

# A real kind of Marine World

**By Cheryl Downey-Laskowitz**

It is one outpost on the edge of the last frontier on the globe.

With brussels sprouts fields on either side, the two buildings and water tanks sit quietly by that vast expanse that glitters in the afternoon sun—the ocean.

But, on Dec. 2, a Saturday, the quiet area was flooded with between 4,000 and 6,000 people who came to see the new Joseph M. Long Marine Laboratory, part of UC-Santa Cruz's Center for Coastal Marine Studies.

William Doyle, the director of the center, was surprised to see that many people, but pleased at their interest in a project he is very enthusiastic about. Doyle is a California native and a graduate of Watsonville High School who went on to study botany, getting his B.A. and Ph.D. from UC-Berkeley.

A founding faculty member of UCSC, Doyle has been involved with the plan for a marine facility since it was spawned by Chancellor Dean McHenry in the early days of the university.

But, it took many years for that concept of a marine studies program to come to fruition.

In 1970, the Regents of the University of California system gave a little money to the university to plan and evaluate the possibility of a marine program.

The faculty decided that it was interested in starting a marine studies program that would encompass many areas of study related to the ocean—geology, chemistry, biology, oceanography, sociology, law, economics and others—rather than simply a marine biology program.

The university began searching for a site in 1971, looking everywhere from Pigeon Point in San Mateo County to Hopkins Marine Station in Pacific Grove, said Doyle. But, a location much

closer to home was found when Chancellor McHenry talked to Marion and the late Donald Younger in 1972 and they ended up giving the university land near Natural Bridges State Park on which to build the new center.

The site went right along with the early decision to locate the center as close as possible to the university campus, said Doyle. It is only 10 minutes from UCSC.

"It was unreal to expect the state to fund this kind of facility," commented Doyle, so the long process of fundraising then began.

The \$1.5 million facility was financed largely by private and foundation donors, although one building was built with federal works project money.

And it is not yet finished. The two research buildings and the three large outdoor water tanks and several smaller tanks with the seawater pumping system are only about one quarter of the center the university wants to build, Doyle explained.

As the money is raised, the center will be expanded to include an analytical lab building for research, a coastal bird study building, a building for marine mammal research, a teaching lab, a public education center and a house for the center's caretaker.

The two buildings that are finished will meet only the most minimal research needs of the faculty and students, said Doyle.

But, he is very happy with the location of the center. "It's a remarkable place for a marine facility."

Doyle said that the whole Monterey Bay area is a fantastic place for marine study because of the tremendous diversity in environment and geology. "The coastline itself is just a wonderful outdoor lab," he commented.

He pointed out that the university had decided that a

marine program could be done uniquely well at Santa Cruz before plans went ahead for it.

"There are programs such as this," said Doyle, "but what we're doing here cannot be done as well at these other institutions."

One of the unique aspects of the center is that it has a serious commitment to undergraduate education as well as graduate and faculty research.

"We do know we're attracting students to Santa Cruz," said Doyle.

Doyle's enthusiasm about the new Center for Coastal Marine Studies shows as he talks about the possibilities of the facility.

Faculty, undergraduate and

## Credit union receives grant

The Santa Cruz Community Credit Union has been given a \$35,000 grant from the New York-based John Hay Whitney Foundation for its activities in promoting local economic self-sufficiency.

The grant will be used to pay dividends on deposits sooner than the credit union anticipated and to reach self-sufficiency, according to Margaret Cheap, staff member of the credit union.

The 15-month-old credit union is the "second fastest growing community credit union in the nation," she said. She said its policy is to lend to members often denied credit, such as low and moderate income residents.

"What makes us different from a bank is that we recirculate our county's wealth within the county," she said.

The credit union will hold a grand opening for members and the public in their new offices on Friday from 3 to 9 p.m. The office is located at 817 Pacific Avenue.

graduate student research has already invaded the new buildings with crabs, sea urchins, starfish, sea slugs and the paraphernalia that accompanies the experiments.

The pump system of running seawater especially makes some controlled experiments possible, said Doyle.

Doyle himself likes the combination of teaching and research that he does as head of the center. He keeps in touch with the students, undergraduates as well as more advanced students, because he teaches a large elementary biology class.

He said there is increased interest in the environment, and managing human activity in it and, with that, interest in the coast. In California alone, Doyle pointed out, there is 1,000 miles of coast that 85 percent of the population can reach in an hour or two.

"How do you manage those resources to make it available to people yet not destroy it?" he asked.

Doyle said there is a growing number of students who are interested in gathering the scientific data to give to the decision-makers to help determine the environmental future.

Doyle really believes that the Center for Coastal Marine Studies is of real value to students at UCSC.

"I think what we're doing is pretty damned unique," he said.