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August 23, 2011	(808) 635-3053

The Kauai Marathon Challenges Both Veteran Racers and Daring Kama'aina

POIPU, HI- The running of The Third Annual Kauai Marathon is set for Sunday, September 4, 2011 where over 1,500 athletes are already registered for either the full, half or 4-person relay marathons.

Women make up 60.5% of participants, while men account for 40.5%, with 13 countries represented and 47 states. Amongst these hundreds of participants, a few individuals stand out for their unique stories that bring them to this year's Kauai Marathon. Both Robbie "Red Hat" Wilson and Yen Nguyen will make The Kauai Marathon their 400th marathon. Wilson, who will be 77 years old on race day, resides in the UK, ran his first marathon at age 48, and has not stopped since. He has averaged over 12 marathons a year for the past 29 years. Nguyen, born in Saigon but a resident of Houston, Texas for the last 36 years, began running marathons in 1996 and has completed at least one marathon or ultra marathon in all 50 states. This brings Nguyen's average to 2.2 marathons or ultra marathons a month! Her husband, Peter Bennett is no slouch himself, as this year's Kauai Marathon will be his 263rd marathon and next year's Kauai Marathon will be his 300th.

Along with the extreme athletes competing in this year's event, there will be an extremist of a different nature. Bob Brazeau will be flying in from Baghdad, Iraq to race in this year's half marathon. At the age of 39, Brazeau joined the army and has already gone on two deployments. He became a dedicated runner after entering a 10K race on a dare. Kauai local Godwin Esaki has pledged to run the full marathon in rubber slippers, after completing his first half marathon in last year's event. Also testing his endurance, Chris Yu will be running completely barefoot for all 26.2 miles of pavement that make up the entirety of the marathon course.

The Third Annual Kauai Marathon is going to be held on Sunday September 4th beginning at 6:00 am. The marathon, half-marathon and relay events will all start on Poipu Road in front of the Poipu Shopping Village. The first 11 miles are run together before the half marathoners veer off into Kukui'ula Resort to their oceanfront finish while the marathoners and relay teams head up Koloa Road to the neighborhoods of Lawai and Kalaheo. Upon completion of the event, all finishers

receive a commemorative medallion. The marathon finisher's party and awards ceremony is located on the ocean front lawn at The Sheraton Kauai Resort beginning at 8:00am. Race participants as well as supporters can enjoy food, refreshments and live entertainment until the early afternoon. The online registration deadline for this world-renowned event is fast approaching ending on August 30, 2011 at 11:59 Pacific Standard Time. Race packets, bibs and participant bags must be picked up at the Expo at the Sheraton Kauai Resort on Friday, September 2, 2011 or Saturday, September 3, 2011. For more information, or to register for this spectacular event, please visit www.thekauaimarathon.com.

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