

OF THE OUTDOORS | GARY HOWEY

# Late Season Hunting, Fishing

BY GARY HOWEY

Hartington, Neb.

Well, winter is here, and we're in that time of the year, the holidays are over and we're heading into the "slow" time of the year.

We've had about five inches of snow in my area while you folks up in Northeastern South Dakota have had a lot more which wouldn't be bad if it doesn't blow all over the place.

There are still a few things in the outdoors to do as there predators out there to hunt as well as upland game and waterfowl seasons open in both South Dakota and Nebraska.

## Upland Game Season

The South Dakota Pheasant, Quail, Grouse and Partridge seasons will close January 6th.

The Nebraska Pheasant, Quail, Grouse and Partridge seasons are open through January 31st, while the South Dakota but there are still a few things in the outdoors to do.



Gary  
**HOWEY**

## Waterfowl Season

For those of us who like waterfowl hunting, there are waterfowl seasons remaining open in

both Nebraska and South Dakota.

In Nebraska there are a couple of areas open for duck hunting, those being Zone 2 and Zone 3 High Plains which runs January 2nd to the 23rd.

Information on those areas can be found on line at [outdoornebraska.ne.gov/hunting/guides/waterfowl/WFducks\\_coots.asp](http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/hunting/guides/waterfowl/WFducks_coots.asp)

There are still several dark geese units open, including the East Unit which is open through January 30th while the Niobrara Unit is open through February 8th. The North Central Unit remains open through January 18th while the Panhandle and Platte River Units will remain open through February 8th.

Information on these units Nebraska Dark Geese <http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/hunting/guides/waterfowl/WFregulardarkgoose.asp>.

In South Dakota, the High Plains Duck Season runs through January 17th while the Unit 2 Dark Goose season which lies along the Missouri River will remain open through February 15th and the Resident of Bennett County Unit 3 season is open to will run through January 20th.



Waterfowl hunters will still have a chance for one more pass, decoying ducks and geese during the late waterfowl season. (PHOTO: Chris Paclik)

Walleye & Sauger fishing below the Missouri River Dams is excellent during the late season. Columnist Gary Howey is pictured with Sauger taken below Gavin's Point Dam using the methods mentioned in this column. (PHOTO: Team Outdoorsmen Adventures)

Information on these seasons can be found on line at South Dakota Waterfowl season information is available on line at <http://gfp.sd.gov/hunting/waterfowl>.

## Fishing

For us anglers, there are still some fishing opportunities for walleyes in the open water below the dams on the Missouri River and through the ice on the frozen lakes and reservoirs.

The fishing isn't really fast and furious, but for those of us who don't mind the cold and have patience, there's the opportunity to take some good fish.

With the cold water temps you'll have to change your fishing methods to match the way a fish operates this time of the year. As water temperature cool, the metabolism of the fish slows; they don't move around much and won't need much to eat.

Everything in their world will have slowed down to a crawl and winter walleye anglers are going to have to do the same with their fishing techniques.

Slow is the name of the game when it comes to cold-water angling. At times, just letting your bait lie or drag along the bottom will take cold-water walleyes.

Because fish don't need as much food to survive in the cold weather period, you'll need to downsize your baits and tackle. Going with lighter line, from

2 to 6 pound test depending on the area you're fishing and the bite.

In areas where there are snags, you might have to go with a bit heavier line.

What you'll need to remember is that heavier the line has more memory and in cold weather it can coil up like a spring, making it harder to work with, harder detect those subtle bites and to set the hook.

Cold weather is the ideal time for micro jigs. Go with a smaller jig or live bait weight such as a 1/8 ounce or even smaller if you're ice fishing. With the lighter line, you're able to fish a much lighter jig and fish it properly.

Tip your light jig with a small minnow, wax worm or a Berkley Gulp grubs, which will give your bait added scent.

You'll want to fish with a tight line and have your line straight up and down. The more line you have out, the better your chances are that you won't detect the bite.

Walleye and especially sauger are notorious tail biters; they'll grab onto the minnow's tail, hold on and then let go just before you get them to the surface.

If you're fishing open water or jigging for walleyes with a small jig through the ice, you may want add a small stinger or trailer hook in order to catch the short striking, tail-biters.

A trailer hook is no more than a short piece of mono or leader material hooked

behind the jig. The business end of the trailer is either a single small hook or a small treble hook.

The stinger hook is placed in the minnow's tail or near the dorsal fin, when the short biters pick up the minnow, they'll have the trailing or stinger hook in their mouth.

I'll use a stinger with a treble hook in areas that aren't full of snags. In areas with a lot of snags, go to the single hook.

Because the fish are in their slow mode, you don't want to rush it when you feel the pick up.

I like to let my rod tip drop back giving the fish the opportunity to suck the bait and hook into his mouth. This gives you a better chance for a good hook set.

If you're one of those live bait anglers fishing the open water below the dams using live bait rigs, the same things I mentioned above will pertain to the way you fish these rigs in cold weather.

You'll probably want to go to a lighter spinning outfit with a fairly quick tip, use a smaller line diameter and smaller sinkers.

When the fish picks up the bait, feed them some line, letting the fish suck the minnow and hook in.

After a short period of time, apply a little pressure to see if the fish is still on the line and when you feel the resistance of the fish, set the hook.

It may take a couple of times before

you learn about how much time to feed them line before you set the hook, so don't become too upset if you miss a few fish at first.

Another bait that works well this time of the year are the jigging type spoons such as a Cicada which resembles a wounded or dying shad as it drops. The way you fish this bait is just the opposite of fishing a jig as it is jigged upward vigorously and then allowed to drop on a tight line. If the bait stops or a tug is felt on the line, set the hook hard as a fish has picked it up on the drop.

Once the sun comes out and the wind lies down, it's a good time to head out and give some late season hunting or winter walleye fishing a go.

Gary Howey, Hartington, Neb., is a former tournament angler, fishing and hunting guide, his award winning Outdoorsmen Adventures television series can be seen on KTTM/KTTW-TV Sioux Falls/Huron, SD (Fox) throughout South Dakota and on KPTH-TV (Fox) Sioux City, IA, in Northwest Iowa and Northeast Nebraska as well as throughout the upper Midwest. He and Simon are the hosts of the Outdoor Adventures radio program on Classic Hits 106.3 and ESPN Sports Radio 1570. You can contact him at [outdoorsmenproductions@hartel.net](mailto:outdoorsmenproductions@hartel.net) or online at [www.outdoorsmenadventures.com](http://www.outdoorsmenadventures.com).

## OUTDOORS DIGEST

### Group Lodge Reservations Open Jan. 7; Campsite Reservations On Jan. 31

PIERRE — Beginning on Monday, Jan. 7, at 7 a.m. CST, visitors can start making lodge reservations at South Dakota state parks.

"Once lodge reservations open on Jan. 7, they will be taken up to one year in advance, year-round," said state Parks and Recreation Director Doug Hofer. "So if you'd like to stay July 4, 2014, you can reserve the lodge on July 4, 2013."

Lodges are found at Lake Thompson Recreation Area near Lake Preston, Shadell Recreation Area near Lemmon, Mina Lake Recreation Area near Aberdeen, Newton Hills State Park near Canton, Oahe Downstream Recreation Area near Pierre and Palisades State Park near Sioux Falls.

Once reservations open at 7 a.m. CST, reservations can be made 24 hours a day online at [www.campsd.com](http://www.campsd.com) or by calling 1-800-710-2267.

All camping fees must be paid at the time a reservation is made. There is a \$7.70, non-refundable reservation fee, which does not apply to South Dakota residents. A valid park entrance license is required in designated fee areas.

The first day to make individual campsite reservations is Jan. 31. Campsites are reservable year-round within 90 days of arrival. Custer State Park accepts reservations one year in advance.

For more information on reservations, visit the South Dakota Division of Parks and Recreation website at [www.gfp.sd.gov](http://www.gfp.sd.gov) or call 605-773-3391.

### Free Archery Training Provided To Schools

PIERRE — The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks has scheduled two upcoming training sessions for the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP).

NASP allows school districts in South Dakota to safely incorporate archery into their school curriculums at no cost.

Trainings are scheduled for Harrisburg and Spearfish on Jan. 21. Each session will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. Upon successful completion of the training, new schools to the program will be eligible to receive free archery equipment from GFP.

Teachers wishing to introduce archery into their schools must pre-register for training by email at [outdoorprogramming@gmail.com](mailto:outdoorprogramming@gmail.com) or by phone at 605-220-2130. Space is limited so registrations should be made as soon as possible.

## Hockey: Sioux Falls Stops Yankton 8-2



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton's Logan Van Winkle, right, and Sioux Falls' Trevor Eldredge face off during the first period of their JV boys' hockey game on Friday at Alcoa Arena. Sioux Falls led 5-0 after one period on the way to an 8-2 victory.

## Girls

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Tomadoes (7-1), who led 36-20 at halftime. No other stats for the winners were provided.

Chloe Nielsen had 13 points and nine rebounds for the Hawks (1-7), while Lexys Sandman and Kayla Marquardt both added five points.

Centerville plays Scotland next Monday at the Corn Palace in Mitchell and Canistota hosts Gayville-Volin next Tuesday.

CANISTOTA (1-7).....4 20 32 36

CENTERVILLE (7-1).....11 36 44 58

### Wausa Post-Holiday

#### Osmond 47, Ewing 31

WAUSA, Neb. — Osmond used a stingy defense to defeat Ewing 47-31 in the Wausa Post-

Holiday Tournament on Friday night. Osmond did not allow Ewing to score in double figures in any of the quarters while they held a 27-17 half-time edge on the way to victory.

Osmond, which improved to 6-1 this season with the victory, hosts Neligh-Oakdale on Tuesday.

Ewing, 6-4, travels to Elkhorn Valley on Tuesday.

EWING (6-4).....9 17 24 31

OSMOND (6-1).....17 27 40 47

### Sioux Falls Lincoln 59, Marshall 49

SIoux FALLS — The Lincoln Patriots defeated the Marshall, Minn. Tigers 59-49 in a girls basketball border battle on Friday night in Sioux Falls.

Cera Ledbetter led the way for the Patriots (4-2) with 15 points and six rebounds. Darby Huginin added 14 points and seven assists in the victory for Lincoln.

Kenzie Beekman led the Tigers (10-3) with 22 points and nine rebounds. Sarah Andersen

tallied eight points and two rebounds in the loss for Marshall.

Lincoln will host Sioux Falls O'Gorman on Tuesday. Marshall will host New Ulm, Minn. today (Saturday).

SIoux FALLS LINCOLN (4-2).....17 35 50 59

MARSHALL (10-3).....17 24 37 49

### CNOS Classic

#### Dakota Valley 58, Sioux City North 31

SIoux CITY, Iowa — McKenzie Mennenga and Allison Sexton each scored 14 points and Dakota Valley out-scored Sioux City North 21-7 in the fourth quarter in a 58-31 win Thursday at the Tyson Events Center.

Jayde Bergmann had a double with 11 points and 12 rebounds for the Panthers (5-2), who led 37-24 after three quarters.

DAKOTA VALLEY (5-2).....12 22 37 58

SIoux CITY NORTH.....6 17 24 31

From Page 7

won by major decision, and Spencer Huber and Casey Skillington won by decision.

Bashir Abd-Al-Kreem won by forfeit. The Bucks continue their road ESD action on Friday, Jan. 11, traveling to Watertown.

"It doesn't get any easier," Hage said. "We have a lot of tough ESD opponents ahead, as well as some tough West River opponents at the East-West duals later this month. We have to continue to work hard."

106 — Noah Vetter Y pin. Briggs Havlik 4:25; 113 — Bashir Abd-Al-Kreem Y win by forfeit; 120 — Spencer Huber Y dec. Trey Hohn 2-1; 126 — Tanner Vilauer M pin. Gabe Wenzlaff Y 3:10; 132 — Casey Skillington Y dec. Alex Herrick M 7:3; 138 — Ethan Par M dec. Mason Strahl Y 7-5 OT; 145 — Matt Huber Y pin. Matt Larson M 5:55; 152 — Austin Mohr M pin. Ryan Sternhagen Y 2:53; 160 — James Hisek Y maj dec. Ben Kummer M 15-4; 170 — Cody Hanzlik Y pin. Robert Tople M 1:07; 182 — CJ Warren Y pinned Austin Koerner M 0:53; 195 — Thomas Kruse Y pin. Preston Skinner M 0:53; 220 — Riley Heck M pinned Ty Novak Y 1:45; 285 — Rob McCordle M pinned Royce Reiser Y 5:12.

JV Exhibitions — Borgstrom Y pin. Carpenter 3:03; Dittipo M dec. Bruegman 7-8; Carpenter M pin. Stewart 1:22; Smith M pin. Darcy 4:36; Taylor M pin. Schick 4:36; Morgan M pin. Hanzlik 1:37; Langerin M pin. Hill 1:42; Borgstrom Y pin. Dittipo 1:45; Dittipo M pin. Losing 3:47; Carpenter M pin. Martinez 0:32; Muth Y pin. Taylor 2:31; Morgan M maj. dec. Folkers 11-2

### Brookings 40,

#### Watertown 33

BROOKINGS — Consecutive pins by the Brookings to close the match sent the Bobcats past Watertown 40-33 in an ESD wrestling dual Friday night in Brookings.

The visiting Arrows led 33-28 before pins by Brookings' Aaron Eggebrecht at 220 pounds and Justin Behrend at 285.

105 — Kyle Tulowiczke W dec. Jacob Puppe; 113 — Brady Burghardt W pin. Justin Nixon 2:38; 120 — James Suter W pin. Ray Munsterman 1:25; 126 — Skyley Hastings W maj. dec. Justice Lamer 10-1; 132 — Peter Hansen maj. dec. Dylan Mittel 13-3; 138 — Taylor McLaughlin W pin. Ty Johnson 3:47; 145 — Nick Hanson B tech. fall Jake Brower 5:07; 152 — Devon Crandall B pin. Will Barrett 1:58; 160 — Adam Palmer B dec. Jesse Forman 4-2; 170 — Sterling Gehrke W pin. Wyatt Resmen 3:26; 182 — Tristan Wittjes W pin. Eddie Miller 2:48; 195 — Jake Russell B pin. Cole Jurgens 5:33; 220 — Aaron Eggebrecht B pin. Jacob Gertsma 1:38; Justin Behrend B pin. Mason Tinch 1:15

## State-U

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The Jackrabbits are, of course, more than simply Wolters. SDSU leads the Summit League in scoring at 72.1 points a game because of their depth. Forwards Jordan Dykstra (13.1 ppg, 6.8 rpg) and Tony Fiegen (10.1 ppg, 6.1 rpg), along with starting guards Brayden Carlson and Chad White, add to the mix a long and athletic skill set.

"You can't slouch on any one of their starters, they all bring something to the table," Gruis said. "I think that's what makes them a good team."

The size that SDSU trots out is much like the length displayed by North Dakota State on Thursday. The Bison out-scored the Coyotes by 24 in the paint, out-rebounded them by 12 and had a 13-3 edge in second chance points.

It's much the same with the Jackrabbits, Gruis pointed out. "They've got some good bigs, and I got pounded (Thursday) down low," he said. "That's one thing we have to shore up, our defense down low; rebounding."

Of course, there are other more pressing areas that need attention, according to USD head coach Dave Boots.

"Right now, it's important to hold our coaches accountable for a poor performance (Thursday)," Boots said. "Players have to do a better job in the game."

"We have to regroup quickly and certainly come out with a better effort and performance level than we had."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at [twitter.com/jhoeck](http://twitter.com/jhoeck)

www.yankton.net

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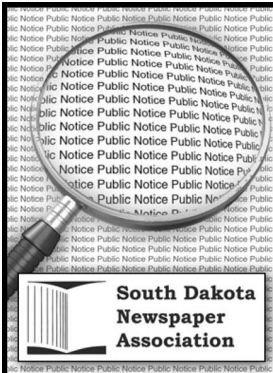
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