

OF THE OUTDOORS | GARY HOWEY

Cold Front Fishing

BY GARY HOWEY
Hartington, Neb.

I'd always heard that cold fronts caused fish to turn off, shut down and head for the bottom. This is the time of the year when fronts pass through often. I'd never thought much about cold fronts; I knew weather changes caused the fish to shut down, especially in a lake, but just figured when the weather man indicated that a cold front would be coming through, I didn't waste my time fishing because the fish just weren't going to bite.



Gary HOWEY

The first time I really thought about it was when I was completing the final part of my open water scuba diver test. We were on Lake Francis Case in South Dakota diving in about twenty-five feet of water swimming along a break that dropped off into deeper water. The walleye, bass and other species of fish were working their way up onto the break line, and then dropping back into the deeper water. They swam between I and the other diver for a half hour, acting like we weren't even there.

Then it happened, for some unknown reason, the fish started to act skittish and quickly disappeared over the edge into the deeper water. They were gone, moving off so quickly that you'd think someone had dropped an anchor or threw something into the water.

Both of us wondered what had spooked them, had we moved to quickly or had the bubbles escaping from our Scuba gear bothered them.

It wouldn't be long before we'd figure it out! Twenty minutes after the fish raced off towards the deeper water, the sky lit up and rain began to fall by the bucket loads. That night, the temperatures dropped, it thundered and stormed all night muddying up the water and shutting the fish off in the lake.

The fish knew long before we did that a cold front was coming through and headed deep prior to any indication that a storm building.

What do you do when a cold front comes through, stay home and watch outdoor TV programs, may not be a bad idea, but there are things you can do or places you can go that will up your percentage of catching fish during a cold front and then you can watch outdoor TV when it get to hot or when the snow starts to blow.

It's well known cold fronts don't affect fish in a river as much as it does for fish in lakes! I don't know if it's because of the current flow, but I do know river fish will bite during cold front periods when lake fish will be bellied to the bottom.

If you can re-locate to a river after a cold front come through,



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Columnist Gary Howey, left, and guide with a walleye taken using the cold front methods mentioned in this column while fishing the Red River in Manitoba.

chances are you'll find some fish willing to bite.

It really doesn't matter where you're fishing after a cold front goes through, you'll need to change your tactics in order to catch a few fish.

First, you'll want to go smaller. If you're using a jig, go to a lighter one. I fish with Larry Myhre, from the Sioux City Journal and during cold fronts he'll go to the smallest jig I've ever seen, 1/32 or 1/64, man these are crappie jigs, but I've seen him take 8 pound plus bass using his munchkin jigs.

The key to using these micro jigs is lighter line, so you're able to cast them and feel when a fish picks it up. Sure you'll have to fish them a little different, making sure your drag is set properly and not horsing the fish, but if these teeny, tiny jigs catch one or two fish for you during a cold front period, you're way ahead of the game.

Since munchkin jigs and I don't get along well, I'll switch to a live bait rig, using a Lindy rig.

I'll go to 6-pound test, with a lighter Lindy sinker and set right on top of the fish, tormenting him and enticing them to bite.

There's no doubt, you'll need a little more patience when fishing a cold front period, because the temperature has dropped drastically and the fish have regressed back to the cold weather patterns. So think of cold front fish like you would during a cold weather period.

The key to catching fish, whether it's during a cold front or any other weather pattern, is consistent weather patterns. If you have a two or three day cold front period, the fishing will begin to improve just like it will when you have two or three days of warm weather.

The first day of a cold front is always the worst as it's a drastic change and once the fish become used to it, they'll get back into the routine and start to feed. If the cold front persists, they'll be in their slow mode so you'll have to make some changes in order to take these cold front fish.

By down sizing your bait, fishing slower or by moving back into the river during cold front conditions you'll be able to catch a few fish when the weather turns sour.

Gary Howey, Hartington, Neb., is a former tournament angler, hunting and fishing guide. His *Outdoorsmen Adventures* television series can be seen on Fox affiliates throughout the upper Midwest. For more outdoor information, check out www.outdoorsmenadventures.com.

PDR Hunt: Where Kids Are Kids

BY MIKE COSTANZO

CLARK — Certainly, the four disabled kids who harvested deer during this weather-challenged weekend had a wonderful experience at the 2011 PDR youth hunt. Yet, an even stronger, longer-lasting effect among the ten member hunting party was fire-forged back at lodge camp.

The kids' confidence built up progressively there as they first tentatively watched and then anxiously participated in an authentic South Dakota, white-tail deer hunt. The kids high-spirited adventure began on the small arms target range.

Paper targets, pieces of apples, and plastic drink bottles splattering at their finger pulls imbued the kids with a sense of power and control, something their damaged bodies seldom ever feel. A sense of accomplishment empowered these kids. Their attitudes about themselves, their capability, and their self-worth rose with the muzzle roars.

If pride comes from hands-on experience, this one was a bull's-eye forever centered in the memories of these kids. Their initial "I might" attitude evolved into a surprised "I can!" and sent them rolling to their specially-constructed, handicapped-accessible field blinds with an "I will" attitude. It was one of the amazing stories within a story witnessed at the PDR Hunt.

There are other stories like:
• How veteran PDR hunters from Oacoma and Sioux Falls took to "mentoring" first time hunters from Aberdeen and Watertown at this years event.
• The young guide who's passion for



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Hunters and guides posed for a post-hunt photo after their recent hunt near Clark. PDR founder Dean Rasmussen (far right) played a key role in the outing.

these kids moved him to tears and a promise to his first time hunter from Aberdeen to return to "go out with me again...and get your deer."

• The mother of a disabled hunter from Millbank who helped discover a fallen deer in the field and the lesson of determination it taught her about her son.
• The patience a past PDR hunter from Pine Ridge learned from NOT harvesting a deer.
• The family of a shy disabled hunter from Sturgis who saw their son's personality

emerge from a shadow at this weekends PDR hunt.

PDR Hunt founder, Dean Rasmussen stated, "When the smoke clears the PDR hunt is not only about the harvest." Instead, the recoil of this story comes as these kids excited smiles extend onto the faces of the volunteer's and ultimately strikes through to people's hearts.

For more information about the PDR hunt for disabled youth contact Dean Rasmussen at 605-233-0331 or log onto www.pdryouth-hunt.com.

Crofton Rolls To Home Invitational Win

CROFTON, Neb. — The Crofton girls' cross country team continued their dominance of the state by putting five runners in the top six to run away with first place at the Crofton Invitational on Friday in Crofton, Neb.

The Warriors had the first four runners and out-distanced Norfolk Catholic 11-42 for the girls' team crown.

Danielle Riesberg was the overall champion with a time of 16:24, and was followed by teammates Tiffany Tramp (16:26) and Kendy Kube (16:28). Abby Braun was fifth at 16:56, while teammate Elizabeth Kube finished sixth at 17:14.

In other area finishes, Hartington's Megan Kaiser was seventh and Laurel-Concord-Coleridge's Sadie Peterson crossed the finished line in eighth.

On the boys' side, Wayne edged South Sioux City 28-31 for first place, thanks to two runners in the top five.

Bloomfield's Austin Hamm was the individual medalist, finishing in a first-place time of 16:42. Wayne put Quentin Jorgensen in second place (17:09) and Tyler Ellis in fifth (17:55).

In other area finishes in the top 10, Bloomfield's Silas Oltjenbruns was eighth and Crofton's Drew Eskins was 10th.

GIRLS' DIVISION
TEAM SCORES: Crofton 11, Norfolk Catholic 42, Wayne 66, South Sioux City 76, Hartington 77, Niobrara-Verdigre 107, Creighton 119
TOP 20: 1, Danielle Riesberg, Crofton 16:24; 2, Tiffany Tramp, Crofton 16:26; 3, Kendy Kube, Crofton 16:28; 4, Nicole Aschoff, Norfolk Catholic 16:31; 5, Abby Braun, Crofton 16:56; 6, Elizabeth Kube, Crofton 17:14; 7, Megan Kaiser, Hartington 17:23; 8, Sadie Peterson, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge 17:25; 9, Vanessa McFarland, Crofton 17:28; 10, Jennifer Blank, Norfolk Catholic 17:31; 11, Tia Jech, Wayne 17:32; 12, Rachel Loecker, Hartington 17:49; 13, Sammie Camenzind, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge 17:59; 14, Halle Hoch, South Sioux City 18:01; 15, Angie Nelson, Wayne 18:12; 16, Abby Baker, Norfolk Catholic 18:17; 17, Morgan Hauser, Norfolk Catholic 18:25; 18, Audra Tramer, South Sioux City 18:31; 19, Megan Aschoff, Norfolk Catholic 18:35; 20, Michaela O'Brien, Norfolk Catholic 18:39

BOYS' DIVISION
TEAM SCORES: Wayne 28, South Sioux City 31, Bloomfield 54, Crofton 57, Norfolk Catholic 65, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge 102
TOP 20: 1, Austin Hamm, Bloomfield 16:42; 2, Quentin Jorgensen, Wayne 17:09; 3, Mori Abdissa, South Sioux City 17:50; 4, Jared Maguire, Norfolk Catholic 17:51; 5, Tyler Ellis, Wayne 17:55; 6, Michael Carson, South Sioux City 18:23; 7, Joe Dunklau, Wayne 18:32; 8, Silas Oltjenbruns, Bloomfield 18:42; 9, Sky Aldrich, South Sioux City 18:48; 10, Drew Eskins, Crofton 18:49; 11, Matt Wieser, Norfolk Catholic 18:50; 12, Matthew Guenther, Crofton 18:58; 13, Austin Fritz, South Sioux City 19:05; 14, Aaron Bernal, Wayne 19:07; 15, Sawyer Jager, Wayne 19:14; 16, Ben Hoskins, Wayne 19:15; 17, Cole Steffen, Crofton 19:20; 18, Henry Goeden, Crofton 19:24; 19, Tyler Smith, Bloomfield 19:39; 20, Keenan Bearskin, South Sioux City 19:40



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Crofton's Danielle Riesberg leads a parade of Warriors across the finish line during the girls' race of the Crofton Invitational cross country meet Friday at Lakeview Golf Course. Crofton runners finished first, second, third, fifth and sixth to win the team title.

Wilkinson

From Page 8

starts) and tallied 47 kills, 17 digs and ranked third on the team with 48 total blocks. Still, she said, it took some work with the coaching staff to finesse her game to suit the D-I level.

"There were a lot of things they didn't like," Wilkinson said. "Especially my technical skills. I built a career off athleticism rather than technique and form. They liked all that."

"I definitely learned more technique out in Hawaii, but it's really been tweaked down here."

While her teammates were learning all they could about her, Wilkinson had an interesting tidbit about her past to share with the rest of her team.

"When people find out I haven't played club ball, they're shocked and almost disgusted," she said. "They just don't understand how we don't have it in South Dakota."

"I had a lot of catching up to do, but I wouldn't change a thing."

Though she is playing collegiately across the country from her home, Wilkinson's parents, Danielle and Clifford, have been able to visit at least once a month.

"They realize that because I'm a senior, this is it," Hannah said.

Just three years ago, Wilkinson was playing against such schools at Beresford, Dakota Valley and Canton. Now, she is competing against the likes of sixth-ranked Florida (which has won 20 of the last 21 SEC titles), South Carolina and Arkansas.

"I'm just really grateful for everything that's happened to me, and I'm excited for the rest of the season," Wilkinson said. After a long pause, she added, "It's all done in a couple of months, because I'm graduating in December."

"It's been a crazy couple of years."

restonic
SUPPORTING DREAMS™

HOT BUYS

THIS EVENT Features Restonic's Latest Technological Sleep Advances On Our Most Popular Mattresses!

OUR BEST RESTONIC Mattress Buys OF THE YEAR!

7 TIME AWARD-WINNING TECHNOLOGY

<p>Belmonte Plush or Firm \$599 Queen Set</p> <p>Twin.....\$499/set Full.....\$579/set Queen.....\$599/set King.....\$899/set</p>	<p>Cancun Plush or Firm \$799 Queen Set</p> <p>Twin.....\$599/set Full.....\$779/set Queen.....\$799/set King.....\$1099/set</p>
---	--

Twin Size Starting at \$199 **Full Size Starting at \$249**

<p>Cancun Yours & Mine \$899 Queen Set</p> <p>Twin.....\$699/set Full.....\$879/set Queen.....\$899/set King.....\$1199/set</p>	<p>Donovan Plush Euro Top \$999 Queen Set</p> <p>Twin.....\$799/set Full.....\$979/set Queen.....\$999/set King.....\$1399/set</p>
---	--

Marvelous Middle™ Construction
Restonic's exclusive and unique construction creates an incredibly comfortable, yet extra supportive cushion in the critical center third of your body.

LIMITED TIME EVENT!

Announcing

THE BOE FORUM ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

THE CENTER FOR WESTERN STUDIES

MARY ROBINSON
Former President of Ireland and United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights

World Hunger and Poverty

November 9, 2011 • 7:00 P.M.
The Elmen Center • 33rd Street & Grange Avenue
Augustana College

The event is free but tickets are required.
Tickets available online at augietickets.com.

Center for Western Studies members receive advance ticket access and priority seating.
Tickets available to the general public beginning October 3.

Seating is general admission by section.

To inquire about membership and priority seating, or for more information about the Boe Forum, please visit www.augie.edu or call 605.274.4007

AUGUSTANA COLLEGE

Brunick Furniture & Flooring

207 W. 3rd St. • Yankton, SD • 665-5625
1100 W. Cherry St. • Vermillion, SD • 624-8688

Monday 9-8
Tuesday-Friday 9-5:30
Saturday 9-5