

Fishing Club Cancels Tourney, Presents Annual Awards

BY DOUG RUTTER

The Brunswick County Fishing Club cancelled its second Labor Day Jamboree tournament, but presented its annual club contest awards Saturday.

Club President Herbert Swain Jr. said officers decided to cancel the tournament due to lack of participation.

The Labor Day Jamboree was rained out Sept. 5 and rescheduled for Oct. 17, but according to Swain, "Everybody has their mind set on spots this time of year, and it's tough to get enough participants for a good tournament."

Last year's first Labor Day Jamboree was also rescheduled due to

rain, but was conducted with only 16 entries.

Annual Club Awards

Beverly McDowell won three of seven awards in the children's division this year, after taking three of eight last year. Her sister, Rosalyn, won two in 1987 after winning four last year.

Beverly won with a 7-ounce pigfish, 4-pound, 8-ounce Spanish mackerel and 11-ounce speckled trout. Rosalyn won awards for a 12-ounce croaker and 8-ounce spot.

Other children's winners were Wes Knox with a 4-pound flounder and his sister, Amy, with a 7-pound red drum.

Adult winners are as follows:

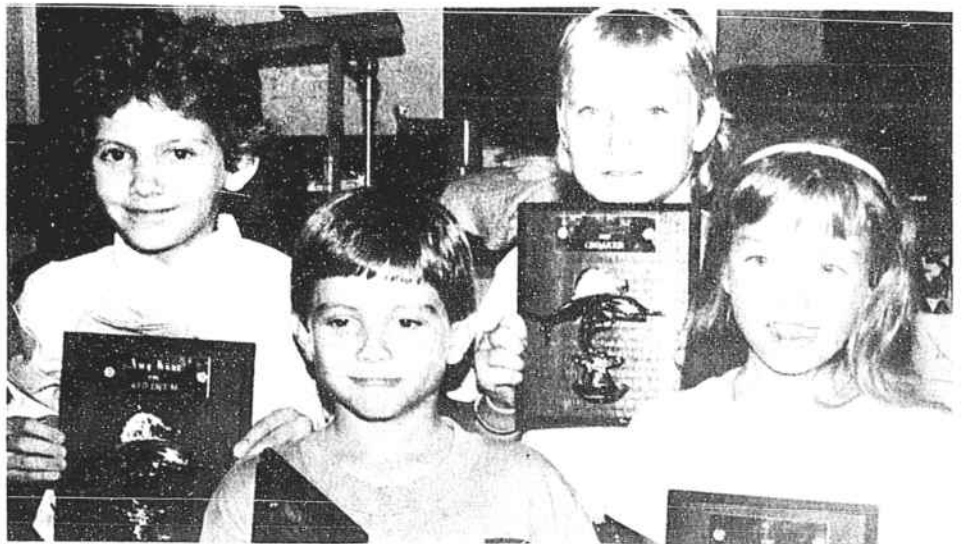
- Bruce Moore, 6-pound speckled trout; 6-pound, 8-ounce red drum; 13-ounce pigfish;
- Ruby McDowell, 9-ounce spot;
- David Hirst, 54-pound barracuda;
- Dale McDowell, 2-pound, 12-ounce silver snapper;
- Frankie Maultsby, 1-pound, 5-ounce croaker;
- Myrle Webster, 7-pound, 1/4-ounce black bass (new state record);
- David Wilson, 16-pound bonita;
- James Young, 9-pound, 8-ounce sheephead;
- Wayne Putnam, 65-pound amberjack
- James Adams, 8-pound flounder;
- James Warrick, 34-pound, 6-ounce king mackerel;
- Lewis Riddle, 8-pound Spanish mackerel;

The Dale Speicher Award, presented annually to honor one of the founders of the club, went this year to Maultsby.

The club also presented a special award to Mildred Royal for selling the most memberships. Swain could not provide the exact figure but said she has led the membership drive the last three or four years.

McDowell presented an appreciation award to Miriam Speicher for her work as chairman of the cookbook committee. Mrs. Speicher said the committee has sold about half of the club cookbooks and the printing costs have been paid.

Swain said that in addition to the annual July 4th celebration, Labor Day Jamboree and October fish fry, next year's club activities should include a free meal every third Saturday from May through September.



CHILDREN'S DIVISION AWARD WINNERS were (from left) Amy Knox, Wes Knox, Rosalyn McDowell and Beverly McDowell.



Hirst

D. McDowell

R. McDowell

Moore

Appointments Protested

The Brunswick County Fishing Club Saturday took a public stand against recent appointments to the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission.

Following the recommendation of Club President Herbert Swain Jr., members agreed that the club should have a representative on the commission, which was recently reorganized to include four sport fishermen.

He said that as the largest saltwater fishing club in the state (averaging over 500 members annually), Governor Jim Martin overlooked the club when appointing board members last week.

Swain recommended club member Dale McDowell of Sunset Harbor as a possible representative since he has been active in the club since 1971 and currently serves as reef committee chairman.

Following approval from club members present, Swain said he would send a letter and resolution requesting McDowell's appointment to Martin and a copy to Seventh District Congressman Charlie Rose.

Swain said he had already contacted and received the support of State Rep. E. David Redwine.

Considering the fact that appointments have already been made, Swain concluded, "It's not always the early bird who gets the worm. Sometimes it's the one who talks the loudest."

Caroon Is Reappointed

BY DOUG RUTTER

A Southport seafood processor was recently reappointed to the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission following reorganization of that board.

Cashwell Caroon, who had served three previous terms and six years on the commission, was reappointed for a term of two years by Gov. James Martin.

Under a state law which took effect Oct. 1, the commission now has four commercial and four sport fishermen. Previous commissions included only one of each.

According to N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries Director William Hogarth, the change was made because legislators felt there was not enough representation among fishermen on the commission.

Caroon said, "Our number one priority has to be clean water. It has been in the past, and without clean water, anything else we do is a waste of time."

He added that as a seafood developer, it is his aim to ensure the conservation of natural marine resources.

"There are no political overtones behind my goals on the commission," he said. "I am just trying to conserve resources for ourselves, our children and our children's children."

Although there are now eight fishermen on the 15-member board, Hogarth said the fishermen will not necessarily control the entire commission.

"I really don't see that they will (control voting) because sport and commercial fishermen have different views on a lot of issues," he said.

Hogarth added, "It should be a bit more lively with all the fishermen. They won't be in agreement on all the issues."

Martin named Morehead City attorney and sport fisherman Thomas Bennett as board chairman.

The previous board requirements calling for ten at-large commissioners on the 15-person board were replaced with strictly defined requirements leaving only two at-large positions.

The newly-structured board has also added two marine scientists for a total of three and one seafood processor for a total of two.

It is no longer mandatory that a coastal developer be included in the commission, although Arapahoe developer Garvin Hardison was appointed as an at-large member.

Terms of the appointments have also changed, creating a situation in which members serve staggered terms from two to six years. This will stabilize the board and protect it from massive change every time another governor is elected.

Caroon said that while he has not met the nine new board members, "I'm afraid this board will not be as strong on the conservation of natural resources as we have been in the past."

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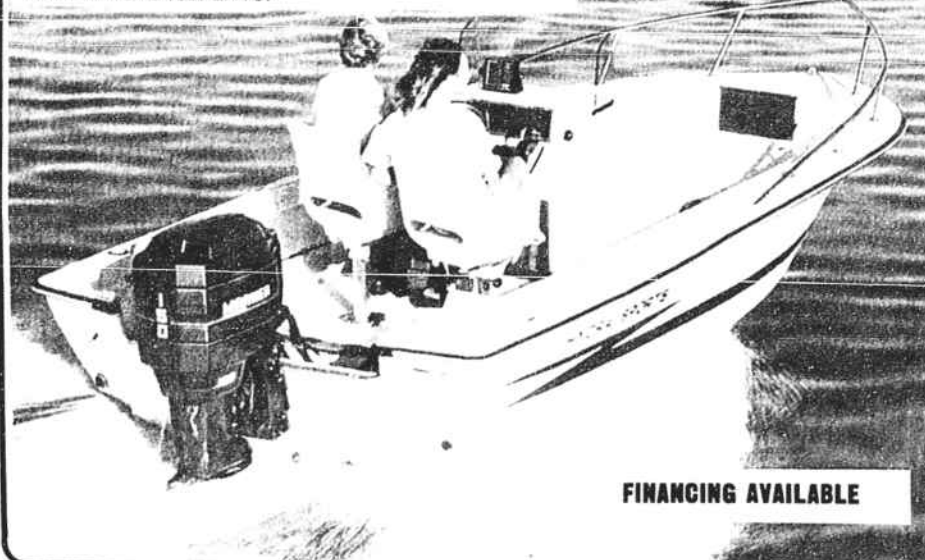


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