

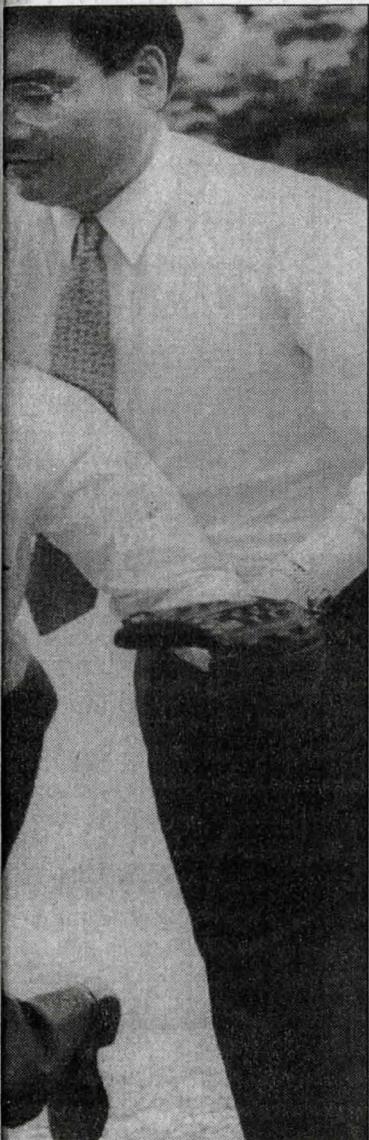
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Established 1903

Trip



Associated Press

left, takes lessons in pitching from former professional pitcher for the Obuchi's residence in Tokyo on the ceremonial first pitch prior the Cubs and San Diego Padres. United States today in Los Angeles general ties in a wide range of areas," confidence that he will achieve his fiscal 1999, which began April 1.

Michi Weglyn: 'Japanese American's Conscience'

Cal Poly Pomona president, JACL are among those to pay tribute to author-activist.

A nationally known university president and a civil rights organization on Tuesday paid tribute to Michi Nishiura Weglyn, 72, a prominent Japanese American author, civil rights activist and artist who died on April 25 in New York City following a yearlong illness.

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."

Best known for her critically acclaimed book, "Years of Infamy: The Untold Story of America's Concentration Camps," Weglyn, a former internee at Gila River, Ariz., was recognized as a supporter and advocate of numerous issues involving civil and human rights and the welfare of underprivileged groups. She was honored many times by a wide range of organizations and institutions.

In the early 1970s, amid the backdrop of the Vietnam War and the Watergate Scandal, Weglyn began questioning the decisions behind her internment in a U.S. concentration camp some 25 years earlier during World War II. Her extensive research and the insistence of her husband, a Holocaust survivor, led her to write "Years of Infamy," first published in 1976.

"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



"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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May 15

"oon bouncer" for small children. The Bazaar committee will again provide live entertainment throughout the day. A number of professional musicians from the Asian American community as well as talented church members will be performing for the Bazaar guests. The Rev. Kate Cullinane and the entire Bazaar committee invited the community to participate and help the congregation in its continuing work with the church and community.

Security parking will be available. A nonstop shuttle service will run to parking sites.

For more information about the Bazaar-Carnival, call (213) 387-1334.

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

"The Weglyns contributed enormously to the civil and human rights movements in this country, especially to gain justice for different groups of Japanese Americans, such as the draft resisters 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 nature for truth and fairness led her to the

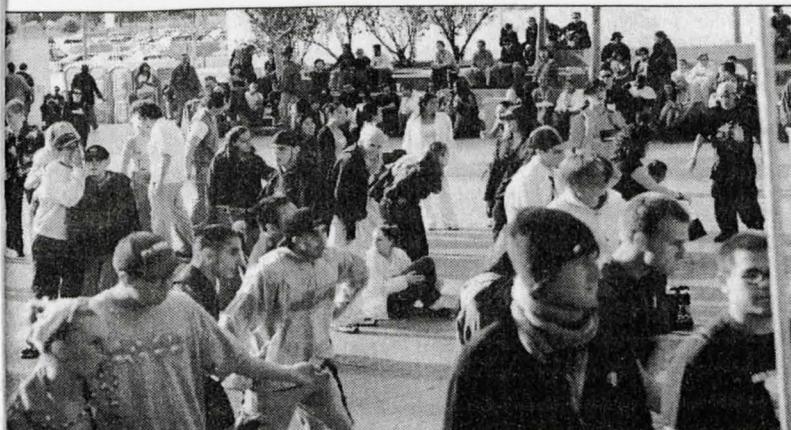
companies to incite American employees of Japanese descent during World War II, Yamanishi said.

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

Weglyn received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the California State University during commencement 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 contributions 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 royalties from her book for this purpose.

Attracting New Young Crowd



Photos by JEM LEW

More than 1,000 alternative publications fans and music aficionados attended 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 attendance.



NO. 28,771 THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1999

Los Angeles Japanese Daily News

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Established 1903

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," San, 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. San 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, is more than women are holding down 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 succeed, 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 44.3 percent in the United States, 31.5 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 spend 10 hours and 40 minutes.

The report comes on the heels of a revised law which bars sexual discrimination in employment and promotion and as the government promotes spending more than \$1.8 billion to bolster programs to help working women.

Some Loan Words More Understandable to Japanese: Poll

KYODO 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 synonymous words, 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, "meritio" from the English "merit" and "ibento," borrowed from the English "event" were more understandable than their Japanese counterparts "ritten" and "moyooshi," respectively.

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

In a question asking respondents

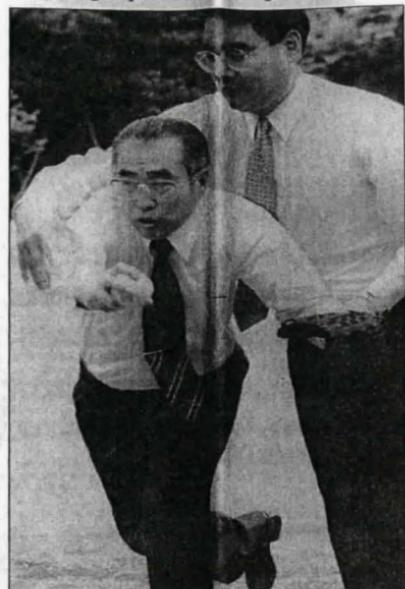
whether they were able to understand certain borrowed words, 90% said they understand the word "sutressu" (stress), 75% understood the word "taintanotto" (Internet), and just under 40% understood the word "ombuzuman" (ombudsman).

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 Body in 'Maps'

Writer and performance artist Denise

Winding Up for L.A. Trip



Associated Press

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 of 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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