

SPORTS MONDAY

Daily Nexus

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Seniors Go Out in Style, Take Two of Three From Anteaters

Lane Struggles, but Delsi, Wolger End Weekend With Inspired Performances

By Jonathan Okanes
Staff Writer

Although Sunday had been officially designated as "Seniors' Day" at UCSB's Campus Diamond, a couple of Gaucho seniors decided they couldn't wait that long.

The day before they and five other Gaucho seniors were to be honored for their accomplishments in UCSB Blue and Gold, Dusty Madsen and Nick Satriano, two Gauchos having senior seasons they'd probably like to forget, each slammed homers as Santa Barbara thrashed UC Irvine, 10-2, in a Big West conference matchup. The victory countered a 9-4 Irvine win on Friday.

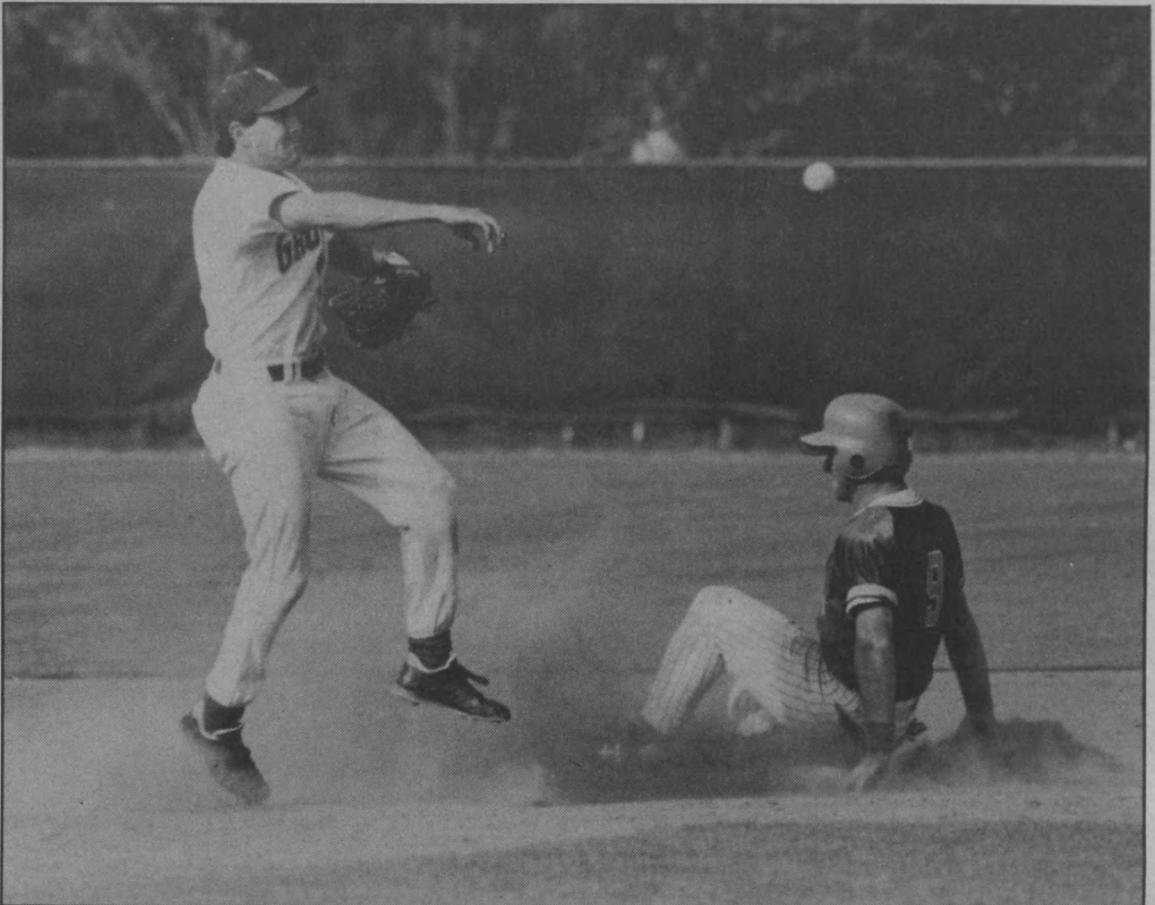
While the seniors took care of business on Saturday, it was a pair of juniors that led the way in Sunday's senior-oriented rubber game. Right-hander Armando Delsi earned the victory by pitching 8 1/3 effective innings and centerfielder Elgin Lowe went 4-for-4, including the game-winning hit, leading UCSB to a 4-2 come-from-behind victory to take two of three games from the Anteaters. It marked the first time this season that the Gauchos have won a Big West conference series at home.

"It was nice to get that one," said Madsen, an All-Big West Honorable Mention a year ago who has seen limited time this season due to arm problems. "I've kind of been talking about it with some of my teammates — that it would be nice to finish strong. It's not been the kind of season that I would like, but we all had a good feeling about today — we were trying to make it memorable."

Madsen's homer was his first of the season while Satriano, whose batting average was under the .200 mark until recently, hit his third. Also going long were senior Jeff Antoon (seven) and freshman catcher Matt Bazzani (four).

Gaucho starter Steve Lane struggled through his sec-

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HILLARY KAPLOWITZ/Daily Nexus

Senior Dave Waco pivots over UC Irvine leftfielder Matt Filson, completing a double play during Friday's 9-4 loss to the Anteaters. The Gauchos took two of three from UCI over the weekend.

ROSS FRENCH

Meaningless Weekend Tilt Lets Players Bring Fun Back Into the Game

"You can't beat fun at the old ballpark."

It's an old cliché, but sometimes the old clichés are the best. And in this, the last home series for seniors Jeff Antoon, Dave Waco, Nick Satriano, Dusty Madsen, Steve Ross, Greg Connelly and Mike Clapinski, it fit perfectly. With nothing except personal pride on the line, the boys of summer on both squads let it all hang out, bringing out the fun in the game.

The carefree spirit behind the games was evident Saturday as three Gauchos played a little side during the real game. Seniors Clapinski and Connelly and junior Travis Rodgers were engaged in a no holds barred, fight 'til the death battle to get every foul ball.

Usually, fetching the fouls is a task relegated to the youngsters on the squad, or a pitcher who is resting for his next start. But not this day, as the trio raced around

Campus Diamond on a quest to collect as many balls as possible.

Though the consensus was that Rodgers won the contest, the play of the day was definitely Clapinski's. As a group of players at the edge of the dugout jumped away from a hard ground ball, Clapinski jumped his teammate, throwing him to the ground and landing on top of him. Surely the greatest open field tackle ever seen at Campus Diamond.

The play of the weekend took place on Sunday in the series finale. Trailing 2-0, with the bases loaded, Gaucho shortstop Danny Lane crushed a shot to right field. The crowd roared in anticipation as the ball carried over the fence, then roared louder as Irvine rightfielder Steve Ott reached over the wall to bring the ball back in. Third out, end of the inning.

Ott wasn't done though. After proving that he had an outstanding glove, he then showed off his arm, gunning down runners left and right. Somebody said that you shouldn't "Ott" to run on Steve.

But the defense wasn't perfect. Sunday, the teams combined for four errors, with three of them being close enough to elicit a groan from somewhere in the crowd.

The side show started when a slow bouncer off the bat of Gaucho Dave Waco was bobbed by shortstop Jon Damush. Official scorer Tom Hastings called it an error, and the one-man chorus began.

"You've got to be kidding!" shouted the man, bedecked in a UCI cap and apparently related to a UCI player, who obviously felt himself to be a better qualified official

See FRENCH, p.2A

TRACK AND FIELD

Men Finish Fifth as Adams Bids Farewell

By Robert Silk
Staff Writer

As the last athlete left the track at the Big West Championships in Fresno Saturday, all that was left for the UCSB men's track and field team to do was ponder its performance.

"We would have liked to have done a little better," said senior thrower Jay Christofferson referring to the team's fifth place finish. "I think we did all right, though."

"It was bittersweet," added retiring Head Coach Sam Adams. "It was a case of the kids gave everything they could give. Possibly they were trying a little too hard in a couple of instances. But I think we did alright."

Indeed, the team's finish was disappointing, as its 43 points were only good enough for fifth, not fourth as the squad had been hoping for. Fresno State won its 10th straight conference championship with 227.5 points, and was followed by UC Irvine and Utah State who had 151 and 106.5 points respectively. The Gauchos were six

See MEN, p.2A



Nexus File Photo

Senior discus thrower Micheline Sheaffer overcame injuries to finish third in the Big West Championship Finals with a throw of 157'6".

Championship Meet an Experience for Women

By Scott McPherson
Staff Writer

When UCSB sophomore Tamara Olson entered the final turn of the preliminary 400-meter hurdles race at the Big West Championships in Fresno, she held a commanding lead over the competition.

"I was really psyched for the race," Olson said of Friday's preliminary event. "I really wanted to qualify (for the finals) with a good time."

However, Olson lost her stride midway through the race, and a miscue in timing sent her sprawling after her foot brushed one of the final hurdles. But despite the fall, Olson was able to complete the race and qualify for Saturday's finals.

Olson placed third in the 400 hurdles on Saturday, equalling the best finish on the weekend for UCSB. The Lady Gauchos challenged Cal State Fullerton and New Mexico State for the fifth spot in the eight school conference, but ended the weekend seventh in the final

See WOMEN, p.2A



HILLARY KAPLOWITZ/Daily Nexus

Junior first baseman Alison Brickner and her teammates couldn't beat the pitching or offensive firepower of Utah State, dropping four in a row to the #8 ranked Aggies.

Aggies, Mother Nature Gang Up to Sweep Lady Sluggers

By Jason Masini
Staff Writer

UCSB Head Coach Sandy Pearce was not looking forward to bringing her softball team to Logan, Utah, for the final four games of the season. Unpredictable weather and the #8 team in the nation were waiting for them. Both showed up in full force.

The Gauchos (19-29 overall, 11-23 in the Big West) lost all four games to Utah State with freezing rain, mid-40s temperatures and questionable umpiring all playing a part in the sweeps. More importantly, the Aggies played as if on a mission.

"They're really good," Pearce said. "I think it's really hard for any team to travel to Utah and play well. I think the weather had something to do with our play on Saturday. Our offense just never got going. We were doing all we could, but the breaks just didn't go our way all weekend."

Friday, the Gauchos were crushed in the first game, 6-0, as Aggie pitcher DeAnna Earsley threw a one-hitter, surrendering only an infield single to Margo Melendrez. USU's Stacy Young provided all the offensive punch with two doubles and four RBI off UCSB starting pitcher Kelli Schott.

The second game was much more competitive, but Santa Barbara came up short again, losing 1-0. Utah State went on top in the first inning when Young hit another RBI double. The Gauchos battled back

and thought they had tied the game in the fourth inning, when Dawn Conant came home from third on an apparent single from Kellie Newcombe. However, the umpire ruled Newcombe was out of the batter's box when she hit the ball — an automatic out — and the rally ended.

Saturday, Melendrez started the first game and gave up a home run to Lynnae Brady in the second inning. Earsley hit an RBI single in the fifth inning to help her own cause and gave the Aggies all the runs they would need. She pitched a two-hitter and again allowed no runs in the 2-0 Utah State win.

In the nightcap, the Aggies tallied three runs in the first three innings off Schott, taking a commanding 3-0 lead. In the fourth Schott was relieved by Melendrez, who shut out USU the rest of the way.

The Gauchos finally broke onto the scoreboard in the sixth inning when senior Gina Oliver squeezed home Newcombe, who had tripled. However, Santa Barbara could come no closer and the 3-1 final finished out the season for UCSB. For the Aggies, they are off to the Regional playoffs and a possible College World Series berth.

"As for the whole season, I'm really pleased," said Pearce, who gave kudos to her players. "I think physically and mentally we've matured a lot. I'm extremely proud of all of them."

MEN

Continued from p.1A
points behind fourth place Long Beach State, which had 49 points.

Nonetheless, UCSB did have 15 point scoring finishes. The top six competitors in each event scored points for the team. Leading the way was All-American high jumper Colman Conroy, who won his third consecutive Big West title with a leap of 7' 1/2". Gio Spratling of Fresno State also jumped 7' 1/2", but Conroy won by virtue of the fact that it took Spratling three attempts to do so and Conroy only one. Both failed on three consecutive leaps at 7'2 1/2".

"All my attempts were pretty good," Conroy said. "A couple little changes and I could have jumped 7'2 1/2". In a competition like that, all that really matters is trying to win."

As expected, Bryan MacMillan also turned in strong performances for UCSB, finishing second in the 3,000-meter steeplechase and third in the 5,000-meter run. In Friday's steeplechase, MacMillan led until the last lap and a half, and ended up finishing the race in 9:18.05, about six and a half seconds off the winning pace. He then finished a surprisingly good third place on Saturday in the 5,000-meter run. Although



Bryan MacMillan

MacMillan was disappointed because he did not win the steeplechase as he had hoped to, Christofferson was very impressed with his teammate's performance.

"MacMillan was outstanding ... he was the most outstanding performer for us," Christofferson said.

The next highest UCSB finish was turned in by Nils Fearnley, who finished fourth in the javelin with a throw measuring 218'10". Although Fearnley was fairly satisfied, he is planning to compete in a couple more meets before the NCAA Championships next month in hopes of throwing the necessary 230 feet to qualify for the national meet. He has thrown 235 feet in practice.

"The distance was pretty good," Fearnley said. "It was only three feet from fourth to second. Hopefully I'll qualify next weekend for the NCAAs."

Christofferson was the only Gaucho other than MacMillan to score in two events, finishing fifth in the hammer throw and sixth in the shot put. His toss of 177'10" in the hammer throw was particularly impressive because a shoulder injury had kept him from practicing for three weeks and caused him pain during the meet.

Other fifth place finishes were turned in by Rene Rigal in the 1,500-meter run, Frank Smith in the long jump and Brad Tower in the decathlon and the 4x100-meter relay team. Smith and Tower recorded personal bests, and the 4x100-meter relay team obtained a seasonal best.

Rounding out the point scorers for UCSB were sixth place finishes by Peter Kallik in the 110-meter high hurdles, Ryan Angle in the 800-meter run, Bill Aaronson in the 10,000-meter run, the 4x400-meter relay team and Anthony Brunello, who set a personal best in the decathlon.

The Big West Championships marked the end of Coach Adams' tenure at UCSB after 34 successful years. Up until now, Adams said that he has not experienced the emotions that usually would accompany such a significant event in his life.

"I haven't had a chance to digest what happened yet," he said. "That will probably (happen) in a couple years."

WOMEN

Continued from p.1A
standings.

"It was a really remarkable performance," UCSB Head Coach Jim Triplett said of Olson's determination. "I think she was a little shaken by (the fall), but she still ran extremely well in the finals."

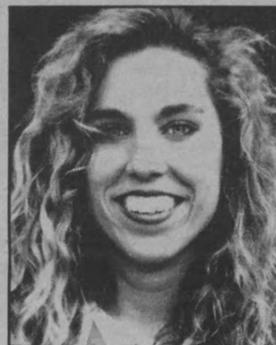
Despite landing hard on the track on Friday, Olson — scraped knees and all — rebounded to post a 400-meter hurdles time of 63.82 in Saturday's final race, her third-best time in the event.

"I can't complain," Olson said of her weekend in Fresno. "I was pleased with my finish."

UCSB's other third-place finish at Fresno was turned in by senior discus thrower Micheline Sheaffer. Despite a lingering injury, Sheaffer's toss of 157'6" was good for a third place finish in the conference finals.

"She really wasn't a 100 percent, but she gave it her best," Triplett said of Sheaffer, who has been struggling with a ligament injury in her throwing hand for over three weeks.

A pair of fifth place finishes for the UCSB women included Lani Friese's performance in the 800-meter event, finishing Saturday's final race in 2:14.39. Triplett



Tamara Olson

indicated that the senior's progression over the season has been remarkable, considering Friese was a relative newcomer to the team. "We only started working with her when Spring Quarter began, and she had never run the 800 meters prior to this year," he explained. "So in a matter of 10 weeks, with no experience and very little background, she became one of the best in the conference."

Senior Becky Thomas posted UCSB's other fifth place Saturday, running the 100-meter hurdles event in 15.03 seconds. Julie Thomas wrapped up the individual scoring for Santa Barbara, as the sophomore distance runner posted a time of 4:45.09 in the 1,500 meters to take a sixth place finish. UCSB's mile relay and 400-meter relay teams each finished fifth, with both foursomes achieving per-

sonal bests Saturday. The 400-meter team of Olson, Becky Thomas, freshman Riquessa Davis and senior Leslie Moyer posted their best time as a group by finishing in 49.31 seconds. The mile squad of Olson, Friese, Moyer and Julie Thomas ran their best race of the season in 3:59.19.

Freshman Kirsten Stocke qualified for the finals of the 800 meters on Friday, but did not finish in the top six on Saturday.

With its schedule concluded, Saturday's finals marked the end of the 1992 track and field season for the Lady Gauchos. This weekend, Triplett reflected on how his young team progressed during this year, and also looked ahead to the 1993 season.

"It was a year in which we needed to mature, and I think it happened," he said. "Next year we're going to be a lot better for it. With the addition of athletes that we're bringing into the program I expect that we will be the most improved team in the conference, without a doubt."

Despite the sunny outlook for the future, Triplett alluded to the need to endure a few growing pains.

"As a coach, I just have to be patient, and just try to let the athletes know that this is just a natural process right now," he said.

FRENCH: Can't Beat the Old Ballpark for Fun

Continued from p.1A
scorer. "How can you call that an error?" Hastings merely smiled.

The next inning, a line shot off the bat of the shortstop skipped off the glove of third baseman Rich Haar and into foul territory. An E went up on the board, and again the man spoke up.

"An error? You've got to be kidding," said the unofficial scorer. "You've got to be kidding, you've got to be

kidding."

Hastings, a credit to the profession, remained stoic throughout the ordeal.

The guy quieted down when he discovered that no one who mattered was listening to him and resumed watching the game.

As silence began to reign, it was broken by the clank of the bat, the slap of the out, and the sound of a woman yelling "Bingo!" Mrs. Antoon had won Gaucho

Baseball Bingo again.

They say death and taxes are certain in life. For those who regularly attend Gaucho baseball games, equally certain is the fact that no matter what, Judy Antoon, mother of Gaucho slugger Jeff Antoon, will win at least one of the prizes during a game. Her Bingo verified, she returned to her seat, only to come running back minutes later.

"I think I've won again,"

she said. "Is this Bingo the easy way?"

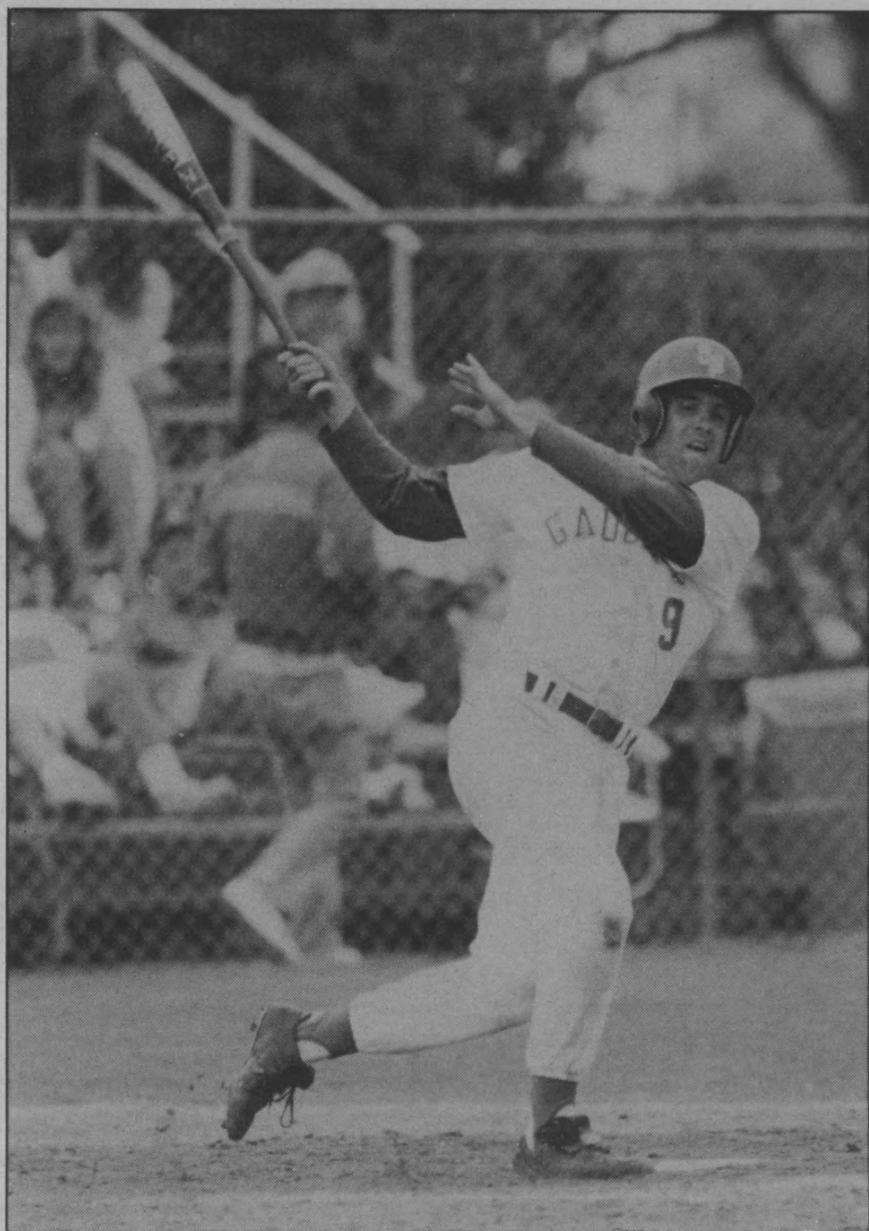
It was.

"This is great," she said to Hastings as she walked away with the dinner for two at the Harbor Restaurant. "Jeff thanks you."

That was the weekend. There was offense. There was defense. There was fun. All the things that makes the game great. The fact that the Gauchos took two of three was almost secondary.

Attention UCSB Senior Sports Fans

With the end of the year rapidly approaching, we at the Nexus are looking for the fondest athletic memories of UCSB's seniors. If you are leaving in June, just jot down your favorite memory and bring it down to the Nexus. We'll take the best of the bunch and run them during the ninth week. Submissions should be typed, and have the name and phone number of the author. Any questions? Call 893-2694. Get typing!



HILLARY KAPLOWITZ/Daily Nexus

Gaucha senior Nick Satriano blasted a homer in Santa Barbara's 10-2 victory Saturday. Satriano and six other seniors were recognized before Sunday's game for their accomplishments at UCSB.

SERIES: UCSB Fattens Up on 'Eaters

Continued from p.1A
 and consecutive Big West outing on Friday, allowing seven earned runs without making it out of the fourth inning. The Gauchos (30-20-1, 9-12) had a brief 3-2 lead in the game after a three-run third inning that included a Lowe homer, his second of the season, but the Anteaters exploded for six in the fourth off of Lane and right-hander Travis Rodgers. Irvine starter Jon Van Zandt pitched seven innings to pick up the victory (7-6) while Lane took the loss (7-4).

Freshman Mike Wolger complemented the seniors' performance on Saturday by pitching 8 2/3 innings before reliever Pat Bennett came on to record the final out. Wolger (4-1) scattered eight hits and walked six while striking out three.

"That's the best game that Wolger has thrown all year," UCSB Head Coach Al Ferrer said. "He was throwing strikes consistently and was consistently in the zone."

The Gauchos trailed 2-0 until the fourth when Bazzani's two-run shot tied the ball game. After Irvine starter Jeff Heath (3-5) allowed two more Santa Barbara runs in the fifth, he was replaced by reliever Ryan Frace to begin the sixth inning. Frace immediately surrendered a leadoff home run to Antoon, a walk to Satriano and Madsen's homer that broke the game open. Satriano's home run was a three-run job in the seventh inning.

The Anteaters (23-27, 10-14) took the early lead on Sunday when a sacrifice fly by rightfielder Steve Ott drove in centerfielder Ray Walker to give UCI a 1-0 lead. Irvine made it 2-0 in the fifth on a double by shortstop Jon Damush and an RBI single by second baseman Joe Furukawa.

UCI starter David Bladow (8-7) seemed to have settled into an effective groove, but was suddenly roughed up in the seventh. Antoon led off with his second home run in as many days, and Wolger and reserve catcher Mark Umemoto followed that up with back-to-back singles to put runners at the corners. A Satriano ground out scored pinch runner Doug Smal-dino from third to tie the game at 2-2, setting the stage for Lowe's clutch run-scoring single that put UCSB in front, 3-2.

Santa Barbara scored an insurance run for Delsi in the eighth, and looked to be in command. However, in the ninth, Irvine third baseman Bill Bardens began the inning with a single and after pinch hitter Aaron Weiss hit into a fielder's choice, catcher Dave Dieter singled to put runners at first and second.

Ferrer quickly summoned Bennett, who shut the door on the Anteaters to record his sixth save of the year. Delsi allowed nine hits and two earned runs to pick up the victory (6-6).

"I knew if I could keep them close, our offense

would do the job," said Delsi, who has now won two in a row after losing six consecutive decisions. "I didn't have a lot on my fastball, but my curveball was good today. And today was a little more special because of the seniors. You always want to give it your all, but today there was a little bit more to play for."

UCSB has one more home game remaining, Wednesday afternoon against USC. Additionally, the Gauchos are scheduled to play at Long Beach State on Tuesday in a make-up of one of the games with the 49ers that were postponed last weekend because of the uprisings in Los Angeles. If the Big West conference race isn't decided by that point, the two teams will play again on Thursday.

FRIDAY'S GAME

UC Irvine	200 601 000	9 14 0
UCSB	030 000 100	4 15 2

Van Zandt, Rust (8) and Dieter; S.Lane, Rodgers (4), O'Coyle (6), Connolly (9) and Bazzani. WP-Van Zandt (7-6). LP-S.Lane (7-4).
 2B—UCI: Parker, Filson. UCSB: Bazzani.
 3B—UCI: Filson. HR—UCSB: Lowe (2).

SATURDAY'S GAME

UC Irvine	011 000 000	2 8 2
UCSB	000 223 30x	10 10 1

Heath, Frace (6) and Dieter; Wolger, Bennett (9) and Bazzani. WP-Wolger (4-1). LP-Heath (6-7).
 2B—UCSB: Lane, Antoon. HR—UCSB: Bazzani (4), Antoon (6), Madsen (1), Satriano (3).

SUNDAY'S GAME

UC Irvine	100 010 000	2 9 2
UCSB	000 000 31x	4 13 2

Bladow and Dieter; Delsi, Bennett (9) and Umemoto. WP-Delsi (6-6). LP-Bladow (8-7).
 2B—UCI: Furukawa, Damush. UCSB: Haar.
 3B—Lowe. HR—UCSB: Antoon (7).

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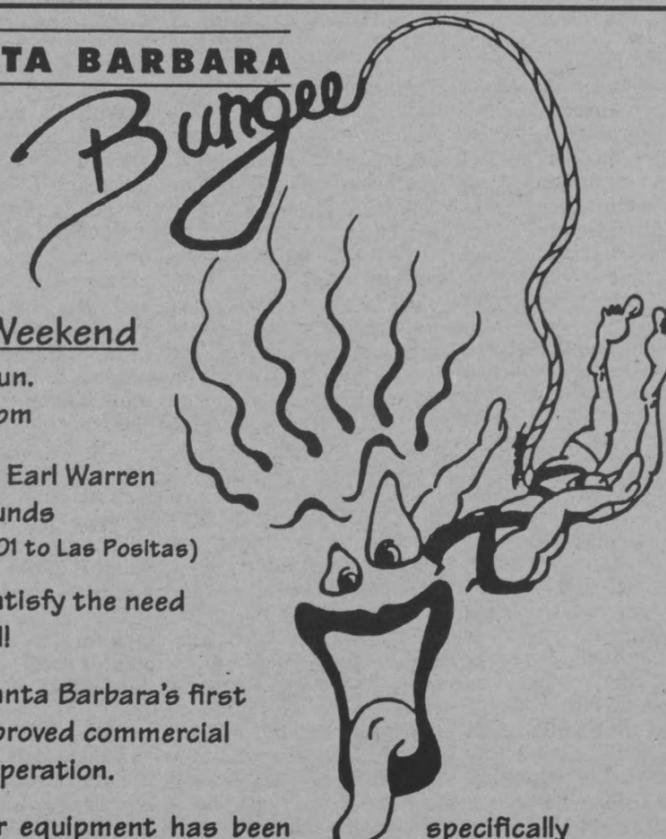
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