



Pictured: left to right at the end of 115 mile ski trip.
DenDecker, LuNay and Monje

115 Mile Ski Lake Ontario Trip Along

SODUS POINT- Saturday afternoon, September 2, 1978, the crew of Den Decker, LuNay and Monje left Fort Niagara on the Niagara River and Frank Monje skied 115 miles across Lake Ontario to the U. S. coast Guard Station at Sodus Point.

Monje used his 21 year old ski which is his favorite of skis and it is the same one he used to ski from Sodus Point Coast Guard Station and to the Canadian side and back last year.

Frank Monje, 48, of 46 Bonnie Castle, Road, North Rose, Wayne County, started his trip from Niagara at 12:10 p.m. and dropped off at the U. S. coast Guard Station dock at 4:28 p.m. his estimated time of arrival being 15 minutes sooner. As he dropped off, exhaustion began to be visible to the crowd on shore waiting to welcome him from the grueling trip. He climbed into the boat which had pulled him 200 feet behind for the trip and was helped to the dock.

Frank stated that when he reached Rochester about 3 p.m. the trip began to tell on him he

had a leg cramp and the pain was terrific. Monje stated; "The waves made the trip bad, the chop from the boats is what kills you. It seems good to be on solid ground after the trip."

Jim DenDecker the owner and Captain of the boat operates the "Rail" in Newark, is married and has one son Danny. Jim was captain of the trip last year to Canada.

Jack LuNay is employed at Fiber Board in Newark is married has 4 children and resides in Newark. Jack is an ardent sportsman.

Frank Monje has one daughter and one grand daughter. He takes the trips just for fun and doesn't train (so he stated when interviewed) but does a lot of water skiing and is employed as a mason.

The trip was made about one mile off shore and averaged 23 MPH. The waves averaged 1 to 3 feet during the trip. It was an exhausting trip but Frank and the crew were extremely pleased to have accomplished it and what their future plans are even they are not telling!!!