

SPORTS MONDAY

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Burning Skirts, Black Tide Move Into Nationals



A Black Tide player goes up for the disc against Stanford in the finals of the Collegiate Western Regionals. Despite the loss, UCSB will go to nationals.

MICHAEL D'EPIC/Daily Nexus

UCSB to Send Pair of Squads to Louisiana for Championship Event

By Brian Pillsbury
Staff Writer

When you talk about teams that have cornered the market when it comes to creating a tradition of excellence, the UCSB men's and women's ultimate frisbee squads may have a legitimate claim to that.

And this weekend as the hosts of the 1994 Collegiate Western Regionals, the Burning Skirts and the Black Tide ultimate teams proved again that they have what it takes to get the job done. All in all, it proved to be a stellar weekend for UCSB, as both teams earned berths in the national championship tournament, which will be played May 27-29 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The Burning Skirts reigned supreme at Storke Field as they finished the event as the outright winners of the West region tournament.

"Don't you just love us?" mused Burning Skirts member Jen Sramek after the competition.

"Our whole team played absolutely great," Burning Skirts member Becky Seifert said. "Everybody just played out of their heads. And that both teams get to go

is exactly what we wanted to have happen."

In the opening contests on Saturday, UCSB ousted the University of Oregon by a convincing 13-4 margin before taking on UC Santa Cruz in quarterfinal action. Playing against the region's second most powerful team, the Burning Skirts came out on top in a close-run affair, 15-12.

As the semifinals got underway on Sunday, UCSB was paired up against Stanford, but the Burning Skirts put an end to any hopes Stanford may have had with a 12-6 win that put UCSB in the final. In a rematch with UC Santa Cruz, it was again the Burning Skirts who pulled off the win, this time by a score of 19-15.

"I've been playing for three years and I never really thought it could happen," Burning Skirts captain Stephanie Mayer said. "It's really something when this team puts it together. Our timing was really good ... we just peaked at the right time."

"It looks good going in as the #1 team in the West and I think we have a really good chance to win. We have the next three weeks to focus on

See CHAMPS, p.3A

BRIAN PILLSBURY

1993-94 Is Year of the Woman in SB Sports

UCSB athletics claims to promote gender equity, but at least this season, there have been several examples of gross gender inequalities in the world of Gaucho sports.

Just who do these women think they are?

If you look at it, it sure seems like 1993-94 has been the Year of the Woman as far as UCSB athletics is concerned. They've taken the most titles, won more games, and for the most part, have really been the teams to get excited about. No offense to all the male athletes at our university — Gaucho sports fans should appreciate what they've got — but the women have really stolen the show this year.

For their part, the Gauchos men just haven't pulled their weight. Sure, there have been sports in which the men's teams have done well, so there's no need to get all excited and write in letters to the editor. But it's time now to examine the winners and losers in this season's Battle of the Sexes at UCSB.

Starting with the fall, we have two cross country teams. One of them won the Big West Championship. The other didn't. The men's team had a good year, no doubt, with runners such as Matt Haugen, but the women's team was the one that came back to Santa Barbara with the crown and several stand-outs of its own. 'Nuf said.

Next up is soccer, the sport that has been waiting for 15 years to catch on in America. The women's team missed the NCAA playoffs by a hair in another fine season from Head Coach Tad Bobak and his Gauchos, a team that gets more mileage out of 3½ scholarships than a lot of other teams could hope to get with more. The men's program is much improved, but Arya and Co. can't start talking playoffs for another year or two.

As to who had the better season in volleyball, the women take it again. They blew it big time once they got to the NCAA playoffs, where they pulled a Gauchoke, but they got there nonetheless and had a #4 national ranking to go with it. The men's team had some good wins this season, but a trip back to the MPSF playoffs is a key to winning respect.

As we move along to basketball, this is one sport where there's no bragging rights for the women and certainly not for the men. After two trips to the NCAAs and being picked to finish first in the Big

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Gauchos Take the Hard Road as UOP Wins 2-of-3

Pitching Lets UCSB Down in Games 1 and 3

By Brian Pillsbury
Staff Writer

Heading up to Stockton to take on the Pacific Tigers is a road trip teams few teams look forward to. As the UCSB baseball team headed into the three-game series at Pacific, they knew they would have quite a battle on their hands.

Though the Gauchos (20-30 overall) were able to steal the second game of the series against Pacific (36-15), the Tigers largely had things their way. UOP took the first game of Saturday's doubleheader by a score of 9-4 before Santa Barbara bounced back in the nightcap, 3-1. In Sunday's finale, the Gauchos were turned away as Pacific routed UCSB, 12-2.

In game one, UCSB jumped quickly out to a 4-0 lead in the third inning. Helped by some sloppy Tiger defense, the Gauchos executed well on offense as they were able to manufacture runs with efficient bunting and timely hitting. UCSB started the inning after Tyler Ferrer drew a walk and Peter Muro reached first on an error. After



GERRY MELENDEZ/Daily Nexus

Peter Muro loses the handle on a grounder. The Gauchos lost two of three at Pacific this weekend.

moving over on sacrifice bunts, Matt Bokemeier brought home Ferrer with a single.

Outfielder Wynter Phoenix then plated Doug Smaldino. Jared Janke brought home Phoenix and Bokemeier with a single to center field.

"We didn't really jump on him [UOP starter Danny Miller] per se," UCSB Head Coach Bob

Brontsema said. "We made some good bunts and were able to take advantage of some of their misplays."

After the third inning, the Gauchos would go scoreless the rest of the game. After the Tigers scored two in the fourth and one in the fifth, they broke the game open with five runs in the sixth inning.

Gauchos starter Pat Treend (3-7) started to lose his control, and after giving up consecutive walks to start the sixth inning, Brontsema decided to bring Steve Cain out of the bullpen. Trying to pitch out of the jam he had inherited, Cain was not effective in relief, as he hit one batter and gave up three singles that plated five Tiger runners.

"In the fourth and fifth innings, I could see Treend was starting to die," Brontsema said.

Miller went the distance for UOP as he scattered just five hits on the afternoon.

In game two, UCSB starting pitcher Steve Lane turned in a gem of a performance as he went eight

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UCSB Losing Streak Hits Eight With Losses at #7 Las Vegas

By Jenny Kok
Staff Writer

It was a weekend of ups and downs for the UCSB women's softball team as they lost their seventh and eighth straight games to #7-ranked UNLV (32-16, 20-6 Big West) at Rebel Diamond Saturday afternoon, 8-0, 7-4.

Though the Gauchos (23-31, 10-20 Big West) finally managed to score some runs after having managed to earn only one run over a seven-game spread, it just wasn't enough against UNLV.

"We played really flat the first game," UCSB left fielder Krissy Kyriazis said. "Like it had been doing for the past six games, our offense was really lacking."

To make their losing streak look a lot worse, game one of the doubleheader was called short at the fifth inning due to the eight-run rule. There were only two outs when the Rebels' eighth run came to the plate.

"That whole game was just really tough," UCSB Assistant Coach Heather Clark explained. "We only had one hit the whole game by Krissy and she got out on a play at second, so technically we had no base-runners."

"To make matters worse, they just hit really well. It wasn't that our defense lacked or anything, they just knew where the ball should go and got it



MICHAEL D'EPIC/Daily Nexus

The #7-ranked UNLV softball swept the doubleheader with the Gauchos this weekend and handed UCSB its eighth straight loss.

there."

UNLV's Cyndi Parus hammered out the shot of the day. According to the Gaucho players, it was a gigantic two-run homer. For Parus, that was her only hit in game one, as she was walked her other three at-bats by UCSB pitchers Stacy Atwood and Megan O'Brien.

Winning Rebel pitcher

Amie Stewart (19-7) had a virtually flawless performance on the mound, allowing only one hit and striking out seven batters. Atwood took the loss, as her record fell to 11-14.

In game two, the Gauchos looked like a completely different team with their added intensity.

"We got tired of not scoring, not to mention

that the loss was pretty embarrassing," Gaucho Margo Melendrez said. "We had to show that we could play on their level and play tough."

This time Santa Barbara started out on top as they managed to score one in the first and then three at the top of the third. UNLV's starting pitcher, Cyndi Hewitt, was pulled

in the third as Stewart was returned to the game.

"When Las Vegas went back to their first pitcher, they really began to slow us down," Clark explained. "She had a great rise ball that we couldn't get ahold of. It really slowed down our offensive production."

The Rebels came back and tied up the game in the

bottom of the third and then pushed themselves on top in the fourth, pounding out three more runs and capturing game two.

Offensively, Santa Barbara's first baseman, Jessica Montgomery, went 2-3 in game two with an RBI. AJ Vitulli, Maria

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UCSB reliever Steve Cain gave up four runs on six hits in three innings of work in Saturday's first game which the Gauchos lost by a score of 9-4.

CHAMPS

Continued from p.1A
our individual skills to get ready."

Only two of the 22 players on the Burning Skirts have had the experience of going to the nationals, and one player who has, Jen Casselle, has been invaluable in helping to keep the team's motivation level high and pushing them toward nationals.

"Her input on the field is so key," Mayer explained. "She refuses to lose and really helps to give us a winning edge."

The Black Tide reached the final, which was played within the confines of Harder Stadium, where they lost, 21-13, to Stanford — the top team in the region.

But with their 15-14 win over Las Positas College in

the semifinals Sunday, the Black Tide sewed up their place in the nationals and relegated the final to a battle of pride. In the early matchups, UCSB knocked off the Oregon State men, 8-6, then beat UC Santa Cruz, 13-10. They followed that up with a 13-3 thrashing of UC Davis and then went on to beat Cal, 15-13, in the quarterfinals.

Black Tide captain and fifth-year player Glenn Paufler explained that the history of Black Tide success played a large part in the team's on-field triumph.

"It's not so much against other teams, but there's a tradition on our team," he said. "Even when we were down 14-12 to LPC, there was never a doubt that we were not going to win. You just get used to winning."

Among the many stand-

out performances of the weekend were Andy Crews, Todd Blacher, Dale Hutchinson and John Shelton. Veteran player Mike Nanskung caught the winning goal against LPC in the semis and is described by Paufler as a player that is willing to lay it all out and sacrifice himself.

With their sights set on nationals, Paufler indicated that the Tide very much like their chances at taking home a national championship.

"I wouldn't be practicing 20 hours per week if I didn't think we could win. We're definitely confident. Last year we had a lot of good individual players, while this year we're a better team. Part of our strength is that we have enough vets that have been around and know what it takes," he said.

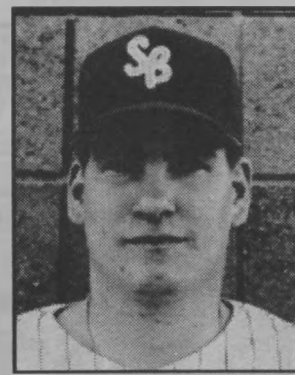
GAUCHOS

Continued from p.1A
solid innings and gave up six hits to even his record at 5-5 on the year. John Bretza came on for a final inning of relief work to earn his third save of the year.

"He was outstanding," Brontsema said of Lane's effort on the mound. "The location of his pitches was good and he hit his spots well."

Pacific drew first blood in game two as outfielder Chip Sell ripped a one-out double to left-center in the seventh inning. After Tim Schmeier lined out to the pitcher, catcher Randy Paulin singled to center to score Sell.

But with the firepower the Gauchos can come up with at times, UCSB climbed right back into the game. With no outs in the top of the eighth inning, Gaucho catcher Matt Bazani mashed his 11th home run of the season, a



Jared Janke

solo shot to left-center. After holding the Tigers scoreless in their half of the eighth, UCSB got a single from Bokemeier. Then Janke took Ron Lewis' pitch over the fence for his seventh round-tripper of the year and UCSB was able to hold on for the win.

"We thought we had the opportunity to be up 2-0," Brontsema explained. "We had some chances that we let slip away. But on the road playing against a good Pacific team, it's good to get a win."

"When a guy is pitching as well as [Lewis] has, a one-run lead can seem like 10, but we never thought we were out of it. We got a couple of big hits that won the game for us along with good pitching."

In the final game of the set, the Tigers jumped on UCSB starter Jorvic Salazar (2-2) as they touched him up for four runs in five innings of work. Bretza lasted only a third of an inning, as he gave up two runs in the five-run UOP sixth inning. Ryan O'Coynne and John Minton lasted only one-third and two-thirds of an inning, respectively, as Pacific put another six runs across in the eighth.

The big blow came from a grand slam home run to right by catcher Victor Sanchez. Salazar took the loss for UCSB while Mike Rios got the win for the Tigers.

The Gauchos scored two runs in the ninth inning on a trio of singles and two errors by UOP.

SEXES

Continued from p.1A
West, the Lady Gauchos were mucho disappointing with their 14-13 finish. At a Pimm-low 13-17, the men's team was nothing to write home about, either. As to who gets the nod for less disappointing, it all depends on your perspective.

In the sports played on a diamond with dirt and grass, score one for the men in blue and yellow. The baseball team has so much youth and so little pitching and yet it's still managed to beat USC twice, and actually has some potential. But, on the other hand, keep in mind that the notion of "potential" sums up quite well the story of Gaucho athletics. All our teams have it, but so what?

Now for the women. Talk about a swoon. The

Gauche softball team is sinking faster than a rock. Lately, scoring a run has become something of a moral victory. To top it off, they've lost eight in a row, but mercifully, the season ends next weekend.

In tennis, the women get back on the winning side. Their first-ever trip to the NAAs speaks for itself. The women's tennis team is one of the programs of the future here at UCSB. As a prediction, they'll get past their first-round match with Notre Dame, but in the next round, #3 Stanford will show the Gauchos why they're Stanford.

The men's team is in much better shape than it was last year, but the Gauchos have yet to get the breakthrough wins that have come to the women's team. To get these wins, you need the players, and UCSB doesn't have enough of them right now.

Swimming, like basketball, is another sport where there is no clear winner only because both programs have been so good — not only this season, but in years past. Even though they don't get much competition in the slim Big West, their results are admirable.

Put one on the scoreboard for the women in gymnastics. With the handful of solid wins they had, it was one of their most successful seasons ever. The men did send five people to regionals and one to nationals, but we stress the concept of team sports here, and the women's team had a better season overall.

If I've missed anyone, sorry. OK, men of Gaucho athletics, let next season be the year to challenge this affront to your manhood. And for the women athletes, here's to years of further success.

UNLV

Continued from p.2A
Costa, Kathy Shortall and JJ Cannon each had singles. But again, Kyriazis roped a two-RBI double in the third inning, which put her at a tie for the all-time-RBI-in-a-season record for the Gauchos.

For the Rebels, Parus and Kim Rondina each had two hits, including a double and an RBI. Sara Mallett went 2-4 with one triple and two RBI and Steph Gonzales went 2-3 with one stolen base. Three other Rebels had one hit.

"We really did play a lot better," Kyriazis com-

mented. "We came back and didn't let up."

"It's been a long season and it's showing," Clark said. "The fact that we came back and fought hard against a team like UNLV shows that we do have talent, it's just that we haven't been getting it together."

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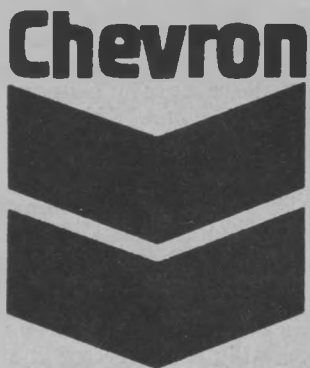
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