

OCC's Second Crew Paddles the Channel with Aloha

By Casey Teixeira

On October 13, OCC's second crew capped off its 1996 season with the Bankoh Molokai Hoe. Early Friday morning a few members from each crew flew to Molokai and spent the day rigging their canoes for the race. We ended the day with an ono steak dinner prepared by Mary (mahalo Mary!).

Saturday brought the rest of our crews and helpers. With all the work done, there was nothing to do, but soak in the beauty of the "Friendly Isle". Each paddler contemplated the challenges that lay ahead in the Kaiwi Channel. Sunday seemed an eternity away.

The next day, we all arrived at Hale O Lono early enough to put the finishing touches on the Iwalani. OCC's plan at the starting line was to have our second and third crews flank each side of the first crew. That

was to make sure that OCC's first crew could get out to a clean and fast start. The sprint to La'au point was fast and furious.

The swell that day was wrapping around from the East. The forecasted conditions for the race were ideal—a small ground swell coming from the North, and a strong East/Northeast trade wind. That made us think that we'd be surfing all the way home.

Once we got past La'au Point, we made our first change. Luckily we avoided a collision with another escort boat, and headed for smoother water.

Very few canoes challenged us. Our biggest challenge was on selecting what waves to catch. It goes to show that no matter how much you study charts and conditions, the Channel plays by a totally different set of rules. (It's a lesson that I'll never forget.)

Once we got to Portlock, we decided to go straight for Black Point. Even at this point of the race, the ocean was the opposite of what we expected. Instead of surfing, it was almost a grind to Diamond Head. After we made the corner at Diamond Head, the rush of being in home waters lifted us. We were on the heels of a crew ahead and sprinted to the finish.

The feeling that I got when we passed the finish line was surreal. I could only think of my crew and how hard they paddled.

The crew consisted of: Ralph Gray, Tom Harrer, Byron Ho, Mark Sandvold, Paul Friese, Andrew Glatzel, Kimo (DTK) Brown, Casey Teixeira, and anchored by John Eveleth. The crew was guided under the coaching of Bill Bright. Also helping out was Kalani Schraeder. In paddling, each crew member has a specific job, all

just as important as the other. Without this team work, a crew can not only lose a race, but also risk the safety of the canoe or more importantly, the crew itself.

As all the leis started to fall around my neck, again one thought came to mind—my crew. For me, the lei symbolizes my crew, each member, a flower. Each with its own scent, texture and color. All of them woven together with camaraderie, and most importantly "ALOHA". ☺



OCC's second crew finished 25th overall in 5:57:51 and included John Eveleth, Casey Teixeira, Tom Harrer, Byron Ho, Kimo Brown, Andrew Glatzel and Ralph Gray. Not pictured: Paul Friese and Mark Sandvold. Photo by Robin Nonaka

Bankoh Molokai Finishers

Photos by Robin Nonaka

OCC I

OCC I finished fourth overall in 5:24:58 in the 45th annual Bankoh Molokai Hoe. Pictured are front, Todd Bradley and Chris Kincaid. Back, Marc Haine, Bruce Black, Mike Mason, Clayton Chee, Mark Rigg, Courtney Seto and Walter Guild. Not pictured: Bill Pratt.



OCC III

Paddling for OCC III were Keith Cockett, Scott Stevenson, Jon Bryan, Steve Corbelli, Henry Ayau, Chris Hochuli, David Stackhouse and Paki Vaughan. Not pictured: Jeff Metzger. OCC III finished 48th overall in 6:24:38.

Tennis League Begins in January

By Gloria Keller, Chair Tennis Committee

The 1997 HTL Women's Tennis League begins its season on Sunday, January 12, 1997. Team Captain, Ann Martin, attended the first organization meeting on October 3, at the Kilauea Recreation Center. Team registration packets were distributed and the completed forms were submitted on November 14.

A notice was posted on the Bulletin Board asking for all interested members to sign up at the Front Desk. A list of 16 OCC players was turned into the HTL. Once the roster is submitted no changes can be made to the list.

Matches are scheduled on Sunday mornings, beginning January 12 and will continue for approximately 13 weeks, including the playoff games. I will post the full game schedule on the Bulletin Board near the Logo Shop with times and venue once it has been finalized. Anyone interested in supporting the OCC women's tennis team can come to cheer us on to victory. Your presence would be greatly appreciated. The matches consist of two single games and three doubles games, a total of eight players each week.

I will keep you all posted as to our success, yes "our success". This year we are committed to a winning season. The OCC banner will fly high

and the team will be in the OCC uniform for all their matches.

Wish us well! ☺

Kamuela

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Phone: 808 / 885-6061 ~ P.O. Box 1599 ~ FAX: 808 / 885-6063
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