

SPORTS MONDAY

Daily Nexus

October 28, 1996

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The Latest Line...

A weekly look at the sports world!

The sports world once again illustrated that money can buy everything: nice cars, women, drugs, freedom from conviction ... even a World Series.

• Best Headline of the Week: "Cigar Smoked by Alphabet Soup," referring to the 19-1 long-shot winner in the \$4 million Breeders' Cup. (In layman's terms for you gamblers, the payoff for a \$2 Exacta was \$624.20.)

• Calling all Gaucho fans: After seeing the pathetic turnout for last weekend's volleyball games, all students should step it up a notch for this weekend's match as conference rivals Pacific and Long Beach State come to the Thunderdome. Who's going to show up dressed as the Grim Reaper?

• Our pick for the sleeper team in the NBA West this season is definitely the Phoenix Suns. Sure, they are now without Charles Barkley, but the Suns top every team in the West in one very important category: depth.

• Winning isn't everything, as Tiger Woods, who finished the second round of the Tour Championship at a horrendous eight over par, explained in the Quote of the Week: "I didn't want to be out there today, because there are more important things in life than golf. I love my dad [who was in the hospital suffering from chest pains] to death."

• It's not only sad but alarming to see headlines about high school football games that read: "No Violence as San Pedro, Carson Play in West L.A.," which appeared in Saturday's *L.A. Times*. The times, they are a-changin'.

• Forget the notion that the current Atlanta Braves team could be a "dynasty." What about the New York Yankees as the perennial Major League dynasty? The Yanks have won an MLB-high 23 World Series titles; the Cardinals are second with a mere nine.

—By Alex Nugent and Brian Berger

Gaucha Spikers Battle With Vandals, Cruise By Broncos

■ Gauchos Remain Undefeated at Home After Victories

By Yier Shi
Staff Writer

Nobody said it was easy. But then again, nobody thought it was going to be that tough either.

The #19 UCSB women's volleyball team barely held on this weekend to defeat the University of Idaho on Friday and Boise State on Saturday in the Thunderdome. In the process, the squad improved its home record to a perfect 11-0.

Both victories were hard-fought for the Gauchos (16-6 overall, 8-2 in the Big West), as they were stretched to the fullest by the Vandals, playing a five-set match, 15-12, 13-15, 15-2, 14-16, 16-14. Santa Barbara responded on Sunday with a lackluster effort against the Broncos (9-14, 5-5), 15-6,

15-11, 15-5.

"We still lack the ability to put away a good team," said UCSB Head Coach Kathy Gregory. "We are still not ready. We need to be more consistent as a team and to improve our communication on the court."

Against Idaho (19-3, 8-2), the team was caught off-guard by a strong, balanced offense. Five different Vandal players registered a total of more than 10 kills, compared to only two for Santa Barbara.

"Idaho's offense was a lot faster than we anticipated," Gregory said. "They have a quick set and a very fast slide attack. It gave us problems all night."

But the Gauchos had weapons of their own: blocking and serving. The team registered a season-high 32 blocks at the net,

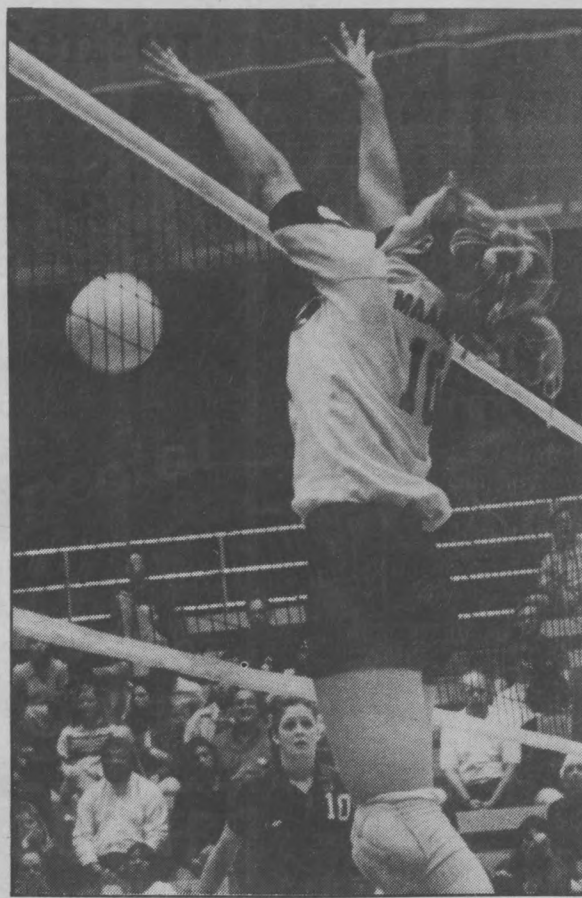
along with nine service aces.

Leading the way for Santa Barbara was sophomore middle blocker Katie Crawford, who finished the game with 22 kills, 11 digs and nine blocks. Crawford, junior setter Maile Mortensen (seven) and sophomore outside hitter Erin McCown (seven) all established career highs in blocks.

"It was nice to get the win," McCown said. "We knew we could do it. But we should've never let it go to five sets."

The marathon took more than two hours and had an exciting finish. With the Gauchos down 9-5 in the rally-scoring fifth set, freshman outside hitter Kathrine Maaseide dished out two consecutive service aces to turn the

See SWEEP p.2A



ALAN JACOBY/Daily Nexus

ROOOOFED!: Freshman outside hitter Kathrine Maaseide puts the finishing touches on a solo block in Saturday's victory against Boise State.



ALAN JACOBY/Daily Nexus

BACK OFF: Freshman Sarah Foreman battles for the ball during the Gauchos' victory over Utah State.

Santa Barbara Poloists Blanked by Waves, Shot Down by Air Force

By Michael Hershfield
Staff Writer

There's no place like home.

No need to tell this to the UCSB women's soccer team (4-12-1 overall, 2-4 in Big West), which snapped its seven-game losing streak with a pair of shutout victories over St. Mary's College and Utah State at Harder Stadium this weekend.

Having already been eliminated from playoff contention, the team went into the weekend with nothing to play for except pride, according to Head Coach John Cossaboon.

"These games are more of a matter of

pride than anything else," he said. "We have played some very good soccer and some very close games, so it's gratifying to finally end up on the winning side."

The Gauchos showcased a solid all-around game in their 1-0 victory Friday night over St. Mary's (7-8 overall, 1-2 in West Coast Conference).

Santa Barbara's defense kept the Gaels offense frustrated, allowing only six shots in the entire match. Senior midfielder Kenna Bertell came up with the only goal of the match 10 minutes into the second half, on a shot from the top of the penalty box.

After losing 4-0 last season to St.

See SOCCER p.2A

Men's Water Polo Update

Offense Breaks Through in Sweep; Pair of Wins Ends Losing Streak

By Brian Arbour
Staff Writer

After coming on strong recently and claiming two straight victories, the UCSB men's water polo team headed into the weekend looking to continue its roll.

The team, however, hit a roadblock and found itself — and the streak — stopped short by Pepperdine University and the Air Force Academy.

The Gauchos (2-15 overall) just couldn't get

their offense moving in Saturday's game against #7 Pepperdine: Santa Barbara was shut out 6-0.

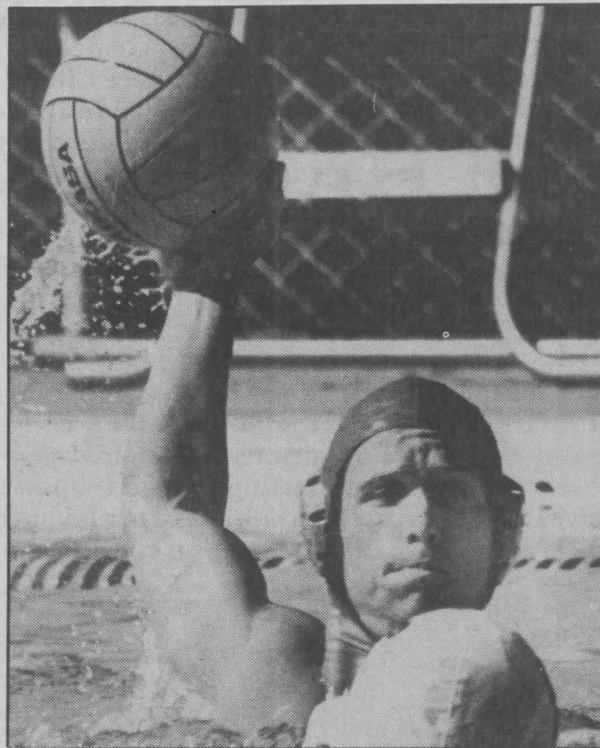
Pepperdine scored two first-period goals and stuck it to UCSB in the second quarter by adding another four. The Gauchos matched the Waves' defense in the second half, when neither team found the back of the net.

Pepperdine's unexpected defense appeared to contribute quite a bit to Santa Barbara's problems in the match.

"We weren't really prepared for the defense," said sophomore goalkeeper Lance Wahlert. "We thought they were going to do something else."

UCSB Head Coach Joe O'Brien also mentioned Pepperdine's pressure as being a key factor in the game. "Pepperdine probably changes defense better than any team we've seen. They're disciplined about getting into [their defenses]. We were a little bit slow to adjust."

See POLO p.3A

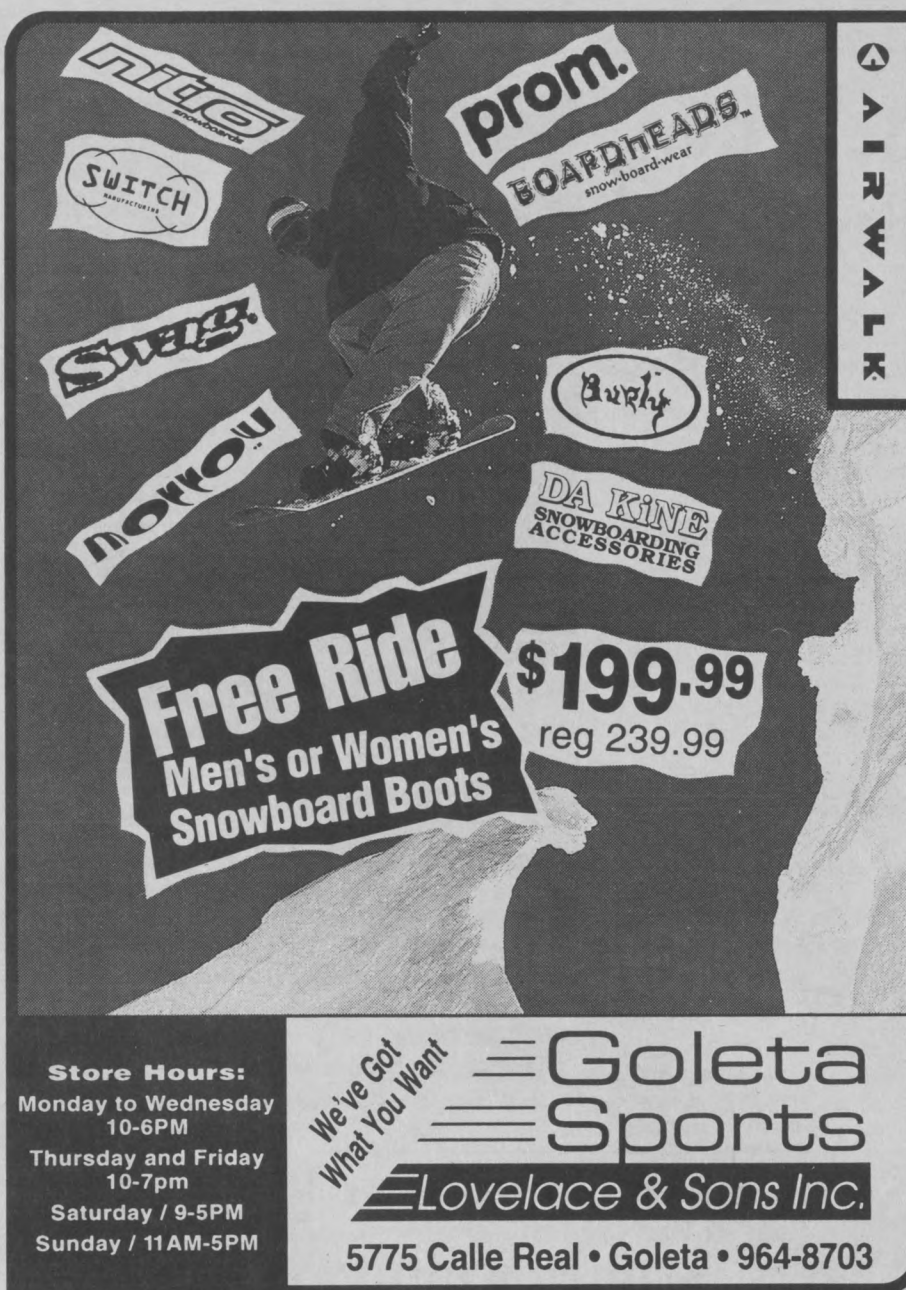


ALAN JACOBY/Daily Nexus

SHOOT: Water polo fell to 2-15 this weekend.

Sporting Events Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
No Events Scheduled	No Events Scheduled	Women's Soccer vs. Pepperdine 3 p.m.	No Events Scheduled	Women's Volleyball vs. Pacific 7:30 p.m.	Women's Volleyball vs. Long Beach State 7:30 p.m. Water Polo @ USC Cross Country @ Big West Championships	Women's Soccer @ San Jose State 2:30 p.m. Water Polo @ Long Beach State



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SWEEP

Continued from p.1A
momentum around. Maa-seide finished with four aces on the night.

"Serving was what bailed us out," Gregory said. "For both games, we were serving well, but our passing and timing were still off. It was a heartbreak to lose those two games to Idaho. We could've put them away."

The Gauchos had a considerably easier time against the Broncos, who came into the game third in the Eastern Division of the Big West, trailing first-place Idaho by two games.

UCSB dominated early with a considerable size advantage and good service as it ran away with the first game 15-6.

However, with the score 10-1 in favor of the Gauchos in the second game, momentum shifted. UCSB seemed disorganized as the Broncos closed

the gap to 12-11 before Santa Barbara recovered in time to finish the game.

Freshman sensation Roberta Gehlke played another spectacular game, leading the Gauchos with



Roberta Gehlke

18 kills and no errors for a .600 hitting percentage. She also contributed 10 digs.

"Tonight's game showed us what we're lacking," she said. "We had a lot of balls dropping in the middle. We need to cover better and pass better. There is a lot of mental work we need to do, but

we'll get it sooner or later."

Also in the second game, the UCSB injury bug struck again. Just when every member of the team was healthy, freshman middle blocker Heather Bown suffered a sprained ankle, causing her to miss the third game against the Broncos. Bown had been the only player to play all 79 games of the season prior to her injury. She is not expected to miss any matches, although it will be at least a week before she is 100 percent.

Santa Barbara will have to be on the top of its game this weekend, when it will be faced with the biggest matches of the season, against conference rivals #4 Long Beach State and #16 University of the Pacific.

"We need to quicken our tempo and improve our blocking against the slide," Gregory said. "Next week will be two very crucial matches."

SOCCER

Continued from p.1A
Mary's, Cossaboon was pleased with the outcome of this year's contest. "St. Mary's is a strong team. For us to shut them down, play 90 minutes of hard defense and get such a great goal from Bertell, that was extremely gratifying," Cossaboon said.

Sunday's 2-0 conference victory against Utah State (2-13, 0-6) was again marked by outstanding defense and timely offensive production.

Ten minutes into the first half, it was Bertell again, this time crossing in front of the goal and knocking the ball past the Aggies' goalkeeper for her team-leading fourth goal of the season. Bertell was still not through, as she assisted freshman Elena Ulfeg for her first goal as a Gaucho.

Following the win over the Aggies, Ulfeg was excited about the way the squad was performing. "I think we have been playing pretty well, and we are finally coming together as a team. Even though our

play dropped off a little against Utah, we were still able to get the win."

While the Gauchos were able to break their dry spell and score goals, it was the defense that kept the team ahead. Senior defender Felicia Hayes not only played a vital role in keeping the opposition goal-less, but also contributed on offense with several breakaways and an assist.

"Instead of going onto the field with tactics, I just went out and played the game and tried to help the team score," Hayes said.

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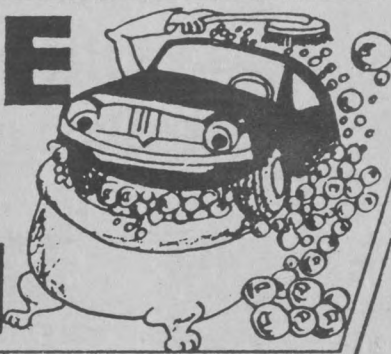
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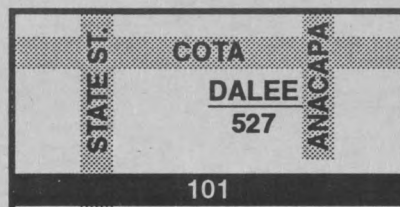


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POLO: Falcons Overcome Deficit

Continued from p.1A

The Gauchos' victory over Long Beach State the previous week looked to have played a role in the Pepperdine game — although not in a positive manner as expected.

"We had beat Long Beach the week before and lost a little of our focus this week in practice," O'Brien said. "We didn't have as much focus as we should have had before the game."

Although Santa Barbara was defeated 5-4 by eighth-ranked Air Force on Sunday, the team's performance was definitely a step above its play against Pepperdine.

UCSB was not about to be shut out again and came out firing, scoring the first three points of the game, including a two-pointer by freshman Brian McCor-



Lance Wahlert

duck. Air Force returned the favor with two goals of its own to finish off the first quarter.

The Gauchos would score one more time in the match as sophomore driver Ryan Peddycord beat Falcon goalkeeper Chris Thomas early in the second quarter.

"We had some major opportunities that we let slip through our fingertips," O'Brien said. "We didn't set each other up as

well as we know we can. They were a little too tense. We just need to relax a little bit more."

Although the offense may have struggled throughout the game, that surely cannot be said for Santa Barbara's defensive play. Wahlert led the defense with a huge day in the net, tallying up 18 saves.

"Defense usually wins games," Wahlert said. "As we keep on improving our defense and making less mistakes, we are going to start winning some big games."

UCSB heads south this coming weekend, where it will face USC on Saturday and look to duplicate its winning effort against Long Beach State on Sunday.

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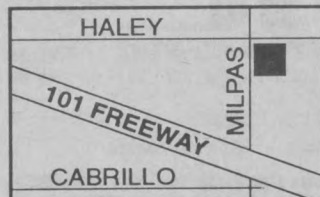
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