



HAWAI'I RAINBOW WARRIORS

Mountain West

HAWAI'I BIO

National Championships - 0



XO



XO

Mountain West Championships: 0

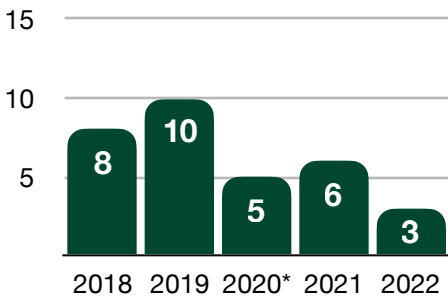
Location: **Honolulu, HI**

All-Time Record: **306-301-6**

2022 Results: **3-10**

Head Coach: **Timmy Chang**
2nd Year (3-10)

5-YEAR WIN TREND



T.C. Ching Complex (9,000)

Hawaii Must Be Road Warriors to Improve

Timmy Chang needs no introduction to Hawaii football fans. He threw for a program record 17,072 yards from 2000-2004 and is now in his second year as head coach of a program currently going through a significant rebuild. He had only seven returning starters combined last season including just two on the defense and the resulting 3-10 record wasn't terribly surprising. The defensive woes were apparent from the very start of the season and the Rainbow Warriors gave up 63 (Vanderbilt), 49 (Western Kentucky) and 56 (Michigan) points in the first three weeks and started 0-3. They earned their first win against FCS Duquesne and also claimed victories against Nevada and UNLV but failed to get a win away from the TC Ching Athletics Complex and finished the road slate at 0-6. This year Chang has 14 returning starters including nine on the defensive side of the football.

The Hawaii defense allowed 40 points five different times last season. The offense struggled to move the football and put the defense in some tight spots but there's some obvious room for improvement. Leading tackler **Logan Taylor** returns at linebacker where he had 85 tackles and an interception. Getting pressure on the opposing quarterback was a major struggle and Hawaii totaled just 17 sacks although **John Tuitupou** (3.5 sacks), **Andrew Choi** (2 sacks), and **Jonah Kahahawai-Welch** (2 sacks) all return which gives the defensive front a good deal of talent. Stopping the run was a big problem too and in addition to these three linemen, Chang and defensive coordinator Jacob Yoro brought in some talent from the transfer portal. **Kuso Peihopa** arrives from Washington and rejoins safety **Meki Pei** who made 53 tackles for the Rainbow Warriors after transferring from Washington last season. **Cameron Stone** plays cornerback and moves from conference foe Wyoming to Honolulu. In short, this year's defense should be noticeably improved.

The Rainbow Warriors still have a long way to go on offense. Chang knows better than most exactly what kind of offense he wants to see but with only five returners on offense Hawaii is still probably a year or two away from finding their true rhythm. However, with even small, incremental improvement, games like the 16-14 loss against San Diego State or the 17-13 loss against Colorado State could suddenly turn into victories. **Joey Yellen** started three games for Hawaii early in the season but completed less than 50% of his passes and had two interceptions without recording a touchdown. Following the Duquesne game **Brayden Schager** took the starting role and never surrendered it back. Shades of the expected pass-heavy attack began to appear and Schager had 40 or more pass attempts in four of the final five games although some of those passes were by necessity as the Rainbow Warriors were chasing big deficits. Both Yellen and Schager return with the latter assuming the starting role.

Two of the top three and five of the top seven pass catchers are gone. **Jalen Walthall** (333 yards) and **Jonah Panoke** (312 yards) are the two top options for this season based on last year's numbers and **Tomato Mokiao-Atimalala** added 15 catches for 146 yards and two touchdowns. Even with the loss in production the passing game could actually be better since Hawaii is now in year two of Chang's offense. The run game loses leader Dedrick Parson (830 yards, 11 touchdowns) but returns everyone else include **Dylan Hines** who posted 634 yards on just 83 carries. The offensive line will need to find its identity after losing tackle IIm Manning but **Solo Vaipulu** is entering his sixth year with the program and is an obvious leader on the line.














The Bottom Line: Hawaii had three games circled last season as potential wins and, to their credit, they did win all three of those games (Duquesne, Nevada, and UNLV). This year, the Warriors will need to find a way to win some games on the road since they now visit both UNLV and Nevada. However, other potential wins include Albany, New Mexico State, and Colorado State who all visit the islands. Even though I am predicting an identical record to last season, I do expect there to be improvement on both sides of the football and I am hopeful that Hawaii fans will be patient with Chang and allow him to fully implement his system. He essentially started from scratch last season so it may take him an extra year to get the program turned around compared to the average rebuild.

Projection: 3-10 (12th in Mountain West)

2022 Statistics

Points Scored	Rush Yards	Pass Yards	Turnover Margin
19.8	137.2	205.5	-8
115th in FBS	86th in FBS	100th in FBS	118th in FBS
Points Allowed	Rush YDS Allowed	Pass YDS Allowed	
34.7	212.7	224.8	
123rd in FBS	126th in FBS	66th in FBS	

2023 Hawai'i Schedule

Week	Date	Team
0	Sat, Aug 26	 @ Vanderbilt
1	Fri, Sept 1	 vs. Stanford
2	Sat, Sept 9	 vs. Albany
3	Sat, Sept 16	 @ Oregon
4	Sat, Sept 23	 vs. N. Mexico St.
5	Sat, Sept 30	 @ UNLV
6	Bye Week	
7	Sat, Oct 14	 vs. San Diego St.
8	Sat, Oct 21	 @ New Mexico
9	Sat, Oct 28	 vs. San Jose St.
10	Sat, Nov 4	 @ Nevada
11	Sat, Nov 11	 vs. Air Force
12	Sat, Nov 18	 @ Wyoming
13	Sat, Nov 25	 vs. Colorado St.

Conference Games in Bold

KEY GAMES

Sat, Sept 30: @ UNLV - The "Island Showdown" trophy is back up for grabs after Hawaii claimed their fourth win in the last five meetings although the Rebels won 27-13 the last time the game was played in Las Vegas.

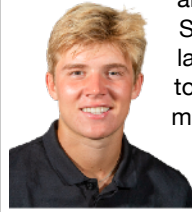
Sat, Nov 4: @ Nevada - The Rainbow Warriors claimed a 31-16 victory in what was their biggest win (by point margin) of the season. Hawaii has won three of four with the lone loss coming on the road in 2021.

Sat, Nov 25: vs. Colorado State - The Rams have had the edge in this series going all the way back to 1995 where they have won eight of nine. The Hawaii offense had their worst performance of the season in the 17-13 loss in Fort Collins.

KEY PLAYERS

Brayden Schager - QB

Few quarterbacks stand to benefit more from being in an offensive scheme for a second year than Schager. After becoming the full-fledged starter in late September he threw for 2,348 yards and 13 touchdowns. If he can prevent from multiplying mistakes (four INTs against Western Kentucky and three INTs against Utah State) he'll take the next step as a passer and there's no better coach to learn from than one of the best college football quarterbacks of all time.



Tylan Hines - RB

With Dedrick Parson's departure, Hines is now the catalyst at running back. He put together a very impressive freshman campaign that included 634 yards rushing for two touchdowns and a notable 7.6 yards per carry. He only had 83 carries on the season but had multiple runs of 20 yards or more. Hines should do even more damage this season with more carries and if the passing game can stretch out the defense.



2022 RESULTS (3-10)

Vanderbilt (L 10-63)
 Western Kentucky (L 17-49)
 @ Michigan (L 10-56)
Duquesne (W 24-14)
 @ New Mexico State (L 26-45)
 @ San Diego State (L 14-16)
Nevada (W 31-16)
 @ Colorado State (L 13-17)
 Wyoming (L 20-27)
 @ Fresno State (L 13-55)
 Utah State (L 34-41)
UNLV (W 31-25)
 @ San Jose State (L 14-27)

HAWAII

RECRUITING

2023 Class Ranking

115th

(Via 24/7 Sports)