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Galetti Excited To Be Lobos' Guy

By Mark Smith*Journal Staff Writer*

The wait is over.

University of New Mexico fans finally have a new voice for Lobo sports.

On Monday, Scott Galetti was named play-by-play man for Lobo football and men's basketball on KKOB Radio.

"It's a university with great tradition in basketball, and football is on the rise," Galetti, a sports writer/broadcaster from Oxnard, Calif., told the Journal on Monday. "One of the things I saw when I went out there for my interview, was a bunch of people, working for the university, who cared.

"I like to be in a town where the university is the major game in town. It's a good-sized university and a great market. And I love the city of Albuquerque."

Galetti says he will move to town by Aug. 1.

Galetti and Russ Langer were the two finalists, each being interviewed nearly two weeks ago in Albuquerque.

"The waiting for any job is the hardest part, especially when you're that close," Galetti said. "Finally, when I got the word, it was a sense of relief. 'A,' because it was over. And 'B,' because I was excited I was the guy."

Galetti called NFL, NCAA football and NCAA baseball games on RSC Sports Radio Network. He has also done play-by-play for Cal State Northridge football. He has basketball experience, being the play-by-play man for the Wichita Falls Texans (CBA), the Seattle Reign (ABL) and Long Beach State.

He also has called hockey for the Phoenix Mustangs (WCHL), Bakersfield Fog (WCHL) and Seattle Thunderbirds (WHL).

"Scott will be an outstanding addition to the Lobos' broadcast team," says Tim Cline, senior vice president for Learfield Sports, UNM's exclusive marketing partner. "His experience alone speaks volumes and we feel he is the right choice moving forward."

UNM athletics director Paul Krebs, who said he was part of the decision-making process, said "we trust Learfield Sports and know they have conducted a comprehensive search to ensure we have the right person in place to call Lobo games."

On June 23, Krebs said the new hire would be announced by "the end of the week, if not sooner. We're looking at the two candidates we interviewed and some other things."

When a decision wasn't announced last week, there was much speculation about the "other things." One source told the Journal that both Galetti and Langer were being considered, the former for football and the latter for basketball.

On Monday, Krebs said that was never the case.

"Your source was inaccurate," Krebs said on Monday. "It was never even considered."

Asked if there were any contract talks with Langer about the job, Krebs said, "Scott

Galetti was our guy. We were thrilled to have them. We gave serious consideration to both candidates, we're thrilled to have (Galetti).

“He has a lot of levels of experience at a variety of sports. He's a great hire for us.”

Langer, who is a UNM graduate and a former announcer for the Albuquerque Dukes, is the radio voice of the Las Vegas 51s PCL baseball team.

“I wish to thank Learfield and the university for the extraordinary degree of professional courtesy they extended me throughout the process,” Langer said on Monday.

When asked if he had been offered the job, Langer said “no comment.”

Galetti inherits a position held by Mike Roberts for more than four decades. Roberts was bounced after this past season, causing quite a stir.

Galetti says he knows he's stepping into some big shoes.

“I respect the 40-plus years that Mike Roberts spent in the Lobo community,” Galetti said. “I hope to someday be as big a part as he was.

“He's a legend in New Mexico, and I'm just going to work as hard as I can to provide a quality broadcast and do the best I can to earn the fans' respect.”

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