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Ensuring Nature's Abundance

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jack Morris Wins Bass Fishing Classic With Multiple Strikes

Minnetonka, MN - Twin's pitching great Jack Morris along with his fishing teammates, Pro bass angler John Laub and amateur Tim Brion, won this year's Minnesota Twins' Bass Fishing Classic with a total weight of 20.36 pounds for five fish. This phenomenal basket of fish was a record for the three-year-old Classic.

After the early weigh-in of Morris and his team, it was thought no one could match that weight until Santana and his team took the stage. The initial weigh exceeded the leaders weight by several pounds, but when it was time to hold up what was thought to be the winning fish, it was discovered there was an ineligible catch included in the fish basket. It seems that Santana had caught a waterlogged chunk of wood while fishing. The crowd had a great laugh with Santana stating, "I don't know how that got in there".

The Minnesota Twins' Bass Fishing Classic raised a record \$71,000 for Minnesota based conservation organization Wildlife Forever and the ALS Association, Minnesota Chapter.

The tournament was presented by Kent Hrbek Outdoors with the two-time World Series Champion acting as emcee. The team format tournament matches a celebrity athlete with a professional bass angler and an amateur in each boat. The 32 boats all arrived on time for the 1:00 PM weigh-in and a large crowd was on hand to watch each Minnesota Twin weigh-in with his team. Other current Twins weighing fish were Ron Gardenhire, Brad Radke, Michael Cuddyer, Matthew LeCroy and Johan Santana.

The team of bass legend Ted Capra, Amateur Mark Hansen and Erik Rasmussen placed second with 18.26 pounds. Third place went to Pro angler Chris Asbeck, Amateur Doug Anderson and Jacque Jones whose young son accompanied the team on the water for good luck.

All together 132 bass were caught. All but two were successfully released, thanks to the advanced oxygenating technology of Aqua-Innovations.

Expenses were kept very low thanks to the donated support of Maynard's Restaurant, the Minnesota Twins, Stearns and the pro bass anglers, each of whom donated their time, boat and fishing equipment.

“Wildlife Forever’s share of the proceeds from this year’s event will be used to fund grassroots conservation grants for fish and wildlife work throughout the country”, said Douglas H. Grann, President and CEO of Wildlife Forever. “Local sportsmen groups and conservation clubs can apply for challenge grants directly from Wildlife Forever. This is another example of the Twins supporting the community and our natural resources.”

Sponsors of the tournament included: The Minnesota Twins, Ranger Boats, Yamaha engines, Fox Sports Net, WCCO Radio, Stearns, Budweiser, Maynard’s Restaurant, Carrier, Cambria and Treasure Island Resort and Casino.

Wildlife Forever is one of the nation’s leading multi-species nonprofit conservation organizations. Its national mission is to conserve America’s wildlife heritage through conservation education, preservation of habitat and management of fish and wildlife. As the nonprofit arm of the North American Hunting Club and the North American Fishing Club, Wildlife Forever is the conservation advocate for one million outdoor enthusiasts.

To become a member of Wildlife Forever or to learn more about wildlife conservation efforts, visit the Wildlife Forever web site at: www.wildlife forever.org <<http://www.wildlife forever.org>> or call 763-253-0222.

The ALS Association, Minnesota is the only Minnesota not-for-profit health organization dedicated solely to the fight against ALS. As the preeminent ALS organization. ALS, MN leads the way in research, patient and community services, public education and advocacy.

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