

16-PAGE EARTHQUAKE SECTION

San Jose Mercury News

25 cents

3 morning aftershocks: 'Oh, man, not again'

Misery in Santa Cruz



- Huge traffic tie-ups / Below
- Los Gatos reeling/ 7Q
- "'Mountain spirit' lives/ 4Q
- I-880 hazard ignored/ Below

Quake leaves 10,000 homeless in county

By Christopher H. Schmitt Mercury News Staff Writer

Just as nerves began to quiet and shock gave way to only disbelief, the earth rumbled again this morning with three strong aftershocks to Tuesday's catastrophic earthquake.

Thousands remain homeless — 10,000 in Santa Cruz County alone — with many camping out because their houses have been either destroyed or left without power and water.

While today's aftershocks were





Cal Enporg lies on a mattress outside his demolished home on Blue Ridge Drive in Bouldes Creek.

While today's aftershocks were modest by ordinary standards — the biggest, at 3:15 a.m., registered 5.0 on the Richter scale — the new tremors, coming on the heels of Tuesday's quake, brought a new round of fear and apprehension.

But the early news was good: There were no reports of major new damage. In Watsonville, the aftershocks caused a damaged church steeple to crash to the ground, and forced about 150 people to be temporarily evacuated from an emergency center. In Santa Cruz, some buildings battered Tuesday suffered additional damage.

The biggest aftershock was centered near Watsonville and about 10 miles south of Santa Cruz.

"It was real strong," said Kelly Johnston, an admitting clerk at AMI Community Hospital in Santa Cruz. "I ran to the doorway. Most people were just standing there frozen."

Two other tremors in the area measured 4.5, as the total number of aftershocks reached more than 1,400. The strongest, measuring 5.2, hit 37 minutes after Tuesday's 5:04 p.m. quake that measured 7.0.

If the aftershocks weren't enough to cause concern, it appeared the weather might cease to be as cooperative. Rain and cooler temperatures were

See QUAKE, Page 14Q

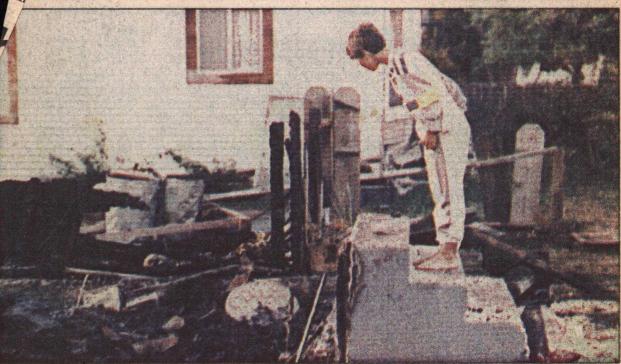


Michael Rondou — Mercury News SAFE — Sat 'Superman' Kato, 6, takes shelter Wednesday in the Redwood Estates Pavilion.

The second day

It's been almost 48 hours since the big quake but the effects are still being felt:

- Traffic: A hopeless snarl as commuters try to find a way around the closings of the Bay Bridge, I-880, and parts of I-280 and Highway 101. Major roads in Santa Cruz County, including Highway 17, remain closed.
- Utilities: Electricity restored to all but 96,000 customers. Santa Cruz Mountains hardest hit. All phone service restored, but delays are expected.
- Aftershocks: Hundreds have hit since Tuesday's big quake. The largest so far: 4.2 at 2:50 this morning and a 5.0 25 minutes later, both centered along the Santa Cruz coast.



Jason Grow Mercury News

Apollo Terry. 10, of Boulder Creek looks at what's left of a neighbor's burned home