

# FISHIN' TALES

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July 1994

## TOURNAMENTS HEAT UP

### TEACHER'S PET CAPTURES FIRST PLACE AT LADIES DAY

Twenty three crews traveled to Oscoda for the 1994 annual ladies day outing. The weather was not the greatest on Saturday, but, Sunday turned out to be excellent.

Big winds and heavy rains greeted the Detroit Area Steelheaders on Friday and continued through Saturday evening. At the 5am skippers meeting it was pretty obvious that mother nature was not in a very good mood. The tournament was put on hold. The annual ladies day picnic was held in the afternoon, but it too, was a soggy one.

The fishing reports were not very good upon arrival. So little effort was taking place by the local charters in Oscoda and the general public that no one really knew if fish were in the area. This situation and the big blow made the puzzle more difficult as the fleet departed the pier heads at 6am on Sunday morning. Most skippers feared that the lake had turned over and the fish would be even more difficult to find.

The lake was calm and the sun was bright as everyone jetted East. Most of the crews were running salmon programs early, but little success was reported. At the first fish call, only eight fish were reported. Anticipation skippered by Rob Pinski reported two fish in the box with the early lead being held by the Teacher's Pet crew who

reported three. These two boats had found a big temperature break (and fish) in the top water over the 140' depth. Most of the club skippers were fishing a few miles South of this area and in shallower water.

The slow fishing continued for the balance of the tournament with the club having a hard time locating active fish.

At the weigh-in, it was the Teacher's Pet crew with Christy Even on the rods with Rod Coffey at the helm and skippered by Dave Even that managed to hang on to first place; edging out the Anticipation crew who were trying for a third straight win at ladies day. (Congratulations to both crews on an outstanding job under the most difficult circumstances. Only 19 total fish were caught) The Pet crew also hung the biggest fish; a 14.06 king.

Anticipation caught a 13.3 king and Harmony boated a 11.02 king to round out the big fish pool.

An annual BIG THANKS to Jan at Fellows Marina for being such a great host. Finally, thanks to all of the crews who put up with the poor weather conditions and still made Ladies day a success. Hopefully the string of bad luck in terms of either weather or poor fishing is over and next year will be more successful. Tight Lines...Christy Even Teacher's Pet.

### LUDINGTON TOURNAMENT AUG. 6-7

The first tournament of August will

see us at the port of LUDINGTON for a two day tournament. The start times will include a skipper's meeting at 5am at the Municipal Marina. The send off will be at 6am at the pier heads. The weigh-in is scheduled for 3:30 PM on Saturday at Peter Copian Park; the same as in prior years. We will have pop & hotdogs at 3:30 as with other tournaments. For those needing dockage, may I suggest calling Tamarac Sportfishing Center at (616) 845-5987 or see their ad in the Annual Issue.

Sunday's tournament will also start at 6am at the pier heads but there will not be a prior skipper's meeting. Maps and details will be available at the July meeting or the skippers meeting.  
Bob Mitchell (558-6547) Port Capt.

### FISHING LUDINGTON

Ludington is one of the great salmon fishing ports of the state, maybe even the country. There is a wide variety of structure to hold fish under different conditions.

Where the fish are from year to year can vary and those who only fish the Point will be disappointed sooner or later. In the past, hot spots have included, South off the Pump Storage Facility, straight out near the 100' foot break, North off Sergeant Sands, off the Bath House, of course the Point (Big Sable Point) and even Northwest of the point in 600'.

The first test of Ludington is knowing

where to go. A quick check of the tackle store, charters or just the "guys" already there will give you some clues.

Where the fish are will give you a clue as to the baits to use. Be prepared to use spoons if the fish are 30-70 feet deep. Dodgers will be the ticket if they are deeper than 70'. Spoons and stick baits could be hot if steelhead are near shore.

The #1 spoon over the years at Ludington is an M&M; a green & chartreuse taped Northport Nailer or the equivalent. Be sure to try some along with your favorite combinations. The top dodgers have been white or chrome trailing glow squids. Steelhead like red or chrome spoons behind Yellow Birds.

Another key to Ludington is currents. Watch your downrigger cables for signs of deep currents. If you troll North the cables may be straight down at 2.0 knots. Then you troll South at the same speed and they are at a steep angle. You have found a current headed North! Speed up going North and slow down going South to keep your baits working effectively. The Point is probably the place where you will find strong currents..maybe North, maybe South.

The final key to Ludington is to fish closer to shore in the AM and then move off shore as the day progresses.

Follow these basic tips and you will catch fish at this port.

#### **ROGERS CITY = BIG KINGS**

On August 20th we return to Rogers City. It is hoped that some really BIG kings will be there ,too.

Run your regular spoons, but, try some larger ones like the bigger GW Alewife spoons. Dodgers and flies or squids will also work. (Some

skippers run a dodger/fly just as an attractor)

The skippers meeting will be at 5am in front of the bath house. The start will take place at 6am. The tournament will end at 2pm with the weigh-in taking place at the pavilion across from the launch ramp.

I hope you made your slip reservation already. If not; call me! Leon Van Eden 293-1261 Rog. City port Captain.

#### **GRAND JURY TO AIR SALMON EGG CONTRACT CORRUPTION CHARGES**

With a trial pending in New York on corruption indictments, a federal grand jury has been authorized in Michigan to probe charges against Depart. of Natural Resources contractor, Bob Gehl, owner of Tempo Tech.

Involved in the Michigan investigation are the Attorney for Western Michigan, FBI, IRS, State Police, State Attorney General and Dept. of Natural Resources.

Though Gehl has been charged with defrauding the state and federal governments of millions of dollars, Michigan Attorney General Frank Kelly, has concluded that the state cannot break its salmon harvest contract with him. As a result, Tempo Tech will continue to buy thousands of pounds of surplus salmon, at pennies on the dollar of their market value, investigators charge.

The federal Grand jury probe is expected to focus on both Gehl, other members of his firm, and several people within the DNR who are suspected of having benefited from the state's arrangements with Tempo Tech. The New York investigation led to bribery convictions of state fisheries workers.

Gehl is charged, in New York and Michigan, with laundering profits from the fish processing operation to avoid taxes.

Gehl reportedly rejected a New York plea bargain that would have required him to spend 20 months in jail and cooperate with investigators. Gehl opted to stand trial on indictments. He could owe up to \$800,000 in taxes on his New York operations, according to investigators.

A Florida investigation of his fish processing operations resulted in Gehl paying the IRS for an alleged \$630,000 in unpaid taxes.

Gehl and Tempo Tech have been under investigation for their Michigan operations for more than two years.

Gehl has also acquired fish and their valuable eggs from Wisconsin, North Dakota and Montana.

He started buying salmon eggs under an exclusive contract with the state in the 1970's. While the DNR was willing to sell the eggs for a pittance in exchange for the labor Gehl's crews performed at harvest weirs, he was developing profitable markets for the roe and flesh.

Michigan sportsman protested the arrangement for years, but DNR fisheries brass always insisted the contract was a good buy for the state.

About ten years ago, an investigation into Gehl's operations by a conservation officer led to Gehl paying a penalty and an auditor retiring early for receiving a boat from Gehl, officers say. At the time they felt they were called off the case because they were getting too close to high level corruption.

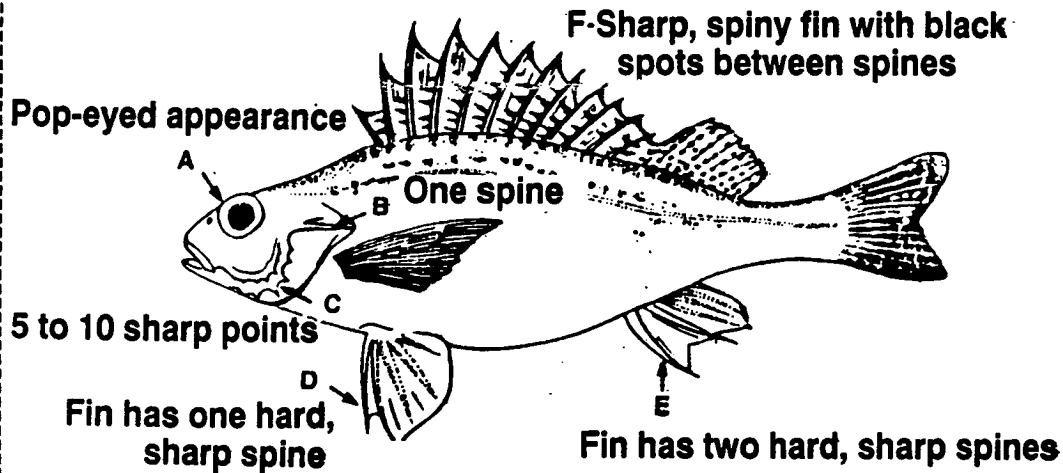
(From ***THE NORTHWOODS CALL***-- June 22, 1994)

## 1994 SKIPPER OF THE YEAR STANDINGS

		RIVER	BENTON	HARBOR	PORT	BEST 2	
		CRAB	HARBOR	BEACH	AUSTIN	OSCODA	TOTAL
1 MY TEASURE	JOE GOLASZEWSKI	1	75	12	2	3	3
2 KEMO	BOB MITCHELL	27	3	25	1	75	4
3 TRENA DAWN	DON REDMOND	24	11	1	3	50	4
4 TEACHER'S PET	DAVE EVEN	5	12	6	75	1	6
5 ANTICIPATION	ROB PINSKEY	38	75	75	5	2	7
6 AQUARIOUS	CHRIS NITKO	16	7	21	4	4	8
7 MOLLY FRAIR	RON HARTMEN	40	18	2	7	50	9
8 MY DREAM	JIM HARTRICK	37	14	4	6	50	10
9 SINSATION	HANK BACZINSKI	11	2	13	17	75	13
10 GOLDEN OLDIE	HOWARD YORK	23	5	18	10	75	15
11 TAZ	CHRIS DIMA	7	8	9	50	50	15
12 MAIN SQUEEZE	WALT POHORILY	50	1	14	16	50	15
13 EAGLE TWO	PAUL SCHOENRADE	18	4	20	12	50	16
14 LIL' SCRATCH	DICK SHIRK	30	75	19	8	9	17
15 WET PAINT	MIKE WAKULSKI	15	9	8	75	75	17

**Clip & Save**

# RUFFE Watch



**RUFFE**



**YELLOW PERCH**



**TROUTPERCH**

## Scientists ask anglers to help stem spread of saltwater fish

Biologists are asking anglers to be on the watch for ruffe. If they are found anywhere outside the area already contaminated, fishermen are asked to kill and freeze them and report them to fisheries officials, at 906-228-4830, or 517-353-9568.

—Never dip your bait bucket into one lake if it has water in it from another lake, river or other area of one of the Great Lakes.

—Never dump live fish from one body of water into another.

**CELLULARONE LAKE HURON**

CellularOne has announced three cellular services for on-the-water safety and convenience in the Thumb area

The three numbers are: Coast Guard Emergency service (dial \*CG), Local Fishing reports from the Thumb (dial \*FISH) and Local Charter bookings (dial \*CHARTER).

The \*CG provides a direct telephone connection to the U.S. Coast Guard for EMMERGENCY ASSITANCE ONLY! \*CG is a free call in the CellularOne-Lake Huron service area. While \*CG is not intended or recommended to be used as a first means of contact with the Coast Guard, it does offer a backup to a VHF marine radio should radio communications fail.

**FISHIN' TALES** is published monthly by THE DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.

Views expressed in it are those of the authors, and the Editor. Its purpose is to inform members of issues and events affecting sport fishermen, and to teach and guide the public to respect and appreciate our Great Lakes, rivers, others waters and lands.

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**CREWS HOT LINE**

Need a crew? Want to crew? Call the crews hot line and match up with another skipper or get crew memebers for your boat. Call these coordinators: Bill (313) 422 - 3386 Doug (810) 545 - 1181 Leon (810) 293 - 1261

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