Lectures to educate about Middle East

A series of six forums will start Monday with talks from an Israeli peace activist and a professor

By Laura Newman

Cal Poly is offering a series of public lectures and panel discussions targeting the crisis in the Middle East as part of a winter history course taught by professor Manzar Foroohar.

The six-lecture series will kick off Jan. 27, continue for four consecutive Mondays, skip a week and conclude March 10. Foroohar said she hopes the lectures will counterbalance the misinformation and lack of facts often seen in the mainstream media regarding the conflict in the Middle East.

“We want to provide a public forum for students, faculty, staff and community to learn about the crisis in the Middle East,” Foroohar said.

“It will be informative, educational and could produce a dialogue between different players in the crisis.”

There will be a total of eight speakers at the forums. Four of the lectures are Israeli citizens representing different sectors of society including government, education and community organizations.

Foroohar said the history department and the College of Liberal Arts are sponsoring the lectures.

Harry Hellenbrand said he would try to encourage people to think deeply and respond to critical and controversial issues.

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By Genevieve Fussell

Campus student group promotes health

Cal Poly Health Services is inviting students to join their Peer Health Education Teams to promote healthy behavior and wellness among the Cal Poly communities.

“The program is crafted around the idea of students advising their peers about a variety of health-related issues. We are looking for people who want to work with others, who are leaders, but also want to make an impact,” said Joan Dominguez, a health educator and director of the program.

“Our goal is to help students make informed decisions about their health and well-being.”

“On a superficial level, you gain an experience to put on your resume. But you also learn a lot about yourself and your peers at Cal Poly.”

Jennifer Fauerbach

TLC coordinator

Cal Poly Health Services is inviting students to join their Peer Health Education Teams to promote healthy behavior and wellness among the Cal Poly communities.

“We are starting to learn about club drugs and their use on Cal Poly’s campus,” she said.

Fauerbach, who plans to receive her master’s degree in social work, said the greatest reward is seeing people learn.

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By Sean Martin

Architecture students will sail or fail at regatta

Fifty-three Cal Poly students joined hands in a balloon and began to sail on sailboats after re-enacting the Titanic; these students are taking part in the annual Cardboard Regatta.

This year’s race will be held Sunday from 9:45 a.m. to noon in the Card Poly Rec Center pool.

The racers are students in ARCH 252, architectural design fundamentals II. The faculty advisor this year is architecture professors Howard Weisenthal, James Bagnall and Mark Cazinaha.

Students are given two 4-by-6-foot slabs of cardboard, heavy paper tape and clear polyurethane waterproofing to fashion a seaworthy vessel.

The project takes two weeks, one for design work, and one for construction. Students are given the opportunity to design and engineer a vessel for maximum efficiency and speed.

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Voices of the Students

How do Cal Poly students view the impending war with Iraq?

"Hussein is a ruthless dictator, a liar and should have been taken out a long time ago."
Kellan Smith
philosophy senior

"I think it's a problem, but I don't think that an all-out war is the solution." Adam Parry
political science sophomore

"I have friends and family in the military and one is on the USS Nimitz in Iraq. I think something should be done, but I am worried about them going to war."
Tiffani Pellin
kinesiology junior

"I don't think it's a good idea, because it just seems like George W. Bush wants to get into a fight with somebody." Thomas deSenna
mechanical engineering junior

"We're going to war. We had a lot of conflicts with the Middle East in the past and now I think we should solve them. I think we should deal with them, get done with them and go on."
Jenny Payne
business senior

Comming up this week

"Jerry Burge Video - Rock and a Hard Place," a video about race, campus climate and the issues of diversity at Cal Poly will be shown today from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Yosemite Hall main lounge. A discussion will take place afterward.

"Hearst Lecture Series - Cal Poly alumnus Mark Horton of Mark Horton Architects will present a lecture with co-worker Maura Mark Horton of Mark Horton Architects will present a lecture with co-worker Maura Weisenthal said the event should have fun for all to watch. Three hundred people braved the rain last year to watch the races.

"It is a fun, free, splashy event," said Ray Ladd, associate director of advancement for the College Architectural and Environmental Design. "We encourage students to cheer, get into it. It is good for them to get there early so they can pick their favorite (boat) to cheer on."

New this year is Sun Luis Paper Co., Inc.'s co-sponsorship of the event. The company's partnership will provide lower material costs to students, cash prizes, new and improved trophies to the winners and a post-race party for participants.

Students who have been through four or five designs so far.

"We are excited and worried," Franz said. "Everyone is nervous, because you fail if your boat sinks. It would be pretty embarrassing to go down after all the work we've put into it. People are getting competitive, too. It would be great to win. Some groups have been through four or five designs so far."

"Students who want to get a closer look at the cardboard boats have two opportunities. The boats will be on display Saturday from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Dexter Lawn. Those who view the projects can also discuss the design with the students who created them. They can do the same at 9:30, Sunday, the morning of the race."

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Affirmative action bypassed by 'legacies'

By Meghan Nowakowski
Mustang Daily

Students can now leave their cab money at home.

Thanks to the Vice President of Student Affairs Carlton Morton and the SAFER (Sexual Assault Free Environment Restraining) Program, Cal Poly students will be able to use the Safe-Ride program free of charge. Morton explained that $10,000 was donated to ensure that students get home safely.

"We chose to provide students with a safe and effective means for travel back to campus, during late eveni.ng hours especially," Morton said in an e-mail interview. "Our concern is that Cal Poly students have services that assure their safety.

Safe-Ride has been a staple for many Cal Poly students. The program was developed in 1994 and runs two vans from Thursday through Saturday nights. Safe-Ride has been popular from its inception because it is much cheaper than the average cab ride.

"One of the main reasons Safe-Ride is much cheaper than the average cab ride is that the students provide the money. The company just provides the service," Morton said.

Morton said the money to fund the program came from a division of Student Affairs' state budget money. This year it cost $5,530. However, he said there is no commitment for funding the program next year.

"My plan is to work with other departments to co-sponsor the cost for the program in future years," he said.

The idea to fund the Safe-Ride program was a few of the topics addressed during the two briefs filed with the court. President Bush made his opposition to racial preferences clear through the two briefs filed with the Supreme Court. President Bush is offering other alternatives for increasing diversity and has given no comments on why children of alumni are generally given a slight advantage in the admissions process, Orfield said. "It is good to have affirmative action." However, Orfield admits that legacy students are primarily white. So although diversity is encouraged, giving legacy students this preference makes it increasingly difficult for a minority student to gain admittance to a university such as Harvard.

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"We have all kinds of preferences, which is a healthy part of the admittance process," Orfield said. "It is good to have affirmative action." However, Orfield admits that legacy students are primarily white. So although diversity is encouraged, giving legacy students this preference makes it increasingly difficult for a minority student to gain admittance to a university such as Harvard.

East prompted her to open up to the discussions to a public audience instead of just her class.

She said she used her academic connections to amass the group of speakers.

"I invited a lot to the Middle East and have been teaching about the Middle East for a long time," Fooshoor said. "Two speakers are flying directly from Israel for the event."

Philosophy senior Anne Handel, co-director of Raise the Respect, said the lecture series was well aligned with the type of programs that Raise the Respect supports.

Industrial engineering sophomore Edgar Diaz, also a Raise the Respect co-director, said he thinks this lecture series will create a dialogue.

"It's good to hear from an educat­ed source on the Middle East that has taken the time to put (the lecture series) together," he said.

All of the presentations will be held Mondays in Chumash Auditorium from 6 to 8 p.m. The public is invited to attend free of charge.


For more information and a complete schedule of speakers, e-mail Fooshoor at fooshoor@calpoly.edu.
**Arts & Culture**

**Gallery**

**Artist creates from a place ‘out of her mind’**

By Jenni Mintz

She’s fearless. She’s inspirational. She’s a survivor. She’s “out of her mind.”

Local artist Julie Fish, 48, believes in living life to the fullest.
On view at the San Luis Artist Gallery (SLAG) until Feb. 4 is a vibrant and colorful display of her artwork illustrating this passion for life.
The show is a first for Fish in San Luis Obispo. Other artists, like Mary Ratter, are enthusiastic.

“I feel like I am seeing many aspects of her ability,” Ratter said. “She’s got a lot of truly diverse styles exhibiting in the art show. It gives me the feeling of retrospective.”

To create some of her works, Fish throws paint on 300-pound paper.

To create her works, Fish throws paint on 300-pound paper. This allows shapes to emerge, shapes which become figures after several layers of paint, Fish said. Sometimes a painting will have as many as six layers, and other times only one coat will do.

“The whole thing is about serendipity,” Fish said. “The creativity is more than just what the sums of the parts are. When I’m in a creative mode, and when the juices are flowing, the way that I fling the paint can have a momentous reaction.”

As a child, Fish never took any formal art lessons. In fact, she said that she was always frustrated at her creativity, and felt she never measured up to some of her talented peers. However, Fish always desired to pursue painting.

When Fish was diagnosed with a severe case of breast cancer at 35, she realized she needed to chase her dreams and conquer her fears of failure.

By Olga Berdial

“Vigilance” is a pony of many colors, small dots of paint assembled by artist Julie Fish.

The younger Guthrie used lyrics which he performed at the Cohan Center at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29 to champion some of the causes that made him famous a generation ago.

Music

**Arlo Guthrie brings ‘60s sentiment to Cohan Center**

By Olga Berdial

A Vietnam-era icon will perform at the Christopher Cohan Center on Jan. 29 to champion some of the causes that made him famous a generation ago.

Arlo Guthrie, son of 1940s folk legend Woody Guthrie, helped define the 1960s folk era with songs like “Coming to Los Angeles,” which he performed at the Woodstock Festival in 1969.

The younger Guthrie used lyrics such as “You want to know if I’m moral enough to join the army, burn women, kids, houses and villages” from the song “Alice’s Restaurant” to communicate his feelings about the draft.

“Alice’s Restaurant” is an 18-minute song and spoken word composition about social consciousness.

The song is about how Guthrie was arrested for listening on Thanksgiving Day and consequently rejected from the draft because of his criminal record, said James Cushing, a lecturer in the English department.

“Alice’s Restaurant” is not only laugh-out-loud funny, but it epitomizes some of the cultural clashes of the 1960s, of the human spirit versus bureaucracy,” Cushing said.

Ralph Hoskins, director of Cal Poly Arts, chose Guthrie to perform at Cal Poly, noting the impact that “Alice’s Restaurant” had on a generation of Americans.

“It was groundbreaking; it really defined the generation gap,” Hoskins said.

Despite his long-standing impact on the music business, Guthrie’s music remains accessible to mainstream America, Cushing said.

“Arlo Guthrie’s populist way of bringing these themes to a larger audience is part of what makes him so important,” Cushing said.

English sophomore John Neal also said that the folk music movement was an important revolution in music.

“It’s really a basis for a lot of other types of music,” Neal said, “but, to me, it’s sort of lost today.”

However, Hoskins said that Guthrie is not lost on contemporary society and Guthrie’s style will appeal to younger audiences.

“I think there is a social consciousness among the younger crowd,” Hoskins said.

Guthrie’s music does touch upon social concerns that are still relevant in today’s society, as depicted in “This Land is Your Land.”

“Near the relief office — I see my people, and some are grumbling, some are wonderin’, if this land’s still made for you and me,” Guthrie sang in the song.

War and unemployment, issues
We've all seen the story before: A troubled teen unwillingly sees a psychiatrist in a series of sessions. They make no progress at first, but then the guy finally opens up and talks about his past. The psychiatrist helps the man and, in return, the man unknowingly helps the psychiatrist.

No, this is not "Good Will Hunting." This is "Antwone Fisher," a movie with a similar plot to "Good Will Hunting," but at the same time a very different story. The one glaring difference, however, between the two films is that Antwone Fisher is real.

"Antwone Fisher," which is named after its title character, is a real-life story of Antwone Fisher. Born on a ship, The Virginian, in 1969 and does so with a whimsical jazzy competition flows nicely around an empty ballroom as if he is dancing. One of the real strengths to this film are the fashionable characters, costumes and architecture of this early 1920's captured so realistically by Tornatore. Conflict arises when Jelly Roll Morton(Clarence Williams III) challenges 1900 to a piano duel. The jazzy competition flows nicely around an empty ballroom as if he is dancing. It is obvious that Fisher is making rapid strides in his meetings with Davenport, but that progress comes to a sudden halt when the third session ends. Fisher wants to continue with the sessions but Davenport has to turn in an evaluation to the commanding officer. At this point, Fisher gets a feeling of abandonment, a feeling he experiences throughout his life.

Powerful sea. One scene helps you understand why Fisher doesn't say a thing for several sessions. After weeks of frustrating silence, Fisher finally opens up to Davenport and breaks the ice. Soon after Fisher begins talking, we find out that he never knew his biological parents. His father was murdered two months before he was born in a woman's prison.

Several flashbacks occur throughout the movie when Fisher speaks of his past, from his earliest memories to a few days before he entered the Navy. One of the first such flashbacks is a scene with Mrs. Tate (Novella Nelson), Fisher's verbally and physically abusive foster mother. The scenes with Tate are chilling. Her abuse is so disturbing it's hard to watch.

The abuse takes its toll on Fisher. He grows up lacking self-confidence because he is always told he cannot succeed. The abuse also fuels his rage, which he keeps bottled up until he explodes in the Navy and gets into several fights.

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Powerful sea. One scene helps you understand why Fisher doesn't say a thing for several sessions. After weeks of frustrating silence, Fisher finally opens up to Davenport and breaks the ice. Soon after Fisher begins talking, we find out that he never knew his biological parents. His father was murdered two months before he was born in a woman's prison.

Several flashbacks occur throughout the movie when Fisher speaks of his past, from his earliest memories to a few days before he entered the Navy. One of the first such flashbacks is a scene with Mrs. Tate (Novella Nelson), Fisher's verbally and physically abusive foster mother. The scenes with Tate are chilling. Her abuse is so disturbing it's hard to watch.

The abuse takes its toll on Fisher. He grows up lacking self-confidence because he is always told he cannot succeed. The abuse also fuels his rage, which he keeps bottled up until he explodes in the Navy and gets into several fights.

It is obvious that Fisher is making rapid strides in his meetings with Davenport, but that progress comes to a sudden halt when the third session ends. Fisher wants to continue with the sessions but Davenport has to turn in an evaluation to the commanding officer. At this point, Fisher gets a feeling of abandonment, a feeling he experiences throughout his life.
Opinion

Letters to the editor

Masturbation column informs and entertains
Editor,

Regarding Ms. Lynch's letter attacking the morality of Ms. Lester's recent column on masturbation:

In addition to missing the column's repeated use of a literary device called "sarcasm," Ms. Lynch also overlooked the main point (known as the "thesis") that people need not be ashamed of masturbation. Yesterday the reader was left wondering whether Ms. Lynch thinks is pornographic about Ms. Lester's columns.

The purpose of that column is to present an argument, inform and entertain, not to sexually excite, as is necessary to be considered pornographic. Since the only arguments that can be made against masturbation are religious in nature, they are not generally considered public policy decisions to a plu-realist university. Ms. Lester, keep up the good work.

Daniel Gonzales is an architecture senior and Mustang Daily photographer.

Woman's right not reason enough for abortion
Editor,

In response to Jordan Schultz's commentary "A woman's right to choose needs to be protected" (Jan. 22), in which she states that Roe v. Wade has given women "a second chance at a life not plagued by single motherhood, interrupted education and disrespect," I would like to pose one question: Does the baby get a second chance at a life?

Craig Torrence is an industrial technology senior.

Full pages

Holidays honor lives, not banks

"I have a dream that one day, student banks, tellers and postmen will get a three-day weekend in a world that has a dream. This nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We deserve a bank holiday every couple of months!"

This quote doesn't sound familiar? Hmm, perhaps it is because this isn't exactly how Dr. Martin Luther King delivered his famous speech. True, Dr. King did have a dream. But his dream and George certainly didn't observe any bank holidays. Nor does the bank observe any bank holidays during their presidencies, but we sure reap the benefits when we sleep in on Presidents' Day.

The truth is, people don't even know why they have three-day weekends (or are they just too hung-over from partying the night before to remember). Obviously, any break from school and work is appreciated. However, a day off without any remembrance or reflection on why the day is a holiday makes a mockery out of the honoree and the things he fought for.

What did you do on Martin Luther King Jr. Day? OK, I'll give you a chance to respond. I may not have marched in a demonstration, but I did reflect the values and messages that Dr. King advanced. Radical expressions are not required. Nobody is asking you to bake MLK a birthday cake. But a little conscientious consideration is the least King deserves on his commemorative holiday.

The same is true for all recognized holidays. Learn about what Cesar Chavez accomplished and see if you agree with his choice? In between your margaritas on April 23.

Professionals Day cards (which incidentally falls on April 23). Not to mention cards for Sweetest Day (what?), Presidents' Day cards, but Hallmark opted out of creating cards for these observed bank holidays. Oddly enough, Hallmark.com doesn't even make cards to commemorate these observed bank holidays.

By the way, happy National Pie Day. I suppose if I was subjected to the grief and despair of millions of women who chose to abort their babies, witnessed the destruction of thousands of human lives in abortion clinics where she worked and became known as the "champion" of the pro-choice movement, I too would be crushed by the weight of so much death and so many ill-considered "choices." Only by the grace of God did she convert her life over to pro-life work.

Norma McCovey is now the founder and director of ROE NO MORE, which is a speakers referral ministry who spreads the message of the sanctity of all life and the economic right to life, especially to the unborn. For anyone who wants to learn more about her real story, please read her personal testimony "Won By Love."

Ann Forster is an English senior but more importantly, a devout Roman Catholic who attends daily Mass at the Mission.

If not affirmative action, then what?
Editor,

Tegan Lente states that it is true that minorities do not receive as good of an education as whites ("Focus on economic status, not race," Jan. 22). To explain why some people of color value education less than white people? I find this ridiculous.

I am amazed that any educated person would try to make the statement that minorities do not value education. That obviously reflects some stereotypes that Tegan has about people of color. I would suggest taking an ethnic studies class. It is a fact that people of color are disproportionately poor, and therefore have less access to higher education, but when did that translate to not valuing education?

Tegan also states that affirmative action is not the answer and "diversity can be achieved through other means." I would like to ask, what are those other means? And why hasn't diversity been achieved yet? With the passage of Prop. 209 and the banning of affirmative action, the number of ethnic minorities at Cal Poly decreased. That shows that affirmative action was working to increase the number of students of color on this campus.

I think we can all agree that a diversity of people, ideas and experiences is valuable on a college campus. Also I think that we all can agree that Cal Poly has not been very successful in attracting students of color to its campus. If I remember correctly (and you must remember) Edith Lowery was a speakers referral ministry which accepts the top third of all high school alumni. If so, would he consider switching places with him or her today?

Brian Takeuchi is a landscape architecture sophomore.

Letter policy

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, proficiency and length. Letters do not represent the views of the students of Mustang Daily. Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Letters to the Editor must be a minimum length to 250 words. Letters should include the writer's full name, phone number, major and class standing.

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"Whatever difference I have people should be happy to have."
Parents charged with dressing son in scout uniform to get donations

BETHLEHEM, Pa. — Parents of a 7-year-old boy who dresses his 4-year-old twin boys as scouts to attract sympathetic neighbors of nearby $700 by dressing them in a Cub Scouts uniform and pening to solicit donations for a nonesentient toy.

Anthony M. Herman, 46, and Sally Herman, 45, of Bethlehem knocked on more than 150 doors on Jan. 19 and Jan. 18, collecting $667 as their sons idly smiled, said police.

At the couple's arraignment Wednesday, Herman said they perpeta- the scam because the family landscaping business was failing.

Bethlehem police arrested the couple after receiving tips from neigh- bors. Both were charged with theft by deception, concealment of minor, criminal conspiracy and related offenses.

The charges carry a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a $10,000 fine. No plea was entered and a preliminary hearing was set for Jan. 31.

The boy is not a Scout, though his parents convinced him he was when applying for the cub scout uniform, police said. Herman is the custody of his parents, who were each released on $5,000 bail, authorities said.

Polls: Bush remains fairly popu-
lar despite some growing doubts

WASHINGTON — Doubts are growing about President Bush's han- dling of the economy and Iraq, though Americans support his camp- "Although we have not been able to draw out a more progressive position on North Korea's nuclear issue, we have sufficiently delivered our and the international community's concern on the nuclear issue."

South Korean Negotiators

Security Council said the issue probably will not come up soon because it is still being debated by the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency in Vienna, Austria.

The push to hear the issue in the Security Council comes after Secretary of State Colin Powell said that a flurry of diplomatic contacts with North Korea yielded "some positive movement."

From Australia, Russia and the United Nations recently have traveled to the North.

Powell said these contacts are being used to explore ways of end- ing the impasse.

North Korean Vladimír Putin called President Bush on Thursday to discuss a recent visit to Moscow, said an aide in the Kremlin. Putin said he was to pay his "friendly visit to Moscow," the Kremlin press service statement said.

The president understood that in the opinion of the Russian side, "a good basis can be seen for a productive dialogue with North Korea with the aim of... bringing the so-called 'North Korean nuclear political settlement.'"
Cal Poly Women's Football

A league of their own

By Chrissy Roth

With two older brothers, Julie Mullins is no stranger to sports. From basketball to gymnastics and soccer to swimming, she has played them all. But before last year, there was always one sport that remained unattainable for her — football.

Trading in earrings, skirts and platform shoes for pads, helmets and cleats, Mullins and dozens of other women sign up to become football players this month.

The Lady Tackle Football League will enlist new participants to join the ranks of one and two-year veterans of the growing women's sport.

"I grew up playing sports," explained Mullins, a kinesiology junior. "Always said I wanted to play football, but it had always been socially unacceptable for women to do so."

Last year Mullins joined the LTFL as a San Luis Obispo Heat receiver and free safety.

"The LTFL is a great opportunity for women to play football," Mullins said. "It's something different to do.

The league will open its third season this month with as many as six Central Coast teams, as well as one or two from Los Angeles Teams. From San Luis Obispo, Santa Maria, Lompoc, Paso Robles and Los Angeles, the players are determined to retain their love for both the sport and the camaraderie of a team.

Keep in mind that this women's league is no powder-puff tournament. Bushy hairnets and dresses are for women who fight for every inch of yard. Games consist of eight-minute quarters, with each team fielding eight players. With three fewer players on the field for each team than in a standard game, games are higher-scoring. It's not uncommon to see a 40-yard touchdown pass and 90-yard runs in the end zone.

Although the LTFL abides by the same rules as any other tackle football league, the skill level is not quite as high. Because most women do not grow up playing football, their foot skills are a combination of those they picked up from other sports. "We don't last as hard because we're not used to tackling," Mullins said. "We do more of a drag, pull-down type of play. We don't have the years of experience, but we're learning the concepts."

Kellogg compares the intensity of the games to that of a varsity high school football game.

"These games are more exciting because women play with more emotion," he explained. "They take every hit and every tackle personally."

While he expects about 100 women to join the league this season, Kellogg insists that signing up is the hardest challenge women will encounter while in the league.

"To come out and actually say I'm going to play football is the hardest part," he said. "After that, you're alright."

LTFL sign-ups will take place Jan. 25 at SLO Kickboxing. Games will begin in March. For more information call 474-6728.

Commentary

'Mustang Militia' should crank it up, not tone it down

By Chris Welke

The "Mustang Militia" controversy has been grossly overweighted. Rumors circulated wildly; I heard strange rumors that some of them were ejected from games and that they were really drunk. They've also been described as "a bunch of rabid monkey- men filled with unholy bloodlust." But here's the sobering truth about the Mustang Militia.

No, they're not drunk. Most of them do not drink. They're just a few rowdy and vulgar, said pep band member Casey Callaghan.

I too am a band geek. I've been involved with the Cal Poly Mustang Band for five years. Scanlon said she was appalled by the Militia's "69" chant.

"No one should be surprised that college students want to be loud, rowdy and vulgar," said pep band member Casey Callaghan.

So why all the talk? What did they do that offended people?

"We swore once," said Colin Bartolome, the leader of the militia. "He's in charge; let's put that argument to rest."

We yelled "f**k you" at a Riverside player because we had a sign that said "FUCKS," and he mouthed "f**k you" at us, so we yelled "Hey 34, f**k you," to him and they've been criticizing us for that."

According to the game's announcer, profanity referring to a participant in a derogatory manner will not be tolerated and is grounds for removal from the competition.

Checked and is grounds for removal from the competition.

"We would love to have a bunch of bloody-minded students at large like they have good sportsmanship," said Chris Baker, assistant athletics director.

Bartolome also said that some of the fans criticize them for standing up. "Are they serious? I commend them for it. They really do stand up the whole game, and the only people who cheer louder than them are the band members.

Other schools, like UCLA, have entire sections of students that stand the whole time and treat the opposing team viciously.

Band members are forced to adhere to a code of conduct at the games. But the Mustang Militia doesn't.

My advice to them is to crank it up and get crazy at every game. My advice to their critics is to please lighten up. To everyone else, if you haven't been coming to games, you should miss a team and a great show.

By the numbers

4 Returning starters for the Cal Poly baseball team, who last opened play Friday at the University of San Diego. Right fielder Chalon Tietje, catcher Kyle Wilson, second baseman Adam Leavitt and shortstop Scott Anderson all are back from last season's team, which finished 30-29-1.

Who holds the NFL record for most passes caught in a season by a running back?