

the Outrigger



JUNE 2010

Published by the Outrigger Canoe Club for Members and Guests at Home and Abroad

Outrigger Masters Double at Haili VB Tournament

By Alika Williams

Over the last weekend in March the Outrigger Canoe Club sent its Masters volleyball team to the 53rd Annual Haili Volleyball Tournament in Hilo. The Outrigger has a long tradition of competing in this tournament and returning with first place trophies. But this year was a little different from all the rest. Earlier in the year we formed our team and because everyone was 35 years and older we entered the Masters division.

Upon entry, the tournament director informed our team captain, Jon Andersen, that the Masters division had only three other teams signed up. Feeling that we had a pretty strong team and that we wanted to get a little more out of the trip to Hilo, we inquired about entering the A division as well.

We were in luck as there was one slot open to fill out the 20 team field, but the agreement with the tournament director was that we had to play in both the A and Masters Divisions. When the team learned of this there was some hesitation because both divisions were very competitive and we would be playing double the matches we were all used too. That's a lot of games for a bunch of old guys, but we were up for the challenge!

We arrived promptly at 9 a.m. at the Hilo Civic Auditorium to start our Thursday of 12 games in pool play format. After our last match at 7 p.m. our record was 5-1 in the A's and 6-0 in the Masters. These were the records we needed as we won our pools and advanced to the semifinals of the Masters and quarterfinals of the A's.

Our next match was not until Friday afternoon, which allowed us some much needed R&R at the beautiful home of Jill and Brent Cullinan overlooking Hilo town. But by three o'clock it was back to UH-Hilo gym to begin our evening of three matches (one Masters and two A's). All three matches were close victories and put us in the finals of both divisions.

The combination of matches over the course of the previous days and the age of our "talent" definitely showed when we all woke up on Saturday morning! Sore knees, sore shoulders and sore muscles were everywhere. But we all dug deep and were able to win both matches, making us the first team ever in the 53 year history of Haili to win two divisions with one team in the same year!

Team members were Jon Andersen, Bruce Black, Stan Brown, TC Gray, Marc Haine, Lyman Lacro, Steve Li, John McDermott, Stein Metzger, Barney Robinson, Jon Stanley and Alika Williams.

Making the All Star teams were Lyman Lacro in the A Division and Stein Metzger and Alika Williams in both the A Division and the Masters Division. Marc Haine was named Most Outstanding Player in the Masters Division.

Special thanks to our Outrigger fans who made the trek to Hilo, including Joan, Sigi and Lars Andersen, and Zoran Cullinan. And a big mahalo to Jill and Brent for hosting us at their beautiful home in Hilo

On the Cover: Outrigger Canoe Club scored a rare feat by winning the Men's Master championship and A Division championship with the same team at the Haili Men's Volleyball Tournament in Hilo. Front: Bruce Black, Lyman Lacro, John McDermott, Steve Li, Stan Brown. Back: Alike Williams Jon Andersen, Stein Metzger, Barney Robinson, TC Gray, Marc Haine and Jon Stanley. See story on page 4.