

Canoe Championships: Maui sends six clubs to Oahu in search of state titles

By LOU ZITNIK
Sports Writer

WAILUKU — Maui canoe clubs are hoisting their colors this weekend and heading for Oahu — it's state championship time. According to Maui County Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (MCHCA) figures more than 2,000 paddlers from Maui, Molokai, Hawaii, Kauai and Oahu will be competing in this year's championship regatta Saturday at Keahi Lagoon, Oahu.

Officials are installing markers for 14 lanes in the windswept lagoon known for its early afternoon winds and shadeless vistas. And the Hawaii Canoe Racing Association has prepared a slate of 31 races, ranging from the 12-under class to the senior masters, for an expected 345 crews.

As in previous years, the largest contingent of paddlers will be from Oahu. The Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (OHCA), an association with 14 clubs, has 171 crews entered. But Hui Waa, an Oahu association with 13 clubs, will be competing without its undefeated league champion, Ka Mo'i, who will not participate. Its koa canoe (required for state competition) does not meet HCRA specifications.

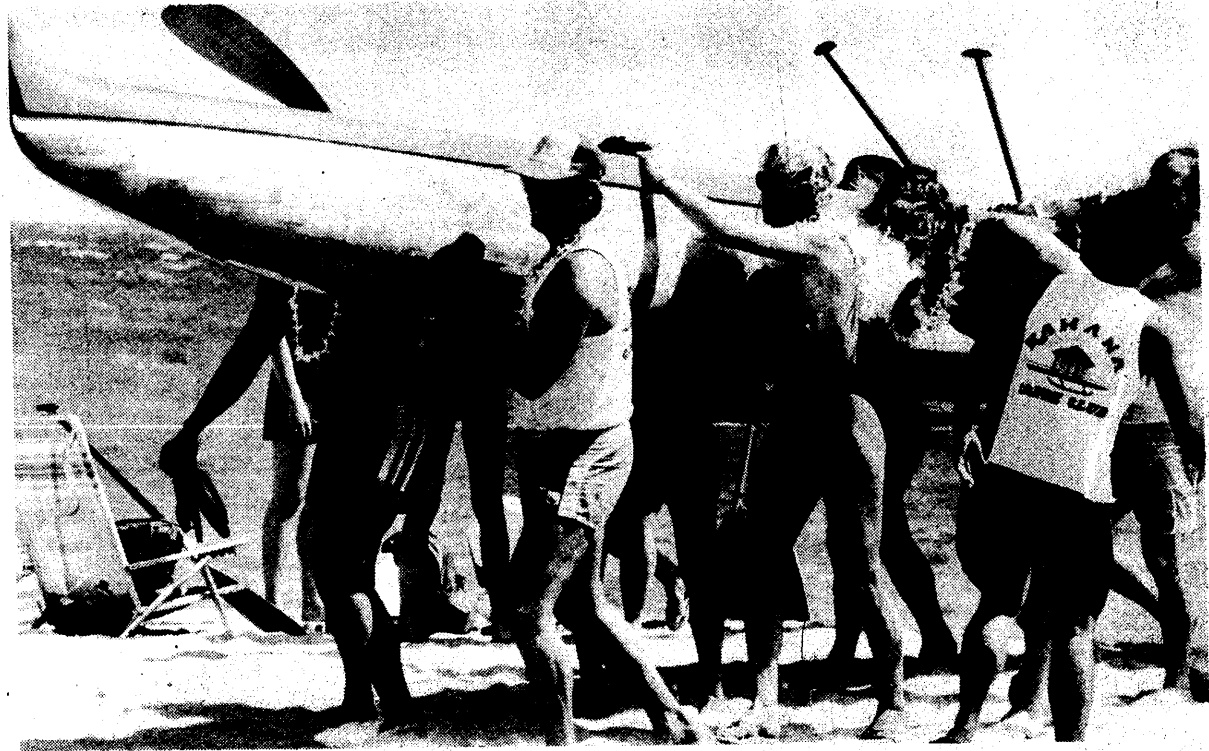
Maui, with six active clubs, will be sending the largest outer-island contingent to the championship. Fifty crews from Maui will be making the trip to Oahu, with Maui paddlers scheduled to compete in every event except three.

From Hawaii, where seven clubs compete in regatta competition, 36 crews will be entering Saturday's races. From Kauai, four clubs will be sending 31 crews. Molokai will be sending the smallest contingent to the races — 12 crews, six from Molokai Canoe Club and six from Hoihi.

Although all the clubs will be competing against each other during the races, the HCRA awards state titles in three divisions: the AAA championship for clubs with 15 crews or more entered; the AA division for clubs with 7-14 crews; and the A division for clubs with 1-6 crews. Points are awarded for first through eighth place (9-7-6-5-4-3-2-1). Maui is represented in each of the three divisions.

Taking on the big clubs in the AAA division is Maui county champion Hawaiian Canoe Club. The Kahului-based club has 16 crews entered in Saturday's events, putting them right in line to do battle with the 6 other AAA clubs, including Oahu powerhouses Outrigger Canoe Club (28 crews entered), Hui Nalu (28 crews entered), and Kaihau (28 crews entered).

"There's no reason we shouldn't



Kahana paddlers hoist koa canoe to be used at state championships

do well against them," Hawaiian coach Kahi Sindiong said Wednesday. "If we can average six points a crew, we should be up close to the big clubs. I'm not making any prediction, but I believe all of the crews from Maui are strong enough to take on the Oahu competition. If we want to make our mark over there (Oahu), we have to start thinking that we're as good or better than the Oahu clubs."

Hawaiian made it's mark on Oahu competition last year, when they finished third in the AA division, scoring first place finishes in the Boys 12 and Boys 12B events — two events that Hawaiian will be entering again this year — and garnering most of their points in the junior divisions. This year Sindiong plans the same kind of strategy.

"I think we got them thinking last year when we went over there and scored so well with our junior paddlers," said Sindiong. "They've been trying to develop their junior division all year, but I think OCC (OHCA) champs are still a little weak in the lower (junior) half. I've got high hopes for our young paddlers."

With only 16 crews entered Hawaiian would've had to drop only two crews from the championship trip in order to compete in the AA division, but it was concern for paddlers that kept Sindiong from making that cut.

"All of these crews qualified for state," said Sindiong. "They've worked for it all season and we're not going to leave them behind now."

With Hawaiian doing battle with

the big clubs, it will be up to Kihei (nine crews) and Na Kai Ewalu (11 crews) to represent Maui against the nine other clubs in the AA division.

Last year Kihei finished sixth overall in the AA division. This year Kihei will be powered by crews such as its freshmen men's crew, which finished third at the 1984 championships, and its four strong novice crews who twice this year swept the novice events in MCHCA regattas.

Na Kai Ewalu will be placing much of its hopes on two of its undefeated crews, the girls 16 and girls 18. Both crews, according to head coach Boogie Wainui, have a shot at top finishes.

The remaining three Maui clubs, Lahaina, Kahana and Napili, will be competing in the A division, the largest division at the championship regatta. Besides the Maui clubs, 18 other clubs will be competing for the single A crown, a crown that Maui teams have won for the last two years.

In 1983 it was Napili who topped the small club division, and in '84 it was Lahaina who brought home the crown.

This year Lahaina has entered six crews and the chances are good that the quickly emerging west side power could repeat as A division champs. Lahaina's second title effort will depend heavily on the performance of its women junior crew, which went undefeated in regatta competition; its boys 18 crew, which won the July 22 Kukahiko distance race; and its mixed men and women's crew, which went un-

defeated in regatta competition.

Kahana has also entered six crews, and could have a shot at the title, depending on the performance of three of its strong crews — men open 4 (undefeated in regatta competition); women freshmen (undefeated in regatta competition); and women sophomore (five wins and one second in regatta competition).

Two of Napili's top crews, the novice B women and the junior men will be flying the west side team's colors at the state meet.

No matter what division the Maui clubs compete in, all of them will be racing Saturday under two new conditions.

First: all canoes will be koa canoes. Races on Maui are not limited to koa.

"All state races are held in koa canoes; we want to help perpetuate our Hawaiian heritage through the use of Hawaiian koa canoes," said Leimomi Perreira, MCHCA race director. "That is the most important goal of canoe racing."

Maui clubs will be competing in one of three koa canoes: Lahaina's Lehia, Kahana's Kai Nalu, or the Malama (the canoe Hawaiian will be using).

Second: the race will be run on a half-mile course instead of quarter mile.

"That's why it's hard to compare our race times to Oahu's," Perreira said. "Maui races have been times as many turns as Oahu's, so our times look slower. But we'll see Saturday how we compare."

The state race begins at 8 a.m.

Moloka'i-O'ahu race set Oct. 13

Teams from Hawaii, the Mainland, Australia, Canada, Germany and Tahiti are expected to compete in the 34th annual Moloka'i Hoe Canoe Race Oct. 13.

The 40.8-mile open ocean course begins at Hale-O-Lono Harbor on Moloka'i and ends at Fort DeRussy Beach on O'ahu. Racing begins at 7:30 a.m. and the winner is expected to cross the finish line some 5½ hours later.

Outrigger Canoe Club, winner of 10 of the races, is the two-time defending champion. Waikiki Surf Club has won more races than anyone — 12 of them — but none since 1973.

A Moloka'i team, Kukui O Lanikaula, won the first race in 1952, then O'ahu crews won every race until Te Oropana of Tahiti won in 1976. California teams won in 1978, 1981 and 1982.

Crews have nine paddlers but only six in a canoe at a time. Changes of crew members are made without stopping. The event is sponsored by Bank of Hawaii.

Unbeaten Ka Mo'i pulls out of state canoe championship

The undefeated Ka Mo'i canoe club will not participate in tomorrow's state canoe championships because its koa canoe failed to meet required specifications, said Michael Tongg, president of the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association. "We won't have the show-down this year between undefeated Outrigger and Ka Mo'i," Tongg said.

Ka Mo'i, a club from Wai-anae, was 8-0 this season in winning the Hui Wa'a championship.

Outrigger (7-0) won the Oahu HCRA title and is heavily favored tomorrow.

Tongg said Ka Mo'i officials have long been aware that their canoe does not meet the Hawaiian design specifications established in 1978. Because they knew that, Tongg said, Ka Mo'i "moved up" many of its

crews in the Hui Wa'a championships, meaning it would not be able to field crews in many events if it entered the state meet.

In a related matter, Tongg said teen-agers from Tahiti will participate in two exhibition races at the championships.

"They sent a 55-man contingent to observe our operation and hope to use a lot of our methods when they put on the world sprints next year," Tongg said.

Oahu distance canoe schedule
Aug. 10—Uncle John and Aunt Sarah Kapua race from Waimanalo Beach Park.
Aug. 18—Duke Kahanamoku race, from Magic Island to Lanika.
Aug. 24—Dad Center race, Lanika to Outrigger.
Sept. 8—Kamakawao race, Magic Island to Pokai Bay (men), Pokai Bay to Keolu Beach Park and back (women).
Sept. 15—Kaena Challenge, Halewa to Pokai Bay (men), Pokai Bay to Makaha and back (women).
Sept. 15—Danny Kalekiki race, Magic Island to Kahala Hilton.
Sept. 29—Na Wahine O Ke Kai, women's Molokai race.
Oct. 13—Moloka'i Hoe, men's Molokai race.

Festival Gold Rush for Young Hawaii Spiker

By Harry Blauvelt
Star-Bulletin Writer

The National Sports Festival presented some unusual problems for Honolulu's Hugh Foster, a member of the South volleyball team that won the gold medal.

It was so warm and humid in Baton Rouge, La. where the competition was held, there was never any cold water. Foster grimaces when he recalls brushing his teeth with hot water in the LSU dorms, which were used to house the athletes.

The 16-year-old Foster was the youngest player in the men's competition. He got so excited before the championship match, he started to hyperventilate.

Finally, on the return trip to Hawaii, Foster's plane was delayed four hours in Los Angeles because a duck got caught in one of the jet engines.

NEVERTHELESS, FOSTER was a catalyst for the South team that won three of four matches and upset the West in the gold medal game last Tuesday night.

He had 24 kills, almost twice as many as any other player, as the South avenged an earlier setback to the West with a 16-14, 9-15, 15-5, 15-4 triumph. The West has played in all six Festival finals, winning three.

"That opening loss to the West got us really fired up," said Foster, a 6-4½, 180-pounder who will be a junior this fall at Punahou School.

"They were really cocky," he continued. "I think they felt they had the tournament wrapped up after they beat us. Before the gold medal match, I was so psyched up, I couldn't even think straight."

"It was a great feeling to beat the West.

We really wanted to win and prove that Hawaii volleyball is as good as any in the country."

FOSTER WAS REFERRING to the fact that six of the 12 South players were from Hawaii. Besides Foster, they included: Mike Among, who is at University of Hawaii; Sio Saipapa, a senior to-be at Punahou School; Danny McInerney, a freshman at Loyola

"We really wanted to win and prove that Hawaii volleyball is as good as any in the country."

Marymount in Los Angeles; Victor Poppings, from Kauai, who plays for UH; and Pancho Maluu, from Hilo, who will be a freshman at UH.

In addition, the South was coached by Dave Shoji, who heads the men's and women's programs at UH.

Although Shoji has known Foster a long time from an association at Outrigger Canoe Club, he noted that he had never coached the youngster until this competition. And he admitted he wasn't sure how Foster would perform.

"Until this year, I think everybody felt Hugh might be good when he got older," Shoji said. "But he hadn't really proved himself. He played a little with the Outrigger Open team this past spring and didn't really distinguish himself on that level."

"But as far as I'm concerned, he was one of the best players in the Festival and one who improved as much as anybody there over the two weeks. He gained a lot of confidence from the tournament."

THE FESTIVAL may well have been a benchmark in Foster's development.

"I think Hugh now has an appreciation of what you have to do in practice to be a really good player," said Shoji. "He really matured as a practice player. He turned his work ethic around."

"In the tournament, he saw some real good competition and met the challenge. He got the big blocks and big hits when we needed them. He gave a solid all-around performance."

"I wasn't at all put off about being the youngest player," Foster said. "The Festival is one of the things I really wanted to go for. I wanted to let people know I'll be good someday."

"I realized it takes a lot of work all the time to become college material. You can't just do it once in a while."

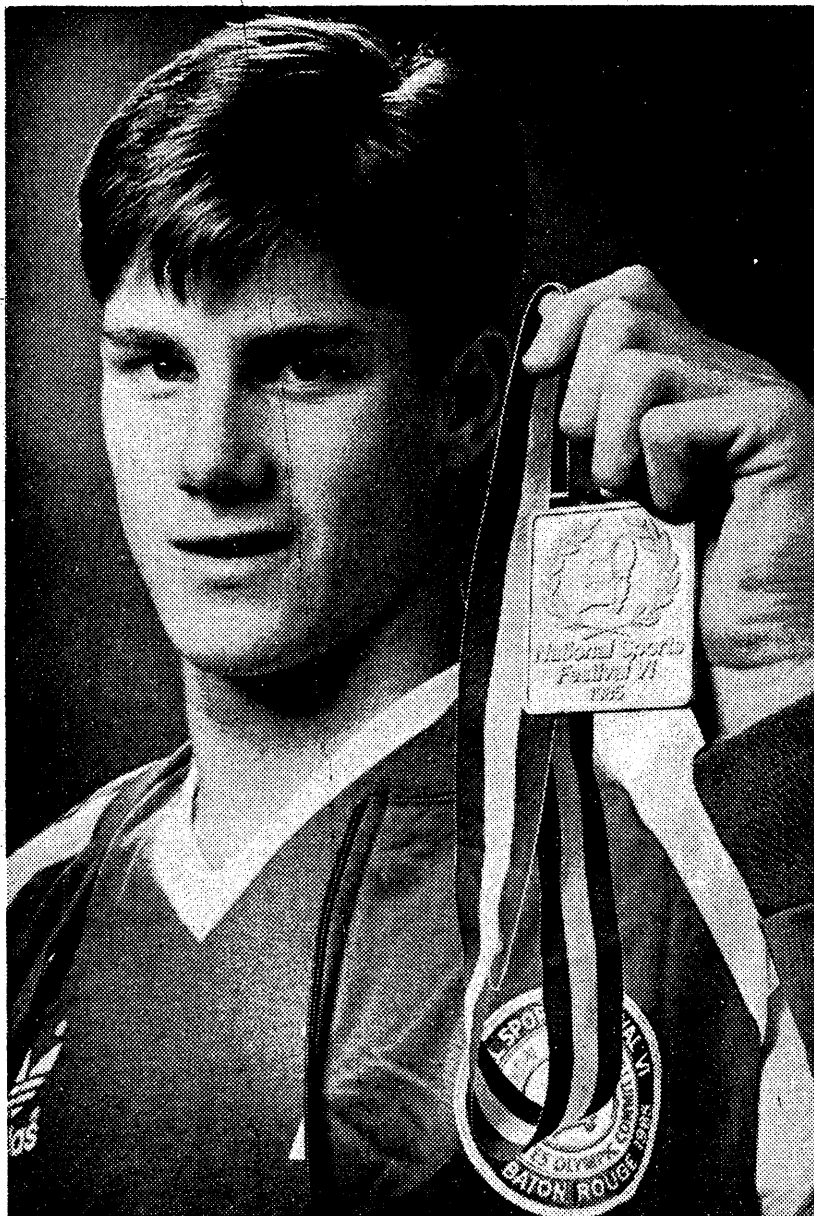
Shoji said Foster has "great tools and fundamentals." He predicts that with normal progress, Foster will have his pick of any school in the country when the time comes.

He also expects Foster to be a prospect for the 1992 Olympics. "Everybody will keep an eye on him now," said Shoji.

"The Olympics are my long-range goal," said Foster, who comes from a family of volleyball players. "First, I hope to get into a powerhouse volleyball college, then play for the U.S. National Team."

Foster will spend what's left of the summer playing volleyball at the Outrigger "I practically live there," he laughed.

That seems like a good idea. Outrigger has plenty of cold water and no ducks to cause problems.



GOLD MEDAL WINNER—Hugh Foster, who'll be a junior at Punahou School this fall, was the youngest player in the men's competition at the National Sports Festival in Baton Rouge, La. He shows off his gold medal, which he earned as a member of the winning South volleyball team.

Aloha!

Today is Sunday,
Aug. 4, 1985

Hawaii

A Kaneohe man tells about Chinese immigrants and the fishponds they tended on the Windward side

Page A-3

The Nation

One in five Americans lacks sufficient reading ability to function effectively in society, new report says

Page A-16

Ku Klux Klan leadership is seen as increasingly Nazi-oriented

Page J-42

Washington

Arrival of Adm. Crowe as chairman of joint chiefs could boost efforts to reorganize military leadership, experts say

Page A-11

The World

Pacific region is seen becoming the main focus of super-power rivalry

Page I-1

Editorials/Focus

Many of Helsinki Accords' commitments have been broken but meetings still have value

Page B-2

Parade

"A very nice place to live" grew from the ashes of Hiroshima

Page 4

Sports

Outrigger Canoe Club wins second consecutive state canoe regatta title

Page H-1

Today

Old postcards prove three Germans are heirs to \$300,000 island fortune

Page C-1

The main news, Focus, Sports and Travel sections are produced by The Honolulu Advertiser. The Today section, TV Week and Home pages are produced by the Honolulu Star-Bulletin. The Dining Out supplement is prepared by the Hawaii Newspaper Agency.

The Index

20 sections, 242 pages	
Arts	C7
Books	C6
Classified ads	J13-41
Crossword puzzle	C6
Entertainment	C10-13
Focus	B1-3
Food	C14
Home	J1-12
Honolulu Calendar	A4
Horoscope	C11
Money	B4-8
Obituaries	A9
Restaurants	Dining Out
Sports	H1-10
Television logs	TV Week
The Advertiser Salutes	K2
Tides	A2
Today	C1-14
Town Crier	K3
Travel	F1-8
Weather	A2

Outrigger state champs

HONOLULU — Outrigger Canoe Club continued its domination of Hawaii's canoe racing Saturday at Ke'ehehi Lagoon on O'ahu by capturing the overall championship at the 35th annual Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Championship regatta.

The Honolulu club scored 12 first-place finishes, and totaled 187 points to finish ahead of 38 canoe clubs from all over the state. There were 31 races in the championships.

Outrigger's dominance was so complete that no other club was able to score more than two first place finishes.

Kailua C.C. of O'ahu finished second in the AAA division (for clubs with 15 or more crews entered) with 116 points. Hui Nalu, another O'ahu club, finished third with 115 points.

The first outer-island club to break O'ahu's hold on the AAA division was Hawaiian C.C. of Maui. Hawaiian, on the strength of first place finishes in the girls 12 and boys 16 events, scored 73 points to finish fourth overall and fourth in the AAA division.

In the AA division, Hanalei Civic of Kauai scored two first place finishes and 66 points to finish on top in the division for clubs entering seven to 15 crews. Kai Opua scored 58 points to finish second; Hui Lanakila, of O'ahu, finished in third with 46 points.

In the A division, for clubs with one to six entries, Kawahae scored 31 points to edge Lahaina C.C. for first place honors.