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Bassmaster Classic

Rhode Island teen wins Junior Bassmaster by 20 oz.

Monday, July 25, 2005

By Curt Chandler, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

At the end of the day, the score was bass 71, anglers 17 at today's Junior Bassmaster Classic.

That didn't matter much to Deb Clemente of West Warwick, Rhode Island. Her son, Scott Gettings, 17, had just won the senior division of the Junior Bassmaster Championship and she was excitedly yelling into her cell phone, "We're coming home with a boat, a trip to Disney and a scholarship!"

Gettings was the only contestant to land two legal-sized bass. With a combined weight of only 2 pounds 13 ounces, he thought his fish might be competitive. But winning didn't occur to Gettings until all the other contestants walked across the stage and he realized he'd won the 15 to 18 age group by a margin of 20 ounces.

Joey Nania of Liberty Lake, Washington, hauled in a one pound, 4 ounce bass to win the 11- to 14-year-old group.

The margin of victory for the fish became apparent as master of ceremonies Keith Alan introduced each of the 87 contestants, 71 of whom arrived on stage empty handed.

The fishing was "stingy" at the beginning of the weigh-in. Midway through, Alan declared "this is a very tough fishery."

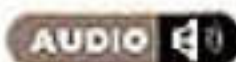
After nearly three hours under the blazing sun, with only 17 fish in the hands of 16 kids, Pools 6 and 7 on the Allegheny River had become "one of the toughest fisheries in the world."

None of the BASS pros, who will be fishing downstream in a few short days at the Classic, contradicted the emcee's assessment.



Curt Chandler, Post-Gazette
Scott Gettings holds the two bass that propelled him to the top of the field at the Junior Bassmaster Championship today. The West Warwick, RI, 17-year-old was the only contestant to catch two legal sized bass. In fact, only 16 of 87 contestants brought in a keeper.

[Click photo for larger image.](#)



Click links to listen to MP3 audio clips

- [Emcee Keith Alan announces Scott Gettings as the 2005 15-18 Junior Bassmaster World Champion .](#)
- [Scott Gettings talks about how he snagged the winning catch .](#)
- [Deb Clemente, the winner's mom, talks about her son's effort to enter the competition. .](#)

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