

Outrigger surges in title meet

□ After a lackluster season, it wins the OHCRA championship

By Jack Wyatt

Special to the Star-Bulletin

Coach John Finney, the man who guided Outrigger Canoe Club to its fifth consecutive Oahu Hawaiian canoe racing championship yesterday at Keehi Lagoon Park, went from goat to hero in a single sweep.

"We got off to a dismal season's start (two consecutive losses). I was a shoo-in for the club's 'Goat of the Year' award," Finney said.

But in yesterday's championship —

a regatta where a win really matters — Outrigger's paddlers came through for their first-year coach with gusto. OCC crews won 10 of 30 events; placed second in 12 others and finished third three times.

Outrigger defeated rival Kailua 96-69 for the biggest winning margin of any OHCRA club this season. Hui Nalu placed third with 63 points. SurfSports topped OHCRA's small club division with 18 points.

Every club juggled paddler personnel, loading boats with their talented best in attempt to qualify crews for the state championships on Maui Aug. 5.

"I kept busy all day watching the competition — Kailua and Hui Nalu —

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checking "who was paddling what" and trying to out-match them with our people," coach Finney said.

Outrigger broke its competition when it won four consecutive events during the regatta's first half. "With the three clubs (OCC, Kailua and Hui Nalu) each winning regattas, this season has been a great one," he said.

Five-time defending state champ Outrigger qualified crews in 29 of 30 events missing only the Boy's 13s. "The boys are an alternate and stand a good chance of

getting in (the states)," Finney said. (State crew qualification is determined by best overall season's performance or by winning Oahu Championship finishes).

During the seven-regatta OHCRA season, Kailua won three meets and tied with Outrigger for first place in another. Outrigger, including yesterday's win, topped only two regattas outright. Hui Nalu won its only meet of the season last week at Kaneohe.

While the 200-paddler Outrigger was flexing its muscles in OHCRA's AA "big club" division, Kailua's 42-member Surfports

was busy winning its fifth "A" (15 crews, or less) title in seven tries this season.

"It's important that OHCRA offers two divisions. No way can us little guys compete with Outrigger, and the other big powers" coach David Kalama said. Surfports' giant killing freshmen men and women's novice "A" paddlers won races yesterday.

"We qualified four of our six crews to the states. That's pretty good for such a small club," the coach said.

Kalama explained that Surfports is trying to build but pad-

dlers are in short supply, particularly at Kailua Beach Park where there are so many clubs and so few paddling prospects.

■ On Saturday, Lokahi Canoe Club won the Na Ohana O Na Hui Wa'a Oahu Championship, also held at Keehi lagoon. The Ala Wai Canal-based club capped its eight-regatta season unbeaten.

"We hope to send 20 crews to the state championships. This should give our paddlers their best competition of the season," Lokahi coach Michael Cushnie said. Lokahi defeated Kamehameha 89-55 for its third consecutive Oahu title. Kaneohe won Hui Wa'a's small club division with 21 points.

OHCRA championships

At Keehi Lagoon

■ Team standings

AA Division—1. Outrigger 96 pts. 2. Kailua 69. 3. Hui Nalu 63. 4. Healani 53. 5. Lanikai 3.

A Division—1. Surfsports 18. 2. Leeward Kai 8. 3. Hui Lanakila 6. 4. (tie) Makaha and Waimanalo 4. 6. Waikiki Surf Club 3. 7. Anuenue 2.

■ Boys

12—1. Kailua (Kamuela Cobb-Adams, Kapa Francisco, Leon Mosher, Kahele Naka'ahiki, Mike Smith, Kila Young) 2:28.53. 2. Outrigger 2:34.25. 3. Makaha 2:35.32.

13—1. Leeward Kai (Malcolm Kekawa, David Kane IV, Byron Corn, Wendel Kamealoha, Kaniala Nahinu, Chucky Bolt) 2:17.53. 2. Hui Lanakila 2:19.51. 3. Healani 2:20.35.

14—1. Healani (Craig Souza, Kai Ah Sam, Ryan Hoke, Nelson Sai, Barry Quillooy, Kealii Palaina Jr.) 2:00.65. 2. Outrigger 2:17.57. 3. Hui Nalu 2:18.71.

16—1. Outrigger (J.P. Canlis, Danny Goldcamp, Paul Larsen, Matt Corboy, Adam Cobeen, Sage Spalding) 4:04.92. 2. Hui Nalu 4:22.42. 3. Healani 4:23.97.

18—1. Hui Nalu (Todd Kamisugi, Brad Yim, Daniel Sakaguchi, Gam Dykstra, Robert Taylor, Steve Maurer) 7:34.14. 2. Outrigger 7:55.21. 3. Kailua 7:56.34.

■ Men

Novice A—1. Outrigger (Michael Schwinn, John Eveleth, Kirk Christman, Fred Fong, Kevin McCrary, Paul Kaye) 5:58.42. 2. Kailua 6:01.59. 3. Hui Nalu

6:04.19.

Novice B—1. Outrigger (Gary Clarke, Steve Brown, Jim Cavanaugh, Brad Thiessen, Scott Bradley, Jeff Hungerford) 3:55.59. 2. Kailua 4:02.43. 3. Hui Nalu 4:02.83.

Freshmen—1. Surfsports (Wilfrid Chene, Chuck Lowther, Jim Fester, Drew Kellerman, Mac Tillman, John Puakea) 7:37.96. 2. Outrigger 7:52.66. 3. Healani 7:59.02.

Sophomores—1. Kailua (Patrick Erwin, MacKenzie Shannon, Randy Sylva, Todd Hart, Mark Cluney, Rob Cates III) 11:45.92. 2. Healani 11:58.27. 3. Outrigger 12:05.07.

Juniors—1. Kailua (Patrick Erwin, MacKenzie Shannon, Kamao Kalama, Dave Clark, Jerome Dias, Rob Cates III) 15:27.45. 2. Outrigger 15:39.28. 3. Healani 15:45.37.

Seniors—1. Outrigger (Kainoa Downing, Mark Rigg, Bill Bright, Walter Guild, Keone Downing, Todd Bradley) 19:34.89. 2. Hui Nalu 19:55.62. 3. Surfsports 20:03.21.

Masters—1. Hui Nalu (Nainoa Thompson, Georg Kissner, Rocky Higgins, Bob Rocheleau, Wayne Fujihara, Darryl Hara) 7:35.05. 2. Outrigger 7:36.19. 3. Kailua 7:40.05.

Senior Masters—1. Kailua (Gary Aprea, Bob Nakea, Bob Moncrief, John Goody, Howard Keller, Bob Cates Jr.) 3:55.61. 2. Outrigger 4:02.59. 3. Anuenue 4:09.32.

Open 4—1. Outrigger (Kainoa Downing, Mark Rigg, Walter Guild, Todd Bradley) 4:00.29. 2. Healani 4:07.25. 3. Hui Nalu 4:07.50.

■ Girls

12—1. Hui Nalu (Tara Beyer, Tiare Wright, Eleni Espana, Haseena Zachariah, Monica Parker, Mandy Jones) 2:39.81. 2. Outrigger 2:49.73. 3. Healani 2:52.85.

13—1. Hui Nalu (Brooke Kaneshiro, Katie Marceau, Jessica Kim, Natalie Parsa, Laura Tam, Emma Eyre) 2:33.84. 2. Waimanalo 2:41.80. 3. Surfsports 2:44.64.

14—1. Kailua (Carrie Mau, Kathy Colin, Desiree Epil, Kanani Benson, Amy Patrick, Robin Jacobs) 2:24.15. 2. Outrigger 2:24.55. 3. Healani 2:26.22.

15—1. Outrigger (Julie Cundall, Nalani Hunt, Shandy Danford, Anne Marie Pavlin, Joanna Reinhardt, Lisa Jackson) 4:55.44. 2. Hui Nalu 5:03.19. 3. Kailua 5:04.95.

18—1. Outrigger (Diane Wilbur, Missy Mowat, Pam Clifford, Cynthia Sheehan, Megan Clark, Hilary Scott) 4:48.11. 2. Healani 5:00.30. 3. Hui Nalu 5:00.45.

■ Women

Novice A—1. Surfsports (Nicola Pisculli, Sally Smith, Nina Pacewicz, Andrea Lorenz, Danna Sylva, Loretta Carollo) 4:30.28. 2. Hui Nalu 4:37.34. 3. Healani 4:41.03.

Novice B—1. Kailua (Tammy Jones, Dawn Cassulo, Debbie Cheever, Dar Leandro, Susi Borchardt, Jacquie Leuzze) 2:20.80. 2. Outrigger 2:26.21. 3. Healani 2:33.34.

Freshmen—1. Kailua (Mikell Baldwin, Umi Malama, Connie Johnston, Sheri Tester, Kathy Beck, Kara Davis) 6:45.26. 2. Healani 6:50.24. 3. Outrigger 6:53.87.

Sophomores—1. Hui Nalu (Lalewahi Anne Malama, Katie Johnson, Susan Erikson, Lory Bode, Becky Hara, Denise Darval) 8:21.64. 2. Healani 8:31.58. 3. Outrigger 9:01.35.

Juniors—1. Healani (Laurie Seto, Kelly Fey, Carolyn Jean McKinnie, Patricia Vasquez-Fasi, Jonna Wickesser, Robin Nonaka) 11:38.52. 2. Kailua 12:02.36. 3. Hui Nalu 12:15.11.

Seniors—1. Hui Nalu (Lesline Conner, Sandy Corbis, Jennie Scafe, Diane Darval, Lindsey Styan, Denise Darval) 13:23.87. 2. Outrigger 13:35.29. 3. Kailua 13:41.90.

Masters—1. Kailua (Nancy Perry, Nani Olds, Lynn Heen, Bernie Heen, Kathy Javellana, Lynn Kaita) 9:41.69. 2. Outrigger 9:57.84. 3. Hui Nalu 9:59.83.

Senior Masters—1. Outrigger (Diane Stowell, Ululani Friese, Gerry Pedesky, Marilyn Haine, Peggy Danford, Keanuanue Rochlan) 4:47.79. 2. Kailua 4:49.25. 3. Healani 4:56.04.

Open 4—1. Outrigger (Katie McCrary, Norma Santiago, Diana Clifford, Kisi Haine) 5:05.03. 2. Kailua 5:12.06. 3. Surfsports 5:21.11.

■ Mixed

12—1. Outrigger (Bret Chuchovich, Josh O'Conner, Tiffany Sutherland, Nathan Stapleton, Meaghan Hemmings, Nanea Tannehill) 2:38.25. 2. Kailua 2:41.59. 3. Makaha 2:51.75.

Men/Women—1. Healani (Andrew Kang, Evi Feato, Malia May, Joseph Motti, Michelle Ross, Rhonda Reyes) 4:21.42. 2. Hui Nalu 4:21.62. 3. Waikiki Surf Club 4:23.96.