



Women's Basketball | 11/20/2014 1:56:00 AM | Shawn Smith, Sports Information Director

## Headed Out West: Part 7



**Headed Out West is a travel blog by Sports Information Director *Shawn Smith* chronicling his experiences during men's and women's basketball trips to Seattle, Wash., Milwaukee, Wis. and Honolulu, Hawai'i.**

Day seven of my whirlwind trip was definitely the longest as I had made the decision not to go to sleep on Monday night since we were going to leave with the women's basketball team for the Grand Forks Airport at 2:45 a.m. This made for a long day. We would travel for nearly 17 hours of the day with 10 of those hours spent in a plane.

We got to the airport and I was definitely in zombie mode, lumbering and barely existing as we checked in and got ready to board our flight to Minneapolis. Assistant Athletic Trainer [Steven Krouse](#) started the day out with one of many cheesy jokes on the day, asking Assistant Athletic Director [Kathleen Brown](#) what a seat that isn't yours is called. Nacho Seat. Literally, a cheesy a joke.

I was able to get a little shut eye on the quick flight to Minneapolis which made me slightly more pleasant to be around, or so I think. We then killed some time in the Minneapolis airport. I got some breakfast, as well as some mountain dew to wake up a bit to make it to our next flight and some sleeping pills to be able to sleep during the next flight. During the layover, I worked on a preview for the men's basketball game against University of Jamestown.

We headed out for Los Angeles, for our first long flight of the day, which was right around three-and-a-half hours. I was able to sleep pretty well on the flight and also just listened to some music and relaxed on what would be a fairly quick flight, especially in relation to our last flight of the day.

Once we got to Los Angeles, the staff went to eat at a restaurant in the airport and just killed some time during the layover.

We then boarded our five-and-a-half hour flight for Honolulu. It was pretty taking off over the ocean out of Los Angeles. This was the first time I have ever flown over the ocean as it is the first time I have ever left the continental United States and yes Hawai'i is in the U.S., a fact that became a question to at least one person later in the night, a point I will get back to. During the flight to Honolulu, I killed the time by sleeping, watching one of my favorite shows How I Met Your Mother and by watching 22 Jump Street and an Independent movie Boyhood. I am a bit of a movie enthusiast, with a collection that amounts to around 400 overall. So that was enjoyable to be able to kill the time with one of my favorite past-times.

We landed in Honolulu around 6:30 local time. From there we went to our vans, where all the girls were presented with the traditional Hawai'ian Lei (flowers). On the bus trip is when Kathleen made the mistake of saying that we had left the country. To which the rest of the van quickly pointed out that we do indeed have 50 states in the U.S. and not 49, one of which is Hawai'i.

Once we got to the hotel, we quickly checked in and headed over to I.H.O.P. for dinner as everyone was starving. After dinner everyone was ready to call it a night as it had been a long day for everyone. I will have more on our trip to Honolulu tomorrow as we will have a luau and visit Pearl Harbor, as well as have a practice.

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