Swimming

DR. HUFFAKER ALMOST DEFEATS ALENUIHANA CHANNEL

Dr. Harry Huffaker, a channel swimmer super-extraordinary, battled and lost by only a few miles in his gallant attempt to become the first person to swim at 32 mile Alenuihaha Channel.

Huffaker’s 17 hours and 7 minutes in the chilly water was a heart-breaking prelude to failure. But, swimming in the tradition of the Outrigger Canoe Club, Huffaker was even more valiant than the day he conquered the Molokai Channel.

To have accompanied him was an honor; but, to witness his ultimate defeat brought a lump to the throat. Our hopes and prayers had mentally pulled him through the gray waters.

Outrigger is proud of you, Harry Huffaker. We salute your courage. And we predict your ultimate triumph over the Alenuihaha Channel.

Overall direction of the channel swim effort was by John Marshall assisted by Ron Haworth, Dr. Bob Smith and Bruce Ames. Special thanks go to Zander Budge, owner-skipper of the escort boat “Spooky Luki,” and his sons Peter and Alexander.

A more complete story with pictures will appear in next month’s FORECAST.

Canoeing

Canoe Racing

The 1969 canoe racing schedule has been announced by the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association. The first regatta, commemorating Kamehameha’s birthday, will be held at Kailua Beach Park on Sunday, June 15. Since the Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station K-Bay Karnival, normally held the following weekend has been scheduled later in the summer, a new regatta will be held on Sunday, June 22. The new event will be sponsored by the Leeward Kai Canoe Club and held at Pokai Bay. The annual OCC-sponsored Walter Macfarlane Regatta will be held at Moana Hotel beach on Friday, July 4. The Oahu championships will be held at Keahi Lagoon on Sunday, July 13 and the State Championships at Kaneohe Bay on Saturday, August 2 in conjunction with the K-Bay Karnival.

Of interest to paddlers is the addition of a new event in the regatta program. That is the boys 12 years and under. Other rule changes include lengthening of three races: senior men to 2½ miles, junior men to 2 miles, and freshmen men to 1½ miles.

Mark Buck will be head coach for the third year, assisted by Fred Hemmings, Jr. and Mike Lemes. Training has already begun. All paddlers, either experienced or novice, are urged to tryout for the team.

Sports Notes

ARMED FORCES VOLLEYBALL

Congratulations to club members Jon Haneberg and Bob Arnott who in March played in the U.S. Army Pacific Regional Championships in Korea. Their Schofield Barracks team won the title and both our boys made the all-tourney team. Jon was selected to tryout for the All-Army team at Fort Sheridan, Illinois where he just missed making the team.

KARATE

In the second annual U.S. Invitational Karate Tournament of Champions to be held at the Honolulu International Center Arena on May 3, OCC paddler Mike McAndrews will be competing as a member of the team representing Hawaii against the Mainland squad.

KIMO AUSTIN NAMED SKEET ALL-STAR

The 1969 All-America skeet team selected by the magazine Sports Afield includes OCC member Kimo Austin. The former Punahou School swim star won the World Champion of Champions event at Kansas City last August with 100 straight. He ranked fourth in the nation with his 20 gauge score and eighth for his four-gun total. He is Hawaii state 20 and 28 gauge champion.

By the way, Skeet Chairman, Dave Hendrickson is appealing for more participants in the monthly tournaments. The matches for April had to be called off, but one is definitely scheduled for May. Sign up at the front desk of the club.

JOGGERS PONDER CONTEST WITH YMCA

Bill Brooks, head of the OCC joggers, reports that he has received an inquiry from George Fox, physical fitness consultant at Central YMCA, regarding a proposed jogging contest between the two organizations. Bill has answered to the effect that he will call a meeting soon to discuss the project.

OLD TIME VOLLEYBALL

A program of old time volleyball, beer and beef stew commenced on Wednesday, April 30 and will continue each Wednesday evening through the summer months. Those who recall those good fun tournaments at the old club site where relaxed rules and good fellowship were the order of the day, will want to participate in this event resurrected by Bill Capp. And the rest of you, be you novice or expert, come on out to play, watch, drink or eat.