

'Phuture 2000' goes off despite bomb threat

BY LEILA FUJIMORI
AND HAROLD MORSE

Star-Bulletin

It took more than a bomb threat to keep the show from going on at Kakaako Waterfront Park.

Local bands ground out hip-hop, rap, funk, hot licks and whatever last night — accentuated by psychedelic lighting — except for punk rock.

Twelve of the bands hyped by "Phuture 2000" promoters were called off because of a report of a bomb scare or death threat against an organizer of the local punk rock bands.

Billy Makaila, head of maximum security for the event, said: "People like to make up stories so they can ruin this event. We would have cleared the park if it was for real."

Bryan Mizota, one of the event's organizers, said Mayor Jeremy Harris announced the threat on television, reportedly posted on the Internet.

Organizers received calls from Civil Defense to shut the stage down. Mizota said the request was reasonable, and the format was changed from punk rock to disc jockeys playing records.

Police did a bomb sweep of the area at 6 p.m. The event was scheduled for 6 p.m. but started at about 6:30 p.m.

Despite such misgivings, local bands provided syncopated fare for the crowd of mostly teens and people in their 20s, and some swinging dancing went on in front of the stage.

Mizota said Carl Cox, called the world's No. 1 deejay, headlined the multistage concert, which people throughout the world could view on the Internet for about 90 minutes.

Waikiki resident Marty Thompson, 26, an airline pilot, said he's upbeat about the new millennium.

"I just think things will be getting better," he said. New technology and life quality promise to just keep improving, he said.

"I agree with him," said Missy Phan, 29, of Riverside, Calif., a second-grade teacher there. "I think we're advancing every day. Technology — we're advancing in that area," she said. "I don't think it will be as bad as everyone says with the Y2K scare."

Albert Alexander, 82, of the Kapiolani area also was optimistic. A draftee at Schofield on the day Pearl Harbor was attacked, he hopes no more world wars take place. But he's not looking on the downside. "I don't see why you should be pessimistic," he said. "Why should a person be pessimistic?"

"I always say, certainly we're looking forward to beautiful years," he said.