

By Hugh Clark

Advertiser Big Island Bureau

HILO — The women took the spotlight in yesterday's fifth day of the 25th Haili Easter Invitational Volleyball Tournament, until Tom Selleck of Magnum P.I. fame showed up last night to play in a losers bracket match.

Selleck and Dave Shoji, the University of Hawaii-Manoa volleyball coach, stole part of the thunder as Outrigger Canoe Club's Masters team fought to remain in contention in the 89-team tournament.

The University of Hawaii-Manoa Rainbow Wahines emerged as the favorite for the second consecutive year in the women's open division after defeating two UH-Hilo teams yesterday.

In the men's division, Outrigger was threatening to turn the open competition into an intracub event. Both Outrigger 1 and 2 were unbeaten going into the last round of matches last night.

Final play starts at 9 a.m. today at Hilo Civic Auditorium with two courts and 12 matches to decide third place, second and the championship in each of four classifications. Championship games are expected to start at approximately 3 p.m.

The Rainbows outlasted the Volley Girls, one of two teams composed of UH-Hilo volleyball players, 14-12, 15-10, and then defeated Mid Pacific, the other UHH team, 15-5, 15-8, to become the final team in the winners bracket.

Today, the two UHH teams and Brigham Young University-Hawaii's team, competing as Polynesian Cultural Center, will compete for the right to face

Manoa in the championship.

First, the Volley Girls will meet PCC in an elimination game. The winner advances against Mid Pacific. That winner will challenge Manoa.

Mid Pacific began women's play yesterday morning with a 13-15, 15-6, 15-8 victory over PCC. Alofa Tagataese, a middle blocker who will be a senior at UHH this fall, led Mid Pac with important kills, particularly in the last two games.

Vetoann "Budgie" Baker, an ex-UHH player, and Nalani Spencer, who will be a junior this fall, played well in the victory over the Seasideers, who played in BYUH uniforms.

The Volley Girls, coached by Sharon Peterson of UHH, followed against Manoa. Volley led briefly in the first game, fell behind, then rallied with five successive points late in the game with Marve Keama serving. She had three consecutive aces before time ran out.

The Rainbows, behind the power hitting of Kori Pulaski and Marcie Wurts, overcame the passing and blocking finesse of the Vulcans.

Hilo's Volley Girls led 7-6 in the early stages of the second game before a six-point run put the defending champions ahead to stay.

The Volley Girls rebounded a short time later to eliminate Kuuipos of Oahu, 8-14, 15-5, 15-7, to reach today's third-place match with BYUH.

In the women's novice, Hoku, coached by former Manoa setter Nahaku Brown, and Ho'oikaika of Kauai remained unbeaten in the winners bracket. Still in contention on the losers side are the Daughters of Oahu, Panaewa of Hilo, Waikini of Milolii and Reggae, last year's champions.

Outrigger Canoe No. 1 remained unbeaten by defeating the popular Masters' team, 6-15, 10-8, 15-9, and then stopping Hilo's Brilhante, 15-3, 15-13.

Outrigger No. 2 also was unbeaten after a 15-5, 15-8 victory over Rap Center of Hilo.

Outrigger Masters was locked in a three-game struggle with Burger King of Hilo in the losers bracket last night. Also still in competition were BYUH, which lost earlier to OCC Masters, 11-9, 17-15; Steinlager of Hilo and Brilhante.

In the men's novice, Keaukaha of Hilo, coached by Rayann Rowe, was the only unbeaten team left last night.

Four teams are struggling for championship contention today. They are Kohala and Brilhante of the Big Island, High 5 of Oahu and the Maui Brothers. Keaukaha reached the finals by sweeping High 5 last night.

Maui set for title run

WAILUKU, Maui — Revitalized by its 2-0 victory over league-leading Baldwin (5-1), defending champion Maui (3-2) is primed to make a strong bid for another title as the Maui Inter-scholastic League baseball season enters its third and final round next week.

The final round will include games against Molokai and Lanai. Although little is known of these teams, Molokai is expected to play an important role in determining the MIL champion. The Farmers will play St. Anthony (1-4) next weekend and return for games the following week against Baldwin and Lahainaluna (2-4).

The rubber match between Baldwin and Maui is scheduled for April 19. The Sabers also may have to make up a game against St. Anthony. It was