

# Where, When Fish Are Biting

By LEM MESEE  
Outdoors Writer

THE HOT LINE number is area code 517-373-0908, which is a toll call, and it provides live reports on all phases of hook - and - line fishing Monday through Friday from 8 to 5.

At other times - including 24 hours a day on weekends - the same number will give a short tape recording on fishing reports.

MOST LAKES have panfish and some gamefish, but not all

have public access sites. Moreover, DNR reports, this observer has learned, tend to emphasize the lakes which DNR officers patrol regularly because that's how they get their information.

Here's the list of "better" Oakland County lakes:

Bluegill, sunfish - Big, Cass, Fenton, Holly Millpond, Kent, Orchard, Pontiac, Spauld, Union, White.

Percy - Cass, Kent, Lakeville, Lower Trout Lake (in Bald Mountain area), Milford Millpond, Orion, Orkney, Pontiac, Union.

Largemouth bass - Big, Cass, Kent, Lakeville, Orion, Pontiac, Teple, Tippecanoe, Union, Wildwood, Valley.

Smallmouth bass - Bald Mountain Trout Pond, Cass, Davisburg, Folley Pond (Pontiac Lake area), Union.

Northern pike - Cass, Lakeville, Louise, Oakland, Orkney, White.

Muskellunge - They've been stocked in Whitmore Lake, Washnaw County, or Woodland Lake in Livingston County. There's some hope in '72 and '73.

Walleye - scarce but available in Cass and Loom.

Many of you will raise an eye at some of those names, and I will, too. Woodland is terribly choked with weeds, and some of the better bass

and 'gill spots are cut up by boats powered by 35-horse engines handled by kids who don't look more than 14. Cass and Whitmore I don't bother with any more for the same reason.

STAN LIEVENSE of DNR's fisheries division offers this chart on temperature preferences, qualifying it only by saying it's not scientifically documented and based only on his personal judgment.

The first figure is the "peak feeding temperature" and the latter two are the "active range" in his experience:

Lake trout: 51, 44-53.

Coho: 54, 44-58.

Chinook: 54, 44-58.

Brook trout: 58, 49-64.

Rainbow, brown trout: 60, 50-65.

Muskellunge: 63, 55-72.

Northern pike: 66, 55-74.

Walleye: 67, 55-74.

Smallmouth bass: 68, 60-73.

Yellow perch: 68, 58-73.

Bluegills (large): 69, 64-72.

Carp: 71, 65-74.

Largemouth bass: 73, 60-76.

Alewife: 54, 48-72.

Smelt: 50, 43-56.

MYSELF: I've never gone in for checking water temperatures, although with the availability of modern equipment, maybe I should.



JIM HAVLICK

## Havlick To Leave Livonia Y

Jim Havlick, physical education director of the Livonia Family Y, has accepted a position as director of health and physical education at the Hollywood, Calif., YMCA.

Havlick, a graduate of Springfield College in Massachusetts, has been with the Family Y since January, 1969, three months before the opening of the new building on Stark Rd.

Under his guidance, the Livonia Y has been recognized as the pacesetter in metropolitan Detroit in the fields of adult fitness, gymnastics and aquatic.

A farewell gathering will be held at the Y on Wednesday, June 16, at 7:30 p.m.

## Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

The announcement, that should have come a couple of weeks back, finally was made Monday that Windsor Raceway was dropping its thoroughbred racing meet.

We have felt for some time, as have most of the turf experts in the area, that Windsor was fighting a losing cause in attempting a running meet under the lights against competition from the Detroit Race Course and the night harness meeting at Hazel Park.

It is difficult enough to operate a thoroughbred campaign in virgin territory with poor horses, nondescript jockeys, on a not-popular tartan, artificial surface without competition.

To try and back established meetings amounts to financial suicide...it took a while for the message to reach home but Windsor Raceway officials finally got it.

None can make any estimates as to how much cash went down the drain but it is rumored the track needed a nightly handle of more than \$300,000 to meet expenses.

Windsor's average wagering was just over \$100,000.

Perhaps the biggest blow of all came Sunday when Windsor had a free gate to the grandstand, attracted slightly more than 4,000 and wagering was around \$240,000 for a per capita of less than \$50.

From Windsor comes the word that the thoroughbred fiasco will not have any effect on the harness race meeting scheduled for mid-October. The plant will pick up its operation then with the hope that it will regain the successes of past years.

But once again, the Canadian track faces the stiffest kind of opposition during the first month of the fall meeting. It will be competing head-on with the Windsor Raceway headed by promotion-minded General Manager Dick Wilson.

WILSON IS NEVER short of promotions geared to attract customers to the area's largest plant. A year ago, and President Frederick Van Lennep introduced the area to a mile racing strip after 20 years of operation on a half-mile track.

The shift worked wonders, bringing in better pacers and trotters from all sections and

giving Wolverine its finest racing history. The handle climbed, crowds soared and Wolverine enjoyed its best campaign.

It will be recalled that Windsor competed against the Pontiac-Northville meeting for the better part of two and a half months last fall and early winter and business took a decided dip.

It was one of the track's poorest years and the owners didn't pick up until Michigan Racing Commissioner Leo Shirley halted racing in the state from mid-December to mid-February by not allowing draws.

Then and only then, with the only game in the area in operation, did Windsor make gains.

Michigan tracks will be allotted dates this year to give Windsor competition all the way in its fall and winter meetings. It could be more of the same that caused the sudden demise of the current meeting.

Isn't enough that Windsor closes. The impact will be felt by the owners and trainers who have to find somewhere to go immediately. Hundreds of workers at the plant are thrown out of jobs and the jockeys will have to make quick moves to other ovals.

The biggest task is that of the owners and trainers. Most tracks now operating have filled all stalls, the tracks the owners left won't take them back for the same reason and most will have to wait for some of the smaller operations to open. This could mean as many as four to six weeks layoff and where does an owner keep his stock in training for that long.

IT'S A CERTAINTY that Windsor will ask all owners to get off the premises as quickly as possible. In most instances this means within a few days and generally by two weeks the barn area is completely vacant.

One could say that Windsor officials gambled and took a big loss. Probably the biggest reason for the fiasco was lack of a study of the situation before diving in.

If Windsor has to depend on Canadian money for the success of a meet, then it will always be a lost cause. Even in Toronto, one of North America's most modern and most progressive cities, finds that it is the American dollars coming in from Buffalo and other nearby spots in New York state that builds up the handle on weekends.

Other than that the large racing operations in Toronto - Woodbine and Greenwood - have daily handles that are far less than the average for Wolverine and Hazel Park Raceways.

It will be interesting to see what happens next fall when Windsor clashes head-on with the Detroit Race Course and has competition from area tracks throughout its campaign.

That is unless unpredictable Commissioner Shirley doesn't have a change of heart and refuses to allot dates for the winter months. If that happens, then Windsor will have clear sailing all the way.

"IT COULDN'T HAVE happened to a nicer person," was the general opinion of racetrackmen when the Detroit Race Course honored Mrs. Goldie Gibson as its 16th million customer.

Goldie is well known to owners, trainers, mutual employees, ushers, plant protection officers, DRC officials - just about most anyone and you'll find her or she has had some contact with Goldie over the years.

She has been a daily patron from the day the DRC first opened its doors back in 1950.

A widow with time on her hands, Goldie learned long ago that afternoon racing gave her entertainment daily and enabled her to keep busy.

She's just about the busiest person at the track, making daily visits to exchange greetings with her hundreds of friends. There isn't a day goes by that Goldie hasn't started the afternoon by meeting the parking lot attendants, the gatekeepers, the ushers, the concessionaires, the waitresses in the clubhouse and the men and women on the mutual lines.

It was the opinion of all "it couldn't have happened to a nicer person." We agree with them.

## By George Maskin observing sports

PUTTING ONE WORD AFTER ANOTHER—In flashing back the 1970-71 prep athletic doings hereabouts, the play-of-the-year had to come in the fading seconds of the Southfield Lathrup-Pontiac Northern football game.

Remember what happened! Northern had the game wrapped up and was in possession of the ball with a few seconds to go. The ball was snapped, the elated Northern quarterback tossed the ball into the air in glee...to celebrate the triumph. But Larry Weinberg of Lathrup snared the ball before it hit the ground and took off for the goal line, a touchdown and a Lathrup victory.

So, once again it proves: When there's life, there's hope!

THE YEAR'S BIGGEST prep story? It had to be the 9-0 football record posted by North Farmington to become the state Class A champions.

Next: The leap of 14 feet, 8 inches in the pole vault by Roger Blanchard of Redford Union, the second highest performance ever by a Michigan prep in the event.

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR? A real ticklish one, but the nod would have to be split up:

1 - Drew Mahalic of North Farmington, named the state's football player of the year and also a stand-out in basketball and track.

2 - Mike Page of Country Day School, all-state in football and basketball and a star in track.

3 - Greg Puius, the all-around athlete at Garden City East High.

4 - Scott Love of Birmingham Groves, all-state in basketball and in golf!

THE MANAGER-OF-THE-YEAR - boys who truly are the unsung heroes of the various schoolboy teams?

A nicer young man there isn't than Rick Coil, who's wrapping up three years of being the right-hand man who coaches at North Farmington.

SPECIAL ORCHIDS? At the head of the line there stands Jack Cotton, the Farmington school system athletic director and also the president of the State High School Athletic Association.

The Association has had some trying moments in the past couple of years, but under Cotton it's run a smooth course...a very smooth one...and there have been no criticisms registered by anybody, as far as we know.

SADDEST MOMENT? Umpiring the final baseball game, or for that matter officiating in the final varsity sports attraction of any kind, at Our Lady of Sorrows High School.

Bob Kelley, who has been coaching at Sorrows and turning out winners, reportedly is having a tough time latching on to a new job in this day when so many schools are cutting back.

Schools, looking for a head football, basketball or baseball coach - or a man who could even handle all three - should consider Kelley in their search to fill a vacancy.

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