Smoker: Disorganization, violence among the causes

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Toby Winn | Education director and

volunteer coordinator, Boys & Girls Club

of Emerald Valley

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the Theta Chi and Delta Sigma Phi fraternities during one of the matches at last year's Smoker.

Sutherland said that while violence was a good reason to cancel the event, the cancellation was motivated by financial reasons.

"It's very expensive," Sutherland

said. "You have for pay emergency vehicles, doctors, equipment. There's and lots of expenses for event that only meets s mall

group. The event didn't even come close to filling Mac Court."

Toby Winn, education director and volunteer coordinator of the Boys & Girls Club of Emerald Valley, said that while the event was fun, violence in the stands, poor communication and disorganization most likely contributed to its disappointing outcome. Last year's Smoker advertised its support for the Boys & Girls Club and used its logo throughout the event.

"We're nonprofit, so the funds raised from the event would have helped a lot — one less grant to apply for," Winn said. "We were happy they chose us. It felt very honorable, but man, we didn't get anything out of it. It was

a bummer."

Winn said the Boys & Girls Club still has a strong relationship with the University.

Erin Quinn Fielder won the event three years in a row and said she was looking forward to going for her fourth win.

"The problem is not with the box-

ers and West
Eugene Boxing Club,"
Fielder said.
"It's really
with Greek
Life and the
lack of organization in
the event."

Rose Connolly, president of the Panhellenic Council, said

the fight was canceled because of decreasing attendance and a new focus on a benefit for St. Jude Children's Hospital.

"We just decided that it wasn't the direction that Panhellenic wanted to go," Connolly said. "We didn't feel like a boxing match was a good way to represent Greek Life, so we're taking a different route."

Junior Jake Doran, a sports business major and member of Beta Theta Phi fraternity, said he was disappointed the event was canceled.

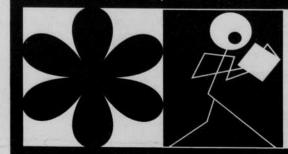
"It's an entertaining event as long as everything goes as planned," Doran said.

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