

# Begonia water parade on tap next weekend

Thousands of spectators turned out last weekend for the first full weekend of the 30th Annual Capitola National Begonia Festival.

More than 15,000 spectators are anticipated Sunday for the world famous Nautical Parade on Soquel Creek.

More than 20 begonia-decorated floats are expected to parade down Soquel Creek Sunday afternoon beginning at 2 p.m.

The Stockton Avenue bridge over Soquel Creek will be closed to automobile traffic during the festival. Two free shuttle buses — a double-decker bus provided by Eureka Savings and Loan and the regular Capitola Beach shuttle — will be operating in the village all day.

Theme for this year's Nautical Parade is "Begonias — Past and Present."

Festival president Dianne Graves this week said the entry list includes:

City of Capitola — Shoot the Chutes, Zelda's Restaurant — The Swan; Arrow Surf

and Sports — Life's a Beach; Orchard Supply Hardware — Orchard Supply.

"Capitola Goes Hawaiian" by second time commercial entrant Dragginwood and the Magic Crystals; "Happy 30th Birthday" by the Riverview Terrace-West Hillies Gang; "Pack Your Trash" by the Pleasure Point Night Fighters; "Capitola Carousel" by Mervyn's Department Store; "The Edgewater Goes to the Tropics" by the Edgewater Club; "Salute to the American Hybrid Begonia" by Brown's Bulb Ranch; "Little Red School House" by the Santa Cruz Office of Education.

"Capitola By-the-Sea" by the Green Earth Singles; "Smokey the Bear" by Joe Urbancic; "Begonia Odyssey" by Tammy Levandowski; "Noah's Ark" by The Depot Hill Association; "Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines" by David Lyng and Associates. Other groups who haven't named their floats yet are:

Stephanie Golino, Rick O'Shay Construction, Capitola Mall, Baha'i Faith, and the Film Stop.

Float builders and entrants in the Home and Commercial contest will be picking their flowers again this year at the Brown Bulb Ranch growing grounds near Marina.

The Capitola-based company produces more than 5 million begonia bulbs each year, more than 99 percent of the nation's supply of the spectacular tubers. They are the largest single grower of begonias in the world today.

California growers, many of them centered in Capitola, developed the American Hybrid Begonia over the last half century into the premier begonia of the world.

The Browns are continuing the work today with new color combinations in the popular "Picotee" type — two color blossoms that give the begonia enthusiast a constantly changing choice of blossoms and colors from which to choose.

Thousands of the fragile, short-lived blossoms are required to cover each of the floats and work will continue under lights Saturday night and Sunday morning.

The Fourth Annual Capitola Beach Festival — a series of water and beach events open to all comers — will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday on the beach. Some results of last weekend's competition:

"Atlas — the worldly man," created by the Kelley and Christopher families of Saratoga won the grand sweepstakes prize in the 7th Annual Sand Sculpture Contest.

Elmore and Company's "Pigeons feeding" won the adult director's choice prize and a zombie constructed by Brett Steve and Liz and Eric Sowards of Santa Cruz won the kid's division Director's choice.

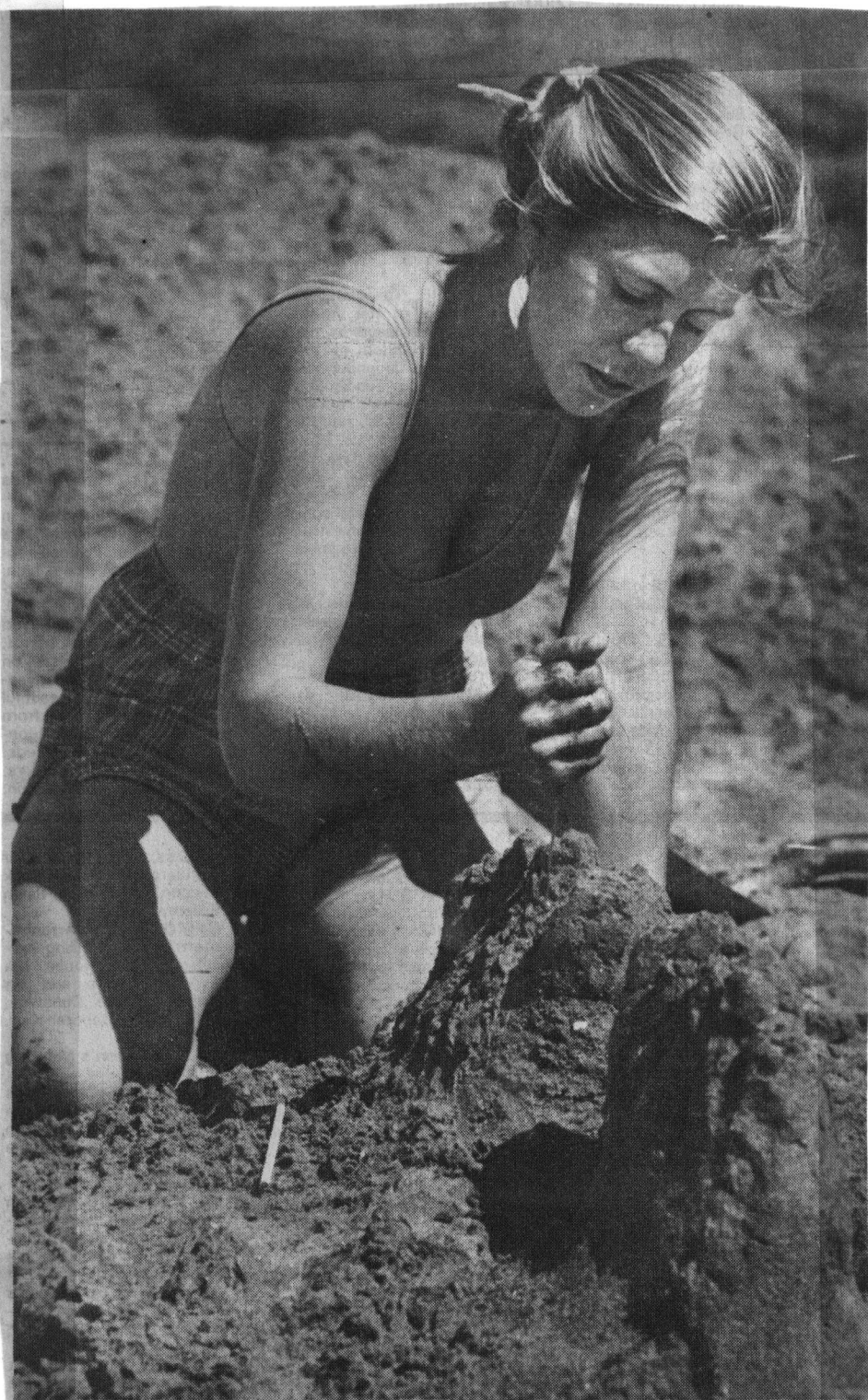
Contest director Jerry Clarke said there were

102 entries in the contest this year, with 7,000-8,000 spectators watching the action on the city beach.



Photo by Kurt Ellison

"Clowning Around" impressed spectators in Saturday's sand sculpture contest.



Photos by Kurt Ellison

Jana Ashley of Santa Cruz was one of the sculptors.

#### Skateboard Races

Roy Wakeman of Seattle won the downhill Pro-Am Skateboard Races on Monterey Avenue last Saturday morning. Second place went to Chuck Bell of Calgary, Canada; third to Bob Denike of San Jose and John Hudson — last year's winner — finished fourth.

#### Diaper Derby

Boy's — First place to Daniel Grau, 10 mos., 23 seconds; Second — Skyler Blalock, 10 mos., of Watsonville, 30 seconds; Third — Anthony Carlson, 11

months, of Capitola, 40 seconds.

Girl's — First Place — Vicky Mendez, 9 mos., Scotts Valley, 1:20 minutes.

#### Fishing Derby

Kids division: First place tie — Jason Young of Scotts Valley and Anthony Price of Aptos, a 10 oz. kingfish each.

Adult division: First place — Mike Chernug of Soquel, a 11½ oz starfish; second — Jan Heck of Gilroy, 11 oz. jack smelt; third — Greg Gray of San Jose, 10½ oz. kingfish.

Big Game division — Steve Adams of Soquel

caught an 86 pound stin-gray from the wharf.

#### Rowing races

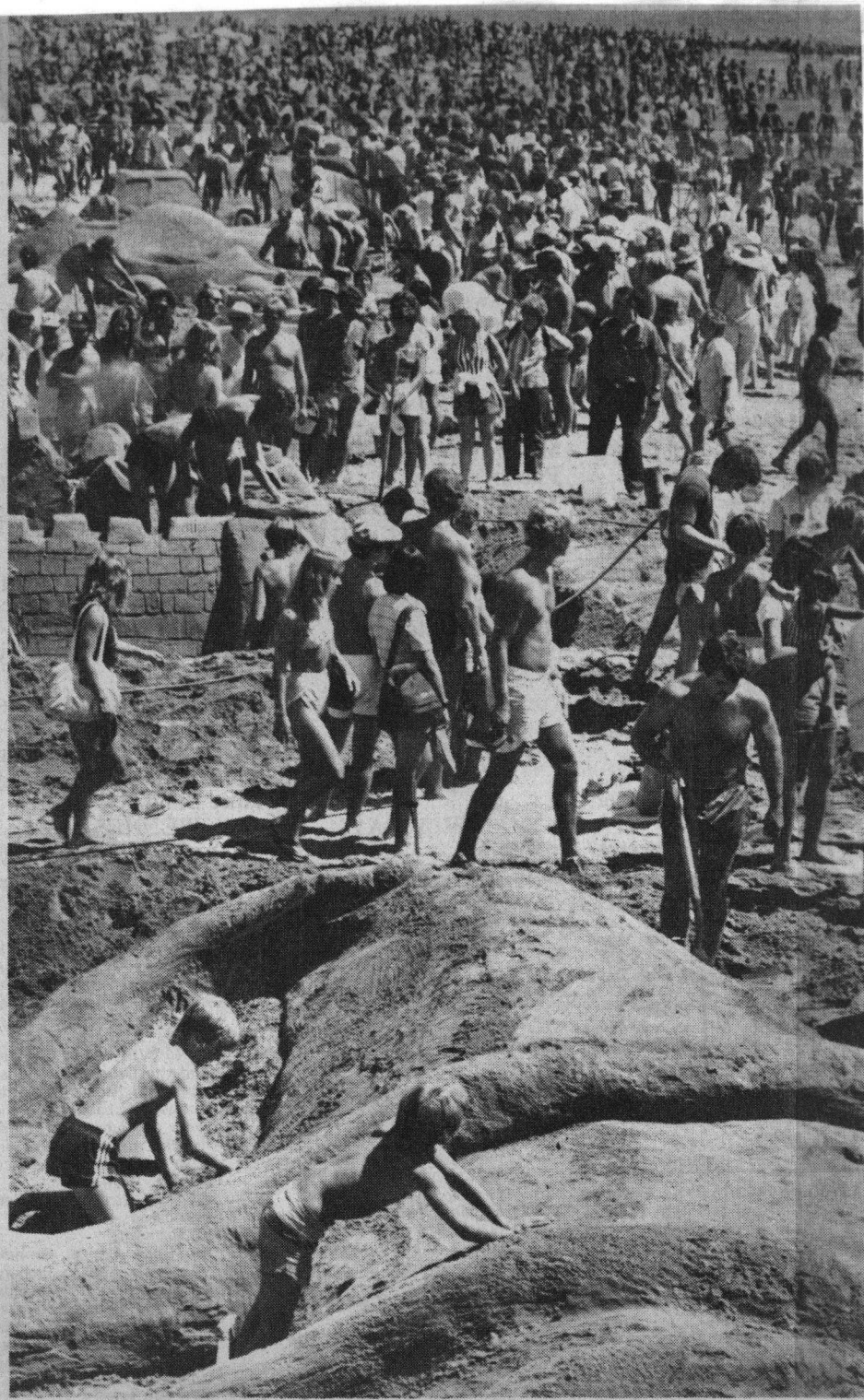
Junior division: First place — Jim and Michelle Pirnik of Capitola, 3:40.2 minutes; Second — Mark Creffield of Palo Alto and Dan Finkle of San Jose, 3:40.3 minutes; Third — Tim and Ted Bonk of Oakland, 4:05.5 minutes.

Adults: First — Jeremy Gilbert of Aptos and Syd Furlanik of Capitola, 3:13.6 minutes; Second — Gary White of Capitola and Anna Vacca of Aptos, 3:19.4 minutes; Third — Mike Astoni and Bettina Wroman, both of Aptos, 3:32.0 minutes.





The beach was quiet at 10:30 a.m. ...



... but thousands came later to see the sculptures.