Press&Dakotan

## OUTDOORS DIGEST

## **Mountain Lion Taken In** Dakota County, Neb.

LINCOLN, Neb. - An 89-pound female mountain lion was harvested on the morning of Nov. 17 in Dakota County.

This is the second mountain lion harvested in the Prairie Unit, which has been open since Jan. 1. Mountain lion hunting is open in the Prairie Unit until the end of the year. All other mountain lion units are closed at this time.

For more information about mountain lions in Nebraska, visit the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's mountain lion web page at OutdoorNebraska.org.

## **GFP Commission Pro**posal On Statewide Spearing Of Game Fish

PIERRE — The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission is proposing to open up game fish spearing statewide. The proposal was made as a result of an outside petition received from spearfishermen. The Commission will consider adoption of the proposal at their Dec. 11-12 meeting in Fort Pierre. The Commission proposed the following rule amendments for game fish spearing for 2015:

• Allow spearing and bowfishing of all game fish species (except paddlefish and sturgeon) in all inland waters.

 Establish a year-round game fish spearing and bowfishing season. Make game fish spearing and bow-

fishing regulations on boundary waters match those of adjoining states.

"No inland waters are exempt from the current Commission proposal, meaning spearing and bowfishing for all species (except paddlefish and sturgeon) could occur in all inland waters inčluding urban fisheries, small impoundments, trout streams and large lakes and reservoirs," stated John Lott, GFP administrative chief for fisheries "Harvest of game fish by spearers and bowfishers is not a biological issue. It is a social issue." Currently, the following regulations pertain to game fish spearing on inland waters

Game fish spearing and bowfishing season is open from June 15 to March 15, inclusive.

Waters open to the spearing and bowfishing of game fish (except sturgeon and paddlefish) during the estabished spearing season in 2014 included: Lake Oahe; Portions of Lakes Sharpe and Francis Case; and Angostura and Belle Fourche reservoirs.

 Spearing and bowfishing of northern pike was open in all inland lakes in 2014, except those managed for muskies, during the June 15 – March 15 game fish spearing season. As of last week, the Commission finalized that for 2015, the spearing and bowfishing of northern pike and catfish in all inland lakes (except those managed for muskies and areas of the Missouri River system closed to game fish spearing) and the Grand River immediately below Shadehill Reservoir, is allowed yearround. The Commission also added Shadehill reservoir to the list of waters open during the June 15 - March 15 game fish spearing season.

The GFP Commission will act on this proposal Dec. 11-12 at the Fort Pierre Holiday Inn Express in Fort Pierre. Written comments on this proposal can be sent to 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, S.D. or emailed to wildinfo@state.sd.us or gfpadminrules@state.sd.us.

# **BY GARY HOWEY**

As the sun illuminated the eastern horizon, we were out scouting, just pulled into Waterfowl Production Area north of Aberdeen, when the "who,who-who" call of the Tundra Swan echoed across the water as a pair of

Tundra Swans originally called the Whistling Swan are huge birds, breeding on the high tundra at the northern edge of North America. They make their way south in large flocks every fall on their way to winter along the coasts.

Over the years, I had made several trips to north-central South Dakota to hunt in the thousands of acres of pub-

lic hunting acres, which have always held good numbers of the swans, pheasants, ducks, and geese.

have eluded me, as my planning had not been the best. It seemed as if I would arrive too

low or too late

#### Gary bird numbers were HOWEY when the shallow waters where the

birds rest and feed on the Sago pondweed would have

We had hopes that this year, our third trip for swans would be better, as good friends Casey Weismantel, Aberdeen C.V.B., along with wildlife artist Mark Anderson, Sioux Falls and I planned to attempt a South Dakota grand slam, hunting pheasants, ducks, geese and swans in and around the and Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

The weather change happening up north should help push more waterfowl and swans south, giving us excellent opportunities to film a combination pheasant, waterfowl and

dicated good numbers of ducks and geese had arrived with the swan numers increasing each week.

Returning from our early morning scouting trip, we spotted a group of swans' circling over a small pond, one that was posted. As we rounded the corner, it was easy to see why these birds wanted into the pond as it was loaded with swans, geese and ducks.

such a popular hunting state is not only the tremendous of public hunting ground but also the fact that hunters can legally hunt from the ditch outside

It looked to be a good place to try, so Casey found an area with cover in the south ditch while Mark and I would try the east ditch. We would wait patiently for the birds to fly out from the pond, hoping they come close enough

# Of The Outdoors | Gary Howey A South Dakota Triple Play

# Hartington, Neb.

Swans made their way over the water.

These big birds

early, when the

ozen up

Tundra Swan show.

Reports coming from the Refuge in-

One of the reasons South Dakota is the posted ground.

or Mark to get a shot. Unfortunately,



OUTDOORSMEN ADVENTURES PHOTO Sioux Falls wildlife artist Mark Anderson is pictured with the 2014 Tundra Swan he took near Aberdeen earlier this month.

the birds coming off the pond would have to gain altitude as they came over the power lines, putting most of them well out of range. On this day, those, which were not too high, slid off to the side of both hunters.

We could not spend too much time trying to fill Casey and Mark swan tags as we had a pheasant-waterfowl hunt planned and would need to meet our other hunters.

The morning was not a total flop as if these birds continued to use the pond; we had an excellent opportunity in the days that followed to try it again.

We would start our morning pheasant hunt at 10:00 in a howling wind, in a CRP field, planted to native grass. Because it was a huge field, we would need to make several passes through the field

With the dogs out in front, we began our push into the wind, it did not take long for the first bird to flush, only to come crashing down after several wellplaced shots from the hunters to my right ended his escape. After making three passes though the field, it was time to head out and get set up for the waterfowl hunt.

The waterfowl hunt would begin late afternoon in a field near Groton, where several of Casey's friends had been doing well on the new birds coming into a body of water just southwest of our spread.

Arriving at the picked cornfield, we quickly opened a landing zone for the birds, plenty of space for our decoys, laydown blinds and Mojos.

Once we were set up, it would not be long before the first flight came our way, as the calls rang out across the

field; they sweet-talked the Mallards, drawing them closer and closer with each pass.

With wings set and feet down, the flock of mallards dropped towards the decoys, a split second later the blinds opened up as five well-concealed hunters rose up, delivering devastating fire, dropping several birds into the field.

The flights continued all day as new birds were pushed south by the heavy north wind with thousands of new Mallards winging their way into the Aberdeen area

That afternoon, as we headed back towards Aberdeen, we scouted several Waterfowl Production areas, seeing if they held more waterfowl and swans than the one pond we had hunted earlier.

Seeing few swans on these, we made the decision to hunt from the ditches around the pond, hoping to be in the right place at the right time when the swans filtered out from the pond.

Casey dropped Mark and I off in the east ditch and headed off to another waterfowl production area to see if the swans were using it.

I hunkered down with the camera about 300 feet south of Mark, as we waited, this time not so patiently for the swans to make their move.

The first flight came directly over me, too far out for Mark to get a shot. The next group came out high between us, they were shootable, but at quit a distance.

A few minutes later, four swan rose from the water swung south and came our way with the wind at their back. they were moving fast. Quickly gaining

altitude, they swung off to my left, getting closer to Mark with each wing beat.

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I followed the birds as they swung in Mark's direction, as they came over the road, his twelve gauge barked, tumbling the closest bird with Mark yelling, 'I got him" as the bird fell just to the east of the road.

Mark's face lit up and need not having to say a word, as it was obvious he was proud of the long shot he had made and even prouder of the bird he had bagged. He had tagged his first swan in several years, and as he hoisted the bird above his head, the smile became even brighter.

As Mark hoisted the bird over his head, I realized just how big these birds were, as they have a 5.5-foot wingspan and can weigh up to 23 pounds. It was a beautiful bird, bigger than I had imag-ined, one estimated to be around twenty-two pounds.

A few pictures later and we were on the road back to our hotel, but before we had gone far, a rooster pheasant made the mistake of darting across the road in front of us. Not wanting to miss an opportunity for another bird in the bag, Casey marked where the bird had ducked into the ditch. Mark stepped out of the truck and into the ditch and walked towards where the pheasant was last seen.

Just as Mark approached the spot, the rooster erupted from the cover as Mark shouldered his shotgun, swung out in front of the bird, making another long shot, dropping it in the field.

On a two-day trip, the crew was able to bag ducks, a swan and pheasants not completing the grand slam as we had hoped, completing a South Dakota triple play, another of those successful trips in the Aberdeen area we all will remember.

It is an area that has an abundance of habitat, public access, birds and good people, a place, Mark and I will return to next year and numerous times after.

More information on all that is going on in north-central South Dakota, around Aberdeen: including the Million Dollar Pheasant Hunt can be found at www.visitaberdeensd.comand milliondollarbird.com

Gary Howey, Hartington, Nebraska, is a former tournament angler, fishing and hunting guide. He is the Producer/Host of the award winning Outdoorsmen Adventures television series, seen in the Yankton area on local channels 2 & 98 Saturday at 6:30 pm and Sunday@ 7:00 am and on MIDCO Sports Network Thursday at 5:30 pm and Sunday at 10:00 am. In Northwest Iowa, Southeast South Dakota and Northeast Nebraska it airs on Siouxland CW 4.2 Sunday @ 9:00 am. He and Simon Fuller Co-Host the Outdoor Adventures radio program on Classic Hits 106.3, ESPN Sports Radio 1570 in Southeastern South Dakota and Northeast Nebraska. In Northwest Iowa, it airs on KCHE 92.1 FM. If you are looking for more outdoor information, check out www.outdoorsmenadventures.com

# Washington Outguns Coyote Women 96-82

### **BY ARIY-EL BOYNTON**

For The Press & Dakotan

SEATTLE - Looking to repeat as Summit League Conference title champions, the University of South Dakota women's basketball team had its first opportunity to test the waters in back-to-back days in a hostile territory. They will bring home

plenty of lessons.

Amy Williams' squad fought hard against taller Washington Huskies, in a nonconference tilt and eventually came up short 96-82 on Thursday at Alaska Airlines Arena. USD defeated Portland State 86-57 on Wednesday to go 1-1 on its West Coast trip.

Williams' called the Coyotes' effort lackluster defensively wise, adding that the Coyotes have yet to face the likes of Kelsey Plum (37 points) and Jazmine Davis (16 points). Late travel and playing in consecutive days played in factor in the play, according to USD's head coach.

# **Stevens**

From Page 8

The Lady Governors, making their state tournament appearance since 2008. did some things Friday they're able to build on, their coach said.

"We came back and played a lot better, I thought," Pierre coach Chris Swiden said. "We made them work

"We played a lot harder, and that's what we were after.'

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

We just didn't have an answer for their stars," said Williams. "(It was) Something that throws out of sorts, defensively.

Getting a player on UW's big were an issue from the start.

"We rebounded really well," said Plum, whose team outscored their counterparts, 32-16 in the paint.

Covote backcourt star Nicole Seekamp scored 19 points to pace the Coyotes. Fellow guard Tia Hemiller, who nailed a halftime threepoint buzzer beater, added 17 points. Both speedsters were vital facing UW's pesky manto-man defense.

Plum gave the Covotes issues all game long, as the guard was lethal from all over the floor. The Pac-12 Freshman of the Year is averaging 41 points for the Huskies (1-1).

Second-half hustle provided by USD's Kelly Stewart proved to be key to keep the Coyotes in the contest. Stewart and teammate Raeshell Contreras provided sparks for Williams' team. The JUCO transfer was able to put in 10 points, all of which were scored in the second frame. Stewart finished the game with 17 points.

Even with a high-pressure full-court press applied against Washington at the end of the game, the Pac-12 team advantages on both sides of the ball were too much.

Down in the paint, the Dawgs frustrated Lisa Loeffler, Margaret McCloud, Heidi Hoff, Kate Liveringhouse and Bridget Arens, who gave up far too many uncontested layups to their counterparts. Arens was the only Coyote

big to come close to double figures-she ended up with nine points.

USD (2-2) will look to build from the contest, and face UC-Irvine on Monday at the DakotaDome in front of the home faithful. Williams will look for Mc-

Cloud, who notched a 22points, a career-high, on Wednesday and her fellow front court mates to learn from facing the extremely athletic Huskie team. "Margaret had 22 last

night, and came out tentatively, and I think that a lot to due with their height," said Williams.

The Coyotes did ended the contest with a 9-0 run. SOUTH DAKOTA (2-2)

Lisa Loeffler 0-2 0-0 0, Margaret McCloud 2-8 1-2 5, Tia Hemiller 6-12 2-2 17, Raeshel Contreras 3-14 2-2 10, Nicole Seekamp 6-12 6-6 19, Kelly Stewart 5-8 3-4 17, Bridget Arens 2-5 5-7 9, Kate Liveringhouse 0-2 4-6 4, Heidi Hoff 0-2 1-2 1. TOTALS: 24-65 24-31 82.

 WASHINGTON (1-1)
Talia Walton 3-9 0-0 7, Aminah Williams 3-5 7-10
Katie Collier 5-9 0-0 10, Kelsey Plum 10-22 12-15
Jazmine Davis 5-10 6-8 16, Chantel Oshahor 0-1 0-0 0, Mathilde Gilling 0-0 0-0 0, Khalia Lark 0-1 0-0 0, Kelli Kingma 1-7 0-0 3, Brianna Ruiz 3-5 0-0 0, Alexus Atchley 0-0 0-0 0, Mackenzie Wieburg 0-0 0-0 0. TO-TALS: 30-69 25-33 96.

At the half: LIW 42 LISD 33 Three-Pointers: LIW 11-31 (Plum 5-9, Ruiz 3-5, Sat. Hieer-online). OW 11-31 (Plum 5-9, Ruiz 3-5, Walton 1-5, Williams 1-2, Kingma 1-5, Davis 0-3, Oshahor 0-1, Lark 0-1), USD 10-25 (Stewart 4-6, Hemiller 3-4, Contreras 2-9, Seekam 1-3, hoff 0-1, Loeffler 0-2), Rebounds: USD 43 (Loeffler 14), LWV 43 (Williams 10), Personal Fouls: USD 24, UW 20, Fouled Out: Oshahor, Assists: UW 17 (Davis 6), USD 10 (Hemiller 3, Arens 3), Turnovers: USD 17, UW 12, Blocked Shots: UW 7 (Collier 3), USD 2 (Contreras 2), Steals; UW 9 (Plum 3, Davis 3), USD 4 (Contreras 3), Attendance 1.363,





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605-764-4000 or email resume to 515 Noid Rd., Canton, SD 57013 mmulder@amesbury.com

# Thanksgiving Day Deadlines

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan will be closed Thursday, November 27, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The following deadlines will apply: Friday, November 28 newspaper – Monday, November 24, 5 p.m. Out On The Town – Wednesday, November 26, 5 p.m. Saturday, November 29 and Monday, December 1 newspapers -Tuesday, November 25, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, December 2 newspaper – Wednesday, November 26, 3 p.m.

There will be no newspaper on Thursday, November 27 2014.

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