

Outrigger crosses in record time

SB 10/10/88



At dawn, Outrigger Canoe Club's crew puts its boat in the water at Molokai's Hale O Lono Harbor. **By Dennis Oda, Star-Bulletin**

□ The Waikiki-based canoe club wins the Molokai-to-Oahu race for the seventh time in 10 years

By Jack Wyatt
Special to the Star-Bulletin

Norman Bellingham, a U.S. Olympic gold medal winner paddling the doubles kayak at Seoul, said yesterday's Bankoh Molokai Ho'e canoe race from Molokai to Oahu strained muscles he didn't know were there.

"In our futile attempt to catch Outrigger we picked up our stroke. By the race's end my arms felt as if they were going to drop off," the key Imua (Calif.) Canoe Club crewman said.

It would have taken more than a few Olympic sprinters to catch Waikiki's Outrigger Canoe Club. Crossing a vast ocean channel where pad-



By Dennis Oda, Star-Bulletin

After crossing the Molokai Channel in 5:08.11, Outrigger lands at Waikiki Beach

dling muscle towers over Olympic finesse, two-time defending Outrigger simply sped into the lead from the Hale O Lono Harbor start and held the fast stroke to Waikiki's Ft. DeRussy Beach finish.

Outrigger, winner of seven of the past 10 cross-channel races, finished the 40.8 miles in a course record five hours, eight minutes and 11 seconds, bettering its own 1984 mark by more

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By Dennis Oda, Star-Bulletin

Crew members of Nakane O Maui pray before the start of yesterday's race.

OUTRIGGER: Record crossing

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than 10 minutes. A record 58 entries, including 17 crews from the Mainland U.S., Canada, Tahiti and England took part in what some call the world championship of ocean canoe racing.

Outrigger paddled abeam of Koko Head in a fast three hours and was off Kahala an hour later. "I knew then we had a shot at the record but it's not something you talk about for fear of something going wrong," Outrigger's steersman Tom Conner said.

Paddling conditions were so fast that several Outrigger crew were looking to break five hours. "A following wind and some surfing waves would have helped. As it was the calm waters forced us to use our brute strength all the way," Outrigger's Marc Haine said. Second place Hui Nalu of Hawaii Kai finished 10 minutes behind the winner.

Bellingham explained the difference between paddling a 30-pound doubles kayak 1,000 meters and stroking a 400-pound outrigger 40 miles are oceans apart.

"The Olympics drained me. I must be suffering from paddler burn out."

Bellingham said, adding that he's hanging up his paddle for a long while. The race drew several national and regional champion marathon canoe paddlers from Canada, England and the U.S. Mainland.

"With the calm, I expected the Tahitians, Canadians and other visiting flat-water crews to score higher than they did. This water was made for visitors," Haine said. Most Islanders would have preferred a stiff tail wind and big seas to speed them home.

"This is our third win in a row and I'm not embarrassed about it. Our crew has trained long and hard at great sacrifice to career and family," Haine said.

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RESULTS

1. Outrigger Canoe Club (Walter Guild, Marc Haine, Mark Rigg, Chris Kincaid, Kainoa Downing, Keone Downing, Scott Rolles, Bruce Black, Tom Conner) 5:08:11.

2. Hui Nalu 5:18:22.

3. Thilani (Tahiti) 5:19:13.

4. Kailua 5:20:53.

5. Imua (Calif.) 5:22:00.

6. Tahiti (Tahiti) 5:22:49.

7. Pirae (Tahiti) 5:24:16.

8. Healani 5:26:19.

9. Hanalei-1 (Kauai) 5:28:07.

10. Port Autonome (Tahiti) 5:28:53.

11. False Creek-1 (Canada) 5:29:32.

12. Great Lake Outrigger (Illinois) 5:29:45.

13. Outrigger-3 5:31:16.

14. Outrigger-2 5:31:54.

15. Hui Lanakila-1 5:33:53.

16. Tiare Tahiti 5:34:49.

17. Kai O Pua (Hawaii) 5:35:24.

18. Puna (Hawaii) 5:37:29.

19. Hawaiian (Maui) 5:38:39.

20. Lokahi-2 5:38:40.

21. Atlantic-1 (New York) 5:39:09.

22. Hanalei-2 (Kauai) 5:39:32.

23. Lanikai 5:40:58.

24. Kamehameha (Hilo) 5:41:35.

25. Kihei-1 (Maui) 5:42:52.

26. Hui Lanakila-2 5:43:27.

27. Kailua-Master 5:43:47.

28. Kailua-3 5:44:24.

29. Lokahi-1 5:45:39.

30. Healani-3 (Masters) 5:45:39.

31. Waikiki Beach Boys 5:46:01.

32. Royal Canoe Club 5:46:06.

33. Kai Opua-1 5:47:38.

34. Leeward Kai 5:50:38.

35. Na Kai Ewalu 5:51:21.

36. Anuenue 5:51:52.

37. Kailua-2 5:52:19.

38. False Creek-3 5:53:53.

39. Kai Opua-2 5:54:28.

40. False Creek-2 5:54:28.

41. Napili-1 5:56:54.

42. Mid Atlantic 5:57:01.

43. Hui Nalu-2 6:00:42.

44. Outrigger-4 (Masters) 6:01:03.

45. Kaneohe 6:01:19.

46. Lahaina 6:03:31.

47. Kihei-2 6:07:00.

48. Waimanalo 6:07:58.

49. False Creek-4 6:09:03.

50. Lanakila Outrigger 6:10:04.

51. Honolulu 6:10:57.

52. Healani-2 6:12:42.

53. Napili-2 6:18:00.

54. Kamloops Fire Fighters 6:24:03.

55. Atlantic Division-2 6:27:03.

56. Lokahi-3 (Masters) 6:30:06.

57. Manu Oka Kai 6:31:52.

58. Haleakala 6:33:35.

Koe Division: 1. Hanalei-1 (Kauai) 5:28:07. 2. Outrigger-2 5:31:54. 3. Kamehameha (Hilo) 5:41:35.

Masters Division: 1. Great Lakes (Illinois) 5:29:45. 2. OCC-3 5:31:16. 3. Tiare Tahiti 5:34:49.

YEAR-BY-YEAR

Hale O Lono to Fort DeRussy, 40.8 miles. 1988—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:08:11. 1987—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:32:46. 1986—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:27:45. 1985—Illinois Brigade (Illinois), 5:33:04. 1984—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:18:19. 1983—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:45:09. 1982—Offshore (Calif.), 6:08:35. 1981—Offshore (Calif.), 5:25:01. 1980—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:52:26. 1979—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:43:52.

Hale O Lono to Fort DeRussy (around wreck buoy), 41.01 miles. 1978—Blazing Paddles (Calif.), 5:43:52.

Hale O Lono to Magic Island, 41.46 miles. 1977—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:55:00.

Kaunakakai to Magic Island, 55.60 miles. 1976—Te Oropaa (Tahiti), 7:53:40.

Hale O Lono to Moana Hotel, 40.41 miles. 1975—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:39:07. 1974—Lanikai Canoe Club (Oahu), 6:18:55.

Kaunakakai to Sans Souci, 53.32 miles. 1973—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:00:00.

Hale O Lono to Hilton Hawaiian Village, 40.8 miles. 1972—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:01:46. 1971—Healani Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:51:02. 1970—Healani Canoe Club (Oahu), 6:24:00. 1969—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:38:26. 1968—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:55:16. 1967—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 6:03:09. 1966—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:37:13. 1965—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 6:48:57. 1964—Kailua Civic Canoe Club (Oahu), 5:56:00. 1963—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:40:00.

Kawakiu to Hilton Hawaiian Village, 38.96 miles. 1962—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 7:04:00. 1961—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 7:48:00. 1960—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 5:29:00. 1959—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:09:00. 1958—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:32:00. 1957—Kai Oni (Oahu), 5:56:00. 1956—Outrigger Canoe Club (Oahu), 7:54:00.

Kawakiu to Moana Hotel, 38.2 miles. 1955—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 7:09:40. 1954—Hui Nalu (Oahu), 6:05:00. 1953—Waikiki Surf Club (Oahu), 6:53:00. 1952—Kukul O Lanikula (Molokai), 8:55:00.

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By Dennis Oda,

Joe Moranz of Hanalei Canoe Club rests before the start.