



Headed to OBU

Midlothian resident signs for volleyball

Kirt Henderson, Admissions Counselor from Oklahoma Baptist University made a special trip to The Canterbury Episcopal School in DeSoto to officially sign senior Kaitlyn Lucy to a scholarship to play volleyball for OBU in the fall of 2011. A resident of Midlothian, Lucy was a member of the Canterbury state champion volleyball team this season. She was all smiles as she added her signature to the scholarship contract to play Libero for the nationally ranked OBU Bison's, who play in the highly touted Sooner Athletic Conference. She was selected to the first team all state team.



Dining in the outdoors

A tasty meal in the field adds a great deal to the outdoor experience. For many years, I've packed my portable propane stove/grill along on fishing and hunting trips and learned that almost everyone enjoys a tasty hot meal after catching a limit of stripers or shooting a heavy strap of ducks. Granted, a bit of preparation is necessary before the outing to insure the necessary cooking implements and ingredients are on hand but the rewards are well worth the efforts.

I have devoted a hard plastic box to storing all the basics needed for a quick meal. Everything from paper towels, fillet knife and ladle to salt and pepper stays in my 'grub box' and through the years, I've pared its contents to the bare essentials.



**LUKE
CLAYTON
OUTDOORS**

Most duck hunters are out of the blind by mid morning. I often prepared breakfast while my buddies are cleaning our ducks. These mid morning meals take about 20 minutes to prepare and are well received by hungry and often cold hunters.

Breakfast tacos or fajitas are a favorite and most of the work is done the evening before the hunt. All that's really needed is some spicy breakfast sausage or bacon, chopped onion, diced potato, cheese, picante sauce, butter, eggs and possibly a little chopped fresh garlic. I carry a big roll of heavy duty aluminum foil in the truck to serve as makeshift containers and paper plates and plastic forks which make clean up a snap.

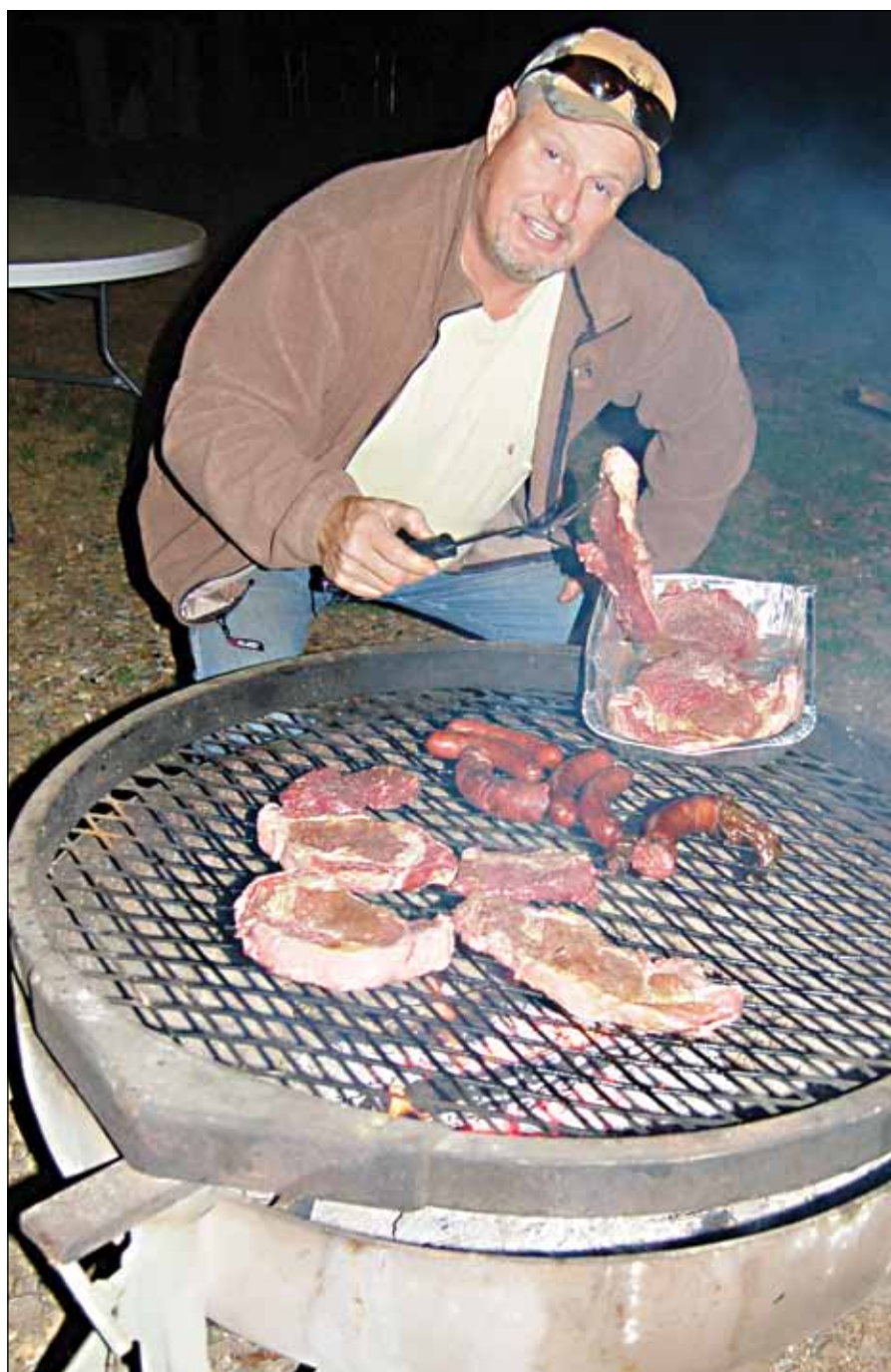
Venison fajitas are even easier to prepare. I slice venison steak or duck breasts the night before, add chopped onion, jalapeno and fajita seasoning. When it's time to prepare brunch, a little olive oil is poured in the skillet and the contents of the bag cooked on high heat for about 12 minutes; tortillas are heated in the skillet after the meat is cooked. Bingo! Instant breakfast!

My friend Mike Ford has a breakfast skillet casserole that is easy to prepare. Using a cast iron skillet, he browns breakfast sausage, adds onion, jalapeno and diced potatoes and cooks until the potatoes are done. Next, he tops the casserole with cheese and then, places several eggs over the top of the dish, making sure not to break the yellows of the eggs.

The heat is turned off about the time the eggs are added and they are cooked to the desired degree of doneness by the warm skillet and ingredients. Mike usually heats some tortillas to accompany his dish which can be eaten with a fork or served as a breakfast taco on the tortillas.

What's a mid day brunch in the field without plenty of hot coffee. Here's where I cheat a bit! I usually bring a big thermos or two of coffee which I prepare at home before heading out to hunt. If you have the time, a free burner and an old enamel percolator, you can easily brew the coffee while you're cooking. Forget drinking hot coffee from those tin cups. Throw away plastic cups are much easier to deal with in the field, besides they won't burn your hands like their metal counterparts.

There is something special about cooking and eating fresh game or fish while in the field. Using my portable propane grill, I like to take fresh fish fillets, dust them liberally with blackening seasoning and cook them quickly on



Retired quarterback Mike Ford is about as handy around the campfire as he was at tossing a football. This seasoned veteran can crank out an excellent meal on the grill at camp in less times than it takes to tell about it.

high heat in butter.

I carry a couple of lemons and squeeze some fresh juice on them just before serving. I pack my grill along on most stripers trips to Lake Texoma or Whitney and a lake side lunch of very fresh blackened stripers has become a tradition. The trick to quick outdoor meals is keeping everything simple.

I know this goes against the grain of most ladies (unless they are doing the cooking) but a simple meal of all the blackened stripers fillets one can eat with a few slices of bread is usually well received.

My wife and most ladies think that beans, cold slaw, a desert, etc. must be served alongside these one course meals but I am of another mindset. When ladies accompany us in the field, we often ask them to bring the side dishes, which often go uneaten when there is an abundance of fish fillets!

If your meal is lunch or dinner and, you wish to keep it quick, simple and tasty, there's nothing at all wrong with cooking a big pot of venison chili outside on the smoker, pouring it into plastic containers, freezing it and reheating for a tasty camp meal. Served with shredded cheese and crackers, hot chili always goes over well at camp.

The trick is to plan your outdoor feast to coincide with the activity you are engaged in. If you plan to be hunting or fishing until dark, it important to either plan a meal that can be heated up quickly or to prepare something fast such as the pre sliced and marinated fajitas.

We can get by in the field with a loaf of bread and a jar of peanut butter and

jelly but, with a little forethought and planning, we can make our meals memorable dining experiences. One bit of forewarning though, once you assume the duties of camp cook and begin turning out tasty meals, you are apt to be assigned the job permanently. But, that's not all bad. It's gotten me out of a lot of game and fish cleaning.

DUCK SEASON CLOSED FOR FIRST SPLIT

I've been hunting ducks 2 or three times each week during the first split of the season and enjoyed pretty steady shooting on gadwall, teal, and widgeon. The most recent blast of arctic air pushed some big flights of Ringneck ducks into the area I hunt in Kaufman County.

The brief period between the close of the first split of the season and the opening of the second allows time for us to give our decoys a good cleaning and make sure everything is ship shape for what promises to be some of the best duck hunting of the year.

In the next couple weeks, those big greenheads should begin pouring into the state from the northern climes where the grain fields are now covered with ice and snow.

Larry Sparks with Sparky Guide Service www.sparkyguideservice.com up in the Texoma area reports shooting was excellent on the upper reaches of the lake and he's looking forward to some great hunting during the second season.

Listen to *Outdoors with Luke Clayton* at www.cafishradio.com. Contact Luke with outdoors news via the web site.

Mavs end week 3-0 to extend winning streak

By SARAH MARSHALL
Daily Light intern

The Dallas Maverick defense helped gain an easy victory over the Houston Rockets, 101-91 Monday night. It was the sixth straight win for Dallas.

Dirk Nowitzki (20 points, 10 rebounds) and Shawn Marion (14 points, 10 boards) both earned double-doubles to push the team to the win.

"Everybody is coming into their own a little bit right now and we're really supporting each other and we're holding each other accountable when we need to," Marion said.

Five players scored double figures including Nowitzki (20), Caron Butler (19), Marion (14), J.J. Barea (11) and DeShawn Stevenson (10).

An explosive third quarter was the turning point for the Mavericks. Butler scored 11 consecutive points, increasing a seven-point halftime lead to 18. Butler ended the quarter with 13 points. Jason Kidd earned eight of his 11 assists in the third quarter.

Mavericks vs. Minnesota

The Mavericks secured a 100-86 victory Wednesday night with help from Shawn Marion and Tyson Chandler, who scored 16 points and 18 rebounds respectively. Chandler earned 14 of his 18 rebounds in the third quarter, setting a franchise-record.

This game was the seventh straight win for the Mavericks and the 400th career victory for coach Rick Carlisle. This was also the Mavericks' 300th win at the American Airlines Center.

Six players scored 3-pointers and the team shot 41.7 percent from behind the arc. DeShawn Stevenson, Jason Terry and Brian Cardinal each scored two 3-pointers and Jason Kidd and J.J. Barea each made one.

The lead came from the bench, who outscored Minnesota 59-32. They also outscored the starters, 59-41.

Another plus for the Mavericks was turnovers. Minnesota committed 12, which led to Dallas converting 15 points.

Mavericks at Utah Jazz

The Mavericks completed this week 4-0 with a 93-81 win over the Utah Jazz on the road Friday, ending the Jazz's seven-game winning streak.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 26 points, Caron Butler contributed 16 and Jason Kidd added 15 points for Dallas.

The Jazz had a rough night from the free throw line, making only 20 of 30 and shooting 38.2 percent compared to 52.6 for Dallas.

Although Utah out-rebounded Dallas 25-15 in the first half, Nowitzki and the rest of the Mavericks bounced back in the second half with back-to-back 3-pointers from Jason Kidd to give Dallas a 62-55 lead late in the third quarter.

The fourth quarter was another explosive quarter for Dallas, who scored 27 points to earn the eighth straight win.

Next up, the Mavericks will host the Golden State Warriors on Tuesday, Dec. 7. Tip-off is set for 7:30 and the game will be broadcast on FSSW. Tickets are still available.

Sports Happenings

Baseball camp

Fall pitcher and catcher camp will be held Saturday, Dec. 11, at Richards Park. Registration will be from 12.30-1 p.m. while the camp is from 1-4. Held by Waxahachie head baseball coach Tracy Wood the camp is for grades 2-8. Cost is \$30.

Youth hoops league sign up

ECYSA girl's and boy's basketball signups will be held from Nov. 19-Dec. 18 for ages 4-13. To sign up players or for more information, contact Tiffany Pointer 214-616-5989. Barry Williams 214-694-8696 or Reggie Sterns 469-441-1992.

YMCA basketball

Registration is open for YMCA basketball for ages 3-16. Fees are \$60 for members of \$90 for non-members. Register online at www.waxahachieymca.org. Deadline is Dec. 17. Contact Tammy Blake at 972-937-9622 for more details.

WYB registration

It is baseball time in Waxahachie. Registration is open online at wybonline.org for play in the Waxahachie Youth Baseball association. Register online before 1/28/11 and receive a free WYB T-shirt.