



Courtney Conner



Tobie Devall

Conner & Devall get Press honors

By ADAM BURNS
(Lake Charles
American Press)

Martin Zeno did a little bit of everything on the basketball court. Courtney Conner just did a little bit of everything.

After leading Sulphur to its first Top 28 state basketball appearance since 1962 and signing to play for Bobby Knight at Texas Tech, it may be hard to say more about Zeno's high school athletic career, except to name him the *American Press* boys Outstanding Athlete.

Conner, who starred in five different sports for South Cameron, is the girls recipient.

Between softball, basketball, track, cheerleading and rodeo, Conner felt stretched a

little thin at times.

"Mostly I'm used to it," she said. "I've been pretty active all my life. Softball is my favorite. I've been playing it since I was six."

An all-state catcher for the Lady Tarpons, Conner was a cornerstone for four South Cameron appearances in the FastPitch 56 state tournament.

"Overall, I'm pretty happy with the success we had," Conner said. "Like making it to the championship game last season, I was happy with everything I achieved. This year we were supposed to do better than we did, but we didn't pull through. But things don't always happen the way you want them to."

Conner is still finalizing

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Carjacking and high speed chases told

By CYNDI SELLERS

Memorial Day weekend was very active for Cameron Parish Sheriff's Deputies, with two high speed chases and a busy burglar.

A carjacking in Holly Beach early Sunday morning, followed by a high speed chase into Calcasieu Parish, resulted in the arrest of two Lake Charles men.

Paul Pellerin, 21, of 2141 Country Club Rd. #75, and Frederick F. Burt, 18, of 717 W. 18th St., allegedly attacked two Opelousas men who were camping in their pickup truck on Holly Beach, beating them with baseball bats, and then stealing the truck.

Cameron Sheriff's Deputies responded and pursued the two into Calcasieu Parish, at times at speeds up to 115mph. The driver, Pellerin, reportedly slammed on his brakes at Highway 108 in Carlyss, making a sharp turn.

Deputy Benjamin Primeaux, who was in close pursuit, was forced to swerve, hitting a mailbox and running into a ditch in order to avoid a collision.

The stolen truck was forced to stop, and the passenger, Burt, was apprehended. The driver escaped, pursued by State Police and Sulphur Police officers.

After being identified, Pellerin was located by the Calcasieu Sheriff's Office.

Cameron Parish deputies accompanied Calcasieu officers to make the arrest.

Pellerin was booked into the Calcasieu Parish Jail and then transferred to Cameron Parish to face charges.

Pellerin and Burt remain in the Cameron Parish jail on charges of carjacking, aggravated second degree battery, aggravated battery and criminal trespass (both), felony theft (Burt), flight from an officer and property damage (Pellerin).

No serious injuries were reported by the victims or deputies involved in the chase. The stolen truck was not damaged, but the patrol car was.

The day before, May 29, Deputy Ron Schultz pursued a speeding motorcycle in Grand Lake. After reaching a top speed of 115 mph., the rider ditched the bike and fled on foot.

When apprehended, Jonathan M. Perkins, 19, of 6859 Tom Hebert Rd. #450, Lake Charles, was charged with flight from an officer and careless operation (115 in a 55 mph zone).

Campers on Holly Beach were surprised on Sunday to see a man methodically entering one campsite after another, taking items from several. Jeremy J. Gary, 30, of 2346 62nd St., Port Arthur, Tex., was arrested on 2 counts of

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THE CAMERON PARISH 4-H Junior Leadership Club is collecting items to ship to the soldiers in Iraq. Shown above are club reporter Melissa Nunez and JoDee Roberts from the Cameron Parish Library, with books that will be sent to the troops overseas. Other items will be collected all summer. Gum, beef jerky, hard candy, non perishable food, powdered Gator-aid, etc can be sent with any 4-H Jr. Leader member. Collection boxes will be set up in the communities soon.

The Cameron Parish

Pilot

June 3, 2004

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35¢

Young man drowns in marsh here

A former Cameron resident was reported missing last Wednesday and later found dead. Clyde Doxey, 27, a South Cameron graduate who later moved to Lake Charles, had gone out to check his crab traps behind the Cameron Court House, planning to be gone only half an hour.

When he did not return, his wife called in friends who went out to look for him. Around 7:30 pm, the Sheriff's Office was called in. Deputies arranged for a helicopter from PHI to fly over the area, but they were unable to locate Doxey's boat.

A full search on Thursday turned up the boat around 9:30 am. Around 11:00 am Doxey's body was recovered from the Lambert's Bayou area near Big Lake, inside the impoundment, according to Theos Duhon, Chief Deputy.

The Sheriff's Office is conducting a full investigation of the incident, which is being considered an accidental drowning, pending a full autopsy report from the coroner's office.



PENELOPE RICHARD, Cameron Lions Club President and Carl Broussard, Cameron Chamber of Commerce President stand in front of the Cameron Jetty Pier and Pavilion complex.

Fishing rodeo, pier dedication planned

The Cameron Parish Chamber of Commerce and the Cameron Lions Club are sponsoring a Fishing Rodeo and the dedication of the Cameron Jetty Pavilion on Saturday, Aug. 7. The weigh-in and the dedication will take place at the Cameron Jetty Pier Complex located at the southern end of J. A. Davis Road in Cameron.

Along with the Fishing Rodeo, there will be food and craft booths, games for the kids, and live bands throughout the day.

The Chamber and the Lions are looking for Cameron Parish civic organizations, church groups, schools and other organizations who would be willing to put up food booths, arts and

craft booths, etc.

Interested organizations are invited to attend an organizational meeting at the Cameron Parish Police Jury Annex Building on Wednesday, June 9 at 10:30 a.m. There will be a small fee charged to each vendor to help with the cost of putting on this event. The last day to reserve a booth is Friday, June 25 at 12 noon.

If you cannot attend this meeting and are interested in reserving a booth, you can call one of the following numbers for further information: Cameron Parish Chamber of Commerce at 775-5222; Carl Broussard at 775-5316; William Daigle at 775-5713; or Tina Horn at 775-5718 ext. 115.

Jurors debate hiring of E. D. director

By CYNDI SELLERS

The Cameron Parish Police Jury is working hard to encourage economic development for the parish. Many of the agenda items discussed at Tuesday night's agenda meeting related to industry, beginning with the need to hire a replacement for Sammy Faulk, who recently resigned as parish Economic Development Director.

Juror Darryl Farque presented a proposal to hire a juror as Parish Manager or Assistant Manager, with economic development duties. He offered himself as a candidate.

Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Jones presented an opinion from the DA that a Louisiana statute allows this sort of arrangement as long as the salary of the juror is offset in the manager salary.

Most of the rest of the jurors preferred to hire outside of the jury to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest. Industry representatives urged the jury not to wait in making an appointment, citing current activity and several upcoming events in which Cameron Parish could participate.

James Ducote, represent-

Faulk resigns as Economic Developer

Capt. Sammy Faulk of Big Lake recently resigned as the Cameron Parish Economic Development Director, a position he has held for the past two years.

Faulk said he will continue to serve on the Cameron Parish Tourism Commission and to work on the Creole Natural Trail promotion.

He also will resume full time charter boat fishing out of Hebert's Landing at Big Lake.

ing the state office of Economic Development, also recommended speed, saying, "Y'all need a point person. You need someone who understands the parish and has the zeal to get out and sell the parish." He promised the aid of his office in training and assisting the new person.

The jury will vote at next Monday's regular meeting to either hire someone on a temporary basis or advertise for proposals.

Juror Sonny McGee brought up several issues relating to development. He asked the DA's office to research whether the parish could enact zoning for spoil disposal.

He said the Sabine-Neches River Authority recently dumped dredge spoil on the bank of the Sabine River, making it impossible to develop that property for industry.

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Ashley Coreil Record

Dr. Record receives LSU degree

On May 15, Dr. Ashley Coreil Record graduated from Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans. She will begin a four year residency at Charity Hospital in New Orleans on July 1. Her intern year will be in Internal Medicine, followed by a three year Dermatology residency.

Dr. Record is the daughter of Paul and Arlene Coreil of Baton Rouge. While her family resided in Grand Chenier, she attended Grand Chenier Elementary from Kindergarten through seventh grade. She attended South Cameron High School in eighth and ninth grades.

Her family then relocated to Baton Rouge where she graduated from Bishop Joseph V. Sullivan High School. She attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge where she graduated with honors from the College of Basic Sciences in Microbiology. She is married to Benjamin Record, D.D.S.

Jury to meet

The Cameron Parish Police Jury monthly meeting will be held at 5 p.m., Monday, June 7.

Capital improvements for the Jetty Fishing Pier facilities will be discussed by Juror James Doxey.

Billie Woodard, Court of Appeals Judge who is up for re-election, will also be on the agenda.

Cameron Parish high school students who were state track and field winners will be recognized.

Other items on the agenda are to be found in the full agenda listing in the legal section of the Pilot.

DeBarges are back at store

John and Flo DeBarge have announced that they have resumed the ownership of DeBarge Convenient Store which they sold several years ago.

"We are happy to be serving the public once more," Mr. DeBarge stated.

The store is located on Hwy. 27 in Hackberry.

C. D meeting

The annual Cameron Parish Civil Defense meeting will be held Tuesday, June 15 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Cameron Fire Station. Anyone interested in being involved in the Civil Defense is urged to attend.



BRENT CLEMENT of Cameron Communications presented Ancil Delaney of Grand Lake with a new LCD flat-panel television, Tuesday, June 1st. Delaney's name was drawn from over 200 entries received during a recent contest held by Cameron Communications in the Grand Lake, Sweet Lake and Big Lake communities. Residents returned a survey and contest entry form for the opportunity to win the television. Delaney's name was drawn from all entries Friday, May 28th.



RHONDA COLEMAN, AKA: Cuddles, and Rusty Stewart, AKA: Patchez or Dr Know, clown around while they teach safety lessons to area residents. Both work for Cameron Parish Ambulance District 2/Johnson Bayou.

Ambulance clowns bring safety messages to kids

Recently during EMS Week Rhonda Coleman AKA: Cuddles and Rusty Stewart AKA: Patchez or Dr Know with Cameron Parish Ambulance District 2/Johnson Bayou along with help from Grand Lake Fireman Paul Wasson, several members of the Johnson Bayou Fire Department, Cameron State Bank, Louisiana Clowning for Safety and Cameron Parish Sheriff's Dare Officer David Hebert put on a skit for area schools and senior citizens in the Johnson Bayou and Grand Lake areas.

The skits were to teach fire and fall prevention for the senior citizens and fire safety and prevention to the elemen-

tary students. The clowns along with the senior citizens, students and helpers had a good time.

The Grand Lake elementary skit had safety messages of seat belt safety, helmets, knee pads and elbow pads, don't play with matches, don't smoke, drink or do drugs, along with songs, learning to call 911 and some magic.

The senior citizen skit touched on using rug grippers under those slippery rugs to prevent falls, calling 911, vials of life, keeping a list of medications by the phone and changing batteries in smoke detectors at change of seasons.

The Johnson Bayou elementary skit was called

Cameron Parish Library News

Memorial books given to Library

New memorial books recently presented to the Cameron Parish Library include the following, with the name of the book, honoree and donor listed in that order: Smooth Moves, Mike McCall by George and Willa Dean LeBoeuf;

The Great Book of Trains, Glyn Taylor by George and Willa Dean LeBoeuf;

4 Ingredient Cookbook, Pearlina LaBove by Virginia Dupont, Joe Dupont and family, and Jaimie Boudreaux and family;

Beacon on the Rock, Mary Jane Mangano by Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Brasseaux;

Tiger Turnaround, Mike McCall by Jaimie and Tina (Dupont) Boudreaux and family, Joe Dupont and family and Virginia Dupont;

100 Legendary Knives, Roy Bailey by Jaimie Boudreaux family;

Noah's Ark, Elizabeth Jo Sturlese by Jaimie, Tina, Christian and Jolie Boudreaux;

America's Best Bass Fishing, Mervin Chesson by Randall and Carlotta Boudoin;

Sports Illustrated: John Elway, Timmy Trahan by Randall and Carlotta Boudoin;

How the Bible Came to Us, Amber Broussard by Randall and Carlotta Boudoin;

The Alligator Book, Mervin Chesson by Jaimie, Tina Boudreaux and Girls.

Story Time

The Cameron Parish Library starts its Summer Reading Program Monday with Pastiche. Pastiche is four musician storytellers that will entertain the children of the parish with their unique musical style of storytelling.

Cameron's Main Branch will start the summer programs on Monday June 7 at 10 a.m. followed by Grand Lake's Branch performance at 2 p.m. on the same day. Tuesday June 8, Hackberry will start the summer programs at 10 a.m. followed by Johnson Bayou's performance at 2 p.m.

This year the library will have story time at every branch each Wednesday at 10 a.m. until June 30th.

At each story time, a library employee will read stories to the children and do a small craft with them. The library is starting this program to help promote the love of reading in children. Colorful fliers with dates and times are available at each branch. T-Shirts and book bags are also available for purchase at each library.

The T-Shirts feature a colorful bee holding a book featuring this year's theme "Buggy about Books" for a cost of \$3.00 for shirts and bags. XXL T-Shirts are slightly higher.

Please call 775-5421 with any questions about the Summer Reading Program.

CONNER

Cont. from Pg. 1

her college plans while she seeks a softball scholarship.

"I've got some offers to play at junior colleges, but I don't want to go to a junior college," she said.

In track, Conner reached the state meet in all four of her events as a senior. She won the Class 1A hurdles title, finished third in the long jump and pole vault and placed sixth in the 100-meter dash.

"This year, I just wanted to concentrate on being strong in one event," Conner said. "I was top-ranked in the hurdles last year, but I lost my shoe at the state meet. This year I stayed focused on that one event, but I was still able to place in three. So I guess I was pretty lucky."

In three years of rodeo, Conner competed in barrel racing, pole bending, goat tying and breakaway. She also lettered for four seasons in basketball and spent four seasons as a cheerleader.

A finalist for the Press award was Tobie Kristen Devall, Hackberry--Basketball (6), softball (5), track (5), cross country (2). The all-state guard overcame injury her senior year to help lead the Lady Mustangs to their fourth Class C state title in five years. Devall was district MVP and an all-state selection her junior year, but missed all of district play with a hand injury and was not eligible to repeat in either.

Hackberry News

By GRACE WELCH

FOUNTAIN BABY

C. R. And Misty Fountain of Hackberry announce the birth of their son, C. R., III, Sunday, May 23 at Women and Children's Hospital in Lake Charles. He weighed 7 lbs.

Grandparents are Curtis Ray and Carol (Bobbie) Fountain, and Ellen and Tommy Stoddard of Hackberry, and Bud and Missy McClelland of Vinton.

Great-grandparents are Carl and Frances McClelland of Vinton, Virgie and Don O'Neil, and Grace Welch, all of Hackberry.

JINKS BABY

Kyle and Dena Jinks of Grand Lake announce the birth of their son, Brett Kyle, May 19, at Women and Children's Hospital in Lake Charles. He weighed 8 lbs., 7 ozs.

Grandparents are Florence Kyle, Bernie Jinks, and Ludwig and Theresa Leonard of Hackberry.

Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Blaise Leonard of Mamou, Kakie Kyle, and Alfred Devall, both of Hackberry



E.D.I.T.H. (Fire Exit Drills in The Home) with emphasis on the 4 rules for getting out of a house fire.

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- Rule #2 - Know two ways out of every room,
- Rule #3 - Don't hide, hurry outside,
- Rule #4 Get out and stay out.



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Tanning and cruises to be given away, so get your name on the books and don't delay - 912-3087 is the number to call.

Looking forward to serving you, so let's have a ball.

Also Accepting:

New hours are told

Johnson Bayou, Hackberry, and Grand Lake Libraries will have new hours for the summer beginning June 1 and ending August 27. The hours of operation for each of these locations is as follows:

Monday-Wednesday: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Father's Day reunion set

Area childbirth students and graduates are invited to attend a Bradley Method Father's Day Reunion on Sunday, June 13. The event is being held in honor of past and present Bradley-student fathers and their families, in recognition of their commitment and dedication to giving their children the best start in life. It will also acquaint former students of The Bradley Method natural childbirth classes and their children.

The event, sponsored by local Bradley Method Educators Mary Ellen Sweeney and Charisse Campbell, will be held at John Blank Sportsman's Park in Welsh from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

Parents are encouraged to bring their children and join us for a lot of fun, laughter and memories.

For more information on The Bradley Method of Natural Childbirth or reservations for the event, please contact Mary Ellen Sweeney at 616-1843.

Riders club plan rodeos

The Cameron Riders Club will have two rodeos this weekend. Friday, June 4 books open at 5 p.m., and the rodeo starts at 6 p.m. Saturday, June 5 books open at 5 p.m., and the rodeo starts at 6 p.m.

Prize money is given at each rodeo. There will be peanut through high school divisions and open jackpot team roping.

OES plans anniversary

The Thelma Hackett Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star will celebrate its 50th Anniversary with an open house on Sunday, June 6, from 2 until 4:00 p.m. at the Cameron Masonic Lodge.

Memorabilia from the past fifty years will be on display and refreshments will be served.

Members, families, and friends are invited to attend and add their memories to the collection.

Recipes are sought here

The Fur Festival Board is collecting recipes for the 2005 Fur Festival Cookbook as the deadline is fast approaching.

Please submit your favorite recipe to Fur Festival Cookbook P.O. Box 19 Cameron, LA 70631 or email to frichard@camtel.net.

Categories are: Main Meat Dishes, Seafood, Appetizers, Desserts, Cakes Cookies & Pies, Party Foods, Quick & Easy 30 Minute Meals.

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CHUCK AND DAVE Fontenot, from Eunice, caught these 14.5 lb Bull Redfish off the north end of the Jetty Pier in Cameron.
(Photo submitted by William Daigle- Lions Club)

Fish & Wildlife accepting applications for grants

The Fish and Wildlife Service is currently accepting applications for the 2005 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant program. Approximately \$14 million of funds will be available for this grant program in the coming year.

"This grant program provides an excellent opportunity for our partners to conserve coastal wetlands around the country" said Service Director Steve Williams. "The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation program has helped conserve nearly 170,000 acres of wetland resources along the nation's coasts. These wetlands provide habitat for a great many fish and wildlife species and offer hunting and fishing opportunities for sportsmen and women."

National Coastal Wetlands Conservation grants are awarded to the states through a competitive process. The program is funded by the 1990 Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and

Restoration Act.

Funding for the program is generated from excise taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat and small engine fuels. These taxes are deposited into the Sport Fish Restoration Account of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund (commonly called Wallop-Breaux after its Congressional sponsors).

This year, the program is the first Service grant fund to accept proposals electronically through grants.gov. The grants.gov website is a cross-agency E-Government initiative, spanning 900 federal financial assistance programs and \$350 billion in annual awards.

To date, 24 States and 1 Territory have participated in the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program since its inception.

Proposals are being accepted through June 21, 2004.

For additional information, please contact Sally Valdes at 703-358-2231 or Brian Bohnsack at 703-358-2156.

POLICE JURY

Cont. from Page 1

He would like the parish to be able to control where this spoil is placed in the future, along any of the rivers. The spoil was placed on lands leased from the state.

McGee also asked the jury's help with a "kink" which has developed in the Cheniere LNG project. He said one landowner, W.T. Offshore, is opposing the facility and may hold up the FERC permit.

The company, which owns 7/9 of 27 acres originally located within the proposed site, had been holding out for a large compensation, reportedly 1% of the total profits.

Cheniere then replanned the site leaving them out, and now they oppose the project based on adverse effects on hunting on their land.

McGee has asked for help from the legislature, and wants the jury to be willing to support any measure, up to and including expropriation, to make sure the project goes forward.

He noted that any delay in Cheniere's plant could give FERC a reason to permit another facility proposed for Port Arthur instead. A meeting has been set with Sen. Hines in the near future.

The District Attorney's Office was asked to look into several issues. McGee asked for further inquiry into the question of whether paid fire department personnel can serve on fire district boards. A preliminary opinion said it would be a conflict. Since several boards have this situation, and since volunteers for boards are hard to find, further study was requested.

Juror Scott Trahan asked whether it would be possible to restrict certain areas of the Mermentau River for recreational use only, limiting the use of crab pots, trot lines, etc. in those areas.

Jurors hope to have full clarification by Monday on whether road crew personnel can be released from duties to serve as volunteer firemen, in

Cameron Outdoors

By LOSTON MCEVERS



JUNE IS HERE

Fishermen remember your fishing license expires on June 30, so don't wait until the last minute to buy your new freshwater and saltwater licenses. If you fish south of Hwy. 82, you'll need to purchase a saltwater license along with the freshwater license.

This month we'll see blackberries ripen, but we'll also see male cottonmouths battle for females, while eastern coral snakes lay eggs.

Hybrid striped bass are schooling, and alligator nesting peaks this month.

There will be a statewide breeding bird survey conducted in June, while wild turkey pullet begin to fly and start roosting in trees.

I'm sure with all the water from rains that are just starting to level off, bass fishing will be tough in our local marshes.

Fishing the Big Burns last week, there was a lot of brown or black water, neither one good for fishing. The marsh is beginning to smell, and hopefully we won't get a fish kill from lack of oxygen. I don't think all this water will be good for our shrimping season, especially the brown shrimp.

AREA FISHING

I made a couple trips, one in the Big Burns last week fishing from the road (Hwy. 82) all the way to the Mermentau River and caught 2 nice bass, both are 2 pounds, but not much activity.

Anglers report a few speckle trout on Big Lake. There were lots of freshwater to come through the lake, there's lots of muddy water, but fishing on the south or southeast side of the lake has produced some nice trout. One of the fishing guides caught a 9.2 pound speckle trout last week. A good fish, but just a few days too early for the S.T.A.R. tournament, which began May 29.

The high tides and strong southeast winds pushed the saltwater up the ship channel to the south end of Big Lake, and that's the best place to fish right now. West Cove is also not bad, as it's not as muddy as the rest of the lake. There's clear spots, and anglers are taking two pound trout, fishing on bottom. Glows and chartreuse plastics, but don't hesitate to

throw top water baits.

GIBBSTOWN DOGFIGHT

The Monday night, May 24 dogfight had 15 boats enter. A report from George Melancon had the top two teams with 3 bass each. First place went to Ernest Taber and Jason Guillotte, 5.75 pounds, and the second place bass at 2.77 pounds. Terry Whately and Jeff Garrett had a close second place with 5.74 pounds, but had the largest bass weighing in at 3.18 pounds. Terry caught the large bass on a jerk bait.

NEWS BRIEFS

J. Wesley Jennings of Raleigh, N.C. caught a pending IGFA Florida state 20 pound line class record largemouth bass. The lunker weighed 17.1 pounds, and was 28 inches long, with a gut of 22 inches. The current Florida state record for this line class is 14.7 pounds. He was fishing with an old T.V. host, John Fox.

The Lemesche Bass Club will fish their fourth club tournament of 2004 this Sunday, June 6, fishing the Amoco marsh. This is a pick-your-partner club tournament. It will start at sunrise and end at 3 p.m.

Remember June 5-6 are free fishing days. No licenses required to fish anywhere in the state of Louisiana. Also, don't forget the Boat Safety class at the Rockefeller Refuge Headquarters on June 9 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The class is free.

LEAD BAN

We all know California has strict laws on lead weights. Well, buying lead jigs and sinkers could soon become illegal in Canada. There is a proposal to start regulations that would eventually prohibit the import, manufacture and sale of fishing sinkers and jigs containing lead. Blaming the death of water birds on lead, including "loons" that consume lead tackle while fishing. The regulations should be ready within a year.

Canadian anglers are wondering if their gear will be allowed as well as American anglers who may have to leave their lead tackle at home while traveling to Canada to fish. There will be public hearings, however, this thing could rub off right here in our own back yard.

Fishing Week in Louisiana includes 'free fishing days'

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has declared the week of May 31 through June 6 "Fishing Week in Louisiana." This is a weeklong celebration of the great tradition of fishing in our state. With over 900,000 sportfishermen in Louisiana, sportfishing brings in significant revenue to the state, and is a very important way of life for many.

This celebration will culminate on the weekend of June 5 and 6 with "Free Fishing Days." Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature allows the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare two such days each year. During these two days, anyone may recreationally fish in Louisiana waters without purchasing a license. This applies to fresh and saltwater fishing.

This is an excellent opportunity for new anglers to get out and test the waters. While

purchasing a license is not required, the standard rules and regulations will continue to be in effect.

To help promote this event, educators from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will be holding camps, fishing derbies and other activities across the state. They will be helping new and experienced anglers in boating safety, species identification and fishing techniques.

Interested persons are encouraged to contact their local LDWF offices for a list of activities in their area.

"Many Louisianians already have fishing as part of their lives," said LDWF Secretary Dwight Landreneau. "But there are many more who do not. This weekend provides an excellent opportunity to give people, especially young people, the chance to give it a try. This is also a great activity for families to experience together."

Best soil mix!

Follow these simple instructions for a mix that is sure to result in the biggest, most beautiful blossoms ever.

Blend the following ingredients on a large tarp or in a big wheelbarrow. Store leftovers in a sealed container such as plastic trash can. This makes enough mix to fill four large (18-inch-diameter) containers.

- * 1 bale (3.2 to 3.4 cubic feet) peat moss (or peat substitute)
- * 1 bag (2 cubic feet) vermiculite
- * 1 bag (40 pounds) composted cow manure
- * 2 cups horticultural lime

If using a tarp, mound all materials, draw tarp ends together and roll the resulting ball over and over until mixed. In a barrow, use a spade or spading fork to mix.

For more information on the Almanac's line of products, please visit www.almanac.com.



THE WHITE TOWER, high atop a hill in Astoria, Oregon, yields a panoramic view of the Columbia River, Pacific, Ocean, and Coast Range - once you climb the 164 steps inside. You can buy a wooden glider to fly from the top.
(Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Oregon vacation account continued by Sellers

By CYNDI SELLERS

Just one hour by car from metro Portland is the scenic and historic Oregon coast. The Sunset Highway threads its way through the Coast Range, past Saddle Mountain, suddenly opening onto a view of the Pacific Ocean.

Our day dawned uncharacteristically bright and sunny, and we set out aiming to make Cannon Beach at low tide. Stopping at a scenic overlook to take pictures of Mt. St. Helens only slowed us a little. The abrupt appearance of a patch of stunningly blue water after miles of green took our breath away. Blue-green waves crashed into white foam on the beach below us.

We chose to visit Cannon Beach because it is one of the most photographed sites in the U.S., the famous Haystack Rock. Featured in books, calendars, and movies, the Haystack is a federally protected marine garden.

It is a nesting ground for the comically colorful puffins, and at low tide green or pink anemones and orange, red, and purple starfish can be seen in the tide pools. Broken sand dollars dot the beach, leftovers from hungry seagulls.

The town of Cannon Beach is a picturesque artist colony and seaside retreat with many galleries and shops. We stepped into one at random and found a glass blower working on a piece. It was fascinating to watch a small blob of molten glass grow into a beautiful vase in the skilled hands of the artist.

One stop we had to make was at the big spruce tree which my family had visited 30 years ago. The largest Sitka Spruce in the U.S. and the largest tree in Oregon, this forest giant is only a few hundred yards from the highway. Pictures cannot adequately convey its size. The other big trees in the grove are like children next to it.

Walking through the grove we noticed the green moss dripping from the trees amid the thick ferns. The mountains of Oregon are clothed with temperate rain forests. Lush hardly describes it.

We headed north along the Coast Highway, snacking on Tillamook cheese (made in Tillamook, Ore.), and apricots. Bypassing the resort town of Seaside, we were

heading for historic Fort Clatsop.

Two hundred years ago, in 1804, Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery left St. Louis, Mo. to map the extent of the Louisiana Purchase. A year and a half later, in November of 1805, they reached the Pacific ocean at the mouth of the Columbia River. The corps built a small wooden stockade to house its 33 members for the winter, before turning back to report their findings.

The structure, named Fort Clatsop after the local native tribe, has been rebuilt from original drawings and is visited by thousands every year. We toured the bunk rooms, walked down to the canoe landing, sat in a dugout, and watched a rifle demonstration by a costumed interpreter.

Next on the circuit was the town of Astoria. Long known for its salmon canneries, Astoria has featured in many movies, including Kindergarten Cop, Short Circuit, Free Willy, and The Goonies.

My kids insisted we follow the guidebook directions through Astoria's steep, San Francisco-like streets to find the Goonie house. We did, too.

We also climbed the Astoria Column. The 125 ft. monument celebrating early pioneers is built on a high point and yields a stunning 360 degree view of the Columbia, Pacific, and Coast Range. Far below, the Astoria Bridge connects Oregon and Washington.

The only hitch is actually climbing the 164 steps to the top. Thankfully there are several landings, but I did wonder how a paramedic would get up there if needed. Once on top you can release wooden gliders sold in the concession stand to see how far they fly. Mine hit a tree, but Alyssa's made a dramatic journey.

After crossing the (really long) Astoria Bridge, we headed back to Portland along the Columbia, passing scenic towns and a nuclear power plant along the way. We were thankful for the beautiful day and the wonderful sights we had seen. Tomorrow was to be rainy, and we were headed for the snow line.



THE FAMOUS HAYSTACK Rock at Cannon Beach Oregon, one of the most photographed places in the US. At low tide starfish and anemones are visible.
(Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

