

Volleyball Team Off to Jr. Olympics

By Ron Li

In the world of junior volleyball, the opportunity to compete in the annual USVBA Junior Olympics is the goal of hundreds of youth teams throughout the country.

Last year, our boys finished fifth out of a competitive field of 32 teams entered in the 18 and under division and narrowly missed the chance of playing in the championship game before an audience of 200 teams.

On the return flight home, the boys vowed to return this year and make a stronger showing against great competition. This year's tournament will be held in Fort Collins, Colorado, July 4-9.

Since February, the boys have been living up to their vows by working out three times a week, including scrimmages with the Outrigger Open, Masters and Golden Masters teams, plus great showings in the weekend A tournaments and a trip to the Haili Tournament in Hilo.

On May 21, the hard work and team intensity paid off with their convincing wins over three other boy's teams for the Aloha Regional Championship, thereby assuring themselves of a high seed in the opening rounds of the Junior Olympics.

Daily workouts began in June, along with daily work projects to earn \$4,000 to cover trip expenses in excess of the Club sponsorship. Jobs to date include house moves, major yard cleanups, warehouse restocking, staffing for the Pro Beach Volleyball Tournament, etc.

If you have a work project this summer, if only for a few hours, and would like to make a donation for the team services, please leave word at the Front Desk or contact one of the boys. Work can be performed in July and August after they return from the tournament.

The core of the team are the Punahou varsity boys who live on the sand courts at the Club and include the State Player of the Year. To this team have been added Brad Stewart, runner-up Player of the Year from state second place team, University High School, and Dave Williams, Maui Player of the Year.

As a tribute to the Club's volleyball

environment, it should be noted that three of the Punahou seniors on the team have been recruited by colleges in the national final four. Stevie Li will be entering UC Santa Barbara and David Stackhouse and Jeff Stevens will be teammates at George Mason University.

Other members of the team are John Cheever, who will be an architectural student at Cornell, Ryan Gilbert, Rick-ey Humphreys, Deke Kilpatrick, Lee LeGrande, Kanoa Ostrem and Wayne Seligson.

The coaches are Chris McLachlin, Peter Balding Jr. and Bob Riley for weight training. Dr. Bill Stevens will be a dorm chaperone and Robbie Ostrem is investing in a new VCR camera to record all the action.

Last year, the boys were recognized as the best dressed team and gained respect and popularity from the spectators for their sportsmanship which was an example to younger teams at the tournament.

This year, Club member Bill Thompson has emerged as the major donor by arranging for Asics Tiger to provide the team with a complete uniform, including the latest model of volleyball shoes. Asics Tiger is associated with the top collegiate volleyball teams, including the UH Rainbows, and the Outrigger boys are the only boy's team they are sponsoring nationally which is a credit to the Club program.

Other clothing sponsors are Jon Andersen, Riggers Hawaii; Dale

Hope, Hawaiian Style; Vik Watumull, Happy Shirts plus a work project; and the Cheevers of The Bikeway with water bottles.

Following the Junior Olympics, Stevie Li will be reporting to the USVA Elite Junior Training Camp to be held at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He was one of 36 boys and 36 girls who are high school seniors selected nationally, and the only Hawaii representative.

To add fun and a sharp edge to playing skills, players from last year's team who went on to play in college have formed a scrimmage team. They include Leon Devaney, a member of the USC national championship team; Tony McInerney and David Porteus, San Diego State; Hoku Swartman, Loyola-Marymount, and Russell Nitta, Menlo. ☺

Fashion Shows

There will be two Fashion Shows at the Club during July. On Friday, July 1, Princess Kaiulani will present their fashions, and on Friday, July 29, there will be informal modeling of items from the OCC Beach Shop.

The Back to School Fashion Show is slated for Saturday, August 13, with all OCC children models.

Reservations for the luncheon fashion shows are suggested.

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