

# Big Seven has big largemouth bass

By Lem Messee  
outdoors writer

Big Seven Lake near Holly is the largemouth bass hot spot of southeast Michigan.

Several limit catches were reported by state DNR officers, who add that "Everyone is catching a few." Best baits: purple plastic worms and the Rapala artificial minnow.

Fish sizes range from 14-20 inches. Legal limit there is 14 inches.

Big Seven is in Holly Township in the northwest corner of Oakland County, midway between US-23 and I-75. The 170-acre lake also boasts better-than-average perch and walleye fishing, according to our guide book.

Closer to home, Cass Lake in West Bloomfield Township is producing good bass catches and even a 6 1/2-pound walleye.

A CANOE tour at sunset will take paddlers around Crooked Lake at Independence Oaks County Park from 7:30-9 p.m. June 25.

"If it's a clear night, a peaceful setting will highlight water plants, ducks, birds, fish and a beautiful sunset," said Karen Blake, naturalist aide.

Canoes with lifejackets can be rented for \$3 an hour, or you can bring your own, but lifejackets must be worn. Insect repellent is a good idea but not mandatory.

Meet the naturalist at the boat house. Only cost is park admission.

## outdoors

THE LUNAR eclipse will be drawing them into Independence Oaks County Park near Clarkston, 2 1/2 miles north of I-75 on Sashabaw Road.

The nature center there is offering an interpretive program called "The Lunar Lowdown" from 9-11 p.m. July 2. The parks naturalist will show slides on the eclipse and summer constellations. It's a family-oriented program.

CAMP RAINBOW will offer hundreds of physically and mentally handicapped kids 4 and older a week in camp in several Oakland County locations.

Sessions run from July 6 to Aug. 13. "It's a worthwhile program with lots of opportunities for people with various disabilities," said Monica Welch, therapeutic recreation coordinator for Oakland County parks.

Fee is \$30 per camper per week. Overnight trips are an additional \$6. Field trips run \$2-45.

Each group of campers is supervised by a professional staff member and several volunteers. Individual assistance is available for campers who need one-on-one help.

The northern location will be Waterford Oaks County Park west of Pontiac. It offers a wave pool, activities center,

water slide and court games complex for tennis, platform tennis, shuffleboard and horseshoes. Registration information is available by calling the parks office at 474-6115, Ext. 290.

In the southern part of the county, Camp Rainbow will be rotated among the host communities of Farmington Hills, Southfield and Oak Park. Facilities include nature trails, baseball diamonds, swimming pools, an ice rink, racquetball, miniature golf and tennis.

Registration information is available from the county parks office at 858-0906.

Camp Rainbow will feature Thursday overnight camping trips at the American Youth Hostel in Milford. With separate cabins for males and females, the hostel has running water, bathroom facilities, an indoor lodge, campfire area and nature trails. Kensington Metropark facilities are also used.

Thursday, June 24, 1982 O&E

(O&A)

Kensington Metropark has three programs this weekend.

• "Micro-Mini Nature Walk" at 10:30 a.m. June 27 at the nature center on the west side of the park. Naturalist Julie Cerbus will lead a 90-minute walk in search of miniature organisms - caterpillars, spiders and others of our friends. Bring bug repellent.

• "Natural Dying of Wool" at 1 p.m. June 27 at the farm center at the north end of the park. Farm interpreter Lori Anderson will show you how to dye wool the natural way, with weeds and herbs.

• "See Nature by Bike" at 9:30 a.m. June 30 starting at the nature center. Bring your own bike and enough strength to cover five miles in 90 minutes. Naturalist Mark Szabo will point out the sights, sounds and smells of the outdoors.

All programs are free, but call the park office in 688-1561 to register. Vehicle admission to the park is \$3 unless you have the \$7 season pass.

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