

McGuffin hauls in second 10-pounder

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Few can lay claim to a 10-pound bass, but Seneca High School student Luke McGuffin can lay claim to two of them after hauling in a 10.62-pound catch on Lake Keowee on July 26.

A sophomore with a passion for the rod and reel, McGuffin said there is nothing like catching a bass that big.

"That's a lifetime fish, and I've been blessed that that's my second 10-pounder," McGuffin said, noting there's every chance another one won't come along for him. "This might be the biggest fish I ever hold in my whole life, and that's what's special about it."

McGuffin said the bass was released back to the lake, but a replica is going to be made as a trophy mount.

However, that will not be the only trophy McGuffin hopes to get his hands on in the near future. A member of the Hamilton Career and Technology Center fishing team, McGuffin's

competitive season is on the horizon, and he hopes for it to be a big one.

Qualification for last year's Battle of the Carolinas tournament was ended when the event was canceled, but McGuffin said this year should be better after spending a whole year learning. But his goals on the water do not stop at making it back to the Battle of the Carolinas. The rising sophomore's dream is to one day make it to the Bassmaster Classic.

"You see them drive in and walk up there on stage, and everybody's cheering for them. It's just mind blowing," McGuffin said.

However, for now there is not really a pathway to college that is strung with fishing line. While schools such as Virginia Tech, Florida and North Carolina State have successful club fishing teams, a scholarship is not something McGuffin is banking on. He said his hope is to go to a school on the coast with a baseball scholarship and to keep fishing.



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Seneca High School rising sophomore Luke McGuffin is seen with a recent catch — a 10.62-pound bass.