

# Crane Tells Of Crabbe's Great Race

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fought them off in a final spurt for the finish, and won by a foot, marks Crabbe as the greatest middle distance swimming star ever developed in the United States.

His final spurt is certain to go down in Olympic history as one of the most thrilling in the annals of this classic water competition, and his performance stamps him as a greater middle distance swimmer than Weissmuller or Borg.

Before the race, Yokoyama and Oyokoto of Japan were "one-two" favorites, but Crabbe's blistering pace forced them to drop back early in the race. The battle then settled down to a contest between Crabbe's free, deep stroking and the peculiar stiff-armed stroke.

## TARIS PULLS "SNEAK"

Taris, far on the outside lane, kept Crabbe's pace unnoticed by the other swimmers, and while the Honolulu boy was holding his margin over the Japanese aces, he failed to see the Frenchman's churning pace.

At 300 meters, Crabbe suddenly became aware of Taris' lead. The French record holder was then two lengths ahead of him.

At this point, Crabbe proved his championship mettle. In a breathtaking chase down the final two laps, he plowed after the fast-stroking Frenchman. Twenty-five meters from the finish he appeared to have caught him, and from there to the end wall the two staged the most brilliant duel these water sports have seen.

In a last lunge for the finish Crabbe's superior timing won. He half rose from the water to fling his arm at the board, a fraction of a second before Taris touched it. It was so close that the stands were unable to determine the winner until the judge made their announcement.

Then a roar broke loose led by a large delegation of Islanders, who paid tribute to the courageous finish of the Honolulu boy.

Thursday Buster will begin his assault upon the 1500 meter championship.