

SPORTS MONDAY

Daily Nexus

November 25, 1996

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The Latest Line...

A weekly look at the sports world!

The best battles to watch by far are UCSB-Long Beach State volleyball games, especially when they're for the Big West Conference title.

• After watching the Roy Jones Jr. light-heavyweight title fight this past weekend, I think it's quite apparent that the ol' microphone-inserted-into-the-boxer's-trunks idea worked about as well as the Larry Holmes comeback.

• I want to meet the advertising genius responsible for selecting the San Antonio Spurs' backup center Will Perdue to be the new pitchman for Campbell's Chunky Soup commercials.

• Yes. Will Perdue. The man Michael Jordan nicknamed "Vanderbilt" because he felt Perdue was not worthy of being named after a Big-10 school.

• It must be a great working environment for San Francisco 49ers Head Coach George Seifert, who not only has the intense pressure of winning games week in and week out, but must do it with former Head Coach Bill Walsh constantly looming over his shoulder.

• Quote of the Week: "Look at these guys standing around doing nothing as if they were on welfare or something." — Lakers' play-by-play announcer Chick Hearn commenting on the Utah Jazz defense.

• I don't know about you, but the look on USC Head Coach John Robinson's face after blowing a 17-point lead with six minutes left in Saturday's game was not one of disappointment, but rather the look of a man realizing that he is on the verge of losing his job.

• Words to the wise: Take a maximum of 12 units Winter Quarter — college basketball will be in full swing!!!

—By Alex Nugent

UCSB Spikers Eliminated by Long Beach in Three Games

■ Host Team Could Not Advance in Conference Tournament

By Yier Shi
Staff Writer

It was a different post-season tournament, but the results certainly did not change.

The #15 UCSB women's volleyball team was once again defeated in the second round of post-season play as they lost on Sunday to #6 Long Beach State in the Big West Volleyball Tournament, 15-9, 18-16, 15-10.

Santa Barbara (22-8 overall, 13-3 in the Big West) has never made it past round two of a post-season tournament in 15 tries. Luckily for the Gauchos, however, the real deal — the NCAA tourney — won't begin until next week.

Against the 49ers (30-1, 15-1) UCSB could just not seem to find the rhythm, as Long Beach handed Santa Barbara its third loss in three meetings between

the two clubs.

"The difference between Long Beach and UCSB is that they have some exceptional athletes," said UCSB Head Coach Kathy Gregory. "Our game plan was to let the other team make the mistakes, which of course



Katie Crawford

doesn't happen very often with Long Beach. Long Beach is a great team, and I take nothing away from them tonight. I was just a little disappointed."

The three games on Sunday were hard-fought battles, with both teams

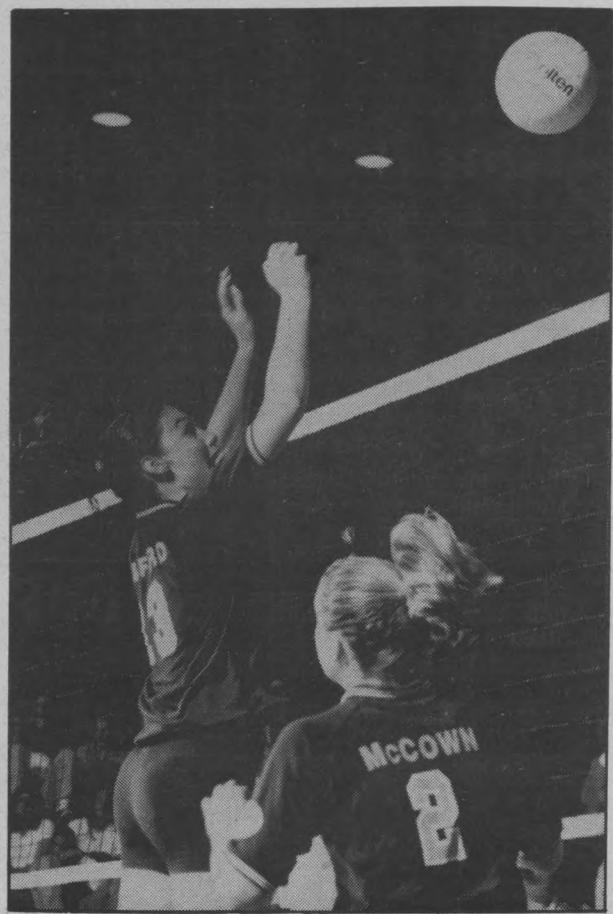
exchanging leads. But Santa Barbara was never able to outlast the 49ers in any of the games, especially during a critical second game.

"They just have too many weapons," Gregory said. "We can't stop them, and our defense didn't play well."

The turning point for the match was in that second game, when UCSB had its best chance of winning a game and perhaps shifting the momentum. The Gauchos had two game points before eventually losing in a heart-breaker, 18-16.

UCSB had another chance to take a game, leading 10-7 in the third, before Long Beach stormed back to close out the match with eight consecutive points.

Leading the way for the 49ers was junior outside hitter Jenn Snyder, who had a game-high 20 kills and 14 digs. Snyder was



SEND THAT BACK: Sophomore Katie Crawford goes up for a block as Erin McCown looks on.

also instrumental in last two wins against Santa Barbara earlier in the year. "I don't really think ab-

out who we are playing," Snyder said. "I'm just worried." See TOURNEY p.2A

Santa Barbara Wins Season Debut; Westmont Gives Gauchos a Scare

By Yier Shi
Staff Writer

The UCSB men's basketball team unveiled its version of the killer B's on Friday night, as it defeated Westmont College 73-64 in the season opener.

Sophomore forward B.J. Bunton and junior point guard Les Bean combined to account for 40 of the 73 Gaucho points as the two rescued Santa Barbara (1-0) from a potentially disastrous home debut.

UCSB was expected by many to easily roll over the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Warriors (1-2), who came into the game undersized and outmanned. But Westmont hung tough and took a 33-31 lead into halftime before the Gauchos could take control of the game.

"I really felt like [Westmont Head Coach] John Moore's team would play their hearts out," said UCSB Head Coach Jerry Pimm. "I just hoped they wouldn't play harder than us. And I don't think they played harder than we did. We played very, very hard tonight."

Leading the way for the Warriors was junior Joe Kearns, who finished the game with 17 points and three rebounds. Senior Chris Lang contributed 12 points for Westmont.

But the night belonged to Santa Barbara's Bean and Bunton.

The two started the game by scoring the first 14 Gaucho points in the initial 10 minutes of the game.

"I saw a lot of openings in their defense," said Bean, who had a game-high 21 points, five assists and four steals. "So I was aggressive and tried to penetrate and score."

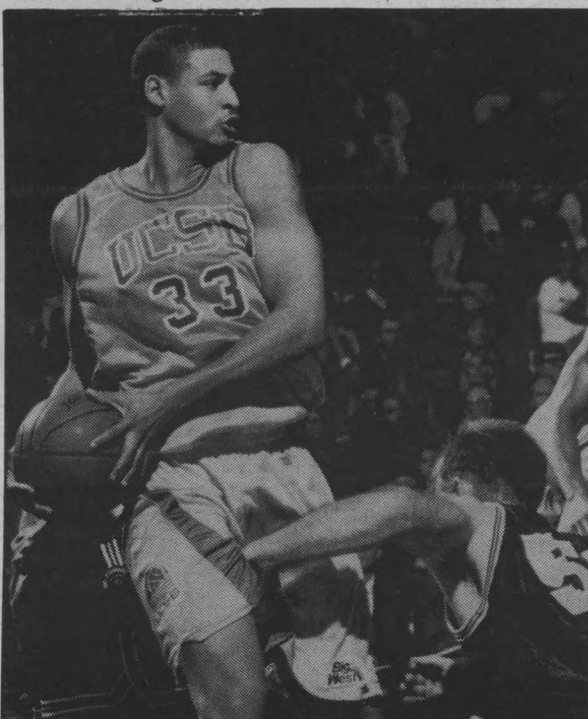
Not only did Bean control the tempo of the game with his offense and defense,

but the 5'11" transfer from Los Angeles City College also showcased some of his other talents.

Bean brought the crowd to its feet three times on the night by soaring for some spectacular dunks, one of which was called a technical foul by referee Jerry White because Bean hung on to the rim afterwards — a call that was questioned by Pimm.

"The rule is that you're able to hang on the rim when there is a crowd underneath you," said Pimm, who added that replay clearly showed that there were Westmont players below the basket. "You don't want to fall wrong in that situation. However, I don't think he needed to dunk the ball. He could've just put it on the backboard. But Les had a great game, he had some good shot selections and took control."

See HOOPS p.2A



ALAN JACOBY/Daily Nexus

GO FOR THE BALL!: B.J. Bunton tries to avoid the steal as the Gauchos defeated Westmont.

Gauchos Split Kansas Trip; Big Upset Hopes Dashed

By Brian Berger
Staff Writer

Things went a little tougher than expected for the UCSB women's basketball team this weekend.

The Gauchos entered their season opener with a perfect exhibition record, but found that the regular season can be a bit harsher as the squad narrowly defeated the University of Missouri-Kansas City 64-62 on Friday and lost 81-71 to the University of Kansas

See KANSAS p.3A

Men's Hoops Set to Play in TV Game

By Yier Shi
Staff Writer

With its first-game jitters out of the way, the UCSB men's basketball team will face another kind of trial tonight when it plays the first televised Gauchos game in two years.

Coming off a lackluster 73-64 victory over Westmont College in the season opener, Santa Barbara (1-0) will get a stiff test of its ability when the

See WAVES p.2A

Sporting Events Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Men's Basketball @ Pepperdine 5 p.m.	No Events Scheduled	No Events Scheduled	No Events Scheduled	Women's Basketball UCSB Invitational (UCSB, Wisconsin, Delaware, UCI) 5 p.m., 7 p.m.	Women's Basketball UCSB Invitational (UCSB, Wisconsin, Delaware, UCI) 5 p.m., 7 p.m.	Men's Basketball @ St. Mary's 2 p.m.

KANSAS: Santa Barbara Falls to Jayhawks

Continued from p.1A

on Sunday.

"Overall, I was pleased with our effort," said UCSB Head Coach Mark French. "We played hard and did good things against a good Kansas team."

While the split was disappointing to the team, it was not unexpected. University of Kansas entered the game ranked #12 in the country and was seeking to avenge last season's defeat in Santa Barbara.

The Jayhawks jumped on the board first when preseason All-American Tamecka Dixon scored two of her 17 points just nine seconds into the contest. The teams continued to exchange baskets until UCSB freshman point guard Stacy Clinesmith buried a three-pointer to give the Gauchos their first lead with 14:52 left in the half.

From that point on, the two teams seasawed with the lead before Kansas took a 39-38 advantage into halftime.

The Jayhawks were sparked in the opening period by Angie Halbleib, who hit three treys on her way to 14 first-half points.

The second half proved to be costly for Santa Barbara, as Kansas began to pull away with 15 minutes remaining in the game. UCSB was able to close the lead to four, but the Jayhawks again put together a run, taking an 11-point lead when Halbleib converted a layup at the 9:46 mark.

The Gauchos attempted to close the gap, but foul trouble became a factor and hampered the squad. Both Clinesmith and senior guard Erin Alexander fouled out of the game, leaving UCSB without its starting backcourt tandem. Without the duo, Kansas was able to preserve the home-court win by hitting its final free throws, sealing the game.

"I thought we played well defensively," French said. "At times, we broke down and let too many drivers [inside], which is against our defensive philosophy."

UCSB was led by senior forward Amy Smith, who poured in 23 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. Clinesmith (11) and Alexander (14) were the only other Gauchos to score in double digits.

Halbleib led all scorers with 29 points, while Dixon added 17 and Nakia Sanford threw down 14 for the Jayhawks.

"I think we are at a point where we should not feel good about a loss," French said. "It should irritate us, and we should be upset that we lost."

Friday night's contest against Missouri-Kansas City was supposed to serve as a warm-up for Kansas, but became a true test when the Kangaroos battled with Santa Barbara the entire game.

UCSB came out to a fast start, leading by as many as 14 points in the first half. The Gauchos, however, became cold from the floor, allowing the Running 'Roos to pull within eight at the half, 33-25.

Second-half action saw Santa Barbara become as cold as the midwestern weather, as the team shot a miserable 29 percent from the field. The poor UCSB shooting opened the door for UMKC, but the 'Roos could not capitalize on the opportunity.

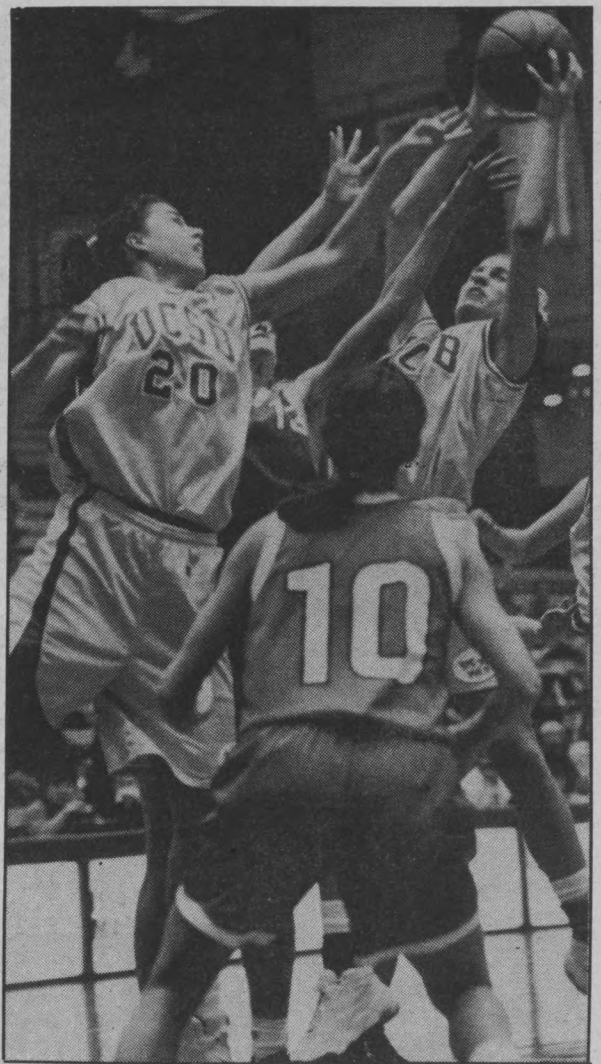
After the Gauchos led by 16 with 10:26 on the clock, the Kangaroos began to chip away at the lead with a 26-10 run, tying the game with only 2:12 left. Neither team could score until Alexander converted with 54 seconds left in the game.

The basket was only Alexander's third of the game as she endured one of her worst shooting performances since coming to Santa Barbara, going 3-15 from the floor and 0-7 from three-point land.

Freshman forward Kristi Rohr led UCSB with 16 points and 14 rebounds in her first collegiate game. Alexander and Clinesmith followed with 11 and 12 points respectively.

UMKC was supported by the efforts of Darci Haas, who finished with a game-high 17 points. Teresa Grimes (11) was the only other player above 10 points for the Kangaroos.

The Gauchos will next be in action this Friday as they host the GTE Shootout in the Thunderdome. The two-day event will draw the University of Wisconsin, UC Irvine and the University of Delaware.



Full Stretch: Freshmen Rachel Mahar (left) and Kristi Rohr both try for a rebound.

TOURNEY

Continued from p.2A

round of the Big West tournament.

In the game against the Broncos, UCSB had an easy time as they swept Boise in three games, 15-8, 15-6, 15-11.

Leading the way for the Gauchos once again was Crawford, who had 13 kills, seven digs and five blocks. Freshman Roberta Gehlke added eight kills and so-

phomore Erin McCown contributed seven kills and 14 digs.

"We did what we had to against Boise State," Gregory said. "We served well and played well defensively."

Boise State was led by sophomore outside hitter Robin Phipps and junior middle blocker Becky Meeks.

Phipps had nine kills and eight digs while Meek chipped in eight kills and four blocks.

Other UCSB Weekend Result

Men's Water Polo (See story Tuesday)
UC Irvine d. UCSB 13-8

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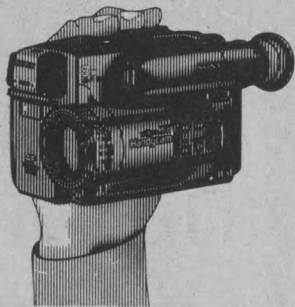
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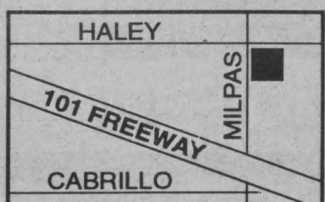
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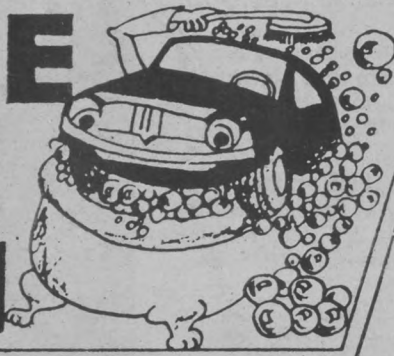
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