

regular season, defeated FC Dallas and New York Red Bulls to reach the third round of the U.S. Open Cup. The team has won the U.S.

The pick up location in the Tennessee Avenue Soccer Complex where supporters can leave their cars and board the bus. Buses should arrive at 7 p.m. **Continued on Page 28**

# OC resident Chases his passion for marathon ocean swimming

By ANN RICHARDSON  
Staff Writer

When it comes to marathon ocean swimming, Bruckner Chase learned a few important lessons from attempts at swimming the likes of the English Channel, perhaps the biggest of which is that not finishing is not the same thing as failing.

The Ocean City athlete, poised to swim 17 miles around Strathmere and Sea Isle early Thursday morning as a warm-up for a daunting 25-mile California swim in August, says he lives by the words of the Dalai Lama.

"We can deny everything but the possibility of doing better," he said. "I never imagined that I could swim such long distances. What I thought was once insurmountable was reachable with the proper training and preparation. My goal is to help others fulfill their dreams and live up to their potential. I live by example."

For Chase, it's all about the ocean. Swimming for hours on end with little but the support of his crew and adoring wife, Michelle Evans-Chase, on a nearby boat and a bottle full of nourishment every 30 minutes, is invigorating for him.

"I feel at home in the ocean," he said. "It's some-



Ocean City resident Bruckner Chase, pictured with his wife, Michelle, will attempt to become just the second person to swim the 25 miles of Pacific Ocean between Santa Cruz and Monterey Bay, Calif.

thing restorative, something healing. I feel alive around the wildlife, they dynamic, exciting environment."

Chase swims throughout the winter, and he doesn't use a wetsuit.

"I love cold water, I swim by what they call English Channel rules, a traditional swim suit, goggles and a swim cap," he said. "You finish with what you started with."

Weather permitting, sometime around Aug. 19 Chase will swim from Santa Cruz to Monterey, Calif., 25-mile jaunt. He and Michelle lived in Monterey before moving east two years ago. He will enter the water at Main Beach, and if he is successful he will

be only the second person to accomplish this.

Cindy Cleveland made the trip in September, 1980 and Chase plans to follow her constantly changing, sometimes dangerous and inhospitable course through Monterey Bay. Battling jellyfish, lightning strikes and powerful channels for more than 13 hours, it will be the ultimate test. It could be disheartening, but Chase is optimistic he will succeed.

So why would anyone want to do this?

"I want to encourage people to try to do bold things, to go beyond their comfort zone whether it's swimming or something else," he said.

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Asts	12
	12
	4
	10
	5
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Pct	64.0
	60.8
	51.4
Asts	39
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Pct	69.3