

GREG'S GOAL: Senior Greg DePaco scored Santa Barbara's only goal in the 3-1 loss to Fresno State on Friday at UCLA.

SB Soccer Team Eaten by Bulldogs

■ Gauchos Fall to Fresno State 3-1 in MPSF Semifinal Playoff Game

By Brett Lindstrom Staff Writer

"They hate Fresno and they hate Fresno. ... They are the Fresno-haters" are lyrics to a popular UCSB hooligan song. However, hatred alone couldn't do it for Santa Barbara.

After earning its first Mountain Pacific Sports Federation playoff berth in team history, the Gaucho men's soccer team (12-6-1 overall) storybook season came to a bitter close Friday at UCLA's North Field after falling 3-1 to Fresno State (14-5-1) in a somewhat lackluster

The #21-ranked Bulldogs advanced to defend their MPSF title against the #2-ranked Bruins, who defeated Washington 3-0 in the other semifi-

It was clearly evident that UCSB started out on the wrong foot. After failing to capitalize on several routine scoring opportunities, the heart of the once-spirited Santa Barbara team seemed to

slowly crumble away.

"I don't know what happened," said senior forward/defender Jeff Johnson. "We had no composure, no intensity. It seemed that people were just too relaxed and thinking about something else other than the game.'

The Bulldogs quickly took advantage of Santa Barbara's inability to finish, when Fresno forward Mike Matson shot home a cross from midfielder Mario Sanchez in the 12th minute of play to take a

Although Fresno was able to contain the Gaucho offense for much of the game, UCSB was able to break through the tenacious Bulldog defense in the 41st minute to tie it up, when senior midfielder Greg DePaco took a pass from senior

sweeper Patrick Griffin and proceeded to magically weave his way through the opponent's backfield.

"I was just dribbling with speed, cutting back left and right to throw my defender off. He seemed to lose his balance, so I just cut toward the goal," De-Paco said. "The keeper misjudged what I was going to do and I shot it past him."

However, there was little time for celebration, as Fresno immediately responded with two goals of their own to curb any Santa Barbara momentum. Forward Marek Nowacki's rebound shot from 18 yards out in the 42nd minute quickly put the Bulldogs up a goal for the second time. Less than two minutes later, Fresno capitalized again when forward Alex Hekimian's header off a cross from midfielder Mark Foster beat the diving Gaucho keeper freshman Stewart Sanders.

"The first five minutes after a goal are critical," Griffin said. "We got caught up in the emotion of it and our defense simply fell apart. Once we let down, they scored two quick goals."

UCSB never fully recovered from Fresno's late-

first-half barrage, playing a somewhat disorgan-ized style of ball throughout much of the remainder of the game.

"In the first half, we weren't applying any pressure," Johnson added. "It just got us out of our shape later in the game and that's what hurt us."

Although disappointed with the season-ending playoff loss, the Gauchos remained grateful for the success they achieved this season.

We were pumped and ready to go, but things just didn't happen," DePaco said. "It was definitely frustrating, but Coach Arya just told us to keep our heads up, no regrets. He thanked us for all the hard work and commitment we put in dur-

Santa Barbara Spikers Weekend

#11 UCSB Gets Spiked by #2 Hawai'i Twice in Big West Match Battle

By Jenny Kok Staff Writer

Losing two matches in a weekend usually isn't something to smile about, but the #11 UCSB women's volleyball team isn't exactly walking around with frowns on.

Friday night, the Gauchos (20-8 overall, 13-3 in the Big West) started off a two-game series with the undefeated #2 University of Hawai'i (25-0, 16-0), and lost 15-7, 15-13, 15-5. However, on Saturday night, Santa Barbara put up a better fight before the Rainbow Wahine could put away the four-game battle,



Meri-de Boyer

18-16, 15-5, 7-15, 15-10. Despite on Saturday as well, bounding to the losses, the Gauchos' confidence is by no means shattered.

"All I wanted was what happened - we came out and played hard and we played without fear and we played together," said UCSB Head Coach Kathy Gregory. "This will give us a big lift because we know we can play with these

teams. I want a team that'll play hard and go after every ball and that's what I saw. I'm very encouraged."

On Friday night, Santa Barbara came out fired up in game one, jumping out to a quick 6-3 lead. However, with the offensive power from sophomore outside hitter Therese Crawford, Hawai'i was able to come back and take control.

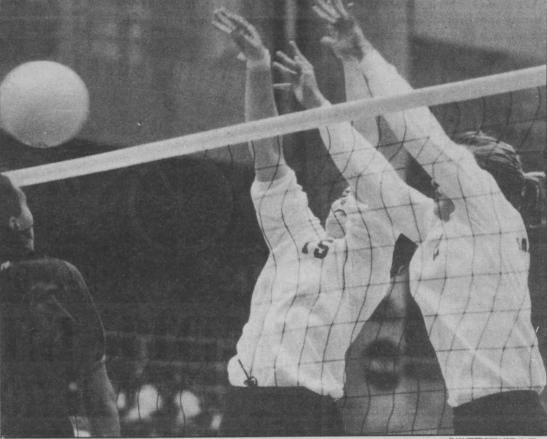
A lack of offensive production and many serious Gaucho mistakes were UCSB's downfall in game two. It was actually a close game until the end, when the Rainbow Wahine were able to exploit Santa Barbara's weaknesses to take the game 15-13.

Game three wasn't much of a contest for UH. With a series of errors by the Gaucho offense, Hawai'i's front line had little

"On Friday, we didn't play to our ability," said UCSB senior outside hitter Kim Keys. "We had a lot of things to work out after losing to UCLA on Tuesday. But [on Saturday] we adjusted to [Hawai'i] well. We played with them, and in reality, we could have won if we had made a few adjustments in the first and last games. Yes, they were supposed to win, but we scared them."

Santa Barbara came out hard a 7-2 lead, but the Rainbow Wahine pushed back to tie the score at 7-7. From that point on, the lead switched six times and ultimately it was Hawai'i's strong front line that took the game 18-16.

In game two, the Gauchos' tempo was off, which allowed UH to grab a healthy 12-4 lead.



GAUCHO WALL: Gaucho middle blocker Jennifer Kaylor (left) and outside hitter Erin McCown roof a Hawai'i hitter. Despite the block, UCSB lost both matches this weekend at home.

At that point, Gregory decided to pull out sophomore setter Maile Mortensen for freshman Meri-de Boyer. UCSB still lost the game 15-5, but Boyer's quicker play was what allowed Santa Barbara to take game

"I was nervous, but I wanted to do it for the seniors and I wanted to prove to myself [I could do it]," Boyer said. "I wanted to get the team back on track. They seemed so tense when I came in. I wanted to bring some fun back into the

Boyer managed to help put a smile back on the faces of the Santa Barbara players, winning game three 15-7. It marked the first game the Gauchos have won since taking a game against

the University of the Pacific last weekend. However, Hawai'i seemed to pick up on UCSB's game plan in the fourth game, leaping to a 14-5 lead.

At that point, Boyer served for five straight points, but the Rainbow Wahine's Jenny Wilton put the cap on the match with the sideout and game-winning kills.

"It was a shame that we had to try at a comeback so late in the game," Gregory commented. "We never gave up, but it was just too late."

For Hawai'i, Crawford led the attack with 16 kills at a .171 hitting percentage, while leading the defense as well with 19 digs. Middle blocker Angelica Ljungquist headed up the block with two solos and seven assists.

Keys paved the way for

UCSB's offense, pounding out 17 kills at a .220 percentage. Senior middle blocker Tammy Stiner led the block with three solos and three assists, while both she and freshman opposite Hilary Gunsaulus each added nine kills at a .240 percentage.

Santa Barbara freshman outside hitter Erin McCown had one of her strongest all-around performances, putting down 10 kills, while popping up 15 digs. Gaucho defensive specialist Tania Yamashita led the defense with 16 digs.

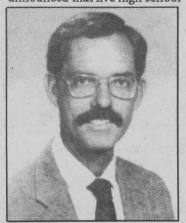
UCSB heads into action next on Thursday night on the road against the University of Reno-Nevada and on Saturday against New Mexico State.

Women's B-Ball Year Takes Off in T-Dome

■ Gauchos Sign Five High School Seniors to Fill Voids Left After '95-'96 Season is Over

By Brian Berger Staff Writer

Although the UCSB women's basketball team will not play its opening game until tonight at 7:30 against the Australian Perth Breakers, Head Coach Mark French and his assistants made huge steps in fortifying the program for years to come as UCSB announced that five high school



Mark French

2000 is Kristi Rohr. The 6'1" small forward from Santa Ynez High School averaged 24 points, 10 rebounds and 3.5 steals per game in her junior season. Rohr, who will be reunited with SYHS grad Erin Alexander, received First-Team All-State honors last season and was an honorable

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mention All-American for Street and Smith and USA Today publications.

"She is an incredible player that fits our style of play so perfectly," said UCSB Assistant Coach Cori Close. "She runs the floor so well, she gets along with our team so well, she's a great student — all those things make her a perfect Gaucho.'

Joining Rohr will be Carmel Lampson and Stacy Clinesmith, who were rated the #1 and #2 basketball players in the state of Washington by the Washington Basketball Bureau. Lampson poured in 16 ppg along with five assists, six boards and three steals per game at Kamiakan High School. The guard from Kennewick, Wash., was also the co-MVP of her conference. Clines-mith is a 5'5" point guard from Mead High School in Spokane, Wa., who was a First Team All-State selection.

Tawnée Cooper and Rachel Mahar round out the early re-cruiting class. Copper is a 5'9" off guard who attends Simi Valley High School. Last season, seniors have made commitments she claimed her second consecuto attend Santa Barbara next tive Ventura County scoring year. title. Mahar looks to add depth Heading the list of the class of to the Gaucho front line since the 6'3" center comes to UCSB from Terra Nova High School in Pacifica, Ca. While at Terra Nova, she was also track stand-out in the 400- and 800-meter events and averaged 16 ppg, along with eight rebounds and two blocks per contest.

"To get five of your six number



ERIN & CO.: UCSB guard Erin Alexander leads the Gauchos into action tonight at 7:30 in the Thunderdome against the Australian Perth Breakers to kick off the season.

one choices is a great year," Close said. "It's an awesome class, one of the best in the country, and we feel like it's the core group that could lead us to a national title."

Tonight, the current Santa Barbara squad will take to the court against Perth Australia in the Thunderdome in its first game of the season. French has all but one of his players return-

ing from last season's 17-9 team. Leading the Gaucho offense will be junior point guard Erin Alexander. Last season, she averaged 11 points and three assists per game. Anchoring the

UCSB front line will be 6'3" forward Amy Smith. The junior was Santa Barbara's only First Team All-Conference selection last year, tallying 15.4 points, seven rebounds and 2.4 steals per

Seniors Lauren Goldstine, Sasha Scardino, Kris Grazzini and Amy Hughlett also look to assist up front for the Gauchos. Kellie Cook will see time at both guard and forward positions and will be joined in the backcourt by fellow senior Dio Aguinaldo. Aguinaldo led the team in steals last season with 2.7 per game, while Cook is the squad's threepoint specialist. Last season, she set a UCSB single-season record of 47 three-point field goals, while leading the Big West at 40 percent shooting from behind

Although the game against Perth is only an exhibition, French is not taking the matchup lightly. "Everybody that is healthy will get a chance to play," he said. "If it is a close game down the stretch, we will probably finish with our veteran players because we always like





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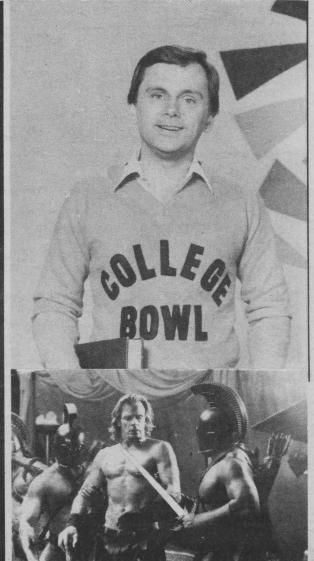
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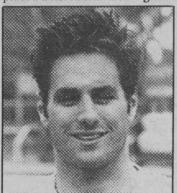
UCSB H20 Polo Takes LBSU

Gauchos Get Golden Game From Seniors in 10-7 Win

By Brian Berger Staff Writer

Just when things started looking very bleak for the #10 UCSB water polo program, the squad won an unexpected upset over #7 Long Beach State Saturday at Campus Pool, 10-7.

The game, which marked the last home matches for Gaucho seniors Adam Estabrook and Kevin Eggert, was a battle that included four lead changes and three ties. Santa Barbara (7-15 overall, 2-7 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation) claimed the first advantage as Eggert placed a shot behind 49er goalie



Kevin Eggert

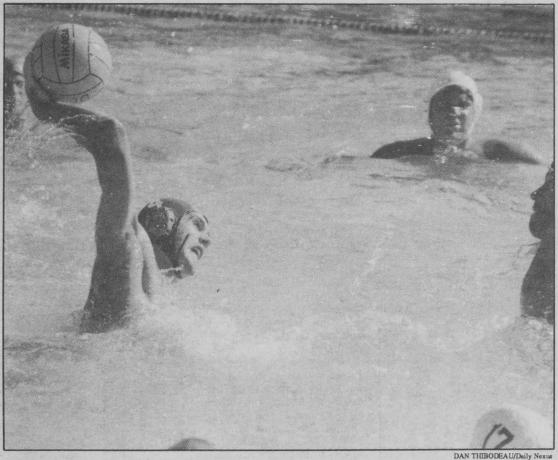
Adam Lee halfway through the first period. Jeff Rose helped rally Long Beach State (9-12, 3-6 in MPSF) back as he scored two goals and gave the Niners their first lead, 2-1.

"There was not one time that we thought we would lose the game," Eggert said. "We came in

knowing that we would win."
LBSU didn't lose pace in the second quarter as three different 49ers scored in the opening five minutes, giving the Beach a 5-2 lead. However, UCSB took over in the final minutes as it received goals from junior driver Tyler Rameson, Estabrook and Eggert to tie the score in the final 1:46 of the first half.

The Gaucho defense was able to control the Long Beach attack for the remainder of the game, holding the 49ers to only two second-half goals. Junior driver Brett McAllister and sophomore two-meter man Tom Norton each found the back of the LBSU net in the third period, putting Santa Barbara ahead for good in the match.

"We executed every phase of our game extremely well," said UCSB Head Coach Joe O'Brien. "We were much more patient on offense and our two-meter de-



POINT BLANK: Santa Barbara scored three goals from its two-meter players, Eric Scholten (2) and Tom Norton (1) in the win against Long Beach on Saturday.

fense was fabulous."

Sophomore two-meter man Eric Scholten scored the first of his two fourth-period goals 30 seconds into the quarter to help solidify the Santa Barbara advantage. Long Beach's Jeff Rose

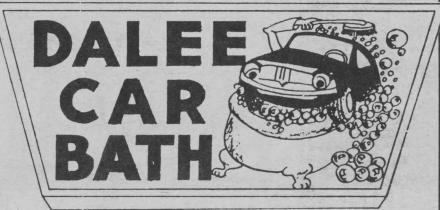
answered back with his fifth goal of the match a minute later, but it was too little too late. The Gauchos finished out the scoring as Estabrook and Scholten each scored their second goal of

With his three goals against Long Beach State, Eggert now has 60 goals on the year and 152 points in his four-year career, which is good enough to place him sixth on UCSB's all-time

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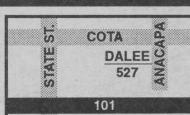


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