

# canoe paddling race

# Waikiki Surf wins

edu 10/20/69

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and of 10:03:28 posted by  
Healani last year.

The weather was too good for record paddling yesterday, but the picture postcard conditions furnished a perfect Hawaiian setting for the broad-shouldered, sun-darkened crew of Waikiki Surf Club, winner of the 18th annual outrigger race from the rugged shores of Molokai to the white sand beach at Waikiki.

Coached and captained by Jeff Chee, who returned to No. 1 paddle after sitting out the event last year, Waikiki Surf Club stroked the 38 gruelling miles across treacherous Molokai Channel in the comparatively slow time of 6 hours, 38 minutes and 26 seconds.

THIS WAS 43 minutes off the record time of 5 hours, 55 minutes and 16 seconds established last October by Outrigger Canoe Club.

The Outriggers, bidding for their third straight victory in this Aloha Week classic, showed their wake to the other 11 canoes for a good portion of the race, but Waikiki Surf finally caught them off Koko Head and nosed ahead down the home stretch off the Oahu coastline.

Outrigger, cutting inside the breaker off Waikiki, sped across the finish line five minutes later in 6:43:23, barely nosing out third place Healani in "photo finish" style. Healani was clocked in 6:44:36.

LANIKAI won the non-koa—or fibreglas division—division title with a time of 6 hours, 56 minutes and 6 seconds—also well off the rec-

"This was a good day for paddling—in fact, too good for paddling," said a very happy coach Chee, who was lei-bedecked up to his eyebrows shortly after the red-trimmed Waikiki canoe Malia nosed into the wet sand of Duke Kahanamoku Beach following the Hilton Hawaiian Village resort complex.

"Also, the currents were mumbo jumbo," he added. "You didn't know what to expect."

BUT, AFTER a see-saw chase with Outrigger and Healani in crossing the channel, Waikiki Surf stroked to the front off Koko Head and held its lead to the finish line.

"We increased our strokes from 42 per minute to 48 and 50 per minute in overtaking the others," Chee explained. But that was their only

strategy.

Outrigger coach Mark Buck, who had several members of his record making crew of last year back, steered inside the breaker off the Beach in a last ditch effort to catch front-paddling Waikiki Surf Club.

"IT WAS a gamble," he explained. "We were hoping to catch a good wave, but we could have swamped, too."

Buck also said that strong currents made the paddling harder work. "I know our

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crew was as good as the one breaking the record last year and I think all of the other crews were as good, if not better than last year."

Lahikai, coached by Tay Perry, was an easy non-koa victor over second place Waikiki Surf Club's fibreglas

entry, which followed 28 minutes later.

Thirteen boats were entered in the race but the Order of Kamehameha withdrew at the last moment for lack of an escort boat.

All canoes finished with Hui Nalu "clinching" the Tail-end Charlie (Okole Kale) honor some 2 hours and 4 minutes after Waikiki Surf.

The victory, incidentally, gave Waikiki Surf a clean sweep in outrigger racing this year, following conquests in the Pokai Bay and the Lanikai-to-Waikiki events.

Results:

**KOA DIVISION**  
1—Waikiki Surf Club (Jeff Chee, Randy Chun, Joe Gilman, Tony Guerrero, Dick Henning, Blue Makua Jr., Andy Miller, Nappy Napoleon, Mike Tongg); time, 6 hours, 38 minutes, 26 seconds. 2—Outrigger Canoe Club, 6 hours, 43 minutes, 23 seconds. 3—Healani, 6 hours, 44 minutes, 36 seconds. 4—Kauai, 7 hours, 6 minutes, 57 seconds. 5—Kai Oni, 7 hours, 32 minutes, 5 seconds. 6—Molokai, 7 hours, 38 minutes, 32 seconds. 7—Malie Sons, 8 hours, 25 minutes, 30 seconds. 8—Hui Nalu, 8 hours, 42 minutes, 38 seconds.

**NON-KOA DIVISION**  
1—Lanikai (Tay Perry, John Driscoll, James Flynn, Pat Gleason Jr., David Holzman, Richard Longstaff, Kenneth Olds, Mike Singlehurst, Bill Watson); time, 6 hours, 56 minutes, 6 seconds. 2—Waikiki Surf Club, 7 hours, 24 minutes, 9 seconds. 3—Leeward, Kai, 7 hours, 37 minutes, 43 seconds. 4—Healani, 7 hours, 56 minutes, 22 seconds.