Fishing to forget

Children leave behind hospitals for a day of fun

BY BECKY MALKOVICH
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WHITTINGTON — Maybe Thomas Moslander, 10, didn’t catch the most fish, or even the biggest, but for a few moments Monday, he could forget.

Forget, that is, about the date he has today at Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center for another open-heart surgery.

“They just weren’t biting. I only caught one fish, so the fishing wasn’t very good. But it was fun, a lot of fun, and it made me not think about my surgery. That made me happy, because I am scared, very, very scared,” the Granite City boy said.

Moslander is one of eight critically ill or special needs children who participated in a fishing getaway at the Rend Lake Resort that started Sunday and ends today. The children are from Illinois, Wisconsin, Mississippi and Indiana.

The annual getaway, sponsored by the United Special Sportsman Alliance

Carl Roberts (left) helps Thomas Moslander, 10, bring in his first catfish of the day Monday on Rend Lake. The fishing experience was granted through the United Special Sportsman Alliance that specializes in sending critically ill and disabled youth on outdoor adventures.

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