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UHM blood drive a way to help others on campus



Junior Janelle Etelagi patiently donates a pint of O+ during a busy blood drive at the Queen Lili'uokalani Student Services building Friday. Etelagi, a Political Science major, said she donates to give back to the community. The next blood drive will be held September 26 at the Campus Center Ballroom.

TONY BLAZEJACK
KA LEO O HAWAI'I

Steve Jerue
Ka Leo Contributing Writer

Over 165 students signed up to donate blood at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa last Friday at Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services. Some were interested in helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

"I think the little things help, like blood drives and fundraisers," Janelle Etelagi said, while lying on the table.

The Blood Bank of Hawai'i distributed over 97,000 components of blood in 2002, to people in need throughout the country and the island.

After signing in and a brief questioning, donors lie down to give blood, a process that takes five

to ten minutes. After giving blood, donors must sit for a few minutes. The blood is fully regenerated within a few hours.

"I know how important it is since I've been in the hospital before and needed blood. Also, I have type O positive blood, which is rare," graduate student Juanita Mathews said, snacking on cookies and juice to pump up her blood sugar level.

There were several first-timers donating, as the blood drive on campus is convenient for students who want to donate but have never had the opportunity.

Michael Ramirez, a junior from California giving blood in Hawai'i for the first time, said he has given back home several times and that it's no big deal. He also has type O positive blood.

"I think I'll be alright with it. It doesn't seem like that big of a deal," freshman Nicole Frazier said.

The Blood Bank of Hawai'i runs blood drives at UHM several times throughout the year. The drives are advertised throughout Campus Center. The Blood Bank of Hawai'i office is located in downtown Honolulu at 123 Queen St. To make an appointment, call 845-9966.

NewsBriefs

Tenure and Probation Information for faculty

The University of Hawai'i at Manoa Tenure and Promotion Informational Meeting will take place today from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at BusAd G103.

This is the third of four informational meetings that will be held for UHM faculty members who are interested in learning more about the particulars of the tenure and promotion process. Any member of Bargaining Unit 07 is eligible to attend these meetings.

These sessions have been particularly useful for applicants at least one year before they apply, as well as for applicants who are applying this year.

An additional meeting is scheduled for Tues., Sept 20, 2005, Marine Sciences Building 100, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

The Chancellor's Office is sponsoring this event.

For more information, call Avis Morigawara at 956-8447, e-mail her

at avis@hawaii.edu, or visit www.hawaii.edu/ovcaa/faculty/tenure_promotion_contract_renewal.htm.

Deadline approaching for CBA applications

The application forms for admission to the College of Business Administration for the Spring 2006 semester are available in BusAd B-101.

The priority deadline is Oct. 1, and the final deadline is Nov. 1. Applicants must finish all pre-business requirements by the end of the Fall 2005 semester to be eligible for Spring 2006 admission.

Applicants must have 55 or more credits of college-level work, a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 in all attempted transfer and UHM courses, and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 at UHM. If a student has completed 30 credits at UHM with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher, the transfer GPA need not be used to determine admission. Students also need a minimum grade of "C" in ICS 101:

Tools for the Information Age and in all pre-business core courses.

Courses in the pre-business core may be repeated only if the grade earned is below "C."

The Pre-Business Core courses include the following:

English Composition (Eng 100, or 101, or 200 or ELI 100) Speech (Sp 151 or Sp 251) Introduction to Financial Accounting (Acc 201) Introduction to Managerial Accounting (Acc 202) Calculus (Bus 250, or QM 122, or QM 252, or Math 203, 215, 241 or 251, or NREM 203) Introduction to Micro Economics (Econ 130) Introduction to Macro Economics (Econ 131)

For more information, call the CBA Student Services Office at 956-8215, e-mail business@hawaii.edu, or visit the CBA on the web at www.cba.hawaii.edu.

Writing Personal Statements

People may sign up for the

Personal Statement Panel that will take place Tues., Sept. 20, from 12 to 1 p.m. at the Career Services Center. Participants will learn the important aspects of writing a strong and interesting personal statement for professional and graduate school.

Panelists will include Satoru Izutsu from the school of Medicine, Laurie Tochiki from the UHM School of Law, and Joseph O'Mealy from the college of Languages, Linguistics and Literature.

Seating is limited. Prospective participants may sign up early at the Career Services Center, located at the Queen Lili'uokalani Student Services building room 212F.

The Career Services Center is sponsoring this event. For more information, call the Career Services at 956-8136, e-mail careers@hawaii.edu, or visit www.hawaii.edu/career.

UHM prepares to prepare for tsunamis

UH scientists have been

awarded a \$500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to develop a "tsunami preparedness model" that can be used to enhance public safety in tsunami-prone regions. The group will be led by Bruce Houghton, Gordon A. MacDonald Professor of Volcanology at the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at UHM.

The goal of the project is to produce a model that can be used as a decision-making tool by state emergency managers, who are responsible for disseminating tsunami warnings to the public.

This interdisciplinary and international research team includes physical scientists, psychologists and social scientists from the USA, Thailand, Australia and New Zealand. They will focus on identifying the most effective methods to disperse educational information about official and natural warning signs of tsunamis to alert the public. The study will look at seven different at-risk communities across the United States.

FEMA tardy in providing help to Katrina victims



By Nathan Serota
Ka Leo Contributing Writer

It is amazing how tragedy can bring out the best and the worst in people. With the recent annihilation of Louisiana at the hands of Hurricane Katrina, a flurry of relief and charity is being offered to the displaced and downtrodden citizens of that battered state.

Recently, I saw an advertisement for a hurricane relief basketball game that has enlisted the National Basketball Association's top players, including LeBron James and Amare Stoudemire. I was amazed at the expediency with which this event was organized. From star-studded

sing-alongs to local fundraisers, event proceeds are donated to the hurricane relief fund. It makes me wonder why independent organizations are acting quicker than our federal government.

During this aqueous onslaught against Louisiana, it took our government several days to recognize the gravity of the situation. Mayor of New Orleans Ray Nagin begged the country for help before our federal government realized that the region was in a state of emergency.

Recently, the Bush administration has been getting hammered with accusations concerning the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. These accusations, mostly in the form of testimonials from prominent Louisiana politicians and journalists, demonstrate strong evidence that the response time to this obvious state of emergency was unacceptably slow.

Amidst this frenzy of finger

pointing, allegations that this disaster could have been avoided are being made and affirmed.

Several years ago, it was known that a storm of this magnitude would eventually strike near Louisiana. In fact, meteorologists were so sure of it that the state began an initiative to improve the state's water levying system to combat the inevitable floods accompanying storms. Two hundred million dollars was needed to prepare this system for flood prevention, but Louisiana received only a fraction of that money, about \$10 million.

Now, a situation that could have been prevented with \$200 million will end up costing hundreds of billions. Not to mention the millions of lives that are left in ruins and the hundreds of lives that have been lost altogether.

Whether that money could have prepared the state's flood prevention for this much water is uncertain. What is clear is that the sluggish federal response to this disaster cost

Now, a situation that could have been prevented with \$200 million will end up costing hundreds of billions.

the lives of hundreds of people.

Still, what sickens me the most is the thought that people were sinking into the depths of the contaminated floodwater while our president was enjoying his vacation in Texas. Yet, the fact that Bush's vacation is also being blamed for this disaster assures me that placing the blame can wait for now. People are still dying, and that should be our number one concern.

Freedom of speech isn't freedom to slander

By Lauren Williams

Daily Forty-Niner of California State University - Long Beach

(U-WIRE) LONG BEACH, Calif. — The First Amendment is arguably the most essential portion of the Bill of Rights. It guarantees citizens the right to self-expression.

As with any freedom, this right comes with responsibility. People abuse freedom of speech, using it as a license to speak offensively or behave in ways that infringe upon other peoples' rights. For example, take conservative talk show host Michael Graham's statements last month.

Graham said, "Sadly, Islam has become a terrorist organization ... Moderate Muslims are those who only want to kill Jews." The following week, the Council on American-Islamic Relations contacted the radio station's owners, insisting that they punish Graham for making such outrageous remarks. Two weeks after Graham uttered his insensitive statement, he was fired from the radio station.

When asked to comment on the actions taken by his former employers, Graham told a CNN news anchor that his First Amendment rights were being violated, proving that he is ignorant of Islam's teachings and his own rights.

Graham's association of all Muslims with terrorists would be as erroneous as associating all Christians with the beliefs and practices of Quakers or Mormons. Terrorists who affiliate themselves with Islam constitute a minute portion of the Muslim population.

The Quran preaches the importance of being kind and generous to others. People have interpreted the Quran to make it coincide with their own beliefs.

Graham was also incorrect in insisting that his First Amendment rights had been violated. Radio and television waves are the property of the public. The government regulates radio waves and sells them to different companies.

When a significant number of people respond to something distasteful they saw or heard, the station owners should respond accordingly. Graham can voice his opinion, but because he insists on insulting groups of people, he will have to use another medium.

Graham should have known that making such extreme and blatantly false statements would have major repercussions. Prominent media figures have influence over the public because of the research and scrutiny they are expected to use before issuing statements.

Clearly, Graham doesn't use the same judgment as other media personalities and should not be on the air. If he were allowed to continue, his ignorant statements might have influenced those who listen to his radio station.

Unfortunately, Graham isn't the only person in the media perpetuating the negative perception of Islam. Compared to many other talk show hosts, his bias seems mild. Michael Savage, another radio host, is even less tolerant of different cultures and beliefs.

In addition to hosting a talk show, Savage also has a Web site that features gruesome pictures portraying Middle Eastern people in a negative light. Many of the photos show acts of violence against Americans and have the caption, "Know your enemy."

The actions of these two commentators are a small sample of the widespread intolerance that some people are displaying towards people of different cultures, especially those of Middle Eastern background.

Luckily, groups like the Council on American-Islamic Relations work to insure that people like Graham are not given a forum to create more hate and prejudice.

Letters to the Editor

ASUH demands to be heard by administration

In regard to student housing policy changes, the University of Hawai'i at Manoa administration has made claims that they provided time for consultation and the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i did not act. This could not be further from the truth. If our administrators feel that sending an already decided upon measure to ASUH is consultation, then perhaps this is why we are failing as an institution.

Some wonder why UHM students are the 4th unhappiest in the nation. I do not. This administration is too caught up in its own political agenda to hear what

the students have to say and make appropriate changes.

It is clear that this institution is here to benefit the community and provide academic advancement. We must also realize the university's students should be our first priority. Providing students with an environment to grow as individuals and come into their own is the most important part of the collegiate experience.

If the students aren't able to make choices and find out who they really are, then this university has failed all of its objectives. By preventing its students

from finding themselves, they prevent the academic advancements that go along with personal growth.

I only have one question for this institution's officials. How is it that you feel confident in admitting intelligent, responsible young adults to the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, but do not trust them enough to make responsible decisions or aid in the policy making for the university that is here to serve them?

It should also be noted that then-ASUH Senator Andrew Ogata was consulted, but as a member of the student

housing staff, since he also served as a resident advisor. When he was asked to serve on this committee and work on these issues, Ogata reported that his involvement would be for student housing only, and he was not acting on behalf of ASUH in this matter.

We need administrators that are here to better this institution academically and instill a sense of pride back on campus by taking into consideration community opinion and interacting with UHM's student population.

We need administration that supports the school. On the heels of a hor-

rible Princeton Review, you would hope UHM would look to improve by taking steps like not canceling the Spirit Bus, which students rely upon to support their school in the athletic arena, or by admitting to an oversight when it comes to proper consultation with new policies.

Maybe once political agendas are pushed aside, students won't be forced to take a backseat at their own educational institute.

Matt Gerhardt

ASUH Senator, College of Arts and Sciences

Editorial Cartoon



A student's idea for hurricane preparations

I was reading Thursday, Sept. 8's article "UHM hurries to revise hurricane preparation" on the changes to the current emergency preparedness plan for the University of Hawai'i in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. I find this to be a waste of time and money. Why

don't we just declare UH a "Hurricane-Free Zone?" That way, if a hurricane does come, it will pass harmlessly over our heads.

Cisco Bee

Graduate Student

UH takes Challenge Championship

Win streak increases to four

By: Scott Alonso
Ka Leo Sports Editor

The University of Hawai'i women's volleyball team fought back from a one-game deficit against University of California, Los Angeles, to win the Waikiki Beach Marriott Volleyball Challenge in four games, 24-30, 30-25, 30-24, 30-26 in front of 7,186 fans at the Stan Sheriff Center. UH improved to 5-3 on the year and extended its winning streak to four games. UCLA received its first loss of the year, dropped to 5-1 but picked up second place in the challenge.

The UCLA and UH rivalry goes back 32 years. This was the 62nd time both teams met each other, and UH improved to 34-28 all-time against the Bruins.

The Challenge All-Tournament

team featured Most Outstanding Player UH middle Victoria Prince, who finished the match against UCLA with 11 kills, fourth on the team, and solid .320 hitting. All-Tournament Team members UH middle Juliana Sanders had 12 kills, good for third on the team and a team best .400 hitting.



SANDERS

"When she elevates and hits the ball high, she is good," UH head coach Dave Shoji said describing

how effective Sanders can be.

UH setter Kanoë Kamana'o, also placed on the All-Tournament Team, had a match-high 55 assists against the Bruins and 150 for the tournament.

The championship game between the Bruins and the Rainbow Wahine got off to a thrilling start. UCLA took command in game one, building a lead as large as seven points, 18-11. However, the 'Bows would not give up, getting to within three points at 20-23 after Prince's kill. Three kills by Bruin outside hitter Kaitlin Sather ended any hope of a Hawai'i comeback and sealed the win for the Bruins, 30-24.

UH had a dismal .209 hitting percentage in game one with eight errors. UCLA, on the other hand, hit for .348 and tallied three errors. UH's top offensive weapons were plagued by their hitting woes. Freshman standout Jaime Houston had a lack-luster performance — she hit for only .077, 4 for 13 on her shots. She also committed three errors. UH outside hitter Susie Boogaard had a tough time dealing with UCLA's front line. She was held to only two kills on nine attempts and hit .111. Boogaard finished the match with eight kills but hit .148.

"We had to elevate, jump up higher," said Houston, referring to the UH strategy on dealing with the Bruin frontline. UCLA out blocked UH 3-2 over the first game and 14-11 in the match.

UH head coach Dave Shoji felt that his team, after the first game, "were really patient and didn't panic after game one," said Shoji and he continued that "several of our players had slow starts and they were trying to do too much."

Game two was a quick turn-

around for the Rainbow Wahine. UH went ahead early 11-7 off a Sarah Mason service ace. Mason made her first start at home after suffering an injury in the first match of the season against University of Nebraska, Lincoln. UCLA fought back to within two points off a Meghan Schoen kill, 18-20. With the Rainbow Wahine holding a slim lead, 26-24, Mason got back into rhythm, scoring three straight kills to close out a win for UH and pull even with the Bruins 1-1.

Mason recorded an impressive six kills in the game, a team high. Shoji spoke highly of her performance in Saturday night's match.

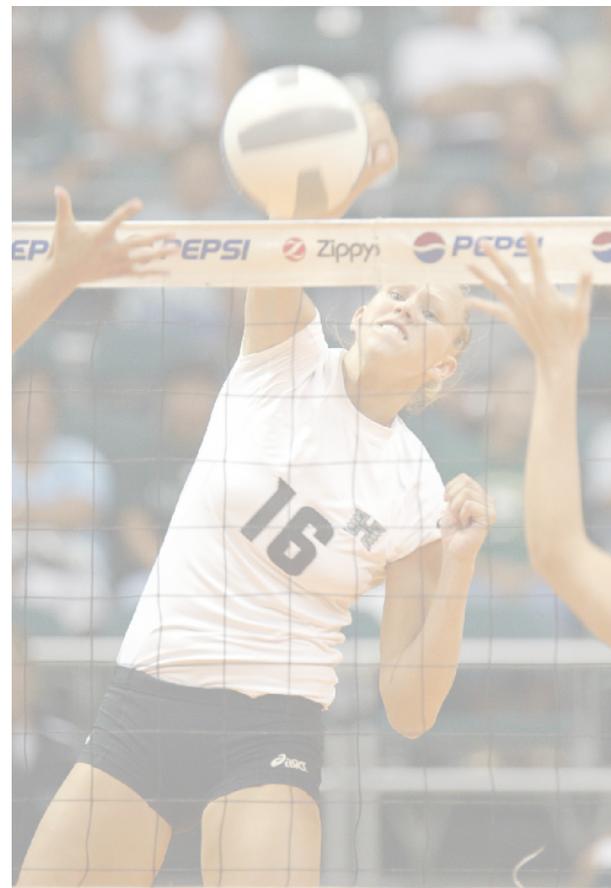
"We just needed her in, she is fiery and she can thump it," he said.

She ended the match with 14 kills, hitting .206 and had a team high four service aces.

The Bruins in game three made costly errors and could not capitalize on the poor hitting by the 'Bows. UCLA had seven service errors and resulted in the game point, 30-24 from Bruin Kaitlin Sather's error. Sather, a freshman, had a match high 21 kills and earned All-Tournament Team honors.

Meriwether and Rachell Johnson blocked a Sanders shot to tie the game up at 13. UCLA would fall behind, its largest deficit at five at 25-20 when Sanders and Houston blocked a shot by Meriwether. That proved to be enough for UH, who was never again threatened by a Bruin comeback.

UH had its poorest outing in game three hitting for .133 and committing a match-high 10 errors. The Bruins were not able to take advantage of UH's woes because of their service errors and the shutdown of Nana Meriwether. Meriwether had no kills in the game, but did finish with 16 on the night. Her 47 kills in three games in the Challenge earned



Senior Victoria Prince was named Most Outstanding Player of the Waikiki Beach Marriott Challenge with 27 kills and 11 blocks in three games. The Rainbow Wahine dominated the three-day tournament and only dropped one game in three matches.

TONY BLAZEJACK
KA LEO O HAWAII

her All-Tournament Team honors. Meriwether's lack of play and the critical errors cost the Bruins the game.

Houston had six kills in the game and finished with a team-high 17. She tallied 38 kills in the tournament.

Game four was a constant battle between the two teams. The game was tied 15 times; the last time was at 20-20. Houston slammed down a kill to break the final tie and UH outside hitter Susie Boogaard finished off the Bruins with a service ace to win the game at 30-26.

UH will face No. 2 Washington

this Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 6 p.m.

Game Notes: Shoji noted that UH middle Kari Gregory will see a doctor to examine the knee injury she suffered in Friday night's game against Cal State Northridge. University of Cincinnati's Melissa Zenz and CSUN's Darla Donaldson were the other members of the All-Tournament Team. UH improved to 32-1 all-time in the tournament and has won 10 of 11 titles.

Ka Leo Contributing Writer David Miers contributed to this story

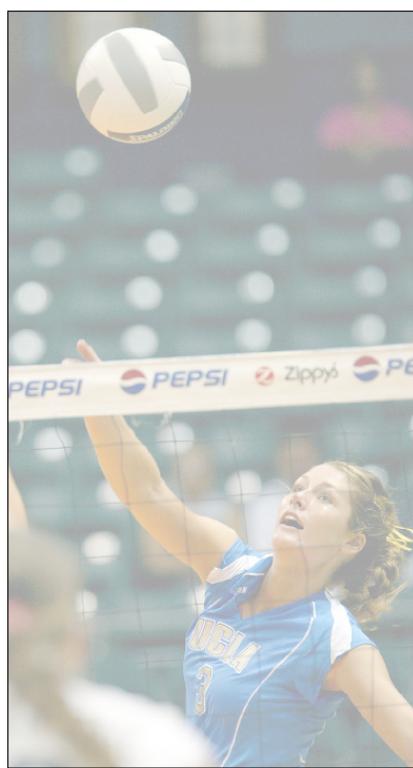
Waikiki Beach Marriott Volleyball Challenge All-Tournament Team

Player	Team
Darla Donaldson	CS Northridge
Melissa Zenz	Cincinnati
Nana Meriwether	UCLA
Kaitlin Sather	UCLA
Juliana Sanders	Hawai'i
Kanoë Kamana'o	Hawai'i

Tournament Most Outstanding Player
Victoria Prince Hawai'i

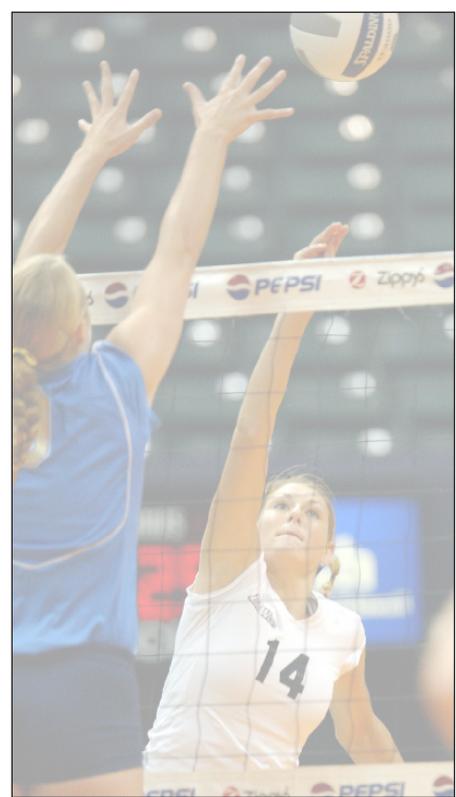
PHOTOS BY TONY BLAZEJACK
KA LEO O HAWAII

Nana Meriwether



Kaitlin Sather

Darla Donaldson



Ka Leo O Hawai'i the voice of hawaii

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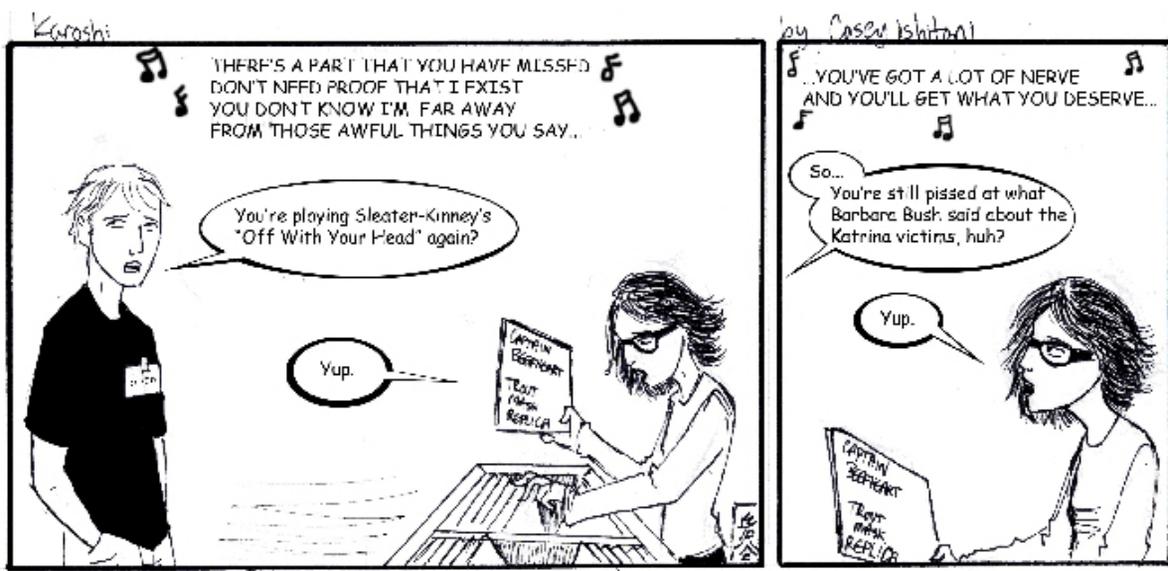
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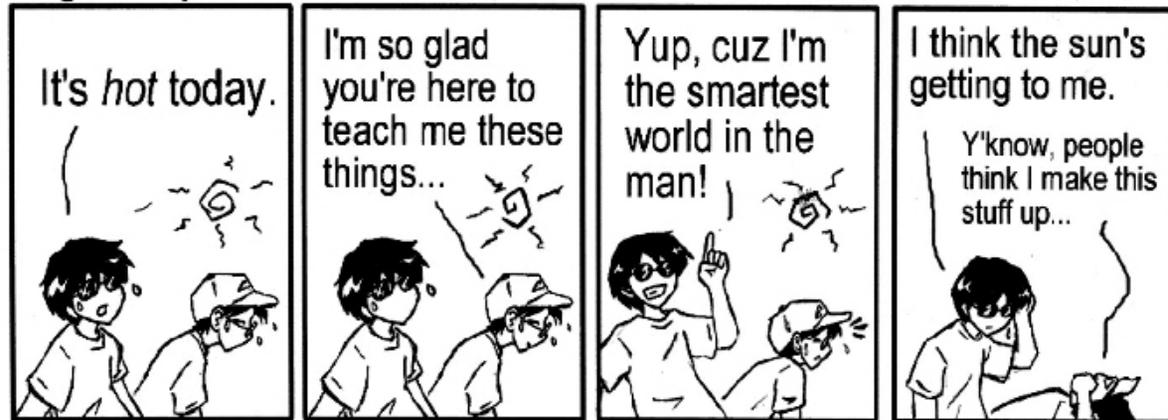
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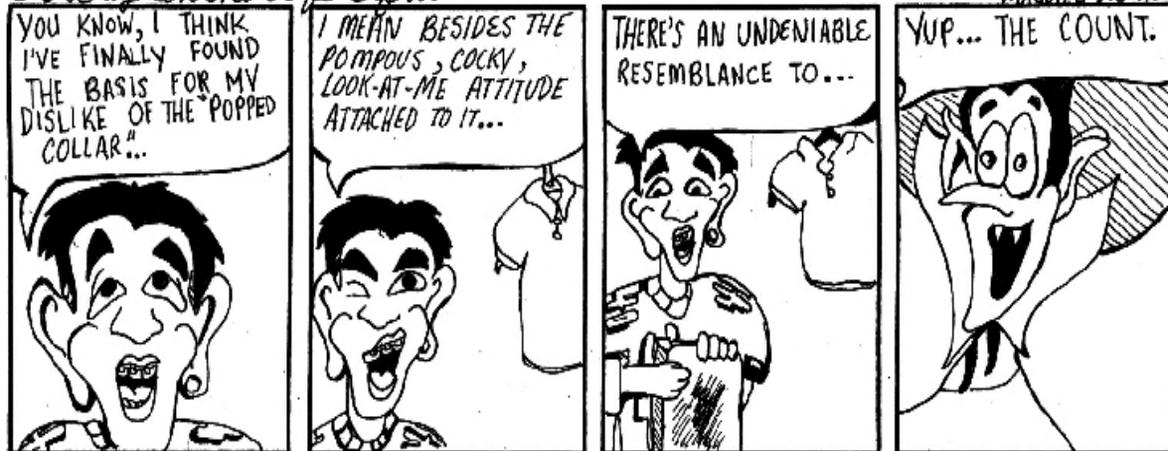
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Higher Edjucashun: Hot, Hot, HOT!!! a.k.a. Sunstroke of the Brain...

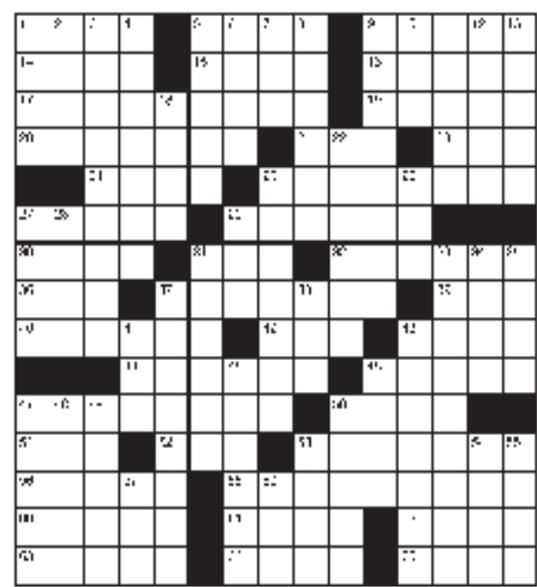


A Day in the Life of...



Crossword

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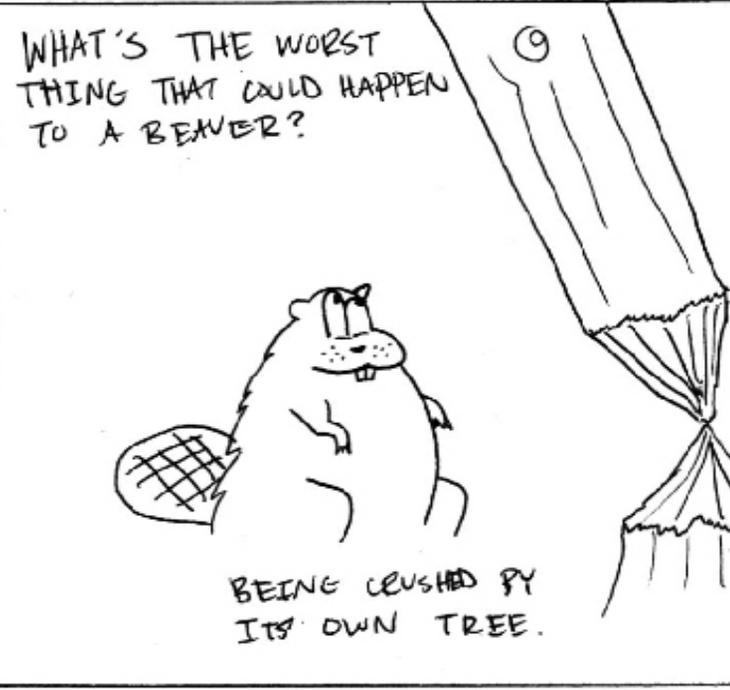
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Solutions 9/09

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For more opportunities and UH-related events, visit our Web site at www.kaleo.org.

THE SAND BAR



KA LEO O HAWAII CLASSIFIEDS

The Ka Leo Building
(across from the UH Bookstore lower entrance)
Monday-Friday 8a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Rates: \$1.25 per line (minimum 3 lines). All caps and/or bold will add 25% to the cost of the ad. Place an ad in four (4) consecutive issues and receive the fourth ad free!
Deadline: 3 p.m. the day before publication.
Payment: Pre-payment required. Cash, in-state checks, money orders, Visa and MasterCard accepted.

In Person: Stop by the Ka Leo Building.
Phone: 956-7043 E-Mail: classifieds@kaleo.org
Fax: 956-9962. Include ad text, classification, run dates and charge card information.
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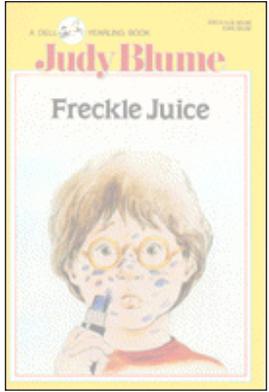
Jack and Will Grimm watch as Angelika skins a rabbit in Miramax film's "The Brother's Grimm."

FRANCOIS DUHAMEL
MIRAMAX



Literary Fact

Famous children's author Judy Blume also wrote adult novels.



'The Brothers Grimm': Grim news for Gilliam Fans

By Daniel Simon
Ka Leo Staff Writer

The Brother's Grimm tells the fictional story of Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, con artists extraordinaire and collectors of 18th century German folktales.

The brothers are driven by childhood poverty to stage and then remedy occult visitations across French-occupied Germany. Forced to save a tiny hamlet from an egomaniacal French general, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm battle an enchanted forest in search of the village's 12 missing children. Along the way, the Grimms are confounded by an assortment of magical beings, as chronicled by Jacob. The most intriguing being is the unstoppable Gingerbread Man, whose amorphous form springs forth from a well and swallows a child. Can the strapping German lads save the day? Only if you really, really, believe in fairy tales.

Director Terry Gilliam, whose previous work includes Brazil and Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, falls short of his usual brilliance with The Brother's Grimm, a project that would seem perfectly suited to the director's wonderful ability to tell an odd story.

See Grimm, page 8



FRANCOIS DUHAMEL • MIRAMAX

Fairy Tale character Little Red Riding Hood is one of the 12 children kidnapped in "The Brother's Grimm" now playing in theaters.

Defending Against Theft on Campus

By Matt Tuohy

Ka Leo Contributing Writer

On Aug. 20, local singer/songwriter Makana came home to find the doors open, candles burning and his most prized possession, his guitar, missing. The guitar was given to Makana by his teacher, Sonny Chillingworth, a well-known master of slack-key guitar.

"I'm so connected to that guitar," Makana said. "It's my connection to my teacher. He chose one that fit with my hands and the style that fit me, and it's the guitar I've used for all the shows and recordings I've played in."

Makana's laptop, containing all of his song ideas, dissertations and various other writings, was also stolen.

"I'm not so much concerned about the hardware, it's just what's on the hardware," he said.

Makana's story is not uncommon to those who live on or around campus. According to the Director of Communications for the Office of the Chancellor, Jim Manke, the number of thefts are down in comparison with past school terms.

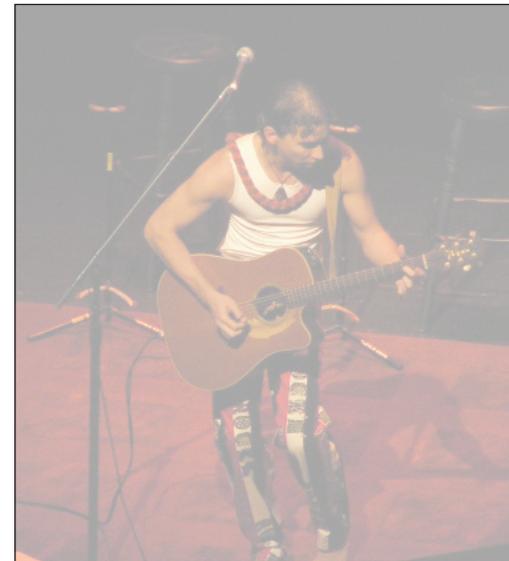
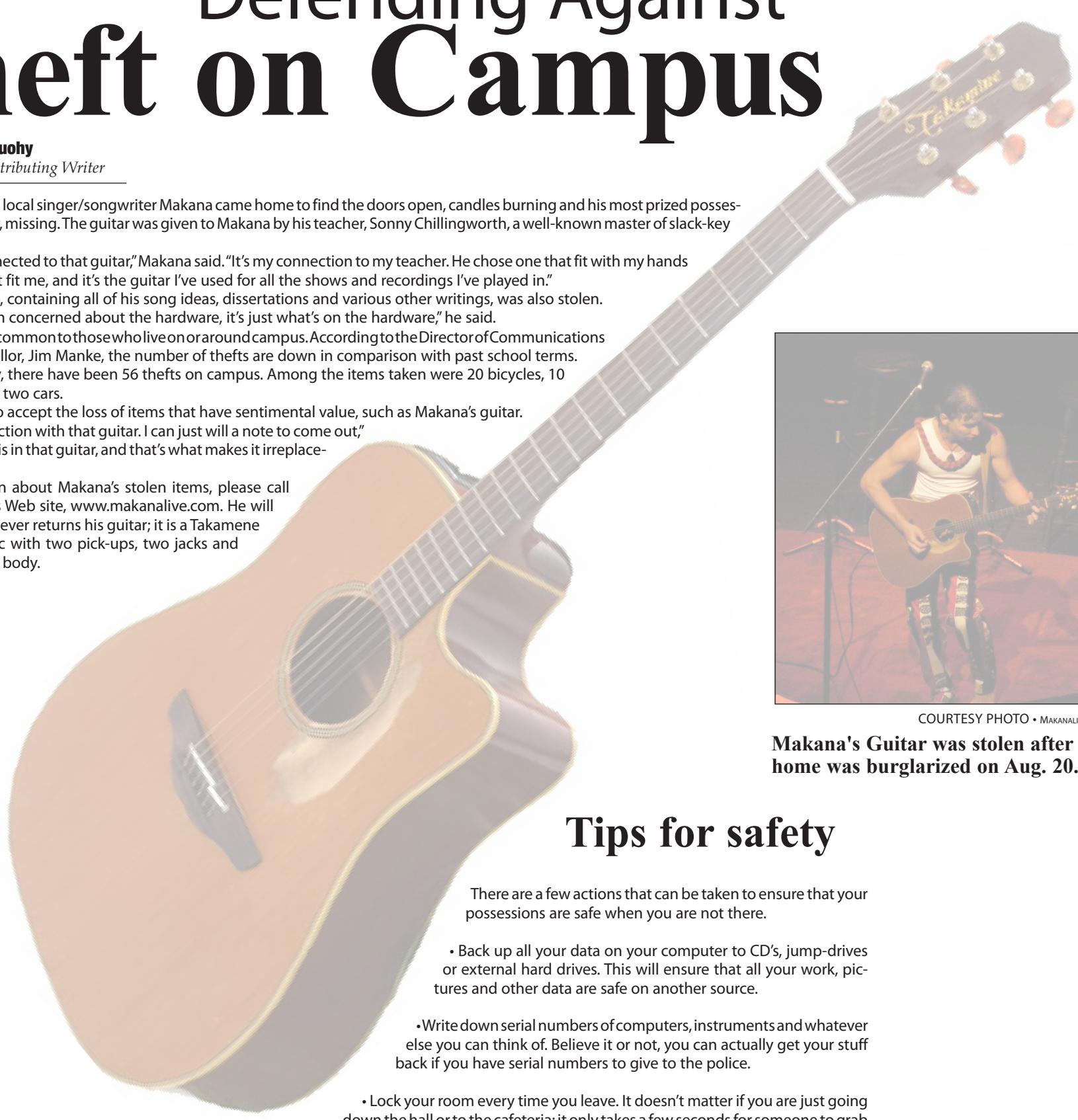
However, since January, there have been 56 thefts on campus. Among the items taken were 20 bicycles, 10 computers, 15 mopeds and two cars.

It's especially difficult to accept the loss of items that have sentimental value, such as Makana's guitar.

"I have a psychic connection with that guitar. I can just will a note to come out,"

Makana said. "So, my sound is in that guitar, and that's what makes it irreplaceable."

If you have information about Makana's stolen items, please call (808) 255-3826, or go to his Web site, www.makanalive.com. He will be offering a reward to whoever returns his guitar; it is a Takamene cut-away, six-string acoustic with two pick-ups, two jacks and wood chipped away on the body.



COURTESY PHOTO • MAKANALIVE.COM

Makana's Guitar was stolen after his home was burglarized on Aug. 20.

Tips for safety

There are a few actions that can be taken to ensure that your possessions are safe when you are not there.

- Back up all your data on your computer to CD's, jump-drives or external hard drives. This will ensure that all your work, pictures and other data are safe on another source.

- Write down serial numbers of computers, instruments and whatever else you can think of. Believe it or not, you can actually get your stuff back if you have serial numbers to give to the police.

- Lock your room every time you leave. It doesn't matter if you are just going down the hall or to the cafeteria; it only takes a few seconds for someone to grab your personal belongings.

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Grimm: Gilliam's latest film a disappointment to fans

From page 7

In producing an overly convenient assemblage of characters drawn from the original Grimm's folktales that overlap and misinform each other, Gilliam does a disservice to the magic of each story. This is emblematic of a typical Hollywood rendition, but not of a Gilliam production, generally magical in its own right.

Though the film looks great, it leans too heavily on computer enhancements. Special effects and digital capturing are wonderful additions to the directorial palette, but they shouldn't be used instead of good directing and screenwriting. George's Lucas recent Star Wars Trilogy is all effects without script, and though The Brother's Grimm fares a bit better, it depends on special effects too much.

Gilliam, who usually employs visual effects in service of a story, seems bent on producing a truly unbelievable telling of classic fairytales, but only succeeds in cheapening them with a heavy digital hand.

Many of the original Grimm fairytales are superficially happy, yet when read in a cultural context are revealed to be bleak stories of despair and social conditioning. For example, Little Red Riding Hood can be read as a warning to little girls: wander from the acceptable life path and a punishment of destitution, rape, and death may lay in wait. Gilliam should have drawn from this very real darkness instead of producing a fanciful darkness; this fictional account could have worked a lot better with a dose of non-fiction.

The Brother's Grimm is now playing in theaters.

GiRL FeST brings big crowds to poetry slam

By MJ Bjers

Ka Leo Staff Writer

GiRL FeST feature performers Rachel Kann, Andrea Gibson, Bridget Gray and Jennifer Johns gathered Thursday, Sept. 1, at the Hawaiian Hut for the monthly meeting of First Thursdays, Hawaii's chapter of the nationally acclaimed Poetry Slam, Inc. Kann, Gibson and Grey each recited samples of their award-winning poetry. Jennifer Johns performed a jaw dropping solo set from her debut album *Heavy electromagnetic soul* poetic jungle hop.

Hundreds crowded into the Hawaiian Hut, located on the first floor of Ala Moana Hotel, to watch the featured guests perform in between sets of local artists. Kann,

Gray and Gibson, all former slam champs, were right at home in the fast paced environment. During each 15 minute set, they covered topics such as sex, abuse, hip-hop and everything in between.

Poetry Slam, Inc, which originated in Chicago and gained popularity on HBO's critically acclaimed specials, offers a venue for local artists to showcase their verbal talents, as they compete against other writers for the audience's favor. Popular in the Midwest, slam poetry has really found a home in Hawaii, where First Thursdays boasts the largest attendance rate in the nation, averaging about 600 people per event. It meets on the first Thursday of every month. The doors open at 7:45 p.m. and the show starts at 8:30 p.m. Artists of all ages are welcome to compete.

Wala 'Au questions wanted. Email features@kaleo.org