

'Sportsmen' Aren't Sporting Proper Regard For Wildlife

By RIC CARTER

We lost a member of the family on Labor Day. We watched a pair of red-tailed hawks since we moved alongside Tranter's Creek a few years ago. We saw them hunt. We saw their soaring courtships hundreds of feet above us. Only last winter did we spot their nest in a tall pine.

Two hawks hatched the same week our daughter was born. We saw the parents swoop on rats and snakes and carry the prey to the hungry youngsters. We watched them grow daily.

We felt pride as the young birds became more courageous and explored the branches of their nest tree. They defied statistics as both successfully fledged. We felt both pleasure and disappointment as they left the nest.

Edith Woolard, our neighbor, didn't know the bird but was frightened by a thin young man running through her yard with a black dog repeatedly firing a 20 gauge shotgun at a falling bird. The bird landed within 30 feet of her back door.

The stockier companion of the killer shouted the lie that he hunted with the permission of our neighboring industry and hadn't fired in her yard. They fled.

There's no mistaking a red-tailed hawk with a three-foot wingspan for a dove, which is smaller than a pigeon. Federal law prohibits the harming of any hawk or bird of prey. The killing of this nonedible and strictly beneficial bird was callous, illegal and indefensible.

The young hawk which had beaten the odds by surviving had lived through less than a day and a half of dove season.

These fellows no doubt call themselves "sportsmen."

That's an obtuse and vague title taken on by those who take pleasure in the killing of various wild animals. It apparently bears little relation to the concept of "sportsmanship" I learned as a child.

What is a "sportsman"? If we accept their view of themselves, then:

A "sportsman" is the person who insists on his right to fire a high-powered rifle between gulps from a whiskey bottle while sitting on a dog box in the back of his truck and alongside a heavily traveled highway.

A "sportsman" is the guy who shoots squirrels in your yard from a boat in the creek and runs into your yard to retrieve his kill.

A "sportsman" is the fellow who brought a large buck to this office to be photographed. He bragged of the many years of fame of that deer and how he outsmarted it by shooting it as it defended a wounded and winded deer from a biting hunting dog.

A "sportsman" is the fisherman who spends 45 minutes casting under your pier and making noxious bodily noises while your family sits in the front yard seeking only summer quiet and privacy.

A "sportsman" is the hunter who had his elementary school age son shooting doves off power lines over a baited area so the lad could learn the "sport."

A "sportsman" is the fellow who thinks thousands of waterfowl should continue to die from lead poisoning so he doesn't have to learn to shoot steel shot.

A "sportsman" is the fisherman blindly firing a rifle into wooded areas from a speeding boat.

A "sportsman" is the fellow I used to work with who "learned to appreciate the beauty of nature" by watching blood ooze from gaping holes in the side of a doe.

A "sportsman" is the fisherman who sent my pregnant wife into the house by repeatedly firing a pistol through our yard. He was "just shooting snakes."

A "sportsman" is the fellow who came into my yard speaking of the beauty, fascination and rarity of the river otter, all the while unrolling the pelt of the one he had just removed from a steel leg trap and eviscerated.

A "sportsman" is the man who bemoans the few bad eggs who give "sportsmen" a bad name but says nothing when he sees the such behavior.

I know the faces of each of these.

What do they get above and beyond what an afternoon in a boat or a long walk in the countryside will give? Is it the few ounces of meat cut from the kill? Is it the feel of the prey in the hand? Is it some basic instinct that "I kill, therefore I am superior and worthy of life"?

New Guidelines Recommended For Cholesterol

This is the first in a series of three articles on the controversy and confusion surrounding cholesterol.

By DR. THOMAS NICHOLSON

Cholesterol has long been recognized as one of the major risk factors for development of coronary artery disease and its many manifestations, including angina, myocardial infarction and congestive heart failure. The initial indication that cholesterol was a prime factor in heart disease was detected in the large Framingham study done in the 1950s where patients with high cholesterol levels were noted to have a much higher incidence of heart disease than patients with lower cholesterol levels. It should be remembered, of course, that cholesterol is not the only risk factor for heart disease and such important factors as smoking, family history, and hypertension should not be overlooked.

The National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Md., has recently issued new guidelines for recommended cholesterol levels. Indeed, a recent study has shown that lowering cholesterol by one percent will reduce mortality from coronary artery disease by two percent. To some extent, your cholesterol level is related to your age. It has been found that as your cholesterol level exceeds 250, the incidence of heart disease goes up significantly.

Part of the confusion concerning cholesterol is that individual laboratories do not use exactly the same levels for measuring cholesterol. In some laboratories, cholesterol may be higher than the National Institute of Health recommends; yet, that laboratory may still define the level as normal rather than dangerous. This disparity in itself has caused significant confusion among both patients and physicians. There continues to

be considerable controversy in the medical community concerning what should be done about high cholesterol levels.

The National Institute of Health has asked: What is your number? They are referring to your cholesterol number and have given a series of cholesterol levels at certain ages which are desirable. It is also helpful to know your high density lipoprotein (HDL) and your low density lipoprotein (LDL); both are related fatty substances found in the blood.

Ideally, your cholesterol should not exceed 200 but as patients age, your cholesterol level does tend to rise. Generally speaking, people are at a lower risk if their cholesterol is below 225 and probably do not require any therapy at this level. Between the levels of 225 and 250, cholesterol probably still does not require therapy but should be monitored and checked several times per year.

If the cholesterol is in excess of 250, it is probably prudent to start dietary measures to lower it. This is a fairly large undertaking and requires a significant alteration in an individual's regular diet. It obviously is difficult to have people follow a diet on a long-standing basis. Unfortunately, the dietary measures likely should be carried out indefinitely and probably for life. The next article will discuss in detail prudent dietary measures to follow in reducing cholesterol levels.

Next: A High Cholesterol Level Requires Dietary Control — Part 2

This weekly column is provided by the management of Beaufort County Hospital and its medical staff. Questions and comments may be sent to Pamlicare, Washington Daily News, 217 N. Market Street, P.O. Box 1788, Washington, N.C. 27889.

Dr. Nicholson, an internist, has an office in Washington.

Baptists

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fundamentalist-controlled Baptist presses is narrow and apocalyptic. "It's almost anti-intellectualism," he said. "It's a fear of knowledge."

Couch said that the alliance, which currently has about 35,000 members in 34 states, is growing. He said he saw new faces in Nashville. "I hadn't ever seen some of those people involved in the moderate movement before," he said.

Couch said he is certain that the alliance will continue to grow and will help Baptists maintain a broad-based mission program even if fundamentalists continue to control the political hierarchy of the church.

Couch is the son of the late Rev. W. Perry Couch, who was a president of the state Baptist

Convention.

Washington's First Baptist Church is a member of the Southern Baptist Convention, but is not a member of the Southern Baptist Alliance, Tucker said. He said, however, "We would be considered a moderate church."

Mums

From Page 1

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Shrimpers From Page 1

fisheries commission's job to set fishing regulations.

The county commissioners said they take no action and intended to make no recommendations.

Ms. Henri Johnson, a Pamlico County lawyer for a trade association of commercial fishermen called the American Farmers of the Sea, spoke as the official representative of the fishermen present.

Ms. Johnson said that if officials enacted the ban, they "would automatically be putting hundreds of families in food stamp lines."

She said fishermen categorically opposed a ban on trawling and haul netting and she said that the report generated hostility among fishermen.

Ms. Johnson said the writers of the report had tried to blame a myriad of problems in the rivers and sounds on one group of people. "They are taking very complex issues and simplifying them to a point that suits them," she said.

She said, referring to the fishermen, that a ban on trawling was "not going to happen as far as these men are concerned."

David McNaught, director of the Pamlico-Tar River Foundation, an environmental group, said many fishermen seemed to think that his organization was behind or endorsed the report. He said PTRF was reviewing a copy of the report but had taken no stand.

As McNaught was talking a commercial fisherman named Jarvis Mason who apparently thought McNaught was a backer of the proposed ban questioned his credentials to talk about the

river.

When McNaught attempted to explain his group's position, Mason became increasingly and profane. The gist of his argument consisted of the repeated assertion that the only people who truly understand what is happening to the river are fishermen.

"Ask us out here" about problems in local waters, he said, "and we'll tell you, because we are professionals."

In the course of his diatribe, Mason said Smith was in college, perhaps misbehaving, while Mason was captaining boats on the river. He also ridiculed the commissioners for wearing ties and said they didn't know the true meaning of working.

Mason said it cost him \$2,000 in lost revenue to skip a day of work and listen to what he referred to as a "crock of (deleted)" at the meeting, so he was going to take his opportunity to speak.

When Mason was through speaking, Buck said the commissioners had no "intention of shutting anything down" and told Mason that he was misled about the purpose of the meeting.

Buck said Smith had re-

quested the opportunity to present the report, but the commissioners had no obligation to act on it and did not intend to take action.

The report prepared by Smith, Dr. Boone Mora and Dallas Ormond discusses declining fish catches in the Pamlico river and sound and attributes them to trawlers and haul nets.

"The non-selective nature of shrimp trawling destroys more than six pounds of immature flounder, croaker, spot and weak fish for every pound of shrimp harvested," the report says. It adds that "haul netting also destroys immature fish."

It recommends, among other things, that haul netting a trawling be eliminated in all inside waters of North Carolina.

In addition to the commissioners and Hogarth, three state legislators were at the meeting: Rep. Howard Chapin, Sen. Marc Basnight and Sen. Tom Taft.

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