Punahou School wins 2011 Hawaii Ocean Science Bowl

On Saturday, February 26th, 2011, high school students from all over the state and Guam competed in the ninth annual Hawaii Regional competition for the National Ocean Science Bowl (NOSB), the “Aloha Bowl”. Five high school students from Punahou School won the competition, and will represent Hawaii in the National Ocean Science Bowl April 29 – May 1 in Galveston, Texas. Members of the winning team include (from left to right in picture)ordan Kaneshige, Karl Heyer, Kai Akinin, Calder Atta, Phillip Lin, and Coach Dave Strang. Waiakea High School’s Team A took second place, with Maui High School coming in third.

This educational program was developed to stimulate interest in the ocean sciences among high school students and demonstrate to the public the importance of the oceans in our daily lives. One of the long-term goals of the program is to foster the next generation of marine scientists, educators and policy makers for the ocean sciences.

During the competition, students were asked three types of questions: toss-up, bonus and team-challenge. Toss-up and bonus questions are in a multiple-choice or short-answer format.

The team-challenge question is written out and handed to both teams at the half time of each round. These questions require higher cognitive skills, often use visual aids such as charts, maps, and graphs and the students work together to earn as many points as possible, which may make the difference between winning or losing the round of competition. Question difficulty increases as the competition progresses.

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Information about the bowl can be found at http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/nosb/

Information about the National Ocean Science Bowl http://www.nosb.org/

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