Local

CF Demonstrations RP 1/14/9



Mike McCollum

Demonstrators against a war in the Persian Gulf filled the streets of Santa Cruz yesterday.

More peace demonstrations planned

Peace demonstrations and prayer services in Santa Cruz County will continue today and into the week, following a huge march and rally in Santa Cruz yesterday.

Organizers of the Santa Cruz march, which began at UC-Santa Cruz and ended with a rally at San Lorenzo Park behind the County Governmental Center, said it was the largest of its kind since the Vietnam War. Organizers and several participants estimated the crowd size at 4,000 to 5,000. City police estimates put it at 1,500.

More than 40 local groups sponsored the event.

Police received about 30 to 40 telephone calls from citizens complaining about traffic problems and a brief scuffle broke out between a motorist and sev-

eral demonstrators after witnesses said he drove through the march.

"Don't stay home and watch it on the news," Terry Teitlebaum, of the Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze, told the crowd.

County residents don't seem to be inclined to do so; more than half a dozen other events are planned for the week.

A silent candlelight vigil will be held today at the Plaza in downtown Watsonville. Participants will line the walkways holding candles and banners.

The vigil has been organized by a group of about 15 people, including the Rev. Jim Bradford of the First Christian Church.

Another prayer and candle-

light vigil will be held in Santa Cruz in front of the Veteran's Hall on Front Street at 5 p.m.

An interfaith prayer service will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. tonight at Resurrection Catholic Church in Aptos.

Father Larry Kambitsch, Resurrection Church pastor, said the Rev. Kevin Murphy of Christ Lutheran Church and local Muslim leaders will be participating in the prayer service.

"In general, (the service) will consist of songs, prayers and meditation for the goal of peace, but we will also be listening to the Lord and try to discern what he wants us to do.

"It will make a common setting for the God that we all worship," Kambitsch added.

The prayer service is open to

everyone. Resurrection church is located at 7600 Soquel Drive, at the corner of Soquel Drive and State Park Drive.

People in Santa Cruz are planning an evening of singing and prayer with an open mike to allow people to talk about how they feel about the Gulf crisis. It will be held at the Pacific Cultural Center, at the corner of Seabright and Broadway.

Two other events are planned for this week at the cultural center sponsored by the Weapons Freeze. Wednesday there will be a talk on the draft at 7:30 p.m., and Friday there will be an all-day conference on the Gulf crisis and related issues as part of the national convention of the Mobilization for Survival.

-Chela Zabin