

So What Gives Outrigger Volleyballers That Bounce?

Ever since the U.S. Olympic Volleyball Team with four players from Hawaii beat the world champion Russians, people have been asking, "What makes us so good?"

Is it because volleyball players in Hawaii drink Primo?

Is it because the team captain, Tom Haine, manager of the Waikiki Branch of First National Bank, plays volleyball instead of eating lunch?

Is it because we've been stealing players from California?

Yesterday, I went to the citadel of volleyball in Hawaii, the Outrigger Canoe Club, to discover how come Hawaii has suddenly blossomed into one of the world's greatest volleyball player factories.

Everybody was in a dither over beating the Russians in Mexico City. Outrigger president Howdy Goss said, "It was like St. Louis High School beating Purdue."

The first real volleyball player I ran into was Mike McMahon, an athletic-looking office equipment salesman for Sen Co.

"How long have you been playing volleyball at the Outrigger?" I asked.

"This will be my first year," he said. "They brought me over from Los Angeles. I've been playing with the West Side Jewish Community Center."

My eyebrows went up. McMahon?

"There isn't a Jewish guy on the team," he explained.

Volleyball player McMahon said there is considerable competition for top volleyball players among clubs, including the Outrigger, now rated as a volleyball powerhouse. Other strong clubs include the Jewish Community Center in Los Angeles, the Olympic Club in San Francisco and the Dallas YMCA.

Local volleyballer Ron Sorrell, former coach of the Outrigger team, said the club brought several top players from California last year, including Jon Stanley and John Alstrom, both members of the U. S. Olympic team.

"We don't give them anything except a membership in the club," Sorrell said.

Veterinarian William Parker agreed that California players have helped. But he gave another reason for the



Outrigger Canoe Club Photo

Outrigger volleyballers at Olympics: Stanley, Alstrom, Haine, and Velasco.

success of Outrigger volleyball players.

"It's because they play in the sand," he said. "Playing in the sand is harder. When you get on a hard court, it's

A Bob Krauss SPECIAL

that much easier."

Parker explained that kids at the Outrigger begin playing volleyball when they are old enough to walk, especially when the surf is down. His own son, still in high school, is already a top player.

Ernest "Tommy" Thomas, an Outrigger Canoe Club "hamburger league" volleyballer for 25 years, said the team's success is due to conditioning and coaching.

He revealed that Outrigger Canoe Club volleyballers may have the most exclusive training facilities in the world.

"They used to get in shape running up and down the Colony Surf," he

explained. "They'd have time trials to see who could get up and down 20 stories first."

Thomas also credited coach John Lowell for whipping the team into top shape. Lowell is an import from Church College in Laie.

The news that Czechoslo-

vakia beat the U. S. team 3-1 yesterday came as a big blow to volleyball enthusiasts at the Outrigger.

"Even so, we beat the Russians," said Sorrell. "Now if our canoe paddlers can beat the Waikiki Canoe Club in the Molokai Race, I'll be satisfied."

Man Guilty In Slaying

After deliberating 11 hours, a jury found Wallace Kuewa guilty of second degree murder in the shooting of Gasoliluma Uperesa, 36, last Nov. 18.

The jury returned the verdict shortly before noon yesterday.

Kuewa, 34, who has already spent more than 12 years in prison, took the unanimous verdict calmly.

Felony Judge Herman T. F. Lum, who heard the eight-day trial, set Kuewa's sentencing for Nov. 21. Kuewa could be sentenced to a term ranging from 20 years to life.

Kuewa was indicted and went to trial on a charge of first degree murder, but the jury brought in the reduced verdict. Had he been convicted of first degree murder, he would have received an automatic sentence of life with no parole.

Magistrate III

District Magistrate Louis A. Rodrigues, 48, suffered a heart attack yesterday. He was confined in Castle Memorial Hospital last night where his condition was listed as "good."

Kauai Condominium Decision

LULU The Kauai board Nov. 5 General Election 1-1-68 224-000