



KCC's Halau I Ka Wekiu's relives the experience of Merrie Monarch Festival.



Stressing out about finals? Tips on how to effectively manage your time.

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Academies to increase persistence

By Paige L. Jinbo
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As retention rates for incoming students staggers to break a mere 30 percent, faculty and administration have developed an innovative way to engage and motivate students to continue their education in following semesters.

The Kahikoluamea Pathway Academies, a pilot program set to launch its first pathway next fall, will serve as an academic model that gives students the opportunity to immerse themselves into their desired program of study.

"Graduation and persistence rates at KCC should be improved," said Chancellor Leon Richards. "I believe that these rates can be improved through these new pathways."

The academies target high-risk, under-prepared students.

According to research provided by KCC's Office for Institutional Effectiveness, between fall 2004 and fall 2008, retention rates have remained approximately between 27 percent and 29 percent. More than 70 percent of students who register in the fall fail to earn more than 20 credits with a C or higher, graduate or transfer to a four-year institution by the following year.

In addition, more than 50 percent of new students place in developmental - below 100 level - courses.

"It's an uphill battle for students who place in these courses to move in their academic program," said Kelli Goya, Kahikoluamea Pathways coordinator.

Since the goal is to increase the number of first-year students to continue in subsequent semesters, only new students are eligible to enroll in the academies.

Although there are four academies on the books - the Career and Technical Education Academy; Health Science Academy; Liberal Arts with concentrations in Math, Science and Social Science Academy; and Liberal Arts with concentrations in Language, Linguistics, Literature and Humanities Academy - only CTE will roll out next semester.

Each pathway includes four classes that focus around its particular CTE major. For a breakdown of each pathway, see sidebar.

"The idea is to focus all their courses around the career to help keep them engaged," said Reid Sunahara, English instructor. Sunahara will be teaching the English sections for both the Business and Culinary pathways, which are part of the CTE academy.

Sunahara and Goya attribute the mediocre retention rates to the lack of engagement to the classroom and campus.

	Number of Students				
	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008
New incoming students	1,073	1,099	1,156	1,248	1,358
Earned 20 or more credits with C or higher or graduated or transferred within one academic year	291	319	296	344	393
Graduated with Associates degree or 4-year transfer within three academic years	184	209	219	N/A	N/A

"We want to provide the support and resources that's hopefully more relevant and personalized in order for students to meet their goals," Goya said.

The academies will also give students the advantage of taking college-ready courses that are related to their majors, Goya added.

Students who register for one course within the academy must enroll in all four courses in the same semester. All the content in each class is focused around their major. The English and Math courses are taught accordingly to CTE major.

For instance, although Sunahara is teaching English for the Business and Culinary pathways, he has to develop a new curriculum for both courses. For one essay of the Culinary English class, Sunahara will have his students watch Anthony Bourdain's reality show "No Reservations" and have them compare celebrity and real chefs. He will also assign an essay on different types of cuisine. The idea is to make each class in the pathway relevant to their CTE major.

"This is the new style to get students engaged," Sunahara said. "Students don't care about the canon of literature. The more we make the class about them, the more successful they'll be."

The pathway for each CTE major consists of 12 credits, so students will have their entire semester planned out for them. However, three out of the four classes in the pathways are eight weeks. The IS 103 class is 16 weeks. For the first eight weeks of the semester, students will only be attending two classes: MATH 81 and IS 103. During the second half of the semester, they'll be taking their introductory course to their specific major, ENG 22 and IS 103. While IS 103 will remain an hour and 15 minutes, the other three courses will be two and a half hours.

"These pathways are designed for students to get through their first semester successfully," Sunahara said.

The academies are modeled after the academies that La Guardia Community College (New York) developed a few years ago. Sunahara hopes that it'll be just as successful at KCC as it has been at La Guardia Community College.

Although the CTE Academy is making its debut next fall, the other three will not for another year. According to Goya, one academy will launch per fall semester. There will be a new academy each fall until fall 2013.

Also, the academy students will have a KCC-specific networking Web site to not only stay connected, with each other but also with faculty members and peer mentors. 'Imiloa is a social networking site. According to Goya, it'll be similar to the social networking site Facebook. Students will be able to post comments on each other's walls, upload photos and

videos. More importantly, through this site, new students can get to know their instructors and chart their own path by creating an online component, MyPlan, to keep them academically on track.

The site will be unveiled in June, but will only be accessible to students within the academy. However, it eventually may be extended to all KCC students, Goya said.

"These coherent and socially supportive learning environments foster a sense of belonging or aloha for students and provide a means for them to explore their career and academic interests through active and collaborative learning," Goya said. "These learning experiences, I believe, empower students to reflect upon their choices, makes responsible decisions and chart their pathway to success."

BUSINESSPATHWAY:

- 32209 BUS 120: Principles of Business
- 32215 IS 103: Introduction to College
- 32212 MATH 81: Foundations of Mathematics
- 32206 ENG 22: Beginning Composition

CULINARYPATHWAY:

- 31482 CULN 111: Intro to the Culinary Industry
- 32213 IS 103: Introduction to College
- 32204 ENG 22: Beginning Composition
- 32210 Math 81: Foundations of Mathematics

HOSPITALITY PATHWAY:

- 32208 HOST 101: Introductions to Hospitality and Tourism
- 32214 IS 103: Introduction to College
- 32205 ENG 22: Beginning Composition
- 32211 MATH 81: Foundation of Mathematics

PISO makes its debut



KYLE DURIGAN/KAPI'O

The Polynesian Island Student Organization put on a show of epic proportions April 29 in the 'Ōhi'a Cafeteria. PISO consists of more than 20 students. Students showcased the importance of taking pride in their culture. They took us on swift journey through some of the Pacific Islands, from Samoa with a quick stop in Hawai'i.

THE VIEW WE TAKE

Women overcome adversity in military

The military is notorious for setting strict ground rules when it comes to the positions men and women can have.

There are a few positions that women are still unable to hold. The two positions women cannot hold are positions deemed "direct compact" and aboard submarines.

Last week, the U.S. Navy decided to lift the ban that prohibits women aboard submarines.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates notified lawmakers in mid-February that the Navy was intending to lift the ban, according to msnbc.msn.com.

What took so long for this to happen?

Both the Coast Guard and Air Force offer 100 percent of their jobs to women, compared to the Army that offers about 52 percent of its jobs to women and the Marine Corps, at the lowest, offering only 20 percent of its jobs to women.

Women have gone through a struggle through the past 90 years, varying from fighting for their rights to vote, have an education and serve in the military.

So why should women have to fight for positions in the military when they already have the right to join?

Before 1993, women were not allowed to fly fighter jets in combat, serve on combat ships or participate in the majority of occupations in the military.

There are several factors that military officials use in regard to limitations for women's employment. Pregnancy rates, sexual harassment and misconduct are the top reasons that women are not allowed to hold jobs in certain branches.

Among those reasons, military officials do not feel like women can handle the pressures, both emotional and physical, in combat.

But if women have enough stamina and physical fitness to join and go through boot camp, why wouldn't officials trust them in combat?

The first concern that military officials have with females holding a position in direct battle is the possibility of being captured. There is large possibility that they will be sexually assaulted, and officials want to avoid that at all costs.

The second concern is that women will create an unbalance in the work ethic of men. If women are in perilous positions, the fear is that it will distract men in their concentration leading to sexual infidelity and sexual misconduct.

The main worry about women



AP EXCHANGE

Women are currently not allowed to join some branches within the military. One of those positions previously banned from women were to be on a submarine. Positions to be on deck of submarines are now being offered to women

holding positions that require intense pressures and physical fitness is all weighed on their male counterparts. If the males in the same positions do not feel safe and trust the women that are in the same unit, danger rises and trust is lost.

Rear Adm. Barry Bruner was the one who led the Navy toward opening the position of submarines to women.

Of all the fears about the negative effects women would have on the ship, the majority feared both sexual misconduct and unexpected pregnancies among the crew.

Women have held positions in the military for decades, why is it a concern now when they are allowed on submarines?

The recently opened position for women will start in 2012 and the first group of women will be officers assigned to guided-missile attack submarines and ballistic-missile subma-

rines, according to an Associated Press article.

The biggest adjustment in the new change of rules will be the male seamen getting adjusted to the females on the ship, said Lt. Cmdr. Daniel Lombardo, executive officer of the submarine USS Alaska in an Associated Press article.

Women are in high numbers in the Navy, with more than 52,446 on active duty. It is evident that women are important in the Navy and opening this new position to them will be only mean good things for the Navy.

Once both the men and women get in a routine of seeing each other on the same submarine, the Navy will appreciate the added help.

The view we take is written by the editors of the Kapi'o. We welcome all responses to this subject. E-mail "Letter to the Editor" at kapio@hawaii.edu.

KAP1'0^{TOP}



AP EXCHANGE

Snacks for the office

By Joie Nishimoto and Remington Taum
KAPI'O STAFF

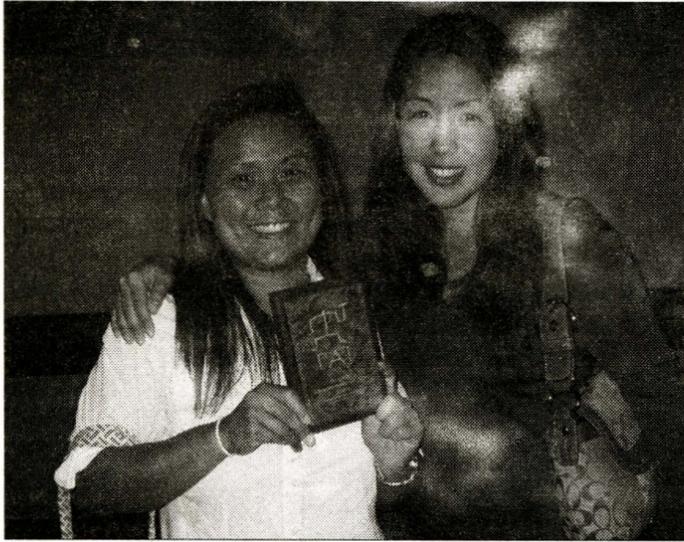
At the Kapi'o office, it takes only one round before three large pizza boxes are completely empty. We're constantly hungry in the office, and on some nights we're just too busy to be making trips to the nearest food place. So how does the staff survive production nights? Constant snacking.

Here are our Top 10 office snacks, in case you work in a similar environment.

- 10. Cheetos**
These cheesy snacks are popular in the office. The bag of Flamin' Hot Cheetos tends to make frequent visits to staff members' desks. Some people prefer the crunchy ones to the puffy ones.
- 9. Tostitos Hint of Lime chips**
If you're not a fan of potato chips, then maybe you'll like this healthier alternative to them. Enjoy them with or without dip and salsa. These chips are a little on the salty side, though.
- 8. Thin Mints**
According to the Girl Scouts' Web site, this is their best-selling product. The minty wafer from the Girl Scouts are blanketed by a scrumptious chocolate coating.
- 7. Reese's Peanut Butter Cups**
Two of our favorite ingredients in one little cup: chocolaty goodness on the outside with a yummy peanut butter core. Why doesn't our office have these right now?
- 6. Oreos**
Whether you like to devour this chocolate cookie's cream filling first or just pop it in your mouth, it is a classic.
- 5. Whoppers' Robin Eggs**
Easter is the time of the year when candy comes in all sorts of soothing pastel colors like blue, and pink. Whoppers' Robin Eggs are speckled with an assortment of colors to give them the appearance of an actual robin bird egg.
- 4. Fritos Honey BBQ Flavor Twists**
These corn snacks take on a twist, literally, when Frito Lays introduced a honey barbecue flavor, which is quickly rising to the top of our favorite snack list. The BBQ Twists make the plain Fritos seem bland in flavor.
- 3. H.K. Anderson Original Peanut Butter Filled Nuggets**
When you think of pretzels, you usually think of salt, butter, garlic or Parmesan cheese. But these pillow-shaped pretzels are unusually filled with peanut butter, which are actually delicious and addicting.
- 2. Animal Crackers**
For more traditional snacks, go to Walmart and grab a big bag of animal crackers. And by big, we mean huge. It's still always exciting to put your hand in the bag and guess which animal will be picked.
- 1. Nutter Butter**
What is there to say? It's Nutter Butter. If you couldn't tell already, we love our peanut butter, so it should be no surprise that a peanut butter snack makes No. 1 on our list.

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KAP1'0^{TOP}



KAPI'O STAFF

I (heart) the Kapi'o

By Paige L. Jinbo
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As I prepare to relinquish my seat as the EIC, I'm whelmed over with the memories that are contained in the four walls of Lama 118. It's been nothing short of a wild and life-changing ride. Read my column for all the teary details. Or not.

While many of you may not be able to relate to this Top 10, anyone who's held a job for more than three years can relate that sometimes it's hard to let go. The aspects of the job you initially thought were excruciating are no tain that I will not return as EIC.

So, before I leave there must be written documentation of all the things that I will miss the most.

10. Couch

As the last of the original Kapi'o staff, it's fitting that I take the couch that we bought on my way out. Many earth-shattering epiphanies have come to me whilst sitting on the loveseat. More importantly, more naps than I count took place there.

9. My prestigious job title

No, it's not the delegating of work or yelling at my staff members that'll make me miss being EIC. It's the fact that I've been able to efficiently manage a staff and deliver a solid newspaper each week to the KCC community.

8. Adventures on campus

When going out to cover a story, our staff travels together. Heck, at night we all go to the bathroom as a group. We're just a few song-and-dance sessions short of being the Brady Bunch.

7. Food

The sugary sweets in the office always make me peachy as a school girl in May. I'll miss working in an office where Famous Amos cookies and turkey wraps are readily available.

6. The Kapi'o newsroom

Although the temperature of the newsroom is forever set on polar, a newsroom blaring of Justin Beiber and laughter is music to my ears. It doesn't hurt to have access to my very own computer. Hands down the best student job on campus.

5. Meeting new people

I've seen a lot of people come and go, but those who did stick around have had some type of significant influence on my life. This job brought people into my life that I would have never met otherwise.

4. Late nights

Staying into the wee hours of evening at school has never been more fun. Although delirium sets in once it hits the double digits of the night, I couldn't think of a better place to spend my Thursday evenings.

3. Writing

While I'll continue to write in the following semesters, whether it remains on a weekly basis has yet to be determined. Oh, how I'll miss those deadlines.

2. Staffers

Ashley Chapman, Kyle Durigan, Nix Kinney, Jasmine Muneoka, Sean Nakamura, Joie Nishimoto, Alike Pfaltzgraff and Remington Taum. It's been nothing but an honor and pleasure to work with all of you.

1. Catherine Toth

My second mother. There are not enough words to give her the credit that she actually deserves. From learning to tighten my writing to guiding me through personal dilemmas, Catherine has done it all. Her goodness is staggering. Anyone who has the opportunity to work with her should consider themselves lucky.

COMMENTARY

Parting is such sweet sorrow



KAPI'O ARCHIVE

Members of the staff past and present. It's been such a great experience to have the opportunity to meet such wonderful people. Everyone that has joined the staff has made exceptional contributions to the Kapi'o newspaper.

Paige L. Jinbo
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It breaks my heart a little that my tenure at the Kapi'o newspaper is slowly coming to a close.

For the last three years I've worked for the Kapi'o. Initially I was a contributing writer, then I was hired to be a staff writer, progressed to copy editor and I've spent the last two years as the EIC.

Being selected to be EIC will always serve as a milestone in my life. I didn't take the EIC position seriously during my first semester. I wasn't ready to accept all the responsibility that came with being the head hanchu. Eventually I realized that I was literally pissing a great opportunity away.

The first few years of college, I sat in all my classes mildly interested in the content that was provided. I found what I was looking for when I took my first journalism class. One class literally changed my life. At its basic fundamental level, journalism entails being a watchdog for the com-

munity, being the person to deliver the news to general public. While there are dozens of reasons why journalism lights my world on fire, it's the idea that I get to be a part of history. I have the opportunity to teach people something new every day.

I had to remind myself of all of this as I was wasting time by not fully accepting my role as the EIC. Soon after, I strived to put out the best newspaper. All my hard work paid off when I went to the Associated Collegiate Press Journalism Convention in San Diego last March. Representatives for colleges from all over the country attended the convention. We had our newspaper critiqued from multiple media specialists.

"Your newspaper is refreshing and phenomenal," said one specialist.

While it would be easy to take all the credit, I'm fully aware that it's my staff that makes this paper exceptional. I've been blessed that during my years at the Kapi'o, I've always been in good company. Although there have been many staff changes, everyone I've had

the pleasure of working with has been nothing short of outstanding. From my staff writers to my page designers, the talent that each of them display is ridiculously amazing.

I learn as much from them as they do from me. I would do individual shout outs, but page space doesn't allow for such foolishness.

The last three years have been such a wonderful experience. My staffers are vital, but we've been fortunate to have a supportive community. Faculty members and administration are always willing to help and speak with us. They play an equal role in how solid the content is in our paper.

Working for the Kapi'o has only strengthened my love for newspapers. Newspapers are always going to be a big role in society. The rumor of newspapers dying is just that: a rumor. There's always going to be a need for newspapers.

Although I've already been fortunate to etch my name into a small community college newspaper, I hope to do so elsewhere as well.

COMMENTARY

So good at pushing away

By Nix Kinney
STAFF WRITER

My cat and I have always had an unsteady relationship. She was introduced into our family by an ex-boyfriend who thought he was doing a romantic deed back in 2003.

I really loathed all the ridiculous teen-movie shenanigans that he put me through, most of which were excessively contrived and stupid.

But I digress. During this time, I was obsessed with the musical "Cats," which is about a clan of felines who sing and dance about the woes of living on the streets. It's fantastic.

I had one particular favorite whose name was Magical Mr. Mistoffelees.

As you can surmise by his title, he was magical and just about the greatest cat ever. Mr. Mistoffelees was jet black with white feet and the exact model of the feline that I was in the midsts of bribing my parents to adopt for me.

So when Ex-Boyfriend showed up at my house with a surprise in his car, I was both irritated and appalled at the stark white girl cat that was hiding in his back seat. Not only was she the physical opposite of what I desired, but she couldn't dance, do magic or even be sociable for that matter. Sugar, my new cat, was a ball of allergy for me, with nails that scratched ruthlessly while leaving swollen red welts in their wake.

I broke up with my boyfriend shortly thereafter.

In the last seven years that I've been feeding Sugar, we have never gotten along. I draw pictures of cats incased within red circles with a vicious slash

drawn across it. "NO CATS!" is usually printed on the bottom. It never mattered if she could understand or not, the point was that I was laying down the law, and I had every intention of reinforcing punishment.

So when I moved to Europe and returned 18 months later with a renewed sense of patience and love, I was startled at how accepting I had become of Sugar. Suddenly, I was petting her, hugging her and letting her pass through my cat-forsaken doors. In fact, there were nights when I would let her sleep on the foot of my bed.

When I began to experience major allergic reactions to my entire bedroom due to the constant existence of dander, I just took allergy medications and carried on.

But the point of this story isn't about a rocky relationship with a cat. It's about the rocky relationship that I have with all boys.

You see, shortly after I began to extend kindness towards Sugar, she fell in love with me. She would follow me around the house and take naps next to my work space. If I went to sleep without her in my room, she would sit at my door and complain until I let her in. Although this sounds romantic, it isn't.

I began to feel like she was encroaching on my personal space, suffocating me. I felt like I wouldn't be able to love her as much as she loved me, so I told her to leave me alone and spare herself the heartache. "It's not you, it is TOTALLY me. We gotta just be friends, I'm so sorry."

And just as I was breaking up with my cat, I realized I had commitment

issues. The story of my life unfolded before me, boy after boy after boy after boy after cat. It was a repetitive tale of momentary interest followed by a sudden disappearance. I can't tolerate people being close to me, and in this way, I have become so good at pushing away.

I put the NO CAT! signs back up, shampooed the carpet and changed my sheets, eliminating all traces of dander and unrequited love.

I exercised the clean and neat parting that I've grown so proficient at: No commitment, no obligations, no disappointments, no cat, no relationship.

It sounds lonely, and it actually really is. I've endured years of being single before, though not for lack of trying. Attachments kind of scare me. A lot.

Perhaps this is why I so often take off traveling, leaving home for another country faster than anyone would believe logical or even safe. I have a huge heart, but one that I keep to myself; secured and barricaded behind every defensive force imaginable.

Truth be told, I don't know how to change.

But last week, I surprised myself by intentionally leaving my door open before I went to sleep. When I woke up in the morning, my cat was sleeping at the foot of my bed, already forgiving my love retraction. I took an allergy pill, gathered her up in my arms and told her that what we had was true love.

And one day, I'll get it right in the human world, too.

At 40,000 laws and counting

By Sean Hein

SPECIAL TO THE KAPI'O

Last year, 40,697 new laws were enacted in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

These new laws, many of which took effect on Jan. 1, cover everything from how much trans fat is allowed in restaurant food to when and where you can wear a seatbelt.

My all-time favorite law is still jaywalking.

If you are not familiar with this one, it states that you cannot cross the street unless you are at a certain intersection at a designated time. In other words, you cannot cross the street when you want to. And it'll cost you, up to \$130 in Hawai'i for pedestrians who don't obey the law.

Fifty thousand!

I wasn't sure there were 50,000 things a person could do in general.

Honestly, I thought we could lose about that many laws.

If this is a recurring theme, that means that in the next 10 years there will be half a million new laws. That is amazing!

If I write my congressman and complain enough about something, can I make some new laws, too? Because that is what appears to be happening.

George W. Bush and his Patriot Act proved something: If you can project enough fear onto people, you can get them to give up their freedom for the illusion of safety.

Yes, safety is an illusion. Safety is the false sense of security. If history proves anything, it's that no one is safe from any amount of danger.

Without compiling a list a mile long, two notable examples are presidents John F. Kennedy and Abraham Lincoln. Under the strictest security in the world — being a president of the United States — they were still assassinated. Anyone is vulnerable.

To quote Benjamin Franklin, "Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

Franklin is correct. He saw 200 years ago the dangerous slope we are heading down today.

I think there is only one more law worthy of becoming a law, and that is that there will be no more laws stat-

ing that that there will be any more laws.

Am I a criminal if I cross the street on a red light?

Maybe not a criminal, per se, but I will have to pay a fine.

And it's even worse if I'm caught transporting a monkey across state lines.

Yes, according to a new federal law called the Captive Primate Safety Act, which was passed last year, it is now illegal to transport chimpanzees and other primates across state lines for individuals' use as pets.

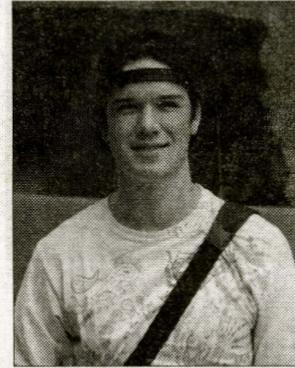
This law got passed in the middle of a collapsing economy, unemployment at an all-time high and a nine-year war in the Middle East that is bankrupting the country.

This is just my opinion but there are bigger things at stake right now than a monkey riding shotgun to the next state over.

This just goes to show you what the top priorities are on the government's list. I'll let you decide what's more important, but as for me, this monkey business has gone far enough.

CAMPUS VOICES

What was the most challenging thing this semester?



"(My) history 152 class. We had to do three book reports that were four pages."

Blake Nakoia, 19, liberal arts



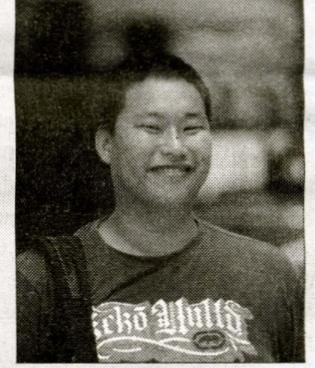
"The hardest part for me is coming back to school. Managing work and school."

Travis Ellison, 21, liberal arts



"Probably managing my free time and taking four classes."

Amanda Deguchi, 18, English



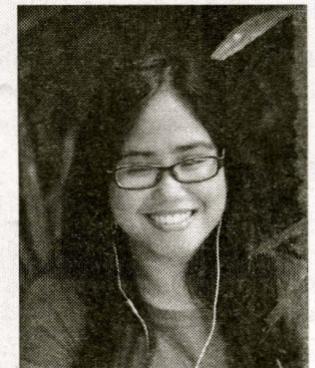
"I think I'd have to say the amount of resources in class. Due to budget cuts you don't get the full simulation."

Jason Leong-Yep, 21, sociology



"My really bad procrastination, (and) my history class."

Anthony Fernandez, 19, liberal arts



"Math 135. I didn't really understand the earlier stuff (in the semester)."

Samantha Pagan, 19, liberal arts

Graduates end KCC journey

By Joie Nishimoto

ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

KCC's graduating class of 2010 will commemorate its years of hard work Friday, May 14, on the Great Lawn.

Beginning at 6 p.m., about 250 to 300 graduating students will sit on a covered stage as they are rewarded their diplomas.

Student engagement coordinator Keith Kashiwada is expecting a slight increase in graduates from last year's 270 graduates.

Kashiwada describes KCC's commencement as "pretty standard."

"There's a nice stage, it's covered and there's speakers," said Kashiwada. "But what makes our commencement different from others is that ours is held on our campus."

It is tradition during the ceremony to have guest speakers give a speech. Kashiwada said the speakers are alumni of Kapi'olani Community College. In addition, a student will give a speech, representing the graduating valedictorians. Chancellor Leon Richards will also give a speech at commencement.

There are some changes in this year's commencement, said Kashiwada.

In past years, the Royal Hawaiian Band traditionally provides the music at commencement. This year, however, Kashiwada said that students of KCC's college chorus and synthesizer ensemble will perform music before and during the ceremony.

When students apply to graduate, they have the option of participating at commencement. Kashiwada said that students can still change their mind by Friday, May 7.

"They just have to come to the (Office of Student Activities) and fill out the form," Kashiwada said.

For students who won't be graduating this year, the Office of Student Activities is still hosting more events for this month.

The last ice cream social for this semester will be on Wednesday, May 5, at 'Ohia cafeteria beginning at noon.

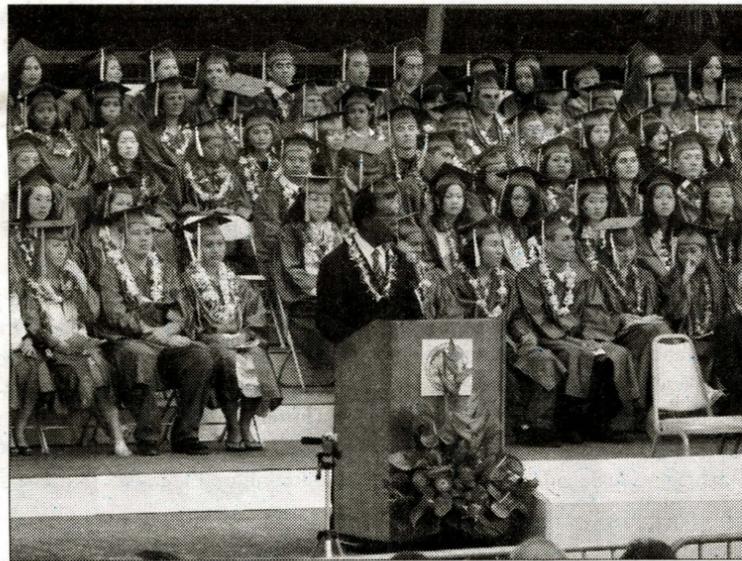
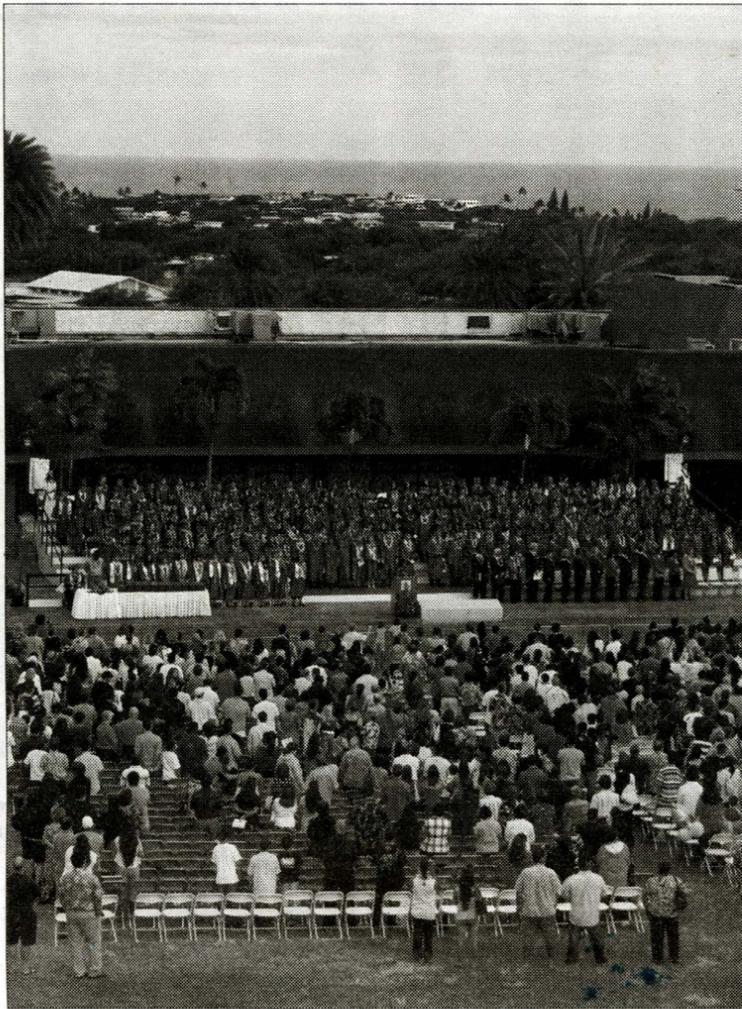
During finals week, from Monday, May 9, to Wednesday, May 11, students are encouraged to participate in "Study With a Buddy."

Kashiwada said that during this event, students who need to study can bring a friend or classmate to the cafeteria to effectively study for exams.

"There will be refreshments and after every hour or so, students can take breaks and play games," said Kashiwada. "And of course, there will be coffee."

For marine biology major John Lee, 22, this is his last semester at KCC. He is not graduating from KCC but rather transferring straight to UH Mānoa. He said that during his time at KCC, he only attended the ice cream social.

"I would consider going to the 'Study with a Buddy' event," said Lee. "It sounds interesting. I think studying with friends is better than studying solo."



Keith Kashiwada, coordinator of student engagement anticipates a small increase in graduates this year. Students who are not graduating on Friday, May 14 can still attend various events, such as the Pau Hana Jam concert.

During finals week, from Monday, May 9, to Wednesday, May 11, students are encouraged to participate in "Study With a Buddy."

The last event of the semester is the "Pau Hana Jam," which is an outdoor graduation celebration concert.

The concert is scheduled for Saturday, May 15, on the Great Lawn from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. A variety of acts will take the stage, like Flux Capacitor, Takeshi, Natural Vibrations and the winners of the student

talent show from March. There will also be vendors, including food from Cooke Street Diner.

This is the second year OSA is throwing this concert. According to Kashiwada, there was a low turnout last year. Kashiwada hopes that many students will come out to the event this time.

"We really want to get the word out about the concert," he said. "Last year it fell on a Thursday (before graduation). This year, we're making the concert on a Saturday (the day after graduation)."

Gigi Bolo, 18, may go to one of the events.

"I would go to the 'Study with a Buddy' thing," said Bolo. "It's a good idea and it's important to have fun."

Kashiwada said that students should attend these events because student fees help pay for them.

"It's a good idea to get involved out of class," Kashiwada said. "Sometimes school is not all about classes."

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY BRIEFS of events around KCC

Hawai'i House approves Civil Unions

The Hawai'i House approved a civil unions bill on April 29, just moments before the year's legislative session ended. The bill has now moved to the Gov. Linda Lingle for her consideration. She has 45 days to either veto or approve the bill.

The civil unions bill, HB 444, gives unmarried heterosexual and same-sex couples the same rights as married couples. In January, House leaders postponed any action on the bill.

But in a series of last-minute votes on April 29, the House passed the civil unions bill by a vote of 31-20.

If Gov. Linda Lingle vetoes the bill, the state Senate and House can meet for a one-day override session in July.

NMA presents work of aspiring designers

KCC's New Media Arts program presents the Demo Reel and Design Portfolio event of animators and interface designers and their work. The event will be held in Koa rooms 102 and 103 on Tuesday, May 11, from 7 to 8 p.m. The animators showing their work are Joey Arakaki, Matthew High, Blake Hixson, Richard Lao, Daniel Miyasato, Patrick Suzuki and Michael Tobita. The interface designers include: Amy Shimokihara, Chris Durietz, Debbie Kuo, Emi Machida, Jessica Guillermo, Kozue Nakahira, Teri Fukuhara, Tomoko Sugiyama and Yubee Pua. (Durietz and Kuo are Kapi'o interns.)

Study with friends for finals week

Need somewhere to study? Come to the 'Ohia Cafeteria from Sunday to Tuesday, May 9 to 11, from 6 p.m. to midnight. The Office of Student Activities will be hosting the study nights. There will be light refreshments and snacks as well as games and prizes offered.

Hard work pays off, students graduate

Come celebrate the recent graduates of 2010 at the KCC graduation ceremony. The ceremony will be held on the 'Ohia sidewalk and the Great Lawn on Friday, May 14, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Clooney in Hawai'i

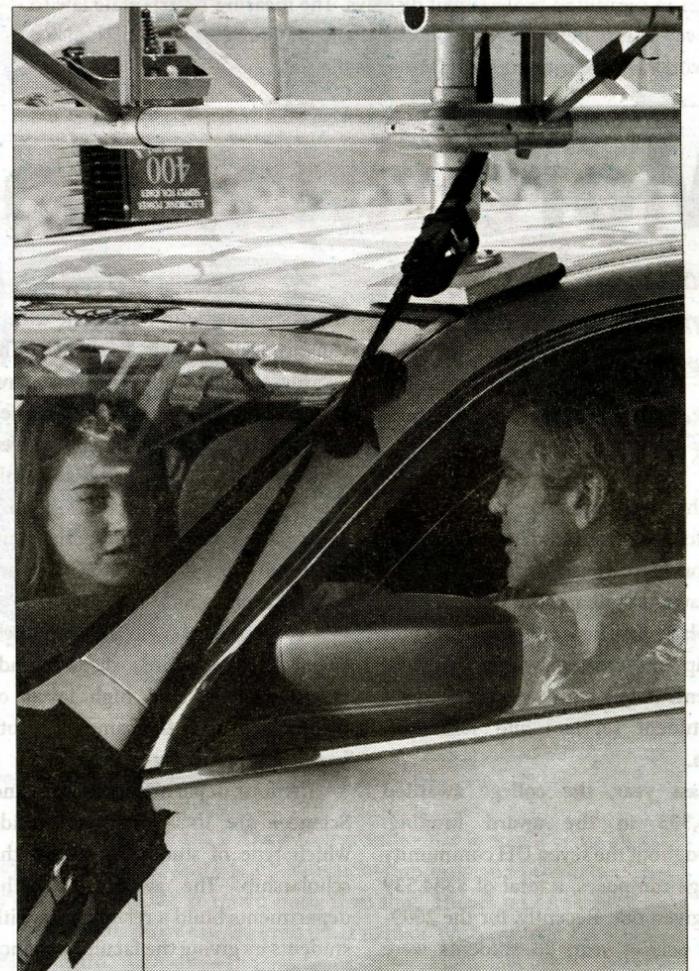


PHOTO COURTESY OF L.B. FEEBACK

Actor George Clooney is in a prop car with his supposed daughter of the movie, "Descendants," which is currently being filmed on O'ahu.

RECENT SNAPSHOTS
of national and world events

On April 29, a fire broke out at the Downtown Crossing Massachusetts Bay transit station in Boston. An evacuation followed, and authorities say 20 people suffered minor smoke inhalation.

Lingle vetoes potential oil tax increase

Last week Gov. Linda Lingle vetoed HB2421 that would increase barrels of oil by \$1. This increase would cost Hawai'i residents and businesses \$22 million in new taxes every year. Lingle had mentioned to her administration that the bill's intent was to "establish a clean energy initiative to manage the state's transition to a clean energy economy," according to an Associated Press article. Hawai'i is slowly getting back on its feet after the downfall of the economy, and the passing of this bill would only retract the progress that we have made as a state, Lingle said. The tax would increase the cost of living as well as raising all expenses on the island including electricity, shipping food and public and school buses.

Possible Ban of Fireworks

Hawai'i's county governments would be able to ban fireworks under a bill that has passed the state legislature. The state House and Senate gave final approval to the fireworks bill Tuesday, sending it to Gov. Linda Lingle. Fireworks are currently regulated statewide, but large explosions aerial fireworks have angered residents because of their noise and smoke. State law currently allows from consumer fireworks on New Year's Eve, Chinese New Year's Day and July 4. Aerials and other dangerous explosives are illegal except in permitted professional displays. The measure reverts state law to the way it was before 1994, when lawmakers approved a comprehensive fireworks law to bring uniformity across the state.

Story of Brass Knuckle Ballad



SCREENSHOT FROM YOUTUBE.COM

Male protagonist, Nam Puong, is prone to fist-fighting in film by Thomas Takemoto-Chock, "Brass Knuckle Ballad." It is an independent film based in Hawai'i with a local cast and crew, inspiring the next leg in independent filmmaking.

By Nix Kinney
STAFF WRITER

The film industry in Hawai'i is not unfamiliar with Hollywood limelight. Jurassic Park, 50 First Dates and Tropic Thunder are just a few big-budget films that have passed through our islands. But there is a new movement happening in Hawai'i, one that is coming from an independent community of local filmmakers.

"Brass Knuckle Ballad" is one such film in progress, an independent short film that brings to life certain dark parts of Hawai'i. Loan sharks, fake IDs, counterfeit objects, fist fights and love between strangers are just a few topics that are embedded in the brainchild of Thomas Takemoto-Chock, scriptwriter and director of Brass Knuckle Ballad.

"It's a very ambitious project with many people working on it," said Takemoto-Chock, recent graduate of the Academy for Creative Media (ACM) program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. "We hope that this can give people hope that they can do their own projects without having to rely on full-fledged industry."

This is a film that is being produced by the students and people of Hawai'i, a locally grown film that is based on the islands and manned by the people who live here. Marshall Wu, a current ACM student, is interning with Brass Knuckle Productions LLC, being one of the first people to receive credit for working on a locally produced film.

"This film will provide a stronger base for cultural identity," said asso-

ciate producer Gabriel Yanagihara. "The more films we make about ourselves, the more well-rounded our self image is going to be."

The hope is that this film can become a template for the local film industry in Hawai'i. It is also a showcase of the talent that Hawai'i has to offer in the next couple of years.

"Brass Knuckle Ballad" is a professional production, but it is also one that is being supported through the hard work of local volunteers. Most of the cast and crew are donating their time and talents to help make this film a reality.

The film has a budget goal of about \$15,000, which may sound lofty but is really just a small portion

BRASS: See page 19

More financial options for students

Students awarded achievement scholarships for excelling in academics.

By Remington Taum
STAFF WRITER

This time in the year welcomes the applications from students to apply for tuition help. Each department chair will award students the Achievement Scholarship. The Achievement Scholarship was created by the Board of Regents Policy wrote Mona Lee, dean of student services and Kahikolu-amea.

Last year, the college awarded \$143,333 in the award funding. Throughout the seven UH community college campuses, a total of \$384,539 was given out. Recently, for the 2009-2010 school year, 96 students were given awards.

Those interested in applying for the Achievement Scholarship should keep in mind that the deadline for each department may vary.

The scholarship is to recognize those students who have done exceptionally well in their academics. The awardees are students who have applied the knowledge they've learned and connected it to being involved with campus activities. It isn't only based on merit but includes service to KCC and can include recruitment to support programs at KCC that are within the mission.

"The students who are acknowledged by the awards display leadership qualities and high levels of involvement with the campus," wrote Lee in an e-mail correspondence.

The four departments in Arts and Sciences are the ones who decide which type of student to award the scholarship. The awards help the departments build a relationship with students by giving the faculty a chance to learn about each student, explained Lee.

Each of the departments at KCC has applications available for students to apply for the scholarship. The Lan-

Last year, the college awarded \$143,333 in award funding. Throughout the seven UH community college campuses, a total of \$384,539 was given out. Recently for the 2009-2010 school year, 96 students were given awards.

guages, Linguistics and Literature instructions state that the awards can present students up to \$750, and they will be notified by mail.

Lee explained that KCC has a history of awarding the scholarships to as many students as possible. The college wants to show students that it recognizes and appreciates the students' support toward the school's mission and values.

Annually a percentage of the income from tuition is allocated

toward the awarding of the Achievement Scholarships.

The award is more of recognition rather than assisting those students in need of financial aid.

Jennifer Bradley, KCC financial aid coordinator, explained the requirements to qualify for the scholarship. The students' home campus must be KCC, and the students - either new or continuing students - must be enrolled in at least six credits. The grade point average must be at least a

cumulative of 2.5 for continuing students and a high school GPA of 2.8 for new students.

There is also the possibility of a service requirement being put on the grade, which leads to a minimum 2.5 GPA.

The requirements can be stricter on students, but it cannot be any less than what has already set as the expectations.

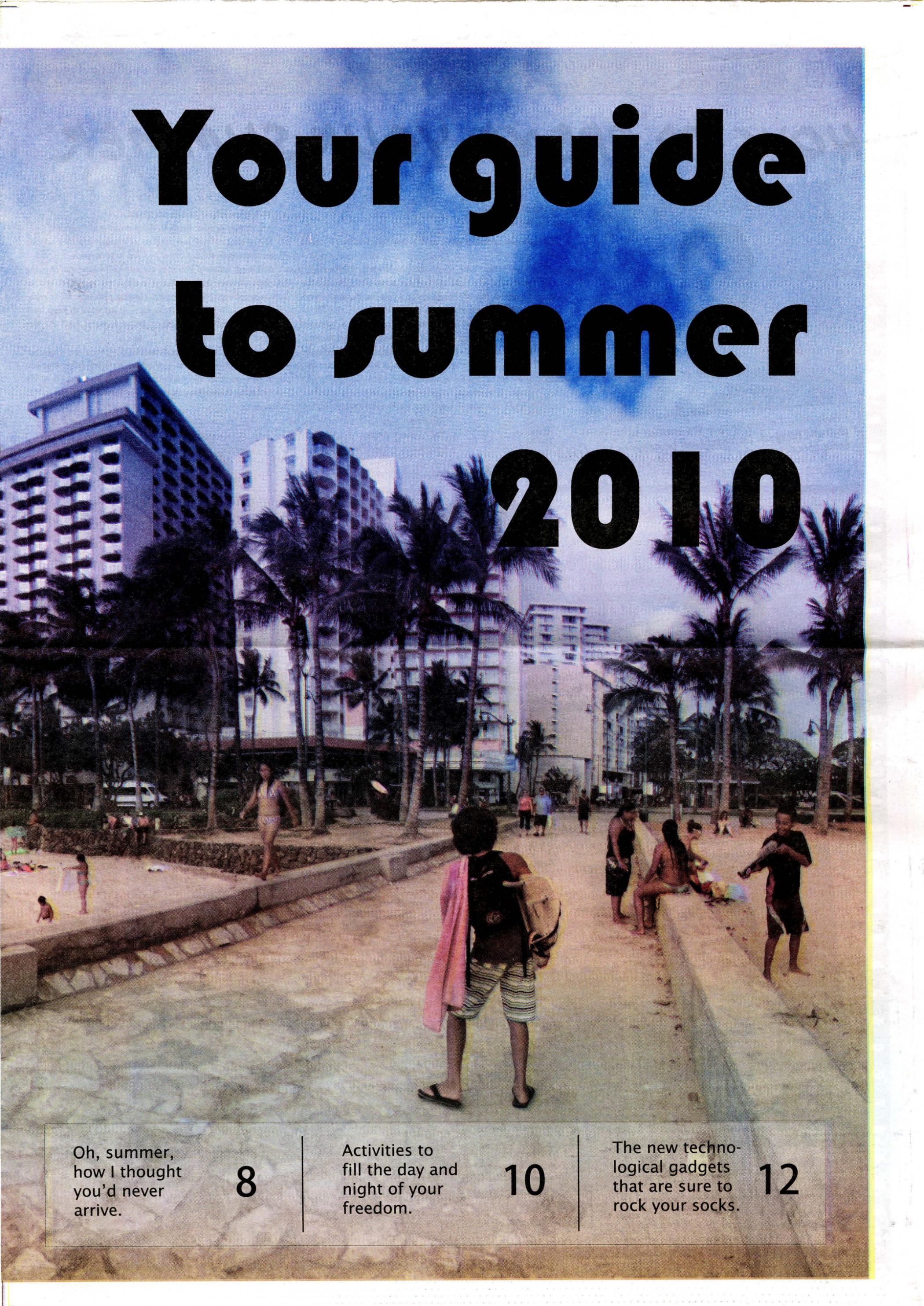
"The awards generally cover all or most in-state tuition for full-time students," said Guy Kellogg, Languages, Linguistics and Literature department chair.

Exceptions to the continuing students GPA are sometimes considered, but it's best to keep the GPA at the required standard.

Priority is given to Hawai'i residents and students who have not earned a degree. A maximum of eight semesters is the only amount of time a student can receive tuition help.

"It would be really cool if more students applied," Kellogg said.

Your guide to summer 2010



Oh, summer,
how I thought
you'd never
arrive.

8

Activities to
fill the day and
night of your
freedom.

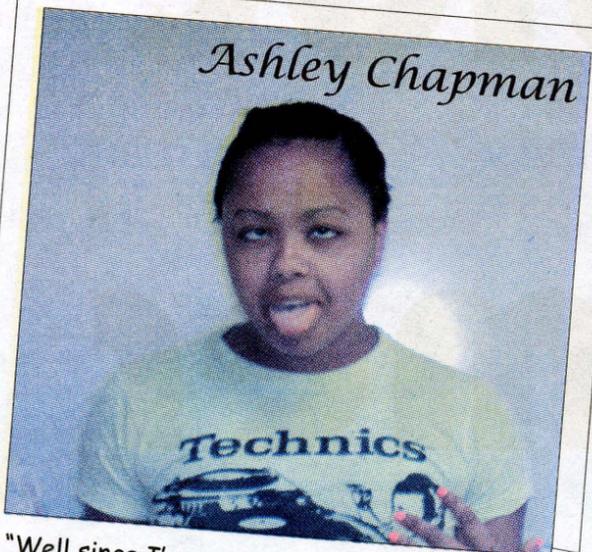
10

The new techno-
logical gadgets
that are sure to
rock your socks.

12

HOW TO SPEND YOUR SUMMER

Ashley Chapman



"Well since I'm graduating I'm excited to chill and hangout. Definitely will be going to some concerts on the Mainland."

By Paige L. Jinbo
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Renowned architect critic and writer Ada Louise Huxtaole said it best.

"Summer is the time when one sheds one's tensions with one's clothes, and the right kind of day is jeweled balm for the battered spirit. A few of those days and you can become drunk with the belief that all's right with the world."

Many of us are guilty of counting down the days to summer at the start of the spring semester. Anxiously we start to envision what summer holds for us, and we realize that it's only the second week in January. We have no choice but to put our fantasies for the three months of sunshine on hold. Slowly, we gain the necessary momentum to get through a semester and time soars. Before you know it, we're two weeks away from complet-

ing the semester and summer is in reach.

Ah, victory is ours. Bring it, three months of freedom.

My apologies to those who must endure summer school. Those two words should never be used in succession.

Although many of you may already know how you're going to spend your summer, the Kapi'o staff has put together a special summer pullout section for your viewing pleasure. We've compiled many activities to partake in — from ways to keep busy during the sunlit hours to places to cut loose at until the wee hours of the morning.

Regardless of what you're doing this summer — be it summer school or chilling at home — the Kapi'o staffers hope that you enjoy your summer and make the most of it. You deserve it. We also want to share with you what we're looking forward to this summer.

Joie Nishimoto



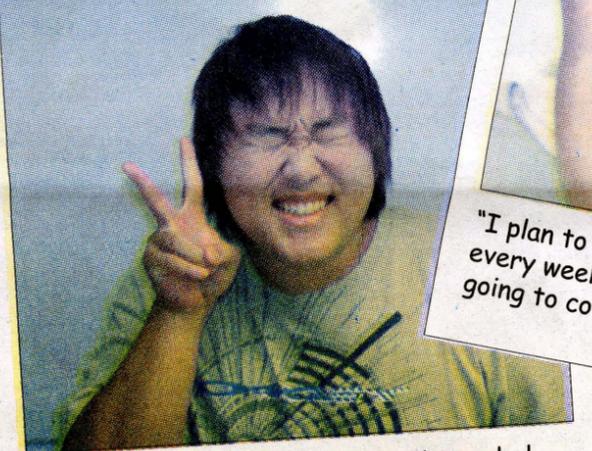
"I plan to reunite with old friends and bake every week like I used to before I started going to college."

Nix Kinney



"I'm looking forward to free time to cultivate my own produce and sew my own garments. I will also enjoy time in the outdoors."

Sean Nakamura



"I look forward to get some much needed rest and recovery. Perhaps attend an All Time Low or Paramore concert."

Paige L. Jinbo



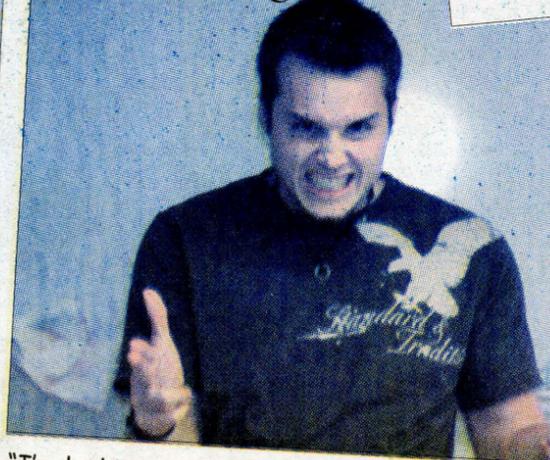
"I intend to make it the best summer in the history of summers. A trip to New Zealand awaits me. After that, I leave it to fate."

Jasmine Muneoka



"There may be a trip to Hilo and Portland in the works. Other than that I'm sitting put at the Kapi'o working on design. I'm excited."

Kyle Durigan



"I'm looking to go on some gnarly adventures and visit my home bros back home in Chicago."

Remi Taum



"I'm looking forward to taking a break from school. Also, I'm going to North Carolina with my family and taking a road trip to Virginia to see where my mom grew up."

CROWD-PLEASING FILMS

By Alika Pfaltzgraff

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As summer descends upon us like a thousand radiant suns, one question looms over our minds;

what films will I be wasting my \$8 - \$10 on?

The decision is undoubtedly a difficult one, given the current state of the economy. One must carefully consider questions like: Would I be able to torrent it? How many sequels are enough? Am I really interested in enduring these characters for another two hours? How much Sarah Jessica Parker can a human withstand? Would I rather watch this on my iPad/Phone/Mac/Pod/?

There's something wonderfully absurd about going into a room with 40 other strangers, to sit in the dark and watch what's essentially the same

story that's been told over and over again since the beginning of time. Yet we keep coming back, willing to overlook the fact that Film X probably wasn't as good as Film Y.

Ultimately, there's just no accounting for the myriad reasons that might spur someone into paying exorbitant amounts of cash for an hour and a half of escape. I suppose everyone needs a place of repose. A place to alleviate the stress they have accrued throughout the day (via work/ school/ girls/boys/ vampires/priests/vampire priests). For many, movie theaters provide that type of sanctuary.

This article only aims to highlight the big buzz flicks for the summer. If you want to know about every other little indie flick, then head to imdb.com.



Iron Man 2 - May 7

Directed by Jon Favreau. Stars Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow.
Downey Jr. can do no wrong. Paltrow on the other hand ...

Robin Hood - May 14

Directed by Ridley Scott. Stars Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett.
Scott reunites with Crowe to create what's essentially Gladiator 2K10.

MacGruber - May 21

Directed by Jorma Taccone. Stars Ryan Phillippe, Kristen Wiig.
Apparently this film is based off a Saturday Night Live skit, but who watches SNL anymore?

Sex in the City - May 27

Directed by Michael Patrick King. Stars Sarah Jessica Parker.
Even more sex, in even more cities.

Get Him to the Greek - June 4

Directed by Nicholas Stoller. Stars Jonah Hill, Rose Byrne.
Basically a continuation of the surprisingly funny Forgetting Sarah Marshall.

Winter's Bone - June 11

Directed by Debra Granik. Stars Jennifer Lawrence, John Hawkes.
This film garnered a strong critical reception at this year's Sundance and could potentially be the sleeper hit of the summer.

Toy Story 3 - June 18

Directed by Lee Unkrich. Stars Tom Hanks, Michael Keaton. I'm incredulous given the amount of time that's past between films. However, I'll probably end up seeing this, if only to fulfill some sick, frivolous, nostalgic longing.

Twilight: Eclipse - June 30

Directed by David Slade. Stars Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson.
I have never heard of this film. I think it's about werewolves or something.

Inception - July 16

Directed by Christopher Nolan. Stars Leonardo DiCaprio, Joseph Gordon-Levitt. Nolan (Memento, Dark Knight) is great at crafting films that are both visually and intellectually stimulating, and this promises to deliver on both fronts.

Your manual, su

EAT SOMETHING NEW

The duck and foie gras hot dog at Hank's Haute Dogs. The laska house noodles from Panya Bistro. Or dinuguan (pig blood) from Golden Coin Bakeshop & Restaurant.

This summer take a risk and try something new. Or just eat at a new restaurant.

Get your friends together and come up with a list of foods you've never tried before, from beef tongue to deep-fried Twinkies, or restaurants none of you have been to. It will be, at the very least, a bonding experience.

OUR TIP: If you don't feel like eating out – or you ran out of money this week – try cooking up something new in your kitchen. Go to Epicurious.com or AllRecipes.com for something quick and easy.



By Paige L. Jinbo
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At first it can seem unnerving to have an abundance of free time on your hands. You don't know where to start, the options are limitless. Doing any activity outside of studying suddenly sounds absurd. However, don't worry.

HIT THE HILLS

After you eat that third Happy Meal and a bag of Robin Eggs – which are awesome, by the way – you might need to burn a few calories. And there's no better – or faster – way than hiking.

You can blast up to 800 calories on a fairly easy 2-hour hike. Imagine all the cookies you could eat!

But more than that, you can enjoy breathtaking scenery and stunning views. Add a few friends and a backpack full of snacks and Diet Coke, and you can't plan a better afternoon.

Some of our favorite hiking trails include the tracks at Koko Head Crater, Point, 'Olomana in Maunawili, Lanikai Pillboxes and Mariner's Ridge in Hawaii. Visit the state's Trail and Access Program's Web site – <http://hawaiiitrails.ehawaii.gov> – for information about state-run trails.

OUR TIP: You can't bring a sherpa, so you better plan on schlepping your own. Rule of thumb: take more than you need and as much as you can comfortably carry. Most people take too little water. For a short hike – like Makapu'u – bring a water bottle. For longer hikes, you will likely need more. And no, beer doesn't count.



SUBMERGE YOUR HEAD

Don't let the tourists have all the fun. Grab a snorkel – or buy one from Long's – and head to the nearest fish-infested beach.

There's a lot going on under the surface of our ocean, from papi'o to eels to endangered green sea turtles. The reefs around O'ahu are teeming with ocean life.

Hanauma Bay is one of the most popular snorkeling spots, with more than half a million fish to observe in its protected cove. Shark's Cove – across from Foodland in Pupukeya on the North Shore – is another great spot during the summer months when there's no surf. Both spots can be crowded, so get there early to find parking and snag your own spot in the ocean.

OUR TIP: If you can't stand crowds, head to Kuilima Cove, a hidden gem on the eastern edge of the Turtle Bay Resort. The surrounding area belongs to the hotel, so it's well kept and often uncrowded. It's sheltered and serene, perfect for beginners and the summer-only snorkelers.

BEACH IT

It's almost illogical not to soak in the rays of the sun while sitting on one of the gorgeous beaches. Be it Sandy's or Waimea Bay, phone your friends, grab your gear, and get out to the sandy shores.

There's really no better way to spend the summer days than wading in the ocean and getting a nice bronze tan within three hours.

OUR TIP: Don't forget sunscreen. According to the National Cancer Institute, more than 1 million new cases of non-melanoma skin cancer in the U.S. are diagnosed every year. To ensure that you're applying enough sunscreen, use about a shot glass full. During a long day at the beach, one person needs about one half to one quarter of an 8-ounce bottle of sunscreen, according to the Skin Cancer Foundation. And, of course, you need to reapply at least every two hours.

VISIT YOUR FURRY FRIENDS

We're big fans of animals. So what better way to spend the afternoon than at the Honolulu Zoo?

See all the zoo has to offer: porcupines, chimpanzees, elephants, giraffes, blue-tongued skink, Burmese python, flamingo, golden-breasted starling, Galapagos tortoise, hippos and the Hawaiian horny bat, just to name a few.

Cost is \$6 for kama'aina older than 13. It supports the Honolulu Zoo Society, a non-profit dedicated to maintaining the zoo.

OUR TIP: Coolers and outside food are welcome on zoo grounds. So pack a picnic lunch, grab your friends and head to the nearest grassy lawn amid the screeching monkeys and chirping birds. If you've worked at the Kapito right at home.



n UP to sun *down*

Living straight into summer isn't necessary.

Here's a quick guide to help ease you into the summer. From enjoying the great outdoors Hawai'i style to partying it up Las Vegas style. In between the two, remember to take in all the good eats that the island has to offer. You can thank me later.

WEDNESDAY

The only place to be on Wednesday night is Dave and Buster's. Although Sunday through Thursday, D&B's features a late night happy hour from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., it's Wednesday nights that pop off. Everyone and their mom come out Wednesday night to get the most bang for their buck. With all drinks half-priced, why not? In addition to half-priced drinks, all games are half-priced until 10 p.m.

However, get there early. By 9 p.m. the line can be seen wrapped around the side of Big City Diner. Trust me, this line does not move swiftly.



MONDAY

Kick off the week right by crossing Red Hill and venturing to Aiea Bowl. The new revamped Aiea Bowl includes cosmic bowling, a live DJ and MC, special events, as well as numerous prize giveaways from Sephora and Oakley.

Monday night is themed "The Playground." All the premiere DJs and MCs go to the bowling alley to get their party on, 18 and over welcome.

Yes, Monday is a little early in the week to start partying, but come on, it's summer.



TUESDAY

Hit the streets of Waikiki Tuesday nights and head to the Playbar. Playbar, the old Scruples, has a different nightly theme except for Monday night. Monday nights they're closed. Trailer Trash Tuesdays always seems to draw in the crowd. With drink specials all night long, it's easy to see why. It doesn't hurt that they play good music. Before you know it, you'll be on the lighted dance floor busting a move.

Cover charge is \$5 for 21 and over; 18 and over welcome as well.



THURSDAY

Just choose your favorite bar to kick it at. There aren't a lot of things going on Thursday nights.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

The options are limitless on the weekend. From Bonsai to Lotus Sandbar, there are special happenings at most bars and clubs on Friday and Saturday. It just depends on what type of party you're looking to partake in.

Be wary though, cover charges on these nights are usually offensively pricey. To avoid this problem, just listen to your favorite radio station and look to get on the guest list. All it takes is a simple phone call.

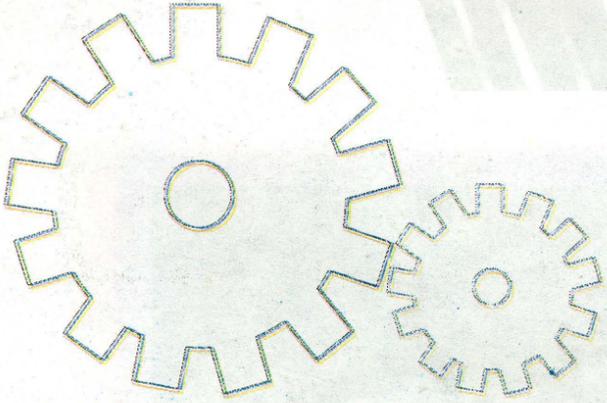
SUNDAY

Stay home. Spend time with your family. Read a book. Sunday nights are not nights to be hitting the town on.

Editor's note: I'm not promoting or condoning drinking every night of the week. This is a simple weekly calendar of where the hot spots usually are during the week. Always remember: if you're drinking, drink responsibly and always have a designated driver.



Gadgets that will rock



By Sean Nakamura & Kyle Durigan

POSITION

There are many gadgets to look out for this summer, particularly in the mobile phone market.

The iPhone was known as THE phone for the past couple of summers. Now with the emergence of the Google's Android platform, the iPhone is up for some major competition.

In addition to new phones, there will be plenty of additions to cameras, computer hardware refreshments and break through video games.

Here are a few selected tech items to watch for while relaxing over summer break.

For those of you who have seen the leaked pictures of the fourth generation iPhone from the gadget site Gizmodo, keep your fingers crossed.

Apple has not missed an annual release of its ever-so popular phone. New additions should include longer battery life, zippier performance and more space for music, videos and applications.

However, Apple is not the only one releasing hot new phones the summer.

Sprint will be delivering HTC's newest android phone, the Evo 4G. According to Sprint's mini-site, the Evo 4G should offer up to 10x the mobile browsing speed than current 3G phones.

These speeds are comparable to some DSL and broadband cable that you may have at home.

AT&T will be releasing the Dell Mini 3, also known as the Aero. This will be the second android phone behind the Motorola Backflip. AT&T will be offering a total of five android phones in their lineup this year.

There has been speculation of a new prosumer Canon DSLR (Digital Single Lens Reflex) camera, the 60D. Rumor has it, the new camera will sport a sensor similar to the Canon 7D and be able to capture video.

Apple also may have news in its iMac lineup. The trend for hardware updates points to a summer refreshment.

If Apple follows its trends, you should see a small boost in processor speed, possibly a bigger hard drive and potentially a new graphics card.

If you are looking to buy an iMac, try to hold off for another month or so to see the refinements.

Starcraft 2, an anticipated game many diehard fans have been waiting for 10 years, is currently on pre-order at your local game store. The release date is currently TBA (to be announced).

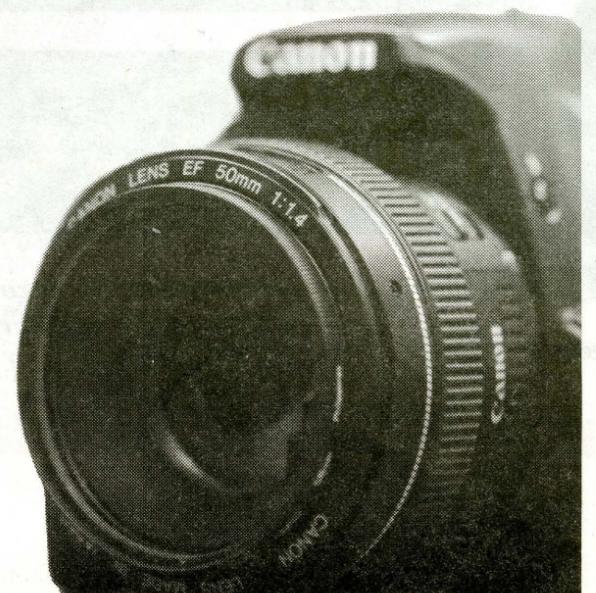
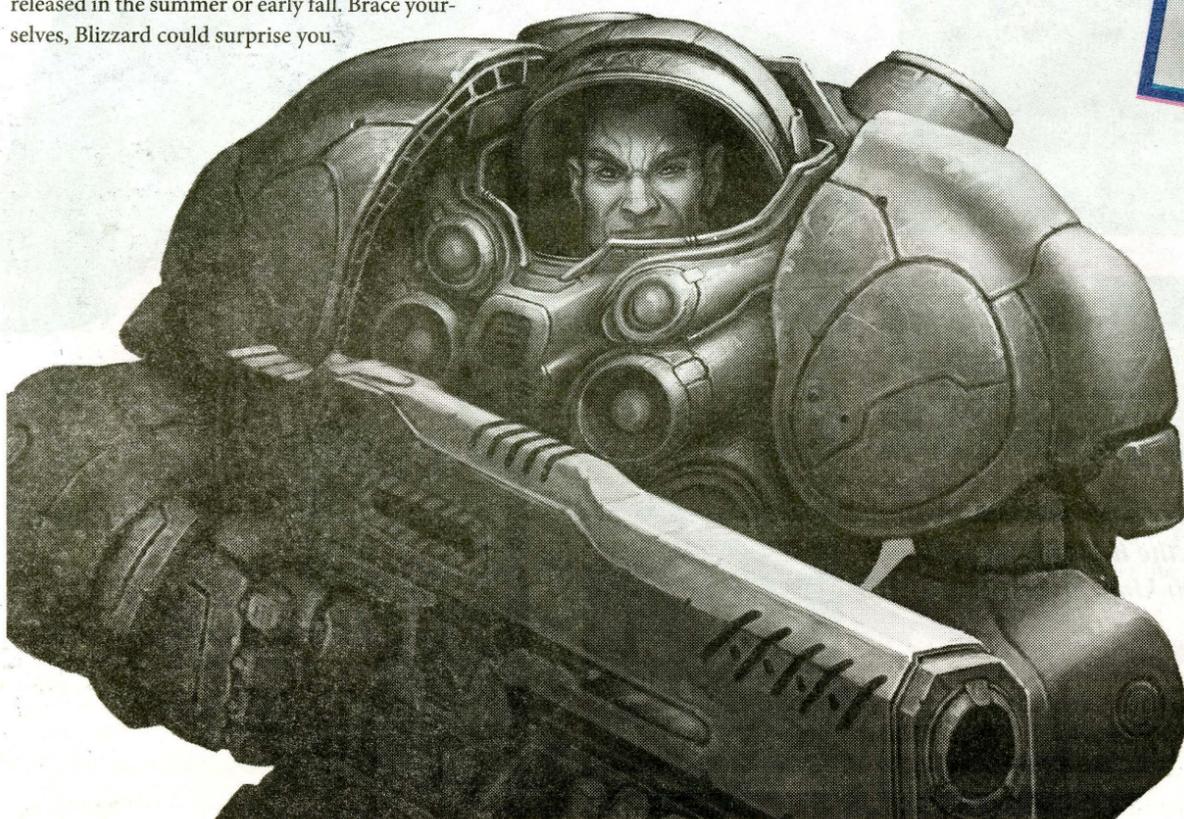
However, many speculate that the game will be released in the summer or early fall. Brace yourselves, Blizzard could surprise you.



V.S.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GAWKER MEDIA



TRAVEL ON A BUDGET

By Nix Kinney

STAFF WRITER AND EXPERIENCED TRAVELER



Summer is an opportune season to travel as school is on hold and time is abundant. Money, however, is not. Given both the state of the economy and our penniless careers as college students, it's easy to perceive travel as a financially daunting commitment to make.

Before this spring season began, I was living my life in Europe as an expat and budget traveler. What I discovered were fellow students, backpacking across the continent on a dime, making their dollar stretch as far as the Euro would let it. When we found each other, we would often rejoice in the beauty of roughing it, as there was no price on cultural experience.

Many of my most memorable traveling experiences have happened while I was abroad and willing to try new things. If you take the right precautions, you can have a fantastic traveling experience even while saving money, which you can spend on other things (like your next big adventure).

1. Take advantage of budget airlines

There are many budget airlines out there, especially in Europe, that will get you cross country for less than \$50 if you plan patiently. Continually do searches on Web sites like www.skyscanner.com and www.ryanair.com as they constantly update the prices and availability of their flights. It's important to be aware of the airports that these airlines fly to, as they will often be located far from main attractions, requiring additional modes of transportation to get into a city center. Do a bit of math and make sure it doesn't end up costing more than flying directly into a main airport with a standard airline. Stay informed of the promotions that certain airlines put up as it could save you a lot of money if you catch it in time. These flights often sell out quickly, so if there's one thing you do, check and re-check airline Web sites!

2. Consider hostels

Hostels are budget accommodations, often running at about \$15 a night depending on the country and time of the week. If you do an adequate search, you can find places that offer free Internet, sheets, lockers and breakfast, the later being the biggest save on your daily expenses as it eliminates one meal per day during your stay. Some hostels often include certain benefits for its patrons, ranging from daily parties, pub quizzes and discounted sightseeing opportunities. Take part in these offers as it is not only a fantastic way to have fun on a dime, but it's also an easy

way of meeting fellow travelers. If you meet someone in a hostel, chances are that he/she is also a cheap traveler, possibly with other budget tips that could benefit your experiences.

3. Free events

Take advantage of information points that are located in airports and within cities. These places are established to help travelers like yourself. They usually provide maps (an essential for anywhere you go) and pamphlets that advertise events that are happening in the area. Be selective about what you choose to participate in as many exist just to exploit tourists. Some hostels will suggest free tours that happen around the city, which are happen to be fun and educational. Keep your eyes open for events that are advertised to the locals. Through reading flyers stapled to walls, I was able to learn about and watch a free movie projected onto a large screen in the middle of Piazza Maggiore, the main square in Bologna, Italy.

4. Walk

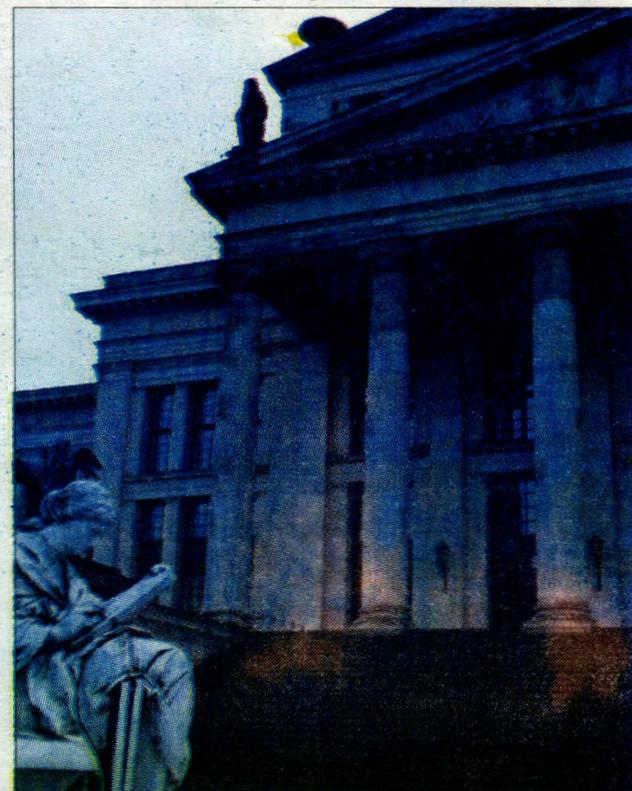
Sometimes the best way to take in a city is to walk through it. Usually, places of interest can be found near each other, and if you plan your route efficiently, you can make your way from one side of the city to the other while sightseeing along the way. This is where your map and free information will come in handy. Small shops, independent eateries, churches and statues can also be found adjacent to sidewalks, or deep within side streets. These are the places that will show you true culture. Be aware of distance. The Tower of Pisa can be seen through various parts of Paris, and though it will always appear to be located within a walkable distance, it is not. Take the subway on this one, trust me.

5. Be open to alternative experiences

If you're willing to try an alternative to budget accommodation, there's an option called couch surfing. At www.couchsurfing.org, you can get in touch with people from across the globe who offer you free accommodation in their homes. Take caution and read up on their past experiences with other couch surfers as they'll usually leave a rating. Those with positive reviews are usually a safe go, those with negative ones are not. Either way, these are sources of knowledge and advice that will contribute to your travels.

If you have an interest in organic farming, www.woof.org may be an organization that might appeal to you. In exchange for a few hours volunteering on an organic farm in another country, you are provided free accommodation and food. This can be a great way to experience another culture as you'll be living and working with locals.

Read up on the culture. In South Korea there are saunas known as Jim Jil Bangs, which are usually comprised of a spa section and a sleeping quarter. For less than \$15 a night, you can store your bags in lockers, relax in a sauna, swim in a pool, watch TV and sleep in a shared area. Also be aware that the showering area is communal though separated by gender. For South Koreans, it is normal to be naked with others in these situations. It is still a worthwhile cultural experience that warrants a try, and chances are that other countries offer other unique experiences.



Top: The beautiful Piazza San Marco in Venice, Italy, lighting up with romance at dusk in November. Bottom: A free walking tour in Berlin, Germany took me past historic architecture while I visited during the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

NIX KINNEY/KAPPO



www.kapio.net

Festivities keep the culture alive

By Remington Taum

STAFF WRITER

Among the different halau from the islands, KCC student and dancer for Hālau I Ka Wekiu Gavin Ono, 21, participated in the Merrie Monarch. The road to the Merrie Monarch was filled with hours of practicing and learning new experiences.

The hālau members practiced two hours with their kumu and three hours by themselves.

The hours of practice that went into their dances won them third place in 'auana and fourth place in kahiko.

The hālau also won the overall Merrie Monarch prize the 2007.

"I feel very honored to be part of the Merrie Monarch," said Ono. "Merrie Monarch is like the Olympics for hula."

Though the Merrie Monarch has wrapped, the preparation for the 2011 Merrie Monarch Festival has already begun. Organizers have settled on dates for next year's event — April 24 to 30 — and the first meeting to discuss next year's event will be in September.

Every year in Hilo, the Merrie Monarch Festival takes place in honor of the legacy left by King Kalākaua. The weeklong festival holds events like the international hula competition. On the first day of dancing the competition for Miss Aloha Hula took place, then came the traditional hula kahiko and the next day the hula 'auana competition.

Dancers spend the majority of their time going over the mele and

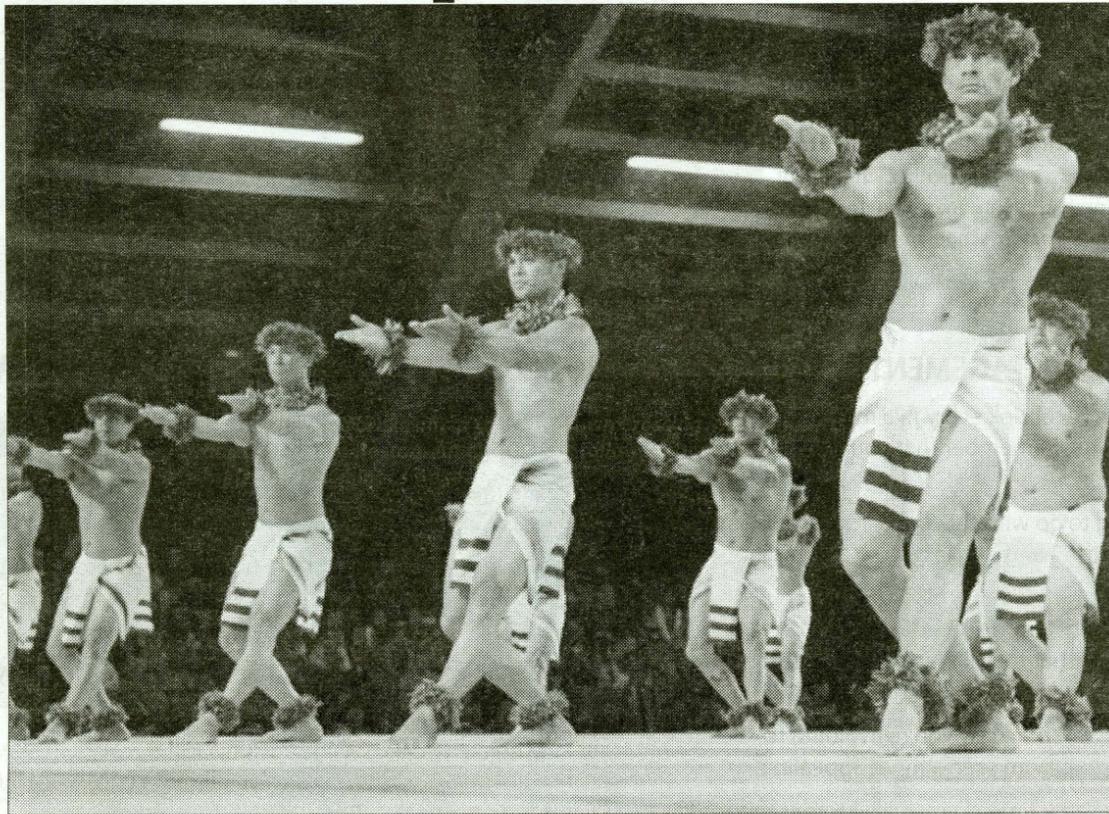


PHOTO COUTERSY OF WWW.HALAUIKAWEKIU.COM

The Merrie Monarch hula competition has gone international. In 2007 Halau I Ka Wekiu won the overall prize for the entire Merrie Monarch and traveled to Japan as part of the prize. The festival is a good way to recognize the culture.

practicing steps. A hālau would also visit the area that the mele was about to gain more knowledge about it.

Hālau I Ka Wekiu practiced their dances, and learned how to make a new style of a lei for kahiko, called wili. This style consists of tying flowers and leaves into the raffia; it was a more challenging style to create.

"(The) festival is valuable and precious," said Luana Kawelu, director and president of the Merrie Monarch Festival office.

The festival was started in Hilo in 1963 as a small economic development project to showcase hula by the Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce with help from Helene Hale, the county chairman at that time.

In 1964, after the idea for the festival was presented, the first four-day festival began. It included a coronation of King Kalākaua, a barbershop contest, street dancing, a bar with Hawaiian entertainment and a Kalākaua beard contest.

After five years, Hale left office and Kawelu's mother, Dottie Thompson, volunteered to help organize the festival. In 1970 the Merrie Monarch set new goals and new ideas. The ideas were to gather the best dancers from all the islands and to revive the arts.

With the help of George Na'ope and a group of kumu hula, the festival was built. These kumu hula are of the highest rank.

"This festival is build on a solid foundation," said Kawelu.

The competition was not just getting up and dancing, but studying the mele that the hālau will perform as well as the adornments and why they are important.

Not only do kumu hula get to learn more each year, but the dancers and those watching have the experience of watching the traditional and modern day hula.

With the recent passing of Kawalu's mother, Thompson, Uncle George Na'ope, and Kumu Hula Rae Fonseca, this year's Merrie Monarch took on an extra significance.

To decide who participates in the next festival, the Merrie Monarch Festival committee begins by looking at the wait list.

The bottom four scores take a break, or if a hālau is tired, they'll rest a year or so. The top four scores are then called and asked if they would like to participate again. After, the committee will proceed to pick the judges for the next competition.

"(We) want to keep kahiko as pure as possible," Kawelu said.

The judges are chosen through years of experience and need to know both kahiko and 'auana well. Especially for kahiko, they need the judges to be strict to keep the tradition.

"It is not just a hula festival but a celebration of who we are as a people and how we have survived," said Heather Giugni, TV producer. "Hula expresses our lifestyle, our identity, our spirituality, our genealogy, our environment through music and dance and most importantly language."

Radio station for students a hit

By Alike Pfaltzgraff

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

To provide the people of Honolulu, with alternative broadcasting, for the educational, and cultural enrichment, for the students and the community, this is Hawai'i's only alternative, KTUH, FM, Honolulu.

As a DJ at KTUH, I'm constantly surrounded by music. I listen to and digest copious amounts of it regularly. I easily download more than 30 albums a month, which I sometimes feel is a little obscene. And though I try to purchase the albums that I really love, as a college student, it's very difficult. Especially when it's easier and quicker to download the album for free than purchase it.

It's an interesting time to be working at a radio station in this culture, where everyone is their own DJ. What with the blips and the last.fm's of the world, why do people even need to listen to the radio? In this day and age, I have to wonder what draws people to KTUH when even your PHONE plays music. I suppose people like to be up on current events and things like that, but nowadays every major club/venue has their own twitter feed/Facebook/MySpace — and you can't be more up to date than that.

A lot of it has to do with the sheer volume of new music that's being created and distributed everyday. The paradigm shifted ever since Radiohead released their album gratis on the Internet. Nowadays, that's common fare. In fact, your lucky if people are willing to download your album at all, because there's literally hundreds, if not thousands, of new acts every day. It's an oversaturated, under-appreciated tapestry of burgeoning talent — perpetuated exponentially by the Internet.

"KTUH is great chance for people to find out what's happening on the other side of the industry," said KTUH general manager Nick Yee. "We pride ourselves on playing the most diverse and eclectic sounds being crafted all over the world, regardless

of commercial appeal. It's commercial free and entirely student run. Meaning that 24 hours a day, seven days a week, there's someone in the air room, monitoring the perpetual output."

Shows span the audible spectrum from glow-fi to indie pop, backpack slippergazing hypnotica, and everything in between. Additionally, the station hosts the only radio program in the world conducted entirely in Hawaiian with three hours of 'Olelo Hawai'i, unfiltered, uninterrupted, untarnished.

The station recently celebrated its 40th year on air this past September. The event was commemorated with a bi-monthly series of concert events, culminating in a screening of A History In Progress, a documentary that chronicles the station's history, showing people how things were, and how they are now. There is currently a KTUH exhibit in the Bridge Gallery of the Hamilton Library on the Mānoa campus.

Now, it would be easy to plug my show, but I'm not going to talk about that. This article isn't about the programming that takes place from noon to 3 p.m. every Friday. No, this article is bigger than that.

Ken Chan, who hosts a hardcore show Friday mornings from midnight to 3 a.m., sums up the station's significance eloquently.



COURTESY OF KTUH

Tune into KTUH, FM, Honolulu that is around for the students and community.

"People think being a college radio disc jockey is some glamorous, sexy, party filled with non-stop bros and brophettes," he said. "But it's so much more than that. There's no one telling us what to do or say. Or even what to play. We have true our voices heard. We make a difference."

The radio station serves the people of Honolulu at 90.3 FM, 91.3 FM on the North Shore and 89.9 FM on the Windward side of O'ahu. KTUH also broadcasts online at ktuh.org via Oceanic Digital Cable channel 866.

Mastering time management

By Joie Nishimoto

ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

With finals week lurking just around the corner, now is the time when students flock to the nearest coffee shop for an extra shot of espresso and then shut the world out to study five months worth of material learned in class.

But for many students, studying

and doing projects or papers may be a challenge especially if the student has other priorities, such as family and work.

Managing time and prioritizing duties can differ with each student. Some students may find that work comes before school or the other way around.

Katie Kaahany, 18, suffers from

many of the stress-related issues that plague a lot of students during the last few weeks of the semester.

"I get stressed when work piles up," she said. "It really takes a toll on me physically."

Accounting major Jane Moon, 22, works at a bank and is a full-time student at KCC. She depends on her Android GT cell phone as a daily

planner to stay on top of her schedule. Richard Yu, 21, uses a widget on his desktop and arranges notes by priority.

For 19-year-old Alex Aguirre, managing time is crucial because she works 35 hours a week and attends KCC full-time.

"I make sure I get my school stuff done here (on campus)," said Agu-

irre. "I end work at 12 (midnight) and I have to get up at 7 a.m."

As the semester draws to a close next week, students can reflect on their time management habits from this semester to improve for next semester.

Here are a few signs that may suggest you are inadequately handling the time you have available:

TOP 10 SIGNS OF POOR TIME MANAGEMENT

1. You are easily distracted. You log on Facebook every five minutes to see pictures of your friends at a bar without you. Remember that you're not with them for a reason.
2. You go by the saying "I'm just going to go with the flow." You're obviously not keeping track of time if you think you can bang out all of your assignments in a day.
3. You're either constantly hopeful or constantly dismal. People who wait until the last minute are either overconfident that they'll finish on time, or they're panicking to get things done.
4. You're always busy doing other things. You know you're avoiding that term paper when all of a sudden cleaning your room seems more appealing.
5. You have too many thoughts at the same time. If you feel like your thoughts are running like a marathon, then let this be a lesson to you for next semester. Don't procrastinate in all of your classes.
6. Coffee is your best friend. You're probably taking more trips to Starbucks than you are to your own kitchen.
7. You don't know what to do first. If you have a research paper, a project and a presentation tomorrow and you haven't started anything yet, what do you do first?
8. You snack frequently. Did you wake up this morning with your head on your desk, papers everywhere and bags upon bags of junk food?
9. You're always tired. You know you have a serious problem when you decide to turn your alarm off and sleep until noon instead of going to your 7:45 a.m. class.
10. You're always getting irritated or impatient. All of a sudden, something as simple as waiting for an e-mail becomes frustrating.

HOW TO FIGHT THE BAD HABIT OF PROCRASTINATION

- Tip #1: Positive thinking: You can get it done. Your responsibilities, no matter how daunting, can be finished. Stop thinking about it and just do it.
- Tip #2: Be ready: Make sure you can handle the task mentally and physically. Do your research. Outline a plan and start tackling it bit by bit.
- Tip #3: Be realistic: Bad habits are habitual. It is hard to quit one overnight, so give it time and set goals that can be realistically met and maintained. If you are making improvements, bravo for you.
- Tip #4: Prioritize: It is not more important to watch Monday night's prime time television than hitting the books for your exam. There will be re-runs.
- Tip #5: Take small steps: Do not expect miracles because you are choosing to act against your procrastination. Smoking is a bad habit, but you still are tempted to light one up after you decide it is time to put the pack down.
- Tip #6: Work with a group: Have someone help hold you accountable for your time. Find a friend in each of your classes you can efficiently study with and keep you focused. It's good to be kept in line.
- Tip #7: Try to avoid all-nighters at all costs. Don't stay up all night because you'll be showing up to class with red, puffy eyes and wishing you had gotten some sleep.
- Tip #8: Stimulants are temporary: Coffee, Adderall and Monster energy drinks may seem like a good idea, but they wear off.
- Tip #9: Be organized: Keep your schedule somewhere handy like your computer or cell phone so you will be reminded every time you look at them.
- Tip #10: Designate study spaces: Remember that the library is good for studying and the beach is a good distraction. It may seem like another good idea, but it is to be avoided unless you really can keep your eyes glued to your homework and not the scantily clad beach-goers.

By Christine Larsen

STAFF WRITER

Time management: Being focused on what needs to be done and not focusing on trivial and inconsequential items.

BENEFITS OF EFFECTIVE TIME MANAGEMENT:

1. Quality of life can be drastically improved.
2. Frustration can be reduced and avoided by being organized and limiting panic.
3. Release of anxiety and getting some peace of mind by seeing things more clearly and gaining a sense of what needs to be done and where you are going.
4. Practicing time management is much more satisfying. The subconscious guilt continuously pressing on you when you are procrastinating is not very comfortable. Prioritizing will keep you feeling you did the most you could do.
5. Natural energy: The undone things in your mind cost you more time than the things you have done or are doing.
6. Enjoy your quality time. Don't worry about what needs to be done, because it has already been finished.

MANAGING TIME WITH YOUR SCHOOL SCHEDULE

- Make a calendar with important dates for all your classes
- Tests, papers, projects, mid-term and final exams, holidays, breaks, study days
- Enter dates for your social and family life
- Each week make a schedule with the important times and events of that week to remember
- Refer to this every day
- To help you organize the next day, make a schedule the night before

WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR TIME MANAGEMENT (AND SAVE YOUR GRADE!)

1. Create a productive environment. Do your studying or your projects at a place where you have limited distractions. The library is a popular study area for students who need the silence to concentrate.
2. Plan your day. If you know in advance what you have to do, make a precise schedule of what you hope to accomplish.
3. Be realistic. Don't say "I can probably finish this in like an hour." Based on your previous assignments, determine how long it normally takes for you to finish your task. It doesn't hurt to give yourself a few extra minutes, too.
4. Start your task as soon as possible. If your teacher informs you about a paper or project three weeks in advance, then you should start on it as soon as you receive the instructions. Starting that 10-page research paper the night before it's due will make you feel miserable.
5. Get a new attitude. If you're always feeling miserable the day of your studying, tell yourself you'll feel a lot better when you reach the finish line. You can't escape your assignments ... unless you want to fail.
6. Concentrate on one thing at a time. If your "to-do" list is long, don't stress out about everything simultaneously. Focus on your current task first and worry about everything else later.
7. Prioritize your duties. Know that school should come before a wild night with your friends. Also prioritize which assignment is most important; you don't want to spend three hours on a one-page summary when you have a final the next day.
8. Get some sleep. Frequently pulling all-nighters can cause several problems. Inability to stay focused, irritability and impatience are a few indicators of poor time management, according to the Palo Alto Medical Foundation Web site.
9. Take breaks. Don't do all of your assignments back to back. Take a few minutes to rest, relax and recharge.
10. Ask for help. Students should not be afraid to ask their instructors or classmates for help. If you miss a class, send your classmates an e-mail for the notes.

TO LEARN MORE

Stopp procrastination.org

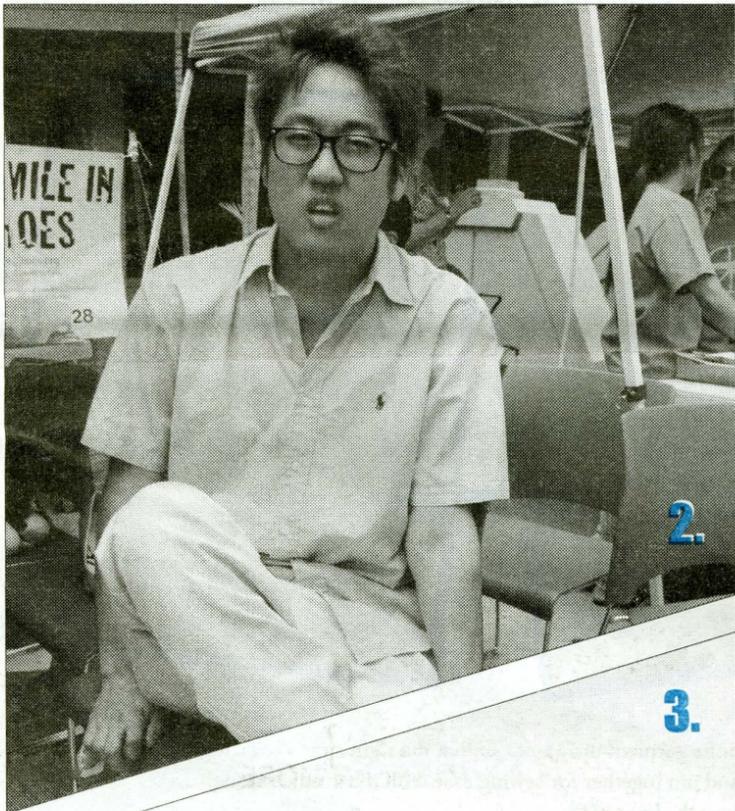
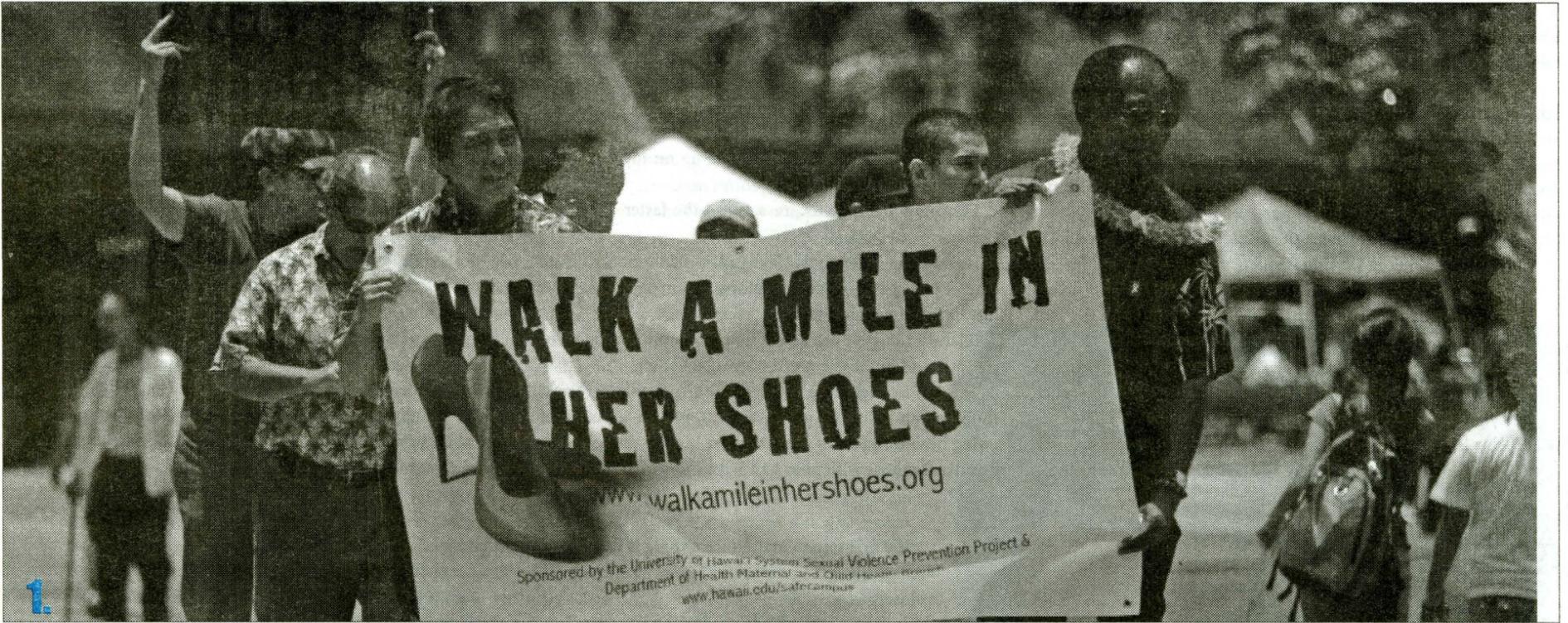
Timemanagement.com

Answers.com/topic/time-management

www.studygs.net/schedule.calendar.html

jobfunctions.bnet.com/abstract

Heels or bust



By Alika Pfaltzgraff

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On Wednesday, April 28, scores of men of different ages and backgrounds converged to the KCC campus to don woman's footwear as sign of support for women's rights.

Walk A Mile In Her Shoes is a yearly, nationwide event that aims to raise awareness about sexualized violence prevention.

The event kicked off with a trivia segment, calling upon audience members to answer questions regarding various statistics and facts.

They disclosed many disturbing facts to the audience. Every two minutes someone in America is raped.

One in six American women are victims of sexual assault. That means someone you know and someone you care about has been or may become the victim of sexual violence.

It may be your mother, your sister, your friend, your girlfriend, your wife, your coworker or your daughter.

The idea behind this event being the age-old adage is

that "you can't really understand another person's experience until you've walked a mile in their shoes." Whether or not this literal interpretation is effective is hard to say, but it undeniably prompts discussions about gender relations.

Some men looked visibly uncomfortable in their platform shoes, and understandably so.

I myself have never worn women's shoes, and I am constantly impressed by those who are able to do so gracefully.

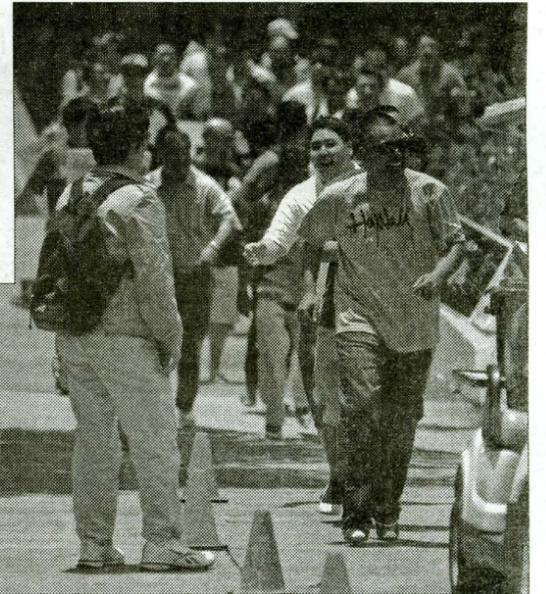
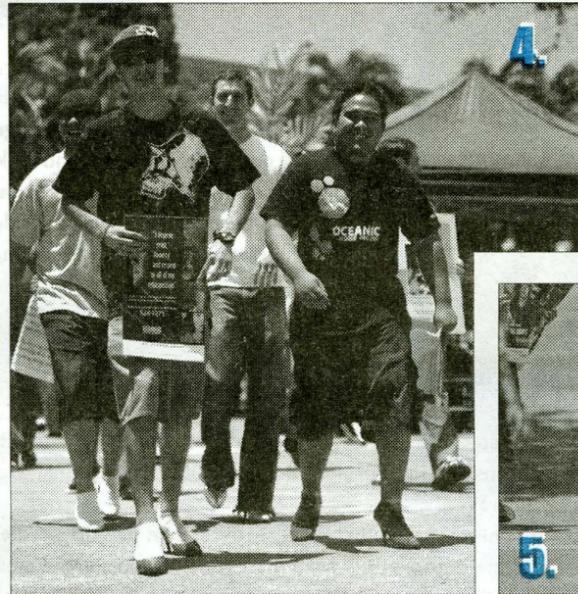
Conversely, some men were galavanting around like they've been wearing heels their whole lives.

It was a truly admirable thing to witness.

Frank Baird first proposed Walk a Mile In Her Shoes: The International Men's March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault and Gender Violence in 2001.

The Men's March started out small and has grown each year since, with larger crowds attending each March and marches held in multiple locations benefiting multiple rape crisis centers.

Hopefully the event will continue to grow, and awareness will continue to spread.



ALIKA PFALTZGRAFF, KYLE DURIGAN & SEAN NAKAMURA / KAPIO
 1. Milton Higa and Chancellor Leon Richards lead the walk holding a large banner displaying the event. 2. Jared Ishii, 26, liberal arts, is exhausted from completing the mile with blisters on his feet. 3. Robin Fujikawa joins students in walking the mile. 4. Walkers show their support by carrying different types of informative and inspirational posters. 5. A group of supporters race around the Great Lawn while trying to keep balance in their high-heels. 6. Finishers gather in front of the tents to retrieve their normal shoes and belongings.

Simple sewing techniques

By Nix Kinney

STAFF WRITER

Let's face some hard garment facts: Buttons fall off and seams tear. No matter where you buy your clothes, be it Ross or Macy's or Gucci, these fabric faux pas are bound to happen, albeit in varying frequency.

I've had buttons drop off, turning v-necks into V-necks quicker than it would take for me to press and hold the shift key.

The back slits on my pencil skirts have ripped themselves new paths to glory when I've climbed steps with too much vigor.

The truth of the matter is that the pains of clothing malfunction don't discriminate and chances are, you're next.

As a student, and more importantly, a lady, it's important to know how to patch these disasters up on my own both immediately and efficiently.

I have my decency to preserve, so the faster and more permanent, the better.

Having the right tools on hand is paramount. Please remember that it is not okay to glue a button back onto your shirt or safety pin your tears back together.

Instead, I suggest you assemble a miniature sewing kit to have on hand in the event of a wardrobe fissure.

The basics include a variety of thread colors (black, white, red and blue are good starters), pins, a selection of sewing needles, a pair of scissors, extra buttons and a needle threader for those with poor hand-eye coordination.

Sewing may come off as old-fashioned and domesticated, which it is, but that doesn't make it useless knowledge.

Why wear torn clothing when it can be repaired, and why leave something buttonless when you can sew it back properly? Behold the beauty of handcraft.

Most college students don't have access to a sewing machine, so the tips demonstrated below will involve only hand-stitching.

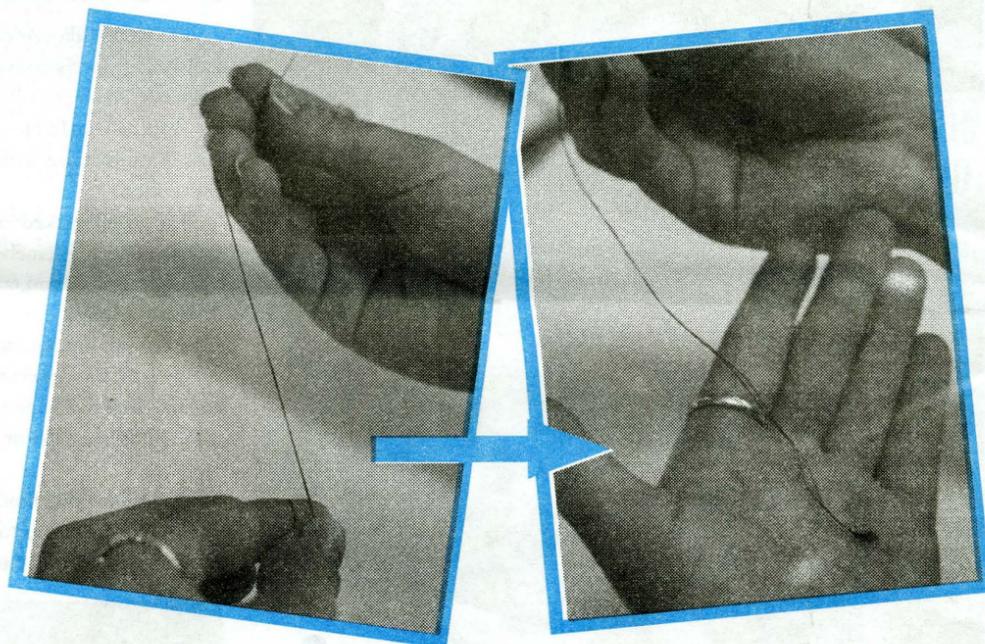
If you can master these techniques, then you'll be able to repair your own clothes by hand, giving your favorite over-worn shirt a second chance at life.

The techniques are simple, though it'll be to your benefit to consult the accompanying photographs as they're there to enhance your understanding.



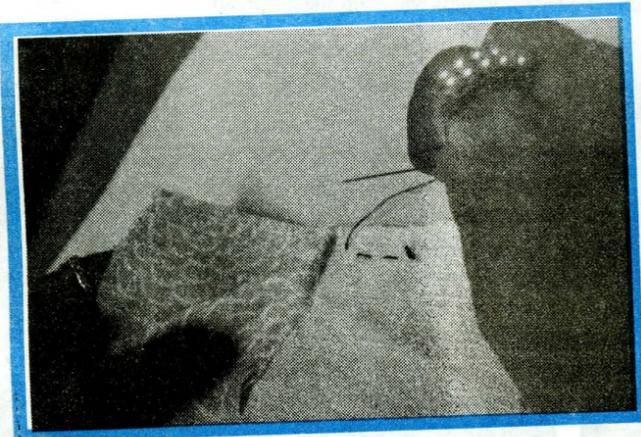
1. The first step in mending anything is to prepare your materials. Cut a piece of thread that's about the length of a footlong Subway sandwich. This should match the color of your garment as closely as possible.

Thread your needle. Instead of leaving an inch or two dangling from the eye, pull the needle to the center so that both ends of the thread are equal in length. This will add extra strength and durability to your repairs.



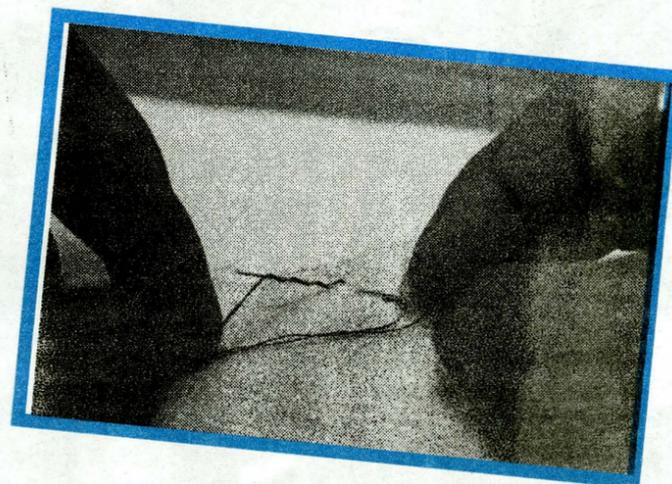
2. With both ends of the thread together, create a knot. This knot needs to be big enough so that it won't pull through the weave in your fabric. This means the standard pretzel knot won't do.

A simpler and more efficient method would be to wrap the ends of the thread around the tip of your pointer finger two or three times and then roll them off with your thumb. Pinch the tangle of threads and pull until they form a knot. A knotless alternative would be to make a stitch about an eighth of an inch long, and make about two or three stitches in the same spot. Trim the ends.



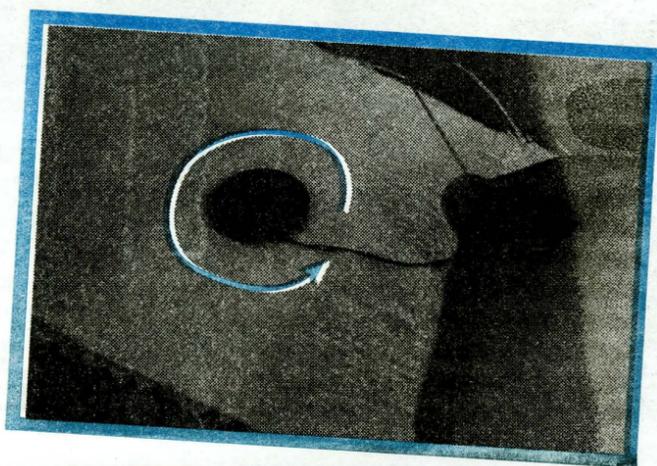
3. To repair an unraveled seam, turn the garment inside-out so that the right sides are facing each other. Line up the fabric edges and pin together for sewing ease. Pull the needle through a small portion of the fabric and make sure the knot holds.

For beginners' purposes, a running stitch will suffice. This is the most basic of stitches where you push the needle through one side of the fabric, pull it out of the other and repeat. To prevent little holes cropping up in your seam, make these stitches as short as possible.



4. Finishing off your repair is the final important step, and it's a lot easier than manually tying multiple knots at the base of your thread. First, run your needle through a small portion of fabric, about an eighth of an inch in length, without pulling it through all the way.

Take your thread and wrap it around the tip of the needle about two or three times, then pull the needle the rest of the way through the fabric while holding the "knot" against the fabric. After you pull your thread taut, a secure knot should be holding your hard work in place. For added security, repeat once more in the same spot.



5. If you think you've got the basics down, then sewing a button in place should be as easy as a running stitch. Tie a knot at the end of your fabric using Step 2 and hold your button in place. Coming from the wrong side of the fabric (so that your knot doesn't show), poke your threaded needle up and through a buttonhole.

For a two-holed button, sew down into the other hole and up again in the other. Repeat four or five times. To finish, pull the needle up through the garment under the button without going through a buttonhole. Wrap your thread around the base of the button, in the area between your fabric and button bottom.

This will create the space needed to comfortably fasten your clothing. Push the needle down through the fabric under the button without going through any holes and fasten off with a knot from Step 4 on the inside of the garment. The same technique goes for sewing a button with four holes, except you sew it down in an X pattern.

Brass:

Continued from page 6

of what is usually required to create a film. A lot of support is coming from people within the industry as well as local businesses and companies that have provided lower rates on sound equipment, vehicle rentals, cables, wires and other essentials that don't seem so important unless you don't have them.

"Brass Knuckle Ballad" is still in need of as much support as possible, especially given the current state of the economy.

"Mom and pop shops are normally very generous," said Yanagihara, who is also in charge of publicity, fundraising and sponsors, "but this time around they're not able to give."

Support then needs to come from larger corporations that usually have a select amount of money set aside for donations, though once their quota is filled, the donations also stop.

"Brass Knuckle Ballad" is working with a crew of roughly 25, a fourth of

what is usually used in a production crew, most of which are volunteers.

Kapi'olani Community College student Grant Okazaki is one such volunteer, working as the second assistant director for the film, overlooking extras and managing the craft and services department.

The film is also supporting the local community by making use of local extras. Though all looks are welcome, those who appear Asian and between the ages of 18 and 24 are ideal.

"It will be just people, hanging out, talking story," said Okazaki, who is also in charge of recruiting extras for the film. "If they want to come down, there's a huge party scene on the 13th and 14th of May."

For more information on being an extra, contact Okazaki at okazakig@hawaii.edu. Include your name, age, gender, ethnicity, height, photo and contact information. No experience is necessary, though those who have experience have a chance at being a principal extra.

"If everyone got together and sup-

ported each other, we can do it," said Okazaki. "We have the facilities and the people. We have the support and the interest. We just need to find a way to keep going."

The script for "Brass Knuckle Ballad" was inspired by a chance meeting of director Takemoto-Chock and Nam Pruong during an interview at the University of Hawai'i with Hollywood director Bryan Singer a year and a half ago. Pruong is the current male lead in "Brass Knuckle Ballad," whose real-life experiences helped inspire the storyline of the film.

"I pitched the story of my life, and he was interested in writing about me," Pruong said.

From then on, the plot thickened. It became a dark romantic comedy set in the underground world of Hawai'i, where a shy Asian girl who makes a living by providing counterfeit items to who those who seek it. She soon develops feelings for a man she has repeatedly made fake IDs for, eventually needing to know more about him and the dangerous lifestyle he lives.

Reflecting Takemoto-Chock's

interest in post-modern Asian films like *Chunking Express*, *Brass Knuckle Ballad* should be a visually stimulating film with a style and story is reminiscent of other works by Kar Wai Wong, a well-known director from Hong Kong.

"Brass Knuckle Ballad" begins filming on May 1 with a 15-day filming schedule. When post-production is complete, Takemoto-Chock intends to submit the finished product to film

festivals like Sundance and Tribeca, then return to Hawai'i to have it screened in the Hawai'i International Film Festival and the Honolulu Film Festival.

"I think it will be great because we've worked so hard," said Jamie Chow, the main female protagonist in 'Brass Knuckle Ballad' and current KCC student. "I definitely feel that it's going to be the best film in Hawai'i."

New classes for Fall 2010

CULN 115 — MENU MERCHANDISING

According to Ron Takahashi, Culinary Arts department chair, this class will utilize video-classroom technology to provide access for up to five students on a live-feed basis direct to their home computers. In order to utilize additional grant funds, the department will provide each student registered with video-classroom software that includes a webcam, headset, so that they can see, hear and interact on a real-time basis with their instructors and classmates directly from their home.

ITS 324 — PC/NETWORK SECURITY AND SAFEGUARDS

This course will build on the IT students' prior knowledge of common security threats, how to detect them and how to address them, according to Steven Singer, associate professor in Information Technology. There will be a strong emphasis on best practices proactive measures commonly used in the industry.

PHIL 103 — ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHY

Traditional philosophical problems concerning the nature of reality, the nature of the good life and ethical action, and what constitutes human knowledge, will all be discussed through the prism of humans and their relationship to the environment, in PHIL 103, said Sharon Rowe, associate professor of philosophy.

"Different cultural models for viewing this relationship will help us open up to different ideas and, perhaps, different solutions to the problems we face as one species of being, among many on this planet," Rowe said in an e-mail.

This class will also serve as a Service Learning based courses with an emphasis on getting out of the classroom and into the "book of the world."

ITS 327 — DYNAMIC HTML

ITS 327 will build on prior knowledge of Web site design and development. Emphasis will be on writing java script code and cascading style sheets to provide the user with a more interactive experience, Singer said. Designing for accessibility, speed, and aesthetics will be major themes throughout the class.

Both ITS 324 and 327 contribute to the new Advanced Professional Certificate in Information Technology offered at KCC, as well as transfer to a bachelor's of applied science in information technology at the University of Hawai'i, West O'ahu.

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