

The Outrigger

OUTRIGGER CANOE CLUB

OUTRIGGER BEACH AT DIAMOND HEAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII

AUGUST, 1978

We won the Macfarlane — again ---but it was too close for comfort

by Jerry Ober

OCC's win at the Club sponsored Macfarlane Day Regatta can only be called a squeaker; very close, closer than the 7 point margin over runner-up Waikiki Surf Club would indicate. In the early events, it seemed to be Healani Canoe Club with all the good fortune. As the regatta progressed, Healani lost its steam and Waikiki Surf Club took over with a very impressive showing in firsts. Outrigger, all the while, was right in there with consistently good places; not all firsts, but many point getting seconds. All this tight running brought Outrigger and the Surf Club to a showdown in the last two events...Senior Women and Senior Men. These two crews took second place but in so doing, saved the day for Coach Nat Norfleet's valiant and persistent paddlers. And so was preserved the long string of wins for OCC on MacFarlane Day, now 5 straight.

The MacFarlane Regatta, famous for its Waikiki surf, thrills and spills, lived up to its reputation, although it was a mild day. Small or large surf, this is a regatta where anyone can win - or lose - and so it was, OCC had expected wins and unexpected losses - it's the name of the game.

For OCC, the regatta began on an auspicious note with the Boys 12 A winning their event. They have been strong in the placings all season. The Boys 13 took a second to keep us in the points. The Boys 16 posted their first win of the season. The Boys 18 brought in another second to add more points. It's the consistent high point placings all season that have kept OCC on top in final totals. In the



Nat Norfleet with the Trophy

Girl's Division, our only point scorers were the 17's, with a second. In the Men's Division, OCC is showing vast improvement, surf notwithstanding. The Novice A - powerful crew - took second by only seconds. Our first Men's Division win came from the "Super Soph's" who made it over the line a 10th of a second ahead of the number two boat. The Masters 35 and over really set the pace with a win. Paddling in the crew was Club President Bill Eggers, who may well have been the first Club President to be aboard the winning crew while in office. The mixed open crew, 3 men and 3 women, took a second. In the Women's Division, the Novice A's took third with the Freshmen a very close second, and the Juniors giving the points a boost with another second. The Masters Women, previous consistent winners, fell victim to no waves and a third place. As all winning streaks eventually come to an end, so it happened to our Senior Women. Undefeated in 1977 and three straight this year, they fell into a waveless lane and took a close second.

The cliff hanger for the regatta team points fell on the Senior Men. The Seniors had to take 3rd place or better and beat Waikiki Surf to save the day. They did! All of it! The seniors paddled a great race. This vastly improved crew led for all but the final quarter mile, where every effort of steersman Brant Ackerman to find a wave failed. Their second place was quite good enough. Surf Club finished out of the running and the points were OCC's. Final standing: OCC - 60, Waikiki Surf Club - 53; Hui Nalu - 50; Hui Lanakila - 33; Kailua - 28; Healani - 25; Lanikai - 21; Koolau - 12.

So went another fascinating MacFarlane regatta; a fitting tribute to the man and the honor of the Club's namesake sport.



Men Masters (l/r): C. Martin; Bill Eggers; H. Foster; Tim Guard; J. Peterson; G. Hancock.



It was a good day at Waikiki and the crowd got into the act with gusto.