



Al and April Masini and Robert Pennybacker, KHON promotions director, ask Kalapana Kollars to take off his shirt during the "Baywatch Hawaii" auditions. Others, below, started waiting in line as early as 4:30 a.m. today. (By Ken Sakamoto, Star-Bulletin)

"I'm an actor, this is what I do," said Saito, a Screen Actors Guild member who currently is appearing in an IMAX film shooting on Kauai.

Saito, who would only give his age as "more than 28" -- technically the upper limit -- said he also has plenty of ocean expertise. "Let's just say if the surf is big, I'll come back safely."

Lorna Tubania, 25, a nurse, was number five in line this morning, but the first woman who arrived, at 4:45 a.m. "Isn't it everyone's dream to be on television or in the movies?" the Pearl City resident said. "I've never acted before, but I'm a quick learner and I think it would be fun to have this kind of exposure."

Wannabe Baywatchers arrived in shorts, T-shirts, slippers, sarongs, jeans and skirts. One woman wore a see-through hapi coat that covered a thong bikini. One sign of early success in an audition was if a man was asked to remove his shirt to show muscles, or a woman removed clothing to show off her swimsuit.

Kalapana Kollars, 22, of Makakilo, not only took off his shirt but did a pirouette when asked to turn around.

"This is an opportunity I didn't want to slip by," he said. "I tried to make most of my time."

Sporting short purple hair and several facial piercings -- including ones through an eyebrow and chin -- Chaz Peters, 20, of Pearl City, hopes to land a role "because it would be so cool to hang out with the stars and meet David Hasselhoff."

One of the oldest and sturdier hopefuls was mortgage broker Bob Reiner, 37, of Hawaii Kai.

"You never know," said Reiner, who stopped by the audition on his way to the dentist.

The most unique audition was by Tombo, the 3 1/2-year-old, lei-wearing Lab escorted by owner Don Hawn.

Auditions will continue through Saturday.