

SPORTS MONDAY

Daily Nexus

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Gauchos Gobble Up Anteaters With Pestering Defense and Solid Offense

■ Santa Barbara Defeats UCI, 64-48, to Go 2-0 in Big West Competition

By Brian Berger
Staff Writer

IRVINE — Those who have been following UCSB women's basketball this season should not be surprised about the result of Sunday's contest against UC Irvine.

With the combination of a tough pressuring defense and a balanced scoring attack, the Gauchos cruised past the host Anteaters 64-48 in front of a sparse crowd (242) at the Bren Event Center.

Santa Barbara's (6-4 overall, 2-0 in the Big West) defense, which forced UCI (6-6, 1-2) into 17 first-half turnovers, helped spark the UCSB offense to an early lead.

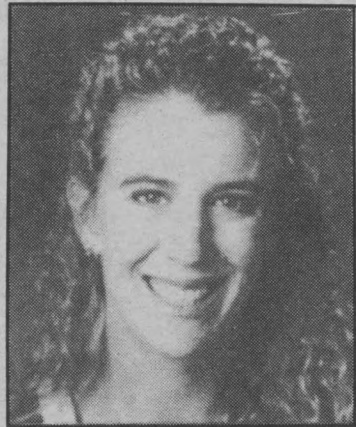
Heading up the Gaucho attack was junior guard Erin Alexander, who connected for a team-high seven first-half points. Senior forward Lauren Goldstine continued her hot scoring pace as she contributed five of her seven points in the opening 20 minutes.

"It was a nice win, especially for the veterans," Goldstine said. "They always play us tough, so a 16-point victory is nice."

Although Santa Barbara

struggled in the first half, shooting 13 for 34 (.382), the defense managed to give UCSB a 30-24 lead at intermission. The Gaucho post defenders were able to hold the Anteaters' leading scorer Allah-Mi Basheer to just four first-half points and three rebounds.

"I was real happy with our de-



Amy Hughlett

fensive play," said Santa Barbara Head Coach Mark French. "One of our keys was to not let them reverse the ball and I think we did a real good job in the first half."

UCSB opened the second half with an offensive outburst by center Amy Hughlett. The senior

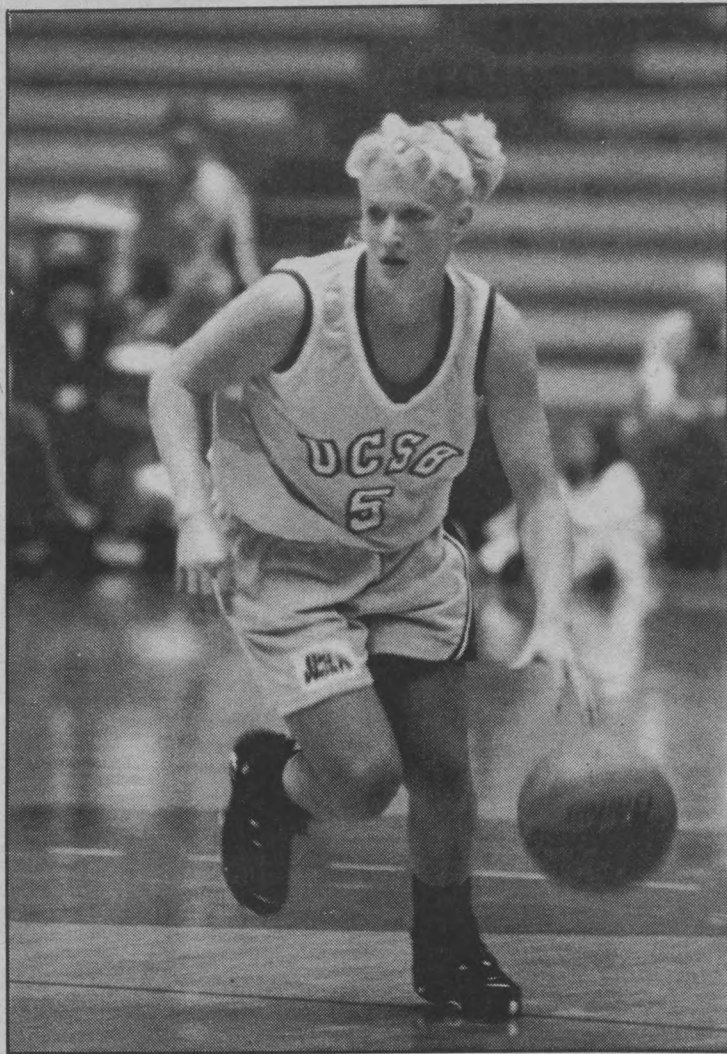
scored the squad's first eight points and finished the game with a team-high 16.

The Gauchos' aggressive physical play in the first half came back to haunt them, as three Santa Barbara players fouled out late in the contest. However, UCSB had opened up a large enough lead to avert any danger of letting the game slip away.

Leading the Anteaters was Basheer, who finished with 19 points and eight boards to lead all scorers. Sabrina Roberson and Tamera Thomas each pitched in 11 points in the losing cause.

"The second half our defense broke down a little bit and allowed them to do what they wanted to do," French said. "But overall, I was happy with our play."

Offensively for Santa Barbara, Alexander finished with 15 points and freshman Stephanie Shadwell added a season-high six points and six rebounds. However, the key for the UCSB offense was the play of senior guard Dio Aguinaldo, who served up seven assists. In the last four games, Aguinaldo has dished out 27 assists while giving up only six turnovers.



DAN THIBODEAU/Daily Nexus

ROAD WARRIORS: Santa Barbara junior point guard Erin Alexander (above) helped the Gauchos down UCI with her 15 points. Senior center Amy Hughlett led all UCSB players with 16 points on 7-of-11 shooting, while senior guard Dio Aguinaldo dished out a team-high seven assists and picked off two steals.

UCSB Takes On Titans Tonight in T-Dome in Conference Home Opener

By Michael Cadilli
Staff Writer

With a host of problems plaguing the UCSB men's basketball team this season, one cure for the struggling Gauchos could be Cal State Fullerton.

Santa Barbara takes on the hapless Titans tonight at 7:30 in the Big West home opener in the Thunderdome. CSUF (2-8 overall, 1-1 in the Big West) is picked by both the media and coaches' polls to finish dead last in the conference, so UCSB hopes to prey on Fullerton to improve its 3-6, 0-1 record and restore some confidence in a squad that has dropped five of its last six games.

"I think their spirits are good. Their backs are up against the wall and we are facing adversity," Santa Barbara Head Coach Jerry Pimm said. "However, they are very resilient.

Gauchos Versus Titans

Fullerton leads all-time series record 22-16
Last Season the Squads Split the Two-Game Set

7:30 Tipoff
in T-Dome

They'll bounce back."

Part of the adversity the Gauchos are facing is the fact that leading scorer senior guard Lelan McDougal and his 18.7 points per game (sixth in the Big West) will be sidelined for at least the next two games with post-concussion symptoms. McDougal apparently took a hit in the head area in the St. Mary's College game Dec. 29 and re-aggravated the injury in practice last week.

He has complained about headaches and lightheadedness, but the MRI test he took Friday came out negative. The squad

will miss his conference-leading three-point percentage (.500) and team-high 19 steals.

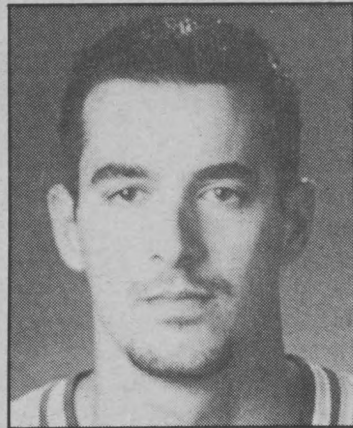
Starting in McDougal's place will be the #2 three-point shooter in the Big West, senior guard Dance Prince. Prince hit a career-high six treys against St. Joseph's on Dec. 21 and is averaging 6.1 ppg.

Senior forward Mark Flick is a key for UCSB in beating the Titans. He has the league's 13th-best scoring average at 14.5 ppg and also leads the team in rebounding with 6.2 rpg. However, Flick has scored eight and seven points in the last two

games, respectively, hitting only five of 21 shots (23.8 percent).

"The Long Beach game was a tough loss. It's tough to maintain a positive scope of things," Flick said. "We have to try and maintain a positive frame of mind and go out and win some games. We are not overlooking Fullerton because they've had our number the past few years, but definitely the guys think this is a game we can win at home."

Senior point guard Phillip Turner is another player from whom the Gauchos need a solid performance. Turner is fourth in the Big West with 5.0 assists per

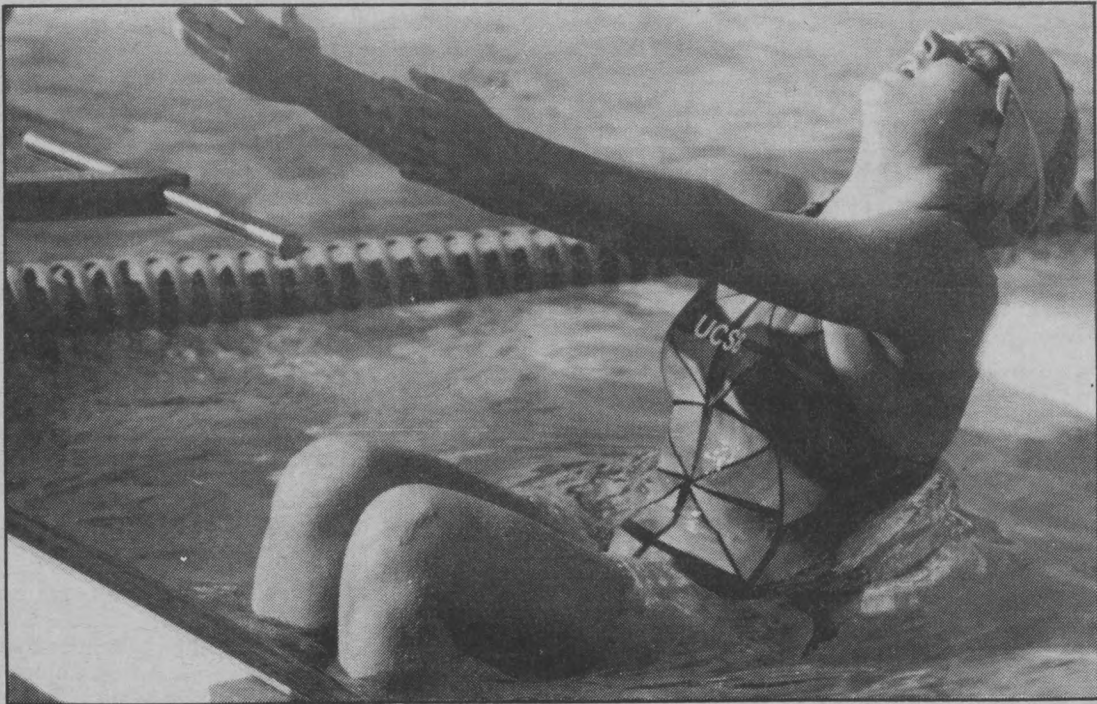


Mark Flick

game (27 in his last four contests) and adds 9.5 ppg.

The Titans do have two front-court players who will give Santa Barbara problems inside. Chuck Overton's 16.3 ppg and John Williams' 14.9 ppg and 8.1 rpg

See B-BALL, p.3A



DAN THIBODEAU/Daily Nexus

DIVE RIGHT IN: The Gaucho women's swimming and diving team lost two dual-meets to Berkeley and UCLA this weekend at campus pool, but it still feels optimistic about the season ahead.

Top 25 Teams Take Victories Over Santa Barbara Swimmers & Divers

By Steven Large
Staff Writer

Last year at this time, the UCSB men's and women's swimming and diving teams were suffering through storms and floods, while competing with the likes of Brown University. What a difference a year makes.

Under sunny skies and amid warm temperatures, the Santa Barbara women's swimming and diving team hosted UC Berkeley and UCLA on Friday and Saturday, respectively, and although the team lost to both opponents, it was pleased with the weekend's outcome. "All things considered, it was a good one," Gaucho Head Coach Gregg Wilson said.

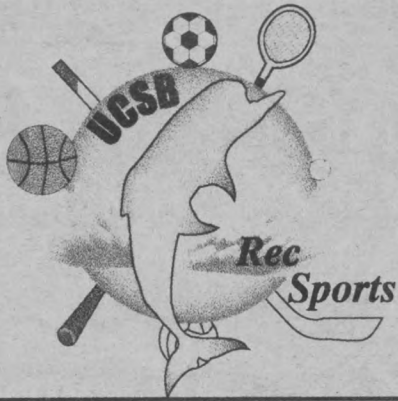
All things considered includes the fact that Cal is a top 25 team and UCLA is a top 10 squad, and the Gauchos had not practiced together for the two weeks prior to the meets because of Winter Break.

"It was like they woke up from a nap," Wilson said. "They were a little slow coming around."

It was a rude awakening Friday, as UCSB fell to Berkeley 136.5 to 67.5.

"A lot of us didn't train over break," senior captain Wendy Zellers said. "It's hard going into a meet when you think the other team is

See GAUCHOS, p.3A



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 BasketBall 6:30pm H2OPolo 6:00pm
 In/Out Soccer 7:15pm
 Team Tennis Info 6:30pm

- 6x6 Volleyball
- Bowling
- Racquetball
- 5x5 Basketball
- Roller Hockey
- 2x2 Sand Volleyball
- Outdoor Soccer
- H2O Polo
- Indoor Soccer
- Ultimate
- Softball
- Team Tennis
- Badminton
- Squash
- Swimming

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 Jan 10, 6:00, Pavil.
 Jan 11, 6:00, ECEN

WATER POLO
 Jan 7, 5:00, RecPool
 Jan 8, 5:00, RecPool
 Jan 9, 5:00, RecPool
 Jan 10, 5:00, RecPool

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 Jan 11, 6:00, RobField

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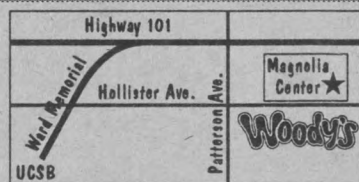
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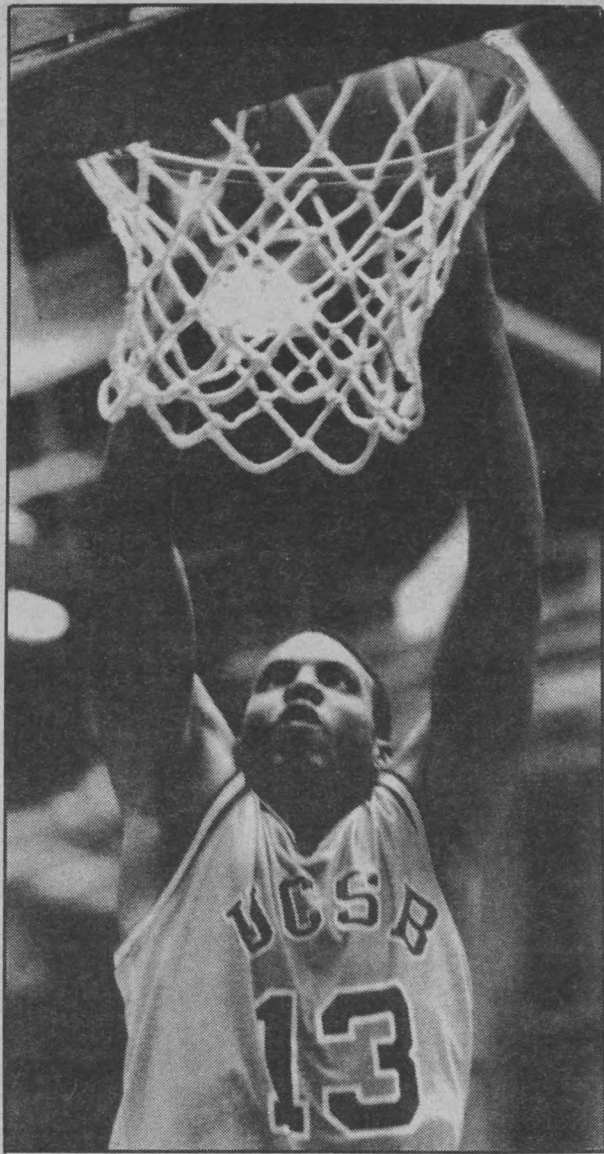
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B-BALL

Continued from p.1A
paced Fullerton to an upset overtime win over University of the Pacific Thursday.

UCSB sophomore forward Kealon Wallace will counter CSUF's inside players with his 14.3 ppg in his last six games, scoring in double figures in all of them. Wallace leads the Gauchos in field goal percentage (58.6), free throw percentage (79.0) and total blocked shots (eight).

HEADACHE: Senior guard Lelan McDougal had been giving opponents headaches with his 18.7 points per game, but now has post-concussion symptoms and will miss at least two games. Nexus File Photo



GAUCHOS

Continued from p.1A
better than you."

But Saturday was a different story against the Bruins, who ended up winning 182 to 112. At one point during the meet, however, the Gauchos actually led by five points, forcing UCLA to alter its lineup.

"The Cal meet shook us up a little bit," Zellers said. "On Saturday we were cheering each other on and there was much more support from the team."

"It's just what we decided to do," she added. "It was needed. You swim a lot faster when you're cheered on."

GaUCHO senior Erin Patrick had a good meet against both schools. She won the 100 and 200 freestyles against Cal and finished first in the 50 and 200 freestyles against UCLA.

"It's good to see you can go to your go-to person," Wilson said.

Freshman Santa Barbara diver Lindsay Hill

also had an impressive day against UCLA, qualifying for the NCAA zone qualifying meet in the one-meter event. She joins freshmen Cassie Day and Courtney Miller, who have also qualified earlier this season. The three divers will go to Oregon in the second weekend of March to try to advance to the NCAAs.

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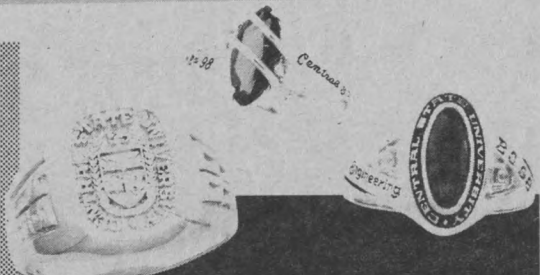
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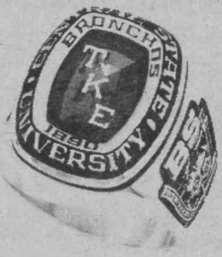
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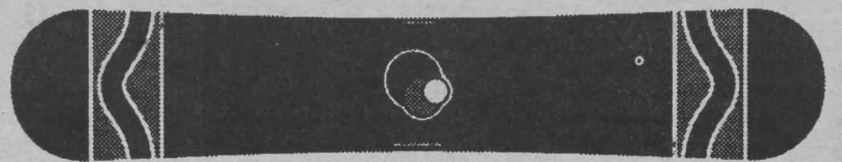
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