

The "Kam Day" Regatta

by Jerry Ober

The annual canoe racing opener, the "Kam Day" regatta at Kailua Beach Park Sunday, June 12, brought the much heralded and highly controversial 'Tahitian stroke' into Hawaiian canoeing for its first test. OCC is the most studious practitioner of the stroke and its prime advocate is Tom Conner, our head coach. Indeed the stroke must take great concentration for our 'reach out' Hawaiian style paddlers. It also takes concentration on the part of the viewer. Somehow to our unaccustomed Hawaiian eyes, it doesn't seem right, but at the finish there was OCC's Senior crew, first across the line after a boat to boat duel with Waikiki Surf Club, paddling in the traditional style. In this regatta the OCC Seniors failed to keep their first due to a starting line rule infraction and resultant disqualification.

For OCC, opening day always produces eye openers, joys and sorrows. This regatta will go down in history as "the day Fred Swartz won." Yes, our perennial Mens novice "A" steersman, that venerable veteran of how many seasons, found himself and his crew delightfully alone at the finish line. Quite a number of Fred's crew have also been out there before. They are: Hugh Murray, Jim Peterson, Jim Iams, Emary Lucas, and Fred Chuckovich.

Our next win, a very beautiful one, was that of the Girls 17 in their 1/2 mile event. The girls, in their racing "blues", were a coach's delight. It was a birthday present win for stroke



Senior Men's Crew (l/r): Mark Buck; Mike Lemes; Tom Conner; Brant Ackerman; Marshall Rosa; Tim Guard Photo Scoop

Johnna Busby and the crew of Sanna Purinton, Susan Rowatt, Cindy Rose, Diane Guild and Tracy Phillips steering.

The 'Super Sophs,' perhaps OCC's most colorful crew, blazed all the way through the race with a clear lead on their inside lane. There was, however, to be a spoiler way outside, Kailua, who won by a scant manu.

The Senior Women, who were indeed the class of all the wahines

last year, started off this season as if there had been no nine-month layoff. The ladies a usual were most impressive in their win. Paddling Senior were: Evie Black, Michele St. John, Connie Maguire, Anne Nicol, Sharon Bintliff, and Anne Hogan steering.

OCC placed 4th overall with 27 points. Regatta winner was Kailua with 62 points. Waikiki Surf had 42, Lanikai 28.



Victorious Senior Women (l/r): Sharon Bintliff; Connie Maguire; Anne Hogan; Evie Black; Michele St. John; Anne Nicol. Photo Scoop



Victorious Novice "A" crew, left to right: Emary Lucas, Jim Peterson, Fred Chuckovich, Fred Swartz, Hugh Murray, Jim Iams. Photo Scoop.



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