

Press Release – January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008

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**BRAINERD JAYCEES ANNOUNCE A VERY SUCCESSFUL  
18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EXTRAVAGANZA**

Brainerd, MN—Over 10,000 anglers were on Gull Lake's Hole in the Day Bay seven miles north of Brainerd for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice Fishing Extravaganza hosted by the Brainerd Jaycees today. 730 fish were registered in the event but the winning fish was a 5.34 pound Walleye caught by Terry Schwichtenberg of Waterville, MN. "We were fishing in 65 feet of water and using shiners," said Schwichtenberg. A walleye has been the winningest fish throughout the history of the contest. Schwichtenberg took home a 2008 Ford 4x4 Truck. In 100<sup>th</sup> place, winning a Glastron GT Fish and Ski Boat, was Trevor Birdsall of Princeton, MN. Birdsall landed on the board with a .60 pound Rock Bass. In last place (150<sup>th</sup>) was Jason Jowas of Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, and he took home a Suzuki KingQuad 450 ATV with .53 pound perch.

The Brainerd Jaycees estimate over 10,000 volunteer-hours went into planning this year's event. Chairman Brian Sedlachek said, "It's still amazing to me that this event is run entirely by volunteers and that it seems to get bigger and better every year." Sedlachek believes the event is successful because of the dedication of the Brainerd Jaycees and the support of the entire Brainerd-area and ice fishing communities. "We are fortunate to have many wonderful sponsors like Aqua-Vu, Mills Ford, Crystal Pierz Marine, Strikemaster, Mr. Heater and C&L Distributing that support us each and every year. Plus there are over 400 volunteers from all throughout the community that help on the day of the event."

Another unique aspect of the Extravaganza is that all of the proceeds are donated to area charities. Confidence Learning Center – a facility providing year-round outdoor experiences for people with developmental disabilities – is the primary beneficiary receiving 70% of the proceeds. "In the history of the event the Jaycees have donated over \$1-million dollars to Confidence Learning Center. That equates to over 20,000 camper days which is just awesome," said Jeff Olson, Executive Director, Confidence Learning Center. The Brainerd Jaycees have raised over \$2-million dollars since the first event in 1991 and they expect to raise nearly \$250,000 this year alone.

Next year's event is scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 2009. For more information please visit [www.icefishing.org](http://www.icefishing.org).