

Ramapo College Fishing Club Earns Regional Title; Qualifies for National Championship

MAHWAH, N.J. – The Ramapo College Bass Fishing Club team of Andy Zapf and Andrew Annuzzi won the FLW College Fishing Northern Conference Championship on the Chesapeake Bay Sunday with a two-day total of eight bass weighing 19 pounds, 12 ounces. The victory earned the club \$4,000 and qualified the team for the 2016 FLW College Fishing National Championship.

Zapf, a senior accounting major from Whippany, N.J., and Annuzzi, a junior environmental science major from Old Bridge, N.J., were one of three Ramapo College teams that competed in the regional.

“I am very proud of all three teams that made it to the regional championship, but I am especially happy for Andy and Andrew becoming Northern Conference Champions,” said P.J. Bartolotto, team advisor. “It takes a lot of off/on the water preparation to be able to excel in the sport of bass fishing and they have all shown the ability to manage this along with their academic responsibilities.”

The duo said that they had a solid three days of practice on the fishery before the tournament, but only managed to catch three bass in their practice period. They decided to concentrate in the McDaniel Yacht Basin and caught the majority of their fish on green-pumpkin jigs with a craw or beaver trailer, with a few coming on a drop-shot rigged Strike King Rage Craw.

“Since the start of our club I never thought that a small Division III school like Ramapo would have accomplished so much among the bigger D-I and D-II schools and I am proud of the tradition and history our club continues to make,” said Bartolotto. The win marked the sixth consecutive year a Ramapo squad has qualified for the national championship, which will be held later this fall.