

**FISHING REPORT**

**Anglers Land Kings, Black Bass**

**BY DOUG RUTTER**  
Local fishermen continued catching king mackerel within close proximity of the beach last week, including some keepers in the 25-pound range.

"They're catching good king mackerel 15 to 18 miles offshore," said Gary Carr of Holden Beach Marina. "They've been doing that for the last week."

Carr said Tuesday that most of the kings landed in the past week have weighed between 6 and 25 pounds.

"Black sea bass fishing is good 4 to 8 miles off the beach," he added. "Everything else has slowed down."

**Tripp's Fishing Center**  
Anglers caught spots and flounder inshore and bluefish in the ocean last week, said Joyce Land of Tripp's Fishing Center at Shallotte Point.

"They're still catching some spots. It's kind of off and on now. It's on one day and off the next," Land said.

She reported that B.D. Phelps of Cheraw, S.C., caught seven flounder on Monday.

"I haven't seen too many trout yet. I think it's too hot for them," Land said.

**Pier Fishing**  
Pier fishing slowed to a crawl early this week as the spots that were so abundant a month ago have disappeared since the weekend.



**GERALD CLINE** landed this 8-foot-long, 300-pound lemon shark about 10 miles offshore.



**TOMMY PEEL** (second from left) and friends from Winston-Salem caught these king mackerel during a Nov. 5 trip to the 18-mile rock.

Fishermen pulled in a few spots over the past week along with flounder, whiting and spottailed drum.

"It's been pretty slow. We caught the spots real good in here Saturday and Sunday but now it's pretty slow," A.J. Hammill of Sunset Beach Fishing Pier said Tuesday.

The report was the same at Holden Beach and Ocean Isle Beach fishing piers. Spot fishing was excellent last Saturday, but it's not been very good since then.

"They had one good run this week and that was Saturday," said Gil Bass of Holden Beach Fishing Pier. "Other than that they're just catching them off and on. The big runs, I think, are gone."

Billy Settlemyer of Ocean Isle Beach Fishing Pier said anglers pulled in spots last Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

"It's kind of slow right now," he reported Tuesday. "There was some big spots coming in Saturday. We're just waiting on some cool weather right now."

With cooler temperatures on the way, Hammill said spot fishermen at Sunset Beach are hoping for one last

fling this weekend. "We're still looking for the weather to change things and make this a good weekend," he said. "This cool weather hopefully will bring them back in here this weekend."

**Locals Place In King Tournament**

Four Brunswick County fishermen were among the prize winners in the Stingray Boats King Mackerel Classic held Nov. 5 and 6 out of Murrells Inlet and Georgetown, S.C.

The top local finisher was Sammy Sessions of Ocean Isle Beach, who placed fifth with a king mackerel weighing 34.75 pounds.

Kyle White of Shallotte finished eighth with a 31.35-pound king, and Earl Clewis of Southport was 10th with a 30.55-pounder.

Boyce Broadwell of Long Beach finished second in the aggregate weight category with 160.27 pounds of fish.

David Baker of Murrells Inlet was the overall tournament winner with a king mackerel weighing 41.98 pounds.



**BOBBY THOMAS** of Benson received a trophy from Holden Beach Marina for catching the largest black sea bass.

**Careful What You Ask For...**

**BY JAMIE MILLIKEN**

The 1994 fishing season has just about come to a close. Sure, there will be a few scattered days that you might be able to get out to the Gulf Stream, but as a whole, it's about over.

Our October and early November run of king mackerel was extremely strong. Live and frozen bait produced good fish for those lucky enough to get offshore. The size of fish has also been good. I've even heard rumors of a 68-pound king being landed off Morehead City.

The tuna fishing has been very spotty. We've seen boats come in on a Friday with 10 tuna and go back the next day and return without a strike. This is typical this time of year. Temperature breaks are the real key in finding the fish. Forget going to the same places on every trip.

All the hoopla in Florida's election concerning nets is over. The result was that the state of Florida has now banned nets. While the environmentalists and the sportfishermen are claiming victory and the poor old commercial fishermen are wondering where the next meal is coming from, I just sit back and try to make some sense of it all.

For sportfishermen on the East Coast, this does affect you. How? Where does your boat come from? The excellent frozen ballyhoo, mullet and cigar minnows? You guessed it: Florida.

I'm telling you, the days of picking the prettiest bait from your favorite bait shop's freezer will be a thing of the past.

How about the price? The cigar minnow fishermen, who could easily catch thousands of pounds a week, are now out of business. Cigar minnows used to cost \$6 for a five-pound box. Cigar minnow fishing in Florida will now be done with hook and line or cast net. I have a feeling the price may go the same direction as the space shuttle on take-off. Ballyhoo prices will take off, too. It reminds me of the old saying, "Be careful what you ask for, you just might get it."

Well, I could stand on my soapbox and talk about the ongoing fight between environmentalists, sportfishermen and commercial fishermen all night, but I'm going to stop here.

If you are planning a fishing trip in the near future, the kings will be thick in the 30-to-35-mile range. Black bass will be plentiful in the 5-to-15-mile range, and this has been a good year on the snapper and grouper in the 40-to-50-mile range.

Well, until the spirit moves, good luck, "Jolly Mon."

P.S. There is a grassroots movement working toward a state-owned public ramp access under the bridge at Ocean Isle Beach. If you would like to support such an idea, call your state senator or representative.

**This Week's Tide Table NOVEMBER**

Day	Date	HIGH		LOW	
		A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	17	7:03	7:22	12:42	1:17
Friday	18	7:41	7:59	1:21	1:56
Saturday	19	8:17	8:34	2:00	2:34
Sunday	20	8:52	9:08	2:37	3:12
Monday	21	9:26	9:42	3:14	3:50
Tuesday	22	10:02	10:20	3:52	4:29
Wednesday	23	10:42	11:04	4:34	5:11

**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.

**Run, Walk Or Jog At 'Trot'**

The family that exercises together looks better, feels better, lives better.

That's the premise behind "The Waccamaw Turkey Trot" Tuesday, Nov. 22, at Waccamaw Elementary Schools.

During regular physical education

classes that day, each of the school's 480 students is to run, jog and/or walk one mile.

School physical education teachers Ray Wilson and Melanie Champion are asking parents and guardians to don sweatshirt and sneakers and join their children for

all or part of the "trot." With their parents' help the students hope to walk 520 miles.

"By your taking part," said Wilson and Champion in a letter to parents, "you will be a role model and help us strengthen our advocacy for physical fitness."

**Ferry To Close Nov. 28-Dec. 2**

The Southport-Fort Fisher Ferry will suspend operations from Monday, Nov. 28, through Friday, Dec. 2, according to a news release from the N.C. Department of Transportation.

The shut-down is for routine maintenance and repair work on the docking facilities.

The ferry will resume normal operation on Saturday, Dec. 3.

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