EARTHQUAKE '89 - Santa Conz



Dan Coyro/Sentinel

David Crosby, left, and Graham Nash: It was, said the mayor, a much-needed good time.

Crosby, Stills & Nash raise spirits and money

By ERIN BLAIR Sentinel staff writer 11-10-89

SANTA CRUZ — Downtown Santa Cruz was alive with music again Thursday evening as the venerable and fabled rock group Crosby, Stills & Nash played two sets at the Catalyst nightclub.

The group raised the community's spirits as well as between \$20,000 and \$25,000 for Santa Cruz County earthquake relief agencies with a blend of their solo works and the songs that have made the group a local favorite.

Santa Cruz Mayor Mardi Wormhoudt opened the 7 p.m. show by welcoming the crowd back to the Pacific Garden Mall.

"It's wonderful to see so many people back on Pacific Avenue for a good time and it's what we need on this 23rd day since the earthquake," Wormhoudt said. She stayed through the concert and said afterwards, "it was just great."

The group played a 90-minute set, pared down to the voices of David Crosby, Stephen Stills and Graham Nash and their guitars.

They refrained from making benefit speeches, letting the music

speak for itself.

However, Nash, introducing a Crosby solo of "Almost Cut My Hair," said, only half in jest, "If he can make it back from where he's been, Santa Cruz can make it back." Crosby then described his "forced vacation" in a Texas jail on a drug conviction.

The concert concluded with three encores that got the crowd, an assortment of yuppies and hippies, on its feet, dancing and singing. Nash dedicated "Our House" to the Cooper House.

"I went to visit an old friend while I was here and it was no longer there," he said.

Nash, who lived north of Davenport for a few years, arranged the benefit concert with longtime tour manager R. Mac Holbert, a Santa Cruz native, as soon as he heard of the damage to the city.

"If there's such a thing as altruism, than this is definitely a show of it," Holbert said after the

first show.

Eight hundred tickets were available for the two shows. The coporate sponsors bought 125 tickets at \$100 each; 475 tickets at \$15 each were sold at Cymbaline and Blue Ribbon Records in the county; and 100 \$15 tickets were sold through BASS locations throughout the Bay Area. The 10 p.m. show was broadcast live on KUSP.