

# SPORTS

## Scores and Results Posted from Nikkei Games Golf Tournament

The 2011 Nikkei Games Golf Tournament was held Aug. 11 at Strawberry Fields Golf Course in Irvine. The following are results of the junior competition:

golfer	hole 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	total
<b>Group 1</b>										
1. Dylan Brack	4	5	6	4	6	4	5	4	6	44
2. Andrew Nakao	6	4	5	5	6	4	4	4	9	47
2. Wesley Nakao	4	7	5	4	6	4	6	4	7	47
<b>Group 2</b>										
1. Cameron Lee	4	3	3	3	4	3	4	2	6	32
2. Jenna Maeda	6	4	6	3	5	5	4	6	9	48
3. Kylie Maeda	4	5	4	4	8	7	5	4	8	49
<b>Group 3</b>										
1. Josh Suzuki	6	4	4	6	5	6	4	3	4	42
2. Nolan Yoshimoto	5	5	4	5	5	6	5	4	7	46
3. Ryan Yoshimoto	3	7	3	5	6	5	5	6	10	50
<b>Group 4</b>										
1. Brandon Pacion	6	8	4	3	3	4	4	3	7	42
2. Matt Evans	5	8	4	3	8	7	5	4	5	49
3. Kyle Remo	7	10	5	6	7	5	6	6	8	60
<b>Group 5</b>										
1. Austin Kim	5	6	4	4	6	6	7	6	7	51
1. Ryan Kim	6	9	6	5	5	4	5	3	8	51
3. Zachary Yawata	4	8	5	3	10	5	7	5	9	56
<b>Group 6</b>										
1. Russell Butsumyo	4	4	4	5	8	5	5	5	6	46
2. Grant Higashi	6	4	5	5	9	6	8	6	5	54
3. Scott Igtanloc	6	6	6	4	7	9	6	8	9	61
<b>Group 7</b>										
1. Heather Kuwata	4	6	4	6	7	7	5	4	5	48
2. Marisa Tanga	4	5	5	4	8	7	6	6	8	53
3. Allyson Lewis	7	5	7	3	7	8	6	6	9	58
<b>Group 8</b>										
1. Halie Kouchi	5	4	6	4	7	3	4	4	9	46
2. Shay Doughner	5	9	4	6	5	5	4	4	7	49
<b>Group 9</b>										
1. James Wakai	4	6	3	4	4	4	5	3	6	39
2. Steven Chan	4	5	3	5	5	4	4	4	8	42
<b>Group 10</b>										
1. Kara Chu	4	6	4	5	4	6	5	5	8	47
2. Jordan Matsuda	3	8	3	6	7	6	5	5	5	48
3. Lindsey DiMeglio	5	9	3	4	10	4	5	9	9	58



Menehunes pose with the championship trophy, after winning the first Menehunes Invitational Basketball tournament Standing, from left: Bryant So, Jarrod Carroll, Ryan Lee, Matt Rosser, Anthony Nocon, Jun Uchida. Front: Billy Hofman and Jimmy Miyasaka.

## Inaugural Menehunes Tournament Draws Nation's Finest Asian American Teams

The first annual Menehunes Invitational Basketball tournament took place Aug. 13-14, with the best in Asian American talent on display. Menehunes president Jimmy Miyasaka wanted to host a top-notch Asian American tournament that displayed college and professional level Asian athletes for the younger Asian children to look up to and never give up hope in playing the sport that they love to play.

A few featured teams in the tournament were:

The number two-ranked team in the country, Blue Canvas, who recently won the 2011 Korean Olympics and Korean Nationals Tournament;

Taiwan Center, the third-ranked team in the country, 2010 Tigers Tournament Champions and three-time Nisei week basketball tournament champions;

Walnut JL, the 17th-ranked team in the country, who came in the tournament with one of the most athletic

teams in Southern California.

Then there are the Menehunes, who were nationally ranked seventh in the country prior to this tournament. All teams are Asian American teams.

"One of the reasons why I hosted a tournament like this is to target the Japanese population here in California," Miyasaka said. "Me, being Japanese, I want to show the kids that there is top Asian basketball in Southern California and even Japanese players can play in college (I played at Cal Poly Pomona) and be one of the main players on a top Asian American club team in the country."

Fliers were posted in Little Tokyo and across Southern California and the Menehunes Basketball team is working with forthcoming Bodukan in hosting the tournament there one day.

The championship game of the tournament turned out to be a classic. The host Menehunes took on Taiwan Center. The two squads have a close friendship with each other but this game was for all the marbles.

Taiwan Center started off the game hot. They were up by as much as 14 points in the first half before the Menehunes rallied back to tie it up at the half 40-40.

The Menehunes chipped away in the second half, but due to the intensity of the game, Menehunes leading scorer Jimmy Miyasaka cramped up with 15 minutes left in the second half and did not return. However, he was coaching on the sideline.

With 10 minutes to go, Taiwan Centers scorer Andrew Der also went down with cramps and also did not return. The game went back and forth and the lead was no more than 4 points.

The Menehunes chipped away at the end and pulled out a victory, 85 to 77, for the Menehunes Invitational Championship. Menehunes were led by co-MVPs Billy Hofman and Jarrod Carroll, both scoring 20 points, All Tournament team member Matt Rosser's 14 points and Jimmy Miyasaka's 13. Jun Uchida had 11, Anthony Nocon 7, Bryant So 4, and Ryan Lee 2.

Taiwan Center was led by All-Tournament Team Drew Bryant's 28 points and Andrew Der's 16, Hon Trieu's 12, Mike Lai's 9. Cory Young scored 7, Steve Baik 3, and Swing Chaung 2.

Menehunes goes down in history as the first winners of the Menehunes invitational basketball tournament.

In the third place game, Blue Canvas defeated Walnut JL, 65-62. Blue Canvas was led by Suk Ahn with 20 points and Justin Yun with 15, including three 3-pointers.

The All-Tournament Team:  
Matt Rosser (12.0 points/game) Menehunes

Jimmy Miyasaka (20.0 points/game) Menehunes

Andrew Der (17.0 points/game) Taiwan Center

Drew Bryant (24.3 points/game) Taiwan Center

Justin Yun (17.6 points/game) Blue Canvas

Eddie Degerman (22.6 points/game) Walnut JL

Next year, Miyasaka wants to compile two men's divisions and a women's division. The tournament will take place the first or second weekend in August. If you are interested in bringing in a team to the Menehunes Invitational, visit www.MenehunesBasketball.com or send a message to Email@MenehunesBasketball.com.

## Hagiya Preps for Hoops Camp at Staples Center

By NANCY KYOKO ODA  
RAFU CONTRIBUTOR

During the day, Jamie Hagiya has been seen around Little Tokyo wearing a shiny crown and dress as the 2010 Nisei Week Miss Tomodachi. She has an easy smile, warm personality, and grace.

But as you can see here, she has the eye of a tiger when she is holding the round ball. Jamie spends much of her time like Superman, taking her tiara off and wearing Trojan shorts over her muscular frame at night.

This summer, she was the star personality at camps in the South Bay, Seattle, and San Jose. Recently, the Jamie Hagiya Basketball Camp was held at the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, where she put 30 young athletes from grades 2-12 on their heels, learning drills, and most of all, the mental game.

Jamie emphasized repetition of basic skills such as dribbling, passing, shooting and free throws. She talked about helping your team by working hard. She enjoyed training JA youth to be leaders on the court as well as at school.

Believe it or not, she did this camp while taking time to do a press conference for the planned Budokan Sports Facility in Little Tokyo and rehearsing for the Coronation Ball held on Aug. 13. Jamie is well known as the two time MVP for USC's Women of Troy and playing professionally in Greece.

On Aug. 30, this bundle of energy will conduct a clinic for kids at Staples Center from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., before the WBA Sparks and Seattle Storm game. Kids should wear team jerseys and basketball shoes.

Jamie's dream to be a professional basketball player may come true if we all support her and attend the game en masse. Don't you think that it is time for an Asian to make it to the big leagues, especially Jamie? She is a terrific role model, so let's make her queen of Staples that night.

To order group tickets for your teams, churches and organizations, contact Lou Rosenberg at (213) 929-1328 or by email at lrosenberg@la-sparks.com.



Hagiya speaks to players during a recent skills camp at the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center.

## Irabu's Death Officially Ruled a Suicide

The death certificate filed in Los Angeles for former Major League Baseball pitcher Hideki Irabu showed that he committed suicide in his Rancho Palos Verdes home, officials said Thursday.

The Japan-born Irabu, who was 42, was found dead on July 27 in the 2200 block of Via Velardo, according to the sheriff's department.

The cause of death is listed as

"hanging ... with rope ... suicide," said Assistant Chief Ed Winter of the coroner's office.

Irabu pitched for the New York Yankees from 1997 to 1999, the Montreal Expos in 2000 and 2001, and the Texas Rangers in 2002, when he retired. He won two World Series rings with the Yankees, in 1998 and 1999.

-City News Service



## Flying High at the Nisei Week Parade

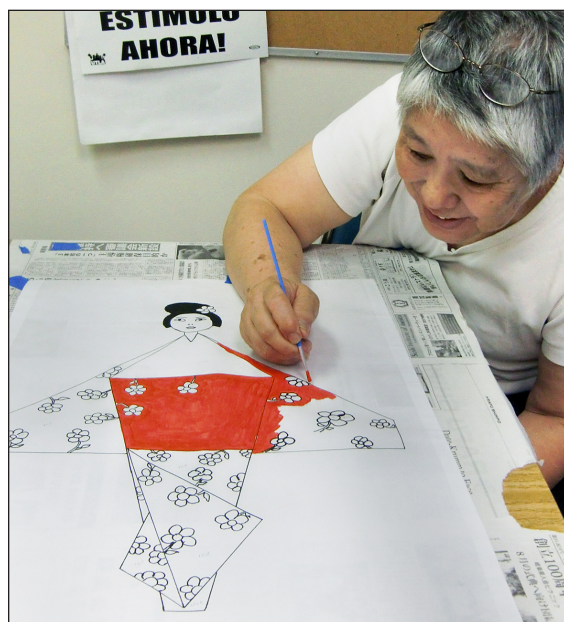
Friends of Los Angeles Elementary School were represented by L.A.'s Best Drill Team, former students, parents, staff, and community members in the 2011 Nisei Week Grand Parade last Sunday.

Parents drew and painted the Japanese-style kites in honor of the Japan America Society and Hitachi, who provided the school with a kite master who taught students to make and fly kites.

Three tall kites at the rear of the group read "Japan Will Rise Again."

Community organizations that helped the school include the Japanese American Optimist Club, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Southern California, the Downtown Los Angeles Chapter of the JAACL, Reading to Kids and the Culver City Senior Center.

photos by MARIO G. REYES / KITTY SANKEY



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