

Greek charity events abound

By: [Elizabeth Bagnati](#)
Contributing Writer

Posted: 3/26/04

For the past few weeks, the tables outside Hughes–Trigg have been a cutthroat battleground. Fraternities and sororities have been competing for time, money and participants for their individual philanthropy events.

In fact, this Saturday is full of watermelon-bashing, volleyball-spiking and crawfish-eating. Trying to do all at once may be dangerous.

This year, Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity is throwing its second annual Watermelon Bash, Kappa Sigma fraternity is hosting Spikes for Tikes and Kappa Alpha Order is serving crawfish, all to raise money for their philanthropies. The problem is the fundraisers are all on the same day, at pretty much the same time, at completely different places.

Lambda Chi starts the morning of Sat., March 27 off at Sorority Park with female teams competing in various events based around watermelons.

The day starts at 10:30 a.m. and runs until 3 p.m. Money raised will go towards the North Texas Food Bank.

“Last year we had great success and are just looking to build on it this year. So far we have had a great response,” Lambda Chi Philanthropy Chair Eric Richards said.

Kappa Sig travels to Jack’s Pub where it will host a volleyball tournament to raise money for the Jubilee Center, an after school program located in South Dallas. Games start at 11 a.m.

Kappa Alpha will be next door to Jack’s at the Green Elephant from noon to 6 p.m., serving crawfish to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

If planned correctly, one could make it to Lambda Chi to watch girls fight over watermelons for half an hour, work up an appetite playing one game of volleyball at Kappa Sig, and run over to Kappa Alpha for some lunch.

All joking aside, this poor planning may propose some serious problems in participation, which will affect the amount of money made for these organizations.

“It seems typical that we would schedule our event on the same day as everyone else, but so far it has not been a problem. We have 10 to 15 teams signed up and have made a good amount of money,” Kappa Sig Philanthropy Chair Tyler Parr said.

But fraternities and sororities are not the only groups affected by the tight scheduling. Non-greek students are also feeling the pressure of what to do.

“It is hard to participate in everyone’s events when there are so many to choose from. I could not imagine if I were in a sorority and had to participate in my own philanthropy as well as everyone else’s,” sophomore Aditi Shivapurker said.

And next weekend does not look much different.

Chi Omega had the right idea and scheduled its Fashion with a Passion Show for Friday, April 2. The runway opens at 6 p.m. in Umphrey Lee Ballroom to raise money for the Make a Wish Foundation.

However, Saturday April 3 is another battle of good causes, when Delta Gamma and Pi Kappa Alpha put on their sporting events that raise \$3,000 to \$5,000 every year.

Delta Gamma hosts its four-on-four basketball tournament, Anchor Slam, to raise money for the Service for Sight. Games start on the Boulevard at 10 a.m.

For non-basketball players, Pike has its fourth annual Powder Puff football tournament to fight leukemia.

Money raised will go towards the Ryan Gibson Foundation.

Dual scheduling would normally not be an issue since Anchor Slam is aimed towards males and Powder Puff is normally a girls flag football tournament, but things got complicated when Pike planned to possibly add a guys division to the day long event.

“At first I was scared that we would lose a lot of teams to Pike when I heard it was possibly adding a guys division, but everyone has been very supportive and cooperative in organizing teams for each other’s tournaments,” Anchor Slam coordinator Lyssa Allen said.

Inter Fraternity Council President Jim Barber, suggested that scheduling this year may have been an issue because of Easter weekend, but is still thinking positive about the events going on during these next two weeks.

“I think it is great to see all the fraternities and sororities working to raise money for these organizations. If too many events is a problem, I think it is a good problem to have,” Barber said.

The answer for all the non-athletes is chili.

Beta Theta Pi throws its annual Chili Cook-off at the Green Elephant, which raises money for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

There will be different types of chili, live music and choice beverages from noon to 6 p.m.

So whether you are bashing, spiking, slamming, puffing or eating, the money raised is going to a good cause.

“They are all just such great events that I would hate to see someone miss out,” Allen said.