

better chance of not being overcrowded when everybody who reads the top ten beaches list decides they have to go there this summer.



Ready to Rotate?—As we go to press, the **June 2008 Hatteras Loop Fest** is concluding on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. The Loop Fest, a month-long

organized inspirational rotational event, featured local Hatteras sailors who selflessly volunteered to take to the water and loop their brains out, all in the name of inspiring aspiring loopers to make the commit. They also dispensed advice and encouragement. On June 18, their efforts paid off when one participant, aspiring neophyte looper **George Markopoulos**, successfully committed to his first three forward loop attempts during a session off the old lighthouse beach in Buxton! The event is closing out with a **Loop Off**, June 20-22, where accomplished loopers vie for trophies. Check www.obxloopfest.com for updates and watch this space for a full report next month.



Sail the Gorge?—The Oregon

Department of Human Services, Public Health Division, is conducting a study to learn more about numerous respiratory ailment and skin infection complaints received from windsurfers and kites who sail in the Gorge. Symptoms typically appear after surfing. They need 400 sailors who kite or windsurf the Gorge at least once a month. To see if you are eligible to enroll in the study, go to www.healthoregon.org/surfhealth.



What's in a Name?—A large number of e-mail press releases arrive at the offices of the **NEWJ** every day. Recently, I found my eye naturally drawn to one with a subject line that read like a **Dr. Suess** story. Turns out, **Jellyfish Squish**, is the real deal. Jellyfish Squish is a topical anesthetic which counteracts the toxins released by **nematocysts** left on the skin after contact with a jellyfish tentacle. It immediately soothes the burning sensation and neutralizes all nematocysts deposited on the skin, stopping the flow of toxins and preventing toxins from being released later. With **500,000 annual stings** reported in Virginia's Chesapeake Bay area alone reported in 2007, a bottle of Jellyfish Squish may be an essential part of your sailing quiver. Learn more at www.jellyfishsquish.com.

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