



MARCH 1975



conservationist





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BACK COVER: The bloodroot plant, photographed by Ken Formanek, is one of our early spring flowers that appear in April. It is in the poppy family and its scientific name is *SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS*. It is a fragile white flower with generally eight petals, four of which alternate. Because of this, the flower has a four-sided effect. The flower attracts bees of all species, but alas, there is no honey for them. Another unusual aspect of the plant is as its name implies. The root, when cut, gives off a red liquid. It is from this blood-appearing liquid that the plant gets its name. -Curt Powell

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Photo by Ken Formanek

On the cover...

CANADA GEESE

Appearing this year on Iowa's state waterfowl stamp is a watercolor painting of Canada geese by Mark Reece of 5315 Robertson Drive, Des Moines, Iowa 50312. Reece is currently a pre-medical student at Iowa State University. He has been painting wildlife and other subjects since he was four years old. Prints of the painting may be purchased from Mr. Reece by writing him at his home address.

The annual state waterfowl and trout stamp competition for 1976 is currently underway. For information on how interested artists may enter their work, write: The Iowa Conservation Commission, I & E Section, 300 4th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

\$- EXCELSIOR!

By Bob Runge
Contributing Editor

NEARLY EVERYONE in Iowa is now aware of what inflation has done to the buying power of the dollar. Twenty dollars' worth of groceries can be put into one sack. A new home will cost at least \$35,000 - 40,000, whereas a few years back \$25,000 would set you up nicely. Automobile costs, including fuel, are featured in headlines across the nation. Fifty dollars' worth of toys was only a small pile under the tree this year. And on and on.

No doubt you have heard or read about the latest plans our various governments have advanced to aid the people in this area. But rest assured on one fact. You have not seen the end of the problem and probably won't — ever. That's right! — ever. Since the first coin was minted thousands of years ago every currency known to mankind has been continually inflationary. But that is not as bad as it seems. As long as the people have confidence in the currency and as long as their earning power keeps somewhat in line with inflation things run smoothly. Occasionally however, inflation, for one complex reason or another, will raise its ugly head and stampede forward at a horrible rate. This seems to be what has happened to us in the last few years. Hopefully we will be able to bring it back in line soon.

The Iowa Conservation Commission is just like you. It has been hit hard by inflation. The Commission is funded in several ways: 1. By appropriation from the Iowa Legislature. 2. By federal cooperative programs and excise taxes. 3. By the sale of the various licenses and permits. Since these monies are somewhat stable we are able to form budgets and operate as effectively as possible with the funds available.

In the last few years we have seen our costs skyrocket much the same as

anyone else. For example: in state parks fuel oil for heating, gasoline and garbage hauling have all increased substantially. The cost for materials used in building picnic tables, fire rings and fireplaces have all risen dramatically. These items wear out continually in high use areas. Garbage hauling alone will go up \$10,000 this year.

In all departments of the Commission we have had to increase salaries to level competitive enough to keep highly-qualified people working to improve the outdoor recreation opportunities in Iowa.

We are continually urged by the public to buy new areas for parks, fishing accesses, hunting areas, preserves, etc. In many areas of Iowa, land prices have doubled or more in the last five years. The significance of this is easily seen when you take an area that would have cost \$500,000 in 1969 and try to buy it today for \$1,000,000.

Then there are the areas and facilities we already own. New construction, be it a water control structure for a marsh or a new fish hatchery, has increased in cost by at least a fourth in the last few years. Maintenance costs on existing buildings are also up.

As we have expanded outdoor opportunities for Iowans we have naturally expanded in total acres and facilities owned. In managing these areas the wildlife budget, for example, has nearly doubled in five years. In fisheries even the little things have added up. Last year there was a 100% increase in cost for trout food used in our hatcheries.

Just like everyone else, we find ourselves in a money pinch if we are to continue helping you enjoy outdoors Iowa. Getting back to the three ways the Commission is funded, it is easy to see that we can't control our income very well. We can make our recommendations to the legislature but we are only a small part of the budgetary problems they face each year. We can take advantage of all the federal programs for which we can qualify, but these too are limited. That leaves one area. We can recommend to the legislature that we be allowed to increase license fees. To help our state Parks meet their costs we have increased the camper's fee effective this year. The changes are:

Past Cost	New Cost
\$2.00 + .06 tax	\$2.50
2.50 + .08 tax	3.00
3.00 + .09 tax	3.50
	(including tax)

If we are also allowed to increase our license fees in 1976 we will be better able to meet our obligations in these areas in the future. We hope you, as a fisherman, hunter or trapper, can appreciate our position. It may cost you a few dollars more a year to enjoy your hobbies but we are trying to help you enjoy them more.

RECOMMENDED INCREASES

	From	To
Resident fishing	\$ 4.00	\$ 5.00
Resident combination	8.00	9.00
Non-Resident hunting	25.00	30.00
Deer license	10.00	15.00
Turkey license	10.00	15.00
Resident Trapping (16 & older)	5.00	10.00
Fur dealers license	25.00	50.00

Discontinue 1 and 6 day non-resident fishing license.

Initiate a 3-day \$3.00 license (including trout) for non-residents.

Note: Licenses not mentioned will remain the same.

Where Did Those "BIG CATS" Come From?

By Jerry Spykerman *Manager, Fairport Fish Hatchery*

MANY HOURS of the fisherman's leisure time are spent trying to fool "Old Mr. Whiskers". While sitting there on the bank waiting for a catfish to bite, have you ever wondered how that fish got there? There is a pretty fair chance that personnel in the Fisheries Section put many hours of care into that lunker. Its parents may now be swimming around in a hatchery pond many miles away. Their sole purpose in life is to produce many more future "big cats" for Iowa's prime fishing waters.

Because of the great importance placed on the channel catfish as a sport fish, there are two fish hatcheries involved in producing these scrappy fighters. The Fairport Fish Hatchery, located on the banks of the "Mighty Mississippi", has ponds that are devoted to hatching and rearing catfish. Located in western Iowa, the Mount Ayr Hatchery also aids in meeting the demand by rearing catfish. This is the story of how that lunker catfish on your stringer may have gotten his start in life.

SPAWNING AND HATCHING

When the cool days of spring subside and the warmer days of late June begin to produce water temperatures of 75° F. to 80° F., the catfish forget about eating and finding a mate becomes most important. Prior to this time, the hatchery manager must prepare the pond so that suitable housing will be available when Mr. and Mrs. Catfish are ready to start a family. This is not a luxurious home, but simply a ten-gallon

milk can where the two catfish can reside and mate. About 35 "houses" are placed in about two and one-half feet of water around the perimeter of a one-acre hatchery pond.

After the spawning ponds have been prepared, the catfish are sorted by size and sex and 90 pairs are stocked in each pond. Shortly after introduction into the spawning pond, the males establish residency in the "houses". They then attract a suitable mate into their home and the spawning ritual begins. During the next two or three days, the male and female rarely leave the home. The female lays about 3,500 eggs for each pound of her body weight, and the male immediately fertilizes them. Once spawning is completed, the male forcefully drives the female from the spawning site and vigorously fans the nest to assure an adequate flow of fresh water around each egg.

Now the hatchery manager removes the egg mass from the can. If the eggs were allowed to hatch at the spawning site, only one spawn would be obtained there; but by removing the eggs, three or four spawns may occur at each site.

In the hatchery situation, the fanning action of the male catfish is simulated by paddles that move back and forth in a long, narrow trough keeping an adequate supply of oxygenated water around each egg. The eggs are in the trough between seven and nine days before they hatch.

Even though the eggs have been placed in an artificial environment, they are still subject to fungus and bacteria; but because they are readily visible, problems can be observed and cured before serious losses occur.

Photo by Wayne Lonning

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Iowa angler

REARING

A large yolk sac attached to the baby catfish renders them immobile after hatching. During this stage of life, they are transferred from the hatching trough to a larger trough that contains an ample flow of fresh water. Five days after hatching, the yolk sac, which has been the fish's sole source of energy, disappears and they begin actively to seek food. The hatchery manager is now ready to start training them to accept artificial food.

A small amount of specially mixed commercial feed is offered to the fry (baby catfish) six times daily. The feed is a dry, floating variety which contains a high level of protein and is fortified with all the vitamins necessary for rapid growth. The fry readily learn to accept this food and are soon ready to be moved to their summer home—an earthen pond free of aquatic vegetation and insects.

After the fry have been introduced into their summer home, the frequency of feeding decreases to twice daily, seven days a week, usually early morning and late evening. As the fish grow, so do their appetites. For this reason, it is necessary to sample the fish population in the rearing ponds each week and recalculate the daily feed ration.

When the fry have been stocked into the large ponds, the hatchery manager can no longer observe individual fish. He loses much of the control he had for the survival of the fish. Instead of direct observation, he must use indirect methods for determining the well-being of his fish.

Floating feed is used so that feeding activity of the catfish can be observed. Minimal feeding activity may signal upcoming problems. Regular walks around the ponds, normally at daybreak, are done to observe the behavior of the fish. Abnormal behavior may indicate some type of problem. Samples of dissolved oxygen content in the ponds are taken regularly to establish trends, and microscopic examinations of fish for disease organisms are done.

STOCKING

Catfish cease rapid growth when water temperatures reach 55° F. By this time, they are three to five-inch fingerlings. The ponds are drained, the fish are removed, and they are transported to a holding house containing large, concrete tanks. While in the holding house, the fish are sorted to size and inventoried. During 1974, Iowa's fish hatcheries produced approximately one million future lunkers for the Iowa angler!

Photos by the Author

The fish are delivered to waters specified by the Fisheries Management Biologists. Delivery is made with trucks equipped with large tanks and aeration pumps.

Because many of the fish stocking requests specify fish larger than three to five inches, a portion of the crop must be retained for an additional year of hatchery rearing.

BENEFITS TO THE FISHERMAN

The channel catfish is utilized to promote a well-balanced sport fishery. The fingerlings are stocked in new, man-made lakes as well as older, more established lakes and streams. A large number of fingerling catfish are also reared to a larger size in the cage program in cooperation with the county conservation boards.

The catfish program is one of the many designed by the Conservation Commission to attain maximum benefits from your fishing license dollar. Next summer, get a firsthand look at the catfish program by visiting one of these hatcheries. The hatchery manager is always on hand and anxious to answer your questions. □

*Left: Fingerling catfish feeding on new seed.
Below: Fingerlings are released into their new home.
Bottom (left): Fingerlings are netted from rearing pond.
Bottom (right): Milkcan provides catfish "house".*



1974 - A BIG YEAR FOR BIG FISH

...including a World Record

By Sonny Satre, *Contributing Editor*

WHO SAYS IOWA WATERS don't produce some exciting rod-bending action? Let's take a quick look at some of the 1974 statistics. Iowa anglers submitted the most qualifying entries ever in the Conservation Commission's Official Big Fish Records Registry. Highlights from among the 243 entries included brand new state records for northern pike, muskellunge, yellow perch, channel catfish and bigmouth buffalo. The buffalo entry has also been recognized by *FIELD AND STREAM* magazine as a new world record pole and line catch. Incidentally, the former world record was also an Iowa buffalo taken from the Cedar River in 1973. Records were also established last year for the first time for yellow bass, sand sturgeon and white sucker.

Kenneth Eastman, Cedar Falls, began the 1974 record-breaking pace March 30 with a "tackle buster-sized" northern pike that tipped the scales at 25 pounds. The 43 inch pike was taken from the Cedar River in Black Hawk County with a spinning outfit and white doll fly. The outstanding catch topped the old record by 1½ pounds.

The state's muskellunge record tumbled twice last year. First on May 12, John LaPointe, Mason City, successfully managed to land a 28 pound 6 ounce "tiger" from Clear Lake. Then on June 24 from the same Cerro Gordo County lake, Cecil Carberry, Mason City, shattered the record again with a 29 pound 8 ounce trophy. Carberry caught his 49 inch prized fighter on the most unlikely equipment—a flyrod with a nightcrawler harness! The former muskie record was 23 pounds 2 ounces set in 1971 also from Clear Lake.

Spirit Lake in Dickinson County has always been known for its jumbo sized yellow perch and John Walz, Estherville proved the point with a record-breaking one pound 15 ounce "ring-tail". A small jig baited with a silver wiggler (maggot) did the trick. Walz's fine perch beat the old mark by two ounces which was set in 1963.

Glenn Harms, Shenandoah, former channel catfish king for the state of Iowa, regained his title with a 30 pound 4 ounce giant from the deep. The big cat bettered the record set in 1973 by three ounces. Harms hooked the big bottom-feeder from Viking Lake in Montgomery County with his own "secretive" bait.

Iowa's new world record bigmouth buffalo provided James Grim's 4 pound test line all the pulling tension it could stand last April. When the boiling action subsided, the Arnolds Park angler lugged in a huge 43 pound 8 ounce lunker from West Okoboji. The 40 inch member of the sucker family struck a leadhead jig. Grim's buffalo surpassed the old world record by a whopping 7 pounds.

Two of the three new species added to the Iowa record statistics—sand sturgeon and yellow bass, were both caught in April while the white sucker was taken during the month of March. Randy Hemm, Douds, landed a remarkably large shovelnose sturgeon from the Des Moines River in Van Buren County. Although the species seldom exceeds five pounds, this big shovelnose weighed 12 pounds and measured 33 inches long. Black Hawk Lake in Sac County yielded the

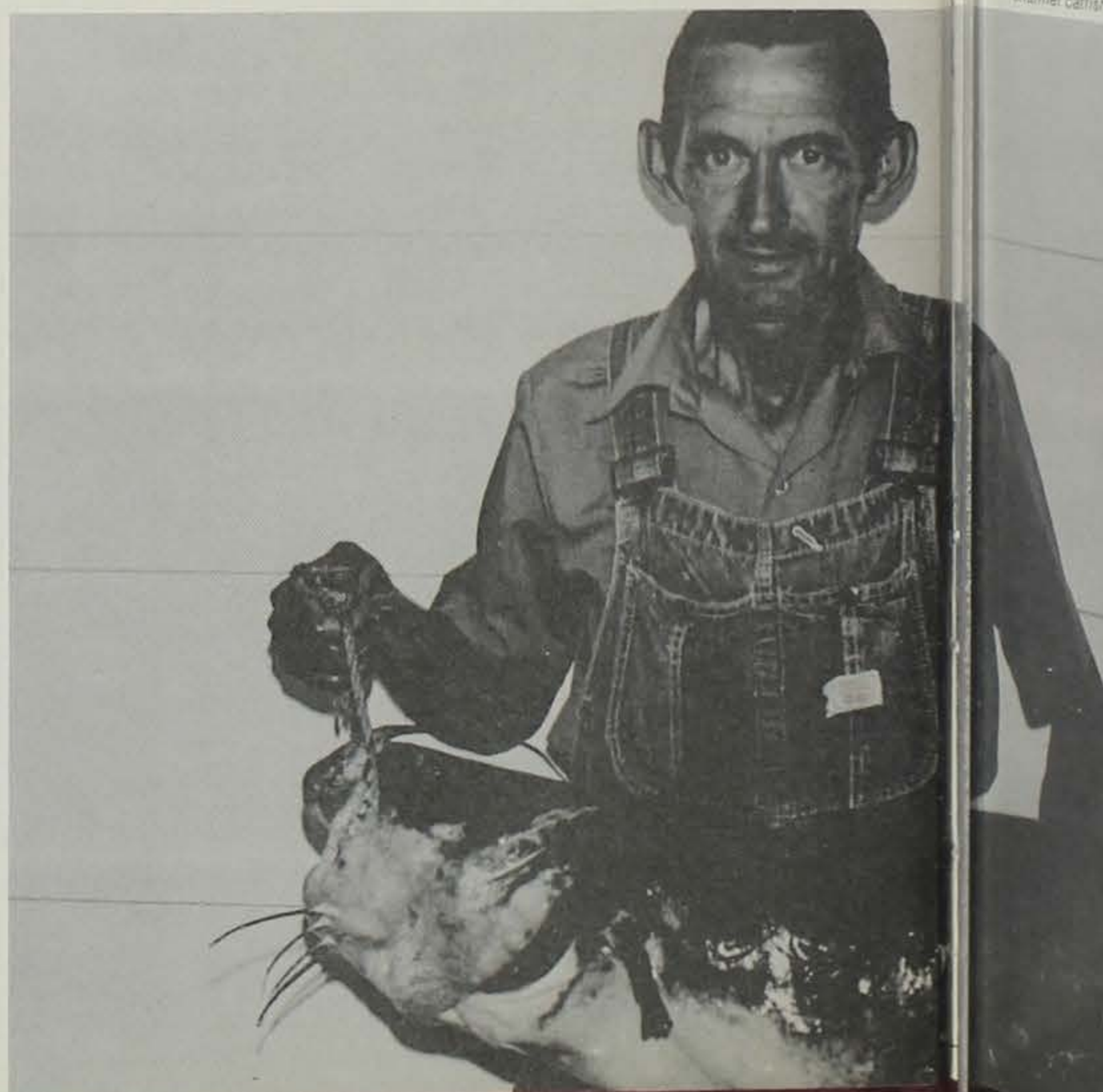
biggest yellow bass ever entered in the Iowa records for L.A. Wallace, Cherokee. The 12 ounce sporty true member of the bass family was taken on a small leadhead jig. Yellow bass seldom attain a weight of one pound but make up for their size with their fiesty fighting quality. Mike Lambert, Dubuque, while fishing in Granger's Creek in Dubuque County, caught the largest white sucker ever recorded in the Iowa statistics. The fish weighed 4 pounds 6 ounces.

Iowa's natural lakes led the parade of entries with a total of 126 catches. Besides new state record muskellunge, yellow bass, yellow perch, and bigmouth buffalo, natural lakes were responsible for the biggest 1974 walleye, smallmouth bass and white bass. The river and stream division was credited with sixty-four qualifiers which included new state records for northern pike, sand sturgeon and white sucker. The largest flathead catfish, brown trout, rainbow trout and paddlefish were also taken from this grouping.

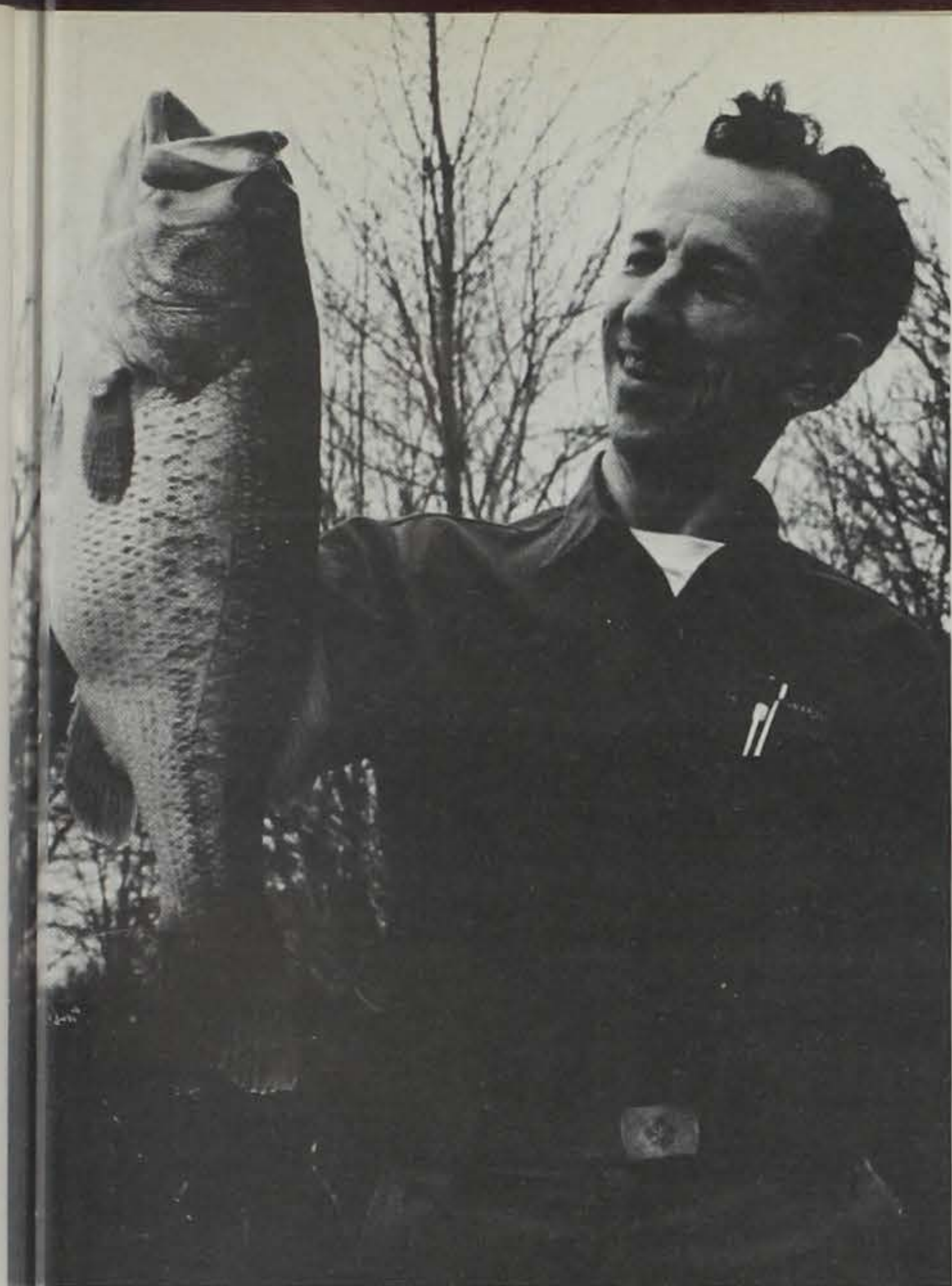
The man-made lake category had fifty-three entries recorded. These waters included federal reservoirs, farm ponds and municipal, county and state-owned impoundments. The new channel catfish record was taken from this field plus top 1974 catches of largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie and bullhead.

This may be **your** year to catch that big one. To help acquaint you with all of Iowa's public fishing waters, you should have a copy of the ICC's new colorful *IOWA FISHING GUIDE*. The 32-page color illustrated booklet is jam packed with valuable angling information and is available for only 50 cents. Send your 50 cents to *IOWA FISHING GUIDE*, Iowa Conservation Commission, 300 4th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

Save money and gasoline—fish Iowa waters this year!



Glenn Harms of
channel catfish



For the second year in a row, George Marzeck of West Burlington caught the biggest largemouth bass. This year the top fish weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces.

Glen Harms of Shenandoah recaptured the state record for channel catfish with this 30 pound 4 ounce fish.



1975 BIG FISH ENTRIES

Entries for the 1975 Official Big Fish Records are now being accepted by the Iowa Conservation Commission. Any species of fish taken by hook and line and caught in state or boundary waters is eligible. There are, however, minimum qualifying weight or length limitations as listed below:

Bass, largemouth.....	7 lbs.	Crappie.....	2 lbs.
Bass, ocean striped.....	5 lbs.	Muskellunge.....	15 lbs.
Bass, rock.....	1 lbs.	Northern pike.....	10 lbs.
Bass, smallmouth.....	4 lbs.	Paddlefish.....	25 lbs.
Bass, white.....	2½ lbs.	Perch, yellow.....	1 lb.
Bass, yellow.....	¾ lb.	Sauger.....	2½ lbs.
Bluegill—Sunfish.....	1 lb.	Sheepshead.....	15 lbs.
Buffalo.....	20 lbs.	Sturgeon, shovelnose.....	3 lbs.
Bullhead.....	2½ lbs.	Sucker, white.....	4 lbs.
Carp.....	25 lbs.	Trout, brown.....	3 lbs.
Catfish, channel.....	15 lbs.	Trout, rainbow.....	3 lbs.
Catfish, flathead.....	20 lbs.	Walleye.....	8 lbs.

Any potential 1975 state record fish must be weighed to the nearest ounce on scales legal for trade. The weighing must be witnessed by two persons.

If there is some doubt in species identification, the angler should contact the nearest Iowa Conservation Commission personnel in the area for verification. **Any new all-time state record fish must be examined and verified by Iowa Conservation Commission personnel.**

The angler must fill out an official entry blank or facsimile and send it and a photo of the angler and the fish to Official Big Fish Records, Iowa Conservation Commission, 300 Fourth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, by January 1, 1976. The entry blank includes the angler's name and address, the species of fish, date caught, where, county, total length, method of catch, and the witnesses' signatures and addresses. Official entry blanks will be included in the 1975 Fishing Laws Synopsis brochure which will be available to the public wherever fishing licenses are sold. Any fish that surpasses the state official record will be publicized through the Conservation Commission's weekly news release. All state records and the 1975 record fish will be published in the March 1976 issue of the *IOWA CONSERVATIONIST*. Iowa Angling Award certificates and shoulder patches will also be sent to qualifying entries.

ENTRY BLANK FOR IOWA RECORD FISH

NAME _____

STREET/RFD _____ CITY _____

SPECIES _____ DATE _____

COUNTY WHERE CAUGHT _____

LAKE OR STREAM _____

TOTAL LENGTH _____ WEIGHT _____ lb. _____ oz.

METHOD OF CATCH _____

WITNESSES

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(Entries of fish caught during the year must be sent to the Iowa Conservation Commission, 300 4th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 by December 31.)

SPRING WATERFOWL

*A photo display of the spectacular spring
migration of North America's waterfowl.*



Canada Geese

Ken Formanek



Blue-Winged Teal

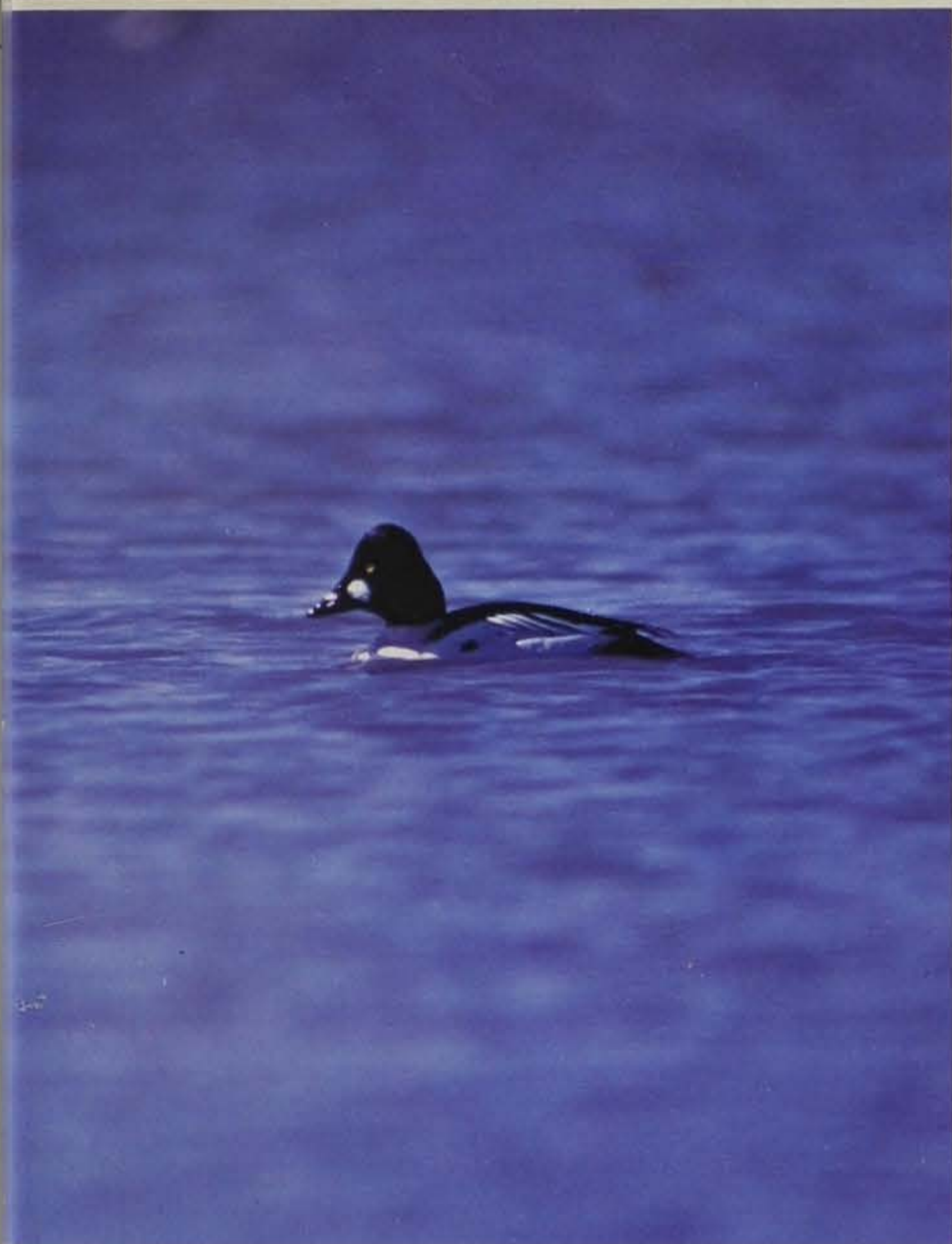
Ken Formanek



White-Fronted Geese

Lesser Scaup (

Ken Formanek



American Golden Eye

Jerry Leonard



Ken Formanek

Pintails in Courtship Flight



Jerry Leonard

Shovelers (Spoonbills)

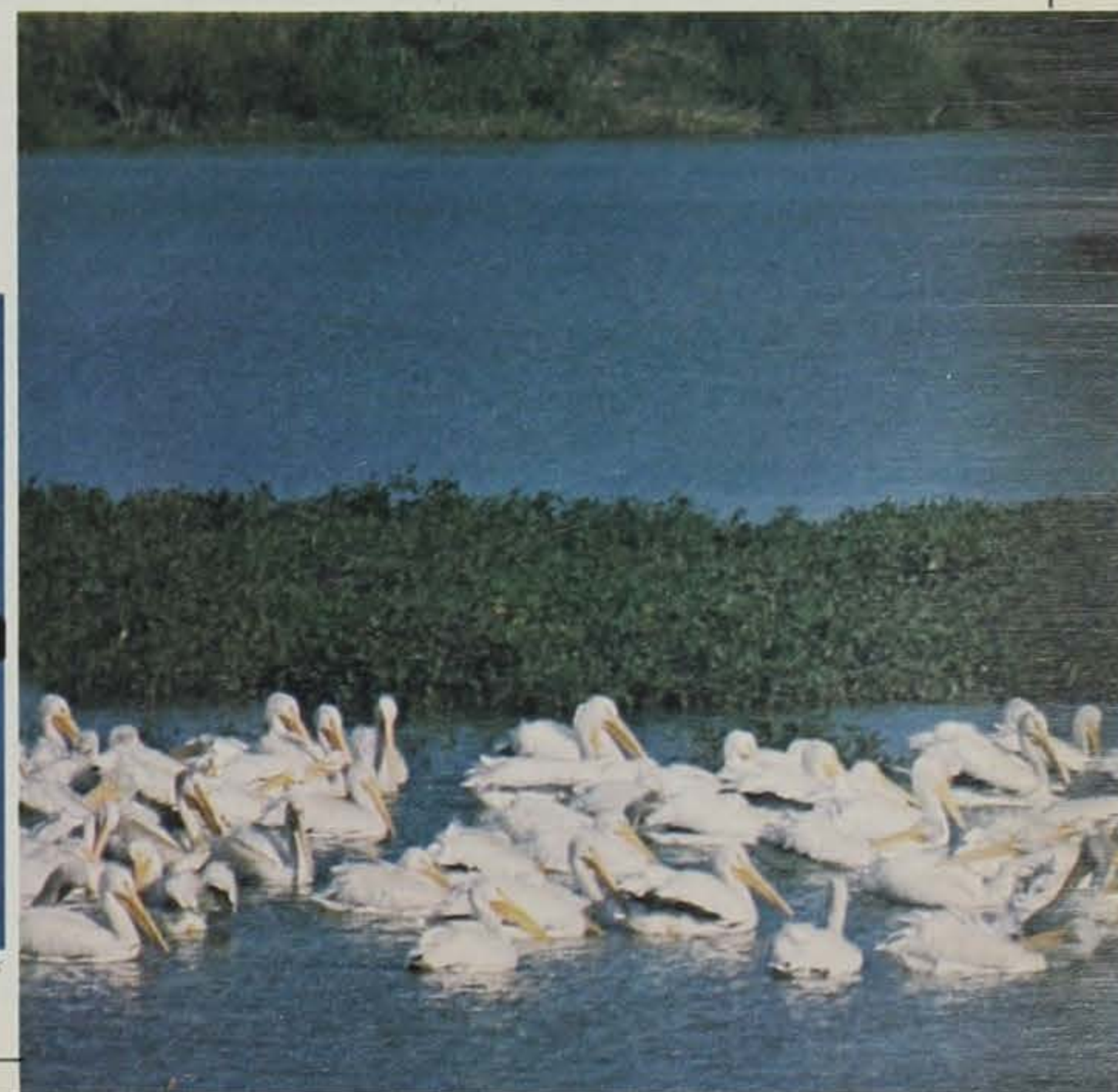


Lesser Scaup (Bluebills)

Jerry Leonard

Ken Formanek

White Pelicans



Ken Formanek



Ken Formanek

Blue and Snow Geese



Open water - poor habitat

WE OFTEN THINK of a marsh as a shallow water area with scattered patches of cattails or bulrushes, teeming with muskrats, ducks, and other wildlife. It is—sometimes. At other times a marsh is a stagnant body of open water, too shallow for fish and barren of other wildlife because of the lack of food and cover. What causes a marsh to be a haven for wildlife at one time and a stagnant open pool at other times?

Marshes ordinarily go through cycles or “stages” of wet and dry. Each of these “stages” may last from one to several years depending on rainfall and other factors. This is one way marshes may be distinguished from lakes, which seldom if ever go dry. If we begin with a period of drought, a marsh will ordinarily be completely dry. The marsh bottom will be choked with cattails, smartweeds and other plants. It is not suitable habitat for marsh birds or muskrats.

When the drought ends, the marsh again holds water, but it is still choked with vegetation. Now muskrats begin to return to the marsh, feeding and building their lodges from the abundant plants.

Each family of muskrats creates an opening by eating the vegetation around its lodge. These openings, in turn attract marsh nesting birds which can feed in the open pools and find shelter and nest sites in the surrounding vegetation. Ideal conditions for most marsh birds are reached when there are many openings and the ratio of vegetation to open water is about 50:50.

Birds such as coots, grebes and redheads build floating nests at the edges of these openings. Others such as yellow-headed blackbirds nest in rushes near open pools. Mallards and Canada geese build their nests directly on the muskrat lodges.

Hunting is also usually the best in a marsh with a large number of small openings. There is a little conflict between hunters because of the large number of available hunting sites. In addition, ducks don't seem to be easily driven off a marsh when there is abundant cover

Drain That

BY THOMAS J. NEAL,

Wildlife Biologist

available. Each little opening provides everything a duck needs to keep him happy.

As the muskrats become ever more abundant, they destroy more and more vegetation and with it the food and cover for other animals. Each pair of muskrats may produce twenty or more young per year, so they can rapidly become overabundant. The result is finally a shallow, open lake with no vegetation remaining. Most muskrats have starved or moved away, and there is no cover or nesting sites for birds. This “Open water” marsh stage may persist for many years until another drought comes along to repeat the cycle.

Wildlife biologists are aware of the necessity to provide ideal conditions for wildlife in as many years as possible. Before settlement of Iowa there were perhaps two million acres of marsh in the state. No management was necessary to produce abundant crops of wildlife, because thousands of acres were in prime wildlife producing stages at any given time.

About ninety-eight percent of these marshes have been drained and converted to farmland. The proper management of the remaining two percent is critical if marsh wildlife crops are still to be produced and enjoyed.

Man's activities have even altered the remaining two percent of our marshes. Some have had their water levels raised by serving as outlets



Proper balance of vegetation - good habitat

Conservation Commission Photos

hat Marsh

AL, Wildlife Biologist

for tiles and ditches. Others have structures which can be used to raise the water level above normal, but can not be used to drain the marsh.

A few marshes have adequate water control structures and it is on these marshes that management is most practical. When one of these marshes reaches the "open water" stage, devoid of muskrats and marsh birds, it can be artificially drained. This begins the cycle of re-vegetation with the drought stage, but it isn't necessary to wait for Mother Nature to end the drought and refill the marsh. With water level control, the marsh can be refilled as soon as vegetation has become established, thus lengthening the time it has value for wildlife.

Marshes are ordinarily drained in late winter or early spring if possible. This allows plants to begin growth early in the spring. Marsh birds and other animals have not begun to nest, so the drainage will not destroy young wildlife. As the plants grow, water depth can gradually be increased, but sudden flooding may kill the young plants. If all goes well and summer rainfall is adequate the marsh may be ready for hunting by fall. If the summer is extra dry, it may not be possible to refill the marsh with water until the following year.

On one northwest Iowa marsh (Rush Lake near Laurens), the changes following artificial drainage of the marsh were carefully studied. High water and muskrats had eliminated most vegetation

between 1959 and 1962. Muskrat harvests by trapping average 1456 per year during this period and there was very little food or cover available for marsh birds.

The marsh was drained in 1963 and 1964 and vegetation allowed to grow. During the next six years the muskrat harvest more than doubled to an average of 3648 per year. Interspersion of openings and vegetation was ideal during this period, with an average of about 800 openings available for wildlife. Marsh nesting birds including mallards, redheads, ruddy ducks, rails, coots, terns and blackbirds reached peak abundance during this period. At least five times as many small birds, and twice as many ducks nested in the years of good vegetation as in years of mostly open water.

One critical factor in maintaining a marsh in a desirable stage is the muskrat population. Excessive muskrat populations will destroy all vegetation, ruining the marsh for other wildlife. On the other hand, moderately high muskrat populations are needed to create the desirable openings in marsh vegetation.

Fall muskrat trapping does not always control the muskrat population adequately, because of the tremendous reproductive rate of these rodents. For example, at Rush Lake the harvest increased from 640 in 1965 to 4500 in 1966. The following year the harvest jumped to 5500 in spite of the fact that about ten muskrats per acre had been trapped the previous year. The Conservation Commission is presently experimenting with limited spring trapping seasons on selected areas in hopes of gaining control of muskrat populations. If they could be adequately controlled, it might be possible to extend the period of ideal conditions for marsh wildlife.

So the next time you see your favorite duck marsh drained, remember that drainage can transform a stagnant open pool into living, productive habitat. It's the best thing that can happen to the wildlife that lives there. □

IOWA ALL-TIME RECORD FISH

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
BASS (Largemouth)				
10 lb. 5 oz.	24 1/4	Farm Pond Lee County	Aug. 1970	Paul Burgund Fort Madison
BASS (Smallmouth)				
6 lb. 4 oz.	20	Upper Iowa River Howard County	May, 1973	Duane Duneman Cresco
BASS (Rock)				
1 lb. 8 oz.	10 1/2	Mississippi River Dubuque County	June 1973	Jim Driscoll Dubuque
BASS (White)				
3 lb. 14 oz.	20	West Okoboji Dickinson County	May, 1972	Bill Born Milford
BASS (Yellow)				
12 oz.	11	Black Hawk Lake Sac County	April, 1974	L.A. Wallace Cherokee
BLUEGILL				
2 lb. 3 oz.	11 1/2	Farm Pond Jefferson County	Apr. 1971	Bob Adam Fairfield
BULLHEAD				
4 lb. 8 oz.	17 1/4	Farm Pond Taylor County	Apr. 1966	Dennie Karas Massena
4 lb. 8 oz.	22 1/2	Boyer River Harrison County	Aug. 1971	Ralph Cooney Woodbine
BUFFALO				
43 lb. 8 oz.	40	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April, 1974	James D. Grim Arnolds Park
CARP				
50 lb.	44	Glenwood Lake Mills County	May, 1969	Fred Hougland Glenwood
CATFISH (Channel)				
30 lb. 4 oz.	39	Viking Lake Montgomery County	August, 1974	Glenn Harms Shenandoah
CATFISH (Flathead)				
62 lb.	46	Iowa River Johnson County	July, 1965	Roger Fairchild Coralville
CRAPPIE				
4 lb. 1 oz.	19 1/4	Farm Pond Tama County	May, 1969	John Lenhart Tama
MUSKELLUNGE				
29 lb. 8 oz.	49	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	June, 1974	Cecil Carberry Mason City
NORTHERN PIKE				
25 lb.	43	Cedar River Black Hawk County	March, 1974	Kenneth Eastman Cedar Falls
PADDLEFISH				
83 lb.	66 1/2	De Soto Bend Harrison County	May, 1973	Lawrence J. Bonham Missouri Valley
PERCH (Yellow)				
1 lb. 15 oz.	14 1/4	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	August, 1974	John Walz Estherville
SAUGER				
5 lb. 2 oz.	22 1/2	Mississippi River Dubuque County	Nov. 1963	Art Hurlburt Dubuque
SHEEPSHEAD				
46 lb.	38 1/2	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	Oct. 1962	R. F. Farran Clarion
STURGEON (Shovelnose)				
12 lb.	33	Des Moines River Van Buren County	April, 1974	Randy Hemm Douds
SUCKER (White)				
4 lb. 6 oz.	21 1/2	Granger's Creek Dubuque County	March, 1974	Mike Lambert Dubuque
TROUT (Brown)				
12 lb. 14 1/4 oz.	28	Elk Creek Delaware County	Nov. 1966	Billy Lee Marion
TROUT (Rainbow)				
13 lb. 8 oz.	32	Richmond Springs Delaware County	Nov. 1968	C. Melvin Vaughn Waterloo
WALLEYE				
14 lb. 2 oz.	31 1/2	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	Oct. 1968	Herbert Aldridge Spirit Lake

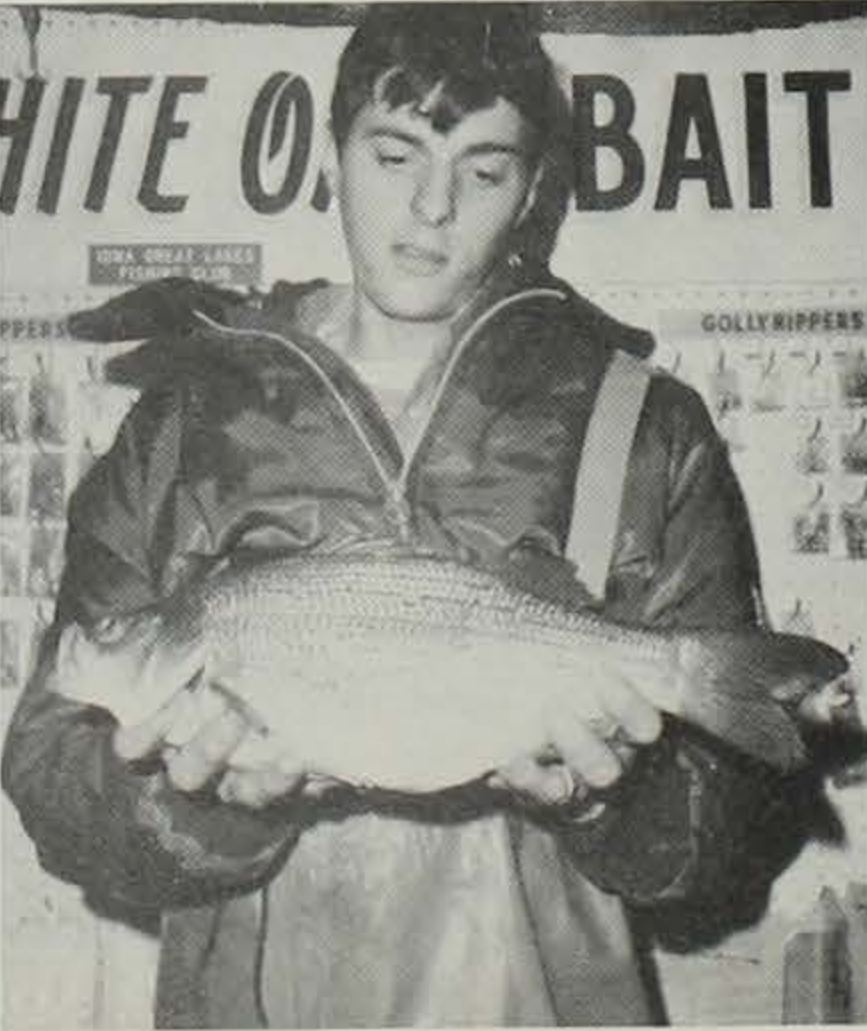
*DENOTES NEW STATE RECORD
**DENOTES WORLD RECORD

This pair of 8 pounders topped the rainbow list this year. Roy Beller of Knoxville was the angler.



With the beginning of Iowa's paddlefish snagging season, Steve Roling of Bellevue caught this 62 pound fish.

This 3 pound 12 ounce white bass proved no match for Steve Zimmerman of Spirit Lake.



1974 BIG FISH ENTREE

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
BASS (Largemouth)				
8 lb. 9 oz.	25	Farm Pond Henry County	Sept. 4	George L. Marzeck West Burlington
8 lb. 2 oz.	23 1/2	Lake Wapello Davis County	April 12	George L. Marzeck West Burlington
8 lb. 2 oz.	22 1/2	Lake Wapello Davis County	July 5	James Augspurger Bloomfield
8 lb.	23	Farm Pond Lucas County	May 26	Allen Springer Williamson
8 lb.	24	Farm Pond Marshall County	Sept. 4	Ted Trowbridge Marshalltown
7 lb. 13 oz.	22 1/4	Farm Pond Clinton County	April 18	George Landfair DeWitt
7 lb. 13 oz.	22 1/2	Lake Wapello Davis County	April 17	Clyde R. Hultgren West Burlington
7 lb. 12 oz.	22	Lake Wapello Davis County	April 6	James Augspurger Bloomfield
7 lb. 10 oz.	23	Farm Pond Adams County	April 21	Gene J. Freemyer Prescott
7 lb. 8 oz.	21 1/2	Viking Lake Montgomery County	April 29	Leo J. Welch Burlington
7 lb. 8 oz.	21 1/4	Lake Wapello Davis County	April 10	James Augspurger Bloomfield
7 lb. 8 oz.	23	Lake Wapello Davis County	April 18	Eddie Spengler New Liberty
7 lb. 8 oz.	23	Farm Pond Appanoose County	Aug. 17	Cpt. Stephen C. Gibson Lawton, Oklahoma
7 lb. 7 oz.	23	Gravel Pit Lee County	Oct. 19	George L. Marzeck West Burlington
7 lb. 5 oz.	23 1/2	Lake Wapello Davis County		Dennis Burd Burlington
7 lb. 4 oz.	22 1/4	Viking Lake Montgomery County	April 29	George L. Marzeck West Burlington
7 lb. 3 1/4 oz.	22 1/2	Farm Pond Mills County	Oct. 19	Jim Collins Council Bluffs
7 lb. 2 oz.	23	Farm Pond Lee County	July 25	Tim Painter Wever
7 lb. 2 oz.	23	Farm Pond Des Moines County	April 30	Mark Mehmen Sperry
7 lb. 2 oz.	26	Mississippi River Louisa County	Oct. 5	George L. Marzeck West Burlington
7 lb. 1 1/2 oz.	22	Farm Pond Benton County	April 20	Richard F. Berger Vinton
7 lb. 1 1/2 oz.	21 1/4	Gravel Pit Sioux County	April 30	LeRoy B. Fugitt George
7 lb. 1 oz.	21 1/2	Ashton Pit Osceola County	April 6	Bob Lyman George
7 lb. 1 oz.	22 1/2	Arrowhead Lake Pottawattamie County	Sept. 28	Douglas G. Ives Council Bluffs
7 lb.	23	Lake of Three Fires Taylor County	April 9	Charles S. Knutzelman Shenandoah
BASS (Smallmouth)				
5 lb. 13 oz.	22 1/4	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	May 19	John Walz Estherville
5 lb. 7 1/2 oz.	23	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 19	Bob Fitzgerald Milford
5 lb. 7 oz.	21 1/2	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	May 23	Becky Schmidt Spirit Lake
5 lb. 6 oz.	20	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	June 7	Dale W. Brandt Estherville
5 lb.	21 1/2	West Okoboji Dickinson County	May 4	Todd Parks Milford
4 lb. 14 oz.	22	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	Nov. 3	Larry Krakau Boxholm
4 lb. 13 oz.	21	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 15	Bob Brown Ft. Dodge
4 lb. 12 oz.	22	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 9	Father J. Fandel Milford
4 lb. 11 oz.	20	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	April 27	Art Chapman Eagle Grove
4 lb. 10 oz.	19 1/4	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 16	Gene Traeger Arnolds Park
4 lb. 9 oz.	21	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 10	Bob Brown Ft. Dodge
4 lb. 8 oz.	20 1/2	West Okoboji Dickinson County	June 28	Dean Robertson Bayard
4 lb. 8 oz.	22	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 22	Jim Taylor Spencer
4 lb. 7 oz.	21 1/4	West Okoboji Dickinson County	May 4	Barry Day Sibley
4 lb. 7 oz.	20 1/2	West Okoboji Dickinson County	May 4	Leo Frankl Algona
4 lb. 7 oz.	20	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 16	Leroy Morton Milford
4 lb. 6 oz.	20	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	May 27	Gerald Thomas Farnhamville
4 lb. 5 oz.	21 1/4	West Okoboji Dickinson County	May 25	Mike Hanna Forest City
4 lb. 5 oz.	22	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 27	Dick Haycoft Hartley
4 lb. 5 oz.	21	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 1	Roger Murray Des Moines
4 lb. 5 oz.	21 1/4	West Okoboji Dickinson County	June 23	B.J. Schneiderman Sibley
4 lb. 4 oz.	22	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 4	Kenneth Eilers Marlboro, Mass.
4 lb. 4 oz.	21	West Okoboji Dickinson County	May 5	Bruce Synder Spencer
4 lb. 3 oz.	21	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Aug. 30	Robert C. Bendlin Spencer
4 lb. 3 oz.	20 1/4	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 5	Gene Traeger Arnolds Park
4 lb. 2 oz.	22	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 12	Randy Brown Ft. Dodge
4 lb. 2 oz.	17 1/4	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Aug. 9	Ivar Jakobsen Mitchell, So. Dak.
4 lb. 2 oz.	21	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 25	Harold Johnson Milford
4 lb. 2 oz.	20	Upper Iowa River Winnebago County	April 22	George L. Marzeck West Burlington
4 lb. 2 oz.	21 1/4	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 30	Lana Richards Spencer
4 lb. 2 oz.	19 1/2	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 6	Dave Scott Sioux Falls, So. Dak.
4 lb. 1 oz.	21 1/2	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 29	Bob Fitzgerald Milford
4 lb. 1 oz.	21	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Aug. 15	Don Idso Milford
4 lb. 1 oz.	21	West Okoboji Dickinson County	June 22	Tom Lee Ft. Dodge
4 lb. 1 oz.	20 1/2	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 21	Roger Sankey Ft. Dodge
4 lb. 1/2 oz.	19	Farm Pond Benton County	May 27	Richard L. Lindsey Vinton
4 lb.	20 1/4	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Aug. 31	Bob Brown Ft. Dodge
4 lb.	20 1/2	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 27	Dan Gildemeister Sioux City
4 lb.	20	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 28	Don Idso Milford
4 lb.	20	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 29	Webster Summers Spencer

WEIGHT	LENGTH
BASS (White)	
3 lb. 12 oz.	19 1/4
BASS (Yellow)	
2 lb. 8 oz.	18 1/4
BLUEGILL	
1 lb. 12 oz.	11
1 lb. 8 oz.	10 1/2
1 lb. 8 oz.	10 1/2
1 lb. 8 oz.	11 1/4
1 lb. 7 oz.	11 1/4
1 lb. 2 oz.	11 1/2
1 lb. 2 oz.	11 1/2
1 lb. 2 oz.	10
1 lb. 1 oz.	10 1/2
1 lb. 1 oz.	10
1 lb. 1 oz.	10 1/4
BUFFALO	
43 lb. 8 oz.	40
35 lb.	38 1/4
26 lb.	34 1/4
21 lb.	36 1/2
BULLHEAD	
3 lb. 1 oz.	15 1/4
2 lb. 14 oz.	17
2 lb. 12 oz.	15 1/4
CARP	
46 lb.	41 1/4
CATFISH (Channel)	
30 lb. 4 oz.	39
25 lb. 1 oz.	38
23 lb. 4 oz.	35 1/2
22 lb. 12 oz.	34 1/2
22 lb. 2 oz.	38
18 lb. 4 oz.	33
15 lb. 14 oz.	35
15 lb. 10 oz.	31
15 lb. 6 oz.	30
15 lb. 3 oz.	30
CATFISH (Flathead)	
47 lb. 10 oz.	44
44 lb. 8 oz.	42 1/2
42 lb. 3 oz.	42 1/4
42 lb.	41
37 lb.	43
36 lb.	42
35 lb.	
33 lb. 8 oz.	37 1/2
31 lb. 3 oz.	35 1/2
28 lb. 8 oz.	40
23 lb. 8 oz.	36
23 lb. 4 oz.	38 1/4
22 lb. 4 oz.	36
21 lb. 10 oz.	38
CRAPPIE	
3 lb. 4 1/2 oz.	17 1/2
3 lb. 12 oz.	16 1/4
2 lb. 9 1/2 oz.	16 1/2
2 lb. 8 oz.	16 1/2
2 lb. 4 oz.	13 1/2
MUSKELLUNGE	
29 lb. 8 oz.	49
28 lb. 8 1/2 oz.	48
12 lb.	39 1/4
11 lb. 8 oz.	36 1/2
8 lb. 13 oz.	31
6 lb. 4 oz.	30 1/2

*DENOTES NEW STATE RECORD
**DENOTES WORLD RECORD

ENTRIES ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

WEIGHT LENGTH WHERE CAUGHT DATE ANGLER

BASS (White)

3 lb. 12 oz. 19 1/4 West Okoboji Oct. 26 Steve Zimmerman
Dickinson County Spirit Lake
2 lb. 8 oz. 18 1/4 West Okoboji May 24 Harold Andersen
Dickinson County Spencer

BASS (Yellow)

* 3 1/4 lb. 11 Black Hawk Lake April 28 L.A. Wallace
Sac County Cherokee

BLUEGILL

1 lb. 12 oz. 11 Farm Pond May 17 Willard E. Bintz
Pottawattamie County Oakland
1 lb. 8 oz. 11 1/4 Farm Pond Feb. 16 Dean Hogge
Lee County Ft. Madison
1 lb. 8 oz. 10 1/4 Farm Pond May 16 L. Donald Groves
Woodbury County Sioux City
1 lb. 8 oz. 11 1/4 West Okoboji July 27 Allen Faber
Dickinson County New Ulm, Minn.
1 lb. 7 oz. 11 1/4 Farm pond May 30 Roger Raiston
Warren County Indianola
1 lb. 2 oz. West Okoboji June 8 Gene Bennett
Dickinson County Omaha, Neb.
1 lb. 2 oz. 11 1/2 West Okoboji June 21 Lester Meyer
Dickinson County Spirit Lake
1 lb. 2 oz. 10 Gravel Pit June 18 George J. Brink
Crawford County Dow City
1 lb. 1 oz. 10 1/2 Mississippi River Jan. 26 Bob Hagge
Clayton County Dubuque
1 lb. 1 oz. 10 Spirit Lake June 12 Melvin Tuttle
Dickinson County Spencer
1 lb. 1 oz. 10 1/4 Clear Lake July 23 Dave Fitz
Cerro Gordo County Ames

BUFFALO

**43 lb. 8 oz. 40 West Okoboji April 30 James D. Grim
Dickinson County Arnolds Park
35 lb. 38 1/4 West Okoboji April 10 Robert M. Steinberger
Dickinson County Spirit Lake
26 lb. 34 1/4 DeSoto Bend May 1 Dave Cleaver
Harrison County Missouri Valley
21 lb. 36 1/2 Wapsipinicon River March 9 Mark Denniston
Jones County Anamosa

BULLHEAD

3 lb. 1 oz. 15 1/2 Farm Pond July 18 Dwight Evans
Madison County Clinton, Missouri
2 lb. 14 oz. 17 Farm Pond May 24 Jeffrey Wood
Taylor County Clearfield
2 lb. 12 oz. 15 1/2 Opeppings Slough May 26 Robert Van Acker
Muscatine County Muscatine

CARP

45 lb. 41 1/2 Spirit Lake June 12 Earl J. Gustafson
Dickinson County Emmetsburg

CATFISH (Channel)

*30 lb. 4 oz. 39 Viking Lake Aug. 6 Glenn Harms
Montgomery County Shenandoah
25 lb. 1 oz. 38 Viking Lake July 29 Glenn Harms
Montgomery County Shenandoah
23 lb. 4 oz. 35 1/2 Storm Lake May 15 Catherine Kolb
Buena Vista County Fonda
22 lb. 12 oz. 34 1/2 West Okoboji Oct. 5 Orville Belkin
Dickinson County Spencer
22 lb. 2 oz. 36 Lower Pine Lake July 6 Herb Wilson
Hardin County Marshalltown
16 lb. 4 oz. 33 Storm Lake May 22 Barry Kruse
Buena Vista County Marathon
15 lb. 14 oz. 35 Lower Pine Lake July 6 Vicki L. Schaum
Hardin County Marshalltown
15 lb. 10 oz. 31 Mississippi River Aug. 17 Oran Lucas
Clayton County Guttenberg
15 lb. 6 oz. 30 Farm Pond April James D. Pendroy
Marion County Monroe
15 lb. 3 oz. 30 South Skunk River May 11 Don Pendroy
Jasper County Newton

CATFISH (Flathead)

47 lb. 10 oz. 44 Cedar River June 10 Harold Strause
Muscatine County Muscatine
44 lb. 8 oz. 42 1/2 Cedar River Aug. 17 Gene Goddard
Muscatine County Letts
42 lb. 3 oz. 42 1/4 Cedar River June 26 Ronald W. Butters
Black Hawk County Waterloo
42 lb. 41 Raccoon River Aug. 23 Martin Johnson
Polk County Des Moines
37 lb. 43 Big Sioux River Aug. 8 Bert Johnson
Woodbury County Sioux City
36 lb. 42 Cedar River Aug. 22 John Dirks
Linn County Anamosa
35 lb. 38 Skunk River May 23 E. R. McDowell
Henry County Mt. Pleasant
33 lb. 8 oz. 37 1/2 Iowa River Aug. 6 James F. Bruce
Hardin County Union
31 lb. 3 oz. 35 1/2 Desoto Bend Sept. 14 Bill Brennan
Harrison County Omaha
28 lb. 8 oz. 40 Cedar River Sept. 11 John Dirks
Linn County Anamosa
23 lb. 8 oz. 36 Wapsipinicon River Aug. 11 John Dirks
Jones County Anamosa
23 lb. 4 oz. 38 1/2 Cedar River Sept. 28 John Dirks
Linn County Anamosa
22 lb. 4 oz. 36 Des Moines River Aug. 14 Jay Collins
Webster County Barnum
21 lb. 10 oz. 38 West Okoboji Sept. 5 Orville Belkin
Dickinson County Spencer

CRAPPIE

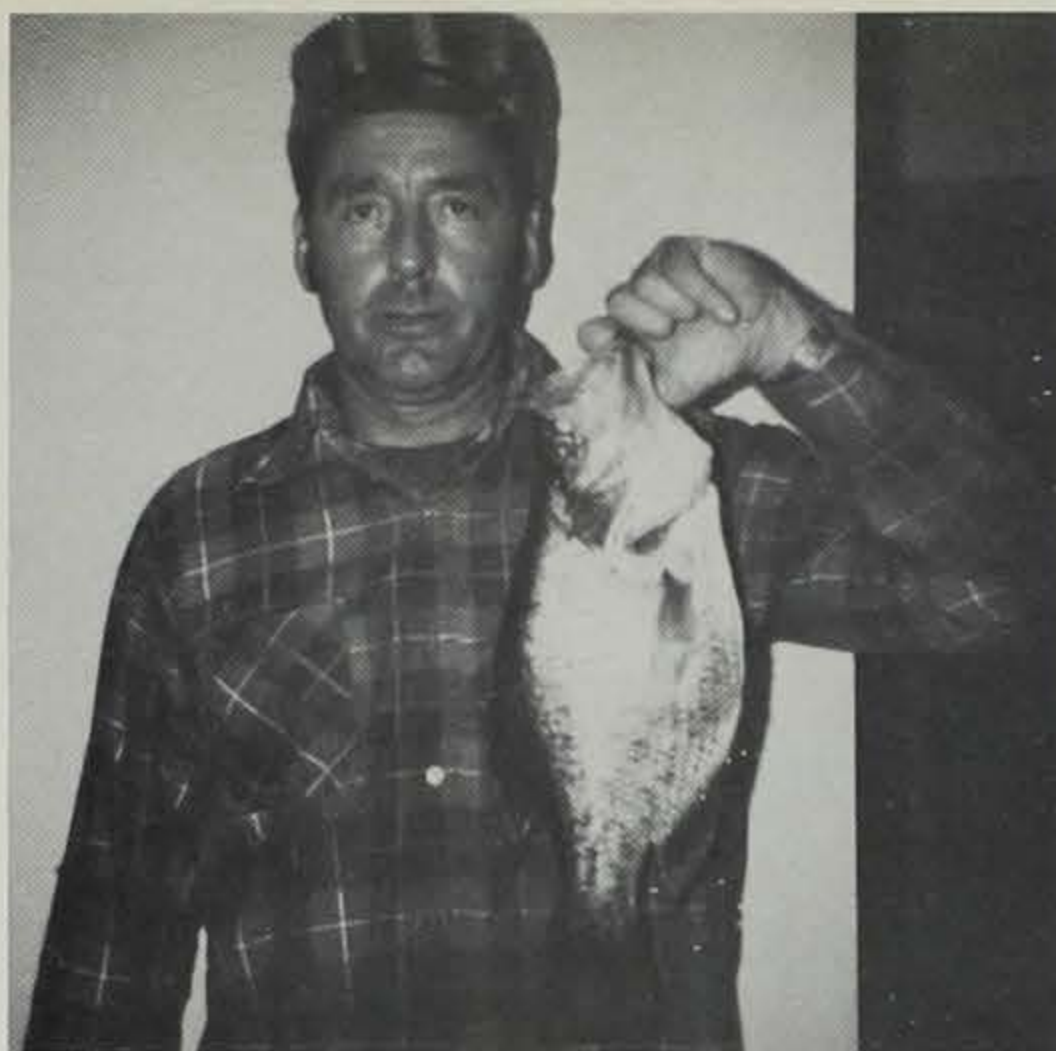
3 lb. 4 1/2 oz. 17 1/2 Viking Lake April 28 Merlin L. Merritt
Montgomery County Griswold
2 lb. 12 oz. 16 1/4 Farm Pond June 22 Bernie Schneider
Lee County Ft. Madison
2 lb. 9 1/2 oz. 16 1/4 Farm Pond June 9 Lowell E. Baber
Lucas County Humeston
2 lb. 8 oz. 16 1/2 Lake Rathbun May 16 Mrs. Robert H. Parker
Appanoose County Russell
2 lb. 4 oz. 13 1/2 Sibley Sand Pit May 29 Victor Heinrichs
Osceola County Sibley

MUSKELLUNGE

*29 lb. 8 oz. 49 Clear Lake June 24 Cecil Carberry
Cerro Gordo County Mason City
28 lb. 6 1/2 oz. 48 Clear Lake May 12 John F. LaPointe
Cerro Gordo County Mason City
12 lb. 39 1/4 West Okoboji May 17 Sherwin Schoppell
Dickinson County Minneapolis, Minn.
11 lb. 6 oz. 36 1/2 West Okoboji April 29 Bob Raw
Dickinson County Lake Park
6 lb. 13 oz. 31 West Okoboji Sept. 27 Keith Carstensen
Dickinson County Milford
6 lb. 4 oz. 30 1/2 West Okoboji Sept. 22 Robbie Adams
Dickinson County Sutherland

*DENOTES NEW STATE RECORD

**DENOTES WORLD RECORD



Merlin Merritt of Griswold caught this year's largest crappie which weighed in at 3 pounds 4 1/4 ounces.

James D. Grim of Arnolds Park broke the world's record with this 43 pound 8 ounce buffalo taken from West Okoboji.



The Iowa record northern pike fell to Kenneth Eastman of Cedar Falls when he took this 25 pounder.



The largest smallmouth bass of the year weighed 5 pounds 13 ounces and was taken by John Walz of Estherville.



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WEIGHT LENGTH WHERE CAUGHT DATE ANGLER

NORTHERN PIKE

*25 lb. 43 Cedar River March 30 Kenneth Eastman
Black Hawk County Cedar Falls
20 lb. 40 Smith Lake Sept. 14 Fred Callies
Kossuth County Titonka
19 lb. 43 Storm Lake June 11 Mrs. Darrell Neeley
Buena Vista County Sioux City
18 lb. 39 Des Moines River Nov. 9 Dwayne Street
Marion County Gladbrook
17 lb. 2 oz. 40 1/4 Gravel Pit Oct. 2 Glenn Belken
Osceola County Ocheyan
16 lb. 8 oz. 34 Rock Quarry July 20 Thomas Barr
Worth County Mason City
15 lb. 2 oz. 39 Mississippi River Nov. 2 Arlin Matter
Allamakee County Decorah
15 lb. 40 East Okoboji June 16 Verle Matthiesen
Dickinson County Milford
14 lb. 14 oz. 37 1/2 Storm lake June 9 Jon Kruse
Buena Vista County Fenton
14 lb. 12 oz. 37 Des Moines River April 30 Steve Stanley
Marion County Knoxville
14 lb. 43 Storm Lake May 20 Tim Speers
Buena Vista County Storm Lake
14 lb. 38 Farm Pond June 12 Paul Swain
Greene County Grand Junction
13 lb. 8 oz. 36 Des Moines River May 18 Bob Sackett
Marion County Pella
12 lb. 11 oz. 39 1/4 West Okoboji June 24 Tex Strickland
Dickinson County Okoboji
12 lb. 8 oz. 36 West Okoboji Jan. 19 Marlin Gustin
Dickinson County Royal
12 lb. 8 oz. 41 Spirit Lake Sept. 26 Frank Rezahek
Dickinson County Humboldt
12 lb. 8 oz. 40 1/2 West Okoboji Sept. 22 Dave Wagner
Dickinson County Spencer
12 lb. 4 oz. 36 1/2 West Okoboji Feb. 11 Darrel Kruckman
Dickinson County Spencer
12 lb. 2 oz. 36 Gravel Pit May 25 James Klepper
Palo Alto County West Bend
12 lb. 2 oz. 36 Decatur Bend Feb. 9 Duane Larson
Monona County Sioux City
12 lb. 2 oz. 36 Gravel Pit July 7 Mrs. Eldon Simmons
Winnebago County Leland
11 lb. 12 oz. 33 Cedar River Sept. 2 Donald C. Young
Black Hawk County Cedar Falls
11 lb. 8 oz. 35 1/4 Lake Wapello June 1 Christian Jensen
Davis County West Burlington
11 lb. 3 oz. 39 West Okoboji Sept. 22 Marlin Gustin
Dickinson County Royal
11 lb. 3 oz. 37 West Okoboji June 12 Tex Strickland
Dickinson County Okoboji
11 lb. 1 oz. 39 West Okoboji Oct. 12 Wendell Luiken
Dickinson County Steamboat Rock
11 lb. 35 Lake Wapello April 18 Eddie Spengler
Davis County New Liberty
10 lb. 11 oz. 38 West Okoboji Sept. 10 Norm Nielsen
Dickinson County Cherokee
10 lb. 8 oz. 37 Cedar River Sept. 15 Dick Kenney
Benton County Vinton
10 lb. 7 oz. 36 1/2 Trumbull Lake April 28 Harry Huffman
Clay County Spencer
10 lb. 5 oz. 36 Cedar River Sept. 16 Lewis Kenney
Benton County Vinton
10 lb. 4 oz. 36 West Okoboji Sept. 2 Henry Van Aartsen
Dickinson County Grange City
10 lb. 3 oz. 34 West Okoboji Oct. 1 Bud Merchant
Dickinson County Cedar Rapids
10 lb. 2 oz. 34 West Okoboji Feb. 15 Randy Kramer
Dickinson County Fostoria
10 lb. 37 West Okoboji Sept. 27 A. J. Dotzler
Dickinson County Defiance
10 lb. 37 West Okoboji Oct. 19 Andrew Hanson
Dickinson County Spencer
10 lb. 36 1/2 Spirit Lake May 25 Don Hunt
Dickinson County Arnolds Park
10 lb. 37 1/2 East Okoboji May 17 Earl Mortland
Dickinson County Spirit Lake
10 lb. 34 Lake Wapello April 18 Eddie Spengler
Davis County New Liberty

PADDFISH

62 lb. 62 1/4 Mississippi River Sept. 6 Steve Roling
Jackson County Bellevue

PERCH (Yellow)

*1 lb. 15 oz. 14 1/4 Spirit Lake Aug. 24 John Walz
Dickinson County Estherville
1 lb. 12 oz. 11 1/2 West Okoboji Jan. 20 Molly Peters
Dickinson County Spencer
1 lb. 4 oz. 13 Farm Pond Dec. 29 Harvey R. Swartz
Greene County Jefferson
1 lb. 3 oz. 13 West Okoboji March 2 Bob Ling
Dickinson County Sheldon
1 lb. 1 oz. 13 1/2 West Okoboji Sept. 15 Connie McKinney
Dickinson County Milford
1 lb. 13 West Okoboji Nov. 2 Perry Parks
Dickinson County Milford

SAUGER

4 lb. 6 oz. 22 1/2 Decatur Lake May 4 Nick Archer
Monona County Sioux City
3 lb. 4 oz. 20 1/4 Mississippi River March 17 James Pavelka
Clayton County Martelle

STURGEON (Shovelnose)

*12 lb. 33 Des Moines River April 11 Randy Herm
Van Buren County Douds

SUCKER (White)

*4 lb. 6 oz. 21 1/2 Granger's Creek March 31 Mike Lambert
Dubuque County Dubuque

TROUT (Brown)

7 lb. 4 oz. 24 Clear Creek Sept. 2 William P. Kruse
Allamakee County Dorchester
6 lb. 4 oz. 24 1/4 Waterloo Creek March 9 Orville Duecker
Allamakee County Waterloo
5 lb. 13 oz. 24 1/4 Bloody Run July 6 Lester E. Conklin
Clayton County West Liberty
5 lb. 12 oz. 21 Coon Creek June 28 Dale J. Bollnak
Winneshiek County Des Moines
5 lb. 12 oz. 24 North Bear Creek June 21 Roger Sparks
Allamakee County Newton
5 lb. 5 oz. 23 1/4 Maquoketa River Aug. 15 Randy Pribyl
Delaware County Eldridge
4 lb. 10 oz. 21 1/2 Little Mill Creek April 5 Randy Pribyl
Jackson County Eldridge
4 lb. 8 oz. 21 Silver Creek July 9 Bryan Timmerman
Allamakee County Waterloo
3 lb. 8 oz. 20 Spring Creek May 30 Sonny Satri
Mitchell County Des Moines

*DENOTES NEW STATE RECORD

FROM THE WARDEN'S DIARY



By Rex Emerson,
Law Enforcement Supervisor

PHEASANT HUNTING in March? Yes. There are places in Iowa that you may legally hunt pheasants and other game birds from September 1 to March 31. They are the ten licensed shooting preserves.

We stopped in to visit one of these today. Sportsmen from three states were enjoying a good hunt, shooting some pheasants and chukar partridge. The shooting preserves raise their own birds or buy them from another licensed game breeder. Birds are taken out and released in good cover before each hunting party takes to the field. The game cover is excellent and the way those pheasants get up and fly you would never guess they were pen raised. It's a wonderful hunting experience. Of course you pay for your hunting, but did you ever figure up the cost of any hunting trip?

You can bring your own hunting dog, or the preserve manager will furnish a well-trained dog for you as well as someone to accompany you on the hunt as a guide and dog handler. When the guide walks in to flush a bird that the dog is pointing he is in front of the hunter.

One man didn't bring a gun, instead he had a good camera. Come to think about it, I don't know where you could go to get any better pictures of wildlife and dogs working game birds. An English setter pointed a colorful cock pheasant for him. The dog was white with some brown markings and his shiny, clean hair indicated someone has been taking good care of him. This beautiful setter stood frozen on point, his tail out straight and the right front foot held up slightly off the ground, while the

camera enthusiast snapped pictures from different angles. The pheasant got nervous and decided to take to the air, providing the opportunity for one more great picture.

We satisfied ourselves that all of the gun hunters had hunting licenses and returned to the shooting preserve clubroom for a cup of coffee. The Iowa hunter may hunt there on his regular hunting license and there is a special license for non-residents that only costs \$5.00. This special \$5.00 non-resident license is only good on shooting preserves — to hunt anywhere else, the non-resident license is \$25.00. Of course you also pay for the game that you shoot on the area. If you don't have time to look for places to hunt, and can afford it, the shooting preserve is an excellent place to go hunting and enjoy yourself.

While sipping coffee we discussed the plans for the father and son day that would soon be held on this shooting preserve. There would be a hunter safety class, including some shooting at the trap range for the young hunters. We had agreed to be the instructors. After the hunter safety course the young hunters could do some actual hunting with their dads and one of the guides. Sounded like a real fun day, topped off by some good food at lunch time. You can work up a good appetite being outdoors like that and I didn't get my waistline by missing many meals.

They were also talking about a bird dog field trial, and another day there was going to be a barbecue for members. It seems like there is always something going on at a shooting preserve that would interest a person who likes the outdoors.

1974 FISH ENTRIES (Cont'd.)

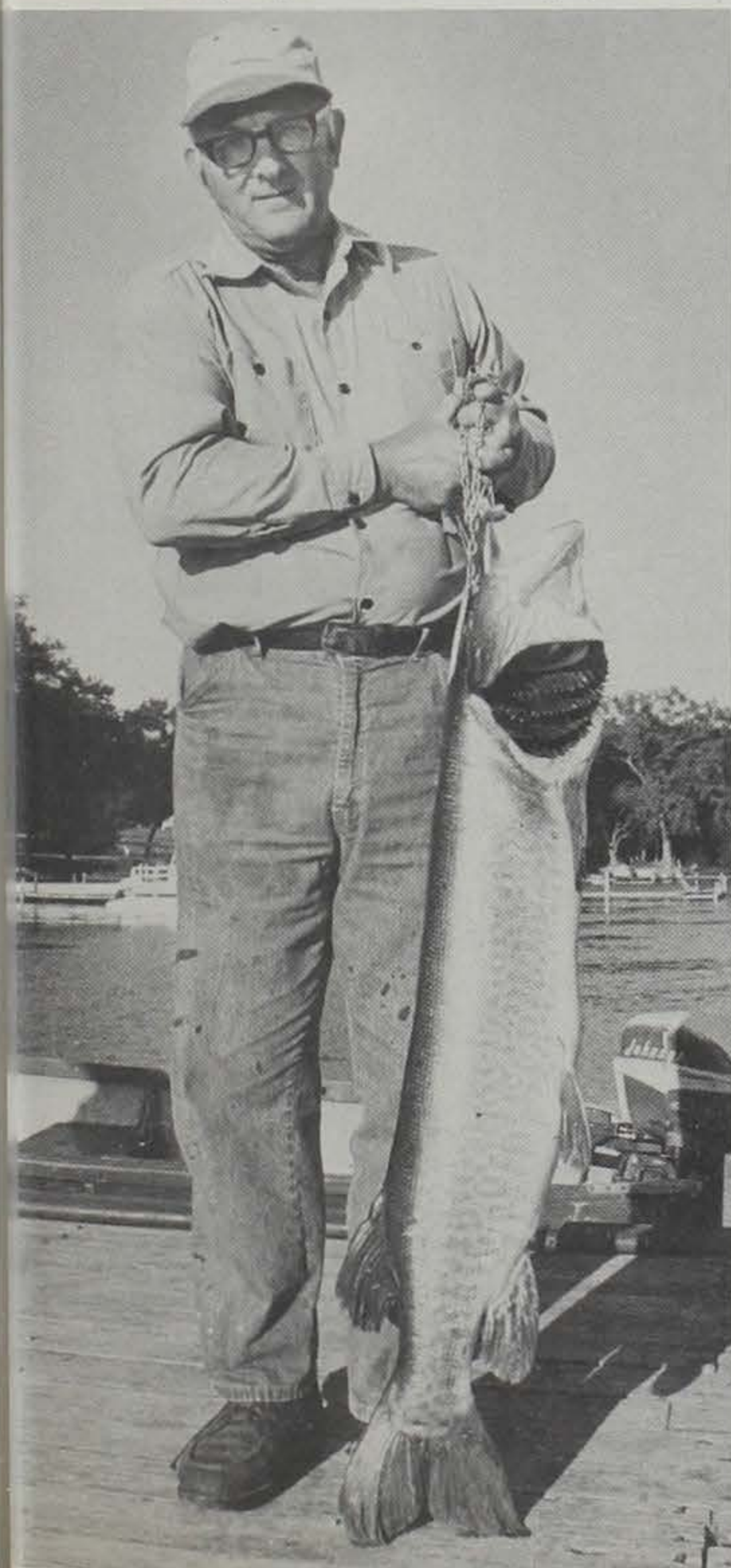
WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
TROUT (Brown)				
3 lb. 8 oz.	19½	Turtle Creek Mitchell County	May 4	Doug Smalley Des Moines
3 lb. 6 oz.	20	North Bear Creek Allamakee County	June 21	Robert Runge Des Moines
3 lb. 4 oz.	19	Turtle Creek Mitchell County	May 4	Robert Runge Des Moines
TROUT (Rainbow)				
8 lb.	25	Spring Branch Delaware County	Sept. 28	Roy Beller Knoxville
8 lb.	25	Spring Branch Delaware County	Sept. 28	Roy Beller Knoxville
5 lb. 4 oz.	25	Richmond Springs Delaware County	Oct. 16	Cliff Brimmer Independence
5 lb. 1 oz.	23½	Turkey River Clayton County	Nov. 28	Fred Daugs Minneapolis, Minn.
4 lb. 11 oz.	22½	Wexford Creek Allamakee County	May 28	Kristy Winnett Bayard
4 lb. 6 oz.	23	Richmond Springs Delaware County	May 27	Donald P. Whitmore Davenport
4 lb. 4 oz.	21½	Trout Run Winnebago County	Jan. 22	William R. Ribbeck Decorah
3 lb. 11 oz.	21	Brush Creek Jackson County	Jan. 4	Stan Matthews Bellevue
3 lb. 10 oz.	21½	Yellow River Allamakee County	June 12	Gary Erenberger Solon
3 lb. 9 oz.	20½	Bloody Run Clayton County	May 27	David Hunzelman Wilton
3 lb. 6 oz.	21	South Bear Creek Winnebago County	May 28	Catherine Sanders Storm Lake
WALLEYE				
11 lb. 8 oz.	30	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Dec. 1	Clarence Bendlin Spencer
11 lb. 1 oz.	29½	Des Moines River Polk County	July 15	John Schoondyke Des Moines
11 lb.	32	Cedar River Bremer County	Oct. 5	Fred Stifter Waverly
10 lb. 14 oz.	29½	Mississippi River Jackson County	April 5	Dennis J. Lake Chicago, Illinois
10 lb. 12 oz.	29	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 17	Alvin Akin Pocahontas
10 lb. 12 oz.	31½	Storm Lake Buena Vista County	Feb. 12	Darold W. Veerhusen Storm Lake
10 lb. 10 oz.	29	Mississippi River Allamakee County	April 15	Del Blanchard Cedar Falls
10 lb. 9 oz.	30¼	Cedar River Benton County	Nov. 22	Dick Kenney Vinton
10 lb. 9 oz.	31	Storm Lake Buena Vista County	Feb. 11	Darold W. Veerhusen Storm Lake
10 lb. 5 oz.	28½	Shellrock River Butler County	March 24	E. Messerschmidt Shellrock
10 lb. 4 oz.	31	Storm Lake Buena Vista County	May 22	Craig Bonnema Storm Lake
10 lb. 4 oz.	30	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Jan. 19	Ray Ludwig Milford
10 lb. 4 oz.	28	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	Oct. 8	Brodie Shreck Estherville
10 lb. 4 oz.	32½	Storm Lake Buena Vista County	May 26	Tim Speers Storm Lake
10 lb. 2 oz.	30¼	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	Oct. 9	Brodie Schreck Estherville
10 lb. 1 oz.	31	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	Nov. 12	Brodie Schreck Estherville
10 lb.	29½	Twin Lakes Calhoun County	Sept. 14	Dean Hall Lake View
10 lb.	27½	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	Dec. 8	Dave Mills Spirit Lake
9 lb. 15 oz.	31¼	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 23	Dean Truog Estherville
9 lb. 13 oz.	29	Wapsipinicon River Buchanan County	Aug. 14	Darrell Pint Independence
9 lb. 12 oz.	30	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Nov. 16	L. J. Hackett Arnolds Park
9 lb. 12 oz.	29	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Nov. 3	Roger Stewart Arnolds Park
9 lb. 10 oz.	30	Shellrock River Butler County	April 2	Gerald Gress Cedar Falls
9 lb. 4 oz.	30	West Okoboji Dickinson County	May 3	Jerry Ward Milford
9 lb. 2 oz.	28	Storm Lake Buena Vista County	Feb. 8	J. D. Berkler Lytton
9 lb. 2 oz.	29	Shellrock River Black Hawk County	Oct. 26	Richard J. Engel Cedar Falls
9 lb. 2 oz.	29½	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 7	Jim Sweet Spencer
9 lb. 1 oz.	30	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 14	Albert Imhoff Melvin
9 lb.	28	East Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 16	Alvin E. Akin Pocahontas
9 lb.	27½	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Jan. 23	Robert Dickenson Spirit Lake
9 lb.	30	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Feb. 2	Donald Reason Arnolds Park
8 lb. 13 oz.	29¼	Shellrock River Black Hawk County	Oct. 10	Marvin L. Lindaman Cedar Falls
8 lb. 12 oz.	29¼	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 23	Harold Bendlin Spencer
8 lb. 12 oz.	29¼	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 7	Dick Cobwell Okoboji
8 lb. 11½ oz.	29	Storm Lake Buena Vista County	April 28	Barry Kruse Marathon
8 lb. 11½ oz.	29½	Lake Macbride Johnson County	Oct. 27	Jack Neuzil Solon
8 lb. 10 oz.	30½	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Sept. 29	Bob Fitzgerald Milford
8 lb. 8 oz.	30	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	May 2	Chet Nance Spirit Lake
8 lb. 6 oz.	29½	Storm Lake Buena Vista County	May 26	Ron Speers Storm Lake
8 lb. 4 oz.	29	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Nov. 1	Harold Bendlin Spencer
8 lb. 3 oz.	29	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Oct. 31	Harold Bendlin Spencer
8 lb. 3 oz.	31¼	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 27	M. C. Strickland Okoboji
8 lb. 2 oz.	27½	West Okoboji Dickinson County	Feb. 13	Nick Millemann Spencer
8 lb. 2 oz.	28	West Okoboji Dickinson County	July 3	Larry Petersen Cherokee
8 lb. 2 oz.	31¼	West Okoboji Dickinson County	April 27	Jim Sweet Spencer
8 lb. 1 oz.	29	Storm Lake Buena Vista County	Sept. 21	Ray Garnatz Storm Lake
8 lb.	30½	West Okoboji Dickinson County	June 3	Don Bendlin Dickens
8 lb.	28	West Okoboji Dickinson County	May 20	Robert C. Bendlin Spencer

*DENOTES NEW STATE RECORD.



Lawrence Bendlin of Spencer caught this 11 pound 8 ounce muskie to top the 1974 list of entries.

The muskie record was broken twice this year with Cecil Carberry's 29 pound 8 ounce fish now topping the list.



CLASSROOM CORNER



By Curt Powell,

Administrator, Conservation Education Center

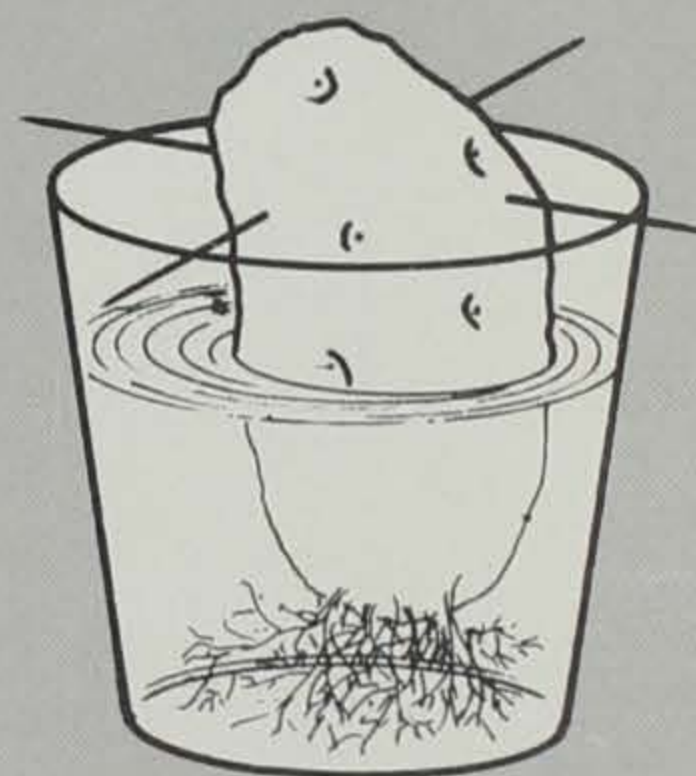
MARCH is a time and a month of the year when many exciting things are happening. The various waterfowl and other birds are starting their annual migration to their northern nesting grounds. Other animals are also starting to feel spring in the air. Activity of these creatures are increasing at an ever rapid pace. Plants are beginning to push their stalks to the sun. All in all, it is a time of awakening for Iowa outdoors.

Have you ever wondered how plants begin to grow? What causes this awakening each spring so that nature restores herself after a long winter? Could it be a combination of things?

Some plants have been laying dormant all winter waiting for spring to come. Trees for example, have not died, but are waiting for right combinations of circumstances to cause the sap to flow and leaves to fill out. Certain plants with extensive root systems are waiting for the same thing. Other plants have had their seeds scattered about the country side by wind, birds and animals so that the plants will grow again in the spring.

Could you say it is a combination of water, warmer temperatures, and sunlight that brings this all about? Lets grow a sweet potato. Place toothpicks in a sweet potato so that it will rest on a water glass with about half of the potato in the glass. Fill the glass with water. Place it, inside, in a warm and sunny place. Watch the root system begin to form and sprouts form on the

potato. After a good root system has formed, place your plant in a container of soil. This may give you some idea of how the spring season affects plants. (See illustration)



This is also the time for teachers to make preparations for attending one of the outstanding conservation classes offered at the Conservation Education Center by Drake University this summer. The classes this year carry three semester hours credit each and are ELEMENTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION — June 16-25, 1975, and TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION — WILDLIFE, PLANTS, GEOLOGY, and LAND USE, (student chooses subject area of interest) July 14-23, 1975. Scholarships are available in many areas of the State. For more information contact either the Conservation Education Center, Route 1, Box 138C, Guthrie Center, Iowa, 50115, or Dr. Robert Vanden Branden, Department of Education, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, 50311.

