

THE FISHIN' INSIDER

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The Texas Outdoor Writers Association

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Sorry about that Grumps, hope ya didn't rescind the offer of a visit in Playa and by the way, I'm gonna steal that line about mistletoe hangin' out of your ass pocket.

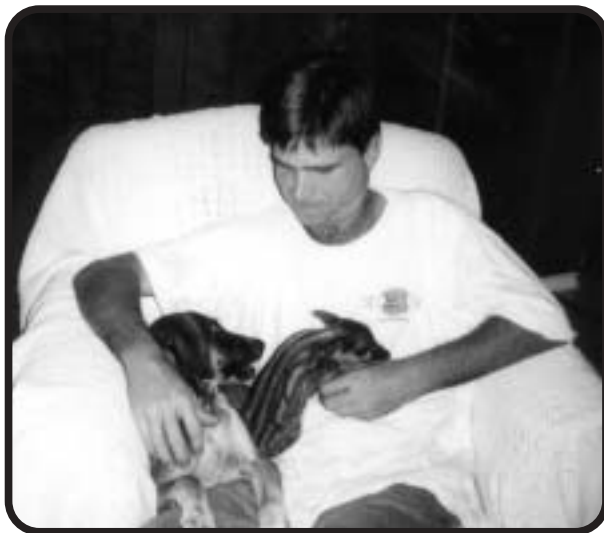
2003 sure is turnin' out to be

2003 sure is turnin' out to be a weird year for fishin' tournaments. The Top Gun tournament apparently ain't gonna happen this year, the only other time it was cancelled was in 2001, for obvious reasons. The reason for this year's cancellation appears to be lack of coordination and not enough folks steppin' up to help pull it off. That and a field of seven captains last year didn't help. Makes one wonder what happened to the guides with sportin' blood.

Anybody have any idea of what happened to the South Texas Under Dogs small boat tournament? Last I heard David Moore had turned it over to some guys from the upper valley and it ain't been heard from since. Shame that two of the more fun tournaments bit the dust this year.

One

One tournament that will get off the ground at the end of this month is the inaugural Dirty Al's Shootout. This is a team tournament in the bay for trout and redfish only. It's modeled after Big Daddy's East Bueno Big Trout



My favorite banker's son Steve paid a visit to the Sandspit this week with some new pets. One is a redbone hound dog named Scarlet and the other is a feral piglet he's callin' Stinky for reasons that became obvious outside of Kelly's the other day. Stinky ain't ready for so-called civilization just yet. When Steve took her out of her cage the l'il critter took one look at John D and started squealing like hell and when Steve picked her up to calm her down she promptly crapped all over his shirt.

tournament from years past. Entry is \$250 bucks a boat with up to four anglers per team. For that the team owns half the boat in the Calcutta, the other half will be sold in a live auction that begins at 8:00 p.m. Halloween minimum bid is \$100 bucks. Any boats not bid on will be owned by the TIFT Scholarship Fund. The winning team will be determined by the total weight of three reds and three trout. For more information or to enter the tournament go by Dirty Al's at the Sea Ranch Marina.

DOCK TALES

Tuna tuna and more tuna; both blacks and yellows. Kings Bounty made a run out to Alaminos Canyon and boated six yellowfin over a hundred pounds apiece. They also released a blue marlin around three hundred pounds and caught some other food fish. Rods-N-Screws made a run out about twenty-five miles and loaded up on blackfin; like about a dozen of them.

It took Trey close to two hours to clean them all. still goin' off at the jetties - some rather large tarpon. Matt Thornton fought one they estimated at 180 pounds for close to two hours before releasing her. Slow trollin' live mullet is the best method to get their attention.

We welcome your fishin' photos. Drop them by 2600 Padre Boulevard on the Island, or mail them to I.B. Hooked, c/o Coastal Current Weekly, P.O.Box 2429, South Padre Island, Texas 78597. Be sure to include the name of the angler, weight and type of fish, where caught, and name of boat if applicable. Photos with SASE will be returned.