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## 49ers explode in island paradise; Hilo coach calls Massey 'Too much'

By Ron Green

People on the big island of Hawaii have been warned that Mauna Loa, one of the few active volcanoes in the world, will have a major eruption in the next few years. An eruption would destroy a tremendous amount of the island paradise.

But Mauna Loa would have to go some to equal the destruction the UNCC 49ers left in Hilo. The 49ers fresh from three days on Waikiki Beach, blew into Hilo and wiped the previously undefeated Vulcans out 112-75 and 80-64 on consecutive nights.

Although the games do not count on UNCC's record, the two victories were another positive step in the 49ers struggle to return to the nation's top twenty.

The first game was one of UNCC's classiest performances of the year. Playing in front of a sellout crowd of 2700 in the Hilo Civic Auditorium, the 49ers shot a blistering 70 per cent from the floor in the first half to jump to a 50-34 halftime lead.

Junior forward Lew Massey led the assault hitting eight of nine shots and scoring 17 points by halftime.

The second half opened with UNCC playing awesome basketball for the first three minutes. They ran off 18 straight points against their hosts to boost the lead to 74-34. From then on, the only question was how many points UNCC could score.

Massey led the way with 21 points and Cedric Maxwell had 20. Four other 49ers scored in double figures as the team hit 64 per cent of its field goals.

Before the game, there was some question as to how well the 49ers would play. Having spent four days sightseeing and taking it easy, basketball had taken a backseat in the minds of the players.

Once the game started all the thoughts of Diamond Head and the girls on Waikiki Beach left. Melvin Watkins said, "Coach Rose told us we had a job to do. We had been away from it a while, but once game time came, we were ready to play."

Hilo Coach Jim Yagi

was impressed with the 49ers. He said, "We tried our best, but it was not good enough. They have a national reputation to protect. They are a well coached and well disciplined team.

They are definitely the best team on our schedule. We (an NAIA) school) had no business playing a Division I school but it is good for our fans to see a ball team of that level come

in.

The second night was totally unlike the first. After dominating the first game, UNCC was pushed to the limit before downing the Vulcans 80-64. With Maxwell not playing because of a pulled groin muscle, UNCC trailed by as many as seven points in the first half before gaining a 31 all tie at halftime.

UNCC maintained a small lead most of the

second half and finally iced the game by scoring the last 11 points. Massey was the key to the 49er success, scoring 32 points and pulling down nine rebounds.

With 53 points in the two games, Massey was the center of Yagi's attention. He said, "Massey was just too much. You have to give him a lot of credit. I wish he was on my team.

"Maxwell is so great,

you have to miss him, but in a lot of cases another players steps in to carry the load as Massey did. That is the mark of a great team."

Back in the hotel after the game, 49er coach Lee Rose leaned back against the wall of an elevator and sighed. He said, "You've gotta love coaching. You beat them one night by 50 and the next night you have to struggle to aim."

## He's not exactly Richard Daley... But Charlotte is definitely his turf

By Brad Rich

Mayor John Belk is the dominant figure in Charlotte area politics. He has become almost an institution, and, like him or not, it is hard to imagine the city without Belk at the helm.

Various politicians have taken shots at the Mayor, but through some combination of political know-how, business sense, finance and folksy, down-home appeal, Belk has remained in office.

Belk's opinions, together with those of the Charlotte City Council, shape much of the policy output of our local government. To find out just where Mayor Belk stands on a few of the more important local issues, Mayor Belk was interviewed in his office on East Trade Street December 28, 1976.

Belk's office on the second floor of City Hall is the epitome of good taste. The furnishings are elegant without being extravagant, and give the room an air of quiet but confident dignity. You get the feeling the Mayor rarely conducts business in this room, but rather in some small, dimly-lighted room in the rear of the building.

The interview started with the usual trivia - small talk about the holiday season, sports and the weather. Belk talked of his days as captain of the Davidson College basketball team, and praised UNCC's 49ers for their good showings of late. Then it was time for business.

The first question dealt with District Representation, and whether or not a change to this form of government would greatly affect the actual policy output of the city government.

"I think Council is overemphasizing this thing," Belk said. "I personally think our change should be to a city-county consolidation."

He talked about the division of opinion on the Council; their

disagreement on even the number of districts to be included in the new plan. "They get together on one point, then disagree the next day," said Belk. "Some of these neighborhood groups are saying they don't have representation. They have a right to say this, and I have no objections. Let them vote on it in a referendum.

"My opinion is that it (District Representation) would divide the city, and I want a unified city...If we have good councilmen, it doesn't matter where they come from."

Next, Belk gave his opinions on Charlotte's Ambulance service. When asked how he felt about a paramedic program handled through the Fire Department, Belk replied that he was against such a move; rather, he favored giving the service to the county, which runs the hospitals. "After all," said Belk, "Most of the bodies that are injured end up in the hospitals."

He did praise the Fire Department's first aid program, which started this fall. He said his objective was to have "the best trained fire department of any city in the country."

the next question dealt with liquor by the drink. The last time this question was brought to a public vote, Mecklenburg approved it, while it was defeated statewide.

"We don't control that," said Belk. "It's handled by the state." He also said Governor-elect Jim Hunt would not approve liquor by the drink, and he can foresee no change in the law in the near future. He did say he was already on record as supporting liquor by the drink, and thinks it is the best way to control alcohol usage.

The recent Charlotte city bus strike was of great concern to the Mayor. When asked if he approved of the way the strike was handled, Belk said, "No. I think it was disgraceful. Someone from outside should not have been able to come

in and disrupt our city for 90 days. I don't think any municipal employee should have the right to strike."

Belk said the Charlotte-Metrolina area is always working on improving its mass transit system, but our population is not presently sufficient to support anything like a subway system. "We are currently moving large numbers of people on the buses, but not at an extremely fast rate of speed," he said. He doesn't foresee any wholesale changes occurring until the population reaches three-quarters of a million. "This probably won't occur until, say, the year 2000," he said.

When asked if he favored controlling or limiting growth in Charlotte, Belk said, "I'm not in favor of government control of much of anything." He said he thought the city should have the freedom to grow as much or as little as it wants, but the important thing is to have the plans for growth and expansion developed well ahead. He said when the city's last ten year plan was drawn up, he had favored going to a 20 year plan, but was told it would be too hard to control all of the factors for that long a time period.

Belk said he sees the relationship between UNCC and the Charlotte community as "outstanding." He said the city had zoned the area around the University in a manner such that no one could "come in and destroy the University." He was in favor of this zoning, which limited commercial, residential, and all other types of development around the campus.

He thinks UNCC (and Central Piedmont Community College) provides the city a valuable service by enticing more of our youth to stay in the area. He said many of

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