

# SPORTS MONDAY

Daily Nexus

May 1, 1995

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## UCSB Outshined by U. of H. in Three Straight

### Winning Season Ends on Disappointing Note

By Jenny Kok  
Staff Writer

**WESTWOOD** — UCLA's Pauley Pavilion again proved to be unfriendly ground for the #4 UCSB men's volleyball team as a premature ending to the 1995 season was forced upon them by #2 University of Hawai'i Friday night in the semifinals of the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation tournament, 15-10, 15-13, 15-7.

Although the match with Hawai'i (19-5 overall) was an improvement from UCLA's three-game spanking of Santa Barbara (18-9 overall) on April 12, the contest was hardly played in top Gaucho fashion.

"I don't know what it is [about Pauley Pavilion]," said UCSB Head Coach Ken Preston. "This game was almost like a repeat of the recent UCLA matchup. We just couldn't get things going long enough. We didn't play as a team."

UCSB came out slow and tentative, dropping to a 2-0 deficit before turning on the heat. Back-to-back-to-back blocks by senior middle blocker Carter Reese, sophomore outside hitter Donny Harris and junior setter Todd Rogers gave the Gauchos some momentum as they jumped to a 9-4 lead.

The five-point lead wasn't enough, as the Rainbows' offense picked up the pace, outscoring the Gauchos 11-1 to take a 1-0 game lead.

"Both teams took turns playing great," said UCSB junior outside hitter Brant Chillingworth. "We tried to get by one point at a time, but we ran into hitting trouble."

Game two started out the way game one ended. Led by freshman outside hitter Yuval Katz, the Rainbows jumped out to an 11-4 lead, but this time, the Gauchos made the comeback. Rogers picked up the defense making eight digs while Harris

pounded out 11 kills during the game.

Along with the improved defense and hitting, strong blocking by sophomore middle blocker Robert Treahy and junior outside hitter Morgan Chapman helped bring UCSB to a 13-13 tie, but it didn't last. UH senior middle blocker Jason Olive and Katz turned on their offensive firing power and brought Hawai'i to a 2-0 game lead.

"The big comeback in game two showed our character," Harris explained. "But I think the loss might have been the last straw for some of us."

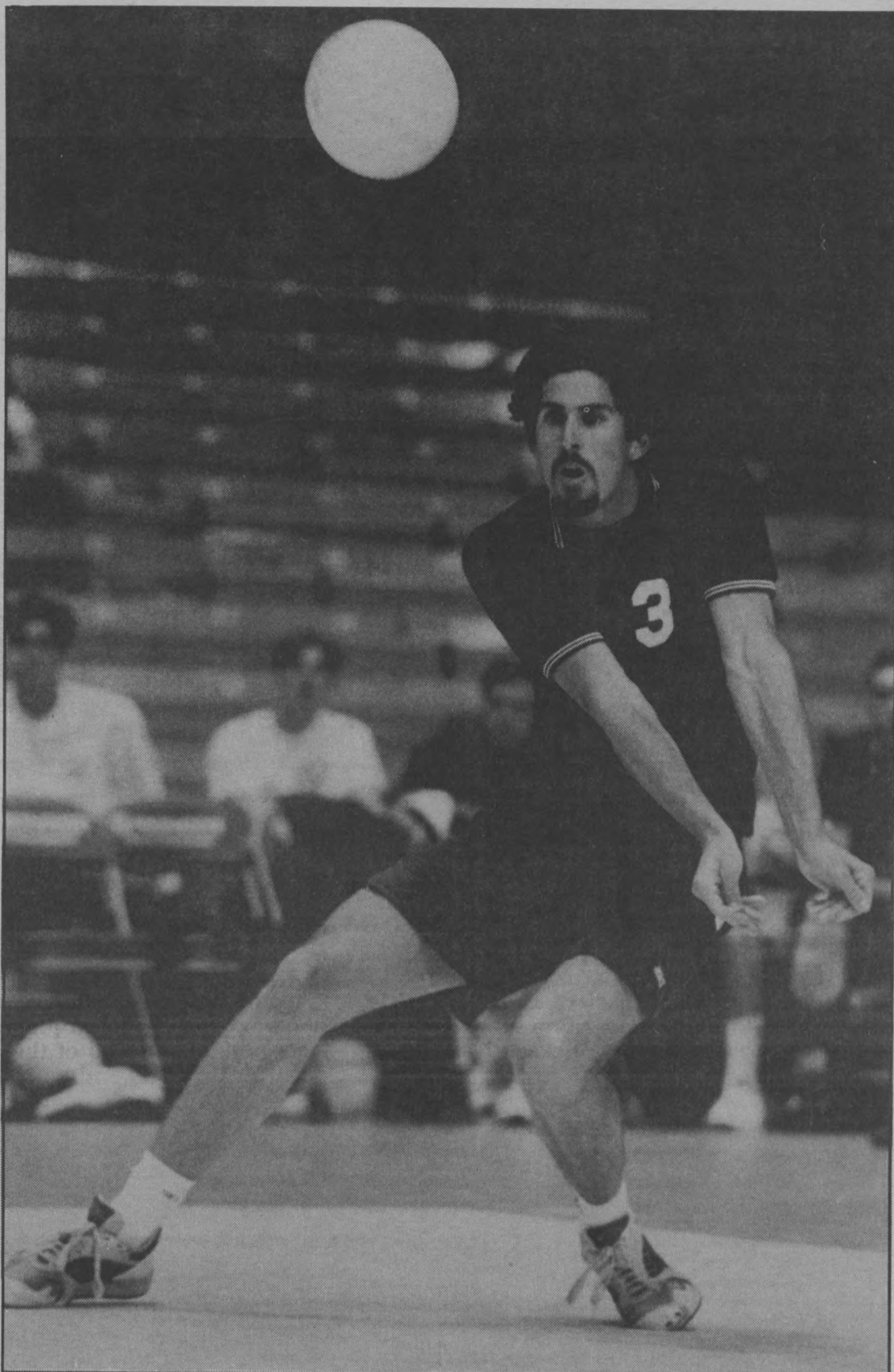
"History shows that usually after a comeback you let go at the end and the team that had the lead wins," Preston explained. "I wasn't too surprised that we lost the game, but it is hard because it was so close. It just doesn't get much closer than that."

That tough loss did seem to break the spirit of the Gauchos as they entered game three in a lethargic manner. Hawai'i bolted their way to an 11-0 lead before Santa Barbara could do any scoring.

With some intense play, junior middle blocker Doug Hughes turned up the offensive heat, helping the Gauchos shorten the Rainbow lead to 13-7, but it didn't last. Hawai'i quickly regrouped and took the game and the match. They advanced to the MPSF finals against top-ranked UCLA on Saturday where they lost to the Bruins in four games.

"It was really disappointing to end the season like this," said Gaucho senior outside hitter Darren Torbet. "Now I'm done and Carter [Reese] is done and we have to look at the bright side. We've had a great season and to come this close to the final four after not even making it to postseason the last two seasons, we have to be happy we got

See MPSF, p.3A



RACHEL WEILL/Daily Nexus

Junior setter Todd Rogers led #4 UCSB with 11 digs in the Gauchos' loss to #2 University of Hawai'i on Friday night at UCLA's Pauley Pavilion. The loss ends UCSB's season.

## Women's Tennis Overwhelms Ojai Field on Its Way to Fifth Consecutive Big West Title

By Michael Cadilli  
Staff Writer

Neither Magic Johnson's great Lakers of the 1980s nor Joe Montana's 49ers could win five straight championships, but the 1995 UCSB women's tennis team under Head Coach Pete Kirkwood has done just that, earning its fifth consecutive Big West title.

The #3-seeded Gauchos defeated #2 University of Nevada, Las Vegas (5-3) in the semifinals on Friday and #1 University of the Pacific (5-2) on Saturday — teams which both beat UCSB earlier in the season — to win the title at the Ojai Valley Racquet Club.

"This [championship] felt the best because we were the underdog," said junior Kelly Spencer. "In the past, it was like, oh well, another Big West [title], but this year we just really wanted to win. We were more determined."

In addition to the team award, Kirkwood was named as Big West Co-Coach of the Year with UOP's Bill Maze, marking the fifth straight year that a UCSB coach has picked up the honor (Chris Russell earned the award from 1991-94).

"It meant a lot for us to win for Pete. We didn't have the greatest season and he never gave up on us," said junior Amelia White. "Pete was so confident. He was always there when we needed him and it made a big difference to have him have confidence in us."

It must have been the confidence that paved the way for Santa Barbara, winning three of four three-set singles matches against the Tigers in the finals. Senior Lynn Coakley downed Pacific's Katharina Schlensker in the #2 spot (3-6, 6-1, 7-5) in the most heated battle of the tournament, according to Kirkwood.

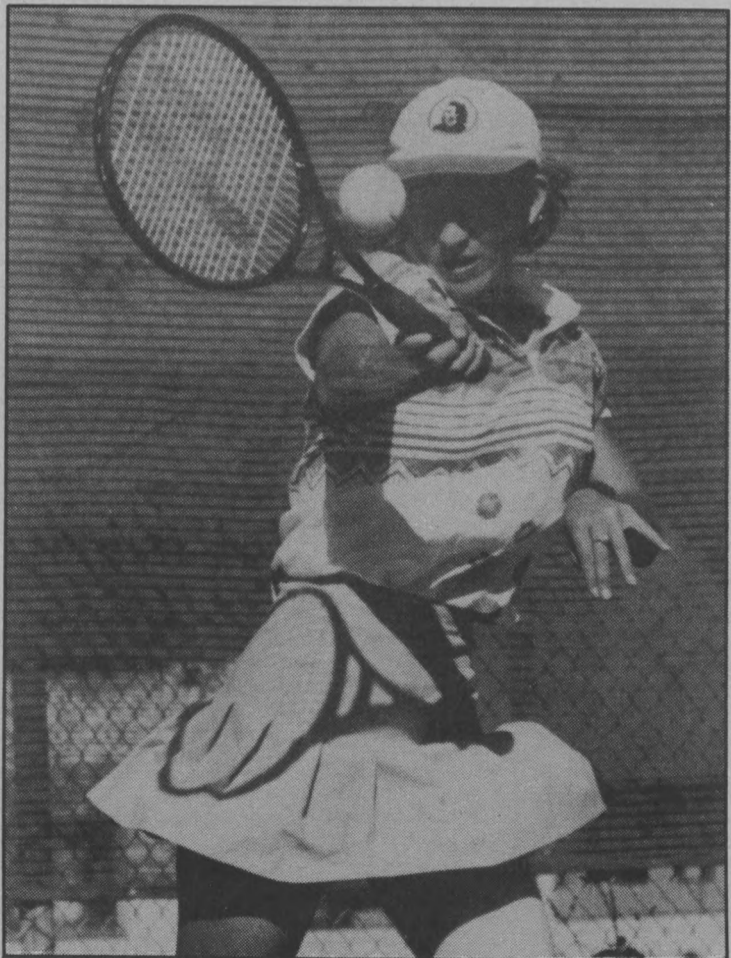
"Lynn played in one of the most entertaining matches I've ever seen, from a fan's point of view," Kirkwood said. "They had some hard-fought rallies with the crowd cheering after every point."

Seniors Kathy Peterson and Courtney Strauss came through with the other two three-set victories for the Gauchos. Peterson overcame Bente Grina (7-5, 3-6, 6-3) in the #4 slot, while the Tigers' Tanya O'Neil fell to Strauss at #6, 1-6, 6-3, 7-5.

UCSB's #1 singles player junior Jean Okada was defeated (6-4, 6-1) by Big West Athlete of the Year Tracee Lee, but junior Gaucho Amelia White came through with a relatively easy win in the #3 spot over Marsa Kuurne in straight sets, 7-5, 6-0.

"I was pretty nervous because I was playing on court one," White said. "Before, I was spraying balls and not focusing, and in the second I bore down and made her make the mistakes instead of me making the errors."

Although the season is over for the squad, White and Spencer have been ranked as one of the top 15 doubles tandems in the nation and have a good shot at making the NCAA individual draw.

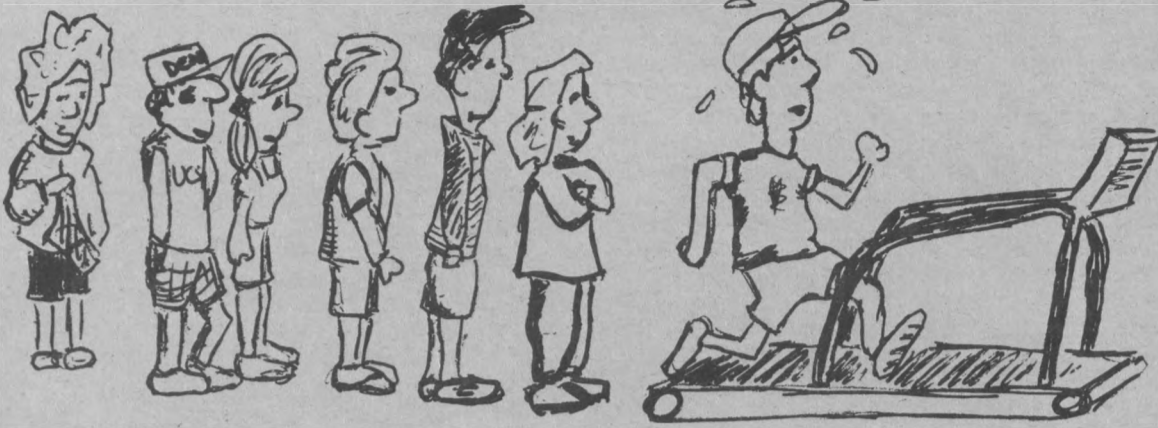


GEORGE LEE/Daily Nexus

Senior Kathy Peterson won a three-set match at Ojai last weekend as UCSB posted its fifth straight Big West title.



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# Gauchos Bust on Vegas Road Trip: Two Losses Kill SB Playoff Hopes

By Curtis Kaiser  
 Staff Writer

Desperately needing at least two wins this past weekend to stay in the hunt for a Big West playoff spot, the UCSB baseball team wasn't able to hold down the University of Nevada, Las Vegas offensive attack, losing two out of three to the Rebels, 2-14, 20-10 and 8-10.

The Rebels' (30-16 overall, 11-7 in the Big West) offense was sparked by leadoff hitter and shortstop Stacy Kleiner, who had seven hits and scored eight runs over the three games. Despite scoring 30 runs themselves in the series, including 20 on Saturday, the Gauchos (20-22, 6-12) were simply unable to contain the UNLV lineup.

In Sunday's contest, a 10-8 Rebel comeback victory, UNLV took advantage of five Gaucho errors and eight walks to score 10 runs on only eight hits.

UCSB sophomore starter Jorvic Salazar (4-1) was

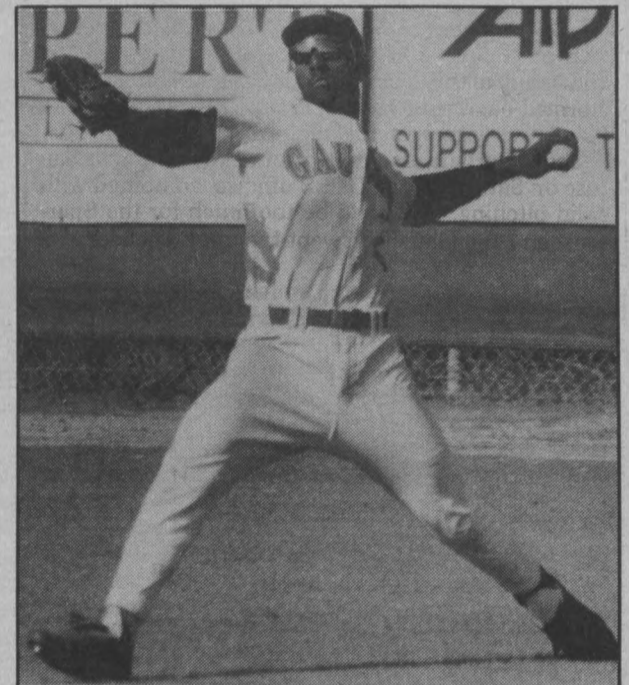
the victim of poor Gaucho defense as well as his own lack of control. Salazar threw for three innings, allowing only four hits but walking five Rebels.

After six innings, however, Santa Barbara had taken an 8-6 lead over UNLV on the strength of senior center fielder Doug Smaldino's sixth and junior right fielder Wynter Phoenix's 10th home runs of the season.

Unfortunately for the Gauchos, the lead didn't last. The Rebels posted one run in the eighth and three in the ninth off junior reliever Dax Groves (four innings pitched, two earned runs) and sophomore reliever Clint Pearson (one IP, one ER). Pearson (0-1) took the loss for UCSB, while UNLV reliever Joel Garber (3-0) picked up the win with 3 1/2 innings of scoreless ball.

On Saturday, the Gauchos exploded for their highest run (20) and hit (25) totals of the sea-

See UNLV, p.3A



UCSB junior right fielder Wynter Phoenix is well-known for his powerful throwing arm.



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**ROUND 3**

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- Moises Alou MON

**ROUND 4**

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- Sammy Sosa ChC
- Paul O'Neil NYN

**ROUND 5**

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- Tony Gwynn SD
- Mike Piazza LA
- Darren Daulton PHI

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- Chili Davis CAL
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**ROUND 14**

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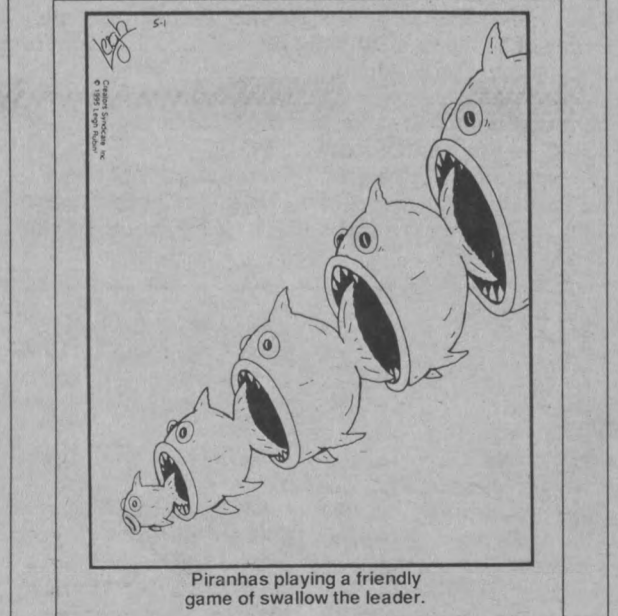
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GEORGE LEE/Daily Nexus

Junior Stacy Atwood had three hits and was the winning pitcher on Saturday at SJSU.

## UCSB Softball Squad Posts Winning Weekend at SJSU, Pacific; Team Takes 3 of 4

By Michael Cadilli  
Staff Writer

The UCSB softball squad has been turning its potential energy into kinetic energy, winning three of four games this weekend on its final road trip of the season.

The Gauchos (21-34 overall, 7-21 in the Big West) were shut out 2-0 in game one on Friday against the University of the Pacific (16-34, 6-20) in Stockton but stormed back with 10 hits, including a home run, to blank the Tigers in the nightcap, 5-0.

Santa Barbara also nailed some key hitting in San Jose on Saturday. The UCSB offense, combined with solid pitching, proved to be too much for the Spartans, and the Gauchos swept the doubleheader, 3-2 and 5-2.

"We had a team meeting and talked about how we wanted to end our season well, and that's what we're doing," said junior pitcher Stacy Atwood. "We went out there more confident, thinking we are going to win, and that's what we did."

San Jose (25-34) is in the middle of the pack in the Big West with its 12-12 conference mark and looked to be tough competition for UCSB. However, the Gauchos put together 16 hits while stringing two strong pitching performances in a row to sweep the Spartans.

"We just played the best we've played all year," said sophomore catcher Michelle Ray. "Everyone hit really well and both Megan [O'Brien] and Stacy [Atwood] pitched very well."

However, Santa Barbara started off the weekend slowly as Tiger Brandi Phillips (7-14) kept the Gauchos at bay all game, throwing a two-hitter while striking out four. Atwood (11-18) pitched six innings, giving up an earned run in both the third and fifth frames on six hits.

Atwood and UCSB bounced back in the second game in a big way. Santa Barbara had a 1-0 lead into the sixth inning, when Ray (3-3) and sophomore catcher Johnna Mike (1-4) led off with consecutive singles. Atwood came up and promptly knocked an 0-2 pitch over the left-field wall for her third homer of the season, putting the game out of reach for UOP.

"I was just thinking, 'Hit the ball hard.' I was surprised I got a good pitch," Atwood said. "I ran to first and watched it go over the fence and then I jogged slowly around the bases."

Before this weekend, Atwood had been in a slump, but in the last three games, she has reached base safely nine of 10 times. "When I hit it, I knew I was out of my slump," she added.

Atwood came back against the Spartans to throw a four-hit complete game, and the Gauchos scored two runs in the sixth to defeat SJSU.

Sophomore pitcher O'Brien followed that up with a brilliant performance of her own, scattering five hits and not allowing a run until the sixth inning to win game two.

## UNLV

Continued from p.2A son, with every starter in the lineup knocking out at least two hits.

Smaldino went 3-6 with two doubles, one home run, four RBI and two runs, sophomore first baseman Brett Hardy was also 3-6 and sophomore catcher Dave Willis had UCSB's first five-hit game in three years in addition to three RBI, three runs and his 12th longball of the year.

Phoenix was 2-4 with four runs, three RBI and a homer. With this past weekend, Phoenix continues to raise his batting average and improve his power numbers. Just two

weeks ago, Phoenix's average was hovering near the Mendoza line. Now he is batting .270 with 10 home runs, the third best record on the squad.

Senior left fielder Chris Prince had four base hits and two RBI, and junior infielder Shad Knighton had two singles and scored three runs. Sophomore designated hitter Tyler Ferrer and junior third baseman Lou Tapia each added two hits.

Senior right-hander Pat Treend (4-6) earned the win despite allowing 12 hits, five walks and six runs in 5 1/2 innings. Freshman Matt Klein allowed three runs in 3 1/2 innings, closing out the game and notching his first save. Denny DeMartini

(9-6) took the loss for UNLV.

Friday's contest saw the Gauchos take a beating on the mound as well as at the plate. Despite knocking out 10 hits, UCSB was only able to scrape for two runs, one in the first inning and one in the second.

Santa Barbara's pitchers were once again manhandled by the Rebel attack. Senior starter Steve Lane (5-2) took the loss, allowing 14 hits and 10 runs in 5 1/2 innings of work. Junior reliever Chris Frith-Smith fared no better, allowing four runs in 2 1/2 innings. UNLV's Nate Yeskie (11-2) picked up the victory with a strong eight-inning performance, striking out 10 Gauchos.

Phoenix and sophomore second baseman Clark Parker were the only UCSB batters to have a multi-hit game. UNLV third baseman Ryan Hawkins (4-5, three runs, three RBI), first baseman Brian Anthony (3-5, three runs, three RBI), designated hitter Ryan Plughoff (2-4, two runs, two RBI), second baseman Willie Mosher (two hits, two runs) and center fielder Scott Vincent (two hits) keyed the Rebel assault.

The Gauchos will face Cal Poly San Luis Obispo at home on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. before closing out the Big West Conference season with a three-game home series against the University of the Pacific.



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## MPSF

Continued from p.1A this close.

For the match, Katz, the nation's #2 hitter, led the way on offense and defense, pounding out 24 kills while making 14 digs.

On the Gauchos' side of the court, Harris again led the way on offense with 21 kills while putting up three blocks, including one

solo. Defensively, Rogers led the squad with 11 digs and at the net Chapman put up three block solos and one assisted block, while Treahy put up four block assists.

"We should be happy that we have had a good season and be glad that we made it this far," Harris explained. "But right now, I think we are all disappointed."



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