



**Prize Size King**

Chip Maree (above) and Jamie Milliken teamed up to land this 50-pound king mackerel Sept. 17 aboard the "Caribbean Soul." The 60-inch long, 24-inch girth fish is currently leading the Southern Kingfish Association yearly contest for the largest kingfish of the year award. It is also believed to be the largest king landed in North Carolina thus far this year.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



A FORETASTE OF FALL awaited weekend fishermen and campers Gene and Marie Hart of Southport. Mrs. Hart caught this drum Saturday at Sunset Beach Fishing Pier.

STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER



BRUCE MOORE of Holden Beach caught these flounder last week in the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway using minnows for bait. The smaller fish weighed 5 pounds, and the larger flounder was 8 pounds, 11 ounces.

STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER



A FISHING PARTY from Elizabethtown shows off the king mackerel and hog snapper they caught last week aboard the Alice E. Pictured (front row, from left) are Phillip Little, Roger Paschal, Jim Bradley, (back row, from left) Claude Hood, Guy Childress and Lewis Paschal.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



"THEY'VE JUST STARTED BITING," Francis Eudy of Albemarle announced as she landed this spot at Sunset Beach Fishing Pier Saturday. She and her brother, Gene Eudy (background) come down to the family's Seaside retreat to fish.

STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

**Cool Snap Makes Anglers Anxious**

**BY DOUG RUTTER**  
A solid week of fishing and the first cool weather in months has local anglers licking their chops in anticipation of the upcoming fall season.  
It felt like fall in the South Brunswick Islands over the weekend as northerly winds blew in dry air and temperatures ranged from the 50s to night to the 70s during the day.  
"For the first cool snap of the year, it's setting up to be a real good fall," Jesse Hayes of Captain Pete's Seafood at Holden Beach said Monday, which was the first official day of fall.  
Fishermen caught spots, flounder, blues and drum inshore over the weekend. Earlier in the week, anglers landed king and Spanish mackerel and bottom fish in the

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ocean before conditions became less favorable.  
"Flounder bit real well last week," Hayes said. Bruce Moore of Holden Beach caught several in the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, including one that weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces.  
"The little spots are starting to show up in good numbers in the waterway," Hayes added.  
Before northerly winds started blowing last Friday afternoon, Hayes said the offshore fishing had been pretty good.  
One boat returned to the docks with 300 pounds of red snapper one day last week. Fishermen also caught kings just beyond the breakers.

**Sea Mist Camping Resort**  
Mary Roscoe of Sea Mist Camping Resort at Brick Landing said fishermen caught spots from the bank of the waterway.  
"The fish bait and the fishing tackle have been selling well," she said. "That's always a good sign."  
**Hughes' Marina**  
Allison Hughes of Hughes' Marina at Shallotte Point said the ocean was too rough over the weekend and fishing was slow in the Shallotte River.  
Anglers caught a few black bass, kings and Spanish offshore, but very little else. She blamed it on the northerly and northeasterly winds.  
"All the boats that went out, there was no fish caught," Mrs. Hughes said Monday.

**Pier Fishing**  
Pier fishermen waiting for the annual arrival of yellow-bellied spots hooked some smaller spots last week as well as whiting, bluefish, flounder, Spanish and a few kings.  
Terry Bowser of Holden Beach Fishing Pier said fishermen caught Spanish all last week and several flounder Sunday. The largest flounder was 5 pounds.  
Greg Fortner of Statesville caught two kings last Wednesday, including one that weighed 26 pounds.  
"The spots aren't running yet," she said Monday morning. "It should be any time now."  
John Mills of Sunset Beach Fishing Pier said two small kings were caught last week.  
"They're out there catching a few spots right now," he reported Monday morning. "It's a little wet, but they're out there anyway."

**U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament Approaching**

Although it's the 13th of its kind, this year's U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament, set for Oct. 3-5, should prove to be very fortunate for some lucky anglers.  
A grand prize of \$25,000 awarded to the crew bringing in the largest mackerel is up for grabs, as well as a second place prize of \$10,000, a third place prize of \$5,000, and awards as far as 50th place.  
An extra \$1,000 will be added for the largest early bird catch. Several manufacturers are offering prizes for the best catches taken by boats using their merchandise and fish bowl drawings are planned.  
First, second, and third place awards will also go to the boats with the highest daily aggregate weights on Friday and Saturday.  
Last year's winning mackerel will be hard to beat; weighing 45.5 pounds, it was brought in by the crew of the "Joy Stick," from North Myrtle Beach, SC.  
The event begins Thursday at Southport Marina in Southport with check in/registration at 10 a.m., and captain's meetings at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tournament officials strongly advise that all captains attend, as rule changes may be announced.  
The check-out points open and competition begins Friday at 7 a.m., and ends at 5 p.m.  
Another day of competition begins Saturday at 7 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m.  
Entertainment and refreshments are offered each evening of the tournament, with a fish fry and awards ceremony capping off the festivities Saturday night.  
Again this year, officials an-

nounce that they will hold a "tournament within a tournament". Participating boats contribute an extra \$100 each, with the total sum to be divided among the top three finishers from the largest fish category in diminishing order respective of place.  
Tournament entries of \$240 per boat are still accepted by the sponsor, the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce, until midnight Thursday, Oct. 3.  
Copies of the rules, check-out and check-in sites, entry forms, and schedules are available by writing to: U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament, Route 5, Box 52, Southport, NC 28461.

**This Week's Tide Table**

		HIGH		LOW	
Day	Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	26	10:03	10:21	3:54	4:27
Friday	27	10:49	11:05	4:36	5:13
Saturday	28	11:40	11:55	5:22	6:06
Sunday	29	-----	12:39	6:13	7:04
Monday	30	1:01	1:44	7:14	8:10
<b>OCTOBER</b>					
Tuesday	1	2:12	2:53	8:23	9:18
Wednesday	2	3:25	4:01	9:32	10:23
<b>ADJUSTMENTS</b>					
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.					



FRANK WATSON of Holden Beach hooked this 15-pound hog snapper recently during a fishing trip 40 miles offshore.



OREN BIGGERS of Charlotte caught this 24-pound dolphin during a recent trip aboard the Super Salty I.

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**US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Shallotte Safe Boating Course**  
is being held NOW at the Shallotte Senior Citizens Center  
Monday & Thursday Nights at 7 PM  
Subjects: Boat handling, safety & legal requirements, navigation, navigation rules, piloting, weather & communications  
Course is free, we charge only for study text. For information, call Bill Utter 579-2387 or Bert Cherry 579-2864.

**White Wins \$3,000 In Tourney**

Kyle White of Shallotte won \$3,000 over the weekend as one of the daily winners in the Wrightsville Beach King Mackerel Tournament.  
Fishing on the Oil Slick, White weighed in three fish Saturday with a combined weight of 33.4 pounds.  
Five other Brunswick County residents won \$500 each in the ninth annual tournament held Friday and Saturday, said spokesperson Teresa McLamb.



WHITE

Buck Smith of Southport placed fourth overall with a 30.15-pound king mackerel. He was fishing aboard the Second Time Around.  
Southport angler Tom Plankers placed 12th with a 25.7-pound king

landed aboard the Donzi Devil.  
R.G. Sherfinski, also of Southport, finished in 25th place with a 23.25-pounder caught on the Odd Couple.  
Forrest Taylor of Shallotte caught a 22.4-pound king aboard the Josh & Me and finished in 31st place.  
Earl Clewis of Southport, fishing aboard the Live Wire, landed the largest fish on a Mako boat.  
Angus Phillips of Wilmington and the crew of the Hooked Up won the tournament with a 43.5-pound king.  
The event was worth more than \$33,000 in cash prizes. Ms. McLamb said 375 boats competed in the tournament.

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