

## Rich Ellerson named football coach

**R**ich Ellerson, defensive coordinator at the University of Arizona for the past four seasons, has been named Cal Poly's head football coach.

At Arizona Ellerson engineered the team's defensive schemes that led the Pac-10 Conference and created a No.12 ranking nationally in rushing defense in 1998, a key to UA's school-record 12 victories that year.

This past season, Arizona again led the Pac-10 and finished the regular season ranked eighth in the

nation in rushing defense, allowing just 88.5 yards per game. The Wildcats also ranked second in the league in total defense, concluding the year 5-6.

Ellerson joined the University of Arizona staff in January 1992 to coach the outside linebackers, then assumed more duties as coach of the entire defensive front in 1993. He was named assistant head coach prior to the 1995 season. **CP**



## Athletic Department Presents New Logos

*The Cal Poly Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, in partnership with the Cal Poly Foundation, unveiled a new group of logos developed by a committee comprising university and Foundation administrators, athletic department staff, and student representatives working with SME Power Branding. The new marks include a primary mark (left), a secondary mark (center), and "peelables" (right). The art uses Cal Poly's traditional green and a revised gold, with added black and white to provide a sleek, 21st-century look. New lines of clothing and merchandise incorporating the logos are available in El Corral Bookstore, Cal Poly Downtown, and on Cal Poly's Athletics' official Web site, [www.GoPoly.com](http://www.GoPoly.com). The new logos also are appearing on team uniforms, Ryan's Court in Mott Gym, Mustang Stadium, and many athletic department publications and collateral materials. (Art courtesy of Cal Poly Athletic Department) **CP***

# Fields for all seasons

**A**fter five years of meticulous planning, endless fund-raising, and years of dreaming, Cal Poly's sports complex is now a reality. The 47-acre complex on the north end of campus officially opened Oct. 20—Homecoming 2000

sports complex nearly two years to the day from when the official groundbreaking took place.

"The sports complex will be a tremendous asset to the university, benefiting the athletic programs and our student population as

The sports complex was a collaborative project between the Athletic Department and Cal Poly students, with each entity responsible for half the \$10 million-plus project cost. Students will pay \$4.9 million through fees, while the Athletic Department raised more than \$5 million through donations and gifts in kind. Another \$819,000 was allocated by President Baker earlier this year from the University Union reserves.

The sports complex's grand opening was also an opportunity for the Athletic Department to thank those individuals who made a significant commitment to seeing the project through to fruition. The group of supporters included the leadership of Cal Poly Athletics' "Building the Advantage" Capital Campaign, which began in 1995. Its mission was to enhance athletic programs and facilities, with the sports complex as the cornerstone project of the campaign.

Two former Cal Poly student-athletes, Robin Baggett (BUS '73) and Bob Neal (ASCI '55), served as campaign chairmen. The campaign steering committee, made up of 16 Cal Poly alumni and local community leaders, successfully raised more than \$5 million dollars to enhance athletic facilities and establish a scholarship endowment. Also recognized for their commitment to the campaign were those supporters who made considerable financial contributions to the project. Special mention was given to the 20 Founders-level contributors who each made a



*Cutting the ribbon on Cal Poly's new \$10 million-plus university/community sports complex are major players (left to right) Bob Neal (ASCI '55), campaign co-chair; Associated Students Inc. President Sam Aborne (representing university students, who voted a fee increase for nearly half the cost of the complex); Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker; Athletic Director John McCutcheon (whose department raised more than \$4.9 million in gifts); and campaign co-chair Robin Baggett (BUS '73).*

weekend—with more than 300 students, alumni, and community supporters in attendance.

Speakers included Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Paul Zingg, Athletic Director John McCutcheon, current Associated Students Inc. (ASI) President Sam Aborne, and former ASI officer Greg King. The ceremony was highlighted by a ribbon-cutting performed by Baker, McCutcheon, and Aborne which signified the opening of the

well as the community," McCutcheon said.

"[The complex] is a fulfillment of the vision of students who put a lot of effort and hard work into it," Aborne said. "The sports complex means recognition that the campus is a co-curricular environment with recreational opportunities for students, in addition to academics." He added, "This is more than fields and diamonds, it is an outdoor laboratory . . . this is part of the Cal Poly experience."



minimum \$100,000 commitment to the campaign.

Baggett and Neal made significant contributions to the sports complex over and above the time and energy they committed to the campaign.

On Sept. 19, President Baker announced that the baseball stadium at the new sports complex would be named in honor of Baggett.

"We are extremely pleased to be able to recognize the many contributions of Robin Baggett with this naming opportunity," Baker said. "Robin's support of the university and our athletic program has been outstanding. His longtime financial support and personal involvement with the baseball program for over 30 years are unmatched. We are proud that this beautiful new facility will appropriately recognize his many contributions."

Baggett, a former standout catcher on the Cal Poly baseball team, is currently a managing partner of the local law firm Sinsheimer, Schielbelhut, Baggett &



*Baggett Stadium*

Tangeman and an owner of Tolosa Winery and Edna Ranch Vineyards. "This is a great honor," he stated. "Cal Poly has always been special to me. I am proud to be part of such a fine institution."

Neal, a Cal Poly Athletics Hall of Fame member, was instrumental in obtaining a significant gift towards the softball stadium. A member of the Robert Janssen Foundation board of directors,

Neal helped facilitate a gift from the foundation, which provides grants to support community projects emphasizing sports and youth, a mission quite compatible with the sports complex project's goal of providing more recreational space for Cal Poly students and the community. To recognize the foundation's significant contributions, the softball stadium was named Bob Janssen Field.

Both stadiums were officially dedicated at the opening games for their respective teams. Baggett Stadium was dedicated Jan. 21 as the baseball team defeated perennial power Stanford University, and Bob Janssen Field was dedicated Feb. 10 as the softball team played former national champion Fresno State. **CP**



*Lacrosse practice*

*(Photos by Patrick Swadener)*



## Baggett helps bring baseball home

**A**fter 30 years of games across town at Sinsheimer Park, Cal Poly baseball has really come home—to the university's new sports complex.

And Baggett Stadium's namesake, Robin Baggett (BUS '73), is delighted.

Cal Poly hadn't played a complete schedule on campus since 1971, when Baggett was the guy in the mask crouching behind the plate and the team left campus in a blaze of glory with a best-ever .780 winning percentage.



Robin Baggett (Photo by Cole Bybee/Karlen Design)

Baggett has a history of pitching Cal Poly to like-minded potential donors or stepping up to the plate himself to support the university's sports program.

He arrived at Cal Poly from Salinas in 1969, and within two months was a finance committee member for the Associated Students Inc., which controlled the school's athletics budget.

He went on to become chairman,

and in 1972-73 was elected student body president.

After Cal Poly, Baggett attended law school, graduating in the top two percent of his class at the University of California's Hastings College of the Law. He then clerked for the California Supreme Court and the U.S. District Court in San Francisco.

In 1979 fellow Cal Poly alumnus Dave Fitzpatrick (BUS '72), practicing in San Luis Obispo, called and made a job offer. Baggett accepted and returned at an opportune moment in the then-uncertain life of Cal Poly baseball. The administration was considering eliminating it.

To provide a life-saving financial transfusion, Baggett, along with coaches Bertie Harr and Steve McFarland (a '71 teammate), founded the Diamond

Club, which raised money for travel, scholarships, uniforms, balls, and bats.

Baggett's greatest coup was convincing another '71 teammate—Mike Krukow—then pitching for the San Francisco Giants—to lend his name to a fund-raising golf tournament. The first round was played in 1983, and the tournament continues to raise money for the Cal Poly squad.

"That tournament was the lifeblood of Cal Poly baseball for those critical years," Baggett says.

With a successful student referendum in 1992, athletics began its move to Division I. Baggett turned his attention from stay-alive operational fund-raising to facilities and the sports complex, for which more than \$10 million was raised from community and student support.


Today Baggett is managing partner in San Luis Obispo's largest law firm of Sinsheimer, Schiebelhut, Baggett & Tangeman, and general counsel for pro basketball's Golden State Warriors. He runs a Brangus cattle operation and owns Edna Ranch Vineyards and Tolosa Winery.

"I've always believed in giving back to something that's been good to you," Baggett says. "And Cal Poly's been good to me, especially on the baseball field. What you learn on that field—about teamwork, winning and losing under pressure—goes a long way in life. It teaches one how to be successful."

Baggett is generous in sharing credit for the sports complex with students, volunteers, the steering committee, and key Cal Poly officials.

"Athletics Director John McCutcheon's got a lot of sticktoitiveness," Baggett says. "And without President Warren Baker this project never would have happened. In my opinion, he is the greatest president to ever serve a California university. He has the vision and ability to get projects done."

But the enterprise might not have ended so successfully if Robin Baggett hadn't been out there rooting for the home team.

"Robin Baggett's financial support and personal involvement with Cal Poly and the athletic program for more than 30 years are unmatched," says President Baker. "We are very pleased to recognize his many contributions by naming this beautiful new facility after him." 

— Bob Anderson



## Former athletes inducted into hall of fame


**W**ith more than 200 guests in attendance, the university inducted the following seven former athletes into its Athletics Hall of Fame during weekend festivities on Nov. 3-4:

- **Glenn Anderson**—A member of the wrestling team from 1969 to 1973, Anderson remains one of the top wrestlers in Cal Poly's history. He completed his career with a 127-18-2 overall record, including an NCAA National Championship as a junior at the 142-lb. division and as a senior at 150 lbs. As a senior, he lost just once in 40 matches, finishing his final year with an impressive 39-1 overall record. His 37-5 junior record and national title earned him the California Collegiate Athletic Association's Athlete of the Year award.
- **Tom Gallo**—As a member of the Mustang football team in 1982-86, Gallo was a team captain and named most valuable player. As a junior he had 38 tackles and two fumble recoveries. As a senior, he led the team with 79 tackles, one interception, and one fumble recovery, and was instrumental in leading the Mustangs to wins over Sacramento State and Portland State. He has remained involved with the school through his participation on various campus committees and his continued interest in the arts and athletics.
- **Sharon Hanson-Lowery**—Hanson-Lowery enters the Hall

of Fame as a four-time NCAA All American and holds the Cal Poly women's record for the heptathlon. She also holds the all-time career record in the 400m hurdles and the school's third-best mark in the 100m hurdles, and helped lead Cal Poly to a second-place finish at the NCAA National Championships in 1987. After her career at Cal Poly, she went on to compete in the 1996 Olympics.

- **Curtis Hill** (posthumously)—A victim of the 1960 plane crash that claimed the lives of 17 Cal Poly athletes, Hill was a potential top draft choice when his football career came to an end. A transfer from Bakersfield College, Hill was a three-year starting receiver for the Mustangs 1958 to 1960. He led the Mustangs in receiving in 1958 with 377 yards and four touchdowns, and again in 1960 with 447 yards and three touchdowns. One of the many Hill highlights came on defense as he intercepted a pass against UCSB and returned it for a school record of 93 yards. In 1958, Hill scored 40 points for the Mustangs as he was named to the California Collegiate Athletic Association All-Conference team.
- **Eduardo Labastida Ochoa**—A rare, standout three-sport athlete while at Cal Poly, Labastida Ochoa traveled from his hometown of Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mexico, to attend Cal Poly in the 1950s. He participated in boxing, wrestling, and

soccer. He received the Van Horn Trophy as Cal Poly's Athlete of the Year. In three years on the Cal Poly boxing team, Labastida Ochoa won 26 of 32 matches. As a sophomore, he was a finalist at 119 lbs. in the 1955 Pacific Coast Intercollegiate tournament.

- **Al Marinai**—Another member of the Cal Poly football team from 1958 to 1960, Marinai enters the Hall of Fame as one of the best offensive linemen in school history. An All-City football selection from Polytechnic High School in San Francisco, he was a key member of a freshman football squad that put together a string of five consecutive wins. In 1960, Marinai earned a spot as a starting guard.
- **Don Morris**—One of the department's most valuable individuals of the past and present, Morris was drafted onto Cal Poly's track team after setting records as a college freshman in hurdling. After graduation from Cal Poly in 1952, he began a career with the U.S. Navy, where he served four years of active duty and 40 years in the Navy Reserve. He returned to Cal Poly and earned a master's degree. Morris held many positions at Cal Poly, including personnel director, housing director, dean of extended education, and professor. He currently serves on the board of directors of the Cal Poly Alumni Association. 



# SPORTS ROUNDUP

Jason Sullivan

## FALL 2000 REVIEW

### FOOTBALL

- The Mustangs went 3-8 in 2000 with wins over Saint Mary's, Western New Mexico, and Montana State on the road. In the Montana State win, junior quarterback Seth Burford set a school record with five touchdown passes. The Mustangs had one of the nation's top offenses, thanks in part to Burford, who finished the year breaking the school record with 2,672 passing yards and 23 touchdowns. His primary target was sophomore receiver Kassim Osgood, who also broke school records with 84 receptions, 1,384 yards, and 14 touchdowns. Osgood caught the nation's attention in October with 376 yards receiving—an NCAA record—against Northern Iowa at home. In December he became Cal Poly's first Associated Press All-America selection in addition to being named to the I-AA Independent and Sports Network All-Star teams. Also in December, junior defensive lineman Billy Beltz was named Academic All-American for the second straight year.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

- Behind the play of Megan Schlegel, the Mustangs captured their second straight Big West Conference crown and third overall with an 11-7-1 record. Schlegel's 10 goals (nine of which were game winners) helped the Mustangs reach the NCAA playoffs for the second consecutive year, where they fell to powerhouse Santa Clara in the first round. Goalkeeper Natalia Garcia posted seven shutouts for the Mustangs as the team closed out the regular season with wins over Cal State Fullerton, UC Irvine, and UC Santa Barbara. Forward Sandy Ocegüera had five goals and two assists.

### MEN'S SOCCER

- The men's soccer team went 5-12-1 overall and posted a 3-4 mark in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation with wins over New Mexico, San Diego State, and rival UC Santa Barbara. Johnny Cummins concluded his career with eight goals and three assists, while forward Cory Pasek also netted eight goals and handed out two assists for the Mustangs. Cummins, along with sophomore midfielder Evan Clark, earned All-Conference honors at the conclusion of the season. Clark had two goals and picked up four assists for the Mustangs during the season.

### MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

- Cal Poly continued its dominance in the Big West Conference as the men's team captured its third straight conference title and trip to the NCAA West Regional behind the strong running of senior Adam Boothe and junior Avery Blackwell. Boothe, the Big West Male Athlete of the Year, won his second conference individual title in leading the men's team.
- Sophomore Carolyn Jones led the women's team to its first-ever Big West Conference crown in October by placing second in the championship meet in Goleta. She later placed 16th at the NCAA West Regionals in Fresno. Senior Jen DeRego and junior Jessica Dalhberg helped lead the women to a sixth-place finish at the regional championship by placing 20th and 36th, respectively.

### VOLLEYBALL

- A win over longtime national power Long Beach State in front of more than 2,000 fans at Mott Gym helped propel the Mustangs to their second straight NCAA playoff appearance with a 17-12 record. Led by senior Melanie Hathaway, the Mustangs advanced to the second round with a 3-1 win over South Florida, then fell to nationally ranked USC in the second round of the tourney. Hathaway led the Mustangs with 480 kills and 357 digs. Sophomore middle blocker Worthy Lien also had a strong season up front, posting 250 kills and picking up a team-high 155 blocks.



## SPORTS ROUNDUP (CONTINUED)

### WINTER PREVIEW

(Editor's Note: Summaries were written as of press time.)

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

- In January, sixth-year coach Jeff Schneider announced he would step down for the remainder of the season. With Kevin Bromley as interim coach, the team responded well with a 104-66 win at UC Riverside on January 13 to improve to 6-7 for the year. The Mustangs entered conference play in January with a 6-7 overall record, looking for a trip to the Big West Conference Tournament in Anaheim. Senior forward Chris Bjorklund has had a strong year, averaging 19.9 points per game while standout freshman Jamaal Scott is second on the team with 17.7 ppg. The Mustangs have notched wins over Eastern Washington, Northern Arizona, and UC San Diego this season.

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- Under the direction of fourth-year coach Faith Mimnaugh, the Mustangs opened the year with a school record of five straight wins, including an impressive 60-51 win over Gonzaga at Mott Gym. Led by the play of sophomore Caroline Rowles, Cal Poly looks to make a return trip to the Big West Conference tournament. Rowles is averaging a team-high 10.7 points per game and 7.0 rebounds per game, while junior guard Odessa Jenkins is close behind with 8.0 ppg. Newcomer Katy Paterson has played well in her first season, while veteran guard and junior Kristy Baker has been one of the team's best shooters from the outside, averaging 7.0 ppg and making a team-high 21 three-pointers.

#### WRESTLING

- Lennis Cowell, 15th-year head coach, returns eight starters from last year's team, which went 7-12 overall and sent two wrestlers to the NCAA National Championships. Leading the returners will be Jaime Garza (125 lbs.), Cedric Haymon (149 lbs.), Jesse Reta (157 lbs.), and Steve Strange (174 lbs.), who will be the primary candidates to make a run at the Pac-10 Conference tournament and to seek berths at the nationals. Both Strange and Haymon entered the new year ranked 19th and 15th, respectively, in their weight divisions. Haymon had a strong weekend in January that moved him up in the rankings to No. 10 nationally following wins in Mott Gym matches against Fresno State and Oklahoma.

#### SWIMMING

- The Cal Poly men's swimming team looks to the leadership of veterans Phillip Yoshida and Ben Palmer to lead the Mustangs into the Big West Conference Championships in February. Yoshida posted one of the best marks in the breaststroke for the Mustangs in 1999-2000 and this year has proven to be one of the most consistent swimmers for coach Rich Firman. Matt Patane and Chris Colley have performed well in early dual meets for the Mustangs. Colley won the 1000 freestyle in a win over Cal State Northridge, while Patane captured first in the 200 freestyle and 200 butterfly against the Matadors.
- On the women's side, Mary Thomas and Arwyn Becker have been top performers for the Mustangs at several season-opening invitationals, and look to help the Mustangs challenge at the Big West Conference meet. Thomas has posted some of the best times in the butterfly and individual medley. In a home meet against rival UC Davis, Thomas captured first place in both events, while Becker has been one of the top swimmers in the conference in the 1000 freestyle.

#### WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

- Following the graduation of All-American pole vaulters Paula Serrano and Shannon Flett, the Mustangs look to the return of Akuavi Hine and Sarah Bonilla. Hine led the Mustangs last year in the 55-meter dash, while Bonilla returns to lead the team in the hurdles. Stephanie Chavez is a top returner for the Mustangs in the 800 meters as the team begins its third year of indoor competition. **CP**