

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin SPORTS

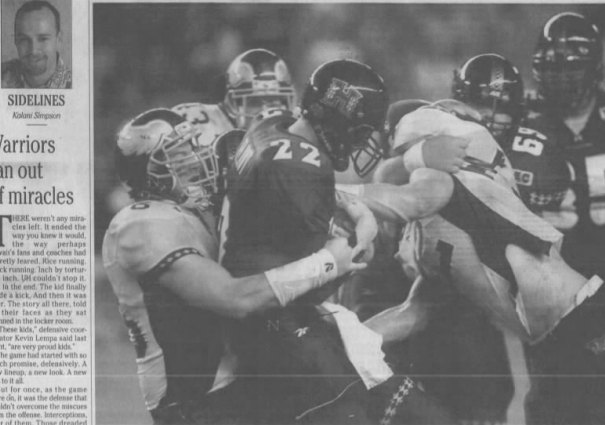
SECTION B

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2001 / 529-4782 / SPORTS@STARBULLETIN.COM

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD / MORE SCORES B5

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3 Florida	32	13 Oklahoma	36	8 Missouri	3	8 Texas	42	14 Utah State	21	7 Tennessee	26	8 Virginia Tech	48
Demmo	47	Louisiana Tech	28	12 UCLA	* 38	13 Washington	31	Alabama	36	23 Michigan State	26	22 Illinois	30
9 Oregon Tech	44	18 Penn State	28	19 Oregon State	7	California	29	15 South Carolina	27	16 Northwestern	27	17 Michigan	45



Hawaii quarterback Jared Flint gets sacked after replacing injured starting quarterback Timmy Chang in the fourth quarter.

### SIDELINES

Kabali Simpson

## Warriors ran out of miracles

THESE weren't any miracles left. It ended the way you know it would, the way perhaps Hawaii's fans and coaches had secretly feared. Rice remained clock running back by torturous luck. He couldn't stop it. Not in the end. The kid finally made a kick. And then it was over. The story all there, told on their faces as they sat stunned in the locker room.

"These kids," defensive coordinator Kevin Longo said last night, "are very proud kids."

The game had started with so much promise. Defensively. A new lineup, a new look. A new feel to it.

But for once, as the game wore on, it was the offense that couldn't overcome the mistakes from the offense. Interceptions, four of them. Three dead-end double stonks that make you want to go cold as a lack comes back at you. And then when not and there isn't so hot. Timmy Chang could go no more. Jared Flint finally got the trigger to get a gun for just once. I hate.

I started so well for the defense. They made a statement and then the stadium filled with the roar of rain on an iron roof — 1/2 in. rain, hard rain, relentless loud pounding rain. You know the sound, the sound you hear when you're safe and warm while outside a storm is slapping into your house. It can be rare and quick and beautiful, and you seek it without getting wet. It is a sound, a feeling that is comforting and thrilling all at once.

But it didn't come from real water. Not this time. By now, midway through the first quarter, the seats at Aloha Stadium were drying and the umbrellas were already neatly folded away.

This came from a Bath Flood of emotion, of approval, of passion. This was a stand, and the crowd responded. A defensive stand, a real, exciting, oh-so-greatful stand the doors, rock the house, wake the kids, lock up your daughters before we're here. And the guys to green were the ones doing it. It deserved some human raindrops. It deserved to hear that sound.

This game would be different. The action on the field said it. The fan sentiment echoed it.

Who are these guys?

Not the same coaches that

### Hawaii can't make a 21-7 halftime lead stick against Rice

By Dave Rendon

You can look at it either way. Hawaii led it get away, or Rice took it away.

"The breaks," UH right guard Vance Matson said. "We didn't get them. But you have to give them credit. They got those big turnovers."

Four. To be exact. So, like last season, UH was generous, and Rice was greedy.

Whichever — in a game full of big plays, the visiting Owls had just enough of them, and at the right time to come back from a 14-point deficit and beat the mistake-prone Warriors 27-24.

An Ochoa opening night crowd of 22,346 saw UH (1-2, 3-2 WAC) start sluggishly, then jump to a 21-7 first-half lead on the combination of Tim Chang to Ashley Lelle (two first-half touchdowns passes) and a surprisingly stout defense that for the most part controlled Rice's (1-1) winless offense.

But the game ended with Chang on the sideline with a sprained right wrist as third-

stringer Jared Flint first but couldn't get the momentum back for the Warriors. Second-string quarterback Nick Bulovich couldn't play because of a broken finger suffered last week.

"Sometimes things aren't meant to happen," said Chang, who completed 27 of 40 passes for 362 yards, but also had three interceptions.

Rice went through quarterback Lee — one of them.

Freshman Joe Moore, in his first college game, led the fort in the second half long enough for Greg Henderson, another freshman, to return after suffering a concussion.

With a sophomore kicker and freshman quarterbacks and an old senior of a linebacker stepping up at the right time, Rice won by taking control of the second half of the road.

"The turning point? Half-time," said linebacker Dan Lawson, who led the Owls with 12 tackles, including two sacks. "We talked about sticking together through the bad times."

Dawson, who intercepted Chang three times last year when the freshman was pitched off a school record five times, got another big one last night —

and he returned it 74 yards for a touchdown with 7:03 left in the third quarter. The play brought Rice to within 24-21.

That's the one that gave us the confidence," said Haddock, whose 10-career coaching victories now include three consecutive for Rice against UH.

"After that, we felt we could win, even with a freshman quarterback (Moore) who had never taken a snap."

And a kicker who seemed to be having a bad night.

In second downs made only five of five field goals, but his 31- and 36-yard kicks in the fourth quarter provided the tying and winning points.

The final field goal was set up by Brandon Green's interception with 2:55 left in the third quarter. The goaled 3-pointer came with 2:55 left in the game, after Rice drove from its 30 to the Hawaii line. The drive was aided by a pass interference call against Byron Peters, one of three such penalties against UH.

The Warriors, with Flint at quarterback, couldn't come back in the final minutes. Patrick Desby intercepted him with 30 seconds left for Rice's fourth pick of the game.

"They made some plays,"



UH's Mike Sims runs for a gain in front of Rice's Nick Sebaste.

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