

Molokai Hoe to cross Kaiwi Channel

HONOLULU — In a proclamation issued last week from Hawaii's state capitol, Governor John Waihee designated Sunday, Oct. 8, as Bankoh Molokai Hoe Day in Hawaii in honor of the 38th annual Molokai-to-Oahu Hawaiian outrigger canoe race.

"The Bankoh Molokai Hoe perpetuates an ancient Hawaiian tradition rich in history and culture," the proclamation states. Further: "Our Hawaiian ancestors first crossed the treacherous Kaiwi Channel more than 1,000 years ago. Today, that tradition lives on through the Molokai Hoe, a grueling 40.8-mile journey which tests the spirit and stamina of each paddler."

The race begins at 7:30 a.m. at Molokai's Hale O Lono Harbor. The first finisher is expected to cross the line at Fort DeRussy Beach on Oahu shortly after 1 p.m. The record, held by Outrigger Canoe Club of Honolulu, is five hours, eight minutes, 11.54 seconds.

More than 50 clubs from Canada, England, Tahiti, the Mainland and Hawaii are returning this year. Several new crews include Waikiki Yacht Club and Windward from Oahu, Nihoa from California and Australia's champions, the Gold Coast Australian Outrigger Canoe Club, composed of 10 national surf lifesaving champions from Burleigh Heads, Queensland.



KAI OPUA FIRST — Kai Opua finished first in the masters division during the Na Wahine O Ke Kai women's Molokai-to-Oahu outrigger canoe race Sept. 24. Their time over the 40.8-mile course was six hours and 54 minutes. The Kai Opua squad was made up of, front row (left to right): Paulette Castro, Janice Baxter, Pocho Youderian, Noel Black Ackerman and Tammy Sullivan; second row: Pam Santimer and Susie Shaw; back row: Bill Rosehill (coach), Jacki Backhaus, Shannon Misiak, Linda O'Dell, Lesley Tyler, Diane Clark, Puna Kihoi and Jessica Main.

"The last competitive team came to Hawaii in 1984 and they were fifth that year," said Aussie co-captain Peter Ridley. "That was the first and last time an Australian team had a serious go at the race." Four of the 1984 competitors are part of the 1989 paddling team.

Last June, Honolulu's Outrig-

ger raced the 42-kilometer Hamilton Island Cup on the Gold Coast. Outrigger Honolulu, the Molokai Hoe defending champions who established the channel record in 1988, beat Outrigger Australia on their home turf.

"We've been training fairly hard and we hope to do pretty well in Hawaii."

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Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
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BERTHA CATHERINE LARSEN, 90, of Honolulu, died Sept. 30, 1989. She was born in Andover, Mass. Survived by son, William H. of California; daughters, Mrs. Constance L. Waber and Mrs. Robert (Mary) Morahan; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Friends may call 8:30 to 9 a.m. Saturday at Star of the Sea Catholic Church, service 9 a.m. Scattering of ashes at the Outrigger Canoe Club. No flowers. Aloha attire.

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HONOLULU STAR BULLETIN

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Bruce Gushiken of Hawaii on the Big Island, Hawaii's winner of a \$200 RJR Nabisco Foundation Achievement in Volunteerism Award for outstanding service to the national Future Farmers of America Building Our American Communities Program.

Gushiken and a chapter adviser took part in the FAA's national conference on community development in Washington, D.C., recently.

Ethel Mori, 80, a past president of Zonta Club of Honolulu, to be honored at its 65th anniversary Sept. 28 at the Outrigger Canoe Club. Mori has won many awards for volunteer community service, was a member of the President's Council for the Aging and served the city Department of Parks and Recreation.

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MAUI NEWS

OCT 6 1989

Bankoh Molokai Hoe

'Super Bowl of outrigger canoe races' to be held Sunday

By STEVE MEDWID
For Holiday on Maui

The Bankoh Molokai Hoe is the world's most prestigious outrigger canoe race. And one of the most dangerous.

Swells as high as 15 feet have shattered canoes during the grueling 40.8 mile inter-island crossing from Molokai to Oahu.

This Sunday's 38th running has attracted nearly 60 crews from Hawaii, Tahiti, England, Canada and the Continental United States. Representing Maui will be three crews from Napili and Kihei Canoe Clubs.

They will start on Sunday, Oct. 8 from Molokai's Hale O Lono Harbor at 7:30 a.m. and the first canoe is expected to touch beach at Fort DeRussy in Waikiki around 1 p.m.

The paddlers gather on the beach at dawn for last-minute preparations to be followed by the ceremonial blessing. Tradition, as well as sportsmanship, is observed as they hold hands in prayer and sing the Hawaiian anthem, "Hawaii Ponoi."

Brightly painted canoes soon fill the harbor as

crews make their way out to the starting line. Although wooden canoes carved from Hawaii's native koa trees are still used, most paddlers will compete in sleek, fiberglass racing models weighing 400 pounds and approximately 40 feet in length.

There are nine paddlers per crew. Six occupy the canoe while the other three follow aboard a power boat.

At the start, the canoes resemble a pack of thoroughbreds as they see-saw up the coastline. Paddlers average 60 to 80 strokes per minute and maintain that pace the entire race.

Ahead is the unpredictable Kaiwi Channel. The treacherous journey begins as the canoes spread out across the open ocean.

Substitutions or "water changes" occur at 15-20 minute intervals. As many as three relief paddlers jump in the ocean, where they arrange themselves in single-file, well ahead in the path of the oncoming canoe.

As the canoe approaches at speeds up to 8 mph, the relief paddlers avoid churning paddles, duck under the two arched wooden cross booms that extend from the hull, and then hoist themselves in on the left side as the exhausted paddler bails out on the right.

A full-length spray cover that keeps the inside dry compounds the difficulty of this maneuver. The openings at each seat must be entered swiftly and gracefully or the canoe can stop or even capsize, wasting valuable time.

Midway across the channel, dehydration and fatigue from the hot sun become problems. Fluids are constantly replenished during changes on the escort boat. But stamina is the key factor.

Months of rigorous training are required for this endurance classic. Serious crews devote hundreds of hours to paddling, running and

calisthenics; not an easy regimen when you're holding down a full-time job.

In Hawaii, preparation starts in April for the shorter regatta races held throughout the summer. Long distance season follows in August with weekend races as long as 30 miles.

By today's competitive standards, the first Molokai-Oahu race in 1952 was primitive.

Two of the three crews entered borrowed small and bulky canoes that were better equipped for fishing and surfing than for racing. There were no spray covers and the men bailed from start to finish.

Relief paddlers were available but almost everyone opted to paddle the entire distance without them. A group of "stout-hearted" men from Molokai, who had practiced for just a few weeks, took nearly nine hours to win the inaugural crossing. Remarkably, all three crews finished within 18 minutes of each other.

The final leg of the race takes the crews around Diamond Head and turns into an all-out sprint along the shoreline of Waikiki Beach.

Thousands of cheering spectators welcome the tired paddlers at the finish line. Outrigger Canoe Club set the course record last year with a time of 5:08:11.

For their efforts, each paddler receives only a lei and commemorative medal. Awards, however, are presented to the top crews in koa, non-koa and masters (35 years and older) divisions.

The Bankoh Molokai Hoe has become an international event with crews competing from as far away as Japan and West Germany.

In recent years, the era of Hawaiian dominance has slowly come to an end. Since 1978, four mainland crews have captured the Bankoh Molokai Hoe. Outrigger however, has scored convincing victories the past three years.

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MOLOKAI HOE

Aussies want paddling revenge

By Jack Wyatt

Special to the Star-Bulletin

Call it Aussie revenge or the beginning of a rivalry, the race Sunday between Outrigger Canoe Club of Honolulu and the Outrigger Canoe Club of Australia in the Molokai Hoe sparks excitement.

"We'd like to get back at Outrigger (for beating us). We know that'll be tough. But our crew has prepared long and hard for this meeting," Aussie coach John Doak said.

Last June Honolulu's Outrigger defeated the Australians in a 20-mile race at Hamilton Island off the Great Barrier Reef. And the Aussies are still smarting.

"Our crew remembers losses. They're out for 'friendly' revenge," Doak said.

The two rivals are among 52 entries in Sunday's 38th men's Molokai-to-Oahu canoe race. The 40.8-mile contest begins from Hale O Lono Harbor at 7:30 a.m. with the first boat expected to arrive at Waikiki's Fort DeRussy Beach finish before 1 p.m.

Three-time defending champ Outrigger (Honolulu) set the course record last year finishing in five hours, eight minutes and 11 seconds. Sunday marks the second crossing for Australia. Teams consist of nine men, six paddling at any one time.

"We led the Hamilton race for the first 15 minutes but that changed when the course turned downwind in following swells and the Hawaiians took off," Doak recalled. The Aussie crew consists of, in the most part, Gold Coast lifeguards with strong paddling and surfing experience.

"We lack big wave steering experience. But we'll give it a go no matter what the sea conditions," the Aussie coach said.

Outrigger (Honolulu) coach Steve Scott ranks the Aussies as the dark horse and predicts them a top five finish.

Although Outrigger (Honolulu) has won the last three Molokai races, finishing first in seven of the last 10, Scott can't understand why his club is rated the heavy favorite by almost everyone.

"There's a half-dozen clubs that



By Craig T. Kojima, Star-Bulletin

Steve Scott, of Outrigger, and John Doak, of Australia, have a rivalry.

could win. To finish in the top 10 Sunday will be an accomplishment," he said.

Scott says visiting crews, Australia, Tahiti, IMUA (Calif.) and Offshore (Calif.), stand a good chance of winning, as do Oahu's Hui Nalu, Kailua and Lanikai and the Big Island's Kamehameha teams.

"I suppose we could be on that list," Scott said with a sheepish grin. Outrigger has won the state canoe regatta championship the past six years.

"We lost three strong paddlers from last year's crew," Scott said. But there's no feeling sorry for the defending champs. Outrigger's replacements include Gib Bintliff, Bill Bright and Geoff Graf, all strong and very experienced paddlers.

With Outrigger fielding four

nine-man crews — two open, one masters (35-44) and one senior masters (45 and over) — some say the Waikiki-based club is a paddler factory with its own farm system.

"Admittedly, we take our racing seriously. We thrive on competition. But that's an option open to all clubs," Scott said.

Outrigger trains off Waikiki four times a week, doing mostly hard short-distance workouts. "Our Molokai training works around 20-minute sprints. Much like a marathon runner in training doing a series of short 10-kilometer runs," Scott said.

If anything, Scott says, Outrigger goes into Sunday's race at a disadvantage. "All of our paddlers must be club members," the coach said.

Visiting teams have actively recruited outside talent.

MOLOKAI HOE MEN'S RACE

Winners' list

1978—Blazing Paddles (Calif.), 5:43:52.	1971—Healoni Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:51:02.	1961—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 7:48:00.
1988—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:08:11.	1970—Healoni Canoe Club (Oahu), 6:24:00.	1960—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 5:29:00.
1987—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:32:46.	1969—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:38:25.	1959—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:09:00.
1986—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:27:45.	1968—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:55:15.	1958—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:32:00.
1985—Illinois Brigade (Illinois), 5:33:04.	1967—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 6:03:09.	1957—Kai Oni (Oahu), 5:58:00.
1984—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:18:19.	1966—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 6:37:13.	1956—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 7:54:00.
1983—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:45:09.	1965—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 6:46:57.	1955—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 7:09:40.
1982—Offshore (Calif.), 6:08:35.	1964—Kailua Civic Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:58:00.	1954—Hui Nalu (Oahu), 6:05:00.
1981—Offshore (Calif.), 5:25:01.	1963—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:45:00.	1953—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:53:00.
1980—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:52:25.	1962—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 7:04:00.	1952—Kukui O Lanikula (Molokai), 8:55:00.
1979—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:43:52.		
1978—Hale O Lono to Fort DeRussy, 40.8 miles.		
1977—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 41:45 miles.		
1976—Hale O Lono to Magic Island, 41:45 miles.		
1975—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:55:00.		
1974—Kaunakakai to Magic Island, 55.50 miles.		
1973—Hale O Lono to Moana Hotel, 40:41 miles.		
1972—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:38:07.		
1971—Lanikai Canoe Club (Oahu), 6:18:55.		
1970—Kaunakakai to Sans Souci, 53:32 miles.		
1969—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 8:00:00.		
1968—Hale O Lono to Hilton Hawaiian Village, 40.8 miles.		
1967—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 1972—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 7:04:00.		

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ISLE FILE

Wahines struggle, but still manage to sweep Fresno

Malin Fransson had 17 kills and four blocks to lead the top-ranked University of Hawaii Wahines to their second straight, three-game sweep of Fresno State last night at Klamath Falls.



Fransson

Last night's scores were 15-9, 15-10, 15-12.

Tee Williams-Sanders, playing only the first two games, had 12 kills and four blocks.

UH is 14-0 overall and 8-0 in the Big West Conference.

The Bulldogs (9-9 and 2-5) were led by Leslie Lopes and Jenni McArtor, who had 15 and 13 kills, respectively.

Said UH coach Dave Shoji: "The bottom line is that we didn't play well and have a lot of work to do. All parts of our game were weak at certain times."

In other Big West matches last night, San Jose State upset fourth-ranked Long Beach State, 15-13, 15-7, 4-15, 15-8; Pacific beat UC Irvine, 16-14, 8-15, 15-9, 15-3; Cal Poly SLO beat San Diego State, 11-15, 15-11, 9-15, 15-13, 19-17 and UC Santa Barbara beat Cal State-Fullerton, 10-15, 15-8, 6-15, 15-2, 16-14.

Ladies play skins game:

Nancy Lopez, Ayako Okamoto, Liselotte Neumann and Jan Stephenson will compete in the \$360,000 Blue Chip Stamp World Ladies Skins Match Oct. 18 at the Westin Kauai's Kiele Course.

The 18-hole event, which will be videotaped for broadcast in Japan in December, is believed to be the first such match for female professional golfers in the United States.

Members of the PGA and Senior PGA tours play in similar made-for-television competitions.

In the skins-game format, each hole is worth a designated amount of money (the prize being known as a "skin").

Golfers play in a foursome and the player with the best

score on each hole wins the money.

However, there can be only one winner per hole. If there is a tie, the money carries over to the next hole, thus doubling the value of that hole.

For the World Ladies Skins Match, holes 1 through 6 will be worth \$10,000 apiece, Nos. 7 through 12, \$20,000, and Nos. 13 through 18, \$30,000.

Should there be a tie after 18 holes, the match will continue until a winner emerges.

BYUH, Chaminade roll:

Lei Kaisa had a match-high 12 kills to lead the Brigham Young University-Hawaii women's volleyball team to a 15-7, 15-2, 15-8 win over Whitman College of Walla Walla,

Wash. last night in Laie.

Irae Utu added eight kills, and Michelle Fox four for BYUH.

The Seasideers are 14-2 on the year. Whitman, which lost 15-5, 15-2, 15-8 to Chaminade earlier in the day, is 0-20.

Julie Edwards and Nani Kalamia had eight kills apiece to lead the Silverswords (7-4). Willete Andrade served 10 straight points to give Chaminade a 10-0 lead in the second game.

Outrigger goes for record: Three-time defending champion Outrigger Canoe Club can become the all-time win leader in the Molokai Hoe in the 38th annual race tomorrow.