

Sports MONDAY

Pimm's 42-Year Division I Career Ends With Loss to Fullerton in Thunderdome

■ Head Coach, Six Seniors Say Farewell to Santa Barbara Fans

By SCOTT HENNESSEE
Staff Writer

It was an evening of farewells Saturday in the Thunderdome. UCSB Head Coach Jerry Pimm and the Gauchos' six seniors participated in their final game at UCSB, a 76-70 loss to Cal State Fullerton that officially eliminated Santa Barbara from the Big West Conference Tournament.

Pimm, who announced Friday afternoon that he will move into a role as the school's Assistant to the Athletic Director after serving 15 years as the Gaucho head man, explained his feelings after the game.

"It was an emotional day. I didn't want it to be this way. I kind of wanted to do it after the season was over," said Pimm, who was cornered into Friday's announcement after word leaked to the media of his impending change late Thursday night. "I didn't want any fuss made over me tonight. It's not my night, it's the seniors' night."

Senior guard Raymond Tutt did everything he could to make sure the team's seniors would leave on a winning note, scoring a season-high 31 points. His three-point basket with 50 seconds to play pulled UCSB to within four at 74-70, but Titan guard Chris St. Clair got

behind Santa Barbara's defense for an easy layup just four seconds later to give his team a six-point lead. That's where the score would stay as the Gauchos could not convert on their ensuing possessions.

Tutt, whose 25th point placed him 12th on UCSB's all-time scoring list, surpassing newly inducted Gaucho Hall of Famer Eric McArthur, said the team gave everything they had on the season's final night.

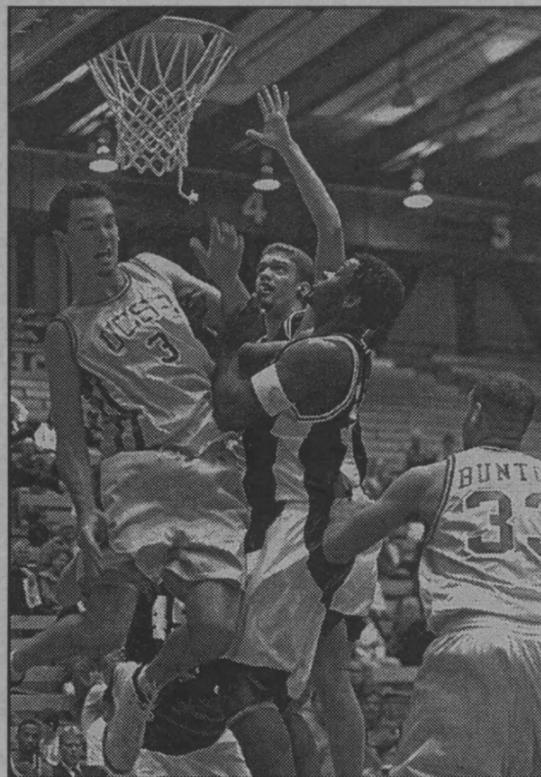
"We gave it our best and we just wanted to come out and make our fans and our family, coach, and everybody proud of us," said Tutt, who finished his two-year career with 1,141 points.

"We gave it our all, we just came up a little bit short."

Pimm, who finishes as the winningest coach in UCSB history with 222 wins, said that although he would have liked to have sent his six seniors out with a victory, there is more to it than just wins and losses.

"Life is made up of diversity. How you handle it is the key to whether you're going to be successful," he said. "I hope through all of this, these guys learned that — learned about jumping over hurdles instead of stumbling through them, and having your head up and keeping your dignity."

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ALAN JACOBY / DAILY NEWS

AIRBORNE: UCSB junior forward Josh Merrill gets tangled up during Saturday's season-ending loss to the Titans.

Gaucho Volleyball Washed Away by Pepperdine Waves in Saturday Sweep

By SHANE CULBERTSON
Staff Writer

You can't go into a match halfheartedly against one of the nation's elite teams and expect to walk away with a win. The UCSB men's volleyball team learned that lesson the hard way Friday as they were taken to school by #2 Pepperdine University.

The Waves relentlessly hammered Santa Barbara (5-6 overall, 4-6 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation) en route to winning the match in three straight sets.

The most telling statistics in the match were the teams' hitting percentages and digs. Pepperdine outhit the Gauchos .355 to .147, and outdug them 29 to nine.

UCSB Head Coach Ken Preston was appalled by his team's performance.

"It's unbelievable that we only had nine digs. That means we're not putting up much of a block," Preston said.

"Granted we're not a great defensive team, but getting out-dug 29 to 9 is terrible; it's hideous."

Freshman Scott Wong and Junior George Roumain were the cause for most of the Gauchos' problems Friday. Wong had 11 kills and nine digs, while Roumain hit .435 and had 15 put-aways.

The lone bright spot for the Gauchos was provided by outside hitter Kevin Collins, who had 15 kills in the match.

Senior middle blocker Bob Hefty is baffled by UCSB's tendency to lay down against tougher opponents.

"We know we're good enough to play with teams like [Pepperdine], but we just don't come out and play well against them," Hefty said. "There is really no explanation for it. We'll come out and play strong against the teams we're supposed to beat and then just come out flat against the better teams."

The Gauchos came out sluggish in the first game, which has become their trademark this season, and lost 15-8. What was uncharacteristic during Friday's match is that UCSB

failed to make its usual comeback in the second game, which they lost 15-9 while being out-hit .538 to .194.

"We've been having trouble coming out firing," Santa Barbara senior outside hitter Alike Williams said. "With lesser teams we've been able to get away with that, we'll start out slow in the first set but come back strong in the second. With a team like Pepperdine it's hard to do that and expect to win. We gave them the momentum early and they kept it with them the entire match."

The Waves completed their sweep of UCSB by winning the third set 15-9. Although Pepperdine only hit .136 in the game, the Gauchos found a way to do worse than that by hitting in the red at -.031.

Preston gave Pepperdine their due credit, but still felt his team could have played better volleyball.

"They're a tough team. They sideout well and dig a lot of balls," Preston said. "But we just were not aggressive tonight. In all three games I thought we were in a position where if we just played steady we could have pulled out a win."

UCSB Splits With OSU, Loses to United Airlines

By STEVE WENDT
Staff Writer

You win some and you lose some in the grand old game of baseball, but in an unusual trend for the UCSB baseball team, you tie some too.

The Gauchos were blown out 13-1 in the first game of Saturday's doubleheader with Oregon State University but bounced back to snatch a 7-6 victory from the jaws of defeat in a thrilling 10-inning affair that saw junior Jim Alderete launch a game-winning home run into the dusk sky.

After Saturday's split, Santa Barbara appeared to be on its way to stealing another victory from the Beavers on Sunday. Instead,

the game was called after 10 innings. Rain wasn't the culprit, nor was darkness; as a matter of fact the skies at Caesar Uyesaka Stadium were quite friendly Sunday, but the *friendly skies* weren't.

Oregon State (6-3-1) requested the contest be stopped in order to catch its five o'clock flight at Santa Barbara Municipal Airport. The game left the Gauchos, who had tied a game earlier in the season, with a hockey-esque 5-6-2 record.

UCSB Head Coach Bob Brontsema said that this was an unfamiliar situation for him, but apparently this type of thing happens frequently.

"This has never happened in my 15 years, but it's not uncommon," he said. "When teams are flying, it's not uncommon. It was dis-

appointing because you don't want to tie and we had the momentum."

The Gauchos certainly didn't have any momentum in the first game of Saturday's twin-bill as they fell to the Beavers 13-1 in a seven-inning game. UCSB ace David Uris was peppered for 12 hits in five innings; his record falls to 2-3. Six players had hits for Santa Barbara, including first baseman Brad Wright. The junior launched his third homer of the year for the lone Gaucho run.

The second game proved to be a nail-biter capped by extra inning heroics by Alderete.

Trailing 6-3 in the home half of the eighth inning, Alderete stepped to the plate and promptly singled home

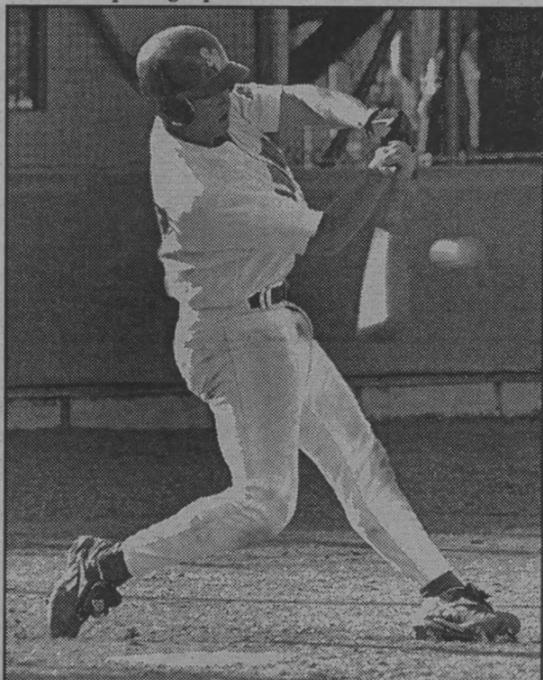
Bryan LaCour and Wright to put UCSB down 6-5. Alderete then came home to tie the contest when Beaver second baseman Corrie Willkie made a two-base error.

Sinkerball specialist Steve Cardinalli had entered the game for Santa Barbara in the eighth inning in relief of lefty Troy Kinto and pitched three frames of scoreless baseball to set the stage for Alderete's fireworks.

In the bottom of the 10th, with night beginning to settle, Alderete strode to the plate to lead off the inning and knocked the first pitch he saw from OSU reliever Brody Percell over the wall in the left field power alley.

"I'd faced [Percell] before

See BASE, p.2A



ALAN JACOBY / DAILY NEWS

MAKING CONTACT: Rifle-armed catcher Justin Lehr swings for the fences in game one of a three-game set with Oregon State.

Sporting Events Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Golf @ San Diego State through Tuesday	Softball vs. Long Beach State 1 p.m. Baseball vs. USC 2 p.m. Men's volleyball @ Cal State Northridge 7 p.m.	Women's basketball @ Big West Tournament in Reno, Nv., through Saturday	No events scheduled	Men's volleyball vs. Lewis 7:05 p.m. Women's tennis @ Cal Poly 1:30 p.m. Women's gymnastics hosts UCSB Invitational 7 p.m. Baseball @ Cal State Fullerton 7 p.m.	Softball vs. Cal Poly at noon Men's gymnastics hosts Gold's Challenge 7 p.m. Women's water polo @ Hawai'i Tournament through Sunday	Baseball @ Cal State Fullerton 1 p.m. Men's tennis vs. Oregon at noon

BASE

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and he had thrown me fastballs," Alderete said. "So I was looking for a fastball in my zone and he threw it there and I was lucky enough to hit it out."

The transfer from West Valley Junior College feels that this Gaucho team has an asset that can't be measured by statistics.

"We got a lot of guts on this team," Alderete said. "We've got our league starting next week and I think we're going to be alright."

Alderete, Wright and LaCour all had two hits in the game with LaCour smashing his second bomb of the young season.

After splitting the doubleheader, Santa Barbara appeared to be on the cusp of taking the rubber match and the series on Sunday.

UCSB starter Matt Dailey struggled to find the strike zone but made big pitches when he needed to. The sophomore walked the first two batters he faced but escaped by rolling a double play ball.

Again, in the second inning, the big lefty had trouble. He loaded the bases but bailed himself out once more with the pitcher's best friend — the double play. The Beavers stranded 15 runners on base over the course of the game.

In the bottom of the third, Alderete once again muscled up. This time he drilled an opposite field shot off a Joe Gerber fastball over the right field fence to give the Gauchos a 1-0 advantage.

The top of the fourth saw the bases loaded after a pair of OSU singles and an error, but Dailey slammed the door shut with a good hard inside fastball to fan Willkie and end the threat.

Santa Barbara manufactured a run in the bottom of the fourth when right fielder Cory Burnell was hit by a pitch and then stole second. He then advanced to third when Justin Gemoll's grounder was booted by OSU shortstop Troy Schader. LaCour grounded

into a 4-6-3 double play, but Burnell came home to push UCSB's lead to 2-0.

Oregon State quickly erased that lead in the fifth. A two-out single to Matt Baile appeared harmless enough as Dailey quickly got ahead 0-2 on the next Beaver batter Ryan Lipe. After wasting a couple of pitches, Dailey served up a letter-high 2-2 fastball that Lipe smoked over the scoreboard in left. Dailey survived the double by designated hitter Curtis Davis that followed and got out of the inning with no further damage.

Santa Barbara gave up another run in the in the sixth and trailed 3-2.

Dailey was relieved by righty Daniel Martinez. The junior gave up just three hits in 3.2 innings and kept Santa Barbara in the game. Martinez has been sidelined for roughly a month due to a nagging groin injury to start the season and feels he is now ready to make an impact on the staff.

"When I was hurt, I couldn't push off the mound," Martinez said. "It was all upper body and I couldn't throw. Now that I'm healthy, I'll be able to show what I have."

A leadoff walk to Burnell hurt OSU in the bottom of the ninth. Gemoll followed with a single and moved Burnell to second. Baile then moved from first base to pitcher to try and close the game, but that wasn't the case. An error pushed pinch runner Brennan Titus to third and he tied the game when he came home on Wright's sac fly.

The Gauchos gave up a run in the top of the 10th but came back to score in the bottom when pinch hitter Dave Molitor laced a line drive single to center, knocking home Ryan Baderian, who had led off the inning with a walk after fouling off numerous 3-2 pitches.

"I was sitting dead red on the fastball," Molitor said. "I would have rather had a home run, but it got the job done."

At the conclusion of the 10th, OSU Head Coach Pat Casey pointed to his watch and the Beavers were on the bus to the airport in a matter of minutes.

LAST

Continued from p.1A

The loss was the Gauchos' eighth in a row, the most consecutive defeats the school has suffered since 1982-83 when Santa Barbara dropped nine straight. UCSB finishes with a record of 7-19 overall, 4-11 in the Big West. With the victory, Fullerton moves to 11-15 overall, 6-10 in conference, and earns the #2 seed in the Western Division.

Senior forward Kealon Wallace, the only Gaucho to have played all four years in the program, said his team tried to have a good time in the season finale and gave it a good effort.

"I thought we played OK," said Wallace, who finished with eight points and eight rebounds. "It's not the best game we've ever played, but we tried, at least."

Santa Barbara tried to stop the Titan combination of senior guard Chris Dade and sophomore forward Ike Harmon, but could find no answer for the potent one-two punch. They combined to score 48 of CSUF's 76 points. Harmon hurt the Gauchos all night underneath, keeping numerous possessions alive with five offensive rebounds.

Pimm said the key to the game lied in the fact that UCSB allowed Fullerton unnecessary looks at the hoop.

"We gave them too many easy shots, too many layups," Pimm said. "They got them on the break, they got them on second shots — they had 16 offensive rebounds. We did not do a good job of getting back quickly and stopping the early shot, and stopping the second shot. They got too many easy looks and therefore we couldn't beat them."

Pimm started a lineup of five seniors, and they responded by keeping the game close throughout the first half. Along with Tutt and Wallace, seniors Matt Stock (three-pointer), Les Bean (six assists), and Matt Pinkney (three rebounds, three points), started the game and all played productive minutes. Senior Dwayne Williams came off the bench to grab four rebounds and dish out three assists.

"I thought all the seniors played hard and made a good account of themselves," Pimm said.

Titan Head Coach Bob Hawking said he was impressed with the play of Tutt and expects to see him continue playing in the professional ranks.

"He's a heck of a player," Hawking said. "Chris Dade was on him and I'd hate to see what he would have [scored] if Dade wouldn't have been on him. He could have gone for 62. He's a great player. He's got a

chance to make some money at the next level."

Tutt said he plans to take a few days off before hitting the weight room to try and get ready for the upcoming college all-star games and the NBA pre-draft camp.

"I've been invited to the Desert Classic in Phoenix, Arizona and I'm expecting my invitation to the pre-draft camp in Chicago within the next couple weeks," Tutt said. "You haven't heard the last from Ray Tutt."

Although Tutt struggled to find his shot in the earlier parts of the season, he came on strong down the stretch, averaging 27 points over the season's final five games. Pimm said he may have lost the attention of some NBA scouts, but that others are still keeping a watchful eye on the San Pedro, Calif., native.

"He's going to have to play his way back into the upper echelon because some people have dropped off of him, but some people haven't," Pimm said. "Some people still know the quality Raymond has as a potential professional player. He's got a chance still. He needs to grasp the brass ring now and keep himself in shape and play himself into a good draft position with these all-star games."

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Water Polo Places Fourth in Tourney

BY DAMON DAMELE
Staff Writer

No rest for the wicked. It was a busy weekend for the UCSB women's water polo team (6-6 overall, 1-1 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation). After playing a conference game Friday against UC Davis, Santa Barbara played four more games Saturday and Sunday in the annual Gaucho Invitational, on its way to a fourth-place finish among the field of 16 teams.

"[The tournament] helps in building our season," said Head Coach Joe O'Brien. "Four of the 12 games we've played have been against the top teams in the country. We haven't been intimidated in those games, and we are learning a lot."

The matchup with Davis was something of a letdown for UCSB, coming off of their big win over USC the previous week. The Aggies defeated Santa Barbara 5-2 in a game that was marked by tough defense and aggressive offense.

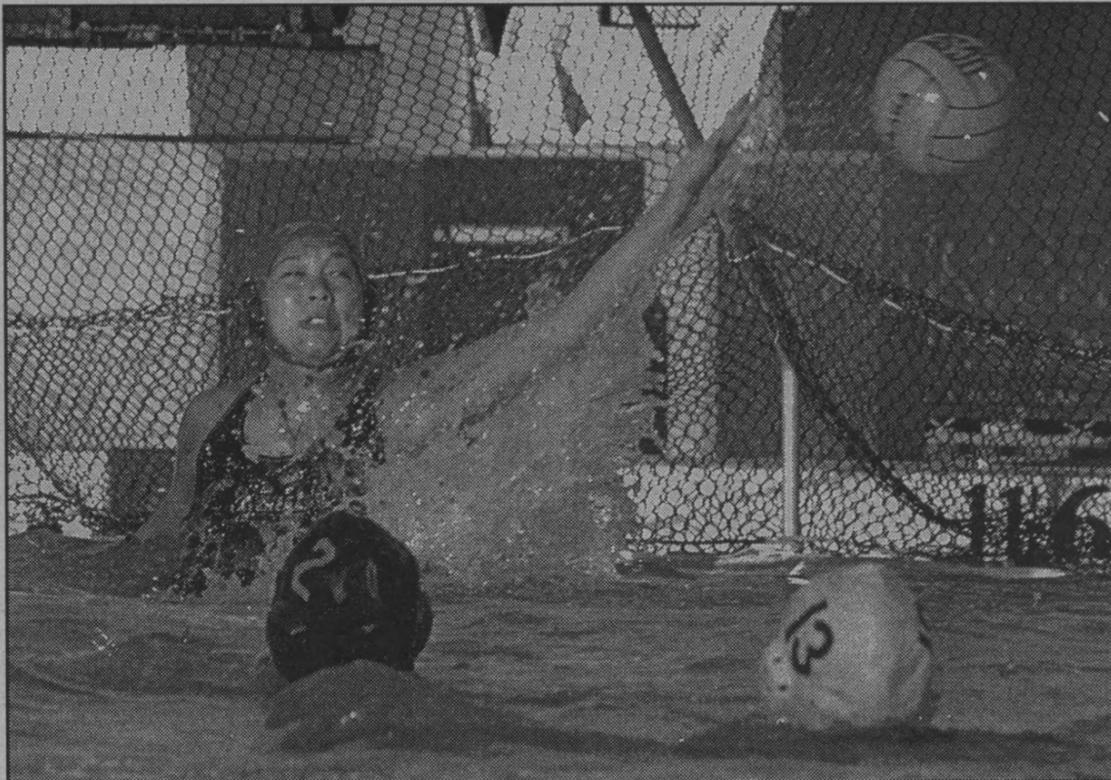
With UC Davis leading 3-0 in the second period, O'Brien called a timeout. When play resumed, UCSB came out with renewed fire. Sophomores Lynn Nisbet and Nicole Comacho scored

goals less than a minute apart to cut the lead to one. Unfortunately, it would not be enough, as the Aggies would score twice more to pull away with the victory.

On Saturday, things improved considerably in Santa Barbara's first game in the tourney, against Pomona-Pitzer. The Gauchos beat the Sagehens 25-2 behind an offense that came out shooting and didn't stop until the final buzzer.

It was UCSB's next game, against San Diego State, that would prove to be the highlight of the tourney for Santa Barbara. In front of packed stands, the Gauchos defeated the Aztecs 6-4. UCSB goalie Angie Seto put on a clinic, collecting eight saves, including one tremendous stop in the second quarter, stopping a shot by a San Diego State player who had slipped past the defense.

The Santa Barbara offense in the San Diego State game was led by sophomore co-captain Katie Hill and sophomore Nisbet, each of whom scored two goals. Hill provided one of the highlights of the tournament when she missed on a pen-



ALAN JACOBY / DAILY NEXUS

STRETCH!: Junior goalie Angie Seto tries to save a ball headed for her cage during Friday's 5-2 loss to UC Davis. Santa Barbara went on to post a 2-2 record in last weekend's Gaucho Invitational Tournament.

alty shot, then scored on the Gauchos' next possession seven seconds later.

"We had our ups-and-downs in the tournament," said Hill, the team's leading scorer. "The highlight had to be the San Diego State game. We took the game to our level and played really well. We learned a lot from this tournament."

UCSB didn't fare as well in Sunday's games. In the morning match against UCLA, Santa Barbara fell

10-2. The Bruins simply played a better game, led by the remarkable play of goalkeeper Nicolle Payne, the top goalie in the nation and a starter on the U.S. National team. Gaucho sophomores Danelle Little and Kara Watkins scored the team's only goals. UCLA would go on to lose 9-8 to UC Berkeley in a sudden-death-thriller championship match.

In the third-place game later in the day, UCSB would face the Stanford

Cardinal. Santa Barbara had trouble with its passing as well as creating scoring opportunities, and was defeated 12-5. Once again, Hill and Nisbet each had a pair of goals, and senior two-meter player Suzanne Eskilson also added a score.

The Gauchos were pleased with their overall success in the tournament, and were happy to have the chance to play some of their tougher opponents before facing them in conference play.

"I think we got tougher as the tournament went on," said Watkins. "Even when we lost, we still played well and learned alot."

O'Brien agreed: "We did well. We were really happy to make the top four, especially after the Davis game. We had some great play against San Diego State ... we were a little worn out. We are still a young team athletically ... in terms of preparation, playing the top teams is the best possible thing for us."

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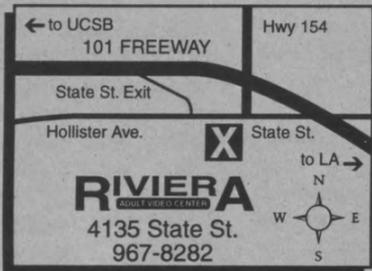
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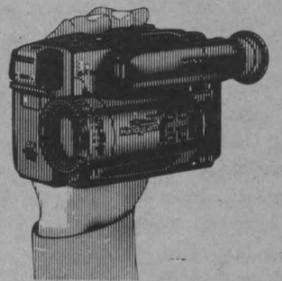
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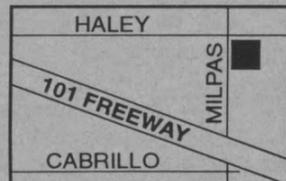
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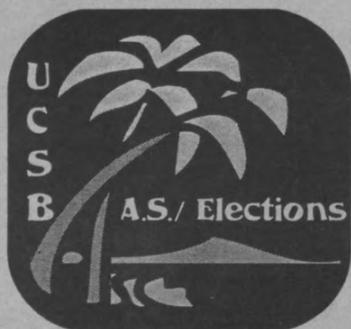
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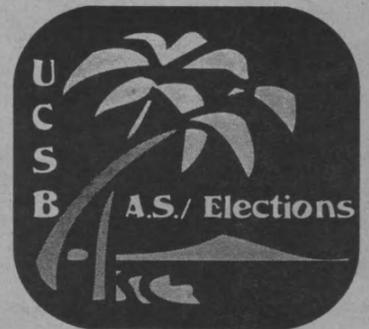
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