

LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS



Offshore feeding frenzy in full swing

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INSIDE HUNTING



Prospects for quail season, which opens Oct. 28, are dim, but pockets of properties receiving timely rains offer encouragement to hunters.

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A growing number of Texans are honoring service members with the outdoor adventures of their dreams.

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FISHING



Big "bull" reds run the Texas coast in October and November and some reports say anglers are landing 20 to 30 bulls a day.

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Bass fishing is expected to heat up shortly when water temperatures fall into the 60s. As waters cool, shad school and the bass are not far behind.

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NATIONAL

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) advises people to eat more fish to live "longer, healthier, and more active lives."

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CONSERVATION

Ronnie Luster's work in establishing Texas' abandoned crab trap clean-up project has earned him the Heroes of Conservation Award.

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Antler-restriction rule spreads across Texas

40 counties join program

BY BILL MILLER

Avery Miller, 13, of Fort Worth, peered into the scope on a .243-caliber rifle, waiting for a doe nibbling corn to present a clear target of the spot behind her shoulder.

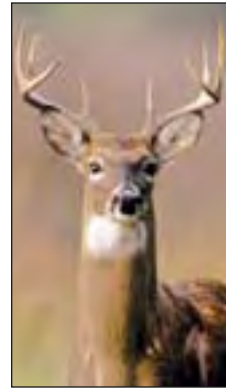
But Avery's angst on opening day last

year was heightened by occasional glances to his right where a small six-point buck grazed near a feeder, offering an easy broadside target.

"Man," lamented the first-time hunter, "if only that guy was legal to shoot."

A year earlier, the little buck would have been fair game. But this ranch in DeWitt County was in the first year of a special antler-restriction program aimed at pro-

See **ANTLERS**, Page 10



ANTLER WATCH: Judging a 13-inch spread can be tough while perched in a deer blind.

WHAT'S ALL THE BUZZ?



BASS HAVEN: The popularity of Lake Amistad grows with every 8- to 9-pound bass pulled from the border water body. Anglers have reported landing 60 to 70 bass per day. Photo by David J. Sams.

Amistad's reputation as state's premier lake grows

BY MARK ENGLAND

To angler James Burkeen's dismay, everyone seems to know. The bass are biting at Lake Amistad and in a big way.

"I kinda liked it when it was a secret," said Burkeen, who grew up near the lake. "Now there's a tournament here every weekend. You can't go to a weigh-in and not have a stringer weighing at least

25 pounds if you want to be in the top five. That's just the way it is."

The growing reputation of Lake Amistad, a 67,000-acre lake northwest of Del Rio that borders Texas and Mexico, mushroomed after the Citgo Bassmaster Elite Series held its 2006 season opener there.

The pros treated the ESPN2 audience to sensational fishing.

They turned in seven bags of largemouth bass weighing more than 30 pounds — including the 34-1 bag caught by eventual win-

ner Ish Monroe.

Several pros, including Skeet Reese and Gerald Swindle, promptly bought property at Lake Amistad.

"The fish catches were so extraordinary that a lot of the guys just decided that they really enjoyed that body of water," said a BASS spokesman.

And the fishing has been even better recently, thanks to flooding in El Paso that worked its way

See **AMISTAD**, Page 26

Titanic tarpon



Jeremy Ebert is dwarfed by the 210.11-pound, 91-inch tarpon he caught off the Galveston Fishing Pier. Photo by TPW.

Angler's catch off pier up for state record

BY CRAIG NYHUS

Around 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 4, Jeremy Ebert, 25, was fishing from the Galveston Fishing Pier using fresh menhaden for bait, hoping to land a bull redfish.

What he hooked was beyond his belief. "I had seen my dad catch two tarpon off the pier, and I had caught sever-

See **TARPON**, Page 10

Whitewings taking to the urban scene

BY WES SMALLING

Historically, the territory of white-winged dove spread across South Texas and into the southern reaches of New Mexico and Arizona.

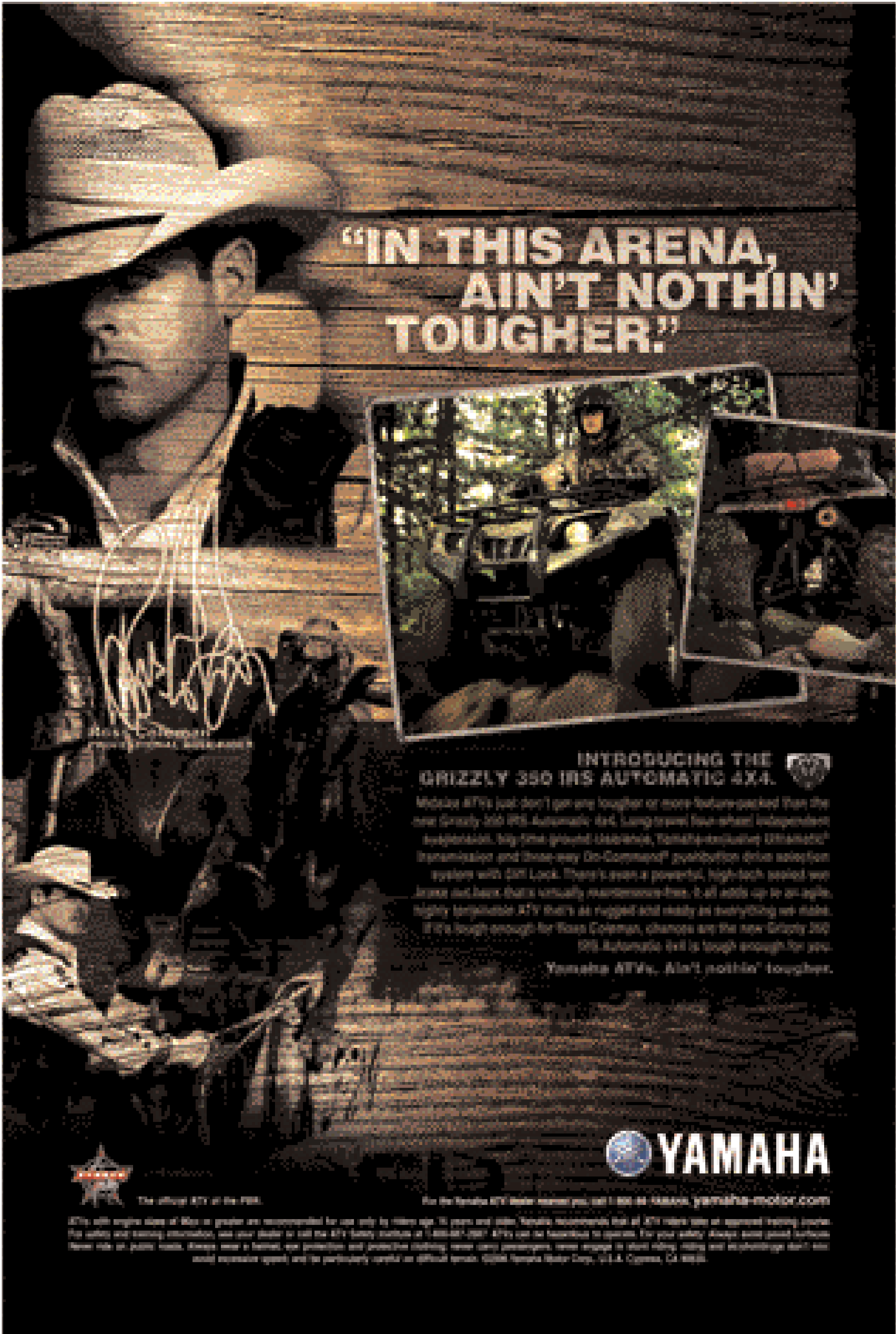
The birds, however, have expanded their range northward in recent years.

See **DOVE**, Page 24



COZY PERCH: The urban lifestyle suits the white-winged dove just fine.

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NATIONAL

USDA advises eat more fish

'Americans are getting the message'

As National Seafood Month kicks off this October, initial findings from a consumer study show that more than 85 percent of Americans currently eat seafood.

Only 20 percent of Americans, however, meet the Dietary Guidelines recommendation of two servings of fish or seafood each week.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture advises people to eat more fish to live "longer, healthier and more active lives," specifically mentioning the heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids found in

seafood.

"Americans are getting the message: seafood is a delicious and healthy source of lean protein that is an important part of a balanced diet," said Doris Hicks, a University of Delaware seafood technology specialist.

"While we found that consumers recognize the tremendous benefits of eating nutrient-rich fish, more education is needed to help people include at least two fish meals in the diet each week," Hicks said.

The survey was conducted by the Delaware Sea Grant

Flavor	Mild	Moderate	Full
Tender	Clams Oysters	Blue Crab Herring Snow Crab	
Medium	Crawfish Flounder Mudrock Orange Roughy Perch Pollock Rainbow Trout Rockfish Striped Bass Whiting	Arctic Char Chilean Sea Bass Dungeness Crab Mussels Salmon Sea Bass Snapper	Mackerel Sea Bream
Firm	Catfish Cod Dory Grouper Halibut Lobster Octopus Shrimp Sole Squid Surimi Tilapia	King Crab Mahi Mahi Scallops Swordfish Tuna	Eel

Table based on information from The Pocket Seafood Guide Book and The Seafood Handbook.

College Program and Department. University of Rhode Island — A National Fisheries Institute Nutrition and Food Sciences report.

Hall to sit on documentary advisory panel

Dale Hall, director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, has joined the committee of historians and conservation professionals who will help guide the production of a major public television documentary highlighting the value and "cultural history" of hunting in America.

"I am honored to represent the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a member of the distinguished group of historians, conservation leaders and communications professionals that have volunteered to help guide this effort," Hall said. "I believe the Hunting Heritage Trust is to be commended for this historic undertaking and, especially, for its efforts to involve the entire conservation community in the project."

The committee endorsed a theme that emphasizes the cultural history of hunting in America.

"The hunting tradition in America began when our founders insisted that every citizen, not just the privileged few, would have the right to hunt," Williams said. "The story of this 'Unique American Democracy of Hunting' has been told in hunting books and conservation journals but never in a television documentary aimed at the general public and school audiences."

"Working together, we are going to tell this important story to all Americans, not just hunters."

Plans call for the documentary to be completed in late 2007 or early 2008. After airing on public television, the program will be made available for school distribution.

— A Hunting Heritage Trust release.

Louisiana commercial king mackerel season closes

The commercial season for king mackerel in Louisiana waters closed at noon on Friday, Oct. 6.

At its January 2006 meeting, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission gave the Secretary of the LDWF the authority to close the commercial season for king mackerel in Louisiana state waters after being informed that the designated portion of the commercial king mack-

erel quota had been filled.

The closure in Louisiana state waters follows the closure of the commercial king mackerel fishery in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico off of Louisiana.

According to information available, the 1.01 million pound commercial quota of king mackerel would be harvested by Oct. 6.

— A Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries report.



SEASON ENDS: The king mackerel commercial quota was recently met, closing the season.

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Shots fired at hunter

Man had stumbled into California marijuana garden

A hunter reported being shot at on Sept. 30 while hunting in a remote area on the Mendocino National Forest within Mendocino County, Calif.

The hunter said he had stumbled into the edge of a marijuana garden and that four male subjects pointed rifles in his direction and began firing. He was able to escape without injury.

This report was closely followed by another hunter reporting discovery of PVC water lines on neighboring Hokey Pokey Ridge in Glenn County. He left the area and reported what he saw to law enforcement officials.

The Forest Service is working with both counties to deal with known and suspected marijuana gardens in these and other areas on the Mendocino National Forest.

Illegal marijuana growing is an increasing problem on public lands in California. National Forest land is becoming increasingly popular for growing and harvesting illegal marijuana gardens and these operations can potentially present a safety hazard to forest visitors and employees.

So far this year, law enforcement officials have eradicated 340,000 marijuana plants from the Mendocino National Forest. All of these were illegal drug traffic organization gardens.

Last year a total of 124,792 plants were eradicated from the Mendocino National Forest during the entire season.

— A USDA Forest Service Report.

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CONSERVATION

Crab trap cleanup project earns Luster recognition

'Ronnie's efforts did more than remove thousands of destructive abandoned crab traps.'

— David Cummins,
CCA president

At *Field & Stream's* first annual Heroes of Conservation Awards Gala, long-time Texas coastal conservationist Ronnie Luster was named the 2006 Hero of Conservation.

Luster's work in establishing Texas' abandoned crab trap clean-up project was selected from hundreds of other conservation project profiles from across the United States.

"It is a true honor to receive this award," Luster said. "But, I am not the hero of this project. The real hero is the Coastal Conservation Association that supported the project and had the infrastructure to alert a large membership about the death of marine life and destruction of habitat created by abandoned and illegal crab traps."

The Heroes of Conservation Award was created to recognize sportsmen dedicated to the protection of fish and wildlife habitat.

"Ronnie's efforts did more than remove thousands of destructive abandoned crab traps," said CCA President David Cummins. "His drive and determination have created a real legacy in conservation that will carry on for years."

The Texas abandoned crab trap cleanup project started in the back lakes of Port O' Connor and rapidly spread across the Texas coast and eventually to other Gulf States.

The project now has more than 1,000 volunteers resulting in more than 20,000 abandoned and illegal traps being removed from coastal bays and estuaries.

— A CCA report.



SPECIAL HONOR: Texas coastal conservationist Ronnie Luster's crab trap clean-up project resulted in more than 20,000 abandoned and illegal traps being removed from coastal bays and estuaries. Photo by CCA.

Wildlife act a boost for conservation

President George W. Bush signed the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act into law on Oct. 3 to enhance the efforts of private landowners to protect species and restore habitat.

The law authorizes the Department of the Interior, through the Partners Program, to provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners to restore, enhance and manage private lands to improve fish and wildlife habitats.

"This law formalizes a program that exemplifies cooperative conservation," said Department of the Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne. "The program puts financial and technical resources into the hands of willing landowners to help them manage their lands for imperiled plant and animal species."

"Next year we will celebrate the program's 20th year. The law represents a perfect anniversary gift for this conservation success story."

The Partners Program is a cornerstone in the service's cooperative conservation efforts — working with private landowners to restore valuable habitat for fish and wildlife.

Since the creation of the program in 1987, it has helped conserve fish and wildlife resources on nearly 800,000 acres of wetlands, 2 million acres of uplands, and 7,000 miles of riparian and stream habitats through nearly 40,000 partnership agreements.

— A USFW report.

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EDITORIAL OFFICES:

9304 Forest Lane, Suite 114 South,
Dallas, TX 75243

Phone: (214) 361-2276 Fax: (214) 368-0344

Publisher/Editor: CRAIG NYHUS

Design Editor: DUDLEY GREEN

Contributing Editor: DARLENE MCCORMICK SANCHEZ

Associate Editor: MARK ENGLAND

Founder & CEO: DAVID J. SAMS

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HUNTING

Drought drops quail hatch numbers

Season prospects dim, but timely rains in areas offer opportunities

BY CRAIG NYHUS

What a difference a year makes.

In contrast to 2005, quail production across Texas in 2006 is not good, according to surveys conducted by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Prospects for the 2006-07 season, which opens Oct. 28, are dim for a top quail season, but pockets of properties receiving

timely rains offer some encouragement to hunters.

An unusually dry winter, followed by below average spring and summer rainfall, delayed quail production. Due to lack of moisture in many areas, quail had little or no chance to nest.

During the 2005-06 season, 99,000 Texas quail hunters harvested an estimated 1.9 million bobwhite and 453,000 scaled

See **QUAIL**, Page 13



COVEY QUEST: Months of hot temperatures combined with low rainfall hindered bobwhite reproductive efforts this year. Coveys are expected to be small in number. Photo by David J. Sams.

Gator hunt tense and fun to boot

Winner says promotion a 'once-in-a-lifetime experience'

BY CRAIG NYHUS

The adrenaline flowed for winners of an alligator hunt in south Texas as part of a promotion sponsored by Justin Boots and Academy Sports & Outdoors.

"Our premise was to give two of Academy's customers and their guests something fun, out of the ordinary, and something the average hunter can't get done," said Jamie Morgan, vice president of Justin Boots. "We set up the promotion with Academy and were assisted by South Texas Guides and Grayson and Fletcher Pipkin of the Pipkin Ranch."

Melissa Davis of Warren was one of the winners. She had hunted alligator once before with her husband, Tim. "We had a real good time," she said. "We fished for trout and redbait in the morning and went on the gator hunt in the afternoon. I got one that went 6 feet, 9 inches and Tim's was 8 feet, 9 inches."

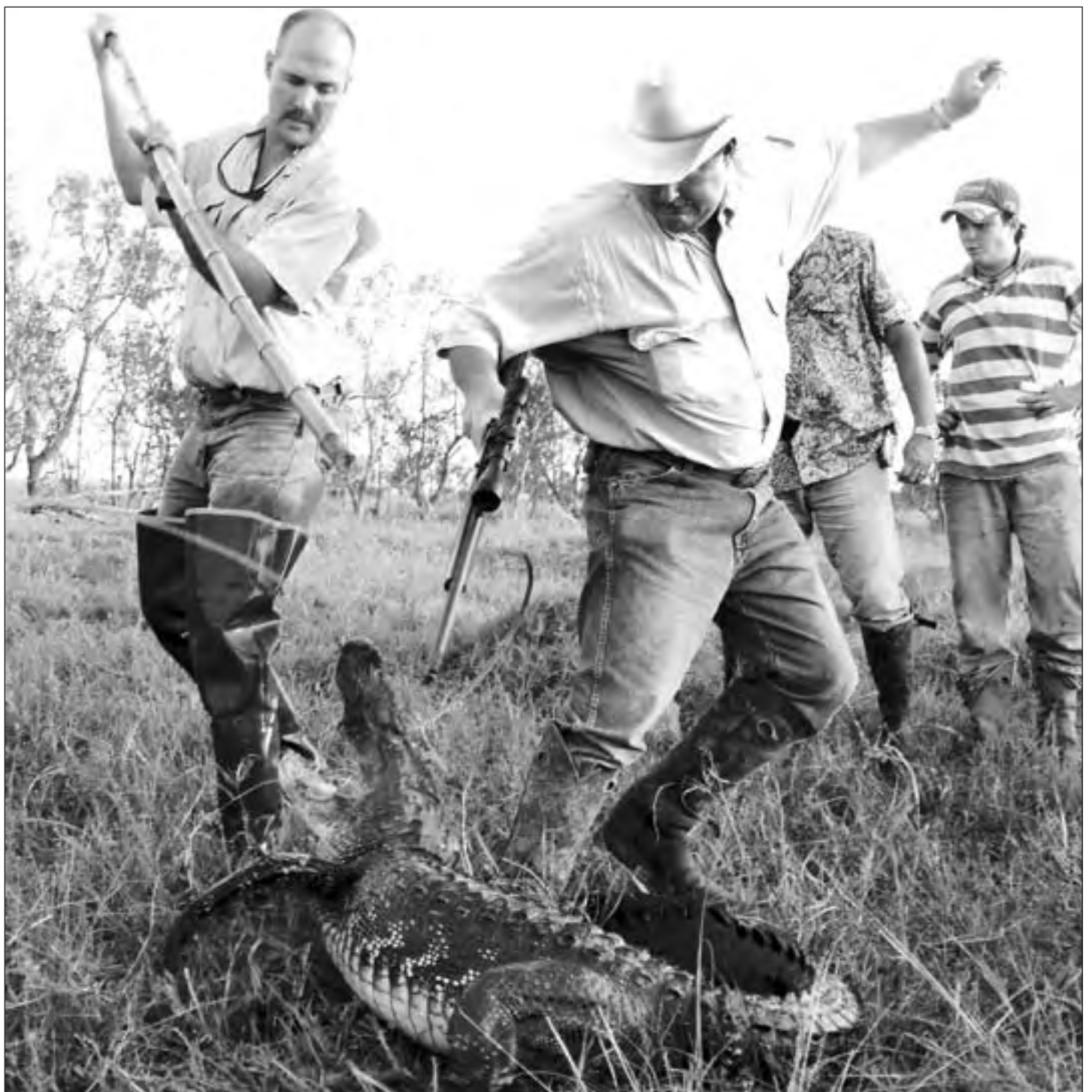
"They used a long cane pole and a big rope," Davis said. "Chicken is attached to a hook at the end of the rope. We went out on an airboat and the gators were already hooked up. Mine was still fighting when I shot it, but my husband's was tangled up."

The winners received a pair of Justin snake-proof boots and will receive alligator boots next year after the gators' hides have been tanned.

Michael Popovici of Richardson was the other winner and took his 22-year-old son, Kirk. "It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience," he said. "We are occasional hunters, but had never done anything like this."

The fish didn't cooperate, but Kirk did catch a

See **GATORS**, Page 13



BACK OFF: Jamie Morgan backs away from a snapping alligator while being assisted by Clark Perkins of the Pipkin Ranch. Morgan, vice president of Justin Boots, was along for the company's promotional hunt that included winners Melissa Davis and Michael Popovici. Photo by Scott Sommerlatte.



MILITARY APPRECIATION: Mark Montoya, left, a California national guardsman from West Covina, Calif., and his brother, Scott, right, a Marine Corps sniper, were honored at the 2005 Show of Support Military Hunt, south of San Angelo. Joining them was Terry Johnson, center, who founded the event. Photo by Show of Support Military Hunt.

OPERATION OUTDOORS

Groups issue special salute to military

BY BILL MILLER

Navy Petty Officer Brad Lindsay reached into his wallet and proudly produced his "Super Combo" hunting/fishing license, offered by the state free of charge to members of the U.S. military who live in Texas.

Lindsay, a Kansas native assigned to Joint Reserve Base NAS Fort Worth, is happy to receive the favor, having spent months aboard ship supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Now," said the longtime bow hunter and angler, "all I got to do is find a place to go."

According to state records, Lindsay is among 11,221 active-duty military personnel who have acquired the Super Combo licens-

es so far this year. Last year, a total of 38,140 of them were issued.

But although most of hunting and fishing lands in the state are on private property, a growing number of Texans are honoring service members like Lindsay with the outdoor adventures of their dreams.

Take "Show of Support Military Hunt."

Now in its third season, the Midland-based group will soon host a Texas trophy deer adventure for 24 service members who served in Iraq.

The annual hunt began in 2004 when Terry Johnson, who works in oil field services, got fed up with negative media reports about the war.

He felt the troops needed to know they

See **MILITARY**, Page 22

Heavy rains soak South Zone dove opener

Success widely scattered; many hunters miss limit

BY RALPH WININGHAM

For the second straight year, unfavorable weather conditions slowed hunting success in the South Zone dove opener.

Hot, humid weather on the opening weekend of the season left many hunters spending more time searching for a cold drink than spotting birds in the sky.

Heavy rains in some areas on the Sunday after opening day, were nearly as detrimental to hunting conditions as last year's disruption by the landfall of Hurricane Rita.

Hunting success was widely scattered throughout South Texas as the season kicked off Sept. 22, with available food sources and a lot of luck being the key factors in filling game bags.

"There were some birds, but the hunting was really slow opening afternoon," said Federico Del Toro, who was among the opening day crowd hunting near Coy City.

"I wasn't able to get a limit until around 6 p.m.," he said.

Del Toro, who was the International Champion at the 2006 National Sporting Clays Association National Championship, knows his way around a shotgun and did not miss many of the few birds flying in range.

"Some of the areas around here had steady shooting, but there were a lot of places where no one got a limit," said Cletus Bianchi, chairman of the Karnes County Lonesome Dove Fest.

"The rain started coming through about three weeks ago and now



FEEDING FIELD: A hunter takes cover behind sunflowers in a field at the White Wing Ranch near Brownsville. Jeff Loop said the birds were thick at feeding time during the second week of the season. Photo by David J. Sams.

about everyone has water. That spread out the birds so they just aren't concentrated in the normal areas," Bianchi said.

The spotty hunting conditions

Ranch near Brownsville said white wings are still thick. "They start flying around 4 p.m. and in the morning around 8," he said Sunday before an afternoon hunt. "Most hunters

River. The whitewings usually hang around until the end of October then they fly south.

"If they leave, there are plenty of mourning dove to take their place"

Hunting Resort near Campbellton, where ranch manager Milo Abercrombie said most of his hunters were able to bag limits both Friday and Saturday.

"We had four and a half inches of rain Saturday night and Sunday morning, so nobody was able to go out and hunt on Sunday," Abercrombie said.

He said the ranch had received two inches of rainfall on each of the two Sundays before opening weekend, and that the ranch was able to produce a good crop of corn and other bird-attracting food plots.

"We had the groceries for them, so that is what brought in the birds," Abercrombie said.

The South Zone dove season will continue through Nov. 12, with a daily bag limit of 12 birds.

Ralph Winingham is an award-winning outdoor writer based in San Antonio.

'We had the groceries for them, so that is what brought in the birds.'

— MILO ABERCROMBIE

were particularly disappointing for the Lonesome Dove Fest officials, who annually play host to about 5,000 hunters and their families at the largest festival in the state dedicated to the opening day of the South Zone dove season.

Jeff Loop with the White Wing

have shot their limits all season long. If you are patient and do not shoot the mourning doves you can shoot all whitewings."

His 600 acres of sunflowers attract birds from all over the Brownsville area as well as birds from Mexico.

The ranch borders the Rio Grande

he said. Hunters experienced good consistent flight of birds lofting into the fields for about two hours on Oct. 1. When the birds finished feeding they left in big bunches heading back to the city.

Another area where birds were numerous was at the 74 Ranch and



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FISHING

The coast is clearing

Sabine Lake's waters navigable on anniversary of Rita

BY CHUCK UZZLE

A year later, reminders of Hurricane Rita's wrath on the Texas coast are fading — but not gone.

The storm debris from destroyed boats and barges that filled Sabine Lake has been removed. The scene, once again, is returning to normal and most waters are navigable.

One of the most destructive storms to ever blast the Gulf coast

littered the waters with destruction, leaving the flats filled with wreckage exemplifying the storm's strength.

A large casino gambling boat, torn apart by Rita, obstructed the waters for many months.

Removing the actual gaming end of the casino barge from the vast lake was a mammoth effort and took the most time of the many projects.

This enormous barge found its way into the Sabine National

Wildlife Refuge with the help of the storm surge. For many weeks, crews worked with huge winches to crawl the barge out of the marsh and back into the lake via Coffee Ground Cove.

Perhaps the hardest hit area around Sabine Lake was the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge. It has been closed for the past year due to all the debris. Trash, vegetation, chemicals — such as chlorine, oil and other hazardous pollutants —

See RITA, Page 15



RITA REMINDER: Anglers cast alongside a shrimp boat damaged by Hurricane Rita. A year ago, the tropical storm littered the coastal waters with destruction. Photo by David J. Sams.

Cooling waters set stage for action

Anglers wait out summer-like weather to hook a trophy bass

BY MARK ENGLAND

It's one of nature's sweet ironies — cooling temperatures in the fall mean hotter fishing.

Lingering summer-like weather, though, has anglers at many Texas lakes treading water. Even one of the nation's premier bass lakes, Lake Fork, hasn't escaped the effects of steamy temperatures.

"Right now, the bass fishing is fair, not great," said Gary Pickett, a Texas Parks and Wildlife technician in Tyler. "The shad have not really started schooling yet. Usually where you find the shad, you find the bass right under them. In talking to people for our surveys, they say the bass fishing is still a little slow."

A few East Texas lakes are seeing bass engage in a mild feeding frenzy, said Richard Ott, a TPW biologist in Tyler. It's being driven by strong winds, though, and not



'When a lake starts rafting with shad, the bass may be suspended at 50 feet, but they still relate to a topwater call.'

— GARY KLEIN

temperatures.

"Anytime you get a change in wind direction, it rescatters the shad," Ott said. "When that happens, the fish move with them. All that moving from one side of the lake to the other stimulates the feeding action of the fish."

Bass fishing at East Texas lakes such as Lake Fork will heat up shortly when the water temperature falls into the 60s, said BASS pro Gary Klein, who has won eight tournaments in his career.

On Tuesday, the water temperature at Lake Fork was still in the 70s.

"October and November are usually good times to fish at Lake Fork," said Klein, who lives in Weatherford. "The bass have a tendency to group up and feed on the bait. It's not uncommon to catch multiple fish on multiple casts."

When shad start schooling, hungry bass are never far behind. The bass practically herd the shad, which exist on plankton, to the surface and attack them mercilessly.

During the feeding frenzy, many of the shad are wounded and sink. The bass get them com-

See COOLING, Page 9

OFFSHORE GATHERING



Eric Kraimer casts a fly to a ball of bay anchovies on the beach front near South Padre Island. Seagulls and anglers were attacking from above while Spanish mackerel and sharks were attacking from below. The fall migration of the Gulf's baitfish is in full swing along the coast and the predators are taking advantage. Anglers are reporting great inshore action for many species. Kraimer was fishing in the South Padre Invitational Fly Fishing Tournament on Sept. 30 with Capt. Eric Glass and John Quinius. The team won the event with the most total inches. Other results: Largest Redfish: Thane Morgan (25 1/2 in.); Largest Trout: John Quinius (19 in.); Largest Snook: John Quinius (22 3/4 in.). Photo by David J. Sams.

Big bull reds running the coast

Angling action aplenty, expected to get better

BY DANNO WISE

This isn't Pamplona, but that doesn't stop Texans from having their own "running of the bulls."

Instead of hooved mammals, the "bulls" that are running along the Texas coast during October and November are spotted and scaled.

However, coastal anglers participate in their running of the bulls with a zeal no less emphatic than their Spanish counterparts.

Since mature redfish — bulls — live offshore, the run takes place along the beachfront. Actually, the run is part of a mating ritual, when the mature fish move in close to rivers and passes in order to lay their eggs, which are then washed into the inshore bays by the tides.

It is in the bays the eggs hatch and the young fish live the first few years of their lives before moving offshore as mature fish.

This year's run began a little early — in mid-September — possibly because of some early northers that made their way through the upper coast region.

"We've already had a ton of big reds," said Galveston guide Capt. Michael LaRue. "In fact, it's been insane. Guys have been catching 20 to 30 bull reds a day. And it should get



RUNNING THE COAST: Big reds are providing anglers with a plenty of rod-bending action during their annual mating ritual.

See REDS, Page 15

Seatrout management talks continue

BY DANNO WISE

Commission expected to hear recommendations in January

Size and bag limit changes continue to highlight discussions at public meetings regarding the regional management of spotted seatrout.

Texas Parks and Wildlife officials addressed five management options under consideration at the September meetings.

Officials hope to keep any change simple, implying they would rather implement either a size or bag limit change — not a combination.

According to TPW biologist Randy Blankinship, officials are weighing which option will give them the most “bang for the buck.” In this instance, the consideration is the benefit to the trout population versus the reduction in harvest.

The first option, increasing the minimum length to 16 inches, would only result in a 4-percent increase in both total population and population over 25 inches.

However, it would still result in a 1-percent decrease in spawning biomass and a 25-percent reduction in harvest.

Blankinship said the drastic reduction in harvest and the minimal increase in population have made this option the least attractive of the five.

The other four options were bag limit alterations. TPW showed data projections for limits of 7, 5, 4 and 3 fish with a 15-

inch minimum. According to its predictions, the results would be as follows:

- 7 fish limit would result in a 1-percent population increase, 14-percent increase in trout over 25 inches, 6-percent increase in spawning biomass and 5-percent decrease in harvest.
- 5 fish limit would result in a 3-percent increase in population, 38-percent increase in trout over 25 inches, 15-percent increase in spawning biomass and 13-percent decrease in harvest.
- 4 fish limit would result in a 5-percent increase in total population, 58-percent increase in trout more than 25 inches, 22-

percent increase in spawning biomass and 19-percent decrease in harvest.

• 3 fish limit would result in a 7-percent increase in total population, 90-percent increase in trout over 25 inches, 33-percent increase in spawning biomass and 28-percent decrease in harvest.

Blankinship expects input gathered at these scoping meetings, along with the department's scientific data, to be presented to the TPW Commission in January.

Any changes would most likely take place at the beginning of the 2007-08 licensing period (Sept. 1, 2007).

Regardless of which change is implemented, Blankinship said anglers should expect to see the greatest impact within three years, although the full impact won't be realized for about nine.

Danno Wise, an outdoor writer and fishing guide, lives in Port Isabel.



COOL CATCHES: BASS pro Gary Klein, who has won eight tournaments in his career, fishes Lake Fork. The Weatherford resident said October and November are good times to fish as water temperatures fall.

Cooling

Continued from Page 8

ing and going.

Keep alert and when temperatures cool you can prey on the bass' single-mindedness — whatever Texas lake you're on.

“When a lake starts rafting with shad, the bass may be suspended at 50 feet, but they still relate to a topwater call,” Klein said. “Bass are conditioned by their environment. On a good shad feed, the bass are conditioned to look up.”

“If you're dragging a jig on the bottom, you may be less apt to catch them. When bass are chasing shad, it's a good opportunity to pull the fish to the bait. Topwater is a great way to do that.”

When it comes to a particular topwater lure, though, Klein doesn't play favorites.

“I'm like a lot of anglers at my level, I fish them all,” Klein said. “To me, a fishing lure is a tool. If a job calls for a 1/2-inch wrench, I use a 1/2-inch wrench. Some lures are effi-

cient, heavier, you can throw them farther, pull fish from greater distances. Some, like buzzbaits, are target-related, you can throw around structure like stumps.”

If he's after a trophy bass, however, Klein admits he leans toward grabbing a Gunfish, a Japanese bait made by Lucky Craft.

“It's a large bait, the size of a Superspook, with two hooks on it,” Klein said. “You get tremendous length on your cast. You can throw it into the next county. You can catch big fish, small fish, you name it.”

As far as colors, Klein keeps it simple, staying with white bellies or shad colors — “You can get wrapped up in that stuff.”

When it comes to schooling fish, an accurate cast is more important than equipment, according to Klein.

“A lot of the time when bass push baitfish to the surface, they'll bite anything that lands in the boil,” Klein said. “If your cast lands five feet to the right of the boil, your chances of getting a bite are not very good. But if an angler lands his lure in the bucket with all that's going on and twitches it once, odds are a 9-pound bass just ate it.”



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GAME WARDEN BLOTTER

WHERE'S THE TAXIDERMIST?

Parker County Game Warden Randall Hayes conducted several follow-up interviews involving a taxidermist who had disappeared from his business

and left wildlife in cold storage without notification to his customers. The taxidermist's daughter attempted to return the wildlife, but she also had sold several

mounts to recover financial losses. Several of the mounts were recovered and returned to their lawful owners. The investigation is ongoing.

LIFEJACKET DID THE TRICK

Game Warden Michael Jaramillo received a call from Coke County Sheriff's Office on a capsized boat at Lake Spence. At 3 a.m., Jaramillo launched his boat, finding there had been three people in the capsized boat but two had made it back to the bank. The third person was still missing but had a lifejacket. After a couple of hours of looking up and down the bank, Jaramillo and a Coke County deputy found the missing boater. The person had a lifejacket on and was safe, just wet and cold.

SUSPICIOUS HOG HUNTERS BAGGED

Hill County Game Warden Mark Hammonds assisted Hill County Game Warden Douglas Volcik in arresting two suspects who claimed to be hunting hogs in a field where the wardens had received complaints of people hunting deer at night. The driver of the vehicle was arrested for an outstanding warrant out of Travis County. He also was cited for an open container violation and no resident hunting license. The passenger was cited for an open container violation. Cases pending.

VARMINT HUNTERS CAUGHT WITH RATTLESNAKE

Johnson County Game Warden Ty Patterson, Hill County Game Warden Mark Hammonds, and Ellis County Game Warden Jeff Powell worked together in apprehending spotlighters on a northern Hill County road near the border of all three counties. The group of hunters, who admitted to hunting hogs and varmints, were in possession of a rattlesnake that had been shot on the road. Several cases pending.

BOY SCOUTS TOUGH IT OUT

Palo Pinto County Game Warden David Modgling received a call to help rescue a group of Boy Scouts who were canoeing the Brazos River and became too tired to continue their trip. When Warden Modgling arrived at the agreed meeting location, he was told that they had decided to continue to their final destination. He later received a call from the sheriff's department informing him that they made it to their destination

safely.

MEN FINED MORE THAN \$1,000 FOR HUNTING VIOLATION

Sabine County Game Wardens Randy Button and Chad Gartman arrested two local subjects for hunting from a public road. Subjects were assessed fines of \$1,126.

FESTIVAL ATTRACTS ROWDY CROWD

During the 18th Annual Gatorfest in Anahuac in Chambers County, Wardens John Feist and Shane Detwiler patrolled the Trinity River since many people came by boat. They rescued two people from the river who were ejected from their boat when it struck a log. The operator was impaired from medication and alcohol; he was arrested and refused a blood test. When the boat crew came back to the festival, they observed an intoxicated man and arrested him for public intoxication.

TEN HUNTERS FACE DOVE-BAITING CHARGES

Jefferson County Game Wardens Brian Bearden, Kirk Jenkins and Robbie Smith were working in conjunction with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Agent Jeff Odom since the opening of Central dove season regarding an area baited with wheat. The wardens inspected the field on several occasions and set up surveillance. Ten hunters were caught and 113 mourning dove seized. The cases were turned over to Odom and have been presented to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

EARLY BIRD HUNTER GETS SURPRISE

Jefferson County Game Warden Brian Bearden received information from a landowner in the South Zone about his neighbor opening the dove season early. Wardens Robbie Smith and Kirk Jenkins

found a hiding spot and saw a man shooting mourning dove in closed season. He also was raking piles of wild birdseed out of the back of his truck. Citations for hunting mourning dove in closed season and hunting mourning dove over bait were issued.

LANDOWNER SURPRISED BY WARDEN

Bandera County Game Warden Rod Chalmers hiked in on a group of dove hunters who were hunting deep inside the brush near a cornfield. Suspecting that the hunters were baiting the field, Chalmers slipped in to find new deer feeders with cracked corn underneath. Though the shooters were as close as 60 yards from the feeders, the birds apparently hadn't found the bait yet and were not being lured to it. After watching the shooters and birds for an hour, Chalmers made contact to find that the landowner/host didn't have a hunting license. Verbal warnings were given about the proximity of the bait and "pooling" doves, but the landowner got somewhat upset about being cited for no hunting license on his own land and he was amazed that a game warden would actually walk that far into his property.

HORSE SWIMS TO SAFETY BUT RIDER DROWNS

Aransas County Game Wardens Richard "Marty" Martin, Ben Friebele, and Jason Bussey and Maintenance Technician Leo Villa responded to drowning call at a private pond near Rockport. A man was horseback riding with friends, and somehow he and his horse wound up in the pond. The horse came running out of the pond, but the male rider never surfaced. The game wardens launched a boat, and a diver was also sent in to assist. The man's body was recovered

about an hour after the boat was launched. The pond was estimated to be about 12 feet deep.

HUNTERS FIND TROUBLE WITH LANDOWNER

Hardeman County Game Warden Matt Thompson responded to a report about 16 people possibly trespassing. Thompson found a group of people hunting rabbits with dogs. Four of the hunters were actually observed trespassing on private property. The landowner was contacted and he agreed to sign the non-consent affidavit. Trespass cases and a hunter education case were filed.

ANGLERS CAUGHT WITH TOO MANY SNOOK

During Operation Valley Star last week, Aransas County Game Wardens Scott McLeod and Charles Mayer caught five men at the Port Isabel jetties in possession of five snook over their legal limit. The anglers had a total of 10 snook within the 24- to 28-inch slot limit.

ILLEGAL "BIG BUCK" ENTRY LEADS TO ARREST

Shelby County Game Wardens Mike Hanson and Derek Nalls, along with Shelby County Pct. 5 Constable Stan Burgay, executed a search warrant on a residence west of Center. The search was the culmination of a two-month investigation by Hanson. Information was initially received alleging the suspect illegally killed a 135-class Buck and won second place in a local "big buck" contest. A large amount of credible evidence was discovered, even though the initial violation occurred on Nov. 25, 2004. The mounted head, along with photographic evidence, and a Remington .30/06 were seized. The

suspect was arrested during the search on charges of hunting from a motor vehicle on a public road; two separate charges for felon in possession of a firearm, and theft of a firearm, by deception, as he defrauded the contest by entering an illegal deer. The suspect claimed his prize rifle on Jan. 20, 2005, which was 10 days after he had posted bond on a felon in possession charge that Hanson had filed on him on Jan. 9, 2005.

DOVE HUNTERS' BAGS A LITTLE TOO FULL

Howard County Game Warden Wayne Armstrong and Midland County Game Warden Terry Lloyd were working an area where there has been some leased corporate hunting and found one individual who was over the daily bag of dove and another man with no hunter education certificate. The very talkative hunter, who was filed on for exceeding the bag limit, was the guide for a group of hunters from the Kilgore, Longview and Tyler area and freely admitted to taking a bag limit of dove that morning and was trying to get another limit in the evening.

BAIT DRAWS GAME WARDENS TO HUNT SCENE

Bee County Game Warden Chris McDonald responded to call to assist Karnes County Game Warden Chad Moore with a baited field located in Bee County during opening weekend of dove season. Moore had responded to an advertisement in a Victoria newspaper promising great day dove hunts in Karnes County and was advised the field was baited up and the birds were coming in. Capt. Danny Shaw enlisted the help of USFWS agents Stacy Campbell and Eric Jumper to book a hunt. The landowner met the hunters well before daylight and guided them to a ranch that was located in Bee County instead of Karnes County. The landowner also told the federal agents who booked the day hunt that the field was baited. The State Game Wardens moved in as the Federal Wardens pulled out and filed charges of baiting, hunting an over-baited area and having no hunting lease license.

Antlers

Continued from Page 1

tecting young bucks to let them reach maturity and, thus, maximum breeding efficiency.

DeWitt was one of 15 counties to enter the program last year, joining the original six that started it in 2002 in the Post Oak Savannah area northwest of Houston. Forty more counties in east and central Texas were added this year when archery season opened on Sept. 30.

Ranchers in the original counties have praised the program, saying it has tremendously boosted the populations of bucks, and their headgear.

Under the regulation, a legal buck has an inside antler spread of at least 13 inches, which generally puts him at age 3 years or older — a mature buck that has probably done his part to increase the herd.

Judging that 13-inch spread, however, can be tough while perched in a deer blind. Biologists have suggested that if a buck's antlers extend past his ears, his antlers might be 13 inches apart.

But that's just a guide, not a fool-proof barometer.

Mike Hoffman, the game warden in DeWitt County, said he issued plenty of warnings last season for antler-restriction violations.

"I saw a lot of good deer, but half of them were too small," Hoffman said at a recent meeting of the Central DeWitt County Wildlife Association.

"The smallest I saw was only 11-and-a-half inches," he added, "so people are trying. You just have to be patient."

Hoffman noted, however, that in the second year of the program, he'll be issuing more tickets than warnings.

That's not unusual, said Buddy Turner, an assistant chief for the Law Enforcement Division at Texas Parks and Wildlife.

"Any time we implement something signifi-

Ears in alert position are approximately 13 inches apart and may be used to judge the inside spread.



LEGAL
At least one unbranched antler



LEGAL
At least one unbranched antler



LEGAL
Inside spread of 13 inches or greater



ILLEGAL
This buck meets none of the criteria

cantly new and different, we typically use the first year to educate folks," Turner said. "Believe it or not, we do try to follow common sense."

The regulation also allows hunters to take spikes, or the abnormal "cull bucks" that might have a fork on one side but only a spike on the other.

Ryan Schoeneberg, the state biologist in DeWitt County, said the recent drought has turned these deer into special targets.

"If you got spikes, shoot them," he told the wildlife association. "If you got freaks, shoot them."

"There's so much data that shows a spike is an

inferior deer."

This will free up habitat for average bucks like the one Avery saw which, Schoeneberg said, will be "phenomenal" in a year or two.

"This is the guy you'll want breeding your does," he said. "This is the guy you want eating your protein."

Fortunately for Avery, he was trying to fill a doe tag; once the target turned broadside, his shot was true.

And when it rang out, the little buck darted for cover, free to get bigger — free to make his contribution.

Bill Miller is a Fort Worth-based freelance writer.

Tarpon

Continued from Page 1

al tarpon in the past from a boat," Ebert said. "When the rod went off, it was like — I finally had a tarpon off the pier."

The fish took one full jump, a couple of rolls, and headed out to sea. "It took about 300 yards of line," Ebert said.

Ebert was using 40-pound test line and a surf rod.

The fish took more than 45 minutes to land. "There were about 30 people on the pier," Ebert said. "One of my friends asked them to all reel up — and they did. I moved back and forth across the T-head of the pier."

Landing the fish required the help of the pier owners, who maintain a large drop net for large catches. Ebert probably would have released the fish. "We had to wait a little while for the net, and the fish was basically gone when it was landed," Ebert said.

The monster fish measured 91 inches in length and 46 inches in girth. No official scale was available at night, so the fish was weighed Thursday morning at Boyd's One-Stop in Texas City. The fish weighed 210.11 pounds. "James Plaag, a tarpon guide, told me the fish probably lost between 5 and 10 pounds," Ebert said.

The current state-record tarpon is 210 pounds, caught by Tom Gibson on Nov. 13, 1973. Gibson's fish was 86.25 inches long.

On Sept. 1, Texas Parks and Wildlife changed the tarpon regulations allowing an angler to keep one tarpon 80 inches or longer without purchasing a previously-required \$125 tarpon stamp.

The fish was donated to Texas Parks and Wildlife, and was displayed at the Parks and Wildlife Expo on Oct. 7-8.

An official record application will be made to Texas Parks and Wildlife.



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Quail

Continued from Page 6

quail, according to Quail Forever. In the Rolling Plains region, production was less than average with small brood sizes being reported by field staff.

In the Parks and Wildlife surveys, the average number of bobwhites observed per route was 14 compared to 37 in 2005. The long-term average is 23.

However, good bobwhite hunting opportunities may be found in areas under proper range management and in areas that received favorable weather conditions.

Ted Lyon of Mesquite hunts near Childress and at another location between Vernon and Paducah. "Last year was really good," he said. "Three of us averaged nearly 30 birds per day."

This year the expectations are not as high. "We're seeing only 15 to 20 percent of last year's numbers," Lyon said. "In 2005, one line count done by the Parks and Wildlife biologist was 127 birds. This year it was zero."

James Stephens of Mesquite Country Outfitters operates out of the 170,000 Pitchfork Ranch west of Guthrie. "We are not without birds, but they are down substantially," he said. "Last year we averaged seeing 30 to 40 coveys per day — this year we expect to work hard all day to move 12 to 15 coveys. We did have a good carryover of birds, but the hatch was poor."

Drought conditions also affected south Texas. High daily temperatures combined with low rainfall hindered bobwhite reproductive efforts. However, scattered rains fell at a scale too small for the survey to detect. In these areas, quail were more successful.

The average number of bobwhites observed per route was 3 compared to 9 in 2005. The long-term average is 20.

Kleberg and Zapata counties appear to be the exception to the low south Texas numbers.

"We received timely rains in April, May and June," said George Foulds of Lone Star Guide Service.

"We've been kicking up 17 to 18 coveys of

PUBLIC HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

- Rolling Plains — Matador and Gene Howe WMA
- South Texas Plains — Chaparral and Doughtrey WMA
- Trans-Pecos — Elephant Mountain and Black Gap WMA

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- James Stephens, Mesquite Country Outfitters (806) 269-2362
- George Foulds, Lone Star Guide Service (361) 729-3214
- Rick Hodges, Lone Star Outdoors (830) 609-3600

about 15 birds each working our dogs. From Kingsville south to Carrizo Springs and over to Falfurrias is in real good shape," he said.

The Trans-Pecos region has experienced well above average populations of scaled quail for the past three years. Still above average, scaled quail counts are down from an average of 34 birds observed per route last year to 19 birds per route this year.

Bobwhite numbers in the Gulf Prairies, Cross Timbers and Edwards Plateau are below their respective long-term averages. There are areas within each region where quail hunting opportunities remain, but the entire region was significantly affected by summer drought.

Floyd County is one area that provides limited public quail hunting opportunities at 16 hunting units leased by the state encompassing 6,000 acres. "Pockets of land received some good rains," said Kyle Smith of Floydada. "Those areas have pretty good populations of quail and pheasant."

An annual public hunting permit is required. For maps and information, contact the Floydada Chamber of Commerce at (806) 983-3434 or Texas Parks and Wildlife. Map booklets of public hunting lands and short-term leases are provided with the public hunting permit.

Craig Nyhus is editor and publisher of the Lone Star Outdoor News.

Gators

Continued from Page 6

large catfish. "It broke his rod in three places, but we still got it into the boat," he said.

During the hunt, "Kirk and I were allowed to pull our gators into the boat," Popovici said. "We had quite a time getting them steady, and Kirk's gator almost pulled me out of the boat — but he got it on the first shot." The son also topped the father on the length of his 7-foot, 8-inch gator by one inch.

Morgan got the surprise of his life in his hunt, which was captured on video by

Popovici. "I had shot mine with a pistol and we thought it was down," Morgan said. "When we pulled it out of the water, he came back to life and swiped at us — I had to shoot it again with the rifle."

Popovici, who has worked in marketing, praised the executives from Justin Boots. "They made an effort to mingle and interact with us," he said. "That stood out to me since we were with big heads of a good-sized company."

Whether the hunt will be repeated next year is undetermined. Morgan said he is unsure whether he will attend. "After seeing the picture, my wife said, 'You are not going back.'"

2006-07 TEXAS HUNTING SEASONS

Species	Season	Counties	Notes
WHITE-TAILED DEER	Archery	Sept. 30-Oct. 29	
	General		
	YOUTH SEASON	Oct. 28-29, Jan. 20-21	
	NORTH TEXAS (200 counties)	Nov. 4-Jan. 7	
PANHANDLE (6 counties)	Nov. 18-Dec. 3		
	SOUTH TEXAS (30 counties)	Nov. 4-Jan. 21	
	Late Antlerless and Spike		
EDWARDS PLATEAU (39 counties)	Jan. 8-21		
SOUTH TEXAS (30 counties)	Jan. 22-Feb. 4		
Muzzleloader (23 counties)	Antlerless and Spike Only	Jan. 13-21	
MULE DEER	Archery	Sept. 30-Oct. 29	
	General		
	PANHANDLE (36 counties)	Nov. 18-Dec. 3	
	SOUTHWESTERN PANHANDLE (7 counties)	Nov. 18-26	
TRANS-PECOS (19 counties)	Nov. 25-Dec. 10		
RIO GRANDE TURKEY	Archery	Sept. 30-Oct. 29	
	Fall Season		
	YOUTH SEASON	Oct. 28-29, Jan. 20-21	
	NORTH TEXAS (122 counties)	Nov. 4-Jan. 7	
SOUTH TEXAS (26 counties)	Nov. 4-Jan. 21		
Brooks, Kenedy, Kleberg and Willacy counties	Nov. 4-Feb. 25		
DOVE	North Zone	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	Bag limit 15 birds per day, 30 in possession
	Central Zone	Sept. 1-Oct. 30; Dec. 26-Jan. 4	Bag limit 12 birds per day, 24 in possession
	South Zone	Sept. 22-Nov. 12; Dec. 26-Jan. 12	Bag limit 12 birds per day, 24 in possession
	Special South Texas Zone	Sept. 22-Nov. 12	Bag limit 12 birds per day, 24 in possession
		Dec. 26-Jan. 8	
	QUAIL	Oct. 28-Feb. 25	Bag limit: 15 birds per day, 45 in possession.
	Statewide		
PHEASANT	Panhandle (37 counties)	Dec. 2-31	Bag limit: 3 roosters per day, 6 in possession.
	Chambers, Jefferson, Liberty counties	Nov. 4-Feb. 25	
DUCK	High Plains Mallard Management Unit		
	YOUTH SEASON	Oct. 21-22	
	REGULAR	Oct. 28-29; Nov. 3-Jan. 28	
	North Zone		
YOUTH	Oct. 28-29		
REGULAR	Nov. 4-26; Dec. 9-Jan. 28		
South Zone			
YOUTH	Oct. 28-29		
REGULAR GUN	Nov. 4-26; Dec. 9-Jan. 28		
Duck Bag Limit:			
The daily bag limit shall be 5 ducks with the following species and sex restrictions — scaup, redhead and wood duck — 2 ducks; only 1 from the following aggregate bag: 1 hen mallard, or 1 pintail, or 1 canvasback, or 1 "dusky duck" (includes mottled duck, Mexican-like duck, black duck, and their hybrids); all other ducks not listed — 5 ducks.			
Possession limit: Twice the daily bag limit.			
GOOSE	West		
	LIGHT AND DARK GEESE	Nov. 4-Feb. 6	
	Bag Limit:		
	Light Geese — 20 in the aggregate; Dark Geese — 3 Canada and 1 white-fronted goose.		
CONSERVATION ORDER	Feb. 7-March 25		
East			
LIGHT GEESE	Nov. 4-Jan. 28		
WHITE-FRONTED GEESE	Nov. 4-Jan. 14		
CANADA GEESE	Nov. 4-Jan. 28		
Bag Limit:			
Light Geese — 20 in the aggregate; Dark Geese — 3 Canada and 2 white-fronted.			
Possession Limit: Twice the daily bag limit for dark geese, no possession limit for light geese.			
CONSERVATION ORDER	Jan. 29-March 25		

(Seasons on other species may be found on the TPW Web site — tpwd.state.tx.us/)

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Photo by: David J. Sams

Rita

Continued from Page 8

made up a massive pile of debris that stretched about six miles long and reached heights of 20 feet.

In an interview with the Environmental News Service, Evan Hirsche, chairman of the Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancements, spoke of the situation. "A National Refuge could be declared a Superfund site," he said. "We've got a severe situation with ramifications for groundwater, wildlife, and people that depend on it for their well being."

The clean-up efforts have been hindered by the remote area and the difficulty in accessing the debris.

Crews are working on the major task in marshy conditions, which slows the progress.

"It looks like parts of the Sabine Refuge may be open back up in the spring, which is great news for the fishermen," said Capt. Ron Begnaud of Lake Charles La., who runs Redchaser Guide Service.

The wildlife refuge is home to great fishing opportunities that anglers missed for the past year.

"The refuge closure was more due to the fact

that canals that wind through there were all plugged up," Begnaud said. "Refuge officials I talked to were afraid that if someone got lost or stranded in there they wouldn't be able to get to them."

Much of the area has been cleared and it remains to be seen how long before this popular spot reopens.

With the help of many volunteers, most all of the dangerous debris has been removed from Sabine Lake, but not without a mishap or two.

"We were idling along behind the islands on the Intracoastal and hit something solid — solid enough to trash my propeller and jolt my customers," said veteran guide Capt. Dickie Colburn of Orange. "We pulled up all of the stuff we could and marked the rest for the Coast Guard and game wardens."

"The crabbers along with several of the regular local fisherman removed a ton of stuff as well."

Volunteers have played a major role in helping the anglers who fish Sabine Lake get back into the swing of things and put Rita in the past.

Chuck Uzzle, an Orange resident, is an outdoors writer.

Sabine Lake guide Capt. Jerry Norris said most of the bull reds also are found along the jetties.

"We have bull reds around most of the year, either on the jetties or at the short rigs," the guide said. "But we have a little better fishing for them in the fall and winter."

"Most of the fish will be along the west jetty. We do catch them on artificials, but most of the fish are caught on finger mullet."

Along the southern Texas coast, the run begins a little later. But, once the fish move in, anglers can expect action every bit as exciting as found along the middle and upper coasts.

"We usually don't see our bull reds until mid-October or early-November," said Port Isabel guide Capt. Eddie Curry. "But when they move in, you can catch a lot of them around the jetties. Really, for most bay fishermen, the bull red run is their best opportunity to catch a really big fish."

Reds

Continued from Page 8

better as October goes on."

"Most of our bull reds are caught along the jetties, especially the north jetty," LaRue said. "They move up and down the jetty looking for an easy meal. The key to catching good numbers of them is to keep a lot of rods out, keep plenty of bait in the water."

"As long as there is bait around, they stick around. If there isn't any bait in the water, they'll move on," he said.

"The absolute best bait for us is shad," LaRue said. "You can use shrimp or mullet or even artificials, but shad is the best. Just fish it on the bottom using a heavy Carolina rig."

"When it gets rough, you may have to go really heavy with the weight to keep it on the bottom. But the rougher the water, the better the fishing."

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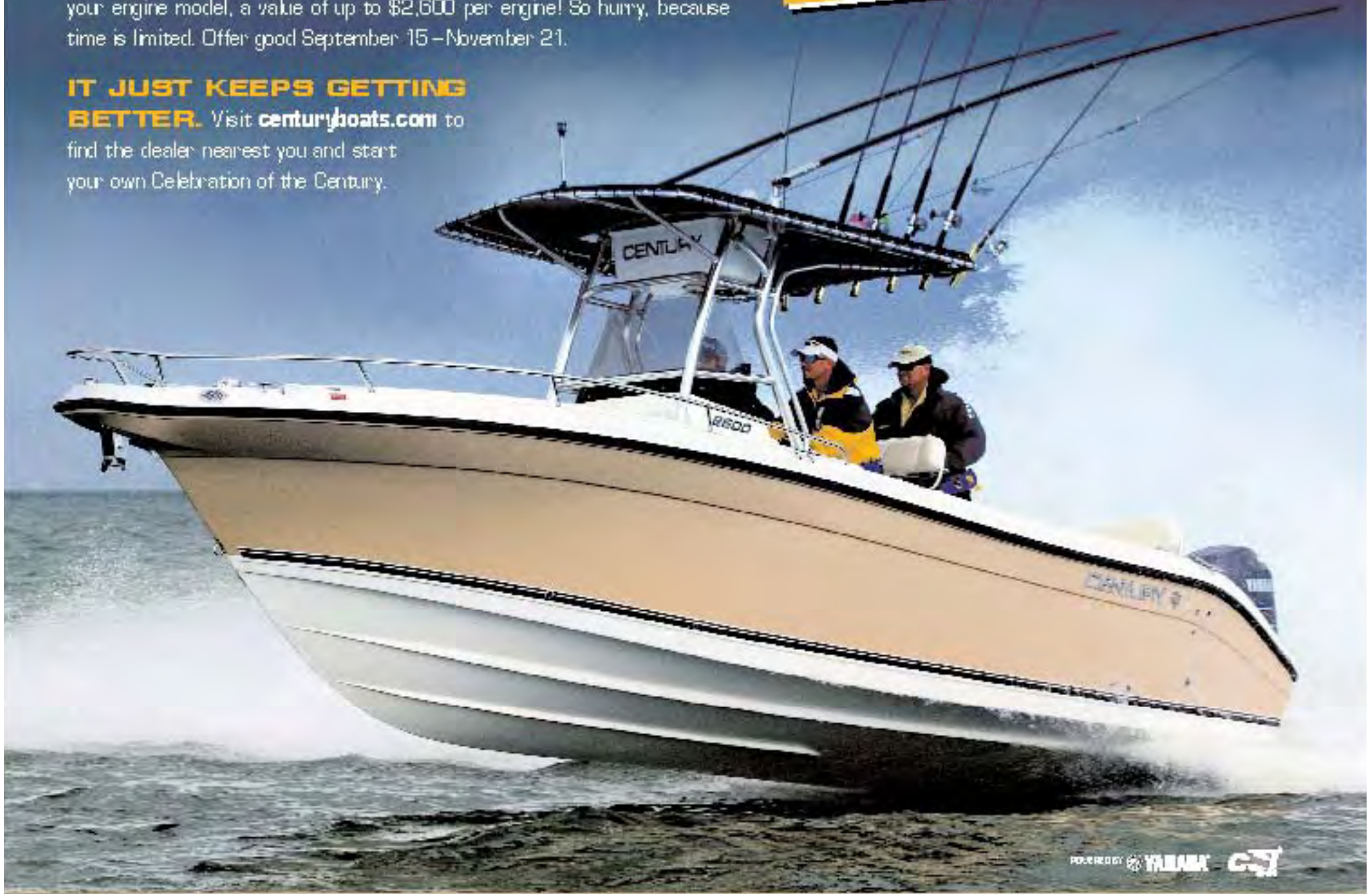
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Former President Bush to address Gala

Proceeds to benefit Wildlife Conservation Foundation of Tanzania

Former President George H.W. Bush, along with His Excellency Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former President of France, will speak at a Gala Dinner benefiting the Wildlife Conservation Foundation of Tanzania at 7 p.m., Tuesday at the Gaylord Texan Resort in Grapevine.

The Dallas Safari Club, working with its strategic partner, Conservation Force, is hosting the event, the foundation's inaugural fundraising gala in the United States.

One hundred percent of the pro-

ceeds will go to the Wildlife Conservation Foundation of Tanzania.

Leading conservationist H.I.H. Archduke Lorenz of Austria-Este and Senator John Cornyn will be in attendance.

Former President Bush and His Excellency Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, along with His Excellency Benjamin Mkapa, the former president of Tanzania, joined with other conservationists to form the Wildlife Conservation Foundation of Tanzania in 2002.

The foundation funds anti-

poaching and law enforcement efforts, provides grants for training programs of specialized staff for fauna protection, works to increase Tanzania's access to donors for the purpose of its wildlife conservation initiatives and contributes to local initiatives geared toward securing the healthy survival of the country's wildlife resources.

Tanzania is considered by many as the last bastion of wildlife and true wilderness in East Africa, boasting 12 national parks, 31 game reserves and 38 game-controlled areas, which comprise more than 25

percent of the country's land mass.

Some of the world's most recognized and renowned protected areas can be found in this country, including the Selous, Serengeti and Kilimanjaro.

Organized poaching, combined with expanding populations and competing land usage has taken a terrible toll on these areas.

The Gala will feature a silent auction. Auction items will include a 21-day safari from Tanganyika Wildlife Safari; a 21-day safari from Tanzania Game Trackers; and a 10-15 day photographic safari from

Mount Kilimanjaro Safari Club.

Additionally, Moët Hennessey is donating extremely rare bottles of champagne. Attendees may also bid on a Masai painting by Cécile Riolet. As an added attraction, artwork by John Banovich, considered by many to be America's consummate wildlife artist, will be on display during the evening.

For ticket or sponsorship information, contact Gray N. Thornton or Debi Mills, at 972-980-9800 or e-mail gray@biggame.org. Tickets are \$500.

— A Dallas Safari Club report.



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HEROES



From left, **JIM RUSHTON**, **BEN BARNETT** and **PHILIP LAMB** had a great dove shoot at the Vinson Ranches near the Clear Fork of the Brazos River.



HALEIGH BEAIRD and friend, **COLE BECKER**, show two doves at an opening day hunt in Clifton.



JOHN WILLIAMSON JR., 14, of Spring, caught this 15-pound striper at Lake Amistad. He was using a slab spoon jigged in deep water.



MICKEY HOYSA, 2, of Rosanky holds two doves he retrieved at his first dove hunt on Labor Day at the Avery's Farm in Round Rock. He is the son of **WALTER** and **CATHY HOYSA**.



EDDY WOLFE caught this wahoo about 10 miles offshore at Port Mansfield. He was using a silver Russel Lure trolling from a 22-foot bay boat. The fish measured 70 inches and weighed 74 pounds.



GREG SMITH caught this estimated 155-pound tarpon near South Padre Island. The fight lasted 25 minutes and Smith broke his 10-weight fly rod when the fish neared the boat. The fish was released.



PHILIP MONIER and his 7-year-old daughter, **GENEVIEVE**, show blue-winged teal they harvested in Comanche County the last weekend of teal season. It was Genevieve's first hunt.

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CONNOR JOHNSON, 14, caught this 21.5-inch flounder while fishing the Port O' Connor jetties with his father, **BLAIR**, and his uncle, **CHET**, on his birthday. The fish weighed nearly 5 pounds.

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MOON PHASES

Last Oct 13	New Oct 22	First Oct 29	Full Nov 5
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SOLAR TABLE

Month	Day	Sun. Rises	Sun. Sets
10/11	6:43 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/12	6:44 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/13	6:45 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/14	6:46 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/15	6:47 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/16	6:48 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/17	6:49 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/18	6:50 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/19	6:51 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/20	6:52 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/21	6:53 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/22	6:54 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/23	6:55 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/24	6:56 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/25	6:57 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/26	6:58 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/27	6:59 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/28	7:00 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/29	7:01 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/30	7:02 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	
10/31	7:03 a.m.	6:04 p.m.	

TIDES

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

SUN AND MOON

Month	Day	Sun. Rises	Sun. Sets
10/11	7:21 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/12	7:21 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/13	7:22 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/14	7:22 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/15	7:23 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/16	7:23 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/17	7:24 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/18	7:25 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/19	7:26 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/20	7:26 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/21	7:27 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/22	7:28 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/23	7:28 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/24	7:29 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/25	7:30 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/26	7:31 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/27	7:31 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/28	7:32 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/29	7:33 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/30	7:34 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	
10/31	7:34 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	

MOON PHASES

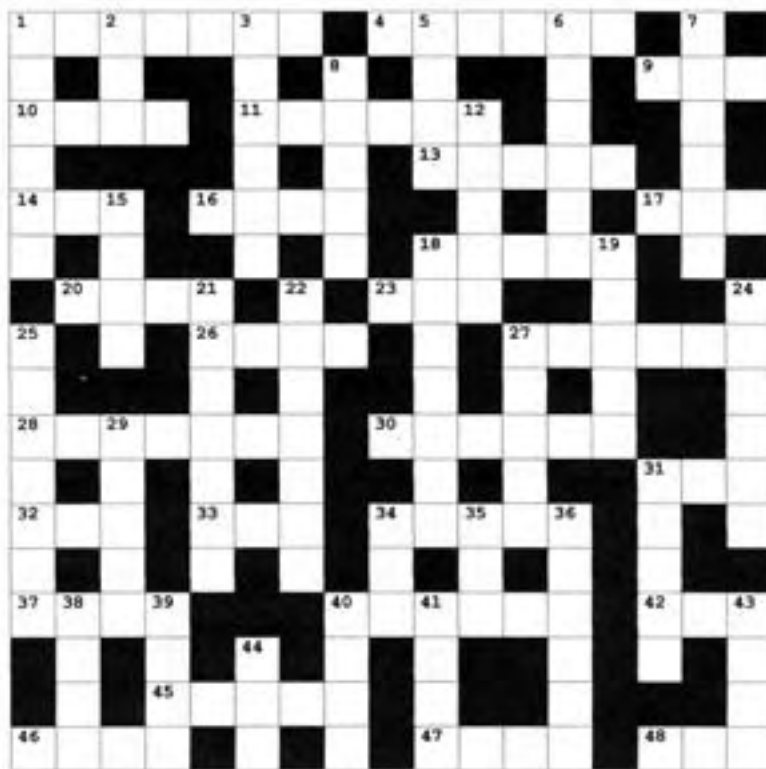
Month	Day	Sun. Rises	Sun. Sets
10/11	11:00 p.m.	12:22 p.m.	
10/12	—	1:24 p.m.	
10/13	12:21 a.m.	2:34 p.m.	
10/14	1:20 a.m.	3:47 p.m.	
10/15	1:58 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	
10/16	2:18 a.m.	6:08 p.m.	
10/17	2:26 a.m.	8:04 a.m.	
10/18	2:23 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	
10/19	2:12 a.m.	8:13 a.m.	
10/20	1:52 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	
10/21	1:19 a.m.	8:40 a.m.	
10/22	5:48 a.m.	9:10 a.m.	
10/23	6:43 a.m.	9:35 a.m.	
10/24	7:43 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	
10/25	8:39 a.m.	10:42 a.m.	
10/26	10:10 p.m.	11:27 a.m.	
10/27	11:19 p.m.	12:20 p.m.	
10/28	—	1:21 p.m.	
10/29	12:12 a.m.	1:28 p.m.	
10/30	—	2:40 p.m.	
10/31	12:02 a.m.	3:57 p.m.	

OUTDOOR PUZZLER

For crossword puzzle solution, see Page 22

ACROSS

1. He seeks out game for the pelts
4. The sage is one
9. A female elk
10. Marsh grass perch for some game birds
11. A breed of retriever
13. Number of game or fish allowed
14. A very large deer
16. Describes a wild turkey's vision
17. The cost of a license
18. Species are bighorn and dall
20. Term for a very large sturgeon
23. A buck's mating period
26. To analyze game tracks
27. A breed of gundog
28. To seek out game with arrows
30. A species of bass
31. Rings on striper's tail reveal this
32. The male turkey
33. Large appendage on the muley
34. The ermine is a _____ weasel
37. A home to the outdoorsman
40. Swimming mammals trapped for the fur
42. A female bear
45. A game bird
46. Name for a Hawaiian goose
47. A diving bird
48. Failure of a firearm to function



DOWN

1. The gobbler
2. A deer's teeth will tell this
3. Predators that pursue wild turkeys
5. It brings in a catch
6. Fish action hitting a bait
7. Part of a fish line
8. The hunter's cover
12. A buck's usual feeding time
15. A name for the sea bass
18. A popular ice fisherman's catch
19. A wild turkey's calling sounds
21. A saltwater fish
22. A habit game tends to follow
24. Deer could be termed as this
25. A wildlife's favorite area
27. A type lure to attract game
29. They are getting more into shooting sports
31. A good bear scent lure
34. A type of fly lure
35. The rugged method of fishing
36. A brand of bow
38. A favorite habitat for quail
39. A type of gunsight
40. A good food bait for traps
41. A species of duck
43. Carp migrate in _____ waters
44. Handy to have along in a kit

Outdoor Puzzler, Wilbur "Wib" Lundeen

WILD IN THE KITCHEN

QUAIL OR DOVE CASSEROLE

- 3 pounds quail or dove
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoons pepper
- 1/2 teaspoons paprika
- 6 tablespoons butter
- 15-ounce can artichokes (optional)
- 1/4 pound mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 2/3 cup chicken consomme
- 3-4 tablespoons sherry (cream or cooking)

Salt, pepper, and paprika quail or dove and fry in 4 tablespoons of butter. Place in casserole. Place artichokes between quail or dove. Saute mushrooms in 2 tablespoons butter. Add 2 tablespoons flour. Stir in consomme and sherry. Cook 5 minutes. Pour over quail or dove. Cover and cook at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

— Recipe by North Carolina Cooperative Extension, www.ces.ncsu.edu/martin/wildrecipes/wgrdov3.php.



FISHING REPORT

HOT BITES

LARGEMOUTH BASS



AMISTAD — Black bass are very good on topwaters, crankbaits, soft plastics, and heavy jigs in the grass.

BROWNWOOD — Black bass are excellent on Texas rigged white tube jigs in 5 to 10 feet, Redbug Grande Bass 4" finesse worms near docks and over brushpiles in 5 - 15 feet, and on topwaters and flukes.

RAY ROBERTS — Black bass to 6 pounds are excellent on Houdini shad, Yum dingers and Xcalibur crankbaits around pond dams and the edges of flats.

WHITE HYBRID STRIPER



ARROWHEAD — White bass are very good on shad-imitation lures and white soft plastics off points and flats with some surface action.

CEDAR CREEK — White bass are excellent on TailHummers and slabs.

LBJ — Striped bass to 5 pounds are good on blue back 1 1/2 in. Li'l Fishies and white 2in. Spoiler Shads at night. White bass are good on 1 1/2" Li'l Fishies and Spoiler Shads at night.

CATFISH



BRAUNIG — Channel and blue catfish are excellent on liver, cheesebait, shrimp and chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

CALAVERAS — Channel catfish are excellent on liver, shrimp, cheesebait, and nightcrawlers.

FALCON — Channel and blue catfish are excellent on cutbait, shad, and frozen shrimp.

LIVINGSTON — Blue catfish are excellent on shad.

PROCTOR — Channel and blue catfish are excellent on shrimp and shad.

CRAPPIE



HOUSTON COUNTY — Crappie are excellent on live minnows in 16 feet.

RAY ROBERTS — Crappie are excellent around brush piles.

BREAM



HOUSTON COUNTY — Bream are good on nightcrawlers around docks, grass beds, and lily pads.

WEATHERFORD — Bream are excellent on worms.

ALAN HENRY — Water lightly stained; 73 degrees; .05' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs.

AMISTAD — Water clear; 80 degrees. Channel and blue catfish are good on cheesebait, shrimp, chicken livers and chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers. Yellow catfish are good on live perch.

ARROWHEAD — Water lightly stained; 73 degrees; 5.4' low. Black bass to 7-pounds are good near shallow points and floating aquatic vegetation on spinnerbaits and topwater lures. Crappie are good on minnows near some derricks suspended 20 feet and fair near stat park piers.

ATHENS — Water clear, 72-78 degrees; 4.61' low. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs fished over brushpiles. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers and cut shad.

BASTROP — Water stained. Channel and blue catfish are good on frozen shrimp and stinkbait.

BELTON — Water clear; 82 degrees; 6.18' low. Channel and blue catfish are good on frozen shad. Yellow catfish are slow.

BOB SANDLIN — Water clear; 72-80 degrees; 9.64' low. Black bass are good early and late on topwaters, midday switching to drop shots and jigs. White bass are good on Humdingers.

BRAUNIG — Water stained; 90 degrees. Striped bass are good on liver and shad, and down rigging spoons near the dam. Redfish are good on tilapia, perch, and shad near Dead Tree Point, and down rigging spoons near the jetty.

BRIDGEPORT — Water clear; 72-81 degrees; 16.66' low. Black bass are fair to good on topwaters early, later switching to Texas rigs and shaky head rigged soft plastics.

CADDO — Water fairly clear to stained; 73-79 degrees; 1' low. Black bass are good on watermelon candy Brush Hogs and chartreuse or white spinnerbaits.

CALAVERAS — Water stained; 90 degrees. Redfish are excellent down rigging silver spoons in 20 - 25 feet, and on tilapia and live perch near the power lines and the dam, and along the crappie wall. Blue catfish are good on liver and chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers. Yellow catfish are slow.

CANYON LAKE — Water clear; 77 degrees; 6.53' low. Black bass are fair to good on green pumpkin JDC grubs, Texas rigged 4" - 6" blue fleck Power Worms, and JDC Skip-N-Pop topwaters along main lake bluffs and some humps in the clearer creeks at first light in 12 - 20 feet.

SMALLMOUTH BASS to 3 pounds are fair to good. Yellow and blue catfish to 18 pounds are good on live perch.

CEDAR CREEK — Water clear; 73-81 degrees; 5.77' low. Catfish are good on liver and shad over humps.

CHOKO CANYON — Water clear; 79 degrees; 6.38' low. Black bass to 8 pounds are good on chrome/black Red Fins, gold digger Reaction Innovations Trixie shad, and white swamp donkeys across grass mats. Channel and blue catfish are good on Lewis' Select and CJ minnow catfish bait in 10 - 25 feet. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines baited with hybrid bluegills and comets in 15 - 25 feet.

COLEMAN — Water clear; 83 degrees; 5.22' low. Black bass are good on watermelon red crankbaits and spinnerbaits. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbait, shrimp, and liver.

COLETO CREEK — Water clear; 85 degrees (90 degrees at hot water discharge); 2.25' low. Crappie are good on minnows in 10 - 12 feet.

CONROE — Water stained; 4.28' low. Black bass are good on chartreuse and chartreuse/blue crankbaits and spinnerbaits.

DUNLAP/MCQUEENEY — Water stained. Black bass are good on chartreuse/white crankbaits and spinnerbaits. Channel catfish are good on stinkbait, liver, and shrimp. Blue catfish are good on live perch.

FAIRFIELD — Water fairly clear; 84-89 degrees. Black bass are good early and late on Pop Rs and buzzbaits above the grass on secondary points. Catfish are good on prepared baits and live shad in the creek channels and on flats.

FALCON — Water murky; 82 degrees. Black bass are good on Sweet Beavers and Brush Hogs shallow.

FAYETTE — Water clear; 85 degrees. Black bass are good on topwaters and buzzbaits, and on watermelon red, electric blue, and plum Carolina and Texas rigged soft plastics along outside edges of grass.

FORK — Water clear; 72-78 degrees; 4.79' low. Crappie are good on minnows and small jigs in 16-22 feet under main lake bridges and around brush piles. Catfish are good on prepared baits in 22-24 feet along creeks.

GIBBONS CREEK — Water stained. Black bass are good on chartreuse/green red flake crankbaits, spinnerbaits, and soft plastic worms.

GRANBURY — Water stained; 2.48' low. Black bass are good on chartreuse Rat-L-Traps and watermelon red spinnerbaits.

GRANGER — Water murky; 74 degrees; 2.62' low. Crappie are good on bumblebee colored tube jigs in 10 feet. Blue catfish are good on perch and Zote soap.

GRAPEVINE — Water fairly clear; 72-79 degrees; 11.24' low. Black bass are fair to good on crankbaits along the dam. Texas rigged worms and shaky head rigged finesse baits. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs over brush piles. Catfish are good on chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

GREENBELT — Water lightly stained; 67 degrees; 28.31' low. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass are good on live bait and crankbaits.

HOUSTON COUNTY — Water stained; 79 degrees; 1.24' low. Black bass are good on white buzzbaits near the marina and around stumps in 4 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on shrimp and minnows. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines baited with bream and shad.

HUBBARD CREEK — Water lightly stained; 72 degrees; 12.70' low. Catfish are good on prepared baits.

JOE POOL — Water fairly clear; 73-80 degrees; 2.28' low. White bass are good on pearl TailHummers.

LAKE O' THE PINES — Water stained; 73-79 degrees; 4.7' low. Channel catfish are good on bloodbait and chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

LAVON — Water stained; 72-80 degrees; 16.34' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are fair to good on prepared baits.

LEWISVILLE — Water stained; 71-81 degrees; 10.03' low. Black bass are fair to good on spinnerbaits, jigs and Carolina rigs, with topwater action very early and at dusk. White bass are good on Humdingers and slabs.

LIVINGSTON — Water fairly clear; 78 degrees; 3.69' low. White bass are good on slabs, pet spoons, and hellbenders.

MACKENZIE — Water lightly stained; 65 degrees; 72' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass and striped bass are good on crankbaits along riprap. Catfish are good on cut and live baits.

MARTIN CREEK — Water clear; 7.04' low. Catfish are good on catalpa worms and prepared baits.

MEDINA — Water stained; 77 degrees; 31.46' low. White bass are good vertically jigging KT Lures off main lake points in 20 - 30 feet. Channel, blue, and yellow catfish to 6 pounds are good in 20 - 30 feet.

MEREDITH — Water lightly stained; 65 degrees; 32.94' low. White bass are good on minnows along rocky points.

NASWORTHY — Catfish are good on cut baits and minnows.

NAVARRO MILLS — Channel and blue catfish are good on chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

HOT SPOT



RAY ROBERTS

DENTON COUNTY

Black bass to 6 pounds are excellent on Houdini shad, Yum dingers and Xcalibur crankbaits around pond dams and the edges of flats. White bass are good on CC jigging spoons on the main lake. Crappie are excellent around brush piles.

O.H. IVIE — Water lightly stained; 73 degrees; 21.17' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs.

PALESTINE — Water fairly clear; 72-83 degrees; 4.68' low. Hybrid striped and white bass are fair to good trolling crankbaits and Rat-L-Traps.

PALO DURO — Water lightly stained; 64 degrees; 48.38' low. Channel catfish are good on cut baits.

POSSUM KINGDOM — Water clear; 72 degrees; 6.6' low. Black bass up to 16-inches are good near rocky cover on soft plastics, spinnerbaits, and topwater lures early and late in day. White bass are good off shallow points, with some surface action on shad imitation lures. Catfish are good on set lines baited with shad in the upper part of reservoir.

PROCTOR — Water stained; 86 degrees; 7.62' low. White bass are good on yellow spinnerbaits.

RAY HUBBARD — Water fairly clear; 71-81 degrees; 4.69' low. Black bass are fair on buzzbaits and Yellow Magics early and late, midday switching to Carolina rigs, drop-shot rigs and medium diving crankbaits.

RICHLAND CHAMBERS — Water fairly clear; 78-83 degrees; 9.48' low. Black bass are good on chartreuse pepper or watermelon Carolina rigged Exude Poc't fries. Catfish are good on live perch fished off the main creek channels and flats.

SAM RAYBURN — Water stained; 83 degrees; 4.86' low. Black bass are fair on silver/white spinnerbaits, crankbaits, and Rat-L-Traps over grass beds, and on chartreuse soft plastics in 10 - 25 feet.

STILLHOUSE — Water gin clear; 78 degrees; 2.44' low. Black bass are good on large minnows and watermelon/red flake and red shad/red flake soft plastics. Channel and blue catfish are good on hot dogs.

TAWAKONI — Water stained; 72-79 degrees; 10.67' low. Black bass are fair on topwaters and white or shad pattern spinnerbaits early, midday switching to Texas and Carolina rigs. Crappie are fair on minnows.

TEXOMA — Water clear; 72-79 degrees; 4.84' low. Black bass are fair on topwaters early and late, midday switching to crankbaits, jigs and Carolina-rigs. Striped bass are fair to good on topwaters early and late, midday switching to live shad and Sassy Shad.

TOLEDO BEND — Water clear; 74 degrees; 10.23' low. The boat ramp at Holly Park is accessible. Black bass are good on watermelon red soft plastic worms in 10 - 25 feet early and late. Crappie are good on minnows over baited holes. Bream are good on crickets and worms. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with live bait and shrimp.

TRAVIS — Water clear; 81 degrees; 36.14' low. Black bass are good on crawfish crankbaits, crank worms, and bone topwaters in 5 - 15 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers and bait shrimp in 20 - 35 feet.

WALTER E. LONG — Water clear. Black bass are good on minnows, small jigs, and spinnerbaits early. Crappie are good on minnows and small jigs. Channel and blue catfish are good on punchbait, frozen shad, and shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

WEATHERFORD — Water stained; 73-82 degrees; 8.99' low. Black bass are good on soft plastics and spinnerbaits at the water inlet when the water is running and around docks. Channel catfish are good on chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers and white dough bait. White bass are good in the water inlet when the water is running.

WHITNEY — Water stained; 8.46' low. Black bass are good on watermelon seed and watermelon red crankbaits and soft plastics. White bass are good on pet spoons, hellbenders, and minnows. Catfish are good on stinkbait and chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

WICHITA — Water lightly stained and clearing; 72' degrees; .5' low. White bass and hybrid striped bass (some sub-legal) are good on minnows along the dam, and slow trolling with shad raps. Channel and bullhead catfish are good on worms and punchbait, and trotlines baited with shad.

WRIGHT PATMAN — Water fairly clear; 73-80 degrees; 4.76' high. Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps, spinnerbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs over brush piles.

SALTWATER SCENE

NORTH SABINE — Trout and redfish are fair to good under the birds on shrimp tails and topwaters. Redfish are good in the river on live shad.

SOUTH SABINE — Bull redfish are good in the surf and at the jetty on finger mullet.

Trout are good on tandem-rigged DOA Shrimp and glow plastics at the causeway at night.

BOLIVAR — Bull redfish are good on the beachfront on finger mullet.

TRINITY BAY — Trout are fair to good under the birds and under the slicks. Trout are fair to good on the reef in front of the Spillway on topwaters, live shrimp and strawberry plastics.

EAST GALVESTON BAY — Trout are fair to good under the birds around Frozen Point. Trout and redfish are good at Hannas Reef and Deep Reef on shrimp and plastics.

WEST GALVESTON BAY — Trout, redfish and flounder are fair to good around Campbell's Bayou on plum and glow artificial tipped with shrimp and live shrimp under a popping cork. Bull redfish are good on the beachfront on mullet and crabs.

TEXAS CITY — Trout and redfish are good at the flood gates in Moses Lake. Croaker and sand trout are good on peeled shrimp off the dike.

FREEPORT — Trout are fair to good in Christmas Bay on topwaters. Bull redfish are fair to good at the Surfside and Quintana jetty on finger mullet, crabs and cut-bait. Flounder are fair to good in Christmas Bay near the cuts leading to the marsh.

EAST MATAGORDA — Trout are good while drifting scattered shell throughout the bay. Redfish are fair to good on the reefs and at Brown Cedar Flats on live shrimp and topwaters.

MATAGORDA — Bull redfish are fair to good at the jetty on finger mullet and crabs. Redfish are good in Crab Lake and Oyster Lake on live shrimp, She Dogs and Top Dogs.

PORT O'CONNOR — Bull redfish are fair to good at the jetty on finger mullet and squid. Trout and redfish are good for drifters working the back lakes on live shrimp and She Dogs.

ROCKPORT — Trout and redfish are good on the shell in Mesquite Bay on live shrimp, mullet and She Dogs. Redfish are good around Mud Island and the Estes Flats on topwaters.

PORT ARANSAS — Bull redfish are fair to good at the jetty on squid, crab and mullet. Redfish are good in Corpus Christi Bay around Pelican Island on live shrimp.

CORPUS CHRISTI — Redfish are good on the East Flats and Shamrock Cove. Trout and redfish are fair to good on the shell in Nueces Bay on live shrimp and piggy perch.

BAFFIN BAY — Trout and redfish are fair to good in Emmords Hole and the Humble Channel. Redfish are good while drifting Yarbrough Flats on gold spoons and topwaters.

PORT MANSFIELD — Trout and redfish are good at the Land Cut on live shrimp, piggy perch and She Dogs. Trout and redfish are good while drifting near East Cut and the Saucer.

SOUTH PADRE — Trout and redfish are good on gold spoons and live shrimp under a popping cork at Three Islands. Redfish are schooling on the flats. Trout are fair to good on the grass beds next to the Intracoastal on bone-colored soft plastics and live shrimp.

PORT ISABEL — Trout and redfish are good on She Dogs and live shrimp under a popping cork at Un-necessary Island.

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ShareLunker season begins

The Budweiser ShareLunker program is now accepting 13-pound-plus largemouth bass for its 21st season.

Last season's 32 entries included new water body records for lakes Amistad, Lewisville, Ratcliff, San Augustine City and Alan Henry.

Qualifying fish are used in a selective breeding program aimed at improving the genetic makeup of largemouth bass in public waters. The fish, all female, are spawned with male descendants of ShareLunkers. The resulting fry and fingerlings are then stocked into public waters. Last season ShareLunkers produced 168,000 fry and 43,700 fingerlings for stocking into 10 public lakes, and 60,000 fingerlings now being reared

to 6-inch size as part of Operation World Record.

Anyone legally catching a 13-pound or heavier largemouth bass from Texas waters, public or private, between Oct. 1 and April 30 may submit the fish to the program by calling program manager David Campbell at (903) 681-0550. The fish will be picked up by TPW personnel within 12 hours.

Anglers entering fish into the ShareLunker program receive a free replica of their fish, a certificate and ShareLunker clothing. They will be recognized at a banquet at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens following the close of the season.

— A TPW report.

Military

Continued from Page 6

were appreciated so he took two of them hunting.

In 2005, Johnson consulted with fellow members at the Texas Trophy Hunters Association about expanding the program.

The group's CEO, retired army general Leroy Sisco, used his military connections to help find 12 troops for the hunt on the Rocking Chair Ranch, south of San Angelo.

Some of them had been treated for wounds at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio; some were amputees.

Mark Montoya, a California national guardsman from West Covina, accompanied his brother, Scott, a Marine Corps sniper who was awarded the Navy Cross for his service in Iraq.

Montoya said they were overwhelmed by the royal treatment.

Each man got camouflage clothes, lots of gear and a .300 WSM Browning Stainless Stalker bolt-action rifle, topped with a Leupold scope and engraved with his name.

"They let us keep it all," Montoya said. "On the plane ride home, I

turned to my brother and said, "What just happened?"

"People here in California like to shake your hand, but the people in Midland want to throw their arms around your neck. I mean, the hospitality was through the roof."

The group has budgeted \$250,000 for this year's hunt, which is now the model for similar events in other states, Johnson said.

Texas anglers also have been showing their support.

The Quality Bass Club of San Antonio on Oct. 28 hosts its third Fishing for Freedom event for wounded soldiers who are being treated at Brooke Army Medical Center.

The full day of fishing, food and fun will be held at Choke Canyon Reservoir near Three Rivers. Johnson noted, however, that individuals can still honor service members on their own — all it takes is an invitation to a deer lease or a bass pond.

To find guests, start by calling the office of morale, welfare and recreation at any military post. Also check acquaintances at work, church or civic groups.

"It can be for a hunting trip, fishing, even sky diving or skiing," Johnson said. "It's just a matter of getting off the fence and doing it."

Outdoors Events

- Quality Bass Club of San Antonio's Fishing for Freedom III, Oct. 28 at Choke Canyon Reservoir — www.qualitybass.org.

- Show of Support Military Hunt and its Nov. 16 banquet and fundraiser featuring entertainment by Aaron Tippin and a visit from Gov. Rick Perry — www.showofsupportmilitary-hunt.com.

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PRODUCT PICKS

BEST SALTWATER REEL AT 2006 ICAST SHOW:

The **International Torque 300 Reel** by **Penn Fishing Tackle** features a

patented design that integrates right sideplate components into one rigid assembly. This design, says the company, enables the reel to achieve super-high drag capabilities with fewer parts than a traditional reel. Gears, pinions and handle maintain perfect alignment no matter how heavy the load. The reel is fashioned from aluminum alloy and has a forged and machined frame, spool and side plates. It has a disengaging pinion and an oversized soft-grip power handle. The 29-ounce reel sells for about \$400. For retailers, call (215) 229-9415 or visit www.pennreels.com.



CAP LIGHT: The NIGHTVzion

securely attaches to the underside of nearly any ball cap. It is designed for anglers, hunters or anyone who needs his hands free to juggle other gear. The water-resistant light by Vzion Outdoors comes with five white LED bulbs. It costs \$12.95 at www.vzionoutdoors.com. Call (800) 438-3724 for more information.



LAYERED COMFORT: Cabela's Activ-Lite Upland Jacket

can be worn alone or with a traditional vest or a strap vest. The jacket has a tough shell that sheds burs; articulated elbows with gussets for easier movement; a Windshear lining to ward off chilling wind; and an interior layer of fleece. The lightweight jacket comes in Tan/Blaze and costs \$69.95 to \$79.95. For information, visit www.cabelas.com.



TRAINING TOOL: INNOTEK's new FieldPro Line is a training system for those who hunt with dogs. The system consists of two Lithium battery-operated remote trainers and rechargeable collars. Both transmitters feature crush-proof and impact-resistant polycarbonate housing. The line offers two models: the FieldPro Ranger (about \$300) allows dog and owner to communicate up to one mile while the compact FieldPro Scout (about \$250) is field-test rated at a 1/2 mile. For information, call (800) 845-3274 or visit www.innotek.net.



TRACKING BOOT: The Irish Setter Aero Tracker offers hunters maneuverability and comfort. The Gore-Tex liner effectively waterproofs the boot while its Vibram sole delivers traction on tricky terrain. The outer construction features an open-weave mesh with an interior perforated liner that allows the boots to breathe, making this a great boot for hunting in warm to cool weather. The boots sell for about \$160. For dealers, visit www.irishsetterboots.com or call (888) 738-8370.



CAMO SHIRT: Wrangler ProGear has added a new camouflage pattern to its collection of professional-grade hunting and fishing apparel. Bill Jordan's **Advantage MAX-1 HD**, a pattern combining neutral earth tones, grasses, rush, rock and sage, will grace such items as the Camo Twill Field Shirt. Constructed of 100-percent cotton twill, the field shirt features side gusset construction for a greater range of motion (especially handy when swinging that rifle up to shoot). The shirt, which comes in 11 sizes, also is available in Realtree Hardwood Grey HD. It costs about \$30 to \$35. For more information, visit www.wrangler.com or call (888) 784-8571.



BEST BOATING ACCESSORY AT 2006 ICAST SHOW: Minn Kota's Terrovo trolling motor

showcases a stow-and-deploy mechanism featuring fall-away ramps that deploy the motor into the water along with a balanced motor design that greatly reduces stowing effort. An ergonomically designed corded foot pedal comes standard. The Terrovo is offered in 55-pound (12 volt), 80-pound (24 volt) and 101-pound (36 volt) thrust levels. It costs from about \$670 to \$1,440, depending on thrust level, shaft length and optional features (such as Universal Sonar 2). For information, call (800) 227-6433 or visit www.minnkotamotors.com.



GAME CAMERA: Wildview has rolled out its new 3.1 MP Xtreme III digital scouting camera. It captures 12 high-resolution images; 33 low-resolution images; or 10 video clips. It has an SD memory card slot for those who want expanded memory. The game camera runs on four C batteries or 12V rechargeable batteries. Its settings are controlled by five toggle switches, including one for time of delay between photos, one for resolution, etc. The camera costs about \$170. For dealers, call (888) 304-6125 or visit www.wildviewcam.com.



OUTDOOR DATEBOOK

HAVE AN EVENT?

E-mail it to
editor@lonestaroutdoornews.com

Oct. 14: The Marshall Ducks Unlimited dinner will be held at 6 p.m. at the Marshall Convention Center on business U.S.-59 South. Contact Clayton Ready at (903) 935-2566 or ythomas@ducks.org.



Oct. 14: The Clear Creek DU dinner will be held at 6 p.m. at the Community Center on NASA Rd 1. Contact Rich and Kim Knickerbocker at (281) 480-9432 or rich.knickerbocker@equistar.com.

Oct. 14: The Killen/Ft.Hood DU dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Texas Home Builders, Harker Heights. Contact Bobby Whitson at (254) 702-9466 or bwhitson@hotmail.com.

Oct. 14-15: Bass Pro Shops in Katy will offer Retriever Training with Steve Hendricks and Brian Lee with Hendricks Kennels. Waterfowl tips from James Prince and Rich-n-Tone representative Jason Campbell will be offered as well. Hours are Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit

basspro.com or call (281) 644-2200.

Oct. 15: Associated Builders & Contractors Central Texas Chapter will hold its Open Bass Tournament at Lake LBJ. For more information, contact (830) 798-8199.

Oct. 17: Dallas Safari Club will host the Wildlife Conservation Foundation of Tanzania Gala at the Gaylord Texan Resort. \$500 per person, black tie. Contact www.biggame.org for more information. Call (972) 980-9800 for reservations.



October 18: Bass Pro Shops in San Antonio will hold a fundraising and ribbon-cutting ceremony from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Called an Evening for Conservation, on hand will be NASCAR® drivers Martin Truex Jr. and Wally Dallenbach, former NFL Dallas Cowboy Daryl "Moose" Johnston, former San Antonio Spurs George "Ice Man" Gervin, Jimmy Houston, Rick Clunn, David Fritts, Tim Horton, Stacey King, "Mr. Crappie" Wally Marshall, Chris Daves and Jason Quinn, Woo Daves, Brenda Valentine and Miss San Antonio Katie Gratia. The event is free and open to the public.

Oct. 19: The Baytown DU Dinner will be held at the fair grounds. Contact Kyle Aubey at (832) 887-4573 or kwaubey@hotmail.com.

Oct. 19: The Athens DU Dinner will be held at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center. Contact Brad Rummel at (903) 681-3347 or ythomas@ducks.org.

Oct. 19: Arlington DU banquet will be held at 2201 S.W. Green Oaks Blvd. in Arlington at 5:30 p.m. For ticket information, contact Steve Barber at (817) 572-3228.

Oct. 19: Northeast Tarrant County DU banquet at the Colleyville Community Center. Contact David Hornsby at (817) 283-6082 or dbhtx@yahoo.com.

Oct. 19: Cleburne Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at the Cleburne Senior Center, 1212 Glenwood Dr. Contact Greg Williams at (817) 558-0246.

Oct. 19-20: Mule Deer Management Conference will be held at the Airport Hilton in San Antonio. Top speakers will cover desert mule deer ecology, biology and management, mule deer dietary habits and nutrition, managed lands deer programs for mule deer, and more. Advanced registration is \$150, onsite is \$175. To register, call (210) 767-8300 or visit www.mummiesinc.com.

Oct. 20-21: Lake Fork Fall Brawl Tournament will be held at Axton's Bass City on Lake Fork. The event will start Friday with the Patriot Lures Tournament. The entry fee will be \$10 per person and each person fishes as an individual. Officials ask that only fish caught on these baits be weighed for the contest.

Oct. 21 will be five-fish team tournament. Entry fee for Saturday's event is \$50 per team. For more details, contact John Payette @bassfishingworld@aol.com or visit www.bassfishingworld.com.

Oct. 20-22: Oktoberfisch, A Fly Fishing Festival will be held at Keller's Riverside Store. Casting clinics, vendor booths and shuttles to fishing areas on the Llano River will be available. For more information, lodging and directions, visit www.fredericksburg_flyfishers.com, contact oktoberfisch@hotmail.com, or call (830) 997-8881.



Oct. 21: The Brownwood DU Dinner will be held at the convention center. Contact Julie Mitchell at (325) 646-2252 or txcamogirl@aol.com.

Oct. 21: The Rio Grande Valley DU Dinner will be held at Solid Country in Mission. Contact Brian Payne at (956) 369-1812 or bpayne@acquirreandpatterson.com.



Oct. 21: The Northeast Texas Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation will hold a day of outdoor fun for women at Carol and

Roger Horn's Ranch in the Jolntown community. For more, information contact Dorothy McCarver, WITO coordinator, at dmac@bluebonnet.net or (903) 572-7179.

Oct. 24: Deer Hunters' Seminar is scheduled to be held at the Titus County Civic Center in Mt. Pleasant. Doors will open at 5 p.m. and the presentation will begin at 7 p.m. The latest hunting regulations will be explained and tips will be discussed on how to age a deer on the hoof. Contact Roger Horn at rhorn@txu.com or (903) 572-7664 after 5.

Oct. 25: Dallas Safari Club monthly meeting at Embassy Suites outdoor world featuring Larry Weisuhnn's talk on hunting white-tailed deer. Cost is \$35 per person.

Oct. 25: The Midland DU Dinner will be held at GreenTree Country Club. Contact Clint Moeglein at (432) 694-9374 or moegy@grandecom.net.

Oct. 26: The Dallas DU Dinner will be held at a new location, Eddie Deen's Ranch. Contact Andrea Hight at (214) 402-4197 or ahight@canterburylaw.com.

Oct. 26: The Houston DU Dinner will be held at the Frank Erwin Center near the Medical Center. Contact Stephen Johnson at (281) 798-4557 or Stephen.johnson@grainger.com.

Dove

Continued from Page 1

Dove hunters are encountering more whitewings than usual in northern Texas, and there's an occasional sighting of white-winged rockets in Oklahoma and as far north as Nebraska.

Is global warming causing a shift in migration patterns? Perhaps. Many say, definitely. But there are other factors to consider, such as the whitewings' tendency to thrive in cities, that may help explain why those birds and some other species are expanding their populations northward.

"There's a lot of speculation about that. There are a lot of bird species that are expanding their distribution," said

Jay Roberson, dove program leader for Texas Parks and Wildlife. "It's a phenomenon that's occurring with a number of species. It could be global warming or climate changes that are occurring. I haven't heard any other good hypotheses, reasonable hypotheses, that are better than that."

Speculation also has focused on habitat change and fragmentation, and on the fact that some birds such as white-winged dove have adapted so well to urban living, he said.

White-winged dove populations have soared in big cities and small towns with the help of backyard birdfeeders and landscape watering.

There's also plenty of shelter and fewer predators in a city, which makes an urban lifestyle ideal for a whitewing.

Cities also tend to stay warmer during

winter.

"In urban areas there's a temperature differential. Asphalt and concrete radiate energy," Roberson said. "That may impact how long whitewings stay in urban areas, when they nest and breed and when they stop nesting and breeding. They get an early start on breeding and they stay around longer."

Also, white-winged dove are social, gregarious birds that tend to nest in colonies.

"They have a small breeding nucleus. Their young return the following year, and it spreads out from there to larger portions of the urban areas," Roberson said.

Whitewings, however, aren't the only species of dove with expanding populations. Eurasian-collared dove and Inca dove are pushing northward

too.

"Those three are definitely expanding their range," Roberson said. "They're breeding farther north and they are wintering farther north than they have historically."

Mike Omelia, migratory bird manager for the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, said hunters are bagging more whitewings in the southwestern part of that state, but it varies from season to season.

With the Gulf of Mexico to the south of Texas, there is, of course, nowhere else but north for an expanding population of whitewings to go. But that wouldn't explain why dove in New Mexico are also moving northward. The trend is occurring in that state, too, with mourning dove.

In recent years, New Mexico

hunters have been finding mourning doves farther north than usual during hunting seasons and the birds have been wintering as far north as Santa Fe — a city at an elevation of 7,000 feet about 100 miles from Colorado, said Tim Mitchusson, migratory bird manager for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

Even armadillos and possums are expanding northward in Texas, Roberson said.

"It's a real mystery to us," Roberson said. "We have some hypotheses that need to be tested, but until we get some more funding for more research that's not going to happen."

Wes Smalling has more than a decade of experience as a writer and reporter in New Mexico.



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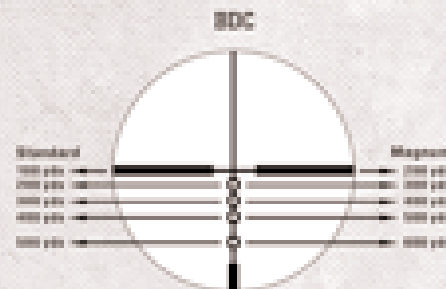
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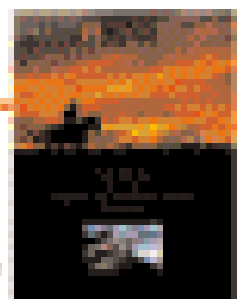


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See the bottom



Amistad

Continued from Page 1

downstream, raising the lake's water level, and cooler temperatures, according to Burkeen.

"To me, it's the hottest lake in the world," he said. "It's nothing to go catch 60 to 70 fish a day. I'm catching bass in the 8-pound range consistently."

To that, Stan Gerzsenyi says amen.

"I recently won a tournament at 28 1/2 pounds," he said. "The day after that, I caught a 9-pound bass, an 11-pounder and lost one that was in the teens."

Topwater action at Lake Amistad is available year-round, in the mornings at least, both anglers said. Burkeen likes to use a Zara Spook and "walk the dog." Gerzsenyi prefers topwater frogs.

"When you're really shallow, you can see a wake as you pull the bait," he said. "It looks like jaws coming toward you. Before you can see something, a bass is on the lure."

However, Gerzsenyi, as well as Burkeen, believe lush expanses of hydrilla have keyed the

run on bass at Lake Amistad — with bass hiding in the aquatic plant to both cool off and stage ambushes on prey fish.

Gerzsenyi, who owns Lake-2-Sea Marine and Outdoors, said he's enjoyed success in hydrilla by fishing "vertical."

He uses a Stanley red-and-black jig and a curl-tail trailer with a wide wobble. Once his electronic fish finder spots where the bass are so thick in the hydrilla that "it quits reading," he drops a line.

"I'm just vertical, not casting, in the 10-foot range," Gerzsenyi said. "If I hit what I call the ceiling and they're not biting, I shake it and the bait falls on down to the bottom."

Unlike many anglers, he's not keen on scenting his jig.

"The bait is flying right past the noses of the bass," Gerzsenyi said. "They don't have time to smell. It's either strike or let it go."

Learning to fish hydrilla improves your chances of catching big bass at Lake Amistad, said Burkeen, who is getting his captain's license. It's required to be a guide since Lake Amistad is a national park.

"A lot of people don't like hydrilla," Burkeen said. "But if you learn how to fish it, it's a gold

mine. Find hydrilla and you'll find bass."

He uses an Oldham 1 1/4-ounce jig with a chartreuse trailer attached to a 7-foot Castaway "East Texas Grass Rake." Flipping the jig, Burkeen looks for pockets in the hydrilla where bass are hiding.

"You let it fall a bit and hit the first canopy," he said. "You wait a second and drop to the next. You keep hitting pockets, jiggling a couple times. If you feel a snap, you crank down as hard as you can."

Like Burkeen, Gerzsenyi considers Lake Amistad to be Texas' premier bass lake — and that's having spent 10 years as a guide at Lake Fork.

"I see fish here that blow away what I saw on Lake Fork," he said. "The water is super clear. If the wind's not blowing, you can see 25-feet down. If you're into fishing, you'll love this lake. The pros are here for the same reason I am. The fishing is unbelievable, it's beautiful and it's relatively undeveloped."

Not for long, though, now that the secret's out.

Mark England is associate editor of Lone Star Outdoor News.



LARGEMOUTH LANDING: Fishing on Lake Amistad, Stan Gerzsenyi, caught this 10.8-pound largemouth bass. It won "big fish" in a team tournament.



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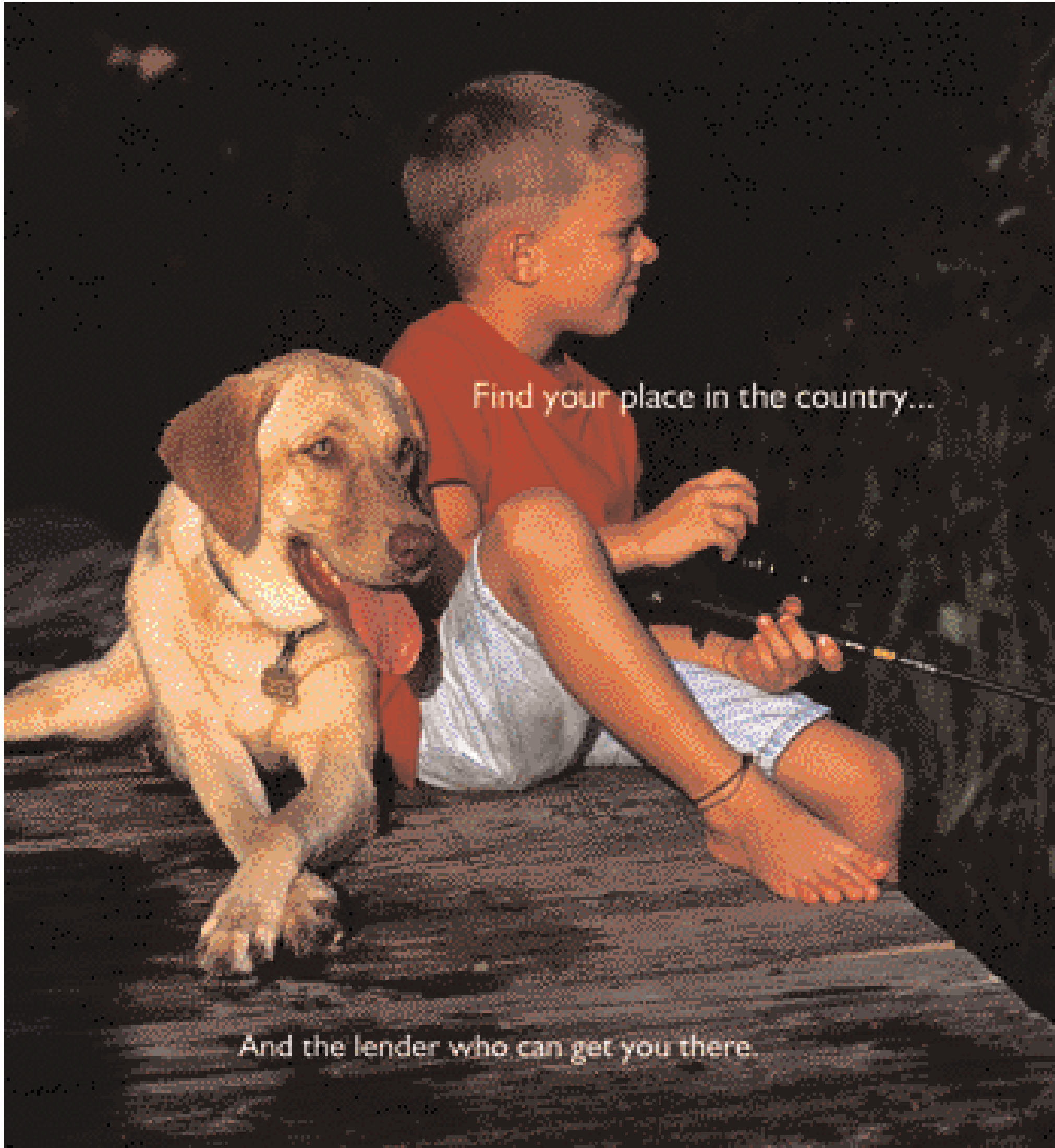
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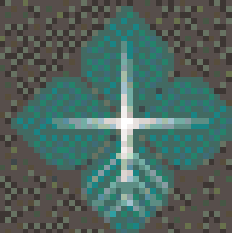


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