

Victory in the Cards for UCSB in Final Match of 2000 Season

Men's Volleyball: Eliminated From MPSF Playoffs, Gauchos End Season by Defeating Stanford Cardinal in Four Games

BY BROOKE ROBERTS Staff Writer

In its last match of the season this past weekend, the UCSB men's volleyball team sent the Stanford Cardinal flying home from the Thunderdome with its tail between its legs.

The Gauchos (12-13 overall, 8-11 Mountain Pacific Sports Federation) defeated the Cardinal 11-15, 15-7, 17-15, 15-13 last Saturday evening, in what long one," Tomkinson was Santa Barbara's last hurrah after the Gauchos were eliminated from postseason play last week. The contest was just another game for Stanford, which would advance to the MPSF playoffs regardless of a win or loss to UCSB, but for the Gauchos' graduating seniors, the game meant a great deal more.

"I think that we had more to play for in that game," senior middle blocker Andy Tomkinson said. "We wanted to end on a good note."

Stanford took control early in the match by win-

ning game one, 15-11. But Santa Barbara refused to lie down, and it raised the stakes by answering with a win in game two, 15-7. With the match tied 1-1, game three proved to be a drawn-out battle. It was the type of game that fans live for, and UCSB's home crowd rose to the occasion, cheering the team on. Ultimately Santa Barbara squeezed out the victory, but just barely - 17-15.

"The third game was a said. "That decided who had the momentum. I have to say that the crowd helped too. They were on Stanford's back the whole time.'

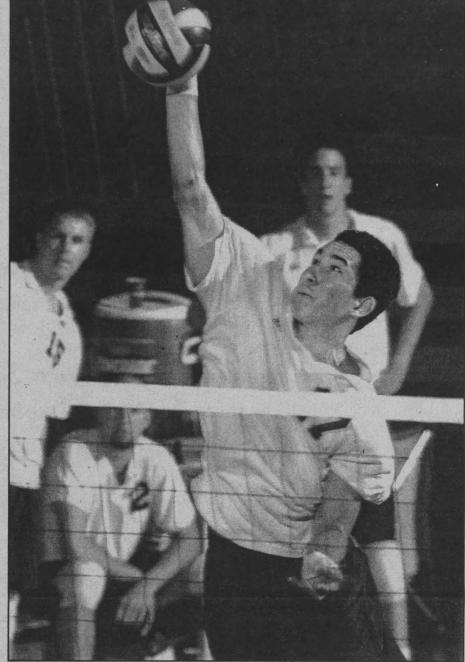
Game four clinched the match victory for UCSB. It-was another close-scoring game, but the Gauchos jumped ahead and captured the win, 15-13. Santa Barbara ended up taking the match, three games to one. The leaders for UCSB included senior opposite Kevin Collins, who led the team in kills with 37. Freshman outside hitter Jan Carlo Zegarra led the squad in digs with

MPSF Final Standings <u>Mountain Division</u>					
and the second	w	1			
1. Pepperdine	16	3			
2. UCLA	14	5			
3. BYU	13	6			
4. LMU	8	11			
5. UCSB	8	11			
6. CSUN	7	12			
7. UC Irvine	4	15			

17, and senior middle blockers Chris Komer and Tomkinson tied for the team lead in blocks, with 8 apiece.

"At the beginning of the year we never learned how to win tight games," UCSB Head Coach Ken Preston said. "This was our last game of the year, and the last two were very tight games ... It was a great win for us."

"I was very pleased that we won," added Collins, a graduating senior. "It was especially sweet because I've never beat Stanford in my four years here, and now we have."



JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS DON'T CALL ME GERALDO: Sophomore outside hitter Andy Rivera and the UCSB men's volleyball team closed out their season with a four-game victory over the visiting Stanford Cardinal.

Santa Barbara Swept by #17 Fullerton in Big West Conference Series



Softball: Titans' Bats Too Much for Gauchos, Who Drop Fourth Straight

BY ZACK O'NEILL Staff Writer

The UCSB softball team hosted #17 Cal State Fullerton for a three-game conference series this past weekend at Campus part of our schedule,' Diamond. Santa Barbara (20-17 overall, 6-6 Big West) was facing a nationally ranked Big West opponent for the second straight weekend, having squared off against #16 Long Beach State on April 8 and 9. In that series, UCSB took one of three from the 49ers, but unfortunately the team didn't fare as well against CSUF, failing to notch any wins against the

Titans (34-11 overall, 9-3 Big West). On Saturday the Gauchos lost both ends of a doubleheader, 10-4 and 7-2, and Sunday they lost the final game of the series, 6-3.

"This was the worst

JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS

MUST ... AVOID ... TAG ... Senior shortstop Mandy Edwards went one-for-four with a double and a run batted in, but the UCSB softball team was unable to avoid losing to #17 Cal State Fullerton when the Gauchos fell to the Titans, 6-3, on Sunday.

UCSB Head Coach Liz Kelly said. "Of all the teams left, [Cal State] Northridge will be tough, but we should be able to do well against the rest of the teams on our schedule [Pacific, Utah State and New Mexico State]."

In the first game of the series Saturday, Fullerton wasted no time in getting on the board, scoring in four of the first five

See UCSB, p.2A

Sporting Events Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
No Events Scheduled	No Events Scheduled	No Events Scheduled	Softball @ Loyola Marymount, 2 p.m. Baseball vs. Long Beach State Caesar Uyesaka Stadium, 2 p.m.	Baseball vs. Long Beach State Caesar Uyesaka Stadium, 1 p.m. Women's water polo @ Western Qualification Tournament (Fri-Sun)	Baseball vs. Long Beach State Caesar Uyesaka Stadium, 1 p.m.	No Events Scheduled



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UCSB

Continued from p.1A

innings and tagging the UCSB pitching staff for 10 runs, the most the Gauchos have allowed since March 1 when they surrendered 15 to #8 Fresno State. The Titans had three different players — third baseman Dara Marzolo, left fielder Yasmin Mossadeghi and shortstop Amanda Hockett — go over the fence for home runs, and when the dust settled, Santa Barbara had suffered its worst defeat since that same Fresno game.

Game two was more of the same, with CSUF jumping on junior Abigail Murphy for three in the first and never looking back. UCSB played catch-up with the Titans for the rest of the day, drawing as close as 3-2 in the fourth inning.

But Fullerton continued to pull away, scoring four times in the last two innings,

and won the second game, 7-2.

"Unless we were at our best, we weren't going to have a shot against Fullerton," Murphy said. "Their hitting just beat us; they really capitalized on our mistakes."

The Gauchos came out Sunday for the final game, and once again fell behind early. The Titans racked up four runs in the third inning, once again putting UCSB in a come-from-behind position. The Gauchos rallied in the sixth, pulling to within one run of Fullerton at 4-3. Santa Barbara had the bases loaded with one out, but sophomore second baseman Kim Sawyer lined into a double play, ending the threat.

"The whole series was definitely a disappointment," said senior first baseman Jessie Ziese, who blasted her fourth homer of the year in the bottom half of the fourth. "But we came to play [Sunday], and we did all we could. Fullerton is just a great team."

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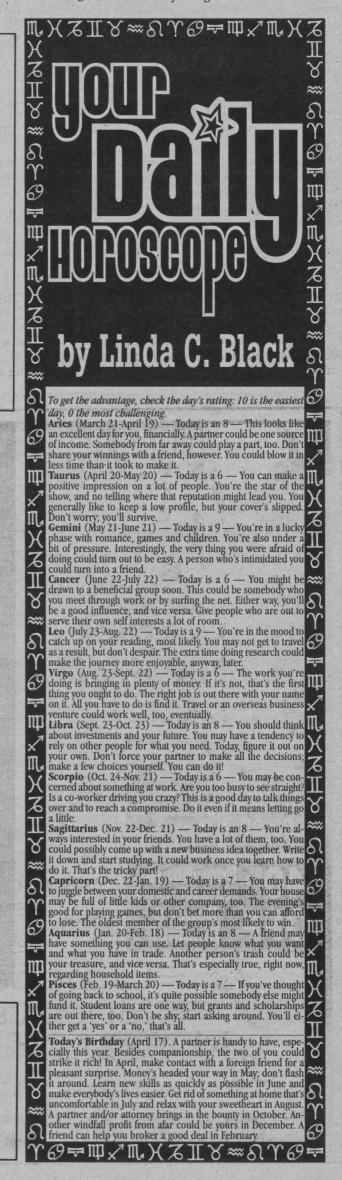
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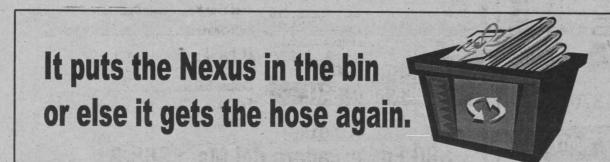


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Daily Nexus

Monday, April 17, 2000 3A

UCSB Loses Two Games to Cal Poly

Baseball: Mustangs Win Series With Two Comeback Victories

BY BRIAN CHONG Reporter

Being defeated at the very end of a competition, match or game spells heartbreak in the world of sports. For the UCSB baseball team, that seemed to be the story of a weekend series with Big West rival Cal Poly. The Gauchos, in their three-game series with the Mustangs, suffered the experience of a by junior left fielder Jeff Carter, who went come-from-ahead loss not once, but twice this past weekend, at Caesar Uyesaka Stadium.

The Mustangs (19-18 overall, 10-8 Big West) were up on top of UCSB (18-19 overall, 8-7 Big West) for most of game one Friday, but the Gauchos' persistence throughout the game sparked a comeback.

UCSB's offense came alive in the home half of the seventh inning, sending five Dave Molidor

runs across the plate to put the Gauchos ahead, 7-6.

Santa Barbara sent 11 batters to the plate and banged out four hits, the big one coming from the bat of junior infielder Chad Peshke, who tripled to right, bringing in two runs.

With the score tied 8-8 in the ninth inning and runners on first and second, junior third baseman Dave Molidor stepped up to the plate and blasted a 2-0 pitch over the right-center field fence, to give UCSB game one of the series with an 11-8 victory.

All three games were battles," said Molidor, who went three-for-four Friday with the game-winning home run. "They



[Cal Poly] thought they had the game and were very confident, but the pitcher fell back 2-0 on me and pitched a ball in my zone and I hurt him.'

Coming off of a last-inning comeback in game one, UCSB was looking to carry that momentum into game two Saturday. However, the Gauchos ended up on the other end of the stick and were edged, 12-

three-for-six with two runs, Peshke, who went two-for-four, and sophomore first

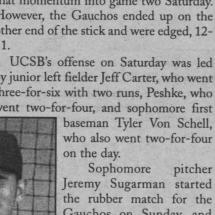
> who also went two-for-four on the day.

Jeremy Sugarman started the rubber match for the Gauchos on Sunday, and despite the abundance of offense produced in the two previous games, he held the Mustangs to three runs in 6.2 innings.

Sugarman was pulled out of the game in the seventh due to fatigue, and the offense of Cal Poly fired up immediately, bringing five men across the plate in that inning to put the Gauchos behind, 9-6.

Looking for a late-inning comeback, the Gauchos put two more runs on the board in the bottom half of the eighth, but fell short, losing 9-8. "We've lost in a lot of different ways,"

UCSB Head Coach Bob Brontsema said. "Some games we lost due to bad pitching and poor defense, and other games we lost due to a lack of offense. We will play two of the top teams in the Big West in the coming weeks, and I think we will make or break it here for our playoff hopes."





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