

# Pointe au Baril: 'Fishing dream'

## Pointe au Baril

When I pulled into the yard of B & B Baits in Pointe au Baril, the new owner was there to meet me. He introduced himself as Bruno, and asked if I fished there often. Then he took a second look at my pipe and asked if my name was Alex. Well, that's when it all started — the hand-shaking and the good 'old Italian coffee', and the story of how he came to be living a new life at Pointe au Baril.

For years Bruno had been a reader of my columns and he even bought one of my books. This was when he made up his mind that Pointe au Baril was the reality of his fishing dreams. He fished there a few times and then quit his job, sold his house in the city and bought B & B Baits. He says it was all because of me that he made the happiest move of his life!

Pointe au Baril is located on Highway 69 a few miles north of Parry Sound. The bay part of Georgian Bay is located a few hundred feet west of the highway. There is a government ramp as well as some limited parking. A little further down the road is Bruno's place. He has parking and is the only reliable bait dealer in the area.

## Strange water

Pointe au Baril is a strange body of water. It has many small bays, open water, and river such as the Shawanaga flowing into it. Fishing there is varied, and in my opinion, second to none. I can honestly say that this is the only place



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that I have never been skunked in all my fishing life. Almost all the bays are weedy and are top spots for pike and large mouth bass. For pike I like to fish the north side of Steamboat Channel.

Another good spot is near the wreck right beside the channel. Large mouth bass fishing is best inside the channel or at the other end near the open water in front of Shawanaga River. Musky fishing is best in the outlying open waters. I like to use large spinners during the summer and large Rapalas later on in the fall. Musky fishing is better once the leaves start to turn.

## Walleye fishing

Walleye fishing is excellent in the early season. Rapalas, Mepps spinners, and live bait are your best bet. Give it a try

up the Shawanaga right up to the falls. Later on in the summer, the fish are all over the bay, and only the local people can help you find them. During the hot summer months it is not unusual to see all kinds of monster walleye hiding under some shady dock further out in the bay. The local people are the only ones who know the right spots. Fish in the ten pound range are the rule rather than the exception.

## Small Mouth Bass

How about a feed of scappy small mouth bass? The larger bays are dotted with all kinds of little rocky islands. I found it to be most productive if you pull your boat up on an island and cast a silver mepps out into the deep water, retrieving it onto the island, barely skimming the bottom.

Some days, even during the heat of summer, almost every cast will produce a fish. If you drop in at Bruno's, he will show you a few spots on the map where a minnow, frog or leech will catch your limit of small mouth bass in no time.

I have found that most of the shoals have three rocky drop-offs and one shallow, weedy side. Fishing on the shallow side can produce some large Pike or Musky.

Channel cats, crappies, perch and carp are plentiful in the area and in my book, give the youngster some of the fastest fishing anywhere. It is the variety of the fish that gives the area its top approval, if one species is not cooperating too well, there is always some other fish around hungry enough to give you top sport.

## Camping

Camping is done entirely on your own, there are no organized sites in the area but I have never run into any problems finding a good tent site out on any of the bays and islands.

Provisions are available at Kennedy's Store right at Pointe au Baril. Fishing tackle, as well as bait, is available at B & B Baits, which is also the local Post Office. Boats and motors are limited, and if Bruno has none left, he will make arrangements with some other operator for you.

## Trophy fish here

So if you would like to get some of the best fishing and have some real trophy fish in mind, head up Highway 69 for a day's fishing. I am sure you will not regret it, nobody has to get skunked up there. If you would like to take your family for a few days, there are several camps and lodges in the area. Make sure you have reservations during the summer season, as the Americans have also discovered my favourite fishing hole.

Next week: My second choice... the Moon River.

Richvale boys  
lose 10-5

The Richvale OASA Bantams got off to a rocky start Tuesday in a softball game at Crosby Park but came back to make the game an interesting one.

They lost 10-5 after trailing by 7-0 at the end of two innings. Richvale Pitcher Rob Haenel settled down and pitched tremendously the rest of the way. Catcher Jamie Mitchell also excelled.

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## Industrial softball squads on starting line

(Continued from Page 21)

play outfield as well and perhaps young Wayne Roffey will turn out to be a pleasant surprise for the Gardeners.

## Joe's Garage

Joel made the playoffs last year by the skin of their teeth. Their former coach George Clark, who returned to the team this year as their manager states, "Why, we're the team to beat!" He supports this statement with the fact that they have acquired ex Dyne player Stan Thornton as their coach. Their pitching staff consists, now, of newcomer Dave Berseth, who will back up returning Brian (Boog) Madely. Other key acquisitions, Clark tells of, are Don Campbell, whom he describes as versatile and catcher Jeff Wood.

## Barrow Insurance

The previous defending champions suffered a poor year last season failing to reach post season play. Popular Bob Viverette, who guided them to the championship two seasons back, has returned to the coaches chair although he is not expected to play this year.

A former pitching star in this league several years back with Eric Cycle and Sport, now Town Auto Body, Larry Guio, has been persuaded to return to playing with the Barrow club. He will complete their pitching staff which includes returnee Billy Hamilton.

Brothers Dave and Doug Bell are expected to add strength to Barrow's outfield core.

## Lake Wilcox

Coach and Manager of the Lake team Paul Ortiz was unavailable for comment regarding his team.

It has, however, been learned that the club has acquired an outfielder and a pitcher. Bruce Stevens is back to throw for the Lake and apparently Rick Collins is being moved back of the plate.

Ortiz is the league's first vice president.

## Mills Roses

Formerly Fram Filtration and the Black Hawk Motor Inn (alias the Richmond Hill Firefighters.) This team now has few firefighters as members. Fire Chief Bob Kennedy continues to be their number one pitcher and they have a new coach in the person of Bill Jackson. Jackson is op-

timistic that we will see an improvement in this club over last year.

## McKinley Drywall

This team went winless for about the first half of last season and by the end of the season they were about the hottest team in the league.

Will they pick up where they left off? This could very well be as they have acquired pitcher Rick Carton, a brother of their slugger Bob Carton.

They have also acquired Blair Robson, an all star last year with Fram, Jim Dubkowski, from Town and Ben Bourget from Jenkins.

## Ronald's Federated

An expansion club this year, Ronalds has as manager and pitcher Jim Cook, formerly with Lake Wilcox. Paul Black is their coach and Jack King is his assistant.

At press time the only confirmed positions filled is their pitching staff which will consist of Cook and Paddy Needham.

They report having a large selection of hopefuls to choose from.

The Industrial League is featuring four double headers a week now. The twin bills go every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Town Park and on Wednesdays only at the Crosby Park diamond. The first games start at 7 p.m. and the night cap commences at 9 p.m.

Industrial League fans will be pleased to know that there is no cost to come and enjoy these games. The passing of the hat for donations has been scrapped for this year.

## ...Sports...

(Continued from Page 21)

## Meeting cancelled

One more item:

That third meeting re the Arena Review Committee won't be held tomorrow (Thursday) night as originally planned. It has been set back until some time in June with the exact date to be announced.

## John Hobbs finishes first at school judo

Richmond Hill Judo Club competitor John Hobbs placed first recently in the under 143 pound class at the first High School Invitational championship held at Peterboro.

Hobbs represented Bayview Secondary School.

Another area competitor, Joey Toule of the Budo'kai Judo Club of Thornhill who finished second in the under 165 pound class.

The event was held May 17.

## Correction

### Friedberg statements gets misinterpreted

In last week's article under the heading of "Light slaps on wrist for Arena Board", Superintendent of Recreation Lynton Friedberg was quoted as follows: "It was pointed out that the Richmond Hill Figure Skating Club has never asked for a grant with Friedberg observing that the policy was to provide money for groups that involve a

general participation from the population and not special purpose groups such as aquatic clubs, etc."

Friedberg's comments were misinterpreted by the writer of the article.

The recreation department does provide grants for special purpose groups "to help defray costs of their programs but not to pay for the facilities they use."

For example: No grant would be forthcoming to assist any group in paying for pool time although money could be made available for a special program to be carried on by an aquatic club."

## Lights for Pearson Park

Lights for a ball diamond at Pearson Park in 1976 were assured at the May 20 meeting of Richmond Hill Council when it accepted a recommendation of its parks and recreation committee.

The recommendation was that \$20,000 be reserved in the 1976 current budget to provide lights for the diamond at Pearson Park and, further, that staff be instructed to call tenders for this work in the fall of this year, to be awarded in time to have the installation completed before May 1, 1976.

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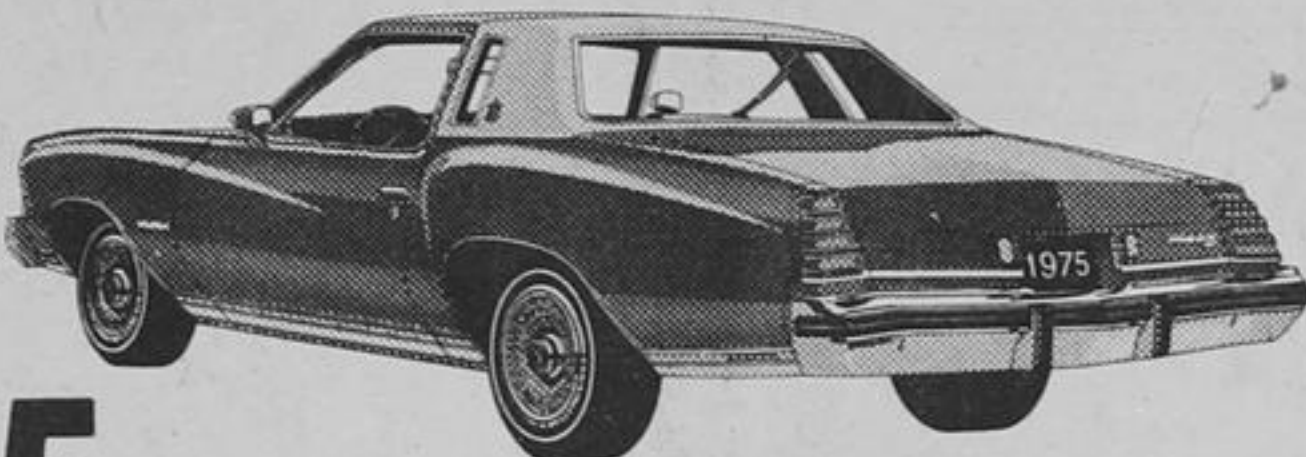
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