

Trout season opens

Today's the day for area anglers

Today is the day a lot of local anglers have patiently awaited—that being the official opening of trout season.

Hence, the Credit River, along with its many creeks and tributaries, will see their fair share of fishing pressure. To the successful fishermen go the early bragging rights, but all in all, more anglers are just happy to be able to finally get on (or in) the water. So here's some tips before you head out to your favorite hole or stretch of water in search of some trout.

-a good set of polarized sunglasses could make a big difference if sunny-bright conditions prevail. The eye wear takes the glare off the water, making it easier to spot troughs or holes where potential fish are.

-if the water you're fishing is clear, the pound test you're using can become a hinderance instead of a benefit. Heavy line will in-

variably spook fish, no matter how appetizing or attractive the bait. The general rule of thumb is to go with the lowest pound test possible, sometimes as low as two pounds. Remember fish at the best of times can be easily spooked, and using heavy line presents an unnatural element to the fish's world. The more natural your presentation, the better your chances for success. If you wish to use a heavier line, one option is a leader line. That would mean tying a lighter line, say four-pound test, to the heavier line.

-a popular practise of anglers is to try and cover as much water possible, which means walking to different spots. A couple of things to remember here. Walk upstream as to not spook fish. chances are the fish will be facing the current, and not notice someone coming from behind. Hip waders can make river travel easier, but make



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sure to move quietly whenever possible. Again, polarized glasses can help you locate fish holding in a pool and allow you to come up quietly. But take into consideration not all land along a river-creek is public. Some of it may be private, so checking in with land owners whenever possible will not only cut down on a lot of aggravation, but keep everything nice and legal.

-presentation of bait is important. Make it as natural in presentation as possible so as to not raise suspicion. Fish aren't rocket scientists, but instinct for survival has made them able to notice unnatural items. So if you're using a

roe bag, put the last split shot about six to eight inches above your bait. Keeping the use of lead to a minimum is a good idea. If you're using spinners or cleos, small ones might be best.

-the normal length of a fishing rod hovers around six to six-and-a-half feet, but when trout fishing you'll notice many anglers going with what are commonly known as noodle rods. The extra length (these rods can go as high as 12 feet) allows fishermen greater access to potential holes.

-if you're fishing amongst a group, fishing etiquette comes into play. Should someone in your party (or one nearby) have a fish on, get your line out of the water. There's nothing worse than having a nice fish on, only to lose it when it gets tangled in another's line. If you're the angler that has gotten bit, make sure you let people know you've got a fish on.

-once you've caught your quarry, handling it becomes a question. If you're practising catch and release, handle the fish as little as possible. If it's hooked deep but seems like it can live anyway, don't bother with trying to get the hook out. Merely cut the line. But if you must handle the fish, a tail glove will allow for a firm grip (usually around the tail) while removing the hook.

-don't forget if you want to fish you've got to have a license. They can be purchased for the entire fishing season or a five-day period. Fred's Live Bait in Norval, Outdoor Power Equipment in Georgetown and Fletcher Sports in Acton can sell you a license as well as take care of your tackle and rod needs. In addition Canadian Tire and Zellers are or will soon be stocking fishing equipment.

Good luck, and good fishing.

Time Out 1 emerges with title after topping Halton darts loop

By ALEX TOUGH

Monday, Halton league play came to an end with the final matches of the 1989/1990 season and Time out #1 again emerged as league champions, the last result being 10-4 over Time out #2 in a fun filled session. A decent pile of goodies followed from owner Nick Kotsos for both squads, and several photographs were taken. Pete Pickering shot a maximum, Alex Tough closed out 124 with Ron Scarlett closing 106 and Beau Beaumont closing 100. Pickering also fired in

two 140s as did Dan Fraser and singles came from Beaumont, Tough and Scarlett. Joyce Marrows scored a fine 132 in reply.

Copper Kettle #1 entertained third place finishers O'Tooles #2 and shared the singles then lost momentum in losing the doubles and came back to share the four person teams sets. Peter Conway, Ken Baker and Rick Harden each fired in 140. Meanwhile Kettle #2 had task to contain rampant O'Tooles #1. Two of their three points came from winning over the 'dummy', as the home squad took 10 points. Two 140s were scored by Mark See with single counters from Danny Drumm, Jon Brown and Gary Spiller.

McGibbon ladies #2 squad gave Kaspers a battle in the mens' den. Singles were tied. Doubles went to the males by 3-1 and the teams tied to give Kaspers 8-6 win. Doug Staddon scored 180 and Roger Armstrong and Mike Compton. No score from McGibbon #1/Station House match.

Wednesday Industrial league playoffs continued. No change at the top of the first division where Gasketman Cutters retain their three point lead over Snowjacks Hustlers. Both teams lost 3-2 to their respective opposition, West-enders and Golden Flights. 'Enders move into third place with 20 points and Exports have 19 points in fourth place. Exports come back into the picture after winning 4-1 over Steeprock. High Rollers defeated Bulldogs 3-2 and Acadian Pools won by the same score over Ensigns. This week's double header to end the playoffs should be exciting.

Panthers take the second division playoffs title with a 3-2 win over Aces. Taxmen are runner up after their 3-2 result over Firemen. A late burst by Independents, 4-1 over Outlaws, came just too late.

Powers of Pain round out the results with a 3-2 win over luckless Bandits, who finish without a win. Gord Bottoms fired 180. Cam Levers shot four starts, one of 160 and one of 105. 140s were scored by Ian McDonald, Brian Hicks, Rob Poyner (who also opened with 112), Pete Pickering as highlights. Eric Fuller, Jim Franks and Bruce Capreol fired 120 each. Joe Poirier's 126 came from 7 x18s. Jim Charter scored 116, Laurie Hopkins 115 and two tons. Rod Beaumont opened with 106 and George Powell scored 112.

At the Legion provincial championships Ron Scarlett and Beau See Halton on page 31



The GMHA handed out its overall Vezina trophy. This year's winners were Chris Hall and Jody Barber.

Coffee Day is set to go

The second annual Tim Horton Coffee Day is set to get underway Wednesday.

All the money raised through coffee sales at participating stores will be donated to the Tim Horton Children's Foundation. One of the participating stores is the Tim Horton in Georgetown, located on Mountainview Road.

A number of local and pro sports celebrities will be pouring coffee throughout the day Wednesday. Town of Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller, 1990 Hockey Heritage award winner Roy Ward, Murray Lawton of Canadian Tire, Barry Whitworth of Georgetown Chrysler and Georgetown Toyota, Andrew Murray of Murray Motors, Gary Brand of NRS Realty, Rud Whiting of Re/Max Realty and Georgetown Independent-Acton Free Press publisher Ken Bellamy will team up with former Toronto Maple Leaf Paul Henderson, Hamilton Tiger-Cats Grover Covington, Jason Riley, Ed Gatevekas and Ralph Schultz, Toronto Argonauts coach Don Matthews and Hamilton skipper Al Bruno.



GMHA awards banquet

The Georgetown Minor Hockey Association handed out its hardware last week. While not everyone captured individual honors, for many thinking or dreaming about what could've been and getting a close up look at the trophies was enough.

BARB STEPHENS Independent-Free Press