

# DNR's new information chief plans to get word out

In this age of information, natural resources seem to have been getting short-changed. Mainstream Michigan has little or no knowledge of the vast and magnificent natural resources which make up the state. The majestic whitepines of a rolling river, the majestic deer and bear, the tiny warblers, the tasty morels, the great white pine and the world class hunting and fishing opportunities all go unnoticed by a majority of the state's residents. Bruce Matthews hopes to put an end to that shortcoming.



**OUTDOOR INSIGHTS**  
**BILL PARKER**

Matthews was hired in December as chief of the new Office of Information and Education for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The new office is actually not new, rather the resurrection of an old branch of the DNR that had been idle for the past decade or so.

## A great opportunity

"Back in the '80s the information and education office of the Michigan DNR was world class," explained Matthews, who was a member of Cornell University's Department of Natural Resources and the director of the New York Sportfishing and Aquatic Resources Education Program before landing at the Michigan DNR. "My mandate is to create another world-class information and education office. I saw this as a tremendous

opportunity. You've got MUCC (Michigan United Conservation Clubs), which is one of the premiere sportsmen's clubs in the country in terms of their efforts in education. You've got two colleges (Michigan State University and the University of Michigan) with extensive research and resource programs. This is the premiere state in the nation in terms of natural resources and I've got the full backing of the department," he said. "I'm excited about the opportunity."

The DNR's new Information and Education Office is a direct result of the Hunting and Fishing Heritage Task Force which Governor Engler formed a couple of years ago to address the state of Michigan's rich hunting and fishing heritage. One of the top recommendations put forth by that task force was the need for

more education and information on our natural resources.

## Changing trends

In recent years, the percentage of the population which participates in hunting and fishing has increased and the average age of the hunter and fisher has increased. One of Matthews' goals is to reverse this trend by bringing more youths into the outdoor sports—not just hunting and fishing, but bird watching, hiking, camping, canoeing and all other aspects of outdoor recreation which utilize our valuable resources.

"About 80-percent of the kids in Michigan have gone fishing by the age of eight, but we have to keep them fishing. It's great to take a kid fishing, but we have to keep taking them," explained Matthews. "It takes five things

to keep kids interested in hunting and fishing. Number one, they have to have the initial experience. They also have to have access to suitable equipment, access to the resource, access to a guide or mentor, and they have to have appropriate social support. In other words it has to be cool to go fishing, or cool to go hunting. You find that social support in many rural areas, but not as much in urban areas. You gain that social acceptance through education and things like community conservation clubs."

## Some old, some new

Matthews plans to continue the popular DNR programs including Becoming an Outdoorsman, Women workshops, Fishing in the Parks programs, interpretive programs at the state parks, and

Project Fish, which is a 4H program that teaches adults how to work with children in the outdoors. He also plans to establish better internal communication, links within the DNR, to offer better community access to the DNR and its personnel, and to expand access to the DNR through the internet.

"I'd like to see us (DNR) have a viable presence throughout the state and I'd like the people of the state to know they can turn to the DNR for support," added Matthews. "As a long term goal, I'd like to see informed citizens participating in the process of managing wildlife resources."

Anglers and hunters are urged to report their success. Send information to 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, 48009. Fax information to (810) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (810) 901-2573.

## OUTDOOR CALENDAR

### ARCHERY

#### INDOOR LEAGUES

Several winter indoor leagues are forming at Red Oaks Archery in Metamora. Red Oaks features a Dart Tunnel, an indoor 3D range with a moving buck, and a standard target range. Call (810) 628-1661 for more information.

#### 3D SHOOT

The Oakland County Sportsman Club will hold a 3D shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, on its walk-through course in Clarkston. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information. A pancake breakfast begins at 8 a.m.

#### JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

#### OPEN SHOOTING

Open shooting hours at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield are 7-10 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; 4-9 p.m. Tuesdays, and 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Call (810) 539-3030 or (810) 661-9610 for more information.

#### YOUTH EDUCATION

Detroit Archers is offering a youth education league at its clubhouse in West Bloomfield. Call (810) 539-3030 or (810) 661-9610 for more information.

## SHOWS/FESTIVALS

### BOAT SHOW

The 39th annual Detroit Boat Show will be held Feb. 1-9 at Cobo Center.

### CAMPER AND RV SHOW

The Detroit Camper and RV Show, featuring all types and sizes of recreational vehicles, and accessories and supplies, will be

held Feb. 8-16 at the Novi Expo Center. Call (517) 349-8881 for more information.

### DEER & TURKEY

The Michigan Deer & Turkey Spectacular will be held Feb. 14-16 at the Lansing Center in Lansing. Call (800) 324-3337 for more information.

### PERCH FESTIVAL

White River Steelheaders will hold its annual Perch Festival on Feb. 15-19 in Montague. Call (609) 875-8702 or (810) 893-4555 for more information.

### OUTDOORAMA

The 1997 Outdoorama Sport and Travel Show will be held Feb. 21-March 2 at the Novi Expo Center.

### SPORTFISHING EXPO

The ninth annual Greater Detroit Sportfishing Expo will be held March 6-9 at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

### NOVI BOATING EXPO

The 5th annual Novi Boating Expo will be held March 12-16 at the Novi Expo Center.

### WILDLIFE ART FESTIVAL

The 14th annual Michigan Wildlife Art Festival will be held March 14-16 at the Southfield Pavilion. Call (517) 882-3630 for more information.

## SEASONS/DATES

### TURKEY

February 1 is the deadline to apply for spring wild turkey permit. The season opens April 21.

### GOOSE

A special goose season runs through Feb. 2 in the Southern Michigan Goose Management Unit. Consult the 1996-97 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide for additional details.

### RABBIT

Statewide through March 31.

### WATERFOWL STAMPS

Michigan artists have until April 21 to submit their artwork for the Michigan DNR's 1998 waterfowl hunting season stamp. No entry fee is required. Call (517) 373-9313 for more information.

## SHOOTING

### WINTER LEAGUES

The Bald Mountain Shooting Range in Lake Orion will hold winter leagues in sporting clays, skeet, and 5-stand. Cash prizes (\$500), donated by Wings & Clays, will be awarded in each league. Registration is open through Jan. 31. Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

## RANGES

### BALD MOUNTAIN

Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun, rifle,

pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to sunset, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenfield Rd. (three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

### PONTIAC LAKE

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, shotgun and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (810) 666-1020 for more information.

### ORTONVILLE RECREATION

Ortonville Recreation Area has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The range is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (810) 683-6767 for more information.

## Observerland from page C1

Sueda, a 103-pounder, is 25-4 with a first place finish at the Salem Invitational and seconds at CC and Garden City. Petryk 25-3 at 145 and 152, has championships at the Trenton, CC, Garden City and Salem under his belt.

Other Spartans with winning records include: Jeff Brady (119), 125; 20-9; Chris Goins (117), 17; 9; Dan Seder (130), 25-6; Mike Allison (160), 20-9; and Derek Wieland (215), 21-9; and Rich Brumer (heavyweight), 13-4.

"We have some seasoned veterans and some getting experience," Stevenson coach Don Berg said. "It's not so much how many finish first, but how many score points. We have some decent kids. CC's 189 (Casey Rogowski) and 112 (Mitch Hancock) are pretty decent and I'm sure they'll have some representative in-between. I talked to Ron (Krueger, the Salem coach) and his kids have been off and on. We split seven wins apiece. Wayne's had some injuries, but

at the beginning of the season I thought they'd kick everyone's tail."

CC has only a 5-10 record, but several losses have come to state ranked teams. At its Super Dual over the weekend, the Shamrocks lost to Howell and Traversa City and beat Flushing and Hazel Park.

Hancock has lost only once at 112 pounds and twice at 119. Rogowski has only two losses at 189 and senior captain Mike Zelenock (119) has lost three times.

CC coach Mike Rodriguez hopes to have senior Dave O'Hara, a defending Observerland champion, in the lineup Saturday. O'Hara, a 125-pounder, has missed the last month with a shoulder injury.

"We're progressing, but yet we're just standing still," Rodriguez said. "We go forward three steps, back four. It depends on how bad the kids want it, who's going to go out and do some pinning. It's up for

grabs (between CC, Salem and Stevenson) and Wayne can come in and throw everybody off."

Salem is led by Eric Coburn (125), Teono Wilson (189) and Anwar Crutchfield (152), each of whom were 4-0 in a dual-meet tournament Saturday at Adrian.

To hear Salem's Krueger tell it, half a dozen teams have a chance.

"Wayne Memorial is tough, so is Catholic Central and Livonia Stevenson," Krueger said. "John Glenn has got some good kids. I understand one is injured (Tim Reeves) and I hope he's back. We want to see him in that tournament."

"Churchill's got a real nice team this year, finished only a couple notches back of us at Berkley.

"Farmington is always there and going to have a couple kids coming in at mid-year. We'll see them Thursday, so we'll know more about them then.

"Whoever's got the best depth, I think they'll do it."

## WRESTLING

### WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 54

FARMINGTON 27  
Jan. 28 at Farmington

103 pounds: Chad Wilson (WLC) pinned Joe Seymour, 1:44; 132: Joe Martelli (WLC) won on void; 139: Seven Sahiner (WLC) decisively Scott Adams, 7-3; 125: Tony Lema (F) dec. John O'Brien, 10-2; 130: Jay Zierkowski (WLC) dec. Tom Mahon, 14-4; 135: Dan Aubry (WLC) p. Matt Weaver, 2:40; 140: Charles Jaeger (F) dec. Andy Krause, 16-6; 145: Randy Morgan (WLC) dec. Adam Sahiner, 22-7; 152: Ben Lukas (F) p. Justin Wozniak, 2:39; 160: Corey Voss (WLC) p. Dean Gozowsky, 2:29; 171: Andy Higgins (WLC) dec. Andy Wood, 5-1; 189: Evan McDonald (WLC) p. J.R. Guth, 3:35; 215: Joe Higgins (WLC) won on void; 275: Nick Lazart (WLC) won on injury fall over Jung Kim.

Farmington's record: 5-9 overall, 1-3 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

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