UH Hilo receives record gift donation to establish scholarship fund

by Ken Hupp

The University of Hawai‘i at Hilo has received a commitment for a $2.4 million cash gift from Alec and Kay Keith of Hilo to establish an endowed scholarship fund for graduates of Hawai‘i and Pacific Island high school students. The gift is the largest private donation ever made to any institution in the University of Hawai‘i system by an individual.

“This gift exemplifies philanthropy at its best,” said Chancellor Rose Tseng. “A college education can make all the difference in the world in the life of an individual. We will now have resources to offer scholarships to many more students than ever before.”

The first installment was made last month at the Keith’s home where they presented Tseng with a check for $1 million.

“UH Hilo is a gateway institution bringing many first generation students into higher education. This endowed scholarship fund will touch the lives of a significant number of students from families on the Big Island and throughout the state,” Tseng said.

The DxRx VIVA, Inc. Endowed Scholarship Fund is designed to provide educational opportunities for Hawai‘i and Pacific Island students.

Covered walkway plaza completes University’s campus gateway

by Ken Hupp

The University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s state-of-the-art campus gateway has officially taken shape with January’s completion of the $1.6 million covered plaza and walkway.

The project, designed by Kajioka/Yamachi Architects and built by GW Construction, took nearly a year to complete due to unexpected difficulties in framing the structure. But the wait was certainly worth it, given the manner in which it enhances the entire campus.

Combined with the main entrance and University Classroom Building, the newest capital improvement completes a total makeover of the area that gives campus visitors their first impression.

“Our front door never looked better,” said Chancellor Rose Tseng. “These three elements add up to nothing less than a first-class showcase entry.”

The covered walkway plaza spanning 10,000 square feet also brings the Campus Long Range Development Plan into play through the emergence of the UH Hilo “spine concept.” It not only ties together two major focal points, but enables campus goers to walk from Wentworth to Edith Kanakaole Hall, through the Library Lanai and Campus Center, by way of the spine into the University Classroom Building without encountering the warm, welcoming Hilo rain.

Beyond the physical attributes, the plaza addresses the need for additional venues to en-
students who show great academic promise but have difficulty paying their education bills.

“Kay and I appreciate just how necessary and important scholarships are,” Dr. Keith said. “A student who works hard, shows potential and wants to go to college should not lose that opportunity because of financial considerations.”

Keith has compiled a distinguished career as a professor at several prominent universities, including the University of California at Berkeley and Penn State University, and is a research scientist with over 100 patents. Keith is also an entrepreneur who served as chair of Watson Pharmaceuticals. He currently serves on the UH Hilo Advisory Board and is an affiliate faculty member of the UH Hilo Chemistry Department.

“We believe one of the best ways to improve the overall quality of life is to help the University fulfill its potential," Keith said. “Hopefully, our gift will encourage others to do likewise.”

“Private giving and philanthropic leadership gifts, like the Keith’s gift, have the power to shape the future of the University of Hawai’i,” said Betsy Sloane, president of the UH Foundation. “For any major university – public or private – private giving is the engine of growth. This has never been truer than today, as state governments are finding it difficult to maintain, let alone, increase their funding of public higher education.”

The gift is the second major contribution the Keiths have made to the University since moving to the Big Island in 1997. In 2000, they donated a $1.8 million irrevocable charitable trust to aid the University’s development goals.

“UH Hilo and the community it serves is extremely fortunate to have such dedicated friends and supporters as Alec and Kay Keith,” Tseng said. “The generosity and leadership they have shown will go a long way toward helping us become the Pacific’s premier public comprehensive university.”

The scholarships will be administered by the UH Hilo Financial Aid Office as part of the financial aid application process.

(Editor’s note: Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)

### Employment opportunities offered

UH students and alumni are invited to UH Hilo’s “Job & Internship Fair,” scheduled for Monday, March 8 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the Library Lanai. This event is closed to the general public.

Approximately 50 companies and agencies are expected to participate in this recruiting event. Employment seekers are encouraged to bring multiple copies of their resume and dress in appropriate business attire.

For additional information, please call the Career Center at x47687.

### Walkway Plaza

The completion of the covered walkway will be celebrated with the Spring Food Festival on March 11.

hance student life on campus. UH Hilo’s rapid and dynamic growth in student enrollment has created a shortage of areas to meet, gather, study and socialize.

“Many schools have a university square or mall area for gatherings,” said University Relations Director Gerald De Mello. “This new area, when fully operational, has the potential to give UH Hilo, and most importantly, our students, a “sense of place” as well as a traditional hub for gatherings.”

The covered walkway plaza’s design projects a giant atrium effect under a glass ceiling, making it perfect for people seeking a location to dine, enjoy a performance, attend a meeting or host symposiums. Chancellor Tseng hopes the new facility will become the new center or crossroads of the campus.

“There is a big difference between merely attending classes and becoming part of the university community,” said Tseng. “Our goal is to create an atmosphere that encourages interaction among the diverse elements of our student population, and this facility helps us do that by providing a venue where all aspects of fun and socialization can take place.”

A formal dedication for the covered walkway plaza is expected to be held later this year. The first event to be hosted by the new facility will be the University’s Spring Food Festival. The event, previously held in October, is scheduled for Thursday, March 11 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Activities will include free food from participating sponsors such as Sara Lee, Tyson Foods, Meadow Gold and Pepsi, a cooking contest and prizes. More than 800 faculty, students, and administration took part in last year’s event.
SPOTLIGHT

Bringing the world home through lit

“I am not so much interested in what positions people take but in thinking about why people take those positions.”

Those words from Dr. Seri Luangphinith, an assistant professor of English, seem to sum up her approach to teaching. She is in her third year at UH Hilo, where her courses include Local Literature of Hawai’i, Pacific Island Literature, Post-Colonial Literature and Theory, Queer Literature, and World Literature. By all accounts, discussions in her classes tend to be lively, and occasionally, heated. Not one to shy away from subjects considered controversial in today’s supercharged political environment, Luangphinith encourages her students to think globally. The decision to act locally is, of course, up to them.

“I was hired to teach Pacific Island Literature and to replace Miyoko Sugano (who retired),” she said. “But to me, though, it is important to also think outside of one particular region, especially nowadays when we know that global capitalism is responsible for the events in both Iraq and Afghanistan. You can’t divorce the two, especially when the current administration is getting us involved in all kinds of exotic places.

“That was really the emphasis of my studies when I was a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Oregon. I was interested in colonialism as a global issue and how a lot of places really are interconnected. You can’t divorce the politics and the history of a place from what’s written about the politics and the history. If you take a look at African, Latin American, Caribbean, or South Asian literature, it is often political, because people have to deal with these lingering issues of what happens after colonization. Even as nations become independent, a lot of problems remain, such as racial tensions, class issues or the fact that the culture may have changed,” she explained.

“For example, on the issue of cultural revival, I show that it can mask dangerous agendas, because in places such as Afghanistan, the Taliban tried to revive ancient ‘traditional’ culture but ended up stomping on human rights. And by looking at what happens across the border in different places, you can derive perhaps a better perspective on what’s happening elsewhere. Those are the kinds of issues I try to explore.”

Big Island-born, Luangphinith graduated from Honolulu’s McKinley High School and received her B.A. in English from UH Manoa. After receiving her Ph.D. from Oregon, she taught at Lane Community College in Eugene.

“It reminds me of UH Hilo, because the majority of the students come from blue-collared, rural backgrounds and so the problems they face are the same,” she said.

Luangphinith has contributed to the reference books Asian American Novelists and Encyclopedia of Postcolonial Studies, both by Greenwood Press. Her paper, Tropical Fevers: Madness and Colonialism in Pacific Literature, just appeared in The Contemporary Pacific in January. She has also traveled extensively and met her husband, Kazuki Arita, while teaching English in Japan.

“Because of our careers, this is really the first opportunity we’ve had to live together after being married four years,” she said.

Luangphinith came to UH Hilo in the Fall 2001 semester, where her decision to include in one of her classes a novel written in 1976 by influential Palestinian author Sahar Khalifeh proved prescient.

“When I first started, I taught a book called Wild Thorns in my post-colonial literature class,” she explained. “It’s about a man named Usama, who happens to be a suicide bomber in the Palestine. Coincidentally, I chose that book during the term in which 9-11 happened. I chose the book because it centers on the issue of ‘how does one resist power when one is powerless?’ Such books allow us to see these issues from the perspective of those who might use terrorism as a weapon.

“Such books also help us to understand that resistance is not so innocent,” she added. “For example, Palestinians are often exposed to very racist, anti-Semitic rhetoric on the part of their ‘revolutionary’ leaders. Furthermore, many of those who hijacked those airplanes were from the upper-class and from Saudi Arabia—they themselves were recipients of the benefits of western education and consumer lifestyles. I just want to help students to be able to see that these issues are not black and white. They are very complex.”

“An important question is: ‘how does it affect us here?’ Of course it affects us here. We’ve got sons and daughters and husbands and wives of people here who have to go and serve in the Middle East because they’re in the Army Reserve or the National Guard. So these are the things that I try to get students to think about and discuss, and you can do that through literature.”

Luangphinith acknowledged that sometimes discussion of the issues, despite the academic freedom afforded by the University, raises a few eyebrows among both students and colleagues.

“Not everybody agrees with my approach to teaching literature, but I don’t expect them to,” she concluded. “And that’s a legitimate part of the debate as well.”
Hats off to...

Linc Gotshalk, Assistant Professor of Health and Physical Education, had his peer-reviewed paper “Cardiovascular Responses to a High Volume Continuous Circuit Resistance Training Protocol” accepted for publication by the exercise science research journal The Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research. His co-authors were Richard Berger, Temple University, and William Kraemer, University of Connecticut. Additionally, Gotshalk has two other projects with student co-authors from UH Hilo in the writing stages.

Michael West, Professor of Astronomy, has been invited to serve on the Executive Council of the International Astronomical Union’s newly created committee on Communicating Astronomy with the Public. The IAU is the largest professional society of astronomers in the world, with over 9,000 members in 86 countries.

Kelly Burke, Associate Professor of Business Administration, was presented the Journal of Small Business Management Editor’s Choice and Office Depot Best Paper Award at the 18th annual United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) Conference, January 2004 in Dallas, TX. Burke presented the paper, “The Impact of Firm Size, the CEO, and Industry on Internet and Non-Internet-Based Information Systems Use in Small Businesses.” An extended version of the paper is currently under submission in its second round at the Journal of Small Business Management.

Terrance Jalbert, Associate Professor of Finance, had “Which Performance Measurement is Best for Your Company?” published in Management Accountant Quarterly. The paper is co-authored with Steve Landry.

Ken Staton, Associate Professor of Music, will conduct the Kona Symphony Chorus in a concert of sacred classics by Mozart, Brahms, Schubert and Handel on March 21 at 3 p.m. in St. Michael’s Church in Kailua-Kona. Three UH Hilo students will be featured soloists in the Schubert MASS: Yvette Rolufs, Chris Ramos and Jian Guan. Additionally, he recently presented a resource session in choral music at the South Hilo Complex workshop for teachers held at Kea‘au Intermediate School.

Judith Gersting, Chair of the Computer Science Department, recently had two new computer science textbooks published: Invitation to Computer Science, C++ version, 3rd Edition, and Invitation to Computer Science, Java Version, 2nd Edition, are published by Course Technology. Each has an accompanying lab manual and specifically-written computer software. Jointly written by Gersting and her co-author, Dr. G. Michael Schneider at Macalester College, these books are intended for introductory computer science courses.

Todd Belt, Assistant Professor in Political Science, had his article on “Disability Identity and Attitudes Toward Cure in a Sample of Disabled Activists” accepted for publication in the Journal of Health and Social Behavior.

Eric Im, Professor of Economics, chaired four Ph.D. dissertations at UH Manoa, all finishing successfully over the past three semesters: Economic Perspectives on the Siting Municipal Solid Waste Facility by Hyunchoel Kim (Fall ’03); The Role of Nonbank Intermediation in a Financially Regressed Economy: Theory and Evidence Based on the Korean Economy 1972-1994 by Joong-Kyung Choi (Su-
Ka Lono Hanakahi is published by the Office of University Relations on the first of the month during the academic year for the faculty and staff of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. News and submissions are welcome. Deadlines are on the fifteenth of each month for the following first of the month publication. Contact Alyson Kakugawa-Leong, Director Media Relations, College Hall 9; (808) 974-7642 or email alyson@hawaii.edu.

Shuguang Li, Associate Professor of Mathematics, gave a talk on his newly-proved result on average results of Artin’s conjecture for composite moduli at the 2003 West Coast Number Theory Conference.

Wayne Miyamoto, Professor of Art, recently presented work in the 4th Minnesota National Print Biennial, Katherine E. Nash Gallery, Regis Center for Art, University of Minnesota, as well as exhibited two works in the 17th Parkside National Small Print Exhibition, University of Wisconsin, Parkside, Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Michael Pretes, Assistant Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, presented his paper “Rethinking Development in Pacific Microstates” at the Western Regional Science Association conference held in Maui last month. He also had a short story, “A Crack of the Whip,” published in the weekend Panorama magazine section of the Australian newspaper The Canberra Times.

Chinese tour’s so nice, Cheng to do it twice

UH Hilo’s annual summer Peking University and Chinese Culture Study Tour is now in its 15th year. The popular demand for the tour is such, according to Professor of Philosophy Dr. John Cheng, the UH Hilo-Peking U. Summer Program director, that there will be two tours this summer.

The first is tentatively set from May 20 to June 14, and will focus on ethnic, scenic and historic China. The second tour is tentatively set from July 8 to August 3, and will focus on Mongolia, Islamic and Historical China. The program of both tours includes lectures on Chinese culture as well as field trips to various historical sites, ancient cities and cultural centers in China.

Students will receive four credits from UH Hilo, which can be used to satisfy the University’s “writing intensive” requirements. Extra research for 3-6 additional credits can also be arranged. Peking University will grant two credits and issue a certificate. English translation will be provided for all classes and activities. Auditors are welcome, but must follow the normal registration process.

Students planning to enroll in UH Hilo’s Master of Arts program in China-U.S. relations, which starts this fall, can use 6 credits earned from the Chinese culture study tour to satisfy partial degree requirements. Cheng said that Peking U. is planning M.A. and Ph.D. programs in Chinese and Comparative Thought/Culture, which will be offered in the English language, and that some of the UH Hilo graduate credits can be used to satisfy partial requirements toward Peking U. degrees.

The tentative cost of the first tour is $3,580; the tentative price of the second tour is $3,550. Items and expenses included in the tentative cost include: airplane, train, boat and bus fares; major field trip and entrance fees; tuition and lecture fees; room (double occupancy); major meals outside Beijing; registration, institute and dormitory fees; and tips. Those who have participated in previous UH Hilo-Peking U. summer tours will receive a substantial fee reduction. Cheng said that accommodations will be made for students who want to participate in both tours and stay in China between tours.

Deposit deadline for the first tour is March 10. A check payable to UH Hilo for $604 is due to UH Hilo’s College of Continuing Education and Community Service on that date. The deposit for those who have previously participated in the tours and who are taking the tours without college credit is $190.

For an application or more information, call CCECS at x4-664 or Cheng at x47473. Interested parties can e-mail Cheng at johnhcheng@yahoo.com.
Governor shows PACRC the money

UH Hilo’s marine science program and ongoing aquaculture enterprises recently received some welcome news as Governor Linda Lingle released $2 million to complete the design and construction of the Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center.

“The Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center has the potential to become one of the finest aquaculture facilities in the world,” Governor Lingle said. “This project will enhance UH Hilo’s international reputation as a research and education leader in the fields of marine science, aquaculture and coastal resources.”

The $5.7 million PACRC, which is scheduled for completion in July 2005, will give the University a boost in its effort to support local fisheries, and will provide the Big Island with another eco-tourism destination. PACRC Director Dr. Kevin Hopkins said that the $2 million released by the Governor will help to bolster needed infrastructure at the project site on the grounds of the former county wastewater treatment facility at Keaukaha.

“We will have adequate facilities for teaching, research and demonstration, particularly marine systems,” Hopkins said. “At present, all we have are a few freshwater tanks.”

Hopkins added that among the tasks that need to be done at the Keaukaha site are “renovate the buildings, clean and seal the tanks, add parking, roads, build handicap access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, replace corroded wiring and remove asbestos and lead from the premises.”

The Keaukaha site will be one of two field facilities operated by PACRC. The other is the aquaculture site at the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management lab farm in Panaewa. PACRC also has offices on the UH Hilo campus. The Keaukaha site, which is adjacent to the Port of Hilo, will be converted into a water quality laboratory with indoor and outdoor tanks, pearl oyster and fish hatcheries, a classroom and offices. At the inland Panaewa site six miles away, UH will develop quarantine facilities, freshwater ponds and integrated agriculture-aquaculture farming systems.

“We currently farm tilapia, sturgeon, carp, catfish, ornamental fish and water garden plants at our aquaculture facility,” Hopkins said. “New species we will grow include mo, mullet, tuna and kahala.

“Hilo is an ideal location for the Center because it is one of the few places where warm seawater, warm freshwater and deep cold seawater can be readily obtained,” he added. “In addition, aquatic habitats such as tide pools, estuaries, coral reefs, rocky shorelines and the deep open ocean are all nearby. Using such resources, it is possible to grow most types of fish, shellfish and algae – from tropical to cold-water – throughout the year.

“We will be concentrating on research that has practical application. This can be improving aquaculture methods, developing procedures to enhance environmental protection, preservation of biodiversity and community development.”

PACRC’s resources and Hawai’i’s aquaculture potential will be the topic of one of the presentations at the World Aquaculture Society’s meeting at the Hawai’i Convention Center in early March.

“I really appreciate the Governor’s support on this remarkable project,” UH Hilo Chancellor Rose Tseng said. “This is truly an outstanding partnership involving the State and County of Hawai’i, as well as the community. We will work together to make this Center a great resource for the community.”

In addition to the $2 million just released, PACRC is supported by an additional $929,000 in state funds, $1.99 million from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, and more than $750,000 from the County of Hawai’i and state Department of Land and Natural Resources.

PACRC is a project of University of Hawai’i, the County of Hawai’i, the Keaukaha Community Association and the State of Hawai’i Aquaculture Development Program. For more information, visit the PACRC Web site at www.uhh.hawaii.edu/~pacrc/.

Hawaiian/summer programs highlight March Focus on UH Hilo

A preview of the Hawaiian language program and this year’s summer session will highlight the March telecasts of Focus on UH Hilo. The program is hosted by Chancellor Rose Tseng, and airs Wednesday evenings from 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Channel 55.

Dr. Kalena Silva, director and professor of Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke’elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language, will appear on the March 3rd telecast. Silva will be joined by Kauanoe Kamana, director, and Mililani Hughes, vice-principal, of Ke Kula ‘O Nawahiokalani opu’u. Topics of discussion will include new initiatives in the Hawaiian language program.

The March 17th program will feature Dr. Margaret Haig, dean of the College of Continuing Education and Community Service (CCECS) and Dr. Walter Dudley, professor marine science, marine geology and oceanography. Haig and Dudley will discuss summer session offerings and CCECS programs for the community.

Focus on UH Hilo highlights UH Hilo programs, up and coming developments and the University’s partnerships with various community organizations.
Land donated to support CAFNRM

Drs. Robert and Louise Hutchinson, both physicians formerly connected with the University of Hawai‘i College of Medicine, donated two parcels of land to the UH Foundation to create an agriculture research fund at UH Hilo.

UH Hilo’s Dr. Bruce Mathews, associate professor of soil science, noted that the new fund would be very valuable in supporting field research.

“We sometimes need students to go to off-island sites, we need to purchase analytic equipment and are often in need of supplies, and this fund will help us to cover those kinds of expenses,” he said.

The Hutchinsons, who live in San Antonio, Texas, regularly visit the Big Island during Christmas and have been watching UH Hilo grow over the years.

“We have been following the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo for a number of years and are pleased with how much it is growing. We are also interested in sustainable agriculture and what can be done on the Big Island. By creating a fund for tropical agriculture research, we hope we can be of some help.”

Accreditation update

by Dr. April Komenaka

The WASC team is coming! The WASC team is coming!

And UH Hilo is ready for them. This March 17-19, six administrators and senior faculty from six California institutions, plus one WASC staffer, will be visiting our campus to talk to us and to review evidence of our educational effectiveness.

The team will have identified five areas of concern relating to student learning, teaching, academic assessment, and instructional support, and meetings on these areas will be arranged between team members and representatives of the University community. They will also be interested to see how the University is responding to the recommendations of the March 2003 institutional effectiveness site team.

The team’s primary goal will be to help the University to address those concerns by making recommendations for specific actions. While these recommendations will be based on practices that have helped other institutions to serve student learning more effectively, they will also be tailored to the distinctive mission and characteristics of UH Hilo and its place in the community and in the UH system.

The site team schedule will include interviews and meetings with specific administrators, faculty, and governance groups, a reception, and open meetings with faculty and students. The site team will review an exhibit of authentic student work and current course syllabi that will be arranged for them in the Library lounge.

To see what the site team’s been told about us and our educational effectiveness—as well as previous reports to and from WASC—go to the UH Hilo institutional Web portfolio at http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/~accred.

Library Director Dr. Linda Golian-Lui is coordinating site team arrangements, with the help of BJ Saito of the vice chancellor’s office and Audrey Furukawa of the chancellor’s office. The Congress Assessment Support Committee, chaired by Professor Nina Buchanan, is working with department chairs on the exhibit of student work, and the CAS Dean’s Office is gathering current syllabi.

The peer evaluators are team chair Dr. James E. Lyons, Sr., President of Cal State University Dominguez Hills; assistant chair Katharyn W. Crabbe, Vice Provost, Cal State University Sonoma; Dean Elias, Dean of Extended Education at Saint Mary’s College of California; Dan Hocoy, Coordinator of Institutional Evaluation and Professor, Pacifica Graduate Institute; Nancy Teskey, snjm, Chair of the Division of Mathematics and Science at Holy Names College; and Denise Lucy, Executive Director of the Institute for Leadership Studies at Dominican University of California. WASC Associate Director Gregg Scott will accompany the team.

(Editor’s note: Dr. April Komenaka is co-chair, UH Hilo Self-Study Steering Committee.)
## Campus Events

### March

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<td>Last day to withdraw from courses</td>
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<td>Vulcan softball vs. Norte Dame De Na Mur, Noon, UH Hilo field</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Vulcan softball vs. Alumnae, Noon, UH Hilo field</td>
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<td>Vulcan basketball vs. Chaminade Univ, 7:15 p.m., Civic, Admission</td>
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<td>6, 7</td>
<td>Vulcan baseball vs. Western Illinois Univ, 11 a.m., Kona, Admission</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Job &amp; Internship Fair, 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Library Lanai</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Vulcan baseball vs. Western Illinois Univ, 4 p.m., Wong Stadium, Admission</td>
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<td>Vulcan baseball vs. Western Illinois Univ, 2 p.m., Wong Stadium, Admission</td>
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<td>12, 13</td>
<td>Vulcan softball vs. Point Loma Nazarene Univ, Noon, UH Hilo field</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Vulcan tennis vs. Chaminade, 1 p.m., UH Hilo courts</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Vulcan tennis vs. Chaminade, 10 a.m., UH Hilo courts</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td><em>Focus on UH Hilo</em>, 8 p.m., Channel 55</td>
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<td>Vulcan softball vs. Hawai’i Pacific Univ, Noon, UH Hilo field</td>
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<td>Vulcan softball vs. Western New Mexico Univ, Noon, UH Hilo field</td>
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<td>Vulcan baseball vs. UC-Riverside, Noon, Wong Stadium, Admission</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Vulcan baseball vs. UC-Riverside, Noon, Wong Stadium, Admission</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Last day to apply for credit-by-exam for spring “I” removal deadline: student to instructor</td>
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