



Ron Cockerille

Workmen carefully remove roof tiles from Loudon Nelson Center as renovation and expansion begins.

Work begins on Nelson Center

The first stage of \$700,000 remodeling and expansion of the Loudon Nelson Center in Santa Cruz is under way with the removal of the building's red Spanish roof tiles.

The tiles are stacked behind the building and will be put back up after other work is completed.

Beneath the building,

workers are digging trenches for footings to better support the structure.

Loudon Nelson Center was ordered closed after inspectors discovered it was not earthquake safe. The inspection was made in preparation for a plan to expand the facility.

The discovery postponed the previously planned project and added about \$250,000 to its cost. The seismic retrofit is underway now; the expansion and interior improvements will soon follow, center coordinator Winnie Rambo said.

A public hearing is sched-

uled for Aug. 5 at City Hall by the Historical Preservation Committee which must give approval for the improvements.

Rambo said the center is scheduled to reopen for some programs shortly after Jan. 1.

— Guy Lasnier