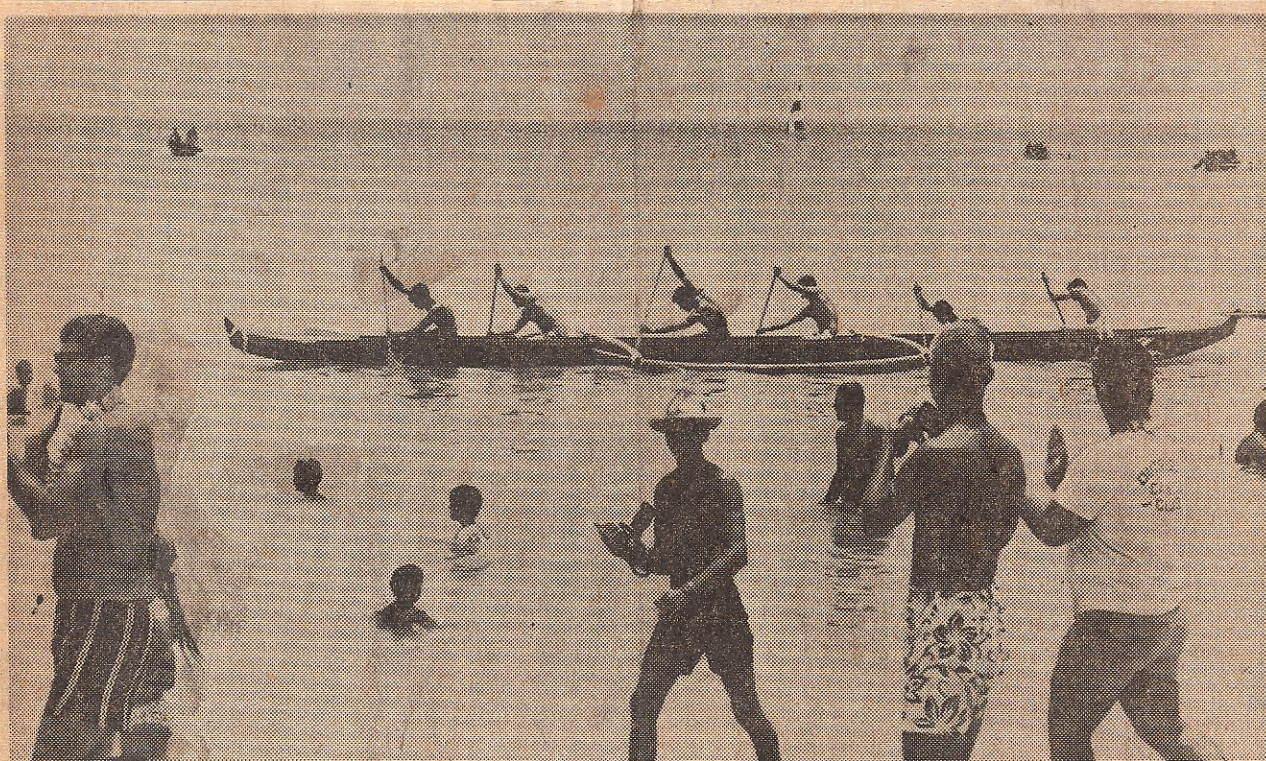


JUN 16 1969



THE WINNAH—The Paoa won her first race in record time yesterday off Waikiki.

Making of a canoe

By Ron Haworth
Surfing Writer

"This canoe is named 'Paoa' and we pray that it is blessed with a bright and bountiful future."

With these words, spoken in Hawaiian by Kahuna Louis Mahoe, a new koa racing canoe in honor of the late Duke "Paoa" Kahanamoku was dedicated and offered to the sea.

Mahoe, following the ancient Hawaiian ritual, asked protection from God Almighty and the God of the Sea.

MONSIGNOR Charles K. Kekumano, pastor of Our Lady of Peace Roman Catholic Cathedral, then blessed the "Paoa" in a Christian service.

On hand for the dedication and Outrigger luau were Duke's widow, Nadine, and his brothers Bill and Sargent and his sister Bernice.

The "Paoa" was designed and built by weekend canoe craftsman George Perry, a 60-year-old insurance salesman who has been working around racing canoes since he was a lad.

Perry is dedicated to the preservation of koa canoes (fiberglass are on the increase because they demand less care and upkeep) and is currently president of the Lanikai Canoe Club.

He is also a three-time past president of the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association, the foremost guardian of the sport of canoe racing.

THE KOA LOG which was to eventually become a thing of pride and beauty and honor to the memory of Duke was, for four years, an ex-

hibit at Ulu Mau Village.

When Perry took it over it was crudely shaped like a child's drawing and weighed 8 tons. It had a diameter of 4½ feet and both its ends were infested with termites.

Yesterday the six strong backs of Outriggers' 16-year-old crew stroked the "Paoa" through the morning sea to a record win in her first race. The paddlers, Skipper Barns, Doug Strachley, Barry Hall, Johnny King, and George McPheetes, covered the ½ mile in 3 min. 30 sec.

THE "PAOA" weighs 400 pounds (the official racing weight for all outrigger canoes and is 39 feet 6 inches long.

No metal — screws, nails, braces — go into Perry's canoes. He depends on wood dowels.

Architect Perry talks canoes at the drop of a paddle. "I designed the 'Paoa' for calm water, as Outrigger already had a superior rough water canoe in their 'Kakina'."

"But it will also do well in a choppy sea. And under normal Molokai Channel conditions, the 'Paoa' should become a formidable opponent in this annual race."

The ancient Hawaiian possessed an inherent skill, an adz, and a need, and with these he hollowed his koa canoe.

PERRY WORKS with measurements, modern tools, and power supplied by Hawaiian Electric.

In an age of fiberglass boats... his dedication is all the more remarkable.

Time and patience seasoned the "Paoa". It grew tall and straight in a high, cool place. Neither Duke nor Perry was born when the koa tree first felt the trades rustle its limber branches.

"The log came from the Kulani region on the Big Island and was probably more than 100 years old," Perry said.

Koa logs are not felled and then immediately transported into the 20th Century. It's usual for such a log to lay undisturbed from 2 to 5 years in a curing process.

"FEW PEOPLE appreciate the task involved in bringing a koa log to sea level," contends Perry.

"It can mean a crew of workers camping for weeks under primitive conditions trimming the log for its descent."

And this manual labor doesn't end when the log eventually meets the sea.

"In the early stages of shaping a canoe plenty of manpower is needed to even shift it from side to side," Perry testifies.

"Just turning it over before it has a 'round' can take four men a full morning."

PERRY is Hawaii's acknowledged master canoe builder. He has created four from scratch and rebuilt as many more.

His reputation stands alone.

Two years ago he rebuilt Outrigger's "Kakina" (only ½ of the canoe is the original log and then saw his work establish a new Molokai record the next year... as

his own Lanikai finished third in a glass canoe.

"A koa canoe will last forever, given proper care and maintenance. The sun is its worst enemy."

Long sun exposure dries the koa wood, leaving it lifeless. And once this occurs the wood can never come back.

KOA CAN NOT be fiberglassed because it is an oily wood; varnish is its only protection.

The ama (outrigger) is made from selected wiliwili wood. It is hollowed and then glued back together to give the canoe balance without weight.

The oldest racing canoe in Hawaii still in good condition is the "A", built in 1902 by Henry Weeks for Prince Kuhio.

"Never call a koa canoe a 'boat'," Perry cautions.

"... boat can mean anything."

And to George Perry... koa canoes are very, very special...

... as was Duke to Hawaii... and as his namesake canoe will be to the Outrigger Canoe Club.

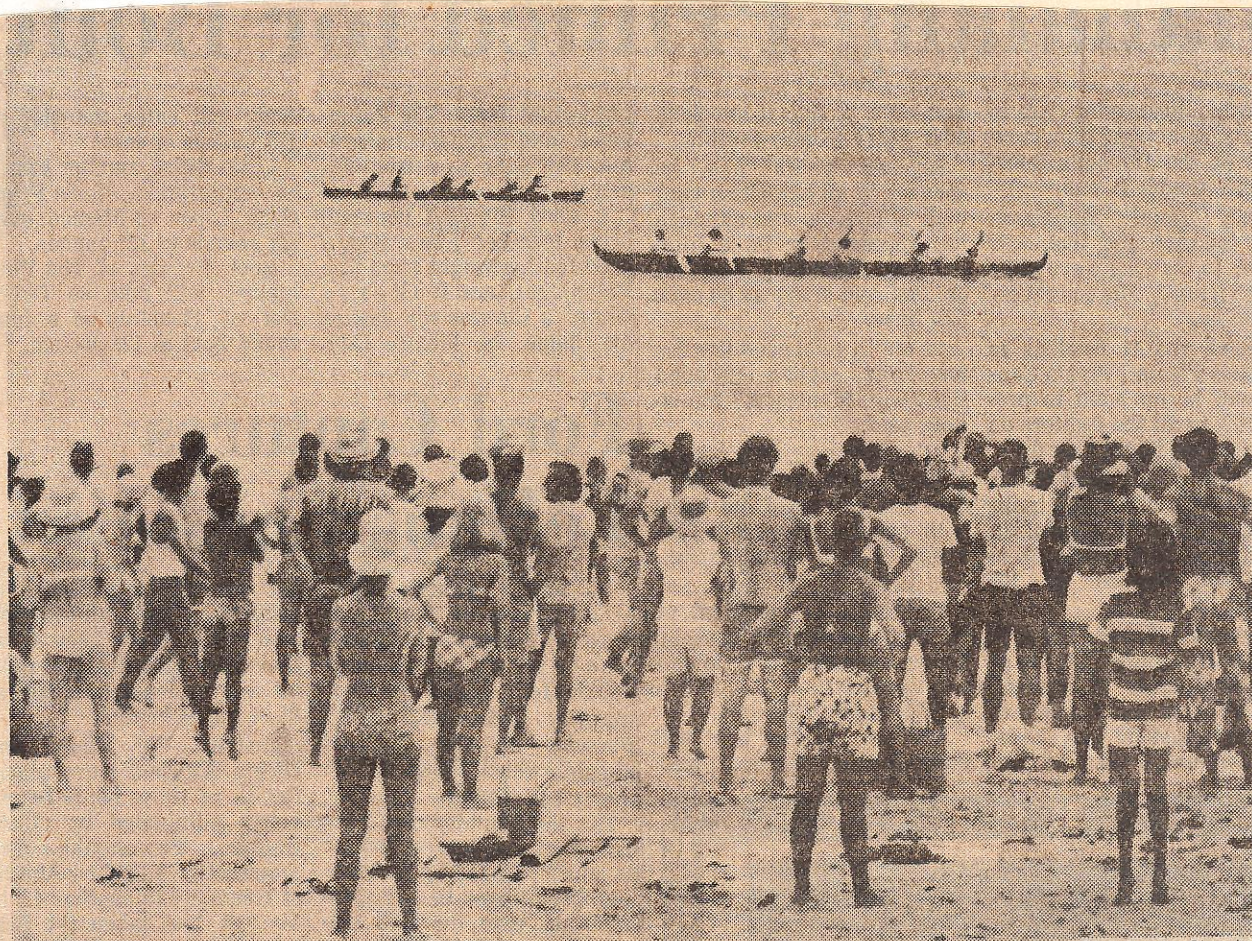


Photo by Art Otremba

Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club's girls novice crew drives for finish line in canoe regatta.

Waikiki Surf Wins Regatta

Waikiki Surf Club captured first place in the men's senior six event and edged Outrigger Canoe Club for the Kamehameha Day canoe paddling regatta championship yesterday off Kailua Beach Park.

Waikiki Surf scored 31 points to 30 for Outrigger. Healani was third with 26 and Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club finished fourth with 23 points.

In the 2½-mile senior men's race the WSC paddlers finished 26.2 seconds ahead

of Outrigger, clocking 18 min. 10 sec. Healani was third and Order of Kamehameha fourth.

Waikiki Surf also won the men's junior race over two miles, the men's novice over half-mile, the women's senior six over a mile and the boys 13 event over ¼ mile.

Outrigger captured the men's freshmen, the boys 18 and boys 16 events while Kailua had first places in the boys 12 and women's

novice races. Healani won the blue ribbons in the boys 14, women freshmen and women junior events.

In the closest finish Kailua edged Hui Nalu by three-tenths of a second in the quarter-mile boys 12 race, a new event. Kailua's time of 1:52.0 established the record for this event.

Results:

Boys 12 and under, ¼ mile—1. Kailua (N. Betts, J. Luebbe, R. Bond, J. Decker, J. Teixeira, K. Kalamas); 2. Hui Nalu; 3. Lanikai; 4. Leeward Kai. T—1:52.0.

Boys 13 and under, ¼ mile—1. Waikiki

Surf (D. DeMello, Denn, DeMello, D. McKeague, B. Orian, J. Ruiz, J. Tilton); 2. Outrigger Canoe Club; 3. Kailua; 4. Hui Nalu. Time—1:43.3.

Women, Novice, ¼ mile—1. Kailua (S. O'Hara, P. Rodney, S. Minton, J. Betts, P. O'Hara, C. Handly); 2. Healani; 3. Kai Oni; 4. Leeward Kai. Time—1:49.7.

Boys 14 and under, ¼ mile—1. Healani (J. Brown, S. Ditchen, H. Mowat, S. Nakamura, W. Tripp, J. Crisologo); 2. Outrigger; 3. Lanikai; 4. Kailua. Time—1:33.4.

Men Novice, ½ mile—1. Waikiki Surf (J. Bell, D. Carnes, J. Colto, W. Kaupiko, P. Lee, P. Tuzoni); 2. Healani; 3. Outrigger; 4. Leeward Kai. Time—3:20.3.

Boys 16 and under, ½ mile—1. Outrigger (A. Barnes, D. Strachley, D. Hope, B. Hall, J. King, G. McPheetes); 2. Ka Oni; 3. Kailua; 4. Waikiki. Time—3:30.0.

Boys 18 and under, 1 mile—1. Outrigger (G. Sheehan, T. Arnot, M. Rodrigues, B. Schneider, J. Pletsch, A. Hemmings); 2. Kailua; 3. Waikiki Surf; 4. Healani. Time—7:06.5.

Women Freshmen, ½ mile—1. Healani (E. Harbottle, N. Noguchi, E. Puha, B. Ali, I. Palaina, C. Morlon); 2. Hui Nalu; 3. Kailua; 4. Outrigger. Time—4:14.5.

Men Freshman, ½ mile—1. Outrigger (B. Moore, T. McAndrews, P. Guard, T. Crabb, W. Cook, B. Ackerman); 2. Waikiki Surf; 3. Leeward Kai; 4. Hui Nalu. Time—10:49.2.

Women Junior, ½ mile—1. Healani (E. Wright, M. Aikau, M. Kalani, P. Lillikoi, D. Wright, I. Mendonca); 2. Kailua; 3. Kai Oni; 4. Kamehameha. Time—5:57.9.

Men Junior, 2 miles—1. Waikiki Surf (R. Henning, K. Hugo, I. Jenkins, K. Makua, R. Malabey, G. Lindsey); 2. Outrigger; 3. Healani; 4. Hui Nalu. Time—11:42.4.

Women Senior, 1 mile—1. Waikiki Surf (B. Bayne, C. Kasparovich, R. Lam, C. Mendonca, Z. Sawyer, P. Tom); 2. Leeward; 3. Hui Nalu. Time—8:3.0.

Men Senior, 2½ miles—1. Waikiki Surf (J. Choe, A. Guerrero, B. Makua Jr., A. Miller, J. Napoleon, M. Tongg); 2. Outrigger; 3. Healani; 4. Kamehameha. Time—18:10.0.

Team totals—Waikiki Surf Club 31, Outrigger Canoe Club 30, Healani 26, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club 23, Hui Nalu 11, Leeward Kai 8, Kai Oni 7, Lanikai 4, Order of Kamehameha 2.