



Rip Rap

October Meeting

When: Wednesday, Oct. 1
Where: JR Ranch, Hudson
Dinner: 6:30
Program: 8:00 Black Hills Trout
 Jon Jacobs presents a slide show disclosing surefire methods of prospecting for trout in the streams of western South Dakota (See pg. 2)

President's Lines:

The chapter needs you! I know that it always seems like everything goes smoothly without your help, but I would like to urgently request that you consider serving Kiap-TU-Wish in one of the following four ways.

We need a Program Director, someone to book speakers for our monthly meetings, to follow up on special needs like bulletin boards, lighting, audio/visual equipment on the evening of the meeting, someone to write a thankyou note to speakers after their presentation. Do you want to hear about some topics that haven't been covered recently in chapter meetings? Do you know people who can present a stimulating and engaging program? Then you're the person for Program Director.

One large program that happens each year is our Christmas Banquet. Would you be interested in coordinating the menu, location, silent auction and program for this event? If you're willing to be the overall boss, I can guarantee that you'll have lots of help. So, stick your neck out and help us plan a good party!

Chuck Goossen takes attendance at chapter meetings. But we need someone willing to maintain the membership list, urge relapsed members to pay their dues, keep track of out of town 'friends.' You don't have to be convivial to work on lists, and National TU does most of it, but the garden needs weeding every once in awhile.

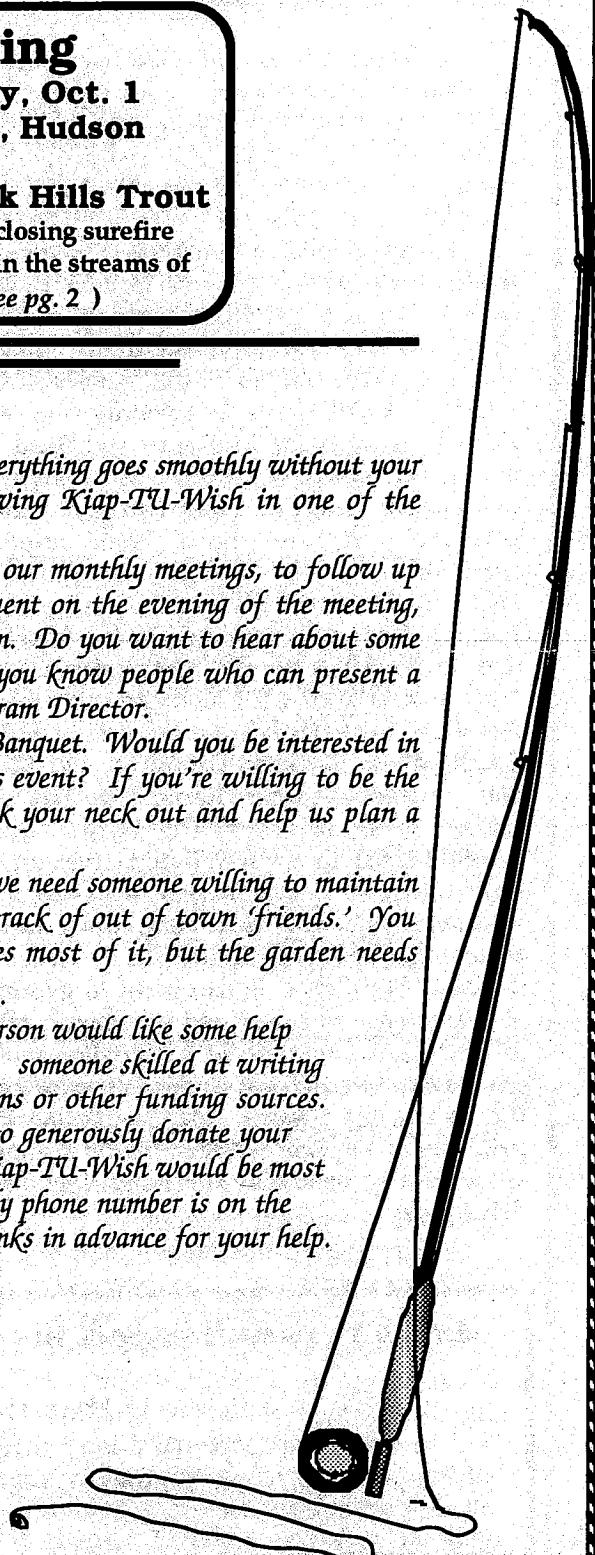
Lastly, Andy Lamberson would like some help raising funds for the chapter, someone skilled at writing grants, contacting foundations or other funding sources.

If you'd be willing to generously donate your time to any of these tasks, Kiap-TU-Wish would be most grateful, and so would I. My phone number is on the back of this newsletter. Thanks in advance for your help. Sincerely,

Tony Stifter, President

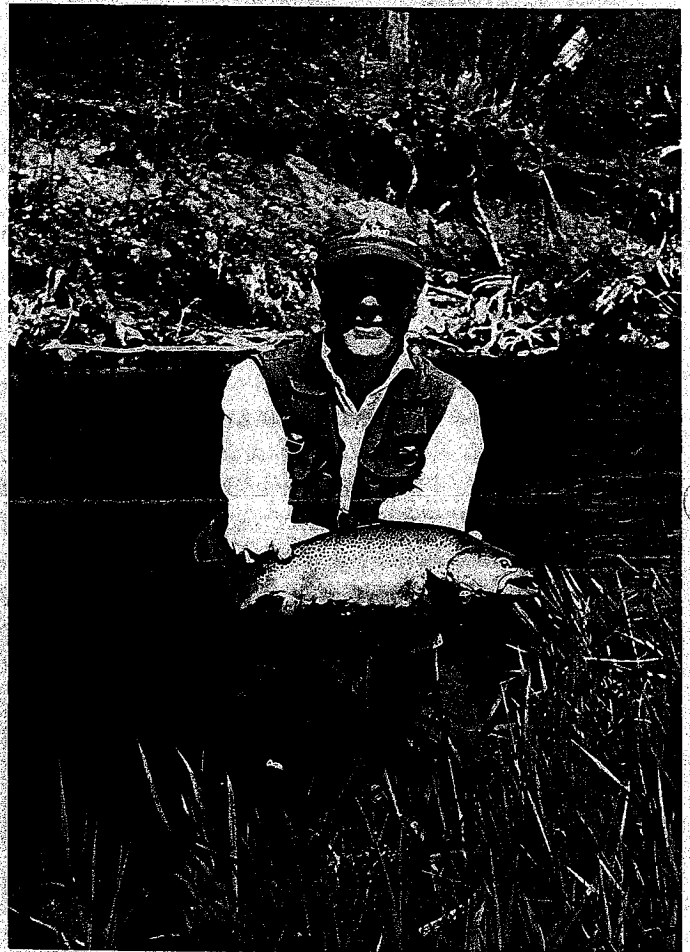
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Jon Jacobs to present slide show at October Meeting...

Jon Jacobs, famous local angler and raconteur, will share his experiences trout fishing in the Black Hills at the Kiap-TU-Wish meeting on October 1, to be held at the JR Ranch. Jon has grown to love the beautiful scenery of the area, and has made many vacation trips to South Dakota with his family. In addition to the fine trout fishing in many streams and lakes, there are myriad possibilities for family fun as well. The Black Hills National Forest contains trails, wildlife exhibits, ski areas, historic mines and museums. Devils Tower, another attraction, is nearby. Rapid Creek is certainly one of the finest trout streams in the Midwest, and Sand Creek, just over the border in Wyoming has trophy trout fishing in its public stretches. Spearfish and Hannah Creeks produce fish, and have been improved and maintained by the local FFF chapter, the Black Hills Fly Fishers. There are many places to stay, ranging from relatively expensive hotels in Rapid City to US Forest Service campgrounds. The Black Hills area is a growing favorite with many chapter members due to its beauty, proximity, and especially South Dakota's 365 day fishing season. Because of its warm winter weather, Rapid City has come to be known as the Miami of the North. It is entirely possible to fish for trout in Rapid Creek on a 60 degree day in January. Ginny Adams, who was a speaker at a chapter meeting last year, does much of her watercolor painting in the Black Hills, while her husband Bob fishes. If you want to gamble and like the ambience of a restored nineteenth century gold mining town, complete with bordellos and spittoons, there's Lead and Deadwood. If you own a Harley, there's always Sturgis. All in all, the Black Hills provides a superb western fishing experience in spectacularly beautiful surroundings, only a day's drive away.



Jon Jacobs and 'friend.'

Jon's recommended accommodations in the Black Hills...

On the confluence of Hannah and Spearfish Creeks, Wickiup Village is a cabin resort with many different plans and price possibilities. Call for a free brochure 1-(800)-505-8268.

Kiap-TU-Wish Bulletin Board...

The Kinnickinnic needs your help.....

The future of the Kinnickinnic River Priority Watershed Project is in grave danger! Funding for the statewide priority watershed program has been reduced by \$7.35 million dollars in this years state budget. One cost cutting option being strongly considered would eliminate projects that are in their first year, or are still in the planning stages. Since the Kinnickinnic River Priority Watershed Project is still in the planning stage, it faces elimination. The State Land and Water Conservation Board will be meeting on October 7th to decide these funding issues. I would like to ask you to contact the persons listed below and tell them that the Kinnickinnic River Priority Watershed Project must be fully funded. Each of you has received a special mailing outlining the issues involved. I cannot urge you too strongly that it is up to YOU to write before Oct 7th, in order to show your support for the Priority Watershed Project and the Kinnickinnic River.

Thanks,
Tony Stifter

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Education Committee gets tools for presentations to community...

Last year, Dan Bruski issued a call for materials to help teach school kids, community groups, other environmentalists about cold water resources and the threats posed by development. Members Mark Dostal and Hap Lutter responded generously by contributing a VCR and a TV. They will also be used at chapter meetings. Thanks to Mark and Hap for their gifts.

Thanks, Perry...

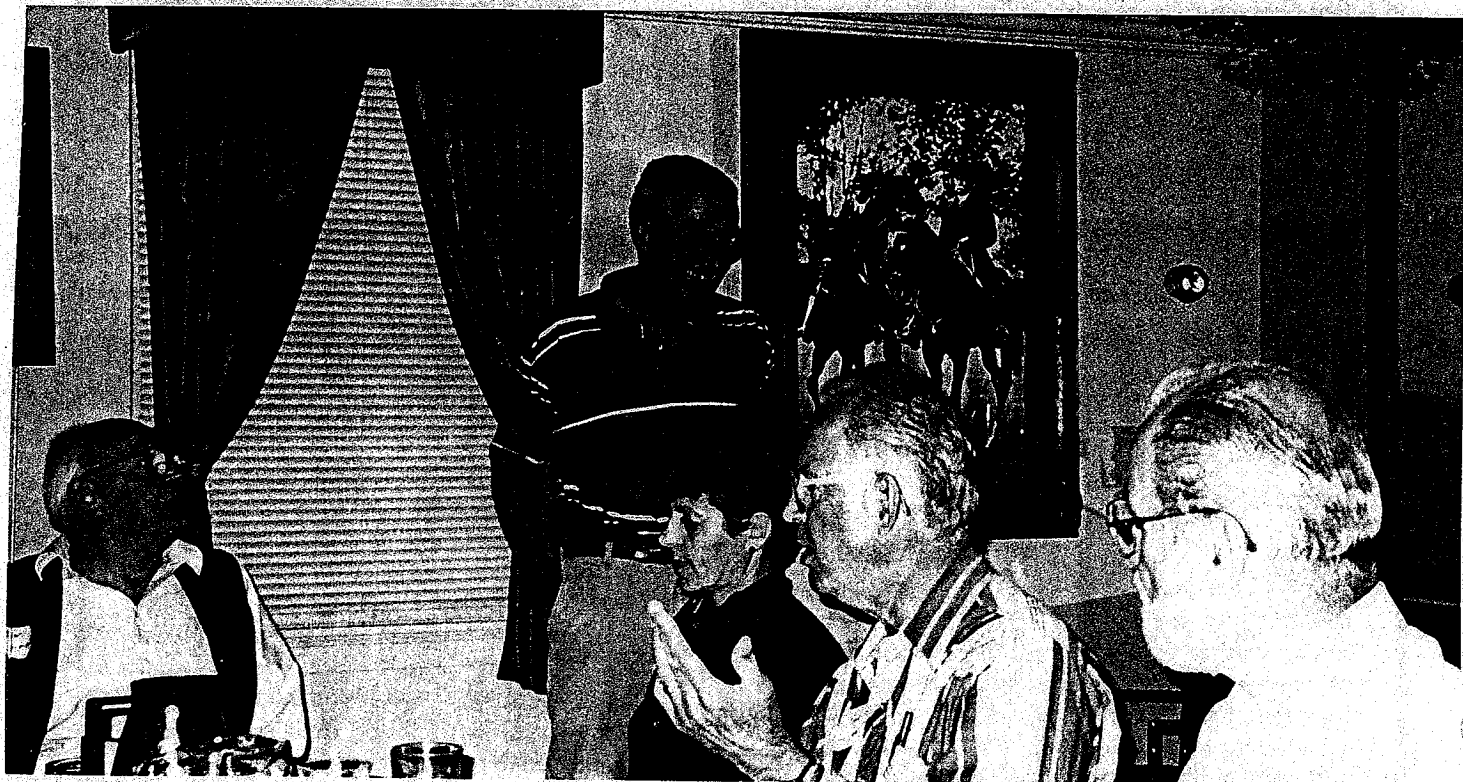
At the September meeting, Brent Sittlow and Skip James were the winners of the drawing for two boxes of beautifully tied flies by Perry Palin. Perry has provided flies for this purpose on a regular basis without ever receiving much recognition. Anyone else that would like to contribute flies is cordially invited to do so. Bring them to the chapter meeting and give them to Chuck Goossen.

Chapter members enjoy camaraderie and hear an urgent appeal at September Meeting..



Tony Stifter, Jon Jacobs and others enjoy JR Ranch Food

Tim Popple, Manager of the Kinnickinnic River Priority Watershed Project, gave a glowing report on the progress in forming leadership groups to oversee the maintenance of the river, but if funding is not maintained at current levels, the entire program may be scrapped. Members have responded by sending letters to legislators, and Gary Horvath was responsible for putting out a special, fact-filled informative mailing to the chapter outlining issues that need to be emphasized in the discussion. The Water Board was accepting public comment until October 7. We'll have to wait and see what its decision might be.



Jim Humphrey, Chuck Goossen, Ellen Clark, Al Farms and Ted Mackmiller discuss Tim Popple's speech

Fly Shop Highlights for October...

Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop offers lots more than just tackle and fly tying material. You can get great advice, chat with like-minded souls, drink coffee that's far better than what's available in most churches, and try out bamboo rods for free. October is the month when most of us express condolences to one another on the untimely death of another trout season, but the Fly Shop offers some Saturday morning enticements this month that will take the sting out of it. It will also keep Mike Alwin from getting lonely.



On October 4, ace angler **Bob Nasby** will present a program about steelhead fishing. Proper tackle, where to go, how to tie the right flies, presentation, all you need to know to have a crack at challenging a big rainbow. His stories are great, too!

October 11, Kiap-TU-Wish board member **Ellen Clark** presents a photo essay on fishing the Big Horn River in Montana. She's a real expert on that stream, and I'm sure she'll remind everyone present that Montana has an all-year trout season.

Kurt Weieneth, who used to be a guide out of Gardiner, Mt., just at the entrance to Yellowstone Park, will present a fly tying demonstration on the use of synthetics on October 18. Old monofilament and plastic bags may be recyclable yet, and catch trout to boot!

On October 25, get nostalgic over a great movie. The Fly Shop will run a private showing of *A River Runs Through It*.

All Saturday morning programs are free and begin at 10:30. See ya' there.

Really Silly, but also Really Fun...

I (Skip James) had a really interesting invitation this past Spring. A friend asked me to be part of a Minnesota Trout Team in a contrived contest to catch the most fish in two hours using identical flies. The event, the brainchild of a certifiably demented former Minnesota school teacher named Dick Anderson who now lives near Leadville, Colorado amid some of the most spectacular scenery in the world, and some of the finest trout lakes you'll ever have a chance to fish, is called the Icky Dickie Fly Contest. Although Dennis Anderson, outdoor columnist for the Star Tribune, has put his spin on this competitive trout fishing aberration in an article last July, I just want to say that I got to catch alot of trout with some of the nicest people I've always wanted to meet. Now, just visualize a tiny three acre lake with forty-two guys in float tubes honking on conch shells and yelling "Icky Dicky" every time one of them caught a fish. Insanity!



Former Vikings Coach Bud Grant suits up for the Icky Dickie Fly Contest

Skip's Loose Threads.... Disembodied Flies

The other day I was fishing a Trico hatch on the Rush, catching mostly small trout, six to nine inches long on Trico spinners, size #22. I also caught four fish over a foot that afternoon, but not on Tricos. The bigger ones took an extremely lightly dressed dry fly....so lightly dressed that it didn't have any body at all. It was just tail, wing, and parachute hackle. The thing was tied on one of those neat curved Tiemco #2487 hooks, not a small one either. The flies were tied on #14 hooks, but because that style of hook is short shanked and curved at that, the size was about the same as a #16 conventional tie. Let me explain how this concoction came to be.

It has seemed to me for a few years now that parachute hackle, combined with a post wing of Antron or Polypropylene yarn was both extremely visible and almost unsinkable, in fast water and slow, and it didn't seem to matter whether the fly was heavily hackled or not. Furthermore, if tied with yarn, either as a clump or loop wing, the time required to manufacture a dozen or so duns was lots less than other styles of dry flies. In my dotage, (I'm fifty-six), I find it satisfying to be able to see my fly on the water at sixty feet, something I can do with a post wing pattern and rarely with a divided wing pattern smaller than #16. The trout don't seem to mind that there is only one clump wing instead of two either.

The Tiemco #2487 hook offers several more advantages in tying dry flies. First, the wide gape increases the possibilities of good hook ups. The wire is not too light, so that in tying smaller sizes, imitating the insects most prevalent on our spring creeks, you don't give up much in hook strength. The curved shank practically begs to have the wing at its midpoint, and that works well as far as balance is concerned. With a light tippet, the eye of the hook is under the meniscus as well as the bend, and that tends to sink the tippet close to the fly, another advantage. The problem of the curved shank shows up with the inclusion of tails.

If one ties in tail fibres over the hook point, they will point downward, forcing the fly to land on its side. If you tie in the tail so that the fibres are at right angles to the upright wing post, you must leave off the body completely, since the wing, hackle and tails will all be attached at the same place on the shank. This looked strange to me at first, and I felt a little naked tying a fly with no dubbing.

But the trout didn't seem to mind at all. My collection of fly tying materials includes several hundred colors of dubbing, and it's always a matter of great concern to match the abdomen color of an insect exactly. I would even wet the dubbing material to make sure that the shade was correct. Suddenly, I didn't have to do that. I had eliminated another variable in the fly pattern, and the trout took the body-less flies just as well. I'm beginning to think that silhouette is more important than color, and that the colors I had so carefully chosen over the years were fairly insignificant in fooling the fish. Perhaps the exposed part of the hook shank suggests an opaque body to the trout. I don't know for sure.

Some of the patterns that have been successful for me over the past season are outlined below. There's an all purpose Adams type pattern, then a dark one that I use for Baetis, Isonymchia, Hendricksons etc., and a light one that imitates PMD's, Sulphurs, and Cahills. Tied in various sizes, these flies will give you something to throw at most hatches you'll encounter. Give them a try and let me know how you fare.

Disembodied Flies...

Almost Adams

Hook: Tiemco 2487 #12-18
Thread: White
Tails: Cree hackle fibres.
Body: None
Wing: White poly yarn post
Hackle: Cree parachute

Light Fantastic

Hook: Tiemco 2487 #12-18
Thread: Primrose
Tails: Barred Ginger hackle fibres
Body: None
Wing: Light Gold poly yarn post
Hackle: Light Ginger parachute

Dark Invader

Hook: Tiemco 2487 #12-20
Thread: Black
Tails: Dark Dun hackle fibres
Body: None
Wing: Gray poly yarn post
Hackle: Dark Dun parachute

RifRaf.....Fiction, Poetry, Reviews, Humor

My Place

by Allison Jacobs

Beep! Beep! My alarm rang and I jumped out of bed. After we went to church, we were off. Fishing, that is.

As we drove down the nearly deserted highway, we passed farmhouses and rolling pasture land. We drove through a small town with an ancient gas station and a few tidy brick and frame houses. As we drove toward the creek, I was getting more and more excited. I could hardly wait to get there.

When we got to the creek, it was sprinkling, but we got our gear on anyway. As we hiked down the hill to the creek, the cows stared at us as though to ask, "What are you doing here? It's not dinner time yet, is it?"

As we approached the creek, I thought of times I had been to this place before. My place. As my dad fished, I stared into the beautiful, unspoiled water. Soon I asked my dad if I could fish. I love the soft, smooth feeling that you get when you cast the right way. I had been perfecting my cast the whole summer, and it was finally paying off.

Brook trout are very beautiful and wary. You have to be sneaky and skilled to catch one. I concentrated hard and cast behind a log that was protruding out of the stream. I watched as my fly sunk down and out of sight. Then my strike indicator shot forward. I set the hook and played the fish in. I yelled to my dad that I was losing the fish. He grabbed the net, jumped in, and netted it. What a beautiful animal it was! It was at least ten inches long! I wet my hands so I didn't hurt the fish's skin. Then I carefully unhooked him. Fish are always sluggish when you put them back, so I held the fish underwater for a while, rocking it back and forth to get water through its gills.

The fish was a shimmery green and had beautiful blue spots outlined by red. Its underside was a blood red. Its pectoral and ventral fins were edged with black, orange and white and it was very plump. It was one of the most beautiful animals I have seen and probably will ever see. Slowly it waved its large iridescent tail like a fan and swam off to hide under the slimy green weeds. I was so happy! I had caught the fish on a fly I had tied myself, too, a Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear. It had a dark gray head with a gray body that had tinsel wrapped around its abdomen. I had caught the biggest fish of the day and my lifetime! I thought about the beauty of the stream and meadow.

As I looked around, I saw many other beautiful things - birds, toads, frogs and insects. Last year I caught a baby snapping turtle. As I looked in the grass this year, I found small brown toads about the width of my pinkie. I even caught a tiny green tree frog with small suction cups on its feet! We drove into the town again, this time to stop at the gas station and get some Gatorade and pretzels.

As we drove home, we saw a doe with her two spotted fawns eating grass from a green field. This was at about 6:00, when many deer come out to feed. The colorful sunset was a great ending to a great day. When I got home I felt, well... as Norman MacLean once wrote, I felt "more perfect" every minute.

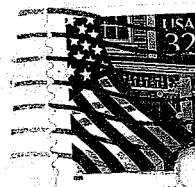
Author's note: This fishing trip took place in 1997. Even though I do not own the creek and land, I like to think of it as being mine. To protect the beauty of the stream, every fish I have caught there has been released. Also, the name of this place will remain mine and mine alone. So there is absolutely no point in asking me where it is, because my answer is the same to everyone... "Western Wisconsin."



Allison Jacobs shows off a trout. This thirteen year-old fly fisher has been enjoying the sport for three years. She is an eighth-grader at Hudson Middle School.



**KIAP-TU-WISH
TROUT UNLIMITED
P.O. BOX 483
HUDSON, WI 54016**



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| Treasurer: Chuck Goossen | 715-386-5137 |
| Secretary: Richard Lindholm | 715-386-5394 |

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| Andy Lamberson | 715-386-7568 |
| Brent Sittlow | 715-386-0820 |

RIP-RAP EDITOR

DEADLINES

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Skip James | Nov. 10/15/97 |
| 16323 St. Mary's Drive | Dec. 11/15/97 |
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| Fax: 612-436-8555 | |
| E-mail: kplmstr2@aol.com | |

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Does This Look Like a PhysEd Class You'd Like to Take...?

Shelly Kahut-Loomis (back row, right) decided to offer a course in fishing at Hudson High School. She read a few books about fishing, wrote a syllabus, found out about local trout resources. She also found out about TU. At the September chapter meeting, she asked Kiap-TU-Wish for help in providing mentors in fly casting, fly tying, and basic stream craft. Mike Alwin and Ellen Clark both taught afternoon classes. The course is a hit with kids and will be offered again next Spring. Shelly remembers the wonderful times she had as a child fishing from a boat with her dad. She wants to give that kind of experience to her students. In the words of one of them, Jamie Persico, "Fishing is a learning experience for a lifetime." Amen!



One of three sections of Hudson HS FishEd Class at the Willow Race