

## Alvin T. Shaw: Pro Bass Fisherman A Man Following His Dream

By: Kimberly Nelson



Instructor Paula Eller, in cooperation with Ricky Roten, a student in her Marketing Research class and co-owner of Hot Shot Lures, invited Alvin Shaw to speak to her class. Hot Shot Lures is also a sponsor of Mr. Shaw along with Wal-Mart, Kellogg's and Ranger Boats.

I sat down and talked with Mr. Shaw while he was signing autographs for our students and this is what I found out about him:

Alvin Shaw is from Surry County and was raised in Alleghany County. He lives with his wife Lucy, in State Road, North Carolina. He also has three children, Mark, Matt, and Larah. Mr. Shaw started out working construction and did this for around 20 years. He built residential homes for people, but his dream was to become a professional fisherman. He sold his interest in the business and started his fishing career about 7 years ago. He joined the FLW (Forrest L. Woods) Tour in 1996 now sponsored by Wal-Mart. Now he fishes all the time and he said he puts about 40 to 50 thousand miles on his hauler a year. He also logs hundreds of hours on the water. Mr. Shaw is a member of a five man team. They all are sponsored by Kellogg's. There is a Frosted Flakes boat, a Pop Tarts boat, an Eggo Waffles boat, a Rice Krispy's Treats boat, and his boat, the Froot Loops boat. He told me that anyone wanting to see Ranger bass boats on display can visit the Denver Marine Dealership in Denver, NC. He stated that the fishing team is kind of like the race teams, you are team members, but you compete against each other. The largest bass he has caught so far was around 8.2 lbs. That was during a tournament!

Fishing has gone high tech and Alvin Shaw is going with them. His son Mark, who works for Bell South designed a web page as a Christmas present to his dad. Mr. Shaw is very proud of the web page. His site contains all his sponsors



Mr. Shaw is pictured with Ricky Roten, Ms. Eller and some Kellogg's Products that have his team members on them.

and information about him and his fishing career. If you would like to visit his page, it's listed under [www.bassingwithalvin.com](http://www.bassingwithalvin.com).



Ricky Roten of Hot Shot Lures, along with Alvin Shaw and Paula Eller pose in front of his Kellogg's sponsored Froot Loops

While we were talking he told me a quote that he liked but couldn't think of who said it but I thought it was appropriate, "*Time spent fishing isn't counted against you.*" Mr. Shaw still does architectural design in his spare time, but instead of doing it by hand he uses a computer to do it for him. Alvin Shaw is a man who has followed his *dream* and made it work for him.