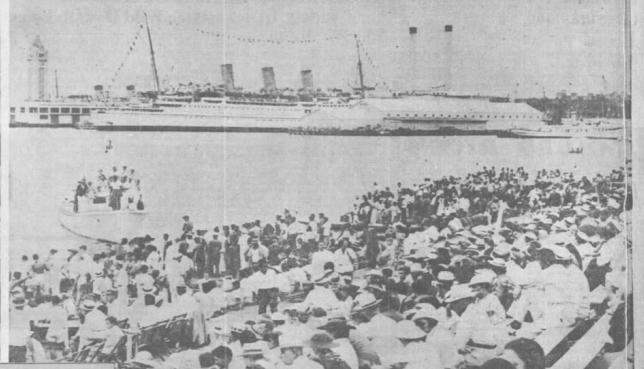
History in the Making at the Outrigger Regatta



AS THOUSANDS CHEER—Honaunau's paddlers made aquatic history yesterday when a big Kamehameha Day crowd saw them win seven out of the nine events on the program of the annual outrigger canoe regatta. Upper left, the winning Honaunau crew after the main event of the day, the senior six-paddle race of 2½ miles. Back row, left to right, Crew captain Charles Hus, Jr., Charley Machado, William Thompson, assistant to Julian Yates, Honaunau leader, and Clarence Judd. Middle row, left to right, Herbert Thompson, Tony Koko and William Kelepolo. In front, Julian Yates, coach of the Honaunau crews and famed organizer of canoe racing on the Kona coast, with Robert Leslie, Sr., as assistant. Upper right, a view of a portion of the big crowd that saw the regatta, showing the harbor and its ships in the festive dress they wore in honor of the day. Left center, the finish of the senior two-paddle race showing Honaunau crew of Herbert Thompson and Tony Koko in the outrigger club's canoe at the finish line directly off pier 2. Richi center, a portion of the charming Kauai contingent of 150 who participated in Kamehameha Day ceremonies in Honolulu and attended the regatta to cheer their crews on with songs of the Garden Isle. Lower left, Honaunau (in the background) just beats the Hui Nalu canoe to the finish line in the gruelling 2¼ mile senior six-paddle event. Lower right, bent low over their driving paddles, the Honaunau junior four-paddle crew drive their winning canoe over the finish line in that race a good few boat lengths ahead of Miloli'i. Outrigger placed third in this event.

Canoe Regatta Offers Thrills

Honaunau Crews Capture Seven Major Events

(Continued from Page 1)

Pier 2, oblivious of a persistent drizzle, watched the cream- colored prow of the Konans' long, sleek canoe slide over the finish line ahead of a strung-out field of laboring pursuers. In only one major event, the gruelling two-and-a-quarter-mile senior six race, were the Honaunau boys seriously threatened.

NINE CREWS BATTLE

In that event, the major contest of the day, nine powerful crews fought in a thrilling finish the greatest race of the regatta.

At the starter's gun the crews drove down toward the mauka turn off Pier 9 closely grouped, each churning a boiling white wake as they swept into the distance. They were still close together at the first turn—too close for when the long craft swung around, those racing in lanes three and four jockeyed each other temporarily out of position, but managed to swing clear on the return straightaway.

At the makai turn, far out where the first line of curling breakers was visible, the Honaunau boat could be distinguished in the lead with the Hui Nalu canoe close astern. Passing Pier 2 on the return straightaway to the Mauka end of the course, Hui Nalu was closing in on the leaders, with Miloli and Kailua racing abreast close behind. As the canoes swung around for the last turn off Pier 9, Honaunau and Hui Nalu were bow and bow, it appeared to spectators.

TEMPO MOVED UP

As they straightened away on the home lap, watchers could see the paddlers in both boats step up their already frenzied strokes until the great canoes seemed to be aquaplaning over the water. Behind them Miloli and Kailua always threatening, likewise moved up in tempo, while the crews close behind one by one gallantly increased speed in spite of the heart-breaking two miles they had already driven their heavy craft.

So close together as to be almost indistinguishable one from the other, the two leaders swept down to the finish line. Two hundred yards from the fluttering bunting that marked their goal, the Hui Nalu paddlers in a last magnificent spurt moved up alongside Honaunau and for a moment were almost dead level. But the Konans also had that last requisite of strength and in the shadow of the finish flags pulled their canoe out in front a scant half-length and swept across the line, winners by a couple of paddle lengths. Winning time was 18 minutes, 21 and two-fifth seconds.

Crews finished the day's major race in the following order: Honaunau, Hui Nalu, Miloli, Kailua, University of Hawaii, Outrigger Canoe club, Healani, Queen's Surf and Kauai.

WAHINE CONTEST

The wahine senior six event provided no small part of the colorful drama of the day. Racing over a three-quarter mile straight away from the makai boundary of the course to a finish line off pier 9, Honaunau, Miloli and Kailua made it a clean sweep for Kona, finishing closely in that order. Although Honaunau's young feminine paddlers won by four lengths, Miloli barely nosed out their game sisters from Kailua.

The attractive young crew of wahines representing the Outrigger club, gaily uniformed in smart, flowered shorts, put up a gallant fight but couldn't break down the lead of their huskier sisters from Hawaii. The winning girls clocked off their three-quarters of a mile in 6 minutes, 59 seconds.

ALL SEATS FILLED

The regatta opened shortly after 2:30 p.m. to an overflowing stand before pier 2. Far in the distance additional crowds lined piers and warehouse roofs along the whole sweep of Honolulu harbor. Proceedings got under way with a concert of festive airs by the Royal Hawaiian band. Then the starter's gun sent off down the nine lines marked by vari-colored flags the entrants in the opening senior two-paddle event. This event went over a three-quarter, mile straightaway finishing off pier 9.

Finishing in close order, Honaunau's senior crew captain, Charles Hus, Jr., and his single shipmate, Herbert Thompson, led the two-manned canoes of Outrigger club and the Queens Surfers across the line in 6 minutes, 55 seconds.

Next came the mile-and-a-half junior four-paddle event. Bunched close together from the start, Honaunau, Miloli and Outrigger led the field. Swinging smartly at the mauka turn the three leaders maintained comparative positions right out to the seaward turn. Rounding the buoy with beautiful precision, Outrigger effected the turn ahead of Miloli, although still astern of Honaunau. However, Miloli regained second position on the home stretch and the canoes finished in that order behind Honaunau. The winning boat's time was 12 minutes, 23 and two-fifths seconds.

LOCAL BOYS RACE

In the three-eighths mile race for boys under 16, neither the Kona clubs nor Kauai entered crews and the contest was a purely local one. The Hui Nalu boys won it by a length from Outrigger and the youthful Queen's Surf. Winning boat's time was 2 minutes, 55 and two-fifths seconds.

Queen's Surf scored its first win of the day in the three-quarter mile event for boys under 18, leading Kailua and Hui Nalu across the line in six minutes, 22 seconds.

Honaunau registered its greatest lead in its victory in the junior six-paddle race, in which its formidable buff-trimmed canoe crossed the finish line some 10 lengths ahead of its traditional rivals, Miloli and Kailua, who finished second and third, respectively. Time: 19 minutes, six seconds.

CAPTURE SEMI-FINAL

Again in the semi-final senior four-paddle event, Honaunau led all contenders across the line, finishing some three or four boat-lengths ahead of the University of Hawaii. Outrigger finished third in this mile and a half event.

There must have been an extra measure of glory in that victory for Julian Yates and his stalwarts, for three members of the four-man crew had already raced—and won—in earlier contests the same day. One of them, Herbert Thompson, had actually raced twice before, once in the senior two-paddle curtain-raiser, again in that toughest of all the day's events, the senior six-paddle, and had now helped to pull three winning canoes home in a single day —a feat probably unprecedented in paddling records. The race went a mile and a half around both the mauka and makai turns. Winning time was 12 minutes, 47 seconds.

But a final thrill, perhaps the sweetest of the day, remained for those who stayed on in the rain for the final consolation race. All nine crews participated, their crews made up of "paninis"—the club members who hadn't participated in one of the official races.

As the crews jockeyed for position between the starting flags, spectators descried a small figure in green trunks and an unaccountably bushy head of hair sitting amidst the five bare chested boys in the Honaunau canoe out in lane three.

"It's a wahine!" some sharp-eyed grandstander shouted and presently Julian Yates admitted that "it" was a wahine. She was 16-year-old Adelaine Lanui and she wanted a share in Honaunau's glorious day.

WINS APPLAUSE

Spectators were jocular about the little wahine pulling an equal oar with them, but when the boats had swept down to the turn and were coming back on the straightaway, they rose to their feet, cheering. Paddling in perfect rhythm with her masculine crewmates, she was actually in on the final Honaunau victory.

Several lengths behind Kailua as the finish line was neared, Honaunau's mixed crew suddenly stepped up their stroke to a flashing drive, slowly drew abreast of their Kona rivals, and right at the finish line nosed ahead a scant few feet.

The consolation race crews united in, the following order: Honaunau, Kailua, University of Hawaii, Outrigger club, Queen's Surfers, Hui Nalu, Healani. Winning time was six minutes, two and two-fifths seconds.

Scored on a basis of five, three and two points for first, second and third places, crews finished with the following scores for the regatta: Honaunau, 30 points; Miloli, 10; Hui Nalu, 9; Outrigger Canoe club, 8; Queen's Surf, 7; Kailua, 5, and the University of Hawaii, 3.

Louise Gillet Joins French 'Immortals'

(United Press by Radio)

PARIS, June 11.—Louise Gillet, historian of religious painting, joined France's "40 immortals" today, succeeding the late Albert Besnard to the French Academy's thirteenth chair.

The new candidate was sponsored by Cardinal Baudrillart and Gabriel Hanotaux, historian.