

Mike Holmes and Dale Hope score well in Hobie 14 Nationals

by Dave Pierson

The temperature was in the mid-forties, the wind was erratic and varied from 5 mph to 10 mph, and Lake Michigan was colder than Anzai's Banzais on Christmas Day. But the Outrigger's hardy men of the sea, **Mike Holmes** and **Dale Hope**, represented us in fine fashion at the Hobie 14 Nationals recently at Glen Arbor, Michigan.

There were 76 boats competing from all over the country, all coming as

champions from the various regions, or sailors who accumulated enough regatta points to qualify. Hawaii was represented by State Champion **Dean Froome, Holmes** and **Hope**.

The competition was divided into four groups, color coded and put through two tough days of round-robin racing which separated into an upper and lower bracket. Mike was 22nd in the upper bracket while Dale, in his first Nationals, qualified in the middle of the lower bracket.

Thunder, rain and hail marred the final two days, but both our men weathered the storm and scored well. Mike finished 14th in the upper bracket while Dale captured 49th overall, a fine performance for anyone in his first Nationals.

California sailors took the first four positions with different rig combinations that Holmes said were very effective. Hawaii's Froome placed fifth and Mike and Dale are anxious to challenge him in Hawaii's waters next year.

Recently Mike placed first at Kailua and Kaneohe while Dale garnered third and second respectively. The next regatta is scheduled for December 2nd at Keehi Lagoon.

Hobie Alter has asked the OCC to consider hosting the Nationals in October, 1976. It would be quite a sight to see 76 Hobie 14's racing at Waikiki and you can bet that Mike Holmes and Dale Hope will be right up there with the best!