

Outrigger wins at Waikiki

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get swamped even when the waves are small. The surf break is right next to the first lane. That's what hurt us other years."

Winning the Macfarlane senior men's race is considered a canoe paddling jewel matched in prestige only by victory in the Molokai-to-Oahu race.

"Back just a few years ago, this was considered even bigger," Bradley said between sips of champagne from a silver bowl.

The rest of Outrigger's crew was Kainoa and Keone Downing, Bill Bright, Walter Guild and Bruce Black. Their winning time was 18:40.89. Healani was second in 19:23.96 and Hui Nalu third in 19:24.94.

But time yesterday was measured less by stopwatches than imagination and memory as tradition filled the air thicker than the scent of suntan lotion.

Tourists at the recently renovated Moana — the granddaddy of Waikiki hotels — got a unique Fourth of July treat from their lanais or the pool-side bar: real Hawaiian canoe races. Folks who walked the few feet to the beach saw trophies with inscriptions going back to a time when Duke Kahanamoku competed.

"This was a good regatta for spectators," Finney said. "There were so many photo finishes."

The close finishes were made more exciting by the fact that the races ended at the beach.

One of the closest was Healani edging Lanikai in the makule race for competitors

50-and-over. It was just an exhibition, but it completed the day's events on a high note — this was the first time Healani has won the event.

"And we're one of the oldest and largest clubs," said Charlie Arizumi of the winning crew. "We've got some trophies that go back to 1901."

Of course, Arizumi himself doesn't go back that far. He is a 52-year-old Honolulu dentist who has been paddling canoes since 1983. That was when he gave up golf.

"Golf was too time consuming," he said. "And this is more family oriented."

The rest of Healani's makule crew was Richard Abbey, Charles May, Clem Paiana, Earl Santimer and Gary "Sword" Murakami.