

SPORTS MONDAY

Daily Nexus

January 27, 1992

Page 1A

Gauchos Pass Gut Check at UCI

UCSB Ekes Out 61-59 Win; Waves in T-Dome Tonight

By Josh Elliott
Staff Writer

Down 54-44 with just over eight minutes remaining against the supposedly hapless UC Irvine Anteaters, the UCSB men's basketball team was a team in disarray. Playing its third game in five days, Santa Barbara had looked sluggish from the start, and now had dug itself quite a large hole. A last-ditch timeout by UCSB Head Coach Jerry Pimm became a final gut check for Santa Barbara, which had been missing its staple defensive intensity all night.

The rest of the way reinforced one thing UCSB has shown all season long: the Gauchos got good guts.

The breather worked wonders for the Gauchos psyche, as UCSB (12-4, 6-2) outscored UCI 17-5 down the stretch to shock the Anteaters, 61-59, before 3,326 in Irvine's Bren Events Center. It was a game the Anteaters should have won, but Pimm will take the road win, steal or no.

"There's no doubt (UCI) is a good team," he said in a postgame radio interview. "We did not play well, we did execute well, and they outplayed us for much of the game. But when we had to do it, we did — we hung in and made the spurt at the end.

BIG WEST STANDINGS

	W	L	Pct.
UNLV	9	0	1.000
New Mexico State	5	1	.833
UCSB	6	2	.750
Utah State	5	2	.714
Long Beach State	5	3	.625
Fresno State	2	4	.333
Cal State Fullerton	2	4	.333
Pacific	1	5	.167
San Jose State	0	6	.000
UC Irvine	0	8	.000

Saturday's Results

UCSB 61, UCI 59
CSUF 78, LBSU 77 (OT)
Utah St. 67, UOP 60
UNLV 74, NMSU 67

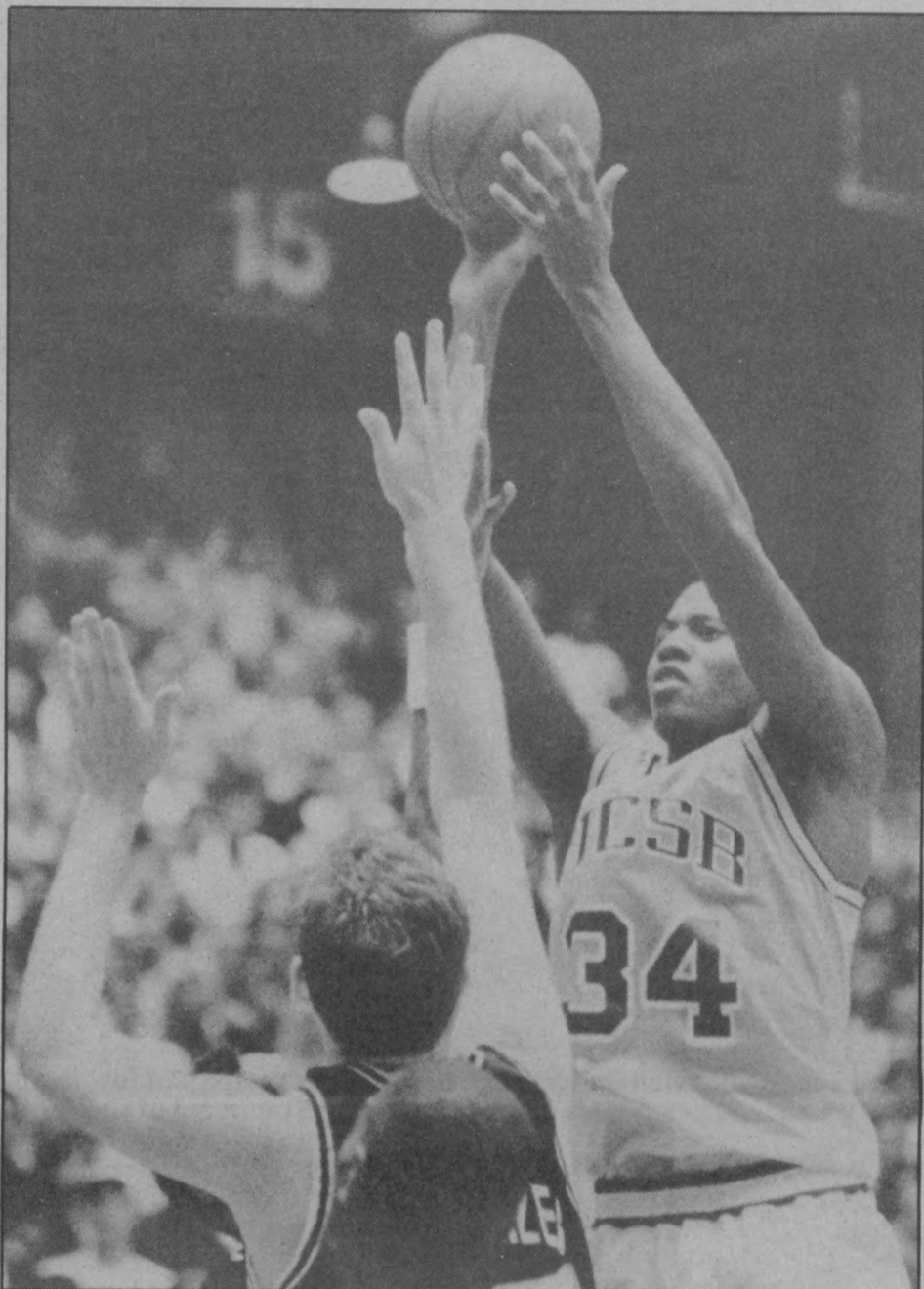
Monday's Games

Pepperdine at UCSB
SJSU at Fresno St.

We made the plays we had to (make) to win."

After Gerald McDonald (who led UCI with 17 points and four rebounds) scored on a layup and Pimm's ensuing timeout, the Gauchos seemed to pick it up a notch. Forward Lucius Davis' two free throws broke a UCSB five-minute scoreless streak, while Santa Barbara clamped down on the defensive end. Two more Davis free throws cut the lead to 54-49, and the Gauchos sensed the Anteaters (3-14, 0-8) begin-

See IRVINE, p.2A



GERRY MELENDEZ/Daily Nexus

MR. CLUTCH — Forward Lucius Davis scored nine points during a 17-5 Gauchos run, which closed out a come-from-behind 61-59 UCSB victory at UC Irvine Saturday night.

Weekend Tourney

Pepperdine Shakes up Spikers for Third Place

By Dan Thoene
Staff Writer

The UCSB men's volleyball team hosted the 28th annual UCSB/Bud Light Collegiate Invitational Volleyball Tournament Friday and Saturday, featuring a shootout of some of the best college teams in the country. The Gauchos finished fourth in the tournament, behind fifth-ranked Pepperdine, #12 BYU, and #2 UCLA.

Earlier in the tournament, Santa Barbara defeated last year's national champions, Long Beach State, in two straight games 15-11, 15-12.

"We played a very emotional-high game against Long Beach," UCSB Head Coach Ken Preston said. "You've got to give the team credit for playing well."

In the final-round match against Pepperdine for third place, however, the Gauchos didn't fair so well, losing 15-5, 11-15, 15-11, 15-3. Unfortunately, that was the only match that will count on Santa Barbara's overall record. Although the Gauchos were 6-2 overall for the tournament, their record for the season stands at 0-2.

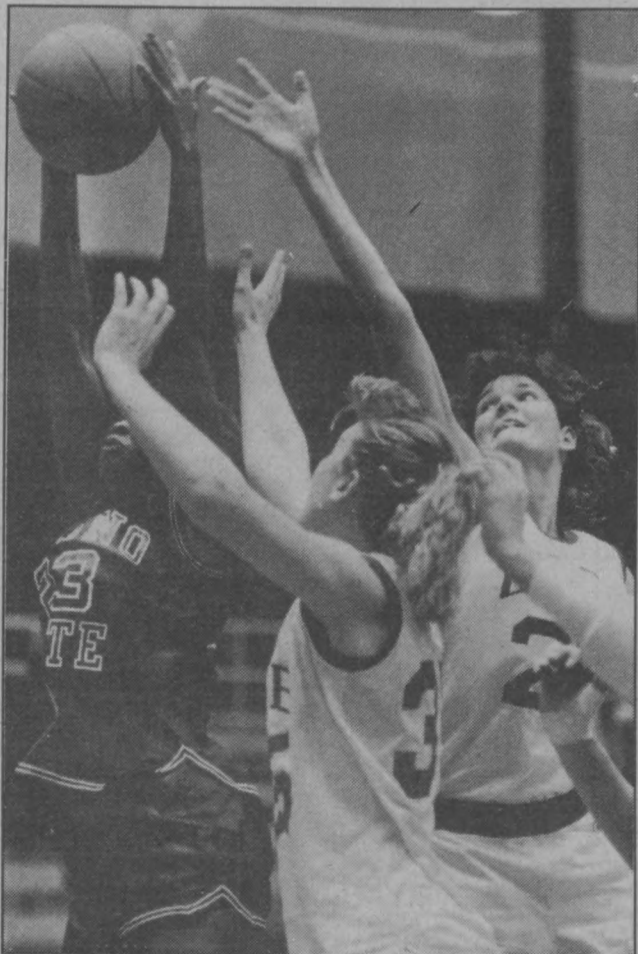
The Waves came out strong in the first game, serving the Gauchos off the court, en route to a quick 7-0 lead. Santa Barbara was never let back into the game, as Pepperdine tallied 25 kills at a .647 efficiency to roll over the Gauchos, 15-5.

The second game saw a whole new Gauchos team on the court, as they took a 10-3 lead behind some timely blocks by the 6'10" middle blocker, Jason Mount. Mount had six blocks in the match, as well as 13 kills. Santa Barbara

See BEACH, p.3A

See TOURNEY, p.3A

Ladies Record First-Ever Win Over LBSU, 84-77



GERRY MELENDEZ/Daily Nexus

The Lady Gauchos moved into a second-place tie with Long Beach St. in the Big West with their first-ever win over the 49ers, 84-77, Saturday night in Long Beach.

By Scott McPherson
Staff Writer

On paper, things looked grim for the UCSB women's basketball team heading into this weekend's Big West showdown in Long Beach. The reigning conference-champion 49ers were coming off back-to-back victories on the road over previously unbeaten Hawaii, were undefeated at home and in Big West play, and were 26-0 lifetime against the Lady Gauchos.

But then, basketball isn't played on paper.

In perhaps the biggest win in its history, the UCSB women's basketball team beat the 25th-ranked 49ers, 84-77, in a thrilling contest Saturday night at the Long Beach University Gymnasium.

The victory improves the Lady Gauchos' record to 12-3 on the season, but more importantly moves them into a second-place tie in the Big West with Long Beach St., as each post 5-1 conference records. The loss drops the 49ers to 11-4 on the season.

"We were pumped for this game," UCSB guard Lisa Crosskey said Saturday

night. "This feels good. This is the best win ever."

After trailing early 11-10, Santa Barbara was able to take the lead and keep it throughout the first half. Long Beach St. kept it close, though, as the teams went to halftime with the Lady Gauchos leading 39-34.

The second half saw that margin grow wider, with UCSB upping its lead to

eight with only nine minutes to go. But the game was far from over, as the 49ers trimmed their deficit to four, before running off eight consecutive points to go ahead, 72-68.

Just when it looked like UCSB might completely lose control of the game, Crosskey immediately sank

SPORTS SLATE

THE WEEK AHEAD (through Thursday)

SPORT	OPPONENT	DAY	TIME	SITE
M. Basketball	Pepperdine	Mon.	9:00	T-Dome
W. Tennis	USC	Tue.	1:30	USC
M. Tennis	USC	Wed.	1:30	USC
W. Basketball	NMSU	Thu.	7:30	ECen
Baseball	Westmont	Thu.	2 p.m.	Westmont

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 SANTA BARBARA

IRVINE

Continued from p.1A
 ning to slide, Pimm said.

"For most of the game, (UCI) played very hard, played aggressively, shot well, executed well," Pimm added. "But when we started our run, it seemed that, as teams that are accustomed to losing tend to do, they began to play to keep from losing, and we took advantage of that. We had those three consecutive stands on defense, and they took bad shots — those were game-winning defensive possessions."

A Mike Meyer jumper, a layup by Davis, and a free throw by freshman center Doug Muse brought the Gauchos to within 56-54, when Davis stepped up once again for Santa Barbara down the stretch.

His three-point play with just over two minutes remaining gave UCSB a 57-56 lead, and set up a crazy finish. A steal by Idris Jones with 1:20 remaining seemed to have the Gauchos in good position, but McDonald blocked Muse's shot, giving UCI the ball and a 58-57 lead. But in the ensuing hysteria over the block, Irvine committed a costly turnover when it did not get the ball past midcourt under the allowed 10 seconds. Two free throws by both Gaucho point guard Ray Kelly and Jones made it a 61-58 UCSB lead, and



GERRY MELENDEZ/Daily Nexus

Forward Mike Meyer, who scored four points in UCSB's 61-59 victory at UC Irvine Saturday night, will lead the Gauchos into today's 9 p.m. showdown with Pepperdine in the Thunderdome.

Pimm used another timeout to settle his team.

It didn't help. McDonald, despite intense pressure from the Gauchos on the perimeter, was able to get a three-point attempt off from the right corner. It fell short of the mark, but Kelly bailed him out with a three-shot foul, as Pimm fumed on the sidelines and considered a

very likely overtime period.

"Kelly has the bad habit of leaving his feet going for the block. He simply cannot do that," Pimm said. "I guess he can't help himself — we need more consistent play from Kelly."

But McDonald was not up to the task. He missed the first free throw, and after making the second, the in-

tentional miss and tip-in try by the Anteaters was for naught.

The Gauchos ended up shooting 52% from the field, while UCI was a respectable 49%. Jones had 13 points for the Gauchos, 11 in the first half, and three rebounds, while David Holloway added 12 points for UCI.

The Gauchos will put their four-game winning streak on the line Monday at 9 p.m. in the Thunderdome against Pepperdine on national television.

UCSB 61, UCI 59

UC SANTA BARBARA

	fg	fga	ft	fta	r	a	pts
Meyer	2	9	0	0	3	1	4
Davis	5	9	9	12	4	0	19
Robson	2	2	0	0	2	0	4
Stewart	1	2	1	2	1	0	3
Kelly	3	5	3	5	3	4	9
Jones	5	7	2	2	3	1	13
Muse	1	3	2	3	2	1	4
Jackson	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Barry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carter	1	2	1	2	1	0	3
Totals	21	40	18	26	23	9	61

UCI

	fg	fga	ft	fta	r	a	pts
Marshall	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
McDonald	6	11	3	7	4	1	17
May	0	0	0	0	3	3	0
Von Lut-zow	2	6	2	2	3	0	6
Rogers	4	7	1	3	5	0	9
Stewart	4	9	0	0	1	1	9
Holloway	3	5	5	6	1	1	12
Johnson	2	3	2	3	10	0	6
Totals	21	43	13	21	29	6	59

Halftime—UCI 37, UCSB 32.
 Three-point goals—UCSB 1-3 (Jones 1-2, Meyer 0-1), UCI 4-9 (McDonald 2-3, Stewart 1-2, Holloway 1-2, Von Lut-zow 0-2).
 Blocked shots—UCSB 2 (Meyer 2), UCI 3 (McDonald 2, Johnson).
 Steals—UCSB 5 (Davis 2), UCI 5 (McDonald 2).
 Technical fouls—None. Fouled out—Kelly.
 Team rebounds—UCSB 4, UCI 2. Turnovers—UCSB 13, UCI 18.
 Referees—Jim Stupin, Ron Labelch, Jerry Scott.
 Attendance—3,326

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Name: _____
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Josh: 155

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What's on Your Mind, Sports Fans?

So the heart of the ESPN season is upon us, and our own Thunderdome basketball crowds will again be broadcast across the nation to insomniac basketball junkies, blue-chip recruits, their doting mamas, and who knows, maybe a potential donor or two. (We need all the help we can get; check the state budget.)

I'm on the staff here, and for many years I've been coping with a serious Gaucho basketball dependency. It's been a rush to see what Pimm has wrought, the growth of the students' numbers, excitement, and sophistication. However, if I might make a few suggestions.

I want to believe that the student section can be even better. More interesting, more original, but still true to your crude lewd foundations. Make ESPN stop and think a while before they decide what's appropriate. For example:

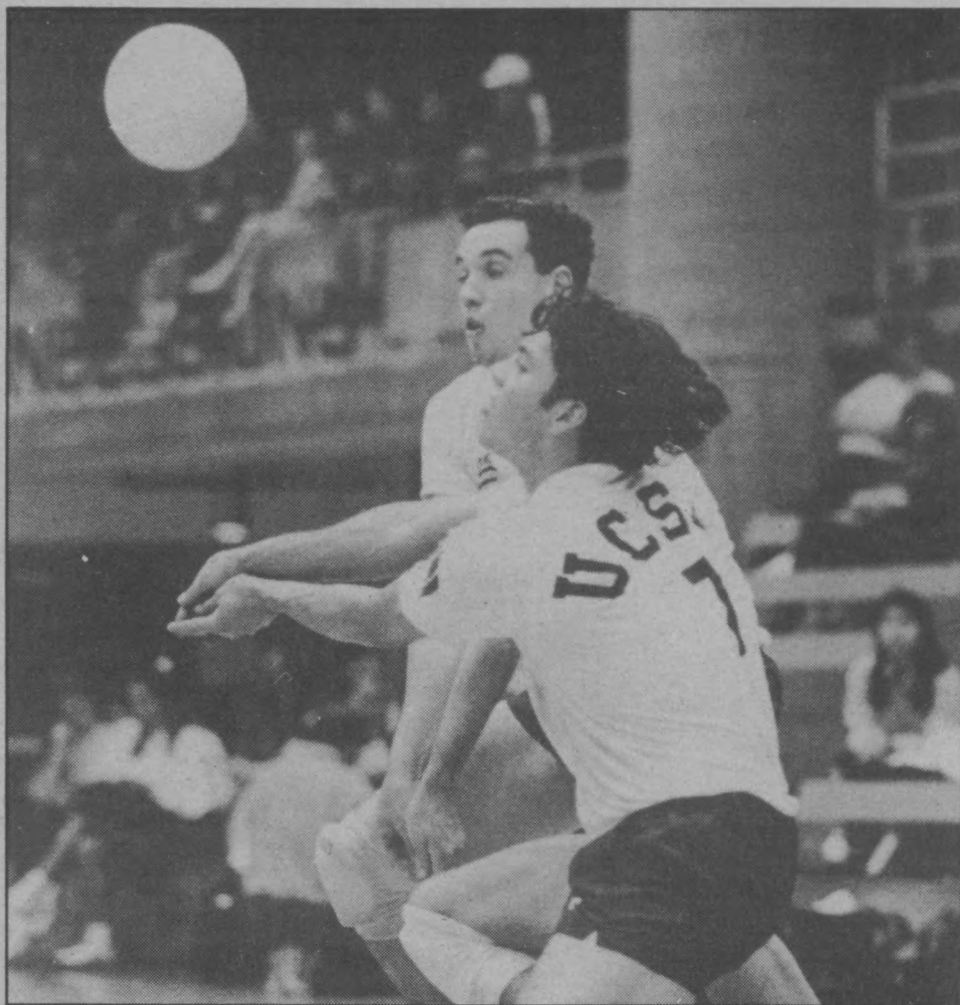
Chanting "Asshole" is not clever. Not funny, not original, not interesting. Not smart on any level. The recent mid-game switch to "A-hole" showed great grace under pressure, but can't we do even better? Now "Sphincter" is a fine word, and most of our sphincters are assholes. It's graphic, specific, and has a certain tang to it. ESPN would not need to mumble apologies to their viewers, but the asshole on the other team would get the idea. Well, some of them would, and maybe we can confuse the others.

The pre-game introductions. Once again, folks, can't we be a little more interesting or original than just orchestrated grade school name-calling? Our student crowd shows an admirable ability to pick out specific humiliating details during the game. Can't we do a little pre-game research and set the tone right at the beginning higher than "Eat Shit"? For some of our higher-profile opponents, it might be interesting to determine and announce the make and model of car each one drives, although this might make it hard to reschedule some of these teams.

Well, you get the general idea. All your stuff like "Go Home", "Boring", or "Who Cares" is a lot more entertaining to the nation than "(insert your name here) sucks".

So anyway, how about if we take it up a notch? Thanks for listening. I believe in you.

A Faceless Staffer



The UCSB men's volleyball team dropped a best-of-five match to Pepperdine, 15-5, 11-15, 15-11, 15-3, in the final round of the 28th annual UCSB/Bud Light Collegiate Invitational Volleyball Tournament.

DAVID ROSEN/Daily Nexus

TOURNEY

Continued from p.1A stopped a late comeback by the Waves to win the game 15-11 on a roof by middle blocker Rob Heidger.

"Once we start doing things right, we get a little confidence back, and we get into a groove and we go," Mount explained. "But when something small happens wrong, it just shakes us up, and makes us nervous."

The Gauchos were definitely shaken up in the remaining two games, as they fell behind 12-3 in the third game, and were unable to recover in losing 15-11. UCSB's kill percentage was simply too low to compete with the Waves, as the Gauchos attacked at a dismal .182 clip for the match, and a sickly -.032 in the final game, which they lost 15-3.

Although the Gauchos didn't play their best against Pepperdine, fourth place in the tournament was no easy task.

"I think we have to look at the positive aspects of the tournament," Preston explained. "We took two games from Long Beach, and had a shot at going to the finals. We still placed fourth, and there were a lot of good teams behind us."

BEACH

Continued from p.1A a three-pointer to bring the Lady Gauchos back to within one. Two minutes later it was Crosskey again, as the senior posted a five-point run of her own to put the Lady Gauchos up for good, 75-74.

"We knew Long Beach

would come back," UCSB Head Coach Mark French said after the game. "I was real proud that we withstood the run and knocked down the shots and made our free throws when we had to. It was a great win for us."

Crosskey — just back in the lineup after two weeks of academic ineligibility —

led UCSB with 24 points, while playing a strong defensive game which included four steals. Forward Erika Kienast led the Lady Gauchos with 11 rebounds, while pouring in 16 points. Forward Barbara Beainy scored 19 points, while guard Cori Close added 15 in the winning effort.

By defeating the 49ers in their own gym, the Lady

Gauchos are hopeful they have sent a message to the rest of the Big West that they are serious contenders for the conference title.

"That was our main goal for this season," Beainy said of the team's quest for a league crown. "Our hopes were high before this game, and now they're even higher."

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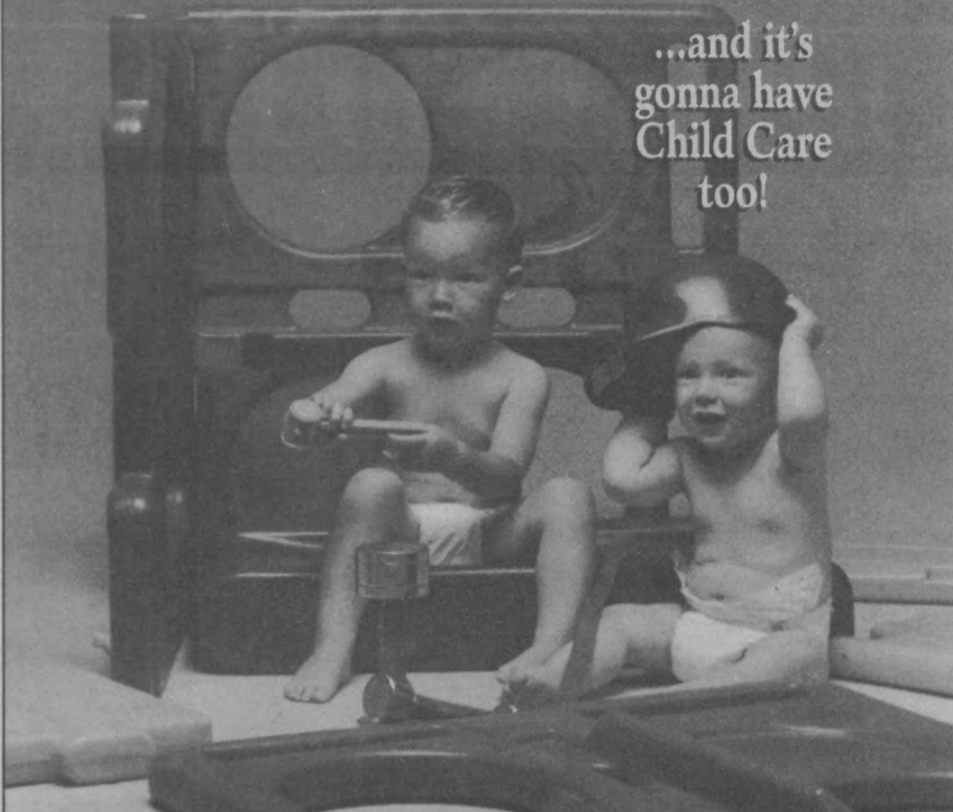
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