

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY NEWS BUREAU  
Jack Sherwood  
Pacific University  
Forest Grove, Oregon

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

What the Navy goat is to the men of Annapolis and the tables down at Morrie's are to a Whiffenpoof, so is 350-year old "Boxer", a bronze, dog-like Chinese incense burner, to the students, faculty, and alumni of Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon.

Because of this affection, a nation-wide "dog hunt" will swing into action during Christmas vacation, as students of the 99 year old university journey to home towns throughout the country for the holidays.

Cause of this sleuthing by campus Dick Tracys, is the eighteen month absence from the campus of the "dog", which, during the past 50 years has become the most cherished tradition of the institution.

Last "flashed" at May Day activities in 1946, "Boxer" is reported to have been tossed into a roadside ditch by his pursued possessors. Upon returning to retrieve him, they found the dog had disappeared.

It is here the trail ends, and greatly concerned students believe that "Boxer" has been picked up by someone who is unfamiliar with the University's tradition and is unaware of the wild search that has been conducted for his recovery.

(MORE)

Because of this possibility, they have decided to carry the search into their home areas during vacation time, hoping to uncover the whereabouts of the animal.

Presented to the University by a missionary from China in 1896, the object of art was spirited away by a group of fun-loving seniors not long afterwards. Since that day, the dog has changed hands a score of times and has been the object of many a bone-breaking fracas for possession.

He has been hidden in a cold storage locker, dangled by a cable in the swirling waters of the Willamette River, secreted in a sawdust bin, and buried in a basement. He has come between campus sweethearts, been stolen by rival schools, and has been responsible for bitter feuding of roommates. But as a result of this turbulent career, "Boxer" has become a symbol of the spirit and character of Pacific University.

To a Pacific man, possession of "Boxer" is more cherished than would be a date with Lana Turner. The Pacific coed would rather hold the dog for 5 minutes than be presented with a carload of mink coats. Because this has been the longest time "Boxer" has been out of circulation, anyone finding the dog now would go down in school history as one of the University's "greats".

(MORE)

3333333

During the half-century struggle for possession of the animal, at one time or another his legs, head, tail and body have been disjointed so that now much of the pup is made up of welding rod. However, the 23 inch idol is easily recognized by the many initials and names scratched on his rough, bronze, old body by former owners.

Chief fear among students is that if "Boxer" isn't found soon, the historic tradition will die out and part of the thrilling spirit of Pacific University will be lost to the future generations of students. To see that this does not happen, much of their vacation will be spent searching for this hallowed relic.