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Fishermen must care for equipment

ishermen tell tall tales of huge monsters that escaped the net or gaff. They tell horror stories of spring squalls blowing across a lake or bay from nowhere, dousing them with heavy rain and endangering their lives with bolts of lightning. But one of the most vivid nightmares re-

counted by any fisherman is that of the first trip of the year when the tackle just won't co-

When fishing tackle sits for months at a time, it tends to develop a personality. The reel stiffens, a two-piece rod has magically fused into one piece and artificial baits have melted, faded and rusted in protest of being traded for a shotgun or rifle during hunting

Rather than ignoring these problems until it is time to test them against hot and heavy springtime action, it is a good idea to provide tackle with a tune-up.

The reel can often be the most stubborn iece of tackle to deal with. Its gears and pearings can stiffen without use and may be thirsty for a lubricant. Quality reel lube is inexpensive and can make a world of difference in bringing a reel back into top form after a winter in the garage or closet.

The manual that comes with any reel should explain how to service it, and if there are any questions about it, a tackle dealer can assist the procedure.

Another problem that arises from months of not using tackle is line memory, which is the tendency of monofilament to remain spi-

raled and twisted. Make some practice casts in a yard or other open area to determine how serious the line's memory is and whether or not it needs to be replaced. It may look funny, and I can almost guarantee that someone will ask if you have caught anything as you stand casting into the street, but it will save countless

headaches at your favorite fishing hole.

A worst-case scenario is having to shell out \$5 for 250 yards of new line, and the old line can even be recycled.

Another good idea when servicing a rod and reel is to check the guides on the rod. Pull a piece of cotton through each eye on the rod. If the cotton snags anywhere, it may be time to replace the guide. A tackle dealer can perform the necessary repair or a do-it-yourself replacement kit may also be adequate

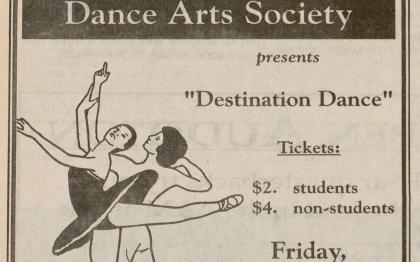
At a price of \$2, a hook sharpener may be the best investment a fisherman can make. When talking to fishing guides, I hear them stress sharp hooks more than any other fishing tactic for landing more fish. The standard to the standard st dard test goes something like this: if it will stick in your thumbnail, it's sharp enough. not, then \$2 is not a bad deal for something that will help in catching more fish.

Stocking the tackle box is the last step in eparing fishing tackle for a new year. Nothing is more fun than being able to justif buying new baits and lures. It is best to stock up on your favorite lures and any lure that may have been successful in the past.

When your confidence is at an all-time low from not catching anything, it is a good idea to have reliable baits handy to break or of a slump. Also, save some room for new products or "hot" colors that are causing fis to just surrender and jump in the boat on command. It seems like at the beginning of every year, someone unveils a new product that will revolutionize fishing. It usually

doesn't, but you never know.

With all of this preparation, the fish don't have a snowball's chance in hell of escaping our sharpened hooks, lubed reels and "hot" new lures. Well, that's doubtful, but if you do have some success at your favorite lakent do have some success at your favorite laked river, please practice CPR, catch, photograph and release. Good luck!



7/9:30/

Midnight

Saturday

April 4th

MSC Aggie Cinema Hotline: 847-8478

CINEMA

ROBERT NICK JESSICA DENIRO NOLTE LANGE

ONLY \$2

April 10th

8 p.m.

Rudder Theatre

*Are you interested in studying or traveling abroad? *Do you also need financial aid?

Then you need to attend the program:

Financial Aid Available to Aggies for Study/Travel Abroad

This program is designed to help find financial aid for those planning on studying or traveling abroad. Representatives from several different financial aid sources will lecture on ways to receive financial aid.

Friday, April 3 1-2 p.m. Rudder 302





MSC Jordan Institute for International Awareness For more information contact the MSC Jordan Institute at 845-8770.

Great Food, Great Fun. of Great Comedy Just For You! Thursday, April 2 Take a Break Laugh a Little Come to Garfield hursday Nite Live and with this coupon you can have the best two hours of comedy with John Wally and Mike Vance for only expires 4-2-92 with this coupon Tickets are \$4 at the door

1503 S. Texas * Culpepper Plaza * 693-1736

Quarterbacks take best shots at winning starting position

Continued from Page 7

Slocum said. "You could have a receiver, and he would be asked to make maybe a couple of plays a game, and a running back would be asked to do more. But a quarterback is the one that is asked to

take the ball on every play."

Preston and Miller are use to being No. 1 quarterbacks. As seniors in high school last year, both were highly recruited by colleges

Miller passed for more than 2,300 yards at Mt. Carmel High in San Diego, Calif., and was named the fourth best dropback passer in the Southwest by analyst Max

Emfinger.
Preston passed for 2,783 yards and 23 touchdowns at A&M Consolidated High and was rated the tenth best quarterback in the country by Emfinger.
Both possess the great talent and skill required to be college quarterbacks, but both are trying to learn the A&M system for the first time.

Whoever earns the starting spot will, most definitely, change

the Aggie offense.
Last season, Richardson directed an attack that featured the option play. This season, the Aggies will use the pass to compliment a ground game headed by All-Southwest Conference running

back Greg Hill. "Obviously, we recruited these guys with that in mind," Slocum said. "They're all throwers. There are no true option guys out there. I've always said I'd like for us to

throw more.
"We may have one option or something to keep people honest, but we will take that time we devoted to the option and devote it to throwing the ball."

Slocum said no one has stepped forward so far in the first three days of spring practice.
"I don't see a frontrunner right

now," he said. "I think it's pretty much an even race.

"They're all throwers. There are no true option guys out there. I've always said I'd like for us to throw more."

> - R.C. Slocum A&M head coach

"Obviously, Kent Petty has the most experience and most knowledge, so he'll be ahead from that standpoint. It's hard to make an accurate analysis until the other guys catch up a little bit from the knowledge standpoint.

"I'm just not going to come out of spring and say, 'This is our of spring and say,' This is our

of spring and say, 'This is our guy,'" he said. "It'll be two-a-days (in August) before we find out."

There is a chance, though, that

a rotation system will be used if no one takes command. But Toledo would rather one guy step forward and do the job himself.

"I don't like rotating quarteracks in and out of a game do said. "It's not like other positions. If one of them is doing the job, then he'll be in there. But if he can't get us (into the endzone), then we'll go to someone else.

12th Man Notebook

TEXAS SPECIAL OLYMPICS – The 1992 Area 6 Spring Games will be held April 3-4 at A&M Consolidated High School in College States tion. Over 700 athletes and 1000 volunteers from all over Southess Texas will take part in this year's event. For more information call the Conroe office at (409) 760-3511.

11TH ANNUAL COLLEGE STATION BIATHLON - College Station Parks and Recreation and the Brazos Valley Fitness Associa tion are sponsoring a 1000-yard swim/10-km run and a 5 km Fun

Run open to people of all ages.
The Biathlon will take place at 8:00 a.m. on April 11, 1992, at Southwood Pool on 1600 Rock Prairie Road. Competitions will be held in all age groups. Entry fees are \$8 before 5:00 p.m. on April 8 and \$10 thereafter. Contact the Brazos Valley Fitness Association at 764-3486 for more information.

TINMAN TRIATHLON AT AEROFIT - Sign-ups for the spring Tinman Triathlon have begun at Aerofit. The event will be held Saturday, April 11, 1992, at 8 a.m. Individuals or teams of one, two or three participants will compete in a 200-yard swim, a 5 km run

Teams will compete in age categories determined by adding the ages of the team members completing each leg of the race. Entry fees are \$11 for individuals and \$20 for teams who entered before March 28. Fees increase each week thereafter. For more information call Aerofit at 823-0971.

THE ARCA SUPERCAR SERIES returns to the Texas World Speedway in College Station on April 12 at 1:00 p.m. with the Texas 500K. Famous firefighter Paul "Red" Adair will be the Grand Mar-KOLACHE FUN RUN will kickoff the annual SnookFest 1992 at

7:30 a.m. on May 2. The entry fee for the 5 km run is \$10 and must be turned in April 17. A trophy and one dozen kolaches go to the overall winners and the winners in each category For more information, call David or Sharon Kovar at 272-3732.

TEXAS CHAINRING CHALLENGE will wheel across Texas during the week of June 7-13. The third annual event will begin in Blanco State Park and will cross a 425 - mile route that includes the Hill Country and the northeast parts of the state. Organizers insist the Texas Chainring is not a race. Cyclists travel at their own pace. Registration is limited to the first 500 cyclists. A \$40 entry fee will cover maps, rest stop privileges, campground access, and other

For more information contact Cummins at the TCC hotline at 1-

Foster

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white uniform.

Then, let the entire conference fight, argue and cheat their way into snagging the monsterchild of San Antonio's Cole High School, Shaquille O'Neal.

Suddenly, you have the makings of a state comparable to North Carolina in top-ranked college basketball teams. Starting to get the picture?

Of course, now Smith and Johnson are out of NCAA competition, but the analysis holds true throughout this year's top

25. Many other teams, all of which are outside the state, are winning titles with Texas-grown

When Big Ten foes Michigan and Ohio State met last weekend in the Southeast Regional finals, there were more players on the court from Texas than any other state. Two schools more than 1000 miles from downtown Dallas, and their tournament game turns into a Texas schoolboy re-

The only way Texas teams are going to wind up in the Final Four is to convince the immense amount of talent that usually

leaves the state to stay home.

UT's Erwin Center is a facility capable of keeping top prospects in state. But not until A&M gets their special events center are the Aggies going to be able to lure top players to College Station.

That, in part, is going to require some help from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating

The members of the Board, whether they realize it or not, hold the fate of A&M and Southwest Conference basketball in their hands

But that's another story....

Spurs end drought, down Lakers 104-86

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - Te Cummings scored a season-high 35 points, including 15 in the thi quarter Wednesday as the San A tonio Spurs snapped a five-gam losing streak with a 104-86 victor over the Los Angeles Lakers.

Antoine Carr added 19 point for the Spurs, who won for the time since losing center Davi

Robinson to a thumb injury. The Lakers, who had a five game winning streak end, were by Terry Teagle with 20 points at Elden Campbell with 18.

Cummings, who also had rebounds, keyed a 16-4 run at the end of the third with six points.

COMING IN CONCERT

Benefiting Still Creek Boy's Ranch Presented by Aggie Men's Club Thursday, April 2, 8:00 p.m.

Tickets \$7.00 in advance \$8.00 at the door Available at Rudder Box Office and Brazos Valley Christian Bookstore

