



May 17, 2010

By Ken Lamb of the Tackle Box, 301-863-8151

We have alternated using our heat and air conditioning this week as the wacky weather heats up and cools down in short order. This pattern confused both us and the fish until Saturday when a stable, warm and calm period took over.

Trollers found the remains of the trophy rockfish ready to bite (though their numbers have fallen off to about a third of opening day a month ago), and breaking rockfish were attracting swarms of birds from Cove Point to the Power Plant. Keith Hughes' fishing trip last Sunday consisted of trolling up a trophy rockfish of nearly thirty pounds, jigging up a fine striper of about 30 inches at the Nuclear Power Plant, and then throwing surface lures to breaking fish outside the Gas Docks.

The first blues of the year were reported by Capt. Brady Bounds (301-862-3166), whose fishing party hooked and released over 100 fish that ranged from inside the Gas Docks to the Nuclear Power Plant. These breaking rockfish had at least two bluefish mixed in as Bounds' party boated them to their surprise.

There were good catches of croaker on Saturday evening. Melvin Lindsley took a group out near Point No Point in his boat and using bloodworms and squid for bait landed a limit of croaker (75), the biggest one being 15 1/2 inches. The shore fishermen caught croaker too both at Point Lookout and in the mouth of the Patuxent. The Gilberts took the whole family out to Hog Point (NAS) and brought home a grand catch of about 50 croaker. These fish were caught from the shoreline using double hook bottom rigs and bloodworms for bait.

White perch are starting to act like it is summer in the creeks, but there are slow days when the tide is lazy and low.

Crabs are picking up daily for netters and chicken neckers. Waterfront folks find their crab pots doing nicely.



Jordan Nueslein with his trophy rockfish caught on a trolled tandem rig near buoy 72 in the Bay.



Steve Mapp caught this big carp at Ryken Park on a squid bait.



Tyler Johnson fished on Capt. Greg Madjeski's "Temple M" charter and landed this 42 inch, 28 pound rockfish near Point No Point lighthouse.



Bill Wakeman landed this trophy rockfish near buoy 72 while fishing with Capt. Buddy Shue.



Trevor Gilbert with a fine croaker from the mouth of the Patuxent at Hog Point.



Current leader in the Tackle Box's big croaker contest for May is this 15 1/2 incher landed by Melvin Lindsley near Point No Point.



Lydia and Kiauni Gilbert and their croaker.



Keith Hughes trolled up this 43 inch, 27 pound rockfish on Sunday near buoy 72.



Diana Gilbert caught one too.



Robert Evans, Jr. used a trolled umbrella to catch this 44 inch, 27 pound trophy.