

Fish (fry) action is picking up

grinn VUKELICH, George JUN 30 1978

In reply to Steady Eddy's suggestion that we incorporate recipes into our little column, herewith this note from The Fishin' Chef himself, Stan Shivers, on the Fine Art of Frying Panfish:

"I prefer," says Shiv, "to season the fish several hours before frying. Seasoning consists of salt, a little garlic powder and a touch of oregano.

"Next, put a mixture of 1/3 flour, 1/3 pancake flour and 1/3 cornmeal in a paper bag. Stick your fish fillets in the bag and shake until they are well-coated.

"The fat you fry your fish in should consist of bacon drippings, some Crisco and if you want to be extravagant, throw in a quarter-pound of Wisconsin butter.

"Have the fat good and hot before you drop your fish in the skillet. Cook the fish until they turn a golden brown, which should only take a few minutes. I'll guarantee that fish fixed this way will even tickle the palate of Steady Eddy."

Eddy, who is at home in an apron as anybody, then volunteered that he personally likes to grind up a bunch of croutons — garlic flavored — when he's frying his fish.

"Roll your fillets in that," he smiled with that insider's smile. And when Big Jim agrees, I have the sudden feeling that I haven't hung out with such food freaks since the Old Man opened up two cans of Frank's Kraut up at Big St. Germain and called it a supper. Raw.

Well, before you fix them, you

have to find them, so here is your Friday fishing report:

LAKE MENDOTA: University Bay has bluegill action as they're moving onto their beds. Nice size fish. On redworms and waxworms Papa took 14 the other afternoon and ran into Art Olson, who is hard to recognize out of his snowmobile suit. Bluegills are good off Governor's Island, too.

Smallmouth bass fishing is good behind the CMI Building to University Bay. On leaf worms; also, Rat Finkie jigs — green and orange — dressed with a leaf worm. Smallmouth and walleye not bad at Conklin Park — on nightcrawlers.

Northern pike fishing picking up, some at Governor's Island on suckers. Some along CMI shoreline. Big ones hitting, at least six reported breaking lines and getting away.

Biggie fish from the big lake were taken by:

- Dick Stenlund, Madison, a Channel Catfish, 21 lbs. 6 oz. Check the picture in today's Press Connection. Steady Eddy says that's the biggest cat he has seen standing in the door since he was airborne and the jumpmaster did it. Stenlund also took a smaller channel out of North Bay later, an 11 lb., 6 oz. fish. I was an eyewitness. He took it on a sucker chunk, attached to a Louisville Slugger.

- Todd Belz, Sun Prairie, a Smallmouth bass, 3 lbs. 12 oz. on a nightcrawler. Fish measured 19 inches.

- Jim Thrun, Madison, a Bluegill, 1 lb. 10 oz. also on a crawler. Fish was largest in a string of 10 bluegills that weighed 11 lbs. 1 oz.

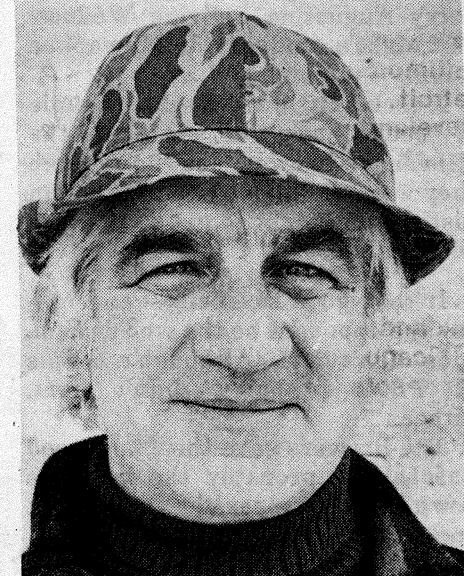
- **LAKE MONONA:** Muskies very active behind the Old Post Office. Three keepers caught over last weekend, one off The Rock Pile. Use suckers and crank baits.

In the Law Park area, northerns are picking up. Big Jim swears one monster snapped a pole at The Rock Pile. Steady says that if the tongue isn't forked, then the stick must have been. Not to mention the fisherman.

Bluegills are being taken on red worms. Crappies on minnows. Walleyes, some up to three pounds, on nightcrawlers.

Steady says there's a "mixed bag of everything" at The Rockpile and Scott Rasmussen agrees. Bluegills good on red and leaf worms. Crappies on small minnows and walleyes at night on crawlers. A lot of perch here on worms. Likewise at Turville Point.

Early part of the week saw excellent bluegill fishing at The Triangle. Wax worms "slaughtered" them. A lot of small walleyes are



Papa Hambone's Fishing Report

still around. White bass are starting to hit off Law Park on leaf worms.

One of the meatier panfish this week was taken by:

- Kevin Lockwood, Sun Prairie, a Crappie, 1 lb. 6 oz. on a Mepps.

LAKE WAUBESA: A lot of panfish action at Hog Island and Brickston Park areas on red worms, leaf worms and small minnows. Walleye fishing continues good at the Bible Camp and Rockford Heights area on night crawlers. Biggest one to come out this week was caught by:

- Lalbert Tahah, Madison, a Walleye 7 lbs. 2 oz. on a crawler. Fish was 29 inches long.

LAKE KEGONSA: Beaucoup bluegills and perch at the Country Club and Holiday Point area. Also a lot of walleyes between one and two pounds around Holiday Point.

Oh, lest we forget, Vicki Slovacek, McFarland, using a nightcrawler, pulled a 14 lb. 15 oz. Catfish out of the Yahara River.

Overall, fishing is swinging a little, bullheads are active all over and carp, in the very act of spawning, are being stalked by little boys.

"They do that," laments Steady Eddy, "to all of us."



—Press Connection photo by Brent Nicastro

A face only a mother could love—Dick Stenlund's catfish.