

Sports MONDAY

UCSB Falters Vs. Vandals in Nailbiting Road Defeat

By MATT HEITNER
Reporter

After dropping a tough one-point decision to Long Beach State on Thursday night at the Thunderdome, the UCSB men's basketball team once again came up one point short, this time losing 68-67 to Idaho at Moscow.

The Gauchos have now lost three straight games in Big West conference play, after winning their first two games.

"We came out with a spark tonight and had a good effort," Head Coach Bob Williams said on 1250 AM radio. "But of course I am disappointed with the result."

In a game that featured 11 lead changes and six ties, the Gauchos, (5-10, 2-3 in the Big West) seemingly took the lead for good on sophomore point guard B.J. Ward's reverse layup with 11 seconds left, going up 67-66. However, after an Idaho timeout, Vandals point guard Bethuel Fletcher dished out his sixth and most important assist of the night to Jerald Jenkins.

Jenkins buried a six-foot jumper with four seconds remaining in the contest that proved to be the game-winner. Redshirt freshman guard Nick Jones' desperate three-pointer at the buzzer was blocked, and Santa Barbara continued its slide.

The lead changed hands five times in the first five minutes, as UCSB struggled to find its shooting touch in the frigid Idaho weather. With the score tied at eight, Idaho's Matt Gershefske started to heat up in the first half, nailing three three-point bombs in a stretch of two minutes, to give Idaho a 20-16 lead. This was a sign of things to come, as the Vandals (4-12, 1-4) relied on the long ball all night, hitting 10-21 from beyond the arc.

UCSB then battled back to meet the Vandals' challenge behind the stellar play of sophomore forward Mark Hull's buckets, who had 14 first half points, to tie the game at 27 apiece. Hull and Jones combined to lead the Gauchos on a 10-4 run to end the half, going up 37-

31.

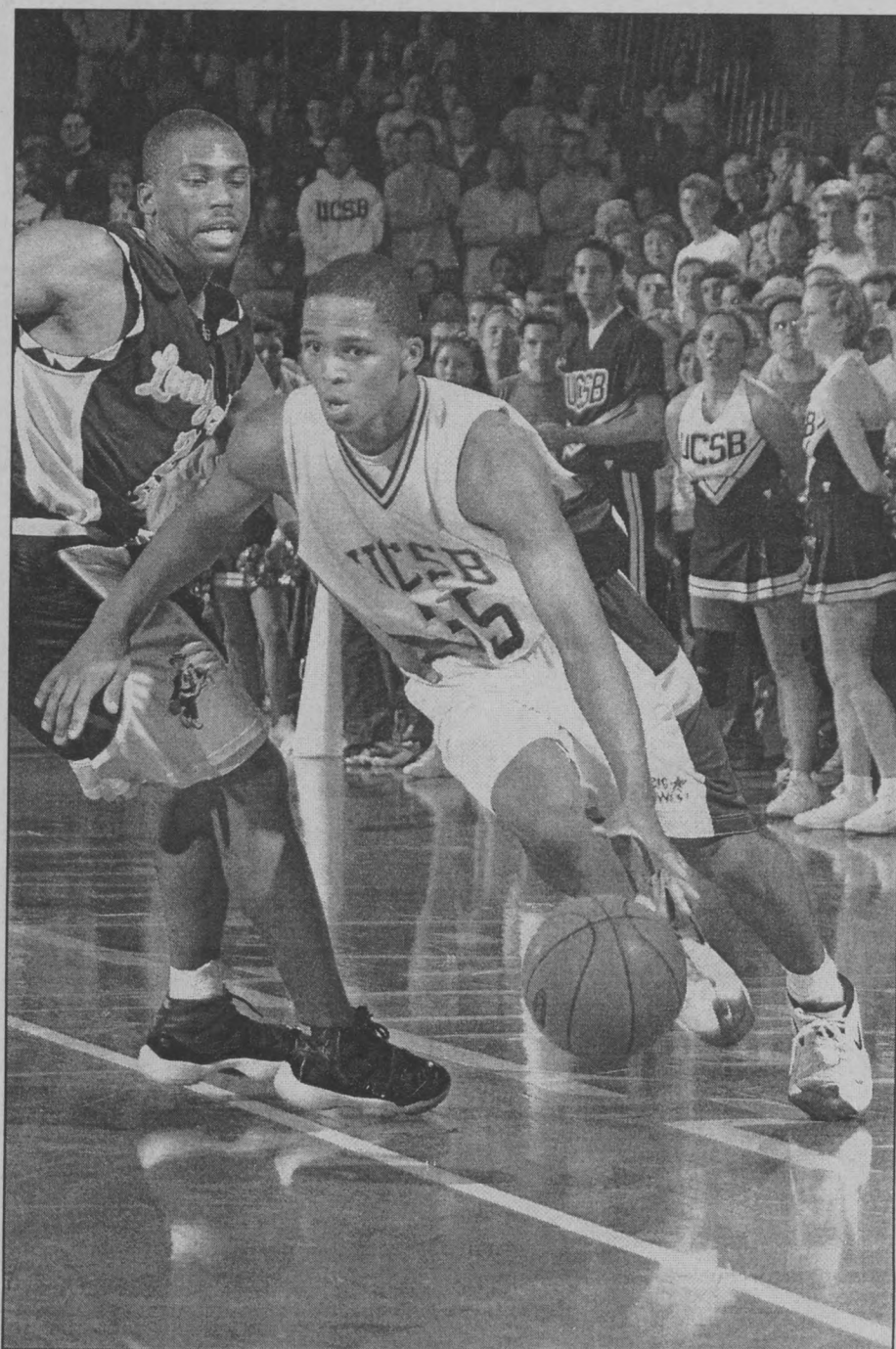
Idaho came out from the locker room in the second half on fire, using a 7-2 run to take a 40-39 lead. The Gauchos then got back to back buckets from junior forward Mike Vukovich to reclaim the lead, 43-40.

The two teams then exchanged baskets for the next six minutes, with neither team able to gain a sizeable advantage. Hull, Santa Barbara's leading scorer, continued his trend of sub-par second halves, scoring only four points in the period after going scoreless in the second half against the 49ers by missing all three of his field goals, and not being a factor in the outcome of the loss.

"Mark was more aggressive in the second half tonight, but he just couldn't get a call," Williams said.

Without Hull's hot hand the rest of the team struggled to find the bottom of the nets. Ward and freshman guard Branduinn Fullove picked up the scoring slack in

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JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS FILE

Sophomore point guard B.J. Ward and the Gauchos tried to maneuver around the Vandals Saturday evening at Moscow, but lost their third straight Big West Conference matchup.

Santa Barbara Smacks Slugs in Sweep

By BRITTANY LANGAN
Staff Writer

While some teams are trying to rid themselves of déjà vu like losses, the #3 UCSB men's volleyball team is embracing its recent pattern of success.

The undefeated Gauchos (3-0 overall, 1-0 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation) have gone from an unranked squad to a successful program that is turning a lot of heads, and Saturday's match against UC Santa Cruz (1-4) was no exception. Santa Barbara started its home schedule with a bang, squashing the Banana Slugs in a 30-24, 30-15, 30-25 victory at the Thunderdome.

"There wasn't ever a point in the game where I was nervous," UCSB Head Coach Ken Preston said. "Everybody worked really hard and it was nice to be able to give every guy who was eligible some playing time."

Santa Barbara came out fired up

and took an early lead. The Division III Banana Slugs tried to temper the Gauchos, but UCSB kept them at bay, storming away with a 30-24 victory.

The story of game two was much like the first game. UCSB came out strong, posting an early 6-2 lead. However, the Slugs crept back to bring it within one, 6-5. Behind the momentum of sophomore middle blocker Justin Adams' serve, the Gauchos reasserted themselves by gaining a five-point lead. Within minutes the Banana Slugs saw all their hopes of winning game two diminish while the Gauchos increased their command over their opponents with a 22-11 lead. UCSB finished UCSC off for a 30-15 victory.

"We beat them pretty convincingly," senior middle blocker Wes Badorek said. "Overall everybody played pretty well. The guys that came out in the third game had a nice comeback. They were down the whole time, but they stuck it out and

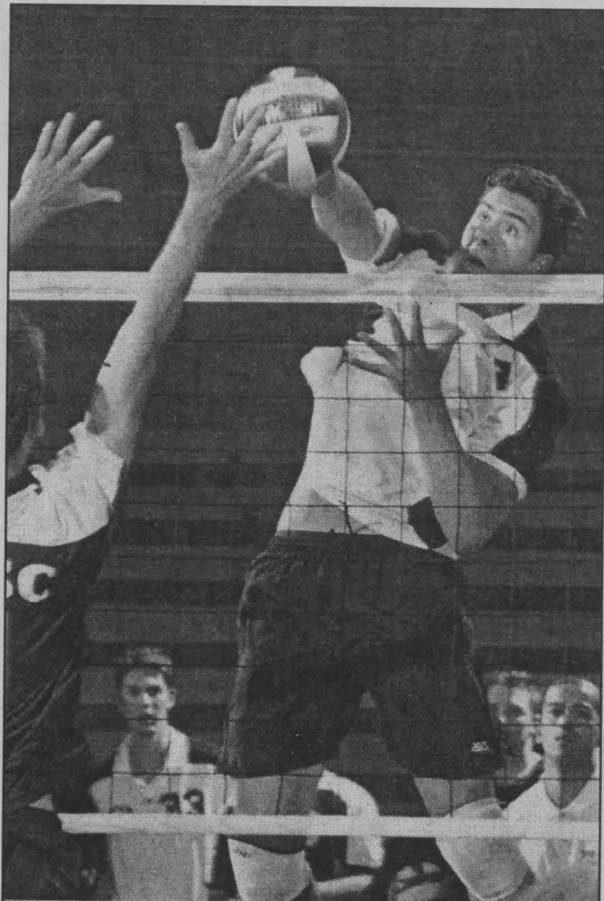
pulled ahead to beat them."

Santa Cruz was one step ahead of UCSB for the first part of game three. However, the Gauchos put on the pressure and sophomore setter Dylan Fern's ace serve tied the game at 7. It was back and forth until freshman outside hitter Matt Larson and sophomore middle blocker Dan Hughes stepped up, each tallying three kills to give UCSB a 27-24 edge. The Banana Slugs made one more outburst for a shot at winning the match, but the Gauchos crushed it with a 30-25 victory.

Junior opposite hitter Ben Koski led the squad with seven kills, followed by junior outside hitter Andy Rivera's six kills. Sophomore outside hitter Brian Nordberg chipped in five kills and four digs while Larson held his own with five kills. The team out-blocked the Banana Slugs 8.5 to 4 while posting 49 kills, opposed to Santa Cruz's 37.

The Gauchos were successful in

See SLUGS, p.3A



TRUC BUI/DAILY NEXUS

Junior opposite Ben Koski prepares to spike a Slug into the ground during Santa Barbara's three game match sweep.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
No Events Scheduled.	No Events Scheduled.	Men's Volleyball vs. Cal Baptist Rob Gym 7 p.m. Men's Tennis @ Pepperdine 2 p.m.	Men's Basketball vs. Irvine Thunderdome 7 p.m.	Women's Basketball vs. Boise State 7 p.m. Women's Tennis vs. Boise State @ Eugene, Oregon 6 p.m. Women's Gymnastics vs. Alaska/Southern Utah 7 p.m. Swimming vs. Cal State Northridge 1 p.m.	Men's Basketball vs. Cal State Fullerton 7 p.m. Women's Tennis vs. Portland @ Eugene 10 a.m.	Women's Basketball Vs. Idaho 12 p.m. Women's Tennis Vs. Oregon @ Eugene 11 a.m. Women's Gymnastics vs. Alaska 2 p.m.



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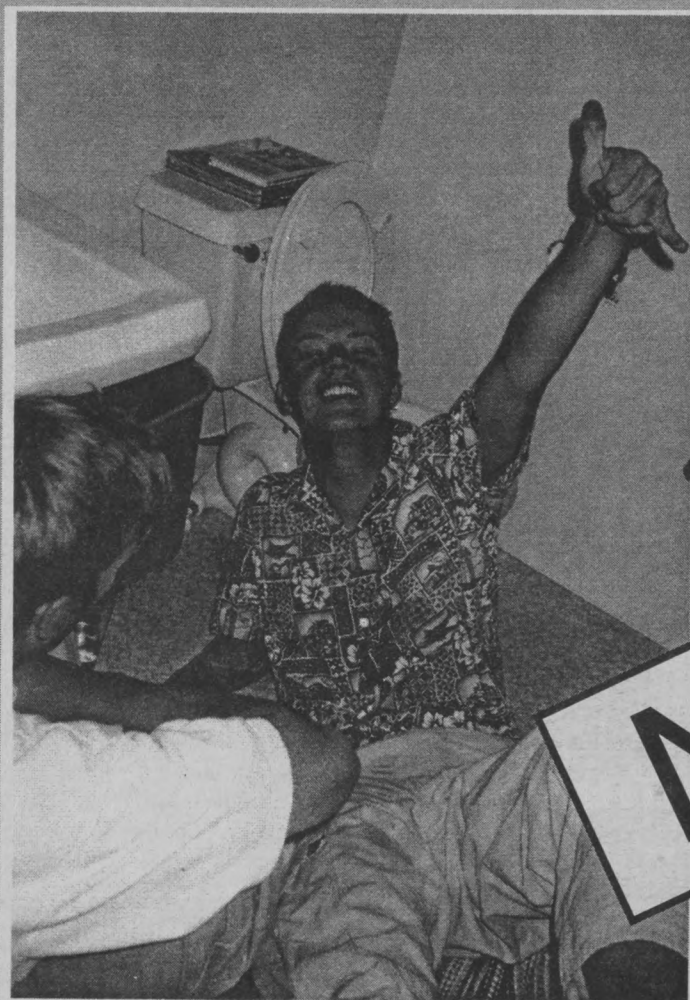
EAP INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS:

→ South Africa	Monday, January 22	4:00 pm	2431 South Hall
→ Brazil	Monday, January 22	5:00 pm	2431 South Hall
→ Costa Rica	Tuesday, January 23	4:00 pm	UCen Lobero Room
→ Japan (Tsuru Spring)	Tuesday, January 23	4:00 pm	2431 South Hall
→ Spain (Spring Carlos III, Cordoba)	Wednesday, January 24	4:00 pm	2431 South Hall
→ Italy (Summer Quarter)	Wednesday, January 24	4:00pm	UCen Mission Room
→ Chile	Thursday, January 25	4:00 pm	2431 South Hall
→ Australia (Year)	Thursday, January 25	4:00 pm	UCen Harbor Room
→ Mexico (Winter/Spring)	Monday, January 29	4:00 pm	2431 South Hall
→ New Zealand	Monday, January 29	4:00 pm	2116 Girvetz Hall
→ Philippines	Monday, January 29	4:00 pm	2123 Girvetz Hall

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SLUGS

Continued from p. 1A

subduing the Slugs' key player, senior opposite hitter Daniel Von Wetter, who led his team with 22 kills in its victory over D'Youville College. The

Gauchos contained the senior to nine kills.

"[UCSB] blocked really well," Von Wetter said. "All around they looked pretty good. We made a lot of mistakes tonight and they capitalized on them." The Gauchos will be

back in action Wednesday when they compete against Cal Baptist at Rob Gym at 7:05 p.m.

"Wednesday will be a good test for us," Badorek said. "They beat us last year, so this is a grudge match."

IDAHO

Continued from p. 1A

Hull's absence. Fullove, who finished with seven points and seven boards, made up for a scoreless first half by burying a trey and a jumper to put UCSB up 48-43. Santa Barbara then looked to Ward mid-

way through the period, and Ward responded by repeatedly getting to the charity stripe, where he finished 7-8.

Idaho couldn't take advantage of UCSB's lack of scoring punch, and when Jones converted on a three-point play to put Santa Barbara up 61-57, the Gauchos appeared to

have the game in the bag.

The Vandals once again responded, tying the game at 65 on a clutch fast break three-pointer by point guard Adam Miller, who finished with 15 points. Idaho forward Chris Monroe then added a free throw to put the Vandals up by one before the final sequence of the game doomed Santa Barbara.

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If you cannot attend the meeting, please call 893 - 2426 on Tuesday between noon and 2 pm. Ask for Jeremy or Garret.

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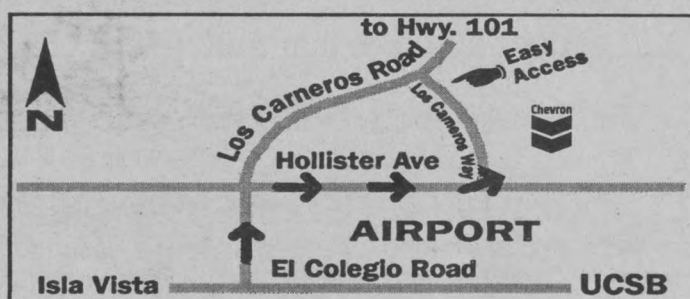
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8:30-4:30

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Info Session

February 6, 2001

6:00 pm

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If interested, please attend a required orientation session on Monday, January 22, 6:00pm, in the Santa Rosa Residence Hall Formal Lounge. A group interview for selected applicants will occur on Tuesday, January 23, 7:00pm, in the Santa Cruz Residence Hall Formal Lounge.

If unable to attend the orientation session or group interview, or if there are any questions, please call the Office of Residential Life, 893-3281, on or before Monday, January 22, 5pm.

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