the III COCE JUNE 2003

Published by the Outrigger Canoe Club for Members and Guests at Home and Abroad

OCC Members Dominate the Kanaka Ikaika Series

By Sue Brown, Chair OC-1 and Surfski Committee

Congratulations to OCC members for an outstanding performance in the 2003 Kanaka Ikaika OC-1 and Surfski season. Approximately 25 OCC members entered each race with the largest turnout for the Hawaii Kai races which ended in our own backyard.

Karel Tresnak Jr. dominated the OC-1 long course division, winning six out of seven races going into the state championships, pushed by OCC member Mike Judd who often finished a close second.

In the regular season Surfski division, Steve Kelly won all but one race that he entered, finishing behind OCC members Mike Beyers, Sean Monahan and Tom Allen. Paula Crabb continued to be a strong challenger in the women's OC-1 long course division, and Mary Smolenski was a standout in the Surfski division.

On the OC-2, Kisi Haine and Ann Marie Mizuno proved a duo to contend with, winning all races entered. In the short course Surfski division, Allan Dowsett finished the regular season undefeated, while Novice B OC-1 paddler Will Estes battled for a top three finish each race.

Howling winds and a substantial south swell made for epic conditions in the State Championship Race. In keeping with tradition, OCC paddlers dominated both the long (23 miles from Makai Pier to Sand Island) and short course (15 miles from Hawaii Kai to Sand Island).

Karel Tresnak Jr. and Mike Judd took first and second in the OC-1 long course division; also placing in the top ten were Mark Rigg, sixth and Walter Guild, ninth. Rounding out the top 20 were Tapa Worthington, Jimmy Austin, Bill Pratt, Ian Forrester, and Eric Levora.

OCC Surfski paddlers swept the long course division with Sean Monahan, Mike Beyer, Steve Kelly and Tim Twigg-Smith placing first, second, fourth and fifth, respectively. Sue Brown and Mary Smolenski finished first and third for the women.

Todd Bradley, Marc Haine, Tom Conner and Paki Vaughan battled in the short course, finishing a close second, third, fourth and sixth overall. Also in the OC-1 division, Gaylord Wilcox and Tay Perry finished first and third in their age division. Paula Crabb won the women's OC-1 short course and Allan Dowsett remained undefeated in the Surfski short course.

Congratulations to all Kanaka Ikaika paddlers for a season well done.

The performance of OCC members in solo competitions is undoubtedly a result of hard work, but also all that the OCC has to offer: easy access to the water, OC-1 and Surfski lockers, a boat trailer for Hawaii Kai runs, locker rooms and weight training facilities, not to mention continued support from the general membership, all contribute to the success of our individual paddlers.

In addition, special thanks goes to Walter Guild for his time and patience in running the morning training sessions for OC-1 and Surfski paddlers. The results speak for themselves.

On the Cover: Mark Eliashof paddles past Diamond Head. For a wrap up of the Kanaka Ikaika season, see page 9. Photo by JOSS4.com