Great Lakes anglers lose a great innovator, sportsman

I COLUMNS

huck 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 spoons on the Gally, Lakes today, Sadly, Chuck lost his battle

with cancer earlier this month. I met the man

Bill 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 1980's 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 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

mouse trap."

Chuck retreated to his home on
Cass Lake and eventually emerged
with the concept of the Silver Streak

over the years Chuck watched his business grow. His spoons have gar-nered international attention from

lure distributors from as far away as Finland, Norway and Australia. He also distributes them to the west cost, Alaska and throughout the Great

Alaska and utroep.

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

duces 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 larvest 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 whitetails during the combined sea-sons of 2002.

whiterais ourng the combined sea-sons of 2002. Hunter participation also dipped a bit last year. According to the DNR,

bit hast 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 a 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

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 yellowbelly success for the past month.

Anglers are taking excellent numbers of fish in the eight to 14-linch 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) 468-6000 or Selfridge Sport & Tackle (586) 949-2998.

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

New league offers plenty of opportunities to cash in

fonly I was a good enough bowler. I would run, not walk, down to Vision Lanes on Ford Road in Westland and sign up for the new scratch league being formed, with the added prize money provided by the new sponsor, Miller Brewery, It will be known as the Miller Lite Scratch Invitational

League. As of now, twelve

teams are signed up and they are looking for four more.
Miller Brewing is adding \$5,000 to the prize fund, evenly distributed to all members. There will be an average cap of 1,070 per team with a three-year composite average in which sport condition league averages cannot be used.
The format will provide for a split season with a total purse

of \$20,000 — \$10,000 for each half. Miller will provide uniform shirts for each member and each tean will be named for a particular product of the company. An additional prize of \$1,000 will be paid to the high average bowlers, both right and left handed, \$750 for the best and \$250 for second.

The 50-50 drawing will include Miller items such as three strikes to wint it all. The first strike will be

strike will be

good for 25% of the pot, the second is worth 50% and the third one

Ailey

Harrison

worth 50% and the third one gets it all.

If the player misses the third strike, they will still take 25% of the total pot for that week. Here's a new twist: Spectators are also eligible to purchase tickets and if they get the winning ticket, they can select their favorite bowler to take the shots and split whatever pot is

won. There will also be brackets. Instead of the collector taking the usual \$5 off the top, that money will go into a special find which will be bowled for in a separate tournament at season's end.

A bowler cannot get into more than half the brackets, This assures that the same 'hot shoot's will not valk away with all the money every week. The league is open to both men and women howlers, starting at 7 pm. Tuesday, Sept. 3 at Vision Lanes. The opening league meeting will be 7 pm. Aug. 6 at 1921 Lanes, A second one will be Aug. 27. A \$100 deposit per team is required to reserve a place in the league. Call Vision Lanes at (739) 641-8181. Considering the growing popularity of sport condition bowling, a person may average around 210 or more in a classic league and drop down to perhaps 170 or 180 in a sport conhaps 170 or 180 in a sport con-

dition situation.

The Miller Lite League has taken this into consideration for their own rules, that sport condition averages may not be used. By so doing, they are eliminating the chance of somebody having an unfair advantage in tournaments or regular leagues.

I would hope the local ABC affiliates will recognize this

affiliates will recognize this potential problem and avoid putting these averages in with their regular yearbooks, or have a separate listing for such

a separate listing for such leagues.
Otherwise, real problems could develop in situations where any appreciable amount of money is involved. This same thought will be discussed at the next Greater Detroit Bowling Association meeting.



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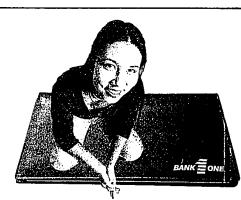
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