

Reeling in a recent conversation

A fisherman's calendar



LOON TUNES
and
OUTDOOR NOTES
by Len Landry

"What's your favorite type of fishing Len?"

The question was simple enough, right? I mean, it was a logical, straight-forward inquiry which shouldn't have been too difficult to answer.

Well, Dave Harley asked me that question a little while ago. Dave is a very astute fellow; he knows how to get right to the heart of an issue, and I saw a mischievous little twinkle in his eye as he noticed me having trouble answering...

"My favorite type of fishing? Well... umm... er... it really depends... yeah, it really depends on several things..."

Well, Porky Pig ("be-dee, be-dee... th... that's all folks!" and all) has been more eloquent than I was after being caught off-guard by good ol' Dave.

Yep, Dave Harley is a pretty sharp fellow. After all, he married Jean, right? And they make a very classy couple. Jean is our typist, a great gal, with the uncanny ability to decipher my handwriting.

Heck, even their cat has an inordinate amount of intelligence. With a neat name like Willoughby, you know that this feline exudes self-confidence.

And, in a way, Dave gave me an idea for this article, our first of the new year, because the answer to his question was really quite simple.

"Well, Dave and Jean... and Willoughby... my favorite type of fishing is the fishing I'm doing at the time. That's right. And you can plan your entire year around fishing. It's a sport where there doesn't have to be an off-season. Not too many outdoor activities can boast that, right? Fishing can be fun for the whole family, or a determined adventure on your own. It really is the world's greatest sport..."

Jean got up to fetch a little more coffee, probably recognizing the fact that we would need it before I finished answering...

"For example," I went on, "you can take any time of the year, and I'll tell you what type of fishing will be my favorite-of-the-moment."

"Let's start with spring. To me, this season always signifies the approach and arrival of trout fishing in local waters. April in Georgetown brings back those childhood memories of muddy roads, dirty sneakers, and bicycles, and garden worms and trips to the nearby brook trout streams in Stewarttown... and cutting across the old Rex Heslop property. I swear Rex would smile and turn his back on us so that we wouldn't worry, and then we would sneak across his lawn, and go on down to that creek at the bottom of his ravine.

"I still visit some of those streams in the spring. The brook trout never get very big, but they're colorful fighters, and they always bring back a lot of warm memories..."

Willoughby was looking at me

with tired, but satisfied eyes.

"May is a great fishing month too. Pike and yellow pickerel (walleye) season opens a little earlier in region 8, near Picton, and then walleye fishing becomes the main attraction on our annual Halton Hills Ambulance crew - Victoria Day trip. Oh boy, we're getting revenge this year, fellas! We've got new spots up in the Kawarthas, so pick up a punch of Rapala lures, Mister Twister spinnerbaits and Lindy bait-walking rigs. If they don't get those fish, the worms, minnows and leeches most definitely will!"

Willoughby was asleep now. Jean asked if I wanted a little more coffee.

"No thanks. This is fine. Now, where were we? Oh yeah, June... well, early June means muskie opener and Pigeon Lake and lures that get heavier and meaner and faster as the summer progresses... and the end of June brings bass season and now the whole family can join in. Everyone loves bass season! Any kind of live bait... worms, crayfish, leeches, bugs, and lures that don't look like anything from this planet... they all work!"

And when bass fishing is slow, we turn to perch, bluegill and other pan fish. They never develop lock-jaw; they're always eating, and they'll always put on a show for Rita and our kids..."

By this time, Jean was politely trying to keep her eyes open... Dave? Well, he was probably tiring too, but he had asked the question, after all...

"July and August and early September are devoted to bass, muskie and walleye fishing, and the more adventurous fishermen can take part in the annual salmon hunts on Lake Ontario and elsewhere.

"October is definitely muskie month for us, and we'll sometimes switch to our biggest plugs, like Creek-Chub Pickie, or even to big, live sucker 'minnows' to attract the ol' 'grim destroyer'.

"November finds us at the Credit River mouth in search of steelhead rainbows, until ice-up."

By this time, Dave was looking at me with a fixed, blank stare. I had the distinct impression that he was fast asleep...

"From December through March, my favorite fishing is off the Lakeview Generating Station shores in Port Credit. It never freezes over; it's open season all year, and you can toss Little Cleos, spinners, or even salted minnows at the big lakers, browns and rainbows. Sometimes you even catch one!"

"And this year, I'm definitely going to get into some ice-fishing for walleye on Lake Scugog.

"But if God said I could only have one type of fish to go after... well, it would probably be the smallmouth bass. I would just have to sit and sulk in the off-season... And mind you, I don't always get to go to all these places, but I get my share of fishing in..."

"So that's my answer to your

question, Dave... Dave?... Dave... yoo-hoo... Dave?..."

"Huh, oh yeah... yeah... good, Len."

"Say, did you hear about the time ol' Willoughby bit into the electrical cord and shocked himself? He ended up in the cat I.C.U. and everything. It's a true story, Len. Did you hear about it?"

"No, Dave."

"Well, he's okay now but we changed his name to Electrocat. It's a cute name, right?"

"Yeah, cute... Oh, I get it: electro-cute, electro-cat... you know, this time, Dave, I have 'no comment'..."

ON THE HORIZON: More about fishing in Port Credit... In January... Brrr...

See you in two weeks.

Wilkes rolls youth bowlers to top prize

Georgetown youth bowlers have again collected prize money.

Having won \$500 last year, the local young five-pin bowlers travelled to Mountain Lanes in Hamilton to the second annual Avestel Boxing Day Bonanza Tourney.

Ian Wilkes rolled the high single game of 314 and obtained a \$25 award. This top effort helped the team to capture the \$100 prize.

The other members of the team to benefit from this event were Christina Lane, Eddie Doyle, Kathy Miller and Scott Hobbs.

HIGH SCHOOL

Rough start for Rebel hoopsters

It's been a less than auspicious beginning to the new year for Georgetown Rebels basketball teams.

A 62-49 senior boys loss to Perdue in Oakville last Thursday marked the fourth straight loss for Georgetown teams since school re-opened after the Christmas break.

Prior to that loss a midget-junior-senior triple-header in Oakville against Loyola Hawks ended in losses all around for GDHS.

"They're a big strong team and they've been together for three years," said senior coach Gary Southworth of a highly-ranked Loyola squad which dumped the Rebels 80-38.

Frank Katsilieris led GDHS with 14 points against Loyola while Dave Harris hooped 25 in the Perdue loss.

After losing a 70-32 decision to Loyola, however, Georgetown midget Rebs bounced back to turn in a very respectable performance at the Perdue Panther tournament last weekend.

The locals stung the home side 47-26 before bowing out to St. John's-Brantford, 73-57.

Derek Ellard (12), Rich Cook (8) and Adam Poyntz (8) led Rebel shooters in the GDHS victory while Poyntz (16) and Ellard (12) were tops against St. John's.

Rebels fought back from a 17-1 first quarter deficit to make their final game respectable.

Assistant coach Jim Broughton cited Shawn Pearson (9 points) for coming off the bench to play a strong game underneath the basket for Georgetown.

Coach Moe Leeking, meanwhile, says his youthful club shows promise for the rest of 1989. "I'm not usually one to make predictions, but I think our guys will be right in the middle of things this year," said Leeking.

All three GDHS teams visit Blakelock today.

Hawks sweep hockey Rebels

Loyola Hawks swept away four points in a home-and-home series with the GDHS Rebels hockey team last week.

Hawks dropped the Rebs 9-4 in Oakville last Thursday after edging the red and blue 3-2 at Alcott Arena on Jan. 3.

"We're having some problems in our own end," said Rebel coach Neil Cotton.

Steve Lee, Mark Shepherd, Chad Bailey and Doug McDermott scored on Thursday while Travis Gardiner notched both Rebel goals on Jan. 3.

Rebs face-off against Oakville-Trafalgar today in Oakville.

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