



## *Bassmasters of North Alabama*

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

### *The Elite Pros "Go the Extra Mile"*

**Decatur, Alabama.** What better way to educate the youth of America in the skills of bass fishing than mentoring them with a professional angler. Kevin Langill is from that cut of the cloth and during those days that he is out on the lake pre-fishing for a Bassmaster Open or an Elite Series Tournament, he still makes time to get with the kids and have some fun. This trait in a pro angler is just as important to our sport as being in the Top 20 eighteen times or winning one of the Elite Tournaments – it is one reason they are called a PRO.

Recently, Kevin was pre-fishing for the Bassmaster Southern Open Tournament held at Lake Guntersville on October 16-18, 2008. He made arrangements with Blake Gowen, President of Bassmasters of North Alabama and the Youth Director of the sponsored Junior Bassmasters of North Alabama club, to travel from Guntersville to Decatur – bringing his pro rig and hauler – for a meeting with some of the junior bassmaster members. To these kids, it was one of the highlights of their life.

Kevin's youth seminar was staged at Decatur's Ingalls Harbor with the kids joining Kevin in his boat as he demonstrated hook tying, different type of lures and the methods for fishing them, and presentations used to entice Mr. Bass to strike at the bait. For John Moore, Dakota Bales, Josh Kyle, and Mitchell Gowen to have the attention of this quality angler, in his boat, and talking with them, at their level, made their day. Enthusiasm abounded and the questions flowed like water running down hill. Not only did Kevin share his secrets with the kids, but due to their low budgets for fishing tackle, he furnished them with lures and tackle from his sponsors. Every one of them went away from the event with a sack of goodies to try out the next time they were on the water.

The parents of these youngsters were grateful and highly impressed that an Elite Pro angler would take the time and make the effort to make a difference in their children's lives. A number of the professional anglers today are involved in numerous programs for the youth of our nation, but this one on one approach makes for a bonding not only for the youngster with the sport, but also with the angler with the youth's parents and the area where the pro-tournament is being staged. It provides an opportunity for the angler to become involved in the community - not just showing up for the tournament, fishing the lake, and then departing when it is over.

The parents of the Junior Bassmasters of North Alabama, Assistant Youth Director Alan Kyle, and members of the Bassmasters of North Alabama club treated Kevin to a meal at the World Famous Bob

Gibson's BBQ House where he was surrounded with his own admiring fan club. The BBQ was excellent, the coconut and lemon pie was out of this world, and the outing was like an old family reunion.

Kevin took the time in the parking lot to talk with a youngster and his dad and presented Blake with a prospective member for the junior club. The next day, he invited one of the club's physically handicapped anglers for a day on the water as he continued pre-fishing for the Bassmaster Open Tournament. Not only was David Giudice treated as Kevin's guest for the day, but David, who was to fish in the tournament as a co-angler with the pros, was taught a few fishing techniques that he would not have learned otherwise. David sent Don Gowen, Director for the Alabama B.A.S.S. Federation Nation and a member of Bassmasters of North Alabama an email after his day on the water with Kevin that stated: "Things went great with Elite Pro Kevin Langill. It was a very educational filled day and I caught some decent fish. Thank you for helping me out so that I could fish with him. Being with Kevin was certainly one of the greatest days I have ever had fishing..."

And that is the reason we call them a PRO. THANKS Kevin for sharing your life with us and making some folks real proud to know you on a personal basis.

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**Cc: Kevin Langill – Professional BASS Angler and Official Qualifying Angler**  
**Stacy Twigg – Senior Manager – Federation Nation Youth**  
**Tyler Reed – BASS Times**  
**Eddie Plemons – President, Alabama B.A.S.S. Federation Nation**  
**Bobby McDonald – Youth Director – Alabama B.A.S.S. Federation Nation**  
**Blake Gowen and Alan Kyle – Junior Bassmasters of North Alabama**

**Attachment: CD - Photos**