MONDAY

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Storm will only add to woes

By JAMIE S. CACKLER Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — Mother Nature is dealing another bad hand to a Santa Cruz County already reeling from Tuesday's earthquake, as heavy rains are predicted for the area by this afternoon.

The rains would only add to the misery of thousands of people left homeless since Tuesday's disaster. In Watsonville, hun-

dreds of people have been camped outside in makeshift tent cities, fearful or unable to return home.

One reason for their fear is the recurring aftershocks.

The aftershocks are trailing off "in an expected manner," Dave Hill, seismologist at the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park, said Sunday.

Two more small aftershocks rolled

through the Santa Cruz Mountains Sunday morning.

Hill said residents of the region can expect to feel aftershocks for the next several weeks, but with decreasing frequency and force.

A 3.4 magnitude aftershock was recorded at 2:44 a.m., centered about 4 miles northeast of Watsonville, Hill said.

The second shock, about 3.8 magnitude on the Richter scale, occured at 7:24 a.m. and was centered 12 miles east of Santa

Hill said the aftershocks are scattered all along the fault zone in the Santa Cruz Mountains area.

In addition to the two shocks most likely felt by area residents, Hill said there continue to be hundreds of smaller tremors.

For every shock registering a magnitude of 3 or more, he said, there are about 10 tremors of a magnitude in the 2s and about 100 in the 1 to 1.9 magnitude range.

Hill said these tremors normally are not felt.

While the quakes are decreasing, Hill said residents can expect to feel a few more aftershocks of a magnitude of 4 or more. And there is a "small possibility" of more aftershocks of 5 magnitude or higher, he said.

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