

Offshore Fishing Hits High Gear With Great Weather

BY JAMIE MILLIKEN

Offshore fishing hit high gear along the South Brunswick Islands this week.

Fair weather the entire week gave anglers the freedom to get offshore. Everyone had little problem in catching their limit of king mackerel.

One captain reported that he encountered a school of kings so big that they were churning the surface of the water like a school of Spanish. Most of this fishing action was taking place between 27 miles and 32 miles offshore.

Fishing inshore heated up also this week, with the first appearance of Spanish mackerel.

Scores of Spanish were taken this week right off the beach. The water temperature has finally reached the

high 60s. Boy, it took long enough, didn't it?

If you're considering a fishing trip for Spanish, be sure to include a small plainer. Most of the fish caught this weekend were down deep.

The blue water fishing was good also. I heard of many wahoos and yellow-fin tuna being caught. A rumor circulating this week suggested an 80-pound dolphin had been taken from "the Georgetown Hole," but I have not been able to confirm that. If it is true, that is surely the largest one that I have ever heard of.

For those of you who know what kind of fight that a dolphin puts up, can you imagine what an 80-pounder would do? I've always said that if God made them 100 pounds you just could not catch one!

May is our big marlin month, so get ready to hear some big fish stories. The Harbortgate Billfish Tournament is May 14-17. The South Brunswick Islands area is always well represented in that tournament. So good luck, guys!

Well, that covers it for this week. I will see you next week. Food fishin' and good luck "Jolly Mon".

CAPTAIN JAMIE'S OFFSHORE FISHING REPORT



PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

Returns To Fishing

Eighty-year-old Mildred Mason (right) came to Holden Beach from High Point during Easter week for her first fishing trip in many years. Her daughter, Edith Cecil, accompanied her but said, "I don't like fishing at all, but Mother has always loved it."

Calabash EMS Sets Fund Drive

Calabash Volunteer Emergency Medical Service (EMS) will hold its annual fund drive in Carolina Shores in May, with envelopes for donations to be left with the monthly newsletter, according to secretary Maryn Hall.

Chief Mark Christy and EMT-I Larry James attended a training meeting over the weekend in Fayetteville. They will provide information from the seminar to the rest of the squad.

At the April 16 board of directors meeting, Christy reported that the squad answered 32 calls in March, including 18 in Calabash and six in Sunset Beach.

Volunteers worked 114 hours and traveled 1,066 miles during the month, according to Christy's report.

President Kathy Morfit said the annual general membership meeting will be Tuesday, June 2, at the squad building.

The board of directors have accepted an invitation to participate in the Calabash festival Aug. 14-16.

The rescue squad will offer free blood pressure checks and display its new ambulance and defibrillator.

This Week's Tide Table

		APRIL		LOW	
Day	Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	30	6:57	7:18	12:57	1:05
MAY					
Friday	1	7:41	8:01	1:42	1:47
Saturday	2	8:23	8:45	2:27	2:29
Sunday	3	9:06	9:27	3:11	3:12
Monday	4	9:51	10:14	3:54	3:56
Tuesday	5	10:38	11:03	4:41	4:44
Wednesday	6	11:31	11:57	5:31	5:36
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.					

FISHING POTS ALLOWED

Area Waters Are Closed Trawling For Shrimp and Crab

State fisheries officials will close some waters to shrimp and crab trawling and open others for crab, fish and shrimp pots effective Friday.

In Brunswick County, the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries will allow the use of fishing pots through the end of October in all designated nursery and shellfish management areas and coastal fishing waters closed to trawling.

All local waters will be closed to shrimp and crab trawling Friday except a part of Bonaparte Creek, Lockwood Folly and Shallotte inlets and the Eastern Channel near Lockwood Folly.

Other areas remaining open include the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway channel, the Elizabeth River channel, lower Dutchman Creek and a section of the Cape Fear River including Muddy Slough, Still Creek and Cedar Creek.

The state will allow fishing pots in part of Bonaparte Creek, Shallotte Inlet, Eastern Channel, Elizabeth River, Bay Creek, Cape Creek, Bald Head Creek, Buzzard's Bay, Middle Bay and part of Cape Fear River.

Fishing pots aren't allowed to be set in any marked navigation channel, in the middle third of any other channel or any other spot where they may create a hazard to boaters.

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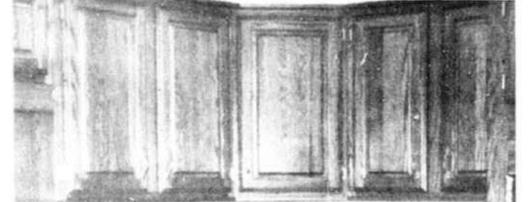
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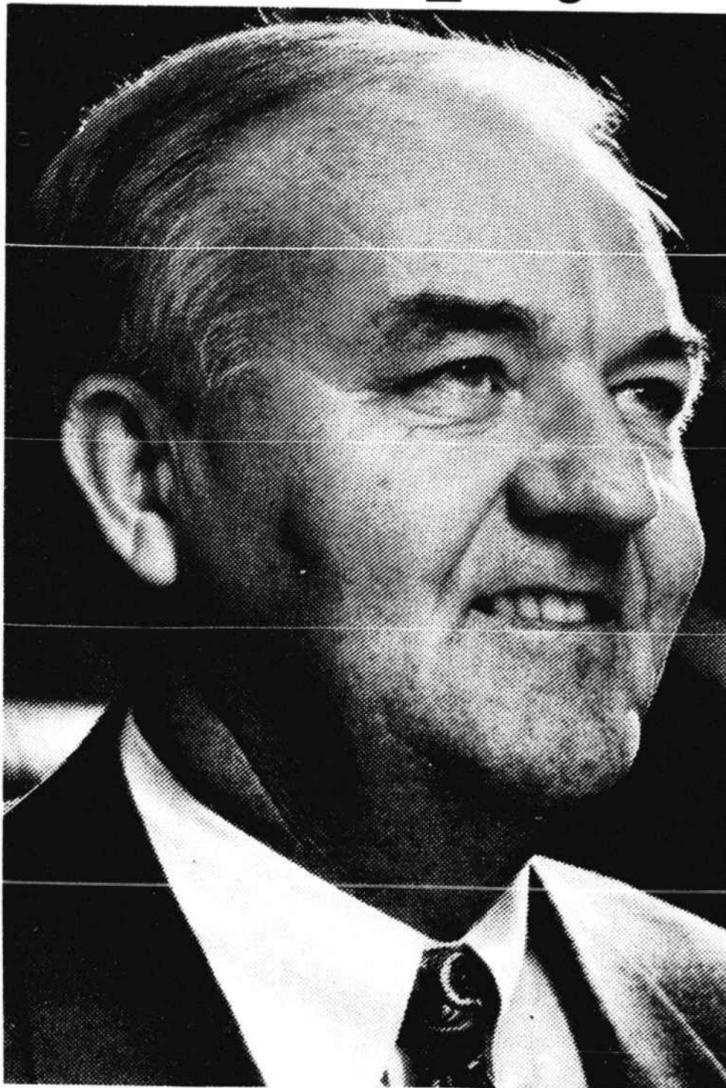
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