

Deer, hunter have history

Chris Fischvogt, a dedicated Jennings County deer hunter, showed up at Phil Hawkins' place in Franklin recently to have his 2005 buck measured for the Hoosier Record Buck Program.

When Phil had completed taping Fischvogt's prize, the net score of 146-6/8 was not something that would raise a lot of trophy-hunting eyebrows. But it is the Jennings County hunter's all-time best rack, and even that pales in comparison to the story behind the deer.

You see, not only will Fischvogt have this beautiful rack turned into an outstanding full head mount, but it will be displayed with the antlers (both sides) that the animal shed after the 2004 hunting season and one side of the 2003 rack.

Add the fact that Fischvogt had photographed the deer several times before he shot it, and the scenario turns into a story that one could only dream.

"I used a Camtracker to get pictures of the deer (he chains and locks the camera to a tree)," Fischvogt said, explaining that he knew the deer he photographed was the same deer that shed the 2004 rack by a small "sticker" point that is present on the right beams of the racks from both years.



'Bayou' Bill Scifres
OUTDOORS

Strangely, Fischvogt had found both sides of the 2004 antlers on Good Friday 2005.

"When I asked for permission to hunt, the farmer told me he had some antlers a deer had shed the previous year. ... He said he had almost run over the antlers with his tractor. ... When he handed them (the antlers from 2003) to me, I realized it was the same deer."

That Fischvogt would find the antlers of the deer he killed from the previous year is not a thing that happens often, but considering the fact that he hunts "sheds" often after deer seasons close brings this well into the realm of possibility.

Fischvogt's 8-pointer sported an inside spread of 21-4/8 inches, and the outside figure is 26 inches. It is, of course, a typical rack, perfectly balanced. The deer weighed in at 220 pounds field dressed.

Turkey reminder

Those planning to hunt wild turkey under the Division of Fish and Wildlife's reservation plan for public properties should get moving on sending in their application. The deadline is March 15.

Application cards and details on procedures to follow will be found in the 2005-06 "Indiana Hunting and Trapping Guide" available at most outlets for hunting/fishing licenses and bait shops.

A tip or two

Hoosier streams and standing waters are at normal levels or only slightly higher now. But spring rains will create ideal fishing conditions below many dams or at spots where runoff water enters a stream or lake.

Several years back, the tailwaters of Salamonie Reservoir produced outstanding fishing for big walleye, and the tailwaters of Monroe Reservoir have been hot in more recent years.

One of my favorite fishing spots after spring rains has always been just below the spillway of Starve Hollow Lake and potholes in the small creek that flows to the Muscatatuck River's east fork.

Incidentally, if you are looking

for some good smaller lakes that offer good bass fishing, Larry Lehman, District 8 fisheries biologist for the Department of Fish and Wildlife, recommends Bischoff Reservoir (190 acres) in Ripley County, and Starve Hollow Lake (145 acres) in Jackson County. Largemouth bass are protected by a 14-inch size limit at both sites.

"I collected 121 largemouth bass age 1 and older in two hours of electrofishing at Bischoff," Lehman said. "Approximately 26 percent of them were 14 inches long or more. The largest bass was 21.4 inches long. Outboards up to 6 horsepower as well as electric motors are allowed."

"I collected approximately 150 largemouth bass age 1 and older in 1.5 hours of electrofishing at Starve Hollow Lake," he added. "Approximately 37 percent of them were 14 inches long or longer. The largest bass was 17.7 inches. Only electric motors are allowed here, and a DNR launching permit is required. Camping is available at Starve Hollow."

"Bayou" Bill Scifres' outdoors column appears Saturdays in the Daily Journal. Comments can be sent to P.O. Box 699, Franklin, IN 46131.



Switzerland's Roger Federer makes a forehand volley return during his win against Germany's Nicolas Kiefer in their semifinal at the Australian Open in Melbourne, Australia on Friday.

Swede puts on show at Open

By JOHN PYE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MELBOURNE, Australia

Roger Federer spent some time chatting with Rod Laver on Friday afternoon, then went out and showed the tennis great why he's dominating the sport right now.

Federer spoke with Laver, who twice completed Grand Slam seasons in the 1960s, for the first time just hours before his Australian Open semifinal against Nicolas Kiefer.

Apart from a minor lapse while serving to stay in the second set, the top-ranked Federer was impeccable as he advanced 6-3, 5-7, 6-0, 6-2 to Sunday's championship match against 54th-ranked Marcos Baghdatis.

He hit 39 winners and had 33 unforced errors, 20 fewer than Kiefer, who was playing in the semis for the first time in 34 majors.

"It's fantastic to play in front of him," Federer said of Laver.

He remained composed despite acknowledging some pre-match anxiety about the prospect of getting so close, yet still being so far from a seventh Grand Slam singles title.

In the fourth game, Federer scrambled to retrieve a Kiefer drop shot, sprinting from the baseline, and punched a backhand around the net post for a clean winner. Kiefer watched it land, nodded and dropped serve to fall behind 3-1.

And there were frequent slice backhands that hit the court and spun off sideways, making Kiefer's life much more difficult.

Federer and Laver shared a courtesy car at the U.S. Open once before, but Federer said he'd been too awe-struck to talk.

"We talked this time, not purely about tennis," Federer said of his meeting with the California-based Australian. "He was really what I expected, a great person, great man."

Kiefer competed for two sets but was outclassed in the third and fourth.

After a volatile five-setter against Sebastien Grosjean in the quarterfinals, when he tossed his racket over the net and was warned twice for using obscene language, Kiefer barely raised his voice, except for occasional disputed line calls.

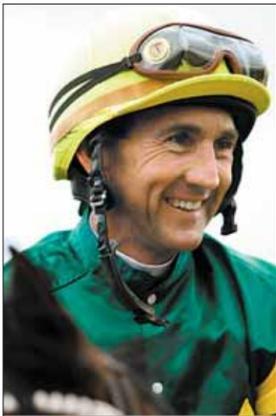
"I tried to stay in the whole time, but I just couldn't make it. In the end, he was just too good," Kiefer said.

"I lost to the best player in the world, and he showed it in the big moments."

Federer is aiming for his third consecutive major after winning at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in 2005.

Laver completed Grand Slams — winning the Australian, French and U.S. opens and Wimbledon — in 1962 and 1969 and retired with 11 singles titles at the majors.

Bailey puts long career out to pasture



By STEVEN WINE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HALLANDALE BEACH, Fla.

During a 31-year career that ends today, jockey Jerry Bailey spent a lot of time on the rail en route to the winner's circle.

"We used to joke about Jerry Bailey's rail pass," veteran race announcer Tom Durkin said. "He was an inside rider. That's where the fearless riders go. It's the shortest way around the race track, and the most dangerous."

Bailey avoided serious injury in more than 30,000 career mounts, although he did break his wrist in 2004 when he fell off a ladder putting up hurricane shutters at home.

At the track, the breaks mostly went Bailey's way: He can count two Kentucky Derby victories, 15 consecutive wins aboard Cigar and a record five Breeders' Cup Classic victories among his achievements.

Bailey, 48, will retire after racing today in the Sunshine Millions at Gulfstream Park. His final mount is expected to be in the \$500,000 Cloverleaf Farms Turf Stakes aboard 6-year-old homebred Silver Tree, trained by Bailey's longtime friend, Bill Mott.

It was Mott who put Bailey aboard Cigar for the final 15 victories in a record-tying 16-race winning streak in 1995-96.

The crowd for Bailey's finale is expected to include Miss Universe, Miami Dolphins running back Ronnie Brown, "Laguna Beach" star Kristin Cavallari and Peter Vegso, publisher of the best seller "Chicken Soup for the Soul."

Vegso owns Silver Tree, so he'll be rooting for Bailey to go out with a win.

"It would be a fairy-tale ending to his career," Vegso said. "It would also be a fairy-tale ending to the (collaboration) of Jerry Bailey and Bill Mott."

After his final race, Bailey will join ESPN and ABC Sports as an analyst, and he'll be part of about 20 telecasts, including the Belmont Stakes and the Breeders' Cup.

He says he'll miss most the feeling of "riding a really, really good horse. Those come along few and far between, and they're exceptional when it happens, and that's really what kept me around longer than I thought I'd be around."

Durkin, who will call Bailey's final ride, was there for many of the jockey's greatest victories. One was Black Tie Affair's surprising win in the 1991 Breeders' Cup Classic.

"Black Tie Affair had been spending the year dodging all the good horses running in places like Iowa and Michigan," Durkin said. "He was no Citation. Bailey single-handedly won Horse of the Year with that horse by stealing the Breeders' Cup Classic. It was outright theft."

Seniors prepare to say goodbye to high school career, friends

Tuesday was Senior Night. Before our game against Beech Grove, our two seniors, Kelsey Harvey and Breanna Davis, were honored. These two girls have impacted our team in many ways in their four years.

Kelsey, serving this season as one of our captains, has evolved into a great leader. Not only does she lead off the court, but she also is one of our best drivers and defenders.

I have come to count on her ability to take the ball all the way to the basket. I am completely confident when the ball is in her hands, and for that I thank her. As a point guard, it is wonderful to have someone that you can depend on.

Kelsey is awesome, and I will sorely miss having her as a teammate.

Breanna isn't one of our captains, but she is incredibly fun to be around and is a leader nonetheless.

She is a very good shooter and more than once has given us a lift just when we needed it most.

Though all of these things are great, there is one thing that I



Courtney Von Stein
WINTER SPORTS DIARY

love about Breanna more than anything else. It is her hilarious personality.

She gives things a light-hearted outlook on the court when things start to get serious, but at the same time, she keeps a focused attitude. Until this year, I hadn't gotten much of an opportunity to play with Breanna. I now realize that I was truly missing out.

Senior night always gives me a chance to reflect on just how quickly a season can go. We have only four regular-season games left, and to me it seems like our preseason scrimmage was just a couple of weeks ago.

Not only does one season fly by but high school athletics in general do as well.

As a freshman, sports seemed not only grand and intimidating

to me but also eternally plentiful.

Now, as I near the end of my junior season, I realize just how quickly time passes.

Though I do not regret my approach to my freshman and sophomore seasons on the basketball team, I wish that I would have enjoyed them in their entirety.

Playing basketball is so much fun, and I wish that I would have savored each and every second I was out on that court wearing a Braves uniform.

Luckily for me, it is not too late to change my thinking.

High school flies by as fast as a mad hornet, and though I am anxious to move on, I know that when it is my turn to walk down the steps on Senior Night, I want to have no regrets about the countless hours I spent in the Indian Creek High School gym.

I sincerely hope that this year's two seniors feel the same way.

Courtney Von Stein is a junior on the Indian Creek High School girls basketball team. Her Winter Sports Diary entries appear each week in the Daily Journal.

Judge asked to drop suit against Penn State

Woman says former coach, school told her to look more feminine

The Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE, Pa.

Penn State, its women's basketball coach and its athletic director have asked a federal judge to throw out a discrimination lawsuit by a former player last month.

The defendants said they would file paperwork later detailing their reasons for asking the court to dismiss the lawsuit filed by former Penn State basketball player Jennifer E. Harris.

Harris, who is black, accused coach Rene Portland of repeatedly asking her to try to look more feminine and of maintaining a

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Karen Doering
lawyer for former Penn State women's basketball player Jennifer E. Harris

discriminatory policy against lesbians and those she suspected of being a lesbian.

Harris said Portland, who is white, targeted black players in particular.

Lawyers for Harris, who has transferred to James Madison University in Virginia, have said she is not gay, but that Portland perceived her to be gay.

Portland has said Harris was disrespectful toward coaches and other players and her departure was a basketball-related decision.

The coach has denied racial or gender discrimination played a part.

The school, athletic director Tim Curley and Portland cited federal civil-procedure rules in their motions filed Thursday.

Harris' lawyer, James Doering, on Friday said a response will be filed after they see the reasons for the motion.

"We still feel very comfortable we have a strong case, and it'll certainly survive this motion to dismiss," Doering said.

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