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Game Banquet

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by Barry Graden

At 6:30 in the evening on March 20, 1979, while most Iowa State students were at home eating dorm or "make-do" meals and growing weary-eyed from staring at reading assignments, the Ames Foresters and their friends were enjoying an exotic feast of North American wild game, and laughing and learning from the night's entertainment. If you are one who missed this annual event, you should never forgive yourself, for it was a night well worth remembering.

The evening began with the feast—venison, duck, rabbit, squirrel, donated by people who deserve much thanks, and accented with many kinds of vegetables, salads, and a delicious dessert. Many of the banquet attenders had never tasted some of the meats provided at the meal, which turned the evening into somewhat of a tasteful adventure.

Following the meal, several academic awards were presented, most of which are granted annually at the Game Banquet to the most deserving students. This year the following awards were given: Keith A. Bauer Award, Hoo-Hoo Award, Strom Award, F.P.R.S. Award, Cone Award, Northeastern Loggers Assn. Scholarship, Pack Essay Awards, Society of American Foresters Award, and one favorite—the Most Beloved Instructor of the Year Award, which was presented to this year's lucky winner—"surprise, surprise, it's Dr. Mize."

The presentation of awards were followed by the recognition of forestry club officers. Each officer serving the club for the past year was deservedly recognized and thanked for the excellent service they gave the club during their time in office. New officers, elected just prior to the banquet, were then announced. The results of the elections are kept a total secret, up until this time.

The climax of this year's banquet came with the oral presentation given by the guest speaker, Dr. Paul Risk. Dr. Risk, a professor at Michigan State University, gave a very entertaining and informative talk on environmental interpretation, a subject he is well involved in at M.S.U. Some I.S.U. forestry students first "discovered" Dr. Risk when he spoke at the 1979 Society of American Forester's Convention in St. Louis, Missouri. The students were so impressed with his talent for speaking that they urged the banquet committee to contact him with hopes that he might oblige. We felt very fortunate to have him attend and gave him a standing ovation for his excellent performance. If he had been a singer the audience would have cheered for an encore.

The Game Banquet was a complete success, enjoyed and remembered by all who attended. It is definitely an event to be looked forward to each year.

Canoeing

by Richard T. Straight

On April 28th, eleven determined canoeists set out from Adel, Iowa on the North Raccoon River for a Saturday of relaxation. A leisurely pace was set in order to make the short trip to Van Meter as long as possible. The day was relatively uneventful until our crew stopped on a sandbar about one-hour north of Van Meter for a mass clam hunt.

Even on the early, cool days of spring, a few people were sunburned, notably Mike Scanlon, who was beet-red from belt-line to eyebrows. Once again a few hearty Forestry Club members had made their way down one of Iowa's rivers for the unofficial "Annual Spring Canoe Trip".

Freshman Welcome

by Kris Holt

The Freshman Welcome is a time set aside at the beginning of the academic year for the gathering of forestry students and professors, both old and new. It is a chance to greet those who are new to the department, swap stories with old friends, and escape from the first few days of classes.

This year's welcome was fairly relaxed. Holst Tract State Forest, the site of the event, saw a lot of conversation between the fifty-or-so who attended. Many went off to hike the maze and ways of Holst. Softball was a planned activity, but lack of space promoted volleyball. A team composed of faculty and graduate students appeared to be unbeatable until they were finally conquered by the undergrads. The threat of a rematch was called on account of food.