New policy distinguishes "Utes"

Taking responsibility.
Based on our still-developing, pro-professional ethics, we refuse to "make the news." And in our opinion, repetitive commentary on an issue which fails to interest the U. does just that.

What we will do, however, is take responsibility for the racist aspects of the "Ute" mascot as it appears within this publication.

That's why we changed our policy on the word "Ute"—because even though the U. fails to separate human beings from mascots, the Chronicle thinks this distinction is necessary.

In this paper, Utes are a group Native American people. "Utes" is a nickname which the U. has attached to an endless number of activities and events, none of which have anything to do with actual Utes.

This sudden influx of added quotations may seem ugly at first, and it may lack the journalistic streamlining we usually strive to attain. Nonetheless, we hope it will clarify things and eliminate at least some of the racist implications which accompany our mascot.

It's really nothing new.
This isn't the first time the Chronicle has plopped quotation marks around normally unquoted words.

Two years ago, under Peter Behl's leadership, the Editorial Board opted to quote the word "Greeks" when it referred to fraternal organizations rather than people of Greek decent.

We had a little help back then. Shina Kapos, then-editorial editor, cared enough about the distinction to offer an articulate and thoughtful argument against confusing true Greeks with members of a college social club.

She convinced us that the interchangeable use of the word "Greeks" misleads many readers. (Does a Greek function take place in a Greek Orthodox Church or on frat row?)

She also assured us the mix-up was insulting to many members of the Greek community—especially those who deliberately avoided affiliation with U. "Greeks."

Using the quotes seemed funny and intrusive at first, but in a short time, they became a convenient way of keeping things clear and inoffensive.

Mixed feelings.
We care enough about readability to hope the transition from Ute football to "Ute" football will be just as uncomplicated. However, a small and admittedly biased part of us hopes the added quotes will shake you up at least a little.

Maybe then you'll realize there is a difference between Cougars, Cardinal and "Utes" that goes beyond the fact that they represent BYU, Stanford and Utah.

And it's this difference, not a desire to offend or preach, which forces us to alter our style.

We'd rather stick with traditional style, leaving quotes off of both "Jocks" and "Utes." But until U. organizations stop borrowing racial and ethnic terminology, our decision to distinguish meaning with quotation marks will have to stand.

Shana Bona is a senior majoring in English and is editor in chief of the Chronicle.

It stirred an audience in Paris to fist fights. And it also makes for a rather pleasant night out.

Live classical music. It created such a stir in 1913 when Stravinsky premiered his "Rite of Spring" in Paris that police were called in to control the crowd.

There are a lot of other classical hits to get excited about. And you can see them perform and live each weekend at Symphony Hall by one of the world's great symphony orchestras.

If classical music can incite grown men and women to riot, just think what an interesting evening it could make for you and your partner.

UPCOMING CONCERTS: October 3, That's Entertainment—GERSHWIN; Rhapsody in Blue & Piano Concerto in F • October 9 & 10, Malcolm Frager plays PROKOFIEV Piano Concerto No. 3 • October 16, Chamber Orchestra; HAYDN Oboe Concerto • October 24, Youth Concert, "Around the World. Part II." • October 26, Mitchell cows, "Finishing Touches, 10:15 a.m. • October 26, SPECIAL CONCERT: Joseph Silvestro performs DVORAK Violin Concerto, also COPLAND Appalachian Spring • Symphony Hall, 8 p.m.

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