



2011 RAYJUS OUTDOORS – OAK LAWN COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL BASS TOURNAMENT



SPARTAN SPONSORS

Excitement was running high for over 120 high school anglers from across northern Illinois who assembled at the Des Plaines Conservation Area. [Rayjus Outdoors](#), [Unique Bassmasters](#) and [Spartan Fishing Team](#), partnered together to present the [2011 Rayjus Outdoors - Oak Lawn Community High School Bass Tournament](#) on the Kankakee/Des Plaines River at the Des Plaines Conservation Area. Twelve schools were represented in the tournament. Participating schools included Oak Lawn, Brother Rice, Minooka, Marist, Reavis, Lemont, Midland, Providence, Seneca, DeLaSalle, Downers Grove South, and Eureka High Schools.



In an effort to allow as many kids to participate in a high school bass tournament, schools were not limited to the number of boats they could enter. Parents, coaches, and volunteers came through for the kids and entered **34 boats**, giving many of these kids the opportunity to competitively bass fish for the first time! At registration, each student angler received a gift bag from [Rayjus Outdoors](#) containing a frisbee from [Mercury Marine](#) and sample baits from [Dragin' Bait Company](#), [Bizz Baits](#), [HylaBaits](#), and [Lake Fork Trophy Lures](#). The **US Air Force** was also present, hosting a casting competition for the kids.



U.S. AIR FORCE

With a weight of 8.90lbs, anglers **Nick Kirkton** and **Nick Stuedemann** of **Seneca High School** were this year's winning team. "The weather was perfect, the fishing was awesome, and we were just out there having fun" said coach **Andy Jackson** of their experience. The duo brought five largemouth bass to the scales.



Taking second place were freshmen anglers **John Neubauer** and **Andrew Jensen** of **Oak Lawn Community High School**. "We were fishing a weedy flat and we were working our baits hard. It took some work and a lot of patience to get those fish to bite, but it all paid off in the end" said **Jensen**. Boat driver **Al Brenicky** of Unique Bassmasters put the kids on some fish right from the start. On **Neubauer's** second cast of the morning, he landed a 14inch bass. "Mr. Brenicky taught us a technique called a wacky rig that Andy and I have never used before. We made some long casts and worked our baits over a weed edge to catch our limit. We were determined to catch fish," said Neubauer.



Rounding out the top three places was **Lemont High School's** team of **Chris Walter**, **Luke Jasper**, and **Paige Matijevich** with a weight of 5.38 pounds. For a second year in a row, **Chris Walter** caught the big bass of the tournament weighing 2.47 pounds.



The **US Air Force** sponsored a casting competition for the kids. **Robert Malloy** of **DeLaSalle High School** won



the competition and was awarded a trophy by Tactical Sargent Al Lomax.

“The turnout for this tournament and the results were awesome! We had a lot of great people and businesses come together for this event. I’d like to thank **Rayjus Outdoors**, the **Unique Bassmasters**, and the **Illinois Bass Federation Nation** for helping to organize this tournament and giving the kids this opportunity” said Oak Lawn fishing coach Chris Kuchyt.

Scott Orban, who helped organize the event and is a member of Unique Bassmasters stated “For two years in a row, this tournament has been one of the most rewarding days I have had on the water and I didn’t even make a cast! The opportunity to be part of this is certainly a privilege and my calendar is already marked for next year.”

If your high school fishing team is interested in taking part in next years tournament, please email Chris Kuchyt at ckuchyt@olchs.org.



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Place	School	Anglers	Number of Fish	Live Fish	Big Bass	Total Weight
1	Senecca	Nick Kirkton/Nick Stuedemann	5	5	2.42	8.90
2	Oak Lawn	John Neubauer/Andrew Jensen	5	5	-	6.13
3	Lemont	Chris Walter/Luke Jasper/Paige Matijevich	3	3	2.47	5.38
4	Br. Rice	Joe Hayes/Brendan Moriarity	4	4	-	5.03
5	Lemont	Jake Lepczynski/Jim Divis/Mike Kurasz	2	2	2.81	2.81
6	Minooka	Kevin Hill	1	1	2.31	2.31
7	Oak Lawn	Ben Masek/Omar Adbulla	2	2	-	2.20
8	Br. Rice	Brian Lee/Mike Slakis	1	1	-	1.98
9	DeLaSalle	Nick Dycus/Chris Ludes/Robert Malloy/Sam Macias	1	1	-	1.42
10	DeLaSalle	Vince Scalise/Vince Ovalle/Bill Luce	1	1	-	1.34
11	Minooka	Dan DeGraaf/Chad Charland	1	1	-	1.32
12	Senecca	John Progress/Chris Trumble	1	1	-	1.24
13	Minooka	Dan Scott/Noah Arnold	1	1	-	1.11
14	Marist	Nick Engel/Nick Kushnerik	1	1	-	1.09
15	Oak Lawn	Carlos Patino/Francisco Patino/Dan Loya	1	1	-	1.01
Big Bass Winner – Chris Walter (Lemont H.S.) – 2.47lbs						
US Air Force Casting Champion – Robert Malloy (DeLaSalle High School)						



First place Senecca team Nick Kirkton, Nick Stuedemann, and coach Andy Jackson.



Second place Oak Lawn team Lauren Cappel John Neubauer and Andy Jensen.



Lemont's Chris Walter holds up the 2.47lbs big bass of the tournament.



Al Lomax, TSgt, USAF presents the casting trophy to Robert Malloy of DeLaSalle.



5651 W. 87th Street
708-424-8000



Reavis High School fishing a point on the Des Plaines River.



Boats staging for the start of the tournament.



Second place team Andy Jensen, Al Brenicky, and John Neubauer.



Br. Rice team proudly displaying their catch.



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