

Repeat, replicate and duplicate:
Could the success of today's best films lay in sequels?



Perspective page 2

Ooh la la it's Hula-la:
The bikini runway show showed off beachwear for women.



Inside page 5

Following the evolution of teen sensations:
Over the years, boy bands have changed from pop heartthrobs to punk dream boats.



Leisure page 7

THE KAPI'OLANI COMMUNITY
COLLEGE STUDENT
NEWSWEEKLY

KAPI'O

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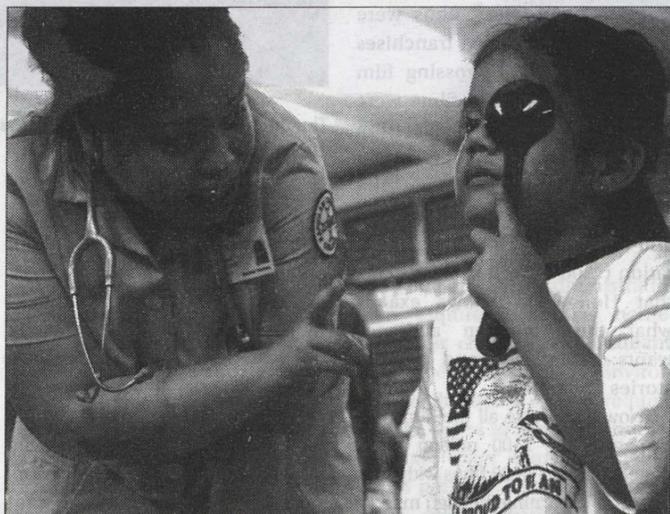
Connecting KCC with community

By Thomas Duarte
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The service-learning program had its first Palolo Mini Health Fair on April 24 at the Palolo Elementary School Cafeteria. The fair was designed to educate the children and families of the Palolo Valley community about healthy lifestyles. KCC students, as well as faculty and staff, were present and operated more than half of the booths in the cafeteria.

"The health fair helps both sides, the college students get hands on experience and we (the community) get valuable information about how to be healthy," according to Dahlia Asuega, Mutual Housing-Palolo Homes resident services manager.

Each booth was designed to give the community a chance to interact with experts in their individual fields. Dental hygiene students were on hand to give the families advice on how to take care of their teeth and teach good brushing habits. Students from the medical assisting program gave free blood pressure tests, as well as conducted vision testing.



MATTHEW AKIYAMA/KAPIO

KCC medical assisting student Rochel Farinas assists a Palolo elementary student with an eye exam during the Palolo Mini Health Fair.

Joy Viyavong brought her son to the fair to learn more about ways to live a healthier lifestyle. Viyavong claimed that sometimes children in her community are not aware of how to stay healthy and that events such as the health fair will help remedy that issue.

"One of the sad things that we found out before going into the fair

was that some of the kids missed 45 days of school because they were sick or had some kind of health-related illness," said Service-Learning Outreach Coordinator Ku'ulani Miyashiro. "That showed us that there was a dire need for us to go out there (Palolo) and serve the community."

BACKPAGE: Health fair, page 8

Professor steps away from the spotlight after coordinating her 26th KCC theatre production

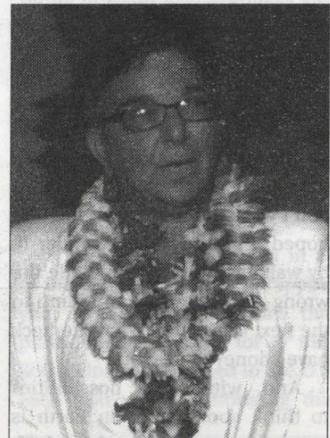
By Karen Malone
COPY EDITOR

Ever since she was a child, KCC Professor Sandra Perez had a knack for acting and teaching. "I would come home from school, put a towel on my head, Rosary beads on, and I was Sister Sandra—and I'd teach all my homework to my dolls."

During her 39-year career, Perez has directed or produced 26 plays at KCC. "The Good Doctor" marked Perez's final drama production. Former students and colleagues were among the audience members who came out to see Perez's last production, which ran April 17-20 in Maile. "It's a wonderful way to say goodbye by saying hello again to all these wonderful students and teachers," Perez said. "And I got to do it on the most beautiful stage on the face of the earth."

Although Perez will no longer produce plays at KCC, she will continue to teach her Acting I and Introduction to Theatre courses. "I love working with the beginners, and watching them obtain some level of success in basic skills, then I will plant the seed and they will begin to flower for the 2010 play."

Of the 26 plays, she directed the first 13 before taking a supervisor and producer role, allowing UH-graduate students to direct at a community college level. "Ms. Perez taught our students (method acting) very well in Theatre 221, which made my job so much easier," said UH graduate student



KAREN MALONE /KAPIO

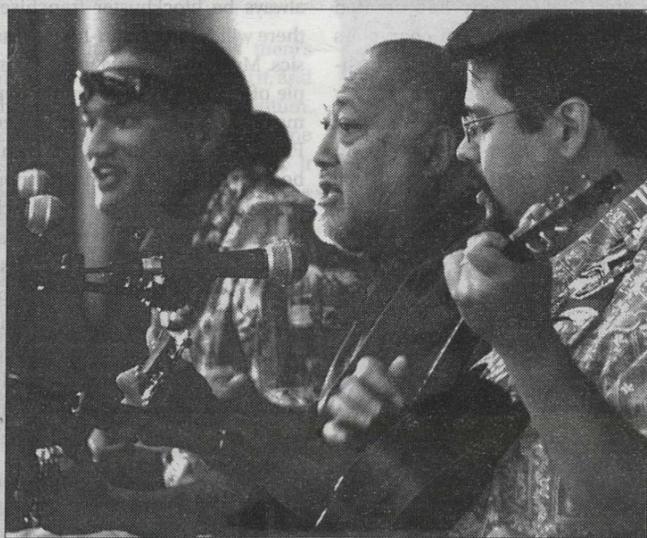
KCC Professor Sandra Perez welcomed audience members to the production of "The Good Doctor." The showdates were April 17-20 in Maile 101.

and director Terri Large Madden. "Half of them had never been on stage before and no one could have known that in our show."

According to Perez, the teaching profession should benefit both the student and the teacher. "Not everyone should be a teacher—it's a calling. Whatever job you do, you want it to be something you love because you are going to invest that emotion right into that job. I'm so blessed to be able to do what I love to do—tell stories, put on plays and teach with a purpose."

Perez first came to Hawaii about 40 years ago just after she finished her graduate's degree in drama and speech at Wayne State University.

LEISURE: Perez, page 7



MATTHEW AKIYAMA/KAPIO

KCC faculty showcase their talents

(Left to right) Interpret Hawaii coordinator Palakiko Yagodich, along with counselors Mike Ane and Joseph Yoshida, performed at the Ohia cafeteria on Monday, April 21. Students were entertained by a variety of other talented faculty members, including math instructor Mark Alexander who played an acoustic solo. International program coordinator Ken Kiyohara and his dance partner also dazzled the crowd with several ballroom dance routines.

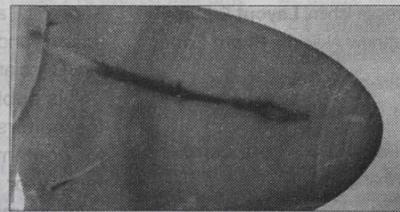


FLICKR

High calorie diet delivers boy

According to new research, women can influence the gender of their child with what they eat before giving birth.

Full Story @ www.cnn.com



GOOGLE

Mightier than the brush

An artist in India has used his tongue to create 20 watercolor paintings and plans on creating a total of 150.

Full Story @ www.reuters.com



GOOGLE

Who wants to be Hilton's friend?

More than 85,000 people have posted profiles on ParisBFF.com. Winners will be featured on the new MTV reality show.

Full Story @ www.reuters.com



GOOGLE

Wanted: A drunken good time

A man took out an ad looking for a companion to take his elderly father drinking, an effort to give his father back part of his former life.

Full Story @ www.reuters.com

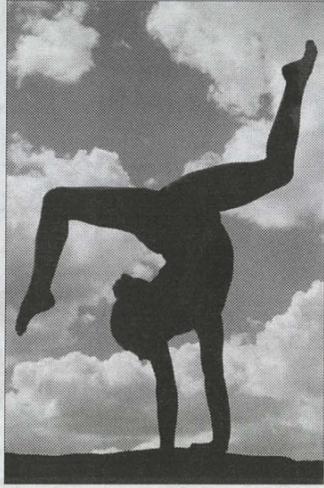
THE VIEW WE TAKE

Through nervous flips and flying leaps

Have you ever noticed that nagging voice in the back of your mind? You know, the voice that makes your stomach do nervous flips. It usually appears when decisions need to be made or when you are getting ready to do something that holds some importance to you. It's difficult to determine whether you're just nervous or if your intuition is trying to tell you something is a bad idea. And then, if you back out, the voice insists on asking "what if" questions. And all of these swirling nerves can send your head spinning and your stomach churning. So what do you do?

Well, as stated before, you could listen to that nagging feeling and walk away from a situation. "Sometimes walking away isn't just the easy thing to do, it's the right thing," according to the movie "The Matchmaker." And when walking away works, it feels great; you feel justified knowing that you made the right decision. But when things don't work out in the way you had hoped, it's hard not to wonder if, by walking away, you've made the wrong decision. Then you jump to the next question: "What the heck have I done?"

And, with these possibilities to think about, how on Earth is anyone supposed to make a decision? Do you think that the people



GOOGLE

Individuals' intuition can help them make big decisions. However, it's hard to know if self-doubt was mistaken for their intuition. Some may be left wondering if they've made the right decision.

who recommend taking risks are actually fans of having belly flips? Perhaps they're gymnasts and acrobats. But they are probably right about taking risks. After all, the greater the risk the greater the reward. Just make sure you can maintain your composure during the waiting-for-the-results period.

So, here's to taking a step off the edge of a cliff with a blindfold on.

The View We Take is co-written by the editors of the Kapi'o. To contact us e-mail kapi'o@hawaii.edu



GOOGLE

In 2006 at X Games XII, motocross rider Travis Pastrana was the first to complete a double backflip. Pastrana is an example of someone who has rebounded from countless injuries and continued to take risks and finding success.

What's the point in being original?



NOW THAT I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION

By Christopher Yee

What is the secret formula Hollywood uses to churn out a blockbuster hit? It's easy. Just copy somebody else's idea.

Of the top 10 highest grossing films at U.S. box offices, no single film was written directly for the screen. Six of these films were sequels to established franchises including the top grossing film "Spider-Man 3." Two films were remakes of children's television shows ("Transformers" and "Alvin and the Chipmunks"), one film was a remake ("I Am Legend") and one was a comic book adaptation ("300"). So it seems to me, that Hollywood knows exactly what the American audience wants: established and popular stories put to film.

Now if you take all the films that surpassed the \$100 million mark, there are a total of 28 films with "Spider-Man 3" earning the high mark of over \$336 million. Of these 28 films, 10 were written directly for the screen including the Disney animated hits "Ratatouille" and "Enchanted."

This puts film studios in a type of dilemma. On the one hand, franchises are an almost guaranteed blockbuster waiting to happen. Not only was the "Spider-Man" sequel the film to beat, it had strong competition from sequels of "Shrek," "Harry Potter" and "Pirates of the Caribbean." This translates to studios needing a marquee franchise to succeed at the highest level.

On the other hand, there is money to be made from developing original concepts for the screen. Disney's two animated hits are easy to accept because of Disney and Pixar credentials; however, there was a surprise hit, which it made it to number 15 in 2007. The popular independent comedy "Juno" used a string of solid film festival showings to transcend the world of cult-indie classics to mainstream blockbuster hit. In the U.S., "Juno" grossed over \$140 million and cost only \$7.5 million to produce.



GOOGLE

The highest grossing movies are sequels, remakes or adaptations from comic books or cartoons.

When I think about movies, I think of two distinct regions. There are movies and there are films. When I shell out my nine bucks to see "Iron-Man," I'm not going to sit there at length and analyze Robert Downey Jr.'s portrayal of Tony Stark. I will go to see a comic book superhero movie that will, hopefully, have some great action, some witty dialogue and an evening filled where the only analysis I'll have to do is remembering where I parked.

Films, to me, are more meticulously created. The thought process I imagine for a movie like "Iron-Man" is constantly asking, "What does the audience want to see?" In comparison, a film is created more internally. When I watched "Juno," what stood out to me were the characters. They are unique in their manners and in the way they tackle an issue as serious as teen pregnancy. What writer Diablo Cody had created was a world where her characters can exist and go about their business without regard to whoever may be watching. "Juno" is first an expression of the creators, much like a stage play, that the audience can watch and enjoy.

While a movie and a film may be drastically different, one can't exist without the other. Hollywood studios depend on blockbusters to keep the factory going. New Line Cinema was recently absorbed into Warner Bros. after a string of unsuccessful blockbuster attempts. Five years ago, New Line

Cinema ruled Hollywood with the massive success of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy and anticipation of its "King Kong" remake. Today, with the help of its parent company, the studio continues to challenge large budget pictures by producing independent films. So far, the only consolation New Line Cinema has received is the rights to produce the "Lord of the Rings" prequel, "The Hobbit."

Looking at New Line Cinema as it is today, the studio is fortunate it can still produce independent projects with the backing of a major studio. Without the backing, the number of projects the studio can commit to would drop dramatically. Worse—the studio might even shut its doors for good. There is simply no way a studio can invest money in an original film without the financial safety net a blockbuster film offers.

However, just as there will always be blockbuster franchises, there will always be art-house classics. My bookshelf is a great example of the variety of entertainment movie studios have produced. From animated films and comic book remakes to independent dramas and action-packed blockbusters—I have a place for them all in my DVD collection. Of course, for Hollywood, making movies and films is an absolute money game. Still there's hope for us movie fans. For every blockbuster a studio churns out, movies like "Juno" slip through and get a shot at blockbuster status.

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Bottled water: a health and ecological risk

By Matthew C. Tuthill
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Have you ever wondered if your bottled water is really worth the \$2 you are coughing up? Really, what makes bottled water any more special than what comes out of any given tap or drinking fountain found on campus, or at home? Is it that the water is distilled, purified, enhanced, desalted, or is it simply that it's available at arms length, looks snazzy and inviting, and it comes from some mainland company that is owned by Coke or Pepsi?

In case you missed the news over the last few years, let me enlighten you. As it turns out, 40 percent of bottled water is simply tap water conveniently bottled in single-sized servings. Most likely, bottled water is not healthier or safer than tap water. In fact, it's possible that it's worse. People of Hawaii are blessed with some of the cleanest air and water that the U.S. has to offer. Yet, we still buy water bottled from municipal sources in New York, California or Texas. It's bizarre knowing that people have been misled into spending their money on a product that may be inferior to the drinking fountain down the hall.

Let's think about what water really has to offer you. Much of the normal salt and mineral content has been removed from bottled water in the quest for "purity."



TARESSA ISHIMI/KAPIO

The Sustainability Committee shared environmental messages during an Earth Day event at KCC. Volunteers at the committee's water booth conducted a taste test. Most of the participants chose tap water over bottled water.

Many of the salts normally found in tap water actually serve as electrolytes which aid in signal transduction and muscle contraction. But, hey, you can always spend another \$2 for a bottled Gatorade which contains the salts that are lacking in the bottled water. Similarly, many of the minerals removed from bottled water also have a specific function. These minerals are often used as essential components of enzymes. Enzymes are proteins in the body provide necessary functions, such as breaking down molecules and building up molecules.

Another interesting fact is that

the Food and Drug Administration only requires testing of bottled water for chemical contaminants once a year. However, the Environmental Protective Agency requires communities to test their municipal tap water more than 1,000 times per year. The EPA's tests are more comprehensive than what is required by the FDA. Knowing the federal law mandates stricter controls of tap water over bottled water, which water source makes you feel safer?

After bottling, the water is most often stored, shipped and shelved at room temperature. Initially, the level of bacteria in the water

THE BOTTLE CHAIN
Breaking the "bottle chain" reduces greenhouse gas emissions and water consumption

- ➔ Skip the purchase; keep the cash
- ➔ At home, use locally bottled water in five-gallon containers
- ➔ Buy locally to keep the money circulating in a closer community
- ➔ Purchase a filter if you still have water safety concerns
- ➔ Encourage friends and family to kick the habit
- ➔ Try removing other bottled and shipped products from your diet
- ➔ Carry your own container

is low; however, it often increases in number until the water is consumed. The storage time also allows an increase in toxins found in your bottled water. This introduction of toxins occurs because compounds embedded in the plastic container actually dissolve into the water over time. For example, bisphenol A, an endocrine signal disruptor, has been shown to leak from the plastic by 39 weeks. Does this new information make you want to check the expiration date on the water? Unfortunately, for us, bottled water doesn't come with an expiration date.

In addition, bottled water is 240-10,000 times more expensive than tap water. For example, in San Francisco the cost of a standard bottle of the top seller Evian equals 1,000 gallons of tap water. Similarly, on Oahu, you get 1,000 gallons of tap water for \$2.24,

which is roughly the price of a 16-ounce bottle of water. Accounting for the production of the plastic bottles, bottling at the company and eventual shipment to the consumer, production of a one-liter bottle of water requires 6.74 liters of our water supply. This single bottle of water also produces 0.25 kilograms of gas, adding to the atmosphere's greenhouse gases. All this may seem like inflated numbers, but you must remember plastics are produced in China and are shipped to Fiji and New York before they are then shipped to your local store.

If you are becoming lost in all of the above figures, try wrapping your head around the idea that plastic bottles account for 47 million gallons of fuel used in the U.S. each year. By discontinuing this

BACKPAGE: Bottled water, page 8

Time: Too much, too little or just right?

By Jayme Sumida
STAFF WRITER

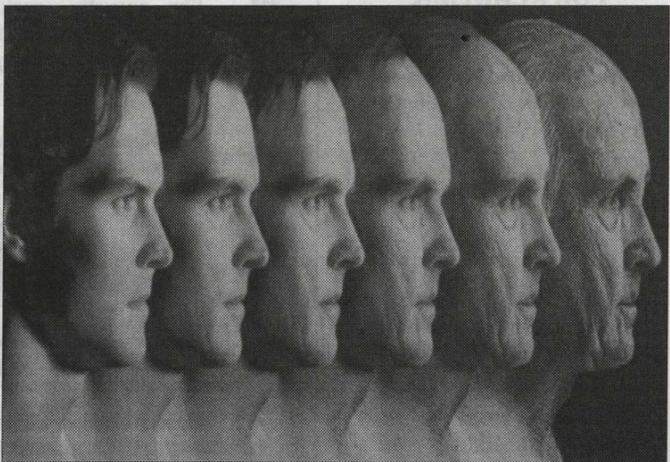
Time. It always seems there's either too much or too little of it, and there's rarely ever a happy medium. Even though we often feel like time is against us, it never changes. It persistently moves forward; it's a constant that cannot change.

There are 60 seconds in a minute, 60 minutes in an hour and 24 hours in a day no matter where you are in the world. We often find ourselves thinking if there was just one extra hour, a multitude of possibilities and accomplishments could be fulfilled.

In one moment, it seems that 24 hours is not enough time to function in today's world of electronics and on-the-minute reporting. Yet there are times when we have too much free time.

When we have extra free time, we could focus on our priorities and responsibilities more. Instead, we often become distracted on other things. Sometimes I wish time worked like roll-over minutes. You know, save the unoccupied time until you really need it. Unfortunately, for us, time does not work that way.

Persistent as it is, time does not seem punctual. It sounds silly or like an oxymoron to say time does not seem punctual, but it's true. For



GOOGLE

Individuals who take time for granted should stay focused and use their time wisely.

instance, waking up in the morning, I often wish I could have an extra hour of sleep before going to school. While in class, I've prayed that time would just tick away twice as fast.

If there were actually 25 hours in a day, would we get more accomplished? Or if there were 23 hours, would we manage our time more wisely? It is something to think about, but our wish can never be granted.

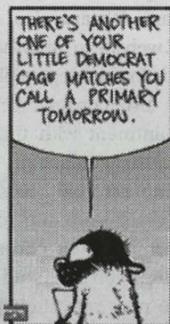
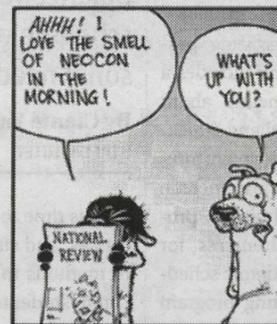
In retrospect, I've often wondered if I've spent my time as wisely as I should have. Since time cannot be stockpiled for future use, we literally do not have time for second chances.

Many times, we look back with

regret. However, we should be grateful for the 24 hours that is given to us. It all depends on how we utilize what we have.

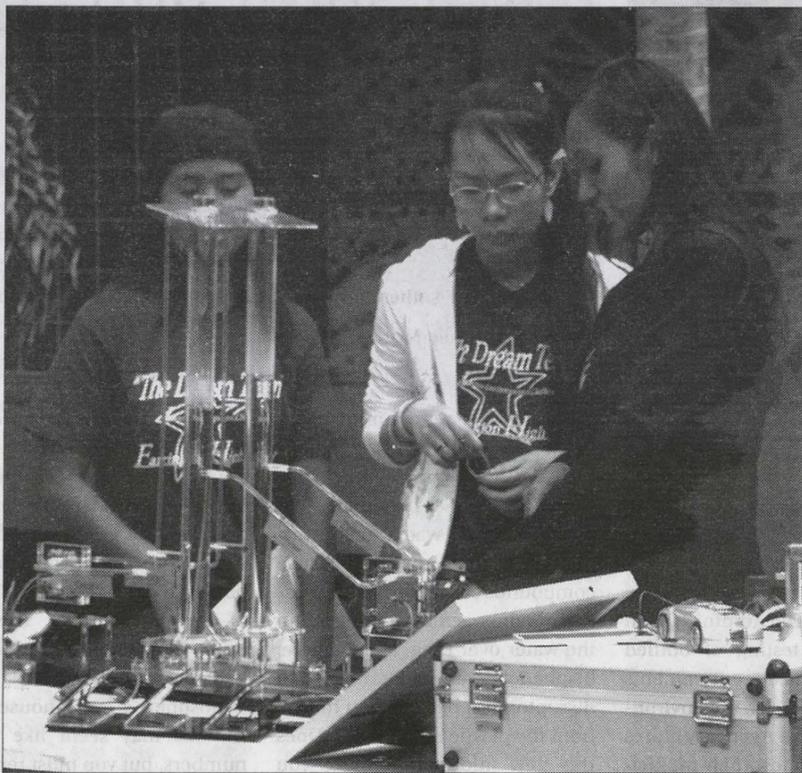
I remember the first week of this semester like it was yesterday. Yet four months have passed by so quickly, and now summer break is closely upon us. Those taking the summer off will have more free time to either waste or use wisely. Before we know it, summer will fly by and it will be Christmas season again. Some may have a different view on time than others, but there is one question everyone should consider: How will you chose to use your time today?

Get Fuzzy by Darby Conley



COMICS.COM

Earth Day



TARESSA ISHIMI / KAPĪ'O



TARESSA ISHIMI / KAPĪ'O

The 38th-annual Earth Day was celebrated around the nation on April 22. On campus, KCC instructors, 21st Century Technologies and The Dream Team in Action Plan-Clean Energy provided informational booths in front of the Ohia Cafeteria. Students, faculty and staff learned about Earth Day, as well as ways to help the planet by saving energy. Some of the booths promoted battery-powered mopeds, as well as greenbuilding services and renewable energy solutions.

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY BRIEFS of events around KCC

Informational session for dental assisting program

There will be an informational session for students who are interested in the dental assisting program May 1. The session includes a presentation of information about career preparation, legal and education requirements, employment forecast and salary. It will also include counseling support, admission procedures, course requirements for program entry and academic schedule. The dental assisting program includes classroom instruction, laboratory experiences, and clinical practicum with affiliated hospitals or community agencies. The session starts at 1:30 p.m. in Kauila 113.

Bead workshop to raise money for village in Africa

The second and last day of the bead workshop will be April 30. Those who attend the bead workshop will have the opportunity to make their own beaded accessories. For those who are in a rush, bead kits will also be sold. All the proceeds from the workshop will go to a school in a fishing village of Cape Coast, Africa. The workshop will be located at the Ewa entrance of the cafeteria by the ATMs. It will be from 10:30 until 1:30.

Different methods for selecting classes and instructors

Balance your class schedule with your personal needs.

By Cianté Valdez
STAFF WRITER

It is time to register for Fall 2008 classes, and students have a variety of methods to select their courses. Often, students start by taking their prerequisites, like student Hope Wataru. Wataru also searches the KCC website to find what classes she needs for her degree plan. Students may also consider scheduling an appointment with their counselor for further guidance.

Some students use the Ratemyprofessor Web site to help them determine their course selection. On the Web site, students nationwide may rate their professor or view other students' comments. Students rate their instructors on easiness, helpfulness and clarity. "I take it lightly when I go to ratemyprofessor.com," Student Jesse Melanson said. "Actually, it's pretty accurate. Most of the instructors that are good were rated really well."

No matter what degree a student pursues, it is a good idea for them to review their schedule and plan for outside activities. Stu-

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dents should consider their family, job and relationship obligations, as well as other extracurricular activities. "When creating your class schedule, take a look at your personal scheduling and learning style," said New Media Arts counselor Teri Durland. "For example, if you are a morning person, it may help to choose an early class."

BACKPAGE: Choosing classes, page 8

Vote Student Leadership Student Congress STUDENT SURVEY

A short online survey asks for student input on things like security, parking, transportation, lighting, technology, and food. The results of the survey will help the next Student Congress to determine priorities for student advocacy next year.

All Kapiolani Community College students are encouraged to fill out the survey and to vote in the elections.

Elections

Six students were nominated to fill eight available At Large seats on the 2008 - 2009 Student Congress.

Special elections will be held in the fall to fill the remaining two At Large positions. Online voting scheduled for April 28 until May 2 is a way for each student to show support for the six candidates and their positions.

Students can sign in to vote with their University of Hawaii user name at a link on the bottom right hand side of their My UH account. My UH can be accessed on the bottom right corner of the KCC home page at www.kcc.hawaii.edu.

Descriptions written by each nominee about why they want to be a member will be available during the voting process.

Spectrum 2008

Interested in submitting your written works or artistic works?

Contact the Spectrum ASAP.
E-mail kapio@hawaii.edu or call 734-9120.



COURTESY OF ERIKA IRELAND

Created by Erika Ireland, Hula-la! Swimwear is available online, in stores nationwide, as well as in Europe.

Hula-la! Swimwear makes a splash on the runway

Hula-la! designer creates functional yet fashionable swimsuits.

By Krista Whang
STAFF WRITER

Searching for a swimsuit that will flatter one's assets may be as easy as Hula-la! The creator of Hula-la! Swimwear, Erika Ireland, strives to make every woman look and feel great while wearing her designer swimwear. "We really focus on designing swimwear that fits well and flatters the figure," Ireland said. "It is easy to design a suit that looks great on a hanger, but it should also make the woman wearing it look and feel her best. I get calls and emails everyday, from women who love the way our swimwear looks on them. It is really very rewarding." Over the years, Ireland spent a lot of her time surfing, swimming, and running on the beaches of La Jolla, California and Lahaina, Maui. A former swimsuit model, Ireland recognized the need for a functional yet fashionable and flattering swimsuit. She began

HULA-LA! AVAILABLE:

-Allure Swimwear at Ward Center, The Royal Hawaiian, and The Hilton Hawaiian Village

-Cosmopolitan Sun Shop

-Kailua Beach Walk

-Lanikai Beachwear

-NEX Hawaii

-Tropical Rush

WEB SITE:

www.hulagirlswim.com

designing swimsuits as a hobby while working as a full-time prosecuting attorney. Soon her hobby became popular among swimwear shoppers. "I guess other people were looking for the same thing because the brand just took off from there." Since 2002, the Hula-la! brand launched into the spotlight, and was voted among the top-ten hottest swimwear companies in the nation. Hula-la!'s styles have appeared in

more than fifteen national magazines, including Women's Health, Surfing, Oxygen, and People, as well as Hawaii's own Midweek.

Ireland designs the swimsuits to fit women's swimwear needs while collaborating with experts such as patternmakers and sewing contractors. "I have gathered the best people to help me identify the most flattering cuts, shapes and angles for a woman's body. We make suits that have the best support, best fabric, best elastic and the most flattering lines we can create." Ireland's designs are inspired by Hawaii's culture, lifestyle and natural beauty. "We design our own fabric so that we can convey this in our swimwear, in a fashion forward and modern manner," Ireland said. Even the name Hula-la! hints at its local roots. Ireland chose the company's name to represent Hawaii, yet have a "flirty, fashionable edge." It appears to have worked, because Hula-la! Swimsuits are now in stores in Hawaii, the mainland and Europe.

Typically, the company releases a new swimsuit line at least once a year. "We just started shipping our latest line at the beginning of March," Ireland said. "That line was designed last summer and was debuted internationally at trade-shows last September." According to Ireland, she is currently designing her next collection.

Hula-la! Swimwear has appeared in fashion shows in Los Angeles, San Diego, Miami and Hawaii. The most recent was at the Embassy Suites in Waikiki on April 20. Sponsored by Malibu Rum and organized by Partymasters Hawaii, nine models proudly flaunted Ireland's designs down the runway. Hundreds of people gathered to see the collection, and each suit brought a loud, positive response from the crowd.

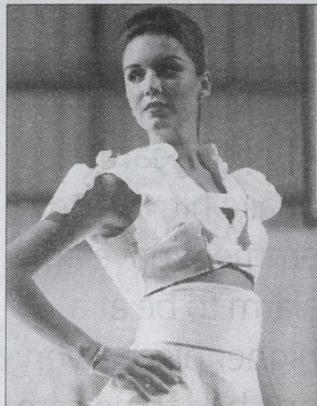


COURTESY OF ERIKA IRELAND

The model is wearing the Pagan Princess Red Full Halter from the Hula-la! Swimsuit collection.

RECENT SNAPSHOTS

of national and world events



REUTERS.COM

The toilet paper fashion show in Lima, Peru featured models wearing clothes made from toilet paper and paper towels.

Ukraine copter crashes

A Ukraine Mi-8 helicopter crashed into the Black Sea on April 28. Russia's Itar-Tass news agency reported that all 19 people aboard were killed.

According to the Ukraine's Naf-togaz state energy firm, the helicopter struck an offshore platform and then crashed into the water.

In March, 12 people were killed when a Ukrainian border guard helicopter crashed into the Black Sea.

Trains collide in Eastern China

A passenger train traveling from Beijing to the city of Qingdao derailed and crashed into another train in Shandong Province killing at least 60 people on April 28.

Xinhua News Agency reported that about 70 of those injured were in critical condition following the crash.

California wildfire forces evacuation

A wildfire in California along a hiking trail forced the evacuation of 400 to 500 homes in the hills northeast of Los Angeles on April 27. The fire spanned 400-acres and began in the afternoon while Southern California hit record temperatures. Elisa Weaver, a spokeswoman for the city of Sierra Madre said the cause of the fire is still under investigation as of April 27.

About 500 firefighters fought the blaze and were assisted by low winds and humidity. As of April 27 the fire was 30 percent contained.

Rebate checks roll out

On April 28 the Internal Revenue Service began the first run of the economic stimulus package rebate checks. The rebates are arriving early and the first run will be for direct deposit accounts. The early start is thanks to a new computer system in use by the IRS.

It is estimated that one million tax filers will have their checks directly deposited on April 28, 29 and 30. Then there will be no checks distributed May 1, then 5 million tax payers will receive their rebate checks May 2. Paper checks will be mailed out starting on May 9.

To figure out how much rebate you are slated to receive visit the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov and click on the Economic Stimulus Payment Calculator link.

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Disasters: Lessons learned, prevention taught

KCC student experienced one of Japan's worst earthquakes.

By Jayme Sumida
STAFF WRITER

Because an ocean surrounds the state of Hawaii, the chances of experiencing a tsunami are higher than for residents on the mainland. Due to this increased risk, tsunami preparedness has made some residents more concerned about their safety. While Hawaii has not experienced a damaging tsunami in recent years, major tsunamis have swept through many countries during the past five years.

Today, Hawaii is equipped with a tsunami warning system that allows residents to take the proper precautions.

However, one of the most common natural warning signs of a tsunami is an earthquake. On January 17, 1995 an earthquake shook Kobe, Japan measuring 7.3 on the Richter scale. Although there was no tsunami that followed, the earthquake did cause major damage. An estimated 6,400 people lost their lives and caused \$200 billion in damages. Since 1923, this is



After the earthquake hit, the government gave an alarm to be at a higher place. Everyone had to be careful and aware.

— Yoshiko Fujita, survivor of the 1995 earthquake

one of the worst earthquakes that Japan had experienced. Before the earthquake struck, there were no warning signals or public notification. Japan was not prepared for a disaster of this magnitude.

KCC student Yoshiko Fujita remembered the 1995 earthquake all too well. "After the earthquake hit, the government gave an alarm to be at a higher place," Fujita said. Fujita, who is from Japan, explained that there was a risk of a tsunami following the earthquake. Radio stations and speakers advised residents to clear all



GOOGLE

Pictured is the aftermath of the 1995 earthquake that struck Kobe, Japan. The earthquake measured 7.3 on the Richter scale and caused \$200 billion in damages.

coastlines and to evacuate on higher elevation. "Everyone had to be careful and aware," Fujita said.

Kobe experienced the strongest shockwaves because of its location. It was the nearest major city from the epicenter of the quake. An epicenter is an area of the earth's exterior precisely above the focus of an earthquake. Fujita's home was located a little farther from the city. She recollected that many families who lived in Kobe evacuated to her hometown. "After the

earthquake happened Kobe was shut down," Fujita said.

Since the damage was so severe, many in the area were left with no food, water or electricity. Fujita recalled that numerous volunteers sent donations and other charitable needs to the victims. "The government and other countries sent (a lot of) stuff to help," Fujita said. The year 1995 is occasionally referred to as "the beginning year of volunteerism." On December 15, 1995 the Japanese government observed

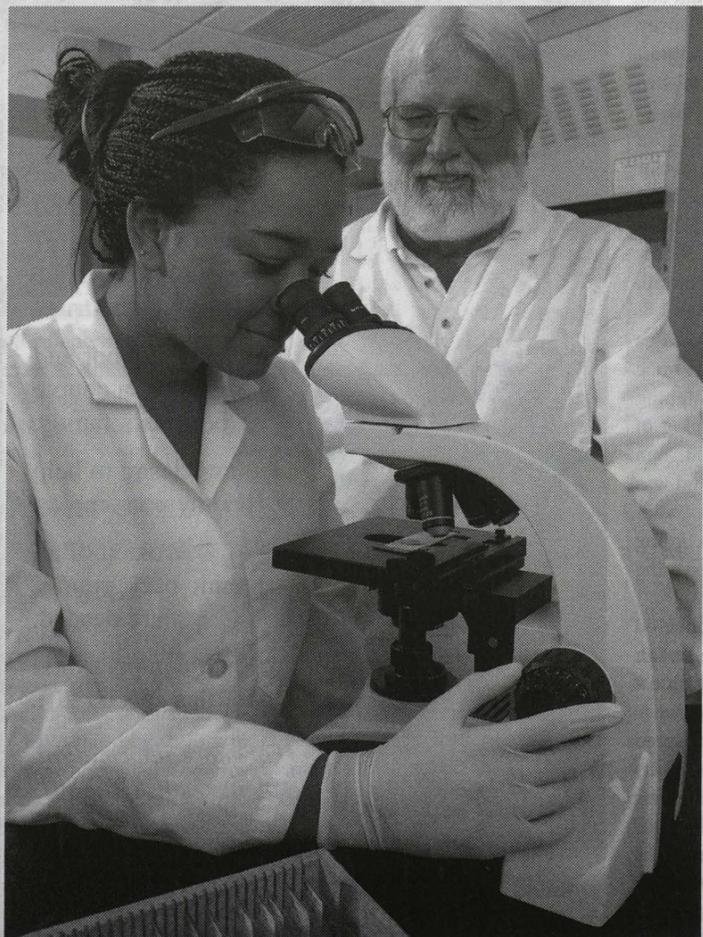
a day and a week for "disaster prevention and volunteerism."

During the Christmas season, a memorial is set up in honor of those who lost their lives during this tragedy. An arrangement of Christmas lights show "1.17," which represents January 17, the anniversary date of the earthquake. "The purpose of the mural (memorial) is not to forget about the earthquake," Fujita said. Many shops and companies contribute to the memorial.

Fujita stated that many of the earthquake survivors have discussed their experiences with the younger generation. "The main goal is to set the knowledge of what you need in a situation like this," Fujita said. For instance, it's important for people to stock water, food, blankets and other necessities in case of another disaster. "When something like a natural disaster happens, we should not survive by ourselves, but live together." Fujita visits her hometown twice a year; however, knowing how to prepare for a natural disaster like the 1995 earthquake, Fujita feels a little safer.

Today, Kobe has fully recovered from the damages caused by the 1995 earthquake; and the majority of the evacuated families have returned to Kobe.

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY TARESSA ISHIMI/ KAPO

Within the past decade boy bands have evolved into something entirely different. Back in the late 90s, boy bands were regarded as a pop genre element. Boy bands can now be found in all genres.

The great boy band phenomenon

By Paige Jinbo
EDITOR

Perfectly choreographed dance moves, emotional on the verge of sappy lyrics, more or less good looking guys; these were the staples of what a boy band had to possess in order to make it in the music world. It's almost been a decade since bands like Nsync, Backstreet Boys, Hanson, LFO, 98 Degrees, O-Town, and Boyz II Men were on the music scene. These bands were enjoyable to listen to or watch; whether you were listening to them or making fun of them, at the time they were on the tip of everyone's tongue. It became a conversation tactic. When in doubt, talk about their new music video or their last appearance on MTV's TRL.

Those who were able to witness and get caught up in the boy band hoopla, consider yourselves lucky. The likelihood of bands like these exploding on the music scene are very slim. While some may find it a good thing that bands like these will never make it back on the scene, it is rather unfortunate. Nsync and Backstreet Boys were the purest form of entertainment. Not only did they sing but they danced. It was these two bands that set the standard for many of the bands that followed. Whenever they were to appear on talk shows, thousands made it a point

to find a television and tune in. However, now, if Fall Out Boy or the Jonas Brothers are scheduled to appear on Good Morning America many will not make it a point to sit down and watch. As long as Fall Out Boys' new song is downloaded and synced to an iPod it's all cherry.

After the frenzy for these pop boy bands died down, boy bands never came back. After this time, many artists found it too cheesy to be in a "boy band." What classifies a band a "boy band?" From 1999 to 2002, a good boy band was classified as a group of boys who could sing and dance. It didn't hurt if all members were nice to look at. These days, a boy band is just a group of boys who sing. Groups like B2K were short-lived. The only popular pop boy band out there now is the Jonas Brothers.

While pop boy bands will never become as big as it used to be, alternative and emo boy bands are hitting the scene hard. It's hard to keep track of all the boy bands that come out of this genre. Every month a new band strikes onto the scene with hopes to be the next best thing. Bands like Fall Out Boy, One Republic, Tokio Hotel, Gorillaz, Stereophonics, Jack's Mannequin, Maroon 5, Good Charlotte, Secondhand Serenade,

may not like being pegged as a "boy band." In actuality, this is exactly what they are. A band with only male members.

Boy bands have evolved into something entirely different from what it was a decade ago. When the term "boy band" was heard, it was automatically thought that it was a pop band. Even with this new evolution, the term "boy band" still carries the stigma of being a pop band. From here on out boy bands will be seen the most in this music genre.

Could pop boy bands make it big again? Not likely. The standards of music and entertainment is different for this generation's adolescent's youth. The youth don't seem to care whether artists can dance or put on a show. Fans don't really expect artists to have a great album, just one great song. The expectation of bands has significantly declined. Millions waited with baited breath for Nsync and Backstreet Boys' second and third album, flooding the record stores. Millions were buying full albums. Now, bands are lucky if they can get that one hit.

For those who are waiting for boy bands like 98 Degrees and Nsync to hit the scene again, the wait will prove to be pointless.

Perez:

Continued from page 1

She had wanted to escape her hometown of Detroit where racial riots were ongoing at the time. "I really simply did not want teach in the climate of hate," Perez said. "I came here on vacation in that summer of 67, and I just couldn't get over how the people of many colors all seemed to coexist and get along and communicate."

During her first year in Hawaii, she worked as a Headstart teacher. Perez believes she'd learned just as much from the children as the children learned from her. "It did for me the same thing that Headstart is supposed to do for these preschoolers. I didn't know anything about the Hawaiian culture except what Hollywood taught me about Hawaii—you know, grass skirts, ukuleles and all of that," she said with a chuckle. "Fate really

worked in my favor by giving me a head start."

Perez later received offers from Chaminade University, Leeward Community College and KCC. "I chose KCC over the other two because here I was going to be able to teach four speech classes and start a drama program." Back then, KCC was located on the corner of Kapiolani and Pensacola. Beginning with the Introduction to Theatre course, Perez eventually added acting courses and a theatre production course. Perez recalled her first production was the one-act play, "Suppressed Desires," which was held near the old Pensacola campus.

In time, the KCC performing arts program evolved into what it is today, including a stage craft course which is offered each spring and a two-semester musical theatre course series which is offered every other year. KCC music instructor



KAREN MALONE/KAPO

KCC students (Left to right) Amanda Green, Cynthia Higashi, Alan Picard and Christopher McNeal perform a scene from Neil Simon's "The Good Doctor."

Lina Doo and dance instructor Jennifer Shannon will "team-teach" the musical theatre courses during the 2008-2009 academic year, which begins August 25. "For a very long time, we (the theatre program) did a production every year

until the music program developed the musical production class, and now we alternate," Perez said. "That's been a delightful addition. More and more theatre students are appearing in the musicals. The way I look at it—that is the best of

both worlds." Doo plans to direct Stephen Schwartz's "Children of Eden" for the spring 2009 musical theatre production.

Two generations of students have passed through Perez's classroom. She thinks of these students as a part of her extended family—a "school family," she calls them. According to Perez, one of her former students recently presented her with a note which read "The other day I read in the paper, if you want to influence other people, go into theatre; and I thought of you." Likewise, nearly everywhere Perez goes, she finds herself visiting with a member of her extended family. "Sooner or later you're taking my pulse, you're taking my X-ray, you're selling me my dress at Macy's, you're interviewing me for a school newspaper," pointing to the reporter, Perez began to laugh. "They're everywhere"

Health fair:

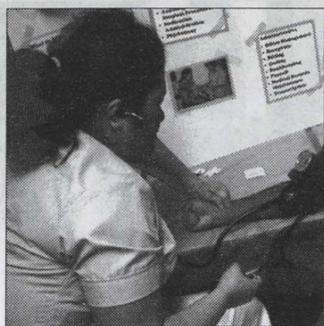
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Miyashiro hopes that the health fair will have a profound effect on the community and increase the awareness of living a healthy lifestyle. She mentioned that community leaders had contacted her after the fair saying that it was a complete success and that they wanted to try to coordinate more health fairs.

"I think it was hard because it was the first time they (the community) ever had this done at the school, so everyone was a little skeptical and hesitant about how it was going to turn out," Miyashiro said. "But now that it was a great success, they want to do it annually and we are willing to do that."

Service-learning student Nari Okui showed the Palolo children ways to exercise, while having fun and learning something.

"We are trying to show them how fun it is to play because a lot of



MATTHEW AKIYAMA / KAPI'O

KCC medical assisting student Jessica Lum takes a child's blood pressure during a recent health fair at Palolo Elementary School.

times they are just watching television," she said.

Increasing activity in the lives of young children is one way to put them on a path to living a healthier lifestyle. Healthy eating was also a topic of discussion during the fair.

A table was set up with healthy snacks created in a way to make children and their families interested in eating healthier. Some of the snacks included ling-hing

apples, peanut butter, celery and carrot sticks.

Members of the Waikiki Health Center's youth outreach program and the Honolulu Police Department also participated. According to Asuega, the hope is that the community can become more aware of what is available to them and what entities can be of assistance.

The community in Palolo Valley is no stranger to KCC students. The college has conducted efforts to assist the community through the Palolo Pipeline Program, which gives students a chance to serve the Palolo Valley Homes community while learning. Some of the aspects of the Palolo Pipeline include working with the elderly and low-income residents, as well as tutoring elementary students.

For more information about service learning, contact Ku'ulani Miyashiro at kuulani@hawaii.edu or visit her at the Service-Learning Office in Naio 214.

Bottled water:

Continued from page 3

extravagant waste of bottling water, we will take 100,000 cars off of the road and stop 1 billion pounds of the greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide, from entering the atmosphere. In addition, the U.S. only returns 13 percent of the plastic bottles back to a reclamation plant. In California alone, 1 billion bottles have gone into landfills where toxic phthalate compounds are released as they slowly degrade. The average life span of a plastic bottle is 1,000 years. And finally, the bottling companies make \$1.28 profit on each \$1.50 bottle of water sold. Boy, what a deal for those companies.

Recently, some groups on the mainland have paid attention to last year's news concerning the bottling of water and the cost of global warming. These groups are fighting bottling companies in the courts and in their communities. The Environmental Law Foundation has sued eight bottling companies for using words such as "pure" to market water containing excessive levels of bacteria, arsenic and chlorine. Chic boutiques in New York and Beverly Hills are now selling tap water rather than the traditional Yosemite and Everest brands. Finally, the city of San Francisco has taken the lead on this issue by banning its departments from purchasing bottled water.

To unscientifically address whether bottled water tastes better than tap, the Sustainability Commit-

tee, along with several student volunteers, performed a blind-taste test in front of the cafeteria on April 22 during Earth Day. In all, 65 participants compared the taste of tap to bottled water. Tap water came out the winner. Of the participants, 52 percent preferred tap water, 29 percent chose the bottled water, and 18 percent felt there was no distinguishable difference between the two. Although the majority preferred the taste of tap water, many said they purchased bottled water simply for the convenience. A few said they purchased bottled water because of safety concerns; however, preliminary studies suggest a correlation of cancer with the presence of bisphenol A in the polycarbonate bottles.

In the end, I learned that many people drink bottled water for reasons that just don't seem justified. Tap water is cheaper by 1000-fold, safer, more rigorously tested and tastes better. In Hawaii we all grumble about gas costing \$4 per gallon, but how come no one complains about paying \$25 per gallon for bottled water when tap water only costs \$2.24 per 1,000 gallons? Overall, I am encouraged with the statewide trend of recycling. Like it or not, the six-cent deposit fee implemented in Hawaii is working. In just a few short years, we have gone from recycling a measly 10-20 percent to returning 68 percent of the bottles and cans purchased. In 2007, we returned 633 million of the 940 million recyclable containers. Now if only the City and County would hurry up and implement curbside recycling in Kaimuki.

Classes:

Continued from page 4

Most college officials look for well-rounded individuals. They seek students who do well in their hobbies and major, as well as students who are not afraid of the challenge of trying new things. "Part of college is building on your strengths and cultivate things that you aren't so strong at, too," Durland said.

One of the hardest parts of registering is choosing an instructor who fits an individual's learning style. To approach this dilemma, students can speak with other faculty members for suggestions or speak with the intended instructor directly. Some students use their friends and fellow classmates opinions when selecting instructors.

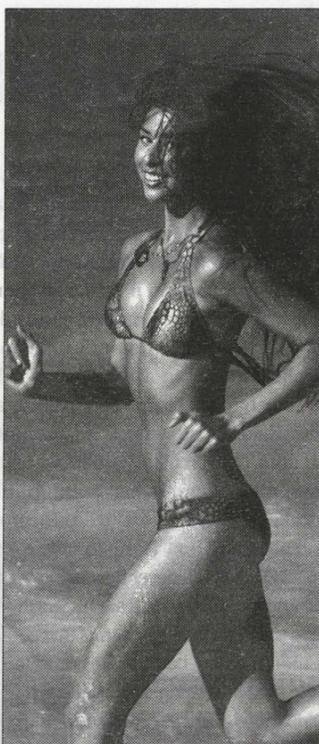
Open registration continues until August 24. Call the Kekaulike Information and Service Center at 734-9555 or visit www.kcc.hawaii.edu/object/reguide.html for course registration information.

Hula-la:

Continued from page 5

"Sunday's fashion show was one my favorite shows because of the great vibe," Ireland said. "Dana, Justin and Kyle (from Partymaster) are fabulous and the models were perfect." The show was set up near the pool on the fourth floor of the hotel. DJs, including the Mileko from Star 101.9, provided music 3-8 p.m. Although the event was a pool party for Malibu, Ireland's designs seemed to get the most attention. "Everybody had such a great attitude and everything just came together great," Ireland said. "I had a blast."

Currently, shoppers can find Hula-la! Swimsuits at stores throughout Hawaii, as well as online at www.hulagirlswim.com. The Web site also includes a store locator to help shoppers find the nearest store. For help finding a specific swimsuit, call 808-256-4605.



COURTESY OF ERIKA IRELAND

Hula-la! focuses on making quality swimwear while complementing the female body.

KCC chorus performance

KCC chorus students, along with chorus groups from the University of Hawaii, Leeward Community College and Brigham Young University (BYU), participated in the E Himeni Kakou Festival Concert, which was held at the BYU campus on April 5. Near the end of the concert, all the groups joined on stage to sing John McCreary's "Magnificat." The next KCC chorus performance is scheduled on May 4 at 2 p.m. at the Ala Moana Centerstage. Under the direction of Assistant Professor Lina Doo, the KCC chorus will perform a variety of songs, including "My Heart's in the Highlands," "Fugue for Fast Food" and "African Psalm."

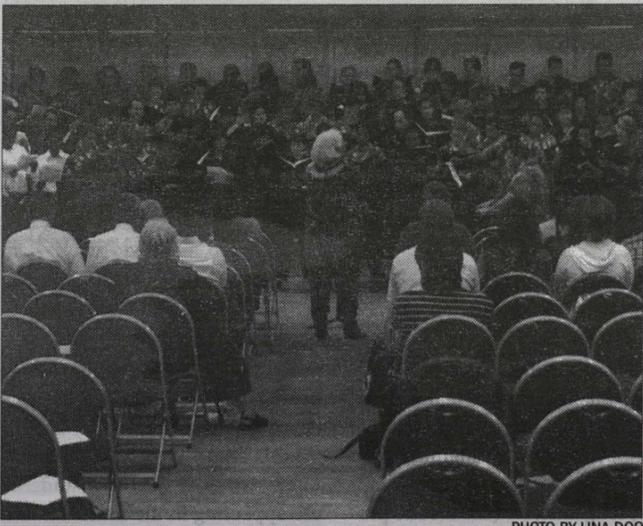


PHOTO BY LINA DOO

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