Doris Matsui Raises Nearly $700,000 in Race for Late Husband's House Seat

By JIM WASSERMANN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Doris Matsui, widow of the late Rep. Robert Matsui, reported Feb. 24 that she raised nearly $700,000 in six weeks for the March 8 special primary election to replace her husband in Congress.

In fund-raising, the couple's campaign raised $1,935,925, almost double the $991,867 reported by Democrat $691.867. Matsui tapped $681.867, including donations from congressional Democrats, political action committees and former Clinton administration officials.

The totals greatly overshadowed Matsui's opponents in the heavily Democratic 5th Congressional District race for the seat held for 26 years by her late husband, also a Sacramento Democrat.

The Asian American radio tsunami song debacle.

Matsui tapped $691.867, while Republican John Sacramento Democrat. Fellow Democrat Julie Padilla, a Sacramento activist, reported raising $29,293 while Republican John Thomas Flynn reported raising $20,698. Others among 12 candidates raised less than $5,000, the threshold for reporting contributions to the Federal Elections Commission.

Matsui spokesman Nick Papas cited an aggressive fund-raising campaign to "communicate her vision." Reports showed $346,000 raised from individuals and $297,000 from political action committees.

Robert T. Matsui, 63, died at Bethesda Naval Hospital from pneumonia brought on by a rare form of bone marrow disease. He was the third-ranking Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

See MATSUI/Page 2

HOT 97's Miss Info's Future Still Unknown

The Asian American radio host who objected to the tsunami parody song says she will not return to hostile work environment.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Just when HOT 97 (WQHT FM) thought it could move past its tsunami song debacle, the only employee to emerge unscathed from the controversy is now saying that the radio station is threatening to fire her.

Miss Info's (Minya Oh) attorney Ken Thompson recently told the New York Daily News that Oh does not want to return to work until personnel issues are smoothed out.

Oh has been absent from the popular hip-hop morning show ever since the airing of the infamous tsunami parody song, titled "USA for Indonesia," enraged Asian Pacific Americans and listeners with its insensitive and racially inflammatory lyrics.

It was only Oh who objected to the content of the song during a Jan. 11 broadcast. Soon, most of America joined in the protest chorus which cost HOT 97 parent company Emmis Communications over $1 million dollars in apologetic donations to tsunami relief, major sponsors and national advertisers.

See MISS INFO/Page 10

APA Group Wants Smoke Free Parks

The Asian Youth Center's anti-tobacco campaign looks to Monterey Park, Calif., as the city with the nation's highest percentage of APAs — to implement a proposed ban.

By CAROLINE Aoyagi
Executive Editor

SAN GABRIEL, Calif. — A year in South Africa was enough to turn California native Jessica Wey off of cigarettes for life.

Wey, a 23-year-old non-smoker, was amazed at how common smoking was among South African youth who often attend tobacco company sponsored youth parties as a cool way to spend a weekend evening. Free cigarettes are a mainstay of these events and are often cleverly packaged — one party offered cigarettes in cute toothpick containers.

"I was living in South Africa for about a year and everybody over there pretty much smokes," said Wey. "It's interesting coming from California where everything is smoke-free. I loved coming home to California and not having to deal with all the smoking."

Wey's back home in Los Angeles and her distaste for smoking is being put to good use at the Asian Youth Center where she's helping with the non-profit organization's anti-tobacco campaign. The campaign, through education and advocacy, reaches out to Asian Pacific American youth on the dangers of smoking.

According to a 2003 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 12.8 percent of Asian American high school students and 7.4 percent of AA middle schoolers — ages 12 to 17 — smoke cigarettes. A 2000 study by the American Legacy Foundation showed smoking increased dramatically among AA students from 6th to 12th grade at a rate much steeper than that of any other ethnic group.

Wey, an intern at the center, believes that for many in the AA community, especially those who have recently immigrated to the United States, smoking is an unbal­

See SMOKING/Page 2
SMOKING
(Continued from page 1)
ents are smoking, so APA youth are more apt to do it," said Wey. "There's a sense that it's cool to do it. Youth in general are living in the moment and not thinking of the long-term negative effects. Tobacco is a drug, it's addictive.

Herein is a Newtroph phenomenon more prevalent than in the city of Monterey Park, Calif., where more than 60 percent of the population is APA, the highest any city in the nation. With newer immigrants making up a large part of this percentage, smoking is a common sight - ironic since the city is in California, a leader in the anti-smoking movement, possessing some of the strictest anti-smoking laws in the nation.

"California is so successful, it is a model state. But in the city of Monterey Park, the image is totally different," said Alice Tang, Asian Youth Center tobacco control coordinator, noting that the Chinese community is the largest APA group in Monterey Park.

"When Asian immigrants come here they bring their smoking habit," she said. "Smoking is accepted because there's a lack of education. They don't know that smoking is bad, especially those from the countries they have immigrated from. We are having to start educating from the beginning with the new immigrants."

The tobacco industry has been quick to notice Monterey Park as an ideal market for selling their products. The billion dollar Chinese cigarette company International Tobacco Corporation Inc., which is based in Las Vegas, recently opened a field office in Monterey Park and held a grand opening last May.

The company currently sells six new cigarette products designed specifically to cater to Asian immigrants with tobacco percentages much higher than those found in American cigarettes.

"The city of Monterey Park is so important because the tobacco companies focus first on the city of Monterey Park, and I'm a first step crusader," said Tang. "The state of California is the best smoke-free state but in the city of Monterey Park more people are smoking than anywhere else in the state."

Part of the Asian Youth Center's anti-tobacco campaign has been an effort to expand the current smoking ordinances for parks in Monterey Park by asking for a "curb to curb" ban on smoking. Currently the city follows the state law that bans smoking in public parks within 25 feet of a child's playground or tot lot area.

The Center has recently been under consideration with the city of Monterey Park and the Area Commission who have already tabled the issue once. The issue is currently pending on March 7, although some commissioners have already indicated they see a problem with enforcement of a "curb to curb" ban in public parks. Ultimately, the decision will be up to the Monterey Park City Council.

The Asian Youth Center recently gathered close to 500 signatures on a petition to support the "curb to curb" ban and has received the support of Monterey Park Mayor Michael Eng and Judy Choi, a former Monterey Park City Council member and current California State Assemblywoman.

"California has already taken a stance but it's necessary for cities like Monterey Park to take a stance too," said Wey. "We need to push the city of Monterey Park to take a stance and really make that step in educating the youth."

The request to implement a "curb to curb" ban on smoking is unprecedented in California. The cities of Santa Monica, El Monte, Beverly Hills, Canyon, Huntington Park, and San Fernando are just some of the cities that have instituted such a ban.

Tang believes that a "curb to curb" ban would go a long way to combatting the prevalence of smoking in the city of Monterey Park. On recent visits to some of the city's parks, volunteers from the Asian Youth Center collected hundreds of cigarette butts.

In Barnes Park, 1,400 cigarette butts were collected in 45 minutes and in Sierra Vista Park, 2,400 cigarette butts were collected in 30 minutes.

Tang noted that mothers and fathers who take their kids to the city's parks have to be weary of their children being exposed to second-hand smoke and of picking up dirty cigarette butt's on the ground. She also noted that senior citizens, who often use the parks for walks and at night, are usually unaware about the second hand smoking they have to endure.

"Curbs to curbs is easier for residents than zoning," said Tang. "It's good for the senior citizens and for the kids.

Tang is hopeful that community members will write letters of support to the city council and will come out to support the proposed "curb to curb" ban on smoking at the Monterey Park City Council and Parks Commission meeting.

"We need the community's support," she said. "We really need the community to come out and speak up.

Where: Monterey Park Recreation and Parks Commission meeting When: 7:30 p.m. Where: Monterey Park Hall Council Chambers When: March 7, 7 p.m. Info: 626-2077-1497

MATSUI
(Continued from page 1)
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Among Matsui contributions were $2,000 from Teresa Hein Terry, wife of Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry. $1,000 from former Clinton Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, $1,000 from Alice Rivlin, former director of the Clinton-era Office of Management and Budget, and $1,000 from, U.S. House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt.

Doris Matsui, a former Clinton White House official and a Washington, D.C. lobbyist since 1998, received thousands of dollars from unions and trade groups, including $5,000 each from the American Hospital Association, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations. She also received $5,000 from the political action committee of her employer, the Washington law firm of Cofax, Shannon Scott, and $5,000 from the American Hospital Association.

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"Volunteer" reflects the active, public discussion of the JACL, of all ideas and issues, even those which may not reflect the views of the national editorial board of the Pacific Citizen.

"Short expressions" on public issues are presented on a "need to know" basis. Certain issues which may include space limitations, letters subject to development. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and involvement of those who take the time to send us their comments.
Supporters May Take Hate Crimes Bill to the Ballot

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALT LAKE CITY—Supporters of hate-crime legislation, defeated in the Legislature for nine years now, may try to put it before voters. The legislator said to try for four years to pass the bill, "I hope those polls aren't being used as gospel," Oda said.

Sen. Inouye Files Filipino Vets Equity Act of 2005


Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, recently co-sponsored Senate Bill 146, the companion bill to HR 302, the Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2005, which aims to restore full veteran's status to Filipino World War II soldiers.

The bill seeks to remove the status of "full veteran" and undo the Rescission Act of 1946 that deprived Filipino veterans of World War II protest for their rights to be restored.

Honda Bill Remedies Injustice Done to Korean Immigrants

The measure was scheduled for a vote in the House last week, but the state Senate has not scheduled a hearing. Wakai said, "It would make a felony to kill, purchase or distribute any cat for human consumption.

The news reports he cited were based largely on tips from Carroll crack users, and the city's local environmental activist group Envirowatch, which said he had uncovered evidence of the police's inaction.

The issue stems from a long-standing scheme of fraud and bribery perpetrated by a veteran's services contractor based in the San Jose, Calif., office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Over the course of 12 years, the INS officially acknowledged more than $500 million in bribes from various immigration brokers in exchange for green cards.

The immigration brokers, in turn, directed the green cards to their unsuspecting clients — Korean immigrants who had no reason to believe they were involved in anything other than a lawful process. Although the corrupt INS officials managed to avoid jail time by bargaining their testimony in exchange for a fine and probation, four of the immigration brokers involved in this green card scheme were convicted in 1999.

Honda's bill provides relief specifically to the 275 wrongfully affected Korean immigrants. To be eligible for the relief in the bill, the immigrant had to be in a valid nonimmigrant status prior to seeking adjustment of status. If found to be an "eligible" alien, that person would be treated as though the fraud in procuring the green card had not taken place; so long as they were otherwise eligible, they would regain the immigration status they had if the fraud had not taken place.

"Uprooting these unknowing victims from their homes, families, careers, and communities would clearly be an injustice," Honda said. "In their quest for the American Dream, the uprooting Koreans were exploited by a corrupt immigration official and immigration brokers, and this legislation will remedy that wrongdoing.

Wy Secures Equal Employment Requirement for Energy Dept.

Congressman David Wu successfully secured a provision in the energy bill to require the Department of Energy (DOE) to report to Congress on minority employment practices at all DOE National Laboratories.

In May 2003, Wu released a report prepared by the General Accounting Office, which documented racial and gender disparities in employment practices at the DOE weapons labs. This report was inspired by the handling of the Wen Ho Lee case and increasingly common anecdotes from minority employees at National Laboratories that work conditions were hostile or unfair.

"We need to ensure that our national labs can recruit and retain the best and brightest, both to protect our national security, and to maintain America's technological leadership," said Wu. "My amendment holds the Department of Energy accountable for its practices, and takes an important step to correct the situation revealed by our Congressional investigation."

Wu's provision requires the Department of Energy to submit a biennial report to Congress about equal employment opportunity practices at its national labs, including DOE National Laboratories. Under this measure, DOE must provide information on efforts to attract minorities to the laboratories and document employee complaints and disciplinary action taken.

The provision was included in HR 603, the Energy Research, Development, Demonstration and Commercial Application Act and was recently successfully voted out of the House Science Committee.

"You've got the attorney general in support of it, police officers in support of it. What part of this message do legislators not understand?"
National Newsbytes

By P.C., Staff and Associated Press

Famed Unit of WWII to be Honored on Hornet

Two World War II legends will come together this month when the USS Hornet launches a permanent exhibit honoring the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The exhibit, which will cover the war as well as internment and postwar projects, will be curated by the 442nd veterans organization The Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans. It will consist of videos, artifacts and photographs in one of the Hornet's former crew sleeping quarters.

The 442nd was a segregated JA Army unit that received the most decorations in U.S. military history. The Hornet is a veteran of some of the fiercest battles of the Pacific War and the ship that plucked Neil Armstrong and his crew out of the ocean after their historic Apollo 11 flight to the moon. Now, the ship is a floating museum.

Historic Japanese School On the Market

Glenview, Calif.—The Japanese School of Greenwich, which was recently gated by an arson fire, had been on sale quietly for some time.

The private school opened in 1992, offering a standard national Japanese curriculum for children from Japanese families living in the tri-state area. The school, which has about 240 students, relies on Japan’s Ministry of Education to supply its teachers.

The property was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1990 to help protect the campus building.

Justice Campaign Launched for ‘Comfort Women’

NEW YORK—V-Day, an anti-violence movement founded by “The Vagina Monologues” author Eve Ensler recently launched a campaign to seek an official apology and compensation for women forced into wartime brothels run by the Japanese army.

V-Day’s spotlight campaign includes a petition, construction of monuments in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan documenting the enslavement of the “comfort women” and a demonstration outside the Japanese embassies around the world.

Historians estimate 300,000 women mostly from Korea and the Philippines were forced into prostitution for WWII Japanese soldiers. The Japanese government has refused to provide compensation for the women, now mostly in their 80s.

Chinese Double Agent Challenges Government Bid to Overturn Dismissal

LOS ANGELES—Attorneys for Katrina Leung, who was accused of using her romantic ties with a retired FBI agent to gain access to classified documents, asked a federal judge to reject the government’s bid to reinstate the case.

U.S. District Judge Florence Marie Cooper dismissed all charges against Leung in January. But a motion asking the judge to reconsider was filed last month.

Leung’s attorneys submitted a 15-page response that called the motion impermissible and wrong.

The FBI recruited Leung in the early 1980s to gather intelligence. She allegedly used her affair with her FBI handler to eavesdrop on classified documents.

Anthony Falbo

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

First APA Congressman Gets His Own Post Office

The first Indian American member of Congress recently received a post office box in his name.

HR 120 was introduced in the House of Representatives to designate the U.S. Postal Service located at 3077 Rancho California Road in Temecula, Calif., as the Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building.

Congressman Saund was elected to the House in 1956 just six years after his work to secure citizenship for Indian Americans.

Shintani Recognized as Young Optometrist of the Year

The California Optometric Association named Kelly Shintani, O.D., its 2004 Young Optometrist of the Year for her contributions to optometry, the community and her pursuit of professional development.

Lockheed Martin Employee Receives Engineer of the Year Award

Wei-San Lily O’Byrne, vice president of Systems Design and Integration at Lockheed Martin Information Systems, received one of 15 Asian American Engineer of the Year awards from the Chinese Institute of Engineers/USA. The California resident is honored for her contributions to the field of information technology.

O’Byrne, who has been involved in computer engineering for 30 years, leads a team of over 1,400 professionals.

The Asian American Engineer of the Year Award Banquet is the only program of its kind in conjunction with the National Engineers Week in the United States.

36th Annual Pilgrimage to Manzanar Set for April 30

The 36th annual Pilgrimage to Manzanar will be held April 30. The Manzanar Committee announced recently the program, co-sponsored by the Manzanar 9/11 Committee, will focus on “Retrospection and Relevance.”

Commemorating the First Manzanar Pilgrimage and its Meaning for Today:

“We must not let history repeat itself. Muslim and Arab Americans are being held at Guantanamo Bay without charge or trial just like the Japanese Americans were for years during World War II. We must work to protect the civil liberties of all Americans from racial and institutional prejudices,” said Manzanar Committee Chairperson Sue Embrey.

Manzanar is located approximately 200 miles north of Los Angeles on Highway 395. During WWII, it was a U.S. Government-run internment camp for 10,000 persons of Japanese ancestry. Eighty percent of the internees came from Los Angeles County.

Congress established Manzanar as a National Historic Site on Feb. 19, 1992, the 50th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin Roosevelt. E.O. 9066 authorized the military to remove 110,000 men, women and children of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast, two-thirds of whom were American citizens.

Manzanar is now under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, which has been restoring and maintaining the site since it was transferred in 1997 from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power, to the Department of the Interior.

In the tradition begun by the Manzanar Committee to “Raise the Banner” and recognize the various camps, former internees of Minidoka, Idaho, will be honored. Minidoka was designated as a National Monument by Executive Order by President Bill Clinton.

The Manzanar Committee is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all volunteer organization that depends on community support to hold its yearly pilgrimages. Contributions may be sent to the Manzanar Committee, 1566 Curran Street, Los Angeles, CA 90026. Click on http://www.manzanarcommittee.org or write to suek@mwu.com for further information and updates.

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The National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium’s Karen K. Namasaki is the recipient of this year’s American Bar Association Spirit of Excellence Award. Namasaki was nominated by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association for her lifelong devotion to addressing diversity issues.

Yaki Recommended to U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi recommended San Francisco attorney Michael Yaki for a seat on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

If appointed, Yaki will fill the remaining term of former Commissioner Christopher Valdez and serve the next full six-year term.

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Blue Cross of California


The JACL South Bay Chapter recently debuted the completion of the first phase of the South Bay History Project and the chapter's Web site (http://www.southbayjacl.org) to local dignitaries, Nisei participants of the project and community friends.

The South Bay History Project, which was funded by the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) from 2003-2004, conducted 23 oral histories of Southern California South Bay Nisei who lived and worked in the greater community prior to World War II.

The project's goal is to educate the local community, especially students of the area, of the significance of Japanese Americans played in the South Bay region including Gardena, Hawthorne, Torrance, Palos Verdes, Wilmington, and San Pedro. Through the project, the JACL Pacific Southwest District Trust Fund in 2003

"It is important to educate the community that made up the South Bay Nisei. It is a large population of Asian Americans that reside in the area," said Dave Tanaka, chair of the South Bay History Project, "Japanese American pioneers contributed to the economic growth of the South Bay and their struggles and sacrifices must be preserved."
Sports

Welcome to the 10th Annual SACRAMENTO ASIAN SPORTS FOUNDATION'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT. Players were from Matsuyama, Japan and Sacramento.

Students Will Represent Sacramento at Japan Goodwill Exchange

The Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation recently selected 22 eighth and ninth grade boys and girls to participate in the inaugural Japan Goodwill Exchange.

The students will travel to Japan to participate in a goodwill basketball tournament in Matsuyama and demonstration game in Hiroshima, Japan during the cultural exchange slated for July 24 to Aug. 8.

The students are: Alyssa Chou, Tori Hironaka, Allison Hiaga, Kristal Ishii, Courtney Louie, Mirena Motilla, Kim Nakamura, Tori Saito, Kaeda Shoo Hoo, Kaetlin Uchida, Rachael Uda, Britteny Wong, Sheri Yuri, and Aneki Yuri. Boys selected for this honor are: Jason Chan, Jordan Chan, Michael Dunlapo, Robert Jong, Kevin Morita, Tucki Moly, Steven Toy and Brandon Yee.

Following a rigorous application process, boys and girls teams were selected from Sacramento applicants who were distinguished by their communication skills as well as their scholastic and athletic prowess.

“I am impressed by the level of skill and commitment demonstrated by these student athletes,” said Harvey Tahara, Goodwill Exchange girls coach and varsity girls basketball coach at C.K. McClatchy High School.

The program paves the way for team participants “to understand the importance of global relationships and to engage in an exchange of cultural ideas, and promote the spirit of goodwill.”

Matsui Not Ruling Out Extension

The 30-year-old outfielder was a three-time MVP in Japan’s Central League before joining the Yankees in 2003. He hit .286 with 31 home runs and 108 RBIs last season after batting .287 with 16 homers and 106 RBIs in his first season in New York.

Yankees manager Joe Torre doesn’t believe Matsui would be distracted if extension talks go into the regular season.

Wo La! Chinese Come to America to Hone Baseball Skills

By BOB BAUM
AP Sports Writer

Scottsdale, Arizona—Chairman Mao hosed the sport during China’s cultural revolution as imperialist poison. Baseball, though, is a tough game to kill.

Shouts of “wo la!” (“I’ve got it”) and “bien let” (“throw it home”) echo across the practice fields of Scottsdale Community College this spring.

Dressed sharply in bright red and white uniforms with a stylish “C” on the chest, the Chinese national team is working out daily under the tutelage of Jim Lefebvre, the one-time scrappy Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder and former major league manager whose goal is to mold a team that won’t embarrass the host country at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

“If we can get one of these players to the big leagues, hopefully it would create the Yao Ming effect in baseball over here,” Lefebvre said.

“Everybody is playing basketball in Taiwan at the moment, so for somebody playing in the major leagues, Wang smiled and said, “That’s every baseball player’s wildest dream.”

Baseball resurrected in China 20 or so years ago, but the country is far behind Asian neighbors Japan, South Korea and Taiwan at the international level.

As the host country of the Olympics, China automatically qualifies for the baseball competition.

The team is in its third annual six-week trip to Arizona. Later this year, China will attempt to qualify for the world championships, to be held in Holland.
Nagoya. Where ancient meets hi-tech and daily meets nonstop.

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SALE FARES TO NAGOYA, JAPAN:

Sale fares on United are each way based on required roundtrip purchase by 03/31/05. Fares below are valid for travel between 03/26/05 and 05/31/05.

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It's time to fly.
"It's where what they read and hear in history class comes alive," said Vander Stoep. "I cannot imagine teaching World War II history of the United States and not having a curriculum about the internment."

But others feel differently and object loudly to what they believe is a one-sided view of American history. Recently, the quiet island of a little over 20,000 residents was besieged with national attention and became known as a divided community.

Headlines screamed about showdowns between parent and school officials and internment debates. Current Bainbridge JA residents who attended internment camp reunions and community events were asked about the island's problem with racism.

"Chinamen" in show standards.

Community (BIJAC).

James Olsen and his wife Mary
the station's
menl., - even by radio morning
hip-hop radio
unmistakable stench of racism, with
said Vander Stoep.

find humor in the Asian
island," said Kitamoto, who
Island Japanese American
Board to recommend revisions to the curriculum. The school agreed to make the curriculum a more concise lesson that puts the internment into context about how the decision was made at the time, and to soften the connection with present day national security issues.

Olsen, who was not satisfied with the revisions, finally caused enough disruption Feb. 9 to be barred from school district property indefinitely.

On that day, a panel of speakers from the Bainbridge Island JA community was scheduled to talk about their experiences as a part of the curriculum. Olsen arrived at Sakai with a tape recorder and a microphone, but was turned away by the police: no school officials.

"By reason of recent conduct, behavior and rhetoric, we believe that violated his civil rights. He is reportedly planning to meet with an attorney.

However, the odds are stacked against Olsen, said Aaron Ross, president of the University of Massachusetts Amherst Department of Legal Studies. He said that the school has the right to sanction parents and in this case, but Olsen because of his actions not his beliefs.

Vander Stoep, who calls himself the "gatekeeper," said the curriculum will continue in future years.

Olsen and Dambraten are a part of a reemerging group that maintains that the U.S. made the right decision in the name of national security to intern hundreds of thousands of JAs. Perhaps the most recent ringleader is Michelle Malik whose book "In Defense of Internment" was reportedly influential to Olsen and Dambraten.


"The Japanese internment was an important history event that students should learn about. Unfortunately, our kids are often not told of the historical circumstances that led to the internment and are incorrectly led to believe that it was simply a way for the government to deal with an enemy. Internment is one of the most important events in history, they have to be presented with all the relevant facts," said Hawkins.

In democracy, there is always freedom of expression.

PACIFIC CITIZEN, Mar. 4-17, 2005

In the United States
recently.

in off-key falsetto and including
the question, would this
hot radio
Alexander gale storm of controversy.

"Those two people - Captain
and Todd Lynn harangue the morning
song, which was
trying to go
the revision, finally caused enough
to deny Captain Olsen access to our schools. We felt the likelihood of disruption was, and is, real," said Superintendent Dr. Keet Crawford in an official statement.

Under school policy and procedures, the principal can order the person to be removed from school property, but Olsen told local press that being kept out of his own child's classroom was a discriminatory act.

in history class comes alive."
Not Your Typical 'Mail Order Bride'

In Hollywood, promptness is overrated. Tantrums, award shows and excuses run on infinitely. But when the office phone rang at 10:45 a.m. on a rainy Los Angeles day, her voice tinkled disarmingly:

"Hi, it's Eugenia. I'm sorry I'm calling a little early."

Eugenia Yuan's voice matches her onscreen presence. It's breathy, low, lingly and somehow so heavy with depth. When she speaks, it's like you're the one person in the world. We saw these characteristics in "Charlotte Sometimes" where she quietly cuts down her lover's boyfriend with a whisper and sliding ebony hair.

So when talking about her acting ("I really want to do artsy stuff. I want the hurt... the pain"), her voice is so shaded with yearning that you feel like rescuing her. The men in "Charlotte" loved her character for all those reasons and more (her bone structure and pretty face may have also been factor), but she's no delicate blossom.

In fact, she can probably knock any well-intentioned white knight off his horse, with what her former Olympic training and all. It also helps to inherit good but-kicking genes from Hong Kong's premier kung fu actress Cheng Pei Pei.

But this month, Yuan arrives first class as Lichi in "Mail Order Wife", a dark comedy shot documentary style about some lonely American and their yen for subservient Eastern women.

North Carolina: Did coming from a showbiz family influence you to become an actor?

Eugenia Yuan: No. I sought it for my own identity. My mom is amazing with this long career, but I wanted to have my way, do my way and be myself. I've done since I was four. And in rhythmic gymnastics, there are elements of performing... getting the audience to feel something with the routine. Eventually, I adored myself to that I loved acting.

Scene: Speaking of gymnastics, I found some old newspaper articles from the 80s about how we were working to bring U.S. rhythmic gymnastics back from obscurity.

EY: (laughed) I competed in the Olympic trials and did some professional shows. In the Olympics, the girls are too thin and young. To make that sport grow, they need to have older and more mature, voluptuous women to make it more beautiful.

PC: Was it empowering for you to grow up watching your mom kick butt in those martial arts films?

EY: My mom taught me dance. She empowered me as a person and a woman, not as an actress. But I've been watching her films because they're coming out again and it's awesome what she did. She didn't use stunt doubles and didn't have all these takes. It's one long take and her kicking ass.

PC: What's it about this film and this character Lichi that attracted you?

EY: I always wanted to do dark comedy. I met the director Andrew Garland first and found that he had a horrible sense of humor that matches my horrible sense of humor. We just clicked. I loved her character because it seems like she's stepped all over but, she's actually the one who comes out on top.

PC: Your character radiates sexual power. Do you think you have that power in real life?

EY: I wish.

PC: None of the film's characters are very likable. Do you think they have any redeeming qualities?

EY: I think [Lichi] is a survivor. They're all doing the best to be on top and I think all get confused. I think she also demonstrates men and their weaknesses really. That's what's so great about Lichi. That's what's so great about the film, it makes fun of all that and everything else.

Scene: The scene where you're screaming about wanting a child is emotionally raw, which I have to think is difficult to capture in itself, but how much more complicated is it to do an accent?

EY: First of all, when Charlotte came out and was classified as an Asian American film, I didn't understand why there was this grouping... I'm not into that... I think that by naming yourself they're trying to segregate yourself. Some people were saying, "Why are you doing an accent when you don't have one?" It's a character. As I was growing up and playing with my cousins, I would do the accent. It was so easy and so fun. It had the best time! PC: Have you come across more scripts as dynamic as "Mail Order Wife" that gives APA actors more dimension?

EY: I can't say yes. There are maybe more, but anytime you see any Asians in the movies now, they're the ones from Asia. It'd be really nice for them to realize what we have here. Not that those actors from Asia lack talent, but we don't have to learn English. PC: Are you choosy with the roles you take?

EY: I try to be selective, but to be honest, I'm not at that point in my career where I have three thousand offers and I can choose one. I would love to get to that point. But I want to maintain my morals and feel good about myself when I go to sleep. I'm proud that I can speak Chinese and when I go to feel comfortable, but I don't completely fit in there just like I don't completely fit in here.

PC: Your next project isn't an independent film, but a huge movie called "Memories of a Geisha."

EY: I play a girl named Kotis, who is Hasamomo's (Gong Li) friend, but it's not a lead or anything. The best thing is that I got to be best friends with Gong Li. She's gorgeous. She's chic.

PC: Did Gong Li offer you any advice?

EY: She just said if you love it, do it.

"Mail Order Wife"

An outrageous smorgasbord of sexual politics and moxie that explores the lengths some men will go for companionship. Starring Andrew Garland, Eugenia Yuan, Adrian Markmole.

In theaters March 11
LACE UP YOUR SNEAKERS—The 7th Annual JACL Fresno Discordion Walk will take place April 2 around the Washington Mall.


ENTERTAINMENT:

MILLENNIUM

(Continued from page 1)
efforts. That is the strength and the roots of JACL.

Giving monetary is another way you can support JACL. All of do it in many ways. Many of have taken the next step to the Thousand or Century Club levels.

I would like to introduce you to JAC's new Century Club member to our highest level— the MILLENNIUM Club.

This was announced at the 2004 Honolulu Convention. The level is $1,000 per year. The co-chairpersons for this elite level are Frank Sasaki and Miyoko Osawa. This was their idea and through a tremendous amount of work, were able to get it approved and functioning. There are 44 members of the Millennium Club and we would like it grow. I would like to present to you the charter members of the Millennium Club.

Shea Aoki, Seattle; Shelton Adams, Pittsburgh; George Arata, Downey; Michael Bascomb, Philadelphia; Frank Chum, Hollywood; William Clark, Fresno; Ernest DoiZaki, Downey; Donald Ho, Seattle; Fernando Higashi, New York; Paul Nagano, Washington, DC.

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Arizona-Nevada
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Lillian Kimura.

Paciﬁc Grove Monterey
San Jose
San Francisco

Frisco; Fnsli Hoshiyama. Venice
would like this Newsletter to Elite level Arc Frank Roosevelt.

I would like to ask for your support to the club.

I would like to invite you to join us.
Honda, Masami, 87, Chula Vista, Feb. 10; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Masaharu (Mieko), Kiyoshi (Yasue), Kiyoshi (Miki), and 13 grandchildren.

Kato, Keiji, 81, Chula Vista, Jan. 28; survived by wife, Satsue; son, Ken (Kumiko); and 2 grandchildren.

Kato, Roy, 84, Chula Vista, Feb. 15; survived by wife, Toshiko; daughter, Reiko (Ken); and 2 grandchildren.

Kato, Tatsuo, 91, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kawano, Akiko, 78, Chula Vista, Jan. 16; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Mark (Ruth) and Jeff (Sue); and 3 grandchildren.

Kawano, Tetsuo, 77, Chula Vista, Jan. 16; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Mark (Ruth) and Jeff (Sue); and 3 grandchildren.

Kawasaki, Momoko, 80, Chula Vista, Feb. 27; survived by wife, Tatsuo; sons, Ken (Kumiko) and Kiyoshi; and 3 grandchildren.

Kawai, Kenji, 89, Chula Vista, Feb. 1; survived by wife, Emi; sons, Kenji (John) and Hiroshi; and 2 grandchildren.

Kawata, Minoru, 81, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kawamura, Rev. Isao, 78, Chula Vista, Feb. 5; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kobayashi, Yoshihiro, 89, Chula Vista, Jan. 16; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Mark (Ruth) and Jeff (Sue); and 3 grandchildren.

Kotani, Hisa, 79, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kudo, Nori, 85, Chula Vista, Feb. 1; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kumagai, Masami, 87, Chula Vista, Feb. 2; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kuriyama, Sayama, 86, Chula Vista, Feb. 1; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kusunoki, Shigeko, 87, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kusumoto, Kiyokazu, 80, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kusumoto, Kazuyo, 82, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kusumoto, Masako, 82, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kusumoto, Mary, 80, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kusumoto, Nancy, 82, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kusumoto, Nao, 80, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kusumoto, Nancy, 82, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

Kusumoto, Naoko, 80, Chula Vista, Feb. 17; survived by wife, Yoko; sons, Andrew (Reiko) and Peter (Takako); and 4 grandchildren.

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- Terrell T. Nagata, President of the National JACL Credit Union

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