

# BANQUET AND RECEPTION AT OUTRIGGER'S

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Melvin William (Bill) Smith, world's greatest middle distance swimmer today and whose aquatic achievements and personality have given Hawaii as much favorable publicity as Duke P. (Peerless) Kahanamoku did in his prime, will be honored Monday evening.

Appreciative of his performances both in competition and out of it, a group of sports leaders here have arranged a colorful banquet and reception to honor the famous Honolulu athlete who now is carrying on as swimming instructor and exhibitionist in your Uncle Samuel's navy.

The party is slated for 5:30 p. m. at the Outrigger Canoe club and, besides athletic bigwigs of the community, members of the legislature, civic and military officials have been invited to attend.

During the affair Bill Smith will be officially welcomed home and presented a special award.

Smith returned to the islands several months ago from the mainland where he starred for Ohio State university. When he joined the navy last year Smith was assigned to Great Lakes where he taught swimming to the men of the navy.

Many former swimming greats and oldtimers here are expected to be on hand to pay tribute to the great athlete who holds all world records from the 200 meters to the 880 yards.

Because accommodations at the beach club are limited not everyone who desires to attend will be able to do so. The committee in charge has been hard at work the past several weeks and regrets that this is the situation. It has asked that those unable to secure tickets be patient and forgiving.

Following a checkup Wednesday, the committee announced that a limited number of oldtimers in aquatics here still may be accommodated. These veterans desiring tickets should contact Cecil Benny, telephone 5569; George (Dad) Center, telephone 3491, or Theodore (Pump) Searle, telephone 95537, as soon as possible.

Various group chairmen cooperating with the committee include: Dan Aiona, entertainment; Earle K. (Liko) Vida, award; Cecil Benny and Jack Botelho, tickets; Bob Williams, scroll.

The team captains include Leon Sterling, Dad Center, Adam Ornelles, Herbert Keppeler, Carl Machado, Cecil Benny, Jack Botelho, Mackay Yanagisawa and Bob Williams.

The world's greatest middle distance swimmer in his last big time competition won three firsts at the National AAU indoor championship meet in Michigan in '44.

He won the 100 yard freestyle in 51.6 seconds; copped the 220 in 2 minutes 8 seconds flat and the 440 in 4 minutes 42.1 seconds.

In the '43 National AAU indoor meet, Bill was first in the 220, 440, and fifth in the 100. His furlong time was 2 minutes 9.6 seconds and 4 minutes 42.7 seconds for the quarter mile.

The Hawaiian star's world record times for standard distances follow:

220 yards—2 minutes 7.7 seconds in National AAU meet at New London, Conn., 1942.

200 meters—2 minutes 10.9 seconds in Duke outdoor meet at Waikiki natatorium (100 meter course).

400 meters—4 minutes 44.1 seconds in Duke outdoor meet at Waikiki natatorium, 1941 (100 meter course).

400 meters—4 minutes 38.5 seconds in Duke indoor meet, Punahou tank, 1941 (25 yard course).

440 yards—4 minutes 38.5 seconds in Duke indoor meet, Punahou tank, 1941 (25 yard course).

800 meters—9 minutes 50.9 seconds in Duke Hawaiian AAU meet, Waikiki natatorium, 1941 (long course).

880 yards—9 minutes 54.6 seconds in National AAU meet, New London, Conn. (short course).

Smith also holds a number of other world records for odd distances. He also boasts of a long list of noteworthy or outstanding performances.