

# WHY PUA KEALOHA DID NOT SWIM WAS PUZZLE

Why didn't Pua Kealoha, champion sprinter, take part in the mermaid swimming meet Saturday night at Punahou? The question was asked on all sides and the answer is tangled up in the mix-up that ensued when a last minute effort was made to have the star appear.

First of all Pua did not file an entry because he labored under the impression that it was a "wahine" meet without any men's events. But he showed up at the tank and when one of the officials heard about it he asked Pua whether he would come in at the last minute. Pua was willing and went over to get his suit. The officials held confab and decided to accept his post entry.

But the swimmers entered in the race felt that the officials should have also asked them if they had any objections. The officials had not asked them and had overlooked the matter in the bustle of trying to get Pua to swim. A number of the swimmers grumbled at the officials taking the action without first consulting them. They were not afraid to swim against Pua and gladly welcomed him, but they felt a little bit hurt that the officials had overlooked them in the confab on the subject and so they grumbled good naturedly among themselves.

Pua, returning quietly from the bathhouse overheard the grumbling against the officials and rather than have any "pilikia" calmly dropped out of sight without saying a word to any one. So the century was staged without him, but the next time the officials promise to call in the swimmers in any race for discussion before accepting a post entry.

So after all it wasn't anybody's fault in particular and no great harm was done.