

BOARDWALK Boardwalk jam-boree

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RICK E. MARTIN — MERCURY NEWS

Crowds stroll the boardwalk Sunday in Santa Cruz, but chilly weather kept many off the beach.

Beachgoers stuck with long trip, chilly day

BY ED POPE
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We think of the Memorial Day holiday as the first weekend of summer. But in Santa Cruz, this has been more like the last gasp of winter.

And the joke was on thousands from the South Bay who headed over the hill.

Their reward:

Interminable hours stuck in traffic on Highway 17 with a backup that, by 9:30 a.m., stretched from Mount Hermon Road to Lark Avenue in San Jose, extended to Campbell two hours later and remained heavy until 2:30 p.m.

All that for chilly 66-degree weather with foggy skies along the coast.

For those thinking of going back for more today, be warned: The forecast is for temperatures in the mid- to upper 60s, fog in the morning and clearing skies in the afternoon.