

Sports

Gauchos Celebrate Sweep 16th

■ **Baseball:** UCSB wins three straight against #16 Long Beach State

By **BRIAN CHONG**
Reporter

Beach Patrol.
The UCSB baseball team had a tough task this past weekend as conference rival Long Beach State, the top team in the Big West and the 16th-ranked squad in the nation, came into town for a three-game series at Caesar Uyesaka Stadium. The overwhelming talent of the 49ers (25-16 overall, 13-8 Big West) did not seem to impress a Gauchos team (21-18 overall, 11-7 Big West) that has been struggling of late, as Santa Barbara held its ground and then some throughout the weekend. Beginning the series just a mere game over the .500 mark, the Gauchos turned things around, sweeping the 49ers, and sent them back home with a three-game losing streak.

See UCSB, p.2A



JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS

LOVE-PLATE RELATIONSHIP: The UCSB baseball team 86'd the 49ers on Friday with this play at the plate, when junior shortstop Jeff Bannon took out LBSU catcher Bryan Kennedy, scoring and breaking a 7-7 tie in the bottom of the eighth inning. The run proved to be critical for UCSB, which won, 8-7.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SCOTT SELLMAN

CLEARANCE FOR TAKEOFF: Junior Joey Tosta and the UCSB men's and women's track and field team were in action last Saturday at UC Irvine.

UCSB Sets Pace at UC Irvine Invitational

■ **Track and Field:** Multiple Gauchos Set Personal Records in Meet

By **ZACK O'NEILL**
Staff Writer

The UCSB men's and women's track and field teams were in Irvine this past weekend to compete in the UC Irvine Collegiate Invitational. In the one-day meet held Saturday, UCSB's men finished second with 116 total team points, while the women finished fourth with 82 points.

Saturday's meet was dominated by Northern Arizona, which placed first in both the men's and women's categories, and won 19 events overall. In contrast, Santa Barbara won only three events, the men's 400m (junior Ryan Locklin, 49.14), the men's 1500m (junior Eric Gans, 3:55.60 — a lifetime best) and the men's 400m hurdles (sophomore Marques Burrus, 53.36).

However, several Gauchos turned in career-best performances, and many members of the team earned top-three finishes in their respective events.

On the men's side, junior Ron DiMaggio placed second behind Locklin in the 400m with a time of 49.17, just a hair off Locklin's winning time. Junior Jacob Green earned a third-place finish in the 800m, clocking in with a time of 1:54.75.

Senior Jason Kolb placed third in the 3000m with a time of 8:38.59, about 11 seconds behind NAU's Sean Clendaniel, who won the event with a time of 8:27.27. In the 110m high hurdles, senior

Baruti Armstrong earned six points for the team, finishing third with a time of 15.06.

One event the Gauchos dominated was the 400m hurdles, placing runners in each of the top-three slots. Behind Burrus, Armstrong came in second (54.98), and junior Scott Sellman clocked in at 57.78, good for third place.

"I felt like it wasn't that great of a race for me," Sellman said, adding, "There's definitely a lot of competition between [Burrus, Armstrong and me]. It's friendly, though, we're definitely a tight group. We joke around a lot, but we look to each other for support."

In addition to the runners, two other Gauchos finished in the top three of their respective events; senior Nate Traxler, who finished third in the shot put (48'05".50), and senior Dustin Emter, who placed second in the javelin (205'06".00).

"Personally, I felt it was a bread-and-butter meet," Traxler said. "I warmed up well, and threw about 2 or 3 feet short of my PR. I should be throwing farther than what I did [Saturday], but I'm not worried. I feel real good, and there's more to come."

There were also several Gauchos who notched personal records in the meet. Senior Patrick Longhini notched a PR in the 1500m (3:59.52), freshman Brendan Simon had an all-time best in

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Sporting Events Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Men's tennis vs. Westmont, RecCen Courts 1:30 p.m. Golf @ Big West Championships in Sacramento (Mon-Tue) Softball vs. Pacific Campus Diamond 1 p.m.	Baseball vs. USC Caesar Uyesaka Stadium 2 p.m. Softball vs. Pacific Campus Diamond 1 p.m.	Women's tennis @ Big West Championships in Ojai (Wed-Sat)	Men's tennis @ Big West Championships in Ojai (Thu-Sat)	Baseball @ Cal State Fullerton 7 p.m.	Baseball @ Cal State Fullerton 7 p.m. Softball @ Cal State Northridge 1:30 p.m.	Baseball @ Cal State Fullerton 1 p.m. Softball @ Cal State Northridge 1:30 p.m.

UCSB

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"This series produced more than we [have] had in [terms of] consistent outings," UCSB Head Coach Bob Brontsema said. "We've had flashes of talent, but this series we turned the corner in fighting and persevering in coming back."

Although nobody knew it at the time, Santa Barbara on Thursday set the tone for the entire series, demolishing LBSU 12-6 in game one. UCSB scored 12 runs against a 49er pitching staff that holds a very low ERA, and held Long Beach's offense in check, giving the Gauchos the confidence they needed to grind out the next two games, which were much closer.

Game two on Friday was anything but a comfortable victory for the Gauchos, who battled back to edge Long Beach State 8-7. Similar to many of the recent games for UCSB, Friday's game proved to be another seesaw battle from the beginning. This time around, the Gauchos put themselves on the scoreboard first, in their half of the second inning. With two outs in the inning, sophomore designated hitter Tyler Von Schell came up to bat and powered the ball over the fence for a solo homer.

In the fifth, junior left fielder Jeff Carter walked to lead the offensive stint for the Gauchos. UCSB's inning was capped off by a two-run home run over the right-field wall by Von Schell, who belted one earlier in the game, tying the game at seven.

"This was a big series," said Von Schell, who collected three hits, including a pair of home runs and four RBIs. "We needed a win or at least two, but we got all three which is really a boost. I give all the credit to the pitchers in this series."

The game remained tied until the bottom of the eighth inning. The 49ers put runners on the bases once again, and then UCSB brought in senior reliever Peter Dyball. Dyball went the distance in the count with three balls and two strikes, but

took himself out of the jam in style, notching a strikeout to preserve the 7-7 tie.

Junior shortstop Jeff Bannon started Santa Barbara's eighth inning by singling to left, and advancing to second on a wild pitch. Junior catcher Donovan Warrecker singled to left-center, and Bannon rounded third on his way home, but the throw home was on the money. As 49er catcher Bryan Kennedy reached out to tag Bannon, he slid and knocked the ball away, scoring the go-ahead and eventual winning run.

UCSB was holding an 8-7 lead entering the ninth inning, and redshirt freshman Jim Bullard was brought in to close the game. With one out, LBSU third baseman Abel Orozco slapped a pitch to deep center, but sophomore center fielder R.J. Smith, for the second-straight game, made a diving catch at the warning track that resulted in an out rather than a double or triple. Kennedy, the last batter of the game, popped out to center to end the inning and give the Gauchos their second win of the series.

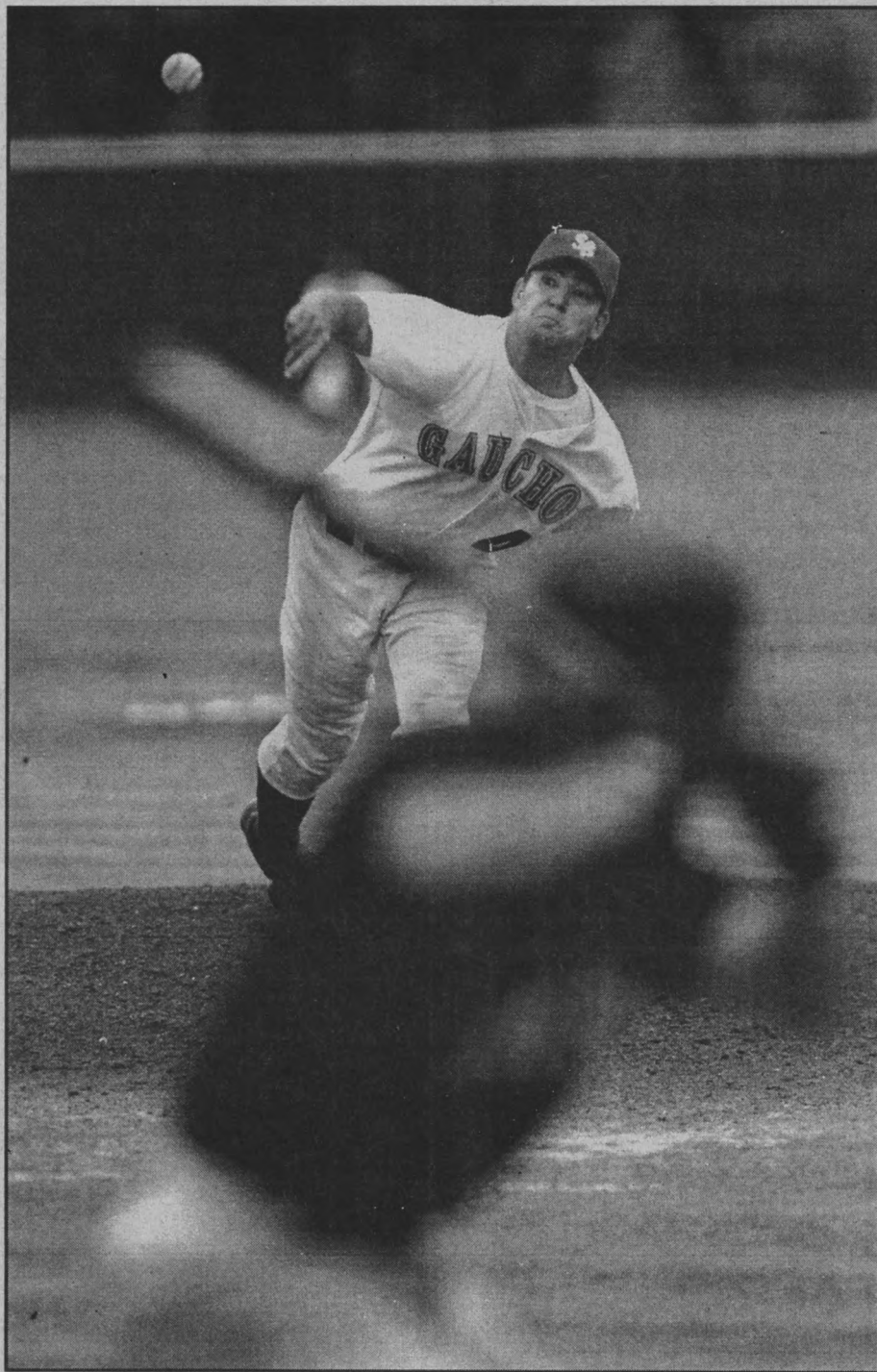
"[Long Beach State] was a tough team and we knew that these games would make or break our hopes for the playoffs," Smith said. "About my defense, I would rather make a routine play than a spectacular play, but hey, if it produced a win, then I'm happy."

With the Gauchos simply outplaying the 49ers in the first two games of the series, they were looking to sweep Long Beach State back home.

In containing the 49er offense, much of the credit was given to the UCSB pitching staff, which was phenomenal in the first two games of the series. In the final game of the series, the starting assignment was handed to sophomore Phil Galer due to injuries of the other pitchers on the staff.

Galer continued the solid pitching of the Gauchos by pitching five scoreless

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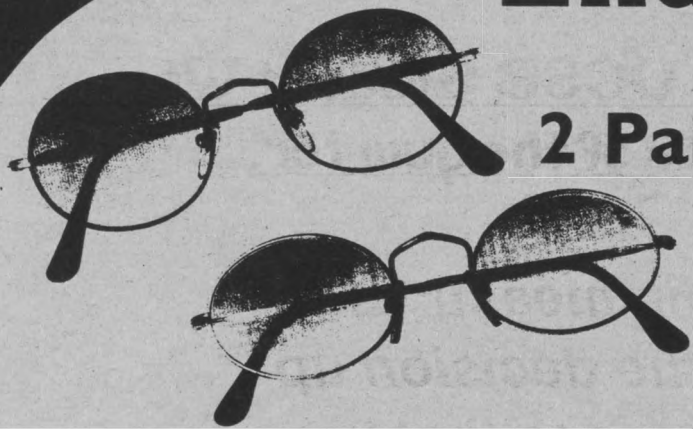


JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS

GIMME SOME SUGAR: Sophomore Jeremy Sugarman went four-plus innings for the UCSB baseball team Saturday, giving up two earned and five unearned runs against LBSU.

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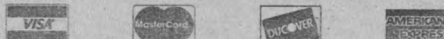
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TRACK

Continued from p.1A

the 800m (1:54.87) and junior Darren Salmi and sophomore Miguel Vasquez also scored PRs in the same event (1:58.56 and 1:59.14, respectively). In the discus, junior Kevin Howard had a PR of 145'03".

On the women's side, no Gauchos took home first-place finishes, but several placed in the top three of their events. Freshman Jasmine Washington finished third in the 200m with a time of 25.10. Senior Jessica Lunt placed second in the 1500m, finishing under a second behind San Diego State's Kylie Edwards with a time of 4:32.66, a life-time best for her in the event.

In the 100m hurdles, sophomore Annita Reuben finished second with a time of 15.99, a personal best. UCSB as a team placed third in the 4x400m relay, clocking in at 48.22. In the high jump, junior Alanna Deely placed third with a mark of 5'01".75.

"I know I could have done a lot better," Reuben said. "I'm not too happy with my performance. I jumped under my PR, and I feel like I'm ready to just bust it anytime."

The final Gaucho to earn a top-three finish was freshman Deborah Samson, who placed second in the pole vault, clearing a height of 12'06".00. Samson's finish earned her an NCAA provisional qualifying mark, and broke the UCSB record, which she herself held. The Bellflower native tried three times to clear the Olympic Qualifying standard of 13' 1/4", but failed in each attempt.

As far as personal records go, six other Gauchos left the meet with new PRs. They are senior Ali Pearson in the 400m (59.32), freshman Sally Fortson in the 800m (2:21.57), senior Jen Gardner in the hammer (115'01"), junior Tamar Gamliel in the 3000m (10:34.08) and freshman Tiffany DeJesus in the 3000m (10:40.41).

UCSB

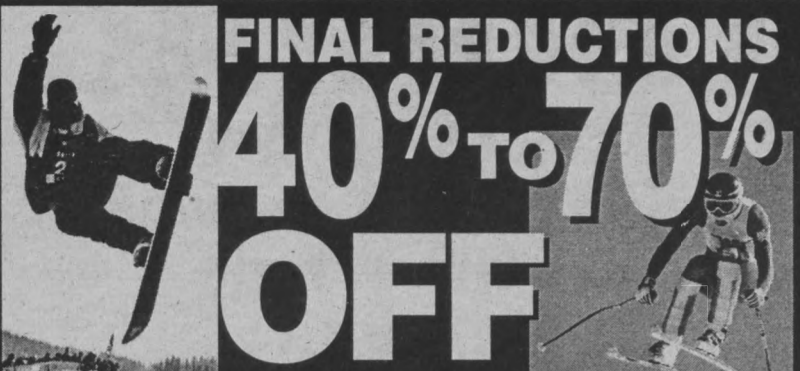
Continued from p.2A

innings, allowing only four hits, striking out three and walking none. Dyball was called in to relieve Galer in the sixth inning, and he pitched 1.1 innings, allowing one hit, striking out one and walking none. In the seventh inning the ball was handed over to senior Joe Isaacson, who pitched well in game two. Isaacson pitched 2.2 innings Saturday, and struck out two batters.

"It was told to me on Tuesday that I was pitching against Long Beach State," Galer said. "I was excited, but naturally I was a bit nervous knowing I was pitching against a team like Long Beach State. [Pitching] Coach [Tom] Myers was telling me where to place my pitches and I was hitting my spots all day, which seemed to give me the success."

The game was scoreless entering the fifth inning, but that soon changed. Smith, who assisted in the first two victories of the series with his acrobatic defense, came around this time with his bat. Leading off the fifth inning, Smith took a pitch and placed it over the left-field wall, his second of the year, to put the Gauchos on the scoreboard, 1-0. The Gauchos scored one more run in the eighth as Kolbach crossed the plate for the second run of the game.

That seemed to be all the runs the Gauchos needed for the victory and the sweep of the series. Despite a double in the top of the ninth by the 49ers, UCSB held its ground to put the game away, 2-0.



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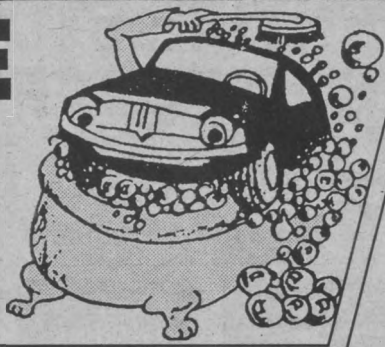
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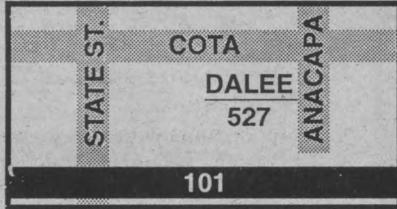


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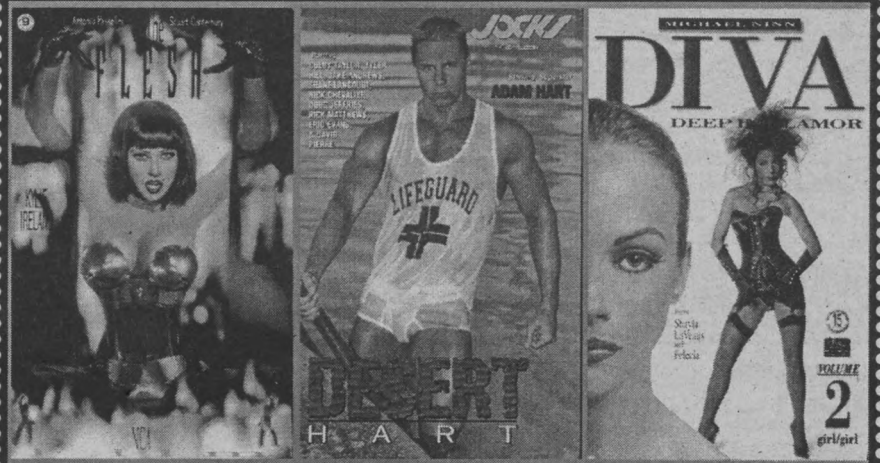
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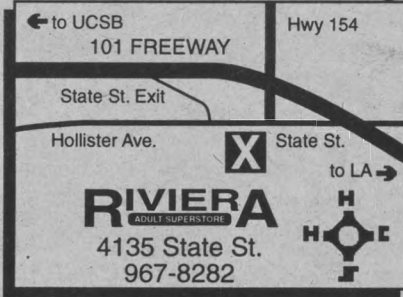
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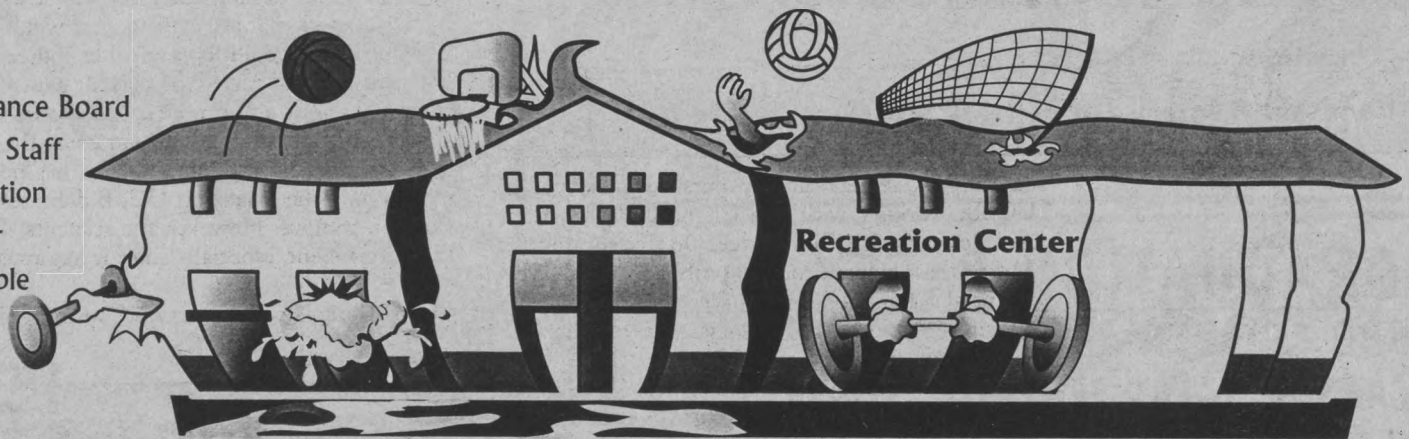
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