

# WEST HAWAII TODAY

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## Council set to tackle budget — a day early

By **BOBBY COMMAND**  
West Hawaii Today

The mayor's proposed operating budget is on Wednesday's Hawaii County Council agenda, even though the County Charter instructs lawmakers to wait until "after" May 5 to read it into the record.

Two weeks ago, the council deferred first reading of the bill proposing the \$173.4 million budget despite a recommendation by Council Chairman James Arakaki to read it into the record for the first time.

But Councilman Aaron Chung pointed out soon after the motion that the Hawaii County Charter requires the operating budget to be read "after" May 5, which typically is at or near the end of the state's Legislature session. The council then deferred first reading.

Corporation Counsel Richard Wurdeman said Monday "after May 5" means no earlier than May 6.

Arakaki said he placed the item on the agenda to allow discussion about revised non-profit funding recommendations. The original recommendation on non-profits, made by Councilman Curtis Tyler, has been replaced by a revised pro-

See **TYLER:**  
Page 4A



## Global adventure is all man power

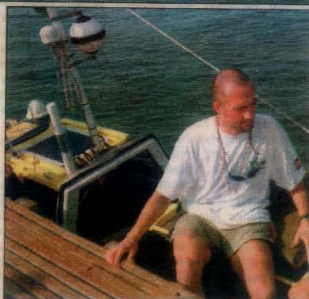
By **ARLENE STEPH**  
West Hawaii Today

Jason Lewis pedaled out of Kailua Bay and away from civilization Monday morning in his bid to become the first person to circumnavigate the Earth under human power.

"I'm a little apprehensive. I'm going alone after all these years," said Lewis, as he prepared to depart. He is pedaling to Tarawa, a 2,200-mile journey he expects to complete in 70 days.

This is the third leg of the journey that began in England in 1994 when 31-year-old Lewis and his traveling partner, Steven Smith, 32, began their 35,000-mile Pedal for the Planet Expedition with an Atlantic crossing, heading for the East Coast of the United States, arriving in Miami after 111 days.

See **CHILDREN'S:**  
Page 4A



—ARLENE STEPH—WHT

Jason Lewis climbed aboard his one-man pedal-powered vessel Monday and gave a wave as he left Kailua Bay, beginning a 70-day journey to Tarawa.

## Excise tax bill to be revived

By **The Associated Press**

**HONOLULU** — The Senate will be providing the business community its long-sought reduction in the pyramiding of the state's general excise tax on services after all, Senate President Norman Mizuguchi said Monday.

It will achieve the Senate's goal of helping Hawaii's businesses in hopes of improving the state's economic situation, said Mizuguchi, D-Moanalua Valley, Aiea, Pearlridge.

House leaders also had that goal.

See **SENATE:**  
Page 4A

## Dow crosses 11,000 marker, just 24 trading days since 10,000

By **PATRICIA LAMIELL**  
AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK** — The Dow Jones industrial average sped past 11,000 Monday, shattering the record for the fastest rise between 1,000-point milestones.

The index of 30 blue chip stocks rose 225.65 to close at 11,014.69. It took just 24 trading days for the Dow to move from 10,000 to 11,000.

Even by the compressed standards of the modern stock market, the latest milestone arrived with

See **MONDAY:**  
Page 3A

## Index

Ann Landers	22A
Business	20A
Comics	23A
Horoscopes	22A
Obituaries	7A
Opinion	10A
Sports	16A
Weather	2A

## ...Children's photographs on display at library

From **Page 1A**

The purpose of the trip is to circumnavigate the globe using only human power, spreading an awareness of the planet and showing young people they can accomplish whatever they set out to do.

The duo traversed the mainland on bicycles and in-line skates, pausing to gain support for their educational project, global online academic learning systems giving school presentations, initiate cultural exchange programs and encourage children to follow their dreams.

From San Francisco, they sailed to the Big Island, arriving in November after 53 days and stopping first in Hilo before coming to West Hawaii, where they gave presentations to school children and prepared for their crossing from Hawaii to Australia by way of Tarawa.

From Australia, the vessel will go to Indonesia, then Malaysia. The trip will end in England in 2002 — if all goes as planned.

Plans, however, for the two to continue the trip together have changed. Smith has decided to get on with his life and focus on other things, so Lewis departed alone from Kailua Pier.

"This is very emotional for me,"

Smith said, "and there is some pang of wishing I were going, but on the whole, I know I made the right decision."

Lewis said he is a little apprehensive about going it alone because he doesn't know what it will be like sleeping when no one else is on watch, but the anti-collision device will help on the remaining 15,000-mile voyage.

The 4-foot-by-26-foot wooden vessel, the Moksha, is built like a kayak with an enclosed cockpit and storage at either end.

Lewis's equipment includes an iridium satellite telephone, e-mail capabilities, solar and wind power, a desalinator pump, and provisions include water, antibiotics, pain killers, a suture kit, and dehydrated vegetables and fruit. And big bag of broccoli is within reach of the vegetarian.

"I have one hot meal a day,"

Lewis said. "It's important to have at least one."

A typical day's menu includes: oats, honey/apricot jam, raisins and a cup of tea at breakfast; lunch is toast, humus and Gatorade; dinner is rice or pasta with vegetables, tofu, lentils, split peas for dinner; and snacks of M&Ms and Odwalla bars.

The men have attained a top speed of 4 knots in the vessel, but average 1.8 knots, a fast walking pace. The pedals in the cabin turn a propeller on the bottom of the hull.

"I'm doing this now for different reasons than five years ago," Lewis said. "Before it was travel and adventure, and the excitement of being the first. Now it's the connection with the classrooms. I feel strongly about children holding the future of the planet."

"The voyage is a way to connect with the kids."

He will have interaction with schools in the U. S. and Europe each day.

As part of the student cultural exchange program, photographs taken by children are on display at Kailua-Kona Public Library through June 10. The photos were from New York to Guatemala and Hawaii; it is a traveling exhibit and will be sent to the next stop on the voyage. The display includes photos taken by children from Kohala, Waimea and Kona centering home and family themes.

Those interested in watching his progress may do so through the web site at [www.goals.com](http://www.goals.com). The toll-free telephone number is 1-800-943-0114.