

# OCC a "Winner" at Jr. Nationals

Despite being seeded 10th, Outrigger's volleyball team finished fifth overall of 32 teams at the Jr. National Volleyball Championships, July 3-8 in Albuquerque, N.M.

"We can take great pride in the team's performance," said Coach Bob Riley. "They exceeded their potential and dreams. We overcame the seedings and upset the number two ranked Palisades team which had won the championship last year."

"Our team was a real crowd pleaser," said team dad Ron Li. "They displayed real character, model sportsmanship and gentlemanly manners both on and off the court."

Outrigger was also the best dressed team at the tournament thanks to its many sponsors. They received hundreds of requests to buy their uniforms!

"All of the teams we faced were bigger physically than we were," Riley said. "They were taller, weighed more and had more experience. Tournament winner Reebok of Torrance, California, had nine seniors on its team, including seven who won college scholarships."

Club members should be particularly proud of Tony McInerny and Leon Devaney who were named Junior All Americans.

The team worked hard throughout June to raise funds for the trip. They worked at John Finney's ranch cutting brush, setting traps and shoveling cow

dung. They also worked helping move the Cheever's Bikeway store from Kapiolani Boulevard to its new location.

The team wishes to also thank Cline Mann for his monetary contribution and continuous support, Dale Hope, Bill Nelson, Michele St. John, David, Cindy and Jill Cheever for the classy uniforms, Asics Tiger for shoes and travel bags and the Board of Directors of the Club for their assistance.

The week's activities began with a send-off lunch at the Club. The speaker was Chris McLachlin who had offered to help coach the team in the tournament, while on his way to coach the South team in the U.S. Olympic Sports Festival.

## Thursday, July 2

The team and coaches arrived in Albuquerque in 105 degree morning heat and 5,000-foot desert elevation.

## Friday, July 3

Opening day ceremonies.

## Saturday, July 4

We got off to a fast start by defeating Great Empire, N.Y. 15-9, 15-7 and a tough Santa Barbara, Ca. team 15-3, 10-15, 15-12.

## Sunday, July 5

Jet lag hit the team, losing to Palisades Blue, 11-15, 17-15, 15-9 and a big Evanston, Il. team, 16-14, 15-11.

## Monday, July 6

Defeated the Whips of Pa. by forfeit and lost to Malibu East, 15-11, 15-13. We used our second string most of the

game. (P.S. Malibu East finished second in the tournament.)

## Tuesday, July 7

We have now advanced to the top eight in the championship bracket of the tournament. In our first game, we defeated number two seed, Palisades Blue, 15-4, 21-19. Then we lost to Evanston, Il. 15-9 and 16-14. We finished in fifth place after losing again to Malibu East, 15-11, 16-14.

A post-tournament reunion picnic was held on August 2 at the home of David and Karen Porteus.

Next year's tournament will be held in Fort Collins, Colorado and the boys are already planning to play. They have started their fundraising by returning to the Finney ranch and selling Dale Hope's 1988 Hawaiian Tide Calendars.

Any members with fundraising opportunities for the team during the coming year are asked to contact coaches Peter Balding Jr., Bob Riley or Chris McLachlin or Team Pop Ron Li. ☺



Attending the sendoff luncheon were, left to right, front, Russell Nitta, Hoku Swartman, Kanoa Ostrem, John Cheever and Jeff Stevens. Second row, Steve Li, John Finney, Ian Moore, Peter Balding Jr. and Leon Devaney. Back row, David Stackhouse, Tony McInerny, Cline Mann, Deke Kilpatrick, David Porteus and Bob Riley.

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