

Bennett still putting his big arm to good use

Aggie water polo star has turned himself into a pitcher for the UCD baseball team

By **Conor Tekautz**
ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

UC Davis men's water polo Steve Doten saw the potential in Adam Bennett before anyone else.

Doten, who recruited Bennett and coached him for five years, mentioned to baseball coach Rex Peters that Doten had a player he thought had the talent to be a pitcher.

"Adam has the hardest shot of any player I've coached at UC Davis," the eighth-year water polo coach said. "He could shoot with his wrists the same way that you throw a baseball. I just mentioned Adam's name to Rex, but I didn't know how it would work out with Adam being a fifth-year senior and only being able to play for one year."

Bennett led the water polo team in

scoring as a senior and was second in his junior campaign. But as his senior season wound down, he realized he was going to have a lot of extra free time.

As somebody who has played sports his entire life, Bennett needed something to occupy his time.

So he talked to former Aggie pitcher Eddie Gamboa and catcher Jake Jefferies, as well as former Cal Poly hurler Thomas Eager — all four grew up and played baseball together in Merced — and asked if they would help him walk on to the UCD baseball team.

"I've been an athlete for pretty much my whole life and wanted something to fill the 20 hours per week where I didn't have water polo

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FRED GLADDIS/ENTERPRISE FILE PHOTO

UCD pitcher Adam Bennett flips the ball to first after fielding a comebacker in a game last month against Sac State. Bennett is one of the Aggies' leaders in appearances after a stellar four-year career on the UCD water polo team.

Poly handles UCD baseball

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SAN LUIS OBISPO — After a heartbreaking loss to Cal Poly on Friday, the UC Davis baseball team found itself on the losing end of an 8-4 score on Saturday.

The 15th-ranked Mustangs scored four runs in the fourth inning to break open a one-run game and then went on to defeat the Aggies in front of 1,712 fans at Baggett Stadium. The win gives Cal Poly, an 11-10 winner in Friday's 10-inning opener, a series victory.

Mustangs 8, Aggies 4

Next game:
Today at Cal Poly, 1 p.m.

The Aggies fall to 6-27 overall and 1-6 in conference, while the Mustangs are now 25-9 and 7-4. Four of the Cal Poly's eight runs were unearned.

Junior Tim Busbin pitched the final 3 1/3 innings for UCD and helped keep his team in the game by allowing only one run on one hit and striking out two. Mustang starter Matt Leonard allowed three runs on four hits in the win. Sophomore Scott Chew got the loss.

On the offensive side, eight different Aggies had one hit in the game. Leading that pack was sophomore Scott Heylman, who hit a two-run double in the second inning. Sophomore Justin Schafer and senior Ryan Scoma both singled and drove home runs to improve their consecutive-game hitting streaks to eight.

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Aggies split a doubleheader

UCD wins slugfest, then loses pitcher's duel to Riverside

ENTERPRISE STAFF

RIVERSIDE — On a day that featured decisively contrasting games, UC Davis and UC Riverside split a Big West Conference softball doubleheader at Harrison Field. The Aggies belted three home runs on their way to a 10-5 victory in the first game, before a pitching duel resulted in a 1-0 win for the Highlanders in Game 2.

Bianca Castillo, Mariussa Araujo and Kelly Harman hit the homers for UCD (21-20, 5-6), while Erin Emde went 5-for-6 on the day.

The Aggies put three runs on the board in the second inning of the first game, as Castillo and Jessica Gonzalez set the table with singles to lead off the frame. With the bases loaded, Gonzalez scored on a wild pitch

to make it 1-0, then Emde followed with a two-run single to give UCD a 3-0 lead.

UCR (16-24, 5-6) came back with three unearned runs in the third to tie the game. In the fourth, Castillo launched a one-out solo homer to left-center to give the Aggies a 4-3 lead, but the Highlanders countered in the bottom of the inning with a lead-off homer by Kameryn Heberton to tie the game again.

In the top of the fifth, the Aggies took advantage of the long ball to take the lead for good. Emde led off with a single and pinch runner Caitlin Low advanced to second on a sacrifice by Sarah Axelson. After Harman was hit by a pitch, Araujo drilled a three-run shot to center and UCD was on top, 7-4.

UCR made it 7-5 in the sixth, before the Aggies put up another three-spot in the seventh. Emde and Axelson started the inning with walks, and Harman belted a three-run homer to make it 10-5. It was the

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DHS runner Corey Coates celebrates after he and teammates Matt Petersen, Drew Petersen and Brian Soto broke a school record in the 4x800 meter relay on Friday at the Woody Wilson High School Classic at UC Davis. Their time of 8:00.40 bettered a mark set in 1973.

WAYNE TILCOCK/ENTERPRISE PHOTO

Perfect day for a run

Blue Devil quartet breaks a 36-year-old school record

ENTERPRISE STAFF

Since the much-maligned facilities at Davis High School serve as the Blue Devils' home for track and field, the Woody Wilson High School Classic is a special meet for the DHS track team. With the event held at

UC Davis on Friday, the Devils served as unofficial hosts, but also got a chance to run, jump and throw on better facilities than the DHS track provides.

With their teammates and friends volunteering, their coach Spencer Elliott serving

as meet director and the meet just miles from their own beds, it was an opportunity for the Blue Devils to really shine. And they took full advantage.

"It is always a lot of fun to go out and compete in the Woody Wilson because it is in our backyard," Elliott said. "The kids always compete with a lot of pride at that meet."

The perfect weather added another element conducive to success and the boys 4x800

meter relay team had such a good time that they decided to break a 36-year-old school record. Brothers Matt and Drew Petersen teamed with Brian Soto, and the group was anchored by Corey Coates' blistering split of 1:54.70 to finishing in 8:00.40. The time broke the meet record by four seconds and shattered the DHS mark by five seconds.

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Oakland falls to Blue Jays in the 12th

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORONTO — In a battle of bullpens, the Oakland Athletics' relievers broke first.

Lyle Overbay hit a two-out, two-run homer off Dan Giese in the 12th inning, giving the Toronto Blue Jays a 4-2 win over Oakland on Saturday.

Five Toronto relievers combined to work 6 2/3 scoreless innings, giving up only a single, and the Blue Jays beat Oakland for the seventh time in eight games.

Oakland's relief corps was almost as good, allowing only two hits, including Overbay's homer, in 6 1/3 innings.

"Both bullpens did a great job, they just

got the big hit," Oakland manager Bob Geren said. "We only had five (hits) for the day. Five in 12 innings is not going to win too many games."

After a two-out walk to Jose Bautista, Overbay smacked a 1-0 fastball to center off Giese (0-1), who was called up from Triple-A earlier in the day.

"I was just looking for something up in the zone that I could drive," Overbay said. Claimed on waivers from the New York Yankees earlier this month, Giese was called up from the River Cats to replace struggling left-hander Jerry Blevins.

"Obviously you'd like to get off to a little better start than I did today," Giese said. "It was just one bad pitch I left up. No excuses, it's just a bad pitch."

Right-hander Jason Frasor (2-0) got two outs to earn the win for Toronto.

In truth, Toronto's relievers handled the entire game, with left-hander Brian Tallet coming out of the bullpen to start in place of injured righty Jesse Litsch (right forearm). Making his first start since 2006, Tallet gave up two runs — one earned — and four hits in 5 1/3 innings. He walked one and struck out one.

"He gave us some room to not use our bullpen so early, even though we did use it all," Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston said. "Without him, it would have been worse."

The Blue Jays put the winning run at third base with one out in the ninth but couldn't convert against right-hander

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AP PHOTO

Oakland's Orlando Cabrera jumps to avoid Toronto's Rod Barajas after forcing the Blue Jays' base-runner at second base. Toronto beat the A's 4-2 on Saturday in 12 innings.

This day is no picnic for the Aggies in the pool

Sprinkling has a good day for UCD men's golf

ENTERPRISE STAFF

In a Picnic Day matchup of two top-10 women's water polo teams at Schaal Aquatics Center, sixth-ranked San Jose State used a record-setting performance to smack No. 10 UC Davis, 14-5.

Spartans' senior Juliet Moss tallied four goals to becoming her school's all-time career scoring leader, while three other SJSU players each posted hat tricks in a nonconference game on Saturday afternoon.

Senior Lindsay Kiyama scored two 6-on-5 goals in the fourth quarter to lead the Aggies (22-9).

Also for UCD, freshman Christina Miyabe junior Ashley Chandler and sophomore Heidi Kucera each had a goal.

The Aggies avoided getting shut out in the first period when they finally found the goal with 32 seconds left as Chandler connected on a lob, converting an outlet pass from center Dakotah Mohr, a Davis High graduate.

The Spartans (19-12) scored four unanswered goals in the second period to craft an 8-1 lead, starting with Moss' penalty shot at the 7:07 mark. In all, three of her four goals came as a result of UCD five-meter fouls.

SJSU shot 9-for-13 in the first half, while the Aggies managed to hit just 2-of-12 before the break. The contest served as a home finale for UCD seniors Kiyama, Sofia Patronas, Sarah Odegard, Diana Pivacek, Emily Kitchens and Cari MacPhail.

On Friday, Kiyama and freshman Kaylee Miller each scored two goals, while junior goalkeeper Casey Hines posted 12 saves, as the Aggies pulled away for an 8-3 win over Santa Clara in a nonconference home game.

Dana Nelsen, Michelle Hook, Lyndsay Sutterley and Rachelle Smith accounted for the remaining four UCD goals.

The Aggies held the Broncos without a goal for 23 minutes spanning from the first period to the fourth. The dry spell followed a 2-2 tie in the first quarter. Hook converted an assist from Kucera for the only goal in the second period to put the Aggies ahead for good.

UCD is at the inaugural Big West tournament, hosted by Pacific April 24-26.

UCD men's golf

Senior Ramie Sprinkling had four birdies during a bogey-free first round on his way to a 4-under 66 at Stanford's U.S. Intercollegiate, leading the No. 28 Aggie men into a tie for ninth after two rounds on Saturday.

Sprinkling followed his strong opening round with a 1-under 69 in the second and is tied with four other players for fourth place at 5-under. The quartet is five shots behind leader Tze Haung Choo of Washington.

UCD shot a 1-over 281 in Saturday's first round at the



WAYNE TILCOCK/ENTERPRISE PHOTO

UCD's Dakotah Mohr rears back for a shot during the No. 10 Aggies' 14-5 loss to sixth-ranked San Jose State on Saturday at Schaal Aquatics Complex. Mohr, a DHS grad, is being defended by the Spartans' Kathryn Hannum, left, another former Blue Devil.

6,742-yard Stanford Golf Course before shooting par in the afternoon.

The Aggies, who are the top seed for the Big West Conference Championships, which begin Monday in San Luis Obispo, are tied with league rival UC Irvine for ninth place.

Sprinkling paced the Aggies on the first day as he bids for his fourth top-10 finish of the year. Brent Booth — who tied Austin Graham for team-low scoring honors in the second round with his 68 — is tied for 35th at par. Graham is tied for 44th at 2-over, Nate Pistacchio is tied for 53rd at 4-over and DHS graduate Tyler Raber is tied for 79th at 11-over. The former Blue Devil standout carded five birdies for the day.

Today's final round begins at 7:30 a.m.

UCD track and field

Senior Sirena Williams finished the 100-meter hurdles in 13.83 seconds, while junior Chidinma Onyewuenyi went 186 feet, 6 inches in the hammer throw as both Aggie athletes broke their own school records to win their collegiate/open events on Friday at the Mt. SAC Relays in Southern California.

On the men's side, senior Polly Gnepa captured the collegiate/open 110 high hurdles in 13.99 seconds, marking his fastest time and making him the second Aggie to ever go below 14 seconds, joining teammate Jazz Trice who was second at Mt. SAC. Those were among the highlights on Friday for UCD which split its team between the prestigious meet at Mt. San Antonio College and the Bryan Clay Invitational at nearby Azusa Pacific.

Anikia Jackson, Tessa Fraser and Seante Baker helped spark the Aggies at the Bryan Clay competition, with Jackson's mark of 129-02 in the javelin moving her to No. 9 all-time. Baker's 25.34 in the 200 was a UCD-best this season, and Fraser captured the pole vault.

Mt. SAC annually draws

some of the top collegiate and elite competition from the United States.

Williams, who qualified for the NCAA Division I Regional Championships with her performance at the state meet, has twice run faster in her career than she did Friday, but neither had legal winds. She won the competition by 12-hundredths of a second over San Diego State's Annamari Korte.

Onyewuenyi, meanwhile, broke her second school record in the past seven days after doing so in the shot put during last weekend's Woody Wilson Classic.

Another highlight at Mt. SAC came from the middle distance crew, which had a strong day in the 1,500. Russ Pfaff led the way by taking seventh in the collegiate/open event with a time of 3:48.08, vaulting him to No. 3 all-time, while Jonathan Sees (3:51.09) and Jonathan Peterson (3:52.84) also threatened the top-10 list.

Kim Conley nearly broke her school record in the 1,500, taking third in the Olympic Development section of the event at Mt. SAC in 4:22.63. Teammate Lorin Scott came close to a regional mark for the second time this season, finishing in a season-best 4:28.34.

At Azusa Pacific, the Aggie men had a tie for third in the high jump from Ross Tate (6-06.75) and ties for fourth from pole vaulters Ethan Ostrom and Jamie Feaster. Jackson added another team-best mark for the season in the long jump with her effort of 18-04.50, with Stephanie Eckels close behind at 18-02.50.

UCD women's golf

Chelsea Stelzmler fired a 2-over 73 on Friday, while teammate Alice Kim shot a 74, and the Aggies finished a close second to host Stanford in a tri-meet with the University of San Francisco at the 6,117-yard Stanford Golf Course.

The match was a late addition to the schedule as the teams attempted to fill dates rained out earlier this season.

UCD finished the 18-hole day with an 22-over 306 score, just behind the Cardinal's 304. The Dons were third with a final score of 309. Brittany Smith had a 79 for the Aggies, while Bryana Gregory and Lauren Dobashi each shot 80.

Friday marked the final event for the Aggies before the Big West Conference Championships on Monday and Tuesday in San Luis Obispo. UCD, which finished second last year, is seeded third for this year's event.

UCD women's tennis

The Aggies were defeated by UC Irvine, 6-0, in Big West Tournament quarterfinal action on Friday at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden. The No. 56 Anteaters clinched the doubles point, before securing enough wins in singles to advance to the semifinals. UCD entered the match as the No. 7 seed at the championship, while UCI (15-7) was No. 2. The loss ends the Aggies' season at 11-12.

The first doubles match to finish was UCI's Courtney Brown and Miranda Young defeating Herzly Legaspi and Dahra Zamudio, 8-5. Stephanie Hammel and Heidi Kaloi won by the same score at No. 1 against former Blue Devil Randi Schuler and Desiree Stone to clinch the 1-0 lead heading into singles.

After an Anteater win at No. 3, Rebecca Kwan followed with a 6-1, 6-1 victory over UCD's Jenna Kappel at No. 4.

UCD men's tennis

UC Santa Barbara defeated UCD, 4-0, on Friday in the first round of the Big West Men's Tournament at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden. The Gauchos won twice in doubles, before claiming wins in the first three singles matches to finish.

Doubles began with a UCSB victory, with Scott Hohenstein and Evan Jurgensen posting an 8-6 win over Tyler Lee and Michael Reiser. The Gauchos clinched the point when Josh Finkelstein and Alex Konigsfeldt outlasted Hunter Lee and Nick Lopez, 8-6.

In singles, Taylor Chavez Goggin was first to finish for UCSB in a 6-3, 6-0 victory over Chris Aria.

The match ends the Aggies' season and also marks the final collegiate match for Reiser, who is the lone senior for UCD (3-16).

DHS girls lacrosse

After suffering their first conference loss on Tuesday, the Blue Devils bounced back Friday night with a 10-6 victory over University High in San Francisco.

Although it fell behind by three early, DHS roared back after a timeout, with captains Sarah Eadie and Erica Palmer leading the comeback. Eadie's playmaking kept the ball active in the offensive end, and her quick spin moves around the goal resulted in three scores. Palmer's game was more power-oriented as she scored two of her own goals on drives from both sides of the goalie.

After several off games, senior attacker Grace Son rebounded for four goals, while junior Hannah Reuben had a solo score and four caused turnovers. Sophomore Ashley Pugh added three caused turnovers as Davis pulled away in the second half.

Molly Gordon, Brittany Persons and Erin Chavanne made several key stops on defense and goalie Kelly Richmond had seven saves.

DHS JV softball

The Blue Devils needed 12 innings on Wednesday, but finally outlasted Franklin, 6-4, on a pair of RBIs in the top of the 12th.

The three-hour affair in Elk Grove ended after Rita Allen-Sutter doubled in a run and score on a subsequent single by Alex Barbara.

DHS' defense was strong all afternoon and held again in the bottom of the 12th, setting down the Wildcats on two well-played ground balls from Megan Schaap at short to first baseman Lauren Boulanger.

The Blue Devils (12-3, 2-1 Delta Valley Conference) led 3-2 in the seventh inning, but

Franklin used three singles in the bottom of the frame to force extras.

In the 10th, outfielder Hailey Tabarez made a strong throw to Schaap, who made a perfect throw to catcher Sarah Finley to nail a runner at home and keep the game going. Each team scored once in the inning to make it 4-4.

Barbaria was impressive on the mound allowing just eight hits, while striking out five and going the distance. She was helped by strong defense in the outfield by Emily Duplantier and Stream Tuss in right.

Kathryn Clark had a perfect day at the plate with two singles and an RBI, and Nikki Lucas-Waddell added two singles.

DHS football

Registration for Davis High football teams will take place Monday (freshman) and Wednesday (junior varsity and varsity) in the school's multipurpose room, beginning at 7 p.m. both evenings.

Potential players from ninth grade up are eligible to sign up and the registration is required for all students to play come fall.

With signups comes information on the spring football training schedule, Sierra College summer camp, equipment and clothing requirements, summer agility and weight-lifting program, eligibility guidelines and Football Backer Club events.

The evenings will give parents and the players the chance to meet the coaches and ask questions.

For additional information, call (530) 753-9512 or e-mail lnel@pacbell.net

Boston Marathon

Davis resident Bethany Helmboldt has qualified to run in the 2009 Boston Marathon, which takes place on Monday.

Helmboldt qualified for the elite race in March 2008 by running the Napa Valley Marathon. An accomplished athlete, she has been running competitively since grade school and currently trains by running routes in the neighborhoods of Davis. She also plays Ultimate Frisbee and is a volunteer coach for the UC Davis women's team.

AYSO registration

The final day for AYSO fall registration is Wednesday (6-9 p.m.), at the Davis AYSO Building in Community Park. Cost is \$140 and \$50 for children under 5.

Mail-in registration is accepted, but note that on June 6 the fee will change to \$155. Guaranteed placement on a team requires registration to be received by July 20, according to league officials.

Players will be put on a waiting list starting July 21.

The fall season is for children pre-kindergarten through high school (born between Aug. 1, 1990, and July 31, 2005) and runs for 10 weeks starting Aug. 29.

Parents are requested to pre-register online at <http://www.davisayso.org> (click on Seasons: Fall) and to bring a printed-out pre-registration form, supplemental form and fee to walk-in registration.

RUN: Clancy is third in the triple jump and sixth in long jump

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The previous DHS best of 8:05 was set in 1973 by a team that included Mike Pratt and Steve Martin.

"Just a very awesome performance," Elliott said. "The guys were pretty fired up for it and they were expecting big things. They all ran well and it just so happens that, even though the 4x800 is not a commonly run event, we have four runners that are really good at that distance."

While that was the highlight of the evening for DHS, it wasn't the only impressive performance. Two other relay teams, the boys and girls 4x400, ran well, with the boys (Ian Rock, Andrew Tkach, Corey Tuttle and Derek Nelson) taking sixth in 3:28.37 and the girls (Elliana Bisgaard-Church, Hannah

Krovetz, Josephine Devanbu and Melinda Zavala) finishing fourth in 4:04.23.

The Blue Devils also had boys and girls in the distance medley, a race that features four athletes running a 1,200, a 400, an 800 and a 1,600 in succession.

The boys team of Nelson, Ryan Greenough, Ari Schwartz and Brian De La Mora finished in 11:02.46 to place sixth, while Jenny Farman, Lauren Holtz, Christina Chew and Tess Williams ran a 13:27.04 to take ninth in the girls race.

Other strong performances for the girls included Zavala's fourth-place time of 2:21.34 in the 800, Bisgaard-Church's run of 46.59 to take eighth in the 300 hurdles, Krovetz finishing 12th in the 400 at 1:00.70 and Devanbu's 100 hurdles time of 16:42, which was

good for 17th.

A quartet of athletes also excelled in the girls 3,200 as Christine Bowlus was 12th at 11:17.47, Hilary Teaford took 17th at 11:24.69, Nora Norvell finished in 11:38.89 to rank 25th and Charlotte Haar placed 28th in 11:54.67.

In the field, Kaitlin Clancy pulled off two big performances for DHS, taking third in the triple jump with a distance of 35 feet 8.75 inches and long jumping 16'3" to place fourth. Jenna Strack was just a few inches behind her teammate in the long jump, posting a distance of 16'1.5" to take sixth.

The best action on the boys side took place in the 3,200, where sophomore Trevor Halsted had the race of his life. Halsted, who finished fourth in 9:26.20, ran in a group with teammate Matt Petersen and Del Campo's Matt

Case that, in the past, he might not have been able to keep up with.

"What a super race," DHS distance coach Bill Gregg said. "We set it up yesterday as a perfect opportunity for Trevor because it was a big field with lots of people to race with and he certainly took advantage. The pace was fast but he kept hanging with (Petersen and Case) and regrouped (to finish strong)."

Petersen was right behind Halsted in 9:29.12, taking fifth, while teammates Bob Riestenberg and Grayson Hough were not far behind, as each posted a personal best. Riestenberg was 14th in 9:46.76 and Hough was 20th in 9:50.96, as the two juniors both broke the 10-minute mark for the first time.

Matt Petersen took 15th in the 800, while Drew Petersen's 1,600 time of 4:36.39 was good enough for 23rd.

SPLIT: Hancock gets a 13th win

From Page B1

freshman's team-leading fourth homer of the year.

Jessica Hancock improved to 13-9 on the year with six strong innings of work in the circle. The senior allowed just one earned run, while striking out four.

In the second game, UCR scored the lone run in the first inning as each team had five singles. UCD hurler Alex Holmes suffered the loss despite scattering five hits in six innings. She walked two and struck out four.

The two teams conclude their series today at noon