

Outrigger Wins Molokai-Oahu Canoe Race

From Page 1

treatment than most women," said one race official.

"Our canoe is about 77 years old," said a member of the Hui Nalu club, the oldest canoe club in Hawaii.

"If a canoe is a good canoe," said the same paddler, "it's always a good canoe."

And while non-paddling team members lovingly polished canoes named "Kakina," "Kehukai," and "Niu-malu," coaches took their top men aside for football-style huddles and pep talks.

As a strategy session would end, they'd hear rousing clubhouse cheers. "Malia! Malia! Malia! yelled one group. "Malia" is the name of their canoe.

Then the only formal part of the Molokai race took place.

Gov. John A. Burns, who, in a natty blue blazer and yachting cap, looked out of

place in the casual crowd, gave the paddlers his best wishes for the race (Burns flew by helicopter to Molokai at 6 a.m. yesterday).

Final Blessing

Then the popular surfing priest, the Rev. Abraham Akaka of Kawaiaha'o Church, joined Mitchell Paoulo, the lay minister of Molokai's Hoohehua Congregational Church, in a final blessing of the paddlers and their canoes.

White haired Paoulo, a Molokai religious leader for 44 years, was a colorful fellow along side, the black robed Akaka and blazer-clad Burns. He was casually dressed in a tee-shirt, khaki pants and multi-colored silk scarf.

When the religious ceremonies were over, spirited cries sounded from all parts of the beach, and the paddlers jogged down to the water with their canoes.

Six men, five paddlers and a steersman, piled into each outrigger, and four alternate paddlers climbed aboard the escort yachts.

Yesterday's winning Outrigger Club canoe team traveled from Molokai to Oahu in 5 hours, 55 minutes and 16 seconds.

And to make things even more interesting, yesterday's paddling conditions were anything but ideal.

One paddler said that wave troughs were about 14 to 15 feet across in the channel, "and when we reached Koko Head, the swells were about 20 feet wide."

Just starting the race was a problem.

A sleepy gallery of people lined the two jetty barriers at Hale O Lono harbor entrance, and watched the 13 canoes fight their way out of the harbor to the starting area—which runs parallel to the jetties.

Just as the canoes cleared the harbor, a set of three 15-foot waves loomed up at the harbor mouth and nearly trapped two escort boats between the jetties.

One of the power yachts had to increase its power to escape a wall of white water.

Starting Signal

The choppy conditions made jockeying for a starting lineup difficult, but race officials finally gave the paddlers the starting signal—a loud dynamite charge at the end of one jetty.

Reporters, photographers and broadcasters piled into

four Marine helicopters and took off after the 13 canoes.

Looking every bit like a flotilla of ancient war canoes, the outriggers sprinted alongside the lava-lined coast toward Molokai's Ilio Point.

The mile-long stretch from the harbor entrance to Ilio Point oftentimes decides the winner of the race, according to race veterans.

"The run to Ilio is what matters. That's where you get a jump on the other canoes before you go into the (Molokai) channel," said a paddler.

Yesterday's championship Outrigger paddlers proved that this theory is probably valid.

The Outrigger team, aboard the "Kakina," stroked to an early lead and were well ahead of the other 12 canoes as they rounded the point and hit the Molokai channel.

"Early going was smooth, but about halfway through the race three of the canoes were harassed by the bouncy swells," said a race official.

Didn't Make It

One canoe entered by the Hui Nalu club swamped and didn't make it to Honolulu with paddlers. "The crew couldn't bail their craft out fast enough in the big swells," said a race official.

"The rough swells made paddling tough, and one of our paddles was snapped right in half," said Frank Crozier of the second place Healani club.

But probably the race's most dramatic moment was experienced by the winning Outrigger Canoe Club crew.

About halfway through the race, the canoe's ama (the

outrigger blade) caught a large swell and flipped the canoe upside down.

The canoe, which was leading at the time, was swamped, and lost ten minutes of race time before it could continue.

A member of the Healani team, which nearly caught up and passed the capsized Outrigger canoe, complimented the Outrigger Club for its quick recovery.

"They (the Outrigger team) got out of their canoe, flipped it over and just took off," said Harry Ho of the Healani team.

"It takes practice to do that fast," said Ho, "and I guess they've been practicing a lot lately."

Whatever happened, none of the action mattered at the finish line.

Most of the paddlers, who sprinted to the maile and tieleaf finish string, just stretched out in their paddling positions and plopped into the shallow water.

Many had bleeding, blistered hands. Luckily, except for a few seasickness cases, none of the paddlers were injured.

Happy to Finish

All the paddlers were happy just to finish the race.

"This one was an enjoyable race," said one paddler.

A tourist looked at me and said that the paddler must be nuts. "This has to be one of the most masochistic sports events in the world," he said, as a thirsty paddler chugged a whole quart of orange juice.

"But, the Rev. Akaka probably expressed the feeling of the Molokai to Oahu race most beautifully during yesterday morning's services.

On a simple, rocky beach covered with country folk, Akaka prayed:

"Out of the sweating and wrestling with the ocean today, let there come forth for every paddler a discipline of soul and uplift of heart that makes them greater men than they have ever been before."

One yesterday after cross-

the finish line, the flower-covered paddlers did fee like greater men.

High & Low Temperatures

October 20, 1968
UNITED STATES

	High	Low
Albany	53	44
Albuquerque	72	48
Amarillo	70	41
Anchorage	28	18
Asheville	69	48
Atlanta	75	50
Billings	57	53
Birmingham	71	29
Bismarck	66	43
Bozeman	60	46
Boston	84	70
Brownsville	57	46
Buffalo	64	39
Burlington	70	41
Casper	76	44
Charleston, S.C.	67	41
Charleston, W. Va.	72	53
Charlotte	60	49
Chicago	70	49
Cincinnati	70	50
Cleveland	65	39
Columbus	67	36
Des Moines	67	36
Detroit	60	37
Duluth	55	35
El Paso	81	58
Fairbanks	60	29
Fargo	63	28
Fort Worth	86	55
Great Falls	62	38
Helena	54	27
HONOLULU	89	74
Houston	79	62
Indianapolis	69	35
Jackson	76	40
Jacksonville	69	40
Juneau	43	39
Kansas City	71	42
Las Vegas	82	46
Little Rock	81	48
Los Angeles	85	69
Louisville	72	40
Memphis	77	45
Miami Beach	83	74
Midland, Tex.	84	49
Minneapolis	56	37
Mpls. St. Paul	61	34
New Orleans	74	44
New York	70	53
North Platte	75	28
Oklahoma City	78	47
Omaha	68	36
Philadelphia	69	35
Phoenix	83	54
Pittsburgh	64	41
Portland, Me.	65	30
Portland, Ore.	65	50
Raleigh	73	57
Rapid City	59	44
Reno	73	32
Richmond	70	52
St. Louis	70	42
St. Petersburg, Tampa	78	68
Salt Lake City	69	44
San Antonio	84	60
San Diego	74	55
San Francisco	64	33
St. Joe, Marie	50	43
Seattle	56	30
Shreveport	80	50
Spartanburg	50	43
Spokeane	85	55
Washington	75	55
Wichita	73	42
CANADA		
Calgary	53	30
Edmonton	53	29
Montreal	43	40
Ottawa	57	41
Regina	56	29
Toronto	52	30
Winnipeg	51	28
Vancouver	55	44
FOREIGN		
London	43	55
Paris	52	34
Rome	68	50
Starlin	59	44
Tokyo	59	51
Manila	86	72
Hong Kong	85	72
Melbourne	78	47

ll treasure
in a variety of
tones by
SOCIALITES
and COBBIES

SERVING HONOLULU, KAAPALANI, KAMULUI, LIHUE, KONA, BALI HAI, HILO, KAMUELA, LANAI, SHANGRI LA, MOLOKAI, KALAPAPPA, MAHA AND OZ.



OUR JOLLY VICE-PRESIDENT IN CHARGE OF FARES & SCHEDULES

THAT'S THE SILLIEST thing I ever heard!!

CHA
CHA

FIX BROKEN DENTURES AT HOME IN MINUTES
A amazing new Quick-Fix repair broken plates, fills in cracks and replaces teeth like new. Fast! Easy to use! No special tools needed. No costly dental bills. Works every time or your money back. Accept no substitutes, always ask for **BRIMMS QUICK-Denture Repair Kit** At All Drug Stores



Tourism Rooms