



Scattered Showers

H: 83° L: 72°

Unleash the Force

'Star Wars' gaming revived  
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Soccer sistahs

Dynamic duo share their differences  
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WEDNESDAY  
SEPT. 24, 2008

# New band director adds local flavor

## CampusBeat

By Michelle White  
Senior Staff Reporter

SUNDAY, SEPT. 14

Staff at Johnson Hall called Campus Security Officers after an intoxicated resident refused to go to his room. Officers encouraged the student to retreat and sleep it off.

MONDAY, SEPT. 15

A staff person at Hale Lokelani heard something hit the ground at around 12:30 a.m. Upon investigation, the RA saw students running. A shopping cart containing empty beer cans was found on the ground.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 17

Campus Security discovered a vehicle with a broken window near lower campus' Hawai'i English Language Program portables. The owner was contacted and did not believe anything had been taken.

A student reported that, after leaving a helmet on her motorcycle at Moore Hall, someone stole her helmet, which had a customized paint job. Wouldn't it be bad luck to wear a stolen helmet to protect your brain?

THURSDAY, SEPT. 18

A person visiting Hamilton Library left their wallet unattended. The victim reported it stolen at 12 p.m.

See CampusBeat, page 2

*New band director hopes to heighten "college atmosphere" with music*

By Kelli Miura  
Ka Leo Associate News Editor

The University of Hawai'i Rainbow Marching Band has a new leader – a local, UH alumnus who has returned to the same position he held over 20 years ago.

It's really nice to work with some of the same directors and a very capable and enthusiastic student staff, said Keith Higaki, the new associate director of bands.

Leading the 220-member marching band is familiar to Higaki, 49, who served as director from 1983 to 1989. His role now includes being a music professor, which requires him to teach music major courses, such as conducting.

### Local style

After receiving his bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from UH, Higaki taught at various schools on O'ahu and brings nearly 30 years of teaching experience to the program.

Higaki is a Castle High School graduate and is the final touch to a now all-local band faculty.

The marching band's last two directors, Dan Kalantarian (2003-2005) and Brandt Payne (2005-2008), took over after the departure of Thomas Bingham in 2004 and were both from the Mainland. Bingham is now interm dean of the College of Arts and Humanities.

"There's a link and I feel



COURTESY PHOTO • JASON AXELSON

Associate Director of Bands Keith Higaki meticulously checks the phasing of the the UH Warrior marching band while they rehearse on the tarmac at the Clarence T.C. Ching Athletics complex.

there's just a closeness to the band family on the island," Higaki explained.

Higaki said it's important for him to work with Hawai'i students, whom he has knowledge of and experience with from teaching band at Kaimuki High School, Kalani High School and most recently, Punahou School. He was also president of the O'ahu Band Directors Association, which familiarized him with many of the band directors in the state.

"I think when I go around recruiting, I can relate to the students," he said, noting that many marching band members remem-

See Band, page 2

## About the new marching band director

**Name:** Keith Higaki

**Age:** 49

**Position:** Associate director of bands, marching band and symphonic band director

**Education:** UH music education, B.A. and M.A.

**Career:** Former UH assistant band director; McDonald's Hula Bowl Marching Band director; taught band at Kaimuki High, Kalani High and Punahou School; former president of the 'Oahu Band Directors Association

**Hobbies:** Computers, programming, digital audio and video production, developing and marketing self-developed music education software and Web site design



PLEASE RECYCLE MAHALO

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## WEDNESDAY SURF OUTLOOK

◆ HONOLULU TIDES  
HI 12:41 A.M. | 12:52 P.M.  
LO 5:34 A.M. | 8:02 P.M.

◆ HALE'IWA TIDES  
HI ---- | 11:50 A.M.  
LO 3:29 A.M. | 5:57 P.M.

NORTH 1-2+  
SOUTH 1-2  
WEST 0-2  
EAST 0-1.5

WINDS 10-20, mph E-NE

Wave heights reported Hawaiian style, about half face heights.

There will be a small north swell Thursday.

SOURCE: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Ka Leo

Submitting weekly... or writing for magazine co... write better. At the University of... the newspaper called Ka Leo, or th... made entirely of students. The peo... present and write articles all go... by Jo Inkaloo  
Many say that writing comes to them naturally... for others, writing becomes a burden. Whether... essay for class... from writing... contact the News Desk at 956.3222



# Band

From page 1

bered him when he was named their new director.

"I think that's good if they recognize me – they feel comfortable with that. I think that would be a good, positive recruiting asset."

Band members said Higaki's local attribute creates a connection with his students, which helps them relate to each other.

## Back to basics

Marching band students had to learn slightly new basic skills in this year's seven-day summer camp to incorporate Higaki's concepts and style.

"I'm trying to bring in a little bit more sharpness and snappiness in the marching to match the kind of drill work that we're going to do," Higaki said.

Time is one of the biggest challenges for the marching band, which meets as a regular, one-credit course on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:15 to 5:45 p.m.

"My philosophy in designing shows is I want to make it challenging and visually interesting enough and highly teachable because we have time limitations between our shows," Higaki said, who choreographs the band's shows on a self-designed computer program called MicroChart 2000.

But, Higaki said there is also the need to appeal to the band's audience.

UH football fans aren't the same people who attend marching band competitions and look for the latest tech and design concepts, he said.

Higaki said fans want to be entertained, have a good time and watch the band play things they recognized. This includes forming shapes like the "U" and "H" when the band "Co-Ed" during its pre-game show.

## Band members speak up

"Mr. Higaki is quite personable and will take the time to address his students," said senior trumpeter Chris Adachi. "He seems to keep his cool and he is trying to put more of a collegiate feel back into the band."

Adachi said changes in leadership pose several problems since the band has been unable to settle down because marching and teaching styles vary with each new director.

## EVERDAY ART | Working with what you got



NICHOLE CATLETT • KA LEO O HAWAII

Though the easels in the art building are towards the end of their lifespan, this one does its best to support junior Vaneza Agustin's still life painting during an Art 123 class.

## About the UH Rainbow Warrior Marching Band

Founded: 1923

Members: 220, including band, color guard and dancers

Activities: Pep band performances for athletic events at the Stan Sheriff Center, marching band presents pre-game and half-time shows at every UH home football game.

Practice schedule: Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3:45 to 5:15 p.m. at Cooke Field, plus a five-day summer band camp before school begins.

Although he would prefer another style of marching, Adachi said Higaki has taught the band well and understands that his way represents one of the more collegiate styles.

The band's last two directors were both from the mainland. With Higaki's background as a local, Adachi said it does make a difference.

Drum major Marcus O'Connell said that adapting to a different marching style every time the director changed was a problem.

"I think Mr. Higaki is a good director and a great person to work with," said O'Connell, who has worked with four directors through-

out his seven-year marching band career at UH. "He is always open to suggestions from his students and works well with his staff."

## Season prospective

The band's second halftime show of the season is set for this Saturday and will feature selections from "Raiders of the Lost Ark."

Higaki described the show's design as "very simple" as opposed to some of the intricate kaleidoscopic movements done by corps-style bands.

"When the trumpets have the melody, they're up in the front and they're coming towards you and hopefully you get chicken skin just because the sound is coming at you like that," Higaki said. "They're just coming straight at you and then they go off to the sides and another section might be coming towards you if they have the melody, and then we make some other interesting designs."

The band feels additional excitement with new head football coach Greg McMackin, who spoke to the band during camp about its involvement in games. At his request, the band now plays "Hawaii 5-0" outside the locker room as the team runs out before kickoff.

"We hope that this will bring back a lot more of that collegiate feel and just more of that rah-rah – that college atmosphere," Higaki said.

## CampusBeat

From page 1

A mo-ped was stolen while parked overnight at the Athletic Complex. It was locked.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

A UH staff person reported that someone stole his surfboard from St. John. If you noticed anyone walking down the road a little after lunch with a 7' 6" surfboard in a white surf bag, that probably was the thief.

A hungry student became upset after he arrived at the Hale Aloha Cafeteria past the 7:30 p.m. closing time. He refused to leave until he was fed. Campus Security Officers calmed the student down and escorted him out of the café. If we had a McDonald's on campus, this kind of thing would never have happened.

Have a news tip?

Contact us at:

news@kaleo.org or  
call 956-3219

THE VOICE  
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## ADVERTISING

Now located at the business office parallel to the bottom entrance of the Bookstore.

Advertising Director Lisa Asano

Ka Leo O Hawai'i is the campus newspaper of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. It is published by the Board of Publications three times a week except on holidays and during exam periods. Circulation is 10,000. Ka Leo is also published once a week during summer sessions with a circulation of 10,000. Ka Leo is funded by student fees and advertising. Its editorial content reflects only the views of its editors, writers, columnists and contributors, who are solely responsible for its content. No material that appears in Ka Leo may be reprinted or republished in any medium without permission. The first newsstand copy is free; for additional copies, please come to the Ka Leo Building. Subscription rates are \$36 for one semester and \$54 for one year. © 2008 Board of Publications.

# Revenge of the New Hope

**Chad Fujihara**
*Ka Leo Game Columnist*

Long, long ago, about 30 years to be exact, there was born a sci-fi movie franchise called "Star Wars." The first three movies would entertain many fans, but confuse them at the same time, with the first movie as "Episode Four." What happened before that?

Not so long, long ago, about 15 years, there would be three prequels to Star Wars that would continue to confuse some fans and annoy others, but wasn't that bad overall. Like a happy little bridge, "Star Wars: The Force Unleashed" the game connects the third movie "Episode Three: Revenge of the Sith" (technically the sixth) to the fourth movie "Episode Four: A New Hope" (technically the first).

Players take on the role of Darth Vader's secret apprentice, a young man named Starkiller, and act as a one-man black-ops team. As the title suggests, Starkiller is quite ripe with the power of the

force and is, eventually, able to do things like: grab passing spacecraft and fling them carelessly at your hapless foes, send out forks of force lightning to fry more hapless foes and shove, with much might, still more hapless foes. The caveat is that many of these powers and the others you learn must be developed. The game teases the player by letting you use the equivalent maxed out powers, only to strip them away one stage later.

The action and overall feel of the game is visceral. Melee attacks and force powers look very painful when applied to most enemies. Those familiar with the "God of War" series on the PS2 and PSP will feel a definite affinity for "Star Wars: The Force Unleashed," right down to the quick-button press sequences for dispensing with larger enemies and bosses.

The graphics and sound are pretty, especially on the more powerful systems, but to make up for any visual or aural shortcomings, each version of the game features something special like a unique con-



The Xbox 360 and PS3 versions are the first to feature LucasArts' Euphoria engine, which promises to bring movie-like detail to games.

rol scheme or an extra play mode.

The game is not perfect, as many larger game site reviews have expressed. But if you're a fan of "Star Wars" lore, of which this game is officially part of, unlike many other non-movie stories, or simply a fan of decent action games, this is a game to play despite any flaws. "Star Wars: The Force Unleashed" is available for all the current game systems.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

*Compiled by Layla Chen*

### EXHIBIT: "Pride & Practicality: Japanese Immigrant Clothing in Hawai'i"

Today until Sept. 27 | Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i (JCCH) Community Gallery

Open Gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i exhibition shows how the first Japanese immigrants also weaved their cultural pride and identity into the fabric of Hawai'i – literally

### EXHIBIT: "Writing with Thread"

Sept. 23, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. | Kuykendall Auditorium, room 101 | UH Mānoa

500 exquisite pieces of clothing and silver ornaments from SW Chinese minority costumes

### EVENT: Impacts of Tourism on Wild Dolphins: Valuable lessons from studies evaluating impacts of cetacean-watch tourism

Sept. 24, 7 to 8:30 p.m. | UH Mānoa Architecture Building, room 205

A complex and unresolved problem in wildlife management is detecting whether apparently benign human activities have cumulative effects that are harmful to wildlife populations

### BROWN BAGS: "Let's Go Bows: Behind the Scenes with University of Hawai'i Sports"

Sept. 25, noon to 1:30 p.m. Henke Hall 325 | 1800 East-West Road | UH Mānoa

Melody Toth, former head trainer for University of Hawai'i at Mānoa intercollegiate athletics speaks

### EVENT: ARTafterDARK

Sept. 26, 6 to 9 p.m. | Honolulu Academy of Arts | 532-8724

Free for Academy members and \$10 for non-members

### NIGHTLIFE: Contagious Fridays

Sept. 26 | 10 p.m. | Zanzabar | 2255 Kuhio Ave. 96815 | 21+

Zanzabar features an upscale clubbing experience with two bars, two levels and a VIP room. This gold trimmed club caters to hip-hop and house fans alike. Dress To Impress

### NIGHTLIFE: Reality

Sept. 26 | 10 p.m. | Living Room | Fisherman's Wharf | 1009 Ala Moana Blvd 96814 | 395-2100

Come early and grab a couch

### NIGHTLIFE: SOAK

Sept. 27 | 12 to 7 p.m. | Ohana Waikiki West | 2330 Kuhio Ave. 96815

Cabanas, pool bar, and cocktails. Come and sip Bacardi under the Waikiki sun with DJs: Willis Haltom, Ramyt, Zane, Ernie K, Cryptik, Chubakah, Loic, Marlon, Rayne and weekly guests. House music close to another house venue, Lotus Soundbar. So bring a change of clothes and get your Saturday Groove

### EVENT: Mānoa Jazz Festival

Sept. 27 | 6 p.m. | Andrews Amphitheatre | UH Mānoa | www.outreach.hawaii.edu/community

A cool night of hot jazz with local and national jazz artists, including local favorites; The Noel Okimoto 'Ohana and the Honolulu Jazz Quartet, and headliner Devin Phillips and New Orleans Straight Ahead

### LECTURE: "Art and Archaeology: Working Together to Understand Prehistoric American Cultures"

Sept. 28 | 1:30 p.m. | Art Building, Rm. 101, UH Mānoa | 956-4050 | Free

Lecture by Dr. Elizabeth Ann Morris, one of the most distinguished and productive archaeologists of America

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# Avoiding the early road to bankruptcy

*Students' credit card debt builds as economic woes worsen*

**By Liisa Cushing**  
 Ka Leo Contributing Writer

A combination of tough economic times with a consumer economy based on debt-financed purchases could mean disaster for many Americans dependent on credit cards.

While credit cards can be a valuable tool for building good credit, they are a nightmare for those who wield them irresponsibly. Approximately 76 percent of undergraduate students have credit cards, and 20 percent of them are currently struggling to stay on top of their debt.

Why do we overspend? Since our culture equates material possessions with happiness, Americans have become obsessed with keeping up with the Joneses.

While many use their credit cards for things like medical treatment or school tuition, many more use their cards to buy things they simply don't need – with money they simply don't have.

While this is irresponsible, it's understandable.

The media constantly bombards us with messages that we all need the latest expensive product or else we will never be as happy or as cool as the people in their advertisements. And we undoubtedly see green when we spot people who have what we want. But if we're not careful now, we will find ourselves drowning in debt later.

Our insatiable appetite for all that is big and shiny has only gotten us into increasingly hotter water. This overindulgent lifestyle is lived by Americans of every age and financial status, but it is beginning to affect people at a younger and



MCT CAMPUS

Americans have a love affair with credit cards, overspending in times of plenty, and turning to credit as a necessity in tough economic times. College students are particularly vulnerable to the temptation a quick plastic purchase otherwise beyond the means of their meagre student employment.

**“Approximately 76 percent of undergraduate students have credit cards, and 20 percent of them are currently struggling to stay on top of their debt.”**

younger age – especially college students. Americans are increasingly swan-diving from the pot into the fire.

The recent subprime mortgage crisis is a classic example that illustrates America's consumption problem. For many Americans, buying a house meant spending beyond their means. With subprimes loans,

buyers with bad credit ratings were allowed to take out mortgages on homes they couldn't afford.

Unfortunately for them, the low interest rates on these loans typically readjusted. As a result, more and more families became unable to bear the expense. Approximately 1.2 million families have already

lost their homes and another 2.2 million are in danger of losing theirs as well.

So, students, create wise spending habits now and break any bad ones that you may have already developed. Do this before you find yourself up to your ears in red ink and on the path to future bankruptcy. If you have a credit card, use it as

## Credit cards at college

A recent survey asked college students about credit cards:

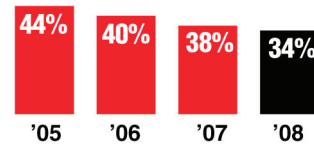
### In a typical month

The average:

Amount charged	<b>\$195</b>
Number of transactions	<b>6.3</b>
Transaction value	<b>\$31</b>

### Cards in their name

Percent who say they have a credit card in their own name



### Learning about credit

Who has primary responsibility for my credit education?

Me	<b>34%</b>
My parents, family	<b>30%</b>
Don't know	<b>16%</b>
My bank	<b>9%</b>
My high school	<b>3%</b>
My college/university	<b>3%</b>
My credit card company	<b>2%</b>
Other	<b>3%</b>

Source: Student Monitor Financial Services  
 Spring 2008 findings  
 Graphic: Judy Treible

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MCT CAMPUS

little as possible. Avoid unnecessary and impulsive purchases so that you're sure you can pay off the card balance at the end of month.

Remember to be smart about your spending. When you're out shopping, stop to think about whether you truly need what you are about to buy, and if you don't need it, don't buy it! It's easier to do this while shopping alone, as it helps you avoid peer pressure to "hurry up and get something."

Above all else, be realistic about your financial situation and never let simple desires get the better of you. You might not need that new super-cool laptop or the latest iPod. Remember to take care of your money, as it will eventually take care of you.



Higher Education Second Session By Will Caron



Horny by Toby Idian

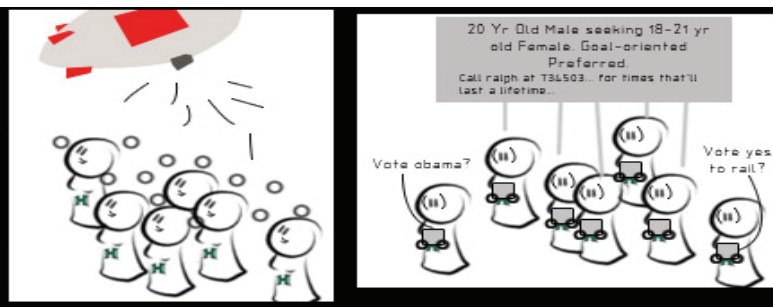
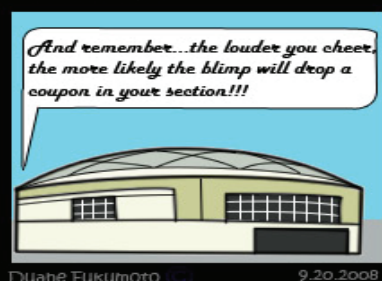


LIFE'S WONDERS ~ LOCKS

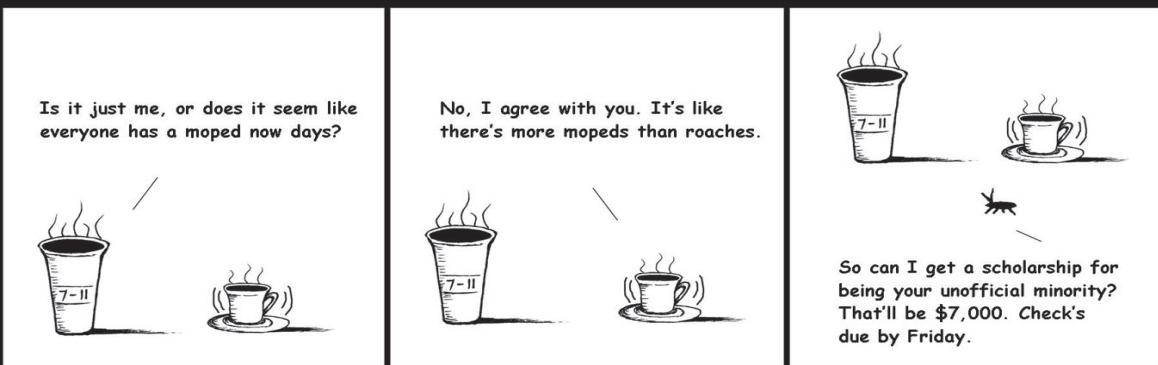
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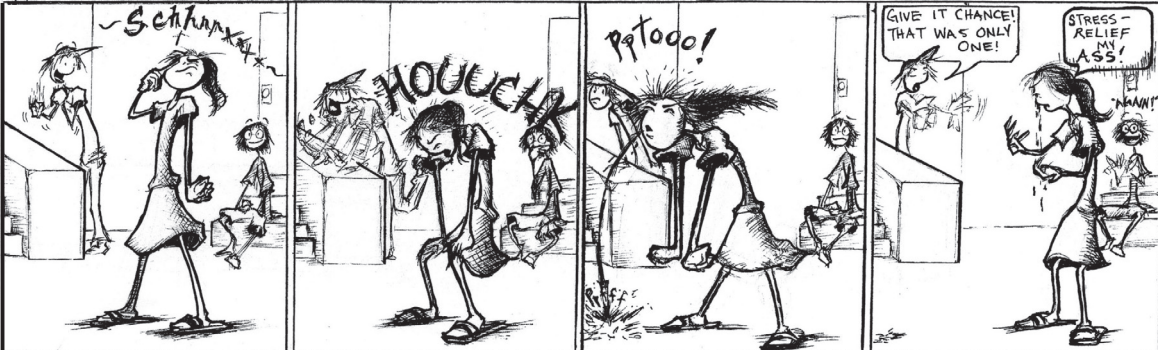
Loi Girl Problems



Coffee Talk "Putting Your Money Where Your Mouth Is" by Cynthia McCoy



HANABATA by: Kapa Kahi



Crazy Place By: Dallas Moffis

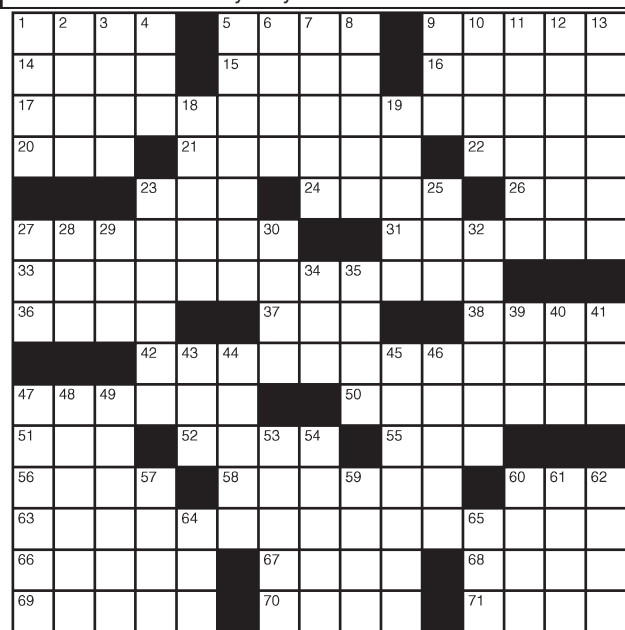


"I'm tellin' you, we gotta do something about this! There are just too many humans; it's getting outta hand!"



# THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



### ACROSS

- 1 Modern journal
- 5 "Squawk Box" airer
- 9 "Wheel of Fortune" host
- 14 Skunk River state
- 15 Mystique
- 16 Put down
- 17 Crash-test road?
- 20 MapQuest abbrs.
- 21 NHL Senators
- 22 Take a fall
- 23 "Wheel of Fortune" buy
- 24 Sub builder?
- 26 NYC hours
- 27 Hypotheticals
- 31 Purposely misinformed
- 33 Western relocation road?
- 36 20th-cen. conflict
- 37 Prefix's prefix
- 38 Rock band boosters
- 42 Must-take road?
- 47 Toll road convenience
- 50 Bridge support
- 51 Gen-\_\_ (post-baby boomer)
- 52 Verdi opera
- 55 Pennsylvania in D.C., e.g.
- 56 "Battle Cry" writer
- 58 Star in the sky?
- 60 Keyboard key
- 63 Take one's eye off the road?
- 66 Wearies
- 67 E. Ness, e.g.
- 68 Mouse-induced squeals
- 69 Derisive
- 70 Marquis de \_\_
- 71 P-U connection

### DOWN

- 1 Some pens
- 2 Takings
- 3 Quiet raptors
- 4 Guy's partner
- 5 Discard
- 6 Night in Metz
- 7 Widespread
- 8 Pleeesease?
- 9 \_\_ Paulo
- 10 Border on
- 11 Shook up
- 12 Give aid to
- 13 Comply with, as a rule
- 18 Greek colony
- 19 Kind of lily
- 23 NY prison
- 25 Sundial number
- 27 Compass dir.
- 28 Partner of hem
- 29 Black cuckoo
- 30 Equinox mo.
- 32 Pass, as time
- 34 Part of TNT
- 35 Geom. figure
- 39 Tangled mass
- 40 Bakker's letters
- 41 That woman

- 43 S. Hemisphere nation
- 44 Thomas of basketball
- 45 Maiden turned into a spider
- 46 Flood-zone sight
- 47 Jumps for joy
- 48 Focus (on)
- 49 Like some deductions, with "a"
- 53 Food regimens
- 54 Bakery lure
- 57 Timetable, briefly

- 59 Not very much
- 60 Water pitcher
- 61 5th Ave. retailer
- 62 Saclike growth
- 64 Half a fly?
- 65 Supply slip, in brief

By Barry Silk  
McLean, VA

9/24/08

**Stumped?**

Go to [www.kaleo.org](http://www.kaleo.org) for puzzle solutions.

## su | do | ku

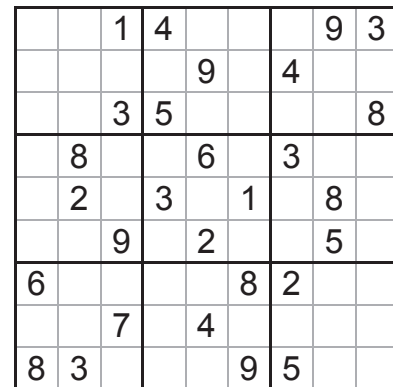
© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 thru 9.

Puzzles will become progressively more difficult through the week.

Solutions, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

Go to [www.kaleo.org](http://www.kaleo.org) for this puzzle's solution.



MEDIUM

# 76

get creative

# www.kalamakua.org

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# 'Ono 101: Mango sugar plum pie with brown sugar oatmeal streusel

By Chris Mikesell

Ka Leo Food Columnist

A couple of weeks ago I found a glorious gem of a fruit, fresh sugar plums, at the Friday farmers market on campus. After trying some, I found that they are amazingly succulent with a well-rounded taste of sweetness and acidity.

I thought to myself, "Hey, I can make a pie with these." Not only could, but should. Nay, must. These were like Borg fruits. Resistance was futile.

Of course, to plug the sugar plums into a pie filling I needed to have a good foundation of both structure and flavor. The natural pectins in the skin of the fruit would help create the structure I needed, as would some tapioca pearls.

Tapioca has long been a traditional pie thickener, and I always keep some around in case I get a pudding craving. The flavor part of the equation, I thought, could use some assistance in the way of not only sugar, but some lime and mango.

To round out the acidity, I opted to use brown butter, which oddly enough is so tasty on its own that recipes containing it will often be named after it. In this case, though, it provides a nutty, pleasing background note to the sugar plum, the real star of this pie.

Yes, even the crust takes a back seat to the filling here. I'm OK with using pre-made pie crust because, for one thing, that's all people have on hand sometimes. Besides, I don't want people to not make this just because their pie-crust-fu isn't the greatest.

There are times when I have to search far and wide for the ingredients I need to put a new recipe together. But sometimes the ingredients are staring me in the face.

That is precisely the feeling I get whenever I find myself at the farmers market. I can't help but look upon the layout with the open eyes of possibility. The wooden stands shout into my culinary consciousness, "The power of the produce compels you!"



CHRIS MIKESSELL • KA LEO O HAWAII

## Filling:

6 – 6 ½ cups fresh sugar plums, quartered and pitted  
1 large ripe manzanilla mango (about 1 ½ - 2 cups, diced)  
Juice of 1 lime  
1 stick unsalted butter  
2 cups water  
¾ cup sugar  
Pinch of sea salt  
1 tbsp tapioca

## Streusel Topping:

¼ cup melted butter (1/2 stick)  
8 oz. brown sugar (1/2 box)  
¾ cup water  
1 ½ cups quick-cooking oatmeal  
¼ cup vegetable oil  
About 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour

2 pie crusts (most pie crusts come in packs of 2)

1) Preheat your oven to 450°F. Toss sugar plum pieces in the lime juice and set aside.

2) In a large pot over medium-low heat, melt the butter and stir frequently until the foaming stops and the sediment from the milk solids in the butter settles to the bottom of the pan. Keep stirring and watch very carefully until the butter and the solids turn a nutty brown color.

3) Add the water, sugar plum and lime mixture, mango, tapioca and sugar. Increase heat to high and bring to a boil, then lower heat to medium-low and simmer for 30 minutes, adding the salt halfway through. Remove from heat and let cool.

4) In a bowl, combine all the ingredients for the topping except for the flour. Mix the flour in ½ cup at a time. Stop adding when the mixture becomes solid enough to form into wet clumps.

5) Place your pie crusts into your pie plates, flute and dock with a fork. Split the filling mixture into the two pie shells and top each with half of the streusel mixture, broken into coin-sized chunks sprinkled all over the top of each pie.

6) Place the pies in the middle rack of the oven and place a cookie sheet underneath to catch any drippings. Lower the heat to 425°F and bake for 17 to 19 minutes, or until the crusts and topping are browned. Refrigerate for at least four hours before serving.

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# Ako, Higa not so different after all

By Russell Tolentino

*Ka Leo Associate Sports Editor*

One plays on offense, the other on defense.

That might turn out to be the only difference between junior forward Ambree Ako and senior defender Tehane Higa.

In fact, when it comes to soccer, their many similarities go back to their childhoods, as both grew up in 'Aiea and were introduced to the sport by their parents. The duo were also teammates at 'Aiea High School for three years, before eventually being reunited as Rainbow Wahine.

When asked how the two are different, both had a difficult time answering.

"I guess she's more outgoing than I am, and I would say I'm louder," Ako said. Higa agreed, adding that Ako is also "more laid back."

However, when asked what the other's best attributes are, both were quick to sing similar

praises.

"(Tehane) leads by example," Ako said. "She has a good head on her shoulders, and she knows what to do to help the younger (players) transition (into college)."

Higa said that Ako's actions define her leadership as well.

"When Ambree goes on to the field, she plays her hardest all the time," Higa said. "When the young kids see that, they can look up to her."

Last season, the two even shared the WAC's Player of the Year honors for offense and defense. This season, the WAC coaches picked both to repeat their honors, and Ako and Higa have had to handle the same pressure of expectations.

Ako admits that there is "plenty pressure" and that sometimes, it's harder to perform when "everyone expects you to do good," and if you don't, "it's like you are letting everyone down."

Higa agrees with the individual pressure of their awards,

but also notes that there is a lot of pressure on the team because they are the defending WAC champs.

"Everyone is gunning for us," Higa said, adding that the pressure is more intense at home because the team does not want to let their fans down.

But Ako believes that she, Higa and the rest of the team must "forget about the (expectations) and focus on what the team needs to do."

Higa added, "We all want to win the WAC, the WAC tournament and make it to the NCAAs

and having these common goals keeps us together."

And, apparently, it also keeps together Ako and Higa, who share a bond that helps them motivate and lead the Rainbow Wahine soccer squad to the next level of play.



MICHAEL CARINO • KA LEO O HAWAII

UH's Ambree Ako and Tehane Higa, who are both graduates of Aiea High School, pose for a quick portrait after a match at the Waipio soccer stadium.



JOEY TRISOLINI • THE DAILY LOBO

UH's Tehane Higa moves to kick the ball downfield while UNM's Rachel Fields attempts to steal.

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