



The Voice of Hawai'i

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Stereotypical movie about stereotypes

At first glance, “The Sweetest Thing” seems to defy all stereotypes about women being mushy, lovelorn saps. But in the end, it’s just a repeat of the same old stuff.



See page 8

Man of the hour steals the spotlight

The Men of War are preparing for the MPSV playoffs, but there’s no doubt that the real focus is on Ashlie Lelie, who was drafted to play with the Denver Broncos.



See page 12

Dorm rapist remains at large

Erica Cordova
KA LEO STAFF WRITER

“I was lying down and after he punched me, he crawled on top of me, straddled me and put his hands on my mouth,” she said.

It started at the beginning of last semester. A woman living in the residence halls was stalked for weeks, then raped two days before spring break. The perpetrator is still unknown.

“We checked to see if there was a pattern, and it doesn’t seem to be as if it was someone going door to door,” said Janice Chu Camara, associate director of University of Hawai’i at Manoa student housing.

It’s the only information that student housing has. The case is still pending and the Honolulu Police Department will not issue any of the police reports that the victim filed. For purposes of confidentiality we will call her Sue.

Sue, a former resident adviser, was living at Hale Aloha Mokihana Tower at the beginning of the year. September was a busy time for her. “Because I was an RA, I was busy all of the time. I was busy with meeting new residents. I had a bunch of paperwork to turn in,” she said.

One night Sue left her dorm room unlocked. At around 1 a.m., she fell asleep. Minutes later she woke up with her pants half down. The suspect ran away when she woke up.

“He looked like he was in his early 20s,” she said. “I had never seen him before.”

Soon after this incident, Sue started to receive threatening phone calls. “Most of the time I would just hang up. He would say threatening things like, ‘I’m watching you.’” She did not contact campus security until a few weeks later.

“I didn’t tell anybody because I was supposed to have set an example by locking my door, and I didn’t want everybody to know that I didn’t lock my door,” Sue said.

At that point (in September) student housing decided to move Sue into another residence hall. She was paired up with a couple of her friends who lived in Hale Noelani.

“I thought it would be safer because they (her friends) knew the situation.” She didn’t hear from the guy again, until the night of the rape.

It was about 2:45 p.m. “I was getting ready to go to my class,” Sue said. She stepped outside of her room, and saw the man from the initial attack in September walking near the

building that was parallel to her room. Sue said she made no eye contact with him. “I didn’t want to make a big scene or anything so I went back into my room.”

She decided to skip the class, and fell asleep a hour and a half later.

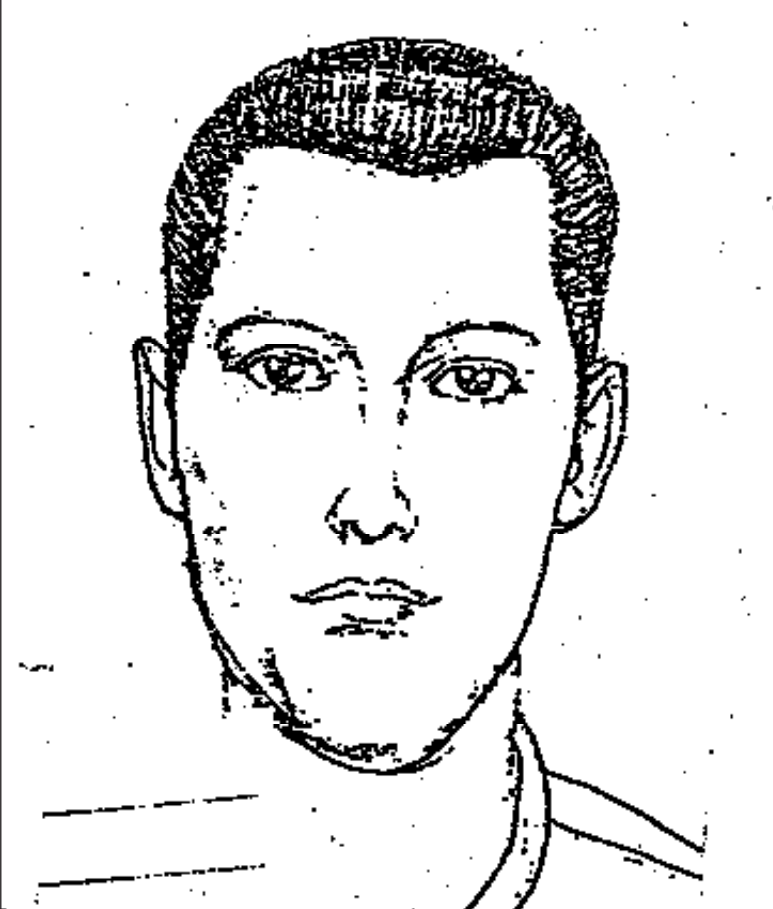
In the middle of her nap she woke up with a man on top of her. “It took me a few seconds to realize what was going on. Before I could say anything he punched me right across the face.” She tried to call for help, and thought her neighbors would hear her.

“It was just so hard to make noise. He didn’t say one word through the whole thing.” He raped her and then ran out of the room. “I just laid there crying for a long time.”

A few hours later she called her boyfriend to let him know what had happened. He called her parents who called the police. “When the police got there they told me to not touch anything because they were going to basically look for any evidence they could find.”

After she was questioned, she was taken to the hospital. “They gave me a rape kit, and that’s where I did all the exams and testing and stuff,” she

See Victim, page 2



Age: early 20s Build: medium Hair: brown Ethnicity: cosmopolitan

The composite drawing is provided by the Honolulu Police Department. If you see this individual, call Campus Security immediately at 956-6911.

Sexual assault, stalking of college women frequent, underreported

By Erica Cordova
KA LEO STAFF WRITER

About 3 percent of college women are sexually assaulted and 13 percent are stalked during an academic year, revealed a federal study called The Sexual Victimization of College Women.

The study, released by the U.S. Justice Department’s National Institute of Justice and Bureau of Justice Statistics, is based on reports from 4,446 college women.

The study found that most women who are raped on campus do not classify the incident as a crime, and therefore they do not report it. This makes it hard to document the number of rapes that actually occur on campus.

Shelley Savage a psychology graduate student interning at the Counseling and Student Development Center said, “I’ve had clients who

report experiences of sexual assault and it (the assault) could be by an acquaintance more often then not.”

Savage, who will be completing her dissertation requirements at University of Hawai’i at Manoa, is from Chicago. In Chicago, she worked for an association called Rape Victim Advocates. She and others were on call for rape victims.

“We would go to many different hospitals and provide crisis counseling and medical and legal advocacy,” she said.

“There is so much stigma to being raped that when a woman or a man comes out and says they’ve been raped, they are not always supported,” Savage said.

“It’s easier for the perpetrator to get away with sexual assault, because the burden of proof is on the woman,” she said.

Savage said that although men

are also sexually assaulted, it is more common for women report it.

“I think the reason for that is society places the blame on the victim and it fills them with so much shame,” said Savage.

She said that most rape victims go through an emotional stage, and some may not even acknowledge that the event took place.

A lot of the clients that she interviewed have gone on an emotional roller coaster ride and tended to question if they were normal. They ask themselves, why did this happen to me? What could I have done differently?

“It pretty much fractures the person and makes them fear their own skin,” Savage said.

She said some individuals continue to pretend it did not happen even when there is physical evidence to the contrary.

Faculty wants in on classified research group

By Bart Abbott
KA LEO STAFF WRITER

The Faculty Senate passed a resolution requesting inclusion of a faculty member to the group in charge of the approval of classified contracts with the University of Hawai’i.

The resolution came at a meeting last week .

Those in charge of classified

documents at the university are known as the “managerial group.” The group has three members, as required by the National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (NISPOM), a Department of Defense document. There are currently no faculty members in the group.

In May, the Board of Regents

See Secret, page 2

Victim: Conditions on campus show no signs of improvement

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the window. “My roommates and I don’t think the sliding window was locked.”

Sue has decided to take the rest of the semester off. She said that she no longer feels safe living on campus. “An agreement was made with student housing and the dean of students, that if I returned to school, I would be in a secure building.”

Sue said she visited the residence hall that she was supposed to be staying in a few weeks ago, and she is not satisfied with the security.

“They promised that there would be a composite all around student campus, including upper campus. I returned on a Sunday, and by Monday morning all of the composites were torn down.”

Director of Student Housing Daryll Zenher, said that student housing does not know who is tearing down

the composite sketch of the suspect.

He said if students feel unsafe, there are precautions they could take. “I would recommend that they take a look at the guidelines on that flyer, I think that those are certainly wise tips.”

Sue said that student housing promised to fix the entrance doors to the residence hall that she was going to move into. “I can’t see why it takes them three weeks to put up posters or fix two doors.”

She said that her parents call student housing every other day to see if these conditions have improved. “I have totally lost faith in the new student housing system.” She said she is enrolled for the summer but will living off campus.

Sue encourages other students who are being stalked or harassed to call the police. “What if I would have called? This would not have happened.”

NATIONAL BRIEFS

Another squirrel hits the live wire, knocks out power

By Megan Lavey
THE CRIMSON WHITE (U. ALABAMA)

(U-WIRE) TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - Call it Squirrel Wars: Episode II — Attack of the Squirrels.

For the second time this semester, a squirrel grilled itself via a University of Alabama power substation, rendering lights, computers and air-conditioning units inoperable at around 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, according to Alabama Power spokeswoman Pam Collins.

Alabama Power restored energy to the substation around 11:20 a.m.,

Collins said. Power was restored around campus by 1 p.m., said university spokeswoman Cathy Andreen.

Two power substations serve the university campus. Another squirrel tangled with a transformer on Jan. 29 at the other substation on Campus Drive, cutting power to 21 buildings for several hours and canceling night classes.

That squirrel did not survive the incident.

Ryan Flynt, a junior telecommunication and film major who lives in Mary Burke West, said the ravenous rodent almost cost him points off his final grade.

“I had a political science test this morning, and I would have missed it if I hadn’t set my cell phone alarm,” Flynt said.

According to the Web site squirrels.org, most squirrels eat nuts, seeds, grain and fruit. However, city squirrels “have adapted to eat just about anything, including pizza, luncheon meats, and all forms of snack foods.”

Power lines are not on that list, but the Web site says squirrels often gnaw on branches to clean their teeth.

Secret: Classified research may infringe academic freedom

From page 1

removed the group’s only faculty member, vice president of research and dean of the graduate division, Alan Teramura. One reason this was done was to comply with the requirements of NISPOM, according to the minutes of the BOR May meeting. NISPOM requirements dictate that only people with certain titles that are listed by them are eligible to be group members.

He was replaced by David Iha, secretary of the BOR.

The vice president of administration, Eugene Imai, and the vice president of legal affairs and university general counsel, Walter Kirimitsu, continue to maintain positions in the managerial group.

The current managerial group does not contain a member of the faculty. An attendee of the faculty senate meeting in May said that, “It changed from administrators that have an academic background and academic experience, to people who don’t really have any at all.”

Mary Tiles, professor of philosophy, said, “There are some larger issues surrounding classified research which is not being dealt with in this resolution. The current Board of Regents policy is not actually in line with current practice.”

Tiles said some of the faculty

feel the classified research infringes on academic freedom by restricting the faculty’s right to publication. She said that a clause was added to the resolution which shows the faculty has expressed opposition to UH involvement in classified research.

The BOR policy states, “Each member [of the academic community] has the absolute right to choose whether, how and where to publish scholarly conclusions and results of research.”

James Wingo, facility security officer for the managerial group said, “In the past 10 years, where form 254 has been involved, there have not been problems with publications of results.”

On the DOD Contract Security Classification Specification form there is a clause titled “public release” which requires faculty to get DOD approval prior to publishing any data from the projects.

The topic of classified research for UH is not new. The first policies on classified research were adopted by the board of regents in 1970. The discussion came up again in 1988 when the university allowed the Air Force to conduct laser research on Haleakala.

As of May, UH held six contracts with the DOD. The managerial group had not responded to requests for an updated list at press time.

Unfortunately, the furry critters sometimes confuse power lines for tree bark, and for the second time this year, the consequences have been deadly for a bushy-tailed rodent.

Senior staff reporter Philip Sitton and staff reporter James Waide contributed to this story.

Professors get award for research on Alzheimer’s

By Nick Margiasso
THE ORACLE (U. SOUTH FLORIDA)

(U-WIRE) TAMPA, Fla. - Two University of South Florida professors teamed up to shed some light on

the mysterious and degenerative disease known as Alzheimer’s, and were recently given the chance to coedit a special edition of the journal “DNA and Cell Biology” that focused on the aforementioned disease.

David Morgan, a professor in the department of pharmacology and therapeutics, and Kenneth Ugen, an associate professor in the department of medical microbiology and immunology, were given the opportunity following more than a year of groundbreaking research on the subject of Alzheimer’s.

“Our prior publication on the details of our research received a lot of attention,” Morgan said. “And the journal was trying to break into areas beyond its traditional history of topics, so they looked to us.”

Their study, which gained attention that resulted in more than a year’s worth of research, was about a protein called amyloid and its effects on transgenic, or genetically engineered, mice. Amyloid is the protein that builds up in an Alzheimer’s patient’s brain, subsequently resulting in memory loss and other complications.

Morgan said the research seemed to open new doorways for scientific research and vaccination methods related to Alzheimer’s.

“These mice that we generate here at USF are designed to develop an amyloid buildup in the brain at about midlife that mirrors that of an Alzheimer’s patient,” Morgan said.

However, Morgan said the amyloid buildup is not large enough to cause the body to produce antibodies to fight the protein. So instead, the amyloid protein is used as a vaccine, and enough is injected so that the immune system produces antibodies to disrupt the buildup of amyloid in the brain.

“This has been shown to halt memory loss in these mice,” Morgan said.

Morgan and Ugen said although preliminary tests that apply the new vaccine on human Alzheimer’s patients have not been successful, they are hopeful for the breakthroughs that may lie ahead and their involvement in finding them.

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Korean shamans call for blessing

By Eamon Shannon
KA LEO STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On Sunday, Kim Keum-Hwa, South Korea's National Shaman, and her troupe gave a performance at Andrew's Outdoor Theatre.

The troupe consists of 10 senior shamans and musicians, two of which are designated National Intangible Culture Properties: Choi Eum-Jeon, who plays the changgu (hourglass drum), and An Seung-Sam, who sings and plays puk (barrel drum).

Ceremonies opened with a series of prayers. Members of the audience made offerings, and food was handed out.

The first ritual was the "Tasal Kut" by Kim Chunsan. The body of a dead pig is placed on a three-pronged spear. If it balances without support, it means the gods have descended and have accepted the offering.

The "Chosang Kut" or ancestor ritual, was preformed by Kim Gyeonhun. A long bolt of white fabric was stretched out. The cloth symbolizes the spirit path. Singing over the cloth, and rubbing cymbals on it, she moved back and forth between the two ends.

During the course of the ritual she began to cut into the cloth, dividing it in two, and then once more so that there were three sections of cloth in all. After this, she began to weave the sections of cloth in and out into a braid, while walking from one end of the cloth to the other.



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Kim Kueum-Hwa performs the Pisu Kori, a rite of exorcism.

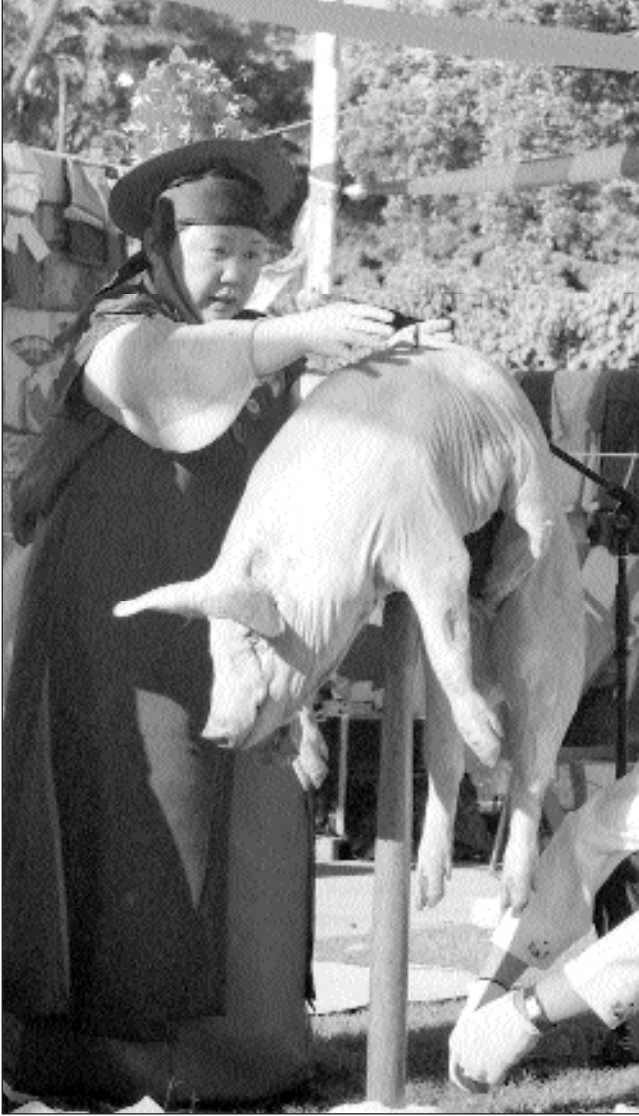
The final ritual, the "Chaktu" or "Pisu Kori," was preformed by Kim Keum-Hwa. This is a rite of exorcism, performed to drive evil spirits away from the ceremonial grounds.

A large double-blade fodder chopping knife was mounted on a large ceramic jar filled with water. The jar was placed upon an eight foot cylinder supported by participants. Prior to standing upon the blades, colored flags were placed in the jar and audience members were asked to pull them out. Before riding the blade,

Kim Keum-Hwa danced with the blades, striking her arms, and licking the edge. This is done to take on the burden and pain of others.

Dressed in the uniform of a Silla Dynasty general, she climbed a ladder and completed the ritual.

At the end of the day the "Heung Puri" took place. This is where the audience is invited into the ritual area to the dance. By doing so, participants will cleanse themselves of evil spirits, misfortune and unhappiness for the year to come.



Kim Chunsan performs the Tasal Kut at Andrew's Outdoor Theatre.

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State should keep building skate parks while working on liability

THE ISSUE: As the city plans to build more skate parks, City Councilman Romy Cachola is proposing a moratorium on the facilities until issues of liability can be resolved.

Honolulu has two completed skate parks and four more are planned to be completed this year. Cachola's resolution has the support of Councilwoman Ann Kobayashi and Councilman Gary Okino.

Skateboard injuries account for some 50,000 emergency visits a year nationwide. Cachola is suggesting that, in the future, the Legislature consider a bill that will limit the government's liability for injuries at skate parks. The state has a similar bill limiting liability at beaches. Thus far, the city's only legal defense has been to post signs at the parks, warning of the danger of skateboarding and disclaiming city liability.

The state should seriously consider its liability in skate parks.

The scene is set for lawsuits. The state has, in the public's eye, a lot of money — that makes it prime for suing. Skate parks result in a lot of injuries, providing lots of opportunity to sue. And with our civil jury system, large entities like the state ended up paying out to underdogs like skateboarders and their parents.

Of course, skateboarders know the risks of what they do. Of course, the state isn't any more responsible for a kid breaking his arm at a skate park than on the sidewalk. Of course, it's safer to provide a locale where skaters can play on equipment built for their purpose — away from cars and other people. But that doesn't matter; people like to sue.

And they will sue for injuries in skate parks; it's just too easy.

A bill shouldn't be able to limit liability, however; it's not right for a government to be able to say, "You can't hold us responsible because we passed a bill saying so." The state should look into other legal strategies to protect itself from nuisance

suits that get expensive.

The need for skate parks is obvious: Without them, some skaters skate on concrete steps, handrailings, fountains, picnic tables — anything with interesting levels. They fall in front of pedestrians, cars, bicyclists. They mar state property. While some skateboarders are responsible and courteous, others are a danger to themselves and others.

Skate parks allow them to explore their dangerous sport in a protective environment — away from cars and people who don't want to have to dodge them. It's still a dangerous activity, but not nearly as dangerous as when it is done on improvised equipment.

The city should continue building skate parks where it can afford to, but it should also begin dealing with issues of liability so that we have a strong defense against petty suits.



Campus Voices

Bookstore should pay up

Higher student fees not only option for cash-strapped Campus Center

BY MICHAEL GODDARD

It is with some interest that I have been following the Campus Center Board's progress with their "kokua" project and the comments by ASUH members in Ka Leo online. I served on the CCB as treasurer when the kokua project first began and I have some insights into the proposed student fee increase that seems to have been forgotten in the current discussions.

During my tenure as treasurer of CCB, (May 2000 to July 2001) the Finance Committee explored several ways to increase revenues before asking for a student fee increase. One of the ways of increasing revenues at the Campus Center that I believe is worth revisiting, is having the Bookstore pay fair market value for the enormous amount of floor space that they occupy. Research conducted

by the Finance committee showed that the Bookstore is paying per year what it should be paying per month. If the Bookstore would pay the Campus Center the market rate for the floor space that it is occupying, there would not be a funding crisis at the Campus

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Center. The student fees have not increased in 13 years, but the Bookstore has not increased

its contribution in more than 17 years.

In trying to "think out of the box", the Finance Committee also suggested having the Bookstore give up half the floor space they now occupy and lease the area out to retail shops that will pay the Campus Center a fair lease price. However, during a Finance committee meeting with the Director of Auxiliary services, the UHM department that operates the Bookstore, the director refused to consider paying fair market value for the space used by the Bookstore.

In closing, something needs to be done, but I find myself agreeing with our representatives in ASUH. Before we increase student fees to maintain the Campus Center, it is my opinion that we need to ask the deep pocket (The Bookstore) that has benefited from decades of monopoly, a captive audience and cheap rent, to pay their fair share.

Michael Goddard is a Management, Finance and International Business major, and has served as Campus Center Board Treasurer



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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.
Campus voices

If you are concerned about an issue and would like to write a significant amount of text about it, you can do that too. Try to keep it about or under 700 words, though. 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 like the e-mail option the best. 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. Also, mailed submissions will not be returned.

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I pledge allegiance to the earth

World must unite to find a balance between environment and economy

By Joshua Cooper
KA LEO CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

“Recognizing that people’s actions toward nature and each other are the source of growing damage to the environmental resources needed to meet human needs and ensure survival and development, I PLEDGE, to act to the best of my ability to help make the earth a secure and hospitable home for present and future generations.”

These words echoed over Rio and the Amazon forest at the Earth Summit a decade ago. Over 100 heads of state made this ecological commitment known as the Earth Pledge in 1992. Our environmental security must be brought to the forefront today. We

can’t remain silent while our long-term well-being and human security are sacrificed.

We must address the environmental challenges through blueprints such as Agenda 21 and the two environmental treaties demanding governments to cre-

ate new institutions and adopt laws and policies to develop framework for comprehensive changes to our world. We can protect the environment, promote human rights, and also empower ourselves toward social equity.

In the era of globalization dominating headlines, there is increased inequality and pollution while our natural resources are being depleted.

Some statistics illuminate the reasons for a new direction and dialogue on the environment. While Hawaiʻi has forced

plants and animals into extinction, there are still over 11,000 plant and animal species facing extinction today. In the last decade, 90 million hectares of forests were decimated. More than 75 percent of the world’s fisheries are over-fished. Two billion lack adequate energy to meet basic human needs and one billion don’t have clean water to drink.

With such global challenges, we must concentrate in our communities and coordinate to put pressure on our elected officials to live up to international instruments to defend our environment.

It is important to mobilize for ratification and implementation of major environmental treaties crafted at Rio. We must also protect the fundamental democratic rights of citizens and communities around the world to protect their respective natural resources with such legislation as the International Rights to Know. We must provide increased financial and diplomatic support to strengthen the international instruments and institutions in global governance. We must also push for increased U.S. assistance to devel-

oping countries to protect their environment.

On the other front, within our borders, we must reduce the United States’ emissions of carbon dioxide and other global warming pollutants. We must increase research and realization of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. We must move

Our technological will exists; our political will is paralyzed by multinational corporations’ profits and elected officials’ addiction to energy companies’ endowments

beyond oil and fossil fuels to renewable and safe forms of energy that respect nature and foster ecological balance of our environment and economy. Our technological will exists; our political will is paralyzed by multinational corporations’ profits and elected officials’ addiction to ener-

gy companies’ endowments. On the road to Johannesburg, there are two examples of possible solutions.

There was a U.N. Earth Summit featuring youth solutions during spring break in Denmark. Amazingly enough, 15 percent of Denmark’s electricity comes from abundant winds. Solar is another source of alternate energy, focusing on photovoltaic technology. In New York City, the host for the preparatory meetings for the U.N. World Summit on Sustainable Development, there is a green skyscraper constructed with photovoltaic panels to add to the worldwide movement of over one million homes tapped into solar.

As Nobel Prize laureate and U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan noted, “There is some good news to report. ... Public awareness has grown. Civil society is engaged. The private sector is beginning to seize the opportunities of green technology. Partnerships are being formed. The global machinery of policy-making and governance is moving in the right direction. We have the human and material resources to place our economies on more sustainable footing.”



Ethnic stereotypes still abound in Aloha State

Maintaining a separate cultural identity leads to close-mindedness

By Spencer Harris
KA LEO CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

Congratulations, Halle Berry and Denzel Washington! According to the news, these two African-American actors made history by winning Oscars for best actress and best actor this year. What makes this a historical event? Many people believe it now paves the way for other minority actors and actresses to be recognized by the Oscars and it shows how America is finally starting to become more diverse in the arts and entertainment.

While thinking to myself,

“Perhaps the mainland could learn a thing or two about lifestyles here in Hawaiʻi,” I wonder — just how diverse is our state?

As a sociology major, born and raised on the mainland, I tend to be observant of my surroundings. I have noticed that, on a small island near the middle of the Pacific, there are various ethnicities residing together like an aquarium full of a random selection of tropical fish. Though our space is limited, we still try to live in a harmonious manner.

I still wonder are we as diverse as we say we are?

Looking at the UH campus alone, I can see a variety of students from many ethnic backgrounds. The cosmopolitan student mix shows us, in comparison to the mainland, to be one of the most diverse campuses in the nation. But a behind-the-scenes look may state otherwise. From what I hear in an ethnic studies class, the majority of the faculty is Caucasian, and the majority of people in a high office

position is Caucasian (not to say that they are not doing a good job, just to point out facts).

A look around the island communities shows that each community is represented by a specific ethnic group. People residing in Hawaiʻi Kai, Kahala or Kailua, for instance, are nearly all Caucasian-Americans, or Japanese-Americans. Downtown is represented by Chinese. Koreans live in Ala Moana and McCully. Hawaiians live in Waiʻanae and Waimanalo. This has advantages and disadvantages for our state.

The advantage is that each area is capable of maintaining its own cultural identity. Living with people who share the same cultural values helps to strengthen the community and makes it appear as one.

However, the disadvantage is that cultural values of other ethnic groups may become ignored or misunderstood. Furthermore, people may become closed-minded towards other groups, creating an ethnocentric ideology within the

community. How does this affect us as an island?

Imagine applying for a job where the employees are of only one ethnic background. If you are not of that ethnicity, there is a chance you may be discriminated against without even being aware of it. For example, perhaps you speak Japanese fluently and have been to Japan on a study abroad, but because you are not Japanese, you are turned down from the position.

Or, as many people from the island have experienced at Ala Moana or Waikiki, unless you look like a Japanese tourist, you won’t be approached by salespeople. I have heard of discrimination cases in employment and even have been discriminated against. In my case, I not only lost the position I was applying for, because of my ethnic background, but lost a friend as well.

I agree that Hawaiʻi is more diverse than the mainland, but sometimes I do question just how diverse we are. If we are as diverse as we claim to be, then why are there still cases of discrimination?

As residents of Hawaiʻi, we need to learn to be open-minded to people of different backgrounds. Through our own understanding of the world, we can learn to truly value the meaning and share the spirit of Aloha.

Opinion Writers Wanted

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EDITOR: ARTURO SOLIS



KA LEO O HAWAI'I
956-3218/FEATURESQUEEN@YAHOO.COM

‘Changing Lanes’ merges with the ordinary, despite poignant issues

By Tom Horgan
MINNESOTA DAILY (U. MINNESOTA)

(U-WIRE) MINNEAPOLIS - There’s a scene in “Changing Lanes” where Samuel L. Jackson’s character beats two white men with a pay phone. He’s having a bad day and he’s furious at their casual racism — the way they trade insensitive jokes right in his face.

This film is all about getting in your face, crudely examining racial and class distinctions while spotlighting white-collar crime. The film, directed by Roger Michell, lays a good foundation for social critique but loses its nerve at the last moment.

The constant intercutting between main characters Gavin Banek (Ben Affleck) and Doyle Gipson (Jackson) constructs the film’s social commentary. By juxtaposing their lives — where they work, who they talk to, what they eat — we see them as polar opposites. Banek, a Wall Street lawyer, is at the height of prosperity. Gipson is not. He’s a recovering alcoholic, fighting for partial custody of his children.

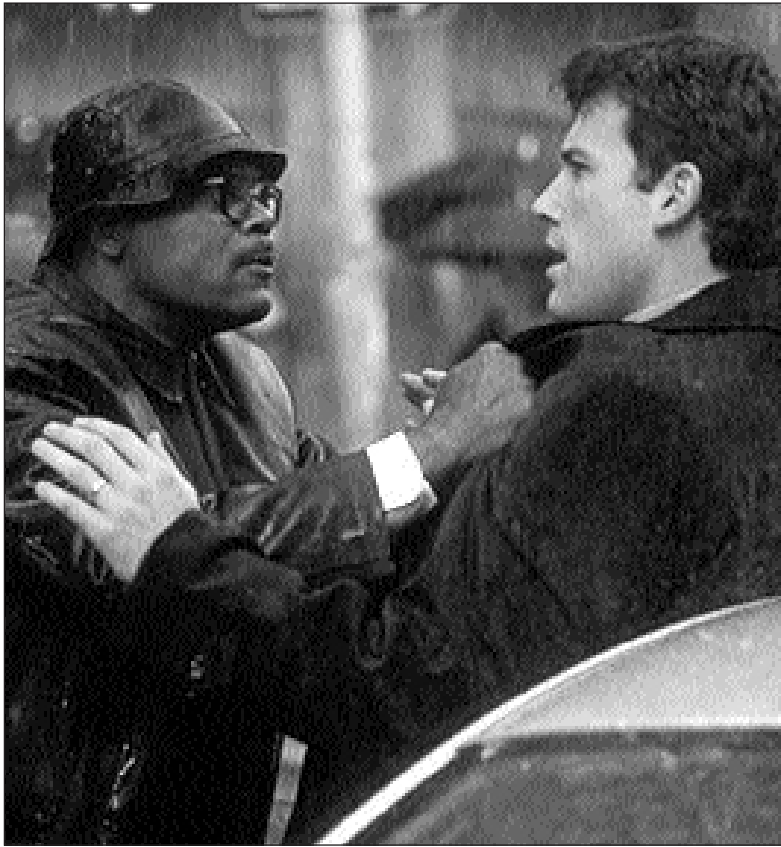
A narrative built on contingency causes them to collide on New York’s congested FDR Drive. Banek rushes off in a hurry, result-

ing in each man losing something important. From there, they engage in a relentless battle to recover their losses.

Through this tug-of-war, though, we are engaged in an examination of the social distinctions separating the two and the ethical questions that flood the movie. Banek’s moral ethics have drowned in his job’s lustful and corrupt environment. But, the nastiness he exhumes while dueling with Gipson seems to resurrect his conscience.

This is where “Changing Lanes” loses its footing. I’m probably giving too much away, but it’s important to understand what’s going on here. The film becomes a story of redemption for yet another bourgeois white man who is able to fix his problems by playing savior to a less-fortunate minority. The salvation and heroism enjoyed by Banek brings to mind films like “Hardball” and “Ghosts of Mississippi,” which contain this common Hollywood virus. These films are problematic because they take the focus away from the historical struggle and place it on these “heroic” white characters.

“Changing Lanes” starts as a provocative, socially critical film and transforms into a familiar, maddening melodrama.



COURTESY PHOTO

Samuel L. Jackson and Ben Affleck play polar opposites in the film directed by Roger Michell, which examines racial tensions and provokes social critique.

Features Writers Wanted

Is popular culture influential in your life? Or do you find the underground arts appealing? Either way you could get paid to write about your passion! Ka Leo O Hawai'i is looking for talented, outgoing individuals to write in our Features section. Writers may apply to write on a regular basis or to serve as an occasional contributing columnist. For more information, send us an e-mail at featuresqueen@yahoo.com.

Read Ka Leo Daily!

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Bittersweet: Diaz film leaves a bad taste

Despite a stellar cast, ‘Sweet’ doesn’t hit the spot

By Christopher Johns
KA LEO STAFF WRITER

“Thelma & Louise” worked because it assumed the themes and tropes of western films and road movies but placed women in the roles commonly held by male actors. If presented in a film with a great story line, characters and purpose, this technique can galvanize an audience familiar with male-driven narratives. When a film tries to take on this task with a trite and mediocre script and director, the film becomes a pointless reversal.

“The Sweetest Thing,” the newest farce from director Roger Kumble (“Cruel Intentions” and “Cruel Intentions 2”), centers around three friends, Christina Walters (Cameron Diaz), Courtney Rockliffe (Christina Applegate) and Jane Burns (Selma Blair), who are in their late 20s and seeking something.

What that something is is often missing from the film. At times it seems like Kumble and writer Nancy M. Pimental are trying to capitalize on the recent successes of the “American Pie” films.

The three girls are club-hoppers, perusing the San Francisco nightlife for sexual gratification. The film doesn’t suffer from the implied promiscuity of the female characters — after all, if males can be promiscuous then why can’t women?

Stereotypes can be useful in challenging the views of an audience. “The Sweetest Thing” starts out this way but doesn’t follow through. At the beginning of the film Christina and Courtney come home to find Jane weeping over a self-help romance book while eating large quantities of ice cream.

Christina and Courtney are the aggressive pair, while Jane is the passive character. Christina and Courtney have no problem talking with guys at nightclubs or hopping

in their car to chase down a potential partner. In the film, things happen to Jane, whereas for the most part Christina and Courtney make things happen.

So it’s no surprise that, initially, Christina rejects the self-help book as rubbish; later in the film she reads it. The book then causes her to re-examine her life.

What was initially a challenge to female stereotypes common in films — the woman turning to new age self-help books for insight — ends up being an affirmation of the stereotype.

Also, the main narrative of the film surrounds Christina and her pursuit of Peter Donahue (Thomas Jane), a guy that she bumped into for 10 minutes in a nightclub. Christina, motivated by Courtney, piles into a car and drives 300 miles to a wedding to track him down.

Jane provides the few funny moments in the film. A scene where she and her new beau — who’s dressed in an elephant costume — have a quickie in the dressing room of Jane’s workplace is funny; so is the scene where his penis piercing gets caught in her throat during oral sex.

However, the oral sex scene is a blatant ripoff from one of Diaz’s other films, “There’s Something About Mary,” when Ben Stiller’s penis and testicles get caught in his zipper on prom night and everyone shows up for a look. As in “There’s Something About Mary,” everyone in the neighborhood, some with video cameras, show up to witness the woman with a penis stuck in her throat.

The way Christina and Courtney get the two untangled is also reminiscent from another Diaz film, “My Best Friend’s Wedding.” Evoking the comical restaurant scene in “My Best Friend’s Wedding” (where Rupert Everett leads an entire restaurant

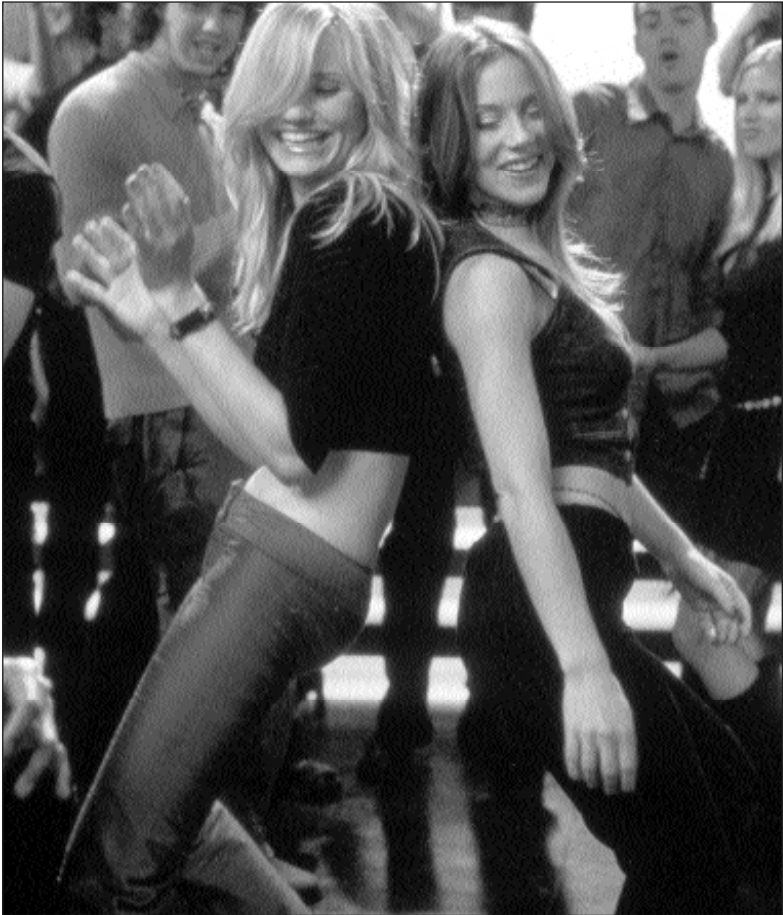
in a version of a Dionne Warwick song), Christina and Courtney try to get Jane’s throat to relax by leading her, and the entire neighborhood, in singing Aerosmith’s “I Don’t Want to Miss a Thing.” While the scene works, again, it is completely unoriginal and nowhere near as funny as in “My Best Friend’s Wedding.”

There is also a ridiculous “movie montage” in the dressing room of a boutique. Christina and Courtney play dress up when they’re supposed to be rushing to a wedding. They emulate prominent women from earlier films, like Madonna from “Desperately Seeking Susan,” Julia Roberts from “Pretty Woman” and Jennifer Beals from “Flashdance.”

Initially, it seems that powerful female characters were being invoked as an homage, but the presence of “Dumb and Dumber” in the movie montage denies this possibility. Instead, what we are left with is two grown people, in a great rush to get to a wedding, playing games with no purpose other than to elicit cheap laughs.

For film theorists and movie buffs there are some interesting elements to the film — mainly Christina’s behavior. In the nightclub she is the dominant character in any male-female interactions. She grabs Peter’s butt to initiate contact, she throws open the door to the women’s bathroom, knocking two peeping toms to the ground and spilling Peter’s drink on him, and she is the one who buys Peter a beer. The way Christina is filmed also establishes her dominance.

When another male attempts to pick her up in the bar and she blows him off, she is standing at the bar while he is sitting. This presentation puts Christina in a standard dominant position, one usually reserved for men. The idea of Christina as dominant through cinematographic representation is again asserted at the



COURTESY PHOTO

Cameron Diaz and Christina Applegate play club-hopping, man-chasing, fun-loving girlfriends in the not-so-sweet film directed by Roger Kumble.

climax of the film when Christina, Courtney and Jane return from another night out.

As they approach their apartment Peter is sleeping against their door. This puts the three women in a position above him. Once Peter stands up, Christina is positioned on the steps, thus putting her in a position above him. The scene where she seems to reject Peter is also filmed with Christina walking away from him uphill. In this scene, it is Christina who rejects Peter and in the course of that rejection, she walks away uphill.

All in all, this film has very little to offer. Instead of utilizing Diaz’s talents and creating strong female characters to challenge stereotypical representations, the filmmakers opted for a mediocre film that will be soon forgotten. This is very unfortunate, for there was potential: Diaz has proven that she can play a plethora of roles, from the silly, romantic fiancée in “My Best Friend’s Wedding” to the strong center of attention in “There’s Something About Mary.”

Skip this film, you will save your time and money.



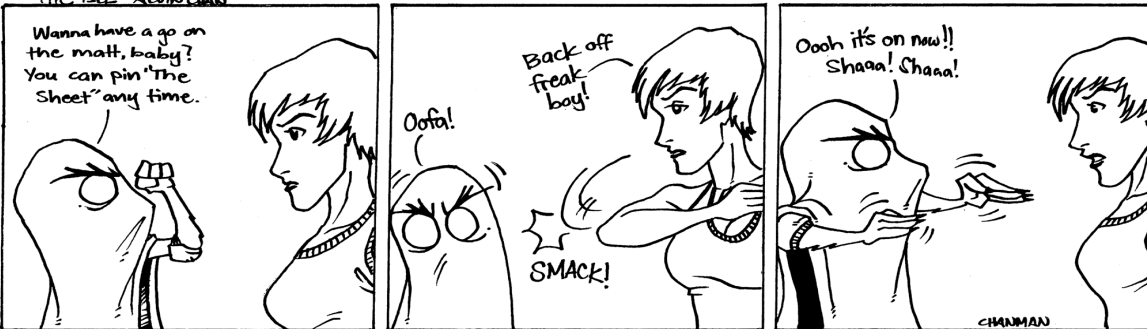
COURTESY PHOTO

Cameron Diaz, Selma Blair and Christina Applegate star as three provocative friends in the Columbia Pictures presentation, “The Sweetest Thing.”

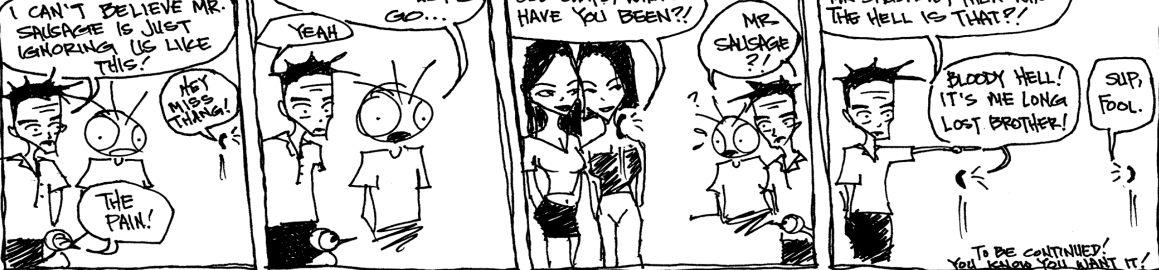


Comics & Crosswords

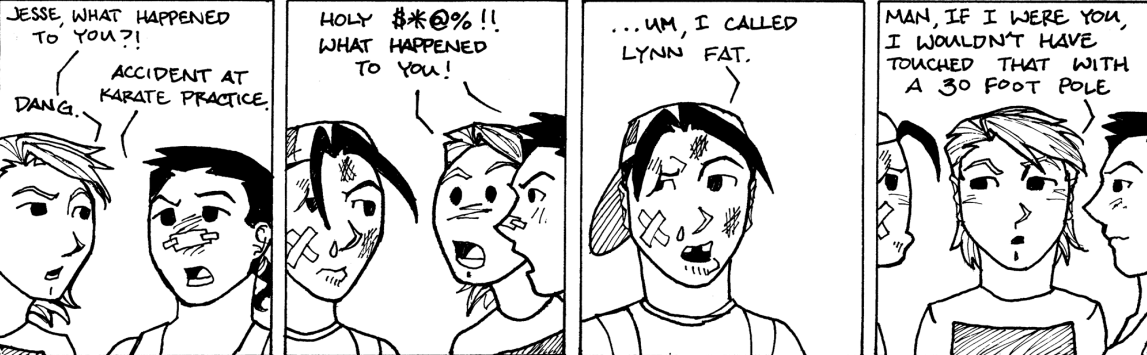
THE ISLE - ALVIN CHAN



MISTER SAUSAGE
The Reunion: PART 3



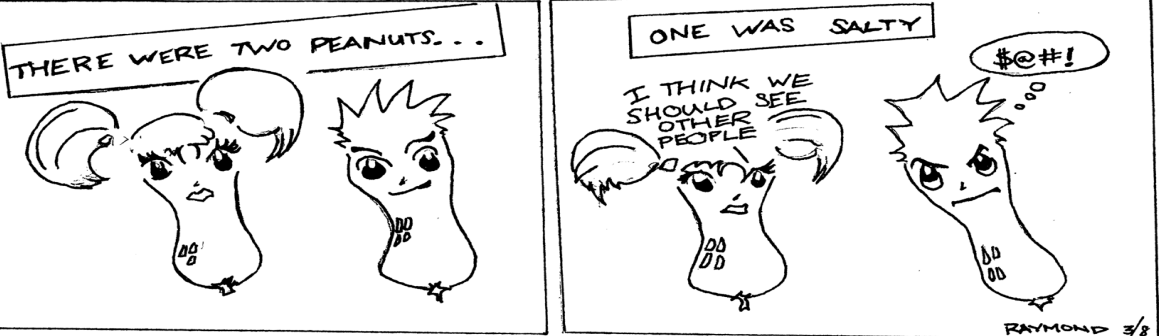
POOR BOYS



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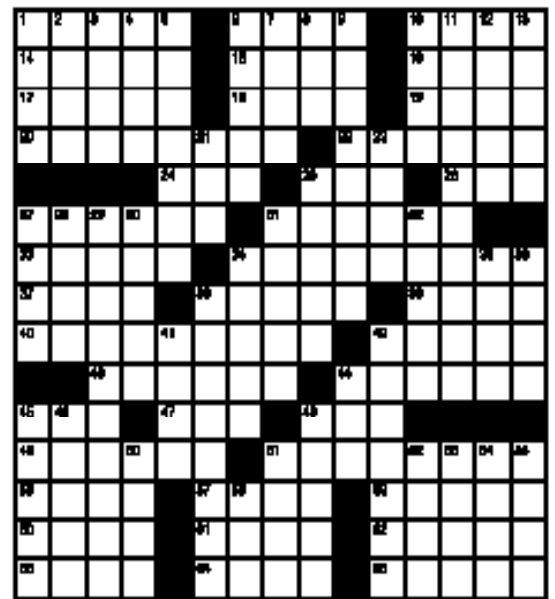


BELOW AVERAGE



Crossword

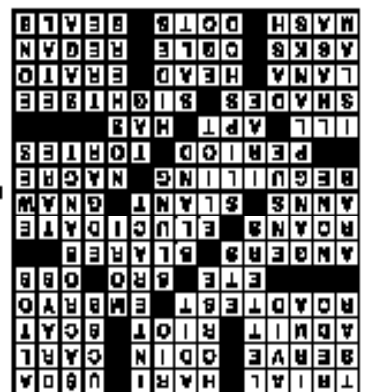
- ACROSS
1 Endurance test
6 Spy Mark
10 Govt. term group
14 Wait on
15 Name dally
16 Bullplayer
17 Loll in
18 Mad mob
19 Beat it
20 New model's debut
22 Fertilized egg
24 Sonne summer
26 Theater sign
28 CIA forerunner
27 Infurcate
31 Sounds in impets
33 Colorful mound
34 Clarity
37 Gotham and Bhattan
38 Angle
39 Emulate a beaver
40 Enchanting
42 Mother-of-pearl
43 End of a sentence
44 Fish cakes
45 "Be Seeing You"
47 Buttable
48 Possessors
49 Cool sunglasses
51 Takes in the attractions
56 Central or Turner
57 ___ in the sand
59 Poole Muse
60 Invites
61 Lear
62 One of Lear's daughters
63 Meal imbure
64 Toppens
65 Waterproof



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4/24/02

Solutions



- DOWN
1 Bygone Russian ruler
2 Make over
3 Cookbook author
4 Rombauer
4 Eager
6 Alphabet units
8 Mount
7 Mine entrance
8 Carnival city
9 Complete
10 School north of L.A.
11 Inviolable
12 Low, heavy curbs
13 Certain singers
21 UFC crew
23 Memento (reminder of mortality)
25 Catapulted
27 Semite
28 Zero
29 Ways to embark
30 Follow
31 Dull and inept
32 Painter Degas
34 George who was Mary
35 Biblical weed
36 Flock families
38 Neglectful

- 41 "Dile ___"
42 Fridge holders
44 Childhood game
45 Invert's religion
46 ___ Apoc
48 Pairs
50 Sentence break
51 Preserving substance
52 Lumber source
53 Epic tale
54 Relative of elo.
55 Ages and ages
58 Pride in oneself

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The Rock’s film will please fans of martial arts

By Richard R. Ferris
KA LEO STAFF WRITER

Finally, The Rock has come back to the silver screen.

It has been a year since we last saw The Rock in “The Mummy Returns” (2001). This time around was an immense improvement: The Rock around for more than 10 minutes and speaks; we can also clearly see his face and muscular physique.

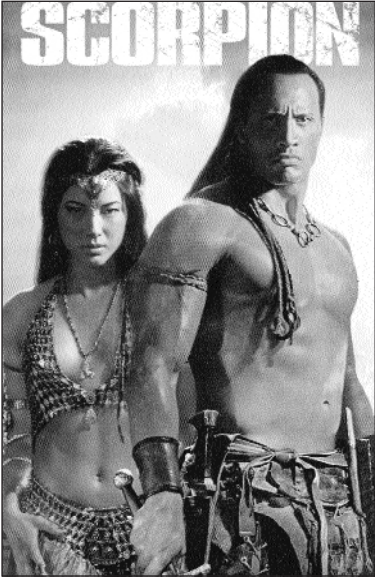
In “The Mummy Returns,” The Rock’s scenes mostly consisted of his face being attached to a scorpion so large it looked like a giant lobster.

“The Scorpion King” is set “thousands of years before the Pyramids” — so long ago in prehistory that The Rock was a hero and had not yet turned into the villain of “The Mummy Returns.” Instead the villain is a king named Memnon (Steven Brand) who uses the talents of a sorceress (Kelly Hu) to map his battle plans, and has conquered most of his enemies.

With Memnon’s enemies near collapse, they call for the three Arkadians, professional assassins who have been “trained for generations in the deadly art,” which indicates their training began even before they were born. The Arkadian leader Mathayus, played by The Rock (his real name is Dwayne Johnson), is such a powerful man that early in the film he shoots a guy with an arrow and the force of it sends the guy crashing through a wall and flying through the air.

Mathayus and his team invade the desert stronghold of Memnon; their mission is to assassinate Memnon’s sorcerer. Mathayus is the only one of the three to survive, and that is where the fun truly begins.

The movie’s special effects send Mathayus and others catapulting into harems, falling from castle walls and narrowly missing death by fire, scorpion venom, poisonous cobras, sword fights, arrows, explosions and being buried up to the neck in the sand near



colonies of fire ants. That is not even counting the trip to the Valley of the Dead, which inspires the following dialogue from Mathayus — horse thief ally (played by Grant Heslov):

“No one goes to the Valley of the Dead. That’s why it’s called the Valley of the Dead.”

Of all the special effects in the movie, the most impressive are the ones that hide “the assets” of the many nubile maidens covered to within one centimeter of the PG-13 guidelines. Hu, a former Miss Hawai’i, has especially clever, long, flowing hair, which covers up the appropriate places, even when she is descending a waterfall. Did I enjoy this movie? Yeah, I did. Would I recommend it? Of course, not because I am a fan of The Rock’s WWF work.

For its target audience, which are people looking for a few laughs, martial arts and stuff that blows up real good, it will be exactly what they expected. It has high energy, the action never stops, the dialogue knows it’s funny (especially when it is delivered by The Rock, Heslov and Peter Facinelli) and The Rock has the authority to play the role and the fortitude to keep a straight face.

I expect him to become a durable



Jamm Aquino • KA LEO O HAWAI’I

Freshman Traci Trochinski reaches for the ball in a game against Pacific University on Saturday at the Duke Kahanamoku Pool.

Wahine water polo team ready for conference game

Like men’s volleyball team, water polo girls play UC Santa Barbara

KA LEO STAFF

The men’s volleyball team isn’t the only team in California competing against the University of California at Santa Barbara in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation playoffs.

It’s also conference tournament time for the Rainbow Wahine water polo team (13-12, 5-6) on Friday when they face the Lady Gauchos (16-15, 4-7) in the first round of the 12-team MPSF Tournament at McDonald’s Swim Stadium in Los Angeles, Calif.

The Rainbows and Gauchos split their two meetings this season. Santa Barbara edged Hawai’i 9-8 on Jan. 27 and the Rainbow Wahine won the rematch 5-3 on

March 26.

The winner will have the daunting task of facing reigning two-time MPSF Champion Stanford University later that same day. Stanford is ranked No. 2 in the country along with USC.

Interim head coach Cindy Rote’s team was routed by the Cardinals back on March 10, losing 13-4.

Hawai’i ended the regular season with two consecutive victories over 20th-ranked Cal Baptist and UC Santa Cruz. The Gauchos are coming off of an embarrassing 14-2 loss to top-ranked UCLA.

The Rainbow Wahine are currently ranked 11th in the Water Polo Coaches Association Top 20 and the Gauchos are ranked 12th.

STAT LEADERS

	<i>Goals</i>
Chelsea Garner-Prohs	39
Karin van Hoff	39
Beth Novich	23

	<i>Assists</i>
Karin van Hoff	14
Chelsea Garner-Prohs	5

	<i>Steals</i>
Karin van Hoff	84
Chelsea Garner-Prohs	40

	<i>Goalie Saves</i>
Christa Tackaberry	165

Friends: Oronoz eager to teach new pitchers

From page 12

“Shannon is a young lady who has a lot of potential but needed to learn how to pitch at our level,” said Coolen. “She throws hard, has a good array of different types of pitches. She just didn’t know what our level was going to bring as far as competition.”

Tabion has progressed quickly, facing Division I competition. Three of her six starts have come in the last two series against Louisiana Tech and Fresno State, including a 5-1 gem over the league-leading Bulldogs, where she held Fresno to one unearned run on two hits to salvage the final game of the four game series.

Whether she’s on the field or in the dugout, Tabion tries to absorb as much experience as possible.

“This is my learning year,” said Tabion. “I have learned a lot just watching games ... things that you do yourself or other people do that could improve your game.”

Coolen suspects that her eager-

ness to learn helped Tabion bond quickly with Oronoz.

“Shannon wants to learn and understand what it takes to be in Sheri’s shoes as the lead pitcher,” said Coolen. “Shannon wants to be there ... That’s only going to help her.”

Oronoz’s leadership style has been influenced by memories of her first year.

“When I came in as a freshman, the pitchers weren’t as friendly,” said Oronoz. “So I wanted to be that person to be like, this is what you can do and this is how you do it, and cheer them on and be positive.

“I did that with Shannon as well as the other two pitchers too (Melissa Coogan and Paula Blanning), but off the field and on the field, Shannon and I had clicked,” added Oronoz. “It was just her total personality. I was like wow, she’s a nice person. I would like her to be my friend.”

Oronoz and Tabion quickly became friends, hanging out together, going to the beach before practice, and engaging in their favorite activity

— shopping.

“Between the both of us we can make a store together, we have so many clothes,” said Oronoz.

Finding a close shopping buddy has helped make the transition to college life easier for Tabion.

“Our team was so close my senior year (of high school),” said Tabion. “I didn’t expect our college team to be as close but we’re pretty good.”

Tabion had expected a lot of competition for spots between the players, but found that her teammates put the group’s goals before their own.

“It’s like my high school team, where we always have best friends on the team but there’s no cliques,” said Tabion.

“It’s good to have that best friend with somebody on the team because it’s 24 hours a day,” added Oronoz.

“To have somebody there it’s like wow, I can’t wait to see Shannon and gossip about what happened today.”

NFL draft:
We watch
it because,
you know,
because

HOT



A
I
R

Steve Murray

By Steve Murray
KA LEO SPORTS COLUMNIS

And with the 128th pick, the Pittsburgh Steelers select Larry Foote from Michigan.

“All Right! We needed a good corner!”

“Dude, Foote’s a linebacker.”

“Yeah, I know. We got the line-backer we needed and we’ll get a cornerback in the next round. Maybe that one guy ... you know ... from ... Florida or Tennessee or something.”

“Dude, do you have any idea who these guys are?”

Nobody does.

Maybe Boomer, Jimmy and Mel have their own Stat Boy regurgitating enough information from the NCAA record book to qualify them as football savants, but the rest of us are clueless.

Sure we know David Carr. Formerly of Western Athletic Conference contender Fresno State University and everybody’s stud number one. Joey Harrington, the biggest Duck in Times Square, yeah we know who he is. Julius Peppers, maybe the best college d-lineman since Hugh Greene, couldn’t turn on “SportsCenter” without seeing him. And that’s about it.

Face it. If Ashley Lelie wore anything but Warrior green we wouldn’t know him from Darrell Hill. (Just to let you know, Hill was a wide receiver from Northern Illinois. The 225 pick by the Tennessee Titans.)

If national letter-of-intent day is the biggest scam in college sports, the NFL draft is its equal in over-hyped unimportance. We see this with every pick beyond the top five or six. Paul Tagliabu stands at the podium, he reads the name of some obscure lineman while 150 young men in Jets replica jerseys scream their approval while their eyes dart around giving away the fact they have no idea who their team selected.

And yet we watch. Eleven hours the first day and seven the next. Bob Slowikowski, Zack Quaccia, Wes Pate and Monsanto Pope. The keys to future championships roll off the tongue.

“Man, our team kicked ass in the draft! Getting that guy in the fourth round was brilliant!”

“Dude. Your boys didn’t have a fourth-round pick. They traded it away to Denver for a sixth- and seventh-round pick in 2004.”

“Hell yeah! I’ll take two for one anytime!”

“Dude, you’re hopeless.”

After NFL draft, former Warrior football player is media darling

By Kalani Wilhelm
KA LEO SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Hawai'i men's volleyball team is conducting interviews with the Hawai'i newspaper and television media before practice on Monday. Former Hawai'i receiver and Denver Bronco's first-round draft pick, Ashley Lelie, peeks into the room.

In an instant, the attention shifts from the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation playoffs to Lelie.

Not that he minds. But he doesn't demand it either. He takes a few steps back.

"I don't want to steal anyone else's spotlight," Lelie says.

Warrior volleyball player Vernon Podlewski greets Lelie with a pat on the back.

"Congratulations," Podlewski says.

"Thanks," Lelie responds.

Since Denver made him the 19th overall selection in this year's draft, UH's all-time leading receiver has been in Beaufort, S.C. and Denver, Colo. Now he's in Hawai'i, where he will be until the start of Broncos' mini-camp on May 2.

He has shaken many hands and been showered with words of congratulations along the way.

"Too many that I could even count," said Lelie, who despite the travel and countless inter-

view requests, showed no signs of jet lag.

"I've finally made it. Now I have to go for my next dream which is making the Pro Bowl and winning a Super Bowl. It probably won't sink in until I go to camp."

Lelie said his mad dash to National Football League stardom hasn't had an effect on him, and neither will life as an NFL rookie.

"I'm going to try and stay in the background and hopefully they'll forget about me. I hope they mess with the other rookies and leave me alone," said Lelie.

He will be a part of an offense led by quarterback Brain Griese, Terrell Davis, and Pro Bowl receivers Ed McCaffrey and Rod Smith. Lelie called his situation in Denver as a blessing in disguise.

"The good thing is I don't have to come in and be a superstar right off the bat. I can come in and learn from the veteran receivers they have."

Although he plays on Sundays now and he has traded his putt-putt moped in for a new Benz, Lelie insisted that he hasn't changed. Underneath the GQ-esque blue pinstripe suit he wore to the Broncos' press conference and the pair of diamond earrings, he is still himself.

"I'm still the same person I've always been," said Lelie. "I'll never change."



COURTESY PHOTO

Underneath the GQ-esque blue pinstripe suit he wore to the Broncos' press conference, Lelie remains himself. "I'll never change," he said.



Andrew Shimabuku • KA LEO O HAWAI'I

UH Rainbow Wahine pitchers Sheri Oronoz (left) and Shannon Tabion have play together on the field and have become friends off the field as well. The two take frequent shopping trips together.

UH pitcher, pitcher-in-training connect on the field and off

By Lori Ann Saeki
KA LEO STAFF WRITER

One is the veteran ace of the Rainbow Wahine softball pitching staff. The other is the hard-throwing ace in training.

On the field, pitchers Sheri Oronoz and Shannon Tabion have little in common. Off the field, they have become best friends.

"When Shannon came in I was like wow, this is so cool. I finally found someone who's like me," said Oronoz.

This season, Oronoz suddenly found herself as head coach Bob Coolen's top pitcher after the sudden departure of last season's ace Felicity Witt. With Witt gone, this left Oronoz as the lone returning

pitcher among three freshmen. She has responded with a 17-10 record, posting a 1.97 ERA in 27 starts.

"Sheri has pretty much had to pave the way for [the freshmen] and be the leader, be the number one pitcher, be the first into games where we know nothing about the opponents," said Coolen. "She's the one that sets the table for the other pitchers."

Coolen had hoped to ease Oronoz back into the pitching staff after she made only five appearances on the mound last year. Oronoz broke a finger on her pitching hand early in the season, and was moved to the outfield to keep her bat in the lineup.

"After not pitching last year and then being called upon to be the

ace of the staff her freshman year, she sort of understands the role a lot more," said Coolen. "She has a lot more presence on the mound."

As a freshman two years ago, Oronoz pitched in 25 games on her way to an 8-8 record and 2.82 ERA on a staff that featured veterans Desiree Duran and Janelle Gonzales.

Tabion meanwhile entered the program this season as one of Coolen's top recruits after leading Baldwin High School to a Hawai'i state title in 2001.

Though Coolen considers Tabion the hardest thrower on the team, the Wailuku native needed a little seasoning to develop into a Division I pitcher.

See Friends, page 11

Limited tickets for women's volleyball

KA LEO STAFF

The University of Hawai'i Athletic Department is selling courtside seating for Friday's Rainbow Wahine exhibition volleyball match against defending NCAA champions Stanford University.

Limited tickets are available for \$20 and can be purchased at the Stan Sheriff Center Box Office and UH Campus Center.

The match will conclude the team's spring practice. Returning to action for the Rainbow Wahine is 2000 All-American outside hitter Lily Kahumoku. Kahumoku will team up with 2001 All-American Kim Willoughby.

Stanford boasts 2001 Player of the Year Logan Tom and 2001 National Freshman of the Year Ogonna Nnamani.

Friday's match at the Stan Sheriff Center will get underway at 7 p.m.

kaleo.org