Homecoming 2002

The traditional parade, football game, royal court, and 50-year alumni reunion, as well as a week’s worth of student activities, will all be part of Cal Poly’s 2002 Homecoming celebration Nov. 1-3.

Saturday, Nov. 2, will also be Parents Day.

This year’s Homecoming theme, chosen by a student committee, is “Homecoming 101: Continuing the Legacy.” The committee is drafting a logo for the fall event, and plans are under way for the Class of 1952 reunion.

Saturday morning the annual Homecoming parade will be held in downtown San Luis Obispo. The afternoon game pits the Mustangs against the Alcorn State Braves of Mississippi. Kickoff time will be 3 p.m. The Homecoming tailgate barbecue and wine tasting will take place on the Orfalea College of Business lawn before the game.

According to the Kennedy Library’s University Archives, the barbecue has been a big part of Homecoming for more than a half century.

The 1949 edition of the Green and Gold Alumni Review carries a story about the large crowd of 500 alumni expected for Homecoming. Produce for the barbecue’s salads was grown on the Cal Poly farm—and the steaks were “campus grown” then too; the imports were pink beans from King City. For $2, the barbecue’s aim was to give alumni “all the food you can eat.”

Fifty-three years later, more than 2,500 alumni, students, parents, and friends of the university are expected for the festivities. And they will be able to go online at www.homecoming.calpoly.edu for the latest updates on events, times, locations, and ticket-purchase information.

Photos by Tim Garcia