Sports

TOP

2014 Spring Turkey Harvest Up for 3rd Year

MAY 19TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

2014 Spring Turkey Harvest Up for 3rd Year

Submitted by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Missouri - Hunters posted the third spring turkey harvest increase in a row, bettering last year's number by more than 1,000 birds.

Hunters checked 43,273 turkeys during Missouri's regular spring turkey season April 21 through May 11. Top harvest counties were Texas with 938 birds checked, Franklin with 921, and Laclede with 736.

Hunters age 6 through 15 checked 4,332 turkeys during the youth season April 12 and 13, bringing the 2014 spring harvest total to 47,605. That is the third consecutive increase since 2011, when the combined youth and regular season harvest was 42,226.

Favorable weather throughout much of this year's spring turkey season helped hunters, according to Resource Scientist Jason Isabelle with the Missouri Department of Conservation. He says this year's harvest was also affected by improvements in turkey production.

"Prior to 2011, the state's turkey population had struggled through four consecutive years of poor hatches," says Isabelle. "The improved hatches of

2011 and 2012 resulted in an increase in the number of adult gobblers available for hunters this spring."

County-by-county spring turkey harvest totals are available at mdc.mo.gov/node/263.

The Conservation Department recorded seven firearms-related spring turkey hunting incidents during the regular season and one during the youth season. Two of the incidents in the regular season were fatal. Five of the seven incidents, including one of the fatalities, involved shooters who mistook other hunters for turkeys.

Missouri's safest spring turkey season was last year, when the Conservation Department recorded only one incident, which was nonfatal. The worst was 1986, with 31 reported incidents and two fatalities.

In the 10 years from 1985 through 1994, the Conservation Department recorded an average of 17.3 spring turkey hunting incidents per year. The 10-year average from 2005 through 2014 was 4.8 per year. Fatal incidents averaged .6 per year during both 10-year periods. Conservation Department Hunter Education Coordinator Kyle Lairmore says these statistics demonstrate the importance of hunter education in preventing hunting injuries.

"Since the inception of hunter education training, which became mandatory in 1987, more than 1 million Missourians have received formal firearms and safety training," says Lairmore. "They make up a larger percentage of the hunting public every year, and that increase has been paralleled by a more than five-fold decrease in spring turkey hunting incidents. A season like the one we just had reminds us that we still have work to do, but it's important to remember how far we have come."

Lairmore said volunteer hunter-education instructors and Conservation Department employees are responsible for dramatic gains in hunting safety over the past 27 years. Simply put, he says, "They save lives."

The Conservation Department's First Turkey Program lets turkey hunters commemorate their first turkey kill with a certificate suitable for framing. You can even add a photo of the proud hunter with his or her bird. To create a first-turkey certificate, visit mo.gov/node/10469. The same site has forms for a youth's first deer, as well as first deer/turkey certificates for adults.

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SCAA All-Conference Softball Announced

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Written by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Stoddard County, Missouri - The SCAA All-Conference Softball Team has been announced along with honorable mention, player of the year and coaches of the year.

1st Team All-Conference Softball

Tori Lowery – Bernie Hannah Clark – Advance Josie Long – Woodland Kathlyn Cooper – Woodland Blakely Bradshaw – Bernie Sydney Bailey – Advance Mara Grindstaff – Woodland Dakota Silliman – Dexter Lara Spitzer – Bernie Madison Brown – Advance

Honorable Mention

Ashley Brown – Dexter Morgan Wilkinson – Bloomfield Phoenix Richard – Puxico Danielle Roberts – Puxico Kendra Stevenson – Dexter Mara Mayo – Bloomfield

Players of the Year

Tori Lowery - Bernie

Co-Coaches of the Year

Brad Botsch – Bernie James Hamlin – Advance Andrea Arnold – Woodland

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Lady Bearcat Basketball Summer Camp

MAY 19TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

Lady Bearcat Basketball Summer Camp

Written by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Dexter, Missouri - The Lady Bearcat Basketball summer camp will be held at the Dexter High School on May 27th - 29th.

Girls entering kindergarten through third grade next year can attend camp from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., fourth- through sixth-graders from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and seventh- and eighth-graders from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Registration is \$25 a person. Contact Dexter girls basketball coach Chad Allen for more information at callen@dexter.k12.mo.us or 573-421-4571.

Camp features team concepts, shooting instruction, ball handling and passing instructions, contests, defensive concepts, age grouping and games. Certificates for contest winners and a camp t-shirt will be given to attendees.

This is an excellent camp, coached by Coach of the Year Chad Allen!!

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DHS Tennis Duo Advance to Sectionals

MAY 19TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

DHS Tennis Duo Advance to Sectionals

Written by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Potosi, Missouri - Dexter High School sophomore Ethan Flowers and junior Noah Kronk will advance to play doubles in the Class 1 tennis sectionals after qualifying at district play on Saturday in Potosi.

Flowers and Kronk won two out of their three games defeating North County (6-1, 6-4) and Notre Dame (6-4, 6-2), before falling to Notre Dame (5-7, 3-6).

Teams in Class 1 District 1 include Arcadia Valley, Desoto, Dexter, Notre Dame, North County, and Potosi.

Class 1 Sectionals will be held at Windsor High School in Imperial, Missouri this week where Flowers and Kronk will challenge a District 2 doubles team from Festus.

This is Flowers' 2nd trip to sectional play and Kronk's first. They currently hold a 9-4 record on the season.

Congratulations Ethan and Noah!!!

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More from ShowMe Times:

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Austin Battles Headed to State in Golf

MAY 18TH 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

Austin Battles Headed to State in Golf

Written by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Bloomfield, Missouri - Senior High School student, Austin Battles qualified for state golf by posting an 11-over-par 82 at sectionals recently held at The Golf Club at Linn Creek.

His first trip to state was as a sophomore.

Battles finished 8th overall at sectionals, after tying for 6th at districts.

Missouri State golf for Class 1 is at Rivercut Golf Course in Springfield Monday and Tuesday, May 19th & 20th.

Austin will also be graduating Sunday afternoon, May 18th at 4 p.m. at Bloomfield High School.

Congratulations Austin!

The Bloomfield community is extremely proud of you and your accomplishments!

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