

Coach's Corner

By Brant Ackerman

I've got some good news and some bad news. First the bad news. Unfortunately we will be unable to go to Kona again this year. The good news is that we are looking forward to going to the King Kamehameha Classic scheduled to be held on the Big Island, Friday and Saturday, September 9th and 10th. Friday's event will feature a special "iron-man" Koa canoe race. The following morning, at the crack of dawn, the ladies take to the water at Honokohau Harbor for 24 miles race up the Kona Coast to Anaeho'omalua Bay. After all the women have finished safely, the men get their turn. The canoes will be turned around and raced back down the coast for a distance of 39 miles to Keauhou Bay. Both of the races will have crews made up of nine paddlers. Although we won't be racing in the traditional Kona race, I'm sure we'll have a successful and fun time.

Once back on Oahu we will be looking at Sunday, the 18th of September for the Kaena Challenge when the men will paddle from Haleiwa to Pokai Bay. The ladies will then paddle from Pokai Bay to Makaha and back. These races will be the last practice, for both men and women, before "MOLO."

On Sunday, the 25th, the Na Wahine O Ke Kai will be held. Since Hui Nalu took the trophy from us last year, I think it's only fair that we return the favor. Remember ladies, "don't get mad—get even!"

For those of you looking forward to October, the men's race, Molokai Hoe, will be on Sunday, October 9th.

The last thing that I would like to bring to everyone's attention is the error that was printed in the paper after the Oahu Championship Regatta. The errata stated that "Hu Hu" had won the Koa log. Well after the points were properly added, it was announced that Outrigger would be taking the log home due to a 1, yes that's right, a 1-point margin. So I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to the scoring during this year's regattas. As you can see, every point counts . . .