Red tide spectacular, but can be dangerous

One of the more dramatic things to happen along Oregon's spectacular coastline is the occurrence of a "red tide."

The State Board of Health announced last week that there were toxic concentrations of paralytic shellfish poisoning plankton along the north coast of Oregon. The red tide name comes about because, in some instances, the plankton becomes so thick it discolors the water.

Poison can occur, however, without the red tide effect.

How long it will stay along the Oregon coast and how widespread it will be remains to be seen. Persons planning on going to the coast should be wary of eating shellfish; check local sources for informations about this lethal organism.

Though very small in size, about .001 inch in diameter, this little creature can cause mammals some serious problems. It is ingested by various types of shellfish that feed by sucking in seawater and siphoning out the various types of food contained in it. This group basically includes mussels, clams, oysters and scallops.

The concentrations found in some of these shellfish last week were toxic only in areas from Clatsop to Tillamook Counties. But the bloom and concentration of plankton is highly mobile, so the spread of the red tide is still a threat.

Although fish kills have been associated with various tides on the east coast, there is no such indicator with plankton concentrations in the Pacific. The only danger to humans is through the consumption of infected shellfish.

In feeding on the plankton, the shellfish concentrate it and its poison in their digestive tract and eventually, to varying degrees, in their muscles. As a result, the shellfish can still be toxic for a period of time after they have stopped ingesting the plankton because their systems have not flushed out all of the poisonous material.

The troublemaker in the cycle is a poison called saxitoxin, which plankton eaters concentrate. This is one of the most potent poisons known, affecting the transmission of nerve impulses. Initial symptoms of tingling in the lips and tongue may begin to occur within minutes after shellfish containing poison has been eaten.

Tingling and numbness in the fingertips and toes may then follow. Symptoms vary with individuals, but generally there is difficulty in coordination and, in severe cases, death may come from respiratory paralysis. There is no known antidote and the poison cannot be negated by cooking the shellfish.

Toxic levels of the plankton are not common in Oregon and if they do occur, it happens only between May and October. How long an area may stay toxic is quite unpredictable, but the environmental sanitation section of the State Board of Health is monitoring the situation. Commercial shellfish operations in these areas have ceased and as a result, there never has been a case of paralytic shellfish poisoning associated with products purchased from commercial outlets in Oregon.

Though this type of occurrence is rare, it can be serious enough that individuals taking shellfish should exercise caution. Persons hearing of a red tide should check with local authorities in the area where they are getting the clams or mussels.

Thoroughly clean all shellfish during the summer months. In most species, this eliminates much of the danger if there are sub-toxic concentrations of the plankton and its poison.

scoreboard

Tri-County Baseball

Midget Federal

	W	L
Sweetbriar	3	0
Lynch	4	1
Rockwood	4	2
Sandy	1	4
Glenfair	0	4

Midget American

	W	L
Rockwood I	5	0
Sandy	3	1
Orient I	3	1
Lynch	3	2
Welches	1	1
Fairview	1	2
Troutdale	1	2
Wilkes	0	2
Corbett	0	4

Midget National East

	W	L
Rockwood III	4	0
Rockwood II	3	2
Margaret Scott	1	0	1
Sandy I	2	2
Lynch I	2	2
Corbett	1	2
Sweetbriar	0	0	1
Sandy Palisades	0	3

Midget National West

	W	L
Lynch II	4	0
Sandy II	4	1
Welches	2	1
Orient	2	2
Orient II	0	0
Fairview	1	2
Troutdale	1	4
Rockwood II	0	2

Junior Federal

		W	L
Lynch	4	1	1
Sandy		4	2
Troutdale		4	2
Rockwood		4	2
Glenfair		3	2
Sandy Palisades		2	3
Orient	1	4	1
Corbett		1	5

Junior American

	W	L
Rockwood II	3	0
Wilkes	4	1
Rockwood I	6	2
Welches	2	1
Sandy	1	3
Lynch	0	3
Orient	0	5

Junior National

	W	L
Sandy Palisades	1	0
Margaret Scott	1	0
Fairview	3	1
Rockwood I	2	1
Sandy II	2	2
Sandy I	1	1
Corbett	0	1
Rockwood II	0	2
Lynch	0	2

Sandy City League

Men's League

	W	L
Buckboard Pizza	1	0
Dodson's Store	5	1
Eastside Wall Board	4	1
Reliable Realty	2	1
Brian's Sporting	2	1
Dea's In and Out	2	3
Brightwood Tavern	2	3
Ron's No Place	2	3
Hoodview Royals	2	3
Zigzag Store	1	4
Circle D	0	3

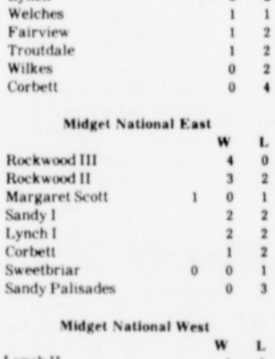
Last Week's Games:
Buckboard 2, Dodson's 0
East Side 5, Ron's 4
Reliable 4, Brightwood Tav. 0
Dodson's 10, Zigzag Store 6
East Side 9, Dea's 7
Ron's 2, Dea's 1
Dodson's 10, Brian's 6
East Side 9, Circle D 0
Hoodview 3, Zigzag Store 0
Brightwood Tav. 6, Zigzag Store 5
Dea's 4, Zigzag Store 3
Brian's 14, Hoodview 5

Women's League

	W	L
Carlson Chevrolet	3	0
G.T.E.	2	0
Brightwood Store	1	0
Tri-County Electric	0	1
Tollgate	0	1
Wholesale Auto	0	2
The Store	0	2

Last Week's Games
Carlson 28, Wholesale Auto 8

Prep of the Week:



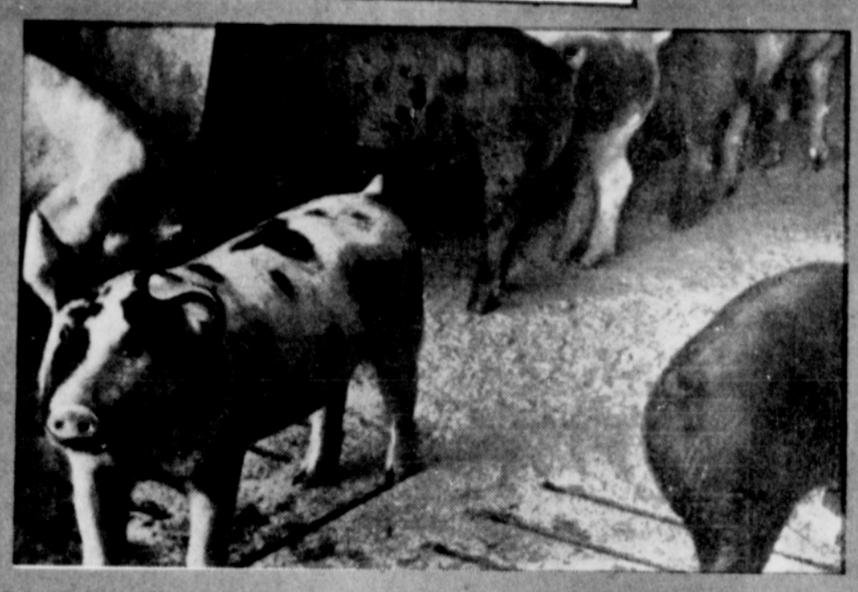
Anna George

1981 Sandy High co-valedictorian Anna George spent a year as exchange student to Brazil. She was active at SUHS as member of the drama club and sophomore class treasurer. She was a pep club organizer and senior activities chairman. The National Honor Society members plans to attend Lewis and Clark College to major in law and political science. Congratulations, Anna!

PAOLAS
Sandy
PIZZA BARN
On Hwy. 26.

LES SCHWAB Tires

THE SUDDEN SERVICE TEAM HAS GONE HOG WILD



Free
1. LIVE PIG: to the person guessing closest to the live weight: Pig will be cut & wrapped free of charge at the winner's request
2. SMOKED HAM: To the second closest guess
3. SLAB OF BACON: To the 3rd closest guess

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175x13	$37.70
165x14	$38.58
175x14	$39.87
185x14	$43.18
165x15	$39.80

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HR78x14	$58.70
GR78x15	$55.67
HR78x15	$57.01
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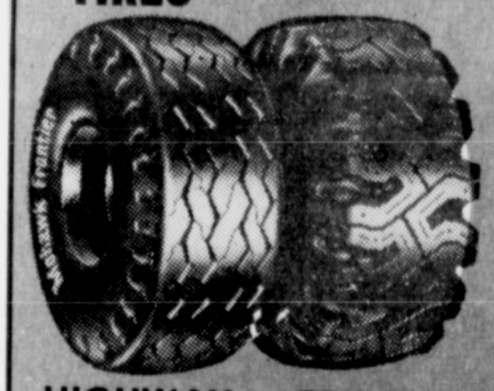

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750x16 - 8 Ply T/T $63.81
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