Trolley makes last stop

By Stanley Lee

Ka Leo Senior Staff Writer

Students took it to the beach, to hang out with friends and to grab a bite

But by 7:38 p.m. tomorrow, the Kaimuki-Kapahulu-Waikiki Trollev will depart from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa for the last time, leaving behind riders who found it a convenient and affordable way to get to and from school.

The trolley route that serviced UHM and the Kaimuki, Kapahulu and Waikiki communities every 30 minutes on 50-cent and \$1 fares, will end after its \$240,000 city budget was reallocated elsewhere by Honolulu mayor Jeremy Harris this summer.

A city bus route will assume the trolley's exact route starting Friday

Valho Guimel De Carvalho, a UH exchange student from New York, liked the trolley's convenience and \$1 fare, compared to TheBus' \$2 adult fare.

'It's the reason why I use it and not TheBus," Guimel De Carvalho said. "It takes you down to the beach. It's like an express or shuttle."

"It helped the university with offcampus housing," added Ginny Meade, executive director of the Greater East Honolulu Community Alliance, whose

group pushed for the trolley project. "It's terrific for those who are not from Hawai'i to have a direction down to the beach or Waikiki. It brought a lot of life to all of the community."

The daily trolley service began four years ago, providing a shuttle service between the communities and a means of bringing in Waikiki tourists to areas they might bypass. It had just 11 stops, 15 fewer than what it has now, and a ridership of 2,800.

UH wasn't on the shuttle route at first since organizers couldn't figure out how to add the university to its route. After a while, Meade said "we started realizing the university was a terrific resource for all the communities."

The trolley cut back over six daily operating hours to add UHM's Frear Hall dormitory as a stop in 2002. Ridership increased after the addition and grew more when the trolley was discovered as a transportation alternative during last year's strike by TheBus drivers. Ridership peaked last month at over 24,000.

"It's cheaper (than TheBus) and because it's open air, you can feel the air and it's not all hot, congested or freezing," Liz Morrison, a UH sophomore majoring in fashion design said.

Added Alexandra Coelho, an engineering junior: "You can get to the beach and Waikiki. I used to take it to Jamba Juice on Kapahulu."

One of the missions of the trolley was to attract more tourists into the Kapahulu and Kaimuki communities. Prior to the trolley, tourists who wanted to get to Kaimuki needed to take three different buses. Meade said by the time tourists found out the length it took to get there, many lost interest.

With the trolley, it took about 20 minutes to get from Waikiki to Kaimuki via Kapahulu and Wai'alae avenue. Meade said some Japanese tourists took the trolley specifically to Leonard's Bakery in Kapahulu for malasadas.

Waikiki can be too touristy and a lot of visitors want that local touch, and Kaimuki and Kapahulu offered that," said City Councilman Charles Djou, who represents portions of Kaimuki, Kapahulu and Waikiki. "It was valuable that it provided visitors that experience."

"It was the best thing that ever happened," D.J. Colbert, owner of Prosperity Corner in Kaimuki, added. "Losing it is absolutely disgusting."

E Noa Tours, the trolley operator the past two years, ran business advertisements on the trolley and even advertised the trolley on the U.S. mainland and Japan. Tour companies even offered the trolley as part of its tour packages

Small businesses such as Prosperity Corner was one of 19 businesses that advertised on the trolley, finding it as a

Students board the Kaimuki-Kapahulu-Waikiki trolley outside Frear Hall. The service, which peaked last month with 24,000 riders, will end tomorrow.

helpful means of attracting tourists.

"The fact of the matter is, Kaimuki has no parking," said Colbert, whose store even paid for the return fare of customers who rode the trolley to her store. "You're telling tourists to find a place to park (when) it's hard enough to find places for locals to park."

Robert Gerard of Kwilts n' Koa in Kaimuki said visiting quilters play a big part in his family's business and thinks they will still find the store even after the trolley service ends.

"They all stay in Waikiki and in

order for them to get here, they have to catch the bus and it's more expensive," Gerard said. "The trolley is only a dollar and comes straight up here. A lot of them did catch the trolley. It was easier for them."

Colbert said her store will definetly notice the fact the trolley is gone. Even though city bus route No. 303 will replace the trolley route Friday morning, Colbert is skeptical if that will help

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WEDNESDAY

September 29, 2004

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The Voice of Hawai'i

Ka Leo O Hawai'i

Candidates target undecided, Fasi votes

Stories by Alexandre Da Silva

Ka Leo Assistant Editor

VOL. XCIX ISSUE 27

Honolulu mayoral candidate Mufi Hannemann last week shook the hands and tapped the backs of those who sweated on the road or reached for their wallets to propel him into the Nov. 2 general elections.

"It was the 'mahalo week," said Hannemann, who advanced to the general in second place with 42 percent of the votes cast in the Sept. 18 pri-

Hannemann will face opponent Duke Bainum, who won the primary with 45 percent of the primary's votes.

Bainum yesterday said, except for "a couple evenings" where he "just stayed at home," he hasn't taken a break from campaigning.

"We are back at full force," he said. The two finalists have just a few more

weeks to raise and spend money, and battle for a voting block left up for grabs after their primary candidate, former Honolulu Mayor Frank Fasi, drew about 10 percent of the primary votes and was eliminated from the race.

Because candidates need 50 percent of the votes plus one to win the election, analysts predict Fasi voters could decide the final result.

The race also got a new twist on Monday when Fasi announced that he would endorse Hannemann.

Hannemann said he is optimistic that former Fasi voters would support him since a majority of those who voted for Fasi in the primary came from the Leeward and North Shore areas where Hannemann beat Bainum.

"I've always admired Mayor Fasi through the years," Hannemann said. "It's a very important objective of this campaign."

Bainum ignored Fasi's endorsement and said the former mayor "is not a factor in the general election."

"Fasi voters will make up their own mind," he said, adding that "the 1,000 voters who didn't vote in the primaries are typically independent."

Hye-Ryeon Lee, an assistant speech professor at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, echoed Bainum's argument, saying today's voters don't follow party lines as religiously as was the case 20 years ago.

"There will be people saying, 'Well, I voted for him (Fasi), but I decide my final vote," Lee

Hannemann's campaign coordinator, Trudi Saito, said though voter turnout was particularly low where Hannemann was strongest, the campaign will not be limited to those areas and will encourage islandwide voting.

"We are still feeling very enthusiastic," Saito said in a phone interview, while turbulent activity at Hannemann's campaign headquarters filtered through the line. "People recognize our message."

Bainum said a batch of new campaign ads his campaign will put out should make differences between him and Hannemann more transparent to voters. But he would not elaborate on any new message.

"I'm the mayoral candidate who best represents change," he rehearsed his campaign slo-

Less than half of the 430,285 registered O'ahu voters voted in the primary. Statewide voter turnout dipped to a record-low 39.7 per-

Hannemann, claiming that his chances of winning increase with voter turnout, said he hopes the buzz from the presidential election will drag more voters to the polls.

Nick Cotton, 21, a junior in psychology at UHM, did not vote in the primary, but said he would pick a mayor when voting for president.

"I'll probably study (the mayoral race) and see what's best for Hawai'i." he said.

Cotton's position is not an isolated phenomenon, according to Lee, who said voters who show up for primaries often are heavily engaged in politics while the general election tends to attract those who see voting as a civic duty.

"These people tend to make up their minds



Studying

Abroad

Features page 2,3,5

CHRISTOPHER YEUNG • Ka Leo O Hawai'i

Jane Cooper, a volunteer at Duke Bainum's campaign headquarters, corrects addresses on Bainum's postcard mailers yesterday.

in the last couple of months," she said of those who wait till November to vote. "This is a very important time."

Hannemann's team has criticized the nearly \$2 million that Bainum spent from his pocket in political advertisements to persuade voters.

Of the \$2.8 million Bainum's campaign has raised since 2001, Bainum said \$700,000 came from individual donors while he has contributed more than \$1.9 million in personal loans.

Bainum said fund-raising increased in the wake of his primary victory.

See Mayor, page 7

"It is going extremely well," Bainum said.

Why should you care?

Hannemann has labeled himself to UH voters as "the only candidate for mayor" with "a platform on education."

He said he wants to help the city create better-paying jobs in the high-tech industry, but stressed that UH needs enough funding to adequately train students so they can tackle those jobs when they graduate.

Though he acknowledged that assisting UH is not the focus of his mayoral duties, Hannemann said that if elected, he would use his position to lobby for university funding whenever possible.

"You need to have a first-class environment (at UH)," Hannemann said.

Hannemann cited his involvement with UH's School of Travel Industry Management while he was director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism as well as his efforts "to help save the Pro Bowl" from leaving the islands while he served as councilman as footnotes students need to factor in when deciding on a candidate.

In contrast, Bainum said his personal experiences from attending UH's public administration program give him the edge to capture UH voters since he is familiar with students' concerns, such as parking.

He said his push to pass legislation that would give students free bus passes while he served on the city council illustrates his commitment to UH issues.

"Students are paying \$65 for parking, a month?" he said.

Bainum said he envisioned the university not only as a training center that prepares graduates to enter the state's work force, but also as a place where students can build networks and make friendships.

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Study Abroad Fair

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Campus Center

Moore 115 8:30 am - 4:30 pm 956-5143 uhmsac@hawaii.edu www.studyabroad.org

Study Abroad Center









Class and culture time abound in Europe

By Trisha Tanaka

Ka Leo Copy Editor

Spending a semester abroad in London was an experience I'll never forget. I was able to see the Queen, the changing of the guard, and the city J.K. Rowling was well-known for. I made new British friends, tested a different curriculum, met a new host family, gained a British accent, and traveled around Europe during my free weekends.

The Study Abroad Center prepared me for my experience, with two, four-hour informational sessions, involving more than 100 pages of possible problems we would face, like homesickness.

Traveling with six other University of Hawai'i students also helped me enjoy London. We took classes together, danced the night away at clubs and supported each other as we became 'ohana away from home. We talked about each other's family, boyfriends or girlfriends, and we learned to cope with these experiences together.

The workload was different from UH. Rather than tests or quizzes, we had essays, usually once a week, for our British History and Culture Colloquium class. We traveled to Windsor Castle, Stonehenge and Bath, Parliament, Big Ben, Brighton, Blenheim and Oxford.

School was three to four times a

week and it included theater visits to watch plays like "One Minute" and "Thoroughly Modern Millie." The best was "The Pillowman," a dark play about a mystery writer who is interrogated for murder because his mentally disabled brother copied and carried out one of his stories. I loved the play so much that

Theater in London is more frequently attended than the cinema. Since I am an English major, I was honored to have theater as part of the curriculum at Thames Valley University. I would not have had the same opportunity to experience theater here as I did in London.

I bought the book.

After a long day at school, usually from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m., I would go to the student pub and meet some friends. I joined a hip-hop dance class where I made friends with second generation English immigrants. There was also my dance teacher, Robert, who looked and danced like Justin Timberlake.

We would go to
Freddie's, the student pub,
after class and unwind by playing
pool and dancing. There were other
European students from France,
Spain, Ireland and Scotland, too.

If I didn't see anyone at the stu-

dent pub, I would find most of my friends at the computer lab. When we were all done typing papers, we'd go to one of two other pubs, The Green or Finnegan's.

The Green featured a DJ every Friday and Saturday who played

hip-hop. On Mondays, they hosted game night, where we played a shoulder-high Connect 4 and "Dance Dance Revolution" on an enormous keypad. Finnegan's was an Irish pub where we got to know a greeneyed, leprechaun-esque man, who offered us free drinks. I couldn't really say no to alcohol in London. Between every two buildings lies a pub; it's part of the European

culture. The nightlife mainly consists of pubs or clubs.

For lunch, we would go to a little shop called The Naughty Bite for baguette sandwiches or a jacket (baked) potato.

During Spring Break I could have gone anywhere. While searching on the Internet for cheap airfare and places to see, Amsterdam stood out from the wide array of choices. It is home to the Heineken Brewery and the Van Gogh Museum.

If you drink "Heines" in America, you've got to get your hands on them in Holland. Instead of tasting like the beer that's exported to the United States, it tastes like champagne.

Seeing the original paintings by Van Gogh after staring at postcards in art textbooks elevates his work to a higher level. You experience the paintings as if you were sitting with him, admiring

every stroke of his brush. I especially liked three paintings in a collection that was inspired by his favorite drink, Absynthe, which is classified as a hallucinogenic drug; so it's illegal in the United States. One painting was of his Absynthe in a glass decanter, moving as if it were filled not only with liquor but also filled with life.

Amsterdam's famous red light district was entertaining. We would walk around at night just to see the prostitutes, some as young as 16, some as old as your mom, trying to seduce men in front of a glass door with red lights.

For a long weekend I ventured to Paris, and was dwarfed by the Eiffel Tower. The elevator lines were as long as a Disneyland ride. Ten French girls on a school trip mistook Erik for a celebrity and became his paparazzi.

After classes ended in May, three of my friends and I went backpacking for a month through Scotland and Ireland. We saw the grassy land used for the film "Braveheart."

With my London experience and traveling quests, I sprouted with a new perspective on life, and now I have clearer goals. I didn't know how much I'd taken for granted — my loving family and friends, eating rice, and driving my car.

I saw so much that I couldn't capture all the Kodak moments with a camera. But I took pictures with my mind, and I will always have these special memories.

Journey to Africa reveals faraway homeland

By Judy Antoine

Special to Ka Leo

My dream of going to Africa was born when I, along with my brothers and sisters, danced barefoot in my village in Grenada, singing along with Peter Tosh: "Don't care where you come from; as long as you're a black man, you're an African. Don't mind your nationality; you have got the identity of an African."

I knew that the University of Hawai'i at Manoa didn't offer a Study Abroad program in Africa, so I did my online research and found a program offered through State University of New York Brockport.

However, as a UH student, I needed to tailor my program through the UHM Study Abroad Center in order to receive UH credits. The Study Abroad staff was available to help me, from pictures for my international identity card to signing 10 deposit slips so that my financial aid would be deposited in my checking account.

I was accepted at the University of Ghana, Legon. I would take African Literature, Ghanaian Literature, Performing Arts in Traditional African Societies, and most invigorating of all, Traditional Ghanaian Dance.

I was on my way when it became evident that I was entering new territory — new in terms of my life experience. Ghanaians returning home from the United States and from Britain were on the plane with me. A small boy with a British accent sitting next to me held my hand and asked, after we had experienced mild turbulence, "Auntie, are we going to be okay? Are we close to Ghana?"

We were picked up at the Kotoka International Airport by our University of Ghana Resident Director. We drove through Accra past the apple sellers standing in the middle of the road. Women with babies on their backs and baskets on their heads sold food.

My first night in Africa, I slept to the sounds of insects I had never heard before. I awoke to a chorus of voices in a language that I would eventually become familiar with — Twi. I went for a walk to check out the campus and surroundings. I was on a savannah with sprawling acres of land, iridescent blue-back birds with a song like no other, horses galloping beneath mango trees, and children carrying buckets of water on their heads.

Our first weekend, my group and I were briefed on what to expect as students and as visitors to a new country. The doctor let us know that we should take our "preventive" medicine to avoid malaria. Our host fed us meals we were used to and others we would get used to. She advised against drinking the tap water. Some of the members of my group whispered among themselves that they wouldn't even use it to brush their teeth.

On the first day of class, students filled a crowded dancehall. Roll was called. Drummers played slow and soft. "Are you listening?" our instructor asked.

"This dance class is about humanity," he said. "When we dance, we recognize the cycles of life. When you step out (into the world), remember what you've learned in dance. Especially the friendships you've developed. The musicians in the dance represent the community. Each instrument, as well as each person has his/her role."

As I began learning the beginning steps to Kpatsa (pronounced "Patcha") and Kpanlogo (pronounced "Panlogo"), I learned the importance of traditional dance in Ghana. Each ethnic group has dances that are unique to it. Dances sometimes are linked to historical events. They also tell about the ways of life of the people — economic activity, warfare, the social and political setup, belief systems, and rites of passage. According to Ms. Patience Kwakwa, our Ghanaian Dance Forms instructor, "Dances do not take place in isolation. They may take place in the context of a funeral or naming ceremony. The latter incorporates a new person into the society."

I accepted an invitation to an "outdooring" or naming ceremony for a newborn named Celestine. On the eighth day after he was born, he was introduced to the village of Kisseman. The local village dance troupe performed as

his grandfather sat robed in exquisitely embroidered blue and white kente cloth. My companions and I drank Fanta and ate kenke with pepper with our hands — careful not to use our left hands for eating, which would be disrespectful our hosts.

As the dancers from the group rested, the drummers continued to play and the audience was invited to participate. The children danced, and adults pasted bills to their foreheads and stuck coins in their pockets. I sat watching until the drum heralded a sound that my body couldn't resist, the Kpanlogo, a song from dance class. I put my camera down, took off my shoes and hit the dirt. I shook, shimmied, and turned, allowing my skirt to spin, lifting off the ground. The children laughed. Money pasted to my head dropped to the ground and was quickly picked up by eager brown hands. I was at home in Africa, moving to a sound that my body knew even from way across the ocean, deep in my belly.

See Africa, page 5

Students sent through Cuban time warp

By Corinne Ann Knutson *Ka Leo Contributing Writer*

Traveling through Cuba is like stepping back 50 years. For 30 University of Hawai'i students participating in Leeward Community College's Study Abroad program, June 2004 felt like June 1954.

Because Cuba is a communist country, the U.S. Department of Treasury had to grant permission for students to take courses ranging from beginning Spanish to Cuban literature and culture at the University of Havana. With a United States trade embargo in place since 1960, students had to fly to Cuba via Toronto, Canada.

During the first week nobody noticed the plight of the Cuban people because we were occupied with the time warp: the 1955 Chevrolet Bel Airs, the Spanish colonial architecture and the old Celia Cruz records. We didn't notice the sewer leaking onto the streets.

"The city is sucio (dirty)," a
26-year-old man said, whose name
is not used to protect his identity
because the Cuban government
prohibits commentary by its citizens.

To use the bathroom, we used

To use the bathroom, we used a tin pail to bucket water from a 30-gallon drum. Adding this water was the only way to flush the toilet. Our classrooms had a blackboard, windows on one wall and peeling beige paint on the others.

Foreign students from the United States and Canada filled the room, sitting up straight on hard, wooden benches. The Cuban professors based the courses on participation and conversational skills. No tests or final exams were given to the beginning and intermediate Spanish classes; the real test would be to find an authentic Cuban experience outside the classroom.

The U.S. government does not allow its citizens to live with Cubans because of the trade restrictions. The official exchange

rate for Cuban pesos to U.S. dollars is 26 to one, so Cubans appear to love American tourists but their smiles are facades.

Because of the high exchange rate. American dollars fuel Cuba's economy. Young Cubans opt to be waitresses and maids instead of teachers and doctors. Tourist industry employees get tips in U.S. dollars. Cubans pretend to enjoy American tourists in hopes of getting generous

tips, but they do not pretend to love our government.

On June 21, Cubans held an anti-fascist rally at the Elian Gonzales Memorial. More than 300,000 people attended the event. Most waved paper Cuban flags tacked to scrap wood with staples. The red, white and blue colors waved in unison to "socialismo o muerte" (socialism or death). Cuban President Fidel Castro's amplified voice echoed off nearby hotels filled with tourists. From one 12-story building hung a black and white banner of U.S. President George Bush wearing a mustache and swastika symbol similar to those of Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler. It read, "Bush facista no hay agresi¢n que Cuba no resista" (Bush is an aggressive fascist and Cuba must resist him).

In Cuba, there is no freedom of speech or general elections. There is one newspaper for the entire country, the Granma, which only publishes anti-U.S. propaganda. Many Cubans think the United States' foreign policy focus is on Cuba. The war in Iraq is not news for them.

Because of the lack of media outlets, Cubans do not receive any outside news. NBC, CNN and the BBC are broadcast only in hotels for tourists. At the home of one Cuban family, there was an evening of debate about the problem of inadequate healthcare for the community. Only foreigners were admitted to a hospital where a relative worked, and this hospital had the best drugs, nurses and doctors

A family member cooked arroz con gris (white rice with black beans) for dinner. His family watched a black and white soap opera on a TV set old enough to





FILE PHOTOS • Ka Leo O Hawai'i

Editor: Christopher Mikesell Associate Editor: Leah Ricker | (808) 956-3214 | opinions@kaleo.org

Letterstothe Editor



I'M POING A THE INTER TIVE INTERME





Ka Leo cartoon is sophisticated, worth keeping

I was so happy to see on September 13 that "Dragon Girl" was back!

I've been an ardent fan of Annie Kwok's fantastic "Dragon Girl" (and the summertime "One More Thing...") since the very first panel I read from January 14, 2002.

I totally disagree with the comments made in the Sept. 20 letter to the editor, "Ka Leo needs to improve comments, hire cartoonists."

I mean, it's fine with me if he doesn't care for "Dragon Girl."

After all, there is no disputing taste. It's fine that people have their favorites. But what I do disagree with is a person imposing his idea of excellent cartoon art on other people to the extent of wanting to remove the best strip of all.

I'm positive I'm not the only person who loves "Dragon Girl." It is actually the most imaginative and attractive cartoon in any paper I read right now, and a great asset to Ka Leo O Hawai'i. It's very classy and

And it's very sophisticated... perhaps too sophisticated for some critics to grasp.

The story arc in "Dragon Girl" is actually rather complex, and has been slowly developing over several years. That's why each day I am always eager to see how the story has moved ahead.

Also, "Dragon Girl" is funny ... very, funny!

Annie Kwok is a genius. I really love her "Dragon Girl" and I can't wait for the next panel to appear.

Please always keep on publishing "Dragon Girl" for as long as you're lucky enough to have Annie K.Y. Kwok work for you. She's the

Tom Bolling Seattle

The Voice of Hawai'i

Ka Leo O Hawai'i

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If you don't know how to troll, it's easy to learn



Stout **Christopher Mikesell** Ka Leo Opinions Editor

More times than I would care to count I have found myself in need of information from people who are unwilling to share what they know. You know the type of people I'm talking about. These kinds of people either do not care enough about your question to dignify it with a response or relish the fact that you need them to tell you something important because that in turn makes them feel important and powerful.

Still, regardless of whether this is due to negligence or some power trip, these types of people pose a serious problem to communication, and they make information fishing a lot more difficult than it needs to be.

How people can deal with these types of individuals on a daily basis is mind-boggling. There are several ways to deal with the information hoarder, yes, but not many of them are effective. You could try applying force to the situation, but that would involve either exerting an undue amount of influence or (to take

I don't mean to be insensitive here, it's just that people usually think of things in that order in other words, considering whether or not the individual in question could beat you to a pulp before thinking about whether or not it would be moral to do so.

For those of us who aren't

You could always troll for the information. It works for me. If you don't know how to troll, it's easy to learn.

Instead of asking directly - which would imply that you need them - you do something that would prompt a correction, which instead implies that they

▲ 《Regardless of whether this is due to negligence or some power trip, these types of people pose a serious problem to communication, and they make information fishing ... difficult. >>

could always bribe such individuals into giving you the information you want.

Granted, you could very well get the items of data you are asking for, or at least after the first time you ask. This method becomes counterproductive, however, when your source of information comes to expect such a "gift" from you every time you want something from him as a

violent (or too scared to be), you are in a position to prove you wrong. That, in turn, successfully gives the target of your trolling efforts a chance to feel important. It's something like a hook with irresistible bait.

> For example, the other day when my family was putting away groceries, I was handed an item that didn't really have a decided place in our storage areas. So, like most other people would do, I asked, "Hey. Where does this go?"

> Naturally I got no response. It wasn't that they couldn't hear me; in fact, I was standing about three feet away from them and I speak pretty loudly. So I tried again, but to no avail. Deciding that this particular course of action was not going to work, I changed my strategy and in a very clear — and slightly louder — voice proclaimed, "I am going to put this box in your master bedroom on top of your bed."

"No," they finally exclaimed, "what, are you crazy? Don't put it there! Put it over here!" And they told me want I had wanted to know, just like that. I didn't even need to grovel or act pouty. All tion with only one supplier, prices I needed to know — and all you need to remember — is how to troll to get what you need. If you do that, your information fishing will be as easy as hook, line and

▲ After all, you are basically establishing a market consisting of him and yourself, and as in any situation with only one supplier, prices tend to rise sharply and quickly.

very well return the favor, and it could hurt if said individual is a lot bigger or stronger than you are, not to mention the fact that violence is not a good way to solve any problem.

this at its most basic level) actu- sort of price for his services. ally committing violence on an After all, you are basically estabindividual. That individual could lishing a market consisting of him and yourself, and as in any situatend to rise sharply and quickly.

So what is the person who is too peaceful to fight and too poor to massage his connections to do?

We're interested in what you have to say. Here are some ideas:

Letters to the Editor

If you want to voice your opinion about an article or a letter to the editor that has already been printed, go ahead, Letters should be about 300 to 400 words and reference the article it is in response to.

If you are concerned about an issue and would like to write a significant amount of text about it, you can do that too. Submissions should be about or under 700 words. If your submission is too short, it will be included in the Letters to the Editor category described above.

Letters can be submitted in two ways: Typed, double-spaced, on standard letter-sized paper, or by e-mail (please proofread). Generally speaking, we prefer the e-mail option. All submissions should include your name, major and class rank. Faculty members, please include your department and position. Please remember that we reserve the right to edit stories. You may submit up to two letters or perspectives per month. Mailed submissions will not be returned.

Editorial Page Editor 1755 Pope Road Building 31-D Honolulu, HI 96822 opinions@kaleo.org

Cuba: 'There are no ATMs in Cuba'

From page 3

watched a black and white soap opera on a TV set old enough to be a collector's item.

"There is no future for me here, no way for us to get ahead," a 21-year-old member of the family said. "I only know communism. Under communism it doesn't matter if you have or don't have. You work for everyone else."

As a teacher, he makes 12 U.S. dollars per month.

"I can't even afford a Coke," he said. Coke costs one U.S. dollar. For a night out he and his friends went to one of the peso theaters. In the theater hung black and white posters of dead American actors and actresses. Marilyn Monroe, James Dean and Elvis Presley oversaw the lobby. Director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu's 2003 film "21 Grams" played in English with Spanish subtitles. Vendors sold popcorn and peanuts in white paper cones. No Coke, no Milk Duds. The seats creaked with every move. There was no air conditioning. Building construction stopped 40

In the 1940s, when Cuba catered to U.S. tourists, its then-dictator was a close ally of the U.S. government. He had well-known ties to mobsters who organized prostitution, gambling and drugs in the country. Cubans were disgusted with the level of corruption their country sunk into.

In 1960, reform came with Castro's rise to power and Cuba became a communist country. In doing so, Cuba also became an ally of the Soviet Union and an enemy of the United States. Cuba has been isolated from the U.S. ever since. Americans who have been there traveled from Mexico or Canada.

"You have to spend a long time in Cuba to understand the politics,"

a 56-year-old man said.

Today, the government owns every building in Cuba, including every home. Cubans with Communist Party affiliation get the best ones

"It's very difficult to become a member of the Communist Party," said a 38-year-old guide for Havanatur, a large tour company. To be assigned a home in Miramar, a wealthy neighborhood, he said you must be a communist member or have a family member that served in the 1959 Revolution, where former dictator Fulgencio Batista was forced from power.

Homes are crowded and collapsing because there is no funding for new developments. Several generations live in single-family homes. Additional floors are added to make room for the next generation. The 26-year-old man who shared his story earlier took the living conditions in stride. Pointing at the water from a Havana seawall (the Malec¢n), he said, "My life is like the tide up and down. This is Cuba."

The government provides free education to anyone who wants to attend college. Most Cubans (97 percent) are literate and educated. A placement exam is given to indicate what job you are eligible for. Once you have been placed, it is difficult to get a different job.

Each Cuban is given a monthly ration of six pounds of rice, six pounds of sugar, six eggs, seven bread rolls, four ounces of coffee, three pounds of dried peas and eight ounces of a soy-based "meat" product. Any food beyond this ration must be bought in small grocery stores and only with U.S. dollars.

Healthcare is also free. Doctors earn less than hotel maids and waiters. According to our tour guide, a former Cuban engineer in Russia, he became a guide because it was "much more lucrative."

For UH students, Cuba was a playground. We took weekend trips to Trinidad, Cuba's third oldest city, located on the southeast coast. Cobblestones from the 16th century lined its streets. We also visited Playa Giron, the historic site of the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion, 60 miles southwest of Trinidad.

We took a rusty barge to the isolated island of Cayo Levisa and stayed in palm-thatched bungalows set on a sparkling white sand beach. Trigger fish and barracudas swam through the red fan coral. This paradise cost us 47 U.S. dollars for three days and two nights. The price included a double room with air conditioning, breakfast and dinner.

We went on hikes in the mountains of Vinales. We went rock climbing and horseback riding, and rented motorcycles.

We saw the world-famous Tropicana, a cabaret show with dancers in scant, sequined costumes that rival Cirque de Soleil in Las Vegas. We smoked Cuban cigars in a dimly lit jazz club where the only sparkle came from the bell of a trumpet.

There are no ATMs in Cuba. The only way to get cash from the U.S. is to set up an online Canadian bank account. The other solution is to exchange 20 U.S. dollars into 520 pesos and eat only at peso restaurants

On our last morning, a Cuban woman in the hotel cooked us omelets. She had a basket of three dozen eggs beside her, 30 more than the monthly ration given to each Cuban. There was a white porcelain plate in front of her skillet on which two American dollars lay. We stood in the buffet line watching her crack, whisk and fold eggs together. We placed our last U.S. dollars on the plate.

She smiled.

Africa: Study Abroad brings rhythm to class

From page 2

moving to a sound that my body knew even from way across the ocean, deep in my belly.

When the dance was over, the villagers smiled and asked, "Where did you learn to dance like that?" I told them, "This is my music. This music comes from my home." "Welcome home," the patron of the dance troupe said, as she hugged me.

Life in the classroom was stimulating. There were discussions where white students cried when told that African children didn't need their patronizing through the handout of candies. African American students explained what it was like to no longer be the minority on the college campus.

I visited the slave castles in Elmina and Cape Coast. The morning I went, I watched the fishermen on the seashore. Women bargained for the superior quality fish. Porridge and baked goods were sold; and people washed themselves in the ocean, preparing for whatever their day brought.

My group and I were taken on a tour of Elmina Castle. I stood in the dungeon, letting what little sunlight the tiny opening allowed in to fall on my face, my cheeks wet from crying. I stood in the chapel where the slave traders worshiped. I let go of my anger and shook my disappointed head as my white roommate and her friend giggled and posed for pictures outside the dungeon.

At Cape Coast Castle, our guide showed us a shrine in one of the dungeons. It was placed beneath a skull and crossbones with a sign emblazoned, "Freedom." It was a place where they offered food to the gods. Upon seeing the shrine, I noticed flowers, money, liquor, candles and carvings that had been recently offered. Libations are still poured to appease the spirits of the ones who passed through those dungeons.

One day I sent an e-mail to a friend talking of my "visit." He wrote back that I didn't visit, I returned. How right he was.

I came out of my first semester in Ghana loving the experience of being "at home." Learning about the value of traditions among Ghanaians instilled in me the feeling that Africans born in the Caribbean and America should see the images of their people, even though they may not be able to pinpoint a specific ethnic group they belong to.

Slavery broke a link in the African's place in the circle of humanity. We must remember who we are and from whence we came. I accept it as part of my responsibility to share the glory of African culture with my people and others who I may live with.

My Kpanlogo drum sits downstairs in my family's house in New York. Sometimes my niece plays it while I dance. My mother loves it, especially for the carvings of the traditional village with its thatched roof and coconut trees. Ghana feels like the village in Grenada she grew up in. Ghana is a village in Africa I hope she gets to dance in.

I returned to UH Manoa with a renewed sense of my identity and credits that went toward my graduation. There are Study Abroad programs at UH Manoa where you can go to Australia, Japan, Italy and Argentina. But if there's another country you want to study in, try the Self-Designed Study Abroad Option. The UHM Study Abroad staff is available and eager to help you accomplish your goals. They definitely helped me with mine, and I am most grateful.

Ka Leo O Hawai'i

MICS & CROSSWORD











POOR BEEK

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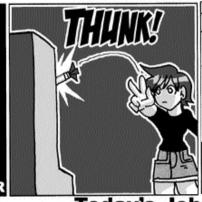














Today's Job: Political Analyst

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CHRISTOPHER WARSH • Ka Leo O Hawai'i

Sophomore Krisha Kai scored her first goal of the season against the Gonzaga Bulldogs Sunday. The 'Bows beat the Bulldogs, 3-0.

Forget home cooking: 'Bows roast road foes

Ka Leo Staff

The University of Hawai'i women's soccer team wrapped up its weekend road trip against the Brigham Young Cougars Monday with a scoreless tie after defeating New Mexico and Gonzaga in the Montana Fall Classic.

The Wahine slipped by the Lobos 1-0 on Friday, and dismantled the Bulldogs by a strong margin of 3-0 on Sunday.

Junior forward Natasha Kai was recognized as Western Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Week for the second time this season, scoring her fifth game-winning goal of the season against New Mexico. She also registered an assist and another goal in the 'Bows' victory against Gonzaga.

Sophomore forward Krisha Kai and freshman forward Koren Takeyama were also credited with goals against Gonzaga.

UH remains undefeated on the road at 5-0-1.

Junior goal keeper Mahie Atay made her return to action after recovering from a concussion she suffered two weeks ago, making 14 total saves, and reinforcing the UH defense with three consecutive shutouts since her return.

The Rainbow Wahine kick off WAC competition against Rice on Friday at 7 p.m., and on Sunday at 5 p.m. against Tulsa at the Waipi'o Peninsula Soccer Stadium.

Trolley: City bus to replace \$1 ride

From page 1

Even though city bus route No. 303 will replace the trolley route Friday morning, Colbert is skeptical if that will help her store.

"Who's going to tell the tourists about Kaimuki and Kapahulu?" Colbert asked. "Are they going to tell tourists where to go to? How do we as small businesses advertise on it?"

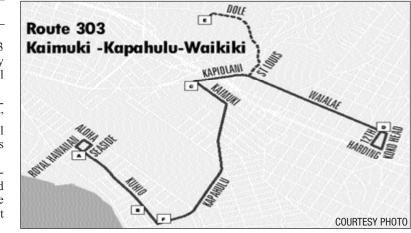
Meade was also asked if she wanted No. 303 to use the trolley's logo and be called the community trolley. Meade declined the request, saying it wasn't the same as the trolley project.

Djou said with route No. 303, the community still has a bus service, "so it's better than nothing."

"It's not a complete and total loss," Diou added.

Route 303 will run daily and service the same route as the trolley. Fares will be the same as other city buses and information and a schedule of the route has been posted at the Frear Hall bus stop.

Mayor Harris came up with route 303 after he reallocated the trolley's budget to other areas of the city's trans-



portation budget.

"Instead of having to cancel services altogether, we will use shuttles to cover the route," Carol Costa, city spokeswoman, said. The 30-foot buses seat 24 people not including standing room

"Another project fallen by the wayside," Colbert said. "All the knowledge that was gleaned from putting it on will be lost now."

"It's a real success," Meade said.
"I've never seen a project that makes it

all the way to the top and stop."

Meade hopes to bring back the trolley that connected communities and from which people sang Christmas carols during the Kaimuki Parade.

"The trolley will rise again if I can help it," Meade said.

"It was a good project," added Djou. "It has helped the community and was a good way for community, students and visitors to O'ahu to get around Waikiki, Kapahulu and Kaimuki."

Mayor: Final month brings ad increase

From page 1

about \$1.2 million from contributors, said the primary's close results indicate that Bainum's spending didn't translate into more voters.

"You don't spend that kind of money to get in the general, you spend that kind of money to win," Hannemann said.

Still, Lee said the amount of exposure a candidate gets leading to the general can bring a sense of familiarity to both the undecided as well as those who chose other candidates in the primary.

"The name is going to be important," Lee said. "People will be asking, 'Does he seem like a nice person?""

freshman Rebecca

UHM

Alexander, 18, was one voter who said she voted for Bainum because "his name was more out there."

But now Alexander said she would analyze each candidate's posi-

"I'm going to pay more attention to them and their campaigns," she

tion on issues before making her final

To counter monetary disadvantages, Saito said Hannemann volunteers will keep fund-raising, sign-wav-

ing in the streets and writing supporters postcards.

"It's a challenge for us, but our message is strong," she said.

Hawai'i residents should expect to see more of Hannemann when watching television as his campaign plans to increase advertisement. The Hannemann campaign also is scheduling a major fund-raising push before the end of the month, Saito said.

Hannemann said he is looking forward to more unscripted debates where he'll get a chance to stand face to face against Bainum.

"It's going to take a lot of hard work," Hannemann said. "But I'm a Page 8 | Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Editor: Stefanie Nakasone | Associate Editor: Brandy Flores | (808) 956-3215 | sports@kaleo.org

Jones discusses current season, Warrior fan clubs

By Brandy Flores

Ka Leo Associate Sports Editor

University of Hawai'i football head coach June Jones addressed the status of the 0-2 Warriors team, as well as the future of the program at an open luncheon at Campus Center yesterday.

Held in the Campus Center Executive Dining Room and sponsored by the Activities Council Board, it was open to anyone from UH who wished to attend.

A group of 10 people were on hand to go in depth with Jones on whatever questions came to mind at the casual affair.

Andy Lachman from the Student Activities Council and member of the new official student spirit group the Manoa Maniacs gave Jones' introduction. Jones spoke, briefly addressing the situation about the Warriors' struggles, and thanking representatives from Australia and New Zealand on hand for their help and interest in scouting and recruiting future players.

Regarding the current season Jones said: "I'm disappointed in the start, but it's a situation in which you just need to play harder and work your way out of it."

Jones mentioned quarterback Timmy Chang, saying: "He's



CHRISTOPHER WARSH • Ka Leo O Hawai'i

Warrior football coach June Jones spoke at a special luncheon at Campus Center yesterday. Ten people attended the event.

played well, no interceptions. Our offense just has to make the catches when they're open, make the plays." He also addressed the passing record that will be broken and reset by Chang this season.

"I think he'll break it in the next three to four weeks. After that he has seven more weeks to pad the record," Jones said. "I don't think it will ever be broken once he sets it."

Jones covered topics from his

interest in returning to the NFL—he said he wouldn't rule it out at a later point—to how he's reshaped the Warriors' football program.

Names like Chang, quarterbacks Jack Rolovich and Brandon Satcher, and senior running back West Keli'ikipi arose when talking about this year and the Warriors' future

The national exposure the Warriors football program is receiving for itself and the school,

and even a question regarding his high pay were covered. Jones laughed and answered, "You only get paid what someone is willing to pay. ... I took a \$3.5 million paycut to come here from head coach of the San Diego Chargers."

When asked by Lachman how he felt regarding the Manoa Maniacs and Kidzone, Jones said he felt that it should have been done six years ago. He is happy to finally see that some changes are being made to involve the students more in their team.

"Hawai'i is a state team more than a school team," Jones said. Since coming to UH, Jones said he has seen the disparity in the number of enrolled students and those attending the game, and he has been working to help correct that.

Regarding this and the program's future, he said he is still working on things such as marketing. In conjunction with UH Athletics Director Herman Frazier, things are starting to change.

Jones also said the Warriors could possibly play games in Australia and Japan in the upcoming years.

"Since Herman came on, things are starting to set up differently, so hopefully those things can happen in the future," Jones said.

Sports

Briefs

Warrior golf loses playoff for first place in Colorado

Ka Leo Staff

The University of Hawai'i men's golf team lost the first-place tie-breaker to the University of Arizona and finished in second place in the Ron Moore Classic in Brighton, Colo.

Junior transfer Jarrett Hamamoto led the Warriors with a three-round total of 213, good enough for a tie for sixth place overall out of 88 individual participants.

Sixteen teams made up the field that tackled the 7,129-yard Riverdale Dunes Golf Course. The University of Arizona took the team title, while Wildcat Travis Esway won the individual championship with a three-day total of a 12-under 204.

Also competing for Hawai'i was sophomore Cody Wolfenbarger, who shot a second-round 6-under-par 66, which vaulted him to an eighth-place finish with a score of 214.

Four out of five UH golfers finished in the top 25, including Pierre-Henri Soero (T14) and Kellen-Floyd Asao (T25). Freshman Ryan Perez finished in the middle of the pack, tying for 52nd place.

The Warriors continue their road trip with a stop in Albuquerque, N.M., to compete in the William H. Tucker Intercollegiate on Friday and Saturday.