

Graduates exit in festive fashion



An estimated 3,000 graduates, along with their families and friends, got their wish for warm, sunny weather at the 1984 graduation ceremony. The skies stayed partly cloudy, but nary a drop fell during the two-hour commencement, which was held at Hayward Field June 10.

The initial procession of the black-robed bachelors, masters and doctoral successes was highlighted with decorated mortarboards, often sporting a motif of course study. Many of the architecture group, for example, constructed miniature buildings on their headdress.

Others chose the floral motif, with garlands of shrubbery for necklaces and blossoms bunched atop their caps. One woman even painted the short but sweet message of "Thanks Mom and Dad" on her mortarboard.

Gordon Wright, history professor emeritus at Stanford University, gave a humorous but meaningful address to the attentive crowd, while former ASUO Pres. Mary Hotchkiss ended the ceremony with a personal message of her own.

The sounds of popping champagne bottles were frequently heard, as the seated mass attempted to relieve itself of the day's muggy weather and uncork an early celebration.

Young and old participated in the ceremony, too. One baby escorted her mother out onto the field. And at one point during the degree confirmations, University Pres. Paul Olum interrupted the proceedings to honor Aganetha Toews, a 77-year-old graduate student receiving her doctorate.

Photos by Michael Clapp

