# Family Rescued After Boat Sinks In Inlet

A Greensboro family whose boat ran aground in the Shallotte Inlet last Wednesday afternoon was safely brought to shore by an Ocean Isle Beach charter fishing sel

The family of four was attempting to enter the Shallotte Inlet when their boat struck ir in about four inches of water. Capt. Buster Gillis of the Sea Hawk II of Ocean Isle Marina was the first to reach the stranded family that included an infant. "As far as we can tell, they basically missed the in-let," said Petty Officer J. Sillings of the Oak Island U.S. Coast Guard station. "Eventually the boat flipped over and they were rescued by a private vessel."

Coast Guard members were able to pull the small craft to Hughes' Marina at Shallotte Point, while the family was taken to Ocean Isle Marina and aided by the Shatlotte Volunteer Rescue Squad, Officer Sillings said. Sillings said there were no injuries in the boating

accident that occurred around 3:30 p.m. George Crisp of Ocean Isle Marina first heard the call for help over the radio at the marina. "I got on the CB (citizen's band) and called all boats in the area to help," Crisp said. "The Sea Hawk

got to them first." Crisp said about a dozen boats were on their way to

offer assistance before the Sea Hawk II, coming in from an afternoon of offshore fishing, drifted up to the capsiz-

ed boat and took the family aboard. He added that they did not attempt to upright the vessel. "They were fine," Crisp said. "Naturally, they

were wet. They had a small baby with them. That's what everyone was concerned about."

Ocean Isle police officers and N.C. Marine Fisheries Officer Dale Hewett were also enroute to the boating accident before the Sea Hawk II picked the family up, Crisp said.

# Spottail Drum Get Larger While Kings Biting Ag

#### BY TERRY POPE

King mackerel are once again biting from area piers while spottail drum are getting larger and more plentiful in the Shallotte River and waterway.

However, offshore fishing remains on-again, off-again, said George Crisp of Ocean Isle Marina. Crisp said fishing was better last Monday and Tuesday and slowed down during the weekend offshore. He said it had started to pick back up offshore Monday morning.

"It'll definitely pick up," Crisp said Monday morning. "There are two or three boats out now that are doing better already than they did last week."

fiere are the reports from area piers and marinas:

### Holden Beach Pler

Two king mackerel were caught off the Holden Beach Pier last Wednesday and Thursday, reported pier operator Alvin Roach.

A 14-pound king was reeled in by Elenore "Granny" Burke of Siler City and another 26-pound king was caught by Terry Wood of Easley, S.C., Roach said.

"It was the first one he's ever caught," Roach said. "He's been coming here for about a year." Also biting Monday morning were

flounder and pompano, Roach said. **Ocean Isle Beach Pier** 

"They bit pretty fair over the weekend," reported Curtis Williamson of Ocean Isle Beach Pier. "They were biting better Sunday than on Saturday.

Williamson said one king mackerel was caught from the pier last week

while other fishermen were reeling in spots, blues and flounder. **Ocean Isle Marina** 

"The first of the week, everybody seemed to be doing really well," said George Crisp. "After Wednesday, they loaded up and quit."

Crisp said offshore fishermen "got all they wanted Monday and Tuesday. Some of the local boys did good on kings and Spanish, nothing really spectacular.'

Inshore fishing had also slowed down over the weekend, Crisp said. A few spots, croakers, flounder and drum were biting, he added. **Inlet View Marina** 

Too much fresh water in the river

and rough seas offshore has limited fishing both inside and offshore, reported Joe Furr of Inlet View Marina at Ocean Isle.

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Sunday	18	10:13	10:27	4:04	4:20
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Tuesday	20	11:54		5:31	6:03
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"There's just nothing to report," Furr said. "It's better to say nothing than to tell a lie."

Furr said the rough ocean has prevented boats from making it offshore **Tripp's Fishing Center** 

Fishermen leaving Tripp's Fishing Center at Shallotte Point are returning with nice catches of spottail drum, reported marina operator Joyce Land.

Over the weekend, Grover Williamson and party from Tabor City caught seven spottail drum on Saturday and 12 on Sunday, Ms. Land said

For R.D. Capps of Lumberton, it wasn't easy catching his two spottail drum. As Ms. Land reported, Capps had two drum that fell from his fishing string, so he jumped overboard after the two.

"He managed to save the smallest one," she said. "It weighed ten pounds. Of all the spottail drum I weighed last week, the smallest weighed ten pounds."

She said the drum are biting mullet minnows on a leader with no cork.

Becky Snyder of Lexington and Buddy and Tubby Pigg of Aberdeen, fishing from the Ding Bat, caught six kings at the Sea Bouy about one-half mile offshore from the Shallotte Inlet, Ms. Land said.

Also, Willard Causey of Shallotte Point caught 12 flounder last week.

### **Hughes' Marina**

Spanish mackerel were caught offshore Sunday while some nice flounder were caught in the Shallotte River over the weekend, reporte Allison Hughes of Hughes' Marina at Shallotte Point.

"The spots are getting larger and

we had one king caught last week," Hughes Ms. said. Boats are also picking up plenty of

black sea bass offshore, she said. Capt. Pete's

Both the Fishing Rod and El Toro

charter boats did well over the weekend on grouper and snapper over the weekend, bringing back from 250 to 300 pounds each, said Pete Singletary of Capt. Pete's Marina at Holden Beach.

Each boat also caught close to 50

Spanish and from eight to ten king mackerel, Singletary said. Bruce Moore of Holden Beach caught five or six "nice, large" flounder last week, totaling around 20 pounds, he said.

Also inside, a few spots were also biting, he reported.

## **Turtle Hatchlings Get** Helping Hand At Holden Beach

Almost two dozen newly-hatched loggerhead turtles were found on Holden Beach north of Ocean Boulevard West last week, reports John M. Clarke of the Holden Beach Turtle Watchers.

He said Police Chief Raymond Simpson, Maintenance Head Henry Thompson and others collected the disoriented hatchlings-jet-black and about the size of silver dollars-and deposited them in the ocean.

Altogether, he added, 17 nests have been located on the beach, with egglaying observed in two instances. All are along the central part of the island, ranging between 263 and 1087 Ocean Boulevard West. The first nest was observed June 4th and the most recent was reported on Aug. 10.

According to Melinda Welton, endangered species project leader with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, turtle eggs take from 60 to 75 days to hatch. "Consequently," wrote Clarke, "birthings will be taking place on most common predators are ghost Holden Beach from now until late in October."

Clarke said it isn't clearly understood how hatchlings find their way to the ocean, but that they are apparently influenced by lights and travel toward the brightest.

This means outdoor lights along the oceanfront may distract hatchlings from their intended route to the sea

While crawling to the ocean, their

crabs. In daylight, guils pose a threat

Confused hatchlings headed in the wrong direction can be redirected by humans, he added.

Individuals who need to contact Holden Beach residents interested in protection of the endangered loggerhead turtle are asked to call Clarke, at 842-6765, or the Holden Beach Police Department, at 842-6707





