Humpbacks head back to Hawai‘i

By Julie Grass
Ka Leo Associate News Editor

The North Pacific Humpback Whales have once again made their way to Hawaiian waters to breed and bear their young.

Endangered humpback whales migrate every year between December and May from Alaska to the warm and pristine environment of Hawai‘i’s, an area considered one of the most important breeding, calving and nursing grounds for humpbacks in the Pacific.

“Humpback whales are an endangered species and we are the only state where they come to have their babies and breed,” said Kristin Wilkinson, a senior at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa and currently has three students at the sanctuary.

Designated by Congress in 1986, the sanctuary’s goal is to protect Hawai‘i’s resources. Among its efforts is the annual Sanctuary Ocean Count, a shore-based census that counts whales and records their behavior over four-hour time spans around O‘ahu, Kah‘o‘olawe, Kaua‘i and the Big Island.

June Kawamata, a site coordinator, heads the count at Lana‘i Lookout. “When I’m looking at the ocean there is no blockage or hindrance,” she said. “You can look straight out and see Molokai and Lana‘i.” Kawamata was one of the first to get involved in the ocean count in 1996.

Counts are scheduled for the last Saturday of January, February and March at over 65 different shore sites, 26 of which are on O‘ahu. The count is done simultaneously on all the islands with February being the peak month, Kawamata said.

The data collected helps the sanctuary look at whale population, distribution and behavioral trends at the different shore sites.

Each year the count is done at the same sites for consistency, and over time, the data can be used for research, said Ocean Count Coordinator Christine Brommer.

The count also serves as a way to give Hawai‘i’s residents and visitors an opportunity to assess humpback whale status, promote public awareness and whale watching opportunities.

The sanctuary sponsors other events throughout the year including after school programs and numerous talks at Hanauma Bay. January is designated as Whale Month and a variety of special events are being offered through the sanctuary.

Brommer said the sanctuary takes student interns from the Marine Options Program at UH Manoa and currently has three UH students at the sanctuary.

Volunteers are needed for all three dates of the Ocean Count from 8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. No training is needed for general volunteers. To register or for more information call 397-2651.

The annual Sanctuary Ocean Count of endangered humpback whales will take place at more than 65 different sites on all Hawaiian islands through March.

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Tsunami: Women death toll higher

By Ken Moritsugu
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

LAM KUTA, Indonesia — As the wall of water rushed in, Yusnadi, a 38-year-old elementary school teacher, grabbed his three children, put them on his motorcycle and sped off.

It was too late. A torrent carrying ripped-up trees slammed into them from behind. The water swept Yusnadi along for nearly two miles, but he survived. He never saw his children again, nor his wife, who was fleeing on foot.

All along the Indonesian coast, men like Yusnadi tell similar tales: harrowing accounts of survival that end with the discovery that their wives and children perished. But the stories aren’t just personal tragedies.

Relief officials believe that because so few women and children survived, it will be all but impossible to reconstruct the villages that the tsunami washed away.

In Yusnadi’s village of Lam Kuta, about 30 miles south of the city of Banda Aceh, only 48 of the 600 residents survived. Among the survivors, just four are women and none are children.

It’s not clear why mostly men survived, other than the fact that they may be stronger and better swimmers.

“It is difficult to go home since we don’t have any families,” said Yusnadi, who has a thin scar running from his right ear to the middle of his forehead and a gauze bandage wrapped around his foot. “All the men lost their wives. Now, we’re just a group of individuals with nowhere to go.”

The loss of population means that some villages will never come back, said Mahdi Effendy, the head of the Lhong subdistrict, which includes Lam Kuta.

Of the 28 villages in Lhong, only four escaped unscathed. Nearly half of the population of 11,812 is dead or presumed dead. By the time people are resettled, Effendy said he expects that Lhong will have shrunk to just 10 villages.

“There’s nothing we can do about it,” he said.

It’s taken more than two weeks for a picture to emerge of the death and destruction in Indonesia, the country closest to the epicenter of the earthquake that triggered the tsunami.

With roads washed away and with few other ways to communicate, places such as Lam Kuta had no way to report the destruction they suffered. Often no one survived to make such a report.

A team from Knight Ridder reached this village aboard a boat on rough seas. There’s no telephone service or electricity. A satellite phone can be used only sparingly because there’s no way to recharge the batteries.

The water rushed four miles inland, until it ran into the hills and finally stopped. Seaside villages such as Lam Kuta were obliterated. Not even crumbling buildings remain, just the concrete foundations of homes.

Further inland, stronger houses withstood the torrent, while weaker ones were picked up and deposited in a pile of debris.
A tsunami survivor who was transported to Banda Aceh from a hospital in the village of Keutapang, Indonesia. In the country’s Lam Kuta village, more women than men have died in the aftermath of the catastrophe.

Women: some villages unsalvageable

From page 1

Rahmalina, 15, returned two days after the tsunami, she almost fainted, and Rahman had to support her. His younger daughter, Norul Qamariah, 13, told him she never wants to go back.

His eyes are bloodshot from lack of sleep. The pharmacist has been helping take care of the injured and sick survivors at the local clinic, where his 37-year-old wife, Yurlina, once worked as a mid-wife.

In time, he plans to move to Banda Aceh, the provincial capital of the country’s Lam Kuta village, and try to raise his children there. Rahman imagines that the surviving men of Lam Kuta also will settle elsewhere, some in the area, some in Banda Aceh and some in other cities where they have relatives.

“Maybe this place will be developed in the next two or three generations,” he said, standing in the midst of his destroyed home, “but not for now.”

In one such village, Lam Geurheu, residents returned on Wednesday to salvage lumber and pieces of corrugated metal roofs. They talked about rebuilding, if the government gives them the go-ahead.

In Lam Kuta, there’s nothing to salvage, least of all a community. A herd of two dozen cattle, grazing on a patch of grass not far from where a dead cow lay on its side, provides one of the few signs of life.

A lone man walks across the flattened landscape, a machete in hand to crack open fallen coconuts for a drink during his daily four-mile journey to pick up food at a government center and carry it back to his village.

Another man, Fajri Rahman, looks out vacantly in the distance to the sea, across the destruction that once was his village.

Then, he tears up, shielding his face with his black, gold-embroidered kopyah, the formal Indonesian headwear, and then his hand.

“I can’t stand to see it,” the 47-year-old government pharmacist said.

The white tile floors remain intact where the small house he built for his family used to stand. A short concrete driveway leading up a small ramp indicates where the garage was.

Gone are the walls. Gone is the furniture. And gone are his wife and two youngest children, his only sons, ages 6 and 10.

“This was my youngest son’s,” he said, breaking down again after finding a small pair of jeans, still caked with wet sand in the humid Indian Ocean climate.

He and his two teenage daughters were driving to Banda Aceh when the earthquake struck. They managed to escape to higher land when they saw the tsunami coming. When his oldest daughter, Era
are excited to see the issue of classified research finally come to the attention of our university community. The Board of Regents’ policy on classified research has needed amending for quite some time. The current policy does not allow the University of Hawai‘i to be engaged in classified research. In fact, it “guarantees the freedom of each member of the academic community and affirms the right of each member to gain access to all available relevant information.”

At first glance, such a policy does not seem problematic. However, UH currently holds 12 contracts of a classified nature. I discovered this information over the course of several years of researching the issue of classified research at our university. During that time I conducted a series of interviews with current Vice President of Research Jim Gaines. Over the course of those interviews I came across several aspects that make classified research at our university a very complicated issue.

The current Board of Regents policy is in contradiction with the current practice of our university. The practice and the policy must be aligned.

If UH is to remain against classified research, then the 12 current contracts must be the last. The Board of Regents will not be willing to do this unless alternative economic engines, which will substitute for the loss of classified research revenue, are established. Last fiscal year UH received a total of $330 million worth of awards for research and training. Of that, $24 million was from classified research. This is roughly 7 percent of our annual research awards total.

There is a second reason the Board of Regents’ policy must be amended: the International Traffic in Arms regulations (ITAR). ITAR is meant to restrict the export of defense articles and defense services as well as any data software or technical support that surrounds them. “Export” can be defined as oral, visual or data transfers directly overseas or to foreign nationals, including students, who can then take the information abroad. Since Sept. 11 the definition of what “defense articles” are includes “sensitive but unclassified information.”

Just what is “sensitive” information? According to Jim Gaines, “Sensitive information is anything the person defines it to be that is bringing the case against you.”

I called the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and asked the professor who the definition of “sensitive” was. “Everything having to do with homeland security is sensitive,” she said. She wouldn’t even give me the address of the DHS office; it was “sensitive.”

How does this threaten UH? ITAR makes it possible for professor to commit criminal acts while simply teaching. If a professor gives a lecture on certain lasers, for instance, or shows slides of highly technical oceanographic equipment and there is a foreign student from Iran present then that professor has made it possible for the export of “sensitive” technology. Since ITAR is criminal legislation, that professor can face up to 10 years in prison and a $1 million fine per violation.

The government has not yet decided to fully pursue ITAR violations within universities, but as Jim Gaines said, “ITAR could have a chilling effect on the transfer of ideas.”

Much of the government’s response to Sept. 11 is already affecting universities. I talked to John Learned in the physics department, who said, “It’s become impossible to hold international physics meetings here. Getting Visas for them (visitors) is practically impossible.”

I asked Learned if there were many international students and employees in the physics department, and he said, “We have many foreigners.” The presence of foreign students and faculty is one of the healthiest aspects of academia.

Under the threat of ITAR regulations they have become a liability.

One of the main reasons Gaines gave for changing the Board of Regents policy is to protect the university and its faculty from being held liable under ITAR regulations. What universities across the country are hoping is that they have found a loophole in the ITAR regulations. ITAR regulations do not apply to the transfer of “fundamental research.”

“Fundamental research” is defined as information “which is generally accessible, and which is generally available to the public.” If a campus is engaged in only “fundamental research,” then they are not susceptible to ITAR regulations. However, if a university is conducting classified research on campus, then the the right to “fundamental research” is compromised.

Michigan Institute of Technology (MIT) is currently challenging the legitimacy of this loophole in the federal court systems. They do a massive amount of classified research but all their classified research is done off campus at a secure facility known as Lincoln Laboratories. The MIT “campus” is defined by specific parameters and is only engaged in “fundamental research,” therefore any conferences, lectures or symposiums held on campus can incorporate foreign nationals without making MIT liable.

What Gaines told me he wants to do is amend the Board of Regents’ policy so there will be no classified research done on the campus, at least where the campus is really. The Manoa campus is not free of classified research. There are currently five
Have you ever wondered how to rent an understanding group of friends or create a new family tree because those closest to you insist on controlling your choices? Perhaps family traditions include historic medical or military achievements; however, this has little to do with your life choices. Worse is when marriages are destroyed because family members will not accept their beloved child’s partner choice. Sometimes control comes when the church at the end of the street has a problem with acceptance.

Be afraid because control freaks will continue imposing their own standards on you. Be wary of accepting such control or you might become a throw-away child grown old without cause or purpose. Criticism can stop anyone from taking the next step, whereas approval promotes excellence.

Man’s toys and adornments have swiftly evolved into modernity, whereas man’s controlling attitudes toward himself have changed little over the centuries. National directives for updating moral codes rarely tolerate deviations; therefore, man in his infinite wisdom is forever minding other people’s business. Criticism of Christ in print and promoting condoms in schools be damned.

A wise person learns to avoid hateful, self edifying, do-gooder conflicts by choosing to control his own life, including the frees, free of drugs, free of liquor, free of smoke and free of sex — or is that free for sex? Although each of us strive to take completely control our lives, influences from do-gooders and control freaks unbalance many to stagnate between plateaus of achievement.

A smart solution is to select facilitators as guides for your goals. Facilitators can be considered coordinators of personal and professional development. One definition of a true facilitator is an individual who helps manage a process of information exchange, whereby you, the participant, controls the content of the discussion. A facilitator’s role is to help with how the discussion is proceeding and then to address the journey rather than the destination.

Unprepared students assume, with college degree in hand, that the world awaits them with top floor assignments and corresponding remuneration. Fortunately, the University of Hawai‘i has an abundance of qualified facilitators such as at the Career Center, which provides students with an interview with a facilitator, whereby they can define their post-graduation career goals.

Imaginative students can start a career development process from their freshman year instead of waiting until their senior year to take advantage of course study guidelines, job testing, resume writing and practice interviews. Starting early with career development provides students knowledge about courses required for chosen professions. This is a great way for students to fulfill their goals.

Akin to persons born with purple hair and destined to be both left and right handed, which by itself can be a double basis for superstitious persecution, personal facilitators are sometimes compared to those born with one chromosome short of full mental guidance. Such quirks describe facilitators. Prime examples of personal facilitators are professional counselors, private tutors, and film and theater producers. More subtle facilitators are persons you meet in daily life sitting next to you in class starting casual conversation. Facilitators are charged to accomplish an individual’s as well as a group’s desires. When needs become satisfied, facilitators move on to explore other projects.

Other than on-the-job experience, there are few training grounds for personal facilitators who must have natural abilities that include compassion, understanding and lots of contacts. Using their own self-designed methods and style, natural facilitators are not easily recognized, chiefly because many prefer others to be leaders. The facilitator’s job is to provide support for others’ decisions. If you are fortunate to find one, you can benefit from having a personal facilitator.
Stefani’s solo debut undoubtedly swanky

By Marques Furumoto
Ka Leo Contributing Writer


That “family” Stefani refers to is Tom Dumont, Tony Kanal, and Adrian Young, fellow members of the band No Doubt. And though Kanal produces two tracks on the album, Stefani immediately establishes the album as a record that is emphatically unlike any of No Doubt’s previous works.

With production by Dr. Dre, Andre 3000, Dallas Austin, the Neptunes, Nellee Hooper, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, the immediate concern is that the record has the potential to be chaotic. But perhaps that was the point.

L.A.M.B. is littered with vibrant, magnetic, and silly songs. Stefani, Dr. Dre, and rapper Eve collaborate on “Rich Girl,” the trio’s second effort together, the first being Eve’s 2001 hit “Let Me Blow Ya Mind.” Dr. Dre incorporates a tailored reggae beat in “Rich Girl,” an odd change of pace for Dre, but a welcome one just the same.

The token Neptunes contribution, “Hollaback Girl” is almost totally devoid of melody, and features Stefani spitting cheerleader-like chants to the familiar thump of Neptunes’ drums — “A few times I’ve been around that track/ So it’s not just gonna happen like that/ Because I ain’t no hollaback girl/ I ain’t no hollaback girl.”

You get the feeling that this is the type of song that Stefani has wanted to do for a long time. Indeed, tracks such as “Hollaback Girl” and “Harajuku Girls” would not have been possible had No Doubt been at the helm of this record. “Harajuku Girls” gives Stefani the opportu-
Tran: Auto transmission identified by red coloring

From page 6

Pull it out and carefully inspect where the fluid is on the dipstick. Do not tilt the dipstick or put it at an awkward angle. This will cause the ATF to run up the dipstick and give you an inaccurate reading. If the fluid level is low, as indicated by the “warm/hot” markings on the dipstick, slowly add ATF using a funnel. Constantly recheck to see where the fluid level is at. Don’t just add an entire bottle at once, because overfilling may cause severe damage to the transmission. Add it slowly until the level reaches the correct amount.

Before reinserting the dipstick, take a minute to examine the transmission fluid. It should be a deep red. Fluid that is brownish, black, milky, or has particles indicates that the transmission is in need of a transmission fluid and possibly filter change.

Also, the fluid should smell very similar to the spare bottle of fluid you have. Burnt smelling fluid usually indicates possible transmission failure. If you smell burnt fluid, see your mechanic for his diagnosis and recommendations.

Remember that the above is a standard procedure for checking the ATF level in most vehicles.

Procedures vary for each make and model. For example, some older vehicles require that the transmission be put into all the gears and then ending up in park to get an accurate reading.

Stay tuned for part two of transmission care in an upcoming Ka Leo issue, which will explain what to do to prolong transmission life.

Send your questions and statements, automotive related or not, to kaleocars@hotmail.com

L.A.M.B.: ‘Bubble, Pop, Electríc’

From page 6

L.A.M.B. is reflective of that. Despite being in her mid-thirties, Stefani has a hugely popular rock star husband, Gavin Rossdale. With all that to fall back on, Stefani had nothing to lose with her solo record; and L.A.M.B. is reflective of that.

Kind of Life’ were all autobiographical works in origin. L.A.M.B. has “Cool,” a song about Stefani and an ex-flame still being “cool” with each other despite being separated for several years. Even though it’s not a love ballad, “Cool” is undeniably the song with the most heart on the album.

No Doubt fans should also be pleased with the Tony Kanal and Nellee Hooper contributions. Hybrids of new wave and 80’s pop, “Crash,” “Serious,” and “The Real Thing” are similar to No Doubt’s latest offering, a cover of Talk Talk’s “It’s My Life.”

The record closes with “Long Way To Go,” a duet with Andre 3000 about interracial relationships. Here’s an excerpt from the song: “When snow hits the asphalt, cold looks and bad talk come. We’ve got a long way to go. It’s beyond Martin Luther, upgrade computer. What color is love?”

The song is an ambitious piece, but sounds more like a cut off of Andre’s record, 2003’s brilliant The Love Below.

But L.A.M.B. is a record that’s incredibly fun to listen to. Though many may dismiss it as a series of techno blips and beeps, Stefani has successfully created a strange and swanky listening experience with L.A.M.B.

At this point in her life, Gwen Stefani has a hugely popular rock band, her own clothing line, and a rock star husband, Gavin Rossdale. With all that to fall back on, Stefani had nothing to lose with her solo record; and L.A.M.B. is reflective of that.

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Friday, Jan. 14

The Velveteens at Indigo's featuring Ross Jackson of KTUH and DJ Shane from Rebel-Rebel. 21+, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

MMM welcome back bash and plate lunch special at the Campus Center courtyard starting at 7 p.m.

Free open mic event and poetry slam at Campus Center Ballroom to benefit the March of Dimes "Stork's Nest" project. Featuring DJ Frankie and DJ ILLuminatiHYBRID. All ages, free admission, bring your new and used linens, clothes, teddy bears, etc to help mothers and babies in need.

Blend at Kai
1427 Makaloa St., featuring an evening of deep house with Reid Eugene Kawika and special guests. 21+, 11 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Le Fonque at Mercury
1154 Fort St. Mall #10, featuring Hip-hop, funk breakbeats, Drum & Bass and more. 21+, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m., $5 or free before 10:45.

The Velveteens at Indigo's featuring Ross Jackson of KTUH and DJ Shane from Rebel-Rebel. 21+, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Tag at ThirtyNine Hotel
39 N. Hotel st., featuring tag team sessions with DJs Risup, Juando, K-ing, Lady J, and Marlioca. Also featuring artwork, MCs and special guests. 21+, 9 p.m. - 2 a.m., $5

Flashback 80s at the Pink Cadillac featuring the best of the 80s and early 90s. 9 p.m. - whenever, $5 or free before 10 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 15

Pouhala Marsh Clean-up and restoration from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Work will involve pickleweed removal. To sign-up or get more info call 955-0100, ext. 18.

The Vortex at 1008 Kawaihae St. featuring Alphastate, Trishi, Diode and more. All Ages, $8, 10 p.m. - 5 a.m.

The Sisters in Sound present Escape at Indigo's, featuring the Freeform Sound Collective, Seeko, K-ing, and the Sisters in Sound. 21+, 10:30 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Speakeasy at The Living Room featuring downtempo and house by DJs Archangel, Miklos, Haboh, Ms. Angel and more. 21+, 10 p.m. - 4 a.m., free before 11 p.m.

Honolulu Zoo Twilight Tour Meet on the front steps at 5:15 p.m. $12 adults, $8 for children ages 4 to 12 or for members $10 per adult or $7 per child.

The Pleasure Trap a lecture by Douglas Lisle, PhD, about diet and lifestyle will be held at the McCoy Pavilion at Ala Moana Beach Park at 7 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 16

Synergy at Buddha Bar
260 Lewers St., hosted by Ion Myke and featuring Wrong 1 and 45 Revolver of the Direct Descendents. 21+, 9 p.m. - 2 a.m., $5 or free before 11 p.m.

Dr. Martin Luther Luther, Jr. Candlelight Bell Ringing Ceremony at the Nagasaki Peace Bell at the Civic Center Grounds, 6:30 p.m.

Submit your weekend events to the Scene Zine attention to Campus Features Editor Jay Chrisman at bulletin@kaleo.org or by calling 956-7043.
Research: Obstacles are ahead for UH

principal investigators who hold classified contracts on the UH Manoa campus. Those five principal investigators would have to be moved off campus to a secure facility. If this does not happen, the UH must not be entirely vulnerable should the government decide to crack down using ITAR violations.

A third complication surrounding the issue of classified research is the ethicality of it. When I first delved into my research, I was very opposed to the idea of government corruption upgrading our higher educational institutions through classified research. This was because I had visions of top secret university contracts where professors were making the world’s next most destructive weapon. Indeed there have been instances where the government has done this, (the Manhattan Project). But like any truly important ethical decision there is always a fuzzy gray area.

A perfect example of this is one of the current classified contracts at UH. UH took over management of the Pan-STARRS project in the University of Arizona. The Maui supercomputer is the home of the Pan-STARRS project. The Pan-STARRS project involves mapping the night sky and using the amazing processing power of the supercomputer to record/monitor the change in the light sources of the universe. This gives the Maui supercomputer the ability, if need be, to detect a comet or meteor on an intersecting trajectory with earth nearly a 100 years before we are in danger of colliding with it. If the Pan-STARRS project was not classified, what would be the outcome of a discovery that a meteor was going to hit the earth? The information could be immediately released to the general public. How would the world population deal with finding out that they had a 100 years until the end of the world? If the discovery was classified, it could give the United States a chance to share the information with other world leaders and formulate a global response, like designing a nuclear rocket capable of destroying the meteor while it was still well beyond the asteroid belt.

The issue of classified research is a lot more complicated than many of us make it out to be. I am not for the idea of classified research at UH, but I am aware of the obstacles that stand in the way of it becoming a reality. If classified research is to be discontinued at the university, the Board of Regents must first create a policy that protects us from ITAR regulations. Then, classified contracts should be phased out as they expire, and the university must have a plan for supplemental revenue.

Above: Michael Chertoff speaks after being introduced as President George W. Bush’s nominee for Secretary of Homeland Security on Tuesday, January 11, 2005, to replace current Secretary Tom Ridge.

Above left: Tom Ridge, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, announces his resignation on Tuesday, November 30, 2004, in Washington, DC. He said he would stay in the position until February 2005 unless his successor is confirmed by the Senate before them.
College sports: Fun just doesn’t pay out

By Steve Bisheff
The Orange County Register

(KRT) — What it finally comes down to is staying and having fun or leaving and taking the money. And wouldn’t it be nice if, just this once, fun could win? It probably won’t.

USC’s Matt Leinart is more likely to announce Friday that he is making himself eligible for the NFL draft, that he intends to forgo his senior season and accept the $10 million-to-$15 million bonus and $40 million or so package he is likely to receive to play quarterback for the 49ers or Dolphins, or Bears.

College life is great, but the rest of his life has to be more important, especially when he weighs the possibility of an injury that could cost him millions should he decide to return to the Trojans.

So count on cold reality beating out warm memories. Multiple dollar signs overshadowing finger-waving victory signs. And watch as the pros eventually toast him with beers to help muffle the echoes of all those happy college cheers.

Life can’t get much better than this — from his tiny L.A. apartment all the way back to his old high school at Mater Dei.

But yet he is expected to walk away from it? To take the money and run?

No wonder he has seemed so torn, so perplexed and confused since that joyous night at the Orange Bowl.

“I think I have now all of everything I can possibly think of,” a beleaguered-looking Leinart said Wednesday, referring to the rooms of information and mountains of advice he’s been handed in the past two weeks. “It’s just a matter of really digesting. It’s really whatever I choose.”

His coach, Pete Carroll, has tried his best to remain objective, attempting to show the quarterback who helped him become a collegiate icon the various pros and cons involved.

But Carroll wouldn’t be human if he didn’t work just a little harder to convince Leinart to stay.

“The one thing that is really important for our guys to understand is this is the time of their life. These are the best times they’ll ever have,” Carroll said.

“They’ll never get these years back with the Trojan football program, with these teammates, playing in front of their home crowds. It (the NFL) just isn’t like that. Everybody that’s played outside, you talk to Carson Palmer, Tony (Polamalu), all these guys will tell you there’s nothing like this. The point is, when you know it’s that special, why would you want to leave it so soon?”

So much for objectivity, huh?

The thing is, Leinart gets it. He comes off as smart away from the football field as he is on it. He realizes even well-meaning Carroll has his own agenda, and the tantalizing chance of winning a third national title would seem to be as close as one affirmative nod of Leinart’s head.

This is a huge decision, a momentous decision for so many people. For the coaches, for the players, for the university, for the members of the quarterback’s family.

Maybe what makes it even more difficult is how quickly everything has happened, how suddenly it has all changed. In two brief years, Leinart’s life has reversed its field quicker than Reggie Bush on one of his flashy punt returns.

“People don’t realize that a year ago this past spring, I didn’t even know I would be the starting quarterback on this team,” Leinart said. “It was a real close competition, and I managed to edge ahead slightly at the end, but it wasn’t like it was real clear cut, or anything.”

He won from a shaky starter in his 2003 opener at Auburn to the poised maestro of USC’s blaring orchestra of an offense in the Orange Bowl. No wonder he looked so comfortable raising a baton in front of the Trojans band after the game.

Now he will be asked to compose himself one last time, to make the most important play call of his young life.

It would be so refreshing if he said the heck with the dollars and chose to stay. It would be so unusual, so unique, so selfless of him.

It would also be dumb. Deep down, you suspect he has known what his decision would be all along. All of us have.

The potential contract is too good, the security too important, the temptation too great.

So if, as most of us expect, money wins out today, try to understand.

Fun is great, but no one’s ever taken it to the bank.

By Steve Bisheff
The Orange County Register

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So much for objectivity, huh?

The thing is, Leinart gets it. He comes off as smart away from the football field as he is on it. He realizes even well-meaning Carroll has his own agenda, and the tantalizing chance of winning a third national title would seem to be as close as one affirmative nod of Leinart’s head.

This is a huge decision, a momentous decision for so many people. For the coaches, for the players, for the university, for the members of the quarterback’s family.

Maybe what makes it even more difficult is how quickly everything has happened, how suddenly it has all changed. In two brief years, Leinart’s life has reversed its field quicker than Reggie Bush on one of his flashy punt returns.

“People don’t realize that a year ago this past spring, I didn’t even know I would be the starting quarterback on this team,” Leinart said. “It was a real close competition, and I managed to edge ahead slightly at the end, but it wasn’t like it was real clear cut, or anything.”

He won from a shaky starter in his 2003 opener at Auburn to the poised maestro of USC’s blaring orchestra of an offense in the Orange Bowl. No wonder he looked so comfortable raising a baton in front of the Trojans band after the game.

Now he will be asked to compose himself one last time, to make the most important play call of his young life.

It would be so refreshing if he said the heck with the dollars and chose to stay. It would be so unusual, so unique, so selfless of him.

It would also be dumb. Deep down, you suspect he has known what his decision would be all along. All of us have.

The potential contract is too good, the security too important, the temptation too great.

So if, as most of us expect, money wins out today, try to understand.

Fun is great, but no one’s ever taken it to the bank.
Coaches discuss BCS polling, vote system

By Alan Schmadrtek
The Orlando Sentinel

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (KRT) — College football’s big-time coaches appear amenable to lifting the curtain on their poll but only for the final one of the regular season.

“They’re just not going to talk much about it until the Bowl Championship Series plays its hand.”

About 60 of the 117 Division-I coaches discussed the poll and other issues Wednesday on the final day of the American Football Coaches Association convention. AFCA Executive Director Grant Teaff gave out a three-question survey for members to fill out. Coaches that didn’t make it to the meeting will get the survey in the mail.

“Would the coach be willing to make his or her weekly Top 25 vote public? Would the coach be willing to make his or her final regular-season Top 25 public? And if votes were made public, would the coach be willing to vote in the poll?”

Based on what we hear back, we’ll make some decisions and release it at the appropriate time,” Teaff said.

Discussions reaffirmed what Teaff already suspected: There’s little support for making the blanks public each week. But making the final regular-season poll public is something Teaff said has more support.

“I just can’t see them wanting to do it on a weekly basis,” he said. “I know I wouldn’t.”

Coaches showed little enthusiasm for releasing their first top 25 in mid-October, something BCS leaders prefer.

BCS leaders are reshaping how they calculate their weekly standings. With The Associated Press pulling its poll from BCS use, it’s uncertain whether the BCS simply will find another poll or whether it will overhaul the calculations.

Last season, the BCS compiled its weekly standings by giving equal weight to media poll, coaches’ poll and a combination of six computer polls.

BCS coordinator Kevin Weir, who also is the Big 12 commissioner, said the four-bowl alliance would have to make some final decisions by late July.

Meanwhile, coaches began a “campaign” to add a fifth year of eligibility for football players. NCAA President Myles Brand is supportive of the fifth year for football and men’s basketball, but basketball coaches see less of a need for the additional year than football coaches.

Much of the football support comes because the NCAA appears set to approve 12-game regular seasons. The NCAA’s Management Council passed a 12th-game proposal this week, effective for the 2006 season, and the proposal is expected to gain final approval in April.

“It’s imperative (to get the fifth year) if we go to 12 games, and we’re going to 12 games,” Teaff said. “We’re not going to get any more scholarships. We have schools out there that redshirt 20 players. You take 20 from 85 (scholarships allowed) and add a 12th game, that’s asking a lot.”

Under NCAA by-laws, a request for the extra year can’t be added to the 12th-game proposal. It would not be expected to take effect at least until 2007-08.

Brand gave coaches what Teaff said was a “sobering” briefing about the new set of academic penalties put in place. Those penalties would cut as many as nine scholarships in football for schools that repeatedly record poor grad rates.

“We’ve known this was coming for three years, and now it’s reality,” Teaff said.

Intramural sports taking applicants

Ka Leo Staff

The Intramural Sports department has started accepting entrants into the Spring 2005 volleyball league set to start on Monday, Jan. 24. Those interested in participating in the league can sign up in the intramural sports office in the Physical Education/Athletics Complex, Rm. 200 located on lower campus. There are three divisions one can sign up for: men, women, and coed.

Players can sign up as either a team or an individual. Each team manager must attend a mandatory managers’ meeting on Thursday, Jan. 20 at 4 p.m. in PE/A Lecture Hall, Rm. 241.

The league is open to University of Hawai‘i at Manoa students, faculty and staff.

Weekend Calendar

Ka Leo Staff

The University of Hawai‘i’s men’s volleyball team will take on Rainbows and Warriors from the past in its annual alumni match tonight at the Stan Sheriff Center at 7 p.m.

The match will follow an earlier match between two alumni teams starting at 4:30 p.m.

Several fan-favorites from past UH volleyball teams have signed up to play against the 2006 edition of the Warriors, including UH assistant coach Aaron Wilton, UH student assistant Jake Muise and Kimo Tuay.

Other sporting events:

Today

Men’s Tennis: Hawai’i vs. Oregon, 1:30 p.m., UH Tennis Complex.

Saturday

Men’s Basketball: Hawai’i vs. Louisiana Tech, 7:05 p.m., Stan Sheriff Center.

Women’s Basketball: Hawai’i at Louisiana Tech, 2:30 p.m., Ruston, La.

Men’s Tennis: Hawai’i vs. Florida State, 1:30 p.m., UH Tennis Complex.

Sunday

Women’s Tennis: Hawai’i vs. Illinois, 2 p.m., UH Tennis Complex.