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"The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" "Lines To Get Hooked On"

2 Sections

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Brett Green from Glenwood, AR., won heaviest bass over the slot in "The Legend of Lake Fork" 11th Annual Big Bass Tournament with a 10.54-lb. bass and was presented his Legend Boat by Don Hampton, Tournament Director, Randy Qualls, Owner, Legend Boats, and Chris Lane, 2012 BassMaster World Champion and Touring Pro.



Tommy Climer from Mesquite, TX., won second heaviest bass over the slot in "The Legend of Lake Fork" 11th Annual Big Bass Tournament with a 9.62-lb. bass and was presented his Legend Boat by Don Hampton, Tournament Director, Randy Qualls, Owner Legend Boats, and Chris Lane, 2012 BassMaster World Champion and Touring Pro.



Bryan Beck from Prairieville, LA., won heaviest bass under the slot in "The Legend of Lake Fork" 11th Annual Big Bass Tournament with a 2.71-lb. bass and was presented his Legend Boat by Don Hampton, Tournament Director, Randy Qualls, Owner Legend Boats, and Chris Lane, 2012 BassMaster World Champion and Touring Pro. (See Complete Story on Page 4-A)



Shane Thompson from Forney, TX., may not have weighed in the winning bass during the three days of "The Legend of Lake Fork 11th Annual Big Bass Tournament", but he was lucky enough to take home a certificate for a new Legend Bass Boat just by having his entry in before April 30th. All anglers that get their entries in on or before April 30th each year qualify to be in the drawing for a new Legend Bass Boat. Zane Strange from Mineola, (It) drew his name from all the early entries.



Some anglers don't believe the weather man and his predictions but they do prepare themselves for whatever may come. You don't have to be a meteorologist to know these anglers were prepared with their umbrella hats. From left to right Arthur Cooper, Francis (Chip) Compton, and J.B. Cooper were prepared from the bright sunlight or the rain. Nothing was going to stop their love of fishing.



FLW Touring Pro Brett Ehrler went to the top of the leader board on the final day of the Texas Toyota Bass Classic with the help of this 10-pound 11-ounce Lake Fork hawg he caught on the final day of the tournament propelling him from 5th place on the second day of the tournament to 1st place and the big win on the final day. With this catch he also added to his winnings a new 2015 Toyota Tundra for the Toyota Big Bass of the tournament. (See Story on Page 7-A)

Characteristic Differences Between Bubbas and Bubbettes

By Don Hampton

Besides the most obvious of differences between a Bubba and a Bubbette (male & female) the characteristics of each differ immensely.

One for instance is nicknames bestowed upon each other.

When the Bubbettes go out for lunch, if it is Sue, Jane, Darlene, and Connie, they will call each other Sue, Jane, Darlene, and Connie. If Joe Bob, Leroy, Billy Bob and Boudreaux go out for the night, they will affectionately refer to each other as Fat Boy, Godzilla, Peanut Head and Fish Brains and each one knows when they are being spoken to.

When eating out and the waitress brings the bill, Bubbas will each throw in \$20, even though it's only for \$22.50. None of them will have anything smaller, and none will actually admit they want change back. When the Bubbettes get their bill, out come the pocket calculators and each one knows to the very penny just how much their portion is and exactly what percentage to tip the waitress.

When money is an issue, Bubba will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he wants. Bubbette will pay \$1 for a \$2 item she doesn't want.

In Bubba's bathroom he will have six items. A toothbrush, shaving cream, razor, a bar of soap, a comb and a towel from the Holiday Inn. The average number of items in Bubbette's bath-

room is 337. Bubba would not be able to identify most of these items or be able to tell you just what their purpose might be.

In an argument, Bubbettes always have the last word. Anything Bubba says after that is the beginning of a new argument. Even saying "Okay baby, whatever you say is right!" could be construed as a smart remark and start it all over.

As far as thinking about the future, Bubbettes worry about the future until they find a husband. Bubbas never worry about the future until they get a wife.

When it comes to holy state of matrimony, Bubbette marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't. Bubba marries a woman thinking she will never change, but sure as shootin' she does.

A successful Bubba is one that makes more money than his Bubbette can spend. A successful Bubbette is one who can find such a Bubba that will keep her in WalMart money.

Bubba will dress up for two occasions, funerals and weddings. Bubbette will dress up to go shopping, water the plants, empty the garbage, answer the phone, read a book, or get the mail.

As far as Bubba and Bubbette's offspring, Bubbette knows all about her children. She knows about dentist appointments and romances, best friends and favorite foods and secret fears, hopes and dreams. Bubba is vaguely aware of some short people living in the same house.

So now you know the characteristic differences between a Bubba and Bubbette.

In closing, if you are a Bubba married to Bubbette, forget your mistakes. There's no since in two people remembering the same thing. Besides Bubbette will keep reminding you of them.



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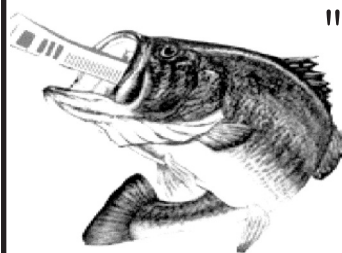
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"The Legend of Lake Fork" 11th Annual Big Bass Tournament

By Don Hampton

The worst enemy of "The Legend of Lake Fork" 11th Annual Big Bass Tournament that was held on May 16, 17, 18 was the weather man! The prediction of strong winds, heavy rain, hail and a tornado watch, thankfully did not occur. On Sunday, the last day of the tournament weather got extreme, but only for an hour and a half in the morning. Even the threat and promise of severe weather did not keep 1,131 devout anglers from coming and testing their skills in an effort of winning a portion of the \$320,000 guaranteed in cash and prizes to be won. The threat of severe weather might have kept members of the WFWF (Wimpy Fair Weather Fishermen) away, but it didn't keep anglers from nineteen states and two countries from coming to Lake Fork to compete. One such angler even flew in from Germany to fish the tournament with his son and father.

When the scales opened on Friday the first day of

the tournament we really thought anglers were going to have to work hard to beat the heaviest bass under the 16" slot to win the Legend Boat for that weight. The first bass was a beauty weighing close to an estimated 3-pounds. I've had that weight win a boat before but that angler had a current Texas Fishing License. This one did not! He was fortunate he only got a DQ. If the game wardens had not been away teaching at the academy, he would have had more to be disgusted with himself about. The case is similar with many others on the first day. Perhaps it was the excitement or anticipation of winning but I had never seen so many bass not measured properly in one day of any tournament I've ever conducted. More anglers got it right than wrong though and there were nine bass over the slot with four of those coming in 1 to 2 o'clock hour. There were a total of 23 bass over the slot caught during the three days of the tournament.

Besides the hourly paybacks anglers were com-

(See The Legend....Continued on Page 16-A)



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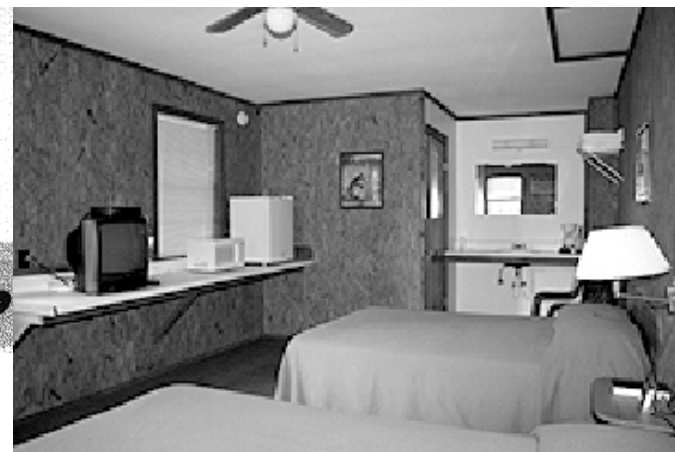


Bubba's big treat of the tournament was the shrimp boil, with the biggest shrimp he'd ever seen thanks to Dayne "Chopper" Bonvillain.

| DAY 1 | | | DAY 2 | | | DAY 3 | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|--------------------|------|
| 7 - 8 Hour | 11 - 12 Hour | | 7 - 8 Hour | 11 - 12 Hour | | 7 - 8 Hour | 11 - 12 Hour | |
| Thomas Wurst | Ed Blackburn | 2.49 | Doug Whitley | David Cochran | 8.63 | Jason Smith | Charles Benedict | 2.50 |
| Elton Jeans | Robert Ordway | 2.28 | David Roche | Tommy Wilkerson | 2.28 | Don Penick | Paul Bacon | 2.32 |
| Don Penick | Troy Buderus | 2.17 | Thomas Samples | Joe Hicks | 2.25 | Thomas Wyche | Thomas Kressley | 2.16 |
| James Morgan | Glyn Marsh | 2.17 | Chris Gilroy | Robert Richardson | 2.22 | Joey Johnson | Lloyd Masterson | 2.18 |
| Danny Dulude | Justin Priest | 2.10 | Ray Helveston | Glyn Marsh | 2.17 | Joe Cooper | Doug Garrett | 2.09 |
| William Sharp | Ed Howard | 2.07 | Jason Smith | Russell Pryor | 2.16 | John Carter | Kyle Smirl | 2.03 |
| Thomas Wyche | Richard Guidry | 2.05 | Paul Lowke | Kyle Rawlinson | 2.12 | Rodney Griffin | Richard Altman | 1.98 |
| 8 - 9 Hour | 12 - 1 Hour | | 8 - 9 Hour | 12 - 1 Hour | | 8 - 9 Hour | 12 - 1 Hour | |
| Brian Sanders | Brett Green | 10.54 | Charles Credicott | Eddie Ramsey | 7.57 | Gary Kincaid | Lloyd Masterson | 2.17 |
| Robert Probes | Ron Kelley | 2.27 | Charles Spence | Tyler Northcutt | 2.29 | Victor Saunders | Leonard Martin | 2.05 |
| Rodney Hesser | Mike Harp | 2.11 | Lawrence Tweddle | Nick Brown | 2.29 | Jonathon Davis | Daniel Stahl | 2.02 |
| Don Penick | John Duran | 2.10 | John Zanter | Chris Petty | 2.22 | Charles Sutton | Jackson Hammond | 1.95 |
| Kim Bryant | Gerry Cox | 2.07 | Mike Harp | Clint Chaffin | 2.17 | Martin Painter | Melton Homer | 1.85 |
| Danny Dulude | Cody Dodd | 2.01 | Gary Goodman | Jeff Looney | 2.15 | James Snell | Ronald Cook | 1.85 |
| Richard Mutina | Mitch Atteberry | 1.96 | Danny Azlin | Loran Nowlin | 2.12 | Jason Flenniken | Bart Gardner | 1.83 |
| 9 - 10 Hour | 1 - 2 Hour | | 9 - 10 Hour | 1 - 2 Hour | | 9 - 10 Hour | 1 - 2 Hour | |
| William Pfingsten | Mark Hubbard | 8.42 | Tommy Climer | Dan Lefever | 8.41 | Bryan Beck | William Moore | 2.28 |
| Randy Morrison | Mike Craig | 7.86 | Brandon Fugate | Ken Bradshaw | 7.66 | Kenny LaDuke | Donna Biondi | 2.26 |
| Shane Thompson | Thomas Wurst | 7.83 | James Johnson | Blake Slater | 2.41 | Chad Craddock | Don Overstreet | 2.23 |
| Michael Miles | Jody Warren | 6.39 | Mark Williams | James Yarbrough | 2.36 | Daniel Stahl | Jim Brundidge | 2.20 |
| Thomas Wurst | James Norwood | 2.39 | Don Penick | Brandon Keown | 2.15 | Robert Hebert | Andrew Doerge | 2.16 |
| Chris Campbell | Bryan Flenniken | 2.35 | Travis Ledford | Danny Dulude | 2.09 | James Crawford | Richard Cresswell | 2.11 |
| Mike Davis | Jeff Ward | 2.34 | James Cain | Haden Sickles | 2.05 | Michael Lambert | Jody Warren | 2.06 |
| 10 - 11 Hour | 2 - 3 Hour | | 10 - 11 Hour | 2 - 3 Hour | | 10 - 11 Hour | 2 - 3 Hour | |
| William Vester | Chris Clampet | 2.37 | Charles Vaughn | Brian Sanders | 2.37 | Harry Vissering | Christopher Barton | 7.91 |
| Van Stroud | James Arnold | 2.24 | Kyle Smirl | Joel Pugh | 2.35 | Bart Gardner | Randy Woodard | 7.37 |
| Mark Ryer | Sam Trinca | 2.22 | Jason Flenniken | Mark Carter | 2.17 | George Luedtke | Rodney Hamlin | 2.19 |
| Chris Petty | Donald Johnson | 2.18 | Brandon Brossett | Chris Elrod | 2.13 | Robert King | James Ray | 2.16 |
| Dayne Bonvillain | James Callahan | 2.17 | Sam Trinca | Jose Solis | 2.09 | William Hawthorne | Timothy McDill | 2.13 |
| Phillip Hope | Ken Baker | 2.13 | Jeremy Collins | Jody Warren | 2.07 | Roger Willcutt | Jeremy Powell | 2.09 |
| Francis Pelowski | Russell Pryor | 2.12 | Paul Jeffcoat | James Callahan | 2.06 | Brandon Fugate | Jason Smith | 2.08 |

2015 Legend Boat Winners: Over Slot ~ Brett Green w/ 10.54-lbs. Tommy Climer w/ 9.67-lbs. Under Slot ~ Brian Beck w/ 2.71-lbs. Draw Boat ~ Shane Thompson

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June's In! Now tune in on the Summer Pattern

By David Ozio

"If you haven't been to Lake Fork in a while, you will probably be somewhat startled when you see that the lake is now over pool. Not since 2010 have we seen the water at this level and I personally take it as a welcome site. The life of the fishery depends on this type of occurrence and I have seen signs all month that the future for Lake Fork looks even brighter. Most notably, the amount of bass fry that are tucked way back into the flooded bank grass and willow bushes. They are already an inch long already and well protected.

All this being said, let's take a look at June, my favorite month of the year. For the most part, the spawn is complete and the bass will start moving back out to the main lake to reside around their

summer haunts. The cool thing about this time of the year is that the fish will start to group up and hold in certain areas for the entire month. Timing will be the key from that point once you locate where they are holding. Lowrance electronics provide the "up and close" look at them once they are in their living room and making a mental note of the time of day that you see them will help you put giants in the boat consistently.

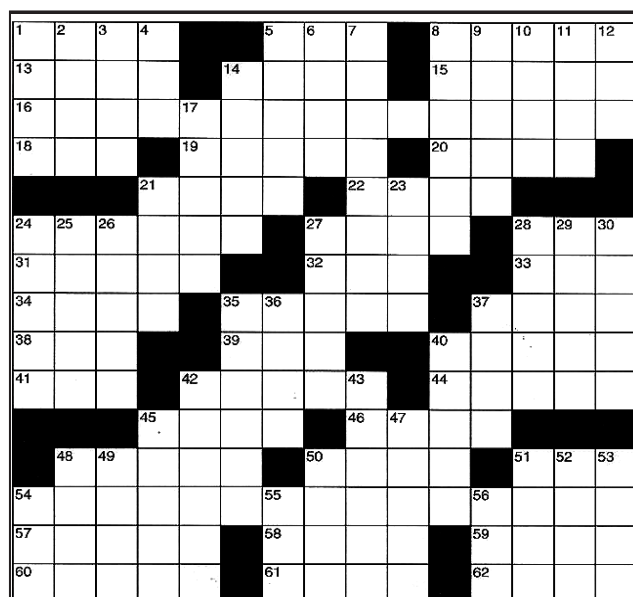
Start your search focusing on offshore structure. Humps, roadbeds, ridges and deep points will hold the lion share of the migrating bass and the next step will be to determine where on the structure they are holding. Look for irregularities on the deep point or hump such as a small nodule or indentation. The next step will be to identify the bait source. Bass feed on sand bass and that will be a good start. What ensues from here will be the narrowing down what they will bite. This doesn't need to be complicated, stick with what got you there in the past. Carolina rig, football jigs, flutter spoons, crankbaits and my favorite, the drop shots will all do the job and choosing the right application per the structure you are fishing will be the next task at hand. C-rigs work just about everywhere. I prefer Zoom magnum trick worms as the presented fare, redbug, watermelon candy red or watermelon magic will suit most all conditions.



With regard to jigs, PB&J is tough to beat with any watermelon combination trailer attached. Experiment with the color on the spoons, gold or silver handle the heavy lifting most of the time. The Strike King 10XD will take care of the crankbait work as it catches hawks of staggering proportion. Shad colors or chartreuse/blue will do the trick and I use 15lb fluorocarbon line to navigate through the submerged trees. Long rods are recommended for this application and it helps with making long casts.

The shallow bite is also an option and don't rule out top water and frog action especially around flooded willow trees. Once the sun makes

(See June's In.....
Continued on Page 20-A)



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Dry wine from southwestern Europe | 37. Invests in little enterprises (abbr.) |
| 5. Cheat | 38. Openings |
| 8. Suburb of Bombay | 39. Type of tooth |
| 13. Repeat | 40. Pine Tree State |
| 14. Swiss river | 41. Fuel |
| 15. Like cereal | 42. Broad-winged, soaring hawk |
| 16. Movie industry | 44. Behaved |
| 18. Create with cloth | 45. Ocean sunfish |
| 19. Way to make tight | 46. Launch and mattress |
| 20. Transport commercially | 48. Seaport in Cameroon |
| 21. Bellies (slang) | 50. Linear unit used in printing |
| 22. Protects the chest | 51. Artificial language |
| 24. Cow | 54. Gallantry award |
| 27. Mounted soldier | 57. Away from the outer edge |
| 28. Come to pass | 58. This (Spanish) |
| 31. Fencing swords | 59. Bitter quarrel between two parties |
| 32. Calendar month (abbr.) | 60. Lotto |
| 33. In the manner of | 61. Day |
| 34. Government agents | 62. Chits |
| 35. Approves | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Arranges | 29. Adjust, in a way (var.) |
| 2. Have a yen for | 30. Influenced, in a way |
| 3. Masticate | 35. About visual sense |
| 4. Indian unit of length | 36. South Dravidian |
| 5. Skin disease | 37. Pouches |
| 6. Russian city | 40. Woman of refinement |
| 7. Busby ____, film director | 42. Ravel favorite |
| 8. Sound of an alarm | 43. Narcotic drug |
| 9. Jackrabbits | 45. Someone who is highly skilled |
| 10. Egyptian sun god | 47. Extensive landed property |
| 11. Poverty | 48. Eat |
| 12. Massachusetts cape | 49. Arm bone |
| 14. Winged | 50. Posttraumatic stress disorder (abbr.) |
| 17. Images | 51. Content of cognition |
| 21. Pastries | 52. Coat with plaster |
| 23. Gorges | 53. GM auto |
| 24. Obscure | 54. Person's brother or sister |
| 25. Classical music for the stage | 55. Whale |
| 26. Sacred writings | 56. Immature newt |
| 27. Accepted practice | |
| 28. Excessive use of drugs | |

Answers on Page 21-A



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Ehrler and TPWD Outdoor Programs Big Winners at Toyota Texas Bass Classic

Brent Ehrler of Redlands, California, won the Toyota Texas Bass Classic on Lake Fork over the Memorial Day weekend, taking home a check for \$100,000, a fully rigged bass boat and a 2015 Toyota Tundra.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) also came away a big winner. For the ninth year in a row, Gulf States Toyota donated \$250,000 to TPWD in support of such programs as Neighborhood Fishin' and the Texas State-Fish Art Contest. This year the total amount donated reached \$2.25

million.

Ehrler said that it was hard to put into words what the TTBC title meant to him. "I'm still kind of shocked. I really didn't think that I had a great chance to win today, because I was so far behind," he explained. "This win ranks way up there for me. At Media Day on Thursday, they presented Keith Combs with his 2014 championship ring, and I remember thinking, 'It would be really cool to have a ring like that.' I never expected that it would actually happen."

Ehrler entered the final day of competition

Monday in fifth place with a total weight of 58 pounds, 4 ounces. Despite averaging over 29 pounds a day for the first two days of competition, the California pro had yet to catch a bass surpassing Lake Fork's 24-inch slot length.

That changed shortly before 1:00 p.m. on Monday, when Ehrler boated a 10-pound, 11-ounce bass to take over the top spot on the leaderboard. The Lake Fork giant proved to be the Tundra Big Bass of the tournament, earning Ehrler a 2015 Toy-

(See Ehrler and TPWD...
Continued on Page 14-A)

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"The Moon Report" Crappie And Morels!

By Terri Moon

It doesn't get any better than that! That's why I just love this time of year. I always head to Missouri the end of April and spend a couple of weeks away from the crappie and concentrate on hunting Morel Mushrooms! It's always good to get to see family and friends. I must say though, this year's hunting was about as tough as the crappie fishing was before I left! It was a crazy year for both (the weather was the key factor for both!) Just when temperatures would reach optimum levels, here comes winter again and shuts everything down – so, even though we didn't find as many as usual, it was a great time and we enjoyed every minute of it. A huge "thank you" to Marty Snyder of Tightwad, MO for surprising us with a tub full of morels. It was so much appreciated and enjoyed by the whole family!

The whole time I'm gone I keep hearing of the big rains in Texas so decide to come home a little early to dodge the storms approaching.



I couldn't believe my eyes when I got back – "Lake Fork" was FULL !!! Holy Cow! It's been years! As grateful as I am, I'm still a little sad – I miss seeing the trees! It's a whole new lake! Thank goodness for my Lowrance Touch 12 because without that GPS, I wouldn't be able to find anything! It took a few days to get re-acclimated to the new surroundings – but once I did, the fishing got really good. In spite of rising water and then having all the flood gates open, I've been pleasantly surprised!

The depths of the crappie have been subject to change daily. Some days we're getting them 12 to 16 ft. in 20-24 ft. of water – then other days they are 8-10 ft. in 10 to 16 ft. of water. Just keep an eye on that depth finder to see how deep they are holding.

The baits working for us have been Bobby Garland's threadfin shad and Lake Fork Tackle's "blue grass" live baby shad. The white bass really like these baits also in 24-28 ft. depths.

Another bait you might want to check out is "Thermocline Lures". I've been hearing of some great catches on these baits and it sounds like they are worth looking into!

Wishing you all the best and please be safe out on the lake. All those trees are still out there – you just can't see them!

Another "Big Thanks" to Chuck, Perry, and Greg at "Service Marine" for having my boat all serviced and ready to go for me when I got home. You guys are the best!

Happy Father's Day to you all and especially to my dad!

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Toyota Texas Bass Classic Born of Dreams

The Toyota Texas Bass Classic (TTBC) scheduled in May on Lake Fork is the world championship of bass fishing, but it was born of a dream to involve more youth in fishing. And that dream was based on the work of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) fisheries biologists who had a vision to make Lake Fork the best bass fishing lake it could be.

Those dreams came together as a result of a chance meeting at a ranch gate in South Texas, and the results went far beyond what anyone

dared dream of.

Professional angler Kelly Jordon happened to be entering his deer lease through a gate shared with a neighboring ranch when the owner of that ranch drove up and saw Jordon's wrapped truck promoting his sponsors. The ranch owner was Donato Ramos, a TPWD commissioner. "I asked him to dinner that night, and we talked about ways to better utilize resources and get the word out about how great Texas fishing is," Jordon recalls. "The biggest priority for

him was to find ways to involve more youth in fishing in Texas. I told him of my dream to have a tournament on Lake Fork to showcase my home lake. He liked the idea of showing people what we had in Texas and suggested that we make it a celebration not just of Lake Fork but also of TPWD's efforts to improve fishing and the economic benefits of fishing to Texas."

The result of that conversation was a fish-

(See Toyota Texas....Continued on Page 13-A)



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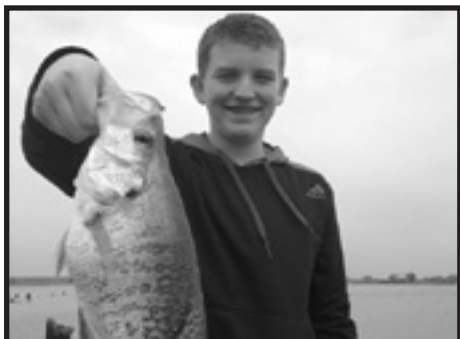
Tommy & mother Dana Martin, Houston, TX.,



Malcolm Brown, 89 and still going strong, Abilene, Tx.,



Marty Snyder, Tightwad, Mo., with a very generous gift!



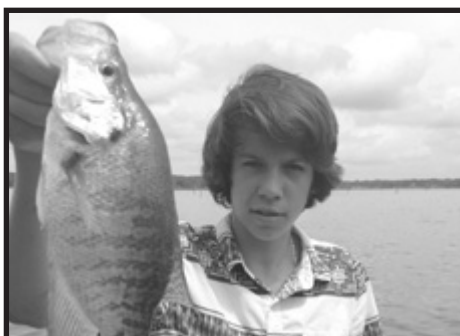
Walker Paschall from Weatherford, TX.,



Michelle Wood, Longview, TX.,



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Texas Game Wardens Arrest Two Killeen Men in Alligator Death

A Texas Game Warden investigation sparked by social media posts on Facebook detailing the killing of an 11-foot alligator has resulted in the arrests of two Killeen men.

Texas Game Wardens recently arrested Bradley Gillis, 26, and James Haff, 33, on Class A misdemeanor charges for taking wildlife resources without landowner consent. The pair was booked into the Bell County Jail. Bond was set at \$7,500 each.

Game wardens in Bell County learned about the killing of a large alligator along the Lampasas River above Stillhouse Hollow Reservoir earlier in the week, including alleged details and photos on Facebook. Wardens then used the same social media outlet to solicit information from the public. The game warden Facebook post garnered statewide news media attention, as well as numerous tips from the public that helped in the inves-

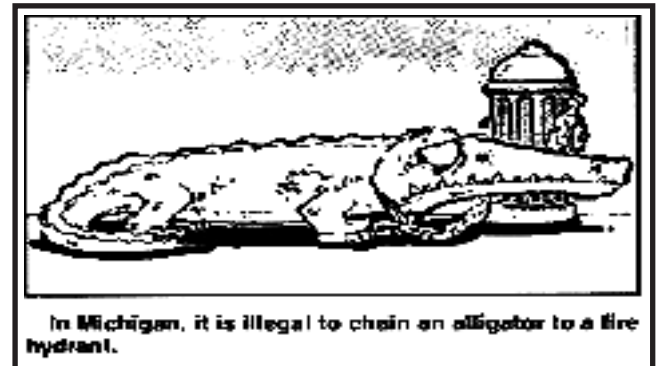
tigation.

Alligators have been observed in the Lampasas River above Stillhouse Hollow Reservoir for many years and reports of illegal harvest or documented dangerous interactions with the recreating public or local livestock have been extremely rare.

Alligators may be taken in Texas on private property only during the April 1-June 30 open season outside a 22-county core area in southeast Texas. Alligators may be taken from public waters adjacent to private land by all lawful means except firearms; however, the person taking the alligator and the taking device must be on private property. State law requires that if a person wants to engage in alligator hunting, they must be licensed, have prior landowner permission and a tag must be purchased upon harvest.

More information about alligator hunting can be

found in the TPWD Outdoor Annual available online at <http://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/2014-2015/animals/alligator>.



In Michigan, it is illegal to chain an alligator to a fire hydrant.



The only two angels identified by name in the Bible are Michael and Gabriel, who appear in the Book of Daniel.

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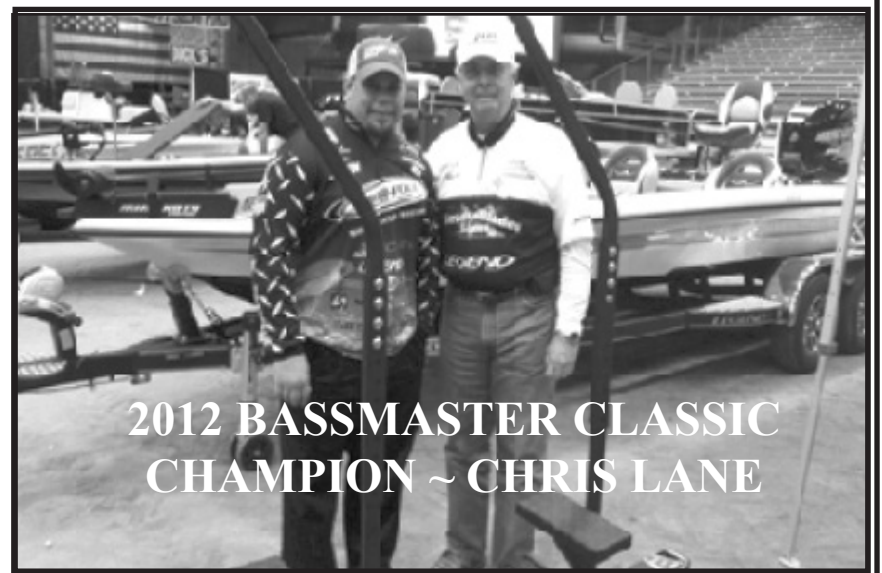
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Toyota Texas Bass Classic Born of Dreams (Continued from Page 9-A)

ing trip on Lake Fork. Jordon hosted Ramos and TPWD commission chairman Dan Friedkin. "We caught a lot of fish, and it went from there," Jordon says. "They are businessmen and know how to make things happen. That's why it has really been awesome."

Lake Fork was planned from the beginning to be a special place. Prior to impoundment, TPWD biologists worked with Sabine River Authority (SRA) to make Lake Fork into bass heaven. "We knew Lake Fork would be a good lake even if we did nothing," says Allen Forshage, who was TPWD's Inland Fisheries regional director at the time. "We decided to do everything we could to make it a great lake."

SRA agreed to leave most of the timber in the lake standing rather than clearing it in order to create habitat for fish. Forshage and his team stocked Florida largemouth bass into farm ponds in the lake's footprint to jumpstart the fishery when the lake filled. Then Forshage went one step further. At the time anglers in Texas could catch and keep 10 bass a day 10 inches or longer. Lakes would boom for a few years, but because few fish survived to spawning age, the fishery would quickly decline.

Forshage fought for and won a five-fish daily bag with a 14-inch minimum length for Lake Fork, which was later changed to the present 16- to 24-inch slot with only one fish per day over 24 inches allowed to be harvested.

The result was spectacular. With its fish living in ideal habitat and protected from harvest until they had time to reproduce, Lake Fork shot to the top of the nation's bass-fishing destinations. TPWD estimates that the lake produces 15,000 fish a year weighing seven pounds or more. Lake Fork has produced more than 250 entries into the Toyota ShareLunker Program, which requires that fish weigh 13 pounds or more. Both the first ShareLunker, a fish weighing 17.67 pounds, and the current state record largemouth bass of 18.18 pounds were caught from Lake Fork.

Lake Fork's ability to produce big bass was confirmed by the 2014 Toyota Texas Bass Classic, which was won by Keith Combs with a three-day total weight of 110 pounds. "No other lake in the country has come close to that," Jordon says.

Each year the Toyota Texas Bass Classic brings thousands of spectators to the lake to

enjoy country music concerts and a variety of outdoor activities in the Outdoor Adventure Zone, but its real purpose is to benefit TPWD's youth fishing programs. Each year Toyota donates \$250,000 to support TPWD programs such as Neighborhood Fishin' and the Texas division of the Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Contest. In 2015 those donations will reach the \$2.25 million mark.

"The Neighborhood Fishin' Program is what Donato Ramos and Dan Friedkin championed," Jordon says. The program regularly stocks fish into 17 urban-area lakes that allow people to fish close to home. The newest Neighborhood Fishin' lakes are Woldert Pond in Tyler, just down the road from Lake Fork, and Small Pond in Grover Nelson Park in Abilene. "We estimate that some 100,000 people a year fish in Neighborhood Fishin' ponds, and about half those are youth or people new to fishing," says Dave Terre, TPWD's Chief of Management and Research.

The Texas division of the State-Fish Art Contest allows students in grades K-12 to submit drawings of fish and compete for scholar-

(See Toyota Texas....Continued on Page 17-A)

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Ehrler and TPWD Outdoor Programs Big Winners at Toyota Texas Bass Classic (Continued from Page 7-A)

ota Tundra valued at \$35,000.

For much of the tournament Ehrler fished offshore with a trio of baits including a Lucky Craft 3.5XD crankbait in shad color, a 6-inch hollow-bodied swim-bait in shad color on a 3/4-ounce BOSS Swim-

bait Jig Head, and a 3/4-ounce BOSS Football Jig Head tipped with a Yamamoto trailer. He used Daiwa rods and reels spooled with Sunline fluorocarbon for all of his presentations.

He caught the bulk of his weight slow-roll-

ing the swimbait, but he also caught several fish on the crankbait and two key fish on the football head jig, including his biggest fish on Sunday and a 6-pounder on Monday.

Ehrler said that the key to his victory was using his Humminbird graph

to find the winning school of fish early on the first day of practice. "I saw some fish down there, and on one of my first casts I hooked a 6-pounder. When I was reeling it in, I noticed a bunch of other big ones following the hooked fish back to the boat,"

he explained. "I immediately knew that I'd found a spot that could be very productive."

On Monday, he caught a limit weighing 23 pounds off his primary area and then boated the 10-pounder and a 6-pounder off his secondary area in the afternoon. "Both areas that I fished were basically points that extended out into the lake and then dropped off," he explained.

In total, five of the 35 competitors including Jason Christie, John Crews, Mike Iaconelli, Shad Schenck and Brent Ehrler, caught a Lake Fork bass surpassing the 24-inch slot

length.

Jason Christie of Tahlequah, Oklahoma, won the LEER Heavyweight award for his 37-pound, 4-ounce limit on Saturday.

Due to severe storms and heavy rainfall, the weigh-in venue and activities were closed to the public on Sunday and Monday.

For complete tournament results, visit www.toyotatexasbassclassic.com.

For information on TPWD programs benefiting from the Toyota Texas Bass Classic, visit www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishart and www.neighborhoodfishin.org.

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Final Top 10

1. Brent Ehrler – 89 lbs. 12oz.
2. Jason Christie – 87 lbs. 12oz.
3. Andy Morgan – 83 lbs. 12oz.
4. Chris Lane – 83 lbs. 8 oz.
5. Shad Schenck – 81 lbs. 4 oz.
6. Casey Ashley – 79 lbs. 4 oz.
7. John Crews – 78 lbs. 8 oz.
8. Mike Iaconelli – 72 lbs. 8 oz.
9. Keith Combs – 65 lbs. 12 oz.
10. Brandon Palaniuk – 51 lbs.

Toyota Tundra Big Bass:
Brent Ehrler – 10 lbs. 11oz.

LEER Heavyweight:
Jason Christie – 37 lbs. 4oz.

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New Bass license plate aims to increase funding for fisheries

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is re-introducing its largemouth bass conservation license plate with a new graphic design. Artwork on the new plate depicting a jumping bass chasing a lure was created by well-known wildlife artist Clemente Guzman.

In an online contest to determine the new plate design, Guzman's jumping bass received the most votes from anglers with more than 4,000.

"Our hope is that this more robust bass will appeal to more anglers who will want to display this plate on their vehicles and boat trailers. By purchasing this specialty plate they will help provide critical funding for Texas' fish management programs," says Dave Terre, Inland Fisheries Management and Research Chief. "The more plates purchased by anglers, the more funding will be available to help keep Texas one of the best places to fish in the country."

The new plate launched May 25, at the Toyota Texas Bass Classic on Lake Fork. Plates can be purchased online at www.ConservationPlate.org/Bass or at local tax county offices for \$30/year, of which \$22/plate goes to TPWD.

"The bass plate was one of the first plates we

introduced back in 2002 and we wanted to take advantage of the new digital printing capabilities at Texas Department of Motor Vehicles and give this plate a much-needed facelift" says Janis Johnson, TPWD marketing specialist who manages the conservation license plate program. "In 2008 we redesigned our white-tailed deer plate and sales increased 20 percent. We're aiming for similar results with the new bass plate."

TPWD now offers seven conservation license plates, including the recently introduced hummingbird and rattlesnake plates and the horned lizard plate (all three benefit native wildlife), the white-tailed deer (benefitting big game management); and the camping and bluebonnet plates (both benefitting state parks) These specialty plates have generated more than \$7 million for conservation efforts in Texas since the first plate was introduced in 1999.

The plates are available for cars, trucks, motorcycles, trailers and RVs for an annual fee of only \$30. This fee does not replace the regular vehicle registration cost. Specialty plates may be purchased at any time of the year independent of vehicle registration renewal.

For more information about specific projects that have benefitted from funds generated from the conservation license plate program, visit www.conservationplate.org/projects.

Toyota has been a proud sponsor of the TPWD Conservation License Plate program since 2003.



Mike Payne caught this nice bass fishing with Lake Fork Guide David Ozio. C.P.R.

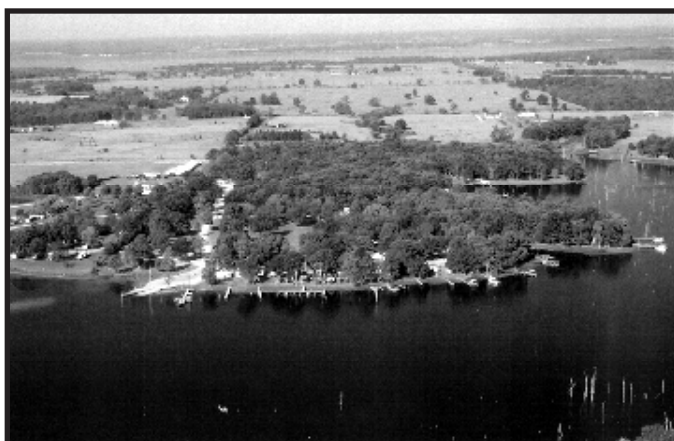
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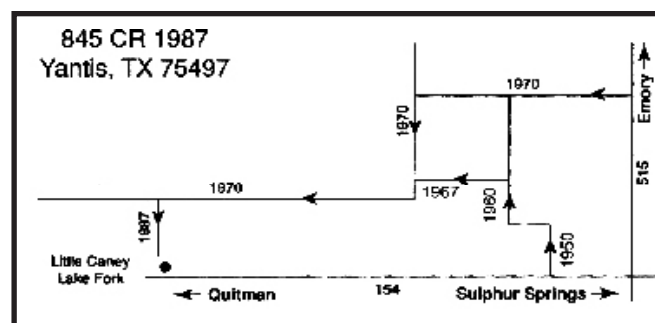
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"The Legend of Lake Fork" 11th Annual Big Bass Tournament (Continued from Page 4-A)

peting to take home one of the 2015 Legend Bass Boats. Four of these are given away during the tournament; two for the the heaviest over the slot of 24", one for the heaviest under the 16" and one in a drawing from all early entries received on or before April 30th.

In previous years in the tournament the average weight for the heaviest bass under the slot averaged between 2.61-pounds to 2.78-pounds. There had only been two exceptions to this average. At the 9th Annual Legend of Lake Fork, Diane Vineyard won weighing in a 3.00-pound bass and at the 7th Annual a 3.09-pound bass was weighed in. This year was no exception to the average. On the third day of the tournament Bryan Beck from Prairieville, Louisiana weighed in a bass under the slot weighing 2.71-pounds during the 9 to 10 o'clock hour. Before Bryan brought his fish to the scales, William Vester had been leading in that category since Friday with a bass weighing 2.59-pounds. For Mr. Beck's catch he took home a check for \$500, \$100 for the T-shirt hour, and a certificate for a Legend 191 Alpha, with a Mercury Motor, Motorguide Trolling Motor and Lowrance Electronics.

The heaviest over the slot to win a new 2015 Legend 211 Alpha Bass Boat was caught by Brett Green from Glenwood, Arkansas. He weighed in a lunker weighing 10.54-pounds during the 12 to 1 o'clock hour on

Friday and his weight held up during the course of the tournament winning him a certificate for a 2015 Legend 211 Alpha, Mercury, Motorguide, and Lowrance Electronics.

The second heaviest bass over the slot and winning a 2015 Legend 199 Alpha equipped with Mercury, Motorguide, and Lowrance Electronics was caught by Tommy Climer from Mesquite, Texas. Tommy's bass weighed 9.62-pounds and was brought to the scales on Saturday during the 9 to 10 o'clock hour.

This year's winner of the draw boat from all of the early entries received on or before April 30th was Shane Thompson from Forney, Texas. Drawing his name from all of the entries was 7 year old Zane Strange from Mineola, Texas.

This year being our 11th Annual, anglers had another incentive to fish for. Randy Qualls, owner of Legends Boats, had a 211 Alpha fully equipped on hand to give to the first angler that brought an 11-pound even weight bass to the scales. Poor Randy had to take that beautiful boat all the way back to Mountain Home, Arkansas because that feat was not accomplished by any of the anglers. I just wonder what he has in store for "The Legend of Lake Fork" 12th Annual Big Bass Tournament that will be held on May 13, 14, 15, 2016.

This year in the special drawing we had a great guest

to give away the prizes. Chris Lane, 2012 BASS World Champion and Touring Pro was on hand to give out a sponsored PowerPole and three Easy Step Systems. The winning anglers not only went home with a great prize but also a memory they will never forget.

The 12th Annual Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament is scheduled for May 13, 14, 15, 2016. As promised to the anglers, as we grow, so will paybacks and prizes. There will be more chances and more incentives for anglers to go home winners. Then Again, you're always a winner when you fish Lake Fork.



A big thanks to the ladies that kept the paperwork and the anglers straight, (rt to lt) Sue Hampton, Gloria Gilley, and Connie Steel.

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TTBC Born of Dreams (Continued from Page 13-A)

ships. Artwork from that contest appears on Toyota Texas Bass Classic tickets. Research shows that students who take part in this contest are more likely to become interested in fishing. More than 1,000 youths entered the Texas division of the State-Fish Art Contest just ended, more than any other state.

Conservation is at the heart of TPWD fisheries management, and the TTBC tournament format furthers that effort. Fish 16 to 24 inches long are weighed on the water by judges and immediately released; anglers are allowed to bring only one fish over 24 inches to the weigh-

in. Fish brought to the weigh-in are cared for by TPWD biologists and returned to the lake.

One of the direct results of the TTBC's catch-weigh-immediate release format is the Major League Fishing circuit, which is fished by Jordon and many of the nation's top anglers. "The TTBC has had a tremendous impact," Jordon says. "Major League Fishing is one of the most successful and exciting televised fishing events. Its rules and the way we do things are direct descendants of TTBC. We weigh and immediately release fish. I believe that is the future of competitive

fishing."

"None of this can happen without public support," said Dave Terre, TPWD's Inland Fisheries Chief of Management and Research. "By attending the Toyota Texas Bass Classic, you are also supporting TPWD programs such as Neighborhood Fishin' and the State-Fish Art Contest. In addition to helping make possible these programs that benefit your own family today, you will play a part in passing on the traditions of fishing and good management of our natural resources to future generations. They and we thank you."

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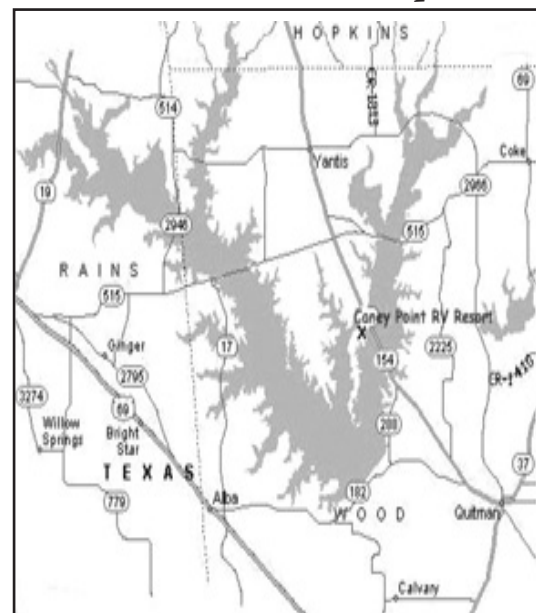
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"Pack of Knowledge" Going Shallow in the Summer

By Andrew Grills

Every summer, many bass move out of shallow spawning areas to deeper offshore structure in the main lake. As advanced graphs and GPS units have made deep water fishing a lot easier and more effective, many anglers take up residence out deep in the summer too. However, bass are predators that live and feed wherever prey can be captured effectively. Take a glance in the shallows of most any lake during the summer and

you'll find it teeming with life—shad, panfish, juvenile fish, and minnows—better known to bass as "lunch." No matter how warm the air or the water temperatures, you'll be able to catch bass in shallow water all summer long. And some days, you can catch them better shallow than out deep.

Start your search for shallow bass in a couple different areas. First, large flats with lots of grass or wood cover normally hold fish year-round. These are resident bass that spend their whole lives on the flats because they offer plenty of food in all seasons. Secondly, look for shallow water areas that are adjacent to deep water, either in large creeks or on the main lake. These shallow water feeding areas offer the best of both worlds to bass—the cooler temps and security of deep water, with quick access to food. Good examples of this are lily pad covered main lake points or banks in major coves where the creek channel swings in close.

Once you've located some likely areas, good timing will contribute to your success. Early and late in the day, or during the middle of the day if it is cloudy and windy, fish tend to roam more and you'll want to cover the flats more with horizontal presentations like spinnerbaits or crankbaits. During the middle of the day, especially when it

is calm and sunny, fish tighten to cover near drop-offs or creek channels. For instance, flipping trees along a creek channel running through a flat or worming the outside weed edge on a point will often work well. These more vertical presentations will often result in bigger bass, too.

Depending on the conditions and the cover, pick a lure that'll match the bass' primary forage. In most cases, bass will be keying in on bluegill, shad, or crawdads. Bright orange and yellow accents to brown, green and purple lures match bluegill and other sunfish well, while silver or white mimic shad, and browns or greens replicate the look of most crawdads. As noted before, spinnerbaits and shallow running crankbaits great ways to locate concentrations of fish, especially on windy and cloudy days or during low light conditions. These baits will not only catch active fish, but they often give away the location of a large school. Once the action slows on the search baits, I'll slow down and work the area over with soft plastic jerkbaits. Work these baits weightless or wacky rigged over the top of grass and around wood to coax out the less active fish.

When the fish are less active, fish around the heaviest cover with a Texas rig, jig, or shaky head. A worm is hard to beat in the summertime and it's normally my first choice. I rig these with the lightest weight possible for a slow fall and let them

(See Pack of Knowledge...Continued on 21-A)



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Recreational Anglers Get 10-Days in Federal Waters for Red Snapper

Texas recreational anglers will have just 10 days to catch the popular sport fish in Gulf of Mexico federal waters this summer unless they hire a charter vessel under new framework announced by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

The recreational season in federal waters

is set for June 1-10, while a new for-hire charter recreational season will run June 1-July 14. The daily bag limit for red snapper caught in federal waters is 2 with a minimum length limit of 16 inches. In Texas state waters out to nine nautical miles, there is no closed season on red snapper

and the daily bag limit is 4 with a 15-inch minimum.

The new recreational red snapper sector division framework is the result of recent passage of Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Amendment 40 by the U.S. Department of Commerce. Amendment 40 divides the recreational fishery

quota between private recreational anglers fishing off of federally-permitted vessels and those who fish off of their own boat. The commercial red snapper fishing segment is not affected by the amendment.

Anglers can assist

in the effort to track Texas landings of red snapper this season by reporting their catches. This year, TPWD is partnering with the Harte Research Institute in a voluntary electronic reporting system that will enable anglers to report

landings online and through a new mobile app.

The new mobile app is available for download now and anglers can begin reporting their red snapper catch. More information is available at www.iSnapper.org.

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June's In! Now tune in on the Summer Pattern (Continued from Page 6-A)

it's way up, shift gears and pitch a creature bait as far back in those willow trees as possible. A 3/8 ounce weight will do the trick and use at least 20lb line. Your favorite colors will work fine, no need to complicate the process. The most important factor in this process will be the accuracy of the pitch. Pick the bush apart until you key on where the bass are positioned. Once that is established, follow that pattern across the lake. It will pay off in spades. If simple action is what you seek especially if kids are involved, I would chase the sand

bass. You can use a 1/2 ounce Hopkins spoon or a 1/2 ounce jig head with a fluke jr. attached. This is wicked fun on light line. We can spend a day on the water if you like and I can teach you the ropes how to catch a ton of these entertainment fish.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in June searching for the trophy of a lifetime, I would love to be a part of this trophy quest. I still have a few dates open in June and some in July. I also have gift certificates available if you have friends or loved one's who have dreamt of landing a huge bass. You can contact me at 409 782-4269 or e-mail me at skeet21c@aol.com. You can follow me on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Lake-ForkGuideDavidOzio>. I run a Skeeter FXi with a Yamaha 250SHO and would like to thank Skeeter for making my office on the lake the best in the country. I would also like to thank G-Loomis, Shimano and Talon Lures for making my job the blast that it is. A special shout out to Nautical Mile Marine in Tyler for all their help in keeping me on the water seven days a week, no issues. I hope to see a lot of you on the water. Romans 10:13. "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved". I wish all of you a blessed day."

DAVID OZIO

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Practice C.P.R.

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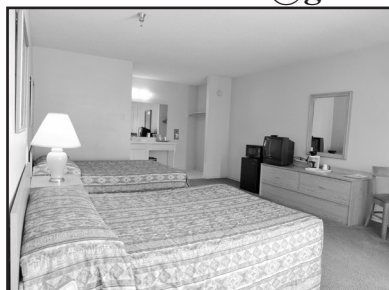
Dannatta Grisham caught this nice Lake Fork bass while fishing with guide David Ozio. Weight not provided. C.P.R.

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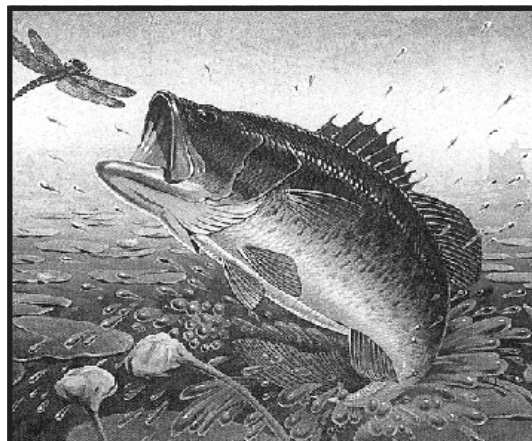
Pack of Knowledge (Continued from Page 18-A)

soak a long time between hops, because many of your bites will come as the bait is sitting still. Other times, you'll illicit reaction strikes by pitching a Texas rig or jig to the heaviest grass or wood cover available. Hop your bait around a couple times, and then pitch

the next target. Finally, for the most reluctant of bass, a shaky head rig with a finesse worm will work wonders. Cast this rig to any shallow cover and gently shake your bait in place between hops. I use 20 lb braid with a 6' fluorocarbon leader of 15 lb. On tough days, this rig is easy

to fish and can turn a tough bite into steady action.

Andrew is a professional guide on Lake Fork and is sponsored by Skeeter Boats, Nautical Mile Marine Tyler, Costa Del Mar, M-Pack Lures and Simms fishing apparel.



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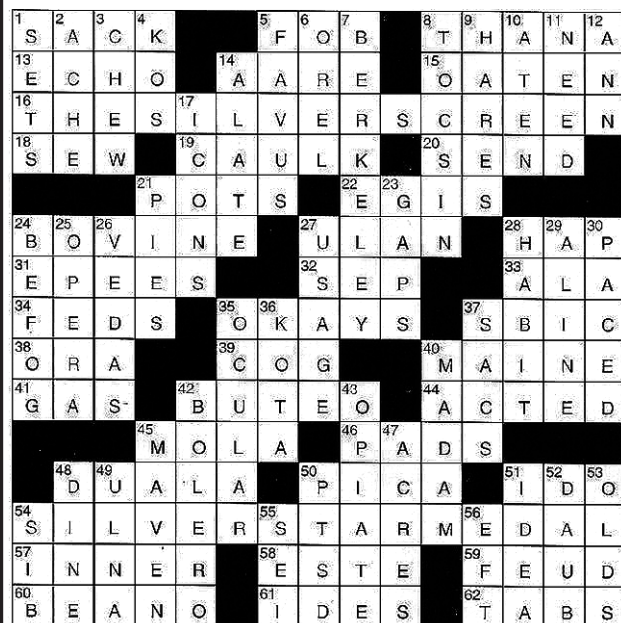
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538 PR 5861
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Music Find

There are 14 musical instruments hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle. The words go horizontally and vertically, backward and forward.

BANJO
CLARINET
DRUMS
FLUTE
GUITAR
HARP
OBOE

ORGAN
PIANO
SAXOPHONE
TROMBONE
TRUMPET
TUBA
VIOLIN

T R U E N O H P O X A S
R P A H A N J H N V E M
O J N A B P I O A I T U
M B O R T I R T G O B D
B A R P R A P E O L A R
O N A I M O B N R I U U
N A T U B I P I A N O M
E T U L F L T R O E B T
R A G I U T R A H T O E
N I P N O T U L E R E P
O S M A R A L C R B O E
H A U G G S V L O N I T
P O T R U M P E T A V O
L T R O N U I R L B L N
Y N O R G R A T I U G A
X A S N S D T N A T U B

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Practice C.P.R.



The first gas pump was made by Sylvanus F. Bowser of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and delivered to local store-keeper Jake Gumper on September 5, 1885.



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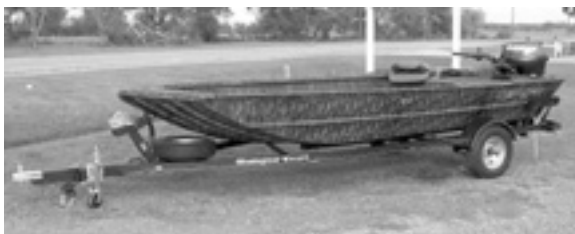
**2014
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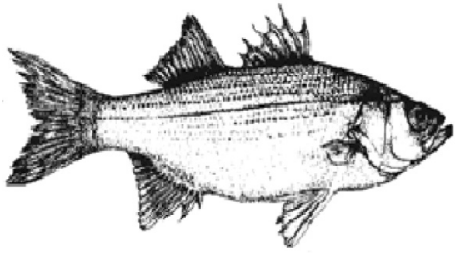
12 1/2' x 50' or 12 1/2' x 25'

Under Roof Plus Electric

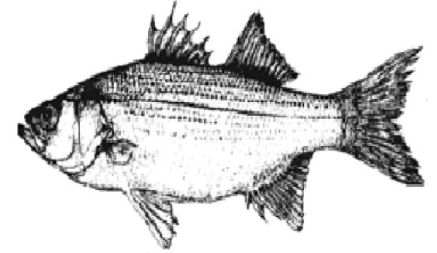


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Hook N' Cook Sand Bass Tournament



Saturday, August 8, 2015

Benefitting "The Wish To Fish Foundation"

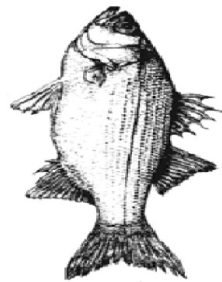
Tournament Headquarters: Fisherman's One Stop • Hwy 515 CR 1970

Tournament Committee: Don Bubba Hampton, Scott Fruge

Guaranteed Pay-Out Based on 100 Entries
Drawings will be held after weigh-in for door prizes

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1st Place | \$600.00 |
| 2nd Place | \$500.00 |
| 3rd Place | \$400.00 |
| 4th Place | \$300.00 |
| 5th Place | \$200.00 |

80%
Payback



There will be a big bass pot ~ \$10 per person entry
Big Bass will pay Three (3) places. (Based on 100 entries)

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1st Place | \$500.00 |
| 2nd Place | \$300.00 |
| 3rd Place | \$200.00 |

100%
Payback

**Entry Includes Free Fish Fry With All The Fixins' Starting at 5 P.M.
Bring The Family & BYOB • Donations Accepted For W.T.F.F.**

Fishing Hours: 6 A.M. to 12 P.M. Weigh-In Between 12 & 1 P.M. Must Be In Line By 1 P.M.

1. Entry fee is \$25.00.
2. Early entries optional (No Discount)
3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, 2015.
4. Sign Up: Friday, Aug. 7, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 8, 5 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. at Fisherman's One Stop.
5. Tournament is open to any person with a Valid Texas Fishing License. Minors can compete but must have signed release form.
6. All State and Local Laws Apply.
7. No alcohol or drugs allowed during tournament hours.
8. Trailering is allowed.
9. Iced Fish Will Be Allowed.
10. Trolling with big motor is allowed.
11. Each contestant may weigh-in only 5 fish.
12. 10" Minimum Length. Live bait is allowed.
13. No pooling of fish, all persons in boat must be paid entry.
14. Contestants can only fish with as many rods as they can.
15. Contestants must agree to submit to a polygraph.
16. Tournament Director & Committee Decisions Are Final.
17. Mail in entries must be received by July 31, 2015
18. All fish become property of tournament to be fried.

Entry Application

Entry fee of \$25 must accompany mailed entry and must be postmarked on or before July 31, 2015 to Wish To Fish Foundation, 538 PR 5861, Yantis, TX 75497, or you may pay \$25 at tournament headquarters before starting time of tournament. \$10 extra for Big Sandie (optional). Print clearly. No Checks Accepted at Tournament Sign In.

Name _____ Email _____

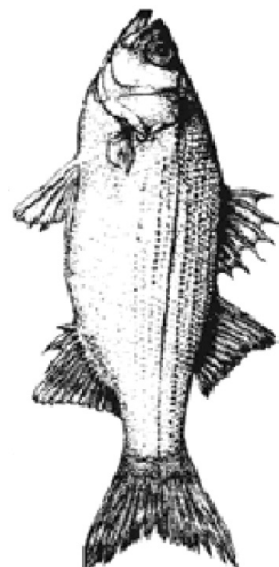
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Having read and understood the tournament rules, by my signature I agree to accept all decisions of the judges as final. By my signature I waive, release and hold harmless all members, officials and sponsors of any and all alleged liabilities to me and/or my equipment.

Contestant Signature _____

Minor's release: Signed by _____ Parent/Guardian



Wish To Fish Use Only

Entry # _____

Entry Fee _____

Big Sandie _____

Cash _____ Ck# _____



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| 2nd.....\$10,000 | 14th.....\$1,060 |
| 3rd.....\$8,000 | 15th.....\$1,050 |
| 4th.....\$5,000 | 16th.....\$1,040 |
| 5th.....\$3,000 | 17th.....\$1,030 |
| 6th.....\$2,500 | 18th.....\$1,020 |
| 7th.....\$2,000 | 19th.....\$1,010 |
| 8th.....\$1,600 | 20th.....\$1,000 |
| 9th.....\$1,300 | 21st.....\$1,000 |
| 10th.....\$1,150 | 22nd.....\$1,000 |
| 11th.....\$1,090 | 23rd.....\$1,000 |
| 12th.....\$1,080 | 24th.....\$1,000 |
| 13th.....\$1,070 | BB.....\$1,000 |

**\$50,000 cash guaranteed for
1st place regardless of entries**

Tournament is open to all anglers and all boat
brands. Lake is off-limits 6/22-6/26

Will be televised on



2015 Date:

Sunday, June 28th
Lake Sam Rayburn

Location:

Umphrey Pavilion

Entry Fee:

\$500 per team

Official Practice

Saturday, June 27th

Only teams that are registered before
8PM on Friday June 26th are permitted to
be on the lake for June 27th practice day.

On-site registration information:

Friday, June 26th: 5-8 PM at Pavilion

Late Registration:

Saturday June 27th - 5-7 PM at Pavilion

Sunday June 28th @ 5 AM

PRESENTED

BY



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