

from here to infinity
Even Pranks
Began in 1859

by bob thompson

Sticking cows in the belfry, pouring water in the bell. These, the pranks of our predecessors, raising merry Hell. The students that first arrived on campus a century ago may have worked, but they never lost the yen for a prank or so every once in a while.

Sedate professors—as sedate as they could possibly be in this wilderness—often walked into their classrooms to find a couple pigs romping around the place.

Open stairwells in Old Main were a prime target for "physics experiments." Students used to get up on the fifth floor and drop "totes" of water down on unsuspecting students below. When caught in the act, the culprits told authorities they were experimenting with the law of gravity.



THOMPSON

Early risers—earlier than usual, that is, for everyone was up at the crack of dawn—wondered what country they were in when they looked at the flag pole atop Old Main. Everything from red flannels to huge class banners found their way to the top.

And speaking of the top, some enterprising lads walked a cow up to the belfry, six stories above the ground. We might add that administration officials had quite a time getting the thing back down to the ground. Beef probably

hasn't been so high since. The legendary mule, "Coalie," was often the target for pranksters. He ended up on the roof more than once. He wasn't the only mule that made the trip to the upper floors, but he was probably the only one in captivity with green stripes painted all over him.

Students evidently got tired of hearing the bell atop Old Main ring each morning, so a few of the boys got together and inverted the huge bell, filling it with water.

Halloween brought even more pranks to light. People living in the thriving town of Farmers High School had to batten down everything capable of being carried off. They would awake to find sidewalks, pig stys, chicken coops and fences missing. Townspeople didn't have far to go to find their missing property. The stuff usually could be found on the roof of Old Main.

Actually, officials of the town didn't complain too much. This was a good way of cleaning up the town.

You can't really blame the students for the pranks. After all, the College outlawed card-playing and drinking. Besides that, the coed-to-man ratio was a little out of proportion. The first coed wasn't admitted until 1871. And it was a long cold ride to Bellefonte.

Gazette

TODAY
 Belles Lettres, 7:30 p.m., Simmons lounge.
 Christian Fellowship, 12:30 p.m., 218 HUB.
 Engineering Student Council, Larry Sharp Committee, 6:45 p.m., 218 HUB.
 Freshman Regulations Board, 12:30 p.m., 212 HUB.
 Intercollegiate Conference on Government, 8 p.m., 203 HUB.
 Judicial, 5:15 p.m., 217 HUB.
 Neu-Bayrischen Schuhplattlers, 7 p.m., 2 White.
 News and Views staff, 4:15 p.m., 114 Home Ec.
 Nittany Grotto, 7 p.m., 121 Mineral Industries.
 Philosophy Club, 7 p.m., 212 HUB.
 Pi Mu Epsilon, 7:30 p.m., 124 Sparks.

Slavic Club, "Stone Flower" (Russian film), 6:45 p.m. and 9:15 p.m., HUB assembly hall.
 Social Recreation Committee, 5 p.m., 219 HUB.
 Spanish Club, 7 p.m., Simmons Lounge.
 Wesley Foundation: Communion, 5:15 p.m.; Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.
 Young Republicans Club, 7:30 p.m., 209 Willard.

Camp Interviews
 Students should sign up in advance in 112 Old Main for interviews.
 Cradle Beach Camp, N.Y. (Men and Women); Feb. 24.
 Camp Cejwin, N.Y. (Men and Women, Juniors and above); Feb. 26.
 Camp Menatoma, Me. (Men); Feb. 27, 28.
 Camp Wise, Painesville, Ohio (Men and Women); March 5, 6.
 Camp Quinbeck, Vt. (Women); March 19

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