

Aug. 29
8:30 p.m.
Kland, 9 p.m.
Aug. 29
8:30 p.m.

WHOPPER

FROM PAGE B1

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wellnews.co
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Valentine
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today!

the beginning of the sea- available at press time.

Still, the big cats are

there, and some of them
are enormous. Smith said
another angler boated a
62-pounder earlier this
summer. Just three weeks
ago, Smith tied into a blue
he estimated at 30 to 35
pounds, but the fish be-

came entangled in his an-
chor rope and broke the
line.
But the seasoned fisher-
man knew he had some-
thing even bigger on when
the catfish made its first
run. The big blue took a,
hook baited with two
small shad and made a
slow but steady initial run
of 60 to 80 yards. Smith
worked the fish back to-
ward him twice before it
gave up, exhausted, and
wallowed in the water be-
side the boat.

Despite Smith's efforts
to revive it, the giant died.
The filets — one of which
weighed 20 pounds — are
in his freezer.

"I'm on catch and re-
lease the rest of the year,"
Smith laughed. "There's
no more room in the freez-
er."

But that doesn't mean
he'll quit fishing.

"It's the fish of a life-
time, and I don't think I'll
ever top it," said Smith.
"But I'm not going to give
up on hunting a bigger
one."

Notes: The current N.C.
record blue cat is an 89-
pounder caught at Badin
Lake in 2006 by Eric
Fincher..Smith landed
his prize on a Garcia Am-
bassadeur 6500 Carpmas-
ter reel, 25-pound Trilene
and a 7-foot Bass Pro
Shops rod...Smith said he
fishes with both bluegill
and shad, and had two
rods with each kind of bait
out when the blue cat
struck...Smith added he
likes to use shad in the 5-
inch range, but those he
caught last Tuesday were
only about half that size.
As a result, he put two on
each hook.

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Steve Dalton

Memorial Scholarship

4th Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday,

August 28, 2010

East McDowell
Trojans girls soccer
outs will begin
Aug. 20 from 10
p.m. Players mu-
physicals in order
to participate.

East Coast Ex-
girls fast-pitch
team will be holdi-
outs for 10U and
teams. For more in-
Joey Beam at 828-
695 or 828-429-6900

Nebo Youth Acti-
will meet the first M-
of every month at 7
at Nebo Elementary.

The Marion Ele-

Wed 82

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