

outdoors
Walleyes up for grabs

By LEM MESEER
Outdoors writer

Old-timers call it the pickarel. Others call it the walleye. It's the same fish — the oversized cousin of the yellow perch, and just about the best eating fish in the Great Lakes.

And there are two walleye tournaments on tap — one at Algonac and the other on western Lake Erie.

THE DETROIT Beach Boat Club's Walleye Tournament has already started and will continue to July 27 on the Detroit River and the Michigan and Ohio waters of Lake Erie. Top prize will be at least \$2,000.

To enter, adult anglers pay a \$10 fee, wives and youngsters 9-17 pay \$5. You register at a long list of bait and tackle dealers downriver and on western Lake Erie.

Entered fish must be whole, not gutted. No gaffed or snaggled fish are eligible.

For a list of weigh-in stations and registration points, write to the Detroit Beach Boat Club, 2940 Harbor

View, Frenchtown 48161, or call 289-3222.

THE ALGONAC Lions Club Pickarel Tournament runs July 2-6. Grand prize is a 23-foot cabin cruiser. Runner-up prizes are a \$1,000 savings bond and color television sets. There will also be daily prizes for the five largest fish caught.

"The Algonac State Park provides ample camping space, and there will be lots of parking space around tournament headquarters," said Pete Beauregard, president of the Algonac Lions.

Events connected with the tournament are a boat parade at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, July 6, and a street parade at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 7. There will be Fourth of July fireworks, a midway and stage programs.

You must pay admission at the tournament headquarters and register before weighing in your walleye, which must be alive and inspected.

INDEPENDENCE Oaks County Park is offering an "Evening Hike with the Parks Naturalist," who happens to be Kathleen Dougherty, at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

"The marsh life is active around the edges of the lake about this time of summer. New flowers are appearing, and many trees are leafed out," said Ms. Dougherty.

Meet at the Twin Chimneys shelter of the park, 5601 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston. Register in advance by calling the park office at 625-0877. Parak admission is \$2 a car for Oakland residents.

Work prospects bad

Detroit area employers are extremely pessimistic in their employment expectations for the next three months, according to a survey conducted by Manpower.

"The number of area employers polled planning reductions to staff during the third quarter (July, August and September) far exceeds those expecting to create additional employment opportunities. These latest findings continue a seven-quarter trend for reduced job prospects and is the most pessimistic recorded in the four-year history of the survey," said Ken Jimson, general manager of the Detroit Manpower offices.

Results of the survey reveal only 18 percent of the employers polled plan to hire additional workers during the July through September period, up slightly from the 12 percent of one year ago. However, an unusually large 38 percent of the respondents expect to reduce staff during the coming months, dramatically above the 5 percent of one year ago.

Currently, only 41 percent plan to maintain present levels, down from 78 percent one year ago. The remaining firms in each survey are undecided.

In tune with regional and national patterns, durable goods manufacturers are the least optimistic in their employment prospects.

Nationally, a sharp drop in anticipated hiring plans is registered by the survey. Of more than 8,000 employers polled, 19 percent plan to hire additional workers during the July through September period, down from the 29 percent recorded for the comparable quarter one year ago.

Midwest 'alley' home of terror twisters

It's tornado season in the U.S., especially in a five-state area known as "tornado alley," and if 1980 is an average year, some 600-1,200 tornadoes will kill about 120 Americans before it's over, according to the current issue of National Wildlife magazine.

Tornado alley extends from Texas north through Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri and although tornadoes have occurred in all 50 states, the frequency of twisters in that area has given the U.S. the unfortunate distinction of being the "tornado capital of the world."

In that "alley" from April through June, warm air flowing northward from the Gulf of Mexico collides with cold, dry winds blowing south from Canada, the report explains, and these "discordant elements" give birth to the violent thunderstorms that spawn tornadoes.

A tornado (from tornado, the Spanish word for thunderstorms) is a rotating column of air spinning around a vacuum.

Scientists do not know why tornadoes form in some clouds and not in others.

Usually, twisters spin in a counterclockwise rotation, traveling northeasterly at about 40 miles per hour. Most of them fizzle out in less than half an hour. "But occasionally," reports National Wildlife, "twisters come in bunches over a longer period of time." In this century this has happened three times:

- On March 18, 1925, seven tornadoes ripped across a 437-mile area of Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana. The largest of them covered more than 200 miles and killed nearly 700 people.
- On March 18, 1955, a massive siege of 37 twisters covered 853 miles in six states. Some 800 people died and property damage surpassed \$400 million.
- On April 3 and 4, 1974, the greatest tornado eruption in the nation's history occurred. In a 16-hour period, no fewer than 148 twisters gouged through 13 states east of the Mississippi River, covering 2,000 miles and killing about 300 people. The damage amounted to more than a half-billion dollars.

The worst tornado of last year struck the north Texas town of Wichita Falls on April 10, 1979, a day local citizens now call "Terrible Tuesday." For 20 minutes in the late afternoon the city of 100,000 people was struck by a violent tornado whose winds rotated at more than 200 miles per hour, killing 45 people and destroying about \$450 million worth of property. Wichita Falls is on the southern tip of tornado alley.

Meteorologists predict that in the heart of tornado alley, chances are that a specific location might be struck by a twister about once every 250 years. "But tornado patterns do not fit mathematical models," explains National Wildlife. Oklahoma City has been hit by twisters 32 times since 1892. And the community of Codell, Kan., amazingly, was hit three years in a row — 1916, 1917, and 1918 — on the same day, May 20.

Researchers may never be able to prevent tornadoes. Fortunately, advances have been made in tornado detection. In Norman, Okla., a 30-foot dome houses a radar system operated by the National Severe Storms Laboratory. A year ago, the system picked up almost every twister in the area, and enabled weathermen to locate some tornadoes a half an hour before they hit.

Gift may be taxable

If you're thinking of giving gifts of cash or tangible assets to a graduate, you may be required to file gift tax returns. The recipients of those gifts, however, don't need to report them on their income tax returns.

In making a graduation gift of up to \$3,000, there is no requirement to pay a federal gift tax. If you and your spouse make the gifts together, this increases the tax-free gift to \$6,000 to each person.

If a husband or wife is a graduate, there is a special provision of the tax laws which governs gifts to spouses. Basically, a substantial amount of cash property can be transferred to a spouse without incurring gift or estate tax.

GIVING SHARES of stock to a grandchild who is a graduate is a little more complex. Any dividends and interest over \$100 in dividends, is received in a year, a tax return must be filed. Of course, a student's income will be relatively low and the tax burden light. You may want to arrange to have them receive additional shares in stock instead of dividends. Generally, stock dividends are not taxed until the stock is sold.

Purchasing bonds for a minor and having them registered in his or her name will allow the proceeds on the bond's maturity or sale to be cashed in or deposited by the minor. Savings bonds issued in your name may be reassigned to close relatives, but a consultation with a tax advisor first will help clear up any problems or tax consequences that might arise.

OCC enrolls for summer

Registration for Oakland Community College's summer semester will be Wednesday, July 2, according to an alphabetical schedule.

Students may register at any of the college's five locations, including the Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills.

The other campuses are in Auburn Heights, Union Lake, Royal Oak and Oak Park.

Those who are unable to meet the schedule may register from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, July 3.



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