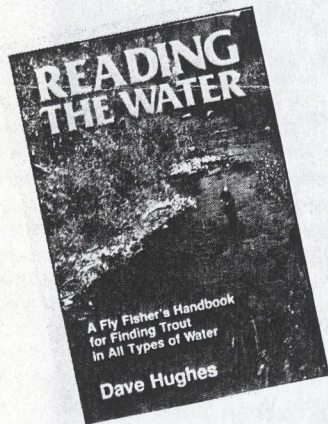


VERLYN KLINKENBORG

Reading the Water

by Dave Hughes. (Harrisburg, PA: Stackpole Books, 1988.) 223 pages; black and white photos, bibliography, index.

DAVE installment time. *Reading the Water* is the newest, and in many ways the most practical, of Dave Hughes' ever-lengthening list of fly-fishing works. It is hard to convince the beginner that the lure of fly-fishing lies not in reels and rods and Barbour jackets, but in the uneven surface of a



river. I have a clear enough memory of what it was like to start fly-fishing to wish that works like this and Tom Rosenbauer's recent *Reading Trout Streams* (Nick Lyons Books—Nov/Dec '88), had been available at the time. They are certainly where I would start if I were somehow allowed to start all over again.

Hughes is, as ever, detailed without being fussy, swift without being glib, and he strikes what to me has always sounded like just the right note. It is hard to describe that note. He sounds like a willing teacher and an organized angler, yet he also sounds like the kind of guy who, when faced with a flat full of feeding fish, readily forgets that by custom a big darkness approaches called night. In other words, he sounds like he is heir to the same enthusiasms as the average angler, a tremendous advantage to the writer of didactic angling books. He manages to write often and to write new each time. Though *Reading the Water* has as its text mainly Western rivers, it applies in principle and in detail to nearly all other rivers as well. Recommended.

Montana Spaces

Edited by William Kittredge. (New York: Nick Lyons Books, 1988.) 189 pages; photos by John Smart; wood engravings by Emma Joy Dana. \$24.95 hardcover. Sponsored by the Montana Land Reliance in celebration of Montana's Statehood Centennial.

FROM a purely physical standpoint, this is the finest book Nick Lyons and Peter Burford have ever produced. From a literary stand-

point, ditto. Same too for the photographic standpoint. So much for criticism.

Edited by William Kittredge, himself a fine Montana writer, *Montana Spaces* includes pieces by Tom McGuane, Gretel Erlich, Charles Waterman, Wallace Stegner, the *Outside* triumvirate of Tim Cahill, David Quammen and Alston Chase, as well as many excellent others. It includes too a stunning gallery of photos by John Smart.

In *Montana Spaces* the special word is "native," as in "nativity." There are two assumptions at work here. The first is that if you are born in a place you are a native of it, and if your parents were born there too you are more native still. The second is that by adopting a place, by giving it a kind of stewardship, a measure of devotion, you become a spiritual native, which may imply a higher level of nativity—rebirth—than that of mere physical generation.

Whether they were born there or moved there, Montanans are keen on nativity. It is a part of what they mean when they say they don't Californicate Montana. (Once nativity was a meaningful question in California too, but that was a long time and a dust bowl ago.) The question of nativity grows complicated in Montana because moving to that state is not like moving to Ohio or Connecticut or Cali-



fornia. It is not an alternative (consider the "native" in that word), not another driveway in another development. It is an exaggeration. And when you get there, whether you drive I-90 or show up after nine month's interplanetary travel via the birth canal, the landscape announces, simply, "You are not as native as the bear, not as native as the Crow." It says that this is a country—within a Country—where the matter of nativity has been voided. We are all migrants hereabouts.

Montana Spaces collects superb essays by authors who are preoccupied with landscape and the way it talks to natives of either the first or second kind. It contains some fishing, a little bit of hunting and some ominous weather and self-reliance—Montana subjects. But what it contains most is meditations on what it

means to be in Montana, meditations by the kinds of authors whom you would pay to do your meditating for you if they didn't do it out of obligation anyway. For the reader, it poses this question, asked by Annick Smith: "If I lived here, who would I be?" Best of all, it records a wide range of opinion. It is not a textbook of New Age worship, but a chorale of time-sharpened voices.

Herewith some quotes, to give you the idea. I'm just going to string these out.

Tom McGuane, the most observant of anglers: "I am always saying, though it's hardly my idea, that the natural state of the universe is cold; but cold-blooded trout and cold-blooded mayflies are signs of the world's retained heat, as is the angler, wading upstream in a cold spring wind in search of delight."

Glenn Law: "Montana's special gift is space, landscape made personal." Or, on a lighter note, "Your basic sheep is a pretty simple package. Look into a sheep's eyes and you can see the back of its skull."

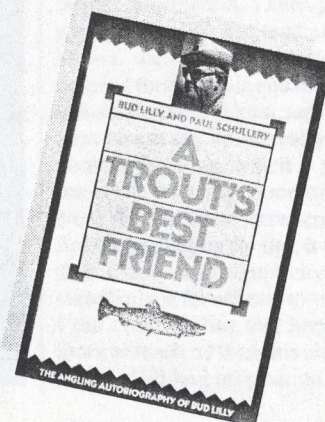
Scott Hibbard, who utters the most articulate defense of ranching I've ever read: "The rancher is a vehicle by which the land is released from its bondage." Or "The private steward is necessary to save the hunter and fisherman from themselves."

Charlie Russell (from Kittredge's introduction): "A pioneer is a man who turned all the grass upside down, strung bob-wire over the dust that was left, poisoned the water and cut down the trees, killed the Indian who owned the land, and called it progress. If I had my way, the land here would be like God made it, and none of you sons of bitches would be here at all."

Take the following essays whole, in liberal doses: David Quammen's "Strawberries Under Ice," Beth Ferris's "The Gatekeepers" and Wallace Stegner's "That Great Falls Year."

A Trout's Best Friend

by Bud Lilly and Paul Schullery. (Boulder, CO: Pruett Publishing, 1988.) 143 pages; black & white photos. \$18.95 hardcover, \$13.95 softcover.



THE PERFECT MATCH

Have you ever fished with fly fishing equipment where the rod, line and reel were all designed to work together as a harmonious system? Well, new from Martin, is an action-balanced series of fly fishing sets designed to meet a variety of fishing situations from feather-weight gear for delicate presentation to spooky trout in crystal clear water, to rugged, big rod/disc-drag reel sets for bonefish and permit in the salt. All perfectly matched.

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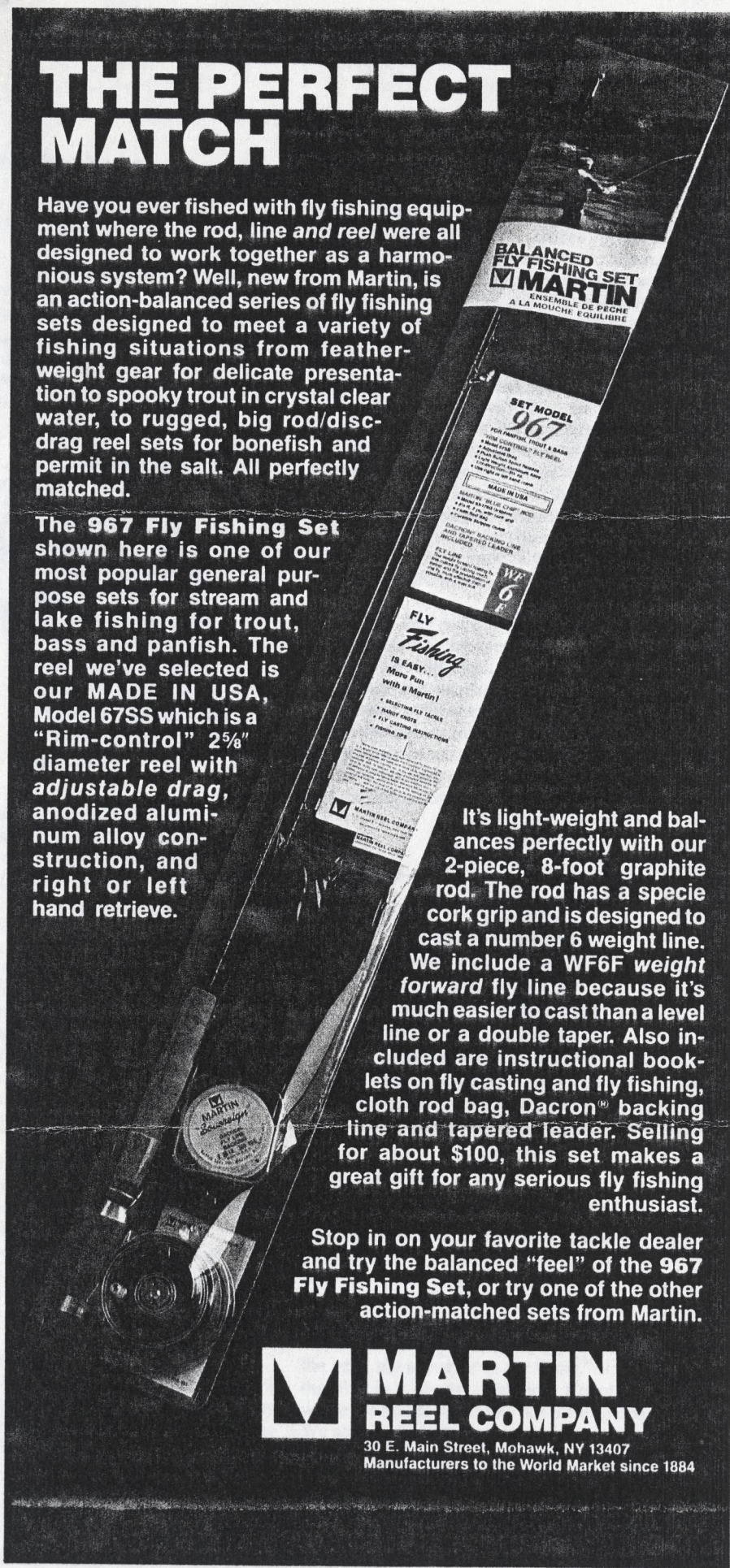
It's light-weight and balances perfectly with our 2-piece, 8-foot graphite rod. The rod has a specie cork grip and is designed to cast a number 6 weight line. We include a WF6F weight forward fly line because it's much easier to cast than a level line or a double taper. Also included are instructional booklets on fly casting and fly fishing, cloth rod bag, Dacron[®] backing line and tapered leader. Selling for about \$100, this set makes a great gift for any serious fly fishing enthusiast.

Stop in on your favorite tackle dealer and try the balanced "feel" of the 967 Fly Fishing Set, or try one of the other action-matched sets from Martin.



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LITERARY graces apart (and that's a big exception), this book could be considered an extended chapter of *Montana Spaces*. Bud Lilly is a Montana native, one of the famous ones, and this is his story, smoothed around the edges by Paul Schullery. It is candid and good-natured. In fact, its good-naturedness tends to blunt the candor just about the time you want Lilly to offer a fuller explanation of the life of a fly-shop owner. I keep waiting for someone to write a penetrating book about that life—a true-to-life commercial history, so to speak—but that someone will have to be crazy or dead. Bud Lilly is neither. He's a good, hardworking man who built a well-known business and whom we learn the most about from an entry in an early fishing log:

"I like the good clean outdoors, wild game and all wildlife. My ambition is always to live in contact with wildlife. My hunting and fishing partners, who are careful and considerate, are Don, Doug and Dad. This is from April 1, 1942 until Death."

Supply your own date, the names of your own fishing partners, and this is all you need to know.

Poul Jorgenson's Book of Fly Tying: A Guide to Flies for All Game Fish

by Poul Jorgenson. (Boulder, CO: Johnson Books, 1988.) 261 pages; black and white photos, color plates, glossary, index. \$34.95 hardcover, \$19.95 paperback.

POUL JORGENSEN has a large reputation as a fly tier. It is based on four earlier fly-tying books—*Dressing Flies for Fresh and Salt Water*, *Poul Jorgenson's Modern Trout Flies*, *Modern Dressings for the Practical Angler* and *Salmon Flies*—and on his travels and lectures and demonstrations. I cannot see that *Poul Jorgenson's Book of Fly Tying* will do much to enlarge that reputation, though it certainly takes nothing away from it. It is a sound book with excellent photographs of some of the critical stages in tying flies. I have some minor quibbles—what, for instance, are we to make of Jorgenson's meaningless distinction between Imitator and Simulator nymphs, and why are the color plates so inadequate in size and focus?—but that is not what bothers me about the book. For all of that, it is fine.

What bothers me, I'm afraid, is its lack of enthusiasm. The very best fly-tying books impart information, a keen sense of craft and a certain lunatic excitement. As any fly tier knows, there is a deep current of obsession running through this end of the sport. Jorgenson, in this book at least, taps none of that. Nor does he tap any of the really new work being done in fly-tying, which is part of the life of the craft. As I say, none of this takes away from the technical excellences of the book. For the beginning fly tier, it offers commendable clarity and simplicity. It would be a superb place for anyone to start fly-tying. But I can't help feeling that Jorgenson has vastly more to teach us than this and that it might be taught with less resignation. □

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Bud Lilly and Paul Schullery

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"profound and a hell of a lot of fun"

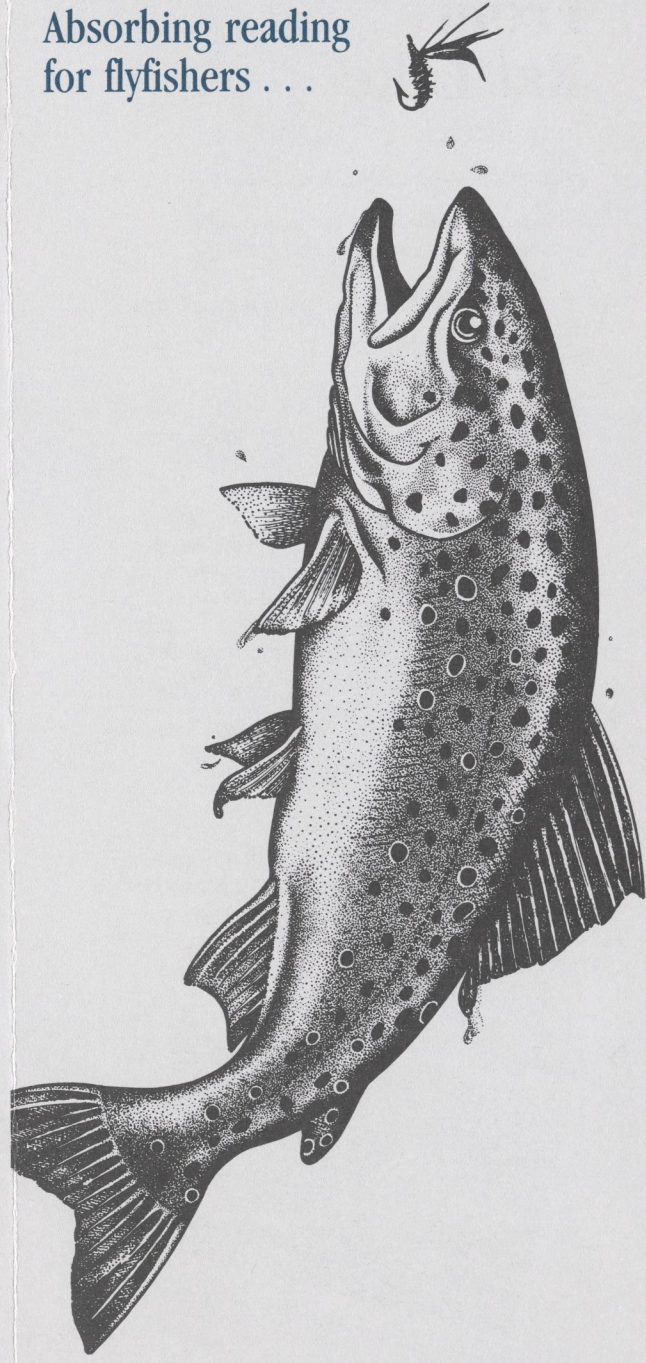
"a beautiful book, humorous, sly, rich, and touching"

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for flyfishers . . .

The View From Rat Lake

John Gierach

"Gierach is one of the wittiest and most articulate contemporary fishing writers." *Library Journal*

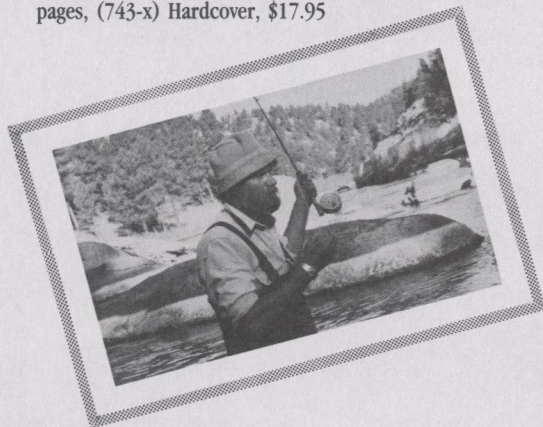
"This is a wonderful book . . . it's good writing and good reading." *Lefty Krebs*

"If you fly fish, you'll find no more absorbing, entertaining interpreter of what flyfishing gives us than John Gierach. Read this book, then read *Trout Bum*, then join the rest of us waiting for whatever he writes next." *Paul Schullery*

"Anyone who enjoyed John Gierach's last book, *Trout Bum*, is in for a real treat: he's done it again. Only this new paean to the genteel art of flyfishing is even better than the last one! Gierach writes with more knowledge, and more humour, about all the joys, vicissitudes, horrors, and hallelujahs of pursuing fish than almost anyone else laboring at that craft today." *John Nichols*

"For my money you can't write any better about fishing and fisherman. It's profound and a hell of a lot of fun." *Craig Nova*

John Gierach's latest book, *The View From Rat Lake*, will be released in hardcover in March 1988. This collection touches on a variety of subjects, from The Fishing Car to an especially poignant essay concerning the proposed construction of a dam on the South Platte River. 6x9, 200 pages, (743-x) Hardcover, \$17.95



A Trout's Best Friend

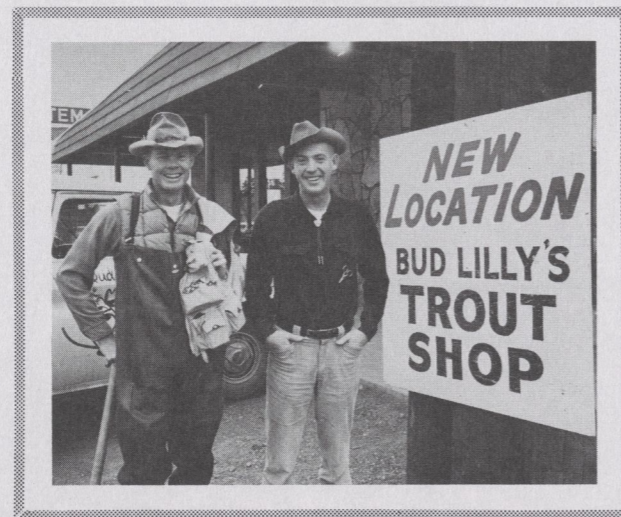
An Angling Autobiography of
Bud Lilly

Paul Schullery and
Bud Lilly

The great trout-fishing country of the Yellowstone region has produced many memorable stories, but none are as engaging and satisfying as the life of Bud Lilly, fourth generation Montanan and celebrated fishing guide. Bud has fished for the wild trout of Yellowstone country for more than half a century, and he remembers it all vividly.

Replete with tales of fishing's great and not-so-great, abundantly populated with wild trout, profusely illustrated, and consistently entertaining, *A Trout's Best Friend* will be *your* best friend when the streams are locked in ice and the only fishing to be had is in memories, dreams, and good books.

Available late March, 1988, in both hardcover and paperback. 6x9, (744-8) Hardcover, \$18.95 (T), (745-6) Paperback, \$13.95 (T).



Trout Bum

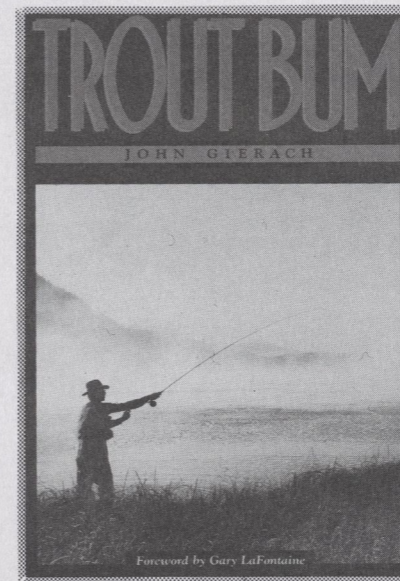
John Gierach
with an Introduction by
Gary LaFontaine

"A collection of twenty pieces marked by Gierach's inimitable, intelligent style. Not purely philosophical, adventurous, or instructional, the book combines elements of all three with a dash of wit to boot. Gierach belongs in every good collection of contemporary flyfishing literature." *Library Journal*

"*Trout Bum* captures the passion, confusion, and left-handed poetry of modern fishing better than any other book." *Thomas McGuane*

"*Trout Bum* is one of those delightful finds . . . I laughed out loud on almost every page . . . It's a beautiful book, humorous sly, rich, and touching. Once you read the first page, you'll be hooked . . . and you'll love every minute of it. I promise!" *John Nichols*

6x9, 227 pages, (715-4) Hardcover, \$19.95



Flyfishing the High Country

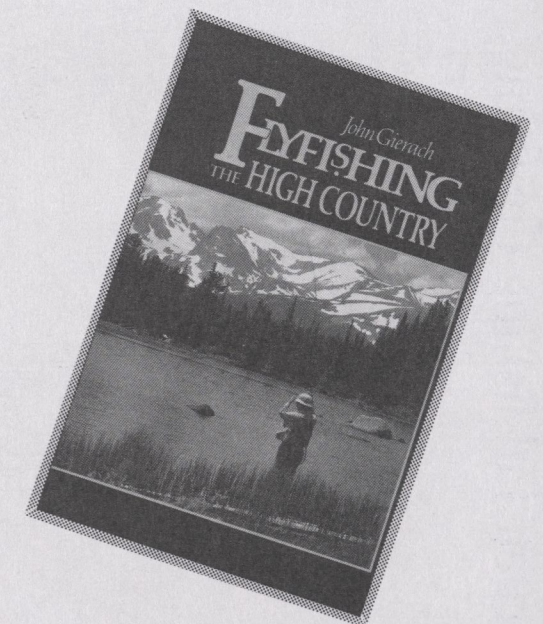
John Gierach

"The most inclusive work ever done on the subject. Gierach not only thoroughly understands the art of fishing in the small and fragile environment of the high mountains, he has a passion for it. Of such is solid information born." *Denver Post*

"The principles outlined by Gierach are just as applicable to the waters of, say, New Hampshire and Maine as they are to Colorado and Wyoming." *Fly Fisherman Magazine*

"Gierach has given us a well-rounded and information packed volume on preparation and approach to fishing in the mountains . . . Probably the last paragraph sums up the whole view of fishing best . . . If you want to know what it says you'll have to buy a copy." *Fly Fishing Magazine*

Flyfishing the High Country describes the variety of fish you can expect to find in high country streams and lakes, together with tactics, techniques, and fly patterns. 7½x9, 140 pages, photos, (662-x) Paperback, \$8.95.



Lilly

Personalities dot show

By Jim "Moose" Carden
Tribune outdoor writer

Harry Renfro's original Boat, Sport and Travel Show opens for 10 days next Friday.

Famous fishing personalities Bill Dance, Billy Westmorland, Babe Winkelman, Jerry McKinis, Steve McCadams, Jack DeBord and Skip Stafford will present special fishing clinics on the main stage and in the "Hawg Trough."

The big clinics are scheduled for Feb. 20 and 27 at 9:30 a.m. each day on the main stage in the State Fairgrounds Coliseum. Other clinics will be conducted each hour all week long in the "Hawg Trough" in the West Pavilion.

Bob and Carole Hicks of Kokomo, who own and operate the Flint River Camp on Klotz Lake near Longlac, Ontario, will have a booth in the East Pavilion. In the Coliseum, the Caribou Lake Lodge will have a booth owned by Kokomo people. Andy Hill, a well-known wilderness guide on the boundary waters of Basswood Lake near Ely, Minn., will have a booth in the Coliseum.

The Hoosier Outdoors Magazine of Cloverdale, for which I am a field editor, will also have a booth in the Coliseum. Stop by and say hello.

You can save a \$1 on the price of admission to the Sport Show by purchasing advance tickets at Granny's Furniture, 100 E. North St.; House of Tile and Carpet, 118 W. North St.; Northend Motors and Body Shop, 710 N. Washington St.; McQuick's Oilube, 1226 E. Markland Ave.; or from any member of the Kokomo Bass Anglers. Advance adult tickets are \$4 and must be purchased before Thursday.

Area ice fishing

The Kokomo Reservoir has been yielding catches of white bass and crappies.

Bob Pratt of Kokomo has been catching some nice silvers from the Kokomo Reservoir using white Swedish Pimple. Orange has also been a productive color.

The Salamonie Reservoir has been producing some nice crappies from the Monument Island area at night. Again, the Swedish Pimples (chartreuse color) have been productive. Clarence Lewis of Grissom Air Force Base has been catching some good crappies from the Salamonie Reservoir using tube-jigs — red head and yellow tail.

DNR news

A free 1988 Recreation Guide is available from the Indiana

Department of Natural Resources to help people plan vacations and trips to DNR properties. The guide can be obtained by contacting the Division of State Parks, 616 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Ind. 46204 or by calling toll-free at (800) 622-4931.

What's new department

The Pruett Publishing Co. has recently released several new books on trout fishing.

They include Bud Lilly's "Guide to Western Fly Fishing," "A Trout's Best Friend," "The Angling Autobiography of Bud Lilly," "Trout Bum," "Fly Fishing the High Country," and "View From Rat Lake."

Prices and other information can be obtained from the company at 2928 Pearl St., Boulder, Colo. 80301.

Leonard Lee Rue III, the most published wildlife photographer in North America, has written several outstanding books. He's an authority on white-tail deer hunting, and he has several illustrated slide programs for groups, clubs or schools, from kindergarten to college.

For additional information and a price list, contact Leonard Lee Rue III, Natural History Photography, Road 3, Post Office Box 31, Blairstown, N.J. 07825.

Howdy! I just wanted to send you this tear-sheet from one of my columns.

Jim "Moose" Carden.

WESTERN ADVENTURE

New angling books cast far and wide



**Ed
Dentry**

This season's crop of angling books promises to get us there with cash to spare and to help us cast farther for better success. There's also a peek into the life of a famous trout guide who realized 30 years ago that wild trout are worth more to us all alive than dead.

The following three books are worth a gander if you are planning an Alaskan fishing trip, want to stretch your fly casting or appreciate western fishing history:

■ *Fishing Alaska on Dollars a Day*, by Christopher and Adela Batin (\$19.95, Alaska Angler Publications, PO Box 83550 Dept. B-91, Fairbanks AK 99708. Phone 907-455-6691).

Alaska's two national forests, 17 million-acre Tongass and 6 million-acre Chugach, are the secret to fishing the state cheaply. The authors promise if you don't mind fending for yourself, you can enjoy for \$20 a day exactly the kind and quality of river and lake angling that guides provide for up to \$4,000 a week.

Included are tidal species, because both national forests are on the coast, and all five species of salmon, several trout species, grayling and just about anything else you can think of.

Do-it-yourselfers stay in abundant Forest Service cabins, which must be reserved. The book includes descriptions of the cabins, the fishing and access, which might be by car, boat or fly-in. Lots of topo maps help you plot your strategy.

If you order from the publisher, add \$6 for priority mail delivery.

■ *Longer Fly Casting*, by Lefty Kreh (\$12.95 paperback, Lyons & Burford Publishers).

World-traveled angler Lefty Kreh has been throwing the book at musty fly-casting theories for decades, and nowhere is his non-traditional approach more important than when we reach for distance.

Lefty's casting method is recognized by its long rod arcs, the extended rod hand that sometimes reaches straight behind the angler on the backcast and other maneuvers that fly in the face of the honorable 2-o'clock-to-10-o'clock casting school.

He is great at blowing theories and excels at analyzing rod and line dynamics with prose as spare as the book's concise line drawings.

There are many surprises, including his observation that air resistance has little to do with making wide loops of line fall short and tight loops cast farther.

The author's version: The angler throwing a wide loop "is throwing the force of his cast around a curve or arc. The caster throwing a tight loop is throwing most of his line and energy at the target."

If casting into howling winds is your nemesis, give a hearty welcome to the new Baseball Throw cast, which Lefty designed to address the winds that nag both Western and saltwater fly casters.

■ *A Trout's Best Friend*, by Bud Lilly and Paul Schullery (14.95 cloth, \$8.95 paperback, shipping included).

Bud Lilly's 1988 autobiography is not a new book. But the famous West Yellowstone guide and fly shop owner recently purchased all unsold copies from the publisher and is offering them, autographed by the authors, from his home at 2007 Sourdough Road, Bozeman, MT 59715.

Lilly, retired since 1981, is a Montana native and lifelong trout fisher. He bought the Trout Shop in 1950 from Don Martinez, who developed the Wooly Worm fly.

The shop became an institution in Yellowstone country and a meeting place for trout bums and celebrities — including Charles Kurrault, William Conrad, Curt Gowdy and Jimmy Carter.

Lilly's angling life is characterized by a deep appreciation for wild trout and a transition from killing and keeping every fish he caught to an understanding of "the harmful effects of hatchery trout and overharvest."

Lilly became an activist for catch-and-release and other special regulations that have restored the area's renowned wild trout fishing, and he remains an active champion of the Yellowstone River ecosystem.



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 and enhance accuracy.
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Fly Fisherman, March 1989



Bookshelf . . .

Continued from page 37

fisherman and the mysteries of fly fishing. Fly tying, fisheries management, life on the road and in camp, and dozens of other subtexts of a fly fisherman's life come in for witty, intelligent consideration. "The Fishing Car," where we see the origins of Gierach's "ambling," is one of Gierach's best efforts to date. Gierach makes no claim to be able to bring order out of the unholy chaos, but he's got some hunches and drops a few hints about how to split the difference, wade around the imponderables, and keep fishing.

Gierach's antiheroic view of fly fishing is, as it has always been, refreshing. "Enough Fish," the last essay in *Rat Lake*, suggests that Gierach may be at a turning point as a fisherman and a writer. Throughout the book there are flashes of novelistic intensity in Gierach's writing, places in his typically brisk narratives where he slows down and lets his prose enliven a character or deepen a sense of place. As he modestly notes in concluding the book, he is getting "definitely older, possibly wiser." Wiser is a good bet. And it's also a good bet that his unpretentious wisdom will show up again in print and that the rest of us will benefit from Gierach's view.

CHRIS CAMUTO

Lilly's Life Story

A Trout's Best Friend, the Angling Autobiography of Bud Lilly, by Bud Lilly and Paul Schullery. Pruett Publishing Co., 2928 Pearl St., Boulder, CO 80301, 1988, 143 pages, \$13.95 paper-cover, \$18.95 clothcover.

THE TITLE FOR THIS BOOK IS TAKEN from Arnold Gingrich's *The Joys of Trout*, in which Gingrich, writing of Bud Lilly's catch-and-release club, says, "Bud Lilly is a trout's best friend." Just as Gingrich's joys often have little to do with catching fish, *A Trout's Best Friend* is a tribute to those things associated with trout fishing that make the sport a way of life—in this case, Bud Lilly's life, more than 50 years spent in Montana and Yellowstone Park.

There are some fish caught in these pages, but they are incidental to the story. Lilly put plenty of how-to into his *Bud Lilly's Guide to Western Fly Fishing*, published in 1987 by Nick Lyons Books. *A Trout's Best Friend* contains all the stories and memories that didn't really fit into Lilly's guidebook yet are too good to be ignored.

This is the story of Bud Lilly's life, but it is also the story of Western fly fishing coming of age. In many ways

the two stories are the same.

When Lilly bought the Trout Shop in 1950, both West Yellowstone and fly fishing were anything but big business. It wasn't until the 1970s that a widespread interest in fly fishing turned into a boom. Bud Lilly's Trout Shop was a big part of the growth of the town and the sport. Without resorting to recounting the stories that make this book so entertaining, suffice it to say that Lilly chronicles the changes that he and his family were so much a part of, and he does it with humor, insight, and the kind of rich enjoyment that can only come when a man's life and work are one.

The Trout Shop was a family enterprise, and how that family worked and grew together around trout fishing is a steady theme in this book. The Trout Shop also drew an illustrious crowd. There's scarcely a fly-fishing luminary who didn't eventually find his way into the shop. There are plenty of stories about these anglers whose names we all know.

Throughout the book, the star of the show remains the fishing itself, the total Western trout-fishing experience Lilly campaigned for and popularized over the years. The rivers, the people, and the trout are all, in the end, just players against this backdrop. Lilly provides an integrated and refreshing look at a sport and a business that too often gets tangled up in its own intricacies, mired in bullshit of its own making.

This intelligent perspective, conveyed warmly and humanly from the heart by a man who helped build our sport even while he became a luminary himself, is what makes this book such a treat.

I wondered after reading *A Trout's Best Friend* if it was interesting to me because I know the family—then I realized that anyone who ever strolled into the Trout Shop when the Lillys had it or anyone who ever thumbed through the Trout Shop catalog knows the family. And their story is also the story of fly fishing in southwestern Montana and Yellowstone Park.

Bud Lilly's account of his life on the trout streams of the West is a rewarding reading experience. And if details are lacking on how to catch fish, there's still plenty to be learned here about becoming a better fisherman.

GLENN LAW

A Steelheader's Cookbook

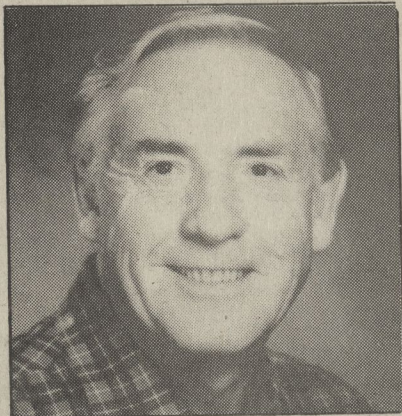
Thyme and the River, by Sharon Van Loan and Patricia Lee, with Mark Hoy.

Continued on page 40

Scheh won her first...
the season. Last week she played

ould do okay...
Holmes is looking forward to a

Bud Lilly is a fisherman's fisherman



Bud Lilly

"The Trout's Best Friend" is the title of Bud Lilly's brand new autobiography. Lilly, considered to be the dean of the Montana trout fishermen, will be the featured speaker at the next Bitterroot Trout Unlimited meeting to be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11 at the Montana Power

Company Building in Hamilton.

Lilly, a fourth generation Montanan, has fished for the wild trout of the Yellowstone County for over 50 years and is probably the most famous trout-fishing guide in America. His Trout Shop in West Yellowstone was an international mecca for people coming to Montana and the Yellowstone area.

Lilly was a founder of both Montana TU and the Montana Trout Foundation, is a senior adviser of the Federation of Fly Fishermen and is a director of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition. He is a Montana sportsman in the truest and highest sense of the word, indeed the "Trout's Best Friend." Lilly has agreed to make a special trip over to the Bitterroot and give a program that he says will have a little something for everyone. Those who have never had the opportunity to meet Lilly should definitely attend this meeting.

As a special attraction, Lilly's book will be available for sale at a special price and he will autograph all purchased books. If you already own it, bring it down and he will sign it for you.

Refreshments will be served and the meeting is open to the public.

Schooling show open

The Western Montana Paint Horse Club's All Breed Horse Schooling Show will be held this Saturday, April 7 beginning at 9 a.m. The show will be held in the Honey House Paints arena located at 982 Honey House Road east of Corvallis.

All breeds of horses are welcome to enter the show and no registration papers will be required. There will be both hunter and western classes for all ages.

For more information contact your local tack shop.

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