

Canoe clubs need more paddlers

It's not too late to join a canoe club, even though the Oahu regatta season starts tomorrow.

Almost all of Oahu's 32 clubs report that membership is way down, and paddlers are needed on crews from 14-year-olds to makule (old-timers).

No experience is necessary. Clubs meet every afternoon at the Ala Wai Canal, Magic Island, Kailua Beach Park, Pokai Bay, Haleiwa and many other shoreline areas. Expect to pay membership dues ranging from \$20 to \$50.

There are two leagues on Oahu: the older Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association, which races only traditional koa canoes, and Na Ohana O Na Hui Wa'a, which races fiberglass canoes.

Membership is down significantly in the 13-club Hui Wa'a. Large clubs such as Kaneohe and Lokahi, which usually have upwards of 150 paddlers, have less than 100 paddlers each going into tomorrow's season opener at Kahana Bay.

Enrollment has been so slow in the OHORA that only three of its 19 clubs mustered enough crews to qualify for the AA Division for next Sunday's regatta at Kailua Beach.

Only Outrigger, Hui Nalu and Kailua qualified in AA, in which clubs have to enter more than half of the regatta's 30 races. Other traditionally large clubs, such as Healani, Lanikai and Waikiki Surf Club, are in A Division — at least for now.

"We used to enter at least 25 events, even for the first regatta, but we're going with 14 this time," Healani coach Ed Hoopii said. "We don't have a lot of the kids (crews)." Healani is traditionally strong in the younger divisions.

Hoopii said one reason for the shortages might be some newer clubs siphoning paddlers away from established clubs.

One Hui Wa'a member blamed higher dues for the low turnouts.

A new fee schedule was adopted by Hui Wa'a in which small clubs contribute less for meet costs than they did in 1984, but large clubs pay almost 2 1/2 times more. A 200-member club that paid \$2,040 last year would pay \$5,000 this year.

"We normally charge \$20 and a T-shirt came with it," said one club official, who asked not to be named. "Now our dues are \$30. It's been a real hassle and people are just not going back to the clubs."

Hui Wa'a treasurer Leinani Peltier said the change was made, in part, because "the big clubs have been riding all these years on the little clubs."

— Andy Yamaguchi

Ironman makes natural progression to Ironkid

Compiled by Carol Hogan

Honolulu, the birthplace of the Ironman, last month added Ironkids to the fold.

"Ironkids is a national program and series of very short triathlons featuring fun, fitness and well-being for the youth of the United States," organizer Dennis White said. "Although the spirit of sportsman-like competition is readily acknowledged, the philosophy of Ironkids is best expressed, 'Every finisher is a winner.'"

The first Ironkid competitors — 78 of them — began the inaugural Ironkids Triathlon at Ala Moana Park on May 26.

For those under 10, the race consisted of a 100-meter swim, 5-kilometer bike race (around the park) and 1-kilometer run. The distances were doubled for ages 11 through 14. (Competition was held on a closed course and hard-shell helmets were required.)

Many of the Ironkids were only one year older than the sport itself. The first swim/bike/run Ironman was held in Honolulu in 1978. Since then, triathlons have become a growing sport of the '80s.

The inaugural Ironkids race realized a dream for two people — former Ironman race director Valerie Silk, who now heads the Hawaii Triathlon Corporation, which franchises Ironman races worldwide, and White, former director of the Triathlon Federation USA.

Shortly after organizing her first successful Ironman, Silk envisioned a triathlon series for kids that would culminate at Florida's Disneyworld with a parade and everyone wearing mouse ears.

As a single parent, White got into swimming competition with his son and realized that triple-sport fitness would be a good alternative to boring, schoolyard jumping jacks.

It took about a year, but eventually Silk and White got together and the dream is now reality with a national schedule of races comparable to the adult United States Triathlon Series that takes place across the U.S.

The next Ironkids race is in Denver on July 7 with six more regional events after that. In



October, the national competition will be at Disneyworld.

All children wishing to compete in Ironkids events must attend a Tri-Clinic several weeks prior to the event. The clinic offers more than just a pre-race meeting with tips on safety and nutrition. A parents clinic also is held. Potential Ironkids have to pass a swim qualification test before they are allowed to participate.

All Ironkid finishers are eligible for the national championships.

A balloon release (by the kids) marked the start of the swim here. Ice cream, cookies, cola and fresh fruits were at the finish, in addition to a certificate, pin and finishers T-shirt. The finale featured a helicopter flower drop during the awards ceremony.

Jennifer McDonald, 9, won the Honolulu girls junior division and the boys junior division was won by Leland Waters, 10. Missy Mowat, 13, and Mitchell Chong, 13, won the senior girls and boys divisions.

Reid Matlin and Joanna Reinhardt won roundtrip tickets to the Disneyworld competition in Orlando, Fla.

Waterlog

Lokahi Canoe Club is conducting a saimin and sweet bread sale near their practice site at the Diamond Head end of Ala Wai Canal (near the Waikiki Library). Members will be there daily from 4-6 p.m. until the end of June. . . . Ken Morrison, former overall chairman of the Clipper Cup Yacht Races and manager for the second time of the American Admiral's Cup team, left for England this week and will be there for the next two months organizing logistics for the team. . . . Col. Burton R. Moore endeared himself to his father-in-law, Fred Carr, recently when he took him fishing off the Waianae Coast aboard the Mele Moku. Carr

hooked into a 450-pound marlin and, after a five-hour fight, boated what he considered "the dream of a lifetime." Other members of the crew were John Morris, Gary Bailey, Charlie Kemp, Doug Walker, Norm Corkran and captain Ken Brunst. . . . While everyone else paddled kayaks across the Molokai Channel in last week's Kanaka Ikaika race, Sonja Evensen tried her hand at windsurfing. Evensen was equipped with safety equipment, food and water. She made it across in plenty of time for the awards ceremony and was glad her boat crew didn't tell her about the 12-foot shark that was trailing her mid-channel. Next year, she's going to paddle.

Float plan

June 15. E.S. Parker Regatta sponsored by Waikiki Yacht Club. For information, call 955-4405.

June 15. Seventh Annual Waikiki Swim Club/Outrigger Canoe Club Inaugural Swim. Members Only. For information, call 923-1585.

June 15. Wailani Canoe Regatta in Hilo Bay. For information, call Ronald Auwae at 959-9273.

June 15. Kaneohe Canoe Club Waimanalo Beach Regatta at Waimanalo Beach. For information, call Gardner Brown at 531-5685.

June 15. Summertime (Prindle) Regatta in Kailua Bay, Oahu. For information, call Dean Sinco at 531-6824.

June 15. Big Island Ocean Fair at Kalapana Beach (Kamoama Campgrounds). For information, call Jerry Shimoda at 328-2326.

June 15-16. Wee Gays Fishing Tournament in Kailua-Kona. For information, call 322-9666.

June 15-16. CBS sail to Pearl Harbor and return. For information, call John Baker at 941-9944.

June 15-16. Ben Ajua Modern Longboard Classic at Kupa Beach, (surf permitting). For information, call 941-4651.

June 15-16. Hawaiian Body-surfing Championships at Point Panic. For starting time and confirmation that contest is on, call Bob Thomas at 396-8342.

June 16. Windsurfing Race in Kailua Bay, Big Island. For information, call Jerry Classen at 329-3669.

June 16. Kona Sailing Club Fathers Day Sail to Hapuna Bay. For information, call KSC Commodore Laurent Gour at 329-3257.

June 16. Kaneohe Yacht Club "K" Series Race. For information, call 247-4121.

June 16. Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Leeward Regatta at Nanakuli Beach. For information, call Edith Van Gieson at 668-8635.

June 18-19. Windsurfing contest at Kanaha Beach, Maui. Freestyle and Slalom. For information, call at 671-6960.

June 19. Makani Kai Beer Can Series 8. Kaneohe Bay. For information, call 247-8161.

June 19-21. North Shore Hanapa's Jackpot Tournament at Haleiwa. For information, call Pat Nash at 637-6140 or Rose Mizusawa at 637-9760.



Photo by Bruce Jensen
The "kids" are on their way, kicking off the first Ironkid competition. The competition was held May 26 at Ala Moana Park.

OCC Putting Heat on Again

By Dave Reardon
Star-Bulletin Writer

The calendar won't admit it yet, but it's summer in Hawaii.

Mangoes are ripe, the mercury's up . . . and Outrigger Canoe Club, with its 1985 theme, "The Heat Is On," is again dominating the canoe scene.

OCC Club fended off an early challenge by host Kailua and paddled away to a 24-point win as the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association opened its season yesterday at Kailua Beach.

OCC finished with 102 points. Kailua was second with 78, and Hui Nalu third with 51.

In the AA division, Healani won with 17 points. Lanikai and Hui Lanakila were barely edged out, with 16 and 15, respectively.

Kailua began the day strong, taking four first places, while Outrigger had only one, from its girls' 14 crew.

BUT OUTRIGGER took the lead during the half-mile races, and finished strong with five straight victories toward the end of the regatta.

"Our novice crews were pleasant surprises," said assistant coach Walter Guild, who also was a winner himself in the senior men's crew.

Outrigger's men's novice B squad did a lot of damage to Kailua's upset bid, winning its half-mile race with 4:10.8. Robert Morahan, Danny Kaleikini, Mike Town, Robby Ostrem, Chris McKenzie and Greg Moss finished 15 seconds ahead of Kailua's crew.

"The novice men/and women did an excellent job of contributing," said Henry Ayau, Outrigger's head coach. Ayau pitched in himself, as a member of the winning men's junior crew.

Ayau sees no reason why Outrigger won't continue its supremacy of the canoe racing scene.

"We have basically the same organization, coaches and paddlers as last year," said Ayau. "Everybody supports everybody."

It happens every summer.

Hui Wa'a Regatta
At Keehi Lagoon, Ka Mo'i and Koa Kai emerged victorious as Hui Wa'a held its second regatta of the season.

Ka Mo'i scored 57 points to edge host Lokahi, which finished with 53. Koa Kai's 26 points gave it first place in the AA division. Kamehameha was second with 16.

Seven meet records were set in the regatta.

See Scoreboard for Results

OCC regatta victor

HONOLULU — Outrigger Canoe Club paddled off with a big win in the first Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association regatta of the season off Kailua Beach Sunday.

Outrigger amassed 102 points while host Kailua had 78 and Hui Nalu was third with 51.

Across the island, Ka Mo'i edged Lokahi for the Na Ohana O Na Hui Wa'a regatta at Keehi Lagoon. Ka Mo'i ended the day with 57 points while Lokahi racked up 53 and Kaneohe finished with 38.

isle file

Outrigger gains victory

Outrigger Canoe Club amassed 102 points to win the Kamehameha Regatta in the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association's first race of the season yesterday at Kailua Beach Park.

Kailua finished second with 78 points and Hui Nalu was third with 51.

In the Na Ohana O Na Hui Wa'a regatta at Keehi Lagoon, Ka Mo'i won with 57 points. Lokahi (53) was second and Kaneohe (38) third.

Seven records were set in the Hui Wa'a meet, including two each by Lokahi and Koa Kai crews.

Ka Mo'i, Outrigger triumph

Ka Mo'i and Outrigger Canoe Club continued to dominate canoe racing on Oahu yesterday.

Ka Mo'i won its third consecutive Na Ohana O Na Hui Wa'a meet with a victory in the Kaneohe Regatta at Waimanalo Beach. Outrigger won its second consecutive Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association meet with a triumph in the Leeward Regatta at Nanakuli Beach.

In the Hui Wa'a meet, Ka Mo'i earned 65 points, followed by Lokahi (49) and Kaneohe. Twenty-four meet records were set, according to Hui Wa'a officials.

Outrigger amassed 106 points to race past second-place Hui Nalu (59) and third-place Kailua 53 in the HCRA meet.

Results in Record

Ka Mo'i Rulers of Regatta

Paddling Season Opens at Kahana Bay

By Jack Wyatt
Special to the Star-Bulletin

Ka Mo'i Canoe Club of Makaha won yesterday's Hui Wa'a Association season opener at Kahana Bay with points to spare.

But if entertainer Danny Kaleikini were passing out trophies, the regatta hardware would have gone to Kai Po'Ha Canoe Club—the regatta's last place finisher.

"I've always been for the underdog," he said. "I see canoe racing as a wholesome family sport. Never mind about all that intense competition." Yesterday's 30-race Koa Kai Canoe Club-sponsored regatta honored Kaleikini, a Koa Kai founder and long-time Hui Wa'a supporter.

Had Kaleikini stuck around after yesterday's opening ceremonies (the nine-handcapper took off for an early golf date) he would have smiled. Because of the low paddler turnout and a laid-back atmosphere, the regatta was short on competition and long on fun.

With 11 firsts and four seconds, Ka Mo'i won the 11-club regatta with a comfortable 80 points. Lokahi came in second (55) and the Waikiki Beach Boys placed third (40). But after the

big three, scoring disappeared in the shifting sands.

"KIDS ARE STILL in school, both here and on the Mainland," Hui Wa'a's president Peter Apo said, explaining the low attendance. "Things will pick up in a week or two—just wait and see," he added.

Race officials certainly hope Apo is right. Because eight lanes were placed in the choppy Kahana Bay yesterday and never was the course filled. Senior women paddlers became no-shows and, in three races, only one crew competed.

While Lokahi's coach Michael Cushnie complained about "only" being able to field 18 of 30 crews, the fledgling Waikiki Yacht Club team managed only three six-paddler crews yesterday.

Said Cushnie: "The paddler shortage may affect how we do this season." The defending Hui Wa'a champ won both men's and women's Open-4 races yesterday—two events which had good turnouts.

Apo would like to see Hui Wa'a become more competitive. "We may be behind in crew numbers this season," he said, "but we're ahead on the quality of paddlers." Apo would like to

compete more favorably with the more older and more powerful Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association, which opens next Sunday with the Kamehameha Day Regatta at Kailua Beach.

KALEIKINI, ON THE other hand, could care less. He's afraid that canoe paddling will follow Little League baseball and Pop Warner football's lead. That parental pressure to win at all costs.

"Look at the other (OHORA) guys," Kaleikini said, "the same clubs (Outrigger, Kailua and Hui Nalu) win all the time. What fun is that?"

The entertainer explained that island canoe racing isn't only for Hawaiians but for everyone. "We have to get the community more involved," he said.

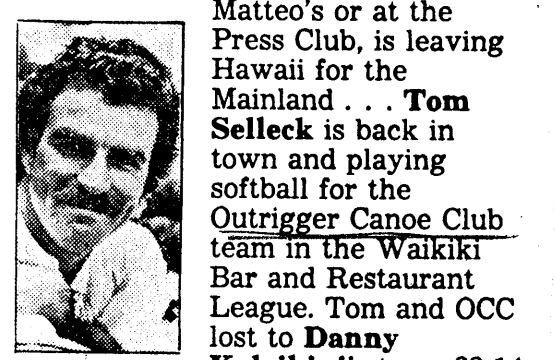
Kaleikini began paddling outriggers at age 15 at Waikiki. "More years ago than I care to remember," he said.

About 15 course records were broken yesterday says race official Gardner Brown. Paddler Tommy Freitas of Waipahu believes that the course must have been short to have so many records in the season's first regatta. Countered race director John Kapua: "No so! Just good paddling conditions."



OCC'S WINNING CREW—Members of the Outrigger Canoe Club which hopes to dominate the canoe races here (from left) front—Henry Ayau, John Finney, Karl Heyer IV; and back—Tom Conner, Kevin Olds and Mike Fox.—Star-Bulletin Photo by Mike Tsukamoto.

CHOP SUEY: Bartender George Mullen, who was hard to ignore whether she was mixing drinks at Matteo's or at the Press Club, is leaving Hawaii for the Mainland. . . . Tom Selleck is back in town and playing softball for the Outrigger Canoe Club team in the Waikiki Bar and Restaurant League. Tom and OCC lost to Danny Kaleikini's team 23-14 on Sat. . . .



And nobody told her to break a leg depl.: Gigi Rosario didn't want to miss a chance at performing on stage, so just a couple of days after being struck by a hit-and-run car she took the cast off her leg, covered bruises with makeup and joined the Al Franz ballroom dance club on the Ala Moana Center stage □ □ □