With Toyota's entry into the all-American sport of NASCAR, anti-Japanese sentiment reminiscent of the early 80s increases amongst fans and some owners.

By CAROLINE AYOAGI-STOM, Executive Editor

In the ever-evolving world of American sports, foreign athletes have often been welcomed with open arms not only by fans but owners who watch their bottom lines. Japanese baseball players like Ichiro Suzuki and Hideki Matsui are treated like Major League Baseball rock stars and Yao Ming of the Houston Rockets has single-handedly helped the National Basketball Association leap into the lucrative Chinese market.

But when Toyota became the first Japanese car company to debut at NASCAR's Nextel Cup Series' Daytona 500 recently — the most lucrative series in stock car racing — the reception they received from many fans was not only frigid, it came with a good portion of anti-Japanese sentiment.

"Just think about how our troops will be demonized if something Japanese makes a good showing. It would be like finding 'Honda' in huge neon lights on the Washington monument or finding sushi on the menu at Denyo's," Capt. Fogg of the Army has reflected charges against 1st Lt. Ehren Watada.

Toyota's debut at NASCAR's Nextel Cup Series' Daytona 500 recently launched a flurry of anti-Toyota sentiment on Web sites and blogs. There was also a lot of anti-Japanese sentiment.

"This is definitely outside of my own world," said Apolo in a phone interview.

"I've competed in front of an audience as diverse as it gets. I've been recognized for who I am as an athlete and not what I do on the ice. This is definitely outside of my own world,'" said Apolo in a phone interview.

"This is definitely outside of my own world," said Apolo in a phone interview.

"This is definitely outside of my own world,'" said Apolo in a phone interview.

"The Gilroy Fire Department responded to a neighbor's call at 12:00 a.m. and fought the blaze at the historic house on Pacheco Pass Highway until dawn. The house is located about a mile south of Highway 152 in a remote area with a dirt road as its only access route. Its residents Watson and Mineko Sakai, Kiyoishi's son-in-law and daughter, escaped safely. "Our family feels very lucky there weren't any physical injuries," said Mineko Sakai about her parents, who are currently in seclusion. "It was declared a total loss." The cause of the fire is underdetermined due to the severity of damage in the fire, said Clay Beson, division chief of the Gilroy Fire Department. Possible causes include faulty wiring or a wood burning stove, which was lit that night, he said to the Pacific Citizen.

"It's a real shame and a big loss," said Connie Rogers, president of the Gilroy Historical Society. "Jimmy was a real community leader." Jimmy, who came to Gilroy in the 1950s, was a real community leader." Jimmy, who came to Gilroy in the 1950s, was a real community leader.}

"The cause of the fire is underdetermined due to the severity of damage in the fire, said Clay Beson, division chief of the Gilroy Fire Department. Possible causes include faulty wiring or a wood burning stove, which was lit that night, he said to the Pacific Citizen.

"It's a real shame and a big loss," said Connie Rogers, president of the Gilroy Historical Society. "Jimmy was a real community leader." Jimmy, who came to Gilroy in the 1950s, was a real community leader.
FLOYD MORI
WASHINGTON WINDOW

Developing Corporate Partnerships

While we have often referred to the need for the JACL to develop funding sources beyond the traditional membership revenue, it is important to understand that in developing corporations with which we recognize our efforts to better the communities in which we live.

It is important for JACL to partner with corporations who possess a social consciousness and who address social issues in the community in which they derive their profits. While the profit motive is the fuel that drives our market economy, issues of social and economic justice are important corporate values to seek.

As the JACL works to develop corporate partnerships, it is important to understand that a partnership is not all on its side. We continually seek corporate support as an example to promote a philosophy and present programs that can be beneficial to the community.

May I cite a few examples of where our partnerships are developing. This partnership can be both benefit to our community:

AT&T recently announced a comprehensive Web site of parental controls designed to educate and empower parents. Their AT&T Smart Limits Web site provides information for parental control features for wireless, wired, high-speed Internet access, and video into one online portal. Their site is located at www.att.com/smartslim.

Another recent innovation by AT&T is called the Unity Plan, which brings in a new service that integrates wireless and wired into one simple pricing and billing structure. This provides new choices for AT&T's customers in telecommunications and new ways to save money.

One of our other corporate partners, State Farm Insurance, is working with the JACLOCA Leadership Conference to provide a program that can be used by chapters to promote child and teen safety. This not only becomes a direct benefit to JACL members but provides a program that will train our chapters and organize events in cooperation with local corporate partners.

As we move towards funding outside of membership, this kind of activity will help to build the ability of local chapters to work with the national JACL in developing good corporate partnerships. It will also bring us into the modern era of coping with current issues that affect our organizational and personal well-being.

Health is something we often take for granted, but we are finding that there are many health disparity issues facing the Asian American community.

MORI
(Continued from page 1)

ship skills in a past one:

"Floyd Mori's familiarity with Japanese American and Asian American communities, his understanding of JACL's history, commitment to civil rights, and previous leadership roles provide him with the background needed by JACL, as our chief executive officer and spokesperson for the Asian American community and the American community at large during this critical transition in our history," said JACL National President Larry Oda.

With the JACL, Mori has served as national president (2000-04), vice president of general operations (1998-2000) and vice president of public affairs (1990-92). He has also been running the JACL Washington, D.C. office as the director of public policy since August 2005. During his time in JACL, Mori has worked to raise awareness on health care issues. He was also integral in the passage of H.R. 4042, the Civilian Preservation Bill, which was recently signed into law.

Mori has also served in the California State Assembly from 1975-1980 and as councilman and mayor of Placer, as Cali. In the California Legislature, he authored the first of the spousal rape laws in the nation and legislation that mirrored Title IX federal regulations in the state college system.

At the local level, Mori has dedicated a large portion of his career to the community. He served as Columbus chapter president and board member. Mori also chaired the JACL's National Convention in Salt Lake City.

Despite his experience, Mori espouses his determination in action. "He is running the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization.

"There is that feeling of inadequacy and wondering if I am up to the task," Mori told the "Pacific Citizen.

"But I am very excited because there is so much opportunity for taking JACL to a higher level of creating a better America in terms of social and economic justice.

"I have enjoyed my past involvement and intend to have a lot of fun at the helm of the organization."

Outlining the Future

Mori already has aspirations for the JACL. This biennium, his goals are:

• To update JACL's technology to meet current needs in membership, fundraising, and communication.

• To forge new and expanding corporate partnerships for our new organization.

• To adopt programs to empower more young adults to engage in public life.

"While civil rights will be at the core of our mission, we need chapter leader with the ability and corporate members to engage programs to broaden our base of membership and influence. Everywhere I look, I see that we need to update technology especially for membership services.

This biennium, we will work to fill staff positions and "unleash the grassroots capability of our chapters in dealing with issues of national interest," he said.

"Floyd is the best choice because of his experience as an elected public official and judge by example, as a líder and as someone who understands the need to update technology, especially for membership services."

This biennium, Mori will work to fill staff positions and "unleash the grassroots capability of our chapters in dealing with issues of national interest," he said.

"Floyd is the best choice because of his experience as an elected public official and judge by example, as a líder and as someone who understands the need to update technology, especially for membership services.

This biennium, Mori will work to fill staff positions and "unleash the grassroots capability of our chapters in dealing with issues of national interest," he said.

"Floyd is the best choice because of his experience as an elected public official and judge by example, as a líder and as someone who understands the need to update technology, especially for membership services."

This biennium, Mori will work to fill staff positions and "unleash the grassroots capability of our chapters in dealing with issues of national interest," he said.

"Floyd is the best choice because of his experience as an elected public official and judge by example, as a lider and as someone who understands the need to update technology, especially for membership services."

This biennium, Mori will work to fill staff positions and "unleash the grassroots capability of our chapters in dealing with issues of national interest," he said.
Asian American leaders called together to criticize AsianWeek for printing Kenneth Eng’s column “Why I Hate Blacks” in its Feb. 23rd edition. The leaders condemned the piece as irresponsible journalism, blatantly racist, replete with stereotypes, and deeply hurtful to African Americans. They called on AsianWeek to take immediate action and issue an unequivocal apology, terminate their relationship with Kenneth Eng, print an editorial refuting the column, review their editorial policy and process, and hold those responsible accountable.

An online petition has also been launched and is available at: http://www.capaweb.org/apetition "Race-based hate is something that is unacceptable in any form, but it is particularly disturbing when one of our respected Asian American newspapers allows itself to be the source of such bigotry," said JACL National Director Floyd Mori. "AsianWeek needs to apologize for this blatant error in editorial policy. We join other Asian American organizations in condemning this column.”

"Eng’s article is unacceptable and offensive not only to African Americans, but to all Americans," said Karen K. Narasaki, president and executive director of the Asian American Justice Center. "AsianWeek has a responsibility to its readers and to the community to take immediate and appropriate action to repair the serious damage it has caused by publishing this piece." Part of Eng’s controversial column reads: "Here is a list of reasons why we should discriminate against blacks, starting from the most obvious down to the least obvious:" "Blacks hate us. Every Asian who has ever come across them knows that they take almost every opportunity to hurl racist remarks at us.

"In my experience, I would say about 90 percent of blacks I have engaged in personal interaction, poke fun at the very sight of an Asian. Furthermore, their activity in the media proves their hatred: Rush Hour, Exot Wounds, Hot 97, etc.

"Contrary to media depictions, I would argue that blacks are weak-willed. They are the only race that has been enslaved for 300 years. It’s unbelievable that it took them that long to fight back.

"On the other hand, we slaughtered the Russians in the Japanese-Ruso War." The column goes on at length to explain why Eng has an issue with the African American community. In response to the controversy, AsianWeek issued a statement of apology. "AsianWeek sincerely regrets any offense caused by the one piece of which we reflected that author’s personal views. We apologize for any harm or hurt that has caused the African American community. AsianWeek has great respect for all that the African American community has done for Asian Pacific Americans."
Students Claim Law Professor’s Comments on Hmong were Racist

MAIDEN, Wisconsin—A law professor is getting criticized for comments made during a lecture that students say were offensive, including “Hmong men have no talent other than to kill.” Professor Leonard Kaplan also allegedly told his class that many Hmong become criminals and gang members. “I purchased their wives,” Kaplan, a “Hmong men have no talent other than to kill.”

Pearl Harbor Memorial Center to be Renovated in Hawaii

HONOLULU—A $52-million project is planned to renovate and rebuild the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center, which commemorates the 1941 Japanese attack on Hawaii. Pearl Harbor that thrust the U.S. into World War II. The current center is on unstable ground and slowly sinking below the ocean water in the harbor. The Park Service plans to raise the money through private donations and hopes to reopen the center by Dec. 7, 2009, the 68th anniversary of the attack.

Matsuoka is Appointed to State’s Asian American Commission

Tina Matsuoka of Sacramento is one of the new commissioners of Massachusetts’ Asian American Commission, a permanent body dedicated to political advocacy on behalf of Asian Americans throughout the state.

JAMA Installs New State of Officers

The Japanese American Veterans Association elected by acclamation the 2007-09 slate of its officers at its annual general meeting. The new officers are: President Robert Nakamorot, Vice President Cal Shintani, Secretary Kim Lumana, and Treasurer Earl Takeguchi.

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Matsui’s leadership community, When derogatory words it seems that a different standard is being applied to the Asian American mainstream does not consider these words like ‘Jap,’ ‘Chink’ and ‘Gook.’ As far as I know, there aren’t many Asian Americans who have reclaimed these terms as symbols of endearment among themselves.”

“N-word” is a good idea, in concept, but whether it would work is highly sneaky.

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff

NATIONAL NEWS

Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

By Pacific Citizen Staff
Organizers Break Ground for Pinedale Assembly Center Memorial

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

PINEDALE, Calif.—Organizers broke ground on a site for a memorial to more than 4,800 Japanese American internees held in Fresno County during World War II.

Residents of California, Oregon and Washington were taken to Pinedale, just north of Fresno, in 1942 after President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an order to relocate 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry to internment camps after Japanese forces bombed Pearl Harbor.

Families were put on trains and taken to the internment camp for a couple of months before being transferred to camps in other states.

“What I remember most is that the concentration camp destroyed our family,” James Hirobayashi, 90, of Mill Valley said Feb. 19 at the groundbreaking of Remembrance Plaza. Armed soldiers guarded the wooden barracks, which were surrounded by barbed wire, said Hirobayashi, whose family was spirited from Tacoma, Wash.

Two assembly centers were in Fresno, the Fresno Assembly Center and Pinedale Assembly Center. The Fresno Assembly Center, which was at the Fresno Fairgrounds, housed JAs from the area in and around Fresno County and a monument was dedicated at the site in 1994. Pinedale Assembly Center remained in obscurity because the 8,823 internees were from out of the area, in Amador and Sacramento Counties and from Oregon and Washington. After the temporary incarceration in Pinedale, they were sent to permanent camps such as Tule Lake Interment Camp in Northern California and Poston Internment Camp in Arizona.

About 18 months ago, the Fresno JA community learned that a developer had applied for an old building in Pinedale where the Pinedale Assembly Center was located in WWII. Soon the JACL Fresno chapter and the Central California Nikkei Foundation formed the Pinedale Assembly Center Memorial Project Committee to help preserve the site.

Last Nov. 28 the City Council approved designation of Remembrance Plaza to the Local Register of Historic Resources and approved the rezoning application, including the site plan for the Pinedale Remembrance Plaza.

“By preserving the Pinedale story, we hope to teach a lesson in history,” said Judge Dale Ikeda, who helped lead the preservation efforts. “It takes people to ensure ‘justice for all.’ Therefore, it is the duty and obligation of each generation to strive ‘to form a more perfect Union’ for ourselves and for the sake of our children.”

The $150,000 memorial is scheduled to be completed within two years. It will include a water feature and a storyboard telling the story of the Pinedale Assembly Center, information about the internment, and the people who lived there including those who served this country in the military during the war.

For Sixth Year, Idaho Governor Signs DOR Proclamation

New Idaho Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter stands with former internees and war veterans as he proclaims Feb. 19, 2007, a Day of Remembrance. This is the sixth year in a row that Idaho has commemorated DOR.

By ASSOCIATED PRESS and P.C. Staff

BOISE, Idaho—For the sixth year, an Idaho governor declared a “Day of Remembrance” to honor nearly 10,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans held behind barbed wire at the Minidoka internment camp in southern Idaho during World War II.

Gov. C.L. “Butch” Otter signed a proclamation Feb. 19, flanked by more than 40 former internment camp prisoners and their families.

“It’s hard to imagine the grip of wartime fear that led to people being sent to the camps,” said Mekki Kawasaki, whose mother and father were held at another internment camp in California.

Late last year, President Bush signed a $38 million grant program to help the National Park Service restore and pay for research at 10 camps, including the Minidoka Internment National Monument near Jerome in southern Idaho. The camps will be preserved as reminders of how the United States turned on some of its citizens in a time of fear.

Otter, a former businessman at the J.R. Simplot Co. agriculture business, remembered during the ceremony working with farmers of Japanese descent who sometimes mentioned their time in Minidoka. They never complained, Otter said, but he was always struck that they never lost their spirit. Half a generation, they owned their own farms. That’s a hell of a story.

At its peak in 1943, the Minidoka camp became one of the largest cities in Idaho, housing 9,307 people, primarily from Seattle and Portland, Ore. It closed Oct. 28, 1945. The 73-acre park was created in early 2001 by President Clinton, and will soon include “wayside” markers helping tell the camp’s story.

JACS Announces Funding Opportunities for 2007

The Japanese American Community Services of Southern California, Inc. (JACS) announces that applications for the 2007 annual grants funding cycle are available on their Web site.

JACS has been quietly providing seed money to a broad range of community and social service groups serving the Nisei and Asian Pacific Islander communities for 45 years.

“This has changed in the past five years. We have really formalized our grants program and sharpened our focus areas. In 2006, JACS provided funding to seven different organizations. We hope to continue this trend in 2007,” said Dean Matsunobu, president.

We are interested in supporting projects and organizations who are doing good work in the Asian Pacific Islander community. Last year, we supported Visual Communications’ Save Our Stories project to preserve 200 videotapes from Little Tokyo’s Redevelopment era. We also provided funding to the Southeast Asian Community Alliance’s Youth Leadership Project to provide multilingual training to Cambodian, Lao, Chinese, Thai and Vietnamese community,” said Joni Kuida, executive director.

The origins of JACS can be traced back to Shoinian, a Los Angeles-based children’s home and day nursery for Japanese immigrants in the early 1900s. After World War II and the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans, the Shoinian redirected its focus to provide family and community social services. The Shoinian home was sold and proceeds placed in a trust fund in 1961, and the Shoinian became the Japanese American Community Services of Southern California, Inc.

The application deadline is March 31. Awards will be announced June 1. Applications can be obtained from the Web site at http://www.jacs-fund.org.
Ohno Moves From the Ice Rink to the Dance Floor

(Continued from page 1)

laughing about the news.

"I'm going to have fun. I'm going to the Fourth season March 19, pairs a cast laugh about the new experience.

votes for their favorite pair.

ence dancing and a lot of discipline, it's different from ballroom dancing,

isn't have any formal dance expe­

rience, is learning the basics before he has to leave for training in another opetation — his signature spot of short-track speed skating.

is after all a two-time Olympian and the winner of two gold medals, a silver and two bronze medals. After competing in the 2006 Torino Winter Games, Apolo talked publicly about going into semi-retirement, but the competitive fire in him hasn't burned out.

Apolo competed for the first time since Torino in the U.S. short-track speed skating championships in Cleveland and took home his eighth national title Feb. 25. He ranked first in every category at nationals to finish with 170 points earning him the opportunity to compete in the World Championships in Milan, Italy March 9-11.

"To go to nationals and defend my crown is amazing," he said. "Being 24 and having gone to two Olympics to mop the successes and awards. I've completed all the goals I've set for myself, it's the duty of it now — so compete for the love of the sport.

although he's proud of all his Olympic medals, his most recent gold medal win in Torino was the 500 m a personal victory. "Everything was perfect, the positioning, overcoming injury..." said Apolo, who cites "consistency" as his biggest achievement.

Is another Olympics in his future? Yes, he will be at the 2010 Vancouver Winter Games, but he's still debating the role he's going to play. "I'm leaning towards competing again," said Apolo, who is moving from Colorado Springs to Salt Lake City to train. He's also looking for sponsors who can make his competitive dream come true.

In Apolo's world, the pressure to excel is always intense. "I think whenever I compete, I'm expected to win. It's a sport that comes down to one-thousandths of a second or a photo finish... but that's the beauty of sport — performing under pressure."

Fortunately, he's used to pressure. Apolo started speed skating at 14.

Before that, he dabbed in all kinds of sports like swimming until speed skating changed his life.

The world will have to wait to see if dancing will be his next sport of choice. Apolo and his father Yoshi Ohno, a hairstylist, are already discus­

sing a different look for the usu­

ally coated athlete. "I will have my father there and some friends and family. I'll have a support system there," he said about his upcoming time on "Dancing with the Stars."

His name is so synonymous with excellence that it's easy to forget he's another Asian Pacific American community member. Outside of the arena, he has a passion for commercial real estate and fast cars.

"I'm a regular 24 year old. I love having fun." But in the speed skating arena, he's considered a veteran. When he decides to hang up his skates, he's interested in broadcasting because he's comfortable on camera and in the spotlight. He's also expressed interest in conquering Hollywood.

"It's a very interesting world," said Apolo about his future.

It's not one step at a time. Right now, he's learning to swivel to salsa music and urging people to vote for his smooth moves. n

The fourth season of 'Dancing with the Stars' starts March 19, 9 p.m. EST.

For more information: www.apoloantoniohonno.com; http://abc.go.com/primetime/dancing/

Your signature is worth more than just a free checking account.

Free checking is fine, but we believe you deserve more. That's why we created Signature Banking: it starts with a checking account that pays interest, and it includes free online Banking & free bill Pay and a debit card with increased spending limits. Plus you'll be rewarded with extra incentives on savings, loan and retirement accounts. You can qualify for Signature Banking with at least $10,000 in combined deposit account balances. Maybe it's time your bank understands your true worth.

To learn more about Signature Banking, call 800-796-5656, press option 2.

Invest in you

For more information, visit us at unionbank.com/signature or call a nearby branch:
Miyazato Mania Returns for a Second Year

KOBELE

Miyazato Mania Returns for a Second Year. Dice-K Sharp in Pacific

In 2010, Miyazato entered her second season on the LPGA Tour. The 21-year-old Miyazato is famous in Japan. "I never really thought I'd like people to start to see me for my golf," she said. "But I feel like I'm in a different world when I'm here. The attention is so much.

Many challenges confronted Miyazato. "First, English. Next, the level of play is much higher than Japan. Everyone here is very competitive, so to win, you need a lot of concentration," she said. She's still working on her English, which has improved greatly since last year. With great control and movement, Daisuke Matsuzaka throws three different pitches effective on both sides of the plate and then one more fastball to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him.

"If I could just improve my game and then come to win over here, and it's going to be tough," she said. "But I feel like I'm in a different world when I'm here. The attention is so much.

Many challenges confronted Miyazato. "First, English. Next, the level of play is much higher than Japan. Everyone here is very competitive, so to win, you need a lot of concentration," she said. She's still working on her English, which has improved greatly since last year. With great control and movement, Daisuke Matsuzaka throws three different pitches effective on both sides of the plate and then one more fastball to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him.

"If I could just improve my game and then come to win over here, and it's going to be tough," she said. "But I feel like I'm in a different world when I'm here. The attention is so much.

Many challenges confronted Miyazato. "First, English. Next, the level of play is much higher than Japan. Everyone here is very competitive, so to win, you need a lot of concentration," she said. She's still working on her English, which has improved greatly since last year. With great control and movement, Daisuke Matsuzaka throws three different pitches effective on both sides of the plate and then one more fastball to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him.

"If I could just improve my game and then come to win over here, and it's going to be tough," she said. "But I feel like I'm in a different world when I'm here. The attention is so much.

Many challenges confronted Miyazato. "First, English. Next, the level of play is much higher than Japan. Everyone here is very competitive, so to win, you need a lot of concentration," she said. She's still working on her English, which has improved greatly since last year. With great control and movement, Daisuke Matsuzaka throws three different pitches effective on both sides of the plate and then one more fastball to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp." Manager Terry Francona has been successful at pitching, and Curt Schilling took the mound first to hit against him and let the first pitch hit him. "He's as advertised," Farrell said. "He's sharp.”
As a Japanese American, I really suffered from food withdrawal when I first arrived in Germany 20 years ago. Where was my Kikkoman soy sauce, my Nishiki rice, my furikake? No much for New Year’s, no snacks to spook things up?

Well, I’m happy to say, things have changed in the last two decades, and these days it is possible to find the basics. Provided you live in a big city, know where to look, are prepared to pay a premium price, and can read non-translated Japanese labels. Anyway, there is an upside to the situation. I finally had to learn to cook, in order to re-create something close to those tastes of home.

There are several food-related customs though, that are pretty different to what we’re used to at home. If you’re planning a trip to Germany, be warned: Table manners and eating habits are sometimes impossible to decipher. Please read this before going out and embarrassing yourself.

1) When eating, keep both hands clearly visible on the table at all times. I don’t know what Germans think you’re doing with them under the table, but apparently it’s something bad.
2) Bread here is un-squishable (as in Wonder Bread) and therefore not suited for peanut butter sandwiches. Good peanut butter is hard to find anyway. Give up.
3) Germans believe that reheating cooked mushroom and then eating them will kill you. Never serve them to a guest unless you don’t want them to come back.
4) French fries are eaten with mayonnaise. You can eat them with ketchup, but are then immediately identified as a foreigner.
5) Coca Cola cures a stomachache.
6) Jell-O is called Wackel (shaking) pudding and is eaten plain and only in the secrecy of your own home.
7) When eating in a smoky restaurant with extremely slow and boorish service is considered relaxing. Dinners of 5 or 6 hours are not uncommon. Take a cushion along.
8) Supermarket is not as popular as we are led to believe in the U.S.A.
9) Don’t ask for substitutions on the menu. It is legal for the cook to throw you out.
10) The pet food section of supermarkets is always larger and better stocked than the baby food section.
11) MacDonald’s is considered unhealthy and fattening. Only frankfurters and deep-fried shaved potatoes are not.
12) Pigs are served in a huge variety of ways:
   a. Pig fat: used to spread on bread
   b. Jellied pig: called Silze
   c. Huge pig hocks: looks unappealing but are a specialty
   d. Smoked pig does not have to be cooked
13) Pig feet: also jellied and usually bought in a jar
14) Good beer
15) Wine is good for the heart and also for stomachaches. Smoking while others are eating is not bad manners but complaining about it is.
16) Dogs are allowed in restaurants because they get very lonely dining alone.

If you’ve experienced any strange habits or customs while visiting Germany, please let me know about them! Just send an e-mail to Cheryl@texter-koeln.de.

—Yumi Sakugawa

A TASTE OF GERMANY

**CHERYL WATAMURA MARTINEZ**

**A BROAD VIEW**

**MEMOIRS OF A NON-GISHA**

**YUMI SAKUGAWA**

**A Blank Canvas**

This weekend, I really should have been working on my studio art assignments. Or at the very least sleeping in my own bed. Instead, I was spending two nights in a row in a cramped digital media lab doing a last-minute editing marathon of a four-minute movie that I plan on showing at the next show production of my campus American theater group.

I believe this is the first time that I ever wore the same clothes and the same contact lenses for three days straight. It was not a pretty sight. Have I ever done the same thing for an art class? Never. Because while this just might be college seniority talking, I am currently not feeling the whole art thing. I am not feeling the whole sitting around in a studio space and going into extensive conversations about lines and shapes thing.

I miss my sophomore and junior year when I could afford to take Japanese language classes or interesting American Studies classes on contemporary literature or different ethnic communities. As much as I have to admit it, taking only art classes for an entire quarter makes me rather unhappy.

And as my graduation date begins sneaking its ugly head in the not-so-distant future, I realize that the fine art world does not particularly light my mental fire. I have to manage to get excited about waking up at 5:00 in the morning on my Christmas vacation to work on writing a one-act scene for my theater group.

I can suck it up and spend entire weekends with the Nihon Student Union painting elaborate backdrops for our annual Cultural Night, even if four to six hours worth of work is only going to be on stage for 10 minutes and get promptly trashed that very night.

I get psyched about meeting new people in conferences for college students like myself, whether they be for Japanese Americans or Taiwanese Americans who wanted our group to present a workshop on AA's and the performance arts.

Somewhere, I don’t get the same excitement at the idea of going to art school and schmoozing in the museum galleries to get gallery openings for large-scale paintings. And so many of my classmates are realizing the same thing with their own particular majors as they get sucked more and more into their Asian ethnic orgs.

Clearly I am not the only species of this particular breed of AA college students crazy people who choose to kill themselves over extracurricular activities and student-run ethnic organizations while comically ignoring the fact that they are full-time students who technically should have classes.

We are practicing dance steps for our next Filipino American cultural night in isolated parking lot spaces instead of studying for our physics exam. We are helping organize events in Little Tokyo, fundraising money for the campus Asian Pacific Coalition and mentoring kids in Koreatown.

Meanwhile, our textbooks and course readers gather dust in the living room. Post-it note reminders to search for summer internships in biomechanical engineering magicaly disappear from our attention. And somehow this so-called extracurricular becomes instead, a possible career opportunity — even a life calling.

While art-making will always always play a significant role in my life, I sometimes wonder if the art I’m really interested in is not so much the brushstrokes on canvas that strive for artistic immortality, but the art of building connections within a community, however tenuous and difficult.

I have been neglecting my latest painting project for my extracurricular activities. It is also in the corner of my studio space, a blank white canvas waiting to be filled in. Just like my future.

Yumi Sakugawa is currently attending UCLA.

**ANNOUNCING**

**KOSAKURA TOURS & TRAVEL PRESENTS**

**2007 ESCORTED TOURS & CRUISES**

**Mar. 29 Sandia Chile/“Cherry Blossom”**

**Apr. 20 China/Shanghai, Yangtze Cruise, Xian, Beijing, Guilin, Hong Kong**

**May 10 Bikokuri Japan #2/“Hidden Surprises of Japan” (SOLD OUT)**

**May 17 Charlston/Savannah**

**May 30 Heritage America: Niagara Falls, Washington, D.C.**

**June 13 Alaska Cruise - Reign Seven Seas Cruise “Mariner”**

**June 28 Las Vegas - 3 Day Fling!!**

**July 16 Summer Japan**

**Aug. 2 Great Cities of Europe: London & Paris**

**Aug. 8 Alpines resorts & Ralts: France, Italy & Switzerland**

**Aug. 16 Romantic Danube: Budapest to Prague**

**Sept. 6 Northern Japan: Hokkaido & Tokusha**

**Sept 18 New England & Eastern Canada Cruise “Golden Princess”**

**Oct. 5 Korea Highlights & K-Drama “HALLLY” Tour**

**Oct. 18 Autumn Highlights of Japan**

**Note: In 10th of “Chikarai” Kyus, Japan**

**Dec. 2 exotic Vietnam & Angkor Wat**

We will be glad to send you a detailed brochure!

We also sell:

International & Domestic Air Tickets including ANA, JAL, UAL.

Japanese & Euro Rail Passes, Hotels, Car Rental, and Cruises

Packages to any destination around the world!

Kosakura Tours and Travel

4115 Cowell Road, Suite 110, Concord, CA 94518

Tel: (925) 607-4995, Calif. Toll Free 1-800-858-2882

---

**Kosakura Tours & Travel Present:**

---

**Chinese-Speaking Guide:**

---

**PACIFIC CITIZEN, Men. 5-16, 2007**
Kelly Hu, the beauty queen turn butt-kicking babe, stretches her acting talent with two new gritty film roles and a comedy TV series.

By LYNDI LIN

Kelly Hu is going nowhere. She’s stuck on the 405, Los Angeles’s most clogged artery in the freeway system, on her way to meet with her acting coach with no one but the Pacific Citizen to keep her company. Over the phone, Hu’s voice crackles with intensity as she talks about her TV series in five months.

Fast Tracking Through Hollywood

Hu’s career — unlike the 405 — is moving fast and there are perks that go with a skyrocketing career. “Now I get to go to galas and fundraisers,” she said, laughing. “It’s the little things.”

She’s Comes Undone

In “Shanghai Kiss,” Hu is a peak film femme fatale form as Micki Yang, a sophisticated lady from Shanghai who beguiles American-born Liam Liu (Ken Leung). For the first time, Hu is the leading lady in a full-fledged American Pacific Asian character. To perfect her accent, she studied the 2007 migration, Crime, Civil and Criminal. Kitazawa Seed Co. is a busines...
The Parkview Presbyterian Church, founded in 1912 by the Japanese American community, will be celebrating their 95th year in the community of Sacramento. An April 1st commemoration is planned.

**American Holiday Travel**

2007 Tour Program

**SOUTH AMERICA TOUR**
- APR 25-MAY 10
  - Buenos Aires, Iguazu, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Extremo sur, Lima, Portoviejo

**JAPAN SPRING COUNTRYSIDE TOUR**
- MAY 19-20
  - Tokyo, Kanazawa, Iwate, Takamatsu

**GRANDMOTHERS DAY & MOTHERS DAY JAPAN TOUR**
- JUN 24-JUL 3
  - Tokyo, Hakone, Lake Hamura, Hiroshima, Kyoto

**ALASKA CRUISE**
- JUL 22-AUG 4
  - Seattle, Holsand, Glacier, Skagway, Juneau, Seward, Anchorage

**AFRICA WILDLIFE SAFARI TOUR**
- AUG 13-20
  - Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PATAGONIA ADVENTURE TOUR**
- NOVEMBER
  - Buenos Aires, Valparaiso, Santiago, Torres Del Paine, Puerto Natales

**AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL**
- 312 E. 1ST ST, #4100, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
  - Tel: (213) 625-2322; Fax: (213) 625-8347
  - Ernest & Carol Halis
  - CST #200020-10

**Blue Shield of California**

An Independent Member of the Blue Shield Association
IN MEMORIAM

Richard Tom, the first Asian American to win an Olympic medal, passed away Feb. 20 at his home in Aina Haina. He was 86.

Tom won a bronze medal at the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games in a 1:24.125 mile relay. He was the U.S. team captain and his team won the bronze medal.

Tom was an Army veteran of World War II and retired from a career in construction. He is survived by his wife, Chitose; daughters, Amy (Gary) Suemura, Alan Tomoki, and Robert (Dorothy) Hanaki; and sisters, Setsuko Murata and Yoko (James) Arnett.

In 2007, Tom was inducted into the Hawai‘i Sports Hall of Fame for his contributions to the sport of swimming.

Richard Tom’s legacy lives on. He served as a mentor to many young athletes and is remembered for his dedication to the sport of swimming and his contributions to the community.

The Olympic Family will miss Tom’s wise counsel and incomparable leadership. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who knew him.
NASCAR

(AContinued from page 1)

anti-Japanese sentiment directed at the Japanese auto industry when two laid-off autoworkers in Detroit murdered him after mistakenly identifying him as being Japanese.

Some in the AA community see a lot of similarities between then and the current uproar over Toyota's participation in NASCAR, the most popular spectator sport with an estimated fan base of 75 million.

"I think there are many similarities — both instances involve intense economic competition between Americans and Japanese car companies," said C.N. Lee, author of the Asian-Nation blog. "Just like they did in the early 1980s with the first wave of 'Japan-Bashing,' so too are they doing that now with the backlash against Toyota's involvement in NASCAR."

Attorney Michael Yaki, a member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, recently wrote an op-ed piece for the New York Times echoing similar concerns. He noted the obvious: NASCAR has many AA fans. NASCAR also holds a number of races in California, a state which boasts the highest population of AAs.

He writes: "Nationalism, however, is the razor's edge in the American psyche, where just a push turns it into xenophobia. NASCAR is like so many professional sports - both instances involve simmering prejudice is not an option."

Toyota now joins the "Big Three" of NASCAR: Ford, Chevrolet, and Dodge. And with Toyota closing in on General Motors as the largest car company in the United States, the comfort level for those espousing anti-Japanese comments is becoming increasingly uncomfortable.

The sentiment isn't only amongst NASCAR fans either with some owners and drivers jumping onto the bandwagon of hate. Ford team owner Jack Roush has been particularly vocal saying he's preparing "for siege" and "we're going to war." In a recent Associated Press interview he said he expects "to hand Toyota their head."

Owners and some drivers believe Toyota is using its large financial resources to pump reasonably high amounts of cash into its cars and paying exorbitant salaries to drivers so they can lure them away from other driving teams. Toyota team drivers Dale Jarrett, Michael Waltrip, and David Reutimann have been called sell outs and even been told to leave "America."

There's even a Web site dedicated to expressing some NASCAR fans hatred of Toyota: "Fans Against Racing Toyotas," or F.A.R.T for short. Founder Bill Bagwell, a General Motors employee from Detroit, says one-fifth of the e-mails he receives falsely accuse him of being racist. His problem is solely with Toyota's participation in NASCAR because of what he believes are Toyota's unfair business practices.

"I'm not against the Japanese or Asian people. It's about the deep pockets of Toyota and the loyalty of drivers so they can lure them away from other teams," said Bagwell who has been a NASCAR fan since the age of 16. "Toyota is coming in with unfair practices and they're using the same business model in NASCAR too."

Much of the arguments behind the anti-Toyota movement stems from the concept of foreigners being unwelcome not only in NASCAR but in America. The arguments also highlight the often-held perception that being white equals American and you are Asian the same benefits do not apply.

Yet when Dodge recently made its way back to NASCAR after a 16 year absence, the company was welcomed with open arms even though Dodge is owned by DaimlerChrysler, a German car company. Those in support of Toyota are also quick to point out that the cars used in NASCAR - the Ford Fusion and the Chevrolet Monte Carlo — are made in Mexico and Canada respectively. The Toyota Camry on the other hand is made right here in the United States.

"I think this whole Toyota in NASCAR episode shows just how contradictory and hypocritical some Americans can be. They still cling to these outdated ideas about who qualifies to be an American, despite documented benefits that Asian Americans like me and companies like Toyota bring to this country," said Le. "In the end, as American society continues to change and evolve, these people are destined to be left behind wondering how American society passed them by."

Still, the idea of a foreign company taking over anything considered to be all-American is a brick wall Toyota is going to have to face each time its cars hit the NASCAR speedways.

"In spite of all the turmoil throughout the week, we still had a good weekend at Daytona," said Lee White, senior vice president and general manager of Toyota Racing Development, USA. "I think everyone understands the mountain we have to climb and the thing that we've said is that the most important thing is for everyone to keep improving."

Luckily with some NASCAR fans, the anti-Asian sentiment hasn't turned them into Toyota or Asian hater.

"What are you afraid of?" 7 Toyota's just a competitor. If you're worried about them, then make your car better," writes "gouldfreak" on the F.A.R.T. Web site.

"godd4jyota" writes: "We all need to be honest... having Toyota run in NASCAR will not make the sport any less American! GROW UP!"

As for those in the AA community who saw first hand in the 1980s what anti-Japanese sentiment can do, their hope is that a repeat isn't in the works.

Bill Yoshino, JACL Midwest director, sees some hope in the difference in attitude today, after more than 20 years.

"Some differences are that the Japanese now add much to our economy because they've established manufacturing facilities in America, and unlike the 1980s the negative sentiment isn't being whipped up in the mainstream media by public officials. However, it's pretty clear that certain foreign owners are acceptable while others are not."

For Information: nascar.com, Toyota.com/newscorp, fansagainstracingtoyotas.com

Car Loans or Refinance As Low As

6.5% APR

100% Financing on New Cars • 100% Financing on Used Cars • Borrow up to $50,000

No-fee Auto Loans

New or Used Cars

New Cars: Up to 5 years 100% of purchase price

Used Cars: Up to 4 years 100% of high Blue Book

**OAC DOES NOT INCLUDE: Tax, License, & Extended Warranties

*This offer not valid to existing car loans with the credit union

***Hybrid Cars Additional: 1.25% APR off

National JACL Credit Union

(800) 544-8828