

JUL 10 1980

# Social and Athletic Club Has Signed Up 2,000

The new Honolulu Club at the corner of Ward Avenue and South King Street is hoping to add its name to the city's list of exclusive social-set hangouts.

Initial reaction is any clue, the social and athletic club is a shoo-in. With rough edges showing as workers finish construction, the club has an air of exclusivity.

Even the graffiti on the unfinished elevator walls is in good taste. One observer, after her first visit for lunch, said she was surprised at and impressed by the interior trimmings.

And club developer Eugene Axelrod said, "I had envisioned what the club would look like, and this is better than what I envisioned."

The \$12 million facility opened for lunch, drinks, racquetball and socializing recently with construction workers mixing in casually with the club's new members.

Axelrod, president of Knight Racquetball Development Corp., the club's developer, said he expects finishing touches to be completed this week.

WITH 2,000 members, the club has exceeded its membership projections by about 80 percent, said Axelrod, who is president and director of the club.

And to counter those who told Axelrod that Honolulu didn't need another social club, he said 38 percent of the Honolulu Club's members belong to other clubs such as the Pacific Club, Oahu Country Club and the Outrigger Canoe Club.

Axelrod came up with the idea for his expansive racquetball club in 1977 and visited social and athletic clubs across the country to give the idea substance.

Finding a site and obtaining backing for the club, however, involved

some complex packaging by the former Washington, D.C. businessman.

The site of the Honolulu club, once the home of Trader Vic's restaurant, was to have become an integrated medical facility known as the Thomas Square Plaza. Ground was broken in 1973 for the planned 19-story complex.

Site work, including foundations, for that facility stood basically untouched until Knight started work on the club in early 1979.

Knight Racquetball Development Corp. acquired the 32,725-square-foot site from bankrupt THC Financial Corp. under a court-approved agreement.

WHILE NEGOTIATING for the site, Axelrod was rounding up 35 friends and associates willing to come up with \$51,500 each — \$1.8 million — to invest in the club.

He then went to Bank of Hawaii, American Security Bank and the State of Hawaii Employee Retirement System for a combined loan of \$6.5 million. Bank of Hawaii added \$2 million to that in March this year so that construction could be completed.

The club was originally estimated to cost \$8 million, but the addition of another floor and other expenses have bumped the cost up to \$12 million.

The club was built by Charles Pankow Associates. Wong & Wong and Joseph M. Pisciotto were the architects, and Richard Crowell Associates handled the interior design.

Club members will not be lacking for things to keep them interested.

The eighth floor has four paddle tennis courts, half a basketball court

and a sun deck.

The seventh floor includes locker rooms, saunas, steam baths, cold plunges, swimming pool, gift shop, massage room and a dining room in which diners have a bird's-eye view of Thomas Square and Honolulu Concert Hall.

A CO-ED fitness center, racquetball observation deck and cocktail

lounge and dance floor are on the sixth floor of the club.

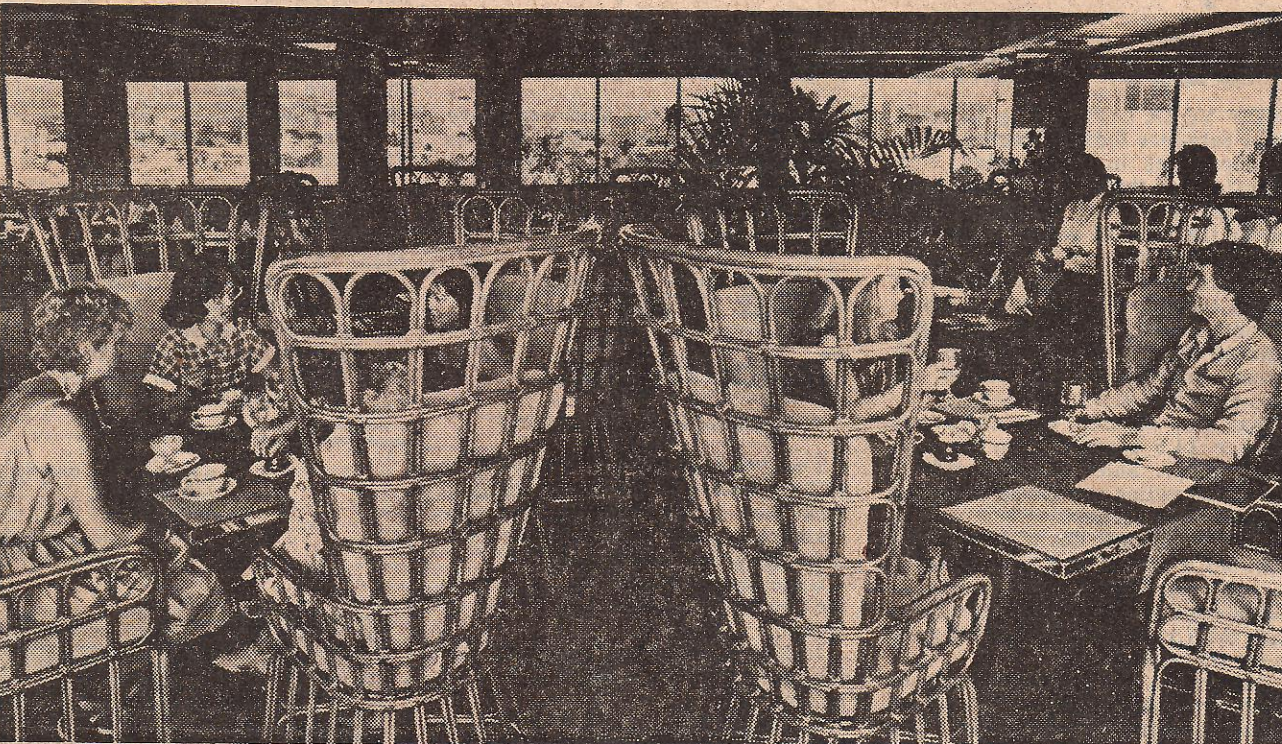
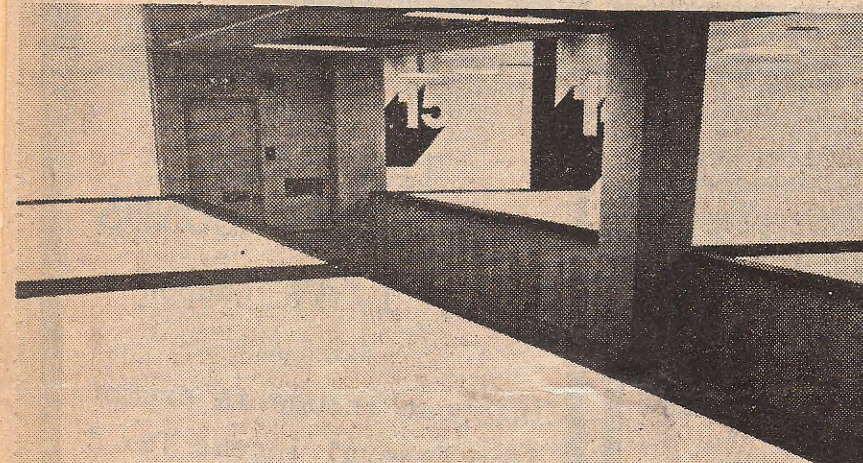
And at the heart of the club, on the fifth floor, is the club's main attraction — 15 racquetball courts.

Axelrod has leased out other parts of the club to separate but complementary businesses.

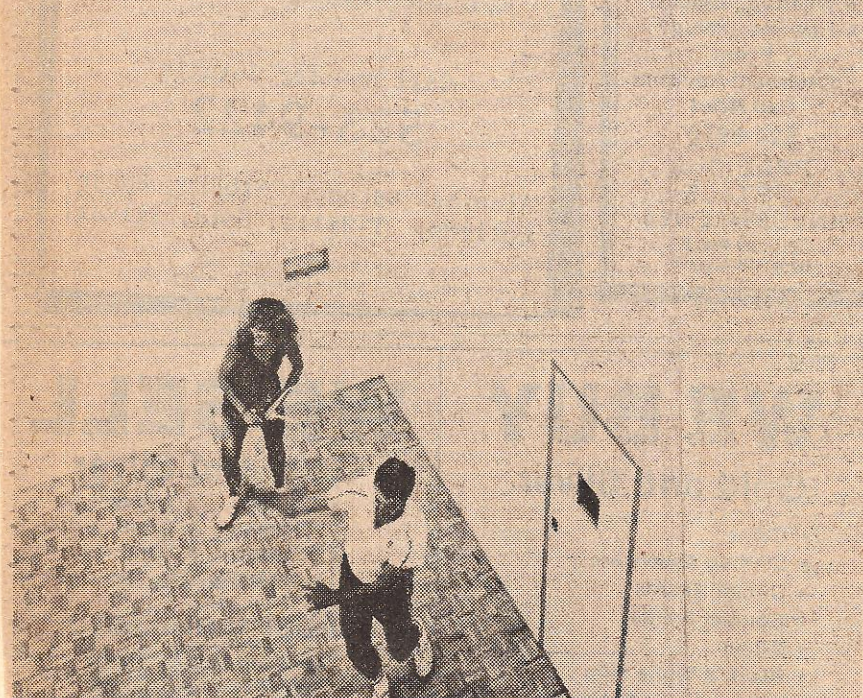
On the seventh floor is the club's Cosmetology Salon, operated by

Maurice Damien. The fourth floor houses a comprehensive sports medical clinic headed by Dr. Chet Nierenberg.

And last week, Dallas-based T.G.I. Friday's, which has restaurants in more than 30 cities nationwide, filed a \$600,000 building permit to construct a restaurant on the ground floor of the club.



CLUB DINERS—Honolulu Club members can dine with a view of Thomas Square and the Honolulu Concert Hall.—Star-Bulletin Photos.



WORKOUT—Traffic at the club's 15 racquetball courts has been steady since they opened for play about two weeks ago.

JUL 15 1980



## Show Biz wayne harada

### Whee, the people

Nohelani Cyprano reopens Friday night at the Ala Moana Americana's Garden Lanai. On Thursday, she'll help launch the Maui County Fair. On Sunday, she entertains



at the Miss Hawaii Hemisphere Beauty Pageant at the Pacific Beach Hotel's Oceanarium Grand Ballroom. . . . Teddy and Nanci Tanaka are hosting the 7-Eleven-sponsored Muscular Dystrophy Association golf tournament today at the Honolulu International Country Club, and a lot of local celebs are participating. Further, 7-Eleven's Mike Cutter (district manager), has assembled The Naipo Serenaders, Alice (Naipo) Park's Puamana Hula Studio, the men from Kawaiilua Halau, and youth singer Delmane Naipo for a dinner show this evening. . . .

### Itemizations

'Twas quite a whirlwind weekend for KKUA's Lane Robinson, who emceed three diverse events. Friday, he introduced The Peter Moon Band in two shows at the Ala Moana Americana's Garden Lanai; Saturday, he did the honors at the Little River Band concert at the NBC Arena; and Sunday night, he hosted the second Deep Purple-Shnazz bill at the University of Hawaii's Campus Center Ballroom



Notice many record shops playing Keola and Kapono Beamer's "Island Night" album? Sure, it's a popular commodity. But record store folks are competing in an "Island Night" contest — the trick being, if an unidentified party enters the shop while the LP is being played, the staffer wins an "Island Night," which happens to be admission to the Beamer-Amy Bumatai show at the Cinerama Reef's Ocean Showroom. . . .

### Chit-chat

Vacationing here: Tennessee "Ernie" Ford. He bumped into The Fabulous Krush the other day, when they were discussing business at the Outrigger Canoe Club, and proceeded to give a blessing. . . .



And Bobby Gonzales of Krush sub-hosts for vacationing Danny Kaleikini this week on the latter's KHON-TV show, which airs on Sunday. . . . Smokey Road opens tomorrow night at Walton's Mountain, at the Imperial Hawaii Hotel. The group will provide country music, from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. . . . And that's Show Biz. . . .

JUL 5 1980

# Malia 'surfs' on; Hui Nalu on top

By ANDY YAMAGUCHI  
Advertiser Sports Writer

The waves off Waikiki broke Malia in two last year.

But yesterday Malia, the Waikiki Surf Club's storied 43-year-old koa canoe, was the only non-fiberglass canoe to brave the surf at the Walter J. MacFarlane Regatta off Waikiki.

Hui Nalu out-pointed Outrigger 86-82 for the team title.

Clubs in the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association normally race with koa canoes. It's the core of HCRA tradition.

But the host Outrigger Canoe Club made an exception for yesterday's regatta because the surf, running at 5-6 feet, increased the chance of damage to the priceless koa hulls.

Every club elected to go fiberglass. Every one, that is, except for Waikiki Surf Club.

Tradition runs deep. "Bringing out your koa in Hawaii, that's probably the best offering you can make to the old-timers," said club president George Downing.

And WSC members would rather paddle with their bare hands than enter a race without Malia.

"For us, Malia will always be our racing boat," said club member Glenn Kaia. "We treat her like a human being. It's something that's hard to explain. . . ."

Just then the Malia was carried onto the beach. Something was wrong. Kaia turned and ran to the canoe, grabbing the equipment bag on the way.

Like anxious mothers, she and Luana Froiseth looked over the trouble. Several dowels on the gunwale had popped out. Minor. Kaia looked relieved.

"Everybody's scared," she said, "but this is a race, and when there's a race Malia comes first."

HCRA President Ward Russell said, "In the early days of canoe racing it was a perennial champion. It's a symbol to the Waikiki Surf Club. They have a very strong emotional attachment to that canoe. It's a beautiful feeling."

Depending on who you were, the Waikiki waves were either a boon (if you caught one to victory) or a bane (if they swamped your canoe or, worse, caused a collision).

In one race Healani's canoe struck the rear of Outrigger's canoe, causing minor damage. In another, Kailua's canoe perched under, cracking the bow and causing the canoe to almost sink before club members swam out to bring it in.

An "open steersmen" rule was adopted for the day, allowing the clubs to use any steersman. Experienced men such as Fred Hemmings, Downing, Rabbit Kekai, Kala Kukea, Mike Holmes and Blue Makua Jr. were able to guide the less knowledgeable through the waves.

At Kahana Bay, meanwhile, the Waikiki Beach Boys won six events, including senior men and senior women, to win the Hui O Koolauloa Regatta and register its second consecutive Hui Wa'a and Surfing regatta victory.

The Beach Boys scored 50 points to outdistance defending association champion Loa'a, with 30. Windward Kai edged Kaneohe 24-23 for third place.

Results of both regattas on page C-2



Waikiki Surf Club paddlers (foreground), in their koa canoe, head out to the buoy along with the rest of the fleet during yesterday's Walter MacFarlane Regatta in waters off Waikiki.

JUL 14 1980

# Third Straight Win for Hui Nalu C.C.

After the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association's first six regattas of the season, the heated rivalry between Hui Nalu and Outrigger Canoe Club is anything but settled.

In the first three regattas, flat-water events off Kailua, Nanakuli and Waimanalo, OCC defeated the Hui decisively. Hui Nalu repaid Outrigger in kind in the next two beach regattas at Waikiki—the Kaupiko and the MacFarlane.

Yesterday, at the season's last flat-water regatta, Hui Nalu evened the score at three-apiece, but by the scantest of margins, with one-point victory over Outrigger, 70-69, off Makaha.

THE TEAMS WERE separated only by a few points all day and going into the final featured race, the two-mile senior men's event, OCC needed a convincing win over the Hui Nalu lead.

But Hui Nalu held on, finishing in second only four-tenths of a second behind Outrigger for its third-straight triumph.

The Outrigger men—Tom Connors, Mark Buck, Marshal Rosa, Tim Kelly, Bill Mowat and Mike Lemes—were timed at 16 minutes, 8.8 seconds. The Hui's crew—Nainoa Thompson, Bruce Blankenfeld, Kala Kukea, George Kissner, Joe Spielman and Murom Thompson—were right behind at 16:09.2.

Hui Nalu won seven of the regatta's 26 races, while Outrigger won six. Hui Nalu triumphs came in the mixed quarter-mile; the women's novice 'B' quarter-mile; the women's masters quarter-mile; the men's novice 'A' half-mile; the boys' 16-and-under half-mile; the junior women's half-mile and the senior women's mile.

It was the senior women's mile victory which gave Hui Nalu the lead it needed to win the regatta. The crew of Lanakila Spencer, Nalani Spencer, Christie Gibson, Ann Schumaker, Carol Kukea and Lita Blankenfeld posted a convincing win in nine minutes, 27.6 seconds over Waikiki Surf (9:36.3) and Outrigger (9:40.7).

OUTRIGGER'S SIX victories came in the boys' 12 'A' quarter-mile; the girls' 13 and under quarter-mile; the boys' 18-and-under mile; the freshmen men's mile; the open men's 4 half-mile, and the senior men's two-mile.

Hui Lanakila won the Division A title with 18 points, while Koolau finished second with 14.

At Kailua Beach Park, meanwhile, it took the flip of a coin to determine the winner of the Hui Wa'a and Surfing Association's Bob Nagatani Regatta after the Kaneohe Canoe Club and the Waikiki Beach Boys finished in a first place tie with 44 points each.

The coin flip was won by Kaneohe, which had posted six first-place finishes in the regatta. The Beach Boys had five firsts and four seconds.