

SPORTS MONDAY

Daily Nexus

January 6, 1992

Page 1A

Gauchos Survive Spartan Scare

UCSB Fortunate to Escape With Win Over SJSU, 77-70

By Josh Elliott
Staff Writer

As San Jose State guard Trevor Pope's off-balance three-pointer at the buzzer found nothing but net Saturday, the UCSB men's basketball team was headed for the one place it didn't expect to find itself after 40 minutes against the hapless Spartans — overtime.

In a game that was not expected to have been that close, the Gauchos (8-2, 2-0 in Big West) waited until the extra period before playing like the better team, outscoring SJSU 13-6 to escape with a 77-70 win before 4,889 at the Thunderdome.

The Spartans entered the game with a dismal 1-8 mark (0-1 in conference play), but Santa Barbara was never able to pull away. One factor may have been the flu bug that dogged the Gauchos throughout the week, including leading scorer and rebounder Lucius Davis.

UCSB Head Coach Jerry Pimm had hoped to play the senior forward no more than 20 minutes, but because the Gauchos could never open a comfortable margin, Davis was forced to go 43 of 45 minutes. He led

BIG WEST STANDINGS

	W	L	Pct.
UCSB	2	0	1.000
UNLV	2	0	1.000
New Mexico State	1	0	1.000
Utah State	1	0	1.000
Long Beach State	1	1	.500
Fresno State	0	1	.000
CS Fullerton	0	1	.000
UC Irvine	0	2	.000
Pacific	0	2	.000
San Jose State	0	2	.000

Saturday's Results

UCSB 77, SJSU 70 (OT)
Utah St. 88, FSU 83
LBSU 86, Pacific 78
UNLV 71, UCI 57

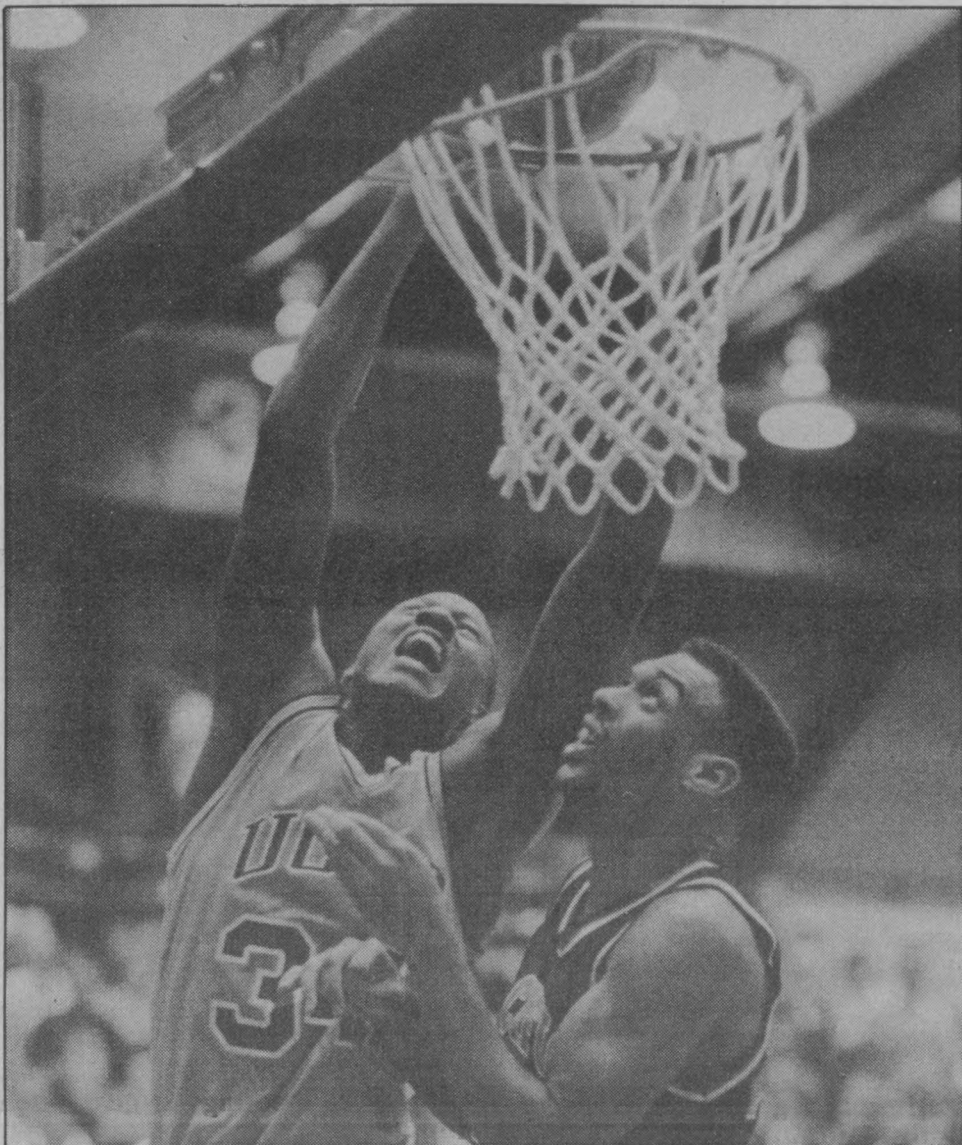
Thursday's Games

UCSB at New Mexico St.
CS Fullerton at Fresno St.
Long Beach St. at UNLV
UC Irvine at Utah St.

the team with 22 points, but had only 10 points with seven minutes remaining. Pimm did not want to use the sickness as an excuse, however.

"If we would've lost, I wouldn't have said a word about Lu or anyone else being sick," he said. "It was a real good effort by San Jose State. I really credit their intensity, their ability to drive

See SJSU, p.2A



DAVID ROSEN/Daily Nexus

JUST ENOUGH — Flu-ridden Lucius Davis scored 6 of his game-high 22 points in overtime to lead the Gauchos to an unexpected hard-fought win over San Jose St., 77-70, Saturday night in the Thunderdome.

Ladies Defeat UCI for 7th Straight Win

UCSB Gets Off to Finest Start Ever

By Scott McPherson
Staff Writer

Despite that the UCSB women's basketball team has won seven straight games, has apparently recovered from an early-season rash of injuries, and, with Saturday's 75-57 victory over UC Irvine, has moved its record to 9-2 overall and a perfect 2-0 in Big West Conference play, Head Coach Mark French doesn't seem too impressed.

"We didn't play well," French said of the game at Irvine, citing a high number of early turnovers that kept the game close in the first half. "It looked like we were going to blow them out — we maybe got a little complacent."

The Lady Gauchos opened the game by running up a 12-3 lead, and it appeared a rout was on. However, the Irvine squad slowly crept back into the game, and the teams went into halftime with UCSB leading 37-33. The four-point difference was a little surprising, since the Lady Gauchos are expected to challenge for the Big West title this season. And Irvine? The Big West cellar.

French and the team discussed their early mistakes in the locker room between halves.

"We talked about the things we needed to do better," he said. "We felt a little embarrassed, only ahead by four at halftime." French added that he encouraged the team to "go out and take care of business."

His team did just that, as UCSB came out flying in the second. Cori Close opened the second half by converting on a three-point play, and the Lady Gauchos

See STREAK, p.3A

BIG WEST STANDINGS

	W	L	Pct.
Fresno State	2	0	1.000
UCSB	2	0	1.000
Long Beach State	1	0	1.000
UNLV	1	0	1.000
Hawaii	0	0	.000
CS Fullerton	0	1	.000
New Mexico State	0	1	.000
Pacific	0	1	.000
San Jose State	0	1	.000
UC Irvine	0	1	.000

Saturday's Results

UCSB 75, UCI 57
UNLV 97, New Mexico St. 79

Sunday's Results

Fresno St. 74, San Jose St. 66

BRIAN BANKS

Prophecies for 1992 You Can Bank on

The Great Zamboni, the world's last psychic alive when there was no controversy over college football's bowl system, has announced his predictions for 1992. He admits that he was a little off last January when he predicted that James "Buster" Douglas would emerge as hockey's next superstar, but would like credit where it is due. After all, it was he who foresaw the Indianapolis Colts' last-place finish in the wild AFC East.

Here are some sports happenings to expect in 1992:

Pro Football: On Sunday, Nov. 15, the NFL will play its first seven-hour game, when the New York Giants and the Dallas Cowboys play the league's first "mini-series." The revolutionary plan spreads the game over two nights, allowing for more crowd-pleasers such as replay reviews, official timeouts and faked injuries. The idea won't catch on with fans until NBC gets the Cosby Kids to "guest star" in each game.

College Football: A Southeastern Conference powerhouse will be rocked by allegations that one of its former players committed no NCAA violations while in school, was not recruited illegally, and actually completed his four years of school and athletics at the university before opting for a professional career. After an extensive investigation, the case will be dropped when the NCAA reveals that the key piece of evidence — a videotape of the player at the graduation ceremony — is false.

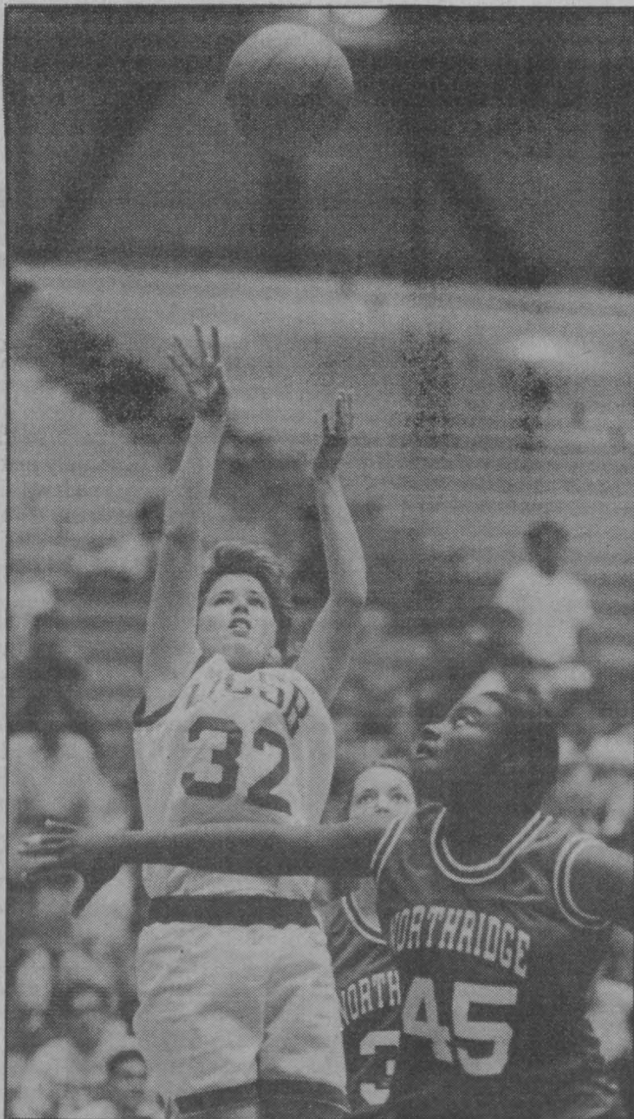
Pro Basketball: As fans of dismal college programs get increasingly frustrated, there is more pressure on NBA players to return to

See BANKS, p.2A

SPORTS SLATE

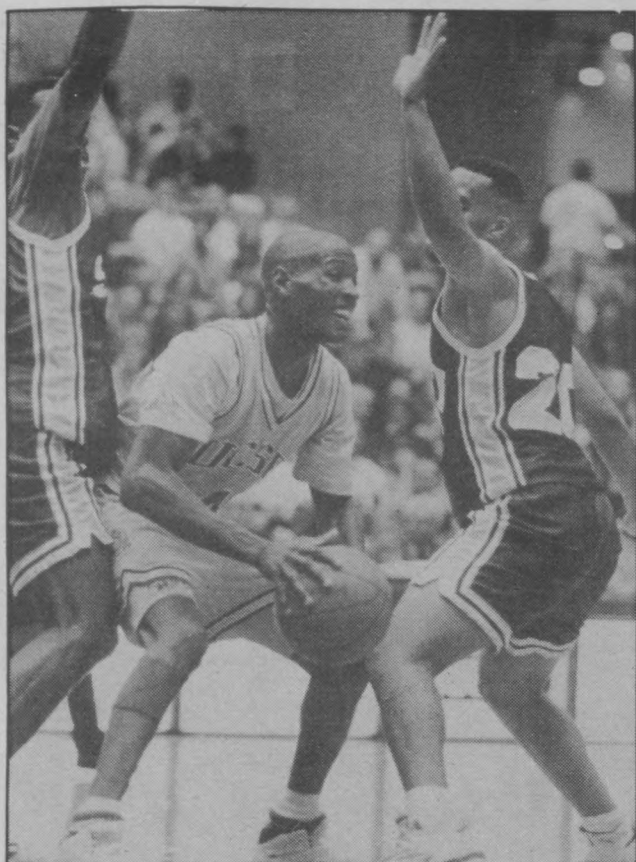
THE WEEK AHEAD

SPORT	OPPONENT	DAY	TIME	SITE
W. Tennis	Milwaukee Classic	Tues. - Sat.	All Day	Milwaukee
M. Basketball	NMSU	Thu.	6:30	Las Cruces
Swim/Dive	CSU Bakersfield	Fri.	1:00	Campus Pool
Men's Gym.	West Point Academy	Fri./Sat.	7:00	West Point
Swim/Dive	CSUN	Sat.	1:00	Campus Pool
W. Basketball	Fresno St.	Sat.	7:30	ECen
M. Basketball	UNLV	Sat.	8:00	Las Vegas



DAVID ROSEN/Daily Nexus

Strong play from the likes of freshman Anna McConnell has led the Lady Gauchos to their best start in school history at 9-2.



SJSU

Continued from p.1A
on us ... our defense was not up to the ability of their dribble-drive. We allowed too much penetration and fouled too much, and they shot well. There's nothing for us to really be ashamed about. They played well, but we had a great overtime."

Many would have thought overtime to be nothing more than a Spartan pipe dream entering the game, but on the strength of 62-percent shooting, they traded baskets with the Gauchos and trailed by only 34-33 at the half. Forward Mike Meyer led the Gauchos with 11 first-half points, including nine of the team's first 15.

A free throw by Pope pulled SJSU into a 39-39 tie early in the second half, but the Gauchos finally found their second wind, going on an 8-0 run that included a dazzling three-point play from Davis and a three-pointer from sixth man Idris Jones, who had another impressive showing with 20 points on 7-of-11 shooting.

"Coming into games this year, I've felt a lot more comfortable with my shot and my defensive intensity," said Jones, whose two three-pointers both keyed UCSB runs. "I can look for

MEN'S HOOPS

UCSB 77, St. Mary's 56
UCSB 59, Loyola 58
Ohio St. 82, UCSB 75
Texas 90, UCSB 77
UCSB 78, Westmont 39
UCSB 60, Pacific 53
UCSB 77, SJSU 70

my shot, and take the good shots. In a game like this, I felt like that was what the team needed."

But San Jose St. would not go away. After Gaucho point guard Ray Kelly's layin gave UCSB a 53-46 lead with nine minutes remaining, SJSU counterpart Terry Cannon hit a three-pointer and two free throws to cut the Gaucho lead to two. Santa Barbara missed three of five free throws in the last 1:17 to leave the door open for the Spartans.

Coming out of a timeout with 15 seconds left, Jones hit the second of two free throws to give the Gauchos a 64-61 lead. Pope brought the ball up, and found Cannon in the left corner with seven seconds left. His three-point attempt was long, and UCSB freshman center Doug Muse came down with the rebound.

But he fell, and the ball dribbled to Pope with three seconds left. Muse rolled onto his back, and seemed



The Gauchos suffered their first loss of the season on Dec. 18 to Ohio St., 82-75, with Buckeye All-American Jimmy Jackson (#22) outdueling the Gauchos' Ray Stewart (above, left) and Doug Muse (above).

to knock the legs out from under Pope as the Spartan guard literally shot the ball from his hip. It swished through as time expired, providing a strange end to a stranger game.

"That was quite a weird finish," Pimm said. "I thought we had it won after Muse came down with the ball. He had it in his hands, but then he fell or was pushed and the ball was loose. I guess San Jose recovered the fumble."

But Santa Barbara was the superior team in OT, looking to Davis or Jones every time down the floor.

Davis scored six points in the extra period, and two free throws by Jones broke a 70-70 tie as UCSB scored the final seven points of the game. Davis also had eight rebounds to go with his 22 points, while Muse had seven points, six rebounds and four blocks. Meyer finished with 15 points and five assists.

"I was feeling OK at the end. I got a little bit of my strength back, got my second wind," said an exhausted Davis afterwards. "The coaches stuck with me, telling me to keep going, telling me to step up, and I

stepped up at the end."

UCSB shot a respectable 51 percent from the floor, but had its troubles at the free throw line. The Gauchos, who normally shoot about 70 percent from the line, missed 13 free throws (22-35), seven in the first half.

The game completed a solid 5-2 performance over the holiday break for Santa Barbara, which, prior to the SJSU win, included victories over St. Mary's, 77-56, Loyola Marymount, 59-58, Westmont, 78-39, and Pacific, 60-53.

BANKS

Continued from p.1A
their alma mater and put an end to the losing. NBA Commissioner David Stern is in Italy filming a Nike commercial at the time of the decision, and is shocked upon his return to find that most NBA players have gone back to college ball. Stern creates 26 makeshift teams using any player labeled "the next Oscar Robertson" by a broadcaster while in college.

College Basketball: Bored of its own sublime championship format, the NCAA Basketball Committee will inject some controversy into the event by replacing the 64-team tournament with 32 bowl games. On April 1, the nations' best will go head to head in such soon-to-be traditional games as the Depend Undergarment Bowl, the Raid Roachkiller Bowl and the Smith & Wesson Bowl (an immediate hit in New York City). Committee officials will be surprised, however, by the amount of controversy created when 32 bowl-game winners claim their share of the national title. "Well," a committee spokesperson rationalizes, "this sort of thing just can't be decided on the court."

Major League Baseball: The league will be surprised by the signing of the first-ever million-dollar umpire. The contract stipulates that the umpire, who leaves umpiring school early to go pro, will receive even more money based on incentives. Every ejection will earn him \$10,000, every foul-tip off the face mask, \$15,000, and every time he has to wipe homeplate clean will be worth \$20,000 (extra innings only).

Golf: The rules of the game change forever when bird lovers across the country protest the terms "eagle," which they say is demeaning toward an endangered species, and "birdie," which they say is condescending. The PGA replaces "birdie" with the catchy "one-under-what-you're-supposed-to-get" and "eagle" with "one-under-that."

Pro Hockey: After courting offers from several foreign hockey clubs, projected superstar Eric Lindros will sign a big-bucks contract with the United States Ice Capades. Under the terms of the deal, Lindros will appear in "Bugs Bunny on Ice" as the title character. But his breakthrough performance in "Disney on Ice" will catapult Lindros to stardom, until show promoters are forced to change the name of the show when rumors that Walt Disney's body is cryogenically frozen again surface.

College Hockey: Millions of Americans are shocked when they learn that there is such a thing as college hockey.

The Great Zamboni, as always, wishes everyone a Happy New Year and can't wait until 1993 so he can gloat when all his predictions come true.

ATTENTION Rugby Players:

Practice Begins Tues. Jan. 7 at 3:30 p.m. on Storke Field. Questions: Contact Pete Tawil at 695-3333

WANTED: SPORTS WRITERS

When: Now

Where: Nexus Sports, underneath Storke Tower

Who: Talk to Andrew/Josh (893-2694)

Must Have: Pulse, Patience & Personality

STREAK

Continued from p.1A
didn't stop scoring until Close sank a layup to complete a string of 14 unanswered points.

The scoring run gave UCSB a comfortable lead, and the Lady Gauchos were never seriously challenged afterward. Close and Barbara Beainy led UCSB with 16 points apiece, and Erika Kienast added 15 points while grabbing 11 rebounds.

The victory was the seventh in a row for the Lady Gauchos, a string that includes victories over UCLA, Cal Poly Pomona, Cal State Northridge, Pepperdine and Big West rival Cal State Fullerton, as well as a 70-38 pasting of Loyola Marymount last week. The win-streak is only one short of the school record, and the 9-2 start is the best in UCSB history.

"We're proud of where we are," French said. "But we're capable of getting better ... a lot better if we stay

WOMEN'S HOOPS

UCSB 78, UCLA 70
UCSB 71, Cal Poly Pomona 53
UCSB 96, Cal State Northridge 58
UCSB 70, Pepperdine 66
UCSB 70, Loyola 38
UCSB 73, Fullerton 60
UCSB 75, UCI 57

healthy."

The biggest win of the season so far was a victory in Fullerton last Thursday. The Titans were 12-1 at home last season — including a perfect 8-0 against Big West opponents — and beat the Lady Gauchos in both meetings last year. The 73-60 victory a week ago was only the second win for UCSB in 19 career games against Fullerton, who last year finished third in the Big West.

With a 2-0 league mark, the Lady Gauchos find themselves in the unfamiliar position of conference leader. After spending years at or near the Big West cel-

See STREAK, p.3A

STREAK

Continued from p.2A
lar, the success the team has found this season and last has forced opponents to take them seriously.

"That's the challenge for us," French said. "We're not underdogs like we used to be — teams are ready for us."

Although the team has put together an excellent record despite earlier injuries to key team members, French continues to expect even more from his talented team.

"If we're going to be the best team we can be," he said, "if we're going to win the Big West, if we're going to go to the NCAA tournament, we need to be a little more self-disciplined. We need to improve every game."

UCSB has done well enough so far to capture a few votes in The Associated Press Top-25 Poll. However, French downplayed the issue.

"We're not going to get a lot of top-20 votes until we beat some top-20 teams," he said.

The team will get its chance to face some tough competition later this month, when the Lady Gauchos travel to Long Beach State to take on last season's Big West champs. In the meantime, the UCSB squad has this week off before playing at home against Fresno State this Saturday.

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WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL RECAP

Spikers' Season Ended by the Beach in 2nd Round

UCSB Falls in 4 Games to LBSU

By Jonathan Okanes
Staff Writer

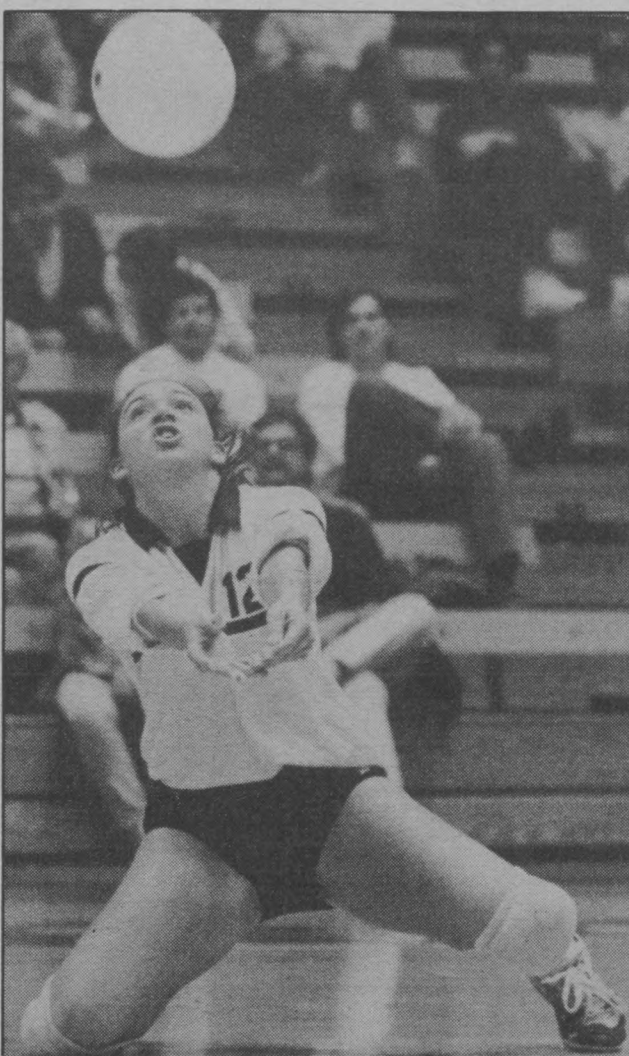
The UCSB women's volleyball team duplicated its 1990 effort by advancing to the regional semifinals of the 1991 NCAA tournament last month, bowing out to Long Beach State after a first-round victory over Fresno State.

The Lady Gauchos finished the season with an overall record of 22-10 and ranked 11th in the nation.

UCSB's victory over the Bulldogs at the Events Center marked the second consecutive season that the Gauchos won their first-round match after six straight years of failing to advance past that point.

Santa Barbara swept Fresno St., which was making its first postseason appearance since 1984, 15-9, 15-7, 17-16. Junior outside hitter Julie Pitois led UCSB with a match-high 19 kills while middle blocker Tina Van Loon gave the Bulldogs' Freshman of the Year Paola Paz-Soldan her share of problems with six blocks.

With the victory over FSU, UCSB won its ticket to Stockton for the Northwest regional to take on the 49ers, who entered as the top seed in the region

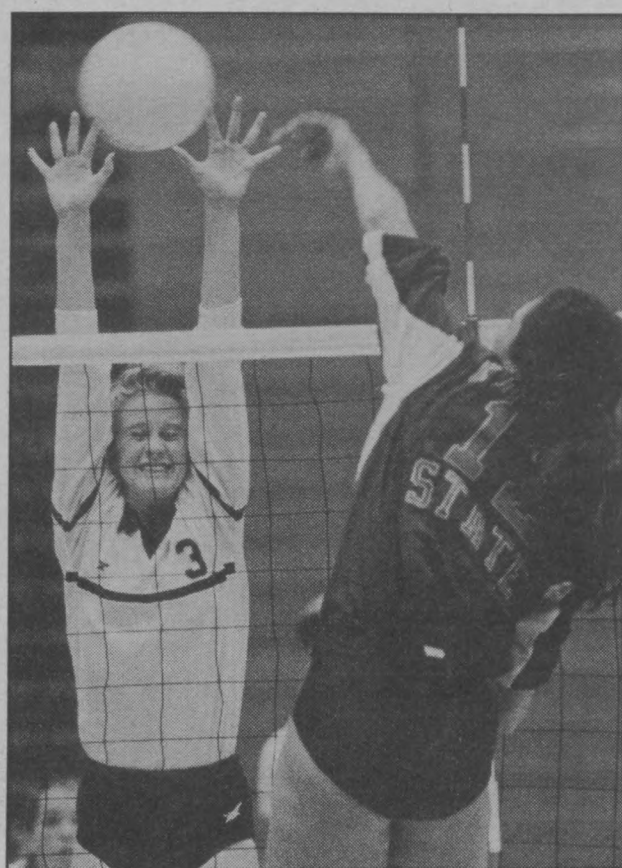


DAVID ROSEN/Daily Nexus

and the second-ranked team in the nation. LBSU dominated the Gauchos in the two regular-season meetings between the two teams, but this time Santa Barbara played the 'Niners

very tough before dropping a four-game decision, 15-10, 7-15, 16-14, 15-10, to end the Gauchos' season.

Long Beach entered the match leading the nation



CHRIS FITZ/Daily Nexus

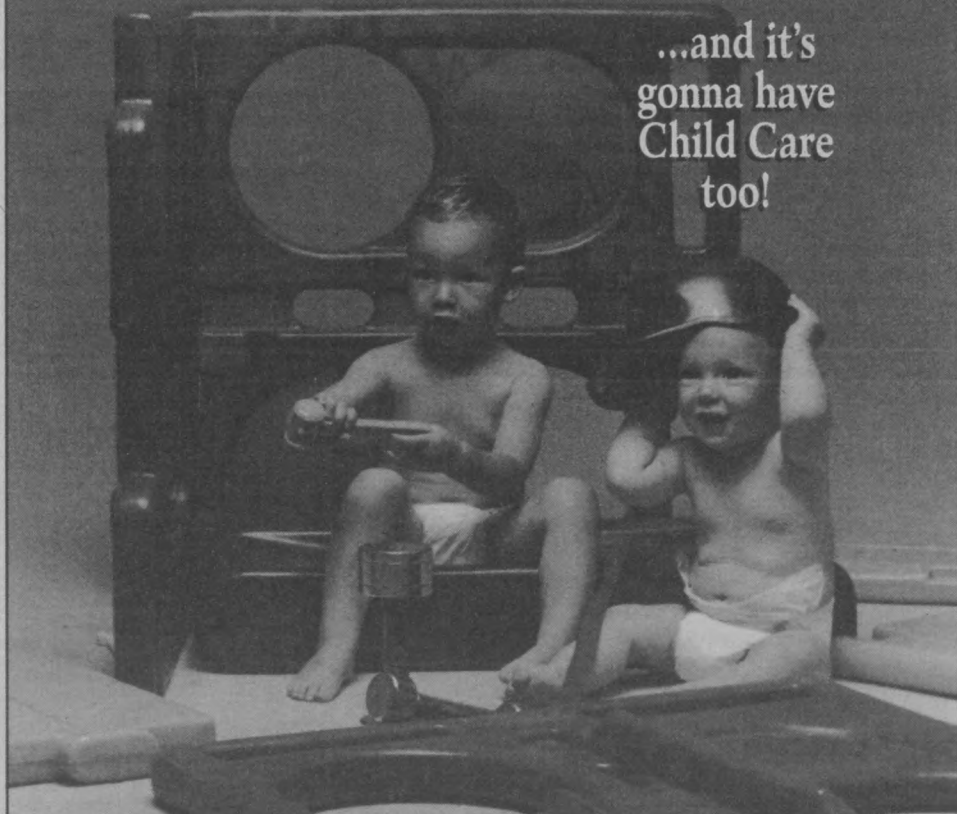
Despite seeing senior Stephanie Cox (left) play in her final match against Long Beach St. in the NCAA regional semifinals, the Lady Gauchos remain all smiles about their future with such up-and-coming stars as freshman Heather Collins (above).

with a blistering .336 hitting percentage, but UCSB held the 49ers to a .139 mark and were on the verge of taking a two-games-to-one lead with a 14-13 lead in game three

when a service error by Van Loon opened the door for LBSU to score three consecutive points to close out the game. The 'Niners held UCSB to a .041 hitting mark.

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DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Edited by Trude Michel Jaffe

ACROSS

- Make the grade
- Hen house
- Hag
- Atlanta arena
- Against
- Contrived, in a way
- Wander
- Greek letter
- The best
- Hair holders
- Stupid
- "Catch 22" author
- Inflame
- Estrada of TV
- Prop for Player
- ChiChi's org.
- Finicky
- Bosc
- Above it all
- Writer Anais
- Peak
- Midday
- Georgia's founder
- Acquire
- Clodhopper
- Coral
- outcropping
- Actor Alan
- Dances like Chubby Checker
- Got under control
- Unsmiling
- Beside
- Clump
- Lake port
- Ed Murrow's medium
- Poet Millay
- Always
- Spruce up
- Texas Ranger ace Nolan
- Memorable Foxx

DOWN

- Veranda
- Soap plant
- Slowpoke
- Dumbbell

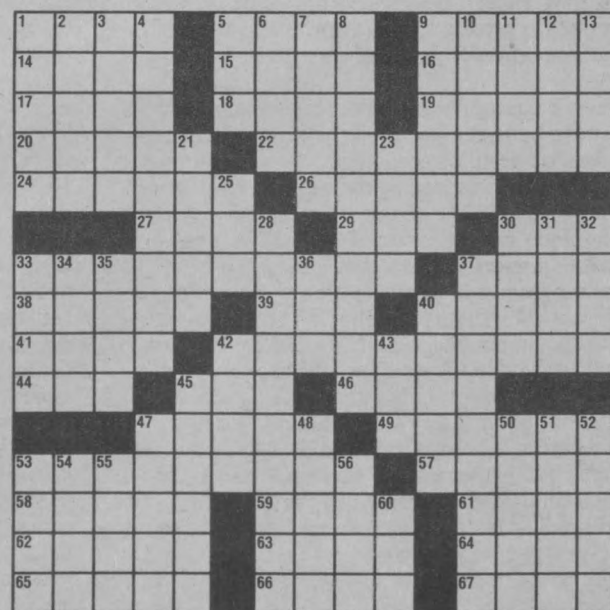
- Taxi
- Singles
- One of the weasels
- Upright expert
- Gorgonzola, e.g.
- Esther of "Good Times"
- Steinbeck character
- Hairdo holders
- Ogles
- Letter adornment
- Takes to court
- Disencumber
- Halcyon or kookaburra
- Equal
- Struggle for air
- Comedian Johnson
- Serpent's tooth
- Soap additive
- Chimney sweep's target
- Flatter

- Gouge
- Ruminates
- Mighty trees
- Asian holiday
- The Beaver State
- Designing Woman Potts
- Destitute
- Help
- True's partner
- McCarthy crony
- Stringed instrument
- Winged
- Lay at anchor
- Andrews or Wynter
- Thumbs down, a la John Simon

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

FLAP	FOGG	BAILS
IAMA	ORRA	ULNAE
STIR	RIOT	RIGHT
THECAT	SWHISKERS	
SEO	ESTE	
AMISH	NERO	SWIM
LASERS	DELE	HRE
THECAT	BIRDSSEAT	
OAR	MART	ECARTE
SNEE	GIST	AMEER
TEEM	RAP	
CATAND	MOUSE	EGAME
ADOPT	IDAS	RIOS
SAGER	NENE	IRAN
ERASE	GATS	DYNE

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