

An overly aggressive, and stupid bass

You've probably heard your share of fishing stories over the years, but this one is a little unusual. While fishing on July 11, I hooked into a bass of considerable size. As I fought the fish, it jumped out of the water twice, and I could see that a battle was about to ensue. Finally, the fish was in the boat. It was 22-inches long and weighed just under seven pounds. A brute to say the least.



by Roland D. Hallee

As I was attempting to retrieve my tackle and prepare the fish to be released, I noticed that the lure and leader were both deeply imbedded in the fish's stomach, already in the process of attempting to digest the plastic lure. Making a quick observation, I decided it best, for the survival of the fish, to cut the line. Trying to recapture the tackle would be fatal to the fish. So, I cut the line right at the swivel, measured and weighed the fish, and placed it back in the water. This probably took about a minute or two. The



fish merrily went on its way. After taking a deep breath, I now was faced with the task of re-rigging my rod. I turned, grabbed the rod and, bewildered, saw that all my tackle was completely intact. How could that be? I had just cut the line!

I deduced that the line I had cut was not mine. I looked at the floor of the boat, and saw a piece of monofilament fishing line, about 18 inches long, laying there. That was the line I had cut. Obviously, that fish, that had so aggressively taken my bait, had already been caught once that day. What made it appear at first that I had cut my own line was because it had been rigged in the same manner as mine. Apparently, when I "lipped" the fish, my hook dislodged itself, unsuspecting to me.

So, the next time I go to that spot, I need to make sure I rig the line the same way. That fish seems to like that.

Early frost prediction

If you have noticed, since the middle of January, everything seems to be early this year. We had an early spring, an early summer, and all things growing seem to be two to three weeks early: Crocuses, rhubarb, lupines, primrose, day lilies, etc. Well, get ready for an early frost. According to old farmers' lore, 90 days following the first sound of the katydid, after the full moon, we will experience the first killing frost.

Katydids are a grasshopper-like insect, two to three inches long, with large tent-like wings that the males vibrate during the

mating season, producing a loud buzzing sound that you hear in the summer. I heard the first katydid of the season on July 7. That is very early. Usually, this occurs between the middle to late July.

SCORES & OUTDOORS

which will occur on the 23rd. Ninety days from July 7 is October 7.

Mike Lowell curse?

It took 86 years to reverse the Curse of the Bambino when the Red Sox won the World Series in 2004. Legend has it that Babe Ruth placed a curse on the Red Sox after he was traded to the New York Yankees in 1919. The Red Sox had won the World Series in 1918. Now, it seems we have a new curse. Mike Lowell, a fan favorite and Most Valuable Player of the 2007 World Series, is relegated to the bench. With the rash of injuries the Red Sox are experiencing, especially at the corners – first and third bases – where Lowell plays, it almost looks as if he has cast a curse on those players because it's probably the only way he is going to play.

Victor Martinez, who has played first base, has a broken finger; Kevin Youkilis suffered a foot injury, but seems to be playing through it – Lowell probably didn't figure in Youk's toughness; now Adrian Beltre is out with a pulled hamstring. Lowell's curse may be backfiring, though, because following those injuries, manager Terry Francona has moved Billy Hall to third, and placed Eric Patterson at second base.

Beware, Billy Hall, who has more than aptly filled in at just about every position this season, the curse may befall you next. If Hall is injured, the curse is on.

Roland's trivia question of the week:

Who wore No. 7 for the Red Sox before J. D. Drew?
Answer on page 15.

by Mark Huard

The Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic, played each summer at the end of July is entering its 21st year. This high school senior all-star football game is the only Kora Shrine sponsored event where 100 percent of the net proceeds from the game are for the benefit of the 22 Shrine Hospitals for Children across the US, Canada, and Mexico. The Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Game has been created to raise money and to help raise public awareness of the expert orthopedic and burn care facilities available at no cost to children who desperately need this specialized care.

This East vs. West match-up, brings over 160 student athletes and coaches from all over the state together to help produce what is considered the premier high school sporting event held in Maine. All participants commit to a week-long training camp where they make new friends and more importantly, learn why we play the game so that "Strong Legs Run...So that Weak Legs May Walk."

The student athletes are high school seniors who have just graduated and are about to enter college. They are nominated to play in this prestigious game by their coaches and selected by a committee from the Maine Athletics Association.

Local athletes that will be participating include football players: Cody Ziegenfuss, Desmond Nutter, and Jared McLean, of Oakland; Jared Herrin and Ian Candage, of Skowhegan; Josh Gaudette, of Waterville; Benjamin Fredette, of Winslow; Shawn Bennett, of Pittsfield; and Lucas Libby, of Madison; and cheerleaders: Sasha Bradford, of Skowhegan; Dalis Bragdon, Marissa Champine, Megan Oliver, and Trisha Poulin, of Fairfield; Deanna Buker, Kelley LaFrance, and Brittany Pullen, of Winslow; Kelsey Gwazdosky, of Oakland; Sarah Montgomery and Allison Roy, of Waterville; and Katie Bruce and Kylee Locke, of Madison.

Still teaching at age 85

On Saturday, July 10, Martial Arts judo/jutitsu legend and American grandmaster Phillip Porter taught a seminar at Huard's Martial Arts school in Winslow. O-Sensai traveled from California at the age of 85 to train Master Randy Huard, his long-time student as well as all students at Huard's club. O-Sensai holds the 10th Dan, or higher rank, in several martial arts.



Eighty-five year old, 10th degree black belt grandmaster O-Sensei Phil Porter is seen training with Rick Gadway, of Fairfield, during the special 2010 Huard's Dojo seminar that was held on July 10.

Contributed photo

Good start



Jacob Trask, of Winslow, pitching in the 11-12 year old Little League All-Star game, against Auburn on June 28. Winslow won 9-4.

Photo by Mark Huard/Central Maine Photography

China Area Co-ed Softball League

Standings as of July 9

	W	L	Pct.	GB
I.W.S.	4	0	1.000	—
Souther Chiropractic	2	0	1.000	1
Top of the Line Drywall	3	1	.750	1
TAM's Redemption	3	1	.750	1
N.E.I.	1	1	.500	2
D.P. Industries	1	1	.500	2
Tobey's Grocery	1	3	.250	3
Fernald's Chiropractic	1	3	.250	3
Pat's Pizza	0	2	.000	3
Turner Ridge Rdmpn.	0	4	.000	4

Submitted by Mary Lockhart, league secretary.

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