Anglers eager to begin bass season

OUTDOOR INSIGHTS

BILL PARKER

If you're looking for a good fight, take on a largemouth or a smallmouth bass on ultralight equipment. I *guarantee* you won't be disappointed. Unless, that is, you lose your patience and the fish.

Bass are to fishing what Julio Caesar Chavez and Sugar Ray Leonard are (were) to boxing. They're medium-sized scrappers who won't give up without an all-out battle for supremacy.

Bass aren't the biggest, or even the feistiest, game fish to grace the waters of Michigan. I won't deny that a 20-pound King salmon in open water or a 15-pound steelhead on a fly rod in a river will try your angling skills and push your endurance to the limit. But hook into a five- or six-pound bass with two- or four-pound-test monofilament line and you'll be in for a fight that will rival the Hearns-Hagler war.

Visually, not even Seinfeld or Northern Exposure rates as high among anglers as watching a lunker bass tailwalk across the top of the water. When the calm, smooth surface of a lake suddenly explodes with a volcano-like eruption and a big, beautiful green-and-white bass emerges and dances across the water, the adrenalin begins racing in even the most seasoned angler.

The best thing about bass fishing is that you can catch largemouth on nearly every lake in the state. Smallmouth are a little more particular but still very plentiful.

You don't need a huge boat with downriggers, eight cylinders and a skipper's mate to fish for bass. A small two-man fishing boat is more than enough to pacify most, but even that isn't considered mandatory bass fishing equipment. Many trophy bass are caught each year by anglers fishing from shore or a dock.

This excitement and availability are the driving force behind the increased popularity of bass fishing in recent years. Bass boats, bass baits and bass books are hot items in sporting goods stores, and bass tournaments are surfacing all over the place. (Budlight even promotes "Bassball" in one of its commercials.)

While they are a blast to catch, bass aren't real tasty, as they tend to have a strong, murky flavor. Perch, walleye and bluegill work much, much better when filling a plate for dinner. Most anglers pursue bass strictly for the fight and excitement of the catch, then release the fish back into the waters to battle another angler on another day.

OUTDOORS CALENDAR

CLASSES/ SHOWS

■ PISTOL CLASS
The Western Wayne County Conservation Association will offer a basic pistol class beginning Wednesday, June 1, on the club grounds in Plymouth Twp., 535-0436. A rifle class begins July 6, and a muzzle-loading class begins Aug. 3.

■ SALMON FISHING SEMINAR
Metro-west Steelheaders will present a salmon fishing seminar beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 7, at Garden City High School. Featured speakers include Don Williams, Irv Oliver, Dick Hallerman and Larry Dennis. The seminar is open to the public and free of charge, 420-2965.

■ BOAT SHOW
The second annual Hands On Boat Show, offering buyers an opportunity to test drive products on the water, will be held June 17-19 at the Pontiac Lake Recreation Area, 539-0108.

FISHING CLUBS

■ FOUR SEASONS
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Maplewood Center in Garden City, 477-3816.

■ MICHIGAN FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School, 420-2233.

■ METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders, a non-profit club dedicated to educating the public on improving, preserving and promoting anadromous sport fishing, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at Garden City High School, 420-2965.

SEASONS DEADLINES

■ WILD TURKEY
Ends May 29.

■ BASS
Opens statewide on May 28 except on Lake St. Clair and the Detroit and St. Clair rivers. The season opens June 18 on these three bodies of water.

■ DIP NETS
Open through May 31 in non-trout waters in the Lower Peninsula.

■ FREE FISHING WEEKEND
No fishing license or trout/salmon stamp will be required to fish in Michigan waters on June 11-12.

■ BEAR
Application deadline for the 1994 Michigan bear season is June 15.

■ MUSKIE
Opens June 4 on Lake St. Clair and the Detroit and St. Clair rivers.

METROPARKS

■ FOREST ECOLOGY
Learn how plants and animals in a deciduous forest depend on one another for survival in this walk, which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday at Indian Springs.

■ ACTIVITY BADGES
Webelo Scouts can work with a park naturalist on forester and naturalist activity badges during this program, which will be held throughout the day Saturday at Indian Springs. Call for program times and to register.

■ WILDWING EXCURSION
A two-hour walk around Wildwing Lake in search of wildlife and wild flowers begins at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Kensington.

■ HORSING AROUND
A program demonstrating techniques used to train draft horses begins at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Kensington Farm Center.

■ JUICE FOR JEWELS
Learn about one of nature's jewels — hummingbirds — and how to attract them to your yard in this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Sunday at Stony Creek.

■ WILDFLOWER FOLKLORE
Celebrate the beauty of the season in this program, which begins at 2 p.m. Sunday at Indiuan Springs.

■ NATURE'S STORIES AND SONGS
Bring the family and singing voices to this program, which begins at 2 p.m. Sunday at Kensington.

'94 bowling champions get their due

TEN-PIN ALLEY

AL HARRISON

League championship patches are awarded to men's, women's and mixed league first-place finishers in all ABC/WIBC sanctioned bowling leagues.

They say "Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing," and that's pretty much the same in every sport. In bowling, it's not always the best bowlers who win championships. Many times the high-average bowlers finish way down in the standings.

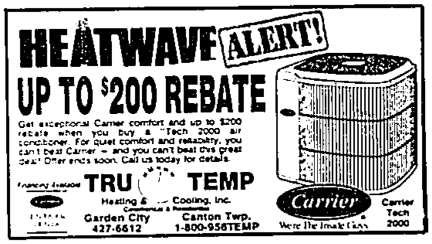
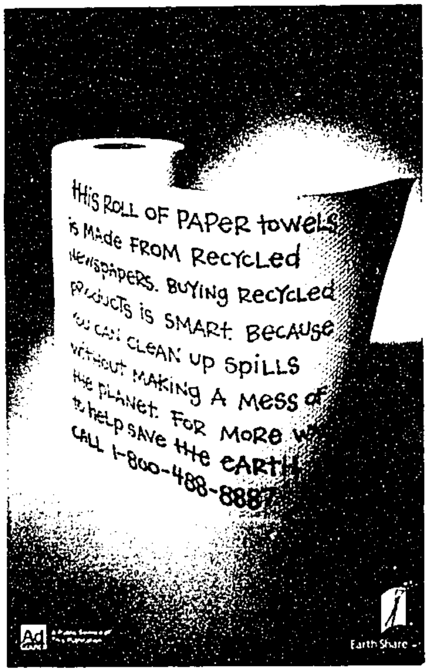
There are certain intangibles that can elevate a team, regardless of the spot or the level of competition. League champs can get an extra bonus, called *point money*, at the end of the season. It's not enough to buy a new car, but it's still worth shooting for.

Time and space limitations do not allow listing all winning teams, but those who have reported their results are listed below.

Congratulations to the League Champions.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL

Woodland Lanes (Livonia): Thursday Flyers, Joyce Caendo, Bobbie Bone, Ben Pollock. Sparemakers, Jo Bacrak, Trudy Sipek, Donna Mansfield. Allstate Ladies, Gladys Grayson, Julie MacRae, Shirley Tinz. Woodland Mixers, Tony Voletti, Rick Conbeay, Dave Colvin, Tiffany Brewer. Ladies Nite Out, Tammy Barrett, Linda Winkel, Vicki Hamme, Marlene Pinke. Early Birds, Jo Greve, Laura Howe, Kathy Barker, Mary Sharter. Funtimers, Rosanne Peterson, Lawrence Peterson, Jom Fitzgerald, Allen Henry. Woodland Oddballs, Clay Stevens, Jack Stevens, Bill Hodges, Leo Seguin, Tom Hodges. Bucks and Does, Dina Bellaperche, Terry Montgomery, Mike Markow, Beth Devine. Sunflowers, Judy Smith, Bob Pierce, Dana Scafluga, Monty Wornacott. Drifters, Barb & Henry Barraco, Cindy & Alan Warchuk. Gay 90's, Helen Gill, Roy Hronek, Bobbie Shambo, Ruth Brewer. Monday Specials, Margorie Hemeon, Lois Rouen, Bea Kahkonen, Mac Clark, Alex Rudis. Hy Grade, Rick Almanza, Ideas Rodriguez, John Meehan. Thursday A.M. Ladies, Kathy Janik, Karen Govender, Anita Sipos. Afternoon Delights, Debbie Hunt, Lori Zimmerman, Nancy Crockett, Doris Macorkindale. Grandale, Mike Raschke, Chuck Giese, Emil Heilman, Jerry Heilman, Jim Heilman, Ray Raymond. Swinging Seniors, Mary Gines, Vicki Nesting, Art Lyons, Frank Burchik, Carl Fetter. Morning Stars, Laura Steele, Tala Sears, Kathy Lamb, Sandy Clower, Lyndon Meadows. Rosa Duganne, Lanka Simoff, Lori Reetz. Woodland Rollers, Mary Stewart, Sandy O'Rourke, Nancy Petachyk, Donna Fick. Wonder Women, Eileen Hanna, Joyce Lupu, Chris Altenburger, Helen Burger. Ford T & C Ladies, Shirley Rudis, Phyllis Dees, Sally Rattray, Ray Lundy. Ford LTP Salaried, Ron Humphrey, John Thomas, Matt Mazur, Howard Behr, John Schramm. Early Rollers, Kathy Richardson, Corrine Yoho, Donna Lockerman. Midnighters, Al DeNillo, Keith McDonald, Wayne Kessler, Tim James. Senior House, Don Chambers, Charlie Bonnici, Troy Whitehead, Carl Van Every, Ken Elenich. Woodland Wednesday Trio, Greg Wizgird, Jim Knoll, Kevin Muto, Ron Turner, Steve Knoll.

Westland Bowl: Double Trouble Saturday, Team No. 5 Peggy Weck, Ken Weck, Barb Christman, Keith Feet. Saturday Nite Strikers, Team No. 9, The New Fourplay, Arlene Ladell, Tony Ladell, Heather Mierzkiewicz, Mark Mierzkiewicz. Twin Parrish Men's, Team No. 17, More of Less — Tim Rose, Dave Adkins, Bruno Zmikly, Frank Kashuetc, Leo Zmikly. Hard times Team No. 10, Cheryl Crute, Carl Crute, Phyllis Messer, Brad Lloyd. Thursday Nite Mixed, Team No. 2 Al's Market, Janet Boner, Mary Sincain, Frank Boner, Larry Sinclain, Tommy Boner. Westland Queens, Team No. 4, The Bitchy Five, Mary Ann Colton, Virginia Swain, Dawn Huntoon, Sue Bonine, Betty Swain, Kathy Vanessley. Westland Champs, Team No. 1, Wild Bill's Video, Jo Girard, Judy Whitehead, Barb Orange, Marge Tochstein, Emily Milligan, Linda Whitcher. Men's 950 League, Team No. 2 REA Construction, C. Berent, T. Collins, James Dannotel, Gary Naumoff, Jim Tsvetanoff, John Tsvetanoff, Bob Tsvetanoff. Saturday Night Mixed, Team No. 1, Mary Bastian, Dennis Reese, Norm Bastian, Steve Reese. Hits & Misses, Team No. 11, Bowl Meisters, Erin Mahoney, Jamey Youse, Jenn Staub, Paul Truax. Big 10 Bowling League, Team No. 6, Fun Way to Rock, Dan Harrison, Jerry Heyel, Bob Olson, Bill Brooks, Gary Swan, Thad Brooks, Rud Dimeggio. Wednesday 9:30 Men's House, Team No. 13, KAZ Strutum, John McLean, John Kasparian, Dave Siebert, Jeff Hanson. Lits Ladies, Team No. 6, Why 777, Pam Stevens, Joanne Smarsh, Nancy Gustin, Char Cox, Patti McCollum, Lisa Ferri. Queen Pins, Team No. 5, Computer Tots, Michele Maran, L. Anderson, M. Bright, T. Kain, K. Pickens. Tri City Invitational, Team No. 1, Remenus, Bob Shonce, Randy Oncza, Ray Lanczki, Bob Jewor, Tom Wright. Westland Ladies Classic, Team No. 21, TISA, Jean Essa, Annmarie Nowak, Kathie Dudanski, Anna Judway, Sharon White, Pat Gray. Ford Wednesday Morning Mixed Mixers, Team No. 7, Looney Tunes, Mary Melow, Peggy Mabelturi, Jim Mabelturi, Cal Sneck. Monday Nite Swingers, Team No. 2, Born to Bowl, Kathleen Bell, Marie Wornick, Jan Snider, Bonnie Kaufman, Barb Sommer. St. Mel's Men, Team No. 11, Ray's Pro Shop, John Auty, Carl Auty, Blake Brooks, Jim Stawn, Mark Auty, Joe Auty. Bowlerettes, Team No. 8, Looney Tunes, C. Collin, Mary Guagardo, M. Smith, D. Smith. Westland Junior House, Team No. 4, Cozy Inn, Mark Fritz, Dennis Swatch, Mark Mullen, Ken Everett, John Paz, Mike Paz, Sam Fullerton. Saturday Night Kings & Queens, Team No. 2, The Grim Reapers, Kurt Perry, Ben Murrow, Paul Murrow, Rick Perry. Monday Night 6:30 Ladies, Team No. 7, Samoyed Plumbing, Sandi Kulick, Irene Rogowski, Audrey Chaffin, Michelle McKenzie, Karen Rogowski, Debbie Snodgrass. Monday 6:15 Men's, Team No. 4, Faro Screen Printing, Larry Brown, Don Cassaidini, Bill Brown, Rick Cebula, Mike Brown, Milo Kunato, Ed Brown.

Cloverlanes (Livonia): Cloverettes, Team No. 7 "Tag A Long," Cari Knotemdorf, Carol Van Sternburg, Brenda Provey, Marge Holcomb, Linda Gerach. Kings & Queens, "Mommys & Daddys," Linda Butner, Tracy Douglas, Melvin Douglas, Todd Butner. Renaissance Mixed, Team No. 12 "Spare Me," Al Blackwell, LaDonn Banks, Catrina Lewis, Andrew Brogdon. Good Time Gals, Team No. 4 "Bowler's Back," Madelyn Wallace, Letitia Hunter, Patrice Wallace, Lisa Moore, Kelley Williams. Ford Mustangs, Doug and Debbie Wilkinson, Richard and Linda Freeland. Redford Rollers (Men's), Team No. 2 "Big Money," Bill Knight, Todd Bearance, Gary Fletcher, Larry Fletcher. Redford Rollers (Ladies), Team No. 8 "Oh!!!," Lynne Shaw, Sue Davidson, Karen Perry, Sheila Green, Sharon LePalm. Westside Jets, Team No. 9 "Maverleys," Mike Folson, Alan Sparrer, John Fergo, Ray Lanczki, John Lanczki. Cloverlanes Thursday Junior House, Team No. 12 "Oberstrom Roofing," John Wojcik, Mike Van Belle, Jim Oberstrom, Eric Oberstrom, Ed Church. Monaghan K of C, Team No. 4 Dermon Robinson, Dave Lulu, Craig Patton, Greg Avery, Bob Sedgewick. St. Francis De Sales Mixed, Team No. 9 "Rolling Rock," Deborah Tidwell, Mattie Beavers, Kim Brewer, O.C. Dotson.