

No 'Country Comfort' from Kailua

By Jack Wyatt
Special to the Star-Bulletin

Kailua Canoe Club has no respect. It wasn't enough that KCC won yesterday's King Kamehameha Day Regatta at Kailua Beach. It's always nice to win the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association's first big regatta of the season.

Most paddlers even understood when the Windward upstarts took back the first place trophy that they, as hosts, had donated earlier. Kailua won it fair and square so let them have it.

But when Kailua crews rocked the sun-drenched beach with cheers and shouts each time their paddlers won a race, that was a bit much. After all, it was embarrassing enough for Honolulu's racing powers to fall to a "country" club let alone hear about it all afternoon.

"HOW ABOUT THAT?" asked Kailua's head coach Randy Sylva, as he watched his club rack up the points. "Little of Kailua beating the downtowners."

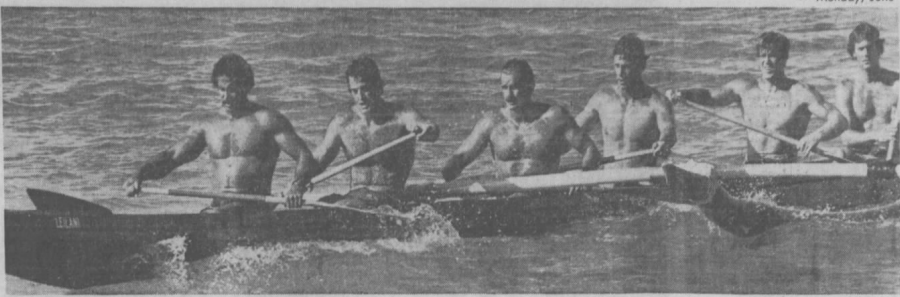
Beat them? Kailua, with its awesome depth, won far easier than its four-point margin, 60-56, over Healani Canoe Club indicated.

Of OH CRA's 29 events, Kailua missed fielding crews in only two races. Compare that with Healani, which failed to field crews in the final four "high point" events. That, say race officials, was the regatta. Kailua won eight races, placed second in three others and third in five heats.

BEHIND EVERY successful canoe club, some say there's a woman. "The men did well," conceded Kailua's Anne Malama of the winning women's open-4 crew, "but it was the women's crews that won the regatta." Malama may be right because of Kailua's eight victories, six were scored by women.

Last year, Malama was part of Kailua's undefeated women's sophomore crew. "When one paddler moved away and another became pregnant," she said, "that left four of us and we didn't know what to do." As luck would have it, OH CRA voted in an open-four competition for women. "I jumped at the chance to stay together," Malama added.

To kick off the new race, the Kailua women surged in front of the fleet at the start and stayed there. "We're undefeated again!" Malama said. The winning crew consisted of Jennifer Scafe, Lorey Bode, Luana Burke and Malama. Kailua Canoe Club women also won novice-A, freshmen, sophomore and junior events, plus the girls' 14 race.



Outrigger Canoe Club's crew (from front) Bob Riley, Bill Bright, Ed Pickering, Walter Guild, Mare Hoine and Brant Ackerman captured the senior men event in yesterday's OH CRA regatta at Kailua Beach.—Star-Bulletin Photo by Dennis Oda.



KAILUA CREW—Three members of Kailua Canoe Club's winning women's open-4 crew are Lorey Bode, Jennifer Scafe and Anne Malama. Missing is Luana Burke.—Star-Bulletin Photo by Dennis Oda.

Lokahi Edges Loa'a in Hui Wa'a Opener

Host Lokahi Canoe Club rallied past Loa'a Canoe Club by three points, 49-46, in yesterday's inaugural Hui Wa'a & Surfing Association regatta at Keehi Lagoon. Lokahi captured seven first places to five for Loa'a to overcome a 5-4 Loa'a advantage in second-place finishes.

Key matchups occurred in the sophomore men's and women's races, where Lokahi edged Loa'a by 12 and 21 seconds, respectively. Members of Lokahi's winning sophomore

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men's crew were Andy Bustillos, Rodney Ouchi, Walter Oshiro, Claude Butcher, Sam Lau and Dickie Chow, who covered the 1 1/2-mile course in 13 minutes, 41.76 seconds. Loa'a was second in 13:53.97.

Chow put in an ironman performance by moving up to the senior men's division, where he anchored Lokahi's first-place squad — a 23-second winner over Koa Kai in the 2 1/2-mile event. This win, along with the close sophomore victories over Loa'a, put Lokahi over the top.

Other members of Lokahi's senior men's crew were Randy Fernandez, Bill Tsuji, Mike Cushine, Marshall Giddens and Butch Ukishima. The club's victorious sophomore women — Tania Ingraham, Lori Kunkel, Sandy Chong, Debra Fernandez, Julie Aki and Iwa Bush — covered a mile in 10:14.20, with Loa'a the runner-up at 10:34.91.

The Waikiki Beach Boys and Ka Mo'i canoe clubs tied for third place in team standings with 41 points each, followed by Kaneohe, 33; Kamehameha, 31; Koa Kai, 18; Kai Po'ha and Pohai Ke Aloha, tied with 4 apiece, and Waikiki Yacht, 3.

Gabbard's Tops

Mike Gabbard, the No. 1 singles player from American Samoa, beat Tim Prior, 6-4, 7-2, to capture the 35-year-old title yesterday of the Hawaii Sectionals Junior and Senior Veterans Tennis Championships at the Diamond Head Tennis Center.

It was one of two titles for the 35-year-old Gabbard. He also teamed with Maurice Lucas to down the team of John Williams-Bruce Austin, 6-4, 7-6, to win the doubles crown.

Suzie Swartman took the women's 35-year-old singles with a 6-1, 6-1 decision over Jane Boulware.

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