

# Hui Nalu Paddle

## Black And Gold Senior 6 Crew Stages Surprise

### Large Crowd Witnesses Ancient Club Down The Outriggers

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crossed the starting line on the tough lap into the wind.

At 100 yards the Hui Nalu boat had lengthened its advantage to a full length and held it through the first half of the lap up to the turning flag off Pier 16. Two lengths measured Hui Nalu from Queen's Surfers and Outrigger, who followed closely in a bitter fight for second position, but at the 350 mark, when the crews settled down to a long, steady stroke the Moana club had increased its advantage another length.

Swinging into the lee of Pier 9, where the other boats held an advantage due to the heavy wind blowing off shore, Hui Nalu dropped back for the whole length of that long pier. But once again in open water, the powerful stroke of the victors asserted itself and never again were they headed, though Outrigger and Queen's Surfers gamely challenged at many stages of the race.

The powerful catch and follow through of Hui Nalu drove their canoe towards the turning flag without a letup in the run between strokes but Queen's Surfers were stubborn and they held to the stern, less than a length back, and made it a bitter race.

#### SPIN AROUND FLAG

Then came the turn. And right there, the race was settled.

Hui Nalu hit the turning flag only three seconds ahead of the Queen's boat. Outrigger was about eight seconds behind the Queen's lads.

Hui Nalu fairly spun around the flag, straightened out and was away for home with a sprint that brought a cheer from the small crowd that motored up from Pier 2 to see this strategic move.

The new Queen's boat from Kona, trim, sleek and a fast runner between strokes on the straightaway, gave away its weakness on the turn in this and other races. So well has it been adapted to running on a straight course that its turning ability is weak and Queen's lost two crucial lengths rounding the flag.

Courageously they struggled to regain these precious yards of water, gradually did they cut down Hui Nalu's lead, but that beautiful turn, coupled with a well trained and beautifully conditioned six, withstood the acid test and as the boats fairly flew down the home stretch it was apparent that even determined Queens' effort and the smooth gliding boat would not be enough to down the Hui Nalu response.

#### WELL PLANNED RACE

Queens cut down the lead as they swung into the lee of Pier 9 but Hui Nalu apparently had the race well planned. They coasted down that rough stretch far out in the middle of the harbor, then as the Queen's boat also hit heavy going, Hui Nalu spurted and continued to spurt for the last quarter of a mile.

Once and only once did Hui Nalu seem to lose water and that was when a sudden burst of wind swerved the canoe from its true course. The matter was righted before hardly anyone realized what had happened but so close was the race, so powerful the Queen's Surfers that in that fraction of a second, the Hui Nalu lead was whittled down from one and a half boat lengths to a scant half length.

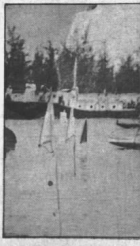
And so the boats raced to the finish line, Queens with their fast, quick-breaking stroke, Hui Nalu with the powerful catch and follow through that didn't seem to increase even when the final spurt was called for by Francis Wai, crack helmsman. And his pals were not wanting. They responded and flashed across that final line, clearly the victors.

#### SERIOUS CHALLENGER

But Hui Nalu's sturdy lads knew that they had been in a race. And what a race! Hui Nalu's grand six, which will be a serious challenger in Kona later this month lined up as follows: Francis Wai, Henry Aikua, Fred Steere, Allen Taylor, Ah Kong Pang and Sergeant Kahanamoku. There's a great crew.

The time for the mile and a half battle was 12 minutes flat, which stands high in the records when the heavy head wind is considered. Hui Nalu's eventual victory in

## Crews Make Hi



the regatta was heralded by a brilliant win in the three-quarter mile kids' race when the Black and Gold Babes traveled a fast pace over the course to outdistance the Outrigger Kids in 5:55. The Outrigger lads held Hui Nalu even for just 200 yards. Then the superior weight and power of Hui Nalu asserted itself and the Moana club's boat forged ahead and continued to make open water until the finish line.

#### DARKHORSE VS. WHITEHORSE

Hui Nalu's brilliant bid for fame was temporarily halted by a pickup crew called the "Beach Patrol" in the junior four event when this nondescript crew—nondescript insofar as prior training goes only—produced one of the greatest upsets of the day by stroking into a deadheat when everyone, including themselves, figured them just another added entry.

The race was a thriller, start to finish.

The boats jockeyed for ten minutes before coming up under Starter Cottrell's instructions. It was a good start, all away even and for the first quarter mile there was little to choose between the four boats, all flying for the turning flags up at Pier 16.

The Beach Patrol led on the way up with Hui Nalu second, O. C. C. third and Queens fourth, but there was less than a half boat length between first and fourth.

They swung into the turn in almost the same position with the beach gang led by Lex Brodie and Outrigger practically tied at the flags. Queens lost two lengths on the turn when the Kailua boat showed its first weakness at turning.

#### EVEN ON STRETCH

But 100 yards down the home stretch all three boats were once more even, bows flashing almost in a straight line and the crews pulling exceptionally well together. Hui Nalu opened a sprint and was answered by the Patrol lads but the first effort netted a half length to Hui Nalu and this half length was to mean a great deal in the final, dying moments when Patrol came up fast, spurted into what seemed a win to some but to the judges, looking straight down the finish line of flags, rightfully called a dead heat.

Queens pulled off a game sprint to come up bow for bow for a moment at the final quarter mark but after that it was a race between Patrol and Hui Nalu and the two boats flashed across the line together, receiving one gun which meant that the starter—and finisher—Knut Cottrell also thought it was a dead heat. That made it unanimous but what these two crews will do at Kona to settle their differences will form another brilliant chapter in Hawaiian racing history. The time was 13 flat, only one minute under the senior six time.

#### OCC GALS SUPERIOR

Outrigger's girls remained superior on the water by winning handily from Hui Nalu's gallant six. Outrigger took the lead and was never headed winning by four lengths, in 6:57 2-5.

The junior six was easily the most exciting race of the day, all four boats paddling bow for bow almost the entire race. The fourth boat came out from Tommy Kekona's Beach Patrol camp and held the same four that paddled the junior four into a dead heat, plus two added starters. And again the Beach Patrol was in the thick of it almost to the end.

Hui Nalu jumped away on the start and led the field for the first 200 yards when Queens and Outrigger and Patrol overhauled the leaders and made it almost all even going into the lee of Pier 9. Here heavy wind held back White Horse, the Hui Nalu racer, and