Oft-maligned SJ comes through

By JOHN ROBINSON

Other donations keep rolling in — Page A4

Sentinel staff writer SANTA CRUZ — While bashing San Jose is almost an unofficial sport for local Santa Cruzans, residents of that much-maligned city have come through in Santa Cruz's time of need by donating more than \$250,000 to county earthquake relief

organizations Monday. "We keep knocking San Jose, and it's an irony that the very community that we knock has been coming through so well for us," Santa Cruz City Councilman Joe

Ghio said. Locals have long blamed San Jose for everything from high real estate prices and traffic jams, to trash on the beach and crowded surf. For years, "Valley Go Home."

has been a local rallying cry. Even Mayor Mardi Wormhoudt couldn't resist a dig at San Jose Sunday during the restarting of the Town Clock. To the cheers of the crowd Wormhoudt proclaimed that one of the current council's greatest achievements was stopping Santa Cruz from becoming

another San Jose. Not that San Jose could particularly care.

"I'm one of those people that come over and crowd your beaches and all that," San Jose City spokeswoman Callie Gregory said. "But I don't think anyone in San Jose is thinking about irony or traditions of the past. We just think it's a terrible misfortune."

San Jose announced it is donating more than \$400,000 in earthquake relief to the Los Gatos and

Santa Cruz areas. The money was given by corporations and individuals, including a \$100,000 donation by Fujitsu of America.

Various Santa Cruz organizations will receive \$150,000. Of that, \$45,000 will go toward downtown businesses, \$40,000 will go to the Downtown Association, \$35,000 to the Santa Cruz Community Foundation and \$30,000 to the Santa Cruz Volunteer Association.

Watsonville will receive \$95,000, with \$35,000 going to Catholic Church charities, \$25,000 to Salud Para La Gente, \$20,000 to the Watsonville Chamber of Commerce and \$15,000 to the San Jose Hispanic Development Corporation to be spent in Watsonville.

Valley Churches United in Ben Lomond will also receive \$10,000.