

BOW REPORT

Mathews Genesis Pro

Let me set the stage for you: There existed a school facing many challenges with its youth...Ok, I need to back up and start over; there existed an entire school system with... One more time - there existed an entire state that was experiencing youth issues such as drug abuse, alcohol abuse, high school dropouts and teen pregnancy. Of all the programs and solutions you could throw at this problem, archery would probably not be in your top ten. In fact, it may never come up at all. That is where the miracle begins.

It started in one classroom, spread to a test program, spread further into a successful state program and then ultimately into a national program known as the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). Kentucky was the birthplace of the "Archery - On Target for Life" program, an effort put together by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and the Kentucky Department of Education. This super successful endeavor then exploded into NASP. The success in Kentucky was overwhelming with testimonies flowing in from kids, educators and families. Educators use the kid's enthusiasm for archery as a means to teach certain aspects of other subjects including math, science and history. In the new NASP video, one grandfather says that the community and the NASP program were the salvation of his grandson. Seem over-the-top? It would, except for the fact that this same strong feeling about the pro-

gram is echoed thousands of times over in Kentucky and across the nation. NASP provides the opportunity for kids in grades 4 through 12 to experience success, friendship and community with very few barriers. Gender, size, background, social standing or physical condition have little bearing on someone's ability to participate in the program.

The NASP program has been credited with improving student behavior, grades and attendance. On days the program is offered student attendance rates rise. Since its start in 2002 over 4000 schools have joined the program and over 4 million kids have participated! Only six states have yet to adopt the program and Canada's Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia are already on board. Victoria, Australia is also an international partner.

Mathews was right there in the early stages helping out with development and outfitting of the program. Their Genesis bow was selected to supply the NASP program for its ability to fit archers of all sizes. The original Genesis Bow has a draw weight of 10 to 20 pounds and maintained that weight (zero let-off) throughout the draw cycle, which maxed out at 30 inches. Impact on the NASP program



The Genesis Pro offers higher draw weights than the Genesis and an adjustable draw stop.

was immediate. Imagine, a bow that can be shot successfully by a 12th grader who then turns around and hands the same bow to a fourth grader who hits the ten ring - no adjustments necessary. Just shoot.

As you could have probably guessed the program sparked serious interest in some of the archers who wanted to be more accurate and competitive outside of the NASP program. Mathews' answer to that demand is the Genesis Pro: A bow that adds a customizable draw length, greater centershot clearance area and a draw weight that reaches 25 pounds. Lets take a look at the Genesis Pro.

The Basics:

RISER: The Genesis Pro sports a stylish CNC machined riser made from the same material as the majority of all top bows in the industry - 6061 aluminum. A notable difference between this riser and that of the original Genesis is in the shelf and sight window. A larger clearance in these areas allows for greater centershot

adjustment of your chosen arrow rest. Making the Pro lightweight was a priority since it was designed for a wide range of archers including those that are quite small. With that in mind the Pro riser has multiple cutouts of various shapes and sizes machined through its thickness to keep the overall mass weight to a minimum. Riser "looks" are enhanced through machining features such as steps, chamfers, and curves. Mathews outfits the Pro with an injection molded replaceable polymer competition grip shaped to provide comfort for the many different hand sizes of archers that may handle it. The Pro's stainless steel cable guard is Teflon coated for reduced cable slide friction. Each riser is drilled and tapped for sight, rest and stabilizer mounting. Your choice of finishes on the Pro include either a

black powder coat with red or chrome painted eccentrics or camo finish with black eccentrics. A Genesis Pro medalion is set into the riser just below the grip on one side of the riser.

So, what does all this mean to mom, dad and the shooter?

You can now step up your game with a larger shelf and sight window that allow you to adjust an arrow rest for increased accuracy.

Quality – CNC

machined 6061 aluminum. Sound familiar? The Mathews flagship for 2008 is the DXT and its riser is made with.... That's right, you guessed it – CNC machined 6061 aluminum.

Comfort – the riser is machined for a low mass weight and the grip is contoured to fit most every archer's hand.

Choices – Want a competition look? Go with the black riser and either red or chrome eccentrics. Want a bow that looks more like dad's hunting rig? Go with the camo riser and black eccentrics.

LIMBS/LIMB POCKETS: The end of the riser has a half circle cutout that matches a rocker feature on the bottom of the pocket. Pro pockets are injection molded of high strength glass filled nylon material. Individual slots in the pocket cradle each limb keeping them isolated and in position. Each limb bolt head is large enough to cover a piece of the pocket and each split limb. Functionally that keeps the limb-to-limb pocket interface consistent while the entire pocket pivots to adjust the draw weight of the bow. On the subject of draw weight, which by the way is adjusted with a 3/16 inch hex wrench, the Genesis Pro has a range of 15 to 25 pounds. Each rotation of the limb bolt is equal to approximately 1.4 pounds of weight change. Pro limbs are made

Genesis Pro by Mathews, Inc.

Draw weights: 15 to 25 pounds

Draw Lengths: 18.5 to 30 inches – customizable with draw stop

Axle-to-axle length: 35.5 inches

Mass weight: Approximately 3.3 pounds

Brace Height: 7.625 inches

Let-off option: 0 percent

Eccentrics: Genesis Pro SoloCam

Advertised IBO speed: N/A

Available hunting finish: Camo with black eccentrics

Available target finish: Black with red or chrome eccentrics

Cable: 37.25 inches, 18 strands

String: 94.8125 inches, 14 strands

Grip: One-piece molded competition

Riser: CNC machined 6061-T6 aluminum

Limbs: Solid composite "E" glass

Cable Guard: Stainless steel, Teflon coated

Warranty: One year to original owner

of a solid composite "E" glass material and measure approximately 14.5 inches in length. They are positioned in a traditional "Stand up" configuration. A radiused slot is machined into the end of each limb near the tip to cradle the axle. Also located at the limb tip is a small metal limb tip cap, which harnesses the limb and holds the axle in place.

So, what does all this mean to mom, dad and the shooter?

Draw weights between 15 and 25 pounds will suit a wide range of beginning archers. For the beginners who are getting more serious about accuracy and competition the upper limit of 25 pounds offers respectable speeds with correctly spined arrows.

ECCENTRICS: Mathews relies on their new Genesis Pro Solo Cam system to power the Genesis Pro and offer that same "zero let-off" that the original Genesis was made famous for. One bow – all archers! As the archer draws the bow back to their anchor point the poundage climbs to peak and the elliptical design of the GP cam holds it there throughout the draw cycle. The same-weight, zero let-off system is the signature of the Genesis Bow line and is what has made them such a hit with school programs across the country and around the world. As the Pro version



The Genesis Mini is the smallest of the trio, just 2 pounds in mass weight with an 14 to 25 inch draw length and a draw weight range of 6 to 12 pounds. This bow measures 29 1/8 axle to axle, with a 16 inch riser.

of the Genesis is designed to meet the needs of those kids who have decided to take it to the next level, Mathews has added an adjustable draw stop to the GP cam. This does several things for the archer: First, it allows you to customize the draw length for each individual. Second it makes using a mechanical release easier and third, it makes any draw method more consistent. All of these together positively affect accuracy.

So, what does all this mean to mom, dad and the shooter?

Adding a draw stop makes each Genesis Pro feel just like your own. It also makes accuracy more attainable as it provides a consistent anchor - All with the same zero let-off, consistent draw weight benefits of the original Genesis bow.

Testing:

Testing results for the Genesis Pro will take on a much different look than what you are used to seeing in ArrowTrade youth bow reports. The Genesis Pro was designed for a different purpose than most bows we evaluate so it naturally follows that the testing will also be different. One of the main differences is that technical testing will be limited considering the main purpose of the bow.

The test bow was set to a 23 inch draw length and 25 pound draw weight to start. A single brass nock and a QuikTune 3000 arrow rest were also installed. Following are the test categories for this review:

Speed, Versatility, Ability to tune and the Fun factor

SPEED: While speed is not necessarily important in the selection of this type of bow it is one of the reasons that Mathews increased the peak draw poundage. As mentioned before there are archers who started out with the original Genesis bow who want to take their interest to the next level. A little more arrow speed may help them with their accuracy. Here are the results:

Arrow - 300 grain Beman ICS Hunter Junior
 Speed:
 162.6
 163.0
 163.8

163.8
 162.5
 163.2
 Average: 163.15

VERSATILITY: By versatility we are referring to the range of archers that can use this bow. This is an easy test as my family is large and includes archers from age 6 to 39. My 11, 13 and 14 year old children were in the shop first and all shot the Pro well. My wife and 16 year-old son were next and they both shot the bow with ease and were well accommodated by the draw length and draw stop. The real test was going to be my youngest two who are 6 and 9. Erin, my 9 year-old had no problems and liked around 20 pounds of draw weight with no draw stop installed. I was sure my six-year-old, Caleb, would struggle with even the lowest draw weight, however, he absolutely loved shooting it at 15 pounds and actually did quite well. There are very few people who will not be able to enjoy this bow! There are pro shooters who use the Genesis Pro as a conditioning tool by setting it to the identical holding weight of their tournament rig during the off-season. The Pro has also proven itself useful in teaching new archers how to shoot a

back tension release.

TUNING: I tuned the Pro at three draw weights (15, 20 and 25 pounds) while set at approximately 23 inch draw length. It liked a stiffer spined arrow and tuned well at all three weights. I did discover that I am not a very good fingers shooter though – serious inconsistencies in my release! Bottom line, a straight flying arrow is not hard to achieve with the Pro.

FUN FACTOR: Now, this is where the Pro, and the original Genesis, shine. As stated in the “versatility” section above my 11, 13 and 14 year-old kids were the first in the shop to shoot the Pro. What started as a simple test turned into an all out funfest – we all shot till midnight!!! You won’t know how fun it is until you try it yourself. I continuously test and shoot bows all year long and was bit hard by the fun bug. It is addicting. Best of all is that we were all shooting the same bow with no adjusting necessary. Come summertime I think the Silks clan will have our own Genesis tournament.

Do you want to grow archery in your area? Start stocking Genesis bows and look for ways to get it into the hands of the masses, not just your regular customers.



These original Genesis bows are the ones uses in NASP programs and on many retail archery lanes for youth archery instruction. These bows adjust from 10 to 20 pounds in draw weight and can be shot between 15 and 30 inches in draw length. They weigh 3.3 pounds and are 25 1/2 inches, axle to axle. Mathews points out performance on this “no let-off” model at 20 pounds draw is similar to that you get with a 35-pound recurve.

