

WITH THE WAHINE PADDLERS IN HILO

By "SCOOP" TSUZUKI

Through the efforts of Fred Steere, Jr., and Tom Kiakona, coach, the Junior 6 wahine paddlers, Oahu champions, were rewarded with a trip to Hilo to participate in the canoe regatta sponsored by the Waiakea Lions Club in Hilo Harbor, Sunday, September 5. The directors approved the trip after being assured that they would bring home the bacon which they did after winning their event by a wide margin. The racing canoe *Leilani* together with Waikiki Surf Club's *Lanakila* were shipped earlier and rigged by George Downing and "Ricky" Steere for their use as well as the Kamehameha Lodge crew members who were unable to get a suitable racing canoe. Permission to use it was granted by president Sam Fuller.

With little Kuuipo Hollinger, stroke, Aggie Quigg, Vicki Flasan, Jane Wylie, Pat O'Keefe and Billie Neal, steersman, together with their chaperon Mrs. Hazel Hollinger and Joann Shehy, a guest, they left for Hilo early Sunday morning arriving in the sunny and beautiful orchid city with old Sol outshining the usual rain. They were met at the airport by their coach, Tom Kiakona, and Fred Steere, Jr., club representative, and the club photographer.

It makes you feel jubilant and happy just to watch the happy group of wahines come dashing down the plane's ramp shouting with joy, and each carrying their own canoe paddles. After posing for their photographer and after a hasty breakfast, Tom Kiakona rushed the girls to his limousine only to be astonished by their refusal to ride in it, as they insisted on riding in the photographer's bright red convertible with its top down. So after securing Hazel's permission Billie Neal was elected to drive to their hotel and they were off but only as far as the intersection of Kamehameha Avenue and Kalaniana'ole Street where a great mirror stands in the center. And, here's where the girls stopped and began to repair their make-ups and add another curl or two to the coiffure; obviously they didn't realize they were blocking the traffic but the friendly drivers didn't mind at all and were rather amused. Nevertheless, they arrived at the beach without further incident and won their race without even trying to familiarize

themselves with the race course. To quench their thirst after victory they spotted a load of watermelons piled high like a pyramid and Vicki was coaxed to select the sweetest one. To the abhorrence of the seller she selected a very large one right on the bottom of the pile and insisted that it was the coldest and the sweetest. So, down went the pyramid leaving the spectators flabbergasted when the girls consumed the whole 20 pound watermelon.

Grand luaus that evening ended the day's activities, one at the Hawaiian Village by the Kamehameha Lodge and another at the American Legion Hall by the Waiakea Lions Club. The girls stated that they'll always remember the kind hospitality of the Big Island folks.

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WAHINES WIN AGAIN

Not contented with one victory the Junior 6 girls rushed back to Kailua, Oahu the following day to participate in the canoe regatta sponsored by the Koolaupoko Lions. With two girls still in Hilo they recruited Joan Ballantine and M. B. Williams who haven't trained and won first place. Aggie Quigg, stroke, Vicki Flaman, M. B. Williams, Jane Wylie, J. Ballantine and Billie Neal, steersman, used the Koolaupoko canoe, the *Kona*.

HUI NALU WINS

Our own John D. Kaupiko, Hui Nalu coach whose senior 6 and junior 6 crews have made such a fine showing, took his crews to Hilo for the races in Hilo Harbor. The boys came through nobly, both winning their events in great style. "Scoop" reports that the senior 6 was so thrilling, about three feet separating the Hui Nalu from the second canoe that he forgot to push the camera snapper and got no picture.

John D., known as a champion crib player, adds another star to his long list of stars for his coaching ability and his fine record of getting the best from his crews. Congratulations to him, to his fine crews and, may we add, to our own wahine crew and their coaches.

(Pics on next pages)



UPPER RIGHT: OCC six, undefeated for two years in Leilani, Hilo Harbor.

LOWER RIGHT: They won Junior 6 women race, could all win Miss Hawaii contest—all except Coach Kiakona, front, followed by Billie Neal; Steersman Patty O'Keefe, Jane Wylie, Vicki Flasman, Aggie Quigg, Kuuipo Hollinger and Mrs. Hazel Hollinger, chaperon.

All Pics by "Scout"