

— Friday, September 1, 1978

*Begonia Festival*

# Capitola Begonia Fete Gets Under Way Sunday

A sand sculpture contest and diaper derby Sunday will kick off the Silver Anniversary celebration of the Capitola National Begonia Festival.

Toddlers will be off an crawling for savings account prizes in the diaper derby at 10 a.m. The 10-foot, carpeted course will be at the Esplanade.

Registration begins at 9 o'clock for the sand sculpture contest, with judging set for 1:30 p.m.

Last year more than 150 sand artists participated in the beach event. The contest is open to persons of all ages, either as individuals, groups or families.

Sculptors can use any natural objects found on the beach for their creations. A bucket and sprayer are helpful tools since drying out of the sculpture is the creator's biggest problem. Bulldozers are the only tool prohibited.

The main event of the Begonia Festival, the nautical parade, will be held Sept. 10. Parade Chairman Diane Graves reports that 21 floats will navigate Soquel Creek in the largest parade in recent years of the festival.

Decorated homes and businesses also will

be judged that day. Theme for the festival is Days Gone By, which should add a touch of nostalgia for the 25th annual celebration.

A new jet ski event has been added as a prelude to the 2 p.m. parade.

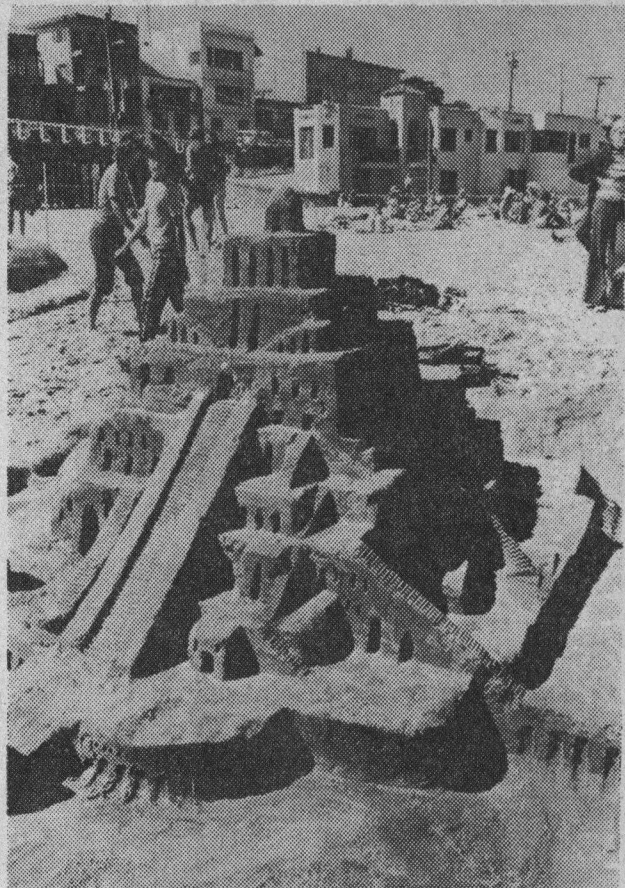
Starting at 9 a.m., jet skiers will race from Capitola beach to the Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf and back in what is pegged as the first off-shore jet ski race in the country.

Men's and women's volleyball tournaments also will be held in conjunction with the Begonia Festival.

The women's tourney is scheduled to start at 9 a.m. Sept. 9 on the beach. Men's preliminaries will be held Sept. 16, with finals Sept. 17.

Visitors to the festival are encouraged to park in the old Disco parking lot on Bay Avenue and ride the free shuttle bus to the beach. The bus runs at 10-minute intervals on weekends and holidays.

In addition, Eureka Federal Savings will provide free shuttle service in its double-decker British bus from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 10 from the park at Jade Street and 47th Avenue to the beach area.



*A creation during last year's contest.*