

Honolulu Star-Bulletin SPORTS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2002 / 529-4782 / SPORTS@STARBUCKETIN.COM

TO REACH US
Sports Editor: Paul Armit
529-4782 / paul@starbulletin.com

SECTION B
The NFL / 84
Soccer / 86
U1 soccer / 87

HAWAII 31, FRESNO STATE 21

FINALLY Road Warriors

Hawaii comes back from 12 points down in the fourth quarter for its first win in Fresno since 1973

By Dave Reardon
reardon@starbulletin.com

FRESNO, Calif. — When Hawaii came up short at Brigham Young and Boise State earlier this season, Warriors coach Jane Jones chalked up the losses to running out of time.

He was proud of the way his team kept playing hard despite falling to what looked like — and turned out to be — impossible-to-make-up deficits.

Last night, UH's resiliency paid off in one of the program's biggest victories, a 31-21 upset at Fresno State that kept the Warriors (9-2, 5-1 Western Athletic Conference) in the race for the league championship and moved them to within one victory of a second consecutive winning

streak. Hawaii's Jovanish Cockburn headed in a pass as Fresno State's Tyrone Culver defended last night. UH came back to win.

Please see Warriors, B3



WARRIOR REPORT
Culbert and Cockburn have career games. B3
Kaneish was in the house for game. B3
Box score. B3

Anaheim hopes Appier is a savior

The Angels turn to the 34-year-old to stave off elimination

By Thomas Simonson
simonson@starbulletin.com

ANAHEIM, Calif. — A survivor of 13 seasons, four different organizations and 344 major-league starts, Kevin Appier was imported here specifically for the job: to be a 34-year-old man might lead to a young man's pitching staff.

Surviving that was San Francisco's first-ever World Series, the Angels' voice of experience observed. "They confirmed that they really good."

There followed a few moments of laughter, which was

World Series

Today
San Francisco at Anaheim: 1:58 p.m. (KSNB)

Tonorrow
San Francisco at Anaheim: 3:02 p.m. (if necessary) (KSNB)

about the only time an Angel laughed yesterday. Down three games to two, Anaheim turns to Appier in tonight's Game 6, the old man who whizzed through a 13 September, who has never won anything in this or any other October, facing a team that is emerging from a game on a night his club must win.

Granted, our chances are not as good as they were a couple days ago," said Appier, whose Angels have lost consecutive games in the first time all postseason. "That's an extremely tough team we're playing. But we've won two in a row before. We're not defeated."

The Giants have left the Angels rotation in shambles, their starters having given up 24 earned runs on 33 hits in just 24 innings (3.14 ERA). Appier promises no comfort. Handed a 5-0 lead in Game 2, he lasted just two innings, giving up five runs (three homers) in the shortest appearance by a starter this postseason, except for Giants counterpart Ross (6.0), who somehow was worse.

But Ortiz pitches this time with a chance to clinch. Appier pitches to stave off elimination. Appier appeared in an elimination game two years ago for Oakland, pitching four innings of one-run relief against New

Please see Appier, B8

SIDELINES

Kobasi Singapore

Songs, Lily and pointing out the obvious

NINE options for the price of one.
The e-mail begot "not today, all of the time, and this is probably one more for the gals."

Yes, and yes. But you have to like his approach.

One of our best sports traditions is the singing of "Hawaii Poem." It is often a chicken-skin moment when, after a crowd has stood through the national anthem in respectful silence, the arena is then filled with warm soft voices on the second song. One by one, everyone joins in. The words just flow out of them, and it is a beautiful thing.

This song is in our hearts. But it was earlier this week, at the Stan Sheriff Center, when I looked across the court and saw some Wahine volleyball players sitting alone and was struck by who they were. Hader Buzar of California, Melis Gustin of Slovenia, Cayley Thurlby of Illinois.

They are not from Hawaii, and yet, this song is already in their hearts, too.

"I really like it," said Thurlby, a highly regarded freshman letter, who may redshirt behind senior leader Jen Carey and Margaret Vakasaana. "The boaters kind of laugh at me, because the first or second game, they're like, 'You were singing it?'"

San Jose State coach Craig Choate on Lily Kahamoku: "It's an open court for her."

When Lily attacks from the back row she comes flying in there like Batman swooping in on a rope.

Would there be any rule against the national champions screaming against the Wahine?

The UH women look like they have the determination and heart to respond when times get tough, at times certainly will if this team is aiming for the final four. But we'll never know until someone gives them hard rub.

Just got a nice letter from Violet Williams in California, who was 11 when the Natatorium was built and has many wonderful memories of "The Task." She swam for Buster Crabbe's dad, had, while growing up in Kapahulu, and has been added in recent years to hear about the proud Natatorium's matronly decline. She's writes to public officials. She's cried.

But she hasn't given up. And those wonderful days are still with her.

"Someone gave you the right info," she writes, "about the good times we had in 'The Task.' None of us ever called it anything else."

An UH type this, looking forward to a Friday night of sitting in the stands of Aloha Center last night.

Please see Sidelines, B7

Less-than-perfect Wahine sweep past Bulldogs

Hawaii struggles early before churning out its 53th straight conference victory

By Grace Wren
wren@starbulletin.com

Second-ranked Hawaii survived an early scare before overwhelming Fresno State 30-23, 20-17, 30-26 at the Stan Sheriff Center last night.

Before a crowd of about

18-3, 6-2 in the WAC.

Fresno State was without the services of outside hitter Christy Burnett. The senior sprained an ankle in the pregame practice and watched the match from the sidelines.

The injury happened right before the horned ones of Fresno State coach Lusty Vinga.

"When we lost her," Vinga said, "it wasn't just offense, we lost her in the backcourt, too."

A day after injury and illness forced Hawaii (19-6, 7-0) to throw together a lineup, the Rainbow Wahine went with their regular rotation with 45-year-old American Kim Willoughby back on the left and freshman Tami Boogard on the right.

The Rainbow Wahine panned atrociously in Game 1 and were forced to set outside on almost every play. Normally, that's not a bad thing with All-American

outside hitters, but Willoughby and Lily Kahamoku were cold and missing. The Rainbow Wahine trailed the entire game before taking their first lead at 27-26. It was short-lived, as a UH service error won the match. But Hawaii escaped a tight game with kills from Willoughby and Kahamoku. Fresno State got one more kill

Please see Wahine, B7

2002 INDIAN CHIEF NO INTEREST & NO PAYMENTS FOR 6 FULL MONTHS

\$269/mo.

PACIFIC CRIME CYCLE SUPERSTORE

3075 N. Nimitz Hwy • 838-2925 • www.pacificrimecycle.com