

HAWAII CLIPPING SERVICE
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Victoria Custer Elaine Stroup
HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN

AUG 1 4 1970

Surf Spray



By Ron Haworth

Grueling Canoe Race Tomorrow

The State Canoe Championships, held two weeks ago at Nawiliwili, was not a signal to hang the trusty koa canoe up to dry and stash paddles.

And many of the paddlers are not able to sit back and have that extra helping of mashed potatoes.

For those prone to the endurance route, the action continues tomorrow with a race from Waikiki to Pokai Bay. It's all part of the Pokai Bay Sea Festival.

Maile Sons Canoe Club sponsors the race which is sanctioned by the Hawaii Canoe Racing Association.

Defending champion Waikiki Surf Club will need to call on a super-human effort if it is to retain its crown. Reason: a good portion of the club's top paddlers will be paddling from Kailua-Kona to Waikiki, retracing Kamehameha the Great's feat of the 1700s.

Entered in Catalina Race

Also siphoning power and experience away from Pokai is the annual Long Beach-to-Catalina Island race, again scheduled to take place tomorrow.

An all star crew will represent Oahu in the 26-mile crossing with an all-Kauai crew adding a one-two Hawaii punch.

The Oahu hopefuls: Lance Mann, Garry Murakami, Gene Celebrado (Healani); Tim Guard, Tom Connor, Hal Burchard (OCC); Aka Hemmings, Kimo Hugo, Sampson Mokuahi Jr. and John Bell (Waikiki).

Harry Ho of Healani and Cris Bode of HCRA are coach and manager-cook, respectively.

The race, according to one paddler, is a "breeze" in comparison to Molokai-Oahu.

"A real fun thing . . ."

Hawaii last won it in 1967.

A very decided Mainland flavor is lent this race with the use of all fiberglass canoes, which is like entering a sports car rally in a compact Detroit product.

Two weeks from tomorrow the Duke Kahanamoku Lanikai-to Waikiki-race precludes the October Molokai-Oahu classic.

Boaters Careless

More than once this summer this writer has witnessed the carelessness of boaters (both sail and power) maneuvering craft without thought through a section of water clearly marked by colored flags used to lay out canoe racing lanes.

The end result has caused HCRA officials countless work delay and repair.

Common courtesy and a little thought is in order.

The same holds true when a diver's "down flag" bright red with white stripes — is observed by boaters.

Divers are required by law to display the flag and must surface within 50 feet of it. A boater, unaware of the significance of the red flag runs the risk of injuring a diver with prop or keel.

Ala Moana will host 300 entries in the sixth annual Hawaii State Surfing Championships tomorrow and Sunday. Surfline Hawaii has donated 18 trophies, a welcome gift, according to an HSA spokesman who said all available funds were used in transporting Hawaii's team to Australia this year for the World Contest.

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HONOLULU ADVERTISER
AUG 1 6 1970

Outrigger wins race

Mark Buck's Outrigger Canoe Club paddlers who never participated in a marathon canoe race before won the 27 mile annual John Awong Waikiki-to-Pokai Bay Canoe race yesterday in about four hours and 40 minutes.

Outrigger Seniors took second, overtaking Lanikai in the last 100 yards to finish less than a canoe length ahead of the Lanikaians.

Fourteen canoes competed, though four were swamped trying to get beyond the Waikiki breakers.

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Oahu Crew Wins on Coast

That all-star canoe crew which represented three Oahu clubs is home from California where they showed seven Mainland counterparts (and Kauai) the fine art of paddling the Catalina Channel.

Nine seasoned paddlers from Healani, Outrigger and Waikiki Surf took the measure of second finisher Newport by more than ½ mile. And in winning the 24-mile race, the Islanders beat the defending club of the past two years.

At least one Oahu paddler, Tom Connor, will always remember the race as a "not too serious" morning of ideal weather conditions.

"Imagine the Ala Wai on a windless morning with blue sky," he said.

"The crossing was even flatter and less eventful."

Healani's Harry Ho was Oahu's coach and he came up with a royal-flush canoe hand.

The Oahuans paddled for a solid hour before making their first relief change. Balboa, meanwhile, completed two changes in that 60 minutes.

Conditioning Pays Off

"Our paddlers had all come off a summer of canoe racing," Connor said.

"Maybe conditioning paid dividends."

"Everytime the other clubs made a paddler change we'd pick up the stroke and move a little nearer on the leaders."

"After about five miles we overtook Newport and that was the canoe race."

The basic rules of the race follow those of the Hawaii Canoe Racing Association — nine paddlers rotated at will — but Connor observed that the escort boats did not have officials overseeing each crew.

"It's an honor system," he said.

Two major differences between the Catalina and Molokai races are in the canoes and equipment. Canoes are all fiberglass with no weight minimum. And there are no covers to keep out rough seas.

Connor guessed the race would have been postponed had the weather threatened.

Figuring that a light canoe travels faster, the Oahu crew took a canoe belonging to Kai Oni Canoe Club to California.

"It couldn't weigh more than 310 pounds. It was so thin you could almost see through the hull."

HCRA rules state all canoes must be 400 pounds, whether koa or glass.

The Oahu champions were sponsored by Gene Sontag. The race was part of the Long Beach Sea Spree and 2,000 spectators greeted the canoes on their arrival in Avalon on Catalina Island.

Surf Film at Roosevelt High

The camera artistry of Greg MacGillivray and Jim Freeman skyrockets to new heights in their latest release, "Waves of Changes", premiering tonight at Roosevelt High School.

We found it a 90-minute experience in entertainment excellence — an aesthetic agreement between camera, wave and body and soul.

Four years in the making, "Waves of Change" follows Mark Martinson, Nat Young and David Nuuhiwa across waves in France, Portugal, California and Hawaii.

The first 2½ minutes on the reel back-lighting the credits, is worth the \$2.50 admission, and from there on the viewer is in dividend.

Also featured in the film is the Bud Browne footage taken at California's Wedge and tandem laughs at Makaha.

Big wave buffs will thrill to the best Waimea wipeouts ever tied together by five minutes of free-falling bodies and man-eating surf.

So great was the movie's acceptance in Los Angeles, it played for a month at the legitimate Huntington Hartford Theater. It was the theater's first film in 20 years.