

UH, USC tie up Classic

By Ann Miller
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Both the University of Hawaii and USC considered the first two days of the International Men's Volleyball Classic at Klum Gym a preliminary for their league-opening match tomorrow night.

But after watching each other play 9½ hours of volleyball since Sunday, neither team knows much more about their opponents than they did before the Classic marathon began.

Last night, Hawaii lost to Waseda of Japan, 15-4, 6-15, 15-6, 15-10, in a match that featured superb defensive play. Outrigger Canoe Club clobbered USC, 15-10, 15-12, 15-10, behind the hitting of Marc Rigg (19 kills), Matt Rigg (16) and Mike Cote (12). On Sunday's opening night, Hawaii beat Outrigger in five games and USC downed Waseda in five. Every team in the Classic is 1-1.

The Trojans probably got a better look at the Rainbows last night than they wanted. Hawaii coach Dave Shoji played everyone.

"From a coaching standpoint," Shoji said, "there was no reason to win tonight. The

purpose of tonight's game was to get everyone some work."

The liberal substitutions also caused USC some confusion as it prepares for tomorrow's California Intercollegiate Volleyball Association opener (the teams play again Friday).

It went without saying, that Shoji would have preferred to win. And the Rainbows had their chances. But Waseda, which lost to the Trojans in its first match of the year, had too much defense and deception. It also had something to prove.

"Most of all, the reason we won is heart," Waseda coach Suguru Furuichi said. "Because we lost to USC yesterday, we felt we had to win tonight."

The first game was a good start. Hawaii missed five serves and Waseda took advantage behind the hitting of Masatsumi Jumonji (26 kills) and setting of Yoshiyuki Nishizuka to finish the game in less than 20 minutes.

"Our first team started poorly," Shoji said. "But by the end of the second game it was playing really well."

Those starters — Brad Peirce (11 kills), Bill Via (6), John Hanley (11), Dan Vrebalov

vich (9), Aukai Gonsalves (4) and Jaime Plummer (8) — completely turned the match around in the second game. They figured out Waseda's offense and began handling the difficult serves. Then they went out.

In the final two games, Hawaii's work was done by Thomas Harrer (3), setter Brian Costales, Dale Horning (7), Steve Sebastian (7 kills in 10 attempts without an error), Jimmy Kalaukoa (8) and Pono Maa (9).

They started off slowly, but held off eight game points in the third game. They easily could have won the fourth game as Sebastian, Maa and Kalaukoa began slamming their sets and Costales — who had an excellent defensive match — gave them good sets to hit.

"I wanted to see the second group," Shoji said. "They played real well at the end. I feel real good about the subs and the first group too."

Hawaii had a 3-0 lead in the final game. A lapse left the game tied at 3. Then Waseda took the lead and never relinquished it.