Panel debates Reaganomics' effectiveness
by Lorie Wallin

Four of five experts at a panel discussion on the American economy agreed the nation is on the road to economic recovery.

The forum, titled "Reaganomics: What Went Wrong?" drew a capacity-plus crowd as people spilled out into the hallway to hear what five Cal Poly economic professors had to say. Robert Cox, Dean of the School of Business, served as forum moderator Feb. 24 in University Union Room 220. The presentation was sponsored by the Economics Club and Economics Department.

Despite a federal deficit reaching new heights, over a trillion-dollar national debt, high interest rates, 10 percent of the workforce unemployed and coupled with social programs being cut back as billions of dollars are pumped into military spending, things are looking up, according to George Beardsley.

"We're not exactly dancing in the streets," he said, but added that "national economic indicators" are encouraging. He said that the new year brought good news with industrial production on the rise, automobile production and sales also increasing, along with slipping interest rates. But, he said, a massive income tax reform is necessary for economic recovery.

Reagan's emphasis on military spending disquieted Beardsley, though, as he spoke of the president's proposal to increase defense spending 14.7 percent for FY '83. "Six B-1 bombers, Persian Gulf missiles, Trident submarines, and cruise missiles," he said. "We have a responsibility to recognize the consequences of our continued commitment to the arms race." Beardsley said that excessive arms spending only led to world tension and reduced global cooperation. "We're not going to regain our leadership position in the world simply by being the biggest nuclear bully on the block," he said.

Professor Fuad Tellew spoke on the Reagan Administration's attempts to revitalize the budget and why they were not successful. He described the economy before President Reagan took office as "sluggish, with interest and inflation in double digit." He said Reagan's policy of deregulation was designed to reduce government intervention, increase productivity, and the plan to reduce government spending was designed to decrease the deficit and fight inflation.

As a result, he said, the deficit grows to a new height, and revenues declined because the economy did not grow.

Tellew said the pressure exerted by political action committees is the reason the president did not succeed in cutting spending to balance the budget. He said that the pressure of the PACs was one of the most important issues in the forum.

"Everyone in Washington is promoting more goods and services to pressure groups beyond the capacity of the government," Tellew said.

Wrong?" drew a capacity-plus crowd as people spilled out into the hallway to hear what five Cal Poly economic professors had to say. Robert Cox, Dean of the School of Business, served as forum moderator Feb. 24 in University Union Room 220. The presentation was sponsored by the Economics Club and Economics Department.

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Speciality printing process will be forum topic

A high-quality, long-run printing process will be the focus of a forum Thursday at Cal Poly.

"Gravure Day at Cal Poly: Opportunities in Focus of a Forum Thursday" printing process will be forum topic

"Gravure printing is a long-term, quality run process used primarily for producing printing volume of over a million copies," said Dennis Teutschel, president of Mat Pica Press.

"It's used when you want to keep to high standard of excellence," said Teutschel. "You use it when you want your millionth copy to look as good as your first."

Gravure printing accounts for 18 percent of the total printing in the United States, said Heraclius Apelberg, a Graphic Communications professor.

It is used to print such magazines as National Geographic and Reader's Digest, to produce wallpaper and laminated floor covering, and for packaging and specialty printing.

The forum will focus on such topics as new technologies and future trends, career opportunities for students, input copy, and where the gravure process is used. The event is free and open to the public.

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Mahrashri Mahesw Yogi, Founder
The legend of Mahatma Gandhi is one of the most incredible legacies the 20th century has ever seen. Looking back on his achievements, even now it is hard to believe that this "little brown man" just about single-handedly brought the British Empire to its knees. His preachings of non-violent resistance have influenced people as diverse as Martin Luther King, Jr. and John Lennon.

Portraying such a man on the silver screen must indeed have been an intimidating and monumental task. Because of his stature, any cinematic attempt would be sure to meet controversy. Could one film capture even a fraction of the spirit of this messianic man?

For 20 years of his life, director Richard Attenborough wrestled with this question. The result of his struggles is the film "Gandhi", which chronicles the Indian's life from his humble beginnings as a South African lawyer to the spiritual and political leader of India.

The overall result is a professional chronicle of Gandhi's life. Mind you, it is by no means a great film, but nonetheless a competent and modest one.

There are three reasons for the film's partial success. One of these is the production of the picture. Especially noteworthy is the beautiful cinematography of Billy Williams and Richard Taylor. This camerawork, combined with the realistic art and costume designs, gives the film a distinct and necessary Indian atmosphere. Some shots, such as Gandhi staring at the sun setting on the Indian Ocean on the eve of his march to Dandi, are breathtaking and poignant in their imagery.

Another key to the film is the story of Gandhi is true. While this statement may seem like a superficial observation, the knowledge that the story is true gives the film its stunning and hallowed impact.

The plot simply leaves too many unanswered questions. Scenes just seem to randomly happen without any concrete explanations. While many of these plotholes are minor, they still are annoying and leave the audience unsatisfied.

One of these flaws is the film's screenplay, which is the picture's biggest and most glaring weakness. The plotholes and handling of the characters range from mediocre to atrocious.

The plot also seems to leave out some of Gandhi's major character transformations. One minute we see Gandhi as a vain and self-righteous lawyer in South Africa. The next, he is the sage-like paragon able to inspire and motivate an entire country. The movie gives no reasons for his transformation from a human to a "super-human".

Much of the plot is riddled with inconsistencies. Things just seem to randomly happen without any concrete explanations. While many of these plotholes are minor, they still are annoying and leave the audience unsatisfied.

But this is a small quibble compared to the script's handling of the minor characters. There is absolutely no depth or impact in any of the supporting roles. Like much of the movie, people seem to appear and disappear without any explanation or reason why they were included in the first place. Many of these cameo roles seem to be just an excuse to cast some well-known actors for their ticket-drawing potential. The result is a group of talented performers wasted on inconsequential roles.

It's a shame, too, when one considers the job the writers did on Gandhi. Except for a few minor narrative inconsistencies, the handling of Gandhi is seamless and believable. Compared to Gandhi, most of the minor characters seem to be shallow.

The overall result is a professional chronicle of Gandhi's life.
Poly concert proves to be enlightening

by Mary Hennessey

The Poly Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Clifton Swanson, who along with the Cal Poly Concert Artists International Audiences, was worried about Frank at first, as his face turned a bit red and puffy when he first blew into the instrument, but the woman on my left assured me that all obelisks did that and that it just was part of the process of playing good music. Good music it was. I assumed Baroque music was something that sunk you in your seat. Instead it turned out to be very lively with all the violins moving up and down in unison and the other hand members never missing a beat. There was even a little humor involved. Conductor Swanson called the tune "the most unusual piece ever written." "Battalia" by H.I.F. Biber incited chuckles and moans from the crowd as the war song sounded to me like a fog horn in parts and purposely off key in others.

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Reagan's part in rebound disputed
Experts agree economy is on way to recovery

From page 1
Howard Smith, Economics Department head, said the "colossal deficit" is associated in the public mind with the Reagan budget. "Much of it would have occurred with whoever got in the White House," he said, adding that perhaps Reagan was responsible for one-third of it due to tax cuts and higher defense costs.

The nation's budget deficit is estimated to be $208 billion for fiscal year 1983, a projected seven percent of the GNP. Smith said that deficit spending no longer has the "stimulative effect it once did," adding that the large deficit acts as a drag on economy, recovery and growth.

On the other hand, Timothy Karsten said budget deficits were not a serious problem for the economy. He said that massive deficit figures made for "good press," and the fact that Reagan promised to balance the budget by 1984 and was failing to do so, also made for "good press." Government predictions forecast 3.1 percent growth for 1983 — an "extremely modest" projection, he said, because the government has been burned before for optimism in economic matters.

He said independent forecasters predict a five to six percent growth. Michael Johnson was the lone professor seeing no signs of economic recovery. He said that Reaganomics "failed to address new problems facing the U.S. and the global economy" as a whole.

Johnson began by saying "Joe Luncheon's" take-home pay in 1950 was $120; in 1970, $186; and "today he is only taking home $167 per week."

Johnson sees the stagnated economy as a result of several factors. One is the reliance on non-renewable resources, such as oil, he said. As resources are exhausted, the costs of getting more out of the ground increases, driving up product prices. He also faulted the American lifestyle, "Americans constitute six percent of the world's population, yet we use 35 percent of the world's resources," he said.

He said there was a lack of research and development on economic issues because of the "diversion of scientists away from problems to military research and development." Also criticizing an overemphasis on defense spending, he said, "we're spending billions on weapons we hope and pray we will never have to use." Johnson said that excessive arms spending increased the probability of war. "We are really a planetary community and should be helping our global neighbors rather than threatening them."

While calling for a gradual reduction in military spending, his comment that "there may need to be a change in leadership to do it," evoked a roar of applause. Johnson also felt that excessive market power is in the hands of big corporations and unions, "leading to restricted outputs and higher prices." He said this power could be reduced by enforcing anti-trust laws and changing PAC's.

Johnson also felt that excessive market power is in the hands of big corporations and unions, "leading to restricted outputs and higher prices." He said this power could be reduced by enforcing anti-trust laws and changing PAC's.

"Until we start addressing global problems, I don't see any dramatic improvements in inflation or unemployment," he said.

Faculty chooses new agent

From page 1
"Both organizations wanted to accept the name CFA because we simply have different traditions and methods. We are encouraging UPC members to move into our organization and seek office," he said.

"The time constraints are very tight," he said. "Right now our (UPC) big concern is to support the CFA in their efforts to get a meaningful contract that is good for the CSU faculty."

Ratcliff also commented on the differences of the organizations.

"We regard ourselves as a grass roots organization," he said. "The CFA has a larger delegated staff, where we regard ourselves as a democratic organization."

Oboist April stars in concert

From page 4
Also featured at the event were soloists Ronald Raffel on the organ and Craig Russell on the baroque guitar, both Cal Poly music instructors. The guitar was particularly impressive, as I've always thought only rock stars were the masters of guitar. Wrong. Mr. Russell's easy listening was as enjoyable as any acoustic or electric I've heard from Mr. Springsteen or the Eagles.

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I Don't Wanna
by Shawn Turner

Return of the Hodgepodge

The judge passed sentence on me last week. I have been convicted of impersonating a sports editor. The least I could get, says my lawyer, is another fine. The judge let me have the trial transcripts mentioning that it had to be worth something. I said I could use it. Maybe use the blank sides for scratch paper. The sentencing went like this:

Judge Spalding: Mr. Turner, you are charged with discussing the continuing saga of Heisman Trophy winner Herschel Walker with your roommate, the one who doesn't like to jog, and then realizing you don't care about Herschel Walker. How do you plead?

Me: Yes. I mean, guilty.

Judge: Now son, it says here you are also charged with pretending to know all about sports. How do you plead?

Me: Not guilty. That is, I am, but I'm not.

Rather than print the rest verbatim—there are a lot of sobs and stammers—I'll just say I told the judge I realize there are a lot of sports but I don't always have the room to cover them.

I know, for example, that women's soccer team is laying waste the rest of the conference schools. And I know the rugby team deserves coverage, and that a few ruggers would like to politely remove my incisors for not giving them much copy space.

I told the judge I would cover the sports, but I don't thing he believed me. He threw the book at me. I think I have cauliflower ear.

Before I am forced to ride the rails—or is it ride the rails in a cup of coffee?—I had better save time. Marvel at the skill as one deftly hides their coffeepots in piles of styrofoam cups on piles of newsroom. There is an exciting novelty of it all, brought in a cup of coffee (watch it,) and say, "Oh, look at that. I have to go." And people accept that. Now I have to find something to get busy with.

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The Cal Poly wrestling team placed third in the NCAA Division I Western Regionals in Cedar Falls, Iowa Sunday night as three Mustangs qualified for the Division I national championships.

Jeff Barkdale at 142-pounds and Louis Montano at 158-pounds won their divisions while 150-pound Pat O'Donnell finished third. They will compete in the finals tournament March 10-12 in Oklahoma City.

Eleventh-ranked Louisiana State finished first in the team competition with 146 points, followed by fifth-ranked Northern Iowa with 132 points, while Cal Poly had 101.

Eastern Illinois was fourth with 82 points, followed by Tennessee in fifth place with 61 points. Montano, ranked second in the nation at 158-pounds, raised his record to 36-1 with a final-round 7-3 decision over LSU's Kevin Jackson.

Barkdale defeated Nathan Winter of Bowers Oregon 6-5 to win the 143-pound title and bring his season mark to 26-3.

O'Donnell lost to Roy Lee of LSU in the semifinals, but defeated Larry Lovett of Northern Iowa in the consolation final bout to place third. O'Donnell is now 19-6 in the season.

Only the top two finishers in each weight class qualified for nationals, along with two wild-card choices, one of which was O'Donnell.

Al Gutierrez placed fourth in the 118-pound category after he was placed in the consolation final by Northern Iowa's Bob Halman just hours after he had beaten Halman 8-5.

Four Mustangs placed fifth: Chris DeLong at 134-pounds, John Nolan at 177-pounds, Jeff Steward at 190-pounds, and heavyweight Joe Guinn.
Editorial

In reading your editorial (Thursday, Feb. 17) "Use what, general," it is obvious that the author's ignorant conclusion was reached in haste and out of the context of today's military defense. It is typical of the "smart" computer-controlled weaponry in today's battle fields. One needs only to look at the outcomes of the Falklands war and the air war over Beirut for proof. Yes, exceptions exist. But surely to have successful systems, some failures must be encountered. This "love of the gimmick" the author speaks of is a necessary pursuit of the many possible solutions to battle field defense. In distorting a few failures the way he does, he satiates the appetite of the ignorant who want to hear only of the successes and not of the failures of today's military defense. It is typical of the Mustang Daily's journalistic irresponsibility.

I know of few people who condone the arms race or military conflict, but being realistic, I want to be protected by better weapons than of those who wish us ill.

Editor's note: The conclusion of the editorial resulted from reading the article cited and many others on weaponry systems and their quality and performance under realistic conditions. As for its ignorance, read the next letter.

Henry Fletcher

Letters

“Smart” protection

Editor: Does your future employer promote life or death? And if he or she promotes death, are you prepared to deal with the moral and philosophical compromises that might result from it?

A rally was held last Thursday asking students these questions and protesting what demonstrators saw as the university's philosophy of encouraging military contractors to recruit employees at Cal Poly. More than 200 students of different majors met on the library lawn to hear speeches, then marched silently through the Placement Center where several defense corporations were conducting interviews.

The reasons for the march were well founded. With more than 15,000 potential graduates at Cal Poly, there are many students who should be aware of the philosophies future employers hold.

The Mustang Daily Editorial Board encourages students who are considering being employed by military contractors to increase their level of awareness to all aspects of future employment. We feel that a level of awareness is crucial when working for companies such as Rockwell International, Lockheed, General Dynamics, and Martin Marietta. The students need to realize how many potential lives he or she may be responsible for destroying when designing a bomb or working on the MX Missile or B-1 Bomber.

Contrary to protestors' claims, Cal Poly students are not interviewed with only military contractors on campus.

The Campus Placement Center provides university access to any companies wishing to recruit students on campus. Not all of these companies are defense oriented, but those that are, are interested in Cal Poly's engineering strength.

Students also need to be aware that not every defense corporation is strictly a military contractor. For each company, 40 to 60 percent of their business is strictly commercial.

In addition, "militarism at Cal Poly" does not only concern engineering students. A high percentage of other majors as well would find future jobs relating to the defense industry.

We strongly encourage all Cal Poly students to reflect on the goals of future employers, and make informed decisions about working for them.

Do you want to have a hand in producing military weapons whose sole reason for existence is to threaten others with death?

WANTED! THINK ABOUT ALL THE CRITICISM THE C.P.A. HAS BEEN TAKING! THOSE POLITICIANS IN WASHINGTON ARE REALY CLEANING UP THAT AGENCY, HUM?!

YES... SO IF WE COULD ONLY USE SOME OF THAT INVESTIGATIVE ENERGY TO CLEAN UP THE TOXIC WASTE!

Editor: I congratulate you on your editorial in your Feb. 17 paper. American military weaponry is much too reliant on delicate and unreliable gadgetry. I am a combat veteran of the Viet-Nam conflict and I saw firsthand how an adversary with simple but effective weapons was able to inflict substantial damage on a force with 100 times more firepower and supplies.

I saw an F-4 Phantom jet shot down by rifle fire. I saw two M-60 tanks knocked out by hand-held RPG-7s. I saw dozens of Ontos mounted vehicle with six 106 mm cannons) pulled out of combat to be scrapped while the enemy continued to use portable 57 mm recoilless rifles to great advantage. I saw Puff-the-Magic Dragon fire 100 bullets per second all night without a hit while the enemy killed our lieutenant with two sniper rounds.

When a portion of my unit was cut off on top of a mountain, we listened helplessly to radio calls for medical evacuations, resupply and air-support which could not be provided because of bad weather. The NVA assault on that mountain continued despite the foul weather. Our M-16 rifles designed for the space-age infantryman with super plastics and elastic metal alloys and a small and complicated bolt were so sensitive to dirt that they were constantly jamming or failing altogether. Whereas the AK-47 with lower and simpler parts was highly reliable under any conditions.

We are doing our nation more harm than good by investing billions of dollars in the technological gadgetry of M-1 tanks and F-15 fighters which are inoperable 60 percent of the time. There is no doubt in my mind that if people are still the greatest asset and weapon if you will in our national defense, and 2. military hardware should be simple, frugal with fuel and ammunition, and appropriate to the task.

Wayne R. Montgomery

Letters

Vietnam experience

Editor: The Mustang Daily encourages readers' opinions, criticisms and comments on news stories, letters to the editor, or any other editorial. To ensure that letters will be considered for the next edition, they should be submitted to the Daily office by 10 a.m. Letters and press releases may be submitted to the Daily by bringing them to the Daily office in Room 228 of the Graphic Arts Building, or by sending them to Editor, Mustang Daily, GRG 228, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407. Letters must be double-space typed and include the writers' signature and phone numbers.

Editors reserve the right to edit letters for length and style, and to omit libelous statements. Letters should be kept as short as possible.

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