

March 1 opening

# Good forecast for Loch Lomond

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Loch Lomond Reservoir will open March 1 and is expected to have "an excellent '83 season" — if the winter's rains behave.

The reservoir and park was closed last year after 1982's devastating winter rains closed down hundreds of roads in the wooded areas.

City Ranger Walter Cacace told the Santa Cruz Water Commission this morning the county has repaired Lompico Road and "I don't see any problem (with opening next spring) at all.

"It should be an excellent '83 season."

Cacace said the 1978 season was better than average because the reservoir-park had been closed in 1977 because the drought lowered the water level.

"We found the use was higher following the closed season," Cacace said.

There's one problem facing the city, however. It doesn't know who is going to run the boat and tackle concession at the reservoir.

The city ended its contract with concessionaire Mansford Drummond. He refused to be discharged and filed a lawsuit.

City attorneys are trying to settle out of court and time is running out, according to City Water Manager Morris Allen.

Opening day is March 1 and Allen says the the boat concession needs repairs. He said the city has to decide who is going to operate it next year.

"There was quite a bit going on up there that we didn't like, so we issued an additional set of rules and regulations," Allen said.

Commissioners told him to go ahead and advertise for proposals to run the boat concession. They did not exclude the possibility that Drummond could apply.

Allen also said that his department's plan to build a headquarters and conference room at Loch Lomond was still in the capital improvement program.

The plan was questioned by city councilmembers recently. Councilman Joseph Ghio said it would serve out-of-city people more than it would serve city residents.

The headquarters and conference center issue is scheduled back before the council soon.