

The Value of

The recently completed Kūnuiākea Athletic Complex is the crown jewel of the Kamehameha



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– BLANE GAISON
KAPĀLAMA ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Completed in time for the fall 2002 semester, Kamehameha Schools \$14.9 million, state-of-the-art Kūnuiākea Athletic Complex has been described as one of the finest high school facilities in the nation.

The Kapālama Campus complex, which will be the site of the 2003 state high school track and field championships, was officially opened with an all-school ceremony on Aug. 23.

"This facility was a long time in coming, and the opening day ceremony was certainly a wonderful celebration for everyone," said Kapālama athletic director **Blane Gaison '76**. "Until Kūnuiākea was constructed, we never had a regulation football or soccer field on campus, and our four-lane track was only 330 yards long. It's just great to have something now that our kids can really benefit from."

Gaison said the physical education department as well as the athletic department uses the complex. "This complex is not just designated for the athletic department, it's an athletic facility for the entire school – every student from kindergarten through grade 12 as well as faculty and staff. We're still in the process of setting our policies down, but as far as usage goes, this facility is for all of Kamehameha."



Athletics



Schools Kapālama Campus athletic program – the largest high school athletic program in the nation

Along with fellow Kapālama athletic director Erv Kau and assistant athletic director **Kanani Souza '63**, Gaison administers the nation's largest high school athletic program, according to the National Federation of High Schools/ National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. The program carries a \$2 million budget for this school year.

"In terms of number of sports offered, and number of teams and participants, our athletic program is the largest in the country," Gaison said. "Our whole existence is for these kids."

The Kapālama program statistics are astounding.

For students in grades 7-12, there are 40 different sports offered, with 115 teams (34 intermediate, 36 junior varsity and 45 varsity) and 211 coaches. More than 1,900 student-athletes take part in the program, including more than 830 girls.



While a student at KS, Gaison led Kamehameha to Prep Bowl victories in 1974 and 1975 and added a state basketball championship to his resume in 1976. After starring for the University of Hawai'i football team, he went on to a career with the Atlanta Falcons of the National Football League.

Gaison speaks from experience when he discusses the life lessons learned through participation in athletics. "Being involved with the athletic program gives our students a chance to gain personal development and growth," he said. "There's no question that in athletics you are tested. You learn how to never give up, and how



to respond to adversity. You learn persistence, character, integrity and teamwork.

"You learn to work with

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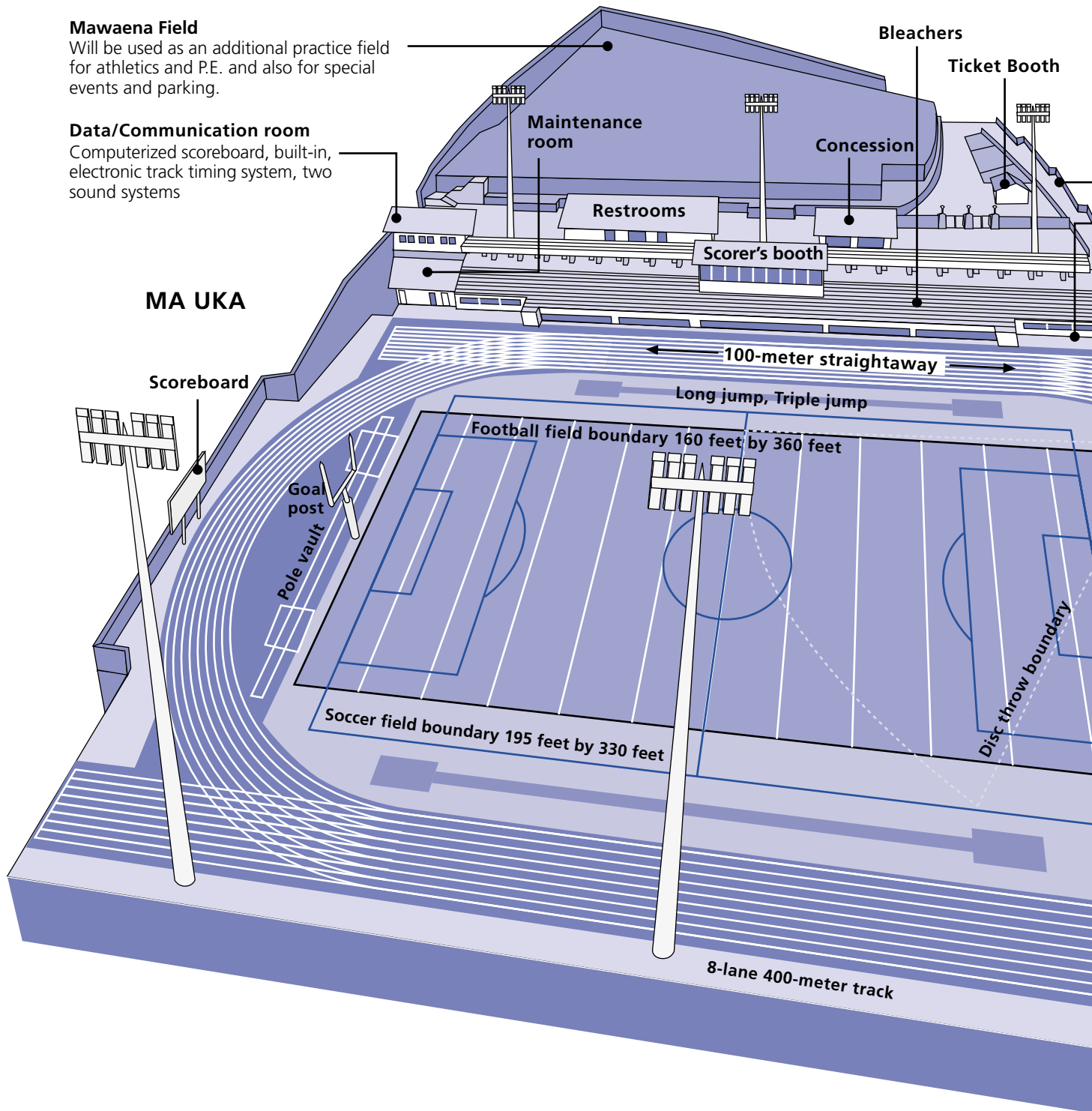


people, and how to come together as a group of individuals. That's one of the greatest lessons that our kids learn here with team sports – that it takes a team – together everyone achieves more."

"You learn how to deal with negatives and positives in sports," said Hawai'i Campus athletic director Bob Wagner, who was Gaison's secondary coach at UH and coached alongside Souza for more than 10 years with the Rainbows.

"You can have a loss that is really hurtful, and you have to learn to regroup and recover from that. It's just like life. Very few of us go through life with everything happening as we'd like it to. Perseverance and hard work – those are the lessons you hope athletics teaches," Wagner said.

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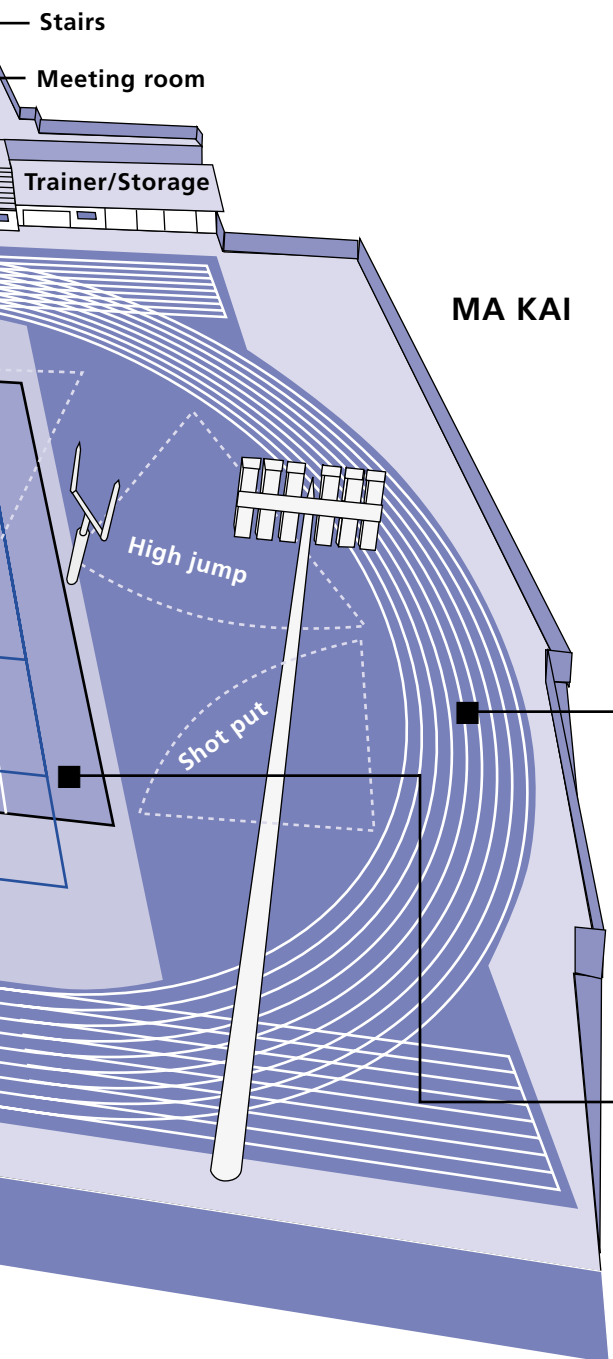


Kūnuiākea Athletic

- BOYS AIR RIFLERY
- GIRLS AIR RIFLERY
- BASEBALL
- BOYS BASKETBALL
- GIRLS BASKETBALL
- BOYS BOWLING
- GIRLS BOWLING
- BOYS CANOE PADDLING
- GIRLS CANOE PADDLING
- CHEERLEADING
- BOYS CROSS COUNTRY
- GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
- BOYS DIVING
- GIRLS DIVING
- FOOTBALL
- BOYS GOLF
- GIRLS GOLF
- GYMNASTICS
- BOYS JUDO
- GIRLS JUDO
- BOYS KAYAKING
- GIRLS KAYAKING
- BOYS RIFLERY
- GIRLS RIFLERY
- SAILING
- BOYS SOCCER
- GIRLS SOCCER
- SOFTBALL
- BOYS SWIMMING
- GIRLS SWIMMING
- BOYS TENNIS
- GIRLS TENNIS
- BOYS TRACK & FIELD
- GIRLS TRACK & FIELD
- BOYS VOLLEYBALL
- GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
- BOYS WATER POLO
- GIRLS WATER POLO
- BOYS WRESTLING
- GIRLS WRESTLING

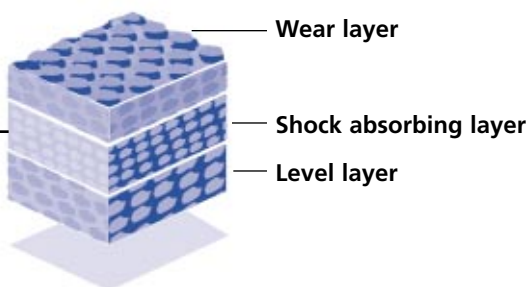
Kūnuiākea Athletic Complex

- \$14.9 million facility
- 3,000 seating capacity
- Natural grass field
- 5.5 acres
- Two air conditioned meeting/classrooms
- Two field level storage rooms
- First Aid room
- Computerized scoreboard
- All weather Rekortan track with rubberized synthetic surface
- Built-in, electronic track timing system
- Kūnuiākea is another name for the feathered image of the war god Kūkā'ilimoku. As its devoted guardian, Kamehameha the Great was also known as Kūnuiākea.



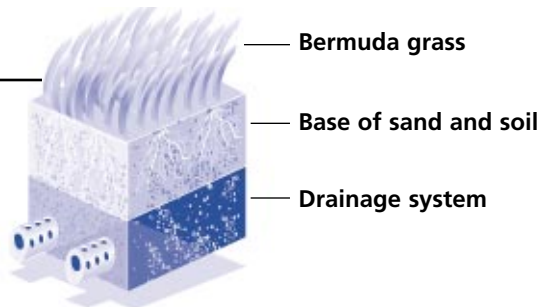
The track

All weather Rekortan rubberized synthetic surface on the 400-meter regulation track, with two 100-meter straightaways



The field

Bermuda grass, on a base mix of 80 percent sand and 20 percent soil with an extensive underground rapid drainage system



Complex



“The goal is to take those lessons you’ve learned on the court or field, and be able to carry that over to the classroom, in your business life and in your personal life.”

– BOB WAGNER
HAWAII CAMPUS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



Wagner coached the University of Hawai‘i football team to the Western Athletic Conference championship in 1992 and compiled an overall record of 58-49-3, including a trio of victories over archrival Brigham Young University. He returned home to the islands after coaching stints at Arizona and Texas El Paso.

Wagner was an offensive lineman at Wittenburg University, where he also played lacrosse. During his career, he has coached track and field, swimming, basketball and even his daughter’s soccer team.

He and Maui Campus athletic director Kurt Ginoza have been tasked with setting up their own programs on their respective campuses, which currently feature students in grades K-9.

Kamehameha Schools-Hawai‘i competes in the Big Island Interscholastic Federation and Kamehameha Schools-Maui is a member of the Maui Interscholastic League.

“I like the term co-curricular activities, versus extra curricular,” Wagner said. “It’s the idea that coaching and sports involvement, done in the right way, is part of the curriculum. I really

feel – if we’re doing a good job – that a student’s sports experience will be just as important as any classroom experience that they may have. The goal is to take those lessons you’ve learned on the court or field, and be able to carry that over to the classroom, in your business life and in your personal life.”

“Athletics teaches you that if you want something, you’ve got to be willing to work for it,” Ginoza said. “You learn to be resilient, because you’re not always going to win. You’re not always going to be a starter, or play your perfect game. But you’ve still got to be able to pick yourself up and keep walking forward.”

Ginoza was an all-state soccer player at ‘Iolani, where he helped take the Raiders to state titles in 1987 and 1988. He’s credited with starting the school soccer program while a teacher at Wai‘anae High School and became one of the youngest athletic directors in the state when he was selected for the position at Moloka‘i High. He started with Kamehameha on July 1.

Ginoza may be young, but he’s definitely “old school.” “I’ve been fortunate that in the schools where I’ve taught and served as an athletic director, they’ve believed in old-fashioned values,” he said. “Hard work. Pride. Discipline.

Sportsmanship. Those are the values that I was taught, and those are the same things that Kamehameha stands for.”

Wagner and Ginoza both said a major thrust at this point is the hiring of coaches. And they know exactly what they’re looking for in a Kamehameha Schools coach.



Erv Kau



Kanani Souza



"We look for good people, a good person first of all," Wagner said. "We'd like them to be very highly motivated, but they have to be able to control that. It's not a win at all costs philosophy. We want coaches who have a passion for their sport and for coaching, and I want head coaches who have a dream and plan for their whole program, not just the varsity team."

"We want our coaches to be good teachers, and to know their 'Xs and Os,' but as far as their character goes, can they motivate kids?" Ginoza asked. "Can they deal with adversity professionally?"

"We look for people who have a tremendous passion for working with kids, to help them grow and develop and help make them the best they can be," Gaison said. "We also try and put things in perspective. We're not the NCAA and we're not the pros. High school athletics is a time for kids, coaches and their families to have fun."

It may surprise some that none of the Kamehameha athletic directors adhere to a "winning is the only thing" mentality.

"Our philosophy on Maui is pursuing victory with honor," Ginoza said. "We all want to win, but we want to do it with honor to our community, our family and our school. Without that, then it's not a victory."

"You don't have to be a star or be on the best team in the state to have a great athletic experience," Wagner said. "If you talk about the values of athletics, to me it's still the process. You hope the by-product is that you have successful teams. Certainly, we want to win more than our share, but I think the process is the most important thing."

"I always tell our coaches that the will to win is important, but the will to prepare to win is even more important. That's what separates those who wish and dream from those who make it happen," Gaison said.

"Everybody wants to win, and so many times people see the end result and want the end result. But they don't realize what the process is, or what steps need to be taken to reach that end result. That's where the life lessons are, and that's where the development and growth takes place.

"There are so many valuable things you can learn from athletics. But to me, it's not so much about winning championships, as it is about building champions."



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– KURT GINOZA
MAUI CAMPUS
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

