

## CONSERVATION AFFAIRS

Happenings Affecting Woods, Waters and Wildlife  
By THE BLUFFTON COMMUNITY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.

### Stonehill Qualifies for Prize Money at Grand American Shoot

C. V. Stonehill, Bluffton trap shooter, made a good showing in the preliminary grand at Vandalia last Thursday by breaking 95 of the blue rocks out of 100 on the 17 yard line. In the Grand on Saturday "Stoney" repeated the feat and again broke 95 out of 100 at the same yardage. In the preliminary there were 348 five man teams, 1740 shooters in all, while in the Grand American, which started on Friday and finished on Saturday, 380 five man squads, 1900 shooters, banged away at the clay birds. Stonehill shot on team 315. Accompanied by Ed Reichenbach both men were entered in the preliminary and in the Grand.

"Stoney" was really on the beam in the shooting event and his ability at breaking the birds should earn him a sizeable chunk of the prize money which was expected to pass the \$50,000 mark.

The North American clay target championship was won by D. Lee Braun, a Texan from Dallas. To capture the crown Braun won a shootout with J. B. Grier of Delaware state, 25 to 24 after each had broken 200 straight birds in the regular event.

The champion is the first professional in history to hold both the national skeet and trap shooting

championships the same year.

### Liberate More Raccoon

A half dozen raccoon were liberated in the Bluffton area as the Conservation Division systematically carried out a program of restocking woodlots with 2000 ringtails reared on the Milan con farm. The con were brought to Bluffton by A. J. Lutterbein who turned them over to Albert Garmatter for liberation. Jess Manges and George Frick assisted Garmatter in releasing the animals. The state conservation department plans to liberate approximately 30 con per county of this area. The con are 4 months old.

The sportsmen's club has been active in con restocking and will purchase con again this fall during hunting season for liberation later. The club released nearly 40 live con at the close of the last hunting season.

### Lands Big Bass

"Doc" Ludwig stole the show last week by snagging a 3½ pound bass at the Water Works quarry. The big fish measured 19½ inches and "Doc" lured the big fellow with a jitterbug bait at dusk. Just one week previous "Doc" hooked another big lunker bass at the same quarry with his jitterbug. The big fish also weighed 3½ pounds and

measured 19½ inches.

Doc says he had only one strike on both occasions but each time was successful in snagging a fish.

Jim Hugas at Rawson showed up the Findlay boys by hooking a 5½ pound 22 inch bass at Shank's quarry. Doc says he learned Jim used a jitterbug so he is out now to break the record. Not a bad start—seven pounds of fish on two strikes!

Sure was surprised at Carp Lake, Mich., last week to discover the owner of the cottage where my family and I were staying was a good friend of Cliff Stratton. The owner, James Aldrich said he used to know Cliff when they were both engaged in farming at Ithaca, Mich., years ago.

Albert Gibbs and family from Rawson, vacationed with us at the lake which is located 4 miles from the Straits of Mackinac. Fish were biting and some fine Wall Eye catches were made. Some of the fish snagged by Albert ranged up to 17 inches in length. Perch and blue gills took the bait readily and despite the fact the lake is called Carp Lake the natives claim it has not a fish of that type. Fed by springs it is the source of Carp River whose crystal clear stream abounds in trout. Several of these fish observed in the stream would have easily measured 16 inches in length.

A party of Bluffton fishermen: Ray Mumma, Carl Mumma, Wade Mumma and Alva McCartney from Findlay are on a ten day fishing trip to Bruce Mines, Ontario, Canada. The men have engaged a cabin and will stay until Labor Day.

Another party of Bluffton men: Gerald Clever, Charles Lloyd, Oliver Steiner, Lewis Weyer and Frenas Herrmann are on a fishing jaunt to Everett, Mich., where they will vacation near the Muskingum river.

R. V. Kirtland and wife and Pleyel Pett and wife are touring the New England states.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery Benroth have returned from a motor trip to the same area. Emery says maple syrup in Vermont brings \$8.00 per gallon.

Harry Bogart and wife vacationed the past week at Arbutus lake near Traverse City.

### Dwight Diller Named Head Coach At Logan

Dwight L. Diller, graduate of Bluffton High school, and a former coach here who had unusual records with Pirate football and basketball teams, last week was named head football and basketball coach at Logan High school.

From Bluffton, Diller went to Bowling Green High school as a coach, then into the armed forces.

### WING TIPS From Bluffton Airport

Quite a number of students made their first solo flight from the Bluffton airport during the last week. Ropp Triplett, Bluffton; Eugene Leatherman, Findlay and Fernon Loganbill, Kenny McCrary, and Dutch Brafford, all of Lima, completed first flights on their own with flying colors.

Kenny and Paul McCrary have purchased an Ercoupe from the Bluffton Flying Service and are learning to fly it with Dick Finton as instructor. Kenny is also flying under the G. I. Bill and has already soloed in a conventional airplane.

New faces at the Bluffton airport: Thomas McCray and James Spyer, Spencerville; Raymond Holden, Findlay, and Stanley Basinger, Bluffton—all enrolled in the Private Pilot's Course. Jack Jarvis, Spencerville, instructor pilot course.

James McNeff, Lima, student in the instructor course, successfully passed his flight test with CAA Inspector Phil Jones and has received his instructor's rating.

Clayton Bixel and Harold Corey flew the Tavorcraft to Riverdale, Maryland, Friday to take delivery of a new 1947 Ercoupe for the Bluffton Flying Service. The Ercoupe, with its sleek appearance, faster speed and greater comfort, has proved to be a popular airplane with both students and passengers. The new ship was kept busy the majority of the day Sunday with Clayton Bixel, pilot, taking many people for their first ride and receiving many compliments on the new plane.

Better eggs are produced in hot weather if they are gathered twice or oftener a day and are kept in wire containers in a cool, humid room until sold.

## Under Ohio Skies

AS TOLD BY THE CONSERVATION DIVISION



### Grid Workouts Started By Teams Which Will Play In Sept. 5 Prevue

Grid workouts were started last week by the eight Class B teams slated to appear under the lights at Harmon field Friday, Sept. 5, in Bluffton's first football prevee.

One change in the list of competing schools was made when Elida withdrew to play in the Lima Olympia, and was replaced by Forest. Prevue schedule will pit the following teams against each other in the all-star classic here:

MT. CORY VS LAFAYETTE

PANDORA VS RAWSON

ADA VS COLUMBUS GROVE

BLUFFTON VS FOREST

In the evening competition there will be four 16-minute games that

will give sports fans of the area an opportunity to see their teams in action before the season officially opens.

With the Bluffton Recreation committee sponsoring the 1947 football prevee, all proceeds in excess of team guarantees and other expenses will be used in furthering the town's year-around recreation program.

Of the competing eleven, Forest, Pandora, Lafayette and Columbus Grove are members of the Northwest Conference of Class B teams; Rawson and Mt. Cory play in the Hancock County Little Seven; Bluffton is defending champion of the Western Buckeye league and Ada is an independent.

### Beaverdam

Lansil Edgecomb of Bluffton, Ind., was calling on friends here over the week end.

Mrs. Catherine Bassitt who has spent the past two months at Arlington, Va., with relatives is spending several weeks with her sister Mrs. Cynthia Elliott.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mullin of Detroit, Mich., were Monday guests of Miss Ruth Durkee.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beery of Michigan were week end visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Delmer Beery.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Leatherman and son Merlip, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hall and family, Mr. and Mrs. I. J. Amstutz and son Wendell, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Clay Searfoss of Col. Grove spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hall and family at West Unity.

Mrs. Gladys Williams of Lansing, Mich., is visiting with John Huber and Miss Bernice Huber.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Weaver and family of Dayton, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Anderson and family of Pandora, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Bowers and son, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Anderson and family, Mr. Alva Anderson of Coldwater, Mich., Mrs. Margaret Yant and son, Mrs. Lillie Anderson enjoyed a picnic Monday evening at the Foust Highway Park.

Mrs. Orval Younkman of Winfield, Kansas, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Foster and Mrs. M. Foster of Oklahoma are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Younkman and other relatives in this vicinity.

About 50 were present at the Yoakam reunion which was held Sunday evening at the Foust Highway Park.

Mrs. Carl Schmidt and children of Perrysburg were Monday visitors of Mrs. Cynthia Elliott.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Rupright



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### Richland Center

Mr. and Mrs. John Boehm and granddaughter of Jenera, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Core and family and Miss Mary Gratz were Sunday callers of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gratz.

Robert Luginbuhl and son Tom of Cleveland spent a few days with his mother Mrs. J. I. Luginbuhl.

Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Boutwell and daughter Barbara, Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Gratz and daughter Sharon and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schaublin were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Schaublin and family of Columbus Grove.

Past week callers of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gratz were Mr. and Mrs. Ed

Marquart, Mrs. Sam Dailey, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Coon, Mr. and Mrs. Reno Gratz, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Gratz, Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Gratz and daughter Mrs. Arthur Miller and daughter Grace.

Mrs. Donavin Gratz and children of Souderton, Pa., are spending this week with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Otto Amstutz.

Miss Rose Hoobing and Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Cribley were Sunday afternoon and evening visitors at the Albert Balmer home.

Patsy and Richard Schaublin spent a few days with their grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schaublin.

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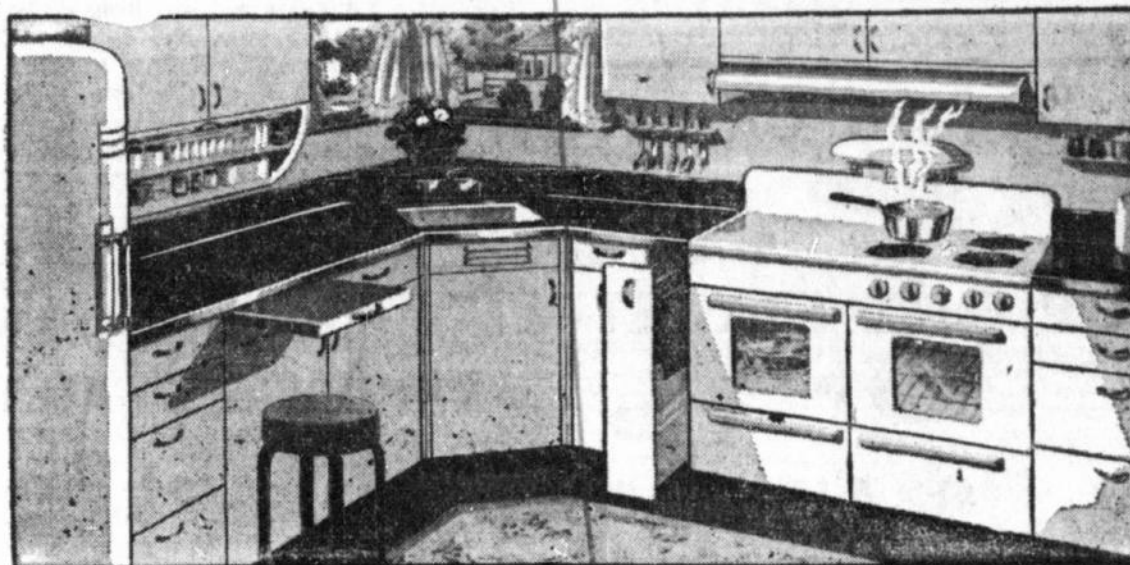
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