

Team Outrigger Kayak and One Man Canoe

By Bill Danford

The 1997 Kayak and One Man Canoe season will again cover approximately 50 miles of varied race courses off of the northeast, east, and south shorelines of Oahu. Already our Club members have competed in four of the scheduled 10 Kanaka Ikaika "Poai Puni Series" plus several of the Neighbor Island races.

The regular season will culminate with the Oahu and State Championship held off of Oahu's shoreline and the grand finale formally known as the Bankoh Kayak and One Man Canoe Molokai to Oahu crossing.

Up to this printing, Wyatt Jones leads with three firsts and a second, but directly behind him in a race for total points is Marshall

Rosa. Jim Beaton, David Buck, Nalu Kukea, Kala Judd, and Alfred Homer are positioning themselves for top positions in the total point standings.

Kelly Fey, defending champion, is starting off slow because of her work schedule, but Nicole Wilcox will force her to step up her level of intensity if she wants to retain her title this year. Nicole won the last race upping the ante in the women's division. Look for Sarah Ackerman, Mary Smolenski, and Vanessa Lowe Beaton in the coming month's point standings.

Bill Mowat, Tim Twigg-Smith, Jim Kincaid, Tom McTigue and Mark Buck should do well in their respective age groups.

The One Man Canoe competition has shown a continued surge

in competitors this season. Walter Guild has a firm hold on second in the point standings after four races, but look for last year's Molokai champion, Mark Rigg, to kick in to final form.

Rounding off the top 10 are Courtney Seto, Todd Bradley, Mark Haine, Tom Conner, Chris Kincaid, Mark Sandvold, and Bill Pratt. Look for Robby Harrison, Dale Hope, Karl Heyer IV, Jeff Metzger, Alan Pflueger, Byron Ho, Dean Stowell, Chris Crabb, Tay Perry, and Ralph Grey to show well in their respective age group standings as the season progresses.

Diana Clifford, Mary Smolenski, Cathy Whitford, Megan Clark, and Possie Dudgeon have all been competing in the women's short and long course

races.

The 1997 Kayak and One Man Canoe committee includes David Buck, Jim Beaton, Jeff Metzger, Bill Pratt, and Chairperson Bill Danford. Dave Buck will have the results posted on the bulletin boards in the Tunnel the day after each race with individual point standings for the open and age groups.

Also, the committee will submit coverage of the next four races plus a final story on the Oahu, State, and Molokai Championships.

In April, Kala Judd will be conducting a one day clinic on open ocean kayaking and one man canoeing. Check at the Front Desk for the date. ☐