

Whatever Floats Your BOAT

Ott DeFoe on the Tennessee River during Geico Bassmasters Classic presented by DICK'S Sporting Goods Seigo.

Photo submitted

FARRAGUTPRESS THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019 • 1C

Defoe wins

Knoxvillian takes the Super Bowl of Professional Bass Fishing

STAFF REPORTS

editor@farragutpress.com

KNOXVILLE — Quite familiar with Fort Loudoun and Tellico lakes, Ott DeFoe reclaimed his opening day lead to win the Super Bowl of Professional Bass Fishing.

The Knoxville held off fellow Tennessean Jacob Wheeler of Harrison, leader after day two and eventual runner-up, to capture the \$302,500 grand prize during GEICO Bassmaster Classic presented by DICK'S Sporting Goods, a three-day showdown on the Tennessee River ending Sunday afternoon, March 17.

With 18 pounds, 14 ounces caught on Sunday (five bass), DeFoe's three-day total weight of 49 pounds 3 bested Wheeler's 45-pound, 5-ounce haul during final weigh-ins inside University of Tennessee's Thompson-Boling Arena Sunday afternoon.

"This is a dream come true — a dream I've had since I was a 9-year-old kid," DeFoe stated in a Bassmasters press release. "When

we came over here and did the walk-through the day before the tournament, I actually imagined hearing my name after the words 'Bassmaster Classic champion.'"

With a 20-pound haul during the opening round Friday, March 15, to take the lead, DeFoe's Saturday total was just 10 pounds, five ounces (five bass).

Wheeler took over the lead with a Saturday haul of 17 pounds, 11 ounces (five bass), for a two-day total of 32 pounds, 6 ounces.

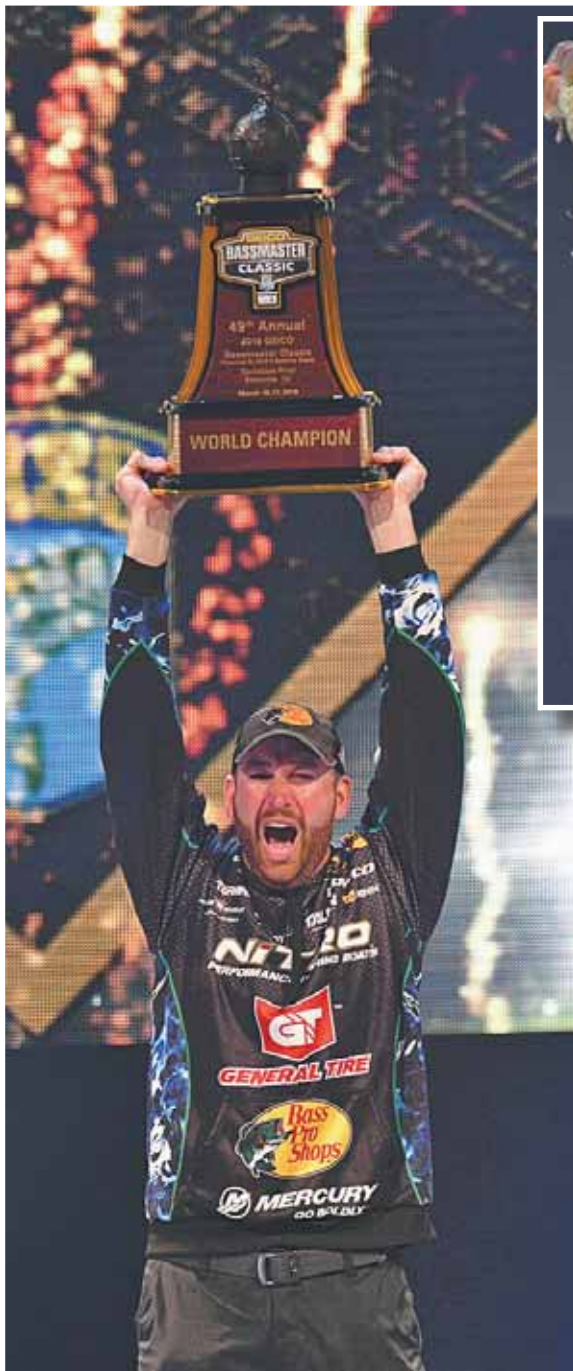
"If I would have had a good Day 2 — if I'd had even 14 or 15 pounds — I might have been totally committed to what I was doing," DeFoe stated in the release. "It was working. Why would I not stay with it?"

"But the fact that it just didn't work for me, that caused me to just scrap it all. I just went fishing today, and that's exactly what I needed to do," he added.

While this was DeFoe's first Classic win, he has six B.A.S.S. career victories and now has \$1,642,859 in career Bassmaster earnings.

Collecting \$52,500 for his runner-up finish, Wheeler has two career B.A.S.S. wins — one on Lake Chickamauga and one on nearby Cherokee Lake.

See DEFOE on Page 4C



Photos submitted

(Left) Ott DeFoe proudly displays his Bassmaster Classic championship trophy. (Top) Jacob Wheeler runner-up in Geico Bassmasters Classic presented by DICK'S Sporting Goods. (Above) Third-place finisher Jesse Wiggins.

Cherry, Herbold take the win

Gracie Herbold and Aaron Cherry of Headland Bass Team, who caught a five-bass limit that weighed 16 pounds, 9 ounces, won Mossy Oak Fishing Bassmaster High School Classic presented by Academy Sports + Outdoors on Watts Bar Lake Saturday, March 16, held in conjunction with the GEICO Bassmaster Classic presented by DICK'S Sporting Goods on the Tennessee River Friday through Sunday, March 15-17. The event comprised 10 teams: the top two teams from each of the four 2018 High School Opens, the top two from the 2018 High School National Championship and the 2018 Tennessee State champion. One of the 11 teams was unable to compete.

Photo courtesy Bassmasters.com



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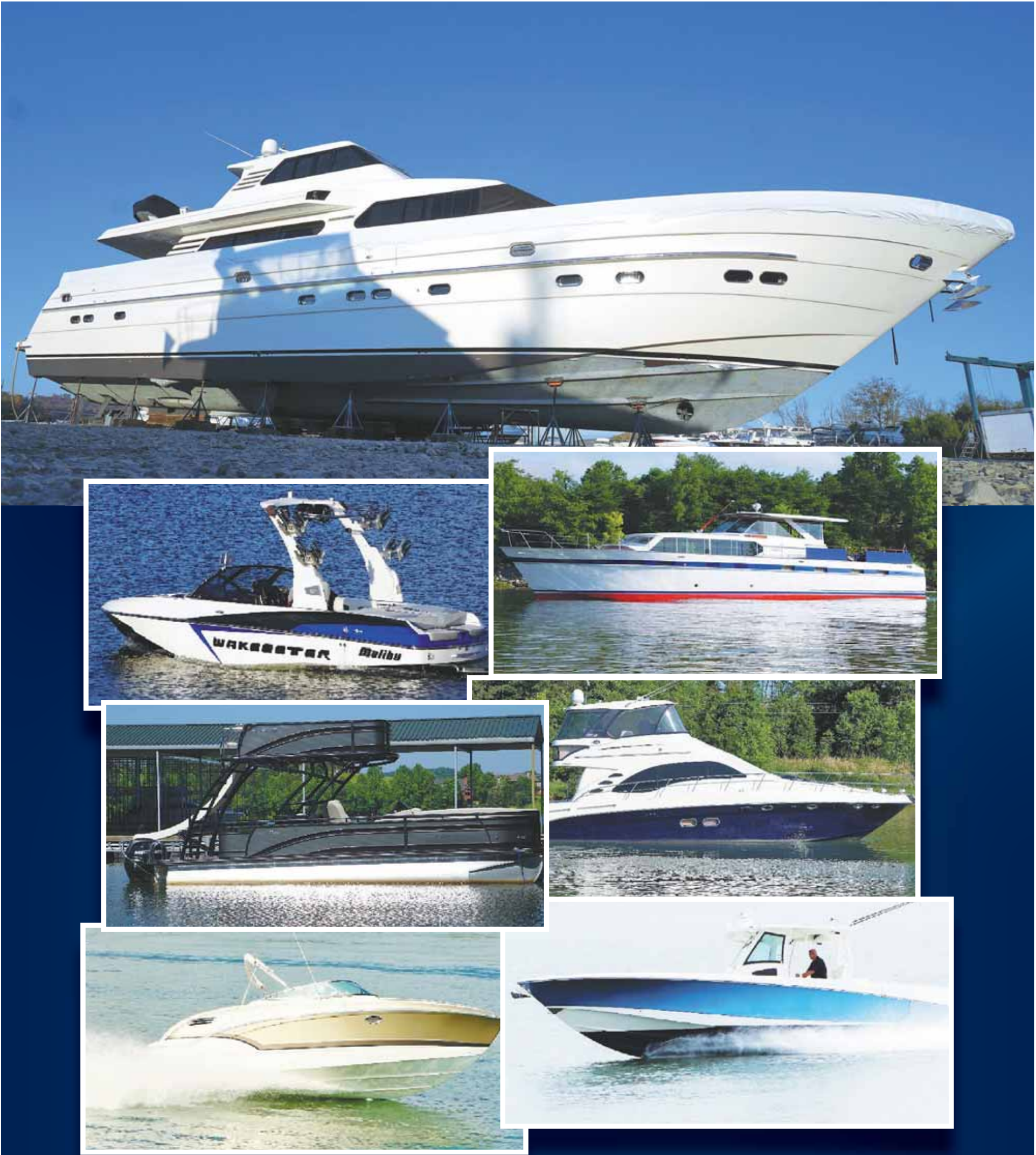
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Photo submitted
Jacob Wheeler in action.

DeFoe
From page 1C

“I knew it was going to be hard to beat Ott on this fishery,” Wheeler stated in the release. “All I can say is I caught fish every day, so it was a great week for me.

“If I just had to come up a little short, I’m glad to see Ott win it.”

This 49th world championship of bass fishing — the first time a major Bassmasters event has been held on Fort Loudoun and Tellico lakes in the Tennessee River chain —paid a total of \$1 million to the 52

professional anglers.

Two other Tennesseans cracked the top 10: Brandon Lester, 29, of Fayetteville finished sixth with 40 pounds, 5 ounces while collecting \$22,000.

Wesley Strader, 47, of Spring City was seventh with 39 pounds, 8 ounces to finish seventh while earning \$21,500.

- Other top 10 finishers:**
- Third-place, Jesse Wiggins of ACullman, Alabama, with 43 pounds, 14 ounces to collect \$40,000
 - Fourth-place, Michael Iaconelli of

- Pittsgrove, New Jersey with 42 pounds, 9 ounces to earn \$30,000
- Fifth-place, Mark Daniels Jr. of Tuskegee, Alabama, with 41 pounds, 12 ounces collecting \$25,000
 - Eighth-place, Edwin Evers of Talala, Oklahoma, had 39 pounds, 7 ounces earning \$21,000
 - Ninth-place, Dean Rojas of Lake Havasu, Arizona, caught 35 pounds, 6 ounces to collect \$20,500
 - Tenth-place Brandon Palaniuk of Hayden, Idaho, ended with 34 pounds, 15 ounces to earn \$20,000

“The world-championship bass tournament drew a record-total attendance of 153,809 to tournament venues, including daily weigh-ins in Thompson-Boling Arena, the Bassmaster Classic Outdoors Expo consumer show presented by DICK’S Sporting Goods in the Knoxville Convention Center and World’s Fair Exhibition Hall, and morning takeoffs at Volunteer Landing,” a Bassmasters press release stated. “... Friday’s Day 1 takeoff at Volunteer Landing drew a Classic-record takeoff crowd of 5,500 spectators.”



QUALIFIERS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Casey Ashley Donalds, S.C | 27. Justin Lucas Guntersville, Ala. |
| 2. Adrian Avena Vineland, N.J. | 28. Aaron Martens Leeds, Ala. |
| 3. Drew Benton Panama City, Fla. | 29. Andy Montgomery Blacksburg, S.C. |
| 4. Josh Bertrand San Tan Valley, Ariz. | 30. Cliff Pace Petal, Miss. |
| 5. Brent Chapman Lake Quivira, Kan. | 31. Brandon Palaniuk Hayden, Idaho |
| 6. Jason Christie Park Hill, Okla. | 32. Garrett Paquette Canton, Mich. |
| 7. Mark Daniels Jr. Tuskegee, Ala. | 33. Randy Pierson Oakdale, Calif. |
| 8. Ott DeFoe Knoxville, Tenn. | 34. Clifford Pirch Payson, Ariz. |
| 9. Kyle Dorsett Odenville, Ala. | 35. Keith Poche Pike Road, Ala. |
| 10. Brent Ehrler Redlands, Calif. | 36. Jacob Powroznik Port Haywood, Va. |
| 11. James Elam Tulsa, Okla. | 37. Nick Ratliff Elizabethtown, Ky. |
| 12. Edwin Evers Talala, Okla. | 38. Skeet Reese Auburn, Calif. |
| 13. Todd Faircloth Jasper, Texas | 39. Matthew Robertson Kuttawa, Ky. |
| 14. Seth Feider Bloomington, Minn. | 40. Dean Rojas Lake Havasu City, Ariz. |
| 15. Micah Frazier Newnan, Ga. | 41. Bradley Roy Lancaster, Ky. |
| 16. Jacopo Gallelli Firenze, Italy | 42. Gerald Sphorer Gonzalez, La. |
| 17. Roy Hawk Lake Havasu City, Ariz. | 43. Wesley Strader Spring City, Tenn. |
| 18. Brett Hite Phoenix, Ariz. | 44. Gerald Swindle Guntersville, Ala. |
| 19. Derek Hudnall Baton Rouge, La. | 45. Frank Talley Temple, Texas |
| 20. Mike Iaconelli Pitts Grove, N.J. | 46. Randall Tharp Port St. Joe, Fla. |
| 21. Alton Jones Jr. Lorena, Texas | 47. Kevin VanDam Kalamazoo, Mich. |
| 22. Bobby Lane Lakeland, Fla. | 48. Brad Whatley Bivins, Texas |
| 23. Chris Lane Guntersville, Ala. | 49. Jacob Wheeler Harrison, Tenn. |
| 24. Brandon Lester Fayetteville, Tenn. | 50. Jake Whitaker Fairview, N.C. |
| 25. Jordan Lee Grant, Ala. | 51. Jesse Wiggins Cullman, Ala. |
| 26. Jared Lintner Arroyo Grande, Calif. | 52. Chris Zaldain Laughlin, Nev. |

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Jefferson City 37760
- Cardinal Cove
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Rutledge 37861
- Greenly Campground and Marina
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122 Boat Dock Dr.,
Dandridge 37725
- Indian Creek Dock
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Dandridge 37725
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mountaincovemarina.com
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Sevierville 37876
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swannsmarina.com
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See MARINA on Page 7C

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From page 6C

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friendshipresortand
marina.com
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lakeviewdockhome.com
e-mail:
lakeviewdock@aol.com
992 Lakeview Dock Road,

Bristol 37620

- Laurel Marina and
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laurelmarina.com
191 Shady Ford Road,
Bristol 37620

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tnstateparks.com/parks/about/
warriors-path
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Kingsport TN 37663

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info@chotomarina.com
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- Concord Marina
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concordmarina.com
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- Fort Loudoun Marina
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fortloudonmarina.com
5200 City Park Drive,
Lenoir City 37772

- Fox Road Marina
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foxroadmarina.com
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Louisville 37777

- Willow Point Marina
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willowpointmarina.net
3725 Maryville Pike,
Knoxville 37920

- Volunteer Landing Marina
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See MARINAS on Page 8C

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Knoxville 37931
Offers a launch ramp
and covered slips.
 - Oak Ridge Rowing
It offers a rowing venue.
865-482-6538
orra.org
697 Melton Lake Drive,
Oak Ridge, 37830
- Tellico Lake Marinas**

Some amenities Tellico Lake marinas offer include a dockside grill, gift shop, supply store, bathrooms, showers, laundry facili-

- ties, security gates for all tenant docks, wet and dry slips, mechanics, regular and diesel fuel, trailer storage, private launch ramp, pump-out and year-round water.
- Rasar Landing
423-884-6378
facebook.com/pages/Rasar-Land-
ing/115479778482047
1180 Corntassel Road,
Vonore 37885
 - Sequoyah Landing
423-884-2770
sequoyahmarinaresort.com
110 Sequoya Resort Way
Vonore 37885
 - Tellico Marina
865-856-6806
tellicomarina.com
e-mail: rphillips@tellicomarina.com
1000 Marina Harbor Drive,
Maryville 37801
- Watts Bar Lake Marinas**

 - Arrowhead Marina and Resort
423-365-6484
arrowheadresort.com
261 Bennett Drive
Spring City 37381
 - Blue Springs Marina
865-376-7298
bluespringsmarina.com
3952 River Road,
Ten Mile 37880
 - Caney Creek Marina & RV Resort
865-882-4042
caneycreekrvresort.com
3615 Roane State Hwy.
Harriman 37748
 - Eden Marina and Campground
423-365-6929
edenmarinaandcampground.com
653 Scenic Lakeview Drive,
Spring City 37381
 - Euchee Marina and
Campground
423-334-1004
eucheemarinaresort.com
200 Euchee Lane,
Ten Mile 37880
- Sam's Boat Dock
423-334-5620
samsboatdock.com
e-mail:
info@samsboatdock.com
322 Sam's Boat Dock Road
Ten Mile 37880
 - Spring City Resort
and Marina
423-365-5150
springcitymarina.com
e-mail:
springcitymarina@hotmail.com
2109 New Lake Road
Spring City 37381
 - Terrace View Marina Resort
423-365-6060
terraceviewmarina.com
info@terraceviewmarina.com
3367 Euchee Chapel Road,
Spring City 37381
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Tnstateparks.com/parks/about/
big-ridge
1015 Big Ridge road
Maynardville 37807
- Bledsoe Creek State Park
615-452-3706
Tnstateparks.com/parks/about/
Bledsoe-creek
400 Zieglers Ford road
Gallatin 37066

See MARINAS on Page 9C

Potential hazards in and out of the water

In warm weather, many people seek cooling relief in ponds, rivers, oceans, pools, and other sources of water. Swimming is a popular warm-weather activity, but it can quickly turn deadly if swimmers are not careful in the water.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warns that, between the years of 2005 and 2014, an average of 10 deaths per day in the United States were attributed to unintentional drownings unrelated to boating. About one in five people who die from drowning are children age 14 and younger. The World Health Organizations says drowning is the third-leading cause of unintentional injury death worldwide.

Drowning is a concern when in the water, but it's not the only potential hazard.

Harmful algae blooms

Algae are plant-like species that are found all over the planet. Algae inhabit different bodies of water and can be important food sources for marine life. The CDC notes that, in certain circumstances, an overgrowth of algae may overpower water sources. Not all algae are harmful, but some blooms will produce toxins that can be dangerous to people and animals. Such algae may lower levels of oxygen in the water, killing plants and animals. Individuals are urged to avoid areas with harmful algae blooms and restrict fishing for food consumption during times of blooms.

Shorebreak

The National Ocean Services says a shorebreak is an ocean condition in which waves break directly on the shore. The power of these waves can cause injuries to the body, potentially hurting the spines of people who dive headfirst into the break. Others may be knocked over by waves and suffer injuries as a result. Swimmers should observe waves and ask a lifeguard about conditions before going into the water.

Jellyfish

Sharks elicit fear among many ocean swimmers, but smaller animals can be dangerous as well. Most jellyfish can sting, but not all have venom that hurts humans, says the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Around 70 species of jellies can harm or occasionally kill people. Ocean swimmers should take note of jellyfish postings at the beach and examine the sand as well. Wet tentacles can still sting, even on washed-up jellyfish.

Unsupervised activity

It's essential that swimmers exercise caution around any body of water. Because water can be unpredictable, it's always best to swim with a friend and stick to areas protected by lifeguards. The Red Cross suggests preventing unsupervised access to water structures and maintain constant supervision whenever kids are around the water — even if lifeguards are present. Adults should avoid distractions and alcohol when supervising kids.

Summer is a season to enjoy the water. Awareness, preparation and supervision can keep water-lovers safe.

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Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency

is offering a Boating Safety Course at Farragut Town Hall. There are several dates and times that the course is offered, and seating is limited to the first 50 people who register.

To register, visit www.tn.gov/twra/boating/boating-education/

There is a link on the lower left titled “East Tennessee Testing Locations”. You will need a type 600 license and a pen.



Marinas

From page 8C

- Chickasaw State Park
731-989-5141
Tnstateparks.com/parks/about/chickasaw
20 Cabin Lane
Henderson 37340
 - Cove Lake State Park
423-566-9701
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/cove-lake
110 Cove Lane
Caryville 37714
 - David Crockett State Park
931-762-9408
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/david-crockett
1400 West Gaines
Lawrenceburg, 38464
 - Fall Creek Falls State Park
423-881-5298
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/fall-creek-falls
- fall-creek-falls
2009 Village Camp Road
Spencer, 38585

 - Harpeth River State Park
615-952-2099
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/harpeth-river
Harpeth-river
Hwy. 70
Kingston Springs, 37887
 - Harrison Bay State Park
423-344-6214
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/harrison-bay
Harrison-bay
8411 Harrison Bay Road
Harrison, 37341
 - Long Hunter State Park
615-885-2422
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/long-hunter
long-hunter
2910 Hobson Pike
Hermitage, 37076
 - Natchez Trace State Park
731-968-3742
- tnstateparks.com/parks/about/natchez-trace
natchez-trace
24845 Natchez Trace Rd
Wildersville, 38388

 - Norris Dam State Park
865-426-7461
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/norris-dam
Norris-dam
125 Village Green Circle
Rocky Top, 37769
 - Paris Landing State Park
731-641-4474
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/paris-landing
paris-landing
16055 Hwy 79 N
Buchanan, 38222
 - Pickett State Park
931-879-5821
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/pickett
pickett
4605 Pickett Park Highway
Jamestown, 38556
 - Reelfoot Lake State Park
- 731-253-9652
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/reelfoot-lake
reelfoot-lake
2595 Hwy 21 E
Tiptonville, 38079

 - Rock Island State Park
931-686-2471
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/rock-island
rock-island
82 Beach Road
Rock Island, 38581
 - Standing Stone State Park
931-823-6347
tnstateparks.com/parks/about/standing-stone
standing-stone
1674 Standing Stone Park Hwy.
Hilham, 38568
 - Tims Ford State Park
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Beginner’s guide to kayaking

Kayaking is a water sport that can be beneficial to the mind and body. Just about anyone willing to spend a day on the water can benefit from learning about kayaking and how to get started with this rewarding activity.

The history of kayaking is interesting. The word “kayak” means “hunter’s boat,” and the Inuit used to rely on these small vessels to catch food by sneaking up on their prey from the water’s edge. Some people still hunt and fish from their kayaks, but many are happy to use them for sightseeing and exercising.

“Paddlesports are increasing in popular-

ity among Americans who desire to connect with the outdoors,” said Christine Fanning, executive director of The Outdoor Foundation. The Outdoor Foundation and The Coleman Company, Inc., found in a Special Report on Paddlesports that 21.7 million Americans enjoyed paddling on rivers, lakes, streams, and other waterways in 2014, the most recent year for which data is available. Paddlesports include canoeing, rafting, kayaking, and stand-up paddling.

Learning how to kayak does not involve a significant initial financial investment. The outdoor experts at REI say there’s a good chance a novice kayaker will not go out

and buy a boat immediately. It’s important to first get a feel for the sport and then go from there.

Although it’s not absolutely necessary, it’s recommended that novices take paddling lessons to hone their kayaking skills. Learning the proper technique can help people avoid strain on their neck and back and safeguard their arms from fatigue.

Novices should practice on calm waters until their technique is honed. Lakes are a great place to learn, as rivers and places with mild currents can overwhelm those new to the sport.

One of the easiest ways to get introduced to kayaking is to go with an experienced paddler or tour company. Such companies charge a set price for an excursion that will provide transportation to the drop site as

well as the equipment needed for the voyage. Tours may include travel down several miles of a relatively calm waterway, allowing novice kayakers to get a feel for paddling and take in the scenery.

Getting in and out of a kayak can be challenging for beginners. The resource Kayak-paddling.net offers helpful illustrations and animated tutorials about entering and exiting kayaks as well as paddling techniques and safety.

Kayakers should bring some essentials along. A dry pack can keep electronics, food and equipment dry. Remember to wear sunscreen and a hat to keep safe from the sun. A life vest also is essential.

Exercise, fresh air and enjoying the open water are just some of the many draws of kayaking.

Learn to fish responsibly

Warm weather has arrived, and the welcoming temperatures are once again beckoning people to the great outdoors. Fishing is a popular warm weather pastime, and it’s important to take an environmentally responsible approach when fishing.

According to “Oceana: Our Endangered Oceans and What We Can Do to Save Them,” by Ted Danson, in just 55 years, humans have been able to eradicate about 90 percent of the ocean’s top predators. These include animals like sharks, marlin, king mackerel, and bluefin tuna. Smaller species also are being wiped out at alarming rates because fishing nets capture far more than is intended, and today’s fishing vessels can zero in on large schools of fish relatively easily. Thanks to global positioning technology and sonar capabilities, there’s no longer too much surprise in the chase.

Commercial fishing may do the brunt of the damage, but amateurs also can contribute to the contamination of waterways and decimation of fish species. For example, the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game says more than 500,000 bass die each year due to improper handling in Massachusetts alone. People of different cultures have fished sustainably for decades, and most anyone can follow their guidelines — and some others — to help keep ocean life healthy.



Guidelines

- **Disturb wildlife as little as possible.** When traveling into delicate ecosystems, such as those that primarily surround the water’s edge, do so with care. Operating a boat in shallow regions can chop up underwater vegetation or harm fish that live in the shallows. Don’t remove crustaceans or take plants or other wildlife out of the area.
- **Keep track of gear.** Discarded or lost fishing gear can prove harmful to wildlife. It’s easy for fish or other marine animals to get tangled in fishing line and hooks that were left behind by fishermen. Sinkers and other weights may be mistaken for food and injure unsuspecting animals. Even animals like ducks and other birds can swallow fishing tackle, which can lead to illness or starvation. Don’t just abandon gear.
- **Fish specific species at different times.** Fishing specific species helps maintain different stocks of fish at various times of the year. Plus, you’ll help guarantee that one species will not be over-fished, potentially leading to underpopulation or extinction.
- **Avoid the use of cast nets or dragnets.** Cast nets or dragnets can capture too many fish, including ones that you did not intend to take in.



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For more information, or to make a reservation, please feel free to call us with any questions you might have.

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