



# Crusader At Sea

*One man's efforts at making  
the world a little bit better*

By Hal Lyman



*Frank Carlton became one of few with his first swordfish.*

**R**OCKS used in the construction of the Jacksonville Beach jetties in Florida were higher than he was when Frank Eberle Carlton, III, started fishing. Some of the political and bureaucratic cliffs he is now trying to scale as prime mover in the relatively new National Coalition for Marine Conservation, Inc., loom even higher. Carlton can remember being lifted onto those jetty rocks by paternal hands nearly 40 years ago and his enthusiasm for angling has accelerated steadily since that time. His equal enthusiasm for blasting mountains of red tape and inertia to push for proper use of marine resources seems jet-propelled.

Lean and tough of frame, he might well have become just another doctor-fisherman if it were not for his extraordinary dedication and energy. Describing his angling ability, one of his friends compared him to an all pro football running back. Another, when asked how it was possible for any individual to tackle so many problems at once, replied: "A river never sleeps—neither does Frank!"

An exaggeration, of course, but this southern bald eagle of the marine world has the ability to catch a quick nap and awake refreshed. That his energy requires a check-rein from time to time, Carlton is the first to admit, for some of those with whom he works cannot keep up the pace. They tend to become groggy and to lag several points behind his presentation of programs and arguments.

An outline of his professional career sounds more or less routine: a B.A. degree in 1957 from Emory University in his home state of Georgia, an M.D. from the same in 1961, followed by specialized training at Harvard and the Massachusetts General Hospital, with the result that he became a urologist in 1967. Throw in foreign training and travel, 13 months in Korea in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, and you have a picture of a young surgeon on the way up. The fact that he managed to sneak in some fishing for little tuna

