

Kalua Pig, music and dances highlight Hawaii Club Luau

■ **CULTURE:** The luau drew about 400 people to the Hawaii Club's 21st annual fund-raiser

By Doug Irving
Student Activities Reporter

The Hawaii Club attracted more than 400 people, many in Hawaiian shirts, to its 21st luau in the EMU Ballroom on Sunday night.

The event was called "E Ho'olaha Ana I Kealoha A Me Ka Hau'oli," or "Sharing Aloha Through Friendship and Laughter."

The evening began with a Hawaiian dinner featuring "Kalua Pig," or oven-smoked pork; Lomi Lomi salmon; Teriyaki chicken; and guava cake.

The show began with the sound of a conch blast. Women wearing grass skirts and men in white shirts then performed a highly choreographed dance, accompanied by a seven-person band.

A mural of a volcano behind a white-sand beach towered above them. This was Waikiki Beach, said Shirley Pampo, one of three directors of ceremonies.

Much of the luau featured other Hawaiian dances, ranging from the slow and methodical "Pua Olena" to the fast-paced "Pi'i Mai Ka Nalu."

Every dance evoked a different sense of Hawaii from the audience. One dance recalled the tranquil serenity of Kauai,



Marco Peter sings "Brown-Eyed Girl" at the Hawaii Club Luau on Sunday evening in the EMU Ballroom.

while another was about surfing.

The musical group also performed songs ranging from traditional Hawaiian melodies to "Brown-Eyed Girl."

"I like the music," said Joel Groman, a sophomore physics student. "The tunes are very pretty, very soothing. It reminded me of a Hawaiian vacation."

The luau also featured a brief slide show, set to Hawaiian music. The images ranged from a simple flower to a glowing sunset and a sandy white beach.

The slides were followed by a brief comedy sketch about the making of an episode of *Hawaii Five-O*. The skit's characters included a swishy male director

and an idiot.

The room was almost filled to capacity for the evening. There was seating for 450 people, although there was probably closer to 400, said Kelly Sunada, the co-director of the Hawaii Club.

"I'm glad to see so many people out there," she said.

The luau ended as it had begun, with a song "Home in the Islands." The last stanza summed up the song and the night's activities:

"Well there's no other place that I'd rather be than home in these islands in the middle of the sea ... keeping real close to family and friends and taking it easy in the tropical breezes."



Two Hawaii Club members open the show with the sound of conches.



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