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HAWAII HOCHI

JUL. 12 1971

Outrigger Canoe Club Wins Kaupiko Regatta

The Outrigger Canoe Club won five races and edged out the nearest competition by two points to win the first annual John D. Kaupiko Memorial Outrigger Canoe Regatta yesterday.

The Outrigger Canoe Club tallied 38 points in the races off Waikiki. Waikiki Surf was second with 36 and Healan third with 35. Hui Nalu finished fourth with 31 points.

Waikiki Surf captured the blue ribbon event, the senior men's six race over three and one-half miles. Their time was 16 minutes, 31.6 seconds.

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MILITARY PRESS



Dr. Edward L. Chesne, president of Hawaii Heart Association, happily presents a distinguished service certificate to Mrs. Watson Goldsmith, state chairman of Alpha Phi Sorority for its contributions to Heart. Mrs. Goldsmith, who resides at 4340 Olaloa, Foster Village, accepted the award at the HHA annual meeting held recently at the Outrigger Canoe Club.

Donnelly col.

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HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN

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CHAMINADE College student Maureen Cabis, spending three months in Europe with a school group, entered a beauty contest in Wales and won. She beat out 48 other contestants, qualifying for the competition because she was born in England.



Karl Diebold and Mike Pirics of the Bistro tossing a special Bastille Day dinner tonight. . . . Adman Bob Costa reported to work Monday as PR director for Lennen & Newell speechless. He lost his voice cheering for his 14-year old daughter, Monte, who won two trophies in Sunday's Kaupiko Memorial Outrigger Canoe Regatta. . . . When Dr. E. Gordon Dickie, Honolulu gynecologist, had an autograph party for his new book, "1976," the typewriter he used in writing the book was on display, gold plated and encased in flowers. . . . A small notice from Gima's in Ala Moana Center that small paintings and sculptures by Satoru Abe are on view through July 31. . . . And paintings and sculpture by Mary Bonic will be previewed Friday at the Foundry. . . .

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the business of blessings

By JANICE WOLF
Advertiser Religion Writer

Some 35 new City Buses took to the road in March, but not before they had been blessed by the Rev. Abraham Akaka, pastor of Kawaiahao Church.

When the Outrigger Canoe Club launched a new koa racing canoe, Msgr. Charles A. Kekumano, pastor of Our Lady of Peace Cathedral, was on hand to offer his blessings.

BOTH BUDDHIST and Christian blessings attended the opening of the Princess Kaiulani's 28-story tower in November.

One Island clergyman said he was called upon to bless the maintenance center for the City's garbage trucks and the dog pound.

The fact is, blessings over, buses, boats, banks, hotels, construction sites — even high school emblems — have become an accepted way of life in the Islands.

The idea of blessing buildings — sometimes

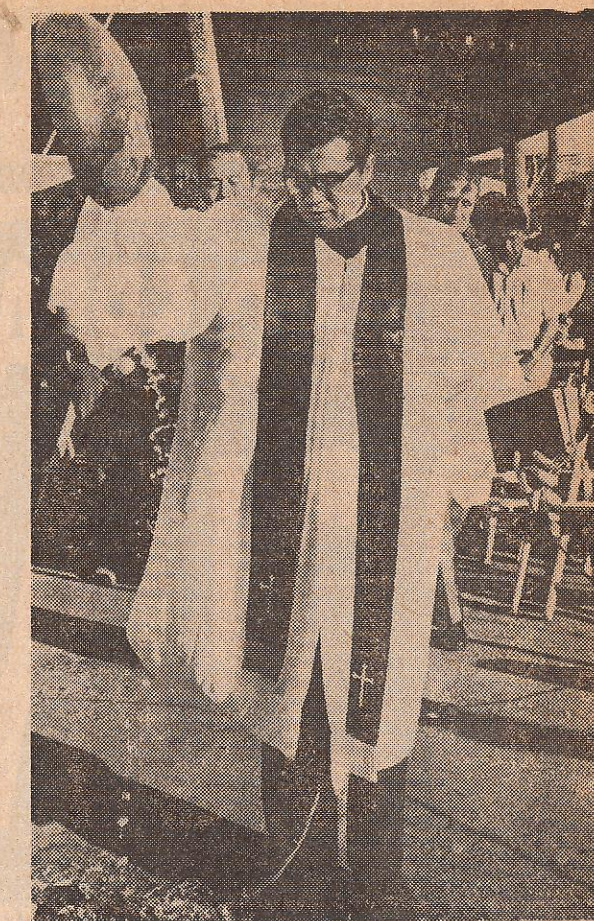
and relevance of God to human affairs.

"I am happy to pray for the safety and well-being of workers on a project. I find it extremely meaningful to beseech the blessing of God upon a family as they move into a new home or residence. I feel it appropriate to ask God's blessing upon the use of a new public facility or building."

● The Rev. William A. O'Connell, principal of St. Louis High School:

"Church blessings are certainly not new. In fact they go back many centuries. The Old Testament is filled with accounts of blessings that were given by God's representatives.

"The Church does not bless things because they are evil. That is really considered a heresy. The Church teaches that creatures are burdened with a curse, not in themselves, but because of sinful man, who at the Fall of Adam brought disorder on himself and on the entire universe.



Advertiser Photo

Akaka purifies Condo construction site.

and His place in their lives. Perhaps throughout the years the formula for blessings could be changed or even the way of doing it. But to remind the people of God and His Presence is one of the primary purposes of the Church and this definitely should not be done away with."

● A Windward Clergyman: "A theological scholar ought to do a doctoral thesis on the real meaning of all this piety in public. He could tie it in with Harvey Cox's theme about 'sacralization and de-sacralization.'"

"A lot of clergy put up with these blessings as a kind of pointless but harmless nuisance, that can kill half a day or a whole evening."

● The Rev. Charles Lum Kee, theology in-

structor at Chaminade College:

"It has been man's custom from time immemorial to have important things of his use, in one way or another, blessed or consecrated. Cars, houses, business buildings, condominiums, hotels and so on, are so treated. Today, many are calling into question the 'need' or 'usefulness' of such a practice.

"I believe such a practice is good, and well worth the minister or priest's time, for, if the present form is rejected, undoubtedly, the practice will reappear under another form.

"Essentially, man seeks to relate to the unknown, the mysterious, the unexplainable. Classically, man has done this via religion and magic — both of which are alive today and evident to the sharp observer.

"The act of blessing a building is significant, in the attitude of placing first things first — that, no matter what great things they do, the seeds of this ability for such achievement are first implanted in him by a superior all-powerful Being, whom we dare call God."

● The Rev. Felix A. Manley, minister of membership and fellowship at Central Union Church: "The practice in these Hawaiian Islands of calling upon clergymen to bless commercial groundbreakings or the completion of facilities for a fee seems to me entirely out of order.

"Such blessings are perilously close to the practice of kahuna or medicine man magic which has no place whatever in the Christian tradition"

the word from the pulpit



for a "donation" — has drawn mixed reactions from Island clergymen. Here are some of their responses:

● The Rev. Arnold G. Steinbeck, pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church: "Awareness of man's dependence on the favor of a Supreme Being is a rather universal phenomenon.

"The ancient Hawaiians called upon their kahunas to seek favorable omens for laying the keel of a canoe, beginning a building, or waging a war, and we moderns find ourselves doing much the same thing, although from differing religious convictions.

"It would seem to me, however, that our society today most often views such a blessing as the 'thing to do' rather than with honest seeking and expectation of divine blessing.

"ON THE other side of the spectrum, there are those who seem to expect some mysterious, if not magical benefit from the incantations of kahu or clergymen.

"In the midst of the wide divergence of opinion on what the blessing might mean, I find myself anxious to communicate some real meaning

"BECAUSE of the general disorder, men and things are subject to the evil influence of the devil. God allows the devil to roam around and exert his influence.

"To hinder this evil influence, the Church blesses people and created things such as new buildings, ships, cars, etc.

"Blessings should remind the people of God



The Most Rev. John J. Scanlan blesses frigate.