

Fishing



By
"The Crappie Catcher"
Crappie Catcher Tips

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RAPID TEMPERATURE changes will kill minnows. Insulated bait containers will inhibit rapid change in temperature and will keep the bait much better. Picnic iceboxes are ideal as bait boxes. Styrofoam boxes are good because they sort of breathe keeping the water cool and oxygenated at the same time. The only problem with styrofoam plastic is that it is very fragile and easily broken. The regular picnic boxes are better because they are more durable.

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WHEN MINNOWS all come to the surface of the water, it is because the oxygen is getting low in the water. The bait water can be aerated (adding oxygen) by blowing air through a tube or pipe with the other end held near the bottom of the bait container. Blow several good long breaths into the water, but not too forcefully, because it will spook the minnows. Repeat as often as necessary until minnows stay in a huddle at the bottom.

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TEST THE water temperature with your hand. Be sure there is no oil or gasoline on your hand before sticking it in the bait box. If the water seems warm, gradually cool it by adding a little lake water (coffee can is ideal for this) to the bait, then bail out the same amount of bait water--repeat this procedure about 6 or 8 times until the bait water seems to be a little cooler.

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ALWAYS ANCHOR with your bow headed into the wind. If there is only a gentle wind, then anchor with your bow headed up current. To prevent fanning of your boat back and forth, use a stern anchor after your front anchor has gotten a firm hold. A cement block fastened with a chain which is tied to anchor rope is usually adequate as a stern anchor to limit fanning of your boat. Drop the block straight down while your boat is headed straight into the wind or into the current. When the cement block strikes bottom, make your line fast with no slack in the line.

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A CLEAN boat bottom saves gas and increases speed. Clean the bottom with a scouring powder like Ajax and, after drying, put a coat of wax or silicone polish on the boat bottom. The polish will help keep scum from sticking to boat and will increase speed of the boat.

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REMOVE THE bilge plug from your boat after each trip. Leave plug out until you are ready to make the next trip. This will prevent bilge rot and bilge odors. It also permits gasoline vapors to escape and prevents much of the danger of explosion and fire which results from accumulation of these dangerous vapors.

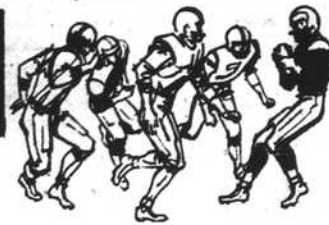
For God's sake don't forget to replace the bilge plug before you put your boat back into the water.

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USE YOUR motor to assist the hand winch when putting your boat back on the boat trailer. Be certain that your propeller is clear of the bottom before attempting this procedure. Know your boat and the prop clearance when your boat is on the trailer.

If your prop remains clear when the motor is down and the boat is on the trailer, there is little possibility that you will damage the prop by using it to push your boat onto the trailer. You can also use your motor to help get the trailer out of the water when your car wheels spin and won't pull you out. Put your motor in gear and give it gas and you will push the trailer ahead enough so your car will pull you out. Naturally, it takes two people to do this.

SPORTS



Chuck Harris

First, let's tip our hats in salute to the leading figure among heavyweight hopefuls--Joe Frazer, a great fighter and a great gentleman. Frazer was number one selection to qualify for the so-called elimination tournament rigged up by the World Boxing Association to crown a new heavyweight champion. But after giving the proposed tourney a good going over, Joe decided he could not take part in the farce because he realized that fighters become champions on their own merits in the squared circle. Frazer, as anyone but a phony would, realized that since Muhammad Ali had won his championship in the ring by defeating all other heavyweight hopefuls and previous champions, in order for any fighter to be declared champion he must first dethrone the man who still is the champ and that man is Ali or Cassius Clay, whatever you choose to call him.

FRAZER WISELY decided to let the tournament hopefuls fight it out, after which he would obligingly give the ultimate victor a tussle and THEN fight the real champion, Muhammad Ali, for the heavyweight championship of the world.

Thank you, Joe Frazer, for making the point that champions are made by blood, sweat, tears, and guts, and that everyone is just spinning their wheels who will buy the premise that you can simply take away from a man what he has rightfully earned and hand it to someone who couldn't carry the other's bag across the street.

The WBA should go back and read its history. Phillip Nolan, who denounced his country, in the end, ended up an American. Clay has never denounced his country. He refused to enter the military on the grounds that many Americans in the past and at the present have advanced--religious conviction. Since no one and no court has disproved his claim to ministerial status, he is entitled to a fair shake which includes retaining his title. Brainwashing the public is not as easy as it once was. Clay is an American and should not be penalized for having a mind of his own by us his fellow Americans.

NOW IN THIS idiotic farce of the World Boxing Association to determine a champion of their liking, the tourney kicks off at Houston's Astrodome, Aug 5, with a doubleheader. In the Ernie Terrel bout with Thad Spencer, Terrel will win easily. The other half of the schedule

offers Jimmy Ellis, a Muhammad Ali sparring partner, against Leotis Martin, a Sonny Liston spar-mate. (Just Imagine). Leotis Martin will be the big surprise in this one winning it in 10.

The fights will be carried by closed circuit TV to Mexico and by Satellite to Great Britain and Japan. The winners will move into the semi-finals of the controversial make-believe WBA tournament. Other semi-finalists will be the winners of a Sept. 16 Frankfurt, Germany match between Karl Mildenerger and Oscar Bonavena and winners of the Oct. 28 bout between Floyd Patterson and Jerry Quarry to be held in Los Angeles.

But, as has been said, the whole tournament became a controversial joke at the outset when Joe Frazer, ranked No. 2 by the WBA turned down the offer of participation, and later scored a convincing K.O. against George Chuvalo.

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ANOTHER boxing regrettable was the California Athletic Commission's denial of Sonny Liston's application. The Commission based their refusal to allow Liston to fight in their state on the grounds that he associated with undesirable characters. The Commission should know a prize fighter has fans in all walks of life and as a gentleman, a fighter just can't tell people to go away and make sure that the person drinking coffee at the next table is one considered "unbecoming" by a boxing commission.

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BELIEVE IT or not, Curtis Cokes, the world welterweight champ, and Gypsy Joe Harris of Philadelphia, the logical contender, didn't go through with that title fight scheduled for last Wednesday in Houston. The people at Houston already owe Cokes \$35,000 or more from his last fight, and I suppose they believed he would let them owe him another bagful. I guess Curtis Cokes didn't want to end up as his colleagues Joe Brown and Cleveland Williams did. Or maybe Gypsy Joe didn't want to borrow money to get back to Philly. Maybe the fellows will learn what they should already have known--that everybody wants some money.

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SPOT WELD the winch to the winch post or bracket of the trailer to prevent theft of the winch. If necessary, also spot weld the bracket and post so that they cannot be easily removed from the trailer.

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