

# Sports TUESDAY

## Gauchos Declaw UOP Tigers To Remain in Driver's Seat

BY MATT HURST  
Staff Writer

Finally, some breathing room.

The UCSB men's basketball team can finally exhale after fighting off the second-place Pacific Tigers Saturday night in a 22-point victory at the Thunderdome. Not only did the Gauchos (11-11 overall, 9-3 in the Big West) take a two-game lead in the Big West's Western Division, but they finally got themselves on the better

end of a blowout.

The Gauchos' 60-38 victory will most likely silence the skeptics who thought Santa Barbara couldn't win the division. At least UCSB has changed UOP (12-10, 7-5) Head Coach Bob Thomason's thinking.

"They're the best team by far right now in the Western Division," the 11th-year coach said. "Whether or not they are the best team in the league, we'll find out in the Big West Tournament. I hope we don't play Santa Barbara because we can't

score against them."

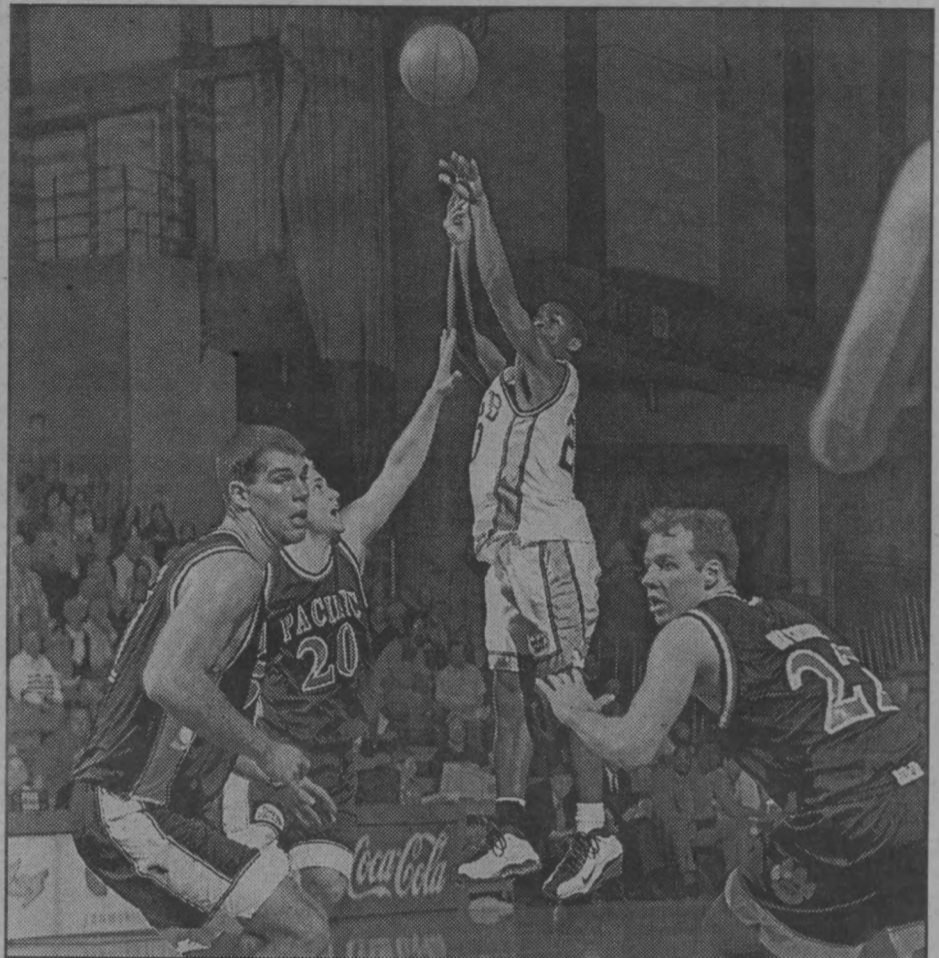
The biggest reason Pacific's offense couldn't score against UCSB was because the Gauchos kept stealing the ball from the Tiger players. UCSB ended up with 14 steals on the night, holding UOP to its lowest point total since 1983.

"I'm really proud of the defense," said junior Larry Bell, who had three steals to go along with seven assists. "We were struggling on defense at the beginning of the season and the result showed. At about this time in the season, defense is a big factor. The old saying is that defense wins championships."

If that old saying is true, then UCSB must be on its way to the promised land after winning 11 of its past 14 games with stingy defense and the turnovers it creates — currently 17.5 per contest.

"We were quicker to the ball, we were quicker off the dribble, and we were quicker defensively," UCSB Head Coach Bob Williams said. "I thought our guys did just an unbelievable job defensively of handling their players."

UCSB was led by sophomore Brandon Payton both



JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS

**LET IT FLY:** Sophomore Brandon Payton hits one of his jumpers en route to his team-high 10 points in the Gauchos' 60-38 win over Pacific Saturday night in the Thunderdome.

offensively and defensively. Payton had a team-high 10 points to complement his game-high four picks.

"I think Brandon is actually playing his best basketball the last three, four games," Williams said. "He's really defending well, he's getting quick hands on things, he's patient offensively in getting his shots."

Payton added, "We just

started to get after their guards to make them turn the ball over. I saw a couple of little openings and was able to get a couple of steals. Coach really stressed that defensive pressure. Eventually it gave us some easy baskets."

Four Gauchos pulled down six rebounds apiece to outboard Pacific in that category 41-30. Senior B.J.

Bunton had six to go with his eight points; junior Derrick Allen grabbed all of his six on the defensive end; Payton added six; and sophomore Adama Ndiaye cleared a half-dozen of his own to go with his eight points.

The Gauchos held Pacific to only 2-13 from behind

See HOOPS, p.2A

### Men's Basketball Standings Big West Western Division

	Overall	Conference
UCSB	11-11	9-3
Pacific	12-10	7-5
LBSU	11-12	7-6
CSUF	12-10	6-6
Cal Poly	10-13	5-7
Irvine	5-17	1-11

## Gauchos Continue Big West Streak

■ UCSB Remains Undefeated in Big West

BY STEVE WENDT  
Staff Writer

The #19 UCSB women's basketball team put some Big West Conference troublemakers in their places, at their places.

The Gauchos, coming off a week that seemed to show some chinks in the armor, made a statement to Big West pretenders ... Get out of the way.

Santa Barbara (19-3 overall, 11-0 in the Big West) defeated Long Beach State (12-9, 6-4) last Friday at the Pyramid 83-71 and continued to roll last Sunday with a 76-66 win over Pacific in Stockton.

Two weekends ago, UCSB squeaked by both of these teams in rather unconvincing wins in the Thunderdome. Plus, UCSB lost junior Tawnee Cooper (12.3

points per game) to injury for the season in the LBSU contest.

Santa Barbara was starting to look mortal to Big West opponents, but the Gauchos, led by super-sophomore Erin Buescher's 35-point outburst vs. the 49ers, restaked conference dominance last weekend.



Erin Buescher

UCSB Head Coach Mark French still isn't all too pleased with his Gauchos.

"They'll be in big trouble against a team that plays

great for 40 minutes," French said.

Buescher's huge night came on 11 for 19 shooting from the floor and 11 for 14 from the charity stripe. The 35 points was the third highest point total in UCSB history. The Rohnert Park native mixed in seven rebounds for good measure.

"I don't think I was feeling it," Buescher said. "Most of it was just running into the basket, which doesn't take much skill."

Junior Kristi Rohr was the only other Gaucho to touch Long Beach for double digits with her 13 points. Fellow junior Stacy Clinesmith added eight points and seven assists while sophomore Nicole Greathouse matched Buescher by pulling down a game-high eight boards.

Despite turning the ball over 30 times, Santa Barbara

See SWEEP, p.3A

## UCSB Baseball Looks Like It Is On Right Track After Weekend

BY MARVIN GAPULTOS  
Staff Writer

The UCSB baseball team traveled to Loyola Marymount University this past weekend for a three-game set and was able to tame the Lions in two of those match-ups.

On Friday, the Gauchos got off to a quick start, scoring four runs in the first inning. LMU would score three runs in the seventh, closing the Gaucho lead to 7-5. However, that would prove to be the final score after the Lions failed to cross home plate in the last two innings.

UCSB was led by sophomores Chad Peshke and Jeff Bannon, with each smashing one home run apiece. Senior right-hander David Uris started on the mound for Santa Barbara. Uris pitched for 6.2 innings and allowed eight hits and four earned runs. Junior righty Peter Dyball got the save, pitching for 2.1 innings and allowing one earned run on two hits.

"It was a classic case of good pitching and 'D,'" UCSB Head Coach Bob Brontsema said. "We had enough timely hits to make a difference. I was very pleased with our effort and I thought Uris did an outstanding job."

Saturday's game was a different story for

Brontsema's Gauchos: After a quiet start, Loyola's bats exploded in the late innings for 15 runs. Starting sophomore pitcher Bing Cain kept the Lions at bay through the first five innings, not allowing a single run to score.

In the sixth inning the tide turned as Cain loaded the bases, giving way to junior Matt Dailey. Dailey then walked in LMU's first run. Immediately afterward, Lions first baseman Curt Fiore knocked in an RBI single that sent Dailey back to the pen in favor of senior Daniel Martinez.

UCSB would counter in the seventh with three runs, tying the game at 6-6, but would be unable to withstand the rest of the Lions' attack. In the bottom of the seventh, Gaucho sophomore third baseman Dave Molitor committed two errors, resulting in two LMU runs.

Things would get worse for the Gauchos in the eighth inning, after skipper Brontsema was tossed from the game. The home plate umpire did not allow Brontsema to approach the mound to speak with his pitcher, resulting in an argument between the two and Brontsema's departure from the dugout. Santa Barbara would go on to lose 15-7.

See BASE, p.2A

### Sporting Events Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
No events scheduled	Baseball vs. UCLA 2 p.m. Caesar Uyesaka Stadium	Baseball vs. UCLA 2 p.m. Caesar Uyesaka Stadium Men's volleyball vs. UCI 7 p.m. Thunderdome	Men's basketball vs. North Texas 7 p.m. Thunderdome	Men's volleyball vs. UCLA 7 p.m. Women's gymnastics vs. Seattle Pacific 7 p.m. Baseball vs. Santa Clara 2 p.m. Women's basketball @ Nevada 7 p.m. Softball @ SDSU Tourney	Men's basketball vs. Cal Poly 7 p.m. Baseball vs. Santa Clara 1 p.m. Women's tennis vs. Cal Poly 1 p.m. Women's water polo vs. USC 12 p.m. Men's tennis @ Arizona St. TBA.	Women's basketball @ Cal Poly 2 p.m. Women's gymnastics vs. Utah St. 2 p.m. Women's tennis vs. LMU 12 p.m.

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The Rules and Info: 1.No Photocopied Ballots. 2.Ballots must be delivered to an Official Daily Nexus Drop off Box or E-mailed. 3.Deadline for Voting is Feb. 19, 1999 at 5:00 p.m. 4.The Best of UCSB Issue will be Published Mar. 3,1999. 5.One Ballot per person please. 6.Ballots must be filled out with reasonable completeness, or they will not be counted in the final vote. 7.Note: The Daily Nexus Best of UCSB is intended to be a good-natured contest among local establishments and community members. In other words, this is not a cutthroat competition whose results are of some deep-rooted and long-lasting value. Please do not take it as such. 8.Decisions of the initial count are final. 9.No bribes accepted, sorry.

1. Best Asian Food
2. Best Local Boutique
3. Best Place to buy "Tobacco Product"
4. Best Vintage Store
5. Best Department Store
6. Best Ice Cream or Smoothie
7. Best Happy Hour
8. Best Dive Bar
9. Best Place to Dance
10. Best "Meat Market"
11. Best Beach
12. Best Bike Shop
13. Best Bookstore
14. Best Breakfast Place
15. Best Tanning Salon
16. Best Burger
17. Best Car Repair
18. Best Cheap Beer
19. Best Class to Sleep Through
20. Best Class to Wake Up For
21. Best Excuse for a Late Paper
22. Best Coffeehouse
23. Best Graffiti
24. Best Hair Salon
25. Best Lines to get to the Front of the Keg
26. Best Local Band
27. Best Bathroom
28. Best Mexican Food
29. Best Burrito
30. Best Music Store
31. Best Place to Do Laundry
32. Best Place for Adult Entertainment
33. Best Italian Food
34. Best Place for a First Date
35. Best Place to have Sex on Campus
36. Best Place to People Watch
37. Best Grocery Store
38. Best Outdoor Place to Crash
39. Best Radio Station
40. Best Restaurant When the Parents are Paying
41. Best Sandwich Shop
42. Best Surf Spot
43. Best Surf Shop
44. Best Vegetarian Food
45. Best Video Shop
46. Best Expensive Beer
47. Best I.V. Freak
48. Best Sushi Bar
49. Best Pizza
50. Best S.B. Venue

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HOOPS

Continued from p.1A  
 the arc, keeping the Western Division's top three-point-shooting team well below its 38 percent average. The Tigers were led by senior Jason Williams' 19 points, while no other UOP player had more than five. On the whole, Pacific shot only 33 percent compared to Santa Barbara's 38 percent from the floor (5-16 from downtown).

The Gaucho win highlighted an achievement in Williams' coaching career: He reached his 200th career victory in his 11th year as a head coach, and now possesses an overall record of 200-107. However, the season's rough start left Williams unprepared to reach the mark so quickly.

"I wasn't real sure, when we were 0-and-8, that I anticipated that we'd be 9-3 in league or getting double-digits [in wins]."

UCSB next faces off against the University of North Texas (1-21, 1-11) Thursday night in the Thunderdome. The Gauchos will play their last home game of the season on Saturday when they play host to central coast rival Cal Poly (10-13, 5-7).

BASE

Continued from p.1A  
 "As a team, that brought our intensity level up," Bannon said. "[Brontsema] getting tossed just made us angry."

On Sunday, UCSB junior Gabe Neboya again kept the bats of LMU quiet throughout the first five innings. This time however, the Lions were unable to roar back, and fell to Santa Barbara 11-3.

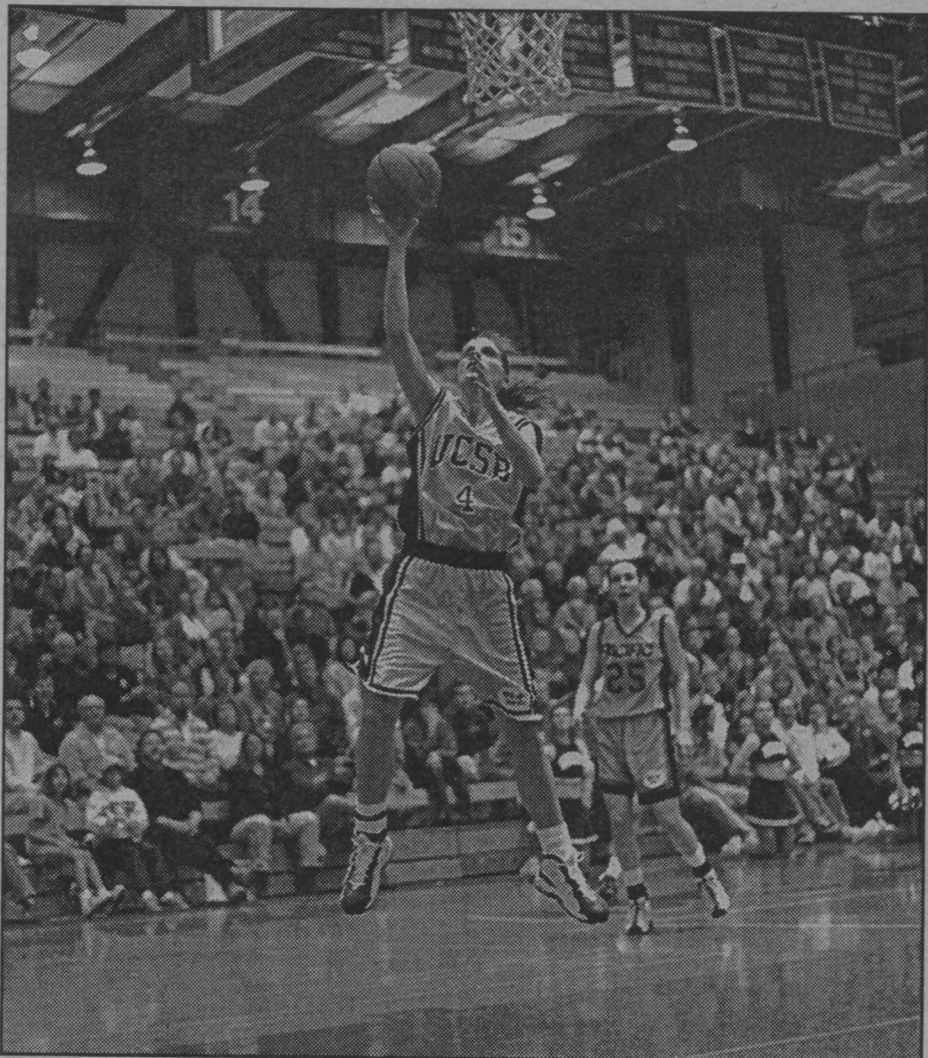
Neboya picked up his first win of the season, and freshman Chris Quiroz earned his second save. Seniors Brad Wright and Bryan LaCour had one home run apiece.

"Gabe came out and set the tempo for us by dominating for five innings," Brontsema said. "We executed and played well."

UCSB will take on UCLA this afternoon at 2 at Caesar Uyesaka Stadium in the first of a two-game series.

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**HEAR ME ROHR:** Junior Kristi Rohr helped the Gauchos sweep Long Beach State and Pacific with 13 points Friday night and 12 Sunday afternoon.

**SWEEP**

Continued from p.1A  
 continued its winning ways in Stockton on Sunday. The Gauchos trailed the Tigers by a bucket at halftime, but used well-balanced scoring to down the Pacific 76-66. UOP (10-12, 6-5) Head Coach Sherri Murrell found solace in the fact that her

team was able to hang with the fifth-highest scoring team in the nation (85.5 ppg).

"To be able to hold Santa Barbara in the 70s says a lot," Murrell said. "Usually they score in the 80s, 90s and 100s."

Buescher once again led

the pack with 18 and 10 rebounds (double-double #13 on the season). Rohr, Clinesmith and sophomore Rachele Rogers all had 12 points.

"They gave us a good run," Buescher said. "UOP is a bunch of girls who really work hard. They're aggressive and competitive."

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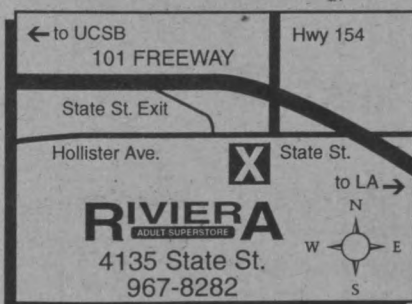
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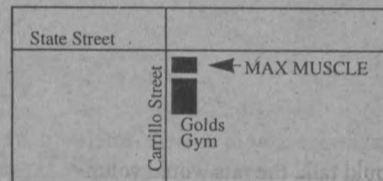
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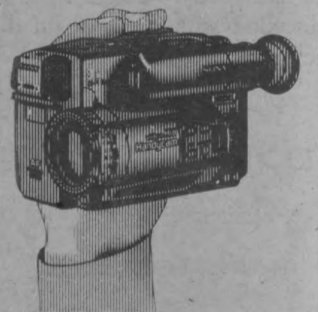
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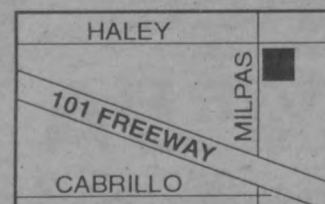
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