

Sentinel

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2,000 Persons Attended Capitola 30th Birthday

Capitola-1970-1979

Capitola Mayor Mick Routh cut the first piece of the 34-foot-long cake Saturday night at the Capitola Mall as an estimated crowd of 2,000 persons looked on during Capitola's 30th birthday celebration.

The party was a fitting end to a fun-filled day of activities which was highlighted with a tug-of-war on the Capitola Beach won by the city's Police Department. In a special challenge match between the police and members of the City Council, a truck was driven to the side of the council in hopes of evening the odds. However, spectators rushed to aid the police and the challenge ended in a tie, with the truck having to be pushed off the beach.

Vic Tognazzini, president of the Capitola Chamber of Com-

merce which organized the party at the mall, was "super pleased with the way it came off. I wasn't surprised with the number of people who showed up," added Tognazzini. "I had been accused of being an optimist all along. We saw a total mixture of Capitola from the seniors to the younger generation."

Brad Macdonald, the city's second mayor and chairman of the birthday events, also was pleased with the results. He estimated 2,500 tickets were sold and 2,000 showed up at the party.

Blanche Stephens, chamber secretary, agreed with the crowd estimate and added, "We asked many of the people as they left how they felt the party went. From the comments I heard, 90 percent said it was great."

The Monterey Bay Classic Jass Band and Terry George's band provided the entertainment at either end of the mall.

Other activities during the day included a roller skating race from the Gavilan bank parking lot to the beach, as well as a children's bike rodeo, egg toss, three-legged race, pie-eating contest and greased squash rescue contest.

The latter involved a greased squash being thrown into the ocean. Ken Zucker, director of the Capitola-Soquel Community Schools who coordinated the games, said "We had six people go in after the squash. I didn't think anyone would be brave enough to go in."

Zucker estimated 250 people were on the beach during the games.

Winners of the games will be announced Tuesday.