



How Skeet It Is!!

Two years after losing the Bassmaster Classic by 6 ounces on a last-hour big fish, Skeet Reese outslugged 2003 Classic champion Mike Iaconelli by 11 ounces to fill the only glaring hole in his bass fishing resume.

"To be able to do it — I didn't know if it was going to be possible," Reese told a capacity crowd of 9,300 at the CenturyTel Center.

With the win, he will reap a \$500,000 payday (less, of course, the 6 percent tax the state of Louisiana will immediately impose). And he cast himself as

only the 11th BASS angler ever to earn both the Classic and a Toyota Tundra Bassmaster Angler of the Year title in a career.

The 39-year-old Auburn, Calif., pro knew it would go down to the wire. Iaconelli whacked 20 pounds, 3 ounces to rise from 10th on the final morning to first, with 54-2 over the three-day tournament.

After a victory lap around the arena floor, Reese later told reporters, he snuck away to the

bathroom and repeated to himself: "I just won the Bassmaster Classic. I just won the Bassmaster Classic. I just won the Bassmaster Classic."

Then he told everyone at the post-tournament news conference that drinks at the hotel bar



were on him, and they were all invited. At press time, that promise had yet to be verified.

Hooked On Bass?

The largemouth bass is more than just America's most sought after freshwater fish. It fuels an entire culture of followers that pursue the bass at all levels for different reasons: weekend hobbyists, professional tournament anglers, and obsessed record hunters. Some fish to spend time with family and for relaxation, some for the challenge and the connection with nature,

and others for the money and obsession. The pursuit of the bass has a \$60 billion dollar effect on our economy by the 30 million bass anglers, a sport which has become the most popular outdoor activity in America. Three stories typify the culture of bassfishing, and happen on three different lakes across the country. In Texas, on Lake Sam Rayburn, weekend angler

Rusty Clark fishes in one of the world's largest amateur bassfishing tournaments. In New York, on Lake Oneida, Kevin Van Dam tries to secure his year-long quest to be the top professional in the sport. And in California, on Dixon Lake, three world record hunters obsessively hunt one fish that they believe to be the biggest bass of all time. [Click here](#) for full story.

Jerry's Tackle Tips

Hey Guys! Jerry C here!

Just wanted to give you some info on the upcoming spring fishing season and what lures to use and what lures to look out for. I highly suggest any type of DEEP crankbait this time of year. Rattle Traps work excellent or any type of deep crankbait! But the lure to look for is THE BINSKY! You can find info & order the Binsky from our Lure Of The Month Link! - Happy Fishing & Tight Lines!

Blake's Knowledge Base

Its that time of year again. The spring thaw is moving in and the bass are ready to become active. Before getting out there and trying to find those lunkers, there are a few things all anglers should do to properly prepare. You'll want to take your reels apart and oil up those gears; the wear and tear of fishing can cause your reel to not enjoy a crisp smooth motion. Also, if u haven't already done so, get some new line on ALL your spools. Memory can give your line irregular patterns when casting out, and you certainly don't want to lose a lunker cause u have a an old nick in the line from previous outings. Visit our blog and share your line preferences with the rest of us! Get ready, the prespawn activity is around the corner!