

# Angler's tip Crystal-clear

By TED ANCHER

**ANGLER:** Dennis Reardon, 49, Framingham.

**OCCUPATION:** Sergeant for Framingham Police Department; production assistant for "Charlie Moore Outdoors" on NESN.

**BASS PAST:** Member of Metro West Lunker Hunters '98, '99, 2000; Assabet Valley Bassmasters 2001; qualified for club's eight-man state team twice; six career wins.

**FAVORITE LAKE:** Crystal Lake, 441 acres, Gilmanton, N.H.

**BEST DAY ON CRYSTAL LAKE:** Landed personal biggest large-mouth, 8 pounds, 2 ounces; best outing yielded a dozen bass between 4-5 pounds; biggest smallie 4.7 pounds.

#### HOT SPOTS AND BAITS:

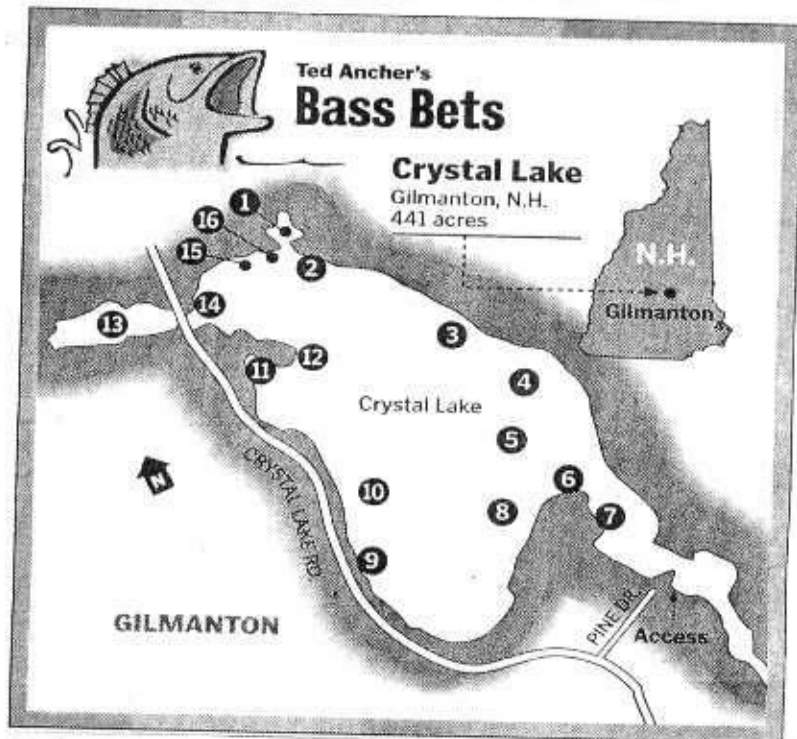
■ **1** — Fancast a  $\frac{3}{8}$ -ounce chartreuse buzzbait over weed growth in middle of cove in summer. Cast a Texas-rigged 7-inch black Lunker City Hydratail worm on  $\frac{1}{4}$ -ounce weight to any weed pockets and edges.

■ **2** — Sandbar best in spring with 3-inch Lunker City Pudge. Rig on  $\frac{1}{8}$ -ounce Havoc steel jigsaw. Fish slowly over sandbar and down drop-off to 15-foot depths in spring. In summer, concentrate only on drop-off area 15 feet deep with Carolina-rigged watermelon seed MudDog or black worm.

■ **3** — Carolina rig a lizard or worm weedbed in 20-foot deep gully out from double dock, summer only.

■ **4** — Fish 10-foot deep hump in 25-foot depths. Use silver/blueback Mann's Maniac. Throw marker buoy on hump, then cast from deep water past hump, retrieving bait over top of it. Best in a.m. Work edges with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -ounce green Pudge. Bounce Pudge down side of hump to 20-foot bottom.

■ **5** — Large area of humps and ullies ranging from 2- to 30-foot



depth. Good all year. Because of the extreme depth changes, use depth-finder to locate depth bait-fish are holding at.

■ **6** — Submerged tree about 25 feet off shore near point. Always stop here and pitch a 7-inch black Hydratail worm. Reel worm up to branch of tree, pause and let drop. Watch line. Then repeat every time you feel a branch.

■ **7** — Drop-off to 30 feet, smallies go for a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -ounce Silver Buddy or Carolina rig in summer.

■ **8** — Underwater peninsula running 60 feet out from shore starting at moored boats. Good anytime.

■ **9** — Fish mouth of inlet only if water running into lake with spinnerbait or brown/white Mann's Bay 1-minus. Otherwise, fish lily-pads either side of inlet with white spinnerbait if windy and Texas-rigged lizard if calm.

■ **10** — Fist-sized rocks 20 feet deep. Carolina rig with lizards and worms, summer only.

■ **11** — Skip a black weightless worm or lizard under dock in front of yellow house. If nothing, move to center of cove and fish submerged boulders 10 feet deep with worm and lizard.

■ **12** — Submerged gravel point best in a.m. and p.m. with Mann's Loudmouth topwater bait. Cast, let settle, then use a pop and pause like a Pop'R.

■ **13** — If you can get under bridge, fish backwater pond anytime with worms, weedless frogs and 4-inch SlugGos for largemouth and pickerel.

■ **14** — Fish large dollar-size lily-pad field with 4-inch Arkansas shiner SlugGo first. Cast into middle of pads and use a twitch-and-pause retrieve.

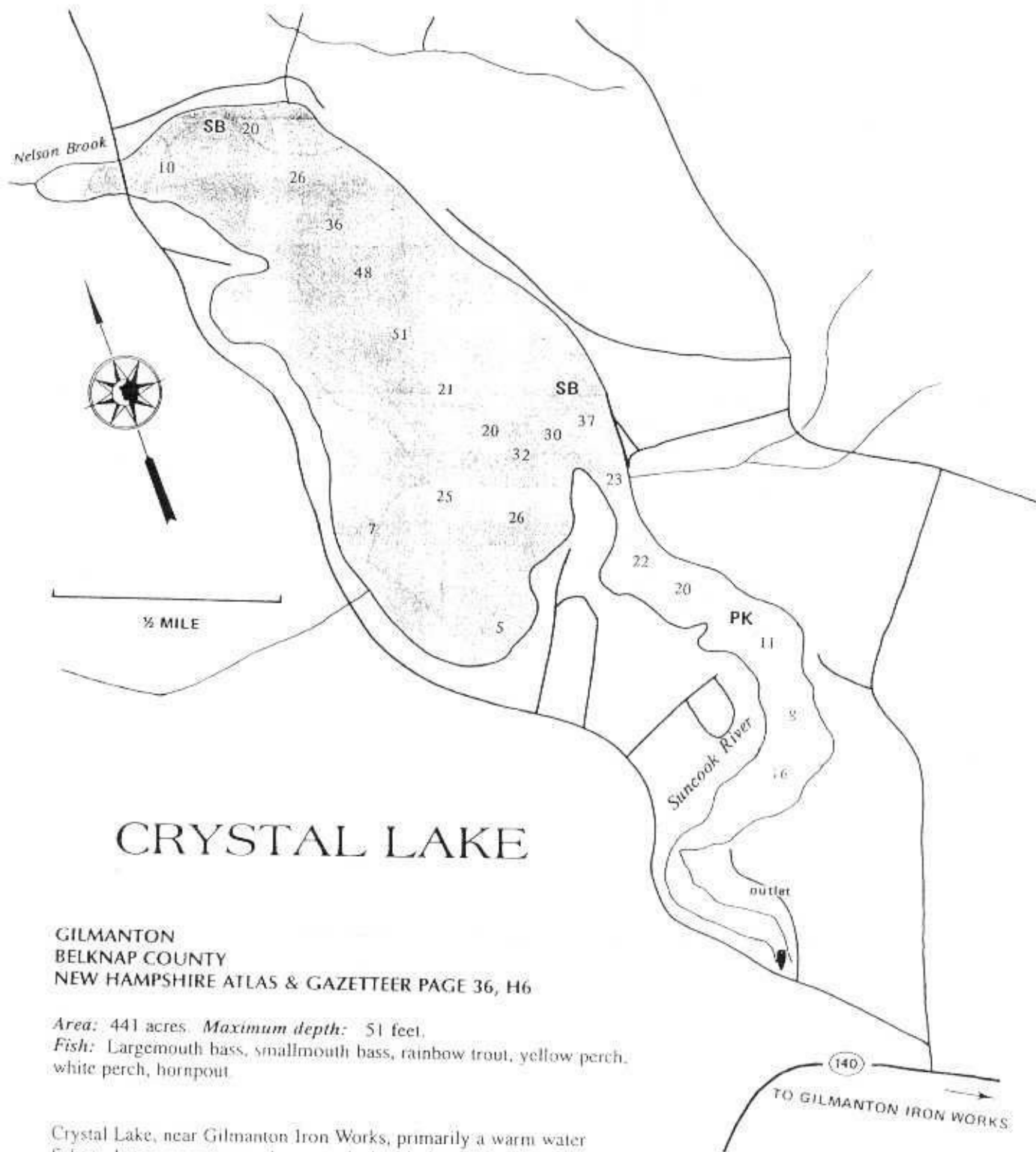
■ **15** — Fish all rocks around docks first with Spider grub. Then flip or skip a Spider or SlugGo under docks in summer.

■ **16** — Spinnerbait or crank the rockpile in front of birch tree first if windy. Otherwise, use worm or lizard. Stay back and make long casts to blown down tree with weedless Spider grubs or SlugGos.

**ACCESS:** Broken tar ramp with dangerous drop; 4-wheel recommended. Parking for six rigs at lunch off Crystal Lake Road.



**REARDON: N.H. lake produced 8-pound, 2-ounce largemouth.**



## CRYSTAL LAKE

GILMANTON  
BELKNAP COUNTY  
NEW HAMPSHIRE ATLAS & GAZETTEER PAGE 36, H6

*Area:* 441 acres. *Maximum depth:* 51 feet.

*Fish:* Largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, rainbow trout, yellow perch, white perch, hornpout.

Crystal Lake, near Gilmanton Iron Works, primarily a warm water fishery, has in recent years been stocked with the cold water species rainbow trout. It has a rocky bottom, an extensive shoal area, and an abundance of surface vegetation. The shoreline is heavily wooded and moderately developed with camps. A free, state-owned launch site at the southern tip provides good access.