DR. HUFFAKER ALMOST DEFEATS ALENUIHAHA CHANNEL

Dr. Harry Huffaker, a channel swimmer super-extraordinare, battled and lost by only a few miles in his gallant attempt to become the first person to swim at 32 mile Alenuihaha Channel.

Huffaker's 17 hours and 7 minutes in the chilly water was a heart-breaking prelude to failure. But, swimming in the tradition of the Outrigger Canoe Club, Huffaker was even more valiant than the day he conquered the Molokai Channel.

To have accompanied him was an honor; but, to witness his ultimate defeat brought a lump to the throat. Our hopes and prayers had mentally pulled him through the gray waters.

Outrigger is proud of you, Harry Huffaker. We salute your courage. And we predict your ultimate triumph over the Alenuibaha Channel

Overall direction of the channel swim effort was by John Marshall assisted by Ron Haworth, Dr. Bob Smith and Bruce Ames. Special thanks go to Zander Budge, owner-skipper of the escort boat "Spooky Luki," and his sons Peter and Alexander.

A more complete story with pictures will appear in next month's FORECAST.