

LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

★ July 25, 2008

Texas' Premier Outdoor Newspaper

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Broadhead
caution



Handle with care
Page 6

INSIDE HUNTING



Much time and effort is spent in training, but falconers revel in the bird's ability to power dive for game at more than 200 mph.

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The Texas Youth Shooting Sports Committee hopes to bring in more and more young shooters, with the ultimate goal of the shotgun sports being recognized as official UIL sports in schools.

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FISHING



Anglers come out at night at Lake Fork each summer, and big bass often respond.

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James Thaxton of Corpus Christi headed to Bermuda for the wedding of a friend's daughter and fit in a billfish fishing trip to remember.

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CONSERVATION

The Center for Coastal Conservation, a new marine conservation group designed to be involved in the political process, has been formed.

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NATIONAL

The Tensas River Basin Project in Louisiana will restore 3,600 acres as part of The Nature Conservancy's voluntary carbon offset program.

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Hot, heavy action offshore

'Fishing's been getting better every day'

By DANNO WISE

With so many inshore options available during the summer months, many Texas saltwater anglers forget a few miles away there's a whole other world of fishing awaiting them in the Gulf of Mexico.

You don't have to miss out, though. As the winds and seas calm and the nearshore waters clear — and after remnants of Hurricane Dolly leave — deep-water fish are coming soon to a shore near you.

"The wind finally quit blowing last week and the fishing's been getting better every day," said Capt. Todd Lohry of Todd's Sportfishing Services in Port Isabel. "Having the shrimp boats out there has also helped a lot. Since the shrimpers have shown up, we've been picking up a lot of fish behind their boats. We've been catching wahoo, dorado, bonito — it's been pretty good."

"Snapper and amberjack have been steady. We've been catching plenty of both. Of course, the snapper season's getting ready to close, but we'll still be pulling plenty of amberjack when we're structure fishing." Lohry said billfish fishing has been "OK," but not great.

"We had sailfish in as close as six miles, but they backed out when the green water moved in," he said. "Once that blue water swings close again, they'll be back. They're still out there, they're just hanging a little farther offshore."

For now, you have to go far and deep to catch marlin, said Capt. Ron Pierson, who ships out from Port Aransas on the Texas Coastal Bend.

"Right now you're having to run at least 60 miles to get into the marlin," he said.

However, that won't be the case soon, Lohry said, as the coast is just entering its prime marlin period.

"We should start picking up more fish over the next few weeks. Last week we did pick up a swordfish on one of our overnight trips, so that's another possibility."

See OFFSHORE, Page 24



MIGHTY MACKEREL: Kingfish are keeping offshore anglers busy out of Port Aransas and Freeport this summer, with limits coming on ribbonfish and lures. Photo by David J. Sams.



A LONG ROAD: James Niggemeyer's road to the Elite Series tour included years of guiding and even sleeping in a warehouse. Photo by David J. Sams.

Leap of faith

Elite Series' James Niggemeyer's rise in the ranks not an easy ride

By KYLE CARTER

The year was 1995. BASS professional Mark Davis had just won the Bassmaster Classic and was in Southern California talking to a group of aspiring anglers.

Somewhere near the front row sat a skinny James Niggemeyer in his early 20s and looking for direction.

"I told him I was really serious about fishing for a living and I wanted some advice," said Niggemeyer, who is now in his second year on the BASS Elite Series. "He told me I should become a guide. I held on to that nugget and that's how I got to this point."

Six years later, Niggemeyer See NIGGEMEYER, Page 17

Prescribed burns needed for eastern turkey habitat

By BILL MILLER

Stan Graff likes to start fires on his property in East Texas, but don't mistake him for a pyromaniac.

The Dallas car dealer is also an award-winning conservationist whose ranch in Red River County was one of the first places in Texas

where eastern turkeys were introduced in the late 1980s.

To give the birds a home where they could thrive, Graff has burned off excess brush and undergrowth — a practice he continues and would like to see more landowners doing.

"Prescribed burning is probably

See BURNS, Page 14

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CONSERVATION

TPW to acquire lands for state parks

PROTECTING THE VIEW: The 2,898-acre Fortress Cliff Ranch overlooks Palo Duro State Park. The ranch was approved by the TPW Commission to be purchased by TPW. Photo by TPW.



Texas Parks and Wildlife is acting to acquire two large land tracts at Big Bend Ranch State Park in Presidio County and Palo Duro Canyon State Park in Randall and Armstrong counties.

On July 17, the TPW Commission approved acquiring the 6,817-acre Norsworthy Ranch contained within Big Bend Ranch State Park.

At more than 300,000 acres, Big Bend Ranch State Park is the largest state park in Texas. When the park was acquired, there were numerous inholdings. The 6,817-acre Norsworthy Ranch includes two riverfront sections and it straddles Fresno Canyon. The Fresno Canyon road and trail is the only route into the park from the town of Lajitas.

The Norsworthy estate is being liquidated and the ranch is being sold. The trustee for the estate agreed that TPW may pur-

chase the ranch at appraised value. The ranch was appraised in May 2008.

TPW has been working closely with the Trust for Public Land and a private landowner to negotiate the acquisition of the 2,898-acre Fortress Cliff Ranch adjacent to Palo Duro Canyon State Park.

The 26,275-acre park straddles the second largest canyon in North America, after the Grand Canyon. With some eight miles of canyon rim making up a significant portion of the north boundary of the park, the Fortress Cliff forms a significant component of the vista from within the park.

The Trust for Public Land will negotiate and broker an agreement with the landowner, and hold the property until TPW can buy the ranch.

—Texas Parks and Wildlife report.

New marine conservation group formed

Enacting sensible marine conservation laws through education and political action is the aim of the new Center for Coastal Conservation.

"The center fills a vacuum that existed on the national scene for a business-oriented organization dedicated to protecting America's coastal resources through involvement in the political process," said Jack Lawton, the group's founding chairman.

The center will focus on promoting a quality recreational fishery, ending overfishing, rebuilding plans for fisheries, improving angling and boating access and working waterfronts and marinas.

"The center focuses on helping elect conservation-minded men and women to the U.S. House and Senate and educating all

members of Congress regarding issues that are important to recreational fishing and boating," Lawton said.

Jefferson Angers, previously the executive director of CCA of Louisiana for 15 years, is the center's first president. Members of the board of directors include executives from CCA, the National Marine Manufacturers Association, the International Game Fish Association, the American Sportfishing Association and The Billfish Foundation.

The center has formed a political action committee for its members to participate in the federal election process. Contributions to the PAC and membership dues are not tax deductible.

—Center for Coastal Conservation report.

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HUNTING

Falconers still practice ancient sport

Birds of prey dive for game at 200 mph

By MARY HELEN AGUIRRE

Falconry.

It's a word that invokes romantic imagery of richly-robed Medieval lords with fierce birds of prey perching majestically on their wrists waiting to be released for the hunt.

For modern falconers who participate in a sport that has been around for thousands of years, there is indeed a sense of awe when hunting with one of nature's most amazing creatures.

"The stoop on game is the most exciting part," said master falconer Jay Lehmer of Frisco.

He says watching a bird of prey execute his power dive for game at 200 to 250 miles per hour is like watching a precision jet: "The turns and maneuvers are just amazing."

But the excitement of the hunt comes only after investing plenty of time and hard work.

Lehmer, who is director-at-large for the 200-member strong Texas Hawking Association, said anyone interested in the sport should know that it is a big commitment.

Lehmer first became interested in hawkling at the age of 13 when he met a falconer while visiting his grandparents. A couple of years later, he got his first bird and has been involved in the sports for more than three decades.

Since March, he has been working with Cowboy, who is three-quarters Gyrfalcon and one-quarter Peregrine.

This time of year, when the birds are molting, Lehmer spends a couple of hours a day with Cowboy. "I put him on a perch in the back yard in the evening. I take him in the house to keep him socialized around the kids and the dogs," he said.

As Cowboy's new feathers come in, Lehmer will step up the training, preparing the bird of prey for the hunting season: "I'll let him chase a homing pigeon and exercise him."

Then, it'll really get busy.

When Cowboy is flying at full capacity, Lehmer will spend about four to six hours a day either every day or every other day with his falcon, taking him out to an open area



FAST FLYING: Falconers and their trainers spend countless hours of training, with the ultimate reward being the bird snaring its prey — in this case, a gadwall drake. Photo by Jay Lehmer.

Bowhunters' broadheads require extra caution

Injuries happen away from the field

By BILL MILLER

If Merriam-Webster's dictionary needed an object to illustrate the word "lethal," a bowhunter's broadhead would be a good choice.

These modern projectiles are multi-edged and razor sharp to ensure — with proper shot placement — a quick and ethical kill.

"Handle with care" is an appropriate mantra, yet accidents with broadheads still happen — sometimes in ways and in places people don't expect.

"I've heard of all kinds of weird injuries," said Jack Jetton of Pearland, president of the Lone Star Bowhunters Association.

"I've heard of some master bowhunter instructors who have stuck broadheads into their hands.

"If it can happen, it will."

Getting sliced by a broadhead and falling from a tree stand are the two most common accidents among bowhunters, said Terry Erwin, who oversees hunter education for Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Even the most freakish slip can cause an injury, as one naval helicopter pilot can attest. After returning home from a turkey hunt, he had his quiver in his hand and was removing the arrows.

While pulling the arrow out of the quiver, the broadhead came out of the quiver's plastic cap at the same time he

accidentally dropped the quiver. The weight of the quiver and additional arrows created enough force for the broadhead to travel through his pants and enter his leg. "It didn't hurt, though," the pilot said, although he still has some loss of feeling in the area.

But Erwin and Jetton, who teach bowhunter safety, agree that archers can avoid cuts by following some basic safety rules.

First, they said, always use a wrench while adding a broadhead to a shaft, and the same goes for removing it.

People should also mind where they put their fingers, Erwin said.

See **BROADHEAD**, Page 27



FREAK ACCIDENT: This broadhead entered a naval helicopter pilot's leg when being removed from its quiver after he returned home from hunting.



BRING THEM IN: A young shooter participates in the first Super Shoot held at Elm Fork Shooting Range. The second event will take place Sept. 6 at the American Shooting Center in Houston. Photo by Russ Arnold.

SUPER SHOOTS

Shooting events aim to kick-start kids

By CRAIG NYHUS

The Texas Youth Shooting Sports Committee had an interesting beginning. And it is shooting for an even bigger return.

"Two years ago, (TPW) Commissioner John Parker was talking to a commissioner from Tennessee who was bragging about the success of his state's youth shooting program," said committee member Russ Arnold. "Commissioner Parker came back determined to not let Tennessee's program be better than ours."

The committee was formed in early 2008. Arnold, who also is the state director of the Scholastic Clay Targets Program, said the Super Shoots are an additional tool to bring the shooting sports to Texas youth.

"There has been a flat or even a declining trend in hunting license sales," Arnold said. "We want to revert that trend. And most importantly, kids who participate in shooting sports with responsible adults

make better kids. And better kids make better adults."

The first Super Shoots was held at Elm Fork Shooting Range in Dallas in June, and the next is set for the American Shooting Center in Houston on Sept. 6.

The shoots are open to all to all youth. "A lot of them are 4-H kids," Arnold said. "Some are SCTP kids, and others come to shoot for their first time."

Steve Hall, education director for Texas Parks and Wildlife, is also a committee member. "The Super Shoots are a venue to get everyone together," he said. "It's an un-intimidating venue for new shooters. We would like to work together with the DU Greenwings, NWTJ Jakes and other groups with youth shooting efforts."

"Our goal is to develop ongoing shooters," Arnold said.

The Super Shoots hold sporting clays, trap, and skeet competitions, along with other shooting chances like archery and BB gun shooting, or intro-

See **SHOOTS**, Page 22

Bands across North America

Web site maps show waterfowl banding, recovery locations

Waterfowl hunters looking to get a banded bird this season now have a new place to look — the Internet.

A new site produced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in collaboration with flyway and state waterfowl managers shows maps with the locations where more than 3.1 million ducks and geese were banded and recovered since 1914.

Hunters can search and view maps showing where banded ducks and geese were taken in their favorite areas (although it is necessary to check by each year the birds were banded), and fortunate hunters who have taken a banded bird can find it by locating it on the map and clicking on the red bird icon or by entering the band number. From there, the map takes them to the location where the bird was banded.

Texas mallard hunters may want to look to the north and east if a banded mallard is their goal. A quick look at the maps shows that of mallards (the most commonly banded birds) banded in 2007, 12 were recovered in Texas but three times that many were recovered in Arkansas. Hunters in Texas recovered 57 mallards banded in 2006, with Arkansas bringing in more than double that number.

Texas is at or near the top in taking bands of redheads, northern pintail and especially blue-winged teal, where band recoveries were most common along the Texas coast and in the coastal prairies. Snow goose bands also were recovered in good numbers.

But if a banded Canada goose is the target, although Texas has prime Canada goose hunting spots, surprisingly few banded geese were recovered in the state — while the maps



of Nebraska and states to its north are dotted with red icons showing banded Canada recoveries.

While a banded bird is a prize for the hunter, the data gathered is the payoff for biologists. The data obtained supplies information about movement patterns, harvest and survival rates and assists in waterfowl management decisions.

To date, about 16 million waterfowl have been banded in North America, including about 13 million ducks, including 7 million mallards. More than 200,000 ducks and nearly 150,000 geese and swans are banded in North America each year, with about 85,000-90,000 bands being reported annually.

The site, www.flyways.us, also shows video reports and aerial photographs from the biologists conducting the population and habitat surveys.

— Staff reports.



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FISHING

Night bite

Lake Fork anglers come out in the dark



FISHING IN THE DARK: Summer night fishing often brings big bass success, but precautions are needed. Mickey Delamar, a G. Loomis pro-staffer, shows a bass caught on spinnerbait. He's also catching them on 10-inch worms. Photo by David J. Sams.

By CRAIG NYHUS

It's cooler, usually calm and very few boats are on the water. And the bass bite at night. Guides at Lake Fork have been night fishing for years, and they and their customers have big bass to show for it.

Guide Richie White said good quality fish are being caught by his customers, but not to expect big numbers of fish. "On Friday night, we brought in a 6 1/2 pounder, and the night before, a 7 1/2," he said. "We lost a few big ones each night. And on Monday night, we got a 10 1/2."

White said the 10- to 12-inch worms have been the best. As far as locations, he's fishing over roadbeds and humps.

The full moon helps visibility, but tends to change the time of the best bite. "The first two to three hours of darkness tends to be the best when the moon is out before dark," he said. "And we caught the bigger fish between 2 and 3 a.m. With the new moon, the bite may be better at 4."

Shane Casey has guided night fishermen at Fork for 20 years. "I fish exclusively at night in the summer," he said. "It seems the bass relate to the same structure at night from year to year. I'm fishing many of the same holes I fished 20 years ago."

Casey prefers secondary points and main lake points. "And when

Casey's tips

1. Learn the lake.

"Get familiar with the lake before going out at night," he said. "And the first few times, find spots closer to the launching site. I've had to tow or lead people out who had no idea where they were."

2. Learn the boat lanes.

"Some of them are real skinny — 10- to 12-feet across."

3. Lights and more lights.

"Run with a spotlight, and carry a second one in the boat. If the light dies, idling all the way back takes a long time."

4. Prepare for bugs.

"The first hour of darkness the bugs come out. Carry bug spray. I use Avon Skin So Soft; it works but be prepared to take some ribbing."

5. Turn off trolling motor.

"Don't use it unless you know exactly where you are. Tie up or anchor."

6. Quiet please.

"Don't bang around a lot. Keep ultra-quiet, the fish will spook easily."

7. Fish super slow.

"The bigger bass seem to like it slow at night even more."

8. Life jackets — wear them.

"Wear them 100 percent of the time at night. I've fallen in a half-dozen times over the years."

See NIGHT, Page 27

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Annual fishing reunion honors late father

By DIANA KUNDE

Some families get together for a reunion at a park or hotel. The Richardsons have an annual family deep-sea fishing tournament — trophy and all.

It started with a father's dying wish, said Rob Richardson of Lone Oak. "When our father was on his deathbed, he said 'I want you all to stay close.'"

Weldon Richardson was a retired Dallas police officer who loved to take his three sons deep-sea fishing. So his sons hit on the idea of a family fishing tournament in his honor,

Rob said.

This is the 12th year for the tournament, Rob said.

About 10 Richardsons and a couple of friends fished the Capt. John party boat out of Galveston the third week in July, each vying for a spot on the family's traveling trophy.

"It's a lot of fun," Rob said. Not all family members fish, but they all gather at a state campground about eight miles west of the Seawall for the week. Friends fish with them, but only family members are eligible for the trophy. There are 17 folks camping this year, Rob said.

The trophy is a large wooden

plaque with a photo of the three boys and their dad taken the last year they went fishing together. Metal plates list the name, fish and weight of each year's family fishing winner.

"You meet a lot of nice people fishing, but I've never met so many in one family," said Patrick Lemire, who fished on the Capt. John with the Richardsons.

Rob himself is now 44, with two grown sons.

One of those sons, Jeff, won this year's tournament and plaque with a king mackerel catch that weighed in at 25 pounds.

See FAMILY, Page 29



DAD'S WISH: The Richardson family follows their father's request to stay close by holding an annual deep-sea fishing tournament. Photo by Bob Richardson.



MONSTER MARLIN: James Thaxton shows one of the giant blue marlins he caught on a vacation trip to Bermuda. The fish became tail-wrapped and was unable to be released.

One of those trips

Corpus angler hooks into giant Bermuda billfish

By CRAIG NYHUS

James Thaxton of Corpus Christi won't forget his recent trip to Bermuda. Thaxton, who has fished the Texas Gulf Coast all his life, began heading to the island looking for find billfish closer to shore.

"Much of the time it's just too far or too rough to get to the billfish off of the Texas coast," he said.

A longtime fishing friend, Ed Hawn, had moved his boat to Bermuda. "He told me it's the place you need to be for big fish," Thaxton said.

Thaxton began fishing off the island in 2006.

But in July of this year it was his friend's daughter's wedding that sent him to the island. "I chartered the 'Challenger,' captained by Alan Card, well known in bill-

fishing circles, and his mate and son, Ian," Thaxton said. "We fished July 2, a few days before the wedding."

It was a day to remember.

"At 9:30 a.m., I brought to the back of the boat an estimated 650-pound blue marlin," Thaxton said. "Then, at 11:30, I caught a 250-pound blue."

That would be enough for most anglers to pass the rod to another. "But I was the only angler on the boat," he said.

So he kept fishing — and catching.

"At 2 p.m., I brought in an estimated 750-pound blue," he said. "Then, to close out the day, a few hours later I landed a 200-pounder."

It was the 750-pound fish that made the crew remember the dangers of marlin fishing. "The fish was strong," Thaxton said. "Getting it in the last 20 feet took 30 min-

utes. It was under the boat and the fish was real green — she had a whole lot left."

"Ian Card, the wireman, wrapped the line around his glove two or three times. I said, 'Ian, be careful.' He told me, 'Don't worry, that fish isn't taking me in back in the water.'"

To some, the scenario is not uncommon. But to Ian Card, memories of a 2006 fish could not have been far from his mind.

While fishing a tournament, a huge 800-pound blue marlin was hooked, and all was fine until it charged the boat. When the giant fish reached the boat, it jumped and sailed over the right corner of the stern, spearing Ian in the shoulder and taking him overboard.

Fortunately, Ian pulled himself free from the fish's bill and swam to the surface.

See BERMUDA, Page 29

Survey: Top 10 products that transformed fishing

Ten influential fishing products created over the past 75 years — from rods to reels to electronics — helped make fishing the great sport it is today, according to a new survey from the American Sportfishing Association.

ASA partnered with the Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation to survey the foundation's thousands of Anglers' Legacy Ambassadors, who voted for the products they feel most shaped the sport over the past seven and a half decades.

The final top ten list spans six categories, including accessories, electronics, lines, lures, reels and rods:

Original Floater Minnow (1936) remains one of the most successful and widely copied hard lures in sportfishing's history.

Spring loaded Bobber (1947) made suspending a baited hook at a desired depth simpler and easier.

Mitchell 300 (1949) was the first commercially successful spinning reel, and is still one of the most common reels used today.

Creme Plastic Worm (1949) changed the sport forever as the first long-lasting

artificial worm that both looked and felt real.

Closed Face Spincast Reel (1949) made fishing easy and affordable to everyone regardless of age, size, gender and expertise.

Lowrance Fish Lo-K-Tor (1957), the "Little Green Box" introduced anglers to the use of sonar in locating individual fish.

Monofilament Line (1958) improved the durability, affordability and casting ability of fishing line while reducing its visibility to fish.

Minn Kota Trolling Motor (1958) was the first electric gear-driven trolling motor and gave anglers the ability to quietly maneuver and position their boats.

Fenwick High Modulus Graphite Rod (1972) with its super-sensitive carbon (graphite) fibers, revolutionized the method of making fishing rods and how anglers fished.

Shakespeare Ugly Stick (1976) with its special construction, created an affordable, unbreakable and dynamic fishing rod still in use today.

— American Sportfishing Association report.

Recreational catch dips slightly, but second highest in decade

Marine recreational anglers caught more than 468 million fish in 2007, down slightly from 475 million fish in 2006, but still the second highest recreational catch total in the last 10 years.

The overall number of fish caught and kept also declined slightly, from 214 million to 196 million fish, according to NOAA's Fisheries Service.

The 2007 data demonstrates increased

catch-and-release practices among recreational anglers. Of the 468 million fish caught by anglers in 2007, 272 million or 58 percent were released alive.

Spotted seatrout was the most popular catch among marine recreational anglers in the Gulf of Mexico and the south Atlantic regions.

— NOAA report.

Arkansas-Little Rock takes College Bass Championship

Texas A&M University team finishes second

A pair of fisheries biologist majors from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock fishing club topped the field in the Under Armour College Bass National Championship. Teammates Trent Gephardt and Jeremy Reese brought in a 21.07-pound sack on the final day to claim the national title for their school.

The Texas A&M team of Andrew Shafer and Scott Edmonds finished second with 17.40 pounds.

Of the 54 teams who qualified for the championships, the five with the highest

combined weights on two days on Arkansas' Lake Maumelle advanced to fish the final day on a mystery lake — two ponds east of Little Rock that presented about 15 acres of water.

Faulkner State University's Kyle Tindol and Michael Eubanks finished third with 17.22 pounds; the University of Alabama's Foster Bradley and Jeff Aul managed fourth with 14.50 pounds; and Richard Peek and Adam Murphee of Auburn University finished in fifth place with 9.33 pounds.


— ESPN Outdoors report.

HOT SPOT




Lake Fork

Water lightly stained, 81-87 degrees, 0.46' high. Black bass are good on Zell Pops and soft plastic frogs early and late, midmorning switching to DD22s, drop shot rigs and Carolina rigs — night fishing has also been very good. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows around the bridges and over brush piles. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait. Guide Marcel Bryson ((903) 217-5533) said the big bass bite is on. "It's a deep fish bite," he said. "Not a lot of bites, but they're big bites. And they're biting in the middle of the day. The time when it's so hot you want to get off the water is the best time." See full fishing report on Page 26.




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GAME WARDEN BLOTTER

BOATER TRIES TO SWIM AWAY FROM SOBRIETY TEST

While patrolling Lake Bridgeport, Wise County Game Warden Penny Nixon arrested a man for BWI and evading arrest. The man screamed obscenities at Nixon and a deputy after being stopped for no lights at night. The man jumped from his boat into the lake while being towed to shore for field sobriety tests. Cases pending.

FEED STORE OWNER CITED FOR SELLING WHITE-WINGED DOVES

In Webb County, Game Wardens Jesse Garcia and Dennis Gazaway Jr. received a call that a local feed store was selling white-winged doves. At the feed store, several white-winged doves were found and released. The owner was given a citation for possession of migratory game birds.

GIRLS FALL OFF TUBE WHILE BEING TOWED, DRIVER MILE AWAY

At Cedar Creek Lake, Cherokee County Game Warden Brian Bearden heard screams but there were no signs of a boat in the area. Bearden scanned the area and noticed two young girls floating in the middle of the lake. The girls were so small they could only be seen between waves. The scared girls were safely pulled out of the water. It was determined that the girls had fallen off a tube while being towed by their grandfather on a PWC. The PWC and the driver were located approximately 1 mile away. After being educated on the dangers of towing skiers without a mirror or an observer, the girls were taken to the bank. Case pending.

WARDENS INVESTIGATE PWC COLLISION

Johnson County Game Warden

MAN SAYS DEER ON LEASH A PET

Sabine County Game Warden Randy Button was notified of a person walking a deer on a leash at Mill Creek Park on Sam Rayburn Reservoir. At the

campsite, Button inquired about the deer. The occupant of the campsite replied, "Oh, you mean the pet." After securing the deer, Button learned that

the animal was brought into Texas from Oklahoma with the family for vacation. The deer was turned over to Jasper Wildlife. Cases pending.

Scott Kirkpatrick and Hill County Game Warden Mark Hammonds investigated a PWC accident on Lake Whitney. Two PWCs collided after one of the operators powered his boat down and lost control, striking the other PWC and operator. No injuries were reported, but one PWC was a total loss. Charges pending for violation of the 50-foot rule.

FAWN TIED TO PORCH FOR HOLIDAY MEAT, MAN SAYS

A complaint was received by Hays County Game Warden James Michael of a fawn deer being tied to a porch at a residence. Michael saw the fawn when he arrived, and a man came out to meet him. When asked about the fawn, the man said, "Just a minute." He went back into the house, returned with his wallet, then handed Michael a valid hunting license with a deer tag missing. He pointed to the fawn where he had attached a deer tag, and said they wanted some tender venison for Labor Day. Case pending; fawn relocated to a rehabilitator.

TWO ARRESTED ON MULTIPLE FELONY CHARGES

On Possum Kingdom Lake, Palo Pinto County Game Warden Cliff Swofford and Young County Game Warden Brent Isom observed a PWC that had the VIN

plate removed. An investigation resulted in the PWC, PWC trailer, a 16-foot flatbed trailer, a picnic table and two stolen license plates all being seized. Two men were arrested with multiple state jail felony charges.

WARDEN WORKS DROWNING IN PRIVATE POND

Burleson County Game Warden Sophia Hiatt worked a drowning in a private pond in Washington County. The 19-year-old drowned after falling from a small jon boat while fishing. He was wrapped in hydrilla when recovered.

MAN CAUGHT FISHING UNLAWFULLY WITH A GILL NET

A man fishing unlawfully with a gill net on the Colorado River in Lampasas County was apprehended by Game Wardens Jim Lindeman and Jeff Hill. More than 600 feet of net was seized.

MAN'S BOAT, MOTOR, GILL NETS SEIZED

La Salle County Game Warden Ryan Johnson received a tip from a local rancher that a man was running gill nets in the Frio River. After watching the man's house in town and the boat in the front yard, Johnson noticed the boat was gone one morning. He went to a stretch of the Frio River and heard an outboard engine run-

ning up and down the river. Johnson was able to get within a few yards of the man and videotape him running four different gill nets. Johnson then located the fisherman's truck and waited for him to return. The man's boat, motor, and 200 feet of gill net were seized.

TWO CITED FOR ATTEMPTING TO CATCH GATOR FROM PRIVATE LAKE

A property owner contacted Montgomery County Game Warden Alan Biggerstaff about two young men attempting to catch an alligator from a private lake. One of the men was on a tree trunk hanging over the lake with a rope with chicken tied to it dangling it at an alligator. The other young man was at the bank with a crossbow in hand. The men left when observed by the property owner, who recorded their license plate number. Biggerstaff located the recent high school graduates, and citations were issued along with warnings about trespassing and hunting without consent.

ANGRY PWC OPERATOR ISSUED TWO 50-FOOT RULE VIOLATIONS

Tom Green County Game Warden Cynde Aguilar and Schleicher County Game Warden Marco Alvizo were patrolling Lake Nasworthy when they observed a PWC violating the 50-foot rule. As Alvizo was issuing a citation for the

50-foot rule violation, the female operator attempted to put the fire extinguisher back into the storage compartment and damaged the compartment support bracket by forcing the access door shut with all of her weight. She then claimed that Alvizo broke her PWC and left mad. A few minutes later, Alvizo and Aguilar were flagged down in the middle of the lake by an angry male on a PWC. He demanded that they pay for the damages to his PWC. When told that they did not touch the PWC, he angrily left at a high rate of speed spraying the patrol boat. Another citation for violating the 50-foot rule was issued, and while in the process of writing this citation it was learned that the man had four active warrants for his arrest.

BLUE HERON RELEASED BACK INTO THE WILD

A caller notified Aransas County Game Warden Danny Flores concerning a shrimp boat that had just docked in Rockport. A blue heron appeared to be inside the wheel house. Flores found the shrimp boat, opened the door and released the blue heron back into the wild.

MAN CAUGHT SELLING BAIT WITHOUT A LICENSE

Grayson County Game Warden Dale Moses stopped to check for a bait dealer's license at a residence that had a sign in the front yard reading "Bait for Sale." At the front door, there was a price list posted for different sized minnows. The person who answered the door told Moses that he wasn't really selling bait, but that the bait was for him and his brother. When Moses pointed out the signs and the price list, the man admitted he did not have a license to sell bait. Case pending.

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13⁹⁹
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 • Ball-bearing drive
 • All-metal gears
 • Pre-packed
 • 800CF



59⁹⁵ - 64⁹⁵
ABU GARCIA BCK BAITCAST REELS
 • Four ball bearings
 • 5:0:1 gear ratio
 • Available in 5000 or 8000 size
 • #8000BCK, #8000C



13⁹⁹
SHAKESPEARE XTERA SPINNING COMBO
 • One ball-bearing • Available in 6-6, 6-6, or 7-6 rod
 • #XTERA666, #XTERA766C60



109⁹⁹
ABU GARCIA BEVO 5 BAITCAST REEL
 • New stainless steel Springs
 • 6.4:1 gear ratio
 • #BEVO 5



269⁹⁹
SHIMANO CHRONARCH 8 BAITCAST REEL
 • All-PTF artificial bearing
 • 9M™ Super Free Spooling supported gear system
 • Super Stopper™ anti-reverse
 • #CH-1008, CH-1008PV, CH-1008SV



18⁸⁶
SHAKESPEARE CAT STE COMBO
 • Graphite spool complete with line
 • Stainless steel guides with aluminum-oxide inserts
 • Spinning or spincast • #CATSTE60, #SPINSTE60



59⁹⁹
ABU GARCIA BLACK MAX BAITCAST COMBO
 • Five ball-bearing system • 6.3:1 gear ratio
 • 6-6, 6-6, medium heavy rod
 • #BLACKMAX



3⁶⁹ per pack
BIG BITE SALTWATER BAITS
 • Available in 3-ways
 • Paddle tail or single tail



4⁵⁹ each
BOMBER MODEL A LURES
 • Ball-body design for extra strength and freedom of operation
 • Comes in six performance variations



8⁹⁹ per pack
YUM 3.5 OR 5-8 MONEY MINNOW SWIM BAITS
 • Rubber hook set for better rigging and hook-up ratio
 • Craft and retrieve slowly for best action
 • Use weighted heads in 1/4-oz. for best results
 • #YUM3500, #YUM5800



69⁹⁹
FLUJER CRITERION BAITCAST COMBO
 • Five bearings • 5.1:1 gear ratio
 • 6-6, 6-6, one-piece medium heavy action rod
 • #FLUCR6000



84⁸⁶ - 119⁰⁰
CASTAWAY SLX-3 SERIES RODS
 • Soft-touch Full-stiff-draw reel seat
 • Grade-A Portuguese cork
 • Full stainless steel new concept guides
 • 15 modular graphite blanks
 • Freshwater or saltwater styles



5⁹⁹
PLANO TROLLING BAIT BUCKET
 • Secure bait cover
 • Built-in handle
 • #800-001



14⁹⁹
FURSIDER THREE-DAY TACKLE BOX
 • Easy top access in lid
 • Three-day hold
 • Patented Tackle technology
 • #1403-00 COPPER



42⁹⁹
GUIDE SERIES 3337 TACKLE BAG
 • Durable top protects gear
 • Extruded bottom provides additional room
 • Includes four #1000 ProLash™ utility loops
 • #3337-20



109⁹⁹ - 114⁹⁹
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 • High aluminum-oxide guides
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229⁹⁹
PELICAN ZEST KAYAK
 • Length: 8 ft., 6 in.
 • Width: 31 in.
 • Weight: 42 lbs.
 • Maximum capacity: 200 lbs.
 • Drink holder, carrying handles, and tubular cooler included
 • #KZ030P102



14⁹⁹
COLEMAN ANGLER SOFT COOLER
 • Will hold 16, 12-oz. cans of your favorite beverage with-ice • Easy-access flap
 • Thick insulation means extreme performance
 • #17-40209N



17⁹⁹
QUICKSEVER TC-W3 OUTBOARD MOTOR OIL
 • Substitute for use in dry-start 3-cylinder outboard
 • Act extra lightweight
 • Also slows cleaner emissions • One-gallon
 • #00020001



49⁹⁹
TOURNAMENT CHOICE 16-POSTION ROD RACK
 • Handcrafted from solid pine logs
 • Holds 16 rods or 8 combos
 • #RT-0020



69⁹⁹
EAGLE CLUA 188 FISHPINDER
 • 188 vertical pixel resolution
 • 4-in. diagonal, high-contrast, backlit screen
 • Depth capability up to 600 ft.
 • Built-in temperature sensor
 • Audible sonar alarms
 • Operates at boat speeds up to 70 mph
 • #113-37



24⁹⁹
TOURNAMENT CHOICE 4 1/2-FT. NYLON OR MONO CAST NET
 • 1 lb. net weight per three-foot diameter
 • #TNCNET01



11⁹⁹
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 • DC 12-volt car adapter included
 • #K55AV



49⁹⁹
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 • Integrated mud mat, ear vents, and Campin' Air™ gear loft
 • Includes storage bag
 • #T14-2015-08



44⁹⁹
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 • Holds ice up to five days in 95°F heat
 • Hatch lid provides easy access to contents
 • Holds 145, 12-oz. cans
 • #44201



49⁹⁹
COLEMAN 16.4-Qt. PROPANE CHURNER, 2.2P



49⁹⁹
TIMBER CREEK PROPANE STOVE AND GRILL
 • Double-burner propane stove and grill
 • Stainless steel drip tray
 • Foldable both sides whitewash
 • #TC34000



49⁹⁹
TIMBER CREEK PICOS DOME TENT
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 • Includes storage bag
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Moon Phases

Last	New	First	Full
July 25	Aug 1	Aug 8	Aug 16

Tides

High	Low	High	Low	Forecast	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	
7:04 a.m.	12:34 a.m.	8:30 p.m.	2:23 p.m.	7:23	7:15 a.m.	12:04 a.m.	8:30 p.m.	2:33 p.m.	7:23	7:25 a.m.	1:31 p.m.	8:19 p.m.	2:36 p.m.
7:12 a.m.	1:10 a.m.	10:11 p.m.	3:13 p.m.	7:26	7:13 a.m.	12:40 a.m.	10:34 p.m.	2:41 p.m.	7:26	7:21 a.m.	12:18 a.m.	10:42 p.m.	2:21 p.m.
7:23 a.m.	1:53 a.m.	11:51 p.m.	4:09 p.m.	7:28	6:59 a.m.	1:22 a.m.	11:59 p.m.	3:33 p.m.	7:28	7:07 a.m.	12:59 a.m.	11:41 p.m.	3:43 p.m.
7:37 a.m.	2:39 a.m.	1:35 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	7:29	6:18 a.m.	2:03 p.m.	11:39 p.m.	4:39 p.m.	7:29	6:29 a.m.	1:59 p.m.	11:20 p.m.	4:59 p.m.
7:53 a.m.	3:36 a.m.	3:23 a.m.	6:07 p.m.	7:29	5:24 a.m.	2:50 p.m.	11:12 p.m.	5:52 p.m.	7:29	5:22 a.m.	3:00 p.m.	10:50 p.m.	6:19 p.m.
8:11 a.m.	4:33 a.m.	4:13 a.m.	7:07 p.m.	7:28	4:20 a.m.	3:32 p.m.	10:40 p.m.	6:59 p.m.	7:28	4:09 a.m.	3:57 p.m.	10:16 p.m.	7:42 p.m.
8:30 a.m.	5:29 a.m.	4:59 a.m.	8:07 p.m.	7:26	3:10 a.m.	4:07 p.m.	10:04 p.m.	8:07 p.m.	7:26	3:02 a.m.	4:50 p.m.	9:38 p.m.	9:07 p.m.
8:50 a.m.	6:24 a.m.	5:39 a.m.	9:07 p.m.	7:23	2:00 a.m.	4:43 p.m.	9:20 p.m.	9:14 p.m.	7:23	2:00 a.m.	5:30 p.m.	8:52 p.m.	10:00 p.m.
9:11 a.m.	7:18 a.m.	6:23 a.m.	10:07 p.m.	7:19	1:00 a.m.	5:19 p.m.	8:40 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	7:19	1:00 a.m.	6:07 p.m.	8:19 p.m.	10:57 p.m.
9:33 a.m.	8:11 a.m.	7:06 a.m.	11:07 p.m.	7:14	12:00 a.m.	5:55 p.m.	8:14 p.m.	10:57 p.m.	7:14	12:00 a.m.	6:43 p.m.	7:56 p.m.	11:54 p.m.
9:56 a.m.	9:03 a.m.	7:59 a.m.	12:07 p.m.	7:08	11:00 a.m.	6:30 p.m.	7:49 p.m.	11:54 p.m.	7:08	11:00 a.m.	7:19 p.m.	8:52 p.m.	12:51 p.m.
10:20 a.m.	9:54 a.m.	8:51 a.m.	1:07 p.m.	7:01	10:00 a.m.	7:04 p.m.	7:19 p.m.	12:51 p.m.	7:01	10:00 a.m.	7:50 p.m.	9:30 p.m.	1:51 p.m.
10:45 a.m.	10:44 a.m.	9:41 a.m.	2:07 p.m.	6:53	9:00 a.m.	7:28 p.m.	6:53 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	6:53	9:00 a.m.	8:19 p.m.	10:09 p.m.	2:51 p.m.
11:11 a.m.	11:41 a.m.	10:38 a.m.	3:07 p.m.	6:44	8:00 a.m.	7:51 p.m.	6:24 p.m.	2:51 p.m.	6:44	8:00 a.m.	8:59 p.m.	10:49 p.m.	3:51 p.m.
11:38 a.m.	12:31 a.m.	11:28 a.m.	4:07 p.m.	6:34	7:00 a.m.	8:14 p.m.	5:50 p.m.	3:51 p.m.	6:34	7:00 a.m.	9:28 p.m.	11:39 p.m.	4:51 p.m.
12:06 a.m.	1:21 a.m.	12:18 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	6:23	6:00 a.m.	8:37 p.m.	5:19 p.m.	4:51 p.m.	6:23	6:00 a.m.	9:57 p.m.	12:29 p.m.	5:51 p.m.
12:35 a.m.	2:21 a.m.	1:18 a.m.	6:07 p.m.	6:11	5:00 a.m.	9:00 p.m.	4:40 p.m.	5:51 p.m.	6:11	5:00 a.m.	10:26 p.m.	1:29 p.m.	6:51 p.m.
1:05 a.m.	3:11 a.m.	2:08 a.m.	7:07 p.m.	6:00	4:00 a.m.	9:23 p.m.	4:21 p.m.	6:51 p.m.	6:00	4:00 a.m.	10:53 p.m.	2:29 p.m.	7:51 p.m.
1:36 a.m.	4:01 a.m.	2:58 a.m.	8:07 p.m.	5:50	3:00 a.m.	9:46 p.m.	4:02 p.m.	7:51 p.m.	5:50	3:00 a.m.	11:20 p.m.	3:29 p.m.	8:51 p.m.
2:08 a.m.	4:51 a.m.	3:48 a.m.	9:07 p.m.	5:38	2:00 a.m.	10:09 p.m.	3:43 p.m.	8:51 p.m.	5:38	2:00 a.m.	11:47 p.m.	4:29 p.m.	9:51 p.m.
2:41 a.m.	5:41 a.m.	4:38 a.m.	10:07 p.m.	5:26	1:00 a.m.	10:32 p.m.	3:24 p.m.	9:51 p.m.	5:26	1:00 a.m.	12:14 p.m.	5:29 p.m.	10:51 p.m.
3:15 a.m.	6:31 a.m.	5:28 a.m.	11:07 p.m.	5:14	12:00 a.m.	10:55 p.m.	3:05 p.m.	10:51 p.m.	5:14	12:00 a.m.	12:41 p.m.	6:29 p.m.	11:51 p.m.
3:50 a.m.	7:21 a.m.	6:15 a.m.	12:07 p.m.	5:02	11:00 a.m.	11:18 p.m.	2:46 p.m.	11:51 p.m.	5:02	11:00 a.m.	1:08 p.m.	7:29 p.m.	12:51 p.m.
4:26 a.m.	8:11 a.m.	7:05 a.m.	1:07 p.m.	4:50	10:00 a.m.	11:41 p.m.	2:27 p.m.	12:51 p.m.	4:50	10:00 a.m.	1:35 p.m.	8:29 p.m.	1:51 p.m.
4:63 a.m.	9:01 a.m.	7:55 a.m.	2:07 p.m.	4:38	9:00 a.m.	12:04 p.m.	2:08 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	4:38	9:00 a.m.	2:02 p.m.	9:29 p.m.	2:51 p.m.
5:01 a.m.	9:51 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:07 p.m.	4:26	8:00 a.m.	12:27 p.m.	1:49 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	4:26	8:00 a.m.	2:29 p.m.	10:09 p.m.	3:51 p.m.
5:40 a.m.	10:41 a.m.	9:35 a.m.	4:07 p.m.	4:14	7:00 a.m.	12:50 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	4:14	7:00 a.m.	2:56 p.m.	10:59 p.m.	4:51 p.m.
6:20 a.m.	11:31 a.m.	10:25 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	4:02	6:00 a.m.	1:13 p.m.	1:11 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	4:02	6:00 a.m.	3:23 p.m.	11:49 p.m.	5:51 p.m.
7:01 a.m.	12:21 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	6:07 p.m.	3:50	5:00 a.m.	1:36 p.m.	1:02 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	3:50	5:00 a.m.	3:50 p.m.	12:39 p.m.	6:51 p.m.
7:43 a.m.	1:11 a.m.	12:05 a.m.	7:07 p.m.	3:38	4:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	3:38	4:00 a.m.	4:17 p.m.	1:29 p.m.	7:51 p.m.
8:26 a.m.	2:01 a.m.	12:55 a.m.	8:07 p.m.	3:26	3:00 a.m.	2:23 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	3:26	3:00 a.m.	4:44 p.m.	2:29 p.m.	8:51 p.m.
9:10 a.m.	2:51 a.m.	1:45 a.m.	9:07 p.m.	3:14	2:00 a.m.	2:46 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	3:14	2:00 a.m.	5:11 p.m.	3:29 p.m.	9:51 p.m.
9:55 a.m.	3:41 a.m.	2:35 a.m.	10:07 p.m.	3:02	1:00 a.m.	3:09 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	3:02	1:00 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	4:29 p.m.	10:51 p.m.
10:41 a.m.	4:31 a.m.	3:25 a.m.	11:07 p.m.	2:50	12:00 a.m.	3:32 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	2:50	12:00 a.m.	6:05 p.m.	5:29 p.m.	11:51 p.m.
11:28 a.m.	5:21 a.m.	4:15 a.m.	12:07 p.m.	2:38	11:00 a.m.	3:55 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	2:38	11:00 a.m.	6:32 p.m.	6:29 p.m.	12:51 p.m.
12:16 a.m.	6:11 a.m.	5:05 a.m.	1:07 p.m.	2:26	10:00 a.m.	4:18 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	2:26	10:00 a.m.	7:00 p.m.	7:29 p.m.	1:51 p.m.
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1:55 a.m.	7:51 a.m.	6:45 a.m.	3:07 p.m.	2:02	8:00 a.m.	5:04 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	2:02	8:00 a.m.	7:54 p.m.	9:29 p.m.	3:51 p.m.
2:45 a.m.	8:41 a.m.	7:35 a.m.	4:07 p.m.	1:50	7:00 a.m.	5:27 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	1:50	7:00 a.m.	8:21 p.m.	10:09 p.m.	4:51 p.m.
3:36 a.m.	9:31 a.m.	8:25 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	1:38	6:00 a.m.	5:50 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	1:38	6:00 a.m.	8:48 p.m.	10:59 p.m.	5:51 p.m.
4:28 a.m.	10:21 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	6:07 p.m.	1:26	5:00 a.m.	6:13 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	1:26	5:00 a.m.	9:15 p.m.	11:49 p.m.	6:51 p.m.
5:20 a.m.	11:11 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	7:07 p.m.	1:14	4:00 a.m.	6:36 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	1:14	4:00 a.m.	9:42 p.m.	12:39 p.m.	7:51 p.m.
6:13 a.m.	12:01 a.m.	10:55 a.m.	8:07 p.m.	1:02	3:00 a.m.	6:59 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	1:02	3:00 a.m.	10:09 p.m.	1:29 p.m.	8:51 p.m.
7:06 a.m.	12:51 a.m.	11:45 a.m.	9:07 p.m.	0:50	2:00 a.m.	7:22 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:50	2:00 a.m.	10:36 p.m.	2:29 p.m.	9:51 p.m.
7:59 a.m.	1:41 a.m.	12:35 a.m.	10:07 p.m.	0:38	1:00 a.m.	7:45 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:38	1:00 a.m.	11:03 p.m.	3:29 p.m.	10:51 p.m.
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9:47 a.m.	3:21 a.m.	2:15 a.m.	12:07 p.m.	0:14	11:00 a.m.	8:31 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:14	11:00 a.m.	11:57 p.m.	5:29 p.m.	12:51 p.m.
10:41 a.m.	4:11 a.m.	3:05 a.m.	1:07 p.m.	0:02	10:00 a.m.	8:54 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:02	10:00 a.m.	12:24 p.m.	6:29 p.m.	1:51 p.m.
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12:29 a.m.	5:51 a.m.	4:45 a.m.	3:07 p.m.	0:00	8:00 a.m.	9:40 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	8:00 a.m.	1:28 p.m.	8:29 p.m.	3:51 p.m.
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2:17 a.m.	7:31 a.m.	6:25 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	0:00	6:00 a.m.	10:26 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	6:00 a.m.	2:22 p.m.	10:09 p.m.	5:51 p.m.
3:11 a.m.	8:21 a.m.	7:15 a.m.	6:07 p.m.	0:00	5:00 a.m.	10:49 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	5:00 a.m.	2:49 p.m.	10:59 p.m.	6:51 p.m.
4:05 a.m.	9:11 a.m.	8:05 a.m.	7:07 p.m.	0:00	4:00 a.m.	11:12 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	4:00 a.m.	3:16 p.m.	11:49 p.m.	7:51 p.m.
4:59 a.m.	10:01 a.m.	8:55 a.m.	8:07 p.m.	0:00	3:00 a.m.	11:35 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	3:00 a.m.	3:43 p.m.	12:39 p.m.	8:51 p.m.
5:53 a.m.	10:51 a.m.	9:45 a.m.	9:07 p.m.	0:00	2:00 a.m.	11:58 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	2:00 a.m.	4:10 p.m.	1:29 p.m.	9:51 p.m.
6:47 a.m.	11:41 a.m.	10:35 a.m.	10:07 p.m.	0:00	1:00 a.m.	12:21 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	1:00 a.m.	4:37 p.m.	2:29 p.m.	10:51 p.m.
7:41 a.m.	12:31 a.m.	11:25 a.m.	11:07 p.m.	0:00	12:00 a.m.	12:44 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	12:00 a.m.	5:04 p.m.	3:29 p.m.	11:51 p.m.
8:35 a.m.	1:21 a.m.	12:15 a.m.	12:07 p.m.	0:00	11:00 a.m.	1:07 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	11:00 a.m.	5:31 p.m.	4:29 p.m.	12:51 p.m.
9:29 a.m.	2:11 a.m.	1:05 a.m.	1:07 p.m.	0:00	10:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	10:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.	5:29 p.m.	1:51 p.m.
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12:11 a.m.	4:41 a.m.	3:35 a.m.	4:07 p.m.	0:00	7:00 a.m.	2:39 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	7:00 a.m.	7:21 p.m.	8:29 p.m.	4:51 p.m.
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3:47 a.m.	8:01 a.m.	6:55 a.m.	8:07 p.m.	0:00	3:00 a.m.	4:11 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	1:51 p.m.	0:00	3:00 a.m.	9:09 p.m.	11:49 p.m.	8:51 p.m.
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(STAR)

LEADERS AS OF: 7-21-08

On June 29, Henry Anderson of Galveston hooked a redfish and after netting it noticed a little red tag. All that was visible on the tag was CCA. GYB Bait & Tackle, an official STAR weigh station, confirmed Anderson landed tagged redfish #T840. Anderson passed the required polygraph exam to become 2008's first winner in the Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division. Anderson will be the recipient of a 2008 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" truck with a Triton 22LTS, Mercury 150 motor and McClain trailer.

STARKIDS DIVISION

(AGES 6-10)

Flounder

Cole Crutchfield, 10, of Danbury
6 lbs. 15 ozs.

Sheepshead

Albert Guzman, III, 10, of League City
8 lbs. 2 ozs.

Gafftop

Grant Davis, 8, of Beaumont
6 lbs. 2 ozs.

STARTEENS TROUT & INSHORE DIVISIONS

(AGES 11-17)

Upper Coast Speckled Trout

Charles Flowers, 14, of Alvin
6 lbs. 1 oz.

Middle Coast Speckled Trout

Chandler Faickney, 15, of Lake Jackson
8 lbs.

Lower Coast Speckled Trout

Christopher Walls, 15, of New Braunfels
8 lbs. 3 ozs.

Sheepshead

Brett Green, 16, of Baytown
9 lbs. 5 ozs.

Gafftop

Jessica Fontenot, 13, of Lake Jackson
5 lbs. 15 ozs.

Flounder

Andrea Peters, 16, of Porter
4 lbs. 9 ozs.

STAR LEADERBOARD**Upper Coast Speckled Trout**

Jason Lingo of Seabrook
8 lbs. 7 ozs.

Middle Coast Speckled Trout

Robert A. Daffern of Sargent
8 lbs. 13 ozs.

Lower Coast Speckled Trout

Kristopher Anderson of Port Mansfield
8 lbs. 10 ozs.

Flounder

Henry M. Mills of Houston
7 lbs. 3 ozs.

Sheepshead

Rick Graham of Friendswood
9 lbs. 12 ozs.

Kingfish

Robert Sanger, Jr. of Corpus Christi
54 lbs. 11 ozs.

Dorado

Ryan David Foster of Harlingen
65 lbs. 7 ozs.

Ling

Rachel Adams of Pinehurst
74 lbs. 2 ozs.

Gafftop

Tina Guernsey of Beaumont
6 lbs. 14 ozs.

TEXAS FORD DEALERS**REDFISH DIVISION**

Truck/Boat Package

Thirteen tagged redfish have been caught, 11 did not qualify. There has been one winner and one polygraph examination is pending.

Burns

Continued from Page 1

the most important thing we can do," Graff said.

Advocates for clearing brush by fire say diminished habitat is the consequence of not doing it.

Take, for example, the Post Oak Savannah region of northeast Texas where landowners tangle with the yaupon holly.

"It creates a wall of brush that eliminates what turkey can see," said Jason Hardin, turkey program leader for Texas Parks and Wildlife. "If these birds can't see over the landscape, they become easy pickings for predators."

Relating those dynamics to other landowners is an easy sell, up to a point.

"I very much see the importance of getting adjoining neighbors to get involved, and they want to," Graff said. "They just don't know how to."

Some land owners, Graff said, get sticker shock when they learn how much it costs to conduct prescribed burns.

Graff said the average cost to conduct such a burn might reach as high as \$30 an acre, and that may sound reasonable — at first.

There are about 15 Certified Prescribed Burn Managers in the state who are in business to help landowners develop burn plans and execute them.

But take that \$30 quote and multiply it by, say, 800 acres.

That amounts to a \$2,400 price tag, which might be too costly for people who rely on their ranches for livelihoods, and also have to deal with the rising costs of fuel and labor.

Then there is the issue of insurance.

The Prescribed Burning Board of the Texas Department of Agriculture recommends coverage starting at \$1 million.

That right there, Hardin said, can be a deal breaker for some landowners.

And Linda Campbell of Austin, a member of the Prescribed Burning Board, said that insurance companies have frequently declined to write those kinds of policies.

But, she noted, the story doesn't have to end there.

A lot of landowners in Texas have formed prescribed burn cooperatives to share costs.

As examples, Campbell praised the Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burn Association and the Texas Panhandle Prescribed Burn Association.

Campbell's full-time job is overseeing public hunting programs for TPW, but she was appointed to be that agency's delegate on the Prescribed Burning Board.

She said the prescribed burning associations can buy their own insurance policies that cover landowners in the group and their ranch hands.

Another option is for the groups to hire one of the Certified Burn Managers — who are required to have insurance if they want to be certified through the agriculture department.

"Our burn associations function very much like the wildlife associations in Texas," Campbell said. "They're popping up all over and we're encouraging that."

Graff said he hopes more landowners will soon understand that burn options are available.

"Until there's a mind change in Texas about the importance of this, we're not going to be enhancing habitat," he said.

For information: Texas Department of Agriculture, www.agr.state.tx.us, key words: certified burn managers.

Texas Parks & Wildlife, www.tpwd.state.tx.us, key words: prescribed burn associations.

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Falconry

Continued from Page 6

to hunt.

Between September through March, they can hunt rabbits and other small critters. During duck season, he goes out to private ranches that allow him to hunt on their property.

Sometimes his wife, Jean, goes with him, or perhaps one of the couple's six kids.

He has had some memorable hunts during the 32 years he's been hunting with his winged companions.

There have been frightening moments. "My wife and I were hunting at a pond. The Peregrine was feeding on a duck," he said.

"Then a pack of coyotes came calling. About 15 to 20 coyotes were about 60 yards behind the Lehmers when he picked up the falcon and they started running. He remembers his wife telling him: "All I have to do is outrun you!"

There have been sad moments. Last duck-hunting season, Lehmer, his son, Brandon, and one of his son's friends were hunting with Bam-Bam, a Peregrine whom Lehmer had for six years.

Lehmer says Bam-Bam was circling the pond, before diving for his duck. "He was in a tail chase for 100 to 200 yards. Then, a wild red-tailed hawk came in and tried to intimidate the Peregrine."

But fierce little Bam-Bam refused to give up his prey.

"He (the red-tailed hawk) killed him and the duck got away," Lehmer said.

But, mostly there have been rewarding moments.

A typical hunt involves Lehmer driving out to the hunting site with his hooded falcon perched by his side. After walking out toward a pond, he'll remove the hood. The bird will scan his surroundings, rouse his feathers, then launch off the fist.

The bird of prey will ring the pond before hovering above as he waits for Lehmer to do his part.

"We're pretty much the bird dogs. We flush the game out," Lehmer said.

Once the ducks get flying and move away from the pond, the falcon starts his stoop, which is Lehmer's favorite part of the hunt.

"Not only do I get to see it, but I get to see it

Ready to start?

Before someone can start hunting with these federally protected birds of prey, there are federal and state permits to obtain; exams to pass; mandated mentoring to undergo; mews (housing for the bird that must pass inspection) to construct; and, of course, paperwork to complete.

There are three classes of falconers: apprentice, general and master.

To become an apprentice, a person must pass a state exam that tests his or her knowledge of birds and falconry. He also needs a sponsor, a general or master falconer who will guide him or her in the building of the mews and the acquisition of all needed equipment, such as perches, hoods and jesses.

Once paperwork is filled out and fees paid, then the newly permitted falconer can acquire his raptor. Jay Lehmer, who has sponsored some apprentices, said novices are required to trap birds from the wild rather than using those raised in captivity because if things don't work out, the bird can be released back into the wild.

Then, the training of the raptor can begin.

More information is available through the following resources:

The Texas Hawking Association, a conservation-oriented organization that encourages the wise use of raptors in the sport of falconry, texasawking.org.

The North American Falconers Association, n-a-f-a.org.

every day," he said. "It's very rewarding."

Sometimes the trained raptor will kill the duck in the air or he might stun it by knocking it to the ground where he'll finish the job.

Lehmer will allow the falcon to feed on the duck for a little while — his reward for a successful hunt — before he sets out a lure with duck meat to move him away from the fowl.

"If you don't reward the falcon," Lehmer said, "there's no reason for him to stick around and hunt for you."

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NRA

Niggemeyer

Continued from Page 1

packed up his minivan with everything he owned to make the 1,513-mile trek from Glendale, Calif., to Van to become a guide on a lake he'd never seen: Lake Fork.

Niggemeyer knew he wanted to be a guide, but it was BASS pro Dean Rojas who convinced him to go to Fork. They had fished together in a few team tournaments in California and Rojas convinced Niggemeyer there was no better lake or place in the country to start a professional career.

"Obviously, fishing is a whole lot more well-received out here than it is in California,"



Niggemeyer said. "The sole purpose of leaving California was to eventually fish professionally. It wasn't to be a Lake Fork guide."

But from 2001 through 2005, that's exactly what he was, and it wasn't always easy. Niggemeyer said there was a core group of guides that dominate the business on that lake and it took time to get their respect.

"Everyone was great, but there were some really tough periods," he said.

He eventually aligned with Mark Pack, owner of Lake Fork Trophy Bait & Tackle, which gave him work but not a lot of money. There were periods of time where he lived in a barn, and he said he even spent some nights in the warehouse at Pack's tackle shop.

"My parents told me to get an education and a real job and have something to fall back on, but I kept saying I didn't want to set myself up for failure," Niggemeyer said. "They were right. I should have started out with a solid job."

James' summer fishing tips

"On Fork, if I'm out there in a boat graphing the lake, I'm looking for bands of activity. Whether that's grouped bass or even schools of baitfish — there just needs to be some signs of life. Then you look for structure that intersect that activity at around 15 or 20 feet deep. Offshore fishing on Lake Fork is second to maybe one or two lakes. I also love to flip grass. I'd go shallow and just look for some matted grass."

— James Niggemeyer

His entire life was surrounded by fishing or people who fish. He met his wife, Sandy, at Bassmaster Classic champion Jay Yelas' house in 2001, and established his faith in God when BASS pro and Lake Fork legend Kelly Jordan tricked him into going to church.

"He told me it was going to be a co-ed volleyball tournament," Niggemeyer said. "It was a Bible study."

In 2006, after five years of guiding on Fork and fishing tournaments when he had time, Niggemeyer earned his way onto the Bassmaster Elite Series and qualified for the Bassmaster Classic. For the first time in his life, he was fishing tournaments for a living.

In his first year on the Elite Series (2007), he had four top-25 finishes (out of 108), including two top-12s and a 17th place finish at the Classic on Lay Lake in Alabama. In the first eight tournaments this season, he has three top-30 finishes and sits in 69th in the Angler of the Year standings.

His career earnings with BASS are more than \$300,000, which is enough to keep him out of the warehouse. Niggemeyer said the only drawback is the job puts him on the road for half the year, away from his pregnant wife and 3-year-old son, Daniel. He hopes to be successful enough to take them on the road with him next season.

Niggemeyer said he's not exactly sure why he's making it in a sport where few get the chance to earn a living, while others with the same dream are falling short, but he considers himself blessed.

"I just love fishing," he said. "My dad brought me up that way and it stuck with me. To get paid to do what you love to do — that's the dream."

HEROES



ANTHONY CASAS, 16, of Seguin, caught this 22-pound warsaw grouper aboard the LaPesca at Dolphin Dock.



GRAY THORNTON with a 70-pound tarpon caught on the fly and released at Mangrove Cay Club.



JOSEPH HABEN of Flower Mound with his first javelina taken in Ozona.



JAKOB FIELD, 10, of Frisco shot his first buck, an 8-pointer, in Cooke County.

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SAMMY STARR, 6, shows off his first hunting trophy ever, a Corsican ram taken at The Triple S Ranch in Calvin, Okla.

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Product Spotlight

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DESIGNED TO HUNT: Titan UTV's new Backwood Buggy Series all electric 4x4 vehicles set the standard in their class, says President Shane Wilson. The vehicle's stability, maneuverability, and comfortable ride result from the four-wheel fully independent suspension system with coil over independent shocks coupled with its four-wheel hydraulic disc brake system and rack and pinion steering. Inside, such amenities as high back seats add even more comfort. The hunting vehicle's reliability and power to traverse fields, brush or mud are due to its beautifully engineered drive train with SepEx controllers that are programmable for diverse driving conditions, Advanced DC motors, Trojan six-volt batteries and Delta Q on-board charger. The frame, which includes a heavy-duty 1 1/2-inch tubular steel roll bar and front bumper, was engineered from the ground up using off-road racing technology. The electric vehicle, which weighs 1,698 pounds and is 120 inches long by 55 inches wide by 78 inches tall, has a turning radius of 150 inches and an 8.5-inch ground clearance to the axle. It has a cargo capacity of 880 pounds, a towing capacity of 1,650 pounds and a maximum load capacity of 3,300 pounds. The Backwood Buggy Series utility trail vehicles, which includes three models (the 4x4 four-seater as well as a 4x2 four-seater and a 4x2 six-seater), are available in camo, red, black, white, navy blue, metallic green and sandstone. To customize their UTVs, hunters also can add various accessories (sold separately), such as search lights, a gun rack, a brush guard and more.

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OUTDOOR DATEBOOK

July 25-27: The Laredo Hunting & Fishing Show will be held at the Laredo Entertainment Center. Call (956) 686-3718 or (800) 532-3976 or visit smc-events.com for information.

July 27: The Lone Star Bowhunters Association State Championship will be held at Canyon Lake Archery Club. Visit lonestarbowhunter.com for information.

July 31: The North Houston DU dinner will be held. For location and information, contact Marissa at (832) 265-4020 or mchavez1999@hotmail.com.



Aug. 1-3: The TTHA Hunter's Extravaganza will be held at the Reliant Center in Houston. Call (800) 800-3207 or visit ttha.com for information.

Aug. 1: The Brazos Basin NWF dinner will be held at the Waco Skeet and Trap Club. Contact James at (254) 399-7266 or jbrooks@cnbwaco.com for information.

Aug. 2: The Pease River NWF dinner will be held at the Crowell Activity Center. Contact John at (940) 684-1531 or jblack@crowellstatebank.com for information.

Aug 2: The Lee County RMEF Big Game Banquet will be held. For location and information, call Curtis at (979) 542-3037.

Aug. 5: The Gregg County DU dinner will be held at the Maude Cobb Center. Call Kim at (903) 759-3111.

Aug. 7-10: The Texas Legends Billfish Tournament will be held. Boats may leave from any Texas port. Visit txlegends.com for information.

Aug. 7: The San Gabriel CCA banquet will be held at Dell Diamond in Round Rock. Call (713) 626-4222 for information.

Aug. 7: The Allen DU banquet will be held at the Swingin' D Ranch in Parker. Call Scott at (214) 383-3223 for information.

Aug. 7: The Lone Star Longbeards NWF dinner will be held at the Brazos Center in Bryan. Contact Tim at (979) 229-1602 or takers@bediasbank.com for information.



Aug. 7: The Clay County NWF dinner will be held at the Holman Center in Henrietta. For information, contact Sheila at (940) 538-4333 or s.tucker@sbcglobal.net.

Aug. 7: A Dallas Safari Club Introduction to Muzzleloading seminar will be held at the DSC Pavilion. Call (972) 980-9800 for information.

Aug. 8: The Ellis County NWF banquet will be held at the Ennis Country Club. Contact Malcolm at (469) 245-9015 or mgilasp@yahoo.com for information.

Aug. 8: The Dallas Safari Club New Members Lobster Boil will be held at the DSC Pavilion. Call Jaimey at (469) 484-6777 for information.

Aug. 9-10, 16-17: The Fall Hunting Classic will be held at Bass Pro Shops

in Katy (Aug. 9-10) and Pearland (Aug. 16-17). Guides, outfitters, products, and more. Call (832) 260-4594 or visit basspro.com for information.

Aug. 9: The North Texas RMEF Big Game Banquet will be held at Embassy Suites Bass Pro in Grapevine. Contact Mike at (972) 257-0001 or elkmanmike@aol.com for information.

Aug. 9: The Santa Fe DU dinner will be held at the Galveston County Fairgrounds. Contact Bud or Judy at (409) 925-4349 or santafecochran@aol.com for information.

Aug. 9: The Aransas Bay CCA banquet will be held at Paws N' Taws in Rockport. Call (713) 626-4222 for information.



Aug. 13: The Houston Safari Club monthly meeting will be held at The Omni Hotel at 4 Riverway with featured guest Jim Shockey. For information, call Jennifer at (713) 623-8844 or Jennifer@houstonssafariclub.org.

Aug. 14-16: The TTHA Hunter's Extravaganza will be held at Will Rogers Coliseum in Fort Worth. Call (800) 800-3207 or visit ttha.com for information.

Aug. 14: The Dallas Woods and Waters Club monthly meeting will be held at the Sheraton North Dallas Hotel with guest Margaret Martin, TPW Commission. Call (214) 570-8700 for information or reservations.

Aug. 14: The Paris Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at the Love Civic Center. Call Donny at (903) 491-4910 for information.

Aug. 15: The Lost Pines NWF banquet will be held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Rockne. Contact Matt at (512) 751-0480 or maas5@ddc.net for information.

Aug. 15: The Mesquite Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at the Double D Ranch in Mesquite. Call Steve at (214) 395-1540 for information.

Aug. 16: The Texas Grand Slam billfish tournament will be held at Virginia's on the Bay Restaurant at Port Aransas. Call John at (361) 815-5158 or visit ccbgfc.org for information.

Aug. 16: The Longview Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at the Maude Cobb Activity Center. Call Dennis at (903) 235-1142 for information.

Aug. 21: The Frisco DU banquet will be held at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Frisco. For information, contact Ron at (972) 743-5230 or ron.geels@eds.com.

Aug. 21: The Dallas Safari Club monthly meeting will be held at the Marriott DFW Airport North, featuring Alyse Roan, 2008 Colin Caruthers Youth Award winner. Call Debi at (469) 484-6776 for information.



Aug. 21: The Houston Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at Cadillac Bar and Grill. Call

Andy at (832) 746-5076 for information.

Aug. 21: The Rockwall-Lake Ray Hubbard DU dinner will be held at the Buffalo Creek Golf Club Pavilion. Contact Scott at (972) 771-0222 or scott@hoopercpa.com for information.

Aug. 23-24: Cabela's in Fort Worth is hosting a Youth 3D Archery Shoot for ages 16 and under. Contact the Archery Department at (817) 337-2400 for information.



Aug. 23-24: The Bass Pro Shops Fall Hunting Classic will be held at the Garland and Grapevine stores. Call (469) 221-2600 (Garland) or (972) 724-2018 (Grapevine) for information.



Aug. 23: The 16th Annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Clay Shoot benefiting the Outdoor Mentoring Programs will be held at Alpine Shooting Range in Fort Worth. Call (972) 573-2383 or e-mail daguirre@bbbstx.org for information.

Aug. 23: The Panhandle Big Game Awards will be held at Fair Park Auditorium in Childress. Call (210) 826-2904 or visit TexasBigGameAwards.com.

HAVE AN EVENT?

E-mail it to editor@lonestaroutdoornews.com

Offshore

Continued from Page 1

ty." Like Lohry, Pierson expects the action to heat up as August draws closer.

"The past few weeks, we've been getting quick limits of kings on rib-

bonfish and lures," Pierson said. "But they've been pretty far out. The water just cleaned up around the jetties, so I'm expecting those big fish to show up at the jetties any day now. In fact, so far this year, our biggest fish have been caught in the shallowest of water. No matter how far we go out, the fish have been getting smaller the farther we go. So, now that the water's clear

up to the jetties, I think we'll see some really big fish in close.

"We've also been picking up quite a few ling. The largest we've caught in the past week was 70 pounds. And, we've been taking sailfish in less than 70 feet of water. We've had easy limits of snapper. All those fish have been between 5 and 10 pounds. And, we've had some really big shark

showing up. We released a 450-pound bull shark a couple of days ago."

Freeport-based guide Capt. Mike Segall of Reel Threel Charters, has seen signs of the good times to come.

"We've had kingfish pretty much everywhere," Segall said. "Dorado have been pretty good and we've seen a few ling. We've

also been limiting out on amberjack and red snapper. We've had some big snapper, too — up to 12 pounds. The snapper fishing should remain good right up until the season closes. But, by the time the season closes, we'll be so busy with kings and ling and dolphin that we probably won't be fishing for snapper too much anyway."

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FISHING REPORT

HOT BITES LARGEMOUTH BASS



ATHENS: Black bass are good on Zell Pops and buzzbaits early, later switching to chatterbaits, weightless flukes and Texas rigs — night fishing is good on black spinnerbaits and blue fleck soft plastics.

BRIDGEPORT: Black bass are good on buzzbaits early, later switching to finesse Texas rigs and shaky head rigs.

PROCTOR: Black bass are good on crankbaits.

WHITE/HYBRID/STRIPER



BROWNWOOD: Hybrid striped are good trolling or drifting shad in Hybrid Alley and around docks at night. White bass are excellent on L11 Fishies and Persuader crankbaits off lighted docks at night.

CALAVERAS: Striped bass are good on spoons and stripper jigs between the dam and the crappie wall in 15-20 feet, and on chicken livers and shad along the shoreline.

O.H. WIE: White bass are good on live baits and crankbaits.

RAY HUBBARD: White bass are excellent on topwaters and slabs.

CATFISH



BRAUNIG: Channel and blue catfish are excellent on liver, shrimp, cut bait, and cheesebait near the dam and the hot water discharge.

BUCHANAN: Yellow and blue catfish are very good on goldfish and perch upriver.

SAM RAYBURN: Catfish are very good on trotlines baited with live bait and cut bait.

CRAPPIE



CADDO: Crappie are good on jigs and minnows and jigs.

COOPER: Crappie are good on jigs and minnows over brush piles.

RAY ROBERTS: Crappie are good over brush piles and excellent around isolated trees on minnows and jigs.

BREAM



HOUSTON COUNTY: Bream are good on live worms off piers and near grass beds, and on the south side of the islands.

ALAN HENRY: Water lightly stained; 79 degrees; 74' low. Black bass are good on white buzzbaits and white spinnerbaits with blue high-lights, and black/chartreuse jigs along timber lines. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs.

AMSTAD: Water stained; 85 degrees; 17.32' low. Black bass are good on Senkos, crankbaits, spinnerbaits, and soft plastics. Catfish are good on stinkbait, liver, and frozen shrimp over baited holes. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines baited with live perch.

ARROWHEAD: Water lightly stained; 82 degrees; 3.90' low. Black bass are good on topwater frog baits in surface vegetation and spinnerbaits along rocky points. White bass are good shallow while chasing shad.

ATHENS: Water stained, 81-88 degrees; 0.1' low. Catfish are good on cut bait and nightcrawlers.

BELTON: Water clear; 83 degrees; 0.86' low. Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits. Channel and blue catfish are good on hot dogs and summer sausage.

BOB SANDLIN: Water off-color; 80-88 degrees; 0.22' high. Black bass are fair to good on Stanley Ribbits early, later switching to Senkos, Texas rigs and wacky rigs. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs over brush piles and around bridge columns.

BRAUNIG: Water stained; 83 degrees. Striped bass are good on liver and shad off points near the pier, and down rigging silver and gold spoons near the jetty and dam. Redfish are excellent on perch, tilapia, shad, and silver spoons, and down rigging near the jetty and dam.

BRIDGEPORT: Water lightly stained; 80-85 degrees; 1.46' low. White bass and hybrids are good on topwaters.

BROWNWOOD: Water clear; 84 degrees; 3.48' low. Black bass to 5 pounds are good on spinnerbaits near the docks, and on redbug worms around docks and brush piles in 12-15 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and L11 Fishies in 10-18 feet.

BUCHANAN: Water clear; 83 degrees; 5.16' low. Striped bass are good on Rat-L-Traps, Rattlin' Rogues, and plastic swim baits in Silver Creek below the bridge.

CADDO: Water stained; 82-88 degrees; 0.19' low. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to flukes, Rat-L-Traps, Senkos, and Texas rigs. White bass are good on white Road Runners and minnows.

CALAVERAS: Water stained; 83 degrees. Redfish are excellent down rigging silver and gold spoons and live bait along the crappie wall and the dam in 10 -20 feet, on live perch and tilapia along the shoreline, and on live bait along the crappie wall. Channel catfish are excellent on liver, cheesebait, shrimp, and shad near the railroad trestle and 181 Cove. Blue catfish are excellent on liver and cheesebait.

CHOKO CREEK: Water lightly stained; 81-87 degrees; 0.37' low. Black bass are good on Ribbits early, later switching to Texas rigs, Senkos and spinnerbaits. White bass are good on slabs and topwaters. Hybrid stripers are good on swim baits. Catfish are good on prepared bait.

CHOKE CANYON: Water lightly stained; 92 degrees; 2.75' low. Channel catfish are very good on live bait in 4-15 feet. Yellow and blue catfish are very good on live bait upriver.

CONROE: Water clear; 0.80' low. Black bass are fair on chartreuse and watermelon Carolina rigged soft plastics and spinnerbaits. Catfish are good on stinkbait, chicken livers, and shrimp.

COOPER: Water lightly stained; 80-87 degrees; 0.38' low. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to drop shot rigs, Carolina and Texas rigs and Senkos. White bass are good on Rooster Tails and Little Georges. Hybrid stripers are good on Sassy Shad and live shad.

FALCON: Water clear in the south end, lightly stained in the north end; 83 degrees. Black bass are good on Brush Hogs and shallow running crankbaits. Channel and blue catfish to 2 pounds are excellent on stinkbait.

GRANBURY: Water clear; 1.37' low. Catfish are good on stinkbait, chicken livers, and frozen shrimp.

GRANGER: Water clear; 84 degrees; 0.58' low. White bass are good trolling Rat-L-Traps and crankbaits. Crappie are good on yellow marabou jigs in 6-15 feet. Blue catfish are good drifting shad across main lake flats.

GRAPEVINE: Water off-color; 81-88 degrees; 0.95' low. Black bass are good on crankbaits, Texas rigs and wacky rigs. White bass are good on Rooster Tails, topwaters and slabs. Catfish are good on cut bait and nightcrawlers.

GREENBELT: Water lightly stained; 76 degrees; 26.23' low. Black bass are good on topwater lures, white spinnerbaits, and black/blue jigs worked around tree and grass lines. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass are good on live baits and crawfish colored crankbaits along riprap.

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear; 88 degrees; 0.01' high. Black bass are good on watermelon red worms near the marina in 6 feet. Crappie

are good on live minnows near the pump station in 15 feet. White bass are good along the northeast shore.

JOE POOL: Water off-color; 81-87 degrees; 0.44' low. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to Texas rigs and crankbaits. White bass are good on Humdingers.

LAKE OF THE PINES: Water stained; 81-88 degrees; 1.63' high. Crappie are good on minnows over brush piles.

LAVON: Water stained; 80-88 degrees; 1.1' low. Black bass are good on crankbaits, Senkos and Texas rigs. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs — moving to deeper water. Catfish are good on cut shad and prepared bait.

LBJ: Water stained; 83 degrees; 0.34' low. Crappie are good on minnows and watermelon jigs over brush piles. Channel catfish are good on minnows and stinkbait.

LEWISVILLE: Water off-color; 81-87 degrees; 0.89' low. White bass are good on slabs and Rooster Tails. Catfish are good on prepared bait and cut shad.

LIVINGSTON: Water fairly clear; 85 degrees; 0.08' high. Black bass are good on soft plastics, spinnerbaits, and crankbaits. White bass are good on spoons and Charlie slabs.

MACKENZIE: Water lightly stained; 77 degrees; 74.78' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass and striped bass are good on minnows and shallow diving crankbaits.

MONTICELLO: Water fairly clear; 81-89 degrees; 0.2' high. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to Texas rigs, spinnerbaits and chrome Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are good on minnows.

O.H. WIE: Water lightly stained; 79 degrees; 11.21' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. Smallmouth bass are good on live baits and shad-colored crankbaits along points. Channel catfish are good on live baits.

PALESTINE: Water stained; 82-88 degrees; 0.06' high. Black bass are fair to good on spinnerbaits, Texas rigs and pearl shallow running crankbaits. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs over brush piles.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water stained 84 degrees; 1.32' low. White bass are good on silver crankbaits and small white jigs in the mid-lake area early in the day and at night. Catfish are good on cut baits and liver along the river channel in the Rock Creek area.

PROCTOR: Water stained; 88 degrees; 2.10' low. Striped bass are good on live shad. White bass are good on live shad. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines and jugs — lures baited with cut shad.

RAY HUBBARD: Water stained; 81-88 degrees; 0.44' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs around the bridges and in the marinas. Hybrid stripers are fair to good on Sassy Shad.

RAY ROBERTS: Water clear; 82-88 degrees; 0.39' low. Black bass are very good on Zell Pops and Carolina rigged Ring Frys in 10-20 feet. White bass are good to excellent on jiggling spoons.

RICHLAND CHAMBERS: Water off-color; 82-87 degrees; 1.05' low. White bass are good on slabs. Hybrid stripers are fair to good on Sassy Shad and live shad.

SAM RAYBURN: Water lightly stained; 83 degrees; 2.45' low. Black bass are good on minnows and dark soft plastic worms. Crappie are good on minnows and blue tube jigs over baited holes in 20-25 feet.

STILLHOUSE: Water clear; 85 degrees; 0.75' low. Black bass are good on minnows.

TAWAKONI: Water lightly stained; 82-88 degrees; 0.29' low. Black bass are good on buzzbaits and Zell Pops early, later switching to creatures, white spinnerbaits, chatterbaits and Senkos. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on minnows.

TEXOMA: Water off-color; 80-87 degrees; 0.89' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs over brush piles and around bridge columns. Striped bass are good on live shad and topwaters. Catfish are good on cut and live shad.

TOLEDO BEND: Water clear; 82 degrees; 1.31' low. White bass are good on spoons in the river. Bream are good on crickets and night-crawlers.

WEATHERFORD: Water stained; 80-87 degrees; 1.55' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on minnows.

WHITE RIVER: Water lightly stained; 78 degrees; 27.99' low. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows.

WHITNEY: Water clear; 4.42' low. Catfish are good on shrimp and live bait.

WRIGHT PATMAN: Water lightly stained; 80-88 degrees; 7.23' high. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to medium diving crankbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs over brush piles.

SALTWATER SCENE

NORTH SABINE: Redfish are good in the marsh on small topwaters and in the river on live shad. Trout are good while drifting slices and pods of bait on topwaters and soft plastics in the middle of the lake.

SOUTH SABINE: Trout are good on the Reef on soft plastics and live shrimp. Trout are good under diving gulls on soft plastics and at the jetty on live shrimp and topwaters.

BOLIVAR: Redfish are good around Rollover Pass on croakers and live shrimp. Trout are fair around Rollover on DOA Shrimp and Little Fishies.

TRINITY BAY: Trout are fair around the east shoreline shell on red shad plastics and topwaters. Redfish are good in the grass on the north shoreline on gold spoons.

EAST GALVESTON BAY: Trout are best while drifting deep shell on plastics and croakers. Redfish are fair to good at the mouths of the marsh on live shrimp.

WEST GALVESTON BAY: Deep shell has produced trout on live bait. Gafftop, sand trout, trout, redfish, sharks and whiting are good from the beachfront piers on live bait.

TEXAS CITY: Trout are good at night under the lights on live shrimp and DOA Shrimp. Trout are good for waders working the reefs on croakers and live shrimp.

FREEPORT: Trout are fair to good while drifting Christmas Bay on live shrimp. Trout, sand trout, gafftop and sharks are good at San Luis Pass on live bait.

EAST MATAGORDA: Trout are fair to good while drifting deep shell on live shrimp.

MATAGORDA: Trout are fair to good on the south shoreline grass, blue plastics, Redfish and black drum are fair on live shrimp in Oyster Lake.

PORT O'CONNOR: Trout are fair while drifting the flats on live shrimp under a popping cork. Redfish and sharks are good on live shrimp and mullet at the jetty and in the surf.

ROCKPORT: Trout are good on the reefs in St. Charles Bay, Mesquite Bay and Copano Bay on croakers. Redfish are fair to good on mullet and piggy perch around Hog Island.

PORT ARANSAS: Trout are good at the jetty on croakers and finger mullet. Redfish are good around Shamrock Cove on gold spoons and small topwaters. Offshore is good for snapper, ling and kingfish.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Trout are good on the grass beds adjacent to the channel on piggy perch and live shrimp. Trout and redfish are fair to good on live shrimp and croaker around the reefs in Nueces Bay. Redfish are good in Emmords Hole on shrimp and perch.

BAFFIN BAY: Redfish are fair to good while wading and drifting the flats on shrimp and small topwaters. A few tarpon have been showing off the beach. Offshore is good for red snapper, ling and kingfish.

SOUTH PADRE: Trout are good on topwaters and soft plastics on the edge of the grass. Snook are fair to good on topwaters in South Bay and at the jetty.

PORT ISABEL: Trout are good while drifting sand and grass on soft plastics under rattling corks. Trout are hanging on the edge of the channel and hitting topwaters, YUM baits and DOA Shrimp. Snook are good at the mouths of freshwater drains.

See Hot Spot on Page 9.

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SUZUKI MARINE

Broadhead

Continued from Page 6



"When people use overdraws, there is a potential for an arrow to come off rest and your hand can get sliced," Erwin said. "Keep your index finger off the rest, off and away from that shaft."

"If you hold everything right, you won't need to put your finger there."

Next, keep arrows in a covered quiver until it's time to shoot, Jetton said. Also, a hunter should never "nock" an arrow while moving through the field; wait until you're on stand or in a blind.

"You could stumble and fall and hurt yourself or your buddy," Jetton said. "I heard about one injury when some guys were spot-and-stalking, all lined up and walking through the woods."

"Well, one guy wasn't paying attention and he wound up sticking his buddy."

Also, they said, be careful while field dressing. If the broadhead is still in the animal, it's probably still sharp.

"Of course then we go into first aid, in case something does happen," Jetton said of the safety course curriculum.

Erwin said that most broadheads are nearly an inch wide, so a hunter who gets stuck with one should let a doctor remove it.

"Don't pull it out," he said. "You may do more damage. You can cut the shaft off, but then bandage around it to stabilize it."

Texas recently dropped the 40-pound minimum peak draw weight requirement. Jetton predicts hunters will look for equipment to compensate for the reduced power, which will make safety an even more important issue.

Jetton and Erwin urged archers to not only take a hunter safety course, but also a bowhunter education course.

The bowhunter course is voluntary in Texas, although it is mandatory in many states.

For information on bowhunter education courses, contact the Lone Star Bowhunters Association or the TPW education department.

ON TARGET: Miranda Wilder of Diana shot a 276 total score to win the Women's Trap National Championship held in Colorado Springs. Photo by USA Shooting.



Texas shooters take national titles

Glenn Eller of Katy won the Men's Double Trap competition at the 2008 USA Shooting National Championships for Shotgun.

Eller's U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit teammates Jeff Holguin of Yorba Linda, Calif., Josh Richmond of Hillsgrove, Pa., and Bill Keever of Rutherfordton, N.C., claimed the top four spots in Men's Double Trap.

Two-time Olympian and 2008 U.S. Olympic team member Eller captured the title with a match score of 289, a final of 48 and a total score

of 337, topping Holguin by 4 targets.

In Men's Trap, Lance Bade of Colorado Springs, Colo., shot a score of 290 to top U.S. Olympic Team member Dominic Grazioli of San Antonio by 3 targets.

Miranda Wilder of Diana won the Women's Trap National Championship with a final score of 276. Caitlin Barney of Ingram finished fourth.

—USA Shooting report.

Hunter education classes filling up

Hunters in need of certification are encouraged to enroll soon. As hunting seasons draw closer, demand for hunter education classes increases.

Anyone born after Sept. 1, 1971 is required to take the Hunter Education Training Course in order to hunt in Texas. The minimum age a hunter may be certified has been lowered this year to 9 years of age.

Hunters who are at least 17 years of age and have not completed the hunter education course may defer completion for one year. Hunters who opted for "deferral" last year must complete the hunter education course to hunt legally this year.

Hunter education courses are conducted by certified volunteers. Courses cost \$15 and students have two options: take the free classroom study portion on-line plus a one-day field component or take the traditional two-day course that averages 14 hours of instruction at a location near home.

More than 30,000 aspiring hunters become certified every year in Texas. Since 1972 about 780,000 Texans have completed the hunter education course.

—Texas Parks and Wildlife report.

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Night

Continued from Page 8

there's grass and hydrilla at the points, that's better."

For baits, Casey likes the crawfish types, Texas-rigged. "The craws move more water," he said. "But it's not always true that the bigger baits are best at night. I've caught some of my biggest bass on the smaller craw baits."

Casey also likes the 10-inch Power Worm, jigs, and 1/2-ounce spinnerbaits with big Colorado blades, and the occasional topwater bait.

There are added benefits to fishing at night. "It's cooler, although the hottest nights seem to have better fishing," he said. "But fishing at night makes you a better fisherman, especially with the Texas rigs," Casey said. "You can't see the line, you're fishing entirely on feel."

NATIONAL

Carbon offset program connects Louisiana wildlife corridors

A tract of land located in Louisiana's Tensas River Basin is the first offering in The Nature Conservancy's voluntary carbon offset program.

The tract currently stands as unproductive farmland. Revenue from carbon offset contributions will provide funding to pay the costs not only of setting aside land for the project, but also of planting trees and managing the project.

Once the largest contiguous tract of floodplain forest in North America, about 26 percent of the Lower Mississippi Valley's historic extent remains, much of it as isolated fragments.

The Tensas River Basin Project is part of a system of 3,600 acres connected to the 85,000-acre Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge that are or will soon be under conservation management, creating a large contiguous block of forest within the Lower Mississippi Valley that will restore critical habitat.

This region is a priority for conservation because deforestation has left islands of remnant forests surrounded by agriculture, and reforestation will serve to connect small existing forest tracts to create critical wildlife corridors. The region also supports the largest-known population of the Louisiana Black Bear.

— Nature Conservancy report.



RESTORATION REVENUE: By using carbon offset funds to pay for planting cypress and other trees along Louisiana's Tensas River, The Nature Conservancy hopes to connect isolated floodplains forests. Photo by FWS.

'Gobbleteer' a big winner

Norm Nothnagel of Willard, Mo., won a Resident Lifetime Conservation Partner Permit for taking part in a study of turkey mating behavior.

Participating "gobbleteers" go out before sunrise at least twice a week from mid-March through mid-May and record information about turkey gobbling activity. The Missouri Department of Conservation and the National Wild Turkey Federation sponsor the program.

Gobbleteers report their observations, which become part of a database to deepen biologists' understanding of turkey mating behavior, how it is affected by weather and hunting and how best to manage the state's turkey-hunting resource.

The NWTf enters every gobbleteer in a drawing for a shotgun or a lifetime permit that includes all the privileges normally included in small-game and migratory hunting permits and a fishing permit. Nothnagel chose the lifetime permit, a \$600 value.

— Missouri Department of Conservation report.

State record white perch caught in Pennsylvania

James Clark was fishing for striped bass and white perch under a Delaware River bridge when he hooked a white perch weighing 1 pound, 12 ounces and measuring 12.5 inches.

The fish was identified as a new

state record by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

The weight of the fish topped the previous record by five ounces.

— Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission report.

Alabama extends red snapper season in state waters

Alabama Gov. Bob Riley extended the red snapper season within Alabama's jurisdictional waters through Oct. 31.

Riley cited the inconsistency of the National Marine Fisheries Service to force compliance with the federal regulations regarding red snapper in Florida and Texas.

Texas has a year-round season for its states waters with a four-fish bag limit with a minimum length of 15 inches.

Current federal regulations governing red snapper fishing set a season of June 1 through Aug. 5 with a bag limit of two per person with a minimum length of 16 inches.

Captain and crew may not possess any red snapper.

Florida and Texas have nine nautical miles of state waters off shore. Alabama has three.

— Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources report.

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MARLIN FEVER: James Thaxton's Bermuda trip resulted in four marlin being caught in one day, and this 45-pound white marlin on another day. Photo by James Thaxton.

Bermuda

Continued from Page 8

After a long ride with a fist-sized hole in his shoulder and a week in the hospital, Ian returned home and was soon back on the water helping others, including Thaxton, with the trophy, or trophies, of a lifetime.

"Ian is a top mate and is

extremely careful," Thaxton said. "It was just a freak thing."

After the day of fishing, Thaxton headed to a massage therapist. "I was worn out," he said. "I had to get my hip and tailbone realigned. I had spent a lot of time in the chair."

Thaxton headed out with the same crew again on July 6. "At 7:40 a.m., I got into a 800- to 900-pound blue, but it got off in a short period of time," he said. "Later, I

caught a 550-pound blue and a 45-pound white marlin."

All of the fish from both outings were released, except the 550-pounder that had to be brought into the boat. "It got tail-wrapped," he said. "It's a sad day when we have to kill one."

Thaxton was thankful for the trip and the crew. "It was one of those trips," he said. "It's extremely rare to catch that many fish, and of such quality and size."

Family

Continued from Page 8

Jeff, like his grandfather, is in law enforcement — a jailer for the Hunt County Sheriff. Twenty-

four years old, he lives in Greenville.

"He's the one that favors our dad most," Rob said, "in his mannerisms and everything." Rob had been in the lead earlier, with a 14-pound red snapper.

"This means getting together

and doing what our dad wanted us to do — stay close as a family," Rob said.

Asked how many years he thought the family tournament would continue, Rob said, "Hopefully, long after we (the three brothers) pass on."

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