

OUTDOORS DIGEST

Of The Outdoors | Gary Howey

**GFP Offers Free Archery Training to Educators**

PIERRE — The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks is pleased to announce upcoming training opportunities through the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP).

The NASP program provides the opportunity for schools in South Dakota to safely incorporate archery in their school curriculum at no cost to the local school district. Home school parents are also encouraged to bring their children to attend this training at no charge.

Trainings are currently scheduled for Rapid City on Sept. 30 and Oacoma on Oct. 2. Each day-long training 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 provided by GFP. All participating schools will have the option of entering their students in the 2014 NASP state tournament.

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

**Kid's Cook-Off To Debut At Missouri River Expo**

LINCOLN, Neb. — An inaugural Kid's Cook-off is scheduled for the Missouri River Outdoor Expo, which will be held Sept. 21-22 at Ponca State Park.

The cook-off, to be held Sept. 21, will feature two divisions. Children ages 5-10 will prepare gourmet s'mores at 10 a.m. and children ages 11-15 will make pie iron Hot Pockets at 2 p.m.

All the food, equipment and supplies will be provided. Children will be given a variety of ingredients and then encouraged to use their imaginations to create their masterpieces. Prizes will go to the top three finishes in each division.

The expo is an annual September event at Ponca that attracts thousands of visitors. This event is designed to introduce or rekindle interest in natural resources and outdoor recreation to family members of all ages. A park entry permit is required but all of the 80-plus hands-on activities are free.

For more information, contact the park at 402-755-2284 or ngpc.moriverexpo@nebraska.gov.

**Small Bore Rifle Silhouette Championships Sept. 28**

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Nebraska High School Small Bore Rifle Silhouette Championships will be held Sept. 28 at the Pressey Wildlife Management Area (WMA) south of Broken Bow.

This free competition is open to all hunter education graduates who are at least 11 years of age and have not graduated from high school. Proof of hunter education certification is required. Team competition is comprised of four-person teams in overall, high school, 4-H, and open categories.

Call Matthew Haumont at 308-872-2348 to register. Contact Haumont or Mike Streeter at 402-471-6134 for more information.

Camping is available at the WMA. The range opens at 7:30 a.m., and the competition begins at 10 a.m.

**Tagged Lake Oahe Salmon: From Silver To Gold**

PIERRE — The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department is asking anglers to assist in an evaluation into how stocking salmon at different locations might improve survival and catches, and anglers could earn \$100 or more in the process.

GFP is encouraging anglers to turn in heads of tagged Chinook salmon caught on Lake Oahe and the Oahe Tailwaters. "Research projects are underway evaluating salmon return to anglers. Reporting of tagged salmon by anglers is a crucial part of the research," GFP Fisheries Biologist Robert Hanten said.

According to Hanten, thousands of specially-tagged Chinook salmon have been stocked in Lake Oahe and implanted with small, coded-wire tags, only a millimeter long and the diameter of human hair. Although tags cannot be seen by anglers, tagged fish can be identified by the absence of a tiny fin on their back.

"Salmon have a small fleshy-lobed adipose fin directly in front of their tail, but this fin is removed as part of the tagging process," Hanten said. "If anglers catch a salmon missing the adipose fin, we would like them to turn in the fresh or frozen head of that salmon at the GFP Fort Pierre District Office, Oahe Marina, Spring Creek Resort and Deep Water Marina, Carl's Bait Shop or West Whitlock Recreation Area."

Information on where and when a salmon was caught, along with the angler's address and phone number, must be included when submitting salmon heads. In addition, a coded-wire tag must be found in the head of the fish by GFP staff to result as an entry in the contest.

Ten \$100 rewards will be issued each calendar year, with a maximum of three rewards per winner per year. The annual drawing for winners of the \$100 prizes will occur by Jan. 1.

For more information, visit: http://gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/salmon-tags.aspx, write to the Fort Pierre District Office, 20641 SD Hwy 1806, Fort Pierre, SD 57532 or call 1-605-223-7681.

**Neb. Outdoor Recreation Marketing Grants Offered**

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is offering \$100,000 in marketing grants to promote outdoor recreation.

They are available for communities, groups, organizations, public-private partnerships, nongovernment agencies or political subdivisions.

Preference will be given to campaigns promoting Game and Parks' public areas, which include wildlife management areas, state parks and Open Fields and Waters sites.

Grants are available for event promotion, regional promotion and outdoor destination promotion. The individual grants will range from \$2,000 to \$25,000.

The application deadline is Oct. 31. The grants will be awarded Nov. 22.

# All About Planner Boards

BY GARY HOWEY  
Hartington, Neb.

When many anglers think about planer boards, they visualize a piece of equipment that takes too much time to figure out and something that is complicated to use.

Unbelievably, you don't need to be a rocket scientist to fish with planer boards because they're really simple to use.

Planer boards are no more than a beveled piece of floatable material, one that goes off the port side and the other off the starboard side of your boat. They quickly and easily attach to your line and when trolled, swing out pulling your bait away from the boat.

Where more than one rod is allowed, planer boards allow you to fish several lines off each board on either side away from the boat.

I've used planer boards on several occasions and had excellent luck with them, but until a recent trip, I hadn't really spent enough time with them to truly understand their mechanics.

That's when I was fortunate enough to spend a day on Minnesota's Mille Lac Lake learning more about planer boards while fishing with Off Shore Tackle President Bruce DeShano and Fishing Pro Brett King.

We headed out to one of the community holes on the big lake but instead of setting up on top of the rock pile like the other boats fishing the area, we decided to work the deeper water.

Other boats were drifting or using their trolling motors to work bottom bouncer rigs with live bait along the edge of the rock piles.

Since we were filming and a camera seems to attract attention, we decided slide off into the deeper water away from the other boats where we'd be by ourselves.

Our plan was to work the deeper water using crankbaits trolled behind planer boards as we were looking for the larger more aggressive walleyes.

Using a GPS-Locator, we located the suspended fish in the deeper water. Brett sorted through his crankbait box looking for the magic lures he used to take walleyes when



PHOTO: LARRY MYHRE  
Outdoorsmen Adventures filming crew stands by as Brett King brings in one of the four-planer board they were using after the flag on the board went down indicating a bite.

trolled behind the boards. As Brett picked out the baits he wanted to use, Bruce started setting up our line counter reels.

The key to being successful with planer boards on this trip would be to use them in combination with crankbaits and snap weights in order to not only pull the line off to the side of the boat but also get your crankbait down to the depth where the fish are holding.

This is done by experimenting with different lures, lines and snap weights, which will eventually get you down to the right depth.

To help us to speed up this process and to help us to know what it would take to get our crankbaits down into the depth the fish were holding, we used Mark Romanack's Precision Trolling book.

It's a handy flip chart packed with information on trolling including: full color photos of different crankbaits, information on how deep each crankbait will dive using various line test and how much line is needed to be put out our baits would reach the depth the walleyes were at.

The book includes chapters on crankbait trolling fundamentals, Off Shore snap weights information, information on trolling with multi-filament lines and detailed introduction to understanding trolling mechanics.

The book gives specific information on over 350 different crankbaits on how deep each will dive using different test monofilament line as well as 40 listings for crankbaits when using Fireline.

According to the book to get our lures down to the depth where we'd seen fish on the locator, we were going to have to add snap weights in front our planer boards.

On this trip, we rigged a 1-ounce snap weight to the line 20' ahead of our crankbaits and let out another 130' of line before attaching our planer boards.

Once set up and out, all we needed to do was to wait for the planer board flag to dip indicating that a fish was on.

Our planer boards slid effortlessly through the water as we waited patiently for the flag to drop and the board to slide back indicating a bite.



Gary HOWEY

## Gophers Still Trying To Get Passing Game Going

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Minnesota has scored 95 points over the first two games, and the Gophers have barely mastered the forward pass so far.

That could be a good sign. If sophomore quarterback Philip Nelson and the rest of the offense find a rhythm with the aerial attack to supplement what has the potential to be a rugged, productive running game, the Gophers will be in good shape.

They're also running out of time to make the necessary improvement before Big Ten play begins.

Nelson has rushed for a team-high 205 yards and three touchdowns. But he has completed just 48.6 percent of his passes for 226 yards, two interceptions and one touchdown. Nobody has more than three receptions. The Gophers rank 112th out of 123 FBS teams in yards passing.

"Quarterbacks, receivers, tight ends, we've got to be able to move the ball through the air better for sure, but the main thing is being able to run the ball and that should be able to open the other stuff too," Nelson said.

The depth chart is wide open for wide receivers to emerge as a true go-to target, whether Isaac Fruechte, Derrick Engel, Logan Hutton, K.J. Maye, Donovan Jones, Drew Wolitarsky or Jamel Harbison.

"We've got about six or seven people playing in there right now. We had two or three drops that we can't afford to have. But there's talent in there, and we've got to get it figured out over the next three or four weeks," coach Jerry Kill said.

In all likelihood, though, the Gophers won't find out much more about their passing game this weekend. They host FCS opponent Western Illinois, which has won its first two games convincingly but over weaker competition. WIU went 3-8 last season and was picked in the Missouri Valley Conference preseason poll to finish ninth out of 10.

Here are five things to know about the game on Saturday between the Leathernecks and the Golden Gophers:

**BIG LOSS:** Minnesota starting cornerback Briean Boddy-Calhoun is out for the season because of a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his

left knee. Derrick Wells, who would've been on the first team to start were it not for a training camp injury, will take over. But Boddy-Calhoun, who returned an interception 89 yards for a touchdown in the season opener, will be missed.

"He was probably playing at the highest level of any defensive back that we have," Kill said.

**DISCIPLINED SQUAD:** The two-game sample size is small, but the Gophers are the least-penalized Big Ten

team so far with a total of five flags for 42 yards. They had seven penalties in their Meineke Car Care Bowl loss to Texas Tech last December.

**FAMILIAR FACE:** This game was scheduled long before Nielson became the Western Illinois coach last December, but it has given him a unique opportunity to return to the state where he had so much success.

Nielson won NCAA Division II championships at Minnesota Duluth in 2008 and 2010, posting 15-0 records

each year, and won five Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference titles over his 10 seasons on the sideline from 1999-2003 and 2008-2012. He served as UMD athletic director between stints.

Mark Hendrickson, Nielson's predecessor at WIU, went 18-32 in five years with the Leathernecks.

**COMPETITION CRANKS UP:** Hampton and Quincy could easily be the name of a

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## Introducing Dr. Pietz Family Medicine Physician

Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C. is pleased to announce the association of Carrissa Pietz, MD, Board Certified Family Medicine Physician.

Dr. Pietz is originally from Lesterville, SD and completed her undergraduate degree at Mount Marty College. She is a graduate of Sanford School of Medicine of The University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD. Dr. Pietz completed her family medicine residency at Sioux Falls Family Medicine Residency, Sioux Falls, SD.

Dr. Pietz joins Drs. David Barnes, McKenzie Hanson, Scott Weber, and Certified Nurse Practitioner, Jennifer McGinnis, in providing family care.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Pietz, her husband, Aaron, and their children, Noah and Carson, to Yankton.

Dr. Pietz began seeing patients at the Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C. September 9, 2013.

**Appointments can be made by calling 605-665-8910.**

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