

Sunday, August 4, 2002

[PADDLING]



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Hui Lanakila won the men's Novice A one-mile race in yesterday's Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association's state regatta in Hilo. The club finished seventh overall in the AA division.

Hawaiian tops in state

**Maui clubs sweep the
3 divisions of yesterday's regatta**

By Cindy Luis
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HILO >> The movie "Blue Crush" hasn't been released yet, but the paddling version took Hilo Bay by storm yesterday.

Hawaiian Canoe Club, its colors blue and white, crushed the competition yesterday to win the overall title of the 50th Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association's state regatta. The Maui club successfully repeated as state champ, leading a sweep of Valley Isle clubs.

Hawaiian won the AAA division (18-plus crews) with 353 points, holding off a late challenge by the Big Island's Kai Opua (309). Outrigger of Oahu won the 37th and final event to clinch third place with 239 points, while 2000 state champion Lanikai was fourth at 222.

In the AA Division (9-17 crews), Kihei of Maui passed Kaneohe during the afternoon races to finish with 137 points. Kaneohe and Healani tied for second with 129 points.

Wailea rode three victories -- men's freshmen and junior, and mixed open -- to the A Division (1-7 crews) championship. Wailea scored 79 points to Keahiakahoe's 67, while Keoua claimed third with 52 points. Just five points separated third from fifth place in the division that had the most clubs -- 32 of the 52 -- entered.

"Wow," said Hawaiian head coach Diane Ho. "What a day. It all started with the kids and we went from there."

The famed Hilo rain began around noon. But Hawaiian poured it on long before that. The Maui club won the first three events and finished second in the fourth. After seven races, Hawaiian had five wins, a second and a fourth for 99 points.

It was a commanding lead that was threatened briefly when Kai Opua swept the four upper-division women (freshmen through senior) races, won the men's sophomore and senior races and then added a victory in the women's 55. The seven victories in nine races pulled Kai Opua to within 46 points of Hawaii.

THE WINNERS

Division AAA: Hawaiian
AA: Kihei
A: Wailea

It got down to a 40-point gap, 326-286, with three races to go, but Hawaiian picked up 26 points over the final events to Kai Opua's 23 to hold on.

There were several races within the race, including the battle in the blue-ribbon senior men's 1 1/2-mile event that had the two top contenders next to each other. Lanikai, Lane 1, saw its remarkable winning streak end at 10 after Kai Opua, in Lane 2, took the lead with a quarter-mile left to win by fewer than four seconds.

Although it likely didn't affect the outcome, Lanikai was slowed when an official boat created a wake that had the canoe bouncing with about an eighth of a mile left.

"We were in a silent zone, got into our rhythm," said Nate Hendricks, who stroked Kai Opua to wins in the men's sophomore and senior races. "We were chasing them and finally caught them before the last turn."

Kai Opua came out of the final turn first and began to pull away. The wake was a problem for Lanikai, but "what are you going to do?" said Lanikai steersman Jim Foti. "You can't take anything away from them. They were ahead of us at that point. We just wanted to have the chance to surge on them, but they were going to win it. They were solid, paddled a real consistent race, and didn't freak when we were ahead."

"It's gotta end some time."

In the Lanikai canoe was Hendricks' brother-in-law Mike Judd.

Hendricks' wife, Carrie Sue, also picked up two gold medals in the Kai Opua's sophomore and senior women's crews. In both events, Kai Opua beat out Hui Nalu, which had swept the four upper-division women's races at the Oahu championships.

"Hui Nalu was right there the whole way," said Kai Opua steersman Jackie Taylor. "They didn't let down and we had to work hard the whole way. We had to be efficient, there was no room for error."

Added Hendricks: "We have two gears: hard and harder. We knew if we didn't put the hammer down in the last half-mile ... that was the time we kicked it up."

Kai Opua's margin of victory in the four women's races ranged from 12 seconds in the junior race to three seconds in the senior.

"We thought we'd have a chance to win it all," said Kai Opua coach Mike Atwood. "What helped us was our kids. Even though Hawaiian was winning a lot of the events, we were picking up points."

Just not enough.

It all started for Hawaiian with the win in the regatta opener. Hawaiian captured the quarter-mile race by three seconds. The crew began to pull away midway through the race.

"It was flat, easy to steer," said steersman Tatiana Piena. "In the middle of the race, we do our 'turbos' and power it."



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Shanadee Canon and Haliah Travis of Hawaiian Canoe Club embraced after winning their race in yesterday's state regatta. Malia Samson, left, and Monica Shiroma looked on.

Said crew member Malia Purdy: "I think this determines the whole day, starting out like this."

After the first few races, Ho didn't want to appear too confident.

"It's a nice way to start," she said. "But we need to end it like this."

Although Hawaiian didn't win again after the seventh race, nine hours after the regatta began, the club was celebrating in the rain. As its last crew 35 men, came to shore, the club members began chanting a welcome for their new canoe.

"It feels great to win it again," Ho said. "We learned how to do it. When the kids took off this morning, we knew that it was ours to lose."

Notes: Hawaiian is only the second neighbor island club to win the state title. Hanalei did it in 1982. ... The state race will be at Keehi Lagoon on Oahu the next two years. ... The regatta was only four events old when it had its first double gold medalist. Hawaiian's Kaimiloao Kealoha steered his boys-12 crew to the win in Event 2 then paddled in the winning boys-13 event two races later. ... Honored yesterday for their work for the various associations were Ho (Maui), June Leialoha (Hui Wa'a), Wally Froiseth (OHCRA), Earl Paleka (Molokai), Nick Beck (Kauai) and Arnold Nathaniel (Big Island). Froiseth, who steered the winning senior men's crew for Waikiki Surf Club at the inaugural state race, said he was pleased how the sport had grown. "I love seeing all the koa canoes and the young kids enjoying the sport," he said. "We didn't have many races the first time (nine in 1952). To see it come to this is just wonderful."

PADDLING

HCRA

State Championship

At Hilo Bay

Team standings

AAA division--1. Hawaiian, 353 pts. 2. Kai Opuu, 309. 3. Outrigger, 239. 4. Lanikai, 222. 5. Hui Nalu, 216. 6. Kailua, 211. 7. Hui Lanakila, 208.

AA division--1. Kihei, 137. 2. Kaneohe, 129. 3. Healani, 129. 4. Puna, 123. 5. Kawaihae, 109. 6. Kahana, 108. 7. Lokahi, 93. 8. Hanalei, 82. 9. Waikiki Surf, 76. 10. Wa'akapaemua, 75. 11. Na Keiki O Ka Moi, 67. 12. Koa Kai, 66.

A division--1. Wailea, 79. 2. Keahiakahoe, 67. 3. Keoua, 52. 4. Keauhou O Kona, 51. 5. Lae'ula O Kai 50. 6. Manu O Ke Kai, 49. 7. Kamehameha-Hawaii 48. 8. (tie) Anuenue, Windward Kai, Waikiki Yacht Club, 41. 11 (tie) Kai E Hitu, Na Kai Ewalu, 33. 13. Keaukaha, 32. 14. Molokai, 29. 15. Mana'e, 27.

16. (tie) Kaiola, Kalihi Kai, 24. 18. Kamehameha-Oahu, 23. 19. Napili, 22. 20. Hui Wa'a O Waiakea, 21. 21. (tie) Waikiki Beach Boys, Niumalu, 20. 23. Hawaiian Outrigger, 15. 24. (tie) Na Wa'a Hanakahi, Waikoloa, 9. 26. Lahaina, 8. 27. (tie) Kailana, Kumulokahi Elks, 6. 29. Puuwai, 5. 30. (tie) Leeward Kai, Alapa Hoe, 4. 32. Waimanalo 0.

Boys

12-and-under--(1/4 mile): 1. Hawaiian (Kaponu Naeole, Mana Rosa, Kaapuni Aiwohi, Kilipaki Benavides, Chance Valle, Kaimiloao Kealoha), 1:49.91. 2. Kai Opuu, 1:55.93. 3. Kaneohe, 1:56.59.

13--(1/4 mile): 1. Hawaiian (Woodbridge Brown Jr., Erino Bascar, Ikaika Sniffen, Kaimiloao Kealoha, Emery Casio, Kaikaika Nance), 1:45.08. 2. Kaneohe, 1:47.72. 3. Keahiakahoe, 1:48.75.

14--(1/4 mile): 1. Hawaiian (Kekupaa Naeole, Michael Delacruz, Kona Porras-Ragsdale, Barrett Maioho, Nainoa Awo, Kaikaika Nance), 1:39.68. 2. Lanikai, 1:40.48. 3. Hui Nalu, 1:42.28.

15--(1/2 mile): 1. Lanikai (Jonny Kono, Kelly Wilkins, Kahea Williams, Cody Edmunds, Chris Yamashita, Ian Smith), 3:50.58. 2. Kaneohe, 3:52.81. 3. Outrigger, 3:56.32.

16--(1/2 mile): 1. Lanikai (Tim Dolan, Keith Beers, Evan Fujioka, Matthew Crowley, Chris Chapman, Zane Chess), 3:42.62. 2. Outrigger, 3:45.05. 3. Hui Nalu, 3:48.18.

18--(1 mile): 1. Kailua (Kea Sheldon, Justin Akana, Taani Wolfgramm, Kaimi Brede, Neilan Madrid, Nahian Leehoy), 7:34.34. 2. Outrigger, 7:38.34. 3. Keoua, 7:39.69.

Girls

12-and-under--(1/4 mile): 1. Hawaiian (Malia Purdy, Jessica Laanui, Shantyll DeFrancia, Ashley Rosa, Klarissa Keahi, Tatiana Piena), 1:55.52. 2. Keahiakahoe, 1:58.70. 3. Kai Opu, 1:59.94.

13--(1/4 mile): 1. Hawaiian Outrigger (Alyson Ayers, Shanadee Canon, Malia Samson, Monica Shiroma, Halialoha Travis, Brianne Villarosa), 2:11.25. 2. Hawaiian, 2:16.41. 3. Kaneohe, 2:16.81.

14--(1/4 mile): 1. Kaneohe (Lehua Tabadero, Precious Vincent, Angela Oka, Kawena Kawainui, Mari Aubuchon, Titi Kawainui), 1:56.85. 2. Kai E Hitu, 1:57.96. 3. Kai Opu, 1:58.47.

15--(1/2 mile): 1. Outrigger (Halli Valnlier Ribbink, Kellen Fletcher, Angela Giancaterino, Dena Cassella, Jamie Pietsch, Meleana Carr), 4:21.20. 2. Hawaiian, 4:28.49. 3. Hui Lanakila, 4:29.13.

16--(1/2 mile): 1. Outrigger (Sally Torkildson, Krista Bourne, Amy Lawson, Alicia Arnott, Jennifer Tokin, Avery Anne Cavanah), 4:18.72. 2. Waikiki Surf, 4:22.47. 3. Healani, 4:24.28.

18--(1/2 mile): 1. Kamehameha-Hawaii (Anya Tagawa, Jo-Lyn Mehau, Misty Akana, Malia Kipapa, Chevy Baybayan, Lehua Nihipali), 4:22.27. 2. Hanalei, 4:23.08. 3. Waikiki Surf, 4:28.55.

Men

Novice A--(1 mile): 1. Hui Lanakila (Mike Szewczyk, Jeff Juell, Byron Martinez, Scott Shibuya, Jay Griffin, Adam Treinen-Aea), 7:18.48. 2. Hawaiian, 7:24.16. 3. Kaiola, 7:32.95.

Novice B--(1/2 mile): 1. Hui Lanakila (Robert Keller, Mark Riegel, Allen Mahuka, Scott Melemai, Tino Campos, Gavin Hanoa), 3:45.64. 2. Kahana, 3:50.19. 3. Hui Wa'a O Waiakea, 3:55.71.

Sophomores--(1 mile): 1. Kai Opu (Nathan Hendricks, Kyle Youderian, Scott Jones, R. Steven Boreri, Jason Hauanio, Bruce Ayau), 6:52.12. 2. Lanikai, 6:55.95. 3. Hui Lanakila, 7:01.07.

Juniors--(1 mile): 1. Wailea (Mark Cluney, Peter Konohia, Jacob Abeytia, Tony Calderon, Felipe Gomes, Kekoa Cramer), 7:03.88. 2. Hui Nalu, 7:14.81. 3. Lanikai, 7:16.15.

Seniors--(1 1/2 miles): 1. Kai Opu (Nathan Hendricks, Kyle Youderian, Scott Jones, R. Steven Boreri, Jason Hauanio, Bruce Ayau), 10:22.93. 2. Lanikai, 10:26.27. 3. Healani, 10:27.00.

Masters--(1 mile): 1. Outrigger (Karl Heyer, Marc Haine, Geoff Graf, Walter Guild, Courtney Seto, Todd Bradley), 7:21.22. 2. Hui Lanakila, 7:29.70. 3. Hawaiian, 7:38.00.

Senior masters--(1/2 mile): 1. Keauhou O Kona (Lambert Leeloy, George Aboad, Bob Bruce, Bruce Clifford, Bill Harmar, Ken Powell), 3:39.01. 2. Hui Lanakila, 3:39.67. 3. Lokahi, 3:43.63.

Golden masters--(1/2 mile): 1. Kawaihae (Christopher Roehrig, Bob Monsen, Dave Powell, Jim Budde, Dave Reitow, Gary Madina), 3:49.36. 2. Kailua, 3:50.31. 3. Hui Lanakila, 3:58.42.

Open 4--(1/2 mile): 1. Lanikai (George Leslie, Jeff Cummings, Cory Mehau, Scott Freitas), 3:52.99. 2. Kailua, 3:57.38. 3. Na Keiki O Ka Moi, 4:00.38.

Women

Novice A--(1/2 mile): 1. Kai Opua (Tiapepe Ulufaleilupe-Middleton, Le Ann De Mello, Audrey Bocock, Deanna Marks, Michelle Norment, Darcy Daniel), 4:18.05. 2. Healani, 4:19.79. 3. Kahana, 4:21.27.

Juniors--(1 mile): 1. Kai Opua (Jessica Eames, Rebekah Lussiaa, Ronona Della Cioppa, Patricia Earnes, Wendy Simmons, Nicki Lacey-Enos), 8:13.47. 2. Hui Nalu, 8:25.85. 3. Wailea, 8:31.13.

Seniors--(1 1/2 miles): 1. Kai Opua (Carrie Sue Hendricks, Cheryl Villegas, Beth Graves, Cherisse Kelii, Amy Young, Jackie Taylor), 12:08.09. 2. Hui Nalu, 12:11.30. 3. Kailua, 12:34.83.

Masters--(1 mile): 1. Hui Nalu (Linda Fernandez, Lorey Bode, Ginger Lockette, Ann Malama, Lois Wise-Akana, Denise Darval-Chang), 8:18.15. 2. Kihei, 8:46.69. 3. Kalihi Kai, 8:54.51.

Senior masters--(1/2 mile): 1. Kihei (Colleen Ford, Pua Williams, Iris Mountcastle, Vanessa Weiss, Anita Anderson, Lea Giddens), 4:23.33. 2. Wa'akapaemua, 4:24.24. 3. Kai Opua, 4:24.80.

Golden masters--(1/2 mile): 1. Kai Opua (Carol Clifford, Avis McCarthy, Helen Wood, Janet Marrack, Ann Zambrano, Annie Ferren), 4:45.45. 2. Outrigger, 4:48.55. 3. Kihei, 4:49.43.

Open 4--(1/2 mile): 1. Hanalei (Kara Stokosbary, Kimberlee Stuart, Marcia King, Kainoa Forrest), 4:33.67. 2. Hui Lanakila, 4:39.12. 3. Lae'ula O Kai, 4:48.41.

Mixed

12-and-under--(1/4 mile): 1. Hawaiian (Chloe-Beth Magsayo-Vegas, Robert Carroll, Tiffanie Echiverri, Kurtis Kala, Kaeo U'u, Arianna Gerry), 1:58.76. 2. Keoua, 2:01.89. 3. Lokahi, 2:03.55.

Novice B--(1/4 mile): 1. Kamehameha-Hawaii (Shelly Ogata, Steven Lee, Neal Kateley, Eli Kipilii, Diane Fournier, Mary Hauanio), 1:46.93. 2. Kaneohe, 1:48.05. 3. Hui Lanakila, 1:49.86.

Masters--(1/2 mile): 1. Kai Opua (Michael Atwood, Harrison Heen, Freddie Berengue, Margaret Spencer, Mary Jo Bye, Susan Shaw), 3:58.50. 2. Lanikai, 4:02.00. 3. Hawaiian, 4:03.01.

Senior masters--(1/2 mile): 1. Keauhou O Kona (Kalani Delovio, Jane Bockus, Karen Van Pelt, Jim Higgins, Sharon Stanbro, Lorrin Ching), 4:12.71. 2. Kailua, 4:14.27. 3. Kawaihae, 4:21.72.

Open--(1/2 mile): 1. Wailea (Stuart Jeffries, Eric Mitchell, Jessica Floyd, Ramone Mullen, Carly Mitchell, Kerri Mitchell), 3:50.50. 2. Hawaiian, 3:53.91. 3. Kai Opuu, 3:54.98.