

SPORTS MONDAY

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Tigers Take Gauchos Back to the Past

In Replay of '91 Match, Pacific Hands UCSB Heartbreaking Loss After Five Tough Games

By Dino Scoppettone
Staff Writer

Sherman, set the Wayback Machine for 1991 — Nov. 8, to be exact.

It was on that evening that the UCSB women's volleyball team took the University of Pacific to the limit before falling 16-14 in the decisive fifth game. Santa Barbara, possibly haunted by the stigma of its lifetime 4-28 record against the Tigers, played well enough to win, but couldn't pull it out in the end.

Saturday night at the Events Center, the Gauchos took the crowd back to the future, going five games with Pacific once again. And once again, UCSB played well enough to win, even dominating the match at times.

But once again, the end result was the same.

Pacific (10-3 overall, 3-1 conference) overcame a sluggish start to roar back and down the Gauchos, 10-15, 15-10, 15-5, 11-15, 15-12, to keep its #4 national ranking intact. After splitting its pair of weekend matches, UCSB now stands at 6-2 overall and 2-1 in the Big West.

UCSB started Saturday where it left off Friday, when the Gauchos needed a scant 46 minutes to get rid of Nevada, 15-5, 15-2, 15-2. Against Pacific, Santa Barbara looked early on as if it was the #4 team in the country. Indeed, the Gauchos were outthitting and outdigging the Tigers, and when UCSB bolted to a 10-3 lead in the second game, it was damage control time for UOP Head Coach John Dunning.

"We'd been worrying for a week now that we were going to have a letdown," said Dunning, who called a timeout at that point to rally his troops. "(During the timeout) we just said 'Hey, you've got to pump the level up ... or we're going to lose,' and they did, instantly."

If Dunning could market those magical words, he'd be a millionaire. At the least, he'd be able to sell them to UCSB Head Coach Kathy Gregory, who watched her team surrender 12 straight points as Pacific rallied for the game two victory.

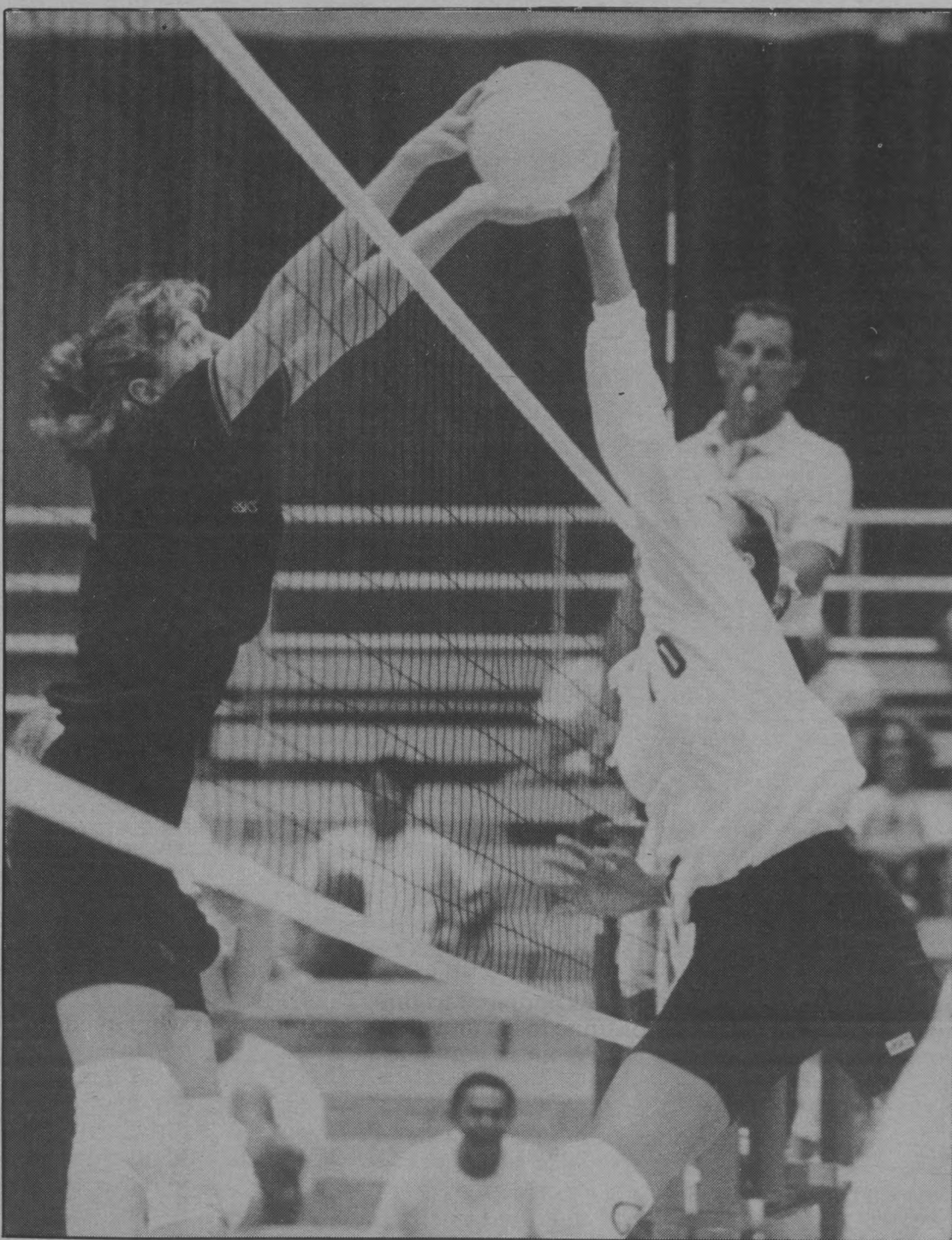
"We had UOP very tentative and very nervous," Gregory said. "Their passing wasn't very good and they weren't playing very well as a team. Then we got into a rotation with Heather (Collins) and Tina (Van Loon) ... and now we've got a serious problem."

With Collins and Van Loon, neither of whom were playing well, mired in the front row along with setter Chrissy Boehle, the Gauchos found themselves in a very weak position offensively, and UOP was able to take full advantage of the mismatch. Their confidence destroyed, the Gauchos struggled through game three, and a match that initially looked to be a sure win now looked to be a sure loss.

However, if the two teams have learned anything from their long rivalry, it's that the match ain't over till the last ball drops. Fueled by a couple big points, UCSB turned the momentum in game four and put away enough balls to send the match to the distance. In the end, though, it was the Pacific tandem of Charlotte Johansson and Vikki Simonis that did in the Gauchos, fueling the Tiger attack by combining for six of UOP's 14 kills in the final game.

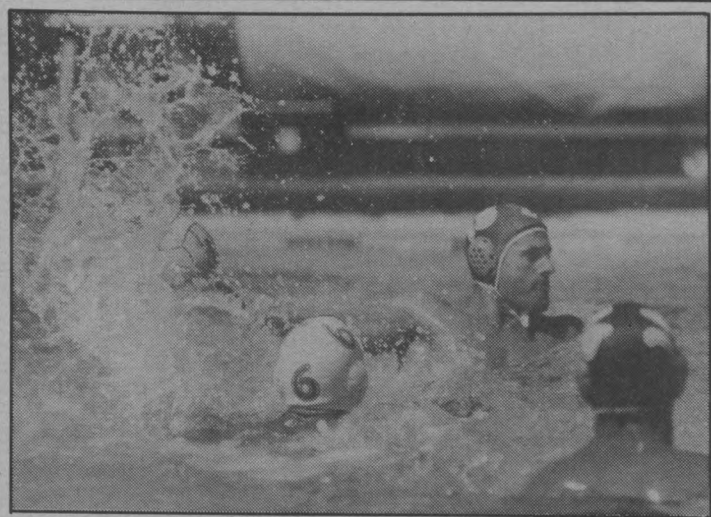
"We started blocking line, and all of a sudden they started going cross court," Gregory said. "There was a hole in the block, and some-

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GERRY MELENDEZ/Daily Nexus

DENIED! Sophomore setter Chrissy Boehle (right) is blocked by an opposing Pacific player Saturday night at the Events Center. The Tigers, who hold a 30-4 lifetime advantage over UCSB, denied the Gauchos the victory after a tough five-game battle.



STEVE OLSEN/Daily Nexus

Kevin Eggert (above) had one of UCSB's 11 goals Sunday afternoon.

Eight Straight Goals Lead Poloists to Victory, 11-10

By Daniel Solomon
Staff Writer

Eight in a row. For some unexplained reason — perhaps the alignment of the stars with the planets, or possibly just by mere coincidence — that number proved to play both a positive and negative role in Sunday afternoon's water polo match against the #9-ranked Pacific Tigers at UCSB's Campus Pool. It was the first home game and the first conference game for #6-ranked UCSB, which narrowly defeated Pacific 11-10.

The game opened with the Gauchos (2-4 overall, 1-0 conference) scoring eight consecutive goals; six in the first quarter and

See POLO, p.3A

Women Return to Winning Ways

Squad Beats Sonoma, UCI in Back to Back Home Wins, 2-1, 2-1

By Jason Masini
Staff Writer

There was one thing on the mind of the UCSB women's soccer team going into this weekend's action — winning. They did just that, twice.

The Gauchos put together two strong efforts and came away with consecutive 2-1 wins over UC Irvine Saturday afternoon and Sonoma State Friday night. With the wins, UCSB raises its record to 5-3-0.

Santa Barbara jumped out to an early 1-0 lead Saturday when freshman midfielder Kristen Campbell knocked in a loose ball in front of the net at the 23 minute mark, her second goal of the year.

The Gauchos extended their lead to 2-0 just before halftime, as junior co-captain Phronsie Franco netted a free kick from the left side that goalkeeper Ameer Chapman mishandled, giving UCSB all the goals it would need.

Irvine did make the game in-

See SOCCER, p.3A



GERRY MELENDEZ/Daily Nexus

Amy Goodwin (right) charges hard past a Sonoma State defender. Goodwin and the Gauchos defeated SSU 2-1 Friday night, and also dropped UC Irvine on Saturday afternoon, 2-1.



NOAH MARTIN/Daily News

Gaucha midfielder Patrick Griffen (left) watches goalie Adam Skarsgard save one of Westmont's ten shots on goal during Saturday night's game at Harder Stadium. Griffen scored the team's only two goals in the 3-2 loss.

Defensive Error Results in 3-2 Loss for UCSB

By Scott McPherson
Staff Writer

The up and coming UCSB men's soccer team seemed to have brought all the pieces together Saturday night at Harder Stadium. Hosting cross-town rival Westmont, the Gauchos broke out of their offensive slump and played good defense for most of the contest. However, in the blink of an eye, the home team gave away the game.

Westmont and UCSB were knotted at 2-2 late in the contest, but a careless defensive play changed that. With the ball deep in his own territory, UCSB's Stefan Gudmundsson lightly tapped a pass to freshman goalkeeper Adam Skarsgard. Westmont forward Benny Bayr, charging hard towards the goal, went around Gudmundsson and stole the ball, shooting it past Skarsgard to score the game-winning goal at the 80-minute mark.

Westmont, the #6-ranked team in the NAIA, upped its record to 5-3 on the year, while the Gauchos dropped to 1-4 with the loss.

"Obviously I'm disappointed to lose like this," UCSB Head Coach Mark Arya commented after the game. "But with our overall level of play, I was very pleased. It's a hard loss, but we definitely have no reason to put our heads down."

The gaffe that cost his team a goal was one of the few mistakes made on the evening by Arya's team, which has been shut out twice this season and had not scored more than one goal in a game before Saturday. Sophomore Patrick Griffen, a transfer from Santa Clara University, single-handedly ended the Gauchos' scoring drought

with a pair of goals within a minute. After Westmont's Greg Sitton opened the scoring 12 minutes into the game, Griffen found the net from 25 yards out at the 23 minute mark and followed with goal a minute later on a shot that ricocheted off a defender.

"Pat knows what it's like to be in a winning program, and I think he's a real leader for us on and off the field," Arya said of Griffen, who now leads the team in scoring with five points.

The Gaucho lead was extremely short-lived, as Westmont's Neil Grant found the UCSB net a minute after Griffen's second goal, evening the score at 2-2. Although the Gauchos pressured the Westmont goal several times in the last five minutes of the game, the Warriors were able to hold on for the victory, much to the delight of the some 1,000 Westmont fans on hand.

"We were in many ways fortunate tonight," Westmont Head Coach Dave Wolf said, "because they didn't put a lot of pressure on us and they had better chances than we had. I feel fortunate to get out of here with a win."

Wolf, in his second year as the Warriors' coach, also commented on the differences between Arya's squad and the 1991 UCSB team headed by former skipper Cliff Draeger.

"Last year, under Cliff, they relied more on their athleticism," Wolf said. "They would play the ball much more directly and battle for it up front. Now, they're much more possession-oriented, and they have guys with great technical ability, like Pat Griffen."

"I really like (Arya's) team, and he's going to have a top-notch program. There's going to be great soccer played here for a long, long time," Wolf added.

Hopes Running High as Ladies Breeze to Victory

It may have only been the third race of the season, but hopes are running high around the UCSB women's cross country program after a decisive victory at home Saturday.

The Lady Gauchos easily defeated Pomona-Pitzer and the local running club, Santa Barbara Athletic Association, giving UCSB an unbeaten 3-0 record thus far in 1992. The Gaucho runners finished the day with a near-perfect 17 points, while SBAA and Pomona-Pitzer totaled 45 and 70, respectively.

Last week UCSB Head Coach Jim Triplett indicated that while his squad would likely prevail in the three-way

meet, producing better times than those posted by his runners thus far this season was as important as winning.

"We pretty much accomplished both goals," Triplett said Saturday. "I would say this is probably one of the best, if not the best, team performance on our course since I've been here in the last 10 years."

The squad's top five runners all finished under 18:55 (all personal records), with seven members making the overall top 10. The race's top finisher, sophomore Kara Bradbury, hoped to break the 18-minute barrier, but narrowly missed the mark by three

seconds.

"I was just trying to run a good, hard, solid race," Bradbury said. "With 800 (meters) to go, I was going to try to really start kicking."

Rounding out the top seven for the Gauchos were sophomore Beckie Levy (18:35), junior Julie Thomas (18:41), sophomore Eva Mattson (18:48), freshman Deanna Hadley (18:54), and juniors Laura Hodnett (19:03) and Kristin von Teuber (19:11).

The women's cross country squad will have next weekend off before hosting a race Oct. 17.



News File Photo

-Rob Carpio Kara Bradbury led the way for UCSB Saturday.

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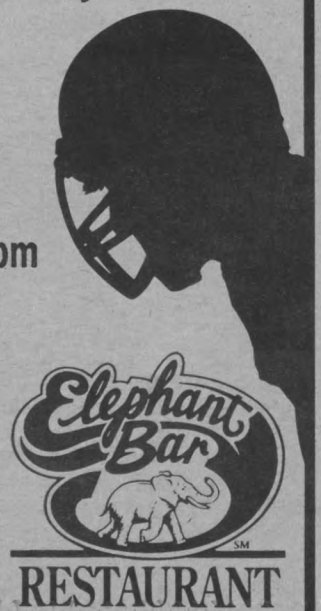
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PACIFIC

Continued from p.1A
times we didn't close the block, and we didn't do a good job of digging the left side. We didn't do a good job of blocking. That was one of our weaknesses."

Simonis and Johansson paced the Tigers with 13 kills apiece, while Katy Eldridge added 12 kills, in-

cluding one that ended a long rally and gave UOP a 13-11 lead in game five, effectively sealing the match. Kristie Ryan, who led UCSB with seven kills against Nevada on Friday, put down 12 balls against UOP. Outside hitter Julie Pitois topped the Gauchos with 13 kills.

Though the Gauchos proved they could keep pace with the fourth-best

team in the nation, the loss still left a bitter taste in Gregory's mouth.

"They're going to get better down the line because of their size," Gregory said of the Tigers. "If they can stabilize their passing, their potential is better. What's disappointing is this was the chance for us to get this game. It's hard to come up short in the fifth game here."

POLO

Continued from p.1A
two in the opening minutes of the second quarter. Then, with 1:59 remaining in the second quarter, Pacific (1-1, 0-1) got on the board with their first goal of the game. The Gauchos came back with another goal to close out the first half with a 9-1 lead.

"It felt good knowing that we were doing everything right," UCSB's Dave Madison said. "We were executing our defense and our counterattack just like we had practiced. We proved just how good we could be from our first half performance."

The third quarter opened with another Gaucho goal, increasing the home team's lead to nine. However, it was at that point that "eight in a

row" reappeared, this time to haunt the Gauchos. Pacific rallied with five goals in the third quarter, including a last-second breakaway score. Three Tiger goals in the beginning of the fourth quarter narrowed the score to 10-9.

"It was all kind of a blur from that point," UCSB goalie Scott Taylor said. "We quit communicating and our defense let down."

"We eased off and thought that we could win without the same intensity from the first half," Madison said. "Coach (Pete Snyder) told us to keep our composure and intensity and pick up the defense."

The squad did just that as they kept possession of the ball in the closing minutes to clinch its first conference victory.

"We look at it as a win for us, nothing less," Ma-

dison said. "We'll look at what went wrong, and try to correct it before the next game."

"I was just relieved that it was over," Taylor added.

The Gauchos were led offensively by co-captains Tony Litwak and Doug Wierenga, each scoring three goals. With those three, Litwak increased his team leading total to 10 goals. Richard Dent added two goals, while six other Gaucho's boosted their numbers with one goal each. In goal, Taylor saved seven of 17 shots on goal.

Pacific was led by sophomore Darrin Baldwin, with three goals, and freshman Matt Kipp and sophomore Rey Rivera added two apiece. Goalie Colin Westrand saved five of 16 shots on goal.

The Gauchos will meet Pacific once again this Thursday in Stockton.

SOCCER

Continued from p.1A
interesting when junior midfielder Dana Schuyler put one past goalkeeper Amy Goodwin in the 88th minute to close the gap to 2-1, but the Gauchos were able to freeze the ball for the rest of the game to get the win.

"We're still working hard on the mental aspect of the game," UCSB Head Coach Tad Bobak said. "We have to stay physically tough throughout the whole game. I'm upset that we gave them an opportunity near the end. We have to work on freezing the ball more securely. We still have a lot of work to do, but I'm happy with the win."

"It was frustrating early on (in the season) when we were playing well and couldn't get a win," Franco said. "We just didn't have that winning attitude. Hopefully, with these two wins, we can get that back and get into a good rhythm and win every game."

Even after playing a tough game Friday night, Franco didn't believe fatigue was much of a factor in the second half.

"Tad schedules us a lot of back-to-back games," she said. "He does that on

purpose because when it comes down to playoffs and NCAAs, that's the way it's going to be. We may come in a little tired but we can't let that bother us."

The star of the game against Sonoma State was freshman goalkeeper Dana Visse. She stopped numerous seemingly sure Cossack goals and almost single-handedly preserved the win, but not without a cost. Visse suffered a strained back during the game and was walking rather gingerly Saturday afternoon. She is undergoing therapy and is listed as day-to-day, but Bobak and trainers think she is a good bet to be in the net for this Saturday's game versus Westmont.

The Gauchos got on the board against SSU in the 16th minute when sophomore Julie Harris tallied her first goal of the year, giving UCSB a 1-0 lead that stood until halftime. Sonoma had a great opportunity late in the first half, but an offside penalty nullified a Cossack goal in the 25th minute.

Senior co-captain Lisa Ferragamo gave Santa Barbara a 2-0 lead in the 60th minute off a cross pass from freshman forward Jeannie Crabb, who also assisted on the goal to

Harris.

The lead could have been bigger, as Franco hit the crossbar and then the right post on separate occasions. Sonoma finally did get on the board in the 88th minute when Tisha Smith knocked in a loose ball, but the Gauchos ran out the clock to preserve the win.

"We're just tired of losing," Ferragamo said. "We know we can win and this game is the starter. It's just a matter of proving it to ourselves and if we can get going on a good roll, we can go anywhere."

However, Bobak still feels there needs to be a lot of improvement.

"We need to flow more," he said. "All the players need to grab hold of a power rhythm. Right now we are doing a lot of clicking and sputtering. Learning to be a winner will give them more clicks than sputters. We also have to sharpen our defense more because our defense instigates our offense and when we do that, we will be better able to connect ourselves as a team."

The Gauchos' next game will be Saturday, Oct. 3 at 7:30 p.m. when they take on the Warriors of Westmont College at Harder Stadium.

GAUCHO SPORTS: THE WEEK AHEAD SEPT 28 - OCT 2

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Women's Volleyball vs. Santa Clara, Events Center, 7:30	Men's Soccer vs. UC Irvine, Harder Stadium, 7:30	Men's Water Polo at UOP, 3:00	Women's Volleyball vs. Utah State, Rob Gym, 7:30 Men's Water Polo, Nor Cal Tournament at Stanford

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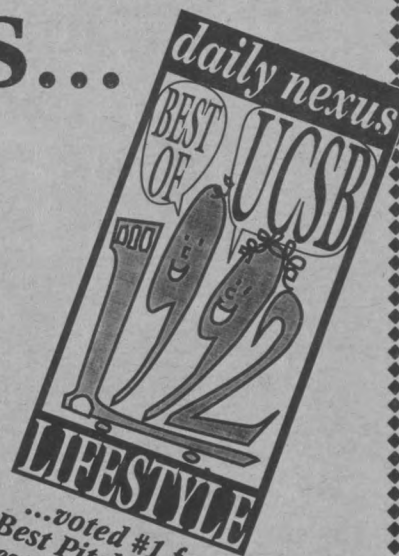
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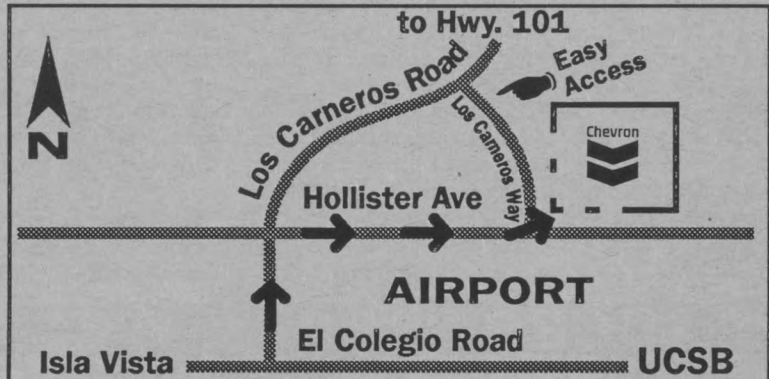
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