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Slow bite can't stop streak

Vitamin Sea catches only swordfish to win tournament

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Clearwater Fl. Fishing Capt. Brian Mathey Snook, Redfish, Tarpon, Trout CaptainBrianMathey.com

By Steve Waters, Sun Sentinel November 23, 2009

The daytime swordfish bite was extremely slow Saturday, but that didn't stop Vitamin Sea.

The team of owner Cliff Maddock, captain Doug Kneer and crew Nate Goodwin, Kenny Josack, Brent Brewster, Aksel King and Glen Colson continued its hot streak by catching the only swordfish to win the Full Moon Adventures Winter Swordfest Daytime Swordfishing Tournament out of Lighthouse Point.

The 124-pounder landed by Vitamin Sea gave the team three firstplace finishes and a second in its past four swordfish tournaments. The only other fish brought to the weigh-in by the 17 boats that competed was a 17.2-pound dolphin caught by Back In Gear.

The tournament was 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Vitamin Sea got a bite at 9 a.m. and fought what turned out to be a 300-pound shark for nearly two hours. Shortly after that, the swordfish was hooked. Colson said they got another bite around 2 p.m., but the hook pulled. Tournament director Drew Kettelhut said the fleet reported a handful of bites and one boat fought a fish for about three hours before the fish got away.

Fish of the week

Brian Sellers, Jon Pruden, Ben Joshua and Luis Puertas, military veterans who are all involved with the Wounded Warrior Project, caught a sailfish and eight kingfish 8-12 pounds Wednesday livebaiting in 115 feet off Highland Beach with brothers Rocky and

Capt. Dave Kostyo of Knot Nancy said baits fished near the bottom have been producing most of the fish for his customers fishing in 180-200 feet off Miami Beach. Fernando Godinez, his father-in-law, Larry Hofmann, Hofmann's grandson Lyndon Hofmann, 10, and Robert Abramitis caught two kingfish and a 40-pound amberjack

on bottom baits during an afternoon trip. Craig Liszt, Rich Rusak and Pat Conway caught a 35-pound cobia that was following a 25-foot whale shark that came up to Kostyo's boat. Bottom baits produced three kingfish and a mutton snapper, then a surface bait produced a sailfish.

Jimmy Lambert's Reel Tight, skippered by Capt. Eddie Herbert, caught and released a two-day total of 11 sailfish to win the third annual Sailfish Cup Wednesday out of Miami Beach. Reel Tight won \$199,495. Team Fish Tales was second with nine releases to win \$43,512. Vitamin Sea Too was third, also with nine releases, to win \$71,920.

Capt. Alan Zaremba, of Hollywood, and Jim Barnick, of Davie, caught 40 largemouth bass up to 5 pounds, 10 peacock bass and three crappie using a variety of hard jerkbaits in a half day of fishing the Lake Ida chain of lakes. John Shaffner and Mike Prendimano, of New York, caught 16 peacocks using floating Rapalas in the C-4

Joe Arcese caught 6 pounds, 6 ounces of fish to win the Everglades Bass Anglers club tournament Nov. 14 on Lake Okeechobee out of Belle Glade. John Nydam was second at 5-10, followed by Rick Browning at 5-8, Scott Christophel at 3-9 and Sam Wild at 1-5. Browning had the big bass at 4-10.

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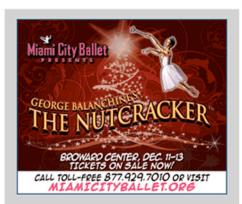














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