

It starts this very month... Canoe Racing Season 1978

by the Canoe Racing Committee

Canoe Racing '78 gets under way this month with the first regatta of our association's season on June 11 at Kailua Beach Park. Everyone is invited to cheer our paddlers on as they begin their efforts to again capture the State Championship. The paddling program is a full two hundred strong this year, and for the first time we will enter crews in every single event. We are looking forward to especially strong finishes in the younger division crews and have every reason to believe that our men and women masters crews (racing for the first time) will come out of retirement to bring home even more gold medals.

All of the regattas start between 9:00 am and 10:00 am. They usually finish by 4:00 pm, so it's best to come early and bring a picnic lunch. The paddlers need your moral support in order to win those races.

Herewith a short description of a regatta for those of you who have never been to one. The younger crews are divided according to age and sex. They normally paddle before lunch in events for those who are twelve to eighteen years of age. After lunch the adult crews race. They are grouped according to ability and sex in Novice, Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior events. In addition, this year, there are four special events; men and women Masters; mixed crew; and four man crew. Up to 15 clubs participate in some or all of the races and there are usually up to 3,000 spectators and participants on the beach.

The races vary in length from a quarter-mile to two miles and run



The Club is proud to salute and congratulate Judi Andersen — Miss U.S.A., 1978. Judi and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John P. Andersen, are Outrigger Canoe Club members.

along marked lanes one half mile long, with flags at quarter mile intervals. Both paddling and steering skills are needed,

Great care must be taken by the steersmen and crews because we use only koa canoes in these races. "Kakina" and "Leilani" exemplify the best koa canoes in use today. They were made in 1932 on the Island of Hawaii by Jimmy Yamasaki. The canoes themselves are works of art and interesting to examine here at the Club. However, there is no way to describe adequately the sight you see at a regatta when 10 or more of the koa canoes are fighting for a first place finish. So, come out - have a great time and give your paddlers the support they need,