

OHCRA CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA



RICHARD WALKER /

RWALKER@STARBULLETIN.COM

Kapono Brown looked back as Outrigger's Rob Harrison leaned out of the canoe at the OHCRA Championships at Ke'ehi Lagoon yesterday.

Lanikai caps 7-0 season

By Kyle Galdeira / Special to the Star-Bulletin

Lanikai Canoe Club captured the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Championship Regatta yesterday afternoon, and capped a perfect season with wins in all seven regattas.

Lanikai braved the stiff trade winds, amassing 100 points to run away with the AAA (18-plus crews entered) Division ahead of Kailua (78 points), Outrigger (63) and Hui Nalu (10).

Kailua-based Lanikai eked out a five-point win over Kailua last year, and head coach Dave Smith was surprised at how his club ended up running the table in defense of its OHCRA crown. After 32 races,

Kailua trailed its neighbor 78-71 but Lanikai relied on sheer numbers -- it entered all 39 races -- to widen the gap and complete the perfect season.

"Wow, an undefeated season on Oahu, that's kind of miraculous; I don't ever remember that happening," said Smith, who pulled double duty by paddling with Lanikai's winning Men's 40 crew. "It's been a really good season. It's a combination of having a lot of people, and having them spread out (over all 39 races), so we score consistently throughout the day. We've had a lot of crews (in the past), but haven't been able to score consistently (until now)."

Lanikai won seven races in the regatta, including the Women's 55 race after which its crew celebrated by donning plastic tiaras and indulging in chocolate chip cookies.

"It was a hard race, and it was windier than we expected," said crewmember Suzi Mechler. "It's probably the tightest crew I've ever paddled with. There's been really good competition this season, so it's a great way to finish off the Oahu season."



RICHARD WALKER /

RWALKER@STARBULLETIN.COM

Michelle St. John of Outrigger Canoe Club made her

way through a tunnel of teammates after her crew won the women 60 race.

Hui Lanakila dominated the AA (9-17 crews entered) Division, tallying 50 points. The medium-sized club notched six wins, and finished in second with 21 points followed by Kaioni (17), Keahiakahoe (16) and Waimanalo (8).

The A (nine or fewer crews entered) Division ended in a tie between Keola O Ke Kai and Makaha with two points apiece. According to race officials, a winner will be determined today.

Next up for the qualifying crews are the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association's state championships on Aug. 4 at Hanalei Bay, Kauai. Hawaiian Canoe Club of Maui is the six-time defending state champion. Its strength in numbers has proven too much for even Lanikai to overcome in recent years.

"The math changes a little bit in states," Smith explained. "Here, the top four (crews) score (toward the overall team standings), but in states, every boat scores so I'm not sure how that will change the formula. Kailua 's real close, Outrigger's real close; there's a lot of good crews and clubs out there and we don't know how we'll stack up against big clubs like Hawaiian.

"But, we're well-positioned, and it's going to be real close," he added. "I don't think anybody's going to walk away with this one."



RICHARD WALKER /

RWALKER@STARBULLETIN.COM

Crews looked to get off to a good start in the 1-mile

men's junior race at yesterday's OHCRA
Championships at Ke'ehi Lagoon.

The championship regatta was dedicated to Michael Tongg, a legend in the paddling community who died on July 13 after a bout with lung cancer. Tongg was instrumental in helping the sport of canoe paddling grow, and won the Molokai Hoe three times, in 1966, '69 and '73 with the Waikiki Surf Club -- the club he later coached. He eventually became the president of the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association, a position he held for nearly 20 years.

While Tongg's goal of having canoe racing established as an Olympic sport has yet to be attained, his mark on paddling was apparent by the opening ceremony which preceded the regatta.

Waikiki Surf Club's koa canoe "Malia" was paddled out with passengers including Tongg's wife Janice and steersman Nappy Napoleon, one of Tongg's long-time teammates. With Tongg's ashes resting on the second seat -- Tongg's regular spot in the canoe -- the other clubs then paddled their canoes out and formed a circular formation around the Malia, symbolizing the love and respect embodied by a flower lei.

Tongg's ashes won't be scattered until an Aug. 12 ceremony at Waikiki Beach fronting the Royal Hawaiian Hotel near the surf break named after him, but those on hand yesterday were touched by the ceremony, which was capped by a light rain shower that formed a rainbow overhead.

"He always said that the canoe was there like an umbilical cord that you come to, and the more kids you can bring into and teach, the better," said OHCRA president Hannie Anderson. "He brought our association up to another level. He was such a gentleman; he just touched the hearts of every person."

Tongg also served as president of the Polynesian Voyaging Society. As a crew leader on the voyaging canoe Hokule'a, Tongg completed voyages traversing over 40,000 nautical miles.

The championship regatta featured over 3,000 paddlers ranging in age from 12-and-under to 60-and-above from 17 clubs.

PADDLING

OHCRA

Ohera championships

At Keehi Lagoon

Team standings

Division AAA--1. Lanikai, 100; 2. Kailua, 78; 3. Outrigger, 63; 4. Hui Nalu, 47; 5. Healani, 10.

Division AA--1. Hui Lanakila, 50; 2. Leeward Kai, 21; 3. Kaioni, 17; 4. Keahiakahoe, 16; 5. Waimanalo, 8; 6. New Hope, 6; 7. Waikiki Surf Club, 4; 8. Honolulu Pearl, 2; 9. Anuenue, 1.

Division A--t1. Keola O Ke Kai, 2; t1. Makaha, 2; 4. Puuloa Outrigger, 0.

Boys

12-and-under--1. Lanikai (Jake Armstrong, Alakai Freitas, Drew McWhirter, Cole Caster, Aaron Madden, Benjamin Scholfield), 2:22.21; 2. Kailua, 2:27.48; 3. Hui Nalu, 2:35.09; 4. Waimanalo, 2:37.73.

13--1. Lanikai (Cole Caster, Will Braden, Cheyne Mench, Matthew Mench, Derek Ruebenstahl, Joey Kiser), 2:08.56; 2. Leeward Kai, 2:12.23; 3. Keahiakahoe, 2:15.17; 4. Keola O Ke Kai, 2:16.53.

14--1. Hui Lanakila (Kalani Puaoi, Nikolaus Pittman, Raven Pokini, Adam Pedro, Pele Soma, Kaiminaauao Johnson), 1:56.19; 2. Hui Nalu, 2:03.01; 3. Lanikai, 2:03.34; 4. Kaioni, 2:07.23.

15--1. Outrigger (Benjamin Beck, James Field, Micah Baclig, John Wade, John Figueira, Nion Nichols), 4:06.71; 2. Hui Nalu, 4:07.23; 3. Leeward Kai, 4:11.16; 4. Kailua, 4:16.57.

16--1. Hui Nalu (Daven Astrero, Kaihe Chong, Kainoa Lopes, Bobby-John Campbell, Noa Chung, Matthew Niederhauser), 3:46.49; 2. Lanikai, 3:49.84; 3. Kailua, 3:50.69; 4. Keahiakahoe, 3:52.46.

18--1. Outrigger (Simeon Ke-Paloma, Alex Hossellman, Jonathans Gendreau, Griffin Dolman, Ryan Harrison, Nainoa Basdavanos), 7:19.26; 2. Lanikai, 7:20.69; 3. Hui Nalu, 7:35.70; 4. Waikiki Surf Club, 7:37.32.

Girls

12-and-under--1. Kailua (Kialoa Makua, Kamalei Lene, Nalani Bishaw, Cheyenne Bautista, Alisha Kim, Rachel Stogner), 2:42.08; 2. Kaioni, 2:42.32; 3. Lanikai, 2:44.12; 4. Keola O Ke Kai, 2:54.75.

13--1. Outrigger (Hailee Wade, Chauncey Hirose-Hulbert, Devan Kaye, Brailey Hirose-Hulbert, Abby Yosaitis, Rachel Kincaid), 2:26.68; 2. Kailua, 2:27.01; 3. Leeward Kai, 2:30.12; 4. Lanikai, 2:30.41.

14--1. Hui Lanakila (Kahoku Keola, Kashel Gottlieb, Kailiponi McGee, Bronti Rios, Kaleihiwa Naauao, Kamalolo Koanui-Kong), 2:22.68; 2. Kaioni, 2:25.90; 3. Waimanalo, 2:26.60; 4. Kailua, 2:31.65.

15--1. Kailua (Kara Sheldon, Kiana Wasson, Tyler-Ann Carvalho-Gomes, Shelby Singlehurst, Brittany Spencer, Roclynn Nosaka), 4:33.81; 2. Keahiakahoe, 4:34.82; 3. Hui Nalu, 4:43.31; 4. Lanikai, 4:45.72.

16--1. Leeward Kai (Grace Brack-Werner, Kiana-Caprice Merritt, Brittany Nao, Camille Simon, Kehaulani Kelii, Leilani Puaoi), 4:35.91; 2. Hui Lanakila, 4:36.48; 3. Kailua, 4:39.12; 4. Hui Nalu, 4:47.07.

18--1. Outrigger (Leigh Cullinan, Juliana Brown, Jean Cullinan, Brooke Hunter, Nicole Libbey, Marisa Wriston), 4:26.25; 2. Kailua, 4:34.78; 3. Hui Nalu, 4:35.14; 4. Healani, 4:36.13.

Men

Novice B--1. Lanikai (Robert Edge, Zach Luechauer, Jeff McCreary, Jesse Hampton, George Kane, Eric Sokalski), 3:46.33; 2. Hui Lanikila, 3:57.01; 3. Makaha, 4:04.23; 4. Hui Nalu, 4:05.10.

Novice A--1. Lanikai (Andrew Csigi, Patrick Shea, Mike Scales, Jon Hanks, Quinn Barber, Clifton Botelho), 7:38.70; 2. Outrigger, 7:43.27; 3. Hui Nalu, 7:51.53; 4. Healani, 7:54.24.

Freshmen--1. Outrigger (Scott Gamble, Craig Gamble, David Fan, Alike Williams, Peter Van Lier Ribbink, Zachary Payne), 7:10.96; 2. Hui Nalu, 7:11.53; 3. Lanikai, 7:15.51; 4. Kailua, 7:18.58.

Sophomore--1. Leeward Kai (Ryan Van Gieson, Keola Wright, Timothy Ekau, Michael Beyer, Alfred Van Gieson, James Bradley), 6:58.35; 2. Kailua, 7:02.44; 3. Lanikai, 7:03.99; 4. Hui Lanakila, 7:11.15.

Junior--1. Outrigger (Tapa Worthington, Jeremiah Gushman, Evan Rhodes, Franz Solmssen, Andrew Glatzel, Jimmy Austin), 7:13.84; 2. Lanikai, 7:23.77; 3. Kailua, 7:31.60; 4. Leeward Kai, 7:54.48.

Senior--1. Hui Lanakila (Mike Hangai, Manny Kulukulualani, Kelly Foster, Adam Treinen-Aea, Raven Aipa, Hayden Ramler), 10:56.91; 2. Lanikai, 10:58.10; 3. Outrigger, 11:10.80; 4. Kailua, 11:14.88.

Masters 40--1. Lanikai (Eckhart Diestel, Daniel Kauai, Eric Levora, Jeff Cummings, Scott Freitas, David Smith), 7:29.80; 2. Outrigger, 7:30.13; 3. Hui Nalu, 7:32.59; 4. Kailua, 7:38.31.

Masters 50--1. Kailua (Harrison Heen, Benny Quitevis, Kamoia Kalama, Nyle Warinner, Walter Hamasaki, Paul Hewlett), 3:51.79; 2. Hui Lanakila, 3:59.68; 3. Lanikai, 3:59.95; 4. Hui Nalu, 4:02.71.

Masters 55--1. Outrigger (Ken Bailey, Mark Buck, James Kincaid, Thomas Arnott, William Mowat, Chris Crabb), 3:53.12; 2. Kailua, 3:54.78; 3. Hui Lanakila, 4:03.20; 4. New Hope, 4:04.71.

Masters 60--1. Kailua (Mike Watson, Henry Leandro, Pat Goldstein, Allan Ouye, Robert Thurston, Gary Murakami), 4:05.84; 2. Outrigger, 4:08.98; 3. Lanikai, 4:19.86; 4. Anuenue, 4:21.83.

Open 4--1. Keahiakahoe (Carlton Helm, Kamuela Lau, Tyson Rodrigues, Judson McCandless), 3:56.50; 2. Lanikai, 3:58.28; 3. Healani, 4:04.94; 4. Kailua, 4:18.47.

Women

Novice B--1. Lanikai (Casey Cheney-O'Byrne, Megan Himmer, Amber Moorhead, Heather Dickens, Marisa Hallsted, Barb VanDerKamp), 2:15.76; 2. Kailua, 2:30.82; 3. Honolulu Pearl, 2:32.50; 4. Hui Lanakila, 2:33.69.

Novice A--1. Kailua (Tayte Brock, Debbie Solis, Mary Sullivan, Mele Coelho, Heather Gonsalves, Kahala Titcomb), 4:18.48; 2. Lanikai, 4:24.76; 3. Waikiki Surf Club, 4:28.80; 4. Hui Lanakila, 4:34.46.

Freshmen--1. Kailua (Jennifer Perell, Susan Maher, Sonia Garcia, Heidi Berengue, Page Chang, Stephanie Pratt), 8:32.26; 2. Hui Lanakila, 8:37.27; 3. Hui Nalu, 8:50.49; 4. Lanikai, 8:59.78.

Sophomore--1. Hui Nalu (Kehau Lau, Makena Coffman, Tia Blankenfeld, Rhanda Gumapac-McGuire, Magdalena Twigg-Smith, Taryn Dean), 9:03.39; 2. Lanikai, 9:23.78; 3. Healani, 9:29.17; 4. Kailua, 9:42.17.

Junior--1. Hui Lanakila (Deborah Rosenblum, Allison Sokei, Pauahi, Ioane, Lisa Martin, Kristi Lowry, Ilima Kim), 8:46.80; 2. Kailua, 9:31.58; 3. Healani, 9:31.82; 4. Lanikai, 9:35.26.

Senior--1. Hui Lanakila (Jessica Eames, Sarah Vandevanter, Michelle Bradley, Arlene Holzman, Robyn Singh, Katie Slocumb), 12:58.49; 2. Lanikai, 13:32.35; 3. Outrigger, 13:45.14; 4. Kailua, 13:50.64.

Masters 40--1. Outrigger (Mary Smolenski, Genie Kincaid, Karin Hansen, Laurie Lawson, Jenfer Horner, Kristin Haine), 8:37.74; 2. Lanikai, 8:37.96; 3. Kailua, 9:18.72; 4. Healani, 9:33.50.

Masters 50--1. Kailua (Kathy Erwin, Lois Wise, Carleen Ornellas, Chrystal Hogue, Vivian Griffin, Donna Kohls), 4:25.73; 2. Lanikai, 4:29.93; 3. Hui Nalu, 4:32.52; 4. Waimanalo, 4:34.50.

Masters 55--1. Lanikai (Judy Allen, Elizabeth, Dingeldein, Mary Duryea, Lani Twomey, Pamela Monahan, Suzi Mechler), 4:54.11; 2. Hui Nalu, 5:05.87; 3. Waimanalo, 5:36.71.

Masters 60--1. Outrigger (Ann Buck, Susan Heitzman, Sandra Simons, Maureen Kilcoyne, Michele St. John, Carol Cook), 5:08.65; 2. Kailua, 5:16.98; 3. Lanikai, 5:20.16.

Open 4--1. Hui Lanakila (Jennifer Asano, Jane McKee, Jamie Kincaid, Shannon Van Gieson), 4:45.51; 2. Lanikai, 5:09.00; 3. Kailua, 5:11.62; 4. Healani, 5:22.60.

Mixed

12-and-under--1. Kaioni (Charnell Lorenzo, Damien Apilando, Hawaiiloa Durante, Bryan Domingo, Brianne Apilando, Whitney Teramoto), 2:32.23; 2. Lanikai, 2:27.01; 3. Hui Lanakila, 2:39.01; 4. Leeward Kai, 2:41.92.

Novice B--1. Kaioni (Joan Acasio, Fernando Rangel, Sunny Wakana, Alison Prosek, Rhea Workman, William Grace), 2:05.87; 2. Lanikai, 2:09.75; 3. Leeward Kai, 2:13.33; 4. Waikiki Surf Club, 2:14.84.

Masters 40--1. New Hope (Phyllis Freitas, Craig Tottori, Christopher, Caldeira, Laurie Komeiji, Rhonda Suzuki, Blane Gaison), 4:14.93; 2. Lanikai, 4:15.49; 3. Waimanalo, 4:19.42; 4. Hui Nalu, 4:19.70.

Masters 55--1. Outrigger (Carol Arnott, Bill Bright, Douglas Bechert, Ruby Ifverson, Keanuenu Rochlen, Jim Iams), 4:44.73; 2. Lanikai, 4:38.33; 3. Hui Nalu, 4:41.80; 4. Kailua, 5:16.15.

Specials--1. Keahiakahoe (Bernie Suafoa-Tyrell, Lisa Matsuda, Samuel Keliihoomalu, Nicholas Ho, Keoni Kelly, Sherron Decosta), 3:58.60; 2. Hui Nalu, 3:59.75; 3. Lanikai, 4:01.01; 4. Hui Lanakila, 4:05.26.