



**BUDDY GROOMS'** rod bends as the 100-pounder resists defeat, jumping in the distance. It took five hours to land the sailfish.

PHOTO BY TOM CORBITT

## Local Angler Sets State Sailfish Record

Buddy Grooms of Sunset Harbor caught a 100-pound sailfish Friday, shattering the previous state record by 14 pounds.

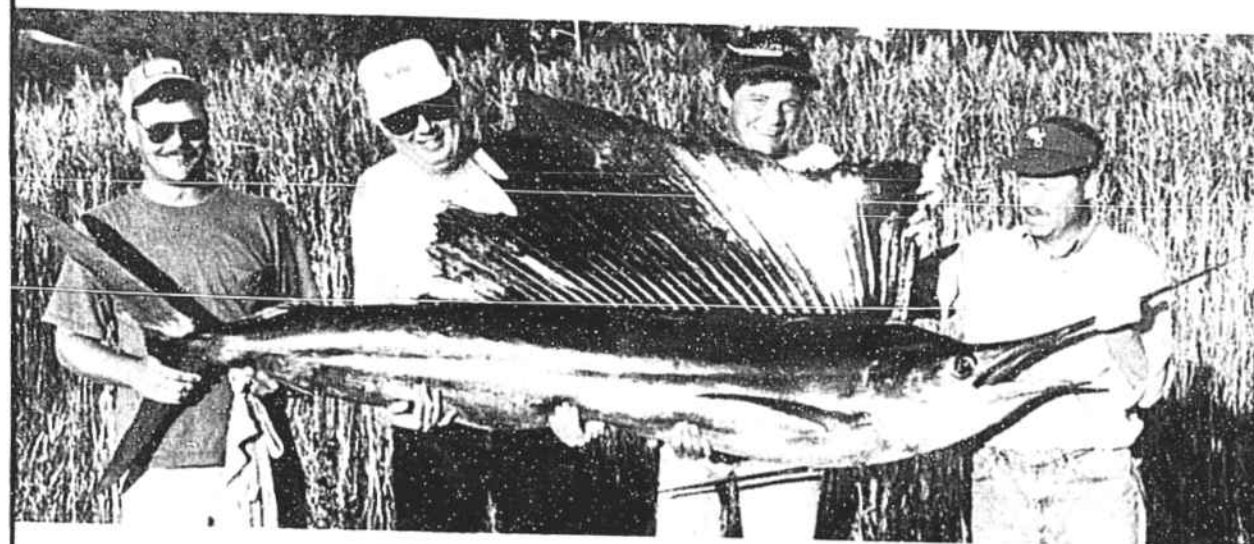
According to Jim Tyler of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Division, Grooms' fish broke the all-tackle state record previously held by Floyd Moody of Stella. Moody caught his 86-pounder in Onslow Bay on July 18 of this year.

Grooms said he hooked the record sailfish at mid-

morning about five miles off Ocean Isle Beach aboard the "Top Priority." He was fishing with 20-pound test line.

Grooms played the fish for about five hours before finally boating it. "I don't know which one of us was worse after that battle—the fish or me," he said.

Other members of the fishing crew were Robbie Bridger, Tom Corbitt and Les Tubb.



**DISPLAYING** the record-breaking sailfish are Robbie Bridger, Tom Corbitt, Buddy Grooms and Les Tubb of the "Top Priority."

## Area Man Takes Barracuda Lead In Fishing Citation Program

A 54-pound barracuda landed by Brunswick County Fishing Club member David Hirst of Long Beach leads the category in the N.C. Saltwater Fishing Citation Program.

Hirst caught the fish earlier this summer southwest of the Frying Pan Light Tower.

An 86-lb. sailfish caught in Onslow Bay by Floyd Moody of Stella is a new state record.

And because pompano, tautog and triggerfish are new species in the program this year, the current leaders in these categories also hold the current state all-tackle record.

Other leaders and their weights are as follows, as of Aug. 22: amberjack, 86 lbs.; Chuck Wroton, Norfolk, Va.; black sea bass, 6 lbs.; William

Winter, Garfield Heights, Ohio; channel bass, 60 lbs.; Stuart Lee, Hopewell, Va.; bluefish, 17 lbs.; Billy Church, Greensboro; cobia, 95 lbs.; Angela Parker, New Salisbury, Indiana.

Also, dolphin, 72 lbs.; William Wetzel, Zanesville, Ohio; flounder, five pounds; George Lepper, Fayetteville; grouper, 56 lbs.; Bruce Pollock, Morehead City; king mackerel, 57 lbs.; Tom McFee, Hampstead; Spanish mackerel, 12 lbs.; Mark Lambert, Frisco; blue marlin, 1,020 lbs.; Bob Senneville, Edgewater, Md.; white marlin, 77 lbs.; Michael Connell, Fairfax Station, Va.; sea mullet, 2 lbs.; Bonnie Ball, Emerald Isle; pompano, 5 lbs.; Susan Hearn, Centreville, Md.

And, shark, 586 lbs.; Christopher Myers, Chesapeake, Va.; sheephead, 12 lbs.; C.J. Parker, Washington; silver snapper, 7 lbs.; Larry Lock, Morehead City; red snapper, 31 lbs.; Marion Carmichael, Washington; tarpon, 132 lbs.; Steve Szabo, Delco; tautog, 12 lbs.; Kevin Clark, Charleston, Tenn.; triggerfish, 9 lbs.; Lometa Smith, Newport; gray trout, 8 lbs.; Curtis Abbott, Danville, Va.; speckled trout, 7 lbs.; Ray Miller, Kill Devil Hills; tuna, 298 lbs.; Lucy Wright, Virginia Beach, Va.; and wahoo, 115 lbs.; Marvin Breiholz, Kitty Hawk.

Fishermen also earn citations for catching and releasing channel bass, blue and white marlin and sailfish.

## This Week's Tide Table

Day/Date	OCTOBER HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday 8	9:31	9:52	3:09	3:41
Friday 9	10:14	10:26	3:51	4:27
Saturday 10	10:59	11:18	4:33	5:12
Sunday 11	11:42	—	5:15	5:56
Monday 12	12:01	12:29	5:59	6:43
Tuesday 13	12:51	1:20	6:48	7:38
Wednesday 14	1:43	2:13	7:43	8:34

**ADJUSTMENTS**  
 SHALLOTTE INLET—add 17 min. high tide, add 32 min. low tide.  
 LOCKWOOD FOLLY—subtract 22 min. high tide, subtract 8 min. low tide.  
 BALD HEAD ISLAND—subtract 10 min. high tide, subtract 7 min. low tide.  
 SOUTHPORT—add 7 min. high tide, add 15 min. low tide.  
 LITTLE RIVER—add 7 min. high tide, add 7 min. low tide.

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## FISHING REPORT

# Kings And Flounder Caught In Rougher, Cooler Waters

BY DOUG RUTTER

Local anglers pulled in kings and flounder last week as low temperatures and high winds created conditions for some of the best fishing of the season.

Pete Singletary of Captain Pete's Marina at Holden Beach said Monday that Bruce Moore caught 59 pounds of flounder last week.

He added that winter spots have started to become a common catch inside. "With another cold snap like we've had, the spots should really start up again," he said.

Singletary also said party boats out of Captain Pete's did well on grouper, snapper and kings. "Generally, I think people were pretty well satisfied with their weekend catch."

M&J Marine Service

Fishermen caught numerous kings in the 20-pound range last week just a few miles offshore, according to Joe Huber of M&J Marine Service at Seaside.

He also mentioned catches of spots and Spanish mackerel. "It looks like the fishing is starting to get better," he said.

Huber added that the Arthur Smith King Mackerel Tournament off the South Carolina coast this week should prove to be a good one. "We're getting some cooler water and the kings are in real close. So we should be in good shape for some king fishing this week."

Ocean Isle Marina

Steve Burr of Ocean Isle Marina attributed last week's excellent king fishing to the weather. "When you get the wind blowing strong like that, you're bound to have some kings caught."

Burr also said outside fishermen caught several nice sailfish and some Spanish.

Inside fishing action included mainly spots, flounder and spottailed drum, he added.

Sunset Beach Pier

Dick Tarleton of Sunset Beach Pier said nothing was happening Monday after king fishermen landed five

kings Sunday afternoon.

He added that anglers caught about a dozen sheephead Friday, the largest of which weighed eight pounds.



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

**KEN JACKSON OF ATLANTA** holds the second of two kings he caught off the Sunset Beach Fishing Pier Sunday. He pulled in the 15½-pounder after landing a 15-pounder and a smaller Spanish mackerel earlier in the afternoon.

"That's about all that's biting," said Tarleton.

Holden Beach Pier

Clyde Plattenberger caught a 27-pound Crevalle jack and two kings weighing 12 pounds and 25 pounds respectively last week, according to Patty McDonald of the Holden Beach Fishing Pier.

She also said Don Plattenberger caught a 20-pound king mackerel. Other catches included mullets and spots.

"We had a pretty good run on spots, and it's good to see the kings being caught in close," she said.

Tripp's Fishing Center

Kings were biting all last week in outside waters while inside fishermen caught spots, flounder and spottailed drum, according to Joyce Land of Tripp's Fishing Center at Shallotte Point.

She said last week's highlights included 1,000 pounds of mullet caught by Diddle Floyd, 11 flounder caught by B.D. and Audie Phelps and 50 pounds of assorted small fish caught by William Usher.

Hughes' Marina

Allison Hughes of Hughes' Marina at Shallotte Point said Monday that last week's fishing was "poorly."

"It was too rough outside and there was a dredge in the waterway," she explained.

She said fishermen did manage to catch some fish, but "nothing in abundance and nothing to brag about."

Mrs. Hughes said inside fishermen caught flounder, spots, croaker and spottailed drum while outside fishermen caught speckled and gray trout, Spanish and a few king mackerel.

Ocean Isle Pier

Curtis Williamson said Monday, "We're waiting for them to start biting any time."

He said the weekend started off good when fishermen caught spots and flounder on Friday and Saturday but that very few fish were caught Sunday.

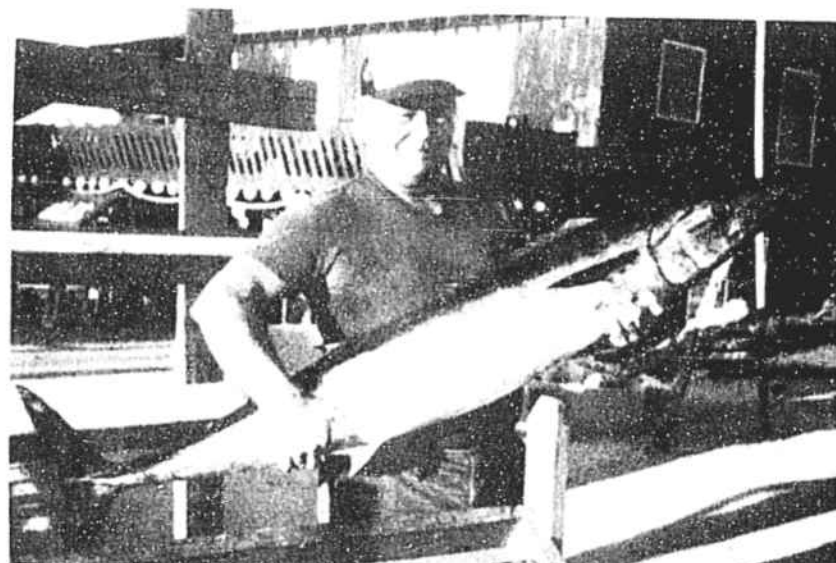


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## To Receive Citation

Leroy Wilson of Rock Hill, S.C., will receive a citation from the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries for this 56-pound wahoo caught Monday. He landed the fish aboard the "Salty I" charter boat out of Captain Pete's Marina at Holden Beach. Any wahoo weighing more than 40 pounds is recognized by the division's saltwater fishing citation program.



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## Catching It Was Fun

Teresa Morton snagged this 7½-lb. flounder while fishing at Fulford's Fish House at Holden Beach on Sept. 25. When the urge to go fishing struck, Mrs. Morton went out and bought a \$9.99 rod and reel. Family and friends laughed that she'd never catch anything with it, but what did they know. "It was just as much fun to catch as it was to eat," she later told friends.



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