SPORTS

The Layup Drill

By Jason Cruz NORTHWEST ASIAN WEEKLY

Welcome to another edition of The Layup Drill. As sports returns, we take a look at an NHL player speaking out for racial injustice, an NBA hopeful, a triathlete setting a record, and the passing of a surfing legend.

Matt Dumba makes stand by taking knee



Matt Dumba

The Minnesota Wild's Matt Dumba was the first NHL player to take a knee during the U.S. national anthem, as the hockey season restarted. On Aug. 1, prior to the start of the Chicago Blackhawks and Edmonton Oilers game, a pregame ceremony featured players from both teams standing in a circle on center ice. Dumba, a member of the Hockey Diversity Alliance, spoke about racial injustice and how hockey and its fans can help.

"Black Lives Matter. Breonna Taylor's life matters...Hockey is a great game, but it can be a whole lot more." Dumba said in his speech before the players in a fanless arena. The Hockey Diversity Alliance is composed of NHL players to eradicate systemic racism and intolerance in the sport of hockey. A sport made up of primarily white players from the United States, Canada, and Europe, Dumba is Filipino Canadian.

As the American national anthem played, Dumba took a knee with Blackhawks' player Malcom Subban and Oilers' Darnell Nurse, placing a hand on each shoulder. Dumba stood for the Canadian national anthem

Dumba played the next night against the Vancouver Canucks. Instead of taking a knee, Dumba

raised a fist during both the U.S. and Canadian anthems

Unlike the NBA, where almost all of its players have taken a knee during the first couple games of the restart of its games, Dumba was the sole player to take a knee. However, many other NHL players showed support for Dumba and his support for Black Lives Matter.

Dumba is the face of social justice in the NHL. Dumba and the Hockey Diversity Alliance is hoping that the sport will become more diverse and incorporate people of color in promoting the

Singh becomes first NBA Academy grad to sign with G League

Princepal Singh, a 6-10 forward, has signed on to play in the NBA's G League Select Team, which features elite youth prospects. Singh joined the NBA Academy India in 2017 with the hopes of playing professionally. The Academy is an elite basketball training facility that helps top prospects throughout the country of India.

Singh moved on to the NBA



Princepal Singh

Global Academy in 2018, where he trained with other top prospects from around the world. He will join other top athletes, such as Filipinos Kai Sotto and Jalen Green, with the hopes of making it in the NBA.

The 19-year-old from Punjab started playing volleyball as a youth. He wanted to attend a volleyball academy, but was instead recruited to play for a basketball academy in India. In October 2019, he was named the most valuable player at the Indian Junior National Championship. He also helped Punjab capture a gold medal in the under-21 category of the Khelo India Youth Games this past January.

Japanese Triathlete sets world record



Hiromu Inada

Hiromu Inada set a Guinness Book of World Records for being the oldest person to complete the Ironman World Championship, The 87-year-old became the oldest to finish the Ironman World Championships when he completed the 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike, and 26.2 run in Kona, Hawaii in 2016 and 2018. He was 83 years old and 85 years old at the time of completion. This past July, the Guinness Book of World Records confirmed

see SPORTS on 11







Predictions and advice for the week of August 8-14, 2020

By Sun Lee Chang



Rat — A mutually beneficial arrangement is within reach, but it will require some concessions on both sides.



Ox—There is no need to fill every empty space. Sometimes, stillness and silence are preferred.



Tiger — If you are inclined to criticize, try a different tact. Showing support and encouragement could be more effective.



Rabbit — Are you pushing your boundaries in a good way? It is important to realize that some limits are self-imposed.



Dragon — You don't hide from the truth. As such, you will be far ahead of the pack in terms of preparedness.



Snake — Do you feel as though you're being left out of an important decision? Don't be afraid to voice your concern.



Horse — Despite the open invitation, there is something to be said for being careful about wearing out your welcome.



Goat — You are eager to share some potentially big news. However, it makes sense to wait until it is more certain.



Monkey — It is best not to waste what leverage you have, instead hold on to it until you truly need it.



Rooster — Not quite sure what the game plan is yet? If one is not forthcoming, consider taking the lead.



Dog — Although you would like to add a few extra touches, there is a point where less is definitely more.



Pig — Have you been searching for an obscure item? Luckily, you are getting very close to what you have been seeking.

WHAT'S YOUR ANIMAL SIGN?

RAT 1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008, 2020 OX 1913, 1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997, 2009 TIGER 1914, 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010 RABBIT 1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011 DRAGON 1916, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012 SNAKE 1917, 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013 HORSE 1918, 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014 GOAT 1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015 MONKEY 1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016 ROOSTER 1921, 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017 DOG 1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006, 2018 PIG 1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019

*The year ends on the first new moon of the following year. For those born in January and February, please take care when determining your sign.

SPORTS from 8

"The Ironman World Championship was not achieved by one person," said Inada in an interview with a Japanese newspaper. "I think I was able to finish the race because of the support from all over the world. I don't think about the limit of how old I am, so I want to cherish the feelings inside me and do what I can now."

Inada was 85 years and 328 days old when he completed the 2018 Ironman. He completed the race in 16 hours, 53 minutes, and 49 seconds, just 6 minutes and 11 seconds shy of the 17 hour cutoff for race participants. Remarkably, Inada has raced in Kona eight times and finished three times.

"It's an extremely tough race for an old man like me,"

said the retired television reporter. "[B]ut there's a part of me that wants to challenge myself and see how long I can keep competing."

Surfing legend passes



Derek Ho

The first Hawaiian world surfing champion Derek Ho passed away in July at the age of 55. Born in Hawaii, the Chinese American won a surfing world title at the age of 29 and became the first native to do so.

Ho became a top surfer of Hawaii's Banzai Pipeline as a teenager. The area, located on the North Shore of O'ahu, is one of the world's most famous places to surf. In his early 20s, he won the Pipeline Masters event, which brings out the top surfers from around the world. He went on to become a four-time Triple Crown winner. The Triple Crown event consists of three surfing events on the North Shore of Hawaii.

Ho reportedly died of an apparent heart attack. He had been surfing big waves up until last year. ■

Jason can be reached at info@nwasianweekly.com.

KIM from 1

basis, as they worked to become the beautiful soul you all know and love."

Kim was recruited by Pramila Jayapal for her 2016 campaign for Congress as a communications intern.

"Jin-Ah was an invaluable member of the Seattle community, bringing sparkling light and joy to their photography and all of their interactions," said Rep. Jayapal. "It was an honor to have the opportunity to work with such a very special person, to support their art and causes, and to watch their radiating smile touch everyone they came into contact with. We will honor Jin-Ah's life by continuing to live strong for justice, speak out for what is right, and fiercely stand up for the most vulnerable in our community."

Northwest Asian Weekly publisher Assunta Ng met Kim in 2017 when Kim ran for Shoreline City Council. Although Kim didn't win, they told the Asian Weekly, "I made history as the first long-term opioid recovering addict to run and hopefully, it will inspire

other former addicts to come out and not be fearful."

"The first and only time I met them, I was impressed," said Ng. "Kim was fearless, bold, and honest, and spoke about their opioid addiction ... it's sad and shocking to learn that their life was cut short."

State Sen. Bob Hasegawa hired Kim, who he had first met as a staff photographer in the Legislature, as his session staff during the 2018 Legislative session.

"During that session, amongst their other duties, Jin-Ah chose to focus on behavioral health and recovery issues because they carried a passion in those areas based on personal experience. I listened to their passionate and well reasoned policy positions in support of those who were really suffering and consulted them for guidance and thoughts as those issues came up during session."

Hasegawa called Kim "a model of fierce advocacy to do what's right for people and to not let past practices and business as usual stand in the way. Jin-Ah was a walking testimony that personal experiences are an undeniable and indisputable reality and that we cannot

dismiss people's solutions, which are based on those

Kim became hooked in high school after being prescribed painkillers, and their goal was to remove society's stigma towards drug addicts. Friend Joseph Lachman said Kim went through a long journey with recovery.

When speaking about safe injection or consumption sites, Lachman said, "Jin-Ah was always very adamant in calling them community health engagement locations. It wasn't just about consumption or injection, it was about reframing it as sites where you have engagement with folks at all kinds of stages of recovery."

Lachman said there's a lot of misunderstanding within the Asian American Pacific Islander community about community health engagement locations—that they only encourage drug use, and don't improve communities.

"Jin-Ah always very fiercely pushed back against that narrative and talked about how incredibly important they've been ... in saving [addicts'] lives. Jin-Ah helped educate so many people on that issue."

"There are few individuals who are active in more than one circle and are able to touch lives and contribute across many sectors of society," said SeaTac Deputy Mayor Peter Kwon. "[Kim's] support for the API community never wavered, serving on the APACE board while also contributing to the Korean American Coalition, collaborating with elected leaders, community leaders, and the community itself. What is really incredible is all this spanned only around four short years, and Jin-Ah was just getting started. "

Zoe McMahon organized a fundraiser in Kim's memory. On a GoFundMe page, McMahon wrote, "This is our chance to give back to an individual who gave so much to so many. All proceeds will be turned over to their family to assist in covering all related expenses toward her care. Any contributions exceeding said expenses will be used to set up a memorial fund to be donated to the primary causes Jin-Ah spent their life contributing towards."

When asked how to best honor Kim's memory, Lachman said, "Listen to stories and experiences of people in recovery. Don't dismiss their narratives, their truth."

Hasegawa said, "I will miss Jin-Ah's energy, expertise, knowledge, smile, energy, and audacity... Rest in peace, you powerful spirit."

On Facebook, Stefan Kim wrote, "While Jin-Ah may no longer be with us in a physical sense, their legacy lives on in all of us who work to live our best lives, give hope to the hopeless, and work to stay true to ourselves. Please honor Jin-Ah's memory by taking time today and every day to tell your loved ones how much they mean to you."

Messages to the Kim family may be emailed to inmemoryofjinahkim@gmail. com. "Please feel free to share stories and memories so that their parents are able to read through them for encouragement as they grieve," Stefan Kim said. ■

To donate to Kim's fundraiser, go to gofundme.com/f/in-memory-of-jinah-kim.



THE LAYUP DRILI

By Jason Cruz NORTHWEST ASIAN WEEKLY

Welcome to another edition of The Layup Drill. This month, we take a special look at a glass ceilingbreaking hiring, the Masters in the fall, and the first DI coach of Asian descent making history.

Finally...Kim Ng is hired to be an MLB GM



In a 2003 Sports Illustrated article, Kim Ng, then an assistant general manager with the New York Yankees, was tapped as an individual that would one day be hired as a general manager in Major League Baseball. Seventeen years later, Ng was finally hired by a team. The Miami Marlins, run by former Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter, made Ng the first Asian American and woman to be a general manager in the major leagues.

Ng, a former softball player in college at the University of Chicago, started her baseball front office career with the White Sox as assistant director of baseball operations. She took a brief job with Major League Baseball before she was hired with the Yankees as an assistant general manager, under the current GM Brian Cashman, at the age of 29. She then moved on to work for the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2001and then returned to work in the office of Major League Baseball in 2011.

Through the years, Ng received praise as a well-prepared, fierce negotiator when it came to salary arbitrations for players. Yet, the fact that she was Asian and a woman, made her ascension to the front office of a major league team difficult. While working with the Dodgers in 2003, a scout approached Ng at a bar during the annual meeting of baseball general managers and asked her what she was doing with the other executives. The scout, a 59-year-old male employed by the New York Mets, then asked her, "Where are you from?" He then proceeded to mock her Chinese heritage with a fake accent. "Kim handled the entire situation in a professional manner, and we addressed the matter with the New York Mets the next day," said Dodgers General Manager Dan Evans at the time of the incident. He was promptly fired by the Mets after the incident became public. Notably, he went on to work for two other teams. Ron Darling, a former Mets pitcher, said of Ng's struggles to find a position, "If you look at her resume, she should be on the fast track

[to a general manager job]," he added, "She was on the slow track, quite frankly, because she was an Asian woman."

To highlight Darling's statement, Ng was on the short-list of many job openings for GM positions. The 52-year-old Ng interviewed for the openings of the Seattle Mariners, San Diego Padres, Anaheim Angels, and San Francisco Giants. Ng was one of the finalists for the Mariners position and despite her experience, the Mariners chose Jack Zduriencik, Notably, Zduriencik hired Don Wakamatsu as the Mariners' manager-the first Asian American manager in the sport. Ng's name also came up for job openings with the Pittsburgh Pirates and Philadelphia Phillies. Yet, all of these openings went to

Jeter's hiring of Ng reflects a change of the old guard in sports front offices. Jeter also hired Caroline O'Connor as the Marlins' Chief Operating Officer and the Marlins are the only team with two a Major League Baseball team.

Ng's hiring comes after years and years of working in baseball and learning the ins and out of the sport. Her resume is one of the best in the business and her hiring was not a gift by any means. It also shows that diversity matters in hiring as Ng's appointment was praised by many women and those in the Asian American community because it shows that someone that looks like them can make it in the industry.

"People are looking for hope," Ng said at her introductory Zoom press conference to announce the hiring, "People are looking for inspiration, and I'm happy that this is a part of it."

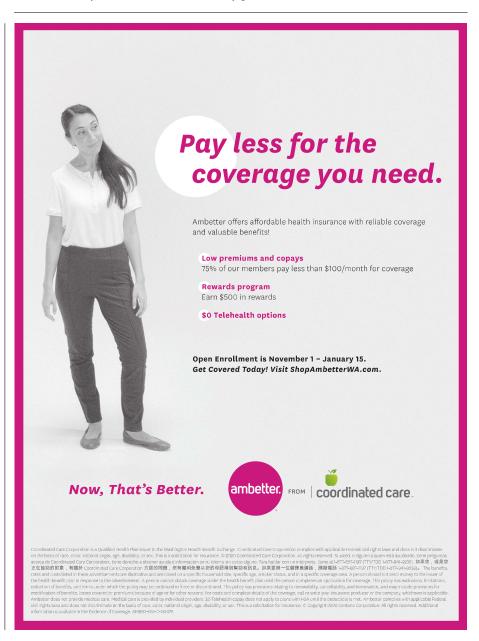
UW golf alum shines at the **Masters**

The Masters, the annual April tradition, that many golf fans await as

women in the Chief Executive positions of a benchmark for the start of golf each spring was postponed until November due to the pandemic. Like everything in 2020, flexibility in the event was key and without any fans, the tournament went on with appropriate social distancing and testing to ensure that everyone remained safe throughout.

> Last year's tournament champion Tiger Woods returned, but could not repeat the spark of 2019. After a very good first day on the course. Woods faded into the pack of players. Woods took 10 shots to complete hole 12 on the final day of the tournament. The par 3 on the 12th hole saw Woods hit his initial drive into the creek. He then hit his third shot back into the water. His fifth shot went into a sand bunker. The next shot went back into the creek. Woods finally righted himself to complete the hole, but not after one of the more disastrous adventures on the golf

> > see SPORTS on 10



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SPORTS from 5



C.T. Pan's neighbors posted this sign after his Masters victory

course. Woods made up for it by making birdie on six of the last seven holes. He finished 39th despite having the worst hole in his pro career.



Notably. former University of Washington golf standout C.T. Pan made his debut at the Masters this year and hung with the leaders. Pan finished -10 for the tournament, which was good for a 7th place

tie on the leaderboard. The finish ensures that Pan will be back this April for the Masters. His neighbors were happy for him as they hung a banner on his garage door with the

scores of each of the four rounds he posted. On Instagram. Pan thanked his neighbors, "What a surprise when I get home. Thank you to my neighbors; you are the best!!!!" Pan was happy with the finish and is looking forward to his return.

Also, PGA Championship winner Collin Morikawa tied for 44th overall in his first tournament at the famed Augusta National Course in Georgia.

South Korea's Sungjae Im tied for 2nd with -15, but was far off the pace of the winner, Dustin Johnson, who shot -20 overall.

Making history

The Washington Huskies Men's Basketball team started their season in Las Vegas with two losses. The second loss was to University of California at Riverside and their first-year head coach Mike Magpayo. Named the coach for the team in July, Magpayo became the first NCAA Division I head coach of full Asian heritage. The 41-yearold Filipino American took over after the previous coach left to take on a coaching position at the University of Arkansas.

Magpayo's parents were born and raised in the Philippines. Magpayo was born in Los Angeles and attended the University of California at Santa Barbara. Prior to the head coaching job, he served as assistant coach for UC Riverside. Prior to that, he had assistant coaching positions at Columbia University and Campbell University. His coaching career started at the high school level, while he still ran a real estate company in Southern California after college. The passion for coaching continued and what was a hobby turned into a full-time job. According to Magpayo, dropping his career

for coaching was hard because of the small salary. Magpayo said that he was making \$15,000 a year as an assistant. Yet, betting on himself and enjoying coaching has paid off.

In addition to coaching, he is founder and president of the Asian Coaches Association, an organization that serves to unify, support, and elevate all Asian coaches beyond just the basketball community.

Not only did Magpayo defeat the Huskies for his first win as a head coach, his first child was born right before the season started. \blacksquare

Jason can be reached at info@nwasianweekly.com.

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TOP 10 SPORTS

The Layup Drill's Top 10 of 2020

By Jason Cruz NORTHWEST ASIAN WEEKLY

It has been a year like no other in sports. With the pandemic ravaging across the world, sports have had to adjust to the closures. Sports leagues shut down in the spring and its return has come with caution and without fans for the most part.

The Summer Olympics in Tokyo were delayed a year and it's still not known whether Japan can hold the event in 2021. The Masters was delayed until November, the NBA and WNBA played in "bubbles" in Florida, and Major League Baseball played an abbreviated schedule. (Noteworthy though is the fact that the Seattle Storm won its 4th WNBA title.)

Still, 2020 saw some great moments by many Asian athletes. Here is a list of the top 10.

10. MATT DUMBA



The Minnesota North Stars defenseman became the face of the Black Lives Matter movement in the NHL. He was also the face of the league as it returned to play from the pandemic this year. Dumba became an inaugural executive board member of the Hockey Diversity Alliance whose goal is to address intolerance and racism in hockey. Dumba's mother is Filipino.

9. YOUNGHOE KOO



Atlanta Falcons placekicker had a breakout year as he was selected to the NFL Pro Bowl. The Georgia Southern product re-signed with the Falcons this past offseason and had one of the best years for a kicker in the league. He was selected NFC Special Teams Player of the Month for November. He's made 35 of 36 field goals this season. Originally from South Korea, Koo grew up playing soccer and converted his leg skills to football.

8. JALEN GREEN



This 18-year-old from California decided to turn pro and took advantage of an NBA program, where he would play in its developmental league instead of going to college. Green was one of the top players in high school basketball and had his pick of elite college programs. Green, whose mother is Filipino, decided to turn down college in favor of heading to the pros. This past April, Green signed a one-year deal with the NBA developmental program worth \$500,000.

Green has played internationally for Team USA, but has expressed an interest to represent the Philippines in future international competitions.

7. MIKE MAGPAYO



Leaving a career in real estate, Magpayo followed his dream of coaching. He coached high school while he worked and soon found himself as an assistant coach in the college ranks after he dedicated his career to it. He became the very first Asian American head coach of a Division I school when he took the helm at University of California, Riverside this past summer.

Magpayo scored his first win as head coach against the Washington Huskies this past November. The win oc-

curred less than a week after his wife gave birth to their first child.

6. KYLER MURRAY



Murray is the second-year quarterback out of Oklahoma and is the starting quarterback for the Arizona Cardinals. Murray, whose mother is Korean, led the Cardinals to an overtime win over the Seahawks back in October. His exceptional play at the beginning of the season led many to believe that he could garner consideration for the Most Valuable Player of the NFL.

The highlight of his season thus far was a last-ditch, "Hail Murray" from the 50-yard line into the hands of wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins in the endzone to win a game against the Buffalo Bills. Murray even filed a trademark for the great play, "Hail Murray."

5. SONIA RAMAN



The former women's college basketball coach at MIT, Raman became the first Indian woman to be appointed assistant coach of an NBA team. Raman will be an assistant for the Memphis Grizzlies this season. The former corporate attorney took a roundabout path to coaching. She played collegiate basketball at Tufts and returned to be an assistant while going to law school at Boston College. Similar to Magpayo, she worked while coaching

on the side until she finally received a paid coaching gig as an assistant at MIT

"It's an important part of who I am, period. I take a lot of pride in being Indian American," Raman said in an interview with her alma mater Tufts.

4. ERIK SPOELSTRA



One of the longest tenured coaches in the NBA, Spoelstra made an unexpected return to the NBA Finals this season. As the 5th seed in the Eastern Conference, the Miami Heat withstood the strange return to playing basketball games, as the players were kept in a 'bubble' in Orlando, Florida. Making the NBA Finals (the longer you won, the longer you staved in), the Heat spent almost five months in the 'bubble' away from home.

Although the Heat came up short against the Los Angeles Lakers this fall, Spoelstra's ability to motivate and manage his team showed fans why he is one of the best coaches in the league.

3. NAOMI OSAKA



The Black Lives Matter protests this summer brought many together at a time when an unknown pandemic kept many apart. The BLM movement was aided through the visibility of

see SPORTS on 12



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many athletes that spoke out in public, on social media, and with their actions. One of those athletes was tennis star Naomi Osaka, Osaka, who is half Black and half Japanese, used her social media presence to voice her support for the BLM movement. She also attended marches in support of the movement after the death of George Floyd. During the U.S. Open, she wore face masks with the names of individuals that were victims of racial injustice. Osaka won the U.S. Open. She later said that the names on each mask were motivation for her to win.

2. COLLIN MORIKAWA



This 23-year-old University of Cal-Berkeley alum won the PGA Championship this past August in his debut in the tournament championship. It was just his second appearance in a major

PGA event. He became the third youngest PGA Championship winner since World War II. He won the event with an incredible eagle on the 16th hole of the final round of the tournament. At only 23, expect more from the Japanese American golfer.

1. KIM NG

Finally. This longtime Major League Baseball executive was appointed General Manager of the Miami Marlins in November, marking the first time that a woman, and an Asian American, has ever had the spot in professional sports. Ng started her career with the Chicago White Sox in 1991 after graduating from the University of Chicago, where she played collegiate softball. She moved her way through



the ranks earning distinction for her work ethic and her tenacity in negotiations. She worked for both the Los Angeles Dodger and New York Yankees in assistant general manager roles. Despite the glass ceiling and the stigma that a woman, and an Asian American, did not belong in a position of authority and management where it was the norm for a white male with lesser credentials to dominate, Ng persevered. She has interviewed and been on the short list for many general manager positions including the Seattle Mariners. Yet, she had been turned down each time. In 2003, a Sports Illustrated article earmarked her for being a top executive to look out for in the near future. It just took her 17 years for someone to finally realize her value.

Here's hoping that 2021 brings us more sports memories and perhaps a return to watch in person.

Jason can be reached at info@nwasianweekly.com.

BLOG from 8

the beautiful stamps, which make me smile.

The Christmas stamps are just gorgeous. Here's a tip: take a photo of the envelopes with stamps you like during the pandemic or even save them. 2020 is a year you will never forget. And stamps are part of our history in this exceptional year.

The chocolate challenge



Fran's Chocolates

Health experts have long claimed that eating dark chocolate can enhance longevity. With dark chocolate, you never have to worry about gaining weight. I usually eat a lot of chocolate desserts during Christmas, dining in different places. But this year, we couldn't go anywhere. What's the remedy?

Last month, I posed a chocolate challenge for myself to find out which dark chocolate brand I liked best. Eating chocolate has been one of my vices since I was a teenager. I didn't have much money to buy chocolate then. Now quality chocolate comes at a much more reasonable price. I used to consume See's Candy, Frango, and Seattle Chocolates. Lately, I experimented with 15 brands of dark chocolates to choose one that is not as sweet. Time after time, I found myself craving, again and again, Fran's Chocolate. Fran's is a local company. The 72% Ecuadorian dark chocolate is just right for my taste buds, not too bitter or sugary.

I am ecstatic to have found the chocolate I love. However, being a chocolate lover, I have never refused chocolate of any kind when offered my way, no matter how sweet it is

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Deadline: Dec. 28, 2020 for nomination

Winners will be picked based on his/her leadership, innovations, mobilization of resources and manpower, mental health work, etc.

Award Ceremony: Feb. 4, 5-6 p.m. Live Facebook award ceremony.

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For any questions, please contact Assunta Ng at assunta@nwasianweekly.com.

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