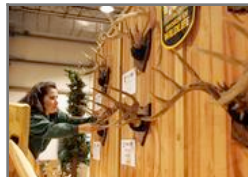


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Pro fisherman Houston will be featured attraction at outdoors show

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Division of Wildlife Communications Specialist Kathy Garza-Behr sets up a display Thursday afternoon, Jan. 7, of deer antlers confiscated by wildlife officers in preparation for the new Dayton Hunting and Fishing Show at the Dayton Airport Expo Center.

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By Jim Morris, Staff Writer

Updated 1:00 AM Friday, January 8, 2010

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For people who like to fish or hunt, the name Jimmy Houston is well-known. The guy with the floppy yellow hair has been probably the most popular outdoors television host in history.

Houston has been roaming the country putting together his "Jimmy Houston Outdoors" programs for 33 years. He has been a successful pro bass fisherman since his college years in the 1960s.

Houston is a great-grandfather of three, but if you think the 65-year-old is about to slow down, guess again.

He makes more than 120 personal appearances each year and sells energy drinks, books, guns and ammo. He still fishes in pro tournaments and lists 35 sponsors on his Web page, jimmyhouston.com.

Houston will be the featured speaker in a lineup of 16 seminar leaders at the first Dayton Hunting & Fishing Show this weekend at the Dayton Airport Expo Center, next to the airport.

"I figure I am 65 years young," Houston said in a telephone interview this week. "My two good friends Bill Dance and Roland Martin have both turned 70, and they're going strong. So I figure I can't slow down at least until after they do."

Houston said his seminars in Dayton will cover many facets of fishing and outdoors life.

"I usually don't decide what I am going to talk about until after I get there and talk to the people. I usually talk about what the people want me to talk about."

Although Houston is scheduled to appear at 1 and 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, he said he plans to be in Dayton tonight and likely will show up at the Expo Center to talk to visitors and sign autographs.

Promoter Chad Mullins has put together a family-oriented show that has multiple attractions. One of the most unusual is the Buckeye Dock Dogs, a club of privately owned dogs that love to jump, competing with each other as they run and jump off of a dock into a water tank.

For kids, there will be a trout fishing pond, a casting contest and fishing seminars. The first 100 kids who enter the show today and Saturday will receive free cane poles.

Adults will not only find hourly seminars on fishing and hunting, but will have the opportunity to buy everything from fishing lures to bass boats, all sorts of hunting equipment, charter trips, cottage and campground rentals, kayaks, RVs and ATVs, and outdoors clothing. The Ohio Divisions of Wildlife and Watercraft also will be on hand.

Seminars include almost all types of fishing, bow and gun hunting, game calling, knife making, and antler collecting and scoring.

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