

# Cartwright remembered as 'Mr. Silver Streak'

Chuck Cartwright will be remembered by anglers across the Great Lakes as an innovator, a sportsman and an accomplished fisherman. Cartwright, of Orchard Lake, founded Wolverine Tackle Company and invented the Silver Streak trolling spoon - one of the most popular trolling spoons on the Great Lakes today. Sadly, Chuck lost his battle with cancer earlier this month.

**Outdoor Insights**  
Bill Parker

I met the man known to many as "Mr. Silver Streak" many years ago at a local fishing show and interviewed him a few years back for an article about his tackle business. He was always upbeat, cordial and accommodating, and always had time to chat about the sport of fishing or the fishing industry.

Chuck ran a charter boat - Tuna Boat Charters - on Lake Michigan in the early 1980s and enjoyed great success as the Great Lakes trout and salmon fisheries flourished. He witnessed firsthand the successful innovation and fool-hearted failure of others who were trying to make a living in the Great Lakes fishing industry. While running his charter business, Chuck also worked as a field tester for Lure Jensen and other top fishing tackle manufacturers.

One day some 20 years ago he grew tired of giving other people his ideas and opted to take matters into his own hands. He decided to "build a better mousetrap." Chuck retreated to his home on Cass Lake and eventually emerged with the concept of the Silver Streak spoons. Over the years Chuck

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watched his business grow. His spoons have garnered international attention from lure distributors from as far away as Finland, Norway and Australia. He also distributes them to the west coast, Alaska and throughout the Great Lakes region.

Chuck's first batch of Silver Streak spoons was made from 50 pounds of brass, which resulted in approximately 1,200 spoons. Today, his company produces over of 250,000 Silver Streak spoons annually. Chuck's entire family, including his wife Arleen, daughter Kim and sons Chip and Chris, helped with the family business, which employs between 10-20 people, depending on the season.

Chuck left behind a loving family and an army of friends and acquaintances. He will be remembered and missed, and his legacy will live on forever in the waters and the fishing boats of the Great Lakes.

### DEER HARVEST NUMBERS

Lack of snow and unseasonably warm weather throughout most of last year's deer seasons resulted in a 14-percent decline in the state's overall harvest compared to 2000, according to the DNR. Citing the 2001 Michigan

Deer Harvest Survey - sent out randomly to some 50,000 licensed deer hunters - as well as field reports, traffic survey results, and numbers from highway check stations and field offices, the DNR says hunters killed 463,706 white-tails during the combined seasons of 2002.

Hunter participation also dipped a bit last year. According to the DNR, 801,436 people purchased a deer hunting license last fall, compared to 811,400 in 2000. Surprisingly, hunter success stood at 41-percent.

But there could be silver lining here. Since last year's harvest was down, and since we had very little seasonal die-offs from last year's relatively mild winter - even in the Upper Peninsula - the outlook for the upcoming fall deer season should be outstanding with the herd holding between 1.7 and 1.9 million animals.

### PERCH BONANZA

It's been a long time since anglers got excited about summer perch fishing on Lake St. Clair, but that's changing this summer. Anglers have been reporting outstanding yellow-belly success for the past month.

Anglers are taking excellent numbers of fish in the eight- to 14-inch range on minnows fished along the shipping channel in 12 to 17 feet of water. Anglers considering a trip to Lake St. Clair can get fishing updates and current conditions by calling Jimmy's Boat Livery (586) 466-6000 or Selfridge Sport & Tackle (586) 949-2998.

Bill Parker covers the outdoors for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Hunters and anglers are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Bill Parker, c/o Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009



### NFWB softball champs

The Sun Devils earned first place in the Senior Division (ages 12-15) of the North Farmington-West Bloomfield sixth team house softball league. The Sun Devils are (kneeling, left to right) Kelly Harborn, Cary Sprague, Ashley Trotsky, (middle row) Alexa Kahn, Lauren Rubin, Jaclyn Arnold, Brittany Flory, Carrie Murphy, Jodi Amhowitz, Lindsay McKenna, (back row) Annie Cooper, coach Larry Flory, coach John Arnold and coach Robert Harborn. Not pictured are Stefani Silberstein, Lindsay Allerton and coach Scott Cooper.

## Detroit to host AAU Junior Olympics in 2003

The countdown has begun, the event is less than a year away as the Detroit area prepares for the 2003 Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games.

The event will feature more than 19,000 athletes, ages 6-19, from 50 states. They are expected to compete in 21 categories over an 11-day span, July 22 through Aug. 2.

The inaugural AAU Junior Olympic Games started in 1967 hosted by Washington, D.C. Over the years, the event has been held in 19 states and 29 different cities, including Ann Arbor (1973).

Former Olympians and professional athletes who have competed in the AAU Junior Olympics included Evelyn Ashford, Jackie Joyner-Kersey and Carl Lewis, track and field; Bart Conner, gymnastics; Tracy Caulkins, swimming; Chris Webber, Patrick Ewing,

Aufernee Hardaway and Shaquille O'Neal, basketball.

The 2002 AAU Junior Olympic Games opened Thursday in Knoxville, Tenn.

Detroit's Ford Field will be the venue for several forms of competition with other locations spanning the metro area and throughout the suburbs. Other venues included Eastern Michigan University's Rynearson Stadium and several area high schools.

"This event will put the spotlight on the entire Detroit area," said Dave Beachna, executive director of the Detroit Metro Sports Commission, who along with Commission Chairman William McLaughlin was instrumental in drawing the event to Detroit.

"The thousands of visitors attracted to the event will be an estimated \$30 into the local economy. Although it's nearly a year

away, we're busy lining up sites and handling all the many details that go into hosting an event such as this."

The 21-sport competition lineup for 2003 includes: aerobic dance/aerobic/aerobic, baseball, boys and girls basketball, baton twirling, dance/drum team, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, jump rope, karate, powerlifting, swimming, table tennis, Tae Kwon Do, tennis, track and field, trampolining and tumble, weightlifting and wrestling.

To become one of the 3,000 volunteers needed to work the Games, call the Detroit Metro Sports Commission at (313) 202-1926.

Local athletes and teams interested in the qualification process can contact the AAU at (407) 934-7200.

You can also visit [www.detroitreports.org](http://www.detroitreports.org) or call (313) 202-1974.

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**Local telephone competition forces choice in Michigan**

Diane Webb  
Director, External Affairs

According to the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC), local competition has tripled in less than two years. More competition means better prices and more choices. SBC Ameritech Michigan recently lowered its monthly charge for unlimited local calling service by a third. USA Today reports, "Overall, Michigan customers will save about \$26 million a year." Now THAT'S competition. But at the same time, consumers in Michigan suffer from limited long-distance competition. A recent study says that Michigan consumers overpay by \$1 billion annually for long-distance service. Michigan consumers deserve lower prices, more options and better service for both local and long-distance calling. For that reason, SBC is working with the MPSC on Michigan's application to the Federal Communications Commission to allow SBC to compete with the long-distance giants for Michigan consumers. Bring competition to Michigan's long-distance market and consumers will reap even bigger rewards.

*Diane L. Webb*  
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Director, External Affairs

For more information on how to unleash full telecommunications competition, please visit [www.connectmichigan.org](http://www.connectmichigan.org)

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