

Wreck on Japan railway kills 16

BY MARI YAMAGUCHI
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO — A crowded commuter train derailed and plowed into an apartment building in western Japan on Monday, killing at least 16 people and injuring some 200 others, police said. The cause was under investigation.

A seven-car commuter train operated by West Japan Railway Co. also hit an automobile at the crossing near Amagasaki, about 250 miles west of Tokyo, but it was not immediately clear if the car was hit before or after the derailment.

Officials said the cause of the accident was not yet known, but survivors told national broadcaster NHK that the train seemed to be moving too fast when it hit a curve near the apartment house. JR reported that the train, which was carrying 550 passengers, had overshot the stop line at the last station before the accident.

"There are many theories, but we don't know for sure what caused the accident," said Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda. "The prime minister instructed us to respond with urgency."

The train operator apologized for the accident.

"Our most important task now is to rescue the passengers from the accident, and we are doing our best," JR West President Takeshi Kakiuchi told reporters.

The train's driver, 23, was in serious condition, Kyodo News Agency said. According to JR, he had 11 months of experience.

The train jumped the rails as it approached a track-side apartment house. TV footage showed wrecked cars of the train piled accordion-like at the base of the building. Hundreds of survivors and rescue officials swarmed the disaster site.

Hyogo Prefectural (state) Police said it was not immediately known whether the victims were on the train, on the street or inside the apartment.

NHK said the train collided with a car in between train stations while traveling at 43 mph.

"There was violent shakings, and the next moment I was thrown to the floor, several meters away from where I was sitting, and I landed on top of a pile of other people," said Tatsuya Akashi, a passenger who was on the third or fourth car, in an interview with NHK.

"I didn't know what happened, and there were many people bleeding," he added. "Passengers, many of them high school students, were panicking."

Japan is home to one of the world's most complex and heavily traveled rail networks, but such derailings are rare. An earthquake in 2004 caused a bullet train to derail, the first since the high speed trains went into service 40 years ago.



Monday April 25

Taking it to the Streets

Watch for the University Health Center peer health educators out on the campus distributing information on sexual assault, healthy relationships, and more! 2:00-4:00PM

Consent is Sexy

Join the Sexual Wellness Advocacy Team (SWAT) for interactive theater games and activities about sex and consent. SWAT is a sex-positive group of students committed to ending sexual violence and starting dialogue on campus. Co-sponsored by Office of Student Life and ASUO Women's Center. 4-5:30 PM, Ben Linder (EMU)

Interpersonal Violence: Reflecting on Statistics and Identifying Solutions

A powerful multimedia presentation designed to raise awareness about local, national and international rates of violence against women and children, including historical information and current solutions. A discussion will follow, facilitated by Jeff Todahl, College of Education faculty member. 7-8:30PM, Fir Room (EMU)

Tuesday April 26

UO Men's Center 3rd Annual Walkathon to Prevent Sexual Violence

Students, faculty and staff walk to publicly support the fight to end sexual violence. Although women are welcome to participate, we are primarily seeking groups of men as participants to capture the point that sexual violence MUST be an issue for all students—not just women. The UOMC is looking for 42 groups to sign up to walk for 30 minutes on a predetermined course on the UO campus. Interested organizations and individuals please contact David Miller, UO Men's Center Director, at uomc@darkwing.uoregon.edu or

call 346-3227.

Sponsored by UO Men's Center

Opening the Closet Doors: Sexual Violence in the LGBTQ Communities

Sexual violence in Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) communities is a highly invisible issue that is still "in the closet." This interactive workshop provides essential tools for working with LGBTQ survivors and communities and strategies for building culturally effective campus-based programs. Bring your lunch. Sponsored by SASS and Koinonia Center. 12:00-1:30 PM, Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid (by campus 14th and Kincaid)

Violence Against Women of Color

This workshop will focus on some of the issues covered at the INCITE! The Color of Violence III Conference in New Orleans on how to stop violence against women of color. Main topics include racial profiling and human trafficking of women of color and the murders and the disappearances in Ciudad Guarez and Chihuahua. Lead by Clarissa Chan, Ma Vang, and Jasmin Guerra. 3:30-5:00PM, Rogue Room (EMU)

Wednesday, April 27

UO Men's Center 3rd Annual Walkathon to Prevent Sexual Violence

See description on for this event in Tuesday's events. If you are interested in signing up, please contact David Miller, UO Men's Center Director, at uomc@darkwing.uoregon.edu or call 346-3227.

The Clothesline Project

The Clothesline Project of Lane County will be visually 'airing society's dirty laundry' around issues of sexual violence and violence against women. Create a t-shirt to honor survivors of sexual assault, incest and rape. Sponsored by SASS. 10:00AM-7:00PM, EMU Main Floor Concourse

A Personal Pledge

Sign the Personal Pledge Banner and pledge to end sexual violence. Co-sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega and the Sexual Wellness Advocacy Team (SWAT). 11:00-1:00PM, EMU Concourse

Thursday, April 28

Take Back the Night 2005 Rally, March and Speak Out

Join hundreds of students in the march against sexual violence. The event begins with sign-making, music, campus and community speakers. The march proceeds through the streets of Eugene, ending in downtown Eugene at 8th Avenue and Oak Street. Return transportation to the campus will be provided. Co-sponsored by ASUO Women's Center (346-4095) and SASS (484-9791) along with generous support from the community. 6:30 PM, EMU Amphitheater

Friday April 29

Maps of City & Body: Performance, lecture and book signing with Denise Uyehara

In celebration of her new book, critically acclaimed performance artist Denise Uyehara will perform excerpts from *Big Head*, a work exploring the links between the Japanese American relocation, detention and internment during the WWII, and current state violence against Arab Americans, South Asians, and Muslims in the U.S. The event is free and open to

the public.

3:30 PM, Lecture Hall of the Jordan Schnitzer Museum Co-sponsored by Office of Student Life and ASUO Women's Center and APASU, call 346-4095 for more info.

Sponsors:

Alliance for Sexual Assault Prevention; ASUO Women's Center; Sexual Assault Support Services; Office of Student Life; Counseling and Testing Center; Department of Public Safety; Eugene Police Department; Alpha Phi Omega; Greek Life; Koinonia Center; Nontraditional Student Programs; Wesley Foundation; Assault Prevention Shuttle; University Health Center and peer health educators; University Housing; Sexual Wellness Advocacy Team (SWAT); Womenspace; UO Men's Center; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Educational and Support Services Programs; Diversity Education and Support Programs; Family Programs; Intercollegiate Athletics; and the Office of Multicultural Academic Support. Graphic designer Alejandro Juarez alegraphics@yahoo.com.

A coordinated community response to support survivors and hold perpetrators accountable.

The University of Oregon is an AA/EO institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Accommodations for people with disabilities provided if requested in advance, 346-1156.

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