

OUTDOORS
with Bryan Berriault

Local angler takes Molson fishing title

Who says fishing doesn't pay? Local angler Keith Burbidge sure won't agree with that statement. Burbidge topped the entries in the 1982 Molson Big Fish Contest for walleye. But, that wasn't good enough for the local wand waver.

His 20 lb. 15 ounce walleye also set a new record for the Molson Big Fish contest and by doing so Burbidge picks up a brand new 60 Hp. Evinrude Outboard Motor and the \$150 in prize money. The 37 inch monster broke a record set back in 1959.

Up until Oct. 4 another local angler was setting the pace for walleye fishermen to catch. Doreen Sajan with an entry over the 18

pound mark was looking good until Burbidge decided to do a little bass fishing.

Around high noon (not the best time of the day for walleye) the prize catch could not resist the gold rebel offered by Burbidge. Within seconds, the Midland record breaker knew he had more than a bass at the end of his line. The ten pound test Stren line was put to the test as nearly twenty-one pounds of battling walleye fought for freedom.

But, as Burbidge put it, "good equipment is the key to success when fishing. Luck plays only a small part for most successful fishermen. Once on a line, quality rods, reels, line and tackle take the worry out of being close for those who are serious about catching

fish.

Burbidge's rooms are covered with mounted fish, much to the dismay of Mary Kaye, his wife, who has to dust them.

Knowing him, Mary Kaye will have one more item to dust off next year—the 60 hp Evinrude compliments of the Molson Big Fish Contest, while her husband attempts to set more records in the 1983 season.

With 24 years under their belt, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters received more entries this year than any previous year for the fishing contest. However, due to insufficient evidence (sounds almost criminal), lack of witnesses and questionable weights, a

few entries met with disqualification.

A bird (or should I say fish) in the hand is worth two in the bush, so, next year make sure the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters receives a properly documented entry for the Molson Big Fish Contest. And, who knows, you could be sitting in the winners circle enjoying the start, of a new year knowing you're number one. Congratulations to Keith Burbidge.

To all the sportsmen throughout the area, may your only drawback in '83 be a limit of good luck. See you on the rivers and lakes in the New Year.

Travel industry act update in Ont.

Ontario's travel agents will dig deeper into their pockets to provide more protection for clients caught in a travel collapse.

Ontario Travel Registrar Doug Caven said recent travel industry bankruptcies made it clear that changes to the compensation fund were needed.

client welfare is the goal

Effective Dec. 15, the industry doubled the ceiling of the fund to \$3 million from \$1.5 million and increased the maximum payout of the fund for any one bankruptcy to \$1.5 million from \$1.2.

The industry will finance these changes by increasing contributions to the fund: travel agents will pay \$3

for every \$10,000 gross sales and wholesalers \$12 for every \$10,000 of gross sales. Newly-registered agents will also have to pay \$2,000, double the usual \$1,000 initial fee to be considered in good standing with the fund.

As well, consumers and travel agents will have to submit claims within six months of a travel bankruptcy. As it now stands, the board of trustees, which validates claims to the fund, must be reasonably certain that all claims are in before it can issue refund cheques.

The changes allow the board to use its discretion in releasing funds on an emergency basis to make alternate travel arrangements for passengers scheduled to leave within three to five days of a travel bankruptcy by guaranteeing immediate payment to hotels, tour operators etc. from the fund.

A \$3,500 limit has also been set as the maximum any one traveller can claim from the fund. A family of four, for example, could claim up to

\$14,000.

"This is to ensure that a few sizable claims to the fund would not push it over the \$1.5 million maximum, forcing us into a position of prorating all claims," Mr. Caven said.

The travel compensation fund was set up under provincial legislation in 1975. The fund is administered by the Ontario Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations with all claims submitted to a seven-member board of trustees for approval. The board is composed

of a lawyer, chartered accountant and three travel industries, one government and one public representative.

Consumers can make a claim against the fund if they have paid for travel services through a registered travel agent but did not get them. Travel agents and wholesalers can make a claim if they have refunded money to a consumer or arranged alternate travel plans at their own expense.

For copies of claim forms, write to the Ontario Ministry of

Consumer and Commercial Relations, 555 Ontario, M7A 2H6 or call Travel Registrar, Yonge St., Toronto, (416) 963-0418.

SIMCOE COUNTY
District Health Council
Steering Committee

The FINAL Public Meeting of the Simcoe County District Health Council Steering Committee will be held at the Midland Municipal Office, 575 Dominion Avenue, Midland, Ontario on Tuesday, January 11th, 1983, at 8:00 p.m. You are invited to attend this meeting and express your views regarding District Health Councils.

John Fennell, Chairman
104,1

Obituary
Walter
Calvin
Edwards

A funeral service for the late Walter Calvin Edwards of RR 1, Midland, was held in Nicholls Funeral Home on Dec. 20, 1982. Rev. Wesley Oake officiated. Interment in Vasey Union Cemetery.

Mr. Edwards passed away following a lengthy illness at age 64 on Dec. 17, in Huronia District Hospital.

The Tay Township farmer was the son of Frank Edwards and Ada Rumney, and a member of Vasey United Church.

His brothers Manley and Fred, and his sister Eleanor, all of the Vasey district, survive him. Family members Velma (Mrs. J. Wixon), Ormal, Nathan and Lorne predeceased him.

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