

SPORT FIGURES of YESTERDAY

by Bill Pacheco



One of Hawaii's boys that accepted a challenged swimming relay race and went on to lap the opposition was Victory (Vic) Kahn, a fine athlete in his day.

Queried about this very interesting item, Vic said. "Well, it happened back in 1917 while in the navy along with some other local fellows like Robert Boyd of Healanis, Tuck Chang, from Palamas, Gilman and myself from Outrigger swimming clubs.

We were all stationed aboard the "St. Louis" doing convoy duty on the Atlantic. Samuel W. King, prominent figure in the isles today, was a lieutenant aboard the same ship.

"In Boston at the time, an Army team, through the medium of a newspaper, had issued a challenge to any swimming team in the U. S. fleet to a 400 yard race. Reading this article in the newspaper caused the boys to except the dare. We entered the race as definite underdogs. The race was held at Charles River Basin.

"With each swimmer doing 100 yards apiece it wasn't long before we had piled up a big lead over our optimistic opponent. We finally beat them by a lap."

"We four local fellows had seen and used the crawl stroke in Hawaii and at the time we raced the Army team, it wasn't known in the east as yet, and our opponents were very much surprised, for they hadn't lost a race in years. Each one of us received a trophy for winning."

Victor attended McKinley high school indulging in such sports as football, baseball, track, swimming, basketball. He also did a lot of bowling. Teams in the interscholastic league in those days were, Punahou, Kamehameha, St. Louis and McKinley.

Swimming and track, however, turned out to be Victor's favorite sports. In school he entered the high jump event, never taking first place, but always second to Hans Fassoth of Punahou. Vic also ran in the cross country races held locally for years. Jack Lee of Ka-

lihi was a consistent winner in this event.

Victor swam on many winning relay teams representing the Outrigger Canoe club, and also winning individual races himself.

Today, Vic spends many hours at the bowling alleys and he is considered a better than average bowler.

He is a member of the Outrigger and Elks clubs.

South Favored To Top Northern Rivals Today

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 28 (AP)—The boys who take your money if you guess wrong in the betting gave Harry Gilmer and associates from the south a seven-point advantage over their Yankee rivals in the ninth annual Blue-Gray football classic.

They were not unmindful, however, of the fact that the rebels were rated one touchdown better than the northern invaders in last year's game, too, and the Blues came out on the top of a 26-0 score.

Nevertheless, the gents with the lettuce figured Alabama's passing sensation, Gilmer, together with the nation's No. 1 receiver, Neill Armstrong of Oklahoma A&M would be too much for the Blue defense.

The game had all the earmarks of an overhead duel between Gilmer and Carmen Falcone of Penn university, the lanky northern back who led his teammates in their victory here last year. Yankee coaches drilled Falcone and a host of other potential passers all week in aerial work.

WAIPAHA COPS DUAL MEET FIGHT SMOKER

(Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence)