

### Seven pound female speckled trout

# Jack Clegg recalls landing the big one

By DENISE McDONALD

While most fishermen return from seasonal excursions with only the tales of 'the one that got away,' Goodwood resident Jack Clegg proved his story — he brought home the evidence.

Mounted above the sofa in his livingroom, is a seven pound female speckled trout, lure included, one story that didn't get away. His grandson, Darryl, displays a similar trophy in a place of honor at his own home. On September 3, Mr. Clegg, his son, Fred, and grandson, embarked on their third annual fishing expedition at Churchill Falls in Labrador, an area renowned for the yearly migration of caribou.

We loaded our truck on a train and dropped off at Esker, he said. "After that, we just travelled along the only main road leading into Labrador and left the truck on the side of the shoulder wherever we wanted to stop."

After landing several two to three pounders, Mr. Clegg said they decided to look at the map for a new location, the only way he claimed they find new fishing spots, and discovered a small, 50 metre pool at the bottom of rapids, accessible only by canoeing and portaging for five miles.

"We were catching fish continuously, but it wasn't until the third day that Darryl caught the first really good one, a big male," he said. "After Fred caught another smaller one, Darryl latched on to a really big one (the one they kept,) but it broke the line and took off with the lure."

Mr. Clegg said they then de-

ecided to call it a day because they had disturbed the pool too much and were scaring the fish away.

"After four days, we decided to go back, and darned if Darryl didn't catch on to the same one that had gotten away the previous day. It still even had the lure in its mouth," he said.

Although he claimed it took five to 10 minutes to reel in this seven pound female, he said it didn't put up as much of a fight as he'd expected.

However, catching the big one was only a portion of memorable events that took place during this particular trip.

During the same day, Mr. Clegg said they'd put all their small catch on a stringer kept at the side of the canoe. After turning around to get a better position for casting, he said he heard a banging noise coming from the area of the stringer.

"I looked down and there was this big pike hanging onto the smaller fish," he said. "I had to hit him with my paddle before he would let go. Then I looked down again and saw him sitting in the water waiting for a chance to do it again."

Mr. Clegg said hitting him again didn't deter the determined fish, until Darryl finally caught him on his line, gave him a few swift smacks and threw him back in.

Although they threw most of their catch back in the water, Mr. Clegg said he wasn't hesitant to keep the seven pound female and almost six pound male.



### This tale's for real

Goodwood's Jack Clegg has a fish story no one almost six pound male, from the Churchill Falls district. He holds the evidence here, a seven pound female speckled trout, and

—Denise McDonald

We're not big on keeping fish, he said. "We only keep what we can eat and throw the rest back in. I think that is becoming the character of all true sportsmen today."

"Speckled trout only live to be about five years old and then they die," he continued.

"This was a good time to catch her because she had finished spawning and looked to be about four or five and would have died soon anyway."

Upon returning home, Mr. Clegg and Darryl immediately took their prize catches to Eldon Smith in Stouffville, to

have them stuffed and mounted.

"Seven pounds is a perfect size for a trophy fish because the coloring is so prominent," he explained. "Besides I wouldn't want a big fish hanging on my wall, I don't think they're nice to look at."

## Have your say:

What do you think should be top priority for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville in 1988?



LYNDA NORMAN

"Get trucks off Main Street. They're too noisy, they're wrecking the road, and one day someone is going to get killed."



ART ROONEY

"I think it's terrible why they don't clean up the Main Street. It's very dirty and should be fixed."



LUANNE RATCLIFF

"Move the lights in the centre of town down to Main and Market Streets. It's about time after the number of accidents that have occurred there."



JOE BUTTINEAU

"More affordable housing for the younger generation. These days it's next to impossible for them to get into any type of home, and they end up living above stores."