

JUL 20 1989

Troubled waters await canoes

Titles will be decided at 'raunchy' site

By Stephen Tsai
Advertiser Staff Writer

Here's a well-told dirty joke that is no longer a laughing matter:

Keehi Lagoon, the Klum Gym of ocean sports, will be the grimy stage for two outrigger canoe championships this weekend: The Hui Wa'a Association Championships on Saturday and the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (OHCR) Championship Regatta on Sunday.

Once again, the reasons for choosing Keehi are as clear as the water in Lane No. 1.

True, Keehi is centrally located and the flat conditions are the fairest on the circuit.

But, as Kailua assistant coach Kamoa Kalama said, "It's a raunchy place."

There are no bleachers for spectators and not nearly enough restrooms. The water is so dirty you can't see the broken glass you're stepping on.

"You don't see too many people jump out of the boat and into the water after a race," Kalama said. "They tend to step out of the boat slowly and look for a hose."

That's another problem: There are no showers. As a remedy, some competitors hook up hoses to the sprinklers.

Don't look for a quick fix. The slime won't go away as long as streams from Kalihi and Moanalua continue to drain their filth into the lagoon.

"When you add it up," Lokahi coach Mike Cushnie said, "it's a terrible place."

Said Outrigger coach John Finney: "It's a miserable place to spend a day at the beach. I'm not sure how much we can improve it. Maybe we can pave the beach or something."

The most annoying aspect is that there isn't a clear-cut villain. The beach is under the jurisdiction of the city and the water is under the jurisdiction of the state, meaning blame shifts with the ebb and flow of the tide.

Still, there is a glimmer of hope. Two years ago, city workers spread coral on the beaches, helping to reduce dust storms. This year, the state's Harbors Division began the process of removing the 45 or so derelict and abandoned boats in the lagoon.

Also, the legislature appropriated \$3.885 million to develop Keehi Lagoon into a canoe-racing complex. The state and city are expected to collaborate on the plans.

Construction won't begin until next spring, meaning the complex probably wouldn't be ready for use until 1991.

For now, Oahu canoe associations could best serve their paddlers by staging championships at a more pleasant site, such as Kaneohe Bay.

"It's way safer than Keehi," Finney said.

However, unlike at Keehi, clubs aren't allowed to sell souvenirs at the Marine Corps-run Kaneohe Bay.

Still, that loss of revenue would be a small price to pay for moving the championships to a more conducive environment.

In recent years, the Outrigger Canoe Club's dominance in championship regattas was as sure a thing as death, taxes and Joe Moore signing off with a Will Rogers anecdote.

Outrigger has won the last four OHCR Oahu Championships and when it finished second in 1984, it went on to win the state championship the following week.

But times have changed, and Outrigger is in a slump. Its women's crews won but one of 14 events at last week's regatta and a few of OCC's crews were no-shows. Outrigger also has been purchasing retirement watches at bulk rates this year.

Meanwhile, Kailua has paddled well, winning three of six regattas, and Hui Nalu has emerged as a force.

"This is a good year for paddling," Kailua's Kalama said. "The quality of competition has really come up."

When asked about the tilt in power, Outrigger's Finney mused: "It's probably been my coaching."

Then, he added: "I think it's good for the sport. It's been



Advertiser photo by Carl Vili

Does this look like a site for a championship regatta? Well, it is. Keehi Lagoon will be the site for both association's title regattas. The mat on the shore is where the canoes are placed after each race.

very exciting."

Last week, Hui Nalu edged Outrigger by one point, with third-place Kailua just four points behind.

Hui Nalu and Kailua have made the most of a rule change implemented late last season.

In the past, movement in the upper division was a one-way street. For example, if a crew paddled in the sophomore and junior races, the following week it would not be allowed to compete in a race lower than the junior event.

The rule change turns the senior race into an open event. That means crews are allowed to paddle in the senior race and one other race without fear of being frozen at a level. In effect, the same crew can compete in two races every week, as long as one of the races is the senior event.

"It's made a chess game out of upper-division crews," Kalama said.

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Hui Nalu has juggled its crews with impressive results. George Kissner, Kala Kukea and Bob Rocheleau paddled on the winning senior and junior master crews last week.

Coach Darryl Hara, Harold Akeo, Nainoa Thompson and Wayne Fujiyama also have filled in on several other crews.

"They've been very effective," Kalama said.

Hui Nalu also has received a boost from its younger crews. The girls' 12 and boys' 18 crews each have won five of six races this year.

Kailua also has played musical boats. In the second week of the season, Kailua used the same crew in the sophomore and senior races, and ended up with two victories.

Since then it has been conservative in its switches, but Kalama said that will change this week.

"We're going to pull out all of the stops," Kalama said.

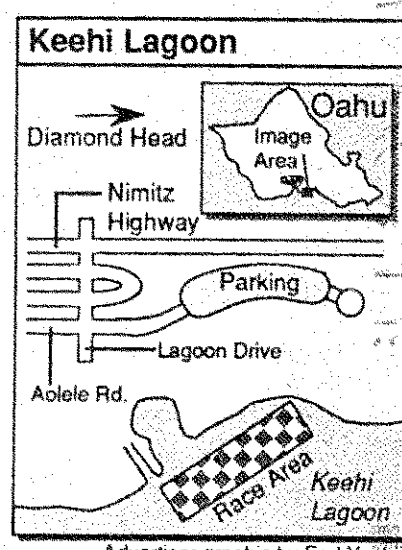
In the past, the Oahu championships were regarded as a last-chance effort for a crew to claim a berth in the state regatta. (OHCR is allowed four lanes in each event for the state race. Berths are determined by performances in regular-season regattas and the Oahu championships.)

To that end, clubs have stacked crews in certain races in order to qualify them for the state regatta. For example, Hui Nalu must earn victories this week to qualify in the freshman women, freshman men, open-four men and mixed adults.

"You know they'll be loaded," Hara said.

Kailua and Outrigger also have several crews that need to qualify.

Still, the importance of this week's race isn't being overlooked.



Advertiser graphic by Earl Yoshii

Undeclared Crews	
OAHU HAWAII CANOE RACING ASSOCIATION	
Female	Male
Senior Masters—Outrigger	Senior Masters—Outrigger
14—Healani	14—Healani
Junior—Outrigger	Junior—Outrigger
NA 'OHANA O NA HUI	NA 'OHANA O NA HUI
WA'A ASSOCIATION	WA'A ASSOCIATION
18—Kaneohe	18—Kaneohe
Sophomore—Lokahi	Sophomore—Lokahi
Senior—Koa Kai	Senior—Koa Kai
Senior Masters—Lokahi	Senior Masters—Lokahi
12—Windward Kai	12—Windward Kai

"The Oahu championship is a worthy goal in itself," Finney said. "We're going to play to win."

The Lokahi Canoe Club has ruled the Hui Wa'a Association this season, winning all six regular-season regattas by an average margin of 34 points. In other words, a second-place club would have to win seven more races each regatta to beat Lokahi.

But don't expect Lokahi to win the state regatta. Lokahi's strength is rooted in its kids and novices.

"We have long-range goals," coach Mike Cushnie said. "We're not close to Outrigger or Kailua or Hui Nalu, but nobody else is. We can compete with the rest."

JUL 17 1989

ISLE FILE

Chiyonofuji wins playoff; Konishiki finishes at 8-7

Advertiser Staff and News Services

NAGOYA — Yokozuna (grand champion) Chiyonofuji defeated stablemate and fellow yokozuna Hokutoumi in a playoff for the championship Sunday after both finished with 12-3 records on the final day of the Nagoya Grand Sumo Tournament.

It was Chiyonofuji's 28th tournament victory.

Chiyonofuji lost to ozeki (champion) Hokutenyu, while Hokutoumi beat ozeki Asahifuji to force the playoff.

Hawaii's Salevaa Atisanoe, known as ozeki Konishiki, defeated komusubi (junior champion) Sakahoko to finish at 8-7.

In the makushita, the highest junior division, Hawaii's John (Takamio) Feleunga beat Kuma to finish at 5-2 and is a possible candidate for promotion to the juryo division, sumo's next highest ranking, for the September tournament.

Merlin in training: Donn Campion announced that his ultralight displacement sloop Merlin will be used in the Pacific Sailing School's big boat race training and sea cadet program.

Merlin, a 67-foot sloop, has won every major California-to-Hawaii race, including the Transpac and Victoria-to-Maui. In 1977, Merlin set Transpac's elapsed time record of eight days, 11 hours, one minute, 45 seconds.

"I think it's great that after 12 Transpac races, Merlin finally has a chance to rest and take a vacation in Hawaii for a while," Campion said.

Merlin will sail out of Keehi Lagoon as a hands-on training vessel for novices wishing to learn how to sail on a big boat. For information, call 422-6240 or leave a message at 842-3084.

Hui Nalu triumphs: Hui Nalu's men's masters crew edged Outrigger by two seconds — 7:29.83 to 7:31.79 — in the final event of the day to win the team title in the Oahu Hawaii Canoe Racing Association's John D. Kaupiko Regatta

at Kaneohe Bay yesterday. The victory in the final event of the day gave Hui Nalu a 76-75 victory over Outrigger. Kailua was right behind with 72 points.

At Waikiki Beach, Lokahi ran away with Na Ohana O Na Hui Wa'a Beach Boys Regatta with 83 points, 49 more than Manu O Ke Kai.

Lifters to Festival: Natalie Mew and Vernon Patao qualified for the 1989 U.S. Olympic Festival in Oklahoma City, Okla., later this month with victories in the Nuuanu YMCA Open Weightlifting Championships Saturday.

Mew won the women's 114-pound division with a combined total of 214 pounds (state record) after lifts of 93 pounds in the snatch and 121 in the clean and jerk.

Patao won the men's 132-pound category with a total of

495 pounds (220-pound snatch and 275-pound jerk).

Tongg powers victory: Ronnie Tongg scored four goals to lead Team Reynolds to an 8-4 victory over Continental Airlines in the Al Lopaka Invitational polo tournament at Mokuleia Field.

Team Reynolds will play the North Shore Centaurs in Saturday's championship. The Centaurs beat Kohala Ranch, 7-4, behind three goals by Bill George.

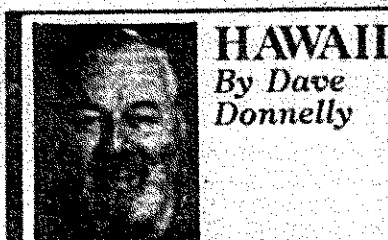
Kiyabu at QB Club: Ken Kiyabu, general manager of Aloha Stadium, will be the guest speaker at today's weekly meeting of the Honolulu Quarterback Club.

The luncheon-meeting starts at noon at the Flamingo Chuckwagon. The public is invited.

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HONOLULU STAR BULLETIN

JUL 19 1989

Hilton hotels host a full house of Hollywood celebs



HAWAII
By Dave Donnelly

THE Hiltons are alive with the sound of music and other forms of entertainment. For example, the hottest director in Hollywood at the moment stopped by the Hilton Dome to see the Don Ho show the other night. That would be Tim Burton, director of both the top-grossing hit of the year, "Batman," and the other Warner Bros. monster, "Beetlejuice." With him at the show was the actress who played the mother in "Beetlejuice," Katherine O'Hara.

MEANWHILE, at the Turtle Bay Hilton, there's lots of activity with Tom Hanks and the cast and crew of a film called "Joe vs. the Volcano" on hand. Every hotel looks forward to a full house and the Turtle Bay is no exception. An episode of the ABC Friday night series "Full House" will be filmed there in mid-August.

Then there's comic Dom Irrera, also

here for the Hanks film. He stopped by the Honolulu Comedy Club Sunday night and delighted owner Eddie Sax by taking the stage to do a set. Irrera starred last Wednesday on his own HBO special, "One Night Stand." He told Sax he'd try to stop by again if filming allows it. A fellow with a beard said hello to Kimmo McVay at the Outrigger Canoe Club the other day and McVay had to ask a companion who it was. The promoter simply didn't recognize Tom Selleck with whiskers.

WHO says they roll the sidewalks up early on the Windward side on Saturday night? Beginning this week Windward Mall is going to stay open until 9 p.m. on Saturdays, and to celebrate the extended hours, some top local talent has been lined up to perform each week. The Love Notes will do their "doo-wop '50s material

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HONOLULU STAR BULLETIN
JUL 22 1989

Healani crew unbeaten going into Oahu event

By Jack Wyatt
Special to the Star-Bulletin

Clem Paialina, Sr., Healani Canoe Club's president since 1947, is proud going into tomorrow's 11th Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Championships at Keehi Lagoon Beach Park.



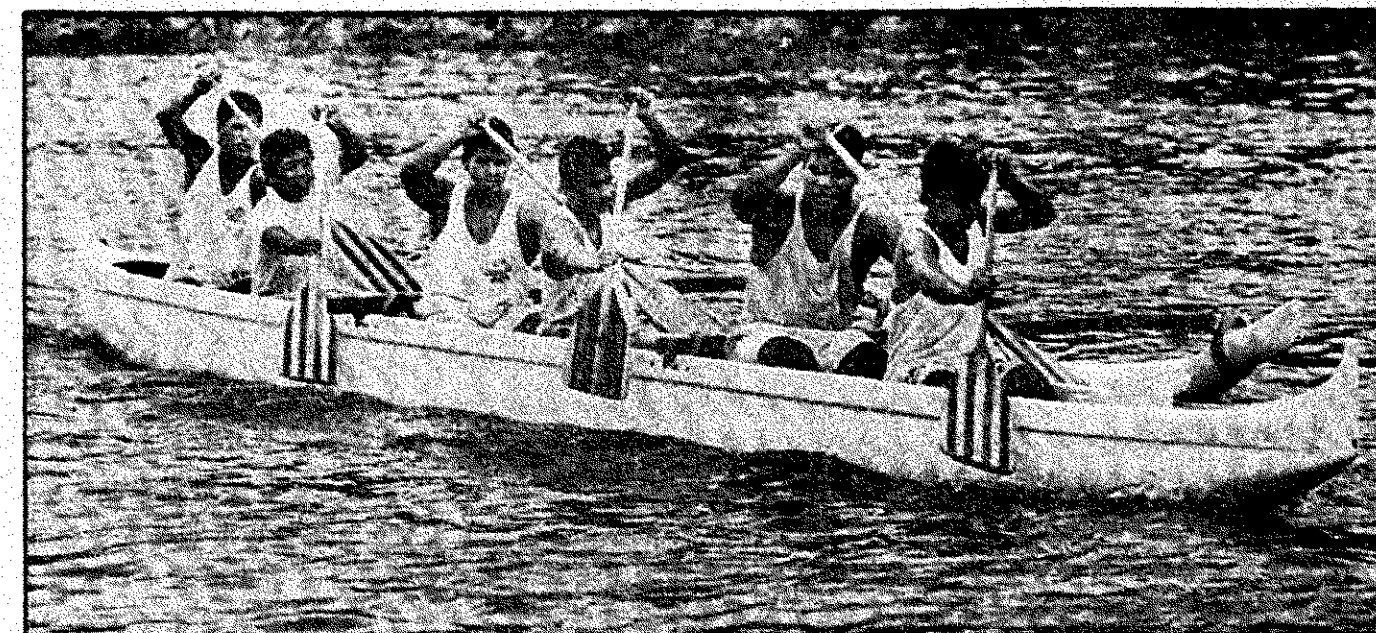
Clem Paialina Jr.

Paialina's son Clem, Jr., a Honolulu fire captain, paddles in the men's senior masters crew and coaches two Healani young adult teams. His grandson Kea Paialina is steersman of Healani's Boy's 14s, one of three OHCR unbeaten crews this season.

"My grandfather may be the club president and my dad the coach, but they both come down hard on me when I do something wrong," Kea Paialina said.

Healani's Boys 14 crew, consisting of Craig Souza, Kai Ah Sam, Kahale Hoke, Kauahi Sai, from St. Louis High School, and Barry Quillooy and Paialina from Kamehameha, have won all six OHCR races; last year, as 13s, they lost only once, and in 1987, as 12s, they won every heat but one. "No favorites on this crew. If anything, Kea gets chewed out by his dad more than any one of us," stroker Souza said.

"The best part," Kea said, "is that we're all friends, in and out of the boat. Many of the crew hang out at my house." The Healani boys are expected



By Dennis Odo, Star-Bulletin

Healani's Boys 14 crew. From front, Craig Souza, Kai Ah Sam, Kahale Hoke, Kauahi Sai, Barry Quillooy and Kea Paialina.

to extend their streak, winning tomorrow's Oahu regatta and following that with a win at State Championship Aug. 5 on Maui.

"I hope my boys don't let this publicity go to their heads and end up blowing the races," coach Paialina said.

OHCR's two other undefeated crews are from Outrigger—the senior master women and the junior men.

Outrigger, which won the last four Oahu titles, Hui Nalu and Kailua are expected to battle for the club title tomorrow, leaving Healani fourth.

"A club has to have a full, or nearly full, slate of 30 crews to win. We're

missing too many crews," said the senior Paialina.

In six OHCR events this season, Kailua won three regattas with Outrigger and Hui Nalu each winning one. Last month at Nanakuli, Kailua and Outrigger tied for first place. Healani has one third and five fourth places this season.

It's no secret the strategy planned by OHCR's 16 participating clubs tomorrow. The first priority will be to qualify as many crews possible for next month's states. And that means loading up all not-yet-qualified crews with top paddlers to get them ap-

proved. "No matter how poorly the crews placed during the regatta season, a win at the Oahu Championships will get them in the states," Kailua's coach Harrison "Beanie" Heen said.

With only four places in each event allotted Oahu crews at the states, and with berths determined by crew performances during the regatta season and in tomorrow's championships, look for juggling of personnel by all clubs.

"An Oahu win is also a goal. This is the most important regatta of our island season," Heen said.