

2005 DSIF Scholarships Awarded

David Ishii (far left) and DSIF Scholarship Committee Chair Dayton Asato (far right) present \$2,000 scholarships to **Keli M. Nakano** of Baldwin High School, who will attend the University of Portland; **Stacie K. Nishimoto** of Iolani, who will attend Stanford University; **Bryson Y. Hori** of Assets High School, who will attend the University of Hawaii; and **Gavin K. Okabe** of Waiakea High School who will attend the University of Portland.



David Ishii chatted with the four scholarship recipients at the 2005 DSIF tournament banquet held at Pearl Country Club.

2006 DSIF Scholarships Increased to \$2,500

The Board of the DSIF has voted to increase the scholarship awards in 2006 to four \$2,500 scholarships (two boys, two girls). This is an increase from the previous award of \$2,000.

Hawaii high school seniors graduating in the 2005-2006 academic school year who have demonstrated a high level of academic achievement, were active members of their high school golf teams, and plan on attending college full-time at an accredited U.S. college or university are eligible to apply.

Application forms may be obtained by writing to: DSIF Scholarship Fund Committee, P.O. Box 2927, Aiea, HI 96701-2927. Deadline for completed application and materials is April 30, 2006.



OLD FRIENDS FORM STRONG FOUNDATION

Theirs is a brotherhood defined by golf and as strong as any bound by blood. Nearly 40 years ago, youngsters David Ishii, Jay Hinazumi and Wendell Tom got used to being mistaken for each other as the three began their lifelong journeys through the ranks of Junior Golf.

"I guess because we were all Asian, about the same build, all wore glasses and had similar swings," Wendell explains, "lots of people used to think we were brothers."

Geography certainly didn't fuel the close friendship. David was from Kauai (Kauai H.S.), while Jay (Kaimuki H.S.) and Wendell (McKinley H.S.) grew up on Oahu. Their fathers, however, were fast friends who were instrumental in the Junior Golf program. Wendell's father, Bob, started Junior Golf on Oahu in 1966. David's father, Chica, and Jay's father, Shige, were also very involved and influential in the development of Junior Golf in Hawaii. All three were good friends, Wendell notes.

"Lots of people used to think we were brothers..."
— Wendell Tom —

"Whenever David's father came to Oahu, he would stay at my parents' house," Jay adds. "He and my father were really good friends."

A year older than Jay and Wendell, David was first to graduate high school in 1973, capturing the HH-SAA state title that year before matriculating to the University of Houston. Wendell took the state title a year later. He considered an offer to join David at Houston before opting to attend the University of



The Three Musketeers? David, Wendell and Jay in a 1987 photo.

Southern California (USC). Jay, meanwhile, stopped playing competitive golf after his first year at the University of Hawaii. "I was working part time, got more hours, got promoted..." Jay explains. In total, he laid off the game for a four-five year period during college.

After college, the three friends were again reunited through golf and brought closer via their friendship with golfing legend Allan Yamamoto, then the general manager of Pearl Country Club. "We were honored that he took us under his wing," Jay said. The group later came to include Guy Yamamoto and Bert Yamamoto.

Upon his return from Houston, Allan hired David to run the Golf House, a subsidiary of the Pearl Country Club. When David turned pro in 1979, Allan hired Jay to replace him as manager of the Golf House. Eventually, Jay got to know the owner of Golf Concepts

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David, his brother John, Wendell's sister Jackie, and Wendell at the Wailua Golf Course on Kauai in 1968. (Photo courtesy of Wendell Tom)

and started to work for Golf Concepts in 1986. In 1993, Jay worked out an agreement to purchase the company, which he heads to today.

Wendell returned from USC and became a force in local golf tournaments – while retaining his amateur status. For some 22 years, Wendell established himself as a sales representative for a variety of golf-related lines. Last year, he assumed a full-time position representing Adidas Golf in Hawaii.

Today, the three friends still laugh when they recall how – many years ago – even one of David's relatives mistook Jay for David at a tournament. **Years ago, even one of David's relatives mistook Jay for David at a tournament.**

ment. "Hey David," he said, "Long time no see..." When Jay tried to correct him, he insisted, "No, you're David, I should know – you're my cousin!"

Fast forward to the recently concluded 2006 Champions Tour tournament at Turtle Bay, in which David was competing. "I was walking around and, believe it or not, no less than three people came up to me thinking I was David!" reports Wendell, shaking his head in amazement.

The moral of this tale is that it is not by accident that David decided to call old friends Jay and Wendell to help him and Lorraine establish the DSIF in 1999 – as well as Allan, Guy and Bert.

"Our lives took slightly different paths," Jay acknowledges. "David turned pro, while Wendell and I got involved in the business side of

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DSIF Boys U.S. Junior Amateur Travel Stipend Award

The DSIF U.S. Junior Amateur Travel Stipend for Boys is open to all male junior golfers who are residents of the State of Hawaii and who have been outstanding citizens in the community. Awards will not exceed \$500 per qualifier. Applicants must submit a completed application and tournament entry form. Selection will be determined by sectional qualifying results and tournament participation.

All recipients must turn in a written report within 30 days of the tournament completion. This report should include the tournament experience, personal results and a summary of expenses.

Questions can be directed to: Guy Yamamoto, Junior Golf Travel Stipend for Boys Committee Chair, (Phone) 688-2104.



Jacob Low (808Golf Photo)

First DSIF Travel Stipend Awarded to Jacob Low

The DSIF awarded its first boys U.S. Junior Amateur travel stipend to Jacob Low of Hilo. Low played his way into the U.S. Junior Amateur Championships by capturing the sectional qualifier at Waikoloa. He was awarded \$500 to help defray his travel to Longmeadow, Mass. The tournament was held July 18-23, 2005, at the Donald Ross designed Longmeadows Country Club.

"I was thrilled to compete for the national title," Low wrote. Low shot 74-72-146, then earned a place in the round of 64 via a playoff. Low drew defending champion Siwan Kim and the two battled until Kim finally prevailed in extra holes.

Low traveled with his father, accumulating airfare, car rental, hotel, food and caddie expenses, which the sti-

LETTER FROM KAYLA MORINAGA TO THE DSIF



Dear Mr. & Mrs. David Ishii
David S. Ishii Foundation

Thank you very much for inviting me to play in the David Ishii foundation Golf Tournament on June 9th, taking the place of Christine Kim, who was unable to participate. I really enjoyed playing in the tournament and meeting so many of the people who work to keep the Foundation going. Thank you also for supporting high school golf in Hawaii. I am one who has definitely benefited from your generosity not only to the high school program, but also to the various junior golf organizations here. I have been active in the Oahu Junior Golf Association, Hawaii State Junior Golf Association, and the Interscholastic League of Honolulu for many years. As a result, I am proud to say that I will be attending Portland State University on a full golf scholarship. Being invited to play in the David Ishii Foundation Golf Tournament was a very special way for me to end my high school career. Again, thank you very much. I wish you and the Foundation much success and hope one day I, too, can make a difference in someone's life.

Sincerely, Kayla Morinaga,
Sacred Hearts Academy, Class of 2005

SCHOLARSHIPS HONOR BILL GEE, MONTE ITO

McKinley graduate Christopher Kobayashi and Keaau graduate Sarah Sheffield were awarded the 2004-05 Bill Gee and Monte Ito Scholarships.

The awards celebrate the careers of the two late sportswriters. Gee was a longtime writer and editor at the Star-Bulletin. Ito covered sports for The Honolulu Advertiser. Both men are in the Hawaii Golf Hall of Fame.

Sheffield, who played golf at Gonzaga last season as a freshman, is now a two-time winner of the scholarship. Kobayashi was captain of his McKinley team and is a junior at Northern Colorado. He plans to graduate with degrees in journalism and English.

The \$1,500 college scholarships are for "outstanding achievements and/or potential in journalism and a sincere appreciation of golf." The awards are sponsored by the Star-Bulletin and Advertiser and administered by the David S. Ishii Foundation.

WATABU LEADS KAUAI HS BOYS TO REPEAT VICTORY

DSIF Boys State Golf Championships, May 17-18, 2005, Wailea, Maui



Kauai High School junior Kellen Watabu captured the 2005 David S. Ishii Foundation Boy's individual title in leading his Red Raider team to its second consecutive state

team title.

Watabu charged back from an opening 76 to card a 3-under 69 on the final day for a 1-over total of 145, three strokes better than a group of three play-

ers: Bryan Bangerter of King Kekaulike 77-71—

148, Thomas Kua of Kamehameha Schools (Oahu) 74-74—148, and teammate Cory French of Kauai 74-74—148.

Kauai High School finished with a score of 606. The Na Alii of King Kekaulike finished second for the second straight year, eight shots back. Punahou was third at 621, followed by Kamehameha (Oahu) at 627 and Iolani at 630.



WAIAKEA'S KIM CAPTURES INDIVIDUAL STATE CROWN, TEAM TAKES TITLE AT THE DUNES AT MAUI LANI



DSIF State Girls Golf Championships, May 10-11, 2005, The Dunes at Maui Lani

Waiakea High School junior Christine Kim fired a final round 75 for a 153 total and a two-stroke victory in the 2005 David S. Ishii Foundation State Girls Golf Tournament on Maui.

Kim led a trio of golfers who finished tied for second, two strokes back: Kamehameha's Mari Chun (81-

74-155), Baldwin's Jayna Shimomura (79-76-155), and Waiakea's Amanda Wilson (79-76-155). Chun, Wilson and Shimomura were awarded second-, third- and fourth-place medals, respectively, using a tiebreaker system.

The Warriors of Waiakea, meanwhile, locked up the team title with a 241-235-479 cumulative score, which was good enough to soundly defeat second place Baldwin (254-237-491) for the title. The Bears were followed by Kamehameha-Oahu (248-245-493); and defending champion Kauai (256-240-496).



"Friends," Continued from Page 2

the golf industry. All of us benefited greatly from the Junior Golf program, however, and the game has been good to us. As for me, I'll continue as long as I'm capable of supporting David and the Foundation because of what he's doing to give back to the golfing community."

Wendell shares a similar sentiment. "When David came up with the idea to form his Foundation, he called and asked me to serve as a director. I felt honored; it was a big deal for me. I'd do anything for David, plus it was an opportunity for me to give back to golf."

The Foundation may be entering just its sixth year of operation, but it is solid – forged as it is on 40 years of trust.



"Golf has been good to us. This is our way of giving back..." Jay, David and Wendell, February 10, 2006

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A Word About Our Newsletter

Welcome to the fifth edition of *Through the Green*, the official newsletter of the David S. Ishii Foundation. The USGA defines the phrase "through the green" as "the entire golf course, except for tees, greens and designated hazards." In tournament play, the phrase is used to mean that everything else is "in play."

Through the Green is the Foundation's way of saying to Hawaii's young golfers: pursue your goals, play it as it lies, and strive to be the best you can along the way...

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DSIF Strength & Conditioning Clinic

Over 100 high school golfers and coaches attended the free DSIF "Fitness Training for Golf Clinic" on January 23, 2005 at the Pearl City High School Gym.

The session, which tested the physical conditioning of participants from 12:30 to 4 p.m., was led by Barry Toyama, CSCS, and his staff at Tactical Strength and Conditioning.

The session focused on techniques used to enhance an athlete's performance, covering warm-up, core strength training, flexibility and power development.



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Friendly and efficient corps of volunteers check-in golfers arriving at the 2005 DSIF fundraising golf tournament.