

Surf Spray

By Ron Haworth



The big surf that buffeted the North Shore last week wrung more than a few kinks from those surfers who braved the season's first big waves.

The 20-foot waves were not every surfer's idea of a dry run after a summer of inactivity, while others staggered up from the deck after numerous wipeouts to the jaw to go another round.

Some of the best surfers will be squaring off for a crack at the \$6,000 Smirnoff World Pro-Am Nov. 20-24 at a beach somewhere on Oahu.

The contest has drawn a field from Australia, South Africa, Peru, California and Hawaii and shapes up as a wide open race with little to choose among contestants.

LAST YEAR'S winner, Aussie Nat Young, is at this date not entered, so any scratch sheet would have to list Peru's Felipe Pomar the pre-contest favorite.

Pomar finished second to Young in 1970 after the judges were forced to a tie-breaking ninth wave after three previous rides had failed to break a tie.

Also back will be Hawaii's Jim Blears, Aussie Peter Drouyn and Mike Lalley of Hawaii. The three finished third, fourth and sixth, respectively.

The final Smirnoff gathering will introduce some surfers not familiar in local circles, thus giving the contest "air" and a definite dark-horse appeal.

Jim Blears, Robert Cloutier, Allan Ayano, Bruce Butler, Jeff Hakman, Mike Holmes, Rick Steere, and Charlie Galanto.

Peru: Felipe Pomar.

"That is a confirmed list," Sorrell said, "but there have been others who mailed in their applications less the entry fee. These remain unofficial at this time.

"WE HAVE also failed to find some surfers who should be represented in the Smirnoff pro field. Gentlemen like Mike Doyle, Brad McCaul and Mark Martinson certainly deserve a chance to compete in this top group of surfers."

Past world champion Fred Hemmings Jr. is Smirnoff contest director. Later, Hemmings will announce the judges and other officials who will work with him.

The Smirnoff purse will stretch down to the eighth finisher, and for the first time individual heat winners will gain a share of the purse during the prelims and semifinals.

Sorrell further let it be known that all surfers are being screened for any undesirable past which would make their presence in the Smirnoff field a poor risk for Heublein, Inc.

THE Molokai-to-Oahu canoe race unfolds this Sunday beginning at Hale-O-Lono and terminating on the beach of Duke Kahanamoku

Beach fronting the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

Canoe clubs from Oahu, Kauai and California will set their bows on the 42-mile stretch of water separating the islands at 7:30 a.m. when Maui Mayor Elmer Cravalho sets off a charge of explosives.

Each canoe is allowed nine paddlers, six of whom are in the canoe at one time. The other three serve as relief paddlers on a rotating basis. In some cases the steerman will go the entire race without rest.

Healani Canoe Club will be out to retain the title it won last year in a calm channel. Expected to give hot chase are crews from Waikiki Surf Club and Hui Nalu.

The course record is held by Outrigger Canoe Club, which blistered the Molokai Channel in October 1968 in 5 hours, 55 minutes and 16 seconds.

As many as four members of that record crew will be in this Sunday's race. Outrigger will be in the koa division.

The non-koa division will attract twice as many canoes. Healani holds this record, also established in 1968, 1968.

Any visitor (or resident) who has never witnessed the drama, joy and heartbreak of the Molokai race is missing a bet if he isn't on the beach Sunday. The first canoe is expected between 12:30 and 1 p.m.

RON SORRELL, who heads the sanctioning International Professional Surfers Association, has released the following list, but cautions it will be subject to change until a few days before the bugle:

California: Chris Barrow, Corky Carroll, "Owl" Chapman, Gary Goodrum, Dru Harrison, Tiger Makin, Joel Perrin and Mike Purpus.

South Africa: Antoni Brodowicz, Gavin Rudolph, Shaun Tomson.

Australia: Terry Firzerald, Peter Drouyn, Michael Stafford (possible).

Hawaii: Randy Rarick, James Lalley, Mike Lalley, Harold Holley Jr., Rick Grigg, Brant Ackerman, Clyde Aikau, Eddie Aikau,

KOREAN DOLL

MISS JUNE

(Also of the Oriental Doll & former owner of the Doll House)

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