

NOV 14 1990

OF
FREDERICK "FRITZ" BENDER HERMAN, 87, of Kaneohe, died Nov. 12, 1990. He was born in Newark, N.J., and was former regional director for Kodak and former president of the Chamber of Commerce and director of the Honolulu Rotary Club. Survived by daughter, Yvonne H. Smith; son, Frederick B. Jr.; grandsons, Stuart R. Smith and F.B. Herman III; granddaughters, Laurel E. Paleka and Elizabeth Liza Cohen; four great-grandchildren. Service 8:30 a.m. Friday at Outrigger Canoe Club. Arrangements by Borthwick Mortuary.

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Services today for originator of hula show

Services for Frederick "Fritz" Bender Herman, who designed and developed the popular Kodak Hula Show tourist attraction, are scheduled for 8:30 a.m. today at the Outrigger Canoe Club.
Herman came to the Islands in 1928 to manage Kodak's first Hawaii shop. Tourists often asked him where they could take pictures of hula dancers. At the time, the dance was still considered "naughty" in polite circles, but nine years

later, on a whim, Herman asked a hula instructor friend if her students would come to Waikiki Beach and perform for tourists. She said yes.
Herman did not tell his Mainland boss, but by chance, the boss showed up. Herman feared for his job, but the boss instantly loved the idea.
The show took a nine-year hiatus during the 1940s, but resumed in 1949. Twenty years later, controversy raged in news headlines as far away as

The Wall Street Journal when Mayor Frank Fasi threatened to cancel the show because it paid no rent for the facilities it was using on city land next to the old Queen's Surf in Waikiki.

"I'm not going to see this island developed for tourists," Fasi was quoted as saying in the Journal.

The show closed for five months, then reopened at Waikiki Shell, on a site it now

leases from the city.

Herman retired from Kodak in 1967 and emceed the show until 1974. He continued to receive thousands of letters from visitors from all over the world praising his work.

Herman's hula instructor friend who supervised the dancers, Louise Akeo Silva, died in 1980, but dancers still carry on her tradition, teaching hula basics to the tourists following each perform-

WATER SPORTS

Rain, mishaps don't dampen regatta spirits

By Jack Wyatt
Special to the Star-Bulletin

A capsizing in the surf, resulting in a broken canoe, a cut on the leg and a busted race all failed to dampen the enthusiasm Steve Baker of Kauai had for yesterday's Central Pacific Bank/Hula Bowl Regatta at Honolulu Harbor.

"I can hardly wait to try it again next year," said Baker, an entry in the one-person outrigger canoe division and the only skipper who failed to finish.

The home builder from Haena, Kauai, explained that he was stroking all out to defend last year's win when his boat got knocked over by a huge wave.

"It caught me by complete surprise," he said, adding that the force cracked the boat's hull and tossed him into the surf.

Being from Kauai caught Baker on unfamiliar turf.

"I didn't know Waikiki's wave patterns, otherwise I would have watched for the sets (of waves) and given them a wide berth."

Baker's upset came just minutes after the Ala Wai Harbor start. After his mishap, he nursed his broken craft to shore.

Despite his accident, Baker says the course was a challenge and fun.

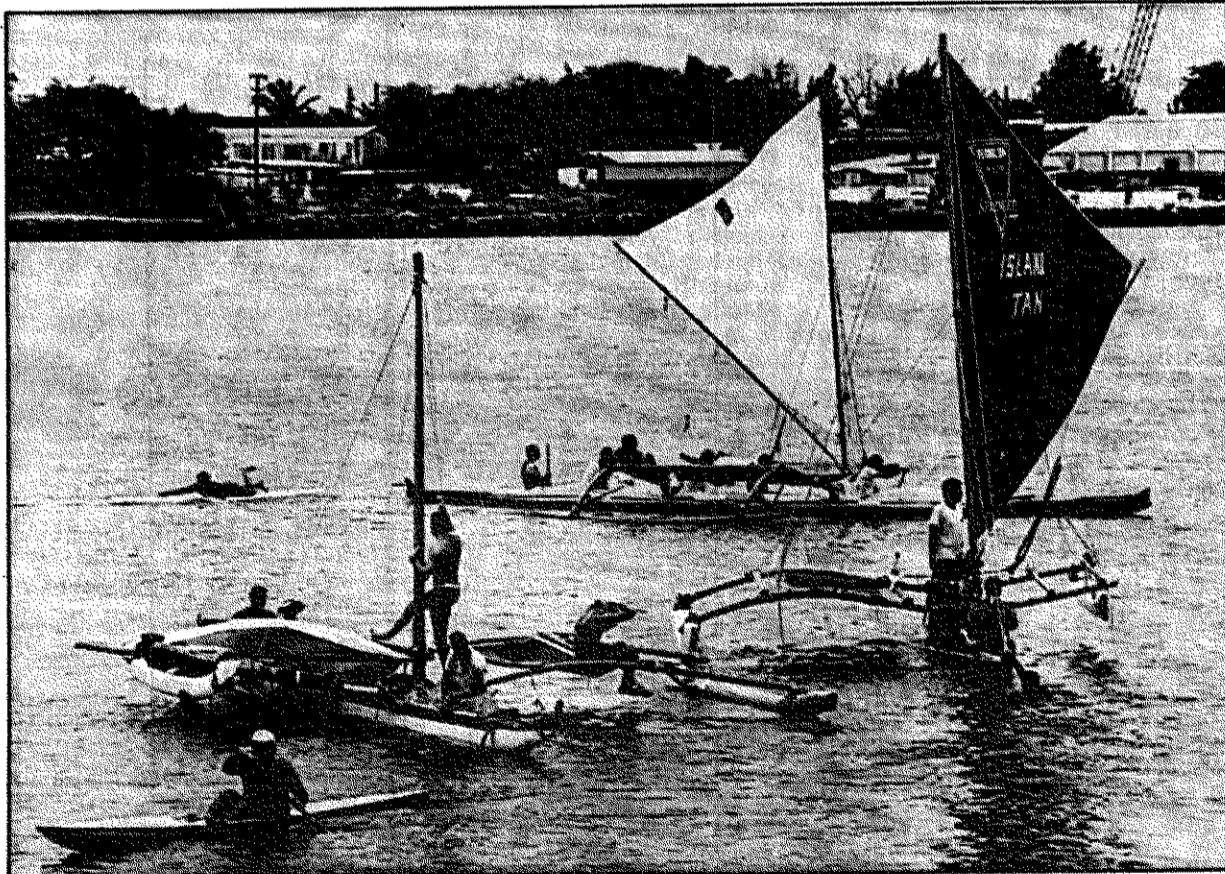
"I simply went straight when I should have zagged," he said.

Baker also noted that staging a multi-class regatta and finishing it inside historic Honolulu Harbor was a good idea.

The annual regatta honors King David Kalakaua (1836-1891), a monarch well known for his sailing and paddling interest. The king's birthday was last Friday. The races of 10 and 15 kilometers began at Ala Wai Canal and ended at King Kalakaua's Boathouse at Pier 7. Competition was held in five divisions — one-person outriggers, surf skis (kayaks), paddle boards, sailing canoes and six-paddler outriggers in celebrity heats.

But despite the something-for-every-boater format, the regatta drew a disappointing 50 individual entries — about 27 less than last year.

"Poor weather and uncertain sea conditions may have kept some



There was quite a mix of watercraft at the Honolulu Harbor finish of yesterday's Central Pacific Bank-Hula Bowl Regatta. Entrants competed in sailing canoes, surf skis, kayaks and one-man outriggers.

participants away," race director Walter Guild said. With more race volunteers than fans, the rain also kept spectators at home.

Mark Rigg, 34, paddling a one-person outrigger canoe, swept the big prize — the prestigious Governor's Cup — for finishing first overall among all craft. Rigg turned the 10 kilometers (6.2 miles) in 58 minutes and 31 seconds, finishing just seconds ahead of Lorey Bode, 31, paddling a surf ski.

"Lorey was ahead of me until we approached the Honolulu Harbor entrance just beginning our run to the finish," Rigg said. Bode took a wide turn to avoid some waves while Rigg, who grew up paddling canoes off Honolulu, chose the shorter inside route.

"Fortunately, I got through without getting knocked over (by

waves)," said Rigg, a four-time winner of the Molokai-Oahu race as a member of Outrigger Canoe Club's crew. Rigg, although an excellent paddler, is best known as a former Pepperdine University volleyball standout, from 1976 to 1980.

Even the experienced Bode, the women's winner last year, got knocked over by a wave. And the veteran Molokai-Oahu paddler knows her ocean swells better than most.

"I knew Lesline (Conner) was closing on me and to get the boat upright and back underway as quickly as possible, I really began scrambling," she said.

For the second year, Brigid Gearen and Jenni Groff — two 17-year-old Punahou School seniors — finished 1-2 in the junior girls surf ski division.

"Jenni beats me over the 250-meter course and I get her in the endurance races like this one," Gearen said.

Both girls are products of Hawaii's highly successful junior kayak program.

Georg Kissner, who at 43 qualifies in the surf ski masters division but instead entered and won yesterday's more competitive expert class, thrives on a challenge.

"Billy Robello and I made a race of it, finishing only seconds apart," he said, adding "racing against the younger paddlers keeps me thinking young."

Kissner coaches kayaking at Mid-Pacific and Iolani School.

Island Tan, with Mike Muller on the helm, won the highly competitive seven-boat sailing canoe division, finishing in one hour.