

Kanaka Ikaika Poai Puni Series

By Bill Danford

hirty-nine men ranging in age from 19 years, Karel Tresnak, to Tay Perry, Norm Dunmire, Norman Ho in their early 60s, along with 14 women ranging in maturity from teenager Lindsey Norcross to Paula Crabb, have been participating in races since January in open ocean competition in the O-1, O-2 and surf ski open and age group divisions in the Kanaka Ikaika Poai Puni Series.

Tresnak, last year's Starbuck's Molokai World Championship O-1 Open Men's paddler and summer addition to our Club's Intermediate membership, is the leader of the Poai Puni Point Series. Karel also traveled to New Zealand on March 5 where he competed against the best O-1 canoe competitors below the equator and won first over all in the men's open division. For those of our membership who know of his work ethic, it is not surprising that he is able to train, stay enrolled as a full-time student at UH Manoa, work in Tresnak Senior's shop, and live a normal life.

His closest competition is his racing partner Kai Bartlett, and of course, our own past World Champion Mark

Rigg. Donna Kahakui continues to hold on to her title although she was defeated by a Big Island competitor in a race from Hawaii Kai to the Surf Club Halau on March 5. This only makes for a better second half of racing and the eventual state championship on May 14, and the solo world championship title on May 28 across the Molokai or Kaiwi Channel.

All in all, Club participants have fared very well in the open men and women's divisions as well as the age group O-1 and surf ski competition. Karel Tresnak and Donna Kahakui lead the open division point series through six races in the O-1 category along with perennial top five finishers Walter Guild and Mark Rigg.

In the surf ski open men's division, OCC member Sean Monahan and Iim Beaton continue to be in the top five spots along with Bill Bright, Kala Judd and David Buck in the age group division standings.

Other standout club participants in the O-1 canoe class Billy Balding, Andrew Glatzel, Chris Kincaid, Courtney Seto, Jeff Metzger, Gaylord Wilcox, Chris Crabb, Paula Crabb, Mary Smolenski and Tay Perry.



Chris Kincaid

Ikaika Kincaid

Gaylord Wilcox

Eric Levora

Rick Leton

Preparing for the Oahu, State and Molokai events are Tom Allen, Ian Forester, Mark Sandvold, Marc Haine, Howard Word, Walter Guild and Mark Rigg.

are: O-1 Men Billy Balding Todd Bradley Bret Chuckovich Chris Crabb Norman Dunmire John Finney

Norman Ho

OCC participants

Scot Mcphail Jeff Metzger George Pray Tay Perry Mark Rigg Andrew Glatzel Gregg Robertson Walter Guild Mark Sandvold Marc Haine Courtney Seto Todd Hart Ray Suganuma Byron Ho Karel Tresnak

Worthington O-1 Women Paula Crabb Kelly Fey Donna Kahakui Gay Mcphail Tracy Selling Mary Smolenski Surf Ski Men Tom Allen Iim Beaton Bill Bright David Buck Bill Danford

Mark Eliashof Kala Judd Iim Kincaid Nalu Kukea Sean Monahan Marshall Rosa Tim Twigg-Smith Surf Ski Women **Jennifer Bossert** Susan Brown Kelsev Buell Lindsey Norcross Maggie Twigg Smith Kelly Wong

Championship Races This Month for Kayakers and OC 1s

By Genie Kincaid

ay is show time as the oneman canoe and kayak sea-Ason culminates with the big races. The popular Kaiwi Challenge has paddlers making open ocean changes on one-man or two-man outrigger canoes as teams race from Molokai to Oahu. 1999 champions Mark Rigg and Marc Haine will have to use all of their experience to hold off the tide of youth which appears to be flooding the elite ranks.

The course for Kanaka Ikaika's State Championships has changed this year, taking racers on a favorable downhill run from Hawaii Kai to Ewa Beach Park.

Finally, Dean Gardiner and Karel Tresnak, Jr. will defend their 1999 titles in the kayak and oneman divisions of Kanaka Ikaika's

solo crossing from Molokai to Oahu. Here are the key dates for this month:

Kaiwi Challenge May 7 sponsored by CanoeSports. Molokai to Outrigger Canoe Club, 40 miles OC1 (2 paddlers) and OC2 (3 person teams) only.

May 14 State Championships sponsored by Kanaka Ikaika. Hawaii Kai to Ewa Beach Park, 20 miles. OC1, OC2 and surfskis.

Molokai Solo Challenge May 28 sponsored by Kanaka Ikaika. Molokai to Hawaii Kai Towne Center, 32 miles. OC2 and surtskis.

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Lani Yukimura, Koa's Mom, Koa Yukimura, 1998 Kauai High School Graduate - Hawaii Pacific University

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1999 Punabou Graduate, Mara Pavich -University of Redlands



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On the Cover: OCC one-man canoers and surf skiers paddle around the Diamond Head Buoy in preparation for the upcoming Oahu, State and Molokai championships. Story on page 11. Photo by Joss (www.hawaiiphotosessions.com)