



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Walleye Weekend 2008 to Host Family Fishing Tournament**

March 18, 2008 – It's that time of year again and Walleye Weekend is just around the corner. Fond du Lac Festivals and McDonald's will once again host the 2008 free family fishing tournament. Family members will have a chance to fish collectively during this event held on Saturday, June 7 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and Sunday, June 8 from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m. Fisherman will cast their bait off the channels of Oven Island at Lakeside Park in Fond du Lac.

The whole family is encouraged to participate in the tournament. "This year will have the added fact that it is a free fishing weekend throughout the state, this means that anybody can fish without a license. A perfect opportunity for families to try fishing and the tournament is free," explains Gerry Smet, co-chair of the event along with his wife, Pat Smet. The Family Fishing Tournament consists of fishing equipment manufacturers and Wisconsin fishing related businesses that offer an array of prizes. Entry forms must be completed by the start of the tournament on June 7, 2008 and can be found at

www.fdlfest.com or at any Fond du Lac area McDonald's restaurants. Admission is free and prizes are awarded daily to the participants.

Twelve lucky girls and boys will also have a chance to go on a two-hour long fishing trip with ESPN's Fishing Pro Jerry McKinnis. "It's an opportunity to go fishing on the Mercury Houseboat and to learn fishing techniques from Jerry," said Pam Behnke, Trade Marketing Director at Mercury Marine. Boys and girls between the ages of 10-14 will be chosen at random from early registration forms that must be completed by Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Walleye Weekend will be held at Lakeside Park on June 6, 7 and 8, and is sponsored by Charter Communications, K107.1 FM, Mercury Marine, Michels Corporation, Miller Lite, Bass Pro Shop, and Pepsi Americas. Check [www.fdlfest.com](http://www.fdlfest.com) for the latest information.

Fond du Lac Festivals, Inc. is a non-profit organization founded in 1983 with a mission to direct, promote, and support festivals and special events that showcase the Fond du Lac community. The organization, with a great deal of help and support from the community, is responsible for Walleye Weekend, Light Up the City, and Taste of Fond du Lac. These events benefit more than 100 local non-profit organizations. More information is available at [www.fdlfest.com](http://www.fdlfest.com).

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