## Sports MONDAY

#### The Latest Line...

occasional look at the sports world!

If El Niño's got you feeling gloomy, take solace in the fact that the first sign of spring is right around the corner. Major League Baseball's spring training gets under way this week.

Hopefully Mother Nature will be kinder to the professional teams than she has been to the Gauchos the past two weeks. After being rained out this past weekend, the UCSB baseball and softball teams have combined to play only three out of 15 scheduled games.

It's too bad the Thunderdome has a roof on it; the men's basketball team would not have minded a few rainouts considering the damage done to them by a pair of 7'1" British centers last weekend. Pacific's Michael Olowokandi and LBSU's Andrew Betts combined for 58 points, 27 rebounds and 11 blocks against an undersized Gaucho squad.

While the women's basketball team did not acstill rolling merrily along toward an NCAA Tournament berth.

If things go according to plan, Head Coach Mark French will enjoy his 300th career victory Sunday with a win over Long Beach State. Not bad for a guy who had never seen a women's basketball game before he coached one 19 years ago.

"Diz" Alkaly may want to forgo his dream career as a professional football prognosticator. I told you Denver was going to win the Big One. Ha!

-Scott Hennessee and Ben Alkaly

#### **Gauchos Lose 2nd Straight at Home**

BY SCOTT HENNESSEE Staff Writer

The UCSB men's basketball team's performance against Long Beach State was much the same as the weather outside the appropriately named Thunderdome Saturday night: erratic

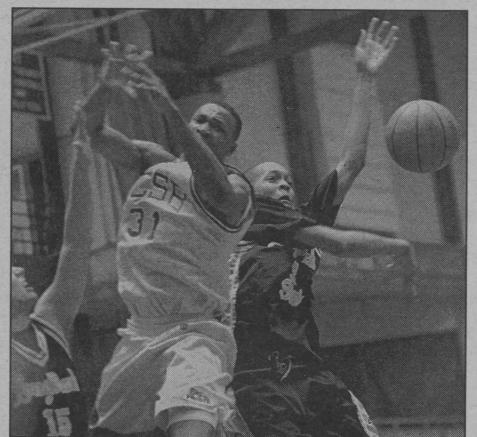
The Gauchos managed their lowest point total in the last 11 years, falling to the 49ers, 54-46. UCSB converted only 28 percent of its shots, its poorest shooting performance since a Big West Tournament game against UC Irvine in 1994.

"We had 64 possessions and only seven times we passed the ball four times or more," Santa Barbara Head Coach Jerry Pimm said. "That doesn't give us good statistics for shots. So the shots we were taking were not good shots, and we were taking some rushed opportunities - not reading the defense."

UCSB's second-straight home defeat drops it into a tie in the Big West Conference Western Division with the #2 49ers. Both teams have identical 4-6 conference marks. The Gauchos are now 7-13 overall, while LBSU is 9-13 after winning its first road game this

"It's a big win for us not only in terms of the race in the western portion of the conference, but it also is big for us to get our first win on the road," Long Beach State Head Coach Wayne Morgan said. "The kids gave a tremendous effort tonight. We made mistakes, but we made plays when we had to make them."

As poorly as Santa Bar- free-throws with 2:42 left to free throw to give his team a bara played offensively, it play. But 49er center Anstill had opportunities to win drew Betts banked in an easy down the stretch. Senior layup on the next possession forward Kealon Wallace and would score again while gave UCSB a two-point lead being fouled on LBSU's



SWATTED: Kealon Wallace and the rest of the Gauchos had a hard time getting the ball to drop, shooting a collective 28 percent in a 54-46 loss to Long Beach State Saturday. when he made one of two next trip. He would sink the

> 47-44 lead with 1:41 showing on the clock.

The 7'1" senior led all players with 27 points, including 7-10 from the foul

line. He also pulled down 14 rebounds and blocked four

"It was a very physical game, but most of them are

See B-BALL, p.2A

#### Win vs. SDSU

BY SHANE CULBERTSON Staff Writer

The UCSB men's volleyball team soared to new heights Saturday night as it picked up its first win in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, beating San Diego State University in three straight

"It's nice to know that we can complish its goal of 50-point win," Gaucho senior outside hitter blowouts, the Gauchos are Jeremy Darner said. "We've been

playing well but haven't been able to walk away with a victory. Saturday's match was definitely a relief."

Remaining consistent with their previous matches this season, the Gauchos came firing out of the gate in the first game. Aided by a bevy of service aces, of which UCSB had 10 in the match, Santa Barbara won the game, 15-12.

Santa Barbara middle blocker Andy Tomkinson attributed Santa Barbara's stellar play in the first game to team consistency.

"We came out strong and steady," he said. "We're starting to settle as a team and we're playing better as a result. It is really all about our chemistry, the more familiar we become with one another the better we play."

Unlike previous matches, the Gauchos kept the fire burning into the second game. Excellent serving continued to be UCSB's strong suit as they routed the Aztecs 15-2

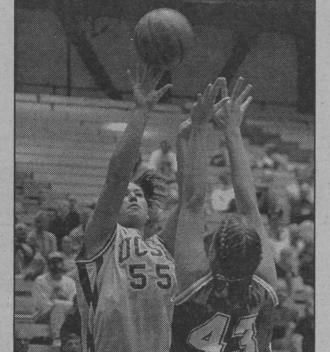
"Our intensity continued and we

didn't experience the roller-coaster effect of letting down in the second game like we have in our earlier matches," Tomkinson said. "It was a good feeling, it's a lot more fun when you're winning."

Strong blocking was the key for Santa Barbara in the third game and led the team to a 15-7 victory. It took the Gauchos only an hour and a half to dispense of SDSU.

UCSB Head Coach Ken Pre-

See VOLLEY, p.3A



WINDEX WOMAN: Nicole Greathouse wiped the glass clean last weekend, grabbing 28 rebounds in two games.

#### Basketbal

BY BEN ALKALY Staff Writer

The UCSB women's basketball team played two stylistically contrasting, yet equally successful games on the road last weekend.

The Gauchos (17-5, 8-1 in the Big West Conference) labored to a 55-48 win over University of the Pacific on Friday evening in Stockton before blowing out Long Beach State 87-67 on the 49ers' home turf Sunday afternoon. The two conference victories give Santa Barbara a season-best six-game winning streak.

For awhile it appeared as though UCSB's string of consecutive wins might end against the defensive-minded Tigers (8-12, 4-6). For a majority of the contest, the Gauchos looked like anything but the team that ranks ninth nationally in scoring offense (82.4 points per game), shooting just 32 percent from the floor.

"It was a strange game," said Santa Barbara Head Coach Mark French, who moved within two victories of 300 for his career over the weekend. "We played with good intensity, but for some reason we were out of synch."

Fortunately for the visiting squad, UOP was not clicking either, connecting on only 25 percent of its shots. The Gauchos controlled the momentum early, building an eight-point advantage seven minutes into the ballgame before settling for a meager 26-23 halftime lead.

Pacific came out of the locker room as the more inspired squad, pulling ahead 43-42 seven minutes into the second stanza.

Santa Barbara sophomore forward Kristi Rohr immediately answered the Tiger charge with a short jumper. Freshman center Nicole Greathouse followed with a basket of her own, and sophomore guard Stacy Clinesmith capped the run with what would

See WOMEN, p.3A

Sporting Events Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
No Events Scheduled	Baseball @ Westmont 2 p.m.	Baseball vs. Cal State Northridge 2 p.m. Men's tennis @ Pepperdine 1:30 p.m. Women's tennis vs. Westmont 3 p.m.	Men's basketball @ UOP 9 p.m.	Women's basketball vs. UOP 7 p.m. Men's volleyball vs. Stanford 7 p.m. Baseball vs. Loyola Marymount 2 p.m. Swimming & diving @ Calif. Championships through Monday	Men's basketball @ Long Beach State 2 p.m. Men's volleyball vs. UOP 7 p.m. Softball @ Hawai'i Tournament TBA Baseball vs. Loyola Marymount 1 p.m.	Women's basketball vs. Long Beach State 2 p.m. Baseball vs. Loyola Marymount 1 p.m. Women's water pole vs. Hawai'i 12 p.m. Softball @ Hawai' Tournament TBA



Check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging. Aries (March 21-April 19)—Today is an 8—This is a great day to fall in love, or at least make new friends. You should have plenty of opportunities to meet people. If you're already in a committed relationship, you'll renew your affection for one another. There is a natural push in that direction right now, so why fight it?

Taurus (April 20-May 20)—Today is a 6—There's something of a problem today. Things will be going slowly, and possibly to your disadvantage. About the best you can hope for is to put the brakes on even further. You might need help in order to accomplish that objective. If so, ask a Scorpio  $\star$ 

Gemini (May 21 - June 21 )—Today is a 7—You have a tendency to be kind of jittery. However, the conditions in effect will calm you down and make it easier to concentrate. So your normal attention microseconds, could extend to as long as five or 10 minutes! No telling what you could accomplish with an advantage like this. Hit 'em hard!

Cancer (June 22-July 22)—Today is a 5—If there's something being bought or sold, make sure you get your percentage. Actually, you look like you're in a pretty good position. You shouldn't rely completely on luck, however. Your own good sense will make a big difference in the bottom line, so pay attention to what's going on.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)—Today is a 7—You're strong, charismatic and good looking. Unfortunately, you're up against some tough competition. He or she is smart, meticulous and good at figuring out how things should be done. You, on the other hand, are good at inspiring people to actually do the project. That's your job for today.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)—Today is a 6—You're good at keeping track of little details. You might even be doing bookkeeping or accounting for a living. If so, get your own taxes out of the way early. There's something bothering you, and that could be it. Not to worry. If you handle things quickly now, you won't have to worry later.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—Today is an 8—You should be in a rather erratic mood today—that is to say, unpredictable. You might also be in the mood for falling in love. If you don't have a sweetheart and you'd like to get one, go to a place that offers live entertainment this evening.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)—Today is a 6—The proceedings could grind to a halt today. The other guys might even have a slight advantage. Sometime opponents will fight on the same side just to make sure you don't get what you want. In order to make the whole encounter fair, try to get a Taurus on your side.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21 )—Today is a 7—If you have to travel on business, lucky you. If you get to travel for pleasure, even luckier! You're a very lucky person, so either scenario is possible today. Today is also good for a journey into higher education. If you've been thinking about going back to school, definitely make the move now.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)—Today is a 6—You're going to have to put money into something today. If it's not the savings account, it's some sort of insurance, or perhaps even taxes you have to pay. You will derive a benefit from the money ou're stashing away, so don't worry about it, even if it's more than you wish it were.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)—Today is an 8—Pay close attention to a partner, or somebody you hired to do a job. You want to make sure he or she knows exactly how you want it done, so go over the plan in minute detail. It might seem like too much at the time, but later you'll be glad you did. Better to give too much information than not enough.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)—Today is a 6—A person who wants you to try something new has some good advice for you. The problem is that it might be something you don't want to hear. The good news is that it could unlock the secret to your success. So simply say "Thank you." You'll take the other person by surprise, and everybody will be left with a warm fuzzy feeling.

Today's Birthday (Feb. 9). Your focus is on partnerships this year, both personal and business. The one who's most annoying in February may be a keeper. Don't spend too heavily on a group effort in March. Help them find ways to generate income instead. Unwelcome advice proves valuable in April. If you're getting married this year, do it in August. A partnership brings you increased self-esteem in September. A friend's crazy idea could be expensive in December, and an old wives tale works in January.

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SILVER GREENS\*\*\*\*



#### **B-BAL** Continued from p.1A

because they aren't going to give me position very easily," Betts said. "Every game is going to be like that if they do their scouting report right."

UCSB was still alive with 1:20 left to play. After calling a timeout to set up a play with only 14 seconds on the shot clock, senior Dwayne Williams was forced to throw up a highly contested shot as the clock wound down. It missed the mark to the right and Santa Barbara was forced to foul immediately. Junior Jermel Bradley made two free throws with 57 seconds left to put his team ahead 49-44. Betts would make two more free throws and throw down a two-handed slam dunk in the final 16 seconds to seal

After going up against University of the Pacific's 7'1" center Michael Olowokandi on Thursday, Pimm had seen enough of towering big men bowling over his defense.

"I'd sure like to have one, or I'd like to have B.J. back one or the other," said Pimm in reference to 6'7" junior forward B.J. Bunton who missed his second consecutive game due to back spasms. "It has hurt us not to have B.J. in there."

-Without Bunton, UCSB's starting frontline shot a combined four for 19. His presence was also missed on the boards as Santa Barbara was outrebounded 46-33.

"We stayed in the game because of our defense, obviously. Hitting 28 percent, you don't generally stay in games," Pimm said. "We were good defensively, but we weren't good at the end of the defense which was block-outs and rebounds. The thing that beat us obviously was allowing them too many second shots, but the bottom line was 15-53, 28.3 percent, and 17 turnovers against what I would call no pressure type defense."

The Gauchos had as much trouble finding the

basket in the beginning of the game as it did in the end. They missed 10 of their first 12 shots and went through a spell of six minutes and 10 seconds without scoring a basket. Senior guard Raymond Tutt, who scored UCSB's first seven points, was the only Gaucho to score until senior Les Bean hit a free throw 10:36 into the half, but by that time, the

The early drought wasn't the only scoreless spell Santa Barbara would endure: after taking a 26-23 lead to begin the second half, the Gauchos went four minutes without a basket while they watched the 49ers build a 32-26 lead.

Beach had already built a

15-7 lead.

Bean then led his team on its most impressive flurry of the game, sandwiching a driving layup between a pair of assists to freshman Mike Vukovich and Tutt to pull within one point. UCSB couldn't keep the momentum though, managing only 13 points in the remaining 11:13 of the game.

"They made the plays at the end of the game, we did not make them," Pimm said. "So they won the game because they made the plays at the end of the game that we didn't make."

When asked what he thought the difference in the game was, Betts offered a simpler explanation.

"I mean, really, I think it was them messing up," Betts

Tutt was the only Gaucho to sink more than two field goals — he went 6-14 for 15 points. Vukovich was the next high scorer with eight

Santa Barbara will get to see some more of Betts and the 49ers next Saturday at Long Beach after facing UOP's Olowokandi and company in Stockton on Thursday. The game vs. the Tigers will be televised on ESPN beginning at 9 p.m., while Saturday's contest starts at 2 p.m.

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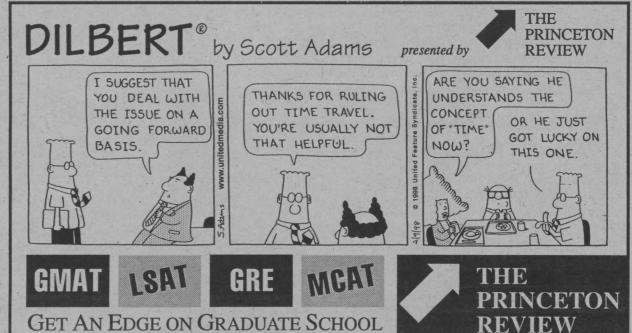
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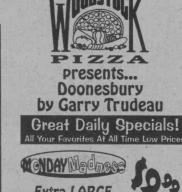


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BY GARRY TRUDEAU





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#### WOME

Continued from p.1A

be UCSB's only successful three-point attempt in 17 tries. The 7-0 spurt would give the Gauchos a lead they would never

But more important than Santa Barbara's conversion of its opportunities was a display of offensive futility by the home team. Over the final 11:17, UOP missed 15 consecutive shots before senior guard Cathy Lauritzen buried a meaningless three-pointer with 19 seconds left.

Clinesmith felt the Pacific drought was facilitated by her team's stifling defense.

"At Pacific, we struggled on the offensive end," she said. "[But] the coaches were pleased with us because we tried really hard. Our defense really picked up."

Not surprisingly, the Tigers finished without a player scoring in double-digits. Sophomore forward Tawneé Cooper paced the Gauchos with 12 points.

While neither team could mount much of a scoring attack, UCSB's 55-37 rebounding advantage was pivotal. Greathouse dominated in the paint, pulling down 16 boards.

"Nicole had a really, really nice defensive game," French said. "She did a great job of keeping the ball out of the high post, which is where UOP likes to start their offense. Obviously, she did a great job of going to the

The Ventura native was again a force on the glass in Sunday's 20-point thumping of LBSU, (5-15, 2-7) grabbing 12 rebounds. Santa Barbara also went back to its old

Continued from p.1A

team's performance.

all around."

ston was pleased with his

"We blocked well and had

virtually no hitting errors,"

he said. "Our hitting statis-

tics are tremendous and the

team played good volleyball

standing match, posting a

.647 hitting percentage and

humbly credited his team for

The 6'9" sophomore

driving home 12 kills.

Tomkinson had an out-

staple, lighting up the scoreboard, to handily defeat the Western Division's last-place

For the opening 10 minutes of the contest, however, it seemed as though UCSB was feeling some lingering effects of Pacificitis. Long Beach scored the game's first six points, and held a five-point advantage at the 11:55 mark.

The Gauchos began to trim their deficit, and with 9:35 remaining in the half Clinesmith decided to commence her shooting clinic. She reeled off the next 13 UCSB points over a three minute span and took the wind out of the 49ers' sails. The point guard went into intermission with 18 points, most of which resulted from an astounding 5-of-7 performance from behind the arc, and a 42-36 lead for her team.

At the break, the native of Spokane, Wash., was more concerned with preventing the Beach from sneaking back into the ballgame than her own statistics.

"We went into halftime knowing that our offense is started by our defense," said Clinesmith, who topped all scorers with 22 points. "The first half they got a lot of drivers and easy baskets. Our goal was to stop the easy shots."

The Gauchos accomplished just that, limiting LBSU to 31 points on 37 percent shooting over the final 20 minutes. The visiting squad also went on an 11-0, three-anda-half minute run near the start of the second half to put the game out of reach.

We're slowly starting to put things together," Greathouse said. "By tournament time, we'll be ready."

> aggressive. Darner also hit well as he has done all season

and Renfree did a good job

with dishing out the ball."

their work cut out for them

this season as they currently

stand at 2-3 overall, 1-3 in

the MPSF. Saturday's per-

formance, however, was de-

finitely a step in the right

On a side note, Friday's

match against UC San

Diego was postponed due to

inclement weather and will

be rescheduled for a later

direction.

The Gauchos still have

said. "[Senior setter] Adam

Renfree controlled the match. He did a good job of

setting, which led to the

Gauchos were provided by

Darner and senior middle

blocker Bob Hefty. Darner

hit at a .500 clip with 19

kills, while Hefty hit at a tre-

mendous .727 percentage

"We were hitting on all

cylinders on Saturday

night," Preston said. "Andy

[Tomkinson] played the

with eight kills.

his performance. best college match of his ca-"The whole team played reer. He played with a lot of

Other bright spots for the

outcome."

really well," Tomkinson confidence and was really





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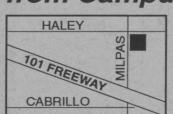




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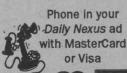


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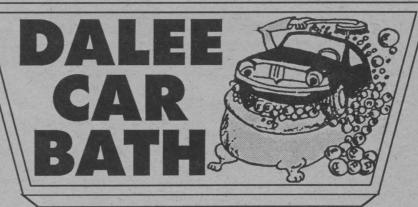
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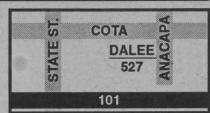
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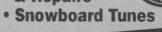
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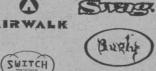
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