

# Fishing report mixed

JUN 9 1978

Last week we wrote that the Big Green Hellgrammites should be arriving at Blair Street Bait & Tackle about June 8.

This week we have to write that they haven't, because, according to Big Jim, the weather has been too cool and the ponds that normally produce them by this time, haven't. Sorry about that. You must never count your hellgrammites until they're hatched.

The smaller hellgrammites, the Spider Mites, are available though, and if bugs are your bait, they should hold you until the biggies arrive.

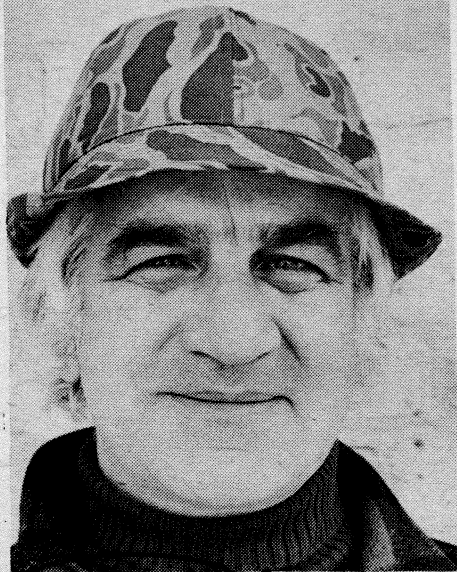
Things could always be worse. I know a guy who is into Catalpa worms so you can just figure on what kind of a wait he's in for.

I didn't consult Big Jim this week, just our regular folks at Capt. Jack's Fishing Pro Shop, 909 East Broadway and Blair Street Bait & Tackle, 138 S. Blair. I consulted another guy too, but he keeps pushing kiver minnows and we can't publish that.

Here, lake-by-lake, is your weekly report:

**LAKE MENDOTA:** Still getting nice bluegills and crappies at the Hatch Cover on small worms. Also bluegills along the weedbed off Governor's Island on worms. Early in the week, jumbo perch were hitting off Second Point in 6 feet of water on nightcrawlers. Nice bluegills being taken off the Tenney Park breakwater on small worms.

Northern pike picking up from the



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County Park to the Hatch Cover. Suckers are the best bait. Also Mepps spinners. Number threes.

Walleyes are in the area from James Madison Park to University Bay. On the flat spot. Fish the drop-off where it shelves from 10 to 20 feet. Walleyes are in the 2 to 3 pound class.

Smallmouth bass are in close. Try out behind the CMI building.

Westport is producing bullheads and catfish, the latter ranging from 4 to 6 pounds. Steady Eddy, who leases North Bay to the DNR, says the fish are close in to the bogs, generally in 2 to 3 feet of water.

"Catfish are all over the place," Steady insists. "Take a big sucker, cut it into thirds and stick a chunk on a No. 8 treble hook. It doesn't

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wreck the sport to use a muskie rod either."

Following that advice to the letter produced one of the week's more memorable moments for:

Ed Teela of Madison, who fought and caught a 15 pound Catfish out of North Bay on a sucker chunk.

Other impressive fish out of Mendota during the week were by:

Babe Lewis, Madison, a Northern pike, 13 lbs. 3 oz., on a Rapala. Fish measured 38 1/2 inches.

Rodney Dahlen, Madison, a monster Bluegill, 1 pound 6 ounces on a nightcrawler. Its identical twin was taken by Luanne Raynona, Waunakee, a bluegill, same weight, on a jig.

Fritz Dorst, Madison, a foot-long Perch, on a spider mite, the littlest hellgrammite. Eat your heart out, Big Jim.

**LAKE MONONA:** At the Triangle, they're starting to catch the nicer bluegills. ("Hell," the Old Man would scoff, "there's no such thing as a bad bluegill.") Off Squaw Point and Belle Isle, a few bluegills are being caught in 12 feet of water on waxworms.

The Dunning Street bar is producing bluegills. On Pinkys. Undressed and bare.

The Northern pike here still slow. The Bass are better. A lot of smallmouths at The Outlet, but they're running small. For largemouth, a jig and a nightcrawler seem the best bet. It's a little too cool for the spinner baits to be effective consistently.

A lot of walleyes around, but they're mostly small.

**Squaw Bay & The South Shore:** A lot of crappie and bluegill being caught. Bullheads very good at night, also small walleyes. Largemouth medium to slow. The carp are rolling heavy.

**UPPER MUD:** Lots of panfish and bullheads. Some bass. Carp heavy.

**WAUBESA:** Many crappies coming out. Bluegills good in Goodland Park area. Walleye fishing good at night, best from Rockford Heights to Bible Camp. Northern pike fair in Rockford Heights area. Also at the South End near Brickson Park.

**LOWER MUD & KEGONSA:** The bullhead fishing is very good. Bluegills and perch are doing well in the Country Club and Holiday Point areas.

The walleye is also very good. In the Holiday Point and Sunnyside areas.

Noteworthy fish from Kegonsa were taken by:

Kevin Shackett, McFarland, who caught a 1 pound 2 ounce bluegill on a worm, and by

Joe Waite, Centerville, Ill., who used a Rapala on a Largemouth weighing 5 lbs. 4 oz. Fish measured 20 inches.

Overall, the fishing action is fair. Nothing fast, nothing fabulous. Yet.

You want fantastic, go fish the Cats in North Bay with a muskie pole. You want fabulous, go fish them with your regular old spinning rod. You fish them with anything lighter and you got foolish.