Students Protest 'Cajun Field'

A black fraternity at the University of Southwestern Louisiana has registered opposition to the naming of the new USL football stadium "Cajun Field," claiming the name was chosen without consultation of the student body.

Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, in a release today, noted, "We... realize the ambition of Acadiana people in wanting to exhibit their heritage and pride to the State of Louisiana and surrounding states, but we must take issue with the naming of the new stadium, due to the fact that there are many non-Cajuns attending USL, both black and white, who don't particularly like to be called Cajuns."

"There are really no blacks who would consider themselves 'Cajuns' regardless of definition," the fraternity contends. "Cajuns according to definition, excludes all the black students at USL and many whites also, thereby making a part of the student body unhappy and uneasy. We would hope that the administration and student government at the university would take steps to rectify this feeling by a part of the student body."

The fraternity called on others to make objections to the name known.

The school announced last week that the field would be called "Cajun Field, after approval of the name at the last meeting of the State Board of Education."