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HAWAI'I'S SURF MAGAZINE

NEVER GETS OLD

WINTER * WRAP * EDITION

MADE in Hawai'i

Jamie O'Brien Photo: Tony Heff

Vol. 11 #5

Heavy Hitters / Profile:Gerry Lopez / Earth Day

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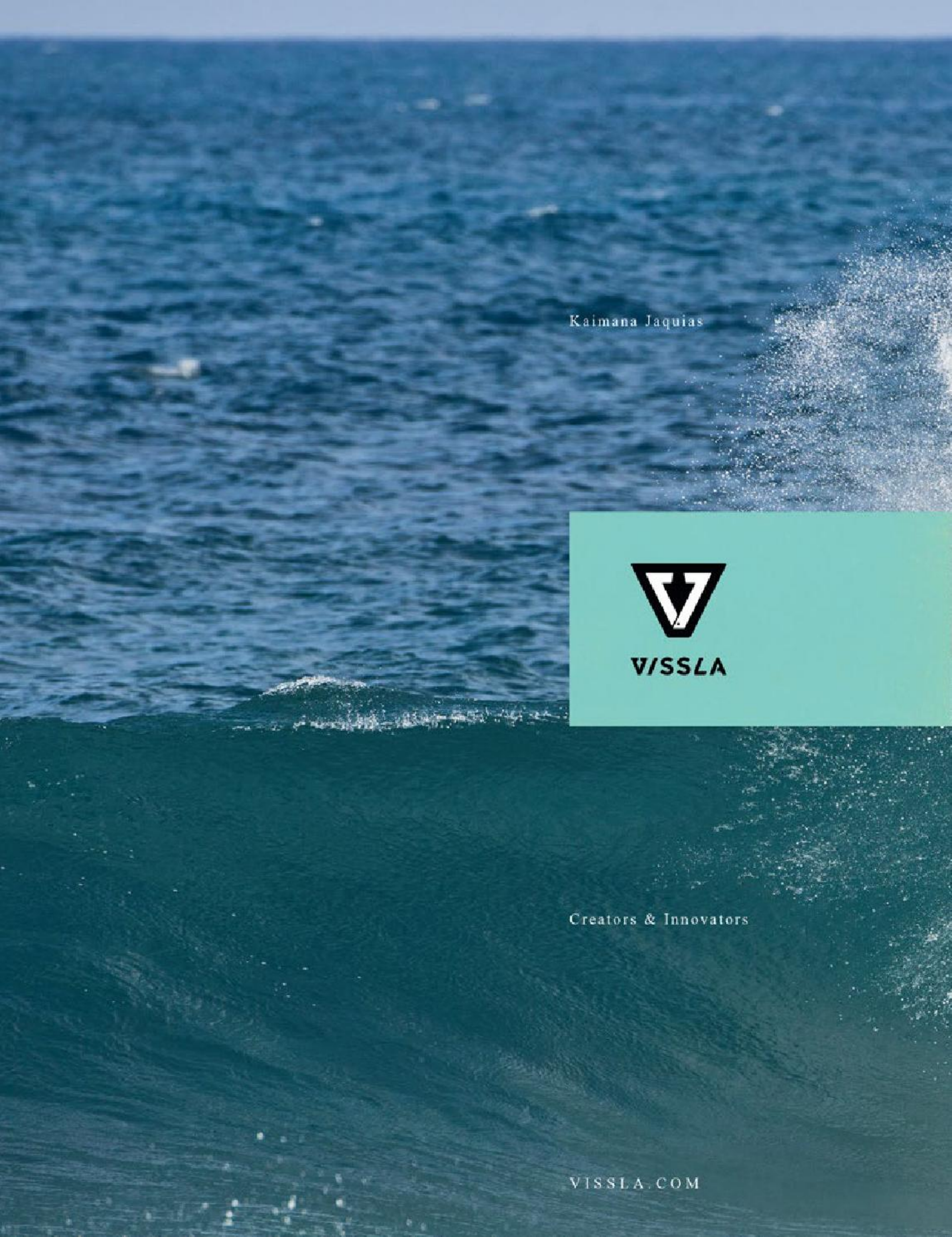
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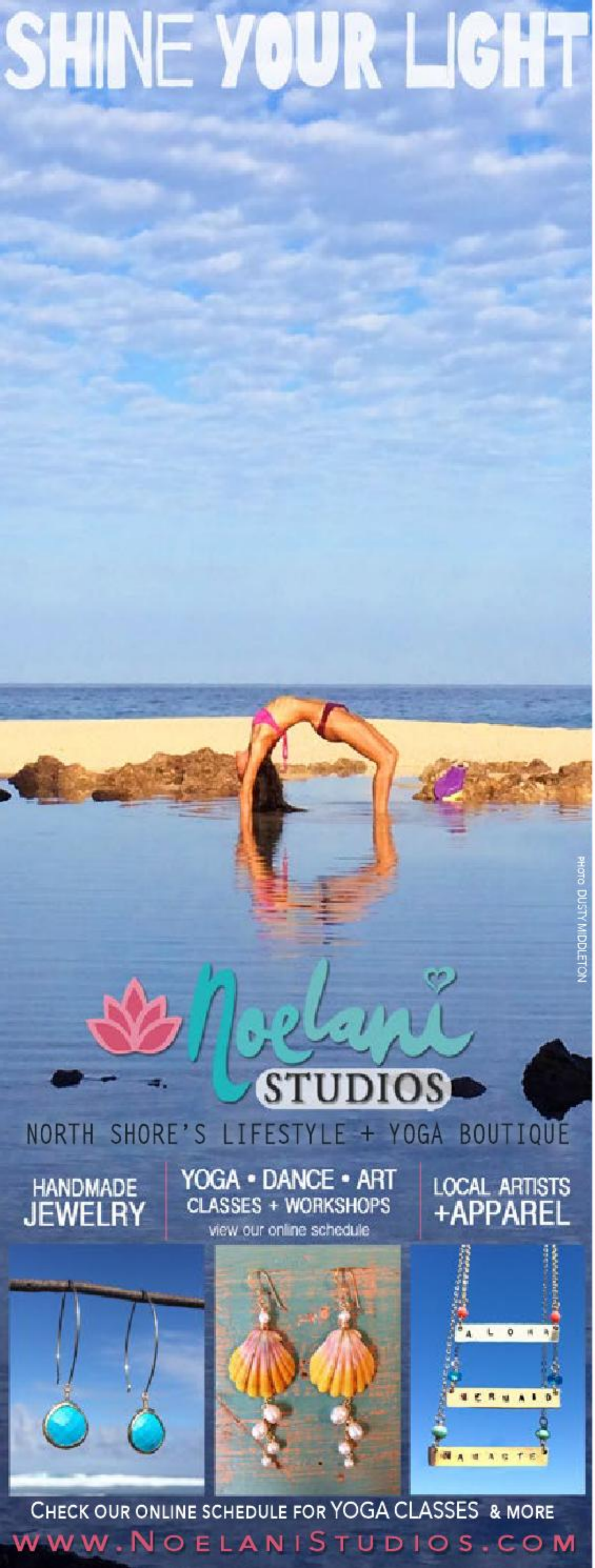
As another Hawai'i winter comes to a calm, media outlets and surf companies alike are taking stock of what has transpired, and awards are beginning to reign in for best ride, best photo, best of the best. We would like to take a moment to join them in reflecting on our favorite moments of another epic season that we feel blessed to be a part of. For nearly five decades of annual pilgrimages, surfers from all over the world have flocked to the warmth of Hawaiian waters, and the beloved island chain has yet to disappoint. As one wave comes to a close and you kick out, we hope you'll remember that another is always close behind, and that wave just might have Aaron Gold on it ducking under a 30-foot wall of water with two or three giant boards stuck in the lip. So as you look back, keep your eyes on the horizon. The best is yet to come. Surfer: Aaron Gold Photo: Gavin Shige



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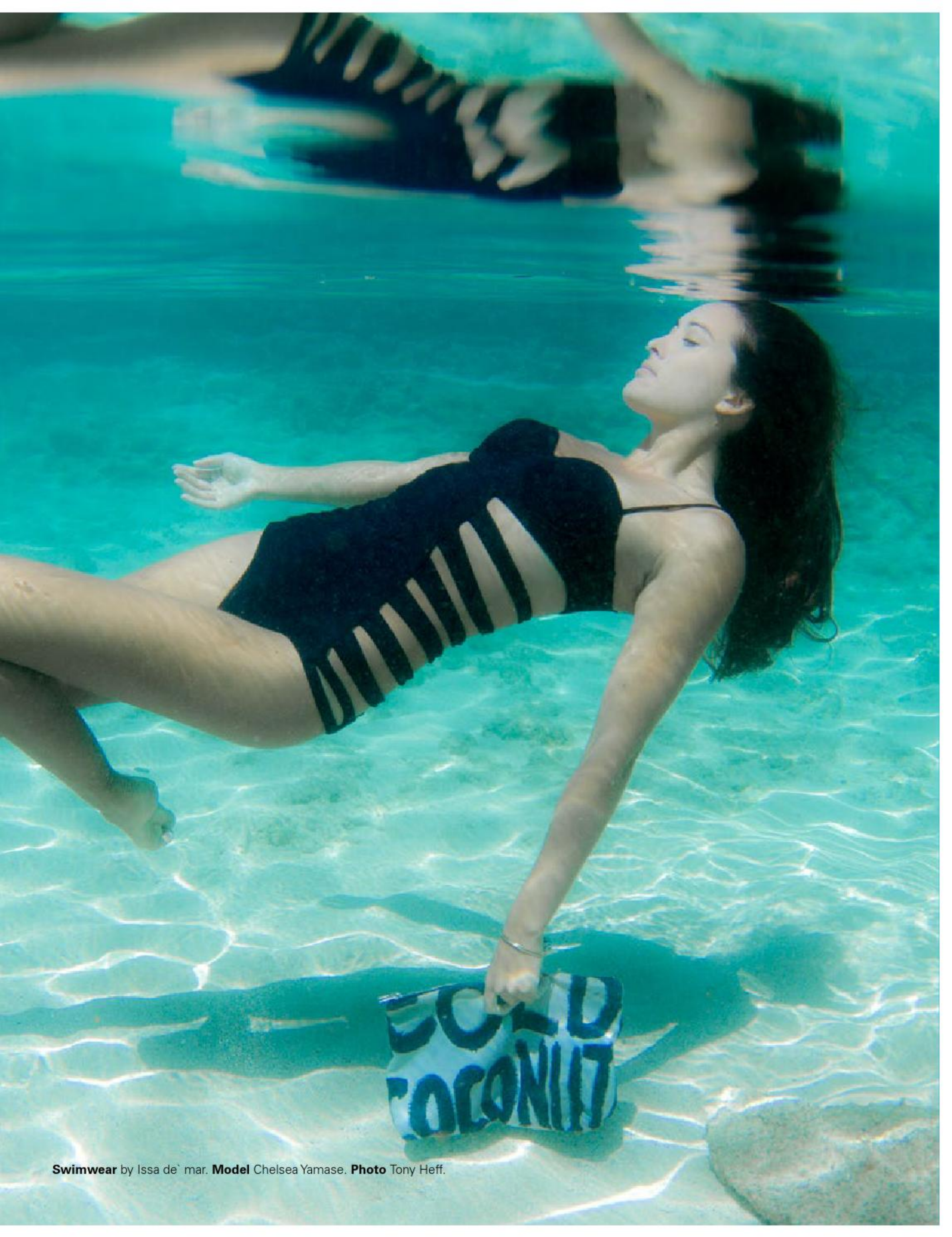

Swimwear by Issa de` mar. **Model** Chelsea Yamase. **Photo** Tony Heff.

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Maximum Performance

HIC Surfboards and Boardshorts

AMPLIFIER

The Amplifier Model evolved from Eric Arakawa's popular K4 design that was modified for Joel Centeio. The tail rocker is slightly more relaxed than the K4 and the concave is amplified through the mid-section of the board. This increases forward lift for more front foot acceleration and speed. The position and shape of the concave creates better grip and drive through bottom turns with more speed heading into the lip and beyond. The Amplifier is a great high-performance short board for intermediate to advanced skilled surfers.

Tail shapes: Squash, Thumb, Round Pin and Swallow.

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Tail shapes: Squash, Bat Tail and Swallow.

TRANSFORMER

The Transformer is a hybrid of the GX and Super Skate models, with the outline fullness and rocker halfway between the two boards. The objective was to blend the best qualities of both models into one design. From the Super Skate, the ease of catching waves, stability, and glide through flat sections. From the GX, its high performance groveling characteristics in small waves. This combination of design gives the Transformer an easy, but versatile ride, combining speed, drive, and stability, with more vertical maneuverability than your typical fish.

The Transformer works well as a thruster or with a quad fin setup.

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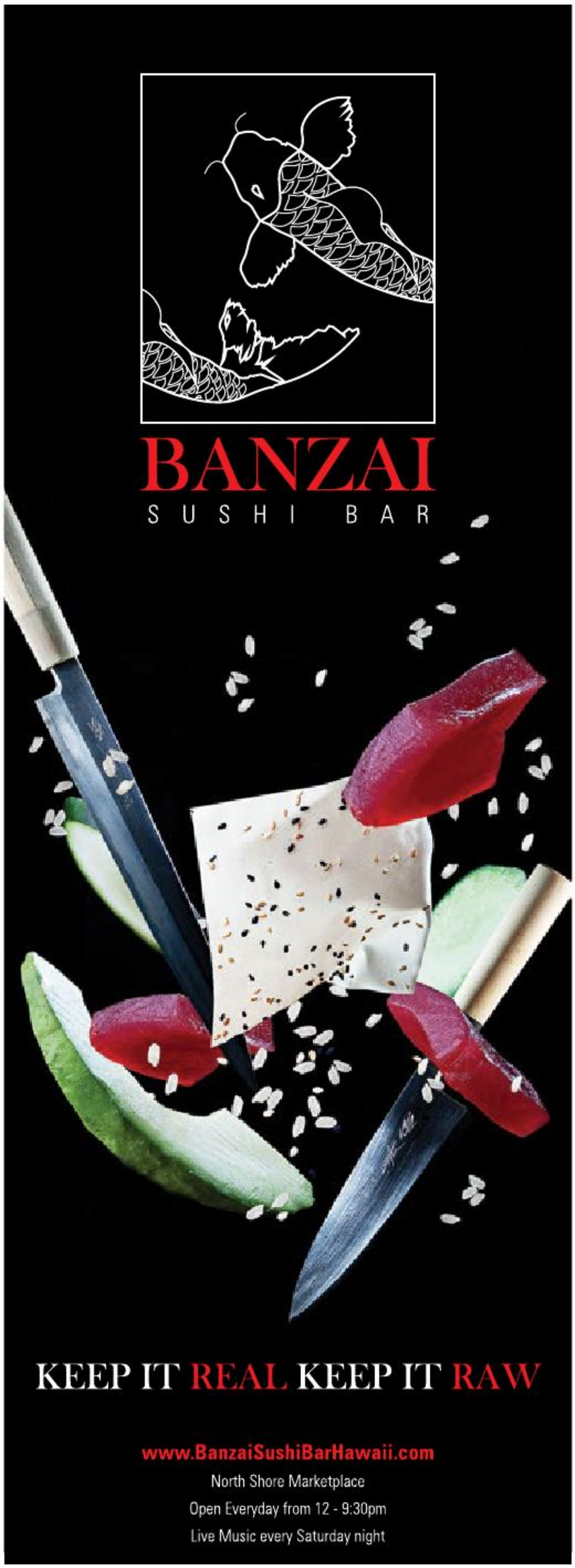

J.O.B. Going Pro, going H.A.M.

By Tony Heff

Picking a cover can be tricky business. Sometimes a photo comes along and it's a no-brainer. Other times we sift trough the archives and callout to our faithful contributors for the goods, only to mock up and print several choices, send them around the office and seek input as to which image might lead off another proud issue of Freesurf magazine.

For this issue we had both problems. We had an image that was striking, powerful and worthy of page #1, but the problem was... J...O...B. This would be his second cover this year! This raises all sorts of photo-ethical issues. Two covers in four months? Some might say we have fallen in love with Jamie's freakish ways and are over exposing our affection for the Pipemaster. Others might claim his sponsors put us up to it, and call a political foul.

But the truth as we see it is, Jamie O'Brien went on a tear this winter. He shed 20 pounds, got in the best shape of his life, and since the season's inaugural swell, proceeded to charge Pipeline as if this was the prime of his life. Swell after swell, Jamie nabbed set waves and got blown out of countless Pipe bombs. He dropped into heaving Backdoor and Pipe on a retro Gerry Lopez single-fin replica from the sixties that today, most Pipeline specialists wouldn't be caught dead on.

Taking his freakshow on the road to Maui, Jamie and friends paddled into heavy Peahi on Catch Surf soft tops! He won $20,000 in Surfline's GoPro of the Winter contest. The guy even entered the IBA Bodyboard Pipe Pro, proving once again that he'll ride just about anything for a thrill. The onslaught of amazing photos of Jamie saturating the world of surf were evidence to our claim that he was the definite standout this winter and a fine cover choice for this winter wrap-up issue of Freesurf. We hope you'll agree.

pau

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__ 6-9 years old __ 10-12 years old

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Matt and Sai Moody

Matt in the hospital after getting stitched up.

Gash in his chin.

Matt Moody has been surfing Hawaii's beach breaks ever since he was a grom at Ewa Beach. Like most surfers, Matt didn't think about the dangers that come with the sport. Here's what Matt says now after some unfortunate surfing experience.

"After two surfboard noses to the face and two visits to the emergency room, stitches included, I figure third strike is probably the eye. My son Sai and I use SurfCo Hawaii Nose Guards and Pro Teck fins because we like surfing, not stitches. Use 'em or lose 'um!"

- Matt Moody

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Mahalo Winter

What a winter! Swell upon swell has come and no one has left with a dry face yet. The amount of big wave caliber swells that hit our islands this year has been somewhere close to historic. I'd say one 'Eddie' shy of perfection, but still an epic season nonetheless. Great sessions went down from Waimea Bay to Pipeline to Jaws to Mavericks and beyond, pushing the limits of big wave potential once again. The big wave paddle-in movement is alive and well, as there were numerous opportunities to practice this death defying craft this season.

In this issue we celebrate these many climaxes by looking back to some of the most inspiring big wave moments that made this year already so very special. With a few perspectives from some insightful big wave chargers, we get an in depth view of what it's like to be an aspiring big wave professional surfer. It's always interesting to know where the athlete's head is at when they are going out, risking their lives and committing to paddling for and riding these reckless mountains of ocean power.

As we drift into springtime, it still seems like winter and makes me wonder if it will ever end. Maybe we'll have waves all the way through summer? With all the global climate change happening, at this point we'll never know. All we can do is hope for the best, pray for surf (maybe some snow) and take care of one another in the best possible way.

Aloha.

Chris Latronic
Editor at Large

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Bodyboarders Score at IBA Hawaii Tour Pipe Challenge Presented by Kellogg's and Science Bodyboards

By **Sean Reilly**
Photos **Matt Castiglione**

This past February, the professional bodyboarding season kicked off like never before. The A.P.B. (Association of Professional Bodyboarders) and IBA Hawaii collaborated with Pepsi, Kellogg's, Science Bodyboards, MS Viper Fins, Gyroll, 662 Ride Shop, Reeflex Wetsuits and YouRiding to present the 2014 IBA Hawaii Tour Pipe Challenge. Not only was the Pipe Challenge the first event on the World Tour, it was the first event on the IBA Hawaii Tour as well. North Shore's Banzai Pipeline did not disappoint. Hawaii's best battled it out with the top international pros in epic fashion. What the event lacked in high-end live streams and trendy contest websites, it made up for with world-class bodyboarding action.

Day one of the four-day event was held in clean 2 to 4 foot surf. Women took to the water first followed by the early rounds of the Mens Pro. With a rather lax format and competitors not showing, big names like Jamie O'Brien and Ikaika Kalama were able to compete against some of the world's best and up-and-coming bodyboarders.

Day two hosted the Men's Pro in clean 5 to 7 foot surf. A straight west swell made wave selection a bit tricky, but provided Pipeline perfection at times. The middle rounds were filled with massive maneuvers, last minute heroics and too many good barrels to list.

Day three saw the biggest and most rippable waves of the entire contest.

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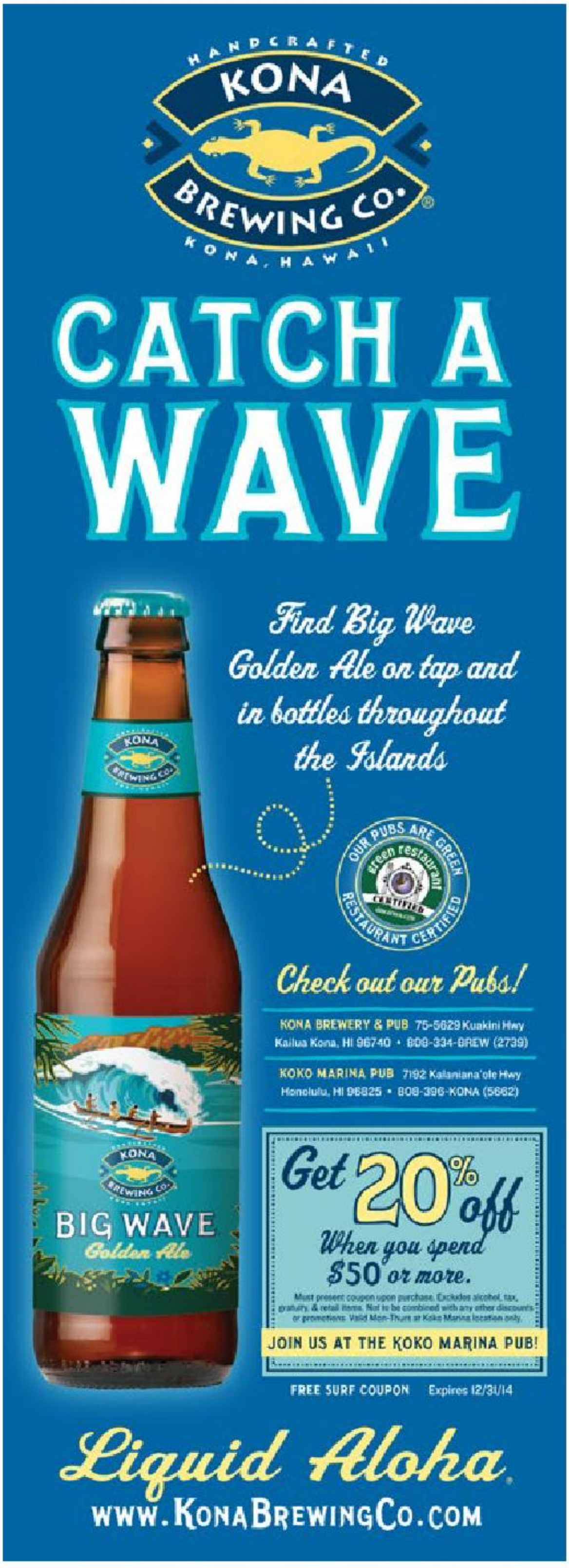

Right from the start, Mens DK was action packed. Alan Lamphere started off with a buzzer beater winning heat. Micah Mcmullin posted one of the highest scores of the event, a draining backdoor gem that earned him a 9.83. Nick Trotter seemed unstoppable, finding the exit on some of the biggest waves of the event. But in the end, Dave Hubbard's style and ability went unmatched, crowning him 2014 DK Pipeline Champion.

The bombs never ceased, and the women's heats were equally as action packed. The swell continued to rise throughout the day and the wind seemed to turn on as soon the ladies took to the water. Standouts like Emma Cobb, Alexandra Rinder and Minami Takeyama put it all on the line, but it was Lilly Pollard who stole the show and took home the title of 2014 Womens Pipeline Champion.

The final day of the event saw clean but small surf in the morning as the swell filled in. Underdogs flourished while superstars fell short in the mediocre waves. The world's best took to the skies as the barrels kept growing. Uri Valadao, Spencer Skipper and Jared Houston boosted through all their heats to meet a determined Ben Player in the finals. Ben was so amped he nearly reached his wave count max in the first 7 minutes. Despite the huge combo lead, everyone answered back with some of the biggest maneuvers of the day taking place in the final minutes. But Ben held his lead to take home a well-deserved Pipeline Challenge victory!

The Jr Pro turned heads as well. The final heats hosted some of the best youngsters in the sport. Tanner McDaniel, Kawaika Kammai, Noa Auweloa and Alex Castillo met in a bombing 16 and under final. Tanner posted a 9.0 for a Pipe wave that was easily one of the biggest, hardest spitting barrels of the day and walked away the 2014 Jr Pro Champion.

Results

MENS PRO FINAL

1st Ben Player (AUS)
2nd Uri Valadao (BRA)
3rd Spencer Skipper (HAW)
4th Jared Houston (SAF)

WOMENS PRO FINAL

1st Lilly Pollard (AUS)
2nd Alexandra Rinder (CAN)
3rd Jessica Becker (BRA)
4th Emma Cobb (AUS)

DK PRO FINAL

1st Dave Hubbard (HAW)
2nd Josh Trotter (HAW)
3rd Edgardo Gomez (PUE)
4th Cole Hansen (HAW)

JR PRO FINAL

1st Tanner McDaniel
2nd Noa Auweloa
3rd Kawika Kamai
4th Alex Castillo

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Seth Moniz

3rd Annual North Shore Surf Shop Pipe Pro Jr Presented by Woodward Group

By **Chris Latronic**
Photos **Tony Heff**

Possibly the most groundbreaking event in junior pro surfing competition, the top 20 and under surfers in the world battled it out at the most influential surf spot on the planet. The third annual ASP Pro Junior event at Pipeline was an official ASP 1-Star rated event offering $5,000 in prize money.

The event was put on by North Shore Surf Shop owner Liam McNamara, with the help of ASP Hawaii Administrative Director Faith Wenzl, Contest Director Shane Beschen and major sponsor Woodward Group. This is the sixth contest McNamara has put on in three years.

The previous lack of opportunity for Hawaii juniors motivated McNamara to spearhead a change. "I had the urge to give back to the sport that gave me everything," said McNamara.

"The junior events give the kids an opportunity to elevate their knowledge of competition while earning valuable rating points and experience. My goal is to elevate the sport while giving a platform and opportunity to the future of Hawaii."

The two-day event commenced Wednesday, March 12th. Day one was crammed full of crazy late airdrops, steep and deep tube rides and cringe-worthy wipeouts. A solid 6-foot NW swell filled in throughout the day, providing challenging, but at times, near perfect Pipe and Backdoor action. Competitors as young as 12 years old picked apart the most sought after wave in the world.

Heat after heat, the swell continued to build. Easterly trades cooperated in the morning, offering clean and consistent surf. However by the afternoon, the wind picked up and veered onshore. Conditions were becoming more and more challenging so the contest was called off by 2:00pm.

Fortunately, a new NW swell filled in Friday, March 14th and

the contest was back on. Light offshore winds and the rising swell provided pristine conditions for the final day of competition. The morning started off at a friendly 4-foot, but as the Round of 32 came to an end, the surf began to fire. North Shore bred Kona Oliveira received the first 10-point ride of the contest, pulling into a solid Pipeline bomb, getting spit out in front of a roaring home crowd.

In the stacked finals, Maui's Imaikalani Devault and Southern California's Griffin Colapinto met up with the powerhouse bro duo of Seth and Isaiah Moniz. Youngest brother Seth was on fire, having posted the only other perfect score of the contest in the semi finals to advance in prime form.

The final was an epic brother vs. brother showdown. Older brother Isaiah was unstoppable all contest. Hungry for the win, he took an early lead and held it through majority of the heat. But it was Seth who struck opportunity at the right time, gaining the lead in the dying moments and gaining his first ever ASP event win.

Final Results

1st - Seth Moniz
2nd - Isaiah Moniz
3rd - Griffin Colapinto
4th - Imaikalani Devault

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JEREMY HATTER

photos: Kirby Maitland

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Quiksilver Pro + Roxy Pro Gold Coast Presented by BOQ

A thrilling finals day at Snapper Rocks saw Gabriel Medina (BRA) and Stephanie Gilmore (AUS) crowned Champions of the Quiksilver and Roxy Pro Gold Coast, stop No. 1 on the 2014 Samsung Galaxy ASP World Championship Tour.

Medina edged out 2013 Quiksilver Pro Gold Coast runner-up Joel Parkinson (AUS) in a nail-biting final, mentioning that, "I feel proud of myself, you know. Especially coming out in front of Parko. I feel this is the best day of my life." Earlier in the event, Medina defeated reigning 3x World Champion Mick Fanning in the Quarterfinals and multiple Quiksilver Pro Gold Coast Champion Taj Burrow in the Semi's.

Reigning ASP Women's World Champion, Carissa Moore (HAW) was eliminated in the first Semifinal of the Roxy Pro Gold Coast by event Champion, Stephanie Gilmore. Steph earned 10,000 points toward her 2014 Samsung Galaxy ASP World Tour ratings and $60,000 in prize money. Up until the win, Carissa was the form surfer of the event, but left with a third place finish. "Moore, despite possessing arguably the most diverse bag of tricks on tour, struggled to find comparable waves and will take home an equal third place finish to start the year off," ASP said.

Roxy Pro Gold Coast Final Results

Final: Stephanie Gilmore (AUS) 15.80 def. Bianca Buitendag (ZAF) 10.47

Semifinal 1: Stephanie Gilmore (AUS) 17.10 def. Carissa Moore (HAW) 13.40
Semifinal 2: Bianca Buitendag (ZAF) 15.90 def. Lakey Peterson (USA) 12.50

Quarterfinal 1: Stephanie Gilmore (AUS) 15.43 def. Courtney Conlogue (USA) 13.50
Quarterfinal 2: Carissa Moore (HAW) 10.33 def. Malia Manuel (HAW) 7.00
Quarterfinal 3: Bianca Buitendag (ZAF) 14.93 def. Tyler Wright (AUS) 7.67
Quarterfinal 4: Lakey Peterson (USA) 15.90 def. Sally Fitzgibbons (AUS) 12.84

Quiksilver Pro Gold Coast Final Results

Final: Gabriel Medina (BRA) 16.33 def. Joel Parkinson (AUS) 16.27

Semifinal 1: Gabriel Medina (BRA) 14.13 def. Taj Burrow (AUS) 14.10
Semifinal 2: Joel Parkinson (AUS) 18.70 def. Adriano de Souza (BRA) 9.67

Quarterfinal 1: Taj Burrow (AUS) 15.00 def. C.J. Hobgood (USA) 12.46
Quarterfinal 2: Gabriel Medina (BRA) 15.83 def. Mick Fanning (AUS) 14.00
Quarterfinal 3: Adriano de Souza (BRA) 16.53 def. Kelly Slater (USA) 12.17
Quarterfinal 4: Joel Parkinson (AUS) 17.93 def. Miguel Pupo (BRA) 13.26

Danny Bolton

Pete Orelup

Taira Barron Crair

Abra Ointor

Tombomb Wahine Classic

By **Keli Campbell**

The 5th (almost) Annual Tombomb Wahine Classic, held at Kohanaiki in Kona, Hawaii, brought together Kona's surfer girls for a day filled with waves, whale breaches and fun in late February. The team-format Tombomb Wahine Classic was born based on the idea of giggling girls surfing for the fun of it. Teams were created with as much diversity as possible, from grommet to seasoned surfer, from bodyboard to SUP and everything in between. Once the heats began, the real show started. The girls giggled and carved, added flair and ferocity and charged with grace.

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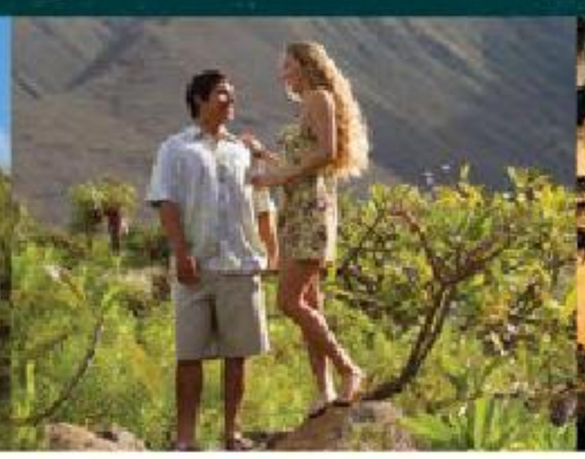
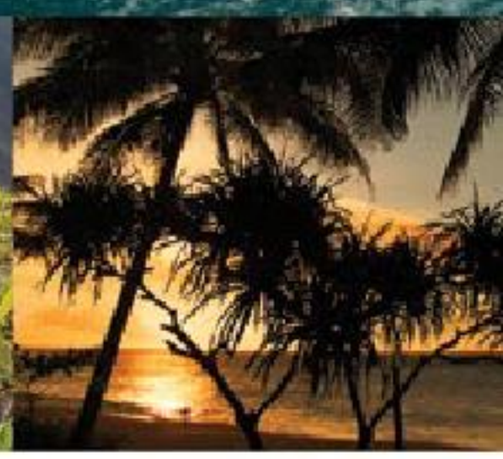
PHOTO: ERIK AEDER

ISAAC STANT





Maui
Whalers Village, Ka'anapali
Front Street
Lahaina Cannery Mall
South Kihei
Shops At Wailea
Paia
Big Island
Kona Inn Shopping Village
Kings' Shops Waikoloa
Oahu
Outrigger Waikiki
Hilton Hawaiian Village
Waikiki Beach Walk
Kauai
Poipu Shopping Village

Honolua
Surf Co. Hawaii

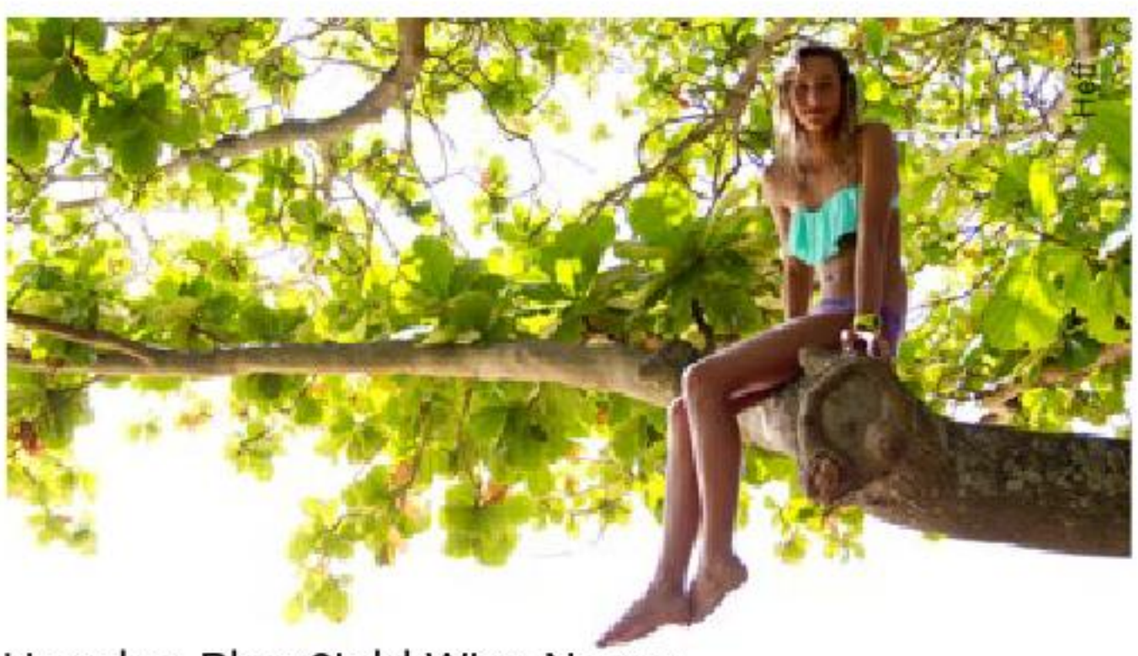
(left) Wanderlust participants relax in savasana at Turtle Bay Resort's Kuilima Point. (left) Freesurf managing editor Lauren (middle) and sales/ marketing coordinator Jenna (right) with DJ phenom Moby. (right) Kona Brewing was onsite giving away free refreshments. Photos: Lauren Rolland

2nd Annual Wanderlust at Turtle Bay Resort

North Shore's fabled resort was alight with yogis and yoginis from around the world, congregating in a colorful display on the lawns of Kuilima Point. The four-day event combined yoga, music, nature and inspiration for an epic, extended weekend outdoor adventure. Yoga classes were led by special guests including Seane Corne, Baron Baptiste, Eoin Finn and Gerry Lopez, plus musical performances by Moby, Donovan Frankenreiter and MC Yogi created quite the buzz. (Check out our music column in this issue for a wrap-up of these concerts!). Be sure to check out http://oahu.wanderlustfestival.com to stay in the loop for 2015. This fun, enlightening, highly interactive and social experience is an event that shouldn't be missed by any yoga enthusiast.

Foster Fury 2014

On February 23rd, Foster Fury 2014 took place at the Kahuku Motocross track on Oahu in honor of Kalani Foster, who is fighting the battle against cancer. Event organizers Eric & Rico Olson wanted to say thank you to all the sponsors who helped the Foster Fury 2014 be such a fun event for everyone that participated. "The spectators and family ride was the highlight of the day," mentions Eric Olson. "Especially when the boys enjoyed a ride with Kalani Foster himself." The event was blessed with great weather, awesome live music and wonderful donations. "As fast as we put this race together, the Foster Fury 2014 came out a total success!"



Honolua Blomfield Wins Noosa

Congrats to Oahu's Honolua Blomfield, who had an amazing performance throughout the week at the Cricks Noosa Festival of Surfing in Queensland, Australia. Honolua won the Cricks Noosa Junior Women division, came 13th out of a field of 38 in the Golden Breed Noserider division and won the Sunshine Coast Airport Womens Pro division. The North Shore local also competed in the Vans Logger Pro and did exceptionally well. Eight days, 13 countries represented, 28 divisions, 600 competitors, a thousand waves and a million smiles.

Mahina Maeda Wins ASP 2-Star Ron Jon Vans Junior Pro

Congratulations to Oahu's Mahina Maeda, who won the ASP 2-Star Ron Jon Vans Junior Pro at Shepard Park, Florida in windy 1 to 2 foot surf. The Hawaii surfer started the day strong with a Semifinal win, carrying her momentum through to a Final victory. Kauai girl Tatiana Weston-Webb was also a standout, eliminating defending event champion Chelsea Tuach, but unable to find the scores needed to overstep Maeda for the win.

"There was a tough draw in this event," Mahina explains. "Tati (Weston-Webb) was one of my toughest competitors and Caroline Marks is very knowledgeable in these waves. This is my first time coming to Florida so it was a great experience."

South Carolina's Cam Richards took home his first career ASP Pro Junior victory, ousting California standout Parker Coffin, Venezuela's Derek Gomez and Floridian Tristan Thompson. Cam earned the day's high-scores in the Semifinal (an excellent 16.76) and maintained form throughout the final, while current regional rankings frontrunner Parker Coffin would take runner up.

Ron Jon Vans Junior Pro Women's Final Results

1 – Mahina Maeda (HAW) 11.90
2 – Tatiana Weston-Webb (HAW) 11.74
3 – Chelsea Roett (BRB) 9.33
4 – Caroline Marks (USA) 6.30

Ron Jon Vans Junior Pro Men's Final Results

1 – Cam Richards (USA) 15.00
2 – Parker Coffin (USA) 11.87
3 – Derek Gomez (VEN) 11.00
4 – Tristan Thompson (USA) 8.34

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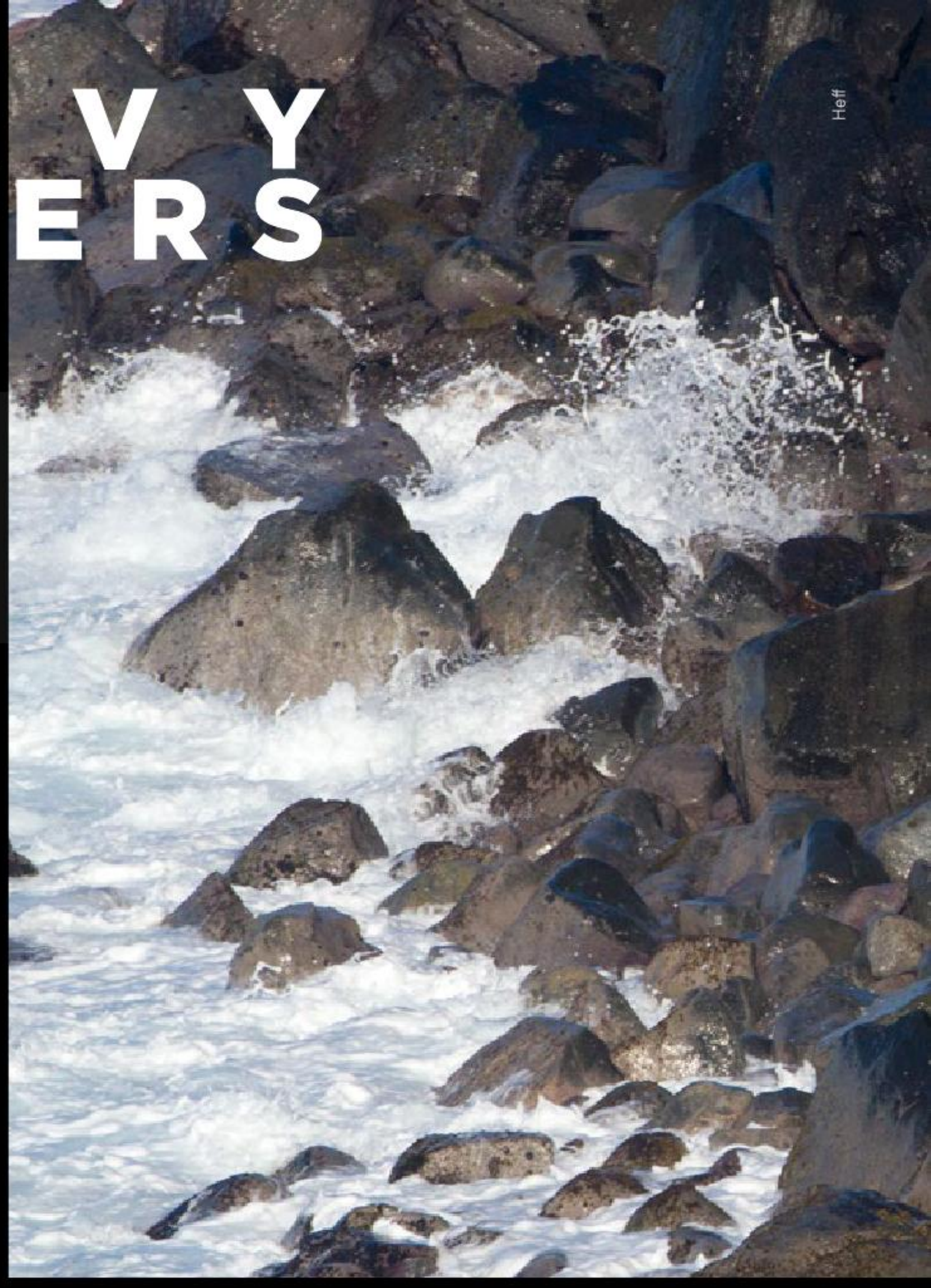
HEAVY HITTERS

Intro **Tony Heff**
Interviews **Lauren Rolland**


Heff

There are two types of surfers in the world. One quakes at the mention of words like Mavericks, Peahi, Belharra. The other salivates.

While it may be futile to speculate what compels one to hurl themself into perilous seas where energy amounts into precipitous slopes of hulking saltwater, we still cannot help but wonder. Is it for money? Perhaps for glory? Or you may pontificate, "these men have a death wish". If you affirm any such thoughts, you may find yourself mistaken.

We abandoned all conjecture and queried six madcaps directly for the whys and hows of things we no nothing about. What we found is that these men are not brawny exhibitionists drunk on adrenaline, shaking their fists at hell's gate, but rather humble, calculated surfers who revere and respect the power and unmatched energy of the salty sea. And while we may never know for ourselves, we dare to surmise that these men do not have a death wish, but instead, a life wish.

Garrett McNamara

Setting world records, Garrett McNamara is a gladiator when it comes to the big wave arena. Constantly in the limelight for his death-defying antics, Garrett finds comfort in the chaos.

When did you make the transition into big wave surfing? When I was about 16, my love affair with big waves began, but until that point I was terrified of big waves and never thought I would surf anything over 6 feet.

The biggest progression in big wave surfing is... Tow surfing. It's enabled us to go where we couldn't safely go before and it enabled us to catch waves we couldn't catch like Teahupoo. It also enabled us to utilize flotation and the jet PWC's. And now another thing has occurred- we're using the flotation and the jet skis to paddle into bigger waves, which is amazing because we would never have been able to survive the situations we're facing now without the flotation.

The best way to train for big wave surfing is... Surfing. Everyday. And taking a lot of poundings. Out of the water, running is really helpful, and yoga is really amazing too, it's my favorite. One of the greatest things I walk away with from yoga is the flexibility and patience.

Of all the waves in the world, which would you say is the heaviest? They're all so

different! You have Tahiti, which breaks on dry reef. Then you've got Jaws, which will take you down for 300 yards and with so much power. Then you've got Mavericks, which has the rocks, the sharks and the cold, murky water. Then you have places like Nazare where it has a little bit of everything and no channel.

Your favorite wave is... Laniakea. On a perfect 10 to 15 foot day, there's nothing like it.

What goes through your mind when you're pulling into a big wave? I'm just trying to find the barrel! When I'm about to take off I'm just hoping I'm in the right spot to pull in. With towing, everything's going so fast and is so chaotic, and when you're paddling it's a lot smoother. For lack of a better word, it's more beautiful. Paddling is a little more enjoyable it seems lately.

Describe the worst wipeout scenario. Getting all your wind knocked out and getting injured by the impact and then having to endure the pounding. Every wipeout is so different, but if you're not injured and you have all your air and you feel strong and you're not tired, then they're really enjoyable actually. It makes you feel alive.

Getting pounded by a big wave feels like... a washing machine on spin cycle. That first initial impact is so violent that you feel like everything is disconnected.

Your dream wave would be... 10 to 20 feet just perfect, glassy barrel that goes on forever. Any bigger than 20 feet and there's really a lot of the line, it's a lot more serious.

What do you love most about surfing? Surfing is my passion and I get the most out of it when I share it with other people. Through other people you really learn to appreciate things. The ocean is my church and my playground, all wrapped up into one.

HH Grant 'Twiggy' Baker

With a win at the 2014 Mavericks Invitational and taking top spot on the 2013-2014 Big Wave World Tour, South African surfer Twiggy drives home his reputation as a big wave surfer, Mavericks Master and surf travel professional.

You started surfing big waves because… I always liked the biggest days at any surf spot I happened to find myself at. I grew up with a bunch of crazy friends on the beachfront in Durban and we all liked to push each other whenever the waves got big. From there I developed to Cave Rock and the north and south coast of Durban, and from there to J Bay. On the big days at Jeffery's Bay I would meet up with the Cape Town guys and they said, 'hey you've got to come surf Dungeons with us.' The next thing I knew I was down in Cape Town hanging out with those guys and I was suddenly a big wave surfer.

The heaviest wave in the world is… All of the big waves have their subtle nuances that make them heavy, so it's very difficult to say that one wave is more heavier or gnarlier than the other. What I can say is that what Garrett McNamara and those guys are doing in Portugal, to me looks the most extreme and the most dangerous.

Would you say big wave surfers have a madness to them? Even though it looks like what we're doing is completely crazy, there's a lot of calculation to that as well. We minimize the dangers. We've worked hard and we've surfed for years, we've got experience and knowledge of the ocean. And when all of that comes together on one of the biggest days and you ride a few amazing waves, that's a really special feeling. So it's not complete madness and it's not completely calculated. I like to say what we do is calculated madness.

Your favorite wave is… Jeffery's Bay, because you didn't ask me what my favorite *big* wave is. When J Bay's 8 to 10 foot and doing it, it's impossible to find a better wave.

What's your favorite *big* wave? I just had a really good five days at Peahi, just amazing. Before this week I never really performed well out there, it was quite foreign to me. But I've put in a lot of time in the last two years in Hawaii and I think the Hawaiian waves- like the Northern California waves like the Cape Town waves- all break similar. So if you spend time at places like Sunset, Alligators and Haleiwa, that teaches you how the waves in Hawaii work. And I've put in a lot of time and effort at those waves in the last two years, which I think has helped me to feel more comfortable out at Peahi. And this last week, it all kind of clicked for me and I had some amazing rides. So I'd have to say right now, Peahi is it for me.

Describe your ultimate dream wave. That would be a Jaws takeoff, running into a Hanalei type wall, which then ropes into a J Bay 8-footer and then at the end you've got Velzy Land fun end section.

Hobbies outside of surfing include… I'm a partner in owning a rock 'n roll bar in Cape Town that does really well, Aces 'n Spades. My family has an orphanage up in Durban that's been going eight years that's amazing, LIV Village (liv-village.com), and I work there and help the community in and around Durban. I have a little clothing line, Twig Surfboards in South Africa.

Pinpoint your love for surfing. I would have to say it's the whole package; it's the lifestyle that appeals to me. I've made friends all over the world that I can go and stay with that take me surfing, and I can really just immerse myself in the culture and the lifestyle that is surfing and surfing big waves. That's such a gift to be able to live a life like that.

Brent Bielmann

Aaron Gold

Aaron Gold is known as one of the hardest chargers at breaks like Haleiwa and Waimea, and now Jaws. Without corporate sponsorship, this underground charger does it for the love.

Tell me about your transition into big wave surfing. For me it kind of always came natural. My dad and uncles are all big wave surfers, originally from Kaimuki/Kahala, Oahu so they'd come up and surf the North Shore a lot. They would be the ones to drag me out, and I'd get beatings and end up on the beach, but little by little I'd work my way back out.

The biggest change you've witness in the sport is... The equipment for sure. The transition between the fins- single fins to thrusters to quads- really played a big part in big wave surfing, and also now the safety aspect. The things that are available are allowing us to surf bigger waves and be in more dangerous, critical situations.

The gnarliest wave is... Hands down for me and what I've seen, Jaws. Jaws is just another level compared to the things we've surfed around here. It's just a heavy wave that throws so many different dynamics.

You've been influenced in life and surfing by... Tony Moniz. Tony has always been a mentor for me and is a family friend that really directed me and helped me along the way. And he's an amazing big wave surfer as well. He's influenced me not only in my surfing, but also in character and in how to carry yourself. How to be humble and just let your surfing do the talking.

What goes through your mind during a wipeout? I tend to go into relax mode and play it step by step. A lot of times I'll be praying to myself or counting. It's a way to stay calm, conserve my energy and get back up to the surface. The more you react to the situation and the more stress you put on yourself, the quicker you burn up your oxygen. I just relax and wait to see what the wave is going to do.

Describe your dream wave. 100-foot Tahiti right-hander that stayed open on every single wave. But then I don't know if that would be that fun because you'd just make every wave, there's no challenge. I remember the waves that I got beatings on more than I remember the waves that I made.

Tell us about the mentality behind big wave surfing. We love doing it for the challenge alone. The fact is, even if nobody was around to see it and it never got any media, we'd still be doing it just because we love it. I love the camaraderie. You have so much respect for your fellow surfers and likewise, they have so much respect for you. It's a camaraderie where you're able to touch base on a different level. The more critical the situations get the more it brings out that side of big wave surfing.

Your love of surfing stemmed from... Definitely my parents, my dad and his love of the ocean. I grew up in the water so for me, surfing came naturally and being in the water came natural because that's what I was shown. If I could be in the water all day I would be.

HH Makua Rothman

Heff

With legendary achievements as a young big wave surfer, Makua's blood runs deep in the history and culture of Hawaii and its integral sport of surfing.

The biggest change in big wave surfing has been… Guys going from paddling to towing to back to paddling. But there's a fine line because there are a lot of waves you can't paddle into. When you get to bigger, slopier waves, super slabs, you still have to tow, so there's still that fine line of what you can paddle.

Tell me about your personal training techniques. I just try and surf a lot. I don't think there's any better training for surfing besides surfing. The more you surf, the more in tune you are with the ocean and the more comfortable you are.

The heaviest wave in the world is… Probably Jaws. Once it gets a certain size, you're not going to paddle it. I don't think any wave gets more nuts than Jaws when it's on. It broke once this year really big and no one was paddling. Once it breaks on that next level, on that next reef out there, it probably becomes the heaviest wave there is to surf.

Your best ride this season? I had a lot of good rides. I had a little barrel at Jaws, some good ones at Pipe… I don't know which one was better. I got lipped on a left at Jaws that was pretty good too. The best ride? Probably the wipeout.

Your favorite wave in the world is… Pipe and Backdoor. It doesn't get too much better than that.

Walk me through your mental state, when you know you're going to paddle out. I get a little scared at first, but I know that I have to get out there and surf the biggest waves there are. Once that passes, it's all good. I've been doing this since I can remember, and when there's a big swell I get happy. Once you take off and stand up, you aren't really thinking anymore, you're more reacting to what's happening. The thought process happened on land, when you saw the waves on the map. When you're in the water, everything is a reaction. If you're still thinking, you're probably going over the falls.

Describe the feeling of getting pounded. Jump in front of a bus! Only a surfer knows the feeling I guess. You have to get pounded to know exactly what it's like, but it's probably like getting run over by a car.

Tell me about your hobbies outside of surfing. When I'm not surfing big waves I'm singing and playing in concerts. When the waves are on, I'm pretty pumped. But on any other given day I'm pretty mellow because you have to save that energy. You have so much adrenaline all the time when the waves are big, that when they're not, we're just cruising. I also love to dive, bow hunt and fish, anything an island boy would do.

Why do you surf big waves? I just love being in the ocean and challenging myself on the craziest things Mother Nature has to offer. I was born to do this. I'm going to do this no matter what, forever. I just love big wave surfing. Period.

If you could pass along any knowledge about big wave surfing, what would it be? Be safe out there and watch out for everybody. Make sure your fellow buddies are safe. We're losing people and that doesn't have to happen. Take out the right gear, make sure you have all your safety equipment and watch out for one another because it's not a game out there. It could take your life in an instant.

VA

HH Shane Dorian

Wildly versatile, innovative and highly revered as one of the top in Hawaii's big wave surfing world, Shane Dorian is a surgeon when it comes to knifing into the world's biggest waves.

When and why did you transition into big wave surfing? I've loved big waves since I moved to the North Shore in high school. As a sophomore I lived with Brock Little and Todd Chesser and started surfing Waimea and the outer reefs with them. I was best friends with Jason Magallanes, Ross Williams and Matty Liu, and Brock and Todd helped us get more comfortable in big surf. Soon after that I was invited to the Eddie Aikau event. My years on the ASP tour made it tough to chase big swells, so that is a major factor in my decision to stop competing full time.

What do you consider to be the biggest change or progression with big wave surfing? The overall mindset with safety. When I was younger, no one thought about safety and now, it's at the forefront, which is good to see. Surfing big waves should be about pushing your personal limits and getting out of your comfort zone, not seeing how close you can come to dying.

The heaviest, gnarliest wave in the world is... Big Jaws or Mavericks. At least for paddle surfing.

Your favorite wave is... Jaws.

Which big wave surfer do you admire most and why? Brock Little. He was always my hero and I looked up to him so much. He surfed big waves because he loved it. Simple as that. He also went out of his way to help the younger guys who were coming up. Most of all, I admire the way he stopped surfing huge waves when he felt he wasn't into it anymore. Our egos are powerful, and to stop surfing big waves at the right time is easier said than done in my opinion.

What is your mental state before you're about to paddle out? It all depends on the day. Sometimes I am nervous and have full on anxiety. Other times I feel relaxed and confident. I try to listen to the way I am feeling and only push myself when it feels like the time is right.

The worst type of wipe out scenario would be... Getting sucked over, especially getting the wind knocked out of you. I try to put a lot of effort into my physical training because I feel like it helps me mentally when the surf is huge. Confidence is everything in big waves and being fit gives you confidence.

Describe your dream wave. A right-shaped massive Cloudbreak.

Any thoughts on the BWWT and the recent changes? I think they are doing a great job to get good events in place. I'm stoked that people are putting a lot of effort into making it better. I also think it's a great opportunity for some of the younger guys coming up to have a vehicle to help them follow their passion with surfing big waves. Personally, surfing competitively is not a priority of mine these days. For the most part I'll be a spectator.

As such a big name in big wave surfing, what would most of us be surprised to know about you? I have just as much fun surfing 1-foot reforms with my kids as I do huge Jaws. I like big waves, but I'm not fearless or crazy. I'm just a normal dude who likes to surf.

What do you love most about surfing big waves? That feeling at the end of the day when we all get back to shore and all of us are safe.

Brent Bielmann

Kohl Christensen

Jet setting around the world tracking swells, Kohl is at the forefront of the paddle-in surfing revival. Aside from charging, Kohl is thoughtful in spearheading the Big Wave Safety Summit to honor Sion Milosky.

When did you make the transition into big wave surfing? It wasn't a choice. It just happened. It was a natural progression in search of my own personal limits.

What's been the biggest change you've witnessed in the sport? Paddling Jaws is the newest thing that I've seen change in our sport in the last few years. At one point it was considered unpaddleable. Now look at it. It has opened up doors for a lot of people and is helping to rapidly progress the sport.

Any secrets to staying fit for big wave surfing? Stay active and eat well. And drink lots of water.

What is the heaviest or gnarliest wave in the world? I'll measure that question in butterflies. I get more of them flapping their wings when I know I'm going to surf huge Mavericks or Jaws the next morning.

Your favorite wave is... I constantly daydream about Cloudbreak. Nothing touches how perfect and long that wave can be. Most of my most memorable waves have been out there.

Which big wave surfer (past or present) do you admire most and why? I look up to so many of the older generations and my peers, so it's hard to pick just one. Clyde Aikau is 65 and still charging (not just surfing) the Bay. That is inspirational. Twig is another guy that I admire for his skill and dedication to the sport.

What does the experience of surfing big waves feel like to you? When I'm surfing I am actually in my most peaceful state. It's the night or days before that I have to deal with the anxiety and fear.

How do you mentally prepare for long hold-downs or major wipeouts? I don't mind the long deep water wipeouts, as long as I get a good breath. It's the shallow reefs that suck.

Your ultimate dream wave is... Cloudbreak.

Any thoughts on the changes to the BWWT? Gary Linden has done an amazing job bringing the BWWT to where it is today. A bunch of us have supported the tour since its inception and hopefully Gary's efforts combined with our support paves the way for future generations to make a living surfing big waves.

As a big wave surfer, I feel there is a certain persona expected out of you... fearlessness, brawn, maybe a little craziness... considering this, what would we be surprised to know about you? I have a small silky terrier named Piper.

Tell me about your hobbies outside of surfing. I have an organic farm in Waialua and run a solar installation company, Bonterra Solar.

The love of surfing big waves is all about... The process of dealing with all the emotions that come before a swell, surfing a swell and then celebrating afterwards with friends.

pau

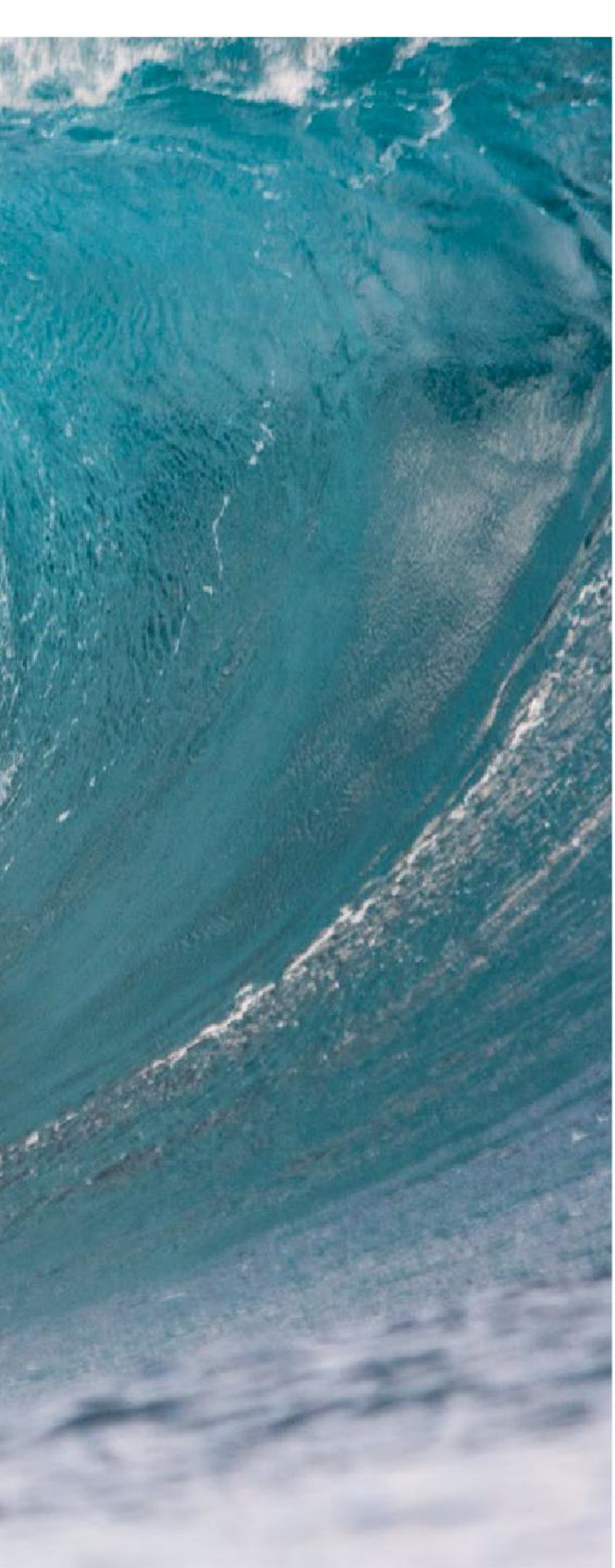
Brent Bielmann

Aperture

If you're going to make an impression, make it a lasting one. **Jamie O'Brien** and photographer **Tom Carey**, creating a memorable moment.

Pelahi

As surfers flock to the North Shore by the droves, **Albee Layer** sees no reason to make the annual pilgrimage with this in his backyard. Photo: Tony Heff



Barrels, bikinis and Burger, mainstays of a Hawai`i winter. (Clockwise) **Shaun Lopez** on a second reef screamer. Photo: Vince Cavateio; Standard winter attire. Photo: Pete Frieden; **Keoni "Burger" Nozaki**, no apologies, no regrets. Photo: Tyler Rock

(Left) Freesurfing phenom **Dane Reynolds** can make just about anything look cool, even backwash kickouts. Photo: Mike Latronic; (Right) **Koa Rothman** takes the leap of faith on just one of the many perfect Pipe waves offered this winter, showing wisdom beyond his years. Old enough to know better, young enough not to care. Photo: Tony Heff

(Clockwise) **Kekoa "Bam" Bacalso** reveals the origins of his nickname... just in case you needed reminding. Photo: Tony Heff; The North Shore Rat Pack, just another day in paradise. Photo: Brent Bielmann; Hawai'i born beauty **Kelia Moniz** now resides in Cali, but something keeps bringing her back. Photo: Tony Heff; (Right) Everyone loves a great wipeout... well, almost everyone. Aussie boy **Brent Dorrington** paying Hawaiian tax during this year's Volcom Pipe Pro. Photo: Tony Heff

John John Florence went from a backyard view of Pipeline to this. All great artists keep inspiration within reach. Photo: Brent Bielmann

Jaws for days. From playful 12 to 15 foot, to monstrous code red swells, our favorite big wave spot saw it all this winter. With a string of swells on tap this season, everyone who wanted a piece seemed to get their fill and then some. (Clockwise) **Nick Vaughn** who? Exactly. Photo: Brent Bielmann; **Kala Alexander** in utero. Photo: Tony Heff; **Peahi** saw days choked with crowds to days with just the boys out. Photo: Tony Heff.

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Heff

GERRY LOPEZ

Defined by Redefinition

By **Lauren Rolland**

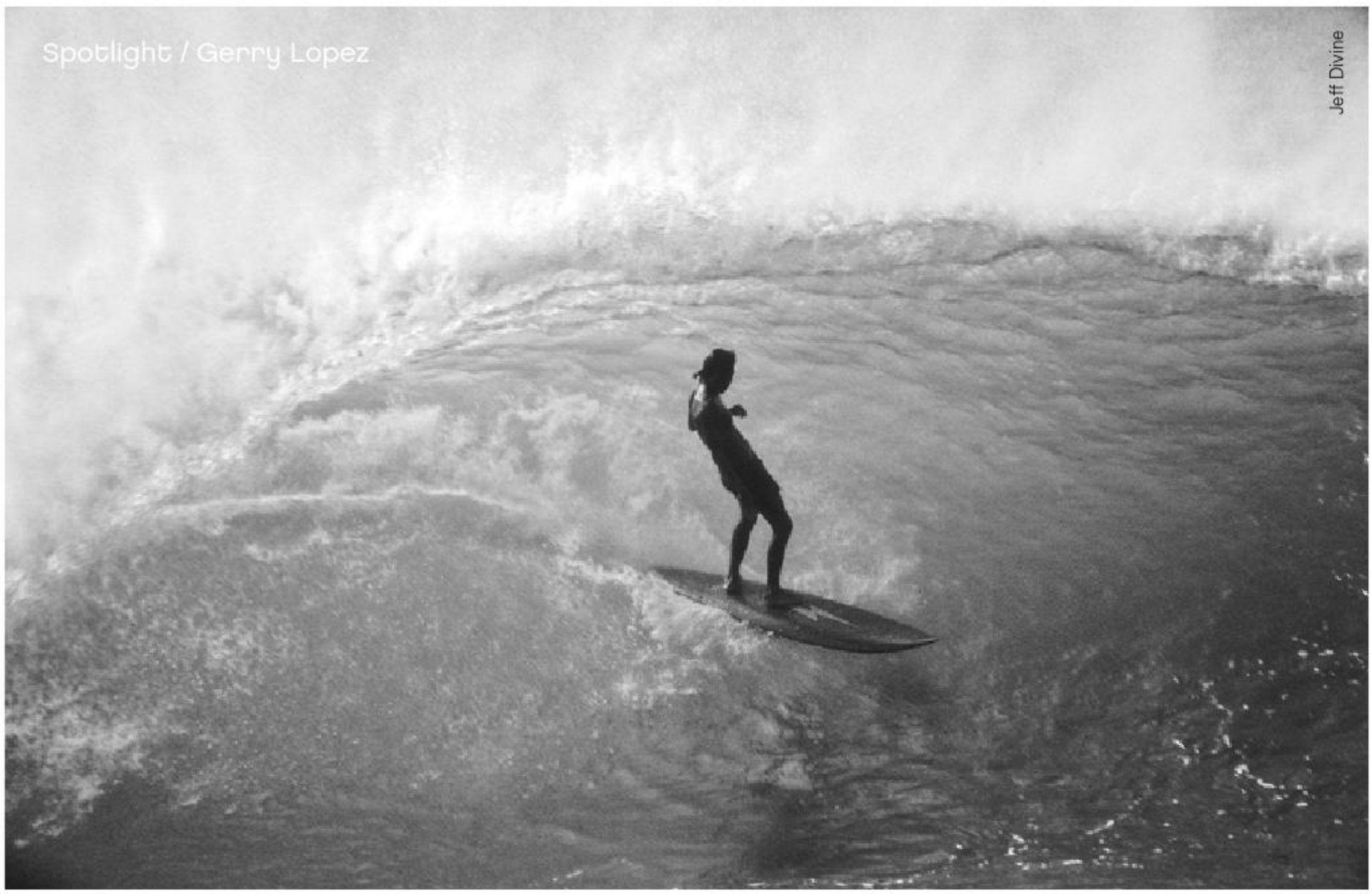
The Freesurf crew had the opportunity to meet Mr. Gerry Lopez himself during Wanderlust this year, which was a rich experience and noteworthy moment in life. The interview weaved through the icon's past, present and future, and Gerry shared intimate stories along with thoughts and opinions on the finer things.

Play a bit of word association with the name Gerry Lopez and likely the first thought that comes to mind is 'Mr. Pipeline'. For much of the 70's, Gerry graced the North Shore's most dangerous and untamed wave in a unique way- with a casual grace that emulated fearlessness. But as one of the first to push the Pipe envelope, Gerry says it began with anything but the absence of fear.

"I don't think there's any surfer, myself certainly included, that does not feel absolute and complete terror the first few years that they try to actively campaign The Pipeline," Gerry describes. Proving to be as deadly as it was terrifying, Pipeline had a specter about it that kept many surfers at bay. But over trial and error, many swims back to the beach and a lot of broken boards, eventually Gerry and the compact culture of surfers cultivated a relationship with the famed wave.

"It wasn't easy and there wasn't anything calm about it to begin with," the living legend explains in response to his calm demeanor while in the belly of Pipe. "But after a while, if you are able to develop a relationship with a surf spot, you begin to understand some of the things about a place, even a place like The Pipeline, that you really like and enjoy and look forward to on an ongoing basis. It's through that enjoyment that you soon develop maybe a little sense of calmness," Gerry smiles and his whole face softens, brightens. "Maybe it came across as being more calm than it actually really was."

'Shortboard revolutionist' is another word association for this Honolulu-born surfer. In 1971, Gerry Lopez and Jack Shipley founded Lightning Bolt, one of the first heavy hitter surf companies to lead the shortboard movement. "Making


Jeff Divine

the boards shorter, even though they were ugly and flat and thick and had those super hard rails, they were a big step up from the longboard that we were trying to ride The Pipeline and Sunset on."

The vast improvement of the surfboard made it possible for surfers to not only ride but style their way through a barrel. "It took the level of surfing to a new height that hadn't been possible because of the equipment before that," Gerry recollects. And with a bit of nostalgia, the Pipeline master adds, "the thing about those boards is that they paddled much faster. Your top end speed was greater than with a multi-fin surfboard."

The goofy footer chuckles at the thought of surfers today riding replicas of the 70's Lightning Bolt boards. "Of course they didn't turn as quick, and being so flat you really had to be conscious of your trim because it was real easy to pearl. But if you just grooved on the speed and catching the wave early, then you could set up your ride." Classic was truly simpler, in both form and function.

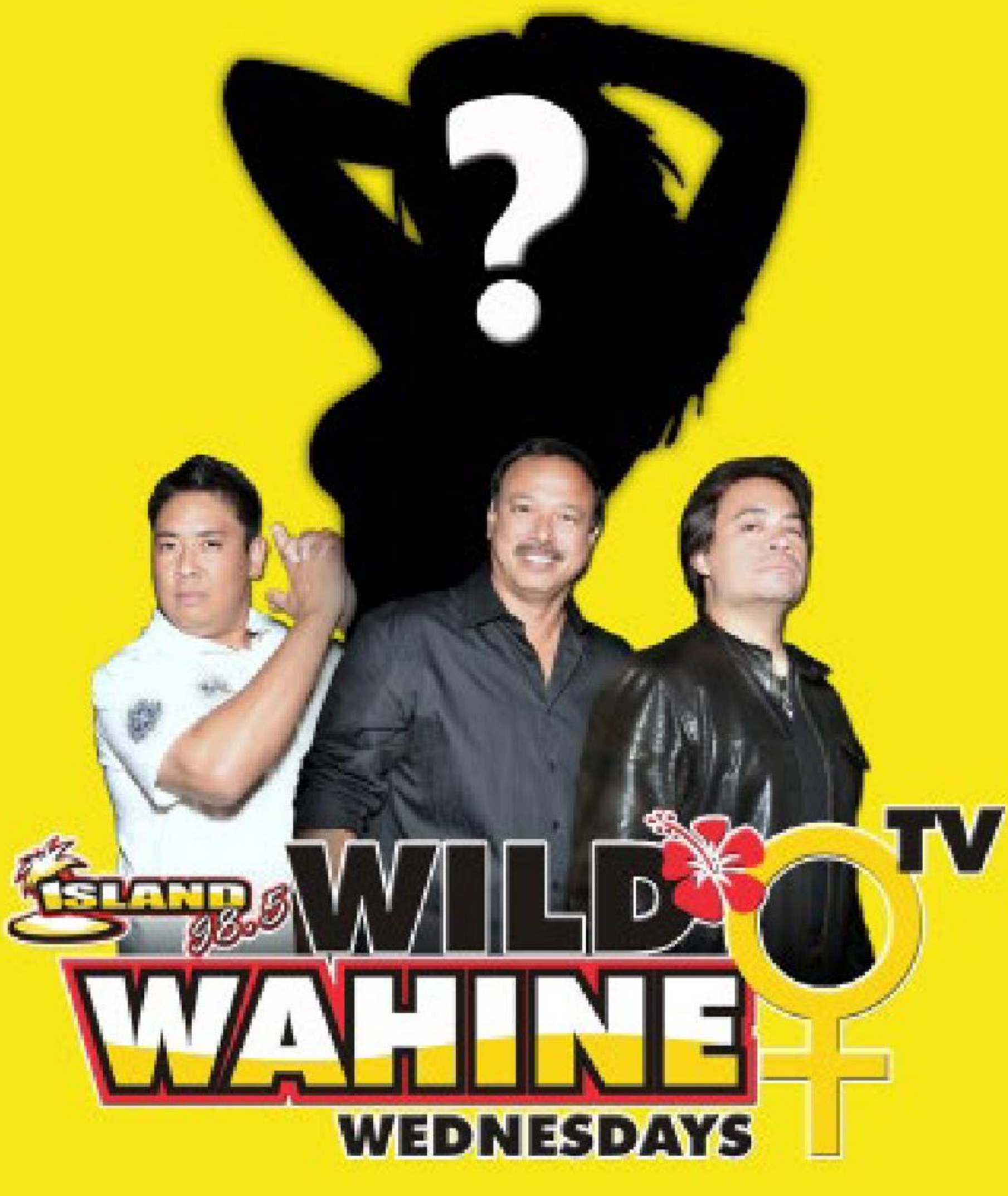
The laid-back posture of this lithe, tanned surfer defined an era, and so much of Gerry's wave riding skill seems to pull from a groundedness and in-tune personality. Very much a yoga enthusiast, this meditative man took his first class in 1968 while in college at UH and from there, life changed. Gerry has practiced yoga ever since, and recognizes the profound benefits it's had on both surfing and life. "Yoga helps everything, but you could say that about surfing too," the yogi smiles.

A special guest at this year's Wanderlust event at Turtle Bay Resort on the North Shore of Oahu, the instructor mentions that he feels honored to come and be a small part of it all. "I encourage all my friends to come just for the experience of being able to take classes from such a vast variety of top level teachers." Traveling from his home in Bend, Oregon, Gerry has been to both Wanderlust events on the North Shore and also attends the ones at Squaw Valley in Tahoe.

"The lessons you learn from surfing and also from yoga have a lot more to do with life outside of either of those practices," Gerry knowledgeably explains. For example, mindfulness and mental health. "Most of us need to help ourselves before we really truly can help anything or anyone else," he explains in response to environmental issues. But as a Patagonia ocean ambassador, one issue that resonates is the plastics washing up along beaches…

The Indonesian waves of Uluwatu and G-Land might be more word triggers for Gerry's name. Credited for discovering these gems in the mid-1970's, the surfer sought out refuge from the ever-growing Pipeline lineup and found waves elsewhere. In retrospect however, Mr. Lopez connects the surfing drip and presence in Indo to the environmental corruptions that are now taking place.

During the Indo escapades, Gerry and crew were surfing a remote spot of the southeast end of Java known as G-Land. "We wanted to surf when the tide was low, but there was this really long, sharp reef to walk across," memories flood back and Gerry grins. "So at first we only surfed when the tide was high so that we could paddle out and paddle back in."



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Heff

At the time, only old fishing boat marine debris could be found on the beaches. The only other evidence of manmade rubbish was a random pile of rubber slippers that happened to wash ashore. It couldn't have been better timing.

The sandals made it possible for the guys to walk across the reef and surf the break at its best. They would tuck the slippers into their shorts after paddling out, hoping they stayed put for the near-future walk back across the reef. "And that was the only thing that was there, the only thing we found as we walked across this deserted beach… I mean you felt like Robinson Crusoe!"

While this is a fond memory for Gerry, it also stands as a turning point for the islands of Indonesia. "Over the years they started to use more plastic, wrapping their food in it and whatnot, and it all just really made a mess of the beach," the surfer recalls. "It was a problem that we brought to them."

This problem of plastics in the ocean is an environmental issue that resonates with this waterman, but Gerry believes that first "we have to come to a state of mind where we find some peace within ourselves." It's an issue he believes we need to work on as a race. "Because then we can understand how we need to share that peace with the world around us and the people in it." From surfing to yoga and everything in between, the momentum keeps transforming.

Trading Pipeline for powder in the early 90's, a new sport became a passion and continues to be a hobby. Learning to snowboard with fellow Hawaii surfers Derek Doerner, Michael Ho and Sunny Garcia, Gerry describes being hooked from the start. "We were hopeless trying to learn but we loved it right off the bat, snow was a totally new experience for us." Lopez loved the snow so much that he, his wife Toni and son Alex moved from their Maui home to the seasonal slopes of Oregon.

As if all this weren't enough, Gerry can also add 'Hollywood star' to the recap, featuring in films like *Big Wednesday* (1978), *Conan the Barbarian* (1982), *North Shore* (1987) and *Farewell to the King* (1989), plus features in a variety of surf documentaries. When asked if there were any more acting plans for the future, Gerry laughs and says, "that really wasn't the life for me. If you're an actor, imagine how many swells you would miss having to go to a casting call or a reading!"

It's pretty humbling to think that the man who pioneered tube riding, led the short board revolution and popularized Pipeline is in fact humble, grounded and strives to lead a balanced life. Extremely multi-talented, Gerry Lopez's life has coursed through many different phases- Surfing, traveling, shaping, acting, windsurfing, big wave tow-in surfing, snowboarding, yoga. But it's all come full circle.

"I've realized surfing is my foundation," Gerry resolves. "It's always my greatest passion, even though sometimes I go through periods in my life where I don't realize and understand that, it always comes back to surfing. I'm still a surfer."

pau

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Dylan Makai Franzmann

By Sean Reilly

Hometown: Sunset Beach, Oahu
DOB: January 4, 2002
Height/Weight: 5'0/ 90 lbs.
Stance: Regular
Sponsors: RVCA, Excel, Famous, T&C Surfboards and my parents.
Recent Accomplishments: NSSA Reginal Champ in Open Boys Division

Dylan, D-Boy, Franzmann is not your ordinary 12 year old. This 6th grade stud is busting maneuvers that most life long surfers never even attempt, let alone pull off. You can find this little ripper throwing massive power hacks at Sunset, packing double up barrels at Velzyland, or punting Kalani David inspired alley oops at Rockys. Needless to say, this grommet has the repertoire of a seasoned veteran and can hold his own in just about any line up he paddles into.

Not only does Dylan ooze talent, this super grom has the perfect combination of stoke and focus with all the right backing in all the right places. By the age of two, the North Shore native was already picking off waves at Ali'i's tandem style with papa Franzmann. By nine, the young shredder was turning heads at NSSA contests. Now Dylan lives in front of arguably the most progressive break on the planet (Rocky Point) and is mentored by Hawaii Surf Team coach and North Shore legend Kahea Heart. And did I mention that this grade school shralper does research and development for world renown shaper Glenn Pang?

Hawaii has no shortage of youthful endowment, but this talented up-and-comer is a step above the rest. Capable of just about anything he puts his mind too, Dylan is hungry for success. Watch out for this little guy in the near future.

What is something that most people know about you?
I have a lot of surfboards. I kind of have a lot of stuff I guess. And I'm kind of spoiled. So when people think of Dylan Franzmann they probably think of spoiled (laughing).

What is something most people don't know about you?
I'm a quarter Japanese.

Tell us about your first surfing memory.
I remember surfing when I was two years old. I was at inside Haleiwa with my dad on this 8'0 longboard. He would put me in front, and my dad, he likes to build a lot of stuff, so he put these little custom handles on his old longboard. He is a really good ding repair guy, so he glassed in these handles for me. I would hold on to them and surf these little waves all the way in with him.

Your favorite break?
I really like surfing V Land. I think V Land is a really good wave because it's super high performance. I've seen guys punt the biggest airs I've ever seen, I've seen guys get barreled, and I've seen guys do huge turns.

Do you have any friendly rivalries? Surf buddies who push you in and out of the water?
I always like surfing with guys that I compete with, like Isaiah Briley and Reef Tsutsui and Bo Stone. Those are the kids I always surf with and I like hanging out with. I've known them for a long time and have always liked surfing with them.

Riding for Glenn Pang, you must have quite the arsenal. What's your quiver look like?
Mostly boards around 5'0 and 5'2 for my regular short boards. But whenever I'm surfing something bigger than 6 foot I ride something bigger. I have a couple step ups like a 5'6 and a 5'9 and I just ordered a 6'0.

What maneuvers are you currently working on?
I've been trying to work on airs that not many people do. A lot of kids don't try alley oops yet, so I've been going for that instead of the air reverse. I always thought that guys like Felipe Toledo and Kalani David can do sick alley oops, so I want to do that instead of the air reverse.

Who are your favorite surfers?
I really like the way Mick Fanning and Joel Parkinson surf. I like all the Ausies. They shred. They are not really the guys doing the biggest airs, but they're the guys doing the coolest looking turns and getting the most barreled out of everybody. I like that.

Who or what motivates you?
Before I started surfing I always looked up to guys like Finn Mcgill and Barron Mamiya. All those kids who were older than me and surfed well and charged. There was a point I didn't like surfing. I was always scared after this one wipeout I had. I didn't surf for two whole months, all I did was skate. But then I saw these kids surfing so well I wanted to jump in and do it. They really motivated me.

Future goals?
My future goals are surfing bigger waves and Pipe. I'm not really into that. I'm into surfing Sunset, but by the end of 2014 I want to be surfing 6 to 8 foot Pipe. That and I want to win US champs this year. I'm the top of the age division, not the best surfer, but the oldest one doing it. I want to win that thing so bad. The nationals of HSA at Lowers this summer.

When you're not surfing, what else do you like to do?
In the summer time I really like to spearfish and pole fish off the beach. I think I like doing that the most out of any hobby. I go with a three prong. I got a two pound papio out here (points to Rockys). It was a little fatty. I was so happy with that fish, I was claiming it and everything.

pau

SHIRT: Bernie Cali Print Aqua / © Catch Surfboard Co.

Kahuku Beach on Oahu is colored with plastics. Pre beach cleanup. Photo: Jessica Lindsey

Earth Day: Care For The Coastlines

By Lauren Rolland

Walk along any one of Hawaii's beaches and you'll likely find a variety of rubbish that has collected amongst the shells and vegetation line in the sand. Look closer and you'll notice that the trash consists mostly of one material… plastic. This reality hits home for a lot of Hawaii residents. It's sad to think of these beautiful beaches becoming tainted with trash.

The reality is that plastic consumption has exponentially increased every year. A serious issue not only for the health of our marine life, but also ours as well, the amount of plastic making its way into nature is dire. The good news is that through recognition of this problem, an awakening is happening.

Every year since 1970, Earth Day is celebrated and recognized on April 22nd. It all began with the 1969 oil spill that happened in Santa Barbara, California, which was at that point the worst oil spill in our nation's history. Many people were witness to the ravages from the spill, and it's known to have been the spark that finally brought the environment to the nation's attention.

Gaylord Nelson, U.S. Senator from Wisconsin is credited as the 'Father of Earth Day'. In 1969 he was motivated by the spill but inspired by something different. The idea emerged in the midst of the Vietnam War, when students nationwide were in protest and the hippie culture was at its height. Nelson realized that if he could infuse that energy with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution, it would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda (earthday.org).

In 1969, Congress passed the National Environmental Policy Act. Today, Earth Day is a national holiday that demonstrates environmental stewardship and celebrates progress for environmental change. One of the largest demonstrations happening in Hawaii this year is Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii's Mauka to Makai event.

Taking place at Oahu's Kualoa Ranch on April 19th, The Mauka to Makai event has been strategically developed by the members and volunteers of Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii. A nonprofit organization that promotes large-scale beach cleanups around Hawaii, Sustainable Coastlines was launched in 2011 and is spearheaded by Kahi Pacarro. With a background in project management and a passion for surfing, Kahi focuses the organization's energy on clean beaches and inspiring coastal stewardship.

With a Hawaiian ahupua'a theme, the cleanup, education and activities of the Mauka to Makai event begin at the very top of the land division. The day kicks off with native planting of endemic Hawaiian plants. Papahana Kuaola, the organization that's supporting this activity, works to connect the area's past with a sustainable future and teaches this through environmental restoration.

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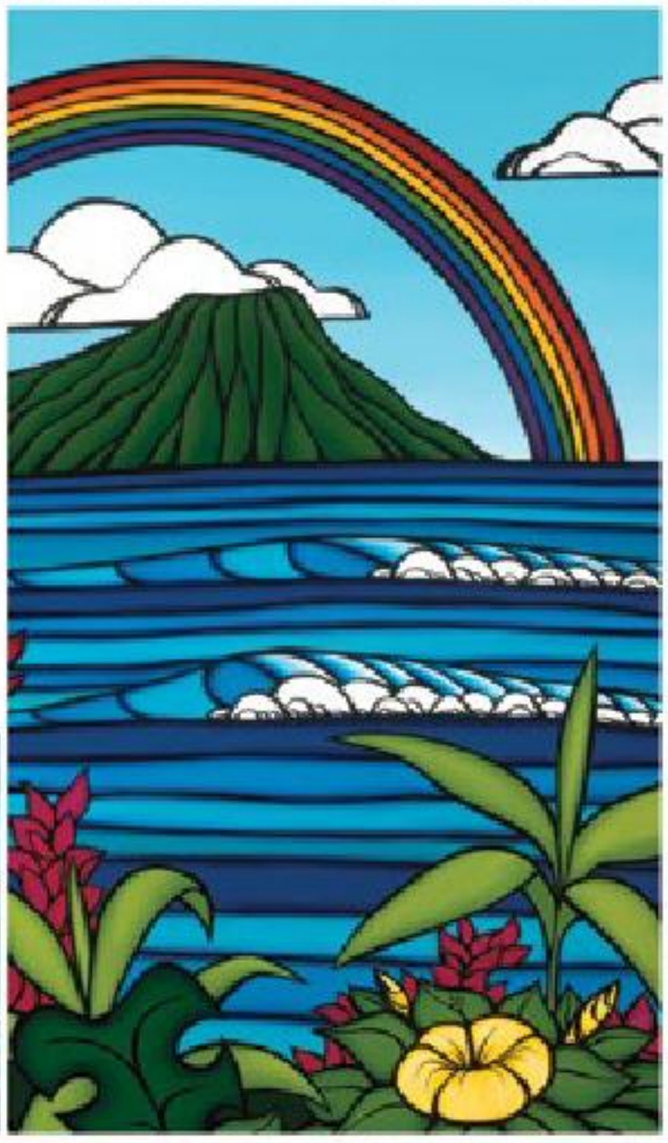

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Environment / Care for the Coastlines

Method owner Adam Lowry (left) and Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii executive director Kahi Pacarro (right) speak at Surfer the Bar during Oahu Wanderlust this past month. Photo: Lauren Rolland

Next, volunteers can work with Kako'o 'Oiwi, the community nonprofit organization that takes care of the lo'i by planting taro and tending to the wetlands. Sustainable farming and cultural stewardship are vital to the health of Hawaii, both the land and its people. Further down the ahupua'a, streams and rivers feed the ocean and it's essential we take care of these fresh water sources. Hui o Ko`olaupoko will help direct the stream restoration activity and educate participants on the importance of watershed health for the protection of ocean resources.

Following this is the beach cleanup, which takes place along the coastline. At last year's Mauka to Makai event, fourteen different beaches (between Sandys and Kaneohe Marine Base) were scoured for rubbish, with a total of 4,500 lbs. of trash collected and 780 lbs. recycled. Lastly, at the very bottom of the ahupua'a are the fishponds. Paepae o He'eia is a private nonprofit organization that maintains the largest fishpond in the state, the He'eia Fishpond. This example of Hawaii aquaculture will show participants the importance of cultural sustainability and caring for the land.

As Executive Director, Kahi says that the purpose of this Earth Day event is to show the participants that clean beaches start higher up in the ahupua'a, not just at the beaches that we all enjoy here in Hawaii. Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii is invested in inspiring local communities to care for their coastlines through hands-on beach cleanups. At the same time, Kahi explains that this mission is to help perpetuate an even greater one. "The goal is to show that clean beaches isn't necessarily a result of cleaning them, it's the result of your consumer behaviors and the choices you make away from the beach."

There is momentum growing, and more and more we're seeing consumers having an impact on products and packaging, forcing producers to make responsible choices to help, not hurt, the environment.

One example of this is with 'Beat the Microbead', an international campaign against microbeads in cosmetics. Tiny particles of plastic, known as microbeads, have found their way into personal care products like face wash and body scrubs, replacing natural exfoliating materials like crushed pearls or shells with plastic. Because of their small size, microbeads are being passed along the food chain, beginning with the smaller fish of the sea and working their way up.

Since the campaign's launch, companies like Johnson & Johnson, The Body Shop and L'Oréal have vowed to stop using microbeads. This proves that raising consumer awareness has a direct impact on improving product development. (Check out the free app, Beat the Microbead, which labels the products that contain microbeads so you can know before you buy). Another noteworthy brand is Method, the cleaning supplies company that pioneered the use of 100% post consumer plastic for their product packaging.

Method has recently released a dish and hand soap product whose bottle is made with a blend of recovered ocean plastic and post-consumer recycled plastic. The world's first, you might be surprised to know that a big portion of the ocean plastic used in these bottles comes straight from Oahu's eastern coastline, from Kahuku to Makapu'u. Method has partnered with Sustainable Coastlines

Nakoa Decoite. photo: Tracy Lebas

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Volunteers proudly represent the non-profit organization that helps keep our beaches and coastlines clean. Photo: Jessica Lindsey

Hawaii to collect and repurpose the plastic along these beaches. By reusing the plastics that are already on the planet, Method and Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii believe it will have an influence on changing people's mind about their role in protecting our oceans.

"It takes a paradigm shift of recognizing that we need to do a better job with our consumer behaviors to have an impact," Kahi illustrates. "Cleaning beaches is not what's going to solve the problem. It's the choices we make in our everyday life, taking the stance to be more conscious of our surroundings and recognizing the need to preserve nature. We are being numbed and conditioned in society, but we hope that bringing people to the coastline to help care for them will help awaken, inspire or reinvigorate our communities to show them that they can make a difference."

Whether that's swapping out plastic water bottles for a reusable one or growing a garden in your backyard, there are small steps we all can take to reduce our plastic use, promote sustainability and ultimately keep our bodies clean and healthy.

Kahi explains the hope for the Mauka to Makai event. "The first step is participating. Education follows through hands-on work within the ahupua'a. Following up the work with a venue where people can see first hand that plastic reduction can be fun and easy allows people to see that caring for the earth can be done with their wallets." The common theme for Earth Day is 'every day is Earth Day'.

Noelani Love and son Aukai participate in a beach cleanup, using a sifter to pull plastic out of the sand. Photo: Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii

So this Earth Day, take a step in the right direction. One change or conscious shift toward the environment can make the difference. Kahi adds one final thought: "Everyday purchases toward sustainable, organic and healthy products show your love for the earth every day."

For news and updates on beach cleanups and events, or for more information about caring for the coastline, follow Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii on Instagram or check out their website. @sustainablecoastlineshawaii / www.sustainablecoastlineshawaii.org.

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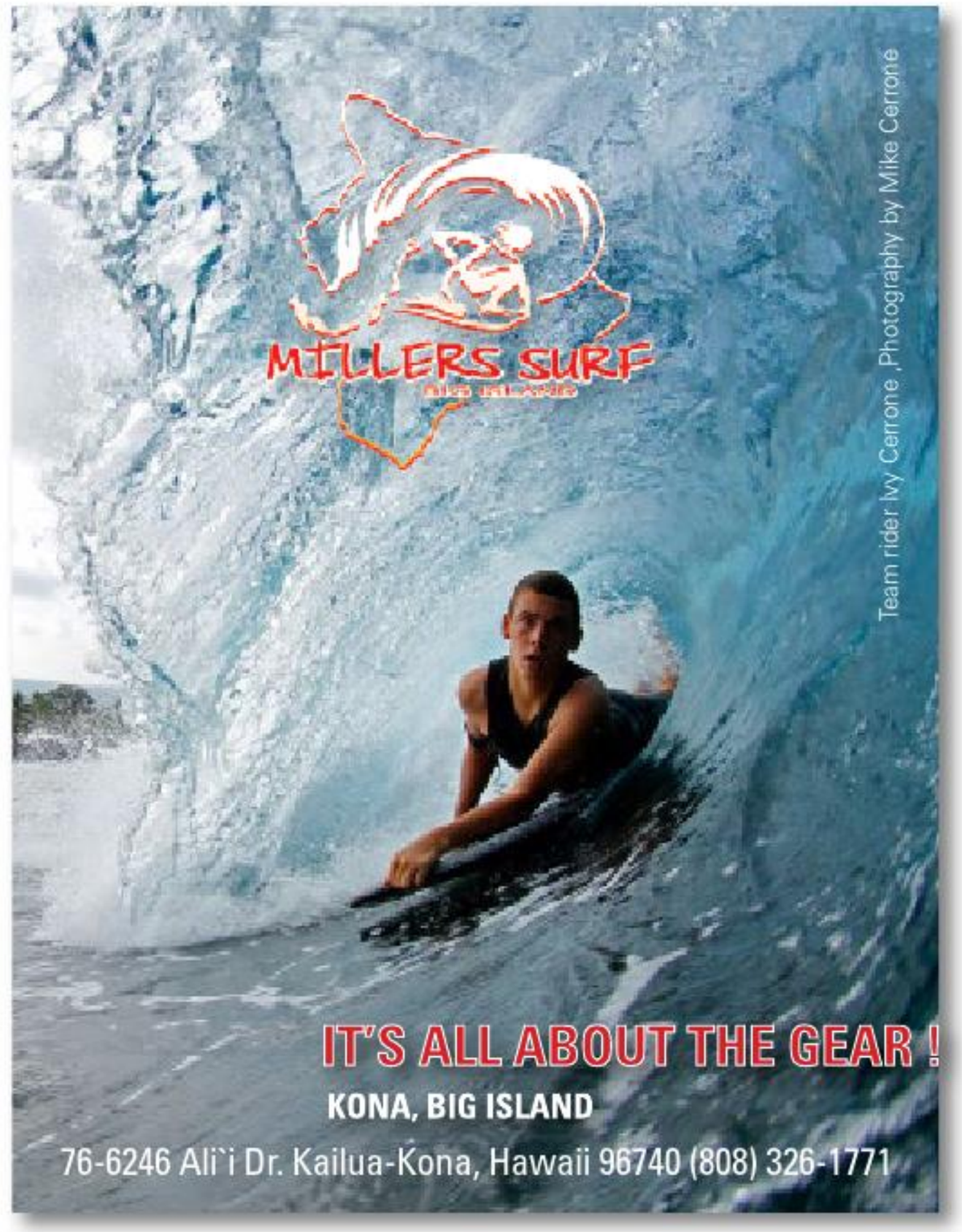

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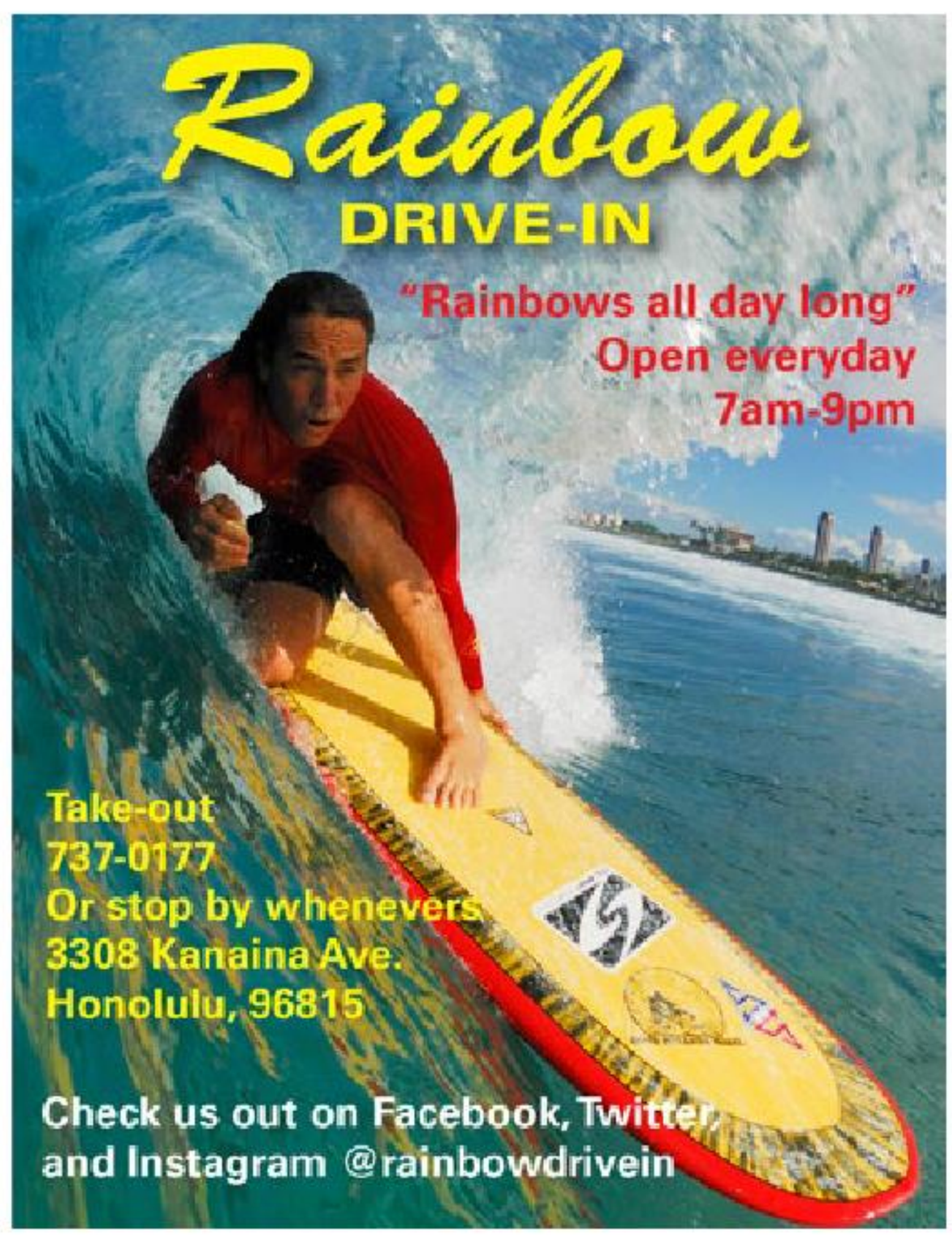

Reilly

Wanderlust Lights Up the North Shore

By Sean Reilly

The four-day yoga, music, adventure festival that is Waderlust made its way back to Hawaii for a Hana Hou. This March, Turtle Bay Resort hosted the 2nd annual Wanderlust Oahu in epic fashion. True to its name, Wanderlust is a one-of-a-kind celebration offering a multitude of extra curricular activities, workshops, guest speakers and performances anyone can enjoy. Yoga may be the soul of Wanderlust, but music is the beating heart.

The festival presented a variety of musical performers in myriad settings; ranging from main stage headliners to live performance yoga to intimate pop-up acts and late night DJ sets. Musical talent included such names as Moby, Donavan Frankenreiter, Mike Love, MC Yogi, DJ Drez, DJ Hyfy, Fel-Barr, Josh Sharp, Kevin Paris and Tutu Janet.

Moby's all-night chakra spinning DJ set was hands down the most jam-packed performance of the entire festival. The world-renowned techno music superstar pumped out a variety of songs from his eleven-album discography but concentrated on his latest LP, *Innocents*. Yogis, locals and music fanatics alike were enthralled with the nostalgic raver turned electronic king.

Hawaii-based singer-songwriter Donovan Frankenreiter headlined the following night. Donovan left the laser show and turn tables to Moby while he rocked the crowd with a mellow folk-infused vibe. The local celebrity wooed the audience with his rich, honey-thick vocals and masterful guitar work. A simplistic and heartfelt performance, Donavan was the perfect ying to Moby's yang.

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Spring Music Calendar

April 14th – Iron & Wine @ The Republik

April 15th – Kanikapila (Open Mic Night) @ Surfer The Bar

April 15th – VIVO @ The Dragon Upstairs

April 17th – Emma Hewitt @ The Republik

April 18th – Adventure Club @ The Republik

April 18th – Hanalei Slack Key and Ukulele Concert @ Hanalei CC

April 18th, 19th & 21st – Bruno Mars @ Neal S. Blaisdell Center

April 20th – Poina Ole Slack Key and Ukulele Concert @ Hanalei CC

April 21st-26th – Merrie Monarch Festival @ Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium

April 22nd – Kanikapila (Open Mic Night) @ Surfer The Bar

April 24th – Florida Georgia Line @ Neal S. Blaisdell Center

April 25th – Legends of Slack Key and Ukulele Concert @ Hanalei CC

April 26th – Bob Dylan @ Maui Arts & Culture Center

April 26th - YelaWolf @ The Republik

April 26th – Big D And The Kids Table @ Hawaiian Brian's

April 26th – Texas Guitar Slingers @ Kona Brew Pub

April 27th – Hawaii Symphony Orchestra @ Neal S. Blaisdell Center

April 27th – FSlack Key G and Ukulele Concert @ Hanalei CC

April 29th – Bob Dylan @ Neal S. Blaisdell Center

April 29th - Kanikapila (Open Mic Night) @ Surfer The Bar

April 29th – Hatebreed in Hawaii @ Hawaiian Brian's

May 2nd – The Expendables @ The Republik

May 2nd - Brothers Cazimero @ Maui Arts & Culture Center

May 2nd – John Anderson @ Maui Arts & Culture Center

May 2nd - NA LEI HIWAHIWA EHIKU @ Kauai Beach Resort

May 3rd – G-Spot @ Restaurant Row

May 3rd – Maui Classical Music Festival @ Makawao Union Church

May 6th – VIVO @ The Dragon Upstairs

May 7th – Maui Classical Music Festival @ Makawao Union Church

May 9th – Brothers Cazimero @ Palace Theater

May 9th – Maui Classical Music Festival @ Makawao Union Church

May 11th – Hawaii Symphony Orchestra @ Neal S. Blaisdell Center

May 16th, 17th & 18th – Big Daddy Weave @ Neal S. Blaisdell Center

May 18th – Hawaii Symphony Orchestra @ Neal S. Blaisdell Center

May 20th – The Naked and Famous @ The Republik

May 20th – VIVO @ The Dragon Upstairs

May 29th – People Under the Stairs @ The Republik

May 30th – Memphis May Fire in Hawaii @ Hawaiian Brian's

May 31st – Benny Rietveld and friends @ Honolulu Academy of Arts

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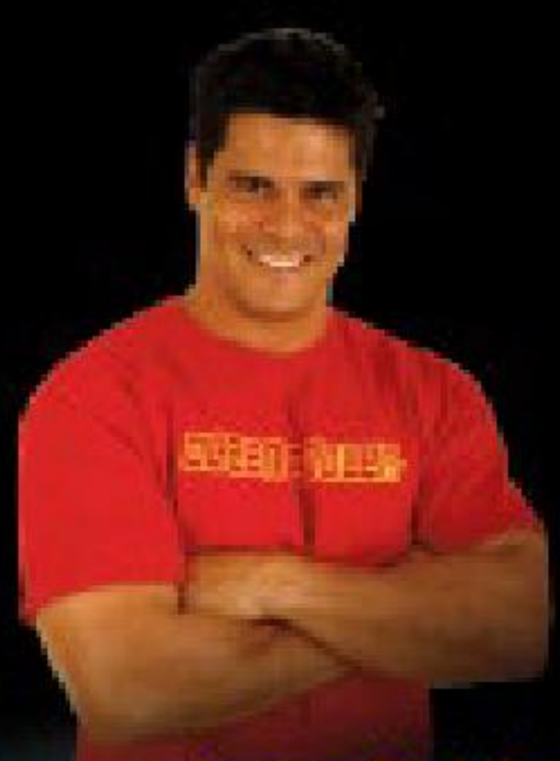

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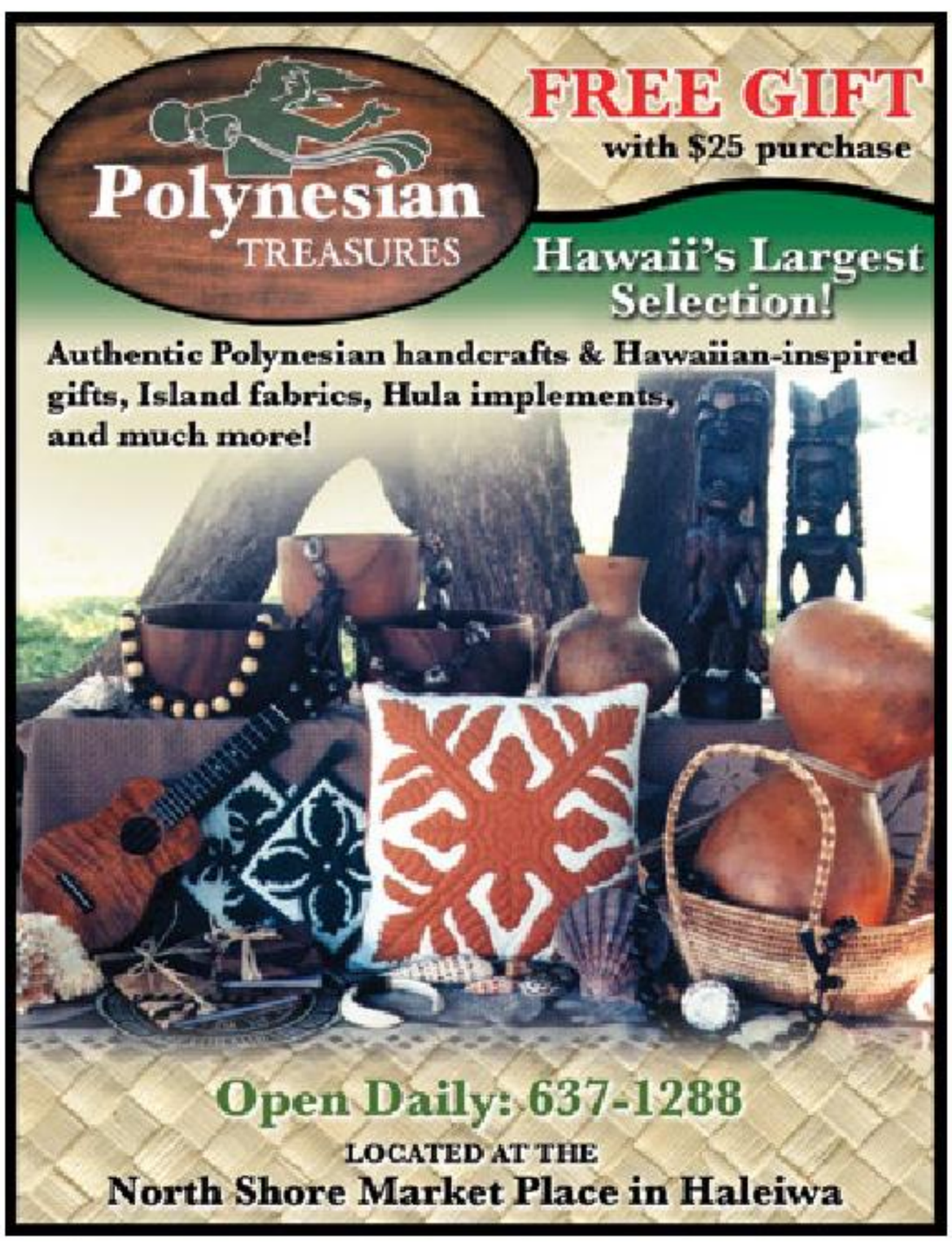
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Industry Notes

Mike Latronic

^ Sunny's Surf School. 6x Triple Crown Champion Sunny Garcia has recently announced his new surf school, **Sunny Garcia Surf School Hawaii**. "I'm starting slow, but it's going to be an intimate experience, as just me and my son Stone will be running it," Sunny says. The only former world champion to own and operate a surf school in Hawaii, the athlete mentions that his pedigree will speak for itself. "If you're looking to find someone who knows what they're doing, I'm your guy. I'm going to go about running this surf school the same way I went about winning a world title." With classes happening 7 days a week, people can sign up for beginner lessons or private surf coaching. For more information, check out **sunnygarciasurfschool.com**, visit them on Instagram, **@sunnygarciasurfschool** or call **(808) 782-6397.**

Twiggy 2013/2014 BWWT Champ. The South African big wave charger has had a stunning season, with two consecutive victories at the Punta Galea Challenge and Mavericks Invitational. In the penultimate event of the 2014 Big Wave World Tour, **Grant Baker** finished in a well-deserved third place, which means he takes the crown before Todos Santos, the last stop of the world circuit. Congratulations Twig! Check out Freesurf's interview with the new world champ in this issue's feature, 'Heavy Hitters'.

Jamie O'Brien Wins Surfline's Go Pro of the Winter. Announced via Instagram, Surfline knighted JOB as the winner of the **2013-2014 Go Pro of the Winter**. Jamie's clip of a barrel at Backdoor was selected amongst many other entries, and this win just solidifies our minor obsession with the modern-day Mr. Pipeline.

Pakaloha Opens Doors in Haleiwa. Maui-based bikini brand Pakaloha has opened their doors in Haleiwa! Stop by and browse their variety of fashionable yet functional kinis. Check the shop out at **66-165 Kamehameha Highway** in the **Haleiwa Town Shopping Center** behind Radio Shack. Be sure to tell them Freesurf sent you!

Waimea Valley Summer Concert Series. Waimea Valley presents **Pila Ho'okani** (Modern Hawaiian Instruments) as the theme for their Second Annual Concert Series. The series consists of three concerts held **Saturdays, June 21st, July 19th and August 3rd** on the Main Lawn from 1pm – 5pm. Concert ticket purchases can be made at **www.waimeavalley.net** or in person at Ku'ono Waiwai in the valley. All ticket purchases include admission to the valley for the day of the concert.

Handley Surfboards x Eli Olson. Australian designer and shaper Darren Handley is making his presence in the Hawaii surf community felt. **Darren Handley Designs** is now sponsoring one of North Shore's finest up-and-comers, **Eli Olson**. "His boards are amazing and I feel like magic boards really make a difference in taking your surfing to the next level," Eli mentions. "I'm honored and blessed to have such a good shaper behind me and I'm excited for the future, to keep working with Darren and dial in everything, from small waves to giant!" Sharing the same board sponsor as current world champ **Mick Fanning**, Eli is beyond stoked.

Catch Surf Adds to Their Team. Catch Surf clothing is proud to officially welcome **Kalani Robb** to the team with a multi-year deal. Kalani's personality, shred skills and utter stoke for surfing is a perfect fit for the **Catch Surf clothing** vibe!

Catch Surf is also excited to announce the addition of madman charger **Jamie O'Brien** to the board team. Jamie is constantly pushing the limits on softboards, making him an ideal fit to the Catch Surf family. For all the latest Catch Surf juice, make sure to check out **www.catchsurf.com.**

Vissla and D'Blanc are ready to launch. After months of hard work and creativity, the companies are pleased to announce the April 10th launch of Vissla and D'Blanc. Summer 2014 collections will land online at **Vissla.com** and **Dblanc.com** as well as at specialty core retail stores with the complete line becoming available in shops across the USA, Europe, Canada, Japan, South America and Central America shortly thereafter. Look for more news to drop as the launch date approaches by following Vissla - http://vissla.com and **@visslasurf** on Instagram – and D'blanc – http://dblanc.com and **@dblanc** on Instagram.

Mason Ho Wears etnies Scout. Hawaiian Charger and North Shore Royalty **Mason Ho** wears the **etnies Scout**, and the brand is proud to announce the global release of his signature colorway in dark navy. The footbed of Mason's signature colorway features a world map that plots his travels, including Mason's favorite surf spots and ASP events around the globe. Also pictured on the footbed is Mason's middle name (Kaohelaulii) and the shark tattoo he shares with his dad and fellow surfer, **Michael Ho**.

Roy Powers Joins Reef Sales Team. Over the past several years, Reef has brought a number of talented surfers still performing at top levels into the family as part of the **Reef** Sales force. Most recently, Hawaiian former Association of Surfing Professionals World Tour surfer **Roy Powers** has come onboard as sales rep for the Oahu territory.

"I have been rocking Reef sandals as far back as I can remember," says Powers, a native of Kauai. "Reef has been a major force in and out of the water for a long time. It's an honor to join such a legendary team and be a part of the future growth of an iconic brand."

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Clark Takashima Passes

Christian Cook

Hawaii's surf and art community has lost an iconic figure, **Clark Takashima**. Known for his impressive artwork that adorned the galleries of Hawaii, Clark was also a passionate, enthusiastic and positive person that radiated stoke. The talented artist captured the essence of the waves and sea, testimony of his time spent in and around the waters of the North Shore. Embedding a name in the growing genre of surf art, Clark's paintings blended the ocean's dichotomy of peace and power.

"Aside from being a very warm and humble person, his depiction of waves and the ocean leaves us all with a beautiful feeling," describes Freesurf publisher Mike Latronic. Professional surfer and Sunset Beach local Jamie Sterling adds that "Clark's art captivates the true essence and energy of the sea." Along with art, Clark also loved the ke'iki of the community, and dedicated time with Mauli Ola, Ryan's Light and Sunset Elementary.

Jay Celat of 9th Wave Gallery says Clark was an inspiration to everyone and "he was the head of our Ohana. He changed my life and the lives of everyone who knew him. Clark's legacy will be carried on in his artwork forever and I feel it was one of the biggest honors and pleasures in my life to work with and know such a beautiful human being." Jay is the owner/operator of 9th Wave Gallery, located in Kula on Maui. "I will be learning from him for the rest of my life and I miss him already more than I can say. I only feel comforted by knowing he is with his soulmate Deborah and Uncle Buttons... catching waves and sharing smiles."

Randy Rarick, Vans Triple Crown of Surfing executive director spoke about Clark in a way that really embodies the soul of the artist. "There are those that have passion and there are those who live their passion. Clark Takashima [was] one of the latter. It's not about the money, or the fame, or the recognition (all which will come to him with time), it's about presenting what you believe in, and Clark believes in it." Clark Takashima will be greatly missed by the surfing and art community of Hawaii and beyond.

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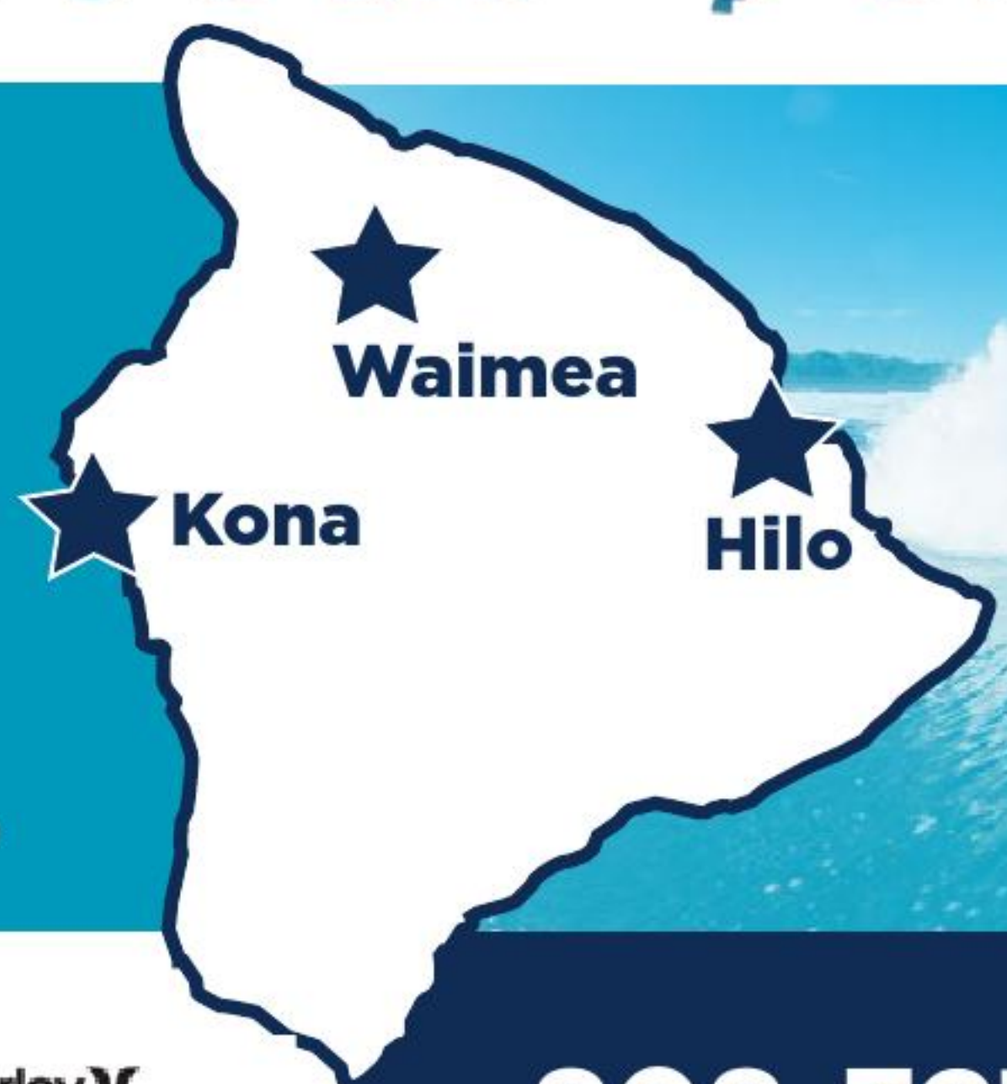

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Last Look

We hope you've enjoyed another issue of Freesurf Magazine. We appreciate your continuous support all these years. Stay safe this spring / summer, and whether you find yourself in the lineup at Australia's Superbank or in a long line at American Savings Bank, we hope you'll remember to take aloha with you and keep the stoke alive. Photo: Mike Latronic

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ALBEE LAYER | PEAHI, HI

It's boardshorts, not rocket science.

Just like most things in life, boardshorts are complicated. Volcom Mod-Tech Boardshorts require hundreds of hours of design, intricate fabrication techniques, strenuous product testing and complex refinement before being offered to the world as the finest in surfing technology. It is, however, not rocket science.

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