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Lorey Bode (left) and Lelewahī Malama of the Kailua Canoe Club's sophomore women's crew toasted their victory at the OHCRA championship regatta

Kailua outpoints OCC, 72-70, to win OHCRA championship

By Stephen Tsai
Advertiser Staff Writer

A long wait finally ended:

Kailua Canoe Club, relying on key strategic moves, held off Outrigger Canoe Club yesterday to win the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association championship regatta in Keehi Lagoon.

Kailua, a 200-member club, scored 72 points to win its first regatta of the season. Outrigger was second with 70 points and Hui Nalu third with 48.

Because of a protest filed by Hui Nalu, results of the women's senior race were stricken from the standings and all point totals deemed unofficial.

The protest, though, will not affect the outcome of the regatta.

"I don't know how to feel . . . I don't know how to react," said Kailua coach Beanie Heen, whose club had not won an OHCRA title since

1977. "It's been such a long time. I'm just so happy."

Said Kailua's assistant coach Kamoā Kalama: "Outrigger thought it was invincible. But it took a down-home country club to beat someone that's really well established."

Indeed, Outrigger, spurred by its upper-division crews, surpassed Kailua to win each of the previous six regattas. But there would be no comeback for OCC in the championship regatta.

Kailua led Outrigger, 40-23, 60-39, and, after 28 races of the 30-event program, 72-65. In the 29th event, the women's senior, Kailua was awarded first place after Hui Nalu and Outrigger — the top two finishers — were disqualified.

Outrigger, which crossed the finish line second, was ousted because its canoe hit a flag while negotiating a turn. Hui Nalu was disqualified.

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fied for using the same steersman in two races. Hui Nalu's Kala Kukea later filed a protest, claiming that a paddler can compete in two races during a championship regatta. The protest will be heard by race officials later this week.

Outrigger, though, cannot benefit from a decision in Hui Nalu's favor, even with its victory in the men's senior race.

After the regatta, Kailua paddlers unabashedly surrounded their canoe, Kalanakila, and cheered themselves.

"I was in the Kailua Canoe Club about 10 years ago when we won the state championship down in Hilo," senior masters crew member Bill Baldwin said. "This is greater. We expected to win it then. We had to fight for it here.

"Every regatta they (Outrigger) would come from behind and beat us. This week, we just said, 'They're not going to do it.' We had a little help — we understand that — but we have to have a little help from somebody else. Against a club like Outrigger, if you don't get a little help, you aren't going to win."

Kailua also was aided by several important crew switches. Heen moved paddlers from the senior men's and women's crews to the men's open-4, women's open-4 and mixed races.

With the transplanted paddlers, Kailua won the open-4 and mixed events for the first time this season.

"We just waited for the real race to do it," Kailua assistant coach Scott Jacobs said of the switches. "It was a championship race and we knew we had to do something to close the gap. Outrigger has been beating us by 10 to 12 points a race."

Ironically, Heen borrowed the tactic from Outrigger, which regularly flip-flops crews.

Kailua paddler Mark Ansel said Outrigger has "been playing a chess game all year long. We just wanted to play our game today."

Said Kalama: "It's good to beat them at their own game. We're fortunate to take advantage of it today. They're (Outrigger) a real strong club and they'll be there in the state race. But it's something special for us today. We're going to enjoy it to its fullest."

Winning crews at the OHCRA championship

gained berths in the state regatta, which will be held Aug. 4 in Kauai. The remaining three OHCRA berths for each race were awarded to crews based on their performances during the regular season.

Outrigger placed 25 crews in the state regatta. Kailua had 24, Hui Nalu 21 and Healani 10.

Men

120—1. Kailua (Sean Bybee, Mike Bybee, Ryan Nobrega, Chris Sneider, Ray Curt, Boyd Nobrega) 2:31.04. 2. Kukui 2:32.27. 3. Leeward Kai 2:34.51. 12A—1. Hui Nalu (Leon Soong, Matt Smith, Shawn Mutch, Randall Chung, Drew Bauer, Nalu Kukea) 2:26.61. 2. Outrigger 2:29.36. 3. Healani 2:30.27. 13—1. Healani (Vernald Burdett, Keith Koku, Kainoa Kipapa, Jeff Karwi, Floyd Awa, Charles Newaku) 2:10.10. 2. Outrigger 2:11.28. 3. Waimanalo 2:13.04. 14—1. Loaa (Albert Lopes, Eric Lopes, Kunani Akuna, Kamana Young, J. Royal Kanemau, Kapuna Wilson) 2:08.98. 2. Kailua 2:09.40. 3. Waikiki Surf 2:16.17. Novice B—1. Kailua (Todd Camst, Sherman Williams, Daniel Higuchi, John Chris Farber, Tommy Nunes, Robert Keenunui) 3:58.64. 2. Healani 4:09.68. 3. Outrigger 4:11.74. 16—1. Kailua (Jason Rodrigues, Mark Caberal, William Malama, Sam Martinez, Keli Vannetta, Louie Carrigan) 4:06.61. 2. Outrigger 4:13.41. 3. SurfSports 4:16.06. Senior masters—1. Hui Lanakila (Dickey Abbey, William Vickers, Dennis Miyama, William Lyman, Arthur Lyman, Sam Kaapu) 4:06.29. 2. Outrigger 4:06.50. 3. Healani 4:10.88. Open 4—1. Kailua (Randy Silva, Pat Erwin, Dave Badaux, Kamoa Kalama) 4:13.32. 2. Hui Lanakila 4:18.60. 3. Lanikai 4:22.53. Novice A—1. Hui Nalu (David Fudge, Jack Dittko, Marc Eremian, Spike Albrecht, Chuck Richards, Richard Mumper) 6:14.01. 2. Outrigger 6:14.97. 3. Loaa 6:23.80. 18—1. Outrigger (Mark Sandvold, Alan Pfueger, Todd Sandvold, Howe Klemmer, Greg Sheehan, Mark Norfett) 7:52.26. 2. Kailua 8:08.86. 3. Hui Nalu 8:09.70. Freshman—1. Outrigger (Grady Bintliff, Rex Haworth, Bruce Aysu, Grad Rudin, Charles Judd, Peter Balding) 7:50.28. 2. Lanikai 7:55.91. 3. Waimanalo 8:00.62. Masters—1. Healani (Lance Yamamoto, William Awa, Keith Kaleo, Dave McHottan, Charles May, Gary Murakami) 7:49.05. 2. Outrigger 7:55.79. 3. Kailua 8:14.92. Sophomore—1. Outrigger (Michael Fox, Tommy Damon, Keahi Farden, Steve Van Ler Ribbing, Billy Foytch, Todd Bradley) 12:00.68. 2. Hui Nalu 12:12.59. 3. Hui Lanakila 12:28.38. Junior—1. Outrigger (Thomas Conner, Gib Bintliff, Henry Aysu, John Finney, Keone Downing, Kevin Olds) 15:40.86. 2. Hui Nalu 16:36.15. 3. Kailua 16:46.94. Senior—1. Outrigger (Robert Riley, Edward Pickering, Bill Bright, Walter Guild, Marc Haine, Brant Ackerman) 19:20.27. 2. Hui Nalu 19:21.12. 3. Lanikai 20:56.12.

Women

12—1. Waimanalo (Linda Kam, Megale Westermeyer, Christy Wolfe, Kamarie Puaoli, Hoku Bowes, Erin Williams) 2:37.01. 2. Kailua 2:45.35. 3. Lanikai 2:46.37. 13—1. Loaa (Patricia Castro, Lovey Akina, Liahona White, Lisa Ann Smith, Tina Tsukiyama, Eva Plianca) 2:31.95. 2. Healani 2:34.45. 3. SurfSports 2:34.80. 14—1. Kailua (Lisa Ostermiller, Keahu Alesna, Robin Rodrigues, Um Malama, Chris Phillips, Dondi Dawson) 2:25.43. 2. Healani 2:30.06. 3. Hui Lanakila 2:35.54. Novice B—1. Hui Nalu (Napu Dods, Robin Emge, Kristal Emge, Bonnie White, Betsi Andrus, Juke Blevins) 2:23.87. 2. Kailua 2:31.61. 3. Lanikai 2:32.13. Senior masters—1. Kailua (Casey Beck, Marian Scarfe, Beverly Allen, Mary Moore, Sara Dougherty, Patricia DeLong) 2:15.48. 2. Outrigger 2:25.31. 3. Lanikai 2:26.14. Masters—1. Hui Nalu (Marilyn Kiner, Laura Thompson, Nan Akeo, Ann Schumaker, Carol Kukea, Mary Harbold) 4:46.90. 2. Lanikai 4:48.11. 3. Healani 4:55.36. 16—1. Healani (Michelle Paiana, Lisa Hironaka, Erica Fontaine, Belenna Kaheaku, Trish Peneku, Dallas Kaheaku) 4:46.65. 2. Hui Lanakila 4:57.48. 3. Hui Nalu 4:58.65. 18—1. Lanikai (Liz Fitzgerald, Shari Lyons, Bobby Lichota, Kelly Wicks, Karen Rappolt, Dani Gay) 4:54.45. 2. Kailua 4:58.02. 3. Outrigger 4:58.23. Novice A—1. Outrigger (Bonnie Judd, Manon Vinet, Coleen Koane, Cynthia Pearson, Uliiani Davis, Mary Debeard) 4:55.86. 2. Loaa 5:07.85. 3. Hui Lanakila 5:12.46. Open 4—1. Kailua (Donna Myers, Kathy Erwin, Don Carson, Jane Stafford) 5:30.00. 2. Hui Lanakila 5:32.59. 3. Lanikai 5:47.26. Freshman—1. Outrigger (Susan Rude, Tommy Rones, Darcy Ames, Patty Shaughnessy, Lisa Sigger, Johanna Lames) 7:08.60. 2. Hui Lanakila 7:16.85. 3. Healani 7:20.58. Sophomore—1. Kailua (Ede Handley, Lorey BoDe, Chrystal Hogue, Lelelahi Malama, Sisi Gillard, Jean Marie Morse) 8:45.67. 2. Outrigger 8:53.00. 3. Hui Nalu 9:02.81. Junior—1. Outrigger (Traci Phillips, Pua Fowler, Mary Mason, Sandra Stanley, Lisa Storm, Kiri Hamei) 11:32.19. 2. Kailua 11:31.83. 3. Hui Nalu 11:52.00. Senior—1. Hui Nalu (names not available) 13:06.69. 2. Kailua 14:38.65. 3. Waikiki 15:49.74.

Mixed

12—Honolulu (Kae Kai, Robyn Fermahin, Aaron Aiser, Shannon Malaloha, Dale Hanga, Andrea Oakandi) 2:39.90. 2. Waikiki Surf 2:58.24. 3. SurfSports 3:05.81. Adults—Kailua (Scott Jacobs, McKenzie, Shannon, Molly, Mosher, Carey, Ardyne Kincaid, Beth Matsuda, Beanie Heen) 4:18.93. 2. Hui Nalu 4:20.09. 3. Hui Lanakila 4:20.80.