

Monday, July 25, 2005

## PADDLING



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Kailua's freshman women, foreground, cruised to a win yesterday, helping their club to the OHCRA championship.

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## **Kailua paddles to OHCRA championship**

## **Lanikai finishes second and Hui Nalu third in a close regatta; Waimanalo wins the A Division**

By Kyle Galdeira  
Special to the Star-Bulletin

Prior to yesterday's Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Championships at Keehi Lagoon, it was unclear which club would paddle to victory.

Kailua put any speculation to rest as it claimed the AA Division (18-plus crews) with 77 points, just ahead of neighboring rival Lanikai (68) and Hui Nalu (60).

"It feels good," said Kailua head coach Jimmy Bruhn, whose club won seven races. "It's been close all year long, and we're fortunate and happy to win this trophy. It was a total club effort and everybody worked hard for it. We had to win this one."

Kailua and Lanikai shared last year's championship, so this race carried double the weight, as well as bragging rights.

"It's disappointing, but hats off to (Kailua)," Lanikai head coach Kalani Irvine said. "They out-paddled us today. The strategy that we put together didn't work out, and they countered us pretty well. It's tough because you always want to win, but you respect what they were able to pull off."

This turned out to be the last race of the season for Lanikai. It withdrew from the state championships because its canoes were initially deemed illegal due to the use of fiberglass in their construction. In May, the Hawaii Canoe Racing Association gave Lanikai a waiver that would have allowed them to compete in the Aug. 6 event at Hanakao Beach on Maui, but many club members had already made plans for the summer.

According to Irvine, the club will work with the HCRA after the season to interpret the wording of the rule regarding the modification of the traditional canoe design with fiberglass.

"Because we aren't going to states, some guys took an opportunity to get their houses in order so they can be ready for the distance season," said John Foti, a member of Lanikai's senior men's crew, which won the 1.5-mile race in 10 minutes, 47.12 seconds. "Since this was our last

opportunity to test everybody in a sprint situation, we wanted to make a statement."

The other crew members were: Ka'ai Bruhn, David Daniels, Jim Foti, George Leslie and Andrew Penny.



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Ursula Kaneaiakala kissed Waimanalo club's Dennis Sallas as teammate Raymond Li'i looked on after a win in the men's 55.

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After 18 events, Kailua had secured four victories and held a 35-31 lead over Hui Nalu and a 14-point lead over Lanikai.

Kailua relied on their experienced paddlers to hold onto the lead. The women's golden senior masters crew bolstered the club's point total by winning its sixth straight race.

"We have a fantastic, positive attitude and strong women," crew member Susie Oakland said. "It's an honor working with the women I'm with because they're all seasoned paddlers."

The crew, which finished the race in 4:48.11, also included Sarah Watson, Yvonne Keahi, Mimi Frank, Adrienne Wilson-Yamasaki and Mary Martin.

Waimanalo captured the A Division (17 crews or less) with 11 points, followed closely by Anuenue (10) and Leeward Kai (7).

Waimanalo was able to earn enough points, thanks in part to its men's golden senior masters crew, which completed an undefeated season after winning in 4:06.62, just a quarter-second ahead of Kailua.

"We have a good bunch of paddlers who've been paddling for years, so they know what it's all about," said the crew's steersman, Raymond Li'i.

The junior women of Hui Lanakila edged Kailua en route to an undefeated record. The crew of Allison Sokei, Michelle Arnold, Jen Von Ruden Pollard, Seraphina Earnes, Jody Kono-Kjeldsen and Dani Gay finished in 8:23.97.

"At the half-mile flag, we were unfocused, so I called a power change," Earnes said. "It took everyone holding on (through two changes) for that to work."

Five other crews finished the OHCRA season undefeated: Hui Lanakila's 18 girls and sophomore women; Kailua's 13 boys and freshman women; and Hui Nalu's women's senior masters.

"We paddled well, and the boat felt good," said Lita Blankenfeld of the aforementioned Hui Nalu crew. "All of us have been paddling for so long that we all know each other, so we just go out there and do our best."

According to race director Carol Young, there were no reports of jellyfish stings, which had caused regattas to be moved from Keehi Lagoon earlier in the season.

The HCRA State Championships are Aug. 6 on Maui for crews that have qualified.

"We're looking forward to states, and we'll throw everything in the pot and see if it comes out gold," said Bruhn.

This is the 26th anniversary of the OHCRA Oahu Championships. The organization is made up of 18 clubs represented by almost 3,000 paddlers.

PADDLING  
OHCRA  
Oahu championships  
At Keehi Lagoon  
Team standings

Division AA--1. Kailua, 77 points; 2. Lanikai, 68; 3. Hui Nalu, 60; 4. Hui Lanakila, 47; 5. Outrigger, 43; 6. Keahiakahoe, 30; 7. Waikiki Surf, 20; 8. Healani, 19; 9. New Hope, 0.  
Division A--1. Waimanalo, 11; 2. Anuenue, 10; 3. Leeward Kai, 7; t4. Keola O Ke Kai, Makaha, 6; 6. Kai Oni, 2; 7. Honolulu, 1; 8. Puuloa, 0.

### Boys

12-and-under--1. Keahiakahoe (Kaili Kaawa, Damien Marrero, Jonah Flores, Erik Owen Watts, Delson Kaloi, Kalei Kahookele), 2:10.50; 2. Waikiki Surf, 2:11.93; 3. Hui Nalu, 2:15.14; 4. Leeward Kai, 2:20.72.

13--1. Kailua (Jackson Stogner, Kealii Paaaoa, Kupono Kanehailua, Kanaiaupuni Sarkissian, Chas Bautista, Kawai Makuakane), 2:05.75; 2. Keahiakahoe, 2:08.43; 3. Outrigger, 2:12.78; 4. Keola O Ke Kai, 2:23.12.

14--1. Lanikai (Jason Campbell, Michael Dawson, Ryan Dolan, Nick Foti, Ryan Murphy, Caton Smith), 1:58.87; 2. Kailua, 2:03.19; 3. Anuenue, 2:03.42; 4. Leeward Kai, 2:05.07.

15--1. Lanikai (Conner Dowsett, Devon Ferguson, Beau Moody, Jack Roney, William Sandkuhler IV, Tim Steinmeier), 3:56.64; 2. Hui Nalu, 3:58.67; 3. Outrigger, 4:07.30; 4. Healani, 4:13.06.

16--1. Lanikai (Anthony Burris, Jason Keyes, Beau Moody, Jack Roney, Haakon Smith, Tim Steinmeier), 3:58.56; 2. Keahiakahoe, 3:59.97; 3. Hui Nalu, 4:06.51; 4. Waikiki Surf, 4:09.39.

18--1. Lanikai (Paul Casken, Benjamin Creps, Ryan Jones, Kirk Mueller, Matthew Nelms, Ian Smith), 7:45.48; 2. Keahiakahoe, 7:50.81; 3. Kailua, 8:09.90; 4. Waikiki Surf, 8:10.32.

### Girls

12--1. Waikiki Surf (Kailiponi McGee, Wewehi Ganeau, Kaleihiwa Naauao, Kahoku Keola, Makana Ane, Kehau Kelii), 2:32.94; 2. Anuenue, 2:33.28; 3. Waimanalo, 2:36.03; 4. Lanikai, 2:39.61.

13--1. Lanikai (Julia Anderson, Tiana Carstairs, Kanoelani Irvine, Samantha Moody, Hannah Smith, Tarah Sullivan), 2:21.16; 2. Kailua, 2:26.06; 3. Keahiakahoe, 2:26.52; 4. Anuenue, 2:27.83.

14--1. Leeward Kai (Brittany Nao, Grace Brack, Alexis Kamakea, Liana Kealoha, Charnelle Naone, Kourtney Kaaihue), 2:28.36; 2. Anuenue, 2:33.00; 3. Kailua, 2:34.90; 4. Hui Lanakila, 2:36.48.

15--1. Outrigger (Juliana Brown, Sarah Thacker, Leigh Cullinan, Jean Cullinan, Larissa Schienle, Brooke Hunter), 4:39.12; 2. Lanikai, 4:44.89; 3. Keahiakahoe, 4:45.43; 4. Kailua, 4:46.57.

16--1. Lanikai (Jessie Cleghorn, Elizabeth Hawkins-Mahaulu, Meghan Lau, Aileen Maldonado, Dawn Simunovich, Amy Wessberg), 4:28.75; 2. Hui Nalu, 4:36.31; 3. Kai Oni, 4:36.85; 4. Kailua, 4:45.80.

18--1. Hui Lanakila (Kauai Martinez, Kaipō Martinez, Leahī Frias, Kanoe Naauao-Kipapa, Kelso Campos, Lori Nakamura), 4:22.47; 2. Kailua, 4:41.54; 3. Keahiakahoe, 4:42.33; 4. Hui Nalu, 4:44.11.

### Men

Novice B--1. Hui Nalu (Jake Harris, Gare Schmalle, Damion Salazar, James Pallett, Nic Van Der Lee, James Ohta), 3:53.08; 2. Makaha, 3:53.70; 3. Hui Lanakila, 3:55.31; 4. Lanikai, 3:56.04.

Novice A--1. Kailua (Chris Tanaka, Brendan Keaney, Maui Wolfgram, Nolan Leopoldo, Kawika Kaita, Jesse Machado), 7:23.82; 2. Outrigger, 7:27.53; 3. Healani, 7:33.13; 4. Hui Lanakila, 7:33.43.

Freshmen--1. Outrigger (Kristin Brown, Bret Chuckovich, Mike Kane, Peter Van Lier Ribbink, Ben Komer, Zakary Paine), 7:09.79; 2. Kailua, 7:12.98; 3. Hui Nalu, 7:15.96; 4. Lanikai, 7:19.78.

Sophomore--1. Healani (Taparui Worthington, Mike Beyers, Kealii Paiaina, Jim Farnam, Che Sabol, Kalama Heine), 6:49.12; 2. Lanikai, 6:57.11; 3. Outrigger, 7:11.80.

Junior--1. Kailua (Chris Bartels, Vili Malamala, Donovan Leandro, Kevin Thompson, Jason Ignacio, Kawai Mahoe), 7:04.72; 2. Lanikai, 7:11.03; 3. Hui Nalu, 7:17.82; 4. Outrigger, 7:19.14.

Senior--1. Lanikai (Ka'ai Bruhn, David Daniels, John Foti, Jim Foti, George Leslie, Andrew Penny), 10:47.12; 2. Outrigger, 10:52.88; 3. Healani, 10:55.01; 4. Kailua, 11:15.20.

Masters--1. Lanikai (Jeff Cummins, John Foti, Tom Conner, Eric Levora, Pete Roney, David Smith), 7:15.42; 2. Hui Lanakila, 7:21.89; 3. Hui Nalu, 7:25.17; 4. Outrigger, 7:26.86.

Senior masters--1. Hui Lanakila (Lindsey Todd, Allan Moon, Aaron Zoller, William Ward, Don Isaacs, Butch Ukishima), 3:53.96; 2. Waimanalo, 3:54.96; 3. Outrigger, 4:01.04; 4. Hui Nalu, 4:04.70.

Golden masters--1. Waimanalo (Meiner Loka Li'i, Dennis Sallas, Joe Perry, Billie Mowatt, Jeff Metzger, Raymond Li'i), 4:06.62; 2. Kailua, 4:06.87; 3. Keahiakahoe, 4:11.16; 4. Hui Lanakila, 4:13.15.

Open 4--1. Hui Nalu (Mark Cluney, Chris Ball, Todd Sandvold, Nalu Kukea), 3:55.46; 2. Keahiakahoe, 4:01.21; 3. Healani, 4:10.34; 4. Lanikai, 4:11.26.

## Women

Novice B--1. Kailua (Christian Mele Coelho, Brynn Leake, Jessica Baguchirsky, Brianne Christenson, Lisa Hyde, Julie Doheney), 2:12.80; 2. Waikiki Surf, 2:22.20; 3. Hui Nalu, 2:27.00; 4. Healani, 2:27.73.

Novice A--1. Hui Nalu (Lisa AhSing, Barbara Craft, Julie Wassel, Marsha Durbin, Crystal Castillo, Kristin Herrick), 4:19.62; 2. Kailua, 4:23.30; 3. Lanikai, 4:28.26; 4. Hui Lanakila, 4:31.12.

Freshmen--1. Kailua (Drae Kahale-Clemens, Kathy Novack, Jenny Handley, Dale Omohundro, Kisha Hudson, Lisa Barney), 8:26.87; 2. Lanikai, 8:34.71; 3. Hui Lanakila, 8:38.26; 4. Hui Nalu, 8:44.51.

Sophomore--1. Hui Lanakila (Kapuaola Gellert, Tracy Kane, Tina Handley, Lisa Martin, Jennifer Asano, Loretta Toth), 8:04.83; 2. Outrigger, 8:17.76; 3. Hui Nalu, 8:23.23; 4. Kailua, 8:26.08.

Junior--1. Hui Lanakila (Allison Sokei, Michelle Arnold, Jen Von Ruden Pollard, Seraphina Eames, Jody Kono-Kjeldsen, Dani Gay), 8:23.97; 2. Kailua, 8:24.74; 3. Hui Nalu, 8:43.52; 4. Outrigger, 9:05.88.

Senior--1. Hui Lanakila (Gail Grabowsky, Deborah Rosenblum, Jane McKee, Arlene Holzman, Jessie Eames, Katie Slocumb), 12:34.00; 2. Kailua, 13:08.63; 3. Hui Nalu, 13:14.36; 4. Healani, 14:23.16.

Masters--1. Hui Lanakila (Gail Grabowsky, Deborah Rosenblum, Kristi Lowry, Jane McKee, Pauahi Ioane, Ilima Kim), 8:21.45; 2. Hui Nalu, 8:43.27; 3. Kailua, 8:46.20; 4. Outrigger, 9:12.68.

Senior masters--1. Hui Nalu (Lurline McGregor, Mary Fern, Marcia Omura, K.T. Scott, Lindsey Styan, Lita Blankenfeld), 4:39.72; 2. Lanikai, 4:53.75; 3. Outrigger, 4:56.74; 4. Waimanalo, 5:04.68.

Golden masters--1. Kailua (Sarah Watson, Yvonne Keahi, Mimi Frank, Adrienne Wilson-Yamasaki, Susie Oakland, Mary Martin), 4:48.11; 2. Hui Nalu, 4:58.59; 3. Outrigger, 5:00.15; 4. Lanikai, 5:01.36.

Open 4--1. Outrigger (Kanesa Duncan, Laurie Lawson, Malia Kamisugi, Elizabeth Perry), 4:56.39; 2. Kailua, 4:57.87; 3. Hui Lanakila, 4:59.84; 4. Keahiakahoe, 5:01.79.

#### Mixed

12--1. Kailua (Kainoa Makua, Alia Kaneshiro, Tehani Linkner, Kanoë Oguma, Sean Pedrina, Klayden Kanehailua), 2:24.65; 2. Makaha, 2:28.90; 3. Hui Lanakila, 2:33.67; 4. Anuenue, 2:36.68.

Open--1. Hui Nalu (Pono Tuinei, Ellen Komatsu, Lani Luna, Danny Louie, Jay Rea, Batt Beals), 4:06.72; 2. Lanikai, 4:10.81; 3. Kailua, 4:12.55; 4. Healani, 4:13.15.

Novice B--1. Keola O Ke Kai (Dlisa Ancheta, John Omerod, Sonny Makalena, James Kagawa, Rana Dias, Joelyn Victor), 2:06.12; 2. Keahiakahoe, 2:06.87; 3. Waikiki Surf, 2:09.68; 4. Honolulu, 2:11.41.

Masters--1. Healani (Norma Santiago, Douglas Jenkins, Rueben Cabinero, Tracy Kihune, Heather Cottrell, Robyn Nonaka), 4:07.91; 2. Lanikai, 4:09.83; 3. Kailua, 4:14.09; 4. Hui Lanakila, 4:15.52.

Golden masters--1. Waikiki Surf (Michael Tongg, Robert Kaneshiro, Cedric Choy, Fay Leong, Patricia Arakawa, Cindy Sharp), 4:35.97; 2. Hui Nalu, 4:37.39; 3. Kailua, 4:42.55; 4. Keahiakahoe, 4:45.11.

#### Specials

1. Waimanalo (Herbert Kaio-Campbell, Lowen Tynanes-Perez, Kekona Werener, Jacob Nakasone, Rachel Koma, Ku'u lei Mahoe-Moses), 2:17.77; 2. Outrigger, 2:17.26; 3. Healani, 2:23.35; 4. Hui Nalu, 2:23.66.