

The Canoe Racing Season Warmups

As reported by Jerry Ober

Kamehameha Day Regatta

The Kam Day Regatta is usually the first of the regular summer season. This year its time was preempted by the 'Round Oahu Canoe Race in which our Club did not compete.

The postponed K Day Regatta took place on Sunday, June 25, a windy, stormy day at Kailua Beach Park. It also turned out to be a stormy affair for the Outrigger in more ways than one. There were 20-mile-an-hour winds, gray skies and occasional showers in the morning and fairly rough seas in the afternoon. And to top it off, there was unusually tough competition from other clubs in the Hawaii Canoe Racing Association. By the end of the day, our Outrigger paddlers had picked up two first places out of the 18 events and five creditable seconds.

The first place winners were the Boys "A" 12 and under, who repeated their winning performance of the previous week at the Leeward Kai affair, and the Freshmen Men, who led in their event all the way, just as the Boys "A" did.

Among the Outrigger's second place crews lies the Club's best hope for the rest of the racing season. The Boys 14 missed a first by possibly half a boat length and looked good enough to better that performance later on. The Boys "B" 12 and under placed second and while they face stiff competition in any later try for a first, the chance is always there.

The Men A Novice also face a tough competitor in Healani, which some way or another seems to get there. The Boys 13 and under find themselves in the same position with Kai Oni. They are right on their heels and with a little time and luck, will make up the distance. Our entry in the newly designated Men's Sophomore division paddled an excellent race with three members of their crew brought up from the victorious Freshman crew. Lanikai came in first in that event.

This season we have yet to realize the potential that lies with the girls' crews. The Women Freshmen showed

excellent ability in the K-Bay Water Carnival where they paddled a five-mile course like veterans, but in the regattas, they have not yet equalled that performance. We entered a Women's Senior crew in the Kam Day Regatta where they found the competition very stiff. The Seniors, who have only been training for a short time, finished in a creditable 5th place.

The Men's Senior crew has just gotten together, and had only trained for about 6 days as a crew. After taking fourth place in the Leeward Kai Regatta the preceding weekend, they came in third this weekend, ahead of Healani and close to second place Hui Nalu. Waikiki Surf Club remained the front runner, but as the season advances, the Outrigger red and white may well change that situation.

The winning Boys "A" 12 and under was made up of Patrick Ayau, Danny Sutton, Marc Haine, Dana Rupey, Kevin Cross and Pua Rochlen. The winning Men Freshmen were Bob Anderson, Tuck Siegfried, Aleka Burso, Jay Pease, Ian Emberson and Bruce Ames. Three of these paddlers, after about a 20 minute rest, got back into the Kakina and paddled a mile and a half in the Men's Sophomore event. They were Aleka Burso, Ian Emberson and steersman Bruce Ames.

With the final point scores in for the regatta, Outrigger had 34. The regatta winner was Healani, with Lanikai second and Hui Nalu third.

Final standings of the Outrigger crews entered are as follows: Boys 12 and under "B", 2nd; Boys 12 and under "A", 1st; Boys 13 and under, 2nd; Men's Novice "B", 4th; Boys 14 and under, 2nd; Men's Novice "A", 2nd; Boys 16 and under, 3d; Boys 18 and under, disqualified; Women Frosh, 4th, Men's Frosh, 1st; Women's Sophomore, 3d; Men's Sophomore, 2nd; Women's Senior, 5th; Men's Senior, 3d.

Lanikai Dual Meet

On Sunday, June 11, a week before the official opening regatta, Outrigger joined its good friends, the Lanikai Canoe Club, for a dual meet in the

waters off Lanikai. There Coach Fred Hemmings could try out some of his crews and give first timers a chance to get the feel of it without too much competitive pressure.

Results were mixed. Some showed where more work is needed. Others showed ability gained from previous years of paddling. The crews were not necessarily put together from established age group crews, so races were run with combinations of 13 year, 18 year and Novice group paddlers all in one boat.

One "mixed" crew really had what it took. A crew made up of Mike Mason and Keone Downing of the 18 year boat, Jimmy Foytich and Walter Guild of the 16 year boat and Kainoa Downing and Jimmy Bugbee of the 13 year boat, took on the Lanikai full 18 year boat and paddled to a fine one mile victory. This would certainly indicate the winning potential each of these crews has for the regular season. Also winning in the dual meet, were our Novice "A" crew; Boys 12 and under, Boys 13 and under, and Boys 14 and under. The Outrigger freshmen women won their event against Lanikai's senior women.

All in all, it was a fine day of canoeing and good fun with the Lanikai Club and its members. The Outrigger provided a fine chicken lunch for both clubs and the proverbial good time was had by all.

Leeward Kai Regatta

The official Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association summer series of regattas got under way on Sunday, June 18 with the Leeward Kai Regatta, held this year at Waianae Beach Park. This was the first real test of the new season for Coach Hemmings. The results, all things considered, weren't too bad.

Outrigger develops its power and depth as the season goes along. Many of our paddlers are away at mainland colleges and barely get back in time for the first race of the season, and were not in top shape for it. This problem makes it difficult for the Outrigger to enter all the events, so we lose valuable total points in the regatta. We did not have Junior or

Sophomore men's crews in this regatta; nor did we have a wahine crew for the Sophomore, Junior or Senior events. Missing these events cost the Club many valuable points.

In the final regatta standings, we came out 3d overall, not a bad showing for the first day and running at less than full strength. Some of our crews did turn in superb performances however and kept us in contention. The first victory came early in the regatta, with a clean win by the Boys 12 "A" crew, which won in a time of 2:19.5. This crew is made up of Patrick Ayau, Marc Haine, Kevin Cross, Pua Rochlen. Our Boys 13 and under took a second place in a very close race showing great promise for the regattas to follow.

In Men's "B" Novice, we again took second place with Fred Swartz paddling his first race as steersman. The Outrigger Boys 14 also paddled to a second place, again proving that they are definitely in contention for a first as the season develops. The Men's "A" Novice, the "bad luck crew" of the Club, again ran into difficulty at the turn, and had to wait for an oncoming crew in the next lane. The valuable time lost in avoiding a collision cost them their first place position. One of these regattas, everything is going to go just right for this good crew and they will end up with that long sought gold medal.

The Boys 16 and under started their season off in the best possible style, coming in with a very impressive first place, with a time of 4:29.0. The winning 16's were Tommy Henke, Jay Pynchon, Jimmy Foytich, Chris Rogge, Robbie Muller and steersman Walter Guild. Our Boys 18 and under suffered from lack of personnel, and those who did make it were fresh off airplanes from the mainland. A little time and training will bring them right up to the top, as the potential is really there with this crew.

Our wahine Freshmen did not quite live up to the potential shown in previous events, particularly their outstanding performance at the K-Bay Water Carnival, where they paddled a fine five mile race. The Freshmen wahines took 3d in this regatta, but will no doubt improve on that performance. Our Men Freshmen almost made

it. They paddled very well, and again, when this crew gains its full strength, it will no doubt challenge the first place spot.

The final event of the day is the Senior Men's event, always looked forward to by the crowd. This was a particularly good race for the first of the season for the heavy crews. Outrigger did not really have a full crew lined up, but those who have trained together decided to stick with it and get a little on the job training. That they did, paddling an excellent race even though they finished fourth. For the first mile and a half, they were even with or at times ahead of the eventual winners.

The overall standings were: Healanani Canoe Club, 61 points; Hui Nalu Canoe Club, 47 points; Outrigger Canoe Club, 28 points, and Waikiki Surf Club with 12. The other participating clubs were Kai Oni, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club, the host club, Leeward Kai, the newest club, Makaha, and the Order of Kamehameha.

Some Kam Day Scorers



First Place Winning 12 "A" Crew

(l/r) Patrick Ayau; Dana Rupey; Peter Ehrman; Kevin Cross; Pua Rochlen; Marc Haine.



Second Place Boys 14 and under

(l/r) Scott Rigg; Tom Ackerman; Karl Heyer; Mike Haxton; Rod Muller; John Swatek.

PHOTO CREDITS

Scoop Tsuzuki photographed Senior Men and new Trophy (p. 1); Birthday Party crowd and group with Trophy (p. 4); and Fashion Show crowd (p. 5). Jerry Ober shot 12-A Crew (p. 3); other photographers unidentified.