



City Council Votes
Sebastopol City Council votes to support 1st Lt. Ehren Watada's constitutional rights.
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Telling 'Asian-Stories'
Ron Oda's film picks apart all things APA, including a dog named Kalbi.
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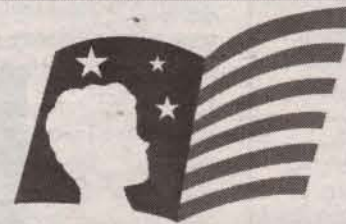


Golden Arm
Which MLB team will be lucky enough to sign Daisuke Matsuzaka?
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Since 1929

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



Left Behind
Calif. public schools are leaving APA parents behind.
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Nov. 17-DEC. 14, 2006

2006 GENERAL ELECTIONS

APA Leaders Head Back to Congress with One Newly Elected Member

By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

The Asian Pacific American voting block flexed its muscle at the polls last week, reelecting many of the community's proven leaders and sending a newly anointed one to Congress to join a Democratic majority.

In Hawaii, former Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono celebrated a history-making win over Republican Bob C. Hogue to become the first person born in Japan to serve in the House of Representatives.

"It makes me so proud that we are part of a country that gives those kinds of opportunities," said Hirono to KITV Channel 4.

Hirono, who was born in Fukushima, Japan and raised in Honolulu, was favored to pull out a



MAZIE HIRONO

win in an election charged with debate over the current war in Iraq. Throughout her campaign she vocally advocated ending the War, a goal she said she would emphasize in her first term beginning Jan. 3.

With Hirono newly elected, there are currently seven APAs in the House and two in the Senate, said William H. "Mo" Marumoto, presi-

See ELECTIONS/Page 12

JACL Nat'l Bd. Rejects Resolution to Increase Support for Watada; Current Statement of Concern Stands

Five months after the Honolulu officer refused to deploy to Iraq, the issue continues to divide the national organization.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

SAN FRANCISCO—With news that the U.S. Army has decided to go forth with a court martial for 1st Lt. Ehren Watada for refusing to deploy to Iraq, the JACL national board once again took up the contentious issue ironically on Veterans Day, debating a proposed resolution to increase its support for the Honolulu native, but in the end voting to stick to its current statement of concern.

With various JACL chapter members present to argue the pros and cons of the divisive issue—including members of the Berkeley and

The national board action ... was a statement that [it] was satisfied with the current JACL statement, that there was not a need for revision.

Larry Oda, JACL nat'l president



Honolulu chapters who have already gone on record in full support of Watada—the NCWNP district presented a resolution to support the Sansei officer's First Amendment right to free speech. But in the end, the national JACL board quickly

voted to defeat the motion 3-7, with 2 abstentions. Thus, its July statement of concern over some of the charges, including conduct unbecoming an officer, will stand.

"The national board action ... was a statement that [it] was satisfied with the current JACL statement, that there was not a need for revision," said Larry Oda, JACL national president. "This particular board takes its responsibility seriously, and as a group, is sometimes called on to make difficult and unpopular decisions, but it does so in a thoughtful and considered manner through careful and thorough deliberation."

Five months after Watada, 28, announced his decision to refuse deployment to Iraq because he believes the war is illegal and immoral, the JACL—an organiza-

See WATADA/Page 6

APA Diabetics Take Life Changing Journeys

Although research indicates diabetes is on the rise amongst APAs, especially Type 2 diabetes, many still know very little about the disease and many more remain undiagnosed.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

Shin Kurokawa, a successful anime producer, was used to a career filled with long hours and constant stress so when he became ill over a lengthy period of time, he blamed his symptoms on work-related stress. What else could it be? But when he came down with an unusual case of respiratory infection in 2003 that left him virtually immobile, doctors ran several tests and finally discovered the cause of Kurokawa's years of health problems.



At the age of 35, Kurokawa was diagnosed as a Type 1 diabetic.

Born in Japan and living in the United States since 1979, Kurokawa, now 38, has no family history of diabetes and knew very little about the disease, something he had always considered to be "the other person's" problem. Despondent at first, he soon immersed himself in learning every-

See DIABETES/Page 4

JACL Projects Year-end Surplus

Board members outline goals for next year. At the top of the list: fill empty staff positions.

By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

SAN FRANCISCO—The JACL will close out its fourth quarter with another surplus, according to national board members who held a Nov. 10-12 meeting at national headquarters.

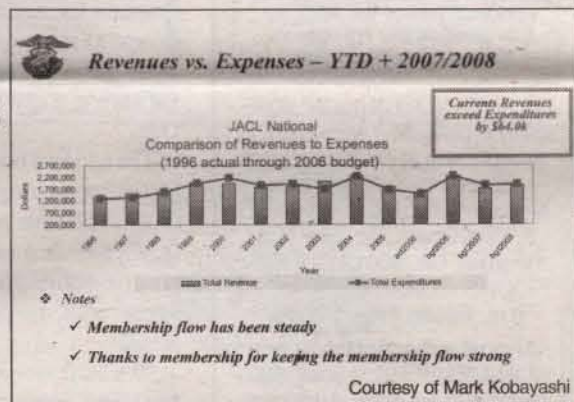
Based on a Sept. 30 analysis, the JACL has a \$47,732 surplus and is projected to end the year approximately \$80,901 under budget. The surplus is attributed to budgeted staff positions that have not been filled as well as steady membership numbers, on target public support and revenues from the recent Phoenix national convention,

according to board members.

JACL staff and board members spent most of the weekend addressing one question: How are we accomplishing the goals of the budget?

The first order of business is to hire new staff, said Larry Oda, JACL national president. "The one thing that has given us a surplus up until now is that we haven't hired two staff positions [the Pacific Southwest regional director and the administrative assistant for the national director]. As a result, work has not been put into some programs because we don't have the resources."

The JACL has had a surplus for



the last three years, but the success is bittersweet. The organization works on an annual zero-based budgeting plan, which means by the end of each year the budget should end with a zero balance with most programs and goals outlined in the Program for Action accomplished. Ending with a surplus could mean that more revenue was generated than budgeted or that program goals have not been met because of empty staff position.

"So the surplus of a year-end

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COMMENTARY A 1st Amendment Issue

By JOHN TATEISHI
JACL Executive Director

As you read the *Pacific Citizen* report of the national board discussion on the Ehren Watada case, you'll read that I expressed a view that 1st Lt. Watada has a right to express his moral convictions about the war in Iraq and that I urged the board to support a motion to support Lt. Watada's First Amendment rights.



See TATEISHI/Page 8

Penn State Students: I Want My AA Studies!

By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

While Asian American Studies programs have been a mainstay in many public universities for nearly 40 years, Penn State University only has one course titled, "Introduction to Asian American Studies," which was launched this year without any guarantee of continuing.

The course is "experimental" and has three chances to prove itself in order to be granted permanent status. But after two semesters, university officials decided not to offer the course until Spring 2007 prompting student protests and petition drives to bring it back this fall. Clearly, Penn State students want their AA

Studies. And they got what they wanted

Sociology 197A—a class two days a week that examines AA history, dissects the roots of stereotyping and the pan-Asian effects of racism. Since its introduction, the classroom has been filled to capacity.

But the course's future is still in question, said Bao Ming Li, the course instructor who was told by university administrators that AA



MOBILIZE: Penn State students recently circulated a petition to pressure university officials for a permanent AA studies course.

PHOTO: APA CAUCUS

classes have never enjoyed any success at Penn State.

But every week, Li faces a sea of young eyes eager to drink in parts of U.S. history that was not included in their high school curriculums. One student recently cried over her own lack of knowledge, Li said.

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COMMENTARY

Future Leadership

By LARRY ODA
JACL Nat'l President

At the Nov. 10-12 national board meeting in San Francisco, the board was asked to clarify the process for the search for J A C L Executive Director John Tateishi's successor. Owing to the growing interest about the future leadership of the JACL, I would like to reiterate the national board process to recruit an executive director.

As reported at the Sept. 30 national board meeting by Vice President for General Operations Sheldon Arakaki, according to established protocols, the national personnel committee has the responsibility to develop the criteria for selection, procedure for recruitment, and outline for interviews. The personnel committee will recommend the best candidates to the national board for selection.

The personnel committee is



chaired by Arakaki. He is joined the executive director, *Pacific Citizen* Executive Editor Caroline Aoyagi-Stom, staff representative Karen Yoshitomi, at-large members Floyd Shimomura, Bob Taniguchi and Betsy Sato, and Governor's Caucus Chair Elaine Akagi. The ex-officio members are the national president and Legal Counsel Michelle Yoshida. Advising the committee is human resource specialist Karen Okabe.

On Nov. 6 the position was posted via the internet and the Japanese American vernaculars. The ad also appears in this issue of the P.C.

A complete job description can be found on the JACL Web site at www.jacl.org. Deadline for cover letters and resumes is Nov. 30.

The personnel committee will recommend the best candidates to the national board for selection at its Feb. 10, 2007, meeting. As a contingency, the personnel committee has also been directed to develop a backup plan to be implemented if a suitable candidate is not hired at that time. ■

JACL BUDGET

(Continued from page 1)

budget is a wonderful feeling of relief, but in some ways we're almost too taxed by the work to appreciate it," said John Tateishi, JACL executive director.

Board members tackled the Program for Action to pave the path to next year's goals.

"If we don't have the resources, we have to make that decision," said Oda.

The national board also pushed for better monitoring of programs in order to allocate resources effectively. Certificates of completion will now be required from program managers with programs funded by grants.

"It's hard to sort it all out until the final end numbers come in," said JACL Secretary/Treasurer Mark Kobayashi about the budget. "The biggest goal is to get the cash flow in."

"We were given a mandate by the national council, this is a blueprint of

actions to take for the next biennium," said Oda to board members during the meeting. "We're ready to tackle it. Let's start this planning. Let's decide what planning we're going to do."

As of Sept. 30, membership income is at \$757,627, far exceeding fourth quarter projections. Other larger revenue line items include fund raising at \$336,809, grants at \$101,172 and public support at \$59,544.

Some larger expenditures include \$500,587 for operations, \$256,681 for the *Pacific Citizen* and \$363,638 for the national convention.

The JACL portfolios are also performing well. As of Nov. 6, the Legacy Fund is at \$6.2 million, the National Endowment sits at \$433,275, the Life Trust is at \$380,765 and the Reserve Fund is at \$388,262 after \$80,000 was withdrawn because of cash flow shortage.

During the Saturday session of the meeting, board members also promised to pay out the \$15,000 seed

COMMENTARY

JACL Launches Annual Giving Campaign

By JOHN TATEISHI
JACL Executive Director

It's the time of year when we all hopefully begin to wind down the maddening pace of our lives as we try to ease our way into the holidays.

It's a time when we give thanks for what we have, for our families and friends, for those no longer with us but are still so much a part of our lives.

The year's end always brings a backward glance at what's been, and at the same time, the hopes for the year to come. For us as a nation, it's been the continued struggle with the war in Iraq, the political circus of an election year, the change in mood as the shift of power moved from right to left and did so with a sense of hope.

For us as an organization, it's been our many challenges to the infringements to civil liberties, a



successful and extraordinary convention, a new vision that came from the convention, and a promise of better things to come.

As we wind down the year, we are about to launch our year-end Annual Giving campaign. In a few weeks, you're going to receive a letter from former U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta, a long-time JACL member and friend. I hope you take the time to read the letter and find it in your hearts to help us make this year's campaign a great success.

It's your generosity and continued support that helps keep the JACL operational. It's your support that helps make this organization so effective at doing the things we do: challenging social injustice, educating the public about the Japanese American and Asian American communities, and ensuring the rights of all Americans.

As we anticipate the final weeks of 2006 and we draw to a close the 77th year of the JACL, we thank you, our membership and supporters, for helping to make the JACL the exceptional and successful organization it is.

So let me wish you all a great holiday season and thank you in advance for your generosity in helping make this year's Annual Giving campaign a resounding success. ■

Letters to the Editor

Historical Society Looking for JAs Interned at Tujunga During WWII

The Little Landers Historical Society of Tujunga, California, will be placing a plaque at the present golf driving range in Tujunga, California, next to the 118 Freeway. The plaque will have the names of Japanese who were imprisoned there when WWII started. They were housed in barracks (just like the 10 camps for us) and a plaque will name the Japanese who were imprisoned there.

If you know anyone who was there, please contact Lloyd Hitt, 818/951-1041 or Paul Tsuneishi, 818/353-4359. Hitt is president of the Little Landers Historical Society in Tujunga, California.

Paul Tsuneishi
Sunland, CA

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

JACL NATIONAL DIRECTOR

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization, seeks a qualified candidate for the position of National Director at its headquarters in San Francisco, CA.

The National Director is the chief executive officer of the JACL and is responsible for providing the organizational leadership and fiscal management of a \$2 million budget. The National Director must be familiar with the Japanese American and Asian American communities and have an understanding of the JACL's past and recent history.

The National Director serves as the spokesperson for the JACL and represents the JACL, the Japanese American community, and the Asian American community in public forums and with the media. In addition to being responsible for fund source development with corporate and foundation funding sources, the National Director executes regional and national fund raising initiatives for the organization.

The National Director will be expected to have some background in advocacy and civil rights work and be able to provide leadership with congressional efforts in Washington, D.C. and well as with specific state legislative bodies as needed. The National Director is responsible for managing personnel and board relations and reports to the National Board.

For more complete information and benefits, please call the JACL National Headquarters at 415/921-5225.

Submit or fax cover letter and resume by November 30, 2006 to: Japanese American Citizens League, National Director Search Committee, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115 or Fax: 415/931-4671 www.jacl.org

JACL PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT - REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil and human rights organization, seeks a qualified candidate for the Pacific Southwest (PSW) Regional Director position for the JACL office in Little Tokyo, Los Angeles. The PSW Regional Director, under the general direction of the National Director, is responsible for performing a wide variety of duties to ensure the development and maintenance of the National JACL's programs and goals at the national level, administers and manages a regional office with respect to potential membership population and geographic area of service.

While accountable to the National Executive Director, the Regional Director is expected to work independently and to be responsive to the concerns of the PSW District Governor and chapters within the PSW region to ensure that they are adequately served. The position also assists in the organization of National JACL functions. Travel, work after regular hours and on weekends will be required.

For more information on this job description, please visit the JACL PSW website at www.jaclpsw.org. The JACL is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applicants should submit their resume to the PSW Regional Office, attn: PSW Personnel Committee, 244 S. San Pedro St., #406, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Deadline for applications is Thursday, November 30, 2006. No telephone inquiries please.

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

g "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*.

g "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.

National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Long Lost Internment Photographs Uncovered



NEW YORK—Close to 800 new internment photos by photographer Dorothea Lange have been unearthed in the National Archives, where they had lain neglected for a half-century after having been impounded by the government.

The pictures can now be seen in the book, "Impounded," which bears the hallmarks of

Lange's distinctive documentary style.

Japantown Deal Falls Through

SAN FRANCISCO—A \$26 million deal to develop Japantown collapsed in a dispute over land values. The city balked on paying Olson Co. the agreed upon amount when city officials discovered that there was less land than originally believed — 5.2 acres instead of 5.8 acres.

Olson Co. was chosen over nine other builders to develop Japantown, along with First Community Housing of San Jose, which was selected to build affordable housing.

A meeting about the future of Japantown is slated for Nov. 30.

Angel Island No. 2 on List of Favorite Bay Area Landmarks

SAN FRANCISCO—The immigration station at Angel Island, the West Coast's version of Ellis Island, narrowly lost an online restoration campaign that allowed visitors to vote on favorite landmarks.

Angel Island came in second with 16 percent of the votes for favorite Bay Area landmarks. The winners received \$1 million in preservation funds. But while the top vote-getter was guaranteed part of the money, it does not automatically get the largest share.

Advisers will decide in mid-November how to award the money. Second and third-place finishers could wind up empty-handed.

The contest will be repeated next year in a location still to be determined.

Proposal 2 Faces Court Challenge, University of Michigan Opposition

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—Michigan's new constitutional amendment banning some types of affirmative action programs is being challenged in court, less than 24 hours after voters approved it.

A pro-affirmative action group has filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Detroit seeking to block Proposal 2 from taking effect. The same group lost legal challenges earlier this year while trying to prevent the measure from appearing on the ballot.

A hearing date on the new suit has not been set.

APA Student Files Discrimination Suit Against Princeton

PRINCETON, N.J.—Yale freshman Jian Li has filed a federal civil rights complaint against Princeton for rejecting his admission. He claims Princeton discriminated against him because he is Asian.

Despite racking up the maximum 2400 score on the SAT and 2390 — 10 points below the ceiling — on SAT2 subject tests in physics, chemistry and calculus, Li was rejected by three Ivy League universities.

The complaint, which was filed with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights on Oct. 25, alleges that the university's admissions procedures are biased because they give advantages to other minority groups at the expense of APA applicants. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Mathematician, Designer Win Lifetime Achievement Awards



MIYAKE

The Inamori Foundation presented its 22nd Annual Kyoto Prizes, considered among the world's leading awards for lifetime achievement, to Japanese statistical mathematician **Dr. Hirotugu Akaike** and Japanese designer **Issey Miyake**, an artist whose innovative creations transcend time, culture and social status.

The Kyoto Prizes are presented annually to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to human progress in the areas of "Advanced Technology," "Basic Sciences," and "Arts and Philosophy."

Each laureate received a Kyoto Prize diploma, a medal of 20-karat gold, and a cash gift of approximately \$425,000.

JCCH President Announces Retirement



Riki May Amano, president and executive director of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, announced plans to retire by April 2007.

Since taking over as head of the Center in May 2005, Amano has helped increase membership, programs and exhibitions at the Mo'ili'ili facility.

The center is a nonprofit organization that educates people about JA culture and heritage in Hawaii. ■

"We can start by supporting brave soldiers like Lieutenant Watada, who, in spite of criticism and the prospect of a court martial, stood up to tell the truth." — **Lina Hoshino**, Sonoma County JACL

City Council Honors Watada as a 'True American Patriot'

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The Sebastopol City Council in Sonoma County on Nov. 5 unanimously approved a resolution to support 1st Lt. Ehren Watada, the first commissioned officer in the U.S. to refuse deployment to the current Iraq war.

The resolution cited Watada's patriotism and "resolution in swearing allegiance not to one man, but to a document of principles and laws designed to protect the people." It also calls attention to the illegal nature of the war, calling it a "pre-emptive strike against Iraq without provocation" that is in clear "violation of the Constitution of the United States and the United Nations Charter."

Local activists and Sonoma County JACL members **Lina Hoshino**, **Carol Kawase** and **Mei**



Nakano supported the resolution.

"According to the Geneva Conventions, individuals who knowingly participate in torture, who target civilians and engage in illegal military aggression, can be considered a war criminal. It is the Bush administration that needs to be on trial, not Lieutenant Watada," said Hoshino, a documentary filmmaker.

Over 100,000 Iraqi civilians

have been killed in the war as well as over 2,800 U.S. soldiers.

"For that tragedy, the world is not a safer place, but a more dangerous one," Hoshino added. "I feel we must do everything in our power to stop it. We can start by supporting brave soldiers like Lieutenant Watada, who, in spite of criticism and the prospect of a court martial, stood up to tell the truth."

Because the chapter has not yet made a commitment of support, Hoshino, Kawase and Nakano are organizing a Nov. 18 informational forum about the case.

Watada faces charges of conduct unbecoming of an officer and missing troop movement.

The charge of contempt toward government officials has been dropped, but he still faces a court martial and prison time. ■

California Public Schools Leave APA Parents Behind

Audit finds schools' compliance with state translation requirements low for Asian languages.

California public schools are not meeting language translation requirements to help Asian Pacific American parents, according to a recent audit.

The California State Auditor found many schools deficient of the state translation requirements, despite the state's high APA population. APA groups are advocating the passage of Assembly Bill 680, which would require the State Department of Education to include the monitoring of language requirements as part of its regular review of public schools and districts.

The bill, authored by Assembly Member Wilma Chan, would also require the Department of Education to notify school districts of assisted language violations by Aug. 1 of each year.

"The passage of AB 680 will provide a greater role for the state to ensure compliance with translation requirements," said Gen Fujioka, program director at the Asian Law Caucus.

More than one-third of APAs are limited English proficient. By failing



to provide translation services, schools are preventing limited English proficient parents from becoming actively involved and engaged in their children's education, critics say.

The audit assessed compliance with a section of the California Education Code, which requires schools to send translated notices to parents when 15 percent or more of the student population speaks a single primary language other than English at home.

The audit revealed language needs among APA parents are not being met. In California, nearly 43 percent of the state's 6.3 million public school students speak a primary language other than English at home, and almost one-quarter of all students are English learners.

"If this audit were a report card,

many schools would be getting D's and F's for translation," said Christina Wong, policy advocate for the Center for Asian American Advocacy (CAA). "The California State auditor confirms the lack of translated notices for Asian Pacific American parents and highlights the continued advocacy that is needed to ensure schools are complying with their legal and community obligations."

"It is time for our state, school districts and public schools to take action and ensure no children and no parents are left behind," said Bonnie Tang, staff attorney of Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC). ■

To see the audit report: <http://www.bsa.ca.gov/pdfs/reports/2005-137.pdf>

API Caucus Launches Multilingual Web Site

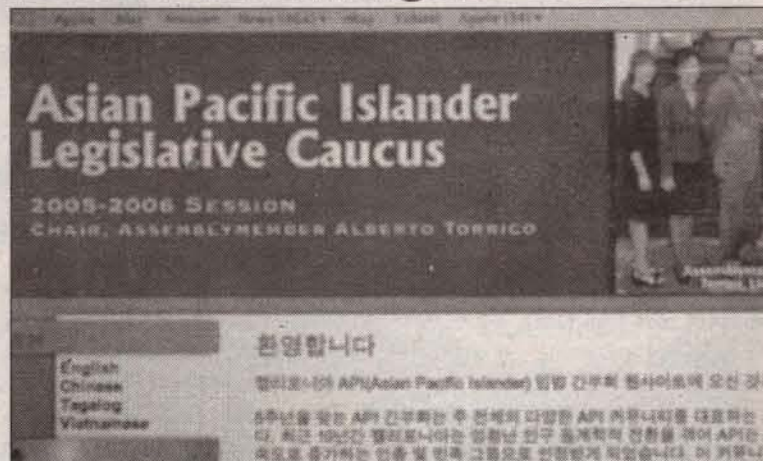
By Pacific Citizen Staff

"Maligayang Pagdating," reads the Tagalog greeting on the Web site.

Responding to recent demographics reports about limited English speakers, the California Asian Pacific Islander (API) Legislative Caucus launched an expanded multilingual Web site in Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, and Vietnamese to help improve language access for some of the state's most linguistically isolated populations.

The API Caucus strives to represent and advocate for the diverse API communities from around the state.

"We hope this will encourage other government agencies to also ensure their services are accessible for limited English proficient individuals," said Vivian Huang, legislative advocate for the Asian



Americans for Civil Rights and Equality (AACRE).

According to the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California, API households have the highest levels of linguistic isolation in the state. Nearly half of Chinese Americans, the state's largest API group, are limited English proficient.

Six API ethnic groups have

majority limited English proficient populations, including two of the five largest API groups, Vietnamese and Korean. Persons who speak English less than "very well" are considered limited English proficient. ■

On the Web: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/apilegcaucus/default.htm>

APA Diabetics Learn Lessons of Changing Lifestyles and Healthier Habits

(Continued from page 1)

thing he could about the disease.

"Obviously, my first reaction was confusion and denial, perhaps mainly because of my lack of understanding. I knew zero about diabetes, so it sounded to me like a death sentence," he said. "It took me days before I could inject myself with insulin. During the next several weeks of continued denial I made attempts to read and research online."

"I suppose it took me a good six months before I felt comfortable enough to say that I am a diabetic," added Kurokawa. "It took that long before I could tell my parents that I had the illness."

Community Outreach

Diabetes is the fifth leading cause of death among Asian Pacific Islanders between the ages of 45 and 64, according to the National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP). Although APAs tend to generally have a lower body weight, diabetes is disproportionately higher within the APA community compared to Caucasians — it affects about 10 percent of APAs compared to 8 percent of Caucasians — and over 90 percent of APAs diagnosed have Type 2 diabetes.

Yet today many APAs know very little about this disease nor their increased risk. With November designated as American Diabetes Month, APA health groups and physicians are increasing their public awareness campaigns about the disease that has been exploding in the APA community in recent years.

"Diabetes is a serious problem among AAPIs (Asian American and Pacific Islanders). In fact, AAPIs are at greater risk for diabetes when compared to non-Hispanic whites, possibly due to genetic and socioeconomic factors," said Nina Agbayani, a registered nurse and director of programs for the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO).

"Though data on AAPIs and diabetes is limited, we know from community studies and from AAPCHO's member community health centers, that diabetes is a sig-



Diabetics like Vanessa Wong (above), Souvilayvanh Kruoch (far left), and Dio Agbayani have learned that with proper care and healthier habits, Type 1s and Types 2s can have fulfilling and active lives.

nificant health problem among AAPIs. However, AAPIs may not be aware of this problem."

Dr. George King established the Joslin Diabetes Center's Asian American Diabetes Initiative (AADI) in Boston in 2000 and has been working to meet the growing challenges of this disease within the APA community. In one of AADI's outreach programs last week, he diagnosed 10 APAs with diabetes, a diagnosis most were not expecting.

"Most just look at us. They don't know about diabetes, a relatively new entity. They don't know so they're not scared of it but it can be a devastating disease," said King. "If they know, most Asians and Asian Americans seem to have denial. They think they have a little bit of diabetes ... but there's no such thing as a little bit of diabetes."

Type 1s and Type 2s

On Aug. 28 Souvilayvanh Kruoch, a 23 year old half Laotian-half Cambodian living in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, learned she is a Type 2 diabetic. She had lost significant weight and found herself constantly having to urinate and decided to make a doctor's appointment. After a simple blood test she got her diag-

nosis.

"When I first discovered that I was diabetic, I was depressed for about a week or so. I felt like, 'why do bad things always have to happen to me?' But, after doing research online and talking to my doctor, nutritionist, and a nurse, I felt like everything would be okay. So, I overcame the fear of being diabetic and accepted it," said Kruoch.

"When I told my family that I was diabetic, I think my mother was in denial for a few weeks. She started buying herbs for me to drink thinking that it would somehow cure my diabetes. As for my dad, he didn't say much, he just told me to do what I was told by the doctor."

Diabetes is a disease in which the body cannot produce (Type 1) or respond properly (Type 2) to insulin, a hormone produced by the pancreas. Insulin is needed to convert sugar, starches and other foods into energy so people with diabetes have higher levels of glucose in their blood.

Studies have shown that the prevalence of Type 2 diabetes is two to three times higher among Japanese Americans in Seattle compared to non-Hispanic whites. Type 2 diabetes is also 2.5 times higher

among Native Hawaiians compared to whites in Hawaii.

Vanessa Wong, 28, of San Francisco, always ate healthy and exercised often so when she became ill seven years ago after going on one of her regular runs, hearing the emergency room doctors tell her she is a Type 1 diabetic was more than shocking. As a development engineer she soon immersed herself in learning everything she could about the disease.

"It was a huge shock to be diagnosed with this disease, since it does not run in my family," she said. "I've always been something of a health nut, and I have a very strong immune system. I approached the disease like an engineer — acquiring as much knowledge as possible, fastidiously counting carbs, calculating insulin dosages, and exercising."

"I had a lot of fear in the early days ... But I do the best that I can, and ultimately put my trust in God to work things out for good."

A Healthier Lifestyle

In addition to losing weight and a constant urge to urinate, some of the other symptoms associated with diabetes include constant hunger and thirst, blurred vision, extreme fatigue, and slow-healing wounds. Although diabetics have a higher risk for developing heart disease, adult blindness, and kidney disease, with early diagnosis and a proper diet and exercise most can live productive lives.

"You have to change your life habits and that can be difficult," said King. "For Asians, exercise and a healthy diet help immensely."

Kurokawa's diagnosis came late so when doctors finally diagnosed him with Type 1 diabetes he was in bad shape, especially his eyes. For months after his diagnoses he suffered partial or total vision loss and underwent several operations. Luckily today his eyesight has come back and he is able to continue his work in the anime industry.

"I am far more careful about my health now than ever before," said Kurokawa. "I understand better now how everything affects everything else inside the body in a very complex causal chain of events, but med-

ical science only knows so much of that. But the advances are great. I wouldn't be surprised that perhaps during my lifetime there will be a one-pill cure for diabetes."

Less than three months since her diagnosis, Kruoch has been trying to eat healthier, regulating her carbohydrate intake, and exercising regularly. She admits it hasn't been easy.

"I try to maintain a healthy diet and exercise everyday, but sometimes I miss those days that I didn't actually need to exercise or eat things that I'm suppose to," she said, admitting that she has always struggled with her weight. "It's hard to change my eating habits from eating anything I wanted to eating healthier."

Outreach and Education

Dio Agbayani, a 59-year-old Filipina American living in Hawaii, knew about her family's history of diabetes — both of her parents had it — so when a doctor discovered through a simple blood test that she too was a Type 2 diabetic she wasn't surprised.

"I was not shocked when I found out," she said. "I figured I would just have to accept it and try to live with it. I take medication. I go to the doctor for regular check-ups. I admit, I don't eat wisely, but I try."

For diabetics like Agbayani, they know all too well the importance of outreach and education about the disease in the APA community.

"A lot of APAs (especially Filipinos from the Philippines) know little because they are not educated and their diet and lifestyle is a major contribution to diabetes," said Agbayani. "They need to realize that this is a disease, but it can be treated."

"I didn't know about the high incidence of diabetes in APAs before I was diagnosed. And yes, I do try to educate other APAs about the disease," said Wong. "There are still a lot of misconceptions about diabetes in general out there, and I'd like to help correct that where I can." ■

For more information on diabetes in the APA community, check out www.diabetes.org, www.aadi.joslin.harvard.edu, or www.aapcho.org.

AA STUDIES

(Continued from page 1)

"Every year is like a relay for the students," said Li about the students' struggle for AA Studies.

The APA Caucus, a university student organization, has been leading the campaign to pressure school officials to permanently adopt the introductory AA Studies course and to expand AA Studies into a major program.

"People argue that racism is due to ignorance. Well then, commit resources to combat institutionalized racism," said Toni Dang, a junior at Penn State majoring in African American Studies.

Since she entered Penn State, Dang has constantly heard whispers about racial bias and prejudice from minority students.

During her freshman year, one of Dang's AA classmates found feces smeared across his dorm room door and last spring, two friends reported to school officials that the slur "nigger" was written on their walls, but it was just painted over without much fanfare.

"I think it's symbolic ... putting paint over it to whitewash the inci-

dent," she said. "These things happen every year. Penn State needs to step up its anti-racism agenda."

An AA Studies program is a crucial step in combating racism, added Dang.

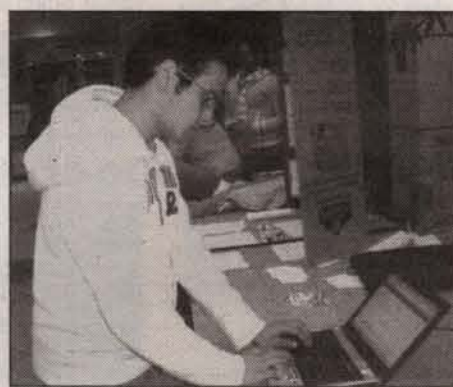
According to the university, AA enrollment has

increased four percent since last year. In the College of Liberal Arts, where the introductory AA course is currently based, students can major in African American, Latin American and Jewish Studies.

The glaring lack of any AA Studies class prompted Camilla Chung to launch a two-year campaign to ask the university for one class. She organized a petition drive and pressed university officials until she was told that if she could find enough students to take the class and someone to teach it, then she would get her AA Studies class.

"I almost gave them what they wanted at that moment: to just throw in the towel," said Chung.

In her continued fight, she found



"These things happen every year. Penn State needs to step up its anti-racism agenda." — Toni Dang

A student (left) signs a petition in support of AA Studies at Penn State.

Li, who was already employed by Penn State as an academic coordinator. Li had taught in China and Georgia for 13 years, but was basically self-taught in AA Studies. Last semester, Li received the highest class evaluation score in the department.

Some are accusing university officials of trying to set up Li's AA class for failure.

The class was added to the course catalog very late in the semester and only after students protested in April, but it was initially listed without any course credit even though it satisfied general education requirements. When it finally appeared in the course catalog, the class was listed as counting towards international

culture and U.S. culture requirements, said Dang.

A Penn State representative confirmed that the introductory AA Studies class would continue to be offered as long as there is a demand and the faculty to teach it.

"In recent years, there has been some demand for Asian American courses, a demand we are trying to meet," said Vicki Fong, Penn State assistant director of science/research communications. "However, with 1,500 more freshmen than last year, and with overall enrollments at an all time high at Penn State, we have a lot of other curricular demands that we are trying to meet with limited resources."

"The college of the liberal arts administrators are interested in moving forward to create an Asian American minor; the challenge, however, is to find faculty who are interested in developing courses beyond Sociology 197A, and this is something they are exploring this

year," said Fong.

Some APAs leaders think Penn State should take stronger actions to pave the way for AA Studies.

"I would hope that Penn State would look around the nation and see the increase in the numbers of Asian American studies programs over the past five years," said Rajini Srikanth, president of the Association for Asian American Studies.

Srikanth argues that AA Studies promotes any student's intellectual experience.

"For instance, imagine the kind of complex historical understanding and sophisticated analytical thinking that could develop when students learn about the Japanese American internment and position that historical moment against the erosion of civil liberties today," she said.

Student leaders like Dang can't help but look at the neighboring University of Pennsylvania and Temple University, where AA Studies programs have been a part of a longstanding tradition.

"We're really behind the times," said Dang. ■

FOR MORE INFO: www.clubs.psu.edu/up/apacaus

Japantown USA — Ogden, Utah

Ogden's Japantown will be part of Utah's Day of Remembrance Observance for 2007

By RAYMOND UNO
Special to Pacific Citizen

Much has recently been written about the many Japantowns in the United States, particularly those in the West. Very little has been written about the Japantown here in Ogden, Utah. Preliminary research has unearthed a rich and colorful picture of the early Japanese pioneers who were among the first immigrant pioneers of historic 25th Street of Ogden. Over the past few years, there has been discussion of documenting the history of Ogden's Japantown for historical and sentimental reasons.

As we reflected on a project for the Day of Remembrance for Wasatch Front North JACL for 2007, it was suggested we examine the history of Ogden's Japantown. As we did so, it became apparent there were various rich veins that has lead us to believe there was a pot of gold hidden in the history of 25th Street and the adjacent areas. As our research has accelerated, we have collected many photographs of the

Ogden Buddhist Temple, Ogden Japanese Church of Christ and of many pioneer Japanese families all related to 25th Street and adjacent areas.

The rich history of Ogden's Japantown will be part of the Day of Remembrance observance sponsored by the Wasatch Front North JACL Feb. 16-18, 2007, at the Ogden Marriott Hotel in Ogden, Utah. The package deal is \$60 for the Friday mixer, Saturday bento lunch and Saturday evening banquet. Hotel rates are a modest \$65 per night plus tax.

History Revealed

The hustle and bustle of 25th Street was originally concentrated on the Union Pacific Railroad Station at the bottom of 25th Street. This brought in hundreds of railroad workers, including many Japanese immigrants, and thousands upon thousands of passengers passing through the station.

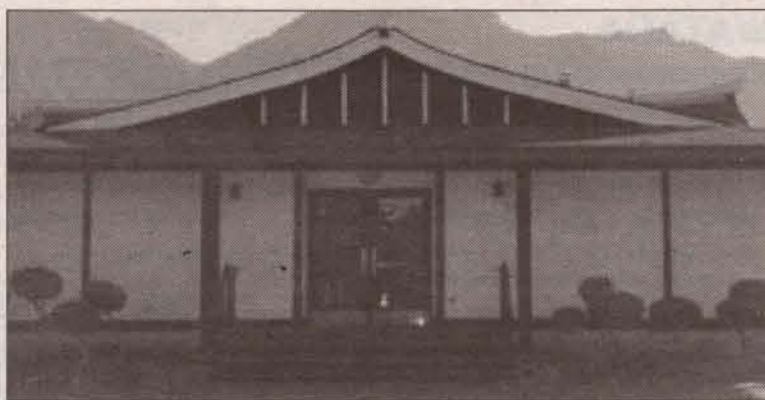
As a result, the street was eventually lined with restaurants, hotels, beer halls, gambling houses, and of course the infamous brothels among other attractions resulting in a reputation as a raucous, street fighting, roughhouse 25th Street. Commingled within this den of iniquity

was the beginning and gradual development of Ogden's Japantown.

Although not as concentrated as many other Japantowns, interspersed within the many other establishments and adjacent streets were many Japanese owned or operated restaurants, barbershops, bathhouses, merchandise stores, hotels, fish market, a tofu shop, cleaning shops, a dentist, massage parlors, boarding houses and other businesses catering to the needs of the local and surrounding Japanese communities. From Wall Avenue up to Keisel Avenue paralleling 24th and 25th Streets were dotted numerous Japanese enterprises, including many residences.

Ogden Today

Ogden is currently revitalizing "historic 25th Street" inaugurating a rapidly growing tourist attraction. Why not tell the whole story, including Ogden's Japantown? Many Utahns are unaware of the Ogden Japantown's history reminiscent of the wartime evacuation and incarceration of the people of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast during World War II. The Japanese community in Ogden was also impacted by WWII because many evacuees settled in Ogden.



JAPANTOWN TODAY—Very little remains today of Ogden, Utah's Japantown. One of the few remaining structures is the Buddhist temple (above) and the annual Obon festival.



As we continue to assemble material, we plan to create an exhibit that will restore the story of the Japanese in Ogden. We will also include exhibits from Salt Lake City, Topaz, Japanese American veterans, miners and railroad workers, farmers and athletes. If we are successful in consolidating these various exhibits, we plan to preserve them for a traveling exhibit for the benefit of future educational purposes.

The Day of Remembrance event will kick off Feb. 16 with an opening day mixer program featuring Wat

Misaka, Ogden's famous basketball player and first ethnic minority to play for the National Basketball Association, as our keynote speaker. The three-day event will also feature a tour of 25th Street and other places, a dynamic panel discussion and a banquet with nationally known keynote speaker Irene Hirano, president and CEO of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles.

The JACL Salt Lake and Mt. Olympus chapters are cosponsors of this Day of Remembrance event. ■

JACL Calls for '07 Scholarship Applications

The information brochure and applications for the 2007 JACL scholarships are now available for download on the JACL Web site (www.jacl.org).

Each year, the JACL awards about 30 college scholarships totaling over \$50,000 to outstanding students.

In order to qualify, freshman applications must be submitted to the applicant's chapter by March 1, 2007. Each JACL chapter is asked to screen the applications and forward the outstanding applications to the selection committee. There is no limit on the number of applications a chapter can forward for consideration.

All forwarded applications including those in special categories (undergraduate, graduate, law, creative & performing arts, and financial aid) must be postmarked by April 1, 2007, to be considered for the awards.

Applicants must be JACL members. Claiming a parent's membership will not fulfill this require-

ment. Applicants may submit their membership registration with their application.

Chapters should inform their communities of these valuable scholarship opportunities to boost membership and stimulate interest in the JACL. ■

For more info, contact David Kawamoto, JACL Scholarship Committee chair, at 619/557-5796, or dhkawamoto@aol.com

Where Chapters Should Send Applications

Freshman scholarship applications should be mailed to:

JACL Freshman Scholarship Program

265 E. Moody Ave.
Fresno, CA 93720

Undergraduate, graduate, law, creative & performing arts, and financial aid scholarship applications should be sent to:

JACL Scholarship Program
5415 N. Clark St.
Chicago, IL 60640

Applications for APAICS Fellowship Programs Now Available Online

Due to the overwhelming response from the Asian Pacific American community in the 2006-07 cycle, the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) application to apply for their fellowship programs can now be accessed online.

The two 2007-08 Fellowship Programs are the George Aratani Foundation/Daniel K. Inouye Fellowship Program and the Anheuser-Busch/Frank Horton Fellowship Program.

Maya Yamazaki and Gloria Chan are the current APAICS fellows for the George Aratani Foundation/Daniel K. Inouye Fellow and Anheuser-Busch/Frank Horton Fellow, respectively.

Yamazaki has been placed at the

office of Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo and Chan is currently working with Congressman Mike Honda.

This program has proven to be very competitive among the graduate students, said William H. Marumoto, APAICS president and CEO.

APAICS is a national non-profit, non-partisan, educational organization based in Washington, D.C. that seeks to build a politically empowered APA community. ■

Candidates can request an application by mail or by sending a message to apaics@apaics.org or download it at: www.apaics.org The applications must be postmarked by Feb. 28, 2007.

Las Vegas Hosts Singles Convention



FROM SPEED MEETING TO GUITAR PLAYING: Singles and couples enjoyed cultural and social activities at the 11th National JACL Singles Convention held in Las Vegas Oct. 27-29 at the Plaza Hotel.

The festivities kicked off to the drum roll of the Las Vegas JACL's Kaminari Taiko and continued with a dinner dance and a sayonara brunch.

Pictured above (front row, l-r): Miyako Kadogawa, PSW District Gov. Alayne Yonemoto, PNWDC District Gov. Elaine Akagi, V.P. of Planning & Development Carol Kawamoto, GLAS President Janet Okubo, Convention Co-chair Muriel Scrivner, and Convention Co-chair Anne Oda. (Back row, l-r): Convention Co-chair Yas Tokita, David Kawamoto, JACL National President Larry Oda, Henry Maruyama and Jason Schuck, president of the Las Vegas chapter. ■

Memorial Event to Remember All Veterans this Presidents' Day Weekend

Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura, the only Japanese American to receive the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest combat award, will ink his name to build a memorial.

The Korean War hero is expected to sign the book, "Medal of Honor," which features Miyamura at the All Veterans Reunion Feb. 16-18.

With the aging and passing of so many veterans, the JA veterans are coming together once again to unite all veterans in fellowship, and for many perhaps for the last time during the Presidents' Day weekend at the New Otani Hotel in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

Highlights of the event will include a keynote address by Ret. Major General Rodney M. Kobayashi, war exhibits and a memorial service at the location of the Killed in Action all wars monuments.

The service will honor those who died in battle and all the veterans who have passed away after serving

their nation.

Proceeds will go towards the future construction of the monument for those Japanese Americans killed in action during wars and conflicts subsequent to the Vietnam War.

Construction has begun on a new war memorial monument in the Japanese American National War Memorial Court in memory of brethren killed after the Vietnam War including the Iraq war. The all-granite monument is expected to be complete in time for the reunion.

"The purpose for this huge reunion is to bring together American veterans of Japanese heritage from all wars and conflicts of the United States once and for all," said Sam Shimoguchi, the Americans of Japanese Heritage All Veterans Reunion Committee chairperson.

Registered to attend are Nisei veterans from as far away as New York, Seattle, Washington, D.C. and Hawaii.

The committee is also currently working on publishing a hardbound book tentatively titled, "Japanese Americans in the Korean War." The book will feature a list of veterans names who served anywhere in the world during the Korean War era to the present. ■

For names and other information about the book:

Robert Wada
410 W. Amerige Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92832-1709,
714/992-5461
RobertW@rwadasurveyors.com

For more info. on the reunion:

Sam Shimoguchi - 310/822-6688,
e-mail: samkuni@verizon.net
Victor Muraoka - 818/368-4113, e-mail: v.muraoka@verizon.net
Bob Hayamizu, 323/292-3165

For registration questions:

Bacon Sakatani, 626/338-8310

WATADA

(Continued from page 1)

tion that has long revered its heroic World War II veterans — continues to struggle over the issue. Some chapters believe that although the current JACL statement of concern is a good start, the organization needs to increase its support for Watada, the first officer to refuse to deploy.

"Lt. Watada is sticking up for the provisions in the U.S. Constitution. Watada took his oath to the Constitution very seriously and he decided he could not go to this War and participate," said David Forman, Honolulu chapter president. He also noted that Watada chose to risk his career and future by his actions. "Lt. Watada ... is putting himself at risk now."

JACL's statement "is not strong enough," said Jim Duff of the Berkeley chapter. "The tendency of the executive branch is to punish those who speak out. The attack on Lt. Watada is just one of those inci-

dents. We need to step up and support Watada."

But others believe JACL's statement of concern over some of the charges without taking any position on the Iraq war is a prudent and well-thought out stance for an organization that has a long history with the WWII veterans.

"We commend national JACL for its excellent statement ... the balance it struck is incredible," said Chip Larouche of the Portland chapter and a veteran of 20 years. He noted that he is against any move to change the JACL's current stance. "It would jeopardize that stance ... it will only hurt JACL's statement."

Larouche noted that non-military folks who discuss the Watada issue inevitably present an unbalanced argument, especially in terms of the Military Code. "[Watada] took an oath which includes defending the Constitution but also an oath to obey the president and to obey the Uniform Code of Justice. He is not living up to those portions of the oath."

The U.S. Army announced Nov. 9 that it will go forward with a court martial for Watada on the charges of missing a military movement and conduct unbecoming an officer but has dismissed the charge of contempt towards officials. Watada will likely have a court martial sometime early next year and could face up to six years in prison.

Watada currently works in an administrative position at Fort Lewis, Washington. Prior to making his decision to refuse deployment to Iraq he offered his resignation on two occasions and has offered to serve in other parts of the world including Afghanistan.

The national JACL board first took up the Watada issue at its September board meeting where it was decided that the districts would go back to discuss with its members whether the organization should increase its support for the officer. In the months since then the Midwest, Central California, Pacific Northwest and Intermountain districts all voted to reinforce the current JACL statement of concern and will not increase their support for Watada.

The NWCNP district voted to support Watada's right to free speech thus taking the furthest steps of any of the districts to support the officer. The PSW district recommended that national JACL take a more aggressive posture in two areas: "protecting his right to a hearing in accordance with military law" and "ensuring fair and equal treatment in regards to his comments" although this motion was not taken up by the national board.

"PSW's primary concern was to



AP PHOTO: PETER HALEY

First Lt. Ehren Watada (left) with his father Bob Watada, step-mother Rosa and Ehren's lawyer Eric Seitz in Ft. Lewis.

ensure that Lt. Watada was treated equally as others who had spoken in a similar fashion and that he not receive undue punishment just to be made an example," said Alayne Yonemoto, PSW governor, who noted that her district did not vote on the First Amendment issue.

John Tateishi, JACL executive director, had advised the national board to increase its support for Watada noting that their decision would continue to have ramifications on the organization for years to come.

"Personally, I'm disappointed in the board's action on the motion to support Watada's right to free speech. As I stated during the discussion, I honestly think the decision made by the board will define who and what the JACL is for younger generations, just as the decision in 1942 defined the JACL and left a cloud hanging over the organiza-

tion," he said. "But it's not because of this that I urged the board to support Watada's right to express his moral convictions — it's simply because it's a fundamental right of an American, whether he's in uniform or not."

But in the end only three officers — Alan Nishi, NCWNP governor, Hiro Nishikawa, EDC governor, and Ron Katsuyama, MDC governor — could be swayed to vote for JACL's increased support for Watada.

"When the motion was made by Alan Nishi, I felt comfortable in supporting Watada's civil rights," said Nishikawa, who noted the EDC has not met officially to discuss the issue yet but that there are a "wide range of responses" from district members.

"I was disappointed that the national board did not pass the motion, which to me was worded quite plainly and straightforward," he said. ■

VOTING RESULTS

Motion to Support Watada's Right to Free Speech:

Sheldon Arakaki, V.P. of General Operations	no
Heidi Tanakatsubo, V.P. of Public Affairs	absent
Carol Kawamoto, V.P. of Planning & Development	absent
Edwin Endow, V.P. of Membership	no
Mark Kobayashi, Secretary/Treasurer	no
Kimberly Shintaku, Youth Chair	abstain
Leilani Savitt, Youth Representative	abstain
Bobbi Hanada, CCDC Governor	no
Hiro Nishikawa, EDC Governor	yes
Silvana Watanabe, IDC Governor	no
Elaine Akagi, PNW Governor	no
Alayne Yonemoto, PSW Governor	no
Ron Katsuyama, MDC Governor (proxy)	yes

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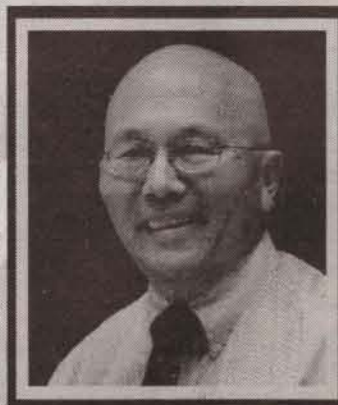
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BASEKETBALL

China's Next Yao Ming Looks to 2007 NBA Draft

BEIJING—Chinese forward **Yi Jianlian**, a 19-year-old rising star touted by many as the next **Yao Ming**, has received permission from his club to enter the 2007 NBA draft, according to state media.

Yi, who led the Guangdong Tigers to three straight national championships, was given the backing of his club to enter the draft, the *China Daily* reported.

The 6-foot-11 Yi has attracted attention in basketball circles for several years and had been promoted as a 2006 draft prospect, but his club said he was too young and inexperienced.

"But now he is different, he is getting stronger mentally and physically. I think next year will be a big chance for him, so for us, it's time to let him go," Guangdong general manager Chen Haitao was quoted as saying.

"This is a great opportunity and also a test for me," said Yi, whose height and on-court moves have brought comparisons to 7-foot-5 Houston Rockets center Yao.

Yi, who averaged 20.5 points and 9.6 rebounds last season, still needs the approval of the Chinese Basketball Association and an exemption from a CBA rule that Chinese players are not eligible for

the NBA draft until they turn 22.

"We always support our players in joining high-quality overseas leagues," CBA vice president Hu Jiashi said, but added it was important for Yi to get a lot of playing time.

"If he is going to be stuck on the bench, it would be better if he stayed at home," Hu said.

Yi says the prospect of playing in the NBA is not as exciting as people expect.

"It is too early to predict my future in the NBA, because I am still improving all the time," he said.

For now, Yi says his focus is on contesting another national championship and winning gold at next month's Asian Games at Doha, Qatar.

In the absence of Yao, Yi will lead the team along with former NBA player **Wang Zhizhi**.

China was runner up to South Korea at the last Asian Games, the first time in 20 years China failed to win the men's gold at the regional tournament.

Wang, the first Chinese to play in the NBA, ended a four-year U.S. stay earlier this year and now plays for the People's Liberation Army team in Beijing. ■

FIGURE SKATING

Figure Skater Michelle Kwan Named Public Diplomacy Ambassador

By **BARRY SCHWEID**
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON—**Michelle Kwan**, the American figure skater who owns nine national championships and five world titles, is about to become a nonsalaried U.S. diplomat.



On Nov. 9, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice named the 26-year-old Californian and daughter of Chinese immigrants from Hong Kong as a public diplomacy ambassador, said a senior U.S. official.

Kwan, the biggest star in her sport for a decade, will represent American values especially to young people and sports enthusiasts and is expected to travel widely, the official said. ■

BASEBALL

Reyes Powers MLB Stars to Sweep of Japan

By **JIM ARMSTRONG**
AP Sports Writer

FUKUOKA, Japan—Jose Reyes hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the 10th inning Nov. 8 to give the MLB All-Stars a 5-3 victory over the Japan stars and a sweep of the five-game series.



IGUCHI

Bill Hall of the Milwaukee Brewers singled before Reyes homered to right off reliever **Hisashi Ogura** to complete the major leaguers' first sweep in Japan in 72 years.

"I was just glad to put my team in a position to win again," said Reyes, who had 19 homers for the New York Mets this season. "I was looking for a pitch to hit and I got all of it. We came here to win and didn't

want to lose a game."

Ryan Howard was the MVP of the tour, finishing the series with four homers and eight RBIs.

"I got some good pitches to hit and had a lot of fun here," said the Philadelphia Phillies slugger, who led the majors with 58 homers this season. "I had a great time and I'm glad

that we were able to win every game."

The last time major leaguers swept a tour of Japan was when the Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig All-Stars went 17-0 in 1935.

"Japan plays with a lot of heart," MLB manager Bruce Bochy said. "But we came over with a real good team and the fans got to see some of the best players in the world during

this series."

The MLB stars took a 3-2 lead in the sixth on Howard's RBI double and Andruw Jones' sacrifice fly. **Naoyuki Omura** tied it for Japan with a two-out, bloop single in the ninth. Scot Shields picked up the win, recording the final out in the 10th.

Howard broke up a perfect game bid by Japan's **Tsuyoshi Wada** with a single in the fifth. He scored on **Kenji Johjima's** single.

Takahiro Arai and **Shuichi Murata** gave Japan a 2-0 lead in the fourth with solo homers off MLB starter John Lackey.

"I grew up in Fukuoka, so it's nice to get a hit in my hometown," Murata said. "Their pitchers throw hard and they can pitch to all corners, so I'm learning a lot by facing them."

Johjima and **Tadahito Iguchi** were playing in the Fukuoka Dome for the first time since leaving for the majors. ■

Matsuzaka Announces Decision to Go to Majors

TOKYO—**Daisuke Matsuzaka** hopes his next pitch will be in the major leagues.

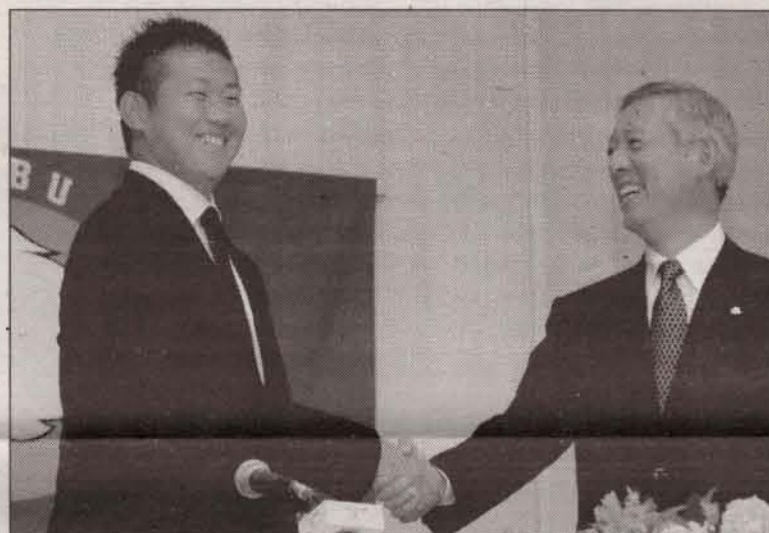
The most dominant pitcher in Japanese baseball for the last eight seasons, Matsuzaka had his path cleared when the Seibu Lions officially agreed to release the 26-year-old ace.

"I feel very relieved today," Matsuzaka said. "I've wanted to go to the major leagues for a long time and am happy this day has finally come."

Matsuzaka was 17-5 with a 2.13 ERA and 200 strikeouts this year. He impressed many major league scouts last March during the World Baseball Classic, where he was selected as the MVP after Japan won the title, and the 2004 Olympics.

Matsuzaka also has gained attention because of the "gyroball." It's a pitch that a right-hander would use to break to the left, although he has said he's yet to master it.

Seibu said Matsuzaka's rights will be "posted," meaning that all 30 major league teams can bid on the right. The club with the highest bid gains the right to attempt to sign the



AP PHOTO/SHUJI KAJIYAMA

Japanese star pitcher **Daisuke Matsuzaka**, left, of Seibu Lions smiles as he shakes hands with acting team owner **Hidekazu Ota** during a press conference in Tokyo.

pitcher.

The New York Yankees have shown interest in Matsuzaka. The Los Angeles Dodgers, the Boston Red Sox and the New York Mets are also thought to be among teams with the best chances of signing the Japanese star.

Reports say the Lions plan to charge a major league team \$30 million just for rights to negotiate with Matsuzaka.

Matsuzaka has selected agent **Scott Boras** to represent him in negotiations with major league teams.

"I'm not sure which team I will end up playing for," Matsuzaka said. "I know there are several teams that are interested and I'll go with the one that most appropriately evaluates my ability."

Since turning professional in 1999, Matsuzaka has dominated Japan's pro leagues. He consistently throws in the high-90s mph and has superb command of his off-speed pitches.

A first-round draft pick in the 1998 amateur draft, Matsuzaka has led the Pacific League in wins three times and in strikeouts four times while winning the ERA title twice.

Matsuzaka first burst onto the scene at the 1998 national high school baseball tournament.

After throwing 250 pitches in Yokohama High School's 17-inning quarterfinal victory, he came in the next day to get the save in the semis before tossing a no-hitter the following day as his team won the championship.

At the inaugural World Baseball Classic, he went 3-0 in leading Japan to the championship. At the 2004 Athens Olympics, Matsuzaka shut out Cuba for eight innings. ■

Nisei Cadet Nurse of World War II: Patriotism in Spite of Prejudice

By **Thelma Robinson**



From Japanese-American Internment Camps to the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps.

This is the story of Nisei cadet nurses — of their experiences in wretched camps, of people who risked public scorn to support Japanese Americans, of prejudicial difficulties in entering nursing schools, and of a government that reversed its policy against a people of Japanese descent.

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Stories by Associated Press and Pacific Citizen Staff.

• HARRY K. HONDA •

VERY TRULY YOURS

An Innovative
'Multi-Camp Get-together'

WHEN TWO MAS-TERS, associated with reunions, tours and pilgrimages, dreamt about an "until we meet again" get-together for Nisei in Northern and Central California, the low-key promotion they launched in June attracted a tremendous response — beyond what was expected.

The original hotel site became inadequate and pre-registered interest was overwhelming. The switch to the Sacramento Doubletree was like scoring a touchdown. "We couldn't carry this off in San Francisco," admitted one partygoer, "with a \$90 registration covering two dinners." And attendees made their own hotel reservations at \$99 single/double occupancy per night.

Final tally of the first Multi-Camp Get-Together, for (but not necessarily) evacuees from Amache, Poston, Topaz and Tule Lake, was 430 — 56 percent women. An eyeball guess figured most of us were in our 80s, though Sansei and Yonsei stood in line for the Sunday night buffet mixer.

The oldest attendee present was finally determined to be Dr. Masako Kusayanagi Miura, 92, (Manzanar/Topaz). Stanley Kanzaki (Topaz) from New York was declared the one who had traveled the farthest.

Retired preacher Rev. George Nishikawa (Tule Lake/Topaz) of Sacramento expressed the invocation at the Sayonara dinner. Kiyo Sato Nunneley (Poston) and Ruby Matsubara (Tule Lake) handled the Sunday and Monday welcome phase, respectively.

Songs from Camp days, including "Shina no Yoru," were rendered at the buffet dinner by the Music Makers Henry Mizushima and Peter Shima. Singalong sheets from Paul Ito and Joe Fujioka had the house warbling tunes at the Sayonara, such as "I'm Looking over a Four Leaf Clover," "Sentimental

Journey," and "Auld Lang Syne."

Table-hopping was par for the night. At our table was George Oki, pioneering Sacramento Nisei horticulturist who was accepted as a member of the California Association of Nurserymen, then an all-white professional group in the 1950s, and later elected its president.

Our happy reunion included JACLers from Sacramento — Chewy Ito, Tom Fujimoto, Tom Okubo and Kikuji Ryugo; from Palo Alto — Chuck Kubokawa (Topaz); and from Salinas — Fred Oshima, George and Janice Higashi. We caught up with longtime Calif. State University trustee Dr. John Kashiwabara from Long Beach, Bob Iwasaki from Los Angeles, Marvin and Miya Uratsu from Richmond, prewar San Franciscan Koji Kawaguchi (Topaz) and Paula Shimizu, an early Junior JACL activist.

Seeing Sacramento
with Gene

There were 20 of us taking the Sacramento city tour led by Gene Itogawa (Tule Lake), a retiree from the state recreation and park agency, whom I first met in 1969 when then Governor Reagan dedicated Okei's gravesite as a state historic landmark. Thus, I knew we had the best guide around.

Gene began with a bit of Sacramento Issei history. The first Japanese in the city was believed to be Manjiro (John Mung in early American history), who was rescued off an islet in the mid-Pacific in 1841 by Capt. William Whitfield, an American whaler. *American Heritage*, December '56, titled the Manjiro story as "The Man Who Discovered America."

Befriended by Whitfield, Manjiro lived for nine years in Fairhaven, Mass. He learned English at the one-room school-house (still standing as a tour spot of the Manjiro Trail) and

navigation at sea. He wanted to return to Japan, a country still isolated by a policy warranting death to Japanese who leave and try to return. Which explains his presence in Sacramento during the Gold Rush. He found a nugget "almost as large as an egg" that paid his passage back to Japan.

Initially arrested on setting foot in Japan (it was the law then), the authorities found he knew English and Western customs. Eventually, he translated for Japanese officials President Fillmore's letter addressed to the Mikado, which Commodore Perry had presented in 1853. Perry returned the following year for the reply. And "the rest is history," as we all say.

The first tour stop was to view the Japanese American exhibit at the CSU Sacramento library, a campus bursting with multi-story buildings under construction. Eye-catching were the wood *but-sudan* from the Florin Buddhist Temple, a hand-sewn vest featuring a tiger, and walking canes crafted and adorned with ornate Japanese art.

As the bus passed Nihonmachi, an area that existed until state capital redevelopment in 1954, Gene pointed out its last remnants: Sacramento JACL Office and the Nisei VFW Hall.

Our second stop in Old Sacramento was at the amazing California State Railroad Museum, filled with shiny old and recent locomotives, Pullman, dining and mail cars all under one roof. Museum docent Mas Hatano of Loomis related Chinese workers had blasted tunnels and laid the tracks from Sacramento to the Great Salt Lake in the late 1860s. But he also added that nearly 15,000 Japanese also worked for railroads in the Pacific Northwest around the turn of the 20th century.

This "Get-Together," a self-supporting low-cost affair with fun and memories, can be replicated no matter where. ■

TATEISHI

(Continued from page 1)

I'm the author of the JACL's public statement issued back in July. I crafted the language of that statement to reflect my own inner conflict about Lt. Watada's position: on the one hand, I felt, and continue to feel, that his refusal to deploy was a direct violation of an order and that he has to pay a price for that refusal. There's no doubt he knows this. In fact, I'm absolutely sure he knows this but has done what he has to make his point. I can admire him for that because he's standing on principle in the face of what he knows could be harsh punishment and will be unpopular in the views of many.

It's the two other charges against him that troubled me as I wrote the JACL statement because they had the effect of forcing his silence. What I saw in Lt. Watada was a soldier and officer who felt morally compelled to express his moral convictions which were contrary to military tradition and in opposition to a war he sincerely felt was wrong.

Despite my personal views then, I crafted the language to be intentionally vague to give us the latitude as an organization to question the two additional charges without offending those who believe Lt. Watada to be wrong. It was a statement that would allow members on both sides of the issue to find acceptable.

I was not convinced when I wrote

the statement that his was a First Amendment case and that our statement should reflect that side of the argument.

Four months have passed since I wrote that statement, and in that time, my views have changed. As I examine the issue and read more about this case and all the legal precedents and moral arguments on both sides of the issue, I've come to believe strongly that this is, in fact, a First Amendment issue.

I do not believe that any American, whether he or she wears the uniform of the United States military, should ever be denied his or her right to express a moral conviction. In fact, there are times when a soldier has an obligation to refuse an order on moral grounds: witness the concentration camps in Germany or the soldiers who massacred women and children at My Lai in Vietnam.

The board took a position to continue to stand by the statement I issued in July 2006, but I feel compelled to write this article to let our members know that I argued against that and urged the board to support the Watada case as a First Amendment issue. It was their decision not to.

We are called upon to make difficult decisions when we serve in leadership positions, whether with the JACL or other organizations. Our hope, always, is that our decisions, whatever they are, will serve the future with integrity. ■



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ON TOP OF THE DISPLAY CASE

PETE HIRONAKA 66



'Comedy is comedy. We wrote the script to pick at everyone.'



Ron Oda battled a tumor to make an Asian American film that makes you laugh...

A few years ago Ron Oda, a self-proclaimed "serial entrepreneur" with several businesses including a Los Angeles auto shop, dropped everything to make a film. The removal of a benign tumor on his 11th cranial nerve in 2005 changed his perspective on life.

Oda, 39, and his college friend Kris Chin had been talking about making a movie for 15 years, but they were always working on other projects.

"After [the operation], I thought, 'I had a brain tumor, why not?'" joked Oda, a Shin Nisei. "It was a real lesson on mortality. I guess it was a blessing."

He spent the next eight months writing and using real life situations as inspiration for "Asian Stories, (Book 3)," a dark comedy about a tight-fisted Chinese American (James Kyson Lee) whose fiancée of five years leaves him for their Filipino American wedding deejay. From there, drama happens. Lee's character asks his ex-con best friend (Kirt Kishita) to kill him.

In the film, heavy issues are wrapped in irreverent humor. In one seminal scene, Kishita interrupts his own thoughts about death methods to rant about his favorite food item being discontinued at Trader Joe's, a retail grocery store. The dialogue is sharp with impeccable comedic timing ("Remember when you almost drowned in that pool in Gardena?" says Kishita while fishing).

But there's real life irony.

Oda has never written anything before. He graduated from the University

of Southern California as a business major and schooled himself at a Borders bookstore with "Filmmaking for Dummies."

"One day Kris bought this video camera. We went to a metro rail station — you know how they always shoot stuff in train stations ... we edited the footage together, put some music over it and then said, 'I think we're ready for a movie now,'" said Oda with a laugh.

"We just thought what do we have to lose? We're nobodies anyway!"

Cruisin' with the Comedy

In late July 2005, they started their 24-day shoot with a \$70,000 budget that inflated well into the red. Their goal was to make an entertaining Asian Pacific American film.

Oda grew tired of the APA community's penchant to rehash historical and experimental (read: unwatchable) films.

"Can you guys do something else? We want to provide entertainment that people can enjoy," he said. "Here's something that's different, not an internment camp movie."

To plot his journey into filmmaking, he relied on the transcending powers of comedy.

"Comedy can overcome a lot of things. It gets the stereotypes out," said Oda, adding that many of the APA characters in television and movies are just too serious. Then you have comedic characters like Kishita's, and you're just "cruising with them."

Kishita, a former baseball player for the University of Arizona and the minor leagues, steals every scene with his charisma and onscreen appeal. He is also Oda's cousin.

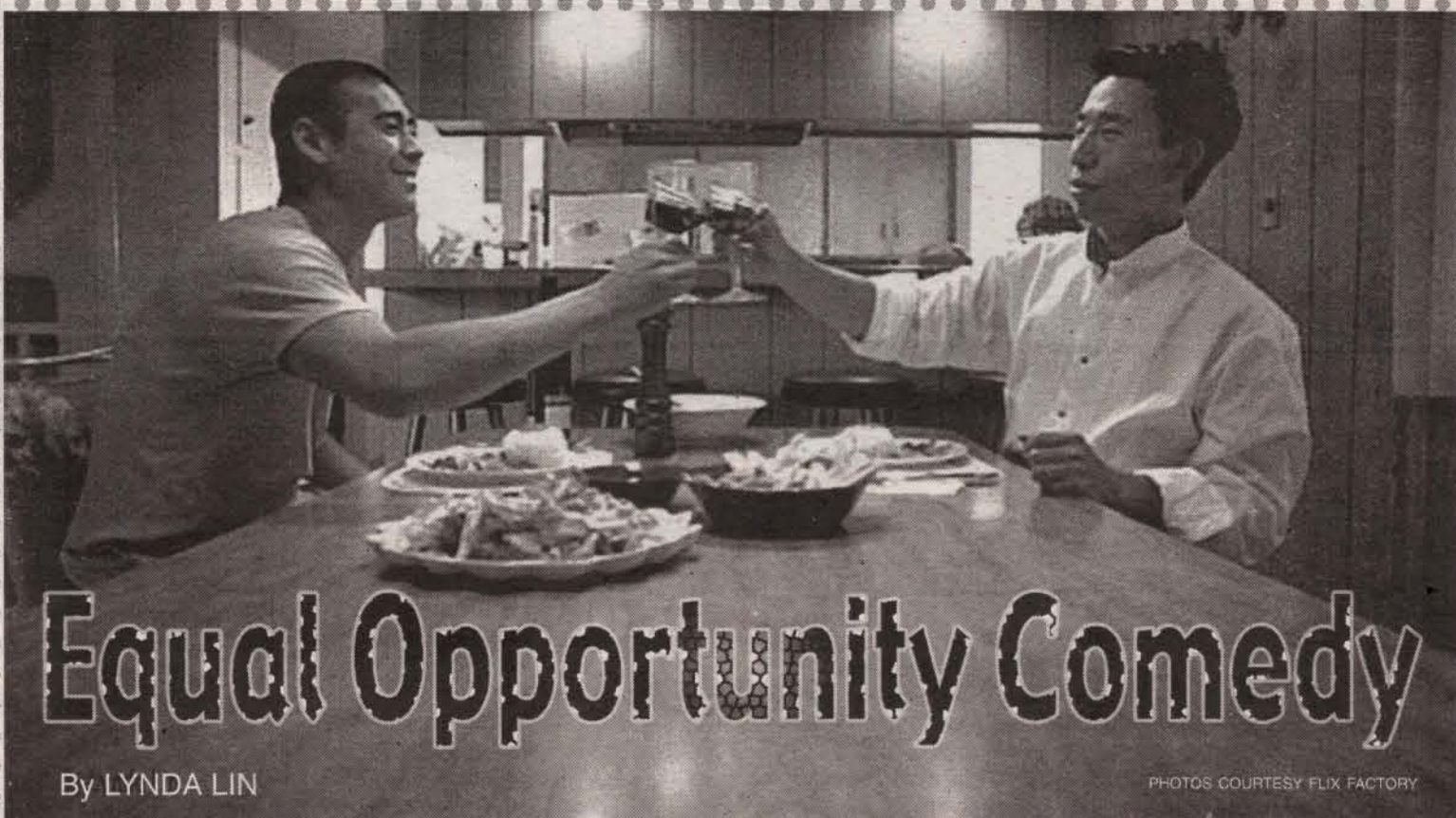
"I told him if I ever make a movie I would put him in it," said Oda. "Everybody thought we were nuts."

The film, which has won numerous awards while touring film festivals, has also launched several careers. Kishita has just been signed by a major talent agency and Lee can be seen every week on NBC's hit television show "Heroes."

"I just always saw this movie as a launching pad for all this talent that gets suppressed in the mainstream," said Oda.

The inspiration for the film came from Chin's friend, who was jilted by his bride-to-be.

"It was like a comedy. After doing it for two years, we were like, 'Dude, get over it,'" said Oda.



By LYNDA LIN

PHOTOS COURTESY FLIX FACTORY



TELLING STORIES: Kirt Kishita (top, left) shares a drink before death with James Kyson Lee. Writer/director Ron Oda's (above) brain surgery made him lose his voice during filming.

Justin Lin and the Overly Critical Asians

What's a hit film without some controversy? The internet has been abuzz with negative reviews and criticism of the film's negative portrayal of races. Case in point, a Raiders-clad Latino man spews more "esses" and "holmes" than a "Cheech and Chong" movie.

Asians are overly politically correct and extremely critical of their own, said Oda. "Comedy is comedy. We wrote the script to pick at everyone."

At his auto shop, workers exchange off color remarks while hovering over revving engines.

"To me that's a daily thing. You never see a Latino and an Asian arguing [in films]. It's always a white guy and black guy," Oda added. The Hollywood setup has no room for cross-cultural conflict.

At a recent film festival in San Diego, Oda met the APA film community's golden child, Justin Lin, who talked about moving beyond just throwing blind support behind APA films.

"It has to be good. I would say go support the movie because it's good, not because it's Asian," said Oda.

Now Oda is working on two other scripts and percolating ideas for a prequel to "Asian Stories" — Books 1-2 don't exist yet.

And of course, if it sucks, you don't have to watch it.

■

For more info: www.asianstoriesmovie.com

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Calendar

East Coast

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mon., Nov. 20—Movie screening, "Abduction: The Megumi Yokota Story"; 7 p.m.; Grosvenor Auditorium (National Geographic), 1600 M St., NW; tells the story of a 13-year-old Japanese girl who never returned home from school in 1977. Later it was found out that she had been abducted by North Korean spies; a discussion will follow the screening; \$8/members of National Geographic, \$10/non-members, \$5/children 12 and under, seniors and students with ID; co-sponsored by National Geographic and the Embassy of Japan.

Midwest

MINNEAPOLIS

Sun., Dec. 3—Twin Cities JACL Holiday Party for Kids; 2-4 p.m.; Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Rd.; featuring Eric the Juggling Magician and Santa Claus; free for JACL members, \$2 donation for non-JACLers; bring a new toy or nonperishable food item to donate; RSVP by Nov. 25 with children's names and ages to Lisa Hintermeister, 612/869-5070 or lisa@marketplace-home.com.

ST. PAUL, Minn.

Sun., Nov. 19—Twin Cities JACL Annual Chrysanthemum Banquet and Annual Meeting; Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd.; featuring the film, "Only the Brave" at 3 p.m., director, actor Lane Nishikawa and actor Yuji Okumoto will be on hand; honoring the community's "Greatest Generation"; \$50 for non-members, \$40 adult members, \$35 students and children. Info: Joanne Kumagai, 763/420-6639.

Northern California

BERKELEY

Nov. 25-26, Dec. 2-3, 9-10, 16-17—Art exhibit, Lewis Suzuki will be showing his latest works with the Berkeley Artisans Holiday Open Studio; 11-6 p.m.; Suzuki Studio, 2240 Grant St.; studio is also open by appointment. Info: 510/849-1427.

Wed., Nov. 29—4th Annual UC Berkeley Nikkei Student Union Culture Show, "Visions"; 7 p.m.; UC Berkeley, Zellerbach Playhouse; \$10 admission with lower rates for students and advanced group seating. Info: Colleen Oinuma, nsuculturenight@yahoo.com.

SAN FRANCISCO

Thurs., Dec. 7—"Living History"



PHOTO COURTESY OF JANM

'Ansel Adams at Manzanar' runs through Feb. 18 at JANM. The exhibit features shots of life from inside Manzanar. The photos vary from individual portraits to the camp surroundings.

Public Program; 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Museum of Craft and Folk Art; 51 Yerba Buena Ln.; Delphine Hirasuna moderates a panel of former internees who lived through the harrowing days that led to the forced removal of 120,000 Japanese Americans.

Through Dec. 31—Exhibit, "Heroes All! A Tribute to Nikkei Veterans of World War II and Korea"; NJAHS Peace Gallery, 1684 Post St.; gallery hours, Mon.-Fri. and 1st Sat. of the month 12-5 p.m.; exhibit features a collection of veterans' portraits and interviews from San Francisco photographer Tom Graves' book and traveling exhibit. Info: www.njahs.org.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES

Through Feb. 18, 2007—Exhibition, "Ansel Adams at Manzanar"; JANM, 369 E. 1st St.; the exhibit contains over 50 original prints that Adams took in 1943 and 1944; the prints include individual portraits as well as images of life in Manzanar. Info: JANM, 213/625-0414 or www.janm.org.

Nov. 16-Dec. 3—Performance, "Farewell to Manzanar"; 7 p.m. Nov. 16-18 and Nov. 30-Dec. 2, 2 p.m. Nov. 19 and Dec. 3; Democracy Forum in the National Center for the Preservation of Democracy, 111 N. Central Ave (adjacent to JANM and MOCA Contemporary); \$15 for adults, \$10 for JANM members, seniors and children 15 and under.

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Tickets, JANM, 213/625-0414. Info: www.Cornestone-Theater.org or www.janm.org.

Feb. 16-18, 2007—All Vets Reunion; New Otani Hotel, Little Tokyo; open to all JA veterans from all wars and conflicts; Maj. Gen. Rodney Kobayashi will be a luncheon keynote speaker. Info: Sam Shimoguchi, 310/822-6688, samkuni@verizon.net; Victor Muraoka, 818/368-4113, v.muraoka@verizon.net or Bob Hayamizu, 323/292-3165.

Hawaii

HONOLULU

Sun., Jan. 14—New Year's 'Ohana Festival; 10-4 p.m.; JCCCH and Mo'ili'i Field; usher in the year of the boar with food, crafts and cultural entertainment; fun for the kids too; free and open to the public. Info: Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, 808/945-7633, info@jccch.com or www.jccch.com.

CORRECTION

On page 11 of the Nov. 3-16 issue, the picture identified as Tokuo Wakabayashi is actually of Edward Tsutakawa.

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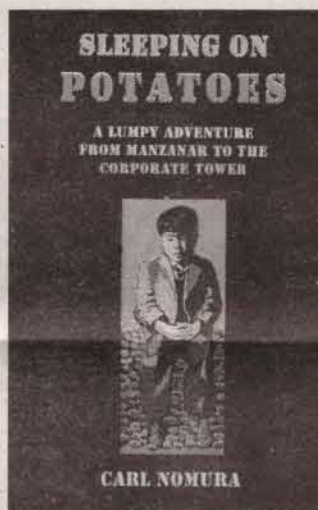
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Sleeping on Potatoes

A Lumpy Adventure from Manzanar
to the Corporate Tower

by Carl Nomura



With a dry wit and logical mind, Carl Nomura amuses us with tales of the Great Depression, tells stories of surviving internment as a Japanese-American during WWI, describes the satisfaction and wonder that comes from raising children and unravels the secret of how to get along in marriage. It starts with Carl's humble beginning of birth in a boxcar, continues with his family's dark times, and pushes through to success found in his career. It is humorous, bittersweet, insightful, philosophical and outrageous

Some recognitions: Rebecca Brown Award: Best Memoir of 2004, Amazon readerships' rating: 5-stars. The Virtual Reader's vote: 5-books. Check out www.sleepingonpotatoes.com and www.yuricareport.com.

Book available through all bookstores, e.g. Amazon and Barnes & Noble.



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In Memoriam - 2006

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Aoki, Dodson Yoshio, 55, Bellflower, Oct. 20; Vietnam War veteran; survived by father, Jack; and sister, Margaret (David) Ige.

Fujimoto, Mitsusuke, 88, Los Angeles, Oct. 22; WWII veteran, 442nd RCT; survived by daughters, Susan, Terrie (Sue Ann Wong) and Alyce (Craig) Saito; 3 gc.; sister, Miki Young; and sisters-in-law, Kayoko and Michio Fujimoto and Irene Fujii.

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 \$20 per column inch. Text is reworded as necessary.

Hara, Saburo, 91, Costa Mesa, Oct. 23; WWII veteran; survived by wife, Nobuko; son, Gary; sister, Miyoko Yokotake; sisters-in-law, Harue Hara and Chiyo Ohira; and brother-in-law, Fred Kawanami.

Ishii, Akira, 79, West Los Angeles, Oct. 15; survived by daughter, Gail (Robert) Sebring; son, Alan; 2 gc.; and brothers, Shig (Kimi) and Harney.

Kamei, Shizuka, Honolulu, Haw., Oct. 19; survived by daughter, Susan; son, Stephen; son-in-law, Mark Carlin; 1 gc.; and sister, Misao Nakane.

Kato, Yoshie, 91, Camarillo, Oct. 20; survived by daughters, Diane and Judi (Lou); 1 gc.; brothers, Bob, Yoshito and Jim; and sister, Mitsuko.

Kawaguchi, Nancy Shigeko, 80, Irvine, Oct. 28; survived by daughters, Karen (Greg) Rhoads, Lynn (Glen) Morita, and Diane; 4 gc.; and brother, Tom (Terry) Kiriu.

Kazahaya, Sumiko "Rue," 62,

Porter Ranch, Nov. 3; survived by sons, Robert (Julie) and Kevin (Tiffany Phan); daughter, Wendy; 3 gc.; brother, Ernie (Esther) Miyamoto; and sister, Nancy (Hugh) Sakamoto.

Kurahashi, Sato, 88, Pasadena, Oct. 31; survived by daughters, Eileen, Carolyn (Gary) Shigemura and Lilly (Michael) Yanagita; 5 gc.; 2 ggc.; brother, Taro (Yuki) Ohashi; and sister, Dorothy Kayashima.

Makihara, Riuso Mac, 90, Oct. 26; survived by wife, Fumiko; daughters, Margaret (Joe), Jeanne (Steve) and Joyce (Jon); son, Glenn; 5 gc.; and sister, Yukimi.

Miyamoto, Naoto, 77, Los Angeles, Oct. 23; survived by wife, Miyoko; daughters, Jeanne (Michael Aljani) Miyamoto and Silviya (Peter) Jew; son, Mel (Stacey); 4 gc.; brothers, Toshio and Tadao; and daughter-in-law, Mamie.

Miyashita, Henry Hirofumi, 87, Altadena, Nov. 1; survived by wife, Ikuko; sons, Mike (Shelli), Roy (Lorry) and Kelly (Stacey); daughter, Keiko (Andrew) Suzuki; 5 gc.; sister, Machiko (Teruhiko) Tataru; and brothers-in-law, Takashi (Etsuko) Sugata and Kazuhiko (Shigeko) Katsushima.

Miyasaki, Riyeko "Rosie," 80, Ventura, Oct. 26; survived by husband, Noboru; daughters, Chris Miyasaki, Pauline (Kurt) Stauder; and Susette Todd; son, Lester; and 5 gc.

Murase, Yoshio, 84, Reedley, Nov. 7; WWII veteran, Army; survived by wife, Yasuko; and brother, Kenji.

Nakamura, Toshiko, 92, Altadena, Oct. 28; survived by son, Edward; daughters, Rosalind and Edna (Dan) Smith; 1 gc.; and sister,

Fumiko Konagamitsu.

Nakamura, Yukio, 86, Los Angeles, Oct. 16; survived by wife, Sumi, daughter, Marion (Richard) Lindell; son, Dr. Dennis (Jeannette); 1 gc.; brothers, Tooru (Akiko) Tsuchiya and Tsuneo (Shizue); and sister, Reiko (Ryosaku) Ohashi.

Nishimura, Kazuko, 87, Los Angeles, Oct. 10; survived by brother, Don (Sally) Mitani.

Ohashi, Theodore "Ted," 95, Oakland; Was a star athlete eight decades ago at Stockton High School and a basketball letterman at Cal from 1931-33.

He was inducted into the Stockton Athletic Hall of Fame in 1990 and was an outstanding swimmer and basketball player. During WWII he was sent to internment camp in Arkansas and went on to have a long career working at the Oakland YMCA. He retired in 1975. He is survived by wife, Kay; daughters, Charlotte, Carol and Patricia; son, Ted; 8 gc.; and 6 ggc.

Okamoto, Vick T., 48, Sacramento, Oct. 16; Okamoto was a youth counselor at Sacramento social service agencies who reached out to runaways, "throwaways" and other young people on the streets. He spent the last four years in a nursing

home after suffering a debilitating stroke in 2000. He was born in 1958 and raised in Sacramento. He graduated from Kennedy High School and attended Sacramento City College before earning a bachelor's degree in psychology from UC Riverside. Okamoto earned his master's degree from CSU Sacramento and a doctorate in clinical psychology from the California Institute of Integral Studies in 1988. He is survived by his wife, Gail.

Okazaki, George, 92, Cypress, Oct. 22; survived by daughter, Linda; sons, Gary and Danny; and sister, Helen Yamashita.

Shirokawa, Yasuji "Yachi," 86, Long Beach, Oct. 25; survived by wife, Mariko; son, Bruce (Dara); daughter, Jill (David Smithrud); 2 gc.; and sisters, Fumiko (Saburo) Shizuru and Kimiye Shirokawa.

Sugiyama, George "Slim," 84, Los Angeles, Oct. 22; survived by wife, Irene; daughter, Sharon (Brian) O'Rourke; sons, Kit and Rod (Clare); 4 gc.; sisters, Mary and Betty Sugiyama; and brother, John.

Takano, Takeshi, 71, Harbor City, Nov. 3; survived by wife, Ryoko; daughters, Jayne and Diane (Robert) Takano-Hall; and sisters, Sanae (Tsutomu) Tomatani and Setsuyo Takano.

Tatsuno, Yas, 83, Torrance, Oct. 15; survived by daughter, Mittie.

Waki, George, 82, West Los

Angeles, Oct. 18; WWII veteran, 442nd RCT; survived by sisters-in-law, Flora Waki and Choko Pierson.

Yamano, John Y., 80, San Jose, Oct. 26; Korean War veteran; survived by wife, Junko; daughter, Diane (George) Namekata; son, John (Sharon); 2 gc.; sister, Shiz Shiraki; and brother, Bill.

Yoshikawa, Mary Shizue, 83, Los Angeles, Oct. 17; survived by husband, Shiro; daughter, Shirley; sons, Harry, Dennis (Cassie) and Theodore (Diane); and 3 gc. ■

DEATH NOTICE

ROSALYN KIWATA

Rosalyn Kiwata, 83, passed away Oct. 12 at home. Born May 22, 1923 in Stockton, Calif., she was a Sunday School teacher at the San Francisco Buddhist Church for 30 years and was involved in Ikebana International. Rosalyn is survived by 2 sons and 5 grandchildren. At her request, private services were held in San Francisco on Oct. 20.

Whereabouts

This section runs on a space available basis at no charge.

JOKUHIRO YAMANISHI

TILL OSUTA

ROY MAYEDA MASUNO

DR. YUTAKI

Garnett E. Hibbs is searching for his old friends from 1943-45. With information please contact him at: 5945 Reddman Rd., #311, Charlotte, NC 28212.

MAY NAKAGAWA

Joyce Eckstein (now Fox) of Roseville, Calif. is seeking former co-worker, May Nakagawa. May worked for the Southern California Restaurant Assn. in Los Angeles in 1942. May was a national champion at shorthand and typing. With information please contact James Arima, 425/649-5279 or sjari-ma@hotmail.com.



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[^] One-time nonrefundable activation fee of \$25.00.

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ELECTIONS

(Continued from page 1)

dent and CEO of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS). Although these are encouraging numbers, APAs are "still way behind" other ethnic groups in terms of Congressional representation.

Recent studies, including one from the University of California, Los Angeles, call APAs the "sleeping giant" because of increasing population and higher citizenship rates. At the recent elections, the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) reported high APA voter turnout and according to U.S. Census figures, APAs are the fastest growing minority group in the United States.

This election also saw the largest number of APAs running for local and state offices.

Democrat John Chiang won a convincing victory over former Ventura County Assemblyman Tony Strickland in the race for California state controller. Chiang, a two-term member of the Board of Equalization and an attorney who specialized in tax law, was joined by several other APA leaders in Little Tokyo the eve before the elections to rally voters.

"The sleeping giant is awakening," said Ted Lieu, California state assembly member.

House Rule

Some well-known APA leaders cruised to victories. Rep. Mike Honda, D-San Jose, won an easy victory against Republican Raymond Lemmy Chukwu and incumbent Doris O. Matsui, D-



VICTORY AND DEFEAT: Democrat John Chiang (*above, foreground*) is flanked by Judy Chu (*left*), who is newly elected to the State Board of Equalization, and State Assembly Member Ted Lieu.

Tammy Duckworth (*left*) concedes defeat in her Illinois district.

Sacramento, defeated 25-year-old law student at the University of California, Berkeley Claire Yan to win her first full term. Matsui, 62, replaced her late husband, Robert Matsui, in the House after his untimely death in 2005.

"As we head into a new Congress, I'm looking forward to addressing the many challenges our country is facing right now — challenges shared by many Americans including Asian Americans," said Matsui to the *Pacific Citizen*. "In particular, I plan to work to address the soaring costs of health care, to ensure that a college education is affordable and continues to be a doorway to opportunity in this country, as well as to work through my seat on the Science

Committee to craft a strategic, forward-thinking energy policy that sets our nation on the path to energy independence."

Republican incumbent Bobby Jindal was also reelected to a second term to represent the New Orleans suburbs. He told local reporters that he would decide on whether to run for governor by the end of the year.

But along with victory comes the agony of defeat.

One of the most anticipated races was staged in the suburbs of Illinois. At stake was the state's sixth district, a GOP stronghold that wounded Iraq war veteran Tammy Duckworth was giving a history-making grab of. She lost to Republican Peter Roskam.

Roskam won the open House seat

created by the retirement of Rep. Henry Hyde, the 32-year House veteran who handpicked Hyde as his successor.

"She was really close in that race," said Marumoto. "That's a very conservative district. To get as close as she did really says something. I wouldn't be surprised if we hear from her again."

Duckworth is an outspoken critic of the current war. She lost both legs in combat when the Blackhawk helicopter she was piloting was shot down in 2004.

Age Makes no Difference in the Senate

Sen. Daniel Akaka was reelected to a fourth term in a campaign that was initially all about age. During the primary campaign, Rep. Ed Case famously accused Akaka, 83, of being too old to be effective at the job. Akaka, in turn, narrowly defeated Case.

Akaka served in World War II in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers before he was first elected to the House in 1976 representing Hawaii's second congressional district. He won re-election six more times.

In 1990, Akaka was appointed by then Gov. John Waihee to the Senate to serve temporarily after the death of Sen. Spark Matsunaga.

Akaka, who told the *Star Bulletin* that ending the U.S. involvement in Iraq should be one of the first priorities when Congress convenes in January, is expected to move up in seniority along with Sen. Daniel K. Inouye — who will be third in seniority at the Senate. ■

Other House Winners



Incumbent **David Wu**, D-Oregon, beat Derrick Kitts

Democratic Rep. **Robert C. "Bobby" Scott**

was re-elected without opposition in the 3rd District of Virginia. Scott is of Filipino descent.

And the Losers...



Disgraced Republican Candidate **Tan Nguyen** lost his Orange County bid to Democratic

incumbent Rep. Loretta Sanchez. Nguyen enraged voters last month when his campaign sent an intimidating letter to voters with Spanish surnames.

Minnesota Rep. John Kline emerged victorious over his challenger Coleen Rowley, but Kline may best be remembered as the boss of Mike Osskopp, an aide who was caught on tape in September yelling "Jap cars."

"Macaca-gate" comes to a close with Virginia Republican George Allen's concession Nov. 9. While campaigning in August, Allen called a young South Asian volunteer a "macaca." ■

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