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Sports

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'Bows hold off Falcons, 19-14

By Ired Lewis

Advertiser Staff Writer

In a magical season, leave it to the University of Hawaii football team to pull a victory out of thin air.

Linebacker Jaquan Barnett forced a fumble and cornerback Robert Lan grabbed the ball in mid-air on 91 yards for the deciding touchdown with 3:02 left in a dramatic 19-14 victory over the Air Force Academy last night.

Barnett, making a well-timed but rare appearance on defense, slammed into quarterback Lance McDowell from the backside while McDowell was executing a handoff. The collision knocked the ball free.

Lan, who had been whistled for a controversial roughing-the-kicker penalty that had opened the door for Air Force's only lead of the game (14-13 with 9:03 left) went the distance with a three-point kick.

The victory, before an Alhambra Stadium crowd of 38,686, gave the Rainbow their eighth win against three losses, the most since 1981 when they were 8-2.

It ended a four-game losing streak to Air Force and put the Rainbow into a third-place tie with Brigham Young in the Western Athletic Conference. Both teams finished 4-5.

The Rainbow close the season Saturday against Oregon.

Air Force, which led its 82nd game in a row, fell to 5-7 overall and 3-3 in the WAC. It is the Falcons' first losing season since 1981.

"If I was Hawaii I could not have done up a better ending," McDowell said.

Defensive back Shane Gaines went 23 yards with an airborne quarterback fumble in 1980 to help the Rainbow part Air Force, 20-17, in its first visit to Alhambra Stadium.

Until the replay, McDowell — who had come in with 123 left in the third quarter to replace the straggling starter, Don Doo — was writing the story line for his own team.

And he might have been only a play away from putting an ending to it when Barnett, a chip-ster performer, came crashing through.

McDowell said the play was designed to be a handoff up the middle to Albert Booker, who had taken the Falcons to 15-14.

See Ball, Page C-6

How They Scored

Table with columns: Air Force, Hawaii, Time, AF, UH. Row 1: 0 7 0 7 - 14. Row 2: 7 6 0 0 - 13.

First Quarter: UH—Roose 40 pass from Jones (Ehm kick) 2:55 0 7

Second Quarter: UH—FO Elm 29 12:59 0 10

AF—Covrin 38 pass from Downs (Farbrough kick) 11:25 7 13

UH—FO Elm 42 7 13

Third Quarter: No scoring 7 13

Fourth Quarter: AF—Johnson 6 run (Farbrough kick) 9:30 14 13

UH—Lan 91 fumble return pass failed 10:02 14 19

Final Score—Rainbow 19-14 Air Force

Game time—Kickoff: 7:58 p.m. End: 10:07 p.m.Elapsed time: 2:01.

Weather: Aloha! Temperature: 74 degrees. Wind: 12 mph.

Team, individual statistics, Page C-6



Chris Roscoe (left) scores Hawaii's first touchdown despite the defense of Falcons' Gary Kimer.

Irish show Trojans who's No. 1

Advertiser Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES — Even without its No. 1 center and No. 1 receiver, Notre Dame kept its No. 1 ranking in college football.

The Fighting Irish, overcoming the late-game suspension of tailback Tony Brooks and tackle Ricky Waters, beat second-ranked Southern California, 27-16, yesterday to move within one victory of their eighth national championship.

Notre Dame (11-0) will meet No. 4 West Virginia (11-0) in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 3 in a battle of the nation's only undefeated teams. Southern Cal (10-1) plays No. 11 Michigan in the Rose Bowl.

Tailback Mark Green, forced to play the entire game because of Brooks' absence, scored twice on short runs. Quarterback Tony Rice ran 63 yards for a touchdown and Stan Smagala returned an interception 64 yards for the other Notre Dame points.

"Coming into the game, it looked like there was only one quarterback in the game," said Rice, whose 57-yard pass to Hagib Ishani from his own 15-yard line on Notre Dame's first play set the tone. "But I showed them I could do the job, too."



Notre Dame tailback Tony Rice runs 63 yards for a touchdown.

Coach Lou Holtz suspended Brooks and Waters after they were 40 minutes late for a team dinner Friday night. The school issued a press release saying the players were penalized "as a result of repeated inappropriate tardiness for team meetings and functions."

Said guard Tim Grunhard: "I know how it sounds, but this is a school with a Christian attitude. The coach has his Ten Commandments, too. And you better obey them. We're all sorry for Tony and Ricky, they worked hard all season and this week, but when discipline is broken, the line is drawn. Definitely agreed that team is not based on individuals."

Holtz said he thought his decision to suspend the two players "might be a divisive influence" because we'd been close all year. I told them last night (Friday). They realize — such too — that the team has to come before anything else."

For Southern Cal's Larry Smith it was "the most letter use of my coaching career because we didn't give ourselves a chance to win."

"When you play a big game like this, you can't make big mistakes, and that's exactly what we did. Notre Dame is a fine team; they did what they needed to do to win."

Southern Cal had the best of the statistical record, where it counted — on the scoreboard. The Trojans had 21 first downs to Notre Dame's eight and outgained the Irish 349 yards to 233. But USC also had four turnovers.

See Irish, Page C-10

UH basketball team prefers time-sharing program

THU USED to be on Reggie Cross' side.

And Chris Gaines'.

And Steve Haines'.

And Willie Blair.

Well, not if you got a minute. These guys used to have as many as five minutes left — when, on occasion, they were half the University of Hawaii's basketball team.

That, of course, was the problem. The Rainbow had so much time to themselves it often felt as if they were done time.

It wasn't a season as much as it was a semester 20 games of hard labor with no chance for parties. Not surprisingly, UH finished with a 4-25 record.

The Rainbow didn't have a bad starting five, but once you got past that, the depth chart showed a walk-on, a walk-on player and a wide receiver on loan from the football team.

Putting your name on a UH letter of intent last year was the signing up for the three-hour cruise on the Mifune.

BEHAVE REGGIE: Cross, "This doesn't fly when you're there for the duration. It got to be as bad as you could actually imagine the beginning of the end. "With about 10 minutes left in each game, we would be

them that time. And when the 10-minute mark arrived, they weren't even breathing hard.

"Last year we didn't have enough athletes," Cross said. "This year we have some athletes."

"I love it. I love this team."

Gaines was on the court for 32 minutes, Cross and Terry Haines 31 each. Vincent Smith saw 22 minutes, Haines 21, James Wilson 20 and Troy Ryan 18.

Cross finished with 27 points, Wilson 18, Haines 13 and Gaines 12.

"Coach just kept on rotating the bodies in there," Haines said. "They just didn't have the depth to play with us."

GRANTED, it wasn't the most articulate of responses. Cross had done turnovers and Gaines made but two of nine field-goal attempts. But for a program that's been down as long as UH has, winning's the only thing that matters at this point.

William, as coaches will do, tried to sound a note of caution.

"I feel very good, obviously, that we have some depth," he said. "But we have some players with talent and so there's bound to be some guys who don't get the minutes they want."

"But they're better — and they will — think with first."

The many athletes? For a team coming off a 4-25 record? Haines.

WE'RE NOT saying this is a turning point; these Rainbow aren't lahaina yet.

But if, as Steve put it, they can "keep getting and getting and getting," they look like they could be entertaining, and maybe even surprising (not to mention a great addition to a dinner party).

"This is the kind of team that can do it," Gaines said.

"Everybody's picking us right or near it in the W.A.C., so there's no pressure on us."

"We've got a long road ahead of it," Cross said, "but we can only get better."

That remains to be seen. UH was 3-1 after four games in 1987-88 and finished 4-24.

One thing's certain, though. The lack of resting out on the days when Wallace was able to dangle the lure of playing time in front of Rainbow recruits.

Those days appear gone for good. And not a moment too soon.



Dave Koga, Advertiser Staff Writer

crossed," Cross said.

Couch Riley Wallace called it "the breaking-down game."

"Sometimes you need a rest," Gaines said.

"You know, just a couple of minutes to catch your breath and recover."

"But you couldn't do that last year. You knew you had to play the whole game. We would just run out of gas."

FUNNY HOW times change.

Friday night, in the first round of their Tostitos Tournament, the Rainbow began their season with a 36-40 thumping of Montana State.

And while some elements remained familiar — Cross, Gaines and Haines married, and Cross was again a head of burden — there was one remarkable difference.

These might have looked like the same Rainbow, but there were twice as many of

Win a Trip to Super Bowl XXIII. The Honolulu Advertiser's PICKING PRIZES.

It's your last chance to be a winner in The Honolulu Advertiser's Picking Prizes, which enters its 13th and final week tomorrow.

The winner of a special drawing early next month wins a trip for two to Super Bowl XXIII in Miami.

In tomorrow and Tuesday's editions of The Advertiser, the contest rules and an entry coupon for Week XIII will be available.

The grand-prize winner at season's end gets a Continental Airlines flight to Miami, two tickets to Super Bowl XXIII, hotel accommodations and spending money.

Second prize is a trip to Maui for two nights at the Hyatt Regency Wailea.

Each weekly winner gets four tickets to the Hula Bowl.

To qualify for the grand prize drawing, all you have to do is out-pick our pickers — the K-20 team of Michael W. Perry and Larry Price and Advertiser sports editor Steve Pankeski.



Southern Cal quarterback Rodney Pene (right) was under a hard rush by cornerback Stan Smagala and the Irish all afternoon.