## **UCSC Benefit Festival**

4-29-69

## Nixon Endorses 'Spring Thing'

President Nixon has commended UCSC students "for the constructive action they are-taking for those who are less fortunate in the community."

The comment came in a letter replying to an invitation to President and Mrs. Nixon to the annual UCSC "Spring Thing" May 9 - 11 at the campus.

The invitation was extended by Phillip F. Johnson, Spring Thing chairman.

In a reply, Dwight L. Chapin, special assistant to The President, stated that the Nixons "very much appreciate your cordial invitation and send their best wishes for a very successful event."

The First Family will be unable to attend, Chapin said.

He stated that the President was "pleased to learn of this worthwhile endeavor."

Said Johnson, "We are surprised and gratified to receive this endorsement. That he did so confirms our belief that even a small effort such as our Spring Thing deserves recognition.

"We are working to bring people together and to make our country a better place in which to live just as he is. We are proud to have his endorsement, and we will work all the harder to make the Spring Thing a success."

The annual festival, which will include a carnival and other events, helps to provide funds for the UCSC Tutorial Project Summer Camp for underprivileged children.

Entertainment will include booths of many kinds, strolling musicians,

a ping-pong tournament, and a folk-dancing exhibition.

The carnival is produced not only by the UCSC students, but also by the community at large, Johnson said.

"Many of the booths are manned by members of Santa Cruz organizations, and, of course, the attendance of the Santa Cruz populace on the big day is essential.

"It is our hope that the endorsement by the President may be a further inducement to members of the community to participate. It may remind people that they can do their part by helping the Spring Thing. More booths are needed, and those who are willing to lend their assistance will be welcomed," Johnson said.

Interested persons may call 429-4361 during the day or 335-7911 at night, or they may write Spring Thing, Crown College Office, UCSC.