

FISHING REPORT

Nice Kings Being Caught Offshore

BY DOUG RUTTER

Fishermen had a lot of success off the South Brunswick Islands last week catching good-sized king mackerel as well as Spanish mackerel, dolphin, tuna and barracuda.

"It's been good on days when it wasn't too choppy," said John Sheffield of Sheffield's store at Ocean Isle Beach. Lots of people have been fishing for king mackerel.

Reporting nice catches last week were Bill Starnes Jr. of Lumberton with a 39-pound king, Walter Munroe of Whiteville with a 34-pounder and Gary Hooks of Tabor City with a 33-pounder.

Shawn Foutch of Raleigh landed a 24-pound barracuda and Daniel Crews of Mt. Airy pulled in a 69-inch sailfish, according to Sheffield.

"That's pretty good fishing," he said Monday. "A lot of people are using artificial bait and doing pretty good with it."

Sheffield said inside fishing has been somewhat slow, which is typical during the summer. Anglers have been catching spots and pompano. Roy Hewett of Shallotte gipped a flounder last week that weighed 9 1/2 pounds.

Tripp's Fishing Center

"Right now it's fair inside and good outside," said Joyce Land of Tripp's Fishing Center at Shallotte Point.

Fishermen caught large flounder, large spots and spottailed drum last week in the Shallotte River and Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway.

Offshore catches have included king and Spanish mackerel, yellowfin tuna, barracuda, dolphin, large grouper and black bass.

Land said cooler weather is needed for fishing to improve inshore. "We need to get this hot weather off of us. Fish hunt for cooler water like we hunt for air conditioning."

Pier Fishing

Pier fishing hasn't been as good the last two weeks as it was in early July, but anglers can't really complain. Any pier fishing this time of

year is a bonus.

Fishing was pretty decent last week at Sunset Beach Pier. Manager Ed Kayler reported catches of spots, flounder, Spanish mackerel, trout, whiting and pompano. One king mackerel was landed.

"They're still catching some fish," Kayler said Monday morning. "Not exactly bucketfuls of spots, but they're still in."

Gil Bass of Holden Beach Fishing Pier said anglers caught mostly spots, flounder, trout and pompano.

"We still had a little activity this week," Bass said. "The pompano have picked up. In the morning they're still catching the trout pretty good."

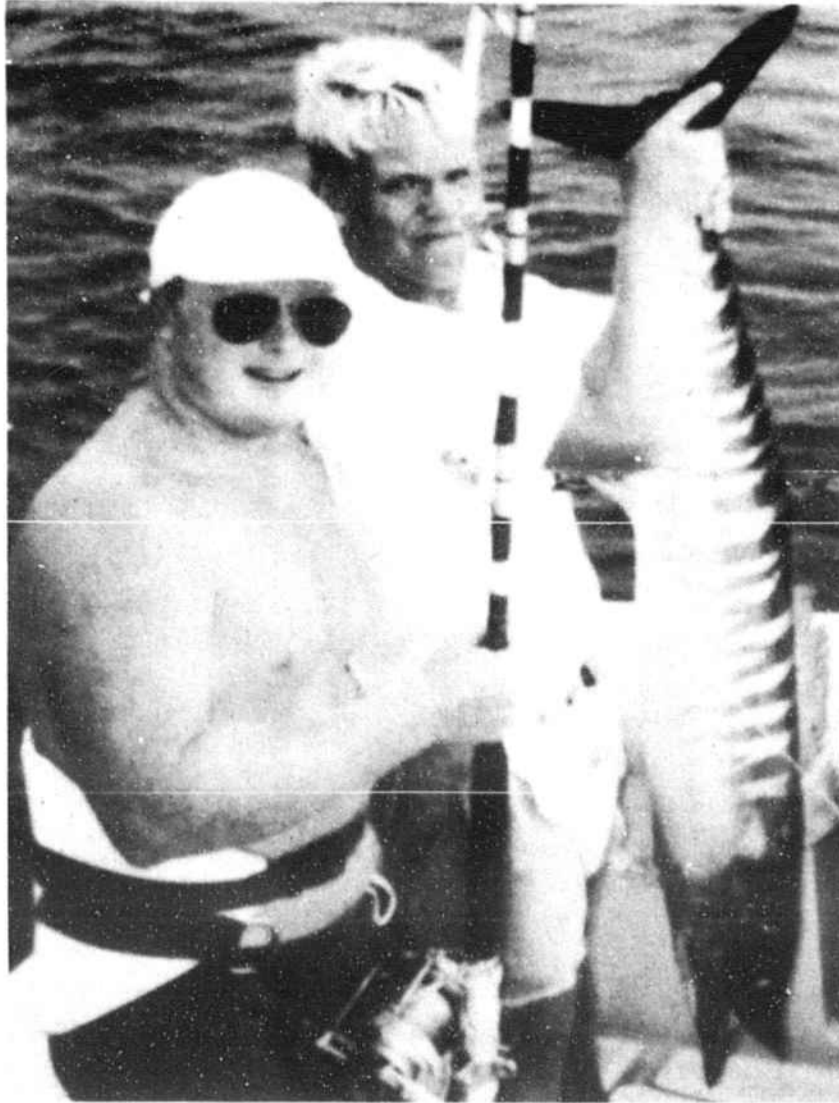
At Ocean Isle Beach Pier, Curtis Williamson said the fishing wasn't as good last week as it was the previous week.

"It's kind of slow, but they're catching some," Williamson said. "Maybe the problem is the water's too hot." The ocean water temperature has been in the mid-80s lately.

This Week's Tide Table

		JULY		LOW	
		HIGH			
Day	Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	29	5:08	5:57	11:19	-----
Friday	30	6:09	6:52	12:09	12:13
Saturday	31	7:02	7:40	1:02	1:05
		AUGUST			
Sunday	1	7:52	8:25	1:48	1:53
Monday	2	8:37	9:06	2:30	2:35
Tuesday	3	9:18	9:44	3:11	3:16
Wednesday	4	9:56	10:20	3:48	3:57

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—subtract 11 min. high tide, add 18 min. low tide.



TOM CROSS (left) of Lake Norman caught this 50-pound wahoo recently aboard the Job Site out of Ocean Isle Beach. Holding the fish is Brant McMullen.



JACK AND GERRIE LASSITER of Supply show off a 42 1/2-pound wahoo they caught recently on the Mega Flite.



DON SPEIGHTS of Albemarle caught this 12-pound hog snapper recently on the Mega Flite out of Holden Beach.



DOUG CARSON (pictured) and Bill Rose, both of Holden Beach, landed this 40-pound king mackerel July 18 aboard the Cyrus J.

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BRENT CHAPMAN of Salisbury caught this 25-pound wahoo on a recent trip aboard the Super Salty I.



GREYSON GWALTNEY of Greensboro caught this citation, 6 1/2-pound Spanish mackerel off Holden Beach.

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