

Outrigger Softball in High Gear

By Dave Pierson

The OCC Men's softball program competes weekly with the best slow-pitch softball competition in the State of Hawaii. Doubt it? Come across the street on Saturday mornings or on a Tuesday or Thursday evening and watch, not only our team, but former U.H., Punahou and Kamehameha stars performing minor miracles in the field or at the bat on the friendly Elk's Field diamond.

It's true that Outrigger is a "veteran" team with players who have been together for twenty or more years in some cases. It is also true that these same players have brought over twenty championships home and still have the competitive zeal and skill, if not the speed and power of old, to bring a few more trophies to our already crowded display cases.

Archie Kaaua first suited-up for OCC in 1954, followed several years later by Henry Ayau, Bill Head, Colin Chock and Dave Pierson in the 1960s. Since there are no Masters or Golden Masters in softball, we must compete weekly with young, "open division" teams, yet we remain at a high level of competition and never have been an easy victim for even the best teams in the Restaurant Weekend League.

Recent years have seen some outstanding "young" players bolster and lead the team. Commitments to coaching duties and participation in the Club's two major sports, paddling and volleyball, occasionally leave a few bare spots, but nonetheless, the team is always ready to do battle.

Perhaps the fastest man from home to first base in all Hawaii is Dave Shoji, one of OCC's best athletes, now enjoying a round-the-world trip as the Pan Am Quarterback Club's athlete of the year in 1984. Few athletes can rattle the tree in center field as can sluggers Henry Ayau, Johnny Mounts and Bill Kilcoyne.

Nolan "Ram" Ramirez, when not coaching U.H. baseball, sparkles at shortstop, showing the skills that led him to a fine professional baseball career. Rick Conroy, Mounts, Shoji and Guy Jennings give us one of the fastest and best outfields in any league. The hitting of veterans Kilcoyne, Head, Chock and Pierson have led the



Richard Wood

Members of Outrigger's Softball team are, front, Mike Eichten, Guy Jennings, Bill Head, Henry Ayau, Archie Kaaua and Dave Pierson. Standing, Dan West, Chris Kincaid, Rick Conroy, Bill Kilcoyne and Johnny Mounts.

team to a tie for the league in the Outrigger Weekday League and a .500 record in the increasingly tough Restaurant League.

Chris Kincaid, "Rod Man" Muller and Scott Rigg have given the team depth at several positions. Bob Riley, Kincaid and Chock are versatile at several positions. Coach Bill Head and Dave Pierson, with Hank Ayau and Dan West in the bull pen, handle the pitching.

Recent victories include an extra-inning battle against Mike Ciacci's Colony Surf team, which saw the Outrigger storm back with three runs in the final inning to capture a thrilling 5-4 victory on Rick Conroy's clutch single, and a 4-3 win over a tough Hale's team. Perhaps one of the best games of the season was a heart-breaking 4-3 loss to Sizzler's in the Restaurant League, when three of our over-zealous runners were thrown out trying for that extra base.

Coach Head has done a fine job

Fashion Show

Informal modeling of the latest designs from local manufacturer's will be featured at a Fashion Show during the regular Friday luncheon at the Club on Aug. 9. Outrigger members will be the models. Early lunch reservations for that day are suggested.

keeping the team together despite the varied demands on the players. Our goal is, however, to remain competitive in the most competitive league without going outside our regular membership to recruit. Hopefully, some of our younger members will come forward with the skills and desire to join one of the Club's most successful teams.

Mokuleia Polo

It will be Outrigger Day at the Polo matches in Mokuleia on Sunday, July 28 and members are invited to attend.

Buses will leave the Club at 11 a.m. On the ride out, polo players will explain the game and answer questions. Beverages will be served on the bus.

Upon arrival at Mokuleia, a smorgasboard luncheon will be served, followed by a tour of the polo grounds led by Fred Dailey. The buses will return to the Club by 5 p.m.

You might even get to see some of our own Outrigger members who play polo including Fred and Murph Dailey, Bob MacGregor, Kiki Rolles, Mike Dailey, Rick Rand, Clark Reynolds and Bob Hogan. Rolles is the only woman polo player in the state.

Cost of the day's activities, including admission to the matches is \$25 per person. Seating is limited on the buses so make your reservations early at the Front Desk.