

Mall



The Catalyst Restaurant, Just Off the Mall but Very Much a Part of It, Stares Back at Its Customers With Stark Murals

The Mall: A State Of Mind

By DON WILSON
Staff Writer

SANTA CRUZ — The Pacific Garden Mall isn't really a place. It's more a state of mind.

Dignified, conservative businessmen find themselves dancing — at least mentally — to the rhythms of the band that plays every day at the Cooper House outdoor restaurant. Some people, less conservative, do their dancing openly on the sidewalk.

Itinerant philosophers carry backpacks containing all their wordly goods.

Flower shops offer bunches at lower-than-anywhere-else prices.

The face of the mall constantly changes too. Big old vacant buildings undergo an evolution and wind up as mini-arcades, full of small shops.

Small shops outgrow their walls and move into bigger spaces, creating space for new beginners.

Ragged derelicts cluster around certain planter boxes, finding other birds of the same feather, only to have someone create just enough of a nuisance to make that spot uncomfortable. Then the derelicts come unstuck and let the tide drift them to another spot.

The corner of Pacific Avenue and Cooper Street is that proverbial corner where, it is said, everyone passes sometime in his life. It is graced with two banks, an outdoor resau-

The Mercury

★★★★★ San Jose, Calif., Monday, June 20, 1977



block, where certain musicians have staked out areas in which to stage their own music. And to lay their hats or guitar cases invitingly open on the sidewalk. It's against the law to solicit payment — but it's not against the law for a passerby to drop money.

Barefoot and scantily clad youngsters mix with the polished shoe set.

olve into cafes, die out, and are replaced by others until new owners find the right combination and a new set of old-timers is born.

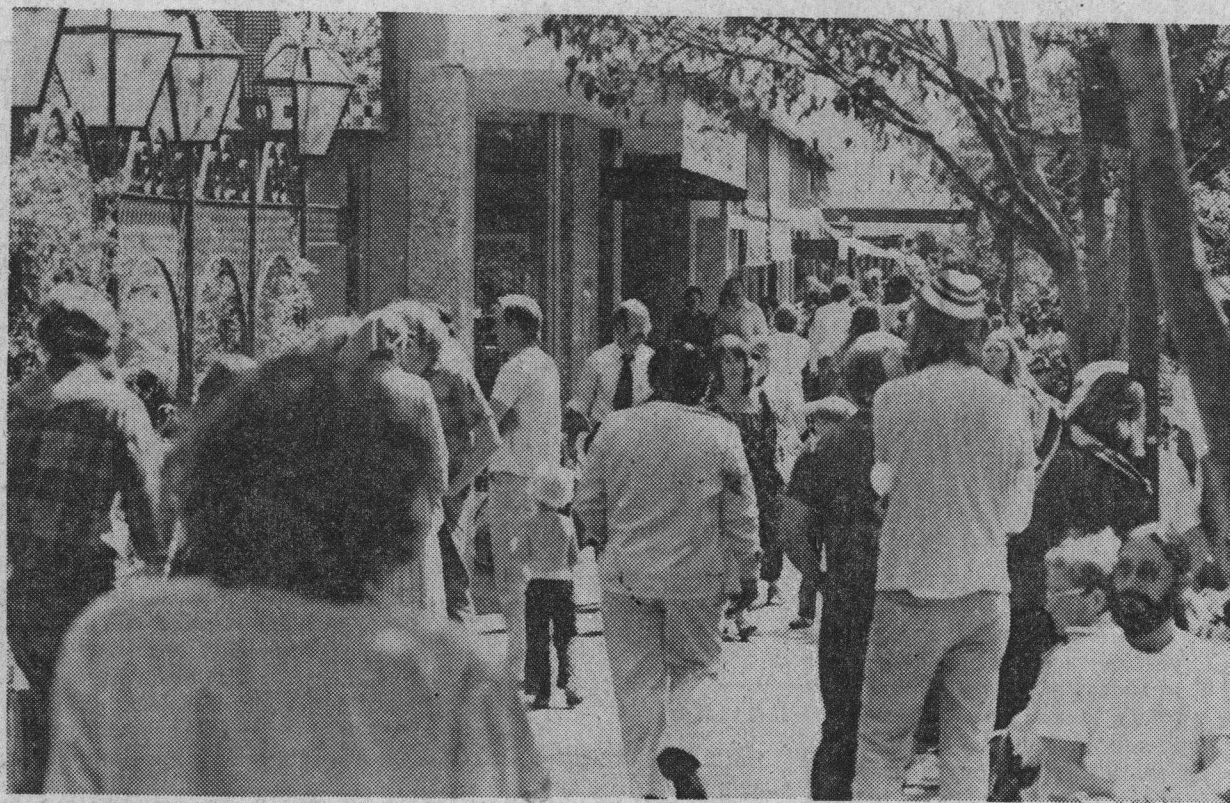
Staff Photos
By Jim Geiger

the aforementioned derelicts, the aforementioned street dancers, an occasional fortune teller, sometimes a policeman, often times a lady of sunny disposition and a shady reputation, and inevitably all the rest of us.

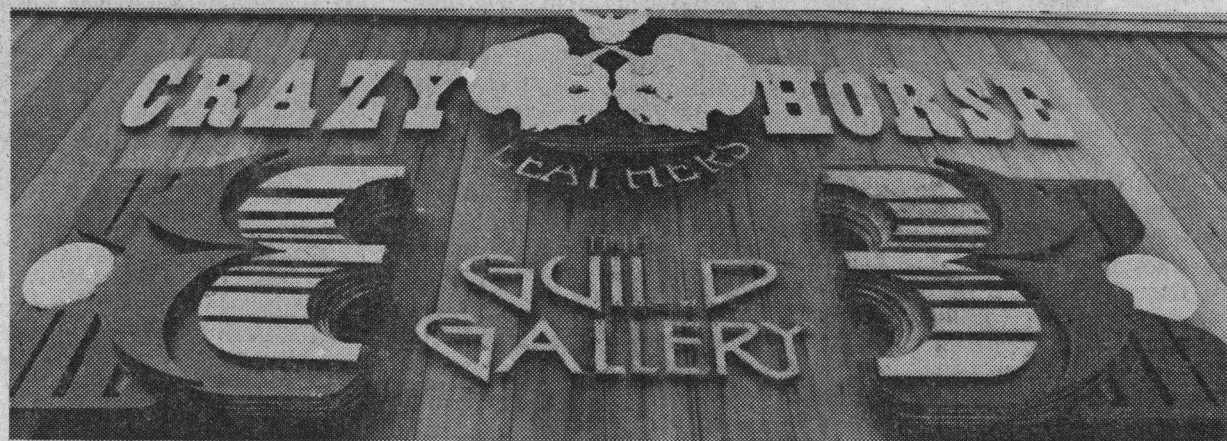
It's a corner of a state of mind, an island in a stream of consciousness, is the Santa Cruz Pacific Garden Mall.



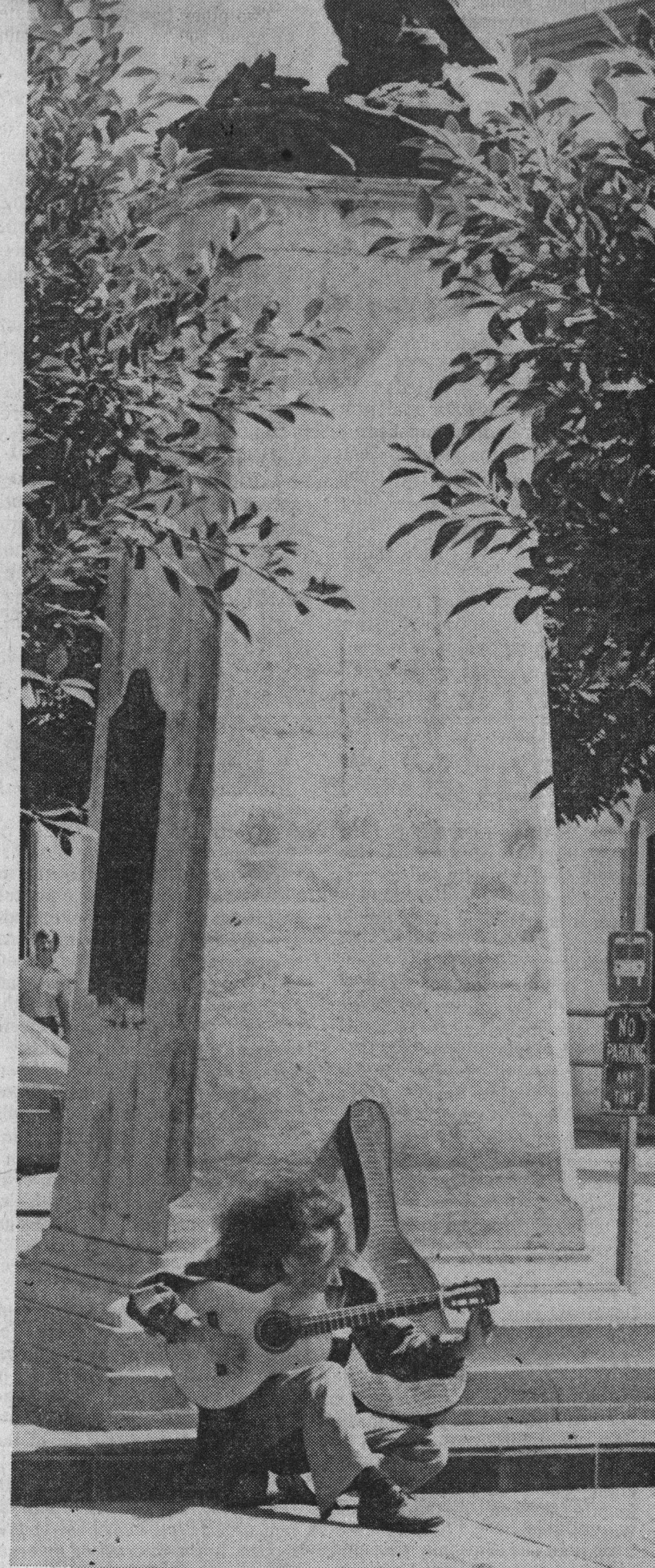
**ALL Kinds of Vehicles
Travel on the Mall**



Just a Sunny Afternoon Brings Sidewalks as Crowded as Those of Any Major City



Wooden Signs and Arts and Crafts Are Big on the Mall



Veterans' Monument a Perch for Musician