

Outrigger First Again in Dad Center Race

By Paul Carvalho
Star-Bulletin Writer

Regattas are fine, but the women of the Outrigger Canoe Club will take a hand-blistering endurance race any time.

Ditto for the women of the five other canoe clubs entered in yesterday's Dad Center Race — a nine-mile test of stamina and strategy which runs from Hawaii Kai to the Outrigger Beach in Waikiki.

TO SAY that the women fared well in their first open-water event of the year would be an understatement.

Outrigger, winning the race for the second straight time, completed the course in one hour, 10 minutes and 19.1 seconds — 11 minutes better than the first-year record they set last Summer.

But then, even Lanikai, the last team to finish, came in one minute ahead of the 1974 time.

"This kind of race is fantastic. They should make it longer," said Connie McGuire, a mem-



ber of the Outrigger team. "In regatta racing you really don't get a chance to show what you're made of. There's so much more competition in this race."

Shirley Pelekai, the steersman for the second-place Waikiki Surf Club, agreed. "Sure, there's more competition in the open water. You're fighting the ocean as well as the other team. And it's more of an accomplishment when you're finished."

OUTRIGGER relied largely on the talents of young Heidi Hemmings, who guided her canoe close to the shore most of the race, to gain an edge over the other teams.

"Heidi is a fine helmsman — one of the best woman steerers we have," said one observer who should know — Rabbit Kekai of the Waikiki Surf Club.

"We decided to follow

the swells close to shore for this one," Heidi said. "It's tricky, you have to keep the nose of the canoe up, but it's a good way to build up speed and not tire yourself out."

Using this technique, Outrigger led from start to finish and was challenged only once by Waikiki Surf, as the two canoes approached Black Point, off Diamond Head.

The closest battle of the day was between Hui Nalu and Lanikai Canoe Club, for the fifth-place spot. Hui Nalu managed to hold off a last-minute charge by Lanikai, however, finishing ahead of their rivals by three seconds.

1—Outrigger CC (Jill Anderson, Maile Morgan, Julie Morgan, Ann Nichol, Connie

McGuire, Heidi Hemmings, Ait.—Kristy Muller, Gay McGee, Tracy Howarth.) T—1:10:19.
2—Waikiki Surf (Rosaline Lum, Glenell Kalo, Arona Napoleon, Wendy Rothwell, Cathy K. Maioho, Shirley Pelekai, Ait.—Mary McFadden, Luana Froiseth, Casina Waterman.) T—1:13:10.
3—Healani (Eleanor Bell, Nadine Noguchi, Aphanani Paine, Elizabeth Loo, Elsa Wright, Sandra Nishimoto, Ait.—Ellen Pabillano, Pam Reimens, Maliana Tutele.) T—1:14:10.

4—Kaliua CC (Gigi Coelho, Gwen Kau, Donna Coelho, Sandy Scafe, Sig Tannehill, Setson Serikawa, Ait.—Eddie Coelho, Genevieve Meyers, Carleen Ornellas.) T—1:15:16.
5—Hui Nalu (Fay Inouye, Tanva Raymond, Kathy Kam, Jan Liu, Denise Darval, Joenei Ching, Ait.—Lita Thompson, Eva Sprickman, Lindsay Stryker.) T—1:19:57.
6—Lanikai (Cheryl Boyer, Kristina Fakiman, Holly Fernandez, Alexis Freeman, Maile Kane, Cathy Loo, Ait.—Kauhani Odo, Jan Rydstrom, Janet Shriner.) T—1:20:50.

Tired but Happy Faces

Outrigger Canoe Club's Heidi Hemmings, right, lets her teammates know that they have crossed the finish line first in yesterday's Dad Center Race. Other OCC paddlers are, from left, Jill Anderson, Maile Morgan, Julie Morgan, Ann Nichol and Connie McGuire.—Photo by John Titchen.