



Shmuel Thaler/Sentinel
Gretta Grant, 2, checks out the wonder of the touch tank Friday during a visit with her father Adam to the Seymour Marine Discovery Center at Long Marine Lab.

RESEARCHERS PRAISE CAMPUS PLANS AS GOOD FOR SCIENCE

Long Marine Lab
By **KURTIS ALEXANDER**
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

✓ SANTA CRUZ — The oceanfront labs that have generated three decades worth of marine science — bringing to light the remarkable 5,000-foot ocean dives of the elephant seal and inspiring the state's newest system of ocean reserves — will get a boost with expansion plans approved this week.

Researchers at UC Santa Cruz's marine campus at Terrace Point say new facilities here will relieve the waiting list for university science classes, provide better accommodation for current faculty and staff, and perhaps most importantly, expand research aimed at learning more about the high seas and advancing their protection.

"When we started this lab 30 years ago, nobody envisioned the problems our oceans are having today," said Gary Griggs, the lab's director and a geology professor at UCSC for 40 years. "We're



Shmuel Thaler/Sentinel
Seymour Marine Discovery Center and the rest of UC Santa Cruz's Long Marine Lab sit on the cliffs above the Pacific Ocean at the very north end of Santa Cruz.

trying to connect the science that's going on here to the management that will answer our questions."

The oceans have faced an increasing burden in recent years — from over-fishing to coastal development to pollution — and the waters of Monterey Bay have acted as a laboratory for studying these

vevy is nearby.

The work taking place at the marine campus is international; for example, some at the site are tracking the flight of the albatross and others are monitoring ocean temperatures.

12-15-07
concerns.

The Long Marine Laboratory Marine Science Campus, which consists of several research and educational facilities on Santa Cruz's Westside, has attracted a variety of scientists looking to confront ocean issues. The draw is the marine campus' affiliation with the University of California, its collaboration with 20 other research centers around the bay and its accessibility to three government agencies that oversee ocean management. The National Marine Fisheries Service and state Department of Fish and Game run facilities on the campus, and the U.S. Geological Sur-