

LET'S ROCK!

With Rock 'n' Roll Fisherman Todd Longley

By Steven Wintemute

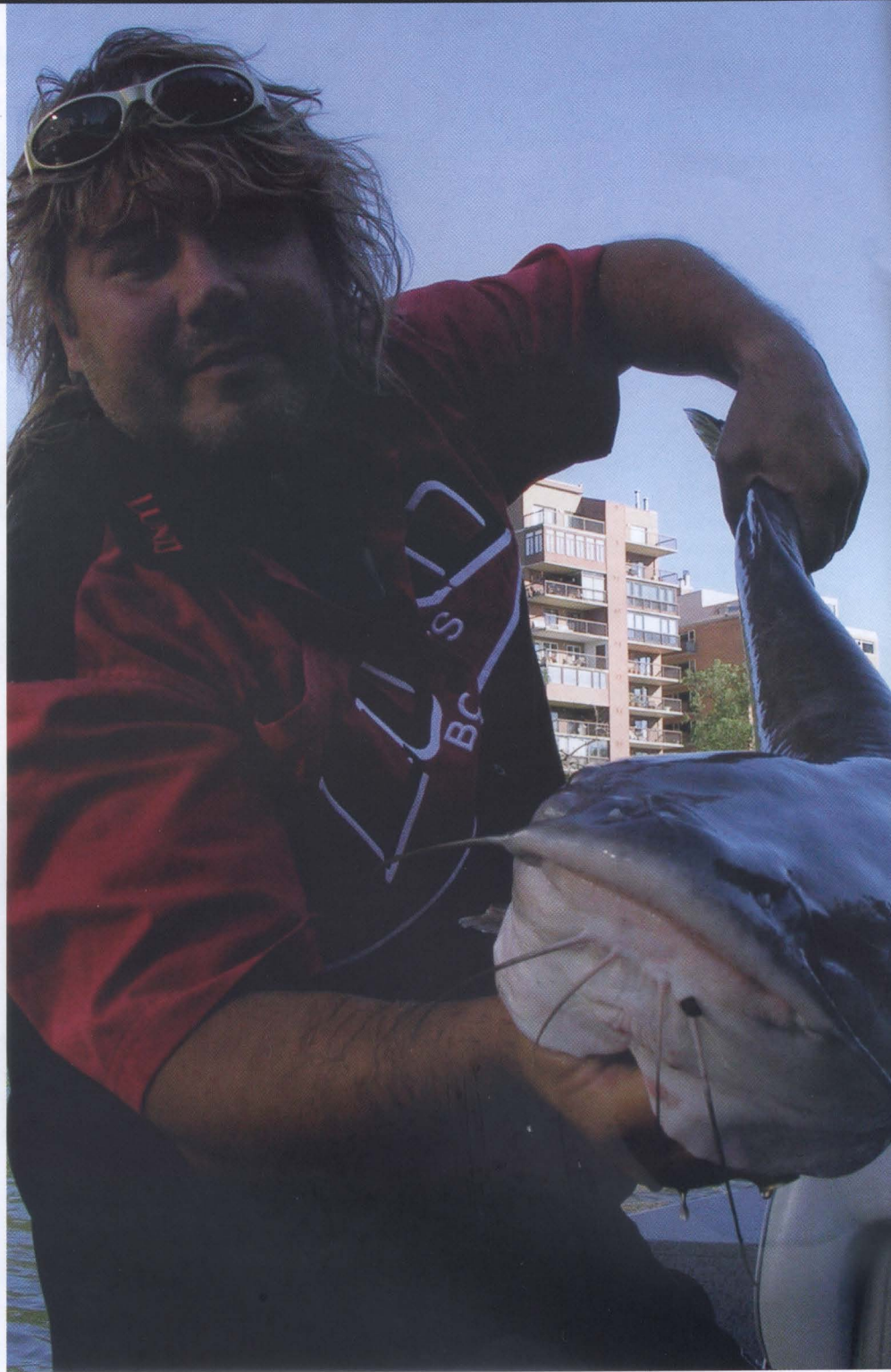
As publisher of the Fish'n line I obviously get a chance to fish with some very experienced anglers and some very unique individuals. One such individual that had left an immediate impression was Todd Longley of City Cats Guiding Service. Todd and I spent an afternoon fishing for channel cats in the city. While enjoying our day on the water, and catching a few huge cats, it became obvious to me just how much Todd loves to fish. But what was even more obvious was his passion for helping kids learn the sport of angling.

At what age did you start fishing and why?

I started fishing at the age of 7. What really got me interested in fishing was the movie Jaws. Now it's obvious Todd loves big fish but Jaws? I remember my friend and I going to Lockport in his 14ft Lund and drifting down the Red River fishing for Saugers and Walleyes. Fishing for me is very relaxing and just getting out in the outdoors gives me the chance to slow down and contemplate life.

What are some of your most favorite fishing experiences?

I have had plenty of them and choosing just one is almost impossible. I would have to say the coolest experience is when I was with some guests and we managed 7 master angler Walleyes in one day.



Besides the hair and your cell phone screaming "Girls Girls Girls" by Motley Crew, how did the nickname The Rock'n'Roll Fisherman come about?

That came from the first guided fishing trip I ever did. A gentleman named Bob (he is a lawyer so we won't mention his last name) called me the Rock'n Roll Fisherman at the awards ceremony at the Fish Winnipeg Media Corporate Challenge and it's just stuck from there.



You spend a lot of time and effort with the Winnipeg fish camps and the Urban Angling Program. Why are you so involved and attached to these programs?

With the Winnipeg fish camps I take out approximately 384 kids a year. As far as I am concerned these kids are the future anglers of the world and I feel it necessary to introduce them to the sport of angling in a positive manner. I love it when they hammer a big cat and their faces light up and their bodies shake with excitement. I know I have them hooked right then and there. As for the Urban Angling Program I am involved with that because all monies raised through the program help youth at risk. It's better to have them off the streets and on the water doing something fun and staying out of trouble.

What are a few of your fishing accomplishments that you are very proud of?

Forming my own guiding service and working hard at it. I am very proud of owning and operating my own business. Other accomplishments are finishing 1st place two years in a row in the media and the corporate events at the Fish Winnipeg Challenge. Although you gave me a run for my money the last two years (2nd isn't that bad ha ha). I just have to make sure I can do it again and make it three in a row, or maybe I will back off and let you finally win it. (Laughs) ><<<<<>

Bio

Todd Longley is a Tournament Pro, MC and Guide. He has been on Team Lund for three years. A notable finish for Longley came when he was crowned champion in the Fish Winnipeg Media and Corporate Challenge, 2 years in a row.

Longley prefers to jig for Walleye out of his 2006 Lund Alaskan 2000 with a 115 HP Mercury motor.

Longley's sponsors include: Lund, Telco, Tim Hortons, The Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Fineline Tackle, Shimano, The Fishin' Hole, EZ Loader, Ryjus Pro, Kelseys, Coca Cola, Redline Agencies (Bole Sunglasses), Peller Estates Wines, Manulife Investments, and Wealth Management Group.



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