

Labor leader urges boycott to stop pesticide use

By Brian Bloch
Emerald Reporter

Showing the physical signs of his long-time fight for workers rights, labor leader Cesar Chavez called for a consumer grape boycott to stop the use of cancer-causing pesticides on the nation's crops.

During a speech Saturday



Cesar Chavez

morning in the EMU, Chavez, president of the United Farm Workers Union, told a group attending the National Chicano Student Conference that consumers should cast their votes for pesticide-free crops by supporting boycotts such as the five-year-old stand on California table grapes.

Chavez has been a long-time labor activist and community leader fighting for protection of farm worker's rights. His struggle included a 36-day fast last summer to protest and draw national attention to the use of pesticides on table grapes.

Higher than average rates of cancer and birth defects among farm worker families have been attributed to chemical pesticides used on many of the nation's crops.

According to philosophy Professor Cheyney Ryan, the health problems are compounded because young women and children are exposed to the pesticides as they work in the fields. Ryan, who has worked closely with a pesticide aware-

ness group called Teatro Nuestro, said often times women are exposed at a young age and pass on health problems and physical defects to their children.

"The pesticide issue has been a sharp issue for farm workers for a very long time," Ryan said.

MEChA (Chicano/Latino student union) member Armando Morales praised Chavez for his struggle to bring attention to worker's rights which are often overlooked. He said other crops such as tomatoes and fruits are also affected by pesticide use.

"Everybody is very superficial and they don't want to

even touch this issue," Morales said. "I think people now have a better idea of how those pesticides affect those families."

Although he called Chavez's speech "sensitive and moving," Morales said the difficulty of his struggle is beginning to become physically apparent.

Greek Week begins; goal is campus unity

By Frale de Guzman
Emerald Associate Editor

A week of games and activities begins today for members of the University's fraternity and sorority system.

Greek Week, an annual spring event, is a week set aside to generate unity and goodwill among members of the Greek system and the University community, said Susie Gray, Panhellenic Greek activities chairwoman.

The activities, which took nearly all term to plan, is meant to "bring the Greek system together to have fun," she said.

As in the past, this year's Greek Week activities coincide with Parents' Weekend, May 20-21. In this way parents, too, can take part in the week's celebration, Gray said.

Greek Week calendar of events is as follows.

Monday, May 15:
• Airband Competition at the EMU Ballroom. Doors open at 7 p.m. Show begins at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$1 at the door.

Tuesday, May 16:

• Games Day, 3 p.m., at the Intramural Fields.

Wednesday, May 17:
• Serenade at fraternities. Event begins at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 18:
• Softball Tournament, 3 p.m., at the Intramural Fields. Awards Banquet at Eugene Hilton Hotel. Doors open 5:30 p.m. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.

Friday, May 19:
• Variety Show, 7 p.m., at the Hult Center. Doors open at 7 p.m. Admission is \$3. Tickets can be purchased from Gray at the Delta Delta Delta House, 1987 University St., the Hult Center box office or at the door.

Saturday, May 20:
• Canoe Fete, "Holiday Soirees," at the Millrace off Franklin Boulevard. Judging begins 1:30 p.m. Parade begins at 2:30 p.m. An All-Greek Barbecue, sponsored by the Student/University Relations Council, will be held at Sigma Phi Epsilon, 1000 Alder St., immediately after the parade.

All events are open to the public.

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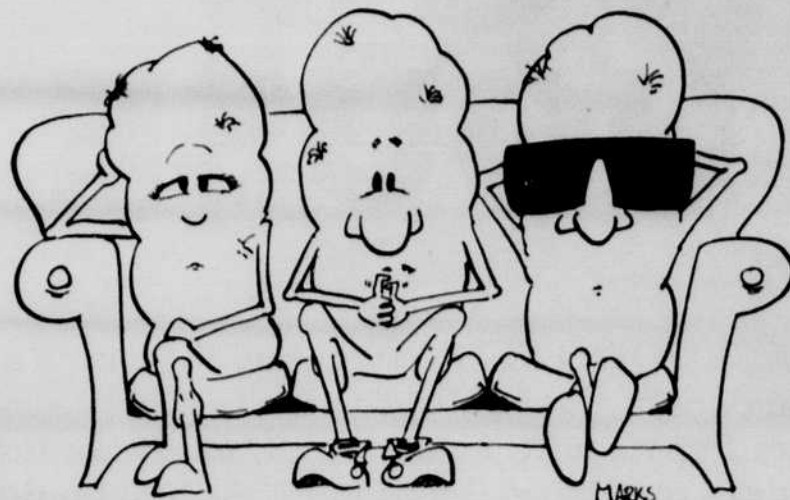


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Coming Activities

Activities	Deadline	Time
Tennis Mixed Doubles	5/22	3pm