

SPORTS AND RECREATION

DEBORAH ORAZI/Keeping Score

170-pounder takes title at Boca Grande fishing tournament

There's no doubt about it. The tarpon are definitely rolling in Boca Grande Pass this week. Anglers in the ninth and final Miller's Marina Tarpon Tide Tournament of the season hooked 178 of the silver kings during the course of the event July 3-4. One boat, the Kelly Ann, captained by Tommy Locke, had nine releases.

But it was a 170-pound whopper that earned Team Power Bait and Capt. Arthur Price, Jr. the first-place purse of \$86,497.50, which he will split with team members Jeff Hagaman and James Goodwin.

The second place prize of \$42,957.50 went to the team aboard the Ranger, led by Capt. Ray Van Horn, John Lochnow, and Doug Lauterbach, for its 155-pound catch.

The team aboard Old Silverking, including Capt. Walter "Chris" Klingel, Jr. and Kathy Klingel, shared \$20,117.50 for its 149-pound tarpon. Kathy Klingel also won a prize for being the first female to weigh in a fish.

In addition to the prize money, Price and his crew earned a berth in the Rolex/I.G.F.A. Invitational Tournament of Champions in March in Kona, Hawaii.

The abundance of fish in Boca Grande Pass is good news for anglers entered in the 1999 World's Richest Tarpon Tournament Wednesday and Thursday.

Teams paid an entry fee of \$3,500

for a chance to win a grand prize of \$100,000 for the largest fish. The second largest is worth \$40,000, while \$25,000 goes to the team with the most releases.

This year's event, hosted by the Boca Grande Area Chamber of Commerce, kicks off today at 5:30 p.m., with a Rules and Regulations Party for participants, officials, and sponsors at the Boca Bay Pass Club. Captains and team leaders will gather there for a rules meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Competition, using live bait only, starts at 9 a.m. Wednesday in the pass and continues until 2 p.m. A tent for spectators will be set up at Lighthouse Beach with refreshments and souvenirs available.

At 5 p.m., the public is invited to the Silver King Celebration in downtown Boca Grande. There will be live music and a raffle.

Fishing resumes on Thursday at 9 a.m., and wraps up at 2 p.m. The spectator's tent will again be open and there will be a sand sculpture contest for children from noon to 2:15 p.m.

A camera crew from the Saltwater Ventures television series will be on hand to film the tournament.

Final results will be posted at the Chamber's office at 4:30 p.m. An Awards Ceremony takes place at 5 p.m. at the Boca Bay Power House.

Tournament proceeds support the Boca Grande Area Chamber of Commerce scholarship fund.

For more information on the tournament, log on to the Chamber's web site at www.charlotte-online.com/bocagrande.

Final two movie nights

The Charlotte County Parks and Recreation Department's final two family movie nights at the Harold Avenue Recreation Center will be July 17 and Aug. 21, both Saturdays. The free films begin at 8 p.m.

The center is also the site of the Dr. Dennis Teen Dances each Friday evening from 7:30 to 11:30.

Security will be provided by the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office, and there will be adult supervision. The concession stand will be open.

Admission is \$5. Call the center at 627-1074 for more information.

Triathlon this month

Are you tough enough to do a quarter-mile swim, 13-mile bike ride, and 3-mile run on the same day?

If so, the Englewood Family YMCA Sprint Triathlon on July 25 is for you. It starts at 7 a.m. It is also open to relay teams.

Perks include a T-shirt, post-race party and five awards in each age group.

The fee for individuals is \$30, or \$25 per relay member, before Saturday, \$40 (\$30 relay) after Saturday, and \$45 (\$35 relay) the day of the race.

For more information call T.J. Evans at 475-1234.



STAFF PHOTO/MICHAEL BARRIENTO

Kathy Klingel reels in a 149-pound tarpon as Chris Klingel Jr. coaches her Saturday morning during the Miller's Marina Tarpon Tide Tournament at Boca Grande.