

# Canadians capturing Molson challenge so far

American sportsmen fishing in Ontario are on their way to clobbering their Canadian counterparts in the 1986 Molson Big Fish Contest. Contest officials are watching the steady flow of U.S. entries with increasing interest. Again, as in 1985, northern pike and muskellunge are the big draws for U.S. tourists.

Minnesota Carol Marjaport confirms that it was worth the trip to Wabigoon River when she caught (and released!) a 48" muskellunge in July. Carol is one of 12 Americans currently in the Live Release muskellunge top twenty with six weeks left in competition.

Pike enthusiast William Matheny was fishing near Ear Falls over the summer when his spinnerbait did its work. The Illinois native hauled a 26 pound, 46" northern from Lake Wenasauge and he now has a magnificent trophy. Three quarters of the top twenty Catch and Keep pike now entered were caught by Americans, as are 60 per cent of the top Live Release pike.

But on the salmonid side of things, the Ontarians have the upper hand. Southern Ontario's Soper Creek was the scene of Tom Foster's memorable catch. The 42" rainbow trout, landed on opening weekend, was promptly live released by the Bowmanville resident.

It's salmon that make Douglas Cannons of Hornell Heights sit up and take notice. He was fishing Lake Ontario last month when he caught a 33.62 pounder and he gave it his complete attention! Douglas proudly entered his prize in the Molson Big Fish Contest.

It seems that Ray Dupuis, Jr. can be counted on to enter the live release speckled trout class year after year, and for 1986 his 23.75" trout looks like a potential winner. The Nipigon angler was using a minnow type lure in the Nipigon River when his entry struck.

Prizes in the 1986 Molson Big Fish Contest are valued at \$45,000 and ten species of game fish are eligible for competition. The contest is operated by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, and is open to anyone fishing in public waters in Ontario between April 15 and November 30, 1986. Fish must be legally caught on rod, reel, and line. No entry fee is required and there is no limit to the number of times a person can enter.

Entries can be made in either of two categories. The Live Release Category is for anglers who release their catch to swim and spawn again. The Catch and Keep Category is for sportsmen who want to eat their prize or mount it as a trophy of an exciting day on the water. The ten species which can be

entered are: largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike, muskellunge, walleye, brown trout, lake trout, rainbow trout, speckled trout, and salmon.

With the tourist season over and entries being accepted until the end of November, Ontario's sportsmen are urged to send in their entries. Particularly welcome are entries for the ten Live Release classes. "Many anglers tell us they live release all their catches, so we know there are lots of potential competitors out there," says Lance Males, administrator of the Molson Big Fish Contest. "Unfortunately, without greater support from this segment of sportsmen, we will be unable to award many of the contest's fabulous prizes this year."

All fish entered must be photographed and measured (fork length and girth), and Catch and Keep entries must also be weighed on a government-inspected scale. Live Release entries are ranked according to a combination of length and girth measurements, while Catch and Keep fish are ranked according to weight.

Prizes in the 1986 contest consist of cash, motors, tackle and art. Each competitor whose fish meets or exceeds the qualifying entry standard for its class receives a Michael Dumas print and a personalized award certificate. First

place winners in each of the 20 classes take home an Evinrude electric trolling motor, a Berkley rod and reel combination, and \$150 in cash. One hundred dollars and a Berkley rod and reel are awarded to second place finishers, and each angler claiming third

spot adds \$50 to his bank account and a Berkley rod and reel to his tackle. Berkley rod and reel combinations are also presented to competitors placing fourth through fifteenth in their class.

A distinguished panel of fisheries experts judges the

entries in December, and results are revealed to the press on December 31. At the same time, the announcement of the 1986 Ontario Angler of the Year will be made. The competitor honoured with this title will receive a 9.9 h.p. Evinrude outboard motor.

Molson Big Fish Contest entry forms are available from Ontario lodges, resorts, bait and tackle shops, sporting goods stores, or directly from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, P.O. Box 28, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 6Y5.



## Making his point

Dave Green, a top Ontario dart thrower, was just one of many competing in a tournament at the Civic Cen-

tre Saturday. Several players from around the province took part in the day long event.

## Penetang bantams defeat Collingwood

Penetang S. Charlebois Excavating and Haulage Bantams whitewashed Collingwood 4-0 Sunday in Georgian Bay Minor Hockey Association action.

Greg Playne opened the scoring with a tally from Craig Gerow at the 3:03 mark of the first frame. Derek Lenew passed the puck to Ian Charlebois, who in turn tossed it to Playne who made no

mistake at 10:26 of the second stanza for a 2-0 lead. With just eight seconds left in the period, Playne struck once again to complete his

hat trick on the power play

unassisted. Brian Robillard counted the final goal of the contest at the 12 second mark of

the third, also unassisted

on the power play. Travis Mealing, Penetang goal guardian, picked up the shutout.

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