

# Santa Cruz Sentinel

133rd Year No. 253

Friday, Oct. 20, 1989 Santa Cruz, Calif.

25 cents

## Bush tours mall

### President cites need for aid by volunteers

By MARK BERGSTROM  
Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — President George Bush toured the Pacific Garden Mall on Friday, viewing the devastation caused by this week's earthquake and promising speedy federal relief.

Bush praised the local volunteer effort of "neighbor helping neighbor, friend helping friend to lift up those who are hurting."

"God bless those volunteers, the enormous Red Cross effort in this relatively small community," he said.

Bush said he was touched to learn that residents of Santa Cruz had only weeks ago sent \$18,000 to the victims of Hurricane Hugo in South Carolina.

"I hope the American people will respond with exactly the same compassion this community showed to a state all the way across the country. To me the lessons are manifold," Bush said.

He was accompanied by Gov. George Deukmejian, Sen. Pete Wilson, Rep. Leon Panetta and a host of state and local officials on his two-block walk.

He paused to view the destruction at Ford's department store, where one woman was killed and another badly injured when huge portions of the structure caved in.

Mayor Mardi Wormhoudt nar-





the quake has forced many elderly residents out of their small hotels on the mall.

"Where were you when the earthquake hit?" Bush asked Wormhoudt. She said she was home changing clothes to get ready for a city event.

Around the corner on Walnut Avenue, Bush stopped to speak to members of the White House press corps and local reporters.

"The human dimensions have been magnified by my coming here," Bush said. He said he was especially touched by meeting the doctors and then father of a little boy whose leg had to be amputated to get him out of a car trapped in the collapse of a portion of the Nimitz Freeway in Oakland.

Bush visited Oakland and San Francisco before coming to Santa Cruz.

"We have to get disaster centers open, take the claims and reduce the red tape," he said.

Panetta told reporters that the damage estimate in Santa Cruz County was growing hourly and said it is now over \$800 million and may hit \$1 billion.

Asked about an estimate of \$5 to \$6 billion for all of Northern California by Santa Clara County Congressman Norman Mineta, Bush said he was "willing to do what's needed to be done." But he said he did not want to make estimates "when we don't have all the information."

Again referring to the volunteer effort, Bush said, "There's no ceiling on the compassion of the American people."

"If it weren't for these points of light — these volunteers — the cost to government would be much higher."

Bush flew into Sky Park Airport in Scotts Valley by helicopter and then went by motorcade to the mall, which suffered some of the heaviest damage in the county



Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel

Please see **BUSH** — A8 Bush spoke in front of a damaged Lincoln Street building.

## Scientist didn't predict earthquake of equal size

Moderate aftershock possible, McNally says

SANTA CRUZ — UC Santa Cruz seismologist Karen McNally clarified Friday that she had not predicted another earthquake the size of Tuesday's will hit Northern California in the next few weeks.

McNally said that as a result of "a somewhat sensational headline" in the Watsonville Register-Pajaronian, many people believed she had made such a prediction.

"We do not expect an earthquake of the same size or larger," McNally said. What she did say was that following Tuesday's quake, which measured 6.9 on the Richter Scale, aftershocks could be expected for the next week or so.

"We could still have an earthquake measuring 5.8 to 6," McNally said. "But this is not a prediction — it's a conservative piece of advice."

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# Woman's body found in rubble of mall shop

By GREG BEEBE

Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — The body of Robin Lynn Ortiz was unearthed Thursday afternoon, nearly two days after she was buried under tons of brick and debris when the Santa Cruz Coffee Roasting Co. collapsed during Tuesday's massive earthquake.

"A third body has been recovered. It is the body of 22-year-old Robin Ortiz," Santa Cruz Mayor Mardi Wormhoudt told a large crowd of media and onlookers. "She did not suffer. She died instantly," an emotional Wormhoudt said.

Ortiz's body is the second to be found in the rubble of the Pacific Garden Mall shop. On Tuesday night, police and volunteers pulled Ortiz's injured co-worker, Brittany Manrique, from the devastated building. The body of Shawn McCormick, another Coffee Roasting Co. employee, was found nearby.

Later Tuesday night, the body of Catherine Treiman, 75, was removed from Ford's department store, where she worked.

The search for Ortiz sparked controversy Wednesday night when rescue workers decided to suspend operations at nightfall, deeming the site too unstable because of frequent aftershocks. Angry friends of Ortiz, who were holding a vigil, stormed police barricades and four were arrested, cited and later released.

Mayor Wormhoudt said she



Shmuel Thaler/Sentinel

Friends reacted emotionally to discovery of Robin Ortiz's body.

"absolutely" agreed with the decision to postpone the search Wednesday night for safety reasons.

"The assessments were correct. ... We didn't need to compound this tragedy with additional deaths," she said. "This is a terrible

tragedy to all of us in the city of Santa Cruz. I am so sorry," Wormhoudt said.

Ortiz apparently died instantly when tons of bricks, boards, metal, glass and sand funneled down on her during the 6.9 quake. Her body

Please see **BODY** — A4

## More bodies may be found

By MARIA GAURA

Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — Only hours before President George Bush arrived at the Pacific Garden Mall, search dogs had alerted rescue workers to the possibility that there could be two more people buried beneath the rubble.

As Secret Service agents cordoned off the area, dogs and their handlers swept through the remains of Ford's department store and another nearby ruin.

According to George Foster, a member of the Canadian International Rescue Team, dogs had scratched, barked and signaled to their handlers that people might still be buried in the two shops.

Foster, who helped rescue people in the devastating earthquakes in Soviet Armenia and Mexico City, thought it possible that people could still be alive in some of the wreckage.

"I wish this president thing were over with so we could get back to work," Foster said.

City spokesman Larry Pearson said it is possible that bodies could still be recovered from the rubble, but thought it unlikely that any victim could still be alive.

"Prior to this morning we had no indication from the dogs that there was anybody in any of the buildings," Pearson said. "Three fatalities have been confirmed...but this may not be the end in terms of fatalities."