

#4 Santa Barbara Upsets #2 UCLA; Gaucho Win Ends Seven-Year Skid

■ Chapman, Rogers Lead Santa Barbara to League Victory over Bruins

By Jenny Kok
Staff Writer

Fans and players alike have been saying it since September — if there has ever been a time the UCSB volleyball team could outright beat the Bruins, it is this season.

After seeing UCLA dominate the Gauchos on the court for seven straight years, including a win last month at the UCSB Invitational, the #4 Gaucho men's volleyball team got its revenge on #2 UCLA Saturday night in front of 1,880 vocal fans, taking the match in four games, 10-15, 15-8, 15-13, 15-13.

What makes this win even more impressive is that Santa Barbara (4-1 overall, 4-0 in the MPSF) earned it without the firepower of junior outside hitter Donny Harris, who was pulled early in game one after struggling offensively.

Without Harris in the lineup, outside hitter Jeremy Darner was asked to do what he had never done before — lead the offense. The 6'7" sophomore came up big, leading the match with 27 kills at a .224 hitting percentage.

"This was a big game for us," Darner said. "We've been working hard all week and I felt a lot of momentum coming into this match. I had been feeling good all day and felt really good in warmups, so I was ready for this."

Darner may have been ready, but the rest of the Gauchos didn't seem to be, as the Bruins jumped out to an early 8-2 lead which quickly increased to 11-4.

At this point, Santa Barbara snapped out of its hitting slump and went on a 5-1 run, but it simply couldn't make up for the 15 hitting errors and the team's dismal 10 service errors.

"I really don't know why we've been having so much trouble in game one," UCSB Head Coach Ken Preston said. "But from when the score was 8-2 in the first game, or even the rest of the match, I thought we played well at key points."

The Gauchos' change of pace carried into the second game as they jumped out to a 6-1 lead. The Bruins came back with some momentum of their own, narrowing the margin to 8-7. However, UCLA's effort fell short as Santa Barbara went on a 7-1 run led by Darner's offensive power and senior middle blocker Amaury Velasco's hitting and blocking, to even up the match at one game apiece.

After a huge offensive battle early in the third game the Gauchos took a 10-6 advantage, with two points coming from senior outside hitter Morgan Chapman, who earned back-to-back service aces with his smoking jump serve. But the lead wouldn't last as junior outside hitter Paul Nihipali, with two kills and a block, put UCLA ahead, 11-10. Santa Barbara then tied the score at 13-13 and thanks to a key kill from senior setter Todd Rogers and a hitting error from Bruin middle blocker Tom Stillwell, the Gauchos earned a 2-1 advantage.

Entering game four, neither team was willing to let the other take much of an advantage. With

UCSB up 11-10, Chapman earned the Gauchos another point with a dink over UCLA's block, but collapsed with painful leg cramps as soon as his feet hit the ground.

He had to be pulled out of the match after delivering a strong performance, but his replacement, senior outside hitter Brant Chillingworth, came in and picked up where Chapman left off. On his first play in the match Chillingworth stuff-blocked UCLA's Dan Farner, giving UCSB a 13-10 advantage.

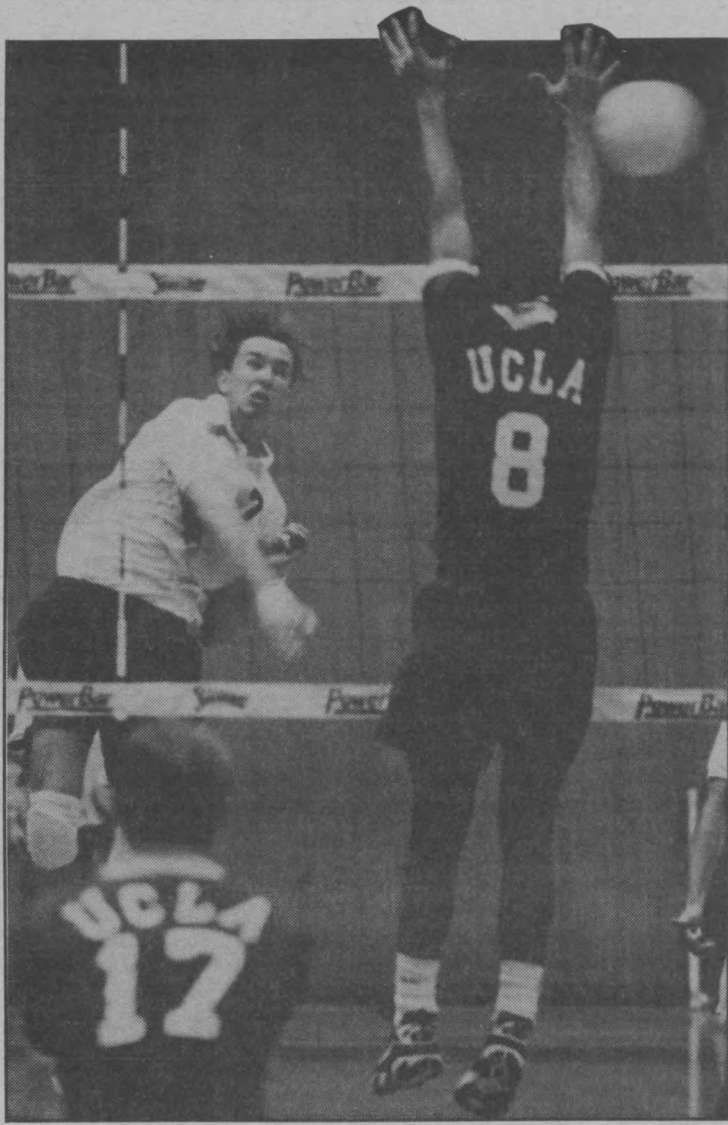
A service ace by junior middle blocker Robert Treahy gave the Gauchos match point, but UCLA wasn't about to let the match go so easily. The Bruins earned three straight points off Gaucho hitting errors, but that's where the comeback stopped. After five sideouts, the game ended on a block by Treahy and junior outside hitter Jason Crone.

"This was a big win for us," Treahy said. "This just shows what we can do. We didn't play at our full potential, but we played fairly well and found a way to win."

Nihipali led the Bruin attack with 20 kills at a .262 clip. Senior outside hitter Matt Taylor led the defense with 14 digs while Stillwell headed the team at the net, collecting 13 block assists.

Senior setter Stein Metzger delivered yet another strong all-around effort for the Bruins. While earning 75 assists, Metzger pounded out 11 kills at .250 and made 10 digs and eight blocks.

"It was a great match," Metzger said. "They [UCSB] were a



ERIN DERBY/Daily Nexus

BLOCK THIS: Sophomore outside hitter Jeremy Darner hammers a kill attempt over the block of UCLA's Brian Wells (8).

little intimidated at first, but once they realized what they were capable of, they got the job done. Their bench was strong. Just look at Brant. He came in for the first time in the fourth game and got a block right off the bat and passed well. I'll tell you right now, this team is better than U of H [#1 University of Hawaii]."

Treahy and Velasco led the Gaucho offense, along with Dar-

ner. Treahy pounded out 20 kills at a .325 hitting percentage while Velasco hammered 19 at .500. Both players led the team with six blocks.

Chapman earned a season-high four aces while making 13 digs and four blocks, but the all-around best performance of the match came from Rogers. Along with earning 90 assists, he added nine kills at .353, led the match with 17 digs.

UCSB Men's Basketball Road Trip Update

Gauchos Topple Titans in Fullerton to Move Into Big West's Third Spot

■ Balanced Scoring Helps UCSB to Another Conference Road Victory

By Michael Cadilli
Staff Writer

FULLERTON — When a coach says, "I thought we played a solid game for 40 minutes," most of the time you can just shrug it off as something he has to say, but when Head Coach Jerry Pimm said it Saturday after UCSB beat Cal State Fullerton, he was speaking the gospel truth.

Five Gauchos scored in double figures, and the team actually out-rebounded the Titans to defeat them 85-72 in front of a sparse but rowdy 1,602 in Titan Gym.

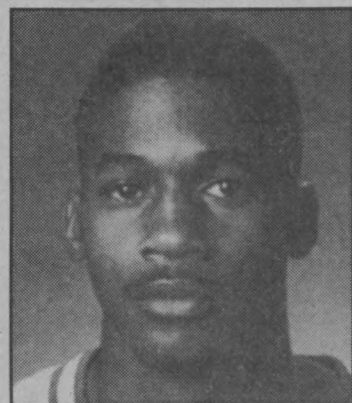
Santa Barbara (10-9 overall, 7-4 in the Big West) has won seven of its last 10 and four of its last six road games to step into third place in the conference, behind UC Irvine (7-3) and Long Beach State (7-3) by half a game.

UCSB shot the Titans' lights out in the first half by shooting .606 percent, going 20-33 from the floor, including 5 of 10 from three-point land, to lead 48-39 at the break. This was a pleasant change from the last three games, when the Gauchos fell behind University of the Pacific, San Jose State and UCI in slow and uninspired first halves.

"We just wanted to get up for

this game because last game, we came out kind of flat in the first half, and we just wanted to make sure that didn't happen in the first half of this game," said senior guard Lelan McDougal, who scored 11 points on 5-8 shooting in the period.

But the star of the first half was Santa Barbara's Bakir Allen, who paced UCSB with 13 points and four rebounds on perfect 5-of-5 shooting with one trey.



Bakir Allen

On one play he exploded past his man and threw in a spectacular layup with 1:45 left in the first period to give his team a commanding 46-34 lead.

"In the beginning I got some open looks and they fell for me, and after that everything went

good," he said. "I need to [drive] more. Coach [Pimm] was telling me to drive and I keep looking to pass, so I was focusing on taking it to the basket this game and scoring rather than looking for the assist."

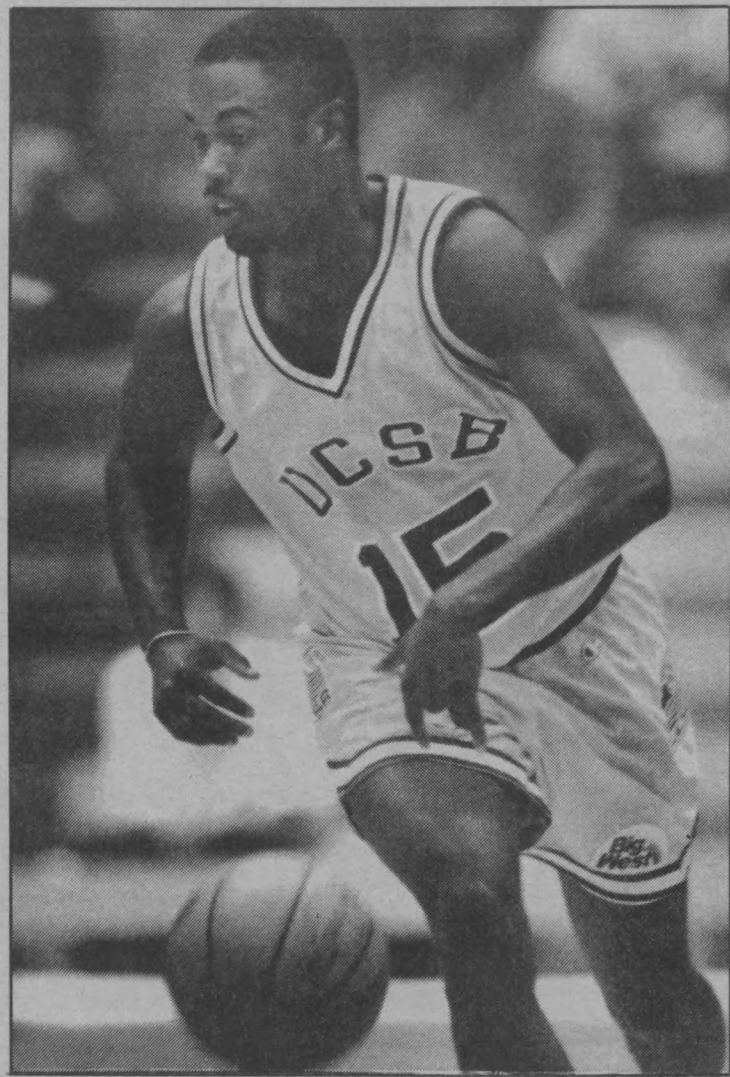
Fullerton (5-14, 4-7, eighth-place tie with New Mexico State) didn't exactly roll over at the start of the game, as the Titans hit 60 percent of their three-pointers in the first half and sank 11 attempts from the charity stripe.

"If you look at Fullerton they played a great first half," Pimm said. "They shot a good percentage (.440) and they made six threes out of 10 shots — they really played great."

Cal State Fullerton stepped up in the second half and got back into the game in the first five minutes by trimming the Gauchos' lead to 55-52 with 15:21 remaining in the game. Then the referees' whistles started blowing like crazy and three Gauchos were suddenly in foul trouble and the momentum had changed.

"When we got in foul trouble with Kealon [Wallace] and when Lelan got his third, and when Phillip [Turner] got his third, I thought we were in trou-

See MEN'S, p.3A



Nexus File Photo

Men's Big West Standings

1. Long Beach 7-3	6. Pacific 4-6	* Note that
2. Irvine 7-3	7. UNLV 4-6	only the top
3. UCSB 7-4	8. New Mexico 4-7	6 teams
4. Nevada 6-4	9. Fullerton 4-7	qualify for
5. Utah St. 6-4	10. San Jose 3-8	the Big West
		tourney

UCSB Needs Extra Time to Sink CSUF

■ Titans Test Gauchos in Double OT

By Brian Berger
Staff Writer

Change is good. At least this is what the UCSB women's basketball team is probably saying today after its double-overtime victory over Cal State Fullerton on Sunday.

The Gauchos (14-5 overall, 10-1 in the Big West) have blown out league opponents in recent games, including Friday night's 75-56 win over UC Irvine. The only exceptions to this trend are the squad's seven-point loss to the University of Hawai'i and Sunday's contest.

Santa Barbara entered the matchup with the Titans (4-16, 1-10) as heavy favorites, but the young Fullerton squad was not ready to be intimidated by UCSB's impressive record.

Neither team looked prepared in the early minutes of action as they exchanged leads in the first four minutes. However, a jumper by senior forward Lauren Goldstine sparked a Gaucho run midway through the first half that gave Santa Barbara a 30-19 lead with 9:52 remaining in the period.

Although down, the Titans were not out as guard Shayla Bradshaw rallied the team back and pulled it within three, 38-35, at intermission. Fullerton con-

tinued its comeback at the start of the second half as the squad opened the period with a 9-0 run to claim a six-point advantage.

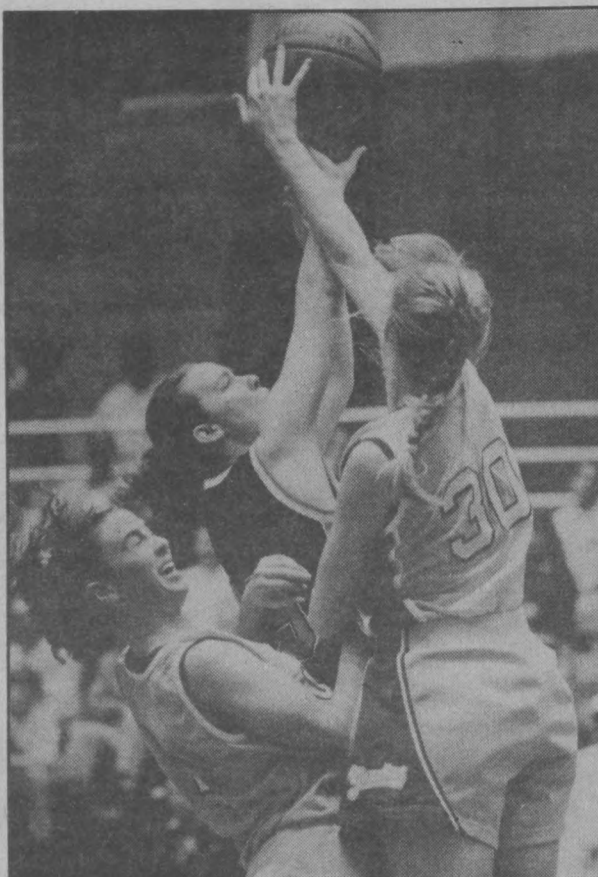
Junior guard Erin Alexander responded for UCSB as she buried two of her six three-pointers to regain the lead. The six treys tied Alexander's school record while her 15 attempts broke the previous mark of 10 in a game.

"I was feeling really good in the first half," Alexander said. "Sometimes I take myself out of it if it doesn't fall, but I was going to shoot it."

The momentum continued to swing the Gauchos' way as the team built another 11-point lead before Fullerton staged another comeback. Bradshaw connected on another three with 2:18 left in the game to tie the score at 74.

However, Bradshaw picked up her fifth personal foul on UCSB's next possession, fouling out with 26 points, and forward Sasha Scardino made both of her free throws to give the Gauchos a two-point lead. The Titans answered the Santa Barbara basket as center Dee Braxton took a lob pass in the paint and converted two of her game-high 30 points to tie the score 76-76 and force the game into overtime.

UCSB took an early ad-



Nexus File Photo

REJECTED: Senior center Kris Grazzini blocks a shot in the Gauchos' victory over State Fullerton.

vantage in the overtime as senior center Kris Grazzini went 2-4 from the free-throw line and Alexander hit a jumper to put the Gauchos up by four. Fullerton point guard Andrea Thieme made a layup to trim the lead to two before Grazzini hit another free throw to put UCSB ahead by three with seven seconds left. Thieme was not done, however, as the freshman canned a running three-pointer to tie the score with less than a second on the clock.

"She hit an amazing shot," said UCSB Head

Coach Mark French. "We'll let her shoot that shot nine times out of 10 and I'll guess that it's not going in. That's a great credit to her as a freshman."

Fullerton built a three-point lead of its own in the second overtime before freshman guard Stephanie Shadwell made a three-pointer to tie the score. Two free throws and a layup by Alexander gave the Gauchos a four-point lead which put them on top to stay. A free throw by Thieme trimmed the lead

See WOMEN, p.3A

Women's Hoops Are OK, Too!

By Deborah Raffi

Just before I left for the women's basketball game Friday night, one of my male housemates asked, "Gee, Deb, aren't you bummed about missing the Lakers game and having to watch a bunch of girls play instead?"

I thought about that for a while. Then it finally came to me. It's true that as a sportswriter, I recognize the differences between men's and women's athletic abilities, but maybe such distinctions should not be viewed as hierarchical. In other words, one program is not necessarily superior to the other.

Before every male athlete or sports fan starts insulting me about my ignorance, I'd like to explain.

You see, I'm not denying the fact that watching men's collegiate or professional basketball is more exciting, as it is filled with intense action and often, a few acrobatically spectacular dunks. I can appreciate that as much as anybody. But there's more to watching a women's game than most people think.

The women's teams seem to be concerned with something every program, male or female, need not forget — fundamentals. Defensively, women's teams are strong, sound and run their pressure by the textbook. Offensively, their passes are crisp and accurate, an indication of the unselfish recognition of the importance of effective ball movement.

There has been talk of a women's NBA division and even ESPN has started to show more women's collegiate matches than in the past. More and more, sports fans are beginning to give validity to the notion of a women's contest.

In the Thunderdome, there has been a noticeable increase in attendance not by just parents and family members, but by yes, students, actual Gauchos.

"We come to these games because we want to support the team," said senior economics major Mike Kim. "We know that the team is good and that there's a lot of unrecognized talent. I can bet that they will have a good chance at the tournament."

So what I hope you got from this column is not that I think women's matches are more exhilarating than the men's, necessarily, but that it's a different contest altogether. Men's teams offer tremendous athletic ability and talent. However, women's teams show the understanding of the game at a basic, fundamental level.

You may not see any slam dunks at the matches, but you will see a solid athletic program that stresses a strong work ethic on the court which has proved successful in the Big West Conference. If you get a chance, go watch a game and then get back to me.

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Santa Barbara Sluggers Slaughter Westmont Pitching With Long Ball

By Curtis Kaiser
Staff Writer

When your starting pitcher lasts one-third of an inning and you are down 11-1 at the end of the first frame, you know it's going to be a long day.

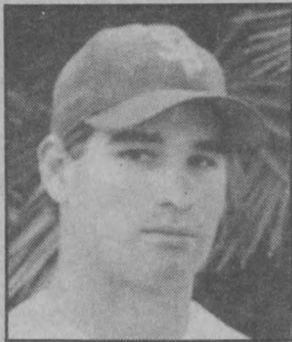
Such was the case for Westmont College (0-2) in its game against the UCSB baseball team Friday afternoon, as the Gauchos (3-0) pummeled the Warriors, 22-6, at Caesar Uyesaka Stadium. Scheduled UCSB games at Westmont on Saturday and at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on Sunday were rained out and have not been rescheduled.

Westmont starting pitcher Ryan Weeks (0-1) recorded only one out while allowing six hits, two walks and 10 runs (only one earned). Weeks was not helped by the defensive play of shortstop Erik Lewis, who had a dis-

mal game, going 0-4 at the plate while committing four errors.

UCSB pitching coach Tim Montez is cautiously optimistic about the Gauchos' fast start this season.

"It's way too early to get excited, but it's not too



Ryan Kritscher

early to be encouraged," he said. "Thirty games into the season, if we're in the thick of the conference, then we can be excited."

UCSB Head Coach Bob Brontsema managed to get 21 Gauchos into the game,

including four pitchers. Freshman David Uris (1-0) saw his first collegiate action and picked up the win, despite allowing eight hits and six runs in four innings.

Santa Barbara used three relievers in the game — junior transfer Bryan Noyes, freshman Darren Murphy and junior Clint Pearson. Noyes and Murphy each pitched two perfect innings — neither allowing a hit or walk — while Pearson closed the game with a flawless ninth.

Offensively, junior first baseman Dave Willis and senior designated hitter Ryan Kritscher swung the big bats for the Gauchos. Willis upped his season home run total to four with two more round-trippers and raised his RBI total to 11 — all in three games. Kritscher, a transfer from Southern Mississippi playing in his first game as a Gaucho after having shaken off a back



Nexus File Photo

GONE! Santa Barbara's David Willis has been on a tear in the team's first games. The junior has four home runs, including two against Westmont.

injury, provided some pop from the lead-off spot, blasting two homers and posting three RBI.

"It's great to get off on the right foot," Kritscher said. "We have great unity

this year, and hopefully, a lot of exciting things will happen."

Other offensive notables for UCSB were junior second baseman Clark Parker (2-4, three

runs), sophomore shortstop Mike Young (3-5, one homer, three runs, two RBI) and freshman catcher Justin Lehr (4-6, two doubles, three runs, four RBI).

double of the season.

Fullerton's Chris Dade led all scorers with 24 points on 7-20 shooting, 5-12 from behind the arc, while big man John Williams poured in 19 points.

However, things were just going the Gauchos' way most of the night. Case in point — with 4:20 left in the first half, Prince let a three fly with one second on the shot clock and the ball bounced high off the rim, hitting the shot clock and falling in.

WOMEN

Continued from p.2A to three, but her desperation toss fell short and Santa Barbara secured a 90-87 victory.

Alexander led UCSB in scoring as she finished with 24 points, followed by senior center Amy Hughlett (13 points) and junior forward Amy Smith (12). Hughlett also dominated the glass as she pulled down a team-high

14 boards while Shadwell grabbed 12.

Friday night's contest did not have the drama of Sunday's but the result was the same as the Gauchos cruised past the Anteaters behind the play of their backcourt.

Santa Barbara trailed only during the game's first five minutes before the squad pulled away from UCI. Guard Dio Aguinardo led the UCSB offense: The senior noted for her great defense and un-

selfishness showed everyone she can also score by producing a career-high 23 points.

"I think in the beginning, they gave me some easy shots and that gave me the confidence to take it up strong," Aguinardo said.

Alexander trailed Aguinardo in the scoring column as she scored 21 points. Hughlett also reached double-digits, finishing with 10.

MEN'S

Continued from p.1A ble," Pimm said. "They made a good run at us and we made some plays defensively during that time. We got some defensive rebounds and if we can do that, then we're not going to give people nearly as many chances to score."

But Santa Barbara picked up both its offense and defense by recording

five players in double-digit scoring and out-rebounding the Titans 40-36. UCSB also swatted seven shots to keep Fullerton to a .293 shooting percentage in the second half.

McDougal finished with a team-high 20 points, senior Danee Prince put in 18, Wallace pitched in 16, Allen scored 15 and senior forward Mark Flick had 10. Wallace also brought down 10 boards to post his team-leading seventh double-

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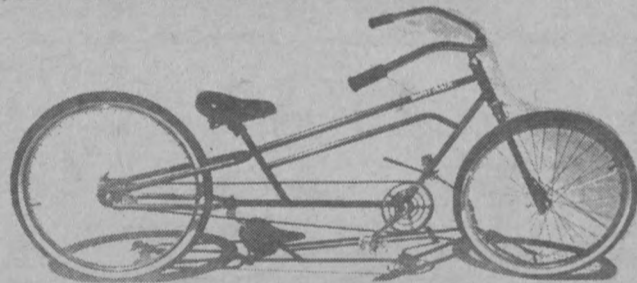
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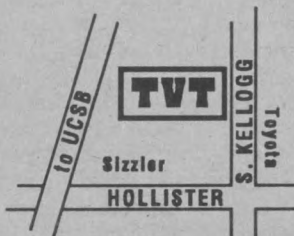
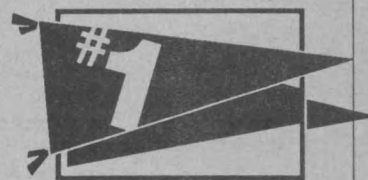


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