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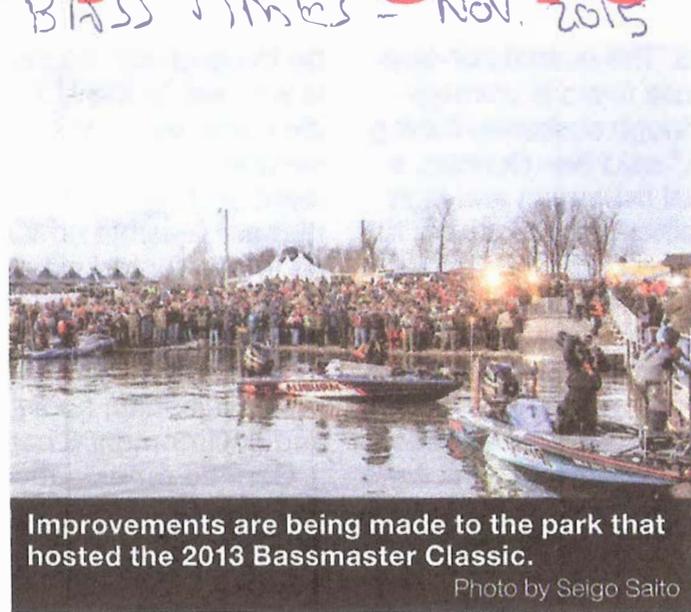
Launch facility being upgraded for 2016 Classic

GROVE, Okla. — Oklahoma is rolling out a fresh concrete carpet for the launch of the 2016 GEICO Bassmaster Classic presented by GoPro, set for Wolf Creek Park and Boat Ramp on Grand Lake O' the Cherokees on March 4-6.

1. A \$2.8 million project at the park began in late September, and the facility will be closed until work is completed in the weeks prior to the Classic, according to Grove City Manager Bill Keefer.

2. This is a second construction phase at the site for the city, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, the state Transportation Department and the Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA). In a Herculean effort prior to the 2013 Classic, those groups spent \$2 million and in 100 days converted a little-known city ramp and adjacent 20 acres into what Grove officials claim is one of the Top 5 facilities of its kind in the nation.

3. With parking for 400, six boat ramps and an 85-foot x 185-foot tuningfork-shaped



dock, the place was already well-equipped for a Classic.

"Now it's going to be even better, and we'll have more space," said Brent Davis, GRDA

fisheries coordinator. GRDA will rebuild the temporary boat ramps that were installed shortly before the 2013 event, Davis said. New ramps will enter the water at a steeper grade and on either side of a new 200-foot-long mooring dock.

The asphalt parking area adjacent to the ramps will be excavated, fill dirt will be hauled in to raise the entire area 3 1/2 feet and a new concrete surface that will more than double the size of the existing one will be poured, he said.

4. An additional 48- x 56-foot tuningfork-shaped dock is planned, and a breakwater at the mouth of Wolf Creek Cove will be installed to help protect those investments, according

to Keefer. Straightened and widened roads with added turning lanes at the park entrances off U.S. 59 will help motorists heading to the launch

site for the Classic in the mornings, and from weigh-ins at the BOK Center in Tulsa.

"It will be a bit safer, and I think it will make the people with big trucks pulling boat trailers a lot happier, too," Keefer said.

KELLY BOSTIAN

Quiz answers from page 4

1. **B.** Larry Nixon topped the \$1 million mark on Oct. 17, 1992.

2. **C.** Ashley sings, "Brother, it's a long road from Amistad to Toho" in the song that plays while he's on stage during Bassmaster Elite Series weigh-ins.

3. **A.** The shoal bass is a cool, olive-colored bass native to the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee and Flint River drainages.

4. **A.** Tom Mann (inventor of the Jelly Worm and Little George) won the first catch-and-release tournament held by B.A.S.S.

5. ADDITIONAL STOCKING?