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## Reft rises from UC-Santa Barbara bench to UH team

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## 'V for Vendetta' entertaining but irrelevant

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# Hawai'i Senate will try to heal rift between students and housing

## ASUH works for residential students' interests

By Robert Shikina  
Ka Leo Associate News Editor

Moving frantically around her room, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa sophomore Katrina Coe packed her bags and said she was thankful to be leaving her room in the Hale Noelani dorm.

"It was only going to be a matter of time," Coe said. "It's just ridiculous. I'm not a bad person. I'm not here to hurt anybody, make trouble. I just kind of live my own life and want to do it in private."

Coe said she would rather stay with her family than battle with what she called harassment from the housing staff: the resident advisors who linger in front of doorways looking for violations.

"People smoke on their lanais all the time, so like I get written up and I get punished for it when everybody else does it? It's not consistent. They're really biased about everything," Coe added.

Coe received a \$50 fine and 20 hours of community service for smoking a cigarette on her lanai. "That's the same punishment people get for smoking an illegal substance," she said. It was her second strike in a system where only three strikes leads to eviction.

"The people, they're not nice," Coe said. "They're not helpful. My [resident advisor] is supposed to be the first one I'm supposed to be able to talk to. I can't talk to any of the RAs in this entire complex because none of them care."

Another day, smoking a cigarette on the lanai, Hale Noelani resident Zach Walton said he doesn't see a major problem with the housing staff. "I think they

want to do good, but I think they take it too far," Walton said. Housing staff disciplined Walton for having a beer bottle in his room earlier this semester. "They wrote me up for it. I don't know if that's a power trip, but over-enforcing. Then it's kind of taking away from our rights. You should be allowed to [drink] if you do it responsibly in your own room."

These stories depict a contentious battle brewing between UHM's housing department and the student body as being represented by the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i. Since the inception of housing's new policies in August of 2005, ASUH President Grant Teichman said the student government has received numerous complaints from student residents regarding the housing staff, including allegations of sexual harassment, student embezzlement, intimidation tactics, censorship and lack of due process.

The UHM housing department, which houses approximately 3,000 students, has been plagued with criticisms and general student dissatisfaction this year. In an August 2005 Princeton Review survey, UHM was ranked second in the nation in the category 'dorms like dungeons.'

Results from the Year of the Student surveys conducted by interim Chancellor Denise Konan show a majority of students living on campus were unhappy with the new housing policies at the university. The survey, issued to the entire UHM student body in November, showed that 56 percent of responding dorm residents disagreed with the statement "new policies for dorm residents have improved dorm life at UHM." Seventeen percent agreed. A majority of students – 60 percent – also responded negatively to the statement "the student housing office treats students fairly and equitably." Only one in four responding residents agreed that Student Housing treats students fairly and equitably.

Today, Hawai'i State Sen. Clayton Hee is holding a hearing at the State

House to listen to student and administration testimony regarding housing policies. After considering the testimony, the Higher Education Committee will decide whether to conduct an analysis of the housing policies at UHM.

"There's a concern that has been raised by students," Sen. Hee said. "The seriousness of those concerns is troublesome for me. It appears the seriousness of the allegations warrant not only a hearing, but probably an investigation and some legal action."

"Based on the information, there's a disconnect between the administration and the students," Hee said.

In a random sample by this Ka Leo reporter of ten students who were asked if they thought that housing staff abused their authority at the Hale Noelani dorm, five students said they were happy with the housing staff. The other five said they believed housing staff is too aggressive in discovering rule breakers. Eight of the 10 students said they heard of or have a friend who was treated unfairly by housing staff.

A university task force comprised of Campus Security, Student Housing, and other administrators designed the new housing rules in the spring of 2005 to decrease the incidents of underage and excessive drinking.

In July 2005, ASUH began sending out memos protesting the implementation of the new housing policy that created a three-strikes-you're-out rule and banned alcohol in Hale Noelani. ASUH President Grant Teichman protested the new rules through memos because ASUH wasn't invited to participate in the creation process. On Sept. 27, due to complaints and the action on behalf of the housing department without ASUH input, the UHM student government voted unanimously to appeal the new housing policies. With housing refusal to acknowledge the senate's resolution on January 25, two-thirds of the student government voted to accept a proposal, drafted by the ASUH ad hoc Committee on Censorship, which would result in

## Cultural performance



JULIAN YONG • KA LEO O HAWAII

UH student Kazuki Takizawa playing a traditional Japanese instrument in front of a packed Campus Center Ballroom on Friday night during International Night.

legal action if the university did not comply within 15 days.

The four points on the proposal to the university are: free speech boards, free speech zones, defined and uninterrupted mail policies, and unlimited and guaranteed distribution rights. (Visit <http://www.kaleo.org> to read the senate proposal)

The university did not endorse the committee's proposal leading the student government to declare an impasse and seek legal action.

"We're in overtime right now," Teichman said. "Quite frankly I don't see that the school's making any moves

to correcting the problems."

The student government is currently in discussion with the American Civil Liberties Union over possible actions that can be taken against the university.

"There [are] absolutely no advocates for the students who are kicked out; no advocates for the students who are guilty found innocent. No regard given to how it affects their academic careers," Teichman said.

"I'm going to issue a statement expressly saying that this is not person-

See HOUSING, page 2

## NewsBriefs

### Catch a publisher at "Pitch the Publisher"

On April 22 and 23, there will be the first annual Hawai'i Book and Music Festival, held at Honolulu Hale by the Hawai'i Publishers Association. The festival will host a "Pitch the Publisher" event, where authors have the opportunity to pitch their work to publishers in the local publishing industry. The authors will only have 15 minutes, but there is no charge to participants.

Participating publishers are from Kamehameha School Press, Mutual Publishing, Bess Press, Bishop Museum Press, Ai Pohaku Press and the University of Hawai'i Press.

Participants can sign up by calling Angela Britten at 732-1709 or e-mail [angieb@mutualpublishing.com](mailto:angieb@mutualpublishing.com). The e-mailing should include name, phone number and the publisher they would like to pitch their ideas to.

For more information about the

Hawai'i Book Publishers Association, go to <http://www.hawaiibooks.org>, and for more on the festival, visit <http://www.hawaiibookandmusicfestival.org>.

### UH professor named to NIH committee

The National Institutes of Health has appointed five new members to their advisory committee on research on women's health, including a professor from the University of Hawai'i, Barbara Yee, professor and chair of Family and Consumer Sciences at the Mānoa campus.

The committee advises the director of the Office of Research on Women's Health on which research activities are appropriate to be studied by national research institutes. There are a total of 18 members on the committee.

Yee's research focuses on Vietnamese and Pacific Islanders living in the United States and "how gen-

der, health literacy, and acculturation influences health benefits and lifestyle practices across three generations," according to a press release.

### PILI project looking for solution to obesity

The National Institutes of Health has given a \$1.4 million federal grant to the John A. Burns School of Medicine Department of Native Hawaiian Health for their research directed at reducing obesity among Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.

"A major mission of our medical school is to reduce and eventually eliminate health disparities suffered by Native Hawaiians and other Pacific people," said Dr. Sam Shomaker, interim dean of JABSOM.

The research is part of a three-year study called the PILI (Partnerships for Improving Lifestyle Interventions) 'Ohana Project. The project will use a community-based

approach to research a solution to the obesity problem.

The program will require five community-based organizations to participate from the beginning and equally design and conduct the research activities, which will allow for solutions tied specifically to the community and takes into account the culture of the subjects. "The DNHH is honored," said Dr. Marjorie

Mau, chair of the DNHH, in a press release, "to work with the five organizations in this co-learning environment that bring everyone's expertise to the table."

Between 70 to 80 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders are reported to be obese or overweight, which is likely to result in heart problems, diabetes, hypertension and some cancers.

### CORRECTION

The clinic at University Health Services Mānoa will provide urgent care services at the Nursing School at Webster Hall Room 309 during the following hours:

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, March 24

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, March 28-30

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, March 31.

The urgent care clinic at Webster will not be able to provide immunizations, TB tests, or other routine preventive care. Pharmacy and laboratory services will NOT be available. For information, call 956-8965.

## EVENT CALENDAR

Compiled by Alice Kim

### Free Events

"Stories of Transforming Conflict and Healing Divided Societies: A Presentation and Discussion" will take place on Friday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Campus Center Executive Dining Room. John Paul Lederach will present this colloquium. Lederach is a professor of international peacebuilding at the Joan B. Kroc Institute of International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame. For more information, call Pat Shields at 956-6433 or e-mail shields@hawaii.edu.

"Bird-Plant Interactions in the Hawaiian Islands: Community Assembly and Disassembly," a seminar, will take place on Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the St. John Plant Science Building auditorium, room 11. Jon Price will present this seminar. Price is from the United States Geological Survey Hawai'i Cooperative Studies Unit at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. For more information, call Lynne at 956-8617 or e-mail logata@hawaii.edu.

"The Importance of Precipitation in Marine Boundary Layer Clouds," a meteorology seminar, will take place on Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Marine Science Building, room 100. Professor Robert Wood will present this seminar. Wood is from the department of atmospheric sciences at the University of Washington. For more information, call 956-8775, e-mail metdept@hawaii.edu or visit <http://>

[www.lumahai.soest.hawaii.edu](http://www.lumahai.soest.hawaii.edu).

"Regulation and Function of Secretogranin III," a microbiology seminar, will take place on Friday from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the POST building, room 127. Perna Prasad will present this microbiology seminar. Prasad is a graduate student in the department of microbiology. For more information, call 956-8553 or e-mail the microbiology department at [uhmicro@hawaii.edu](mailto:uhmicro@hawaii.edu).

"Constitutive and Numerical Modeling of So91 and Soil-Pile Interaction for 3D Applications," a civil engineering final oral, will take place on Monday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Holmes Hall, room 287. For more information, call 956-8500.

Governor Linda Lingle will give the keynote address for Women's History Month at the Windward Community College campus, Paliku Theatre tomorrow from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Refreshments and photo opportunities are scheduled for after the event. For more information, call Kathleen French at 236-9211, e-mail [kfrench@hawaii.edu](mailto:kfrench@hawaii.edu) or visit [www.wcc.hawaii.edu/womenhistorymonth](http://www.wcc.hawaii.edu/womenhistorymonth).

### Paid Events

The Temporary Lovers, The Miltons, Dagra, Black Square and The Malcognitas will perform at Detox on Friday from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Admission is \$5. Tickets will be sold at the door. For more information, call Ray at 741-8379.

# HOUSING: Work threatened by term end

From page 1

al, and that we have a variety of senators working on this issue not me and to imply that it's just me spearheading this is disingenuous – I think insulting to the students who have been slighted by the system," Teichman said.

Five students senators voted against the January proposal that would lead to the senate's pursuit of legal action against the university.

"We as a student government didn't properly communicate with the university," said ASUH Senator Robert Green, one of five senators who voted against the censorship committee's proposal to pursue legal action against the university. "The senate had this attacking stance toward student housing."

"They were decent demands, but a lot of them I didn't agree with. I think that takes out room for negotiations. It was just demands. It's more about coming to the table and saying ... 'these are our issues' and coming to some compromise so that it's better for the students living there," Green said.

He added, "I just don't believe we've exhausted all our means to negotiate those student policies with student housing."

### Teichman's last stand?

In the contentious battle between Teichman and housing for the past eight months, Teichman has collected many accusations against the housing staff and administration. While most of the cases regarding housing have yet to be proven or heard by the administration, Teichman says four people have come to ASUH claiming to have been sexually harassed by a housing staff member at Hale Noelani.

In the embezzlement case, Teichman holds a carbon copy of a check he claims is for the same amount in which a student complained of having to pay a former hall director who allegedly bribed them into paying off their viola-

tions rather than being cited for the infraction.

The censorship case stems from the ASUH attempt to send 3,000 letters to students living in student housing in October. Though the letters were sent later, they were originally stalled in delivery by the housing department.

The lack of due process reflects a recent case in February of a student who was allegedly evicted from his dorm room before being proven innocent.

Teichman, who lived in Hale Noelani when it was still wet, recalled the lively community at Hale Noelani in 2005. On a recent Friday night, while visiting an empty Hale Noelani courtyard, Teichman reminisced how students used to carry plastic cups around, having fun. For the ASUH president and the rest of the student government, time is running out. With all government seats open for elections this April 11, if a new leadership is elected, the student housing issue may fall to the wayside, he mused. It's another tactic by housing to stall until there's a new senate, Teichman said.

### Housing's response

For students, living in the dorms is often their first time living away from home, said interim Housing Director Janice Chu-Camara. It's a learning process and a freedom process she said. Housing tries to balance the services they offer with the growth of a large number of students.

"It's almost called responsible freedom," said Chu-Camara. "When you have 3,000 people living together, you cannot have everybody do their own thing when you have to live with each other.

"It's freedom with discipline. They need to learn how to abide by rules," she said.

"Whenever the university implements new policies the first year is the hardest," Chu-Camara said. "Normally there's a higher increase because more things get reported. And then after that it goes down. We have close to 3,000 students here. The number of cases we

have is in the hundreds, it's not even in the thousands."

Housing has implemented surveys for student feedback and is working on improving the surveys to receive more accurate responses.

Another option housing offers students is to have their disciplinary cases reviewed through a peer review consisting of a panel of three students set up to propose recommendations to housing officials. Housing implemented the option for students this year as an alternative to hearing their cases.

Despite housing's attempt to create a bridge of communication with students, residents still have reasons to complain.

"My roommate got kicked out and was considered a threat just because my RA doesn't like being called names," said Warren Lance, a student living in Hale Noelani dorm. "The staff around here doesn't like to help us out and try to remedy it. Seems like they're here to get a paycheck."

Mark Chaplin, who also lives in NHale oelani, said he enjoys living there because it's economical. Even so, there are some issues with housing that he's noticed. "If you get in trouble here, they call you to a disciplinary forum and you have to choose an option [on the disciplinary form]. There's no option that says I'm not guilty. No matter what, you admit guilt."

In general, Chaplin said, "I've had a good experience. Staff is kind, professional." But in regards to the housing staff he said, "There's a few bad apples out there."

Robert Green, the student senator who voted not to pursue legal action against the university said the senate gave the students an opportunity to respond in letters sent to the residents, and yet to his knowledge there hasn't been any response. There is no crisis, Green feels, or else there would be "1,000 of the students banging on our door to do something now."

Green pointed out that with a student body of 11,000, "8,000 students we are neglecting as we keep fighting housing."

# Wachowskis' *V* entertaining, gravely offbeat from original

By **Matthew Ishitani**  
Ka Leo Staff Writer

"V for Vendetta," a recently released film, is based on a graphic novel published in 1989 that provided the comic-book world with its first heroic terrorist. V, the central antagonist, presents himself as the sins of a post-modern England manifested into an unholy vengeance. As did Frankenstein's monster, V seeks the destruction of his creators.

V's mask represents Guy Fawkes, the celebrated would-be terrorist of the early 17th-century that failed in an attempt to blow up the British Parliament. While it provides a historical link and backdrop, V's connection to Fawkes is as false as his mask. While Fawkes' reasons were subject to interpretation, V's intentions are clear. V schemes to destroy Parliament in a grand, public spectacle, ushering in a new era of human existence.

When I first heard the words "from the creators of the Matrix Trilogy" in the trailer, I wondered how the public would respond to the blatant wordplay. To market adapted material and claim ownership out of public ignorance seemed a little diabolical. Then I learned the truth. Award-winning author Alan Moore severed all ties to the film, having disagreed to the representation of his work through the "imbecilic" script.

This reaction begged two questions: Why hadn't screenwriters Andy and Larry Wachowski altered the script to Moore's liking? And were they capable of presenting a screenplay worthy of Moore? The answer to both: No. Why the Wachowskis would agree with executives to continue is beyond me, due to the fact they remain joyous fanatics of Moore's works.

While watching *V*, I was overwhelmed by the thought that the Wachowskis converted Moore's epic satire into the Bruce Lee action film, "Fist of Fury." Both heroes are skilled murderers pitted against fascist, albeit stereotypical, villains. I'd hate to say it, but Bruce Lee's movie was much more responsible. *V* is initially a villain that



exists in a world of villains. Of course, our perverted "go Che" attitude renders our concept of "freedom fighters" to be pre-judged as positive. In light of this, I finally feel that I understand Moore's stance on the film's screenplay.

This is exactly what I had feared. In "The Matrix," Neo guns down dozens of armed officers indiscriminately, and somehow, we, the audience, are so perplexed as to say: "Go, Neo; kill those conformists; we're with you!" Of course, Neo is off to rescue a civilization. *V*, on the other hand, is attempting to reboot a civilization, regardless of the means. The mesmerizing action plays to the audience's fickle thought processes, as *V*, distinct in all features, plows through

anonymously uniformed guards with the ease of a Shaolin master.

What amplified this grave difference from the novel was the film's presentation. Had the Wachowskis directed, I'm sure the feel of the film would have been vastly different. But they hired an assistant director fresh from "The Matrix" sequels, instead. We see *V* in grand, propagandist fashion, with music to compliment that tragic, operatic hero. Then we see a cold video screen flashing the image of John Hurt as the villainous Sutler, aggravated and unfussed, driving his aggressively large nose at the screen. The debutant James McTeigue is adept at defining such cinematic qualities, which would be very commendable,

had it been any other movie. The framing is absolutely breathtaking, and the violence is played with a vivid, almost seductive flare. The otherwise flawless direction keeps the audience fed on the concept that *V*, whose actions are now likened to the attacks on the World Trade Center, is the greatest hero of our generation. Bravo.

The best point of the film is recognizing *V*'s unrelenting, fanatical genius. The potential of his grim deeds expands to the point that the audience is shocked and appalled, losing all trust and faith. But we are entranced by his undying charm, unwittingly forgiving his actions.

Of course, not all is terrible in the changes taking place. The Wachowskis have provided a lengthier narrative to a prisoner named Valerie, condemned by the government for her homosexuality. The extended narrative is quite beautiful for its re-rendered plagiarism; lacking in the grim, sadistic realism of Moore's depiction, it fueled the romanticism behind the feature film.

The actors, of course, were bril-

liant. Hugo Weaving's voice and presence enhanced the hypnotic wit of *V*. Natalie Portman's role as Evey delivers seemingly legitimate results from a story mirroring Patty Hearst's. John Hurt does exceptionally well to impersonate Ronald Reagan, while visibly identical to Sir Ian McKellen as Richard III. Most surprising of all, Stephen Rea's performance as Detective Finch seemed more heroic and empathic than *V*. I sort of wished the Wachowskis had done the film from Finch's perspective instead.

This sort of film can't be blamed upon anyone for the fact that it wasn't made at the correct moment. Instead, this film was slated to appear now; not a time of political unrest, but of political-celebrity unrest. It seems to be the product of shock-value rather than relevance to our current state.

Still, I found it very entertaining, out of the context of the original. Alas, this is not the film everyone had been waiting for. At least the non-fan-boys will be able to catch up.

# Gym time is my special time

## Personalities conflict with a proper workout

By Sarah Pacheco

Ka Leo Contributing Writer

The time I spend at the gym is not just for the health of my body. Those two hours four to five times a week are also reserved for toning and exercising my mind. I go into a trance during my cardio workouts on the elliptical or treadmill machines. I can think clearer and better than during other moments of the day. But when I travel upstairs to the weight room, my happy cloud of endorphins dissipates as the reality of rude gym-goers rears its ugly, and annoying, head.

After being a gym member for a year now, I have come to the conclusion that there are four main types of bad-mannered exercisers. The first is what I like to call "the Noisy." Whether it is a piercing scream, a breathy giggle, or, as one

woman at my gym is so kind to share at the highest sound level possible, a sexual groan, the sounds are distracting. Yes, lifting heavy weights is hard work. But is it necessary to share whatever pain you're going through with others in the room? When I'm trying to concentrate on how many reps I've done, the last thing I need is a persistent moan piercing my ears.

The second gym offender is the "Machine Wolf," more commonly referred to as the "Machine Hog." I call these people wolves because they will stake out an area in the weight room and remain there for hours on end. There are two sub-categories of Machine Wolf, the Lone Wolf and the Pack. The Lone Wolf will claim his or her territory by placing a towel, water bottle, magazine or whatever else he or she may have handy on machines he or she is not using at the moment. The Lone Wolf will then work out on a nearby machine, but snarl ferociously at anyone who comes near the marked territory. Even though no one was technically on the machine, there was an old energy bar wrapper on the weight-stack, meaning paws off.

A pack consists of three to four close buddies who remain on

the same group of machines (their territory) for extended periods of time that can last more than an hour. When one wolf is done with one machine, he or she will rotate with his or her pack member. This trade-off cycle will continue despite requests to use a machine from a non-pack member.

The "Show-Off" is the third type of aggravating gym-goer. I don't know about you, but when I go to a gym it's to work out, not to impress some stranger with how cute I can look in my sports-bra or how much weight I can bench-press. I see women who stop running after five minutes because their make-up is starting to run or their fancy-schmansy designer pants are falling down. I see men increase weight increments on machines by 50 pounds, only to turn blue in the face trying to do one bicep curl.

These tactics are not attractive; in fact, they are dangerous. According to Marty Gallagher's article "Pain in the Mass: Ten Most Common Causes of Training Injury," most pain is caused by poor exercise techniques. Improper technique can lead

to pulled, ripped or wrenched muscles, or even torn delicate connective tissue. In her article "10 Tips for Safe Workouts," Elizabeth Quinn writes, "many people have lots of enthusiasm initially, and go too hard, too soon," which can lead to injury. Quinn includes dressing properly in her tips for a safe, injury-free workout. Besides possibly causing harm to oneself, the Show-Off can distract others in the gym from their workouts. Even worse, they could break the machine because of improper use.

At least these characters are doing something, even though aggravating, with their time. In my book, the worst type of workout fiend is the Squatter. The Squatter is the person who quite possibly holds the answer to the question: "How can gym enrollment be so high but members still be out-of-shape?" Simple. After the Squatter signs up for the Ultra-Maximum-Special-Super Membership Deal, he finds a nice looking machine and just sits on it. Or better yet, he sits there discussing last night's episode of "Lost" with his friend, who is busy playing around on the neighboring machine.

Just the other day I witnessed a teenager chilling on the rotary

calf machine, grooving to his iPod for over 10 minutes. When a rather large and disgruntled Pack Wolf asked the Squatter if he was finished with the machine, he said "no," did a few reps then continued with his interrupted private concert. Last I checked there were places people could go to chat, relax, listen to music, read a book or do whatever else they please for free. I know it sounds too good to be true, but I swear I'm not making this up. These utopian places are called homes, private residences where what you do is your prerogative and no one can tell you otherwise.

I know I sound preachy, but I take my gym time seriously. It is my two hour break from a hectic, pressure-filled day. If a person is on a machine I want to use, I understand and will move on to another one until that machine is free. But if said machine is occupied for 20 minutes by an inconsiderate Squatter or Lone Wolf's towel, I get a little testy, as I am sure many others do.

If any of the personalities described above sound like someone you know (yourself included), check out <http://exercise.about.com/cs/healthclubs/a/gymetiquette.htm> or [http://www.askmen.com/fashion/how\\_to\\_150/155\\_how\\_to.html](http://www.askmen.com/fashion/how_to_150/155_how_to.html) for more gym etiquette suggestions. Feel free to share these thoughtful ideas with those you know or with those who need a not-so-subtle hint.



DAN RICHARDS • KA LEO O HAWAII

Paula Blanning, a senior pitcher for the Rainbow Wahine Softball team, weight lifting before the start of the season.



Illustration by Casey Ishitani

## Ka Leo O Hawaii

the voice of hawaii

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# Smoking ban breeds larger problems

By Brad Zambrello

*The Daily Campus (U. Connecticut)*

(U-WIRE) STORRS, Conn. — While perusing Yahoo! News the other day, I found a personally troubling news story coming from the West Coast. Last Friday, the city of Calabasas, Calif., enacted one of the toughest municipal smoking bans in the country — outlawing smoking in virtually all public places, both indoors and out, where smoke could bother nearby non-smokers.

Citing second-hand smoke as both irritating and physically hazardous, the affluent Los Angeles suburb banned smokers from lighting up on sidewalks, in outdoor cafes, at sporting events, at bus stops, in parks and even in their own cars, unless the windows are rolled up. Under the ordinance's provisions, non-smokers are empowered to either force smokers to extinguish their lighted cigarettes or ask them to move to another area. Smokers failing to comply with these requests face stiff fines, some as large as \$500.

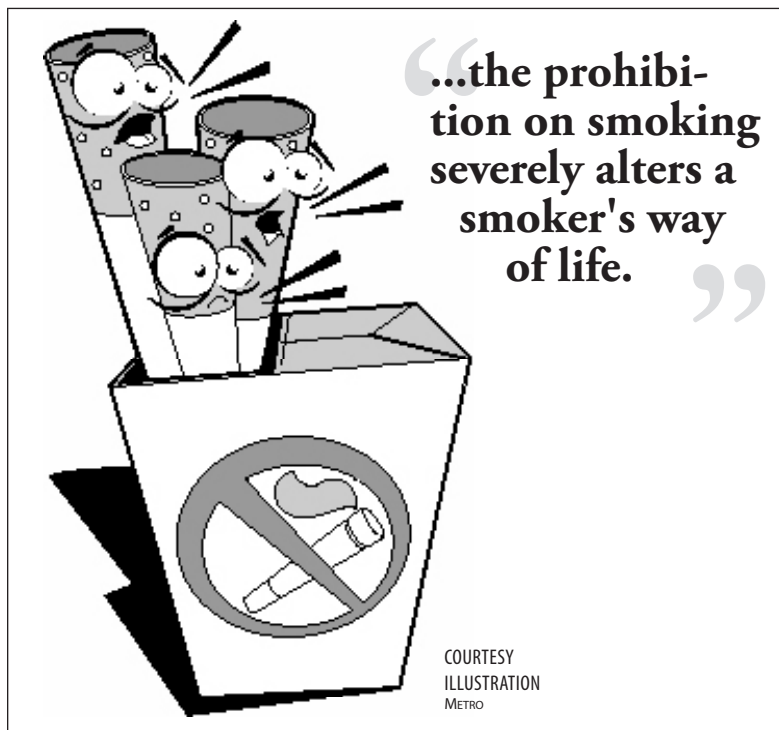
The city's law was the brainchild of 19-year-old resident Margo Arnold, a local youth simply trying to "sit outside of Starbucks and not deal with the smoke and just enjoy the fresh air," and was made into an official ordinance by the Calabasas City Council. While it's likely well-meaning, the smoking ban the young ideologue helped create is truly inconsiderate. As such, it is imperative that the small town strike this unacceptable law from the books.

While there are many problems with this law, the most obvious is that Calabasas' ordinance is highly inconsiderate toward smokers — especially when its benefits are considered against its costs. Although the ban only reaps a minor benefit for non-smokers — who are able to avoid brief and temporary inconveniences at the hands of smokers — the prohibition on smoking severely alters a smoker's way of life.

Already unable to smoke in most social situations, including many bars and restaurants, the new law effectively prevents smokers from indulging outside of their homes.

This creates a tremendous dilemma for smokers who cannot or will not smoke in their residences, including those with landlords prohibiting smoking and those who do not want to expose their children, spouse or pets to second-hand smoke. The law is also extremely inconvenient in that it forces smokers who are outside of their homes to experience prolonged withdrawal as they search for a legal place to smoke.

The law's advocates believe that this obviously inconsiderate ban is justified on the grounds that second-hand smoke is dangerous to one's health. While that is certainly true, it does not warrant a ban on smoking in public. Second-hand smoke is one of many sources of airborne toxins and particles that can contribute to respiratory illness. But so are completely legal factory emissions, housing insulation,



wood-burning stoves and automobile pollution — the last of which I'd imagine residents of a Los Angeles suburb might know a thing or two about. Thus, if Calabasas is outlawing items that produce noxious fumes that harm the health of those not using said items, perhaps it should consider larger problems than a few burning cigarettes.

Staying on the subject of respiratory health, it seems that the city council failed to consider the health of those living with smokers when creating this law. In limiting where smokers can smoke outside of their homes, the law encourages — or more accurately, practically forces — smokers to smoke inside of their homes — more or less preventing smokers from making responsible tobacco-related choices, including whether or not to smoke around their children.

Since Calabasas smokers will be more likely to smoke in their homes, the smokers' families are far more likely to be exposed to massive quantities of second-hand smoke — amounts that greatly surpass the paltry exposure non-smokers must endure while outside in public places, where the wind can presumably take the smoke away from them or where the non-smokers have option of moving elsewhere. These significantly greater levels of smoke, which can be confined in a home for hours at a time, are more likely to harm the health of residents in these homes. Thus, while

smokers and their families, I believe the law will also harm the community. In giving non-smokers legal authority over smokers, Calabasas is dividing its community and marginalizing smokers.

The law essentially tells smokers that they are inferior citizens, and will invariably produce resentment among the smoking contingent toward the community at large. It also promotes needless law use over genuine, mutual conflict resolution.

Backed by the ban, non-smokers no longer have to use conflict resolution skills — which are essential to the health of a community — and can instead resort to childish tattling. In short, the law — inspired by an adolescent — encourages the community to act like juveniles.

Although Calabasas' ordinance was likely created with good intentions, just as the road to hell was, the city's new law is ultimately a nuisance — shortsighted, authoritarian and divisive. As such, Calabasas should follow the lead of Friendship Heights, Md. — a small town that had a brief ban on public smoking from December 2000 to March 2001 — and repeal its unjustifiable ban on smoking in public.

As a nation, we should try to promote tolerance, acceptance, harmony, unity and non-legal conflict resolution. Calabasas' ban on public smoking undermines all of these notions — one can only hope that such negative attitudes do not sweep across the country in the near future.

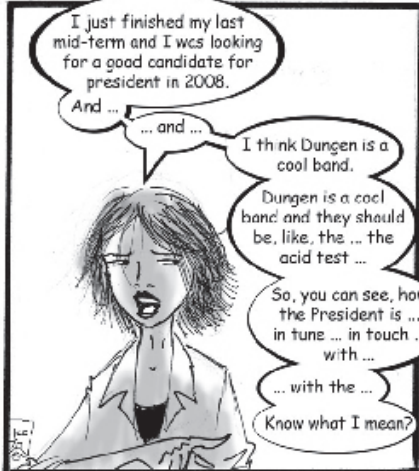
trying to protect the general health of city residents, the Calabasas City Council may ultimately seriously jeopardize the health of some specific residents — the children and families of smokers.

Outside of the anticipated negative effects the law will have on

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# COMICS & CROSSWORD

Ka roshi



by Casey Ishiten



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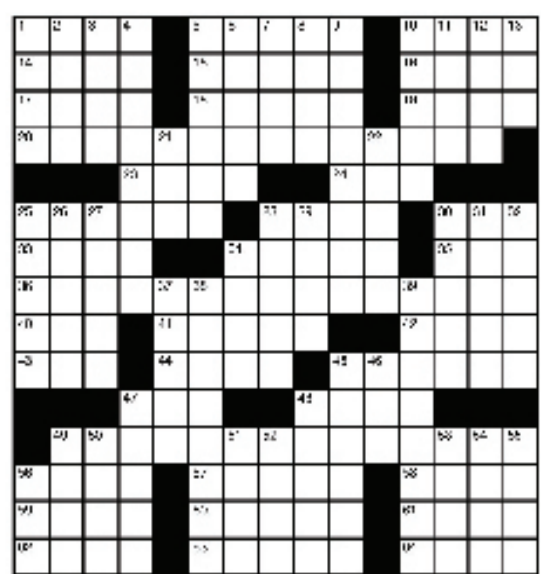


Beandog



## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Hustler from Minnesota
  - Victorious Super Bowl IV coach
  - Boorish Gluck
  - Give off
  - Crowled
  - Requirement
  - 'Two Years Before the Mast' author
  - Lock's relative
  - Sawbucks
  - Cruc
  - Book parts
  - Gumshoe
  - Engraver's instrument
  - Bambi and kin
  - Carpentry tool
  - 'Dies ...'
  - On the wagon
  - Pucky peak
  - Hunt
  - Moving vehicle
  - Negatively charged ion
  - Part of B.A.
  - The Greatest
  - Loose
  - Admission
  - May celebrant
  - Woody Guthrie's boy
  - Apple
  - Azulete
  - Speckled fish
  - '... la Dolce'
  - Run of
  - School for Pierre
  - Aunts in Acapulco
  - Hardy girl
  - Warning words
  - Beating lab



By Phillip J. Anderson  
Portland, OR 3/22/06

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



- DOWN**
- G-men
  - Asian nursemaid
  - Prong
  - Momentarily stunned
  - Mass vestments
  - Louise and Turner
  - Death Valley rorty
  - Third baseman
  - Riding gear
  - Sea cow
  - Casper
  - Provocative look
  - Patch up
  - Pop-ups, e.g.
  - are here (map into)
  - Quaintable catcher
  - Trees of a region
  - Error's partner
  - One-named New Age musician
  - Exotic birds
  - Israeli statesman
  - Gawk
  - Major artery
  - Carpus, commonly
  - Salon sound
  - Sluggo Hank
  - Lively

- Likely winner, perhaps
- Packing cases
- TV sion from Memoc
- Exodus leader
- Maure
- Office holder
- March 15th
- Shell competitor
- High fire?
- 'Trinity' author
- Muslim leader
- Shun, with a gun
- Back of the Space Shuttle

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# Brutal and horrifying, 'The Hills Have Eyes' remake is worthwhile

By Christopher Johns  
Ka Leo Staff Writer

Many of our experiences are based upon the embrace of fear—rollercoasters, haunted houses and horror films are just some examples. Some surmise that our quest for fear is instinctual, an evolutionary leftover from when fear was a major component of our lives. Maybe this is the reason why we cleave unto films like the recently released remake of Wes Craven's 1977 "The Hills Have Eyes."

Craven's original film is a seminal film in the horror genre because it thrusts the visceral experience of horror upon audiences. Critics and filmgoers alike were left breathless, speechless and probably a little unsettled by Craven's in-your-face brutality. Craven based his original 1977 script on the real-life events of a 17<sup>th</sup>-century Scottish brigand and his inbred family who terrorized the Scottish highlands until King James I sent in 400 troops to flush him and his feral family out.

Even though many recent horror film remakes have been flawed, they have been profitable, and Craven saw an opportunity to remake his own super-low-budget film, originally shot for around \$325,000. He personally handpicked French director Alexandre Aja and co-screenwriter Gregory Levasseur, the team responsible for last year's surprise French horror film, "High Tension." Craven stayed on as producer, but let this young pair of filmmakers have their way with a film that played a key role in their becoming horror filmmakers themselves. The end result is a horror film worthy of the genre. It is what horror should be: scary, visceral and damned uncomfortable.

Their first success is to introduce a red herring by letting us meet the unsuspecting family as they squabble with each other on a family road trip. The Carters are a good God-fearing, working class family: Big Bob Carter (Ted Levine from "The Silence of the Lambs") has just retired from the police force, and is heading for San Diego with his wife Ethel ("Apollo 13's" Kathleen Quinlan), teenage daughter Brenda (Emilie de Ravin, TV's "Lost") and pre-teen son Bobby (Dan Byrd, "A Cinderella Story").

It is Bob and Ethel's anniversary, so they are also joined by their older daughter, Lynne Bukowski (Vinessa Shaw, "Hocus Pocus"), her husband Doug (Aaron Stanford from "X2") and their newborn daughter Catherine. Rounding out the family entourage are the family's two German Shepherds, Beauty and Beast. This set-up brings us into unfamiliar territory, as most horror films center on a group of teenagers or young adults who are ritualistically slaughtered.



Brutal violence brings and end to sibling bickering as Brenda Carter (Emilie de Ravin) and her brother Bobby (Dan Byrd) strive to protect each other.

COURTESY PHOTO  
FOX SEARCHING  
LIGHT PICTURES

In films like "Halloween," "A Nightmare on Elm Street," "Scream" and the "Friday the Thirteenth" series, we actually cheer on the deaths — we want to see dismemberments, eviscerations and impalements. In both versions of "The Hills Have Eyes," a fully-formed family unit that becomes the victims. When you settle into "The Hills Have Eyes," you probably know what you are getting into, but imagine the horror when all of a sudden Aja introduces an infant. Are we going to have to watch this child die? The presence of baby Catherine immediately raises the stakes.

This film is brutal. There are axes, screwdrivers, chains, burnings, guns and bats — all used liberally. There is a sexy teenage daughter, two mothers, three men and two pets; let your imagination run wild as to the possibilities of unbridled violence and you may come upon many that are in the film. Dismembered limbs abound, as do villains with hideous deformities. The violence is spectacle, as it is in all horror films, but here it is to be cringed at — we do not revel in the violence this family endures at the hands of mutants.

Aja's film is multifaceted. It is a New York shell game, a sleight-of-hand parlor trick. He baits us with one concept, then undermines our footing — the squabbling family ripe for slaughter, the young mutant Ruby (Laura Ortiz), whom we sympathize with and actually mourn for because, like the Carters and Bukowskis, she is caught up in a situation beyond her control.

Watching "The Hills Have Eyes," it is not hard to project the barren and threatening desert upon the world most of us will never know. "The Hills Have Eyes" resonates because it shows us the darkest nature of humanity; it thrusts us into an uncontrollable situation with no discernible rules or morality. It is a world of warped perceptions, theft, cannibalism, isolation and destruction — a world of our own making.

"The Hills Have Eyes" is unrelenting, and the tension builds from the first moment to the final scene. The mutant makeup is brilliant and flawless: when you look upon Big Brain (Desmond

Askew, "Go"), Pluto (Michael Bay Smith, "Men in Black II") or Lizard (Robert Joy, "Land of the Dead"), you buy it — you actually accept the reality presented. The music by Tom and Dandy ("Killing Zoe") is intense and ironic.

For the fans of "Scream," "Final Destination" and other slickly produced slasher films, I would recommend you stay away from this one. If you found yourself liking Eli Roth's "Hostel," Rob Zombie's "The Devil's Rejects," or Peter Jackson's "Dead Alive," then Aja's version of "The Hills Have Eyes" is probably right up your alley.

## Ram Dass: A man's spiritual journey

By Spencer Kealamakia  
Ka Leo Staff Writer



"Ram Dass: Fierce Grace" tracks the life of Richard Alpert from his early years as a Harvard professor to his subsequent metamorphosis into the 60s spiritual guru Ram Dass, and finally, in the latest chapter of his life, as a stroke victim.

When Harvard pink-slipped Alpert for conducting experiments involving LSD in 1964, he didn't allow it to dampen his desire for spiritual understanding. Catapulting off of his experiences with psychedelics, he traded in his acid tabs for an airplane ticket to India and when he returned as Ram Dass, or "servant of God," people from all over the country flocked to him for his spiritual insight.

Fast forward to 1997, and we have Ram Dass, the 66 year-old stroke victim, in the midst of an existential crisis.

"The stroke caused me to lose faith, and it was a cold, cold place, and I suddenly realized that it was fierce grace ... that turned my life

around," says Alpert in the film, concerning his trial of faith.

Producer/director Mickey Lemle has done a fantastic job in documenting one man's spiritual journey and both his struggles and success. He presents young Alpert and the Alpert that has come to be when life happens, in a subtle and heartwarming way. The end result is an inspirational film, not in the "Mighty Ducks" or "Little Giants" misfits-to-champions style, but in a manner which is all too human.

"Ram Dass: Fierce Grace" will be showing at the Spalding Auditorium as part of the Healing World Film Series. Showings are on Thursday, March 23 at 7 p.m., and on Sunday, March 26 at 5 p.m. Tickets will run \$3 for students and faculty and \$5 for general admission. For more information, call 223-0130.

# Living as the Libero

*Libero Alfred Reft has come a long way from the benches of UC-Santa Barbara*

By Ashley Monfort  
Ka Leo Staff Writer

Alfred Reft may not fit the physical image of a volleyball player, but at 5 feet 9 inches tall, the University of Hawaii's senior libero has been regarded as one of the best at his position. Reft's coaches and teammates commend him because of his combination of technique and knowledge for the game.

"Defensively, he reads the game better than any other libero," said opposite hitter Lauri Hakala. "He's very technical and he's very good all-around. He can pass all kinds of serves. He doesn't have any weaknesses that stand out so nobody can go after him."

Reft has come a long way from the sidelines of the University of California-Santa Barbara to the starting position at Hawai'i. Still awestruck by how successful his volleyball career is, Reft's confidence and sound play is paving the road for a tremendous year in men's volleyball at Hawai'i.

Reft's accolades and awards are plentiful. He received All-American first-team honors from the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, American Volleyball Coach's Association and the Asics/Volleyball magazine last season. Reft is the only returnee to have played in all of Hawai'i's 102 games last year.

The California native began playing volleyball with his older sister, Cheryl, when he was 10 years old. He would follow her to volleyball practices — much to her dismay.

"She would get so mad because our parents would make her take me," Reft said.

At the gym, the team would teach him the basics that became his foundation for knowing the game. He says he's blessed because he developed from playing with older players at such an early age.

Ironically, while at the University of California-Santa Barbara, this All-American saw little to no playing time. He said that he was the 16th man on the team. With no expectations or second thoughts, Reft decided to give the Hawai'i team a chance.

He came thinking it would be a great place to play and didn't care if he was the starting libero or the 5th libero, never imagining where it would lead to.

"With all the adversity I went through wanting to play and not playing ... I knew that I could play," Reft said. "And it's not any kind of cockiness it's not like I thought I was great. I just knew that if I got my chance I could do it. The coaches said I had a shot at it so I wasn't going to settle for anything less."

After red-shirting, Reft became a stand-out his junior year which eventually led to a spot on the men's volleyball team for the World University Games in Turkey. With that opportunity, he was able to train for few weeks with the men's national team in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"I walked in the first day and I was like 'I can't believe I'm in the gym with [the national team]," Reft said. "It was scary quite frankly and I was questioning if I was good enough to be there. It's such a phenomenal feeling and it really gave me a lot of confidence. It was such a big benefit for me to be there and to gauge yourself with the best in the world."

Reft's volleyball resume will be even longer after his senior year as the men's national team has taken an interest in having Reft try-out and play.



## What is a libero?

According to Answers.com, in 1998 the libero player was introduced, the term meaning "free" in Italian. The libero is a player specialized in defensive skills: he must wear a different-colored jersey and cannot block or attack. When the ball is not in play, the libero can replace any back-row player, without prior notice to the referees. His substitutions also do not count against the 6-substitution limit each team is allowed per set.

The libero may function as a setter only under certain restrictions. If he makes an overhand set, he must be standing behind (and not stepping on) the 3-meter line; otherwise, the ball cannot be attacked above the net in front of the 3-meter line. A bump set is allowed from any part of the court.

"[He is] definitely on their radar," said UH Head Coach Mike Wilton.

Although he has become a star in the eyes of the volleyball community, Reft always has his team in mind. He can talk for hours on the amount of praise and respect he has for his teammates. The biggest lessons he's learned about the game are not technique or how to increase his stats but to be an influential team player.

"More than anything you learn — or at least I have learned — not to just individually enhance my playing but how to really be good for the team," Reft said. "I think over the years I've played I've just learned how to have better dynamics with my teammates and that's so important I think you want to make everyone feel comfortable and confident on the court."

With that thought process, he was unanimously voted team co-captain along with outside hitter, Matt Carere. With the two as leaders, Reft says he will do anything it takes to get their team a national ring this year at the NCAA men's volleyball championships.



**TOP:** Libero Alfred Reft and outside hitter Lauri Hakala warm up before practice.

**MIDDLE:** Alfred Reft eyes the ball while the rest of his teammates eagerly look on as the Warriors sweep Ohio State.

PHOTOS BY DAN RICHARDS  
KA LEO O HAWAII

Coach Wilton said Reft is always the first to come and the last to leave and puts in extra time at the gym.

"Because he works so hard and because he's such a team player people absolutely have to have respect for him," Wilton said.

Luckily for Rainbow Warrior fans, the once barely noticed figure in Santa Barbara seems to have finally found his fit in Hawai'i.

"Maybe it was coincidence, maybe it was what some people say there was a plan for me," Reft said. "I don't know. I just see it as, I was very fortunate. I came at the right time. I see it as — I guess you could call it a blessing."

## Success for Reft

### 2005

- Only returnee that played in all 102 games
- Selected to both the MPSF and AVCA All-America First-Teams as a libero
- Asics/Volleyball Magazine First Team All-American, while garnering Defensive Player of the Year honors
- Collected 272 digs, setting a new UH single-season record
- Tied for third in the nation in digs per game (2.67)
- Posted 14 double-digit dig matches, including a career-high 22 digs against Pepperdine, March 2

### 2004

- Played in 114 games as libero
- Led the team in digs with 238, averaged 2.09 digs per game for the season
- Posted nine double-digit dig performances
- Had season-high 15-digs



ALFRED REFT