

Trip



Associated Press

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Michi Weglyn: 'Japanese American's Conscience'

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Honoring Weglyn, author of "Years of Infamy: The Untold Story of America's Concentration Camps," were Cal Poly Pomona President Bob H. Suzuki and the national Japanese American Citizens League.

"My wife, Agnes, and I are deeply saddened by the death of our dear friend, Michi Weglyn," said Dr. Suzuki. "She and (her late husband) Walter were close, personal friends of ours and were among the most compassionate and humanitarian people we ever had the privilege of knowing. She will be sorely missed, but she and Walter leave a tremendous moral legacy for all of us."

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"At a time when angry charges of government duplicity and 'credibility gaps' were being hurled at heads of state, the gaps of the evacuation era appeared more like chasms," Weglyn wrote in the preface to her book. "Persuaded that the enormity of a bygone injustice has been only partially perceived, I have taken it upon myself the task of piecing together



"Years of Infamy" author Michi Weglyn, with Dr. Bob Suzuki, in 1993.

writing of a book that became the basis for redressing the Japanese American experience of incarceration during World War II," Yamanishi continued.

Weglyn's book "reinforced the movement to obtain redress for Japanese Americans and inspired the JACL delegates to its 1976 biennial convention in Salt Lake City to pass the resolution that began their redress effort," he said. "In graphic detail, she challenged the U.S. government's reasoning and chronicled the many thwarted efforts to seek justice during the wartime experience."

The famed author also "provided a portal into the definition and character of the Japanese American today," Yamanishi said of Weglyn, who received the JACL's Japanese American of the Biennium Award at the 1976 convention.

Weglyn challenged the national JACL to "do better," and persuaded the JACL staff to conduct research through the National Archives in San Bruno, and that search turned up letters reinforcing existent evidence that the U.S. government forced private railroad and mining companies to fire American employees of Japanese descent during World War II, Yamanishi said.

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oon bouncer" for small children.
The Bazaar committee will again pro-
live entertainment throughout the
y. A number of professional musi-
s from the Asian American commu-
as well as talented church members
ll be performing for the Bazaar guests.
The Rev. Kate Cullinane and the en-
Bazaar committee invited the com-
munity to participate and help the con-
gation in its continuing work with the
rch and community.
Security parking will be available
a nonstop shuttle service will run to
parking sites.
For more information about the Ba-
r-Carnival, call (213) 387-1334.

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what might have been called the 'forgot-
ten'—or ignored—parts of the tapestry
of those years."

"The Weglyns contributed enor-
mously to the civil and human rights
movements in this country, especially to
gain justice for different groups of Japa-
nese Americans, such as the draft resist-
ers and railroad workers, who suffered
terrible hardships due to their incarceration
by the U.S. government during
World War II," said Dr. Suzuki.

"Almost to the day of her death, Michi
continued to fight for the rights of these
individuals and to be concerned for their
well-being."

Herbert Yamanishi, national director
of JACL, commented that, to the Japanese
American community, "Michi Nishiura
Weglyn became their conscience."

"Her inquisitive and persistent na-
ture for truth and fairness led her to the

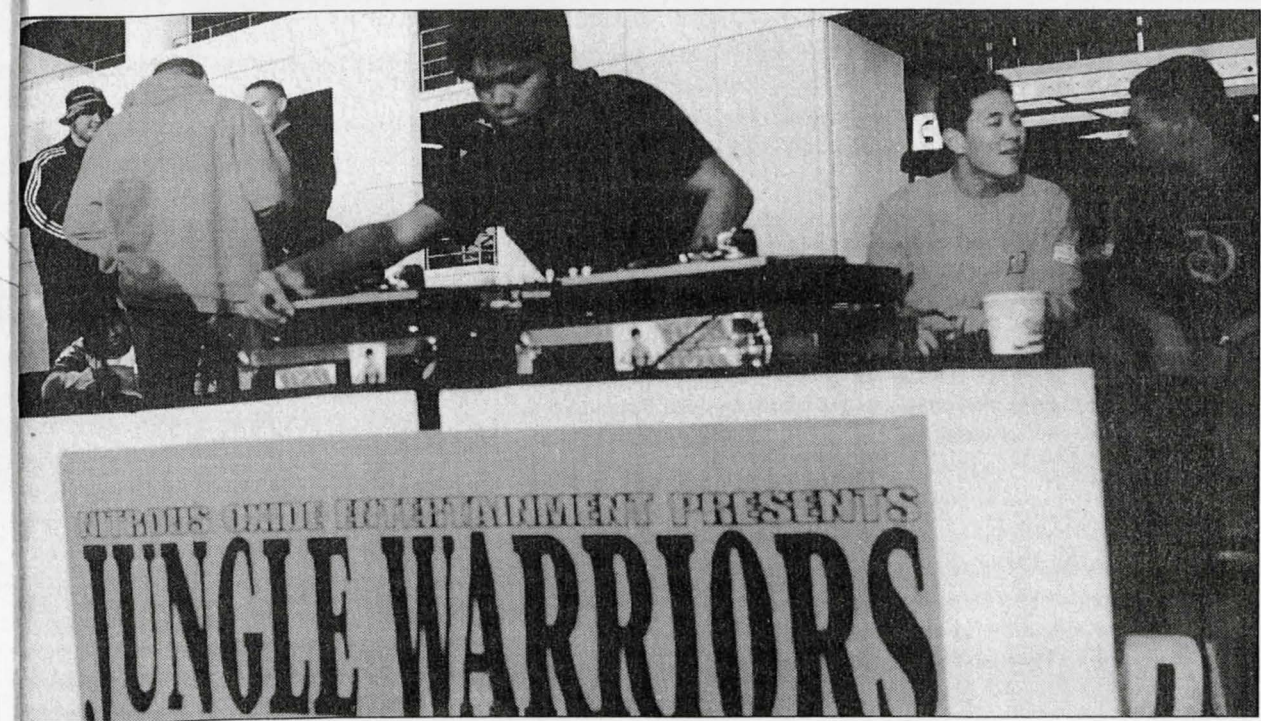
companies to the American employees
of Japanese descent during World War
II, Yamanishi said.

Through her vigilant efforts and the
evidence gathered by many, the U.S. De-
partment of Justice was convinced that the
railroad and mine workers were eligible
for redress, the JACL leader added. "Re-
grettably, she did not live to see the fruition
of her latest work, obtaining proper re-
dress for Japanese Latin Americans."

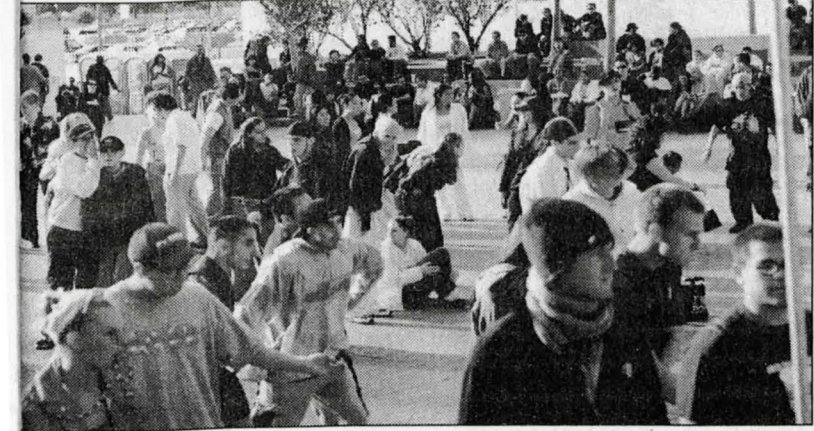
Weglyn received an honorary Doctor
of Humane Letters degree from the Cali-
fornia State University during com-
mencement ceremonies at Cal Poly
Pomona in 1993. She was also awarded
honorary doctorates from Mount
Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass.,
New York City's Hunter College and
Smith College in Northampton, Mass.,
in recognition for her many contribu-
tions to the betterment of society.

In 1993, the Michi & Walter Weglyn
Endowed Chair for Multicultural Studies
was established at Cal Poly Pomona. In
addition to a donation from the Weglyns,
Michi Weglyn dedicated all future royalti-
ties from her book for this purpose.

Attracting New Young Crowd



Photos by JEM LEW



More than 1,000 alternative publica-
tions fans and music aficionados at-
tended the Giant Robot music festival
on the Japanese American Cultural
and Community Center plaza on April
24. The event lasted from 3:30 p.m. to
10 p.m., and included performances
by keyboardist and sound synthesizer,
Money Mark, as well as a cadre of
locally and internationally noted disc
jockeys. Writers and b-persons were
also on the scene, displaying skills of
the graf- and break- variety to the
seeming enjoyment of all in atten-
dance.

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110067 H Exp. DATE: 1000423
PAUL TSUNEISHI
10362 RUSSETT AVE
SUNLAND CA 91040-1826

RAFAFU SHUMPO



RAFAFU SHUMPO



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259 So. Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: (213) 629-2231

Fax: (213) 687-0737

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Japan Briefs



WALK IN THE PARK: With a Japanese message "A man who does not help in child-rearing can't be called a father," Sam, a Japanese dancer from the group "TRF," embraces his first-born son, Haruto, in this handout photo of a poster distributed by Japan's Health and Welfare Ministry this spring. Sam is married to Japan pop star Namie Amuro.

The \$4.16-million government campaign, encouraging men to lend their helping hand with raising their children at a time more and more women are holding jobs, has set off a public dispute, drawing protests from angry men in the male-dominated nation.

GENDER INEQUALITY: Fewer than one in 10 working women in Japan become managers, indicating more needs to be done to help women in the workplace, a government report on gender equality said.

A remarkably low 9.3 percent of Japan's 26.65 million working women hold managerial posts, compared with 44.2 percent in the United States, 30.8 percent in Norway and 2.6 percent in Germany, the report said, also indicating that Japanese women aged 40 to 44 spend nine hours and 41 minutes per day in paid and unpaid work, while men average nine work hours, mostly in paid work.

The report comes on the heels of a revised law which bans sexual discrimination in employment and promotion and as the government plans to invest more than \$1.6 billion to bolster programs to help working women.

Some Loan Words More Understandable to Japanese: Poll

RYODO NEWS

TOKYO.—Some words borrowed from foreign languages are easier to understand for many Japanese than their Japanese-language counterparts, a Cultural Affairs Agency survey released Wednesday suggests.

The survey, conducted in January, asked 3,000 people which of a pair of synonyms—one of which is a Japanese term and the other a word taken from another language—is more understandable. A total of 2,200 people responded to the survey.

According to the results, of eight pairs of words included in the survey, two of the loan words, "merito" from the English "merit," and "ibento," borrowed from the English "event," were more understandable than their Japanese counterparts "riten" and "moyoshi," respectively.

On the other hand, in six other pairs, a majority said Japanese words such as "keikaku," "hitsuoysei," and "kikensai," were more easily understood than loan words with equivalent meanings—"sukimu" (scheme), "niizu" (needs), and "risku" (risk), respectively.

In a question asking respondents whether they were able to understand certain borrowed words, 90% said they understood the word "sutoresu" (stress), 75% understood the word "infantanto" (Internet), and just under 40% understood the word "ombuzumani" (ombudsman).

The results of the survey will be submitted to the Council on National Language, a panel advising the education minister, the agency said.

Ueyehara Explores City, Body in 'Maps'

Writer and performance artist Denise

Winding Up for L.A. Trip



Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi, left, takes lessons in pitching from Liberal Party legislator Jun Misawa, a former professional pitcher for the Chunichi Dragons, in a courtyard at Obuchi's residence in Tokyo on Wednesday. Obuchi is scheduled to throw the ceremonial first pitch prior to a May 1 game in Chicago between the Cubs and San Diego Padres. Obuchi begins his six-day visit to the United States today in Los Angeles as part of an effort to strengthen bilateral ties in a wide range of areas, he said Wednesday. He also expressed confidence that he will achieve his avowed goal of 0.5% economic growth in fiscal 1999, which began April 1.

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