

100 young anglers can show skills at Fourth Bassmaster High School combine; Register now for the challenge

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. May 3, 2024 — One hundred young anglers will show their on-the-water skills when the fourth Bassmaster High School Combine presented by Skeeter returns to Wheeler Lake in Decatur, Ala., Sept. 13-15. The weekend will feature skills challenges and recruiting visits to 25 potential colleges in hopes of reeling in scholarship money. The inaugural Combine kicked off in 2021 to great success, with the program generating \$4.5 million in scholarships in its first two years. Heading into its fourth year, the program's momentum shows no signs of slowing down.

“B.A.S.S. is constantly looking for ways to grow the High School and College platforms and give young anglers opportunities to excel not only in the sport, but also in the industry,” said Glenn Cale, B.A.S.S. Nation tournament manager — College, High School and Junior. “This is becoming a very popular event to attend for student anglers. The opportunity for these student anglers and their families to be under one roof for three days with some of the best colleges in the country offering scholarships in some form or fashion is awesome.

“These past three Bassmaster High School Combines have been a great success, and we’re looking forward to growing this experience for both these high school anglers and the coaches who attend,” Cale added. “This has truly become the preeminent event for colleges looking to find and recruit talent from across the country.”

Only schools offering bass fishing scholarships are invited to the



Students will meet with coaches and college anglers to showcase their fishing skills at the 2024 Bassmaster High School Combine presented by Skeeter Sept. 13-15 in Decatur, Ala. (Photo by Tommy Sendek /B.A.S.S.)

High School Combine, and coaches from 25 colleges have already expressed interest in attending. The experience offers young anglers and college coaches a chance to leverage rare face time into finding the best fit for students ready to further both their education and their fishing at the next level.

The Bassmaster High School Combine presented by Skeeter will be a three-day event where anglers will perform multiple tasks to showcase their skills not only on the water, but also display their knowledge of the sport as a whole. Each of the disciplines will operate on a point system and will be timed by an official judge. Each angler will accumulate points to determine

an overall winner. After the first day, colleges will have the opportunity to select anglers for a “second look” where they can further explore everything that angler has to offer and see if they would be the perfect fit for their fishing program.

After three challenges — Long-Distance Casting, Technical and Casting Accuracy — the 2023 combine’s overall points winner was Joe McNamara of Rockford, Ill. With a three-event total of 368 points, the junior at Boylan Catholic High School took home the Overall Skills Competition trophy. In addition to the Overall trophy, McNamara also tied for the win in the Technical Challenge with fellow competitor Eli French of Lucedale, Miss.

When McNamara heard about the Bassmaster High School Combine, he knew he wanted to be a part of the event to help put his fishing career on the fast track to success.

“There’s really no other event like this,” McNamara said. “We signed up the day that registration opened just to make sure we could be here.”

The Illinois angler took full advantage of being exposed to the top college fishing programs in the country by finishing inside the Top 10 in all three skills challenges and winning the Overall Skills Challenge by a convincing margin of 21 points.

“I just wanted to go out and do my best,” he said. “I knew that I

had a chance to do pretty well, but I really didn’t expect to win.”

Once more, attendees will use the well-placed Ingalls Harbor and Pavilion on the shores of Wheeler Lake as base for the three-day event that won the Decatur Morgan County Tourism’s 2023 Event of the Year Award.

“Decatur is honored to partner with B.A.S.S. to continue serving as host of the Bassmaster High School Combine,” said Don Dukemineer, director of sports development for the Decatur Morgan County Tourism.

“Now in our fourth year, our joint efforts with B.A.S.S. continue to strengthen this prestigious event in providing a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for these anglers to showcase their talents. Ingalls Harbor and Pavilion offer the perfect set-up for this unique event, and we are thrilled with this beneficial relationship that highlights Decatur and Morgan County as a fishing destination.”

Registration for the Bassmaster High School Combine presented by Skeeter will open at 9 a.m. CT on May 7 at [Bassmaster.com/high-school](https://tournaments.bassmaster.com/app/bass/registration/?league=highschool-combine&year=2024) and remain open until 100 participants have registered. The \$650 registration fee includes accommodations for two nights and four meals. Anglers can register at <https://tournaments.bassmaster.com/app/bass/registration/?league=highschool-combine&year=2024>

For more information, visit Bassmaster.com/high-school.

Connect with #Bassmaster on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and TikTok.

Showboats playoff hopes dim with loss to Stallions



By William M. Larsha, Jr.
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The Mid-South Tribune
and the
Black Information Highway

MEMPHIS- The Memphis Showboats hosted the Birmingham Stallions at Simmons Liberty Bowl Stadium on May 4. It was the 6th game of the 10-game UFL season for the team. The Showboats lost the contest 39-21. That brought the team record to 1-5 on the season.

The loss was all about Stallions quarterback Adrian Martinez and the lack of a Showboats defense. Martinez was 23 of 36 passing for 368 yards. He had 4 touchdowns and no interceptions. The Showboats starting quarterback, Case Cookus, was 15 of 23 for 115 yards and one touchdown. He also had 2 fumbles. The team changed quarterbacks in the 3rd quarter and went to Troy Williams. He completed 6 of 13 passes with one touchdown and one interception. This left head

The Showboats remain optimistic in spite of everything according to offensive coordinator Doug Martin. “We went through a three-game losing streak last year and then finished up winning our last three,” Martin said.

2024 Dick Hiley St. Jude Bass Classic raises over \$870,000 to benefit St. Jude Children’s Hospital

From The Outdoor Wire.com

PEPIN, WI., May 7, 2024 – The 26th Annual Dick Hiley St. Jude Bass Classic recently held in Wabasha, MN on the Mississippi River has been one of the most successful fund raisers to date. This annual bass fishing tournament centers around fundraising for the St. Jude Children’s Hospital and over the past 26 years, the tournament has raised over \$7.6 million for the kids of St. Jude and has become a nationally recognized success.

Anglers from across the Midwest, including Providence Marketing Group associates Glenn Walker and Jack Gavin, came together to raise over \$870,000

during this two-day event. All proceeds from the tournament benefit St. Jude, where families never receive a bill for the efforts that are needed to help their children beat cancer.

“You would be hard pressed to find a better cause than that of raising funds for St. Jude Children’s Hospital,” stated PMG VP of Operations and Dick Hiley St. Jude Bass Classic Tournament Committee member, Glenn Walker. “An incredible facility that does whatever it takes to help children and their families during the most difficult time of their lives. For this reason, the participants of the Dick Hiley St. Jude Bass Classic continually put forth an amazing effort, and I am hon-

ored to play a small role in the success of this amazing event.” Glenn Walker and his tournament partner, Jeremiah Shaver raised over \$50,000 this year, which put them as the fourth highest fundraising team. The duo also saw success on the water, by catching a two-day limit of bass (12), for a total weight of 39.67 lb’s putting them in seventh place. Walker has fished the event for 13 years and in that time has raised over \$208,000 for St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

Jack Gavin and tournament partner, Timmy Peterzen have fished the event now for five years, and this year they set a new personal best in fundraising, by bringing in over \$12,000 for St. Jude Chil-

dren’s Hospital. Gavin and Peterzen in their short time have seen great success in the tournament and continued that this year with a 21st place finish with 12-bass weighing 36.8 lb’s.

Next year is sure to be another great success when the tournament arrives back in Wabasha on May 3rd – 4th. Anglers will look to meet heightened fundraising goals and Providence Marketing Group will surely be well represented yet again at this wonderful event.

About Providence Marketing Group

Since 2006 Providence Marketing Group has been providing strategic and tactical marketing expertise for premium outdoor

brands including G5 Outdoors, Ozonics, Redneck Blinds, Cuddeback Trail Cameras, Mystery Ranch, Northland Fishing Tackle, Rinehart 3D Targets, Code of Silence Apparel, and many more. From headline grabbing PR campaigns, to cutting edge, traffic driving, cash register ringing digital marketing campaigns, brand building print advertising, and award-winning video and broadcast creation, PMG takes great pride in building brands and driving top line sales and bottom-line profits for their clients. For more information about Providence Marketing Group, or to see how they can elevate your brand visit www.providencemarketing-group.net.

coach John DeFilippo with a dilemma at the position. After the game, he stated that both would be evaluated to determine next week’s starter.

In order to make the playoffs, the Showboats must now win their remaining four games. Not only that, they must hope the 4-2 Michigan Panthers lose their last four games. That would give the Showboats a one game margin over the Panthers. They must also hope for the same scenario with the Roughnecks.

The Showboats remain optimistic in spite of everything according to offensive coordinator Doug Martin. “We went through a three-game losing streak last year and then finished up winning our last three,” Martin said. “There’s no entitlement with these guys. They’re all hungry, and they want to succeed. They all want to either try to get moved up to the NFL or they want to keep playing here and making money. That’s all the motivation these guys really need. It comes from wanting to take care of their families and themselves and keep playing football.”

The team is expected to give all they have to save the season.

Stuart named American Athletic Conf. Player of Week

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – University of Memphis baseball senior infielder Daunte Stuart was named the American Athletic Conference (AAC) Player of the Week after helping the Tigers go 3-1 on the week and win a road series at Tulane with a big week at the plate, the conference announced Monday.

The Bahamian second baseman hit .500 for the week (7-for-14), slugged a pair of home runs,



Daunte Stuart

drove in four Tigers and scored five runs himself to help Memphis (21-27, 8-13 AAC) win a trio of games and a road conference series.

Stuart hit safely in all four games the Tigers played and registered a pair of multi-hit games, including a 3-for-5 performance with a home run in Sunday’s series-clinching, 10-inning win at Tulane. For the week, he carried a 1.579 OPS and tallied 13 total

bases (.929 SLG, .650 OBP, 4 BB, 2 HBP).

On the season, Stuart sports a team-best .330 batting average and leads the team in hits (60) and runs scored (46). The senior has started all 48 games for Memphis and carries a team-high .439 on-base percentage and has swiped seven bags on eight attempts.

The Tigers hit the road for Jonesboro, Arkansas, on Tuesday

afternoon for a midweek matchup with Arkansas State (20-26-1) at 6 p.m. before they head to Birmingham, Alabama, for a three-game AAC series at UAB (22-24, 9-12 AAC).

For complete information on Memphis Tiger Baseball, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

SAF files memo in Jr. Sports case from sports-Military 2

California Rifle & Pistol Association, the CRPA Foundation, Gun Owners of California, Redlands California Youth Clay Shooting Sports and Raymond Brown. They are represented by attorneys Anna M. Barvir, Michel & Associates, and Donald Kilmer, Law Offices of Donald Kilmer.

“As we explain right up front in our memorandum,” said SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan M. Gottlieb, “this motion shouldn’t even be necessary. The state should have co-operated in securing the

post-mandate preliminary injunction, which was ordered by the Court of Appeals, without forcing all of the parties involved to engage in additional, and unnecessary litigation to make it happen.”

A hearing is scheduled before Judge Christina A. Snyder on June 10.

“The state is clearly dragging its feet in this case, making every effort to stall the process,” said SAF Executive Director Adam Kraut. “The state has been very uncooperative since the Ninth Circuit Court ruled against the

state last September and issued its mandate in February. This legal gamesmanship needs to stop.”

The Second Amendment Foundation (saf.org) is the nation’s oldest and largest tax-exempt education, research, publishing and legal action group focusing on the Constitutional right and heritage to privately own and possess firearms. Founded in 1974, The Foundation has grown to more than 720,000 members and supporters and conducts many programs designed to better inform the public about the consequences of gun control.

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