

Canoe Racing

1998 Head Coach David Buck

By Genie Kincaid

Following in the footsteps left by his dad more than 20 years ago, David Buck will take on the arduous task of head coaching canoe racing's defending State Champions this summer. But don't let the baby face fool you.

David brings with him solid credentials, and the simple desire to keep the championship here at home and get good participation while he's at it.

As a competitive water sports athlete, David's canoe racing days began at Lahaina Canoe Club 12

years ago when his crew won the Boys 12s state championship, and continues to this day as an upper division paddler for Outrigger.

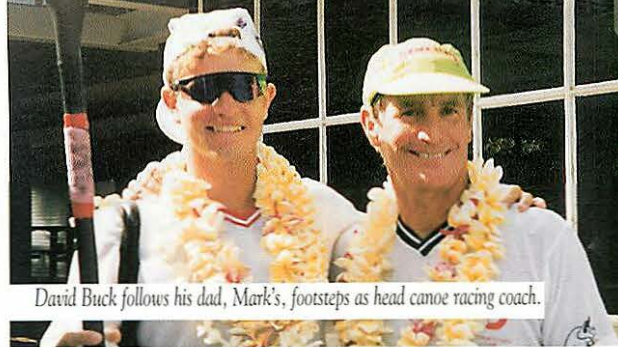
Over the years, canoe racing was preempted by his participation in kayaking at the junior national level. His most memorable achievement was finishing 9th in the world in the K2000 and being named the National Junior MVP. In 1992, he won seven golds and a silver at the Junior National Championships.

During his college years at UC-Irvine, David was on the National B kayak team. After finishing in the middle of the pack at the 1996 Olympic trials, David returned home and began to take his competitive experience to the coaching level. He has coached

the Hawaii Canoe & Kayak Team for three years, and presently coaches kayaking at Iolani High School.

Last year, David coached Outrigger's Boys 16s and 18s crews to third and first place finishes respectively. The 18s are also the defending Macfarlane and Oahu Champions. "(Head coaching) was always in the back of my head as something I wanted to do, but more down the road. Then I got asked if I would do it this year, and I figured, well, I'm still young and I've got some time so, . . ."

So, here we go with a new head coach who's willing to give it a go and give back to the Club where he's enjoyed years of paddling as a young buck.



David Buck follows his dad, Mark's, footsteps as head canoe racing coach.

EXTRA INNINGS

Softball Bats Are On Fire

The 1998 OCC Softball team began its defense of the 1997 Leahi League title with the same hot bats that brought home the trophy last November. The 12-run rule took effect in OCC's first two games with monster scores of 24-11 and 15-3.

The largest turnout ever put on the team's first new uniform in six years and wore the new black ball cap that has been the talk of the Club. Unfortunately the league score book was lost after OCC's huge wins so personal statistics aren't available. Needless to say, most of the players put up big numbers. Clay Chee crushed a grand slam home run to break open a close game in OCC's 15-3 win over the Elks Club.