

**FISHING REPORT**

# Cool Weather Raises Hopes For Fall

BY DOUG RUTTER

For the first time since last spring, a cool weather system moved through Brunswick County over the weekend.

The temperature didn't get out of the 60s on Saturday, raising hopes that the fall fishing season isn't far behind.

Ken Shipley of Ocean Isle Marina said the brief cool snap has already improved local fishing conditions.

"All around fishing's picked up about 300 percent," Shipley said Monday morning. "It's really picking up with the cool weather. The water's cooling down. Everything's coming back in this time of year."

Shipley said fishermen caught lots of flounder, trout, sheepshead and drum in the waterway last week. He also reported catches of Spanish mackerel between Holden Beach and Ocean Isle Beach and blacktip sharks.

"Fishing's picking up in the ocean. Kings are showing up about 18 miles off," Shipley said, adding that anglers also are catching black bass.

Steve Stirewalt of Ocean Isle Beach landed a 100-pound tarpon last week that measured 63 inches long, Shipley said.



A RECENT TRIP on the Mega Flite produced two 16-pound dolphin and an 18-pound king mackerel. Pictured (from left) are Tina Pritchard, Daisey Cameron and Jan Reichenbach.

**Tripp's Fishing Center**

Fishermen have been catching spots and flounder inshore and king and Spanish mackerel in the ocean, said Joyce Land of Tripp's Fishing Center at Shallotte Point.

Land said the kings have moved to within a few miles of the beach, and spotted drum and gray trout have started biting.

Last weekend, Barry Frink of Shallotte landed an 8 1/2-pound flounder and Robert King of Shallotte pulled in a 30-pound king mackerel.

Ann Wood of Lexington caught her first king mackerel last Sunday, a 44-pounder. "She was riding high," Land said.

**Holden Beach Marina**

Gary Carr of Holden Beach Marina said fishermen caught Spanish mackerel and flounder inshore last week, and whiting and blues in the surf.

"It looks like tomorrow's going to be a good fishing day," Carr said Monday. "Nobody's been offshore

this week."

**Pier Fishing**

With the weather turning cool, pier anglers have started the countdown to the fall spot fishing season.

"We're looking for the spots any minute. I'm talking about cooler-fish," Ed Kayler of Sunset Beach Fishing Pier said Monday.

Kayler said anglers pulled in a few spots last week. "We had a few pretty good spurts but not what you would call a run," he said.

Fishermen also caught flounder, bluefish, trout and some big Spanish mackerel last week at Sunset Pier.

At Holden Beach Fishing Pier, Gil Bass said anglers have been catching spots, Spanish mackerel, blues, flounder and whiting.

"The fishing has picked up," Bass said. "They say the spots have just hit Topsail. That's what the bait man said. So it will be a few more days."

## Senior Fishing Trip Sept. 16

The Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor a senior citizens' fishing trip aboard the Mega Flite on Friday, Sept. 16.

The group will leave from Capt. Pete's Seafood on Holden Beach at 7 a.m. and will return about 3 p.m. Participants should bring a small cooler with their lunch and drinks.

For more information or to register, call the Parks Department at 253-4357 or 1-800-222-4790.



BELTON LOCKLEAR of Maxton shows off an 18-pound red grouper caught recently aboard the Alice E.

## Angler Lands Big Pompano

Holden Beach homeowner Harvey Kidd caught a 3-pound, 11-ounce, pompano Monday while fishing in the surf at Holden Beach.

Kidd, of Concord, landed the big fish around noon while fishing across the street from his home at 276 Ocean Blvd. West. He was using sand fleas for bait.

"That's probably one of the

biggest I've seen in this area," said Gil Bass of Holden Beach Fishing Pier, who weighed the fish.

Kidd is eligible for a certificate from the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries because his fish met the minimum weight requirement of 2 pounds.

The large pompano also has been entered in the N.C. Saltwater Fishing Tournament.



A 20-POUND CITATION BARRACUDA highlighted a recent fishing trip on the Alice E for Paul Giles of Thomasville.

## U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Offers Fall Boating Course

Shallotte Flotilla 10-08 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will begin its fall public education course, "Boating Skills and Seamanship," on Monday, Sept. 19.

Classes will meet at the Shallotte Senior Citizens Center 7 until 9 p.m. on Monday and Thursday evenings from Sept. 19 until Nov. 3. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 19, just prior to the first class.

There is no charge for the course itself, but there is a nominal cost for textbook and workbook.

Lesson titles in the course include "Boat Construction and Terminology," "Trailer," "Boat Handling," "Safety and Legal Require-

ments," "Navigation Rules," "Aids to Navigation," "Piloting," "Marine Engines," "Marlinspike Seamanship," "Basic Sailing," "Weather," "Radio Telephone Procedures," and "Locks and Dams."

To get more information or to register in advance, call Frank Egan, flotilla public education officer, at 579-3971.

## This Week's Tide Table

		HIGH		LOW	
Day	Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	8	10:36	10:49	4:16	4:48
Friday	9	11:29	11:41	5:03	5:41
Saturday	10	—	12:25	5:54	6:38
Sunday	11	12:38	1:27	6:50	7:39
Monday	12	1:40	2:31	7:51	8:44
Tuesday	13	2:47	3:37	8:57	9:50
Wednesday	14	3:54	4:40	10:04	10:51

**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.

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 Saturday, October 1

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 or Ward's Body Shop 754-8177

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