

# Bass fishing better; warbler lifestyle studied

By LEM MESEK  
Outdoors writer

Fishing is recovering from last week's heat and following storm.

Pontiac Lake is again good for catches of black bass, especially on plastic worms. Loon Lake boasts good bass fishing.

Silver Lake has lots of bass and a few northern pike.

Bluegills are now spawning and easy to catch on most inland lakes.

At Lake St. Clair, anglers are beginning to catch walleyes off the Selfridge Air National Guard Base, trolling with night crawler harnesses. A few perch are being caught off Metropolitan



## Outdoors

Beach, but the Lake St. Clair report is discouraging for pike and muskies. Bass season on St. Clair lake and river and the Detroit River opened Saturday.

STONY CREEK Metropark near Rochester offers several types of boat rentals.

You can get catamaran sailboats, paddleboats for two with a bike-type paddle, and aluminum canoes.

Catamarans and paddleboats run \$6 for the first hour, and canoes are \$3 to \$3.50 the first hour. Deposit is \$10 and your driver's license. The boat rental is at the Mt. Vernon picnic area.

THE KIRTLAND'S warbler is an endangered species of bird. But why is it endangered? What's changing our environment that would wipe out this songbird which nests only in a 60 square

mile area east of Gaylord?

"We have no good reason as to why," said Harold Prince, professor of wildlife and fisheries at Michigan State University. He was consulted by federal management team which is trying to rescue the warbler.

"We do know that they have a very specific habitat requirement — tied to jack pine and forest fires — but we don't know enough to speculate on how or why evolution forced the species to take this shape."

Added his assistant, Elaine Smith: "We're pretty sure Michigan is the only place where they mate and nest. We think they spend the winters in the Bahamas Islands. We know they eat insects, but we don't know if they have

any food preferences.

"We know they build their nests on the ground next to young jack pine trees, but we're not sure why."

"Reproduction is obviously the key to survival, so if we can find out why the birds are so selective in breeding and nesting habitat, we may be able to create new breeding grounds and thus increase their numbers."

HER INVESTIGATION revealed that ground cover is as important to whether the warblers will nest as is the presence of young jack pine trees.

"It's apparent that the birds key in on the whole ecological system, not the jack pine," said Ms. Smith. The key is

the ratio between the amount of jack pine and the amount of cover.

One possible answer may be that the male chooses the breeding ground locations based on the height of jack pines, but the female makes a further choice based on the available ground cover for nesting.

Kirtland's warblers are believed to be "generalists" which eat a broad variety of insects, but the scientists don't know if there is a tie between their habitat requirements and the availability of food.

A disturbing note is that the present pine sites will be too old within 10 years for the warblers to nest in, and there are no significant amounts of new, natural jack pine.

## Start car pool plan, SEMCOG asked

Computerized car pooling may be in the future for Southeast Michigan residents.

The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) has been recommended as the agency best suited to develop a regionwide car pool matching program.

The recommendation comes from SEMVAN, the Southeast Michigan Vanpooling Task Force. It was created by SEMCOG last fall to solve energy consumption, traffic congestion, air pollution and parking problems — all associated with high-cost, single-car travel.

SEMVAN members include transportation experts, environmental plan-

ners and employee-service representatives from the public and private sectors. Among the private sector members are representatives from the Chrysler Corp., Detroit Edison and Michigan Bell, which currently operate employer-sponsored vanpool programs.

"ALTHOUGH WE will continue to strongly urge major employers to set up self-supporting vanpools for their employees, this task force recognizes the urgency and seriousness of the energy situation, including the fact that bus lines may become overcrowded if the gas situation worsens," said James P. Grannan, a businessman and chairman of the SEMVAN.

"We are, therefore, going to recommend to the various SEMCOG committees that SEMCOG consider accepting primary responsibility for developing a car pool matching program that could be implemented regionwide," Grannan added.

Grannan said that SEMCOG already develops regional transportation plans, has been a leader in the van pool field and has the most up-to-date research on car pooling and ride sharing activities in other cities across the nation.

He said some cities are using computers to match car poolers. Computerized regional car pooling is especially helpful to employees of smaller companies which lack either the necessary riders or in-house capability to match those who want to get involved in a ride sharing program of some type.

GRANNAN SAID SEMVAN supports Gov. William Milliken's proposal to spend \$500,000 statewide on ride sharing promotion.

"If SEMCOG decides to accept primary responsibility for a regional car pool program, state or federal funding will be needed," Grannan said.

Michael M. Glusac, executive director of SEMCOG, said the SEMVAN recommendation and further SEMVAN proposals would go before SEMCOG's Transportation Systems Committee and its Council on Regional Development.

After that, it would be considered by SEMCOG's Executive Committee which is composed of local elected officials from around the region.

SEMCOG is a voluntary association of governmental units in Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne counties. Its principal function is long-range planning for transportation, housing, land use, recreation and open space, water quality, criminal justice and the environment.

## No nicotine in herbal cigarette

An English cigarette company claims it has taken the risk out of smoking and injected "sweetness" into it.

The new non-tobacco, nicotine-free herbal cigarette, providing all the psychological benefits of smoking but without harmful addiction, is now available in the Troy area.

The alternative herbal cigarette, called "Honeyrose," is a pleasant-tasting, aromatic smoking blend that can help smokers reduce, and eventually eliminate, the number of conventional tobacco cigarettes smoked daily, according to the local distributor, Auto City Candy Co., 1307 E. Maple Road.

By alternating between tobacco cigarettes and the new herbal brand, smokers are reducing their habit without loss of smoking pleasure, claims the manufacturer.

The smoking herbs selected for Honeyrose cigarettes have been used traditionally for hundreds of years and are mild enough to drink as tea. The special blend is made from sun-cured clover, woodruff, yarrow, sunflower and rose petals, coltsfoot, marigold, melilot and raspberry leaves. The herbal mixture is marinated for seven days in fruit juices and honey, then pressed and baked.

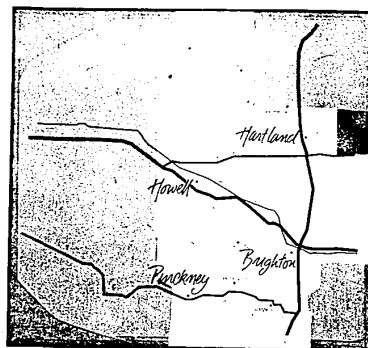
Honeyrose is available in regular or menthol filter-tipped hardpacks or as a smoking mixture. Suggested retail price is \$1.25 per 20-cigarette pack. The alternative cigarette is marketed in the U.S. by East-West Marketing, 76 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, N.J. 07079; and 831 Almar Avenue, Santa Cruz, Calif. 95060.

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