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Section B

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Musashimaru retires

The Waianae alumnus has won more matches in his career than all except five other samurai

Associated Press
The yokozuna, a Waianae High School alumnus who won the second foreign wrestler to reach sumo's highest rank, managed only three wins against his opponents in the current Tokyo Kyushu Grand Sumo Tournament in southern Japan. Musashimaru missed all or

parts of the previous six tournaments due to the wrist injury and has not looked anywhere near his top form.
The 22-year-old wrestler delivered his fourth loss yesterday and realized he was no longer capable of performing at his former level, his coach stated. Musashimaru said, "I think he has no regrets." Musashimaru was scheduled to formally announce his retirement today at a news conference.



Musashimaru: Wasting great energy took the corner of the 22-year-old yokozuna.

The chairman of the Japan Sumo Association, Kikunori, described the decision as something that "can't be helped." "He came into this tournament to win, but he didn't," said Kikunori. "I believe he made up his mind after difficult reflection."
The title of yokozuna is more than a sports achievement — it is a lifetime honor.

SIDELINES

Kelani Simpson

We're ready for big-time discussion

AND away We go. Dear Sports Columnist: "To be fair to the bit on Kahan in the history of the PGA have there been other pros who have been granted sponsor exemptions after failing to qualify in previous attempts? On another note, in response to Scott Hoch's comments, what will happen to tournaments like ours when we lose a sponsor and can't find another that has deep pockets? Well, the Sony Open goes on the Nationwide Tour of course, with Rodolfo's Portuguese sausage as the sponsor. Will Scott play for one year's supply of Linguine?"

COMMENT: Great line. Good point. Gate attractions are the bills. So yes, inviting Bill Murray, for example, to play in your tournament is great fun... but it isn't PGA Tour golf.

→ "I stand behind you in the questioning of the justification of handing a free pass to someone that not only failed to qualify earlier three times, but also

Michelle Wie: Teenager received sponsor's exemption to participate in Sony Open

failed to make the cut in a Canadian Tour event and the Nationwide event, both lower-tier men's golf tours. She came in dead last in the C.J. New Britain WOMEN'S PGA Tour event. Other than to for credit at UCLA, Krati Nakase and win the U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links, what has she done? "The hype continues."

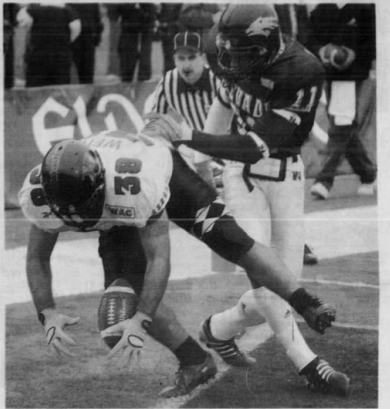
COMMENT: I'm worried that this move subsidizes that perception of either one her play smaller events to win, as a great golfer, than continue those free invitations to over-the-hill events as a child star celebrity extract.

→ "I feel that you should ease up on 16-year-old Michelle Wie. Your arguments may be valid, but I think they should be kept to yourself. We're young, give her a break. Let her play in the Sony Open in peace. Write about the (W-word) guys. They should be the focus of a Saturday morning paper right before the most important game of their season at Nevada."

COMMENT: I don't want to just hear...
→ "You stand on Michelle Wie, while a little name-dropping, I might think that you really get it... Gov. Lange love her readability character by literally plugging this teenager and adding to this disturbing exception for a minor girl who is clearly not yet ready for the big time."
COMMENT: Numb-pumpy?

→ "Hey dude. Can you get off of this We topic. It's a feeling what you write of is all reality. You're with you had her golf game. Furthermore, get off of Jane Jones' case. On this topic, you are gosh darned just out of his paycheck. You as a sportswriter should be more in touch of what the Hawaii sports reader wants to read — why is LH retaining the soccer coach?"

COMMENT: Yes, I can't go anywhere without people stopping me to talk about the LH soccer coach.
→ "Roch Kahan Simpson at hlsports@starbulletin.com"



Hawaii receiver Gerald Welch couldn't hang on to a pass in the end zone while Nevada's Al Jones gave him a shove during the first quarter yesterday. Nevada won 24-14, putting Hawaii's WAC title hopes in jeopardy.

Warriors wounded

Hawaii's chances for a WAC title disappear with its lack of offense

By Dave Reardon

WARRIOR REPORT
SEE PAGE B4
→ Nevada defense has won its battle of the trenches
→ Hawaii comes up with neither big game
→ Hawaii, WAC standings, Suning Ford and Caring Up

RENO, Nev. — The Hawaii Warriors filed out of glum Micken Stadium yesterday afternoon, heads down, trying to ignore a chorus of jeers.

"Aloha means good-bye, aloha means good-bye," aloha means good-bye," one park-wearing Nevada fan chanted with glee, again and again.

A couple of the LH players flashed smiles and ahaikas in sarcastic re-

sponse, but most realized they really had no room to do anything but keep moving on the first leg of a long, and 13,268 who sat around on the cold and

"The weather had nothing to do with it." **Photo by Warren, B4**

Hawaii senior defensive tackle Lance Zimmerman said after contributing six tackles to the losing effort. "They just did a good job on both sides of the ball and it was a well-deserved win."

One positive about the Warriors is they don't punt fingers after losses, at least publicly. But you couldn't blame the defense if it did after yesterday, and the

Hawaii senior defensive tackle Lance Zimmerman said after contributing six tackles to the losing effort. "They just did a good job on both sides of the ball and it was a well-deserved win."

Hawaii opens the season with an exhibition game against Brigham Young-Hawaii tomorrow night at the Stan Sheriff Center. The regular season tips off Friday as the Rainbow Warriors take UC Santa Barbara. After that, **Photo by Kahan, B10**

Wahine seniors say aloha

UH beats SISU in its final regular-season home match

By Cindy Lutz

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Are there any flowers left on Oahu?
Are there any tears left in Maui?
The answer to both? Probably not.

A sold-out crowd of 10,300 at the Stan Sheriff Center said aloha to Hawaii's seven seniors in the only way a hand volleyball fans know how, with deafening cheers and lots.

Fleets of lots. Enough perhaps to stretch to Slovenia or Sweden or to the four states where one of the Rainbow Wahine call home.

Nakoa Tani is the lone player from Hawaii, but given seven's largest senior class regard the first sold-out crowd in just over a year with a 7000 consecutive Western Athletic Conference victory.

Hawaii (27-1, 13-0 WAC) needed 11 minutes to sweep San Jose State 30-25, 30-24, 30-27. The post-match celebration

lasted twice as long, with the center team hoisted under a flower shop full of lots. "It was better than anything," said Lily Kahumaka's mother, Gayle. "This is really special. This is something you have to experience firsthand."
"When I was walking in, I saw fans with flowers that said 'I love you on the back. It was awesome. You don't see that anywhere else.'"
It was the 12th without for women's volleyball in the arena, the first since a loss to Stanford on Nov. 10, 2002. It was the second against San Jose State.

Rainbows expect big things from little things

Hawaii wants to play better without the ball in upcoming season

By Jason Kaminishi

The little things add up. A solid screen away from the ball. A subtle ball fake. A little job step just to get the defender off balance. A variety of largely unnoticed details can determine the success of each possession in a basketball game, and Hawaii learned last season that every possession can potentially be the critical blow in a contest.

The Rainbow Warriors went 13-21 last season and earned a spot in the National Invitation Tournament, appearing in the postseason for a school-record

→ 10 individual title B10
third consecutive season.

But four of those losses were by two points or fewer. Reverse a few possessions in those games and LH might have been heading to the dance of the NCAA Tournament instead of

"Everyone's going to go out and play offense and play defense, but it's the little things that make all the difference," said guard Michael Koster said, "whether you box your man out every time, that one time you don't do it he may get the rebound back up the lane."

As the Rainbows embark on the new season, they're hoping the little things add up to a return to the Big Dance.

"I'm very hungry. Once you get a taste of it you want more," said senior Phil Martin, one of two current LH players who experienced both of the team's Women Athlete Conference titles in 2001 and 2002 and the NCAA Tournament games that followed.

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