



GOLF TOURNAMENT - Bill McPhaul, Meade Freeman, Don Steed and Ashwell Harward (pictured left to right), tournament planning committee, are making final preparations for the annual Lions Club Golf Tournament scheduled May 1-2 at the Arabia Golf Course. Proceeds will go for civic improvements and assistance to the blind. Tournament prizes and sponsors will be publicized next week.

Magistrates Court

The following cases were heard by the magistrates: Billy J. Williams, Burlington, speeding 65 in a 55 MPH zone, \$5, costs; Peter S. Serra, Ft. Bragg, 70 in a 55 MPH zone, \$10, costs; O.J. Valentine, Southern Pines, passing violation, \$10, costs; Bennie L. Smith, Hope Mills, allowing an unlicensed person to drive a vehicle, \$25, costs; Jeffrey L. Norton, Rockingham, 66 in a 55 MPH zone, \$10, costs; John R. Crisp, Benson, 68 in a 55 MPH zone, \$10, costs; Leslie D. McDonald, Ft. Bragg, 69 in a 55 MPH zone, \$10, costs.

Patricia C. McCroskey, Raeford, 67 in a 55 MPH zone, \$10, costs; Leon Jones, Rt. 1, Shannon, public drunkenness, \$5, costs; Tony J. Horne, Rt. 3, Raeford, 55 in a 45 MPH zone, \$5, costs; Bennie Fairley, Red Springs, failure to dim lights, \$10, costs; George F. Douglas Jr., Laurel Hill, inspection violation, fined costs; Chalmers B. Davis, Rt. 2, Raeford, inspection violation, fined costs; Jack L. Chandler, Durham, inspection violation, fined costs.

John D. Marsh, Ft. Bragg, parking violation, fined costs; Douglas C. McRae, Gibson, exceeding a safe speed, fined costs; Ronnie Locklear, Rt. 3, Red Springs, passing violation, \$10, costs; George J. Lilly, Fayetteville, 65 in a 55 MPH zone, \$5, costs; James F. Harris, Maxton, driving left of center, fined costs; Rebecca S. Harris, Rt. 3, Raeford, passing violation, \$10, costs; Leonard R. Calloway Jr., Rt. 3, Raeford, allowing an unlicensed person to drive a vehicle, \$25, costs; Roger L. Bodrick Jr., Charlotte, 65 in a 55 MPH zone, \$5, costs.

Karl E. Garner, Fayetteville, exceeding a safe speed, driving without a license, \$25, costs; John H. Adams Jr., Ft. Bragg, inspection violation, fined costs; Bobby D. Locklear, Rt. 1, Shannon, stop light violation, fined costs; Donald D. Thomas, Aberdeen, failure to see before stopping, fined costs; Marvin L. Manuel, Lexington, 69 in a 55 MPH zone, \$10, costs; Valerie A. Dekubber, Rt. 1, Raeford, 65 in a 55 MPH zone, \$5, costs; Patricia A. Cunningham, 411 Wooley St., Raeford, 69 in a 55 MPH zone, \$10, costs; Jennifer L. Locklear, Rt. 1, Red Springs, 65 in a 55 MPH zone, \$5, costs; Juanita Scott, Rt. 1, Shannon, 67 in a 55 MPH zone, \$10, costs; Clemmie Miller, Raeford, worthless check, \$15.28 restitution, costs; Marsha Gail Parks, Rt. 3, Raeford, turning violation, fined costs.

Veteran's Corner

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following are representative questions answered daily by VA counselors. Full information is available at any VA office.

Q -- I am enrolled in a vocational course at a trade school. My eligibility will expire before I have finished my course. I understand there is a nine - month extension available under the GI Bill. Will I be eligible for this extension?

A -- No. The nine - month extension is available only to veterans who have exhausted their 36 months entitlement in pursuit of an undergraduate degree.

Q -- What is meant by "aggravation" as related to my service-connected disability?

A -- This means the condition existed prior to entry into military service and the degree of disability increased as a result of military duties, rather than the natural progress of the disability.



By Jim Dean N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

They carted old Charlie off to the nuthouse last week. We may never get the whole story, but it seems that he was sitting in the middle of his living room surrounded by his four massive 747 tackle boxes, all filled and overflowing with the latest in bass tackle.

His wife, Sueleen, said he was sorting through his plugs and plastic worms, as happy as a clam, when all of a sudden he began to snicker.

"He'd hold up some lure and chuckle a few times, then toss it back in the box," said Sueleen, sniffing sadly. "It went along like that for awhile, and then he picked up a handful of plastic worms and looked at them for a moment.

"The next thing I knew he was laughing so hard the tears were rolling off his sunburned cheeks and he was flopping around on the floor and couldn't stop laughing.

"After that, he began pawing through his tackle boxes flinging plastic worms and plugs all over the house and hooting and hollering. Finally, I called the emergency room," she said, her eyes red and crying. "The last time I saw him they had him trussed up in this little white coat and they put him in the back of the truck and carried him off. He was still laughing."

Poor Charlie, I've seen the symptoms before. The trouble is that ever since Charlie got into bass fishing, he's been determined to try every new lure or plastic worm that hit the market. He did all right for awhile, although it did put a strain on the family budget.

But this spring, when the tackle manufacturers began to display their new lines of fishing tackle, it was just too much. He told me he'd been depressed. He'd figured out that it would cost him somewhere in the neighborhood of \$3,453.22 a month just to buy one of each of the new bass lures that were so rapidly being marketed.

"I just can't hack it," he had explained frantically. "Even with Sueleen working, it's more'n I can pay. I can't cope anymore."

His dreams had been shattered -- heck, he wasn't even fishing anymore. All he did was sit in the living room and look at his fishing tackle until he finally went bananas.

I knew a friend once who'd been through the same thing. Fortunately, he recovered after six months of therapy.

"Yes, I know exactly what happened," he explained. "Same thing happened to me. I was sitting there one day sorting through all my lures and plugs and plastic worms when I suddenly realized how silly a spinner bait looked. The more I looked at it, the funnier it looked. I really flipped out when I looked at all those purple, blue and green plastic worms and realized that I had spent enough money to buy a three - bedroom house with indoor plumbing -- just like my wife had always wanted.

"But I'm better now," he said. "On the advice of my physician, I sold my bass boat and my outboard and trailer and the four - wheel drive vehicle I used to pull the rig. Then I piled all my lures in the backyard and burned them. I got a bundle for my rods and reels in a garage sale. Things are looking better now, and the doctor thinks I may have it licked if I can fill the gap with some useful hobby that

doesn't cost too much or become too much of an obsession." "Like what?" I inquired. "Well," he said, "I've been thinking I'd like to try some nice little sensible pastime like golf."

It was quickly evident that we were at least a week early for white bass. The Uwharrie River looked promising as we waded out into the rock strewn currents, but instead of the two-pound spawning female white bass we'd expected, all we caught were small males.

"It's typical," said fish biologist Fred Harris as he held up a small male that he had just caught on a spinner. "The adolescent males are up here early, raring to go, but the girls haven't arrived yet."

The little white bass were not the only males who were frustrated. Fred's companions, Cape Carnes, Scott Van Horn, Roger Jones, Ted Dossett and I were also disappointed that the girls hadn't arrived. We had hoped to catch the peak of the spawning run of white bass and enjoy some fast action on ultralight spinning tackle with roe fish running one to two pounds.

As it turned out, we wound up with a mixed bag that included five or six small white bass, two or three white perch, a couple or three small largemouths and one scrawny striped bass that was apparently confused about his ancestry. Cape Carnes landed the six-inch striped, and everyone seemed to think the catch was rather unusual. I gathered they meant it was unusual to catch a striped in such a place -- not that it was unusual for Cape to catch a fish. I could have been mistaken though.

For me, the two tiny white bass I caught were a first. For some reason, I've never managed to hit the white bass when they could be caught, and yet, there are a number of good places in the state where white bass fishing can be good in the spring.

White bass are rather common in the lakes of the Yadkin and Catawba river systems where they were first introduced back in the 1950's. Several of the large mountain reservoirs, including Fontana and Santeetlah, also have good white bass populations, and the state record white bass is a four-pound, 15-ounce fish that was caught in Fontana some years back.

Like the white bass which run out of Badin Lake into the Uwharrie River to spawn, there are rivers and streams on many of the Piedmont and western lakes which have spring runs of whites. I'm told white bass spawn at the head of Badin Lake just below Tuckertown Dam, although the time I fished there several years ago, all we caught were white perch.

Lake James has a good white bass population, and there are white bass spawning runs in the lower parts of the Linville River and North Fork of the Catawba. The main run, however, is in the West Fork of the Catawba and the fish may go upstream five or six miles.

The Tuckasee River out of Fontana Lake has a white bass run, as does the lower French Broad. No doubt, there are white bass runs on a number of other tributaries to the Piedmont and western lakes.

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