Journalism department chair Bill Loving asked to step down

Alexandria Scott
ALEXANDRIASCOTT.MAIL.COM

The journalism department has been through three department heads in the past 10 years and previous department chair Bill Loving joined the list when he was asked to step down by College of Liberal Arts dean Linda Halisky last week. Halisky said she hopes to begin the search for a new journalism department chair in the fall.

Halisky said she is unable to comment on her reasons behind asking Loving to step down because she cannot discuss the particulars of a personnel action. However, Loving said he believes her reasoning was influenced by a senior faculty member.

Loving said he has declined the option to resign because resigning means he would waive his rights to "appeal and challenge decisions," and he will fight the decision by Halisky.

"The dean offered me the opportunity to resign as chair," Loving said. "I told her that if she didn't want me as chair she'd have to fire me and I won't resign. That's pretty much it.

In the meantime, graphic communication department head Harvey Levenson will serve as facilitator to the department until a replacement is hired. As facilitator, Levenson will aid the faculty in coming up with a mission statement for the department, create a positive image of the department and "assist in establishing a unified direction," as was reported in a department faculty meeting Aug. 9.

During a meeting in mid-June, Halisky told the journalism department faculty that she wasn't sure about Loving's ability to lead the department and was uncertain if Loving would continue as department chair. Loving said, "Toward the end of the school term the dean said that if I as a chair was antagonistic and took sides in the department, that I was telling the faculty that it was my way or the highway and that when I won I would rub people's noses in it." Loving said, "When I asked the dean when I had done those things, she repeatedly refused to give me any specifics."

Halisky said Loving has done some fine things for the department. Instead, she said her main concern is with the department as a whole and the difficulties with the faculty getting along. Halisky has mentioned to the faculty that if the department doesn't settle it's issues she will consider moving the department to communication studies. She said she has confidence that the faculty can come together and solve its issues.

"There are (alumni) that would be very unhappy about seeing the program disbanded," Halisky said. "I think we can do it and I think all of us will be better off, at least in the short term, where it is. If we have to move it then we will move it to a place where it will have a strong home."

Loving said that his biggest concern is that Halisky has no vision of the department and that she will "destroy the department rather than deal with the mess she's created."

"I believe in this department, I believe in the students," Loving said. "What we do here is important. What our grads do is important."

However, journalism senior Erica Bashaw said she has become distrustful of the administration to learn what things can be improved.

Q & A with Interim President Robert Glidden

Alexandria Scott
ALEXANDRIASCOTT.MAIL.COM

Cal Poly announced Robert Glidden as the new interim president after deciding against offering the position to the three candidates interviewed for presidency during the past year.

Glidden will come out of retirement to take on the position. Before retiring he served as president for Ohio University from 1994 to 2004, where he oversaw more than six campuses, and served as provost and vice president of academic affairs for Florida State University, as well as being a dean and a professor.

Glidden, originally from Iowa, received his B.A., M.A., and doctorate in music from the University of Iowa.

He spoke about his views of Cal Poly and goals and expectations for both himself and the campus during his time in San Luis Obispo during a question and answer session.

What are you most excited about as being Cal Poly's interim president?

I'm very impressed with the university and I'm pleased to be here and be a part of it. It's my first time as an interim president. I've given a lot of thought to what an interim president does compared to a regular president. It's a great opportunity for me to be a part of a really fine university.

What do you think about the CSU system?

Well it's a big system and it's mission in California has been a very important one. I think the most challenging thing is that we have to maintain the same amount of quality of education. I think that it's admirable that the system has been taken on the other hand there is a great need that hasn't been met. I've known people from this system, but as far as the (CSU) system itself, I'm just beginning to learn.

How do you plan on upholding Cal Poly's reputation?

That has to do more with faculty and staff and attention to students than the president. I do have a lot of national affiliation and connection, and by word of mouth I can help some extent on reputational issues. My main thing is to do no harm. I'll be listening to faculty and administration to learn what things can be improved.

What is your interpretation of learn by doing?

I was a music student and music involves learning by doing to a great extent. I appreciate the fact that hands-on experience is the best kind of learning. It's easier to apply in some disciplines than others. I think it can be applied by any but in some it's more obvious. The main thing about a university is you want students to be engaged in learning. Learn by doing is the best way to ensure that engagement. It can apply and should apply to all students. A lot that we learn in the university is theoretical, but there are different aspects where you go to apply that personally. It helps students to know what they are good at. When people know that they are good at something, they go out in the world with confidence.

What are you expectations of Glidden, page 3
Glidden
continued from page 1

students!
I always said I'd rather have 8 stu­
dents who really want to learn than 4
students who just want to get a dis­
gree. I believe at Cal Poly we have 4
students who really want to learn and
I will believe that until I'm proved
wrong. On a lot of campuses there
are an awful lot of students who just
want a degree and that's not the way
I am and nor the way I want a uni­
versity to be. I want students who
want to learn.

What are your expectations of faculty?
The sense that I've gotten from ev­
everyone I've talked with is faculty here
are very committed to students. I've
been a part of a university where fac­
sulty were more interested in research
than teaching, and I like that Cal
Poly has more interest in students.

Do you have any plans to im­
prove the relationship between student
night life and the commu­
nity?
That's a difficult issue on every resi­
dential campus. It's one with which
I have some familiarity and some ex­
perience. You want students to have fun and have an active social life and so forth, I will do everything I can to
encourage students to be responsible in
their behavior and to be consider­
atious as citizens in a community. Even
with the best intentions, parties can get
out of control. I was the president of a school that was ranked No.2 of
party schools by the Princeton Re­
view. We studied hard but, yes, we
are sociable. Communities then re­
act because they get disgusted by too
much noise and student behavior
when the students have had too much
to drink. A law like the Unruly
Gathering Ordinance (Ordinance) can help a host kick people out. Com­
nunity reaction to students who don't
do their own behavior. I'm not
condemning students — you want students to have fun. When people
drink too much they don't do things
right and particularly when they're in
crowds. I am not prudish of such things but I do think it's part of
the university's responsibilities to
reach students how to be responsible
citizens. Think of it as giving you a
reason to control the environment; the worst things happen when the
hearts don't have control.

How do you plan on improving the
campus?
A school is improved program­by-program and there are so many
faces to that, like student programs and
student life. What I'll be do­
ing is listening to them and taking
their advice and what changes can be
made by what they say. I don't plan on
making large changes. I will listen
at least a lot of people before I make any
decision. I know a lot about aca­
demic performance at Cal Poly, and
I'm only beginning to learn about
student life. I'm very impressed with Associated Students Inc., their re­
sponsibilities and how it works here.
I don't have in mind any dramatic changes that I can put in right now.
Often, when you're moving in a di­
tection there are often several pre­
liminary steps. I'll be listening to lots of
talks about that.

What major changes do you
want to see at Cal Poly?
I will try to be a consensus build­
er. I'd be foolish to say that I know
everything yet to know what drastic
changes need to be made.

What minor changes would you
like to see at Cal Poly?
I don't know that either. One of the
things that Cal Poly is trying is
to keep students on track to gradu­
ate on time. A main responsibility
is to plan to have course offerings so
everyone will graduate on time. I've
talked to Provost Robert Kibb and
I have great respect for him, and I
think we've made changes in that as­
pect. We want to make certain that
parents and students get the value
they've invested for a quality educa­
tion that prepares you for life as well
as a job and also does it in a timely
fashion that makes sure that college isn't a career. There should be more
incentives for people to graduate on
time and that should be state­
wide — not just at Cal Poly. To
arrest the trend that we are inefficient and can't offer the courses students need
to graduate in a certain time. We
have a very impressive retention rate
and graduation rate at Cal Poly. I
would like to be sure there is co-op with academic affairs and student af­
airs, so if a student isn't happy and
not adjusting well to college life then we find that out early and try to help them.
Cal Poly has a 92 percent re­
tention rate, a lot of people are happy with 75 percent.

What is your favorite part about Cal Poly's campus? The campus as a whole is fairly
compact for as many students that
there are here. I think the new stu­
dent recreation center is going to be
great. The Performing Arts Center is
a wonderful facility. I saw a number
of the agriculture facilities and I was
really impressed with a lot of the work
that was going on. It's hard for me to pick one favorite thing about the
campus. I'll have a better feeling when the students return and you get the
vibrancy of the college campus.

How will you make students' time at Cal Poly more enjoyable?
To keep them well enough be­
erved so they don't have to pay $700 in fines for the Unruly Gathering
Ordinance. We need to make cer­
tain that students are fully engaged,
not only in academics but socially as
well. I'm a great believer in diversity and getting to know people with an
entirely different background than
your own. We learn by doing things
together, whether it's a project, play­
ing sports, playing music or acting,
the best way to know about people
is working with them to produce
something.

What sports are you looking forward to watching at Cal Poly?
I really enjoy sports. I played
them in high school. I played basket­
hall until about 25 — until my body
couldn't take it anymore. I love to
play tennis now. Football, baseball,
track, basketball — I don't know
how much time I'll have to get to
events but I'll be there when I can.
I watch students perform. I want to
see the performances sports students
in action as well.

Do you play any instruments?
I did. I've given recitals on oboe,
clarinet, bassoon and saxophone. I
don't practice anymore.

Will you perform them for staff
and students?
That I do know the answer — the
answer is no. It would be an awes­
omeness embarrassment for us all. There are ample opportunities to
be a fool of yourself, and there is no point in going out of your way and making
these opportunities.

Favorite TV show?
The cleverest writers are "Two and a Half Men." Those writers are so
clever I'd like to sit in one of their
conversations because I bet they just
have a ball. It's socially inappropri­
ate in a lot of ways but they are very
clever.
Chair

continued from page 1

ead at times by the faculty's issues. She has noticed problems in the department and said the attitudes of some of the faculty in the department have at times bordered on petty and unprofessional.

When the "Best For" edition of the Mustang Daily came out, Bashaw's journalism professor commented on "how silly and high school the (public relations) writing was," Bashaw said.

"Every student wants to feel supported and respected by their professors," Bashaw said. "When that doesn't happen, it's really unfortunate. That shouldn't happen, faculty should be mentors and role models."

Bashaw said in class some professors would discuss fights, arguments or stories about somebody not getting along with another. She said they did not mention names.

"It's no secret that the journalism department is dysfunctional," she said. "The longer you're here, the more obvious it becomes. It's as if we've forgotten about the larger mission of the journalism department."

Recent Cal Poly graduate and former Mustang Daily art editor CassandraKEYE also said that she had experiences with professors voicing their disagreement about department issues in class and around the department.

"As a student in Teresa's class my last quarter of college, she made numerous comments about how she felt about the department so it was obvious," KEYE said. "She didn't have any sort of censoring mechanism during classes and it interfered with her teaching."

Despite the obvious bickering, Loving said one thing that can't change in the department is the faculty's priority to teach the students. He said the faculty has a mission to teach students and they should do that.

"The dean's choices do not relieve us of that obligation," Loving said.

Her decision, he said, provides an opportunity for the journalism department to take a good hard look at how it operates and how the dean operates. Currently, the department is made up of six faculty members, making it hard to get a consensus to move forward, said Tens Serna, administrative systems coordinator of the journalism department.

"One (faculty member) has very strong political views that cloud and create a road block for any decision trying to be made," she said. "Another (faculty member) can't deal with change and is very resistant to change."

Loving said Halisky is putting the department at jeopardy because of a strong friendship with senior faculty member Teresa Allen.

"I'm deeply disappointed the dean has put the department at jeopardy for the sake of her friendship with Professor (Teresa) Allen," Loving said. "This dean has perpetuated the dysfunction of the department."

However, Halisky maintains that her relationship with Allen is no different than her relationship with any other professor.

"It is my policy when faculty are unhappy I listen to them and I send them back to their department to try to work it out and that is what I did in the case of Professor Allen," Halisky said. "We are not and have never been social friends. We're friendly but we don't have a special relationship of any kind."

Aside allegations that Halisky did not ask the opinions of other faculty except Allen regarding Loving, Halisky said she has met with faculty three different times — the first in mid-June, second in early July and the third in early August — but would not go into detail about what was discussed at the meetings. She said she asked the faculty what was working in the department, what wasn't working and what Loving is doing well and what he can improve on.

As for the reaction of the students, Halisky said she expects uncertainty and concern but is not anticipating a huge impact. She plans on meeting with the students in the fall and together with the faculty, presenting a "united front" that shows the faculty has moved forward from their disagreements. She also plans to allow students to ask questions.

Halisky's plan for the faculty to move forward and pass the quarter is for them to solve their problems together as a group. Benchmarks will still be set up but Halisky said she has not decided on a timeline.

If they are committed to the student and the betterment of the department I hope this will prevail," Halisky said. "These are grown ups, they have expressed this commitment to (the students) and this program and I'm trusting them."

The faculty's previous goal of being accredited will now be long-term, Halisky said. Emphasis will now go toward building a stronger program that uses the opportunities Cal Poly provides, embrace it's potential and move on.

However, Bashaw said real thought needs to be taken before the department can move forward.

"If we hope to see any improvement in the journalism program we need to really think through the mundane changes in leadership," Bashaw said.

Levenson, who was previously a department chair at La Roche College in Pittsburgh, Penn, and has 28 years experience as a department chair, said he will serve basic duties such as signing papers and being a voice for the journalism department. He will provide advice for the journalism faculty if they wanted to listen to it, he said.

"My philosophy is the way to get things done is to surround yourself with good people," Levenson said. "Let them do what they do and support them get the job done without interfering."

Leticia Rodrigues also contributed to this article.

Minoo Alizadeh
JumpBrush for over a year-and-a-half,” she said. “When people are performing, extraordinary numbers of dancers,” coast and JumpBrush is one more opportunity for people to go someplace else but everyone is encouraged to come sit and watch in on any of the collaborative activities and interactive workshops, Tolmasoff said. “People can come see the dancers training which is really rare because they are kept separate from the public,” Tolmasoff said. “Watching classes is equally as valuable to taking a class.”

To dance in a class a la carte is $15 while watching is $5. It’s not only dancers from each company who will be coming to do classes, Tolmasoff said. “People will be coming to dance from all over California, Colorado, Utah, Seattle and Oregon,” Tolmasoff said.

Co-artistic director for Variable Velocity Performance Group Diana Stanton will be leading the moving mural that will involve all of the dancers at JumpBrush, she said. “All of the dancers will be a part of a mural that goes around the PAC,” she said. “It’s structured improv that will make visual arts out of (the dancers) bodies.” The mural will begin at 7 p.m. Friday.

Stanton will also be teaching modern dance this weekend and hopes that more people will see her companies style of dance and like it, she said. “Our company focuses a lot on athletic complex movement,” she said. “We make up a lot of our own dance moves; you jump and spin and crash and roll on the floor. You use your arms in ways that look un-balleiic, it’s about putting ideas into movement.”

Deyo said she will be teaching classic ballet with an emphasis on music. “I will work on people’s cleanliness of the technique but encourage them to keep moving and have their spirit and body moving and to remember dancing as a kid,” she said.

Saturday night, the four dance companies will be on stage together for the first time in a two-act performance that will end with a structured improvisational dance with all of the performers on stage at the same time. They will be performing to three different sections played on the Forbes Pipe Organ. “You can feel the organ through the floor – it’s fantastic.” Tolmasoff said. “We chose three different sections of music that are very different from each other to give the organ a fantastic venue to show off what it can do and to also show the different types of music it creates and inspires.”

It will be one of the highlights of the festival, Deyo said. The overall architecture of the final performance is structured timing-wise with the movement but the dancing isn’t structured. “Like any song you hear, you get familiar with it and you know what happens with the music,” she said. “We use the structure of the music to make a structure of the dance.”

A dance party will take place in the pavilion in the PAC after the performance, Tolmasoff said. She encourages everyone to come dance and ask questions, she said. The ODC performance begins at 8 p.m. with doors opening at 7 p.m. Tickets are $28 for general admission. Prices for participating dancers are $15-$20 for classes, $10 for workshops, and $30 for performances. Prices for observers are $5 for classes, $5 for workshops, and $30 for performances. All are held throughout the day on Friday and Saturday in the PAC, Spanos Theater, the dance studio, and Harmon Hall.
Graphic style of ‘Scott Pilgrim’ goes overboard, on purpose

Rene Rodriguez
McClatchy Newpapers

“I don’t think overwhelming the audience is necessarily a bad thing,” opines the British filmmaker Edgar Wright. “Sometimes people get so used to bland, microwaved films, they crave to be lulled into the same pace and structure. I hope it’s a good thing if a film feels fresh and different.”

Wright is about to find out if his thesis holds true. After directing the king of all zombie comedies (“Shaun of the Dead”) and a hilarious deconstruction of the Hollywood buddy-cops genre (“Hot Fuzz”), the filmmaker has returned with “Scott Pilgrim vs. the World,” which opens Friday. This wild, breakneck picture — a cross between a teenage rom-com, a superhero adventure and a live-action “Street Fighter” video game — tells of an amiable, 22-year-old Toronto slacker (Michael Cera) who falls for the enigmatic, out-of-his-league Ramona (Mary Elizabeth Winstead).

Scott Pilgrim rocks it out in the amazing story of one romantic slacker’s quest to power up with love in the action-comedy, “Scott Pilgrim vs. the World.”

Fortunately, although Scott appears to be just an aimless, skinny guitarist waiting for his life to begin, he also has superpowers. Based on the six-issue graphic novel by Bryan Lee O’Malley, “Scott Pilgrim vs. the World” is a singular mélange of comedy, fantasy, kung-fu and garage rock, all cranked to 11. Beginning with some truly trippy opening credits, Wright uses every conceivable tool in his filmmaking arsenal to depict the world through Scott’s contemporary, geeky, fantasy-prone eyes.

“Scott Pilgrim vs. the World” also comes closer to duplicating the experience of reading a comic book than any other adaptation that has come before. The screen often splits into panels; text balloons float in the foreground; words like “Plok!” and “Thwip!” pop up when people punch each other. Flying, telekinesis and impromptu swordfighting are nowhere uncommon. Occasionally, animation takes over. In one shot, a character’s facial features are suddenly replaced by an emoticon.

“Scott Pilgrim” is taking all the media young people consume and trying to find an equivalent cinematic language,” says Peter Debruge, a senior film critic for Variety. “Manga, Japanese comics, video games, comic books, even the vernacular for text messages and Twitter — they’re all blended in a way we’ve never seen before, which is extremely exciting.”

But Debruge also feels the relentless-in-your-face style of the film overwhelms the story and characters. “To young people, boredom is the worst possible thing anyone can suffer from,” he says. “So this movie gives you a kind of attention deficit disorder-filmmaking that throws everything at you at once. The pace is where I think the generation gap comes in. As innovative as this film is, it becomes exhausting to people past a certain age.”

Michael Bacall, who co-wrote “Scott Pilgrim” with Wright (in close collaboration with O’Malley), says he and the director were aware of the potential to push things too far and risk alienating a segment of the wide audience at which the film is aimed.

“We were aware it would skew younger, but at the same time we worked really hard to make the love story something that anyone could identify with,” Bacall says. “In terms of the underlying video game mythology throughout the movie, we’re at a point in history where several generations have nostalgia touchstones for video games they grew up with. We tried to touch on every era of the gaming culture, which at this point a lot of people can identify with.”

Wright first heard of “Scott Pilgrim” at a 2004 screening of “Shaun of the Dead,” where executive producers Jared Leboff and Adam Siegel, who had acquired the screen rights to the comic, gave him the first issue from the series.

Wright defends the rapid-fire pacing of the movie — even some of the simple conversation scenes feel like fight sequences — by pointing to previous films that successfully tested the audience’s stamina to keep up, such as “Run Lola Run.”

“The dialogue is really sharp in the book, and I like screwball comedy timing. I wanted to make the dialogue pretty rat-a-tat, even when the characters aren’t making jokes,” he says. “But that’s nothing new. TV shows like ‘The Simpsons’ or ‘Arrested Development’ or ‘30 Rock,’ they have the pacing of a Marx brothers movie. Some of the comedies made in the 1930s were paced incredibly fast. It’s really a matter of not talking down to the audience. Once you establish your pace, they get up to speed pretty fast.”
Muslims unfairly denied equal construction rights

I found him to be very nice and helpful. He seemed to be very well liked by my other journalism professors (I didn’t have him, but a friend of mine has heard about that situation), as well as by the students. I think he was really able to relate to students well and it is a shame he will not be there when I go back next year.

In response to "BREAKING: Bill Loving asked to step down as journalism dept. head"

I also disagree with Daniel about Comic Sans. It is because it’s casual and light-hearted that I love it. Perhaps I’d feel differently if I were in highway construction or government, but I’m a tech writer and use Comic Sans in instant messaging all the time. Some of my friends don’t like it, but I find it beautiful, and it’s also hard to read. I tried it out and had to blow it up to 18 point to be at all legible for me, but the person I was chatting with said it was very hard to make out. So I switched back to Comic Sans!

-Dionisio Eustace

In response to "BREAKING: Bill Loving asked to step down as journalism dept. head"

This column was amusing for me. I’m a bisexual and I am scared to tell some of my friends because I’m afraid of what they will think of me because of the stereotypes. My mom is one of these people who believe in these stereotypes and believe that being bisex is just a fad so I appreciated when you talked about that. Bisexuals have been mired into the slurry category because of stupid people who make out with everyone in public.

-Stephanie

In response to "Bisexual doesn’t equal "shitty"

We don’t carry the burden of being a mosque that likely is funded by foreign countries.

For a reality check, I talked with a New Yorker Rabbi Boud Hirschfeld, president of the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership. Hirschfeld knows Abdul Rauf and considers him a genuine moderate.

"The rumor-mongering that’s he’s some kind of agent for Islamists is utterly different from everything I know about him," the rabbi said. "With (this cultural center) project, he’s proposing a spiritual response to a spiritual problem. That (9/11) was Islamic terror. He’s trying to use the tradition to correct itself."

But Hirschfeld worries that the process has gone off the rails and that instead of the interfaith understanding he wants, Abdul Rauf hoped to foster, there may be bitterness on both sides.

"If Abdul Rauf wants his cultural center to become an instrument of reconciliation, he’s got plenty of work to do. The question is whether outside agitators like Gingrich and Palin have made that impossible."

The critics claim that building a mosque at 51 Park Place would be a victory for Islamists extremism. They have it exactly backward.

If American Muslims are allowed to build mosques only where Christians and Jews are gracious enough to allow, we will be proving the Islamists’ point that the West is every Muslim’s enemy. If this mosque is blocked by populist prejudice or political demagoguery, that’s when Bin Laden will claim a second victory — in the shadow, as they say, of Ground Zero.

-John Kao

John Kao is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

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Opinion/Editorial

Thursday, August 12, 2010

The Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanity and length. Letters, contributions and cartoons do not represent the views of The Mustang Daily. Please submit letters in 300 words. Letters should include the writer’s full name, address, phone number and class standing. Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not put a return address. People send the best in this body of thought.

—Ann

Day in depth head

Nobody takes the College of Liberal Arts at Cal Poly seriously to begin with. Hopefully Linda Halisky will do the same with this now-scuttl ed department/faculty will make some real progress.

-Dick

In response to "BREAKING: Bill Loving asked to step down as journalism dept. head"

I also disagree with Daniel about Comic Sans. It is because it’s casual and light-hearted that I love it. Perhaps I’d feel differently if I were in highway construction or government, but I’m a tech writer and use Comic Sans in instant messaging all the time. Some of my friends don’t like it, but I find it beautiful, and it’s also hard to read. I tried it out and had to blow it up to 18 point to be at all legible for me, but the person I was chatting with said it was very hard to make out. So I switched back to Comic Sans!

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Opinion/Editorial

Thursday, August 12, 2010

Volume XXXII No. 8 2010

The Mustang Daily

Always in

www.mustangdaily.net
**THE NEW YORK TIMES**

**Crossword**

**Edited by Will Shortz**

**No. 0707**

**Across**

1. Veracruz's capital
2. It's 1842 Greek
3. Stinger (animal)
4. American composer at an intersection?
5. Kelly of "Live Wire"
6. Word on a card
7. Command to an Austrian composer on a scavenger hunt?
8. "Huncoot" (6)
9. "Our Friends at Sea" capital
10. French composer at an intersection?
11. Grace Kelly
12. "The Talk of the Town"
13. "The Battle of New Orleans"
14. "Pittsburgh Tribune-Review" (6)
15. "The Squaw Man"
16. "The Earliest" (5)
17. "The Shadow"
18. "The Four Feathers"
20. "The Prince of Egypt"
21. "The Unknown Face"
22. "The Port of Spain"
23. "The Sunflower"
24. "The White Satin Adiantum"
25. "The Last of the Mohicans"
26. "The Bridge of the Americas"
27. "The Marriage Italian-Style"
28. "The Manhattan Transfer"
29. "The Marquis of Carabas"
30. "The King of Kings"
31. "The Searchers"
32. "The Swimmer"
33. "The Weight of Water"
34. "The Goodbye Girl"
35. "The Narrow Margin"
36. "The Impersonators"
37. "The Blue Lagoon"
38. "The Alamo"
39. "The Great Gatsby"
40. "The Man Who Would Be King"
41. "The Bells"
42. "The Virginian"
43. "The Prince of Persia"
44. "The Lighthouse"
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4. "The Three Stooges"
5. "The Great Gatsby"
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Football takes field for fall camp

Brian De Los Santos

It may be less than a month before football season starts, but the biggest question surrounding the Cal Poly football team is still unanswered.

Will it be quarterback Andre Broadous or Tony Smith who leads Cal Poly's offense this September?

As the team awaits head coach Tim Walsh's decision in their first week of practice, either Smith or Broadous will be trying to help a program rebound from one of the worst seasons of the decade — at least on paper.

Cal Poly went 4-7 last season, finishing at the bottom of the Great West. The Mustangs couldn't win a single game on the road and finished outside of the national polls for the first time since 2003 — while also suffering their first losing season since 2002.

"It's a team game and it's about winning," Walsh said. "We are going to try to do the best thing that's going to give this team the opportunity to win as many games as it can."

In some eyes, there really shouldn't be a debate. Last season, it was the job of Smith, a man who led his team last season against opponents like San Jose State, Sacramento State and Ohio, while throwing for 1618 yards — just 342 less than Jonathan Dally in his senior season.

Tony, he knows the game really well. I mean he knows all his checks, he knows all his audibles, and he is real smart with the ball," Broadous said. "He is a great student of the game."

Yet the job of a starting quarterback is never safe. Standing behind him is Broadous, a player who — whenever he starts — may have one of the most highly anticipated debuts recent years. At Grass Valley High School, the Oregon native racked up 6,000 yards of total offense in his junior and senior seasons combined. His style mirrors the prototypical triple-option quarterback — a shifty runner with tons of speed and moves that will make fans stand on their feet.

"Playmaker," starting comebacker Asa Jackson said. "That's the first thing that comes to my mind when you see (Broadous). He is one of those guys that you have to account for running the ball on every single play. And that's a killer."

At his — or Smith's — disposal will be eleven offensive players who started at least five games last year. Returning will be most of the offensive line, wide receiver Dominique Johnson and fullbacks Jake Romanello and Jordan Vocum among others.

Not to mention potential playmakers K.J. Couack and Mark Rodgers could creep their way onto the field to make some noise.

But regardless of whatever offensive personnel the Mustangs throw onto the field, it is going to take a team effort to get past last season's numbers. Defensive playmakers like Asa Jackson, linebacker Kenny Jackson and linebucker Marty Mohamed are going to try to help this team rebound as well — on the other side of the ball.

"This year, this team is going to be a huge defensive factor," Mohamed said. "I am going to make sure of that. This defense is going to be one of the best defenses in the entire nation. As a leader and the defensive captain I am going to make sure that everything we do as a defense is perfect. We are not going to quit."

Mohamed may have his work cut out for him. Eight defensive starters return from last year's squad, but last season's defense was an over-worked group decimated by injuries. It was a defense who gave up over 30 points in four games and more than 400 yards of offense on six occasions, while also letting four halftime leads slip and turn into losses.

"I look back at last season, if there was one disappointment it was that we as a program had, we didn't finish," Walsh said. "And in the game of football, with the schedule that we play, if we don't start well and we don't finish well, we're going to struggle."

Cal Poly plays two home games to start the season, but may not have full attendance due to the academic calendar. By the time fall quarter begins, Cal Poly will be in the third week of its season. In week two, Cal Poly will face off against Montana — a team who went undefeated a year ago and rode their hot hands all the way to the FCS championship, falling to Villanova 23-21.

Three weeks after that, Cal Poly will travel to Fresno State — a usual WAC contender who very well could have a shrugle hold on the conference if Boise State were out of the picture — in the third game of a five game road trip.

Then the Mustangs return home for three of their last four games and host rival UC Davis in the final game of the 2010 season.

If quarterback Matt Burke is looking for help from freshman running back Dillon Baxter to USC's season opener, he may be sorely disappointed.