

# Saturday Storms Mar Otherwise Good Week

BY TONIA TREST

Weekend thunderstorms interrupted an otherwise average week of fishing, with high rains and lightning Saturday forcing anglers away from the piers and out of the water.

## Tripp's Fishing Center

Joyce Land of Tripp's Fishing Center at Shallotte Point reported an average week of fishing, with two inches of rain on Saturday.

"The water is too hot for any good catches," she said.

Still, she reported catches of flounder, spots, croakers and speckled trout. Several boats landed their limit of king and spanish mackerel.

Billy Lefler of Albemarle caught two flounders weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces, and 5 pounds respectively, which he entered in the N.C. Saltwater Fishing Tournament, Land said.

Lefler also landed four flounder, three spotted drum in the 7- to 8-pound range and a 10-pound blue fish.

Pelican Pointe

## FISHING REPORT

At Pelican Pointe Marina at Seaside, Doug Edwards said, "There is not much of a fishing report. There are not very many people fishing."

He recalled catches of king mackerel, spanish, copia, dolphin and grouper over the past week.

Edwards said due to the rain on Saturday, boats only went out in the morning.

### Sheffield's

"No fantastic catches," reported John Sheffield of Sheffield's at Ocean Isle Beach.

He reported catches of only king and copia.

"We haven't been selling too much bait," said Sheffield. "Saturday, there wasn't a lot of fishing. I hope it looks up in a day or so."

### Independent Seafood

Sue Fury at Independent Seafood of Holden Beach reported that fishing was good, "even though we had some yucky weather".

Ocean fishermen caught spanish and king 16 to 18 miles out and 8 to 9 miles out, she said. Also, anglers landed flounder and brim in the waterway.

### Holden Beach Pier

At Holden Beach Fishing Pier, Gil Bass said fishing has picked up.

He said the weekend's rough seas, rain and wind "cooled things off" and brought the fish closer in to shore.

He reported catches of spots, whiting, croakers and flounder.

### Ocean Isle Beach Pier

Curtis Williamson at Ocean Isle Beach Pier reported a good week of fishing until Saturday.

"On Saturday, the water was muddy and the storm cleared everybody out. We got 3 1/2 to 4 inches of rain," he said. "Since then, we ain't been doing much. I'm looking for a good week though."

Anglers landed spanish, blues, flounder and trout last week, he said.

### Sunset Beach Pier

At Sunset Beach Fishing Pier, Ed Kayler reported catches of spots, trout and whiting.

"On Saturday, not much of anything was caught, because it stormed so bad," he said. "They were catching spots pretty good until the lightning ran everyone off the pier."

## This Week's Tide Table

Day	Date	HIGH		LOW	
		A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	25	7:42	8:17	1:47	1:45
Friday	26	8:22	8:54	2:29	2:26
Saturday	27	9:01	9:29	3:06	3:05
Sunday	28	9:37	10:02	3:43	3:43
Monday	29	10:12	10:30	4:20	4:22
Tuesday	30	10:49	11:06	4:54	4:59
Wednesday	31	11:29	11:41	5:29	5:44

### 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—add 7 min. high tide, add 7 min. low tide.



## Trout Catcher

Billy Green of Raleigh hooked this four-pound speckled trout last Wednesday fishing at the east end of Holden Beach. He also landed a three-pound drum last week. Billy is the 10-year-old grandson of O.C. and Helen Tuck of Supply.

STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

## Shark Ate Mackerel That Could Have Set A Record

BY JAMIE MILLIKEN

The South Brunswick Islands were pounded this past weekend with violent thunderstorms. This really put a damper on offshore fishing. I really had to feel for the participants in the Carolina Beach king mackerel tournament. I am sure they did well just to survive. Dennis Barbour of Carolina Beach won first prize with a 37.7 pound king. Dennis was fishing aboard his boat *Silverado*. Second place went to Brian Henry of Gastonia with a king weighing in at 37.65. Brian was fishing his boat, *Mr. Magoo*. I bet Brian was wishing his fish had eaten one more pogie because only .05 pound separated first and second place. Now that's close!

### CAPTAIN JAMIE'S OFFSHORE FISHING REPORT

Back to the weather. There are several things you should do if you are caught in a lightning storm on the water. First of all, lower all antenna and cut off your electronic gear. If your boat is equipped with removable outriggers, you should remove them. If this is not possible, you should carry along a couple pair of regular batter jumper cables. Simply lower your outrigger as close to the water level as possible and attach the jumper cable to the outrigger and allow the other end to hang in the water away from the boat. It is a good idea not to transmit on your VHF or CB radios during the storm. Often just a few steps of precaution and a cool head will go a long way in safety on the water.

The fish story this week features my friend Wayne "Kingfish" Hill. Wayne and Larry Fowler were fishing off Little River a couple of Saturdays ago when they hooked up with a not-so-ordinary king mackerel. This "smoker" smoked the reel on two long runs that resulted in completely emptying the reel and sent Wayne and Larry in hot pursuit to run this bad boy down. They managed to get him to the boat on three different occasions. It was during the third trip to the boat that disaster struck. Shark attack! According to Wayne, this fish had a real shot at being the South Carolina state record. What the shark left was the king's head and midway back toward the dorsal fin. Now get this; just the position of the fish had to be bent so that he would fit in a 172-quart cooler. That part of the fish weighed right at 45 pounds. The fish could have easily gone over 60 pounds. Wayne, I know that was a tough loss, but I know that you will be looking for this twin brother. Good luck.

That's it for now. Until next time, tight lines, bent rods and good fishin'.

## Flounder Fishing Hearings Slated

Proposed rules that would affect commercial and recreational summer flounder fishing will be discussed at public hearings next week.

A moratorium on new entrants into the commercial fishery, an annual quota, continuation of the 13-inch minimum size limit and minimum mesh sizes for tail bags are among proposals that would impact the commercial fishery.

Proposals for recreational fishing

include a combination of size limits, bag limits and seasonal closures which would achieve a desired reduction in catch, according to an N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries news release.

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold hearings Tuesday, July 30, at the Elizabethan Inn in Manteo and Wednesday, July 31, at Carteret Community College in Morehead City. Both hearings start at 7 p.m.

## Carmichael Wins Marlin Tournament

Gary Carmichael of Southport was among the winners in the Southport Marina Blue Marlin Tournament held Friday and Saturday.

Fishing aboard *Cool Change*, Carmichael won \$500 for a 20-pound dolphin, said spokesperson Pam Lombardi.

Other \$500 winners were Norman Farrow of Wilmington with a 38.5-pound tuna and Bill England

of Wilmington with a 30.5-pound wahoo.

Fred Walker of Yaupon Beach caught and released a blue marlin during the tournament. He was fishing on the *Miss Kris*.

Ms. Lombardi said six boats entered the inaugural tournament. The marina plans to hold the event again next year and offer more prize money.



## Vick Lands Wahoo

Tom Vick of Fayetteville caught this 34-pound wahoo during a recent fishing trip aboard the *Super Salty 1*. The fish was caught 45 miles offshore.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Fisherman Blames Company After Boat Sinks At Dock

A Boiling Spring Lakes fisherman whose boat sank while docked at Southport has filed a lawsuit in Brunswick County Superior Court against the boat manufacturer.

William A. Sanford, who owns a house at Boiling Spring Lakes, and Sanford Sport Fishing Inc., of Hopewell, Va., claims the boat company, Albemarle Boats Inc., of Edenton, designed, manufactured and assembled the boat so it contained no safeguards to prevent sinking.

In the lawsuit filed July 12 by Wrightsville Beach attorney Henry L. Anderson Jr., Sanford is asking for in excess of \$10,000 in damages and interest. He wants a jury to hear the case.

The complaint states that Sanford's 27-foot boat did not contain an "anti-siphoning loop" and that its

"thru-hull fittings were lower than required" by industry standards.

It claims Albemarle Boats negligently tested, designed and inspected the boat and, as a result, the boat sank while docked at Southport.

The incident occurred on "navigable waters" and in the course of "traditional maritime activity," the lawsuit states.

The boat sustained damages in excess of \$10,000, it claims. It also accuses the manufacturer of breaching an implied warranty that the boat was seaworthy.

The complaint further contends that Albemarle Boats was aware that the boat would be put to sea and used for its intended purposes and that Sanford had relied on the company's skill and judgment to furnish suitable goods.

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## Auxiliary Offers Boat Safety Class

Shallotte Flotilla 10-08 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering a safe boating class for skippers, crew members and passengers alike.

The course offers valuable instruction for boat passengers, who may be called on to operate the boat if the skipper falls overboard or gets sick or injured, said spokesman Bill Grancsay.

## All Waters Closed To Shellfishermen

All Brunswick County waters remained closed to the harvest of shellfish Tuesday following heavy rainfall over the weekend.

Waters from Southport to the South Carolina state line were closed Monday morning, according to an N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries proclamation.

The temporary closure was due to heavy rainfall and runoff, which can carry bacterial pollution into streams and rivers.

State officials had closed sections of Shallotte River and Lockwood Folly River last Wednesday following a heavy rainfall.

Before they begin a boat ride, passengers should know the location of personal flotation devices, fire extinguisher, signaling devices and other safety gear, Grancsay said.

They also should know how to start the engine, shift into forward and reverse, steer, stop and signal for help.

The boating safety class starts Sept. 16. For more information, call Bill Utter at 579-2387 or Grancsay at 754-8599.

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