Greek Week: Let the games begin

Brooke Robertson
MUSTANG DAILY

All of Cal Poly's sorority and fraternity members are rolling up their sleeves for some competitive sporting and service events scheduled to take place during Greek Week, which begins today and ends next Tuesday, April 24.

Greek Week is "an opportunity for greek organizations to sort of display to the university and to the surrounding community the positive components to being involved in a greek community," said director of Greek Affairs Eddie Dominguez.

During the week, all greek members will compete in sporting and service events as part of a team. Groups vie for the prized winner's trophy by participating in each event and earning points.

Greek Week for fraternities and sororities "is like the Super Bowl for sports teams," said Ryan Hene, a plant protection science senior and Alpha Gamma Rho member. Teams are comprised of members from one large fraternity or sorority paired with a medi-sured fraternity and a cultural greek sorority or fraternity.

Members will participate in a variety of sporting events on campus including swimming, bowling, dodgeball, football, arm wrestling and an eating contest. "I'm going to eat a lot of hot dogs," said Robert Sylvester, an agricultural business sophomore and Alpha Gamma Rho member. Sylvester is a prime candidate to win the eating contest, which is scheduled for Thursday at 11 a.m. on Mott Lawn. Last year

Poly seniors throw Children's Day

Brian McMullen
MUSTANG DAILY

Though dark clouds threatened rain on Saturday morning, children were walking with arms full of toys and faces full of smiles at the Mission Plaza in downtown San Luis Obispo — all thanks to the work of six Cal Poly students.

Called Children's Day In The Plaza, the event has been put on for 29 years. Each year, six psychology majors take on the planning of the event as their senior project.

The goal of the event was for children and their families to have fun and acquire knowledge of the community resources available to them, said Michelle Von Bauer, psychology senior and publicity chair for the event.

State fire marshal Kate Dargan, pictured with Cal Fire director Ruben Grijalva, takes the oath.

Poly alumna takes leap for Calif. female firefighters

Giana Magnoli
MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly graduate Kate Dargan was sworn in as California's first female fire marshal on April 4.

Appointed to the post by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Dargan was promoted from assistant fire marshal. She has worked for Cal Fire since 1977. "Cal Fire is one of the best departments in California for diversity of women. I wouldn't yet say it's a lot, but it's better than many ... (6%) a department that is encouraging to work for," Dargan said.

Some of her main goals include developing building constructions for ignition resistance homes, preventing losses from wildfires and revamping training for California's 60,000 firefighters. "Every year we're training some portion of that community," Dargan said.

Then there is the issue of residential sprinklers; though many progressive cities have them, many don't, which causes preventable deaths, she said.

Another of her "pet projects" is one she calls "shaping the battlefield," a term she borrowed from the military. "I'm trying to work within fire service to connect fire prevention and fire operations," Dargan said. "Bringing the two together will strengthen fire service
Plaza continued from page 1

This year, the students were able to get businesses and organizations to sponsor 79 booths with everything from face painting to playing with slime, to sexual assault victim education, a petting zoo, and the typical inanimate attractions: the giant slide and the obstacle course.

Dillynn Barbosa, S, his face painted like Spiderman. When asked what he was most excited about, he said, "Want to know what I'm excited about? I like tigers!" Luckily for Barbosa, a Tigger mascot was at the event, as well as with the Po- The Crime Dog, Smokey the Bear and an NBC peacock.

During the event, and an NBC peacock. It included Irish dancing, a giant slide and the obstacle course.

Dagnan also provides the department with information and support for new initiatives as well as updating existing programs, Pitro said. One new initiative that is still in development is the Disaster Management, Homeland Security and Fire Technology program, which would provide continuing education of Cal Poly students and professionals in the field. Pitro hopes that the program will become a minor or a master's program someday, as well as providing much needed courses for professionals that want to climb up the career ladder.

Dawn will take place Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the University Union.

Greek Week will also feature a lip-sync contest, which students can enter with a donation of either $2 or two cans of food for the Bank of San Luis Obispo. The contest will be held Thursday night in Chumash Auditorium at 7:30.

Guest judges include Associated Students Inc. President Todd Maki and a University Police Department officer.

Teams will also vie against each other in Penny Wars, a weekend-long space-change battle. Each team will be designated a jar to fill with coins throughout the weekend. Pennies earn points, whereas silver coins deduct. "If your team is in the lead, you want to put silver in your competitor's jar," Dominguez explained.

All proceeds from the Penny Wars will be donated to the Food Bank of San Luis Obispo, Dominguez said.

Greek Week will also sponsor a blood drive on Most Lawn April 24.

Tonight, motivational speaker Michael Poll will appear in the Spanos Theatre at 6 and 7:30 p.m. to kick off Greek Week events. Poll is the author of several books that focus on getting a job after college and the importance of leadership.

All students are invited to attend Greek Week happenings and are encouraged to participate in service events.
State

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Dodgers solemnly lined up along the third-base line, each and every one wearing No. 42.

Jackie Robinson broke major league baseball's color barrier on April 15, 1947, with the Brooklyn Dodgers, and the sport celebrated the 60th anniversary of his debut throughout the country Sunday, when more than 200 players, managers and coaches wore his number.

"We've often said that baseball's most powerful moment in its really terrific history was Jackie Robinson's coming into baseball," commissioner Bud Selig said during an on-field ceremony before the Dodgers played the San Diego Padres. "It's an incredible story — not just for baseball, but for society. Jackie was an American hero and the ultimate barrier-breaker. Threats to his life were commonplace. Yet Jackie took everything hate-mongers had to offer him. Not only is he a baseball Hall of Famer, he's a Hall of Famer for all time."

Hank Aaron and Frank Robinson threw out ceremonial first pitches, and fellow Hall of Famers Joe Morgan and Dave Winfield were on hand, joined by actors Courtney B. Vance and Marlon Wayans.

Briefs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Dick Cheney says he is "willing to bet" that Democratic lawmakers will back down and approve a war-spending bill that doesn't call for U.S. troops to leave Iraq.

Top Democratic leaders shot back that Cheney has lost all public credibility.

With President Bush and Congress in a stalemate — he plans to veto legislation that orders U.S. troops home, which the House and Senate plan to send him — both sides are looking ahead. In an interview broadcast Sunday, Cheney predicted the Democrats will blink.

NEW YORK (AP) — A powerful nor'easter pounded the East with wind and pouring rain Sunday, grounding airliners and threatening to create some of the worst coastal flooding some areas had seen in more than a decade.

The storm flooded people out of their homes in the middle of the night in West Virginia and trapped others. Other inland states faced a threat of heavy snow.

International

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador (AP) — Latin President Rafael Correa scored a major victory Sunday as Ecuadorans voted overwhelmingly to support his ambitious plan to remake the nation's system of government and weaken its inexperienced Congress, an exit poll showed.

Voters across this small Andean nation, from highland Indians in ponchos to fishermen in villages along its Pacific coast, turned out to cast ballots in the need for a special assembly to rewrite the constitution — a measure many hope will bring economic improvement to their lives.

... BAGHDAD (AP) — Cars, minibuses and roadside bombs exploded in Shiite Muslim enclaves across the city Sunday, killing at least 45 people in sectarian violence that defied the Baghdad security crackdown, while a radical anti-U.S. cleric raised a new threat to Iraq's government.

Two officials close to Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr said his followers would gut their six Cabinet posts Monday — a move that could leave Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's already weak administration without enough support to stay in power.

Volunteer rates at historic high since 9/11 dip slightly in 2006

WASHINGTON — People in this country have been volunteering at record levels in the years following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, but that voluntary service dipped slightly in 2006, a study found.

More than a fourth of the population, 26.7 percent, did volunteer work in 2006, down from 28.8 percent the previous year, according to a new report by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

"We can't expect every year to be a new high so we're not really concerned moving from '05 to '06 with a small decrease," said David Eisner, chief executive officer of the corporation. "We would get concerned if that repeated itself every year."

An increase in volunteers from 20.4 percent in 1999 to 26.7 percent in 2006 was heavily influenced by a sharp increase — almost doubling — in the volunteer rates of young people ages 16-19, according to the report, released at the start of National Volunteer Week.

"Out of the tragedy of 9/11 and the devastation of hurricanes has come an unmistakable good: a strong interest in volunteering and community involvement," said Eisner. But he said there's plenty to be done to expand the country's service to others.

The percentage of beginning college students who believe it is very important to help others in difficulty reached a 25-year high in 2005, the Higher Education Research Institute found.

Eisner called the young people "the 9/11 generation."

"They came of age during 9/11. They learned new habits of responsibility, new habits of volunteering and those have stuck," he said. But volunteerism rates also have increased for most age groups.

The volunteer rate for seniors has increased from 16.9 percent in 1989 to 23.8 percent in 2006. Volunteerism among adults ages 45-64 has also increased since 1999.

The overall volunteer rate was at 27.4 percent in 2002 and has stayed close to that level for the last five years.

The corporation, which administers volunteer programs including Senior Corps and AmeriCorps, prepared the report in partnership with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau.
Stop whining — wine season is here!

Spring brings some great wine festivals and seasonal tastings to SLO area

The birds are chirping, the fences are buzzing and the clothes are being shed on campus (this happens more at the Cal Poly Rec Center pool and volleyball courts). Along with spring comes my favorite time of year ... wine festival time!

You may ask, why is a wine festival so neat? And I will reply, "It combines a lot of people and a lot of wine." Pair that with the fact that waiters carry around bruschetta and the like, and that it is socially acceptable to booze during broad daylight and you’ve got yourself a winner!

Even better than wedding season a la “Wedding Crashers,” wine season is chock full of food, free stuff and wine, wine and more wine. And which is better, Christmas or wine season? The answer would be, um, wine season! So bring out your calendars, folks, wine season is among us.

While the wonderful world of pinot noir festival waved us goodbye in March, there is no excuse for missing any festival this month. First on the list is the Cal Poly Wine Festival, formally known as “An Afternoon Amidst the Oaks.” With a whole new wine and viticulture program, the event has revamped itself. Nearly doubling winery participation from years past, Cal Poly Wine Festival is geared up to be a No. 1 stunner.

A few honorable mentions include the Roll out the Barrels celebration in Edna Valley on May 3 to 6 and the Hospice du Rhone sharing the same weekend May 3 to 5. The Roll out the Barrels celebration takes place in the Edna Valley at individual wineries participating in the event. The Hospice du Rhone happens in Paso Robles and is the world’s largest international celebration of Rhone style varietals in the world. Kind of a big deal.

And now back to the Cal Poly Wine Festival — a event quite near and dear to my heart. The festivities begin on April 28 at the Santa Margarita Ranch from 1 to 4 pm. There is also a golf tournament sponsored by the College of Agriculture taking place on Friday April 27 at the Cypress Ridge Golf Course in Atascadero. With attendance of more than 700 people last year, this Wine Festival is expected to bring even more people in this year.

Over a hundred wineries will be attending the event. Some heavy hitters pouring that weekend include Meridian, Eberle, Castoro Cellars and Peachy Canyon for Paso Robles. In San Luis Obispo, selected wineries include: Edna Valley Winery and Tolosa Winery. Even wineries from Napa are coming on down, such as the famous Rombauer vineyards, Hall and Duckhorn. Top that with live music, a silent auction and beautiful heritage oaks among a backdrop of rolling hills and you’ve got yourself a hit.

Admission is $50 for the general public and $30 for Cal Poly students and staff. Tickets are available at Valitix outlets and also available for purchase online at www.calpolywinefestival.com. All proceeds go toward the new wine and viticulture program.

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Ripe vines are popping up all over the Central Coast, including Santa Margarita, above. www.calpolywinefestival.com. All proceeds go toward the new wine and viticulture program.
The greenwashing of the governor

Schwarzenegger's claims to truly support environmental change would be far better served if he actually fought for improved fuel economy standards, instead of replacing the engine on one Impala.

No such thing as radical Islam

I am extremely curious to know who is in charge of the "Brecht" section of the Mustang Daily, starting with a suicide vest strapped under her Muslim robe. Can someone please explain what a Muslim robe is? I guess you can call sweater and jeans a Christian outfit since that's my usual outfit and I am a Christian? Amazing.

Brian Eller. I'll keep this short and sweet. Please do not speak as if you are in any way credible to analyze the religious teachings of Islam. Sure, there are radical Muslims, just like there are radical Christians and Jews. That doesn't mean there is such a thing as a radical Muslim, yet simply radical human beings who claim to do unjustifiable acts in the name of Islam.

The government of Saudi Arabia is not only a poor delegate but one that shouldn't even consider a representative of true Islam, but an obvious convenient example for your absurd arguments. Myself, along with my Muslim sisters, are indeed allowed to drive, dress how we personally desire, and even vote in the Middle East! Your generalization of Islam, the first religion to allow women to own land, through Saudi Arabia shows how little you know. Eller.

Does Bush, your likely personal idol, portray Christianity in a high regard for gays? roose me, but I don't think Bush would approve of your sudden change of heart.

Nadeem Qureshi

Continued management sense

Fed up with bureaucracy of financial aid services

Is anyone else fed up with the poor service we receive from Cal Poly's Financial Aid Office? It's the third week of the quarter, and I still haven't been able to buy my textbooks because the Financial Aid Office hasn't given me my money.

On the first day of the quarter, I submitted my scholarship check so they could deduct what I owe and send the rest to my bank. Here we are, week three of a 10-week quarter, and I've yet to see a cent of financial aid. This happens every quarter, and I'm tired of excuses. I've had to borrow money for groceries, beg my landlord for an extension, and pay late fees, all because Financial Aid can't get its act together and do its job. Why are grants consistently deposited over a month late? It's unacceptable that a "polytechnic university" can't do its job. Why do we have to wait a simple check in the third week? It's unconscionable that a top-level university treats its students with such a lack of professionalism, demonstrating little concern for our welfare.

I'm sure I'm not the only student being treated this way. If you're having similar experiences, e-mail me at FedUpWithFa@gmail.com about the hardships you're experiencing. I will compile our stories and submit them as a petition to the administration, requesting they investigate and rectify the situation.

And you can be sure it won't take me three weeks to get your messages to them!

Jessica Vieira

Education graduate student

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SEND YOUR OPINIONS, RANTS AND TAVES TO MustangDailyOpinions@gmail.com OR submit your letter to the editor through the improved MustangDaily.com

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POLITICAL COLUMN

The Mustang Daily is a "designated public forum." Student editors have full authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval. The Mustang Daily is a free newspaper however the removal of more than one copy of any given paper is subject to a cost of 50 cents per issue.

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My going to call you in eternity and have you sing the lyrics.

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Education graduate student
**Ducks edge Wild 2-1, take commanding 3-0 lead in series**

**Dave Campbell  SPORTSWRITER**

ST. PAUL, Minn. — All seven games between the Anaheim Ducks and Minnesota Wild this season have been decided by one goal.

The Ducks sure have the edge, though, after a dominant displaying and superior defense and special teams to take a 3-0 lead over the Wild in this Western Conference quarterfinal.

Andrei McDonald scored early, Rob Niedermayer scored late, and goalie Ilya Bryzgalov stopped 15 shots to lead Anaheim past Minnesota 2-1 on Sunday.

"We didn't give them much," said Niedermayer, whose goal was his first since four. "We didn't have many turnovers and didn't give up any odd-man rushes and cycled the puck down low.

That's our game, that's our strength, and that's what we have to play to."

Game 4 will be played here Tuesday night, giving the Wild one last chance to get their power play going. Frustrated all week with Ducks star defensemen Scott Niedermayer, who was 15 for 1 in the series and 15 for 15 with late goalie Ilya Bryzgalov.

"It's a credit to our guys who have spent a lot of time working on it, studying them and what they do," McDonald said. "We're been good for us all year, and they showed again tonight we are able to be successful on the penalty kill."

The series is a .408 batting average. Schafer, Smith and Pat Perez each had two hits for the Mustangs.

Eager (7-2) allowed four hits and no runs in 7 2/3 innings with two walks and five strikeouts. It was the second straight outing in which he ced Keefer secured the final out of the eighth inning and Evan Reed pitched a scoreless ninth.

For the series, Desme was 7 for 12 with two RBI and Schafer 5 for 12 with three RBI. Cal Poly hit .396 for the series. Irvine hit just .211.

Cal Poly returns home to host UC Irvine (21-15, 2-1) for another Big West series Friday through Sunday in Baggett Stadium.
Poly baseball team takes series with 12-0 rout of No. 17 UCI, stays in 1st place

Although four teams in the Big West Conference have better overall records, the Mustangs stand alone in first place at 7-2 in conference play.

SPORTS

Mustang men's tennis team clinches No. 1 seed in Big West

Cal Poly’s women’s tennis team, meanwhile, had its Senior Day match rainied out Saturday.

Cal Poly's women's tennis team, which had been ranked as high as No. 10 in the nation, slipped to 8-9 overall after losing to Montana State on Sunday. The team had been hoping to clinch a spot in the NCAA Tournament.

Cal Poly men's tennis team, however, continued to roll with a 4-0 win over UC Riverside on Sunday. The Mustangs are now 12-2 overall and 5-0 in the Big West.

Darryn Young (6-1, 5-7, 6-3) and doubles partners from Baca and senior Kyle Roybal (8-5) and sophomore Nick Berger and junior Fred DeWitte (6-3) also got singles wins from Foy and Young (6-2, 6-0) and doubles points from Foy and Berger.

With their 4-0 win over UC Riverside, Cal Poly improved to 20-18 on the season and remained atop the Big West standings with a 7-2 mark. UC Irvine, led by four first-time winners, clinched a spot in the NCAA Tournament on Sunday, giving the Mustangs second place in the conference. The Anteaters slipped into fifth place behind Cal State Fullerton, UC Santa Barbara and Long Beach State, all 4-2.

Cal Poly sent eight batters to the plate in both the third and fourth innings, scoring four times in each frame for an 8-4 lead. Schaffer's second home run of the season, a two-run shot, and Smith's solo blast, his fourth of the season, gave the Mustangs a 6-0 lead.

Cal Poly's gridiron star and NCAA record holder, Kyle Carson, knocked in three runs with his fifth homer of the season. Carson also had a double in the season record for home runs and RBIs. Kyle Smith belted home runs and RBIs, and Matt Baca (7-5) won his 10th straight game.

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