

4-1966

Cat Tracks

Bates Outing Club

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Recommended Citation

Bates Outing Club, "Cat Tracks" (1966). *Cat Tracks Newsletter*. 21.
<http://scarab.bates.edu/cattracks/21>

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Cat Tracks

of the Bates Outing Club

Editor: Faith Ford

Issue I

April, 1966

UNTITLED: a new and spontaneous composition by Costain

Dedicated to the Hikes and Trips directors, neither of whom knows what is going on.

The elimination of Spring from this year's college calendar has somewhat curtailed Hikes and Trips in celebrating the rites of Spring with its usual schedule of events. The directors, recognizing the omnipresence of the vernal urge among Bates students at this time of year, have been searching for something to do other than going out and running around in the slush. Since canoe trips on solid ice leave something to be desired, other areas of endeavor are being investigated.

One promising suggestion was that of running a Spring beach walk (an idea no doubt conceived somewhere in the security of a warm room protected from the costal breezes). However, after considering the marked similarity between the Maine coast and the Iceland coast in late March, the directors began to look elsewhere for sources of outdoor entertainment.

Another suggestion was the organizing of a bike hike. Aside from the fact that nobody knows where to go, this idea has potential. By next fall someone should think of something.

If all else fails there is always the Tuckerman Ravine Climb. This perennial expedition may prove to be the only thing that provides Hikes and Trips with anything to do in the Spring in the future. Tuckerman Ravine may not seem the most likely place to spend a Sunday afternoon, but it is always an interesting possibility. It seems that every year someone starts spreading a rumor that there is no snow left in the ravine and that when everyone gets up there, there won't be anything but slush. That person should be shot. In early April there is enough snow in Tuckerman Ravine to fill all the doorways of all the college buildings in North America.

Thus Hikes and Trips ends its Spring schedule of one event in a blaze of activity. But the best is yet to come: Mountain Climbs, Canoe Trips, Camping Trips, Bike Hikes, Swimming Trips, Beach Walks, and Snipe Hunts. With fabulous untried potential, Hikes and Trips, like the Boston Red Sox, will have to wait til next year.

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

As the year nears an end we can look back on another successful completion

of a series of O.C. activities. Recognition should go at this time to all those graduating seniors who have given four and occasionally more, years of active service to the student community as representatives to the Outing Club Council. Our sincere gratitude goes out to you. Your four years show a record of substantial accomplishment in many areas; policy and constitution revision, organization and participation in many new activities as well as support and expansion of traditional events, and in all of this we've had a great time. To our graduates the Council wishes happiness and prosperity in the future.

To take a quick look into the future we can see ahead a better and bigger Carnival as a result of Ad Board co-ordination and a Carnival directorship who already is well on the way to organization, a year ahead of time. We see a more successful Popham, even though it is in the Fall, we see the hope of varsity status for our ski team and even further in the future the hockey club will follow. With the new Student Chaperon Policy, we can see relief in the problem of faculty chaperonage. We hear the cries of a rifle club that is ready to come to life. Equipment Room expansion is being talked about and equipment stock seems smaller as use and demand ever increases. We've got a lot to think about and work on, along with our Traditionnal Events. Cabin problems still hover overhead but there must be a solution hiding somewhere in that future.

Faculty and Administrative attitudes seem to have changed as we look at the new policy on Conduct. The students have been given the responsibility of enforcement. As I look around me in the Council I know that we are ready to take responsibility. Not only ready, but also willing to take responsibility and all that goes with it. The door is open. If we can prove ourselves in this case I'm sure that the request for more of this type of responsible freedom will be heard and granted.

We've seen the accomplishments that have been made; we know the areas open to us in the future; and we've got a council that's ready and willing to accept this responsibility. There is a lot of work and a lot of fun in the year ahead as the BOC strives to be the best for the campus.

Don Bean

CABINS AND TRAILS

CAMPING TRIP - MARCH 26, 27

J. Harvell and B. Wilson

About two weeks after we got our directorship, we were thinking of things to do and we decided to have a camping trip. We checked with Hikes and Trips, and Bruce and Brent went over the calendar at three in the morning and decided that the 26th and 27th was the only weekend open. After letting it slide, for about two weeks, we had a meeting of all those interested. About 12 showed up, of which 8 or so signed up. Early next week we were no further. But on Tuesday, the 22nd permission had been gotten from the Supervisor of Parks to camp out at Mt. Blue State Park, officially closed. We also got Mr. Havers to go with us, and we were legal.

We decided to tent out, and we got Mr. Sampson's tent and checked on snowshoes. We were set for food, too, as Mr. Cagle got us the food we needed, ex-

cept for a few goods we had to buy. Round about Thursday people started dropping out, and by Saturday afternoon we were down to 5 kids and Mr. Havers. But we had transportation in the form of two cars, so we started out.

Mr. Blue is divided into two sections, the camping and picnic area on Lake Webb in Weld, where we camped, and the Mountain itself, about 5 miles away. We went in on snowshoes, dragging a toboggan along behind. Myrle Scott, the ranger up there, showed us in. The camping areas are on loops of road, and there are an awful lot of them. The area is fairly thick and woody and the campsites are separated fairly well from each other. All the camping loops are on higher ground than the beach.

There was a good crust and the toboggan rode nicely. We pitched camp on the snow. We broke up the crust by jumping on it in snowshoes and then leveling the snow. We then lay the tent on this "cleared" spot and buried the stakes perpendicular to the usual position. Since the snow refroze over them; it provided as good an anchor as could possibly be desired. The plastic we bought went in the bottom of the tent to keep the moisture from coming up. The cold still came through, though, and newspapers and blankets underneath instead of on top kept us comfortable. Air mattresses would have done the trick, but no one had any. That night we had to break up the crust, which had reformed under the tent, to make hipholes and shoulderholes that beat many a Batesy mattress.

It was cold most all the weekend, and the wind had a nasty penetrating ability, so we kept pretty well bundled up. We found that walking around did the trick, especially on snowshoes. By the way, on snow that has a good crust or on any level surface, for that matter, the O.C. rattail shoes with the laced toe piece are far superior to bearpaws with a strap toe piece, as the male director will attest. We walked across the lake and back, and then packed out, with Judy Marden and Andrew Becker lending a hand to the two male students on the trip, who got stuck towing the toboggan. No one complained of a miserable time.

(Ed. note: Special thanks go to the Parents of B. Wilson for this article.)

EQUIPMENT ROOM DOINGS

With the change in directors, several new innovations have been added in the equipment room. The first of these, and "most important", is the new candy jar. Usually supplied with Canada Mints and other assorted candies, the jar keeps Mr. Sampson's sweet tooth happy along with all our other daily visitors. Our second new innovation has been a picture history of the O.C. in its recent outings. All are welcome to view this grand spectacle and to contribute any pictures they might want. The display consists of pictures mounted on a large white cardboard, and anyone wishing his pictures to be returned can have them back.

Our regular activities have been the care of skis and snowshoes, as is our yearly winter custom. With the coming of Spring K.C., Meg, Hildy, and Don have been putting bicycles back together. With the sun now shining daily, we hope you'll all come down and take advantage of the bikes. Steve Pedersen has been hard at work framing pictures for the meeting room, and Judy's finally finished her painting.

Now that Ray's power has been usurped, the tyranny, once known to be existent in the equipment room, is gone. All are welcome to come and play or even

work.... You might have a good time!

"SKIING GOES INTERCOLLEGIATE"

Since 1963 there has been a growing interest in a collegiate ski team representing Bates. Until this year competition has been restricted to a few isolated ski races. This year, however, under the sponsorship of the Outing Club and the Senate a team was able to compete as a trial member in the New England Intercollegiate Ski Conference sanctioned by the United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association. Bates competed in the Thompson, or lower division, against Harvard J.V., M.I.T. J.V., Bentley College, Lowell Technological Institute, Windham College, New Hampshire College of Business, Babson College, W.P.I., and Merrimac College.

The team competed in three out of five races, missing two because of inclement weather. A race consisted of a two-run slalom on Saturday and a one-run giant slalom on Sunday. Each team could enter ten men in the race for a total of usually 80-100 racers. At Suicide Six we placed 5th in the slalom and 6th in the giant slalom with Tom Adams 7th in the slalom and Chuck Pfaffman 11th in the giant slalom. At Mt. Whittier, N.H. we placed 5th in the slalom and 3rd in the giant slalom with Tom again 7th in the slalom and Tom Calder 5th in the giant slalom. At Ragged Mt, N.H. we placed 6th in the slalom and 5th in the giant slalom with Dave Doe 9th in slalom and Harry Mahar 6th in the Giant slalom. Overall we placed 7th in team standings and Tom Adams placed 17th individually.

If all goes well, next year Bates will have a varsity ski team, consisting of an alpine squad and a nordic squad. The nordic team is necessary for competing in major intercollegiate competition in the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Assoc., a branch of N.C.A.A.A. A budget of \$3,900 has been proposed for 1966-67 which includes a coach's salary, equipment, training expenses, food, gas, and lodging, and registration in E.I.S.A. and U.S.E.A.S.A. The team would start training in the Fall, attend racing camp at Sugarloaf during the Christmas vacation, and practice and race from January until March.

An active membership in the E.I.S.A. next year is the goal for the present team. To compete successfully we must have varsity status and also a good coach. The Outing Club has been instrumental in forming the team and in sponsoring it and if varsity status is attained the O.C. should not lose interest in the team. The team could be instrumental in attracting more students to O.C. functions such as Winter Carnival and Ski Trips.

NEW BOARD AND DIRECTORS

President Don Bean
Vice President Joel Davidson
Secretary Beth Patton
Treasurer Jim Bristol

Hikes and Trips Brent Costain and Nancy Harris
Cabins and Trails Bruce Wilson and Judy Marvell
Hickories Don Searles and Martha Tillson
Equipment Room Steve Cutcliffe and Hildy Spooner
Carnival Dave Burtt and Beth Krause

Publicity Steve Pedersen and Anne Stauffer
Cat Tracks F.F.

New Members

Colin Fuller - Longmeadow, Mass.
Al Howard - Orrington, Maine
K.C. Putnam - Rocky Hill, Conn.

Dave Hansen - W. Hartford, Conn.
Steve Pedersen - Boxborough, Mass.
Tim Reed - Waltham, Mass.

Editors: Babs Bates - No. Andover, Mass.
Ellie Master - Maplewood, N.J.
Penny Butler - Arlington, Mass.

Bonnie Brian - Riderwood, Md.
Meg Streeter - Wilmington, Vt.
Kitty Earle - Wimbledon, England

(Another Ed. note: Any mistakes or misprints are all mine.)

The elimination of Spring from this year's college calendar has meant a curtailed Hikes and Trips in celebrating the rites of Spring with the usual schedule of events. The directors, recognizing the omnipresence of the snow-burys among Bates students at this time of year, have been searching for ways to do other than going out and running around in the snow. Since such ways in solid ice leave something to be desired, other areas of endeavor are being investigated.

One promising suggestion was that of running a Spring beach walk (or what no doubt occurred somewhere in the vicinity of a large road protected from the coastal breezes). However, *Wendell* *Justy* finding the similarity between the Maine coast and the Island coast in the *Island* directors began to look elsewhere for sources of outdoor entertainment.

Another suggestion was the organizing of a bike ride. Aside from the fact that nobody knows where to go, this idea of potential. By next fall someone should think of something.

If all else fails there is always the possibility of a winter expedition. This year's winter expedition may prove to be the most interesting anything to do in the winter in the North. The most likely place to spend a Sunday afternoon is always an interesting possibility. It seems that every year there is no snow left in the woods and that when winter gets up there there will be anything but snow. That person should be shot. In early April there is enough snow in Tuckerman Ravine to fill all the doorways of all the college buildings in North Andover.

Thus Hikes and Trips ends its Spring schedule of one event in a state of activity. But the best is yet to come: Mountain Climbs, Canoe Trips, Camping Trips, Bike Hikes, Skiing Trips, Beach Walks, and Escape Hunts. With fabulous untapped potential, Hikes and Trips, like the Boston Red Sox, will have to wait till next year.

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