

1997 Haili Tournament

By Marc Haine

As it does every year, Outrigger showed up at the Haili Tournament in force. The popular tournament, a showcase of the Islands' very best players, was held March 27-29 on the Big Island. The OCC 35's team and OCC's Open team entered the Open division, playing well enough through pool play to get to the playoffs.

Both teams won their first round matches eliminating two teams from the tournament. With four teams remaining, the OCC Open played the Back Yard Federation, a team comprised of former UH volleyball players. OCC lost its match and was left to watch the finals from the stands.

Members of the Open team were Keone Kowalski, John McDermott, Danny McInerney, Tony McInerney, Chris Siegfried, Gary Van Sickle and Scott Wong.

The OCC 35's played against Kaneohe, another team of ex-UH players including Allen Allen, in its playoff round. The team also lost its match, but Scott Rigg and Marc Haine were distinguished by making the All-Star Team. Other team members were Jon Andersen, Kimo Brown, Tom Harrer, Jimmy Kalaukoa, Alan Lau and Jon Stanley.

The OCC 45's entered the Masters 35 and over division and won. It was a great championship final as Outrigger went head to head against old friends who play for the Natatorium. The team played steady to outlast a more physical team. Randy Shaw suffered a leg injury in a previous playoff match, but coached his team to victory in the finals. Both he and Bill Lawson were named to the All-Star team. Other members of the team were Tom Madison, Rob Durand, Bill Johnson, T.C. Gray, Mike Cote and Chris Crabb.

OCC's A team didn't fair as well against older, more experienced teams entered in this competitive division, but showed some feisty and fired up play. The team hopes to make a better showing next year. Members of the A team were Lindsey Breeden, Dylan Fern, Dominic Griffin, Ryan Haneberg, Milo Haneberg, Bill Pratt, Luke Rigg, Maui Tautaha, Brendan Watumull. Ø