 Northern Japan - Hokkaido & Tohoku
- Oct. 6 Cruise Canada & New England + New York - Radisson Seven Seas "Navigator"
- Oct. 15 Onsen of Hokuriku plus Seoul & Taipei
- Nov. 3 Southern Japan - Okinawa & Kyushu
- Nov. 30 The Best of South America - "Brazil, Iguassu, Argentina & Chile"
- Dec. 6 Holiday Season in San Antonio



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JACL COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast NEW YORK

Sun., Nov. 7—New York Chapter JACL's 60th Anniversary; 12-3 p.m.; Manhattan Club at Rosie O'Grady's, 800 Seventh Ave. at 52nd Street; open bar, noon; luncheon, 12:30; RSVP by Oct. 22; \$60 per person. Info: Lillian Kimura, lckimura@att.net.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Tue., Nov. 16—"Race and America's War: WWII and Korea," Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of American History, Carmichael Auditorium (14th and Constitution Ave.); 6:30-8:30 p.m.; speakers include: Col. Jimmie Kanaya, 442nd RCT, Yeiichi Kuwayama, medic, 442nd RCT, Col. Charles McGee, Tuskegee Airman and Col. Woodrow Crockett, Tuskegee Airman; moderator will be Franklin Odo. Info: Smithsonian Institute, 202/633-1000.

Midwest

CLEVELAND

Sat., Oct. 30—Film, "A Most Unlikely Hero: The Bruce Yamashita Story," 3-5 p.m.; Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 2592 W. 14th St. Info: Joan Ishibashi, 216/749-3116.

OBERLIN

Sun., Oct. 31—Film, "A Most Unlikely Hero: The Bruce Yamashita Story," 11-12:30 p.m.; First Church in Oberlin, 106 N. Main St.; Info: Joan Ishibashi, 216/749-3116.

Pacific Northwest

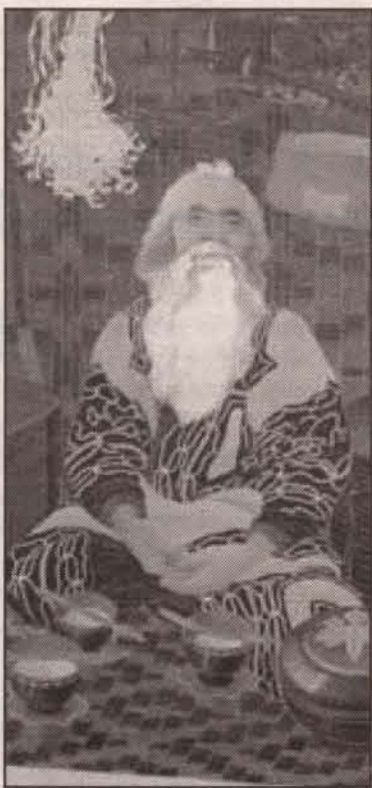
PORTLAND

Sun., Oct. 17—Presentation, Oregon Nikkei Oral History Project; 12-3 p.m.; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave. in the Merchant Hotel building; exhibit hours, Tue.-Sat.: 11-3 p.m., Sun.: noon-3 p.m.; beginning Oct. 18 and admission fee of \$3 will be charged. Info: 503/224-1458.

Central California

FRESNO

Sun.-Mon., Oct. 31-Nov. 1—Fashion Fundraiser hosted by the Central California Nikkei Foundation; Sun., 11-4 p.m.; Mon., 10-3 p.m.; Central California Nikkei Foundation, 1389 E. Nees Ave.; fundraiser for the foundation's new



The Lee Institute (Hanford, Calif.) reopens for its fall season with "Depth & Diversification: New Acquisitions from the Lee Institute Collection."

building project. Info: 559/237-4006.

Sun., Nov. 14—JACL Chapter Insurance Commissioner's District Meeting; Info: Stephen Divizich, 800/400-6633.

HANFORD

Through Nov. 27—"Depth and Diversification: New Acquisitions from the Lee Institute Collection; The Ruth and Sherman Lee Institute for Japanese Art, 15770 Tenth Ave., Info: Maiko Behr, 559/582-4915 or mbehr@shermanleeinstitute.org.

Northern California

BURLINGAME

Sat., Oct. 16—Luncheon, All-Topaz Reunion 2004; Hyatt Regency, Burlingame; Stuart Ishimaru, of the U.S. EEOC is the featured speaker; registration forms can be obtained from Yone Ito, 510/783-0478 or baachanyon@cs.com or www.topazreunion2004.

MANZANAR

Sat., Oct. 23—"The Camp Dance: The Music and the Memories"; Manzanar Interpretive Center stage; 7 p.m.; \$15 admission available at

East Side Books and Inyo Council for the Arts (Bishop), Manzanar Interpretive Center store or call the Manzanar History Association, 760/878-2411 or 877/878-2727. Seating is limited.

Sat., Oct. 16—"Days of Their Lives," (60 minute walk); Join Park Guide S. Bone for a stroll around Block 14 to hear stories of former internees as they recall the days of their lives at Manzanar.

Sat., Oct. 17—"The Manzanar Landscape," (30 minute talk); Join Park Guide S. Bone for a discussion of the Owen's Valley, its cultures, and its changing landscape.

MARYSVILLE

Sat., Oct. 16—"Eat It and Beat It" presented by Marysville JACL and DCYC; Marysville Buddhist Church Annex, 125 B St.; meet other Asian American students from the region, make sushi, try some taiko and discuss topics generated by the youth participants; free to JACL youth members and \$6 for non-members; included lunch; RSVP by Oct. 8 to Kathy Ang, 530/671-6431 or dang11@comcast.net.

OAKLAND

Sun., Oct. 24—"Otsukimi" Moon Viewing Festival; 5:30-9 p.m.; Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave.; free. Info: 510/482-5896, www.oakland-fukuoka.org.

PLEASANTON

Sun., Oct. 24—Tri-Valley JACL Teriyaki Chicken Box-Lunch Sales; 11-2 p.m.; Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave.; \$9; Pre-order only, no purchase day of sale; noon, karate demonstration; 12:30, Eden Aoba Taiko Drum Presentation; Proceeds benefit college scholarships for the membership and enables the chapter to share the Japanese cultural heritage with schools and communities. Info: Dean Suzuki, 925/820-1454.

SACRAMENTO

Sat., Oct. 30—12th Annual Women's Day Forum presented by Florin JACL; 9-4 p.m.; Kaiser Permanente, 1650 Response Rd.; Donations, \$15 for member and \$20 for non-members; includes workshops, breakfast, bento box lunch, bone density screening and gift bag. RSVP by Oct. 15; make check payable to Florin JACL, P.O. Box 292634, Sacramento, CA 95829-2634. Info: Kazuyo Morishita, 916/487-1414.

SALINAS

Through Nov. 7—Exhibition, "From the Sierra to the Sea: The California Landscapes of Chiura Obata"; National Steinbeck Center, 1 Main St. Info: 831/796-3833 or www.steinbeck.org

SAN FRANCISCO

Thurs., Oct. 21—Workshop, Reduce your taxes on social security benefits and avoid costly probate expenses; 11-1 p.m.; JCCNC, 1840 Sutter St.; featured speaker, Elise Mayeda, New York Life Insurance; RSVP: JCCNC, 415/567-5505.

Sat., Oct. 30—Lecture, "Japanese American Women Artists of the Bay Area: Art as a Means to Probe, Bridge, Voice and Discover," presented by the Japanese American National Library; 1:30 p.m.; Hospitality Room at Union Bank of California (back of 1675 Post St.); free and open to the public. Info: Karl Matsushita, 415/567-5006.

Fri., Nov. 5—The Japanese American National Library celebrates its 35th Anniversary with "150 Years of U.S.-Japan Relations: A Woman's View"; 6 p.m.; Radisson Miyako Hotel, 1625 Post St.; Consul Akiko Sugita is the keynote speaker; \$50 for dinner, \$75 for dinner and sake tasting. For tickets and info: Karl Matsushita, 415/567-5006.

Sun., Nov. 7—Nikkei Widowed Group monthly meeting; new members, both men and women, are welcome; for meeting place and time. Info: M. Kusaba, 415/333-5190 or Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.

SAN MATEO

Sun., Oct. 24—Movie matinee, "The Last Samurai"; 1:30; J.A. Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St. Info: 650/343-2793.

STOCKTON

Sat., Nov. 6—8th Asian Pacific Islander Youth Leadership Conference; 8:30-1:30 p.m.; San Joaquin Delta College; refreshments and box lunch provided; high school and college students encouraged to attend; guest speaker, Victor Mow, San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors; Register: Lao Khmu Assn., 209/463-3410. Info: Aiko Yoshikawa, 209/952-5578.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES

Through April 3, 2005—Exhibition, Imagining the Orient; Getty Center, 1200 Getty Center Dr.; new exhibition explores 18th century

Europe's fascination with the Orient; Info: 310/440-7360 or www.getty.edu.

Wed., Oct. 20—Performance, "Pollen Revolution" presented by Butoh artist, Akira Kasai; 8 p.m.; Japan America/Aratani Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St.; \$35 general admission, \$30 JACCC members, \$25 students with ID; tickets may be charged by calling 213/680-3700. Info: www.jaccc.org.

Sun., Oct. 24—Maryknoll Japanese Catholic Center's 30th Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Taisho Club's Annual Health Fair; 11-5 p.m.; MJCC, 222 S. Hewitt St.; \$6 donation for eat-in or take out; free health screenings and flu shots for seniors, craft booths and bone marrow drive by A3M.

Sat., Oct. 30—Workshop, "Self-Publishing and Book Marketing: A Step-by-Step Workshop" by Naomi Hirahara; 9-12 noon, JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St.; \$40 after Oct. 1; register by mail to: Midori Books, P.O. Box 60614, Pasadena, CA 91116. Info: 626/524-9669.

Sat., Nov. 6—JACL Chapter Insurance Commissioner's District Meeting; Info: Stephen Divizich, 800/400-6633.

Sat., Nov. 6—Go For Broke Educational Foundation 3rd Annual Evening of Aloha Gala Dinner; Westin Bonaventure Hotel, 404 S. Flower St.; Gen. Eric Shinseki is the keynote speaker; Hawaii's top chefs and music will also be featured; \$130 per person or \$100 for all veterans; tickets must be purchased in advance by calling 310/328-0907. Info: Go For Broke Educational Foundation, 310/328-0907 or eveningofaloha@goforbroke.org.

TORRANCE

Sat., Oct. 16—Luncheon, "Uptown L.A. Reunion II"; 11 a.m.; Torrance Holiday Inn, 19800 S. Vermont Ave.; \$40 per person with checks made out to "Uptown L.A. Reunion II, mail to c/o Takao Shishino, 4521 Commonwealth Cir., Culver City, CA 90230. Info: Yuri Matsunaga (Yamazaki), 323/663-9394, Toru Iura, 310/478-7758 or Frank Omatsu, 626/968-7833.

Arizona - Nevada

RENO

Sun., Oct. 24—Reno JACL Halloween potluck; noon; Knights of Pythias Hall, 980 Nevada St. Info: Grant Hayashi, 775/770-2160. ■

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Season's Greetings From Centenary UMC

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Our book can be ordered by mail for \$30 plus \$6 for postage/handling (shipped within the USA). Checks made payable to Centenary UMC-Cookbook Project and send to Centenary United Methodist Church, 300 S. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90013. Books are also available for pick-up at church or regional locations. Call for more information, (213) 617-9097.

To insure delivery before Christmas, all orders should be submitted by December 1.

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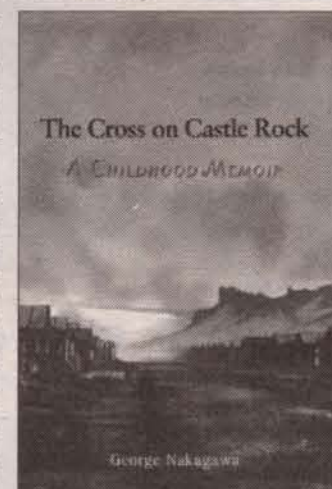
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The Cross on Castle Rock (A Childhood Memoir)

In early 1942, the US Government imprisoned without charge or trial, 120,000 American citizens and legal resident aliens. Their crime? They were of Japanese ancestry and were living on the West Coast.

The Cross on Castle Rock is the memoir of a boy from Kent, Washington who was ten years old when imprisoned at the Pinedale Assembly Center. No longer required to work long hours on the family farm, camp life began with fun-filled days of play, sports, school and mischief-making. Later, as maturity and greater cognizance of the world around him came in Tule Lake and Heart Mountain, the boy became aware that harsh conditions in the camps and disillusionment over the continuing official discrimination against Japanese Americans was tearing the closely knit Japanese American community apart. The result was an insecure, troubled thirteen year-old who witnessed the last days of Heart Mountain when the remaining residents were evicted with a paltry \$25 per head separation allowance.



Copies of *The Cross on Castle Rock*, which is an Editor's Choice selection of iUniverse Publishing, may be obtained from Amazon.com as well as major US booksellers at the retail price of \$13.95.

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121 N. Woodburn Drive, Los Angeles 90049
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All the towns are in California except as noted.

Azuma, Alice Naga, 93, Monterey Park, Sept. 2; Kauai, Hawaii-born Nisei; survived by son, George (Sachiko); daughter, Margaret (George) Endo; 6 gc.; and 7 ggc.

Hara, Dr. Shigeru, 92, San Diego; medical doctor in Tule Lake Relocation Camp; survived by wife, Connie; son, Dr. Glenn; daughter, Susan Namba; stepdaughters, Mary Arroyo, Linda Koerberlein and Janet Pontecorvo; 12 gc.; 11 ggc.; and brother, Kinge Hara.

Hazama, Emiko, 82, San Gabriel, Sept. 13; Lennox-born Nisei; survived by husband, Isamu; sons, Howard (Hieu Nguyen) and Kenny (Raquel); daughter, Dianne Kobayashi; 5 gc.; and sisters, Tadako (Iwao) Aoki and Mariko Kato.

Itagaki, Mary, 92, Pacoima, Sept. 6; Hanford-born; survived by sons, John (Marlene Endo), Eddie (Setsuko) Takemura, Ted and Bob (Jill Tanabe); 5 gc.; 6 ggc; and sisters, Masaye (Saburo) Yoshitake, Mitsuko Yamamoto, Chieko Fukumitsu, Teiko (Hirosuke) Nakamura and Kiyoko (Yasuji) Murase.

Iwata, Virginia Kimiko, 73, Gardena, Sept. 7; Compton-born Sansei; survived by brothers, Jerry (Amy) and Johnny; and sister, Marian (Don) Aoki.

Kabashima, Tamio, 82, Los Angeles, Sept. 10; Venice-born Nisei, WWII veteran.

Kawasaki, Sachiko, 80, Los Angeles, Sept. 14; survived by brother, Akira (Haruko); and sisters, Tayeko Takeshita and Michiko

Watanabe.

Miyake, Kazuo, 74, Westminster, Sept. 12; Maui, Hawaii-born; survived by wife, Setsuko; sons, Michael (Anita) and Kelvin (Patricia); 4 gc.; brothers, Masayuki (Bernice) and Tom; and sister, Mieko Yamada.

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcome. "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$15 per column inch. Text is reworded as necessary.

Mukai, Richard Michiyuki, 70, Los Angeles, Aug. 30; Puunene, Maui, Hawaii-born Sansei; survived by sister, Joan (Larry) Yokoyama; brothers, Roy (Wendy), Stanley (Teruko) and Melvyn (Magel); stepson, Abe Lopez; stepdaughter, Maritza Fox; 1 gc.; 1 ggc.

Nakamura, Akira, 48, Anaheim, Sept. 1; survived by mother, Himi; brother, Steve (Emyko); and sister, Minako Nishi.

Ochi, May H., 77, San Francisco, Sept. 20; Heart Mountain internee; survived by husband, Somao; daughter, Joan (Douglas Bell) Ochi; son, Karl (Ingrid); and 3 gc.

Suwa, Tamaye, 79, Torrance; Honolulu, Hawaii-born; survived by daughter, Naomi (Gene) Matsumoto; and 3 gc.

Suzuki, Masako, 95, Spokane, Wash., Sept. 21; Spokane JACLer; survived by daughter, Motoko Walker; 4 gc.; and 8 ggc.

Suzumoto, Jean Nobuko, 80, Gardena, Aug. 30; Hawaii-born Sansei; survived by sisters, Kimiko Nakashima and Kathleen (Sueyoshi) Takeuchi; and brothers, Stanley (Yoko), Robert (Julia), Paul (Soonie) and Isamu (Yoko) Murakawa.

Taketomo, Ben T., 91, Gardena,

Sept. 8; Armona-born Nisei; survived by sons, Steve and Ken (Jan); daughter, Gayle (Norm) Hayashi; brother, Shuji (Chiye); brother-in-law, Yo (Elsie) Tachibana; and sisters-in-law, Fumi (Buddy) Kasai, Miyo (Ted) Inouye and Midori Tachibana.

Tango, Motoko, 77, Glendale, Sept. 15; Hilo, Hawaii-born Nisei; survived by daughter, Sandra Payne; 1 gc.; brother, Robert (Chiyo) Tango; and sisters, Doris (Alfred) Kauhau and Miriam (Thomas) Cooney.

Wakamoto, Kiyoshi, 86, Gardena, Sept. 4; survived by son, Hiroshi (Linda); daughter, Nobuko; 1 gc.; and sisters-in-law, Tomiko Ozawa, Maurine Oban, and Rosario Tanaka.

Yamada, George, 89, Los Angeles, Sept. 9; WWII veteran, 442nd RCT/232nd Engineers; sur-

vived by daughters, Eileen Yamada (Jim Ruymen), Diana (Roger) Eaton and Linda Yamada; and 5 gc.

Yamaguchi, George, 81, Monterey Park, Sept. 10; Fresno-born; survived by daughter, Yuko (Michael) Shibata; 2 gc.; brother, Kenzo (Tomi) Yamaguchi; and sister-in-law, Michi Yamaguchi.

Yamasaki, Nao, 76, Pasadena, Sept. 19; Salinas-born Nisei; survived by wife Tomomi; sons, Gerald and James; and brother, Kazumi (Miyoko) Yamasaki. ■

DEATH NOTICE

BENJAMIN CHUYO TSUTSUMOTO

MT. RAINIER, Wash. — Benjamin Chuyo Tsutsumoto, 75, passed away Sept. 8 while hunting for matsutake mushrooms — one of his favorite hobbies. Born Jan. 29, 1929, in Seattle, he is the son of Nobuichi and Harumi Tsutsumoto. During WWII, at age 12, Ben was interned in Minidoka with his mother and two sisters. He graduated from Garfield High School in 1947 and went on to the Univ. of Washington where he majored in pharmacy. After graduation, Ben entered the U.S. Army during the Korean War and served overseas in Paris, France. Upon his return, Ben and his wife, Sally, took over State Drug pharmacy, which had been in the Tsutsumoto family since 1917. They ran the pharmacy until his retirement in 1996. Ben attained the level of 2nd degree black belt in judo and participated in tournaments up and down the West Coast. He loved outdoor activities such as fishing, clam digging, mushroom hunting, and golf. He was also a big Husky football fan, attending games every fall. Ben is survived by his wife of 49 years, Sally; sisters, May (Jun) Mori of Los Angeles and Helene (Art) Yoroze of Seattle; children, Guy (Kathy) Tsutsumoto of Bellevue, Jan (Glenn) Gokami of Seattle, Tracy Tsutsumoto of Seattle and Thomas Tsutsumoto of Honolulu. Ben had three grandchildren, Erin and Alec Tsutsumoto and Brooks Gokami. A celebration of Ben's life was held with friends and family on Sept. 26.

IN MEMORIAM

Helene Matsunaga, Wife of Late Hawaii Senator, Died at 79

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

HONOLULU—Helene Hatsumi Matsunaga, the wife of late U.S.

Sen. Spark Matsunaga of Hawaii, died Sept. 25 of complications from Parkinson's disease surrounded by her family. She was 79.

Four of her five children were present when she died in her sleep at an assisted care home, according to her son, former state Sen. Matt Matsunaga.

"She devoted her life to supporting my dad in his political endeavor,"

Matt Matsunaga said. "My father was a workaholic in his days in D.C., and my mother held the family together."

Born Helene Tokunaga, she attended McKinley High School in Honolulu and married Spark Matsunaga in 1948. He died in 1990.

She is survived by sister Mabel, brother John, five children, Karen Hardman, Keene Matsunaga, Diane Segars, Merle Matsunaga-Stadler, and Matt Matsunaga.

A private service took place in Hawaii on Sept. 29. In lieu of flowers, the family requested contributions to the Matsunaga Charitable Foundation, P.O. Box 656, Honolulu, HI, 96809. ■



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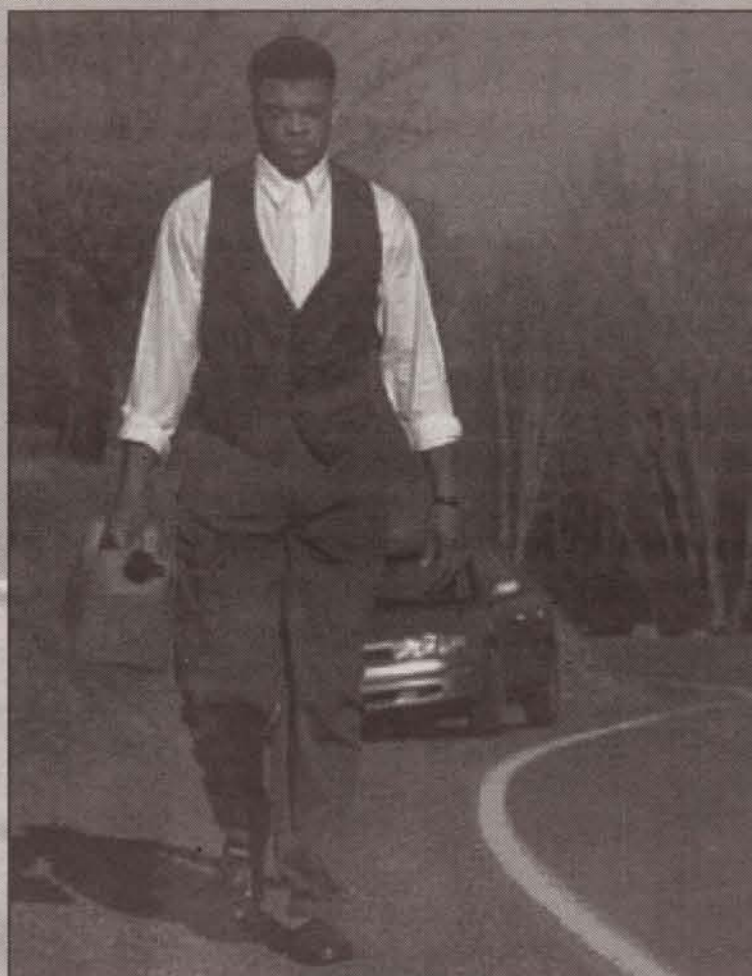
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Browsing the Bookstores ...

By YUMI SAKUGAWA
Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

Being Japanese American: A JA Sourcebook for Nikkei, Hapa ... & Their Friends

By Gil Asakawa
Stone Bridge Press
146 pp., \$14.95 paperback

As Gil Asakawa aptly proves in his book, the Japanese American experience is not limited to the internment camps and redress. Rather, embracing and knowing one's JA identity entails a wide variety of things — from the simple act of eating *miso*

soup and rice for breakfast to the cultural habit of *enryo* and modesty that have been unknowingly passed down for many generations.

Certainly, as Asakawa vividly shows to his readers, cultural identity involves not only the sweeping historical events that affect the JA community, but on a more microscopic level, it is also the food we eat, the language we speak, and the superstitions our parents teach us.

In a tone that is light enough for younger audiences and factually useful for older readers, Asakawa manages the impossible task of showing the hybridization of two conflicting cultures that results in the unique JA experience. Not only does Asakawa extensively explore traditional customs, the existence of JA communities and the current pop culture fixation for Japanese-related paraphernalia, he also strongly advocates coalition building among the broader APA community for the sake of future generations.

Asakawa also includes a compre-

hensive list of resources at the end of the book for readers who want to further explore JA identity and other related topics.

Kira-Kira By Cynthia Kadohata Atheneum Books for Young Readers 256 pp., \$15.95

Adult writer Cynthia Kadohata gracefully steps into the realm of middle-school fiction with her debut young adult novel "Kira-Kira," a poignant story that follows the trials and tribulations of a Japanese American family living in a small Georgia town in the 1950s.

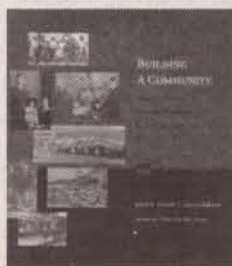
"Kira-Kira" refers to the Japanese word for "glittering," which is what Katie Takeshima's older sister, Lynne, uses to describe the color of the sky, people's eyes and the brilliant sparkle of oceans. However, when Lynne falls suddenly ill, Katie must find the courage to continue finding hope and beauty in life's unexpected obstacles.

Told through the first-person perspective of Katie, a young girl with a deep love for Lynne, her younger brother Sammy, and her hardworking parents who work long hours at the local hatchery, "Kira-Kira" is a quietly honest look at racial discrimination, personal tragedy and the undying love that keeps family together.

Building a Community: The Story of Japanese Americans in San Mateo County By Gayle K. Yamada and Dianne Fukami; edited by Diane Yen-Mei Wong

AACP, Inc.
189 pp., \$35

This book focuses on the origins of the Japanese American community in San Mateo County, an area just south of S a n Francisco.



Beginning from a handful of sojourners and immigrants seeking a better life, the San Mateo JAs created a community out of family ties, education and enterprise that still persisted in spite of the internment camp experience and the difficulties of rebuilding lives after World War II.

A thorough historical investigation of the origins of an ethnic community, this book includes an extensive array of photographs, interviews, sketches and diagrams. ■

TEXAS ROAD

(Continued from page 1)

comes two months after Jefferson County voted to change its "Jap Road" to "Boondocks Road," a decision that took more than ten years and often left a sour taste in the mouths of local residents and the JAs who had long fought for the change.

Now, only "Jap Lane" in Orange County, Texas still remains. Like "Jap Road" in Jefferson County, residents in Orange County have long insisted that the road was originally named to honor early Japanese settlers in the area and should not be changed.

Judge Carl Thibodeaux, head of the Orange County Commission, has not pushed for a name change because like the other County Commissioners, he is standing by "Jap Lane" residents who in a recent poll indicated they were overwhelmingly against a name change.

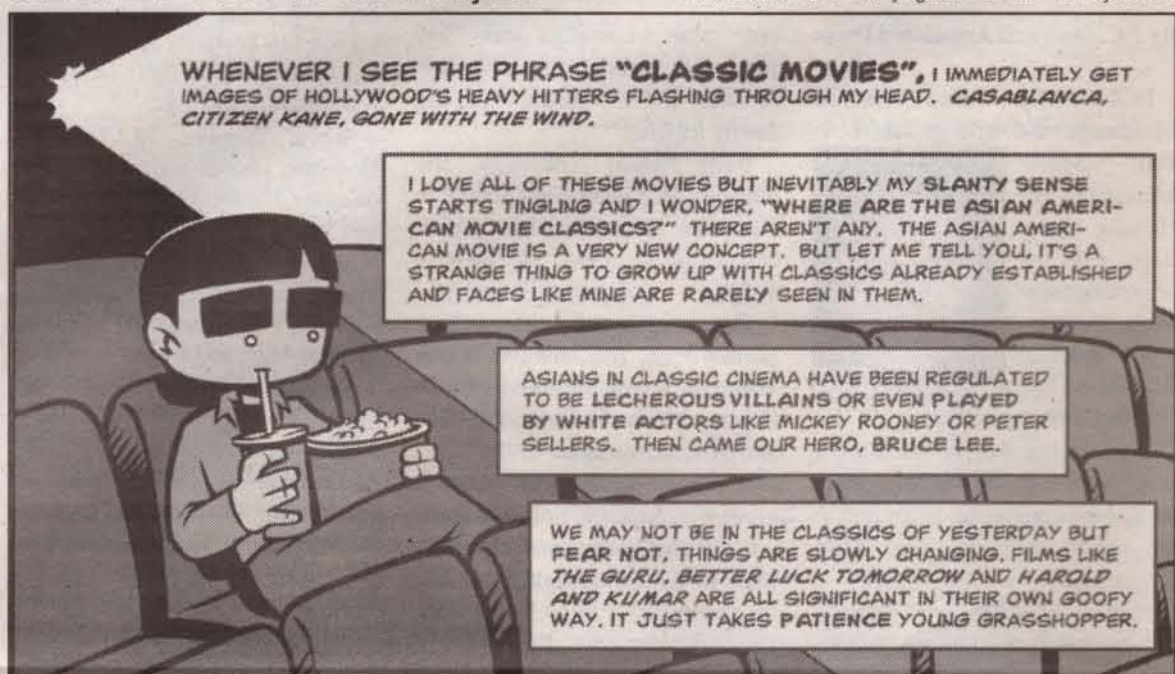
But with the recent decisions to change the road names in Texas and the move to place "Jap Rock" in Highland Beach, Florida on a list for a name change, Orange County will likely be getting more calls and letters to follow suit and rename "Jap Lane."

"We are still working on 'Jap Lane' in Orange County," said attorney Scott Newar, who represented Tanamachi in a recent lawsuit to force a name change in Jefferson County. "While I am hopeful that that road will ultimately be renamed, it is going to take some time because the Orange County Commissioners appear — at least for now — to be unmoved by what happened in Jefferson County."

"I am hopeful that Orange County will follow suit; I feel that it's just a matter of time before Orange will be renaming their road as well," said Tanamachi. "They need to show that they, indeed, do respect all citizens in our great state of Texas." ■

SECRET ASIAN MAN By Tak

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