

the island school



Navigator

a tri-annual publication
Winter, 2010

Extra Curricular ...

Wuzzup

After School?

What's Ahead?

<i>The Emperor's New Clothes</i> - 5th grade play	Fri/Sat, March 5, 6 7 p.m.
Begin Trimester 3	Monday, March 8
Glitz, Glamour & Good Deeds - IS 31st Annual Auction - Kauai Marriott	Saturday, March 13 5 p.m.
Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences	Thurs/Fri, March 18, 19
FIRST Robotics Competition	Thurs-Sat, March 25-27
Spring Break	Friday, April 2 - Sunday, April 11
Spring Choral Concert - KCCPac	Thursday, April 15
High School One-Act Play Festival	Fri/Sat, April 23, 24 7 p.m.
High School Prom	Saturday, May 1
Annual May Day Celebration	Friday, May 7

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- Hats Off to Sean Magoun ... pg. 7

After Last Period

Lots going on after hours at Island School

The school day doesn't end at 2:40 for a huge number of Island School students. When fourth block is dismissed, instead of catching a ride home or to the beach, you'll find many students off to sports practices, robotics, Mock Trial, play rehearsals, tutoring, and a myriad other after-school activities. This cornucopia of choices exists due to the adult mentors who are willing and able to put in extra time and energy (sometimes after a full day of work). Our hats are off to these individuals who are often the ones who make a very important contribution in the lives of our children.

Robotics

As Lt. Governor Duke Aiona observed on a recent visit to Island School, many students and mentors of the Robotics team put in more after-school hours than our athletes. These dedicated technology enthusiasts not only work way past dinner time, but on weekends and holidays as well.

"We're on a deadline," explains James Massaro, who heads up the robotics effort. Mr. Massaro has set up his barbecue grill near their workshop so students can curb their hunger and stay even later.

There is a long list of mentors who make a program like this possible. These people come from PMRF, Tektron, Balasco, Oceanit, IT Kauai, the Parker Group, Wildwood Studios, Signature Systems, KIUC, and from our faculty, parents and board of directors. They share a love of technology and are devoted to preparing our young people for the future.

Many of these students will pursue college degrees in engineering, but for all of them, the experience will furnish them with skills to last a lifetime.



Team Captain, Chris Fontes-Barry, '10, shows Lt. Governor Duke Aiona how their robot operates. Behind, center, is mentor Scott Libert and, right, James Massaro.

Dive Club



Seventh grader, Kyle Riddle on a dive to Turtle Bluffs, where they got a nice view of some sleeping white tip reef sharks

Twenty-four Island School students have earned their SCUBA certification and are active members of our Dive Club this year. Since its inception it's been a popular extra-curricular activity for our middle and high school students, many of whom enjoy exploring the ocean's underwater wonders.

Started in 2001 by former science teacher Stephanie Ibbs, the current advisors are Joe Corbo and Tyler Vandruff. "A lot of what we learn on our dives is shared in the classes I teach," said science teacher, Joe Corbo. Last year, Mr. Corbo arranged for a presentation by renowned underwater photographer, Marty Snyderman.

Through the generosity of Marvin Otsuji of Seasport Divers, our students are given a break in instruction and dive fees. Also, a grant from Leadership Kauai has made it possible for the club to purchase some equipment of their own and allows more students to participate.

Dive Club is a fabulous educational opportunity. Earning PADI and advanced SCUBA certifications deepen a student's appreciation for the ocean and marine life, knowledge and experience that will remain long after their Island School days are over.



Our Coaches Bring Out the Best

"Over the course of this school year, approximately 66 Island School high school students will participate in KIF sports," estimated Athletics Director, Kaiipo Kealalio. That's 60% of the high school student body! Since the completion of the Wilcox Gymnasium in 2008, the Voyager athletic program has grown stronger and is reaching more students than ever before. This year, we have fielded 11 KIF teams: Air Rifery, Cross Country, Bowling, girls Varsity Volleyball, boys Varsity Soccer, girls J. Varsity Basketball (exhibition), boys Varsity Basketball, Tennis, Swimming, Golf, and Track. The number has almost doubled in three years!



Students who participate in sports learn far more than how to play the game. The commitment they must make for the season and the good sportsmanship they are expected to demonstrate build character in these young people. Maintaining physical fitness is critical to athletes and sows the seeds for a lifetime of good health. Successes experienced in sports give students confidence to excel in other areas.

At the heart of the growth of our athletics department are the many coaches who put hours of their time into their passion for sports and young people. They are the role models who inspire our students to push their limits. Our coaches work for modest stipends or are volunteers, and the contributions they make to Island School's program are priceless.

Coach Ernie Blachowiak, for example, started out by teaching tennis as a guest PE teacher. The flame he lit over ten years ago has made tennis one of our most popular KIF sports. Mike "Doc" Woltmon, a pioneer of Island School KIF sports, launched our first team in 1997 - Air Rifery. His enthusiasm and vision turned our fledgling group of high school athletes into a competitive team of marksmen. Girls JV basketball coach, Cheryl Claypoole, has shared her love for the sport with our girls, resulting in a 10-1 championship season this year!



Putting it all together over the years has been Sean Magoun, Island School's first Athletic Director and coach of several sports. "It's satisfying to see these young people set their own goals and achieve what many of them thought was impossible," he said.



"I'll always be grateful to all the coaches who helped me make important choices in my life."

It's from this sentiment that our Athletic Director, Kaiipo Kealalio approaches his job. Kaiipo played volleyball, track and football at his alma mater, Kapa'a High School. "I didn't have my priorities right," he



Kaiipo Kealalio, AD, and Jen Pomroy, Asst AD - our Dream Team

remembers. As captain of the volleyball team, Kaiipo decided to play football as well and, after injuring his shoulder,

realized he had taken too much on. "I felt I let the team down," he said. That life lesson made such an impression on Kaiipo that he has dedicated his career to helping young athletes achieve their dreams.

Growing up on Kaua'i, Kaiipo decided he wanted to go to the Mainland for college and see what the world had to offer. "Too many local kids don't have big dreams. There's so much out there to do and learn." Kaiipo left home to attend El Camino Jr. College, and then University of California, Irvine, where he excelled at volleyball. After he graduated, he re-

turned home, determined to "make things right" and help the volleyball program at Kapa'a. As the girls varsity coach, he took his team "from zero to hero," winning the KIF girls championship! From there, Kaiipo was hired as volleyball coach at Hofstra University, in Long Island, New York, an NCAA Division 1 team.

Kaiipo's years of experience place him in an excellent position to not only mentor his students, but to put them in the spotlight for possible college recruiters. "If I can help a student get to college and play sports, then I've done my job," he said.

Auction Glamour & Glitz

Saturday, March 13
Kaua'i Marriott Resort
& Beach Club

Festivities begin at 5:00p.m.
Call 246-0233 for Reservations

You are part of the glamour as you stroll down the red carpet in your finest evening wear into the glitzy ballroom of the Kaua'i Marriott. As your eyes adjust to the theatrical lighting, you'll be transformed into a world of black, gold and crimson. Brilliant tornadoes of color and rippling walls surround the silent auction tables literally spilling with fabulous items up for bid.

You fill your plate with sumptuous buffet entrees, find your table of friends and enjoy the entertainment provided by the Yes Men and Peggy Lake, periodically checking your silent auction bids.

You notice Master of Ceremonies, Ron Wiley, and Auctioneer, "Surfer" Joe Teipel, mount the stage and call for your attention. It's time for the live auction. You've already selected the items on which you intend to bid, but you are swept up in the moment and in the desire to be generous and find your bid paddle being raised high above your head. Fantastic! You've just gotten the greatest deal on a ski vacation in Whistler, Canada. Just wait till you tell your children!

As the excitement peaks and the evening begins to wind down, you check the silent auction tables and find you're the winning bidder on enough items to take care of every birthday gift this year. Plus, when your family comes to visit this summer, you'll have hours of outdoor activities to keep them happy.

You stroll out to the parking lot in the moonlight, glad to know you've spent your money wisely in supporting Island School.

Ron Wiley and Joe Teipel
work the crowd at a
previous auction.



Dessert Auction
Silent Auction
Almost Live Auction
Live Auction

Continental Cuisine
Open Wine Bar featuring a fine
selection of wines provided by JMD
Beverages

After school, after work and often into the night, an impressive team of Island School parents and staff has been busy organizing our annual Auction. This year's theme, Glitz, Glamour and Good Deeds, will provide all the pizzazz of a night on the town, combined with a deep appreciation for the fabulous community support Island School receives. For 31 years, the Island School auctions have been successful and able to close a significant portion of the gap between what is collected through tuitions and what the operation of the school really costs - a 20% gap! Our hats are off to these dedicated organizers and also to the donors and guests who support this fund raising event.





Learning Outside Classroom Walls

by Robert Springer
Head of School

It was a weekend, and I wandered about the campus to stretch my legs after a stint in the office. In the Wilcox Gymnasium, the boys' volleyball team was practicing under the watchful eyes of two adult coaches. On the other side of the campus, the First Robotics group with a half dozen adults and a dozen or so students was testing a machine they had designed and constructed, watching it kick a soccer ball 30 feet into a wooden goal. The night before there was a Valentine's dance for high-school students. I thought, "The campus never sleeps!"

So it goes with independent schools. Learning outside the classroom is part of the educational experience. Students cooperate and compete guided by trained professionals. They scuba dive and clean harbors and beaches. They interact with animals at the Humane Society, and they camp in school-owned tents. They build tables and paint murals. They board catamarans to watch the whales and hike in the mountains at Koke'e. They travel to Neighbor Islands and sometimes even to far-away lands – China and Europe and Mexico.

All of this takes dedicated and adventurous teachers, individuals willing and able to commit their time and talents to the young people in their charge. Learning outside the classroom accepts the notion that children and young people acquire information, skills, and values in a myriad of ways, much of it beyond the classroom and even beyond the campus.

This is consistent with the idea that schools exist to develop a full range of human potential: linguistic and mathematical, social and contemplative, musical and artistic, physical and intuitive. They do this in a variety of settings and activities, some formal and structured and others relaxed and casual. Still, as Carl Sagan has written in his marvelous book on the evolution of human intelligence, "Knowledge is our destiny."¹ It happens wherever we light but most successfully with caring and knowledgeable adults, the life blood of effective schools.

¹Carl Sagan, *The Dragons of Eden: Speculations on the Evolution of Human Intelligence* (NY: Ballantine Books, 1977). See chapter 9, pp. 239-248.

Development Update

The Number\$ Tell the Annual Giving Story

78,000 - This year's Annual Giving Goal (dollars)

74,740 - Total donations to Annual Giving as of February 15, 2010 (dollars)

5,000 - Giving Level (in dollars) for the Chairman's Circle, Island School's newest Giving Club

4,735 - Annual Giving dollars raised online through Island School's GivingWidget as of February 15, 2010

3,260 - Dollars still needed to reach this year's Annual Giving Goal

524 - Average dollar amount of donations to Annual Giving

122 - Total number of contributions made to Annual Giving this school year

19 - Total number of contributions made to Annual Giving online this school year

ChipIn!

Now it's as easy as
1- 2- Click
to make a donation to Island School's Annual Giving

- 1 - Simply go to www.ischool.org and click on the "Giving" **ChipIn!** tab on the far right-hand side of the screen;
- 2 - Look for the button;
- 3 - Click!

**Help close the gap
between tuition revenue and expenses**



Up Close With Sean Magoun



In the fall of 1995, Sean Magoun was hired to teach 4th grade at Island School. Since then, he has coached intermural, KIF soccer and air riflery, taught freshman English, was our first Athletic Director, and is our current Admissions Director! He is also an Island School parent. With his wife on our administrative staff and his three and five year old children enrolled, Sean is deeply entrenched, to say the least.

With entrenchment comes investment. "I look back on my own experience in high school, and I remember a teacher or coach who meant so much to me; someone who set an example that I think of to this day. That's the legacy I hope to leave here at Island School," said Sean. With almost sixteen years under his belt, he's well on his way.

The many hats Sean wears give him opportunities to get to know kids in a variety of mediums - as the person who meets them at front end at the time of application, to their coach out on the soccer field. "I let them know that their academics come first. If they're having trouble getting their homework done, or if a big test is looming then their priority should be to go home and study." Academic success is an important factor in his job as Admissions Director. "I hate to tell someone 'no,' that they can't come to Island School. But if it doesn't look like a good match, I need to be up front with them."

Sean believes strongly that participation in sports builds character and reinforces academic success. "A student who commits to a sport learns to work hard enough to beat his own personal best. Being on a team demands a player be responsible and reliable. A person's character is reflected in her performance on the playing field."

Sean's son Thatcher has started playing soccer. "He'll play and play and get totally exhausted ... but he loves it!" said Sean. "At age 5, Thatcher has already begun to make the connection between giving something your full energy and feeling really good about it."

If you're on campus on a weekend, you might see Sean mowing the grass before a soccer game or lining the field in preparation for some event. "I just want it to look good," he admits, "and I want to support the coaches and the kids." Clearly, Sean understands the connection between hard work and feeling proud.

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