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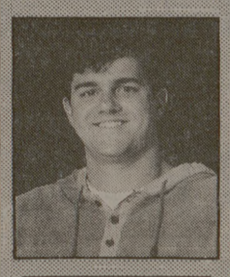
Fall provides balance of hunting, fishing



JEFF GREGG
Outdoors Writer

Early fall is here. Recent cool fronts have held temperatures in the mid-50s during the morning hours and only the mid to low-80s in the afternoons — dry afternoons.

And if you enjoy hunting and fishing, you're probably already geared for what can be the most productive time of year for overlapping the two sports.

It's a really tough to choose between hunting and fishing during the early fall, a problem that everyone wishes they had. For it is the early fall season when all of the following take place: 1) dove season opens, 2) squirrel season opens, 3)largemouth bass creep into a fall pattern, 4) flounder and golden croaker make their way out of the bays into the Gulf of Mexico, and 5) bull redfish (in excess of 36 inches) strip surf fishermen of miles and miles of monofilament.

Viewing it on paper, it sounds almost too good to be true doesn't it?

Well it all happens, and the toughest part about cashing in on the action can be deciding which species to pursue.

The state's dove hunting season thus far has received mixed reviews depending upon which camp you wish to get your information from. The season which lasts through Oct. 31 and runs again from Jan. 2-10 (Central Zone dates) has seen excellent numbers of birds pushed into their migratory pattern by the early cool fronts. The best reports have come from plowed fields and stock tanks, and croton fields, further south.

Keep in mind that even though these first few cool fronts will push good numbers of birds our way, a 20 mph north wind can make the tiny target very difficult to hit. In other words, remember to take plenty of shells.

For counties that have a season on squirrels, euphemism for a strong population of the critters, the season opens today and runs through Jan. 15. The daily bag for squirrels is 10 with a possession limit of 20. This is where a Type II permit can come in handy for poor hunters like students.

The permit allows the holder to hunt over 100,000 acres of state land managed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. At a cost of $35, it's affordable, and it allows access to land in East Texas which is literally crawling with squirrels. Check with the local TPWD office if you have any questions about the permit and its benefits.

That other outdoor sport currently heating up is fishing, and on the coast, it will continue to get hotter as water temperatures fall from bathwater high 80s into the mid-70s.

The flounder run will be spurred by each cool front, and the fish will be concentrated in the passes that lead to the gulf. They can be taken with hook and line or with a gig, an easy way to fill a freezer. The flatfish travel in large schools as they migrate, and by using a gig and night light or lantern, good numbers of them can be taken during the night.

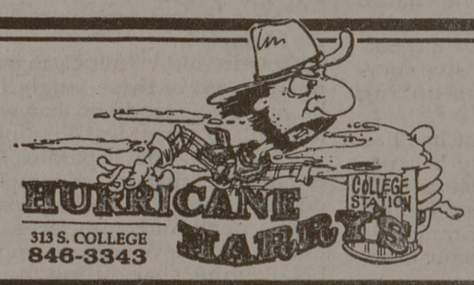
If jabbing fish with a gig is not your cup of tea, don't forget about the monsters that run the surf this time of year. Big bull redfish run the surf in schools and will eat just about anything on the end of a hook. These are not the same fish caught in the bays by any means. These are catch-and-release only because most of them will far exceed the 28 inch maximum. But don't let that stop you from doing battle with a 30 pound fish.

Toss a coin, draw straws or close your eyes and point if you're having problems deciding which species you want to pursue. The action won't last long so get while the gettin's good!

In other outdoor news:

◆The A&M chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be holding its annual fish fry on Friday, Oct. 16 at Central Park. Cost for the event is $6 and tickets can be purchased at Nagle 003C & 005A.

◆The TAMU Surf Club will leave for its "Scurvy Dog Weekend" on Saturday, Oct. 10 and return the next day. The club will travel to Matagorda Beach to surf, play volleyball and have a good time. For more information, contact Dan or Steve at 696-9330.



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A&M golfers grab first at Woodlands

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

THE WOODLANDS—Second-day rounds of 73 by Morgan Brown and Ryan Dreyer helped the Texas A&M golf team earn their first tournament win of the year Wednesday in the 18-team Woodlands Intercollegiate Tournament held at the Tournament Players Course of the Woodlands.

The Aggies were without their top returner, Marco Gortana, who was busy representing his home country of Italy at the 1992 Eisenhower World Amateur Cup in Vancouver, Canada.

A&M head coach Bob Ellis said that a tournament win of this magnitude without Gortana's presence was a prime example of overcoming the odds.

"This was really a nice win," Ellis said. "It was very important that we did it without Marco.

"It was really a struggle out there today. I am very encouraged about the way we played in the tough (weather) conditions and on fast greens."

Brown's consistency helped ease the pain of losing Gortana, as he shot a two-day total of 147 to tie for third in the individual standings, four strokes behind medalist Matt Mocniak of Stephen F. Austin.

"I was really pleased with the performance of Morgan," Ellis said. "He did not hit the ball that well, but he had a great day with the putter."

Dreyer and Anthony Rodriguez each carded totals of 150 to tie with four other golfers for seventh in the individual race. A&M's Brent Brown finished the tourney at 155 strokes, good enough for 27th. And newcomer Dru Fenimore's total of 159 placed him in a seven-way tie for 40th.

The Aggies' team total of 601 barely nipped Houston, who finished second with a 603. SFA rounded out the top three with 604 strokes.

Aggies

Continued From Page 7

well, because we were thin at receiver before he went down, and now we're about as green as we can be at that position.

"It will definitely be nice to have them back during conference play."

Slocum also said he felt with the early start the Aggies got off to and playing three of the first four games on the road, last weekend's break in the schedule was a necessity before starting conference play this weekend against Tech.

"We had real good practices last week," Slocum said. "We had four full days of pads with no injuries, plus we had unseasonably cool weather which makes it more fun to work out.

"It was good to get a break, because you can get mentally stale in this game. If you get stale mentally, you look like you're stale physically.

"The best part was, we got a chance to get some players healthy without losing any more."

After hosting the Red Raiders this weekend, Slocum and his A&M squad will have another week off before hosting Rice University on Oct. 17.

Slocum said that extra week off would give the Aggies even more chance to help his injured players recuperate before getting into the heat of the conference race.

Brett reaches 3,000 hit plateau

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANAHEIM, Calif.— George Brett, who fought through an injury-filled career to become one of the most prolific hitters ever, singled off Tim Fortugno in the seventh inning Wednesday night to follow Robin Yount of Milwaukee into 3,000-hit club.

Brett became the 18th player to get 3,000 hits in the major leagues, adding his name to list that began this season with Pete Rose at the top and Roberto Clemente at the bottom. And he did it with the 59th game of his career in which he had four or more hits.

Brett hit the first pitch over second baseman Ken Oberkfell into right field for his fourth hit of the night. Royals players rushed out onto the field to hug him, and took first base back to the dugout.

The hit was three weeks to the day after Yount reached 3,000 and 20 years to the day after the late Roberto Clemente achieved that figure. The 39-year-old Kansas City Royal added one of the final jewels in a 19-year career that includes the distinction of being the only player to win batting titles in three decades: 1976, 1980, 1990.

Brett remained in the game after an ovation that lasted about five minutes.

Brett, who returned to the lineup after sitting out two days with a sore shoulder, had a slicing double in the first inning off Julio Valera.

In the second, Brett followed Wally Joyner's leadoff single with a ground single through the right side of the infield.

After singling on 1-1 pitches his first two times up, Brett swung at a 1-0 pitch leading off the fifth. He again made solid contact, lining the ball to center. The Angels' Junior Felix, who didn't have a play on the ball, fielded it on one hop.

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Children ages 6-11 with ragweed allergy wanted to participate in a 15-day, 4 visit research study using medication in syrup form. Free ragweed skin testing provided. $100 to $150 for those completing the study.
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Foster

Continued From Page 7

true pass rusher they really needed.

And the Steelers, who were the most hated group of individuals to all those in Dallas, have started 3-1 but are sure to falter before mid-season.

Pittsburgh will have trouble building another 'Steel Curtain' defense without Thomas Everett, who is, of course, now a member of the Cowboys camp.

Haley and Everett are just the final pieces of the puzzle that will lead the Cowboys back to 'Super Sunday.'

Everett could be the kind of player that excels for the Cowboys because he may feel more comfortable playing in the state of Texas, and more specifically, in Dallas, which is less than two hours from his hometown of Daingerfield.

And when Dallas gets there, all the fans can thank the Steelers, the Niners, and most of all, the Minnesota Vikings.

Were it not for Minnesota, Dallas' entire lineup would consist of Herschel Walker, and no one else. That's because a large number of the players in skill positions for the Cowboys came either directly or indirectly from the Walker trade.

And what did Minnesota get for it? Three mediocre seasons and the agony of seeing Walker go to Philadelphia this season and start off with a bang.

Now, after reaping the benefits of trading Walker, the Cowboys get the chance Monday night to show Herschel how much better off the team is without him. Not only that, but at the same time, Dallas gets another shot at taking down the lowest-class team with the lowest-class fans at Philadelphia's Veterans Stadium.

A win over the Eagles would move Dallas to 4-0. And after the 1-15 Cowboys of 1989 received the kind of treatment Philadelphia fans can dish out, any win in the state of Pennsylvania is especially sweet.

Almost as sweet as singing "...Houston Oilers, Houston Oilers three-and-one."

Or almost as sweet as meeting a woman who is a diehard Cowboys fan.

And having her sing with you.

Asthma Study
Individuals, age 18-55, with asthma wanted to participate in a clinical research study for approximately 9 weeks with an investigational medication in capsule form. Individuals must be using inhaled steroid medication to qualify. $300 incentive paid to those completing the study.

TENSION HEADACHE?
Individuals with severe Tension Headaches wanted to participate in a 4-hour headache relief research study with an investigational medication in tablet form. Flexible hours. $75 incentive for individuals who are chosen and complete the study. Daily, till 6:30, call 776-0400.

ADULT SKIN INFECTION STUDY
Individuals age 13 and older wanted to participate in a research study for bacterial skin infections such as infected wounds, earlobes, infected burns, boils, infected hair follicles, impetigo, infected ingrown toenails and others. Investigational oral antibiotic in capsule form. $100 incentive for those chosen who complete the study.

CHILDREN'S SKIN INFECTION STUDY
Children, age six months to 12 years, wanted to participate in a research study for bacterial skin infections such as: infected wounds, bug bites, earlobes, burns, boils, hair follicles, ingrown toenails, impetigo and others. Investigational oral antibiotic in liquid form. $150 incentive for those chosen who complete the study.

SINUS INFECTION STUDY
Individuals age 13 and older with a sinus infection to participate in a clinical research study for 3 to 5 weeks with an investigational antibiotic in capsule form. Minimum incentive of $150 paid to those who complete the study.

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