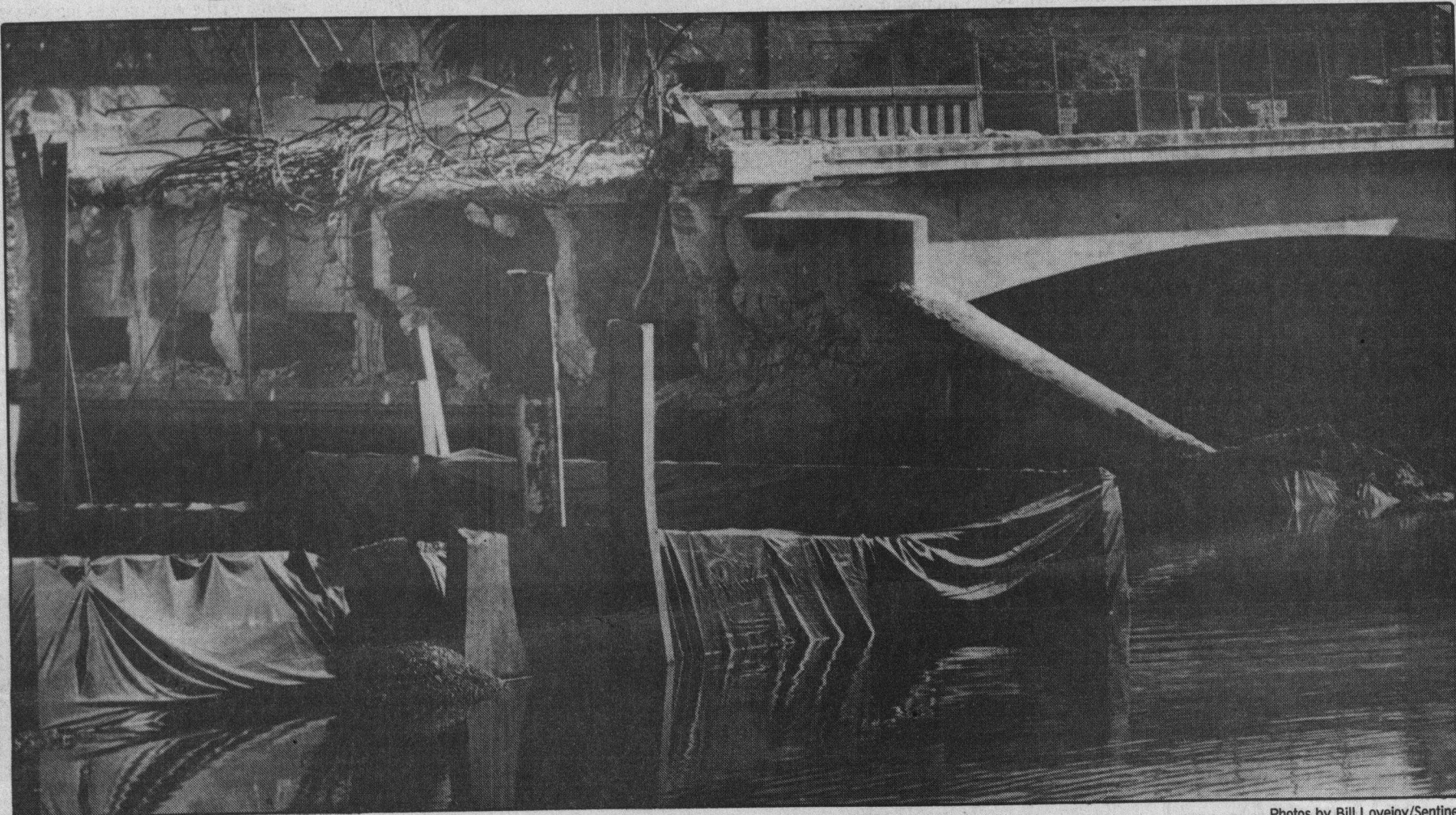


# Bridge comes falling down



Photos by Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel

The graceful lines of the old Riverside Avenue Bridge, which is being demolished, now come to an abrupt end at mid-span.

12-7-84

## Gateway to beach will be replaced

SANTA CRUZ — Riverside Avenue Bridge is coming down.

Demolition began this week on the main thoroughfare for tourists into the beach area.

The bridge was slated for replacement next spring but the earthquake forced the issue. The bridge was closed after it sank several inches.

The federal government is covering most of the cost of the replacement. Federal officials had balked at using Federal Emergency Management Agency funds for demolition because the project was planned before the earthquake. The city lobbied Samuel Skinner, United States transportation secretary, last month for help in freeing up federal money, arguing the earthquake closed the bridge.

The current bridge is 80 percent of the reason why downtown is considered in a flood zone because it could act as a dam during a storm.

The replacement bridge will be four lanes wide and is expected to be completed in about a year.



An onlooker watches as another shovelful of the bridge begins its journey to the city dump.