



Members of the 1988 Na Wahine O Ke Kai crew were, front, Muffer Scully, Katy Bourne, Paula Crabb, Tiare Richert-Finney, Sandra Haine. Standing, Kaili Chun, Debra Zabriskie, Terri Pynchon, Tia Payes, Liz Perry-Dugan, Pii Basdavanos, Genie Kincaid.

## Na Wahine O Ke Kai '88

By Genie Kincaid

History repeated itself ad nauseum in the 10th annual Na Wahine O Ke Kai held on September 25, as Outrigger finished second for the third straight year behind Off Shore Canoe Club of Newport Beach, California.

Although our crew failed to wrest Off Shore's hold on the premiere event in women's distance canoe racing, Outrigger took great satisfaction in showing promise for the future in a year of rebuilding and in defeating Healani Canoe Club, the third place finisher.

Early in the race, Off Shore had taken a course to the south of Outrigger. Both clubs converged at Koko Head and Off Shore was surprised to find Outrigger in a slight lead.

Off Shore made a few one-woman changes and sprinted back into the lead. Outrigger gave a spirited chase along the surf line off Diamond Head

and Waikiki. There were a couple of anxious moments when Off Shore got rocked by the waves and nearly swamped, but they escaped disaster and finished with a time of 6:14:22.

Healani had put together a formidable effort during the local distance season winning two of three races by commanding leads. Consequently, Healani was favored to finish ahead of Outrigger in the Molokai race. But Outrigger paddled with a vengeance and earned a moral victory by defeating Healani by over six minutes with a time of 6:16:02, and only 1 minute, 40 seconds behind the winner.

Co-captain Tiare Finney warned as she accepted Outrigger's second place award, "These girls are young, they're strong and they're hungry. So, look out--they're comin' after you."

In fact, this year's crew of 12 pad-

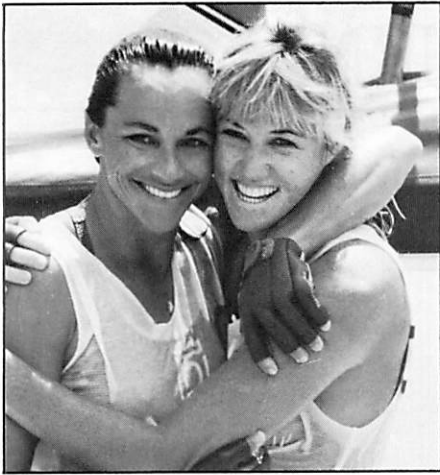
dlers included five rookies who had never raced Molokai before--the so-called youth and strength aspect of the crew. This element was balanced by the experience and mental toughness (actually, age and treachery) of the veterans. The result was a ripsnorter of a crew that worked well and worked hard together.

The veterans on the crew were Tiare Richert-Finney (8 crossings), Muffer Scully (8), Paula Crabb (6), Sandra Haine (4), Katy Bourne (4), Pii Basdavanos (3) and Liz Perry-Dugan (2).

The first timers were Genie Kincaid, Kaili Chun, Tia Payes, Terri Pynchon and Debra Zabriskie.

The crew was ably supported by alternates Katie McCrary, Mary Smolenski and Christy Brunton and assistant coach Keoni Kino. Assistant Coach Jody D'Enbeau did a terrific job

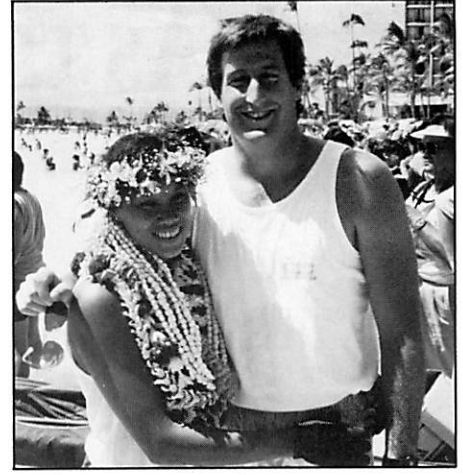




*Pii Basdavanos and Muffer Scully congratulate each other on completing the grueling race.*



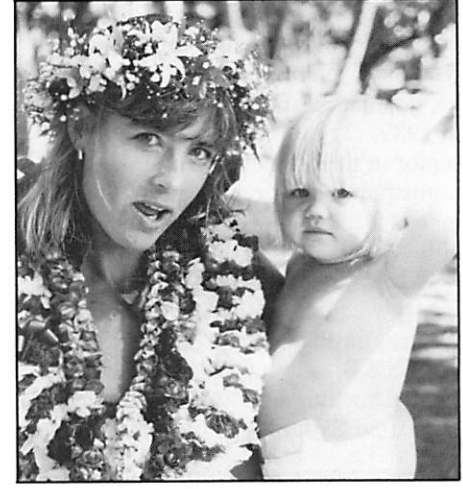
*Katy Bourne and Tiare Richert-Finney were all smiles.*



*Genie Kincaid gets hugs from husband, Chris, after her first Molokai crossing.*



*Coach Aaron Young greets wife, Connie, and kids at end of race.*



*Sandra Haine and daughter, Natasha.*

of keeping the crew on its designated course, which turned out to be the main factor that kept Outrigger in the race and kept Off Shore from walking away to an easy victory.

And leading the charge from the whaler were head coach Aaron Young, Walter Guild and Wayne Faulkner, all of whom contributed generously to the successes of the crew.

The Molokai race offered many indelible memories to the women of Outrigger--some heroic, some hilarious. There was the full moon over Oahu on the way to Hale O Lono Harbor, the starting place of the 41 mile race, which seemed to presage the excitement of the day's events.

Steersman Liz Perry-Dugan paddled the entire distance, with only one change, exhorting her crew for six hours to reach beyond themselves.

There were also all the coaches who spent literally hours perfecting and re-perfecting the rig of our fiberglass canoe, the Iwalani.

Other highlights included Jody D'-Enbeau getting duct-taped and rubbered by the crew; and Muffer Scully, whose suit bottom got hooked by the canvas during a change, flailing sideways in the water as the canoe raced along.

None of those memories or the successes of the crew would have been possible but for the efforts of the Canoe Racing Committee, Bonnie Judd and Kris Smith included, the supplies and equipment loaned by the men's senior masters crew and the support and good wishes of fellow paddlers and the membership of the Club.

Aloha pumchana, Outrigger. Later, Off Shore. 🍷



*Terri Pynchon enjoys some fruit after the race.*