



CARISSA MOORE COMPETES IN TRIPLE CROWN PRO EVENT

By Terri Needels

OCC surfer Carissa Moore blew away the age barriers in the surfing world when she competed in the Roxy Pro, held at Haleiwa Alii Beach in November 2003. She is the youngest surfer, male or female, to ever compete in a Triple Crown contest. Carissa was granted a sponsor's exemption into the professional contest, which featured professional women surfers from around the globe.

The event was held in stormy conditions, with 6-foot sets, many of which were closing out and coming from the side. Carissa advanced through her preliminary heat to the quarterfinals, eliminating two Australian professionals in the process (Dara Penfold and Serena Brooke).

She had exceptionally tough competition in the quarterfinal heat where she surfed against three pros ranked in the top 10 in the world. She definitely held her own and many commented that she really surfed like one of the touring pros (except she is 4' 10", 80 pounds and in the 6th grade at Punahou School!).

Although Carissa was eliminated in the quarterfinals, she demonstrated she is capable of competing with the professionals under

much-less-than-ideal conditions. Carissa tied for 13th place and won \$700 in prize money. Carissa donated her prize money to help fellow amateur competitor Bethany Hamilton who lost her arm to a shark attack on Kauai.

Proud father, OCC member Chris Moore said "all I wanted her to do was make it back to the beach safely...whatever happens from here is gravy." Numerous people have noted the similarities between golf prodigy Michelle Wie and Carissa Moore, as both have unmistakable, incredible talent; they have broken age barriers; attend Punahou School; and competed against the pros.

The similarities end there, though, as "the worst thing that can happen if you have a bad day golfing is your ball goes in the water" noted Carissa's dad. Well, Carissa not only made it back to shore safe and sound, she demonstrated she is in the same league as the professionals.

Keep an eye on this youngster, as she is bound to totally revolutionize women's surfing and move it to a new level. We are so proud of you, Carissa! CONGRATULATIONS!



Swimming Awards

Three OCC women swimmers were honored at the Castle Swim for their swimming diligence.

Norma Santiago and Laurie Sloan were honored for swimming 250 miles, and Barbie Crandlemire received an award for swimming 100 miles.