

CANOE TRAINING BEGINS FIRST REGATTA JUE 13

Canoe paddling coach George Downing greeted 22 new hopefuls for the 1960 season on May 17 with an eye on filling numerous empty seats in OCC boats.

Paddlers who have competed in past seasons under the Outrigger banner will turn out this month in preparation for the first regatta of the season on June 13, Kamehameha Day.

Downing stated that the Outrigger will enter only three or four of the Kam Day events at Kailua and that the team won't be at full strength until sometime in July when all of the returnees from high school and college ranks are rounded into condition.

"First of all," Downing pointed out, "we don't want to bring along the kids too fast by putting out too much effort in the early, unimportant races. We are pointing to just one . . . the State Championships . . . the one that counts."

The kids are involved with exams around this time and we don't want to tie them up from their studies. It's their overall development that counts.

They'll reach their psychological as well as physical peak at the end of the summer . . . when it's most important."

Downing pointed out that virtually every seat held down in past seasons is open to any youngster who shows promise. "And the youngsters we have coming up who have had no experience have the desire to push anyone out of a seat they may have considered nailed down."

The canoe coach was pleased with the Outrigger showing on Maui at the Kahului Canoe Club's inaugural regatta.

All three crews entered won their events. The senior six topped the field of entries as did the 13-and-under crew. But the surprise of the regatta was the same 13-and-under crew which entered the novice men's event. Paddling against much older and more experienced men, the youngsters out-stroked them all to finish first.

"We received wonderful treatment from the Maui people," Downing said. "They couldn't have done more."

Downing went on to point out that the Maui paddlers are tremendously enthusiastic about the sports future on the Valley Isle. "They have entered paddling on an inscholastic level with all high schools competing. This is where we on Oahu missed the boat. What an untapped source of talent we have here!"

OCC Merman Fourth at State AAU Title Meet

The Outrigger Canoe Club marked its comeback to competitive swimming after a quarter-of-a-century layoff with a creditable fourth place at the 10th Annual State AAU Indoor Championships at Waterhouse pool.

The four-man OCC team piled up 17 points to finish behind Punahou, Hawaii Swim Club, and Palama, who placed in that order.

All four Outrigger entries placed in the trials and went on to score a second place, three third places and a fifth place in the finals.

OCC coach Barry Yap, who has been instrumental in reorganizing the club team placed second in the 100 yrd. breaststroke. The former Indiana record holder also copped third in the 220 yd. breaststroke event.

Doug Ackerman placed third in the 50 yd. freestyle and Roy Oness a fifth in the 100 yd. free event.