

# Red tide plagues N.C. fishing industry

By STACI COX  
Staff Writer

Red tide, which threatens to persist into the winter, has crippled North Carolina's fishing industry along 175 miles of the state's coast.

Red tide, an extreme concentration of algae that occurs annually along the west coast of Florida, has closed most of the coast to shellfishermen, said Jim Tyler, information coordinator for the N.C. Marine Fisheries.

About 20 fishing piers, 50 restaurants, 70 charter boats, 30 motels and 9,000 fishermen have lost most or all of their business because of the red tide, Tyler said. Merchants are afraid to purchase seafood that came from the contaminated water, he said.

Local businesses complain that

Christmas sales are almost nonexistent because local patrons have no money, Tyler said.

The N.C. Employment Security Commission, prompted by ailing economic conditions, announced special aid to employees and employers suffering economic setbacks from the red tide contamination.

N.C. Marine Fisheries closes the fisheries to shellfishermen when the algae level exceeds 5,000 cells per liter. According to measurements taken Saturday by the N.C. Marine Fisheries, the concentration ranges from 60,000 to 110,000 cells per liter, far above contaminated levels, he said.

Red tide algae contains a toxin that kills finned fish and is dangerous to humans, Tyler said. It especially

poses a danger to humans who eat oysters or clams, because the entire shellfish is consumed, and the toxins collect in the creature's stomach, he said.

Red tide is thought to be caused when a few cells are caught in a loop current from the Gulf of Mexico, and washed to the western coast of Florida, said Patricia Tester, a biologist at the National Marine Fishery laboratory. The coastal waters contain rich nutrients that allow the cells to reproduce at incredible rates, Tester said.

This year, a strong Gulf current washed the algae around the Atlantic coast of Florida to the N.C. coast where they multiplied, Tester said.

The red tide is actually yellowish,

and many local residents thought a sulphur spill had occurred until tests revealed the presence of algae, Tyler said. The yellow color could come from dead cells, but some areas of high algae concentration are red or brown, he said.

High levels of red tide extend from Avon, Dare County, to Carolina Beach, New Haven County, Tyler said.

The red tide count is decreasing, but the fluctuating numbers are far too great to reopen the waters for shellfishing, Tyler said. The tide and the economic troubles it has brought will continue along the state's coast until temperatures below 50 degrees persist and destroy the algae, he said.

# Offshore earthquake shakes low coastal areas in Alaska

From Associated Press reports

PALMER, Alaska — A major offshore earthquake rocked south-central Alaska on Monday, prompting thousands of people to flee low-lying coastal areas for the second time in two weeks.

There were no immediate reports of major damage or injuries in the quake, which measured at least 7.4 on the Richter scale and was felt more than 300 miles away. The Alaska Tsunami Warning Center issued a warning of a tsunami, or giant sea wave, but canceled it after 90 minutes.

The Richter scale is a measure of ground motion as recorded on seismographs. A quake with a magnitude of seven is a major earthquake, capable of widespread damage.

Arms summit continues

WASHINGTON — President Reagan said Monday the Soviet Union may be planning "a breakout" from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty that the United States would be "totally and dangerously unprepared for" without his Star Wars missile defense plan.

Meanwhile, the White House said it was unlikely the summit will produce any breakthrough in U.S.-Soviet negotiations for a 50 percent reduction in strategic nuclear arms.

Beginning next Tuesday, Reagan and Gorbachev will hold three days of talks in Washington. Their meeting will open with the signing of a treaty to ban intermediate-range nuclear missiles — the first accord ever to eliminate an entire class of atomic weapons.

Polish referendum defeated

WARSAW, Poland — Voters rejected economic and political reforms, including painful price increases, that Poland's communist leaders said were needed to revitalize an ailing, debt-ridden economy, the government said Monday.

It was Poland's first referendum in 41 years and the first time in

## News in Brief

the nation's communist history that the authorities suffered a loss in nationwide elections.

Lech Walesa, leader of the outlawed Solidarity free trade union movement invited the government to engage in a dialogue with Solidarity if it wants to solve the country's problems, which include a \$36 billion foreign debt and worker apathy.

Chicago mourns mayor

CHICAGO — The city bade a tearful farewell Monday to Mayor Harold Washington with prayers and praise as dignitaries, family and friends gathered at his funeral and thousands mourned outside under wet, gray skies.

Ministers, politicians and relatives eulogized the city's first black mayor before his flag-draped casket as a scrappy political fighter with a warm sense of humor. He died Wednesday of a heart attack at age 65.

Several speakers vowed to carry on Washington's self-proclaimed reform administration and surmount the political struggle now swirling around who will be chosen action mayor.

Airline regulations examined

WASHINGTON — The Federal Aviation Administration is planning tighter rules on when airlines may postpone maintenance amid findings that work at Eastern Airlines — and possibly other carriers — often has been delayed to keep planes to their schedules, FAA officials said Monday.

They said the agency has been looking at 10 airlines to determine whether federal maintenance requirements are being abused. Except for Eastern, none of the other airlines were named, but sources said the review included virtually all the major carriers.

# Soviets won't build SDI, Gorbachev says

From Associated Press reports

The Soviet Union "is doing all that the United States is doing" to defend against nuclear attack, but will not build a space-based system, Mikhail Gorbachev said in an interview broadcast Monday.

Acknowledging what the Reagan administration has long contended, the Soviet leader said: "I guess we are engaged in research, basic research, which related to these aspects which are covered by the SDI in the United States."

SDI means Strategic Defense Initiative, the formal name President Reagan has given the space-based defense project commonly called "Star Wars."

"We will not build an SDI. We will not deploy SDI, and we call upon the United States to act likewise. If the Americans fail to heed that call, we will find a response."

Gorbachev spoke in a one-hour question-and-answer session with Tom Brokaw broadcast by NBC News to American viewers a week before the Communist Party chief's trip to Washington for his third summit with Reagan.

He said he is ready to compromise to reach a deal for scrapping half of the superpowers' long-range nuclear weapons. During the summit, they are expected to sign a treaty getting rid of all intermediate-range missiles.

"We have some steps that we could

take to meet the American position halfway," Gorbachev said. He added, however, that he was not going to Washington to negotiate the future of Star Wars, which the Kremlin contends is limited to research by the 1972 antiballistic missile treaty.

Although the Senate never ratified that treaty, both sides have observed its terms.

"Let America indulge in research. Insofar as SDI does not run counter to ABM," Gorbachev said.

About other possible arms agreements, the Soviet leader said: "We believe it is possible to do a lot of work with this present administration."

During the interview, taped Satur-

day in the Kremlin, Gorbachev parried Brokaw's pointed questions about human rights: the firing of his former protege, Boris Yeltsin, and whether he discusses matters with his wife, Raisa.

In his first interview with a U.S. network, Gorbachev offered little insight into the conduct of Soviet affairs or his governing methods. Asked whether he talks to his wife about national policies and politics, the 56-year-old leader replied: "We discuss everything."

"Including Soviet affairs at the highest level?" Brokaw asked.

"I think that I have answered your question in total," Gorbachev said. "We discuss everything."

## Sentences

Doherty's medical treatment and for his private counsel, and Doherty agreed not to file a civil suit against the two.

"I did not react to the attack against me," Doherty said. "I let the court system handle it, and this is the result."

Doherty repeatedly said no one in his party did anything to provoke the incident.

"They may have felt they were

harassed or taunted, but it had nothing to do with me or my friends," he said.

Campbell said there was no pushing or provocation to justify the behavior of Bucknall and Reid. Words may have been said, but they did not justify the assault, he said.

Doherty denied that anything was said to provoke the conflict.

It is unfortunate that Coach Dean

Smith believes his players were provoked in the incident, Doherty said. Whoever told Smith about the episode did not know what happened, he said.

Campbell said some important differences existed between the judgments for Bucknall and Reid. If Reid completes the AID program successfully and the charge against him is dismissed, he will have a clean record,

Campbell said.

Bucknall, however, will have a criminal record for the rest of his life since he was convicted of the assault charge, he said.

Also, Bucknall's 30-day jail sentence will no longer be suspended if he is convicted of any criminal violation in North Carolina in the next 12 months, Campbell said. He would have to serve the 30-day active jail term in addition to whatever punishment he receives for the second offense, he said.

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