

Boxer Busy

by
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Boxer, that magical word that disrupts chapels, sends students streaming out of buildings, and brings a rush of varied memories to almost all graduates and former students of Pacific, was again shouted September 26, when Bob Franck waved Boxer over his head and ran onto the southeast corner of the campus.

Some 500 students and townspeople were on hand for the second "toss-out" of Boxer in eight years, after the four alumni who had him made an announcement through the Index when and where it would be made.

Mrs. Jerry Straughn, Cornelius; Ardis Ellingson, Portland; and Dr. and Mrs. Dexter Amend, Portland, set the time of the toss-out at 2 p.m. Sunday afternoon, September 26.

Students and cars lined the street at the southeast corner of the campus, with everyone expecting the dog to be brought in by way of the highway. But Bob Franck drove up third street north unnoticed in an oil truck. He parked the truck and ran halfway out on the railroad tracks which cut across the campus before he started yelling "Boxer!" and waved the dog over his head.

Surprise rooted everyone in their tracks for an instant, but quickly the entire group had converged on the spot where Franck threw out the dog on the Herrick side of the tracks. A slight mist that had begun to fall about ten minutes before let up, and the battle was on.

The struggle, which lasted only forty minutes, gradually began to move off the muddy field near the tracks, cut in front of the housing units, and merged on Third street north, near where it had started. Here the front leg broke off the dog as he crashed down upon the pavement, and it was tossed into a car and taken away.

The mob of fighters began to move down first northeast avenue now, and it was here that the Alpha Zeta fraternity, and the unpledged men living in their house, began to operate as a unified body. They blocked other cars off from exit,

kept their cars open and even made paths through the spectators, while others of the clan were fighting for a handhold on the dog.

After one false start they tossed the dog into the back of a car and sped away with it, the victors. They later gatered at the A.Z. house and took stock of their damage. Torn shirts, lots of mud, tired expressions, and several big black bruises were the most serious of the lot.

Since that time one, all-school flash has been made, at the homecoming assembly, and two flashes have been made at sorority breakfasts. The missing leg was later brought back to the fraternity and welded on, but the tail is still not yet back with the dog.

The spirit of Pacific is back home, after its jaunt in the east!

BOXER MEETS THE PRESS

Pacific students' famed idol, Boxer, made his first visit Monday, October 11th, to the editorial offices of the Oregonian and the Journal in Portland where he was examined by editors and reporters.

KAPPAS AND PHILOS EXAMINE BOXER

Coming as a surprise during the Homecoming celebration at two sororities breakfasts was the appearance of Boxer, bronze mascot currently in possession of Alpha Zeta fraternitly.

Cal Van Pelt, Dean Wilcox, Ted Van Buren, John Jubb, and Lynn Abraham removed the dog from its hiding place early Saturday morning, and with the aid of several frat brothers, took him on a trip first to the Forest Hills country club to visit Phi Lambda Omicron, then to Jerry Reed's dining room near Portland to be passed among the Kappa Deltas. Lynn Abraham took pictures of the pup being held by the respective presidents—June Porter and Sue Herndobler.

Explaining the absence of Boxer at Theta Nu Alpha's breakfast in the Christian church, the AZ's said that with so few men along, the flash would have been too risky within the city limits.

REMEMBERING WHEN . . .

"Old Grad" F. E. "Smitty" Schmidtke, class of 1914, was back in Forest Grove during homecoming weekend and he says things have changed considerably on the Pacific university campus since his day. He admits prejudice may color his opinions but nevertheless he maintains that his alma mater has lost its romantic surroundings to a new commercialized look.

Schmidtke, a member of Gamma fraternity, claims Boxer alone is unchanged. He says the famous Badger mascot is still as elusive as ever.

In 1911, when Schmidtke came here to enroll at Pacific and teach at old Tualatin academy, there were only 225 students at the university. But even in those days, schedules could get mighty full. For instance, Schmidtke took 30 hours one semester, taught at the high school, played on the chess team, and was a member of one of the forerunners of Pacific's widely-known barber shop quartets.

According to the former second bass, present day quartets are "sissies" Back in 1912 and 1913, real "barbershopping" was in vogue.

Schmidtke's quartet made statewide tours and sang complete two-hour programs without a sheet of music and no more than a tuning fork for accompaniment.

He recalled other members of the quartet were Stubby McNeil, first tenor and Leslie Webb, first bass, but the fourth member slips his memory.

Others he mentioned who played active parts on the Pacific campus in the years from 1911 to 1914 were Vernon Burlingham, Max Reeher, the Frost Boys, Harold Benjamin and the Ferrin brothers.

Schmidtke finished his ninth year of teaching when he graduated from Pacific in 1914 and retired in 1935 after 30 years as an educator.

Since 1935, Schmidtke says he's been taking it easy and fishing at his place on Bainbridge island near Seattle. Three or four times yearly, he and Mrs. Schmidtke leave home to see their four children and ten grandchildren. Over Homecoming weekend, they stayed at the home of their son Irving, who operates "Smitty's" radio shop on Greenville road in Forest Grove.

