

# Ontario College Student Wins 'Boxer'

## Traditional Mascot Spends Holiday In Ontario

"Boxer" was in Ontario for the Thanksgiving holidays.

Boxer is the mascot for Pacific University. He's been just about everywhere during the more than 50 years he has been the symbol of the school at Forest Grove, Oregon.

The Chinese temple dog made as an incense burner has been the subject of many campus free-for-alls to gain his possession and custody.

The group which presently has the custody of the bronze dog includes an Ontario student, Harley Kelley. Kelley brought the mascot home with him for his Thanksgiving holidays. It could have been a dangerous mission if other members of the student body had known where the dog was hidden.

Boxer led a sedate life in the chapel at Pacific University for a number of years after Dr. J. E. Walker, a missionary who served in China and was an alumnus of Pacific, gave the relic to the school in 1896.

Some prankster stole the dog from the chapel and hid it more than 50 years ago and thus started a tradition at the school.

Now the Boxer is periodically subject to campus fights for his possession. A group holds it for a time and then appears on the campus with the shout of "Boxer." That means a scramble for its possession.

The group that holds the mascot exhibits it periodically—sometimes at an announced time. Gangs form in the fight for the school's traditional mascot.

Early in November the group that had Boxer brought it on the campus and incased it in a 100 pound cake of ice. A scramble ensued. In the small group that gained possession of the cake of ice and Boxer was Harley Kelley a student at the school from Ontario.

The victors whisked the mascot off in a car to Astoria, Oregon, where one of the students lived. It hasn't been exhibited on the university campus since its capture. However, tradition requires that the men who have the Boxer must show it occasionally.

The Boxer's trip to Ontario was not among its most exciting



Harley Kelly, Ontario, a student at Pacific University at Forest Grove, Oregon, brought home the prized school mascot, 'Boxer', when he spent the Thanksgiving holidays here with his parents. The dog has been the cause of many campus battles during the last 50 years. It is badly scared by welds on its legs and neck which were broken off in the fights.

journeys. According to campus historians, it flew with fighter pilots in World War I and also in World War II.

It has been hidden in any number of odd and uncomfortable places. It has been hung by a cable in the waters of the Willamette river for months, it has been hidden in a cemetery—but perhaps worst of all it was hidden on a farm and found by a co-ed.

Boxer has pretty much been the part of masculine escapades. The women students held the dog for a time and then let it be the subject of another campus battle.

Boxer has had a rough life in these contests and sometimes has

come through second best to the students who fought over him. His head, legs and tail have all been broken off and he is really scarred from his welding jobs. Except for his tail—that's been gone for years, and no one knows where it is.

Boxer has become so popular on the campus that some students have wanted the school's name changed to Boxer to prevent the present confusion in its name.

Kelley played on the university football team this year but fell a little short of winning his letter.

During his high school years in Ontario Kelley wrote high school sports for the Argus-Observer.