

Making room for the new council

City Council

Out with Sugar, Krohn; in with Rotkin, Mathews

By **DAN WHITE**

SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

Say goodbye to Mayor Christopher Krohn and Councilman Keith Sugar. After next Tuesday, they're out of here.

The main event starts around 7 p.m., when **SANTA CRUZ** Sugar and Krohn make their final remarks in the council chamber at City Hall, just before councilmember-elects Mike Rotkin and Cynthia Mathews take their places.

Tuesday night, the City Council will pick the mayor for 2002-03. Vice mayor Emily Reilly is the likely choice.

Rotkin, a UC Santa Cruz community studies lecturer, and Mathews, the area Planned Parenthood spokeswoman, are council veterans and former mayors.

Krohn had a spate of national fame this year. The mayor spoke out on national TV against a U.S.-led war on Iraq and in favor of medical marijuana, drawing praise and criticism for the city. He said he's looking for a job and wants to spend time with his family.

Sugar, a former mayor, cited family commitments, his law practice and his teaching job at San Jose State University.

UC Santa Cruz writing lecturer Tim Fitzmaurice, the only council incumbent who

ran for re-election in November, is back for another four-year term.

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Reilly pulled off an unusual feat in local politics two years ago when she gained endorsements from most left-leaning local groups in town but also courted businesses. Reilly finished far ahead of everyone else in the council election two years ago, getting 12,618 votes compared to 8,545 for second-place winner Scott Kennedy, with Ed Porter and Mark Primack trailing. That makes her the most voted-for politician in the city. In recent years, no one in the city has drawn

as many votes.

As vice mayor this year, Reilly drew both positive and negative reactions when she and Porter advocated for stricter downtown behavior rules. They were responding to outcry about harassment and in-your-face panhandling on Pacific Avenue. Activists accused them of trying to gentrify the town and lashing out at the poor.

The two also have led the council's ongoing attempts to roll back "unintended consequences" of ordinance changes that affect spaces for musicians on Pacific Avenue.

Reilly was one of the first council members who agreed to participate in a medical-marijuana giveaway and rally on the City Hall steps.

Contact Dan White at
dwhite@santa-cruz.com.

11-25-02