

# Deukmejian to Enlarge Little Saigon's Stature

Vietnamese Students Will Be Honored, Freeway Signs Announced During 1st Visit by a Governor

By DAVID REYES, Times Staff Writer

Gov. George Deukmejian will make the first visit by a California governor Friday to the county's Little Saigon, to honor 12 Vietnamese high school students and to announce that Caltrans has tentatively approved freeway signs saying *Little Saigon*, Vietnamese community leaders said Wednesday.

Over the past 13 years, Little Saigon has gained a reputation as a center of Vietnamese business and culture in Southern California.

Van Tran, a member of the Vietnamese-American Scholarship Foundation, said: "This is important for us not only because of the governor's visit but also because, in a way, the name of Saigon is being resurrected. We are proud of our achievement."

### Special Tourist Zone

Freeway signs directing motorists to Little Saigon were first requested in February, after business and community leaders won the support of the Westminster City Council to declare Little Saigon a special tourist zone.

The declaration was part of a plan to help transform the area through redevelopment into the county's equivalent of Chinatown in Los Angeles.

"As you know, the Vietnamese Communists erased the name Saigon" from Vietnam, Tran said, renaming it Ho Chi Minh City. "But now it's going to be remembered here in the United States."

About 700 Vietnamese-owned

businesses, including herbal shops, fish markets and restaurants, are in Little Saigon, an area along Bolsa Avenue roughly bordered by Brookhurst and Magnolia streets in Garden Grove and Westminster.

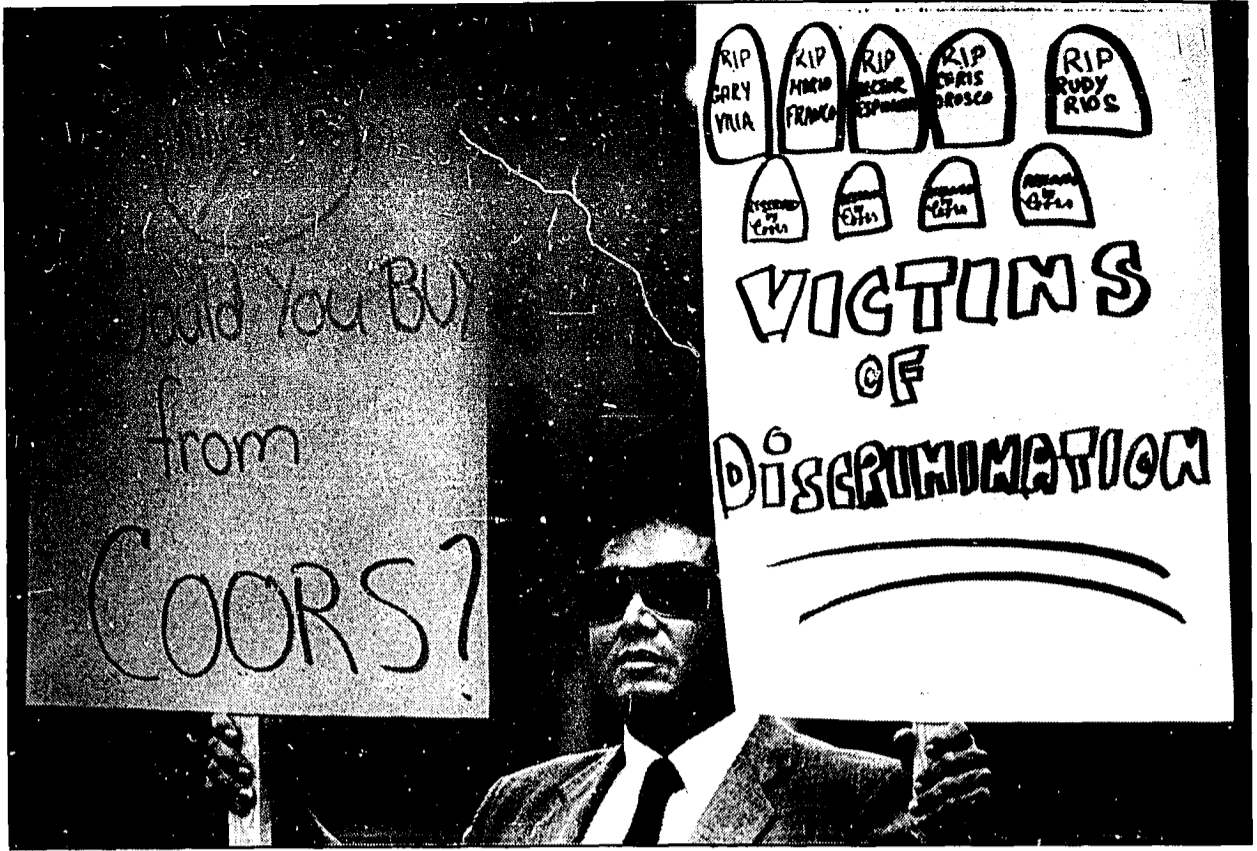
### Signs on Two Freeways

The signs, which will be placed on the Garden Grove and San Diego freeways, received unanimous support from all members of the county's legislative delegation, said Scott Taylor, chief of staff for the late Assemblyman Richard E. Longshore (R-Santa Ana), who helped lobby for the signs.

The legislators agreed with officials of Garden Grove and Westminster that Little Saigon met the Caltrans criteria as a cultural and ethnic center, in addition to being a place of interest for tourists, Taylor said.

This year's 12 outstanding students will receive \$500 each. They are:

- Namchi Le, Fullerton Union High School; Hung Nguy, Valley High School; Nga Nguyen, Los Amigos High School; Tamy Nguyen, Marina High School; Thach Nguyen, Westminster High School; Truc Nguyen, Garden Grove High School; Thu Nguyen, Saddleback High School; Phuc Pham, Esperanza High School; Tosha Pham, Santiago High School; Thuy-Van Tran, Westminster High School; Jason Truong, Magnolia High School, and Phien Vu, Fountain Valley High School.



GAIL FISHER / Los Angeles Times

Chris Orosco, who says his discharge by Coors was discrimination, holds protest signs outside a dinner for a Coors executive.

## LATINOS: 30 Set Up Picket Line at Dinner for Coors Executive

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said he has "no problem defending our company's hiring practices. We hire on performance and ability." Cockrum pointed out that the company still has "a very qualified Hispanic representative" out working every day, performing much of what Franco did.

Two other men who were part of the special marketing team—Rudy Rios and Gary Villa—resigned. Rios left in January, 1987, and Villa

last January.

Franco, a Santa Ana resident, said that about a year ago he was told by a supervisor that the marketing team no longer would be allowed to meet together behind closed doors. "They said 'no more than two Hispanics at a time,' like we had to take a number or something. Then they said no meetings at all—we were supposed to meet in the hall."

Said general sales manager Cockrum, when told of Franco's

allegation: "That's a little ridiculous. I'm not aware of any policy like that."

Franco said his letter to Coors executives in Colorado complaining about the group's treatment resulted only in demands by his bosses that he see a company psychologist. He resigned shortly thereafter.

Bond says none of Franco's claims are true. "We don't discriminate, period," he said. "The budget [for the special marketing pro-

gram] has increased every year for the last five years . . . about fivefold altogether."

Manuel Esqueda, a retired Santa Ana banker who now heads a scholarship program for Latino college students, said the company had given his group about \$40,000 over the past two years.

"Actions are stronger than words," said Esqueda, who was attending the dinner for Bond. "I'm going to accept help from anyone who wants to support my people."

## TRIPLETS: 2 Sets Graduating

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puts good times before studying," she said. "Shawn is the most serious, and Marshall . . . is my late bloomer."

The differences in mannerisms were apparent when the brothers were asked the role of young women in their lives.

"Yeah, well, there's been some girls. . . ." Shawn began diffidently before he was cut off by Eric, who interjected, "He gets my seconds," and laughed.

It was an obvious case of sibling chiding, which can be the harshest type of kidding because brothers and sisters often know how to hit the soft spots in each others' egos, as the Creel sisters noted.

"Sometimes we can really get sick of being around each other," Joy said during an interview that, at times, turned into a shouting match. "We need breaks from each other."

For a break from family companionship, Marshall—like Monica with her fellow cheerleaders—has cultivated a different group of friends from those of his siblings.

Eric and Leanna, being the most athletic of each group, seemed to find that occasional haven with fellow athletes. Marshall is fasci-

nated with foreign cultures; both he and Joy have been exchange students in Denmark. Shawn sees himself as a future politician or a scientist.

In fact, the only subject that all six of the triplets agreed on was the same one that fuels most inter-sibling squabbles.

It was not the Contras, the Kremlin or even the Khmer Rouge. It was clothes.

### LOTTERY WINNERS 6/15

Jackpot Lotto winners are selected each Wednesday and Saturday night. Ticket holders are eligible for a prize that varies according to the amount bet last week. If no one wins, the total is automatically added to Saturday night's prize.

- Winning Nos. 32-20-10-17-40-1
- Jackpot pool \$22.7 million

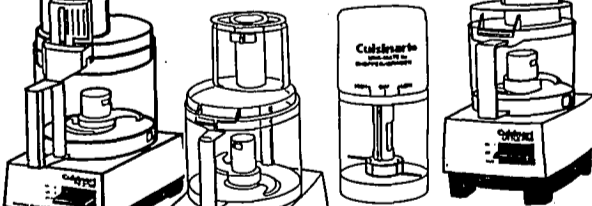
Holder of tickets with five of six winning jackpot numbers plus a "bonus number" are eligible for a smaller prize.

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### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

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