

SNOW IN HAWAII?



By Terri Needels

It may be hard to believe, but it is absolutely true! Snow is showing up at the top of every local long board amateur and pro-am surfing meet in Hawaii—Ned Snow, to be precise.

You may be wondering why you haven't noticed Snow at the Outrigger Canoe Club in the past. There is a good reason—Ned and his family recently moved to Oahu from the Big Island. They previously lived in Puako, north of Kona, until they moved to the Diamond Head area about two years ago.

Ned is 18 years old and is a senior at the Academy of the Pacific. His favorite south shore (Oahu) surfing spot—and home break—is Cliffs. On the north shore, his favorite spot is Gas Chambers. Back on the Big Island, his favorite spot is Waipio Valley.

Ned was about nine years old when he taught himself to surf. His skills have evolved exponentially to the point he has become the guy to beat in all the long board competitions.

His recent wins include earning first place in the Open Men's Long board and Men's Long board division of the HASA meet at Sandy Beach, and second place in the Open Men's Long board division of the NSSA event on the Big Island in October. He recently won second place in the Macy/Hurley E-Series pro-am contest, against all of the big name professional long boarders.

Ned plans to continue to surf competitively in the amateur divisions of HASA, NSSA, and the Hawaii pro-am contests this year and to graduate from high school. His future goals involve competing in the long board professional circuit in Hawaii and on the mainland and attending college in Hawaii.

While various surfboard and sports gear companies sponsor him, Ned made it clear that his best sponsor is his mother. That really demonstrates that he isn't caught up in the glamour and hype of commercialized surfing but is instead a person of solid character. He is just the kind of surfer we are thrilled to welcome to the OCC surfing team.

Keep looking for Snow—you won't be disappointed.

OCC Surf Team Results

As usual, the OCC surfers continue to dominate in the state's amateur and pro-am surfing contests. Listed below are the most recent wins achieved by team riders.

Hawaii Amateur Surfing Association Series

October 8 & 9, Sandy Beach

Ned Snow, 1st, Men's Longboard & Open Men's Longboard

National Scholastic Surfing Association Series

October 24 & 25, Big Island

Johann Hedemann, 7th, Explorer Menehune Division

Amy Lawson, 4th, Explorer Women Division & 7th, Open Women Division

Carissa Moore, 2nd, Explorer Women Division & Open Boys Division; 5th, Open Menehune Division; 4th, Open Women Division

Ned Snow, 2nd, Open Men Longboard

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