



THE FISHIN' INSIDER

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Hate to start off with some crappy news but this news is indeed crappy. Had a chat with Tim O'Leary over at American Diving about the disposition of the Texas Clipper, a big ass boat that's supposed to be sunk about thirty miles east of the Sandspit as an artificial reef.

Apparently all is not well with the project and our board of alderfolks ain't helpin' matters; they won't even send a letter of support to the powers that be to get the damn thing done. Texas Parks & Wildlife is claimin' poverty even though ExxonMobil has forked over twelve million large to clean up the ship and sink it. There is some thought that them critters in Sodom on the Colorado redirected the largess to other purposes and now ain't got the jack to finish the job. Even worse, the contractor been eyein' the scrap market and figures they can pocket an extra mil and a half by cuttin' the buggers up for scrap.

In case nobody been payin' attention the near shore fishin's been semi-outrageous what with the rigs and standup pipes producun' gas. Word is that Producer went out for a meat haul and ended up goin' three for



Wolfie Denny and the Quick Sea Boyz with a marker yellowfin and a nice dorado caught in the slop of Memorial weekend. Hopefully seas will be better this weekend.

four on sails within sight of the condos. Folks its not that unusual to find a stick or two in that close later in the summer but that kinda concentration of sticks in the past would be down right weird. Goes to show what a li'l structure can attract; just imagine what an eight hundred foot boat in twenty-five to thirty fathoms

of water, fifteen or so miles inside the canyon would attract. I'm predictin' a passel of blue marlin and some bluefin tuna chasin' all the bait that would congregate on and around her. If your of a mind, go by and talk to Tim and give him a hand screamin' at these dudes and git'um off their brains to get this ship sunk where it belongs. A I'il side note to this, the best diving in Texas is the Flower Gardens over a hundred miles south of Galveston; those trips are generally two to three day excursions. Just imagine what a reef the size of the Texas Clipper would draw. I'm bettin' mucho Yupples tourists spendin' mucho dinero damn near year around.

Schill and the crew of Blue Pursuit, they've been declared the winners of the Blake Bunk Memorial billfish tournament hosted by the Bunk family and the South Texas Big Game Fishing Club. With the win comes an invite to the 2007 ROLEX/IGFA

Offshore Championship in Cabo San Lucas. Speakin' of which, the club will have another marlin hunt this Saturday the 10th with a get together at Dirty Al's Friday evening from 6:30 on. The weigh-in will be at the Sea Ranch by Dirty Al's from 6:00 to 7:30.

We welcome your fishin' photos. Drop them by 2600 Pedre 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.