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Vol. 1 Issue 165

Winter 2007

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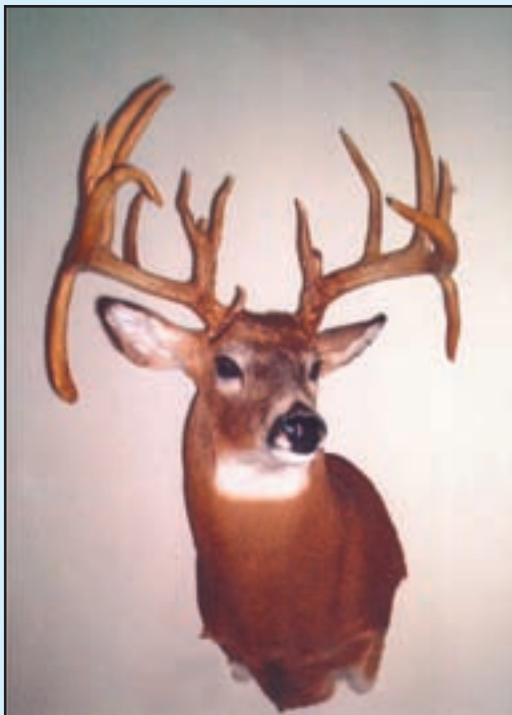
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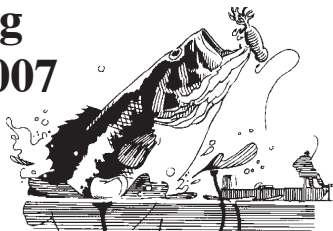
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Cover Photo

Using a Matthews bow in
Raliegh County, Billy Worley
harvested this massive buck.
The 18 pointer green scored an
impressive 183 non-typical.

The initial DNR buck count is
16% up over last year. Overall
quality of the bucks shows larger
racks and good size.

This magazine is also on the
internet now. Back issues are
on too. www.wvasportsman.net
*Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers
in Beckley.*

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Two Week Buck Harvest In 2006

Preliminary data collected from game checking stations across the state indicate deer hunters in West Virginia harvested 65,841 bucks during the two-week buck season, which ran from November 20 through December 2, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. The 2006 buck harvest was up 16 percent from the 2005 harvest of 56,901. The top ten counties for buck harvest were as follows: Preston (2,597), Greenbrier (2,216), Ritchie (2,189), Hardy (2,171), Jackson (2,141), Mason (2,102), Monongalia (1,951), Wood (1,942), Wetzel (1,932) and Pendleton (1,858).

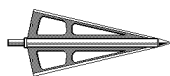
The increase in this year's buck kill is a result of a mild winter and good mast conditions in 2005. Wildlife Biologists and Managers operating biological checking sta-

tions in Hampshire, Upshur, Mason and Tyler counties reported improved antler development and overall physical condition for deer in the 1 1/2-year age class. "Maintaining deer densities at biologically appropriate levels outlined in the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources' White-tailed Deer Operational Plan will continue to support good hunting opportunities and healthy deer populations in the Mountain State," noted Director Jezioro.

White-tailed deer are a product of their environment. Too many deer on a given tract of land can cause loss of body weight, reduction in antler development, decrease in reproduction and death due to starvation during winter months. "The state's deer management program is designed to be very responsive to changing population conditions," noted Jezioro. "Deer harvest regu-

continue to the next page

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**Game
Check**



A great 14 point Wood County buck was harvested by Jesse Canterbury. Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store near Mountwood Park.

Winterg 2007 ~ Page 4

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Hunter Hartsaw, 7 years old, got his 1st. buck in Putnam County.

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ations are adjusted annually to become either more conservative or more liberal, depending upon an assessment of current data and management objectives for a given county."

For example, several counties that supported deer populations below their management objectives were closed to antlerless deer hunting in 2006. As a result, deer populations should expand in these counties with an increased buck harvest in subsequent years. In counties where the deer populations are above their management objectives, liberal antlerless deer seasons were implemented in 2006. These liberal antlerless deer regulations are designed to remove female deer from the population and adjust deer densities down to appropriate levels that can be supported by existing habitat conditions.

Wildlife Biologists will analyze data from the combined 2006 deer seasons (i.e., buck, antlerless, archery and muzzleloader) for each of the state's counties. Following this careful assessment, appropriate deer harvest regulations for next year's seasons will be prepared for consideration by the Natural Resources Commission.

Director Jezioro reminds hunters



Cathy Perdue took an 8 point. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.

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that the traditional six-day antlerless deer season in selected counties on both public and private land ends December 9. The Youth and Class Q antlerless deer season will open on December 25 and 26 and be followed by a four-day reopening of antlerless deer season (December 27-30) on private land in 21 selected counties.

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Fall Wild Turkey Harvest

The unofficial fall wild turkey harvest in 2006 was 1,010, according to Paul R. Johansen, Assistant Chief of Game Management in the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. The kill was 11 percent lower than the 1,130 reported in 2005 and was the lowest fall harvest since 1967.

The top five counties during the fall season were Preston (136), Greenbrier (123), Randolph (97), Monroe (80), and Pocahontas (64). Of the five Division of Natural Resources (DNR) districts open to fall hunting, District 2 in the Eastern Panhandle had the highest kill with 313 birds reported, followed



A nice 10 point was taken by John Holliday. *Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.*

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by District 3 in the mountains with reports totaling 238. District 1 (in the northwest) and District 4 (the southern part of the state) each reported 203 birds checked, and the lowest harvest report was District 6 in the western part of West Virginia with 53 birds reported from the two counties open to fall hunting. Of the five districts open to fall hunting, the kill was up 20 percent in District 1, with lower kills reported in the remainder of the state.

"We have observed a 5-year decline in our fall harvests in West Virginia," said Johansen. "The primary cause for the decline in harvest this year was due to having fewer counties open to fall hunting and the abundant oak mast in many areas, which made it more difficult for hunters to locate birds."

When the harvest is compared to last year in counties that were open both years, the kill declined 10 percent. A lower number of counties were open this fall because poor brood years have lowered the

base population in many areas of the state. Although brood production was better this year (12 percent above last year and slightly above the 5-year average) than the preceding years, the best production was in southern West Virginia, where most counties were closed to fall hunting. Poor brood years and severe winter weather, especially during the winter of 2002-2003, have reduced the base wild turkey population in the higher mountain counties.



Matt Jenkins, from Belpre, Ohio hunted in Ohio for this 10 point.

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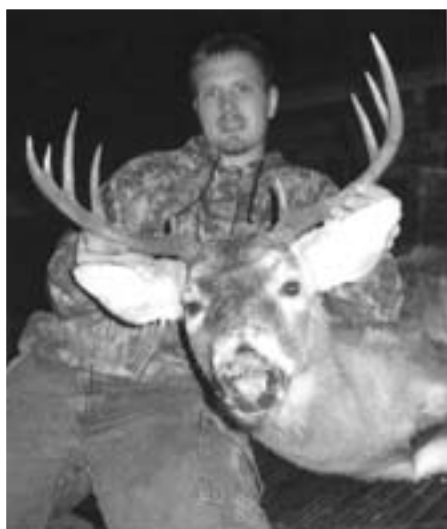
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Adam Forshey had great success with this wide racked 9 point Wood County buck. *Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store near Mountwood Park.*



Hunting in Wirt County, Rob Miller, from Elizabeth, took a quality 9 point buck.



Mike Owens was "in the zone" for this quality WV buck. *Photo courtesy of Clark's Taxidermy in Parkersburg.*

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2007 Wildlife Calendars Available

The 2007 West Virginia Wildlife Calendars are now available for everyone to enjoy," according to Curtis I. Taylor, Chief of the Wildlife Resources Section of the Division of Natural Resources.

The cover of this beautiful wall calendar features a spectacular painting of a browsing white-tailed



84 year old Wesley Nottingham was hunting out west for this nice mule deer. Photo courtesy of Bog's in Elizabeth.

deer. This highly detailed painting is only one of the 12 beautiful paintings in this year's calendar, that also includes bobwhite quail, monarch butterflies and a picturesque vista of Blackwater Falls. The calendar also contains important hunting, trapping, fishing and wildlife viewing information, lists regulations, and includes feature articles on the West Virginia Master Naturalist Program, woodcocks and re-establishing aquatic vegetation.

"The calendar is full of interesting daily facts and its \$8 price tag makes it a terrific bargain and a great holiday gift. Everyone who enjoys and ventures into the outdoors will want to own one," said

Taylor.

The 2007 West Virginia Wildlife Calendar is available at WVDNR District Offices, department stores, newsstands, convenience marts and food stores throughout the state or through the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241, phone (304) 637-0245. Make checks payable to WVDNR in the amount of \$9 for each calendar, which includes shipping and handling (WV residents add \$.48 for tax; VISA and MasterCard accepted). Organizations, clubs and civic groups can also profit by selling the Wildlife Calendar as part of their fund-raising activities. Interested organizations should contact the WVDNR at the above address for more information.



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Jan Riffle was out west for this? Photo courtesy of Mountaineer Guns in White Sulphur Springs.



Jesse Truman harvested a big buck. Photo courtesy of Elk River Outpost in Mink Shoals



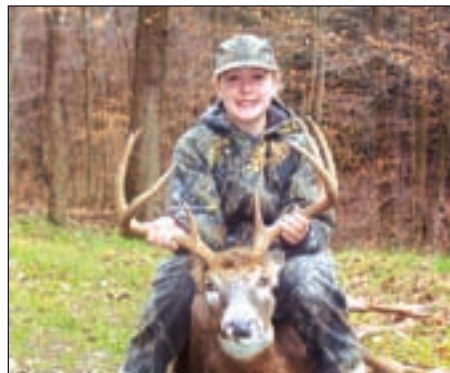
O'Dell Willis bagged a 375 pound bear in Raleigh County. Photo courtesy of Clark's Taxidermy in Parkersburg.



TJ Flowers, from Williamstown, took an 8 point in Pleasants Co.



Shawn Stidham, from Redhouse, took a big 10 point in Putnam Co.



Chelsea Morral - 13, shot a nice buck. Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.



Bobby Lockhart used a bow for this 8 point. Photo courtesy of Bogg's in Elizabeth.

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Lake Russell Fishing Tournament

Wright's Riverside Marine, in St. Marys, hosted the 10th annual bass tournament at Lake Russell. The 22 teams stayed at cabins by the lake in Elberton, Georgia.

The event consists of three practice days. Each day has a small pot tournament. Dave Woodby and Trent Shmidt had the biggest 5 fish limit - 13.01 pounds during the practice days.

The main tournament lasts three days and concludes on Saturday. The host team won again this year. It makes the third time that Dan Holdren and Cec Schneider have one their tournament. The owners of Wright's Riverside Marine had a three day total of 38.12 pounds. Second place went to Lewis Wilson and Percy Johnson with 37.04 pounds.

This tournament is open to any interested teams. Plans for the 2007 tournament are already started. Call Wright's - 304-684-2850 for information.



Chris Morrison landed the lunker bass - 5-12 pounds - during the Wright's Riverside Marine's Lake Russell tournament at Lake Russell.



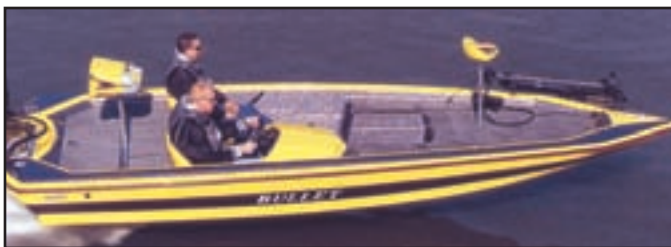
The 2006 Lake Russell group photo from the Wright's Marine open event

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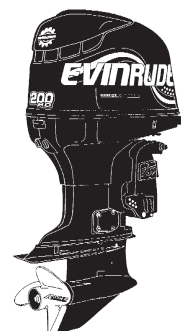


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Wendall Flowers bagged a 10 point, Pleasants County buck. Photo courtesy of reese's Country Store in Deerwalk



A 6 pound, 1 oz. smallmouth was landed by Terry Beard, from Charleston.



Jonathan Burns, from Alderson, took a Greenbrier County buck this season.



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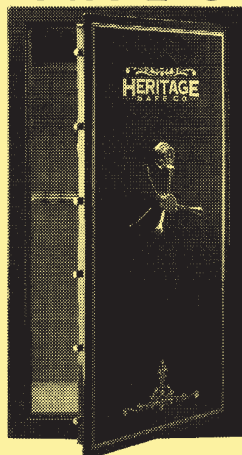
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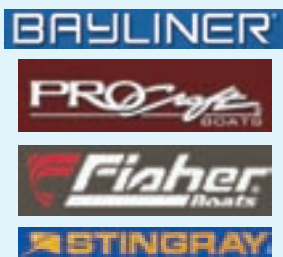
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Danny Frazier caught these 2 big smallmouth in late November. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.



Colby Napier harvested an 8 point buck in Wayne County. Photo courtesy of Justin's in Huntington.

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WV Fish Advisory

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) has updated the West Virginia Sport Fish Consumption Advisory for 2007. West Virginia DHHR, through an interagency agreement, partners with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop consumption advisories for fish caught in West Virginia. Fish consumption advisories are reviewed annually and help West Virginia anglers make educated choices about eating the



Whitney Hunter caught several trout below Summersville Dam. Photo courtesy of New River trading Post in Summersville.

fish they catch.

Certain West Virginia sport fish have been found to have low levels of chemicals like polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), mercury, and dioxin. To protect the good health of West Virginians, the West Virginia DHHR offers an advisory for how often these fish can be safely eaten. An advisory is advice, and should not be viewed as law or regulation. It is intended to help anglers and their families make educated



5 year old Logan Nichols got his 1st deer. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.

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choices about: where to fish, what types of fish to eat, how to limit the amount and frequency of fish eaten, and how to prepare and cook fish to reduce contaminants.

This advisory covers only sport fish caught in West Virginia waters. Safety regulations and advisories for fish in the market place are the responsibility of the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). For more information you can contact the FDA at: www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/mehgadvisory1208.html.

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Kevin Hall, from Clarksburg, landed a 7 pound, 6 oz. largemouth bass.



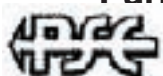
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The only additions to the current specific advisory section are as follows:

Limit the consumption of carp from the Bluestone river to one meal per month or less due to polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) residues. PCBs are no longer manufactured; however many old electrical transformers and capacitors still contain them.

Limit the consumption of small mouth buffalo from the Ohio River to one meal a month due to PCB

residues.

Women of childbearing age, children, and people who regularly eat fish are particularly susceptible to contaminants that build up over time. If you fall into one of these categories, you should be especially careful to follow the meal sizes and space fish meals out according to the advisory tables.

Your body can get rid of some contaminants over time. Spacing the meals out helps prevent the contaminants from building up to harmful levels in the body. For example, if the fish you eat is in the "One Meal a Month Group", wait a month before eating another meal of fish from any restricted category. Occasionally eating fish in quanti-

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ties slightly greater than the advisories recommend, such as during an annual fishing vacation, should not present a health hazard.

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Derek Slack, from Palestine, shot this buck in Ohio.


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Reports from the Alderson area showed an increase in bucks. Jared Terry brought in this 7 point. Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.

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Schools Invited To Participate In Amphibian Studies

Students and science teachers from around West Virginia can participate in an actual scientific study while they learn about the state's amphibians next spring as part of a Division of Natural Resources' cooperative study program, according to Curt I. Taylor, Chief of the DNR Wildlife Resources Section. The school amphibian studies project, which is offered by the Wildlife Resources Section's Wildlife Diversity Program, was developed by West Virginia's foremost herpetologist (amphibian and reptile expert), Dr. Thomas Pauley



7 year old Brydon Ott shot a good buck this season. *Photo courtesy of Clark's Taxidermy in Parkersburg.*

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of Marshall University. Dr. Pauley started this program to acquire a better understanding of the status and distribution of frogs, toads and salamanders in West Virginia while allowing students to learn more about these elusive creatures by conducting scientific investigations.

"This program offers an excellent opportunity for students to go outside and do actual science as well as to contribute to our understanding of amphibians in West Virginia," said Taylor. "I hope to see many schools take advantage of this opportunity this spring."

The school amphibians program works like this: the Wildlife Resources Section provides lesson

plans and equipment for teachers and students from grades 1-12 to study salamanders, frogs and toads around their schools. Students then observe amphibians in their natural

continue to the next page



An Ohio buck was harvested by Scott Shankland. *Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, Ohio.*



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habitats in early spring, conduct surveys and make collections, all while learning how to identify the animals and master scientific techniques. Projects will be conducted in March, April and May. Teachers will be provided with equipment and a lesson plan that includes background information, step-by-step procedures, questions to pose to students, a checklist of amphibians, a key to identify the animals and field worksheets. Equipment will include a thermometer, pH paper, sling psychrometer and a compass for the salamander study. For the frog and toad study, teachers will receive a dip net, pH paper and a thermometer. Schools only need to supply small plastic bags.

This is the sixteenth year this program is being offered and teachers may choose to focus on either common terrestrial and creek salamanders, or common toads and frogs. Interested teachers should contact

the Wildlife Diversity Program, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241, (304) 637-0245 for details. The deadline for applying for this exciting educational opportunity is February 28th. The amphibians project is just one of the many programs for schools and the general public sponsored by the Wildlife Diversity Program. Other programs offered include the OWLS—Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites program (for schools), Research and Cooperative Projects and the Wild Yards Program (for the general public). Contact the DNR in Elkins or visit DNR's Web site: www.wvdnr.gov for more information.



Roger Smith was hunting in Wood County for this impressive 8 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store near Mountwood Lake.*

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Austin Johnson reeled in a 36 pound carp. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.*

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Young Chase Minnite used a muzzleloader in Ohio to take this 8 point. Photo courtesy of Johnny's Outdoor World in Boaz.



Hunting in Ohio, Daniel McFee took a real nice 10 point buck. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.



Using a bow, Justin Beeler bagged a groundhog. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.

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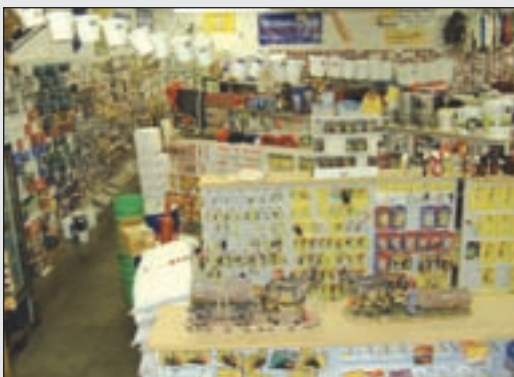
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A big Ritchie County 10 point was bagged by Ed. Varner. *Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk.*



Johnny Morris and Nathan Vance shown with an 8 point. *Photo courtesy of Bowlistic Archery in Chelylan.*



David Hess got a nice 8 point. *Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.*



Buck Pack caught two nice small-mouth - citations. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.*



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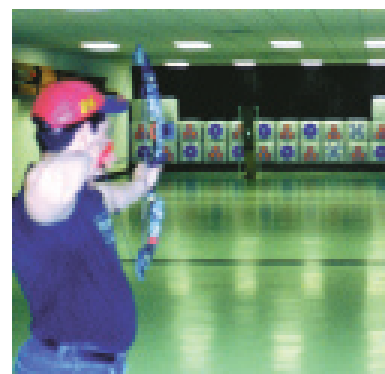
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2006 Sportsperson Of The Year

The Sportsperson of the Year and Sportsmen's Organization of the Year for 2006 were announced by West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Director Frank Jezioro during the recent West Virginia Celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Days at Stonewall Resort State Park.

The prestigious 2006 Sportsperson of the Year Award went to Dave Truban of Morgantown, who currently is vice president of the West Virginia Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. He is past president for the Chestnut Ridge Longbeards chapter, where he organized the chapter's first JAKES event and chaired all three it has sponsored. He helped Senior Regional Director Bob Farkasovsky reorganize the Prickett's Fort Limbhangers Chapter and has assisted

with their JAKES events. Truban also organized the North Central Chapters in Morgantown, Fairmont, Clarksburg and Kingwood set up their first Women in the Outdoors event. He has been instrumental in setting up and organizing Web sites for the West Virginia Chap-

ter and helping the West Virginia Wildlife Federation reorganize and update its Web site. He has been in the forefront of organizing a West Virginia Camo Coalition to build unity among the various sportsmen organizations in the state.

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A West Virginia buck was taken by this hunter. Photo courtesy of Tri-County Sports Shop in Pt. Pleasant.



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"Dave has been a leader in keeping sportsmen informed about important wildlife-related issues, including the deer pen issue and key proposals that affect both fish and wildlife," said DNR Director Frank Jezioro. "He is an active turkey, deer and grouse hunter, and loves to fish for trout and bass. He is an active member of many outdoors organizations, and devotes many hours to helping local organizations. Dave Truban is a rare person who cares about our natural resources and is not afraid to get involved. He is a lifelong West Virginian who knows his way around the mountains and knows how to advocate for his love of the outdoors."

The 2006 Sportsmen's Organi-



DNR Director, Frank Jezioro gives award to Frank Truban, from Morgantown.


zation of the Year Award went to the West Virginia Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. "This organization always does an outstanding job of supporting our state's outdoors sportsmen and the DNR with their programs and contributions," Jezioro said. "Over the past 20 years the West Virginia chapter has donated more than half a million dollars for habitat enhancement, equipment, wildlife management area projects, educational programs for young people all over the state, and many other worthy projects."

The state chapter has a Wild Turkey Super Fund that raises money for projects that support the conservation of the wild turkey and the preservation of the hunting tradition. Among the major contri-

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Leisa Moran caught a 19" smallie.
 Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge.

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butions made this year were \$194 thousand that went toward the Little Indian Creek Wildlife Management Area in Monongalia County and \$9,000 for the state gobbler study. Other efforts supported by the state chapter include the Hunter Safety Education Program; wild turkey research, management and restoration; women's programs

such as Women in the Outdoors; rewards for the prosecution of turkey poachers; law enforcement equipment; land purchase; and Wheelin' Sportsman, a program for disabled outdoorsmen.

"DNR would not be able to perform as well as it does without the remarkable support of individuals and organizations such as these," said DNR Director Frank Jezioro. "Our agency thanks this year's winners and all the other organizations and citizens who work so hard to improve our environment and quality of outdoor recreation."



Adam Workman shot his 1st bear.
Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.

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Adam Workman used a bow for this buck. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.*

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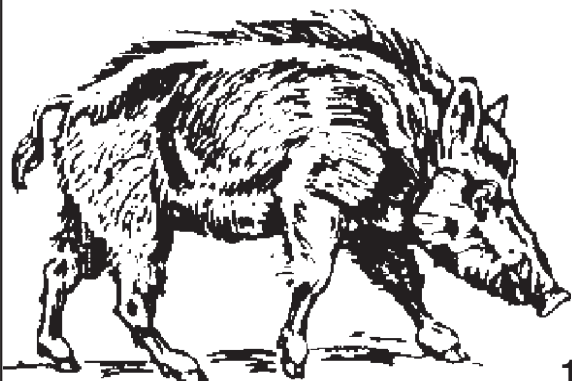
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Tom Berga went to the ocean to catch some sea trout. *Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, Ohio.*



8 year old Erica Nichols got her first deer in Wood County. *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*



George Hefner tied for 1st place with this 12 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods near Stone-coal Lake.*

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A nice 8 point was harvested by Shayne Yearego. Photo courtesy of Clark's Taxidermy in Parkersburg.



7 year old Noah Hoskinson, from Haywood, shot a buck.



A nice buck was taken by Jeff Cappingler. Photo courtesy of Boone's Bow Shop in Parkersburg.

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Robert Beeler harvested a quality 8 point buck in West Virginia. Photo courtesy of Stacher's Sport Shop in Lu-beck.

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Bow hunting in Wyoming County, Kenny Minton took this nice 130 class 8 point. Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.



A Putnam County massive 14 point buck was arrowed by David Hartshaw, from Hurricane.



Only 15, Sam Fisher had great success with this 8 point Harrison County whitetail.

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Brad Pingley and friend got a couple of nice snowshoe rabbits. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.*



John Mike Carder tied for 1st place with this 12 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods near Stone-coal Lake.*



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Marion and Jessica Coe enjoyed the 2006 buck season. *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*



A 33 pound flathead was caught out of the Ohio River by Jessica Gant. *Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.*



Scott Woblay made his first bow kill. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.*

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Russ Dawkins got a 10 point. *Photo courtesy of Clark's Taxidermy in Parkersburg*



Steve Parsons bagged a 9 point. *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*

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Last Day Buck

By Ralph Russell

It was Saturday, the last day of the 2,006 bucks firearm season. I arrived at the property where I was going to hunt at 6:30 in the morning. It was a long walk to my favorite spot on the property, and I walked at a brisk pace, stopping several times to catch my breath.

I finally reached the ridge top, overlooking the hollow that I planned to hunt. It was 6:55 and just starting to

become daylight. I decided to sit on the ridge top and wait until the sun came up before going over the hill, down into the hollow.

As I sat there, the sound of brush breaking in the hollow below me broke the silence of the cold, frosty morning. I knew there were deer in the hollow, but they were several hundred yards below, just out



Young Joey McCartney won the youth big buck contest with this 11 point. Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods near Stonecoal Lake.



Josh Richards used a bow for this nice 9 point buck.

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of sight

Around 7:30 I decided to make my way slowly down the hill, to the spot where I was going to hunt. As I stood up and started down the hill, a large turkey took off from its roost. I hoped that the turkey had not alarmed the deer of my my presence.

Slowly, I made my way down the hill, being careful not to break any twigs or branches, taking a few steps

continue to the next page

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at a time. The place where I was going to sit and watch overlooked a good rub line and several large ground scrapes. There must have been a dozen tree rubs in one little area. These were not small trees; they were six to ten inches in diameter. I knew by the size of these rubs that they had to have been made by a big buck. These rubs were in big timber in heavy brush, where the deer usually bed down out of sight.

Finally, I reached the spot where I was going to watch for the big



Kevin McCoy brought in a 9 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*

buck. I leveled the leaves and dirt with my boot. As I sat down and became comfortable, the sound of a doe snort began. This doe must have heard me when I was leveling a place to sit. The doe had been bedded down about 100 yards from me, with a couple of other deer. The doe stood there, snorting several times, trying to figure out what I was.

I decided to use my buck grunt call one time to make the deer believe I was another deer. This usually works great to get an alarmed deer to come in a little closer. Slowly, I reached into my pocket for my buck grunt call, but to my disappointment, it was not there. I had left it on the seat of my truck. Sitting

continue to the next page



Delmer Sypolt, from Kingwood, shot an unusual albino doe.

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Young Bryan Pauley took a quality buck. *Photo courtesy of Elk River Outpost in Mink Shoals.*

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there in disgust, I watched as the deer finally went over the hill and out of sight.

I sat there, wondering if the big buck had been in the group of deer and whether or not I had messed up my only chance of seeing him. However, It was early, and the chance of seeing more deer was good, so I began to think about last year, when I had killed a large, eight-point buck in the same area. Encouraging myself, I patiently waited for my next chance of seeing more deer.

It was a little bit after 8:00 when I saw movement in the hollow. Two deer were moving up the hill, in my direction. As I began to scope the deer, I could see the first deer was a doe; then I saw the second deer was a doe, also. The deer were feeding their way up the hill in my direction.

Suddenly, there was movement below the two does, coming up the hill behind them. It was another deer. I quickly put the scope on the large deer to see if it had any horns. To my surprise, it had a large rack with a lot of points.

I watched the big buck as it fed its way up the hill, following the two does. The does came up the hill and passed by me, not more than twenty yards to my left. Then they just stood there, warming themselves



Young Tyler Shifflett used his bow for this great buck. Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins

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in the morning sunlight, not more than twenty yards from me. As I sat there, I kept telling myself that I'd better shoot the big buck before the does spotted me and they'd all take off. Instead, I let the buck get

continue to the next page

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closer and closer, until it was twenty yards from me.

As it turned to the left, to follow the same path the does had traveled, I decided it was the time to take the large eight-pointer. With one shot to the front shoulder, with my 30:06 Remington, the large buck fell to the ground, never to arise. My favorite spot had paid off again, with a trophy eight-point buck.

If anyone wants to know where my favorite spot is, I'll be glad to tell you. It is wherever the big bucks roam. Good luck hunting!

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A big Ohio bow buck shot was made by Scott Monroe. Photo courtesy of Boone's Bow Shop in Parkersburg.



A 25 pound catfish was landed by Shawn Meadows. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.



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New State Record Saugeye

A state record saugeye was caught by Mr. Everett Chapman of Milton, WV, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the Division of Natural Resources. Mr. Chapman caught the 27.68-inch, 8.73-pound fish from East Lynn Lake in Wayne County on October 15, 2006 using a Rat-L-Trap for bait. Chapman's catch establishes a new West Virginia record for both length and weight. The previous length record for saugeye was a 27.44-inch fish caught by Rick Dunlap from Stonewall Jackson Lake in 2005. The previous weight record for saugeye was a 7.55-pound fish caught by Brian Moore. Mr. Moore's fish was also caught from East Lynn Lake in 2005.

"Saugeye are a hybrid fish produced in hatcheries by crossing a female walleye with a male sauger," according to Bret Preston, Assistant Chief of the Wildlife Re-

sources Section. "Reservoirs such as East Lynn and Stonewall Jackson were stocked each year with saugeye fingerlings until 2001, when pure walleye fingerling stockings began. The last stockings of saugeye are reaching large sizes and more records may be caught within the next few years."

Anglers who believe that they have caught a state record fish should check the record listing in the current West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Fishing Regulations brochure. The brochure also outlines the procedure to follow for reporting a state record catch. This information is also available online at www.wvdnr.gov.

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A nice musky was landed by Cody Arthur.



Brandon Hacker shot an 11 point.
Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.



Jeff Miller, from Elizabeth, got this Wirt County 7 point.

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Brandon Hunter caught a big rainbow trout. *Photo courtesy of New River Trading Post in Summersville.*

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A coyote was taken by Gary Murray while deer hunting. *Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.*

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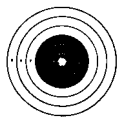
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