



MOREHEAD PHYSICIAN
Dr. I M GARRED
LANDED THIS 35-POUND
MUSKIE IN TRIPLET
CREEK NEAR THE
CONFLUENCE OF
LICKING RIVER.
HE USED AN
ARTIFICIAL BAIT.
EARLY 1950S?

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7470



GLEN TERRELL, ONE OF
ROWAN'S EARLY FISHERMEN
LANDS HUGE CATFISH!

THIS 44lb 48 inch
LUNKER WAS CAUGHT
IN THE CHARITY
BRANCH SECTION OF
LICKING RIVER.



Dr Jack D Ellis
215 Knapp Ave
Morehead, KY 40351



GLEN TERRELL

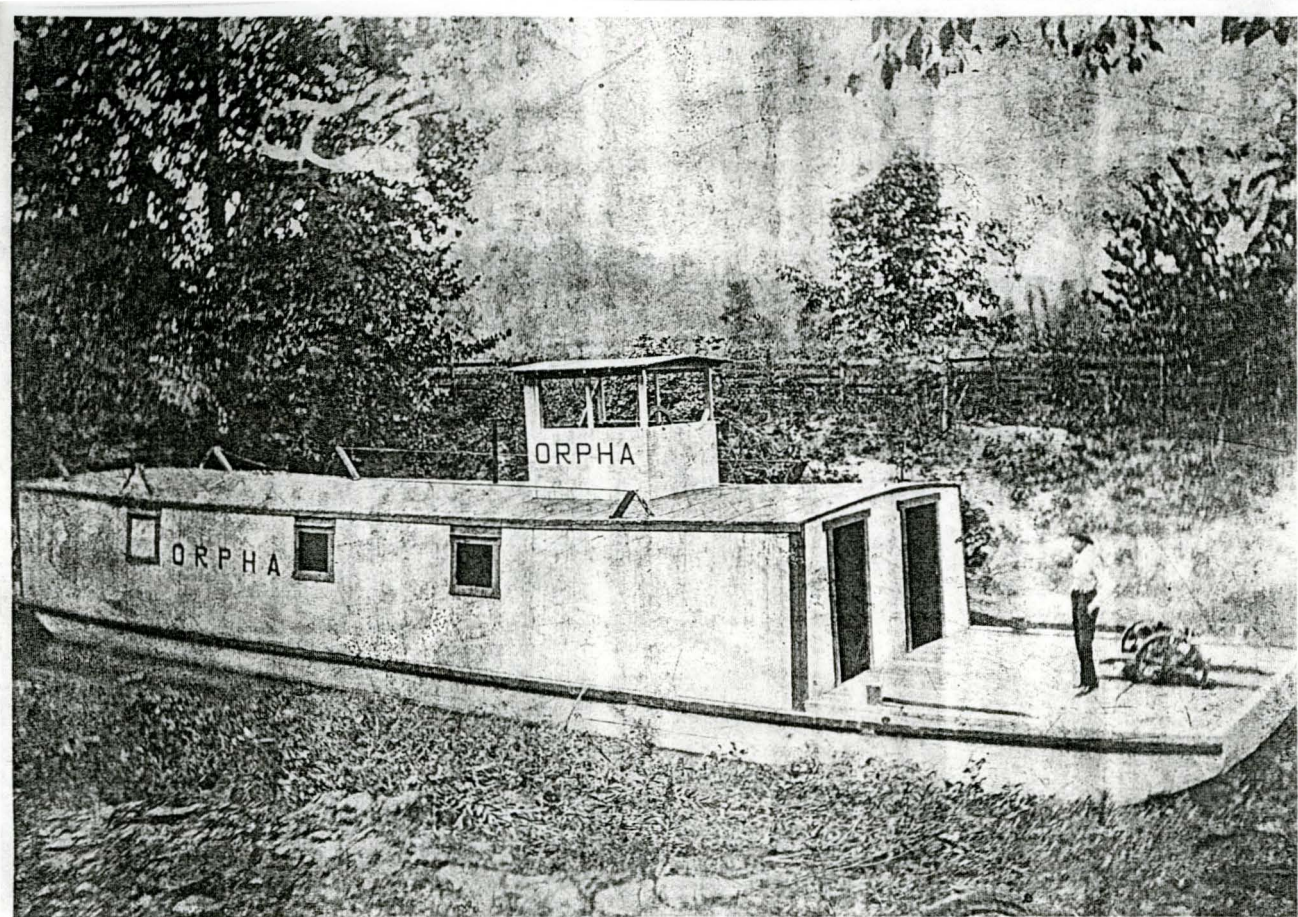
3 Keeper Muskies

Caught near Clay Lick

Boat Dock in Cave Run
Lake.

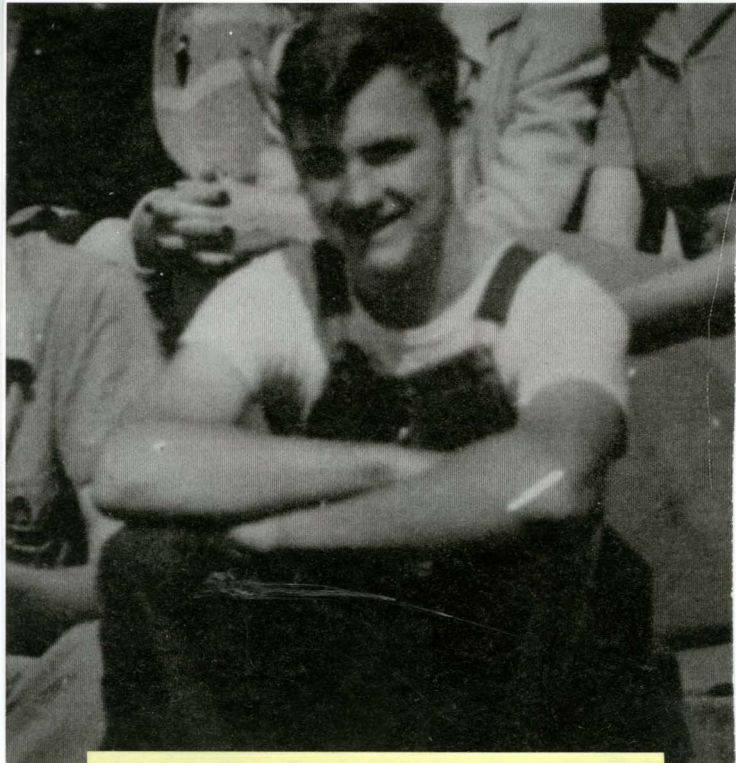
Trolling in 18' of water

**From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473**



The steam boat, Orpha, made near Salyersville, Ky. about 1900. Wm. Alexander owned & operated between Farmers Ky. & West Liberty at high tide on Licking River about 1900 hauling supplies. Mr. Alexander operated a saw mill at Farmers Ky. on Bath Co. side where Ray Perry lives.

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BREAR HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT JIMMY
REYNOLDS IN THE
EARLY 1940S WHEN
HE CAUGHT HIS
FIRST MUSKIE.



LOCAL PHYSICIAN NAVID FISHERMAN
DR F M GARRETT (RIGHT) ~~AND~~
WITH LAWRENCE JOHNSON
DISPLAY THE TROPHY SIZE
FLAT HEAD CATFISH THEY
LANDED IN LICKING RIVER

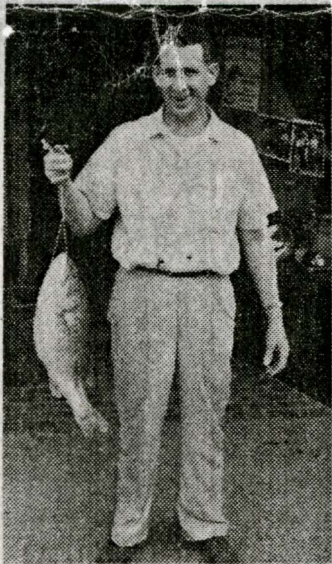
LICKING
RIVER

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606-784-7473

2 cats



THE FERRY BOAT THAT OPERATED
ON THE LICKING RIVER AT
FARMERS WAS KEPT BUSY
BEFORE THE BRIDGE WAS
BUILT.



Pat McGarey
His 9-Lb. Bass a Beauty

Top Crappie and Bass Catches Feature C.-J.'s Fishing Contest

Kentucky fishing, interrupted by a short spell of hot and sticky weather, is on the upsurge again.

Quite a variety of species, featured by a wallopig big crappie, some fine largemouth bass, and some mighty hefty rough fish, gave The Courier-Journal Fishing Contest a real spurt. As a result, one leader was toppled and a third place holder was displaced.

Top billing for the week goes to Ronald G. White, 123 East Hill St., Louisville, whose crappie of three pounds, nine ounces now heads up that particular class. The new front-runner came from Kentucky Lake near the Turkey Creek

Dock where White took it on a live shad minnow.

To pat McGarey, Morehead, goes the honor of taking over third place in the popular largemouth bass class. His nine-pounder, boated in Park Lake in Fleming County, was lured by a U-20 Flat Fish bait. And another fine largemouth of seven pounds, 2 ounces was the prize of Ernest Turner, Drift, who used a Lazy Ike to bring it out of Dewey Lake.

Lake Cumberland continued to give up splendid walleyes. Robert F. Howerton, Winchester, turned in the largest of this species for the period with one scaling 10 pounds, eight ounces. It took a Bayou Bogie bait.

Rough fish came in for their

share of the news. From the Ohio River close to home, Roy W. Potts, 606 E. Elm St. New Albany, Ind., strung a blue cat of 35 pounds, 12 ounces. This brute, striking a shrimp bait, gave Potts a real tussle before it was boated.

Another catfish, tipping the

scales at 32 pounds, four ounces, came from Kentucky Lake near Fisherman's One Stop. John P. Rives, Pembroke, landed it on a rubber shad Worth Spinner No. 3. And from Kentucky River near Doysville, Owen J. Tracy, Richmond, took a white perch of 13 pounds, eight ounces on a trot line baited with a minnow.

The contest is nearing its close with about six weeks more to go. So any angler who has ambition to get one of the handsome certificates or valuable tackle prizes had better hurry. Some leaders are displaced every week or so and the new leader may as well be you.

Solunar Tables

The schedule of Solunar Periods, as printed below, has been taken from John Alden Knight's Solunar Tables. Plan your days so that you will be fishing in good territory or hunting in good cover.

Use Central Standard Time.

Date	A.M.		P.M.	
Aug. Day	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
19 Sunday	3:15	9:30	3:45	9:50
20 Monday	4:00	10:15	4:30	10:35
21 Tuesday	4:45	11:00	5:15	11:20
22 Wednesday	5:30	11:45	6:00	11:55
23 Thursday	6:10	12:30	6:35	12:30
24 Friday	6:50	12:40	7:15	1:00
25 Saturday	7:30	1:20	8:00	1:45
26 Sunday	8:15	2:05	8:45	2:50

OBITUARIES

Troy Alfrey 1907 - 2000

EARLY
WICKING RIVER RESIDENT

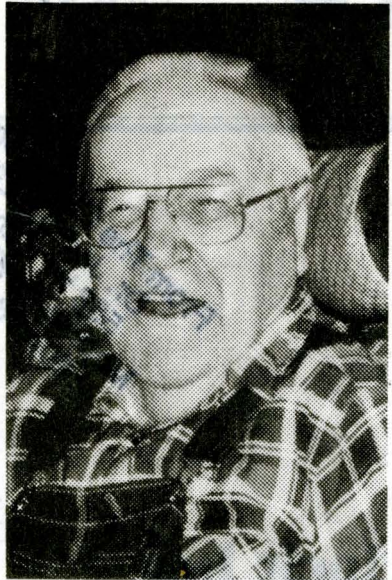
MOREHEAD - Troy Alfrey, 93, of Weaver Ridge Road, Morehead, died Nov. 1 at his residence.

He was born May 28, 1907 in Rowan County to the late Roll and Sally Ann Foster Alfrey.

He was a retired sawmill operator who was an avid outdoorsman, enjoyed playing croquet and was a big UK fan. He was of the Church of God faith.

Survivors include three sons, Charles Farrell Alfrey of Frenchburg, Carl Douglas Alfrey of Ezel, and Roger Alfrey of Clearfield, three daughters, Alma Emogene Combs of Frenchburg, Willodeen Herrick of Alexandria, Ind., and Ruth Emily Walton of Franklin, Ohio, 22 grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and several great-great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Vonnie Staton Alfrey, two brothers, Roy Alfrey and Andy Alfrey, and five sisters, America Wheatley, Eva Bailey, Emma Baker, Flora Hurley and



Troy Alfrey

Laura Morris.

Funeral services were set for Friday, Nov. 3 at 11 a.m. at the Lane-Stucky-Gray Funeral Home with Rev. David Starcher officiating and special music by Margaret Ashcraft and Mike Gray, and burial in Roll Alfrey Cemetery at Mt. Hope.

Pallbearers: grandsons.



FINEST FISHING—The cool and fast running streams of Rowan County provide about the only muskie fishing in Kentucky. Largest one caught is a 46 pounder by Van Greene in Triplett Creek. Luster J. 'Buck' Brown caught this one last month. He is shown with his son. Sportsmen say that the world record for muskies will be broken if 'Old Ironsides' can be netted. His home is supposed to be in Triplett where it empties into Licking and sportsmen clubs have offered many prizes to the Isaac Walton that can land him. Many swear that he's longer than a boat and bigger than a young heifer.



LOCAL BUSINESSMAN
PAT MCGARVEY
DISPLAYS HIS 10LB.
BASS CAUGHT IN 1956.
IT TOOK 3RD PLACE
IN THE STATE THAT
YEAR. ||
DAUGHTER MARY LOU
AND NEIGHBOR CINDY
REYNOLDS SMILE THEIR
APPROVAL. 1956

Pat McGorey

with his

Prize winning

9 lb plus Bass.

State 3rd Place in Ky

that year 1956

Caught in Parkers

Fleming County

From The Collection Of:

Dr. Jack D. Ellis

502 W. Sun St.

Morehead, KY 40351

606-784-7473

Glen Terrell and his 42-pound record musky.

the BIG ones

by Mike Smith

Have you ever caught a record fish? Don't answer too quickly. Perhaps you have and you weren't really aware of it. No doubt there are record catches made each year from Kentucky waters, but the lucky angler merely invites his trophy home for a fish dinner.

But last year at least four fishermen knew enough to check the record books when they made unusual catches. And sure enough, their hunches paid off: new entries for sauger, rock bass, rainbow trout and channel catfish were recognized as official state records during 1972. If four record fish in one year seems remarkable, it is all the more so when you consider that 1971 also saw four new state record entries.

The combined record list for '71-'72 far exceeds that of any previous two-year period. And already a new contender has taken over the muskellunge category for 1973. But let's take a look at last year's trophies first.

The first record to enter the books was a 10-pound, 2-ounce channel catfish caught by Sollie Clifton, Jr., Owen-ton. Clifton was casting an artificial nightcrawler at Elk Lake Shores last May 20 when he landed the new record channel. The former No. 1 fish in that category weighed an even nine pounds and was taken from Lake Ellerslie in 1969.

The next catch to make the record list weighed only one pound, seven ounces — but those are mammoth proportions for a rock bass. Rondell Pitcock, Louisville, caught the "red-eye" on a July evening out of Brashears Creek. It bettered the previous record of one pound, set in 1971.

July 26 was the memorable day for William Price, Murfreesboro, Tenn. Price was trolling Kentucky Lake when a six-pound, one-ounce sauger latched onto his bomber lure. The new record sauger tops the old champ, caught in '68, by a full two pounds — a pretty sound margin as far as sauger go. Price's trophy measured 24 inches in length and a hefty 15 inches in girth.

It would appear that this new record may be safe for some time.

The last record to enter the books for '72 was the 14-pound, six-ounce trout pictured in the November issue of HHG. Jim Mattingly, Somerset, landed the giant rainbow on a tiny 1/16 ounce spinner and four-pound test line. The old record was a very respectable 13-pound, 12-ounce fish caught in March '71.

But back to the present. Already a new record muskellunge is on the list. The 42-pound musky was taken by Glen Terrell, Morehead, Feb. 23 from the Licking River. His catch tops the former record from the Green River by a rather slim two pounds, two ounces. Just above we noted that two pounds is a wide margin in the sauger division. With muskies, a two-pound difference is close indeed. If and when a new record musky is landed, it probably won't exceed the present fish by much more than a few pounds — or a few ounces.

Yes, records are sometimes determined by mere ounces. Ask W. L. Carter, Jr., Anderson County. Last fall he caught one of the finest largemouth bass ever taken from Kentucky waters — a 13-pound, 4-ounce lunker. And he took it on four-pound line from a farm pond. But was it a record? No. The enormous fish was just five ounces shy of taking over the top spot in the bass category. Five ounces. So, the 1966 trophy from Greenbo Lake still reigns.

Another sad-but-true tale concerns a 100-pound blue catfish caught below Kentucky Lake in 1970 by the late Jewell Copeland, Benton. Copeland knew the mighty tailwaters perhaps like nobody else — before or since. His exacting methods of fish locating didn't involve fancy depth-finders or electronic devices. Rather, it was the old technique of triangulation, but with a novel twist. Instead of aligning on two or three points to find his favorite catfish cavern, he lined up his



Young ALMA (ELLINGTON)
BELLAMY COOLS HER
HEELS AS HER MOTHER
MARIE PADDLES THE BOAT
ACROSS TREACHEROUS
LICKING RIVER. ALMA'S
GRANDMOTHER MARY
AND BROTHER LOWELL
ALSO ENJOY THE RIDE.
PHOTO TAYLOR ELLINGTON.
C. 1940.

104 3cols

~~RESTAURANT~~
MADE SEW MOTOIN + 199R CITHDREIK
+ MOTHER IN = LAW
1. SETTING " PEOBLE ACROSS
LICKING RIVER -
19305

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
806-784-7473



ISAAC WALTON'S—Rowan County is one of the best fishing counties in Eastern Kentucky with many cool, fast running mountain streams, a lake, and private ponds. This is a scene taken on North Fork of Triplett, one of the few places in Kentucky where muskies are caught.

The Morehead News

MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY, THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 20, 1967

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TROUT STOCKING This is another load of rainbow trout fingerlings stocked in Rowan County streams during the week. Personnel of the U.S. Forest Service are in charge of the stocking, first time that trout have been placed in area streams. During the transfer in

this four-wheel drive vehicle an oxygen tank is used to keep the minnows alive. The fish come from a federal hatchery in Erwin, Tenn. They are being stocked in Slab Camp, Stone Coal and Cragney Creeks in Rowan County.

orrow . . .

Head Visitors

will play
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Fleming County, Greenup, Highlands, Hitchins, Kentucky School for the Blind, McKell, Martin, Lewis County, Meniffee County, Montgomery County, Morgan County, Nicholas County, Phelps, Salyersville, Sandy Hook, Simon Kenton, Follersboro, Wolfe County, Jefferson



Rep Men

Cancer Will Can M'head

Mrs. Larry F
Annual Cancer D
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for Monday, A
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Mrs. Fannin-
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Fire t Greg On

Dr. I. M. Garred Lands 35-Pound Musky; W. P. Lane Hooks 9½-Pound Largemouth

By DEAN EAGLE

Two whoppers punctuated last week's activity in The Courier-Journal Fishing Contest as the fever of enthusiasm among Kentuckiana anglers rose despite troubled waters and not-too-favorable atmosphere.

W. P. Lane, 2323 South Sixth, Louisville, landed a 9-pound, 8-ounce largemouth bass at Dale Hollow to take over top place in that division.

Dr. I. M. Garred, Morehead, owed a strong arm of plenty persistence to finally tow in a 35-pound musky. Yes, 35 big pounds, and the big fellow was fought with a spinner in Triplett Creek near Morehead.

Both of these rich experiences defy the theory, however, that you fish for relaxation. It was hard work.

Tried 'Just Once More'

Lane was casting along the shore line of a small inlet of Dale Hollow Lake near Star Point dock at Byrdstown, Tenn. It was cold, cloudy and windy but you know how a fisherman will try at last cast before giving up. Lane put on his favorite plug and went to work.

"When the fish struck it tugged the line in the submerged bushes and caused me a few nervous moments," Lane said.

"Before long it freed itself and finally gave up. I was certainly glad because the 15-pound test line couldn't have held much longer.

with proper rest and quiet I hope to get over it soon and go fishing again."

The fish measured 24½ inches in length and had a girth of 20 inches.

Top it if you can!

Sought 'Old Scrap Iron'

There's a legend back of Dr. Garred's success. The anglers of the Morehead area have spent many a day trying to catch "Old Scrap Iron" in Triplett Creek. Old Scrap Iron, so the story goes, is an old musky that has broken numerous fishing lines and upset several boats and tackle boxes. He is said to have enough spinners and spoons hanging to his jaws to start an average-size junkyard. His weight has been estimated from 60 to 75 pounds, and fishermen have begun to believe that Old Scrap Iron is being subsidized by fishing tackle dealers.

Having recently limbered up his arm casting for bass in Florida, Doctor Garred decided the time was fitting for a try at Old Scrap Iron. He had been kept up until 3 a.m. by an obstetrical case, "but we shoved off at about 5 a.m., invigorated by some of that good coffee my little wife

makes out of Triplett Creek water.

Lightning Hits Plug

"After casting for some time

and in the creek and one of the party remarked: "This is where Old Scrap Iron's brother ought to be."

"There was an old stump just a few feet above an old uprooted water birch tree and we aimed our plugs for this spot," Doctor Garred related. "I took two or three turns on my reel and lightning seemingly hit my rod. I told the boys I had Old Scrap Iron or his eldest son.

"There was considerable activity as he headed for the boat and went under it. He took out back up the creek. I had both thumbs on my reel and it was red hot. After a 30 or 40-yard dash, he swerved and came back under the boat again. Then he tried to go across the creek but decided the current was too swift; he went under the boat again.

Was Biggest Thrill

"We all decided he was ready to bring to gaff and one of my companions, Wilfred Waltz, was ready with a gaff-hook. George Hunt was ready with the landing net. Waltz' first stroke missed, and my spirits went down. But I worked him back and this time we made it. . . . We all lit up cigarettes, and Waltz and Hunt

held me steady my trembling arms to lift a lighter.

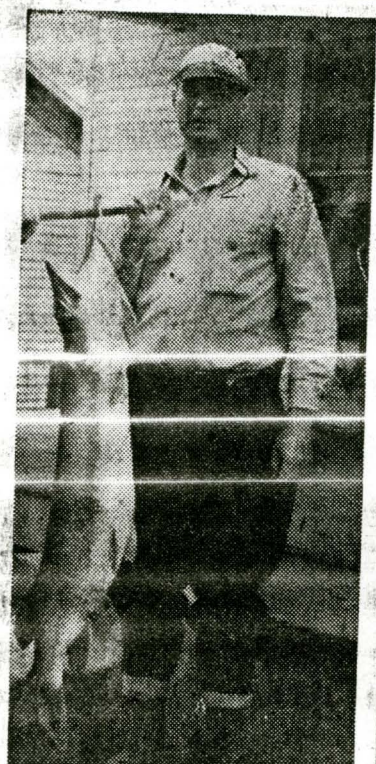
"I have killed big game in British Columbia, Alberta, Canada, and Alaska, but there is no thrill

in catching a 35-pound musky in a small log and stump-jammed creek like Triplett Creek."

Doctor Garred isn't sure whether he landed Old Scrap Iron or one of his cousins, but the 35-pounder will do until someone better his mark in the contest.

Graham Roth, Jr., of Louisville, pulled in a 2-pound 9-ounce crappie at Dale Hollow, using a minnow, and Pat Rankin of Stanford used a plug to capture a 6-pound 14-ounce largemouth at Dale Hollow.

A total of \$2,000 in tackle awards and hundreds of certificates will go to the champion fishermen in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. Go to your fishing-tackle dealer and ask him for an entry blank with the rules and list of prizes. It costs nothing to enter.



LEADING BASS—Top entry in the largemouth bass division of The Courier-Journal Fishing Contest is this 9-pound 8-ounce fellow caught by W. P. Lane.

35-POUND—Dr. I. M. Garred of Morehead displays the 35-pound musky he landed in Triplett Creek with arti-

Herman Meadows Maxine Caudill Wed

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Caudill of West Main Street announce the marriage of their daughter, Maxine, to Mr. H. M. "Satch" Meadows. The double ring ceremony was performed by the Reverend A. R. Perkins at Danville, Kentucky, Saturday morning, April 1, at eleven o'clock. Reverend Perkins is a former pastor of the Methodist Church in Morehead.

The bride was dressed in a suit of pale pink wool with navy blue accessories and wore a single white orchid as her corsage.

Mrs. Meadows attended school in Morehead at Gaucher College in Baltimore and Northwestern University at Chicago.

Mr. Meadows is the son of Dr. and Mrs. M. W. Meadows of Fullerton, Kentucky. He is an alumnus of Morehead State College and at present owns the Morehead City Bus Line and other business interests. He is well known in Horse Show circles throughout Kentucky and Ohio, having exhibited show horses annually in both states.

Immediately after the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Meadows left for an extended trip through the west, planning to spend several days in Mexico City.

Upon their return, they will be at home to their friends at their residence on Second Street

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Rowan Co News Apr. 14
Old Scrap Iron
May Be Back 1955

You may recall that several years ago Morehead stores that handled sporting goods offered several hundred dollars worth of hunting and fishing equipment to the person who could legally catch 'Old Scrap Iron'—the fabulous Triplett Creek muskie.

The story was widely publicized by metropolitan papers and the Associated Press released it.

'Old Scrap Iron' gradually faded from public attention, although the muskie has been a favorite topic of conservation whenever fishermen gather hereabouts.

Many people said they saw 'Old Scrap Iron'. Morgan Clayton, Herb Hogan and others aver they hooked the muskie several times but he broke their lines like thread.

Hoss Sorrell, who lives at Farmers, said he saw the muskie on several occasions . . . that it broke water like a submarine . . . was at least 18 inches between the eyes . . . six feet long . . . and as big as a young calf.

Perhaps, these stories are exaggerated, but there is little question the big muskie existed.

This week 'Old Scrap Iron' is back in the public eye. There are several reports that a fish of great size has been spotted in the High Bank Hole of Triplett. This is 'Old Scrap Iron's territory.

Many muskies have been caught in Rowan County this month, most of them on North Fork of Licking. But, none are as big as the 35 and 40 pounders that Dr. I. M. Garred, Van Green, Pete Brown and others landed in years gone by. Largest this spring is a reported 20 pounder.

Fishing is better in creeks and the river of this area than in some years and the weather has been cooperating wonderfully.

Joe Tolliver landed a seven pound bass in Spring Grove Lake Sunday . . . many came in with nice strings . . . Gilbert Jones, Tommy Caudill and Chin Clayton have been going out every day and have several muskies from four to eight pounds and some good bass to show for their efforts.

There are country newspaper editors who would enjoy a 40 hour week immensely.

Local Legends ~~of~~ Legends
Legends of Rowan County

SUNKEN BARGE LOADED WITH
STONE ON KICKING RIVER

WARREN W. ALDERSON'S SINKING
HIS BOAT IN OHIO RIVER

GOLD MINE RIDGE

MURDER BRANCH -

SWAMP SILVER MINE

MOONSHIER - REV. HOOBS

ROBT AL FOLEY ^{Lex Steward} LEGENDARY RIVER MAN

Rafting

Local Legends Legends
John Paul & Mort Ellington

throwing dynamite in the
River - and then lost

Boat retrieving it?

GOLD MINE RIDGE

MURDER BRANCH ^{COLD} CAVE

^{HUGE STONES}
ROCK ON SUNKEN BARGE

CANNON
BOAT BARKS ON SUNKEN
AT MOON'S FERRY

Local Trivia

Licking River tales

■ Roll Alfrey was one of the most efficient fishermen who ever fished the Licking River. He knew where the fish lived, ate and slept.

History

About the Author



Dr. Jack Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library director and a retired minister.

Morehead Memories:

People & Places

Fishing for food

By JACK D. ELLIS
Special to The Morehead News

Simon Peter said: "I go a fishing" — John 21:3

The early settlers along the Licking River in Rowan County reported the river and its tributaries were teeming

with fish. Those hearty pioneers were not sportsmen, they were looking for food and fish was considered a delicacy.

They used the most efficient method to provide that food for the table.

Fish traps were made from wooden slats formed in a

barrel shape with an inverted funnel at one end. Those traps were baited with ears of corn and were effective in catching cat fish. But their traps were frequently washed away by floods.

Another early method of fishing was called "graveling." That method involved finding a hollow log under water where fish were nesting, and stop up one end of the log and dive under the water and run a line or rope through the fish's mouth and out the gills. Then the fish would be hauled up to the surface. The fish would not leave their nest with anyone nearby, and as a child I was with my dad when he caught a 48 pound catfish using that method.

Rowan County's early legendary Licking River fisherman, Roll Alfrey, told my dad where that log was located and sure enough there was a huge catfish there. (We shared the fish fillets with all the neighbors since there was no means of refrigeration then.)

Roll Alfrey was one of the most efficient fishermen who ever fished the Licking River. He knew where the fish lived, ate and slept. He practically lived in the river and would catch the fish alive, put them in a barrel of water and sell them to Morehead stores. He helped provide local residents with about the only fresh fish they could get unless they caught them themselves.

On one occasion, Mr. Alfrey was almost drowned by a huge catfish. He would swim under the water with a gaff hook tied to his hand, and hook a fish and bring it to the surface. But he hooked one fish that



Young Alma (Ellington) Bellamy cools her heels as her mother Marie paddles the boat across treacherous Licking River. Alma's grandmother Mary and brother Lowell also enjoy the ride. Photo by Taylor Ellington, circa 1940.

fields there was a small creek that emptied into the Licking and when the river flooded, it backed up into the small stream.

My grandfather kept a wire gate open at the mouth of the creek. When the river flooded, it backed up into the small stream and spread out over the field. He would then go down and close the gate and when the river ran down, there was always lots of fish trapped on the dry land. It was a very efficient way of catching fish.

My grandmother, Mary Ellis, was more of a sportsman because she loved to fish with a cane pole using worms for bait. After her weekly work was finished, she put on her bannet and approached

ran wild and free. It frequently flooded, washing away topsoil and trees. All of that debris made the river difficult to fish and hazardous to cross in a boat. But those with initiative could manage to catch fish among the drifts.

As a teenager fishing the Licking River, I used trotlining as the accepted legal method of fishing. Using a small rowboat, we stretched heavy string (staging) across the river from one bank to the other. Then a three foot string with a hook tied to the end was tied every three feet across the river. (Those hooks were baited with crawfish that were caught in small streams.) Then the lines were weighted down with rocks and the work

again at daybreak. It was always a two or three man job. One paddled and the other lifted the lines, removing the fish and re-baiting the hooks. (In the darkness one person was needed to hold the light.) Fish could usually be caught using this method.

The unwritten law of the river was you never bothered anyone else's trotline. One man was murdered because he was accused of stealing the fish from another man's trotline. The man was given a light sentence.

Van Green was the local game warden and avid sportsman. He patrolled the river in an attempt to catch those that fished illegally, particularly those that used



This giant catfish, caught in Lower Licking in Rowan County by Lawrence Johnson, left, and Dr. I.M. Garrad, 1940s.

Roll Alfrey was one of the most efficient fishermen who ever fished the Licking River. He knew where the fish lived, ate and slept.

FISHING



State University Library director and a retired minister.

Morehead Memories:

People & Places

Fishing for food

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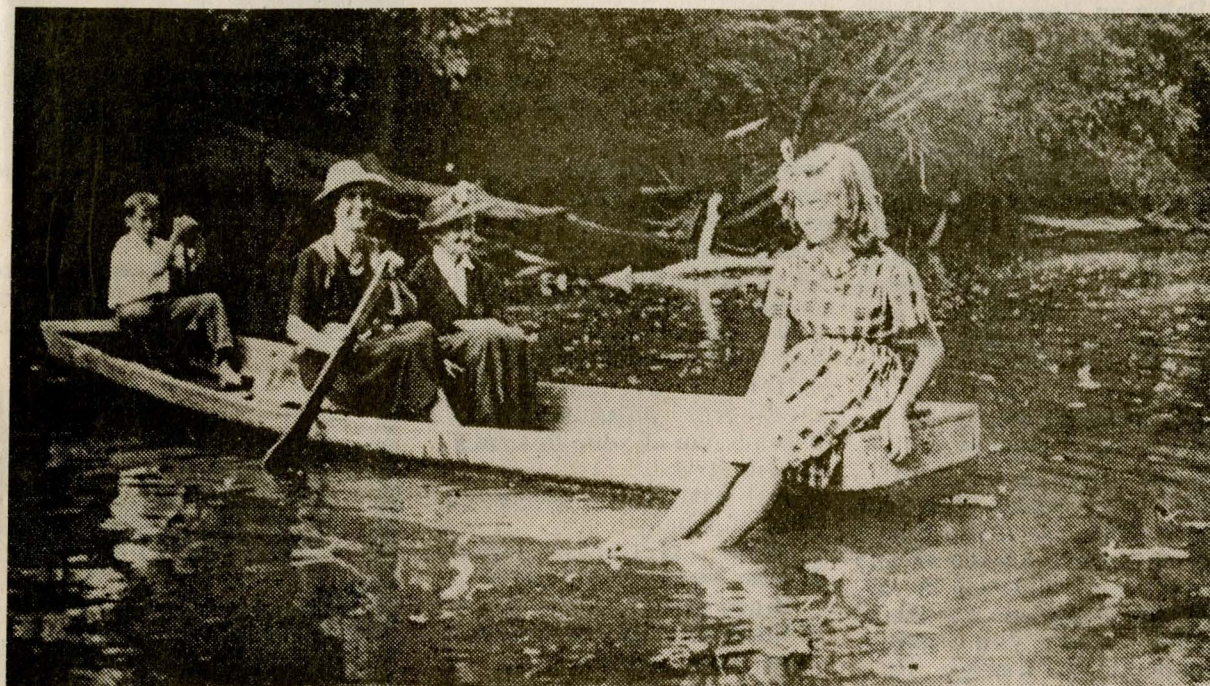
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Rowan County's early legendary Licking River fisherman, Roll Alfrey, told my dad where that log was located and sure enough there was a huge catfish there. (We shared the fish fillets with all the neighbors since there was no means of refrigeration then.)

Roll Alfrey was one of the most efficient fishermen who ever fished the Licking River. He knew where the fish lived, ate and slept. He practically lived in the river and would catch the fish alive, put them in a barrel of water and sell them to Morehead stores. He helped provide local residents with about the only fresh fish they could get unless they caught them themselves.

On one occasion, Mr. Alfrey was almost drowned by a huge catfish. He would swim under the water with a gaff hook tied to his hand, and hook a fish and bring it to the surface. But he hooked one fish that took him to the bottom of the river and he was tied to the hook. He finally freed himself and swam to the surface without the fish.

My grandfather, John Ellis, had a large river bottom farm near what is now the Clay Lick boat dock. In one of his



Young Alma (Ellington) Bellamy cools her heels as her mother Marie paddles the boat across treacherous Licking River. Alma's grandmother Mary and brother Lowell also enjoy the ride. Photo by Taylor Ellington, circa 1940.

fields there was a small creek that emptied into the Licking and when the river flooded, it backed up into the small stream.

My grandfather kept a wire gate open at the mouth of the creek. When the river flooded, it backed up into the small stream and spread out over the field. He would then go down and close the gate and when the river ran down, there was always lots of fish trapped on the dry land. It was a very efficient way of catching fish.

My grandmother, Mary Ellis, was more of a sportsman because she loved to fish with a cane pole using worms for bait. After her weekly work was finished, she put on her bonnet and apron and we would dig worms. Then she would take me and my aunt, Anna Ellis (Earley), fishing. I was five or six years old when I began fishing in the Licking. That was many years before Cave Run Dam was built.

Before its waters were impounded, the Licking River

ran wild and free. It frequently flooded, washing away topsoil and trees. All of that debris made the river difficult to fish and hazardous to cross in a boat. But those with initiative could manage to catch fish among the drifts.

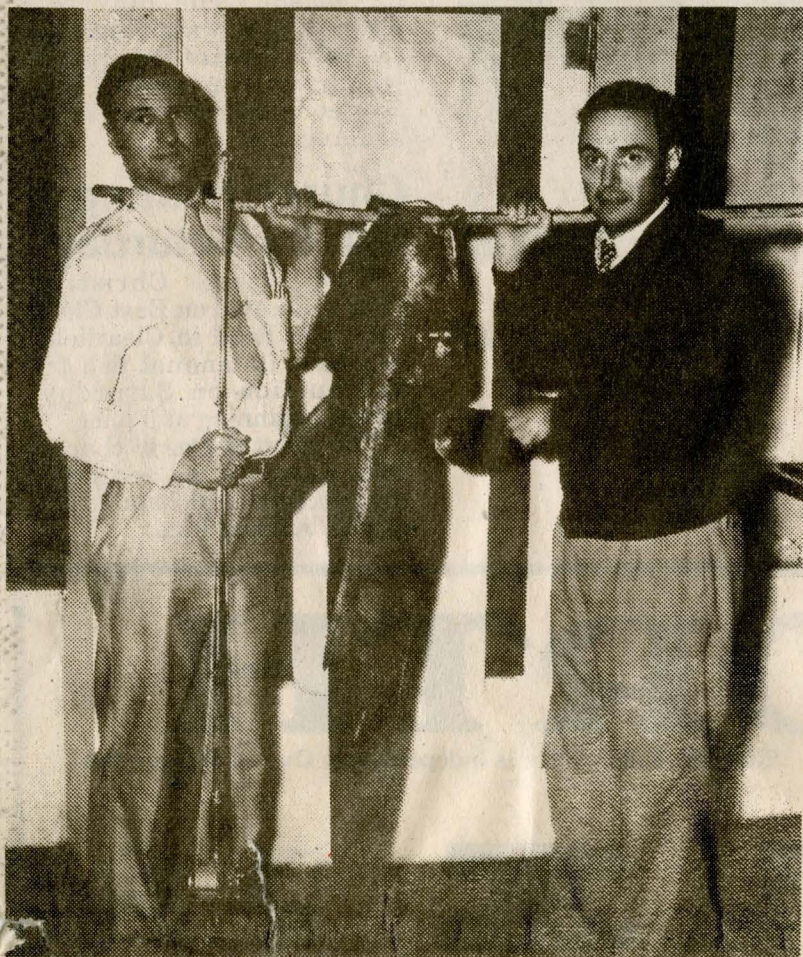
As a teenager fishing the Licking River, I used trotlining as the accepted legal method of fishing. Using a small rowboat, we stretched heavy string (staging) across the river from one bank to the other. Then a three foot string with a hook tied to the end was tied every three feet across the river. (Those hooks were baited with crawfish that were caught in small streams.) Then the lines were weighted down with rocks and the work was over.

You would usually run the trotlines about midnight and

again at daybreak. It was always a two or three man job. One paddled and the other lifted the lines, removing the fish and re-baiting the hooks. (In the darkness one person was needed to hold the light.) Fish could usually be caught using this method.

The unwritten law of the river was you never bothered anyone else's trotline. One man was murdered because he was accused of stealing the fish from another man's trotline. The man was given a light sentence.

Van Green was the local game warden and avid sportsman. He patrolled the river in an attempt to catch those that fished illegally, particularly those that used



This giant catfish, caught in Lower Licking in Rowan County by Lawrence Johnson, left, and Dr. I.M. Garrad. 1940s.

See FISH on B-11

Fish

From B-10

bait by "Dupont." (That was a quarter stick of dynamite tossed into the river.)

One man and his son were notorious for using that method. On one occasion, the men lit a stick of dynamite and tossed it into the river. Immediately their dog dived into the river and retrieved the dynamite. The men ran as fast as they could as the dog came swimming toward the

shore clenching the dynamite in its teeth as the fuse burned brightly. About the time the dog reached the river bank, there was a loud "boom". They lost a good retriever!

One man lost more than a good dog using that illegal method of fishing. He lit the fuse on the quarter-stick of dynamite and held the stick too long. He lost his hand.

Later issue: fishing for fun.



Glen Terrell, one of Rowan's early fishermen, lands huge catfish. This 44 pound, 48 inch lunker was caught in the Chairty Branch section of Licking River.

Local Trivia

Record Fish

■ Glen Terrell's state record for muskie stood for 25 years until it was broken in 1998 by another muskie taken from Cave Run Lake.

SECTION C

History

THE MOREHEAD NEWS, JULY 19

About the Author



Dr. Jack Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library director and a retired minister.

Morehead Memories:

People & Places

Fishing for the fun of a state record

By JACK D. ELLIS
Special to The Morehead News

"Peter said I go a fishing... and they said we will go also" (John 21:3).

Every fisherman dreams of catching a record breaking fish but few ever realize that dream. But there are those who may have caught a record breaker and it ended up in their stomach rather than in the record books.

Local muskie fisherman Glen Terrell said he used to fish a lot with "Chin" Clayton who owned the old Eagles Nest Restaurant, and they would bring their catch back and would fry their catch.

Another reason that some record size fish never ended up in the record books was the failure to verify that the fish was caught legally. One huge muskie that used to hang in the Perry hardware store was probably a record, but it could never be verified that it was caught legally.

But one Rowan County resident Glen Terrell did bother to verify one of his fish caught Licking River in 1973 that turned out to be 52 inches and weighed 42 pounds. It was a Kentucky state record for a muskie.

Record stood for 25 years

Glen Terrell's state record for muskie stood for 25 years until it was broken in 1998 by another muskie taken from Cave Run Lake. The new record is 44 pounds. Terrell modestly said records are made to be broken and his was finally broken. But he continues to search out the elusive fish and caught his last one

ting trot lines and casting from a boat. It was during his high school years that he became fascinated by the challenge of catching the elusive fighting muskie that could be found in the cool fast-running streams of Rowan County.

Old Scrap Iron was a legendary giant muskie that inhabited Triplett Creek, Licking River for many years but was never landed.

Although Glen never really fished for old "Scrap Iron" he is one of the most successful muskie fishermen in this region. He caught his first muskie in 1940 while wading the North Fork of Licking. Over the years he estimated he has averaged catching two or three Muskie every year.

Considering that it is estimated that it requires an average of 20 hours fishing for each muskie landed, and that many people fish for years without ever landing a keeper muskie, that is an amazing feat. (Certainly Glen doesn't require 20 hours fishing for each Muskie he has caught.)

Morehead's most efficient muskie fisherman

Before the Cave Run Dam was built Glen and his brother caught 11 in one day wading in the North Fork of Licking. That was the most he ever caught in one day. One year he landed a keeper while fly fishing in the same stream. That is no small feat as any fly fisherman would tell you. He also caught five keepers another time in one day while wading that very same stream.

In 1973, the year Cave Run Lake was filling up, Glen caught four muskie while fish-



Two of four muskies caught by Bill Hall, left, and Glen Terrell in 1973. The four monsters weighed 86 pounds.

where the tailwater quietly returns to the Licking. Those four muskie weighed a total of 86 pounds. This writer saw those four fish in the back of Glen's pickup truck and I've never forgotten that sight. I have never seen that many muskie at one time and they seemed to fill up the back of his pickup truck bed.

On February 23, 1973, Glen Terrell caught his state record 52 inch, 42 pound muskie in the Lower Licking River below the dam. Since it was within a few miles of where old "Scrap Iron" stayed, one would like to think it was that old fish. However, Lew Kornwald, fishing biologist at the Cave Run Fish Hatchery, says that 10 years is a long life for a muskie in these waters. But it might have been old "Scrap Iron's" descendants.

Also Mr. Kornwald said, "that muskie will not reproduce in Cave Run Lake as well

as they did in the free running streams before the dam was built." Therefore they restock the lake every year with muskie.

Glen Terrell readily admits that he has no secret to catching muskie. He says that muskie are very territorial and if you get a strike and don't land the fish, it will usually remain in the same area. He has actually gone back to the same hole of water for five straight days before landing a

See FISHING on C-2

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Glen Terrell was born in Rowan County, Kentucky. He was the son of Columbus and Arntie (Hardin) Terrell. He attended the Rowan County schools, and upon graduation married Ruby Caudill. They have one daughter, Peggy.

Glen began fishing before he was old enough to go to school. He would use a spool of his mother's heavy gauge black sewing thread for a line and make his own hook, line and bobber. Then he would dig some worms for bait and then go fishing in the North Fork of Licking River. Glen Terrell has been fishing the waters of this region since 1935.

As a high school lad he and his friends would often camp for a week at a time along the banks of the Licking River near Paragon, Kentucky, set-

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Three keeper muskies caught trolling near the Clay Lick boat ramp in 1997 by Glen Terrell.

Fishing From C-1



This 52 inch, 42 pound muskie monster was caught in the Licking River by Glen Terrell in 1973. It was a state record for 25 years.

fish that has hit his bait earlier. Also if they are biting, they will strike about anything you throw at them. If not, they won't bite no matter what you throw at them. He has said that he had one muskie to actually take his bait after he had reeled it in and it was out of the water beside the boat when the fish struck.

Muskie bite better empty

and late in the day

has had the most success trolling in water 15-18 feet deep.

There are many record breaking descendants of the legendary old "Scrap Iron" remaining to be caught in Licking River and Cave Run Lake. So who knows where the next record breaking muskie may be landed.

NOTICE

Next Week

Riding the Rails

■ While railroad travel does not exist in Rowan County today, it once was a viable means of transportation.

SECTION C

History

THE MOREHEAD NEWS, March 3, 2000

About the Author



Dr. Jack Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library director and a retired minister.

Morehead Memories:

People & Places

Legends of the Licking

By Jack D. Ellis
Guest Writer

"Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a sure foundation." (Isaiah 28:16)

From the beginning, Rowan County was known for the rich deposits of stone that lay beneath its soil.

The county contained a number of quarries for mining, dressing and sawing stone. There were six to eight stratum of stone that ranged from several inches to several feet thickness throughout Rowan County.

The stone was especially desirable for building abutments for bridges because of its durability. Also, when exposed to the air and sunshine, the stone tended to become even harder.

Mystery stones deposited along river

There was one deposit of stone that has contributed to one of the many "legends of the Licking" River.

Those were large stones deposited, not by mother nature, but mysteriously deposited by early stone workers on a sand bar, and in the edge of a cornfield on retired county judge Ott Caldwell's farm on the lower Licking River.

Judge Caldwell pointed out that there are 44 roughly hand-hewn, rectangular shaped blue stones weighing as much as one or two tons.

Although the stones were originally in the river, over the years, when the river was low, Mr. Caldwell pulled many of them out of the river with a bulldozer (a tractor would not pull them out).

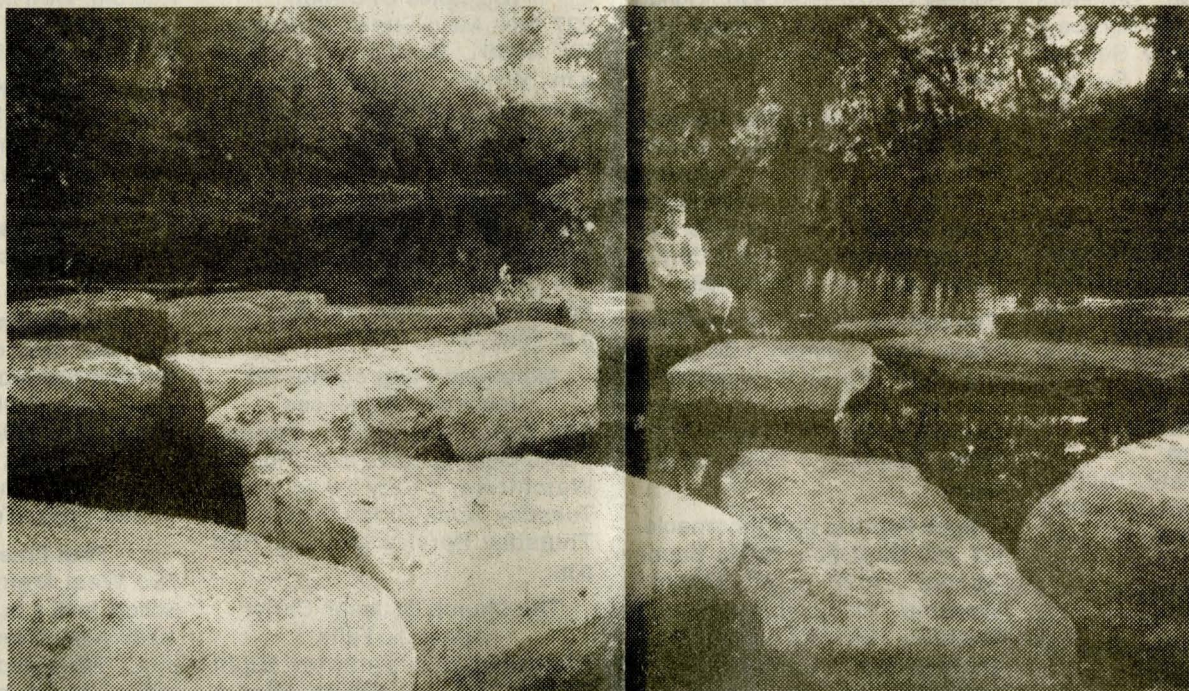
The question remains today in that "legend of the Licking," where did they come from, and how and when did they get there and where were they going?

It would appear that Rowan County has its own answer to England's Stonehenge.

There are timbers from what appear to be parts of a barge or raft still visible when the river is low. There are poplar logs as much as 60 feet in length that could have formed a rough raft. But where were the stones mined and how did they get there?

That is the question!

The mystery deepens



Stones being shipped from Farmers down the Licking River on a barge that sunk, adjacent to retired judge Ott Caldwell's farm. This photo, where Caldwell sits atop

the stones, shows Bath County on the right and Rowan County on the left. Caldwell pulled several of the stones out of the river with a bulldozer.

the bottom of the hill. (Before the dam was constructed). It seemed to this writer that the Lexington cliff theory was the more plausible theory.

That is because the stone would not have to have been transported over level ground to reach the river. It could have been mined on top of the hill, and winched straight down the steep hillside directly onto a raft.

Therefore, the Lexington cliff theory seems the best explanation of how those mysterious stones came to be deposited in that lower Licking cornfield on the river bank.

The legend seemed to be that a company of soldiers with the corps of engineers spent months in that area mining and loading the stone on a large poplar raft.

When it was fully loaded and the river was a flood stage, they departed down river on their heavily loaded raft. At what is now Judge Caldwell's farm, the river makes a sharp bend and that is where the raft obviously sank.

It would be extremely difficult to sink a raft of poplar logs, but the weight was too much for the swift current and the treacherous river.

Therefore, the raft failed to make the turn in

They took 19 women and children captive and fled east. The men returned from their hunting trip several hours later, and followed in hot pursuit.

The trail led them down Beaver Creek, where they overtook the raiding party that had been slowed down by the women and children.

The Indians took their captives up the small creek where they took refuge in the cold, dark cave.

Helpless captives murdered

The men from Morgan Station followed up the stream and trapped the Indians with their exhausted captives.

However, the Indians bludgeoned to death

those women and children too weak to keep up. As the men from Morgan Station moved up the small creek, they could hear the screams of the dying and see the small branch flowing with the blood of those who were murdered.

The Indians managed to escape across the Ohio river with a few of their captives. That Indian raid was considered the last attack on a white settlement in Kentucky.

But it was a gruesome legendary attack and the name of that small branch can attest to that fact. Murder Branch and Murder Cave are part of the "legends of the Licking."

Corrections

In proof that many, many people read every word of Morehead Memories - People and Places, the following clarification is printed in response to questions about the following two articles:

.....

On Feb. 4, 2000, the article read "Christy's owned where the Big 4 Lumber Company and Lewis Strip Mall are now located." However, the Christy's did not own where the Big 4 Lumber Company is now located, but did own where the Lewis Strip Mall is now located. The late Henry C. Brown owned where the Big 4 Lumber Company is now located.

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On Feb. 23, 2000, in "Carving Out a County," after describing in great detail the boundaries of Rowan County that followed the Licking River, the article stated: "Those boundaries have been changed only once when the Licking changed its course in Farmers in the early 1900s."

A caller said the boundary did not change. But it seems to this writer that one could say the boundary changed because it no longer followed the Licking River in Farmers, as stated in the property description - but is now where the old river bed used to be. Legally, the boundary is unchanged because the Robert Alley farm that appears to be clearly in Rowan County does still pay his taxes in Bath County.

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The mystery deepens

The Licking was considered a navigable stream at one time, at least as far up river as Rowan County.

There was a steamboat that ran on the river before the railroad was built in 1881. Old time residents Ollie Swim and Charlie Stevens remembered hearing about a company of soldiers coming to Rowan in the period between the Civil War and the arriving of the railroad.

The soldiers did the mining, cutting and loading of the stone. Some older residents reported the stone came from the Freestone (Farmers) Quarry.

Others believed it came from the Rockville (Bluestone) Quarry. Either of those theories would have involved a great engineering feat to get them to the Licking River.

To be brought from Bluestone meant they had to be first floated down Triplett Creek to the Licking River. That did not seem feasible to this writer.


It seemed more plausible those mysterious stones came from the Freestone Quarry. That would have been more plausible to have accomplished that before the river changed its course. At that time, it ran much closer to the stone quarry than it now does and that made it seem more of a possibility.

Lexington cliff theory

There is another story told by old time residents, that the stone came from Lexington cliff (located near where the Clay Lick boat dock is today). The Lexington cliff is located about 10 miles up river from Mr. Caldwell's farm and this writer knows full well where it is located.

As a child I climbed the hills and walked under those huge stone overhangs.

There is a huge outcropping of stone on top of the hill and the Licking River is directly at



Stones being shipped from Farmers down the Licking River on a barge that sunk, adjacent to retired judge Ott Caldwell's farm. This photo, where Caldwell sits atop

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When it was fully loaded and the river was a flood stage, they departed down river on their heavily loaded raft. At what is now Judge Caldwell's farm, the river makes a sharp bend and that is where the raft obviously sank.

It would be extremely difficult to sink a raft of poplar logs, but the weight was too much for the swift current and the treacherous river.

Therefore, the raft failed to make the turn in the river and sank with the stone cargo. However, the destination of the stone is unknown today. Also, it is unknown if there was any loss of life when the raft went down. Those questions still remain as mysterious and are just a part of one of the legends of the Licking.

Murder Branch and Cave

Before the Cave Run Dam slowed the flow of the Licking, it was a wild river with a swift current and treacherous under-tows. As one traveled the river in a row boat, its tributaries could clearly be seen.

One such tributary was Beaver Creek which entered the Licking about eight miles up stream from Farmers near the tri-county area of Bath, Menifee and Rowan counties.

About two miles up Beaver Creek into Menifee County, there was a small stream called Murder Branch. Local residents never used the full name, they simply referred to it as Murder. At the head of Murder are rugged, foreboding towering cliffs with a dark ominous cave called Murder Cave.

During this writer's childhood, my Uncle John T. Williams lived with his family at the mouth of Murder (where it emptied into Beaver Creek). I recall visiting my cousin, Rodney Williams, when they lived at the mouth of Murder.

While there, we walked to the head of the hollow and saw the towering cliffs and I learned the story of how the creek and the cave got their name.

Last Indian raid

It was April 1773, while the men from Morgan's Station in Montgomery County were away from the settlement on a hunting trip, that a raiding party of Shawnee Indians attacked the defenseless fort.

the stones, shows Bath County on the right and Rowan County on the left. Caldwell pulled several of the stones out of the river with a bulldozer.

They took 19 women and children captive and fled east. The men returned from their hunting trip several hours later, and followed in hot pursuit.

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Local Trivia

Fish Tales

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SECTION C

History

THE MOREHEAD NEWS, JUNE 21

About the Author



Dr. Jack Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library director and a retired minister.

Morehead Memories:

People & Places

Legend of 'Old Scrap Iron'

By Jack D. Ellis
Special to The Morehead News

"And Peter said to them, I go a fishing." (John 21:3).

The cool fast running streams of Rowan County have provided some of the best Muskie fishing in Kentucky. That giant fighting game fish has spawned many legends over the years. One of those was the legend of old "Scrap Iron," so named because when he took your bait, it was like pulling in a huge piece of iron.

In the late 1940s several Morehead stores that sold fishing equipment offered several hundred dollars in prizes to the one that could legally land the legendary Muskie. The story was widely publicized and picked up by the Associated Press. That resulted in a flood of fishermen coming to the area seeking the giant fish. Many hooked the fish but nobody could land it.

The legend grows

Rowan County Jailer "Hoss" Sorrell had several unsuccessful battles with the legendary Muskie. He declared, "It broke water like a submarine and was six foot long, eighteen inches between the eyes and as big as a young calf." Local residents knew "Hoss" was prone to exaggerate, but there was no doubt that a large Muskie plied the waters of Triplett Creek near the Licking River.

He was hooked, but never boated by such local fishermen

as Herb Hogan, "Chin" Clayton, Tommy Caudill, Luster J. "Buck" Brown, Joe Tolliver and Jimmy Reynolds.

Muskie fisherman Reynolds

James Reynolds, the son of Anna and Jim Reynolds, is life-long Muskie fisherman. He was born in Morehead, Kentucky and attended Breckinridge School and Morehead State College. He married Alice Patrick and they have four children: Mary, Cindy, Jim Jr. and Virginia.

James dropped out of college in 1948 and opened Jim's Sports Shop on Morehead's Main Street. It was the first sporting goods only business in eastern Kentucky. He sold the business to Rowan County Sheriff Sam Green in 1952.

Jimmy, as he is called by his friends, has been an avid angler for over six decades. He recalled when he was six years old, he would slip out of his house before breakfast and his mother would find him fishing in Triplett Creek above the old dam in Morehead.

He began fishing in Licking River in the 1940s long before the Cave Run Dam was built. During World War II, he would often catch a string of fish and trade them for bacon, which was rationed during the war years.

In the early 1940s, Jim caught his first Muskie on a fly rod as he waded up North Fork of Triplett Creek while fishing for Crappie. From that



Local businessman Pat McGary displays his 10 pound bass caught in 1956. It took third place in the state that year. Daughter Mary Lou (left) and neighbor Cindy Reynolds smile their approval.

time on he was "hooked" on Muskie fishing and has been seeking the elusive game fish ever since.

He recalled that his older brother, Dr. Sam Reynolds' life long ambition was to catch a keeper Muskie, but was never able to land one. He even went to Canada one year for three weeks trying to catch a keeper Muskie, but was unsuccessful. But while his brother was in Canada, Jim caught five Muskie in one week in Rowan County.

The old angler recalls he caught his biggest Muskie in the 1950s. It was a female and weighed in at about 35 pounds. However, it had just spawned out, and the game

powerful, it broke his special Muskie rod and went under a huge drift. There the fish hooked the bait on the bottom of the drift and literally shook the huge drift and soon succeeded in dislodging the bait. Many fishermen sought old "Scrap Iron" over the years, but no one ever boated the fish because he would run under one of those giant drifts

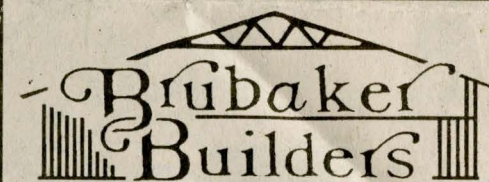
and dislodge the bait. Those who hooked the fish estimated it to be about five feet long. Years before Cave Run Dam was ever built, Jim Reynolds would serve as a guide for people fishing for Muskie. He said he never charged for that service, but

See LEGEND on C-2

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"Morehead Memories"

by Jack D. Ellis



who could legally land the legendary Muskie.

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Local businessman Pat McGary displays his 10 pound bass caught in 1956. It took third place in the state that year. Daughter Mary Lou (left) and neighbor Cindy Reynolds smile their approval.

time on he was "hooked" on Muskie fishing and has been seeking the elusive game fish ever since.

He recalled that his older brother, Dr. Sam Reynolds' life long ambition was to catch a keeper Muskie, but was never able to land one. He even went to Canada one year for three weeks trying to catch a keeper Muskie, but was unsuccessful. But while his brother was in Canada, Jim caught five Muskie in one week in Rowan County.

The old angler recalls he caught his biggest Muskie in the 1950s. It was a female and weighed in at about 35 pounds. However, it had just spawned out, and the game warden estimated it would have weighed close to 45 pounds if he had caught it before it spawned. Later the legend of old "Scrap Iron" caught his attention as well as the other fishermen in the area. He "almost" landed the big Muskie a couple of times.

powerful, it broke his special Muskie rod and went under a huge drift. There the fish hooked the bait on the bottom of the drift and literally shook the huge drift and soon succeeded in dislodging the bait. Many fishermen sought old "Scrap Iron" over the years, but no one ever boated the fish because he would run under one of those giant drifts

and dislodge the bait.

Those who hooked the fish estimated it to be about five feet long. Years before Cave Run Dam was ever built, Jim Reynolds would serve as a guide for people fishing for Muskie. He said he never charged for that service, but

See LEGEND on C-2

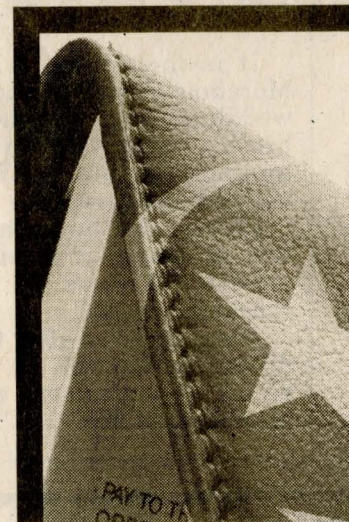
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Battling old "Scrap Iron"
Jim recalled when he hooked the monster Muskie the first time, it spit out the bait and got away. Determined to catch the fish, he bought a new special Muskie bait, rod and heavy test line and returned two days later to the same hole of water.

Within a few minutes the fish struck again and was so



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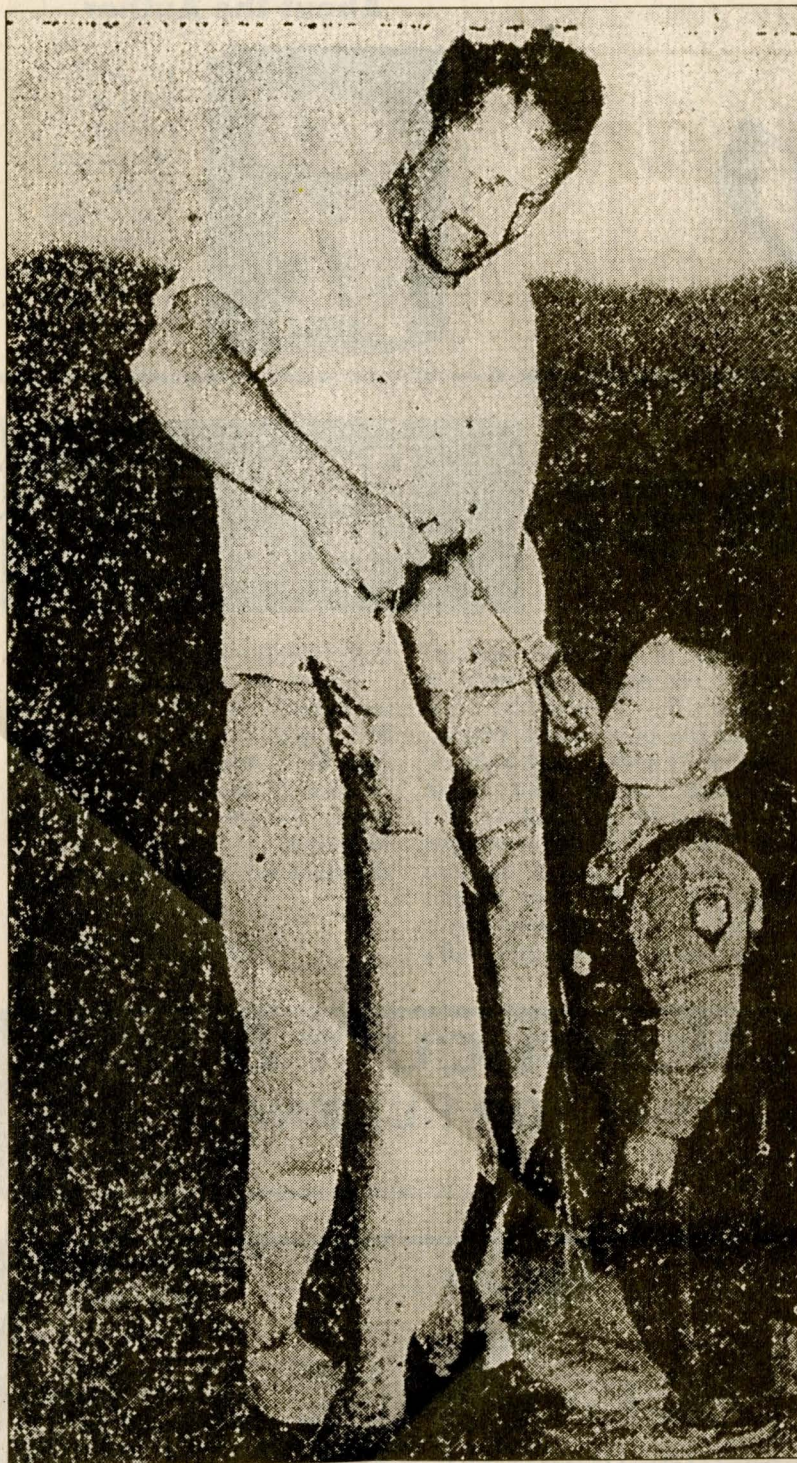


Photo by Clyde Cooley
Trophy muskie displayed by Luster "Buck" Brown, taken in the Licking River in 1955. The fish was longer than his son.



Breck High School student Jimmy Reynolds in the early 1940s, when he caught his first muskie.

Educators could receive mini-grant for classroom

Area educators with new plans for their classrooms are invited to participate in a Morehead State University mini-grant program to help turn those plans into reality.

The MSU chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, a national, professional organization for educators, in partnership with ProNet, has initiated the grants project as part of the Partnership Development in Kentucky to Support Public Education (PDK-SPE).

The mini-grants, awarded in amounts up to \$400, will be used to implement education-related student-centered projects designed to improve learning in reading, writing, mathematics, science, business, arts and humanities. Educators are eligible to apply for the grant to support programs that directly impact students in the classroom for the school year 2002-2003, according to Dr. Dora Ahmadi, MSU associate professor of mathematics and project director of the PDK-SPE.

"Any teacher from K-12

statewide who wants to apply may do so," she said. "This will be helpful to educators who have an idea for something new in their classrooms and the grants will help provide funding."

To apply, interested individuals should submit a proposal transmittal form, proposed budget and narrative description. The description should include the need for the program, a brief explanation of the student population, how learning is impacted, evaluation methods and all participating personnel.

A committee of PDK professional educators will review all applications. Proposals will be reviewed on the basis of several criteria, including likelihood of success. A program evaluation report will be due after project completion.

Completed proposals, due by Dec. 1, should be sent to PDK-SPE Review Committee, Morehead State University, UPO 985, Morehead, KY 40351.

Legend From C-1

fished right along with them.

There was a group of men who came to Morehead from Cincinnati and he would guide them to the Muskie fishing spots. They were usually successful in catching Muskie. Jim recalled taking Ray Griffith and Claude Glover Jr. on one fishing trip where each man caught their first Muskie. After that they were both "hooked" on Muskie fishing. Others he fished with included Bob Mutters and Pat McGary. They caught five in one week, but never could catch old "Scrap Iron." He or his ancestors are still lurking out there somewhere in the waters of Cave Run Lake or Licking River.

Later: Catching a record breaking Muskie.

Policy

It is the policy of The Morehead News to accept wedding and engagement, birth and birthday announcements, with or without photographs.

www.moreheadnewsgroup.com

SPECIAL SURPLUS PROPERTY SALE ANNOUNCED

TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2002, 9AM-3PM

- * Auditorium Seating * Study Carrels * Round Tables *
- * Oblong Tables * Student Desks * Lighted Table *
- * Filing Cabinets * Chairs * Podiums * Tabletop Podiums *
- * Wooden Doors * Metal Doors * Bookshelves *

ALL ITEMS PURCHASED MUST BE REMOVED BY 3:00 P.M. THE DATE OF THE SALE

SOME OF THE ITEMS MAY BE VIEWED AT THIS ADDRESS:

www.moreheadstate.edu/units/support/specialsale

Location: Brown & Williamson Tobacco Company
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