The winning team with Capt. Willie Mills at the helm. Photo by Daniel

\[\text{Capt. Steve Futch helps his team release a tarpon on the Savannah. Photo by Angie Mills}\]

\[\text{Capt. Sandy Melvin and his team on the Boca Blue; Bob Melvin, Ron Walker and Michael Vaughn, releasing one of nine tarpon. Photo by Daniel}\]

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\[\text{More photos on pages 21 and 22.}\]

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\[\text{More photos on pages 23.}\]

\[\text{Lamar Joiner Jr. at the helm. Dixie Hollins was the team leader, and he had the last hook up of the tournament at 6:58 p.m., with a release at 7:03 p.m. The team took home a little more than $7,000 for their 6 releases. The total tally for the other boats in the competition included 7 tarpon for Blaze, 4 for Faithful II, 7 for Hey, Mom!, 8 for Magic, 7 for Miss Sarah, 3 for Spook and 6 for the Tracy Lynn. There were more than 100 hook ups and 65 releases in all, with a hook up two minutes before the cut off time. There were 11 boats competing. At the end of the first day’s fishing, Capt. Willie Mills’ team aboard Tracy Lynn was in the lead with five tarpon officially caught and released. There were four teams tied right behind him with four fish each, including Capt. Wayne Joiner’s team on Hey, Mom!, Capt. Charlie Coleman’s team, Capt. Cappy Joiner’s team on Magic and Capt. Lamar Joiner Sr.’s team aboard Miss Sarah.}\]

\[\text{BY MARCY SHORTUSE}\]

\[\text{SPORTS}\]

\[\text{A new tradition begins: ‘Savannah’ team takes first place in first Kids Classic Tournament}\]

\[\text{Sportsman Challenge finds Mills in the winner’s circle}\]

\[\text{STAFF REPORT}\]

\[\text{The 3rd annual Coral Creek Club Sportsman Challenge was a true success this year. This year’s event was hosted on the afternoon of May 20 with nine teams competing, 14 fish caught and a $7,200 purse. First and third place winners were Capt. Willie Mills and “Team Wagner” on the Tracy Lynn, with a total of four tarpon brought to the boat. Second place went to Capt. Frank Davis and his team on the Native. “We couldn’t have asked for a more beautiful day in Boca Grande Pass,” said Angie Mills, Controller for the Coral Creek Club and tournament coordinator. “The excitement started out early on the Native with Frank’s team hooking the first tarpon of the tournament with angler Alice Court.” That tarpon was released at 4:16 p.m., for the first fish. Mills and his team hooked and released the second tarpon of the tournament at 4:31 p.m. Davis went ahead and sealed the}\]

\[\text{BY MARCY SHORTUSE}\]

\[\text{I might have been the clucking that did it, but Capt. Sandy Melvin’s team aboard Boca Blue took home a check for a little more than $17,000 after winning the two-day Boca Grande Fishing Guides’ Association All-Release Tarpon Tournament with nine releases. Melvin’s teammates were Ron Walker, Bob Melvin and Michael Vaughn. Capt. Charlie Coleman’s team on Casuarina had eight releases and took second place and a $10,560 check. Third place was awarded to the team on the Chris Rip with Capt.}\]

\[\text{See KIDS CLASSIC on PAGE 15}\]

\[\text{See CORAL CREEK on PAGE 16}\]

\[\text{See GUIDES on PAGE 16}\]
Coral Creek

from PAGE 1

Dealing with animal emergencies of all types, Melvin said he had two words for what happened to his luck in that second day of the tournament: Running hot. After releasing only three fish on the first day, he said they started out on the second day with a tarpon that jumped right off the line. Bobby Melvin was the angler. Bobby started clucking as soon as that first tarpon got off the line," Sandy said. “He was teasing them about being ‘chicken.’ The next thing we knew, he hooked another one up and released it, and we ran hot the rest of the time. He kept clucking, too, the whole time. It’s our newest trick: “The Secret Chicken Call.”

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The Boudreau’s have seen a lot in recent years, and work within a local network of volunteers who are interested in volunteering. "If anyone is interested, I’d like to call Blanche at 421-2805 if you are interested in volunteering. “We let the sun shine in”

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BY MARCY SHORTUSE

Blanche Boudreau is looking for a few good volunteers. She and her husband, Jacques, who own the Loose Caboose, are the island’s volunteers to take sick and injured animals and birds to the Wildlife Center of Venice. Within the next month, though, they will be taking a vacation to see their daughter and the wildlife work will be unattended. The Boudreau’s have seen a lot in recent years, and work within a local network of volunteers who are interested in volunteering. "If anyone is interested, I’d like to call Blanche at 421-2805 if you are interested in volunteering. “We let the sun shine in”

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Love wildlife? Come aboard with the Wildlife Center of Venice

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Capt. Willie Mills shows the judges the tarpon before releasing it.

Capt. Frank Davis takes a look at his second fish.

Coral Creek Club Sportsman Challenge

Bob Melvin does the chicken dance to help his team on the Boca Blue. It worked for the guides tourney, but not this one.

(Middle), one of the anglers on the Tracy Lynn fights one of four tarpon caught and released. (Above), Angie Mills gets to enjoy a fight with a tarpon for a change. (Bottom row), first place winner on the Tracy Lynn and the second place team of the Native. Photos by Daniel.

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