

HCRA Regatta Long, Late, Windy and

By David Horner, Head Coach

It was Friday, August 6th that I flew over to Kahului, Maui to help other Outrigger members prepare for the Hawaiian Canoe Racing State Championship canoe race. We were finally here after a tough but successful season that brought two regatta championships, including the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Championship held at Keehi Lagoon on July 25th.

As we set up for the race, it was very windy. In fact, I'm sure that we would have found the big bad wolf blowing some poor pig's house down if we looked around enough. That made me a bit nervous that the race was going to take a long time the next day as the weather would make it tough on crews if it was that windy on race day.

Saturday seemed like the start of a calm day as we fired up the grill and ate eggs, sausage and muffins for breakfast. I was hoping that it would remain calm as long as possible, but the first race got on the water at about 9:30 a.m. and by that

time, the wind was already at full strength. No matter, as our Girls and Boys 13s were successful in paddling through the wind to win their first state championships.

We were off to a great start and you could feel the energy coming from everywhere, especially on that crowded beach that felt like a big time traffic jam. We were in the midst of wall to wall bodies cheering for their teams.

After that, things got a little slow in the regatta as the wind started causing havoc. We were still in the chase for the championship as our Boys 15, Women Novice A, and Freshman and Sophomore Men's crews finished in second place. Meanwhile our Sophomore Women and Senior Men's crews fought hard for third place finishes.

While all this was going on, our Junior Men and Golden Masters Women were busy winning their races to bring the Outrigger Canoe Club a regatta leading four wins. We were fighting hard to stay up with the

eventual leaders, Lanikai and Hawaiian from Maui which had six and five more crews, respectively, entered in the regatta than we did.

By the time the sun went down, we were in third place and the only thing that was in doubt was whether we were going to finish the regatta on time or not.

I personally raced in the twilight about 20 minutes before the sun set as a member of our Men's Open 4 crew. We still had four more races to go and it was obvious that we were going to have a problem with the on coming darkness.

I can't remember a time that we put the Club tent away with more than six events to go on the race schedule. Since it was not raining and it was not hot and sunny out any more it wasn't a problem to dismantle the tent.

We were no longer in suspense as Outrigger moved solidly into third place in the club standings. All that was needed now was a safe bus trip to the airport. We had to let the buses

go before the last crews got off of the water. We would not make the 8:55 p.m. flight if the bus was not sent, so off the bus went. I had the chance to talk to Billy and Patti Mowat as I dropped them off at the airport.

Billy had a chance to describe what it is like to race a sprint in the dark while not being able to identify the colors on the flags. It sounded very exciting, but it was actually quite dangerous for the crews involved.

Other crews that fell behind our crew turned around early as it was clear that no official would be able to see them.

They were correct and I remember standing and staring out at the finish line as a seemingly normal race came to a finish, except that it was very dark out there. No one could identify the canoes. As far as "race official" Billy Mowat is concerned, we won that race fair and square and that is good enough for me.

Even though the State Championship Regatta will never come to a complete finish and we were not in contention



Winning the Boys 13 state title were Coach Scott Rolles, Daragh O'Carroll, Robby Field, Jay Loui, Kyle Morgan, Cutter Rolles, Peter Van Lier Ribbink, C. J. Smith.



The winning Girls 13s-Stephanie Deweese, Ali Rigg, Kai Bourne, Elizabeth Stams, Jennifer Tokin, Amy Lawson, and coach Mark Rigg.

Controversial

to win, Outrigger Canoe Club did win the biggest complete canoe regatta of the year at the Oahu Championship Regatta on July 25th. In the Oahu Championship Regatta, Outrigger won 12 official races. Outrigger crews won the Boys 13, Girls 13, Girls 14, Girls 15, Men Freshman, Men Sophomore, Men Junior, Men Senior, Women Junior, Men Golden Masters, Women Senior Masters and the Women Golden Masters. Outrigger also won the Mixed Masters race. Other crews that came in second

place were the Men Senior Masters, Women Novice A and the Women Sophomore. Right there to pitch into the winning effort were the Boys 14, Boys 18, Men Novice A and Junior Masters Men. I would need a special edition to mention all the paddlers by name.

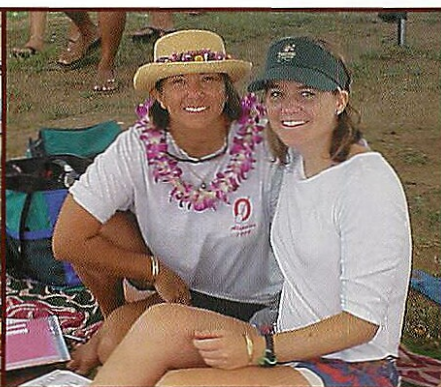
As head coach for the 1999 regatta season, I want to thank the entire Canoe Racing Committee and all of the paddlers for their cooperation and of course their great paddling efforts out on the water.

Ali Rigg gets advice from Marc Haine, Billy Balding and Elizabeth Stams.

The Novice A Men wait for their race.



Coach Dave Horner gets a hug from Pam Clifford and Diana Allen.



Janna Arakaki and Joan Taylor wait for their races.



Mugging for the camera were the girls 14 - Erin Larsen, Lexie Timpson, Jessica Hancock, Lindsey Princenthal and Brook Brissette.

Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association State Championships

August 7, 1999

Hanakao'o Beach, Maui

AAA Division (18 crews or more) - 1. Hawaiian 291. 2. Lanikai 285. 3. Outrigger 240. 4. Kailua 218. 5. Malama Ula 176. 6. Hui Nalu 164. (After 33 races, pending protests)

Winning OCC Crews

Girls 13 (1/4 mile) - Ali Rigg, Jennifer Tokin, Elizabeth Stams, Kai Bourne, Stephanie Deweese, Amy Lawson, 2:05.78.

Boys 13 (1/4 mile) - Peter Van Lier Ribbink, Cutter Rolles, Kyle Morgan, Jay Loui, Robby Field, Darragh O'Carroll, 1:53.39.

Junior Men (1 1/2 miles) - Andrew Glatzel, Marc Haine, Walter Guild, Bill Pratt, Eric Levora, Sage Spalding, 8:00.53.

Golden Masters Women (1/2 miles) - Diane Stowell, Ululani Friese, Ann Cundall, Carol Cook, Patty Mowat, Keanuenue Rochlen, 5:19.68.

Second Place OCC Crews
Novice A Women 4:41.47
Boys 16 3:53.41
Freshmen Men 7:55.97
Sophomore Men 8:02.11

Third Place OCC Crews
Sophomore Women 9:17.85
Senior Men 12:12.23

Fourth Place OCC Crews
Golden Masters Men 4:17.49

Fifth Place OCC Crews
Junior Women 10:10.58
Senior Men 14:35.30

Sixth Place OCC Crews
Girl's 12 2:12.65
Girls 15 4:55.45
Mixed Masters 40 4:19.23
Boys 18 9:05.92

Seventh Place OCC Crews
Boys 15 4:03.90
Senior Masters Men 4:03.75

Eighth Place OCC Crews
Open 4 Men 4:20.51

Did Not Finish
Girls 14 (huli)
Novice B Men (huli)