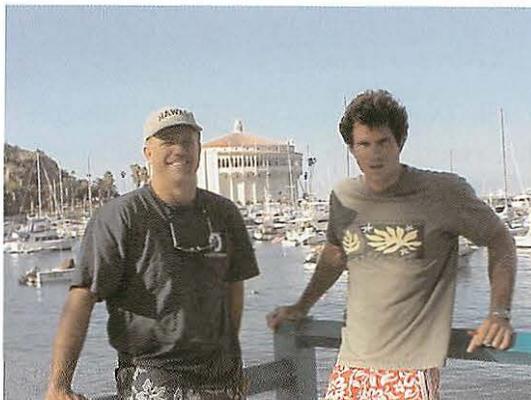


# OCCers Enjoy Catalina Despite Wind, Chilly Water

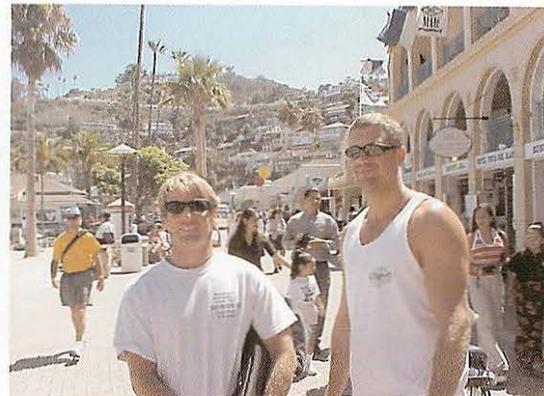
By David Horner  
Head Coach

Catalina, here we come! The women of the Outrigger Canoe Club arrived two days early and were ready for the race out to Catalina from Long Beach September 11, 1999. Tom McTigue and the women prepared for the next day's race as usual and men's coach Kala Judd helped out with the rigging of the canoe. As it turned out, it was a good thing for Kala to be with the women and go with the women on race day to scout the water for the upcoming men's race.

Then they were off. The water was unseasonably cold for that time of year which made changes really tough on the body. Kisi Haine, Jen McTigue, Mary Smolenski, Diana Allen, Paula Crabb, Hadley Gaffney, Traci Selling, Lori Seto and Sara Ackerman really had to go through the worst of it all as the water was colder near Long Beach and the women had to start in that water.



Marc Haine and David Horner waiting for practice.



Billy Balding and Mark Rigg

As if it was not cold enough, a wind kicked up about half way through the race and turned the race into a bit of an upwind struggle into the chop creating a constant battle to stay warm. While all of this was going on, the Outrigger women were trying to catch up to the Newport Aquatic Center (NAC) team and were trying to hold off the Kai Elua team which was giving chase from

the rear.

As the race came down to an end, our women were not able to catch up to the NAC team, and Outrigger finished in sixth place.

Then it was party time for the women. It was a really funny seeing the women relaxing and enjoying Catalina as all the men started into race mode. We were having a subdued crew dinner as some of our own women dropped in to spice up the restaurant.

Also on the scene was Outrigger member Rodman Muller who was going to help escort the men on race day. The men couldn't help but remain serious as we had a score to settle after finishing in second place in the Catalina Crossing in 1998. It wasn't going to be easy,

but we were going to be ready.

The crew of Ikaika Kincaid, Billy Balding, Walter Guild, Andrew Glatzel, Courtney Seto, Marc Haine, Mark Rigg, Matt Rigg and Bill Pratt got off to a steady start and established a small lead. Perhaps it was not such a small lead after all as it continued to grow as time went on until Outrigger was out of reach from the rest of the field.

Outrigger was able to avenge the previous year's loss by winning the race by a healthy four minutes and 35 seconds over defending champion Lanakila. The race was uneventful except that the water was cold, especially as we approached Long Beach. Thankfully, the wind was not blowing as it was the day before during the women's race.

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