

Vic-Maui 1970

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Days Three and Four

Race to Maui

Lol Killam's 73 foot ketch *Greybeard* slipped into the lead again as *Celeste* and *Eha Makani* followed close behind at Sunday's position check in the 2,300 mile Victoria to Maui yacht race.

The Vancouver boat, which had held the lead off and on since the race began Wednesday, was reported off the northern California coast 565 miles from the start. It had 1,735 miles to complete.

The 58 foot yawl *Celeste*, skippered by G.W. Scrimshaw of Vancouver, had held the lead at Saturday's check by began to slip behind in eight to 10 knot winds.

Skies were sunny on Sunday.

Eha Makani, a 36 foot sloop skippered by E.M. Schalka of Everett, Wash. moved from 18th position to stay close behind the two leaders.

Drummer Boy, a 34 foot sloop from Vancouver, was fourth.

Satin Doll fell from fourth to last place in the 22 boat pack overnight Saturday while making a detour towards the California coast to transfer an ailing crew member to the Canadian Forces escort vessel.

The tricky transfer operation was made at night in eight foot seas and the unidentified crew member was reported resting well. His ailment was not known.

One boat, E.R. Haynes 35 foot sloop *Hy Yu* from Seattle, which was 19th Friday, withdrew from the 2,300 mile race Saturday. Haynes reported unspecified problems but said they were not serious.

Celeste, *Greybeard* and *Sabrina*, R.R. Anderson's 40 foot yawl from Eugene, Ore., appeared to be headed straight for Hawaii, keeping distance down but risking poor winds or a calm in a high pressure centre.

Race to Maui – Day Five

Hurray for our Navy Lads

Oriole, the Canadian Navy's persistent stalwart in west coast sailing races, pulled a fast on the competition Monday and leapt to third place in the Victoria to Maui yacht race from Sunday's 21st position.

The 91 foot ketch, with a crew of 22 under the command of Lieut. Cmdr. P.S. Cox of Victoria, made an average of 12 knots an hour to Monday's position check in the 2,300 mile race which began here Wednesday. She covered 285 miles.

Still in first place was Lol Killam of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club in his 73 foot ketch *Greybeard*. *Celeste*, a 58 foot yawl skippered by G.W. Scrimshaw also of Vancouver, remained second.

Oriole, a familiar and popular sight in yacht races in the coastal races, finished well down in last year and has not been known to win a major race. It finished well down the list in the 1968 Maui race. She needs stronger winds than the other boats.

“She’s the only boat in the fleet that could win and still make all the others happy” said a race official. “They’d just love that.” [**Editor’s note:** *Oriole* did win Overall in 2000.]

The 22 remaining yachts in the race were clustered in a 200-square mile area off the coast of California Monday, moving in 10 to 15-knot winds. Skies were sunny.

Oriole was in good winds closer inshore while *Greybeard* was encountering lighter winds offshore. *Greybeard* appeared to be meeting a high pressure centre off the coast which brings calm spells, although lying in the path of the shorter course to Maui.

Another good showing in Monday’s check was *Satin Doll* in 16th position, up from 22nd Sunday after heaving to to transfer an ill crew member to the navy escort vessel.

Aukele, a 43-foot yawl from Seattle, was in fourth position, and *Whale’s Tale*, a 30-foot sloop from Seattle, was fifth.