



Michigan's deer herd is smaller than the last few years, but a good season is expected.

Deer

Hunters ready for new season

By LEM MESEE
Outdoors writer

As Michigan deer hunters look forward to a good — but not spectacular — season, a local group is opening up its shooting range for those who want to "sight in" their rifles.

The Western Wayne County Conservation Association, headed by John Moore of Westland, will open its range six days a week (all but Tuesdays) from Oct. 20 to Nov. 14.

Hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the fee is \$5 for the day.

The club provides individual shooting benches, spotting scopes, targets, and bags and range officers to supervise shooting.

Club grounds are at 6700 Napier, north of North Territorial Road, Plymouth Township. If you have questions, call the club headquarters at 453-9843.

BOW HUNTERS are seeing lots of deer signs, but so far pressure and success have been light, says the Pontiac district office of the state Department of Natural Resources. Archery season for deer opened Oct. 1.

The average archer's chance of success is one in 10.

In the shooting season, which begins Nov. 1, DNR thinks 1978's record will stand.

"With three successive severe winters in a row, the deer population



Outdoors

indicator of how hunting will be, were down 11 percent this year.

Last year's hunting take (followed by this year's prediction in parentheses) was:

- Bucks, nearly 107,000 (about 80,000).
 - Archery kill, 25,000 (possibly 20,000).
 - Total kill taken by hunters, 170,000 (at least 130,000).
- Last year there were 205,000 archers, 747,000 firearm hunters and 21,000 muzzleloader hunters in the field.

has got to drop," says Joe Vogt, DNR deer expert.

"Our spring pellet survey found an estimated 700,000 deer survived the winter. With new spring births, that number should be about 900,000 deer by now," he said.

In contrast, during the last three years, the deer population was estimated at more than one million prior to the opening of hunting.

Car-deer collisions, usually a good

METROPARKS doings for nature lovers.

Hudson Mills Metropark has nature walks, guided by a naturalist, for groups of 10 to 35 Tuesdays at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. through October. The park is on the Huron River at North Territorial Road in Washtenaw County. To make an appointment, call the metroparks office at 961-5865 and ask for the nature interpretive program.

OCC board ratifies pact; new contract talks start

No sooner have the 170 classified and clerical employees settled a contract problem with Oakland Community College than they are starting work on negotiations for a new contract.

"We start committee work tomorrow on a new contract," said Rose Couture, spokeswoman for Local 2042 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO.

She spoke Thursday only minutes after the OCC board of trustees ratified contract amendments for the third year of the current contract. Union members Wednesday ratified the agreement by an overwhelming vote of the 160 persons who attended the meeting.

The current three-year contract expires June 30, 1980.

The economic reopener ratified last week provides these improvements, according to Ms. Couture:

- Pay raises retroactive to July 1 of 22 cents an hour for 135 step B persons and 43 cents for 38 step F persons; and a movement of all step E persons to step F next Jan. 1.

• \$5,000 more in life insurance.

Members' insurance coverage ranges from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and will go to \$10,000 to \$20,000.

• More specific language for distribution of overtime and an improved dinner allowance for employees who work late.

Local 2042 represents clerical, secretarial and technical personnel at OCC's four campuses and administrative headquarters.

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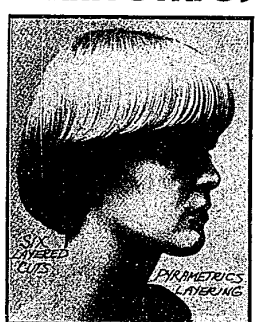
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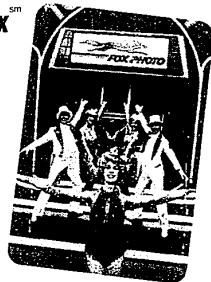
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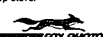
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