

1995 Bankoh Molokai Hoe



Outrigger finished third overall in the 1995 Bankoh Molokai Hoe on October 8. The OCC crew, in the new Force 5 canoe Iwalani, finished in 5:03:00 behind winner Lanikai in 4:53:03 and Faa'a (Tahiti) in 5:01.39. Members of the crew were Marc Haine, Bruce Black, Walter Guild, Todd Bradley, Courtney Seto, Chris Kincaid, Todd Hart, Clayton Chee and John Eveleth. This was the fastest time by an OCC crew ever, in the Molokai race.

The OCC Masters crew finished 13th overall and second in the Masters Division in the Molokai Hoe. Racing in the Force 5 canoe Moana, the crew finished in 5:27.01 behind masters' winner Mooloolaba in 5:20.09. The crew included Brant Ackerman, Keahi Robins, Bill Bright, Scott Rigg, Bill Mowat, Karl Heyer IV, John Finney and Brad Wagenaar. Not pictured: Tom McTigue.



Outrigger Defends its Title as Koa Division Champions

By Bill Pratt

On October 8, 1995, the Outrigger men's koa crew defended its title as Koa Division Champions in this year's Molokai Hoe Canoe Racing Championship. More than 90 crews entered this year's 41-mile crossing of the Kaiwi Channel, as conditions were excellent, with 4-8 foot seas and winds out of the East/Northeast at 20-25 mph.

Recalling the Super Bowl of canoe races, the eve before the race was definitely a restless one for the crew of the Kaoloa, Outrigger's koa canoe which recently underwent hull modifications. With the weather forecast calling for conditions in the Kaiwi Channel to reach 12-18 foot seas,

and tradewinds of 25-35 mph, we could only anticipate an exciting, yet challenging crossing.

This year's crew consisted of Bill Pratt, David Potter, Andrew Glatzel, Byron Ho, David Stackhouse, David Horner, Remy Moranha, Kalani Schrader and Grady Bintliff. The crew was also fortunate to have Henry Ayau as its coach, and Mark Sandvold captaining the team's escort boat.

With the recent passing of Henry's father, Henry Ayau, Sr., the crew decided to dedicate the race in memory of this beloved man from Molokai.

The 4 a.m. wake-up call on the morning of the race brought gusty winds, heavy rain squalls and a few butterflies for the crew.

But after months of intense training and a united camaraderie akin to a championship team, we were more than ready to get underway with the big race.

The starting crew of Pratt, Ho, Glatzel, Horner, Moranha and Bintliff followed the game plan and got off to a fast start, with the early morning conditions ideal for the initial run to La'au Point.

After passing La'au Point in the lead pack, the first crew changes were made. From this point, we decided to pay some early dues and take a northerly course toward Portlock Point, where we could align ourselves to take advantage of the wind, swell and surfing conditions in the latter stages of the race.

Once we reached Portlock and familiar waters, we were able to surf around Diamond Head and paddle across the line at Fort DeRussy Beach in 5 hours and 36 minutes, first in the Koa Division (21st overall), and more than 15 minutes ahead of the second place Koa crew Lanakila of California (5 hours, 52 minutes).

The race's end was capped with celebration as the victory was a fitting end to a successful season for the Kaoloa crew. On behalf of the crew, many thanks go out to Coach Mike Mason, Henry Ayau and Mark Sandvold, Domie and the gang in the shop for getting the Kaoloa race-ready, and to all those who have supported the team all season. ☺



The winning Kaoloa crew was Remy Moranha, Byron Ho, David Stackhouse, Bill Pratt, Andrew Glatzel, Grady Bintliff, David Potter, David Horner, Kalani Schrader.