

SPORTS

Hearing On State Control Of Wildlife At 1:15 PM Monday

A public hearing has been called at 1:15 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, at the Colorado County Courthouse to consider the adoption of a resolution requesting that this county be removed from regulatory powers of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and place the county under the general law of the state. This would mean that the Texas Legislature would set the wildlife rules for Colorado County, rather than the Parks and Wildlife Department, commented County Judge Lester J. Crum.

A delegation of citizens from the northern part of Colorado County appeared before the court at the Nov. 10th hearing and requested that such a resolution be sent to the Texas Senator-elect Kent Caperton and State Representative-elect Richard Saunders for possible implementation in the next session of the Texas Legislature.

Colorado County was removed from the regulatory authority and placed under general law in 1980 under a bill introduced by State Rep. Charlie Jungnickel at the urging of landowners in the Columbus and Wadsworth areas. At the next legislative session in 1971, following an unofficial referendum held in this county, the county was returned to the regulatory authority of the commission.

Only the legislature has power to make the change, and it is believed that Saunders and Caperton would give serious consideration to an official recommendation from the commissioners' court.

It is anticipated that there will be a large number of

Spike Buck Myth Hurts Deer Herds

Deer Herds

The opening of deer season in Texas always rekindles a number of myths and folklore about the elusive whitetail.

One long-standing myth is not only misleading but also detrimental to good deer management in the state, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologist Donnie Harnel.

"Many hunters and landowners have held to the opinion that a spike buck is a buck with single antlers protruding through the skin but without prongs or forks," Harnel said.

This long-standing tradition of over-protection of spikes is damaging, Harnel said, because recent studies at the Kerr Wildlife Management Area in Kerr County have conclusively shown that spikes are nutritionally and genetically inferior to bucks which have forked antlers in their first year.

This means that hunters have been protecting the bucks which will perpetuate

the characteristic of small antlers and body size in the herd, Harnel said.

The Kerr study involved six years of controlled breeding programs which showed that spike bucks produced a high percentage of spike offspring through several generations, even with optimum nutrition.

"For a long time it was assumed that nutrition was the only factor in producing spike bucks," Harnel observed, "but now we can see that while nutrition is the underlying cause, genetics also play an important role in perpetuating the presence of malnourished, spike-antlered bucks in a herd."

Even in the face of these findings, spike bucks still are protected by law in some Texas counties. Spikes are protected in counties not under the department's regulatory authority (game laws set by the Legislature), and in five counties whose commissioners' courts voted to disapprove department recommendations to remove deer from protection from spike bucks.

Harnel said the continued protection of spike bucks can be compared to removing the best bulls from a herd of cattle, leaving the genetically inferior bulls to perpetuate the herd.

"I would advise hunters and landowners to harvest spike bucks in counties where they may legally be taken, especially in areas where healthy, trophy-type bucks are in short supply," Harnel said. "This would put some venison in the freezer, and also be beneficial to the deer herd."

citizens present for the hearing Monday both for and against the proposal to remove this county from regulatory control.

First In Series On Wild Game Menus

Game Menus

[By Donnie Harnel, County Extension Agent] Big game provides variety and contributes high quality nutrients to meals of families of Texas sportsmen.

Utilization of this wild game aids conservation of a valuable resource and can stretch the food budget year round.

Big game also fits into the meat group of the basic four food groups.

Like domestic meat, it is rich in protein, minerals and vitamins.

There is one difference though: the generally low in fat. Serving size is two to three ounces of lean meat.

Most of big game provides protein needed for growth and repair of body tissues, muscles, blood, skin and hair. It also provides iron, thiamin, riboflavin and niacin.

For those who prefer to have their deer meat made into sausage, here are some deer sausage recipes.

Since there are many preferences for different flavors and textures, adapt these recipes to please individual tastes.

Deer Breakfast Sausage

25 pounds lean deer, antelope or elk meat

25 pounds very fresh regular pork trimmings (50 percent lean, 50 percent fat)

1 pound salt

1 1/2 - 2 ounces ground sage

1 1/2 - 2 ounces black pepper

1/2 ounce red pepper (if desired)

5 ounces sugar

FOR SMALL QUANTITIES

1/2 ounce wild game meat

2 pounds regular pork trimmings

2 teaspoons salt

4 teaspoons ground sage

2 teaspoons ground black pepper

1/4 - 1/2 teaspoon red pepper (if desired)

1 teaspoon sugar

Thoroughly mix trimmings, and grind through a plate with 1/8-inch holes.

Spread coarsely ground meat on table top, sprinkle seasoning on top and thoroughly mix. Refrigerate through a plate with 1/8-inch holes.

If a 1/4-inch plate is not available, sprinkle seasoning on top of trimmings, thoroughly mix and grind once through a plate with 1/8-inch holes.

For stuffed sausage, stuff immediately for best results. Stuff into natural hog casings, plastic bags or muslin bags (use any cloth bag made from strong cloth that has been washed several times).

Obtain natural hog casings from meat markets, local meat processing plants or stores.

Soak them in warm, salty water for about one hour or until they are pliable.

If bulk sausage is to be served soon after making, add 1/4 cup of water to about four pounds of sausage. Knead with hands until sausage becomes sticky.

Pack tightly in small molds, meat or cans and chill overnight before slicing.

Corral and Smoked Sausage

(Country Style)

27 1/2 pounds of deer, antelope or elk meat

12 1/2 pounds of very fresh pork fat trimmings (fat-back)

1 pound salt

1 ounce saltpeter (potassium nitrate - obtain at drug store)

2 ounces black pepper

1/2 ounce ground cloves (or

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Rice Kernels

By Jeff Fink

The Rice Raider variety girls made it four wins in a row in basketball action during the past week with wins in Yoakum last Tuesday and against Ganado at Rice on Monday night of the week.

This weekend the Raiders will test their perfect 4-0 record in the Katy Tournament which gets started on Thursday afternoon with the finals slated for Saturday afternoon.

Last Tuesday night in Yoakum it was all three Raider teams coming away

with victories. The variety was its contest by the score of 76 to 51.

Mabel Hinton was the top player in the game for the Raiders, coached by Reuben Wunderlich. She scored 22 points, grabbed 14 rebounds and handed out seven assists.

Patricia Banks added 14 points in the win, Sharon McTeer, who hit five of six free throws, had 13 and Yolanda McTeer scored 12.

Freeman, JV Win

In the freshman contest the Raiders and Yoakum were tied at six each after one period but Rice took an 18-4 lead at halftime. The Raiders pulled ahead 29 to 11 in the third period and breezed through the final period for the 36 to 17 win. Rosharon

stadium where only a few officers were. The taber told us to go right on down to the field to tape up the signs. That's what we did alright, but we were quickly ushered off the field, back into the stands. I just wish there would have been someone to turn me around everytime I made a wrong turn on the freeway.

We did get the signs hung and surprisingly someone spotted the one with Eagle Lake written on it. He was Frank Molano, a former resident of this city. After talking awhile, he told us that there were two seats in front of him that nobody ever sat in. When we found out they were three rows up from the field, we quickly forgot about our upper-deck seats and joined him and his daughter.

They were really good seats, located in the end zone right above the entrance to the Cowboys' dressing room, allowing some good close-up shots of the Dallas team and cheerleaders. We even had a chance to say "Hi" to Whizzer! Ray.

Finally, about seven hours, eight touchdowns and a safety later, the game ended. There were a few exciting moments in the lopsided win but it might have really been dull if not for the compact seating, getting up and down every five minutes for people coming and going, my cold, a half cup of hot chocolate poured on my Rice Raider cap and my brand new jacket and waving at the television cameras.

We did a little souvenir shopping and picture taking before hiking back to the motel and then it was out for a pizza. By the time we finished eating, it was only 9 p.m., and before we knew it, we two wild and crazy guys went back to the motel and sacked out.

Monday Nite Mixed

In the Monday Nite Mixed league action on Nov. 24th, the G.C.O.C. team rolled high team series with a 2070 score. Pearl Lites had high game of 832. Freddy Polts set the pace for the men with a 207-549 and Virginia Waldrop led women's scoring with a 186-554. Gayle Garrison posted a 208-557. Lee Briscoe 516 and Frank Tate 518.

GCOC and the Longhorns are tied for the league lead with 30 wins each, followed by the A's and Good Times with 28 each. Team No. 9 with 27 and Pearl Lites with 24.

Hunt During Holidays

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Bala, Brian and Renee spent the Thanksgiving weekend at their deer camp at Harper. They were joined there by Mr. and Mrs. Steve Taylor.

Stephen and Toss of Lake Jackson

On Saturday afternoon they attended the Texas University-Texas A&M football game in Austin.

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Visit in Ganado

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Raiders Girls Win Fourth Straight Games; Host Yoakum Monday

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