

A giant milestone



LARISSA MUELLER/SENTINEL

Manny Sanchez and Cathleen Gasta celebrate being on the train that carried the millionth Giant Dipper passenger of 2010 at the Boardwalk on Friday.

Boardwalk marks its millionth Giant Dipper rider of 2010 on New Year's Eve

Boardwalk

Sentinel staff report

1-1-11

SANTA CRUZ — At 2:40 p.m. Friday, the Boardwalk's Giant Dipper hosted its millionth rider of 2010.

"This is the first time we've broken a million since 2002," said Brigid Fuller, publicist for the Boardwalk.

The Boardwalk gave all 24 riders on the coaster that held the millionth passenger a commemorative coin, saltwater taffy and a free souvenir photo.

In order to reach the million-rider mark by 5 p.m. Friday, Boardwalk officials began offering a special deal last weekend, when they still were 11,000 riders short. For \$5, the price of a single ride, visitors could ride the Giant Dipper as many times as they wanted.

In all, 58 million riders have braved The Giant Dipper's arches and drops since it first opened in 1924.



LARISSA MUELLER/SENTINEL

Ali and Andrew Santana get saltwater taffy and a commemorative coin, for being on the train that carried the millionth Giant Dipper passenger of 2010.



Heather Burnett and Jacob David stretch out hands to high-five the passengers in the incoming cars.

LARISSA MUELLER/
SENTINEL