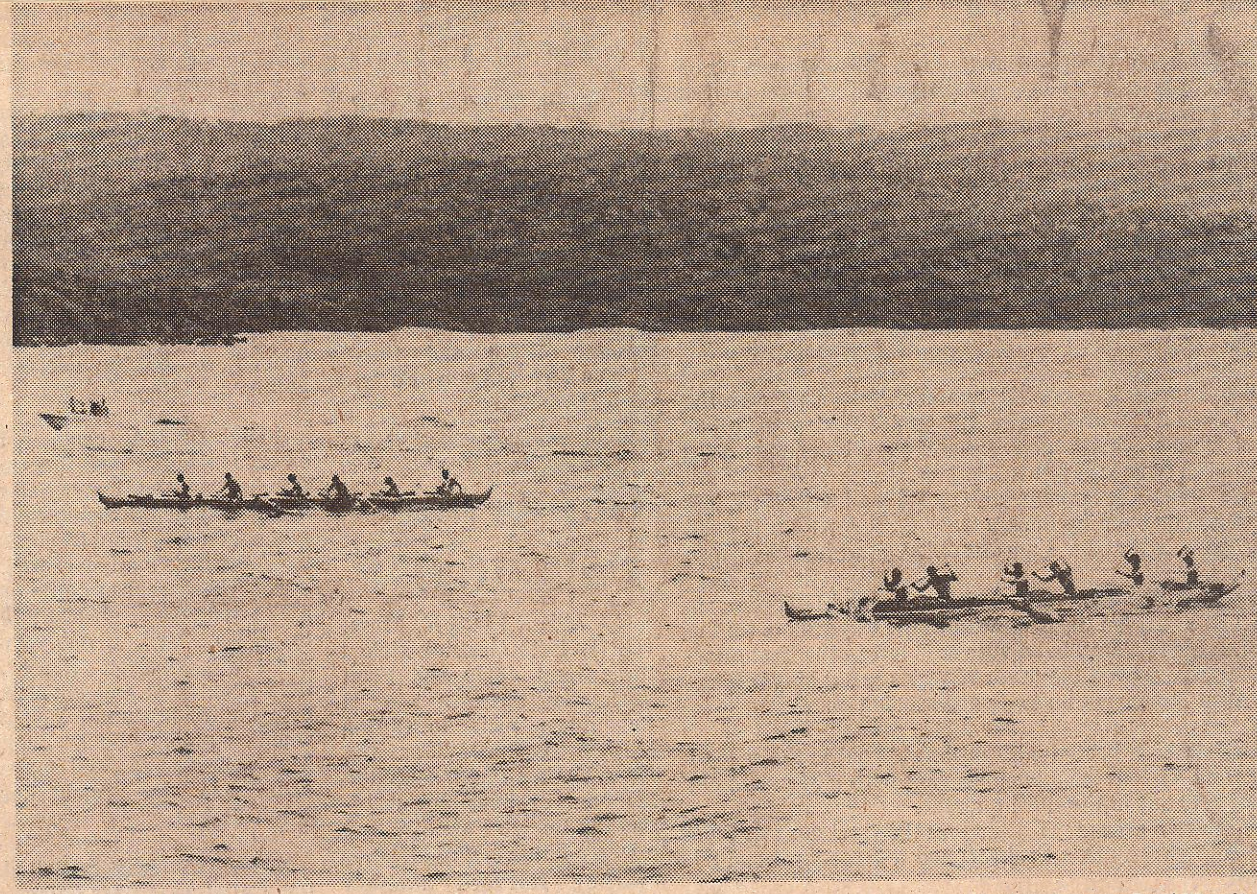


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Healani's triumphant crew. Members were Richard Bell, Ed Dorenberger, Cappy Sheeley, Lance Mann, Harry Ho, Gary Murakami, Alan Price, John Grow. Coach was Frank Crozier.



Advertiser Photos by David Yamada

Healani (left) and Waikiki Surf Club canoes battle for lead at outset of race off Molokai. The Healani managed to triumph after a grueling race in time of 6 hrs. 24 min.

Healani wins canoe race in big upset

By KEN KOBAYASHI
Advertiser Staff Writer

An inexperienced team which never placed higher than third all year pulled off the biggest upset of the canoe season yesterday.

Healani finished the 37½-mile Molokai-to-Oahu Aloha Week race in six hours and 24 minutes, bettering koa division favorites Waikiki Surf by 14 minutes and the Outrigger Canoe Club by more than half an hour.

THE VICTORY was the first in the koa class by Healani in the 18 years of the Molokai to Oahu competition.

The Healani crew rode the blue and brown 42-foot Papaloa, averaging about 5.8 miles per hour across the choppy but windless channel.

Waikiki's koa Malia which finished second overall took an early lead out of Hale O'Lono Harbor, Molokai, but Healani surged ahead two hours after the start and opened a mile lead which they held until the finish at Waikiki's Duke Kahanamoku Beach

where 2,500 greeted the winners.

"It was a psychological battle," Coach Frank Crozier of Healani said. "We were up for it."

CROZIER CITED the team's spirit and six weeks of conditioning as the prime ingredients for the stunning upset.

No one had expected Healani as the champions. Crozier's crew had finished third in five regattas this season, while the powerful Waikiki had won four and Outrigger one.

Also, Crozier had four greenhorns among his nine paddlers who were on their first channel race. Another paddler was on his second.

"They were in condition," Healani veteran Richard Bell said. "They paddled like hell."

INTERESTINGLY, the four are faculty members at Punahou. Ed Dorenberger, Cappy Sheeley, Alan Price and John Growth jogged almost continuously

around Cooke Field, preparing for the race. The practice runs every day for six weeks paid off.

"It was just a matter of time," said Crozier, who had just finished his sixth channel race. "We didn't have anything in the beginning. We were working our way up."

Gary Murakami, the steersman, was the only Healani member to go the whole route. The eight other paddlers alternated for the five remaining positions on the canoes.

Murakami was especially valuable because of the swells, which Crozier said sometimes were eight feet high. They had to bail every half hour.

"We were lucky the wind didn't come up," Crozier said.

For Waikiki, the loss was especially disappointing since it was the last race for coach Jeff Chee, who says he is retiring.

Waikiki's fiber-glass team which came in behind the three koa canoes took first in the non-koa division, followed by Lanikai, Marina Del Ray—the California club from Newport, Hui Nalu and Leeward, the last of the eight to finish.

KOA DIVISION

First—Healani, 6 hours 24 minutes 0 seconds, (Richard Bell, Ed Dorenberger, Cappy Sheeley, Lance Mann, Harry Ho, Gary Murakami, Frank Crozier, Alan Price, John Growth).
Second—Waikiki Surf Club, 6 hours 38 minutes 0 seconds, (Baldwin Makua Jr., Randy Chun, Joseph Napoleon, Andy Miller, Joe Gillman, Jeff Chee, Aaron Young, Tony Guerrero, Mike Tongg).
Third—Outrigger, 6 hours 35 minutes 33 seconds, (Mark Buck, Tom Conner, Hal Burchard, John Hanneberg, Tim Guard, Tom Holmes, Henry Aran, William Mitchell, George McPheeters).

NON-KOA DIVISION

First—Waikiki Surf Club, 7 hours 10 minutes 11 seconds, (Reggie Malabey, Paul Stevens, Kim Hugo, Robert Ching, Phil Lee, Wilby Kaupiko, John Bell, Derrick Wong, Darryl Wong).
Second—Lanikai, 7 hours 16 minutes, 33 seconds, (Ernest Caldeira, Alvin Barter, Allen Capbell, William Ehrhorn, David Hazen, Tay Perry, Howard Lipp, Les Ito, Ray Lum).
Third—Marina Del Ray, 7 hours 29 minutes 44 seconds, (Harold Brown, Sam Farrar, Keith Kellor, Bill Wasoyke, Steve Kekuewa, Ken Bucha, Don Lee, Derek Harrison, Chuck Coulter).
Fourth—Hui Nalu, 7 hours 50 minutes, 41 seconds, (Emerson Kalili, John Chamizo Jr., Mike Mason, Norman Kai, Milton Beamer, Melvin Matsumoto, Mike Apple, Jeff Clark, Kim Tara).
Fifth—Leeward, 7 hours 52 minutes 59 seconds, (Frank Commendador, Alexander McNicol, Joseph Mahoe, Walter Santos, Tim Cafa, Erasmus Nahalea, Lawrence Hanohano, Regan Van Gleson, Melvin Keawe).



Advertiser Photo by David Yamada

Frank Crozier, coach of victorious Healani paddlers, is congratulated by a friend.