



North Eastern Anglers Association

Volume 2, Issue 1

His best for last!!

DEL RIO, Texas — As the weekend progressed, the temperatures on Lake Amistad warmed up and so did Jason Williamson.

The third-year BASS pro from Aiken, S.C., shoved aside consistency and posted a backbreaking total of more than 68 pounds through the final two days. It was more than enough to climb from 38th to third on Day 3 then secure his first BASS victory and the accompanying \$100,000 top prize Sunday at the 2009 Bassmaster Elite Series season opener, the OPTIMA Batteries Battle on the Border.

Williamson's four-day total of 96 pounds, 6 ounces, was enough to hold off a consis-

tent Alton Jones of Waco, Texas, who finished second with 87 pounds, 15 ounces. Williamson was able to overtake Jones with a tremendous two-day charge, which accounted for more than 70 percent of his weight. Williamsons' catches Saturday and Sunday were all cultivated from one ultra-productive spot that yielded nothing for him in the first two days of competition. However, as the rain died, the clouds dissipated and the sun came out, the spot became crystal clear and an ideal area for big bass.

The area included three to

four submerged trees positioned around a drainage channel and was a pathway for visiting and departing bass. Williamson mined the area with an 8-inch Osprey swimbait, which he threw to the trees in nearly 20 feet of water. "There were so many fish in that area that I think they were in competition for my bait," said the 28-year-old. "That's not a bad thing when you can get that going. It was like clockwork." No stranger to the particulars of the area, Williamson first found his productive spot in 2007 at an Elite Series event. He primarily focused on it at a 2008 Elite event and finished fifth, his best performance in an Elite event at the time.

Jerry's Tackle Tips

Hey Guys! Jerry C here!

This week lets talk about reel conditioning. Now that the weather is still cool, its the perfect opportunity to grease and oil your reels before use!

I prefer Quantum Hot Sauce as my #1 choice in reel grease & oil. I suggest using grease on most moving parts with the exception of spool bearings which i then suggest using oil on. I hope you take my suggestions into consideration. Tight Lines!

Blake's Knowledge Base

When fishing clear lakes with relatively barren structure (I.e. a point or rock formation), you might want to try fishing a swim bait. Cast out beyond your target and allow the bait to sink to the level the bass may be suspending. Swim the lure back to the boat with a slow steady retrieve. Don't let it drag on the bottom. Follow this tactic and see how the lunkers react

Early Season River Bassin'

"When I'm in a river system, I'm always looking at the backwater areas — especially if I'm fishing the prespawn through the spawn. Shallow areas off the main river with deep water access, cover and a north bank are perfect." Rook makes that sound simple. But, in truth, his plan of attack is much more complicated. He isn't looking for just any shallow area or just any deep water access or just any cover or just any north bank. "I try to avoid large, expansive flats at this time of year. The bass tend to gravitate more toward small flat spots that border ditches and cuts running along the bottom. In my

mind a shallow flat might be only a foot deep. And deep water might measure 2 feet. "My cover is mostly the standard stuff — rocks, wood and that sort of thing. But I also target dead grass. A lot of anglers don't realize how good dead grass can be at this time of year. Anytime you find a patch of it, make sure you give it a few casts. "And your north bank needs to be open so that it gets a lot of sun during the day. A north bank in the shade is no better than any other bank. You're looking for the warm-

est water in the area. That requires sunshine." Warmest doesn't mean warm to Rook, however. It means warmer than the surrounding water. In some cases the difference might be as small as 1 or 2 degrees. That may sound negligible to us humans, but to a coldblooded fish it's enormous. That's often all it takes to position bass in a tiny area and to activate a strong feeding response.