

Hawaii athletes set for Olympics

By Jim Hackleman
Sports Editor

Long hours of hope, dedication and hard work will reach a climax for 11 athletes from Hawaii in the 1968 Olympic Games, which open in Mexico City this Saturday.

The bright star of the Island contingent is Keala O'Sullivan, who is favored to win the gold medal in the women's three-meter dive.

Eight of the 24 players on the United States' men's and women's volleyball teams are from Hawaii: Pete Velasco, Tom Haine, Jon Stanley, John Alstrom, Fanny Hopeau, Sharon Peterson, Micki Briggs McFadden and Bobby Perry. In addition, the alternate on the men's squad, Butch May, is from the Islands, as is the team manager, John Lowell.

Brent Berk, the former Punahou School star, will compete for the men's swimming team in the 400-meter freestyle and perhaps the 800-me-

ter freestyle relay, while Virginia Moore qualified as a canoeist.

MISS O'SULLIVAN reached the zenith of her career to date in the Olympic trials, when she placed first in the three-meter event. The 17-year-old Kailuan has become the best in her class even though she has not had

been represented by a group as large as that in the coming Olympics. W.W. Robinson of Honolulu, regional chief of the U.S. Volleyball Competition, credits extensive tournament play as the reason.

"IN EARLIER DAYS, Hawaii turned out one or two individual stars at a time," he

on the Outrigger Canoe Club team, which rates with the Westside Jewish Center of Los Angeles as the nation's best. Six Westside squad members made this year's Olympics, including Butch May.

Haine is the U.S. captain, an honor Velasco held in the 1964 Olympics. They, their two teammates, Stanley and Alstrom, and the four women Olympians from Hawaii have been All-America selections and have participated widely in top-level tournaments.

BERK WENT FROM Punahou to Stanford and is a member of the powerful Santa Clara Swim Club. In the Olympic trials, he was second in the 400-meter freestyle and fourth in the 200-meter.

Miss Moore, who is studying to be a medical secretary, is slated to row in either the kayak singles or tandem. She was a gold medal winner in the 1967 Pan-American Games.

Both U.S. volleyball teams open against formidable opposition. The women play Sunday against Japan, rated the gold-medal favorite, while the men have their first game next Tuesday against Russia.

Miss O'Sullivan will take

part in the diving preliminaries next Thursday, Oct. 17, with the finals scheduled for the next day. Berk's events, the 800-meter relay and 400-meter freestyle, are to be held Oct. 21-22-23.

Canoe races are slated for Oct. 22 through 25.

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the benefit of top competitive diving to an appreciable extent.

Actually, her forte is the one-meter and she won that event in the National AAU Indoor championships this year. But since the one-meter is not on the Olympic program, she began concentrating on the three-meter springboard, taking second in the AAU and then first in the trials.

Hawaii has sent volleyball players into national and international competition for many years, but has never

says, "but now we have outstanding team strength. This is shown in the number of teams in all classifications we are now putting in major tournaments.

"California is regarded as the leading volleyball area — but on a population basis Hawaii ranks better by far in the percentage of high-caliber players and tournament competition. We have 34 tourneys a year — more than twice as many as California."

All four of the men volleyball players from Hawaii are



Pete Velasco

Reach semis

Melvin Chow and Mel Leong advanced to the men's doubles semifinals of the Hawaiian Open Tennis Tournament by defeating Terry Robinson and Ira Gordon, 6-2, 6-2, yesterday at the Ala

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