

Relief from summer doldrums

While the summer doldrums hit some kinds of freshwater fishing in Texas, striped bass fishermen are having a field day on the lakes.

By the hundreds can be seen on Lake Texoma's open waters today as fishermen probe the depths of the old Red River channel for striper.

On a less grand scale, boats also are numerous at times on Whitney, Toledo Bend, Falcon, Amistad and some other developing lakes.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Fisheries Division Director Kemp said he feels Texas fishermen are learning that the fishing imports are not difficult to catch, even in the hot summer. "Stripers have to eat the ground, and if you go deep enough to find them, you may catch them."

Incidentally, Kemp noted, striper fishermen who bring fish up from the depths in this hot weather should stop at the legal daily limit of three (two on Toledo Bend) fish and not "cull" by releasing smaller fish while keeping larger ones. "The striped bass is a cold-water fish and almost invariably will die when

Outdoors

brought to the surface in this weather," Kemp said. "So that's why you shouldn't keep fishing for them unless you intend to keep them."

Kemp said the technique of choice among many successful striper fishermen is night fishing, but he guessed that for many this is a concession to sweltering daytime temperatures rather than for better fishing. "I think early-morning and

late-evening fishing might be just as good as night fishing, as long as you are fishing the right depth," said Kemp.

And the right depth in this weather can be anywhere from 20 to 80 feet or even deeper.

Reports indicate good catches of striper on large minnows, shad and sunfish in the live bait category, but equally glowing reports of success on a variety of jigs, "slab" type spoons and large diving lures.

"One way is to find a likely spot over a deep channel and just strip line straight down to varying depths until you find the fish," Kemp advised. "Stripers often will hit it on the way down."

Trolling with deep-diving lures often works, and it may help you locate the fish, he said.

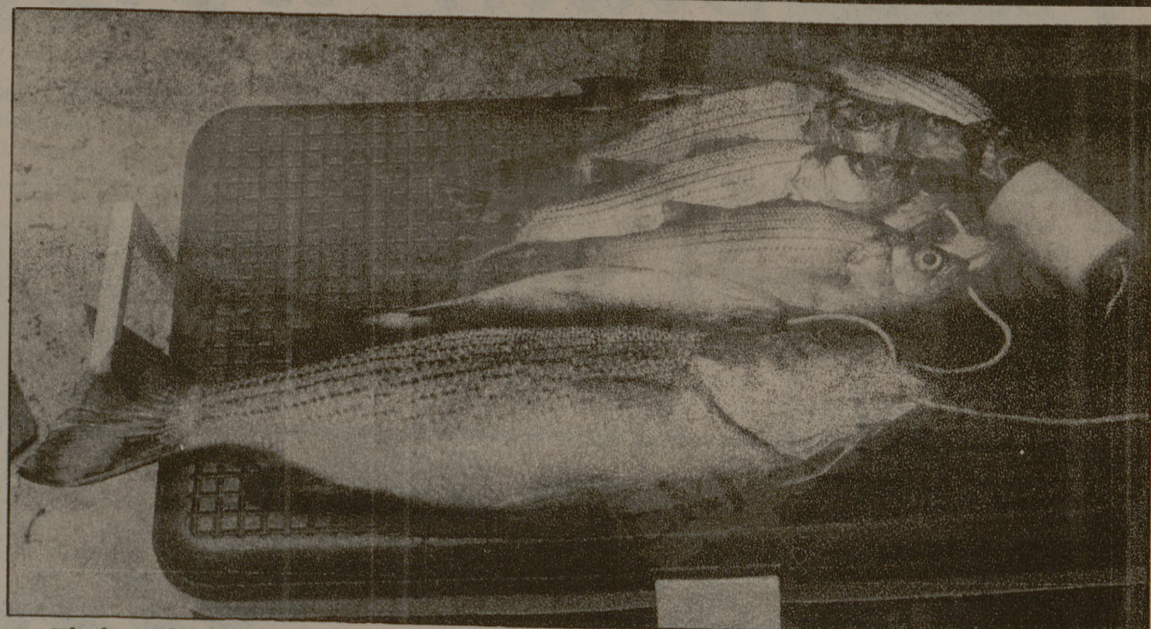
The mushrooming popularity of striper fishing has spawned a vigor-

ous striper-guide market, particularly on Texoma, and many guides can virtually guarantee some action. But Kemp points out that if you are at all familiar with the lake you're fishing, you should be able to find the striper, particularly in view of the recent low lake levels.

Old river channels are the hot spot, he said, although in the wee hours of the morning the striper may patrol shallower areas around points and dropoffs—but rarely very far from the deep water.

In the wintertime, on the other hand, striper undergo a drastic change, Kemp said. They rise from the depths and will smash into schools of shad, exploding on the surface with enough vigor to set any fisherman's casting hand a-tremble.

Texas striper fishing is truly a year-round sport. Only the methods change with the seasons.



The large fish at the bottom of this picture is a striped bass-white bass hybrid. The others are white bass. They were all caught in a spill-

way below the Lake Somerville dam. Minnows were used as bait.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper, Jr.

Football's 'tough guys'

Bergey accused of taking cheap shot...

United Press International
HOUSTON — Houston Oilers quarterback Dan Pastorini said he was injured by a cheap shot during a night exhibition game in Philadelphia was not as serious as thought, but that he was injured by Bill Bergey's late hit.

past in second quarter of the Eagles' 28-10 victory.

Pastorini had to be helped from the field after the incident, and he was told he had suffered a pulled hamstring muscle in back of his left thigh.

"It feels a lot better today," the quarterback said. "I went out and walked a mile and a half. The doctor told me it was not a hamstring. He said I pulled a tendon that attaches to the upper part of the hamstring."

Pastorini said he recovered in less than a week from a similar injury

earlier this training camp.

"I'm gonna practice this week and see how I feel by Saturday," he said. Before the injury Pastorini was slated to play the entire exhibition game at Dallas this weekend.

After the roughing penalty was called and as Pastorini writhed in pain on the field, Oilers players Carl Mauck and Mike Barber cursed, shook their fists and moved against referees' restraints toward Bergey. The Eagles linebacker and Barber were taken out of the game by their coaches.

"That wasn't my decision," Bergey said after the game.

Said Barber: "That (Pastorini) was our whole offense lying on the ground out there. All because of a cheap shot in a meaningless exhibition game. Without him, we go downhill."

Although seemingly relieved after the game that Pastorini was not seriously hurt, Bergey did nothing as he talked to reporters to hurt his image as a tough guy. He told of causing Pittsburgh's Terry Bradshaw to suffer a concussion and of breaking several of Terry Hanratty's ribs in a different game with the Steelers.

"Yeah," he said, "both of those were called roughing penalties." Pastorini Tuesday appeared more critical of Bergey's play than he was late Monday.

"I don't know why (he did it)," the

quarterback said. "He's been known to be an emotional player who loses his poise a little bit. This was just a good example of him losing his poise. When he sees the film I'm sure he will see that it was uncalled for."

Pastorini criticized his teammates for their reaction to the incident.

"That was uncalled for, too," he said.

Bergey explained that he was untouched coming through the line on a blitz and thought Pastorini still had the ball when he hit him.

A team spokesman said there were no other Oilers injuries as a result of the game.

Head coach Bum Phillips Tuesday waived at least three players to trim his roster to 60 or less, the spokesman said. The names of the waived players will not be known until Wednesday.

... Dobler is no saint

United Press International
MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — To hear Howard Dobler talk, he has done his month helped make him the NFL's highest paid offensive lineman. And Cosell told it was Dobler's first national award to proclaim to the country that Dobler was "the meanest" in pro football.

Whether it's been by coincidence or not, since then Dobler has made the Pro Bowl three consecutive years and, after a trade from St. Louis to the New Orleans Saints, is making a reported \$65,000 a year that puts him at or close to the top in salary for those usually faceless blockers.

If Dobler has done nothing else, he has elevated the offensive lineman's role from one of brute to one of skilled technician. He's also been very busy making headlines and good copy.

"Everyone thinks offensive linemen are not supposed to be team leaders, supposed to be passive," Dobler says. "And this is not true. The offensive line is the most skilled position on the football field. These are the leaders of the team."

Dobler concedes quarterbacks can be leaders too.

"There's no conflict whatsoever," Dobler said. "The quarterback is the individual calling plays and the individual that calls the plays should be a team leader. I don't want to cause no conflict there."

"I've always said if I was a team leader it was because of my performance and not because I led the team in jumping jacks."

Dobler wields his mean man reputation as a badge of honor, but claims it has little basis in truth because defensive linemen are just as nasty.

"Curley Culp likes to give you the forearm and stuff like that every time," Dobler said. "And you always walk out of the game when you play against Curley with a headache. Louie Kelcher for the San Diego Chargers is a strong individual. He knows one thing — that no one's coming through his hole. I've never classified any blow

that anyone gives to me as being dirty. That's the game of football. Unfortunately those four guys over there don't think they're supposed to get hit and think that everything I do is dirty."

While Dobler says he can't remember the names of the dirtiest player around, he says none of the true All-Pro's resort to underhanded tactics.

"A lot of people who do dirty things are not very good players," Dobler says, "and I don't know their names to begin with. They're just idiots out there trying to prove themselves and not doing what they're supposed to do."

"A good football player isn't going to waste his time on an offensive guard. I never classified myself as being mean. I've just classified myself as going out and getting my job done. There are a lot of people that do that and they're the people in the Pro Bowl."

Dobler and a pair of Miami Dolphins exchanged verbal shots last week before the Saints played the Dolphins in the second preseason game. Dolphins linebacker Steve Towle and defensive end A.J. Duhe both claimed Dobler took cheap shots last year that led to a brawl during a Cardinal-Dolphins Thanksgiving Day game.

"Towle is lucky they run the 3-4 (defense) because otherwise he might not be starting," Dobler said.

Duhe said Dobler's comments about meeting at midfield to decide the game sounded like Dobler didn't have "too much brains."

In the end, the game was played without incident, but Dobler says just the idea that opposing players would worry about him shows he has a high intimidation quotient.

Alborn closes bowl workouts

United Press International
HOUSTON — Rice head football coach Ray Alborn said the bowl game sessions will be closed to the public.

There are some teams we are early who don't know very much about what we are attempting and I certainly don't want to have things available for them," he said.

Alborn's 1978 season, opens its schedule against Iowa State, Oklahoma and LSU. Rice last won the bowl game in 1930 and Oklahoma in 1938.

There's been a lot of jokes told about our schedule and a lot of things said. I don't find a hell of a lot funny about the first four bowl games. "I don't want to know what we will use," Alborn said. "I don't want to know what we will use," Alborn said. "I don't want to know what we will use," Alborn said.

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