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Second Section

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A whale of a fish

Brian Marchant, manager of Ringwood Fish Culture Station, grips a mean-looking three and a half foot chinook salmon. Only three and a half years ago, the 32-lb fish was the size of the little five gram chinooks in the background. The Ministry of Natural Resources facility is one of

14 such stations in Ontario that stocks lakes and rivers with little fish that grow big and toothy like this one.

—Kelly Connelly

Ontario lakes stocked with Ringwood fish

BY KELLY CONNELLY
Sports Editor

Big bath tubs full of fish is the simplest way to describe the Ringwood Fish Culture Station (FCS).

It is the only salmon hatchery in Ontario and one of 14 such Ministry of Natural Resource stations in the province. Ontario's lakes, rivers and streams depend on the Ringwood facility for a fresh supply of chinook salmon and coho salmon every spring.

Last Thursday, Brian Marchant, manager of the local sta-

tion, was busy helping his technicians scoop 45,000 chinook out of a holding tub into small buckets. From there, the fish—measuring about four inches in length—were poured into a refrigerator-like white tank hitched to the back of a pick-up truck.

The Lake Ontario Salmon Express was emblazoned in blue letters on the side of the container. The fish, five months old and weighing five grams, were about to be driven to their new home—the Credit River.

Ringwood FCS and other such facilities are concerned with preserving the precious balance of fish culture in Ontario's quarter-million inland lakes—and indirectly keeping anglers happy.

At Ringwood, fish are raised from the time they are eggs to the point where they are a certain gram size to be let loose (stocked) in a river or lake. Coho take 14 months of nurturing, chinook take five months.

The entire process involves incubation, hatching, early rearing and advanced rearing. The facility at Ringwood can incubate two million eggs a year, and has an early rearing room with 19 tanks and an advanced rearing room with 14.

Ringwood FCS used to get its water from a surface spring, but now uses artesian wells drilled deep enough so that water rises naturally to the surface by internal pressure. Nitrogen is removed and oxygen is added to the water, through cylinder pack columns, to enable the fish to breathe properly.

Marchant explained that the size of yearling can be controlled by water, temperature and diet. During the winter months, the water is kept cool for coho production so the fish don't grow too big too fast, he said. In the summer, they double in size every month.

Already Marchant and his staff stocked Lake Ontario's river systems on the west with 183,000 coho in March and set free another 580,000 chinook.

The Ringwood facility, five years old now, will open a visitor's Interpretive Centre in late June—a room in which the public can come and view the rearing tanks from glass windows, and study exhibits.

Marchant said many people in Stouffville probably don't know what a fish culture station is or that there is one in town. That the station is poorly marked on Hwy 48 could be part of the problem. It's located a few hundred yards north of Spring Lakes Golf Club on the west side.

Bowlers awarded

Stouffville's hottest bowlers were awarded at the Youth Bowling Banquet Friday night.

A special presentation was made to John Wilson, former proprietor of the Stouffville Bowling Centre, who recently sold the business to a Markham couple.

Here's a rundown of bowling winners.

John Wilson Plaque for High Single—bantam, Christine Jackson 286; junior, Mark Palmer 299; senior, Scott Couperthwaite 368; 100 Pins Over Average—bantam, Christine Jackson, Tammie Wray, Cory Goertzen, Shane Gottschalk; junior, Mark Palmer, Bonnie Tait, Leah Collett, Janine Bell; senior, Cheryl Oldham, Scott Couperthwaite, John Watters.

Most Improved—peewee, Graham Gottschalk (plus 25); Rose Ann Maghie (plus 9); bantam, Chad Dutton (plus 29); Allison MacDonald (plus 33); junior, Randy Flewell (plus 14); Janine Bell (plus 24); senior, John Watters, Cynthia Gleave.

Trophy winners included: High Double & Handicap—peewee, Allison MacDonald 394; Allan Leighton 407; High Triple & Handicap—bantam, Wendy Seabrook 682; Jeff Flewell 705; junior, Heather Banks 699; Dean Cottage 695; High Single & Handicap—peewee, Rose Ann Maghie 224; Bowen Setchell 236; bantam, Tammie Wray 308; Shane Gottschalk 286; junior, Janine Bell 291; Chris Kerswill 287; High Double Flat—peewee, Julie Rowe 206; Billy Wray 277; High Triple Flat—bantam, Andrea Rennie 547; Chad Dutton 505.

see tops/B3

Students climb ropes in fitness tests

The new male and female champions of the 1986 Stouffville Secondary (SDSS) Fitness Challenge will remain a secret until the school's athletic banquet in June.

The student competition, which wrapped up last week, involved a variety of routines, including rope climbing, chin ups, skipping, squat thrusts, straddle jumps, push-ups

and two-mile runs.

"I was very pleased with the number of Grade 9 students who participated...they performed very well," said Dave Connell, head of the physical education department. "It was really tremendous to see a teacher, Ken Coulter, take part in these tests. He really enjoyed himself and seemed to get the loudest cheers from the spectators."

Four female students, Linda Hachey, Liz Sled, Leslie Snooks and Lisa Zeck, completed all 10 events and are in the running for fitness champion. "It was a great effort by all participants and students were very supportive of one another," said teacher Sue Kotler.

Here are the results:

GIRLS

Sit Ups—Linda Hachey, Leslie Snooks (tied, 49 in one minute); Skipping—Leslie Snooks (170 in one minute), Liz Sled (167); Push Ups—Lisa Zeck (48 in one minute), Linda Hachey (41); Sergeant's Jump—Camille Rutherford (63.5cm); Stephanie Smith (58.4); Straddle Jump—Lisa Zeck (118 in one minute), Linda Hachey (109); Rope Climb—Liz Sled (9.11 seconds), Lisa Zeck (9.5); Sit & Reach—Leslie Stro-

nach (35cm), Leslie Snooks (31); Shuttle Run—Camille Rutherford (14.59 seconds); Leslie Snooks (15.47); Two-Mile Run—Linda Hachey (13:32 seconds), Shelley Whittaker (13:58); 200-Metre Run—Camille Rutherford (27.53 seconds), Amy Ness (29.13).

BOYS

Chin Ups—Paul Rochester (29), Ken Coulter (25), Dave Collins (22); Dips—Ken Coulter (30), Rob Pagliaro (25), Chris Winn (17); Rope Climb—Craig Thompson (4.47 seconds, new record), Rob McConnell (5.11), Ken Coulter (6.21); Sergeant's Jump—Eddie Roberts (35", new record), Craig Thompson (30"), Dave Collins (28"); Shuttle Run—Eddie Roberts (13.96 seconds), Craig Thompson (14.03), Dave Collins (14.35); Sit Ups—Chris Winn (57, new record), Rob Pagliaro (54), Jeff Carney (54); Skipping—Dave Collins (167), Ken Coulter (160), Chris Topping (150); Squat Thrusts—Craig Thompson (47, new record), Dave Collins (47), Rob McConnell (46); Straddle Jumps—Rob McConnell (113), Craig Thompson (110), Dave Collins (109); Two-Mile Run—Terry Stewart (11:13), Rob McConnell (11:31), Jason Dixon (12:12).

SPORTS SHORTS

Golf Club hosts Labatt's Pro-Am

Spring Lakes Golf Club in Stouffville will host the \$50,000 Labatt's Blue Light Pro-Am, June 16-18. Canada's finest golfers will compete in the unique 54-hole tournament in search of the \$10,000 first prize. Defending champion Danny Mijovic has confirmed his entry. He clinched his first win as a pro here last June with a 204 score, seven strokes ahead of the pack.

Uxbridge boxer in world fights

Canadian amateur boxing champion, John Shaw, is in Nevada competing in the world boxing championships. The Uxbridge resident secured a spot on Canada's national team with a first round (67 kg.) KO of Daniel Gagnon from Quebec a few weeks ago in senior box-offs in Nova Scotia. Shaw trains at the Cabbagetown centre.

Arm Wrestling competition

Bouwmeister Arm Wrestling is hosting a competition at Fletcher's Restaurant on May 31. Weigh-in is 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m. The wrestles start at noon. Admission and/or entry fee is \$8. Everyone is welcome.

Black cat gets soccer call to attend provincial camp

Stouffville soccer player Travis White will compete against 49 other all-stars from across Ontario for positions on the under 14 provincial team.

The 13-year-old Stouffville Panther was one of two players from York Region to receive the prestigious invite to the provincial camp at York University this weekend.

White is a "born midfielder," said proud Panther coach Alfons Rubbens. The youngster's consistent hard work and intelligent play earned him Most Valuable Player last year.

"He can run for two 40 minute halves in blistering heat. He logs more kilometres than any other panther," Rubbens noted.

"Travis has never backed off against a tough opponent. The harder and tougher the game, the better he responds to pressure."

All eyes will certainly be on the youngster this weekend as provincial coach Ed McBride begins to select his team. "They're looking for aggressive and fit players and good ball handlers," said White, who admitted he's a little nervous.

"The first weekend they're just going to divide us up...get to know the players. I feel really honored to be invited."

The Stouffville Royals (under 16 boys) and Panthers will compete in the Robbie International Soccer Tournament, June 28-30 and Pitsford Mustangs Tournament in New York State. The black cats have also been accepted in the Windsor International.

The above tourneys are A-calibre, the highest level of youth competition. In recent exhibition games, the Royals played to a 0-0 tie with Pineto from North York and the Panthers tied Rexdale 1-1.

The under 18 Stouffville girls' soccer squad will practise tonight at Ballantrae. Besides league play, it has also been asked to participate in tournament action this season.

Rain or shine

Slo-pitch tourney is on despite shaky forecast

Come rain or shine, the A & S Raiders 4th Annual Slo-pitch tourney is on this weekend in Stouffville.

The 32 teams competing in the May 16-19 event comprise local squads like the Raiders, Betz Pools, Buttermakers, Kerrie Industries, Merchants and Village Pools.

As well, some foreign squads from far away places like Barrie, Peterborough and Stony Creek will be competing for \$2,300 in prize money. Fans are asked to come out and cheer on the local boys.

A free dance will be held both Friday and Saturday night. The first nine games go Friday evening, starting at 7 p.m. All three diamonds will be used. The championship final is scheduled for 5 p.m. Sunday.

A little rain could make things very interesting.

It's my donut

Stouffville Secondary students Brian Lewis (left) and Eric Beam battle in the corner for puck during lunch-time floor hockey action. Although this particular play was pretty sedate, legal body checks are allowed and generously administered to whoever is caught with his head down.



TRAVIS WHITE