



COLLEGE FOOTBALL

SECTION B

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NO CONTEST

The Warriors rout Northern Colorado in opener



AP/WIDE WORLD

Senior quarterback Cal Brennan was almost flawless in the Warriors' season-opening victory over Northern Colorado, completing 34 of 49 passes for 416 yards in the first half alone. Brennan, who didn't play after halftime, also threw for six touchdowns, including two to Devon Ben.

WATCHING COIT
How UH quarterback Cal Brennan did last night

ATTEMPTS	49
COMPLETIONS	34
YARDS	416
INTERCEPTIONS	0
TOUCHDOWNS	6

1-10 last season and were not the best test, but UH executed well enough to secure the win. Brennan completed 34 of 49 passes for 416 yards (no interceptions). The first string offense also dominated, allowing just 48 yards on 25 first-half plays for UNC. Linebacker Brad Kalitovskis, rubbing his injured master's shins, was in on a team-high nine tackles in the first half alone.

The Warriors led 42-0 after a first half in which Brennan completed two touchdowns passes to Devon Ben and one each to Kasha Rivers, C.J. Bowdoin, Jason Rivers and Ryan Grice-Matta.

Brennan, who broke the NCAA single-season TD passing record last year with 56, set another high school team record last year with 56, set another high school team record last year with 56, set another high school team record last year with 56.

It all goes according to the script

"I haven't seen a beating like that since someone struck a horse in my pants and turned that monkey loose!"

—Buddy Quaid, "Huge Mashed"

SIDELINES
Kalen Simpson

It could have been 60. It could have been anything. Really, you name it, it was possible. That's what happens when your opponent is two steps slower and has trouble holding onto the ball.

The good news is that this looked exactly like it was supposed to. That this was Michigan-Appalachian State. The good news is that this was every bit as ridiculous as we all imagined. That's all we could ask for, and that's what we got.

"I did exactly what we thought they were going to do," Cal Brennan said, "and we were able to do what we do."

Perfect. There's no way to put it better than that.

Hawaii was outgained on offense, as expected. The defense, a brick wall. Brennan set or set several records for completions, touchdowns, yards and yard per carry. I loved the last. I love how he continues to go with his last as a sign of humility. It's very "King of."

"I know the Big Island is supposed to be bigger, but my head isn't round," Brennan said of the semicircular archipelago draped into his hair.

"That's what I like about Cal," Ryan Grice-Matta said. "That's what they all like about him. He's out there having fun."

"I'd already know that. The only question that was answered last night was this one: Would the game be a sponsor stand at the 50-yard line chugging back with freshman Frasier while Frasier received a "mugshot" (Answer: No. New Chancellor Virginia Hancock did the honors instead in one of her first major public appearances.)

The starters were brutally efficient. It could have been as bad as they wanted to be. The real fun began in the second half, with Mike Washington's 80-yard punt return for a touchdown. This meant something. If anyone had worked long and hard for a moment like that, it was him. Then, Tyler Grunke bounding into the huddle for the first time, so amped, so full of adrenaline, he was shaking his head back and forth so hard you thought he might hurt his neck. The starters savored those moments.

"We want them to get in," Coach Mullen would say. "We're all teachers." This game was no deeper retribution, nothing didn't get ready before. But it was fun for the whole family at the very least.

—Buddy Quaid, Simpson or Kalen Simpson at hawaiiathletics.com

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