

6 in a row for Shell Va'a

[By Kyle Sakamoto](#)

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BRUCE ASATO / BASATO@STARADVERTISER.COM

Roland Tere, Laurent Paiea, Moana Mairau, Yoann Cronsteadt, Bruno Tauhiro and David Tepava of Shell Va'a's crew finished strong on Sunday.

Hawaii takes great pride in outrigger canoe paddling, but they apparently like to take it to another level in Tahiti.

Shell Va'a won its sixth consecutive Molokai Hoe on Sunday, finishing the 40.6-mile race across the Kaiwi Channel in a record-setting time of 4 hours, 30 minutes, 54 seconds. Electricite de Tahiti, Air Tahiti Va'a and Team Livestrong Tahiti — the three other Tahitian teams entered in the race — all finished in the top six.

"Unbelievable. Tomorrow when I wake up I will realize this is something unique," said Shell Va'a president Richel Moux.

The Molokai Hoe, in its 59th year, is considered the world championship of long-distance outrigger canoe paddling for men's teams. There were favorable conditions for the race, which started at Hale O Lono Harbor, Molokai, and ended at Duke Kahanamoku Beach in Waikiki.

Shell Va'a and EDT (second place, 4:36:45) broke the previous race record of 4:38:35 set by Shell Va'a in 2008.

Wailea Canoe Club-Team Primo, which finished third overall in 4:42:59, was the first crew from Hawaii to cross. The time was the fastest in history by a crew from Hawaii, breaking the previous mark by nearly 8 minutes.

Lanikai Canoe Club No. 1 (4:47:08) was fourth, Air Tahiti Va'a (4:54:17) was fifth and Team Livestrong Tahiti (5:03:37) sixth.

"It was rougher than last year," Shell Va'a's Jean Manea said through interpreter Ura Quoniou. "We surfed many waves around Diamond Head, so it pulled us forward."

Members of Shell Va'a's winning crew were Bruno Tauhiro, Yoann Cronsteadt, Roland Tere, Laurent Paiea, Moana Mairau, David Tepava, Paia Tamairitamio, Clovis Trope and Manea.

Tauhiro and Tepava are the only paddlers who have been a part of all six of Shell Va'a's consecutive Molokai Hoe victories.

There were six divisions in the race: open, masters 40, masters 50, koa, masters 55 and masters 60. The open, masters 40, masters 50 and koa crews were able to rotate nine paddlers into the six seats of the canoe. The masters 55 and masters 60 crews rotated 12 paddlers. An escort boat followed each canoe and paddlers had to jump in and out on the fly during lineup changes. The race had 102 finishers.

Tahitian crews usually fare well in the Molokai Hoe because the paddlers often work for the sponsoring company.

Six of Shell Va'a's nine paddlers also work for the Shell station in Tahiti. Most are either drivers or gas pump attendants.

Leading up to big races, Shell Va'a employees/paddlers have a difficult daily routine. They do weightlifting/cardio from 4:30 to 5:30 a.m., work their shifts for the oil company from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., then paddle in the canoe from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

EDT and Air Tahiti also have similar arrangements for their employees/paddlers.

"There are a bunch of professional paddlers," said Jimmy Austin of Wailea Canoe Club-Team Primo.

It also doesn't hurt that paddling is the No. 1 sport in Tahiti, a French-speaking island 2,700 miles south of Hawaii.

"There are many competitions throughout the year and they are very competitive," said Air Tahiti Va'a's Maihota Manu.

EDT, the runner-up, entered the Molokai Hoe for the first time, but had three paddlers who had competed in the event with other teams.

EDT's Hikituni Chevalier said his team led early, but was passed by Shell Va'a about 40 minutes into the race.

"The race was hard. It's our first time, so we weren't used to the sea and the ocean and the waves," said Chevalier through the interpreter. "We were a little lost in the weather conditions out there."

Wailea Canoe Club-Team Primo had six paddlers from Maui, two from Oahu and one from Hawaii island. Team members are Kai Bartlett, Kekoa Cramer, Tyson Kubo, Mael Carey, Felipe Gomes, Jacob Abeytia, Scott Hendricks, Scott Gamble and Austin.

They had a mishap after making a lineup change 45 minutes into the race.

"We made that first change and closed some ground and then we ended up flipping, so that cost us a little bit," Austin said. "But that's racing. That stuff happens. We don't think we would've won, but we would have been a little closer."

Austin added he and his teammates were happy with their race.

"Just to be able to see (Shell Va'a) for once ... in years past they run away off the start and we never see them again. An hour into the race, they're 20 yards off our bow. It's like 'Wow, we're in this.' "

CALENDAR

MONDAY

SOCCER

College men: Simon Fraser vs. Hawaii-Hilo, 3 p.m., at Kaneohe.

VOLLEYBALL

ILH Division II tiebreaker playoff: University High at Le Jardin, 5 p.m.

TUESDAY

VOLLEYBALL

OIA Red playoffs: Kahuku vs. Pearl City, 5 p.m.; Waianae vs. Moanalua, to follow; matches at Moanalua.

Campbell vs. Kaiser, 5 p.m.; Castle vs. Milani, to follow; matches at Milani.

OIA White playoffs: Nanauli vs. Roosevelt, 5 p.m.; Kalaheo vs. Radford, to follow; matches at Radford.

ILH Division I: Kamehameha at 'Iolani, Maryknoll at Punahou, 6 p.m.

ILH Division II playoffs: University vs. Sacred Hearts, 4:30 p.m., Klum Gym (if UHS wins Monday); or Le Jardin at Sacred Hearts, 6:30 p.m. (if LJA wins Monday).

BULLETIN BOARD

BASEBALL

Waipahu AJA reunion dinner, Oct. 29 at Waipahu Soto Mission Church. \$25. Info: Greg Oniate at 671-0769.

CRICKET

At Kapiolani Park

First IX 90, Second XI 88

Top batsmen—F: Lyle Carden and Subbu Raman, 20 runs; **S:** Lazar Joseph, 21 runs.

Top bowlers—F: Lyle Carden 2 for 7, Aditya Singh, 2 for 9.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Waianae 49, Radford 13

Saturday At Radford

WAIANAЕ (3-3, 3-5)	7	7	14	21	- 49
RADFORD (1-5, 1-7)	7	6	0	0	- 13

Rad—Andrew Togiailua 5 pass from Cody Lui-Yuen (Cayman Conley kick)

Wain—Jason Towne 28 run (Shaughn Spencer kick)

Wain—Leighton Panui 4 run (Spencer kick)

Rad—Dorsey Norris 24 pass from Lui-Yuen (kick failed)

Wain—Towne 9 run (Spencer kick)

Wain—Panui 2 run (Spencer kick)

Wain—Panui 37 run (Spencer kick)

Wain—Jaylen Mitchell 56 punt return (Spencer kick)

Wain—Koali Opunui 6 run (Spencer kick)

RUSHING—Radford:

Jordan Muraio 9-40, Mason Manuma 1-8, Norris 6-5, Togiailua 2-(-2), Krix Hughley 1-(-4), Team 1-(-12), Lui-Yuen 2-(-18). **Waianae:** Mitchell 8-86, Panui 14-74, Towne 4-42, Dido Stevens 1-22, Jacob Abell 2-16, Opunui 2-8, Jordan Hussey 1-8, Lawrence Akana 1-5, Jacoby Cid 1-(-2), Kekoa Kaluhiokalani 9-(-17).

PASSING—Radford: Lui-Yuen 12-29-3-89, Conley 1-1-0-13, Norris 1-1-0-6, Mike Vito 0-6-0-0. **Waianae:** Kaluhiokalani 6-8-0-78.

RECEIVING—Radford:

Togiailua 4-17, Norris 2-37, Jay Mamea 2-14, Manuma 2-13, Hughley 2-7, Romar Bacosa 1-14, Matt Baker 1-6. **Waianae:** Austin Reese 3-33, Akana 2-48, Panui 1-(-3).

Junior varsity: Waianae 43, Radford 7

GOLF

HANA BANK CHAMPIONSHIP

At Incheon, South Korea

Final round, par 72

Yani Tseng, \$270,000	65-70-67	-202
Na Yeon Choi, \$168,366	67-68-68	-203
Brittany Lincicome, \$97,556	71-68-66	-205
Jimin Kang, \$97,556	68-69-68	-205
Soo-Jin Yang, \$97,556	69-65-71	-205
Meena Lee, \$62,221	68-70-68	-206
Yeon-Ju Jung, \$42,126	71-72-65	-208
Jiyai Shin, \$42,126	72-68-68	-208
Amy Yang, \$42,126	71-69-68	-208
Sun Young Yoo, \$42,126	72-67-69	-208
Chella Choi, \$42,126	66-71-71	-208
Hee Young Park, \$32,262	68-73-68	-209
Brittany Lang, \$26,240	73-69-68	-210
Sophie Gustafson, \$26,240	68-73-69	-210
Shanshan Feng, \$26,240	73-67-70	-210
Juli Inkster, \$26,240	70-70-70	-210
Ha-Neul Kim, \$26,240	70-70-70	-210
Angela Stanford, \$26,240	70-69-71	-210
Anna Nordqvist, \$20,095	72-72-67	-211
Grace Park, \$20,095	69-73-69	-211
Momoko Ueda, \$20,095	73-69-69	-211
LK Kim, \$20,095	70-71-70	-211
Maria Hjorth, \$20,095	74-66-71	-211
Shin-Ae Ahn, \$20,095	69-70-72	-211
Catrina Matthew, \$15,710	70-72-70	-212
Hee Kyung Seo, \$15,710	72-70-70	-212
Eun-Hee Ji, \$15,710	71-70-71	-212
Hye-Youn Kim, \$15,710	72-69-71	-212
Azahara Munoz, \$15,710	70-70-72	-212
Hyun-Hwa Sim, \$15,710	70-70-72	-212
Karen Stupples, \$15,710	71-69-72	-212
Miss		
Michelle Wie, \$10,877	72-74-69	-215

PADDLING

MOLOKAI HOE

Hale O Lono, Molokai to Duke Kahanamoku Beach, Oahu

Overall: 1. Shell Vaa, 4:30:54; 2. EDT Vaa Tahiti, 4:36:45; 3. Wailea Canoe Club-Team Primo, 4:42:59; 4. Lanikai Canoe Club #1, 4:47:08; 5. Air Tahiti Vaa, 4:54:17; 6. Team Livestrong Tahiti, 5:03:37; 7. Outrigger Canoe Club Red, 5:06:40; 8. Livestrong/Ocean Pursuits, 5:10:51; 9. Newport Aquatic Center #1, 5:11:16; 10. Hui Lanakila, 5:15:34.

Koa: 1. Lanikai Canoe Club-Koa, 5:29:52; 2. Kai Oni, 6:38:32.

Masters 40+: 1. Team Livestrong Tahiti, 5:03:37; 2. Hui Nalu-40, 5:23:51; 3. Surf

HSJGA O'AHU JUNIOR CLASSIC

At Turtle Bay Resort - Fazio Course

Boys

15-18

136—Zachary Braunthal. **138**—Seungjae Maeng, Skye Inakoshi.

143—John Oda. **145**—Colby Takushi.

13-14

151—Caleb Keohokapu. **153**—Kyle Suppa. **155**—Matthew Shen.

157—Desmond Anthony Mello, Stan Rogers.

11-12

143—Shawn Lu. **145**—Andrew Chin, Evan Kawai. **147**—Kyosuke Hara. **151**—Kane Rogers, Trevor Arashiro.

7-10

153—Taylor John McGerity. **171**—Alex Song. **172**—Riku Omata.

177—Grant Kawasaki. **191**—Noah Koshi.

Girls

15-18

147—Brittany Fan. **150**—Hansol Koo. **151**—Eimi Koga. **152**—Kaci Masuda. **153**—Lisa Kang.

13-14

144—Mariel Galdiano. **148**—Rose Huang. **153**—Zoey Akagi-Bustin.

154—Annika Espino. **157**—Aiko Leong.

11-12

158—Alanis Sakuma. **168**—Lorraine Char. **188**—Samantha Keppel.

7-10

151—Allysha Mae Mateo. **154**—Aneka Seumanutafa. **166**—Milburn Ho. **170**—Jennifer Koga. **179**—Sara Keppel.

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