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2 Sections

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Free

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Jason and Hunter Smith proved the top anglers over 262 teams at the 2015 BassChamps Team Tournament Trail held on Lake Fork on July 7th. They had a 5-fish stringer that weighed 15.93-lbs. and their big bass weighed 8.84-lbs. winning them over \$20,000 in cash. Big Bass of the tournament was caught by the team of Josh and Justin Keithley and weighed 9.17-lbs.



Alba First Baptist 2015 Honduras Team in front of the church that was chosen during last years mission trip. They were afforded the opportunity to replace the roof, paint and repair the childrens Sunday school and nursey. Volunteers that donated their time and efforts to this great humanitarian effort were Pastor Kelly Burton, Mike Reimer, Dean Stroman, Pastor Santiago, Steve Nail, Drew Forsman, Bryan Barnes, Ken Donahue, and Merranda Rojo. (See Story on Page 13-A)



Taylor Johnson and Austin Scott from Texarkana secured 1st Place in the 2nd Annual National Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament winning \$6,000 in scholarship money when Taylor caught this nice Lake Fork hawg weighing 8.60-lbs.



Garrett Stefka and Cameron Smalley from Texarkana secured 2nd Place in the 2nd Annual National Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament winning \$4,000 in scholarship money when Taylor caught this nice Lake Fork hawg weighing 9.21-lbs. (See Story on Page 4-A)

Bubba pushes his luck at being a macho manly chef...

By Don Hampton

A fish fry or barbecue is right up bubba's alley. This consists of manly macho cooking and Bubba seems to think like other outdoorsy type men that he is the best in this category.

One thing for certain, when Bubba is eating someone else's barbecue or fried fish and they proclaim they are the best, he agrees. After all, he is getting a free meal so they can say whatever they want. But, deep in his macho heart he is thinking, "Wait till they taste mine!"

Bubba loves to cook out and volunteers his services not only to try and impress his buds, but also to give Bubbette a night off.

Usually when Bubba volunteers to do the only cooking a "real" man will do, the following chain of events is put into motion.

First of all, Bubbette will go to the store to shop for everything Bubba will need.

Secondly, Bubbette will fix the salad, vegetables, and the dessert.

Thirdly, Bubbette prepares the meat for cooking, places it on a tray along with the necessary cooking utensils and then takes it to Bubba who is lounging beside the grill drinking a beer and telling

fishing stories (FFT's = Fabricated Fish Tales) to his cronies. At this time Bubba slips into his "macho culinary character" and puts the meat on the grill.

Once the meat is on the grill cooking, Bubba goes back to his fish stories with his beer and buds while Bubbette goes inside to set the table and check the vegetables.

Not long after that, Bubbette will come out to remind Bubba to turn the meat. After another period of time, Bubbette will come out to tell Bubba to put his beer down, take a break from his fish tales, and check on the meat because it just might be burning.

At this point Bubba will take the meat off the grill and with the expertise of any great chef, place it tenderly on a platter and hand it to Bubbette. All the while mumbling under his breath how this is his job and he's got it covered, but not loud enough so Bubbette will hear him. Then Bubbette will take the platter, prepare the plates, bring them to the table, and ring the dinner bell.

Upon completion of the meal, Bubbette will clear the table, do the dishes, and clean up the mess.

And another notch is carved in Bubba's spatula and tongs for conducting another of his successful cookouts.

The main confusion of this scenario for Bubba is when he asks Bubbette how she enjoyed her night off!!

Upon seeing her annoyed reaction, he just concludes that sometimes there is just no pleasing Bubbette!!

Maybe next time he will give Bubbette the first choice of steaks and that will make her happier!



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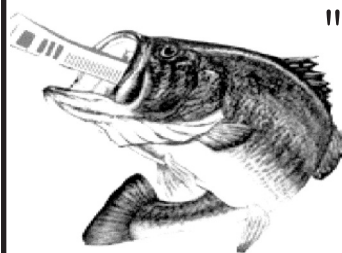
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2nd Annual National Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament

By Don Hampton

The 2nd Annual National Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament was held on July 25th and 26th and hosted out of Oak Ridge Marina. This is the largest high school scholarship tournament in the United States.

With over \$15,000 in scholarship money be-

ing offered to the top six winning teams it gave 113 teams plenty of incentive to come and show their angling skills. With the boat captains and family and friends coming to watch the festivities there were over 600 people enjoying the show of our youth being very involved in the positive sport of bass fishing.

For a small entry fee of \$50 per team, the young anglers received gift packs from all the great sponsors, Friday night snacks and a Saturday night dinner and Block Party.

To qualify to fish the tournament the youth had to be in the 9th to 12th grade in high school.

2015 National Lake Fork Open 1st Place Champions were Taylor Johnson and Austin Scott from Genoa High School, Texarkana, Arkansas for their outstanding weight of 12.73-pounds. They won \$6,000 in Scholarship money, \$300 in Rods from Shimano, \$100 Gift cards from Dick's Sporting Goods and a \$50 tackle pack from Santone Lures.

Second Place winners was the team of Garrett Stefka and Cameron Smalley with a total weight of 12.01-pounds. Garrett was also the 2015 Lake Fork Open Big Bass Winner with a catch of 9.21-pounds. Garrett Stefka from Crandall High School in Kaufman, for his catch he received an additional \$500 Scholarship from Papa's Baits, \$300 gift card from Costa Sunglasses and a free replica of his catch (valued at \$400) from Bev's Fish Creations! Garrett

(Continued on Next Page)



Billy Sartin, Sartin Marine & Legend Boats on behalf of the 2nd Annual National Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament presented the \$6,000 Scholarship Check to Taylor Johnson and Austin Scott.



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and his partner Cameron for winning 2nd Place overall were awarded \$4,000 in scholarships, \$300 in Shimano Rods, \$100 gift certificates from Dick's Sporting Goods and a \$50 tackle pack from Santone Lures.

Winning 3rd Place with a total of 11.32-pounds was the team of Matthew Sprague and Cameron McAnally from Wills Point High School. For their catch they won \$2,000 in Scholarships, \$100 gift card from Dick's Sporting Goods and \$50 tackle pack from Santone Lures.

Coming in 4th Place with a total weight of 11.16-pounds was the team of Brandon Sprague and Jaron Wise from Wills Point High School. They won \$1,500 in Scholarships, \$100 Dick's Sporting Goods Gift cards and \$50 tackle pack from Santone Lures.

5th Place with a total weight of 10.21- pounds was Kiel Couturier and Cole Turner from Prosper High School. Their winnings totaled \$1,000 Scholarship, \$100 Dick's Sporting Goods Gift

Card and \$50 tackle pack from Santone Lures.

6th Place winners with a total weight of 9.93-pounds were Garret Cutler and Wyatt Young from Aledo High School. Their catch netted them \$500 Scholarship and a \$100 gift card from Santone Lures.

Coming in 7th Place with a weight of 9.90-pounds was Tyler Meeks and Rudy Weever from Hemphill High School winning them a \$100 Santone Gift Certificate.

Setting their hooks on 8th Place with a total weight of 9.48-pounds and winning a \$100 Santone Lures Gift Certificate was the team of Ross Michaels and Collin Kalbe from Alba Golden High School.

Securing 9th Place and a \$100 Gift Certificate from Santone Lures with a weight of 8.83-pounds was Chance Cobb and Trey Rogers, from Emory High School.

Anchoring in at 10th Place and winning a \$100 Gift Certificate from Santone Lures with

a total weight of 8.55-pounds was Guy Payne and Gus McLarry of Caddo Mills High School.

During the course of the two day tournament there were 164 bass weighed in for an average weight of .95-pounds. Of those 164 bass brought to the scales, 163 a 99% survival rate were released back into the lake. This truly shows how responsible and educated our youth are in protecting and preserving our natural resources and the sport for the future.

The National Lake Fork Open gave \$15,500 in College Scholarships away in the tournament, \$1,200 in Rods, \$1,400 in Gift Certificates and \$4,500 in tackle and other prizes! That's over \$22,500 in money and prizes!

This is truly a great format tournament for our youth to promote education, sportsmanship, conservation, and the fishing industry. All of the sponsors and volunteers are to be commended for having the foresight into the future.



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Hot fishing on the Fork

By David Ozio

'The dog days of summer have set in and the fishing is equally as hot. If you can put up with the heat, big bass will be your reward. I, personally, think this summer hasn't been all that hot due to the fact that the wind has failed to cut us much slack for the past month. At 20+MPH every day, the lake has been quite pleasant. This wind has also had another positive affect in that it has kept the water churned up which keeps the thermocline from forming. This allows the fish to roam a much broader depth range.

Some good things should happen in August this year. Higher water temps are specifically what I am looking for. Over the past years,

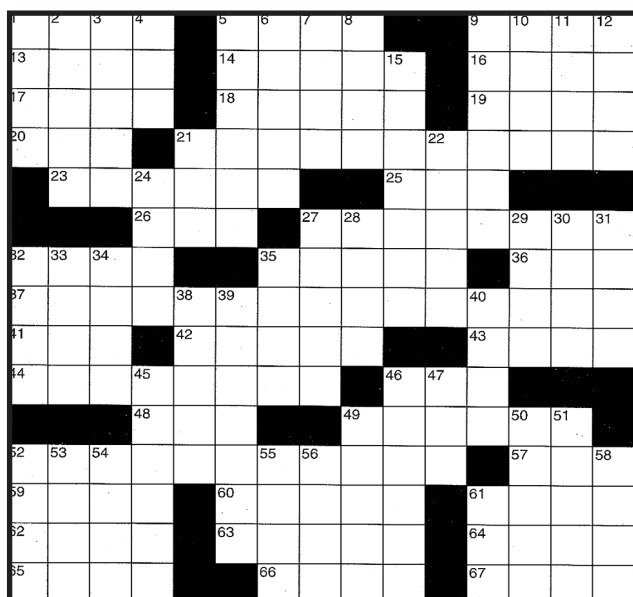
when this happens, big bass will congregate on a larger spectrum across the lake. As of this writing, huge schools of bass have been showing up in the late afternoon on a couple of sloping points and ledges. They are easy to see on my Lowrance 12 Touch and at that point a marker bouy flies out of the boat and it's time to have some fun. The melee usually lasts a couple of hours and then it's back to one here, one there.

My choice bait at this juncture is the drop shot. Video fishing at it's finest. Most of the time, if I can see them on the graph, they are caught. I use a fifteen inch leader from weight to hook being as the fish are in 22-30ft of water. Roboworms get the nod to do the heavy lifting and in some cases, I switch to the Talon Carolina worm. This bait is loaded with garlic and the fish seem to love it. Talon calls it Bassappeal. These same fish can be caught with an A-rig or a Carolina rig also. It all depends on your favorite style of fishing. Use any soft plastic you wish as long as it is red. Redbug has been my "go to" color and it is serving me well. I look for more giant schools of monster bass to start showing up on humps and points once the main lake wa-



ter temps reach 91 degrees. One note, deep stumps and laydowns have been playing a huge roll in where these fish stack up. Side imaging shows me where these stumps are hiding and the green fish are surrounding each one of them.

August may also deal us our share of suspended bass. If you see plenty of hooks on your screen hanging at a mid level in the water column, dig out the flutter spoon in silver or gold and go to work. Another alternative is the Zoom magnum fluke. Any variation of white works and rig it with a



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Female parent | 41. Plant virus |
| 5. Expresses pleasure | 42. Fungus genus |
| 9. Pouch | 43. Chests |
| 13. Breezed through | 44. Corkscrewed |
| 14. Prague | 46. Swiss river |
| 16. ____ Ladd, actor | 48. Collection of anecdotes |
| 17. Usually with wooden soles | 49. Indulgences |
| 18. Describes soft pronunciation | 52. Circulate |
| 19. National capital of Peru | 57. Take to one's heels |
| 20. Wrath | 59. ____ Clapton, musician |
| 21. Plotter | 60. Highly incensed |
| 23. Hindu's creator god | 61. Fallow deer |
| 25. Veterans' battleground | 62. Large, brown nuts containing caffeine |
| 26. Support | 63. Basketball player |
| 27. Introduce to something new | 64. Perfume obtained from flowers |
| 32. Norse goddess of old age | 65. Organic compound |
| 35. Past (archaic) | 66. Without any |
| 36. "The ____ Squad" | 67. Flat tableland with steep edges |
| 37. Woody Allen, in "Bananas" | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Wizards | 31. Old English letters |
| 2. Sour or bitter in taste | 32. Tritons |
| 3. Postage or taxi | 33. Not firm, "wilted lettuce" |
| 4. Oklahoma city | 34. ____ Strauss, jeans maker |
| 5. Composure | 35. ____ Frank's diary |
| 6. Site of open-air sporting events | 38. Allman brother |
| 7. ____ Christian Andersen, children's author | 39. Moslem |
| 8. Carry passengers or freight | 40. Gulls |
| 9. Deli meat | 45. Scamp |
| 10. Settled down | 46. Type of blood vessel |
| 11. Military disguise (abbr.) | 47. Length of time |
| 12. Knot in a tree | 49. Frontier movie (slang) |
| 15. Inanely foolish | 50. Fill with high spirits |
| 21. 22nd letter of the Greek alphabet | 51. Languages of Sulu Archipelago |
| 22. African badgerlike carnivore | 52. Fake |
| 24. Plant part | 53. Extremely robust |
| 27. Paid no attention to (slang) | 54. Storage structure |
| 28. Gangrenous inflammation | 55. Asian country |
| 29. Independent ruler or chieftain | 56. Spoken in northeastern India |
| 30. Albanian dialect | 58. Harelike rodent of Argentina |
| | 61. Obstruct |

Answers on Page 21-A



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(See Hot Fishing.....
Continued on Page 20-A)

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Game Wardens Wrap Up Alligator Attack Investigation

Texas game wardens have completed their investigation into an alligator attack that resulted in the death of Tommie Woodard, 28, of St. Louis, Missouri. Investigators concluded that the unprecedented circumstances of the case, believed to be the first fatal alligator attack in Texas on record, warrant no further action.

The alligator suspected of attacking Woodard was killed by an individual who told investigators he acted out of concern for the safety of his family and others. Game wardens issued a warning citation to the individual for the

illegal take of the alligator; his identity is being withheld since no criminal charges were filed.

"This was a truly horrific tragedy that unfortunately became compounded by the actions of an individual who felt compelled to take matters into his own hands for the safety of his family and others," said Colonel Craig Hunter, Law Enforcement Director for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Shortly before 3 a.m. on Friday, July 3, Texas game wardens were notified about a possible alligator attack and missing person on

Adams Bayou, an oxbow creek off the Sabine River in Orange County, 30 miles east of Beaumont, Texas. Game wardens recovered Woodard's body from the creek about two hours later. A game warden crew searched the area nightly throughout the week-end for a large, aggressive alligator with no success.

Mid-afternoon Monday, July 6, game wardens received a call that a large alligator carcass had been dropped at the marina boat ramp near where the attack had occurred days ear-

(See Alligator Attack....
Continued on Page 21-A)

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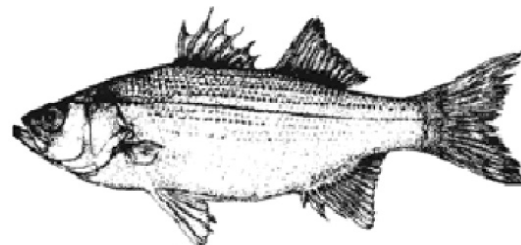
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"The Moon Report"

Fork's Summertime Crappie And Bream

By Terri Moon

It finally set in – those 100 degree days! The afternoons are way too hot for me – but, the mornings are very do-able! In fact, surprisingly pleasant!

The bite has been best around mid-morning. They are gradually moving deeper and this week they are biting 16-20 ft. in 20-30 ft. of water. I'm starting to see a thermocline set in at about 20 ft. It's been a very light bite.

You need to really watch your line or you're going to miss a lot of bites! It can be as subtle as a line twitch or if it goes slack, you need to instantly react. Stay in contact with your bait because loose line will lose fish! The crappie haven't been on a feeding frenzy so you really have to optimize every opportunity. The biggest mistake I see people make is once they set the hook, they will drop their rod tip leaving slack line and by the time they catch up to their bait, the fish is gone. So keep that rod tip up and the line tight! A slow motion



– no motion – presentation is working best for us right now. So, try real hard not to over-work your bait.

The colors working for us are Monkey Milk, Blue Ice, also Threadfin Shad or Caddo Morning. It just depends on the water clarity in the area we're fishing and the brightness of the time of day.

The crappie have been in and out of the bridges and showing up on main lake points, humps and creek channel bends. Look for areas with drop-offs with access to shallower water. Look for balls of baitfish with your graph. This will give you an indication on how deep to fish.

Now as far as the bream fishing, it's been fun! I have to admit I've been sneaking out there on my days off just to catch "me"

some! These are hands down MY favorite fish to catch and eat! It's really been a "hoot" watching the kids this month reel in these hard fighting bream! It's so cute to watch them make memories they'll remember for a lifetime!

We're finding them in 1-5 ft. around grasslines and willows. Then after the new and full moon times, they will back off in 5-15 ft. in that same general area. Nightcrawlers or crickets on a slip bobber or tightlined will work. I also keep a jar of Berkley's Gulp 1" minnows in the boat in case I run across some nice bream in a brush pile!

Wish you all the best out there. Stay hydrated, plenty of sun block and a bigger hat and enjoy the summer!

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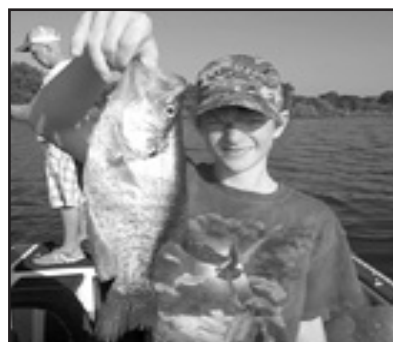
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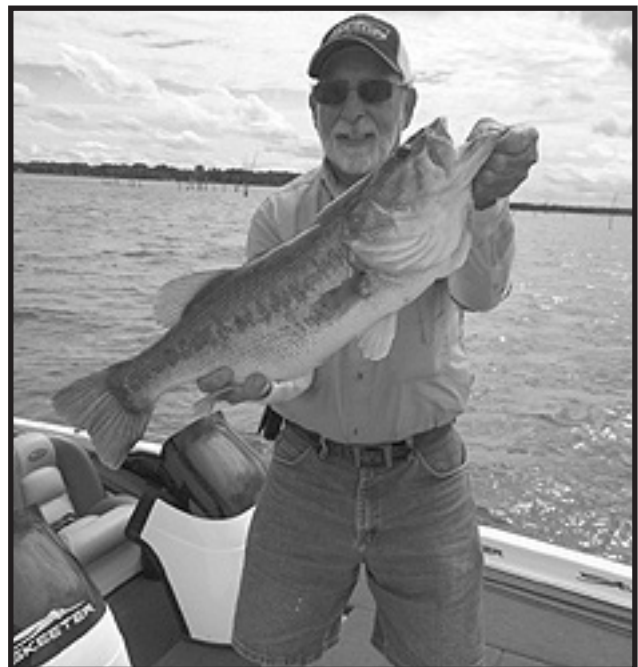
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David Fuller caught this huge 42-lb. Flat Head on a Texas Rig fishing for Bass on Lake Fork. Legend Boats don't just catch big bass!!!



Joe Frame caught his biggest Lake Fork bass that weighed 9.98-lbs. This is his largest bass so far, caught with deep diving crankbait. (C.P.R.)

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Alba First Baptist Church Mission of Mercy

By Don Hampton

Every child matters, and the Alba First Baptist church volunteers show just that, bringing truth, life, love and mercy to children in need all over the world.

For all children and families in the world that are less fortunate,

there are hands that reach out that are filled with love, compassion, and care. These are some of the hands

that reached out from our community to touch those in need in Honduras in July.

Their 'Mission of Mer-

cy' began on July 11th with them leaving the Lake Fork Area with no intentions other than helping those in need.

Their main goals were to replace the roof on the church, paint and repair the children's Sunday school and nursery. With them they also took care packages con-

sisting of food items, clothing and toys donated by members of the community. These good Samaritans were Pas-

(See Alba First....

Continued on Page 15-A)



Dean Stroman along with several Honduras pastors wearing Legend of Lake Fork Big Bass Tournament T-shirts donated to the mission team by "The Fisherman's Guide News". A special thanks to Don and Sue Hampton for the products donated and the use of his paper for the 2016 mission efforts.

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Rains Boost Lakes, Fish Stocking

Widespread rains in May and June did more than end the drought and raise lakes to levels not seen in years. Many lakes that had been scheduled for stocking contingent on significant spring rains were able to be stocked to take advantage of improved habitat.

Fortunately, TPWD freshwater fish hatcheries had a better-than-expected production year for

such popular species as Florida largemouth bass, blue catfish, striped bass and palmetto bass (hybrid striped bass), making more fish available.

TPWD has five inland fish hatcheries. One is currently closed because of water supply problems caused by drought. In 2015 TPWD hatcheries produced and stocked almost 500,000 channel catfish fingerlings; 800,000 blue catfish fingerlings; 4.8 million striped bass and hybrid striped bass finger-

lings and 4.7 million fry; 157,000 Guadalupe bass fingerlings; 55,000 smallmouth bass fingerlings; 129,000 bluegill fingerlings and 7.5 million largemouth bass fingerlings.

The good news doesn't stop there. Spring rains brought many reservoirs to levels not seen in several years, so the hatchery fish were stocked into great habitat. When reservoir levels go down for several years, vegetation grows up in the dry lake bottom. When levels rise, the flooded vegetation gives little fish a place to hide from predators and, as it decays, releases nutrients into the water that jumpstart the food chain.

Water level rises came to many lakes in time for spawns from resident fish to enjoy good habitat conditions, adding to the bounty. Those water level rises benefit all species of fish, which means that fishing should see significant improvement in the next several years, and predator species like bass, striped bass and hybrid striped bass will have plenty to eat and grow quickly.

Information on where and how many fish were stocked can be found at <http://tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish/management/stocking/>.

If you have questions about a particular lake, contact information for biologists in charge of each public reservoir managed by TPWD can be found at <http://tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish/management/biologist/>.

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Alba First Baptist Church Mission of Mercy (Continued from Page 13-A)

tor Kelly Burton, Mike Reimer, Dean Stroman, Steve Nail, Drew Forsman, Bryan Barnes, Ken Donahue, and Mer-randa Rojo.

The following are just a few testimonials of some of those Samaritans...

Honduras to some people is just another country out of the 196, but to me it's home. It's where my heart is. My name is

Brax Roberts and I am from Atlanta, Georgia and I have a crazy passion and love for the people in Honduras. I am blessed and get to go almost every year and every year comes with a new experience and a new opportunity to see God work! He is so good and his love and mercy is relevant every trip! I first went when I was 7 years old with my dad, it was my first

time out of the country and it was a whole new world for me, but of course I really didn't understand what a mission trip was or how to help these people in need. Now when I go I always love seeing a need and finding a way to help! If it's anything from this child needs a toy to this child needs food to this city needs a feeding kitchen we are there to help! It is truly

a blessing to them but it's also a blessing to me! Honduras is home to me and God always is working!

Brax Roberts, Atlanta GA

Honduras is a place that is very dear to my heart. I love when I get the chance to go back and to see how God has worked in the lives of the people there. The first time I got to go I

was eight years old and even then it was an eye opening experience. At the young age I was then, to see all the other kids there that are happy and content just amazed

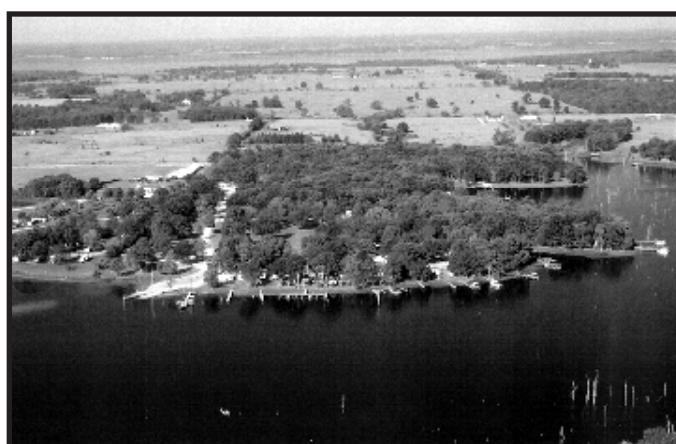
me. I could not even really comprehend in my mind at that time how they could live without a TV and all the newest

(See Alba First.... Continued on Page 16-A)

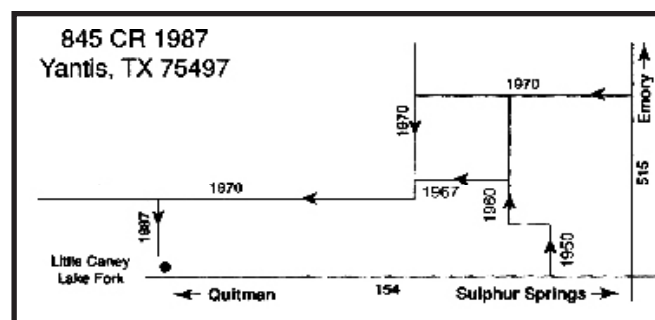


Pastor Jose Santos picking up the suitcase prepared for the people in his church at El Sarzal. It was left at the mission in San Marcos because they could not take it up the mountain at the time.

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Alba First Baptist Church Mission of Mercy (Continued from Page 15-A)

toys. Looking back on it now I realize what made those kids happy was not the newest toy, but it was a meal or a new pair of shoes. The basis of their way of life is God and His amazing grace. I am twenty now and my most recent trip to Honduras was last July and I had a blast. I got to meet new people and made lasting friendships with some of the greatest people in the world. I also got to go with people



from my Church that I had grown up with and see their reactions to the way of life over there. What I can say to the people that are thinking about going is just go. It is not very expensive and it is just a blessing not only to help those people, but it will also be a blessing to those that will do God's work and minister to his people. There are also people that you will meet that you will make everlasting impact on your life and you will never forget. I am looking forward to going back next summer and seeing what has changed and meeting new people and seeing the others I have met in the past. I hope to see any readers of this article there soon.

Brady Hardin, Piedmont, AL

Missions is an area that many understand to be saturated with hope and blessings and memories for all involved, but I doubt that the inexperienced have a true understanding of how missions can effect you to your core. An entire year later, I still think about my experience on a daily basis. The Lord used Honduras to awaken a part of me that had lain dormant for years.

It is my sincere hope that God will use my few words to inspire someone to take part in the blessing that is missions. I think that the best way for me to do that is to share an excerpt from my travel diary from the trip. Here are a few words verbatim on how I was feeling and what I was experiencing: "Last night I rolled off the bed because it was tiny compared to my big fluffy bed in good old Ala-

bama. Needless to say I was grumpy and slightly bruised this morning, but it didn't take long to have a change of heart. We rode the bus out today and visited scattered villages. I always knew that the poor of Honduras had it rough but I had to see it to believe it I guess. We visited one home. Well it was a home to them, a shack to me. It was so dark and cramped. The owners led us through with huge smiles and I couldn't help but think how are they happy here? Their only clothes hung on strings across the ceiling and I ducked under them when entering the 'bedroom.' By bedroom I mean tiny mattress on the floor with a Dora blanket on it. I carried the family's sweet baby who was looking at my pale freckled self like an alien or something. I just thought, this is where this baby will grow up. No cute nursery in a house with child locked drawers and a closet with frilly church dresses like I had. I have so much. So so much. ... That family was so happy, telling us that God blessed them with their home. I am the one who should be praising God every second of the day for my home and my fam-

(See Alba First..... Continued on Page 17-A)

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Alba First Baptist Church Mission of Mercy *(Continued from Page 16-A)*

ily and my church with padded pews and AC." That experience was just one of many during my week in Honduras. The thankfulness for everything God has blessed me with grew by leaps and bounds and it still grows daily. If you can, go there. I can't even scratch the surface of how much it will change your life.

-Lydia Sloan
Piedmont, AL

First Baptist Church Alba is excited to announce the 2016 Honduras/Nicaragua mission trip.

Many youth from several of our local churches have shown interest in participating next year and are in need of assistance. If you feel led to donate, please help, you could make

a difference in a young adults' life. Any donation you make is 100% tax deductible, every dollar you donate will help offset the trip cost. This adventure will consist of our Texas friends and family along with the youth from Georgia, Alabama, and Oklahoma.

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son's to enjoy programs lead by the children, visiting the Radio Station, some of the Feed the Hungry kitchens & the Elderly Center. I could go on and on... But seeing is BELIEVING!!!

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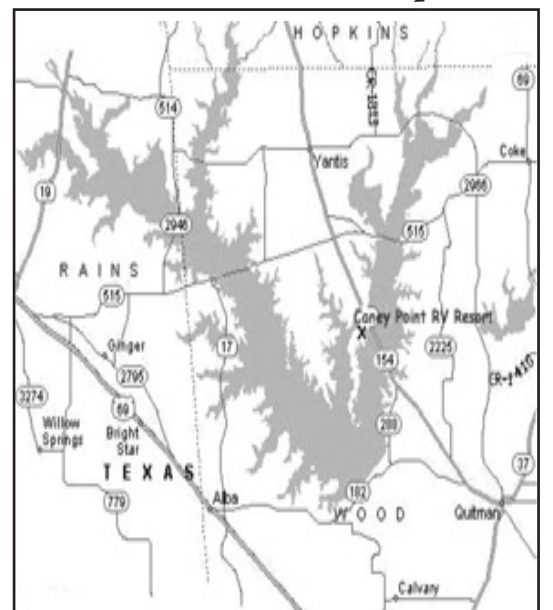
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"Pack of Knowledge" Summer School Bass

By Andrew Grills

August can be one of the most difficult months to consistently catch quality bass here on Lake Fork. The deep fish have been pressured for a couple months and can be tough to catch. The shoreline usually holds some fish, but chances for good sized bass are slim. A great alternative is keeping an eye out for surface activity.

While it can be difficult to abandon the typical areas and techniques that worked so well all summer, I find I have some of my most productive days targeting

"schooling bass". Because fish are on the move, I try to be as well, watching for surface activity or birds. When we see a bird dive or a bass break the surface, it is often just the tip of the iceberg and a big time feeding frenzy is taking place below. It's also important to check areas where you've seen schooling activity in years past. It isn't unusual to find bass using the same areas year after year, even though there may not be any noticeable structure nearby to attract them.

In order to catch these schooling fish, I put my slow moving, bottom crawling techniques aside. This is the time to reach for moving baits that will appeal to bass from the surface, or even those suspended in the water column. There are quite a few presentations that will work. However, my favorites are a walking topwater bait, a soft plastic jerk bait, and a big spoon.

A Spook is a great choice for a walking topwater bait. There are many other brands that work as well, and some work better on certain days. I like to have a couple sizes on hand in order to see which gets bit best, and to find out if there is potential to draw a bigger fish with the larger bait (even though it might not get as many bites). Many of us are tempted to fish these baits too slow, in order to entice a bass to bite, but I prefer a fast, erratic retrieve to get the fish to react out of impulse. I use 15lb monofilament line for this application.

Zoom's Super Fluke is probably the most popular soft jerk bait, and I use both the standard and mag-

num sizes. I will rig these weightless on an EWG hook with 15lb fluorocarbon line. A moderate retrieve with a twitch and pause cadence can be effective, keeping the bait on or just below the surface. I also like to deadstick them, and count them down to the suspended fish I see on my sonar. This is a great way to get down to the bigger fish.

Finally, a spoon is one of my favorite lures any time. It will work great for catching the better quality fish in the midst of schooling activity. I let the spoon go to the bottom, then crank 3-5 times and allow it to fall back down. M-Pack Lures' Structure Spoon is one of my favorites. I like it because the unique weedguard gives us the liberty to fish it wherever the fish are without worrying about snagging. This just hit the market and is available at some of the marinas around the lake or at mpacklures.com.

As I mentioned earlier, there are a lot of ways to catch schooling bass, these are just my favorites. Hopefully these tips will help you put a few more fish in your boat and give you an extra perspective during what can be a tough month to catch them. If you would like to book a trip with me, you can reach me at (903) 638-1170 or email me andrew@lakeforkguideandrewgrills.com or visit my website: www.LakeForkGuideAndrewGrills.com.

Andrew is a professional guide on Lake Fork and is sponsored by Skeeter Boats, Nautical Mile Marine in Tyler, Costa Sunglasses, Under Armour, and M-Pack Lures.



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After Floods, Boaters Reminded to help Stem Spread of Invasive Zebra Mussels

Boaters in Texas are being reminded that their actions are critical to help stem the spread of invasive zebra mussels. Despite recent flooding that some feared might spread the dangerous nuisance species, experts say that boaters who "Clean, Drain and Dry" their boats, trailers and gear before traveling from one Texas waterway to another are still key to containing the costly problem.

While recent rains have helped refill drought-parched reservoirs, rivers and bays across Texas, experts say this could potentially help spread the zebra mussels downstream. Zebra mussel larvae, called veligers, are suspended in the water column for a month or so after spawning, and they are readily transported downstream with flowing water. This is especially true now, at a time of year when zebra mussels are spawning, because there are likely many veligers in the water and they can be moved a long distance downstream in the flows Texas is now experiencing.

"However, despite the danger of flood distribution, zebra mussels are also susceptible to rough conditions caused by floods, such as water turbulence, turbidity (cloudy water), and low oxygen levels," said Brian Van Zee, Inland Fisheries Regional Director in Waco for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. "So these flood conditions could potentially help by causing high levels of zebra mussel mortality. Right now it's hard to say what impact the flooding will have on zebra mussel populations. We probably won't really know for months, as we continue moni-

toring efforts."

Van Zee said that while flooding can spread zebra mussels downstream within the same river basin, the only way zebra mussels would likely move to another basin would be via boaters or interbasin transfers of water through pipelines from one lake or river basin to another. Right now, the Red River, Trinity River, and Brazos River systems are the only river basins where zebra mussels have been found.

"Besides the Red, Brazos and Trinity basins, all the other river basins in the state are still uninfested, and boaters' actions are still absolutely vital to help prevent zebra mussels from spreading to any new river basins," Van Zee said. "Boaters getting informed and taking action to help is still our best defense."

Boaters won't be unsupported. A coalition of river authorities, water districts and municipalities across the state, led by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, is investing more than \$400,000 in a zebra mussel public information campaign; the largest such investment in public awareness since zebra mussels were discovered in Texas in 2009.

It is illegal to possess or transport any prohibited aquatic invasive species in Texas. Since zebra mussel veligers are invisible to the naked eye, boaters must drain all water from their boat and all receptacles on board when traveling on a public road to or from a public water body in Texas.

Originally from Eurasia, the rapidly reproducing mussels pose serious economic and recreational threats. They

can clog water intake pipes, damage boats and motors by attaching to boat hulls and clogging water-cooling systems, completely cover anything under water, and litter the shoreline with their sharp shells. They can damage drinking water facilities and electric power plants, causing losses estimated in the millions of dollars annually.

Zebra mussels have been found in seven lakes in Texas since they were first discovered in Lake Texoma in 2009. Other infested lakes include Lake Ray Roberts, Lakes Bridgeport, Lavon, Lewisville, Belton, and most recently in Lake Waco. It's worth noting that while this year's rains have generally been good for boaters across most of Texas, flooding has caused boat ramp closures on many of the infested lakes, including Texoma, Lavon, and Ray Roberts, and some boat ramps on Belton and Waco. As the water recedes and boat ramps re-open on infested lakes, boaters should be vigilant about zebra mussels.

Partners for the awareness campaign include; the North Texas Municipal Water District; Tarrant Regional Water District; City of Dallas Water Utilities Department; Trinity River Authority; San Jacinto River Authority; Sabine River Authority; Brazos River Authority; Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority; Lower Colorado River Authority; Upper Trinity Regional Water District; City of Houston; City of Grapevine; Water Oriented Recreation District of Comal County; the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and the Sport Fish Restoration Program.



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Hot fishing on the Fork (Continued from Page 6-A)

7/0 hook. It will fall more slowly enticing the bass to bite as it falls. Success will lie in finding the fish. Once spotted, it's game on. As far as the shallow bite is concerned, it seems to have declined tremendously over the past two weeks. The water temps have soared to the upper eighties and a large percentage of the bass have moved offshore. The deep spots are too good right now and I will stay focused on humps and ridges for the

entire month. From this point, I don't see much changing until the fall.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in August 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 August and some in September. 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/LakeForkGuideDavidOzio>. 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."

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Alligator Attack (Continued from Page 7-A)

lier. A subsequent examination confirmed it to be the alligator responsible for the attack on Woodard.

Game wardens then began searching for the person(s) responsible for the illegal harvest of the alligator, a Class C misdemeanor offense carrying a maximum fine of \$500. On Tuesday, game wardens made contact with an individual who admitted he killed the alligator out of concern for the safety of others.

"In no way do we condone the killing of a nuisance alligator without proper authority. Either Texas game wardens or a licensed nuisance alligator hunter would have been more appropriate to handle the situation. Either way,

because of its aggressive behavior, the alligator would have to be killed," said Hunter. "If there is a positive that can come out of this case, it's an educational opportunity for us to reinforce to the public not to feed or disturb alligators and that there are proper procedures for handling nuisance

alligators."

More information about alligators, including safety tips and steps for dealing with a nuisance alligator, can be found on the TPWD website at <http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/species/alligator/safety/index.phtml>.

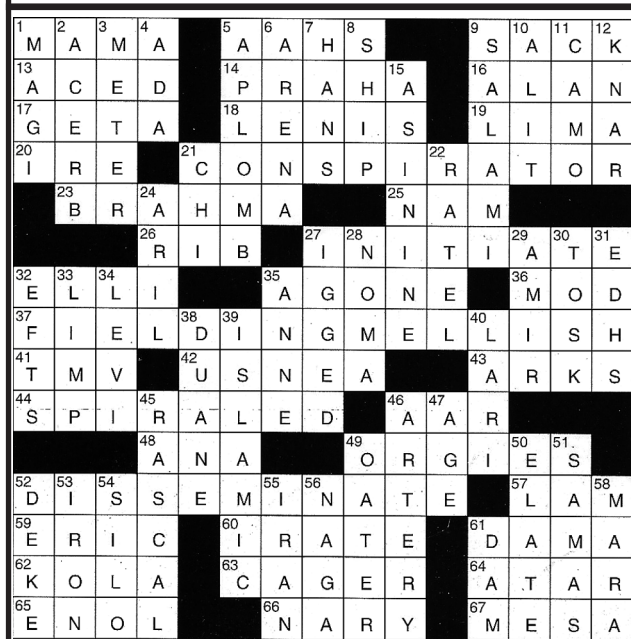
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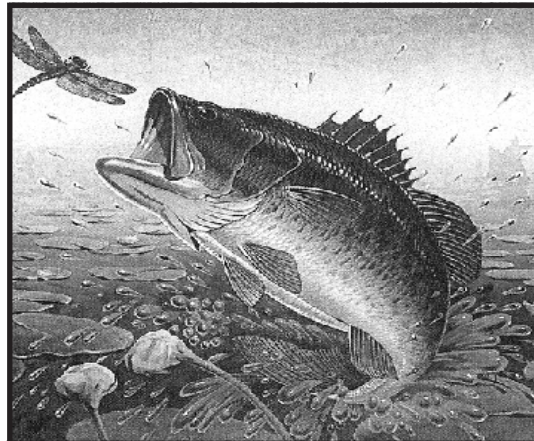


School Find

There are 20 school words hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle.

ACHIEVEMENT	DANCES	HONOR ROLL
BALL GAMES	DETENTION	LEARNING
BAND	ENGLISH	PRINCIPAL
BUDDIES	ESSAY	SCIENCE
BUSES	FIRE DRILL	TEST
CHALKBOARD	HOMEROOM	TUTOR
CLASSES	HOMEWORK	

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



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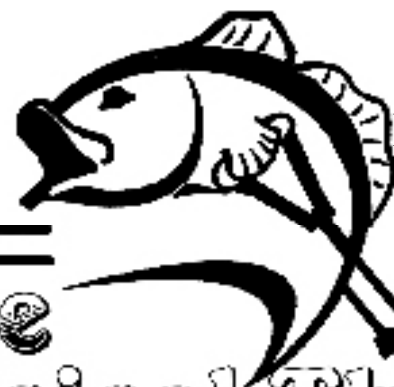
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Yantis, TX.,

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2015
Triton
22 TRX



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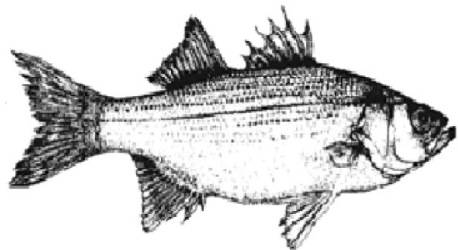
12 1/2' x 50' or 12 1/2' x 25'

Under Roof Plus Electric

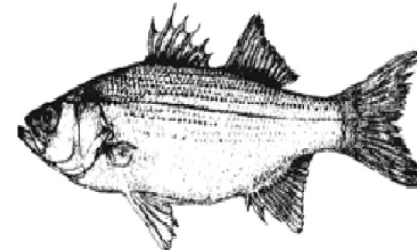


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Hook N' Cook Sand Bass Tournament



Saturday, August 8, 2015

Benefitting "The Wish To Fish Foundation"

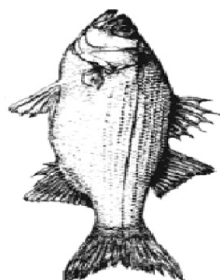
Tournament Headquarters: Fisherman's One Stop • Hwy 515 CR 1970

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 _____

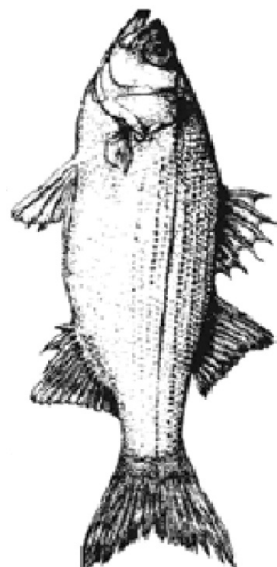
Address _____

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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\$500,000

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GRAND PRIZE

2015 Triton 20 TRX Powered by Mercury,
equipped with Minn Kota, Lowrance, Navionics
and Power Pole; 2015 RAM Truck;
Plus...\$7,000 CASH

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BOATS

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1 On The Water



Official Dealers
Weaver Motors of Kirbyville, TX;
Diamond Sports Marine, Yantis, TX

HOURLY PAYOUTS \$160,650

FIFTEEN PLACES will be paid in cash each hour
of each tournament day beginning with the 7-8 AM
hour and continuing through the 1-2 PM hour for
the 15 single heaviest bass weighed in.

HEAVIEST BASS... \$1,000

2nd Heaviest	\$900
3rd Heaviest	\$800
4th Heaviest	\$700
5th Heaviest	\$600
6th Heaviest	\$500
7th Heaviest	\$450
8th Heaviest	\$425
9th Heaviest	\$400
10th Heaviest	\$375
11th Heaviest	\$350
12th Heaviest	\$325
13th Heaviest	\$300
14th Heaviest	\$275
15th Heaviest	\$250



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2ND PLACE . . . 2015 Triton 19 TRX Powered by Mercury, equipped with
Minn Kota & Lowrance; 2015 RAM Truck; **Plus. . . \$2,000 CASH**

3RD PLACE . . . 2015 Triton 18 TRX Powered by Mercury, equipped with
Minn Kota & Lowrance; **Plus. . . \$1,000 CASH**

4TH PLACE . . . \$8,000 CASH **5TH PLACE . . . \$6,000 CASH**

* **OVERALL AWARDS . . .** Five Places will be awarded for the five single heaviest bass weighed
in over the 3 Day Tournament!

2.50 EXACT WEIGHT BASS: The contestant(s) who weighs in the first 2.50 exact
weight bass each day of the tournament will be awarded **\$5,000**.

HEAVIEST BASS UNDER THE SLOT: The contestant(s) who weighs in the heaviest
bass under the slot during the 3 day tournament will be awarded **\$2,500**.

ELIMINATION DRAWING: All contestants will be eligible to win a 2015 Triton 189 TRX
powered by Mercury, equipped with Minn Kota & Lowrance.

OPTIONAL DAILY BONUS GAMES:

#1 - BONUS SHIRT - DOUBLES YOUR MONEY!

Win First Place of any Official Bonus Shirt Hours: 8-9AM & 12-1PM

*Your official bonus shirt must be in your possession when you weigh in your bass

#2 - BONUS CARD - PAYS ADDITIONAL PLACES:

This card entitles you to win additional places daily on all odd hours: 7-8AM; 9-10AM; 11-12AM; 1-2PM
16th Place: \$125 & 17th Place: \$100



For More Information & Registrations

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