

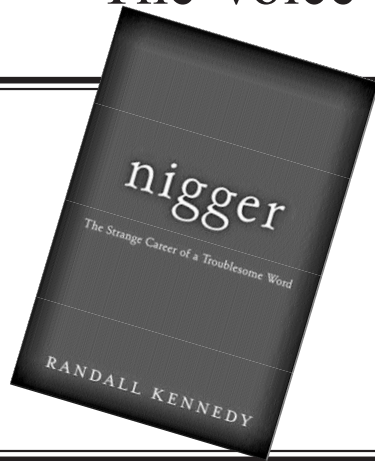


The Voice of Hawai'i

The word to end all words . . .

Randall Kennedy's latest book tries to disempower a hateful racial epithet, the infamous "N-word." Despite Kennedy's much-applauded intentions, and perhaps due to his banal approach, this book may have fallen a hair short of its mark.

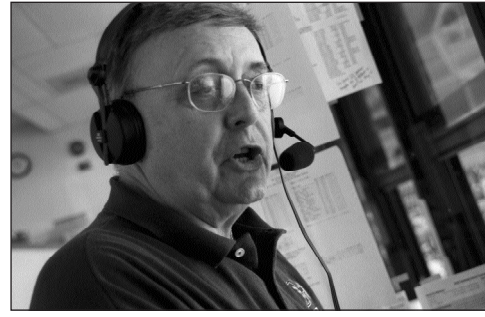
See page 3



Midwest native calls games in Hawai'i

Rainbow baseball sports caster Don Robbs has been in Hawai'i for over 26 years. Read how this midwest native crossed the Pacific to enjoy legendary media status in paradise.

See page 8



Lingle pledges to gain public's trust



Maria J. Wong • KA LEO O HAWAII

Gubernatorial candidate Linda Lingle delivers a speech at the Kuykendall auditorium yesterday.

Candidate calls state the 'Enron' of public finance

By Justin Fujioka
KA LEO STAFF WRITER

Editor's Note: This article is the fourth and final in a series covering gubernatorial candidates speaking at the University of Hawai'i. Mayor Jeremy Harris was scheduled to speak on April 9, but has since canceled all public speaking engagements.

The Hawai'i state government is squirreling money away from the eye of the public in special funds, said Republican gubernatorial candidate Linda Lingle.

"These funds are completely off the books," Lingle said. "It has grown to such a large amount right now that fully half of the annual operating budget of the state is held in these special funds."

In a speech at Kuykendall Auditorium yesterday, Lingle said this has contributed to Hawaii having the lowest voter registration and turnout in the country.

Lingle said, "I think that unless people have trust in their leadership, they won't participate in the system."

She said that people in Hawai'i have a lack of trust in leadership and question whether their vote really counts to make a difference in the future of Hawai'i.

Lingle said she understands this lack of trust, as citizens cannot get a true financial picture of our state government. Unless people know the true condition of the state, Lingle said, no one can make educated and

informed decisions.

"I think the Hawai'i state government is the Enron of public finance," Lingle said.

Enron set up funds outside of public view that allowed them to operate by having unreported money available, she said. Because of this, analysts could not look at records and accurately assess the company.

She said the Hawai'i state government has special funds on the side that the public is not aware of.

Lingle said people do not know why the funds were originally set up, where the funding is coming from, how much money is in these funds and what it is being used for.

"As your governor, if I can win this election, I think the quickest and most important thing I can do is to give the people of Hawai'i a true understanding of what our financial condition is," she said. "Because

See Lingle, page 2

Sleeping on the job

By Jessica Stone
THE DAILY FREE PRESS (BOSTON U.)

(U-WIRE) BOSTON - Boston University professor Bill Anthony is on a mission to improve employee performance in America's workplaces.

Anthony, director of the Sargent Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation, isn't seeking salary hikes for employees, nor is he looking to shorten the workday.

He just wants workers to take a nap.

In fact, Anthony's passion for the midday siesta is so strong that he and his wife Camille, a fellow "napholic," have built their own napping empire. Three years ago the two came up with the concept of having a National Workplace Napping Day, which will be held this year on April 8.

With an estimated half of the American population suffering from sleep deprivation, Anthony said naps are an obvious and logical solution.

"The majority of Americans are sleep deprived and suffer from it in terms of lost workdays, accidents and an inability to be as productive as they

might be," Anthony said.

With so many workers performing potentially dangerous jobs, the Anthonys hope National Workplace Napping Day will increase awareness about the benefits of napping. They want employers to encourage and even mandate their employees to nap.

Though many Americans are still unaware of the advantages of napping, there are some companies that are.

Yarde Metals, a distribution company headquartered in Bristol, Conn., may be the ideal nap-friendly company. Each of the company's six facilities offers a designated napping area, and employees also sleep at their desks or in their cars.

The napping policy, which marketing manager Susan Kozikowski says is "on the honor system," has proven successful. "Because of the nap, the thought process improves," Kozikowski said.

In addition, crew members for the Union Pacific Railroad are now allowed to nap for up to 45 minutes when the train is stopped and many airline pilots now take turns napping during long flights.

Anthony hopes napping will spread to a variety of fields and pro-

fessions.

"The airlines and railroads understand the financial loss if someone misses a signal on a runway," Anthony said. "We haven't done a good job of taking that down to someone making life-or-death decisions."

Since its inception, National Workplace Napping Day has received national attention from the media and various business companies. The Anthonys have been on "The News with Brian Williams," "CNN Newsstand," "Fox & Friends" and have spoken about napping on numerous radio shows.

So how did the couple become such connoisseurs of snooze?

"I come from a family of nappers," Anthony said, laughing. "We have a large extended family and we started competing in napping. We would rate people's naps like you rate a diving contest."

The Anthony family naps became so successful that the couple decided to detail their hobby in a book.

"Someone in my family said, 'Why don't you write a book that tries to put people to sleep, rather than

See Napping, page 2

Wake me when it's over



Andrew Shimabuku • KA LEO O HAWAII

Before you take a nap, head over to Campus Center to vote in the ASUH elections. Today is the last day to vote. Or visit www.hawaii.edu/asuh to vote online.

Features

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History of a much-hated word

As insult or reclamation of heritage, few words hold as much power

By Justin Conforti
THE DAILY FREE PRESS (BOSTON U.)

(U-WIRE) BOSTON - Nigger. Six letters with endless interpretations.

I now present a lyric from a certain ditty that explores complex social issues, "Nigga What, Nigga Who" by the incomparable Mr. Jay-Z: "I suggest that niggaz invest in a vest, when I come through with the glock jet black, you niggaz step back."

From "Rock N Roll Nigger," a searing, well-meaning mistake of a song in which punk priestess Patti Smith tries to reclaim the word for people "outside of society" (including herself): "Jimi Hendrix was a nigger. / Jesus Christ and Grandma, too. / Jackson Pollack was a nigger. Nigger nigger nigger nigger nigger nigger nigger nigger."

Differences between the two? The Jay-Z song would most likely trigger the ass shaking of some hardcore brothas and sistas, or perhaps, at its finest moments, inspire some insipid white teenage males to invest in FuBu, wear their baseball cap backwards and utter the N-word in reference to their homies.

The Patti Smith lyric, on the other hand, might cause the Rev. Jesse Jackson and the rest of the P.C.-crazed Rainbow Coalition to have a minor fit of seizures. While black

same deficiency of dress / or shelter) stand as wide apart / As love from lies, or truth from art."

Like the many differences between what is considered naked and nude despite the same denotation, a monstrous difference exists between the words "nigga" and "nigger."

English language, this book attempts to do justice to a word that has eluded so many for so long. Like butterflies that resist capture, the word "nigger" always flutters away and manages to escape comprehension.

Ironically, the word nigger, like everything else in the world, does not exist in black and white; it is not something that is simply bad, not something that should be eradicated or removed from dictionaries and thrown away. When used in the right context, "nigger" can be just as beautiful and multi-dimensional as the candied wings of a butterfly.

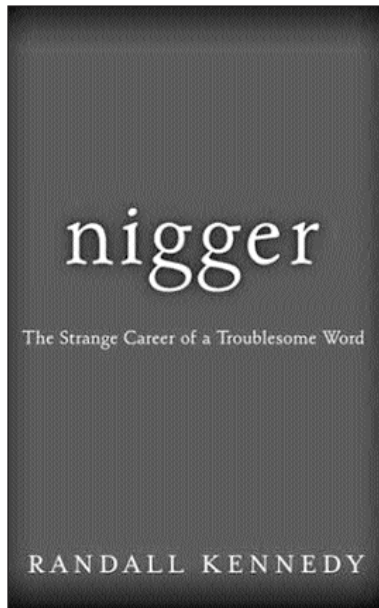
Perhaps, in fact, the true testimony to the power of the word "nigger" is the fact that it is really the "ultimate" word, the word to end all words. Kennedy argues that the word "nigger" is indeed a piece of American history, something so adaptable to shifting social attitudes, something that packs so much emotional power, something that manages to recall so much adversity and still means so many

things to so many different people.

By exploring the way "nigger" has been dealt with in court cases, popular entertainment and personal situations through the years, Kennedy manages to weave a thread of respectability and scholarship through traditionally hazardous territory. He gives excessive attention to a dangerous word, diluting most of its negative capabilities and creating some impotence where there was once the ability to wound, to destroy an individual's self-worth.

The book accomplishes much, but it is not a compelling or intriguing read. Though Kennedy effectively employs dry, intellectual, courtroom prose that stands in ironic juxtaposition to the visceral oomph of the N-word, the book becomes confusing and tedious at points. Its greatest deeds probably include the eye-catching title, the gentle care given to the explosive N-word and even the fact that "nigger" is repeated over and over again in an even-headed manner. This book will encourage dialogue concerning this sometimes destructive linguistic powder keg.

After all, "nigger" is not just a word. It's a smudge on America's permanent record, but also a mirror held up to society, challenging us to be bigger than the word itself. It's more than just six letters: it has endless interpretations.



He gives excessive attention to a dangerous word, diluting most of its negative capabilities and creating some impotence where there was once the ability to wound, to destroy an individual's self-worth

Issues concerning the history, "proper" usage and other elements of the ever-changing, all-consuming N-word are probed in Randall Kennedy's latest book, "Nigger: The Strange Career of a Troublesome Word." A thoughtful guide to what is considered to be the most provocative, hateful, venomous word in the

people can say the N-word and, depending on context, almost always get away with it, white people can never, ever say "nigger" without catching flack. No matter if it is said with the sincerest irony — not even if it is spoken to prove a point about the evils of racism. Never.

It's sort of like that Robert Graves poem, "The Naked and the Nude," in which the persona comments on the connotative differences between these seemingly similar words: "For me, the naked and the nude / (By lexicographers construed / As synonyms that should express / The

After raising their own pay, the City Council should get counsel

THE ISSUE: The City Council voted to give itself and other top city officials pay raises for the third consecutive year.

Police and fire chiefs were given a 5 percent pay raise by unanimous vote; this will bring their annual salaries up to \$104,958 from \$99,960.

City Council members, the mayor, and other city agency chiefs were given 3 percent pay raises by a vote of 4-2. Mayor Jeremy Harris testified against the proposal, saying that city officials deserved the increase, but the city's tight fiscal situation made them difficult to award.

City Council members will now make \$44,651, agency chiefs \$99,807, and the mayor \$115,360.

The council said the increase was necessary to keep the salaries of the city's elected and appointed officials in line with the pay received by other managers whose pay is determined by union negotiations.

So the City Council gave itself a raise.

Big surprise.

We understand the given rationale behind the pay raises; the city wants to keep pace with the pay received by those covered through collective bargaining. The Human Resources Department indicated that all unionized city employees and non-appointed managers will get a 2-5 percent raise this year. If the pay of non-appointed (but unionized) managers exceeds the pay of elected/appointed officials, it will be difficult to convince top managers to take a promotion to be an appointed official. More work and less pay is an unattractive option.

However, the situation simply isn't critical enough to warrant increasing pay rates in these tough times. As a result of our declining post-Sept. 11 tourist industry, we're experiencing huge cuts in state and city budgets. State and city officials are asking everybody to take their budget cuts — and personnel cuts — in stride, yet at the same time city officials are raising their own pay? It's just not

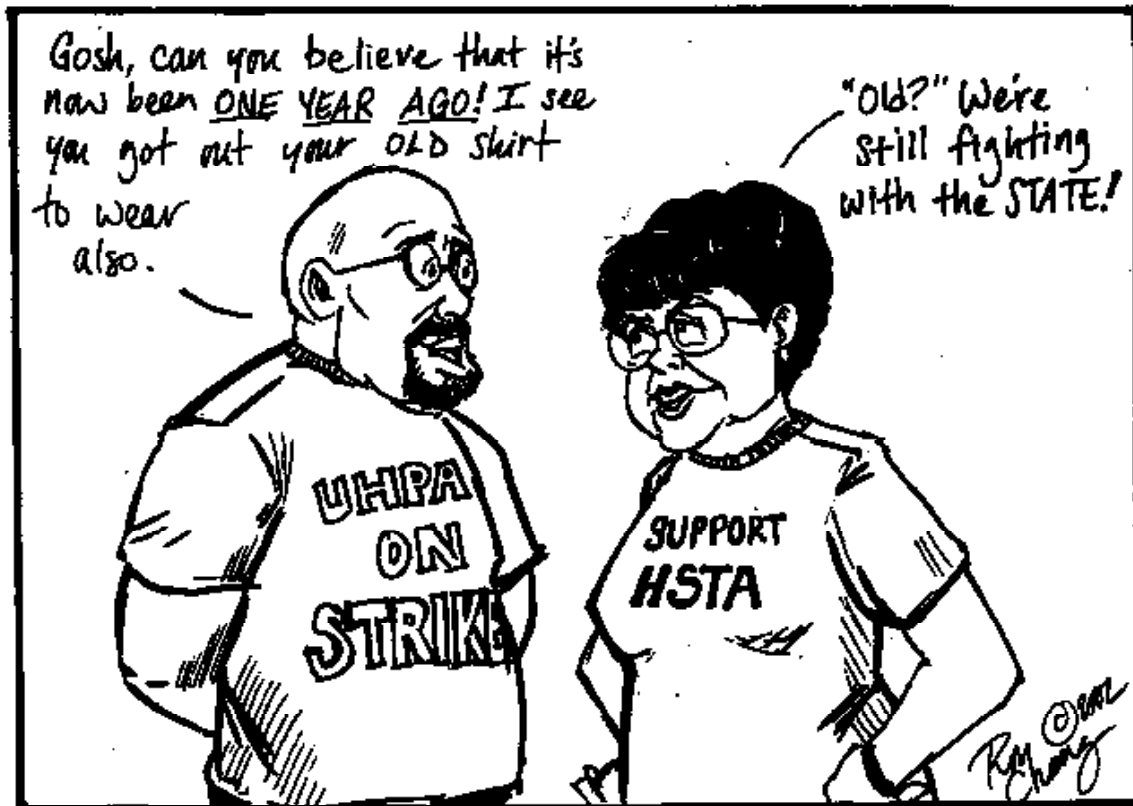
right.

But that's what happens in a system where officials can vote on their own salaries.

Any other time, we may have gladly agreed to a pay raise that makes it easier for the state to attract qualified individuals to fill top positions. But City Council members, more than anyone, should understand how tight the city's resources are right now. Everybody's taking cuts; why should city officials be getting raises?

And with most city officials making over \$100,000, a 3-5 percent raise is merely icing on the cake — icing that could be bread and butter to a city program that gets cut because of budget problems.

We're disappointed that the City Council would make such a decision.



Science, culture mediate



From the
Editor's Desk
By Mary Vorsino
KA LEO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Klaus Hodapp has one hand on the wheel. With the other, the associate director of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo Institute for Astronomy (IfA), points to a fleet of giant orbs asleep atop Mauna Kea's summit.

Hodapp has driven up this winding road dozens of times before. And he is as familiar with the science that takes place at road's end as with the controversy that surrounds it. Mauna Kea, he tells me, as he points to the snow-white 2.2 meter telescope run by UH, is like no other place in the world — renowned for its beauty and sanctity.

But Hodapp, like most UH astronomers, sees no quick solution to the age-old Mauna Kea struggle between religion and science. Just as Hodapp sees the value of culture, he sees the scientific breakthroughs possible on the mountain and the dollar signs and notoriety that inevitably follow.

But a 20-year master plan to manage the summit introduced by the Board of Regents in June 2000 has, in recent months, brought a new wind of dialogue to an ongoing debate. With that breeze came the proposal for the \$26 million Mauna Kea Astronomy Education Center. The center, now in the planning stages, will include exhibits on

Native Hawaiian heritage, the history of astronomy, popular astronomy and advanced astronomy, and will be situated near the observatory's base facilities on UH Hilo.

It's a (small) step towards an understanding between two factions that have historically disagreed. But a step nonetheless.

Granted, the center won't patch all wounds wrought in the continuing battle for Mauna Kea. But the center will rep-

resent (at least a smidgen of) the "other side" largely neglected by the University of Hawai'i since it began management of the 11,288 acre site in 1968 under a 65-year lease with the state Department of Land and Natural Resources.

So says Native Hawaiian and IfA astronomer Paul Coleman: "(The center) is definitely a step in the right direction ... if it's handled correctly." Coleman said that if the center is

attuned with the community, keeps a "nice balance" of Native Hawaiian and scientific perspective, and doesn't become "another stopover for tourists," it can be a success.

And the center's project director, George Jacob, is satisfied with the response he has received from the Native Hawaiian community — mostly positive.

The center gives both sides the opportunity to tell "(their) stories without censorship," he said.

And the UH-run project puts no restraints on what an advisory board — made of prominent Native Hawaiian community members like Nainoa Thompson, former Regent and current unpaid special adviser to UH President Evan Dobbelle on Native Hawaiian affairs, and astronomers — decides to include in the Center.

Assistant professor of Hawaiian Studies at UH Hilo, Larry Kimura, took a one-year sabbatical to research the Native Hawaiian content to be included in the center. He has four assistants, all Native Hawaiian, Jacob said.

The Native Hawaiian perspective will be represented throughout the center's exhibitions, Jacob said. And this "very powerful tool of communication" may showcase much of the controversy surrounding Mauna Kea. As it should.

Jacob has said that it is the university's intention to "create a center that is culturally sensitive, academically sound, and visually stunning ..."

Continued, page 5

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA
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The Voice of Hawai'i

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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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New Mauna Kea center has a place for Hawaiians

From page 5

that is culturally sensitive, academically sound and visually stunning..." and if done right, the center could become a stepping stone towards more constructive relations between the Native Hawaiian and astronomy communities.

As Coleman said, "It's part of the Hawaiian tradition (to) find solutions by approaching issues in a different way."

The center, as an untraditional and ideally objective forum for the history, ideas and beliefs encircling Mauna Kea,

... the center could become a stepping stone towards more constructive relations between the Native Hawaiian and astronomy communities

is what has been missing from UH's role as lease holder of the mountain.

As Hodapp rounds a last corner to the summit, he says, with his slight German accent, what others hope for, "I think there is a middle ground." The center could be the catalyst in providing just that.

Editor's Note: Hodapp escorted myself and three other reporters to the summit's peak at 13,796 feet on March 27 as part of a science writing workshop mediated by the UH Manoa school of communications.

Supreme Court lends no support to undocumented immigrants

Noncitizens deprived of basic worker rights in 5-4 judicial ruling

By Sarah Turner
The Daily Cardinal (U. Wisconsin)

(U-WIRE) MADISON, Wis. — Immigration advocates were dealt a major blow on March 27. The basic human rights allotted to all workers in the United States were stripped away from undocumented immigrants.

The U.S. Supreme Court decided that undocumented workers do not have the right to free association in unions or protection against employers that violate labor laws. In a 5-4 decision, the court set the precedent that if a business fires a worker for union activities, or anything else for that matter, an undocumented worker is not entitled to equal protection under the law.

Jose Castro and three co-workers filed a complaint against Hoffman Plastic Compound in Paramount, Calif., charging Hoffman Plastic with labor rights violations. In 1989, Castro and three other co-workers were fired after they had participated in a union organizing campaign in the factory. The National Labor Relations Board, the federal agency in charge of resolving labor violations, found that Castro and the three co-workers were illegally fired as industry

reprisals for union activity. The NLRB ordered Hoffman Plastic to pay restitution for lost salary and reinstate the workers. Lower federal courts agreed with the NLRB, but Hoffman Plastic will now be free to continue their illegal union busting according to the Supreme Court.

Labor unions and immigrant rights advocates fear that the decision will serve as an incentive for industry to exploit immigrants. Arturo Rodriguez, president of the United Farm Workers, expressed concern for undocumented workers because they are left "totally without rights, without legal protection and without equal treatment under the law."

In a telephone interview with the Mexican newspaper, La Jornada, Rodriguez commented that employers may now actively seek to hire more undocumented workers knowing they don't have legal protections or labor rights: "This eliminates for workers the right to stand up to their bosses ... It puts them in slavery conditions since they don't have recourse to defend themselves."

The AFL-CIO was angered by the recent decision. AFL-CIO president John Sweeney said,

"Employers are permitted to illegally victimize undocumented workers without economic consequences for their actions, the Supreme Court decision affects all ways of life and working conditions for all Americans, citizens and noncitizens. The decision is devastating."

In the past, the Supreme Court maintained that undocumented workers do have federal legal protections. However, their most recent decision retires these protections. While this decision is a devastating blow to civil rights, communities must still stand up to racism and discrimination.

Just last year, the University of Wisconsin-Madison came under fire for illegally racially profiling immigrant custodians. The university fired more than 20 Latino custodians who were targeted for their Latino-

sounding surnames in a social security investigation.

Union Local 171 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees joined with the Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice to challenge the university. The Equal Employment Opportunities Commission ruled that UW-Madison officials racially discriminated against the custodians and that civil rights protections apply to immigrant workers. The case was bad public relations for the university and compensation was paid to the workers who were illegally racially profiled.

The Supreme Court has demonstrated again that it is hardly a beacon of fair and impartial justice. The Bush/Gore election fallout dampened many people's vision of Supreme Court impartiality. The Court has again demonstrated that it is a tool of the powerful instead of a beacon of justice.

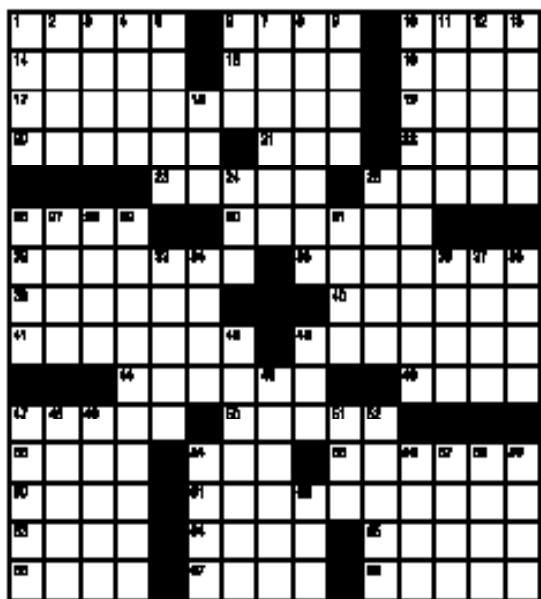
Maybe we should change the poem on the Mother of Exiles from "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free" to something like "check your rights at the door."

The Supreme Court has demonstrated again that it is hardly a beacon of fair and impartial justice

Comics & Crossword

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Varmocrawl
 - Hook's end
 - Woven net
 - Bloodsucking parasite
 - Thought
 - Montreal ballplayer
 - Head over heels
 - Las Vegas illumination
 - Over-the-counter sale
 - Scott Joplin tune
 - Accurate
 - Waves of grain color
 - Old-time comic artwork
 - Bug off!
 - Thial
 - Church ritual
 - Etrol (scurdly)
 - Newspaper chief
 - Short nap
 - Hopelessness
 - Main film
 - Vial
 - Leif, last-ender
 - Leif, last-ender
 - Neurol (distance)
 - Requiemante
 - System before
 - Infractor of the faithful
 - For a moment
 - Starter chips
 - Penicillin or streptomycin
 - Sharp
 - Mix
 - Maid
 - Money
 - everything
 - Foot bottom
 - Musical bowl



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WVZ

- Bridge action
- Worshiper
- Profile
- Slam loudly
- Item to be kept in mind
- Act vigorously
- Clash forth
- Pooh food
- Horror-film street
- Tarzan's son
- Animals
- Counter with runners
- Secrete
- Singer Hedding
- Kind of clinic
- Tranquil rest
- Checks out the terrain
- Hold fast
- Brazen solicitor
- Pound of poetry
- Virginia
- Collide with
- Price asked
- Soup legume

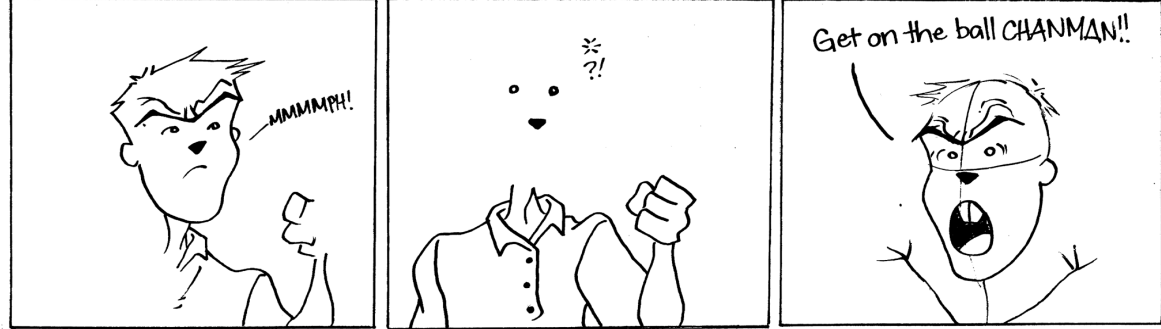
Solutions



- DOWN**
- Pronounce indistinctly
 - Pengover
 - Comedian
 - Where China is
 - TV, radio, newspapers, etc.

- Uniform cloth
- Baseball teams
- Repeatedly
- Juicy & tough
- Satirist Jonathan
- Mouth off
- Target on the
- green
- Object
- Speech
- Imperfection
- Sympathetic response
- Fury

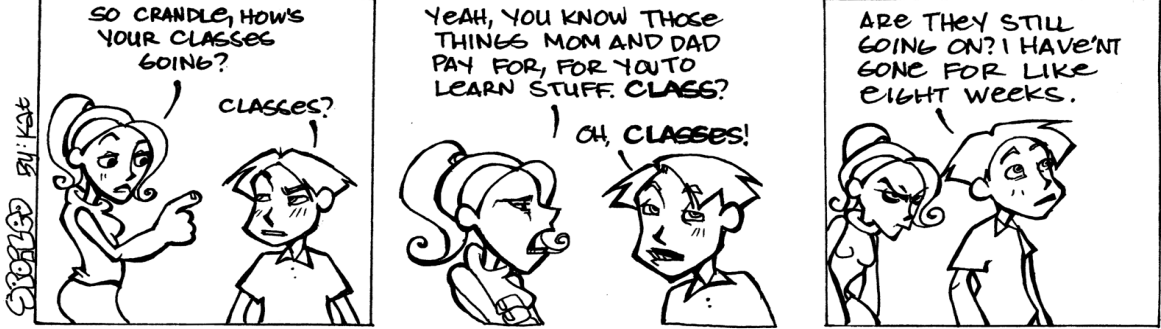
THE ISLE - ALVIN CHAN



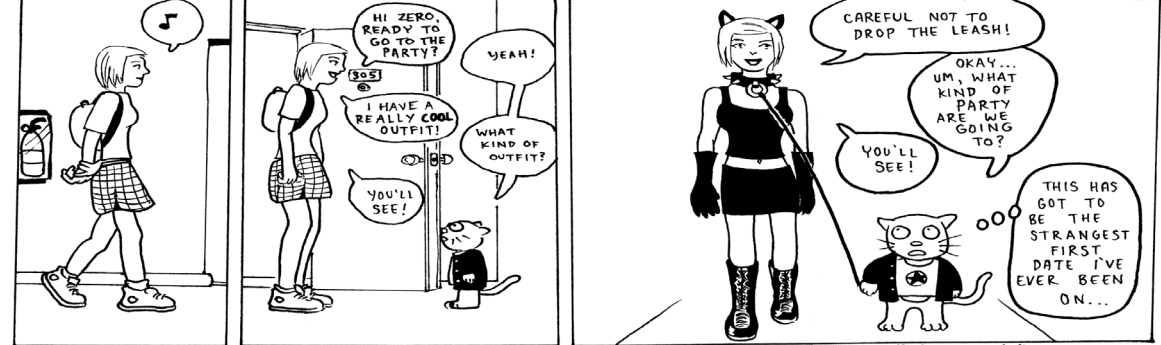
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SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Rainbow Warrior second baseman Lane Nogawa makes the play. Nogawa is both a force defensively and offensively, with a current batting average of .300.

UH baseball's Nogawa known for his hard work, hard swings

By Donna Yanos
KA LEO CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Never doubt Lane Nogawa again. Nogawa began his baseball career at Creighton University before the cold Nebraska winter got the best of him.

"It was cool because my brother was there and there were a lot of Hawai'i people there, but it was too cold," said the Rainbow second baseman.

When Nogawa decided to come back to Hawai'i to try out for the Rainbow baseball team, many people were convinced that 5'8" Nogawa was not fit to be a Rainbow.

"A lot of people doubted me," Nogawa said. "Even some of the players. So I tried to prove them wrong."

And that he did.

Nogawa began to make a name for himself as a player who prided himself on defense. As a freshman, he played third base, shortstop and second base. He also showed everyone that he could swing the bat as well, finishing the season as the only regular everyday starter to hit over .300.

Nogawa said that all it took was patience, a virtue that goes hand in hand with his other passion — fishing.

Fishing on the North Shore began as something Nogawa and his father, Ernest, would do on the weekends.

"It helped me get close with my dad," Nogawa said. "I feel comfortable talking to him about anything."

Although Nogawa says they don't go fishing as much as they used to, his bond with his father remains strong.

Nogawa could go to his father for guidance ever since he played in Little League.

"We used to practice in our front yard," Ernest said. "If Lane hit the ball over our fence, that would be his home run."

"He was a typical kid. He never got into any trouble. He just loved baseball and going fishing."

It seems that the late afternoon practice sessions with his dad has helped Nogawa turn into a force at the plate this season. He is currently hitting .300 with 23 runs scored and 20 RBI this season. Last week he swatted his first career home run against the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

His father as well as his mother, Janice, come to support him at all of his games. After watching a game, Ernest goes over skills that Lane could improve on. Ernest says Lane also turns to television to better his game.

"He's constantly watching the sports channel. He observes the players and watches their swing," said Ernest.

Nogawa and teammate Gregg Omori knew each other ever since

their high school baseball teams competed against each other. Omori attended Iolani School while Nogawa went to Mid-Pacific Institute. Both graduated in 1997. They are also fishing buddies.

"We share the same views on things," Omori said. "That's probably why we get along so well."

"He's a solid all-around player. He doesn't show any emotions ... but he gets work done," Omori said.

Suffering from shin splints has not stopped the second baseman from getting work done or contributing to the team's victories. Head coach Mike Trapasso said Nogawa always comes to practice with a positive attitude.

"I haven't heard a single complaint from him," Trapasso said. "He works hard. His strength is his good work ethic. We actually have to tell him to back off at practice just to ease up a bit because we want him healthy for the weekend."

Added assistant coach Chad Konishi: "He just goes about his business every day in the same way. He's a reserved individual but does his talking on the field, defensively and offensively. He's not overwhelmed by extenuating circumstances."

What keeps him from being overwhelmed are the words Nogawa lives by: "Have faith in yourself, take what comes and just have fun."

Robbs: Commentator not planning to retire soon

From page 8

"They were all such wonderful story tellers; articulate, literate people whose lives did not revolve simply around baseball," he said.

Although Robbs' career has been long and successful, it hasn't been perfect. About five years ago he had a season where nothing seemed to go right.

"I felt like I was a half beat behind everything," he said. "I don't know what the problem was but I didn't feel comfortable for the whole season."

Robbs talked to friends, listened to tapes and simply worked his butt off to correct whatever the problem was. So now Robbs is in no hurry to go anywhere, for at least five years anyway.

"I told Coach Trapasso I want to keep going till he gets the team back to Omaha," he said. And he's not giving him much time to get there.

"I give them five years (to get back to the College World Series). I think in three years the team will be nationally ranked and in post season play," he said.

When he does eventually hang 'em up, he's not sure who will take his place. Over the years he's thought maybe Larry Biel, Robert Kekaula, Marcus Owens or Howard

Dashefsky might step in, but he said the big draw for broadcasting talent is in television. Maybe it's the recognition, maybe it seems more exciting, maybe it's more challenging, and maybe it pays better. But to Hawai'i's two elder broadcast statesmen, nothing compares to radio.

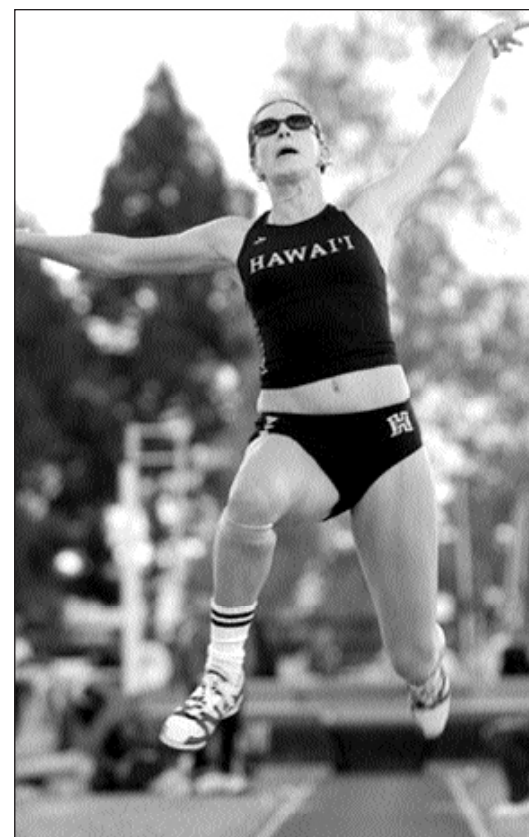
"I talked to Jim Leahy about this and he agrees," Robbs said. "Baseball on the radio is the most exhilarating, rewarding thing you can do as a sports broadcaster. With radio you are the eyes of the listener. You create this sense of place for the listener and you're doing it with words."

Don Robbs is a modern baseball thinker with deep roots in the traditions of the game. He says baseball is a business and it must act like one. He recognizes that fewer young Americans are playing the game and that Major League baseball needs to pick up the pace. And he loves just sitting in the stands.

"Baseball is a sport from another time," he said. "When everything else seems loud and raucous baseball remains a pastoral sport ... I can come out here and sit in an empty stadium — it's like a church."

But don't get too comfortable. You never know what you might miss.

"I missed a home run calling an Islander game years ago," Robbs said. "I was looking at my scorebook and the guy hit a homerun. When I looked up there was no one at the plate and I thought I lost him. The guy's already rounding second and the crowd is cheering. I don't remember what I tried to do to cover it up but it's pretty stupid."



COURTESY PHOTO

Nicole Kaffka, of the UH Rainbow Wahine track and field team, flies through the air during the long jump event.

UH women runners can go the distance

KA LEO STAFF

meet:

The University of Hawai'i women's track and field squad is participating at the 75th running of the Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays. Hosted by the University of Texas at the Mike A. Myers Stadium, competition began Wednesday and continues through tomorrow.

UH is taking only its distance runners to the event, and are not scoring the meet. The Rainbow Wahine began their series of races yesterday and will conclude tomorrow with the 1500 meter run.

Rainbow Wahine attending the

Teryn Bentley (5000-meter, 4X400-meter relay)
Carolyn Berger (3-kilometer Steeplechase, 4X800-meter)
Shayne Enright (4X400-meter, 4X800-meter)
Natalie Kolodziej (4X400-meter, 4X800-meter, Distance Medley Relay)
Sadie Martin (4X400-meter, 4X800-meter)
Casey McGuire-Turcotte (1500-meter, DMR)
Cheryl Smith (500-meter, DMR)
Alethe West (5000-meter, DMR)



Chia-min Ina Chang • KA LEO O HAWAII

Radio voice Donn Robbs gives a play-by-play of the UH Rainbows vs. SJSU Spartans baseball game from the Les Murakami press box on Sunday.

Voice of Rainbow baseball loves the excitement of the game

By Steve Murray
KA LEO SPORTS COLUMNIST

For 26 years and more than 1,500 games Don Robbs was the voice and unofficial historian of Rainbow baseball, and he has no plans on quitting.

Robbs' career began in college, as the voice of the St. Cloud Rox, a minor league club in the Giants organization. He first honed his skills and developed his love of the game and anyone in Giants uniform. "I realized I wasn't good enough to play professional baseball," Robbs said. "But I loved the game and wanted to be around it."

As a kid during the pre-Twins years in Minnesota, Robbs rooted for the only Major League team that crackled across his radio, Ernie Banks and the Chicago Cubs. Robbs went to Wrigley Field in the years that followed, but for games close to home, nothing beat the famous streetcar double headers.

For a small fee you could catch the Minneapolis Millers playing host

to the St. Paul Saints. Then after a half-hour streetcar ride, you had a seat in the home of the Saints as the second half of the double header took place. It was a pocket of baseball rivalry thousands of miles from their Major League home as the Triple-A farm teams for the Dodgers and the Giants slugged it out in the Midwest.

"Growing up in Minnesota and going to the games ... it was a wonderful time in my life," he said. "I was lucky to live where I did."

After graduation, it was time for the twenty-something youngster to rock! Joining Tom Moffatt and the early KPOI crew, Robbs lived out every young man's fantasy, playing his favorite music on the state's biggest station.

"KPOI at the time was a legendary station. In those days rock radio was radio," he said.

This may have been a dream job, but not Robbs' dream. He strove for more.

"I didn't want a career in rock, I wanted to be a broadcast executive."

And that's what he did.

Throughout his career he has done TV and radio, been CEO of Hawaii Public Television, worked for a PR firm in Japan and even owned a country station in Oregon. The rocker became a turncoat? No, it was just a business decision. "I don't like country music at all," he confirmed.

Although sports was never his main goal, he kept coming back. When the Rainbows were ready to make the move into big time college baseball, Robbs moved with them. Even when the Angels and the Padres came calling, he stayed with Manoa.

The major league's loss was Hawaii's gain. Robbs is a product of his upbringing. His voice is rich and studied but easily accessible. Like the announcers he's admired, Mel Allen, Red Barber, Les Keiter, Jack Buck and others, it's the story that matters.

See Robbs, page 7

UCLA Bruins to battle on the court with UH Warriors

By Kalani Wilhelm
KA LEO SPORTS EDITOR

In Mike Wilton's 10 years as coach of the University of Hawai'i men's volleyball team, the University of California-Los Angeles' coach, Al Scates, has gotten the best of him.

In 23 career meetings, Wilton has defeated "the don of collegiate volleyball" just three times and almost a quarter of Wilton's career defeats have come against Scates.

The third ranked Warriors square off against second ranked UCLA tonight in the first of two matches.

The match is scheduled to start at 7:05 p.m. at the Stan Sheriff Center.

This season the Bruins (23-4, 15-3) have defeated number one Pepperdine and been ranked number one in the country for a big portion of the season; two things Hawai'i hasn't been able to accomplish.

In 40 seasons at the helm, Scates' status in the game of volleyball is what legends are made of. Scates has more wins (1,042), NCAA titles (18), total national championships (21), and conference titles (24), than any coach in volleyball.

The blue and gold have won five straight against the Warriors while holding a 41-10 edge overall.

The Warriors and Bruins both secured spots in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation tournament, but their seeding for the tourney is still in question.

Depending on the outcome of the Warriors' final games, Hawai'i could be seeded as high as one or as low as six.

The Bruins swept the Warriors 3-0 on Jan. 19 to claim their fourth straight Outrigger Tournament title.

In that match, the Bruins used a balanced attack and were able to neutralize the Warriors go-to-guy, Costas Theocharidis.

Theocharidis, a junior outside hitter, and freshmen Jose Delgado led the team in kills with 12

apiece. But the three-set loss will go down as a day Theocharidis' would like to soon forget. He hit just .156 for the match.

As it turns out, that one loss is what separates these two teams in the MPSF standings.

After missing eight matches in order to bring up his grades, freshman middle blocker Delano Thomas has brought up his game to the next level.

Last weekend against UC Irvine, Thomas followed a night in which he hit a perfect 1.000 with an 11 kill, error-free match.

Leading a balanced Bruins attack is 6'7" senior outside hitter Matt Komer. Komer leads the club in kills, attacks and service aces. 6'8" junior outside hitter Cameron Mount will be the team's second offensive option. Quarterbacking the UCLA offense will be 6'3" junior Rich Nelson.

Scates will be without the services of two starters: 6'9" junior middle Scott Morrow and 6'4" frosh Jonathan Acosta. The two account for an average of six kills per match.

To say that the University of Hawaii's final four games are important would be an understatement. After a pair of matches this week versus the Bruins, the Warriors will close out the regular season with two matches against fourth ranked Brigham Young University next week.

Be an Honorary Coach

UH fans attending tonight's match can win a chance to be an "honorary coach." Fans may purchase a "Can of Support" for \$2 or may donate canned food items at matches during the Warriors-Bruins series. Those who make donations may enter to be an honorary coach during Hawaii's match against Brigham Young University on April 13.

Student Night

The UH Athletics Department will celebrate Student Night by discounting admission for Saturday's match. Tickets will be \$1 for all UH students with a valid UH ID.

Sports mascots fuel a long-time racial debate

By Zeb Carabello
ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGIAN
(COLORADO STATE U.)

(U-WIRE) FORT COLLINS, Colo. - The New Jersey Grease-Ball Guinny Mobsters, the South Boston Drunken Micks, the Alabama Slack-Jawed Rednecks and the Washington Redskins.

Relax, they're just harmless mascots.

The national spotlight that has turned this long-time debate red-hot — the use of American Indians as athletic team mascots — shines on our neighboring university just east of the interstate.

It began when a group of University of Northern Colorado American Indian, Latino and Caucasian students mockingly named their intramural basketball team The Fightin' Whites, which

was quickly turned to The Fightin' Whities. The team's uniforms bore a mascot of a middle-aged, generic-looking white guy in a suit. The back of the shirts read, "Every thang's gonna be all white."

The stunt was in protest of the nearby Eaton High School mascot, the Fightin' Reds. Several members of the American Indian community in Greeley had been trying to get the school to change their mascot for years, but with little success.

This issue of ethnic mascots is not one of political correctness — for once — it's a problem of ignorance; ignorance of history, ignorance of respect, ignorance highlighted by the actions of Eaton High School officials.

The term *redskin*, fittingly embraced as the mascot of the Washington, D.C. — our nation's capitol — NFL football team, is a

racial slur on par with *kike*, *honky*, *wop* and *nigger*.

Contrary to popular belief, the history of the word does not come from the false labeling of American Indians' skin as red. Red, or *redskin*, comes from era of indigenous genocide in the United States. As the country was eager to move west, American Indians were seen as a major obstacle in settlement. The French technique of scalping slain enemies caught on, and white traders would be paid for Indian scalps. A problem arose when people began to use counterfeit animal scalps to fool traders, so the traders began to demand more.

In order to verify the authenticity of an Indian kill, the "coupon" was introduced. The coupon was made by cutting away the skin starting at the back of the neck down to the buttocks. No animal's

hide could pass for human skin, and the bloody coupon became a valuable currency. The bloodstained sheets of skin soon gained the nickname "redskin."

Do American Indians have the right to be upset about the use of this term as a team mascot?

Damn straight.

A group of white school officials claiming the use of Reds is acceptable is as valid as Pat Buchanan declaring he doesn't find the El Paso Wetbacks' mascot offensive.

Many will argue that teams such as the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, the Minnesota Vikings and the Providence Friars also portray ethnic groups or religious figures and are no different from the Chiefs, Warriors, Braves or Indians. The difference is in the portrayal of the mascot.

Team logos and mascots stereo-

typing the big-nosed, war-crying savage are more common than not. Think if Notre Dame's mascot was a belligerent, brawling, red-faced, drunken leprechaun.

Would this cause an outcry from the American public? Would a group of American Indians be given responsibility to judge this mascot's "tradition in the community" as more important than the dignity of the Irish-Americans shamed by the mascot?

Sports mascots portraying American Indians — or any other ethnic group — in a way that offends members of that group need to be changed, and nobody except these groups can claim to be qualified to make that judgment.

Eaton needs let go of the nostalgia surrounding its Fightin' Reds, and begin a new tradition of respect.