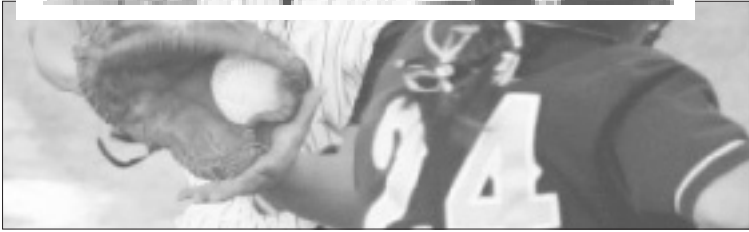


Inside	
News	2
Features	3, 5, 7
Commentary	4
Comics	6
Sports	8



Permits-turned -art makes use of drivers' trash

Features | Page 3



Wahine softball breaks into ESPN's top 25

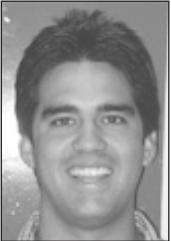
Sports | Page 8

Musicians get industry survival tips in fall

By Alyssa S. Navares
Ka Leo Managing Editor

This fall, Hawai'i musicians will be able to get a degree and learn how to survive in the music industry through a pilot program at Honolulu Community College.

HCC's Music Enterprise Learning Experience (MELE) will be affiliated with Nashville's Belmont University, a school some say is the Harvard University of music. And with federal funding and support from Gov. Linda Lingle, who is requesting \$2.7 million for MELE as part of her 2007 innovations package to improve Hawaii's economy, MELE will involve the local entertainers.



CHOCK

"Belmont is no doubt the best, but tailoring toward our local needs means involving the music industry here," said program coordinator Keala Chock, who proposed MELE with a few colleagues in 2005. Chock is a professional hula dancer for the BrothersCazimero, a highly acclaimed music group in Hawai'i, and performed in New York at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center.

"It's very important in terms of connecting the kids with local talent here that has succeeded and can now serve as role models," he said. Agreements, Chock said, are still in the works for Hawai'i musicians and singers to serve as guest lecturers for several courses, sharing their personal experiences in the profession.

HCC, which currently only has a basic music appreciation course, will be the first school on O'ahu to offer a degree focusing on music business when three pilot courses start next fall. The curriculum will be based upon the following:

- Technical production skills, including audio engineering, studio maintenance and mixing courses;
- Music business expertise, including marketing and intellectual property courses; and,
- Artistic creativity, including song writing courses.

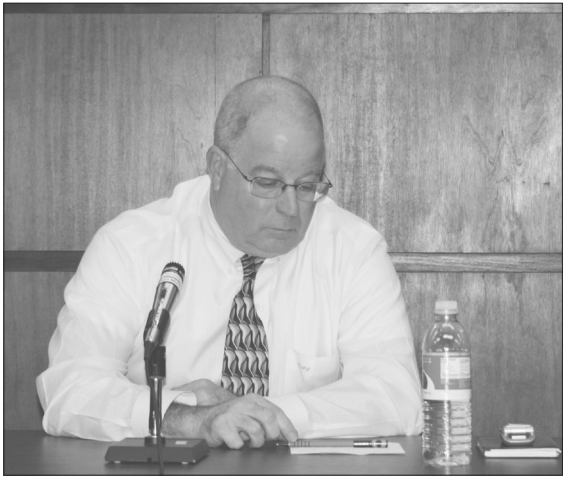
"We're not trying to be Belmont," said HCC Chancellor Ramsey Pederson, referring to the 1,400 music majors at the Tennessee university and the \$5 billion industry for that state. "I think 150 [students] would be a good size program, allowing us to do various things."

Work in progress

HCC students enrolled in MELE

See MELE, page 2

IRAQ WAR LEGAL?



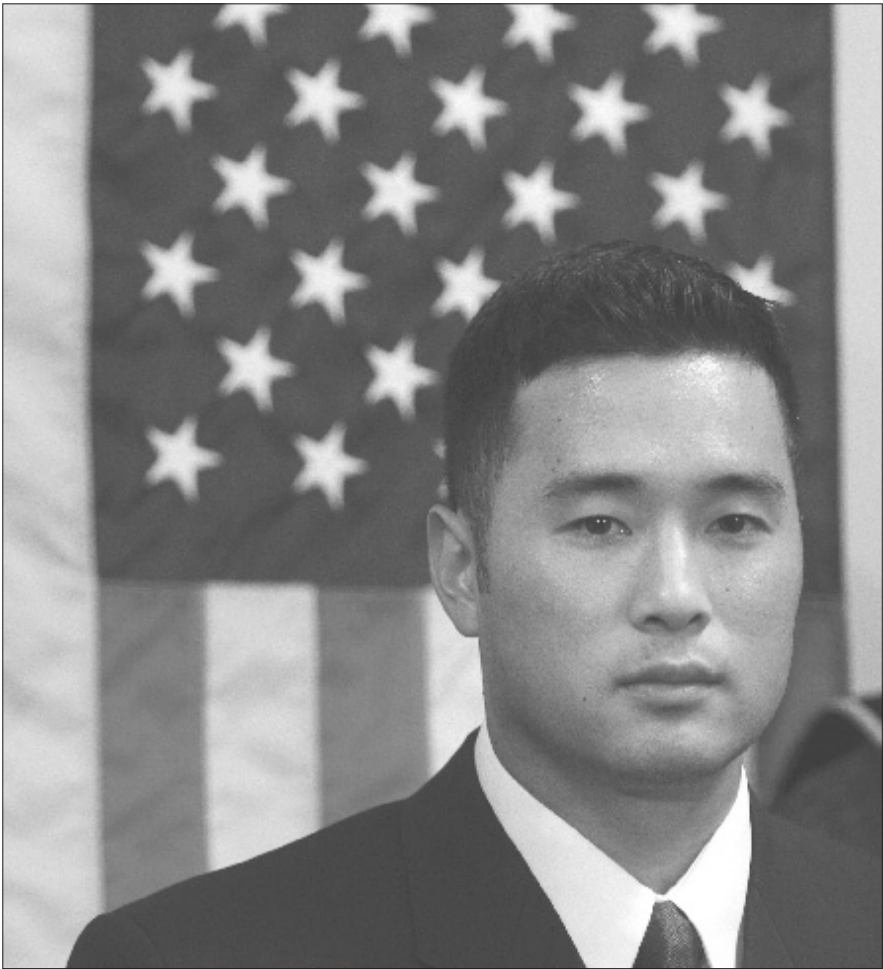
ERIC SEITZ

Defense Attorney for 1st Lt. Watada



PROFESSOR MICHAEL LEWIS

Northern Ohio University



In this file photo, U.S. Army First Lt. Ehren Watada prepares to speak to the media in 2006, during a press conference in Tacoma, Washington. The judge supervising Watada's court martial called a mistrial, Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2007, at Fort Lewis.

COURTESY PHOTO
MCT CAMPUS

KA LEO VIDEO

Check out an uncut video of yesterday's debate between attorney Eric Seitz and professor Michael Lewis at Ka Lamakua, our sister publication, at

<http://www.kalamakua.org>.

Watada's attorney says it's not

Seitz and visiting professor debate on legality of Iraq War

By Kumari Sherreitt

Ka Leo Staff Reporter

Eric Seitz, Lt. Ehren Watada's defense attorney, and Michael Lewis, visiting law professor, heatedly debated Lt. Watada's case and the legitimacy of the war in Iraq yesterday in the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa law school's Moot Courtroom. The audience included law professors, students, concerned public and a TV news crew.

Seitz argued that Watada's case is legitimate on grounds that the war in Iraq is illegal and Watada's most recent court-martial is a case of double jeopardy. Lewis argued that the charges against Watada were withstanding.

Former Israeli court pres. addresses terrorism

By Tracy Chan

Ka Leo Staff Reporter

Respectful silence descended on the conference room at the East-West Center on campus yesterday as Aharon Barak, the former president of the Israeli Supreme Court and the man some legal scholars have dubbed the "world's greatest living jurist," got up to speak. His brief 20-minute lecture titled, "Terrorism and Torture: The Case of the Lesser of Two Evils — Is Torture Ever Permissible?" drew an estimated 30 people, many of whom were students and professors from the William S. Richardson School of Law. Chief Justice Richardson, the man who the law school is named after, was also in attendance.

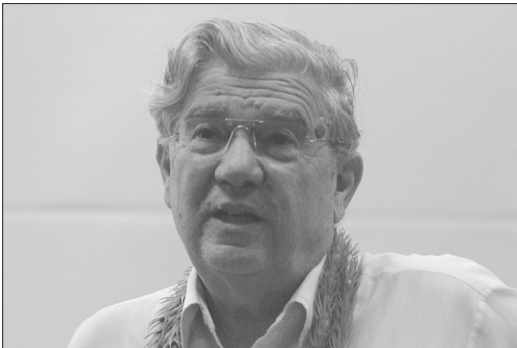
The soft-spoken Barak related some of the challenges and situations he faced as the leader of a judiciary in a country where terrorism and violence are everyday realities. "Judging means

balancing this kind of tension," Barak, 70, said.

Barak's advocacy for a liberal and proactive judiciary in Israel makes him a controversial figure. There he served in the Supreme Court for 28 years, with 11 years as president.

Recently retired, Barak and his wife Elisheva, herself retired from a career in labor law, are the University of Hawaii at Manoa's first Myron Bright Jurists in Residence, which means they are temporary residents at the William Richardson School of Law until March 1. Their presence here complements the Myron H. Bright Jurist in Residence program, which allows for a visiting jurist from the United States Supreme Court. While in residence, Barak will be a guest lecturer in several law classes and hold various addresses and presentations.

Barak's talk, dealing with the role of law in the battle against terrorism, made three main points; the first one



Aharon Barak spoke yesterday at the East-West Center about his experience with political tensions in the Israeli court.

JORDAN MURPH
Ka Leo O Hawai'i

is that, according to him, "the battle against terror is within the law and not outside of the law." Barak said that the established rules of war, are imperative and powerful things, which should not be broken. "The difference between a state and a terrorist organization," he went on, "is that a state acts within the law and a terror organization acts outside the law, in violation of it." It is

Barak's opinion that although a state has to fight terror with one hand figuratively tied behind its back, judges should not create special norms and restrict human rights to fight terror.

"If a state reacts to terror outside the law, the state will become similar to terrorists," Barak said

See Barak, page 2

MELE

From page 1

will get an associate’s degree in science after completing it in two years. A partnership to transfer students from HCC to Belmont, where they can get bachelor’s or master’s degrees, is being negotiated. Both schools plan to work together in shared curriculum, transferable credit and development in staff. Internships in Los Angeles and New York will also be available for students who choose to transfer. HCC hopes to work with the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa’s music program, which focuses on the different genres of music and how to play specific instruments. “There’s no formal academic training in music business skills,” Chock said about the real-world experience students could get from possible local and national internships through MELE. “The kids will go out to do a gig but lack the business skills on how to negotiate contracts or copyright songs.” Twenty-five students are expected to enroll in the fall courses, Pederson said. However, no instructors have been hired yet, and that will commence this summer. Community members also may eventually participate in MELE this summer through workshops in areas such as song writing and mixing. “The one thing we’re not trying to do is to train musicians on how to be musicians,” Chock said, “which is why MELE has really struck a clear chord with people who are coming to the table at key times in support of it.” An advisory council, including 10 to 15 members with ties to the local or national music scenes, has been providing feedback on the program’s implementation.

MELE Day at the State Capitol

MELE Day, scheduled to take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. tomorrow as a way to call attention to the industry, will feature Na Hoku Hanohano award winner Natalie A’i Kamau’u, Pacific Heights and Na Kama. Billy V. from Hawaiian 105 KINE radio will host the event.

Jac Holzman, who started Elektra Records in the 1950s and worked with groups like The Doors and Queen, serves on the council. The president of Mountain Apple, a local recording company, said that being educated in the business will help in the long-run. “No one has walked into the office with knowledge in music business,” said President Leah Bernstein. “I believe that it’s icing on the cake to have this knowledge, but it’s not necessary to be popular. It’s just important to know how the food chain works [in the industry].”

Federal support, pending local government support

MELE got part of a five-year federal Education Department grant. The \$2.5 million grant for the Native Hawaiian Center at HCC allots about \$200,000 to MELE each year. Hawaiian navigation and ocean curriculum with the Polynesian Cultural Center also receives funding from the grant.

Pederson, who helped HCC establish partnerships with corporate businesses, such as IBM and Cisco Systems, wrote the federal grant proposal last year.

“It’s a much slower process in terms of development of the program,” he said. “But with legislative support of MELE, we can be in full scale by next year.”

Lingle stressed the importance of media development in schools during her fifth State of the State address earlier this year.

“While Hawai’i has an unusually

high concentration of raw musical talent, we have never fully developed the broad support infrastructure needed to create an industry,” she said in her address. Lingle requested \$2.7 million for MELE which, according to her, could possibly “become a production magnet for the growing industry throughout Asia.”

Both bills proposed to state legislators, Senate Bill 1922 and House Bill 1279, would grant state funding to MELE. Both will be approved by the money committee this week.

If approved, the money will pay for renovating existing space at the HCC campus and building a recording arts facility. Classes will be more hands-on and arranged in creative learning ways, Chock said.

The program will continue even without state funding.

MELE Day at the Capitol

To call attention to the music industry, the government will be having a MELE Day at the Hawai’i State Capitol rotunda. The event, scheduled to take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. tomorrow, will feature Na Hoku Hanohano award winner Natalie A’i Kamau’u, Pacific Heights and Na Kama. Billy V from Hawaiian 105 KINE radio will host the event.

“In terms of Hawaii’s personality, like the aloha spirit and its image, there is also the sound that people associate with Hawai’i and the Hawaiian music that does make its mark here,” said MELE Day coordinator Steven Lee of the State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Barak

From page 1

emphatically, pointing out that when a state, through its judicial branch, rules something on terrorism, that decision is there for all time.

Under Barak’s Israeli court, torture under any circumstances was declared unconstitutional, and an open-door policy was enacted for rulings dealing with terrorism and targeted killings, even when military operations were going on simultaneously.

Barak’s second point is that open discussion should always be permitted. The open-door practice, called “standing,” means that any person in Israel, even non-Jews, can raise questions about the case, and petition the court. A lot of this happens in any case involving interrogations, he said, as committees against interrogation can come forward and defend the person.

The third point Barak made was about the role of the court and law in daily life. Barak sees it as the court’s duty to uphold human rights, even in times of terror. “We are going to

tell our government that whatever the situation, we should not violate human rights in proportionally,” he said. This is what Barak calls “proportionality”; and he used an example of a fence that Israel built on the west bank to keep terrorists out. His court ruled that the fence was illegal if its aim was political, but if it increased, in proportion, the security of the Israeli people, then from a security point of view, the fence was legal. “Not every end justifies the means,” Barak said.

Barak said that even though some of his rulings have met with protests, there has not been one case of contempt of court. The state has always upheld the court’s judgments. It has been established in his country, he said, that the military is the expert in military operations—but the court is the expert in human rights decisions. “It is our role in a democracy to protect the democracy... from itself, in a way,” he said. “To prevent it from using a medicine that is stronger than the disease itself.”

Three months after his retirement, Barak reflected on his philosophy in court. “Every day that I sit on trial, I stand trial,” he said, but ultimately, “I stand trial for whatever I have done before history.”

News Briefs

By Ka Leo News Desk

Rail won't stop at UH Mānoa for first leg

A mass-transit route along Salt Lake Boulevard that does not stop at the Honolulu International Airport was approved by the Honolulu City Council yesterday. The 5-4 vote does not

include the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa in the first leg of the plan. Members of the Associated Students of UH, along with other students, rallied in favor of a route including UHM.

The complete route is still expected to reach UHM, although a date for the final plans is still uncertain.

Got a tip?

Voice your concerns and insight by e-mailing us at:

tipline@kaleo.org
or call 956-3219



Kahua O Manoa
2x2

Sudoku
2x4

Technology: the good, the bad, the ugly

Podcast lectures increase but still have flaws

By Moanike’ala Nabarro
Ka Leo Contributing Reporter

Imagine cruising on Makapu’u Beach, iPod in hand, listening to the latest lecture for class while soaking up the warmth of the island sun. The use of mobile learning or podcast lectures started at Duke University in the fall of 2004. Students in the Information and Computer Science 101 course at the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa are among students nationwide that are required to use this method of technologically assisted learning.

At UH, podcast lectures are obtained by clicking a link through WebCT and downloading them through iTunes either to one’s computer or iPod. ICS 101 students are required to attend the lectures in the classroom and download podcast lectures once a week.

After listening to the downloadable lecture, students are given a quiz to complete on WebCT that tests their comprehension of the podcast lecture. Although the convenience of test taking is there, this type of distance learning still has flaws.

“The quizzes don’t tell you which questions you got wrong, so you have no idea what you did right or what you did wrong,” said senior Jon Wolff, currently enrolled in ICS 101.

Wolff, a 25-year-old accounting major, thinks the podcast lecture is somewhat redundant of the live lecture conducted in the classroom. However, Wolff likes that he can

take notes on the podcast lecture and listen to the information repeatedly if he ever needs clarification.

According to the Hawai’i Course Redesign Project, “The iPod-based technology allows the department to improve the quality of the course ... and allows students to progress at their own pace.”

But is the technological advancement of education going to change the university’s curriculum in the near future?

ICS student Brandon Taflinger said that he prefers the podcast lecture over having to go into class. When asked if he would feel the same way about having required podcasts for other courses, he said, “I think it only works for ICS because it is a content-based class.”

But is this non-traditional learning method only being applied to ICS 101? According to the Duke University newspaper, “A Drexel University chemistry professor assigns podcast lectures and uses class time to review problems.”

Purdue, Stanford, Berkeley and Harvard are some of the colleges across the nation that also use podcast lectures.

“[Podcast lectures are only] useful in the 100 [and] 200-level courses,” Wolff said. “But in the upper-level classes, you need the interaction with the teacher in order to comprehend and understand the information.”

There are teachers on the UH campus that prefer traditional lectures, which support face-to-face interaction.

“Not every course can be taught through podcasts,” said Hailiopua Baker, a Hawaiian language instructor at UH. “Language learning needs interaction between both student and teacher.”

Parking permits-turned-art

By Brandi Salas
Ka Leo Staff Reporter

A lunch wagon covered in parking passes is not something students at the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa see every day.

Fine arts major Sharon Agamao said she pays \$3 daily for a parking pass at the Zone 20 parking structure, and although it seems like a small fee, she realized it adds up to a significant amount of money.

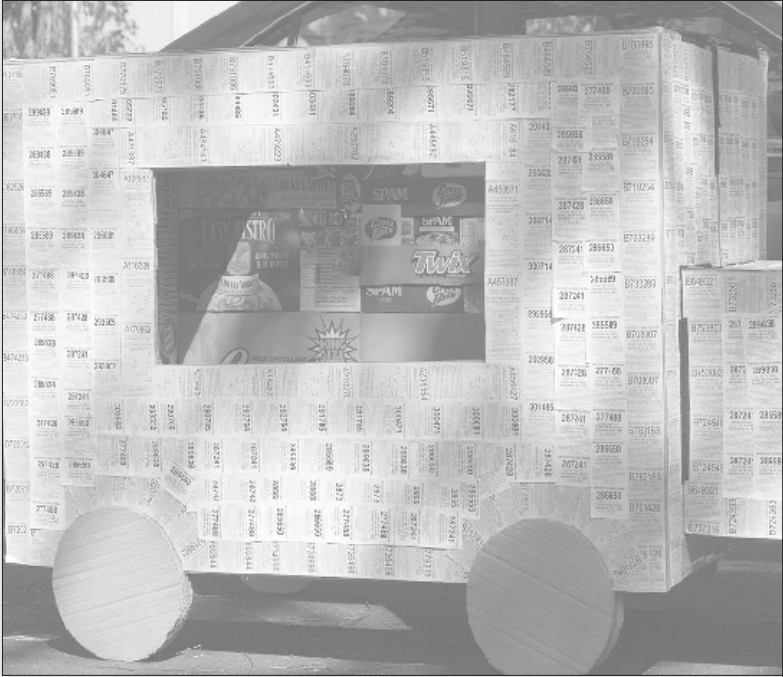
Tired of paying for parking, Agamao used her frustration to create a project that expresses her problem with the parking fee. Her project was originally supposed to be a “shelter project,” which should reflect a protective dwelling.

The “shelter” idea stemmed from the concept of a lunch wagon because Agamao admires how much space a lunch wagon has and how people utilize something that seems so small to make a living.

“Lunch wagons are so compact, people are able to work in it and walk around in it,” Agamao said. “I made little models of it, [and] I couldn’t figure out what the color was going to be. I was cleaning out my car and I had all these parking tickets, and I just stuck it on there.”

Art professor Frank Sheriff said the goal of the exercise was to be resourceful and use bicycle cardboard boxes and tape.

“When Sharon presented her model, she decided to work with the idea of a plate lunch wagon,” Sheriff said. “It was kind of funny because she had covered it with parking permits, which was



RUSSEL SAITO • KA LEO O HAWAII

Agamao was frustrated with the parking situation at UH but knew that she had a priority. This project was an exercise in resource imagination.

just to add color. It wasn’t necessarily a large part of her concept for the piece.”

With the stack of parking permits Agamao collected, a concept developed.

“It really didn’t start off as ‘I’m making a statement,’” Agamao said. “It kind of developed into that, and I didn’t feel like there could be a better way.”

Agamao was frustrated with the parking situation at UH, but knew that she had a priority.

“I have no choice,” she said. “I have to park somewhere [and] I have to go to school.”

Agamao said that it’s hard to

deal with the financial aspect of college, and struggling with student loans was something she did not enjoy. Agamao mentioned that she would also like to see where her \$3 goes every day.

Eventually, her voice may be heard. Sheriff said the entire class will present their work for critique in the classrooms at the Art Building.

“We were talking a little bit of possibly putting Sharon’s piece in the parking structure,” Sheriff said. “But we’ll see. I think it’s interesting enough for an art student to put flyers out. It becomes an interactive piece [to the community].”

Islamd Manapua

2x2

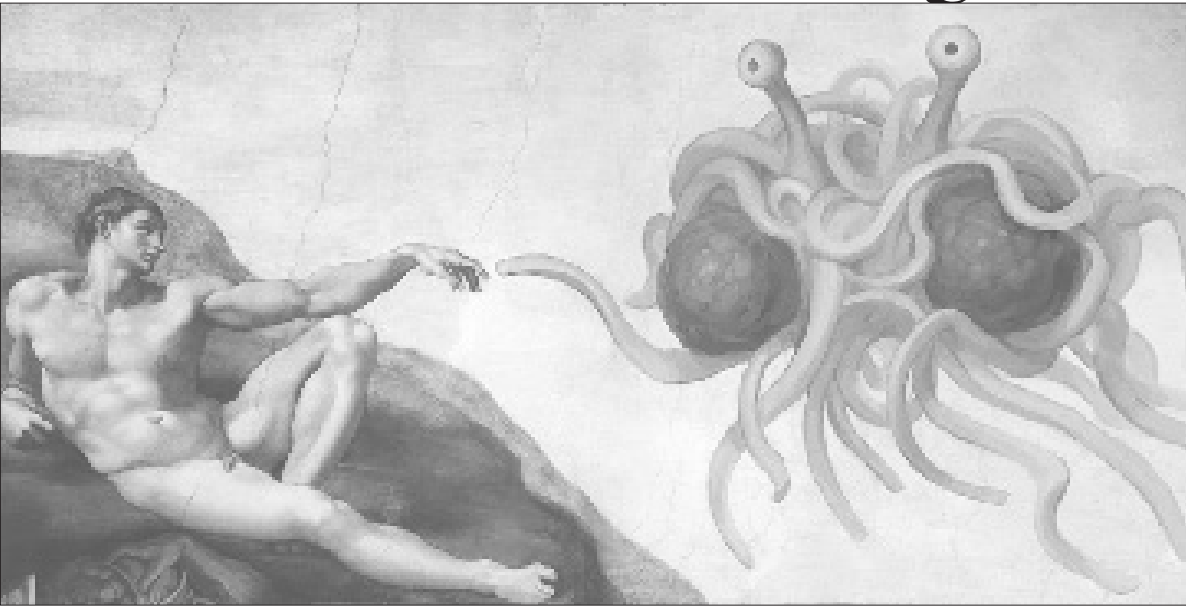
House Planners

2x4

UH Bookstore

3x7

Richard and Religion



COURTESY PHOTO -VENGANZA.ORG

The Flying Spaghetti Monster blesses Adam with his “holy appendage.” The pasta-based deity was created as a sardonic response to a 2005 Kansas State Board of Education decision requiring the teaching of intelligent design as an alternative to evolution in science classes.

By Kris DeRego
Ka Leo Staff Writer

Atheism is the new black. Once reviled as heretical, questioning the existence of God has become more fashionable in recent years, despite (or perhaps because of) the meteoric rise of religious fundamentalists in global politics. Three and a half centuries after the intellectual immolation of Galileo, freethinkers are finally starting to emerge from the long shadow of religious indoctrination, challenging many of the social myths of the modern world. Believe it or not, their skepticism may be just what our society needs.

Last week, UH Mānoa rolled out the red carpet for one of atheism’s most outspoken advocates. Richard Dawkins, a pre-eminent evolutionary biologist from Oxford University, crusades against what he views as the “evils of religion.” In his latest book, “The God Delusion,” Dawkins argues that science, while unable to disprove God’s existence, deals empirically with the probability of whether a hypothesis (including the “God hypothesis”) is true or false. Accordingly, culpability for proving or disproving God’s existence is shifted from skeptics to believers, who must provide a reasonable justification for clinging to a belief system that conflicts with centuries of scientific observation. For Dawkins, God falls into the same category as unicorns, fairies and the infamous Flying Spaghetti Monster (created as a sardonic response to a 2005 Kansas State Board of Education decision requiring the teaching of intelligent design as an alternative to evolution in science classes). Invoking the art of reductio ad absurdum rhetoric, Dawkins claims that each of these cases, ridiculous as they seem, are equal

to the “God hypothesis” in both their capacity for being empirically verified and probability of being true.

While Dawkins’ claims may be extreme, his logic is flawless. From courtrooms to classrooms, all democratic societies (with the possible exception of Kansas) demand evidential support before grandiose assertions are accepted as valid. Why is religion, with all of its inherent contradictions, exempt from the same sensible standards of intellectual inquiry?

To anyone that questions the veracity of my contention that religion is often self-contradictory, consider the following question: is God omniscient or omnipotent? He can’t be both. If God is omniscient, He must know in advance what catastrophes will occur throughout the course of history. He must also know when He will intervene to ease human suffering, via His omnipotence or “all-powerfulness.” However, if He already knows when He is going to intercede, He cannot change his mind about doing so. Thus, God cannot be omnipotent. Either God is powerless to prevent human suffering or He is indifferent to it. So which is it? You can’t have your communion wafer and eat it, too.

Religious adherents in the United States – mostly Christians – overlook not only scientific and dogmatic inconsistencies; they ignore the historical record as well. In order to advance a subversive political agenda, many evangelicals deliberately perpetuate the fallacy that the United States was founded on Christian values that must be enshrined in all of our nation’s laws. In actuality, our country’s founding fathers wanted to keep religion as far away from government as possible. In the Constitution they authored, the word “God” appears nowhere and

the word “religion” only once. The founders’ religious skepticism is further evidenced by the 1797 Treaty of Tripoli, drafted under George Washington, ratified unanimously by Congress and signed by John Adams, which states that “the government of the United States is not, in any sense, founded upon the Christian religion.”

It’s a short leap from historical revisionism to the dangerous political positions held by religious conservatives today. Such positions include opposition to stem cell research (on the basis that blastocysts might have souls), opposition to a woman’s right to choose (on the basis that unborn fetuses might have souls) and opposition to vaccination against cervical cancer for young women (because STDs provide a disincentive for premarital sex – say what?). Look no further than the violent Islamic Reformation shaking the modern Middle East for a portrait of how religious fanaticism can cremate an entire culture.

Or, for a more visceral example of religious corruption, turn to the New York skyline. When you see the void where the twin towers used to be, remember that the Sept. 11 hijackers were university-educated people with no history of political oppression, similar to you and I. The difference? The inordinate amount of time they spent at their local mosques discussing the pleasures that awaited them in paradise once they destroyed the infidels. Is that really where we, as a society, want to go?

Correction

We failed to mention the affiliations of these two letter writers in yesterday’s Ka Leo: Stacy Harada is a former Ka Leo Web designer and Steven Michael Catt is an ASUH Senator.

Global warming? Blame environmentalists

Nuclear energy a wise choice to fight global warming

By David Francis
Arizona Daily Wildcat (U. Arizona)

(U-WIRE) TUCSON, Ariz. – In case you missed the news, the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report stated that global warming is “very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic (human-produced) greenhouse gas concentrations.” Not particularly good news, but at least we know who to blame.

The task now is to figure out how to tackle the problem, and ironically, it’s environmentalists who stand in the way. While focusing almost entirely on ways of reducing energy demand, that tunnel vision seems to prevent them from seeing any other way to stem global warming.

The green movement has historically opposed nuclear energy, the production of which emits nothing but steam, and thus it inhibits what some consider our best shot at slowing the scourge of global warming.

A recent International Energy Agency report showed that gas-driven vehicles are responsible for roughly 21 percent of global carbon emissions. The energy-production sector, on the other hand, accounts for 40 percent – nearly twice as much – of worldwide carbon emissions. Thus it would seem that anyone interested in curbing global warming would look first to stem the tide of greenhouse gases spewing out of fossil fuel-burning power plants around the world.

If climate change is such a serious threat, environmentalists would do well to pursue more than one way of addressing it.

Instead environmentalists, those beacons of eco-responsibility, have steadily opposed the spread of clean energy and have even helped effect an unofficial moratorium on nuclear power plant construction in the U.S.

As the demand for energy skyrockets worldwide, it becomes more and more difficult to ignore the case for nuclear energy. Yes, there are less controversial ways to produce energy cleanly: wind farms, solar power and hydroelectric power come to mind.

But despite their eco-friendliness, wind and solar energy have failed to reach mass feasibility. In 2005, Arizona’s own Palo Verde nuclear power plant produced more megawatt-hours of electricity than all U.S. solar and wind farms combined. Hydroelectric dams, on the other hand, require the right geography in order to be considered.

So why has there always been such staunch opposition to going nuclear? Greenpeace and other environmentalist organizations cite Three Mile Island as evidence of the fact that nuclear energy is unsafe, but the Three Mile Island story is one of success, not failure. Not a single plant worker or nearby resident was harmed in the accident because all safety precautions were taken and worked according to plan.

I recently had the opportunity to tour a small reactor facility in Cambridge, Mass., with a family member who works there as an engineer, and I was stunned at the seemingly endless number of safety precautions in place.

Aside from absurdly thick concrete enclosures and futuristic-looking radiation checkpoints, the plant’s designers even took care to maintain a very low level of atmospheric pressure inside sensitive parts of the facility in order to prevent the out rush of irradiated air in the unlikely event of an explosion that could cause a leak in the concrete casings.

What’s more, such facilities are still required to submit “Environmental Impact Statements” to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in order to operate.

So it seems that highly-educated nuclear energy experts are entirely assured of the safety of their craft, even despite the opposition from those who frankly don’t know enough to doubt them. These bright individuals have trouble understanding how the eco-conscious – of all people – could oppose nuclear energy. Thankfully, not everyone in the green community still clings to 1960s-era anti-nuclear dogma. Greenpeace co-founder Patrick Moore last year penned in The Washington Post: “Thirty years on, my views have changed... because nuclear energy may just be the energy source that can save our planet from ... catastrophic climate change.”

A few other prominent environmentalists agree, yet for now, most environmentalists seem to see only one way of fighting global warming: regulation of (mainly) vehicular emissions. They demonize the likes of SUVs, while fossil fuel-burning power plants emit twice as much greenhouse gasses as all the world’s gas-guzzling autos combined.

If climate change were such a serious threat, environmentalists would do well to pursue more than one method of retarding it. Capping vehicle emissions is a costly endeavor that addresses only one-fifth of the problem, according to the IEA estimates. It is, at best, a good start to tackling a big problem.

It’s high time environmentalists saw the whole picture and lobbied for the cleanest method of large-scale energy production there is. Nuclear energy, like all of its alternatives, clearly has its risks and safety is rightly a priority – but if every dangerous innovation were cast aside for its risks, we would still be living in the Stone Age.

KA LEO O HAWAI'I

THE VOICE OF HAWAI'I

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The commentary page is here for you to voice your thoughts, feelings and opinions. Here are some things in the news you might be interested in.

Mānoa snubbed by light rail
Can a white person be the subject of a hate crime?
Taking TheBus to class
Mayor Hannemann’s vision of a sustainable Honolulu
Temporary closing of Mānoa Walk
Food on campus — healthy, affordable, sustainable?
Noise pollution
New library for Windward Community College?
Arts and culture in Honolulu
Cats on campus



Write a commentary or letter and send it to commentary@kaleo.org.

Not just for kids – top 4 adult comics

By Taylor Hall
Ka Leo Staff Reporter

Adult-orientated comics are a dying breed. Originally formed to save the industry when superheroes weren't drawing fans in, the new guys are habitually swept back under the rug once the old standbys reinvigorate themselves. "Preacher," "Watchmen," "Maus" and "Airtight Garage" all showed initial promise before defining the medium. This list is devoted to the top five collections of the year, the ones that took a chance, are the beginning of something great, or just plain stood out in a year devoted to superheroes.

The best American comics of 2006

Bringing to mind Mike Judge's "The Animation Show," a touring festival of the best underground animation they could find (now on DVD, check Wal-Mart), the American collection is a literary beacon that shines a light on comics in the short-form medium (under 15 pages). A must-read for comic aficionados, the book is also a good pick for people bored of short stories who think comics are just for kids. The material is ever-reaching, so there's something for

every mood and type of person.

"Fables: 1001 Nights of Snowfall"

"Fables" is a standalone title to the well-groomed Eisner-Award-winning series by Bill Willingham. The story is about how Snow White acts as an ambassador to Arabia, where she is captured by a murdering king who wishes to marry her. Abducted against her will, she knows she will be killed the night of her forced wedding, so she delays him by telling him a little part of a story every night.

This is a spiritual successor to "1001 Arabian Nights" that fits perfectly into the "Fables" universe of fairy tale creatures living amongst us. A bonus for fans of the comics, is the influential backstory information that simultaneously gives new meaning to past events.

While changing artists is usually a sign of turmoil for the creative team, the different talent featured here is a rare exception to the rule, since each story told gets a fresh unique coat of paint. This individual title leaves you fulfilled, but keeps you yearning to read more of the series, and, most importantly, teaches you to never, ever



trust a pack of dwarves.

"The Exterminators, Vol. 1: Preacher"

With bugs instead of dogma, that alone should be enough to persuade comic fans who haven't given this a read-through yet. Fans of grossed-out humor and bizarre horror and violence will appoint Simon Oliver's series their new favorite monthly.

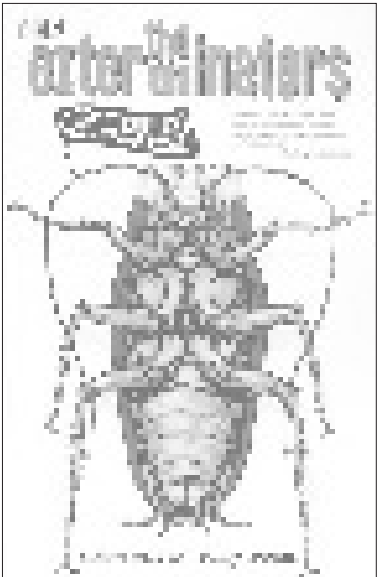
The story, about a lovelorn girl, a bizarre company and tons of grime and bugs, gives this series a great B-movie feel. The series also gives many of its characters pest-like appearances and bravely asks the age-old question: "Who's smarter, man or beast?"

"The Exterminators" comes about early in the year with very little fanfare, but its clever plot and honest, quick dialogue proves this as the little engine that could. If it makes an extended run, you can expect this to be the new modern classic, side by side with the aforementioned "Fables" and "Preacher."

A man kills a raccoon in the first five pages ... barehanded. What's not to love?

"Loveless Volume 1"

After being released from a union imprisonment camp, Wes Cutter, southern rebel, goes home and is accosted by union officers that have made his home their camp. His wife is missing, government officials are causing him trouble and he isn't exactly cheery after years in prison.



The characters are instantly memorable and the dialogue is extremely faithful to the time period. "Loveless" is filled with action and does for the Western flashback what "Family Guy" does for comedic non-sequiturs.

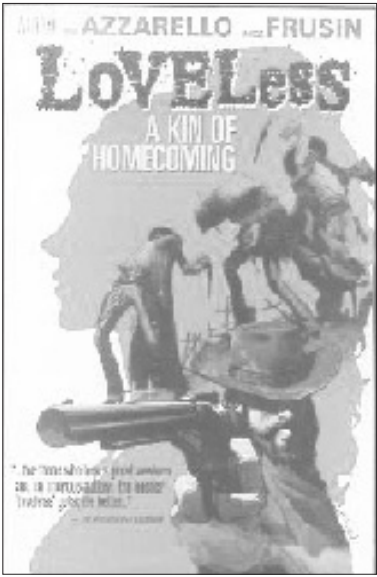
Written by Brian Azzarello of "100 Bullets" fame and drawn by Marcelo Frusin and Patricia Mulvihill, "Loveless" is a hard-hitting, larger-than-life story line that will only be around for a few collections. A Godsend for those who thought that the only problem with "100 Bullets" is its epic run time, "Loveless" is a re-readable adventure you can be proud to have on your shelf, as opposed to all those Marvel anime collections you've been hoarding.

"Pride of Baghdad: Poignant"

This book is a must-read trade paperback this year. The comic is based on the true story of the bomb that fell on the Baghdad zoo and released the animals into the city. In the story, the lions of the zoo are just trying to survive in the desert with their new freedom, but they are powerless to the struggle with the obstacles around them.

By the very nature of the narrative, "Pride of Baghdad" confirms our own primal feelings on destruction and the inevitable outcomes of war, and it's a quick read that's a must-have for any assertive adult.

Equally engaging are the conversations throughout with the other released animals and their individual plights with



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FROM TOP LEFT: Fables: 1001 Nights of Snowfall; The Exterminators, Vol. 1: Preacher; Loveless Volume 1; Pride of Baghdad: Poignant.

their past and present. The comic is well written by comic legend Brian K. Vaughn (he wrote "Y: The Last Man").

Honorable mention

"The Boys," by Garth Ennis, featured a story that was so gross, it outraged a senator and was cancelled. Presently being shopped around to at least finish its story arc, cross your fingers for this seven-issue run to be collected hopefully this year, if not ever.

100 YEARS STRONG

By PATRICIA WILSON

Campus Fertility Goddess

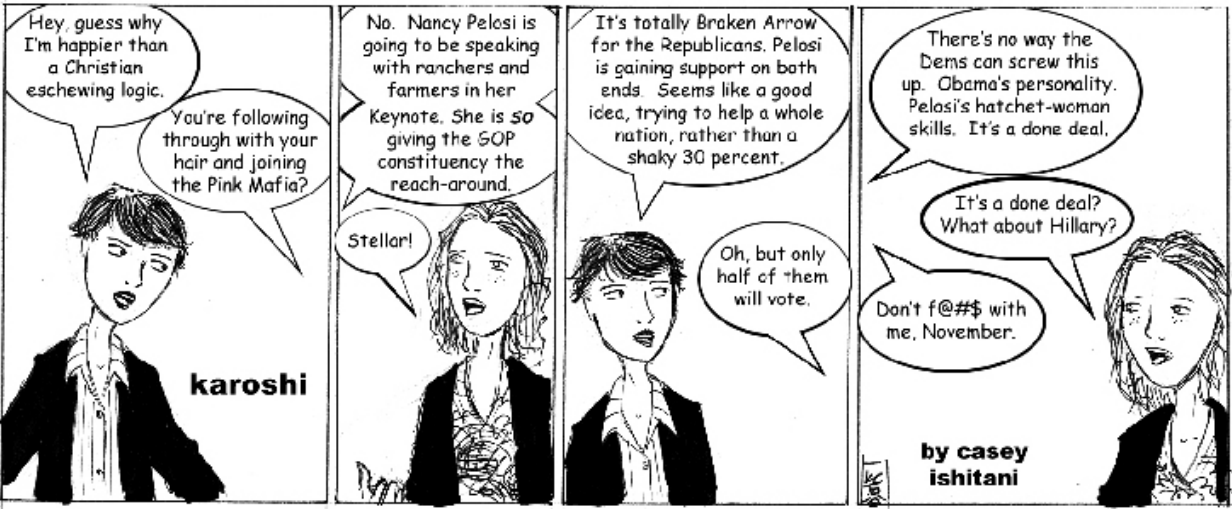


1975

In 1975, Gregory Clurman created the granite sculpture that sits in front of Campus Center. He called his piece Hina-O Na Lani or "Mother of the Universe."

Photo Courtesy of "Building a Rainbow" by Victor Kobayashi

karoshi by casey ishitani



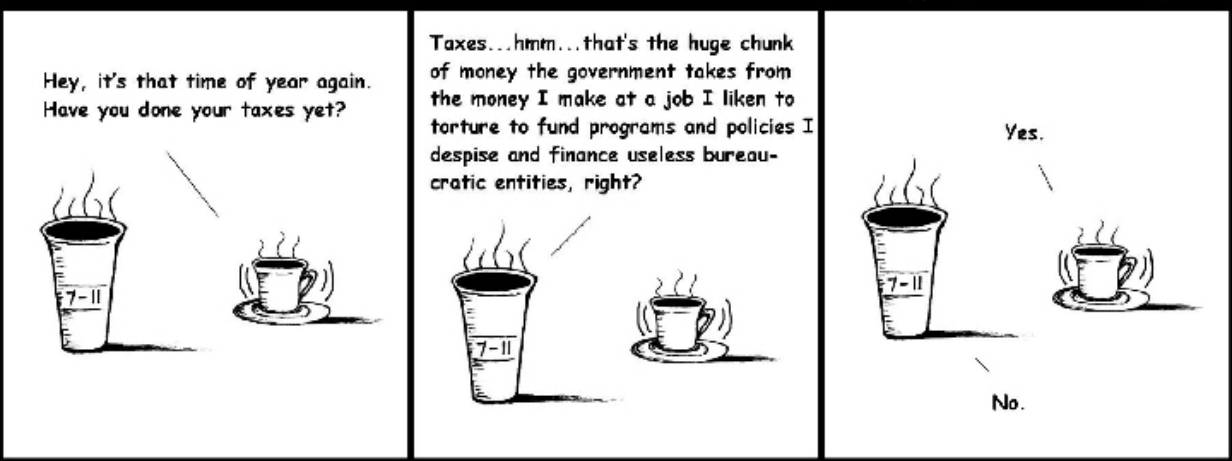
myspace.com/tunorama

by casey ishitani

Coffee Talk

"Tax Time"

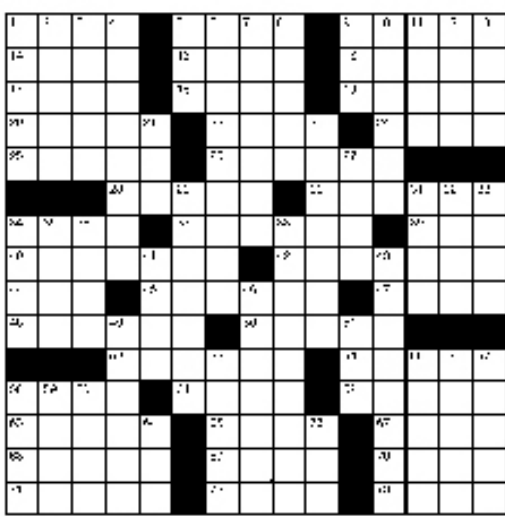
By Cynthia McCoy



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Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Comic language
 - 5 Flows out
 - 8 Empowerment
 - 11 Male, as adjective
 - 15 Order of a broker
 - 18 More and
 - 19 Surrounded by
 - 20 Guilty of not guilty
 - 23 Full characters
 - 24 King
 - 27 This or word
 - 28 Brooming place
 - 29 Gave off bright light
 - 30 Unarmed swimmer
 - 31 Gertrude
 - 32 Who was designated and
 - 33 F. A. A. 53
 - 34 Hooley tie
 - 37 Individual
 - 38 Actor Beale
 - 40 Hiccup of light
 - 42 Freed of
 - 43 Ode to C. O. S.
 - 44 Ties in
 - 45 Guaranteed
 - 47 Homophony
 - 48 Translize
 - 50 American of Japanese descent
 - 52 Reuter
 - 54 Billards stroke
 - 58 Depends
 - 61 Last fraction
 - 62 Editor's marks
 - 63 Crags
 - 65 Mine entrance
 - 67 Pupils seeing
 - 68 Happen once more
 - 69 Killed 11ers
 - 70 Eyebal
 - 71 Insolently
 - 72 On the side
 - 73 Advantage
 - 74 New Jersey NEA team
- DOWN
- 1 School students
 - 2 Splitter your
 - 3 Capital on the Nile
 - 4 And not to a contract
 - 5 6th sense
 - 6 Those who fail
 - 7 K. Owen device
 - 8 Hoisting material
 - 9 One in a dozen
 - 10 Liked
 - 11 Canadian parcel
 - 12 Turns right
 - 13 Bahama hamper
 - 21 Parishes and 12?
 - 22 Baltimore's birds
 - 27 Solitary
 - 29 Jack-o'-beter
 - 31 Menu heading
 - 32 Counsel
 - 33 Co-incident
 - 34 Ova
 - 35 Mystery board game
 - 36 Pop
 - 38 Cutting corners
 - 41 George's need
 - 42 Pilot's field
 - 43 Solz



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100 YEARS STRONG

By Patricia Wilson

Campus Fertility Goddess



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Photo Courtesy of “Building a Rainbow” by Victor Kobayashi

UH Service Learning
2x4

UH Bookstore
3x7

SPORTSCOMMENTARY

Wahine break ESPN's top 25

By Ryan Ellis
Ka Leo Staff Reporter

In case you haven't heard about the University of Hawai'i softball team's incredible start to their season, let me catch you up to speed. They are good. Allow me to rephrase. They are very good.

The Wahine were rewarded for their successful start yesterday by breaking the top 25 in the ESPN.com/USA Softball Collegiate Top 25 Poll, ranking No. 24. It is their first national ranking since 2003.

This weekend, UH will take its new national ranking and their 12-2 record into the Pepsi Malihini Kipa Aloha Tournament, which starts Thursday night at Rainbow Wahine Stadium. The tournament schedule will include games against No. 23 Georgia, No. 17 Oregon (ESPN poll), Kent State, and St. Mary's.

The most impressive thing about the Rainbow Wahine isn't their record, but that they exemplify the word "team" in every possible way. Under head coach Bob Coolen, the team has gelled together remarkably, especially considering that this team only has two seniors. By the way, don't mistake the word "seniors" for the word "leaders."

When it comes to leaders, this team has plenty of them. On and off the field, there is a sense of pride, determination and camaraderie that you find only on the best of teams. Individual records and goals are set aside for the good of the team. Instructions are given and executed with precision and accuracy. The intensity of play is fast, crisp and, quite frankly, very exciting to watch.

For the baseball enthusiast out there (not unlike myself), take the base paths and shrink them down to 60 feet, and place the pitching mound a mere 45 feet away. You might recall this from little league. Next, picture Wahine starting pitcher Courtney Baughman or Justine Smethurst wind-milling rockets at you at speeds that will make you question whether or not your life insurance policy is up to date. It's that intense.

Not interested in pitching? Let me throw some offensive statistics at you. So far this season, the Wahine have outscored their opponents 85-26 and have hit 24 home runs in 16 games. That averages out to about 1.5 home runs per game, so if you go to the park, chances are good that you will see one.

Coming into this weekend's tournament, infielder Clare Warwick leads the Wahine with a .512 batting average and junior Kate Robinson leads the other two triple crown categories with five home runs and 14 RBIs.

In the pitching circle, Smethurst



Hawaii's Kaulana Gould, a junior, is one of only seven upperclassmen on the Rainbow Wahine softball squad this season. Gould had two runs in a 14-1 win at Loyola Marymount on Feb. 21.

FILE PHOTO
KA LEO O HAWAI'I



Left: Wahine first baseman Tyleen Tausaga is one of two UH seniors this season. Thus far, Tausaga has tallied 4 home runs (24 for the entire team) and 12 RBI.

Right: Sophomore pitcher Justine Smethurst throwing a fast ball in a game last season when she gave up only one run. She is 4-2 this season with 36.2 innings and a 1.15 ERA.

takes on much of the pitching load, posting a 4-2 record over 36.2 innings to go with her slim 1.15 ERA. Following Smethurst, the rest of the pitching staff carries a perfect 8-0 record. Baughman has settled in as a nice No. 2 starter, throwing

22.1 innings on her way to a 3-0 record and a 2.82 ERA. Robinson is 2-0 with a 1.78 ERA, and Jessica Morton has been fabulous in relief going 3-0 with a team-low 0.53 ERA in 13.1 innings pitched.

Now just to be fair, here are



FILE PHOTO • KA LEO O HAWAI'I

The most impressive thing about the Rainbow Wahine isn't their record. It is that they exemplify the word "team" in every possible way.

the athletes coming to play every game, wearing their hearts on their sleeves and leaving it all out on the field, win or lose. As a fan, that is all you can ask of your favorite team.

So when you are sitting around your dorm room on Thursday evening wondering what to do before going to Magoo's or Waikiki's latest sub-par dance club, consider checking out some of UH's most talented athletes. Games only last seven innings, so you won't be infringing on your late-night plans. If you are a starving graduate student like myself, the best part is that you won't pay a dime to attend one of their games, so you really don't have anything to lose.

If you still don't believe me, come see for yourself.

On Thursday at Rainbow Wahine Softball Stadium, UH faces Oregon at 4 p.m. and Kent State at 6 p.m. Friday's action will feature two more games at 4 and 6 p.m. against St. Mary's and Georgia, respectively. Bracket games will be played to determine a tournament champion on Saturday and Sunday.

Sports Writers Wanted

Do you love sports and want to go behind the scenes and talk to University of Hawai'i players and coaches? Do you want to join in post-game press conferences, as well as report on games and events on campus and statewide? This is the opportunity for you to

explore the world of sports from a different perspective while gaining the experience that can help you in every field of study.

For more information, contact Rebecca Gallegos or Glendalyn Junio at (808) 956-3215, or e-mail us at kaleosports@gmail.com.



What do you think Ka Leo should be covering?

What kind of things on or around campus concern you?

Voice your concerns and insight by e-mailing us at tipline@kaleo.org