Graduation 81: rockets, balloons...

...and Reg Murphy’s ‘Reality 101’

BY MIKE CARROLL
Co-editor

An overflow crowd of over 10,000 swarmed into Mustang Stadium during the sunny Saturday morning of June 13, preserving the economic health of the color film industry as they watched their friends and relatives become Cal Poly graduates.

As the Cal Poly Symphonic Band played "The Sinfonians," 3,499 graduate-designates filed onto the football field during the 75th annual Cal Poly commencement ceremony amidst the hail of firecrackers, balloons, skyrockets, streamers and beach balls that have traditionally symbolized the college-trained mind.

The commencement address was delivered by Reg Murphy, the editor/publisher of the San Francisco Examiner and former editor of the Atlanta Constitution.

"I am absolutely delighted to come to the home of champions," Murphy told the audience of all ages, referring to the various athletic titles the university had won during the 1980-81 academic year.

The editor said the purpose of his talk was not to belabor the past but to provide a few lessons in Reality 101. "It’s a short course," he added.

Murphy explained that there were inconsistencies in both the liberal and conservative schools of thought. Conservatives, for example, argue in favor of economy-heating tax cuts while at the same time ranking inflation as the country’s No. 1 problem, he said.
Activism reborn

Cal Poly in the summertime. It's an easy place to escape from the world. The beach, the ocean breeze and the hills beyond Poly Canyon are more inviting than ever. The noise and pace of the city, jaded academia to fade in importance and take a back seat to nature.

It is not an atmosphere that promotes political activism. Admittedly, that makes our job more difficult.

As a weekly instrument of journalism the Mustang is largely a reflection of society at large. But that society—indeed the world—has entered a realm of rapid change. The age when the United States and the Soviet Union dominated world events is over, and in its place there has evolved a diverse world of nationalism and policentrism.

Certainly the peace movement in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Afghanistan as well as the independent Polish labor movement are proof that the various cultures of this earth will no longer allow themselves to be dominated by 13 percent of the world's population.

It is political activism on a scale Gandhi would not have imagined. Here in the United States, a new activism—which includes the National Nuclear Power Plants, and all drillfields in the California coast, an emerging peace movement, the New Right and even the Moral Majority—is replacing the apathy and disillusionment of the past.

People are apparently trying to regain control over issues that shape their lives. For us, the issues include whether Diablo will be granted a license for low level testing and whether hill tracts between Shell Beach and Morro Bay will be permanently off limits to oil and gas drilling. Both these issues are scheduled to be decided this summer.

On our campus we will present a medium for a free exchange of ideas. We seek not the vindication of liberalism or conservatism, but instead a diversity of opinion whereby readers may assimilate the positive aspects of all brands of political thought.

While exhibiting a tolerance for diversity, however, we will not deemphasize the things all people have in common. As John Lennon has written in an interview (…in addition to the point basic common link is the fact that we all inhabit this planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children’s future. And we all die of old age."

On behalf of the Mustang staff, we wish you success for an enjoyable summer quarter.

Gun control aids innocent

Gun control needs to be initiated today in order to stop the senseless killings currently averaging an average 50 persons each day.

Many people are opposing gun control legislation to maintain the right to protect themselves from rapists, robbers and killers. But why is this so important when it is more likely for hand­gun owners to shoot a friend or relative than it is for them to kill a criminal?

Handgun Control Inc. of Washington D.C. estimates that 50 Americans die each day from gunshot wounds. Recent­ly President Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II escaped assinations by handgun. John Lennon and Dr. Michael Halberstam were not so lucky. Political assassination is not the main concern of the handgun control lobby. The senseless murders of innocent persons out of the spotlight and accidental killings of persons who go make the headlines when they are killed, are of primary concern to the HCCI.

Twenty thousand people are killed each year by handguns according to the HCCI. Of course this statistic includes a percentage of persons invading places and doing things which would carry along with them a substantial risk.

Self defense seems to be carrying along with it a hearty portion of fear and paranoia. Members and friends of those wishing to defend against home invasions, their wives and children of a businessman who had a bad day at the office, who might have not been bought a gun in order to feel safe in their houses. In California, a driver of a 10-year-old would have lived to matur­ity had the boy not been exploring Dad's new defense weapon.

Why is this country seemingly so against and gun control? Or why hasn't Congress passed some sort of gun control legislation? Currently a gun control bill before Congress is facing heavy opposition from the National Rifle Association. The Kennedy-Rodino bill (S.974 and H.R. 3200) would:

-Halt the manufacture and sale of "Saturday Night Specials."
-Make tracing handgun ownership as quick and easy as automobile ownership.
-Check out handgun purchasers to make sure they don't have a criminal record or history of mental illness.
-Keep bars anyone who uses a handgun in a crime.
-Tighten control over the 170,000 handgun dealerships in America and get pimploots out of the business of selling handguns.

Author Jeff Levy is a junior jour­nalism major and Mustang writer.

This bill will not necessarily cut crime, but it will cut the number of fatalities and that is what the Handgun Control Inc. is after. If handgun control passes Congress, the number of "Saturday Night Specials" in existence will start to diminish.

The NRA uses the slogan, "Guns don't kill people... People kill people." Syndicated Columnist, Mike Byko summed it up best saying, "Why don't we sell cyanide over the table, after all, poison doesn't kill people, people kill people.

Letters

Diablo meets safety requirements

Since the A.F.C.'s 1973 decision, the NRC has made design criteria more strin­gent. PG&E has made the necessary modifications to meet these new stan­dards.

Second, regarding the hearings. Your editorial said, "Both PG&E admit that the evacuation plan doesn't meet NRC standards." It's important to recognize that this is an "emergency response" plan, not an "evacuation" plan. A general evacuation is the last step in responding to a radiological emergency. Preceding steps include listening to your radio for instructions or shielding in your own home.

A nuclear power plant operation at 5 percent thermal capacity is significantly different from one operating at full elec­trical capacity. The "worst case" acci­dent at a full power plant could conceivably affect a large geographic area. The "worst case" accident at a plant operating at 5 percent thermal capacity would only have significant impacts on the low-population zone (LPZ) within six miles of the plant. Sheriff George Whiting testified at the NRC hearings that his department could respond to an emergency within the LPZ and could, if necessary, evacuate those people. Although the County's Emergency Response Plan doesn't yet meet NRC standards for full-power operation, the County's (Sheriff's Department) can effectively respond to an emergency dur­ing low-power test operation.

BYRON B. WOERTZ, JR.
Community Activities Coordinator

Summer Mustang

Co-Editors... Tom Kinsolving Mike Dawson
Photo Director... Michael Anosco
General Manager... Carol Roncaze
Advertising Manager... Paula Druez

Editor: I would like to comment on two of Mustang Daily's recent stories: The May 13 story on Andrew Baldwin's speech and the May 20 editorial on the NRC's low power licensing hearings. First, regarding Mr. Baldwin's speech topic Diablo Canyon is the immediate concern, I'd stick to that subject. I think a brief discussion of PG&E's earth­quake studies for Diablo may help keep Mr. Baldwin's comments in perspec­tive. The Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant (DCNP) was originally designed to withstand the largest expected earth­quake along any known fault with an epicenter on the point near the plant.

As a margin of safety, DCNP was designed to withstand a 6.75 magnitude earthquake from a hypothetical fault with an epicenter directly beneath the plant.

When the Hosgri fault was discovered, PG&E and the U.S.G.S began studying the effects it was likely to have on DCNP's safety. PG&E determined that any earth motions from an earthquake on the Hosgri would be less than movements from the 6.75 magnitude earthquake which was originally postulated. When the Atomic Energy Commission evaluated PG&E's and the U.S.G.S data during Final Safety Analysis Report public hearings in 1973, they agreed that the plant could withstand an earthquake on any of the area's faults—including a 7.5 magnitude earthquake on the Hosgri.

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Page 2 Summer Mustang Thursday, June 25, 1981

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BYRON B. WOERTZ, JR.
Community Activities Coordinator
Nuclear power: a part of our future?

Yes — it's safe, crucial energy

"Diablo Canyon — A Dangerous Neighbor." All around the San Luis Obispo community, those alarming orange billboards are posted on highways. Elected officials are afraid to frighten us to shout "no nukes!"

The anti-nuke movement apparently has gotten swollen-up above on emotionalism. Why the scare tactics? Perhaps it is because groups like Abalone Alliance have failed to show that the 74-year-old nuclear power establishment has proven, or will prove, to be fatal to our wellbeing.

Surely they must be aware of the federally approved safeguards in nuclear power plants, including uranium enrichment, special added safety features, Diablo Canyon. Please explain how easy it would be for that radiation to make "The Great Escape" out of titanium control rods, an enclosed steel containment chamber, and three one-half foot thick concrete walls laced with multiple rows of steel rods.

Shut-down systems and back-up shut-down systems, as well as reserve electric systems, have more than enough potential to prevent a fantasized "doom." Robert Carlin, a former Department of Energy Assistant Secretary for the Environment, said accurately that nuclear safety precautions imposed by the government have reached a "point of unreality.

"Take a long look at the Summer Mustang's letter from the "community villains."

P.G. and G.

If the Atomic Energy Commission did rule, after reviewing a U.S. Geological Survey, that Diablo Canyon is safe, then why not operate this crucially needed plant? Diablo, even if built on top of the largest fault, has been scientifically certified to withstand an earthquake of 7.5 on the Richter Scale — what more do you want?

The biggest garbage bag that can be thrown at nukes is the infamous 1979 Three Mile Island accident. Infamous, yes, but we must not lose sight of the facts. The price tag for "TMI" alone is estimated at $560 million.

In every free market economy in the world, expansion of nuclear energy is expanding. The only two countries where nuclear power is expanding are France and the Soviet Union. It's hard to say, but nuclear industry spokesmen have noted that lawsuits filed following the Three Mile Island have cost $560 million. (It will be interesting to see if lawsuits following the Three Mile Island incident exceed this amount.)

Surely they must be aware of the federally approved safeguards in nuclear power plants, including uranium enrichment, special added safety features, Diablo Canyon. Please explain how easy it would be for that radiation to make "The Great Escape" out of titanium control rods, an enclosed steel containment chamber, and three one-half foot thick concrete walls laced with multiple rows of steel rods.

But it is tough to outrun radiation. The sirens are about as effective as trying to salvage the Towering Inferno curves at the plant, causing large amounts of radiation to be enclosed steel containment chamber und three and one-half foot thick concrete walls laced with multiple rows of steel rods.

Seventy-seven emergency sirens set up by P.G. & E. — all within a 20-mile radius of the plant. That's why don't utilities take full responsibility for the nuclear power plant accidents? You know the answer.

Oil uses is an indeed risky matter. Recall the American government's reaction when Afghanistan, not far from Middle oilfields, was invaded by the Soviet forces.

"Any attempt by any outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region," said then-President Carter to Congress, "will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the U.S. and will be repelled by any means necessary, including military force."

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Fashions with an Asian touch

BY KARIN RICH

For Steve Miskulin, his career as clothes designer and wholesaler began on a surfing trip to Southeast Asia. Because of what he described as a "little wild surfing safari," the Cal Poly graduate is now producing and importing women's clothing. As owner of the new Dawn Boutique, a shop in San Luis Obispo that features his line of clothing, Miskulin had his first fashion show on June 5.

Miskulin, who was a health education major, said he changed his mind about what he wanted to do in the middle of his college career. "I realized that vocationally, college wasn't going to help me," he said. "I decided I didn't really want to be a P.E. teacher anymore."

Taking a break from school, Miskulin traveled to Hong Kong, Indonesia and Malaysia. While there he said he decided he would start an import business, and he bought clothing, jewelry and drug paraphernalia. On his return to the States he found that clothing and paraphernalia sold the best.

Choosing to concentrate on women's clothing, Miskulin began his own import company after graduating in 1979. With Batavia Imports, he began selling his own designs to such San Luis Obispo stores as the Rug Maze, Hawk's Humanist and what was then the Dawn Boutique.

"I'm not sure if I'm a fashion designer," said Miskulin. "But I produce the clothes from beginning to end." He travels to Southeast Asia six months out of the year, and he produces the clothes while he is there. First he buys the fabric, and then he bargains with the factory owners over dying the colors and the designs on the material.

His clothing is made out of rayon, and has either batik work on it, consisting of patterns dyed on the material, or cutwork, which is something like embroidery.

"I think it's popular because it looks good," said Miskulin. "It wears well on women, and it enhances each person's uniqueness. It's very conducive to California." Miskulin said he believes he's successful because "I never listened to anybody who said I was crazy."

Graduation '81

From page 1

Liberals, according to the newspaper editor, believe in government intervention in people's lives through government regulation. Yet when it comes to the environment, Murphy said, they stress the principle of non-interference with nature.

Murphy said there was terrorism, violence and mass injustice in the world and that the graduates must choose an agenda for themselves that will allow them to face these realities.

"Americans' belief in ever-expanding territory and opportunity, he said, has largely a myth. It is time for us to start inventing and thinking again, Murphy declared—we must become the 'writers of the memories of our time.'

Cal Poly President Warren Baker, before conferring the degrees, noted that life is generally a race between education and catastrophe. Baker hoped the graduates would "cultivate their imagination and will" and would choose the right path.

Tim Kersten, chairman of the university's academic senate and a member of the president's party, posed a hypothetical situation to the graduates: When you're age 40 with a $150,000 mortgage, two children who need braces and a boss who believes working 60 hours a week is average, Kersten said, you may ask, "Is this all there is?"

No, he answered, for there is friendship, beauty and meaning in life, and that is what university life hopes to provide.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Hazel Jones announced the Cal Poly faculty members who were selected as the university's distinguished teachers for 1980-81. Those honored were Professor Sarah Burroughs of the child development and home economics department; Professor Christina Orr-Cahall, art department; and Philosophy Professor Kendrick Walker.

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ORIGINAL DEECTIVE
Pro-nuclear seminar

Scientific panel puts radiation ‘in perspective’

BY MIKE CARROLL

The dangers of radiation have been blown out of proportion by a sensationalistic media and a bureaucratic government that has indirectly heightened public fears about nuclear energy, a panel of scientists said during a symposium at Cal Poly on June 5.

The panel, which included Nobel Laureate Rosalyn Yalow, spoke to a sparsely populated audience in the Cal Poly Theatre that dwindled during the course of the 2 1/2 hour presentation.

Before the symposium was under way, a representative of the anti-nuclear Concerned Cal Poly Faculty and Staff was passing out information outlining the alternatives and risks of nuclear power.

Yalow, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1977 for her work with radioactive isotopes, said newspapers have not concentrated on reporting about nuclear safety because media responsiveness depends on sensationalism. It is not newsworthy to report that something is safe, she said.

Robert Catlin, who served three years working for the assistant secretary for environment in the U.S. Department of Energy, told the placid but attentive audience that presumptions for reactor safety appear to be too conservative. He said the nuclear safety precautions enacted by the government had reached “the point of unreality.”

The partial evacuation of Harrisburg, Pa., following the incident at Three Mile Island was carried out for an “excessive amount of fear,” Catlin claimed, and thus caused unnecessary cost to the public to become overly alarmed.

The symposium, titled ‘Radiation in Perspective: the Safety of Your Health and Environment,’ was moderated by Professor Miro Todorovich of the City University of New York. The event was sponsored by the pro-nuclear Students for Adequate Energy, the Scientists and Engineers for Secure Energy, Citizens for Adequate Energy and the Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

Yalow, holding up an article from the Paso Robles County News that discussed the effects of uranium drilling on groundwater, said “I’m living in a world of Alice in Wonderland” and contended such articles were a “deliberate fooling of the people.”

The Nobel laureate explained that radiation originates from three natural sources: the cosmos, the soil and the food we eat. These sources, she said, form background radiation.

Yalow indicated that the average exposure received by persons 10 to 50 miles from a Turbine Mile Island plant represented “one hundredth of our yearly exposure” from natural sources.

She also brought up the case of Colorado, which is subjected to twice as much natural radiation as either the East or West coasts due to the state’s elevation. Colorado, Yalow explained, has the fifth lowest death rate of all 50 states and yet “their exposure (to radiation) is twice ours.”

The governor never called for the evacuation of Colorado—not even for pregnant women,” she said.

If it was the other way around, said Yalow, and Colorado experienced a higher than average death rate, they would have been forced to evacuate because it was due to radiation rather than differences in lifestyles.

The senior medical investigator for the Veterans Administration discussed Operation Smokey, whereby radioactive fallout from the government’s atomic weapons testing program descended upon Utah. Although the testing has been linked with cancer incidence, Yalow noted Utah has the lowest death rate due to cancer of any state.

She said this indicates that a lifestyle emphasizing abstinence from smoking, coffee, tea and drinking may have more of an effect on cancer incidence than radiation.

Yalow said coal or nuclear power, or a combination of both, are the only alternatives for producing an adequate supply of energy during the next quarter century. Coal, however, has such drawbacks as the limited quantities of water for strip mining in the West and the possibility of coal miners’ strikes, she added. Please see page 7

From left to right, Dr. Jacob Fabrikant, Dr. Rosalyn Yalow and former Department of Energy official Robert Catlin prepare to answer questions in the Cal Poly Theatre.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

With the low power testing hearings now over and the possibility of a license for Diablo Canyon as soon as August 1, we, the Abalone Alliance, feel the urgent need to step up our organizing for the Blockade/Encampment of Diablo Canyon. The need to prepare for the Blockade has become a compelling reality because of the recent NRC decision to shorten the appeal period after a license is granted from 80 days to 10 days.

Although we believe the overriding evidence warrants denial of a license, it appears that the philosophy of the NRC is to disregard public safety and to speed up licensing nuclear plants at any cost. Therefore, for the past two years we have been preparing for the eventuality of the Blockade. As planned, the Blockade will begin within 10 days of the date the NRC grants an operating license for Diablo Canyon, and before the nuclear fuel is loaded into the plant.

In organizing this nonviolent Blockade/Encampment, our hope is that it will be attended by thousands of people from San Luis Obispo County, because it we who have the most to lose if Diablo Canyon is allowed to operate. Our massive presence at the plant will clearly exhibit to decision makers locally, in Sacramento, and in Washington, the sincere commitment of local residents that Diablo Canyon never operate as a nuclear plant.

“Theres comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but that must be taken by conscience and the right.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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A Cal Poly weekend: restaurants, sailing, hiking

BY TOM KINSELING

This traumatic week of what for many Poly students is their first real taste of college—has brought with it the realization that the Central Coast is almost over.

So—the question—do you do on your vacation? In this issue, you will find an article by a Poly student who spent a week on the coast. Not only will you read about his adventures, but also you will learn about the culture, history, and cuisine of the area.

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The sun finally sets behind Madonna and Bishop's Peak Mountains to the west. Nine o'clock rolls around Time to hit the Graduate, a rowdy nightclub on Industrial Street near the city airport. Rock'n'Roll, disco, new wave—it's all here. And an evening of charges, the glee stomp or pogo all you want.

You wake up Saturday morning, pain­fully, sure that someone had hammered a railroad spike through your skull. "Good thing we didn't get that fifth pit­chie stomp or pogo all you want."

You head back to your apartment or dorm room. A munchies attack sets in. "Call Woodstock's", orders your friend and heads for campus from the dorm room. Forty-five minutes later, the thick, tast­y mushroom ham and pineapple pizza is in your hand—mmm-mm-mm-mm-mm.

Fabrikant said people face the same risks when they travel 400 miles by air, drive 60 miles by car, smoke 3/4 of a cigarette or simply live for 20 minutes after reaching 80 years of age.

"It's not a question of what is safe but what is hazar­dous," Fabrikant said.

One of the risks known, patterns of thought may be changed, he said. "According to Fabrikant, this is a society —where radiation is a negligible component."

He said radiation plays a vital role in medicine and health, but "we must make sure the risks are as low as possible for society and the individual will have an oppor­tunity to benefit."

He also questioned whether relying on foreign oil is safer than utilizing nuclear power—especially with the prospect of a Third World War in the Middle East.

Culkin, whose experience is in emergency response plan­ning and health physics, said the government bureaucracy has understood how to control it and know its effects at the level of cells and genes.

"Of course, we are all radioactive," Fabrikant said, explaining that man evolved from the primordial sea, an envi­ronment of high radiation.

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Dresses
Poly/cotton sundresses for the hot summer months ahead. Assorted styles and prints to choose from. Jr. sizes 4-14. Values to 20.00 DT US MB AT

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Pants
Breezers to basic pants are your choice with or without belts in linen, poly/cotton dock and french canvas. Assorted colors. Jr. sizes 4-14. Values to 25.00 DT US MB AT

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Dresses
Choose from selected styles from our regular spring and summer stock. Jr. sizes 4-14. Values to 60.00 DT US MB AT

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Shirts
Short-sleeve shirts in poly/cotton twill in panel of 100% poly. Jr. sizes 4-14. Values to 28.00 DT US MB AT

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Jogging Shorts
100% miljon jogging shorts in solids and 2-tone stripes. Assorted colors. Jr. sizes 4-14. Values to 6.00 DT US MB AT

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Walking Shorts
Cuffed walking shorts in assorted colors. Perfect for your summertime fun. Jr. sizes 4-14. Values to 22.00 DT US MB AT

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Knits
Golf looking striped pullover knits in cap sleeves to 3/4 inch sleeves. Jr. sizes 4-14. Values to 6.00 DT US MB AT

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Both bikinis and one piece styles to choose from in solids and prints. A great chance to pick up an extra suit for the summer. Jr. sizes 4-14. Values to 10.00 DT US MB AT

sale 15 off

Sportswear
Selected groups from our regular spring coordinates that include jackets, pants, skirts, tops and sweaters. Jr. sizes 4-14. Values to 65.00 DT US MB AT

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