

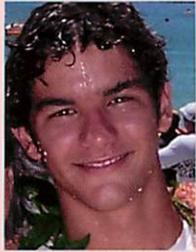
the Outrigger



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Jimmy Field and Nainoa Basdavanos 2007 Fischer Memorial Award Recipients



Nainoa Basdavanos



Jimmy Field

By Genie Kincaid

All members who paddle for our Club are part of one big team, and are therefore, important to the Club's effort. However, there are those who distinguish themselves by going the extra mile and putting out the extra effort.

The Bob Fischer Memorial perpetual trophy is awarded to recognize outstanding achievement by Outrigger's youth paddlers. Mr. Fischer was an accomplished surfer, canoe paddler, and coach during the years when Outrigger Canoe Club was located next to the Moana Hotel. The two silver cups, which are part of the perpetual trophy's design, were won by Mr. Fischer as a teenager for canoe paddling.

This year two young men—Jimmy Field and Nainoa Basdavanos—coached by Jim Beaton have stood out for their selfless efforts and were honored at the Paddler's Banquet July 30 for their contributions to the canoe racing program.

Field has been the stalwart two-seat for the Boys 15 crew that has finished no worse than second place in every qualifying regatta. Since the first regatta, the crew has been striking gold all the way through the Oahu Championships on July 22.

"He catches a ride with me to the regattas so he's always there when I rig the koa boat for the races. He's not one to shy away from helping out so he learned how to tie the insides and outsides of the canoe," said Beaton. Besides learning the time-consuming task of rigging the *Kaoloa*, Field always steps up and volunteers for boat holding duties.

His coach describes Field as very enthusiastic, and always willing to help. Over the years, Field has learned to read his coach. "Before I even say anything, he'll come over and ask me, 'What do you need, Coach?' And no matter what I ask of him, I get the same thing from



Jen Bossert enlisted Mini Riggers Kaya McTigue, Alexandra Romanowski, Emma Bradley and Teana Bryan to sell regatta shirts.



The hard working Canoe Racing Subcommittee: Jen Bossert, chair; Sandra Simons, Kawika Grant, Alice Lunt, Kelly McMahon, Ann Buck, Liz Perry and Kehau Kali.

him—no worries, Jim, I got it, I'll take care of it. And the funny thing is, the other kids in the crew listen to him because he's so big," Beaton laughed.

This is the second consecutive year for Basdavanos to have been recognized by the Canoe Racing Committee and coaching staff for his actions during the regatta season.

Basdavanos steers the successful Boys 18 crew that also won their division at the Oahu Championships.

Like Field, he can be found early at the regattas helping to unload equipment from the OCC truck, setting up the tent, rigging and caring for the koa canoe at the shoreline, and holding boats at the start of the races. He supports his younger sister, Kahala, who steers the Girls 12 crew, sharing sage advice and holding the crew's boat for racing starts.

"He loves to talk and keeps everyone going," said Beaton. Basdavanos was the only junior paddler who did a couple races with the open men last year.

Jimmy Austin recalled steering one Hawaii Kai practice run with Basdavanos in five-seat. "The kid kept looking out of the boat, and I was thinking, what's he looking at? He kept doing it, and I was kind of getting annoyed. Then when we wound off, he turned around, looked at me, had this big grin on his face, and said, 'This is so cool.' I mean, you gotta love that."

Congratulations, Jimmy and Nainoa, you are among the bright stars in the Club's outrigger canoe racing future.

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Donald T. Eovino (R)
GRI, CRB, CRS.
(808) 735-3066
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On the Cover: Jimmy Field (pictured) and Nainoa Basdavanos received the Robert Fischer Memorial Trophy for their outstanding participation during regatta season, from Coaches Jim Beaton and Keoni Kino. See story and more photos on pages 20-21. Photo by Marilyn Kali