

Siuslaw News Sports & Recreation

SPORTS

Calendar

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 5-8

• SIUSLAW FOOTBALL CAMP
3 TO 5 P.M.
AT SHS

Aug. 6

• COOL AT COAST ROTARY GOLF
10 A.M.
OCEAN DUNES

Aug. 19

• SHS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY
5:30 P.M.
AT THREE RIVERS CASINO RESORT

TIDE TABLE

Entrance Siuslaw River

High Tide Low Tide

July 20
12:24am / 7.5 7:21am / -1.2
1:50pm / 6.1 7:17pm / 2.1

July 21
1:05am / 7.5 7:21am / -1.3
2:27pm / 6.4 8:01pm / 1.9

July 22
1:48am / 7.4 8:36am / -1.2
3:05pm / 6.6 8:48pm / 1.7

July 23
2:34am / 7.0 9:15am / -0.9
3:45pm / 6.7 9:40pm / 1.5

July 24
3:24pm / 6.6 9:56am / -0.4
4:27pm / 6.9 10:36pm / 1.3

July 25
4:21am / 6.0 10:41am / 0.2
5:13pm / 7.0 11:40am / 1.1

July 26
5:28am / 5.5 11:31am / 0.9
6:04pm / 7.2

SIUSLAW NEWS

**148 Maple St.
Florence
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SANDS OF TIME



PHOTOS BY NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

Clockwise from far left: Sandboarders watch for the signal to begin racing runs; Jackson Cruz sets a new Honeyman State Park course speed record in the sand drag to win the event at 33.5 mph; Sand Master Park owner Lon Beale uses a radar gun to record sand drag speed; competitors (back to front) Gabe Cruz, Matt Carter and Rolland Cox survey the slalom course. Cox won the event with a new course record of 5.19 seconds.

RECORD BREAKING ON THE DUNES

BY NED HICKSON
Siuslaw News

Despite light rains the night before that can slow down sandboarding times, the 20th annual Sand Master Jam saw record-breaking times in both events during Saturday's competition at Honeyman State Park. "The blistering speed run by Jackson Cruz in the sand drag dropped our jaws," said Lon Beale, owner of Sand Master Park and creator of the Sand Master Jam, the longest-running sandboarding competition in the world. "All the sandboarders were riding well, so the competition was very close across the board."

A total of 11 competitors climbed

the dunes Saturday in both pro and amateur division events for sand drag and slalom. Both are speed events, with sand draggers timed by radar and slalom competitors clocked with a stop watch.

"We had a few less riders this year, but the action more than made up for it," said Beale.

In the sand drags, riders begin at the top of the dune and race to the bottom in an attempt to capture the fastest speed. They get three runs each and Gabe Cruz had the fastest time at 31 mph, until his younger brother, Jackson, showed up a few minutes late and clocked the day's best time with a new record at 33.5 mph.

"Jackson is generally on the slower



Florence resident Abby Watkins races toward the radar gun in her first round of amateur competition.

end of the spectrum," said Beale. "So our eyes opened wide when we saw his time."

The competition then moved on to the slalom event, with riders once again climbing the dune face and racing down slalom-style to reach the bottom in the least amount of time.

Again, the sand proved to be perfect for a record-setting performance, this time by 31-year-old Rolland Cox. His time of 5.19 seconds is the fastest time for that event at the Honeyman course.

See **DUNES 3B**

Cyclists leave for next leg of 4,000-mile journey

Students from the University of Texas make an annual ride of 4,000 miles from Austin, Texas, to Anchorage, Alaska, to raise money for cancer treatment and research. It is the longest charity bike ride in the world.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Florence has hosted, fed and arranged overnight housing for the group for the past 10 years.

Many of the riders have experienced personal, excruciating, cancer events in their lives, as some revealed during emotional dinner July 15 at St. Andrew's.

Dozens of Florence residents opened their homes and hearts to provide overnight lodging.

St. Andrew's provided a large turkey dinner the night of the group's arrival, as well as a filling breakfast before the

Cyclists of the "Texas 4000" depart Florence July 16 on their way north.

morning of July 16.

"No, we are not doing this for them, they are doing this great adventure for us, and for the world," said organizer Terri Pennington, in her 10th year of managing this event at St. Andrew's.

So far, this year's riders have raised \$485,000 in the fight against cancer. The rider unit that visited Florence has been meandering back and forth, going through Arizona, Utah and Nevada, climbing to as high as 9,000 feet on their bikes into Lake Tahoe, through fabled Yosemite, and finally to the Coast Highway into Oregon.

After their night in Florence, the group continued along the coast to



COURTESY PHOTO

Newport, with a stop at Sea Lion Caves — Then on to Alaska.

See **CYCLISTS 4B**

On the Bite

A WEEKLY FISHING REPORT FOR THE LOCAL REGION

www.dfw.state.or.us/RR

MID COAST LAKES:
Rainbow trout stocking is complete along the mid coast. Holdover trout will be available in most lakes through the summer.

See **FISHING 4B**



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HOME NEAR THE BEACH

Builder built gorgeous home near beach with outside covered hot tub. This home with over 2000 sq ft has vaulted ceilings and a propane fireplace, along with central air. The large downstairs master with bath has double sinks and walk-in closet. Upstairs has 4 bedrooms, bath and lots of extra storage. Home is a vacation rental with \$20,000 gross income last year. 31' RV garage w/12 X 12 door.

\$339,900



100 Hwy. 101, Florence, OR • 541.997.7777

"We're next to the Bridge."

