

# Marine lab construction set to begin

Long Marine Lab

✓ **Synergy:** UC scientists say the Center for Ocean Health will help make Santa Cruz a world-class research hub. 8-18-99

BY JOHN WOOLFOLK  
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Construction is expected to begin next month on a new research center at UC-Santa Cruz's Joseph M. Long Marine Laboratory that campus officials hope will help transform the modest shore lab into world-class hub of marine research.

The Center for Ocean Health will join new state and federal research facilities recently built or under way near the lab. Scientists say their proximity, along with additional labs being planned on an adjacent parcel recently purchased by the university, will further add to the new center's clout and prestige.

"My objective is to build a center where there's a lot of interaction and collaboration," said Gary Griggs, director of the University of California-Santa Cruz's Institute of Marine Sciences. "It will allow us to do a better job of studying the ocean and educating the public about it."

The \$7 million, 23,000-square-foot Center for Ocean Health, approved last week by the California Coastal Commission, will replace a string of aging trailers that for 20 years served as lab space for scientists at the university, located in the hills above Santa Cruz.

"The labs that exist down there now are pretty minimal," said Mark Carr, professor of marine ecology. "This is a much more expansive office and research facility. It will make our work down there far more effective."

The Ocean Health Center will include laboratories, of-



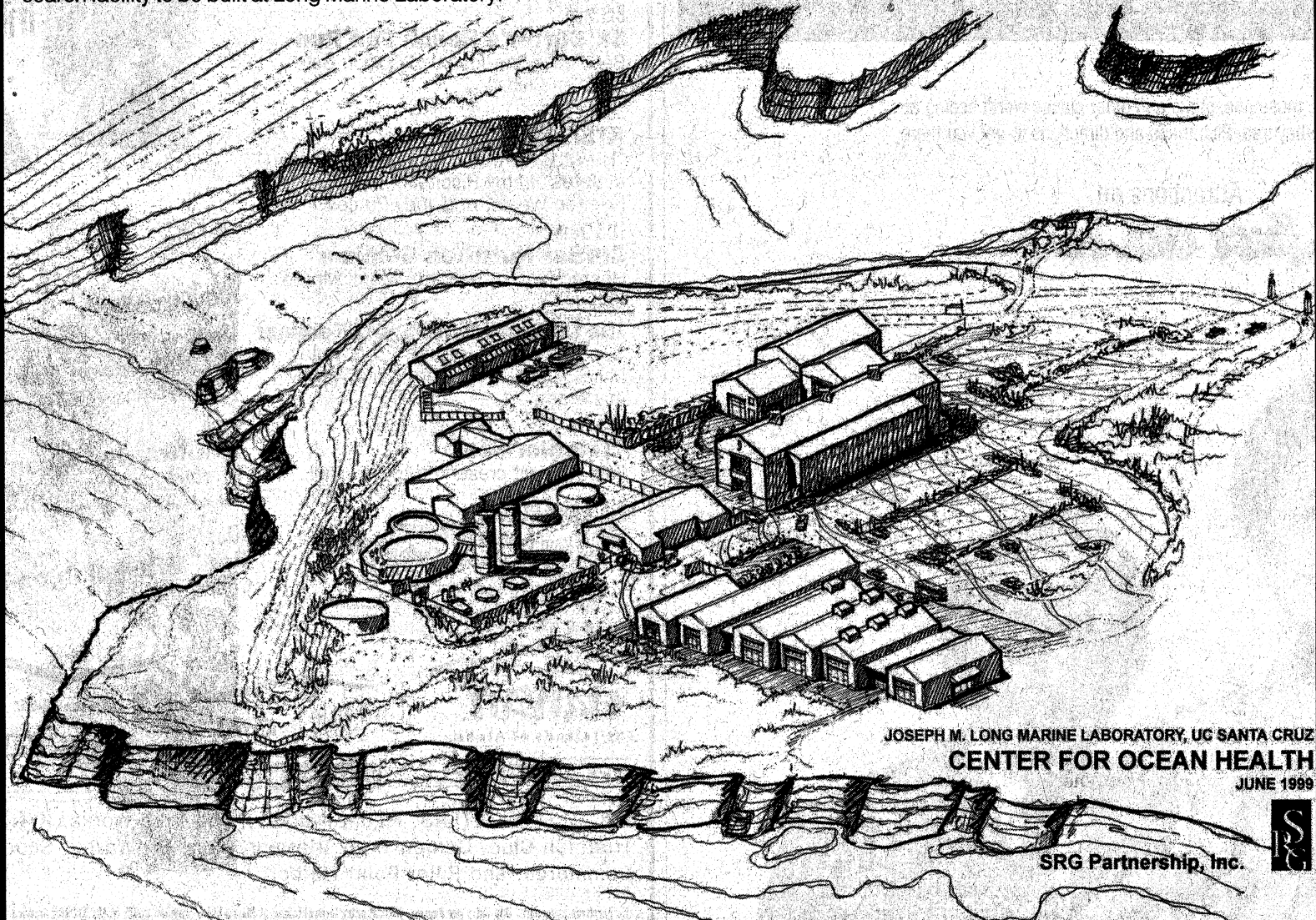
MERCURY NEWS FILE PHOTOGRAPH

A fourth-grade class views the skeleton of a blue whale at UC-Santa Cruz's Long Marine Laboratory, housed in aging trailers.

ices and a 50-seat class and conference room. Scientists at the campus say it will allow them to work and teach alongside their labs and give them ready access to other

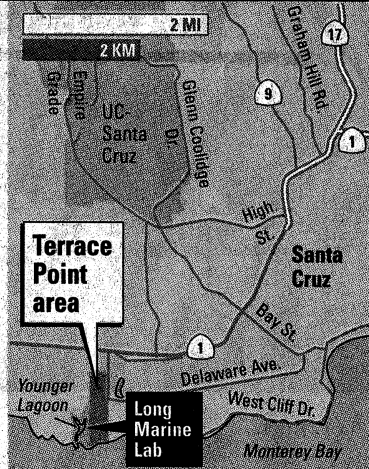
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Artist's sketch for the Center for Ocean Health, the research facility to be built at Long Marine Laboratory.



JOSEPH M. LONG MARINE LABORATORY, UC SANTA CRUZ  
**CENTER FOR OCEAN HEALTH**  
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