



BARBARA ROBINSON of Supply shows off a 30-pound yellowfin tuna caught recently at the Steeples. She was fishing aboard the Wave Runner.



LEE PHILLIPS of Gastonia caught this 13-pound grouper last week aboard the Intimidator out of Holden Beach.

Youngster Lands 98-Pound Yellowfin Tuna

BY DOUG RUTTER

Last week was a good one for lots of local fishermen. But perhaps nobody had a day that could compare with the day Dell Williamson of Ocean Isle Beach enjoyed last Thursday.

The 10-year-old boy landed a 98.6-pound yellowfin tuna and 31.4-pound king mackerel while fishing aboard the "Mr. Fantastic," said Ken Shipley of Ocean Isle Marina.

Williamson's yellowfin is the biggest reported in the Shallotte area this year, but it is nowhere near the state record of 237 pounds.

"Fishing's really picking up," Shipley reported Monday. "They've been catching a whole lot of flounder. Black sea bass and king mackerel are still being caught offshore."

A local charter boat caught 200 pounds of black bass and flounder last week within four miles of the beach.

Shipley said anglers caught quite a few Spanish mackerel last week, as well as trout and spots inside.

Tripp's Fishing Center

Flounder fishing has shown great improvement in the past week, according to Joyce Land of Tripp's Fishing Center at Shallotte Point.

Jim Dutton of Shallotte Point hooked 27 flounder on Sunday and Johnny Silvers of Shallotte Point pulled in 15.

"A lot of people went out and said they caught 15 or 20," Land said.

FISHING REPORT

"It's the most I've seen in five or six years."

The Shallotte Point Volunteer Fire Department Flounder Tournament will be held June 10 and 11 out of Tripp's Fishing Center.

"If they keep up like they are hopefully we'll have a lot for the fishing tournament," Land said Monday.

Besides flounder, fishermen also caught spots inside and bluefish and Spanish mackerel in the ocean last week.

Land said Gulf Stream catches over the weekend included tuna, barracuda, king mackerel and wahoo.

Holden Beach Marina

Gary Carr of Holden Beach Marina said fishermen caught dolphin, king mackerel and tuna offshore last week. The largest dolphin brought to the docks weighed nearly 40 pounds.

Carr said the charter boats have been bringing in snapper, grouper, kings and dolphin, while other anglers are catching Spanish mackerel within three miles of the beach.

"It's been real good overall. It was a real nice weekend," Carr said.

Pier Fishing

Things are starting to look up at the South Brunswick Islands' three ocean fishing piers.

"It's picking up," Ed Kayler of Sunset Beach Fishing Pier said Monday. "They've been catching some spots, flounder, Spanish, blues."

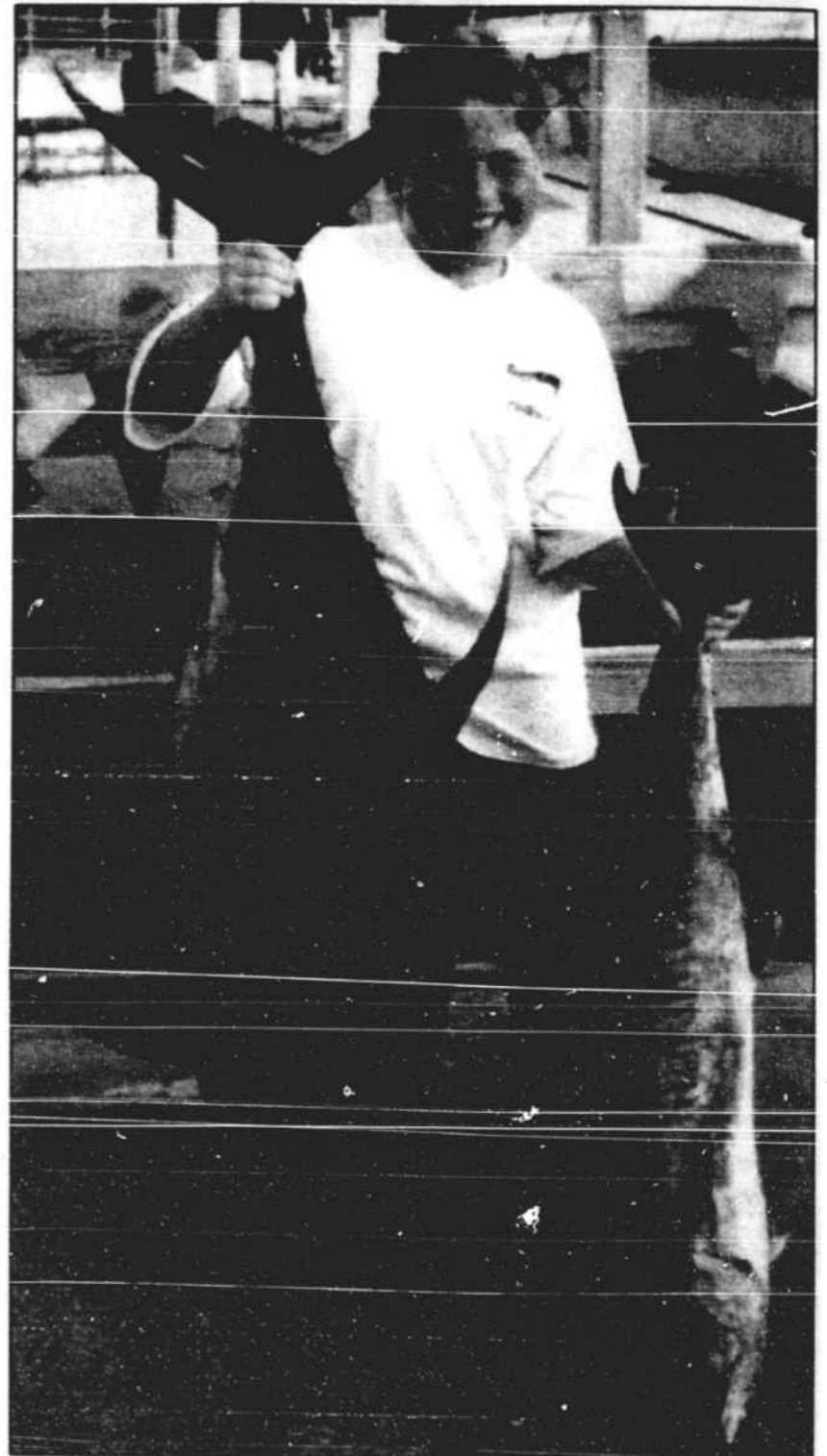
Several drum were landed Saturday, he said, including a 4-pounder.

"They've been catching some of just about everything," Kayler noted. "The spots bit pretty good last night. One guy said he caught about 50."

Fishermen caught a lot of flounder last week at Ocean Isle Beach Fishing Pier, according to Evelyn Williams.

"Fishing's picked up. It's a lot better. The flounders have really been pretty," she said. "They've been running, and they've been catching spots and bass and Spanish mackerel."

At Holden Beach Fishing Pier, Forrest Whitley said anglers landed bluefish, whiting, spots and lots of



DELL WILLIAMSON of Ocean Isle Beach landed a 98.6-pound tuna and 31.4-pound king mackerel last week fishing aboard the Mr. Fantastic.

pinfish last week.

One 10-pound blue, several 7-pounders and lots of bluefish between 1 and 3 pounds were caught last week.

"Flounder have started to show," Whitley added. "They were catching some over the weekend. I think we're on the verge of a big run here."

Top Fish Nets \$10,000 In Natural Light Event

A \$10,000 cash prize for the largest fish and good spring catches of king mackerel are sure to lure plenty of anglers for the upcoming Natural Light King Mackerel Classic.

Holden Beach Marina will be one of four weigh-in stations for the June 2-5 tournament the will be held in conjunction with the annual Sun Fun Festival in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Wally Trayah, a youth fishing with Charles Wilson out of Southport, landed a 35.65-pounder to win the 1993 tournament.

A captain's meeting is planned Thursday, June 2, at 5 p.m. at Holden Beach Marina. Meetings also are planned at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center for South Carolina anglers.

The fishing competition is scheduled Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4. No check-out will be required, but lines will not be allowed in the water before 6:30 a.m.

Fish will be weighed each day from 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Weigh

stations will be set up at Holden Beach Marina, Georgetown Landing Marina, Marlin Quay Marina in Murrells Inlet and Harbourgate Marina at Little River.

In addition to the top cash prize of \$10,000, other awards will include \$5,000 for second place, \$3,000 for third, \$2,000 for fourth and \$1,000 for fifth.

Anglers finishing in sixth through 25th places will receive \$750 each, and the tournament will pay \$500 each for 26th through 45th place.

The Natural Light Classic also features a \$6,300 tournament aggregate weight award, a \$2,000 Early Entry Award and Lady Angler and Young Angler awards of \$1,000 each.

Prizes will be presented Sunday, June 5, at 1 p.m. at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. Entertainment and food service starts at 11 a.m.

The entry fee is \$300 per boat. For more information, call tournament chairman Donnie Griffin at 803-238-0485.

This Week's Tide Table

MAY					
		HIGH		LOW	
Day	Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	19	2:45	3:35	9:16	9:23
Friday	20	3:48	4:38	10:15	10:52
Saturday	21	4:51	5:40	11:14	—
Sunday	22	5:53	6:38	12:00	12:11
Monday	23	6:52	7:35	12:58	1:06
Tuesday	24	7:50	8:30	1:53	1:59
Wednesday	25	8:47	9:24	2:46	2:51

ADJUSTMENTS
SHALLOTTE INLET—add 17 min. high tide, add 32 min. low tide.
LOCKWOOD FOLLY—subtract 22 min. high tide, subtract 8 min. low tide.
BALD HEAD ISLAND—subtract 10 min. high tide, subtract 7 min. low tide.
SOUTHPORT—add 7 min. high tide, add 15 min. low tide.
LITTLE RIVER—subtract 11 min. high tide, add 18 min. low tide.

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