

SPORTS MONDAY

Daily Nexus

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Close Leads Women Over the Rainbows

Senior's 24 Points, Free Throws Key SB's 64-60 Win vs. Hawaii

By Jason Masini
Staff Writer

When the women's basketball teams of UCSB and the University of Hawaii meet up, the game always seems to come down to the wire; when the teams faced off Sunday at the Events Center, the afternoon game was no exception.

The Gauchos (4-6 overall, 3-0 in the Big West) were able to extend their winning streak to four after squeaking out a hard-fought 64-60 victory over the Rainbow-Wahines. For Hawaii (9-3 overall) the loss was its first in the conference after going 3-0 in league play.

Senior Cori Close was one of the main reasons the Gauchos were able to prevail yesterday, as the UCSB point guard scored a game-high 24 points on the day, including two clutch free throws with :07 left to seal the win.

"This morning, [assistant coach] Tony Noonan stood behind me and said that if I missed a free throw, my shorts were going down," Close said of UCSB's Sunday morning practice. "I made 20 in a row with him standing right behind me.

"There's really no pressure there," added Close of the free throw line, where she shot a perfect 6-for-6 Sunday. "You've just got to do what you do every day in practice."

There were eight ties and eight lead changes in the game overall, and neither team had a lead of larger than five points at any time. UCSB Head Coach Mark French indicated that he had expected such a close contest heading into the game.

"Our offenses are very similar in terms of on-ball screens from the points and the motion offenses," French said. "We kind of billed this match up all week as [Hawaii's Melanie] Azama versus Cori, and it was going to come down to which of those point guards was going to get the better of things. I think Cori rose to that challenge very well."

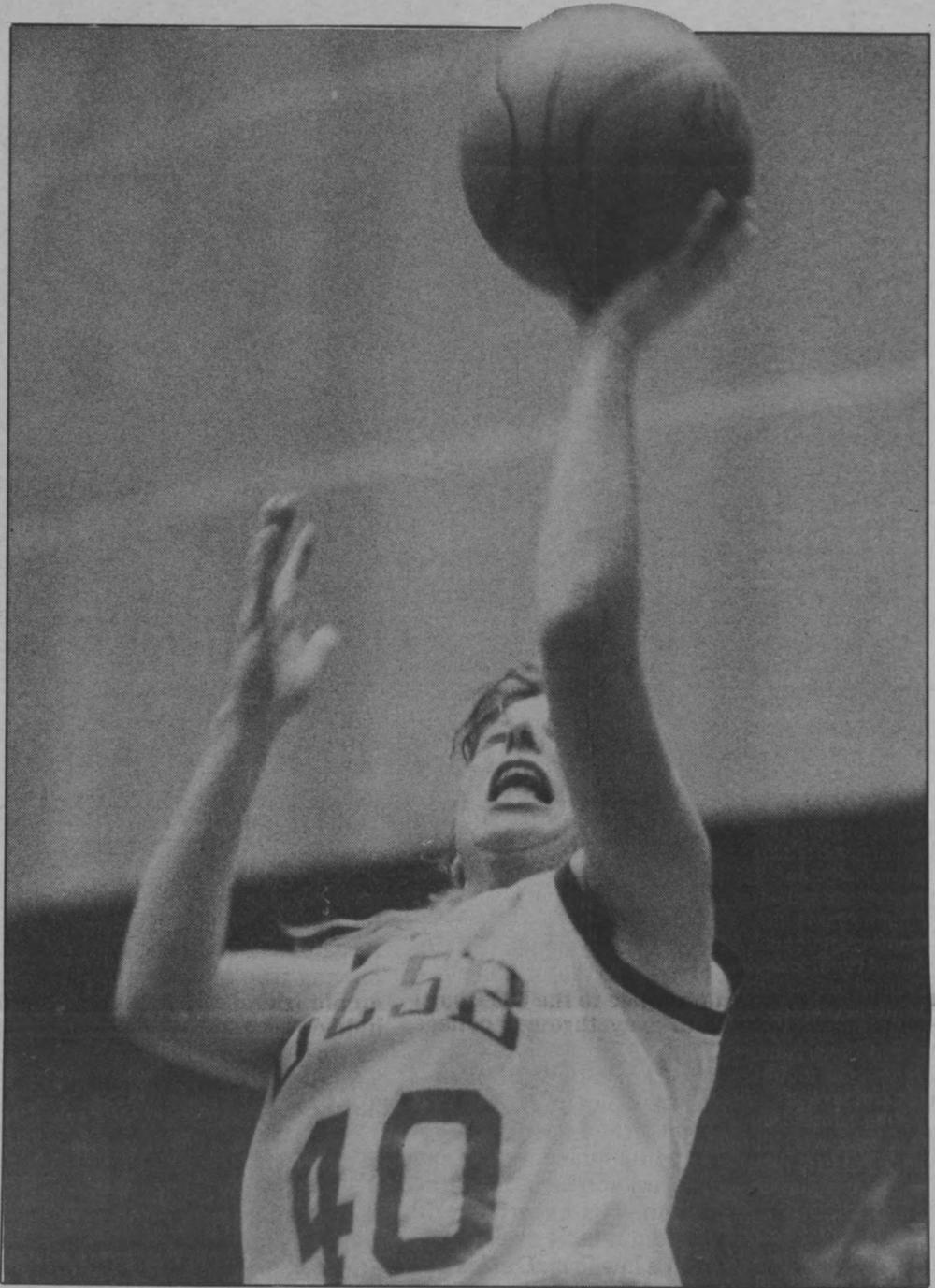
Santa Barbara might not have been able to stay in the game early in the first half were it not for the hot outside shooting of sophomore Anna McConnell. With the Wahines ahead 12-8, McConnell nailed four jumpers from the 15-foot range in a three minute span, the last one cutting Hawaii's lead to 19-18. The teams then traded baskets all the way to halftime, with the Rainbows leading 30-29 at the break.

As play resumed, UCSB took a 31-30 lead on a Becky Brown lay-in, a lead the Gauchos would hold for the next 10 minutes of play. It didn't stand, however, as Hawaii's Alison Golnick connected on an 18-foot jump shot to give Hawaii a 49-48 lead with 9:20 to go.

The Wahines held the lead until freshman Sasha Scardino's leaning 5-footer put UCSB ahead to stay with 5:27 to go. The Gauchos did get a scare late when junior forward Christa Gannon fouled out with 4:10 to go, but Close then took over for the rest of the game, scoring eight of Santa Barbara's last 10 points.

"[UCSB's] a very good team, well-disciplined," Hawaii Head Coach Vince Goo said. "At halftime, we knew they'd come back and play hard. I think we should play better than that, but they outplayed us, out-rebounded us, got the loose balls, played better defense, better free throw shooting, everything. That's the type of team they're

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GERRY MELENDEZ/Daily Nexus

CLOSE TO THE TOP: Senior point guard Cori Close tallied 24 points and seven assists for the Gauchos against Hawaii yesterday, and shot a perfect six-for-six from the free throw line.

Busy Swimmers, Divers Roll to Victories During Weekend

UCSB Squads Dominate in Wins vs. Lafayette, UCSD

By Michelle Imperial
Reporter

The UCSB men's and women's swimming and diving teams are no strangers to busy schedules.

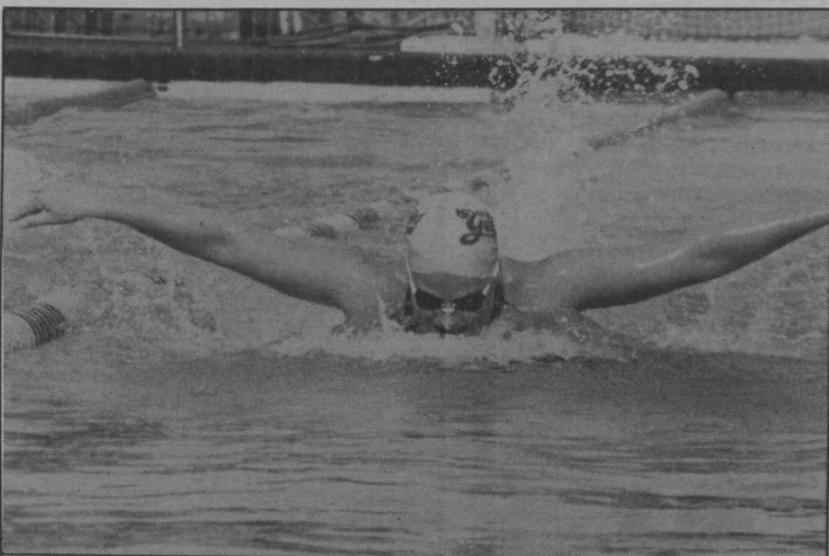
The diving team competed during each day of the weekend, hosting Lafayette (Penn.) College on Friday and then traveling south for the UC Irvine Invitational Saturday. Meanwhile, after hosting a pair of meets last week, UCSB's swimming squads defeated both Lafayette and UCSD during the weekend.

The Gaucho swimmers and divers were

expecting to prevail over their weekend opponents, and UCSB was able to put away Lafayette and UCSD with relative ease, taking first place in every event. The women blew away both teams with a meet score of 157-41, and the men trounced on Lafayette 169-69.

"The two programs that came here are coming off of an intense schedule and weren't concerned with the score," UCSB Head Coach Gregg Wilson said. "They came to Santa Barbara knowing they were going up against a team that was deeper and faster so their primary con-

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ANDREY KUZYK/Daily Nexus

'FLYING DOWN THE POOL: UCSB freshman Tim Gair took first place in the 100-yard butterfly in Saturday's dual meet, finishing with a time of 53.45.

Russell Adds Another Young Talent to UCSB Women's Tennis Program

UCSB women's tennis head coach Chris Russell, who is in the midst of building what is possibly his most talented team to date, added another piece to the puzzle of the Gauchos' future recently.

Russell successfully recruited the #2 player in Northern California's 18 and under division, as highly touted prep player Naneeah Piccuta has signed a letter of intent to attend UCSB next

year. Piccuta will join a 1993-94 squad that will consist of three sophomores, seven juniors and only one senior.

"She is a very spirited and explosive player, who is definitely going to help our program break into the top-20 in the nation," Russell said of Piccuta.

While top schools such as San Diego State and UC Berkeley also recruited the 18-year old Monterey native, Piccuta indi-

cated that she chose Santa Barbara because of its warm climate and friendly atmosphere, which remind her of her hometown.

"UCSB is where I really want to go, and I know my hard work that I put forth in tennis will help me work hard in my academic interests of psychology and environmental studies," Piccuta said.

Russell added that he was impressed with Piccuta's interest in

being part of building a top-20 program.

"This is the deepest and youngest amount of talent I've seen and Naneeah coming in next year will only deepen and strengthen us further," Russell said. "Our talent—added with a strong work ethic and desire to excel—will be a powerful force for our opponents to deal with."

Piccuta indicated that she hopes to compete in singles play,

help motivate the team and push UCSB's squad to its potential.

"Chris Russell is a big part of why I chose Santa Barbara, because he is the kind of coach that helps win championships and motivates his players in positive ways," Piccuta said. "Also, how can you beat UCSB's campus, with the outgoing people and the beach?"

—Michael Cadilli

MEETS

Continued from p.1A
cern was quality swims
and competition."

UCSB and Lafayette had never met each other in competition prior to this weekend, but because Wilson and Lafayette Head Coach Mike Recine have been longtime friends, the matchup was arranged. The two coaches put on a training camp together over the summer months and have anticipated the meeting of their two teams in season competition.

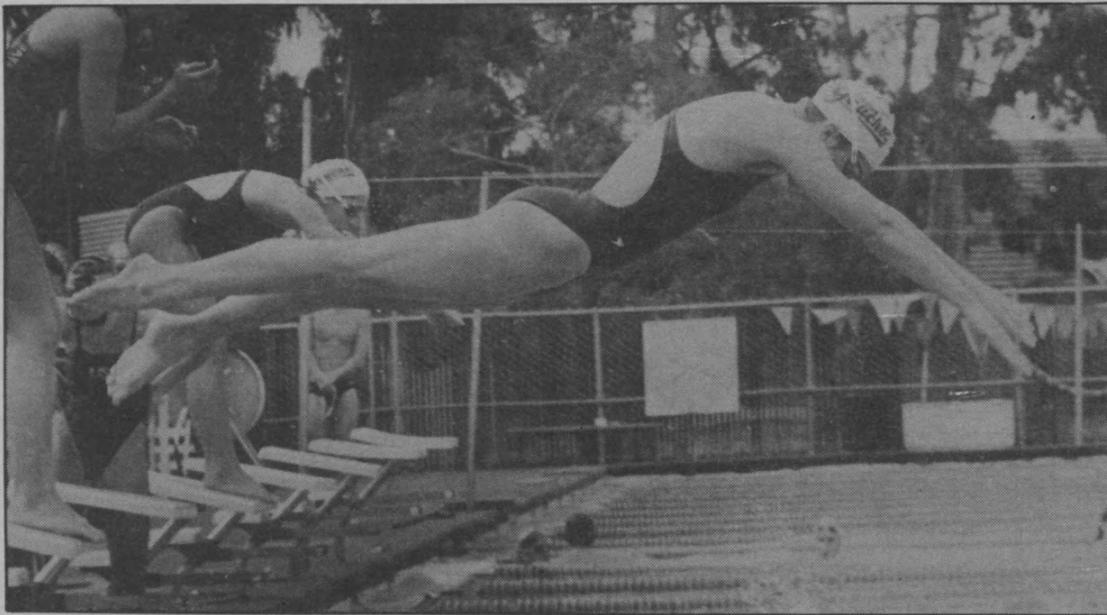
"It's great to finally be matched up with Coach Wilson because we talked about competing a year or so ago," Recine said. "It was nice to finally get it together and come to Santa Barbara. We like it in Santa Barbara, it's a nice change for us."

The Men

The Santa Barbara men swam in off events and still proved to be the dominant force in the dual meet. UCSB junior Bill Sweeney swam in the 500-yard freestyle for the first time and placed first with a time of 4:52.18, while freshman Tim Gair won the 100-yard butterfly in 53.45 seconds.

"The 100 fly was a pretty good swim for me," Gair said. "My time was the fastest I wanted to swim, so it was a good race."

UCSB's Kevin Hoffman came two seconds shy of his season best in the



ANDREY KUZUYK/Daily Nexus

TAKING THE LEAP: The UCSB women won Saturday's three-way meet by a combined score of 157-41.

100-yard backstroke (52.65 seconds) and freshman Ted Poser placed first in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22.26 seconds.

"I'm feeling good and happy that I'm getting consistent," Hoffman said. "Things are definitely progressing."

UCSB team captain Derigan Silver led the Gauchos with first place finishes in both the 100 and 200-yard freestyle events. In the 200-yard freestyle, Silver was just seconds shy of his all time season best with a time of 1:44.47.

"I was hoping that my 200 freestyle would be a little bit faster," Silver said. "I wanted to go season

best but I was happy with the way the race turned out."

The Women

The Lady Gauchos also controlled the meet with first place finishes in all events. The UCSB squad was up against both the women of UCSD and Lafayette, and won without much effort.

"We weren't expecting a lot from Lafayette and UC San Diego," UCSB swimmer Meredith McLain said. "Everyone was a little low-key in this meet and we didn't all swim in our best events."

Switching events didn't hinder the performances of the Santa Barbara women, as UCSB junior Ste-

phanie Raymond and freshman Kelly Bauer swam their season bests. Raymond topped her time in the 200-yard backstroke (2:11.53), while Bauer posted a best with a time of 2:31.09 in the 200-yard breast stroke.

"I thought I did well considering the weather conditions weren't ideal and the meet was basically a low-pressure meet," Raymond said.

Other Gaucho standouts included sophomore Stacy St. Martin, who won the 1,000-yard freestyle in 10:24.16, and freshman Ashley Cusato, who placed first in the 500-yard freestyle (5:14.67) and second in the 1,000-yard freestyle with a time of

10:45.19.

"I saw some real good performances from the women and I think we have achieved what I wanted out of the meets against these teams today," Wilson said.

Diving

Meanwhile, the Santa Barbara diving team also cruised to victory over Lafayette, as the Gaucho squad posted victories in both the 1-meter and 3-meter diving competition.

On the men's side, UCSB junior Ted Moore won on the 1-meter low board, with sophomore Rick Alter taking second place. In the 3-meter high board, freshman Toby Reclusado placed first. For

the women, Santa Barbara junior Erin Evans took top honors in both the 1-meter and 3-meter boards.

"We are really looking strong and the performances we got from the team really helped to get us ready for the Invitational in Irvine," UCSB diving coach Mike Lewis said.

In the two-day invitational, the Santa Barbara squad went up against teams such as UC Davis, Colorado State and Northern Arizona. The Gauchos took two first place finishes and placed third in two diving events.

Evans took first in the 1-meter low board for the UCSB women, while Reclusado also won on the low board for the Santa Barbara men. UCSB freshman Shannon Brown took third in the 1-meter competition and Moore placed third in the 3-meter.

"We had some good competition and I was happy with our teams' diving performances," Lewis said. "It was raining throughout the weekend and sometimes, psychologically, it can be tough."

Despite the strong performances over the past week, the Santa Barbara squads are looking ahead to their biggest dual meet of the season when they travel to UNLV next week.

"These recent meets were good preparations for us, but we are really going to have to focus in for UNLV," Wilson said. "They are an excellent dual meet team and are going to be tough to beat away."



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Coming Tuesday



ANNA LOOKS FOR DAYLIGHT: Sophomore guard Anna McConnell scored eight points in the first half.

HAWAII: Two Teams Will Play Again Tonight

Continued from p.1A going to have every single year as long as Mark French is coaching.

"We didn't play our best tonight and this is the first time I've seen Santa Barbara play, so I don't know if that was their best," Goo added. "But we're going to be back tomorrow night and play awfully hard. We'll play better."

The two rivals will lace up the sneakers once again tonight, with the rematch coming at 7:30 in the Events Center. After handing the Rainbow-Wahines their first conference loss, French expected that his team will face a more determined Hawaii squad tonight.

"We've got a young team, and they're going wild in there," French said after emerging from his squad's locker room.

Former Gaucho Honored

Before Sunday's UCSB women's basketball game against Hawaii, one of the members of last year's Gaucho team that went 27-5 into the NCAA Tournament was honored as the 1992 NCAA Woman of the Year at Santa Barbara.

Recent UCSB graduate Susie Matthews was given the award for her outstanding achievement on the court, in the classroom and work in the community.

"I'm really honored to receive the award because I was much more of a well-rounded player than a star," Matthews said. "So it was nice to get rewarded for my accomplishments. I had some really great teammates and I feel blessed to be able to have been a part of that."

Matthews now attends graduate school at Northern Arizona University, where she is working for her master's in physical therapy.

—Jason Masini

Gauchos 64, HAWAII 60

University of Hawaii											
min	fg	at	ft	fta	r	a	tp				
Wakita	33	3	8	0	0	5	2	6			
Davis	14	1	1	0	3	4	0	2			
Golnick	37	5	13	2	4	6	0	12			
Azama	37	4	8	0	0	4	4	9			
Shimoneck	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Bull	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0			
Agee	36	7	16	0	0	5	4	15			
Hurt	14	5	11	4	4	11	3	14			
Totals	200	26	59	6	11	36	13	60			
UCSB											
min	fg	at	ft	fta	r	a	tp				
Gannon	22	4	4	0	0	4	1	8			
Goldstine	27	1	13	0	1	5	2	2			
Brown	27	4	7	1	2	13	1	9			
McConnell	28	4	9	0	0	3	4	8			
Close	38	9	17	6	6	2	7	24			
Aguiñaldo	8	2	6	0	0	0	0	4			
Scardino	19	2	4	0	0	3	0	4			
Grazzini	11	1	2	1	2	4	0	3			
Hughlett	20	1	4	0	0	4	1	2			
Totals	200	26	66	8	11	40	16	64			

Halftime—Hawaii 30, Gauchos 29.
Three-point goals—Hawaii 2-6 (Agee 1-2, Azama 1-4), UCSB 0-1 (Close 0-1).
Blocked shots—Hawaii 6 (Azama 2, Hurt, Wakita, Bull, Agee), UCSB 4 (Grazzini 2, Brown 2).
Steals—Hawaii 7 (Hurt 2, Golnick 2, Wakita, Bull, Agee), UCSB 12 (Brown 4, Close 3, Aguiñaldo, Gannon, Hughlett, McConnell, Goldstine).
Total fouls—Hawaii 16, UCSB 13. Fouled out—Gannon (UCSB). Technical fouls—None.
Turnovers—Hawaii 20, UCSB 16. Team rebounds—Hawaii 1, UCSB 2.
Attendance—258.

"Meanwhile, in Hawaii's locker room, there's a serious talk going on. We need to come out ready to play a Hawaii team that probably going to play with much

more intensity. We have to keep our emotions even." "Last year in Hawaii, [the Rainbow-Wahines] came out and dealt us a loss the first night, and

they were riding that high and we came out and trounced them the second night," Close added. "We really need to protect ourselves from that."

Gaucho Men's Basketball Statistics: (Includes 10 games)

Player	G/GS	FG/FGA	FG%	3FG/ATT	FT/FTA	FT%	PTS	PPG	ORB	REB	RPG	PF/D	AST	TO	BLK	STL	MIN
Idris Jones	8/ 8	38/ 76	.500	12/ 33	11/ 15	.733	99	12.4	6	29	3.6	14/ 0	14	12	1	12	205
Ray Kelly	10/ 10	41/ 76	.540	1/ 9	20/ 28	.714	103	10.3	3	24	2.4	25/ 0	58	27	1	14	297
Paul Johnson	10/ 10	26/ 51	.510	0/ 2	43/ 55	.782	95	9.5	9	37	3.7	19/ 1	12	9	2	7	238
Michael Meyer	10/ 10	32/ 67	.478	6/ 11	17/ 26	.654	87	8.7	9	37	3.7	9/ 0	25	15	4	3	293
Duane Carter	10/ 0	28/ 49	.571	0/ 0	23/ 33	.697	79	7.9	16	40	4.0	15/ 0	3	13	8	2	193
Doug Muse	10/ 10	25/ 46	.544	0/ 0	16/ 30	.533	66	6.6	10	34	3.4	25/ 2	4	11	3	6	194
Chris Ford	10/ 2	25/ 54	.463	5/ 18	4/ 7	.571	59	5.9	2	21	2.1	15/ 0	8	9	0	1	153
Kyle Milling	10/ 0	13/ 24	.542	0/ 0	14/ 21	.667	40	4.0	6	25	2.5	13/ 0	1	12	1	2	137
Mark Flick	2/ 0	2/ 2	1.000	2/ 2	0/ 0	.000	6	3.0	0	0	0.0	0/ 0	2	1	0	1	8
Millard Baker	6/ 0	4/ 5	.800	0/ 0	5/ 8	.625	13	2.2	0	2	0.3	7/ 0	0	1	2	1	28
J.J. Polk	10/ 0	7/ 13	.539	1/ 4	2/ 4	.500	17	1.7	1	14	1.4	6/ 0	15	12	1	2	113
Phillip Turner	6/ 0	2/ 5	.400	0/ 0	1/ 2	.500	5	0.8	0	0	0.0	3/ 0	5	0	0	1	54
Bill Barry	10/ 0	2/ 9	.222	0/ 2	4/ 6	.667	8	0.8	7	18	1.8	9/ 0	3	8	0	0	85
Bill Martineau	1/ 0	0/ 0	.000	0/ 0	0/ 0	.000	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0/ 0	0	0	0	0	2
Team Rebounds	29																

TOTALS	245/ 477	514	27/ 81	160/ 235	.681	677	87.7	69	310	31.0	160/ 3	150	130	23	52	
OPPONENT TOTALS	209/ 524	399	36/ 122	103/ 155	.665	557	55.7	108	312	31.2	206/ 4	110	165	19	54	

Key - G: games played; GS: games started; FG: field goals; FGA: field goals attempted; FG%: field goal percentage; 3FG: three-point field goals; ATT: three-point attempts; FT: free throws; FTA: free throw attempts; FT%: free throw percentage; PPG: points per game; ORB: offensive rebounds; REB: total rebounds; RPG: rebounds per game; PF: personal fouls; D: disqualifications; AST: assists; TO: turnovers; BLK: blocked shots; STL: steals; MIN: minutes played

BIG WEST STANDINGS

Women's Basketball	conference record	overall record	Men's Basketball	conference record	overall record
UCSB	3-0	4-6	Long Beach St.	2-1	9-1
Pacific	2-0	9-1	UNLV	2-1	6-1
UNLV	2-0	8-1	New Mexico St.	2-1	9-4
Hawaii	3-1	9-3	Pacific	2-1	6-5
Long Beach St.	2-1	3-7	Utah St.	2-1	5-5
San Jose St.	1-1	2-8	Cal St. Fullerton	2-2	7-4
Nevada	1-3	5-6	UCSB	1-1	8-2
New Mexico St.	0-2	0-6	Nevada	1-2	6-4
Cal St. Fullerton	0-3	2-7	San Jose St.	0-3	3-8
UC Irvine	0-3	1-9	UC Irvine	0-3	2-9

Upcoming Big West Games:
Monday, Jan. 11:
UCSB vs. Hawaii, 7:30
New Mexico St. at Cal St. Fullerton
Long Beach St. at Nevada
UNLV at UC Irvine
Wednesday, Jan. 13:
Hawaii at Long Beach St.
Thursday, Jan. 14
UCSB at Utah St., 6:30
San Jose St. at New Mexico St.
Pacific at UNLV
Long Beach St. at Nevada

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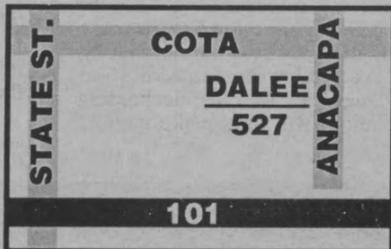
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