

Sports

FISHING is FAMILY FUN!



Ask most Pennsylvania anglers, "What's the difference between a trout and a walleye?" and you will probably get a lot of different answers. Some might reply, "Trout come in the big white tank trucks from a Fish Commission hatchery, but I don't know where walleye come from."

Trout, because they come in a big white truck and are stocked when they are of catchable size, are the "glamour fish" and get most of the publicity. Walleyes, because they arrive at the bank of a lake or river in a plastic bag and are less than two inches long, never get much publicity. Most people don't even know they are being stocked. And even fewer people know all of the work involved in getting those "two eyes and a wiggle" to Keystone state lakes and streams.

It all begins in the spring at the Pennsylvania Fish Commission's Linesville Fish Cultural Station in Crawford County in Northwestern Pennsylvania. Due to the prohibitive cost and impracticality of maintaining walleye brood stock, the Commission takes its brood stock from the wild population in a 2,500-acre waterfowl sanctuary area on the 13,920-acre Pymatuning Lake. The sanctuary is located near Linesville and is not open to public fishing.

In recent years, the number of walleye eggs taken at Linesville has ranged from 75 million to over 114 million. In 1985, more than 94 million eggs were collected.

According to Shyrl Hood, Chief of the Commission's Warmwater Production Section, "Brood stock are captured using knotless nylon nets with a four foot square aluminum frame. These special nets, designed so they will not collapse when set in shallow water greatly facilitate removal of fish by preventing the net from collapsing when it is lifted into the boat. The net was designed by Fish Commission personnel and has become known as the Pennsylvania trap net."

The nets are set as soon as the ice goes off the lake (usually in late March or early April) on gravel and sand bars, preferably in water five to seven feet deep. The net opening faces shoreward with the lead extending to the shore. Daily catch records are kept for each net location.

"Initially," Hood said, "the net catches contain a high percentage of males with relatively few ripe females. As the water temperature rises, however, the proportion of females in the catch increases until a peak in numbers of ripe females coincides with a water temperature in the mid-40's and usually lasts a week or 10 days. Male fish become less abundant toward the end of this period."

The nets are checked daily and all adult walleye are transported in tanks to the hatching building. Here the fish are separated - males, ripe females and green females and each category is placed in separate tanks.

The ripe females are spawned as soon as sorting is completed. A delay will cause the loss of a large number of eggs in the holding tanks. A large female may produce as many as 300,000 eggs. The number varies with the size of the fish; 25,000 to 40,000 eggs for each pound of fish.

The males and ripe females are placed in separate tanks containing an anesthetic. Oxygen can be added through a carborundum air stone. An antifoul solution prevents foaming of the anesthetic. The fish remain in this solution about two minutes until they are completely anesthetized and then they are rinsed in clean water before spawning is started.

It requires three men for the actual spawn-taking process. The eggs are hand stripped into a wet

basin and the sperm from two males is added simultaneously.

After each spawning a small amount of water is poured into the basin and the sperm and eggs are gently agitated for two minutes. The fertilized eggs are then poured into a 20-gallon wooden keg, half full of water. The eggs and water in the keg are gently stirred with a turkey feather for about an hour. During this time the water is changed frequently to remove excess sperm, egg shells and other foreign matter. (A turkey feather is used because it is soft and pliable and doesn't damage the eggs.)

"After an hour of stirring and changing water, the eggs are thoroughly washed and have water hardened so that they can be placed into a wooden tub where a siphon adds a constant flow of fresh water," said Hood. "The eggs must be stirred every 10 minutes as they have a tendency to form clumps. If clumps would form it is extremely difficult to separate them and many eggs would be broken."

This process continues for about five hours and by now the eggs have doubled in volume and are ready to be placed in hatching jars. They are strained through a 1/8 inch screen to remove any clumped eggs. Up to four quarts of eggs are placed in each jar. The jars are placed on multiple jar incubating batteries. Water enters the jar at the bottom and flows up through about two inches of pea gravel to insure a continuous gentle movement of all the eggs. Screen inserts are placed at the top to prevent eggs from washing away with the outflow. The eggs are treated daily with a formalin solution to prevent fungus.

After about a week, dead eggs, which are more buoyant than good eggs, will rise to the top and can be siphoned off. Under normal conditions, between 70 and 90 percent of the eggs will hatch. The incubation period varies with water temperature. The water supply for walleye incubation is pumped from wells located on the Linesville Hatchery grounds. With 50-degree water temperatures, the incubation period is usually 21 days, with the eyes beginning to show in 12 to 15 days. Many of the green and eyed eggs are transferred to other hatcheries.

Once hatching begins, it usually takes three days, with most of the eggs hatching on the second day. The screens are removed from the jars as soon as hatching begins and the fry are allowed to flow out into the battery discharge trough and into holding tanks. They are now thin, nearly transparent, about 3/8 of an inch long and have little or no yolk sac. They will swim up and feed almost at once on zooplankton (minute animal life).

Immediately after hatching a large percentage of the fry are stocked in public waters or placed into initial rearing ponds at the hatcheries.

The fry that are held at the hatcheries are then transferred from the holding tanks to previously prepared rearing ponds supplied with lake water and containing daphnia (minute freshwater crustaceans). As the supply of daphnia declines, a new supply is stocked from specially prepared daphnia rearing units and from the sanctuary lake. Feed must be kept in constant supply or the fry will turn to cannibalism.

Fry are stocked in the rearing ponds about five weeks or until the water temperature reaches the mid-60's. They are now between 1 1/2-2 inches long and can be stocked in Commonwealth waters.

So if you happen to land some nice walleyes, especially if you are fishing in an impoundment only a few years old, you'll know howand where it all started—as "two eyes and a wiggle" at the Linesville Fish Cultural Station.



PAUL NEWMAN

Newman will appear at Pocono Raceway

Paul Newman's usual co-stars are the likes of Robert Redford, Sally Field, or his wife Joanne Woodward.

However, in 1985, the 60 year old superstar from Westport, Conn. is appearing regularly with a new up and coming performer, the Bob Sharp Racing Nissan 300 ZX Turbo V-6 race car.

For Pocono, Bob Sharp has added another car for teammate Jim Fitzgerald, as the two car team will face some stiff competition from the Camaros, Vettes and Porsches in the "Chateau at Camelback" GT Feature Races on Saturday and Sunday July 27-28 at Pocono Raceway.

This year, the six-time Academy Award nominee will concentrate on his second career, auto racing, and relgiate his acting to the back seat while campaigning the potent 300 ZX in his 12th season behind the wheel of a racing machine.

Newman's latest challenge will again include battling for the Trans-Am Championship and the SCCA National Championship with the latest creation from the Sharp Racing Stables - one of the most sophisticated production-based racing sedans in the world today.

In recent years, the man known as "Hud", "Cool Hand Luke", and "Butch Cassidy", has concentrated on the professional racing level after many seasons of amateur competition which produced two national titles (1976 and 1979). In

1985, the Bob Sharp Team with Newman and Fitzgerald will compete in both the Trans Am Series and National Championship races where scheduling permits.

Newman at 60, feels he is a better driver now and his fellow racers also feel that he has more than proven himself on the tough pro-circuit.

Newman's last appearance at Pocono was in 1982 when he was black flagged at the start, and drove through the field in what was called the "best race of the day", to finish 2nd. Jim Fitzgerald won last year's race.

In addition to the Chateau at Camelback GT Race, there will be 6 other races.

Practice begins July 26 for the over 250 teams expected. More than 22 diggerent categories of cars will race in 7 races each day starting about 12 noon.

The Chateau at Camelback GT Feature Race will start approximately 3:30 p.m.

Weekend tickets are \$15.00 and include camping, car show, garage pass, and grandstand seat. Grandstand only seats are \$5.00 daily. Sunday is MDA DAY - "The Race For Jerry's Kids". The promoter will donate \$1.00 to the MDA for every grandstand ticket sold at the gate.

All tickets are available at the gate. Additional information from Auto Sports Associates, Ltd. (717) 346-7495.

Teeners win first game

The 13-year old Teeners All Stars won their first time out, Saturday, downing Plymouth in the Forty Fort Lions Tournament, 10-3, at the Fort-Swoyer field.

Rob Michaels, Keith Schultz shared the mound work, giving up only three runs.

Both boys played a major role in the win, Schultz going three-for-three with two homeruns and a triple, and Michaels going four-for-four. Rich James and Dave Grundowski also drove out homeruns.

The young Teeners will play Plains, Wednesday, July 24, at Fort-Swoyer Field.

Swoyer Field.

The 14 and 15-year-old Teeners All-Stars will begin play this week. The older Teeners are divided into American All Stars and National All Stars and will play Saturday, the start of the double elimination tournament.

After this weekend's action, games will be played Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and will continue through Aug. 8. The annual "Star of Stars" game is scheduled for August 11 and will feature the best 39 players in the tournament.

— CHARLOT M. DENMON

Camp registration underway

Two weeks of registration remain for the King's College basketball camp scheduled Aug. 5-9 in Scandlon Gym for boys and girls 9 to 17.

Coach Ken Atkins said applications will be available Monday through Friday the next two weeks in the athletic office of Scandlon Gym.

King's coach is working to have a prominent member of the Philadelphia 76ers appear as guest lecturer at King's.

One novel feature of the day camp will be free afternoon swims in the gym pool with a qualified lifeguard on duty.

Student coach Joe DeMucci is assisting with registration while Atkins serves in the Poconos as program director at the Philadelphia 76ers camp.

Among lecturers on the King's slate will be Drexel's Eddie Burke, Joe Rodgers, former Villanova MVP, Jim Atherton of Luzerne County Community College, and others.

Assistant Coach Tony Konieski also is assisting with preparations of the King's camp.

BACK MOUNTAIN BASEBALL WIND-UP

BOYS ALL STARS B DIVISION
Monday, July 15 — Back Mountain National 7, Mountaintop 1.

Brett Gauntlett fired a three-hitter in a rain-shortened, 5 inning contest over Mountaintop to help the Nationals continue on their way to the "B" division finals.

First inning walks by Brett Gauntlett, Neil Kaiser and Eric Paczewski with the bases loaded accounted for an early lead with the National League club never looking back. Three more runs in the third, and a Lenny Kelley double gave the

Nationals a 7 to 1 lead when rain ended the contest.
Wednesday, July 17 — Back Mountain National 5, Harveys Lake 1

Eric Paczewski pitched and hit his club to a win over Harveys Lake. Paczewski mowed down nine batters allowing only 5 hits and belted a two-run homer with Mark Stallard aboard with a single in the first inning giving the Nationals a two-run lead. Other key hits came from the bats of Lenny Kelley, John Morris, Randy parry and Dan Wat-chulonis for the win.

Lehman sets physical dates

Rodger Bearde, athletic director of the Lake-Lehman School District, announces the following dates for sports physicals:

July 29, from 2 to 5 p.m., varsity field hockey and cheerleaders; July 30, from 2 to 5 p.m., boys cross country, boys gold and boys soccer; August 1, from 2 to 5 p.m., girls volleyball, girls golf and girls soccer; August 6, from 2 to 5 p.m., junior high school football and boys make-up physicals.

Physicals set

Physical examinations for members of the Dallas High School football team will be conducted on Thursday, July 25, at 8:30 a.m. in the senior high school team room.

Picnic slated

Back Mountain Baseball will hold its annual picnic at Frances Slocum Park this Saturday, July 27 from 10 a.m. til 4 p.m.

All players of the league are admitted free of charge with all other family members paying a charge of \$2.50 per family.

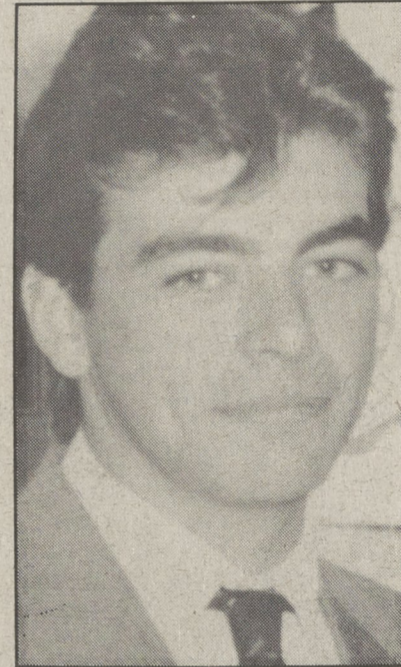
All League personell, players and their families are invited.

MDA sets run

The Muscular Dystrophy Association is looking for area runners to take part in the America's Love-Run program. Participants can run, walk or jog anywhere they like anytime while receiving pledges for every mile that they do so.

Members of the running clubs, fitness-minded individuals or anyone looking to help others are urged to participate. This year the Scranton Organization of Area Runners (S.O.A.R.) is leading the way with 14 peoples registered to date.

A registration fee of \$5.00 entitles a person to an official T-shirt, sponsorship form, runners log and complete instructions. For more information, contact the Muscular Dystrophy Associatin at 826-0201.



FRED GUNN

Fred Gunn to attend PSU

Fred Gunn, Lake-Lehman graduate, will continue his baseball career at Penn State Wilkes-Barre this fall, according to Jack Monick, athletic director at the Lehman campus.

Gunn is the son of Fred and Helen Gunn, Lehman.

Biathlon set

Registration will still be accepted for the Wilkes-Barre YMCA Biathlon until Tuesday, July 23, 1985. The race is on Saturday, July 27 at 9 a.m.

The Biathlon consists of a 1 mile swim in Harvey's Lake and a 7.25 mile run around the lake.

The event begins at 9 a.m. at Hanson's Marina and Camp Ground. There will be a \$15 registration fee for each entrant, with no day of registration being accepted. Entry forms are available at the Wilkes-Barre "Y".

If there are any questions concerning the event please call the "Y" at 823-2191.

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