

'It would be nice to see you all at the University of California, but I don't care where you go. Just go.'

ROBERT DYNES, UC PRESIDENT

UC president visits Watsonville



Kate Falconer/Sentinel photos

UC President Robert Dynes talks to Watsonville High student Alejandro Lobato, 18, about his school project Thursday.

Dynes skirts hot-button issues, scouts high school programs

By **DONNA JONES**
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

WATSONVILLE — Growing up in Ontario, Canada, University of California President Robert Dynes said he played a bit of hockey. And he was good, he said, good enough that he was offered a contract with the Toronto Maple Leafs of the NHL.

But a high school physics teacher — and a timely offer of a scholarship from an insurance company — persuaded him to go to college instead. He's never regretted the decision, he told students during a historic visit to Watsonville High

School on Thursday.

Believed to be the first-ever visit by a UC president, Dynes was in town to review various UC-sponsored programs aimed at encouraging more students to attend college and more students to study science once they get there.

"If you continue your education, if you go to college, the world opens up," Dynes told the students. "It would be nice to see you all at the University of California, but I don't care where you go. Just go."

Dynes, who has led the UC sys-

See **DYNES** on **PAGE A12**



University of California President Robert Dynes watches as Watsonville High School brothers Jacob, 14, and Adrian Salinas, 17, launch a bean-filled ball as part of their catapult project Thursday.

Friday, March 23, 2007

Santa Cruz Sentinel

Front Page
A1, A12

