

# Boxer Mascot Remains Elusive

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What has horns, a long bushy tail, weighs about twenty pounds, and is nearly 400 years old? If you haven't already guessed, it's Boxer, the missing mascot of Pacific.

Various campus organizations have been inquiring as to its whereabouts in the daily bulletin recently. The only answer most of us can give is, "That's what we'd like to know!"

Contrary to popular belief, Boxer is not the figurine of a dog, but of a Chinese dragon. Named for the Boxer Rebellion, he was an ancient family heirloom and a product of the Ming Dynasty. Boxer was purchased in China by Dr. J. E. Walker and brought to this country as a gift to his mother. The mother later presented the dragon to Pacific. That same day in 1900 the highly coveted Boxer was kidnapped and the tradition began.



In the years that followed, the mascot made brief appearances or "flashes" as they became known. Vicious battles between rival groups were not uncommon as they fought for possession of the University idol.

Boxer's history is a long one. Undergraduate students now were not here yet to remember the last Boxer flash in

the fall of 1970. According to various campus sources, the mascot was last seen being whisked away in a car by former student, Moses Williams.

The Black Student Union has kept the mascot's whereabouts a tight secret. They disapproved of the violent uprisings which have occurred at the flashes and so have kept Boxer undercover. Rumors circulated that the foreign idol should be melted down into rings for each of the BSU members or maybe sold back to the University.

More than one source feels sure that Boxer is now hiding somewhere in California near the Bay area. Another seems certain that Los Angeles is closer to the truth. There are also rumors that he is no longer even in the States. It seems a former Pacific student, who transferred and is now living in Africa, is keeping the mascot there.

At any rate, the story of Boxer has taken on a different slant. It has become a racial issue more than anything else, which was not the traditional purpose at all. Originally the spirit involved in the flashes was for unity and activity in the school, not hostility and minority division. The emphasis is clearly in the wrong place.

It's anyone's guess as to whether or not we will be seeing Boxer in the near future. One can be sure, though, that if a flash does occur, it will be at an unexpected time and at a place where no one is dressed for the occasion.

## President Miller Sees Pacific On The Offensive

By JAMES V. MILLER  
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It is generally conceded that higher education is "on the defensive" in the state governments, the national government, the business world, the rank and file of the nation, and among many within the system itself. As early as 1963, AACTE education officials in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare were publicly saying that the era of easy federal support to colleges and universities was over. (AACTE Conference; Ashland, Oregon.)

Increases in Federal support have been more difficult to achieve. Extensions of Federal aid to community colleges and of student aid to proprietary schools reduced the amount available to senior colleges and universities. Political and budget battles in Washington have delayed funding.

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