

1,000 boats to be on display at Cobo Hall

By Lem Meese
outdoors writer

More than 1,000 new model recreation boats will be on display Saturday, Feb. 1, to Sunday, Feb. 9, in Cobo Hall, on Jefferson Avenue overlooking Detroit's riverfront.

The \$12-million exhibit will range from paddleboats to cabin cruisers. The event is the 28th annual Detroit Boat and Fishing Show. Some 132,000 attended last year and bought 2,400 boats.

Sponsor is the Livonia-based Michigan Boating Industries Association.

Hours are noon to 10 p.m. the first weekend and Feb. 8: 10 a.m. weekdays; and noon to 7 p.m. the final Sunday.

Tickets are \$5 general admission and \$2.50 for children and senior citizens (age 62 and up).

Besides shopping, attendees can take in seminars in Room 2043 across from the main exhibit hall. Presentations will start at 4:30 p.m. and run continuously until closing time Monday-Friday, Feb. 3-7. Each is about 45 minutes long. The schedule:

Monday — David G. Brown, senior editor of Lake-land Boating magazine, on "Buying Your First Boat."

Tuesday through Thursday — Lanny Virden, producer of "The Outdoorsman Show" on television, with experts discussing muskie, steelhead and walleye fishing, electronics and downriggers.

Friday — Representatives of sailboat manufacturers.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will have a public display of state record fish, including three world records: coho, brown trout and burbot.

Race boat drivers also will make appearances.

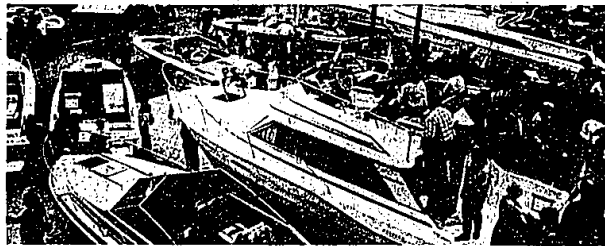
INDEPENDENCE Oaks County Park will have a three-hour nature center fun class called "Snow Shoopers" for kids 9-13 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Gifted classes start

Most classes begin Feb. 8 in the enrichment short courses offered to academically talented and gifted K-12 students by the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College.

Students aged 6-18 may choose from more than 25 offerings, including Cartooning and Comic Strips, Photography, Spanish and Baby Sitters' Training. Orchard Ridge is located on Orchard Lake Road at 1-696 in Farmington Hills.

Registration will continue up to and including the first class meeting. For course listings and registration information, call OCC at 471-7595.



More than 1,000 new sailboats and powerboats of every size and description will be featured in the Feb. 1-9 Detroit Boat and

Fishing Show in Cobo Hall on the riverfront. Here is part of last year's crowd of 132,000.

day, Feb. 1. The park is on Sashabaw Road 2 1/2 miles north of I-75, Clarkston.

Youngsters can learn how to keep warm build snow shelters and learn how animals cope with the cold.

Cost is \$6 per session. A park entry fee also is charged. Register by calling the nature center at 625-5473.

HURON-CLINTON Metroparks have several nature programs the weekend of Feb. 1-2. All are free, but you should register in advance by calling toll-free 1-800-552-6772. A vehicle fee is charged at the park gate. The schedule:

Kensington, 1-98 west of New Hudson — "Winter Foods for Wildlife," 10 a.m. Saturday; "Ice Fishing Workshop," 1:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday; "Groundhog Day Folklore," 2 p.m. Sunday.

Stony Creek, northeast of Rochester — "Saturday Morning Stuff," snowshoeing for youngsters 6-12, at 10 a.m. Saturday; "Groundhog Day Celebration," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Indian Springs, near Clarkston — "Huron Swamp Cross Country Ski Tour," 1 p.m. Sunday.

For fishing and skiing programs, participants must provide their own equipment.



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outdoors

tact the DNR Fisheries or Wildlife divisions at P.O. Box 30028, Lansing 48909.

Judging will be held in conjunction with the annual Outdoors '86 show at the Michigan State Fairgrounds. Some 140 entries are expected. Judging will be Feb. 22, with trout-salmon judging at 10 a.m. and waterfowl at 2 p.m.

Top 10 finalists will be on display from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Feb. 22 and noon to 6 p.m. Feb. 23 in the Fairgrounds' Michigan Mart Building. There is no entry fee.

YOU MIGHT as well take in these commercial exhibits and nature center programs' cause ice fishing is slow.

Lake Erie ice melted on Brest Bay during the recent thaw. The deeper waters of Lake St. Clair's Anchor Bay have been only slow to fair for northern pike. Perch fishing on Anchor Bay is only fair to good.

Inland, Kent and Walpole lakes in Oakland County are yielding good catches of crappie and bluegill.

In northern Oakland County, rabbit hunters are successful when they try the old, wild orchards on state lands — if they have dogs to help.

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