

Weatherman has slightly sunny prediction

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The sun made a cameo appearance this morning, but not nearly long enough to recharge anybody's solar cells.

By 11 a.m., the sun had jumped back behind the dark clouds for what weather forecasters say will be another day or so as yet another Pacific storm front rides the jet stream toward the Central California coast. Rain could begin falling again on Saturday.

Rainfall totals are on Page A2

Damage to public property from the

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last storm which stalled off the coast and sent in wave after wave of downpours most of this week has been estimated at nearly \$3.4 million, according to Sue Robinette of the county Administrative Office. Road damage has been set at \$1.8 million of that total, she said.

The county has not yet been able to tally the financial loss to private property, she said. Reports indicate four homes have been destroyed by mudslides, three in Boulder Creek and one in Ben Lomond, and 45 more damaged by slides, falling trees, flooding or the pounding surf.

County inspectors have ordered more than three dozen oceanfront homes in the Rio del Mar area vacated until they can be

shorn up. Most are on the beach at Beach Drive and Via Gaviota, but a dozen are above Via Gaviota on Via Palo Alto, where a cliff has been dangerously eroded.

The County Sanitation District this morning said a sewer line break at Hidden Beach, which has been spilling some 40,000 gallons of raw sewage a day into Monterey Bay, is expected to be repaired by late today. The line serves some 60 homes in the Cliff Drive area of Rio del Mar.

In addition to the Rio del Mar beachfront, Lompico in the San Lorenzo Valley remains a problem area.

More than 1,000 residents of the Lom-

pico community have been doing since Wednesday what they had to do last winter — walk in in their food and supplies and making a go of it without electricity.

Lompico road was cut in two by a large slide two days ago and the mountain above the slide remains unstable.

Zayante Fire Capt. Nick Pagnini said this morning firefighters would walk in PG&E repair crews to try to get some power back into darkened areas of the community.

In emergencies, Pagnini said, persons would have to be carried or walked through the slide. In dire emergencies,

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people would have to be taken across Loch Lomond Reservoir by boat and then picked up by rescue helicopter.

Pagnini said a four-wheel drive rescue unit is in the Lompico area and is being manned by four firefighters, including three with Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-1) training.

Some residents this morning were carrying in replenishments over the Thunderbird (fire) Trail which runs from behind the Zayante Inn on Zayante Road into Lompico.

Those who were blocked by the slide when they returned home from work Wednesday evening are now walking in and out to their cars for the commute to their jobs.

In between brief showers Thursday, city crews completed a thorough inspection of Municipal Wharf and were pleased at what they found, said Bill Eisele, wharf supervisor.

Eisele said eight or nine pilings were lost as well as portions of railings from waves which broke over the top of the wharf early Tuesday morning.

The wharf, said Eisele, "is in good shape" and was reopened today. The Capitola Wharf also was reopened this morning.

"We feel real good after seeing the pictures of the other wharves, especially those in Southern California," said Eisele. Nearly half of the venerable Santa Monica Pier, for example, was broken off this week by the raging surf.

Rainfall totals reported this morning reflect Thursday's respite from the recent downpours. Boulder Creek, for example, got less than an inch (.80) overnight, compared to nearly 4½ inches each on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Scotts Valley, however, continued to get heavy rain Thursday. Rainfall there was reported at just over an inch.

Santa Cruz Weatherman Ron MacDonald reported less than a half-inch (.43) of rain fell in the city, raising the season total (since July 1) to 36.83 inches.

The rainiest year on record is 1940-41, according to MacDonald. Rainfall totaled 44.36 inches on March 1 of 1941. This March 1 the total was 34.15.