



Photos by Kurt Ellison

These hands were the work of Paul Andriese and his fellow professors.

Begonia Festival

Begonia parade is next

A larger-than-life rendition of Groucho Marx and a "typical Capitola resident" brought top honors Saturday to their creators at the Capitola Beach Sand Sculpture Contest.

The contest is the kick-off event for the Capitola National Begonia Festival, which continues this weekend with the Water Parade on Sunday afternoon, a skateboard competition Saturday morning on Monterey Avenue, a Jester Dinghy race Saturday morning off Capitola pier, and volleyball games Saturday and Sunday.

Groucho was created by Wooden Expressions owner Luis Villareal and three helpers — Dave Forbes, Alan Thorpe, and Paul Skogerson, all of Capitola.

The "resident" — a carica-

ture of a man sitting against the wharf pilings, drinking a can of beer — was created by Dolores Wiemers, June Rummel and Corky Moody, all from Aptos.

More than 10,000 people are expected in Capitola Sunday afternoon to view the 26th edition of the Water Parade on Soquel Creek.

Festival president Dianne Graves is expecting nearly 20 entries from various neighborhood groups, organizations, businesses, and families this year.

Parade time is 2 p.m. Sunday, but floats will be constructed along the riverbank all day Saturday, Saturday night and Sunday morning.

Men's beach volleyball starts on Capitola Beach at 8:30 a.m. Saturday and continues with the finals Sun-

day.

A skateboard contest will be staged on Central and Monterey Avenues at 8:30 a.m., with top professional skateboarders competing for more than \$500 in cash prizes.

The annual Jester Dinghy race in Monterey Bay off the Capitola Wharf is a lot of fun for participants and spectators alike. It starts at 10 a.m.

Judging for the Home and Commercial decorating contest takes place shortly after noon Sunday. Alida Stevens-Smith, 475-2844 or 688-7524, is in charge of the judging and the entry forms.

An estimated 375 people worked on the sand sculpture entries this year, while a crowd of 5,000 people watched.

In addition to the grand-sweepstakes winners, awards were given in several other

categories:

Directors' award — The Smith family for their "Fat City Hippo."

Seniors — First, Wooden Expressions' Groucho; second, Easter Islands heads; third (a tie) Greenpeace whale and Alisha Hudson's female sunbather.

Family — first, the Miranda family's sea otter; second, the French family's sea otter; third, De Simet and Meyer's families dog and bone.

Junior Group: 6-9-year-olds: first Jeff Vertin and Amy Westjohn, castle; second Blaine and Gerard, seal and a ball; third, Myles Routh, Simon Evans and Justin Jensen; 10-12 year olds — first Steve and Andy Cook, dragon; second, Tracie and Kerry Chandler, Mr. Snugglepugus; third, Dan Zimmer and James

Daniels, pilot whale; 13-16 year olds — first, Nancy and Jeff Brett, cold duck; second, Stuart Kuramoto and Jay Williams, three-headed dragon; third, Nanette Matsuko, Jan Hardt and Dee and Bob Bobinett.

Junior Individual: 10-12 years old — first, Cherissa Moore, Taj Mahal; second, Jennifer Pearce, man; third Xochitl Dominguez, pyramid; 6-9 years old — first, Chad Snodgrass, animal, second, Brent Long, muppet movie; 1-5 year olds — first, Brent Crenna, castle.

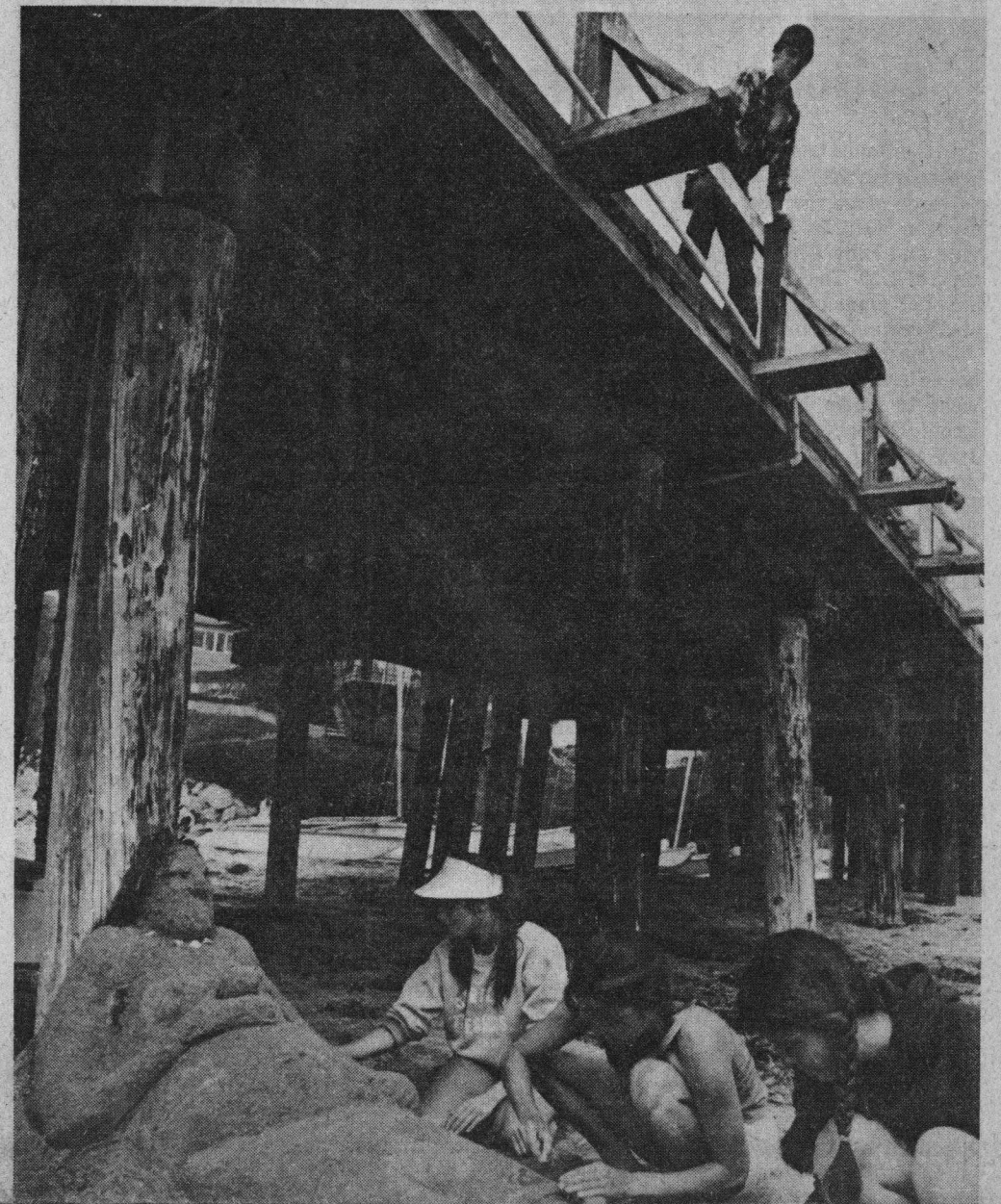
The Diaper Derby contest for babies Saturday morning saw 13-month old Timothy Jones of Soquel crawl away with the top award with an 8.5 second time.

Second place in the boy's division went to Keven Mowen of Aptos with 18 second clocking, and Shanah Richmond of Ben Lomond, 11 months old, placed third with a 20 second

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Ronald Strombom puts the finishing touches on his entry.

time.
Briana White of Capitola was the fastest girl with a 12.3 second time. Second place went to Ashley Lopez of Capitola with 15 seconds, and Courtney Bettancourt of Santa Cruz was runner up with a time of 20.5 seconds.

Prizes were donated by Capitola merchants. First prize was a \$10 savings account from Gavilan Bank, and runner-up prizes were a doll and wooden car from the Woodworm.

In the revived Rowboat contest, Michael Astone and Jackie Marquez rowed to a winning time of 2:16 minutes, and went home with a dinner for two at the Deer Park Tavern.

Skip and Andee Allen weren't far behind, clocking a time of 2:19 for the circular course, and winning a dinner

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Begonia

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at Shadowbrook.

Third place in the adult division went to Mark Courville and Billy Branon with a time of 2:30. They'll be eating a Kabob Dinner at the Grape-steak restaurant in Soquel.

In the junior division (16 and under) first place trophies went to Dawn Mudgett and Drew Embury with a time 3:13. Second place was picked up by Vince Felicetta and Kelley Dever, 3:21; and third place with a time of 4:04 went to Sterling Mason and Roger Ochs.